

# Booster Line

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## Proudly Serving Since 1925

### Our Mission Statement-

***We, the Members of the Schiller park Fire Department, are dedicated professionals committed to safely serving our community by protecting life, property and the environment through prevention, education and emergency services.***

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 July 15<sup>th</sup> with Red shift taking in a call for a head on collision. After securing the scene and extricating the victim, ambulance 6 transported to Gottlieb.

Their next call required Engine 5 to force entry to a rear door on an ambulance call. The caller could not get to the door to open. After gaining access the person was treated and transported.

July 16<sup>th</sup> had Gold shift respond to a garbage truck on fire. Pulling up to the scene it was determined that it was fueled by compressed natural gas and members needed to locate the driver and shut off quickly. After extinguishing the fire with 500 gallons of water, member began the investigation as the fire appeared to originate between the cab and hopper. (see photos)

A fire in Park Ridge at an abandoned gas station was elevated to a Box alarm and Schiller Park Engine 5 was requested to the scene. On scene the members took over the 2 ½ inch hoseline from Des Plaines until told to shut down. After being advised that there were hazardous chemicals present our crew responded to Decon and it was found that one of our firefighters suffered a chemical burn. Our member was treated and

transported as a precaution.

B/C Hatcher and his crew on the 18<sup>th</sup> responded to a carbon monoxide detector going off. Multiple fire department monitors also indicate the presence of CO with levels rising to 30 ppm. Further investigation revealed that it was near the stove and gas dryer in the lower level. The gas was shut off at these locations and positive pressure ventilation aired out the house. The owners were instructed to call a repair person.

Their next call was for a car versus a semi-truck accident. Air bag deployment on the car worried the driver and requested medical help.

Gold shift then took in a fire alarm call. On scene B/C Hatcher and the fire investigative team found that the buses being repaired had their exhaust set off the fire detection system.

Another crash came in for Gold shift on the 18<sup>th</sup> the crash involved multiple victims and B/C Hatcher requested mutual aid for an ambulance from RVGR where all patients were transported.

Construction workers hit a 2 inch gas line on July 19<sup>th</sup> while digging. The scene was secured and NICOR notified. An evacuation of surrounding homes entailed members going door to door. The heavy significant leak was by NICOR as fire personnel stood by.

Next up was an automatic fire alarm in a hotel. On scene it was determined that it was on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Firefighters hiked up the stairs and found an activated smoke detector outside one of the guest rooms with no apparent cause.

Black shift on the 20<sup>th</sup> response to a fire alarm in an apartment building had the fire investigative crew hear a smoke detector going off inside a vacant apartment. Unable to make contact with the key holder the crew forced open the door with Schiller Park Police. The vacant apartment was checked with both the thermal imaging camera and the gas monitors

with no problems.

Later that evening a fire alarm at a hotel found that in one of the banquet rooms a smoke machine being used by the DJ set off the detectors.

Gold shift on the 22<sup>nd</sup> had a motor vehicle crash involving a motorcycle. The bikes riders ditched the bike when the person was cut off.

The next call for Gold shift was at one of our businesses. A fire alarm had the fire crew meet with the owner who indicated that the activation was due to one of the processes being used where the cutting oils were extremely hot and smoking causing the detector to go off.

After picking up from this call the shift responded to an outdoor gas leak. Again construction workers while digging ruptured a 2" gas main. Engine 5 stayed on the scene until NICOR arrived and released our crew.

Following this call members were dispatched to an EMS call. While attending the patient members smelled gas in the house and asked if they could check and monitored the house. After getting permission members found a leak in the basement. NICOR was called to assist the home owner in correcting the problem.

Before going home on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Gold shift took in a gasoline leak in a parking lot. The car was leaking fuel when it was running and the owner was advised to shut off the car and get a tow truck to bring to a mechanic. Oil Dry was placed on the ground where the fuel had leaked.

Black shift taking over on the 23<sup>rd</sup> responded to a former landfill for smoke coming from the ground. Police indicated that kids were playing in the field and fire crews found that a small fire was started with sticks and tree stumps. A pump can put out the fire.

A water flow alarm on July 26<sup>th</sup> had black shift take in the call. On scene at the storage facility they found the sprinkler system leaking causing a

false alarm.

A Medical Alert device on July 27<sup>th</sup> had Red shift take in the call for a resident. On scene the resident was unaware of the activation and showed her base station had not activated. She indicated she would contact the monitoring company.

AO FF/PM Bubis and his engine next took in a call for a gas leak. Using our monitors we were able to determine a leak at the meter. NICOR was called to make a repair.

A fire alarm at a food processing plant on the 28<sup>th</sup> revealed that a pull station in the compactor area had been purposely pulled. No apparent problems were found and no one owned up to activating the alarm.

July 30<sup>th</sup> found townhouse fire alarm going off. The fire investigation crew found that burnt food set off the alarm.

July ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> with a fire alarm at one of our hotels. Checking the area indicated by the alarm panel on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, members soon found that the alarm was activated by steam from an extremely hot shower in a guest room where they were trying to get out wrinkles from clothing.

Black shift took in a report of a possible electrical fire on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Upon entering the structure a light haze was found in the kitchen area and a smell of electrical burning. The thermal imaging camera was used to check the kitchen area. The stove was moved and no issues were found but when the refrigerator was moved the motor was hot to the touch and appeared to be burning the dust around the motor and fins. The owner was instructed to vacuum and clean and follow up with an appliance person.

A child locked in the car on August 4<sup>th</sup> had Red shift arrive to assist. The owner stated that she had the air conditioning running when she locked the car with her keys inside and a one year old also. After a liability waiver was signed members were able to gain access.

Wires down on a semi truck on August 5<sup>th</sup> had Black shift respond. Com Ed was called to remove the danger as fire and police personnel secured the scene. After "reading" the wires and the pole it was determined that the wires were cable and telephone and not power and members could safely remove them as they waited for Com Ed to make the restoration to the pole.

A brush fire on a landfill in town on August 6<sup>th</sup> found a large area of grass burning. Engine 5 and Engine 6 responded dropping 800 feet of hose and using over 1,000 gallons of water to put out.

After returning to quarters we were dispatched to assist Rosemont with a car in the creek in their community. On scene the overturned car had a person still inside and Engine 5 assisted with removal of victims by setting up ropes, ladders and haul systems.

Construction workers on August 7<sup>th</sup> had members respond to a fire alarm. During the construction phase dust from concrete grinding set off the alarm.

The fire alarm on the 11<sup>th</sup> had red shift respond to a commercial building. Workers doing re-modeling and construction set off the alarm as they forgot to take the alarm out of service.

August 12<sup>th</sup> had Gold shift take in a motor vehicle accident where two cars were involved. On scene members also found that one of the cars was on top of a traffic control light pole. Area was isolated with the potential for electrical shock and IDOT was notified to repair/replace the traffic signal.

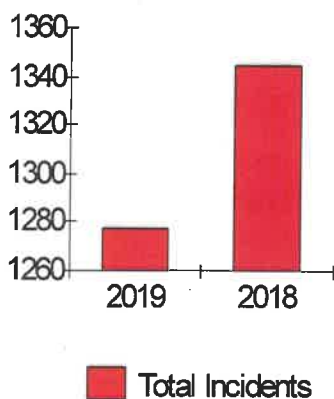
A carbon monoxide activated alarm on August 12<sup>th</sup> then had Gold shift take in the call. Lt. Leiser and his crew monitored and found elevated levels of 61 ppm. Ambulance 5 was called in to the building to begin assessment of the occupants. Engine 5 located the source near the stove and the gas was then shut off. The rooms were ventilated and the

occupant advised to have a trained service technician service the unit before using again.

The last call for this reporting period was for a water flow alarm. Because engine 5 was in the area doing hydrant flows they arrived first and realized it was due to a drop in water pressure from hydrant testing and flushing.

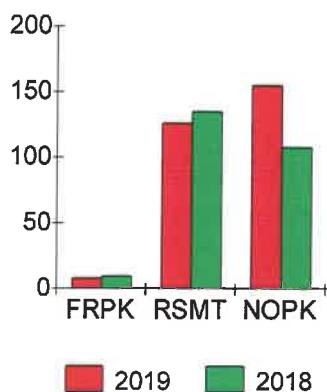
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2018:

### Total Incidents



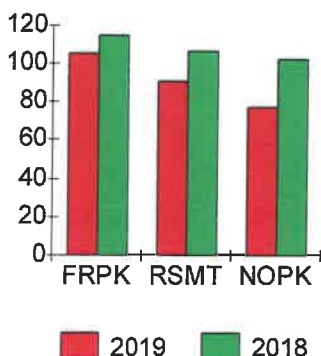
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of July 31<sup>st</sup> "To":

### Auto Aid Given



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of July 31<sup>st</sup> "From":

### Auto Aid Received



	2019	2018
Total Incidents	1,277	1,345

#### Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	7	9
Norwood Park (NOPK)	155	108
Rosemont (RSMT)	126	135

#### Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	105	115
Norwood Park (NOPK)	77	102
Rosemont (RSMT)	91	106

Congratulations and good luck on the next 29 years of your career.

Our condolences to the family of FF Dennis Ireton (ret.) who passed away August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Denny had a firefighter with Schiller Park for just over 30 years. My fondest memory of Denny was when he and I were on a hose line fighting an interior fire. I was just out of the academy and wearing my SCBA/mask and Denny was on the tip. I saw that he wasn't wearing a mask and so I thought I'd take mine off and be a tough smoke eater. I soon started coughing away and he turned around to me and said, "Kid, put your mask back on", all while he had a cigarette dangling from his lips smoking it. I quickly put my mask back on and realized I wasn't as tough as Denny. May he rest in peace.

Another passing this past month was out of Public Works where Pete Sanchez lost his grandmother. Our thoughts and prayer will be with her to.

In the Division we lost FF/PM Mahoney (Westchester) this past month after a 3 year battle with cancer.

Chief Jeff Pilz (HLSD) has announced his retirement after 30 years on the job. We wish him well in his future.

Other personnel info include July 26<sup>th</sup> being the official last day for B/C Leiser.

FF/PM Warden begin light/alternate duty on August 18<sup>th</sup> due to her pregnancy. She is due in October.

## Chief's Corner

### *We Stagnate When Caution Prevails*

July 24<sup>th</sup> saw the promotion of FF/PM Niemand to Lieutenant. He was sworn in by the Commission and had a ceremonial swearing in at the August 15<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting. Lt. Budnik was also re-assigned and given the assignment of Battalion Chief/Commander on Black shift. (see photos)

We are also happy to announce that FF/Pm Linehan has completed his probationary period and is now a full time member non probation member.

We also welcome two new persons to Community Development-Stuart Caravello has been hired as our Building Official and a new part time clerical person Anna with assist at the front counter.

It was also announced that Mario Jos (Public Works Superintendent will be retiring in the next month after 19 years with the Village. He will be missed.

The Village has installed a new Red light camera at Irving and River Road in the North/South direction. This intersection has been the scene of numerous accidents and hopefully this will reduce the number and severity.

Elmwood Park has sold their Bronto Truck this past month and await their new truck. Leyden took possession of their new quint and have yet to sell their reserve engine. As such they no longer had room for Decon 20 which will now be temporarily relocated to Elmwood Park.

The OSFM low interest for the fire truck was discussed by the Village Board and decided to proceed. A new engine committee was formed and is development specs based on our needs.

I have scheduled the 2019-2020 mental Health check-ups and Physicals. PLEASE make sure that you complete the Mental health wellness paperwork and give to Teri ASAP. The medical paperwork will be provided shortly before appointments. Remember these are duty assignments.

Lastly, the Village new health insurance rates came in and for those with PPO the premium has been reduced 1.3% because of lower claims.

## Tools / Equipment and Tidbits

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

Tony Califati has worked diligently on preventive maintenance and keeping our vehicles in service and a multitude of other projects for the fire department.

This past month Tony fixed the exhaust on Engine 5 which had its pipe break off the bracket. It needed re-welding.

Tony also worked on Truck 5

replacing the hydraulic filter that had broken off. The manufacture recalled this part as defective.

The rear officer side door was also repaired by Tony so that it closed properly.

In the firehouse the odds and ends include-

The sump pump in the hose tower was repaired by the water department.

All members completed the fit testing of both their CBNR and SCBA masks. Next up is testing the airpicks

The exhaust system hose on truck 5 was also repaired by the manufacture.

While trying to fill a public works air cylinder, the bottle got jammed in the fill station. A repair and extrication has the cascade system back in service.

NOPK Truck 104 is back in service (keep your fingers crossed it stays in service!)

The Village hot water tank sprang a leak and required replacing. We thank the Rec Department for offering the firefighters their showers during the 2 day repairs/replacement.

A new hose bed configuration is being evaluated by the three shifts. No determination has been made.

All portable radios have been programmed to have Bensenville on Bank 1.

We have returned the sensit gold monitor to Truck 5 after it was repaired.

## EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

Lt. Swiontek and HR Director Donna Schmidt are in the process of interviewing and hiring several new part time paramedics.

Under warranty the siren on

Ambulance 5 was repaired this past month.

Lt. Swiontek had the life pak on Engine 5 repaired and the spare was returned to the bunkroom/workout area.

We have also replaced the Carbon Monoxide detectors on the two EMS jump bags.

A reminder that Resurrection wants on STEM patients a 12 LEAD which we CAN do. This helps in pre-treatment and in getting the STEM team there going as early as possible in potential stroke cases.

Loyola has updated their website with new versions of forms including drug exchange, ambulance inspection, non-transport vehicle inspection and controlled substance inventory.

Loyola has also made available on its website its new Standing Medical Orders. If you choose to print them they will not have the auto updates. Therefore you would have to download them again to ensure you had the most current copy.

The status of Westlake Hospital is in the courts. We believe that they have closed their ER department and declared bankruptcy. If you have a request to go to Westlake or if it is the nearest appropriate hospital contact Loyola Medical Control for further instructions.

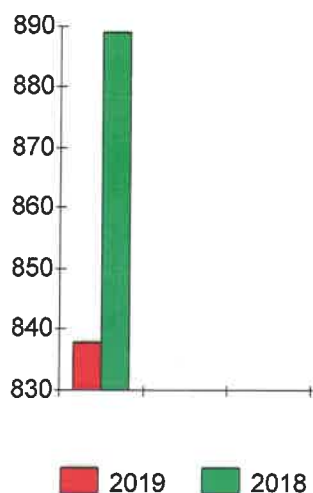
When exchanging or retrieving drugs from the hospitals, check and verify the dosages. With different manufactures and packaging we must make sure that the correct dosages are picked up.

During the past month personnel responded to 126 emergency calls. A total of 126 patients were encountered. 96 patients were transported to area hospitals.

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Responses	126	838
ALS Transports	60	325
BLS Transports	36	178

Refusals/MPR's	24	173
Other Non-Transports	2	35
Fire Responses	24	147
CPR Students taught	0	107
Car Seats Installed	0	3
Mut. Aid to SHPK	2	38
SHPK to others	8	44

### 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 pass it on to your Officers.

Our thanks to Brian Great for allowing us to mount a convex mirror on the corner of his rear building. This allows drivers to see around the corner and view the rear of the firehouse/police station and the west driveway. This safety tool was brought to the attention of the Fire Department Safety Committee who quickly implemented.

The ceremonial bell that we use at presentations originated off of Snorkel 454. It has been mounted and a new plaque attached commemorating our personnel past and present and future.

These are two projects that we

completed off of our list "What's in the Works"

What's in the works? –

- Paint red and letter front overhead doors.
- New interior lights at station 6
- Additional outlets at station 6
- paint apparatus floor border
- Paint sta.6 floor
- sprinkler simulator
- New high-rise load packing tool
- Receive Division 20 assets
  - Heavy Rescue
  - IMAT trailer
  - Gator
- new rear exterior service door
- new water hose reel on apparatus floor

## Trivia

*Answer to last month's Trivia*

### July Trivia

Tank wagons were re-organized as what type of companies?

These were re-organized as Salvage units and later in the 1970's truck companies took over the salvage functions that the salvage units formerly did.

No correct answers were received.

### August Trivia

What was done with the salvage unit vehicles when the truck companies took over salvage functions?

Please submit your answers in writing to the *Booster Line* 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.

FF/PM Dehmlow and FF/PM Loch both participated in the HazMat Elite training drill.

FF/PM Velasco participated in the tower rope rescue class in Volo.

Many of the OSFM classes will require continuing education. Please review if any certification you hold requires Con Ed. If you would like to be certified in the future also check what the requirements will be. The OSFM is reviewing the required con ed in all areas.

All members are reminded that we have a large chunk of credit at Triton College for classes for our firefighters. This was in exchange for our donation of engine 456. Please consider taking classes and earning your Associate degree at the minimum.

The State Fire Marshal is transitioning to computer based testing. Twenty-five state written examinations will be available with this new process. As certification programs are revised to the updated NFPA standards, more examinations will become available. As with most of the revised programs, continuing education hours or points accompany the certification. Please talk to Lt. Leiser for complete information and requirements.

The State Fire Marshal has partnered again with the Illinois Fire Service Institute. Any class that the Institute gives will have the end of class test count as the State certification exam. Other agencies delivering classes will

NOT have the same privilege. You will need to take a separate State test. See Lt. Leiser.

Members completed 170 hours of training for the month with 15 training drills. This includes outside classes.

Totals:	Month	Hrs	Year	Hrs
Drills/ Classes	15	170	173	2392

B/C Cesaretti is also authorized by the State to administer exams. As a proctor he must give the State notice and obtain the secure exams. Therefore you cannot approach him and expect to be given an exam on a short notice.

Please fill the Outside Training Form on Target Solutions 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.

## Employee of the Month

This month we acknowledge as our Employees of the Month FF/PM Miletta and Administrative Intern Rose Chiodo D.C.

FF/PM Miletta was on duty when a pop in visit from Gift of the Heart came to the firehouse. Gift from the Heart is similar to Ronald McDonald House providing advanced care for sick children and housing for their families. Without any hesitation Mike took the children and families and gave them a tour on a Saturday morning. The family was so impressed that they let Mayor Caiafa know who was also thankful to Mike.

The second employee I'd like to thank is Rose Chiodo. Rose has been an administrative intern in the front office for the last two summers while attending University of Illinois for Engineering. The fire department has leaned on her to assist in multiple projects throughout the summer while she still did her administrative duties. She was able to complete several projects during her time and helped do double duty while Terri Roth was also doing duty double with the fire and police departments. Her customer service, friendliness, promptness in taking on and completing tasks for the fire department was impressive. With little direction she was able to complete the vision that the Chief and members gave her to perfection. It's in her blood as she has been a part of the fire department and its activities since she was born.

Thank you D.C. !! Dad



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 Chief Chiodo.

## Fire Prevention

*An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure*

Shifts have started the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of calendar year 2019 with their inspections. Each shift has 1/3 of the inspections or about 135 per shift. The inspections were rotated so that over a three-year period each shift should have the opportunity to enter all the businesses.

We will be working this year with the Village Administration and Community Development on the possibility of adopting and updating new Codes.

Community Development and the Fire Department are working are many significant new development projects that will be coming or moving into town. With this progression we are taxing the bureau and any help that can be given to B/C Hatcher would be greatly appreciated. We are looking for members to go to advance training for Fire Prevention and Inspection/Inspector.

Our fire prevention bureau conducted acceptance tests of new installed fire alarm systems and approved Business Regulation Certificate Data Sheets.

B/C Hatcher addressed the Trouble Alarms from the past month from both the end user and Midwest Central Dispatch.

B/C Hatcher also reviewed all the fire alarm and sprinkler system inspection reports.

When checking sprinkler/standpipe connections please see that it is a stortz fitting. If they have not complied with our request to change the connection, please advise that we may be able to hook up to that system. Any questions can be referred to Chief Chiodo.

We are looking to bolster and strengthen our fire inspectional program. We are looking for our members to take the Inspector I certification program. All new firefighters will be required to take this class.

ISO has changed their grading system and now will given credit for Fire Prevention and Inspections. As part of this area of grading we will need to have continuing education for our inspectors.

Any member wishing to attend the monthly meeting of the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association should contact B/C Hatcher.

# Community Engagement

## *Saving Lives Through Education*

This past month members of our department participated with a show and tell at the International Christian Assembly of God picnic on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July.

The National Night Out August 6<sup>th</sup> had firefighters participate at the Anna Montana Water Park with residents and friends.

A resident who is extremely ill was granted a Make-A-Wish dream by going to Disney World in Florida. Members of the Schiller Park Fire and Police Departments picked him up at his home and escorted him to the airport with the fire department having an honor guard along 25<sup>th</sup>.

St. Beatrice is hosting its annual Blue Mass for first responders on Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 mass all are welcome. Following mass a blessing of the rigs will take place.

The Village is having a three day festival September 6-8 with a Dancing in the Street party on Friday, Pierogi and Fun on Saturday and the Car show on Sunday.

September 11<sup>th</sup> will see the fire department have a brief remembrance at Clock Tower Park at 8:30, followed by a remembrance at Irving Park Cemetery at 11:00 and a reception at Leyden firehouse at 6:00 PM.

During the Summer months we are evaluating our plans, budget and offerings for the coming year. We are already looking at Fire Prevention Month and in particular Fire Prevention Week capped off with an Open House.

We continue to provide fire extinguisher demonstrations and CPR classes for residents and businesses in town. We also offer car seat installations. Both these programs are administered by FF/PM Bubis and appointments are

necessary for planning and materials.

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

## Retiree Row

Please remember FF Denny Ireton (ret.) in your prayers. A 30 year member he served from February 1973 to May 2003.

FF Besch (ret.) and FF Anderson both visited the firehouse twice in the last month July 24<sup>th</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup> to say hi and see what the shifts were doing.

Cmdr. Maher (ret.) and B/C Leiser (ret.) also have stopped by to visit their old shifts.

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 Chief Chiodo at [pchiodo@schillerparkil.us](mailto:pchiodo@schillerparkil.us).

## Letters and Notes

We received several notes and thanks you's this past month. They include:

Trustee Lima thanked B/C Budnik and his crew at the Village Board meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup> for their assistance at a recent call.

Chief Sorensen (Park Ridge) thanked our firefighters for their assistance at an extra alarm fire this past month that involved hazardous materials.

A thank you note was received from Mayor Caiafa to Mike Miletta and the shift for their help with visitors and Gift from the Heart.

Our last note and cookies/sweets comes from Ms. Vogel for coming to her rescue again.

## Foreign Fire Insurance

The Foreign Fire Insurance is looking at potential new purchase items that will be voted on.

## Emergency Mgmt.

Lt. Niemand has taken over the role of Emergency Management.

He is already working on NIMS, Pharmaceuticals and Grants.

## Association News

The 100 Club of Chicago is the chosen charity for the Association fundraiser event in 2019, the charity provides assistance to members of area fire and police departments who are killed in the line of duty. A Top Golf charity event was held June 21<sup>st</sup>. (see photos)

The Association will also be selling pop, water and t-shirts at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show

## And Finally...

Change breaks the brittle.

## Deadlines

*he Booster Line is published monthly. All articles and suggestions are welcome. The Editor, Peter Chiodo reserves the right to edit based on content and space availability. Please submit all materials, articles, ideas and photos to the Booster Line c/o Chief Chiodo at [pchiodo@schillerparkil.us](mailto:pchiodo@schillerparkil.us).*

Page 8- Fire/Police members at Top Golf 100 Charity event

Page 9-Gold shift fights a CNG fire in garbage truck

Page 10- 11 Lt. Niemand officially sworn in

Page 12- Lt. Niemand ceremonial swearing in at Village Board meeting and pinning.

B/C Budnik gets pinned and new assignment



