**Mayoral Proclamation For April 2016**

**FERNDALE POETRY MONTH**

 **WHEREAS, the Academy of American Poets established the month of April as National Poetry Month in 1996;**

 **and,**

**WHEREAS, National Poetry Month seeks to illuminate the historical and contemporary legacy of American poets; to introduce Americans to the extraordinary pleasures of reading; writing and reciting poetry; to bring poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative modalities; to make poetry a valued and integral part of our children's education; and**

**WHEREAS, poetry is recognized as an essential element of the arts and the humanities that affects and honors the development of intellectual thought; cultural diversity; individual and community enrichment; dignity and pride; and**

**WHEREAS, poetry has provided the inspiration for extraordinary American artistic interpretation through the visual and performing arts;**

 **Now, therefore, I, Jon Mutchler, Mayor of Ferndale, Washington do hereby proclaim April 1 through April 30, 2016 as National Poetry Month. I call upon all public officials, educators, librarians, businesses and citizens of Ferndale, Washington to honor this month through participation in the celebratory programs, events and activities offered for such purpose within our community and to acknowledge poetry as an artistic foundation to build upon in perpetuity to sustain the greatness of our nation.**

 **IN WITNESS HEREFOF I have set my hand to this fourth day of April in the year 2016.**

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 **Jon Mutchler, Mayor**

 **Ferndale, Washington**