

Booster Line

Inside This Newsletter

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 1 | Our Runs Fire and Incident responses |
| 3 | Chief's Corner The Who's, What's, Where's When's and Why's of SHPK |
| 4 | EMS News EMS news, bits, and pieces |
| 6 | Employee of the Month Who went above and beyond |

“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 August 17th a carbon monoxide alarm alerted residents to call the fire department. FF/PM Santiago in charge of the engine and his crew used our monitors and found elevated levels of 40 ppm. It was traced back to the oven where the gas was shut off and they were advised to call a technician.

August 18th saw the department respond to a call for a tree on the house. On scene a limb was leaning on the roof in front of the house. Lt. Leiser advised the owner not to use the front door and requested public works to see if they could assist the owner.

After picking up here they were sent to wires down in an alley. Here they determined that the wires were cable television and no immediate threat.

Gold shift on the 19th took in a call for smoke in the building on the south side of town. Franklin Park Battalion 490 arrived first and radioed that there was no fire and that the smoke was due to burnt food in the oven when the occupant fell asleep. The area was ventilated of residual smoke.

This was followed up later with a fire alarm where B/C Leiser and his crews found a pull station activated as a result of actually being pulled off the wall.

FF/PM Schneider and the engine crew took in the next call of wires down. The wires down from the utility pole to the house were cable television and Comcast was notified.

After midnight a call for a fire alarm found that the occupants power

washing tripping the fire alarm.

A car fire on the 21st had Gold shift respond and find fire in the engine compartment of the vehicle. 100 feet of hose was stretched of a 1 ¾ inch line and 250 gallons of water used to extinguish the fire. The owner was driving when he felt the car stall and then saw smoke and flames under the hood.

Black shift on the 23rd responded to a car rollover on Mannheim road. A two vehicle accident with a confirmed rollover was found with entrapment. Members began extrication and Franklin Park took over the second vehicle care. Transports were made to Gottlieb.

A humorous and embarrassing call on August 25th had the Schiller Park Police Department request our assistance after conducting a premise check and getting locked in after the electronic gate failed. We were able to access the control panel and activate the switch to exit.

Lt. Swiontek and the shift took in the next call for a fire alarm. The fire investigative team located the source of the smoke when a tenant let them into the unit and the firefighters found burnt food.

Three days later on the 28th, Lt. Swiontek's shift responded to a hotel for a fire alarm. Here they found a pull station that was damaged when it had been pulled off the wall.

September started off with a response on the 2nd for a carbon monoxide alarm. FF/PM Bertoncini and the crew found elevated levels as high as 38 ppm. The investigation revealed that the source was from the hot water tank and the pilot light on the hot water tank was shut off and they were asked to call a plumber.

Next the shift responded to a fire alarm in a day care facility. After entering the building the shift quickly found the source as another broken pull station. The facility called their alarm company to have service.

About dinner time Gold shift was dispatched to a lock out. A young

woman exited her apartment and then realized she left her keys inside. After verifying her residency, members raised a 24 foot ladder to the balcony where the patio door was unlocked and entered her unit to let her in.

Engine 5 responded to a child locked in a car on September 5th. Members were able to gain access here and reunite mom and child.

Gold shift on September 8th had a full fire alarm in a commercial building. On scene the members found that water was leaking from the roof into a detector and setting it off.

September 11th found Gold shift respond to a car fire that required a lead out of the trash line and 100 feet of 1 3/4 line. The fire required 500 gallons of water to put out and the owner was no where to be found. The cause is under investigation. Fire from this fire also caused damage to adjacent vehicles with heat damage.

Red shift under the direction of B/C Cesaretti on the 13th responded to persons trapped in the elevator. The fire was stuck on the first floor and after taking the proper safety precautions were able to open the doors and remove the trapped person.

The following red shift FF/PM Santiago in charge of the engine took in a call for an unknown odor. On scene the odor was reported as that of pepper spray. The area was ventilated and released back to the tenant.

After returning to quarters dispatch sent out the fire department on a possible truck fire. At the location the driver said there was no fire but rather the diesel was being regenerated through the exhaust.

A Hazardous Materials Box alarm on the 18th sent B/C Leiser to Hillside where B/C Leiser was given the Haz-Mat Command sector.

Later a passerby called in a truck fire along River road. As members arrived the driver told them that he just started up his truck and the cold

diesel was the cause of the smoke.

The first motorcycle accident this reporting period occurred on September 19th at I-294 and I-290. The driver lost control of his motorcycle and was transported to the hospital.

Members then responded to persons trapped in an elevator. Our department got to the scene and found 3 teenagers trapped. The door was opened using our keys and techniques and the three removed. The owner of the building was asked to take the elevators out of service until it could be looked at.

The next call was again on the toll way for a motorcycle crash. The shift got to the location and found that it was not an accident but a flat tire and both the driver and rider were okay.

Gold shift on the 21st took in a car versus a pedestrian accident. The person was struck near Mannheim and transported to Gottlieb.

A fire in Leyden Township on the 23rd had our truck and battalion respond on the working fire. We arrived and aided with the overhaul as the first in companies knocked the fire down. Lt. Leiser respond as the on duty fire investigator. Here he assisted with the origin and cause.

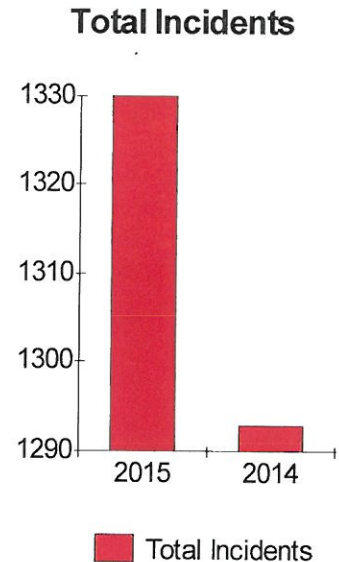
September 25th saw Red shift respond with an ambulance to Norwood Park for an EMS Box Alarm when a car went into the building.

A second ambulance was called from Franklin Park on September 27th when we responded to the toll way for a crash and we encountered four patients.

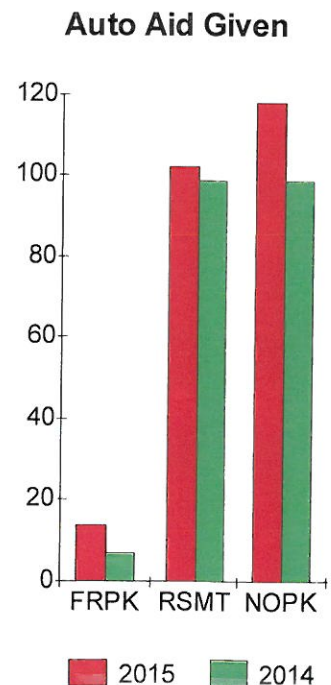
The last call for this reporting period was for a gas leak on September 27th. Monitors indicated that the source was from the laundry room. The gas valve was shut off and the landlord was notified.



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

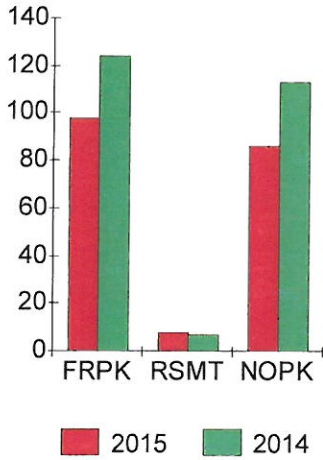


The run summary for Automatic Aid as of August 31st "To" the following communities:



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

Auto Aid Received



| | 2015 | 2014 |
|-----------------|------|------|
| Total Incidents | 1330 | 1293 |

Auto Aid to:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----|----|
| Franklin Park (FRPK) | 14 | 7 |
| Norwood Park (NOPK) | 118 | 99 |
| Rosemont (RSMT) | 102 | 99 |

Auto Aid From:

| | | |
|----------------------|----|-----|
| Franklin Park (FRPK) | 98 | 124 |
| Norwood Park (NOPK) | 86 | 113 |
| Rosemont (RSMT) | 8 | 7 |

Chief's Corner

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails

The Fire and Police Commission has completed the testing process for entry level firefighter paramedic and posted the preliminary list.

Our department saw this last month the passing of several friends of the department. The first was that of Lt. Eugene Siwik (ret. POC) who served in the 1960's. (see photo).

We also lost Darlene Johnson mother of Deputy Chief Dan Johnson (NOPK), also Scott from Prolix (computer people) lost his mother and finally Howard Moser, Director of Public Works, lost his mother-in-law. Our condolences to all and our prayers are with you and the families.

On a happier note the department celebrated with Diane Casey on her birthday this past month. (see Photo).

Retirements this past month include Chief Ivonelli from Franklin Park who leaves after 35 years. (see photo). Battalion Chief Bill Brehm will assume the chief spot.

Captain Jeff LeBeda from Westchester also retired after 25 years of service.

Elk Grove Village has updated their Box Alarm cards and either added us to moved us up on calls. A copy is placed in the kitchen.

We have also worked with VCG uniforms and they now have us on their website so that uniform purchases can be made through the internet. You still have the option of going to the brick and mortar store. So far we have had positive feedback and a great turnaround.

We should shortly get back all of our scanned fire prevention files. FF/Pm Neimand and B/C Hatcher will review with the shifts the process of accessing files and FOIA requests. We are looking at budgeting for the EMS files next year.

We have issued new passport nametags to everyone. Please make sure that per our policy your tags are on the rigs shortly after roll call and on the board at the bottom of the steps for accountability. Make sure that in the morning you remove your own tags so that they are not lost.

As part of the bonding of the police and fire service, we have placed two blue lights between the red and green lights. The Schiller Park Fire Department has always displayed red and green lights which were first used on navigable waters to show safe passage into harbors and the right and left side of a vessel. Firehouses adapted this to show they too were safe havens for those seeking safety. We personally feel these lights displayed on our firehouse are like open arms for anyone seeking help or safety. It is for this reason the Schiller Park Fire Department now displays two blue lights between our red and green in a show of solidarity and to embrace our Law Enforcement Officers in this time of horrible injustice being bestowed upon them. (see photo).

We also participated with the Schiller Park Police Department and the DEA Prescription Take Back Day on September 26th. We collected the largest take back with 182 pounds of pills. With previous Take Backs we averaged 60 pounds. This helps take pills out of landfills and out of the waterways.

B/C Leiser is coordinating the Village Pharmaceutical form updating so that we are accurate with our numbers. Please make sure that your forms are returned to him. You should list ONLY those who you are related too and living in your household.

A key for the flag pole at Clock Tower Park is now located in the Lieutenants office.

Thanks to FF/PM Neimand we have a new pop machine on the apparatus floor.

Members also participated in the Village Car show and Touch a Truck (see photos).

A correction to last months issue. I inadvertently forgot to name those

seated in the front row of the department picture. Seated/kneeling : FF/PM Bubis, POC Gore (ret.) FF C. Leiser Sr. (ret.) FF Biasi (ret.). My sincere apologies.

Members have again started doing fire department physicals. A list is posted as to who is scheduled. Before going you will need to fill out a packet. We have chosen Advocate as our new doctors. They are closer and provide us with NFPA approved medicals. If you have any concerns or issues please see me.

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:

Tower Ladder 5 had two sensors that were replaced by our mechanic Tony. The vehicle is now back in service.

On a recent Saturday Tony, Lt. Budnik and FF/PM Bubis did preventive maintenance on the Tower Ladder by de-greasing and greasing the entire length of the main ladder.

Lt. Budnik and FF/Pm Bubis also took all of our pumping apparatus to the drafting pit in Rosemont and did the annual pump testing including stress testing on all our pumps.

FF/Pm Bertoncini replaced a cracked and broken elbow in Squad 5's recirculator line.

Engine 5 had two new front tires installed and Tony replaced the battery on battalion 5.

Other odds and ends in the firehouse include a repair on our washer extractor on the apparatus floor. This machine is near life end and was a budgeted item for this year. Lou has kept it going about as long as he can.

FF/PM Lou Bertoncini also is working on repairing a chain saw that needs maintenance. A spare was placed on the rig.

Air One Serviced our main air compressor for breathing air through a contract we have with them.

B/C Leiser and B/C Cesaretti are working with dispatch to teach them Callback staffing so that dispatch can tone out for off duty personnel when an incident warrants.

We have completed painting of Car 458 to match our entire fleet of black over Red. Decals will take place this month. (see photos).

EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

Lt. Swiontek received a resignation letter from PM Peter Chan. Peter is accepting a position which will have him move to Washington D.C. Good luck with your new job!

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.

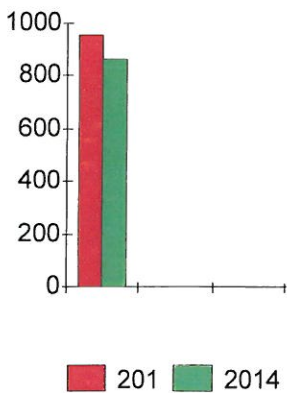
The Northwest Community Hospital website for Continuing Education has a ton of information that can assist paramedics with continuing education and also provide assistance on the

monthly training. If you have not had an opportunity to check the website it would be advisable.

During the past month personnel responded to 139 emergency calls. A total of 120 patients were encountered. 90 patients were transported to area hospitals.

| | <u>Current Month</u> | <u>Year to Date</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Total Responses | 125 | 952 |
| ALS Transports | 49 | 387 |
| BLS Transports | 31 | 209 |
| Refusals/MPR's | 28 | 181 |
| Other Non Transports | 2 | 32 |
| Fire Responses | 15 | 141 |
| CPR Students taught | 1 | 149 |
| Mut. Aid to SHPK | 5 | 31 |
| SHPK to others | 9 | 43 |

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 Bertocini.

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).

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 anticipation of Fire Prevention Month, What was the 1st engine company organized after the Great Chicago Fire of 1871?

The first Fire Company organized after the Great Chicago Fire in 1871 was Engine 18.

Only one correct answer was received from Chief Belmonte (ret. Westchester).

September Trivia

In what year did Schiller Park purchase its first fire truck and what was the make?

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.

FF/PM Niemand completed training through the State Attorney Office as a Freedom of Information officer.

FF/PM Schneider received his State Fire Marshal certification as a Fire Apparatus Engineer.

FF/Pm Kady passed his State test for Fire Service Vehicle Operator.

Chief Chiodo attended the Illinois Legislative Updates in Addison.

When using the department smoke machine please make sure that you clean and flush it out with distilled water.

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 352 hours of training for the month with 34 training drills. This includes outside classes.

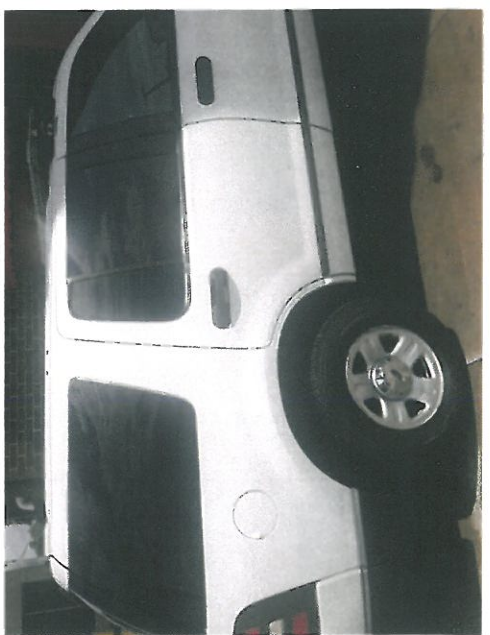
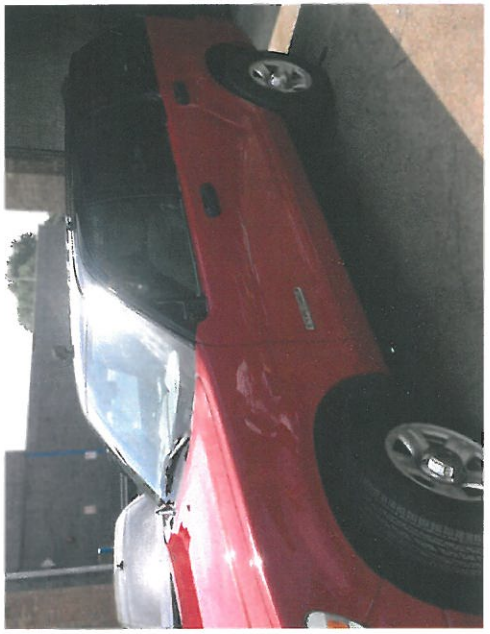
The second Thursday of each month the State Fire Marshal has a testing site at Triton College. They have also instituted a new policy of a government issued picture ID at the test site. If you cannot produce one you will not be allowed in. Likewise they are requesting that all phones be left in the test takers car to help with the integrity of the test (too many





Village of Shiller Park
7th Annual Car Show
August 10th, 2013









SCHILLER PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT

DIAL 911

