

Booster Line

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 April 15th when Black shift responded to a water flow alarm. On scene the shift found that workers were servicing the sprinkler system and inadvertently set off the alarm.

Their next fire alarm was in a multi family building and the fire investigative team found smell of burnt food in the hallway. Truck 5 set up a ventilation fan to clear the lingering smoke and reset the fire alarm.

Red shift on the 17th was requested via RED Center Dispatch to Change Quarters to Park Ridge for station coverage while their firefighters were at a structure fire. Engine 5 remained in Park Ridge for approximately one hour.

April 17th saw Red shift respond to a rollover accident. B/C Cesaretti and the crew arrived to find a three vehicle accident with one car on its side. A Pin In response was cancelled when the driver had self extricated. Ambulance 6 transported to Resurrection.

After shift change, Gold shift took in a carbo monoxide detector going off. Members donned the proper PPE and entered to monitor the home. The owner indicated that his CO alarm had activated earlier in the day also. The entire premises were checked and no elevated levels of CO found.

A brush fire on April 19th had Black shift take in the call. Engine 5 arrived and found pine needles under a tree smoldering. The "Silver Bullet", a pump can, was used to dampen the smoldering material.

Beginning their tour of duty on the 19th, Red shift responded to the first of two DOA's this month.

Lt. Niemand and Red shift then responded with Engine 5 and Truck 5 to a dumpster fire. A 1 3/4" line was pulled and 100 gallons of water were used to put out the fire near the apartment building. Truck 5 did the overhaul with pike poles and trash hooks.

April 20th then had Engine 5 respond to an outside gas leak emulating from a manhole. Fire personnel requested Public Works to the scene to access the manhole. After opening the lid and monitoring, Lt. Leiser requested MCD to contact NICOR.

Dispatch then sent Engine 5 to another smell of natural gas this time indoors. The owner said that the family smelled something inside. Investigating the shift determined that it was sewer gas from a contractor outside doing power rodding for the Village. No hazards or elevated levels were found in the house.

The 21st then saw Gold shift take in a smoke detector activation. On scene the crew found an odor of burnt food. Checking further they located the apartment where the tenant showed the firefighters that they burnt pizza in the oven. A fan was used in the unit and hallway to clear the smoke and reset the alarm.

A medical alert on April 22nd had Engine 5 and Ambulance 5 respond. Members discovered the woman had mistakenly set off the device and no assistance was needed.

Lt. Swiontek and his crew took in a call on the 24th for a carbon monoxide detector going off. A thorough examine of the house was done with no elevated levels. Looking at the detector it was determined that the detector was faulty and advised the

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owner to purchase a new one.

A repeated call for the outdoor smell of gas was responded to on April 27th near Forster and Lawrence. Members again responded and contacted NICOR. NICOR stated that in their priority list they were aware and it was noted and a job ticket created. We will, moving forward, get their work order or job number and place in the NFIRS report.

April 29th had an automatic fire alarm in a commercial business. On scene the fire team found that an employee using an aerosol spray can tripped the detection.

The month of April ends on the 30th with Gold shift taking in a call for a vehicle that hit a light pole in a crash. Truck 5 checked the area for exposed wires from the downed pole and electrical hazards. IDOT was notified of this incident.

Members then took a ride to the toll way for a car that hit the wall. A driver who lost control struck the median. Ambulance 5 assessed the driver.

The evening of May 3rd was a sad day as Black shift had two fatal separate motorcycle accidents within 15 minutes of each other on opposite sides of town. The first was on Irving in the forest preserves where 2 cars and a motorcycle were involved. Extra personnel accompanied the ambulance personnel to the hospital as advanced life support was in progress.

A short time later on Lawrence a second fatal motorcycle accident occurred. Rosemont was called in Mutual aid with an Engine and ambulance to handle this call. After picking up from previous motorcycle accident. Engine 5 and Truck 5 responded to provide assistance.

The next day Red shift took in a request from the police for a wash down. Engine 5 assisted our police with washing debris from the roadway.

A fire alarm on the 4th in a condo building had Red shift respond to find burnt food in one of the 1st floor unit. Truck 5 ventilated the building.

Our second DOA this period was on May 4th in a single family home. Red shift verified the patient status and contacted the family.

For the second time in a month, a brush fire had members respond on May 7th. As in last months call, pine needles under the tree ignited and was smoldering. The pump can again was used to extinguish.

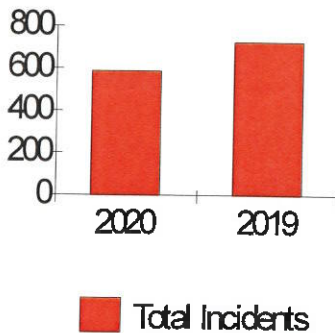
May 7th had Gold shift respond to a hotel complex for a fire alarm. While hotels are operating at minimum occupancy, no call can be taken for granted. The fire investigative team was met by maintenance in the near empty hotel and told it was a bad pull station. He showed our members the location and auto aid was returned.

Members responding to a fire alarm on the 7th, next found that police were already on scene with several persons due to a fight. The parties involved in the fight had pulled some of the pull stations. Two boxes needed to be reset.



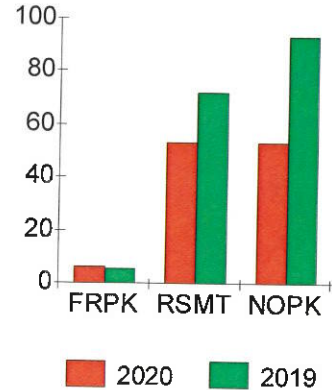
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2019:

Total Incidents



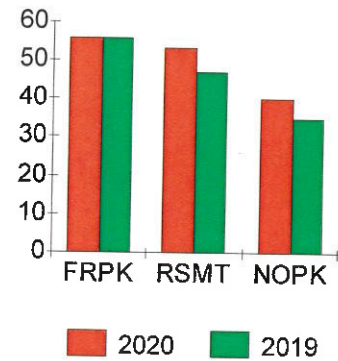
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of April 30th "To":

Auto Aid Given



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of April 30th "From":

Auto Aid Received



	2020	2019
Total Incidents	592	731

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	6	5
Norwood Park (NOPK)	53	93
Rosemont (RSMT)	53	72

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	56	56
Norwood Park (NOPK)	40	35
Rosemont (RSMT)	53	47

Chief's Corner

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails



With the outbreak of the coronavirus / covid-19 the Village has issued several memos on how we will continue to deliver services while at the same time protecting our employees. Interim Village Manager Dave Strahl has issued a memo to all employees. To help prevent the spread the Village Hall, Community Development, Recreation Department and Library are CLOSED. Both the fire and police departments are having limited to NO access to their facilities and all Village buildings are posted. A Stay in Place Order was issued by the Governor and several other states are following. The order is in effect until May 29th. We hope to have this under control and be back to "normal" as soon as possible. This is a fluid situation that changes on the federal, state and local level daily if not hourly. We receive roughly 40-50 emails and updates daily and will share as we can. I have also made contingency plans with Franklin Park and vice versa should the need arise. We are in constant communication with IDPH, CDC, Homeland Security both federal and Cook County, Loyola and all our partners to work together and share resources. Continue to follow all protocol, wash your hands, cover your mouth and wear all appropriate PPE when necessary.

I appreciate all the cleaning and disinfecting that the members have done continuously throughout the day. We have been very fortunate as no members have been stricken or quarantined as a result of covid-19.

We have transported multiple patients who tested positive or thought they had exposures and all our training and PPE has paid off.

Our sympathies go out to FF/PM Rusciorelli family who lost their grandmother to covid 19. Ms. Shirley Ann (Leka) Rhoades lost her fight to the disease. Because of the restrictions on gatherings, a memorial service and remembrance will be held in the near future. All of the members extend thoughts and prayers to Brandon and the family.

With the outbreak and being on "lock down" I would like to thank residents, friends, neighbors and businesses who have graciously provided food to the firefighters over the last month. A special thanks to Gibson's and Little Caesar's who bought dinner for all three shifts. Mayor Caiafa also jumped in with the Mayor's challenge by grilling hot dogs and hamburgers for all Village employees as a thank you for all that everyone is doing(see photos)

MABAS is winding down the field hospitals that were set up throughout the Chicago area and FF/PM Bubis returned to Methodist hospital to retrieve the Light Tower 20A that we brought into the city.

The Illinois Department of Public Health has issued revised guidelines for isolation periods as of May 7th. These are posted.

Our Human Resource department has created a new release form for employees injured on the job. This is part of the workers comp refusal and can be used in place of a EMS incident refusal.

The Air Force Blue Angels did a Flyover May 12th honoring all 1st Responders and Health Care workers. Schiller Park members viewed the event from our rooftop.

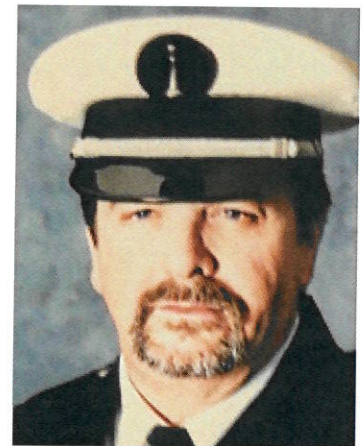
We were able to secure an additional 50 sets of protective goggles from the Bellwood Fire Department as part of our PPE on May 12th for our personnel.

Another hit to the budget came in this

past month with NORCOMM raising their prices 4%. Because our Village budget was already passed we will have to shift a line item.

The Fire and Police Commission have published and posted the 2020 Firefighter/Paramedic eligibility list. Congratulations to the 17 candidates that made the list.

Our thoughts and prayers also go out to the Norwood Park Fire Protection District on the passing of Lt. Bob Kubala (ret.) Bob was one of the first in the division to begin using "Fireground Red" upon arrival at incidents to free up the Fire Main channel. Bob was also part of making automatic aid in the mid 1990's work. His voice and antics will be missed.



All members should continue to be aware of several construction projects either being worked on or will commence in the near future. The first is the water main replacement on Grace street. This will tie us up as we return to quarters and access to certain parts of the community. River Road, Irving, Mannheim and Lawrence Avenue are all slated to have construction in the upcoming months. Construction season is one of two in Chicago.

Public Works has contracted for hydrant valve exercising throughout town. Between this project, where they have busted hydrants and water mains, and sewer televising the Water Department has asked us to hold off

on hydrant flushing and flows for the time being.

Our new Box cards have been reviewed and will become effective June 1, 2020.

We are still scheduled to get our new E-One engine. Again with the virus and most of the manufacturing shut down in the United States we will be looking at early 2021. The shop number is SO 144000. When in production you can go on the E-One website and see the progress of the build out.

We are reviewing Chapter 32 of the Millennium code dealing with the fire department and job descriptions.

With so many businesses closed or on modified schedules, revenues have plummeted for the Village and the Villages budget. We are in survival mode and trying to cut expenses as income has dried up during covid 19. Unless mission critical all expenses are halted or under review.



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.

Engine 5 (455) is back in service after having \$14,000 in maintenance done at Macqueen (formerly Global). Many of the items on the 20 page list were not done by them but rather to save

money Tony devoted several days in the firehouse to do in-house. Thanks Tony!

Members also repaired the following tools in-house. One of our forcible entry tools that does minimal damage, W tool was repaired by FF/PM Velasco and Black shift.

Rob is also a trained SCBA technician who found one of our air packs malfunctioning. Because the repair was covered under warranty, he sent it out to Air One.

Lastly, we will begin, continue, to do hydrant flushing per the Public Works department.

We also placed on our rigs Gross Decon buckets and equipment per NFPA 1851.

EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

First off, Happy EMS Week (May 18-22) and a thank you for all that you all do throughout the year and especially in the last few unprecedented months for us all. Your work is appreciated and the Village Board will adopt a Proclamation at their May 21st Board meeting honoring members.

With the outbreak of the corona virus, Loyola Medical system has been updating the department on protocols and issuing memos. We are all monitoring events and forwarding to the Officers all pertinent information from Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Please use all PPE when necessary or in doubt. It may get worse before it gets better.

We have had conference calls with Dr. Cichon and several new policies concerning treatment and transport or non transport have been issued. Loyola will also be implementing telemedicine where the patient may talk to a doctor. This will be a charge to the patient as treatment according to

Loyola and Dr. Cichon.

We have placed on the vehicles Corona kits. Please take this seriously as we don't want to contaminate each other nor bring anything home to our families.

We have received another 50 goggles PPE through the Bellwood Fire Department for our personnel.

Lt. Swiontek reminds everyone to turn off the computers on the ambulances and then back ON everyday so that updates can be installed.

Also please be very careful when disinfecting in the ambulance around electronics, especially the VMUX. We have had to send in the unit for problems because of the spraying. We will have a replacement at no cost (one time only) here shortly.

Gottlieb has opened up their new Emergency Department. Please familiarize yourself with new layout and the department.

We currently should have enough supplies for our personnel to be outfitted with the appropriate PPE. All members have also been n-95 fit tested.

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

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.

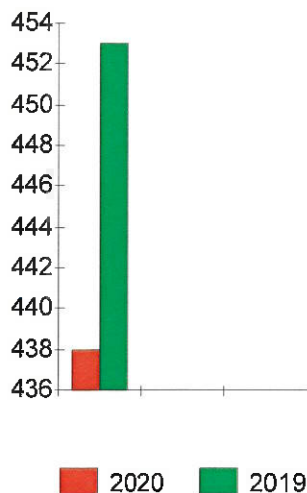
When exchanging/retrieving drugs from the hospitals, check/verify the dosages. With different manufacturers & packaging we must make sure that the correct dosages are picked up.



During the past month personnel responded to 114 emergency calls. A total of 90 patients were encountered. 69 patients were transported to area hospitals.

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Responses	114	428
ALS Transports	44	154
BLS Transports	25	111
Refusals/MPR's	20	89
Other Non-Transports	1	14
Fire Responses	24	70
CPR Students taught	0	10
Car Seats Installed	0	0
Mut. Aid to SHPK	7	24
SHPK to others	1	12

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.

With the Corona virus, we have limited our personnel to what projects we will or can work on.

What's in the works? –

- New Life pak
- New Mobile Data terminals
- new SCBA bottles
- new radios
- dispose of engine 453
- Screen overhead doors
- Epoxy floor
- New Great Room floor
- 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
- new water hose reel on apparatus floor

Trivia

Answer to last month's Trivia

April Trivia

A flame is a mixture of reacting gases and solids emitting what?

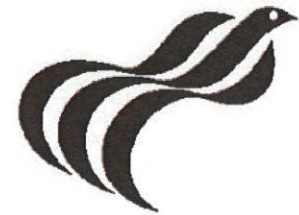
Answer: Visible, infrared and sometimes ultra violet light.

Only one correct answer was received by Chief Belmonte (Westchester Ret.)

May Trivia

What contribution did Alfred Loomis make to the fire service?

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.

Effective May 1st Lt. Adam Niemand became our new Training Officer. Lt. Leiser will be reassigned to Emergency Management.

In house training has continued in our own firehouse with skill reviews and practice throughout the month.

Lt. Niemand has created a *Weekly and Monthly Preventive Maintenance Inspections* activity in Target Solutions. We will also soon be adding all MABAS Division 20 policies to Target Solutions. If you have other ideas for Target Solution or to move to more digital applications please let him know.

Lt. Niemand is scheduling FSVO and other classes that are a condition of employment in the next few months provided it is safe and the covid -19 restrictions are lifted or modified.

The Village also received from the State Fire Marshal reimbursement for

classes from 2019. A check for \$6,639.67 was deposited in the Village coffers.

Please review your screen in Target Solutions to see if you have any incomplete assignments.

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. Niemand 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.

Members completed 403 hours of training for the month with 24 training drills. This includes outside classes.

Totals: Month Hrs Year Hrs

Drills/ Classes	20	224	74	805
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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. Lt. Niemand is working with the Division and the State to see about hosting

another class for proctors to be held in northern Illinois instead of traveling to Springfield. Currently there are only four proctors from Division 20 eligible to proctor. Therefore you cannot approach any proctor and expect to be given an exam on a short notice. Class rosters and attendance must be in hand of the State to verify that you took the class, attended, had a qualified instructor and completed the class and end of class test before an exam from the State will be administered.

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 Profile

This month we profile FF/PM Sam Chung.



FF/PM Sam Chung was hired in 1997 and attended the Arlington Heights Fire Academy. Sam has worked as a shift inspector and was an active member on the Haz Mat team. He

came to Schiller Park after working as a paramedic in Franklin Park.

Sam is the senior person (Barn Boss) on Gold Shift with over 20 years of experience. He has been awarded several ribbons for his work on the fire department and in the fire service. He is extremely mechanically inclined and is our "disposal" officer for surplus equipment. He has worked multiple shifts and been a mentor to younger members.

FF/PM Chung holds State Fire Marshal certifications in multiple areas and also NIMS certifications.

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



Fire Prevention

An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure

Shifts have placed on hold any of the daily business fire prevention inspections due to the corona virus. With the stay at home order and only essential businesses open, the decision was made to postpone any and all inspections. Members will begin the 2nd quarter of the year catching up 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 are developing a Self Reporting system for smaller businesses to help facilitate the inspection process once we are able to go out again. We have lost a quarter of the year in doing

inspections and re-inspections. We will offer to some businesses the ability to self report and submit documentation both written and with pictures.

B/C Hatcher is still working on plans and reviews for projects that were already in the works. We expect that after the economy opens up again, there will be a flurry of permits and requests.

With the Village billing for Reviews and alarms, the village collected (recouped) \$400 last month.

MCD in conjunction with our department has developed new policies for Trouble Alarms.

If there are any business license inquiries, they should go through Dee at Community Development. They should not be going to the front office staff. All business license issues will be handled by Community Development.

We will be looking into have businesses over 10,000 square feet number their exit/entrance doors similar to the markings the schools have. We will implement this at the beginning of the calendar year with the new inspection cycle.

We will be working this year with the Village Administration and Community Development on the possibility of adopting and updating new Codes. We have contacted Code writers to help advise and review. We are looking to have the Village adopt the 2018 International Codes.

A bag has been placed in the vehicles for inspectors when checking Knox Boxes. Inside the bag will be tags to identify keys, marker and Red rubber boots (indicating the Main Key to enter the premises). See Memo from the FPB in the Pass On book.

Community Development and the Fire Department are working on 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.

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.

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 is now giving credit for Fire Prevention and Inspections. As part of this area of grading we will need to have continuing education for our inspectors.

Community Engagement

Saving Lives Through Education

All activities are being suspended due to the covid-19 outbreak. With tight budgets we will also be reviewing the FY 21 projects and ability to deliver public education.

We will continue to provide fire extinguisher demonstrations and CPR classes for residents and businesses in town after the pandemic subsides. We will also offer car seat installations again after the health threat is over. 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 and Former Employees

We have heard from several of our retirees and former workers this past month.

We heard from Lt. Chester Kwiat's (ret. Dec.) son who spoke highly of the department from what he remembers his father telling him and his visits as a child. He now was inquiring about purchasing a fire hydrant for his son as a remembrance. After speaking with the water department a discarded scrap one was available for scrap purchase and Chet's son Ken was elated as it was going to be a birthday gift for Chet's grandson.

We also heard from Capt. Bob Kilman (POC ret.) who enjoys reading the Booster Line and recently moved to Huntley. If you would like his new address, I'll ask him if it is okay to forward.

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.

Letters and Notes

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

A card from John and Pat Morgan thanking the first responders for keeping everyone in Schiller Park safe and offering blessings to us all.

Our exterminator also left Blessed prayer cards of St. Florian for any member who might want one. See Chief Chiodo.

Our last note is a thank you received from MCD for thinking of them during Telecommunicator Week in April.

Foreign Fire Insurance

The Foreign Fire Insurance held its meeting via Zoom this past month. A number of items were voted on and approved by the membership. Among the items approved, new kitchen faucet, new BBQ grill cover, new file box for foreign fire insurance, dip belt, 3 fans, food processor, internet equipment, replacement indoor bike, rogue equipment and a storage rack.

Emergency Mgmt.

Lt. Niemand has transitioned to Training and Lt. Leiser will take over Emergency Management along with assisting in the Fire Prevention Bureau.

Lt. Leiser is working with Cook County Emergency Management and Regional Security and will assume the monitoring of all employees for compliance with NIMS, pharmaceuticals and grants.

Pension News

Pension meeting dates for 2020 meetings. These include May 21, August 20 and November 19th all at 10:00 AM.

The May meeting has been moved to June 17th.

The Illinois pension consolidation will impact our fund. The Statewide committee met prior to the quarantine and elected a chairperson and co-chairperson. According to the Illinois Fire Chiefs they continue to meet remotely as the funds transfers and consolidation continue to move forward.

And Finally...

A vision is not just a picture of what could be; it is an appeal to our better selves, a call to become something more.

Deadlines

The 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.

Page 8- Mayor Caiafa grills/cooks for the Village Employees thanking them for all they have done and are doing.

Gibson's and Little Cesar's provide lunch for the fire department.

