

Places for Struggling Teens™

Published by
Woodbury Reports, Inc.™

"It is more important to get it right, than to get it first."

July 2009 - Issue #179



OUT FROM UNDER THE RADAR

By: Lon Woodbury

Back in 2006, I wrote an essay titled "Under the Radar." My point then was that the days were gone where private parent-choice residential schools and programs for struggling young people operated largely unknown to the public. By 2006, states were struggling to develop oversight and regulations (often in collaboration with well known and effective programs) that were reasonable for these fairly new and unique schools and programs.

The media was noticing our existence by publishing an increasing number of articles about success stories and criticisms of the schools and programs in the network. The number of parents calling schools, programs and educational consultants to inquire if their child might be helped continued to increase. With the hearings in late 2007 by Congressman Miller, our growing network received national attention and the gaze of Congress.



The schools and programs in the network have responded to this changing societal environment in several ways:

There has been a significant increase in Research and Outcome Studies, and many more are being undertaken currently. I will publish them online as soon as I receive them.

There is a concerted effort throughout the network to require staff to be experienced and credentialed.

More schools and programs have fine tuned their screening process to screen out those students who were inappropriate so they could be served at a place more appropriate for their needs.

New techniques and philosophies are being tested by experienced staff that left their previous employment to establish their own school or program. As the needs and problems of young people change, this network is becoming a hotbed of determining what works best and sharing what they learn with others.

Professional organizations closely associated with this network are rapidly becoming more sophisticated in explaining the strengths and successes of this network.

The Independent Educational Consultant Association (IECA) has been increasingly active in statements to the press and communicating with other professional organizations.

The National Association of Therapeutic Schools and Programs (NATSAP) has learned from being blind-sided by Congressman Miller in 2007. They are now becoming increasingly effective by aggressively presenting their perspective to Congress and the public.

As an example of a NATSAP activity, I just returned from a trip to Washington DC in mid-June where I participated with NATSAP in presenting a positive perspective to the staff of several Senators regarding the Miller legislation. The Miller legislation passed the US House of Representatives earlier this year and has been received by the US Senate for consideration.

In anticipation of possible Senate action sometime this year or next year, we talked with key staff of about a dozen Senators. The representative of a Washington DC law firm was very efficient in setting our appointments and escorting us around the Senate Office Buildings. The staff politely listened, with some already quite aware of some of the schools in this network. For others, this was the first they had heard of this type of school and program.

With a similar exercise next month in Washington DC, NATSAP is aggressively making sure the Senators are aware of the need for this network in serving the needs of parents and their children with problems and the dangers of draconian regulation.

In addition, NATSAP is coordinating research efforts, increasing its public relations efforts and raising standards for membership.

As I said earlier, we are no longer "Under the Radar" but are actively engaging the public.

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Education is the only profession where the providers' lack of confidence in their own product is used as a rationale for rejecting the alternative.

- Joseph P. Viteritti

[Essays and articles appearing in this publication are the opinions of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the policy of Woodbury Reports, Inc.,™ or StrugglingTeens.com.™ We urge our readers to conduct their own investigation of the products and services identified herein.]

Lon Woodbury - Publisher - 208-267-5550 - Fax: 208-267-9127 - www.StrugglingTeens.com

Woodbury Reports™ is an information source to help parents find the right school or program when their child has behavioral/ emotional problems. We are specifically concerned with children needing more intensive intervention than local resources or day programs can provide.

Our focus is on high quality and effective Emotional Growth and/ or Therapeutic schools and programs, which can include short- and long-term outdoor programs, family style living arrangements, highly structured boarding schools, therapeutic boarding schools, RTCs or psychiatric hospitals.

An important goal of these schools and programs is to teach self-discipline through consequences, so the child will learn to be more responsible for his/ her actions. How attitudes are changed and who is successful is at the focus of each issue of Reports.

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Places for Struggling Teens™ is published monthly. One year subscriptions are \$35 USD. Non-Continental US postal orders add \$5 USD.

Places for Struggling Teens™ is published by
Woodbury Reports, Inc.™
Lon Woodbury, Publisher.

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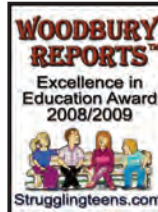


ISSN: 1540-3718

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"Some Children just need to be heard, not cured."

Lon Woodbury, IECA, MA, CEP, is an educational consultant who has worked in schools and programs for emotional growth, character education, and consulting for parents of struggling teens since 1984. Prior to that, he taught in public schools and was involved in public policy while working for the US Senate and the Executive Office of the President. Lon received his BS and MA degrees from the University of Idaho. His practice includes a referral service for parents and professionals, and the publication of this Newsletter and the **PARENT EMPOWERMENT HANDBOOK™**, a resource of **Places for Struggling Teens™**.

BULLYING: BROTHER'S KEEPER PART OF THE SOLUTION?

By: Malcolm Gauld

Although bullying is an old problem, it sure seems to have a new face. Starting out as a teacher three decades ago, I tended to tell parents to simply step out of the picture and let their son or daughter face their bullies on their own. That was the advice our parents gave us when we were kids. However, looking back I don't remember any shootings in my elementary school. I'm pretty sure that we didn't have gangs on our playground. I know that we didn't have the Internet.

The Website: www.targetbully.com defines bullying as "repeated, unprovoked harassment of another individual in which that individual has difficulty defending himself/herself." That sounds simple enough, but bullying has changed. For sure, the old school playground and hallway stuff that I remember as both victim and perpetrator - still goes on, but the Internet has ushered in a whole new breed.

While our mothers wisely cautioned us that sticks and stones might break our bones while assuring us that names would never hurt us, "cyber-bullying" has ratcheted everything up with devious attacks on reputations by invisible perpetrators who hide behind the insidious cloak of anonymity that the Web provides.

The Web site www.parentingbook.com presents some troubling statistics:

- 160,000 children miss school every day due to fear of attack or intimidation by other students.
- 85 percent of girls and 76 percent of boys have been sexually harassed in some form, and only 18 percent of those incidents were perpetrated by an adult.
- Young bullies carry a 1-in-4 chance of having a criminal record by age 30.
- One in seven students is either a bully or a victim. Seventy-one percent of students report incidents of bullying as a problem at their school.
- One out of 20 students has seen a student with a gun at school.

Suffice it to say that the digital world has brought bullying to a new level. So how do we address it?


On one hand, my seasoning as an educator makes me reluctant to merely echo the advice that my parents and teachers gave me. At the same time, I often find myself trying to keep the parents from getting overly involved. Maybe that's because I rarely encounter parents who err on the side of being under-involved.

I have come to visualize a balance. If the adults step in, take complete charge and "fix it," the "fix" tends to result in a short-term bandage. Eventually the problem will once again rear its ugly head, usually when least expected and often with greater intensity.

Even if we manage to install so many controls that we are successful in stopping blatant bullying, there is the risk that we can inadvertently fuel two problematic side effects: (1) We may drive it underground (or over to the Web) where things can get especially nasty; and/or (2) We run the risk that our children will grow up ill-prepared to handle the many challenges they will face as adults when we are no longer hovering like helicopters to protect them.

If the balance tips to the other side and the kids try to do it all by themselves, a "Lord of the Flies" mentality can form, resulting in an anarchy or gang mentality that creates as many victims as it helps. Hence, there needs to be a balance of kids and adults working together.

Three decades ago at the Hyde schools, we pioneered a concept called "Brother's Keeper" which calls upon students to interact with and occasionally even intrude upon their peers



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in order to help each other pursue their personal best. If it has taught me anything, I am convinced of one thing: the “cops and robbers” system we grew up with (cops = teachers; robbers = students) is doomed. While Brother’s Keeper has been forged in Hyde’s two boarding schools in Bath and Woodstock, CT, the real test has been in its transference to our public schools in the Bronx (NYC), New Haven and Washington DC.

I called some of my colleagues from Hyde’s public charter schools to get their take on bullying. Both schools are justifiably proud of what the Director of High School Washington DC Ronaldo Murray calls a “culture of acceptance.”(Hyde-DC stands out as one of the few inner city District high schools with no metal detectors at the front door.)

Assistant Head Chrissie Brown chimes in, “While the kids initially see our concept of Brother’s Keeper as snitching, they ultimately realize that they are actually helping each other out. When we adults get purely punitive, we take away their power to practice that.” (We also increase the climate for bullying.) This is not to say that bullying never happens, but as Yvonnia Wise at Hyde’s South Bronx charter stresses, “We must develop both an eye and an ear for bullying even in its smallest form. Both the victims and perpetrators need to know that bullying will be addressed immediately.”

At the end of the day, we need a mixture of Mom’s advice from days gone by combined with a modern understanding of “It Takes a Village.” They can’t do it by themselves. We cannot do it for them. Maybe we can form a partnership that can get it done.

About the Author: Malcolm Gauld is President of Hyde Schools. For more information, complete bios and photos, contact Rose Mulligan, 207-837-9441, or rmulligan@hyde.edu, or check the web site at www.hyde.edu.

NEW PERSPECTIVES...

[New Perspectives schools and programs are those new to Woodbury Reports, Inc., and are presented to expand your knowledge, with the disclaimer that we know little more about them at this time than what appears here. Inclusion in Places for Struggling Teens™, of course, does not imply any endorsement by Woodbury Reports, Inc. -Lon]

AGAPE BOARDING SCHOOL

Stockton, MO

Kathy Clemensen, Admissions

417-276-7217

agapeboardingschoolnews@yahoo.com

www.agapeboardingschool.org

Agape Boarding School, a ministry of Agape Baptist Church, was founded in April 1990 by James and Kathy Clemensen. This is a Christian based boarding school for boys ages 10 to 18 who are rebellious and struggle with their relationships with their families; in addition, they offer students a college preparatory program, with either accelerated courses or a more flexible curriculum for students who are underachieving. Students are enrolled for a minimum of 12 months.

James Clemensen is the Pastor and Administrator of this Christian Boarding School for Boys and has 18 years ministry experience. Frank Burton, the Co-Pastor, has a Masters Degree in Education, a Doctor of Education from Carolina University of Theology and has 38 years of ministry experience. Leo Lenze is the School Principal and Dean of Students, with over 13 years ministry experience. Agape is a member of the MACCCA and is accredited by the School of Tomorrow.

Agape believes behavioral changes occur through following directions and obeying authority, the use of

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merit/demerit opportunities, practice and use of good manners, strict clothing and personal appearance agreements, coupled with a new environment and a positive peer culture as found in this Christian Boarding School. Academics at Agape Boarding School include Bible Study, with mandatory attendance to all chapel services, English, Social Studies, Economics, Science, Math and a host of electives.

Situated on 200 acres, Agape's indoor facilities include a 400 seat church auditorium, large dining hall, learning center, classrooms, dormitories and a new basketball gymnasium with workout rooms. Recreational activities for the young men include Interscholastic Basketball and wrestling teams, amateur boxing, participation in traveling singing groups and the annual Father-Son golf tournament.

[This information came from the Agape Boarding School for Boys website.]

SOUTH SHORE ACADEMY

Valparaiso, Indiana

Brett Miller, Director of Intake and Admissions

888-629-3471

Brett.miller@uhsinc.com

www.Midwest-Center.com

South Shore Academy, a division of Universal Health Services, Inc. (UHS) and a program of Midwest Center for Youth and Families, is a short term, residential treatment program for young women ages 13-21 who struggle with psychiatric issues, chronic psychosis and/or acute psychosis resulting from PTSD, traumatic brain injury or drug induced, mood disorders, or suicidal thoughts and urges;

disruptive behaviors that may include self harm, eating disorders, chemical dependency, anger management, poor social skills, impulse control problems, sexual acting out or for young women who have experienced physical, emotional or sexual abuse.

Mike Perry, MA, is the CEO of Midwest Center and has over 23 years experience in behavioral health care including 10 years in a residential treatment program as the CEO for Century Healthcare in Arizona, Charter NW Indiana, Dungarvin and Midwest Center for Youth and Families. Dr. Michael Frampton, MD, a Board Certified Psychiatrist, has been the Medical Director for Midwest since 2004. Jennifer Gill, MSW, LSW, is a graduate and adjunct professor of Indiana University Northwest, with over 12 years of clinical experience. Midwest Center for Youth and Families is a member of NATSAP and is accredited by the Joint Commission.

Using Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) the young women in this residential treatment center are taught skills to control their emotions and self destructive behaviors by targeting four key skills: mindfulness, interpersonal effectiveness, distress tolerance and emotional regulation. Clients participate in individual therapy, group therapy, skills groups and family therapy, with the DBT language and mindfulness exercises woven throughout all skills groups, in addition to the use of DBT Diary cards which are completed daily and reviewed by staff and the client. These cards allow for immediate feedback, praise, validation and coaching.

[This information came from the Midwest Center for Youth and Families website and brochure.]



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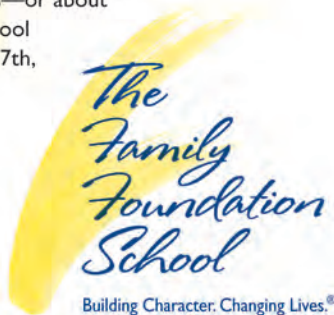
Our students receive enormous support in their efforts to achieve academically: a safe and positive learning environment, small classes, talented teachers, a wealth of educational resources, honors courses, teacher and peer tutoring, onsite ACT and SAT prep classes, plus plenty of help in organizing and managing their time. Our high standards (passing grade is 75%) and challenging, college preparatory curriculum make their success all the more significant.

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I just wanted to share a short inspiring story about our student council. This was only the third group of students that have been involved with Student Council here at Cherry Gulch. Elected for a three month term, the current group of officers had been motivated to be involved since the inception of the council but challenging behaviors and clinical complexities took first priority. Since their enrollments these young men have made huge progress here at Cherry Gulch, now demonstrating a readiness to be student leaders. During the students' first meeting with the management team I had expected them to ask for ice cream socials and pizza parties, but I was pleasantly surprised by the maturity of our students. They were thoughtful in their approach to requesting more funds for the council and intelligent in their ideas to raise the money.

To begin, the council wanted to start a "Green" program, the central idea being that all students would be rewarded for recycling and conserving soap and paper products. Specifically the council sought to motivate and educate the entire student body on the importance of conserving household goods. Beyond the environmental reward, the council would profit from monies saved on future product orders. The boys also asked for more money for the council if, as a group, they could maintain a high GPA.

They then went on to discuss how they wanted to spend the money that they earned. First the boys sought to purchase a flag pole and to strategically place it on a hilltop we call Declaration Point. They discussed how a lot of the students at Cherry Gulch are patriotic and take pride in their school. They envisioned a Cherry Gulch flag prominently flown where they can all see it and for the entire community to see our flag. Additionally they wanted each student to add a personal touch to the flag as a way of unifying our school. This was very touching from a group of boys that had come so far during their stay at Cherry Gulch.

This is the same group of boys who gathered close to 900 tokens from themselves and their peers to help fund the new multipurpose court. This effort to improve the school holds obvious meaning as they have also requested to have each student put his hand print in the court as a way of leaving a legacy behind and continuing to foster that sense of community.

Moments like this are so rewarding and it is an honor to have had a small part in their progress and to be confident that they will continue to positively contribute to their community, wherever that may be. Many of our students hope to work at Cherry Gulch when they are older and have asked if they could use the Positive Parenting with a Plan program at home with their children if and when they become fathers. We generally get several phone calls a week from our alumni and are delighted to keep this bond. Cherry Gulch plans to host an alumni reunion this summer.

Cherry Gulch is a ranch-style therapeutic boarding school designed specifically for 10-14 year old boys. Cherry Gulch's supportive, encouraging and respect-based approach is designed to build students up—rather than tear them down. Cherry Gulch is passionate about providing early intervention and prevention to help boys reach their full potential and become well-rounded, pro-social young men. We are dedicated to providing outstanding therapeutic and academic services to students and their families. This is accomplished in the context of a safe environment working toward "Building Brighter Tomorrows for the Boys of Today."

SEEN N' HEARD

COPPA on Restraints/Seclusion: (May 5, 2009) The Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, Inc. (COPAA), released a report asking Congress to stop the use of restraints, seclusion, and aversive upon children with disabilities in school. The report entitled, "Unsafe in the Schoolhouse: Abuse of Children with Disabilities", details 143 incidents of the use of abusive interventions against children with disabilities in school.

Montana Academy and Explorations Joint Venture: (May 21, 2009) Montana Academy, Marion, MT, and Explorations, Trout Creek, MT, are running a joint venture program for girls this summer, with Explorations now offering rolling enrollment as a "pre-summer option" at their base camp in Trout Creek, MT, starting immediately. For information contact Penny James, Director of Explorations at 406-827-3863 or Rosemary McKinnon, Director of Admissions at Montana Academy at 406-755-3149.

MacKenzie Joins Fulshear: (May 21, 2009) Ashley Auchterlonie, Director of Marketing for InnerChange's Fulshear Ranch Academy, Needville, TX, 214-272-6880, announced Eilean MacKenzie, LCPC, has joined the executive team at Fulshear Ranch as the new Clinical Director. Eilean has over twenty five years of clinical experience, most recently as the Clinical Director for New Horizons for Young Women program. Eilean has an MA in Counseling Psychology, an MA in Sociology and was a Clinical Fellow at Harvard Medical School.

Knight Stops by Woodbury Reports: (May 22, 2009) Troy Knight stopped by Woodbury Reports, Inc. for a visit and to share some exciting news...he is the new Executive Director at Clearview Horizon in Heron, MT, 406-847-5850. Troy has previously worked at private programs in North Idaho and Utah.



Waldron Appointed at Forman School: (May 22, 2009) The Forman School, Litchfield, CT, 860-567-8712, has appointed Helen Waldron as Assistant Head of School, succeeding Eric Ahner, effective July 1, 2009. Waldron has served in several positions at Forman since 1989, including as Dean of Academic Affairs since 1999. Waldron received her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, CT, and received her Master's Degree in Special Education at the University of Hartford, Hartford, CT. Eric Ahner will be taking the position of Executive Director at the Aldo Leopold High School in Silver City, NM.

SUWS of the Carolinas' New Program: (May 23, 2009) Beginning June 15, 2009, SUWS of the Carolinas, Old Fort, NC, is offering a new short-term, high-intensity format of wilderness therapy for teens that are in need of a smooth transition into long-term residential treatment. SUWS of the Carolinas will continue offering its 55-day wilderness therapy program as well as its Seasons program for younger teens ages 10-13. Contact SUWS at 888-828-9770 for additional information.

CONTINUED: SNH/ 8

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SNH:

Benchmark Transitions Today: (May 26, 2009) Benchmark Young Adult School©, Redlands, CA is pleased to announce the formation of Benchmark Transitions©, the new designation for their transitional living curriculum for young adults age 18 and over. Benchmark Transitions will include: Benchmark's therapeutic services and clinical treatment, Recovery by Benchmark©, Benchmark's Transitional Living Phases©, and Acacia©, an individualized life skills program. Contact Shelley Skaggs, Marketing and PR at: 714-963-4148.

Matthew Hart Resigns at Greenbrier Academy: (May 26, 2009) Greenbrier Academy for Girls, Pence Springs, WV, 203-445-7790, announced today the resignation of Matthew Hart, Headmaster and CEO, who will be leaving to be closer to his children in Massachusetts. L. Jay Mitchell, Founder and President, will be resuming the duties of Headmaster. For additional information, contact Beth Ragland.

Weiskopf: "Mission Accomplished": (May 26, 2009) Marti Weiskopf, 303-670-8240, the Interim Head of School at St. Paul's Preparatory Academy, Phoenix, AZ, for the remainder of the 2008/2009 school year, has announced: Mission Accomplished! She will be moving back to CO to be with her family. To contact Marti: 303-670-8240 or by email.

Summit Prep Art Display: (May 26, 2009) Barbara Cunningham, Ed D, Admissions and Guidance at Summit Preparatory School, Kalispell, MT, 406-758-8139, is pleased to announce six students from Summit Prep were selected to display a piece of art from their portfolios at the Hockaday Museum of Art in Kalispell, MT, at a month long exhibit entitled "New Artists", which featured selected two and three dimensional art pieces from area high school students.

2009 Families with ASD Expo: (May 26, 2009) Families with

Autism Spectrum Disorders, Inc. will hold their 4th Annual Expo on Saturday, September 26, 2009, from 10 am to 4 pm at the Live Oaks Campus in Milford, OH. For additional information visit their website.

Alive Adventures Leadership Camp: (May 26, 2009) Forrest Melton, Founder of Alive Adventures and YES! Youth Empowerment Services, 208-407-7582, announced this year's Leadership Camp for teens of all backgrounds, will be held in Boise, ID, on July 1 and 2, 2009. This camp is designed to empower and inspire teens through experiential learning, outdoor adventures and life skills training. For more information, contact Forrest Melton or Sheli Gartman at 208-412-3909.

Wellspring Academy CA on TV: (May 27, 2009) Wellspring Academy in the Central Valley of CA was featured on TV station KGO. Wellspring Academies are private boarding schools for teens with the main curriculum focusing on losing weight.

News at Second Nature Blue Ridge: (May 27, 2009) Second Nature Therapeutic Wilderness Programs, Second Nature Blue Ridge, Clayton, GA, announced Second Nature Primary Therapist, Paul Case, PhD, and author of "What Now?" a book for families of troubled teens, will begin working with adolescent girls beginning June 1, 2009. In addition, they are pleased to announce the return of therapist, Lu Vaughn, LPC, NCC to Second Nature Blue Ridge. Lu will return to work with adolescent boys, accepting students June 1, 2009. For more information, call the Second Nature Admissions team at 866-205-2500.

Upcoming EAGALA Trainings: (May 28, 2009) The Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association (EAGALA), Santaquin, UT, 877-858-4600, will be offering trainings in



BENCHMARK YOUNG ADULT SCHOOL

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Payson, UT, as follows: EAGALA Fundamentals Part 1- June 25-27, 2009, and EAGALA Fundamentals Part 2-October 22-24, 2009. Register soon as space fills fast. Registration is available online or by phone.

High Top Students Quilting: (May 28, 2009) Students from High Top Ranch in Koosharem, UT, 435-638-7411, completed 17 quilts that were donated to patients at Primary Children's Medical Center in Salt Lake City, UT. This type of service project helps build self-confidence, teaching patience and giving for the boys, ages 9-14, who attend High Top Ranch. For more information, contact Justin Sorenson.

Mountain Springs Students Complete Trek: (May 28, 2009) Mountain Springs Preparatory Academy, Cedar City, UT, 435-691-0245, announced students had a successful 2 week trek to Europe that included London, Paris and Germany. Treks this summer include: whitewater rafting on the Green River; a one week science trip throughout UT; and a one week trip to Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Tetons and Jackson Hole, WY. For more information contact Jon M. Larsen, Head of School.

BCA College Acceptances of 2009 Grads: (May 29, 2009) Boulder Creek Academy, Bonners Ferry, ID, 877-348-0848, is proud to announce the following colleges and universities have issued acceptances for their May 2009 graduates: Austin College, Central Wyoming College, Colby Sawyer, Colorado Mountain College, Cornell Iowa College, McDaniel, Middle Tennessee State University, New England College, North Idaho College, Prescott College, Randolph College, Regis University, Rider University, Seton Hall, Texas Christian University, University of Missouri: Columbia (Mizzou/MU), University of Northern Colorado, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and Utah Valley University. For more information on BCA contact Shawnale Wilson, Director of Admissions.

Pinnacle Parents Speak to Grads: (May 29, 2009) The Pinnacle Schools, Huntsville, AL, announced the spring 2009 graduates each had their own parents as their commencement speaker, as one by one, the parents spoke directly to their child, sharing words of wisdom, love and hopes and congratulations, creating a special and memorable ceremony for everyone in attendance. To learn more about The Pinnacle Schools, contact Alexa Nuessle or Ann Corley at 256-518-9998.

Inner Harbour Opens New Program: (May 29, 2009) Cynthia Odom from Inner Harbour, Douglasville, GA, 800-255-8657, announced Inner Harbour will be offering new brain based services for troubled youth ages 6-17 with significant developmental challenges, neurological and cognitive issues, or neurodevelopment disorders such as: Autism Spectrum Disorders, Neurological/Genetic Disorders, Learning Disabilities and Traumatic Brain Injury. For more information, contact Inner Harbour.

Wellspring Weight Loss in the News: (May 31, 2009) With 14 locations across the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, Wellspring Weight Loss Camps teens learn through five core steps how to lose weight, keep it off and have fun doing so: eating a low fat diet, activity management, lifestyle changes, family involvement and continuing care.

Echo Springs Staff on Unicycle: (May 31, 2009) Justin Henney, counselor at Echo Springs in Bonners Ferry, ID, competed in the nine mile Schweitzer Hill Climb in Sandpoint, ID, on June 6, 2009. He made it in an hour and a half as the only competitor who did the climb on a unicycle. Echo Springs 888-688-3246.

Leal Joins Auldern: (June 1, 2009) Auldern Academy in Pittsboro, NC, 919-837-2336, is pleased to announce Lee R. Leal

CONTINUED: SNH/ 10



Photo by Skyler Jensen

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SNH:

has joined the team as the Head of the Art Department at Aldern. Lee most recently taught at the Cary Academy in NC, was head of the department at the Saint Andrew's School in DE and was a faculty instructor at Delaware State University. He has received awards from Rehoboth Art League, Elizabeth N. Bingham Award for Excellence in Pottery, the Kodak Photo Educators Scholarship and awards from the Santa Fe Workshops. Contact Jane Samuel for more information.

Little Keswick SEVIS Approved: (June 1, 2009) Little Keswick School, Keswick, VA, 435-295-0457, announced that the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) has reviewed and approved their petition for certification and enrollment in the Student and Exchange and Visitor Information System (SEVIS), which allows international students to enroll. For more information contact the school.

Clarke Joins Fulshear: (June 3, 2009) InnerChange is excited to announce that Dr. Norma Clarke has joined the Fulshear Ranch Academy team as their consulting Psychiatrist. Most recently, Dr. Clarke served as Medical Director of the Adolescent Treatment Program of the Menninger Clinic in Houston, TX. Dr. Clarke has expertise in diagnosing and treating bipolar disorders, personality disorders, PTSD, mood and psychotic disorders. For more information on Fulshear Ranch Academy located in Needville, TX, contact Ashley Auchterlonie, Director of Marketing, at 214-272-6880.

Arizmendi at Trails Carolina: (June 3, 2009) Jose Arizmendi, Jr. M Ed, LPC is now working at Trails Carolina, Lake Toxaway, NC, as a therapist. Previously, Jose was at Lone Star Expeditions. His new contact information is: 828-808-3642 (cell) or 828-885-5920 (office).

Newport Academy Opens New Program: (June 3, 2009) Newport Academy, Newport, CA, 877-628-3367, has opened in Orange County, CA, and offers a gender-specific, comprehensive residential treatment program for adolescent girls suffering from substance abuse and co-occurring disorders. It is led by addiction treatment icon, Dr. David Smith, past President of the American Society of Addiction Medicine and Past Medical Director of the CA State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs. For additional information, contact Scott Sowle, Executive Director.

Statement by Alpine on Arrest: (June 4, 2009) Janet Multalo, Program Director at Alpine Academy, 800-244-1113, has issued a statement regarding the recent criminal investigation of a former employee and one of their students. To view this in its entirety, visit StrugglingTeens.com.

Knight Joins Clearview: (June 4, 2009) Troy Knight has joined Clearview Horizon, Heron, MT, as the Executive Director. Troy holds a Master's degree in Health Care Administration and has been in the behavioral health care industry for over 15 years, directing residential hospitals in 1999, and working with adolescents and young adults in therapeutic schools and wilderness treatment programs. For more information or to contact Troy, call 208-610-6868, or Mary Thielbahr, Director of Clearview, at 208-263-5894.

Clearview Offers Summer Program: (June 4, 2009) On June 1, 2009, Clearview Horizon, Heron, MT, started accepting applications for their summer program, an intense three month intervention to help students and families with the struggles, anxiety, and frustration surrounding today's lives. For more information on this program, contact Troy Knight, Executive Director, at 406-847-5850.

Cherry Gulch Wins at Chess: (June 4, 2009) Andy Sapp, PhD, Founder and CEO of Cherry Gulch, Emmett, ID, 208-365-3437,

is proud to announce the Cherry Gulch Chess Club has won first place at the Idaho State Chess Championships in both 2008 & 2009 in two separate divisions. The Cherry Gulch chess players learn to use all the critical thinking benefits of chess to make good decisions in their daily lives. These skills include patience, planning, concentration, teamwork, problem-solving and improved communication skills. Daniel J. Vellotti is currently the Chess Coach for Cherry Gulch School.

Hidden Lake Uses Chapter 11 to Rebuild: (June 4, 2009) A local news source in Lumpkin County, GA, reports Hidden Lake Academy, which voluntarily filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in May, 2009, is hoping this filing will allow the school to regroup and rebuild the private therapeutic boarding school which was founded in 1994, rather than face foreclosure

Greenbrier Academy Receives SEVIS Approval: (June 5, 2009) Beth Ragland, Director of Outreach and Business Development, Greenbrier Academy for Girls, Pence Springs, WV, 877-788-8422, announced Greenbrier Academy has been approved and has received certification in the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVIS) and is now able to complete 1-20's and accept international students.

Hope High School has New Home: (June 5, 2009) Blueprint Education, Glendale, AZ, has welcomed a new Principal, Mr. Ric Rodriguez, to Hope High School in Phoenix, AZ. In addition, Hope High School has found a new home and will be opening a brand new school facility for the upcoming 2009-2010 school year. Mr. Rodriguez holds a Master's Degree in Educational Administration and Supervision, a dual Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Special Education and an Associate of Arts degree in Business with an emphasis on Marketing and Distribution. For questions about enrolling students in Blueprint Education programs, call Marmy Kodras at 800-426-4952 ext 4840.

Open Sky's Fernandes Recognized: (June 5, 2009) Durango Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards event presented Aaron Fernandes, founder and co-owner of Open Sky Wilderness, Durango, CO, its prestigious Entrepreneur of the Year award this past January. Fernandes was acknowledged for his entrepreneurial achievements at the annual awards ceremony held at Fort Lewis College. To learn more about Open Sky, contact Aaron at 970-382-8181.

Cunningham Addresses NATSAP: (June 8, 2009) Dr. Barbara Cunningham, Summit Preparatory School, Kalispell, MT, 406-261-9437, gave a presentation on: "Intellectually Gifted Underachievers: the Oxymoron Unraveled" at the June 11, 2009, Regional NATSAP Conference in UT. For more information, please contact Barb Cunningham.

"SWINE CREW" Team Wins: (June 9, 2009) James Meyer, Executive Director at Oakley School, Oakley, UT, announced the Oakley School Ultimate Frisbee team nicknamed the "Swine Crew" returned from the UT State Tournament with the ultimate prize: the championship. To learn more about Oakley School contact James at 435-783-5001.

Rusnak at In Balance Ranch: (June 9, 2009) Patrick Barrasso, owner of In Balance Ranch Academy, Tucson, AZ, 520-722-9631, is pleased to announce Ed Rusnak has joined the team at In Balance. Ed will be the primary therapist for the Transitional Living program and be part of the Family Weekends at the Ranch. Ed received his MS in counseling from Danbury Connecticut State University and is experienced in addiction, co-occurring disorders and family systems. Ed is a national certified counselor and licensed as an independent substance abuse counselor.

CONTINUED: SNH/ 12



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Life Design Students Creating: (June 9, 2009) Life Designs Ranch in Cusick, WA, shared how some of their students are creating greatness in their community: Andrew H is writing a movie script about a young man's transition into adulthood and will be filming it throughout WA and ID; Jon G is sponsoring a skateboard competition in Cusick, WA, with boarding shops from all over participating as well as over 50 riders; and Nick N, a photographer, is creating a calendar that he will be marketing and selling to local businesses. To learn more about Life Designs Ranch, call 509-445-0185.

Good Will-Hinckley Temporary Changes: (June 9, 2009) Lisa J. Sandy, Director of Admissions at Good Will Hinckley School, Hinckley, ME, 207-238-4035, announced the Board of Directors of the Good Will Home Association voted to temporarily suspend the operation of its residential programs effective September 1, 2009. "Two key factors contributed to the decision: significant policy changes by State and Federal Agencies cut reimbursement rates for residential care programs and the downturn in the economy reduced their ability to provide scholarships."

Harmony Crisis is Innovative: (June 9, 2009) Harmony Crisis Management Group, Lake Shasta, CA, is an innovative educational consulting and life coaching/counseling agency. The CEO and President is entrepreneur Larry Spain, and Executive Director and Clinical Director is Angelina Stefanini, a certified life coach and Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC). To learn more, contact Angelina Stefanini at 877-240-0999.

Harmony's Family Empowerment Retreat in August: (June 9, 2009) Harmony Crisis Management Group, Shasta Lake, CA, will be offering a Family Empowerment Retreat, scheduled for August 9-16, 2009. During the camp, families will experience intensive counseling, peer support, interactive educational workshops, adventure activities, and will receive weekly life coaching sessions


for one month following the Retreat. For more information contact Angelina Stefanini at 877-240-0999 or visit the website.

Agapé Featured on TV: (June 10, 2009) On June 19, 2009 at 9:00 pm (Eastern time zone), Agapé Boarding School, Stockton, MO, was featured on television, "Atlanta Live", Channel 56 in Atlanta, GA. Program Director for Agapé, Rich Kaszak, along with one of their "gap year students" and one of their graduates appeared on the show, sharing how this Christian based program works with struggling young men ages 10-18 years old. They also shared the Vision of Agapé Boarding School, which is a ministry of Agapé Baptist Church, founded in 1990 by James and Kathy Clemensen. For additional information, contact Scott Smith at 417-276-7215.

Carter Returns To Santiam Crossing: (June 10, 2009) Santiam Crossing, Scio, OR, 208-265-8355, is pleased to announce former Academic Director Nicole Carter has returned to Santiam Crossing and has taken a position as Campus Therapist. Carter left Santiam Crossing a couple of years ago to further her education and obtained an MSW from Portland State University. Nicole also holds an MEd from Brown University and completed her undergraduate work at Smith College.



Graves Joins Oak Creek: (June 12, 2009) Oak Creek Ranch School, Cornville, AZ, 928-634-5571, is pleased to announce Jim Graves, MC, has joined Oak Creek Ranch School as the new Dean of Residential Life. With over 21 years of experience working with adolescents, Jim has supervised group homes in the Phoenix area. Prior to this he held a number of positions at St. Paul's Preparatory Academy including: Dean of Students, Parent Liaison and Dean of Counseling.

Auldern Academy Announces Graduates: (June 12, 2009) Seven girls recently graduated from Auldern Academy, Siler







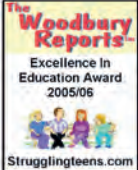
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City, NC, making the promenade walk around the lake, dressed in white, carrying the traditional yellow lilies and led by a bag piper. These seven graduates received acceptances from Berry College, Lander University, Franklin Pierce University, Colby Sawyer College, Drew University, Regis University, Casanova University, Central Carolina Community College, Moraine Valley Community College, Saint Xavier University, Southern Illinois University, Ferrum University, Florida Gulf Coast University, St. Leo University and Eckerd University. To learn more about Aldern Academy contact Jane Samuel, Head of School at 919-837-2336.

Echo Springs Students Return: (June 12, 2009) Echo Springs Director, Doug Kim-Brown, shared his thoughts from their most recent trip in May: "Traveling with a few young men who are openly curious, cooperative and grateful into areas of England and France was a privilege and a treat. From the inspiring biodome of Eden Gardens in Cornwall, to Billy Elliot in London, to the spiritual community of Taize in France and the beauty of Paris, our lives meandered in constant dialog of the ancient ways and contemporary issues of Europe, ourselves and our futures. I cannot say enough about the learning and adventure that these guys experienced. What a fantastic trip!" Contact Rhea Verbanic, Administrative Director of Echo Springs Transition Study Center, Bonners Ferry, ID, 888-688-3246, to learn more.

Three Springs Open House: (June 13, 2009) Three Springs Paint Rock Valley in Trenton, AL, held its 24th Annual Open House on June 13, 2009, with Sharon Laney, Program Administrator, sharing the history of Paint Rock Valley. Paint Rock Valley has a 20 year history of providing outdoor therapeutic services for youth. As of June 13, 2009, Paint Rock Valley has served 2,158 residents and their families. To learn more, contact Three Springs at 256-880-3339.

'Fattest Teen' Loses: (June 14, 2009) A British teen was recently featured on ABC's Good Morning America, after losing 200 pounds in nine months while she attended Wellspring Academy of the Carolinas. Wellspring, founded in 2007, is a therapeutic weight loss school that uses cognitive behavioral therapy to help kids get healthy and lose weight.

Grove School to Graduate 27: (June 15, 2009) Kathy Kimmel-Rasmias, Admissions Director at Grove School, Madison, CT, announced 27 seniors in the class of 2009 will graduate on August 15, 2009. Many of their graduates will be attending colleges and programs that include: Marist College, University of Hartford, Flagler University, Goucher College, Hartwick College, Pace University, College Internship Program, Temple University, Dean College, Plymouth State University and Seton Hall University. Several of the other graduates will continue their academic, social and emotional work in the Grove Transition Program. Due to the size of the graduating class, Grove School will have several residential openings in grades 6 through 12. For more information call Kathy at 203-245-2778.

Penrith Farms Graduates Three: (June 15, 2009) Penrith Farms in Newport, WA, 509-671-3025, announced three of their students graduated from high school, with two earning college credits through Running Start. To learn more about Penrith Farms, please visit their website.

Rainey Joins Kildonan: (June 15, 2009) The Kildonan School in Amenia, NY, is pleased to welcome Beth Rainey to the Admissions office as the Director of Student Recruitment and Financial Aid. Beth had previously worked at The Forman School in Litchfield, CT, where she served as Director of Admissions for nine years. During that time, Beth also co-founded the Caribbean Boarding School Fair, in addition to

CONTINUED: SNH/ 14



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SNH:

serving as the secretary of the Western Connecticut Boarding School Association. For additional information contact the Kildonan School at 845-373-2012.

Sutton Moves to Monarch: (June 16, 2009) Patrick McKenna, Founder of Monarch School, Heron, MT, 406-847-5095, is pleased to announce Tracey Sutton will be taking over as Admissions Director at Monarch School on July 15, 2009. Tracey is moving from Rhode Island where she has been working at Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital for the last 5 years, part of that time as acting Clinical Director. She has an MSW and worked for therapeutic boarding schools for 8 years prior to working at Bradley. Sarah Fausett, who has been working as the Admissions Coordinator, has left Monarch to move to Boulder, CO, and Lynn Marshall (Bambi) has stepped in to the position. Bambi has served as the Program Coordinator for the last six years.

Graduation at Greenbrier: (June 16, 2009) Beth Ragland, Director of Outreach and Business Development at Greenbrier Academy, Pence Springs, WV, 877-788-9422, shared that nine girls have graduated the program at Greenbrier. They have also been accepted to a wide variety of schools including: Vermont Academy, Grier School, Key School, Heritage School, Marymount University, Virginia Commonwealth University, George Mason, Medaille College, Lincoln Memorial University, School of the Museum of Boston Fine Arts, Santa Monica College, Salisbury University, Savannah College of Art and Design and Georgia Perimeter.

Couture Joins Cherokee Creek: (June 17, 2009) David LePere, Executive Director of Cherokee Creek Boys School, Westminster, SC, 864-638-8679 announced Hunter Couture has joined Cherokee Creek as the new manager of their Cherokee Treks program, their outdoor adventure program for the boys in which each weekend a team of students has the opportunity to develop their outdoor skills and learn teamwork. For more information on this program, contact David LePere.

Graham Joins Second Nature: (June 18, 2009) Second Nature, Duchesne, UT, 866-205-2500, is pleased to welcome Jennifer Graham, MS, to Second Nature where her role will be to enhance family services, develop client based programming at each Second Nature location, working with program directors and clinical staff. Previous to joining Second Nature, she worked for 10 years with young adults and adolescents in residential treatment facilities, serving as Program Director at a treatment facility in northern California and as a Family Therapist in an inpatient program. For the past 10 years, she has been an Educational Consultant, visiting more than 300 programs and working with families in need. Jen will be based in Southern California and may be reached at: 310-633-3153 or by email.

FFS Introduces Horseback Riding: (June 18, 2009) The Family Foundation School, Hancock, NY, announced the addition of horseback riding to its list of extracurricular activities. The school is partnering with nearby Cat Hollow Farms to offer balance seat riding (English style) to FFS students. Lessons are conducted by a certified riding instructor and cover safety, etiquette, proper grooming techniques and horse management. For more information, call 845-887-5213.

FFS Graduation is Large: (June 18, 2009) Ann Kozak, Marketing Specialist with the Family Foundation School, Hancock, NY, 845-887-5213, announced the second largest graduating class in the history of The Family Foundation School received New York State Regents diplomas at ceremonies on June 27. According to Robin Ducey, principal of The Family Foundation School, 34 of the students have been admitted to 2- or 4-year colleges, including Georgia Institute of Technology and Carnegie Mellon University. Three graduates remain undecided.

FFS Student Gives Back: (June 18, 2009) Family Foundation School, Hancock, NY announced a 15-year old student who completed the 18-month program in June, approached his previous wilderness program about a summer position, hoping to “give back” as a mentor to other troubled teens. His initiative earned him a two-week summer mentorship at Adirondack Leadership Expeditions, LLC, where he will share his positive “real life” experience at FFS and pass on what he has learned. According to FFS president Emmanuel Argiros, the student “exemplifies our goal of teaching kids to be productive members of society.” To learn more about FFS call 845-887-5213.

Happenings at Rock Point: (June 18, 2009) Hillary Kramer, Director of Admissions at Rock Point School, Burlington, VT, 802-863-1104, announced several new happenings at Rock Point, including the addition of a new front porch made from sustainable materials and the completion of the sugar house which will be used for both the sugaring and honey making operations.

Ex Headmaster Arrested: (June 19, 2009) A news source in Blue Ridge, GA, reports Richard Legrand Darrington, the former headmaster of the now closed Darrington Academy in Blue Ridge, has been charged with aggravated battery, a felony and simple battery, a misdemeanor, charges which were alleged by a 17 year old student. Darrington Academy closed February 27, 2009, due to declining enrollment.

Renda moves to Forman School: (June 19, 2009) The Forman School, Litchfield, CT, 860-567-8712, has appointed Sara Lynn Leavenworth Renda, as Director of Admissions for The Forman School, succeeding Beth Rainey. From 2003-2008, Renda served as Director of Admissions and Financial Aid at Westover School in Middlebury, CT, and in 2008-2009 served as Director of Strategy and Client Services at Imagepath Communication in Avon, CT.

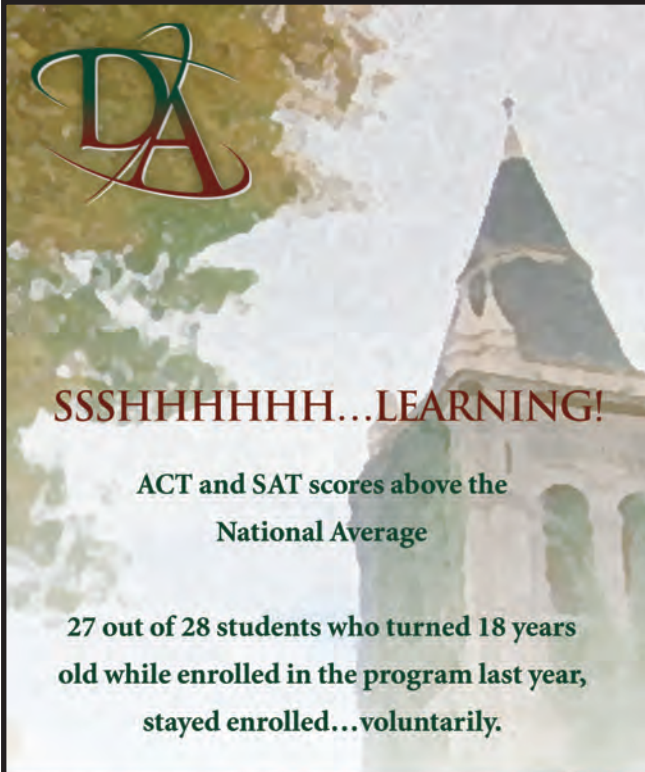
Life Development Institute gets Award: (June 19, 2009) Life Development Institute in Glendale, AZ, 623-773-2774, has been recognized by the National Association of Special Education Teachers (NASSET) as one of the premier licensed private special education schools from throughout the United States and has been selected as a NASSET School of Excellence for the 2009-2010 school years.

SUWS of the Carolinas Celebrates: (June 20, 2009) SUWS of the Carolinas, Old Fort, NC, 888-830-9770, is celebrating its 10-year anniversary. SUWS of the Carolinas began as a sister program of the successful wilderness therapy program, SUWS Idaho. SUWS of the Carolinas is a therapeutic wilderness program for adolescents ages 10-17 and is a member of CRC Health Group.

Choose Again-Center for Attitudinal Healing: (January 15, 2009) A personal Journal Entry about Choose Again - Center for Attitudinal Healing by an ex-student can be found in the Letters to the Editor section on the struggling teen’s website.

The virtue of angels is that they cannot deteriorate; their flaw is that they cannot improve. Man’s flaw is that he can deteriorate; and his virtue is that he can improve.

- Talmud




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In the many classrooms of Aspen Education Group - a young person's journey begins.

An Aspen classroom can be found in a sunrise hike on a Utah desert trail. Or in an inspired discussion of *The Sun Also Rises* at a New England boarding school.

Every classroom is different, because every child has different needs. Each personal journey is unique.

So no matter where your child is learning – in the great outdoors or in a more traditional school setting – they have the opportunity to become the extraordinary person they deserve to be – their best self. By helping young people discover themselves, Aspen helps heal families.

Self-discovery. Healing relationships. Reuniting families. **It all happens at Aspen.**

Take the first step...

With over 30 programs in 12 states, Aspen Education Group is the nation's most comprehensive network of therapeutic schools and programs. Ask your educational consultant or referring professional about Aspen's residential schools, outdoor education and weight loss programs or contact us at 866.441.2694 or online at AspenEducation.com/wr

