

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.

This month we begin on the New Year January 1st when an automatic fire alarm in a business had our Red shift respond. Upon arrival in the dock area a frozen sprinkler pipe burst. The system was shut down so that repairs could be made.

January 8th saw Gold shift start their day with a vehicle fire. The owner of the van stated he was having electrical issues with the van prior to the fire. 100 gallons of water was used to put out the fire.

Later in the shift members were dispatched to the toll way for a vehicle fire. On scene Lt. Swiontek and the crew found a salt truck/snow plow with the rear tires on fire. 300 gallons of water quenched this fire.

Black shift under Lt. Hatcher responded to wires down on January 9th. The wires on the ground were from a pole that was hit by a truck according to Schiller Park Police.

The ever loving dog lover, Lt. Budnik, and his engine company, helped out a resident who had locked their dog in the car while it was running January 9th. After signing a waiver of liability members were able to gain access with no damage to the car. The dog very happily licked the faces of the crew.

A disaster was averted January 11th after Gold shift responded to a call for a worker who cut through a gas line. On scene members found that a worker for the business was trying to replace a piece of pipe that had a gas leak. He was using a sawz all to cut the pipe for replacement without realizing that the gas in the pipe had not been turned off. The blade

was jammed half way through the cut. Luckily no ignition sources were nearby inside the business. NICOR was called to the scene and the building ventilated.

Next returning from a call in Rosemont, Gold shift was sent to an electrical pole on fire. Arriving Battalion 5 saw huge arcing at the 34,000 volt lines and called for Com Ed. There were three consecutive poles arcing and on fire and after Edison arrived and had the power re-routed the fires died out. Com Ed attributed the initial arcing to salt on the poles and wires which was a conduit for the burning.

The next day Black shift responded to a possible building fire on the south side of town. Franklin Park 490 arrived first and size up indicated light smoke from the basement. Battalion 5 requested a working fire response. It was then determined that the origin of the smoke was from a burned up motor on the washing machine.

Red shift on January 14th was “Stilled” out to a call of a possible structure fire. On scene Cmdr. Cesaretti found heavy smoke coming from the rear of the building. A semi truck along the side was also a potential exposure. A Full Still alarm was ordered. Engine 5 backed down the drive and dropped the skid load and make a hydrant. Franklin Park Engine 2 lead out with a 2 ½” line. Rosemont’s truck went to work with aerial operations. Cmdr. Cesaretti elevated the alarm to the Box Alarm level. Saws were used to remove the north wall and additional 2 ½ inch lines were put into use. In the overhaul stage bobcats were used to remove contents from the affected area. Approximately 75,000 gallons of water was used. (see photos).

After shift change Gold shift responded to a call of a hissing manhole cover. FF/PM Bertoncini in charge of the engine responded and monitored the area to determine the origin. No elevated levels were recorded on our monitors.

January 16th had Black shift take in

another call for an odor of gas. Lt. Hatcher and the crew found elevated levels that required notification of the gas company and shutting off the supply of gas to the building.

A fire alarm in an apartment building January 15th was caused by a tenant who burnt food in his unit and set off the detector.

Lt. Budnik and Red shift took in a gas leak on January 16th where it was determined that the gas line feeding the hot water tank in the storage room had a minor leak. NICOR was notified and the building ventilated.

A person crossing the street at Old River and Irving was struck by a vehicle on January 21st. Gold shift responded and transported the patient.

Gold shift on January 23rd next had a call for a person stuck in the elevator. After lock out tag out, members were able to use the elevator keys to make the removal. The elevator stopped between the first and second floors.

After midnight a fire alarm in a car parking lot was determined to be caused by workers who were using a steam cleaner/ power washer to clean a vehicle and directed the stream into a detector.

January 26th saw a call from the Toll Way Authority for an accident involving 2 semis and 4 cars blocking all lanes. Gold shift responded to find several spun out cars and a semi involved. The worst patient was transported to Loyola Medical Center and it is a testament to the passenger compartment integrity that she was not killed (see photos).

In the afternoon Tower Ladder 5 was dispatched to Des Plaines for a kitchen fire as the second truck up. Rosemont was unavailable with their truck.

FF/PM Chung and the engine took the call for a person who had fallen. The "W" tool was used to gain entry.

Black shift on January 30th took in a call for a transformer fire. On scene members actually found a 34,000 volt

wire on the ground. The area was secured while Com Ed was notified.

January ends on the 31st with Red shift taking in an automatic fire alarm in an apartment building. On scene found an oven in use with the wires under the oven burned up. The stove was unplugged until a repair person could look at it.

Red shift started February's calls on the 3rd with a forklift on fire. On scene a power hand truck was found covered in dry chemical powder. The owner stated that the battery compartment was on fire and they used a fire extinguisher on it.

Lt. Budnik next took in a transformer fire with the shift. Arriving they found Edison working in the area and that while a few sparks were produced there was no fire.

A few hours later another complaint of an electrical fire found Com Ed setting up a temporary generator in the area to provide power to customers who were without.

February 5th had Black shift respond to a water flow. On scene a sprinkler head in the foyer was activated. Engine 5 shut down the system and all units assisted in water removal from the lobby.

Picking up from this call Tower Ladder 5 and Battalion 5 were requested by Des Plaines for a Code 4 working fire. Rosemont unavailable with their truck sent ours as second up.

Elmwood Park pulled Box 100 on February 6th for a working fire. Engine 5 dropped a supply line to the rear of the building then did a reverse lay with 2 ½ inch lines to the hydrant. This hydrant was frozen as so the engine had to proceed to the next available hydrant. All the 2 ½ was used and so the 4 inch line was added on. Our engine crew then relieved Franklin Park's engine crew on the hose line as they were running low on air. About half way through the building with the line our firefighters encountered fire coming from the second floor. During the attack the

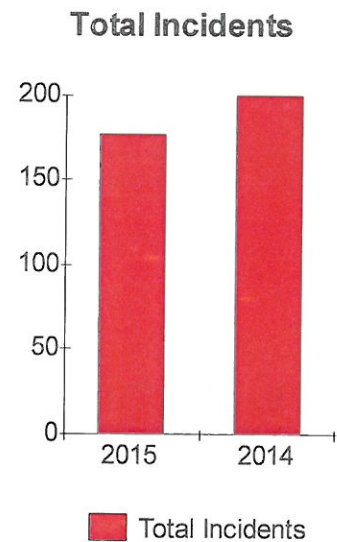
second floor began to collapse onto the first floor. Our crew began to retreat and Command advised all companies to evacuate. Companies all went defensive. Lt. Budnik went with Rosemont's Truck in the basket and we took a point of vantage with an attack line from the roof of the building to the east. During the operation Command requested an Investigators Box Alarm whereby FF/PM Leiser assisted in the origin and cause.

February 8th had Black shift take in a fire alarm in an apartment building. The fire investigative crew found burnt food in a lower unit of the building.

Persons struck in the elevator on February 9th had Red shift arrive and find the elevator stuck on the 3rd floor. After disconnecting the power to the elevator, entry was gained with our elevator keys where we found two persons trapped.

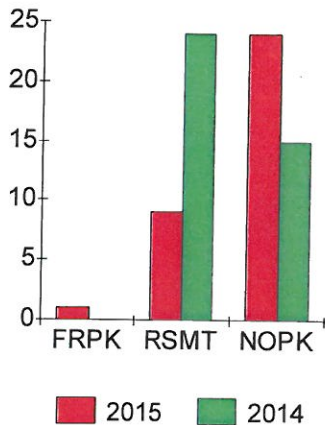
The last call of this reporting period occurred on February 10th when a 1 ½ year old child was locked in the car twice!! FF/PM Bertoncini and the engine crew effectively got in both times.

The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2014:



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

Auto Aid Given



Community	2015	2014
Franklin Park (FRPK)	12	17
Norwood Park (NOPK)	11	17
Rosemont (RSMT)	4	3

by the Village to be done by firefighters at a later date. (see photos).

The Lions Club of Schiller Park sponsored its 18th Annual Pasta Dinner on January 25th at the Community Center. Director Deegan treated Red shift by buying the shift dinner.

One of the benefits that employees have is the medical reimbursement from the Village. This year the deadline for the first installment is February 27th by 5:30 P.M. Please submit EOB's to Anna Gorzkowicz or see her for further information.

Director Deegan is preparing the 2016 budget. The shifts have met to discuss ideas, wants and wishes. These were reviewed and prioritized by the Operations Division.

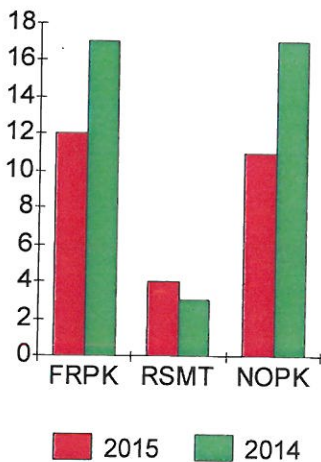
Congratulations to Chief Mike Kuryla who retired from the Hillside Fire Department and took the helm as the Chief in Berkeley. Chief Kuryla has also promoted Captain Mike Dravo to Deputy Chief.

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 continues the widening of Mannheim from Irving north to the Kennedy. Work has already begun. The southbound ramp from Mannheim to Balmoral is being worked on for access to southbound I-294. The Balmoral ramp from northbound Mannheim is now opened. Northbound lanes from Irving north are being used by both southbound and northbound traffic as reconstruction continues on all southbound lanes.

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

Auto Aid Received



Commander's Cove

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails

Our condolences to the family of EMSD Nosek (ret.) on the passing of his mother Mrs. Jeanne Nosek. Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family.

Another member of the Schiller Park community Ron Joseph also passed away this past month. Ron helped the fire department make possible with its first Pig Roast in the mid 1990's.

Mayor Piltaver has informed us through the Schillergram that IDOT states their intent to place a traffic signal at the corner of Old River Road and Irving Park Road. A letter of intent also is being worked on for development at Irving Park and Mannheim for two high end hotels, two restaurants and retail.

Several Shift changes were made by Director Deegan to balance off the seniority on the shifts. FF/PM Chung, Rupsis, LiRosi, Farias will all move May 1st.

The Fire and Police Commission administered the lieutenant's written exam and oral exam. A preliminary list is forthcoming.

During cleaning and maintenance in the firehouse, Black shift members found extensive mold in the walls on the west side of the firehouse. The remediation is still in progress. The Village allowed the firefighters to frame out the walls with 2X4's instead of furring strips and insulate the west wall. Windows were also authorized

	2015	2014
Total Incidents	177	200

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	1	0
Norwood Park (NOPK)	24	15
Rosemont (RSMT)	9	24

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:

The headsets that were approved in the budget were recently installed in Tower Ladder 5 and Squad 5. After Engine 5 returns from the shops it will be outfitted with headsets.

During the annual maintenance of our diesel exhaust removal system "No Smoke", it was found that tower ladder 5's unit was inoperable. Lt. Budnik has been working with the manufacture to get it repaired and re-installed. During daily and weekly maintenance checks check to see if the lights on the indicators are green or red. If you are unfamiliar with the operation of our units see Lt. Budnik so that they operate efficiently and as they were designed.

The air eject nipple on the kussmaul connection on tower ladder 5 was replaced this past month after it was broken off.

The Foreign Fire Insurance Fund authorized additional portable lighting. Two portable units were purchased to be placed on front running equipment. These lights can

be operated in the spotlight or floodlight modes and last up to eight hours telescoping six feet. The older units will be moved to the Squad. The second two lights, smaller, will be kept in battalion 5 and are more utility lights.

Engine 5 returned to Global for shop repair work. Lt. Budnik is working with the shops to determine what work they will do and what we will do. At press time engine 5 had not yet returned to service.

Added to engine 5 was another purchase that was budgeted for—air chisels. This set replaced an obsolete unit from the mid 1980's. This is one of the primary hand tools used in vehicle extrication.

The haz mat pool that was recently used on an incident was replaced and is back on the rig. It was purchased through the "spiller pay ordinance".

A compressor has been installed at station 6 on 25th to support engine 6.

Lt. Budnik and FF/Pm Neimand have continued to work on going paperless in the firehouse. As part of this project all the maintenance forms for daily/weekly/monthly will be placed on the ipad devices. We hope to have this up and running by our next issue.



EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

We would like to welcome a new part time paramedic PM Russell. He has been placed on the February schedule.

When responding to Lutheran General Hospital be aware that in the ambulance area they may still have a 169 foot crane being used during construction.

All members have been recertified in CPR. If anyone is interested in being an instructor see FF/PM Bubis. He is also the coordinator for all CPR classes throughout the Village.

The radio in the rear of Ambulance 5 (463) had to be sent to Motorola for repair. It should return shortly.

Ambulance 6 (462) also had its brakes worked on this past month. This was done in house by our mechanic Tony.

With the new measles scare, IDPH has come out with guidelines. If the number of cases increases we will see more information from both IDPH and from Northwest Community. Lt. Swiontek will keep us abreast.

Whenever you transport to any hospital as a matter of habit please check to see if we have any backboards that were left there from patient transports. This will help retrieve them and cut down on the time they are out of service and unavailable.

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 Lt. Swiontek.

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.

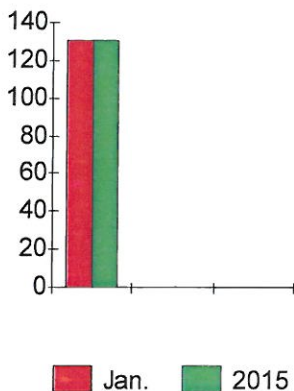
The Northwest Community Hospital website for Continuing Education has a ton of information that can assist paramedics with continuing education and also provide assistance on the monthly training. If you have not had

an opportunity to check the website it would be advisable.

During the past month personnel responded to 130 emergency calls. A total of 115 patients were encountered. 73 patients were transported to area hospitals.

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Responses	130	130
ALS Transports	45	45
BLS Transports	28	28
Refusals/MPR's	23	23
Other Non Transports	4	4
Fire Responses	30	30
CPR Students taught	4	4
Mut. Aid to SHPK	5	5
SHPK to others	4	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

Bertoncini.

As mentioned above the firehouse will have mold remediation on the west wall. The tiles on the wall in the kitchen will soon be grouted. After that the kitchen will be re-painted.

Members are also working in the hose tower to replace the heater and the hoist. We expect to possibly have the entire hose tower sand blasted and re-painted.

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? –

- re-do the west wall
- ethernet cable west wall
- New lights at station 6
- Additional outlets at station 6
- Emergency phone outside sta. 6
- 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

Being that three persons were resourceful with the Great Chicago Fire trivia, here is your next challenge.

Who was the 1st Officer on scene at the Great Chicago Fire and what rig did he arrive on?

Fire Marshal William Mushman was the first Officer on Engine 6 to the

Great Chicago Fire. Later he was to Command companies at the Iroquois Theater fire.

There were no correct answers to this months question.

February Trivia

When working overtime in Schiller Park, we call that person the fourth man. Why?

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.

Probationary Firefighters Dehmlow, Kady, Loch, and Jackson continue their probation.

An Incident Safety Officer class will be held for the division March 9-13, 2015.

Division 20 is again sponsoring a Vehicle Machinery Operations (extrication) class the first week of May. We hope to sponsor another class in the Fall.

Cmdr. Chiodo attended the Safety and training meeting.

Cmdr. Chiodo, Cmdr. Leiser and Lt. Swiontek participated in the webinar on fire ground decisions.

Lt. Swiontek attended the Division 20 hazardous materials meeting.

Cmdr. Chiodo and FF/PM Leiser attended the Division 20 fire investigator meeting.

Lt. Hatcher and Lt. Budnik attended

the Railroad Crude Oil transporting seminar.

Cmdr. Chiodo attended the Strike Force Fire Investigators meeting.

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.

Members completed 369 hours of training for the month with 82 training drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid on Call had 3 meetings for 16 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 PM Jenkins and PM Lange as our Employees of the Month.

On January 10th Jenny Lange and Mike Jenkins responded to an ambulance call. The mother may have been intoxicated and was coming home from a party early in the morning with her two kids in the car. Because the children could not sign refusals (minors) they were taken into custody. Jenny and Mike watched them in the police department and in talking with them realized they had not eaten the entire day. Mike and jenny took it upon themselves to go to McDonalds and bought the children food which they quickly ate.

Jenny and Mike also sat with them and colored coloring books awaiting their dad to arrive and take over care.

Neither Mike nor Jenny asked for anything in return and during the early morning hours spent their own money and time to show care and compassion above and beyond without looking for any accolades.

For your time, persistence and endeavor in trying to make our department, residents and visitors with the best possible service, 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 started their 2015 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 Fire Prevention Office now has a dedicated Fax Line for paperwork. (847) 671-8547. Please check the bin for faxes that may pertain to your inspections.

We are working with Community Development to get a new current list of property owners and contact information. Our last update was three years ago.

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.

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.

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 continue to provide fire

extinguisher demonstrations and CPR classes for residents and businesses in town.

Members helped raise money for the Salvation Army by ringing the bell at Walgreens during December. We received the totals from the Salvation Army where firefighters raised \$477.

Members will be participating in the Dr. Suess Night on February 26th reading at Kennedy celebrating his birthday.

The Association held a meeting on February 9th. A charity and Charity t-shirts for 2015 were discussed along with a donation to the benevolent fund. Minutes are posted in the kitchen.

Please check the bulletin board in the kitchen for other fire department fundraisers in the area.

Illinois Fire Alliance has "Camp I Am" license plates for sale. See bulletin board for info. Deadline March 31st.

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

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.

Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

The Schiller Park Firefighters Association is looking to sponsor the Bear Necessities Pediatric cancer Foundation this Summer from May-September. We are looking into

selling and wearing special department t-shirts.

The final numbers are in for the Salvation Army Kettle Bell ringing during December. Two shifts participated raising \$477.

The Association also voted to contribute \$200 to the Division 20 Benevolent fund.

Current Board members were re-elected with the exception of the Secretary position. Brad Dehmlow was elected to this post after Ed Gergits decided to step down.

The Association is also participating in the Fishes and Loaves Program on February 20th at the Community Center. If you can volunteer please meet at 5:00 P.M. at 4501 25th.

Stork Report

FF/PM Bubis and his wife are still expecting.

We have also heard that FF/PM Gergits and his wife are expecting their second child.

Letters and Notes

A thank you to Red shift from Gold shift for the treats in the morning. As a thank you for re-bedding and cleaning up after their fire they bought donuts, thanks but not necessary.

Chief Stenson (NOPK) sent a thank you to our department for our help at their 2nd Alarm fire on January 7th. Sub-zero temperatures and wind chills at -30 hindered operations during the blaze.

A thank you was also received from Chief Ventura (ELPK) for our assistance at a 2nd Alarm fire February 6th in Elmwood Park. We also provided an investigator to assist them.

A note was received from the Nosek family thanking us for remembering EMSD Nosek mother at the wake

where several members attended and flowers were sent from the Association.

The family of Ron Joseph also thanked us for attending his wake.

Correction

My apologies to FF/Pm **Velasco**. He has brought it to my attention that for the last year I misspelled his name in the Booster Line. He waited until his probation was over before bringing this to my attention.

And Finally...

Please remember that tomorrow is promised to no one, so please give loved ones a hug and say I love you when you leave home for work.

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.



Page 8-9

Gold shift responds to the I-294 Toll way southbound for a four car accident with semi tractors involved closing all lanes. The passenger compartment of one of the vehicles probably saved her life as both the front and rear ends of car were crushed.

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Red shift worked a commercial fire that went to the Box Alarm level. Members from Norwood Park, Franklin Park, and Rosemont participated in the fire fight.

Page 11-12

After all drywall was removed and mold remediation completed on the west wall of the 2nd floor living quarters, members frame out with 2X4's, set framing for windows, insulate before the contractor returned to drywall, mud, sand and paint. (more photos next issue).



