MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the ideal of peace embraces the deepest hopes of all people, and remains humanity’s guiding inspiration; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2002, the United Nations has designated September 21 of each year as the International Day of Peace; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations dedicates the International Day of Peace to nonviolence and the cessation of hostilities, and calls upon all Nations and people to commemorate the day through educational efforts, public awareness, and adherence to a global ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, Peace Day activities around the world include peace marches, concerts, events, poetry readings, prayer ceremonies, art exhibits, vaccination campaigns, memorial services, school assemblies, family reunions and sporting events – all made possible by the laying down of arms; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham has asserted itself as a city of peace by the passage of resolutions calling for an end in the Iraq War and opposing U.S. military intervention in Iran; and

WHEREAS, the Bellingham non-profit organization, Whatcom Peace & Justice Center, in 2004 instituted an annual celebration of the International Day of Peace that brings together 600 people annually affirming our community’s commitment to building peace through nonviolence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dan Pike, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, do hereby proclaim September 21 as:

“INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE”

In the City of Bellingham, Washington, and call upon the people of Bellingham to observe this day to imagine, build, cultivate and celebrate peace.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of July 2010

Dan Pike, Mayor
City of Bellingham