

# Booster Line

## “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 August to mid September. Several usual and unusual calls and incidents occurred as detailed below.

We begin on August 14<sup>th</sup> with a call to the toll way for a car fire near Berkeley, Illinois. FF/PM Leiser was in charge of the engine as they pulled up on the car fire. The Illinois State Trooper attempted to put it out with his extinguisher to no avail. The fire crew dropped a 1 ¾ inch line and put out the fire.

After shift change Gold shift responded to a call for smoke in the building. On scene the crew found an illegal spray operation that was going on and tripped a detector. Community Development was called to the scene and the operations stopped. A few days later the whole operation moved out of town.

August 16<sup>th</sup> found Black shift take in a rescue call for a person trapped in an elevator. After turning off the power and using the lock out and tag out kit, the persons were removed from the second story level.

The 18<sup>th</sup> saw Lt. Hatcher and Black shift go to a high rise hotel for a fire alarm. Here they found that maintenance was replacing tile and the cutting of the tile set off the alarm in the lobby.

Black shifts next tour of duty on the 21<sup>st</sup> found them take in an automatic fire alarm. At the location the fire investigation crew found that water leaking from the roof got into a detector setting off the alarm.

A condominium building was the scene of a fire alarm on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Red shift arrived to find a child had activated the pull station. Automatic Aid was held up.

Black shift was called on August 22<sup>nd</sup> to a church picnic at St. Maria Goretti for a bee sting. If the person is allergic, it can be fatal. Members treated the person on scene and alleviated a life threatening situation.

Drywall being cut was the reason that Gold shift on August 27<sup>th</sup> took in a fire alarm at a condo project.

August 30<sup>th</sup> was a busy day for Black and Gold shift as they took in four unusual calls. The first was a response to an odor. The owner complained of coughing and dizziness. The stove which was in operation was the culprit of carbon monoxide leak causing the symptoms to the owner.

The next call was for a semi truck on fire on the toll way. The driver told our shift that he saw smoke coming from the vents and pulled over. Both Engine 5 and Squad 5 pulled a hand line to put out the fire.

The next call after midnight was for the ambulance where the person could not get to the door. Lt. Hatcher and his personnel made forcible entry and treated the person before transporting.

Back to the toll way for an accident with a car versus a pole. It was a one car accident where the car crashed into the median and a light pole. The driver required extrication from the vehicle. (see photo).

After shift change and the beginning of a new month, members went again to the toll way where they found a fully involved passenger vehicle on fire. The driver and passenger exited safely and were with the State Trooper. He was driving a passenger when the car seized. He pulled over and noticed fire under the hood. Squad 5 and Engine 5 used their tank

### *Inside This Newsletter*

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water to put out the fire.

September 2<sup>nd</sup>, Lt. Hatcher and Gold shift went to the toll way again for their bread and butter operations- a car fire. This time it was a fully involved motor home recreation vehicle. Both Engine 5 and Squad 5 went to work with their booster tanks and 750 gallons of water to extinguish the fire. The owner stated that they put water and anti freeze into the unit about 30 minutes prior to this incident then noted that the motor was running hot and pulled onto the shoulder then discovered the fire (see photos).

A working fire in Berkeley on September 4<sup>th</sup> had FF/Pm Leiser and FF/Pm Bubis respond on the Box Alarm as investigators to determine the origin and cause.

An unusual request by dispatch on September 5<sup>th</sup> had Gold shift take in an animal problem in the rear of a residence. Director Deegan took in the call and was first on scene. A kitten had climbed up onto the cable box on a utility pole. Director Deegan climbed the ladder to make the rescue. The scared cat would not come down until FF/Pm Velesco was able to coax it down without being clawed.

Black shift then took over their tour of duty at 0800 hours and were dispatched to a light pole down. They arrived and found the pole down across both the parkway and the street. The area was secured and Com Ed called. Schiller Park Police took over the cordoned scene until Com Ed arrived.

A EMS Second Alarm on September 6<sup>th</sup> in Northlake on the toll way for an accident had PM Jenkins and PM Kosar take I the multi ambulance response and then transport to Gottlieb hospital.

Children playing in the hallway on September 8<sup>th</sup> at a local motel tripped the fire alarm causing a fire department response. The pull station

was on the second floor. The fire investigation reset the box and the alarm.

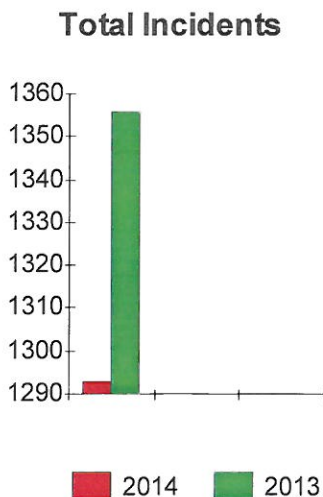
A call on the non emergency phone line was received on September 8<sup>th</sup> for an indoor gas leak. When red shift arrived they found that one of the knobs on the stove was broken off. It was explained that they would need to replace the broken knob.

Red shifts next call this shift was for a water flow. They arrived to find that water from one of the risers was flowing according to the panel. The investigation determined no problem and a faulty alarm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> riser.

An automatic fire alarm on September 10<sup>th</sup> took firefighters to the condo complex where the distinct odor of burnt food was confirmed when they entered the unit. An exhaust fan was used to remove the smoke and the alarm was then reset.

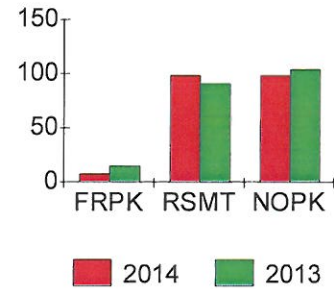
The last call for this reporting period was on September 10<sup>th</sup> and a carbon monoxide alarm. Gold shift arrived and monitored the areas and found a leak at the stove. The family was advised to call a technician for repair.

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



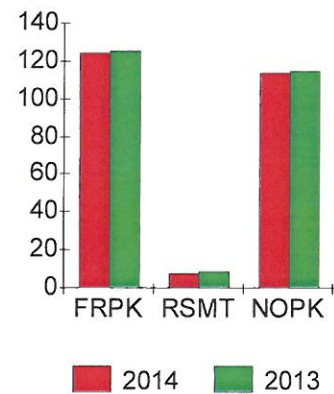
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of August 31<sup>st</sup> "To" the following communities:

### Auto Aid Given



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of August 31<sup>st</sup> "From" the following communities:

### Auto Aid Received



	2014	2013
Total Incidents	1293	1356

### Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	7	14
Norwood Park (NOPK)	99	104
Rosemont (RSMT)	99	90

### Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	124	125
Norwood Park (NOPK)	113	115
Rosemont (RSMT)	7	9

# Commander's Cove

*We Stagnate When Caution Prevails*

Probationary FF/PM Loch graduated from the NIPSTA Fire Academy on September 12<sup>th</sup>. His company won a fitness award at the academy. He started off on Red shift September 15<sup>th</sup>. (see photos)

FF/PM Kady is slated to start the fire academy at NIPSTA in October. He is currently assigned to Black shift where he is on the ambulance until October.

The Police and Fire Commission continue to process another candidate to replace FF/PM Werner who resigned to take a paramedic position with the City of Chicago.

The Fire and Police Commission has also announced that they will begin the testing process again. Orientation will be September 25<sup>th</sup>, Written September 27<sup>th</sup>, Agility October 26<sup>th</sup> and Orals during November.

Cmdr. Leiser underwent hip surgery this past month and is in rehabilitation. His recovery is coming along better than expected and he hopes to return within the next two months.

Our fire department chaplain, Rev. Robert Schultz recently competed in two triathlons. He successfully completed both. (see photos).

Our best to Deputy Fire Chief Jack Kowalski who retired from the Broadview Fire Department this past month. Jack is moving with his family to Florida. Our congratulations to the new Deputy Chief Tracy Scalise on her promotion. A second retirement there will have Captain Carl Lite leave at the end of September. Congratulations to all on their new "assignments".

Police Officer Mike Marazzo has resigned from the Schiller Park Police Department after 15 years to return to his former employer Com Ed. Mike was a fire investigator and evidence technician along with being a training officer. Thanks for your service



The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show was held August 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Association sold pop and water. The event was cut short by inclement weather. During the event Mayor Piltaver, Chief Brzezniak, and Director Deegan all took the ALS challenge. (see photos)

The Village of Schiller Park marked the 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the attacks on America September 11<sup>th</sup> with a remembrance at Clock Tower Park. Mayor Piltaver, Sgt. DeSimone, Rev. Schultz and TSgt. Stachura (ret.) all spoke at the ceremony. (see photos)

The Village is having a Prescription Pills Take Back on September 27<sup>th</sup>. This is being done in conjunction with our Police Department and the DEA.

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 by Fall.

The Downers Grove Fire Department will be hosting the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent Parade on October 10<sup>th</sup>. This is a tribute to fallen firefighters.

Pursuant to the NFPA "10 Year Rule", we have had to replace about 2/3rds of the firefighters helmets. The rule is intended to keep personnel protective equipment up to date and in good shape. Safety is paramount. All bunker gear was replaced within the last two years.

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. Eventually a southbound ramp from Mannheim to Balmoral will be added for access to southbound I-294. The Balmoral ramp from northbound Mannheim is now closed as part of the project. It will be closed for several months.

We are looking at getting voluntary compliance with numbering or lettering the stairways in our multi-story buildings. This would aid residents and firefighters in identifying the fire attack and evacuation stairways.

Another project is to identify which elevators our stretchers can be fit in by placing a Star of Life on the elevator(s) that we can get our stretcher into. A blue bar under the Star of Life will indicate that the stretcher can be fully vertical in the elevator.

# Tools / Equipment and Other FYI's

A number of items have been worked on this past month.

Items worked on and happenings around the firehouse this month include:

Tower Ladder 5 went to the shops for its rear brakes. It returned in service from Global.

The Holmatro hydraulic unit was also repaired by members after the parts came in. It was then placed back on Squad 5.

Our gear washer was repaired for turn outs cleaning and washing.

Center where the computer from the front can be transferred to the rear work station.

## EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

Northwest Community Hospital has come out with system Memo 349 concerning the appropriate time to use backboards. New studies have indicated that the usefulness may not be what we thought. Could the use of backboards be going the way of MAST trousers?

Northwest Community also came out and took pictures of our EMS response vehicles that will be placed on a Hall of Fame at the Hospital. Schiller Park Engine 5, Ambulance 5 and Ambulance 6 will be displayed.

The Illinois Department of Public Health came out and did an inspection non Engine 5 as a 1<sup>st</sup> responding EMS vehicle.

Our department will be co-hosting the Prescription Pill Take Back on September 27<sup>th</sup>. Please do not take or accept any pills or prescriptions prior to this date.

We had our Life pak pouch zipper

repaired at Graces Tailor here in town. This repair will extend the life of the protective covering without the expense of a new one.

Along with this Lt. Swiontek had all the Life paks serviced. He also order additional finger sensors and replaced a defective one.

The Illinois Department of Public Health has also come out with a memo on the recent respiratory illness know as EV-D68. Please take a minute to familiarize yourself with it.

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.

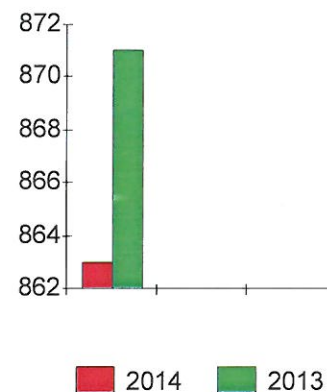
The Northwest Community Hospital website for Continuing Education has a ton of information that can assist paramedics with continuing education and also provide assistance on the monthly training. If you have not had an opportunity to check the website it would be advisable.

During the past month personnel responded to 118 emergency calls. A total of 95 patients were encountered. 79 patients were transported to area hospitals. 63 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Total Responses	863	871
Cardiac	63	52
Medical Emergency	416	440
Accidents/Trauma	222	230

Fire Responses	155	138
False Alarm/Standby	3	11
Mut. Aid to SHPK	25	36
SHPK to others	27	38

## 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.

New tiles replaced broken ones in the kitchen. Lt. Budnik grouted the tile baseboards. The walls up to the chair rail are also being tiled.

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*

#### **August Trivia**

In the wake of the tragic 1988 fire that killed five Hackensack (NJ) firefighters and brought attention to building construction and truss designs, how many bowstring trusses were located over the service area in Hackensack Ford?

There were 5 trusses (also known as firefighter killers) and they were spaced 16 feet, 2 inches apart.

We received two correct answers. Chief Belmonte (ret Westchester) and Dee Casey.

#### **September Trivia**

With Fire Prevention Month almost upon us commemorating the Great Chicago Fire 1871, our question will pertain to that event.

What was the first Engine due at 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 Loch completed his firefighter training at NIPSTA and

is slated to return to shift on September 15<sup>th</sup>. His graduation was September 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Rope Ops class that Schiller Park was co-hosting September 22-26<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to only 7 enrollees.

It is anticipated that another Vehicle Operations class will be held in the Spring.

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

The Division 20 TRS team is re-certified and fully deployable.

A 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.

A disaster drill is being planned for November 6<sup>th</sup> in Westchester at St. Joseph school.

Cmdr. Leiser, FF/Pm Leiser, FF/PM Rupsis and FF/PM Gergits continue with the new candidates and monitored their progress on shift.

Before Cmdr. Leiser went on medical leave he place three months of training and files I the Cmdr. Office.

The Daily Training Folders will be located in the Lieutenants office in the Training mailbox. All drills can be found here for the month.

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 255 hours of training for the month with 30 training drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid on Call had 3 meetings for 16 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.

I

## Employee of the Month

This month we acknowledge Lt. Budnik as our Employee of the Month.

Lt. Budnik organized and coordinated the pop and water for the Car Show and the Firefighters Association. Lt. Budnik did share the accolades with all the members of the department who participated and staffed the booth, sold shirts and staffed the touch a truck.

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 continue 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.

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 storz fittings.

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

## Public Affairs

*Saving Lives Through Education*

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

Patriot Day, our 9/11 Remembrance was held at Clock Tower Park at 8:30 A.M. Almost 40 persons were in attendance commemorating the tragic events in 2001.

The members participated in the Annual Car Show August 23<sup>rd</sup> selling water and pop. (see photos).

FF/PM Schneider is planning Fire Prevention Month for all the schools. If you are interested in helping contact Blaine.

Division 20 has cancelled the Benevolent Firemen's Ball that was to be held in September. No further information is available.

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

We are also coordinating with other a fire service organizations the implementation and publicizing the "ICE" program (In Case of Emergency) for people's cell phones.

## Retiree Row

EMSD Nosek (ret.) stopped by on August 26<sup>th</sup> to have coffee and cake with his old shift. Rick talked about his transition to retirement and what he is currently doing.

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](mailto:pchiodo@villageofschillerpark.com).

## Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

The Schiller Park Firefighters Association showed its appreciation to all the other Village employees on August 18<sup>th</sup> with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gyrofest. All employees were treated to all you could eat gyros during the lunch hours. (see photos)

The Schiller Park Firefighters Association hosted its annual Picnic September 14<sup>th</sup>. (see photos)

## Stork Report

Word has it that new FF/PM Dehmlow and his wife are expecting

## And Finally...

It's not the length of life, but the depth.

## Deadlines

*The deadline for the next issue of the Booster Line will be 8:00 A.M. October 7th. Please submit all materials, articles, ideas and photos to the Booster Line c/o Cmdr. Chiodo at [pchiodo@villageofschillerpark.com](mailto:pchiodo@villageofschillerpark.com)*

*The Booster Line is published monthly on or about the 15<sup>th</sup>. All articles and suggestions are welcome. The Editor, Peter Chiodo reserves the right to edit based on content and space availability.*

Photographs-

Page 7 -Fr. Rob participates in Madison and Chicago Triathlon. Members extinguish Motor Home Recreation Vehicle fire on I-294

Page 8- Members mop up after Motor Home fire. Members also fight fire in a fully involved SUV fire on the toll way.

Page 9- New FF/PM Kady is sworn in at Village Board meeting.

Page 10- The former Aerospace building at 9950 Lawrence get a façade paint job and

underground parking expansion. Mayor Piltaver, Chief Brzezniak, and Director Deegan take ALS challenge at 6<sup>th</sup> annual Car Show

Page 11- 6th Annual Car Show/Touch a Truck

Page 12-14 Village 9/11 Remembrance at Clock Tower

Page 15- FF/PM loch graduates the fire academy at NIPSTA

Page 16- The Schiller Park and Franklin Park Firefighters Association annual picnic in Robinson Woods













Patriot Day Ceremony 040



Patriot Day Ceremony 041



Patriot Day Ceremony 042



Patriot Day Ceremony 043



Patriot Day Ceremony 044



Patriot Day Ceremony 045



Patriot Day Ceremony 046



Patriot Day Ceremony 047



Patriot Day Ceremony 048



Patriot Day Ceremony 049



Patriot Day Ceremony 050



Patriot Day Ceremony 051



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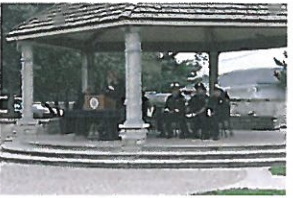
Patriot Day Ceremony 071



Patriot Day Ceremony 072



Patriot Day Ceremony 073



Patriot Day Ceremony 074



Patriot Day Ceremony 075



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Patriot Day Ceremony 077



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Patriot Day Ceremony 092



Patriot Day Ceremony 093



Patriot Day Ceremony 094



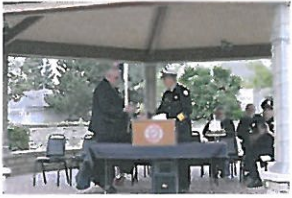
Patriot Day Ceremony 095



Patriot Day Ceremony 096



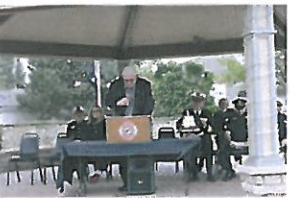
Patriot Day Ceremony 097



Patriot Day Ceremony 098



Patriot Day Ceremony 099



Patriot Day Ceremony 100



Patriot Day Ceremony 101



Patriot Day Ceremony 102



Patriot Day Ceremony 103



Patriot Day Ceremony 104



Patriot Day Ceremony 105



Patriot Day Ceremony 106



Patriot Day Ceremony 107



Patriot Day Ceremony 108



Patriot Day Ceremony 109



Patriot Day Ceremony 110



Patriot Day Ceremony 111



Patriot Day Ceremony 112



Patriot Day Ceremony 113



Patriot Day Ceremony 114



Patriot Day Ceremony 115



Patriot Day Ceremony 116



Patriot Day Ceremony 117



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Patriot Day Ceremony 137



Patriot Day Ceremony 138



Patriot Day Ceremony 139



Patriot Day Ceremony 140



Patriot Day Ceremony 141



Patriot Day Ceremony 142



Patriot Day Ceremony 143

