

# STATE OF ALASKA



## *Executive Proclamation* by *Governor Sean Parnell*

WHEREAS, the identity of a people is rooted in knowledge of our history, which gives insight into the past and wisdom for the future; and

WHEREAS, much of Alaska's remarkable history is contained in thousands of records in the form of photographs, letters, diaries, transcripts, videos, electronic files, and other items maintained by the Alaska State Archives and by university and community collections; and

WHEREAS, the expertise and effort of archivists and curators is essential to the preservation of our important historical materials. In evaluating, caring for, and organizing records of our past, these professionals act as trustees of our corporate memory; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Archives contains records dating from 1874 to the present, documenting Alaska's territorial past, our progress to statehood, and the decades since. Our State records provide insight into the lives of people who inhabited and settled this great land; and

WHEREAS, Archives Month is observed nationally during the month of October to remind us of the great value of primary and secondary historical documents. The work of archivists through the years offers Alaskans the opportunity to investigate family genealogies, the groundwork for policies, and the stories which have led to our own time.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sean Parnell, Governor of the State of Alaska, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as:

### *Archives Month*

in Alaska, and encourage Alaskans to appreciate the extraordinary opportunities afforded by a modern, well-kept archival system, and use them to explore the richness of our history.

Dated: September 11, 2012



A handwritten signature of Sean Parnell in black ink.

*Sean Parnell, Governor  
who has also authorized the  
seal of the State of Alaska to  
be affixed to this proclamation.*