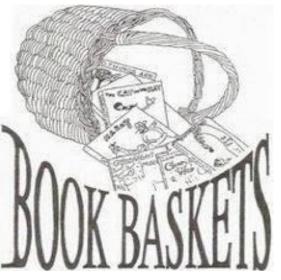


*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

Book Baskets Gives Books for Cumberland Students

Charlottesville, Virginia (10/22/2021) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is pleased to report that <u>Book Baskets</u>, a Charlottesville/Albemarle nonprofit involved in gifting books to kids for more than 26 years, has given 271 books to QCV on behalf of <u>Cumberland Elementary</u> and Middle Schools in Cumberland County for their Fall Festival on October 28, 2021.





Ginny Gills, Principal of Cumberland Elementary, drove up to get the books from Book Baskets

QCV QuickStart Coordinator Lynda Harrill says, "Tennis connected us to Book Baskets. James Henter, son of Ioline Henter, a Book Baskets board member, reached out about volunteering with afterschool tennis programs earlier this fall. COVID has shut down those activities, so I told him about our Racquets for Reading!!! initiative. He then told me about his longtime involvement with Book Baskets. Book Baskets regularly provides books to 30 organizations in the Charlottesville/Albemarle area; their mission is to promote book ownership by giving books to children who have few books of their own. Since QuickStart is headquartered in Charlottesville, Book Baskets was happy to fill this one-time request to provide books for the Cumberland festival. Ioline did an awesome job of selecting and packaging the books for the different age groups to make distribution at the festival much easier. Cumberland Middle School is included in the festival for the first time, so there will be a wide range of kids.

"This year's festival will have a Willy Wonka theme to promote reading. By lucky coincidence, shortly after I connected with Book Baskets, Cumberland Elementary Principal Ginny Gills asked me if I knew of anyone who might have a few books to donate for 'Golden Ticket' giveaways. Each kid who receives a Golden Ticket will get to select a book to keep. Ginny's timing turned out to be perfect as 271 kids in Cumberland County will now benefit from Book Baskets' generosity. Ginny is always so appreciative and is a

great community partner, and Ioline and Book Baskets are rock stars for making this happen! Tennis is a great sport for connecting people and making nice things happen."



Please visit our <u>website</u> to learn more about what QCV is doing to promote physical activity, healthy eating and early childhood literacy for preschoolers and kindergartners through our <u>Racquets for Reading!!!</u> initiative.

Want to be a great adult?
Play tennis! Read books! Eat healthy! Have FUN!!!
Be a QuickStart kid!

QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia is an all-volunteer, grassroots Community Tennis Association established in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization to promote, develop and grow QuickStart Tennis in the heart of Virginia for all beginners, especially underserved youth, using the kid-sized QuickStart Tennis format. QCV's service area includes, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fluvanna, Franklin, Greene, Greensville, Halifax, Henry, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Mecklenburg, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Patrick Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Powhatan and Rappahannock counties and the cities of Charlottesville, Danville and Martinsville, plus under a special arrangement, King George County. We currently serve 212 schools with 99,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs in 27 counties and three independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 37 additional schools with 16,000 students in communities outside our service area.

Visit QCV at www.quickstartcentral.org and on Facebook.

For additional information, contact quickstartcentral@comcast.net.



A racquet in every hand! A smile on every face!

