

Places for Struggling Teens™

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

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SEEN 'N HEARD...

May Visitors

Susan Grossi
Diana Boyer

SELBY-LONGNECKER HARPER HONORED...

NEW ASSOCIATION FORMED...

UPCOMING SOULORE WORKSHOP...

WILDERNESS TREATMENT CENTER RE-ACCREDITED...

CALL FOR PRESENTATION PROPOSALS...

SWIFT RIVER ONLINE EVENT...

MONTANA ACADEMY CELEBRATES 10...

BETTON HOUSE RESIDENTS ACHIEVE 4.0...

CONNER CREATES PROGRAM FOR CHINESE...

NW GET TOGETHER IN SEPT...

STAFF CHANGES/ ADDITIONS IN MANY SCHOOLS/ PROGRAMS ACROSS THE COUNTRY...

[For details on these and others, read **SEEN N' HEARD/** ***Pg 29]***

BEWARE NON-PROFESSIONAL ADVICE



By: Lon Woodbury

The private parent-choice industry for struggling teens has unfortunately attracted a number of people who see big and easy money in it. Perhaps the worst is the person who has a smooth telephone voice, and a sympathetic ear, pretending to be helping parents but in reality just helping him or herself at the expense of desperate, frightened and confused parents. For these people, desperate parents are seen as a "cash cow" to obtain money from programs for talking parents into enrolling their child into a cooperating program. This activity, sometimes called Finders Fee or kickbacks, is condemned as highly unethical by the Independent Educational Consultants Association (IECA) and the National Association for Therapeutic Schools and Programs (NATSAP), the professional organizations in this industry. The self-serving advice from these "referring Agencies" can do great harm to parents and the children.

The following is a letter I received from a mother who got sucked into the scheme of a so-called "educational consultant." The name has been withheld by request, but the story is one that is repeated all too often.

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