



P18-_____

Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

To designate the Week of October 7-13, 2018, as Fire Prevention Week

WHEREAS, the Village of Westmont is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Westmont; and

WHEREAS, U.S. fire departments responded to 365,500 home fires in 2015, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and U.S. home fires resulted in 2,560 civilian deaths in 2015, representing the majority (78 percent) of all U.S. fire deaths; and

WHEREAS, newer homes are built with lightweight materials that burn faster than older home constructions and many of today’s products and furnishings produce toxic gases and smoke when burned, making it impossible to see and breathe within moments; and

WHEREAS, these conditions contribute to a much smaller window of time for people to escape a home fire safely, with people having as little as one to two minutes to escape from the time the smoke alarm sounds; and

WHEREAS, a home fire escape plan provides the skill set and know-how to quickly and safely escape a home fire situation, should be developed by all members of the household, and practiced by everyone twice a year; and

WHEREAS, a home fire escape plan includes two exits from every room in the home; a path to the outside from each exit; smoke alarms in all required locations; and a meeting place outside where everyone in the home will meet upon exiting; and

WHEREAS, Westmont first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education and Westmont residents are responsive to the education and take measures to increase their safety; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Fire Prevention Week theme, “Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware!” Fire can happen anywhere,” works to educate about three basic but essential steps to take to reduce the likelihood of having a fire – and how to escape safely in the event of one; and

THEREFORE, I Ronald J. Gunter, Mayor of Westmont do hereby proclaim October 7-13, 2018, as Fire Prevention Week throughout this village, and I urge all the people of Westmont to develop a home fire escape plan with all members of the household and practice it twice a year, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Westmont fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2018.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Westmont, DuPage County, Illinois, this 27th day of September, 2018.

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Absent: _____

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Ronald J. Gunter
Mayor

Virginia Szymiski
Village Clerk