EXHIBIT [illegible]
DATE [illegible]
SB [illegible]

Support information concerning

Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch and School

P. O. Box 940
St. Ignatius, Mt 59865

Phone 406 745-3081
Fax - 406 745-4004

E Mail - pinehaven@blackfoot.net
Website: www.pinehaven.net

2017 MT. LEG. HB 477 - OPPONENTS' TESTIMONIES

1. Ten Reasons why HB 477 should not be passed
2. Certificate of Incorporation - St. Ignatius Christian Church
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PINEHAVEN
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AND RANCH
P.O.Box 949
St. Ignatius, MT 59865
Robert D. Larsson 406-546-9015
Robert C. Larsson 406-531-5111

Dear Bob Larsson,

There are no words to express my thankfulness for all you and Pinehaven have done for me. Pinehaven has saved me from prison or worse, death. It has been nearly 2 yrs since I last testified in helena, and I have done so much with my life since graduating. I am now an operating engineer with local 400 right here in helena. I have been sucessful thus far because of the manners, and respect Pinehaven has instilled in me. Pinehaven is the most loving and caring place that I have ever attended or worked at. It has helped countless kids get there life back on track, and teach them skills to help them throughout there life. Pinehaven has been the able to do all these things without being state regulated, and I hope the committee will consider everything I have said, and make the right decision. If it were not for Pine Haven I have zero idea where I would be now.

Sincerely,

Levi Lyons

----- Original Message -----
From: parson@blackfoot.net
To: Dad
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2010 9:17 AM
Subject: Fw: continue funding Pinehaven

Cindy is a friend of Alice... She must have used her email account while in Helena...

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Cindy Dallas" <Cindy.Dallas@redlion.com>
Date: Fri, 30 Apr 2010 07:24:16 -0700
To: <parson@blackfoot.net>
Subject: continue funding Pinehaven

4/30/2010

To Whom It May Concern:
Over the past two years I have placed three of my four children at Pinehaven. I believe that this is the best parenting decision I have ever made.
Pinehaven gave my children a safe and loving environment in which to heal from an abusive past. Pinehaven has done for my children what I could not do as a single parent.
As someone who works with children in a protective capacity, I have often wished that I could place some of my child clients at Pinehaven. I have seen firsthand what they can do to heal a broken child.
I pray that Pinehaven will continue to receive the funding and support necessary to do their work and bless our children.

Sincerely,

Alice Phelan

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 8.5.437 / Virus Database: 271.1.1/2842 - Release Date: 04/29/10 06:27:00

TEN REASONS WHY HB 477 (LC 1866) SHOULD NOT BE PASSED

1. **IT TARGETS A CHURCH**. Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch and School is an adjunct outreach ministry of the **First Christian Church of St. Ignatiius, Montana**, started in 1951 and incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1969. Its FEDERAL assigned EIN is 81-0370189.

2. **IT IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL FOR OUR GOVERNMENT TO RESTRICT OR CONTROL THE FREE EXERCISE OF RELIGION**. "Pure RELIGION is caring for the fatherless" James 1:27

3. **NO GOVERNMENT FUNDS ARE USED IN THIS** MINISTRY that has served over 500 children for more than 40 years. Also, Pinehaven does not charge for its services.

4. **ALL CHILDREN COME VOLUNTARILY AND ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR BELIEF IN GOD, Jesus Christ and the** Bible and accept in writing the religious emphasis and program of Pinehaven.

5. **MANY FORMER STUDENTS, THEIR PARENTS, AND SUPPORTERS CREDIT PINEHAVEN WITH SUCCESS** in treating problems. Documentation is herewith included with many more examples on file.

6. **LOCAL MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS WHO TREAT CHILDREN IN THIS PROGRAM ENDORSE IT**

7. **EXISTING LAWS ALREADY SERVE TO PROTECT ALL MONTANA CHILDREN FROM ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

8. **THOROUGH LEGAL INVESTIGATION HAS CONCLUDED**: ***"There is nothing I could document or substantiate to corroborate any type of criminal offense."*** (Report included) It also verifies that Pinehaven has always fully cooperated with law enforcement personnel.

9. **ALL CHILDREN HAVE CONTINUING CONTACT WITH THEIR PARENTS, GUARDIANS, OR PLACEMENT WORKERS.** They also have free contact with approximately 300 volunteer workers from supporting churches who spend a week at Pinehaven during the year.

10. **MANY CHRISTIAN PEOPLE AND THEIR CHURCHES IN MONTANA AND NATIONALLY ENDORSE AND SUPPORT THIS FAITH BASED MINISTRY.**

Form No. 4—500—9-77

Office of the Secretary of State

OF THE

STATE OF MONTANA

I, FRANK MURRAY, Secretary of State of the State of Montana, do hereby certify that the annexed is a full, true and correct copy of Articles of Incorporation of THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS as received and filed in this office on December 3, A.D. 1963 at the hour of 9:30 o'clock A.M. with Certificate of Incorporation issued thereon; and 1969 Corporation Annual Report of said corporation

as received and filed in this office on the 26th day of February A. D. 19 69.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of Montana, at Helena, the Capital, this 25th day of April A. D. 19 78.

Frank Murray

FRANK MURRAY
Secretary of State

Leonard C. Larson

By LEONARD C. LARSON
Chief Deputy

LUCKY LARSON
SHERIFF
LAKE COUNTY

JAY DOYLE – UNDERSHERIFF
LUC MATHIAS - CAPTAIN

May 20, 2010

Detective Michael W. Gehl
Lake County Sheriff's Office
106 4th Ave East
Polson, MT, 59860

John Strandell
DCI - Investigations Bureau Chief
PO Box 201417
Helena, MT, 59620-1417

Chief Strandell,

In regards to your letter dated April 26, 2010, your office received information from a Vicky Tucker of allegations of abuse at the Pinehaven Ranch in St. Ignatius by David Krug. We received an email complaint by Mr. Krug on March 29, 2010. I was assigned to investigate the complaint. It was during this time that I received your information, through Sheriff Larson.

I contacted Mr. Krug and requested documentation and other information on March 30, 2010. He informed me that it was all ready to go, or in the process to send out. I spoke with him again, on two separate occasions. As of this date I have yet to receive anything from him. I have made numerous other attempts to speak with Mr. Krug. My calls go unanswered, and voicemails unreturned. It is apparent to me that at this point and time Mr. Krug is unwilling to cooperate in any type of investigation. I have read all of Mr. Krug's internet postings, of which there appears to be a personal motive, of which I am unaware, behind the postings.

I have interviewed the staff, house parents, and administration of Pinehaven. I have reviewed all of the cases in which Pinehaven has ever been mentioned in our records. There are two cases of note, of which Pinehaven cooperated fully with investigators. One involved the suicide of a juvenile male who ran away on a winter night, in which the male entered an RV in storage and drank brake fluid. The other case involved a male staff member who sexually assaulted two minor females. The suspect confessed, and was convicted.

The only other cases of note involve runaway juveniles from the ranch. Pinehaven Ranch specifically works with troubled youth. I could not locate in our records any other contact with the ranch in regards of any type of complaint, or allegation of any kind.

In Mr. Krug's original complaint, I located several items that were factually incorrect. Through interviews and reviews of the two cases I previously mentioned, I noted that Mr. Krug was obviously completely unaware of several key matters in both of these investigations, that he would be aware of, had he been involved. Mr. Krug was a student at Pinehaven when Mr. Wagener committed suicide. Mr. Krug graduated in 1998. He would have no knowledge of a rape that occurred in 2003, as he had no contact with the school after leaving.

In addition to, I interviewed parents/caregivers of children at Pinehaven. I could not confirm any type of abuse at the ranch, or any allegations of any type of abuse of any type. When I was at the ranch, it was unannounced. I found the property to be clean and neat. There was nothing to report out of the ordinary. The Pinehaven Ranch is a working cattle ranch.

In conclusion, it is my belief at this point and time, that Mr. Krug is alleging allegations against the Pinehaven ranch for personal motives. I cannot validate, or substantiate any of his allegations. I also noted Mr. Krug has an extensive criminal background, specifically involving theft, identity theft, forgery, and drug abuse. The information that he originally provided to my office cannot be regarded as factual, as I have noted several inconsistencies, and factually incorrect information.

Sincerely,

Detective Michael W. Gehl

CC Case file

Sector 20 Level 6
NOT REVIEWED

INVESTIGATION WRITTEN BY MGEHLGEHL ON 05/20/2010 (continued..)

identification, whereas the caller identifies himself prior to being connected. Every time I have called David, I have identified myself and position. David has yet to return any of my calls or voicemails which I left.

On this date, I took note of a new posting on the Facebook website. The topic was "An Old Hand's Perspective", started by a male identified as Kelly. Kelly went into detail about his time as a student at Pinehaven, and then later as a house parent. Krug joins the conversation, and begins to debate him on points that he has made. David goes into detail on one particular point, and then in a later response, he concedes the argument. David only appears to be trying to manipulate those others who are posting to the Facebook site.

Conclusion

In conclusion, two months of time has passed for David Krug to provide any type of documentation to his complaint. I have emailed him, and spoken with him. He has failed to provide any formative information, dates/times, names, or evidence of any crime. I have interviewed the house parents, staff, and administration of Pinehaven. I have read all of Krug's postings, emails, and blogs. It is apparent to me at this point and time, that Mr. Krug is unwilling to cooperate with any type of investigation. There appears to be a personal motive, of which I am unaware, behind Mr. Krugs postings. Mr. Krug has an extensive criminal background, specifically in drugs, identity theft, trespassing, and forgery.

None of the information on the postings are substantiated. In reading his postings in detail, they appear to be very negative and vicious, without any evidence to support any of his claims. I have found numerous flaws in the original documents the he forwarded to this office, from dates, to his stated information. All of this information that he provided thus far cannot be corroborated. He constantly refers to the death of Mr. Wagener and to the sexual assault of two juvenile females. Both cases were thoroughly investigated. Pinehaven staff assisted completely with the investigations. There are no other pending cases or past cases alleging any type of abuse of any type at the Pinehaven Ranch.

No further investigation required.

Detective Michael W. Gehl 15-19

SECURESIGNED BY DET MIKE GEHL, MGEHLGEHL ON 05/20/10 AT 14:55

Garden Wall
CLINIC
VICTOR M. DAVIS, M.D.
101 Arrow Street * P.O. Box 679 * St. Ignatius, MT 59865 * (406) 745-4444 * Fax (406) 745-4907

February 27, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: PineHaven Christian Children's Ranch

I have been the attending physician for PineHaven Ranch for 30 years. I have treated both children residents and the PineHaven staff. I have found the houseparents, staff, and teachers at PineHaven to be quite attentive, caring, and conscientious. The students are always well groomed and healthy-appearing when they present to my office. Although there have been cases of under-nourished residents early in their stays, almost all improve with continued care at the ranch. I have never observed any finding that would be consistent or indicative or suspicious of any type of physical or emotional abuse. The parents and staff are interested, cooperative, and adherent to treatment plans. Follow up care is consistent.

I have also observed a whole lot of love between staff, houseparents, teachers, and the students, and vice versa.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Victor M. Davis MD

VMD:lm

Bitterroot Valley
DENTAL CARE
David P. Baker, DDS

2/22/2017

Stevensville, Montana

To whom it may concern,

After graduating from the University of Nebraska College of Dentistry in 1980 and practicing Family Dentistry in Stevensville, Montana, for over 35 years, I have, for the past four plus years spent approximately one day per month at Pinehaven Children's Ranch near St. Ignatius, Montana, rendering free dental care to the children there, in the Dental Clinic which the Ranch established for the benefit of the kids.

In those four plus years, I have not witnessed a single incident that could be construed as abuse in any sense of the word. On the contrary, the relationships I have observed among the children and the Pinehaven Staff have shown an overriding atmosphere of mutual respect, compassion, and love.

The Christian dedication and commitment demonstrated on a daily basis by the Staff at the Pinehaven Children's Ranch should be commended and supported, not challenged. It is difficult to imagine that any change in the current administration or oversight of the Ranch could improve the wonderful results they are achieving in the lives of the children there.

Sincerely,

David P. Baker D.D.S.

David P. Baker, D.D.S.

120 LJK Way, Stevensville, Montana | office 406-777-5070 | fax 406-777-4266

January 22, 2017

Dear Honorable Chairman Doane and Judiciary Committee Members,

As a former House Representative for Sanders County and now as a concerned citizen, I would like to lend my voice and continued support for leaving the exemption regarding an organization, boarding school, or residential school that is an adjunct ministry of a church incorporated in the state of Montana as referenced in House Bill No. 477 intact, and for the tabling of this bill.

In 2007, my first legislative session, I was one of the co-sponsors of House Bill 769, a bill that dealt with the issue of residential programs in the state of Montana. This bill came up during the time that we saw a lot of growth in residential programs in the state.

These programs came into being, not to replace state programs, but in addition to them in an effort to address the needs of troubled youths that weren't currently being met by providing for more innovative ideas to meet their emotional, behavioral or learning problems that are as diverse as the students themselves.

Those involved in the residential programs were the primary push for some structure, licensing requirements, etc. for these alternative programs, as they wanted a way to ensure that the alternative programs were not placed in jeopardy by a few bad apples. It was also at a time in which the State, the public and the parents of these youth wanted to see some structure as well, in order to put into place some checks and balances for safety and the wellbeing of those utilizing these resources.

Unfortunately, since that the 2007 Session until now, the State and those who feel that more government regulations and control is the answer to the problems, have continued to push towards that end in regards to these programs, especially as noted in this bill before you that addresses an exemption, which seems to target one program in Montana, that of Pinehaven Christian Children's' Ranch & School Mission.

The Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch & School Mission started taking troubled youth in back in 1976, in an effort to meet their needs and that of their families, and because they were not charged for their services, families received the help when they needed it no matter their financial circumstances. They have served nearly 500 children and their families during this time, without charging for services, nor taking any government money, a steadfast tradition that continues in this worthwhile mission.

If the state were to control this Christian based mission program, it would take away what is essential in changing lives, a faith in God, commitment to His word and making Jesus Lord of their lives. It is a mission that has worked and impacted many lives with a

positive outcome. Yet, I do recognize that with all programs, including State Programs/Institutions that problems arise from time to time because these programs are dealing with troubled youth that grew over time, and where one program fails to reach the lost youth, another can make the difference.

I believe that the laws we have on the books can and do provide resolution/solutions that can address any existing problems. Putting into place more regulations and State control, through the removal of this exemption is not necessary nor warranted, especially when it would negatively impact the program at Pinehaven.

I have had the good fortune to personally visit Pinehaven yearly for over 22 years. In that time I've observed the program, the facilities and the impact upon the youth that I have gotten to know while there on a personal level. I've been able to visit freely with the youth on a one to one basis, see their progress thorough the stories they share of the past, where they are now and their hopes for tomorrow. Good work is being done at Pinehaven and it is making a positive difference in the lives of these youth.

I want to thank you for your dedication in serving the people of Montana, and for your time in considering my request to table House Bill No. 477.

Sincerely,

Pat Ingraham

Pat Ingraham
PO Box 1151
Thompson Falls, MT 59873

February 27, 2017
Good morning my friends,

Most of the time you do not have connection with those of us sharing today. To let you know who I am and make a connection I was chosen to give the Invocation at the beginning of the 2013 Representative Legislature. It was real joy. A month later I was diagnosed with cancerous Lymphoma of the right hip. After Chemo Therapy and much prayer I was declared a couple of years ago as cancer free and have remained so as of last week..

I am here to speak in favor of the ministry of St.Ignatius Christian Church. A part of that ministry is known as Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch. It is a ministry under the authority and leadership of the elders of the church. It operates under Scripture as "pure religion" in James 1:27 *"Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world."*

When I came to Montana in 1971 I began my ministry with the Pablo Christian Church and became acquainted with the church in St Ignatius. At that time the church was ministering to the Native Americans on the Flathead Indian Reservation. They had a ministry in St. Ignatius and Big Arm, Montana. The Flathead tribe is a confederation of the Kootenai and Salish Tribes and they were helping families of both tribes.

That desire to help families in need prompted the development of Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch. The desire of the church is to help troubled youth get back on track using Biblical Christian Values. They have a proven record of success. Many of these youth are one step away from Pine Hills type of treatment.

My experience as a minister has taught me that children of divided homes (divorced parents) have a much greater failure rate in school and society than those of two parent homes. Matter-of-fact children of divided homes do not really have a home ... just a place to rest their heads between court order visitations. Having house parents and teachers with stable marriages gives a greater value to the counsel they are able to give. Such is the case at Pinehaven where average is over 25 years. It is counsel based on experience and not just in the classroom.

For instance my wife and I will celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary last June ... of our three children who are married all have marriages over 20 years and my youngest has never been married. Apparently we did something right ... Counsel of successful families carries a lot of weight.

I encourage you to support the ministry of the St. Ignatius Christian Church and Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch.

Your servant in Christ,
Charles G. Houk
Minister of the Crossroads Christian Church
3125 Walter Dr.
Helena, Montana 59602

January 23, 2015

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

My name is John Mills. I live at 232 Hemingway Road, Louisville, KY 40207. I am a Deputy Chief of Police in a suburb of Louisville and have been in law enforcement for over 42 years. The purpose of writing this is to express my strong support for the Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch in St. Ignatius, MT.

In 1993, my wife, Linda, and I, were granted full custody of two grandchildren who had been abandoned by their birth mother. Our son was the father of the two children but he and their birth mother were not married. Our son did not have the financial means to take care of them so we became the parents of a 16 month-old girl and a 3 month-old boy. The boy was named David Lee Mills, Jr. after his birth father. My wife and I were 48 years old and had already raised three children of our own and started raising a second family.

It became apparent at an early age that David suffered from hyper-activity and was eventually diagnosed with ADHD. We learned later that his birth mother was an alcoholic and drug abuser. It was difficult for him to function normally in grade school but with the love and support of a great staff, particularly a young Christian teacher who took David under her wing in the Exceptional Child Education (ECE) program. He was held back in the third grade due to his struggle with academics.

Upon graduating from elementary school and entering middle school we were again blessed with a great teacher in the ECE program. We spent countless hours in meetings with school officials and teachers discussing David's progress and how we could help him at home. There were times when his outbursts of anger caused him to be suspended but we wouldn't give up on him.

When he entered high school it was a different story. There was no help from the teachers, staff, or anyone at the school. He began running with the wrong kids, skipping school, and at times stayed out for over 24 hours. It became an intolerable situation at home. His anger, disrespect, lying, and deceit began to take its toll on our family. We began to talk about foster care for him but giving him up to the care of the state would be the last resort.

We had heard of Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch through friends at another church. Their church supported Pinehaven on a regular basis as part of their mission program. We learned that Pinehaven was a working ranch for troubled kids such as David. Pinehaven accepted no government assistance and depended solely on donations and products produced at the ranch.

The kids were housed with house parents and were taught Christian values. They were taught responsibility by doing chores and rewarded with camping trips, hunting, whitewater rafting, and other outdoor activities.

We found out that a close friend and colleague from the Louisville Metro Police Department had been making regular visits to Pinehaven for over 10 years during the summer to work at the ranch. This is a Christian man of deep faith and told us of all the good things he was seeing at Pinehaven in their work with troubled kids. The work being done there so inspired another sergeant with the department that upon his retirement, he moved his family to Pinehaven where he worked at the ranch, and taught physical education at the school. His wife also taught at the school. These are two men I hold in the highest regard. Their faith, integrity, and character cannot be questioned.

David agreed to write a letter requesting admission to Pinehaven. He was placed on a waiting list for four months and finally in March of 2009 we received word he had been accepted. There is no charge for attending Pinehaven.

The first few months were a time of adjustment both for us and for David. We communicated with letters but no phone calls. David turned 16 in May and we were able to send him presents and paid for a pizza meal for his entire house of 6 boys, 6 girls, and the house parents. His birth father, our son David, lived in Seattle and was able to be there for his birthday.

During the time after that we were able to talk to him by phone once a week. We immediately noticed a difference in his voice. He was excited about all that was going on around him such as school, his house parents, the chores, and the atmosphere that was Pinehaven.

During his years there, we were able to visit on several occasions. Our first visit was just for a weekend in an apartment provided at no cost by Pinehaven. David was a changed kid. He was respectful and polite and it was an absolute delight to be with him. During subsequent years we rented a house in nearby Ronan where there was plenty of room for other members of our family and David was able to stay with us during vacation.

When we were back home, David would send us pictures of their camping trips, fishing, hiking, hunting, the roundup at the ranch, and so much more. He loved the people there and they loved him back and that was obvious during our visits. Every Christmas we would fly David to Seattle to spend Christmas with us and his dad. He referred to Pinehaven as home and it was evident to everyone who knew him that he had changed. What really drove his love for his Pinehaven family home to us was the Christmas after he graduated from Pinehaven Christian School. He asked us if it would be possible if he could go back to Pinehaven for Christmas. He had spent every Christmas with us and missed Christmases with his Pinehaven family. That spoke volumes about his connection with Pinehaven.

We are so grateful for Pinehaven and the work they do, not just with David but with all those kids who come there. They learn respect, a good work ethic, are taught about the love of Jesus Christ and are shown the love that encourages them to succeed. This is a special ministry for those who have a heart for kids. After personally meeting and fellowshipping with the house parents, teachers, ranch workers, other students, and the Larssons, I can recommend them without reservation.

Please feel free to contact me for any questions you may have about the ranch.

Sincerely yours,

John C. Mills

John C. Mills

(502) 641-3885 Cellular
(502) 895-8180 Home

Daisy Luzader
458 Rising Moon Road
Mulberry, TN 37359
January 21, 2015

Hi, my name is Daisy Luzader. I am 17 years old and I am a senior in high school. I just recently left Pinehaven in September I was there for a year and six months. Pinchaven changed a lot of things for me. First, it changed the relationship my mother and I have- we are much closer now because of what Pinehaven did for me. Second, I grew in my relationship with God. I grew stronger in my faith because of the love and teaching and care from the Pinehaven staff. Before any student is allowed to go to Pinehaven, they have to write a letter that says that they want to go because they know that they need help. It is not something done by force. This letter shows that the kid wants to go and that he or she wants to change. The staff on the ranch is amazing. They are loving, kind, and full of the Lord. They only want what is best for each and every kid. The teachers get to know each student and what works best for them. They help them become the best people that they can be. When you are at Pinehaven you can feel how much love and care there is. God used the staff at Pinehaven to change me for the best. I can personally say that God is amazing and he has done many great things for Pinehaven and I think He will continue doing great things for the ranch because they strive to live for the Lord in everything they do. Pinheaven is a safe haven for kids. The staff never does anything to put the kids in danger. They protect us and have our best interest in heart. Sometimes kids come to Pinehaven because it is all they have left. Pinehaven will always have a special place in my heart. For me, Pinehaven is my home away from home. I grew close to a lot of people and I am still in touch with my house mom and house dad. I am planning to go back and visit Pinehaven in the summer. I miss my Pinehaven family very much and hope one day that I can join the staff one day and give back to Pinehaven and help change lives.

Thank you,
Daisy Luzader
Daisy Luzader

ANGELA L. SMITH
STATE OF TENNESSEE
NOTARY PUBLIC
MOORE COUNTY

Angela L. Smith
Exp. Jan 25, 2017

Richard and Katherine Luzader
458 Rising Moon Road
Mulberry, TN 37359
January 21, 2015

To Whom it may concern:

Our daughter is home after spending a year and a half at Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch. We sent her there in 2013 because she was lying and deceiving constantly. We had tried for years to help her work on her dishonesty, but nothing we were doing seemed to be helping. We were sad that we needed to send her away, but we knew that if we didn't get help she may end up growing into adulthood with these very harmful behaviors. We love our daughter and we wanted her to have a great future.

Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch was an answer to our prayers. It was a place that our daughter was able to go and work through her struggles. Pinehaven was a loving and safe environment. Her house parents loved her and encouraged her and held her accountable for things that she did wrong. We had open communication with the house parents and teachers. They worked with Daisy to help her in her schooling, in her relationships with other people and her relationship with God.

Since our daughter has been home we've realized that she learned so much from her time there. She is doing so well. She has realized her value and that she doesn't need to lie. But she gained so much more from Pinehaven. She is more grounded in her relationship with God. She is closer to all her family members. She is helpful, respectful, and kind. She is confident to cook meals and often helps out in the kitchen. She still keeps in contact with her house parents and misses them very much. She even hopes that one day she can serve at Pinehaven or a place like it so she can help young people the way that Pinehaven helped her.

In August when I flew out to Montana to pick up Daisy, I was able to meet several of the staff and see the facilities. I was so impressed by the people that I met. They work hard every day teaching these young people life skills. It was clear that the adults truly care for the young people. I was also so blown away by the facilities and the inner workings of the ranch. The workings of the ranch are well planned and carried out. I was also impressed by the rules that are followed to keep all the staff members accountable. I have already recommended Pinehaven to others. I thank God for Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch.

Thank you,

Katherine Luzader

ANGELA L. SMITH
STATE OF TENNESSEE
NOTARY PUBLIC
MOORE COUNTY

Angela L. Smith

January 25, 2015

Bob & Carolyn Corzine
1145 N 2500 East Rd
Assumption, IL 62510

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We are writing to express our concern to the government denying Pinehaven to continue their program leading children to God.

We live in mid- Illinois about two miles from a children's facility called, Kememerer Village. When this facility was on it's own ,with no government intervention, the children were mainstreamed into the public school system, could hold jobs and were decent kids. Didn't have any problems with these kids. They attended church and were involved in the community..

After Kememerer started accepting money from the state the facility was under government rule. Court appointed kids were transported to this facility. Kids became frequent run-away's, stealing vehicles, robbing., breaking into homes. You name it and that's what takes place. The kids are not allowed to be main-streamed into public school system because they cannot be trusted. They do not attend church in the community., not allowed to hold jobs most of them have a criminal record.

At Kemmerer kids are housed in group homes to watch TV, play video games nothing constructive is learned. When returned to society, most of then return to the old ways that put them in trouble to begin with. The government should realize there is nothing worse than an idle mind for it then becomes the Devil's workshop.

At Pinehaven Children's Christian Home, kids are taught a trade so when they return to the outside world the can be a functioning member of society. Kids are taught how to run a household, hunting safety, feeding and milking cows, building fence, how to manage their own lives as they grow, etc. The facility also has it's own school, teaching the three"R's" and church, teaching of God's goodness if we obey.. Again preparing them for the future!
At Pinehaven's, when parents are at a lose, in trying to do the best they can to keep these young people out of jail, they contact Pinehaven's and their young people must agree to be go to Pinehaven's. Someone from Pinehaven's travels to get the young person and returns with them to the facility. These kids are kept busy so the Devil doesn't have a chance to set up housekeeping in an idle mind.

We encourage the government to let Pinehaven Children's Christian Home continue to teach and train in GOD's way. Let these kids be a productive part of society throughout the USA.

Voices of Concern,

Bob and Carolyn Corzine

December 26, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Having grown up as the biological child of foster parents in the Oregon welfare system I experienced first hand what happens to children in foster care.

It would take two to three weeks for a child to adjust to our home, then a caseworker would come for a home visit and upset the routine. Before long the caseworker would have a different plan for the child's care; either return to a parent and back again, a trial adoption, or another foster home. It was like playing musical kids moving them just when they began to have some stability.

I have also seen what happens to children of divorce who experience joint custody and/or visitation changes vs. the behavior of children in stable nuclear families.

Pine Haven Christian Children's Ranch has a proven program which provides the consistent long-term care I believe is necessary for a child, especially teenage, to develop into a responsible adult. Their success rate has been phenomenal. Therefore, they should be allowed to continue this wonderful program as it is into the future.

Sincerely,

Sevilla Ludwig
a 40-year supporter of "my Montana kids"

5 Wild Winds St.
Florence, OR 97439

Subject: Years of Changing Lives
From: Bob Ammerman <rwammerman@gmail.com>
Date: 12/30/2014 9:01 AM
To: pinehaven@blackfoot.net

To whom it may concern:
I am writing to affirm the work of Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch and School, near St. Ignatius, Montana. The program is a very powerful tool to change the lives of many troubled children. For years our family has received monthly letters, snapshots, and colorful brochures showing the lives of these children as they live, work, study, play and most of all grow and THRIVE in the atmosphere and the caring, loving guidance of the staff there. The faith, character, and commitment of the founders Bob and Nancy Larsson and their family through the years have been very strong and consistent. In the ensuing years they have added solid, high quality, and dedicated people to their staff. Through their teaching, training, and enabling the young people to experience life that they didn't know was possible, the staff has modeled a solid work ethic, a strong faith in God, family life, and has taught them life skills to give them a future. The testimonies we read in the newsletters affirm the changes the young people have experienced and the growth, confidence, and most of all hope they have for the future.

Pinehaven gives the opportunity for service to people in congregations all over the US, by offering work camps in the summer for groups to spend a week or two volunteering to meet a variety of needs at the ranch. This is a great witness for the youth to meet other Christians and for churches to be involved hands on, utilizing a myriad of skills and expertise they bring with them. It is definitely an ongoing win-win situation from which all involved benefit!

It is imperative that Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch and School continue to function as it is at present, changing lives of youth through faith in God, commitment to His word, and making Jesus Lord of their lives.

I thank you for the opportunity to send this statement on behalf of Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch and School. Please contact me if I can be of more specific service.

Sincerely,

Carol Ammerman
1107 Doebrook Drive
New Albany, IN 47150
812-944-8035

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: hayman1908@frontier.com <hayman1908@frontier.com>
Date: Wed, Dec 24, 2014 at 1:47 AM
Subject: Merry Christmas!
To: Sherri Culter <sculter50@gmail.com>

I wanted to let you and Bill both know how much I appreciate the selfless sacrifice you have given to my son and I. Your examples of love and unselfishness have been a great witness to him and also to me. I apologize for keeping him from you both(selfishly). In this season I felt the least I could do was to share your gift with someone who has unselfishly worked to also provide for a family.
I have been quick to judge my father in recent years yet have never walked a mile in his boots. I imagined what must have went through the minds of people about my son three years ago, and what could have happened had Pinehaven not given him a second chance. I realized two things, something Bill said to me this summer, "I serve a risen Saviour," and that if I serve a risen Savior, I must trust Him fully. That being said, I found a different person yesterday than I expected and I allowed Levi to spend the night with his Grandpa and my Dad.
We have not mended the fence yet between us but I believe the Lord allowed me to unspool some wire yesterday! Missing my son this morning but feel like I in a small way got to give my Dad the best present he has had in years. I know he is in good hands as he has been in His hands for a long time now. You and Bill and the rest of the staff at Pinehaven have given me a gift I can never repay, but perhaps this letter might find it's way into the hand of someone who doubts of the important work of Pinehaven Christian Childeren's Ranch. You and Bill have done more work than you know you have also been working on me! God Bless you all and again Merry Christmas!

Wes

Subject: Pinehaven Christian Children Ranch
From: John Mulford <jhmulford50@gmail.com>
Date: 1/7/2015 5:57 PM
To: Pinehaven Office <phoffice@blackfoot.net>

My wife and I have been familiar with the operation of the ranch for over 30 years and have spent several days at different times helping on construction and different projects. We have never seen or heard from the children, any signs of neglect or abuse. It is a great place for young people to learn to live as a family, get a good education from certified teachers and a chance to learn a trade.

I can see nothing to be gained by having a State license. The ranch is supported by private donations and receives no money from the tax payers.

John Mulford
Kalispell, Mt..

Subject: Grateful
From: Antonia Slaybaugh <prairiequeena54@gmail.com>
Date: 12/31/2014 1:49 PM
To: pinehaven@blackfoot.net

I was a part of a senior group on our way to Canada from Illinois. We stopped for lunch and to take a tour of the Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch and School. I was not familiar with the ranch prior to my visit. I was amazed by what I experienced! The ranch is well run. We had a fantastic lunch. Everyone was so warm and welcoming. We had a brief church service. I felt the spirit of God present. This is a God centered program and it needs to remain that way! Many of the children were away at camp during my visit. The resident children that were there were very hospitable to our group of over 50 travelers.
May God continue to be in control of Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch and School.

Sincerely,
Mrs. A. Slaybaugh
Athens, IL

Subject: Pinehven Christian Children's Ranch
From: ESTHER MAYNARD <maynard.esther@yahoo.com>
Date: 1/21/2015 10:11 AM
To: pinehaven@blackfoot.net

Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch has been a great example of success in rehabilitating kids in trouble and needing the help of dedicated people who care.

When my husband was alive, my family and I often visited Pinehaven and saw daily examples of all the love and care that kids in trouble receive. Children with all sorts of problems were nurtured and taught the things that eventually helped them to cope with life and usually were able to return to their own homes.

My own family were so impressed by the success of Christian examples at Pinehaven that they have used those examples in raising their own families throughout the years.

Sincerely,

Esther Maynard

Subject: Intervention
From: "Bill & Carol" <bcwestern@logonix.net>
Date: 1/27/2015 1:15 PM
To: <pinehaven@blackfoot.net>

Gentlemen: We have known and supported the fine work of the people at Pinehaven for many years. It would be nice if they were left alone to continue with the help to children that they so lovingly provide. No outside agency is needed and they should be left alone. Bill Western

Subject: Kudos for Pinehaven
From: "Karen Aldridge" <pweyeka@ruraltel.net>
Date: 12/22/2014 12:33 PM
To: <pinehaven@blackfoot.net>

Please feel free to share the following with the Montana legislature:

For several years I provided eye care to inmates in a medium-security correctional facility in Kansas. Many of the men I took care of were serving their second or third or fourth incarceration. They were filled with anger against "The System" and had no plan to change their lives for the better, either inside the facility or when they were released. The few inmates who had found Jesus Christ while in prison had a totally different outlook and demeanor; they were filled with a quiet joy and were looking forward to the time they could return to their families—a new man in the Lord. Many of them told me, "I plan to lead my family to Jesus." I did not see those men again after their release; they did not recidivate.

Pinehaven is doing that for kids. By meeting the Lord Jesus Christ and submitting to Him, their lives are changed for the better. They realize that their hopes and dreams are possible. Instead of being angry juveniles who hurt themselves and society by their foolish choices, eventually ending up in prison, they become filled with that same joy I saw in those inmates.

It's obvious that the state-run correction system, at least in Kansas, is not doing a very good job of correcting the men and turning them around. Why take a situation like Pinehaven that is working so well, and put it under government jurisdiction with the possibility it will work as well as the correction system does? It would be wiser to leave well enough alone and instead thank them for the job they have done in helping the children who have spent time on the ranch with them. I am proud to be a long-time supporter of Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch.

Sincerely,
Karen S. Aldridge, O.D.

Subject: Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch & School
From: Rick Aton <rick.aton.aayr@statefarm.com>
Date: 12/20/2014 1:57 PM
To: "pinehaven@blackfoot.net" <pinehaven@blackfoot.net>

Thanks for the Christmas letter. Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year. Your letter states that once again you are facing legislation that will allow the state to take over your program.

My prayer is that this legislation will be defeated and you will continue to be allowed to give the kids second and third chances in life by teaching them family values that revolve around Faith in God, commitment to His word and making Jesus Lord of their lives.

I've been to Pinehaven. I've met the children & teens that have been helped by Pinehaven. I know that many of these kids would be incarcerated or dead if they didn't get a chance to live at Pinehaven. For many of these kids it wasn't a 2nd or 3rd chance in life – it was their final chance and I've seen many turn their lives around and become positive, energetic, productive and hard-working folks that align their lives with God's word.

It's my hope that you can continue to be the "light" in the world of troubled children. Many blessings into the future!

Rick Aton, CLU ChFC
3501 Westfield Rd, Suite 122
Westfield, IN 46062
317-867-5000
rick@rickaton.com

From: Emily Robson <emilyrobson37@yahoo.com>
Date: 1/23/2015 8:34 AM
To: "phoffice@blackfoot.net" <phoffice@blackfoot.net>

Hello,
My name is Emily Robson, I was a former member of Pinehaven Christian Ranch, fist off I wanted to say thank you for everything you all have done. I was sent there at age 13 n left at 17 Pinehaven helped me a lot. Mrs. Houghton was my teacher I can't think her enough for having patients with me. There was talk about "child abuse" I personal did not see ANY what I saw was tough love. A lot of kids where there with the mind set of no one loves me no one will care what I do. So when the staff corrected them n they had to go do chorus, the kids thought it was the end of the world. None of the staff hit, pushed, or anything. I recommend Pinehaven.
Love; Emily Robson

Subject: Thank you!
From: EAllen <erica0525@gmail.com>
Date: 12/2/2014 10:27 AM
To: pinehaven@blackfoot.net

Dear sir,

I would like to wish each of you a VERY Merry Christmas! I am so grateful and humbled by the love that my daughter, Emily, is receiving. Each time I speak with her, she sounds so hopeful and happy. The good reports from Bill and Sherri give me great hope for our future as mother and daughter. We were indeed desperate for his saving grace and mercy. I am unceasingly amazed in how our Lord God works things out for his children. May his blessings continue in your ministry. May his glory and light fill your homes this blessed time of year.

Peace to you,

Erica Allen-Hall

Subject: Legislation to control Pinehaven
From: Donna Trotter <woodyp1943@gmail.com>
Date: 12/20/2014 7:29 AM
To: "pinehaven@blackfoot.net" <pinehaven@blackfoot.net>

Legislators:
I have supported, visited Pinehaven twice, sent my grandson on a work mission there since 1969. This mission is a true dedication to helping troubled youth reach maturity in there life.
Learning most of all love, discipline, work skills and fun. This private entity is a true love and dedication of Bob Larson and the staff who molds young lives who would have failed to be productive citizens. Government and society is not the answer.
Respectively, Donna Trotter, 3205 Oak Street, Terre Haute, IN 47803

Subject: Christian Children's Ranch and School
From: Greg Rasmussen <gras747@twc.com>
Date: 12/20/2014 1:30 PM
To: pinehaven@blackfoot.net

My wife and I have been involved with this ministry for over 15 years. We have witnessed first hand the wonderful work and changed lives that have taken place here. God is able to do great things when His people take His word to practice and love unconditionally. We won't know all the good that has come from this until we get to heaven. He is truly at work in this place.

Greg and Lynette Rasmussen
4116 Doe Ridge Dr
Floyds Knobs, IN 47119
812-923-9462

Subject:
From: Annette Trotter <AnnetteT@travelturner.com>
Date: 12/22/2014 9:55 AM
To: "pinehaven@blackfoot.net" <pinehaven@blackfoot.net>

My parents raised me in a home that supported Pinehaven and from the time I was old enough to ... I support Pinehaven! Six years ago I had the opportunity to bring a charter bus with 40 people to Pinehaven for lunch and a tour. This was a dream come true for me. We visited every aspect of Pinehaven and met many of the kids and saw their interaction with their house parents. This visit cemented my belief in the good works and positive lives that Pinehaven builds. These kids are being raised in a home not an institution. They are being raised in a home with love. They are being raised with morals and values. They are being raised to be productive adults who know right from wrong and because of this they will be productive citizens.

Annette Trotter
812.236.6709
annettet@travelturner.com

My name is Chelsie Schnetter and I was sent to Pinehaven Christian School on January 1, 2005. I was raised in a Christian home by the example of my dad. My mom on the other hand was not a good influence on my life. She treated me more like a little sister. She cheated on my dad countless times and would make me keep secrets from him at a very young age. It was when I was about 10 that my parents divorced and I went to live with my mom when I was 11. From there, my life went downhill. I started getting straight f's in school, skipping class, stealing my mom's car, smoking cigarettes and being a bully to others at school. I was expelled from the 7th grade half way through the school year. My mom had met a man online, packed her things in the middle of the night and left me, all alone to fend for myself. I called my dad, who then came and picked me up and brought me home. He had no idea what to do with me, a snotty, disrespectful 12-year-old. He really tried but there was not much he could do. He then called my uncle Bill Barron, the former Sheriff of Lake County, who recommended I go to Pinehaven. So, we packed my things and we decided I go.

I arrived to the ranch January 1st 2005. I had no idea what to think! So many new people, barns, houses and much more. To say the least, I was nervous. I settled in with Dave and Jeannie Moe and the other children at the Oreo house. It took me awhile to get accustom to being at such a structured home but I began to let my guard down. That summer I was baptized at the summer camp we attended every year. I began to open my eyes to the awful footsteps I was following in after my mother and knew I did not want to go down that path. I am not going to say the first year or so I was perfect and never was justly punished for things I did but after I decided to pull my act together, Pinehaven became my family. I was never abused or witnessed any sort of abuse to any fellow housemates. Dave and Jeannie were parents to me. Jeannie became the mom I never had. I gained brothers and sisters, some of whom I am still in contact with.

I graduated from Pinehaven in May of 2010 with a 3.8GPA! School at Pinehaven was so awesome. I had teachers and older students to tutor and help me. In the 10th grade, I became a tutor for some of the younger kids and even fellow classmates up until I graduated. My teachers Kaatje Camp and John Larson made me love school. John Larson was such a kind, gentle person and he went out of his way for anyone and everyone.

After graduating, I decided to stay at Pinehaven to work there for the summer. I worked with Maxine Kent and a lot of the other adults employed there. I could use Rick Bondy's four-wheeler to get to and from job sites. Maxine and I spent a lot of time together in the garden. I was taught to drive by Adam Houghton and could get my driver's license while working there.

And by the way, I love Ned and Maxine Kent. They are amazing people. Ned would take us kids out during hunting season to harvest deer. I believe I harvested two does with Ned while I was there! He made hunting so much fun. I appreciate all the things they did for me and all the life skills they taught me.

I am now married to an amazing man named Anthony Schnetter. We have been married for 4 years this July. We love to hunt and fish and pretty much do anything outside! I work at a dental office as a dental assistant with some amazing Christian woman. I can thank Jeannie Moe and the staff at Pinehaven for teaching me to be a hard worker. That is something I hear all the time is what a good worker I am and that is because of Pinehaven. When I am not working, I am out fishing! Pinehaven taught me so many valuable things I could go on and on. But if nothing else, I want to get my point across. You can look at what my life was and was going to be before I was sent to Pinehaven and look at it now and praise God my dad sent me there. God worked through all the staff there and helped me get my head on straight. I would never say a negative thing about Pinehaven or believe any of the lies that children were abused there. God's hand is on Pinehaven and I know Bob and Nancy Larson have huge hearts and want to help as many kids as they can while they can. I know they want to find the right people to help all the children in need and I know God will see that it happens. Lives are changed at Pinehaven. Just look at mine!

Sunshine on a Snowy Day!

Everyone's spirits lift as the Sun comes out in late Winter. Our apologies to the Midwest who didn't get to enjoy our snow. Bob spent some time in the skid steer bucket taking the ranch Christmas picture. He and Nancy will celebrate their 70th Wedding Anniversary this May! Pinehaven is in it's 41st year and is blessed to have served more than 500 students. A BIG THANK YOU to all of You who have made this Possible!!!

PINEHAVEN *is supported by the gifts of God's people. If you wish to make a gift, the form at the right is for <u>your</u> convenience. Please PRAY for us too!*

Thank You for being a Ministry Partner!

Here is my gift of $_____ for PINEHAVEN

<u>Use it for:</u> New Building _____

Life House Ministry_____

As Needed _____

Name _____ Address_____

3-17

Mail to: Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch
Box 940, St. Ignatius, MT. 59865-0940

<u>UPS address:</u> PINEHAVEN, 225 North Main
St. Ignatius, MT 59865
www.pinehaven.net

Our contact information:

(406) 745-4545 Office/Financial phoffice@blackfoot.net
(406) 546-9015 Dan Larsson cgitw225@gmail.com
(406) 745-3081 Bob Larsson pinehaven@blackfoot.net
(406) 745-4004 Fax

Two Letters from a Thankful Family

Dear Bob and Staff

Several years ago I had a 12 year old daughter that was going down the wrong road of life. She had been expelled from school and arrested as a minor in possession. I had to admit that I needed help. **I called my brother who was at that time the sheriff,** I asked him where I could find a safe place that could help her though this difficult time in her life. He didn't hesitate to recommend **Pinehaven** to me.

After some things falling into place to make it possible for my daughter to attend your program I **brought you a street tough girl that was hurt inside and trying to hurt herself.** As she went thought the months I began to see the change in her and **the sweet child I once knew coming back to life.** As the months turned to years she made the choice herself to stay at Pinehaven until she graduated high school.

The foundation in God and the work ethic that was installed in her at Pinehaven has been such a part of who she is now. I have been so blessed to have her employers and coworkers come to me and say what an amazing young woman I raised. I have to stop them and tell them I didn't do it, I **owe it all to Pinehaven and the people who have committed their lives to saving young people who have lost their way in life. The lessons she learned at Pinehaven have been so applicable to her life.**

She loves hunting and fishing. She is a hard worker and she is so respectful and kind that people are drawn to her. My daughter is now married to a good man and has a great career as a dental hygienist. **I gave you a broken little girl and with Gods help you returned to me a beautiful woman that loves God and all he has created.** To say thank you seems so inadequate **I will always be proud to tell people of Pinehaven and the great staff that you have. I thank God for a place like Pinehaven and your Love for children.**

Thank You *(Name removed for privacy)*

My name is *(Name removed for privacy)*. I have been a County Commissioner in *(County name removed for privacy)* County, Montana for the past eight years. Before that I served in law Enforcement for 33 years as the County Sheriff.

During that time I became well acquainted with Robert "Bob" Larsson and the work and program of the Pinehaven Christian Children's ranch and school of which he is the founder and still a director.

One of my nieces enrolled in Pinehaven to help her solve some teen age difficulties. It was the best thing that ever happened to her. She made a great life change for the good and today is happily married and working as a surgical dental assistant.

I attribute her success to the Christian emphasis of the Pinehaven program that moved her to make Jesus her Lord and Savior and the Bible her guidebook.

In all my contacts with Pinehaven over the years, I never saw anything but loving care in a very safe and caring environment.

(Name removed for privacy)

GOOD NEWS FROM PINEHAVEN!

Christmas and Cold Weather Life

This Montana Winter has been Enjoyable for Many Reasons. The Changing Weather Patterns Remind us that God is in Control! What a Great Place for Kids to Learn Who They Need to let Take Control in Their Lives! Pinehaven Christmas Was Enjoyed by All. Winter is a Good Time to Take Advantage of Indoor Projects in Shop Class, Wire the New Building, Cut Meat, and Go Bowling. However, Our Main Focus is Keeping Christ Number One and Are Blessed with Changed Lives!

is supported by the gifts of God's people. If you wish to make a gift, the form at the right is for <u>your</u> convenience. Please PRAY for us too !

Thank You for being a Ministry Partner!

Our contact information:

(406) 745-4545 Office/Financial phoffice@blackfoot.net
(406) 546-9015 Dan Larsson cgitw225@gmail.com
(406) 745-3081 Bob Larsson pinehaven@blackfoot.net
(406) 745-3095 Fax

Here is my gift of $_____ for PINEHAVEN

<u>Use it for:</u> New Building _____

Life House Ministry_____

As Needed _____

Name _____ Address_____

3-16

Mail to: Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch
Box 940, St. Ignatius, MT. 59865-0940

<u>UPS address:</u> *PINEHAVEN, 225 North Main*
St. Ignatius, MT 59865
www.pinehaven.net

Some Letters from Current Students and Supporters

Date Nov. 29th 2015 — Sermon Notes

Speaker Student's Name

Topic What I am Thankful for.

Reference: Life

Notes

I want to Thank Bob and Nancy for everything they have done. For being such Godly people to give their life to help others. If it were not for Pineheaven I would probably not be here or alive. I would of never learned the true meaning of Love. And I would never of had the chance to get to know God, and His Son and what They did for me. Pineheaven saved my life. I Also Thank you for putting me in Gary (Dad) and Susan (Mom) Henderson's Home. They welcomed me as their own, and never gave up on me. No matter what I did they still loved me. They are my Mom and Dad, and I love them so much! I want to say Thank you for my Pineheaven family, they all mean so much to me!

I am Thankful for everyday God gives me, but when I go Home to Heaven I will be even more Thankful.

Thank you so much!

Love,

Student's Signature

Dear Bob + Nancy,

Always so glad to receive More Good News from Pineheaven. Praise God and Congratulations on a marvelous job well done. Enclosed is my little gift, I wish it could be more.

It's been quite a year for us, as it sounds like for you. But Praise God! He is working all things well.

Mahalo nui loa,

Correspondent's Name

You have been and ARE A GREAT SERVANT. Sorry we HAVE NOT supported you. I hope that will change. You send the BEST pictures in the Christian Church.

Prominent Christian Church Minister

Bob,

Let me first say thank you for flying all the way to State Name to pick up Boy's Name. We felt peace since that day. Knowing he is in a Christian home with structure, stability and safe has brought joy in our home. I believe God is using Pineheaven to help mold Boy's Name into a Godly man. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Child's mother Mother's Name

Pineheaven,

Every year we have a tradition that we donate money to a charity with a worthy cause. This year I would like to donate to you. We talk about you in Sunday School and I want to donate this money to you guys to continue the work

- Girl's Name

Dear Bob,

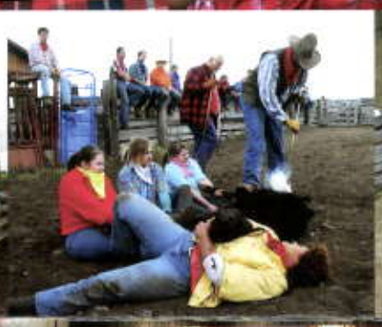
I thank you for letting me go home and see my Grandpa, and letting me go home for his funeral. I'm very greatful for all the grace you have giving. You are a one of a kind man. Thank you!

Yours truly,

Student's Signature

Names have been Removed for Privacy

Good News From Pinehaven!



A Blessed Spring!

Spring is always lush and green with new Calves to care for and outdoor activities to Enjoy. We *Love* to share graduation pictures Representing the hard work the graduates Have Completed! Roundup was *Wonderful* and cool! Sometimes it is difficult to determine if the kids Tackle the calves or if it Is the other way around... The North West Men's Retreat was held at Pinehaven This year and the pool was again used as a Baptistry! *Changed Lives for Christ are our Goal!*

PINEHAVEN *is supported by the gifts of God's people. If you wish to make a gift, the form at the right is for <u>your</u> convenience. Please PRAY for us too !*

Thank You for being a Ministry Partner!

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6-16

Mail to: Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch
Box 940, St. Ignatius, MT. 59865-0940

<u>UPS address:</u> PINEHAVEN, 225 North Main
St. Ignatius, MT 59865
www.pinehaven.net

Graduation Speeches 2016

Hi everyone I'm (Student's Name). Thank you all for coming this evening. I was born and raised in Illinois. A day after my 16th birthday I was on a plane heading to Western Montana. I wasn't excited to come this far away from my family. I definitely had my doubts about being here. Thinking this wouldn't do me any good. God had other plans.

I went through the stage most teens go through; it's called rebellion. I didn't like to go to school and I most definitely didn't like being told what to do. I didn't listen to any authority. When I got on the plane to come to Montana I brought the disrespect with me thinking it would do me some good. I had a lot to learn, and shortly after being here they took the disrespect right out of me. Something I never thought anyone could do. I didn't grow up in a Christian home, something all kids deserve

I grew up with my parents divorced. My step-mom came into my life at such a young age. My dad had three kids of his own and my step-mom had three kids of her own. I had a relationship with my step-mom when I was younger then as I got older I couldn't stand to be around her. Definitely not because anything she did but because of what I did. She was only trying to help but I didn't see it.

I have lived at Pinehaven for 2 1/2 years. I have enjoyed the mountains very much, but my time has come for me to go. If the mountains were packable they would be going in my suitcase to come home with me! I'm not excited to leave the Ranch however though I am excited to receive my high school diploma.

I would like to share my gratitude toward my house-parents. They have taught me the real meaning of life. You both have taught me how to preserve to reach all my goals. Sometimes I gave up on my goals they helped me to press on to reach those goals. Graduation was one of those major goals. Without the encouragement from you guys and my teachers I wouldn't be here today. My graduation partner also encouraged me just the same, always reminding me I can do it. Thanks a lot (Graduate's Name). My house-parents have showed me what unconditional love is like. You guys never gave up on me. Sometimes I asked myself why they are still trying. They have taught me how to love God first, serve others and then yourself. Sometimes I find it hard for me to do that, but they always will remind me and help me get back on my feet. On December 23rd 2014, I am proud to say I was baptized. That changed my life forever. Thanks dad and mom for everything you've ever done for me. I love you guys.

My parents have also encouraged me every day I've been here. They are loving and supportive of almost every decision I make. I have grown a wonderful relationship with my parents, not just them but my whole family for that matter. They are two amazing people who had a hard time raising me, but they never gave up. Thanks dad and mom. I love you so much too.

Bob and Nancy thanks so much for following God's plan for your lives and living it out. Bob Larsson has inspired me to never be ashamed of the Gospel. Some of the amazing stories he has to tell give me the chills. If you ever have time sit down and let him tell you a few. Thanks so much for everything this Ranch has to offer. Pinehaven has blessed me tremendously. Love you.

There are too many staff here to thank individually but I want all of you to know that you had a major impact on who I am today. Thanks so much to my family here. You have been an amazing bunch of people to grow around. Then the house-siblings: You guys have also helped me see the true me. It amazes me how kids can become friends from all over the place. Thanks for all the memories, laughter and even the cries. I just wanted to say thank you to all of you.

Never could I have imagined myself having learned so much like: how to milk a cow, how to cook food, buck hay bales, American Sign Language, welding, metal work, wood work, how to tend and keep a garden, but most importantly how to be a useful and productive human.

My life after Pinehaven is to head back to Illinois, get involved in my church and hopefully become a missionary. I am still indecisive on which college to go to, Lincoln Christian University is one I am considering, but still not sure. I do however intend to go! My goal for being a missionary is because I love little kids and I want them to be taught something I never was. Even though life will have some difficulties I will persevere to get through them because I have been taught to. I will always try to press on to reach my goals.

Thanks so much to everyone who's had an impact on who I am! I appreciate and love you all!!!

Hi, my name is (Student's Name). I grew up in Nebraska. My mom always kept us active. I think it helped me become a better competitor.

As most pre- teens and teenagers I went through the rebellious stage. I lied, manipulated, and stole. I think as years progressed I got worse… I didn't lie about big things usually; I lied about stupid petty things. Now every time I remember that it reminds me of how far I have come.

I was in Study Hall and looked up "Christian Ranch's in Montana." The first one to pop up was Pinehaven. On the website I looked through every photo and read every comment. When I was finished I decided to email Pinehaven. Two minutes later I got a call from Bob Larsson. He asked me some questions and said "well if this is okay with your parents… we'll get you here real quick!" Once I hung up I think I was in shock that I had actually agreed to come to a ranch in Montana.

Two weeks later, November 5th, 2014. I came here to Pinehaven. I really didn't think I would change. I thought this place would be all fun and games. I also thought it was an escape from my parents. Truth is I personally believe it was one of the best decisions of my life. I have been here at Pinehaven for only a year and a half. Time has flown by. While being here I have learned in school, and I have learned how to maintain a household, and most importantly I have learned about Our Lord Jesus Christ.

I always knew there was a "God" I just never knew how important it was to have a real relationship with Him. Wanda and JC helped me understand that and what it means to have a relationship with Christ. They taught me that being a Christian is a walk and a witness. On March 29th, 2015 I decided to dedicate my life to Jesus Christ and was baptized. This was a HUGE step in my life because I was so stubborn. At first I thought I was better than everyone. I always thought why do I need another person to boss me around? God laughed at me that day and he showed himself to me. That is why I decided Jesus died for me too. In 2015 when Lincoln Christian University came to Pinehaven I did devotion with them. One of the girls said "Submit yourself therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7. It really clicked. I had been taught that if you submit to God then He will protect you. I understood that He would take away all my sin, guilt, and shame. I needed to submit myself fully to Him so He would protect me.

I don't want to portray that once I became a Christian I came out of the water perfect. I do want to portray an image of a child of God who is trying. I will never be perfect. I still mess up every day. Now that I have Christ with me I can base my decisions with Him rather than the world.

I have been blessed by the ranch. Thank you, Bob and Nancy for creating this place. Without Pinehaven, I would have been in jail or a different establishment. Thank you for listening to God's call. I know you have helped so many kids. Including me.

There are so many people I need to thank: house parents for loving us kids, teachers and staff for believing in us, and house siblings for making my stay here an experience I will never forget. I will miss you guys all so much!

JC and Wanda have brought hope to my life. They are the reason I am a child of God to this day. Thank you Wanda for loving, caring, teaching and supporting me. You mean the world to me. I love you. I also thank JC. You have taught me so much about animals, hunting, and also Christ. I have learned a lot from you and I am so happy the Lord led me to you. You are just like a father to me. I love you.

If it wasn't for my family letting me come, to Pinehaven I would have never met these people.. I love all you guys so much! I really will miss this ranch I love you!

I have many plans and goals for my near future. My plans after high school are to attend LCU in Lincoln, Illinois. I would like to get my psychology degree so I could be a Christian children's counselor. If it wasn't for the ranch, I probably would have never even finished high school let alone be accepted to a college.

GOOD NEWS FROM PINEHAVEN!

Summer Blessings!

There have been no idle hands at the Ranch
This summer with multiple projects and events
To keep everyone busy. Hay season and construction
On the bowling alley have brought about good
Hard work. Many life and marketable skills can
Be learned when building! The camp season was
A blessing and the lake was once again transformed
Into a baptistry! God is so good!
Thank you for your prayers that protected Pinehaven
From the first forest fires on the property in 40 years!

***PINEHAVEN** is supported by the gifts of God's people. If you wish to make a gift, the form at the right is for <u>your</u> convenience. Please PRAY for us too!*

Thank You for being a Ministry Partner!

Here is my gift of $_____ for PINEHAVEN

<u>Use it for:</u> New Building _____

Life House Ministry_____

As Needed _____

Name _____ Address_____

9-16

Mail to: Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch
Box 940, St. Ignatius, MT. 59865-0940

<u>UPS address:</u> PINEHAVEN, 225 North Main
St. Ignatius, MT 59865
www.pinehaven.net

Our contact information:

(406) 745-4545 Office/Financial phoffice@blackfoot.net
(406) 546-9015 Dan Larsson cgitw225@gmail.com
(406) 745-3081 Bob Larsson pinehaven@blackfoot.net
(406) 745-4004 Fax

Letters and Notes from Students and Supporters

August 24, 2016

Dear Bob,

I just want to thank you for Pine Haven. Today 1 year ago I was on a plane heading to the ranch and to be honest I didn't want to come, but looking back I am happy I came. I have never been this close to God in my life.

Before I came here I gave myself away to guys, smoked, drank, and was living a very destructive lifestyle. To be honest I didn't think I was that bad. I was still going to school and had goals for my future. So what was the big deal. Since I have come here I have realized and accepted the negative effects smoking pot has had on my brain and the regrets that come with it. If I did not come to Pine Haven I would most likely be addicted to many drugs, in Jail, or pregnant. I also would not have repaired my relationship with my Grandma who has recently passed away.

Now I am making great grades, God has changed my heart, and I plan to someday become a labor and delivery nurse this would not be possible without Pine Haven so thank you again Bob, _____ and and all the Pine Haven Staff for listening to God's calling.

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

6/17/16

Our prayers are constant for Pinehaven - this mission field is yielding so many beautiful young ones, to spread the Gospel!

Hope all is well at the ranch!! This is such a wonderful ministry we love to support!!

Aug 17

KIDS HUNGER FOR LOVE AND FAMILY AND THE LORD.

LOVE WHAT YOU ARE DOING. YOUR INDIVIDUAL WORKS FOR THOSE TROUBLED KIDS COULD BE USED IN THE MISCHIEVOUS HOODS THAT ARE SO MESSED UP AROUND OUR COUNTRY, BECAUSE FAMILIES ARE SO MESSED UP.

BUT, IT IS BEST DONE ONE AT A TIME. OVERWHELMING TO ME, YOU HAVE THE POWER IN THE HOLY SPIRIT THOUGH. "KEEP ON KEEPIN ON" WE SUPPORT YOU WITH MONEY AND PRAYER.

Hello, my name is _____.

I am a graduate from Pinehaven and I'd like to tell you a little bit about myself and my experience at the Ranch. When I was a young child, I was very mischievous. My family had been friends with the Larssons' for quite some time. They came to the decision to send me to Pinehaven.

I'll be honest, at first I was very rebellious and fought against those people that were just trying to show me a better way to live. Through their love, guidance, structure, and discipline, they led me on a path that would lead to success and they showed me I had a better and higher calling. They also showed me the most amazing and life changing love, the love of my Lord Jesus.

Because of the love and patience, persistence, and faithfulness of the staff at the Ranch, I can say most assuredly that my stars have changed and my future is brighter. Not only did I graduate from the Ranch, I have returned three summers to work there as an intern in between attending college at Ozark Christian and winter jobs in Polson. I have utilized the awesome life lessons and skills the Ranch and staff have taught me. From cooking for upwards to 100 people when we have groups who visit, to bucking bales of hay, stacking fire wood, and everything else a working ranch has to offer.

I am very grateful and blessed to have a place like Pinehaven to call home and to be able to call the staff 'family.' Because of this amazing place and their devotion to the Lord and us kids, I have decided to follow their example and move to Oklohoma and work with troubled teens on a children's ranch. I hope I am able to be at least half the person that the staff at Pinehaven are.

I am very blessed and fortunate to have such amazing leaders to take up the torch from.

Some Names Removed for Privacy

Good News From Pinehaven!

Winter is Coming!

It has been a fun filled Fall! Family camp with Victor Knowles was a great Faith building time and the wilderness backpacking trip was a huge success! Many of the 2016 summer visitors have asked about the bowling alley they worked on this summer, it is coming along nicely. The bears are now hibernating while we are tying up weather sensetive projects, working on school work, and preparing for Christmas. The three picture transformation above continues to give us evidence of God's Blessing!

PINEHAVEN *is supported by the gifts of God's people. If you wish to make a gift, the form at the right is for <u>your</u> convenience. Please PRAY for us too !*

Thank You for being a Ministry Partner!

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12-16

Mail to: Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch
Box 940, St. Ignatius, MT. 59865-0940

<u>UPS address:</u> PINEHAVEN, 225 North Main
St. Ignatius, MT 59865
www.pinehaven.net

LETTERS AND NOTES FROM PINEHAVEN SUPPORTERS

November 13, 2016

Dear Ones in Christ,

How exciting to read your letter and hear of all the things you are accomplishing. How sweet it will be to have it finished and get to enjoy the fruits of your labor.

How blest to be in a place to teach children how to hunt, and especially enjoy God's creation. Eating fish prepared over an open fire sounds wonderful.

How sweet to know that all of you care so deeply about teaching Jesus, and being His example.

Our thanks to you for being such good stewards of all God has provided for you.

Please accept our thanks for serving and our prayers for your work to continue. First Christian Mission

Thanks for the Pictures and letters as to how the young people are doing - It is a joy to see them come to Christ.

On Social Security it is hard to get by. Please except this small token that comes with love and prayers for you.

We thank Heaven for you and all that you do.

Praise ON in Jesus name!

I just turned 90 But still going. My Best wishes to Bob + Wife and your Son - Continue on - I'll send a little Check as long as I live. Love your Work with the Children.

Hello Everyone,

According to the high hornets nest, the black willie worms, the spoons in the persimmons, it's going to be a hard winter here. And you know we get our winters from Montanna Ha! Glad to hear all is going well. Use the money as needed. It is a little harder for us to give as I (we) are retired on that old "Fixed income". Our prayers aren't fixed though and we remember you often. What a gift all of you are to our young people. Some day we will get to visit you again. Looking forward to the changes

God Best Blessing your ministry All who serve + all who are saved!

Thank you for all that you do to help out Kids that can't get the help, lots of support that they need. God Bless you.