



THANK YOU

For printing this press release

From Jane Skala, Advertising & Public Relations Manager

434 Route 134 ♦ P.O. Box 1601 ♦ South Dennis, MA 02660

508-760-4626 Phone ♦ 508-258-2126 Fax

Oct. 2, 2009

National Fire Prevention Week Celebrated

This year Oct. 4-10 is National Fire Prevention Week and Rogers & Gray Insurance Agency, as it has done for more than 50 years, is providing fire education and prevention materials to fire departments and schoolchildren from the South Shore through the Lower Cape. More than 10,000 red plastic fire hats will be distributed!

Rogers & Gray urges you to reinforce fire safety in your homes throughout the year, and reminds you to be sure to check the batteries in your smoke detectors regularly.

You are invited to stop by any Rogers & Gray office from Oct. 5-9 to pick up information on fire prevention and safety. Offices are located in Canton, Falmouth, Hyannis, Norwell, Orleans, Plymouth, South Dennis, South Sandwich and Wareham.

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. This fire began on Oct. 8, but continued into, and did most of its damage on, Oct. 9.

Also on Oct. 8 of the same year, the Peshtigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history, roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burning down 16 towns, killing 1152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres!

These fires changed the way firefighters and officials thought about fire safety. On the 40th anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire, the Fire Marshals Association of North America decided that the anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire should hereafter be observed in a way that would keep the public informed about the importance of fire prevention and since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which Oct. 9 falls.