

**Fire  
Department  
Monthly  
Report**

**January 2014**

# Park Ridge Fire Department

OUR MISSION: TO LIMIT THE LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY THROUGH  
PLANNING, PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Crews continue to dig out fire hydrants as a necessary step towards preparedness.

With over 1,400 hydrants in the City of Park Ridge, the Fire Department appreciates any assistance in keeping hydrants cleared of snow.

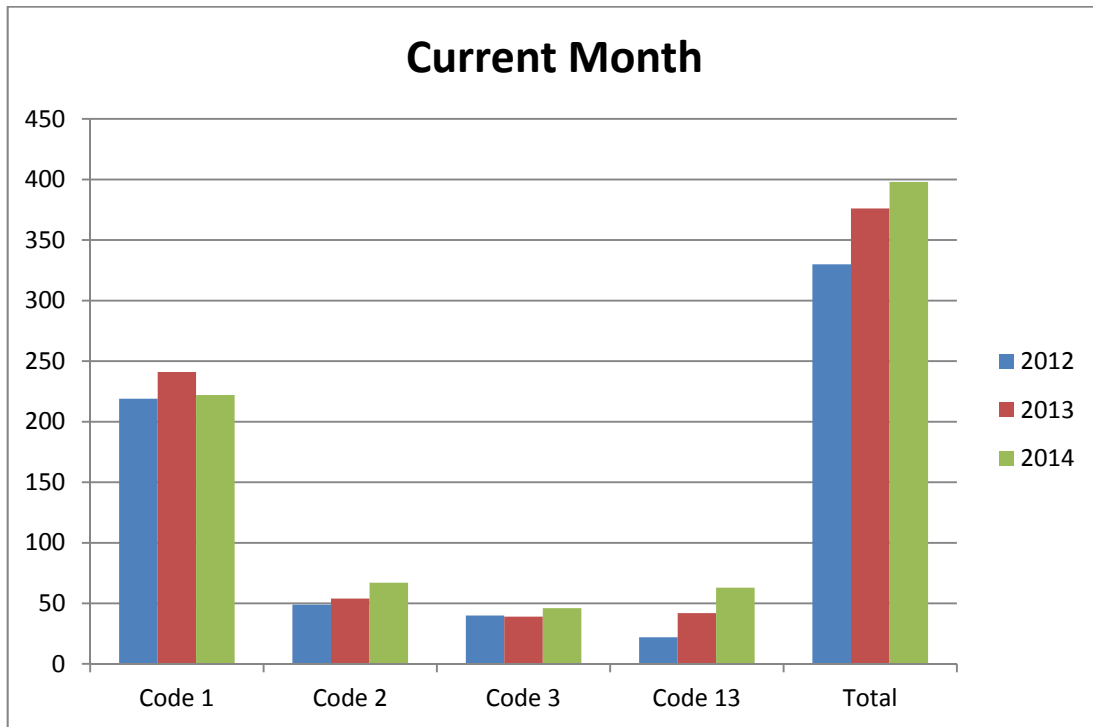


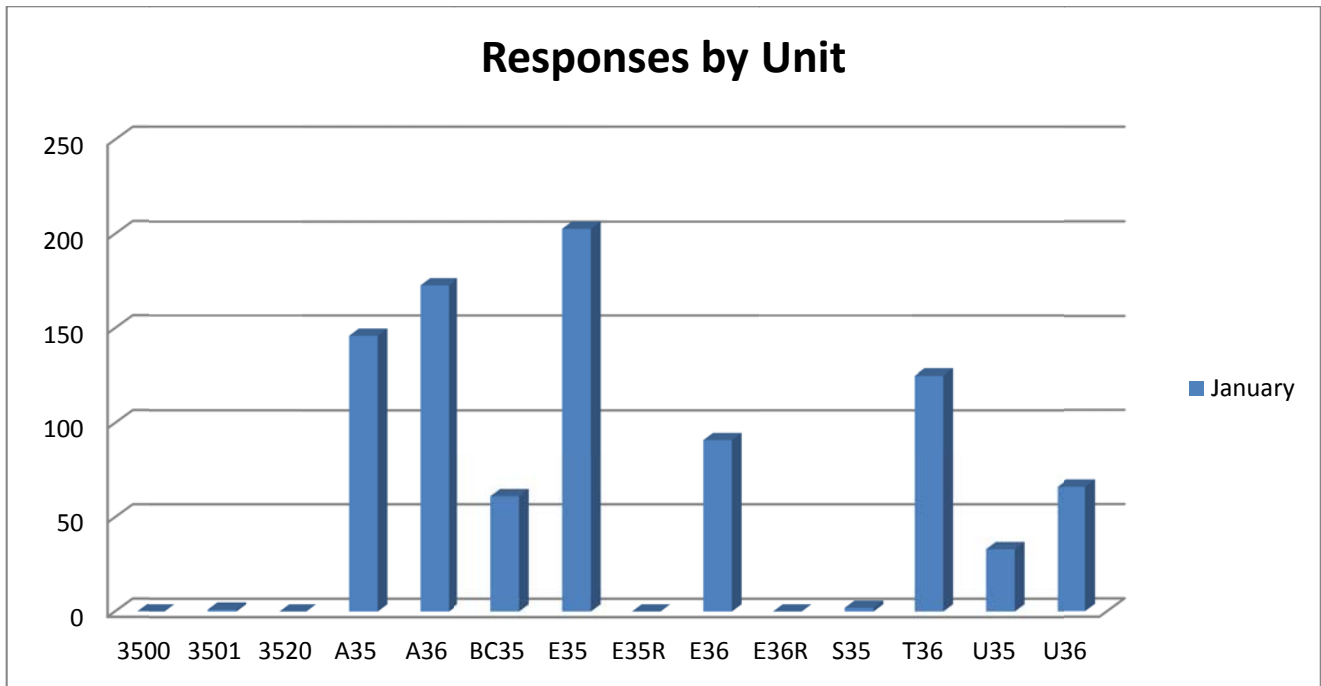
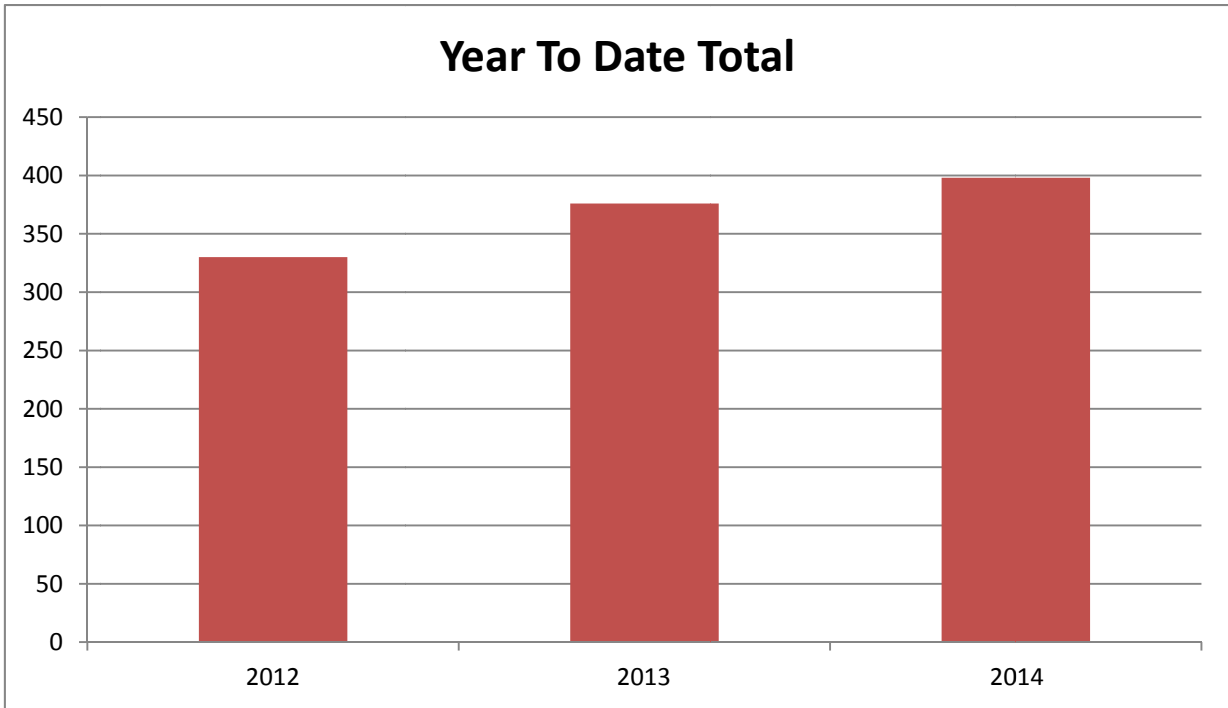
## January 2014

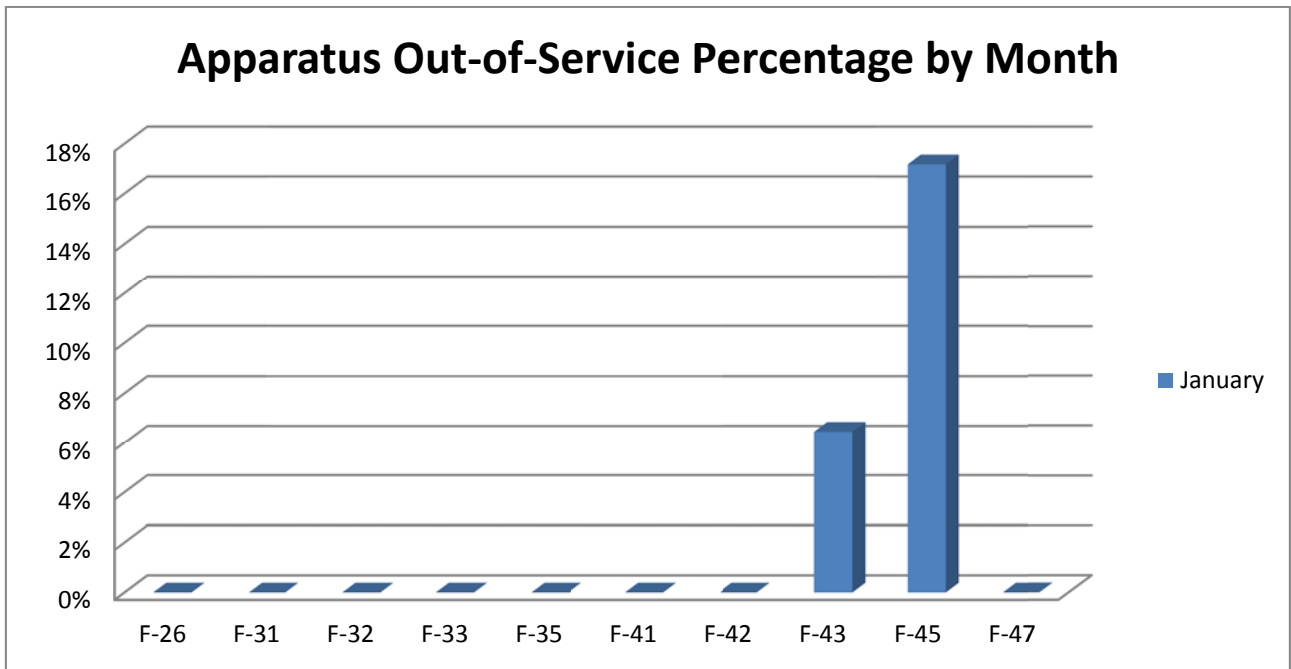
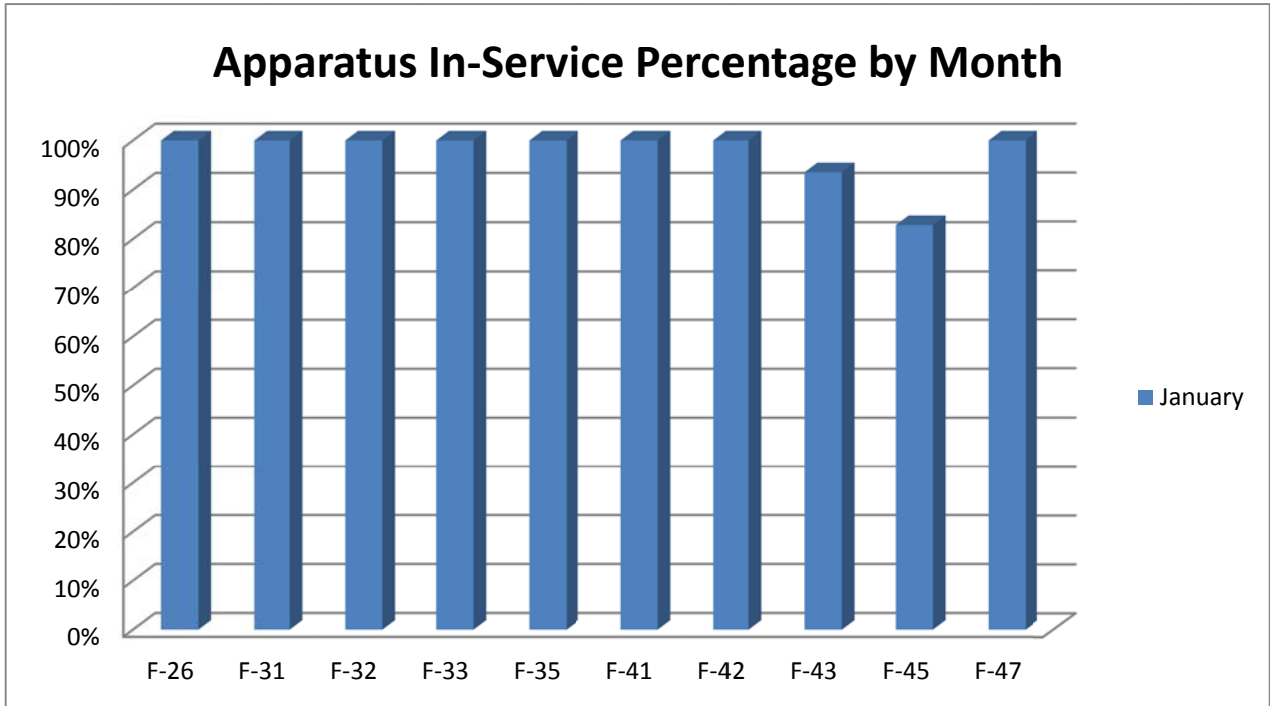


**Response Statistics**  
Fire Administration

CODE	MONTHLY REPOSSES 2013	MONTHLY REPOSSES 2014	MONTHLY PERCENT 2013	MONTHLY PERCENT 2014
1- EMERGENCY MEDICAL	241	222	64%	56%
2- SINGLE VEHICLE	54	67	14%	17%
3 - FULL FIRE	39	46	10%	12%
13 - MUTUAL & AUTO AID	42	63	11%	16%
<b>TOTAL RESPONSES</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>







**Incident Response**

Deputy Chief Jeff Sorensen

- January 1 Companies responded to the intersection of Dee and Higgins Roads. Both Park Ridge ambulances responded and transported patients to Lutheran General Hospital.
- January 2 Companies responded to a car fire in the 2100 block of Bouterse Street. The resident had partially extinguished the fire prior to the arrival of the fire department.
- January 7 Squad #35 responded to River Grove for a fire in a 5-story, 50 unit apartment building in the 8200 block of Belmont Avenue. The fire started on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor in an apartment, then extended to a second unit laterally then up above to a 5<sup>th</sup> floor unit, before being brought under control. Water supply was an issue in the initial stages of the incident due to extremely cold temperatures. This prompted the incident commander to request a 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm, bringing additional nearby fire departments to assist. While on scene, among other assignments Squad #35 provided SCBA refill services to companies the other fire departments. Two people were transported to area hospitals from the scene, both were residents of the building.
- January 8 Companies responded to the motor vehicle crash at the intersection of Dempster Street and Luther Lane. Ambulance #36 transported one patient to Lutheran General Hospital.
- January 10 Companies responded to the motor vehicle crash at Grand Boulevard and Sibley Street. One patient was transported to Lutheran General Hospital.
- January 13 Companies responded to the reported vehicle fire in the 1900 block of West Oakton Street and found a fire involving a minivan. The fire was extinguished using a dry chemical portable extinguisher and a 5-gallon water pump can.
- January 21 Companies responded to the motor vehicle crash at Potter Road and Northwest Highway. One patient was transported to Lutheran General Hospital.
- January 31 A mattress was set on fire in the middle of Woodland Park, 1200 N. Western. It was promptly extinguished upon the arrival of the FD.

**Emergency Preparedness Coordinator**

Paul Lisowski

- Jan 13 Attended monthly meeting of the Human Needs Task Force and discussed ways that we can better serve those in the Park Ridge community.



- Jan 14 Spoke to the Noon Kiwanis membership at their weekly meeting. I thanked them for their service to the community and discussed ways that they can better prepare themselves and the community to deal with disasters.
- Jan 29 Attended an IEMA course on Disaster Assessment at the Mt. Prospect Emergency Operations Center.
- Jan 30 Attended IEMA course on Debris Management post-Disaster at the Mt. Prospect Emergency Operations Center.

### Fire Investigation

Lieutenant Derek Decker

#### Investigation Summaries

- January 2 Tower 36 responded for an automobile fire along the 2100 block of Bouterse. Upon arrival, an engine compartment was found burning. The fire was confined to the engine compartment and extinguished with a dry chemical extinguisher. The estimated loss was \$1,000.
- The investigation determined the owner was using starter fluid and the engine backfired resulting in a fire (no injuries resulted). The fire was classified as accidental.
- January 13 Tower 36 responded to the 1100 block of Oakton for a car fire. A mini-van was found to be burning along the underside of the vehicle. The fire was extinguished by a dry chemical extinguisher. The resulting damage was estimated to be \$2,000.
- The investigation concluded a fuel line was leaking onto a hot surface, (exhaust system) resulting in the fire. The fire was classified as accidental.
- January 31 Engine 36 responded to the 1200 block of N. Western for an outside fire. Investigation found a full-size mattress burning in the field. The fire was extinguished with a water can. No monetary damage resulted.
- The investigation concluded the mattress was intentionally set. The fire was classified as incendiary.

### Training

Battalion Chief Scott Sankey

#### Quick Drill

Throughout the month the Training Division assigns various quick drills to be discussed at the morning roll call. The January quick drills covered:

- Emergency Response Guidebook Guide #111 Review
- Winter/Cold Weather Operations
- Fire dynamics: Fire or thermal plumes
- Out of sight, out of mind







**Underwater and Rescue and Recovery Team (URRT)**

The dive team did not participate in any training this month.

**Technical Rescue Team (TRT)**

We would like to congratulate FF/PM Dave Malcomson on becoming the new TRT leader for the Park Ridge Fire Department.

**Apparatus & Equipment**  
Battalion Chief John Hanson

Due to the high amount of miles and the stresses that the vehicles are put under, it is critical that we perform routine and emergency maintenance in cooperation with the City Garage. Below is a list of the maintenance completed for the month:

F-41	1995 Engine	- Replaced rear yellow strobes
F-43	2005 Engine	- Repaired Kussmaul air compresor
F-45	2001 Tower Ladder	- Repaired outrigger switch - Replaced ladder level gauge - Replaced ignition switch - Replaced temperature gauge - Batteries Replaced - All fuel injectors replaced



Squad #35 responded to River Grove for a fire in a 5-story, 50 unit apartment building in the 8200 block of Belmont Avenue.



## Fire Prevention

Lieutenant Kevin Plach

Activity	Monthly Totals 2013	Monthly Totals 2014
Initial Inspections	43	35
Re-Inspections	11	27
Pre-Permit Meetings	0	2
Construction Visits	9	15
Final Inspections	4	0
Plan reviews	9	12
Sprinkler Hydros	2	3
Storage Tank Installs	0	0
Storage Tank Removals	0	0
Residential Sprinklers	0	0
Fire Flow Tests	2	0
Fire Alarm Tests	3	1
Fire Pump Tests	0	0
Key Box Insp./Installs	1	4
Hood Test	0	0
Single Family Home Inspections	0	0
Citations	0	0
Meetings	13	8
Fire Drills	0	1
Seminar/Schools	0	0
Complaints	2	3
Shift Tours	0	0
Public Education Tours	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>111</b>

### Highlights

Nothing to report.

### Car Seat Safety Checks

23 car seat safety checks were performed in January.

### CPR and First Aid classes

14 people attended CPR classes in the month of January 2014.

### The following classes were provided:

- 1 Health Care Provider class
- 1 Heart Saver AED class

### CPR and First Aid training was provided to:

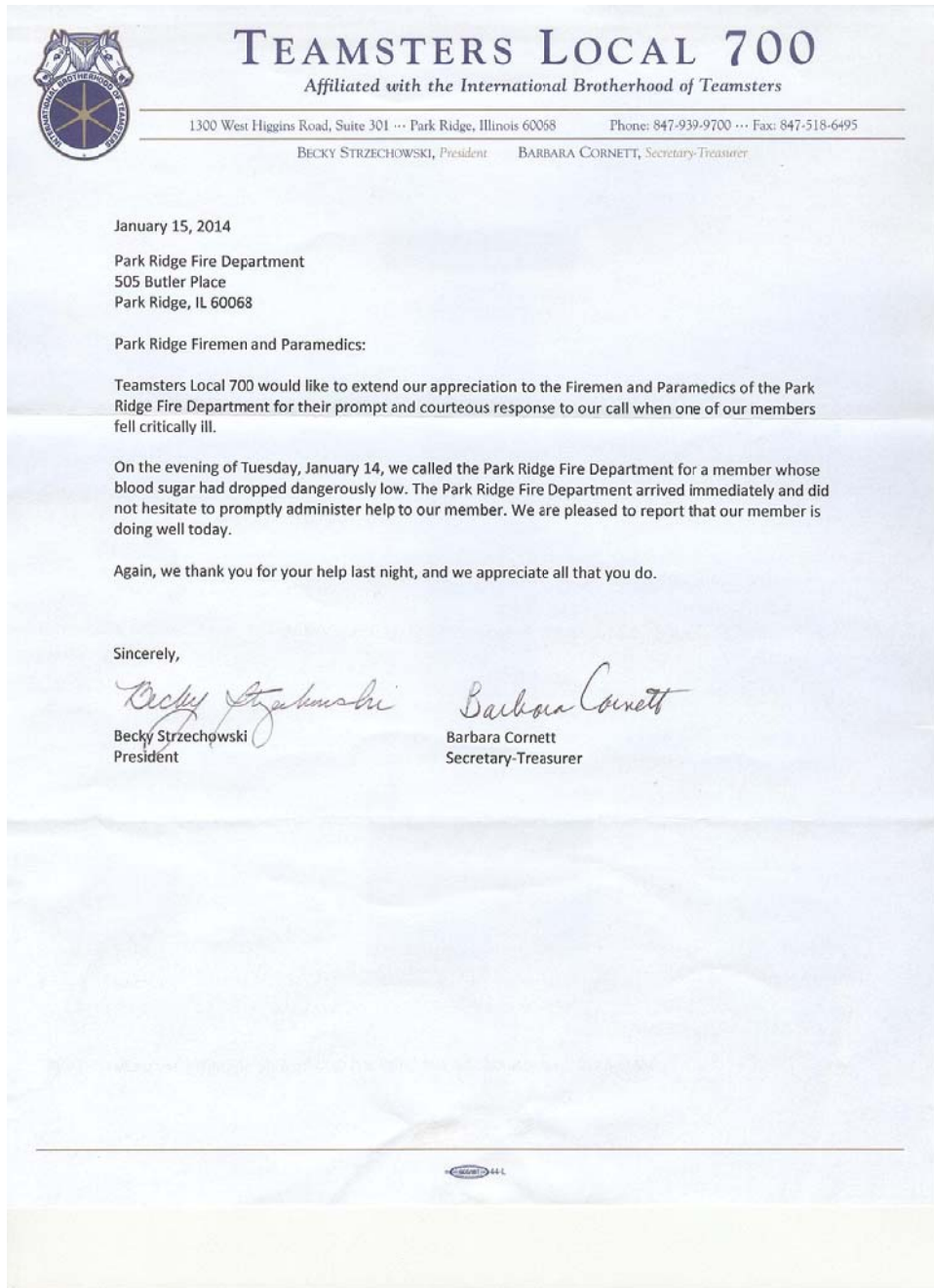
- 9 faculty and staff from School District 207
- 5 people in our public class



**Park Ridge Fire Explorer Post 3536**

The Explorer program has been temporarily suspended.

**Highlight of the Month**  
Fire Administration





**CITY OF PARK RIDGE  
FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
901 W. DEVON AVE  
PARK RIDGE, IL 60068  
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FAX: 847/318-5314  
TDD: 847/318-5252  
www.parkridgefd.org

MICHAEL ZYWANSKI  
FIRE CHIEF

Mark Tamvakis  
508 N. Knight Ave.  
Park Ridge IL, 60068

Mark,

I wanted to thank you for assisting us in the hydrant marking program. This program will provide valuable assistance to the Fire Department in recognition of hydrant location, should a fire occur in our community.

Over the summer, you spent 25 hours cutting 90 feet of reflexive tape and applying it to 90 hydrants. Each foot of tape was cut into four equal sections which were then applied to each hydrant on the north, east, south, and west faces to ensure that a fire truck could see the hydrant from any angle. You cleaned the areas of application and removed chipping paint. You were careful to ensure the best possible scenario for long lasting adhesion was achieved. You took the job seriously, realizing that the easily viewable reflective tape could save valuable seconds in the case of a fire, and had the potential to save lives.

Your efforts did not stop there, as you found and reported the existence of hydrants that were not previously on the map and made sure to tape them as well. Your commitment to the project was evident in all that you did. Passers-by out of curiosity would inquire about the job you were doing, and you were happy to educate them on the plans.

I hope in the future, there will be more opportunity for you to continue your work with the fire department.

Once again, thank you for your support of the community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JSorenson".

Jeff Sorensen  
Deputy Chief, City of Park Ridge Fire Department  
(847) 561-8692



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**Personnel News**  
Fire Administration

FF/PM Vaci has completed his third week of the Fire Academy at NIPSTA. We expect to have him back from the Academy and on shift filling a role in operations on March 18, 2014.

**World Trade Center Steel Update**  
Fire Administration

City Manager Hamilton and Alderman Nick Milissis attended the January 7, 2014 meeting. After discussions with Alderman Milissis, City Manager Hamilton would like to present the final design plans from the Commission to the Public Safety Committee. City Manager Hamilton believes that, with the oversight of Alderman Milissis, and with the collaboration of the two Chiefs, that this project can gain some momentum and move towards completion through the Public Safety Committee.

At the meeting, City Manager Hamilton talked about the various feedback he received over the past year and he stated that the feedback he received was in favor of a “simpler” Memorial concept versus the concept plan the Commission developed. City Manager Hamilton stated that the decision of what the final Memorial would look like will be determined later, and it may or may not be the design the Commission developed. He thanked the members of the Commission for all of their hard work. Alderman Milissis also thanked the Commission and its members for the work and as Chair of the Public Safety Committee, he ensured that the Commission, through the City Manager, would continue to be engaged in the process of the final memorial. Alderman Milissis stated that, in collaboration with various volunteers in the community, that the final Memorial will be something the community will be proud of.



**Monthly Tip**

Senior Administrative Assistant  
Jennifer Steurer



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*Pat Quinn, Governor*

*Larry Matkaitis, State Fire Marshal*

*Office of the State Fire Marshal*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wednesday, February 5, 2014

CONTACT: Milly Santiago: (312) 814-0908  
[Milly.santiago@illinois.gov](mailto:Milly.santiago@illinois.gov)

**ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL WARNS OF  
CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING DANGERS**

*Carbon Monoxide is a Silent Killer; Poisoning Cases Increase during  
Winter Season*

**SPRINGFIELD** – Due to extremely low temperatures and winter storms in the Midwest this winter, the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is stepping up its efforts to raise awareness about fire safety as well as the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning. The Fire Marshal is urging homeowners to be aware of the dangers that carbon monoxide poses.

“We urge residents to be proactive and check batteries on the carbon monoxide detectors to make sure they will work when needed,” State Fire Marshal Larry Matkaitis said. “Don’t let that silent killer take the lives of your loved ones. CO alarms save lives.”

Matkaitis noted that the Illinois Carbon Monoxide Detector Act, adopted in 2007, requires the installation of carbon monoxide alarms in every dwelling unit, with at least one working CO alarm within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping purposes.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, tasteless and invisible gas that can be deadly when high levels are inhaled. The noxious gas is produced due to faulty or poorly repaired appliances such as furnaces, boilers, water heaters, gas heaters, and dryers. Dirty and poorly maintained wood fireplaces, blocked chimneys and gas space heaters can also produce carbon monoxide poisoning, especially if ventilation is not adequate. A vehicle with the engine running in a closed garage can cause lethal levels of CO gas within minutes.



The effects of carbon monoxide poisoning are immediately observable. Common symptoms of CO poisoning include headaches, nausea, difficulty breathing, loss of balance, vision problems, and dizziness. Symptoms of high levels of CO can include disorientation, memory problems, loss of consciousness, and death.

The OSFM offers the following tips to prevent CO poisoning:

- Have your home heating systems (including chimneys and vents) inspected and serviced annually by a trained service technician.
- Never use portable generators inside homes or garages, even if doors and windows are open.
- Keep household appliances in good working order, and use them safely. Make sure all servicing is carried out by fully qualified and registered professionals.

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JRTC, 100 W. Randolph St., Ste. 4-600, Chicago, IL 60601, (312) 814-2693  
2309 W. Main St., Marion, IL 62959, (618) 993-7085  
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