PATRIOT'S DAY WAS the first time Tenacity had an official charity team running the Boston Marathon. Tenacity was accepted into the Boston Athletic Association's program last summer and for three years will be given 15 official entries into the Boston Marathon. Tenacity recruits the runners and offers training and support to their running and fundraising efforts. In return they raise money and awareness for Tenacity.

Tenacity was a relative unknown to most of our 16-person team last fall, yet the more the runners learned about our mission and the kids they were supporting, the more strength they garnered toward achieving their goals of running 26.2 miles on April 15, 2013. Each of them exceeded the minimum fundraising requirement of $4,000, while cultivating a new base of donors for Tenacity in excess of 725 contributions.

The team collectively raised $112,000 in our first year. Two runners topped the $10,000 amount with Jacqueline Gannon being the top fundraiser. Joe Finelli was named MVP for bringing in over 125 individual contributions and has agreed to run again next year while acting as fundraising coach for the team.

With big plans now set for 2014, the team announced its goal of raising $150,000 for next year's run before a packed house at the gala on June 1. Thanks to 65 very generous gala attendees, $6,500 was raised that evening toward this goal.

The events at the finish line on April 15th were horrifying and devastating. Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims, their families, and those recovering from injuries sustained that afternoon. Thankfully, all of our runners, their families and friends and our tenacity students and staff who came out in support of our team were not harmed. Some of us were at the finish.

(Continued on page 10)
95 College Acceptances—Another Record Setting Year

**College Prep Spotlight**

VANESA ACOSTA, a 12th grade student at Boston Community Leadership Academy, was selected for the Nelson Fellowship Program.

Each summer, 12 Fellows are selected from across Massachusetts and are assigned to work with a Judge and get exposure to our legal system.

Vanessa is also a student organizer for the Student Immigrant Movement and completed an internship with the Boston City Council.

As a College Prep participant, Vanessa volunteered at nearly every community service event and helped at multiple workshops by providing Spanish translation.

Vanessa hopes to pursue Criminal Justice or Psychology while in college.

**College Prep News**

THE COLLEGE PREP staff and the entire Tenacity community congratulate the Class of 2013, now high school graduates and transitioning to the next stage of the Tenacity Pathway. This senior class accumulated 95 college acceptances!

Many of our students had multiple colleges to choose from: Ming Lao, a Boston Latin Academy student and member of the varsity tennis squad was accepted to six colleges: University of Vermont, Roger Williams University, Syracuse University, College of the Holy Cross, UMass Dartmouth and UMass Amherst. Ming will be attending Holy Cross in September.

Another senior standout, Julio Sanchez, will be attending Bentley University. Julio was also accepted to UMass Dartmouth, Bridgewater State University, Howard University and St. Johns University. Congratulations to Ming, Julio and the entire class of 2013!

The College Prep program carries Tenacity's Middle School Academy graduates through the demanding world of high school and beyond. Students receive the individual attention they need, with a focused end in mind: earning a high school diploma and continuing their education. Key factors in their achievement are the workshops offered through our College Prep program.

And this could not have been achieved without the committed staff of Stephanie Gendron, Director of CP and AS, and Andrew Martland and Erica Reiner, a team of three overseeing scores of Alumni.

**Alumni Spotlight**

EXCITING NEWS ABOUT our alum, Yves Singletary, who is offering his second year as an AmeriCorps Member. Last year Yves served in the Brockton mayor’s office, and this year he is a mass promise fellow at the Boston Public Health Commission.

Yves was selected as the 2013 Massachusetts Service and Volunteering Award Recipient in the “Getting Things Done in Massachusetts” category. He was selected from a pool of 70 very strong nominees of committed service and volunteer leaders making a difference every day in Massachusetts. He will be publicly recognized at an Awards Luncheon at the upcoming MA Statewide Conference on Service and Volunteering.

“I am so proud of Yves and hope this serves as another motivating example of the kinds of things that lie ahead for Tenacity kids,” expressed Stephanie Gendron, Director of College Prep and Alumni Services.

**High School Readiness Retreat**

held at the Doubletree Hotel in Boston, April 18-19 is designed to give our MSA 8th graders intensive training in practical life skills and disciplines that breed success, from goal setting and stress management to dating advice and proper etiquette - even a lesson in how to shake hands!

The retreat occurred on the eve of the memorable shelter-in-place when the entire city and surrounding towns’ residents were ordered inside by Governor Patrick and Mayor Menino until the night for the two Boston Marathon bombings concluded in Watertown.

Life skills experience it was— including dealing with safety concerns, patience, anxiety, uncertainty, fear, homesickness, boredom and more.
Thriving Summer Tennis & Reading Program in Boston and Worcester

THIS SUMMER TENACITY will serve nearly 5,000 students in Boston and 600 in Worcester with our Summer Tennis & Reading Program (STRP). In Boston we are at 22 parks and have 40 partner programs.

Our summer staff of 250+ includes Tenacity Pathway students and both literacy and tennis volunteers.

STRP in Worcester is offered at three locations and continues to see growth in its program participation and supporters.

A growing number of companies, volunteers, and generous individuals are helping to maintain and grow Tenacity’s presence in central Massachusetts since 2007.

A special thank you to committee members: Pete Allen, Ellen Barry, Tara Bayko, Tony Bresse, Ned Eames, Tommie George, Caroline Lane, Grace Roche, and Scott Staniar for their hard work.

The next fundraiser to support our Worcester STRP will be on November 15 at the Deerwood Hotel in Worcester.

Thank you to all of our sponsors and supporters. Your continued support helps us provide meaningful programs for our Tenacity kids.

Tenacity Board of Directors

William F. Achtmeyer, Chairman
Edward W. Eames, President & Founder
William “Dud” D. Schultz, Co-Founder
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Ken Swan

Public-Private Partnership

THE SUMMER LEARNING PROJECT, a collaboration between Boston Public Schools, Boston After School and Beyond, and Tenacity aims to close the gap on summer learning loss by offering a summer school and fitness program for rising 4th graders.

For the third summer, Tenacity is leading the Project for 80 students at three BPS middle schools. The curriculum includes math and literacy – so that students are grade-ready in September, and a physical fitness component including tennis instruction – so they learn the importance and fun of healthy habits.

Look for our results of this three year program in the fall.

Tenacity Founders Award
Presented to Andy Crane

THE SECOND EVER Founders Award was presented at the June 1st gala to Andy Crane, longtime Program Director, for his undying commitment to Tenacity and in helping to establish Tenacity in 1999 and grow it to one of the City’s leading non-profits serving at-risk Boston youth.

The Founders Award recognizes the extraordinary contributions to Tenacity made by volunteers, donors, professional staff, and program partners, in the name of Tenacity’s Founders.

Andy was honored for his many talents, most notably the continuity of his mentoring and guidance of hundreds of Tenacity students from their middle school years through high school, college, and other post secondary endeavors.

Tenacity has established “the pathway programs, supporting our middle school graduates through their post secondary pursuits. In large part, because Andy was so committed to these students in their formative years that he just continued to mentor them, year after year,” expressed Ned Eames of Andy’s significant role. “The number of kids grew such that it was only fitting to establish the continuum,” he concluded.

Thanks to Andy, the College Prep and Alumni Services programs were formalized in 2007 and have been ably managed by Stephanie Gendron and her staff since.

The STRP was under the direction of Andy for many years, growing from serving 1,000 kids in 1999 to over 5,000 today. Andy was also a mentor to young staff at Tenacity who have grown considerably in their career endeavors.

At the gala, 35 of Andy’s protegés were on stage to honor him while Luis Sanchez delivered a moving tribute. Thank you Andy for all you have given to Tenacity.
IN THE MIDST of flash rain storms and power outages, Tenacity received the most electrifying news it could have wished for last week:

Naomi Weiner of Mass Service Alliance: “You have been awarded your full AmeriCorps grant request in the competitive pool at the Federal Level.”

Paula Coyle, Program Director, almost knocked off her feet: “You mean...you mean...twenty-eight AmeriCorps Members for Tenacity?”

Naomi: “Yes, all twenty-eight!”

Nearly fainting, Paula loped into Ned Eames’ office with the news. Though breathless, she announced that Tenacity has been granted 28 Members from AmeriCorps.

“Twenty-eight? Wow! This is a game changer,” expressed Eames, upon learning the much anticipated good news. “With this addition to our staff, we are now able to double or triple the number of FTEs at each school site starting in September!”

“The staff increase will have an immediate, positive impact on the quality of our MSA curriculum,” shared Paula. The 28 Members will arrive in mid-August for orientation, just in time for the start of the coming Middle School Academy school year.

Now, it is time to start recruiting and you can help!

Share the news with family, friends, on Facebook. Anyone interested in serving as an AmeriCorps Member should contact PaulaCoyle@tenacity.org 617-562-0900 x42.

Congratulations to Paula and her team for this vital win!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

To a few (of the many) who stepped up to make the gala so magical...

Rita and Scott Staniar for managing all aspects of the Silent Auction that raised over $45,000 with 100 donated items.

Jennifer Lesnick, Sally Kellogg, Leo Power, Mary Renner, Patty Ferris, and all the Gala Volunteers who share their time and talents to make the evening a success.

Rob Lapides, Gala Director, and Brian Tuttle, Gala Creative Director.

Mike Chvany, Bridge Street Productions, for producing the videos that capture the essence of Tenacity.

The entire Tenacity staff, largely unsung, who year after year, pour their energy and effort into the event. What an impressive team you are.

And most importantly TO YOU—our loyal supporters who make this all possible.

Lauren MacKay, Derek Curtin, Angel Batista, Maryan Aden, and Ali Adkins with Blades the Bruin

More Magic!

(Gala 2013 Continued from back page)

account of the life of Stuard Gonzales, showcasing his commitment to staying in the pathway programs, despite obstacles and set backs that would challenge anyone. He was given a standing ovation as he walked on stage.

Live auction items went for bid including trips to the Tennis Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, VIP package to the US Open, a getaway to the Cloisters Resort, and, a perennial favorite, Chairman Bill Achtmeyer auctioned off nine of his own Bruins playoff tickets, not for the winning bidder to enjoy but to give to Tenacity kids and chaperones to experience.

A somber tone ensued as we watched a video about the Boston Marathon and the Tenacity Marathon Team. Then the team, wearing their BAA medals, stood on stage for an introduction by Tenacity board member and team captain, Caroline Lane, who manages our relationship with the BAA. She announced that the team will be running again in 2014. Jason Hine then shared his emotional experience of what happened that day.

Ned Eames delivered his state of the organization address conveying the amazing work being done by Tenacity’s management, staff, board members, and volunteers and our ongoing need for a larger community of supporters to help us continue to serve our kids and increase the numbers we reach.

The on-stage finale was the Founders Award, presented this year to longtime program director, Andy Crane. (See page 3.) Afterward guests enjoyed magical desserts, music and dancing late into the evening.

It was another memorable gala for all. We thank our sponsors, our prouder advertising partners Baldwin Clancy Ragan, our numerous gala volunteers, and hundreds of guests who continue to provide us with the affirmation that our work with urban youth is recognized and vital. The evening takes half a year of planning, one that the organization gives its heart and soul to, because we depend on the funds raised through it each year. Thanks to all, it was a grand success.
International Tennis Hall of Fame Awards Ned Eames with Educational Merit Award

USTA New England Inducts Ned into Hall of Fame

Message from the Chairman of the Board
Bill Achtmeyer

I AM VERY appreciative that the New England Hall of Fame enthusiastically agreed to recognize the efforts of Ned as the Founder and fearless leader of Tenacity.

No one could have predicted the success of this still relatively young organization 13 years ago. It is now one of Boston's signature education programs. By focusing on reading comprehension on an intense basis during the middle school years and supplementing that essential learning with an appreciation and love of the game of tennis, which is founded on good sportsmanship and etiquette, Tenacity has achieved a 95% graduation rate for their kids from high school.

I am unaware of any intervention program of this nature in the USA that can claim this level of success. This requires a maniacal focus on ensuring kids and their parents keep their eye on the prize while in the Middle School Academy and throughout their high school years by keeping close tabs on each one of them.

Ned has devoted his life to making Tenacity a winner in our community. Everyone from Mayor Menino and Superintendent Johnson to each parent, teacher, principal, and volunteer involved with Tenacity heralds Ned's vision and dedication.

On behalf of the Board, we salute Ned and thank the Hall.

... Bill Achtmeyer


NED EAMES RECEIVED special recognition this year from two prominent tennis organizations.

First came the announcement and invitation from the International Tennis Hall of Fame that Ned was one of three recipients of the awarded Tennis Educational Merit Award, presented at the USTA Annual Meeting on March 16 in Weston, Florida. Hall of Famers Stan Smith and Monica Seles participated in the presentation of the award, which recognizes great leaders in the sport of tennis.

Ned was specifically selected because he is one of the country's most successful leaders of the National Junior Tennis & Learning organization. Other recipients were Kathy Rinaldi, former WTA pro, for her work as a national coach in USTA Player Development, and former NYC Mayor David Dinkins, who received the Samuel Hardy Award.

Then came news that Ned would be inducted into the New England Tennis Hall of Fame, with a celebration and induction ceremony held at the Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, RI, on June 8. The ceremony included a cocktail reception held in the Tennis Museum at the HOF followed by a dinner and awards ceremony.

Tenacity's Board then hosted a private party celebrating Ned's achievements where over 100 guests were treated to music, dancing, desserts and refreshments. Gary Phillips of Tenacity along with Jen Lesnick, longtime Tenacity volunteer and professional event producer, planned the event.

Congratulations Ned. These recognitions are well earned and deserved.
A special thanks to our 2013 Tenacity Marathon Team

Caroline Lane, Captain (dnr)
George Doherty, Coach
Josh Cutler
Joe Finelli
Jacqueline Gannon
Whitney Gannon
Owen Kasser
Liz Kuenstner
Scott London
Tyler Moulton
Meaghan Murray
Jason Pina
Jane Raabas
Jim Stockhausen
Ryal Tavio
Gretchen TenBrook
Dave Wittmer

Photos by Caroline Lane

Tenacity game. set. LIFE.

AN OFFICIAL CHARITY OF THE BOSTON MARATHON
TENACITY INFUSED
Bud Schultz turns personal dream into a year-long journey for our kids.

ADD HIKING the Appalachian Trail, all 2,200 miles of it, to Rudi Schultz’s catalogue of athletic accomplishments. Well not yet, but a year from now he will be mid-way in his six-month trek, starting in Georgia next March. That’s not enough though, Bud is taking this adventure to a higher summit, 6,600 feet in fact, by enthusiastically sharing all aspects of the arduous goal with Tenacity.

His purpose? Infusing his own tenacity to complete the journey while enhancing the variety and content of our program delivery and raising awareness of our organization.

A year-long Appalachian Trail—From Springer to Katahdin with Tenacity curriculum, currently being developed by Brian Tuttle, Assistant MSA Director with input from the Appalachian Mountain Club. was met with great anticipation by the Boston Public Schools when notified recently of our plan for the coming school year.

What better way is there to augment our literacy, fitness, and life-skills programs than to engage young learners with real-life lessons in geography, botany, nutrition, fitness, technology, and more?

Acclimatize with us @ www.tenacity.org/Appalachian_Trail.

BAA OFFICIAL CHARITY MARATHON TEAM

(Finish Marathon continued on p. 9)

line and witnessed the explosions which have left an indelible mark not only on the eyewitnesses, but on the entire community and country. Tenacity has never been more committed to serving our urban students with programs that teach the values of living productive and engaged lives.

A special thank-you is given to our volunteer coaches, George Doherty, a 14-time marathoner, including 10 Boston Marathons. George brought his experience to the team, making our first year a grand success! He jumped into the fundraising as well bringing in the single largest donation from a new donor of $2,500. George created a training regimen for each runner, coordinated Thursday night runs of Heartbreak Hill that culminated around pizza and beer and tales of road racing. On Sunday evenings we grew accustomed to receiving his enthusiastic and informative newsletters, keeping everyone motivated with his training tips for the coming week. George fielded questions on everything marathon related and fostered camaraderie among our teammates that saw many or them through the uncertainty and panic that ensued on Patrick’s Day afternoon.

Thanks in large part to him—everyone who started in Hopkinton earned a BAA medal and many of our runners are returning to the team for the 118th running of the Boston Marathon next year.

See you at the finish line on April 21, 2014.

Billie Jean King was honored at the Boston Lobsters match on July 15 as were three of our marathoners. On court, L-R, Lauren Mackay, Tyler Moulton, Scott London, Joe Finelli, Team Captain Caroline Lane, Billie Jean King, Tenacity President Ned Eames, and Lobsters’ Coach Bud Schultz.

For information on the 2014 marathon team, visit us online or email BAA@Tenacity.org.

A Heartfelt Thanks from the Marathoners to
Board Members Bill Achtmeyer, Kitty Flather, Larry Greenberg, Ralph James, and Ernie Klein for generously supporting the marathon team, and to Board Members Sam Messer and New Balance for providing team shirts and race-day singlets to our marathoners.

A MUCH DESERVED congratulations to Nick Norwitz, a Newton North junior, for his impressive physical feat on behalf of Tenacity. He raised over $1,000 by winning a push-up contest. Ever wonder what 427 consecutive push-ups looks like? Nick demonstrates - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPK4w216NTM

Thank you to Baldwin/Clancy/Rogan Advertising for designing all of our print and electronic materials—pro bono.
We could not do it without you.
EVER WONDER WHO the creative mind is behind all those superb gala stage shows? Five years ago, we uncovered a gem right within our organization.

Brian Tuttle, BA, University of Iowa, Theatre Arts

- Joined Tenacity in 2004, many years as our Harvard academic coordinator, then MSA Curriculum Development and Implementation Manager, now Assistant MSA Program Director.

- Since 2009, Brian has also been our Gala Creative Director. Calling upon his experience as a theatre director, he is charged with writing and directing the programmatic flow and onstage talent, giving sound coaching to kids and adults alike who take to the stage at the gala.

What compels Brian to continue his work with Tenacity?

I want to improve upon our Pathway Programs by adding deeper and richer learning experiences. And, to have a tangible affect on our kids, it is our work over a long period of time that will have the most impact.

Brian’s curriculum goal with BPS?

Having all of our students experience a genuine learning moment when they uncover a desire to apply what they are learning to real life. Helping them unlock the opportunities that learning provides will keep them in school and motivated to pursue higher education. It is exciting for them and rewarding to watch unfold.

His Goal for the coming school year?

Working closely with Luke Comman, Assistant MSA Director, to determine our best practices to unify our identity across all schools; taking what we do best and applying it uniformly to all sites.

Theme for Gala 2014?

We are already working on it.

TENACITY'S N'Day Fames and Bud Schultz along with other top players recently played in an exhibition match with legend Stan Smith at the Longwood Covered Courts. It was followed by a social event at Longwood Cricket Club that included a panel discussion with Stan Smith, moderated by Bud Schultz.

Congratulations to Team J-Mann!

MSA Tennis League winner was the Jackson-Mann K-8 School, beating finalist Mario Umara K-8 Academy.

ON A SUNNY day in early April, Scott Stanier, Tenacity’s Vice President of Tennis/Fitness and Summer Programs, and six Tenacity staff members partnered with the Boston Community Leadership Academics (BCLA) multi-discipline class for an afternoon, working with students who have special needs. For most of the students, it was the first time they were exposed to the game of tennis. An avid tennis player himself, Brett Diokno, Headmaster at BCLA, was eager to join the clinic. The result: a gymnasium full of laughing, smiling students learning a new game.

FITNESS, A NEW initiative introduced last fall in MSA, brought some impressive results to its first year with our kids at the Jackson-Mann K-8 School.

- Students’ physical fitness abilities were assessed last fall, providing us with our baseline data, again, in the winter, and a third time in the spring.

- Ninety percent of those tested at the Jackson Mann performed better this spring in every fitness activity while 10% either improved or stayed the same in all activities. Impressively, there were no declines in fitness abilities since our initiative began.

- "This is incredible data," shared Lauren Mackay, Fitness/Tennis Director for MSA. "In fact it was so remarkable that we decided to test our students against a national standard."

- Using the Presidential Fitness Challenge Shuttle Run, designed to test speed and agility, Tenacity compared our students’ scores to the national benchmark for their age group.

- "Tenacity kids at J-Mann were leaps and bounds faster than the national benchmark - by two seconds, in many cases," she continued. "This puts our kids in the 90th and 100th percentile across all 50 states!"

- Based on childhood obesity rates and government initiatives, the data shows that our kids are benefiting from Tenacity’s new initiative. "The results confirm they are incredibly fit and fast," she concluded.

- Great effort kids. Stay fit!
A Magical Evening Showcasing our Bewitching Success with Urban Youth

TENACITY’S 2013 SPRING GALA lit up the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel on Saturday, June 1. An enthusiastic crowd of over 800 guests enjoyed an evening filled with fun, friends, and fine dining—while enjoying on-stage performances and awards that conveyed how Tenacity, in partnership with the Boston Public Schools, is engaging students for the long haul with academics, tennis/fitness, and community involvement.

Guests began their evening with magic tricks, fortune telling and participating in (or observing) a state-of-the-art silent auction where all the bidding was done electronically with Ipads and smartphones. Tenacity marathoner and entrepreneur Ryal Tayloe, along with his crew at 501 Auctions, were integral to the success of the auction. “It was so entertaining getting text messages with updates and watching live jumbotron graphics showing the high bidder,” shared Rita Stanier, volunteer silent auction chair.

The evening’s stage program began with WCVB-TV personality Karen Holmes Ward who emceed the evening bringing her brand of magic to the podium. A captivating video about Tenacity, produced by Bridge Street Productions, aired on the jumbotrons, followed by a delightful sketch about a day-in-the-life of a Tenacity student, written by Brian Tuttle, and performed by five of our Academy kids.

Two key staff, Stephanie Oden and Jose Vaughn, followed up with an

(Gala Continued on page 4)