

# Proclamation

## National Tennis Month May 2024

**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 23.8 million Americans played tennis in 2023, an unprecedented 25 percent increase in participation over 2020 and the highest number of players since the PAC study began in 2007; and*

**WHEREAS,** *by increasing the accessibility of tennis for citizens of Lake City, Florida 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, Mayor Stephen M. Witt, of the City of Lake City, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2024, as Tennis Month in the City of Lake City and in so doing urge all citizens to join me in observing this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.*



Seal of the City of Lake City  
State of Florida

*In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.*

  
Stephen M. Witt, Mayor  
City of Lake City