

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria both celebrates its storied past and remains fully committed to supporting today's cultural and economic growth; and

**WHEREAS**, in colonial Alexandria, residents favored cider in their homes and taverns made by Virginia farmers as well as prominent Virginians such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison; and

**WHEREAS**, a major craft cider makers revival is sweeping the United States today with national sales for cider growing over 70% per year for the past five years; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest apple producing state by acreage in the United States, with apple products providing a significant boost to the state's and local economies, and with 18 commercial cider makers, Virginia is currently 8<sup>th</sup> among states in the United States and rapidly growing; and

**WHEREAS**, artisanal cider, as a gluten free and handcrafted healthy alternative to beer, is poised to become the drink of the Millennial Generation; and

**WHEREAS**, Alexandria belongs to the Northern Chapter of Buy Fresh Buy Local Virginia, and its small businesses have joined the Retail Merchants Association's Think, Shop, Buy Local campaign; and

**WHEREAS**, the increasing number of cider week festivals and celebrations nationwide have proven economic boons for local communities, and participating in Virginia Cider Week has the support of members of Alexandria's restaurant, grocery, bar, and retail wine community as well as that of Visit Alexandria and Historic Alexandria; and

**WHEREAS**, Alexandria's sister-city Caen, France is renowned for its cider production and located in one of the world's great cider making regions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Virginia House of Delegates and the Senate passed House Joint Resolution 105 in 2012 to designate the full week before Thanksgiving in Virginia as Virginia Cider Week, and the Governor of Virginia has proclaimed and recognized the full week before Thanksgiving as Virginia Cider Week in our Commonwealth of Virginia.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, William D. Euille**, Major of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim and recognize November 13 - 22, 2015, as

### **Virginia Cider Week**

And call upon the citizens of Alexandria to welcome Virginia's cider makers and support the events of the Week.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2014.

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**WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR**  
On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

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Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk