

THE FIREHOUSE SCENE

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Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District*

July 2022

Fire Chief Don Shoevlin

Editor Sheryl Drost

HOUSE FIRE x2 Pages 4-6

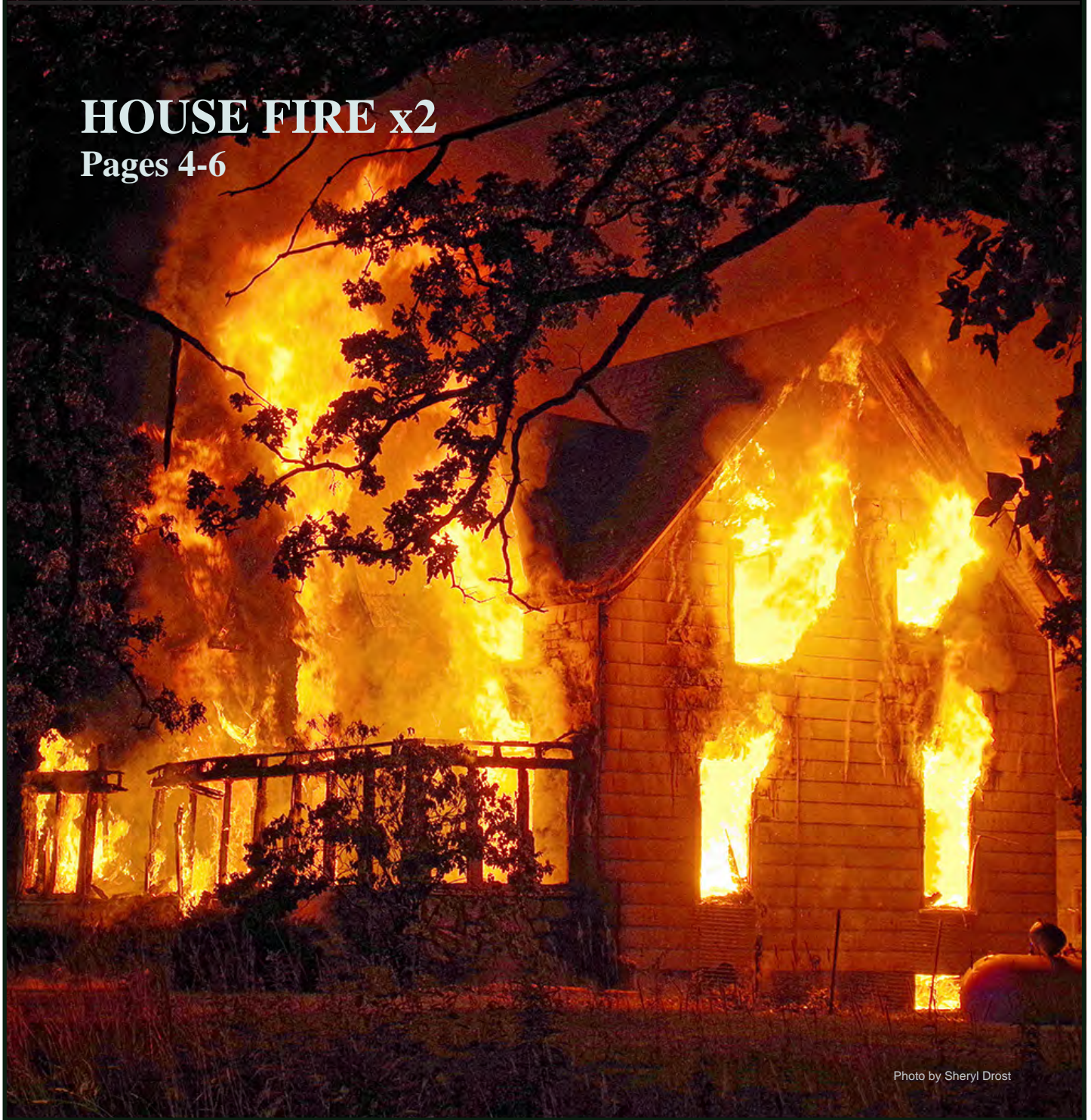


Photo by Sheryl Drost



FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK
BY FIRE CHIEF DON SHOEVLIN

This past month, I was privileged to speak to a group about the Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District. I asked what they would like me to speak on or about. They left the door open to me. So, after some deep thought and suggestions from others, it was decided I would speak on “Then, Now, What’s next?” After giving that little presentation, I thought this would be a great 3-part article to share with all in our monthly newsletter over the next three months.

THEN

In 1910, the Roscoe Improvement Association (RIA) was established for the area. They started a fire brigade using ladders and buckets. After two major fires in 1924, the RIA saw a need for more firefighting equipment.

In 1929 a motor and pump along with a 1000 feet of hose was purchased and put on a hay wagon. This hay wagon had leather straps on it so it could be pulled by a vehicle. It was kept in a firefighter’s garage. The cost for this was \$544.00.

1930 brought discussion of a fire truck along with personnel being named on the fire department. The first fire truck for the RIA, due to times being tough, was built by residents Cobby Rogers and Hartzel Flagg by splitting a Packard car in half putting a tank and pump on the body. It was able to draft water from the creek.

In 1940, at the request of the RIA, the Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District (HRFD) was formed by a petition which had 108 signatures on it. The final vote count from the election was 167 ayes 14 nays, and so it began. So how and why our name. Our fire district was formed encompassing two townships, Harlem Township and Roscoe Township, hence the name. The first fire station had two doors and was located on Main St.

From 1940 to 1952 the district had three fire chiefs. Chief’s Harry Evans, John Kelly, and George McDonald. Also, in the 1950’s an addition was built to fire station because the fire department now had three trucks.

Along came the 60’s. Ben Alexander became Chief, the Fire Bureau started, and fire apparatus and equipment continued to be improved and updated.

Then the 70’s rolled into town with many changes. There was the first Paramedic, a new rescue truck, and Station #2 on Ralston Road was built. The Jaws of Life was the tool of the decade.

How about the 80’s? Our first ambulance was purchased and there was the passing of the trumpet with two fire chiefs, Jack Brown and Oscar Presley. Presley was later hired as our first full-time Chief. Bunker pants replaced rubber boots, the Training Division was started, trucks had closed cabs and riding on the rear step was stopped. Our annual Spring Coon and Ham Dinner had to drop coon from its menu.

Bring on the 90’s. Station #3 on Willowbrook Road was built on 5 acres of donated land. We purchased our first thermal imaging camera (with a Walmart Grant) and a used aerial truck. Station #1 was relocated to its current location. A photographer, web site, and monthly newsletter were added. A full-time Chief’s secretary that was later re-assigned to District Administrative Assistant.

So, then we go into Y2K. The phenomenon that was going to stop everything. Not at HRFD. We continued our proactive approach to providing a professional service to our communities. With the increase in calls for medical assistance, the district was exceeding its budget for EMS. A referendum was sought for an ambulance levy. The levy passed 1905 ayes to 1005 nays. The added money allowed us to continue providing EMS with that money allocated for ambulances, medical equipment, and supplies. We also started with two contracted paramedics from Lifeline (six total) who were house at Station #1, seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

That sums up the “THEN” and next month I will summarize the ‘NOW’ which will be from 2001 to today.

June was a busy month. We have been out and about with events, members are continuing to train, along with responding to 327 calls for the month. Year-to-date we have responded to 1858 calls. Our next event out will be National Night Out. We will be at both Harlem High School and Fire Station #1. Roscoe we will be holding our 2nd annual HRFD Car Show at Station #1. Watch our Facebook page for more information.

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.org, we can also be found on Facebook and Instagram, so go ahead and friend us.

Stay cool, stay safe and enjoy summer.
Chief Shoevlin

SWEAR IN CEREMONIES

PHOTOS BY JEN ANDERSON

Harlem-Roscoe Fire Chief Don Shovelin is proud to announce, "On June 27th, Harlem-Roscoe Fire Trustees swore in three new probationary members, three members received their black helmets for completing their probationary time, and then two members were promoted to Lieutenant.



Those sworn in as probationary members were Lucas Burbach, Zander Vanderheydan, and Madison West.



Those earning their black helmets were Hannah Carlson, Mike Craglow, and Amber Corrado. All well-deserving of these accomplishments. I am confident in them that they will continue to grow while being a strong active member of our team.



Our new Lieutenants, Jason Street and Taylor Larson, have worked hard in achieving this position while making a strong commitment to the department. I have the utmost confidence in them both. I believe they will be a positive addition to our management team, are committed to actively participating in the mentoring and growth of our personnel and have a passion for the continued growth of HRFD."

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

GRILL FIRES SUBMITTED BY JEN ANDERSON

Did you know the peak month for grill fires is July, followed by June, May & August, according to our friends at the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association). Each year an average of 10,600 house fires are started by grills. Some of the top locations for a grill fire to take place are:

- Exterior balcony or unenclosed porch too close to a structure.
- Courtyard, terrace, or patio.
- Kitchen or cooking area.
- Garage or vehicle storage area & out in a lawn, field, or open space.

For example, a grill fire on a balcony can quickly spread to an exterior wall and into concealed spaces within the structure.

The primary reason for the grill fires is the lack of cleaning, followed by the grill being too close to combustibles and unattended equipment. A few general safety tips for "safe grilling" are:

- NEVER leave your grill alone when in use.
- Place the grill at least 10 feet away from home, deck railings, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Only use propane and gas grills outdoors.
- Keep children & pets at least 3 feet away from the grill area.
- Keep the grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- ALWAYS make sure the gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

Approximately 61% of all households own a propane gas grill. When grilling with a propane gas grill, check the tank hose for leaks before using it. Also, ensure not to use a rusted, dented, or damaged propane tank. Finally, when filling your tank, fill only 80% of capacity because propane needs room to expand.

There are several ways to get a charcoal grill ready. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel source. If you use a starter fluid, only use charcoal starter fluid and ensure to keep it out of the reach of children and away from all heat sources when storing. When you finish grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing them in a metal container.

I hope that all of you had an enjoyable holiday. Let's stay fire-safe this summer!



HOUSE FIRE

BY FIRE CHIEF DON SHOEVLIN

Firefighters were dispatched on June 27th for a possible structure fire on Bellview Way. Upon arrival of the first unit, they discovered light smoke on the exterior of the chimney. First engine on the scene went inside and encountered an attic fire that was beginning to involve the roof. An excellent aggressive attack by personnel brought the fire under control. A huge thank you to Rockton fire and all the responding neighboring departments for their help. Auto aid and MABAS does work. There were no injuries to residents or fire personnel. The fire appears accidental.



FIREWORKS START GRASS FIRE

PHOTOS BY BC KEVIN BRIGGS

Firefighters responded to Monarch Dr. for a report of a grass fire. The fire was quickly extinguished.



ACCIDENTS

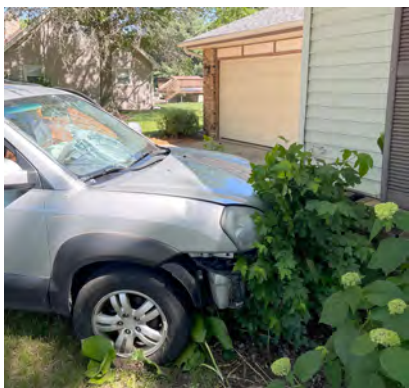
PHOTOS BY DUTY OFFICERS AND PHOTOGRAPHER SHERYL DROST



06/15/22 North Alpine Rd.



06/18/22 Hwy 251 and Forest Hills



06/18/22 Wild Deer Trail



07/07/22 Belvidere Rd. and Hwy 173



HOUSE FIRE

PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST

Fire Chief Don Shoevlin reports: “We were dispatched at approximately 12:15 am on July 3rd for a fully involved structure fire on Stateline Rd. Upon arrival we had a single family, 2-story home, with heavy fire on all sides of the structure and a live wire across the road. Tenders were used to shuttle water to the scene. There were no injuries to personnel or the family, however some family pets perished in the fire. We would like to thank all of the departments that helped us with this call. Units were on the scene until approximately 3:45am. The cause of the fire is under investigation.”







WATER SAFETY



BY BC KEVIN BRIGGS

Insist on water watchers.

When everybody's watching, nobody's watching. That's why safety organizations urge parents and caregivers to take turns being on official "water-watching duty" in group-swim situations. Don't just give the idea lip service; you can be the one to get a rotation going. Wear a "water watcher" tag, then pass it to the next parent on duty. Keep one in your bag and pull it out when you're meeting up with friends at the public pool or beach, even when there's a lifeguard on duty. "Wearing it reminds me and everyone else that I'm on the job and they shouldn't even be talking to me," says Haderle, who started putting on a water-watcher lanyard after a pool-party incident.

It's also important to know what a child in distress looks like. Kids drown silently and quickly, often when they are vertical in the water with their head tipped back. Unlike what you see in movies, a child rarely splashes, flails their arms, or yells for help. Being a good water watcher is like being a good lifeguard: "You intervene when a kid may be even slightly in trouble so he doesn't get to the point of drowning," says Linda Quan, M.D., professor of pediatrics at the University of Washington, in Seattle.

Put away your phone.

Lifeguards see it all the time. "Parents and caregivers show up at the pool, tell the kids to stay in the shallow end, and then go right on their phones," says Josh Rowland, aquatics product manager for the American Red Cross. At the very least, unwatched kids end up being babysat by lifeguards or other adults. But children can silently slip beneath the surface and drown in seconds—the time it takes to post on Instagram. You don't need to leave your phone at home—in fact, you should keep it fully charged and within reach so you can call for help in case of an emergency. However, silence that sucker and stow it in your bag. Then push your friends to do the same. And if you absolutely, positively must send an urgent email or make a call, find a responsible adult to stand in while you step away.

Consider swim lessons to be a health-care priority.

Even if you don't live close to water, your child will end up near it at some point, whether on vacation or at someone else's home. Taking swim lessons absolutely cannot "drown-proof" anyone, but according to a recent policy statement from the

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), swimming lessons maybe beneficial to children between the ages of 1 and 4. "The right time to start depends on an individual child's emotional and physical readiness," says Ben Hoffman, M.D., who is chair of the AAP Council on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention, the group that authored the statement.

How to Teach Kids to Swim at Every Age

If you're not sure what that means for your kid, ask their pediatrician for guidance. Then, when it's time, get lessons on the calendar pronto. "The goal with very young children is to make them comfortable in the water so that when they are developmentally ready, they can learn and use skills that could be lifesaving," says Stephen Langendorfer, Ph.D., professor emeritus of kinesiology at Bowling Green State University, in Ohio, and who sits on the scientific advisory council for the American Red Cross.

Have your emergency plan in place.

Knowing even basic CPR and acting immediately—instead of waiting for emergency responders—can make the difference between life and death in drowning cases or anytime a person's heart stops. Round up a group of parents and sign up for CPR classes together, or order a CPR party kit to learn these skills at home. Buy an all-weather sign with CPR instructions to hang on the inside of your pool gate, and be sure to print your home's address on it in permanent marker in case anyone needs to call an ambulance. Even if a child doesn't need CPR after being submerged, having water in their lungs can still lead to serious trouble. "Watch for coughing, lethargy, and rapid breathing, and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask your child's doctor, go to the emergency department, or call 911," says Dr. Smith.

Think beyond the pool.

A child can drown in less than 2 inches of water. Even the teensiest wading pool requires constant supervision and should be drained and placed well out of reach when it's not being used. And as tempting as those large, inflatable pools look in the store, they often hold thousands of gallons of water that can't easily be drained. In fact, they have become a particular threat: A study published in *Pediatrics* found that they are responsible for 11 percent of pool drownings among children under 5. If you do have one, surround it with a fence, cover it when not in use, and remove the steps or ladder once swim time is over.

Inside your home, be sure to empty buckets, install locks on toilets, and stay with your child during bath time. Any body of water demands serious attention, whether it's on your property, your neighbor's, or a playmate's. "I wish there were more intensity behind this conversation and more focus on the drowning epidemic," says Miller. "Had I been exposed to the reality that it is a silent killer and happens mostly during non-swim times, I feel I would have been better equipped to keep my daughter safe."

How to Keep Your Pool Safe

Get serious about fences. While a four-sided fence that separates a pool from the house and backyard may not seem “pretty,” the aesthetics of drowning are far uglier. Levi Hughes died at a home with three-sided fencing, which may have protected neighboring kids from entering the pool area but still allowed a child to slip out a back door and into the water. “I have to live the rest of my life with the guilt that I could have prevented him from dying,” says Nicole Hughes. “But this isn’t about our regret and heartache. Drowning doesn’t happen to the parents; it happens to the child. Levi will never trick-or-treat again and will never turn 4 years old.”

Install a fence at least 4 feet high around all four sides of the pool. The fence should not have openings or protrusions that a young child could use to get over, under, or through. Make sure that the gate leading to your pool is self-closing and self-latching, and that it opens out. Latches should be above a child’s reach, and the space between the bottom of the fence and the ground should be less than 4 inches. Never prop open a gate to the pool area.

If possible, keep the pool covered when it’s not in use. Cover your pool with a rigid safety cover (preferably a motorized one) whenever you’re not using it, even during swimming season. With an above-ground pool, remove ladders and steps when they’re not in use. Make sure the cover fits securely over the pool’s entire surface. Otherwise, a child may get under it and become trapped.

Don’t leave toys in the pool area or use chemical dispensers that look like toys.

Your child might run after a ball, for example, and trip. “I remember a 2-year-old who rode his tricycle into the pool area and fell off into the water,” says Rohit Sheno, M.D., an emergency-room physician at Texas Children’s Hospital, in Houston.

Avoid entrapment: Suction from pool and spa drains that can trap a swimmer underwater. Few parents realize that children can die in a pool or hot tub by getting sucked down and trapped in a drain. The good news: Since the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act went into effect in December 2008, there have been no drain entrapment-related deaths involving children in public pools and spas. This federal law mandates that all public pools must have anti-entrapment drain covers installed. But always be aware of drain condition at your neighborhood pool. If you spot a broken or missing drain cover, ask your pool operator if your pool or spa drains are compliant with the Pool and Spa Safety Act.

WHY DOES IT SEEM LIKE FIREFIGHTERS ARE ALWAYS WASHING THEIR FIRE TRUCKS? BY BC KEVIN BRIGGS

There is a lot more behind washing a fire truck than a shiny piece of equipment as an end product. A saying that floats around the fire service, “A clean rig is a happy rig”. But a clean rig is also one that allows for better inspection. Part of our duty is apparatus maintenance, and having a clean fire truck allows personnel to inspect the trucks for damage or wear and tear. Earlier detection and maintenance mean less down time for these valuable pieces of equipment. By scrubbing and drying these rigs, it allows multiple eyes to inspect every inch of the rig.

It isn’t only preventative maintenance measure, but it is also being good stewards of our tax payer’s investments. If you bought a million-dollar car, wouldn’t you keep it clean?

Finally, it’s an extreme sense of pride. Each fire house is unique in its own nature. It doesn’t matter what fire house our members find themselves assigned to, they build a sense of pride in the community and neighborhoods they serve. Having a clean rig is a positive representation of your neighborhood. The goal is to have the shiniest rig at the party when we pull up to a multi-company incident.





SUMMER BEATING THE HEAT

When winter comes, all we can think about is how nice it will feel when the weather is warm again. However, there is a major

difference between warm weather and intense heat. In this article, we explain how to determine the difference and how you can combat intense heat this summer.

It's summer and it's hot. That's usually a good thing. People living in the northern states spend long winter months looking ahead to their break from the cold. They are happy to relieve the discomfort of hot summer days by cooling down with dips in the pool and picnics in the shade. But there's hot, and there's really hot. And it looks as if really hot, the dangerous and deadly kind, is the type of heat we can expect for the foreseeable future.

The Risk:

The human body can experience considerable physical stress when temperatures and humidity rise. Everyone is at risk to some degree, but extreme heat, more than any other type of severe weather, can impact the health of vulnerable members of a population. The very old and the very young are at increased risk, as are overweight people and those whose health is already compromised by sickness or disease. In recent years, excessive heat has caused more deaths than all other weather events, including floods. However, with a bit of knowledge of the risks, and a little advance preparation, the odds of surviving are greatly improved.

Preparing for a Heat Wave:

1. Listen to local news and pay attention to weather conditions; be aware of both the temperature and the heat index. The heat index is the temperature the body feels when the effects of heat and humidity are combined. Exposure to direct sunlight can increase the heat index by as much as 15° F.

2. Understand the following terms you might hear during a weather forecast:

Excessive Heat Watch - Conditions are favorable for an excessive heat event to meet or exceed local Excessive Heat Warning criteria in the next 24 to 72 hours.

Excessive Heat Warning - Heat Index values are forecast to meet or exceed locally defined warning criteria for at least 2 days (daytime highs = 105 -110° F.

Heat Advisory - Heat Index values are forecasting to meet locally defined advisory criteria for 1 to 2 days (daytime highs = 100 -105° F.

3. If you have any type of air conditioner (window unit or central air) make sure it is in working order.

4. Make sure your home is well insulated – this helps keep heat in during the winter and heat out during the summer.

During a heat wave keep your house as cool as possible:

- Place temporary tin-foil reflectors in the windows to reflect sunlight.

- Cover the windows in your home that receive morning and afternoon sun. (Closing drapes during the day will make a difference, but outside awnings and louvers will stop the heat before it hits the window.)
- If the temperature drops in the evening, open all doors and windows to promote as much air circulation as possible. When the sun rises, close everything again to keep the indoors cool for as long as possible.
- Eliminate extra sources of heat such as incandescent light bulbs, computers, or appliances left running. Eat foods that do not require you to use the oven or stove to prepare.

Keep yourself cool:

- Stay indoors to reduce your exposure to the heat. Head downstairs. Hot air rises, so the lower levels of a home will be cooler than the upper levels.
- If you do not have air conditioning, consider spending the warmest part of the day in public buildings such as libraries, schools, movie theaters, or shopping malls. Many cities extend the hours of public buildings during a heat wave. Some cities also set up neighborhood cooling centers to help people cool down.
- Use fans to promote air circulation through your home. Circulating air can cool the body by increasing the perspiration rate of evaporation.
- For a homemade “air conditioning” system, sit in the path of a fan that is aimed at a pan filled with ice or water. Soak your feet, wear a wet bandana or towel around your neck, or take cool showers or baths throughout the day.

Keep yourself healthy and safe:

Stay well hydrated; you'll need to consume more water than you usually do when it's hot. Drink sufficient amounts of fluids before you feel thirsty to prevent dehydration. Avoid alcoholic beverages and caffeine, as these can act as diuretics and promote dehydration.

Eat appropriately. It's important to keep eating but adapt your eating habits. Eat well-balanced and light meals regularly, rather than two or three large meals. Large or protein-packed meals take more work to digest which could cause your body temperature to increase.

Heat can kill by pushing the human body beyond its limits. In extreme heat and high humidity, evaporation slows down, and the body must work extra hard to maintain a normal temperature. Understand the difference between heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

Heat Cramps: A type of heat illness, are muscle spasms that result from loss of large amount of salt and water through exercise. Heat cramps are associated with cramping in the abdomen, arms and calves. This can be caused by inadequate intake of fluids or electrolytes.

Heat Exhaustion: A heat-related illness that can occur after you've been exposed to high temperatures, and it often is accompanied by dehydration.

Heat Stroke: A condition marked by fever and often by unconsciousness, caused by failure of the body's temperature-regulating mechanism when exposed to excessively high temperatures. Heat stroke is a severe medical emergency and can be life threatening.

For Seniors: You Can Beat the Heat

As we get older, our body can't adjust to changes in air temperature — especially heat — as quickly as it did when we were younger. That puts us at risk for heat-related illnesses.

You also may be at greater risk for heat-related illnesses if you have a chronic health condition or take certain medicines that interfere with normal body response to heat. Some medicines also restrict the body's ability to sweat.

But you can still enjoy a safe summer by taking a few precautions when it gets hot. Unless your healthcare provider has told you to limit your fluids, drink plenty of cool liquids like water or fruit and vegetable juices. Don't wait until you're thirsty. Do not drink alcohol, because you'll lose much of the fluid it offers.

Ways to keep cool

If you can't afford air conditioning:

- Open your windows at night.
- Create a cross breeze by opening windows on opposite sides of the room or house.
- Cover windows when they're in direct sunlight. Keep curtains, shades, or blinds drawn during the hottest part of the day.
- Dampen your clothing with water and sit in the breeze from a fan.
- Spend at least 2 hours a day (the hottest part, if possible) in an air-conditioned place like a library, senior center, or friend's house.

Ask your local area agency on aging if there's a program that gives window air conditioners to seniors who qualify. If you can't afford to run your air conditioner, ask your local area agency on aging or senior center if they know of programs that can help you with cooling bills.

Other ideas:

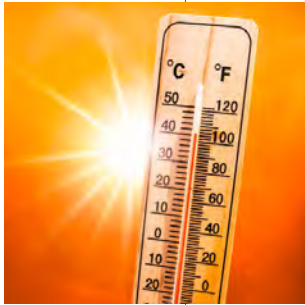
- Ask a friend or relative to drive you to a cool place on very hot days if you don't drive. Many towns or counties, area agencies, religious groups, and senior centers also supply these services. Don't stand outside waiting for a bus.
- Dress for the weather. Some people find natural fabrics like cotton to be cooler than synthetic fibers. Light-colored clothes feel cooler than dark colors. If you aren't sure what to wear, ask a friend or family member for help.
- Don't try to exercise, walk long distances, or do a lot when it's hot.
- Avoid the sun.
- Take cool baths or showers.
- Don't go to crowded outdoor places when it's hot outside.

- Listen to weather and news reports. In times of extreme heat, there will often be local sites where people can go to cool down.

Who's at risk?

Your health and lifestyle may raise the threat of a heat-related illness. These health factors may increase your risk:

- Poor circulation, inefficient sweat glands, and changes in the skin caused by normal aging
- Heart, lung, and kidney diseases, as well as any illness that causes weakness or fever
 - High blood pressure or other conditions that need changes in diet. For example, people on low-salt diets may face an added risk (but don't use salt pills without asking your health care provider)
 - The inability to sweat caused by some drugs. These include diuretics, sedatives, tranquilizers, and certain heart and blood pressure medicines
 - Taking several drugs at once for various conditions. Don't just stop taking them: Talk with your health care provider
 - Being substantially overweight or underweight
- Drinking alcoholic beverages



How to handle heat illnesses:

- Heat stroke, heat cramps, and heat exhaustion are all forms of hypothermia, the general name for a range of heat-related illnesses. Symptoms may include:
 - Headache
 - Nausea
 - Skin that is dry (no sweating), hot, and red
 - Muscle spasms
 - Extreme tiredness after exposure to heat

If you suspect someone is suffering from a heat-related illness, Call 911 and do these things:

- Get the victim out of the sun and into a cool place — preferably one that is air-conditioned.
- Offer fluids, but not alcohol or caffeine.
- Encourage the person to sponge off with cool water.
- Urge the person to lie down and rest, preferably in a cool place.

Call 911 if you suspect heat stroke. Possible symptoms of heat stroke include:

- Headache
- Dizziness
- Confusion or agitation
- Sluggishness or extreme tiredness
- Seizure
- Hot, dry skin that is flushed but not sweaty
- High body temperature
- Loss of consciousness
- Rapid heartbeat
- Hallucinations



**Fundraiser event for Beloit Health System Hospice.
06/11/22**

L-r John Hawkins, Will Sieracki, Tyler Young, Rico VanderHeyden, Zander Vanderheyden, BC Kevin Briggs, Ryan Donner, Hanna Carlson, Lt. Chris Witcik, and Hanna Benard.



IFSI Fire College 2022

L-r John Doyle, Ambriana Corrado, Cecilia Young, Mike Craglow, Hannah Carlson, Tyler Young, and Eric Sieracki.

SAVE THE DATE

NNO NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2022

★ POLICE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ★

Join us for our annual National Night Out August 2nd, 2022
"Block Party" on Main St. (between Bridge and River St.) Roscoe, IL
Donations, Sponsors, and Vendors Needed: Please contact Kelly at
815-543-2895 or aweber7890@roscoepolice.com

hAPPY BIRTHDAY

JULY	AUGUST
1st John Bergeron	1st Larry Sarver
9th Greg Wernick	8th Teresa Kinney
16th John Morgan '50th'	11th Rico VanderHeyden
17th Taylor Larson	14th Tim Schrader
21st Tim Bergeron	14th Dylan Lackey
28th Tyler Ebany	14th Sam Scott
	27th Mike Sherbon
	29th Eric Ceniti

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

10 AMAZING Facts for the

4 T H O F J U L Y

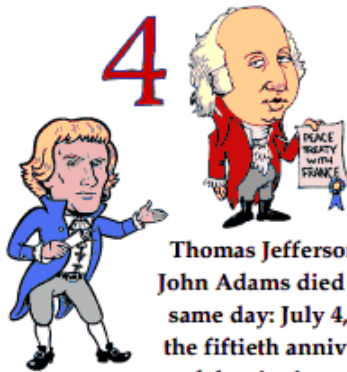


1

Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national animal but was out-voted when John Adams and Thomas Jefferson chose the bald eagle.

The stars on the original American flag were arranged in a circle to ensure that all colonies were represented equally.

2



4

Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on the same day: July 4, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

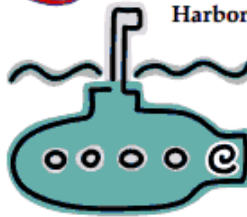


3

John Hancock was the only person to actually sign the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The other 55 signers did not sign it until later.

5

History's first submarine attack took place in New York Harbor in 1776.



6



There were no fireworks on July 4, 1776, but there were fireworks 1 year later, on July 4, 1777. This was still 6 years before Americans knew whether the new nation would survive the war.



7

George Washington was the best spymaster in American History! He ran espionage rings in British-held areas and he was a genius at misinformation. He constantly befuddled the British by leaking, through double agents, inflated reports of the strength of his army.

8

Washington was a robust man with a seeming immunity to disease and bullets. In one encounter in the French and Indian War, he absorbed 4 bullets in his coat and hat and had 2 horses shot from under him without any injury to himself.



9



The United States of America won its independence despite the fact that the British Army was established, experienced, disciplined, and trained and the American army was not. In addition to this, the British Army had ample quantities of powder, guns, and clothing and the American Army was not well supplied.

The song "Yankee Doodle" was sung originally by British officers making fun of backwoods Americans.



10