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In 1971, Winchester ABC welcomed its first scholars. Happy 30th Anniversary Winchester ABC!

~ A Word From the President, Michael Sharon ~
(Continued on back)

Many thanks to those who attended our October fundraising event. The event is a crucial part of our annual fundraising effort and, once again, Winchester came through splendidly for ABC. We thank you for your support. The ABC Board also especially thanks the event co-chairs, Margaret Mack and Francesca Collina. We were also pleased to welcome to the event Dorian Wilson of Bridgewater, New Jersey (WHS ’73), Bob Gates of Phoenix, Maryland (WHS ’73) and Allan Malave of Haymarket, Virginia (WHS ’74). Dorian, Bob and Allan were part of Winchester ABC’s inaugural class, and their achievements and continued interest and involvement in the program mean a great deal to us. We look forward to seeing you at next year’s event!
Meet the Scholars…

**Senior Tristan Hardy** grew up in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, New York, and came to ABC already interested in Engineering. This past summer he attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for two weeks as part of a highly selective program that seeks talented high school sophomores and juniors who have expressed an early interest in pursuing a career in the engineering and technological professions. He also spent most of his summer working in Medford at a place called Outside the Lines where his job entailed assisting adults who have mental disabilities to get through their daily routines. He is serving as Co-House Leader, together with fellow senior Cameron Horsey, he co-manages the school store and will be competing as part of the renowned Winchester High School Wrestling squad in the Winter.

**Senior Cameron Horsey** has come into this year with leadership on his mind. As an acting co-captain of the Winchester High Wrestling team, as well as Co-House Leader of the Winchester ABC house, he plans to exercise his voice with his brothers, teammates and community. Cameron is from Atlanta, Georgia, and is the eldest in his family, big brother to six younger siblings. The summer after sophomore years he was invited to be a part of the nationally known Young Writers Workshop at the University of Virginia and this past summer he was welcomed to a special summer Humanities program at Emory University. He hopes to finish his four years at Winchester High on the best note possible and is looking forward to his matriculation at a liberal arts school in the fall of 2012.

**Senior Ahmad Greene-Hayes** hails from Newark, New Jersey. As an active participant in school clubs and organizations, Ahmad is a Senior Class Officer, the Captain of the Boys Swim Team, and Co-manager of the School Store. In addition, Ahmad is the Editor-in-chief of the Winchester ABC Newsletter which goes out to over 1700 Winchester families. For college he is considering Morehouse, Haverford, the University of Virginia, Harvard, Davidson and Howard. Though he is not yet sure about what career path he may choose, he does take interest in the Humanities, Theology and Public Speaking. At home, in New Jersey, Ahmad is the only child, and lives with his mom and step-father.

**Junior Rayvoughn Millings** hails from Brooklyn, but also visits his father’s native Jamaica annually. He came to Winchester ABC from a fine preparatory middle school called KIPP AMP Academy where he learned the value of good study habits. Over the last two summers he attended wrestling camp in Ohio and did a camp at M.I.T called ID Tech. This year he hopes to wrestle again, continue pursuing his interest in Computer Science and Graphic and Web Design, and also work for ABC Board Member Walter Hubbard at his firm PC Quickhelp. He has a year to narrow down his search for colleges but at present he is drawn to several schools in Pennsylvania, including Penn State and Carnegie Mellon.
Sophomore Hazees Abdul hails from Brooklyn, New York but has recently moved to Raleigh, North Carolina. In eighth grade Hazees won awards at his graduation for making it into the ABC program and having a straight A-average. His favorite subjects are Math and all the Sciences. Studying these he hopes will help him establish a career in the medical field. His two dream colleges are Harvard University and Ohio State (He wants to study science at Harvard, but wants to play basketball at Ohio State!).

Freshman Tobi Omola of Brooklyn NY, lives with his mother, his sister, his cousin and a cat. He loves trying new things and hopes to wrestle come winter. While he is very interested in photography and will be assisting Ahmad with the newsletter this year, his main love is music. Tobi has been playing the trumpet since he was seven and knows his way around the Caribbean instrument known as the steel pan as well. Tobi was admitted to the prestigious Fiorella H. La Guardia High School of Music and Art – the famous “Fame” school - but chose us instead. While here he hopes to begin studying at the Winchester Music School and participate in Band and Jazz band, because, as he puts it, “Music is my best friend.” He says it probably should also be said that he collects sneakers and he loves to run.

Freshman Enderson Naar, from Bridgeport, Connecticut has been enjoying his time in Winchester socially and also learning more than he had been before coming here. He has joined the Cross Country team and plans to wrestle in the winter and play baseball in the spring. The natural world - 'Nature' – means a great deal to him. He has many different views of Nature and believes that Her true essence can't be defined. Much as he loves the world as it was created, his goal in life is to become a lawyer so he can make changes in it. He feels that people of color don’t have a fair chance at education and hopes to rectify that and help all to have a fair chance in life generally. Lastly, he would like to thank all the supporters of ABC Winchester and for helping Martin Luther King Jr.’s dream come true when he quoted from the Book of Isaiah in saying, “I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, and every hill and mountain shall be made low. The rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight…and all flesh shall see it together."

Freshman Machias Turner hails from Meriden, Connecticut and has recently graduated from the Wintergreen Inter-District Magnet School. Machias will be playing football for WHS and plans to do so for the rest of his high school career. Although it is only his freshman year, he is already thinking of a number of colleges in the Northeast. Machias’ first language is English but he says he is also ‘somewhat’ fluent in Spanish and will be taking his first year of Mandarin at the high school. Machias has two younger siblings who live in Connecticut with his mother and father and little sister Sierra four, who recently stood in for Mrs. Branley at the Winchester High in making an adorable and highly informative announcement over the school’s Public Address system. Machias is determined to distinguish himself when he graduates with the rest of his class in June of 2015.
In the Spirit of Family...Let’s Welcome our New Host Families!

Dan and Aimee Burke are new host parents to Machias Turner, freshman. The Burkes have 3 girls, Jane who is nine years old, Sally who is seven, and Edie who is four. Aimee grew up in Winchester and had many ABC scholars as friends in her high school years. She told us that she’s known for a long time that she and Dan would become an ABC host family, and when they recently moved into a new Winchester home with a guest room, they knew the time was right. The Burkes and Machias have already visited the Aquarium, tried canoeing, and hosted/attended many Sunday night dinners with other Winchester families. This coming winter, Aimee and Dan plan to introduce Machias to skiing in Vermont.

Suzanne Morris, host parent to Enderson Naar, has been intimately involved with Winchester ABC, most recently serving as Secretary and Administrator to the program. Suzanne told us that she loves her interactions with the scholars, understanding their backgrounds and getting to know their individual personalities. She her husband, Paul and their three sons (Michael, a freshman, Stephen, a 7th grader and Christian, in 5th grade), jumped at the chance to become a host family. The Morris’ feel this is a family commitment and although they don’t know everything yet about this part of ABC, they look forward to it being a great experience. Enderson has already become one of the family. The Morris’ are also helping Enderson’s younger sister, Stephanie (13 years old), to apply to Andover’s ABC program for girls.

Maria and Kevin O’Connor feel very fortunate to be a host family. Maria tells us that her children, Liam (11), Owen (9), Caleb (8) and Elle (7), view their host son, Tobi Omola, as a rock star and Maria hopes her boisterous, busy household won’t overwhelm Tobi who has just one older sister at home. The O’Connors are a skiing family and they’ve already taken Tobi on a trip up the Cannon Mountain tram to see the fall foliage and the trials he will soon be skiing. Maria told us that she’s had conversations with Tobi’s mother, Peggy, and is happy to know that they are on the same “wavelength” in their style of parenting and the importance of academics.
Calling all Winchester ABC Alumni!

Winchester ABC was organized by four Winchester families and accepted its first scholars in 1971. Two of its first graduates, attended our recent fall fundraiser, “80s’ Rock Party.” Dr. Dorian Wilson and Bob Gates, class of 1973 and Alan Malave, class of 1974 returned for an evening of dancing and reminiscing with WHS classmates and ABC board members.

Susanne Inglis, Winchester resident and ABC board member, has accepted the challenge of updating our with ABC Alumni database. She wants to get in touch with as many of our Winchester ABC scholars as possible. Please give Susanne your most recent contact information and let us know about any of your fellow scholars with whom you may be in touch.

You can reach Susanne via email at: susanne.inglis@verizon.net or you may get in touch with her via our website, www.winchesterabc.org.

Scholars at the ‘80s themed ABC Fall Event
Chandra Davis, house chef extraordinaire

by Ahmad Greene-Hayes

Born in Chelsea, Massachusetts, at the Naval Hospital, Chandra Davis came of age in Brockton, Massachusetts where she graduated from Brockton High School. From there she went to Tuskegee, a historically black university in Tuskegee, Alabama, where she participated in the New England Club. After College, Chandra pledged Delta Sigma Theta and is still an active participant. In fact, she volunteers for a food pantry as part of her commitment to the sorority, she is the chair for a committee for a mentoring program, chaplain for her chapter, and primary advisor for one of the collegiate chapters of DST.

For many years, Chandra worked in the financial industry, but after the economic downturn in 2009, she saw the opportunity to retrain as a chef and embrace her true passion. She graduated with honors from Le Cordon Bleu’s eighteen-month program.

This new expertise brought her to the ABC house, where her creative abilities have revolutionized eating, or, as Jamoul says, “Put it this way, there are never any leftovers.”

“75% through 80% of your eating is through your eyes,” says Chandra, as she strives to create aesthetically pleasing foods, healthy of course, with a twist of originality. Chandra has a business called “Sweet D’Lite” whose motto is “Let us Sweet’n your day!” Her specialties are cakes, cupcakes, cookies, pies, and quick breads. She can be contacted at (617) 304-6275 or via email at sweet_d.lite@yahoo.com, for small catering events.

Even though she enjoys cooking at the ABC house, Chandra has plans of going back to school to be certified in the nutrition field. Once certified, she wants to focus on the Black and Latino communities, where she believes there is a lack of education about healthy eating. “I want to change the perception of healthy food,” says Chandra, as she wants to give back to her community and shed light on the ease of cooking in a healthy fashion. Moreover, Chandra’s cooking at the house has ignited a new desire for her to start working as a private chef for families.

Working at the house has been a pleasure for Chandra, where she prizes “making new ‘food’ experiences at the house,” meaning she makes dishes that no one would have thought of having and she has changed the way the scholars view healthy eating.
We kicked off the annual family weekend with the September 22nd Open House at the high school. The scholars’ parents met with teachers, toured the high school, and the next morning sat down with Nancy Smith, guidance counselor for the ABC scholars, then met with Principal Gwin and went off to lunch at the Black Horse Tavern.

On Friday Night, the 23rd, the ABC community enjoyed a dinner and conversation at the First Congregational Church, where the scholars introduced themselves and Jamoul (and Jaali) Celey, Resident Director, gave a synopsis of life in the ABC house. On Saturday, there was a continental breakfast at the house, and our College Applications Committee presented a session on the ins and outs of getting into college, covering topics including entrance exams, applications, essays and financial assistance. In addition, parents and scholars had meetings with the resident staff regarding academic standards, and parents were given the chance to ask questions and discuss any concerns they had. This year’s weekend was truly a success! Thanks to all who helped make it happen!
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Our scholars have settled in at the ABC house for what will be a rewarding year. We are pleased to welcome back our Resident Directors, Jamoul and Alisa Celey (and their son Jaali, plus one any day now). We are also pleased to welcome back our Resident Academic Coordinator, Isaac Matthews. And we especially welcome the new house cook, Chandra Davis.

Our seniors, Ahmad Greene, Tristan Hardy and Cameron Horsey, are knee-deep in the college application process. Back for another year are junior Rayvoughn Millings and sophomore Hazees Abdul. And we welcome our three freshmen: Enderson Naar, Tobi Omola and Machias Turner.

ABC is always interested in new volunteers. Please drop us a note through our website if you would like to become involved in the program. I am sure you will find it very rewarding.

You should soon be receiving the ABC annual appeal letter. We hope you will see the value in contributing to Winchester ABC.

Kind regards,

Michael Sharon
Winchester ABC President

For more information about the program or to make a donation, please visit www.winchesterabc.org

Upcoming Event:
ABC Bottle Drive
Saturday, May 5, 2012