

City of Albany

Proclamation

IN RECOGNITION OF FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 4-10, 2020

WHEREAS, the City of Albany is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Albany; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and;

WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,630 people in the United States in 2017, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 357,000 home fires; and

WHEREAS, cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States where fire departments responded to more than 173,200 annually between 2013 and 2017; and

WHEREAS, two of every five home fires start in the kitchen with 31% of these fires resulting from unattended cooking; and

WHEREAS, more than half of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves; and

WHEREAS, children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire; and

WHEREAS, Albany residents should stay in the kitchen when frying food on the stovetop, keep a three-foot kid-free zone around cooking areas and keep anything that can catch fire away from stove tops; and

WHEREAS, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Fire Prevention Week theme™, “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!!” effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim October 4-10, 2020, as Fire Prevention Week, and urges all the people of Albany to check their kitchens and other areas in the home for fire hazards and use safe cooking practices.

Dated: October 5, 2020



NICK PILCH, MAYOR