

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 March 13th when Gold shift responded to a truck fire on the toll way near mile marker 35. Because of inaccurate information Northlake was also dispatched. The call was reached first by Northlake who had a Purple Heart donation truck with a fully involved motor compartment fire. They dropped a line as Schiller Park arrived and together the fire was extinguished.

March 15th had Red shift take in a call for the elevator emergency. On scene Lt. Hatcher and his crew found one of the elevators stalled between floors with one occupant. The power was locked out and then reset. The elevator resumed to its normal setting and the occupant was removed.

Later in the shift a fire in Bensenville initially called on a Safety Officer from Schiller Park. Cmdr. Maher responded to the incident. As it was a confirmed fire our tower ladder was due also.

FF/PM Swiontek on March 19th took in a fire in Elmwood Park as the on duty fire investigator. Here he worked with the other Division 20 investigators determining the origin and cause.

After shift change Lt. Cesaretti took charge of a vehicle accident incident requiring an additional ambulance from Franklin Park on March 19th.

Two days later on March 21st a fire in Bensenville had Cmdr. Leiser respond and assume the role of Safety Officer.

A fire in Maywood on March 25th had a mutual aid response for fire investigators. Red shift sent Fire Investigator Jeff Leiser to the scene.

A call for help was received on March 28th from our Automatic Aid town Rosemont. A request for a small kitchen fire in a hotel had both Battalion 5 with Cmdr. Maher and our Tower ladder respond to the scene to assist.

The on-coming shift then responded to a fire alarm in a condo building. Lt. Cesaretti the incident commander found that the association president reset the alarm as the fire companies arrived. He did this because there was a baby in the building that he did not want to upset when the alarm was going off. The fire investigative team checking the premises found light smoke on an upper floor. Members were able to determine that the smoke was coming from one of the apartment and no one was answering. The truck company forced entry and found the tenant inside afraid to answer the door because she burnt food. The area was ventilated and the burned food placed in the sink. The tenant stated she was cooking when she decided to take a bath and the food on the stove burned.

Black shift march 29th found a carbon monoxide alarm going off. Lt. Budnik arrived with the engine and found no readings on our instruments. The owner alarm was going off due to a low battery.

Two vehicles involved on an accident on March 30th had red shift send an additional firefighter paramedic to the hospital with the ambulance crew. Franklin Park was called in mutual aid to provide another ambulance for a second patient.

Cmdr. Maher's next run on the 30th took him to Bensenville and take the role of Safety Officer at a working fire. He worked with Command in that capacity.

A fire alarm then took Red shift to a motel where it was determined that someone smoking near a smoke detector tripped the alarm sending the fire department to this location.

FF/PM Swiontek riding the front seat on the engine took in an odor call

next at a hotel. Security stated that a worker fell ill and went home a few hours ago and since then two more persons began to feel ill. The area was monitored with our equipment in the office area, lobby and pool area to trace the possible origin of any leaks.

Gold shift took over on April Fools day and quickly responded to a person stuck in an elevator. FF/PM Chung arrived with the engine and worked with maintenance to ensure that no one was inside and the elevators became operational again.

Black shifts response to a fire alarm later that in a commercial facility found that while pressure washing equipment inside the building they sprayed the detectors and tripped them.

April 3rd had engine five respond to a trouble alarm. En-route dispatch notified the engine that it went into a fire alarm. This then filled out the Still Alarm sending our tower ladder, Battalion and automatic aid companies to the scene. Members found while investigating that in a second floor guest room they burnt popcorn.

Lt. Cesaretti and Gold shift then responded to another fire alarm. This turned out to be a false alarm caused when a guest at the hotel somehow got their shirt caught on the pull station and initiated the alarm.

FF/Pm Leiser the on duty investigator on April 6th responded to Westchester as the initial person for the working fire. It is his responsibility to determine if additional investigators are needed and request a Box Alarm.

After a woman completed eating dinner at the Great Escape and went to her car, she realized that she locked her keys in the car. She said that there was no one at her home and no one else had any keys. Members then were able to help her gain access.

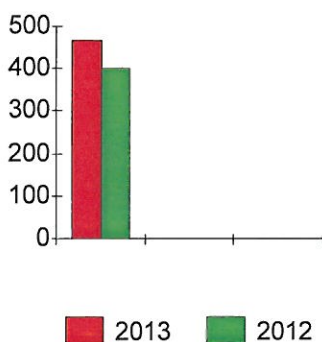
A dog bite on April 7th had our firefighter and paramedics respond. The person was checked out and decided to decline and treatment.

FF/PM LiRosi running the engine this shift then responded to a call for wires on a vehicle. Their investigation showed that they wires were not electrical but cable and the area deemed safe.

The last call of this reporting period had Black shift take in a fire alarm. The alarm panel on April 7th showed that it was in one of the banquet rooms. The fire investigation team opened the door on the reception party and found that a smoke machine on the dance floor caused the fire alarm to go off.

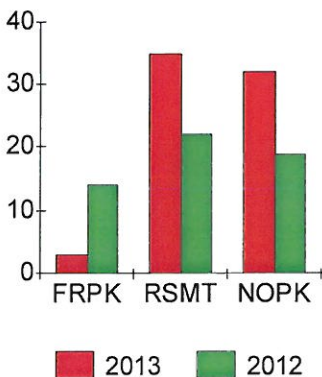
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2012:

Total Incidents



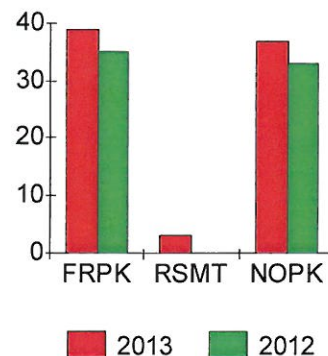
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of March 31st "To" the following communities:

Auto Aid Given



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

Auto Aid Received



	2013	2012
Total Incidents	467	399

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	3	14
Norwood Park (NOPK)	32	19
Rosemont (RSMT)	35	25

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	39	35
Norwood Park (NOPK)	37	33
Rosemont (RSMT)	3	0

Commander's Cove

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails

We would like to extend our thanks to all the dispatchers both full time and part time who work in our 9-1-1 Center affectionately called the Radio Room during National Telecommunicators Week April 14-20th. As a thank you the fire department treated those operators to submarine sandwiches.

FF/PM Rupsis continues to be on extended medical leave. We anticipate his return by the start of the new fiscal year.

We are in the process of updating the hallway in the West Wing Administrative section of the firehouse. With the support of the firefighters we were able to get professional dress uniform photos of the entire department. They have been hung in the hall replacing the older versions. The hallway will also have new lighting, new ceiling and be re-painted by the firefighters.

As we approach Spring/Summer, Lt. Budnik has provided each shift with the 2013 list of hydrants to be flowed. We will only flush them this year and NOT test flow. Please make sure that all hydrants have a 2" wide blue reflective band on the barrel and a 1" band on the steamer port. This aids in locating them in the dark.

U.S. Healthworks is the new name of the health care provider should you be injured at work or need medical assistance. This is in the same location 4200 Mannheim as our last provider. Forms can be obtained from the Officers of the department.

Division 20 is working on a Benevolent Fund for all members in the entire division. The first fund raiser will be held at the Beau Jolie on April 19th and be a formal event. More information can be found in the firehouse.

The State Fire Marshal has invited the Fire Service to attend the Twentieth Annual Fallen Firefighters memorial and Firefighter Medal of Honor Ceremony on May 9th in Springfield. The ceremony begins at 9:00 A.M. If anyone is interested in attending and representing our department, please see Director Deegan.

Elections for the Firefighter's Pension Board were held on April 15th. FF/PM Swiontek was re-elected.

The Historical Society here in Schiller Park will soon be sponsoring a trolley

tour, an updated Eden Cemetery tour and a walk in Robinson Woods. This is open to all. If you are a member of the department and want to be acquainted with the history of the community where we work these are excellent opportunities. Contact June Ouland at the Historical Society for further information.

Members participated in the St. Beatrice fashion show April 14th. Members modeled their gear and work uniforms for the women attending the luncheon at the Beau Jolie.

The Schiller Park Fire Department escorted the Easter Bunny to the annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 30th at Kennedy Park.

Our fire department and police department worked together on some joint training this past month. The drill was a joint mutual aid drill with several police departments participating. Situations will include incidents where we both respond. It will be a chance to work on Incident/Unified Command and show where we can do better and develop new policies. It may also help us tweak current policy.

The NFPA is having its national conferences here in Chicago along with Fire Rescue International. Several of our staff members will be attending these prestigious seminars and conferences.

With the Village of Schiller Park entering its' Centennial year, the fire department will be issuing Centennial throwback Badges.

The Village of Schiller Park Centennial Year culminates in March 2014 with a gala dinner celebration. Many activities are planned and the fire department is a part of the process. Plans are for monthly events sponsored by the Village. The Schiller Park Fire Department will scoop ice

cream on May 25th at the Pool at the Opening of the Pool for the season. The fire department will also be participating in the Village-wide parade to kick off on June 22nd. We will need volunteers for these projects to help out in many areas.

Our State Fire Marshal Fire/Arson Investigator Mitch Kuschner is getting a new partner May 1st. His canine partner Raider is being retired and his new partner Zoe a yellow lab will take over. Mitch will attend a one month certification period in the Northeast to certify his dog.

Director Deegan has realigned the shifts starting May 1st. Those getting shift changes have been spoken too by Director Deegan. The new calendars are circulating to make vacation and personnel day picks. All three Lieutenants are being re-assigned and a balancing of seniority forced several other changes.

IDOT has approved funding for the widening of Mannheim from Irving north to the Kennedy. This should begin this summer.

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 front suction on engine 5 was found to be sticking and opening slowly. Members were able to repair the valve in house and save a costly expense.

With the 3 year warranty about to expire at the end of the month on the paint on engine 5, Lt. Budnik requested that it be inspected by Pierce. They came out and said that some work would need to be done and the vehicle was sent to the shops for about \$11,000 worth of work at their expense.

We also had Tower Ladder 5 return from its annual preventive maintenance at Global. Repairs were made to pass it tests there and also after it returned by Village personnel.

The 2013 hydrant and hose testing schedule has been posted. If there are any questions see Lt. Budnik.

A problem with our "W" tool has caused it to go back to the manufacturer. It will be worked on at no cost under the warranty.

The rubber feet on our Holmatro tool were also replaced to keep it secure.

EMS Director's Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

We expect delivery of the ambulance on April 18th. After it arrives there will be a transition period to get it in service and inspected by all appropriate agencies before going in service. The committee thanks everyone who worked on this project

and reviewed, inspected and made suggestions.

During the past month we have had two of our part time paramedics resign. PM Howell whose full time job in Grayslake was taking up more of his time has chosen to leave and PM Matt Takoy was hired by Mt. Prospect and can not work during probation there. Both these men will be missed.

Replacing these men are two new part time paramedics PM Guilfoil and PM Chan. Please welcome these men and show them the "ropes".

EMS Week this year is May 19-25th. The theme of this year is "EMS, One Mission, One Team".

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 Hudecek, 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.

We have two Northwest Community Hospital paramedic students riding with us. They are currently assigned to riding on Red and Gold. They are in Phase I of their training and observing. They will move into Phase II where they will be active participants. The preceptors for Schiller Park are PM Jenkins, FF/PM Leiser, FF/PM Bubis, FF/PM Gergits and EMSD Nosek. The students will be with us until they complete Phase III. Good luck to these men and offer guidance when necessary.

When doing run sheets please verify that you have the correct incident number. All incident numbers from Schiller Park dispatch are seven digits. Also to help prevent the computers from overheating, leave the lid open.

Worldwide there continues to be a shortage of certain drugs that we administer. It may be impossible to exchange certain drugs at the hospital because of the shortage. I will be coming out with an FYI to inform you of any developments.

Please remember that any unused or

empty controlled substance vials must be brought into the hospitals for them to replace. If you have any questions or concerns, please see EMSD Nosek.

Please consult the FYI's on the EMS Clipboard in the kitchen for complete info and updates.

Other EMS bits...

Tony Calefati completed repairs on Ambulance 6 after it went for its Safety Lane inspection and an exhaust leak was detected. Tony ordered the parts and made the repair in house. It was then sent back to the safety lane for compliance.

Tony also worked on the brakes on ambulance 6 and the rig is back in service.

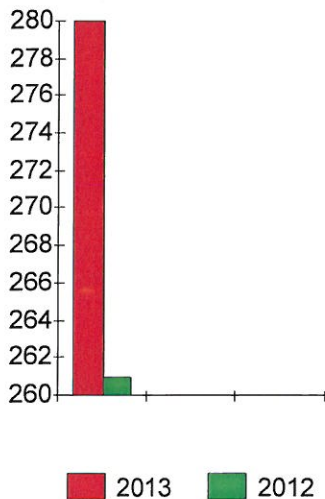
The Northwest Community Hospital website for Continuing Education has a ton of information that can assist paramedics with continuing education and also provide assistance on the monthly training. If you have not had an opportunity to check the website it would be advisable.

Please refer to the clipboard in the kitchen for any new updates in the Bureau.

During the past month personnel responded to 88 emergency calls. A total of 92 patients were encountered. 72 patients were transported to area hospitals. 46 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Total Responses	280	261
Cardiac	18	17
Medical Emergency	146	146
Accidents/Trauma	68	56
Fire Responses	46	40
False Alarm/Standby	2	4
Mut. Aid to SHPK	13	5
SHPK to others	10	11

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.

All of the remaining six panel doors in the firehouse have been replaced, trim in place, stained and varnished.

FF/PM Bertoncini has replaced the ceiling in the "West Wing" and will add track lighting in our photo gallery of members. The hall will also be painted.

The former Westside overhead doors have been bricked up on the outside. The interior was dura-rocked and will be taped, mudded and painted.

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

Lt. Budnik and his Bureau have also embarked on the following projects—a new exhaust fan will be installed at the top of the stairway in the firehouse to help vent heat that comes up the stairs from the apparatus floor. Hopefully this will help remove the high heat and humidity that plagues us during the

summer.

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
- Install window in TV. Room
- 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

March Trivia

Boston Firefighters are affectionately referred to by this nickname?

"Jakes"

Four correct answers were submitted, Chief Belmonte (ret.) Westchester, Chief Kuryla (Hillside), Dee Casey (front office) and Jimmy Ziebka (former EMT member).

April Trivia

When was the last Six Alarm (6-11) fire in Chicago, where was it at and what was the name of the company?

NOTE: This is a three part question.

Bonus: April Showers bring May flowers. What do Mayflowers bring?

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

Office of the State

Fire Marshal and Training

Failure to Train is Training to Fail

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

Cmdr. Chiodo attended the Strike Force fire investigators meeting and training.

Cmdr. Leiser and Cmdr. Chiodo attended the Training and Safety Officers meeting.

Lt. Cesaretti completed an Infectious Control Officer class.

Cmdr. Chiodo, Cmdr. Leiser, Lt. Cesaretti, Lt. Budnik and EMSD Nosek all attended the Active Shooter drill hosted by the Schiller Park Police Department.

Cmdr. Chiodo and Cmdr. Leiser completed the four hour Officer Development training in-house.

Cmdr. Chiodo attended the Metro Fire Chiefs seminar on Fire ground Operations for the Chief Officer.

FF/PM Gergits and FF/PM Leiser organized a group of firefighters to attend the Live Fire Training at IFIS.

Members of all three shifts also attended a class hosted by the Franklin Park Fire Department on new car technology.

I have 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 am looking into the possibility of hosting some State Fire Marshal classes including technical rescue, vehicle machinery operations, and fire apparatus engineer. I will notify personnel if openings occur.

We will also have in the new future a Fire Service Vehicle Operator class (FSVO).

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 269 hours of training for the month with 27 training drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid on Call had 3 meetings for 12 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.

Employee of the Month

This month we nominate and acknowledge as our Employees of the Month—FF/PM Schneider, PM Jenkins, FF/PM Bubis, FF/Pm Leiser and FF/PM Gergits.

FF/PM Schneider took it upon himself to do an inventory of our kitchen and purchased new china, cups, bowls, silverware.

FF/PM Bubis, FF/PM Gergits, FF/PM Leiser and PM Jenkins all are preceptors with our student/rider

paramedics. Each is working with the students as they move from one phase to another and mentoring. They are challenging them, teaching and making sure that they are ready for emergency medicine in the field.

For your commitment to our department we are honored to call 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 are working on 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. To date about 117 total inspections have been completed.

We may soon see some development in the West Gateway area. A proposal for a parking garage is being presented to the Village.

January 1st Cmdr Maher began working on a form to help track water usage on sprinkler systems. We will now ask the inspectors to do a meter reading AT the sprinkler system. Cmdr. Maher will provide training on where to look and how to document.

Our Water Department has also requested that on any new or upgraded fire suppression system that the by-pass meter on the backflow protection be either a Neptune or Census water meter. These are compatible with our MXU system.

Please remember on emergency numbers forms to circle which shift the inspection is assigned to. That way it can go in the correct file and may save a re-inspection trip if that was all they required.

We also want to ensure that all PRE-PLAN sheets are returned and handed in to Cmdr. Maher or FF/PM Niemand. These are ESSENTIAL for us to try to complete our computer based pre-plan program. Cmdr. Maher will begin to strictly enforce the policy on completing these documents with possible disciplinary action for non-compliance. 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.

I am reviewing several new businesses in town. We have several major projects that are in the works.

If you are interested in any plan review in Fire Prevention, please see me. I 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 Cmdr. Maher.

We are also suggesting and strongly recommending that sprinkler and standpipe connections be converted to stortz fittings. Please consult with Cmdr. Maher.

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.'s Leiser and Maher will advise those needing the class when it is available.

I also plan on retiring in the near

future. As such I am beginning a transition to my replacement Lt. Hatcher. I hope you support him as well or better than me. More to follow.

Public Affairs

Saving Lives Through Education

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

The Public Relations Bureau is working with the 100 Year Anniversary Committee for different activities throughout the year.

We will have our Ice Cream Social at the Opening of the Montana Water Park Opening on May 25th. We are looking for off duty persons to help scoop. The rain out plan will move the event to Kennedy school.

We are participating and coordinating the Village Centennial Parade on June 22nd. It will begin at the Community center and move south down 25th to Irving where it will head east to Stalica park where a fun fest will begin and take place.

We also selected the winner from East Leyden for the design a Schiller Park Fire Logo. This years' winner is Emily Chiu, she actually submitted two wonderful designs. A certificate and gift cards were presented to her at East Leyden High School by Cmdr. Chiodo.

Det. Desimone of the Schiller Park Police Department secured a Sky Box for the Chicago Steel Hockey club in Bensenville on April 5th. Members of both the police and fire departments showed up and had a great time. It was an added bonus that they were given a behind the scenes tour of the Chicago Steel locker room and the night culminated in a win for the Chicago Steel.

We are planning next school year and working with all the schools in Schiller Park. Next year each school will have a firefighter assigned as a liaison/representative to the school. They will coordinate all activities with

that school and be a resource officer between the school and the fire department. The schools are excited and on board.

FF/PM LiRosi and FF/PM Werner attended the Illinois Fire Inspectors annual Public Education Conference in Galena. It was enlightening and beneficial as each brought back ideas and inspiration.

FF/PM LiRosi and FF/PM Werner also participated in the Kennedy School International Night. Vito made and sold out his signature chili.

Members also participated in the St. Beatrice fashion show at the Beau Jolie on April 14th.

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

FF/Pm LiRosi also continues to work in training and teaching CPR classes.

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.

Notes

A great big thank you was given to the firefighters association who helped out Nick Cochiaro (recreation department after his family suffered a devastating fire in a nearby community. The association along with employees from all the Village departments pitched in with monetary contributions and other items as they lost quite a bit.

Retiree Row

FF Schuyler (ret.) is exploring a second career in the fire service. He is exploring working as a firefighter and mentor for another department in Division 20.

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

Members are considering supporting the Wounded Warrior Project helping Veterans by wearing fire department camouflage uniform t-shirts in June. More to come.

Anyone who might want to help with Camp I Am Burn Camp should contact the Illinois Fire Alliance. They will be hosting a Fill the Boot fundraiser May 3 and 4th ..

And Finally...

Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you have not planted.

Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the *Booster Line* will be 8:00 A.M. May 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 8-clockwise top left- FF/PM Warden enjoys her cheeseburger, FF/PM Warden "Water, No Pepsi", FF/PM Hudecek has a salad with her cheeseburger. Cmdr. Chiodo presents Emily with her gift cards and certificate at east Leyden.

