



**A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
NEW ALBANY SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
AS THE NEW ALBANY FOUNDERS DAY  
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AWARD HONOREE**

**WHEREAS,** Founders Day was first organized in 1976 as part of the nation's Bicentennial celebration and in tribute to William Yantis and Noble Landon who founded New Albany in 1837; and

**WHEREAS,** the Founders Day Committee recognizes an Outstanding Community Organization which provides exceptional service to the residents of the New Albany area, by bestowing upon the organization the Community Connections Award; and

**WHEREAS,** New Albany Special Olympics is an accredited program of the Special Olympics of Ohio, whose vision is to promote acceptance, inclusion, and well-being for people with disabilities through sports; and

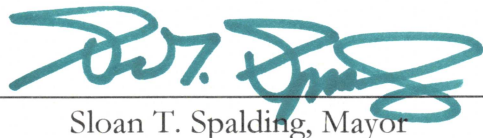
**WHEREAS,** the New Albany Police Department regularly participates in multiple events related to the organization, including the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics and Polar Plunge, in addition to annual basketball and flag football games between the Special Olympics athletes and local first responders; and

**WHEREAS,** the Special Olympics is celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> year in 2025, and is a founding member of a global inclusion movement using sport, health, education, and leadership programs to empower people with intellectual disabilities; and

**WHEREAS,** New Albany Special Olympics provides children and adults with year-round sports training and opportunities to develop and demonstrate their skills, and it provides opportunities to increase our community's awareness of their capabilities; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor of the City of New Albany, Counties of Franklin and Licking, State of Ohio, on behalf of council and residents of New Albany wish to recognize **New Albany Special Olympics** as the **2025 Recipient of the New Albany Founders Day Community Connection Award**.

**WHEREBY,** I set my hand and seal this 6th day of May, 2025.

  
Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor