

This is Fire Prevention Week

Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Mike Causey, along with other state and local fire officials, kicked off Fire Prevention Week on Monday by reminding North Carolinians that, "Every second counts: Plan two ways out."



A 1905 American LaFrance horse-drawn steamer.

Raleigh Fire Chief John McGrath said extinguishing fires is not the only mission of the fire department. "The core mission is the prevention of those fires," Chief McGrath said. "The best fire is the one that doesn't occur. But if it does, we want people to understand that they are more important than anything. Things can be replaced. People cannot."

Chief McGrath said every fire department has a major commitment of people safely getting out of a fire. He said Fire Prevention Week is an important opportunity to

recommit to the message of reminding people of fire prevention basics.

Terrell Watkins is one of those survivors. Twenty-seven years ago, at age 13, Watkins was severely burned in a fire. He said 75 percent of his body was burned, all third-degree burns from the waist up. He praised the firefighters standing behind him at Monday's kickoff, and the people at the N.C. Burn Center in Chapel Hill who helped him recover.

"That particular place could have been my grave, but the powers that be said that this is not the time for you right now," Watkins said. "Ever since that day, I try to live my life to the fullest and let the other survivors know they can still make it."

Watkins went on to play football at Winston-Salem State University and spends time at Camp Celebrate, a weekend camp for children who have survived burn injuries at the N.C. Burn Center in Chapel Hill.

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McLeod Urologist Dr. Kevin O'Kelly Now in Cheraw



Dr. Kevin O'Kelly

This is a release from McLeod Health: As part of our commitment to serving Chesterfield and Marlboro County, McLeod Urologist Dr. Kevin O'Kelly of McLeod Urology Associates will now offer appointments in Cheraw.

Beginning November 1, Dr. O'Kelly will see patients by appointment at Cheraw Family Medicine, 710 Chesterfield Hwy, on every other Wednesday. For more information, call (843) 777-7555.

Dr. O'Kelly provides care for the full spectrum of urologic concerns including Kidney Stones, Urinary Tract Infections, Urinary Incontinence, Voiding Dysfunction, Infertility and Erectile Dysfunction, and Prostate and Urologic Cancers.

Dr. O'Kelly is no stranger to our region, having treated patients as part of the medical staff of McLeod Regional Medical Center since 1993. He received his Doctor of Medicine from St. Georges School of Medicine, completed a General Surgery residency at the State University of New York, and a urology residency (Chief Resident) at The University of South Florida. An active community leader, Dr. O'Kelly has served on the Francis Marion University Board of Trustees, Francis Marion University School of Nursing Advisory Board, and the University of South Carolina Board of Visitors. Dr. O'Kelly and his wife, Tonya, are parents of four children. Dr. O'Kelly welcomes new patients.

Trick or Treat at the Sheriff's Office October 31

Sheriff Landric Reid would like to invite all trick or treaters out to the Ansonia County Sheriff's Office parking lot on Tuesday, October 31. Treats will be given out between 5 and 8 p.m. Everyone is urged to please come out and participate in this fun filled event. It will give parents and their children a secure opportunity to participate in an enjoyable Halloween festivity, in a safe and well lighted environment.

The Sheriff's Office is located at 119 North Washington Street in Wadesboro.

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For tickets and more information contact:

Cassandra Reid- 704-695-7097

Christine Hall- 704-690-2596



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