

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** fire deaths due to smoke inhalation outnumber fire deaths due to burns by more than two to one; and

**WHEREAS,** smoke detectors are our first line of defense against fire; and

**WHEREAS,** research shows that having a smoke detector cuts our risk of dying in a fire nearly in half; and

**WHEREAS,** even though 90% of U.S. homes have at least one smoke detector, estimates show that about one-third of all homes that have fires have smoke detectors that are not working, usually because of dead or missing batteries; and

**WHEREAS,** the National Fire Alarm Code requires smoke detectors outside each sleeping area and on each level of the home and recommends testing smoke detectors at least once a month; and

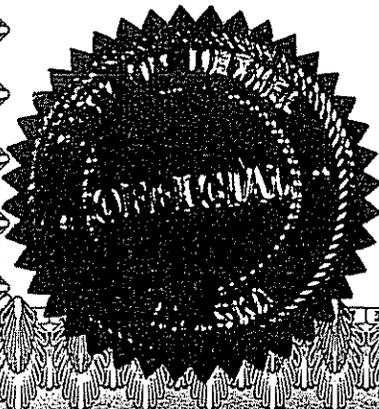
**WHEREAS,** a smoke detector that is not working cannot protect us from deadly smoke and fire, "Test Your Detector For Life" is an important message to communicate to our community; and

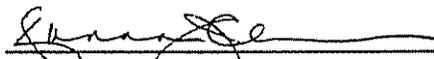
**WHEREAS,** the fire service of Bethel is dedicated to the safety of life and property from the devastating effects of fire; and

**WHEREAS,** those members of the fire service are joined by other concerned citizens of this city, as well as businesses, schools, service clubs and organizations in their fire safety efforts; and

**WHEREAS,** the local efforts of the fire services are supported by the activities of organizations such as the American Burn Association, the American Red Cross, the Congressional Fire Services Institute, the Fire Marshals Association of North America, the International Association of Arson Investigators, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the International Association of Fire Fighters, the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters, the National Association of State Fire Marshals, the National Fire Protection Association, the National Volunteer Fire Council, and the United States Fire Administration.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Donna Chris, Mayor of Bethel, do hereby proclaim the week of October 9-15, 1994, as Fire Prevention Week. This week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which killed 300 persons, left 100,000 homeless and destroyed more than 17,000 buildings. I call upon the people of Bethel to participate in fire prevention activities at home, work and school, and to heed the message: "Test Your Detector for Life" as the 1994 Fire Prevention Week theme suggests.



  
Donna J. Chris, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Connie Tucker, City Clerk