

EXTENDING A HELPING HAND

Eric Glustrom, a former Fairview High School student who founded the nonprofit Educate to help African refugees go to school, works on his documentary at InJoy Videos' studio. His friend Benson Olivier, the first student to benefit from the program, is pictured with Glustrom on the screen.

MARTY CAIVANO / Daily Camera



In support of education

Fairview teen starts nonprofit linking

ON THE WEB

• See some of Eric Glustrom's journal entries and photos from his two trips to



Phishers pharmaceutical no phum on Web

Internet is new favorite
for identity scammers

By Christine Reid

Camera Staff Writer

You're more likely to get spam in your e-mail inbox than correspondence from someone you know.

That also means you've more likely been the target of a "phisher," a crooked Internet cruiser looking to steal your bank account number, credit card accounts and other personal information by posing as a legitimate business or government agency.

An estimated 57 million people receive phishing e-mails this year.

"Phishing scams are the frontier, as epidemic as telemarketing once used to be," said Cindy D'Amico, consumer affairs director with Boulder County District Attorney's Office. "Crooks hung up the phone with the advent of the no-call list, but they got on the computer."

And they've been busy, according to the Federal Trade Commission. Last year, stolen personal information resulted in identity thefts worth \$50 billion to Americans.

Nationally, one in 50 people has been a victim of identity theft, according to FTC reports.

Colorado residents are at a greater risk. The state ranks 10th in the nation for identity theft, according to Kristen Hubbell, of the C...

pictured with
Glustrom on the
screen.

MARTY CAIVANO / Daily Camera

In support of education

Fairview teen starts nonprofit linking African, U.S. teens

By Aimee Heckel

Camera Staff Writer

The taxi skidded to a stop. A young African man stood at the edge of the road as if he'd been waiting all his life.

In a way, he had.

Only he didn't yet know it. Benson Olivier had no idea who was inside the car or how this chance encounter would transform his life.

A blue-eyed 17-year-old Fairview High School student stepped out of the taxi and into the Kyangwali Refugee Settlement in Uganda. Eric Glus-

ON THE WEB

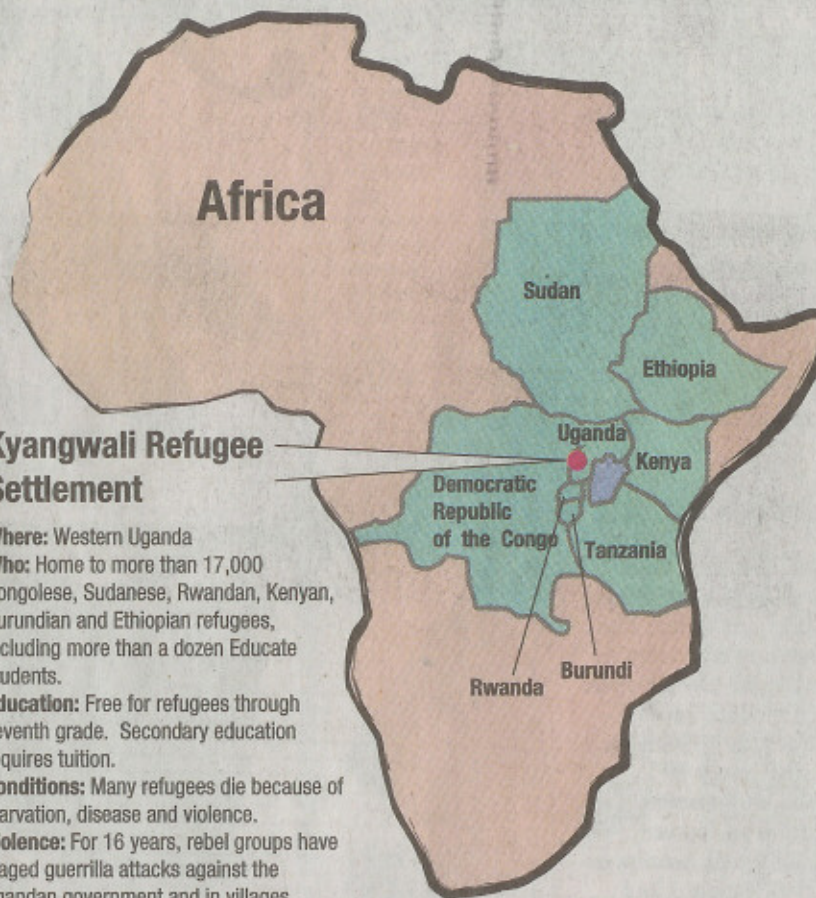
- See some of Eric Glustrom's journal entries and photos from his two trips to Africa. www.dailycamera.com
- More information on Educate. www.educateafrica.org

trom toted a video camera and a duffel bag, already stained red by the ubiquitous African dirt. He was traveling alone.

Glustrom's life, and his plans for that summer in 2002, were about to change.

By the end of his four-week visit, Glustrom would have a new best friend, a new life purpose and plans for a national nonprofit. His student-run organization, Educate, would

Please see FAIRVIEW on 6A



Kyangwali Refugee Settlement

Where: Western Uganda

Who: Home to more than 17,000 Congolese, Sudanese, Rwandan, Kenyan, Burundian and Ethiopian refugees, including more than a dozen Educate students.

Education: Free for refugees through seventh grade. Secondary education requires tuition.

Conditions: Many refugees die because of starvation, disease and violence.

Violence: For 16 years, rebel groups have waged guerrilla attacks against the Ugandan government and in villages. Abducted children forced to fight make up more than 85 percent of the rebel force.

Source: Educate

An estimated 37 million people receive phishing e-mails this year. "Phishing scams are the future, as epidemic as telemarketing once used to be," said Cindy Conner, consumer affairs director with the Boulder County District Attorney's Office. "Crooks hung up the phone with the advent of the no-call number got on the computer."

And they've been busy, according to the Federal Trade Commission. Last year, stolen personal information resulting in identity thefts cost Americans of \$50 billion.

Nationally, one in 50 people has been a victim of identity theft, according to FTC reports.

Colorado residents are at a greater risk. The state ranks 10th in the nation for identity theft, according to Kristen Hubbell, of the Colorado Attorney General's Office.

Phishing scams send messages through e-mails to bogus Web sites soliciting personal information. Phishers try to scare people into giving the information by telling them they have been the target of a theft and now must safeguard themselves.

Many times, the sites use a government or business logo, even the address in the e-mail ending in ".gov" at the end.

Some of the more current scams include look-alike e-mails that appear to be coming from familiar names like Citibank, Sun Trust, Washington Mutual, U.S. Department of Ho-

Please see N



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Banking on fitness

Health savings accounts are growing in popularity among consumers.

FIT • PAGE 10



Today
Weather
FORECAST: Some sun
t-storm this afternoon

High 87 | Low 5

Detail

FROM PAGE 1A

Fairview student sponsors African teen

Continued from 1A

sweep up desperate refugee teenagers, like Olivier, and place them in high-quality classrooms they could never otherwise afford.

Glustrom envisions that these students will grow into leaders — politicians, statesmen, engineers — who will help revive their own war-torn countries surrounding Uganda.

And as Educate clubs rapidly continue to pop up in high schools and universities across the United States, Glustrom says he can't imagine the boundary of its influence.

None of this was part of the plan.

Too dangerous, too young

Glustrom had wanted to make a documentary to help his peers understand the suffering of refugees in Uganda. But Amnesty International rejected his proposal, saying it was too dangerous and he was too young.

"That made my parents even more worried, but it made me want to do it more," Glustrom said. "The whole reason I was going was to see something I'd never seen before. I didn't want to do a safari in Africa."

So he followed through anyway, without sponsorship.

Alone, Glustrom secured permission from the govern-

HOW TO HELP

Visit www.educateafrica.org/donate.htm

E-mail educate@educateafrica.org

Call (720) 394-1889

Send a check to Educate, 4492 Burr Place, Boulder, CO 80303

Include your e-mail, address and other contact info for a tax receipt.

only one thing: the moment when Benson can leave the Kyangwali Refugee Settlement and journey to America," Glustrom wrote. *"I will do everything I can to make this dream come true. After all, it is only my dream because Benson told me it was his."*

The day before Glustrom flew home, he enrolled Olivier in secondary school. It cost \$75 a trimester — impossible for an uneducated orphan. A refugee's typical earning for a day of hard labor is about 33 cents, Glustrom said.

But Glustrom could afford it, even as a high-schooler. Suddenly, he felt empowered. He carried the momentum with him back to Boulder.

Students sponsoring students

Three years later, Glustrom totes a cloth shopping bag heavy with videos, photos and brochures down Pearl Street. He's promoting Educate. His goal: to raise \$5,000 by fall.



A group of children sit on a bench this summer at the Kyangwali Refugee Settlement in Uganda. A bicycle — a rarity here — stands in the background.

Photos courtesy Eric

Alone, Glustrom secured permission from the government and found a translator to travel with. It was risky, he admits; he even caught malaria. Shortly after he arrived, he wrote in his journal:

"It is dangerous here. May 1st, two Congolese refugees shot by unknown gunmen. May 4 — the commandant (government official in charge of the camp) tortured Congolese refugees — including women of old age."

That was Benson Olivier's life before he met Glustrom.

The 18-year-old orphan happened to be standing by the dusty road when Glustrom's taxi first dropped him off. Olivier, who speaks 10 languages, offered to help film the documentary. In his journal, Glustrom remarked how Olivier's sense of humor echoed his friends in Boulder. Only Olivier had endured more in his youth than most Americans do in a lifetime.

He was 14 when his family fled the bloody civil war in the Democratic Republic of Congo. But before reaching Uganda, his parents, two brothers and two sisters were killed. Olivier "had to learn how to survive on his own in some of the worst conditions imaginable," Glustrom said.

Glustrom remembers the first time he visited Olivier's mud hut at the camp. It was the size of an American bathroom, with a wooden stool, a bed made from hay and a few books.

"There was a silence after this and I felt tears coming to my eyes," Glustrom wrote in his journal.

His dream of producing a documentary seemed futile in comparison to helping the faces he had filmed.

"Two days later I dream of

He's promising Educate. His goal: to raise \$5,000 by fall. That will put more African students through school, in addition to the 19 already sponsored.

Boulder students have raised more than \$10,000, said Lulu Feingold, the president of Fairview High's Educate club.

"It's inspiring hearing the stories and how easy it was, how little effort it was to make someone's life completely different for the better," she said.

Her club recently expanded to help a Kenyan refugee camp, too. Fairview senior Vivian Lu, 17, spent August in Kenya recruiting students and volunteering at the Huruma Children's Home in Nairobi.

"There's something very special about students sponsoring students," she said in an e-mail. "Because we are the same age, there's an automatic connection, a guaranteed potential friendship with the person you are sponsoring."

Some of the Educate refugees dream of becoming doctors to help cure the diseases that killed their parents, or statesmen to end the violence. One student wants to be a civil engineer so he can help rebuild Rwanda.

Edward Guma, 18, wants to be a journalist. He is finishing secondary school in the Uganda capital of Kampala.

Guma's family fled the religious and civil wars in Sudan, and he said his education is their only hope. He said he doesn't know how to show appreciation for the Boulder students who raised money to put him through school.

"Really, I can't express it in words," he said from his dorm room. "Because they have given me so much, I will appreciate them for life."



More than a dozen schools across the United States now boast Educate clubs, including a new one at the University of Colorado and at Amherst College in Massachusetts. That's where Glustrom studies neuroscience.

Hope for the future

It's strange how life sometimes has its own plans, Glustrom said. He finally finished editing his documentary last week, although he says it will always be in progress.

He returned in July from his second trip to Africa, checking up on Educate's students and meeting with the minister of education and minister for the presidency of Uganda. They

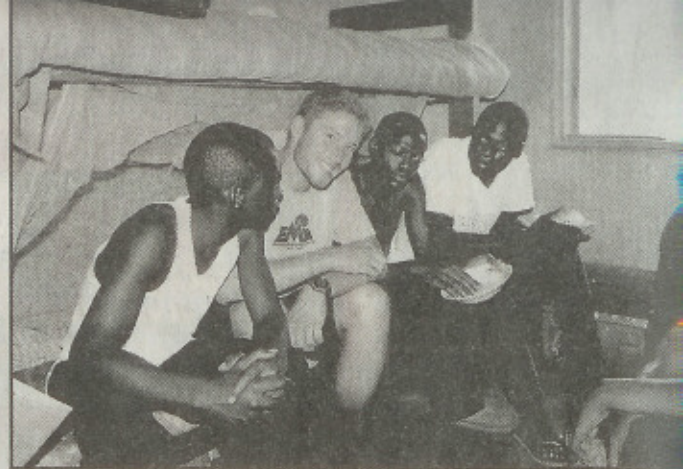
endorsed Educate, and the latter joined its board of directors.

Once again, Olivier was the first person in Africa to greet Glustrom, this time with a strong hug as Glustrom stepped off the airplane.

Olivier is also studying, at a secondary school in Kampala. He hopes to become a politician. He is determined to end the war in the Congo that took the life of his parents and four siblings.

"I would like to serve Africans who are suffering because their right is ignored," Olivier said from Kampala. "I have hope for my future here."

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Above, Eric Glustrom, second from left, sits in a dormitory with students of Sir Tito Winyi Secondary School during his visit this summer to Uganda. Left, Benson Olivier, then 18, and Sadick Sebufara, then 19, pose with a camera tripod three years ago, during a break in filming for Eric Glustrom's documentary. They are two of the 19 refugee students now attending school on an Educate scholarship. Olivier was 14 when his family was killed as they fled a war in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



MARK LEFFINGWELL / Daily

Fairview High School senior Lynne "Lulu" Feingold, left; juniors Melanie Pitkin, middle; and junior Grace Uhls flip through biographical sheets from children in Kenya during their Educate meeting Thursday morning. The Fairview students will be raising money throughout the year to help the Kenyans attend school.