



THE FIREHOUSE SCENE

is a publication of the

Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District

June 2015

Chief Don Shoevlin

Editor Sheryl Drost

Rooftop Rescue

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Photo by Sheryl Drost

From the Chief's Desk

By Fire Chief Don Shoevlin



May was a month of successful accomplishments for many people. There are many who have worked hard and are deserving of congratulations. The first is to John Donovan. John was promoted to Acting Lieutenant. I assure you that he is capable and dedicated to carrying out the responsibilities in his new position. I have full confidence that he will not only meet but also exceed the expectations being placed on him.

Secondly to all the graduates on our department, including children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews of our members. They have worked hard and continue to grow as they become young adults. Then I had the privilege this past month to represent Harlem Roscoe Fire District at Hononegah's Honors Night. There I presented our first ever "Ignite Our Youth" scholarship to Allison Tennant. It was truly an honor and rewarding feeling to be able to do this. This was made possible by the hard work of our members from funds they raised in our golf outing.

In the words of Walt Disney I share to all of the graduates:

"All of our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them."

Thank you to our members and those in the community who took time to fill out and return the surveys you received. The information was useful and used in our day long planning session we just completed. Your thoughts and opinions are important and were used during this session. You have been a major part of our success in the past, and will be a major part in our future success. We have more working sessions to follow but I assure you we will remain proactive to maintain the level of service you expect and deserve from your Fire District.

Let not forget all the DADS. Something I found out in cyber space made me reflect on my Dad (I do miss him) and I can only wish I am able to follow in his footsteps as a Dad to my wonderful children. May all the Dad's enjoy their day on June 21st.

What Is A Dad?

A dad is someone who wants to catch you before you fall but instead picks you up, brushes you off, and lets you try again.

A dad is someone who wants to keep you from making mistakes but instead lets you find your own way, even though his heart breaks in silence when you get hurt.

A dad is someone who holds you when you cry, scolds you when you break the rules, shines with pride when you succeed, and has faith in you even when you fail...



- New FF Brandon Sherbon, and son of FF/EMT Mike Sherbon, graduated Harlem High School and is in EMT Class at Rock Valley College.
- FF Scott Jensen's daughter, Sierra, graduated from Harlem High School and will be attending Rock Valley College.
- Engineer Matt Bush's youngest son, Cameron, graduated from Hononegah High School and will be attending Rock Valley College in the fall studying Theatre and Business. Matt's middle son, Cody, graduated from USAF Technical Training at Goodfellow Air Force Base and will be continuing his training at Pensacola Naval Air Station.
- Engineer Ron Klamann's son, Michael, graduated from Hononegah High School.
- Captain Mike Huffman's girl friend PeggyAnn Davenport's older daughter, Taelor, graduated from Harlem High School and will be attending Carroll University in the fall. Her younger daughter, Jayden, graduated from 8th Grade at Harlem Middle School
- Paramedic Keith Lincoln's son, Sam, graduated from St. Bridget's School and will be attending Boylan High School in the fall.
- Battalion Chief Tom Aaker's son, Tommy, graduated from Cross & Crown's preschool.
- Lt. Justin Mayton and Dispatcher Megan Alms daughter, Lilly, graduated from the preschool at Ralston Grade School.
- Capt. Ryan Alms son, Mason, graduated from the preschool at Ralston Grade School.
- Fire Inspector Chuck Schoonover's grandson, Joshua Diehl, graduated from the University of Wisconsin, grandson, Jacob Diehl, graduated from Hononegah High School, and grandson, Jordan Diehl, graduated from Roscoe Middle School.
- Fire Inspector Stan Dean's granddaughter, Alex Dean, graduated from Kraxberger Middle School in Gladstone, Oregon.

Strategic Planning Session



Looking towards the future. Everyone had their thinking caps on this day.

Car Fire

Photos by Chief Shoevlin

Firefighters extinguished a fire in a car parked in the parking lot of Riverside Park on May 21. No one was injured.



Firefighters attack the fire in the engine compartment of a car.



Lt. Radi Huggard pops the hood on the car to reach all the fire.

Fence Fire

Photos by Chief Shoevlin



Seems improperly discarded smoking materials may be to blame on a fence fire at the Whiffletree Tavern on Main St. on May 13. Damage was limited to the fence.

Chimney Fire

Photos by Sheryl Drost



Firefighters ladder the roof of a home on Pinesap Pl. to check the chimney after fire and smoke were seen coming from the chimney on May 14.



Firefighter Jerry Caskey finds the chimney cap full of burning soot.

Deck Fire

Photo by Sheryl Drost



Firefighters extinguished a fire on a deck on May 23 on Wyndham Ln.

The culprit was a fire pit built in the middle of the wood deck.



Battalion Chiefs' Whistle

monthly article submitted by one of HRFD Chiefs

By Battalion Chief Tom Aaker

I recently read a story that a friend of mine sent to me via a social media platform, I'm sure you could guess the name if you wanted. He is a full time firefighter, living in a larger city, this city is a suburb to an even larger city (and no it's not Chicago). Reading the title as a Firefighter I was quite intrigued. "

Why firefighters are underworked and overpaid". As I read through the story I found it quite intriguing as the author, who is supposed to be very good at her job, brings up a lot of difficult questions about the fire service in a local town of Ontario Canada. She talks about a middle class town of about 18,500 in population and according to their Mayor they have about 10 to 15 fires a year.

The story goes on to say that most of these firefighters (18) are overpaid and she believes they are working part time. Based upon the story basically her definition of part time is 24 hour shifts or a 24 on 48 off schedule. So they work 24 hours and then off 48 hours or 9 days every 28 days. The story continues to talk about the budget for the city and that arbitration takes away a lot from the city to give to the union and most of the firefighters have part time jobs to make even more money and have a lot of nice things.

Basically in a nut shell they are overpaid for the work they do. The mayor even goes on to say "We will be paying them to sleep on the job".

Now I will not share my opinion of Canada, this reporter, their mayor, their firefighters, their union, or their city budget. One, because it's not what I want you to remember about this story, and two, because we all have opinions, including the one you will have about this story after you are done reading.

What I do want to talk about are the people that serve you in this district.

Today, while you read this message there are roughly 63 firefighters that volunteer for the Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District. We cover roughly 80 square miles and service between 30,000 – 50,000 people. I know that's a big number difference in population but it depends on the time of day. We have three full-time members, twelve members that are sub-contracted, and are all members of the department. We ensure that we have nine members divided between three stations to provide our community with ambulance and fire service 24/7.

We have a support staff of Fire Inspectors who go to local businesses to try to keep them safe and in good standing with fire codes. We have a support staff of Chaplains who come by every day to check in and on us. They also respond to calls for families, a shoulder to lean on during tragic events. We have photographers

that go out and take pictures of scenes, not only for this newsletter but for us to look back on, critique ourselves on how we did and how we can do better. All of these people volunteer their time to try to give back to their community.

Our firefighters are paid on call, which means they get reimbursed a wage to show up for calls when they are not working their regular jobs. We also offer our members the chance to work "Part time" for our department. They can pick up 4, 8, and 12 hour slots whether it is day or night. Many of our members after they work their "full-time" jobs are going home and changing their clothes and coming in for a 12 hour night shift. They have taxes taken out like a normal job but they receive no guarantee in hours, days worked, and they have no benefits. The majority of our members work full-time jobs and come from all different walks of life.

When we interview potential members we ask that they give us 10 to 20 or more, hours a week as members of the department.

This is not to work shift or work part time but to help with other things we do in the community. We have public relations events that we go to throughout the year, safety fairs, children's days at local businesses, and safety talks at our schools. We work the Fall Festival and other events to raise money for our Association and we donate that money to other causes or use the money towards our members. We do tours, walkthroughs, we teach community CPR and many other things to give back to the public.

We try to share our knowledge of fire safety with the people of our community in hopes that we don't have any casualties and in hope to reduce fire loss or from fires happening altogether. So we ask our people to volunteer their time to do these events. We ask them to help serve their community through fire prevention.

We also ask our members to come every Tuesday night for training evolutions. This training is to keep our people on top of their game in case an emergency happens. We ask our members to go to specialized training schools. Most of these extra activities, some that are required, the district pays for, but the member receives no compensation, they volunteer their time to do a better job and to know more when an emergency happens.

I read that 69% of the fire departments in the United States are considered "Volunteer" which means they either receive no compensation, reimbursement or they receive some compensation for what they do. 69% of the fire departments have part-time volunteer firefighters protecting the communities they live in.

Volunteer numbers are dwindling rapidly because of more and more people with demands that pull them away from the fire service. Many departments throughout the nation rank that as their number one problem in their district.

Some departments have resorted to offering college students a room at the station in turn for volunteering in between classes at their local colleges. Some departments have closed down leaving no fire protection for the community or they have closed stations increasing the response time to emergency scenes in the area.

Volunteers serve and will continue to serve their communities as long as there is a need. They will continue to give what time they can and continue to service the communities they live in. All of the community deserves the best service that can be afforded and the best people that can give it to them. Next time there is an emergency, whether it is at your home, in a nearby community, or across country. remember, there is a 69% chance that the people responding are volunteers. They have given up something to be there and they are there to help people in need because for them it's a calling.

“Why firefighters are overworked and underpaid”
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-debate/why-firefighters-are-underworked-and-overpaid/article24459593/>

“Fire departments struggle to find, keep volunteers”
<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2014/04/20/fire-departments-seeking-help/7947969/>

Wiki definition
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volunteer_fire_department

IF YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER
 Check out www.harlemroscoefire.com or give us a call at 815-623-7867



If you want to help and don't have a lot of time and don't want to fight fires you can become a CERT Volunteer.

CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Team and consists of community members that are trained to assist police and fire departments during times of community need when these public entities may be taxed. Such events may include natural disasters such as tornadoes, floods, earthquakes, and other natural events. CERT members may also be needed for large community events assisting with traffic control, crowd control, event setup, and other tasks.

Your community needs you! Join the Northern Illinois Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and learn the skills to help your family and your community in times of disaster. Visit www.statelinecert.org for more information. No experience or special skills needed, just a desire to help your community!

Station Gossip

- Glad to hear Paramedic John Morgan's daughter Abby is mending well after appendix surgery!
- She said YES! Congratulations Mike Helland!
- A meal was served on May 19 for fire personnel in celebration of EMS Week.



'Chef' Alms



Happy Birthday 50th



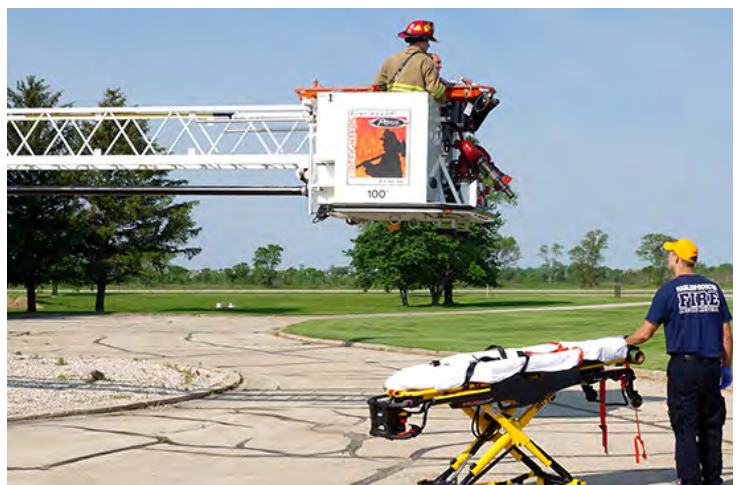
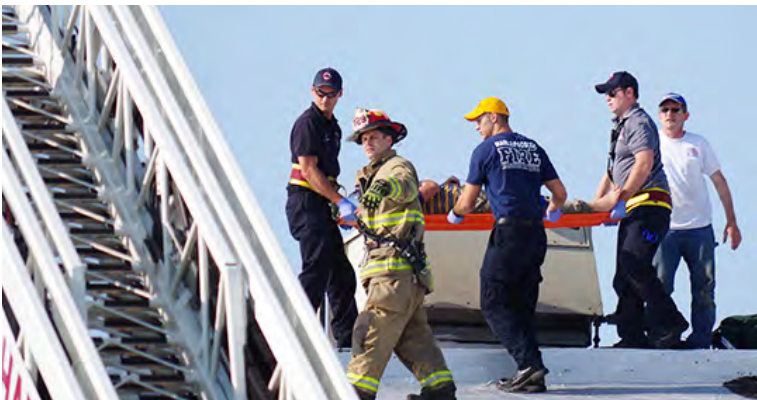
Deputy Chief John Bergeron

July 1st

Rooftop Rescue

Photos by Sheryl Drost

Harlem-Roscoe Firefighters were dispatched to McCurry Rd. and Hwy 251 for a report of a worker that had fallen on the roof of the building. The aerials were used to get emergency personnel onto the roof and to bring the patient down. The patient was transported to the hospital by ambulance.





05/07/15 McCurry Rd. and Hwy 251



06/08/15 Swanson Road and Hwy 251



BUGLE ALARM

Monthly article submitted by a H-R Fire Officer.

By Lt. Radi Huggard

dream

: noun, often attributive \ 'drēm\

: a series of thoughts, visions, or feelings that happen during sleep

: an idea or vision that is created in your imagination and that is not real

: something that you have wanted very much to do, be, or have for a long time

Again, brought to you by Merriam-Webster..

Sometimes while out and about, we are asked, “Hey, how’s it going?”, “How are you?”, etc. A not so uncommon response that I have heard, and said myself is, “Living the dream”. Usually when said, there are all kinds of undertones, sarcasm, and other words and feelings thrown in with it. This brings up a question that I asked myself. Am I living the dream?

A long time ago, in city not far away, I like many of you, wanted to grow up and be a firefighter. Just hearing the sirens, seeing the lights, was enough to send chills down my spine. In and out of firehouses, sometimes the same one twice a day. That’s all I could think about. Dream about.

As I grew older, I started to pay more attention to what firefighters actually do after they’ve raced down the street. Here I am, with a smile on my face ten feet wide, only to catch up with the firefighters helping someone that’s hurt, crying, in pain, sick, etc. Oh snap! I get to break down a door?!?! I can use the jaws of life?!?! I can be a doctor on the ambulance?!?! (nope, not that one), I can fix people?!?

I realized that it wasn’t always like the movies or television. And I know now that that’s perfectly alright with me. I mean seriously, imagine that one scene from that one movie, and doing it everyday... Might get a little exhausting.

The moral of this story is yes, I am living the dream. Jaws of life? Check. Break down a door? Check. Doctor on an amb.. Nope, still not that one. But, I have been able to fix people. Somewhere there is a kid running around just like me, dreaming of growing up to be what we are. I’ve even seen some regularly throughout my years of service here. Still dreaming...

HRFD Golf Fundraiser

Join us for the “Ignite our Youth’s Future” Golf Fundraiser for the Harlem-Roscoe Fireman’s Scholarship Fund. The scholarship is awarded annually to an in-district senior who is continuing their education into college.



Order your T-shirts now online @ www.harlemroscoegolf.com

- 🍌 Friday, June 26, 2015
- 🍌 Macktown Golf Course
- 🍌 10:00 a.m. Shotgun start (Registration starts at 9:00 a.m.)
- 🍌 Register Online: WWW.HARLEMROSCOEGOLF.COM
- 🍌 \$100/golfer (\$400/foursome)   

What's Included?

- 18 holes of golf with cart
- Lunch at the Turn
- An "all-inclusive" dinner at pavilion (Free alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks at dinner!)
- A gift certificate for a free future round of golf, cart included, at any of the Winnebago County golf courses!

What Can You Win?

- Longest Drive, Longest Putt, and Closest to the Pin winners will be awarded a PING golf club donated by...



- Putting contest winner will be awarded a PING golf bag!
- Door prizes, raffle baskets, and 50/50 golf ball drop!

Don't golf but would still like to support our scholarship fund? Donations are also accepted online!

Thank you for your support of the Harlem-Roscoe Firefighter's Scholarship Fund!

50/50 Golf Ball Drop Raffle



Golf balls will be dropped onto a green at Macktown Golf Course from our aerial truck's ladder on the day of the play day. If your ball lands in the hole you win! 3,000 balls are available, so the raffle prize could be very significant!!!

\$5 per ball or \$20 for 5 balls

Purchase Online at www.harlemroscoegolf.com

Do not need to be present to win. Winner will be notified.

NorthPointe Safety Days Snapshots Photos by Sheryl Drost



When an Adult Experiences the Death of a Parent

By Chaplain Everett M. Peterson

Your parent has died. Whether their death was sudden or expected, hearing the news or being there with your mom or dad in their final moments is a shock to your system. Life will no longer be the same without them. Changes abound no matter if you lived with them, saw them or spoke to them daily, or had less frequent contact.

“A friend of mine, a hefty, 6-foot-4, middle-aged rancher in Colorado walked out one early morning to inform his foreman and ranch hands, “I’ll be gone today and tomorrow.” Then, with tears in his eyes, he told the men, “I’m going home to bury my mama.”

Typical Reactions to a Parent’s Death

While it is true that from the time you were a child you imagined, and perhaps feared, that your parent would die someday, you may not feel prepared for the overwhelming impact their death is having on you. A myriad of thoughts and feelings swirl around in your head. Your body reacts with physical ailments and symptoms. Emotional and spiritual issues arise as you ponder the meaning of life without your parent.

How Can This Be?

It is hard to fathom that your parent, who has always been there, is now gone. There were so many things you did together or had hoped to do with them. Now you must adapt to a new way of perceiving the world.

No One Can Take Their Place

Your parent is irreplaceable, no matter if they were your parent by birth, by adoption, or by circumstances. Whether you were on the best of terms or if you were experiencing challenges in your relationship, their death shakes up your family structure and profoundly effects your perception of yourself as a member of the family. Perhaps a great deal of your role identity and/or your daily schedule involved caring for your parent; all that changed with their death. No matter what your age, or how long you have been independent of them, you may find yourself longing to be someone’s little girl/little boy again. Or you catch yourself thinking, “No one will ever love me or take care of me like my parent did.”

I Have So Much to Do

If this is your first parent to die, you will not only be going through your own grief process, but you will very likely be witnessing your surviving parent’s grief. They may need you to comfort them in their sorrow. It may now be your responsibility to look after your surviving parent. Being in charge of tasks that previously were done by the one who died can be daunting, both physically and emotionally. Recognizing all the business that you now are expected to take care of can leave you exhausted and overwhelmed.

If This Was Your Second Parent to Die

You have acquired a new title. Now you are an “adult orphan.” Although the term orphan is more commonly used in reference to a

young child, the fact remains that you now have no living parents. This change may usher in a second identity crisis as you wrestle with the meaning of being the oldest generation in your immediate family.

Your Emotional Inheritance

Consider the traits and life lessons given to you by your parent. What are some of those characteristics, values, and ways of being in the world that you treasure? How will you uphold their ideals or continue to pursue their goals? What do you tell others, who didn’t know them as you did, about who your parent was?

Bittersweet Discoveries About Yourself

What are you discovering about yourself as you go through the grief process? Are you stronger or more capable in some areas than you might have anticipated? Of course you would probably prefer to have your parent still alive and NOT be learning these lessons. But given the fact of their death, are there some things that you admire about the way you are handling things?

Following the Death of Your Parent

- You may find yourself eager to be around other family members who knew your parent well
- On the other hand, you may feel apprehensive about being with others and prefer to be somewhere alone where you can grieve privately
- You may find a sense of comfort in being in their home, or find it hard to walk through the door
- You may feel relieved in some ways
- You may find it hard to believe that your parent has died and miss them when you have accomplishments that you long to share with them
- You may catch yourself daydreaming or unable to concentrate on activities that require your full attention
- Your friends may not understand why you are having such an intense reaction to your parent’s death and want you to be the same old person you always have been
- You can anticipate that holidays and family gatherings will stir up intense emotions
- Your thoughts about the meaning of life may change
- You may have an acute awareness about the fragility of life
- You may decide to change your goals, make new choices, and evaluate your priorities

Helpful Actions

- Let your siblings, friends, and family members know how you are feeling; be available to give and receive support from each other
- Invite conversations about the memories you have of your parent
- Set up a memorial space in your home; place flowers or candles, a picture of your parent, a place to write messages or thoughts
- Give yourself plenty of time to grieve and process your feelings
- Take good care of yourself and know that your heart is healing in baby steps



Fireworks Safety

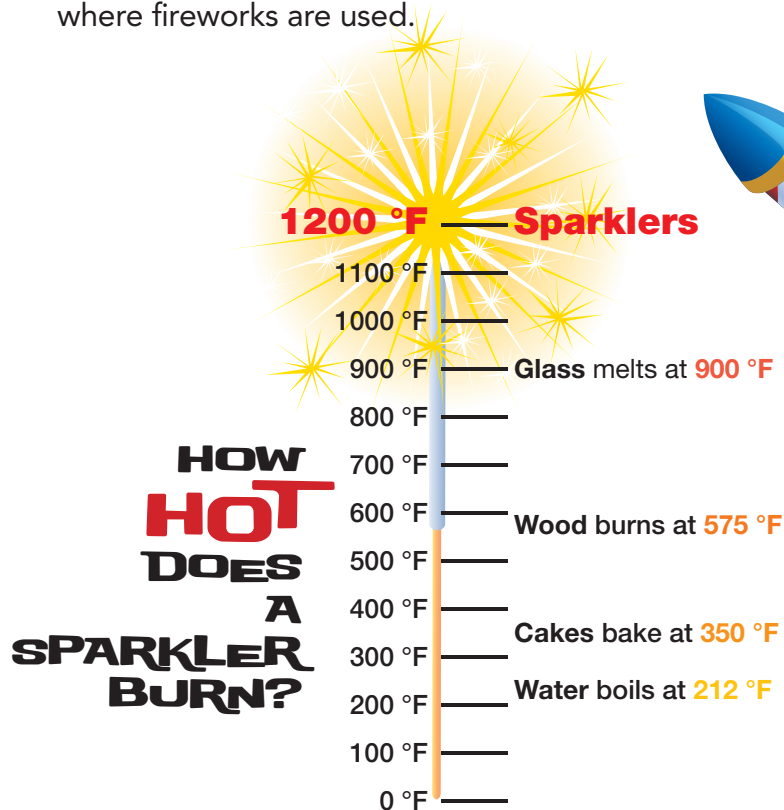
Fireworks are often used to mark special events and holidays. However, they are not safe in the hands of consumers. Fireworks cause thousands of burns and eye injuries each year. People can enjoy fireworks safely if they follow a few simple safety tips:

BE CAREFUL!

- »» Be safe. If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts.
- »» Do not use consumer fireworks.
- »» Keep a close eye on children at events where fireworks are used.

CONSUMER FIREWORKS

NFPA is opposed to consumer use of fireworks. This includes sparklers and firecrackers. Even sparklers burn hot enough to cause third-degree burns.



FACTS

- ! Fireworks cause an average of almost 20,000 reported fires per year.
- ! In 2013, sparklers caused 41% of fireworks injuries.

Harlem-Roscoe Fire DEpartment

815-623-7867



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

Roscoe Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

Photos by Marcia Soppe



VETS ROLL 2015 *Photo by Lt. John Donovan*



Birthday!



June

- 7th Megan Alms
- 8th Shannon Burbach
- 11th Mike Huffman
- 15th Tyler Gilbertson
- 16th Jen Anderson
- 17th Jesse Martin
- 19th Justin Harwood
- 23rd Richie Macias

July

- 1st John Bergeron **50th**
- 6th Mike Helland
- 7th Mike Drost
- 9th Greg Wernick
- Ken Krause
- 16th John Morgan
- Barb Martenson
- 18th Bill Null
- 21st Tim Bergeron



**Total Calls for
The Year 2015
965**

Firehouse Scene

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

*Editor-in-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:
www.harlemroscofire.com*

*E-mail submissions to Sheryl:
hrfjdsdrost@gmail.com*

75th Anniversary Celebrations Continues. . .

The department will be celebrating their 75th Anniversary throughout the year. You may have seen the yellow license plates that adorned vehicles in the village this month. The Anniversary float made its debut appearance at the Young and Heart Parade (winning an award) and we still have plenty of 75th History books and t-shirts for sale at Fire Station One.



Parade and Float Chairman Joe Quast, Tyler Gilbertson and Nate Sarver showed off the 2015 - 75th Anniversary Float at the Young at Heart Festival. Watch for it in upcoming parades!



75th Anniversary History Book \$54

This limited edition 104 page, table-top history book tells the history through the memories and stories of those that lived it. It can be purchased at Station One.



75th Anniversary T-shirts \$15

Adult sizes in black may be purchased at Station One.

815-623-7867