MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Harold “Barney” Goltz, a former state senator and beloved figure in Bellingham and Whatcom County civic life, died Thursday, December 25, 2008 at age 84; and

WHEREAS, our community feels deeply the loss of this great and kind friend, gentleman and leader; and

WHEREAS, Barney became a Bellingham resident in 1957 when he took a job at Western Washington University; and

WHEREAS, he served many years in the state Legislature, a well-respected and hard-working member who won friends and influenced decisions on both sides of the political aisle; and

WHEREAS, Barney exemplified public service throughout his political career, dependable, trustworthy and focused on understanding and solving community problems; and

WHEREAS, even after his retirement from public service Barney continued his community involvement, continuing to serve, mentor and inspire others; and

WHEREAS, friends and colleagues alike cherished Barney’s kind and gentle nature, and extolled his use of those characteristics in his professional, political and volunteer positions; and

WHEREAS, many throughout our communities today consider him not only a political representative and iconic figure but mentor and personal friend; and

WHEREAS, Barney delighted everyone on his holiday mailing list each year with a poem infused with political satire, the last one reaching many of us just days before his death; and

WHEREAS, Barney’s warm smile, quick-but-gentle wit, and community-minded spirit will remain with us forevermore

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I, Dan Pike, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim Monday, January 12, 2009 to be

HAROLD “BARNEY” GOLTZ DAY

in the City of Bellingham, Washington.

Signed this _____ day of January 2009.

Dan Pike, Mayor
City of Bellingham