

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 September 29th when Gold shift responded to smoke in the building. Residents met Battalion 5 and said that smoke was coming from the basement. The fire investigation team entered the structured and proceeded to the basement where they found the sump pump had overheated. The crew determined this through the use of their thermal imaging camera (TIC). The sump pump was disconnected from the outlet and advised to contact a repair person.

Later in the shift, members took in another automatic fire alarm in a condo building. As they entered they smelled smoke and were able to trace the source to a burnt out CFL bulb in the hallway. Their TIC was used here again to find the location.

Red shift then took over on October 1st and responded to a multi-family residence and found that the alarm was initiated because of burnt food in one of the units.

After completing training in the afternoon, Red shift then responded to Bensenville for a structure fire. Tower Ladder 5 and Battalion 5 took in the call. The Incident Commander assigned Battalion 5 as the Safety Officer and Tower 5 to begin overhaul.

A manual fire alarm on October 7th took Red shift to Hartford Ct. En-route dispatch contacted Battalion 5 to say that they were informed it was child who tripped the pull station on the west side.

Before finishing their tour of duty, Red shift took in the T-Bone crash on Mannheim. Squad 5 provided scene

safety while the crew went about patient extrication and care.

B/C Hatcher and his Gold shift took over October 2nd and were sent on a fire alarm. The owner told the responders that it was a broken pull station that was activated. He was advised of the need to repair as soon as possible.

Lt. Swiontek on October 3rd took the shift on a call for a fire alarm. When they arrived at the business the fire crew found that the workers were pressure washing the kitchen and set off the alarm.

Red shift on October 4th had a fire alarm in a 40 unit building. As the firefighters approached the scene a resident flagged them down to say it was burnt food in her apartment that set off the smoke detector.

A car rental place was the location of the next fire alarm. After the crew arrived, a customer notified Lt. Swiontek that her elbow struck the pull station and activated the alarm.

Lt. J. Leiser's shift took in a fire alarm on October 6th where workers in the basement of the business set off the detectors without realizing what they did.

October 9th had Black shift take in a utility pole on fire. Schiller Park Police and Public Works were on scene and the pole was burning at the base. First responders used portable extinguishers until the fire department arrived. Com Ed was also notified to come to the location.

The next day, October 10th, an odor of gas was called into our dispatch center. Members responded and were met by the owner who told the fire department that the leak was near the meter and it was leaking really bad. Engine 5 was able to assess the situation and shut off the meter. NICOR was then called to this house.

Next Engine 5 was called to a utility pole that was struck. On location the shift found one vehicle off the road with a light pole laying across it. The driver was out of the car and in police custody. The wires from the pole

were live and the area cordoned off by police.

Near the public library on October 11th, landscaping mulch began to smolder. The fire department was called to the scene and a pressurized fire extinguisher used to put out the mulch.

Workers accidentally set off the fire alarm on October 12th while Lt. J. Leiser was in command. The alarm came in from a condo building in Schiller Park.

October 14th then had a call from a resident stating that there was an indoor gas leak at the residence. She also stated that she was now feeling ill. A loose connection at the gas shut off for the stove was found. The engine company ventilated the house and assessed the residents condition.

Members of the fire department assisted our police department on October 17th during the course of a police investigation involving a confiscated car.

A full fire alarm in one of our hotels had Black shift respond on October 19th. While doing their fire investigation, members found that pest control exterminators were spraying in the kitchen area and the overspray set off the alarm.

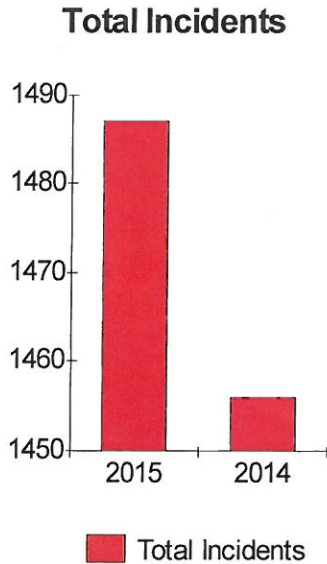
A resident called dispatch later in the shift and complained of a weird smell coming from the basement. Upon investigation of the basement it was determined that the smell was coming from the sewer. No other gases were detected on our monitors and the owner was told to add water to the sewer then some cooking oil to the sewer. This way it would float on top of the water so it would not evaporate and get the sewer gas smell.

October 21st saw a response to a day care facility for a fire alarm. Here members found that cooking in the kitchen had burnt some food setting off the detector in the general location.

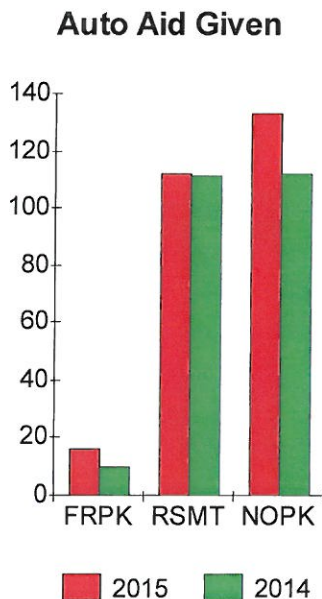
The last call for the reporting period was for wires down. Gold shift responded and found a wire lying in

the middle of the street. Tracing where it came from and reading the wire pattern on the pole, it was determined that it was a cable television wire and no electrical hazard. Comcast was called out.

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

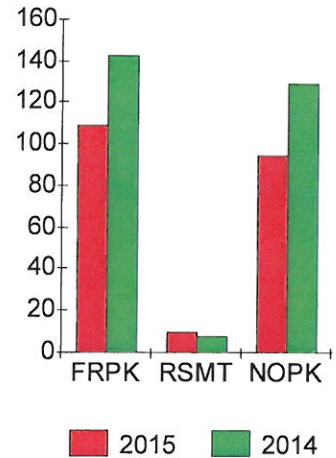


The run summary for Automatic Aid as of September 30th "To" the following communities:



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

Auto Aid Received



	2015	2014
Total Incidents	1487	1456

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	16	10
Norwood Park (NOPK)	133	112
Rosemont (RSMT)	112	111

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	109	143
Norwood Park (NOPK)	94	129
Rosemont (RSMT)	10	8

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 Final list.

Our department saw this last month the passing of Mary McNeill the mother of retired dispatcher Dan McNeill mother and former paramedic John McNeills grandmother. May she

rest in peace.

The first *After Dinner Coffee with the Fire Chief* was held on October 1st prior to the Village Board meeting. Coffee and desert were served to those who attended and a chance to personally one on one talk with the fire chief.

The Village also celebrated Patriot Day (September 11th) remembering those lost in the terrorist attacks in 2001. Because of inclement weather the event was moved into the firehouse. Guest speakers included Mayor Piltaver, Trustee Klug and Rev. Schultz. (see photos).

The Village Health Board provided flu shots for all employees this past month. This is a preventive action to ensure the well being of the employees.

The Village will be honoring the Veterans of our country with a Pancake Breakfast on November 8th at the Community Center. All Vets and their families are welcome. The Knights of Columbus will prepare breakfast and the firefighters will assist in serving breakfast.

The Operations Division was asked by the Lions Club for its nomination for Firefighter of the Year. After reviewing all the supporting documentation, it was unanimously decided that FF/PM Blaine Schneider. Some of his accomplishments are President of the Firefighters Association, President of the Pension Board and Co-Director of the Public Relations Division. A dinner honoring Blaine and his Police Counterpart will be held at the Four Points on November 16th.

A retirement party for Chief Ivonelli (FRPK) will be held on October 30th at Centre North in Franklin Park. Information is posted in the kitchen of the firehouse.

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:

Engine 5 returned to the shops for an electrical problem. One of the modules controlling the vehicle needed to be replaced by Pierce and Global.

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 worked on repairing a chain saw that needed maintenance.

All hydrants have been flushed and Lt. Budnik is reviewing the information for inaccuracies and what needs to be re-flowed. He has given the Water Department any repairs that may need attention.

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.

EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

This past month we had Physio come out and service each of our Life Pak

monitors.

Lt. Swiontek completed the Designated Infectious Control Officer (DICO) training. He is now our second DICO officer.

We also had IDPH come out and did the state inspection on all three of our ambulances. They have all passed and are currently licensed.

Chief Chiodo, Lt. Swiontek and Dee Casey all attended an ambulance billing seminar by paramedic Billing Services.

Chief Chiodo and Lt. Swiontek also attended the Quarterly meeting for Fire Chiefs and EMS Coordinators at Resurrection Hospital.

On another note Franklin Park just put in service a new ambulance.

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

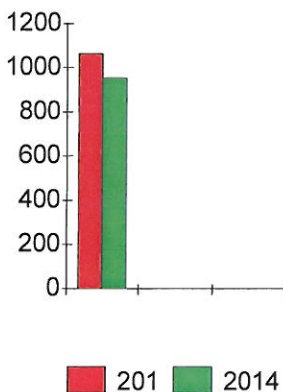
would be advisable.

During the past month personnel responded to 112 emergency calls. A total of 112 patients were encountered. 71 patients were transported to area hospitals.

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Responses	112	1064
ALS Transports	47	434
BLS Transports	24	233
Refusals/MPR's	28	209
Other Non Transports	3	35
Fire Responses	10	151
CPR Students taught	17	166
Mut. Aid to SHPK	6	37
SHPK to others	4	47

2 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).

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

September Trivia

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

Schiller Park purchased its first fire engine in 1919. It was an American LaFrance.

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

October Trivia

From Lake Michigan to the western border of Cook County how many firehouses have their addresses on Irving Park Road?

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 Farias received his Vehicle and Machinery Operations (VMO) certification from the State Fire Marshal.

FF/PM Dehmlow, FF/PM Loch and FF/PM Leao all completed their training as Fire Apparatus Engineers at NIPSTA. They await certification from the State.

Lt. Swiontek completed the Designated Infectious Control Officer program in Northlake.

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

FF/PM Schneider and FF/PM Warden trained all members on proper protocol for teaching public education.

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 192 hours of training for the month with 21 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.

I

Employee of the Month

This month we acknowledge several members as our employees of the month.

FF/PM Warden as our Employee of the Month.

Jessica is Co-Director of our Public Relations Division and has worked this past year with Blaine Schneider on public events.

More recently Jessica organized our Open House on October 10th. She was able to secure vendors and had several tables with additional presentations. She purchased all the food and drinks and created a second cut out which she painted to look like our fire truck for children to have their pictures taken. She also helped organize and coordinate scheduling members for school visits during Fire Prevention Month.

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 continue with their 2015 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 shifts have completed 376 inspections with 38 inspections remaining.

The Foreign Fire Insurance Fund authorized scanning all of our fire prevention files so that we can obtain them via the computer. The files are completed and were returned to the fire department. B/C Hatcher and FF/PM Niemand will set up training to show how archived records can be accessed.

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.

Lt. Budnik, B/C Hatcher and FF/PM Niemand are all working with Allisa and the Village GIS system to assist with Fire Prevention Inspections and Hydrant flows.

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 sturtz 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.

A Lunch with the Firefighters was donated to Leyden Family Services for their fundraiser on November 13th.

The Association held its Employee Appreciation Lunch on October 23rd. It consisted of Bratwurst, Root Beer, German Potato salad, music and more. Almost 50 employees enjoyed

the luncheon sponsored by the Firefighters Association.

The Public Relations Division was in the schools for Fire Prevention Month and the Open House on October 10th from 11-2. Hot Dogs were served and several vendors on hand.

Red shift also attended a picnic at Washington school where they handed out gifts to the students.

Gold shift attended a bonfire at St. Maria Goretti on September 26th.

Guidelines have been set up for Public Relations relative to Block Parties, Bonfires and visits. Please consult these guidelines prior to engagements and provide parties with these before their event.

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.

Emergency Management

B/C Leiser is working on updating all of our NIMS certification as well as the compliancy of all Village employees.

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 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 understand that November 1st will be the opening for 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.

Retiree Row

POC Lt. DiMaggio has stopped by for coffee several times and also participated in the employee Octoberfest. He misses the Monday nights and the crews but knows its a young persons job.

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.

Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

The Schiller Park Firefighters Association sponsored the Bear Necessities Pediatric Cancer Foundation this Summer from May-September selling and wearing special department t-shirts.

The Association raised \$10,394.20 which was presented to the organization recently. (see photos).

The Association also is making two donations to fellow firefighters children in Broadview and Franklin Park. Each firefighter has a very sick child, Deputy Chief Kowalski (ret.) Broadview and Lt. Sweeney Franklin Park. Please keep these children in your thoughts and prayers. Additional donations will be accepted by the families.

FF/PM Neimand has worked on getting a new pop machine. We thank him for the luxury and the work he did in obtaining the machine.

Chiodo reserves the right to edit based on content and space availability.



Page 7-The Weiner Mobile stops by Schiller Park to visit the firefighters.

Chief Ivonelli (FRPK) retirement and new Chief Brehm soon in.

Page 8- 9 Schiller Park sponsors an Open House for Fire Prevention Month.

Page 10- Association members FF/PM Miletta, FF/PM Niemand and FF/PM Schneider present Bare Necessities with a donation check.

Page 11- Members participate in Patriot Day 9/11 Remembrance at the Firehouse.

Page 12- October fest pix

Stork Report

We have heard that the stork is circling one of our firefighters homes.

The stork is expected to deliver a little bundle of joy to the Velasco's December 2015! Congratulations to the future first time Mom and Dad!!!

Please forward any info of upcoming Stork Visits.

Letters and Notes

Thank you were received from the following persons:

Chief Carpenter sent a note on behalf of the Schiller Park Police Department thanking the Firefighters and Association for the food, music and friendly welcoming environment during the Octoberfest.

Mrs. Vogel also sent cookies and a note thanking the Firefighters and Paramedics who work so hard serving the residents and businesses in Schiller Park.

And Finally...

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

Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the Booster Line will be 8:00 A.M. November 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







