


PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, the Falls Church News-Press is celebrating the 30th anniversary of consecutive weekly publication of Falls Church's independent, locally-owned newspaper; and
- WHEREAS, the Falls Church News-Press was first published on March 28, 1991, to benefit the residents of the City of Falls Church and its environs with an independent newspaper of record providing news, announcements, comments, letters to the editor, advertising, and items of human interest; and
- WHEREAS, the Falls Church News-Press has established itself as the newspaper of record for Falls Church, Virginia; has been certified by the Commonwealth of Virginia to publish official legal notices; is a member in full standing of the Virginia Press Association; and is a member of the Washington-Baltimore Suburban Press Network; and
- WHEREAS, the longevity of the paper is due to the tireless dedication of the News-Press staff, and especially to founder and Editor Nicholas Benton, to reporting on local events and issues important to Falls Church residents; and
- WHEREAS, our nation's founders understood that freedom of the press and an informed citizenry are cornerstones of a democracy; and
- WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has played a vital role in promoting First Amendment rights throughout history; and
- WHEREAS, in 1776, the Virginia Declaration of Rights was the first declaration of rights to call for a free press; and
- WHEREAS, the Falls Church News-Press plays an important role in promoting and protecting First Amendment rights in the City and the Commonwealth; and
- WHEREAS, celebrating this milestone anniversary with the Falls Church News-Press is an opportunity to remind residents of the necessity of a free press, and emphasize the importance of newspapers in fostering accountability, transparency, improved public policy, community participation, and government responsiveness in the everyday lives of people;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, David Tarter, Mayor of the City of Falls Church, Virginia, do hereby proclaim the Falls Church News-Press as a vital civic, historical, and archival resource for the community and commend Mr. Benton on 30 years of consecutive weekly publication of the newspaper.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the City of Falls Church, Virginia to be affixed this 5th day of April, 2021.





David Tarter, Mayor