

PROCLAMATION

Honoring Clay Central Heroes

2025 -2026 Special Olympics Basketball State Champions

April 20, 2026

WHEREAS, the City of Ashland proudly recognizes the achievements of the Clay Central Heroes, whose dedication, perseverance, and teamwork have brought great honor to Central High School of Clay County and the entire community; and

WHEREAS, the Clay Central Heroes made history as the **first Special Olympics basketball team** for Central High School of Clay County, setting a powerful example of inclusion, determination, and school spirit; and

WHEREAS, through hard work and unwavering commitment, the team advanced to the State Championship and achieved a decisive victory over Sparkman High School with an outstanding score of **66–29**, earning the title of **2025–2026 Special Olympics Basketball State Champions**; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments of these student-athletes reflect not only athletic excellence but also courage, sportsmanship, and the true spirit of competition; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ashland recognizes the individual contributions of each team member: **Ta'veon Brown (Senior), Seger Eudes (Junior), Hayden Bailey (Junior), Matthew Martin (Sophomore), Justin McVey (Sophomore), Calvin McVey (Freshman), Shaniya Campbell (Freshman), Shane Campbell (Freshman), Jonathan “Jon-Jon” Germany (8th Grade), Aiden Benefield (8th Grade), Caden McCoy (7th Grade), and Tyler Dean (7th Grade)**; and

WHEREAS, the success of the team was guided by the dedicated leadership and support of their coaching staff: **Josh Giddens, Montana Hallman, Suzanne Phillips, Tony Jones, and Lindy Haynes**; and

WHEREAS, the Clay Central Heroes have inspired the community through their determination, unity, and representation of the highest ideals of sportsmanship and inclusion;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Larry J. Fetner, on behalf of the City of Ashland, Alabama, do hereby proclaim our deepest congratulations and commendation to the **Clay Central Heroes 2025–2026 Special Olympics Basketball State Champions**, and encourage all citizens to join in celebrating their remarkable achievement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ashland to be affixed this 20th day of April, 2026.

Larry J. Fetner, Mayor
City of Ashland

