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EDITORS: The following information is for immediate release. If you have any questions, please contact Evelyn Walker, Chester County Executive Administrator, at (610) 344-6024.

Commissioners proclaim Fire Prevention Week in Chester County

WEST CHESTER _ Under the theme of “Practice Your Escape Plan”, the Chester County Board of Commissioners today proclaimed the week of October 7 – 13, 2007 as Fire Prevention Week. The proclamation adds to other local, county, state and national observances emphasizing the importance of fire safety and prevention, and recognizing the contributions of the Fire Service.

Fire Prevention Week has been a successful public safety campaign for more than 80 years, thanks to the hundreds of thousands of firefighters across the United States who work to reach citizens they serve with fire safety messages.

This year’s “Practice Your Escape Plan” message reminds the public that fire can spread rapidly through homes, leaving as little as two minutes to escape safely once the alarm sounds. The ability to get out depends on advance warning from smoke alarms, and advance planning – a home fire escape plan that everyone in the family is familiar with and has practiced. Fire prevention and safety in the home is vital to the reduction in fire deaths, injuries and property loss.

During Fire Prevention Week, the Chester County Department of Emergency Services urges everyone to visit their local fire department to meet the volunteer firefighters whose efforts and commitment keep us safe every day of the year. The Fire Services of Chester County also need volunteers to help with the business and non-firefighting operations of local fire departments. For more information, contact your local fire department.