

# *Proclamation*

## ***Bethel, Alaska, Fire Prevention Week October 3-9, 2004***

**WHEREAS,** the City of Bethel fire department responds to more than 100 fire calls a year;

**WHEREAS,** home fires claimed more than 2,600 lives in the U.S. in 2002;

**WHEREAS,** 79 percent of fire deaths nationwide happen in the home;

**WHEREAS,** City of Bethel recognizes the significant personal and economic toll fire takes on its citizens;

**WHEREAS,** City of Bethel understands that safety measures can significantly cut the risk of fire;

**WHEREAS,** a fire can spread rapidly and a quick escape from the home increases the chances of survival;

**WHEREAS,** smoke alarms have been proven an effective lifesaver, having helped to cut the home fire death rate by one half since their introduction to the general public;

**WHEREAS,** working smoke alarms are essential in every household and should be installed on every level of a home including the basement and outside of each separate sleeping area;

**WHEREAS,** City of Bethel is joining the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) in reaching out to its citizens with a message of fire safety during Fire Prevention Week 2004;

**WHEREAS,** the Fire Prevention Week 2004 theme, "It's Fire Prevention Week: Test Your Smoke Alarms" is an important message for all citizens of Bethel;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Hugh Short, Mayor of the City of Bethel, do hereby proclaim the week of October 3-9, 2004, as Fire Prevention Week. This week is commemorated nationally and supported by the public safety efforts of fire departments, schools and other safety advocates, in conjunction with NFPA. I call upon the people of Bethel to remember the Fire Prevention Week 2004 reminder, "It's Fire Prevention Week: Test Your Smoke Alarms" and urge all citizens to heed the advice to install and maintain smoke alarms.

Signed this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2004

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Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

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Selena Malone, City Clerk