

# City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Lauren Poe  
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in honor of Albert "Ray" Massey's distinguished and dedicated service to this community and his tireless effort to promote the benefits of parks and recreation services to the citizens of Gainesville, the City of Gainesville Public Recreation and Parks Board officially established the Albert "Ray" Massey Citizen Volunteer Award in the year 2000 and recognizes the 2017 recipient today; and

WHEREAS, Will Hooper has dedicated himself to the establishment, preservation and growth of the sport of baseball in the City of Gainesville serving as the President and Executive Director of Gainesville Youth Baseball Inc. He is an ambassador for youth sports and in a three year period took a program with 60 participants to an astounding level of 350 on a season by season basis. Last spring, under Will's supervision the City of Gainesville was represented by eight All-Star teams which finished at or near the top of their district, three of which went on to participate in the State Tournament; and

WHEREAS, Will Hooper has created and maintained positive relationships with surrounding communities and helped other programs prosper by partnering for games and tournaments; and

WHEREAS, Will Hooper's dedication and commitment to the youth is unparalleled and his time and energy is evident in passion and service to providing the youth of Gainesville a positive recreational outlet; and

WHEREAS, Will Hooper has continually shown commitment to the league and the youth in our community and continues to focus his efforts on lobbying for even better recreational outlets for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 Albert "Ray" Massey Award recipient truly epitomizes the spirit of Mr. Massey by giving back to the community, by being an active leader and by helping to promote Recreation in Gainesville.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim March 1, 2018 as

*Will Hooper Day*

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in celebration of this recognition.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, A.D., 2018.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lauren Poe", is written over a horizontal line.

Lauren Poe  
Mayor