



Proclamation Virginia Wine Month

- WHEREAS,** *from modest beginnings in colonial times, Virginia has become a nationwide leader in the wine industry, now 5th in the nation in grape production and 8th in the nation in wine production, with wine sales growing to 588,700 cases (7 million bottles) of Virginia wine sold worldwide in 2017; an all time record; and*
- WHEREAS,** *wines from the Commonwealth, including those from Albemarle County, are winning national and international awards and recognition for their elegant qualities, imparted by skilled vintners and Virginia's terroir; the winner of the 2018 Governor's Cup is King Family Winery; and*
- WHEREAS,** *many of Albemarle's 36 vineyards, most with wineries on site, are run by families as strong agricultural enterprises that can be passed on to future generations, providing economic benefit for winery owners and employees and for other Albemarle ventures supported by the patronage and purchasing power of winery visitors, including farming of heritage and heirloom crops, restaurant cuisine committed to selling local where possible, and tourism focused on sustaining the land and the local culture; and*
- WHEREAS,** *in 2017 Albemarle County had the 2nd most bearing acres of grapes in the state-- over 16% of the state's total bearing acres -- and is part of the central region of Virginia which produced the most tons of grapes -- 2,744 tons, or 42% of the total in the state in 2017; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Albemarle County values our wineries' stewardship, keeping their land producing and protected in agricultural uses, preserving scenic vistas, historic sites and other amenities which make Albemarle wineries ideal places of entertainment, culture, enjoyment and social engagement that enrich Albemarle County's quality of life and culture of hospitality.*
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED,** *that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, do hereby recognize Albemarle County wineries and their contribution to the Virginia wine industry's success and encourage County residents and visitors to visit a winery or purchase local wines through local restaurants and shops during October 2018, Virginia Wine Month.*

Signed and sealed this 3rd day of October, 2018.

Norman G. Dill

Liz Palmer

Ann H. Mallek, Chair

Rick Randolph

Diantha H. McKeel

Ned L. Gallaway