

**CITY OF RICHMOND  
PROCLAMATION**

**Whereas**, Donald W. "Donnie" Corker, known to fans all over the world as "Dirtwoman," was a Richmond institution for more than forty years prior to his passing on September 26, 2017; and

**Whereas**, Donnie became an icon and inspiration for Richmond's LGBTQ and counterculture communities, and an occasional political candidate for high office in the city; and

**Whereas**, one of his passions was his twenty-plus years as a participant and organizer of the annual community benefit concert/variety show Hamaganza, which helped to foster a spirit of giving and of community that raised tens of thousands of dollars for Richmond charities; and

**Whereas**, the spirit of giving, of uniqueness and inclusion with which Donnie lived his life embodied and helped define Richmond's own spirit of giving, uniqueness and inclusion; and

**Whereas**, the month of April will feature a variety of activities in the form of visual arts, film and commemorative events honoring Donnie's life and achievements, including placement of a memorial plaque honoring Donnie "Dirtwoman" Corker in Oregon Hill, outside of Mammz Zu's, the Italian restaurant where he was a familiar sight peeling garlic and interacting with locals and visitors;

**Now, therefore**, I, Levar M. Stoney, Mayor of the City of Richmond, Virginia do hereby proclaim the week of April 1 to April 7, 2019 as

**"Dirtwoman Week"**

in the City of Richmond and call on all Richmonders to open your hearts to helping others find the courage to be true to themselves by embracing our differences. One Richmond is only possible when we celebrate our diversity and inclusivity as strengths that make our city stronger.