

WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,800 people, and fire departments responded to 338,000 home fires in the United States in 2021, according to the National Fire Protection Association; and

WHEREAS, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States, accounting for half of all U.S. home fires, and cooking is the leading cause of home fires in Clay County, accounting for 16% of all Clay County home fires; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 National Fire Prevention Week theme is: “*Cooking safety starts with you*”, to remind everyone to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires; and

WHEREAS, practicing simple cooking safety techniques such as always keeping a close eye on what you are cooking, turning pot handles toward the back of the stove, keeping a lid nearby to smother flames, and keeping children and pets away from the stove can dramatically reduce the risk of a cooking fire; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of house fire deaths in half, and residents who plan and practice a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, Clay County Fire Rescue is dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and education, and any resident who needs a smoke alarm or help installing a smoke alarm can contact the fire marshal’s office at 904-541-2757.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners, Clay County, Florida, does hereby proclaim, October 8-14, 2023, as

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IN CLAY COUNTY

and in so doing, encourages all Clay County residents to check their kitchens for fire hazards and use safe cooking practices throughout the year.

DULY ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners, Clay County, Florida this 10th day of October 2023.

ATTEST:

Tara S. Green
Clerk of Court & Comptroller
Ex Officio Clerk of the Board

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