Look at the freedom a young boy gave to a horse! To be able to run like the wind, emotions controlled, safe to move forward in the gentle, steady hands of his rider. And the horse gave Alex the gift of turning loose and allowing speed and movement to be an experience he could take hold of and enjoy! Together they filled in the gaps for each other to share a freedom they hadn't yet felt alone. This is horse therapy.

Harmony, balance, inner truth—to know they are capable, safe and willing to step out beyond the boundaries they've placed around themselves to reach a little higher, to shine like a morning star in the darkest hour of night…that is a journey toward true freedom.

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

> The reason we have two ears and only one mouth is so that we may listen the more and talk the less.
>
> – Zeno of Citium

SEEN N' HEARD

Turning Winds Students Plant Trees:

(June 22, 2009) Carl Baisden, VP Public Relations, Turning Winds Academic Institute, Troy, MT, 208-755-5688, announced several students from Turning Winds, along with the school director, Jake Francom, and horticulturist, Jill Francom, planted 60 trees as a community service project in the Old Troy Dump on the hill overlooking the Kootenai River.

Open Sky—A Company to Watch:

(June 22, 2009) According to Danny Frazer, Business Development and Marketing Director for Open Sky Wilderness Therapy, Durango, CO, 970-382-8181, Open Sky Wilderness Therapy has been selected as one of Colorado's Companies to Watch (CCW). This annual award will be given when CCW hosts its Gala Celebration at Denver's Warwick Hotel on June 25, 2009, and will be presented by the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade

Problems at National Deaf Academy:

(June 23, 2009) The Orlando Sentinel reports local police have responded to 369 calls in a 17 month period through May 27, 2009, to the privately owned National Deaf Academy in Mount Dora, FL. Police have had to break up fights between patients and staff, quell suicide attempts or search for missing residents. To view these articles in full visit the struggling teens website.

Benchmark and NWA Host Luncheon:

(June 23, 2009) Benchmark Transitions, Redlands, CA,

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OPTIMUM PERFORMANCE INSTITUTE

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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Excellence In Education Award 2005/06
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