

THE FIREHOUSE SCENE

*is a publication of the
Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District*

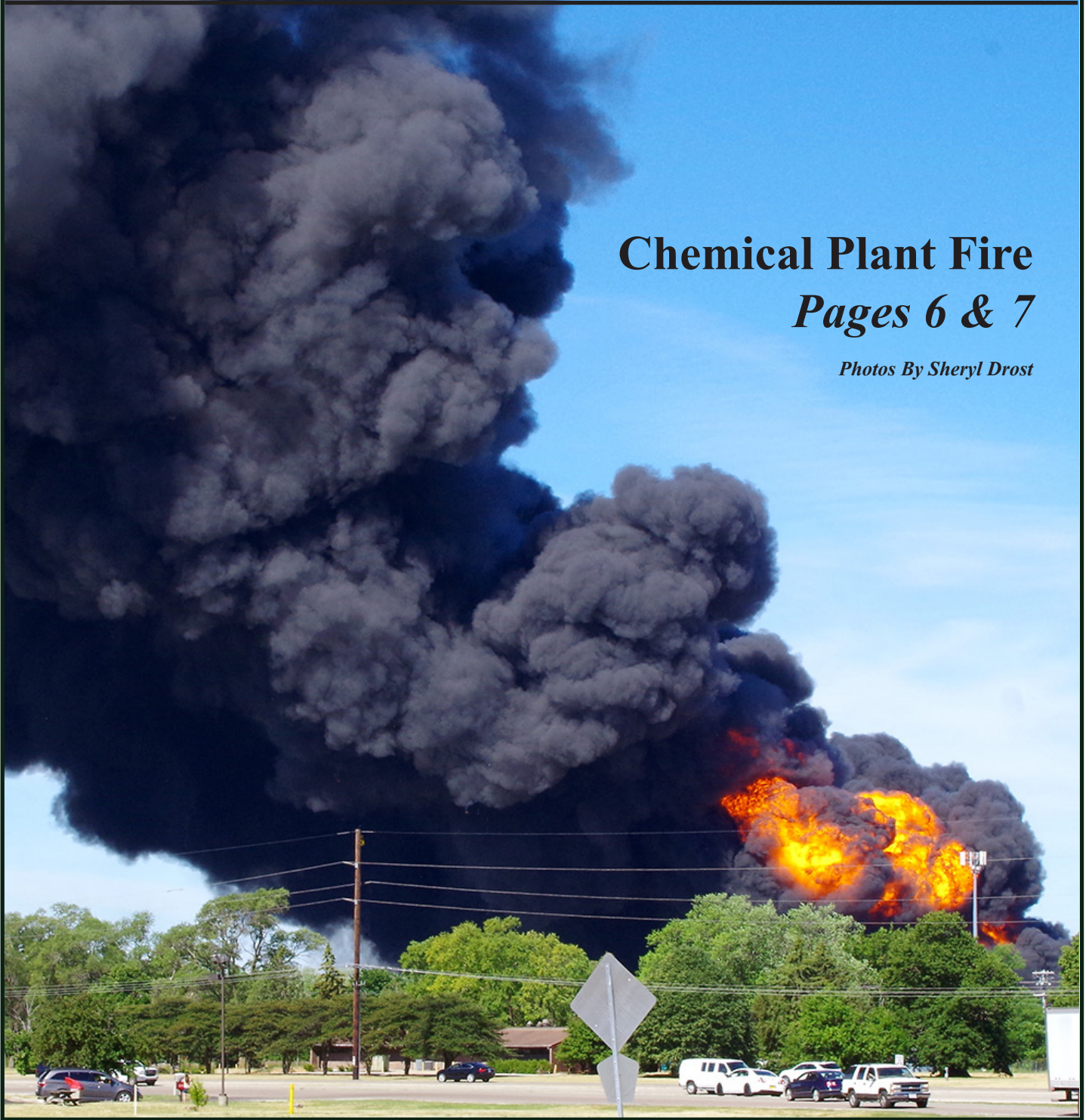
July 2021

Fire Chief Don Shoevlin

Editor Sheryl Drost

Chemical Plant Fire *Pages 6 & 7*

Photos By Sheryl Drost





FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK
BY FIRE CHIEF DON SHOEVLIN

What a busy month this past one has been, and there is no slowing down for the upcoming months. With things starting to open a bit, we have seen our activity increase along with completion of some unfinished business. Our members responded to 333 calls for the month with an average response time of 1.7 minutes and average on scene time of 4.8 minutes.

This past month I attended, with the Board of Trustees, the Illinois Fire Protection District's Conference. It is a conference geared for Chiefs, Trustees, and Attorneys with many events, classes, and seminars for each. You attend for the purpose of learning as well as staying updated on current laws, procedures, and safety issues. The trustees attend on their time for which I thank them for their commitment to further their knowledge and stay up-to-date to better serve our district.

Six new members were sworn in who have completed the recruit academy. In a new world that is being driven in many directions due to many uncertainties, I was honored to see a group of young adults that want to give their time to help others. They are our future, and I am immensely proud of their accomplishment to date and welcome them to the HRFD family. They will continue to work toward earning their basic firefighter certification from the IL State Fire Marshal's Office.

Finally -- we made it. After much back and forth, up and down, yes and no, we held a scaled-down, but much deserving and overdue, appreciation/recognition dinner for the year of 2020. It was a little humid and the bay did not have air conditioning, but it is our second home. I congratulate all those who received service awards and peer recognition. It was my greatest honor to award our annual Good Service Award not to one individual but every member on this fire department. You see over the year of 2020, they all laid down their shield and showed their courage and compassion for others in trying times that we have not experienced before. All of them responded, then responded more, covered shifts and covered more, adapted to new times, dressed up like doctors with gowns, eye protection and

masks and even did drive by, drive through turkey dinners, and delivered Christmas on the porch. It takes a strong bond of committed and dedicated people to do this. I cannot express my gratitude enough for that and the leadership from my officers.

Help us find you! A challenge we face daily. In an emergency, we depend on house numbers to find YOU as quickly as possible. Finding your home - especially at night - can be challenging if address numbers are unreadable, hidden, unlit, or have missing numbers. This may delay us from getting to you as quickly as possible.

- Are your house numbers visible from the street?
- Are they set on a background of contrasting color?
- If your house is hidden from the street, are your numbers attached to a visible fence, mailbox, or gate?
- If you live on a corner, does your house number face the street named in your address?

If you have answered "no" to any of these, it might affect us to find you quickly. PLEASE have adequate markings so that we may help you!

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. Stay cool, stay safe and enjoy summer.



We are currently accepting applications for part time EMT-B or EMT-P and firefighters along with firefighters.

- Are you a caring individual looking for an opportunity to grow in the public safety world?
- Are you a person looking for challenges and working with a superb group of individuals?

If you are then we are looking for you. Applications may be filled out online at our web site or picked up at Station #1 which is located at 10544 Main Street Roscoe, Illinois 61073.

Any questions should be directed to the Chief or Deputy Chief of the Harlem-Roscoe Fire Department.

2020 APPRECIATION AWARDS DINNER

PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST



L-r, Trustees John Donahue, Bart Munger, and Al Bach recognize Chief Shoevlin for his service as Illinois Fire Chief's Association's President.

Harlem-Roscoe Fire Trustees hosted their 2020 HRFD Appreciation Awards Dinner on June 29th. The dinner is usually held earlier in the year but was delayed due to COVID. It was shortened and held at Fire Sta. #1. Numerous awards were presented along with special recognition for years of service.

Special Recognition was given to: Mike Sherbon for 30 years of medical service, Capt. Mike Huffman for 20 years of medical and fire service, and Paramedic John Morgan and Dispatcher Harry Wagner for 20 years of service.

Other Fire Years-of-Service Recognition: 15-year pins to Joe Koeninger, Rob Lukowski and Lt. Jordan Stark; 10-year pin to Photographer Marcia Soppe; and 5-year pin to Lt. Sam McNames, Andrew Wiechman, Chris Witcik, Steve Rosander, and Brandon Sherbon.

Other Medical Years of Service Recognition: 10-year pins to Joe Koeninger and Greg Wernick, 5-Year pin to Steve Rosander.

Recognition was also given to: New EMS Paramedic Kevin Raymer, Brandon Sherbon, Cecilia Ster and Chris Witcik. And new EMTs BC Kevin Briggs and Tyler Ebany.

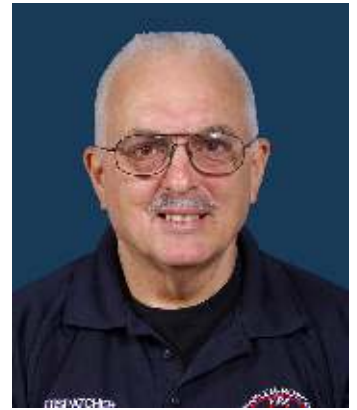
Other Awards: This year, the Firefighter Good Service Award was presented to all personnel. Each Fire Station voted on a Most Valuable Member Award: Sta. 1 – Lt. Sam McNames; Sta. 2 – Greg Wernick; Sta.3 – Andrew Wiechman. Chaplain of the Year went to Chaplain Paul Meyers. Fire Bureau Member of the Year went to Ken Kelley. Most Trainings Award went to Tyler Ebany. CERT Volunteer Member Award went to John Huddleston. Chief Shoevlin also recognized Administration Professional Colleen Bloyer and Trustees Bart Munger, Al Bach and John Donahue.

Trustees John Donahue, Bart Munger, and Al Bach recognize Chief Shoevlin for his service as Illinois Fire Chief's Association's President.

. . . All the photos from the awards dinner can be seen on the department's Facebook page.



Left, 30 year Medical Service - Mike Sherbon. Right, 20 Year Fire & Medical Service - Lt. Mike Huffman.



L-r, 20 Year Service - Paramedic John Morgan and Dispatcher Harry Wagner.



Most Valuable Member per Station: Sta#1 - Lt. Sam McNames, Sta#2 - Greg Wernick, and Sta#3 - Andy Wiechman.



L-r Most Valuable Chaplain - Chaplain Paul Meyers, Most Valuable Fire Prevention - Ken Kelley, and Most Valuable CERT Member - John Huddleston.



NEW FIREFIGHTERS PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST

Harlem-Roscoe Fire Trustee Bart Munger swore in 6 probationary firefighters at a new firefighter pinning ceremony on June 28th at HRFD Sta.#1. Welcome new Harlem-Roscoe Firefighters, Mike Pluta, Ambrianna Corrado, Hannah Carlson, Mike Craglow, Sam Scott, and Rico VanderHeyden.



L-r Fire Chief Don Shoevlin, New Firefighters Mike Pluta, Ambrianna Corrado, Hanna Carlson, Mike Craglow, Sam Scott, and Rico VanderHeyden.



“When a man or woman becomes a firefighter, their greatest act of bravery has been accomplished, What they do after that is all in the line of work”

Above, New Firefighters are sworn in by Trustee Bart Munger.

Right, Instructors, BC Patrick Trollop, Capt. Tim Bergeron, Lt. Sam McNames, Lt. Kyle Swanson, Greg Wernick, Lt. Nate Sarver, Lt. Jordan Stark, Capt. Mike Huffman, BC John Donovan, Lt. Ryan Sarver and Aaron Miller pose with new firefighters.





THE IMPORTANCE OF A GOOD NIGHTS SLEEP
SUBMITTED BY LT. JORDAN STARK

The National Sleep Foundation suggests we need so many hours of sleep a night per age group. Are you getting enough? Probably not in today's society. We suffer from overwork, having a family, extracurricular activities and trying to maintain social lives. This forces us to cut back on one of the most important aspects that keeps us healthy: sleep. But cutting back on the amount of sleep we are in serious danger of putting our mental, and physical health at risk. Not to mention severely impairing our cognitive function.

The list of negative health effects caused by lack of sleep is long. They included but are not limited to increased risk of cardiovascular heart diseases, coronary heart diseases, obesity, hypertension and type 2 diabetes. It also causes fatigue, decreased job performance, and sleep disturbance such as difficulty falling asleep, insomnia in different cycles of sleep. It also increases the risk of workplace injuries. Overall, sleep disturbance affects mental health, circadian rhythms and cognitive functions.

Sleep deprivation and sleep insufficiency may be categorized in different ways depending on a person's circumstances.

- Acute sleep deprivation refers to a short period, usually a few days or less, when a person has a significant reduction in their sleep time.
- Chronic sleep deprivation, also known as insufficient sleep syndrome, is defined as limited or reduced sleep that lasts for three months or more.
- Chronic sleep deficiency or insufficient sleep can describe ongoing sleep deprivation as well as poor sleep that occurs because of sleep fragmentation or other disruptions.
- Sleep apnea is a potentially serious sleep disorder in which breathing repeatedly stops and starts. If you snore loudly and feel tired even after a full night's sleep, you might have sleep apnea.

The signs and symptoms of sleep apnea include:

- Loud snoring
- Episodes in which you stop breathing during sleep — which would be reported by another person
- Gasping for air during sleep
- Awakening with a dry mouth
- Morning headache
- Difficulty staying asleep (insomnia)
- Excessive daytime sleepiness (hypersomnia)
- Difficulty paying attention while awake
- Irritability

Talk to your doctor if you have signs or symptoms of sleep apnea and ask about any sleep problem that leaves you fatigued, sleepy and irritable.

So how much sleep do we need? According to the National Sleep Foundation, healthy adults need between 7 and 9 hours of sleep per night. Babies, young children, and teens need even more sleep to enable their growth and development. People over 65 should also get 7 to 8 hours per night.

Some tips to help get the proper amount of sleep are going to bed and waking up at the same time every day including weekends:

- Avoid naps after 3 p.m, and don't nap longer than 20 minutes.
- Stay away from caffeine and alcohol late in the day.
- Avoiding nicotine can also help.
- Get regular exercise, but not within 2-3 hours of bedtime.
- Temperatures ranging from 60-67 degrees F are ideal for healthy sleep.
- There also needs to be emphasis placed on the importance of sleep both at home and in the workplace.





**HRFD
CHEMTOOL
RESPONSE**
BY DC JOHN BERGERON
PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST

On June 14, 2021, at approximately 7am, Harlem-Roscoe Fire was dispatched for auto aid to Rockton Fire for a possible fire at the Chemtool Plant. Shortly after Rockton Fire's arrival, it would become one of the worse fires to hit the area, and the smoke could be seen from miles away.

Rockton command began to utilize the MABAS system, ultimately going to the 6th alarm on their MABAS Box 11 and 12 cards, then going to State Inter-divisional requests. It would become the largest MABAS response in the history of the State of Illinois. (MABAS stands for Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) It is a predetermined response from other departments when a call requires assistance. We were to send a Chief, an engine and a ladder truck.



I arrived on scene and reported to command and assisted Rockton's command staff with setting up operations at the scene. Later into the incident, I was moved to Watts Avenues with other pieces of MABAS apparatus to patrol for any spot fires. MABAS crews on Watts Avenue extinguished at least 4 small grass fires. Once that area was deemed safe, all units reported back to the scene and I was released by command.

Our 703 Engine arrived on scene was directed by the on scene command to assist 1401 with pulling hand lines into the interior of the building for extinguishment operations. As units were ordered to evacuate the building, 703 was then directed to establish a water draft operation on the Charlie (C) Side of the building. 703 assisted with flowing master streams with AFFF foam as well. Water supply was maintained until



all units were ordered to evacuate to the Alpha Side (A) of the building due to fire growth. 703 entered staging and the crew would rotate with others on-scene crews to assist with moving and utilizing hand lines along the Alpha (A) Side of the building. 703 was then released to recover its equipment and clear the scene.

751 Aerial platform truck arrived on scene and was placed on the Bravo (B) side of the building and began flowing water. The fire was spreading rapidly through out the building and the Rockton Fire Chief Kirk Wilson ordered no entry into the structure, and it would be an exterior attack only. At approximately 6pm our crews were released to return as the MABAS crews from numerous locations in the State of Illinois began arriving for operational periods set by Chief Wilson.

It was the largest incident I have ever been involved with. I want to thanks Rockton Chief Kirk Wilson and his entire command staff on a job well done. It was a honor to work with everyone involved in that incident.





CERT MEMBERS ASSIST WITH FIRE BY CERT MEMBER JIM PURPURA



L-r. Chief Shoevlin, Mary Hutson Northwest Fire Dept., JeannieAnn Parma, Teresa Kinney, Edward Gioja, Tracie McCormick, and Sean Mettelle.

On June 14th, Stateline CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) was called upon to assist at the evacuation center set up at Roscoe Middle School for the Chemtool fire. Several Stateline CERT members responded. When the event looked as though it might last several days, the group was broken into shifts which were prepared to provide around the clock help. CERT was relieved when the Red Cross arrived late in the afternoon.

One week later CERT was notified by Chief Shoevlin that volunteers were needed by ILEMA (Illinois Emergency Management Agency) to assist in assessing the damage within the one mile radius established around the fire scene. I and Teresa Kinney were able to respond, giving up our normal shifts as HRFD Fire Prevention Inspectors for a few days.

Monday, June 21 we reported to Rockton Station One for a briefing from ILEMA. There were about 50 volunteers from as far away as Kansas and Milwaukee (Team Rubicon) and people from Lee county disaster response, Winnebago County Health Dept, a team of local Engineering Students and many others. We were logged into the ILEMA database, given a wrist band, and issued an iPad preloaded with the survey and maps.

The group was tasked with collecting, among other things, property damage data as a result of the fire. This required a door-to-door survey of every residence and

business within the mile radius of the event and the completion of a survey form of about 20 questions for each one. The data collected would then be compiled and moved from the County to the State level, then to FEMA where it could be determined if some form of a disaster declaration should be issued and what assistance might be provided to property owners from the state and federal levels.

Tuesday the 22nd was the first day of the survey and over 960 residences and businesses were visited. Wednesday the 23rd the remaining properties in the 23 zone area were visited and some were revisited. Over a thousand total. Affected property was typically landscaping, swimming pools and roofs. The damage assessment concluded at noon on the 23rd.



L-r, Kyle Alexander, Karl Eisenbeisz & Teresa Kinney



L-r, Jim Purpura and Teresa Kinney collect damage survey data.

Out in the Community



ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR FIRE INSPECTION?



HELLO Summer

Miss Carly's
July 2 at 8:08 PM · 📍
Today was an awesome day. We had 30 volunteers that absolutely slayed, we were able to help two women get out of a nightmarish situation. And at the end of the day we had a whole bunch of people drop off blankets we need it so badly and hot food for our volunteers who are homeless.
Then, right at the end came Harlem-Roscoe Fire Dept showed up with a ton of pork chop dinner and all the fixings for us to pass out to the homeless and hungry!! These are some serious pork chops, too! They are over 2 inches thick! It brings such joy to my heart to hand people all these heaping heavy plates of food!
Today was a good day. We have such a giving community. 🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸



STATION VISIT

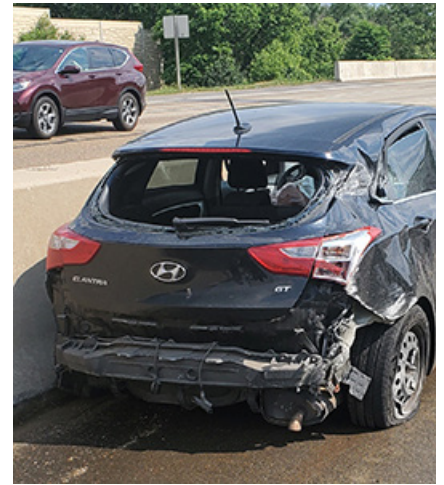


HARLEM-ROSCOE

ANNUAL GOLF PLAY DAY



ACCIDENTS PHOTOS BY DUTY OFFICERS



06/09/21 I-90



06/15/21 Hwy 173 and Belvidere Rd.



06/16/21 West Lane Rd.



06/20/21 Elevator Rd.



07/07/21 Gleasman Rd. and Old River Rd.

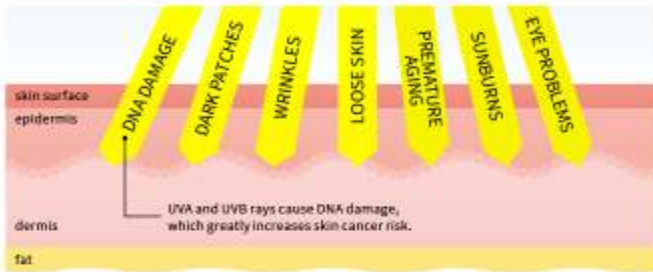




PREVENTING SKIN CANCER

Skin cancer is the most common of all cancer types. More than 5 million skin cancers are diagnosed each year in the United States. That's more than all other cancers combined. Skin cancer rates have been on the rise over the past few decades. The good news is that you can do a lot to protect yourself and your family from skin cancer.

UV RAYS FROM THE SUN CAUSE DNA DAMAGE, LEADING TO SKIN CANCER AND AGING



ANYONE CAN GET SKIN CANCER, BUT BE EXTRA CAREFUL IF YOU ...



PROTECT YOUR SKIN YEAR-ROUND

UV rays are around all the time, no matter what the season.



TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER THAN CANCER.

The American Cancer Society is fighting cancer on all fronts. Our mission is to save lives, celebrate lives, and lead the fight for a world without cancer.

SEEK SHADE (especially 10 a.m.-4 p.m.)

DON'T USE TANNING BEDS OR LAMPS

WEAR SUNGLASSES

WEAR A HAT

COVER UP WITH CLOTHING

USE SUNSCREEN



COVER UP THE KIDDIES, TOO

Kids burn more easily. And babies younger than 6 months old should be kept out of direct sunlight.



Learn More // www.cancer.org/skincancer
 Stay Protected // www.cancer.org/sunsafety
 Detect Early // www.cancer.org/skincancerimages
 Donate // www.cancer.org/donate

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Deputy Chief John Bergeron introduces his second grandchild with the help of his first grandchild, and big sis, Jazz.

John's daughter Ashlee is new mom to Julian Jonathan, born on June 9th, 2021. Julian measured in at 8lbs 15 oz and 19.5 inches. Mom and baby are doing great! Congratulations to the whole family, he is adorable!



hAPPY BIRTHDAY

JULY 2021

- 1st John Bergeron
- 9th Greg Wernick
- 16th John Morgan
- 17th Taylor Larson
- 21st Tim Bergeron
- 28th Tyler Ebany

AUGUST 2021

- 1st Larry Sarver
- 8th Teresa Kinney
- 14th Tim Schrader '60th'
- 14th Dylan Lackey
- 14th Sam Scott
- 27th Al Bach
- 27th Mike Sherbon

The Firehouse Scene

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

Fire Chief - Don Shoevlin
 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.

E-mail submissions to: Sheryl: sdrost@harlemroscoefire.org

WHAT'S MISSING

Can you find 20 things missing on the second photo?

