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CULTURE SHIFT

By: Lon Woodbury

Schoolyard shootings were unthinkable only a decade ago, but now are becoming common headlines. This seems to be the violent fringe area of an ongoing broad culture shift in American attitudes, especially attitudes about and on the part of American youth and their parents.

The causes and details of this shift, and of increasing youth violence, are being endlessly debated throughout the country. How helpful is much of this debate is questionable, because of the old truism that half the solution to a problem is an accurate definition of the problem. When we latch onto surface explanations that don't fit all the significant facts, we wind up solving problems that don't exist. The public discussion following one such schoolyard shooting in Oregon is a good example of how the standard explanations not only often don't fit, but seem to just be looking for an easy target to blame!

On the morning of May 21, 1998, a 15 year old boy opened fire in a High School cafeteria in Oregon killing two students and wounding 22 others, shocking the whole nation. The shock turned almost to numbness when it was learned the boy apparently had also just previously shot and killed his parents. Part of the shock was this didn't seem to be just an isolated senseless tragedy, but the latest in a growing number of school shootings from all parts of the country. For commentators, the other part of the shock was that none of the standard explanations fit. Though details were originally sketchy, public discussion following this latest schoolyard shooting is a good example of how the popular explanations miss the point and can be both extremely unfair and misleading.

"His parents must have been terrible parents." Not true according to long time friends and neighbors who saw the pains the parents had taken to provide emotional, spiritual and material support for their two children. They had even organized a semester of home schooling to help get his academics back on track, a tremendous investment of the parents' personal time and attention.

"It must have been a really crazy, dysfunctional family." Again, not true, according to friends, neighbors and long time associates. Besides, his older sister had been academically and socially quite successful while coming from the same family. Instead, all evidence so far shows the boy was the dysfunctional person in the family, as even testified to by other students who had thought he was weird and harmless.

"Well, both parents were teachers and professionals, so they must have spent so much time on their careers their son was left on his own too much of the time." Again, not true according to friends who spent hours with the father while he confided his concerns and fears about the decisions his son was making, and discussed his proactive attempts to guide his son away from a destructive obsession with guns, violence and bombs. Others reported how the parents arranged their schedules to ensure at least one parent would always be available to him, and how they arranged medication, counseling, and anger management sessions with professionals for their son to get him the help he needed.



Continued: **CULTURE SHIFT/ 2**

“There must have been advance signs of trouble. Someone should have listened.” There were, and they did. His parents, the therapist, family friends and school officials were very concerned and did everything they could think of, which was all the standard interventions that are commonly acceptable. The only thing they apparently didn’t do was some kind of residential experience for their son, either treatment or otherwise. But, that is an extremely difficult judgment call for parents. There are considerations of stigma, and likely criticisms from those who think residential placement is some kind of punishment or a violation of the child’s rights. There is an increasing reluctance by insurance companies to support long term placements, observations that many children have not been helped by expensive residential treatment anyway, and oftentimes the fear by parents that the option will be interpreted by the world as proof of poor parenting.

“The responsibility lies with children’s easy access to guns.” Access for this boy, in the critical 24 hours before the school shooting, was anything but easy. The first attempt the morning before the school shooting resulted in his being suspended from school for possessing a gun a friend had obtained from a burglary. Even trying the black market illegal handgun route was not that easy. So he kept trying, and the second attempt the afternoon before the school shooting was to get the guns at home that were under lock and key. The only reason guns were even in his home was because his father had decided he could have more control over his son’s obsession with guns if he himself bought them, required gun safety classes, and target practiced with his son. His father personally had no interest in guns, but was convinced that simply banning guns would only have resulted in his son acquiring guns on his own, with no chance of adult influence and control. The father firmly believed lack of supervision would have increased the chances of a tragedy, so took his chances. It seems the boy had to go through his father, literally, to get access to those guns.

None of the other standard explanations fit. The parents had never divorced, he was not adopted, was not poor, and neither a minority nor an inner city child. He was from a normal, positive, functioning American family, with parents who were widely respected and heavily involved in parenting.

Most popular explanations insist a tragedy like this simply does NOT happen in healthy, functioning families! They say there MUST be some deep, dark, hidden secret in a family that causes a child to go out-of-control or do something violent. They say children are not born that way! Actually, this boils down to, “Blame the parents!” Well, not necessarily, according to my experience working with families and their out-of-control teenage children.

In my experience, out-of-control teens, of which the boy in the above example is a more violent version, come from all segments of the population. They come from rich and poor families, urban, rural and suburban, all races, intact and broken families, permissive and very strict parents, and with

stay-at-home mothers as well as hard working career mothers. True, often these standard explanations are part of the mix of explanations when a child turns out-of-control, but often the root cause turns out to be something entirely unexpected, and frequently coming more from a child’s confused fantasies of how the world works.

The major reason I question the accuracy and helpfulness of the popular explanations of why children go wrong is I work with a small but significant number of families who seem perfect parents. Their families are intact, and they are successfully raising several children, of which only one started making significantly poor decisions like heavy drug use, skipping school, running from home, etc. Until we have a better understanding and consensus of what the real problem is, based on facts, the popular explanations based on emotional faith in some simplified theory or other are going to unjustly blame these families for their children’s actions. These surface explanations, which, by mindlessly weakening and criticizing strong parents, will only contribute to the problem. Plus, these families are a strong case that popular explanations are missing some important and vital facts.

I wrote this shortly after the Oregon shooting, about ten years ago. It is scary that since then there have been a series of similar school shootings, and even an apparent increase of violence among adults. The term “going postal” has gained popularity regarding work place violence in the past ten years. This suggests that something wider than just influences on kids are in back of these tragedies. That is, children are perhaps partly responding to some influences causing stress and concern to adults also. And, look at some of the additional influences that we are faced with in the last ten years. Of course there are serious concerns about terrorism in the population at large, which of course are somehow going to influence children. In addition, there have been raised concerns about the influence of violent computer games and increased violence in movies and online on children. Computer addiction has come into popular use, as well as increasing addiction to pornography since it is now so readily available from the internet. Are these an increase in violence, or just better reporting of violence, from the media’s mantra: “If it bleeds, it leads.”

So let the debate continue! Let’s try to understand what the cultural shift is, how it is impacting our society, and what we might constructively do about it. But it’s vital to remember, the popular simplistic explanations are not only NOT telling us what we need to know, but are causing us to look in the wrong directions. We need understanding of this culture shift based on facts and wisdom, not a faith in emotional theories and popular psychology. Further, we need to honor all those parents who have grappled with out-of-control teens without effective support or understanding from society. Let’s not be so quick to simply blame them and think we are expressing knowledge.

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Visit by: Lon Woodbury, August 24, 2012

Rose Hill Center was an unexpected but delightful find at the end of my recent tour through Michigan and area. Their clientele are adults 18 and older with a diagnosis of a serious mental illness. In the private parent-choice network, there are very few that work with this population, but I'm convinced that Rose Hill should be on the list to check out for anyone working with an adult that fits this description.

Their purpose is to take clients who have serious mental illnesses, and give them the treatment, training and support to enable them to eventually live as independently productive lives as their potential allows. In doing that, the Center has four tracks. First is their Residential Rehabilitation Program which aims at helping the residents achieve stability and restoring their self-esteem. This includes sophisticated treatment and medication management, along with personal growth through consistent structure and individual support, and working as part of a therapeutic work program such as farm animal care, housekeeping, kitchen or horticulture/grounds keeping. One goal of the work program is pre-vocational training. Once a resident is stabilized, they are engaged at least 20 hours a week through work on campus, working in local businesses, in school or doing volunteer work.

The length of stay depends on the needs of the resident. Although a very few might find Rose Hill perfect for their needs and would stay for years, most are there from six to twelve months. When a resident is stabilized and confident with good self-esteem there are two tracks. One is the Extended Residential Program for those who are ready for some independence but still needs on-going supervision. The other track is their Transitional Living Program which is as the name implies, preparing to transition back home or into the community with more normal independence. For those who will move to someplace within the surrounding community, there is the Community Support Program where they can attain independence, but can obtain support from the Center when needed.

It was explained that their current population is mostly in their mid-20s, but adding in the older residents, the average age is 32. The Center is located on 412 acres, which borders a scenic lake. Many of the residences have marvelous views of the lakeshore from the lounge or their bedrooms. Most of the

property is relatively undeveloped, with many walking trails along the lake and elsewhere, or is devoted to pastoral pursuits such as grazing animals.

The first impression of the property when you first arrive is of a working farm, the visitor being greeted by a large red barn with all kinds of animals around for the residents to take care of and interact with. This is rather appropriate because I was informed the program was to a large extent inspired by Gould Farm, one of the early residential therapeutic communities in the nation. Having myself grown up on a farm in Idaho, during my tour of the barn everything looked and smelled like expected with horses in the arena or their stalls, and pigs in their stalls and chickens running around getting underfoot. The residents with work assignments in the barn consider this prime duty, completely enjoying every minute there they can.

The visitor then passes by two huge greenhouses where they grow flowers for sale to the local community, and the attached garden where they grow food that will be used by the kitchen for Center community meals. Being late in the summer, the greenhouses had few plants left but were still decently organized.

A little ways further on from the greenhouses is the Education Therapy Center, a very large new building. The Gym doubles as a lunch room with implements for volleyball and other activities, and numerous classrooms. In many ways this is the center of the formal program with classes, therapy sessions and many of the groups being held here.

Down the slight hill toward the lake are the residences and administrative buildings. The staff I met were friendly, all the facilities were clean and well maintained, and the residents I saw and met seemed relaxed and feeling about as comfortable and emotionally safe as their illnesses allowed them to be. The weather being a mild comfortable late August of course contributed to the peaceful sense, but I could imagine during a rainy or snowy day, the atmosphere also could be described as cozy.

I consider Rose Hill as filling a needed niche in the private parent-choice network.



THE CHANGE COMPANIES

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The Change Companies® is a national publishing, consulting, training and video company that works with leading industry experts to develop effective, evidence-based journaling materials that assist individuals in making positive life change. Their products and services are used in the fields of prevention, treatment, impaired driving, criminal justice, and healthcare. They collaborate with researchers, innovative program managers and hundreds of service providers to stay on the cutting edge of change in research and application models.

Don Kuhl, M.S., CEO founded The Change Companies® in 1988 and has served as its CEO since. He developed Interactive Journaling®. They assert the power of this model transcends any specific treatment or educational modality. Whether a program

focuses on a 12-step approach, a cognitive-behavioral model, a motivational-enhancement strategy or a combination of change models, the Interactive Journaling® resources offer a simple delivery system for the provider of services and each program participant.

Interactive Journals are created using a highly graphic approach with color on every page and a blending of core behavior-change content in combination with targeted questioning designed to engage participants in exploring risks, needs and skill deficits, as well as strengths, resources and solutions to problem behaviors. It offers a range of Journaling materials specifically geared to enhance the organization and structure of youth treatment. It keeps young clients on target while accommodating their need to express the frustrations and fears that build during the challenges of treatment. The curricula is designed not only to enable programs to implement leading behavioral-change research, but to do so in a way that is accessible, meaningful and motivational for the program participant. In the course of gathering immediate and relevant information related to problems areas, participants can map out where they have been, where they are and where they wish to go.

[This information came from The Change Companies website]

WALTHAM HOUSE

Waltham, MA
Marc DeNofrio, LMHC - Program Director
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www.thehome.org

Waltham House is the first residential group home designed specifically for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual or transgender questioning youth in New England, and one of only three of its kind in the nation. The program was designed to provide a safe and supportive group home living environment for up to 12 gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth ages 14-18. They also work with youth who may be questioning their sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Many young people have previously experienced difficulty (at home or in placement) due to their gender expression or sexuality identities. Waltham House offers residents a safe environment to live while they prepare for family reunification, independent living and future self-sufficiency.

The program offers a multi-disciplinary team approach to treatment plan development and implementation, individual and

creative stabilization services and interventions in a highly structured therapeutic milieu, as well as individual, group and family therapy and case management by Masters level clinicians. In addition, there are psycho-educational groups on topics such as trauma, self-esteem, substance abuse, anger management, healthy sexual development, body image, HIV/STD prevention and tobacco cessation. Staff offers family outreach and support services, mentoring, tutoring and vocational training, as well as life skills development. There are also numerous opportunities for residents to attend community-based activities such as sports, after-school programs including peer education programs and Gay/Straight Alliances (GSA's), social/support groups, and community service projects.

Located in Waltham, Massachusetts, the program offers 24-hour staffing, and is housed in a large, comfortable, federal-style home with an expansive tree-lined backyard in a Boston-suburban neighborhood. Waltham House opened in October 2002 and was founded on the principles of responsibility, respect and pride, with the belief that all youth deserve to live in an environment in which they feel safe, respected, supported and cared for. The agency is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) and the program is licensed by the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC).

(This information came from The Home for Little Wanderers website.)

THE KEYSTONE SCHOOLS

Bloomsburg, PA
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www.keystonehighschool.com

The Keystone School is an online high school and middle school serving students from around the world who have completed eighth grade and have a general working knowledge of the English language. The students which may be enrolled at any time of the year in the school, may be homeschooled, pursuing a career in sports or entertainment, traveling the world, or wants to take courses on their

own schedule. Keystone can help students with credit recovery, advanced students not challenged at their local school can get AP classes, or for working ahead in their educational curriculum.

Keystone was founded in 1974, and has served more than 250,000 students. The administrative team brings over 34 years of experience to the school. The faculty members are all certified teachers with an average of seven years of instructional experience and almost half have earned higher degrees in education. The Northwest Accreditation Commission accredits Keystone. The Pennsylvania Department of Education licenses Keystone National High School as a private high school and the National Collegiate Athletic Association, which allows the students to participate in athletics, recognizes them. With these licenses and accreditations,

Continued: **KEYSTONE/ 8**



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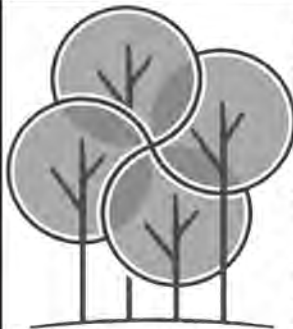
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All students can connect and access teachers, learning coaches, counselors, administrative staff, and other students. Students can connect with other students through message boards, extracurricular

activities, and even a staff-moderated Facebook page. Keystone currently offers French, Spanish and German to middle school students. Once students reach high school, they can also take Chinese, Japanese, and Latin. An observer account can be set up for parents to monitor their child's progress and you may include anyone else that you designate.

[This information came from The Keystone Schools website.]

RAVEN'S WAY

Sitka, AK

Brett Wilcox, M Ed, LPC, CDC II, Treatment Supervisor

800-770-3063

www.searhc.org

Raven's Way, an adolescent substance abuse treatment program for Alaskan teens, ages 13-18 that have a main diagnosis of substance abuse or dependence. This voluntary program is under the umbrella of SEARHC: South East Alaska Regional Health Consortium and is a nonprofit tribal group health service, serving 18 Native communities of Southeast Alaska, established in 1975.

Raven's Way, founded in 1989, is accredited by the Commission for the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF); academics are accredited by the Sitka School District and follow the ethical standards of the National Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC).

Raven's Way is recognized by the Department of Justice in "Promising Practices and Strategies to Reduce Substance Abuse among American Indians and Alaska Natives," August 2000 and was recognized as a Best Practice Program at the Alaska Native Best

Practices Conference, May 2005.

Brett Wilcox, M Ed, LPC, CDCII, serves as the current Treatment Supervisor at Raven's Way.

Upon enrollment in the program, students are assessed to identify physical and educational needs, mental health issues, substance abuse or co-occurring disorders, some of which may include ADD, ODD, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, schizophrenia, traumatic brain injury and/or fetal alcohol effects. All assessments are done by licensed providers, who work together to create an individualized plan.

With the teachings of the Medicine Wheel, students gain cultural opportunities through outdoor wilderness experiential education and "learning by doing". These include: talking circles, participating in the sweat lodge, smudging, pouch making and ceremony, drum-making and powwow-style drumming, meeting and learning from cultural guests, a solo expedition and taking turns in being the Leader of the Day, which enables students to learn problem solving, life skills and conflict resolution.

Students participate in academic schoolwork, group and individual counseling, healthy relationship building with their peers and staff and daily teamwork building activities.

[This information came from the SEARHC website.]

EXTENDED INSIGHTS...

MT. CARMEL YOUTH RANCH CATTLE DRIVE

By: Victor R. Claveau, MJ

Cast of Characters:

Cowboys – Professional ranch hands

Ranch Boys – Residents of the Teenage Program (12-17)

Beartooth Men – Residents of the Adult Program (18-26)

Mentors – Advisors to Teenagers

For most of the spring and summer months, a good portion of the ranch's herd grazes in a 44,000 acre pasture high in the Beartooth Mountains of northwest Wyoming. A summer drought, once again, reduced the forage and the herd had to be brought down to the home ranch about a month early.

I had never been on a cattle drive and looked forward to the experience. The morning sun was just peeking above the eastern mountains as I turned off Highway 120 and drove the three miles to the bunkhouse.

The ranch boys were excited to begin the day. After Morning Prayer and a hearty breakfast, we all loaded into the ranch's bus for the 28-mile drive to the trailhead.

A few of the ranch boys read books, posing as if this was just another day. However, one could almost feel the excitement in the air, as they knew they were in for an experience they would never forget.

We drove south to the Chief Joseph Scenic Highway and turned west to gain the high country. The highway is also part of the Nez Perce (Nimíipuu or Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail. The trail bisects Yellowstone National Park, and then follows the Clark Fork of the Yellowstone out of Wyoming into Montana.

The 1877, the Nez Perce Indians fled their homelands in order to relocate in Canada. U.S. Army Generals Howard, Sturgis, and Miles and a contingent of cavalry troops pursued them.

I wondered how many of the ranch boys had ever heard of the Nez Perce, and the story of what was one of the most sorrowful events in Western U.S. history. During an ordeal that lasted from June to October of 1877, Chiefs Joseph, Looking Glass, White Bird, Ollokot, Lean Elk, and others led nearly 750 Nez Perce men, women, and children and about 1,500 horses over 1,170 miles through the mountains, in order to reach the relative safety of Canada. This epic fighting retreat by the Nez Perce became known as the Nez Perce War.

Finally, after a devastating five-day



battle during freezing weather conditions with no food or blankets, with the major war leaders dead, Chief Joseph formally surrendered to General Miles on October 5, 1877 in the Bear Paw Mountains of the Montana Territory, less than 40 miles south of the Canadian border. The battle is remembered by the words attributed to Chief Joseph at his formal surrender:

Tell General Howard I know his heart. What he told me before, I have it in my heart. I am tired of fighting. Our chiefs are killed; Looking Glass is dead, Too-hul-hul-sote is dead. The old men are all dead. It is the young men who say yes or no. He who led on the young men is dead. It is cold, and we have no blankets; the little children are freezing to death. My people, some of them, have run away to the hills, and have no blankets, no food. No one knows where they are—perhaps freezing to death. I want to have time to look for my children, and see how many of them I can find. Maybe I shall find them among the dead. Hear me, my chiefs! I am tired; my heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever.

Chief Joseph has been portrayed in poems, books, television episodes, and feature films. Notable among the latter is *I Will Fight No More Forever*, a 1975 historical drama starring Sam Elliott, James Whitmore, and Ned Romero as Chief Joseph.

As we continued to climb, we entered the “open range land” high in the mountains, we spied a dead cow on the side of the highway

along with the mangled SUV that had killed her. Cattle have the right-of-way on open rangeland, and it was obvious the out of state driver had been traveling too fast for area conditions.

We exited the bus just above the 8,600 ft. level to begin driving the cattle 19 miles down the mountain, and then north to the overnight pasture.

Mike Apanashk and Daniel Kaiser, a couple of experienced cowboys, had been in the high country for the past week, scouring the landscape for cattle that seemed to be hiding in every gully or behind every rolling hill. In spite of all their efforts, more than 120 head were still missing. After the drive and a couple of days rest, these cowboys will make a quick return to the high country as the first snows usually begin in October and the cattle cannot be left to face the harsh winter months looming ahead.

While sitting on the ground with his boots off, massaging his sore feet, (I quickly got up-wind, as he had not bathed for four days) Mike gave us a quick brief about how we were to manage the cattle on the drive.

There were about 25 of us - Cowboys, Mentors, Beartooth men, and Ranch boys, with about a dozen on horseback; all under the watchful eye of the ranch’s Executive Director, Tom George. Sherri Kreitzmann, the ranch’s Mental Health & Addiction Therapist and her husband Kyle pitched in for the day. The men and boys would



Continued: **CATTLE DRIVE/ 10**



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CATTLE DRIVE

alternate riding and walking. Although I did get to ride and herd the cattle for a short time, I had the luxury of driving the truck pulling the stock trailer. My primary responsibility was to follow behind the herd and pick up the late-born calves or older cows that would not be able to manage the entire journey on their own.

As we were passing the accident site on the way down the mountain a U.S. Forrest Service Ranger stopped me and, in a not-so pleasant voice, asked, "Are you part of this outfit." When I answered, "yes", ordered me to "Get that d--- dead cow out of here or I'll have it removed and send you the bill." It took a half dozen men twenty minutes to get the 1,500 pound bloodied and bloated carcass on the trailer. While unpleasant, the task was all in the day's works for these rugged cowboys.

My only experience on a trail drive has been vicarious. I had recently watched the 1958 movie *Cowboy*, starring Jack Lemmon as a tenderfoot Chicago hotel clerk who loans money to visiting tough, no-nonsense trail boss Glenn Ford, in exchange for a partnership and his taking part in the next 3,000-mile cattle drive.

In one of the early scenes, after weeks on the trail, Ford is soaking in the hotel bathtub, shooting cockroaches off the walls, with his trusty Colt 45. He cannot understand why Lemmon or anyone else would want to go on a cattle drive. He describes horses and cows in the most derogatory of terms. At one point, he says, "Cows have a brain the size of a walnut and are the most stupid slab-sided animals on the face of the earth" (actually, a cow's brain is the



size of a baseball, and on average weighs 458 grams or a little over 1 pound). I mentioned this scene to Mike and he said, "Sure, cows are dumb, but they certainly have made a fool out of me a number of times."

After a few hours, we grouped the herd, stopped for lunch, and prayed the Angelus. The "chuck wagon" was the back of a truck loaded with giant Subway sandwiches, chips, and soft drinks, trucked in from Cody, (pop. 9,500, named after legend Buffalo Bill Cody) about 20 miles away.



We made it back down the mountain and began to drive the herd north along Highway 120. Each time we came to a bridge, we stopped traffic while the herd crossed. The herd invariably left evidence of their passing and I remember thinking that if we were in California, we would, most likely, been required to have a giant pooper-scooper follow behind, diligently cleaning up the mess.

Many curious drivers stopped to photograph the drive. Invariably, the ranch boys would smile and tip their hats, playing their cowboy roles to the hilt, especially if the onlookers were young, pretty girls.

About 6 p.m., we took another chow break. The crew devoured pulled-pork on hamburger buns with BBQ sauce, more chips, and soft drinks, from the ranch kitchen.

We had been pushing the herd for more than 11 hours, averaging approximately 1-3/4 miles per hour when we finally arrived at the overnight pasture, next to the Clarks Fork River, where

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we would secure the herd for the night. Most of the ranch boys had walked behind the herd, for nine to ten miles, fighting the dust and tired cattle all the way.

I expected that it would be a quiet group of exhausted ranch boys on the nine-mile bus ride back to the home ranch. Instead, I heard animated conversation about their varied experiences. They spoke of the merits or lack thereof for each horse they rode. Of course, they spoke of the pretty girls that smiled at them from the highway. One of the ranch boys said, "My left particular really hurts from all the riding." I said, "Your what hurts?" He replied, "My left particular. You know, pointing to the afflicted area. I've been trying to clean up my language." The entire group burst into laughter. This was one of those times when you would have to have been there to appreciate his comment and his discomfort. As I left the boys for the evening, I heard them begging for an extra hour or two of sleep, after their 16-hour workday.

The boys did get to sleep in a bit longer than usual, as they were not needed until the afternoon of day two of the drive. During the night, the herd had unexpectedly spread far and wide. As a result, the cowboys spent much of the morning rounding them up again. Shortly after noon, the boys arrived and we began moving the herd over the final nine-mile leg of the journey.

Some of the more tired calves would try to hide in the thick brush along the trail. A few just could go no further and had to be loaded on to the stock trailer. Regrettably, we lost one heifer calf

from exhaustion because we did not find her soon enough to get her on the stock trailer, and we lost a cow who broke her leg and had to be put down.

The rest of the trail drive was relatively uneventful. The herd slowly meandered north. The ranch boys walked many of last nine miles, again eating dust, and were tired and relieved when the last of the herd entered the gate to the lush green pasture awaiting them.

For the cattle, the end of the drive must have seemed like heaven. For the cowboys, it was just another day on the ranch. For the Beartooth men, ranch boys and me it was the end of an adventure we will always remember.

I spoke to the ranch boys a couple of days after the drive and their only "complaint" was that the drive did not last long enough. They "cowboyed up", got the job done and had every reason to be proud of themselves. Each of them had their own stories to tell and will have much to write home about.



The Mt. Carmel Youth Ranch is a Catholic, Therapeutic Residential School and a non-profit organization, operated on a family owned ranch. At Mt Carmel Youth Ranch we utilizes authentic "cowboy" experiences as a means to heal the troubled and wounded youth with a truly Christian love that will exist within them. We hope that our family environment will help build the moral conscience of the boy and enable them to allow the light of Christ to thrive within them, as both a source of strength and of illumination in an age of such frightening confusion and depravation. We believe that the ranch activities that are included in our troubled teen program will educate the mind, strengthen the body, and elevate the spirit of your child. For more information, contact Mt. Carmel at 866-971-3322 or www.mtcyrprograms.com/index.php.

SEEN N HEARD...

Trails Carolina is thrilled to welcome Jeff Johnson to the team as Admissions Director. With nearly 25 years of experience, Jeff brings exceptional leadership and parent support to the admissions process. 828-885-5920

Paige Deffert has joined the Admissions Team at **Legacy Outdoor Adventures**. Paige served as Admissions Director for Passages To Recovery up until its closure in the summer of 2011. She recently moved back to Loa to join the Legacy team. 435-836-2272

Saving Teens In Crisis Collaborative posted their Annual Appeal to help raise funds to include long term placements for at least 10 more children. Your generous donation helps kids and their families get help and stay healthy and safe. 978-852-2144

Trails Carolina continues to pioneer the use of intentional family work with a recent addition to our program, called Family Graduation Camp. 828-885-5920

Rock Point School was recently highlighted in Vermont Magazine. 802-863-1104, x12

Northwest Academy's Brandi Elliott presented before an audience of addiction professionals who had gathered from around the country for a conference in Florida recently. 208-267-7522 x 4024

Equine Journeys (EJ) announced recently that they have made it to their one year mark and are still going strong. Equine Journeys is a licensed Residential Treatment Center for teens aged 13-18 as well as a licensed Residential Support program for young adults aged 18-30 located in Loa, Utah. 435-836-2535

Montcalm School is introducing many exciting additions to its

programming and new staff include **Dr. Marcia Kent** and **Kevin Wing**. Montcalm is also expanding the boys' portion of Outside In, responding to a growing need for these services by increasing the capacity for boys with autism spectrum disorders. 269-339-2084

Saving Teens in Crisis Collaborative - STICC - posted the video for the 2012 Golf Outing. To view the outing, visit youtu.be/JFqy-eau4Cg. 978-852-2144

Shortridge Academy has forged a relationship with **OutcomeTools**, a new service that integrates with BestNotes and other electronic health record systems, to begin the implementation of a comprehensive, web-based, program evaluation. 877-903-8968

Four Circles Recovery Center was the featured treatment center on an episode of A&E's Intervention television show. 828-891-2221

Alicia Goldman, LCSW is pleased and excited to announce the opening of her private Educational Consulting practice based out of San Francisco, **ASG Consulting**. 415-680-7508

Solstice East welcomes **Kristina Urquhart**. As a trauma and loss trained board-certified art therapist, licensed professional counselor, certified level-1 yoga instructor and experienced horseman, Kristina brings a wealth of experience to our team. 828-484-9928

KW Legacy Ranch, a "therapeutic retreat" for families and an adolescent program for teens, celebrated their Grand Opening. 775-725-3900

Continued: **SEEN N HEARD/ 12**

SEEN N HEARD

Pacific Quest Hawaii is pleased to announce the promotion of **Hilary Moses**, LCSW to Clinical Director. Hilary is an LCSW with over 13 years of experience working with adolescents and families in a variety of settings. 808-345-4549

Compass Rose Academy has been endorsed by **Dr. Jay Kesler**, one of Indiana's most well-known and respected educators. 317-509-5968

Expedition Therapy proudly announces the addition of **Bobbie Jensen** as Admissions Director. Bobbie began her career in 2001 at **Cinnamon Hills Youth Crisis Center**, where she worked with students to develop academic plans, tracked student progress and outcomes, communicated with referral agencies, and worked directly with the unit therapist as part of the treatment team. In 2007, Bobbie became Admissions Director at **Sunrise Academy**. There, she managed and coordinated admissions, conducted facility tours, organized promotional events, and developed new admissions protocols. Bobbie moved to **Falcon Ridge Academy** in 2009, adding Business Development and Marketing to her Admissions duties. 484-319-0116

Echo Springs Transition Study Center for young adults turned celebrated their 19th year on September 15th. Echo Springs is located in north Idaho and works with about twenty students at a time through a three phase program. A blog about life at Echo Springs is now attached to our website and may be found at <http://echo-springs.com/main/>. 208-267-1111

Insight Intensive at Gold Lake is pleased to announce the appointment of **Daniel Fishburn** as Program Director. Daniel comes to Insight Intensive with 25 years of experience in behavioral healthcare. 512-516-7257

Gateway Academy is pleased to announce the addition of **Carrie**

Shoumatoff as Admission Director. Prior to working at Gateway, Carrie worked as the Admissions Director for **Oakley School**. Carrie's experience, enthusiasm and understanding will provide our families the support and guidance they need as they navigate their way through the difficult process of choosing a placement for their son. 801-523-3479

InnerChange is excited to announce that **Tazim Salehani** has joined our team as the Vice President of Marketing and Business Development. Tazim has over ten years of leadership experience. She spent five years with **CRC Health Group** and **Aspen Education**, where she was the Sales Operations Director. Her experience there included strategic planning as well as leading and training the business development team. 801-380-4367

Dragonfly Transitions is excited to announce the opening of the Mann Road Farm, just twelve miles south of Klamath Falls. The farm sits on thirty acres with a twelve acre lake and many fruit trees. It provides an additional eight beds for men. 541-850-0841 ext. 1005

Foundation House would like to welcome **Mike Hench**, MS, MBA, LMFT as the newest member of the Foundation House "foxhole." After working the past seven years as a young adult therapist at **Second Nature Entrada** wilderness therapy program, Mike has taken a new position as the Director of Business Development and Therapist at Foundation House, an extended care sober living facility in Portland, Maine. 207-767-1717

Breakwater Expeditions is excited to announce that on November 18-26, 2012, **Kim Mlinarik**, LMHC, CDP will be facilitating our first Mother-Daughter Sea Kayaking trip in The Bahamas' Exuma Cays. 208-263-0277

PLACES FOR STRUGGLING TEENS™

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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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