



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

WHEREAS, according to the National Fire Protection Association in 2017, U.S. fire departments responded to 357,000 home structure fires. These fires caused 2,630 deaths and 10,600 injuries. On average, seven (7) people died in a home fire per day during 2012 to 2016; and,

WHEREAS, these numbers show that home fires continue to pose a significant threat to safety and in a typical fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape from the time a smoke alarm sounds; and,

WHEREAS, this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!" works to educate people on the importance of escape planning and practice to help you make the most of the time you have in an emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims October 6-12, 2019, as

### **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

throughout this community. We urge all citizens to "Plan and Practice Your Escape" and to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts of Gaston County's fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2019.

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Tracy L. Philbeck, Chairman

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Chad Brown, Vice-Chairman

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Bob Hovis

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Jack B. Brown

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Tom Keigher

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Allen R. Fraley

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Ronald E. Worley



# Gaston County

Gaston County  
Board of Commissioners  
www.gastongov.com

## Fire Marshal

## Board Action

File #: 19-369

Commissioner Chad Brown - Fire Marshal - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of October 6-12, 2019 as Fire Prevention Week and Adopt the Theme: Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!

### STAFF CONTACT

Eric Hendrix - Fire Marshal - 704 866-3231

### BACKGROUND

National Fire Prevention Week is observed across the United States each year during the first full week (Sunday thru Saturday) that contains the date of October 9th. It commemorates the Great Chicago Fire, a horrific conflagration that burned from Sunday, October 8, to early Tuesday, October 10, 1871. The fire killed more than 250 people, destroyed more than 17,400 structures, and burned more than 2000 acres of land in Chicago. In the United States, the first Presidential proclamation of Fire Prevention Week was made in 1925 by President Calvin Coolidge. The non-profit NFPA (National Fire Protection Association), which has officially sponsored Fire Prevention Week since its inception, selects the annual theme for Fire Prevention Week. On the 40th anniversary (1911) of the Great Chicago Fire, the Fire Marshals Association of North America; the oldest membership section of the NFPA, sponsored the first National Fire Prevention Day, deciding to observe the anniversary as a way to keep the public informed about the importance of fire prevention. This year's FPW campaign, "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!" works to educate everyone about the small but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

### ATTACHMENTS

Proclamation

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	CBrown	JBrown	AFrale	BHovis	TKeigher	TPhilbeck	RWorley	Vote
2019-286	10/22/2019	RW	AF	A	A	A	A	AB	A	A	U

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