

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria celebrates its storied past while remaining fully committed to participating in today’s cultural and economic growth; and

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

**WHEREAS**, a major craft cider revival is sweeping the United States today with an eight-fold increase in cider production over the past eight years; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia is the 6th largest apple-producing state in the United States, with apple products providing a significant boost to the state’s and local economies, prominent among them Virginia cider, whose sales increased 200% over the 12-month period from July 2014 to June of 2015; 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**, 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 Historic Alexandria and Visit 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, ALLISON SILBERBERG**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim and recognize November 11-20, 2016 as:

**“VIRGINIA CIDER WEEK”**

In Alexandria, and I 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2016.

**ALLISON SILBERBERG** MAYOR  
On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk