



WHEREAS, Gaston County is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our county; and,

WHEREAS, in 2017, U.S. fire departments responded to more than 1.3 million fires according to the National Fire Protection Association; and,

WHEREAS, of the nearly 500,000 structure fires occurring in 2017, they resulted in an estimated 3,400 civilian deaths, 15,000 civilian injuries, and over \$23 billion of property loss; and,

WHEREAS, this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere," works to educate people about three basic steps to take to reduce the likelihood of having a fire — and how to escape safely in the event of one:

**"LOOK"** for places fire could start. Take a good look around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.

**"LISTEN"** for the sound of the smoke alarm. You could have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Go to your outside meeting place, which should be a safe distance from the home and where everyone should know to meet.

**"LEARN"** two ways out of every room and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims October 7-13, 2018, as

## **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

throughout this community. We urge all citizens to "Look. Listen. Learn." and to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts of Gaston County's fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2018.

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Chad Brown, Chairman

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Jack B. Brown

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Tom Keigher, Vice-Chairman

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Allen R. Fraley

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Tracy L. Philbeck

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Bob Hovis

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Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 23<sup>rd</sup> Day of October 2018