

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** the National Civic League, a non-profit, non-partisan organization originally known as the National Municipal League, was founded in 1894 by leaders such Theodore Roosevelt, Louis Brandeis, and Frederick Law Olmstead; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1949, the National Civic League (NCL) initiated the All-America City Award to recognize communities in America whose citizen volunteers, civic organizations, non-profits, businesses, and local government work together effectively on projects to benefit the community; and
- WHEREAS,** the prestigious All-America City Award is presented to only ten cities nationwide each year by the National Civic League to communities that demonstrate inclusiveness, innovation, civic engagement, and cross-sector collaboration; and
- WHEREAS,** the All-America City competition includes a rigorous application process and presentation by a delegation of community volunteers before a 13-member panel of judges of civic, business, and governmental leaders from throughout the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** Marshall, Texas submitted applications to the NCL in 2014 and 2015 and highlighted successful community-driven projects in the past ten years that underscored the specified themes of “Engaging and Supporting Vulnerable Boys and Young Men” (2015) and “Healthy Communities” (2014); and
- WHEREAS,** through these efforts, Marshall, Texas was named an All-America City finalist in 2014 and 2015 and a diverse, talented delegation of volunteers traveled to Denver, Colorado to represent our community, with the support of community sponsors, supportive City Commissioners, and City Staff; and
- WHEREAS,** Marshall’s application and presentation shared powerful stories of success in Marshall, including four institutes of higher learning, Boys & Girls Club of the Big Pines, Wiley College’s Men of Strength, Mission Marshall, Get Healthy Marshall, revitalization of our historic downtown, The Buard History Trail, and other remarkable aspects; and
- WHEREAS,** on June 14, 2015, Marshall, Texas was the first city to be announced as a winner of the prestigious 2015 All-America City Award and is the only city in the State of Texas to win this distinguished award this year; and
- WHEREAS,** the 2014 and 2015 volunteer All-America City efforts were chaired by civic leader Christina Cocek Anderson who also wrote the applications and led Marshall’s dedicated, hard-working presentation teams which consisted of Marshall citizens, young and old, who did a remarkable job representing our community; and

WHEREAS, Marshall also won the All-America City Award, thirty-nine years ago, in 1976, when the efforts were chaired by civic leader Tony Bridge, with Marshall's first African-American Mayor, Sam Birmingham, also serving on the team; and

WHEREAS, this distinguished national recognition stands as a testament to the deep and abiding love our community members have for our community and the important role that collaboration, teamwork, and a strong volunteer spirit play in the success of our city.

NOW THEREFORE, we, the City Commission of Marshall, Texas proclaim the date of August 30, 2015 as "*All-America City Day*" in Marshall, Texas and congratulate the citizens of Marshall, and all those who participated in these efforts, for this important national recognition.

Eric Neal, Mayor
Marshall City Commission