# A PROCLAMATION DECLARING

# FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

# OCTOBER 4-10, 2020

**WHEREAS**, Curry County is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Curry County; and

**WHEREAS**, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

**WHEREAS**, home fires killed more than 2,630 people in the United States in 2017, according to the National Fire Protection Association, and fire departments in the United States responded to 357,000 home fires; and

**WHEREAS**, cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States where fire departments responded to more than 173,200 annually between 2013 and 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, two of every five home fires start in the kitchen with 31% of these fires resulting from unattended cooking; and

**WHEREAS**, more than half of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves; and

**WHEREAS**, children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire; and

**WHEREAS**, Curry County's residents should stay in the kitchen when frying food on the stovetop, keep a three-foot kid-free zone around cooking areas and keep anything that can catch fire away from stove tops; and

**WHEREAS**, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

**WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

**WHEREAS**, Curry County's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

**WHEREAS**, Curry County's residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2020 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!" effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires.

**THEREFORE**, I Ben McDaniel, Curry County Commission Chairman, do hereby proclaim October 4-10, 2020, as Fire Prevention Week throughout Curry County, and I urge all the people of Curry County to check their kitchens for fire hazards and use safe cooking practices during Fire Prevention Week 2020 and beyond, and to support the public safety activities and efforts of Curry County's fire and emergency services.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have here unto subscribed my name to be affixed this 6th day of October 2020.

Ben McDaniel, Chairman

Attest:

(Seal)

Annie Hogland, County Clerk