



City of Bethel Proclamation
Proclaiming July 1 through July 7, 2012
Alaska Territorial Guard Week in the City of Bethel

WHEREAS, the Alaska Territorial Guard (ATG) Park Planning Group has set July 3, 2012 as the Alaska Territorial Guard Memorial Park dedication;

WHEREAS, the Memorial Park will be located near the Veterans Memorial Cemetery and will be the permanent location for the Alaska Territorial Guardsman statue;

WHEREAS, the ATG Memorial Park is established to remember and honor these 6,368 individuals ranging in age from twelve to eighty, for their heroism in defending the Alaska coast during WWII;

WHEREAS, the ATG was a military reserve force of the US Army, organized in 1942 in response to attacks on United States soil in Hawaii and occupation of parts of Alaska by Japan during World War II;

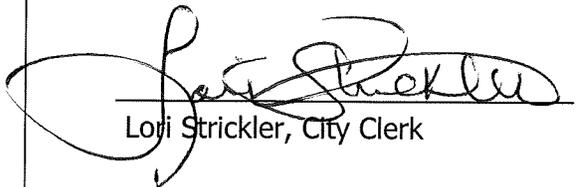
WHEREAS, the ATG volunteers also known as Eskimo Scouts consisted of members from 107 communities throughout Alaska, for the first time into a joint effort the ATG brought together members of many ethnic groups such as: Aleut, Athabascan, White, Inupiaq, Haida, Tlingit, Tsimshian, Yup'ik and more, the ATG was monumental in promoting racial equality in the communities they were serving in;

WHEREAS, with the mission of playing a defensive role for the entire cost of Alaska, the ATG was organized in June of 1942 until March 31, 1947 and served many vital strategic purposes during the War such as, safeguarding the only source of strategic metal (Platinum) in the Western Hemisphere against Japanese attack; secured the terrain around the vital Lend-Lease air route between the United States and Russia; and placed and maintained survival caches primarily along transportation corridors and costal regions;

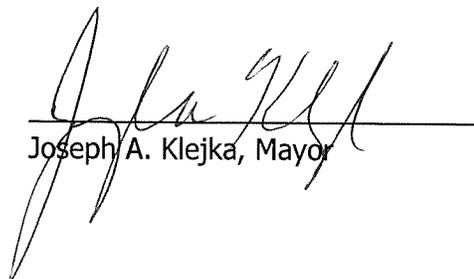
WHEREAS, the City would like to recognize the ATG members who worked so hard to protect not only this great state, but the nation;

THEREFORE, the City of Bethel, City Council, does hereby proclaim July 1 through July 7, 2012 Alaska Territorial Guard Week in the City of Bethel, and invites all citizens of Bethel and the surrounding communities to support and participate in this time of remembrance and commemoration of their heroic actions during World War II. .

Signed this 27th day in March, 2012.



Lori Strickler, City Clerk



Joseph A. Klejka, Mayor