

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is dedicated to the preservation and protection of its historic assets of which an important one is the city-owned Gadsby's Tavern; and

WHEREAS, Gadsby's Tavern was known in the 18th Century as the "5-star hotel" in Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, the first five Presidents of the United States of America enjoyed the comforts and offerings of Gadsby's Tavern in the company of a multitude of their contemporaries, and later visitors have included President Truman, First Ladies Eleanor Roosevelt, Betty Ford, and Rosalynn Carter, and Pope John Paul II; and

WHEREAS, President George Washington was feted with celebration of his last two birthdays at Birthnight Balls at Gadsby's Tavern, which continues this annual tradition of holding Birthnight Balls celebrating the birth of President George Washington; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Jefferson celebrated his inauguration as president in Gadsby's historic ballroom in 1801; and

WHEREAS, the Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society, chartered over twenty years ago to assist the City of Alexandria in preservation and protection of Gadsby's Tavern Museum, has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Society continues Mr. Gadsby's lavish entertaining annually with its signature Best Bib and Tucker Ball with the theme this year being, "Springtime in Paris;" and

WHEREAS, Gadsby's Tavern Museum has a very special historic connection to France, as the Marquis de Lafayette was celebrated at Gadsby's Tavern where a banquet was held in his honor when he visited Alexandria during his 1824 tour; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALLISON SILBERBERG, Mayor of City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society's 2018 Best Bib and Tucker Ball on April 14, 2018 as the:

"SPRINGTIME IN PARIS BALL"

for the City of Alexandria and call upon our citizens to support the preservation efforts of the Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society by enjoying this enchanting evening indulging in fine food, libations, live music, and dancing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 10th day of April, 2018.

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

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk