



Achievable Dream  
ACADEMIES

# Achievements

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 3

Fall 2014

[www.AchievableDream.org](http://www.AchievableDream.org)

AN ACHIEVABLE DREAM

## 22nd Annual Tennis Ball

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2014

5:30 P.M.

HAMPTON ROADS CONVENTION CENTER

BLACK TIE OPTIONAL



Tickets are now on sale for the 22nd Annual An Achievable Dream Tennis Ball. Experience one of the best charity events in Southeast Virginia, and support the students of An Achievable Dream. Create special memories with family, friends and colleagues, bid on unique

2014 Honorary Chair:



auction items, enjoy a delicious gourmet dinner and meet the Class of 2015 and its class sponsor during an inspiring program.

Proceeds from the Tennis Ball support the SAME® (social, academic and moral education) curriculum, offering children in kindergarten through twelfth grade a quality value-based education, enrichment activities in and outside the classroom and assistance with continuing education.

*John R. Lawson, II, President and CEO,  
W.M. Jordan Company, Inc.*

*Continued on page 2*

## Seatack Elementary, An Achievable Dream Academy Welcomes Students in Virginia Beach



*Students are greeted each morning with a handshake.*

VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Seatack Elementary, An Achievable Dream Academy in Virginia Beach welcomed students on Monday, July 21 for Summer Intersession. Students were met by teachers and administrators for the daily handshake before proceeding to their new classrooms. During the two-week orientation program, students in kindergarten through second grade learned about the Morning Program, started social rotation classes and began math and reading review. Mary Daniels, who has served as Seatack Elementary School's principal for the past five years, said that she felt a difference in the school. "There's a feeling of excitement and energy in the air. It's a warm feeling. The kids have really found a sense of purpose and a sense of belonging," Daniels said.

*Continued on page 4*

Ticket prices are \$200 per individual or \$350 per couple. Visit [www.AchievableDream.org](http://www.AchievableDream.org) to preview auction items, for information on Corporate Sponsorships, and to purchase tickets. Tickets may also be purchased by calling 757-599-9472. 📞



Presenting Sponsor



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Dinner Sponsor



Program Sponsor



Black Tie Sponsor

A special thank you to Taylored Printing for sponsoring the 2014 Tennis Ball invitation, and to Mellen Street Graphics, Inc. and Multi-Print, Inc., for sponsoring the event program.



in association with the Rotary Club of the Virginia Peninsula

## CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Share a fun night out with your clients, employees, friends or family by sponsoring a table at the Tennis Ball. A variety of sponsorship packages are available and all include chances to win a 2014 MINI Cooper S Paceman, donated by Checkered Flag. For more information and to reserve a table, call Betsy Edwards at (757) 599-9472 or visit [www.AchievableDream.org](http://www.AchievableDream.org) to download a sponsorship form.

### DIAMOND SPONSOR: \$3,500

Reserved table for 10 people with preferred seating; round-trip limousine transportation; 10 raffle tickets; free delivery of purchased auction items; full-page ad in the Tennis Ball program booklet; listing on event screens, the event program booklet, winter edition of *Achievements* and AAD website.

### PLATINUM SPONSOR: \$2,500

Reserved table for 10 people with preferred seating; five raffle tickets; full-page ad in the Tennis Ball program

booklet; listing on event screens, the event program booklet, winter edition of *Achievements* and AAD website.

### GOLD SPONSOR: \$1,500

Tennis Ball tickets for six people; three raffle tickets; half-page ad in the Tennis Ball program booklet; listing on event screens, the event program booklet, winter edition of *Achievements* and AAD website.

### SILVER SPONSOR: \$1,000

Tennis Ball tickets for four people; two raffle tickets; quarter-page ad in the Tennis Ball program booklet; listing on event screens, the event program booklet, winter edition of *Achievements* and AAD website.

### BRONZE SPONSOR: \$500

Tennis Ball tickets for two people; one raffle ticket; eighth-page ad in the Tennis Ball program booklet; listing on event screens, the event program booklet, winter edition of *Achievements* and AAD website.



Your ticket to the Tennis Ball includes a chance to win a 2014 MINI Cooper S Paceman donated by Checkered Flag. Only 800 raffle tickets will be sold! Additional raffle tickets may be purchased in advance for \$100 each at [www.AchievableDream.org](http://www.AchievableDream.org) and will also be available during the Tennis Ball. **You must be present to win.**




### BidPal

Have fun bidding on items using the newest technology. You'll receive your own handheld device—similar to an iPhone—at registration. BidPal will allow you to bid from anywhere at any time during the silent auction, receive outbid alerts and automatically re-bid, watch favorite items and view items with no bids. At the end of the auction, you'll know exactly what you have won. BidPal experts will be available should you need assistance. **Please note that we will not be using personal cell phones this year for mobile bidding.**



Academy students during a photo shoot for the Tennis Ball invitation.



# Auction Item Categories

Visit [www.AchievableDream.org](http://www.AchievableDream.org) to preview auction items.  
Check back often; new items are added weekly.



**DREAM GETAWAYS**



**HOME & GARDEN**



**UNIQUE ITEMS**



**NEW THIS YEAR:  
HOLIDAY  
SECTION**

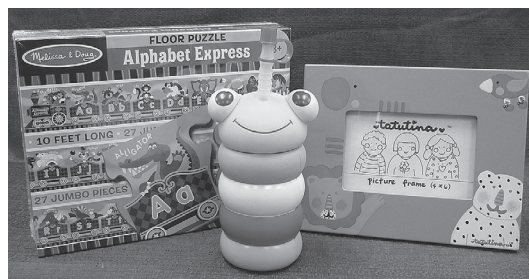
Prepare for the holidays with a new silent auction section featuring a variety of items for gifts and home decorating. Choose from ornaments to an authentic carousel that plays festive tunes.



**FURNITURE**



**SPORTS**



**CHILDREN'S ITEMS**



**WINE SHOP**



**NEW CARS**



**DINING**



**TELEVISIONS**



**FINE  
THINGS**



**PAMPER YOURSELF**



## Jazz Band Performs at Telluride International Jazz Festival

Seven members of the An Achievable Dream Middle and High School Jazz Band traveled to Colorado in August to perform at the Telluride Jazz Festival as part of the Young Razzcals Jazz Project. The students first traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where they performed at El Pinto, the city's largest New Mexican restaurant, recorded a CD and were featured on the *Morning Brew* television show. Upon arrival, Lesman's Music Store loaned the group instruments and the other equipment needed for their week-long tour.

In Colorado, the Young Razzcals performed at several venues during the Telluride International Jazz Festival, including the main stage before a concert by Poncho Sanchez, the festival's guest of honor. Another highlight was a performance before the premier showing of the new movie *The Girls in the Band*. Upon completion of their set, the band

received a standing ovation. Jazz trumpeter, Bob Montgomery, a member of the Quincy Jones Band, called the students "incredible."

Between performances, the musicians attended concerts, hiked and enjoyed gondola rides, shopping and the hotel pool. They were also invited to sit in with various bands at jam sessions, which was a learning experience for all. "They're learning to improvise on a high level and think in terms of phrases as opposed to notes," said Dave Adams, director of An Achievable Dream's music program. "Many of the students are new musicians, but the audiences in Colorado thought they'd been playing together for years." 🎷

SEATAACK, continued from page 1

The students officially became *Dreamers* during Induction Ceremonies on July 30, where they recited the An Achievable Dream Banners and the school pledge. Each student received a special medal with the phrase "Believe in Yourself" engraved on the back. An Achievable Dream is grateful to the many community, government and school district leaders, sponsors and board members who attended the ceremony and who have expressed their enthusiastic support.

To prepare for the new school year, teachers, administrators and staff of Seatack Elementary, An Achievable Dream Academy participated in professional development and training sessions in mid-July. Consultants from the Urban Learning and Leadership Center, Inc. provided instruction on An Achievable Dream's SAME® (social, academic and moral education) curriculum and how to lead "with a mission and vision." Teachers participated in the handshake and Morning Program, recited the An Achievable Dream Banners and motto, and experienced social rotation classes such as etiquette and conflict resolution. The week ended with a spirited game of An Achievable Dream Trivia Hopscotch.



Teachers participated in the Morning Program.

Teachers were asked their impressions of An Achievable Dream and what excited them for the new school year. A few sample responses:

- I've gained a renewed sense of purpose and motivation.
- We've been given the tools to make the difference we have wanted to make for years. I'm looking forward to making positive changes in the lives of our students.
- Social rotation classes—I now understand how influential the classes will be to ingrain values in the students, and that these values will always stay with them.
- I was amazed at the positive energy of the morning assembly. It is one thing to watch it on video, but amazing to experience it in person.
- It occurred to me that this is a tremendous opportunity for Seatack to reinvent itself and that the students and community are in for something extraordinary!
- All of our children will be proud to know they count and they have ways to reach their dreams, and that they may make changes at home positively. 🎷



# Dreamers Participate in Summer Internships

An Achievable Dream is committed to providing each student with the education and skills they need to become productive, successful members of society. As part of the "What it Takes" curriculum, administrators at An Achievable Dream Middle and High School in Newport News strive to find and create internships and real world opportunities for high school and college students.

Sharmane Tonkins (Class of 2011, current student at Virginia State University) and Jeshon Copeland (Class of 2012, current student at Old Dominion University) recently completed a 12-week internship with the security department of **Huntington Ingalls Newport News Shipbuilding**. An Achievable Dream board members and Shipyard employees William Bell, vice president, human resources and administration, and Derek Jenkins, director of security, helped facilitate the experience, which gave the students a well-rounded look at the various departments of the organization. "We shared with them our attributes for success: work hard, execute and make friends," said Jenkins. "I can see An Achievable Dream, as well as its families, in the students' spirit and work ethic. I can see it in the way they communicate and in their handshake."

Tonkins and Copeland, both majoring in criminal justice, worked 40 hours a week, rotating through all sections of the Security Department. They were paid a small stipend and were absorbed into the organization, given their own responsibilities, and experienced a variety of environments, expectations and workloads. The cross-training approach provided opportunities to gain diverse experience, emphasized the importance of customer service and introduced career paths at the Shipyard.

"My internship with Newport News Shipbuilding has been amazing," said Tonkins. "It has meant so much more than a few earned credit hours. I am extremely thankful for this opportunity and all the many things that have come with it."



Left to right, Donald Terry, Security Manager; Intern Jeshon Copeland; Natalie Joyner, Access Control and Credentialing Manager; Intern Sharmane Tonkins; Derek Jenkins, Director of Security



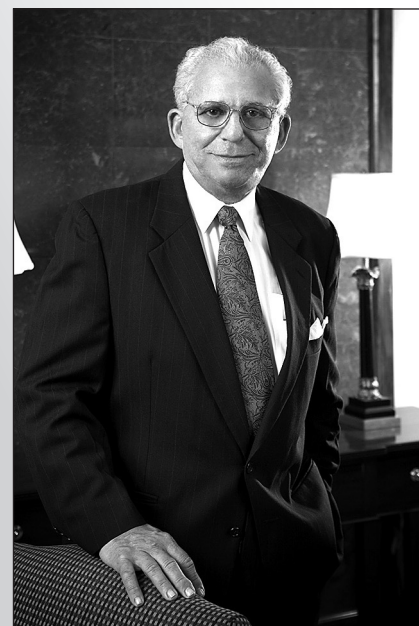
Recent AAD graduate Thomas Wright (right), shown here with Courtney Johnson, Consumer Market Manager, participated in the Bank of America Student Leaders® Program.

**Riverside Health System** and **Bank of America**, "What It Takes" partners, also provided internships for AAD students. Current high school seniors, Kiera Smith, Emoni Joyner and Jada Wooten spent several weeks at Riverside Regional Medical Center job shadowing and gaining valuable experience for future studies in the medical field. Thomas Wright (Class of 2014, current student at Old Dominion University) participated in the Bank of America Student Leaders® Program. The program "connects young people to opportunities that give them exposure to the workforce, financial education and leadership skills."

For information on how your company may provide internship opportunities, contact Pervis Blake, director of operations and students services, at [pervis.blake@nn.k12.va.us](mailto:pervis.blake@nn.k12.va.us) or (757) 283-7820. 📞

## Tribute Planned for Founder Walter Segaloff

Walter Segaloff, founder of An Achievable Dream, was an extraordinary man and a remarkable dreamer. His vision to give all children hope and the education they need to achieve their dreams lives on in the *Dreamers* he inspired. As a tribute to Walter's vision, leadership and passion, plans are underway for the "Founder's Hope Wall," which will be installed inside the entrance to An Achievable Dream Middle and High School in Newport News. Reflecting Walter's spirit and his passion for An Achievable Dream, the colorful, yet sophisticated, design will complement the corporate feel of the school's lobby and will provide daily inspiration for *Dreamers*, teachers, and partners through personal quotes and memories. Please consider supporting this effort by making a special one-time gift of \$2,500 to An Achievable Dream. For more information, please contact Kimberly Hansin at 757-599-9472 or [khansin@achievabledream.org](mailto:khansin@achievabledream.org). 📞



*To our Boards of Directors, thank you for your time, your support, your commitment and for "Sharing the Dream."*

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## **Full Circle**

*By Christopher L. Jeter, Class of 2010, The Hardee Scholars*



Hello. I am Christopher Jeter, a 2010 graduate of An Achievable Dream, and the new head tennis coach at AAD Academy in Newport News. It brings me great joy, and I am humbled, to be given the opportunity to write a column in this newsletter. I must admit, for a short time I was hesitant about taking on the responsibility; however, it feels only right to give back to the organization that has given so much to me. It feels right to help paint the picture of An Achievable Dream on a much bigger canvas than my own. The title of my column "Full Circle," represents my journey. I started the program as a third grader, completed middle school and high school, received a BS degree in sports management, with a concentration in marketing, from Winston-Salem State University, and am now returning to An Achievable Dream.

I recently began my position as a full-time tennis instructor. It is a role that I am excited to take on, since An Achievable Dream is where I began playing tennis. I am most eager to help inspire students to develop a passion for the game. With my experience as a student of An Achievable Dream, and my knowledge of the program, I feel that I bring a great understanding of what it means to be a *Dreamer*. My collegiate athletic experience, and my experience playing and volunteering with An Achievable Dream's tennis program in the past, has given me a great background to build a program full of strong tennis players.

I remember attending elementary and middle school at An Achievable Dream Academy on 16th Street in Newport News. When I walk through the halls, I immediately flash back to the time I spent there as a child. Working in the building has made this experience feel like a homecoming. I remember taking etiquette classes, going to the bookstore to purchase supplies and even the banners in the gym. My favorite banner is "I must learn to earn," because in life we must understand that we are not entitled to anything. As an elementary and middle school student, I didn't understand the depth of the message, but it is a slogan I now live by.

I am indebted to An Achievable Dream, as the program helped me become the person I am today. I want to help the next generation of *Dreamers* become successful citizens. As an alumnus, it is my duty to help them learn the character traits they need to become successful in life, including perseverance, honesty, respect and trustworthiness. I hope to show students that it is possible to achieve their dreams, no matter their circumstances. With this column, I hope to show how An Achievable Dream is helping transform the lives of students every day. 🌟

### **Did you know?**

#### **Fun Fact about An Achievable Dream**

During the 2013-2014 school year, *Dreamers* participated in 94 field trips, including college visits, a Redskin football game and career expos. This would not have been possible without the generous support of An Achievable Dream sponsors. Thank you.

### **Words to Live By**

"You have all the reason in the world to achieve your grandest dreams. Imagination plus innovation equals realization."

—**Denis Waitley**

*From the Innovation classroom  
at An Achievable Dream Middle  
and High School,  
sponsored by **Smithfield Foods***



# An Achievable Dream Happenings



*The En Pointe Dancers perform "Wade in the Water."*

An Achievable Dream Academy's **En Pointe Dancers** were named National Champions in Myrtle Beach, SC, during a competition in July. The troupe competed against 36 elementary-age dance groups from around the country. Their performance of "Wade in the Water" earned a High Platinum score and 1st Place finish and 1st Place Overall in their division. The piece also received a Legendary Performance Award from the judges.



*Sculptor Ed Hamilton with art students.*

Renowned sculptor **Ed Hamilton** visited with students at AAD Middle and High School in May prior to the dedication of his latest work, *The Unfinished March*, the centerpiece of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza, located at 25th Street and Jefferson Avenue in Newport News. Hamilton heard about An Achievable Dream and wanted to share his story with the students, encouraging them to pursue their dreams no matter how large. Hamilton, based in Louisville, Kentucky, is known for creating public sculptures that commemorate the people and events that figure prominently in African-American history.

## Why do you support An Achievable Dream?

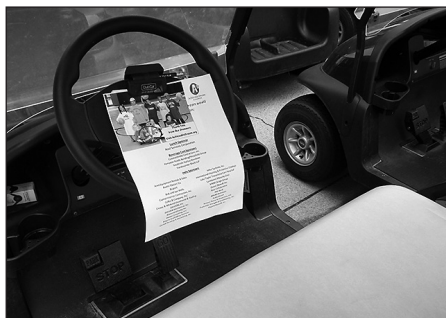
"An Achievable Dream gives children the opportunity to dream about their future. It's about excelling rather than failing, and about being somebody with confidence, ethics and goals. We have the chance to do the right thing, to support children who deserve more."

—**Rob Braig, Vice President, Wolseley**



*Dreamers with Park President Carl Lum following their ride on the Colossal Curl. Photo courtesy of Busch Gardens/Water Country USA*

In May, fifth grade students from An Achievable Dream Academy in Newport News were invited to participate in the ribbon cutting and inaugural ride of the Colossal Curl at **Water Country USA**. Thank you to **Park President Carl Lum**, An Achievable Dream board member, for including our students in this event and providing them with memories for a lifetime.



*Participants enjoyed learning more about An Achievable Dream at Noah Enterprises, Inc. golf tournament.*

A golf tournament to build awareness and raise funds for An Achievable Dream was held in July at Heron Ridge Golf Club in Virginia Beach. **Carol Curtis, president of Noah Enterprises, Inc.**, and An Achievable Dream board member hosted the event, which attracted more than 120 golfers.



*Dreamers participated in the Really Awesome People Swimming (RAPS) swim lesson program. Photo courtesy of RAPS.*

**Thanks to the generous support** of our donors and partners, An Achievable Dream students were on the

move this summer, attending camps and experiencing life-changing enrichment opportunities, including: RAPS (Really Awesome People Swimming) swim lesson program; Piric Tennis Camp, taught by the tennis coaches at Old Dominion University; ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp at the University of Virginia; OcEaNa Camp at Virginia Tech's College of Engineering Hampton Roads; COW (College Orientation Workshop) at Virginia Military Institute, a 4-week challenging educational enrichment program; and the Brenda Schultz Tennis, Adventure and Wilderness Camp in Ferrum, VA. 🌟

# Achievements

## An Achievable Dream, Inc.

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## 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL AN ACHIEVABLE DREAM TENNIS BALL

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