

Published by

Woodbury Reports, Inc.™

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

July 2011 - Issue #203

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WHY TEENAGERS ARE GROWING UP SO SLOWLY TODAY

By Lon Woodbury



I just ran across this Newsweek article from a year and a half ago that points to a problem regarding how we as a country treat our adolescents. Titled "Why Teenagers Are Growing Up So Slowly Today," it is a review of a book by Dr. Joe Allen titled "Escaping the Endless Adolescence." His main point in the book is that adolescents in the country are not allowed to do meaningful work, or to make any meaningful contribution to society. He claims that without this opportunity, our children are not allowed to gain the experience needed to learn how to work, or the satisfaction of activities with purpose. Without this kind of experience, he claims adolescence is extended and adulthood is delayed. This rings true!

The statement that we are not doing well by our young people is often made. Usually, those saying this have in mind that we need more government programs for young people like the "midnight basketball" that was a major public relations push a number of years ago. However, when I hear this statement, I have a different perspective. Things that come to mind are public policies like Mandatory school attendance and Youth labor laws. These laws were developed in an era when exploitation of young people was more common and these laws did a good job protecting children from being exploited in dangerous factory work, or in urban areas preventing them from running loose which was a serious problem in the early 20th century. However, the unintended consequences in the 21st century make it virtually impossible for a teenager to do anything but low skill entry level jobs. Added to that, is these are the first jobs a company will eliminate when laws are passed to increase minimum wage rates. The result today is it is very difficult for young people to even find a job, let alone a job that challenges them. In the name of protecting our children, we are inadvertently extending their adolescence and dependency far beyond what was the norm a scant couple of generations ago. We need to rethink these laws so that while they still protect children, they don't suffocate them.

In addition, there are many cultural customs that are designed to protect our children. Pretty much gone are the days when a child could seek out his or her own friends and develop games that expressed their interests, which incidentally gave them experience in learning to be responsible for themselves and develop their own interests. Substituted for this are a custom of "play dates," organized sports and other activities (organized by adults mostly), and attempts by parents to monitor their child's every move. In addition, the old idea that "children should be seen and not heard" seems to still exist but in a radically different form. Patronizing the opinions of young people is all too common (We'll let you know when we want to hear what you think). Again, children should be protected appropriately, not suffocated.

The result of all this is adolescents have little they can do that is meaningful. They usually go to school, and then most spend the rest of their time playing. So far as school being the equivalent of a job, the most common complaint by young people about school is that it is not challenging and rather boring.

The result: energetic young people with the urge to get involved with life and to learn how to be

CONTINUED: **GROWING UP/ 2**

GROWING UP

independent adults tends to focus on what is left to them – sex, drugs and endlessly hanging out. With little chance of learning from mistakes (protection efforts all too often wind up just saving them from the consequences of their own poor decisions), adolescence is extended and maturity delayed. Learning from consequences will happen, but instead of under adult's protection, it will be during adulthood when consequences can be more permanent and limiting. Virtually all the special needs residential schools and programs I work with have work responsibilities and community service as integral parts of their curriculum. These students are learning the satisfaction of work well done. These students for the most part had been caught up in a life of making poor decisions (some complicated with Mental health disorders) and so partly are the result of extended adolescence and dependency. These students are learning at these schools and programs that their contributions to the school community are important. In just the work element at these schools, these students are healing and growing up, something that had been denied them in our national culture. Seeing the positive results in these schools and programs of the school's work program is a good reminder that we need to find a way to make the opportunity to contribute through work and service available to all adolescents. We need to balance protection of our young along with allowing them the opportunity to contribute. The Allen book makes a good case that in raising our young we are out of balance and need to adjust to modern society.

CHARACTER EDUCATION IS THE WAY FORWARD

(PART TWO)

By Laura and Malcolm Gauld

Today's students may think nothing of copying and plagiarizing from the Internet to write a paper, or even having others write it for them. And that's just the beginning.

As several studies indicate, there is a cheating epidemic in our schools, and it is not confined to low-achieving or unmotivated students. Today cheating is common among most types of students: boys, girls, athletes, smart kids, student leaders, and even those with "strong religious beliefs."

To Malcolm Gauld, this comes as no surprise.

"Kids will never misread our true expectations of them. They know we have created an educational system that values their aptitude more than their attitude, their ability more than their effort and their talent more than their character. They are surrounded by signs that tell them that WHAT they can do is more important than WHO they are, regardless of the code of conduct posters on the classroom wall."

Gauld is president of Hyde Schools, a network of public charter and prep schools in New York City, Washington DC, Connecticut and Maine that are rooted in character education. Along with his wife Laura, he is the author of the parenting book "The Biggest Job We'll Ever Have" and the seminars that emerged from it.

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Lon Woodbury, Publisher - 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™*.

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ISSN: 1540-3718

Gauld asserts that, in short, many students are not learning, but doing only what they need to do to make the grade — thereby setting themselves up for a tremendous pitfall.

“We live in an achievement culture that can make it extremely easy for test scores and awards to lure good kids into a false sense of fulfillment,” says Gauld. “Many students are pushed to succeed by parents and a grade-based system that starts naming winners at an early age. A ‘win at any cost’ philosophy takes over. Kids are gripped by these powerful influences that can and do manifest themselves in potentially harmful ways.”

There are serious ramifications to winning at any cost, according to Gauld. One of those harmful ways is the loss of the opportunity to build real self-esteem earned by genuine best efforts and hard work.

“The development of authentic self-esteem — and the greatest chance of true and meaningful success — rest on a foundation of principles and knowing you have done your best with honest efforts,” says Gauld. “True self-esteem is essential, and once earned can never be taken away.”

For Hyde Schools, the foundation of guiding principles lies in what they call the 10 Priorities.


These include priorities that can go against the grain of our culture, including: Truth over Harmony; Principles over Rules; Attitude over Aptitude; Valuing Success and Failure; among others.

According to Gauld, the principles are the same for everyone, whether they are “easy A” students, academically challenged, or struggling with prioritizing. As a result, the students are encouraged to be who they are, share who they are, and grow in a genuine fashion together.

The shift in priorities results in the absence of cheating and other trends that blight the school system, including bullying.

“Character is inspired, not imparted,” he says. “We cannot pour it into our kids or our families. It must be developed and nurtured. In a character culture, achievement is valued, but principles are valued more. What you stand for is more important than how you stack up against others.”

About the authors: Laura and Malcolm Gauld are the founders of a network of public and private schools emphasizing character education in their schools. The Gaulds address the issue of character and its challenges in sports, cheating and bullying, peer pressure, academic pressure, and other important topics relevant to our times. Their “Attitude over Aptitude” and philosophy and principles-based education has been featured on many national television and radio networks and news magazines, and in print. They are also the authors of the parenting book “The Biggest Job We’ll Ever Have,” and the founders of the seminars that evolved from it. This is the second of three parts. For more information on the Hyde Schools, contact Rose Mulligan at: 207-837-9441 or by email at: rmulligan@hyde.edu.



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Visit by Judith E. Bessette, EdD, March 30 & 31, 2011

About nine years ago, before I could spell consultant, my son was in trouble. I stumbled on a new parent choice, private pay school, Shortridge Academy and my son became their fourth student. As I learned more about this industry, I came to think of Shortridge as a “son of CEDU” program — more accurately described as an emotional growth school. Adam Rainer, the founder, had graduated years earlier from Rocky Mountain Academy, a CEDU program, and he had a vision for a kinder, gentler and better place to help troubled teens.

After my son graduated and I became an educational consultant, I visited the school several times. Each time, there were a few new things and the school seemed stronger and better, but the program still clung primarily to an emotional growth model.

Like my son, Shortridge has changed and matured...and while they are still refining who they are and what they do best, the school has made a significant paradigm shift, having embraced an evidence-based philosophy called Positive Youth Development (PYD). Simply put, PYD is an approach to working with young people that is focused on building up the strengths and positive characteristics of youth versus a focus solely on attempting to prevent, change or diffuse negative behavior. The approach utilizes a partnership model with students, authoritative parenting techniques, and structured activities that support healthy brain development.

So what are the origins of PYD and how did this approach come to Shortridge? Here is an overview of adolescence since it was defined as a developmental stage in the early 20th century. Until the early 1970s, so-called adolescent deviance was “treated” after the fact by correcting bad behaviors. In the late 70s, prevention theory emerged and efforts turned to anticipating problems in order to prevent them. In the 80s, resiliency theory looked at why some teens overcame or bounced back from problems while others did not. While prevention and resiliency are both proactive, especially as compared to merely reacting to deviance, they are both still rooted in “fixing” deficiencies in teens.

As the 21st century opened, the new movement of positive psychology emerged as did developmental systems theory. Espousing the notion that problem free is not fully prepared...meaning that removing deviance and risk factors does not insure success, PYD has identified 5 areas of strengths that need to be developed in order to insure that success. Known as The Five Cs, they are competence; confidence; connection; character, and caring. A sixth C, contribution emerges as the other C's are developed.

Rainer, searching for ways to improve Shortridge, developed relationships with Richard Lerner, PhD, and Kristine Baber, PhD. Lerner is the Bergstrom Chair in Applied Developmental Science at Tufts University and the author of *The Good Teen*. The book is an easy read for parents and professionals and describes PYD and what it means to see children as resources to be developed, not problems to be fixed. Lerner also offers practical advice on child rearing. Baber, now Emeritus Professor in Family Studies and former Director of the Center on Adolescence at University of New Hampshire, whose area of expertise is adolescent development. Like Lerner, Baber talks about the importance of authoritative parenting (versus hands-off permissive parenting, helicopter or authoritarian parenting) to the success of PYD. Baber has also written about how PYD makes sense in the context of the current research on the teen brain. Each of these professionals is part of Rainer's effort to engage in on-going outcomes research with Baber involved in a formal program evaluation and Lerner a member of Shortridge's Research Advisory Board.

So the six Cs at Shortridge — competence; confidence; connection; character; caring and contribution — now define all that happens there. Students are active in creating and updating their own individualized Positive Development Plans that incorporate PYD techniques and premises into their therapeutic, academic and family work. These plans serve as the framework for a student's programming while at Shortridge and function as a “treatment plan.”

Speaking of therapeutic work, this too has evolved at Shortridge. Early on, the emotional growth activities were largely group process work, shored up by individual writing assignments and weekly family calls. While there is still weekly group work — including specialty groups for trauma, divorce and adoption — there is now a team of Master's Level and Licensed Counselors who see students weekly, facilitate the group sessions including specialty counseling groups, and work with families. With a caseload of about 10 students, counselors facilitate phone calls weekly with students their families, and consultants. The counselors are also involved in the New Parent Orientation Sessions held every other month as well as the more formal Parent Workshops held twice each year. Helping parents understand PYD and how to adopt an authoritative parenting style is an important aspect of this work.


The Clinical Director, who also serves as the school's medical director is a psychiatric nurse practitioner who manages the health center on campus in addition to supervising the work of the counselors. There is always a nurse on call if there is not one on campus and the health center is licensed separately by the state of New Hampshire. This allows Shortridge Academy to be hands-on in medication management and deal with the upset stomachs, colds and bumps and bruises that occur.

Academics have always been important at Shortridge and the school seems better than ever. Students, bright underachievers who've experienced challenges in their schooling, will find an intellectually stimulating environment that is flexible and sensitive to individual needs. Faculty is experienced, skilled teachers who are passionate about their work. Shortridge can handle gifted students as well as supporting a range of needs from ADHD to mild learning disabilities. Each student gets a new laptop for use in the

classroom with limited access and usage outside the classroom. Shortridge is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), a prestigious achievement for any school. Every teacher has a Master's Degree and two hold doctorates.

While there are several staff members who have been at Shortridge since it opened, a recent change has been the addition of Don Vardell as Executive Director last fall. Don comes to Shortridge Academy after many years of experience leading and managing therapeutic schools and programs. He places an emphasis on consistency and responsiveness in organizational structure, communication and management style. Part of his role is to integrate PYD into every aspect of the school. Rainer, now out of the day-to-day management of Shortridge, continues to research, write and focus on implementing PYD into therapeutic environment. He is on campus daily and engaged with the students in activities such as Meat Club (learning to grill food) running, and developing an entrepreneurial leadership course.

For those of you interested in more reading about PYD, you'll want to read Positive Youth Development: What It Is And How It Fits Into Therapeutic Settings, lead author Mat D. Duerdan from Texas A&M, in the most recent volume (Number IV) of the Journal of Therapeutic Schools and Programs published by NATSAP. Dr. Baber and Adam Rainer have a chapter about the implementation of PYD at Shortridge coming out in the September, 2011 volume of Advances in Child Development and Behavior, a serial journal that provides scholarly technical articles and is edited at Purdue University.




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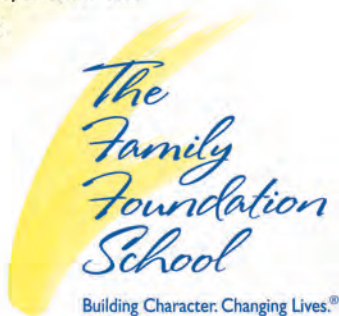
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NEW PERSPECTIVES... [New Perspectives schools and programs are those new to Woodbury Reports, Inc., and are presented to expand your knowledge, with the disclaimer that we know little more about them at this time than what appears here. Inclusion in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

HEALINGQUEST, LLP

Boulder, CO
Amy Winchester, Clinical Director
303-330-3588

amy@wildernessthx.com - www.wildernessthx.com

HealingQuest is a company based out of Colorado which offers therapeutic wilderness experiences. The trips can be tailored to fit the needs of individuals experiencing addiction issues, those recovering from trauma, families in distress, or those recovering from extreme mental issues like depression. The trips can range in length from 4 days to 3 weeks.

Amy Winchester, Clinical Director of HealingQuest, has been working as a clinician for 10 years. She has experience in a wilderness expedition setting with at-risk adolescents, schools, and detoxification programs. She was previously employed by Pacific Northwest as an outdoor educator and as a guide by Women's Wilderness Institute. Andrew Rose, Field Director and Therapist, is certified in outdoor safety and rescue. He has worked with adolescent wilderness programs in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah. He has degrees in Secondary Education and Transpersonal Counseling Psychology.

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HealingQuest, the therapists at HealingQuest meet with the client's therapists to determine the goals of the individual's experience. The trips can be for an individual or a group of up to 8 people. Therapy can be group or individual depending on the needs of the client. Other elements included in the therapy can include: rock climbing, equine assisted therapy, ropes and adventure courses, physical challenges, rafting, and rites of passage. The experiences are meant to bring clarity and insight to the individual to assist in their recovery process.

The types of trips offered are very diverse and some include: dog sledding excursions, horse packing, rock climbing, ski trips, hiking excursions, and camping.

[This information came from the HealingQuest, LLP website]

ELIADA HOMES, INC.

Asheville, NC
Mark Upright, President
828-254-5356
info@eliada.org - www.eliada.org

Founded in 1903, Eliada Homes, Inc. provides a myriad of services to assist at-risk children and adolescents including residential and day treatment facilities, day care, foster care, therapeutic foster care, therapeutic recreation, and community support services.

Mark Upright, J.D., M.B.A., is the President and CEO of Eliada Homes. He has been employed in treatment and educational services for 20 years. His prior employers include Tabor Children Services and The Association for Independent Growth. He received his MBA from DeSales University and his JD from Rutgers School of Law. Dr. Stephen Kiratzis is a psychiatrist and the Medical Director for the facility. He received his MD from the University of Alabama School of Medicine. He has previously been employed by the Smoky Mountain Center, Grandfather Home for Children, and Stone Mountain School.

The RTC program at Eliada caters to children with a history of emotional or behavioral problems. They employ DBT therapy and behavioral management techniques. Family, group, and individual therapy is also used in this program and students attend group therapy twice a week. The facility also operates a fully accredited private school, Eliada Academy. The school employs a therapeutic learning environment and incorporates educational trips into their curriculum. The school accepts children ages 10 to 17.

The Community Support program at Eliada works with youth experiencing severe emotional or behavioral issues. The program aims to prevent the need for future placement or more drastic action by educating families and the through case management

[This information came from the Eliada Homes, Inc. website.]

YOUTH HEALTH ASSOCIATES

Clearfield, UT
Brian Garlock, Owner
801-941-9138 - brian@yhautah.com - www.yhasite.com

Youth Health Associates is a residential care and therapy services organization. The company operates six campuses in the state to treat both males and females from 12 to 18 years old.

The programs are designed to treat sexual issues.

Clinical Supervisor for Youth Health Associates, Mindy Nance, LCSW, TRS, received her Master of Social Work in 2003 and a BS in Therapeutic Recreation in 1998. She has been employed with the company since 2001. She is very active with the youth in the programs through outdoor activities. Clinical Director and company Owner, Brian Garlock, LCSW, has been working with troubled youth since 1993. He oversees all functions of the company and its programs. The YHA programs are licensed by the state of Utah.

Youth Health Associates programs all use a Clinical and Behavioral Levels system. This system helps track the client's progress through the recovery process. The Clinical levels include concepts such as Accountability, Behavioral Cycles, Relapse Prevention, Skills for Success, Relationship Skills, and Empathy. The Behavioral Levels are used to evaluate the student's behavioral performance and the accumulation of "points" for good behavior determines visitation and other privileges for the student. Treatment plans unique to each student determine the types of therapy and counseling used.

The six programs operated by Youth Health Associates are all located in the state of Utah and include: Draper Youth Ranch, Stepping Stones, Cedar Valley Ranch, Lakeview, Eagle Academy, and Lakeside Academy.

[This information came from the Youth Health Associates website.]

SEEN N HEARD...

Family Foundation Shool Graduates 17: Seventeen Family Foundation School seniors received their high school diplomas during graduation exercises held on June 25, 2011. An additional nine FFS students completed the school's 18-month character education program and returned home to finish high school. According to FFS Academic Dean Gerald Janauer, PhD, 15 of the graduates have been admitted to 2 or 4-year colleges, and two are undecided. 845-887-5213

Saving Teens Collaborative To Help Match Scholarships To Worthy Families: Saving Teens recently launched a formal initiative for the industry relative to scholarships and matching them with needy families. 617-699-8245

Shortridge Academy Bids Farewell to Mariotti: Shortridge Academy bids a fond farewell to Hannah Mariotti who will end her role with the school on July 15. Hannah has been a key figure at Shortridge since 2005, serving as Admissions & Marketing Director and more recently assuming the additional role of Girls Program Clinical Coordinator. 977-903-8968

Staff Changes at Spring Ridge Academy: Mary Hickey will be leaving Spring Ridge Academy July 15, 2011. Susan Coatney, who has been our assistant Admissions Director, will head the team of Suzie Courtney and Brandon Courtney. 928-632-4602

Living Well Clients Earn Service Medals At National Monument: For nine Living Well Transitions clients and a service dog, Spring Break 2011 was an opportunity to serve and explore one of the treasures of America's National Parks - Bandelier National Monument. 303-245-1020

Raising Young Girls Despite a Toxic Environment: Many young girls come to Lake House Academy as victims of current trends in our

CONTINUED: SEEN N HEARD/ 8

SEEN N HEARD

society and we have to teach them how their acceptances of these attitudes are harming themselves, said Executive Director Cat Jennings and therapist Brooke Judkins PhD, with the Junior Boarding School for girls: Lake House Academy in North Carolina on LATalkRadio.com. 828-355-4595

Kildonan To Undergo Immediate Campus Master Plan: It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that Kildonan announces the immediate undertaking of a comprehensive Campus Master Plan. The Campus Master Plan will help bring to fruition the critical mission and vision of Kildonan: to empower students with dyslexia. 845-373-8111

New Campus Construction At New Summit Academy: After a couple of years of permits and paperwork, we can actually see the footprint of what will be the new campus for New Summit Academy. Hopefully, depending on how well the rainy season treats goes, staff and students will be moving in by early 2012. 414-921-1388

Dr. Sapp Honored As One Of Idaho's Top 40 Under 40: Dr. Andrew Sapp, Founder & President of Cherry Gulch, was honored by the Idaho Business Review as one of Idaho's 40 top professionals under 40. The 40 young professionals selected represent a generation that is already shaping our state, our image and our expectations. They are outstanding achievers and leaders in their community and their chosen field. 208-365-3437

Tutors International Offers Educational Consulting To UK Parents: Tutors International, a leading provider of private tuition and specialized tutoring services around the world, has added a new offering to its repertoire. The company's founder, education consultant Adam Caller, is providing specialist education consultancy for UK parents considering sending their troubled teen to America for enrollment at a wilderness centre. 44-0-1865-435-135

Whetstone Academy Celebrates One Month: Whetstone Academy, a therapeutic Montessori school for boys, recently passed the one month mark as a program. 864-638-6005

Rosemary Tippett And BJ Hopper Form Partnership: BJ Hopper is delighted to announce Rosemary Tippett has joined her company as a partner educational consultant. Rosemary joins the partnership with a focus on Special Needs. 404-814-1394

Expedition Therapy Adds New Program Specialties: Expedition Therapy announces the addition of three new Program Specialty Areas to its Immersive Expedition Experience: Archaeology, Culinary Arts, and Life Skills Intensive. 435-899-9115

Coyote Coast Youth & Family Counseling Expands: Coyote Coast Youth and Family Counseling is excited to announce that services have expanded beyond East Bay into the South Bay and Marin. 925-258-5400

Newport Academy To Implement Fish Oil As New Standard: Newport Academy's Medical and Clinical Staff are pleased to announce that effective immediately, all residents in both the Boy's and Girl's Residential treatment programs will be receiving pharmaceutical grade fish oil on a daily basis as part of their standard treatment. 310-903-1155

Open Letter To Gatehouse Community: Addiction is a cunning and powerful disease. Although Kent Sherman has faced a renewed challenge posed by his addiction which included law enforcement

action which has been resolved, he has entered willingly admitted into treatment. 928-668-0722

Vanguard School Opens Performing Arts Center: Vanguard School in Lake Wales, FL, recently opened a performing arts center, complete with classrooms and practice space for art, music, and drama. It also includes a flexible auditorium space. 863-676-6091

Staff Changes at Pasadena Villa: Several exciting changes have happened recently at Pasadena Villa in Orlando, FL. Pasadena Villa is pleased to announce that Heather Williams, LMHC, who has been Admissions Manager for eight years, has accepted the newly created position of Compliance Manager with the organization. Also, Jenny Stokes, Administrator of the Pasadena Villa Florida System, is now also Admissions Manager for the company and Mary Moffat is now full time Admissions Counselor. 407-982-0099

Rushford At Stonegate Opens In Durham: A new 16-bed residential program designed specifically for adolescents and families struggling with drug and alcohol addiction opens in Durham. Rushford at Stonegate is a private, 90-day program that provides a distinct combination of comprehensive evaluation, intervention and treatment approaches for adolescent males, ages 13 to 17 and their families. 860-852-1059

WinGate Wilderness Therapy Welcomes Eric Fawson: Eric Fawson, MSW, LCSW, Primary Wilderness Therapist specializes in Adoption Issues, Substance Abuse, Grief and Loss, Self-Esteem issues, and Mood Disorders. He comes to WinGate with over 10 years of experience in the field of adolescent and family care. 800-560-1599

Alderman Promoted To New Haven's Clinical Director: Due to the recent administrative changes at New Haven with John Stewart, LCSW becoming Executive Director it has become necessary to appoint a new Clinical Director, for which New Haven appointed Nevin Alderman, LPC. Nevin has been with New Haven since February 2010. During that time he has been an effective force for good in the lives of our students and families. 801-380-4389

Bertola Of Park City Independent Visits Woodbury Reports: Max Bertola, CEO of Park City Independent, recently stopped by the Woodbury Reports office for a visit, while touring through North Idaho. Park City Independent is an online high school that offers students a fully recognized diploma and transcripts. 888-866-4989

How To Build A New School: Stricker was a guest on Lon Woodbury's LATalkRadio.com show Parent Choices for Struggling Teens talking about what she learned during the process of developing Whetstone Academy. 864-638-6005

Future Of Online Talk Radio Bright: Usage of online radio is up significantly, with weekly usage of all forms of online radio having doubled in the last five years; self-reported weekly time spent with online radio by those

listening to it is now nearly 10 hours (9 hours 47 minutes), increasing 49 percent in the last three years. 208-267-5550

Langford Joins Fulshear Ranch: Dee Langford sent a letter announcing she has joined Fulshear Ranch Academy as the new Admissions Director. 801-423-5321

SUWS Presented Challenges Of Modern Parenting: SUWS of the Carolinas' teen experts discuss internal and external challenges facing the modern family at national educational consultants' convention in Philadelphia. 888-828-9770



Phoenix Outdoor Offers Neurofeedback For Substance Abuse:

Teens struggling with drug and alcohol abuse participate in neurofeedback as part of Phoenix Outdoor's comprehensive substance abuse treatment. Phoenix Outdoor is one of the first wilderness therapy programs in the country to offer this cutting-edge treatment to teens struggling with drug or alcohol abuse. 866-515-5202

Update on the Wilderness Therapy Symposium:

Many who know Rob Meltzer are already aware that he has decided not to organize the Wilderness Therapy Symposium this year. Rather, Rob will maintain his focus as an Educational Consultant, helping struggling teens, young adults, and their families find the best path forward. 303-650-2944

Rebuilding the Village:

Beth Black, Founder of Cherokee Creek Boys School, discussed many good points about the lack of the village in today's society as well as the impacts this lack has on children and families. This session aired on Parent Choices for Struggling Teens on LATalkRadio.com, June 13, 2011. 864-647-1885

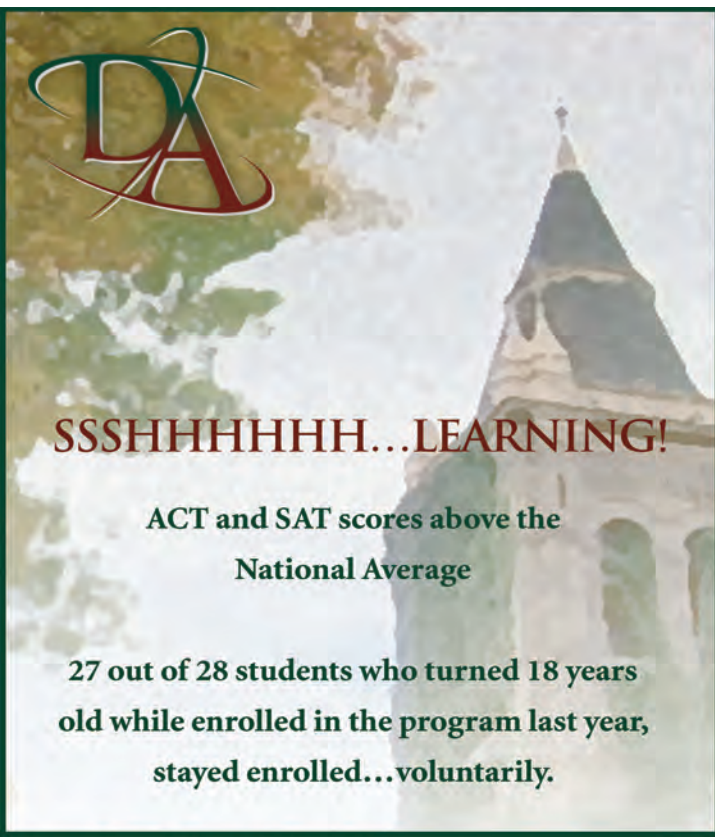
Pacific Quest Named Big Island of Hawaii Small Business of the Year:

Pacific Quest Wilderness Therapy was named the Big Island's top small business in 2011 by the Small Business Administration. Pacific Quest was recognized for job creation, growth in annual revenue, innovation, staying power and contributions to the community. 808-936-6363

New Leaf Academy To Remain Open:

New Leaf Academy, a therapeutic boarding school for girls 10 - 14 upon admission, is pleased to announce that Craig and Christy Christiansen will be resuming ownership of the program. The Christiansen's were the founders of New Leaf Academy in 1997. They have reached

CONTINUED: SEEN N HEARD/ 10



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THE GATE OF HISTORY SWINGS ON SMALL HINGES, AND SO DO PEOPLE'S LIVES.



With the click of a mouse your son may be stepping into a trap carefully laid to prey upon his own developing body. More than 11 million teens view pornography on line (Washington Post 2004). *Early intervention can help your boy break free.*

Oxbow offers treatment *specifically designed for teenaged boys who struggle with sexual dependency.* Here students can acknowledge their behaviors more quickly, then learn to overcome them.

If you fear your son may struggle with sexual dependency, don't make him fight alone.

Answers and information are available at www.oxbowacademy.net or call Barbara at 435-590-7198

SEEN N HEARD

agreement with Aspen Education Group to re-acquire the program as of July 1, 2011. 877-820-5050

Talbott Recovery CEO Awarded Lifetime Achievement Award:

Talbott Recovery co-founder and CEO, Benjamin H. Underwood, FACHE, was awarded the Nelson J. Bradley, MD, Lifetime Achievement Award during the 2011 National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers (NAATP) Conference held in Arizona in May 2011. This prestigious award is given annually to an individual whose lifetime has been committed to the cause of furthering addiction treatment. 800-445-4232

Explorations Big Sky Summer Adventures Now Offering Academic Credit:

The Explorations team is pleased to announce that we now offer two elective credits to participants who engage in our Big Sky Summer Adventures emotional growth curriculum and high adventure activities. Students have the opportunity to earn a Lifetime Fitness credit, as well as an Outdoor Leadership credit for participation in our program. 406-827-3863

Shepherd's Hill Academy Student Awarded Scholarship:

The American Association of Christian Schools (AACCS) is pleased to announce that Hayden Polenz, student at Shepherd's Hill Academy (Farm), has been granted a scholarship to attend the annual AACCS Youth Legislative Training Conference in Washington, DC, to be held on July 12-16, 2011. To win this prestigious honor, Hayden wrote an essay explaining why he wanted to attend. 706-779-5766

La Europa Academy Announces O'Kelley As New Executive Director:

The CERTS group, an organization that owns a number of residential treatment centers for girls, is pleased to announce that Robbi O'Kelley, MSW, LCSW, CADCI, has accepted the position of Executive Director of La Europa Academy. O'Kelley comes to La Europa with 24 years' experience working with adolescents and families. 801-755-8802

EAGALA Expands Internationally:

As the demand for alternative therapy grows worldwide - partly to address the unique needs of increasing numbers of veterans returning home with war-related trauma, partly because of the augmented stress during the global financial crisis and these times of natural disaster, and partly due to the trigger effects from world events such as Osama bin Laden's capture and 9/11 - the Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association (EAGALA) is expanding into 38 countries including Israel, Colombia, Mexico, Slovenia, Brazil and Chile, announced Lynn Thomas, co-founder and Executive Director of the 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. 310-488-9777

Oakley School Achieves Three-Year CARF Accreditation:

CARF International has announced that the Oakley School, a leading college-preparatory, therapeutic boarding school for teens, has been accredited for a period of three years. 949-589-1795

Scott Heaton New Program Director:

Silverado is pleased to announce Scott Heaton as the new Program Director. Scott brings a wealth of talent and experience that is the perfect fit for Silverado Academy students. Scott has been part of the Silverado Team in the past serving as a Therapist a few years ago. 435-676-8482

Educational Enhancements At The Family School:

Family Foundation School will re-work the semester structure to create a summer school enrichment program which will not only allow the school to maintain commitment to the individual academic needs of students but also allow the school to offer additional character building opportunities and additional academic electives. 845-887-5213

John Stewart To Lead New Haven:

John L. Stewart, LCSW a long-

time clinical leader at New Haven RTC has accepted the position of Executive Director. John's new role, effective July 1, 2011 will allow Dustin Tibbitts, LMFT, who has been functioning both as the New Haven Executive Director and as the President of InnerChange, to provide increased support of each InnerChange program while ensuring that seasoned leadership continues at New Haven. 888-892-6307

Aspiro Group Welcomes Chelsea Dickinson:

Aspiro Group is pleased to welcome Chelsea Dickinson to its growing family of remarkable employees. Chelsea will be working closely with Admissions Director, Josh Watson, as an Admissions Counselor. Chelsea has over six years of experience working with families in private sector treatment. 801-979-6301

Newport Academy Clinical Staff To Present At Conference:


Newport Academy announced their staff will present at the upcoming 2nd Annual Western Conference on Behavioral Health and Addictive Diseases conference. 949-244-4023

Parent Choices for Struggling Teens Debuts on LA Talk Radio:

The debut show of Parent Choices for Struggling Teens featured Independent Educational Consultants Bob Kantar from Vermont and Larry Stednitz, PhD, located in California. The show is hosted by Lon Woodbury every Monday at Noon, Pacific Time on LATalkRadio.com. 208-267-5550

Spectrum College Offers Preview Of College Life:


Spectrum College Transition Program, the first Residential Transition Program in the State of Arizona specializing solely in students with Asperger's Syndrome, High-Functioning Autism, and PPD-nos is offering a new summer social residential program to expose students to a glimpse into college life and independent living skills. 480-998-4323



Four Circles Recovery Center is a licensed substance abuse and co-occurring disorders treatment program for young adults 18-28.

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Santiam Crossing Introduces Campus Therapist: Santiam Crossing School is pleased to announce that Joy McMahon, LSW, has taken a position as Campus Therapist. She brings to our campus 10 years of experience in the field of Social Work and six years direct practice experience in experiential therapeutic-settings working directly with adolescents. Joy specializes in working with students with co-occurring disorders as well as grief and loss. 800-390-3983

Rosecrance CEO Honored For Leadership And Vision: Philip W. Eaton, president/ CEO of Rosecrance Health Network, began social work career at Rosecrance on May 25, 1971. He was honored for four decades of leadership and vision at an event May 25 that was hosted by the organization's boards of directors. 815-387-5605

Friends Of Families Receives Significant Donation: The Friends of Families Foundation is excited that they have received a significant donation from The Ann & Joel Horowitz Family Foundation. 951-317-3151

College Placement At The John Dewey Academy: We at the John Dewey Academy are pleased to announce our college placement results for the Class of 2011. This year's six graduating seniors will attend Columbia University, Vassar College, Wheaton College, Clark University, Carleton College, and Johns Hopkins University (joint program Peabody Institute). 413-528-9800

WellBalance Students Achieve Sustainable Weight Loss: Now there is a medically based weight loss camp that kids will look forward to all year long, while keeping unwanted pounds off forever. WellBalance combines cognitive behavioral therapy, fitness improvement, and diet changes into an approach that is healthy and realistic for long-term weight loss and fitness success. 800-975-0435

STICC Finds Success At The IECA Conference: John and Max Reuben

were in Philadelphia to attend the semi-annual conference of the Independent Educational Consultant Association (IECA). John Reuben was able to speak to the Special Needs group to explain what STICC is all about. 877-249-1336

Echo Springs Students Experience Europe: Doug Kim-Brown, Director and six Phase Two students are spending 10 days each in Italy and France with a primary focus on Art and History. 208-267-1111

Eagleton Students Help Spread Tolerance: At Eagleton, we believe that by nurturing a strong community spirit, we can help boys move beyond their issues and find their voice. Eagleton students and staff have been involved in two major community projects: Relief for Japan through community fundraising and participating in a presentation by Mark Elliot, who has Tourette's Syndrome, to spread the message of tolerance to community students. 413-528-4385

Staff Changes At Wingate Wilderness Therapy: WinGate is pleased to announce that Eric Fawson, former Program / Clinical Director and Therapist at Silverado Boys Ranch will be joining the WinGate clinical staff as a primary therapist. 800-560-1599

Wilderness Center to Begin in UK: Adam Caller, Senior Partner of Tutors International is hoping to open a Wilderness Program in the UK. +44(0)1865-435-135

Shortridge Transportation Staff Recognized By NH Governor: Shortridge Academy driver, Donald E. Chesnel of Rochester was awarded the 2011 Outstanding Volunteer Manager of the Year Award. 603-755-3096

The Home For Little Wanderers Uses Social Media At Charity Gala: When more than a thousand guests entered The Home for Little Wanderers' Voices & Visions gala at the Seaport World Trade Center in Boston, they were encouraged to take out their smartphones. After more than three years of using social media sites including Twitter and Facebook, The Home has seen an increase in attendees making online posts, checking in, and uploading photos or videos about its events. They decided it was time to build a social media campaign around this year's fundraising gala. 617-267-3700

Mirasol Teen is Back: Mirasol Teen opened its doors on June 6. The new adolescent program is now licensed as a Level I sub-acute care facility, which means the program is able to expand insurance contracts. Mirasol Teen is now contracted with Blue Cross, which is a huge benefit for both the program and its prospective clients. 888-520-1700

Austin Recovery's Family House To Benefit From New Grant Funding: CRADLES, a program of Austin Recovery, the largest and most affordable drug and alcohol treatment center in Texas, has just been awarded a \$60,000 one-year early childhood education Community Investment Grant on behalf of United Way Capital Area. 512-697-8506

Timberline Knolls Receives School of Excellence Award for Second Consecutive Year: For the second year in a row, Timberline Knolls Residential Treatment Center has been honored with the National Association of Special Education Teachers (NASSET) School of Excellence award for its on campus school, TK Academy. 877-257-9612

Woodbury Reports Launches Internet Talk Radio Show: The series, titled Parent Choices for Struggling Teens, is hosted by Lon Woodbury and discusses many of the issues concerning teens and young people with problems. The show airs every Monday at Noon, Pacific Time at LATalkRadio.com. 208-267-5550

Benchmark Transitions
Life Strategies for Emerging Adults

Young Adult Transitional Living

Benchmark is a residential, co-ed therapeutic transitional living program. Our model is peer group and community based, using a life coaching and therapeutic approach.

We offer practical application with skills-based and cognitive behavioral treatment, allowing students to learn personal responsibility and accountability through hands-on trials.

The core component of our curriculum requires a minimum commitment of six months to complete Level I and Level II. The second component of the program is optional and includes on and off property independent living, which makes the typical length of stay a total of 10-12 months. We also offer extended care programs from 12-24 months.

Dual Diagnosis Treatment

We have a Dual Treatment option...

Recovery by Benchmark students are those who have a history of substance use or abuse.

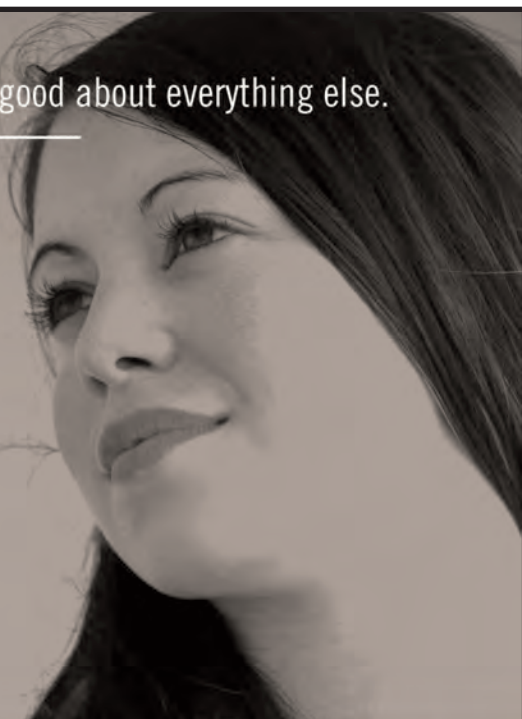
Behavioral Health is for those students who have not exhibited any issues with drugs and/or alcohol.

Both programs include our comprehensive curriculum of education, vocational & work skills, life skills and clinical treatment.

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A family of Starr programs for boys and girls: Therapeutic Boarding School • Outside In, for ASD youth • Crossroads, for young adults



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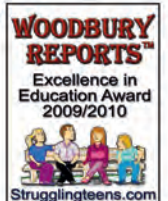


For many young men and women, leaving home and transitioning to college or the work world is a daunting and overwhelming challenge. Thrust into the real world alone, with few advocates, they often are overwhelmed by isolation and lack of structure and support. Robert Fischer, M.D., psychiatrist, co-founded **Optimum Performance Institute** in 2004 to meet the needs of these young adults, ages 17-25.



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