

Booster Line

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“911, What’s your Emergency?”

Our current reporting period covers the activities that Schiller Park responded to in the last month. The following incidents are the firefighters and paramedics more unique calls. As always Schiller Park members responded to any call for help.

Our reporting period from mid-January to mid February occurs during the winter months where we have had more than the usual amount of cold weather and snow.

This issue begins on January 10th when Gold shift responded to smoke in the building. The owner stated that there appeared to be a power surge followed by the smell of something burning. The first in engine found that a circuit breaker had tripped and an electrical light switch had some charring. A thermal imaging camera was used to check for heat signatures and an inspection hole was made. All were inconclusive. The owner was advised to contact an electrician.

The next call was for a well being check. The resident had not been seen in two days and the phone was not being answered. Members contacted the son who gave permission to force entry. Upon using the “W” tool entry was made into the house and the owner was found on the floor where she lay for the two days. She had fallen and could not get up nor reach the phone. Paramedics treated her both on the scene and transported for medical evaluation.

January 16th found gold shift respond to a fire alarm. On scene the members found that a plumber sweating pipe set off the alarm when he was installing the hot water heater.

A service call later in the day had the police request the fire department. A smell of natural gas was coming from the home. The home was vacant and the fire department made entry. Inside our monitoring did detect a leak and the gas to the house was

shut off and NICOR notified. The house being vacant already had the Schiller Park Water Department turn off the water to the building.

Burnt popcorn sent a fire department response on January 23rd to one of our motels in town. The alarm was triggered when the person wanted to make sure that all the kernels were popped and instead burnt the bag.

After shift change Black shift Cmdr. Leiser responded to a working fire in Bellwood. At the Box Alarm fire he was assigned as a Safety Officer for the scene.

January 24th saw the first broken sprinkler pipe of this reporting period when Red shift responded to the commercial building water flow alarm.

The next trouble alarm was tripped due to “low room temperature” on the fire alarm panel. FF/PM LiRosi in charge of the engine crew then shunted alarm until morning.

A Still Alarm on January 27th for smoke coming from the laundry room had Engine 5 with Lt. Swiontek in charge, find that hot water steam from a bad valve on the furnace activated the fire alarm. Automatic Aid companies were sent home.

A trouble alarm on January 28th with Lt. Budnik in charge found the opposite of January 24th call. This time the panel read “high room temperature” alarm with no apparent problems.

Gold shift began their tour on the 28th with a reported fire in Norwood Park. Tower Ladder 5 and battalion 5 responded to the ranch house with smoke pushing from the eaves. Norwood Park had led out a line into the front of the house and were advancing toward the seat of the fire in the basement. Practicing limited ventilation techniques, Schiller Park took the second line as a back up line and went in through the rear. The fire had gotten into the walls and advanced up the plumbing chase and was spreading down the first floor hallway. Schiller Park worked and knocked down this wall of fire while

Norwood Park worked the origin. The fire was elevated to a Box alarm and additional resources were brought to the scene in the cold weather. Kudos go out to River Grove Lt. Rich Savoia who rescued one of two dogs from the inferno. Fire Investigators Bubis and Leiser were called to the scene to assist in the determination.

The last day of the month on the 31st saw a fire alarm in a commercial building. On scene the fire investigative team determined that the pressure washer being used in the building had gotten in the pull station and initiated the alarm. The alarm panel indicated it was this location.

Black shift took in a fire alarm in a condo building to begin February on the 1st. Entering the building members noticed the familiar odor of burnt food and found that in a unit on the second floor.

An activated fire alarm on February 3rd had members respond to one of our hotels in town. After meeting the building maintenance man, he showed where a hot water hose burst in the boiler room and steam set off the detector.

Cmdr. Cesaretti responded on February 6th to Bellwood as a Safety Officer for a house fire. Schiller Park is due on the Box Alarm to assist Incident Command. During this incident the alarm was elevated and our Engine changed quarters to Bellwood's Firehouse.

After returning to quarters, Schiller Park was dispatched to wires down near the toll way. A dump truck was tilting the bed while driving and snagged the wires pulling them off the Com Ed pole.

Gold shift began their tour of duty on the 6th with a person injured from a machine. Schiller Park responded with an Industrial Pin In response. On scene the members found that the machine had caught his clothing and whipped him around 360 degrees flinging him through the air. The man was lucky the industrial machine did not wind him into the mechanism.

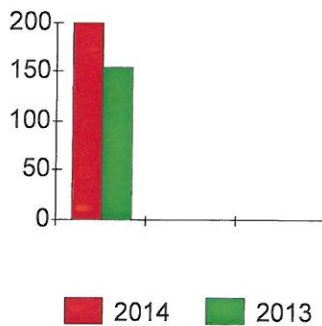
Paramedics treated on scene before transporting to hospital in good condition. The force of the machine twisted his iphone into the letter "U".

Employees of a fast food establishment on the 7th of February set off the fire alarm when they burnt the pizza in the oven. The food court was evacuated but no one was hurt during the incident.

The last call of this period occurred on the 9th when our units responded to the toll way for a motor vehicle accident. Upon arrival members found one car that struck the middle cement barrier and landed up along the right shoulder barrier.

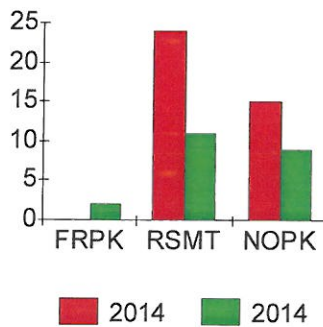
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2012:

Total Incidents



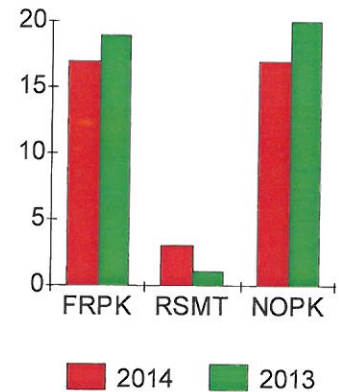
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of January 31st "To" the following communities:

Auto Aid Given



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of January 31st "From" the following communities:

Auto Aid Received



	2014	2013
Total Incidents	200	156

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	0	2
Norwood Park (NOPK)	17	20
Rosemont (RSMT)	24	24

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	17	19
Norwood Park (NOPK)	17	20
Rosemont (RSMT)	3	1

Commander's Cove

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails

FF/PM Warden who injured herself while in the Vehicle Machinery Operations class still remains out. She cut her hand and ligament requiring surgery. She has been coming in on light duty where she is working with the Maintenance, Training and Public Relations Bureaus. She will have additional surgery on the scar tissue and hopes to return by March 1st.

Lt. Hatcher, who injured his arm on a call, will have surgery mid January. He will come in on light duty to run the Fire Prevention Bureau and should return around mid March.

FF/PM Chung while performing his duties injured his back. He returned to duty. PM Jenkins injured his back off duty and was out two shift days.

To balance shift seniority Director Deegan has made one shift change for 2014-2015 year. FF/PM Gergits will be reassigned to Black shift and FF/PM Rupsis will be transferred to Gold. This shift will actually take place mid-March.

Two Firefighter/Paramedic Candidates were sworn in by the Police and Fire Commission. They are Robert Velasco #66 and Marcello Leao # 67. They are currently attending the NIPSTA Fire Academy and are expected to return mid-March.

The Schiller Park Police and Fire Commission began the testing process in January with the application period January 3-February 15th. The orientation will be February 27th, Written-March 1st, Agility March 23rd and Orals the week of April 7th.

On a sadder note our condolences to the Zydlo and Bertoncini families on the passing of their siblings a brother and sister respectively. Our thoughts and prayers are with you both.

Also passing away was Patrolman and Detective Bob Jensen. Bob was a police officer with Schiller Park before retiring and moving to Las Vegas. A memorial service is planned for the Spring.

Also passing on is retired Engineer Tim Brennan from the Leyden Fire Protection District. Tim spent 29 years with the fire service.

On a lighter note, our congratulations to Gail Bauer of the front officer Administrative Staff who just completed 34 years with the Village. As many of you know Gail is responsible for making sure we get our paychecks.

Department congratulations also go out to the new Fire Chief in Bellwood Ken Dumovich. Chief Dumovich attended Fire Officer I and II classes with our Commanders and also received his Masters degree. Chief Dumovich was promoted from Captain to Fire Chief.

With the expansion of O'Hare Airport the Chicago Fire Department needed to add another fire company on the south end. As of February 16th they organized the first new engine company in over a decade and put Engine 12 in service. (see photos).

The Village is having a Centennial Gala at the Four Points. There will be dinner and dancing. Tickets are available from the front Village office. Centennial merchandise can be purchased through the Village of see Director Deegan.

Director Deegan continues to work on next year's budget and looking at what we need. A preliminary budget proposal will be reviewed by the Village Manager and Finance office before going to the Village Board.

Phase IIB of the Crystal Creek project is beginning to improve flow of the creek. Work has begun along Denley and should be completed by Summer.

The U.S. Department of Transportation has given final approval for the Elgin-O'Hare western access project. Part of the project will also be the ring road by-pass for the toll way. The project and infrastructure will start shortly.

IDOT has begun the widening of Mannheim from Irving north to the Kennedy. Work has already begun. Eventually a southbound ramp from Mannheim to Balmoral will be added for access to southbound I-294. The Balmoral ramp from northbound Mannheim is now closed as part of the project. It will be closed for several months. (see photos)

We are looking at getting voluntary compliance with numbering or lettering the stairways in our multi-story buildings. This would aid residents and firefighters in identifying the fire attack and evacuation stairways.

Another project is to identify which elevators our stretchers can be fit in by placing a Star of Life on the elevator(s) that we can get our stretcher into. A blue bar under the Star of Life will indicate that the stretcher can be fully vertical in the elevator.

Tools / Equipment and Other FYI's

A number of items have been worked on this past month.

Items worked on and happenings around the firehouse this month include:

FF/PM Bubis has created a Rig Damage report. Anytime new damage is incurred to a vehicle, please fill out the report so that it can be documented and photographed. This will go into a binder to track each vehicles new and old damage.

Engine 5 had its window mechanism repaired this past moth. The window was inoperable and if lowered would not rise. In this cold weather it made for a wintery ride in the jump seats.

Squad 5 returned from the shops and its brake job. It is now in service and running in place of the Tower Ladder 5 which is going out for annual preventive maintenance and then a

repair to the bumper struck in an accident earlier this month. A car passing on the right during an emergency run tore off the right bumper. The other vehicle owner admitted fault.

The new rescue struts have been placed in service on Engine 5 as it was felt this rig would be on every call.

"Marrying straps" were purchased for the irons. These will be kept on both the Tower ladder and the Engine.

The Village is also going to have fuel passwords associated with each employee. See you supervisor for access and your password.

For security reasons a camera has been added to the rear entrance to the firehouse. The monitor is in the kitchen and we now have the ability to open the rear door from every telephone. See your Officer for the remote code on the phone.

EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

Cmdr. Cesaretti is experimenting with logging the part time personnel on the computer as opposed to the old binder. This will automatically aid in computing their time and payroll.

Cmdr. Chiodo has been working on department succession planning for several years. Lt. Swiontek will be part of the transition team for EMS and will be learning billing, supenas, quality control etc. from EMSD Nosek.

Ambulance 5 has an issue with the side step that the bolts were sheared off. It is being addressed.

Lt. Budnik had the seats on Ambulance 6 reupholstered this past month. They were in need of new coverings due to age and wear.

Please be sure to verify that an I.V. is required prior to opening the bag. There is now a looming shortage of .9

NS IVs. We do not want to waste supplies nor bill when unnecessary.

All members will be re-certified in CPR during March. The days chosen for each shift currently have no one off. See schedule in kitchen.

On the horizon is the new Mobile Integrated Health Care System/Plan. If you are not familiar with it begin to explore its impact on the fire/EMS services and the expectations. This is popping up more frequently in the literature and will affect our department. If you want more information see EMSD Nosek.

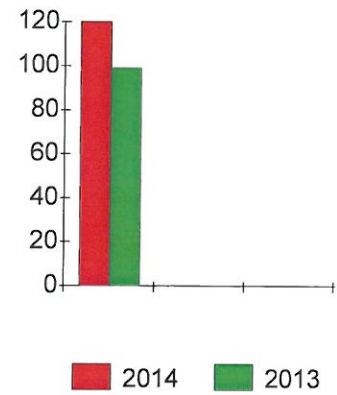
We would like to remind all personnel that when they are exchanging or retrieving drugs from the hospitals, that you check and verify the dosages. With different manufactures and packaging we must make sure that the correct dosages are picked up.

The Northwest Community Hospital website for Continuing Education has a ton of information that can assist paramedics with continuing education and also provide assistance on the monthly training. If you have not had an opportunity to check the website it would be advisable.

During the past month personnel responded to 120 emergency calls. A total of 114 patients were encountered. 81 patients were transported to area hospitals. 48 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Total Responses	120	99
Cardiac	10	2
Medical Emergency	53	49
Accidents/Trauma	29	21
Fire Responses	26	26
False Alarm/Standby	2	1
Mut. Aid to SHPK	2	1
SHPK to others	5	4

EMS Total Responses



Projects in the Works

All the shifts are encouraged to take on new challenges. If you have a project or an idea, please run it past Director Deegan, Lt. Budnik or FF/PM Bertocini.

We will be working on also adding emergency strobes on the exterior of the building on the east side of the firehouse.

New tile will replace broken ones in the kitchen and tile the baseboards. The walls up to the chair rail are also being tiled.

We are looking at insulating the old entrance to the firehouse from the radio room to make it more sound proof.

What's in the works? –

- New lights at station 2
- Additional outlets at station 2
- Emergency phone outside sta. 2
- mount patches around kitchen
- paint apparatus floor border
- Paint sta.6 floor
- Door and jam simulator
- sprinkler simulator
- New high-rise load packing tool
- fully sprinkler the firehouse

Trivia

Answer to last month's Trivia

January Trivia

With the popularity of the television series *Chicago Fire*, our next few months' questions will be based on that series.

What is the significance of the number 81 given to the truck company?

It is a tribute to the co-creator Derek Hass' father in law Ron Goodwin a former NFL player. Goodwin who suffers from Alzheimer's disease and was a big influence in Hass life wore number 81 as a wide receiver for the Philadelphia Eagles in the 60's.

No one answered this month's trivia question correctly.

February Trivia

What is the significance of Engine 51?

Please submit your answers in writing to the *Booster Line* in order to be eligible for the prizes. Winners will be selected randomly from all correct entries.

Office of the State Fire Marshal and Training

Failure to Train is Training to Fail

The training division has been active in defining and charting a course for our department.

Cmdr. Chiodo and Cmdr. Leiser attended the Division 20 Safety and Training Officer meeting.

Cmdr. Leiser, FF/Pm Leiser and FF/PM Gergits conducted orientation

with the new candidates prior to the fire academy.

We will again be co-hosting a Vehicle Machinery Operations class through the State Fire Marshal May 12th 16th. The class is currently filled. We will have three slots in the class.

The Training Division has started a mentoring program with the new candidates. Cmdr. Leiser has chosen FF/PM Leiser and FF/PM Gergits to be the first lead firefighters for the next two candidates on probation.

The Daily Training Folders will be located in the Lieutenants office in the Training mailbox. All drills can be found here for the month.

Acting Officers and those wishing to take the next Lieutenants test are strongly encouraged to take the NIMS 300 and 400 classes. Upcoming classes have been posted.

OSHA is implementing new package identification labels for hazardous materials shipment. The new labels will be phased in within the next two years. Examples of the new labels and terminology can be found in the classroom and this issue.

Cmdr Leiser has received a DVD training simulator where we can use pictures of buildings in town and I will be able to set up different scenarios.

I have signed up several members for OSFM classes as part of their job requirements. If you know that you need a class please let me know, I will try to find one, however if you find one on your own please submit the paperwork and maintain a copy for yourself.

I have also obtained railroad ties for training in using different techniques for cutting, i.e. chopping with axes, mauls, saws. They are located behind the firehouse.

Members completed 199 hours of training for the month with 21 training drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid on Call had 3 meetings for 6 hours.

The second Thursday of each month the State Fire Marshal has a testing

site at Triton College. They have also instituted a new policy of a government issued picture ID at the test site. If you cannot produce one you will not be allowed in. Likewise they are requesting that all phones be left in the test takers car to help with the integrity of the test (too many camera phones). If you would like to sign up see Cmdr. Leiser.

Please fill an Outside Training Form whenever you attend a class, seminar or training session outside of Schiller Park. This allows for accurate record keeping in those areas and credit for the hours you put into training.

Signing up for tests is considered a Duty Assignment. If you can't attend see me in advance and provide a written response for the absence.

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Employee of the Month

This month we acknowledge several members for their contributions. FF/PM Bubis, FF/PM Schneider, Lt. Budnik, FF/PM Neimand as our Employees of the Month.

FF/PM Bubis became not only a photographer with the Division 20 Fire Investigators but also did the specifications for our new department digital Nikon camera. He has also been appointed department photographer. He has created the Vehicle Damage log and updated all pictures. He has taken numerous pictures at fire scenes and of department activities. Tim also was instrumental in obtaining and placement of the rear door camera. He installed and programmed the security feature for the firehouse and allowed for its future expansion and capabilities.

FF/PM Schneider has created for the department note pads from otherwise waste paper. He saw the amount of waste generated and decided to recycle non essential paper by creating the pads for the kitchen and various offices. This gives the paper twice the usage before hitting the

recycling bin.

Lt. Budnik worked on re-formatting and reviewing all of the forms that the department uses. He has indexed them in the new binder and re-done each section for the appropriate area of responsibility. If you design a form please make sure it gets into the Shared Drive and that Lt. Budnik gets a copy for the Master Index and a slot for copies to be made.

FF/Pm Neimand has marched our department into the 21st century by digitalizing most of our fire prevention forms and getting the inspectors to use IPADS. This has cut down tremendously on paper costs, forms and allows us to create a digital file where we can quickly access all pertinent forms. The program also allows businesses to send electronically information to the fire department that can then be placed in the file thus eliminating wasted paper in fax machines and cost incurred with postage. According to Adam we are still in the infancy and can do so much more.

A special former employee also gets kudos and that is Jim "Jimmy Z" Ziebka who donated a kitchen aid food processor and Waring food slicer along with a Waring deep fryer to the firehouse.

For your time, persistence and endeavor in trying to make responses quicker we make you our Employee of the Month

Thanks for your time and dedication, you make us proud to be firefighters and in the fire service and village employees.

If you would like to nominate a firefighter, paramedic, officer or other persons for recognition, please submit the action or the incident in writing to the editor Cmdr. Chiodo.

Fire Prevention

An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure

Shifts have begun their 2014

inspections. Each shift received 1/3 of the inspections or about 135 per shift. The inspections are rotated so that over a three year period each shift should have the opportunity to enter all the businesses. The

Lt. Hatcher and FF/PM Niemand are in the process of computerizing all the bureau forms and inspections. Two IPADS have been purchased and all inspections and inspectional paperwork are to be done electronically. Many of the forms that used to be filled out by businesses will also be submitted digitally. Both Lt. Hatcher and FF/PM Niemand will continue to train and evaluate the progress. Any questions can be directed toward them.

We also received a letter from Knox that as of January 1, 2014 all Knox boxes in the 3200, 4100 and 4400 series will have mandatory tamper switches. Lt. Hatcher has all the new applications for Knox Boxes or the client can go to the Knox Box website.

As a reminder when we go on trouble alarms we need to contact the owner to report that the alarm went into trouble and document that on the incident report and in the trouble alarm binder. Midwest may also be doing this as a back up to our call.

We also want to ensure that all PRE-PLAN sheets are returned and handed in to FF/PM Niemand. These are ESSENTIAL for us to try to complete our computer based pre-plan program. When you bring back your fire inspections, make a copy of the pre-plan forms and submit to FF/PM Niemand. He is CAD drawing the diagrams with the information. He is also using satellite imagery in each of the files. This process will take a year of more to import, drawn and download to our laptops. IT IS IMPORTANT TO COMPLETE THIS PAPERWORK AS IT IS PART OF THE PRE-PLAN THAT IS ISO NECESSARY.

If you are interested in any plan

review in Fire Prevention, please see Lt. Hatcher. He will review what is coming into town based on what plans Community Development sends over.

Any member wishing to attend the monthly meeting of the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association should contact Lt. Hatcher Maher.

We are also suggesting and strongly recommending that sprinkler and standpipe connections be converted to stortz fittings.

The State Fire Marshal is instituting a new certification program Inspector I. Cmdr. Leiser is looking into the program if this should replace the Fire Prevention Principles as required before third year of hire. Cmdr. Leiser will advise those needing the class when it is available.

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Public Affairs

Saving Lives Through Education

We have been very pro-active in Public Relations during the past month.

The Illinois Fire Inspectors Association has decided to move its Public Education Conference from Galena to East Peoria next year. The dates will be April 30-May 2nd.

FF/PM LiRosi has taken over all of the CPR classes and instruction. He will coordinate both the private and the village sector. FF/PM Niemand, Bubis and PM Lange and Kosar are all still instructors helping out. We are formalizing when classes will be and where. We are also looking at the fee structure.

Members will be participating in the Dr. Suess Night at Kennedy school on February 27th. Members will be reading selected books to children and their families.

Other ideas being explored include our next Citizen Fire academy, Jr. Fire Academy, Employee thank you.

We are also coordinating with other a fire service organizations the

implementation and publicizing the "ICE" program (In Case of Emergency) for people's cell phones.

Retiree Row

We have had several updates on retired members this past month.

It was a sad day for those of us who remember and worked with FF Hanlon (ret./deceased) as we watched his home sold and torn down. Another small slice of our history gone but not forgotten.

Lt. Knuth (ret.) sends his best to all the old and new members. He was picking up his daughter from hockey on January 22nd when we ran into him.

FF Murbach (ret.) was at the Strike Force Fire Investigator meeting in February and said everything is going well with him and his family.

FF Leiser Sr. (ret.) recently fell and broke his hip. He may have also had a mild heart attack and some kidney failure. He is recuperating in Michigan.

Lastly, a surprise visit from FF Biasi (ret.) on February 10th brought with him his grandson who is applying to be a Schiller Park Firefighter/Paramedic. (see photos).

Please drop a line as to how any of our retirees are doing. This is an opportunity to let others know what you are doing and how you are doing. Please email to Cmdr. Chiodo at pchiodo@villageofschillerpark.com.

Stork Report

FF/PM Farias announced that he and his wife are expecting in April.

Notes

A thanks from the Kwiat family for the attendance and walk through for Lt.

Schiller Park Fire/EMS

Kwiat(ret) wife Ruth and the honor they felt was bestowed was greatly appreciated.

Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

FF/PM Werner will also be taking over the House Fund for 2014. Thanks to FF/PM LiRosi for handling it for the past few years.

The Schiller Park Police and Fire Departments attended the Chicago Steel Hockey game on January 24th in Bensenville. This was a family outing for Police Officers and Firefighters. (see photos).

Our adopted soldier is:

SGT Kenneth Redd
D/1-227th TF Attack
Camp Marmal, Afghanistan
APO, AE 09368

The Firefighter Benevolent Ball has been postponed until September 12th. It may be less formal than dress uniform or Black Tie. See FF/PM Schneider for details.

Members of the department are competing in the 2014 Fitness Competition. Good luck to all the participants.

Members are also sporting new baseball hats as part of their class C uniforms. They have our designated front piece on the front i.e. Engine 5, Tower Ladder 5 etc. Hats can be

ordered from FFPM Leiser.

And Finally...

Do what you love and you will never work a day in your life.

Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the *Booster Line* will be 8:00 A.M. March 7th. Please submit all materials, articles, ideas and photos to the *Booster Line* c/o Cmdr. Chiodo at pchiodo@villageofschillerpark.com.

The Booster Line is published monthly on or about the 15th. All articles and suggestions are welcome. The Editor, Peter Chiodo, reserves the right to edit based on content and space availability.

Photographs-

Page 7- Cmdr Maher (ret) displays his retirement plaque with gold shift

Page 8- At Village Board Meeting Chairman Rawski swears in FF/PM Leao and FF/PM Velasco. They are congratulated by the Board and their families

Page 9- New Chicago Engine 12 at Crash 1 O'Hare, Workers widen Mannheim from Irving Park to Kennedy expressway. Members dig out hydrants from recent snowstorm.

Page 10- New construction in town. The new parking garage on Mannheim is under pieced together. Former Browns Chicken/Leo's Pizza is converted into an Indian eatery.

Page 11- Schiller Park Police and Fire members and their families watch the Chicago Steel Hockey game.

Page 12- FF Biasi (ret.) stops by the firehouse with his grandson to pick up FF/PM application. He is pictured with Director Deegan and Reno's replacement now Cmdr. Chiodo.



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