

# CITY OF GLADSTONE, MISSOURI



## 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 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 27.3 million Americans played tennis in 2025, an unprecedented 6.2 percent increase in participation over 2024 and the highest number of players since the PAC study began in 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, By increasing the accessibility of tennis for citizens of Gladstone of all ages and abilities, 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;

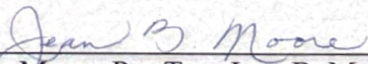
**NOW, THEREFORE**, I Les Smith, Mayor of the City of Gladstone, Missouri, on behalf of the members of the Gladstone City Council and all Gladstone residents, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as:

## NATIONAL TENNIS MONTH

and hereby urge the citizens of Gladstone to become aware of and support National Tennis Month.


Signed this 23rd Day of March 2026

  
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Mayor Les Smith

  
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Mayor Pro Tem Jean B. Moore

  
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Councilman Spencer Davis



  
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Councilmember Tina Spallo

  
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Councilman Cameron Nave