

*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

Fifth Annual Crozet Tennis Day is Best Yet!

Charlottesville, Virginia (4/23/2018) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is pleased to report the fifth annual Crozet Tennis Day and racquet and ball giveaway for first-graders at Crozet Elementary School was a hit again this year. Fifty-five students gathered in the gym due to chilly and windy conditions on the outdoor QuickStart Tennis courts at the school. The "on-court" activities were designed and led by PE teacher Dawn Laine with an assist from PE teacher Zach Laird, UVA Women's Assistant Tennis Coach Gina Suarez-Malaguti, UVA player Camille Favero, Western Albemarle High School Girls Tennis Team players Hannah Kearns, Lilly Moore, Maya Kelly, Elizabeth Fox, Sarah Randolph Warren and their Coach Ellen Markowitz, and Gabriela Chase, QCV volunteer. First-grade teachers Laura Baxter, Rachel Morris and Virginia Slechta also got in on the action. Crozet Elementary Principal and QCV Board member Gwedette Crummie, QCV Board members Robert Gibb, Lynda Harrill and Roy Harrill joined in the fun!

At the end of the event, each student received a 23-inch racquet and three red felt tennis balls to keep thanks to the generosity of the Inez Duff Bishop Memorial Trust. They also received sweatbands (a gift from GAMMA Sports), Go Bananas! bracelets and posters and roster cards for the UVA Men's and Women's Tennis teams.



Crummie says, "It was a joy to see our first graders light up as they received their very own tennis racquet! Our first graders are already on our Quick Start Tennis courts during recess playing tennis. The surprise guests are so amazing – giving tennis demonstrations and coaching the kids. Crozet Elementary is so appreciative to have such a strong partnership with QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia."



QCV QuickStart Coordinator Lynda Harrill adds, "Crozet Tennis Day is the highlight of the school year for us. The kids have so much FUN, love the guests and volunteers who attend and are always overjoyed when we tell them they get to keep the racquets they're holding. For them, it's 'Tennis Christmas' in April. Can't beat that!"

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 Albemarle, 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. We currently serve 207 schools with more than 95,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and three YMCAs in our service area of 27 counties and three independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 35 additional schools with 14,000 students in communities outside our service area.

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

For additional information, contact <u>quickstartcentral@comcast.net</u>



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