

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 November 20th with Black shift responding to a person stuck in the elevator near the second floor. The power was shut down and elevator keys used to open the doors and remove the occupants.

Late in Black shifts next tour of duty they found themselves dispatched to a reported kitchen fire. Arriving members found the residents outside with nothing showing. Our engine company was informed that they were using the self cleaning on the oven and it began to smoke badly. The stove was turned “OFF” and the house ventilated.

Red shift on November 24th were requested by Schiller Park Police for an outside gas leak. Lt. Budnik and his crew found a leak in the parkway. NICOR was called to the scene and they were aware of the issue for the past three weeks but considered it a low priority with minimal danger.

A fire alarm on November 26th had Red shift respond to the apartment building where residents said that burnt food in a lower unit set off the alarm.

November 28th had Gold shift respond to a fast food restaurant for a fire alarm. The fire investigative crew found that in the donut shop prep area they had burnt some breakfast items causing the alarm.

Towards the end of this shift members were sent for a motor vehicle accident. En-route dispatch updated the crew that a car may have entered a retention pond. Lt. Jeffrey arriving on scene immediately called for Chicago Squad 7 (two divers are

always assigned to Chicago Squads) and then followed this up with a MABAS Dive Box. After using side sonar and a grid pattern one person was located and recovered. The operation brought in Division 3 divers and took a total of about 5 hours (see photos).

Black shifts platoon on December 3rd took in the call for smoke in the building. The members from the Truck and Engine investigated and found the boiler has malfunctioned and activated the pressure relief valve filling the basement with steam that was mistaken for smoke.

Gold shift on December 4th was sent to the toll way for a pin in accident of a car into the median wall. On scene Lt. Leiser and his crew found two cars involved. Our Engine and Squad were able to handle the incident and the Pin In response was returned.

A report of a car leaving the roadway on December 6th had Black shift respond to the location on River Road. Franklin Park was also dispatched to the scene. The person was removed from the vehicle which ended up in the woods and transported.

A fire alarm on December 8th had Gold shift take in the call. B/C Hatcher and the shift found that the building was once occupied by a car rental company which recently moved out. The workers on scene were winding down operations and power washing the area when they set off the alarm. Members also noted a smell of natural gas which they looked into and shut off the gas to the building.

Whiles waiters were moving tables as they set up banquet tables December 8th they inadvertently stuck a pull box station and the alarm sounded.

B/C Cesaretti and his Red crew took in a fire alarm on December 9th. The alarm panel indicated that it was coming from near the laundry room. When the fire investigative crew looked further, they were told that the alarm was set off by powder from a dry chemical extinguisher that was

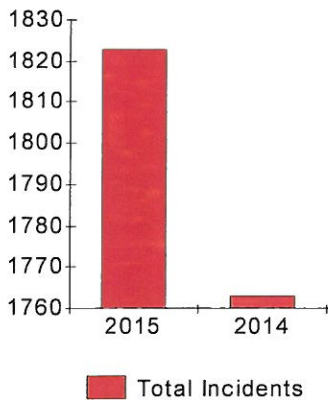
accidentally set off by a worker.

A fire alarm in a forty unit apartment building on December 9th had the Red shift members search the area and smell an odor similar to burnt food. Further investigation found on the second floor a unit that did indeed burn food.

The last call for this reporting period was in a single family home for a residential fire alarm. On scene Red shift members were told that the owner set off the detector when she blew out a candle under the detector and the smoke set it off.

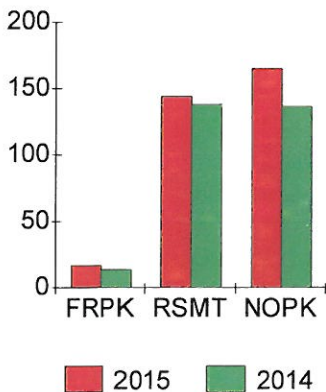
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2014:

Total Incidents



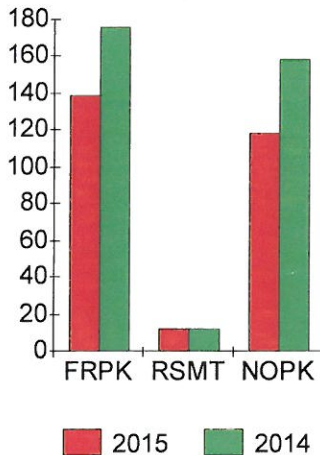
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of November 31st "To" the following communities:

Auto Aid Given



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

Auto Aid Received



	2015	2014
Total Incidents	1823	1763

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	17	14
Norwood Park (NOPK)	165	137
Rosemont (RSMT)	144	138

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	139	176
Norwood Park (NOPK)	118	158
Rosemont (RSMT)	12	12

Chief's Corner

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails

This past month the fire service lost two firefighters locally in the line of duty. FF/PM Mark Zielinske of the Matteson Fire Department died December 4th while rendering CPR to a patient and FF Dan Capuano of the Chicago Fire Department lost his life when he fell through an open elevator shaft. Members of our department attended both the wakes and Funerals of our fallen brothers.

The Illinois Municipal League sent our department our share of the Foreign Fire Insurance Fund. This amounted to over \$29,000.

A local business also made a donation to our department that will be applied toward purchasing buddy breathing hoses for our airpicks.

With the new median on Lawrence avenue near Scott street preventing access to the toll plaza, I have decided that the best approach to southbound I-294 is from Balmoral. This will be used whenever possible and practical. Access from the west side Oasis has been made more difficult lately with trucks parked not only in truck parking spots but along the fence making getting to southbound difficult.

The Village has allowed us to sell surplus equipment on Ebay. We are looking into this as a way of disposing equipment that the taxpayers have purchased as opposed to donating it.

Congratulation to FF/PM Blum on graduating the NIPSTA Fire Academy with honors. He has returned to Black shift.

Both FF/PM LiRosi and FF/PM Rupsis remain on medical leave. FF/PM LiRosi was an on the job injury. We hope to see him back soon. FF/Pm Rupsis suffered an off duty injury requiring surgery. He expects to return by February.

The 2017 budget continues to be worked on. We are working specifically on fleet operations to see replacement vehicles and our options.

As a result of the Dive Box incident I have asked FF/PM Santiago to look into purchasing additional personnel floatation devices (PFD's) so that all personnel have the required safety gear on potential scenes. We will also

look into more training concerning these types of incidents.

The Toll Way is considering widening the toll way to possibly 5 lanes across from 95th street in Oak Lawn to Balmoral. They are currently reviewing the options.

Another proposal in Rosemont at Balmoral and Pearl includes a baseball stadium for a minor league team. They also plan a new hotel and shopping complex will occupy the site requiring the re-location of Pearl street further West closer to the Rosemont METRA station. We will have to see how this impacts our access to Schiller Park businesses on Pearl.

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 lanes on Mannheim have been shift to the northbound side as concrete crushing and tear up continues. They are recycling the concrete as they re-build.

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:

Members bought and installed a new fan in the hose tower for drying wet hose.

A repair was also made to the washing machine in the firehouse. It is advised by the NFPA that no potentially contaminated clothing including uniforms be taken home to cross contaminate your household clothing/laundry.

EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

The topic for Continuing Education this past month was Chest and Abdominal Trauma.

There were 2 CPR classes that members taught this past month with a total of 11 students.

FF/PM Bubis will work with B/C Cesaretti to schedule the CPR training and re-certification for all members.

At the December meeting for EMS at Northwest Community Hospital, Dr. Ortinau, the project medical director for paramedics, announced that he will be stepping down after 20 years as the Project Medical Director and only the second one at NWCH. A nationwide search will begin for his replacement.

There are also two new EMS system policy memos that came out concerning the use of cold packs and a drug that has been in short supply.

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. We will soon have Connie Mattera from NWCH come in and explain their model. 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.

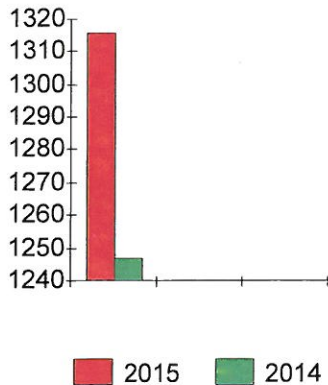
The Northwest Community Hospital website for Continuing Education has a ton of information that can assist paramedics with continuing education and also provide assistance on the monthly training. If you have not had an opportunity to check the website it would be advisable.

During the past month personnel responded to 115 emergency calls. A total of 112 patients were encountered. 69 patients were transported to area hospitals.

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Responses	115	1316
ALS Transports	47	536
BLS Transports	22	276
Refusals/MPR's	24	275
Other Non Transports	6	42
Fire Responses	16	185
CPR Students taught	11	177
Mut. Aid to SHPK	9	46
SHPK to others	5	56

1 car seats were inspected

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 Lt. Budnik or FF/PM Bertoncini.

FF/PM Bubis and Lt. Budnik are working on a wireless option to open the doors to station 6 on 25th Ave. This will piggy back a signal from 4501 25th (Community Center).

New lockers that were budgeted have been ordered. We hope to have them here sometime in January.

FF/PM Bertoncini is extending the half wall to the ceiling in the bunkroom to sound proof the area from the work out area.

Lt. Budnik is coordinating the remodeling of the rear FPB/Public Relations Office by insulating, repainting and re-organizing the office. With the old FPB files all scanned, we will move some EMS files there, until they are scanned, so that file space can be gained in the Administrative Assistant office.

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? –

- Remodel FPB
- Sound proof bunkroom
- 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

Who was the first officer on the scene of the Great Chicago Fire who later went on to command companies at the Iroquois Theater Fire?

Fire Marshal William Mushman was the 1st officer on Engine 6 to the Great Chicago Fire and latter commanded companies at the Iroquois Theater Fire.

There were no correct answers this month.

December Trivia

Which apparatus manufacturer developed the first all powered aerial ladder hoist?

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.

Chief Chiodo and B/C Leiser attended the Division 20 Training Officers meeting.

B/C Hatcher and FF/PM Leao both completed Fire Inspector I at NIPSTA through the State Fire Marshal.

B/C Hatcher and Lt. Budnik completed leadership IV in the Fire Officer II program with the State Fire Marshal.

FF/PM Neimand completed Tactics and Strategy I as he prepares for the next Lieutenants test.

FF/PM Farias and FF/Pm Velasco both received certification as a Vehicle Machinery Operations (VMO) with the Fire Marshal.

FF/PM Leao and FF/Pm Dehmrow both received Fire Apparatus Engineer (FAE) certification.

Chief Chiodo attended the Division 20 Chiefs meeting in Melrose Park.

FF/PM Blum completed and graduated with Honors at the NIPSTA fire academy.

The Training Division has acquired the property at 3999 25th (HPC) to do training prior to being sold. We trained there the first two weeks of November.

The Training Committee is exploring ways of creating a Training Center at Station 6 with props.

B/C Cesaretti 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 203 hours of training for the month with 20 training drills. This includes outside classes.

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 B/C. Cesaretti.

State Exams are a duty assignment and failure to show up will result in disciplinary action. We will try to sign up for exams at Triton on shift days. If you attend a class it is our expectation that you take and PASS the State exam. If you do not pass, you will not be able to take further classes.

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 acknowledge several members as our employees of the month.

Our first employees are Pm Jenkins and FF/PM Piculas.

Both of these men came in on their off days to help with the Veterans Day pancake Breakfast. Without prompting and on his own PM Jenkins also went out and bought out of his packet, eggs and bacon which he donated and cooked for the Vet's.

Our third Employee is Dee Casey. Dee just completed the Fire Executive Support Personnel certification program through the State Fire Marshal. She will soon be certified.

Included topics in the program were Fire Service orientation, Fire Service Statues and related laws and Standards, Fire Officer Management, Fire Behavior, Oral and Written communication, Group dynamics, Public education and fire prevention, emergency medical services and technical communications.

Dee has become an integral part of the fire department and our administrative staff. She has dived in head first and quickly become a Member.

For your time and dedication we thank you as Employee of the Month.

Congratulations!

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

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

Fire Prevention

An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure

Shifts are completing their 2015 inspections and preparing for 2016. 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 completed 394 inspections with 19 inspections remaining.

The State Fire Marshal is looking into having all inspectors do continuing education to remained certified. We are monitoring this and what constitutes training hours. One way it

seems is to attend seminars and monthly training sessions.

B/C Hatcher continues to do plan review for businesses. These include their fire alarm systems, sprinkler systems and building alterations.

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.

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 B/C 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 B/C Hatcher.

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

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

Public Affairs

Saving Lives Through Education

We continue to provide fire extinguisher demonstrations and CPR classes for residents and businesses in town.

Members participated in the Veterans Day Pancake breakfast cooking and serving (see photos)

Members also attended Veterans day celebrations at Lincoln, St. Maria Goretti and Leyden schools.

We are also in the process of developing a photo release form for our public events.

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

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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Emergency Management

B/C Leiser is working on updating all of our NIMS certification as well as the compliancy of all Village employees. He has also been in contact with District 81 to ensure their compliance.

An Incident Action Plan (IAP) was created and implemented for the Santa Winterland event December 5th. We will create IAP's for all Village events. (see photos).

A class will be held shortly for all members in writing Incident Action Plans. These are now being required in more and more events.

We are also reviewing and making changes to the Village Disaster Plan. We are discussing portions that affect the Red Cross and village Health Board. We are looking to have in the new budget a mobile trailer for our EOC (Emergency Operations Center) and supplies.

We have also updated the Pharmaceutical list that was submitted to Cook County.

We are working with the Village Grant writer for a grant from Firehouse subs for a fire extinguisher training prop.

We also are working on the next Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) through the federal government. Please submit your ideas so we can pare them down and then submit. We did not get our last grant.

We are updating the mass notification communication system for all current employees.

We are also reviewing our dispatch procedures and our Emergency Operations Center (EOC) looking at improvements.

Retiree Row

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.

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Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

The Schiller Park Firefighters Association hosted its annual Christmas Party on December 13th at the Great Escape. Santa made a visit to see the children and grandchildren of the firefighter and paramedics.

The Association also participated in the Salvation Army Bell ringing December 21-23 standing outside Walgreens here in Schiller Park.

Stork Report

The stork delivered a little bundle of joy to the Velasco's December 3rd! Hunter James weighed in at 7 Lbs., 13 oz. Congratulations to the future first time Mom and Dad!!!

Please forward any info of upcoming Stork Visits.

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Letters and Notes

Thank you were received from the following persons:

A note was received from the McNeill family thanking us for attending the wake of Dan McNeill (ret. Dispatcher) mother.

A thank you was received from the Sweeney family on the donation made to their family. Jim, a Franklin park Firefighter, children have a life threatening disease that requires stem cells treatment in India because it is not available here.

A thank you was received from both Mayor Piltaver and Sandra Rosario, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor, thanking the members who helped out with the Santa Winter Wonderland bonfire, hot chocolate and hot dogs.

And Finally...

Remember, no matter how long the Winter, Spring is sure to follow.

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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 Chief Chiodo at pchiodo@schillerparkil.us.

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.

Page 7- Schiller Park Fire Department members participate in Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast.

Page 8 – Dive Box and recovery I-294 at Irving eastbound

Page 9- Schiller Park FF Association Christmas Party

Page 10- Christmas Party, FF /PM Santiago rescues a cat, Salvation Army Ring a Bell





