



First Serve Coordinator Aaron Mayo, Teweva Nelson, Alexis Nesbitt, Francesca Warren, Dekyla Little and First Serve Executive Director Stephen Lang at Saturday's graduation ceremony (read more below).

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Upcoming events

May 28-31: USTA League Playoffs at the [Leftwich Tennis Center](#)

June 20: Women's Doubles tournament benefiting the Memphis Family Shelter at the [Eldon Roark Tennis Center](#)

June 26-28: Ad-In adult tournament at the Leftwich Tennis Center

June-July: Youth clinics & Summer Tennis Camps at the Leftwich, Eldon Roark, [Frayser](#) and [Wolbrecht Tennis Centers](#)

Inside the Service Box--A few words from the Executive Director

The Spring of 2009 has seen the tennis courts at the Memphis Public Tennis Centers (MPTC) alive and bustling with activity. After-school programs, tournaments, USTA Spring Team Tennis matches and practices, high school and middle school tennis, clinics and lessons- you name it, it's been happening! I thought I would share a few highlights from the spring season. [Click here to read more . . .](#)

First Serve Memphis Graduation Ceremony

On Saturday, May 16th, the First Serve Memphis program graduated 8 students: Ladarious Joyner, Christopher Laury, Jaila Laury, Dekyla Little, Teweva Nelson, Alexis Nesbitt, Tyvarian Rogers and Francesca Warren from the Game Level of the First Serve Life Skills Curriculum at both the Frayser and Whitehaven Learning Centers. Pictured with her certificate of completion is Teweva Nelson and her family. After the ceremony, students, coaches and families had a tennis jamboree at the [Eldon Roark Tennis Center](#) in Whitehaven, where the kids tried to score points off Coaches Stephen and William Lang (and a few of them did!). For more information on the First Serve Memphis program, [visit our web page](#) on the First Serve website.



USTA/NJTL Community Building Initiative

Tennis Memphis recently hosted representatives from the USTA National Office: Dan Limbago, USTA National Manager of NJTL, and Karen Martin-Eliezer, USTA Serves CEO, project consultants and the three other Pilot Chapters of the Community Building Initiative at the First Serve Memphis Learning Center and Eldon Roark Tennis Center in Whitehaven. Attendees from the Arthur Ashe Youth Tennis & Education Foundation (Philadelphia, PA), Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation and the MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation (Jacksonville, FL) reported on their progress,

shared ideas and experiences to make each of their projects more impactful in their communities.

The **Community Building Initiative's mission statement** is that tennis and community facilities will be used to combat childhood obesity and enhance the health and wellness of the entire community, to increase interaction between different racial and economic classes and bring community partners together to improve the quality of life for all.

Tennis Memphis is working with community leaders and community partners in the Whitehaven community. Some of our community partners are Memphis Police CO-ACT Unit, Park Services, Methodist-South Hospital, District Attorney's truancy program, Davis YMCA, Tesco Management (Pepper Tree Apartments), Porter-Leath Job Training Center, City of Memphis, Mayor Summer Employment Program, the WINN program and neighborhood Memphis City Schools and churches.

Leftwich Junior Championship Results

The Leftwich Junior Championships was held May 6-8 at the Leftwich and Eldon Roark Tennis Centers. Sixty-four players from across the Memphis area, Alabama, Arkansas and Mississippi participated in this USTA-sanctioned tournament. Divisions included Boys and Girls 10, 12, 14 and 16 singles and doubles. The rain did not dampen the quality of play as the matches moved indoors and the tournament was completed on time. Congrats to all the players for their outstanding play and to our tournament team for making it an excellent event. [Click here to view the tournament winners . . .](#)

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Tennis Memphis |  901-374-0603 

www.tennismemphis.org

City of Memphis, Division of Park Services