

# THE FIREHOUSE SCENE



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

October 2022

*Fire Chief Don Shoevlin*

*Editor Sheryl Drost*



*Open House  
Oct. 15th*



**FROM THE CHIEFS DESK**  
BY FIRE CHIEF DON SHOEVLIN

Thank you to everyone who stopped by our booth at the Fall Festival. Mother nature cut it short by a day and a final say with the annual parade, but we invite everyone to stop by our Fire Station #1 from 11am-1pm for our annual Open House on Oct. 15th. There will be many things to do and see.

As the saying goes, Spring ahead and Fall behind. Yes, it is that time of year again when we lose an hour of sleep. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour at 2:00 AM on Sunday, November 6th. With the turning back of our clocks, it recalls that darkness will continue to occur earlier in the day. Please be attentive to the bikers and walkers.

I would also like to ask everyone to check that his or her addresses are properly marked and **VISIBLE** from the street. As we respond to emergency calls, we do not want our arrival to be compromised because of improper or no visible markings.

Also, with the cooler weather upon us reminds me of getting the furnace and fireplace checked out for the cold months ahead. Remember carbon monoxide is the silent killer and a lot of winter fires begin in the fireplace.

October is probably one of the busiest months for us outside of our normal responses to emergencies. Speaking of responses, the men and women responded to 337 calls in the month of September. To date, we have had 2811 calls for the year.

October is Fire Prevention Month. I would hope we practice fire prevention year-round and know that our fire prevention bureau is out there year-round; however, this is an extremely busy month for them. Our Fire

Prevention Division with the help of the firefighters has been out and about performing fire drills in all our schools. All the schools are performing very well and appear to be prepared. They are completing this along with their normal business inspection schedule. Hats off to Division Chief Alms, CRR Officer Jen Anderson, Ken Kelly, Jim Purpura, Everett Peterson Teresa Kinney, Tracie McCormick, and David McKee. A sincere thank you to everyone for an excellent job, and for an outstanding commitment and hard work towards community safety and education.



*L-r Teresa Kinney, Ken Kelly, Jim Purpura, Everett Peterson, Div. Chief Jay Alms, CRR Jen Anderson, and Tracie McCormick*



*L-r Ken Kelly, Everett Peterson, Tracie McCormick, David McKee, and Div. Chief Jay Alms.*

I am thrilled to announce that the Senior Turkey Dinner will be back in house once again. I have been in contact with the Lion's Club, and they are on board, so we will be teaming up once again to provide a complete sit down turkey dinner. The dinner will be held on Thursday, November 17th from 11am – 1pm at our Fire Station #1. Watch for more information on our sign and Facebook.

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](http://www.harlemroscoefire.org). We can also be found on Facebook, so go ahead and friend us.

Be safe, enjoy the wonderful colors and brisk breezes.  
*Chief Shoevlin*



BY CRR JEN ANDERSON

Each year in October, communities throughout North America celebrate NFPA's Fire Prevention Week, the oldest running public health observance in the U.S. This year

marks the 100th anniversary of Fire Prevention Week (FPW), highlighting the strides made in fire safety and the critical work remaining toward NFPA's mission of eliminating loss of life and property from fire, electrical, and related hazards

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2000 acres. The fire began on October 8, but continued into and did most of its damage on Oct. 9, 1871.

This was one of the major fires that changed the way that firefighters and public officials thought about fire safety. On the 40th anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire, the Fire Marshals Association of North America (known today as the International Fire Marshals Association), decided that the anniversary of The Great Chicago Fire should henceforth be observed not with festivities, but in a way that would keep the public informed about the importance of fire prevention. The commemoration grew incrementally official over the years.

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation, and since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls.

## The Great Chicago Fire



In October 1871, dry weather and an abundance of wooden buildings, streets and sidewalks made Chicago vulnerable to fire. The Great Chicago Fire began on the night of October 8, in or around a barn located on the property of Patrick and Catherine O'Leary at 137

DeKoven Street on the city's southwest side. Legend holds that the blaze started when the family's cow knocked over a lighted lantern; however, Catherine O'Leary denied this charge, and the true cause of the fire has never been determined. What is known is that the fire quickly grew out of control and moved rapidly north and east toward the city center.

The fire burned wildly throughout the following day, finally coming under control on Oct. 10, when rain gave a needed boost to firefighting efforts. The Great Chicago Fire left an estimated 300 people dead and 100,000 others homeless. More than 17,000 structures were destroyed and damages were estimated at \$200 million.

The disaster prompted an outbreak of looting and lawlessness. Companies of soldiers were summoned to Chicago and martial law was declared on October 11, ending three days of chaos. Martial law was lifted several weeks later.

## Peshtigo Fire



Did you know that there was a fire that occurred during the same time frame as the Great Chicago Fire in 1871? While the Great Chicago Fire was the best-known blaze to start during this fiery two-day stretch, it

wasn't the biggest. That distinction goes to the Peshtigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history.

The fire, which also occurred on Oct. 8, 1871, and roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burning down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres before it ended.

On the night of Oct. 8-9, 1871, this fire destroyed in two hours a swath of forest 10 miles wide and 40 miles long and obliterated the towns of Peshtigo and Brussels, killing about 1,500 people.

In all, the fire burned more than 280,000 acres in Oconto, Marinette, Shawano, Brown, Kewaunee, Door, Manitowoc and Outagamie counties. The human toll was 1,152 known dead and another 350 believed dead. Another 1,500 were seriously injured and at least 3,000 made homeless. The property loss was estimated conservatively at \$5,000,000 and this did not include 2,000,000 valuable trees and saplings and scores of animals.

Worst hit was the town of Peshtigo and the surrounding territory. The area had been undergoing an unparalleled drought. The citizens of Peshtigo had become used to the smell of ashes and thought nothing amiss when they retired on the night of October 8, 1871. Suddenly "all hell rode into town on the back of a wind." Many rushed toward the river, some took refuge in basements. 75 persons who remained in a boarding house perished. A considerable portion of the survivors were huddled in a low, marshy piece of ground on the east side of the river. The number of dead in the blaze in the town of Peshtigo has been variously estimated at from 500 to 800. Only two buildings still stood after the fire, and the newspapers of the day wondered how some persons came through the disaster while others were burned to ashes within ten feet of them, or how the heavy iron fire engine could be melted without scorching the paint on wood two feet away. The fire also threatened the towns of Menominee, Mich., and Marinette, Wis., and licked at the outskirts of Green Bay. In Door County, 128 lives were lost.



## ESSENTIAL FURNACE SAFETY TIPS

BY BATTALION CHIEF PATRICK TROLLOP

With the upcoming inclement weather, it is time to ensure that your furnace is in a good and safe working condition. A gas furnace provides comfort when homeowners need it most, but heat can quickly turn into havoc when a furnace breaks down. After months of going unused in summer, furnaces need some maintenance before you start using them again. Upkeep helps your furnace stay in good condition. And above all, maintenance ensures your furnace won't catch fire. Every furnace needs proper maintenance before temperatures drop. Here are a few tips that you can use on any type of furnace to get them ready for winter:

### **Vacuum**

Lint and dust causes hazards around your furnace. You can avoid dust build-up by vacuuming inside and around your furnace every month. If you neglect to vacuum, the dust may become a fire hazard. You can refer to your maintenance instructions for more details on cleaning. In addition, you can call a professional heating company with questions on upkeep.

### **Keep Air Flowing**

Your furnace needs fresh air to work. If your furnace doesn't get enough air, it may consume the oxygen in your home. Low levels of oxygen are very unsafe for you and your family. Furthermore, any blocks to air flow may also result in your furnace heating areas in your home unevenly. This will cause your furnace to work harder and will cost you more money. As a general rule, the minimum clear space around a furnace should be about two feet, and more for anything flammable. You can help by clearing obstructions and opening floor registers to keep heat spaced throughout your home.

### **Schedule Inspections**

You have to keep up to date on yearly inspections so you know your furnace is in good shape. Schedule your annual tune-up just before winter. Technicians will determine if your furnace has any operational problems. In addition, they will clean your furnace to help avoid future breakdowns. Having a professional clean your furnace also ensures that your furnace is safe to use. Many accidents could happen if you tried to do maintenance yourself. Leave fix-it jobs for professionals. You can trust their experience to keep your family safe.

### **Replace Filters**

It's easy to ignore the need to change your furnace filters, but also dangerous. Damaged or unchanged filters could cause breakdowns. A dirty filter may also cause performance problems in your furnace. To avoid these complications, change your filters at least every month or two. During the winter months, you may want to increase this frequency to avoid the risk of a breakdown that could leave your home feeling frigid. You may need to change your filters more often if you use your furnace often, have pets, or smoke.

### **Test Carbon Monoxide and Smoke Alarms**

Accidents happen; however you can keep your family safe by preparing for problems. With this in mind, replace batteries on carbon monoxide and fire alarms at least twice year. You can also test both devices so you know they will warn you of a fire or carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide is an odorless gas, so never rely on your sense of smell to detect problems near the furnace. Schedule this maintenance period at the beginning of the winter so you know they will warn you of furnace glitches. In like manner, you can place them in the same room as the furnace for immediate fore warnings. You should also place detectors on every level of your home.

Use these simple steps to provide a safe and warm environment for the holidays. You can feel at ease during the winter season knowing you have an efficient and save furnace. Even if you've never experienced gas furnace issues in the past, it only takes one to change the way you think about furnace safety. Don't learn the hard way — understand that a gas furnace is a mechanical device that can break and cause real harm without the right precautions.

# SILO FIRE

PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST

Harlem-Roscoe Firefighters responded to State Line Rd for a silo fire on Sept. 10th. Thank you to our mutual aid fire departments that assisted with this call as well as three other calls (car fire, medical, and fire alarm) that came in while firefighters were at this scene.



ACCIDENTS PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST & DUTY OFFICERS



09/08/22 McCurry Rd. and Love Rd.

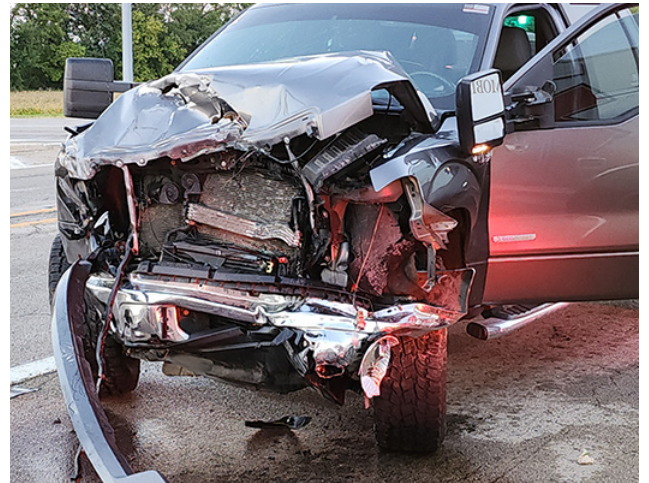


09/09/22 Hwy 251 and Bridge St.



09/11/22 Perryville Rd. and Vaundale Rd.

10/03/22 Hwy 251 and Forest Hills Rd.



09/20/22 Belvidere Rd. and Hwy 173

ACCIDENTS CONTINUED . . .



09/19/22 Rockton Rd. off-ramp from Hwy 251



09/28/22 Rockton Rd. off-ramp from Hwy 251



**FIRE SAFETY**  
WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

- ALARM
- BUILDING
- CRAWL
- DETECTOR
- DRILL
- DROP
- EMERGENCY
- ESCAPE
- EXIT
- EXTINGUISHER
- FLASHLIGHT
- HOME
- LADDER
- PLAN
- PREPARE
- PREVENT
- ROLL
- SIREN
- SMART
- SMOKE
- STOP
- TRUCK
- WINDOWS

N L H J C B S W O D N I W Q Y  
 G N I D L I U B R L A D D E R  
 T M T O U Q J G E L R J E L Q  
 D H A L A R M D N B L X X C R  
 R P G U M H O M E B I O E R J  
 O R N I D E T E C T O R R H L  
 P E G L L X L K P T N L A W W  
 E V R K L H Y H V R I F P R A  
 P E P C B R S Q L A E U E T R  
 A N L U S O F A W M U R R P C  
 C T A R A W W Q L S C B P U S  
 S E N T J G P Q E F Y M V U I  
 E U R E H S I U G N I T X E R  
 Y C N E G R E M E L L I R D E  
 D N F R S M O K E S P O T S N

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and  
DIAGONALLY. Find and circle each word.



*Working*  
**SMOKE ALARMS**  
**SAVE LIVES**  
Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery



## Escape Planning for Older Adults



Your risk of dying in a home fire is greater as you get older. Knowing what to do if there is a fire can make a big difference.

- Know two ways out of every room. Practice using both ways.
- Remove any items that may block your way out of the room or your home.
- Discuss your fire escape plan with family and neighbors. Contact your building manager or fire department to discuss your plan if you need extra help escaping.
- Keep eyeglasses, keys, hearing aids and a phone within reach next to your bed.
- Practice your home fire escape drill twice a year.



Adults 65 and over are twice as likely to die in fires

# 30 secs

By now, smoke alarms should have detected the fire and alerted your family.

# 60 secs

With no warning, the fire goes unchecked. It will quickly take hold, giving off poisonous smoke.

# 3 mins

The fire has reached in excess of 800 degrees celsius. All of the contents in the room will be on fire and it will have spread to other rooms in the house.

<h3>Cooking</h3> <p><b>1</b> Number 1 cause of home fires</p>	<h3>Heating</h3> <p><b>2</b> Number 2 cause of home fires</p>	<h3>Electrical</h3> <p><b>3</b> Number 3 cause of home fires</p>	<h3>Cigarettes &amp; Candles</h3> <p><b>4</b> Number 4 cause of home fires</p>
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### Think about your needs.

Be sure to keep your glasses, hearing aid, cane or wheel chair close to your bed at night. If there is an emergency, you will be able to grab them quickly as you leave.

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# TEACH KIDS TO escape a home fire

- Practice an escape plan twice a year at different times of the day.
- Make sure they know your family's meeting place and to never go back into a burning building.
- Teach them why and how to call 911.

### Make a fire escape plan.

Talk to your family about what you should do if there is a fire. Practice your fire escape plan at least 2 times a year.

U.S. Fire Administration | FEMA | The Firehouse Scene

NFPA

Have a home fire escape plan for everyone in your home. Some people may need help waking up or getting outside. Plan for your abilities!

**Fire won't wait. Plan your escape at [fpw.org](http://fpw.org).**





## EMT-B EMT-P FIREFIGHTER

HRFD is currently accepting applications for part time EMT-B or EMT-P and 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 as indicated above? 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 in Roscoe.

Any questions should be directed to the Chief or Deputy Chief of the Harlem-Roscoe Fire Department at 815-623-7867

# EMERGENCY

# Out in the Community



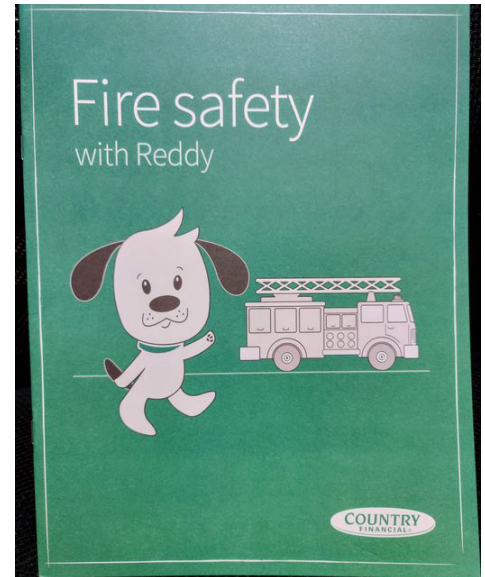
## Roscoe Fall Festival

### Raffle Winners:

- 1st Prize- Hanna Benard - Smoker set and gift card
- 2nd Prize- Richard Pearce - 45qt Cooler
- 3rd Prize- Lucy Vaubel - \$100 Visa Card



^^ Thank You to State Farm Agents Mike Frank & Erik Abrahamsen for State Farm Insurance donation of NFPA Fire Prevention Week materials!



## Lowes Fire Safety Days

Thank you Lowes for the donation of a generator to use in our Kids Smoke House.



^^ THANK You to Todd Harmsen - Insurance Agent at Country Financial for his donation of Fire Safety with Reddy Books for use in our Fire Prevention Program at the schools!

**NEW FIREFIGHTER** PHOTO BY JEN ANDERSON

Congratulation to Angel Indoval. He was sworn in as our newest probationary firefighter on Sept. 26th. at the Harlem-Roscoe Trustee's meeting. Great job Angel and continue to work hard.



L-r DC John Bergeron, Chief Don Shovelin, Angel, Trustees Bart Munger, Al Bach and John Donahue.

**ZOLL CLINICAL SAVE AWARD** PHOTO BY DC BERGERON

On Sept. 27th, several members were awarded the Zoll Clinical Save Award for their resuscitation of a Cardiac Arrest patient. Congratulations!



L-r Paramedic Brett Whiting, Paramedic Kyle Swanson, Battalion Chief Pat Trollop, Chief Donald Shovelin, Firefighter Aaron Morley, Paramedic Cecilia Young, Deputy Chief John Bergeron, Not Pictured Engineer Tim Schrader and EMT Jared Christiansen.

**STATE CERTIFICATION AWARDS** PHOTO BY DC BERGERON

Several members were awarded State Certificates through the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Congratulations!



(L-R) CRR Jen Anderson- Fire Inspector 1, Lt. Jason Street- Fire Apparatus Engineer, Cecilia Young- Fire Service Vehicle Operator, Brandon Sherbon- Fire Apparatus Engineer, Mike Craglow- Basic Operation Firefighter and Haz Mat Ops, Aaron Morley- Basic Operations Firefighter and Haz Mat Ops, Zeb Wolfe- Vehicle and Machinery Operations. Not pictured: BC Kevin Briggs - Fire Apparatus Engineer, Div. Chief Tom Aaker - Fire Dept. Incident Safety Officer, BC John Donovan - Fire Dept. Incident Safety Officer, Ambriana Corrado - Basic Operations Firefighter and Haz Mat Ops, Ryan Sarver - Advanced Technical Firefighter, Lt. Sam McNames - Fire Service Vehicle Operator and Advanced Technician Firefighter, and Cecilia Young - Fire Service Vehicle Operator.

**hAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**OCTOBER**

- 2nd Gus Larson
- 2nd Jason Street
- 13th Ryan Messinger
- 13th Hannah Carlson
- 14th Kelly Huddleston
- 25th Jim Purpura
- 26th Tom Aaker
- 29th Sue Null '80th'

**NOVEMBER**

- 1st Don Shovelin
- 3rd Joe Quast
- 6th Andrew Wiechman
- 10th Nate Noble
- 10th JennieAnn Parma
- 14th Ken Kelley
- 29th Tim Schrader



**Chaplain Sue Null - 80th  
October 29th**

**The Firehouse Scene**

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

Fire Chief - Don Shovelin  
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 at: [sdrost@harlemroscoefire.org](mailto:sdrost@harlemroscoefire.org)

**HARLEM-ROSCOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #1**

# **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE**



**SAT. OCT. 15**

**11AM - 1PM**

**STATION #1  
10544 MAIN ST**



**FIRE EXTINGUISHER  
SIMULATOR**

**SMOKE HOUSE**



**SPARKY'S FIRE  
TRUCK**



**KIDS SPRAY WATER  
FIRE POLE  
REFRESHMENTS**



**STATION  
TOURS  
SPARKY**