

Dedication Leads to Graduation

New Haven graduation is more than “Pomp and Circumstance.”

For a New Haven student, graduation is a rainbow of triumph painted in many colors. It’s a triumph over low self-esteem and lower expectations. It’s a triumph of belief in “I can” rather than acceptance of “I can’t.”

For New Haven’s Friends, every graduate is the return on your investment in these boys and your belief that they can and should have a future. Your belief in them became their belief in themselves.

New Haven celebrated its 2009 graduation and awards ceremony on June 8th at North Coast Church. Eight New Haven graduates were honored.

The day was a showcase for a year of student dedication, hard work, and commitment to achieving personal goals. The atmosphere

was festive and the tropical island theme of the ceremony reflected the journey thus far, and the even more exciting journey that now lies ahead: a journey of success.



Graduate, Wyatt L. (left) with Principal, Bret Calhoun

The graduates had an opportunity to speak to the audience, and it was with great pride and joy that many of the staff and volunteers became teary eyed listening to the appreciation that these graduates had for those that who have helped them

overcome the obstacles in their path that led to graduation day.

There were other important awards as well. Eighth graders moving into high school were honored. The Career Readiness Award was given to the student who has demonstrated excellence in his work ethic and application of job skills he has learned while in our WorkAbility Program. Outstanding Student Awards were given to students from each classroom who demonstrated outstanding achievement in academics, citizenship, leadership, and emotional growth.

Two Wood Shop Awards were given to students who were instrumental in working in our pen and Adirondack chair businesses as well as building furniture and helping other students on their projects.

> See back page (dedication)



MISSION STATEMENT

Building positive futures for youth, their families and our communities.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE CORNER

Is it Too Early for Thanksgiving?



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If stores can have "Christmas in July" sales, I see no reason that New Haven can't have Thanksgiving in October. This isn't about turkey. It's about the triumphs you have made possible by being a Friend through the year, and the thanks owed to you and many others for making possible a remarkable year of progress.

Thank you, Staff. *for an extraordinary effort that has had an extraordinary result. As I recently watched our graduation program, I felt pride for the boys and for all the staff who had contributed to getting them onto that stage. It was a short distance but a long walk, and it's one most of them would not have completed without the time, attention, and care given them by our staff.*

Thank you, New Haven Boys. *You don't just take—you give. You reward our efforts with your success. You enrich our lives with your commitment. You rekindle our commitment with your willingness to take the risk of trying.*

Thank you, Board Members. *Your support comes in many forms, and every bit of it is appreciated and respected. You give not just financial support, but time, effort, vision, ideas, and enthusiasm. We are fortunate to have each and every one of you helping us build and expand the New Haven dream.*

Thank you, Supporters. *You too come in many forms, from Friends to corporations such as Hess (see page 7), and the many service clubs such as the Women's Club of Vista, National Charity League - San Luis Rey Chapter, Assistance League - North Coast and the Kiwanis. Your gifts, whether monetary or in-kind, are gifts of hope, statements of optimism, and expressions of support for our efforts to help make young lives happier and more productive. You have given of yourself in order to invest in others.*

Yes, it's only October, but already there is a tremendous amount for which to be thankful. I'm thankful for all these things, and for the opportunity to be CEO of an endeavor that means so much to so many.

Doreen Quinn
Chief Executive Officer

New Haven By the Numbers

- Our residential treatment programs run 24 hours a day, seven days a week in 12 residences
- 72. adolescent boys in treatment at any given time
- 12 homes in Vista, Oceanside and San Marcos
- 2 Outpatient and home-based mental health services - 1 in Riverside County and 1 in San Diego County
- \$10 million annual budget
- 12,000 + youth helped since 1967
- New Haven launched North County Trade Tech High in 2008. Trade Tech is a charter school located in Vista with a career technical education focus in green building trades, architecture and engineering

The Hoffmann Award: Change for Good

Encouraging positive lasting change—change for good—is the hallmark of New Haven School.

Each year, the prized Hoffmann Award recognizes a student who has made significant positive change in the way he chooses to participate in the New Haven School community.

This year, the Hoffmann Award goes to Marco, a young man who says he was “transformed” by his experience here.

“New Haven has helped me prepare for a better life and a better future,” Marco declares. “I realized that my perception that life was unfair was false.”

“I had to make the most of the gifts I was given; I had to stop being selfish and help others,” he continues.

Still, it’s been a long road for the once-troubled teen. When he entered New Haven some 18 months ago, Marco was severely depressed. Abusing drugs and alcohol, Marco was also performing poorly in



2009 Hoffmann Award Winner, Marco W.

school; adopting the role of class clown helped to hide his depression while fueling an increasingly defiant attitude.

And the situation didn’t magically improve once he became a student at New Haven. Forced to take a hard look at himself and his actions only increased his depression. His actions became increasingly destructive. At the same time, he was haunted by fear of failing himself and his family.

> See back page (Hoffmann Award Winner)

North County Trade Tech High School

Not content with just changing young lives, New Haven’s Board of Directors is the vision and the moving force behind the successful launch of North County Trade Tech High School, a charter high school that is charting a path into the future. It’s a path that recognizes the value, dignity, and promise that lies ahead for students who are well trained in technical careers as part of their high school education.

It’s also a path that removes the need for a student to choose between college prep or vocational prep. Trade Tech teaches the importance and virtue of being fully prepared to design, engineer, or build. Trade Tech students study logic, problem solving, and critical thinking as well as blueprint reading and structural engineering.

Trade Tech, which opened one year ago in Vista, is a high school for those who “do”. It’s for the student who sees with his or her mind’s eye, and who wants to be creative in a substantive way. “Building” at Trade Tech means more than just building buildings. As with New Haven, it means building lives, building self-esteem, and building respect for the creative talent that enables the architect to envision, the engineer to design, and the contractor to build.

At Trade Tech, eyes are firmly on the future. The school is teaching the methods and means of building green. Its graduates are the architects and engineers who will take us into the next generation of building. They will literally build the future.

As a public charter school, there is no tuition and Trade Tech has no geographic boundaries on admission. For more information, see the Trade Tech website at www.tradetechhigh.org.



*At Trade Tech, eyes are firmly on the future.
The school is teaching the methods and
means of building green.*



Slippery Slopes

By Erik Rohling

New Haven Program Specialist

On February 20th, The Friends of New Haven sponsored a snowboarding trip and I had the pleasure of taking 12 New Haven boys and three staff up to the Snow Valley resort for the day.

We set off at 6 a.m. and spent several hours creeping up the icy mountain roads to our destination. Many of the kids had never seen snow before in their lives and it was a great pleasure to see their wonder and excitement.

We rented equipment and the day on the mountain officially launched at about 10 a.m. when the boys began their lessons. It was a good experience for them. Several of the boys, previously withdrawn and reticent, took the time to help others learn how to navigate the mountain slope.



Erik Rohlings, Program Specialist riding the lift with Marco W. at Snow Valley

Lunch was brief because many of the boys couldn't wait to go back outside and challenge themselves further. The day ended on a happy note, with many of the boys cheering each other on as they attempted a run of intermediate

difficulty that only hours earlier seemed like an impossible task.

Everyone left in good spirits and many new friends were made. One boy even said, "It was one of the best days of my life."

...With a Little Help From Our Friends

Making a House a Home

We've all heard that it's "the little things that count." Count us in on that, and count the Friends of New Haven in on doing the little things that make a house a home.

Through your generous support, you make possible our many programs. One of the most important programs is House a Home, which seeks to add the "little things" that make a house a home to each of our residences. Window coverings, new paint and wall décor, curtains and drapes, area rugs—these are just a few of the ways they help create the warm, nurturing environments that make a significant contribution to the emotional growth

of our residents.

"We hope the boys will take pride in their new home, and enjoy their surroundings," said Lisa Butt, House a Home Chair.



Friends of New Haven, Mike Nord, Cristine Clark, Carol Williams add warmth to the Tommy Thomson House

The latest project was renovation and decoration of New Haven's most recent real estate purchase, on Galaxy Drive in Vista. The house has been named after long-time New Haven supporter Tommy Thompson.

Window coverings, rugs, decor, lighting, and landscape items were all installed at the home. Everyone had a great time scrubbing, mopping, sweeping and digging—all the things they've probably postponed doing at their own homes, but things they did happily for New Haven.

It's this spirit of caring and sharing that makes every Friend special. Thank you.

Making Happy Birthdays

A happy birthday is one of childhood's most dependable rituals. It's a reminder that you are important and special, and that everyone cares about you. It's validation and celebration, wrapped into one big happy package.

Some kids aren't sure that package will be delivered, though. New Haven boys haven't always had happy birthdays. Sometimes they haven't had any celebration.

Part of the New Haven program is making everyone special, and when it comes to birthdays, it's the Birthday Brigade that gets the job done every time. When a birthday boy gets home from school, he finds balloons, streamers, a cake decorated with his

name, a small gift and a \$50 gift card just for him!

There has rarely been a better demonstration of the fact that it is the thought that counts. "The boys can't believe people they don't know are thinking about them," said Birthday Brigade chairperson Nancy Irwin. She leads a corps of six women who share the duty of making it a happy birthday for New Haven boys. With 72 residents in 12 homes throughout Vista, Oceanside, and San Marcos it's always someone's birthday.

A real birthday is brought home to the boys thanks to fund-



Daniel G. enjoys a birthday supplied by Friends of New Haven

ing from the Friends of New Haven annual Gala. When you attend this event, you help make happy birthdays throughout the year. Your next opportunity to attend is the upcoming Coyote Cafe Fund Raiser (see back page).

A Good Time for a Good Time for a Good Cause

Is it still OK in these challenging times to have fun? Not only is it OK, but it's a special opportunity to show your support for New Haven and all we do.

What's a New Haven Gala? Well, good food and good times, to be sure. But good food and good times for a good cause. The annual Friends event provides a substantial part of the funding that makes possible the unique and highly successful programs offered by New Haven.

In its brief history, this special event has been an escalating success story—your escalating success story. The first two galas were held at the private residence of Steve and Becky Bedford in Vista. The first gala earned enough money to fund the Birthday Brigade program, the Activities program and helped to launch the House a Home program.

Not bad for starters.

The proceeds doubled with the second Gala. This helped the Friends of New Haven launch a new activities program that most recently funded a snowboarding trip to Big Bear



and a kayaking adventure on Mission Bay. On the calendar are a day at the Vista Wave water park and a day at the beautiful hilltop pool of one of our donors.

For its third renewal, this com-

ing spring, the Friends will move the venue to Rancho Sante Fe. Already, the Gala committee is hard at work seeking corporate sponsorships and auction items.

What can *you* do? We were hoping you would ask. Give us just a minute. Sit down for one moment and ask yourself, "Who do I know? How can I help?" A personal phone call to a potential sponsor from someone they know is far more likely to bring results than a cold call. Think about individuals and businesses you know that are looking for ways to give back to their community. Help introduce us to those people, so we can show them how they can join you in helping us help others.

For additional information visit our website at www.newhavenyfs.org or call our Development Department at 760-630-4035 ext. 223.



**New Haven Board Chairman,
Donn Bleu**

Taking on the challenges of helping to lead New Haven. Chairman of the Board Donn Bleu brings experience and enthusiasm to his all-important post.

Former volunteer member of the National Board of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Donn has written an impressive professional résumé spanning more than 20 years experience in the highly-competitive ex-

ecutive search arena. In 1990, Donn founded Global Resources Group, acquired by the prestigious Solomon-Page Group in 1999. Prior to specializing in executive searches, Donn was on the staff of the successful Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, responsible for presenting the Games of the XXIII Olympiad.

"I've always had an interest in children's causes," he says. "Four years ago, Kevin Fleck, who was the Chairman of the Board at that time, introduced me to New Haven and Doreen Quinn. I took a tour of the Vista campus, and I knew I wanted to be involved."

"I made a commitment to help right there on the spot."

Asked what makes his role at New Haven rewarding, Donn ticks off a number of reasons.

"Observing New Haven's programs as they become stronger and produce greater outcomes for our

youth is the most fulfilling" he says, adding, "Helping to shape a much stronger brand in the community through the many partnerships we have formed is also high on my list. The chance to be part of that and also participate in the development of our Five Year Strategic Plan, while working with passionate and professional people, is immensely enjoyable."

Surveying the future landscape, Donn puts the emphasis on what he calls "building an even stronger foundation."

"We will continue to find ways to improve programs to produce the best outcomes. We will also find ways to accommodate more boys, and continue to be fiscally strong."

"Externally, we need to continue our programs for grants and additional private support," he says. "Ramping up our funding sources within the business community is critical."

Expanding Our Circle of Hope

The inaugural Circle of Hope Gala was held October 4, 2008 at Casa di Fede, the luxurious hilltop estate of Frank and Claudette Mercardante.

The featured speaker for the evening, Chef Jeff Henderson inspired guests with his amazing story of redemption. Once one of San Diego's most wanted cocaine dealers, prison awakened his passion for cooking and a new and better vision for his life. With the odds stacked firmly against him, Chef Jeff ultimately achieved his dream becoming executive chef at Café Bellagio in Las

Vegas. Now his life's story is a New York Times bestseller, the inspiration for a Food Network show, and the basis for a Columbia Pictures film with Will Smith playing the lead.

During the evening, guests were treated to live music from the Cecilia String Quartet, mouth-watering chocolate pairings by Chuao Chocolatier, wine tastings provided by Orfila Vineyards and led by wine connoisseur, columnist, and host of "A Taste of Wine," Frank Mangio as well as a Tuscan-inspired cuisine in a storybook setting.



Terry Adams with Chef Jeff Henderson



Frank Mercardante with New Haven Youth

Crafting Self Esteem

Desks and entertainment centers; bird feeders and jewelry boxes; tables and signs; inspired by the dedication of wood shop teacher Denis Boudreau, New Haven students produce an array of fine work as they learn valuable lessons for crafting a better life.

“My role is to help New Haven students succeed, and teach them practical job related skills at the same time,” says Denis. “Our students learn about the importance of showing up on time, working safely, communicating effectively and serving others. And it adds a tremendous boost to their self esteem when students are able to complete a project that has real value.”



Hardwood pens and cutting boards will soon be available for sale through the New Haven School website, www.newhavenyfs.org. Many of our friends have already expressed interest in purchasing woodshop creations as gifts or promotional items for their business.

Hess Hess Hurray!

The Beatles said that you get by with a little help from your friends (and, in our case, Friends). We are fortunate to also have some corporate friends, and earlier this year one of them—Hess Corporation—made a major contribution in the form of a team of 40 top level corporate executives who donated a day of effort and giving to New Haven.

Hess is a leading international energy company with interests in discovery and production of crude oil and gas, refining of petroleum products, and production of natural gas and electricity.

Doing all that takes a lot of executive talent, and for one day we had it all. The result, at the end of the day, was an extreme makeover that included making repairs to our school and homes, outfitting a brand new trailer with tools, upgrading our technology, assembling basketball hoops and building an outdoor classroom.

New Haven was the fortunate recipient of a team-building program coordinated by ACCESS Destination Services and facilitated by Paul Blanchard of “A New Team Adventure LLC.”

Several of the Hess executives said the day represented one of the most rewarding team building experiences they had ever participated in. For New Haven residents, the day was especially meaningful. Youth referred to New Haven often come from environmentally deprived living situations and often experience great shame about their many personal struggles. The work of the Hess team on behalf of our young men communicates that our boys are important and worthy of a nice living and school environment.

One of our young men commented, “That was the coolest thing I have ever done. After we built the hoop, those guys [Hess executives] wanted to shoot hoops with us.”



Right: Executives from Hess Corporation work with New Haven Youth to make much needed improvements to New Haven School



www.newhavenyfs.org

*Building positive futures for youth,
their families and our communities.*

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**For information on how you can help support New Haven Youth and Family Services, contact
Doreen Quinn at 760-630-4035 or visit our website at www.newhavenyfs.org/giving**

Hoffmann Award Winner Cont'd from front page

But then, Marco reports, he made a conscious decision to change. "I wanted to become a better person, a person who accepts himself and other people," he recounts. "I started helping other people, and the more people I helped, the better I felt inside."

Now, Marco is looking ahead. He wants to return home to his parents,

finish high school, and work part-time with youngsters at his church. He says that completing college is a definite part of his plans.

What's more, he offers some sage advice for people of all ages.

"Make the choice to take a positive step forward. You get moving in that direction and you cannot be stopped."

Dedication...

Cont'd from front page

The distinguished Hoffmann award went to Marco, for having made a significant contribution to the New Haven community with his genuine commitment to helping others conquer issues that he once faced.

A special thank you goes to Mr. George Pruitt. George donates his time as a mentor to several of our students. Thank you

George for your generosity in donating a gift to our eight high school graduates to help them get started on their journey.

Graduation was made possible through the skill, dedication and commitment of our remarkable staff, and through the support of you, the Friends of New Haven. On behalf of all the graduates, *we thank you.*

In the Spirit of Planned Giving Charitable IRA Rollovers

The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, signed into law on October 3, renews a temporary provision that allows donors age 70½ or older to make a direct, tax-free rollover of up to \$100,000 from a traditional or Roth IRA to a qualified charitable organization such as New Haven Youth & Family Services, but only until the end of 2009. A direct rollover will be much better for most donors than a taxable IRA withdrawal followed by a charitable gift.

Only donors who are sure they will not need these assets at a later date should consider a charitable IRA rollover. Contact Bill Kincaid at 760-630-4035 ext. 223 for more information on New Haven's planned giving program.

The contents of this article are not intended as legal advice to donors or potential donors on their personal gift and estate planning. Please seek independent counsel for applicability of these principles to your personal circumstances



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