

Hanna Calendar of Events

Campus Development Tour and Lunch

Tuesdays and Fridays
11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
To reserve, call 707-933-2555

Christmas Open House and Craft Fair

Sunday, December 4
At Hanna Boys Center

6th Annual "Evening with the All-Stars" Gala

Saturday, April 21, 2012
At Hanna Boys Center

Spring Open House

Sunday, May 20, 2012
At Hanna Boys Center

This newsletter is published by Hanna Boys Center and is sent to our friends 4 times a year. Fed ID#94-1156478. Hanna is a non-profit, tax exempt organization – a 501(c)(3) non-profit under 509(a)(1) of the IRS Code – in full compliance with State and federal regulations. Hanna is supported through the generosity of individuals, businesses and foundations. Hanna does not seek funds from government agencies or the Catholic Church in support of its mission.

Hanna Boys Center

SINCE 1945

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www.hannacenter.org • 707.996.6767

At 19th Annual Golf & Tennis Classic, 192 Supporters Play to Further Hanna's Work

On September 16 at the Silverado Country Club in Napa, 48 tennis players gathered for the morning doubles tournament and luncheon, which was organized by Caroline Price, Hanna regent and Campus Development Campaign chair. Vincent La Marca, Casey Bishop, Chester Santos, and Dale Steliga – Team Chapel – took top honors.

On September 19, after brunch on the Hanna campus, 144 golfers teed off at the Sonoma Golf Club for an 18-hole tournament, followed by cocktails and a silent auction. Coming in first was the team from Stevens Hemingway Stevens, Inc., Hanna's building contractors. Proceeds went to support Hanna's specialized education program, which ensures an individual learning plan for each boy. ●



When the round-robin doubles were over, Austin and other Hanna boys joined the tennis players for lunch.

Hanna boys and staff, including Chief Financial Officer Monica Clark, helped make sure golfers had a great day.

HANNA

HAPPENINGS

Fall 2011

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Hanna Program Heals More Than Boys

"As a family we had hit rock bottom," recalled one mother whose son turned his life around at Hanna. It's a common tale. A boy's struggles often reflect chaos at home. That's why the Hanna program emphasizes involvement from parents and guardians.

"Treating the individual within the family unit is always more productive," said Dr. Tim Norman, Hanna's clinical director. "Our program is most effective when the entire family is totally committed to having their son here and to working closely with our staff.

"A boy tends to work exactly as hard as his family, so if the adults fail to live within the boundaries and responsibilities of the program, we can't

expect any better of him. And we don't want boys to return home to the same difficulties they left behind."

Support and Caring in Safe Surroundings

To help everyone succeed, Dr. Norman facilitates a parenting group that meets two evenings per month at the Hanna campus. Each 90-minute session gives boys, siblings, and adults the opportunity to discuss problems and offer solutions.

"It's important for parents to connect with each other in a therapeutic setting to share feelings about what they are going through," said one participant.

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Family participation in the Hanna program helps boys like Larry succeed.



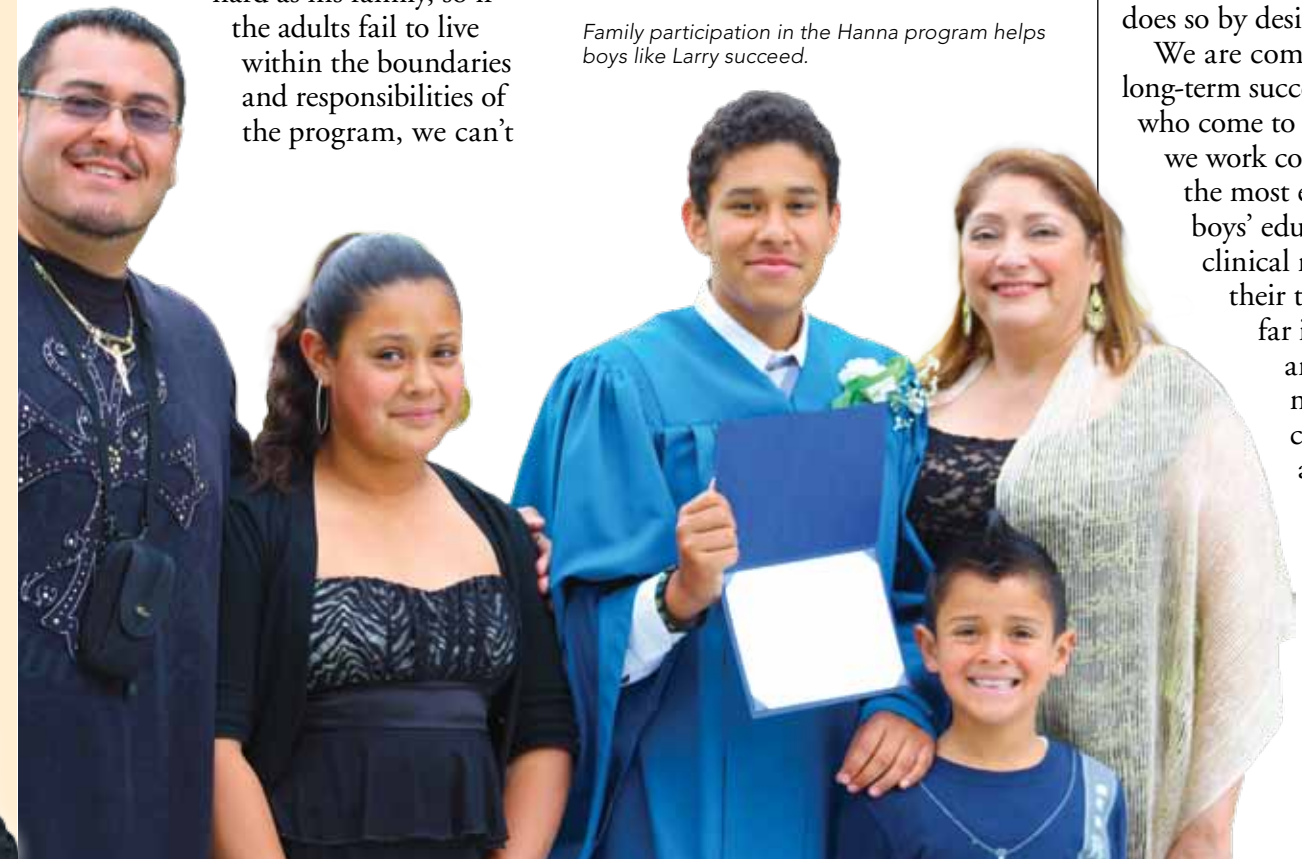
Note from Father Crews

At Hanna, the word "family" carries many meanings. It applies to the relationship between the boys who live together on campus and to their relationship with staff members, and to the Center's relationship with parents, alumni, volunteers, donors, and the community. The Hanna family is a circle of support and influence that widens with each passing year, and it does so by design.

We are committed to the long-term success of the families who come to Hanna for help, and we work continuously to develop the most effective ways to meet boys' educational, spiritual, and clinical needs, not just during their time in residence, but far into the future. Like any healthy family, membership in Hanna's carries no preconditions and never expires. Once you join, you belong for life, whatever the extent and nature of your involvement.

As you'll read in the adjacent story, our parenting group helps boys and their

Continued on page 2



Note from Father Crews continued

families heal together. Not all Hanna parents participate, but those who do see the greatest improvement in their sons and in their own lives. At commencement, we honor parents who have actively supported their graduates. While we've typically recognized one or two families, in 2011 we recognized a record four, a reflection of not only our growing class sizes, but also an increased understanding of the power of partnership.

Our new facilities create additional opportunities for the Hanna family in all its forms to gather, share information, and celebrate success. The buildings are welcoming to everyone within view and imbued with all that is best about our program. Today Hanna looks and feels more than ever like a real school campus, one that makes staff and students proud and brings alumni, supporters, and community members back again and again. As we prepare to move in, we give thanks for all you do to aid our journey in becoming more homelike and family-friendly in every respect.

John S Crews

Rev. John S. Crews, Ed.D.
Executive Director

Cover story continued

"Personal feelings and anecdotes are expressed that would probably not be voiced in any other situation."

Newcomers start out nervous and shy, but soon open up, according to Dr. Norman. "The boys are very forthcoming," he said. "When they get angry, the parents listen and are willing to confront them." The sessions are less intense than family therapy, he explained, because there's no judgment, just support and caring in a safe environment, making participants more open to feedback.

"Parenting group gives boys a way to let off steam as they cope with the stress of doing things they've never been asked to do before," he said. "Some boys with uninvolved parents come just to be around adults who care enough to show up."

Moving from Dysfunctional to Functional

About 40 participants attend each meeting, with many parents traveling long distances or carpooling with other families to make the date. They bring favorite foods – and life lessons.

One boy who regularly attended the group alone had a mother with drug dependency. When she finally came, she drew the boys a realistic picture of the job failures, jail time, and other

problems she'd endured because of her addiction. Sisters who attend give the boys a female perspective on dating and other peer issues.

Said one parent, "Dr. Norman and his staff help identify potentially explosive or damaging family behavioral patterns and discuss healthy alternatives, opening the door for healing and the creation of a more stable environment for all family members."

"Watching the dysfunctional become functional – that's the concept," said Dr. Norman.

Even after their sons graduate, group parents stay in touch with the Center and one another,

reaching out in good times and bad. "We all believe in our kids," said one parent, "and maybe our friends don't see the good in our children that we see."

In turn, boys from the group travel with Dr. Norman every other month to a parenting program he leads at the Catholic Charities Family Support Center in Santa Rosa, where they help homeless teens adjust to group living and other challenges by relating their own experiences in overcoming obstacles.

Through parents and boys working together with Center staff, Hanna casts an ever-wider circle of healing.

"In parenting group, we support each other, learn and grow through each other's experiences, and take joy in our sons' good works."
—Hanna Parent

Outreach Sends Boys Into Community, Brings Community Onto Campus

Over the past decade, Hanna has intentionally raised its profile in and around Sonoma Valley as a means of both broadening its donor base and better serving the teens who now call the Center home. "With older students, we can do more in the community," said Mick Chantler, follow-on care and living skills specialist.

The result is that Hanna boys are regular volunteers for area nonprofits, prized employees at area businesses, motivated applicants to regional colleges, and known about town for their clean-cut appearance, helpful attitude, and good manners. Hanna also opens its campus to the community, receiving some 50,000 visits annually from members of local charitable organizations and schools that use Center athletic and meeting facilities.

It's a two-way street that benefits everyone.

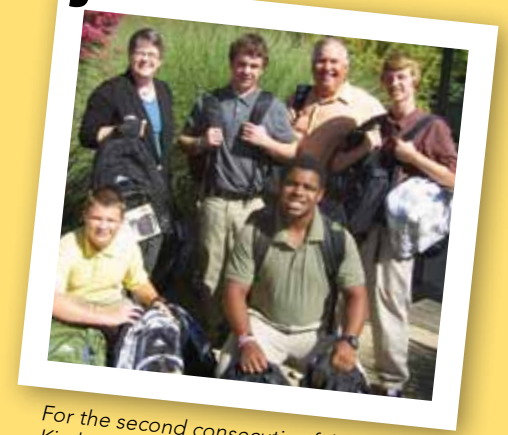
"As our number of upperclassmen grows," said Mick, "so does our boys' interest in all kinds of colleges. We're beginning to establish a good track record of acceptance." Sonoma State University (SSU), for example, counts an increasing number of Hanna boys among its students and alumni, including freshmen Tony La and Luis Rodriguez, junior and Hanna staff member Jenarro Toback, and 2011

graduate and commencement speaker Nathaniel Garrod.

Last April, most Archbishop Hanna High seniors attended SSU's spring college fair, which drew recruiters from more than 200 schools. A smaller group of boys attended a diversity day designed to attract minority students to the Rohnert Park campus. In turn, SSU education students visited Hanna to learn firsthand what teens who have struggled in the classroom expect and need from teachers.

When Special Olympics Sonoma County started using Hanna's playing fields and gymnasium for training, Center residents expressed interest in helping Dave Montano prepare developmentally disabled athletes for competition. According to Courtney Jackson, Hanna recreation specialist, five to ten volunteers spend nearly three months of Saturday mornings each year assisting basketball and tennis players. Special Olympians also practice softball and track on campus. Coaching opportunities for Hanna boys are in the planning stages.

Through the Campus Ministry program, Hanna boys have developed a symbiotic relationship with Christ Church United Methodist in Santa Rosa. The congregation has provided 50 or more new backpacks filled with school and art supplies at the start of



For the second consecutive fall, Pastor Kimberly Willis (far left) of Christ Church United Methodist presented backpacks filled with school supplies donated by her congregation to Hanna students.

the last two academic years, and this year donated more than 60 books for Hanna boys' summer reading. To thank Pastor Kimberly Willis and her flock, a crew of five Hanna alumni and two staff members provided muscle for the church's August rummage sale, setting up tables and merchandise and helping buyers load large items. Plans are now underway for Hanna boys and alums to work in two of the church's signature outreach programs: the Harvest for the Hungry Garden and Elisha's Pantry food distribution center.

As Hanna's new buildings and playing fields open for use, community presence on campus will likely increase, giving boys ever more opportunities to volunteer for worthy causes, to widen their horizons, and to learn and share invaluable life lessons.

Campus Fund Approaches New Milestone, Naming Opportunities Now Available

Through the support of generous donors, the "Spreading Our Wings" Campus Development Campaign has raised nearly \$4 million, more than 25 percent of its \$15 million goal. The funds are helping to build the new Admissions and Alumni

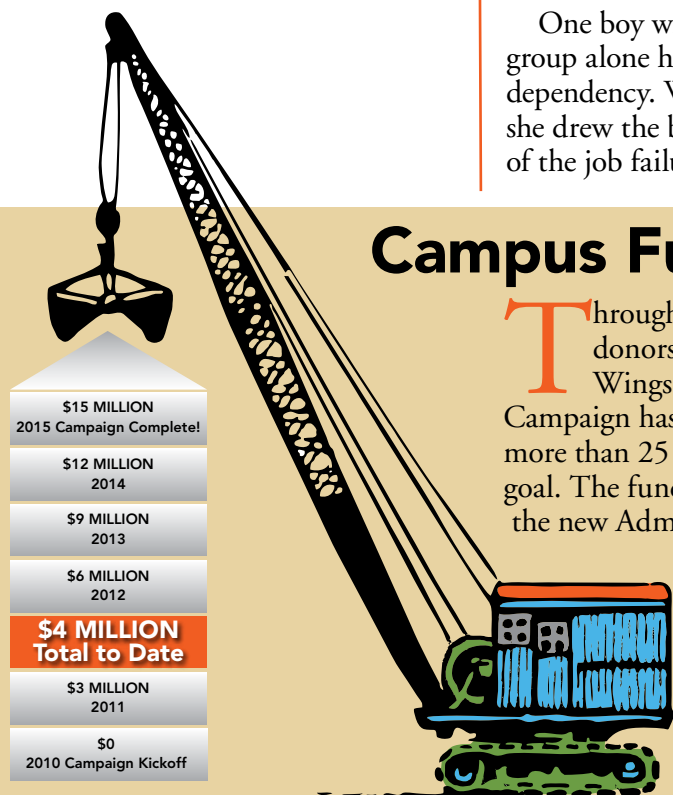
Center, Multi-Use Fine Arts Auditorium, and regulation-size baseball and soccer fields. The new buildings are slated to open in 2011, while

the Hanna Hawks athletic fields are taking shape for 2012.

With more than 100 individual donors contributing to the campaign so far, Hanna is offering naming opportunities for buildings, rooms, and athletic fields. Supporters already have been honoring family members, community leaders, Hanna board members, and Hanna alumni through etched-glass tiles on the growing Legacy Wall of Donors, which will grace the new Legacy Center. For a preview of the new buildings and a look at available

naming opportunities, visit www.hannacenter.org and click on the "Spreading Our Wings" brochure image at the bottom center of the home page.

Our five-year fundraising plan – the first since 1949 – is off to a great start, but your support is essential; all donations must come from individuals and foundations. To learn how you can contribute, contact Chief Development Officer Kris Van Giesen at 707-933-2520 or kvangiesen@hannacenter.org.



Visitor Lobby

Legacy Wall of Donors Installation

Admissions and Alumni Center