

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, *Dating Violence is a reality for many young people, and an issue that many are unaware of; and*

WHEREAS, *1 in 3 young people are affected by physical, sexual, or verbal dating violence, with 1 in 5 in a serious relationship reporting having been slapped, pushed, hit, threatened or coerced by a partner, and breakups can be a time of even greater risk even when a relationship was never physically abusive; and*

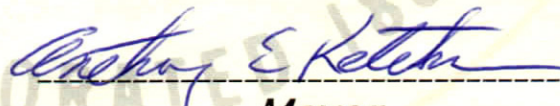
WHEREAS, *Young people can choose better relationships when they understand that healthy relationships are based on respect and learn to identify early warning signs of an abusive relationship; and*

WHEREAS, *Elimination of dating violence must be achieved through cooperation of individuals, organizations, and communities; and*

WHEREAS, *Dating Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing dating violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services, and assistance to victims.*

NOW, THEREFORE, *I, Anthony E. Ketchum, Mayor of the City of Chehalis, Washington, do hereby proclaim the month of February as Dating Violence Awareness Month in the City of Chehalis.*

SIGNED, SEALED, AND DATED *this 25th day of January, 2010.*



Mayor

