



PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION
HONORING
DR. MARY ELIZABETH "BETTY" ELLZEY

WHEREAS, Dr. Betty Ellzey, Distinguished Professor of English, has served Shepherd University from August 1989 through May 2025; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ellzey has taught courses in writing, literature, Gender and Women's Studies, and the Honors Program, shaping generations of students to be better readers, writers, critical thinkers, and citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ellzey has directed the Rude Mechanicals Theatre Troupe in performances regionally, nationally, and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ellzey, as director of the Rude Mechanicals, has transformed the lives of countless students and community members by nurturing their belief in the transformative power of theater; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ellzey, as director of the Rude Mechanicals, has entertained thousands of audience members with performances of ancient Greek, medieval, and Renaissance plays, along with fully-staged productions of plays written by Shepherd University creative-writing students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ellzey has made valuable scholarly contributions to the fields of Medieval and Renaissance studies by reinvigorating and reintroducing practically forgotten texts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ellzey has served as chair of her department since 2012; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ellzey has served as co-coordinator of the Gender and Women's Studies program since 2001; and

WHEREAS, she has reached the milestone of her retirement;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE PROCLAIMED, THAT the entire Shepherd University community celebrates the accomplishments of Dr. Betty Ellzey; and

FURTHER, LET IT BE PROCLAIMED, THAT personal best wishes are extended through this Presidential Proclamation on the occasion of her retirement.

Mary J.C. Hendrix, Ph.D.

President