



## Joint Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, serious mental illnesses such as major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, severe anxiety disorders, borderline personality disorder, and posttraumatic stress disorders affect one in every four people annually;

**WHEREAS**, serious mental illnesses are more common than cancer, diabetes and heart disease and are the number one reason for hospital admissions nationwide;

**WHEREAS**, serious mental illnesses have been scientifically proven to be highly treatable illnesses of the brain;

**WHEREAS**, scientific research is producing tremendous breakthroughs in the understanding of mental illnesses, resulting in more effective treatments that allow people to reclaim full and productive lives,

**WHEREAS**, misunderstandings exist about many mental illnesses and our social culture often wrongly imposes stigma on them;

**NOW THEREFORE WE**, Pete Kremen, Whatcom County Executive and Bellingham Mayor, Dan Pike, hereby proclaim October 3 through 9, 2010, as

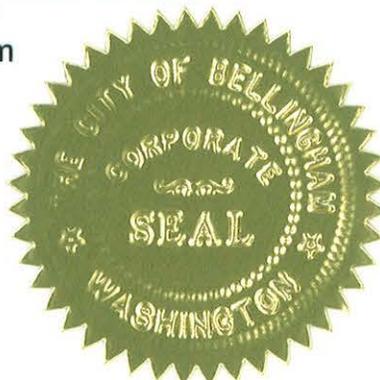
### **MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEEK**

in the City of Bellingham and in the County of Whatcom, to increase public awareness of mental illness and to promote greater understanding.

Signed this 30<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2010.

Handwritten signature of Dan Pike in blue ink.

Dan Pike, Mayor  
City of Bellingham



Handwritten signature of Pete Kremen in blue ink.

Pete Kremen, County Executive  
Whatcom County

