



Adopt-A-School Newsletter

Sponsored by: The Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa City & County School Systems

Chamber Website | Adopters | Sustainers

June 16, 2008

Inside this issue

- [Adopt-A-School Kickoff Breakfast Scheduled for July 31st](#)
- [Pat Williams to Speak at Adopt-A-School Breakfast](#)
- [Adopt-A-School Needs YOU!](#)
- [Adoption Ceremony for Hilton Garden Inn and Skyland Elementary](#)
- [Tuscaloosa Chapter of Credit Unions Helps Lloyd Wood Middle School Celebrate End of the Year](#)
- [Rock Quarry Students Pan for Gold](#)
- [Buhl Students Receive the Stretch Award](#)
- [Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa and Holt High School Plan 5K Run/Walk](#)
- [Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa Adopt-A-School Golf & Tennis Tournaments](#)
- [Sponsorships Available for Golf and Tennis Tournaments](#)
- [Save The Dates...](#)
- [PLEASE REMEMBER...](#)

End of the Year Reports

July 31, 2008

**Adopt-A-School
Breakfast & Workshop**
University Church of
Christ
7:30 a.m.

Featuring **Pat Williams**
*Sr. Vice President of the
Orlando Magic*

Register Here

Corporate Sponsor



2007-08 Board Level Sustainers



Adopt-A-School Kickoff Breakfast Scheduled for July 31st

Mark your calendars and send us your registration form! You don't want to miss this breakfast! We will welcome **seven** new schools and their Adopt-A-School partners and we have an outstanding speaker scheduled for this annual event.

Mr. Pat Williams, Senior Vice-President of the NBA's Orlando Magic will be the keynote speaker. Mr. Williams has visited the Tuscaloosa area before and all who heard him speak are looking forward to his return. See the following article about Mr. Williams written by John Merrill or visit www.patwilliamsmotivate.com for additional information.

Celebrating twenty-three years of supporting area schools, the annual Adopt-A-School Breakfast Seminar scheduled for Thursday, July 31st will officially kickoff the 2008-09 Adopt-A-School Year. The breakfast, held at University Church of Christ, will begin at 7:30AM. Attending the seminar will be representatives from all 54 public schools in the Tuscaloosa City and County Systems, as well as, business leaders representing the business and professional organizations who have chosen to adopt area schools.

For additional information contact Adopt-A-School Director, Loo Whitfield, 391-0563 or loo@tuscaloosachamber.com. Click here for [registration form](#).

[Top](#)

Pat Williams to Speak at Adopt-A-School Breakfast

The following article was written by John Merrill, Director of Community Relations and Community Education for the Tuscaloosa County School System. John is a personal friend of Pat Williams and hopefully, this article will offer insight to what we can expect from this outstanding speaker.



Pat Williams is a true renaissance man. Pat is one of the most accomplished men I have ever met. Along with raising 19 children with his wife Ruth, he is a former professional athlete, a veteran, co-founder of the Orlando Magic, a mountain climber, a marathon runner, and most importantly, a believer.

Few of his life's accomplishments even hold a candle to his writing and speaking ability. Pat has thousands of entertaining and influential stories he has gathered from his leadership experiences in sports, parenting, and life. Pat uses humor, illustrations, and powerful stories to relay these insightful messages in his speeches and in the more than 50 books he has authored.



In Pat's past trips to Tuscaloosa, he has left a piece of his wisdom and delightful encouragement with everyone who has heard him speak. His insightful and direct technique of communication sets him apart from most motivational speakers. One of the many things that enable Pat to be so successful is his ability to be a good listener. His listening skills allow him to hear things that others may miss.

In the five years I have known Pat, I have found that time spent with him is always an invigorating experience that expands my self-confidence, rekindles my determination to succeed, and intensifies my ambition to alter my life for the better. Members of Pat's audiences and readers of his books often find themselves feeling as if they are the only ones in the room or that he wrote the book just for them.

Pat is often heard saying, "Every time I speak, I want to change the world!" Please plan to join us at the Adopt-A-School Breakfast on July 31, meet this dynamic leader, and hear the message he has prepared just for you.

[Top](#)

Adopt-A-School Needs YOU!

Our public school systems are growing and Adopt-A-School needs your help. Due to the continued growth and reorganization in the Tuscaloosa County and City School Systems, seven new schools will welcome students next fall.

Three new schools are scheduled to open in the Tuscaloosa County School System and adopters are needed for **two** of the schools: Lake View Elementary School and Duncanville Middle School. Students from Brookwood and Vance Elementary Schools living in the Lake View and Tannehill areas will attend the new Lake View Elementary School. Duncanville Middle School will open to relieve some of the over crowding in Hillcrest Middle School.

Four new schools are scheduled to open in the Tuscaloosa City School System and adopters are needed for **two** of the schools. The new South Elementary

Support our Schools



Click Here
To find out
how to become
an
**Adopt-A-School
Sustainer**

School and the new South Middle School will be housed temporarily in the current Tuscaloosa Middle School building until their new facility near the intersection of Cypress Creek Road and New Judge Factory Road is completed.

We need you! Four of the seven new schools scheduled to open in August of 2008 need adopters. If you are not currently serving as an Adopt-A-School partner, why not consider taking an active role as a partner this year? The program is flexible. Each partnership develops its own goals and activities based on the resources of the adopter and the needs of the schools. The possibilities are unlimited!

Call Loo Whitfield today at 391-0563 or email loo@tuscaloosachamber.com for more information. There's no obligation, nothing to lose, and it could be the beginning of a very rewarding experience for you and your business as well as providing much-needed assistance for a public school in Tuscaloosa!

[Top](#)

Adoption Ceremony for Hilton Garden Inn and Skyland Elementary



Earlier this year, Hilton Garden Inn committed to a new partnership with Skyland Elementary School. The partnership "hit the ground running" and a variety of activities were enjoyed by both partners throughout the spring. On Tuesday, May 27th, an official adoption ceremony was held at Skyland. Officials from Hilton Garden were on hand to sign the "Adoption Certificate". Adopt-A-School director, Loo Whitfield explained to the students the purpose of the adoption

certificate and significance of the commitment made by Hilton Garden Inn to Skyland Elementary. The students then promised to "do their best in school, to be respectful, resourceful and responsible, and do their part to as a member of the new partnership."

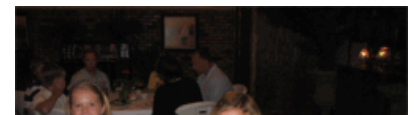
"We are very excited about this partnership and are looking forward to the upcoming school year. We have many exciting adventures planned for the Skyland students," commented Traci Channell, Adopt-A-School coordinator for Hilton Garden Inn.

[Top](#)

Tuscaloosa Chapter of Credit Unions Helps Lloyd Wood Middle School Celebrate End of the Year

Several exciting activities were planned by the Chapter of Credit Unions for their Adopt-A-School partner, Lloyd Wood Middle School to celebrate the close of the school year and to show appreciation and recognition to deserving individuals. To celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week, faculty and staff of LWMS were treated to a delicious BBQ luncheon sponsored by the Chapter. The meal was catered by Robertson's BBQ of Foster's, AL.

Students were honored at the 3rd Annual "All A's" Academic Banquet held at Steamers



Restaurant (pictured). On the evening of May 5th, nineteen students along with their parents were recognized. These students received all A's on each reporting period all year. Steve Williams, former University of Alabama football player and current employee of the Tuscaloosa County School System, spoke to the students about the importance of sustaining long-term academic success in order to accomplish their personal goals. After a wonderful meal, a short bio was read of each student as they were called up to receive a certificate provided by the Chapter of Credit Unions.

The LWMS "Be Your Best" \$500 Scholarship Award funded by the Chapter was presented to Matt Shireman Sockel at the school's Honor's Ceremony on May 8th. Each year, one eighth grade student is selected by the teachers at Lloyd Wood to receive this award. Student selection is based on many different factors, including, but not limited to, academic performance, overall effort, improvement, character, and financial need. The scholarship funds are held by the Chapter until the student graduates and attends college.

[Top](#)

Rock Quarry Students Pan for Gold



On Tuesday, April 29th, several Rock Quarry Elementary School students had the opportunity to spend the day with their Adopt-A-School partner, P.E. LaMoreaux & Associates. The students learned about PELA from the founder and senior hydrogeologist, Mr. Philip E. LaMoreaux. PELA staff members shared information about their particular jobs, demonstrated some of the very specific tools used by hydrogeologists and even taught the students to pan for gold.

The fifth grade students who participated in the day of "Job Shadowing" were chosen based on their classroom performance and how well they had demonstrated the "three R's" – *Respectful, Responsible and Resourceful*. According to Rock Quarry teacher, Ms. Stephanie Suttles, "The students always enjoy visiting PELA, but this year was a special trip because not only were they able to hear from the founder of the company, they were also able to pan for gold and take the gold home with them!" Mr. Jim LaMoreaux, Adopt-A-School coordinator for PELA arranged the job shadow activities and accompanied the students throughout the visit.



[Top](#)

Buhl Students Receive the Stretch Award



RADICISPANDEX, Adopt-A-School Partner for Buhl Elementary, developed a new award for

Buhl students this year. The "Stretch" Award was given to students who put forth an extra effort and really "stretched" to make outstanding academic improvements. Wendy Barrett, human resources director for RADICISPANDEX attended the recent honors day at Buhl Elementary to give the award to the deserving students. "We wanted to develop an award that rewarded students who put forth an extra effort in the classroom and one that reflected our industry," explained Barrett.

The new award is in addition to the "Citizen of the Month" award given by RADICISPANDEX to deserving students each month. Students in each grade level who "are good citizens and set an example for others" receive the "Citizen of the Month" award. Certificates for "Citizen of the Month" are provided by RADICISPANDEX and were presented to the students at the honors day program.

[Top](#)

Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa and Holt High School Plan 5K Run/Walk

Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa and Holt High School plan to start their 2008-2009 partnership activities with the 2nd Annual Nucor Tuscaloosa-Holt Run/Walk. In conjunction with the employee wellness program at Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa the 5K Run/Walk is planned to encourage wellness activities among the Nucor employees, their Adopt-A-School partners at Holt High School and the entire community.



The 5K is open to everyone and the race begins at 7:30AM on Saturday, August 23rd at Holt High School. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three runners and age category winners will also receive prizes. Walkers will predict the length of time needed to complete the 5K and the walkers who most accurately predict their walking time will receive cash prizes. Pre-registration fees are \$10 and registration on the day of the event is \$15. Sponsorships are encouraged for high school participants. All participants will receive a t-shirt. Registration forms are available at The Chamber Office or contact Dr. Amber Norris, 205-562-1167 amber.norris@nucor.com

[Top](#)

Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa Adopt-A-School Golf & Tennis Tournaments

For the eighteenth consecutive year, golfers will rally on Thursday, September 25th in support of the Adopt-A-School Program. The four man scramble tournament will be held at Tuscaloosa Country Club. Both 8:00AM and 1:00 PM shotgun starts will be available and registration fees include green fees, cart and lunch. Will Humber of First National Bank of Central Alabama is chairing the golf tournament.

Additionally, the Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa Adopt-A-School Tennis Tournament is scheduled for September 18th at Indian Hills Country Club. The women's

doubles tournament participants will compete in 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, and 4.0+ divisions. The registration fee, which includes lunch, is \$45 per player and all schools with players representing them are eligible to win cash prizes. Rachel Hollingshead and Ann Shealy are chairing the tournament.

Registration forms for both tournaments are available at <http://www.tuscaloosachamber.com/aas/forms.htm>. For additional information about either tournament, contact Loo Whitfield, loo@tuscaloosachamber.com or 391-0563.

[Top](#)

Sponsorships Available for Golf and Tennis Tournaments

The Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa Adopt-A-School Golf and Tennis Tournaments are the annual fundraising events to benefit the coordination and administration of the Adopt-A-School Program. Proceeds from these tournaments benefit every public school in our community and provide critical funding for the coordination and administration of the Adopt-A-School program for the Tuscaloosa City and Tuscaloosa County School Systems. A variety of sponsorships are available for both tournaments.

Eagle Sponsorships, which include recognition and sponsorships at *both* the Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa Golf and Tennis Tournaments are available. The *Eagle Sponsorship* includes television and radio coverage; golf hole sponsorship; tennis court sponsor sign; the opportunity to man a booth at both tournaments; signage at both tournaments and recognition in all publications. Additionally, a variety of other sponsorships including closest to the pin awards; tournament prizes; scorecard, cart and hole sponsorships, are available for the golf tournament. Businesses desiring to support the tennis tournament have new opportunities to sponsor the tournament this year. Along with the traditional court sponsorships, lunch/scoreboard and player favor sponsorships are also available.

Sponsorship forms are available at www.tuscaloosachamber.com/aas/forms.html. For more information, contact Loo Whitfield, loo@tuscaloosachamber.com or 391-0563.

[Top](#)

Save The Dates...

Adopt-A-School Kickoff Breakfast Seminar

Thursday, July 31, 2008

7:30AM @ University Church of Christ

Featuring Pat Williams

Senior Vice President, Orlando Magic



Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa Adopt-A-School Tennis Tournament

Ladies Doubles

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Indian Hills Country Club



Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa
Adopt-A-School Golf Tournament
Four-Man Scramble
Thursday, September 25, 2008
AM & PM Flights
Tuscaloosa Country Club

[Top](#)

PLEASE REMEMBER...

We Have the Best Community Calendar Around

Please do check out our online calendar at www.tuscaloosachamber.com to see what's going on in the area and remember to utilize the interactive feature to add your own listing.

Hit Your "Forward" Button to Share Adopt-A-School News

Please simply hit your forward button and share this issue with all staff and team members in your school, business and organization. Thanks a lot!

[Top](#)