



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUMMER TENNIS FUN BEGINS IN GAYLORD

GAYLORD – As State safety guidelines on COVID-19 allow for more outdoor enjoyment, Alpine Regional Tennis Association (ARTA) announced a new Junior Tennis Prep program, in addition to offering other programming for area youth. The sessions will run from June 24 until the end of July at the Otsego County Tennis Center. All players must wear tennis shoes, bring water in its own container, and hand sanitizer. Racquets will be provided if a child does not have one to bring.

Certified Tennis professional Dave Johnson will instruct players ages 8-14 who wish to learn the game to play competitively. In addition to learning footwork, proper strokes, scoring and strategy, the 6 week sessions will include how to stay focused, improve patience and temperament in order to be a successful player. These players will be offered a chance to have match plays on Saturdays beginning July 11 through August 22 from 10:30am until Noon.

For the younger players, ages 6-7, group tennis fun will be provided on Wednesdays from 5pm-5:55pm beginning June 24 through July 29.

Players ages 8-10 will meet Wednesdays from 6pm-6:55pm, beginning June 24-July 29.

Players ages 11-14 will meet Thursdays from 5pm-6pm beginning June 25-July 30.

Due to the financial strain for many families caused by the pandemic, ARTA will underwrite a large portion of the normal \$65 fee for the 6 week programs, so the cost will be only \$30 per child. Additional fee assistance through ARTA may be available by contacting Sheila Simpson at 989 370 1567.

According to Simpson, ARTA President, “Tennis is an especially important activity now for our youth who have experienced many fears and changes, both academically and on the home front. Being outdoors, with social distancing that tennis naturally provides, is a wonderful exercise for the mind and body. We thank all those who order Holiday Greens each year from our annual fundraiser because those funds allow us to offer reduced fees and financial help to our youth.”

Each summer coach Dave also offers private and group tennis lessons, strategy clinics and Cardio tennis. Start/Restart is for players who wish to learn the game, or renew their past tennis play. Men and women tennis leagues also are underway for the summer.

Visit www.gaylordtennis.com for information and the online schedules of programs.