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N2Y, Inc.

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## **RUNNING AMERICA DOCUMENTARY FEATURES N2Y AND SIDNEY ELEMENTARY**

*Thursday, February 18, 2010:* Watch out Hollywood! Sidney Elementary has been featured in a documentary film! The trans-America journey of Charlie Engle, an ultra-athlete, has been produced and released as Running America, a film by Kevin Kerwin and NEHST Studios.

Shannon Wehling, special education teacher, and her students were first introduced to runner Charlie Engle nearly three years ago through News-2-You. News-2-You is a weekly newspaper designed for special needs students and has been a valuable teaching tool in Mrs. Wehling's classroom. In February of 2007, the newspaper featured Charlie's great journey across the entire Sahara Desert. Charlie, along with two other men, ran across the desert for 111 days, bringing awareness to the clean water crisis in Africa. That journey was made into a documentary film produced and narrated by Oscar winner, Matt Damon and directed by James Moll.

Charlie's next adventure was an attempt to break the record for the transcontinental run across America. The current record stood at 46 days. Charlie hoped to break the record in 45 days. In order to accomplish this, he would have had to run approximately 70 miles a day! Charlie began his run in San Francisco on September 13, 2008. He and another runner, Marshall Ullrich, planned to complete their run in New York City on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Wehling had been notified earlier that summer that Charlie's route across the country would include a stretch across Hwy 2, near Sidney, in early October! News-2-You invited their newspaper readers to help out along the way. They graciously supplied the entire elementary student body and staff with t-shirts. Mrs. Wehling's students checked in on Charlie's progress every morning that fall and mapped out his route.

Charlie suffered an injury early on. The injury was a big disappointment for him as it took him out of the race. However, he continued to support his friend Marshall and draw attention to the problem of childhood obesity along the route. Sidney Elementary welcomed him to the great state of Iowa on October 15, 2008. A film crew followed the amazing journey and was able to document the wonderful day that Charlie spent with the students.

Charlie was a huge inspiration to Mrs. Wehling's students and the entire student body. The students, with the assistance of physical education instructor Donnie Sears, matched the journey by getting active and walking over 3,106 miles that Fall/Winter.



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N2Y, Inc.® is a family-run, online education publishing company started by Jacquie Clark, a speech-language pathologist with over 30 years experience in and out of the classroom. N2Y, Inc.® has grown to include a weekly newspaper, online curriculum and dynamic symbol set. The New-2-You current events newspaper utilizes concise, symbol-supported text to deliver current events news to a population previously denied this information. The Unique Learning System is the only comprehensive Web-based and standards-based curriculum specifically designed for special learners. Recently launched SymbolStix *ONLINE*, the newest and most dynamic symbol set ever developed. The set is used exclusively throughout the News-2-You newspaper and the Unique curriculum.

The N2Y, Inc.® products are all available on the Web, allowing thousands of global subscribers easy access to all the published content and materials. For additional information, please visit us on the Web at [www.n2y.com](http://www.n2y.com) We can also be reached by e-mail at [info@n2y.com](mailto:info@n2y.com) or please contact customer service at (800) 697-6575.



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