



Joint Proclamation

WHEREAS, Whatcom County includes approximately 39,000 citizens ages 60 and older who deserve recognition for their contributions and sacrifices to ensure a better life for further generations; and

WHEREAS, Whatcom County is committed to helping all individuals live longer, healthier lives in the communities of their choice for as long as possible; and

WHEREAS, since 1965, the Older Americans Act has provided services that help older adults remain healthy and independent by complementing existing medical and health care systems, helping prevent hospital readmissions, and supporting some of life's most basic functions, such as bathing or preparing meals; and

WHEREAS, these programs also support family caregivers, address issues of exploitation, neglect and abuse of older adults, and adapt services to the needs of Native American elders; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the value of community engagement and service in helping older adults remain healthy and active while giving back to others; and

WHEREAS, our community can provide opportunities to enrich the lives of individuals of all ages by:

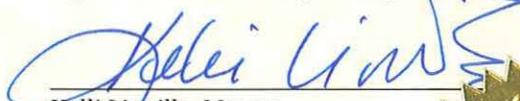
- Promoting and engaging in activity, wellness, and social inclusion.
- Emphasizing home- and community-based services that support independent living.
- Ensuring community members of all ages benefit from the contributions and experience of older adults.

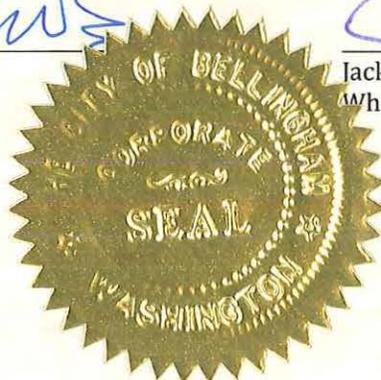
NOW, THEREFORE, do we, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, and Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive, hereby proclaim May 2015 to be:

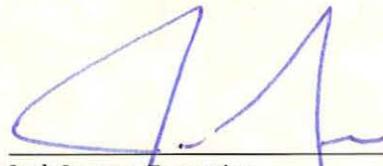
OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

in the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County and urge all residents to take time this month to celebrate older adults and the people who serve and support them as powerful and vital individuals who greatly contribute to the community.

Signed this 14th day of May, 2015.


Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham




Jack Louws, Executive
Whatcom County

