



USTA NORTH CAROLINA

# PAY IT FORWARD

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Fritz and Bev Earle Make a Difference

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After retirement, Fritz and Bev Earle have continued to impact lives through tennis.

Fritz, long time head tennis pro at Carmel Country Club, and Bev, NC Tennis Hall of Fame member (Class of '83) and long time Charlotte Latin tennis coach, moved to Sparta, NC. For the past nine years, they've provided a free tennis program to around a hundred under-resourced kids each summer.

Fritz, 87, and Bev, 83, have decided to step back a bit from the tennis program. Although they will still work individually with some of the high school kids that came up through their summer program, they are going to concentrate their time volunteering with a local thrift center.

As one could imagine, the Earle's have accumulated quite a supply of tennis equipment and wanted to be sure it was put to good use. The timing couldn't have been any better, as in Winston-Salem, Darryl Benbow and Harold Moore had been working to get a National Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) Chapter started through the Kimberly Park Tennis Association. They had been working hard to secure resources for equipment to start and enhance their programming, which serves under-resourced youth by introducing tennis with an educational component. The connection was made and one day late this summer, Fritz and Bev made the trip to Winston-Salem to deliver the equipment to Darryl and Harold.

That generosity and equipment has the potential to impact thousands of kids in North Carolina through tennis. The NC Tennis Foundation sends a big thank you to Fritz and Bev Earle for paying it forward.