



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR · EAST SAINT LOUIS, ILLINOIS

## PROCLAMATION

In Honor and Recognition of

**The Month of May As National Tennis Month And Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> As  
"Talk About Tennis Day"**

The United States Tennis Association, commonly known as the USTA, has designated May as National Tennis Month. As the national governing body for tennis in the United States, the organization leads the growth and promotion of the sport at every level of play from beginners to professionals. Additionally, the USTA partners with tennis programs such as the East St. Louis Community Tennis Association to showcase the health, social, and educational benefits of tennis while also making the sport accessible to everyone.

**Whereas:**

In 2013 and 2014, two blogposts, "Stlforgotten.com" and "Stalking Jimmy Connors" as well as the 40 Days of Non-Violence Initiative led to the revival of tennis in the City of East St. Louis, the rebuilding of tennis courts at Lincoln Park and the eventual founding of the East St. Louis Community Tennis Association whose mission is to promote and grow tennis as a healthy and fun lifestyle for East St. Louis youth and adults, and

**Whereas:**

Through its partnerships with the USTA, USTA-Missouri Valley, East St. Louis Park District, East St. Louis School District 189, and other supporters of the sport, the East St. Louis Community Tennis Association has reestablished the East St. Louis Sr. High School Lady Flyerettes Tennis Team, as well as created the world's first Little Tennis Library at the Lincoln Park Tennis Court which is stocked with tennis racquets and balls, and

**Whereas:**

The efforts of the East St. Louis Community Tennis Association are successfully creating a legacy for new enthusiasts of the game while adding to East St. Louis' rich tennis history.

Now, therefore, I, Charles R. Powell III, Mayor of the great City of East Saint Louis, do hereby honor and recognize The East St. Louis Tennis Association on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May in the Year of Our Lord for the recognition of May 2024 as National Tennis Month, and Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> as "Talk About Tennis Day."

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF: I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the great City of East Saint Louis, State of Illinois to be affixed this 6th day of May in The Year of Our Lord 2024.*

Mayor Charles R. Powell III  
City of East Saint Louis