

THE FIREHOUSE SCENE



is a publication of the
Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District

May 2020

Fire Chief Don Shoevlin

Editor Sheryl Drost



EMS STRONG

READY TODAY. PREPARING FOR TOMORROW.
National EMS WEEK - May 17-23, 2020





FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK
BY FIRE CHIEF DON SHOEVLIN

I hope this finds all of you all in good health, staying home, being smart, and staying safe.

Another month of the Governor's Stay at Home Order. We are all itching to get out and about, myself included. I encourage us all to wear a mask when you do go out and maintain that social distance. Missing those grandkids bunches. Even though we have the great technology of talking and seeing them through our phones, computers or laptops, it is not the same as tickling or hugging them. The more we give it our best shot to return to what we consider normalcy, the quicker we can get back to being with family and friends. I assure you that all of the members remain committed to the oath they have taken and are working for you, so please stay home for us, or if out please protect yourself so they can continue to do what they do best, protect you.

May is the month that we recognize and celebrate those in EMS (Emergency Medical Services). It is the commitment and dedication of all the personnel that in my opinion make us second to none. Harlem Roscoe can operate four ALS (advance life support) ambulances because of their commitment and your support. Currently on our roster we have 20 Paramedics and 16 EMT's along with 39 others, non-EMS personnel who respond. This is a great accomplishment and you should be proud of yourself and one another for going above and beyond the call of duty. Our communities deserve the best and all of you have seen that they receive it.

The month of May also contains a most deserving day for all the Moms of our district and those who are members of our department and department family. This year may be different from all the previous, but we will never forget you. I would like to share this poem with you all. Every time I read it, I cannot think of any words to say to a MOM other than thank you and give them a hug. I wonder, do we thank all of them enough for all they endure and for all the love they share. It is my pleasure and honor to share this with all Moms on THEIR day.



*A Mother's love is something that no one can explain,
It is made of deep devotion and of sacrifice and pain,
It is endless and unselfish and enduring come what may
For nothing can destroy it or take that love away . . .
It is patient and forgiving when all others are forsaking,
And it never fails or falters even though the heart is breaking . . .
It believes beyond believing when the world around condemns,
And it glows with all the beauty of the rarest, brightest gems . . .*

By Helen Steiner Rice

I have not forgotten my statement of sharing history and the duty, pride and tradition of this department during its 80th Anniversary year, in my articles as previously stated. They will be forthcoming as things quiet down. Hopefully, next month.

Your continuous and generous support is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call me, this is your fire department. Don't forget to keep up on the progress of your fire department by visiting our website www.harlemroscoefire.com, we can also be found on Facebook, so go ahead and friend us.

Be Safe, *Chief Shoevlin*

NATIONAL EMS WEEK

EMS STRONG

READY TODAY, PREPARING FOR TOMORROW

*Always ready to bravely answer the call to provide care,
Comfort and support to those in need.
Compassion lies at the heart of everything you do and it shows.
For all you do for our community,*

THANK YOU!

Paramedics: DC John Bergeron, BC Jay Alms, Capt. John Donovan, Capt. Patrick Trollop, Lt. Nate Sarver, Lt. Ryan Sarver, Lt. Jordan Stark, Kim Fleming, Dylan Lakey, Taylor Larson, David Leslie, Rob Lukowski, Sam McNames, John Morgan, Steve Rosander, Brandon Sherbon, Kyle Swanson, Pedro Villasenor, Bret Whiting, and Chris Witcik,

EMTs - Chief Shoevlin, BC Tom Aaker, Tim Bergeron, Capt. Mike Huffman, Hanna Benard, Adam Eich, Justin Harwood, John Hawkins, Joseph Koeninger, Gus Larson, Alissa Neubauer, Mike Sherbon, Cecilia Ster, Greg Wernick, Andrew Wiechman, and Tyler Young.

GARAGE FIRE
PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST

Firefighters responded to Longfellow Ln. in Machesney Park for a garage fire on March 23rd. A MABAS Alarm was pulled when heavy smoke was reported, but canceled after first in crews were able to extinguish the fire quickly. No one was injured and the fire is believed accidental.



SMOKE INVESTIGATION
PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST

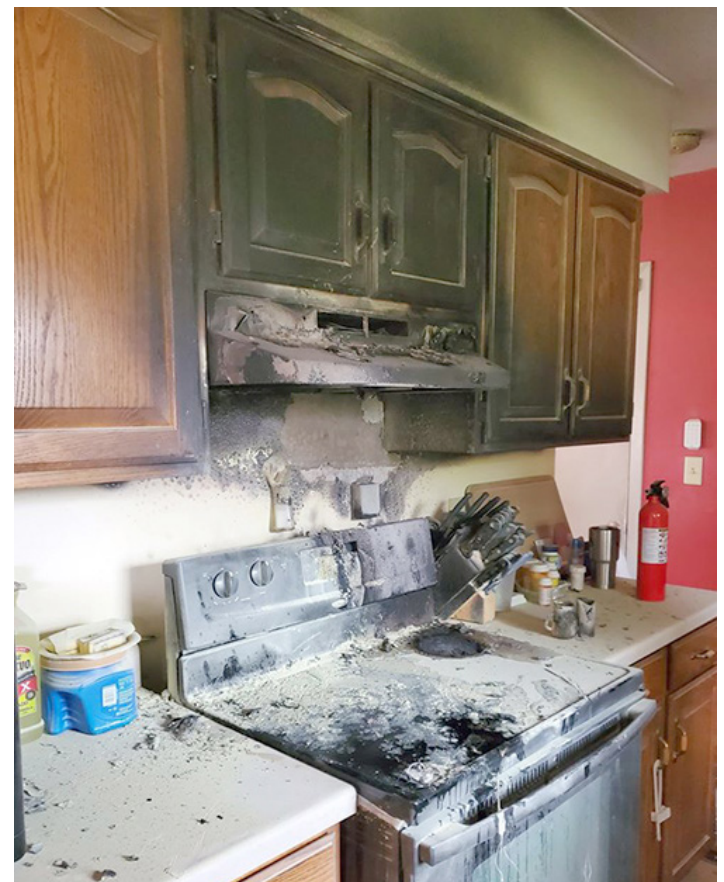
Firefighters responded to a report of possible smoke inside the building at 1017 West Lane at 3:11pm on April 23rd. A small amount of smoke was found and believed to be an electrical issue. Aerial 751 was used to put firefighters on the roof to check roof top units. Com Ed was called to the scene.



BASKET OF CLOTHES ON FIRE
PHOTOS BY BC AAKER



Firefighter responded to Poppy Dr. on April 25th for a report of a basket of clothes on fire. First in units found the home was full of smoke and fire at the stove area. The fire was extinguished and the smoke evacuated from the building. Seems the fire started in basket of clothes sitting on top of an electric stove.





FIRE APPARATUS BY LT. NATE SARVER

When you ask someone to imagine a fire truck they will most likely picture a big “boxy” red truck, and anytime between the days of the first steam-powered fire engines to today’s modern truck that would be a fair representation. Outside of that visual image though, the differences are vast between those trucks of past, present, and future.



Fire apparatus in service today throughout the country are finding less and less in common with the apparatus that were even made 15 or 20 years ago. The features, tools, safety devices, methods of construction, etc, have changed dramatically over time and the implementation of new ideas and design don’t appear to be slowing down.

Safety has been a large part of what the fire service is all about and protecting the fire firefighters is where that starts. Fire engines have always been a very specialized piece of equipment serving a specific purpose. Due to that reason, for a long time, it wasn’t uncommon to find fire engines without the “latest and greatest” in vehicle safety devices you’d find in your normal consumer vehicles.

20 years ago you would still find departments having firefighters riding outside the fire truck on the way to the call. Older operating fire trucks still utilize the “open” cab design. But in modern trucks firefighters sit securely and restrained in specially designed seats enclosed in protective cabs. We are finding airbag systems that nearly envelope all occupants separately in the event of a crash. Cab roofs that can withstand at least twice the weight the entire truck to protect its occupants if a rollover occurs. Future trucks could be implementing radar and other collision detection devices to prevent accidents.

Newer trucks use lighting and siren designs to ensure when operating in an emergency situation other motorists are able to identify the vehicle and respond appropriately. Different light patterns, colors, and frequencies are tried in an attempt to “catch the eye.” Sirens that sound different or that even send out vibrations that can be physically felt by the drivers ahead of them. In the “connected” world of the future new technologies will allow fire trucks to send an alert to those ahead of them using various driving and navigation Apps that a fire truck is approaching them even before they might hear or see the truck.

Keeping firefighters safe while balancing the needs to provide the unique service that firefighters provide has always been the goal, but newer developments and technologies allow firefighters to be safer without the compromise for function.

How the fire truck performs it’s job has changed greatly over the years. It used to be that the driver would literally have to “man the pump.” The driver would manually open and close the valves on the water pump, and be constantly adjusting engine speeds to adjust water pressures to all the deployed hoses. Modern fire trucks implement simple computers to regulate engine speeds and pressures, needing only some input from the driver. Electric motors and valves reduce strain and workload on the driver opening and closing valves. Newer technologies even allow the driver to control the functions of the fire truck from afar with wireless controls and computers.

Future fire trucks will be utilizing even more computers and AI technologies allowing the fire truck on a scene to virtually run and operate itself allowing the driver to take part in the rest of the crew’s assignments, making them safer and more efficient at helping those in need. Modern fire trucks are utilizing cellular mobile hot spots and WiFi points for firefighters as not only backups to traditional radio communications, but to power devices such as streaming cameras, GPS tracking capabilities, and instant messaging and communication with Dispatch services to name a few. Future fire trucks will build on that even more with AI controlled drone support, on-board computers to monitor firefighter biometrics, or self driving/driver assistance technologies.

One obvious difference most will notice between older fire trucks and modern ones are size. Newer fire trucks tend to be larger than their older counterparts. Older trucks were built mostly of heavy duty steel and then unpainted surfaces had heavy chrome plating applied to prevent corrosion. All these heavy materials led to constraints in size in order to keep overall weight down. Modern trucks are being built with lightweight yet very strong metal alloys and composites. Reduced weight in construction material allow more of the overall weight of the vehicle being dedicated to the tools and safety devices that allow firefighters to perform their jobs. Lighter construction materials give manufacturers the ability to build longer ladders, larger compartments for tool storage, and increased cab space for occupant safety and comfort. Chrome plating tends to be more a traditional choice rather than a necessity due to new procedures in corrosion protection. Modern and future trucks are built with greater precision and detail allowing more efficient use of space and weight distribution. Future trucks will be built with even lighter materials that are from recycled or sustainable resources.

Older fire trucks would utilize large diesel engines with little to no computer control. Modern fire trucks are using more efficient computer controlled and optimized diesel engines with modern emission standards. Fire trucks of the not so distant future will be fully electric or a hybrid electric with a diesel or gasoline engine only to be a backup or provide extra power to the electric motors.

Over the years fire trucks have gone from very specialized pieces of equipment to a “jack-of-all-trades” role. But no matter the age, size, color, or equipment on board there will always be a special bond between the truck and those that depend on it. The fire truck is a symbol of service and protection to the community, and to those that rely on it to perform their jobs it is a symbol of tradition and dedication.



Celebrating 80 Years

Fire Apparatus by Sheryl Drost

The main reason the fire district was formed in 1940 was because of the need for a real fire truck. In 1944 the first unit was purchased and in 2020, the department owns 28 pieces of fire apparatus. In celebration of our 80th Anniversary, memories in this newsletter cover some highlights on the department's fire apparatus through the years.

In 2015 we published a 75th Anniversary History Book where you can see photos of all the apparatus and well as read stories from the early firefighters. There are still some books available to purchase at Station One when the quarantine is over. And there are also several copies at the North Suburban Library that can be looked at when they re-open. Also, on our website under apparatus, we have photos of every truck the department has owned. I will be posting some of the stories from the 75th Anniversary book of some of the memorable trucks on our Facebook Page as well, so be sure to friend us.

Next month's Issue - *Fire Chiefs*

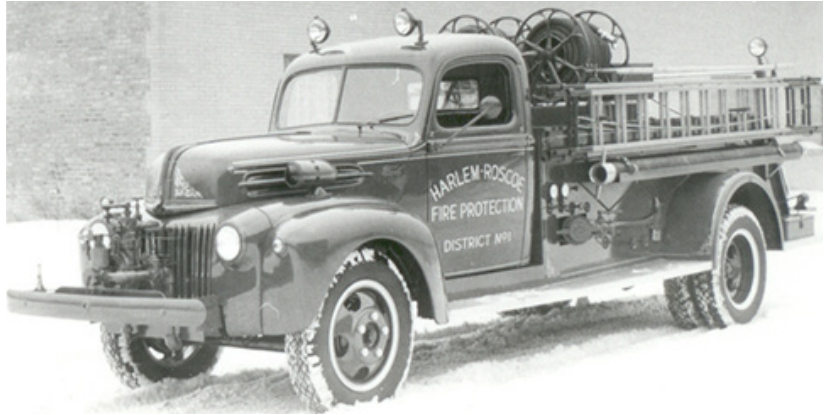




FIRE APPARATUS - Here are a few of the memorable ones:

ENGINE NO.1

In 1944, the district sold \$5,000.00 worth of bonds to help buy a 1944 fire truck that was purchased for \$10,000. Engine No.1 was sometimes called a pumper or a mini pumper, but by today's standards it was a grass rig. It carried 500 gallons of water and was used on many field fires, which were what most of the fires were in the early years. Several older firefighters have recalled the day they chased thirty-five plus field fires. You could set your clock to the fire siren when the noon train came by every day because it set off grass fires. It was a very busy truck that only needed two men to operate.



Left, The department's first tanker was a 1930s era truck bought second hand. It was a favorite of Firefighter Dale Selsors; he even named it Betsy. Dale shot this photo of his son, Dennis (5), in his long rubber fire coat they wore then.

Above, **GRASS UNIT 762** - The truck was a 1952 green surplus military vehicle the civil defense gave the district. It would go through anything, anywhere. Oh the stories associated with this truck! Of course, the unit would be painted red, but not before it receive its moniker of the "Green Weenie". It had four-wheel drive and was used as a grass truck and plow truck. It also had a winch and Indian Packs were installed on the sides for grass fires. The truck is currently on display at the Lane Motor Museum in Nashville, Tennessee.



ENGINE NO.6

In 1968, Engine No.6 was purchased for \$31,724.00. It was an International Harvester chassis, 285 HP, gasoline, V8. It was the first truck that had a cab over and could carry four firefighters up front as well as two riding on the tailboard.



ENGINE 704
1985 Pierce Engine with a 1,000 gallon tank and 1250 GPM pump, dept's first automatic

transmission, and was purchased for \$116,546.00. Engine 704 was unique in that it had a state-of-the-art top mounted instrument panel and four discharge connections, the same size as a typical hydrant outlet. The new top mounted panel design made it easier for the engineers to see the entire scene. The engine is currently used as a training engine.



AERIAL PLATFORM 751

2002 Pierce Dash Aerial 100 foot Aerial Platform 751 with an air conditioned enclosed cab that seated six. It is housed at Station One in the center of the fire district. It has a 500 HP engine, automatic transmission, 300 gallon tank, a 2000 GPM pump, a ten KW generator system, a multiplex 12-volt system, oversized compartments for extra storage, two Monitor nozzles on the basket, a Stokes basket rescue system, and an automatic leveling system.

QUINTS 752 & 753

A quintuple combination pumper or “Quint” is an apparatus that serves the dual purpose of an engine and a ladder truck. The name “Quint” refers to the five functions that a quint provides: pump, water tank, fire hose, aerial device and ground ladders. A 2006 Pierce Quint 752 was purchased for \$575,587 followed a year later by a 2007 Pierce Quint 753 for \$585,460.00. They are housed at Station Two and Three.



TENDERS 771 AND 773

The 1990s saw the era of the super tankers or Tenders as they are now called start for Harlem-Roscoe. A 3,000 gallon International Tender 771 was purchased in July of 1999 followed by Tender 773 in 2001.

The Tenders have a 500 GPM pump and with an automatic transmission that made them easy to operate. They are capable of drafting or supplying hand lines or large diameter hoses to another location, or they could dump the whole load in just over a minute. They also featured a “pump and roll” system which allowed them to pump water as they moved

GRASS TRUCK 763



This fast attack grass truck was purchased in 2015 to respond to grass/field fires and is capable to go off-road to fight vehicle or tractor fires. It is a Chevy 3500 crew cab chassis

with a 6.0L V* gas engine. It has safety jump seats with lap belts and hand Lines, Four 6 GPM ground sweep nozzles, a winch, a 300 gallon tank, and foam system.



NEW ENGINE 703

The newest engine in our apparatus fleet is a 2019 Rosenbauer Commander EXT Engine with a 1000 gallon tank and Ultra High Pressure System. Cost \$599,925. This engine is currently housed at Fire Station #3.



TRAINING MINUTES
2ND QUARTER
 BY BATTALION CHIEF TOM AAKER

Happy May Day!

I write this on May Day weekend and how quickly the weather changed over for the weekend. Unfortunately, the holiday, or time period of May Day, is probably not being celebrated as much as it has in the past. Typically, many flower focused festivals and events would be going on throughout the globe. With our current situation I have to imagine a lot of them are canceled or significantly modified. The only tradition I knew growing up was, as a kid I would bring a potted flower or plant to a member in the family that we don't always get to see, or we would pick a family member at random. My grandmother was in charge of who I went to, basically we would set the plant outside their front door and leave a note and picture with Happy May Day somewhere. So it was our way of bringing a little happiness to someone life.

I imagine if we all did that for those that can't get out right now it would definitely touch some peoples lives. I think the heart idea brings a lot of that, and you hear stories of neighbors keeping track of neighbors; really that's all that's needed. You can tell people are starting to get itchy to get outside and or just get out of the house. Traffic has increased, people out doing "errands" The only advise I can give you is that you should follow the guidelines we have been given. Ignore all the politics, ignore all the ignorance, stay positive, and stay safe. There is a light at the end of the tunnel.

Everyone has been impacted by this pandemic that we are dealing with right now. We finished up February with our Firefighter Survival Training. This was a task of following a hose line through a building while being blindfolded, or having limited visibility. This helps firefighters to use other senses when they become lost or disoriented during a fire and they need to find their way out. We do this at our training tower and its more of an individual effort than a team training. This helps us evaluate how are people are as an individual and gives us ideas on different training topics for the future.

We then started out completing our hose advancement drills as we ended February and started March. These drills are considered run out drills, or as close to the real thing as possible drills. Firefighter break up into groups or two and complete two scenarios twice, switching roles after each evolution.

One scenario is our basic bread and butter scenario, advancing a hose line into a house to the kitchen. This is a mock of a single story residential run out drill. We practice basic hose advancement and our donning skills of our breathing equipment. The second scenario is advancing line up to a second story. This drill takes a lot more energy and is a lot tougher to complete. We only get about three groups done on each scenario each night so this drill was going to take a while. We however, cut short our training as

the department, just like most of you, had to go on a type of lock down. We wanted to limit the exposure potential of our people. So we canceled the rest on March.

Just like you we were wondering, "How do we go on?". What do we do next? Just like some, if not most of you, we adapted. Starting in April, we moved our training to online activities. We have a lot of videos and educational materials out there that we can pull from and learn from. We started leaning or reviewing the science of fire and how suppression works. We have been watching UL studies and programs from fire agencies to help keep current in our firefighting skills. United Laboratories out of Northbrook has been doing multiple studies for years on how fire acts and reacts in different types of homes. There is much to be learned from these studies and reviewing these online programs helps us think about fires not just react. We will continue on these programs into the foreseeable future.

The future as of today is unknown, as the restrictions and guidelines change, we will continue to adapt our training to the new guidelines set forth. We will continue to adapt and change how we do things in order to offer the best care that we can and mitigate the emergency situation as quickly as possible. I would ask that you try to do the same. Understand the guidelines that have been set forth, follow the guidelines, and adapt to the change. BE SAFE!

Congratulations



HRFD Firefighter Cecilia Ster earned and received her black helmet April 17th effectively ending her probationary time with the department. She is a Firefighter/ EMT basic. Congratulations!



Congratulations to Dylan Lackey, our newest HRFD Probationary Firefighter. Dylan was sworn in on April 17th (from a safe distance). Dylan is a Firefighter/Paramedic. Welcome Dylan to the team!

ACCIDENTS PHOTOS BY PHOTOGRAPHER SHERYL DROST & DUTY OFFICERS



03/13/20 Broad St.



04/15/20 I-90



04/17/20 Hwy 251



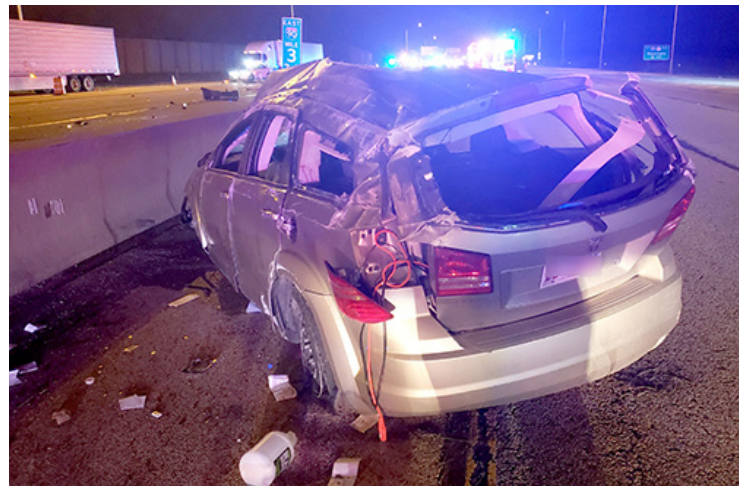
04/25/20 I-90



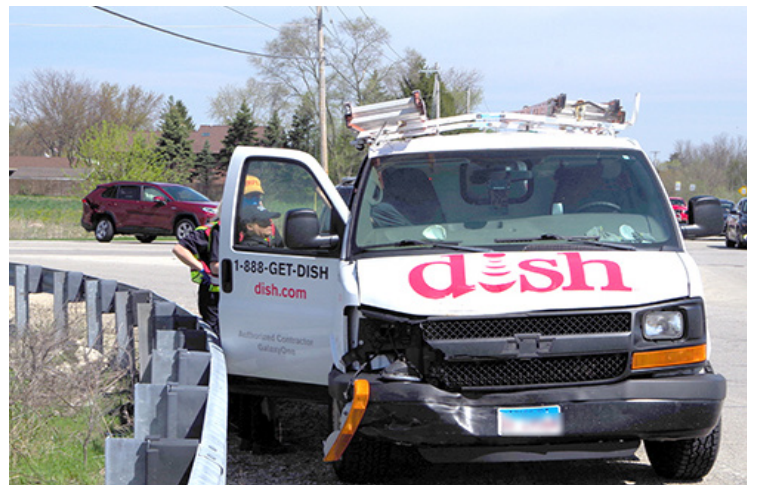
04/22/20 Perryville Rd.



05/02/20 I-90




05/02/20 Willowbrook Rd. and Prairie Hill Rd.









SPOT A STROKE

LEARN THE WARNING SIGNS AND ACT FAST



B E F A S T

					
BALANCE LOSS OF BALANCE, HEADACHE OR DIZZINESS	EYES BLURRED VISION	FACE ONE SIDE OF THE FACE IS DROOPING	ARMS ARM OR LEG WEAKNESS	SPEECH SPEECH DIFFICULTY	TIME TIME TO CALL FOR AMBULANCE IMMEDIATELY

CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY


MEMORIAL DAY...
 ...IS THE DAY THAT'S SET ASIDE TO REMEMBER WITH GRATITUDE AND PRIDE ALL THOSE WHO SERVED AND DIED FOR OUR COUNTRY AND OUR FREEDOM.
 MAY YOUR DAY BE FILLED WITH MEMORIES AND PEACE.
GOD BLESS AMERICA



GodVine.com



STROKE BY THE NUMBERS

Every **40 seconds** someone has a stroke




55,000

About 55,000 more women than men have a stroke each year






#5 Cause of death in the USA



1 in 4 strokes are in people who have had a previous stroke

80% OF ALL STROKES CAN BE PREVENTED

Together to End Stroke™



FIREFIIGHTERS READING VIDEOS

The Kinnikinnick School District Teachers asked and the firefighter's delivered. We have posted five videos of firefighters reading children's books. Each firefighter is in a different location in the fire station! Check them out on our You Tube Channel - Harlem-Roscoe Fire Prot. Dist. #1.
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCacgGNMUF8hN2mPWGR6wCA>



THANK YOU Nurses!



YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Birthdays



June 2020

May 2020

Christian Bush 3rd '30th'
Marcia Soppe 11th
Rob Lukowski 23rd
Jordan Stark 31st

Shannon Burbach 8th
Mike Huffman 11th
Jen Anderson 16th
Justin Harwood 19th
Sam McNames 22nd



The Firehouse Scene

The Firehouse Scene is a monthly newsletter produced by the Harlem-Roscoe Fire Prot. Dist. #1

Fire Chief - Don Shoefflin
Editor & Layout - Sheryl Drost

The Firehouse Scene is available at Station One - 10544 Main Street in Roscoe and on the department's website after the second Sunday each month: You can now sign up on the home page of our website to receive the newsletter by email. www.harlemroscoefire.com
E-mail submissions to Sheryl: hfrdsdrost@gmail.com

STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

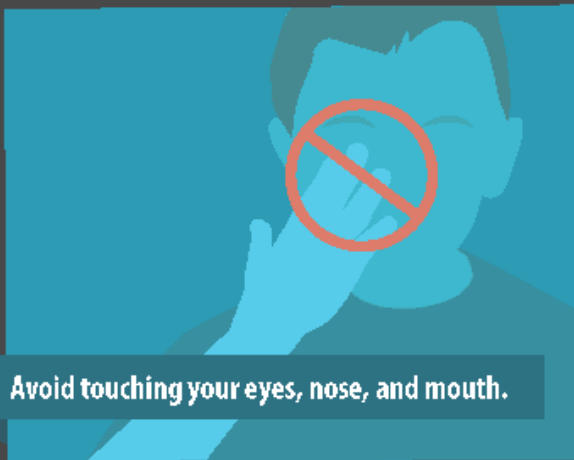
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



[cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK