

## TOWN OF AREXH CAROLINA

## Proclamation

## Fire Prevention Week 2023

from the Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, Fire is a serious public safety concern, and the Town of Apex is committed to educating the public about prevention strategies, and implementing measures that help mitigate fire risk; and,

WHEREAS, Home fires killed more than 2,800 people in the United States in 2021, and fire departments responded to 338,000 home fire calls across the country; and,

WHEREAS, 40% of home fires start in kitchens, with more than half of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurring from victims attempting to fight the fires themselves; and,

WHEREAS, Some kitchen fire safety measures residents can take include turning pot handles toward the back of the stove, keeping a lid nearby when cooking, maintaining a 3 foot "kid free zone" around hot kitchen appliances, setting timers to remind themselves of cooking, and planning and practicing a fire escape plan; and,

WHEREAS, Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in home fires in half, and Town of Apex first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence and impact of home fires through prevention and protection education.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of Apex, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of October 8 - October 14, "Fire Prevention Week" in the Town of Apex, and urge all residents to use fire protection measures and remember the 2023 fire prevention theme: "Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention."

I hereby set my hand and have caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina, to be affixed this the 10th day of October 2023

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Jacques Gilbert, Mayor