

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 December to mid January occurs during the winter months where we have had more than the usual amounts of broken sprinkler pipes and systems.

This issue begins on December 13th when members took in the first water flow alarm in a commercial building. On scene they found the dock area had broken sprinkler pipes in two places. Members had to shut down the system so that repairs could be made.

December 14th had Gold shift respond to an automatic fire alarm in a hotel. When the crew arrived and investigated they found that a child had pulled a manual alarm.

Lt. Budnik and Red shift took in a call for a child locked in a car. All the doors were locked and the car was parked in the garage as they were securing the child. Luckily the family had On Star who was able to remotely unlock the car.

Red shifts next call was in an alley where a garbage truck had snagged the power lines and pulled them down between the pole and the apartment building. The truck was able to be safely moved and Com Ed notified.

An unusual call on the 17th had members respond to assist the resident. Upon arrival members found the woman had gotten herself stuck in the tub and could not get out. Members were able to assist in removing the embarrassed resident from her tub.

Sparking wires on the 20th had a response from the fire department where they found two transformers

lighting up the sky. Com Ed was notified to respond to the scene.

Later in the shift a Box Alarm in Des Plaines had Schiller Park's ambulance respond. The call was for a train versus a car. Ambulance 5 responded mutual aid.

Smoke in the building on December 21st had Black shift respond to the multi unit building. Members found smoke in the hallway and heavier smoke near one unit. Entering the unit they encountered heavy smoke and found that the oven was on self cleaning. After stopping the cleaning cycle they found oven mitts inside burning away. The resident forgot about the items in the oven prior to the self cleaning.

December 22nd members responded to a hotel for a fire alarm. The alarm panel indicated manual pull stations activated and the investigation found two had been maliciously set off.

Christmas Eve had Gold shift respond to Norwood Park for a structure fire. Members of Tower Ladder 5 arrived and found the garage on fire with Norwood Park making the hit and stop. The tower performed salvage and overhaul as they pulled the soffit and siding exposing hidden fires in the walls.

Christmas Day and Black shift took in four water flow alarms all with broken sprinkler pipes. The weather has been brutal this winter and the systems freeze and burst the pipes. When they begin to thaw a bit the water flows and it becomes apparent where the weaknesses were.

December 28th and members responded to a fire alarm. On scene Cmdr. Cesaretti found that the alarm was pulled because someone smelled gas and they wanted to evacuate the building. The members did find that the person who wanted to evacuate was the forklift operator who struck the gas line and caused a leak at the union. The gas supply was isolated in the area and ventilation of the premises.

After midnight the group responded to

another fire alarm in a hotel. Check the top floor they found that burnt popcorn was the cause.

FF/Pm Bubis the on duty fire investigator responded to Bellwood on December 30th for a Box Alarm fire. FF/Pm Bubis was responsible for determining whether an Investigators Box was necessary.

The calendar year ended on the 31st with a fire alarm in another hotel. Red shift found that the workers doing steam cleaning in the boiler room set off a detector.

Prior to ringing in the New Year and with the severe cold a business cranked up the heat in a vacant part of the building causing the alarm to go off. The alarm was tripped when dust in the unused vents got sucked into a detector.

New Years day had gold shift take in an accident. The car had slid on the ice and struck a decorative lamp pole on Irving knocking it down

Gold shift on the 4th assisted the water department when they believed that there might be a gas leak near the pumping station. Members donning protective gear entered and found a minor chlorine leak and were able to shut down the tanks. A certified company was called out to check the tanks and make any repairs necessary.

The cold weather continued to have temperatures drop causing more sprinkler systems to freeze and thaw. The 4th began the beginning of the deep freeze that would see by week's end wind chills at -45 degrees. With this each day members have been dealing with several broken sprinkler systems. Members have responded to each failure and then in the following days to ensure that they have been repaired.

January 5th had an elevator emergency where a stalled elevator trapped occupants. Fire personnel locked out and tagged out the system so that they could rescue the occupants.

January 7th had a resident call the fire department for a possible gas leak. Members responded to find that the carbon monoxide detector was activated when the car was started in the attached garage and left to warm up without opening the garage door.

While the area continued the deep freeze, another carbon monoxide call found that the resident was using the oven to provide heat because the thermostat did not give them enough heat. The elevated level after ventilation returned to normal and the tenant advised that it was not a good practice to use the oven for heat.

The next call for smoke in the building found a light haze in the hallway. The fire investigative team located the source as burnt food on the stove in one of the units.

Gold shift them responded to an extra alarm fire in River Grove with an ambulance. Shortly after being dispatched an ambulance call came in that took our second ambulance and engine. Within minutes of that second call Schiller Park toned out a reported house fire. Seconds later dispatched notified Battalion 5 that there were multiple calls for the fire with a person trapped in the basement. Battalion 5 arrived on scene and reported a working fire and requested a Box alarm. He told dispatch he was by himself and going into the building before suppression units arrived. Battalion 5 did a primary search of the building and was told that the man was already out. Shortly thereafter Engine 5 arrived and led out. A line was brought to the rear of the building and into the basement. Additional resources began to show up from around the Division as many units were committed to the 2-11 in River Grove. The fire was brought under control as it raced from the basement up the outer walls to the second floor.

After returning to quarters Gold shift took in six more broken sprinkler systems and pipes before their tour of duty was up.

Black shift on January 8th responded

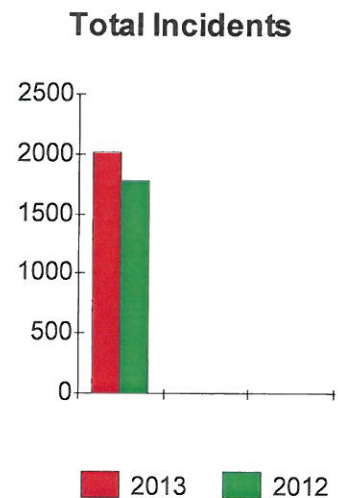
to a call for a trash compactor on fire in an office complex. Cmdr. Leiser requested a public works backhoe to help pull the trash out of the compactor so the fire could be fully extinguished.

Their next call was for a sprinkler pipe broken on the top floor of an apartment building. Members found severe water damage in at least 6 units as the water cascaded down between floors.

This was followed up with five more sprinkler system activations with no fire but frozen pipes.

The reporting period ends on January 9th when members responded to a house for a flooded basement. The owner had previously been taken to the hospital and when she returned she realized she left a basement window partially opened exposing a pipe in the arctic weather. The pipe froze and burst filling the basement with nearly 18 inches of water.

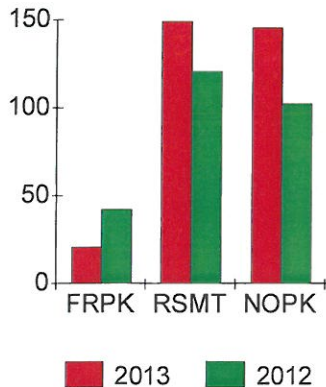
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2012:



This was a record year for the Schiller Park Fire Department as we topped for the first time in our history more than 2000 runs and calls for service. We are always there to answer the call. We serve with Duty, pride and Tradition.

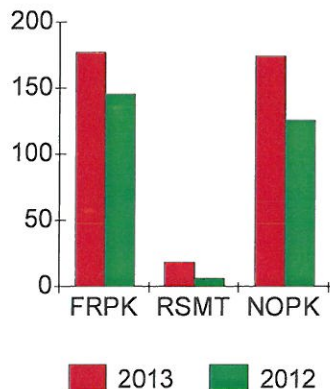
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of December 31st "To" the following communities:

Auto Aid Given



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

Auto Aid Received



	2013	2012
Total Incidents	2010	1786

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	20	42
Norwood Park (NOPK)	146	102
Rosemont (RSMT)	149	120

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	178	145
Norwood Park (NOPK)	174	125
Rosemont (RSMT)	18	6

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.

The Village will honor Cmdr. Maher (ret.) at the Village Board meeting on January 16th for his thirty two years of service. A plaque and retirement badge will be presented. (Photos next issue).

At the Village Board meeting in January Director Deegan appoints Mike Cesaretti to Commander (see photos).

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. It is estimated that he will be off a few weeks before returning to full duty.

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.

FF/PM Santiago who enlisted in the military can be reached at: Recruit Santiago, Nicholas M12RD Bn Fox Co. Plt. 2131 35051 Midway Avenue San Diego, CA 92140-2142

The Schiller Park and Franklin Park

Lions Club honored Cmdr. Ladonsky of the Schiller Park Police Department as the Police Officer of the Year and Cmdr. Chiodo as the Firefighter of the Year on December 14th. (See photos).

The Schiller Park Police and Fire Commission will begin 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.

We would also like to congratulate Scott Walker of the Addison Fire Protection District. Scott was a part time paramedic with our department for several years. He is being promoted from battalion Chief to Deputy Chief.

Our condolences to Lt. Kwiat on the passing of his wife Ruth this past month. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Two more departments in Division 20 have adopted stationing numbering. Berkeley Fire Department will become Station 35 (Engine 35, Ambulance 35, Squad 35) and Westchester Fire Department to Station 25 and 26.

As noted above the Schiller Park Fire Department had a record year for fire/EMS runs totaling over 2000. These calls for service were all legitimate calls and exclude all the other incidents that would be classified as a "matter of record". For the year the vehicle tally was:

Battalion 5 – 646, Engine 5 - 1406, Ambulance 5–740, Ambulance 6- 539 Tower Ladder 5 – 433, Squad 5– 287 Engine 6- 34, Ambulance 461- 84

Director Deegan continues to work on next year's budget and looking at what we need. A preliminary budget

proposal should be completed by the end of January.

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.

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:

New step chocks were purchased and have been placed on the apparatus.

EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

Ambulance 6 went in for maintenance. When it returned Lt. Budnik will send out the driver's seat to be re-upholstered.

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.

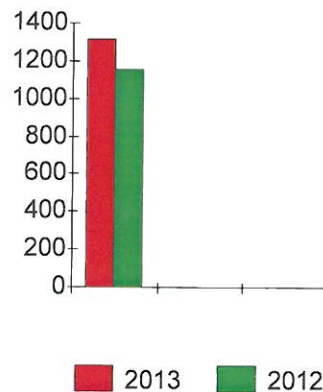
FF/PM LiRosi has taken over all of the CPR classes and instruction. He will coordinate both the private and the village sector. FF/PM Niemand, Bubis and PM Jenkins and Kosar are all still instructors helping out. We are averaging 3-4 classes per month with 50 plus students.

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 134 emergency calls. A total of 128 patients were encountered. 81 patients were transported to area hospitals. 63 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Total Responses	1318	1154
Cardiac	88	92
Medical Emergency	654	616
Accidents/Trauma	344	276
Fire Responses	218	158
False Alarm/Standby	14	14
Mut. Aid to SHPK	44	25
SHPK to others	54	39

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.

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

We are re-painting the West Wing Hall of honor.

New tile will replace broken ones in the kitchen and tile the baseboards

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

December Trivia

What incident led to the widespread use of mercaptan as an odorant for natural gas?

The New London (TX) school explosion of March 18, 1937 which killed nearly 300 people.

Two correct answers were received from Chief Belmonte (ret. Westchester) and Jimmy Z (former EMT)

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?

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.

Lt. Hatcher, Lt. Swiontek and FF/PM Chung attended a Ventilation, Flow Paths and Suppression Tactics seminar.

Cmdr. Chiodo and Cmdr. Leiser attended the Division 20 Safety and

Training Officer meeting.

Cmdr. Chiodo, Cmdr. Leiser attended a week long Chief Officer training seminar.

We will again be co-hosting a Vehicle Machinery Operations class through the State Fire Marshal May 5-9th. If you are interested and need this certification please contact Cmdr. Leiser.

We have placed in service both step chocks and a new Rescue Master blade on our circular saws. All shifts have been trained in their use. If you missed any of the sessions see Cmdr. Leiser.

The training Division is also looking to start 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.

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.

We are looking into the possibility of hosting some State Fire Marshal classes including technical rescue and fire apparatus engineer. I will notify personnel if openings occur.

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 84 hours of

training for the month with 10 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 FF/PM Farias as our Employee of the Month.

FF/PM Farias has been assigned as the rear step person on the engine and nozzle men. Along with this responsibility is that of being the third man on the ambulance should they need a driver. Within the last month several serious calls required the aid of a third member to drive while the other two paramedics treated the patient. While this is more of a rare occurrence, FF/PM Farias has done this multiple times in a short period.

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 completed their 2013 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 shifts have each been given their 2014 allotment.

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 storz 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.

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.

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

Prior to Christmas we had two of our retirees visit the firehouse—Lt. Anderson (ret.) and FF Besch. They had their annual Christmas lunch at the Great Escape and wandered over to visit.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Lt. Kwiat (ret.) on the passing of his wife Ruth.

FF C. Leiser Sr. (ret.) recently made the trek from Florida to Michigan where he will now call that home.

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 our department to Mayor Piltaver and the Village Board for hosting a Christmas party for the employees at Legends on December 23rd.

A note was received by the fire department from one of the families that the Firefighters Association adopted over Christmas. They thanked the members for making the Christmas Season Merry.

FF/PM Santiago writes that he appreciates all the support that he has been given as he completes his basic training Boot camp with the U.S. Marine Corps. He looks forward

to returning and seeing and working with everyone soon.

Our last note was from a boy in Prince William County, VA who visited our firehouse when the family was passing through. He thanked us and drew a picture of our vehicle. (see photo).

Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

The Association participated in the Bell Ringing supporting the Salvation Army on December 18, 19, 20th at Walgreen's.

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 will be attending the Chicago Steel Hockey game on January 24th in Bensenville. We will be getting a Sky Box and the adult admission of \$10 and child admission of \$5 will include entry, pizza and pop. See Detective DeSimone for tickets and so that we can determine the number of attendees.

And Finally...

The human spirit is stronger than anything that can happen to it.

Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the *Booster Line* will be 8:00 A.M. February 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- 2014 Schiller Park Shift Calendar


Page 8- Cmdr. Chiodo and Cmdr. Ladonsky are presented their Awards by the Lions Club. They are accompanied by Fire Director Deegan, their wives and Cathy Stachura president of the Lions Club.

Page 9- Images from structure fire on January 7, 2014 in Schiller Park.

Page 10- Cmdr. Maher plaque given by Village

Page 11-Cmdr. Cesaretti is pinned with his new Commander Badge by his wife after being appointed by Director Deegan

Page 12-Cody McElroy from Prince William County visited our firehouse and drew a picture of Ambulance 6.



Schiller Park Fire Department

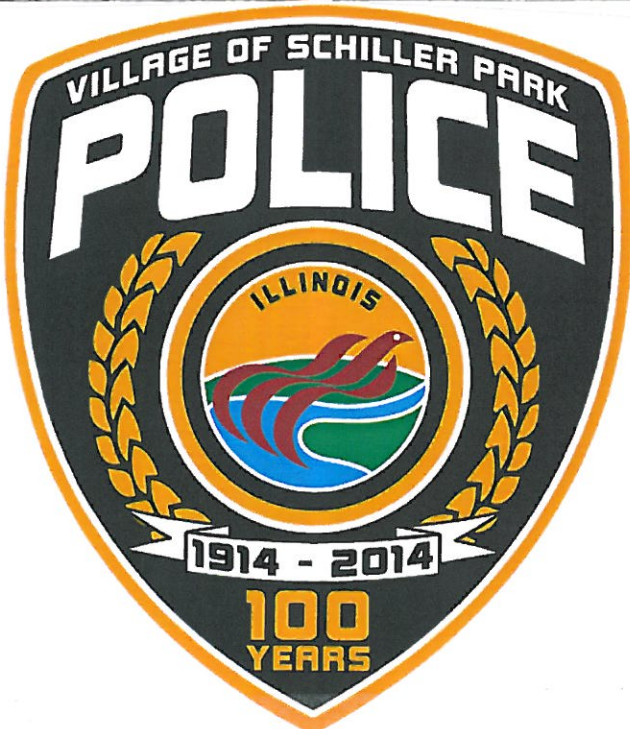
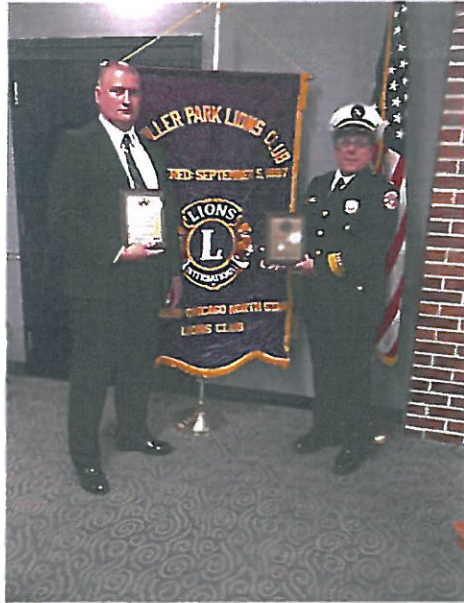
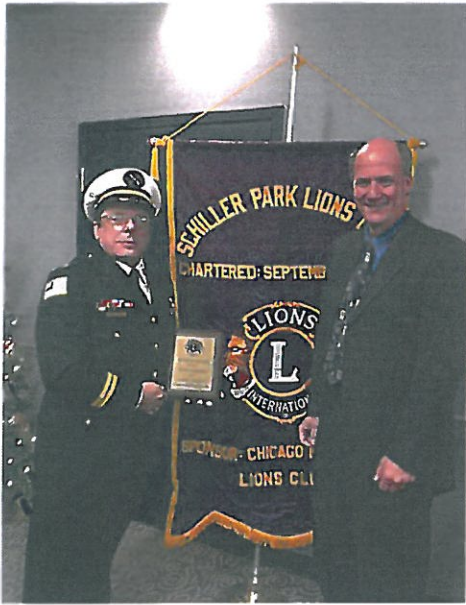
BLACK shift
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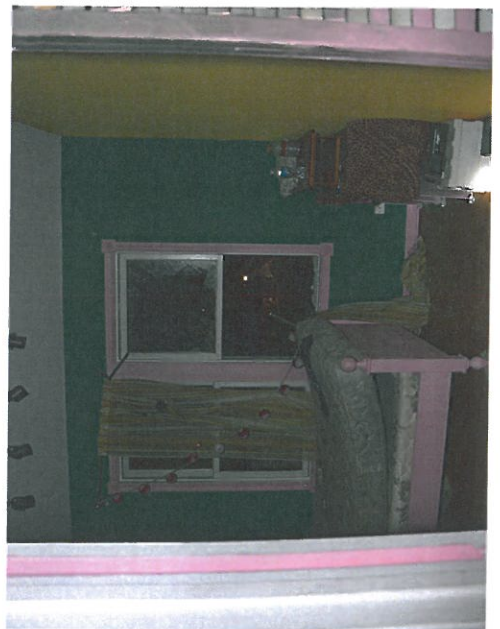
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HOLIDAYS

Jan 1 New Year's Day	Apr 20 Easter Sunday	Jul 4 Independence Day	Nov 11 Veterans Day
Jan 20 Martin Luther King Day	May 11 Mother's Day	Sep 1 Labor Day	Nov 27 Thanksgiving Day
Feb 14 Valentine's Day	May 26 Memorial Day	Oct 13 Columbus Day	Dec 24 Christmas Eve
Feb 17 President's Day	Jun 15 Father's Day	Oct 31 Halloween	Dec 25 Christmas Day
			Dec 31 New Year's Eve

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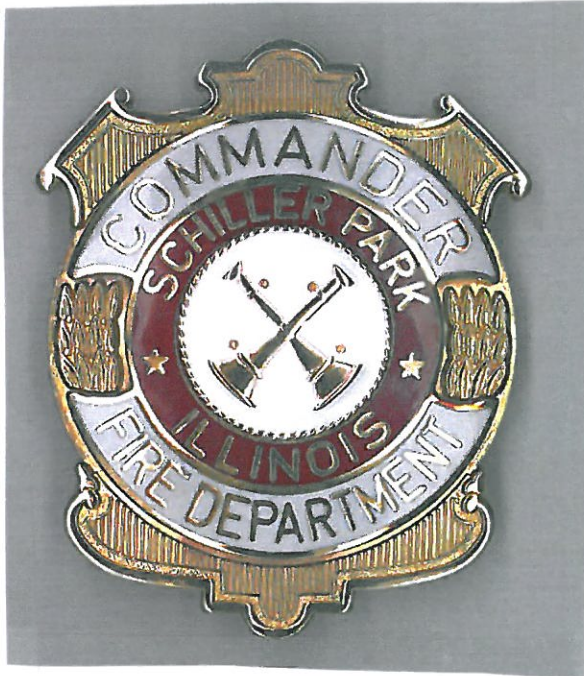
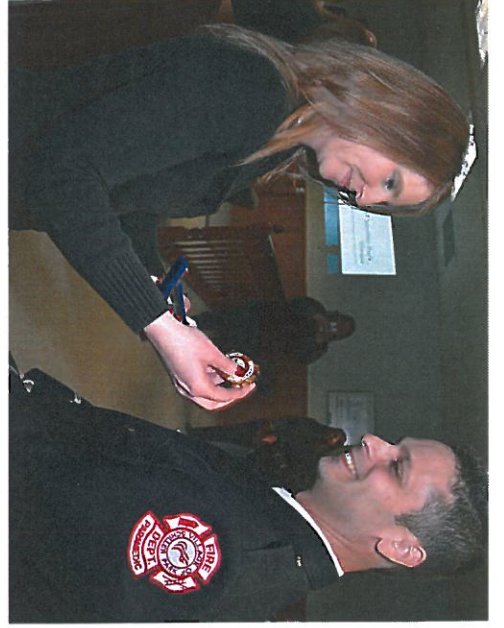
Presented To

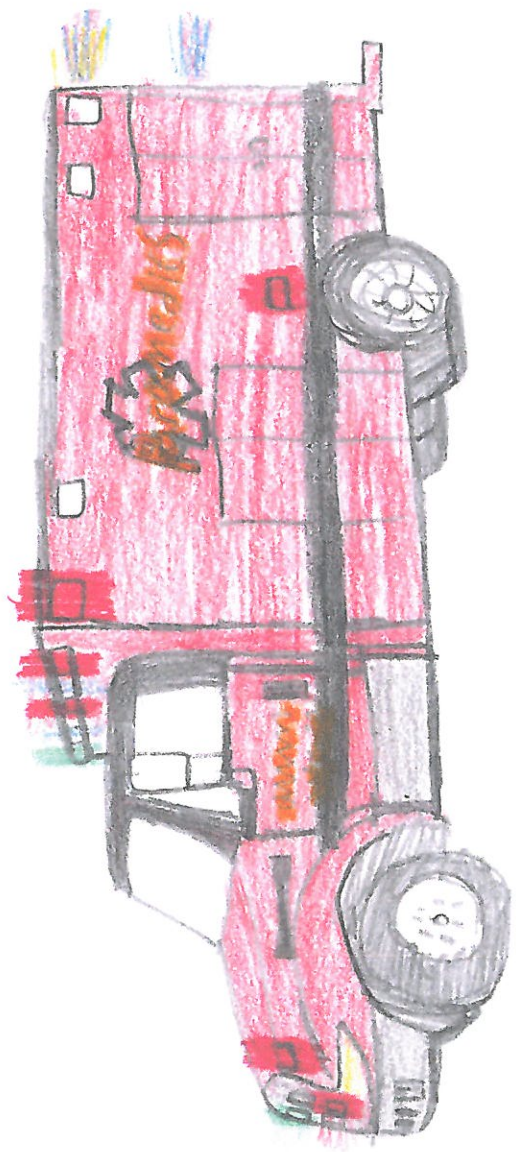
Commander Daniel Maher

In appreciation for your
32 years of dedicated service
to the Village of Schiller Park

11-1-1981 Firefighter
9-10-1996 Fire Lieutenant
11-1-2006 Fire Commander
~ Retired November 2, 2013 ~







Medic 462

