

Booster Line

Inside This Newsletter

- 1 Our Runs**
Fire and Incident responses through July 31st 2007.
- 3 Commander's Cove**
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.

Our calls for service start on August 3rd when Gold shift responded to a reported fire in a car. After Cmdr. Jeffrey and the crew arrived they found that the car trunk was filled with cigarette lighters and batteries. The owner had a “Dollar Store” type business and was transporting them when the heat build up in the trunk ignited vapors.

August 5th saw Red shift members respond to a possible 4 year old drowning. Arriving on scene the child was out of the pool and breathing on his own. The parents had gone inside for two minutes and the child somehow got into the water where he was found.

Lt. Leiser working with the EPA and the OSFM requested the fire department on August 9th for a possible hazardous materials spill. The source was actually traced to a local business and remediation began.

Shortly after returning to quarters members of Red shift were dispatched to a local church where the clergyman was locked in his room. Members found that in the heat and with high humidity the wood door swelled and he was trapped in his room.

A fire in NOPK on August 11th had truck 454 respond to the scene. A fire had occurred in the dryer in the laundry room and spread into the walls. Lt. Leiser working as the truck officer took FF/PM Mendelson, LiRosi and Rupsis with him to the call. After the fire was out Lt. Leiser assisted NOPK with the investigation and cause of the fire.

A fire alarm on August 12th had Gold shift respond to an apartment building. Arriving Lt. Knuth found that a tenant had burnt food and was too embarrassed to admit it.

August 14th saw Franklin Park with a major gas leak inside the building. Because of the risk and potential they asked for additional crews and Schiller Park responded. Truck 454 was assigned as a RIT team and Lt. Leiser the Safety Officer.

Later that afternoon Red shift went to a car fire on the toll way. Arriving they found that an inexperienced tow truck driver had a front wheel drive car that he was towing from behind. He thought that it was a rear drive and as he “dragged” the car it ignited and tore up the transmission. The fire and smoke could be seen for miles. While the Schiller Park Fire Department was fighting this fire on the southbound lanes a rollover occurred at this location on the northbound lanes. Foam was used to extinguish the car and gasoline fire and Northlake worked the rollover.

August 18th FF/PM Hatcher thought the world was coming to an end as the fire department responded to a burning bush fire. Arriving Lt. Knuth threw his voice to the bush as a portable extinguisher put out the fire. A cigarette thrown into the mulch ignited the materials.

Norwood Park set off the automatic aid tones for a structure fire August 23rd. Lt. Leiser took “Leiser’s ladder” to the single family dwelling where the Chuck and his “ceiling pullers” performed horizontal ventilation. They also set up the PPV fan and then opened the fascia near the ridge on the side of the roof.

While the truck was in Norwood Park Cmdr. Maher took in an apartment fire. After arriving he found that it was a magazine that was burnt up on the stove and the occupant panic and called the fire department.

As severe thunderstorms rumbled through Schiller Park on August 24th,

a lightning strike started a fire in a single family home. Red shift responded and found smoke showing. Immediately they went to work to attack the fire on the second floor. As FF/PM Schnieder and LiRosi were fighting the fire a rollover fire chased them back down the stairs from the second floor. They then re-entered the building and continued to fight the fire. Needing additional resources Cmdr. Chiodo requested additional alarms. With severe storms and rain several of the mutual aid towns were unavailable to assist. FF/PM Piculas did multiple tasks on scene while engineering and Lt. Cesaretti and FF/PM Hatcher laddered the building and ventilated the roof. A second storm came through and made a difficult situation worse. After more than an hour the fire was brought under control. Extensive overhaul was necessary to find the fire in concealed spaces.

After members returned to quarters they were dispatched to a smoking sump pump. On scene members found that the sump pump could not keep up with the rain water and was burning up the battery back up.

A possible car fire on August 24th had Gold shift arrive and find not a car fire but an overheated brake. The brake assembly was cooled and the owner called for a tow truck.

Early evening found Hillside with a structure fire. When their Incident Commander elevated the alarm, Schiller Park responds with a fire investigator. Lt. Leiser was sent as the first in investigator and would determine if additional investigators were needed.

August 25th had St. Beatrice with their carnival in full swing and the fire department at a block party when Black shift got the call of an accident with injuries near the carnival. Cmdr. Maher arrived and found that multiple cars were involved and one took out two street lights. A mutual aid ambulance was requested to assist with the patients.

A resident digging in his front yard on

August 25th dug a little too deep. Cmdr. Maher and the Still alarm crew found the owner holding the gas line to try and stop the flow. Members got a pair of vise grip pliers to try and secure the line better until NICOR arrived. As a precaution a 1 ¾ inch handline was laid in case the gas found an ignition source.

Cmdr. Jeffrey on August 27th was requested to check out smoke in the house. On scene Cmdr. Jeffrey found that it was a smoking doorbell. The engine crew was able to disconnect the doorbell and removed the low voltage unit.

A chemical spill in Franklin Park on August 28th had Chief Deegan and Lt. Leiser respond to the scene to assist. Franklin Park requested a Level I hazardous materials response. After identifying the substance the scene was turned over to a clean up company.

Another smoke smell and scare occurred on August 29th when a local store could not determine the odor source. Cmdr. Maher arrived and found with the thermal imaging camera a light fixture was overheating and the ballast was shot.

September 6th saw a fire in Hillside during the night and a request for a fire investigator. FF/PM Swiontek was the on call investigator who responded.

Two days later Hillside had a significant rollover with three vehicles involved including a truck, taxi and minivan with entrapment. They requested both fire and EMS box alarms and eventually elevated both to 3rd Alarms. Cmdr. Chiodo showed up and took the Staging Sector and Communications Aide.

After returning on September 8th from the previous call Red shift had a quiet day until a call from a concerned citizen saw smoke in the vicinity. Arriving in the area they could not find any problems until they decided to go about two blocks north where the "infamous" smoked cheese business was in full operation and spewing the residue into the air.

The shift ending with an in house call for a man who had committed suicide. Members of the shift worked frantically and professionally in trying to revive the man. The person was transported where he was pronounced at the hospital.

On September 9th after residents heard a smoke detector going off for nearly an hour, they decided to call the fire department. Lt. Leiser and the crew arrived and forced entry into the unit where they found a defective smoke detector unit.

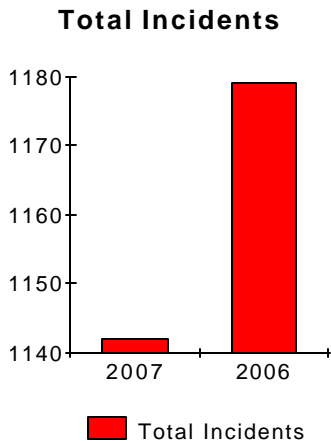
After midnight Lt. Leiser was dispatched with the hose jockeys to a gas leak. Entering the unit the occupant stated that he could not re-light the stove and so he called the fire department.

The morning of September 11th had an ambulance call for a person who fell down the stairs. Arriving on scene Red shift found no one at home but the woman say that her boyfriend had fallen and just left. The members saw a man down the street and when they called after him the man decided to run whereby the crew had to chase him down.

September 11th had Gold shift relieve Red shift and soon be dispatched to a building under going renovation. The construction workers threw metal duct work over the side of the building where it struck and broke off the gas main regulator. The construction personnel then pulled the fire alarm to get the fire department. Cmdr. Jeffrey and the Gold shift arrived contacted NICOR and reset the system.

The final call for this period was on September 13th when a carbon monoxide call found elevated levels in the residence. Lt. Leiser ventilated the building and the occupants were checked out.

The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2006:



	2007	2006
Total Incidents	1142	1179

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	41	64
Norwood Park (NOPK)	131	122
Rosemont (RSMT)	44	72

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	97	117
Norwood Park (NOPK)	80	110
Rosemont (RSMT)	9	2

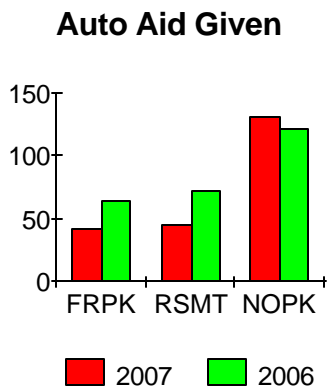
attended his wake and funeral. May he rest in peace.

Our condolences also to Chief Traiforos of Franklin Park on the passing of his father this past month. Chief Traiforos dad John L. Traiforos passed away at age 82. Our prayers and support to Chief Dave.

It is also with sadness that we report that PM Kosar's mother-in-law, Rachel Jensen, passed away. A donation was made in her name by the Firefighter's Association.

Commander's Cove

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

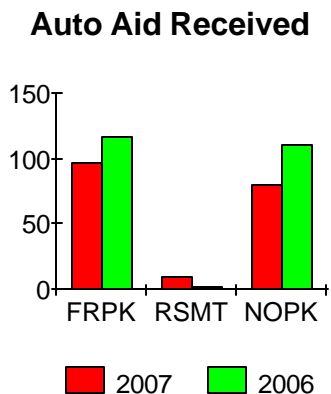


The Schiller Park Police and Fire Commission are processing a candidate to fill a current vacancy. The Commission also announced that they will be giving out a promotional exam to Lieutenant. This is tentatively scheduled for October. Several members have submitted their intention to take the exam. They have been notified of the exact date.

Members of our department were also present and escorted PFC Shelton U.S. Army who was killed in action in Iraq. We escorted him from O'Hare to the funeral home and then for the funeral we accompanied him and the family.

The Village also held its 9/11 Remembrance in front of the Village Hall. For all those who attended it was a moving experience as several of our guest speakers reflected on the meaning of the tragedy.

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



FF/PM Scott Dary who injured his arm during a fire in Bellwood and had surgery on his rotator cuff hopes to return late Summer. We wish Scott well in recovery and hope to see him back soon.

Many of us have also seen the re-surfacing project on both Lawrence and Mannheim. This project is being done at night to minimize traffic interruptions. The project will be complete by November.

The village is also in the process of upgrading and re-designing its website. If you have any ideas, have seen a site that is worth modeling ours after or would like to have some input on the fire departments page, please contact Chief Deegan.

The Village also met with the health Insurance advisory committee to explain our coverage benefits and changes to the plan. As with most companies the employee contribution was slightly increased. Full explanations can be obtained from Gail Mini.

It is with deep sorrow that we report the death of one of our former full time paramedics Lee Palemedis. Many of us worked with Lee and he was a gentle giant who we nicknamed "Yogi Bear". Lee left our department and took a firefighter position in Bloomingdale. Several members

A word of congratulations to FF/PM Murray who participated in a triathlon recently. Matt finished the event after training with many of our members.

Chief Deegan reports that the

emergency generator should have the electrical work started soon and the generator installed hopefully by the end of the month. This unit will be able to power the entire Village Complex and its infrastructure.

As a reminder anyone moving is asked to provide Chief Deegan with current phone numbers and addresses. This helps with callback, hireback and as part of our emergency operations plan.

A staff meeting is planned for September 28th. More info to follow. If you would like a specific issue discussed at this meeting please pass it on to you shift officers.

Downer's Grove is planning their Silent Parade for October 12th. If you would like to participate please let Chief Deegan know. Franklin Park is also planning a Division and Inter-Division Silent Parade but no date or time is announced at press time.

The Norwood Park Firefighters Association is hosting a fundraiser for FF Goldsworthy. FF Goldsworthy died of cancer a year ago and the fundraising helps support his wife and children. If interested in purchasing tickets or attended the fundraiser see FF/PM LiRosi in Schiller Park.

Homeland Security has purchased a secure computer for emergency messages. The new computer and EMnet will allow the State of Illinois to send messages directly to us in the event of emergencies. This was at no cost to the Village.

We are also in the process of arranging to host a Division XX photo show of fires that occurred in our Division. Cmdr. Chiodo is working with several photographers to see if they are willing to present their photos and slides. Tentatively we would make it a pizza type party at the community center. More to follow.

Tools / Equipment and Other FYI's

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

Items that were worked on this month included:

We sent out Truck 454 for new front tires. They were replaced due to wear and not meeting DOT guidelines.

The radios on both 469 and 456 were also repaired. 469 no longer was working and the scan list on 456 needed to reflect all of our other radios. Lt. Leiser is also still looking into the possibility of new portables.

Lt. Leiser updated all of our weekly maintenance sheets and moved 454 to Wednesday. If during the weekly check on this rig we find a problem we can contact the mechanic immediately.

Lt. Leiser also has put 455 in spare usage. The tools formerly assigned were relocated. When a rig goes out of service and we need to bring 455 over we will switch out the tools to 455.

Members also worked on maintaining our equipment by repairing tools and vehicles.

Our air compressor was hard wired in by FF Anderson. This will prevent it from becoming unplugged and not being able to support our air in our vehicles.

The front wig wag on the driver side of 453 was also replaced by Tony.

The Village replaced our apparatus floor with a new non slip floor. The previous coating was coming up in several areas and the company that did the original work went out of business.

Lt. Leiser replaced the Quad meter monitoring batteries. The old batteries were no longer holding the charge and the unit spent more time in the charger than on the rig.

Members also replaced the foam inductor hose. During a firefighting

operation the clamp broke off the hose. The clamp was replaced and the hose placed back in service.

If you would like to view all completed reports for each division of our department, training, EMS, inspections, station maintenance, vehicle maintenance and public education can be found in the Chief's Monthly Report posted on the board and submitted to the Village Board.

EMS Coord. Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

I worked with PM Lee Palemedis while he was a full time paramedic on our department. Lee was a caring and compassionate medic who always put the patient and family first. Lee was generous with his time and often worked for others as he had no wife or kids. When Lee left Schiller Park we felt the loss of a good paramedic. Lee will be missed by those of us who knew him and by the Bloomington Fire Protection District.

Our NWCS also lost an important voice for the fire/EMS service. Retired Lt. Grandt of the Schaumburg Fire Department died in a motorcycle accident. He was a professional who had paramedics best interests in mind. Dave was the president of the EMS Committee at Northwest. With his departure I will move up from Vice President to President.

Northwest is also still evaluating

testing and teaching styles for Continuing Education. They are trying to save paper by using emails to the departments. If you have any suggestions please forward them to me. If you have any other questions please share them with me.

The Village Board approved a new Life Pak 12 at a cost of \$16, 923.61. This will be added to our fleet and the older Life Pak 10 from the Med Engine will be taken out of service. As part of the deal we will trade this unit in.

We were also able to staff a First Aid station at the St. Beatrice carnival during the three day festival. This was staffed to alleviate additional ambulance calls when only bandages or ice packs might be needed and kept our ALS ambulances available.

We also were able to trade in our old cot from 461 when the new power cot was placed in service.

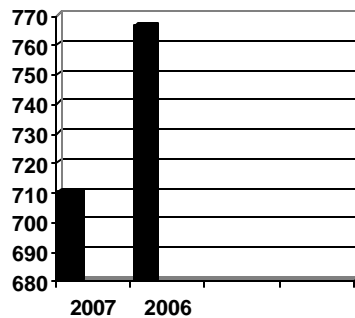
Please refer to the clipboard in the kitchen for any new updates in the Bureau.

Other EMS bits...

During the month of August personnel responded to 109 emergency calls. A total of 102 patients were encountered. 75 patients were transported to area hospitals. 47 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

Total Responses	2007	2006
	710	766
Cardiac	54	56
Medical Emergency	332	362
Accidents/Trauma	203	200
Fire Responses	114	139
False Alarm/Standby	7	13
Mut. Aid to SHPK	20	13
SHPK to others	53	43

EMS Total Responses



Ambulance 461 was found to have a fuel tank problem. As a result of the rust in the tank that affected the engine components, it had to go out to the shops where the tank was removed, purged, repaired and re-installed. The vehicle is back in service. During the shop time we had to borrow Franklin Parks ambulance as our spare was also done for maintenance with its air conditioning.

The October Con Ed study materials have been received and posted. If you have any questions contact EMSC Nosek.

Connie Mattera from NWCH is asking for your Top 10 things EMT-P and EMT-B's should know about diabetes for October CE.

Paramedics can access their ambulance run sheets on the EMS computer in the classroom. The access route is posted near the computer.

EMSC Nosek is also working on the possibility of creating a Med-Truck. With 454 normally having at least two paramedics on the rig and the truck being in service on the street for inspections, it seems to make sense. EMSC Nosek will check all agencies and the impact this change might have.

Northwest Community Hospital has come out with their new Continuing Education Schedule for 2007-2008. Topics include for the following months:

October 07	Diabetes-Ethics
November 07	Airway-Mandatory
December 07	OFF
January 08	12 Lead ECG
February 08	ACS
March 08	Dysrhythmia Mgmt
April 08	Team Resuscitation
May 08	Exam

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 Cmdr. Chiodo or Chief Deegan.

The members have completed the second exit stairway from the bunkroom to the roof landing.

Additionally we will take a look at washing walls in the firehouse and update of the unisex bathroom.

What's in the works? –

- emergency phone outside sta. 2
- mount patches around kitchen
- paint apparatus floor border
- paint tool room floor
- install window in TV. room
- paint sta.2 floor
- door and jam simulator

- sprinkler simulator
- sta. 2 classroom
- adding a rotating light on the front bumper of 454 to be seen better in traffic
- add electrical outlets at station 2
- man station 2
- ceiling fans on apparatus floor that work

Trivia

Answer to last months Trivia

August Trivia

How long have sprinkler systems been in use?

One correct answer was submitted by Bob Madura.

Fire Sprinkler Systems have been putting out fires since 1860. There have been some design improvements but the technology has remained the same for over 130 years.

September Trivia

Where and when was the first insurance company based paid "fire patrol" created?

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

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

We are hoping to be able to train in the old Celli building once the asbestos abatement is done. We may also have the ability to use the Amco Engineering building. Recently the police departments through NIPAS have been using this building.

I have been informed that the new FPO I (Fire Prevention Officer) class will be ready in January 2008. If you are interested please let me know so that I can contact the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association.

The basic firefighter handbook that most firefighters get trained through is now updated. IFSTA has now printed the 5th Edition. For more senior members on the department they were all taught with the dinosaurs 2nd edition.

Firefighter/Paramedic Sorenson is currently in the fire academy. Chris started September 10th and will continue for the next 2 ½ months. We will advise the department of his graduation date for those wishing to attend.

Anyone wishing to go to a Juvenile Fire setter class please see me. We have had a few requests from residents recently whose children are experimenting with fire. There are currently no local specialists.

Lt. Cesaretti is also working on updating all of the training files and dividing them up by certifications, certificates and training requirements. This will help with record keeping and audits that the State Fire Marshal conducts.

The OSFM has also created its latest flow charts for certifications through their office. A copy is posted in the kitchen.

Members completed 139 hours of training for the month.

The second Thursday of each month the State Fire Marshal has a testing site at Triton College. If you would like to sign up see Lt. Cesaretti.

Please remember to 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.

The State Fire Marshal audits training files to match up outside classes you have taken with our records. You must be on a class roster which will be submitted to Springfield and on our department roster.

Confirmation letters identify those confirmed and denied for the test.

Employee of the Month

This month we nominate FF/PM Leiser as our Employee of the Month.

Jeff volunteered to work the St. Beatrice carnival during a rain storm and alone for two of the other days. The first aid station was created to minimize the amount of time a ALS rig was out of service for minor first aid requests. We are grateful to Franklin Park for allowing us to use their Gator to get around the fest and to hold our supplies.

Jeff worked from the beginning of the carnival to the end each night. While there were only a few requests for medical attention, Jeff remained on call and alleviated the need to station an ambulance and fire truck on scene.

For his care and compassion we make Jeff our Employee of the Month.

Each member makes a contribution and is an integral part of the

organization on a daily basis. Certainly we would like to recognize all the contributions of everyone, unfortunately we are not always aware of all the work members do that go unsung. You all are America's Heroes both sung and unsung and we thank you.

Thanks to all, 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

Cmdr. Maher is working with the inspectors in the fire prevention bureau. Dan is also working with Community Development to keep us in the loop. As Dan has pointed out to George, "We will be with these buildings from the cradle to the grave".

The shifts are progressing well with their assigned inspections.

We have adopted the new International code. If you have any problems please see me.

Some of the issues we are pursuing is the mandatory Knox Box and with new sprinkler installations the use a storz fitting at the fire department connection.

Cmdr. Maher is also working on having the fire inspectors take a more active part in attending fire prevention classes and seminars. He will try to get the department more active in the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association. So far 252 fire inspections have been completed by Inspectors this year.

Lt. Cesaretti reminds all members going out on Fire Prevention to fill out the pre-plan form and place in the mailbox in the fire prevention office. This will give us the preliminary information that we may need for on board computers.

Notes

Several letters and notes have run across the desk of the Booster line. Included in these—

The FIRst note comes from Ms. Vogel who thanked the Red shift members for answering her 911 call. She appreciated the quick response and the transport. She was taken to the hospital and is now doing much better.

A thank you for the thoughts and prayers was received from Community Development secretary Joan Rinchisen after the death of her father.

Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

The Association held its annual picnic at FF Leiser's house here in town on August 25th. The Pig and Lamb roast was enjoyed by members and their families. Several other familiar faces popped in including some village administrators, police officers and former members.

The Association also was able to make a donation to the family of one of our Recreation Department who recently had a house fire in Franklin Park.

The Association also sponsored the Back to School Ice Cream Social on September 14th. Over 6 tubs of ice cream and toppings were served to some 300 visitors to the firehouse. The Association also would like to thank Mayor Montana, Audrey Meyers, and Carol Fritz for helping serve ice cream. A thanks to Tammy Chiodo for applying temporary fire department tattoos to the children.

The Illinois Fire Safety Alliance also awarded the Schiller park Firefighter's Association a Certificate of Appreciation for participating in fire safety programs.

The Association is run by our members. It can only succeed if you are willing to step up and take an active role. We would like to have positive, creative input. If you do not participate and criticize everything a self fulfilling prophecy will occur and we will all fail.

The Association is planning on having individual and department pictures taken by the end of summer. This will standardize background and lighting for our wall of members.

Public Affairs

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

We were able to have a memorable September 11th Remembrance with the village and several guest speakers. We Will Never Forget!

The Association co-sponsored with the Schiller Park Police Department Fraternal Order of Police the "Back to School Ice Cream Social". It was a little cool but attendance was near 300 participants. The Ice Cream Social competed with St. Maria Goretti who re-scheduled their bon fire to this evening and a movie in the park. Even with these other venues the children came first along with their families. Schiller Park Firefighters also were present at the bon fire with an engine to help make sure it did not

get out of control.

Members were also present as we welcomed home Cpl Perez who was discharged from the Marine Corps. He had done a five year stint and this included 2 tours in Iraq. The welcome home party was held at the Community Center.

We are also working on planning our annual Retiree Pizza party. Some creative ideas are being tossed around and may be co-sponsored by the Association.

We are in the process of planning Fire Prevention Week. Cmdr. Chiodo is looking for volunteers to help teach the program in the schools during the week of October 8th. Please send him a note if you are interested in helping.

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

Public Affairs and our Association are working hand in hand with a variety of projects to enhance our department.

Announcements

If any new engagements or weddings are in the planning stages please let the editor know.

Special Days

A Happy Birthday! to all those celebrating upcoming Birthdays. And to those celebrating Wedding or Work Anniversaries, Congratulations!

And Finally...

Never look down on someone unless you are helping them up.

Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the *Booster Line* will be 8:00 A.M. October 7th. Please have all materials, articles, ideas and photos submitted to the *Booster*

Line located in Cmdr. Peter Chiodo's mailbox. Employee of the Month and Unit Citations are always welcome.

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

Pictures: Page 9, 10

Courtesy of Jeff Leiser

Fire in Single family dwelling on Red Shift. Fire on second floor and behind the knee walls

Page 11, 12

Courtesy of Vito LiRosi

Schiller Park Remembers September 11th and the back to School Ice Cream Social