

# Proclamation

*City of St. Joseph, Missouri*

## USTA NATIONAL TENNIS MONTH

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 in the United States, and 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 is the largest tennis organization in the world, with over 550,000 members from every corner of the country; and

WHEREAS, The USTA proudly partners with local tennis programs to showcase the important health, social, and educational benefits of tennis, and make the sport available to everyone, regardless of age, environment, condition, 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, an unprecedented 46 percent increase in participation over 2019 and the highest number of players since the PAC study began in 2007; and

WHEREAS, by increasing the accessibility of tennis for citizens of St. Joseph of all ages and ability, the USTA has contributed to making our community happier and healthier; and

WHEREAS, USTA has declared the month of May as National Tennis Month to encourage players, organizations, facilities, retailers, tennis manufacturers and more to promote local programs and activities, at parks and facilities to showcase tennis and spread the word about the sport and its benefits, and to help players and non-players alike find courts and play opportunities in their communities.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John Josendale, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of St. Joseph, do hereby proclaim, May 2025, as "National Tennis Month" in the City of St. Joseph.

ISSUED: This 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 2025

*John Josendale*  
John Josendale  
Mayor

