“SOMEBODY TO TURN”
TENACITY GETS HIGH PRAISE

Boston Globe Columnist, Brian McGrory, in a column on teen violence (“Somewhere to turn”—6/2/10), suggested parents “call people who will help your kid see a better way.” First on his list of people to call was Tenacity! He cited our “extraordinary [summer] program which teaches tennis and reading to all age groups” and went on to praise our year-round program as “even better.”

At a time when the temperatures were climbing and city budgets were dwindling, Tenacity’s Summer Tennis & Reading Program enrolled nearly 6,000 kids at 31 sites throughout the city of Boston, and three sites in Worcester. They came individually with parents signing them up, and they came from partner programs like Camp Harbor View, Boys & Girls Club and the Boston Centers for Youth and Families Girls Program. As McGrory’s column suggests, Summer Tennis and Reading Program helped these youth learn essential life skills, while they maintained or increased their reading level and stayed fit and focused on tennis, all summer long.

Tenacity is proud of the role we have played in improving the lives of the 30,000 youth who have come through our programs since we began 11 years ago. We are especially proud of the success of our programs in 2009-2010.

IN THIS ISSUE

About Tenacity ................................................................. 2
Alumni Report............................................................. 2
Summer Tennis & Reading Program Report....................... 3
Wish List........................................................................... 3
After-School Excellence Program Report......................... 3-4
Annual Report.................................................................. 5-10
Events............................................................................. 11
Arthur Ashe Essay......................................................... 12
ABOUT TENACITY

Founded in 1999, Tenacity has served over 30,000 Boston students who otherwise would lack a safe, productive, and healthy after-school and summer environment. Our high-quality literacy and tennis programming not only build academic skills and improve fitness, they also foster the development of strong bonds between our students and caring staff, which instills the resilience needed to succeed in school and life.

Tenacity provides a pathway to excellence from the 6th grade through high school. Core offerings include the intensive After School Excellence Program for middle school students and the Summer Tennis & Reading Program that engages 5000 Boston youth.

ABOUT TENACITY

Tenacity steers kids toward high school success. Choosing a high school is like buying a car. That’s what Stephanie Gendron, Director of Alumni Services, explains to 8th grade students and their families at ASEP 8th Grade High School Selection Orientation Sessions each September. Each student needs to prioritize the features that are most important to him/her and then determine which schools fit those wants and needs.

Following this orientation, each student has a “high school interview” with an Alumni Services team member, who then puts together a personalized packet for each student. In the packet are a list of recommended schools, all relevant applications & lottery forms, a chart that compares their prioritized features across the recommended schools, and a personalized timeline/task list to help students stay on track to complete and submit applications.

“Tenacity made the road to high school so much less stressful. They really heard everything I wanted in a school. You don’t get the type of help and support Tenacity gives you from just anyone,” Jeison Pegeuro, Boston Community Leadership Academy, 9th Grade.

ALUMNI UPDATE: THE RIGHT FIT CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING

Tenacity steers kids toward high school success. Choosing a high school is like buying a car. That’s what Stephanie Gendron, Director of Alumni Services, explains to 8th grade students and their families at ASEP 8th Grade High School Selection Orientation Sessions each September. Each student needs to prioritize the features that are most important to him/her and then determine which schools fit those wants and needs.

Following this orientation, each student has a “high school interview” with an Alumni Services team member, who then puts together a personalized packet for each student. In the packet are a list of recommended schools, all relevant applications & lottery forms, a chart that compares their prioritized features across the recommended schools, and a personalized timeline/task list to help students stay on track to complete and submit applications.

“Tenacity made the road to high school so much less stressful. They really heard everything I wanted in a school. You don’t get the type of help and support Tenacity gives you from just anyone,” Jeison Pegeuro, Boston Community Leadership Academy, 9th Grade.

2009-2010 High School Selection Process Results

• 100% Tenacity 8th grade ASEP students participated in the high school selection process
• 86% had at least 2 high schools to choose between at the end of the process
• 31% had 3+ choices to choose among at the end of the process
• 75% considered to be enrolled in a right-fit high school

ALUMNI SERVICES

All participants who complete After-School Excellence Program continue their Tenacity experience through the Alumni Services Program. Alumni Services Program offers individualized support as youth transition into the 9th grade, and keeps that up as they navigate high school, and go on to college or further education.

“Tenacity has helped me through thick and thin –especially by helping me with my school work!”

Carol Velasquez

ABOUT TENACITY

Founded in 1999, Tenacity has served over 30,000 Boston students who otherwise would lack a safe, productive, and healthy after-school and summer environment. Our high-quality literacy and tennis programming not only build academic skills and improve fitness, they also foster the development of strong bonds between our students and caring staff, which instills the resilience needed to succeed in school and life.

Tenacity provides a pathway to excellence from the 6th grade through high school. Core offerings include the intensive After School Excellence Program for middle school students and the Summer Tennis & Reading Program that engages 5000 Boston youth.

AFTER-SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM (ASEP)

Working in close partnership with the Boston Public Schools, Tenacity’s After-School Excellence Program delivers an intensive three-year experience for middle school students which integrates literacy-based programming and supervised tennis activities, all in a structured, supportive environment. The focus goes beyond tennis and literacy skills to promoting resilience among young people who face challenges on the path to adulthood, while preparing them for academic success.

SUMMER TENNIS & READING PROGRAM (STRP)

In 2010, Tenacity’s Summer Tennis & Reading Program celebrated its 11th summer, providing FREE tennis and literacy instruction to over 5,000 Boston youth from 6-16 at 31 sites all across the city. The program celebrated its third summer serving 450 youth at three sites in Worcester.

“Tenacity has helped me through thick and thin –especially by helping me with my school work!”

Carol Velasquez
IT WAS HOT! SUMMER TENNIS & READING PROGRAM SERVES OVER 5000 KIDS

Our new Summer Program Director, Alison Link, oversaw our largest Summer Tennis & Reading Program yet—over 5,000 Boston Youth at 31 sites throughout the city. That’s a full 2000 more than last year, truly an astounding expansion! And numbers weren’t the only thing that increased. There was more content to the literacy curriculum which followed weekly themes to create the acronym C.H.O.I.C.E.: Community, Health and Wellness, Open-Mindedness, Identity, Challenges and Everyday Skills. “Kids loved the chapter books, and the picture books, we found for every theme!” said Alison.

We are pleased to have completed our third successful summer program in Worcester. Serving 450 youth at three sites, the program has become an important part of summer city life for Worcester youth.

THE IMPACT OF A SUMMER GIFT

Last June a new donor reached out to Tenacity to ask if we could use funding for extra summer staff to meet the demand for our free programs. Of course, we said yes! Thanks to this gift, we had enough support staff to expand Team Tennis, a program in which Tenacity kids travel to other Tenacity sites around the city to compete with each other.

This changed the summer for Sydney, a 5th grader who’s been with Tenacity since he was seven years old. Given the chance to compete in Team Tennis, his coach and co-site leader Annelise noticed a huge improvement in his sportsmanship, motivation, and leadership qualities. “When we went to away matches, Sydney helped so much with the younger kids, and he always made sure all the kids on the court felt included in activities,” she said. “In fact, Sydney taught me with his tenacity—I had honestly thought this might be the summer he lost interest, but when Team Tennis came along, he brought his game and his leadership to a whole new level!”

We are proud of Sydney for making the most of Team Tennis, of Annelise for fostering his growth and grateful for all the generous donors who make stories like these possible!

ESSENTIAL STEPS TO EXCELLENCE: AN AFTER-SCHOOL STORY

Carol Velasquez is an ideal Tenacity kid. When she began middle school at Umana Academy in East Boston she faced a number of challenges: grades below her abilities, a demanding home life and a tendency to react to the pressures of middle school by becoming a ring-leader which occasionally resulted in disciplinary action by the school. But there was a lot more to Carol, which the Tenacity team at Umana saw: she showed glimpses of academic prowess, resilience, and honesty. She consistently attended after-school homework time, and had an increasingly positive attitude.

As the year progressed, Carol saw that the Tenacity staff were not going to give up on her any time soon. She was allowed a “five minute personal period” at the beginning of class to collect herself before entering. A mature, intense discussion was not unusual between Carol and Marta Waalen, Tenacity’s Umana’s Academic Coordinator. Her behavior improved, and in return for our trust, she listened to our views on the value of education. Carol’s grades improved. She distanced herself from the rowdy crowd and made a vow to uphold Tenacity’s standards of behavior and participation. She has entered seventh grade a more mature, respectful person.

Carol has taken her first essential steps on the Tenacity journey to excellence. She understands what Tenacity is trying to do – help her realize the value of education and respect. And she would be the first to tell you that while the tennis and literacy aspects of the program are important and engaging, the life skills component is what’s been most helpful for her.

WISH LIST

Our friends are so generous to us we hesitate to ask for more, but we know that sometimes you have things around you no longer need (& we could really use).

- Printers for each of five sites
- Die-cut machine
- Indoor tennis court time near any of our sites
- Teen literature
- Used laptop computers
- Bean bag or butterfly chairs
- School supplies

Tenacity is always looking for volunteers for our after-school sites around Boston. Tutors can assist our middle school students with their reading or can work with them on their tennis skills. Volunteers are needed Monday - Thursday in the afternoons. Our volunteers become part of a community with the youth and staff at their site, as well as an important part of the larger Tenacity community.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Ross at rossbloom@tenacity.org for our ASEP program or stephaniegendron@tenacity.org to volunteer as a tutor with our alumni program. For other items on our wish list, please contact Luke Gorman at lukegorman@tenacity.org

Thank you. We can use your help.
AFTER-SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM HAS ITS BEST YEAR YET

As the chart shows, the 210 youth in our After-School Excellence Program in 2009-10 made some of the strongest gains in English and the Language Arts that we have ever seen. On average currently, our kids are gaining two grade levels in just one year!

TENACITY SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

Between Boston and Worcester, Tenacity provided literacy and tennis programming to nearly 6,000 youth in FY 2010. Ninety-five percent of our school-year students go on to graduate from high school. The support for our year-round programs continues to come from a variety of funding sources. We are grateful to the individual donors, corporations, foundations and government sources that enable us to impact the lives of underserved youth throughout Boston and beyond.
Here is a snapshot of life at the helm of Tenacity: One minute I look up and we are serving a record number of youth—5500—in our Summer Reading & Tennis Program. A few busy weeks later we are well into the academic year with a new crop of strong eighth graders in the After-School Excellence Program, and brand new alumni enrolling in our scholarship program. And we have a new newsletter/annual report format that we hope improves our ability to communicate the impact of our programs to you, our supporters, who make all Tenacity’s work with youth possible.

As many of you know, we kicked off 2010 with a very successful “Tenacity at Ten” gala, a celebration of our youth, our programs and all that we have accomplished in just a decade. The event also laid the foundation for FY10 fundraising year, which we just closed out slightly ahead of our goals. This is an amazing testimony to our Board and all our supporters: You realize that a tough economic climate is precisely the time to strengthen giving, because the youth in our programs need us now more than ever. We served a record number of youth in 2010 and their academic outcomes—gains of two grade levels in one year—were some of our strongest to date.

While Boston remains the centerpiece of Tenacity’s impact on youth, the Worcester summer program continues to grow and to have a great impact on that city’s youth. It has doubled in size in just three summers to serving nearly 450 youth at three sites in 2010.

This is an exciting time at Tenacity. We have a full management team in place, a staff that brings an optimum mix of continuity along with some new faces to add fresh perspective and talent. With the help of The Parthenon Group we are just a few months into a new strategic planning process to map out the next five years for Tenacity. Last time we did this important work, we managed to meet our goals a year early, so we are setting our sites high in terms of quality as we consider how and when to expand our programs. We look forward to involving many constituents in this work: Our committed Board, key staff, and strategic partners, both funding and program partners.

Thank you to all of you who made this year such a strong year for our students and for our financial stability. We are all grateful for your continued faith in our youth, our programs and our impact. One final word, stay tuned for news about our Spring Gala—I’m not exaggerating when I say it may be our best yet.

Warm regards,
Edward W. Eames,
President and Founder
When you make a gift to Tenacity, you provide an opportunity for hundreds of under-served city youth to realize the benefit of staying in school. From the President, staff, and Board of Directors, we thank you for continuing to support Tenacity.
Emmett Thomas & Veronica Lee
USTA Eastern Massachusetts
Jean Verbridge & Charles Burd
Village Automotive Group
Dani and Ted Virtue
Donald and Donna Vogler
WalMart Foundation
Webster Five Foundation
Daniel Welch
Westboro Tennis & Swim Club
David and Sharon Yogel
$500-$999

If there are unintentional errors in this report, we apologize. Please call us with any corrections at 617-562-0900 x26
If there are unintentional errors in this report, we apologize. Please call us with any corrections at 617-562-0900 x26.
TENACITY GIVING REPORT
SEPTEMBER 1, 2009 -- AUGUST 31, 2010

Frank and Barbara Rowbotham
James C. Russell
Felice Rustein Lee
Paula Ryan
Arlene Saia
Malcolm and Barbara Salter
Molly and Robert Santry
Elizabeth Saunders
Preston and Rebecca Saunders
Robert and Maura Scalise
Michel and Brigitte Scheinmann
Robert E. Schmidt
Kimberly Schoen
William and Lillian Schultz
Bob and Jeanne Sciba
Robert M. Selby
Steven Shaffer & Heidi Wells
Donald and Meghan Sharr
Karen E. Shea
Dr. Richard J. Shea
Ross and Kathleen Sherbrooke
Jeffrey Shubrooks
Lisa Sikora
Karen and Dennis Silvia
Douglas and Joanne Cuccurullo Simpson
Gordon and Jane Smith
Ronald and Linda Smith
Joshua and Nancy Solomon
Betsy McElvein and Benjamin Soule
Staples, Inc.
Barry and Carol Stone
Bradford and Diane Straus
Amy and Sean Sullivan
Tadhg and Edith Sweeney
Lori Tanenbaum
Normand Tanguay and Peter Azar
Jonathan Temin
David Thaler
Roger and Dorothea Thomas
John and Cathy Tilney
Adelaide Tingley
Rosemary Toomey & Stefan Hofmann
Mark and Tobey Trumbull
Nan Tull & Frank Tull
Kathleen Twohig
Mike and Laura Tyrrell
Deborah and Ahmet Uluer
Warren Valdamanis
Keith H. Van Etten
Judith and Menno Verhave
Bette and William Viano
Michelle and Andres Vilms
Stephen Vincent
John and Elizabeth Vinton
Maureen Vokey
Stow and Susan Walker
Catherine and Stephen Walsh
Berndt Walter & Emily Soltano
Margaret Wanuma & Fidelis Gacheru
Wendy and Brad Watson
Mary Ann Watts
Sterling and Jean Weaver
Jorgen and Lise Wedel
Elisabeth and Paul Weeks
Norman and Sheila Weinshank
Jonathan and Emily Weintrob
Diana L. Weiske
Walter H. Weld
Eric Wellman
Heidi Wells
Andrea Whalen
Joan D. Wheeler
Kristen Wheeler
Anna White
Marc White and Stephanie Andrews
Robert and Barbara White
Alexander Whiteside
Thomas and Victoria Whitney
Hazel Wrightman
Paul Wilcox
Lucille Windsor
Larry and Linda Wolf
Stephen Wolfe
Fan Wu
Karl Wurst & Amy West
David and Miriam Zarchan
Elaine and James Zidon
Dr. Peter Zimetbaum

UP TO $99
Anonymous (1)
John and Cathy Tilney
Adelaide Tingley
Rosemary Toomey & Stefan Hofmann
Mark and Tobey Trumbull
Nan Tull & Frank Tull
Kathleen Twohig
Mike and Laura Tyrrell
Deborah and Ahmet Uluer
Warren Valdamanis
Keith H. Van Etten
Judith and Menno Verhave
Bette and William Viano

Paul and Marion Anthon
Ross and Chris Atkin
Laura Bach y Rita
Daniel Bannor & Kathleen Powers
Maureen Barden
Gene and Patricie Barton
Margarita Beers
Virginia Benzan
Hugo and Deborah Berganza
Carolle Bernard
Dawn M. Berry
Anna Bishop
George and Margot Bixby
Kathi and Bryce Blair
Christopher and Caroline Block
Donna Boland
Lucie Bordon
Michael Bradley
William Brewer
Sierra Heath Bright
John and Kelly Brissette
Tony and Paula Brissette
Clark and Marcy Brodnen
Ellen Burnham
Melissa Butler
Robert Cardoza
Ilene and Jerold Carlson
James Carlson
Maria Castrillon
George and Diane Chau
Michelle Cho
Pamela and Frank Clare III
Sandy and Ed Coburn
Lawrence E. Cohen
Christine and Kevin Cole
Keith J. Collar
Margo and Bob Connor
Herica Correa & Juan Zapata
John and Lynn Cosseboom
Tyler Cowan
Kenneth and Jill Craft
Robert and Molly Cramer
Eileen and Edward Craven
William and Hairley Creelman
Edward and Susan Culver
Michael Cunningham
Julian Gydeylo & Charles Chesterman
Deborah and Robert Czerwinski
Fay Dabney
Deolinda Daveiga
Hal and Julia Decker
Sueann Defreitas
Peter and Barbara Devens
Ngoc Nga Do
Eleanor Donaldson
Susan and Michael Donovan
Karen and Peter Dorfman
Kevin Dowdell
Andrea Drakes
Svetlana Dubinskaysa
Jan A. Duke
Dale Dutile
Julio C. Echeverri
David H. Evans
Lisa Evans
Kathy L. Evelyn
Hamish Ewart Smith & Holly Ewart Oneall
Joseph and Judy Fahey
Colleen Fahy
Michael Fallquist
Harvey Fenigsohn
Alissa Ferro
Anton Finelli and Margaret Sawyer
Joseph and Tara Finn
Chantal Firmin
C. Robinson Fish, Ill and Shirley Fish
Julia Fjeldheim
Ann and Paul Flaherty
Patrick J. Flaherty
Thomas and Suzanne Fontaine
Rosalina Forero Tarquina
Jessica Fosberry
Lynda Fraelen
Julio Fuentes
Jodi Gallagher
Patrick Gallagher
Molly Galvin
Candice and Gary Garley
Tommie and Linda George
Subrata Ghoshroy
Marianne Gibbons
Elizabeth Gill
Melissa Gislespie
Allison Godfrey
Ruth Gonzalez
Michael and Karen Gorton
Evan and Amy Grace
Samuel Graham Felson
Daphne Griffin
Lucy Grogan
Mark and Carey Gross
Josephine Ha
Susan Hamel
Jennifer Hamilton
Catherine R. Hammond
UP TO $99 CONT.

Karen Lapsley
Kathryn Leathers
Jennifer Lemieux
Kerry Lesslauer
Sulian Liang
Alison Link
Lisa Linker and Bill Heines
Eliot and Lenore Lobel
Mario Lopez
Carline Louis Letang
Peter Low
Edith Mabrey
Kathy and Kevin Maguire
Tim and Sheridan Maguire
Joan and Morsa Mansour
Kathleen Marsh
Jackson Marvel
Sandia A. Mason
Mastermans, LLP
Keith Mayer
Janine Maylath
Vivian Mbaawuikie
Jonathan McAfee
Mary McClerklin
Megan McCoy
Gerard and Francie McGath
Linda McGrath
Siobhan McHugh
Teresa McMains
Christine and Brian McNamara
Leo J. Meehan, III and Sara G. Meehan
Yenny A. Mejia
Hilda Melo
Sheri Mendes
Kenneth and Dorcas Miller
Joan Miller
Margaret Ann Miller
John and Sherry Mitchell
Brian Monahan
Laura and Joel Morano
Raymond and Cynthia Morin
Mrs. Opal Morse
Daniel Murphy
Trishia Muturi
William and Beth Nast
Stephanie Naughton
Karen Nerpouni
Jeremy Nesoff
Michael Newman and Polly Kornblith
Nestor and Anne Nicholas
Karen Nerpouni
Patricia V. Nunez Salas
Katiusca Obijo
Geoff and Leslie Oblak
Moira and Barry O’Brien
Mark O’Connell
Mary and Kevin O’Connor
Thomas O’Malley and Beverly Arsem
Tim and Liz Orie
Loi Orlando
Karen O’Sullivan
Elizabeth Parker
Janet A. Parsons
Catherine and Jamie Paul
Elizabeth and Emel Perez
Richard and Michelle Petitti
Liz Pfeffer
Angela and Clarence Plant
Matt and Mauny Plum
David and Marion Pollock
Alicia Powell
Nanet Puch
Ann K. Puglisi
Leanne Quigley
Robert Quirk
Eugene and Patricia Ratto
Lillian D. Redley
Thomas and Margaret Reney
Suzette Rizzo
Janet and Peter Robinson
Jane Rocamora
Sumner Rodman
Alburtion Rogan
Marina Rojas
Jason and Heather Anne Ronan
Timothy and Eva Root
Daniel and Judith Rouse
Mindy Rubin
Elizabeth Russell
Colleen Sands
Diane Sargent
Ulrich and Pat Schaafhausen
Ken and Pixley Schiciano
Neil and Anne Schneider
Hal and Joanna Scott
John W. Sears
Enid Seaver
Kevin and Lisa Seaver
Dorothy and Murray Shankman
Barbara M. Shea
Alyssa Shefveland
Kevin Sherry
Fionna Sherwin Murray
Suzanne and Timothy Shevlin
Minna Shhtudiner
Maria C. Silveira
Warren and Leslie Simmons
Mike and Sherrie Skillman
Bernadette and Vincent Smith
Mokuluu Smith
Julie Smith Bartoloni
Dorothy Snyder
Kim Southwick
The Honorable John Spinale
Les and Jan Spinazzola
Herbert Spivak
SS Francis & Theresa Catholic Worker
Benjamin Stein
Christine Stone
Peter and Kathryn Stone
Ann Stuart
Audra Sullivan
David and Barbara Sullivio
Edward and Claudia Swan
Rosa Tempesta
The Willows at Westborough Resident Association
Henry Tiberio
Mary Beth Timilty
David and Marie Tracey
Carole Travers
Christopher and Frances Tulley
Kevin Ure
USTA Vermont
Charles and Laura Van Hise
Jose Vaquerano and Santos Alvarado
Susana D. Villalobos
Dave Visco
Jessica Vogel
Dorothy W. Waldron
Aaron Walsh
Ann Walsh
Tina Wang & Christopher Simon
James and Elizabeth Ward
Hadley Washburne
Jessica Weigel
Rebecca Weitz
Lori Whalen
Constance V.R. White
Ginger Wiederer
Laura Wilson Mills
Carol Winters
Mark Winters
Laura and Geoffrey Witherford
Elizabeth and Oliver Wood
Steffi Wright
Wendy Wunder & Gregg Rosenblum
David and Patty Wyner
Nancy Wynne
Kim Yee
Wing Yeung
Tiffany Young
Noemi Zabatta
Liliana Zavaleta
Gaofeng Zhao
Jian Jun Zhong
Kristine and Louis Zinnanti

IN-KIND DONORS

$50,000+
City of Boston
New Balance

$20,000-$49,999
Baldwin/Clancy/Rogan Advertising
Hampshire House
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, LLP
Windridge Tennis & Sports Camps

$7,000-$15,000
Boston Color Graphics
Blackstone Productions, Inc.
InsideOut Sports & Entertainment
Lennart & Marisa Jonason
McWilliam’s Wines
Peterson Party Center
Sir Speedy

$1,000-$6,999
A-Cal Copiers
Boston Celtics
Harvard University
Reggie Lewis Center
Lazar Lowinger
Longwood Cricket Club
The Winsor School
WGBH

UNDER $1,000
CBIZ Tofias
James Famulare
Harkness Law Office
International Tennis Hall of Fame
Dr. Girvani Leerer
Rachel Lockhart
Mahoney’s Garden Center
Gary Rhodes
Alice Rothchild and Dan Klein
Judith Alper Smith
Strategic Financial Partners
Tennis and Squash Shop
The Upper Crust
USTA
WCVB-TV 5
Westboro Tennis & Swim Club
Worcester Tennis Club

If there are unintentional errors in this report, we apologize. Please call us with any corrections at 617-562-0900 x26
WINNING FRIENDS IN WORCESTER: THE BILL & DOTTIE POWER MEMORIAL RECEPTION

Well over 100 supporters of youth development and tennis joined Tenacity of Worcester and lead sponsor, Harr Motors, to celebrate the lives of local tennis enthusiasts Bill and Dottie Power and to raise money to continue the Summer Tennis and Reading Program. Attendees heard from local committee members, Bill and Dottie’s daughters and Tenacity’s Ned Eames, as well as award-winning program participants.

SHOWDOWN AT HARVARD

Tenacity and Harvard University teamed up for a “Harvard Showdown” October 1-3, a family friendly event that was lots of fun and helped raise money for our programs. Harvard invited three other men’s varsity teams to a showdown competition, and Tenacity hosted a Pro-Am with the Division I college players as “pros” on Friday.

The next day, in gorgeous weather, the Tenacity family and tennis community came to watch matches and enjoy a Redbones cook-out at Harvard Stadium.

Many thanks to the 24 Pro-Am players who came out and played hard, and to all the Tenacity supporters who made it a very fun weekend.

TENACITY KIDS EXPLORE NEW ENGLAND

For many summers now, Tenacity has been bringing youth involved in our program to the Eastern Yacht Club to enjoy the cool breezes and the great tennis and get some much needed time away from the city. Orchestrated by Board Member Ralph James, ten Tenacity youth joined more than 25 EYC adults and children for a great day of tennis, boating and feasting on the waters, the courts and the lawns of EYC. Club Pro Dan McCormick made sure it was a great day, complete with gifts and prizes.

Later in the summer, another Tenacity group went to Cape Cod for a day at the Chatham Beach and Tennis Club. Sponsored by Board Member Sarah Hoit and with help from Club Pro, Alan Leathers, our youth had another great day. Some highlights: seeing thousands of seals in the bay; a great skills clinic with CBTC pro; and about a dozen double matches that put our kids right in the mix with many life-long tennis players. We’re glad to report, our kids more than held their own!

Alex Rosier of Bedford put together the Play 4A Purpose Charity Tennis Tournament to benefit Tenacity this fall. Forty adults and children participated in a round-robin format.

We are grateful to Windridge camp in Vermont that once again provided the opportunity for five Tenacity kids to attend their high quality overnight tennis camp free of charge. As in past years, our participants increased their tennis skills exponentially and enjoyed their time in Vermont very much. As Tenacity Assistant ASEP Director, Luke Gorman, notes The Windridge experience exposes our kids to so many different people and activities that it has increased their self-confidence in life as well as in tennis.
Arthur Ashe was an American hero fighting battles both on and off the court. He broke barriers in the tennis world, becoming a three-time grand slam champion, and the first African American male to win a grand slam tournament.

Off the court, he was a social activist taking on issues like racial prejudice, AIDS, apartheid, and education. One of his many legacies includes the National Junior Tennis and Learning (“NJTL”), a network of youth-serving organizations that provides tennis and education for all.

His wish was for NJTL to be a resource for kids to develop skills for leadership and academic excellence.

In essay or picture, participants in a national contest were asked to express what each thinks of Arthur Ashe.

The Umana School, Tenacity’s East Boston site, had five students chosen as section award winners in 2010. Congratulations to winners Vladamir Gonzalez, Nathan Rivera, Hender Rivas, Laura Escolero and Karen Perez!