

THE FIREHOUSE SCENE

is a publication of the
Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District

January 2023

Fire Chief Patrick Trollop

Editor Sheryl Drost



HRFPD NO. 9 FIRE CHIEF SWORN IN PHOTOS BY TIM OLK

Harlem-Roscoe Fire would like to introduce our new Fire Chief, Patrick Trollop. Trollop was sworn in as Fire Chief on Dec. 30th. at Fire Station #1.

Chief Trollop joined the department in 2012. He was promoted to Lieutenant on Feb. 13, 2015 and to Captain on Sept. 23, 2019. He was sworn in as a full-time Battalion Chief on July 27, 2020. On Dec. 30th, 2022 he was sworn in as the department's 9th Chief.

He was an EMT-B when joining the department and became a Paramedic in 2013. Patrick currently oversees the Special Operations Division and is the Disaster Preparedness Coordinator for the department. Patrick received the HRFD Firefighter of the Year award in both 2017 as well as in 2019.

Patrick served in the United States Marine Corps from 1998-2002, during that time he gained the rank of Corporal and was an Infantry Squad Leader. During his time in the Marines, he served in the Far East as well as the Middle East.

Since joining Harlem-Roscoe Fire, Patrick has obtained multiple state certifications from the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Patrick has his Bachelor's degree in Public Safety Management from Southern Illinois University. Patrick has obtained the Illinois Professional Emergency Management certification from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. He is also a graduate of the Managing Officer Program through the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD. Congratulations Fire Chief Trollop.



**FROM THE CHIEFS DESK
BY FIRE CHIEF PATRICK TROLLOP**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The phrase "changing of the guard" is used to refer to a situation in which there is a dramatic or big change, and a "changing of the guard" is basically a time in which new people are replacing other people in positions of importance.

On December 30th, 2022 I can say that I was honored to be a part of the department's changing of the guard. It is an honor to be sworn in as only the 9th Fire Chief of Harlem-Roscoe Fire. Although Chief Shoevlin has retired and I am attempting to fill very large shoes, that does not mean that our number one priority has changed. That is and always will be providing the best service to the communities that we serve.

The department will continue to strive to provide the best possible services to the community. Over the years since the inception of the Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District those services have drastically changed. When the "Fire Department" began, it was strictly a volunteer department to provide fire extinguishment to the community. As the community has grown so has the need for services. Those services continue to change even today.

I think most people think that as firefighters we fight fire on a constant basis, which is untrue. Our number one service that we provide is by far Emergency Medical Services. That consists of roughly 80% of what we do. We have highly trained Paramedics and EMTs that I feel provide exceptional pre-hospital care.

Another extremely important service we provide as a Protection district is to all of the businesses in our communities. We provide annual inspections of businesses, this ensures that these businesses are within adopted fire codes. This means things as simple as properly charged fire extinguishers as well as light up exit signs. Our fire bureau takes great pride in ensuring that our businesses are providing a safe work environment for their employees.

Our firefighters also play an extremely important role with fire safety. They provide safety talks at the schools, to the Scouts, and anyone who asks! The firefighters also will install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors as requested, many times they will notice the need while on medical calls and handle it right then and there if time allows.

Needless to say I am not only proud and honored to be a part of the department but am extremely proud to have the opportunity to lead it into the future. I realize that I am just the figure head though, the ones who truly make this department great are all of our members. They are the ones who make the difference in the community. I am proud to lead them.

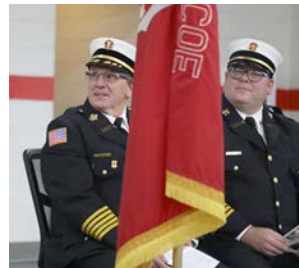
A BIG
*Thank
 you*

December 30 th , 2022 is a day I will always remember!

To my wife, the board of trustees, and the members of the Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District, thank you for all your hard work, thoughtfulness, and support over the years I have spent here. To all the people who came by throughout my last day, thank you. I will forever be grateful for your support, mentorship, and friendship. For my career to end as it did on that day was just phenomenal, to say the least. The accolades, the planned events, and the show of support and thanks were more than I had ever expected.

So, what has retirement been like for the past 10 days? Well for Tammy and I, it has been a little bit of an adjustment, a lot of us time and of course family with grandchildren time. Five granddaughters all sleeping over on a single night almost had me coming out of retirement. Just kidding, but it was a challenging night. I do miss the members of the department but can also say I don't miss the sleep interruptions from the pager going off. Well, off we will continue to go, catching up on time together we have missed, enjoying the next level of our life. I hope it is long and full of good health, family, and time spent with friends. God bless each and every one of you in the new year of 2023.

Chief Don Shoevlin (ret.)



Check out our Facebook Page for more photos from Chief Shoevlin's Retirement Open House and Walkout Ceremony.

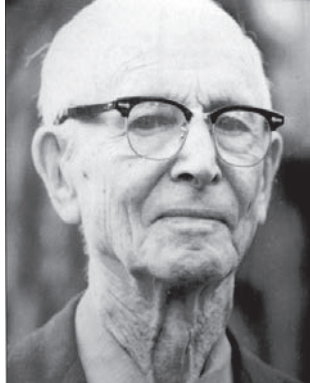




HRFD FIRE CHIEFS

Patrick Trollop became the 9th HRFPD Fire Chief on Dec. 30th, 2022, joining the ranks of these eight fire chiefs that served before him. These Fire Chiefs all held different occupations. What stood out with all eight though, was their strong desire to serve their community, to continually improve the department, and make the Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District the best fire district it could be. Check out our history page on our website to read more about each of these Chiefs (by clicking on their photos). <https://harlemroscoefire.org/our-history>.

1st



**Chief Harry Evans
1940 to 1944**

Chief Evans ran a grocery store on Main Street, was a tax collector, and was in charge of the township cemetery for years.

2nd



**Chief John Kelley
1944 to 1944**

Chief Kelley ran a gravel and excavating business in Roscoe.

3rd



**Chief George McDonald
1945 to 1952**

Chief McDonald ran a car lot and was owner of a Shell Service Station.

4th



**Chief Howard Rogers
"Cobby"
1952 to 1965**

Chief Rogers was a self-employed contractor, carpenter, mason, and owned a car repair shop.

5th



**Chief Ben Alexander
1965 to 1982**

Chief Alexander worked for Barber Colman, and played ball for the St. Louis Cardinals farm team, and was a firefighter during the Navy in World War II.

6th



**Chief Jack Brown Sr.
1982 to 1982**

Chief Brown worked for a foundry in Beloit and was a firefighter in the Navy.

7th



**Chief Oscar Presley Jr.
1982 to 2007**

Chief Presley was a barber in Roscoe and Rockton and served as the Roscoe Township Road Commissioner for ten years.

8th



**Chief Donald Shoenlin
2008 to 2022**

Chief Shoenlin was a local Roscoe business owner.

HRFD PROMOTIONS AND NEW FIREFIGHTERS

Harlem-Roscoe Chief Trollop wishes to announce the following occurred at Dec. 27th District Board Meeting: Kevin Briggs was promoted to Deputy Chief; Mike Jones and Jeff Grant were sworn in as Battalion Chiefs; Spencer Caruana was sworn in as a Lieutenant; Jacob Archambeau and Jay Starnes were sworn in as Probationary Firefighters; and Firefighters Ryan Donner, Eric Ceniti and Will Sieracki received their black helmets after completing their probationary period. Congratulations to all.



BC Kevin Briggs was promoted to Deputy Chief of Operations.



Spencer Caruana was sworn in as a Lieutenant.



Mike Jones was sworn in as Battalion Chief.



Jacob Archambeau and Jay Starnes were sworn in as new Firefighters.



Jeff Grant was sworn in as Battalion Chief.



Firefighters Ryan Donner, Eric Ceniti and Will Sieracki received their black helmets after completing their probationary period.

BASEMENT FIRE

PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST

Firefighters responded to a basement fire on Fawn Prairie Dr. at 5:18 pm on Dec. 19th. The first in crew made an aggressive attack into the home and found fire in a basement bedroom. The fire was extinguished and the room overhauled looking for any fire extension. The fire damage was contained to the bedroom including the window area with smoke damage throughout. A MABAS BOX was pulled bringing neighboring fire departments to the scene. A big thank you for their assistance. The cause of the fire is being investigated.



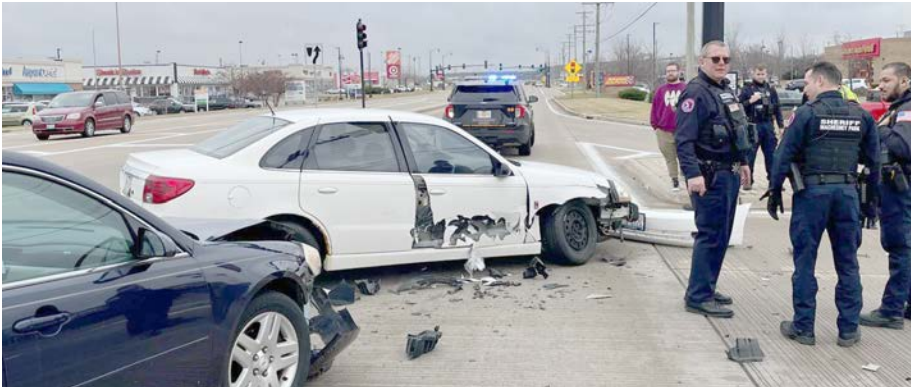
TRAINING BURN

PHOTOS BY SHERYL DROST

Firefighters performed a live training with a house burn on Free Church Rd. on Dec. 18th. After many drill night trainings on such things as search and rescue, ventilation, forcible entry, hose tactics, fire suppression etc., the recruits and cadets were put through a couple final evolutions before the home was left to burn.



ACCIDENTS PHOTOS BY PHOTOGRAPHER SHERYL DROST AND DUTY OFFICERS



12/12/22 Hwy 173



12/19/22 McCurry Rd. and Love Rd.



12/24/22 Hwy 251



12/16/22 McCurry Rd.



BY BC JOHN DONOVAN

Happy New Year to everyone! Well, the holidays are behind us and so far is has been a fairly mild beginning to the winter season.

As you know here in the Midwest that can change in a heartbeat, so you need to make sure that you are ready until the flowers start blooming again. The following are some safety tip reminders for the wintertime:

Home Safety

1. Test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms monthly. Even if you have the newer sealed 10-year detectors it gives you the piece of mind that they are working.
2. Make sure your house number is visible from the street, in a time of an emergency it is very helpful to fire and police to find your address.
3. Make sure you have 2 ways out of your home and have the snow and ice removed for access, this help you get out and us get in if there is an emergency.
4. Make sure you have flashlights, fresh batteries, and a weather radio in case the power goes out.
5. If you are going to use a generator, make sure it is outdoors and not near or windows or doors also do not run it in the garage even if the door is open.
6. If you are using a portable electric heater turn it off when you leave the room, nearly 1/2 of space heater fires involve electric space heaters.

Vehicle Safety

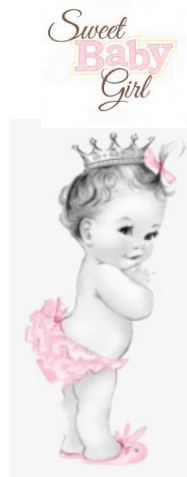
1. Do or have an overall check done on your vehicle, breakdowns in the when the weather is nice are agitating, but breakdowns in the winter can be deadly.
 - Check your cooling system and antifreeze, along with cooling your engine it also provides heat for your vehicle. Also check to make sure your defrosters are working.
 - Check your battery along with your charging system and belts, extreme cold can take a toll on your battery especially if it is older. More battery power is needed to start a car in the winter compared to the warmer months
 - Make sure your wiper blades are good and that your wiper fluid is full, nothings worse than following other vehicles and not being able to clean your windshield!
 - Tires, Tires, Tires! Make sure you have good tires and tread because that is the only thing between your car and the snow on the road.
2. Give yourself extra time to get to your destination. Rushing to get to work and dealing with the snowy roads it a recipe for an accident to happen.
3. If you get stuck or break down follow these rules.
 - Stay with your car and do not overexert yourself
 - Put a bright marker on the antenna and keep your dome light on.

- Don't run your car for long periods. Make sure your exhaust is clear of snow and run it just to keep warm.
4. Put together a winter safety kit in case you get stuck or break down ice scraper, sand or kitty litter if you are stuck, and even a small shovel
 - Jumper cables, flashlight, flares or light markers
 - Cellphone, charger, water and food (granola bars, snacks)
 - Blankets, gloves and hats (just in case you forgot yours)

Spring will be here before you know it, but follow these suggestions to make the winter months a little more bearable and safe!!



Deputy Chief John Bergeron's son Dalton and his wife Miranda, welcomed their first child on Dec. 29th, 2022. This makes John, and his wife Deann, grandparents x3. Kennedy Ellen Bergeron arrived at 8:57pm and measured in at 8lbs 2oz and 21" long. Congratulations Dalton and Miranda, she is beautiful!



SHREDDER FIRE Photos by BC Briggs

Firefighters extinguished a small fire in a shredder truck on Dec.12th on N. Alpine Rd. in Machesney Park.



UPDATED ILLINOIS SMOKE ALARM LAW

- Effective January 1, 2023 -

In 2017, the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance worked with the General Assembly to pass a law which will require Illinois residents to replace their old smoke alarms with the type that has a long-term, 10-year sealed battery beginning January 1, 2023. This would apply to residents that are still using alarms with removable batteries or alarms that are not hardwired.



What is the Updated Illinois Smoke Alarm Law?

- Since 1988, all dwellings in Illinois have been required to have smoke alarms.
- In 2017, Public Act 100-0200 was passed to update the Illinois Smoke Detector Act to reflect advances in alarm technology.
- Come January 1, 2023, any new smoke alarm being installed within a single or multi-family home are required to be featured with a 10-year sealed battery.
- Smoke alarms in single or multi-family homes prior to January 1, 2023 may remain in place until they exceed 10 years from their manufactured date, fails to respond to operability tests, or otherwise malfunctions.

Exemptions




- Homes built after 1988 that already have hardwired smoke alarms.
- Homes with wireless integrated alarms that use low-power radio frequency communications, Wi-Fi, or other Wireless Local Area Networking capability.

To view the Illinois law in its entirety, visit www.IFSA.org/smoke-alarm-law



Illinois Fire Safety Alliance
(847) 390-0911
www.IFSA.org | ifsa@ifsa.org

— BENEFIT OF 10-YEAR SEALED BATTERIES —

		
HASSLE-FREE No more climbing up the ladder to change batteries.	NO LATE-NIGHT LOW BATTERY CHIRPS	MORE SAVING No more costly battery replacements for the life of the alarm.



HOLIDAY REINDEER FAMILY DRIVE BY DEPUTY CHIEF JOHN BERGERON

Welcome to 2023. Harlem-Roscoe Fire would like thank our community once again for your continued support throughout the year. Now that the holidays are over we have finished up on another successful Holiday Reindeer Family Drive (HRFD).

Every year in October, we gear up and begin collecting nonperishable food at all three of our fire stations. Thank you to all the individuals that dropped off food! This year we also reached out to local churches and businesses once again, and boy did they come through! We then reached out to see if there were any families in our district that may need assistance during the holiday season. Once we received that information we went into high gear.

We started with a day of shopping in early December to purchase clothes, toys, books, baby items, etc. After everything is purchased or donated, everything was wrapped by a group of volunteers at the fire station. A week out from delivery, we sorted food bins with whatever items we were able to collect during the food drive. We then make a shopping list of what will be needed for a Christmas Day dinner, and went shopping for those items. With all the donations we received this year, we were able to give each family not only a complete holiday meal, but stock their shelves with much needed staples! The Saturday before Christmas, we met at the fire station and delivered all the food and gifts to the families on our list.

This year we were fortunate enough to be able to assist a record 31 families that included 78 children and 73 Adults to make their Christmas a little brighter. Thank you to all the volunteers that work behind the scene that make this possible every year. We look forward to the 2023 drive, as it is something all of us love to do; giving back to the community we serve. If you would like to donate for next year, please call us at 815-623- 7867 or you can email DC John Bergeron at hrrfdjbergeron@gmail.com



hAPPY BIRTHDAY

JANUARY

5th Matt Bush 60th
11th Ryan Donner
16th Angel Indoval
22nd Everett Peterson
28th Brett Whiting
31st Mark Soppe

FEBRUARY

10th William Sieracki
13th Brandon Sherbon
15th David McKee
21st Jeff Grant
22nd Butch Taylor '70'
23rd Alissa Neubauer
'40th'

The Firehouse Scene

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

Fire Chief - Patrick Trollop
 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