



City of Merriam *Proclamation*

WHEREAS, on May 21, 1881, the USTA, originally known as the United States National Lawn Tennis Association, was founded in New York City, New York, to create rules and standards for the emerging game of lawn tennis; and

WHEREAS, the USTA is the nonprofit, national governing body for tennis with more than 500,000 members, and it leads the promotion and growth of the sport at every level of play, from beginners to professionals at the US Open; and

WHEREAS, The USTA proudly partners with local tennis programs to showcase the benefits of tennis and make the sport available to everyone, regardless of age, environment, or ability, through its USTA Adaptive grants; and

WHEREAS, the latest research by the Physical Activity Council shows that more than 25.7 million Americans played tennis in 2024, a 46 percent increase in participation over 2019 and the highest number of players since the study began in 2007; and

WHEREAS, by increasing the accessibility of tennis for Merriam residents of all ages and abilities, the USTA has contributed to making our community happier and healthier; and

WHEREAS, USTA has declared May as National Tennis Month to encourage players and organizations to promote local programs and activities at parks and facilities to showcase tennis and help players find courts and play opportunities in their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Pape, by the virtue of the authority vested in me as the Mayor of Merriam, Kansas, do hereby proclaim May 2025 as

National Tennis Month

Proclaimed on the 12th day of May 2025.

Bob Pape

Bob Pape, Mayor

Juliana Pinnick

Juliana Pinnick, City Clerk

