

Fatalities High in Bush—

Steps for Fire Protection

Special to the Tundra Times

"The recent holocaust in Nondalton is an unfortunate example of our concern over fire losses in small communities located in relatively isolated areas. Nondalton had not submitted an application for revenue funds for fire protection. The community of approximately 180 persons was eligible for about \$900," Fire Marshall Ron Hendrie said today.

The fire marshal said the following steps can be taken by villages to form a fire department.

1) The council should pass an

ordinance authorizing the operation of a volunteer fire department.

2) A fire chief should be appointed or elected by the council.

3) Training for volunteers may be obtained by submitting a request to either the Fire Marshal's Office, Pouch N, Juneau, or Bill Hagevig, Division of Vocational Education (Fire Service Training), Pouch, Juneau.

4) Bill Hagevig, Bob Smith, representatives from the fire marshal's office, or trained fire chiefs

from the closest village will be sent to instruct members of the new department.

5) The fire chief can obtain help in figuring out what equipment and programs would be best for his village, by writing to Ron Malotte, Alaska Federation of Natives, 1675 C St., Anchorage, Alaska.

6) Ron Malotte will then send representatives to the villages to talk with fire chiefs about their needs.

A recent example of a pro-

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Fire Protection . . .

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gram for fire prevention has been the information supplied by AFN in the purchase of fire extinguishers. They show how to purchase extinguishers using revenue sharing funds.

Extinguishers may be purchased in bulk. Community and Regional Affairs will pay the amount for the extinguishers out of the village's revenue sharing fund, and then send a check for the balance to the village, if the village determines that it desires extinguishers. (Other equipment may be more desirable depending on the village needs.)