



Places for Struggling Teens™

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

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PARENT CHOICES NOVEMBER REVIEW



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Parent Choices For Struggling Teens airs Mondays at 12 pm, Pacific Time on LA Talk Radio, Channel One.

Sober High Schools Are A Model for Education: Devon Green, Director of Education for Newport Academy in southern California, shared the difference between a traditional high school and a "sober high school". "Designed more as a step down program from a more intense residential treatment center, a sober high school or also referred to as a recovery high school, is set up like a typical school day, with students attending school from 9:00 am to 3:13 pm and off on the weekends. Yet at a sober high school, the students are committed to being sober and are willing to be drug tested as needed, to ensure the school stays safe and drug free. Students also have the support of weekly group therapies such as equine, music and art therapies, therapeutic and substance abuse counseling, life skills training and support from both faculty and parents. 714-345-0815

Whatever Happened To Rites of Passage?: This topic centered on the disappearance of the "rites of passage" for young adults, with Patrick Barrasso of In Balance Ranch Academy and Molly McGinn of BloomTree Learning Community. To clarify what a rite of passage is, Patrick explained that traditional tribal and ancient rites of passage was a test with a ceremony symbolizing the transition from childhood to adulthood and the recognition of a change in the young person that was naturally occurring. "We've lost touch of the importance of these stages in a young person's life, of dying to the old and giving way to something exciting, unique and affirming. These rites of initiation, a celebration of these conquests to adulthood and where a young person feels that they are 'arriving' to adulthood." Molly added that the "intentional, formal rites of passage led by skilled elders and guides are basically non-existent today and yet the need for that recognition for our young people is still present. Without the role of mentors and elders who would normalize the separation of youth from adults in the community, this has left the youth to initiate one another into the adult world (ie: gangs)." Patrick 877-304-3329, Molly 928-478-8813

The Digital Teen Brain: Clinton Dorney and Thomas Holmes from Discovery Ranch discussed the "blessings and curses" of digital media and the results of addictions to digital media. Discovery Ranch is a residential treatment center in Utah. "The kids coming to our program with digital addictions are often thin, pale and withdrawn socially. They struggle with interpersonal interactions and have a hard time with face to face communication. Kids with these addictions spend an average of 8-½ hours daily on screen time...more if you include TV." 801-489-3311

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO “RITES OF PASSAGE”?

by LON WOODBURY on NOVEMBER 21, 2013

I had the opportunity to interview Patrick Barrasso, Founder of In Balance Continuum of Care, AZ, and Molly McGinn, Founder of BloomTree Learning Communities and Treehouse Learning Community, AZ on the topic of ‘Rites of Passage’ lately. Both of them use the concept of Rites of Passage in their work with young people and have studied extensively what it is and how/why it works.

Essentially, a Rite of Passage is a marker and experience signifying and proving their readiness for life as an adult. It is a significant life change and provides meaning to the young person in that he/she has made the transition to adulthood. The same principles apply to other significant life changes like a graduation, a marriage, etc. but the most important and very deep need in all humans is overcoming the challenge of entrance to adulthood.

My take-away from the interview was there are many other elements that are part of a legitimate, serious Rite of Passage that I had never considered as a significant part of a Rite of Passage.

One important element is a ceremony. A public recognition of the accomplishment of the young person standing before their community would be a part of the processing of the experience and brings home the meaning of the Rite of Passage experience to everybody. It acknowledges the fact of a death of the old childhood and beginning or birth of the adult. In our society we have retained a lot of ceremonies, but those by themselves often are just a recognition of becoming eligible for some entitlement, something entirely different than a Rite of Passage.

A proper Rite of Passage includes an element of at least a perceived risk. That is, there is the possibility of failure. In this sense, it is a test of the readiness of the young person to make the transition to adulthood by overcoming adult challenges. This flies in the face of the direction of mainstream society which seems to be endeavoring to become a risk free society. Our society is filled with what is called “helicopter parents,” and “snowplow parents” and all kinds of laws and customs to protect children and these tend to strive to eliminate all discomfort for the child. By not being allowed to stand or fall on their own, children living in a risk-free environment are missing out on a vital preparation for adulthood.

The Hero’s Journey is often a specific element of a Rite of Passage. Made popular by Joseph Campbell, it is a very popular part of movies, video games and literature, but in real life it seems to just be assumed that by gaining in years the young person will become an adult without the messiness of a quest, transition, and triumph.

Taking on responsibilities at a very early age provides the

foundation and experience that prepares the young person for transition into adulthood. Without the experience of taking on responsibilities and contributing to their community, the young person will likely be poorly prepared for a successful transition into adulthood, with or without a Rite of Passage. Instead, our society has gone the route of protecting our young from discomfort, risk and potential of failure through child labor laws and extending adolescence to later and later ages.

Also, one of the best ways to prepare for that transition to adulthood is to learn how to earn what they get. As time has passed, we seem to expect parents to give children what they want and we have situations of children going to college, obtaining cars and all kinds of popular electronics without doing anything to earn them. Instead of earning them, the expectation on the part of young people tends to be that they are entitled to all that. Where it was common for young people to sacrifice to pay their own way through college, it is now expected instead that the parents will make those sacrifices so their children can go the University of the child’s choice on the parents’ dime.

Overcoming challenges is key to the self-respect of an adult. All Rites of Passage include this. However, all too often, challenges young people face make them uncomfortable (which is part of what is needed) so instead adults step in to save them from the challenge, depriving the young people from that critical accomplishment.

Meaning underlies all accomplishment. The most common way to help the child understand the meaning of what they have undergone is through a specific ceremony. This is an important processing step and without it the young person might just figure that they went through hard times with no self-affirming realization and most of the value will be lost.

Mentoring by elders is key. When the adults act like adults and guide and help the youth through the experience and the adults have designed the experience well, then it can be a real experience and have a deep impact. This is as opposed to some contrived test where the youth’s experience is not very meaningful and the only test is if the youth can figure out what the adults want them to do. Some challenge from nature is generally the best because nature just is and overcoming a challenge from nature is by itself a very valuable experience and there is no human arbitrary influence. A challenge coming from humans tends to require manipulation, a challenge coming from nature is about as real as it can get.

The interesting summary was at the end when the question was “What would happen if our society developed and widely adopted a true challenging Rite of Passage.” The answer was for this to ever happen, the adults would have to grow up and act like adults, mentoring the young and providing the elements mentioned above on a long term and consistent basis. My question is, if we could do this, what would the world look like? I think we would have fewer problems, fewer confused souls, and a more peaceful and productive society.

VISIT REPORTS...

TURN ABOUT RANCH

Escalante, UT
Becky Brown – Admissions Director
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www.turnabout ranch.com

Visit by: Kristie Campbell, BS Psy, May 6, 2013

My visit to Turn About Ranch in Escalante, UT was the first time I have ever been a part of a group tour. We arrived at the airport in St. George around noon and were greeted by two Turn About staff members. There were about 12 of us visiting on this trip, and as I would later learn, most were therapists from around the country.

Turn About Ranch works with adolescents who are struggling with authority, may be experimenting with substances, compulsive lying or other defiance issues. Many are struggling in school and have a low self-concept with a lack of motivation. Often they struggle with depression/anxiety, ADHD and other clinical diagnoses.

The staff shuttled us the two-and-a-half hour drive across Utah to the hotel where we were staying. We arrived at the

hotel and were greeted by Becky Brown, Director of Admissions, Chrissy Lamy in admissions, Michelle Lindsay, the Clinical Director, Chris Christianson the Executive Director. We were given our agendas for the next day and then released to freshen up for dinner.

The next morning, the staff at Turn About split us into three groups. This allowed a large group of people to visit and still get a chance to see almost everything with a more personal experience.

Turn About Ranch is about an hour away from where we stayed, located in the small cow-town of Escalante, UT. As we neared the ranch, each group pulled away from our caravan to head to their assigned location. Our group went first to Heritage Park, a local visitor center, where all students have at least one of their groups during their stay at Turn About Ranch. At Heritage Park, we all watched a movie about the challenges of the original settlers long ago. The lesson of course was about their ability to overcome obstacles. After the movie, Michelle led a therapy group with the boys in our group. They were able to relate some of the challenges they faced in treatment with some of the challenges the settlers faced trying to cross through a hole in the rock through a narrow ravine called "Hole in the Rock."

TURN ABOUT RANCH/ Continued Pg. 4

Four Circles Recovery Center is a state-of-the-art, innovative wilderness-based treatment program for young adult males and females, ages 18-28, with addiction, substance abuse, and co-occurring mental health issues.



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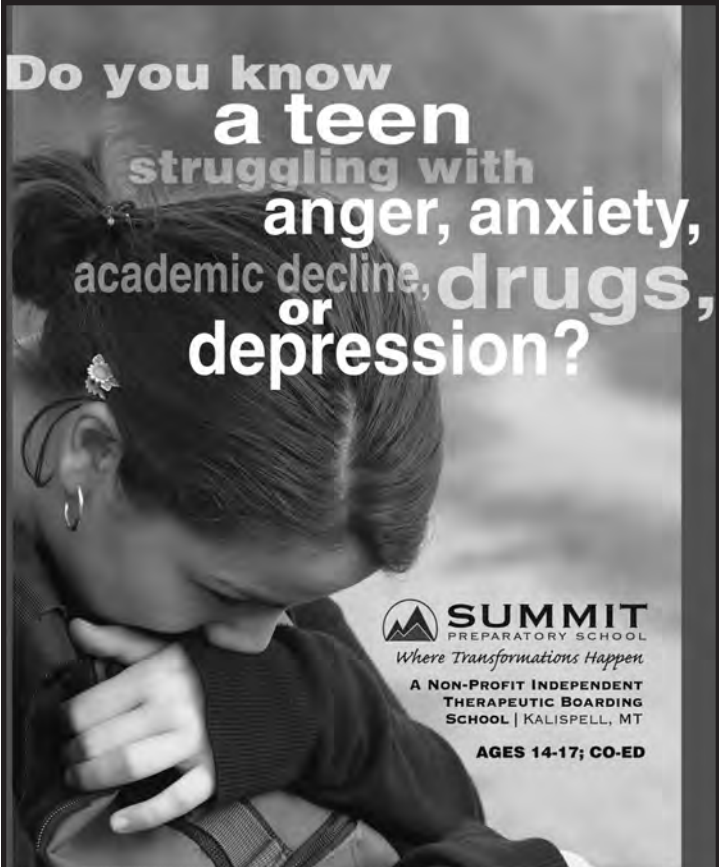


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TURN ABOUT RANCH

Another of the lessons taught the young men about seeking solutions through adversity rather than running away from it. It was a powerful message for some of these boys, since many of them chose to run away from their problems rather than facing them.

We left Heritage Park and drove up the canyon to the upper part of campus, called Roundy Camp. As we drove, Becky explained that the therapists at Turn About Ranch often do their sessions out in the wilderness of southern Utah. The elements and nature, as well as on the spot need, removed restrictions of a sterile office setting and allowed the students to really open up. Becky also explained that each student participates in therapeutic groups such as leadership and accountability groups. There is also a Christian tract with Christian counselors, bible study and a pastor.

After a bit of a drive up a dusty dirt road, we arrived at Roundy Camp. We pulled into the parking area which overlooked a small, rustic prospecting village. There were tents and lean-tos, and a larger cabin sat to one side of the village. The village smelled of campfires and desert dust. We walked down the natural staircase and into the village.

Roundy camp is a "Back To Basics" camp. There is no running water, no power; except of course a solar panel used to run the communication devices for use in an emergency. Students typically stay in Roundy Camp, up to 3 weeks depending on their need. The first 2-3 days they are in a trust circle, not allowed to interact with the rest of the group and



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Office: (402) 498-1973
Cell: (402) 990-5371
doug.czyz@boystown.org



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Patrick McAvoy, Program Director, at
508-274-3777.

doing all their own cooking, cleaning and assignments on their own. Students begin with limited supplies and earn luxuries as they grow therapeutically. Roundy camp also hosts a low ropes course for the students to work through obstacles. This becomes one of the places kids love to bring their parents during parent week. Upon completion of this phase of Turn About Ranch, students have accomplished one community service project to leave behind for future students to enjoy.

Turn About Ranch is licensed as both a wilderness program, and a therapeutic boarding school. The ranch is a true working ranch. Students don't just move cattle to move them, there is purpose and true grit behind every aspect of the ranch. For example, in the summer, students move cattle to the summer feeding grounds. Then in the winter, they "drive" them to the winter grounds. They participate in medical checks on the animals, and witness and help with births and butchering. They also work with the numerous horses on the ranch, both therapeutically and for work. Turn About Ranch also has an extensive Vocational Program, which offers an alternative way for students to prepare themselves for the job market and furthering their education. Some of these classes include culinary arts, mechanics, construction or building trades and auto mechanics.

I was impressed with the school component at Turn About Ranch as well. Students come to the ranch and through Roundy at different points in their educational process. Often students are behind in school and need help catching up. Other times they are beyond grade level. The Academic Director at Turn About Ranch works directly with the student's

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

~THE STAFF AT
WOODBURY REPORTS

sending school in order to obtain information for each student. All students do core curriculum, but it is tailored to their needs.

We briefly had a chance to see the over 18 building where several students were working on lariat skills, then we headed over for quick exercise in horse therapy before lunch.

At lunch, we met with the other groups on the tour and several students. Many of the students had helped prepare a wonderful lunch, part of their culinary vocational program. Lunch was amazing and the conversations we had with the students were equally impressive. After lunch it was time for us to head out. We thanked the students for their hospitality and wished them good luck, then loaded up and hit the trail.

Being this was my first group visit, it was a good experience. As we traveled back to the airport, we were all able to compare notes and shared our perspectives of the program. Not surprisingly, though there were a dozen of us, we all had a similar experience of the visit. It had been a good visit and we each felt reassured that the staff care about the kids and work together to make each students experience personal.

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.]

COMPASS ROSE ACADEMY

Wabash, Indiana
240-569-4757

Denae Green, Director of Admissions
Denae.Green@compassroseacademy.org
www.compassroseacademy.org

Compass Rose Academy, a Christian therapeutic boarding school is a subsidiary of White's Residential and Family Services, a private nonprofit child welfare agency in Indiana. This 9-12 month, co-ed program is for teens who struggle with depression, identity and body image issues, who clash with their peers or authority figures, problems in school, abuse recovery and social isolation or rejection.

Originally founded in the 1850's, Whites Residential and Family Services have a long list of accreditations and affiliations including: The Council on Accreditation, the Alliance for Children and Families, CWLA, IARCCA, IHSAA, the Indiana Department of Education, NACCF and the NFPA. CEO of Compass Rose Academy is A. Dee Gibson, MA, LSW who has served with White's for 35 years, with 15 years as CEO. Brad Wright is the campus Chaplain and has worked for White's since the mid 1990's, Mike Haarer is the Director of Compass Rose and Troy Friedersdorf is the Principal of the on-site Junior and Senior High Schools.

Students participate in Christ centered individual counseling in addition to several group experiences all designed to learn healthy conflict resolution and increase team building skills. Each student lives in a cottage with house parents and up to eleven other students. Meals, chores and cottage activities help the students learn responsibility and working together as a family. Activities include daily exercise, church services on Sunday at the on campus Church, and a multitude of fun experiences on the 800 acres including bike riding and hiking or use of the gym, swimming pool, weight room and ponds and woods.

[This information came from the Compass Rose Academy and White's Residential and Family Services websites.]

NSI ACADEMY

Sheridan, Wyoming
Michelle Knight, Director of Admissions
800-473-1667
michelle@normativeservices.com
www.normativeservices.com

NSI Academy is a private, non-profit program offering residential treatment and educational services to adolescents with behavioral and emotional problems. They serve male and female students ranging from ages thirteen to eighteen. Typically the students they enroll have problems with one or more of the following issues: substance abuse, mood disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, conduct disorder, ADHD and may be adjudicated delinquent.

NSI Academy was founded in 1991 in Sheridan, Wyoming. It is currently owned by Sequel. Carolyn Willandt, Executive Director has over 20 years of experience working with adolescents in acute and residential programs. Michelle Knight is the Director of Admissions and has been with NSI in various roles since 2003. NSI Academy is licensed by the Wyoming Department of Family Services as a residential treatment center, accredited by the Joint Commission on

Behavioral Health and certified as an Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Facility by the Wyoming Department of Health, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division. The school is fully accredited by the Wyoming Department of Education, NCA (North Central Association) and the California department of education.

The program is located in the foothills of the Big Horn Mountains in Sheridan, Wyoming on a campus of over 300 acres. There are six main residential sites on the large, rural campus. Four are for males, two are for females. All students participate in individual, group and family therapies, providing students and their families with therapeutic and academic goals and interventions according to their individual treatment plan. NSI Academy's work-preparation program introduces students to hands-on training for later employment opportunities by offering accredited vocational classes. NSI Academy's programs offer a full range of athletic opportunities, including intramural and interscholastic competition. Boys' sports include football, basketball, track, baseball, softball, ice hockey, and cross-country running, while girls have the opportunity to participate in basketball, track, volleyball, baseball, and softball.

[This information came from the NSI Academy website]

SALEM4YOUTH

Flanagan, Illinois
Kent Robson, Executive Director/CEO
815-796-4561
krobson@salem4youth.com
www.salem4youth.com

Salem4youth is a working farm for 'prodigal' boys, located in the heartland of Central Illinois just 1½ hours south of Chicago, on 100+ acres of farmland in Flanagan, IL. They utilize two programs for young men ages twelve thru eighteen in an effort to gain the maximum benefit for each student served. One is a 4-6 month program for those students who are showing a downward trend in their lives, and need refocused before they get to the point of needing a long-term program. The other is a 12-18 month program for those young men struggling the most, and who need more time to accomplish the changes they need to make in order to be successful in the future. The most common issues the young men have entering the program are not respecting authority, drug use, failing school, hyperactive, depressed, unmotivated, playing video games, selfish, lazy, and impulsive.

Salem4youth, also known as Salem Children's Home, was begun in 1895 as an orphanage. Its purpose was "to build

and maintain a home for orphans and other worthy, destitute children, and for giving them industrial and religious training, and a common school education." This purpose grew out of the Biblical faith convictions of the founding churches, then known as Defenseless Mennonite churches. They continue today as an affiliate corporation of this family of churches, now known as the Fellowship of Evangelical Churches (FEC). As clientele and their needs changed they became licensed as a boarding school under the Illinois Board of Education in 2006 and are affiliated with the National Association of Street Schools. All class room instruction is given on campus with a curriculum using a computer-based program called Switched on Schoolhouse. Vocational classes are taught basic mechanics, welding/fabrications, computers/electronics, and carpentry/home improvement.

The boys participate in a competitive league in basketball, track, swimming, bowling, soccer, volleyball, and softball. The Equine Center has a heated indoor riding area and the program regularly receives Arabian, Paint, Quarter Horses, Palomino and many other breeds through donations. The students are involved in everything from feeding and watering, picking stalls, grooming and washing, riding, showing and training. The boys also have their own heated wood working shop.

[This information came from the Salem4youth website.]

"IT IS THE MARK OF AN EDUCATED MIND TO BE ABLE TO ENTERTAIN A THOUGHT WITHOUT ACCEPTING IT."

— ARISTOTLE

ODYSSEY HOUSE OF UTAH

Salt Lake City, Utah

Kristine Freeman, LSAC, Admissions Director

801-322-3222

kfreeman@odysseyhouse.org

www.odysseyhouse.org

Odyssey House, Inc., a private, nonprofit organization, has been providing substance abuse treatment, education, and prevention services in the Salt Lake City, UT area for nearly 40 years. Services include individual, group and family therapy, milieu therapy, medication management, some medical services, life skills training, vocational rehabilitation, educational services, transitional housing, psychiatric services, and recreation, for young adults and struggling teens ages 13-17 years old.

Odyssey House was originally founded by Dr. Judianne Densen Gerber in New York and individual Odyssey Houses quickly spread across the United States and other countries. In the 1980's the individual companies became incorporated and Odyssey House of Utah opened their residential programs in 1990.

The Executive Director at Odyssey House of Utah is Adam Cohen, MBA, the Clinical Director of the Adolescent Facility is Sylvia Anderson-Conn, LCSW and the Director of Adolescent Services is Christina Nielson, LCSW.

Odyssey's adolescent residential program offers dual diagnoses

treatment in addition to a Therapeutic Community for students. Therapists track the client's progress in sessions and evaluate their interactions in the residential community, determining what next step in care will be needed. Students attend Odyssey Academy, an accredited high school on property, in addition to life skills training and sober fun and recreational activities.

Students also participate in individual therapy, gender groups, family therapy and motivational groups, in addition to crisis intervention and /or sexual trauma recovery counseling as needed. A unique aspect to Odyssey House is free aftercare services for life once a client completes the program.

[This information came from the Odyssey House website.]

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Benchmark is a long-term residential program. Our level-based curriculum is designed to be completed in 9-12 months. Extended care options are available.

Benchmark is designed to be a step-down transition program for participants coming out of other primary treatment programs, such as Detox, 30/60/90 day Residential Treatment Centers, Wilderness Therapeutic Programs, hospitalization/stabilization units, and for adolescents aging-out of Therapeutic Boarding Schools and is also an ideal option for young adults who are "stuck" at home with failure to launch issues.

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- Anxiety/Depression
- Asperger/Autism Spectrum*
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- Compulsive behavior
- Distressed relationships
- Drug/Alcohol Addiction
- Dual Diagnosis
- Eating disorder (mild)
- Emotional & Behavioral issues
- Gaming/Internet Addiction
- Grief/loss
- Lacking confidence
- Learning differences
- Life changes
- Non-verbal learning difference
- ODD/PTSD
- Poor judgment
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- Sneaky/underground
- Socially isolated
- Substance use/abuse
- Trauma
- Unmotivated

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Montcalm School for Boys and Girls is a private therapeutic boarding school serving kids and families from around the world. Montcalm School offers a traditional therapeutic program for boys and girls ages 12-18; Outside In, a program for boys and girls, ages 12-18, with autism spectrum disorders; and Structured Transitional Living, a life skills program for boys, ages 17-21. Montcalm School is part of Starr Commonwealth, an organization that has helped children and families for 100 years.

ARBINGER INSTITUTE

Farmington, Utah
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www.arbinger.com

Arbinger is a worldwide consulting company comprised of people who have been trained in business, law, economics, philosophy, family dynamics, education, coaching, and psychology. The members of Arbinger are mobilized to help organizations, communities, individuals, families, educators, those in the criminal justice system, and helping professionals. Arbinger claims that their clients range from individuals who are seeking help in their lives to many of the largest companies and governmental institutions in the world.

Arbinger is led internationally by managing directors Jim Ferrell, Duane Boyce, and Paul Smith. Local managing directors guide Arbinger's work in territories around the world. It has grown from a small organization with only ten facilitators and staff members in 2000 to an international organization with over 300 facilitators, coaches, and staff members. They offer public courses, consulting and coaching services, and tailored organizational interventions (including train-the-trainer options). These services are offered by in person seminars, online video courses, professional mastery courses, and facilitator training.

The word "arbinger" is the ancient French spelling of the word "harbinger." It means "one that indicates or foreshadows what is to come; a forerunner." The Arbinger Institute is a forerunner or "harbinger" of change. Arbinger's mission grows out of the work of an international team of scholars that broke new ground in solving the age-old problem of self-deception, or what was originally called "resistance." Arbinger was founded to translate this important work on self-deception—and its solution—into practical effect for individuals, families, and organizations worldwide.

Leadership and Self-Deception (published in 2000), introduced the world to this issue of self-deception. The Anatomy of Peace (published 2006), deepens the understanding of this issue, and shows not only how to overcome self-deception in oneself but how to help others to overcome it as well. Both books are authored by Arbinger and are their most well known books. They publish everything in the name of the company for three reasons. They want to keep the focus on Arbinger's ideas and not on personalities, writing is but one of many important tasks that are performed at Arbinger and they feel that those who write are no more important than those who contribute in other ways, and finally, writing anonymously helps individually and as an organization to avoid the traps and pitfalls of ego.

[This information came from the Arbinger Institute website]

Parent Choices For Struggling Teens

Mondays at Noon, Pacific Time
LATalkRadio.com, Channel One

EAGLE RANCH ACADEMY

St. George, Utah
Dave Arslanian, Admissions Director
888-698-7095
dave@eagleranchacademy.com
www.eagleranchacademy.com

Eagle Ranch Academy is a residential education program for struggling teens, ages 12-17 established in 1995. Some of the typical behaviors of the residents of ERA may have difficulties in school, are verbally abusive, have trouble with authority figures, are maintaining negative peer relationships, are depressed and withdrawn, and are involved with drugs and alcohol. The average length of stay to complete the program is 6 – 10 months.

Eagle Ranch Academy was founded by the Arslanian brothers; long time successful college and professional football coaches using their trade marked "Life Skills Coaching" to help young people develop values, tools, and skills for successful living. Paul Arslanian is the Executive Director and runs the day-to-day operations along with hands on teaching and mentoring of the Students. Dave Arslanian is the Director of Admissions & Placement and is closely involved with the Parents and Students as they progress through the program and beyond.

Eagle Ranch Academy is licensed by the State of Utah as a Residential Treatment Program. ERA uses a Virtual High School that is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The program staff provides intensive therapy, fitness and nutrition training, life skills, and self-introspection as part of the program. Three components of the program are unique to ERA, which are the emotional growth seminars, graduation workshops, and an aftercare program to provide long-term growth for Students, Parents, and family members.

The Residential School Campus is located on 2.5 acres in St. George, UT. The campus includes 17,000 square feet of building facilities with administrative offices to include the counseling offices, medical offices, cafeteria, and a school with a computer lab. Three separate cottages house the students. The students have access to a 500-acre working Ranch located 35 minutes west of St. George for special projects and activities.

[This information came from the Eagle Ranch Academy website.]

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SEEN N HEARD...

Fulshear Launches New Website And Logo: Fulshear launched a new website and logo, reflective of the evolution of the Fulshear program. The "treatment to transition" tagline is reflective of several years of program development, said Jensen-Savoie, the objective being to combine the best elements of a clinically strong treatment program with the best elements of an experiential transition program.

214-793-1947

Andrick Visits

Woodbury Reports:

Julia Andrick recently stopped by the Woodbury Reports office for a visit while directing a tour around the Northwest. Julia is the Director of Outreach and Marketing for Boulder Creek Academy. Julia has worked in the therapeutic school and program field since 2000. She is passionate about her work on behalf of struggling adolescents and their families. 877-348-0848



Bouscaren Visits

Woodbury Reports:

Charlotte Bouscaren recently stopped by Woodbury Reports on her way through the area visiting programs in the Northwest.

Charlotte is the Director of Admissions and Family Services for Ferguson BHC. She helps manage families through the initial admissions process, communicates with and visits programs, facilitates family meetings and provides transport services. 805-456-4560



Vardell Executive Director Of Baker Valley Treatment Center: Don Vardell was recently appointed Executive Director of the Baker Valley Treatment Center. For the past several months, Penikese has been working closely with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to address the unique challenges of our non-traditional setting, especially as they relate to accessibility for those with disabilities and client safety. This process continues and great progress has been made as we work towards the final stages of a plan to address what has become the final roadblock; Island accessibility. Rather than delay our opening further, the Penikese Board in partnership with the Becket Family of Services, has decided to open "Penikese North" at a fully licensed site in Warren, New Hampshire known as the Baker Valley Treatment Center. "The Penikese Board and our friends are thrilled that we will be able to get the program started in November, said Jim Newman, Chair of the Penikese Island School. We of course particularly look forward to seeing the program move on Penikese Island next spring." Former Shortridge Academy Headmaster, Don Vardell has been named the director of this program, allowing Jay Wolter and Toby Lineaweaver to continue focusing their efforts on Penikese Island. 603-359-9044

The Opening Of Beacon Transitions: Nearly all parents and professionals recognize that the needs of students with social skill or executive functioning deficits do not stop when students turn 18. That is why the team at Beacon Transitions is so very excited to announce the opening of their multi-tiered transitional living program for students ages 18-26 with social skill and executive functioning needs. The opening of Beacon Transitions Program, will help fill the need for programs for young adults on the autism spectrum. 828-388-5478

Allynwood Academy Team Competes In 10-Miler: Team Allynwood came in third place at the 10 mile race in honor of Veterans Day and to support our service men and women returning from service overseas. 607-637-8265

Update From Alpine Academy: Alpine Academy is thrilled to announce that we have been added to the "approved out-of-state non-public schools" list for the great State of Illinois. We look forward to working with and helping more students and families from the Land of Lincoln. 800-244-1113

PureLife Aspiro - Filling The Gap: Pure Life Aspiro in Costa Rica provides opportunities for those in need of a therapeutic adventure experience, but do not need a crisis intervention. "We see a real need to provide a different type of wilderness option for individuals with gap or transition needs in their therapeutic process" says Josh Watson, Director of Marketing and Admissions at Aspiro. "At times, therapeutic transitional experiences are needed but solutions are limited. Pure Life Aspiro offers a unique wilderness option for individuals who have made progress and are ready to move forward in developing their executive function skills, social skills, and independent living skills." Pure Life has been specifically designed for the client who is ready for the next step in their therapeutic growth, or might be slipping in their current environment and would benefit from a dynamic transitional experience. 801-349-2740 ext. 1

Service Opportunity in San Diego: Evolving Women invited all IECA women attendees to participate in a service opportunity while at the conference in San Diego. Dress for Success San Diego is a non-profit organization focused exclusively on helping low income women acquire jobs, build careers and improve the quality of life for their families. For more information on this or more upcoming events, contact Staci at 435-215-3400.

Copper Canyon Academy Expands Science Program: Copper Canyon is pleased to announce the expansion of its lab sciences program with the creation of a "state of the art" experiential science lab in the Willow House dorm. 877-617-1222

John Brekke Of Wilderness Treatment Center Passes: It was with shock that I heard of John's passing. He was one of the first professionals I had contact with when I started with an emotional growth/therapeutic Boarding School in the middle 1980s, and over the years I've published several articles by and about him in my newsletter. Our interaction continued up to some contacts this last year as he celebrated the 30th year of Wilderness Treatment Center in Marion Montana two months ago. His sage advice and he himself will be missed. 208-267-5550

Newport Academy Opens In Connecticut: Newport Academy in Connecticut treats 10 males and 8 females in gender specific treatment environments. The program is currently accepting applications for admission. 866-382-6651

Jacobson Joins Center For Change: We are delighted to announce the addition of Kari Jacobson to the Business Development Team at Center for Change. Kari has extensive experience in admissions and business development for both the adolescent and young adult populations, and she has a passion for helping people in need. Kari will be representing the Center in Utah and surrounding states, as

well as working with Educational Consultants across the country. 888-224-8250

Northwoods Celebrates 20 Year Anniversary: Greetings from Northwoods where we are proud to announce our 20 Year Anniversary. Northwoods started in the home of Dave and Meg Yeats in 1993 and has grown into a team of professionals who are dedicated to healing families and getting our young men back on the right track with greater self knowledge, awareness and direction. 208-659-3455

Gala Marks ANASAZI Foundation's 25th Anniversary: Nonprofit behavioral healthcare provider ANASAZI: Foundation celebrated 25 years of service during its Silver Anniversary weekend in November, 2013. Scheduled events included a November 15 gala hosted by 7-foot-4-inch NBA great Mark Eaton, with performances by Ryan Innes and Amy Whitcomb of NBC's The Voice, and a November 16 concert headlined by Nashville recording artists Due West. ANASAZI's Scholarship Gala is held annually to generate scholarship funds for financially challenged families with a son or daughter struggling with depression, suicidal ideation, substance abuse, or other behavioral and emotional concerns. 480-892-7403

Woodbury Reports Focuses On Social Media: Most of you are familiar with the most recent development in the Internet called the Social Media, which has dominated the Internet for the last couple of years. Woodbury Reports announced that although the anchor of information will continue to be the website Strugglingteens.com, a more prominent focus presses on to further spread information to the rest of the world. With this announcement, Lon Woodbury, founder, announces that he will continue to focus on Scoopt, LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, the radio show on LA Talk Radio, Google +, and Amazon.com. For more information, contact Lon at 208-267-5550.

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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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