



City of Harrisonburg, Virginia
Office of the Mayor

345 South Main Street
Post Office Box 20031
Harrisonburg, VA 22802
(540) 432-7701 / FAX (540) 432-7778

Deanna R. Reed
Mayor

A PROCLAMATION HONORING PEGGY KING

WHEREAS, Ms. King originally started greeting newcomers in Harrisonburg through a Memphis, TN based company called Welcome Wagon. She started sometime in the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, Ms. King was the fifth and longest serving person to represent the Harrisonburg area for Welcome Wagon, which came to the Friendly City in the 1960s; and

WHEREAS, Welcome Wagon, which started in the 1930s, shut down operations in 1996 and Ms. King established her own company, Valley Greeters, which covered Harrisonburg and most of Rockingham County; and

WHEREAS, Ms. King has spent the last 40 years welcoming new residents to the valley with a warm smile and a basket full of goodies, including maps, pamphlets, restaurant menus, coupons, newspapers, hospital information, activity booklets and all kinds of freebies from Harrisonburg and the Shenandoah Valley; and

WHEREAS, Ms. King has welcomed as many as 13,000 people during those 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. King found new residents by looking at the home title transfers in the newspaper and with the help of a phone book, she called newcomers first to set up an appointment; and

WHEREAS, as an offshoot of the program, a social club of various activities was formed to help newcomers make friends and participate in community events; and

WHEREAS, many former members have continued those lasting friendships and continue serving the community although the Valley Greeters Club ceased to exist in 2013

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Deanna R. Reed, Mayor of the City of Harrisonburg, wishes to express the councils appreciation towards Peggy King for her 40 years of unusual work for our community and welcoming those citizens that have moved into the area, and reflecting how Harrisonburg is truly a Friendly City.

GIVEN under my hand this 13th day of June 2017.

BY: _____
Deanna R. Reed, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Pamela S. Ulmer, Deputy City Clerk