**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, Among the 10 leading causes of death, suicide is the only one that continues to be on the rise; and

WHEREAS, Suicide is currently the third leading cause of death among young people age 15 to 24; and

WHEREAS, In Whatcom County alone, 2 out of 30 students of an average 10th grade classroom attempted suicide last year; and

WHEREAS, 20% of nation’s suicide deaths are veterans; and

WHEREAS, 85-95% who survived suicide attempts go on to live healthy lives; and

WHEREAS, Suicide deaths are preventable through available awareness programs; and

WHEREAS, The stated goal of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention is to reduce suicide deaths by 20% by the year 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim September 14, 2019 to be

**SUICIDE AWARENESS DAY**

in the City of Bellingham, Washington and urge all citizens to support all local suicide prevention programs in Whatcom County and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

Signed this 28th of August, 2019

Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham