

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 covers from mid November to mid December. Several usual and unusual calls and incidents occurred as detailed below.

We begin on November 20th when we were requested to a residence where they had a kitchen fire and put it out. On scene Red shift found that there was heavy damage in the kitchen at the microwave, cabinets and the ceiling area. Our tower ladder company pulled the ceiling in the affected checking for any possible extension. The occupant had extensive soot on their face. The owner had placed oil on the stove to warm up and then went to the laundry room. When she returned she found the fire and threw a towel on it.

November 21st, saw a multiple ambulance response to the toll way when a five car crash occurred. Schiller Park, Franklin Park and Norwood Park all made transports.

A bit later in the shift Red shift responded again to the toll way for a two car accident. Rosemont was called for a mutual aid ambulance.

Black shift took in a call for a fire alarm. On scene they found the business made a home made wood burning stove and heater. The heater when they threw wood into it set off the fire alarm and detectors. Community Development was notified to check for permits.

After shift change on November 22nd Gold shift was dispatched to a bus fire on the toll way. Engine 5 and Squad 5 took in the call and found a fully involved party bus on fire. Over

600 gallons of water were used to bring the fire under control. (see photos).

Red shift on November 23rd took in a fire alarm in a multi unit apartment/condo building. On scene the fire investigative team found that while the company was steam cleaning it sprayed water into the detectors.

An automatic fire alarm later that day found that workers were power washing and blasted off a sprinkler head activating the alarm in the hood and duct system.

A commercial fire alarm on November 24th had members met by building maintenance workers. Our firefighters were informed that while the cleaning crew was working someone slipped and to re-gain their balance grabbed and pulled the fire alarm pull station.

A smell of natural gas leaking on November 25th had Gold shift investigate. Lt. Swiontek and his crew found a gas pipe ruptured near the meter. NICOR was contacted and showed up about an hour later. The area was secured of any ignition sources.

Lt. Swiontek’s next Gold shift on the 28th found him and the engine respond to a call for a woman whose finger was caught in the door. When they arrived they found that the girl had gotten her finger caught in the car doors plastic molding. It was swelling fast and she could not remove it. Our engine company removed the car trim and released the finger.

Workers renovating 4th floor of a hotel set off the detectors as they were painting and cutting drywall. Members released automatic aid companies and reset the system.

An ambulance assist next found members arrive and gain entry by removing a rear window screen and opening the window. Paramedics then crawled in and let in other

personnel to help the patient.

A residential fire alarm on the 3rd of December found a resident burn food setting off the alarm. Members helped ventilate the residual smoke.

While Engine 5 and Battalion 5 were on a previous call December 4th, Franklin Park and Norwood Park were first up at an apartment building's fire alarm. Arriving first Ladder 2 found spray painting going on and a detector not covered. Norwood Park never made it in.

Cmdr. Leiser was then sent to Bellwood as a fire department safety Officer for the working structure fire. The fire which started in the basement got into the walls and spread vertically to both the first floor and attic. The fire went to the Box Alarm level.

Their next fire alarm this shift was caused by a child playing with the keypad on the fire alarm system and randomly punching in numbers that set off the alarm.

December 5th had welders set off a detector when they were working and welding some metal pieces. Members advised the workers to relocate where they were welding and putting the pieces together then move them to the final location for installation.

Red shift then took in a call from the toll way authority for a car into the wall. The person was removed and transported to a Level One trauma center, Lutheran General.

After midnight Red shift responded for persons trapped in the elevator. The power was locked out/tagged out and the elevator keys used to gain entry. The elevator was two feet off center and two persons were removed from the car.

Gold shift took in a call for smoke in the basement on December 6th. Lt. Swiontek the lead on the fire investigative team, radioed that it was lint and dust from the clothes dryer

that the occupants smelled.

Pearl harbor day, December 7th, had Gold shift respond to a Box Alarm for firefighters and 3rd Alarm for ambulances when a Hazardous Incident in Rosemont had our resources tapped into. We provided ambulance personnel who had three incidents, Cmdr. Leiser in the Haz Mat sector and Cmdr. Chiodo assigned to Command. Our truck company helped do searches and removals of guests on the 9th through 6th floors. The incident is under police investigation.

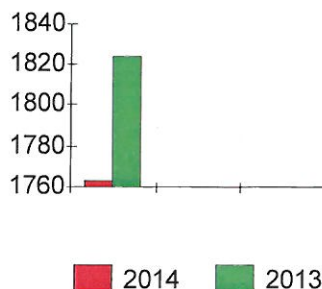
After shift change a reported fire in a hotel had members advance to the laundry room where workers said the fire was. While no visible fire was encountered it appeared that lint from the rollers on the ironing machine may have flashed over.

A condo unit set off a fire alarm with burnt food on December 8th. The occupant was cooking food on the stove and left temporarily and was not paying attention.

The last call of the reporting period was for an automatic fire alarm where a boiler was found to be leaking and the steam set off the detector. The natural gas was shut off to the machine and the maintenance worker on scene told to contact a repair person for the relief valve and leak.

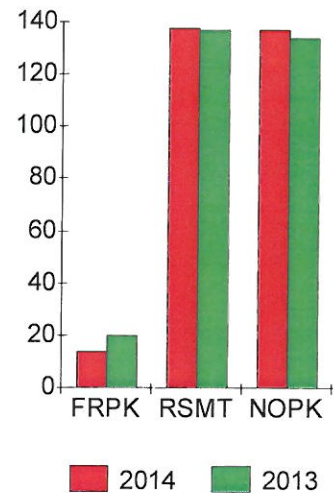
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2013:

Total Incidents



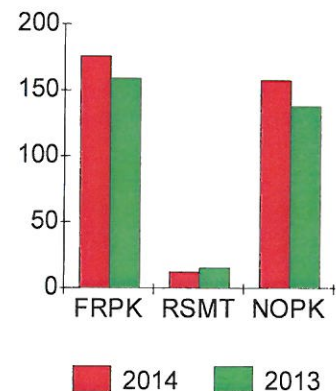
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of November 30th "To" the following communities:

Auto Aid Given



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of November 30th "From" the following communities:

Auto Aid Received



	2014	2013
Total Incidents	1763	1824

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	14	20
Norwood Park (NOPK)	137	134
Rosemont (RSMT)	138	137

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	176	159
Norwood Park (NOPK)	158	150
Rosemont (RSMT)	12	15

Commander's Cove

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails

Probationary FF/PM Kady and FF/PM Jackson graduated from the fire academy at NIPSTA December 12th. They will return to shift Starting December 14th. The probationary firefighters Kady, Jackson and Loch will be rotating.

The Fire and Police Commission have established a new continuation eligibility list. Six candidates made the next list which will expire on December 2, 2016 unless it is exhausted.

Our Condolences to FF Biasi (ret.) on the death of his wife, Adeline, this past month. Our thoughts and prayers go with the family.

Our prayers and thoughts also go out to FF Chief Inspector Swierczynski (ret.) on the passing of his mother the beginning of December.

The Village is hosting a Holiday Luncheon on the apparatus floor on December 19th from noon to three. Please stop by to wish your fellow workers a joyous season.

The promotional reading list for Lieutenant is posted. The books are being kept in the Lieutenants Office. Please do not remove them from the firehouse. We ask that you fill out the check out log created by Cmdr. Cesaretti for the books. A letter of intent is to be turned in by December 31st with the written January 20th and Orals February 17th.

The Foreign Fire Insurance Meeting was held November 26th. Members approved the purchase of additional firefighting equipment including air chisels, portable lighting and high rise response equipment. Members also changed the day of the meeting to the third Tuesday of April and November.

As a result of Des Plaines and Park Ridge going to the Red Center dispatch center, Rosemont alone remains on their fire band. They have decided not to utilize the fireground radio frequency unless necessary. Their main band is more powerful for transmissions.

During cleaning and maintenance in the firehouse, Black shift members found extensive mold in the walls on the west side of the firehouse. Three remediation companies were brought in to inspect and bid on the work. The entire west interior wall will be removed from the chief office to the bunkroom to eradicate the mold. The project when awarded will take approximately 6 weeks.

Tuck pointers will also be coming in to work on the east walls in the firehouse where mortar has been washed out.

The Toll Way Authority is working on paving the access roads and parking lots at the Oasis. This will limit access both north and southbound. It is expected to be completed soon.

The U.S. Department of Transportation has given final approval for the Elgin-O'Hare western access project. Part of the project will also be the ring road by-pass for the toll way. The project and infrastructure will start shortly.

IDOT continues the widening of Mannheim from Irving north to the Kennedy. Work has already begun. The southbound ramp from Mannheim to Balmoral is being worked on for access to southbound

I-294. The Balmoral ramp from northbound Mannheim is now opened.

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:

Engine 5 (455) went to the shops for an oil problem where it was blowing all over and an electronic module sending error signals to shut down the motor. Cumming engine did the work and it is now back in service.

FF/PM Bertoncini also worked on Engine 5 to provide heat to the rear jump seat area. This repair was done in house saving a big service call and bill.

Members also worked on Tower Ladder 5's air and electrical shoreline ejections. They also repaired a faulty drain line.

Other items that were worked on in house include replacing the 220 volt outlet and plug on our gear dryer.

And repairing our TAC stick (Testing Alternating Current) so that it is operational rather than sending out to North Carolina.

EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

Ambulance 5 (463) has been taken out of service so that an on board suction unit can be added per the Illinois Department of Public Health inspection. The ambulance should be back in service by our next January issue.

Lt. Budnik had the radio in Ambulance 461 (spare) repaired. This included a new microphone, adding IFERN and removing the stuck open key.

Lt. Swiontek has updated the controlled substance log. Please make sure that the full time shift going off duty signs the drug logs.

Ambulance 6 (462) had new tires and new batteries installed.

All new EMT's and paramedics After January 2013 must be National Registry Certified.

PM Franceour has submitted a letter of resignation as he is taken a position as a paramedic with the City of Chicago.

PM M.Takoy has also requested a temporary leave of absence. Lt. Swiontek is working with the remaining part time paramedics to fill all slots.

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

On the horizon is the new Mobile Integrated Health Care System/Plan. If you are not familiar with it begin to explore its impact on the fire/EMS services and the expectations. This is popping up more frequently in the literature and will affect our department. If you want more information see Lt. Swiontek.

We would like to remind all personnel

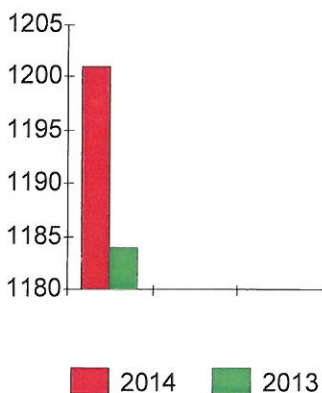
that when they are exchanging or retrieving drugs from the hospitals, that you check and verify the dosages. With different manufactures and packaging we must make sure that the correct dosages are picked up.

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

During the past month personnel responded to 118 emergency calls. A total of 101 patients were encountered. 73 patients were transported to area hospitals. 49 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

	2014	2013
Total Responses	1201	1184
Cardiac	84	74
Medical Emergency	567	592
Accidents/Trauma	318	317
Fire Responses	217	189
False Alarm/Standby	3	12
Mut. Aid to SHPK	39	42
SHPK to others	39	50

EMS Total Responses



Projects in the Works

All the shifts are encouraged to take on new challenges. If you have a project or an idea, please run it past Director Deegan, Lt. Budnik or FF/PM Bertoncini.

As mentioned above the firehouse will have mold remediation on the west wall. The project will commence as soon as a bid is awarded.

The tiles on the wall in the kitchen will soon be grouted. After that the kitchen will be re-painted.

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

What's in the works? –

- New lights at station 6
- Additional outlets at station 6
- Emergency phone outside sta. 6
- mount patches around kitchen
- paint apparatus floor border
- Paint sta.6 floor
- Door and jam simulator
- sprinkler simulator
- New high-rise load packing tool
- fully sprinkler the firehouse

Trivia

Answer to last month's Trivia

November Trivia

What is the longest running public health and safety observance on record?

Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record.

There were two correct answers

submitted both from Westchester. Chief Adams from Westchester and Chief Belmonte (ret.) Westchester.

December Trivia

Continuing with the Trivia that commemorates the Great Chicago Fire, What was the Box Number that was struck for the Great Chicago Fire?

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

Office of the State Fire Marshal and Training

Failure to Train is Training to Fail

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

Probationary FF/PM Kady and Jackson completed the NIPSTA fire academy and graduated December 12th.

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

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

A Health Safety Officer class will be held January 19-23, 2015.

FF/PM Schneider and FF/PM Warden completed the State Fire Marshal class in Fire and Life Safety Public Education class and are now certified.

Lt. Budnik and FF/PM Leiser attended the Large Vehicle Extrication class sponsored by the State Fire marshal at no cost to the Village.

Lt. Hatcher attended the GATX rail road tank car class in Northlake.

Cmdr. Chiodo participated in the webinar of Integrated Public Access for wireless 9-1-1 calls.

We received an updated list of Haz Mat clean up contractors from the MWRD. A master copy has been placed in Engine 5 and Battalion 5.

Cmdr Leiser has received a DVD training simulator where we can use pictures of buildings in town and I will be able to set up different scenarios.

I have signed up several members for OSFM classes as part of their job requirements. If you know that you need a class please let me know, I will try to find one, however if you find one on your own please submit the paperwork and maintain a copy for yourself.

Members completed 69 hours of training for the month with 15 training drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid on Call had 3 meetings for 14 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 Miletta as our Employee of the Year.

FF/PM Miletta requested to go to grant writing class to learn the nuances in writing proposals for our department.

With the input of the shifts he helped formulate two proposals for an exhaust system and for a UTV (utility terrain vehicle).

These were then submitted to the Village Grant writer for polish and then submitted to the AFG (Assistance to Firefighter Grant) through FEMA.

The grant will be processed and we will find out by July 2015 if we were awarded a grant.

For your time, persistence and endeavor in trying to make our department, residents and visitors with the best possible service, we make you our Employee of the Month

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

If you would like to nominate a firefighter, paramedic, officer or other persons for recognition, please submit the action or the incident in writing to the editor Cmdr. Chiodo.

Fire Prevention

An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure

Shifts are in the home stretch with their 2014 inspections. Each shift received 1/3 of the inspections or about 135 per shift. The inspections are rotated so that over a three year period each shift should have the opportunity to enter all the businesses.

The Fire Prevention Office now has a dedicated Fax Line for paperwork.

(847) 671-8547. Please check the bin for faxes that may pertain to your inspections.

The toll way continues to work on their parking lots. Please be aware that access is limited.

A major renovation is underway at 9950 Lawrence. The lower level beneath the parking lot once occupied by TCF bank and Westwood College has been demolished and is returning to its former self a parking garage. (see photos). Our fire prevention bureau is working to make sure that it is sprinklered and exhausted.

As a reminder when we go on trouble alarms we need to contact the owner to report that the alarm went into trouble and document that on the incident report and in the trouble alarm binder. Midwest may also be doing this as a back up to our call.

If you are interested in any plan review in Fire Prevention, please see Lt. Hatcher. He will review what is coming into town based on what plans Community Development sends over.

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

We are also suggesting and strongly recommending that sprinkler and standpipe connections be converted to sturtz fittings.

The State Fire Marshal is instituting a new certification program Inspector I. Cmdr. Leiser is looking into the program if this should replace the Fire Prevention Principles as required before third year of hire. Cmdr. Leiser will advise those needing the class when it is available.

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Public Affairs

Saving Lives Through Education

We continue to provide fire

extinguisher demonstrations and CPR classes for residents and businesses in town. (see photos)

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.

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Retiree Row

Our condolences to the Biasi and Swierczynski families on the loss of their loved ones.

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.

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Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

The Schiller Park Firefighters Association will participate in the salvation Army Kettle Bell ringing during December, check kitchen for dates and times.

Stork Report

This past month two firefighters and their wives had babies!

FF/PM Jackson and his wife welcomed Benjamin Jackson born November 24th.

FF/PM Schneider and his wife had twins. They welcome Calvin Garrison Schneider and Veronica Parnell Schneider born on December 10th.

FF/PM Bubis and his wife are still expecting.

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Letters and Notes

A note was received from the Milnes family thanking us for remembering Herb Milnes Jr. at the wake and funeral. Herbs dad, Lt. Milnes (ret. Deceased) was a 30 year member.

Fr. Rob our chaplain also sent a note wishing all the members a Happy Thanksgiving.

Coffee Cake was sent to the firehouse by Irene DelGuidace thanking the firemen for all they do.

And Finally...

The future is the past returning through another gate.

Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the Booster Line will be 8:00 A.M. January 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 -Members fight a party bus fire on northbound I-294.

Page 8- Members participate in Competency based training including hose drag, dummy haul, axe swing, ladder climb

Page 9- Members continue with Competency Based training with ceiling pulling.

Page 9 Lower- Gold shift celebrates Thanksgiving at the Firehouse.

Page 10-11 Members participate in the State Fire Marshal Fire Service vehicle Operator driver practicals and obstacle course.

Page 12- FF/Pm Jackson is sworn in at the Village Board meeting. He is congratulated by family and friends





