

THE FIREHOUSE SCENE

is a publication of the
Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District

November 2022

Fire Chief Don Shoevlin

Editor Sheryl Drost

Senior Turkey Dinner
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FROM THE CHIEFS DESK
BY FIRE CHIEF DON SHOEVLIN

I must start this month by saying Thank-You to ALL the personnel of the Harlem Roscoe Fire Department! Over the month of October, your department responded to 278 calls, a full calendar of public relations events including school visits an Open House for Fire Prevention Week, continuous and ongoing training sessions and boy did we give out the candy. We now begin participating in the numerous holiday activities offered throughout our district and neighborhoods. If you should happen to see one of our firefighters out and about, give them an extra big Thank You for all that they do and for keeping us safe in our communities.

Hopefully, now that you have made it to the second paragraph, you remembered to get back that hour of sleep we lost in spring along with testing those smoke detectors and CO alarms in your house. If not, your body will adjust but please test the alarms as they could save a life.

It's back! The Senior Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner will be held on Thursday, November 17th from 11am - 1 pm. It will be an indoor sit-down meal at our headquarters station in Roscoe on Main Street. We assist the Roscoe Lion's Club in this great event. December will bring our annual Christmas food drive. We will be accepting non-perishable food donations for our annual Christmas Drive also during the dinner.

This past month I attended the Illinois Fire Chief's annual conference completing my term as Immediate Past President on the executive board. It was once again a privilege to be able to network with many Fire Chiefs from around the state and serve on the executive board. I wish to thank the Board of Trustees for allowing me the opportunity to serve with the IFCA. Serving on the executive board over the past 13 years has been joyful, educational, and rewarding for the knowledge

gained and ideas shared amongst Fire Chiefs and state associations. Just as important to share it all within our department. A struggle that the fire service is experiencing is the recruitment and retention of personnel. It was a hot topic at the conference as well as throughout the state. I look forward to continuing to attend the conferences as a retired Chief.

I find that years seem to go by quicker than the previous especially now that I have officially hit senior citizen status in age. Remember though, you are only as old as you feel.

We are now in the last quarter of 2022 and heading into the holiday season. What an opportune time to begin reflecting on our accomplishments, maybe a shortcoming or two, what we have, not only materialistic but those around us, and how we look at, think of, and treat others.

About ten years ago I shared something in an article I had heard from my Pastor. An individual whom I think highly of and look up to. He faces the same struggles we all do and even maybe a little more. The topic hit home and made me reflect on myself then as it does today. It started and I am paraphrasing, with people being grumpy, nit-picking, unsettled attitudes and the famous "what if". What is constantly heard in today's media? Whether it be in print, TV, radio, or social. What about in our conversations with one another? Do you think this influence how we feel or act?

Well, as I listened intently, my pastor shared a saying. "Whatever We Feed Grows". Think about it, if we feed ourselves all the aforementioned items, through whatever source, what is growing? I have challenged myself again and I ask you to do the same, to make a valiant effort to continuously feed the good stuff.

Why does it seem it is so hard to be caring, loving, truthful, positive, giving, and hopeful? Why does it appear that self-pride, integrity, and ownership are hard to achieve? It may feel challenging, but to possibly ease that, look at a challenge as an opportunity. Only each of us can answer that question about ourselves and challenge ourselves. I would venture to say, however, if we challenged ourselves to commit and created the opportunity to feed on positivity, we would all grow to be happy and fulfilled and overcome negativity.

Let's treat one another with dignity and respect using a positive attitude as we move into the holiday season. They call it the giving season and in my own opinion that would be the gift that keeps on giving I just wonder what impact it would have on the world we live in if we all did it.

So, when we reflect on what to be thankful for this Thanksgiving, let us all take time to appreciate the importance of our family, friends, and co-workers. Let us all look into our lives and strive for love, and happiness and treat others with kindness. Be thankful for the numerous things we do have, and the hope we have for the future not dwelling on what we don't. I wish everyone in our communities, the firefighters, and their families a Happy Thanksgiving.

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, so go ahead and follow us.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Chief Shoevlin



Incoming Harlem-Roscoe Fire Chief Pat Trollop, Fire Chief Don Shoevlin, and Deputy Chief John Bergeron took part in the Illinois Fire Chief's Association's 71st Annual Chief Conference held in Peoria, IL. They attended classes about legislation and additional state wide issues for the fire service along with networking with other Fire Chief's from the state.



BC Patrick Trollop



ANNOUNCEMENT!

The Board of Trustees of the Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District #1 is pleased to announce that BC Patrick Trollop has been selected to be the next Fire Chief for the Harlem Roscoe Fire Department beginning January 1, 2023.

When current Fire Chief Don Shoevlin notified the Board of his intent to retire at the end of the year, the HRFD Board engaged the services of an outside consultant (IFCA Assessment and Consulting Services) who specializes in the recruitment and assessment of potential candidates for senior level leaders in the fire service industry. Candidates were put through a rigorous virtual and in-person testing and interview process to provide an objective evaluation of each candidate's qualifications and expertise in meeting the criteria established by the HRFD Board.

Through this process, and from his personal interview with the Board, Mr. Trollop clearly demonstrated he has the necessary leadership style, personality and vision for the future that would be a great fit for our community, HRFD members and our future.

Mr. Trollop is currently a Battalion Chief with the HRFD and has been on the department for 10 years. Prior to that, he worked as a Paramedic for 5 years for a private ambulance service in the Rockford Area. He also served our country as an Infantry Squad Leader in the United States Marine Corps. Pat has a bachelor's degree in Public Safety Management and is a graduate of the Managing Officer Training Program through the National Fire Academy.

Congratulations Patrick!



CHAPLAINS CORNER
BY CHAPLAIN PAUL MEYERS

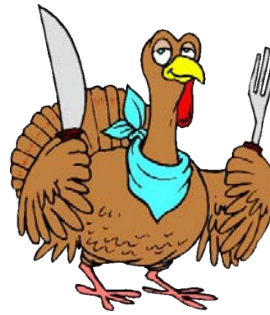
Congratulations Chief Shoevlin on your well-earned and well-deserved upcoming retirement!

As I reflect on the ten years which I have been a part of HRFD, a few things come to mind that make me smile. I first remember the day that you asked me into your office to dream about what a larger Chaplain program may look like. At the time, I had no real intention of coming on board to run the program, but the opportunity to work with you and learn from your leadership intrigued and compelled me to be a part of the team.

I witnessed many examples of your consistent leadership with the officers and the personnel and took notes for my own leadership. What impressed me most was your ability to cast visions, set goals for those visions, and meet those goals. In almost every written word you have published, you have re-cast the vision of “who we are and what we do as HRFD.”

I have also witnessed on many occasions the way you model a leadership of building others up publicly, whether this be from work on an incident or in-house achievements. Yet, the most important model you were for me, was during a time when you realized that you did not do something as correctly as you felt you should have, and you took steps to back up and make correct that situation. You are a courageous leader who exemplifies integrity and honor.

I pray that you will cherish that trophy you possess from serving as President of the Illinois Fire Chief’s Association; three remarkable years of leadership. A true legacy. As you rest, learn what life is like without the tones dropping, and reflect on your accomplishments, my wife, Kendra, and I wish you and Tammy good health, good rest, and a great next chapter of your life together



Roscoe Lion’s Club
SENIOR
TURKEY DINNER
(Free)

November 17th, 2022

11am - 1pm

Fire Station #1

10544 Main St. Roscoe

Yep, you read that correctly, our annual Lion’s Club Senior Turkey Dinner that we host will be a sit-down dinner this year: No more drive thru! Can’t wait to see you all.

ACCIDENTS INVOLVING DEER



According to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, It’s deer mating season or “rut” and the deer are on the move. If you encounter one on the road you naturally want to swerve out of the way but in doing so, drivers may lose control of the car or cause a more severe accident. Don’t Veer For the Deer!” According to the Insurance Information Institute, 1.6 million deer/vehicle collisions occur each year, resulting in 200 fatalities, tens of thousands of injuries and over \$3.6 billion in vehicle damage. Being prepared can help prevent you from adding to these statistics.

- Be aware of your surroundings and pay attention.
- First, look for the road signs. The yellow diamonds with the deer on it are placed in high-traffic areas for deer.
- Scan the sides of the road. You may spot a deer because their eyes will brightly reflect a car’s headlights.
- Watch for the rest of the gang. Deer are pack animals, and rarely travel alone. If a deer crosses in front of you, chances are there are more nearby. Slow down and keep an eye out for more deer darting across the road.
- Timing is everything. From sunset to midnight and during the hours shortly before and after sunrise are the highest risk times for deer/vehicle collisions; periods when your vision is most compromised. To add to their terrible timing, deer are on the move during mating season (between October and January).
- Wear your seat belt. It may not prevent a collision, but if the inevitable happens a seat belt can reduce injuries. This is especially true if you lose control and collide with something bigger, and more stationary than a deer.
- Stay the course. If you see a deer, brake firmly and calmly, and stay in your lane. Swerving could make you lose control of your vehicle and turn a bad situation much worse. Not to mention, deer are unpredictable.

TRUCK FIRE

PHOTO BY BC BRIGGS

Firefighters responded to a truck on fire at 12:30 am on Oct. 14th at the Rockton Rd. off ramp on Hwy 251. No one was injured.



CAR FIRE

PHOTO BY BC DONOVAN

Firefighters responded to a car on fire at Crystal Drive and Segunda Lane on Oct. 29th. There were no injuries.





10/15/22 Group Photo

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE

PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST

Sparky had an awesome time at our Harlem-Roscoe Fire Prevention Week Open House, as we all did! Thank you to all that came out. Check out our Facebook page for more photos from the day.





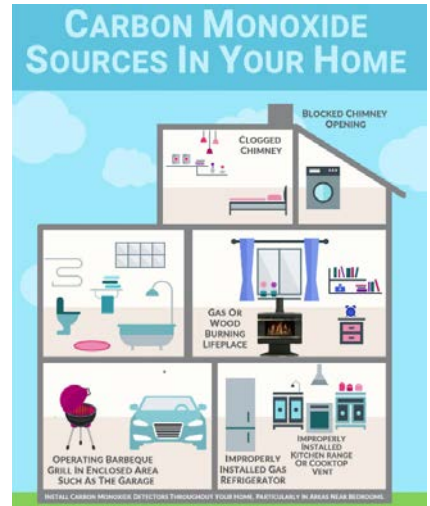
FALL & WINTER SAFETY TIPS

BY LT. SAM MCNAMES

The fall and winter months can be a fun time for people and their families, however many of these activities pose risks if not done safely. As the days get colder Carbon Monoxide (CO) calls increase as people begin to heat their homes in various ways and move outside activities inside. Fall cooking shifts and poses fire potential. Finally, moving decorations inside present increased risks. By educating yourself and following these safety tips, you can stay safe.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas which is a byproduct of incomplete combustion. The best way to prevent CO related illnesses is to have properly functioning detectors throughout the house. Carbon monoxide detectors should be placed near potential hazards and bedrooms. A good practice is to have a detector both near the floor and higher up, as CO is a gas that can settle in various spots of the home. Some of those most common causes of carbon monoxide include appliances, vehicles, small gas engines, and fireplaces. Gas appliances that are not functioning properly can release CO with no warning. Avoid running vehicles and other gas powered engines inside. Ensure fireplaces are properly ventilating and only burn safe materials inside. If any issues arise, have a certified technician inspect home appliances to verify proper functioning. On average nearly 50,000 people visit the emergency room every year due to accidental CO poisoning, resulting in 430 deaths. Knowing how to prevent these illnesses is crucial for you and your family.

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In addition to the dangers of carbon monoxide, the colder months pose increased fire threats due to unsafe cooking. As the holiday season approaches, use caution when operating deep fryers and grills. Never use these items inside your home or garage.

In addition, educate yourself on the process and never place frozen items in a deep fryer. When using grills, make sure to keep a safe distance from the house and dispose of coals in a safe manner. Each year, firefighters respond to over 1,000 fires as a direct result of turkey fryers, resulting in over 15 million dollars of damage. Follow these few tips and keep your family and property safe.

Lastly, use safe practices when setting up inside decorations. On average, nearly 160 house fires annually are caused by Christmas trees. Use these safety tips to reduce your risk. Only use fresh trees and water frequently to avoid the tree becoming too dried out. Do not place Christmas trees near any open flame or heating source. Be sure to verify lights are working properly and avoid leaving on when not home or sleeping. Finally, use fire resistant ornaments. By following these few tips, you can keep safe this holiday season.

ACCIDENTS PHOTOS BY DUTY OFFICERS



10/01/22 Vaughndale Dr.



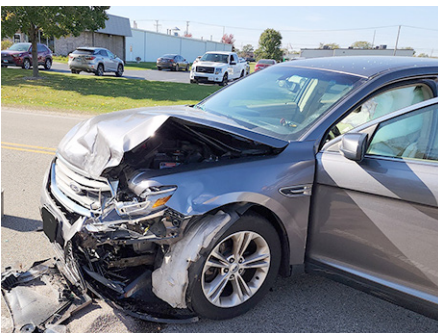
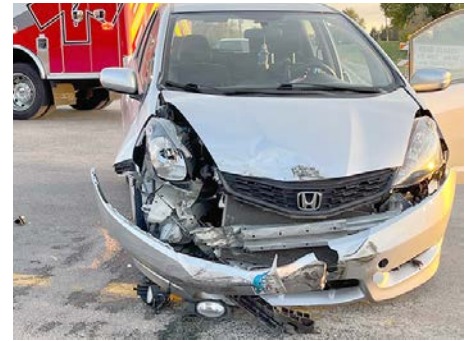
10/19/22 Roscoe Rd.



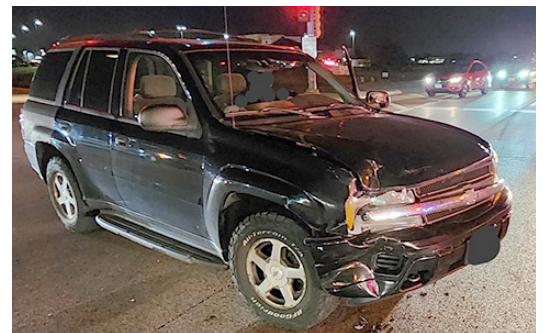
10/19/22 Roscoe Rd.



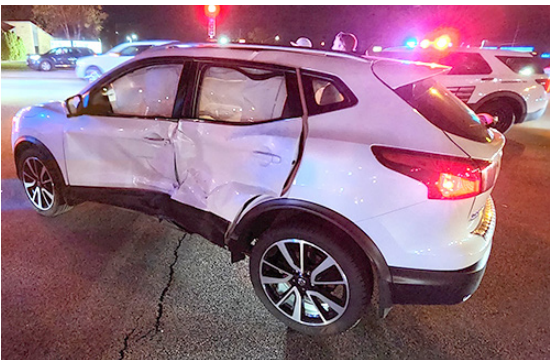
10/19/22 Roscoe Rd. and Gleasman Rd.



10/20/22 N. Alpine Rd.



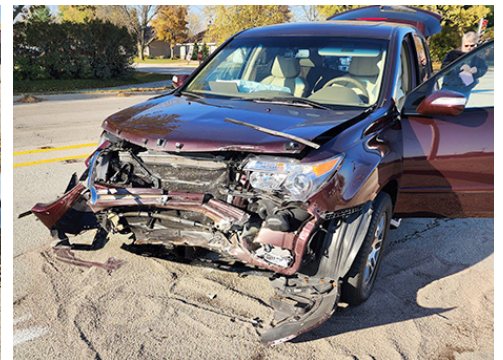
10/29/22 Elevator Rd.



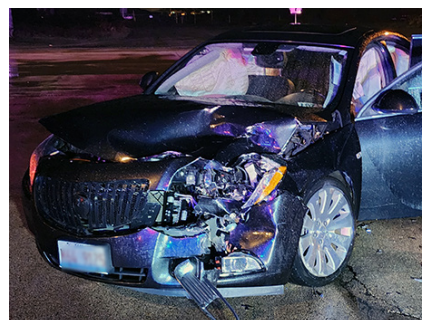
10/29/22 Elevator Rd.



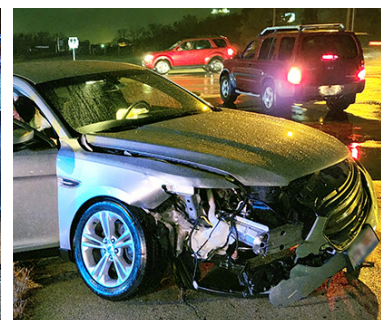
10/29/22 Hononegah Rd.



11/04/22 Hwy 251



11/04/22 Rockton Rd. and Hwy 251 off ramp



Out in the Community



As part of our Fire Prevention Week activities, Firefighters spoke to the Pre-K & Kindergarten classes today at Prairie Hill School about Fire Safety. Pictured with the Pre-K classes are Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District Probationary Firefighters Ryan Donner & Lori Lynch.



Thank you to Jim Blevins - State Farm Insurance Agent for his donation of Fire Prevention materials from the National Fire Protection Association!



Firefighters participated in the Trunk Or Treat put on by the Kids Spot on Oct. 22nd. Thanks to everyone that came and said Hi to us.



Firefighters participated in the Trunk Or Treat at Porter Park on Oct. 22nd.



Ralston School 1st Graders visited firefighters at Station #2 throughout Fire Prevention Week for a tour and to learn about Fire Safety!



Thank you to Elev815 for their generous basket of goodies on Oct. 28th in honor of National First Responders Day!



Sparky's® Thanksgiving Conversation Starters



What's your favorite food?



Chocolate or vanilla ice cream?



When is the last time you tested your smoke alarms?
(Smoke alarms need to be tested once a month.)



If you could meet anyone, who would it be?



Do you have an outside meeting place in case of a fire?



What holiday is your favorite, and why?



If only one animal could talk to you, what would it be?



Where do you feel the happiest?



If you could travel in time, where would you go?



Describe the person sitting next to you in five words.



SPARKY® IS A TRADEMARK OF THE NFPA.



CRR Officer
Jen Anderson





DEAR COMMUNITY BUSINESSES, CHURCHES & GROUPS,

The holidays are once again upon us and the Harlem Roscoe Fire Department is looking for your help with our food drive. For decades, we have provided families and our local seniors who are in challenging times, a complete holiday feast with plenty of extras to fill their pantry.

Yearly, we have surprised over thirty households (with an average of 75+ children) during this time with a holiday feast, wrapped toys, clothing and many other items of need for each home. Better than a sleigh, delivery to each home will be made by one of our fire trucks and handed out by your HRFD Firefighters Saturday, December 17th, 2022.

This year, we will once again be collecting nonperishable boxed, bagged and canned goods. Examples of items needed would be Macaroni and Cheese, Pop Tarts, Breakfast Bars, Peanut Butter and Jelly, Canned Goods, Pasta and Sauce, Cereal, Etc. (Send us a photo or we will take one if we pick up and we will be certain to get it on our Facebook page too!)

To avoid collecting all the same items, please let our coordinator know what your team has in mind for this year’s food drive. Our target date for food to be dropped off to our station or picked up from your business is now until December 14th. (Pick-up can be arranged by calling 815-623-7867 if needed)

Please contact HRFD Deputy Chief John Bergeron for participation or any other food drive questions at 815-623-7867, Monday thru Friday, 8am to 4pm or Email him directly at hfrdjbergeron@gmail.com



hAPPY BIRTHDAY

NOVEMBER

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

DECEMBER

- 11th Harold Danger
- 18th Kathy Marinelli
- 26th Patrick Trollop
- 26th Kyle Swanson

The Firehouse Scene

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

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.

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