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Aspirations Continue for Sweetser School Graduate

Ask Jonathan Tapscott what makes The School at Sweetser special and he'll proudly share a three-ring binder filled with images that tell his story. The book displays pictures of his prom, graduation and friends, and includes many school projects marked with accolades from teachers and mentors.

Jonathan was a shy boy struggling in the public school setting with anxiety and anger issues. All that changed for him when he entered The School in 7th grade, where he found his passion for baking in the Culinary Arts Program. The program is part of Sweetser's Experiential Learning curriculum, which balances academics and work.

"The Experiential Learning Program was the reason I got up in the morning some days," explained Jonathan. "Sweetser helped get me back on track when I needed that help."

"Preparing lunches and catering meetings gave me something to look forward to," said Jonathan. "I learn best when I can be hands-on."

Today he is a confident, independent young man brimming with enthusiasm and pride. "I can't say enough good things about Sweetser. I had the best senior year. There were so many times I thought that if it wasn't for Sweetser, I wouldn't be here."

Currently enrolled as a part-time student in the Culinary Arts program at York County Community College, Jonathan aspires to have a career as a pastry chef. He also works part-time at Goodall Hospital and continues to make fancy cakes to fill the special orders he receives from friends and family.



**Learn more about
Sweetser at
www.sweetser.org
or
become a fan on
Facebook.**



Sweetser PromiseLine

Call 1.800.434.3000

Sweetser promises to do whatever it takes to connect adults and children to the mental health care and related services they need.

Mission

Sweetser's mission is to provide quality treatment, support and hope to children, adults and families through a network of mental health, behavioral health and educational services.

Vision

Helping people find promising futures.

2009 - 2010 Board of Directors

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Adapting to Changes

*Carlton Pendleton
President & CEO*

Greetings! It seems for more years than I care to divulge we have been preaching change. For several years, we have advocated change for our clients; changes which would expand the range of choices for them, quicker access to care, greater geographical representation of services and better coordination of care, just to mention a few. The changes have had a profound impact on Sweetser, our staff and the approach to doing business. We have stepped up and proudly accomplished much.

While economies throughout the world have been in turmoil and revenues challenged, Sweetser continues to strategize and re-prioritize what we do and how we do it. As the State of Maine makes difficult decisions that financially impacts many service providers, Sweetser has had to reduce the size and scope of what services we can provide. With the help of our volunteer Board of Directors, we continue to be motivated to serve those in need who depend on our programs.

Many of these challenges are having a positive effect. We have strengthened our relationship with public schools by offering both local school services or special out-of-district services. We have engaged families with new cost effective services such as our summer Camp Endeavor. We are proud to be near completion of our Electronic Client Records (ECR) initiative, which is enhancing the coordination and quality of client care.

Difficult times for children and families was the motivation for incorporating the Sweetser Home in 1828. It seems only fitting that 181 years later, with a larger special-needs population, that our mission continues.

Returning Home After Forty Years

A recent visit to the Sweetser Saco Campus brought back many fond memories for Lee Kibbey, who lived at Belfast Cottage from 1965-68.

After touring the Sweetser grounds, she wiped away a tear and said, “This was home for me. My only normal childhood was at Sweetser. We were a family.”

Lee grew up in a highly dysfunctional family with more heartache than anyone could ever imagine. She became a ward of the state and was placed at Sweetser in 1965. “It was the best thing that ever happened to me,” she said. “I learned how to interact better with people. Sweetser helped me immensely, building self esteem and coping skills.”

“I wish my brother and sister would have received the counseling that I had at Sweetser,” recalled Lee. “They could be in such a better place today.”

She remembers her time at Sweetser as special.

“We worked hard and played hard,” said Lee.

“The girls did laundry, gardening and office cleaning, and the boys did farm work. It wasn’t all work,” she recalled. “We had campus parties, went on field trips, and I even had my first exposure to the Portland Symphony.”

Today, Lee lives in the Florida Keys. She is a local entertainer who provides stand-up comedy, sings, has recorded several CD’s and has worked for Carnival Cruise Lines as well. She was a certified drug and alcohol counselor and is an eight year veteran of the United States Air Force. She certainly has come a long way from her childhood days.



Lee Kibbey stands in front of her old “home” at Belfast Cottage on the Sweetser Saco campus.

How to Donate Securities

Transferring securities to Sweetser is a simple way to make a donation and take advantage of tax gains or losses.

To make a transfer, your broker can contact Emily Hughes of R.M. Davis at 207.774.0022. Sweetser’s DTC number is **0164**. Sweetser’s account number is **7877-4168**.

You or your broker can also contact Sweetser’s Director of Development, Todd Henry, at 207.294.4484, to notify what stock has been donated, the quantity of shares, and the date of the stock transaction. Sweetser will receive a confirmation from Charles Schwab as well.

The value of donated stock is determined by averaging the high and low (mean) of the stock on the date of transfer.

Event Highlights

Sold on Kids Auction Raises \$77,000



From left, Wizard of Oz look-a-likes George White, Jill and Kayla Keimach and Tammy White Keimach.

More than 400 guests attended Sweetser's Sold on Kids Auction and Dinner held at the Marriott on May 8th, which was presented by KeyBank. Emcee Lee Goldberg from WCSH6 and Auctioneer Bill Zafirson kept the crowd entertained, and the bidding lively, to raise more than \$77,000 for Sweetser services.

The event was held in memory of Nick Macleod, son of auction co-chair Kathy Macleod and her husband Mark. Nick's 11-year-old cousin, Gina Pardi, received a standing ovation when she sang "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" in his honor.

The family of co-chair Tammy White got in the spirit of the "Wizard of Oz" theme by dressing as various characters from the popular film.

Day's Jewelers donated a stunning tourmaline necklace for a raffle which was won by Claudia Henry of Brunswick. Thanks to our sponsors and supporters for making this event a great success.

Plans are already underway for next year's event which will be held on Friday, April 30, at the South Portland Marriott.



Auctioneer Bill Zafirson recognizes auction co-chairs Kathy Macleod (left) and Tammy White Keimach.



Belfast Community Fair

Staff and volunteers from The School at Sweetser in Belfast sold books as part of a summer Community Fair that raised \$1,000 for playground equipment. Other activities included facepainting, games and a food sale.

Event Highlights

Heritage Society Members Honored

Eight new members were honored for their commitment to Sweetser at the annual Cornelius Sweetser Heritage Society Dinner held at the Falmouth Country Club on September 22.

Alex Mantis and Louis Cleaves were recognized posthumously, for including Sweetser in their estate plans. Carol Curland of Murrieta, California and Tammy White of Scarborough, Maine were both in attendance, among the forty guests celebrating the occasion. Other new members not able to attend include Phillip Kilmister, Joseph Littlefield, Katharine Philbrick and Lois MacGregor.

The Heritage Society was formed in 1997 to recognize this distinct group of friends who have made an extraordinary commitment to Sweetser and/or have included Sweetser in their estate plans. Named after Sweetser's founder, Cornelius Sweetser III, the Society honors those individuals who are helping build a legacy of support and a vision toward the future.

Sweetser/Prime Motor Golf Classic Raises \$43,000

Gray skies didn't dampen the spirits of the 140 golfers and 30 volunteers that participated in the 20th Sweetser/Prime Motor Group Golf Classic hosted by Ira Rosenberg. The event was held at Sable Oaks on June 22, and raised more than \$43,000 to benefit Sweetser statewide services.

Winners included:

First Gross	Northeast Delta Dental
First Net	Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield
Second Gross	Wormwood's Restaurant
Second Net	Prime Motor Group
Third Gross	Robert Tkacik Team
Third Net	PM Construction Company



Jon Mistos, senior director of facilities and support services, thanks Ira Rosenberg for his friendship and support.

Thanks to our many friends and sponsors for another successful year. We are looking forward to next year's tournament which will be held on Monday, June 28, at Dunegrass Golf Club in Old Orchard Beach.

Below, first place team from Northeast Delta Dental, from left, Tim Dutil, Jeff Camire, Scott Lavallee and Jodie Hittle.



For more information about any of our events, please contact Jennifer Steele at jsteele@sweetser.org or 207.294.4485.



Bangor Savings Bank representative, Renee Fahie, (right), presents Sweetser's Development Officer, Jennifer Steele, with a check for \$1,000, awarded from the bank's "Community Matters More" charitable promotion.



Whole Foods Market of Portland and its customers donated more than 415 bags of grocery items, valued at \$2,500, for children in residence on the Saco campus and the school's Culinary Arts Program.

Corporate Support



Prime Time Donation. From left, Carlton Pendleton, Sweetser president & CEO; Jessica Castonguay, Prime Motor Sales leasing consultant; Eslie Parquette, Sweetser senior director of educational services and Ira Rosenberg, president of Prime Motor Group, stand in front of the Toyota Camry Hybrid donated for two years of use.



Prime Motor Group owner, Ira Rosenberg, recently held a fundraiser that collected donations for Sweetser in exchange for hugs from him. Thank you Ira!

Saco & Biddeford Savings Sponsors Learning Arts Fair

The School at Sweetser in Saco held its annual Learning Arts Fair in May, sponsored by Saco & Biddeford Savings Charitable Foundation. The event attracted several admired "heroes," this year's theme.

Students and their families listened to local heroes share their stories. Guests included Kristin Walton, Mrs. Maine International 2009, of Brunswick; United States Marine Corps Corporal Eric McCue of South Portland, who was badly injured while serving in Iraq; and members of the NBA Development League, the Maine Red Claws.



Lisa Freeman (left), Sweetser art teacher, accepts a \$2,500 check to support the Learning Arts Fair from Lynne M. Belanger, branch manager, and Melissa Boilard, assistant branch manager, both of Saco & Biddeford Savings.

Program Updates

Camp Endeavor Thrives - Twenty-one children enjoyed summer recreational fun during the second year of camp at The School at Sweetser in Saco.

Thanks to a grant from the Narragansett Number One Foundation and donations from supporters, several campers enjoyed multiple sessions that would not have been available to them. Youngsters were able to participate in up to four weeks of adventure, personal growth and social skill building opportunities. At the end of each week campers enjoyed “Field Trip Fridays.” (Right, Portland Sea Dogs game).



School-based Services Expand

The School-based Outpatient Therapy Program has grown to include 42 clinicians serving 72 schools from Kittery to Searsport.

Four recently hired clinicians will be serving eight new schools in Sagadahoc and Cumberland Counties. Other additions include schools in RSU1 covering Bath, Phippsburg and Woolwich, as well as Mt. Ararat School-based Health Center in RSU75 (Topsham).

Sweetser school-based staff are licensed masters level clinicians providing therapy services for children and families within the child’s local community, allowing services to be more accessible and convenient.



Sweetser School-based Clinicians serving RSU1 (Bath) and Mt. Ararat Schools, from left, Victoria Wright, LMSW, Sandra Hinckley, LCSW, Courtney Young, LCSW, and Allison Cosgrove, LMSW.

The School-based Outpatient Therapy Program collaborates with local school departments to provide these services so that children and families can get the support they need to be successful at home and in school.

New Educational Program for Autism Students - A specialized program called LINK (Learning-Interacting-Nurturing-Kids) has been established for children with Autism at the Sweetser School in Saco.

Students diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders receive individualized instruction using the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) model. Therapeutic and behavioral support is available daily.

Family involvement is a key component of the LINK classroom experience and involves a social worker to design a behavioral plan appropriate for the classroom and home environments. The program goal is to prepare each student for the least restrictive school placement as soon as appropriate. For more information about this exciting new program, please contact Gail Lawrence at 207.294.4788.

Upcoming Fundraising Events



Sweetser/Downeast Energy Holiday Gift Drive

Downeast Energy statewide office locations

Early December (dates to be announced)

A nice way to help Sweetser residential kids during the holidays



Full Moon Margarita Madness Event

Margaritas, 242 St. John Street, Portland

On the night of the first full moon in Jan/Feb/March 2010

Lots of fun and prizes to benefit Sweetser, see www.margs.com



Sweetser's Sold on Kids Auction and Dinner

Portland Marriott at Sable Oaks, South Portland

Friday, April 30, 2010, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Cruising on the USS Sweetser to the Island of Hope for Kids and Families

Emcee Lee Goldberg and Auctioneer Bill Zafirson



Sweetser/Prime Motor Group Golf Classic

Dunegrass Country Club, Old Orchard Beach

Monday, June 28, 2010, 9 a.m.

21st year event, new location, join us with Ira Rosenberg