WHEREAS, the Friends of the Bellingham Public Library is an all-volunteer non-profit organization, dedicated to raising money for library needs, sponsoring programs for all ages, fostering community support for the library, and encouraging literacy by making free reading materials available and offering inexpensive materials at regular book sales; and,

WHEREAS, our Friends’ long-time support of the Bellingham Public Library is an example of the vital role volunteers play in our community, and

WHEREAS, our Friends' dedication is a demonstration of their commitment to the library and its mission to connect our community with each other and the world, providing opportunities to read, learn, meet and discover; and,

WHEREAS, our Friends group is a highly successful organization that, through extensive volunteer time and effort, provides nearly $100,000 each year to the library; and,

WHEREAS, our Friends in recent years have funded adult and children's books, summer reading programs, Whatcom READS! and other special events, online language-learning subscriptions and other online services, furnishings and audio visual improvements in library facilities, and much more; and

WHEREAS, many improvements and enhancements in our library have only been possible because of the support provided by our Friends; and

WHEREAS, we are joining libraries across the nation in celebrating their strongest and most dedicated supporters -- their Friends organizations -- during National Friends of Libraries Week, October 19-25, 2014.

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I, Mayor Kelli Linville, proclaim the week of October 19-25, 2014 as:

NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK

in the City of Bellingham, Washington, and urges everyone to join in thanking them for all they do for our community.

Signed this 13th day of October, 2014

Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham