



Proclamation

- Whereas:* On December 20, 1606, "105 men and boys plus 39 sailors" of the Virginia Company set sail from England aboard the ships *Discovery*, *Godspeed*, and *Susan Constant*; and
- Whereas:* On April 26, 1607, after 144 days at sea, the Englishmen first stepped ashore at a point of land they named 'Cape Henry', after the son of King James of England, located at the southern entrance to the Chesapeake Bay, claiming the land for God and King; and
- Whereas:* On April 29, 1607, the settlers planted a cross to thank God for the safe journey and the new land, and then continued up the waterway they named the 'James River', going 40 miles inland before establishing the Jamestown settlement; and
- Whereas:* In 1898, a tablet was placed on the Old Cape Henry Lighthouse by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities to commemorate the landing of the colonists, the first organization giving official recognition to the fact; and
- Whereas:* In 1920, a wooden cross was erected by the Order of Cape Henry 1607 as part of the first pilgrimage ceremony celebrating the courage and determination of the early colonists in their venture to the new world; and
- Whereas:* In 1935, a stone cross was erected by the National Society Daughters of the American Colonists, dedicating it as a cornerstone of the country and as an acknowledgment of an indebtedness to the early settlers; and
- Whereas:* On the Sunday nearest April 26th unless Easter falls on the same day, a ceremony has been held annually at the Cape Henry Memorial Cross since 1920 to commemorate the nation's "First Landing" of English settlers in the "First Colony" of Virginia and their establishment of the nation's "First Permanent Settlement" at Jamestown.

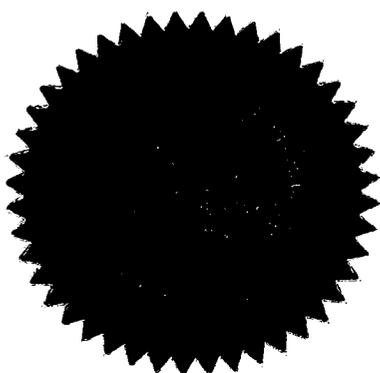
Now, Therefore, I, Robert M. Dyer, Mayor of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, do hereby recognize

April 27, 2019

The 412th Anniversary of the First Landing at Cape Henry

In *Virginia Beach*, and I call upon all citizens in *Virginia Beach*, to become better knowledgeable about the wealth of history in our area.

In *Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of *Virginia Beach*, *Virginia*, to be affixed this Twenty-Seventh day of April, 2019.



Robert M. "Bobby" Dyer
Mayor