

## **Sumter County Fire Prevention 2010 Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the Sumter County Board of County Commissioners is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our County; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally; and

WHEREAS, homes are where people are at greatest risk to fire; and

WHEREAS, nearly 3,000 people die each year as a result of home fires; and

WHEREAS, roughly two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from homes in which no smoke alarms or no *working* smoke alarms were present; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a reported fire in half; and

WHEREAS, the National Fire Protection Association recommends at least one smoke alarm on every level of the home (including the basement), outside all sleeping areas, and in all bedrooms; and

WHEREAS, informing the public about the importance of smoke alarm installation and maintenance serves an essential step toward increasing the public's safety from home fires; and

WHEREAS, Sumter County Fire Rescue and The Villages Public Safety firefighters are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire deaths and injuries through prevention and proper education; and

WHEREAS, Sumter County residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal responsibility to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the latest annual statistics for Sumter County Fire Rescue and The Villages Public Safety from the State Fire Marshal's Office show that Sumter County's fire departments responded to 278 actual fires, including 62 working structure fires which have the greatest potential for loss of life; and

WHEREAS, the men and women of Sumter County Fire Rescue and The Villages Public Safety Departments do an outstanding job each and everyday, and during the month of October will be doing extra duty educating the public throughout Sumter County on Fire Prevention Activities, and the importance of working residential smoke alarms; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Prevention Week 2010, October 3-9 theme, "Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With!" actively works to motivate Sumter County residents to implement smoke alarm recommendations in their homes;

NOW THEREFORE, the Sumter County Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim October 3-9, 2010 as Fire Prevention Week throughout our county and urge all people of Sumter County to protect their homes and families by heeding the potentially life-saving messages of Fire Prevention Week 2010.

### ***Fire Prevention Week***

DULY PROCLAIMED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2010

Attest:

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Clerk

Board of County Commissioners  
Sumter County, Florida

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Doug Gilpin, Chairman