



NEWS RELEASE

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(Working Smoke Alarms...a Fire Escape Plan...AND CLOSED DOORS...Save Lives!)

Most people know that a working smoke alarm and a home fire escape plan can increase your likelihood of surviving a fire, but a CLOSED DOOR? TVF&R recently responded to an apartment fire in which the entire unit was destroyed - **with the exception of a child's bedroom with a closed door.** With no one home, the fire burned undetected, destroying everything in its path. However, the child's room and contents were spared by a closed door which acted as a barrier to smoke and flames until firefighters arrived and extinguished the fire. This incident serves as a reminder that a closed door can be a valuable defense during a fire.

National Fire Prevention Week is October 7-13 and a perfect time to remember that having working smoke alarms and knowing what to do when fire breaks out, can save your life. In addition, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue advocates closing bedroom doors at night for added protection from the deadly smoke that can spread throughout a home, long before the flames ever do. In addition, a closed door can buy you time – time to be rescued - if you cannot escape due to deadly smoke and heat outside your bedroom.

To learn more about maintaining your smoke alarm and creating a home fire escape plan, and see the dramatic photos from the above-referenced apartment fire, visit Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue's website at www.tvfr.com and click on "**What's Your Plan? Tips to Survive a Fire**"

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