MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, International Women's Day was first honored in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland in 1911; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the U.S. President encourages on all citizens to observe March as National Women’s History Month; and

WHEREAS, International Women's Day is observed around the world and provides an opportunity to recognize and reflect on the progress made to advance women's equality, to celebrate the gains made by women in our society and reflect on the challenges and barriers which women continue to face; and

WHEREAS, In March, we will celebrate our achievements. Women's access to education, health care and paid labor has improved, and legislation that promises equal opportunities for women and respect for their human rights has been adopted in many countries; and

WHEREAS, In March, we also will contemplate those areas of women's lives where more can be done. Until we all work together to secure the rights and full potential of women, lasting solutions to social, economic and political problems are unlikely to be found; and

WHEREAS, Women's History Month addresses the social, economic, and political barriers still facing women and girls while celebrating their achievements and the progress that have been made in support of women's equality.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, Washington, do hereby proclaim March, 2012 as

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

in the City of Bellingham and encourage all citizens to celebrate the achievements of women.

Signed this 26th day of March, 2012

Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham