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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**BILL MITCHELL DAY MAY 3, 2019**

**(Anacortes, WA, April 26, 2019)** – Mayor Laurie Gere has proclaimed May 3, 2019 as Bill Mitchell Day. This day marks the 35 anniversary of the birth of the Anacortes Mural Project and installation of the first mural by Mitchell.

Bill Mitchell was an artist, muralist, cartoonist, and local historian. He was a champion for historic downtown Anacortes and wanted a way to spruce up the community. Thus Bill created the Anacortes Mural Project. The first mural was mounted on May 3, 1984. Since then over 160 murals have been generated and are on display throughout the City.

“It is a pleasure and a privilege to honor Bill in this way. He was truly the epitome of what it means to care for your community and did his part in making Anacortes come alive with his murals. Bill was not defined by his limitations. He set an example for all us that no matter our circumstances we can contribute our talents and passions and make a difference in the lives of others,” said Mayor Gere.

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