PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Irish have greatly enriched the culture of Western Civilization from its earliest days; and

WHEREAS, the Irish have nobly preserved the Celtic and Gaelic traditions from ancient times to the present; and

WHEREAS, the history of the City of Alexandria is replete with the contributions of many people from Ireland and those of Irish descent; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is today the home of numerous people of Irish descent who are active in its cultural, economic, political and social life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria recognizes the incalculable role played by the Irish and their descendants in world, national, state, and City affairs; and

WHEREAS, the month of March is Irish-American Heritage month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim Saturday, March 7, 2009 to be:

"ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE DAY"

and the month of March as:

"IRISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH"

in honor of the day that all Irish people come together in celebration of St. Patrick; and

FURTHER, I hereby welcome all persons from Ireland and of Irish descent to our City and this Parade and urge all citizens of the City to attend and to enjoy the activities being offered on Market Square on this day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 24th day of February 2009.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

On behalf of the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST: