



2014
ANNUAL
REPORT



MOUNT PROSPECT
FIRE DEPT.

“THE [PARAMEDICS] WERE ALL CARING, CONSCIENTIOUS, EFFICIENT, WORKED AS A TEAM. KEPT ME AS COMFORTABLE AS POSSIBLE, AND WERE OBVIOUSLY WELL TRAINED.”



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Mayor Juracek, Trustees, Village Manager and the residents of Mount Prospect; on behalf of all members of the Fire Department, I am proud to present the 2014 Annual Report.

This year was another busy one for the Fire Department as we responded to almost 6,000 calls for service. The number and complexity of our calls continue to rise – we have seen a 15 percent increase in our call volume since 2004.

The primary mission of the Fire Department aligns with the Governance goal of the Village’s Strategic Plan. The plan outlines the need for the Village to “provide high-value, relevant municipal services,” and I believe you will see this service demonstrated throughout this annual report.

Each and every day, the members of the Fire Department strive to display our core values in multiple ways. We are active participants in the community, sponsoring events such as our annual food and toy drives **(PROFESSIONALISM)**.

We value the public’s trust and are committed to honest and ethical behavior – especially as we are entrusted to enter your homes and businesses to protect you and your property **(INTEGRITY AND HONESTY)**.

We value the role each member plays in our organization and strive to continually improve it for those who follow us **(HONOR AND RESPECT)**.

Finally, we are dedicated to reflecting and respecting diversity within the Department and the community through team work and the accepting of our differences **(EMBRACING DIVERSITY)**.

We continue to prioritize fire prevention and public education activities for both our residents and businesses within the community.

Our annual Children’s Fire Safety Festival in May was a huge success again in 2014, with over 2,400 students in preschool through second grade in attendance to learn about fire



safety. Our businesses saw decreases in the number of false alarms related to their fire alarm systems as a result of the continued implementation of radio monitoring of fire alarms. We anticipate the number of false alarms to continue to decrease in the years ahead.

The year was not without challenges, however, as the Department worked to provide the best possible service with its reduced staffing. Since these reductions were made in 2011, the Department continually evaluates its emergency response strategy and has made adjustments to minimize the risk to the public and our firefighters using all available resources.

The restoration of our staffing continues to be the Department’s number one priority, as identified in our Strategic Plan. I am hopeful that we will be able to put Engine 13 back into service in 2016.

I am honored to serve as the Fire Chief for the Village of Mount Prospect. I took an oath of office to serve the community, which has been, and always will be, my primary focus. In closing, I wish to thank Mayor Juracek, the Trustees, the Village Manager and all Mount Prospect residents for their ongoing support and encouragement.

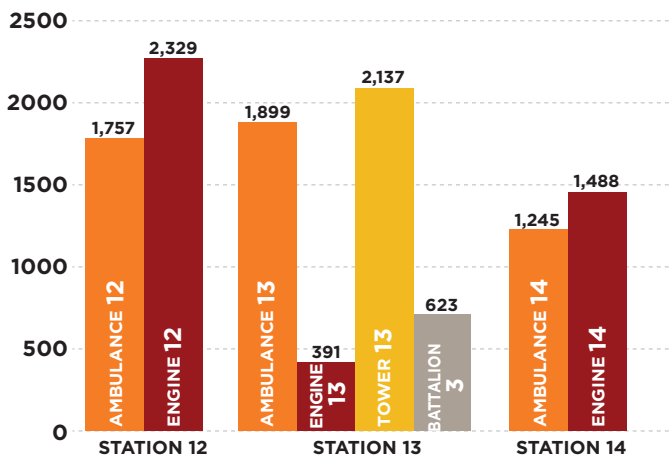
John J. Malcolm

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND STATISTICS

- Purchased and provided specifications for a new fire engine (arriving in early 2015) for Fire Station 12.
- Updated and re-organized the Fire Department's web pages on the Village website - mountprospect.org/fire.
- Developed a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) plan for the Fire Department and trained all staff on new HIPAA regulations.



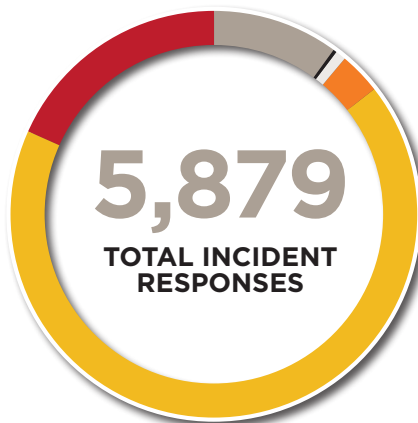
CALLS FOR SERVICE BY STATION & VEHICLE



11,869
TOTAL VEHICLE RESPONSES

CALLS FOR SERVICE BY CALL TYPE

● Rescue & Emergency Medical Calls	67.5%
● Service/Other Calls	18.0%
● False Alarms	10.2%
● Hazardous Situation Calls	3.0%
● Other Fires	0.8%
● Structure Fires	0.5%



2015 GOALS

- Provide necessary training to members of the Department's special teams, including Hazardous Materials, Technical Rescue and Dive, to ensure they meet current training standards.
- Implement new incident command software in the field for improved efficiency and accountability on the scene of emergency incidents.
- Conduct a bi-lingual fire safety education event in conjunction with the Village's Community Connections Center.

MISSION STATEMENT

To protect people, property, and the environment by reducing and controlling fire loss, providing emergency medical service, maintaining adequate emergency preparedness, and engaging in fire prevention and public education activities.

CORE VALUES

PROFESSIONALISM

We do all we can to ensure we deliver the best possible service to our internal and external customers/communities through smart, well trained, humble, dedicated, competent, hard working, and safe members. We are active participants in the communities where we live and work.

INTEGRITY AND HONESTY

We value the public's trust and are committed to honest and ethical behavior. We hold ourselves accountable to these values. We believe in a personal commitment to the organization and the community. Self-discipline is the foundation for managing behavior.

HONOR AND RESPECT

We are a fire department family. We are committed and accountable to each other because our lives depend on it. We value the role each member plays in our organization. We respect those that came before us and will strive to make the organization better for those who follow.

EMBRACE DIVERSITY

Recognizing the value of diversity helps us to work together as a team to serve our community. We are dedicated to reflecting and respecting diversity throughout our organization.



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) continues to account for close to 70 percent of the Fire Department's total calls for service. In 2014, Mount Prospect paramedics responded to almost 4,000 EMS calls – making it obvious why EMS remains one of the Department's core services. The following provides some highlights of the EMS program over the past year:

- In 2014, paramedics and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) received an average of 43 hours of continuing education training in conjunction with Northwest Community Hospital. Two paramedics also attended a Pediatric Education for Prehospital Providers class to learn more about delivering specialized care to infants and children.
- The Department continually monitors disease and illness outbreaks across the country to determine what additional training paramedics may require. In 2014, in response to a surge in cases nationwide of measles and the Ebola virus, paramedics received additional training in identifying the signs and symptoms of these diseases – extremely important since these diseases are not usually seen in the U.S.
- Over the past several years, paramedics and EMTs have received updated training on the care and treatment of both cardiac arrest and stroke patients. This training comes as a result of new research and changes in national guidelines. The training, coupled with new technology used by local hospitals, continues to improve patient outcomes. More and more patients are surviving heart attacks and strokes – and returning to their normal lives thanks to early detection and treatment!

“ALL OF THE MEN
WERE WONDERFUL
AND KIND. I
TRUSTED MY LIFE
TO THEM AND
THEY DIDN'T FAIL
ME. THANK GOD
FOR THEM.”



FIREHOUSE SUBS PUBLIC SAFETY FOUNDATION AED GRANT

In June, the Fire Department received a grant for over \$20,000 from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation. The funds from this grant were used to purchase and install automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) in 27 faith-based organizations in Mount Prospect. Training was also offered to each organization.

An AED is a medical device that analyzes heart rhythm and, when needed, delivers an electric shock to try and restore normal heart rhythm. The Fire Department recognized the need for early access and defibrillation for residents experiencing cardiac arrest while attending a service or event at a faith-based organization. This

led the Department to pursue the Firehouse Subs grant.



Firehouse Subs presents the Fire Department with an AED. Pictured from left to right are Arjay Cunanan, Battalion Chief Brian Lambel, General Manager Biren Patel, Brian Camodeca, Business Partner Ankit Patel, EMS Coordinator Wendy Seleen, Fire Chief John Malcolm and Fire and Life Safety Educator Jim Miller.

TRAINING

Mount Prospect firefighters consider training to be one of their most important daily activities. In 2014, firefighters averaged over 285 hours of fire, EMS and career development training – an increase of 35 hours per firefighter compared to 2013! In addition to hours spent training at work, Mount Prospect firefighters obtained 64 new certifications from the Office of the State Fire Marshal and attended over 115 emergency response classes. All of this training helps to prepare them for the wide range of emergencies they will respond to – and the Department develop its next generation of officers and leaders. The following highlights some of the training that occurred this past year:

- In late March and again in September, firefighters from Mount Prospect and neighboring fire departments participated in live fire training at the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA) in Glenview.
- The entire Department participated in a workshop with the non-profit Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance focusing on suicide prevention and awareness in April. The workshop helped participants learn to recognize and deal with behavioral and mental health issues relating to often stressful jobs as firefighters and paramedics.
- From mid-July to the end of August, firefighters utilized a single-family home slated for demolition on South Elm Street to practice self-rescue techniques and firefighting skills such as hose line advancement.
- Firefighters went to O'Hare International Airport in September to learn about aircraft fires and rescue techniques. While there, they practiced putting out an aircraft fire and handling a fuel spill. Given the Department's close proximity to the airport, Mount Prospect could be called to respond to a large-scale emergency at O'Hare.
- As a result of recent studies on modern fire behavior, fire departments across the country are changing their tactics for fighting fires. In December, the Department held a series of drills at Fire Station 14 to practice new tactics for the way firefighters “attack” fires with hose lines and ventilate buildings.



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MINIMUM DAILY STAFFING

STATION 12

1601 W. Golf Rd.

APPARATUS & STAFFING
AMBULANCE 12



ENGINE 12



STATION 13 (HQ)

112 E. Northwest Hwy.

APPARATUS & STAFFING
AMBULANCE 13



BATTALION 3



TOWER 13*



*Engine 13—Out of Service

STATION 14

2000 E. Kensington Rd.

APPARATUS & STAFFING
AMBULANCE 14



ENGINE 14



OFFICER



FIREFIGHTER/
PARAMEDIC

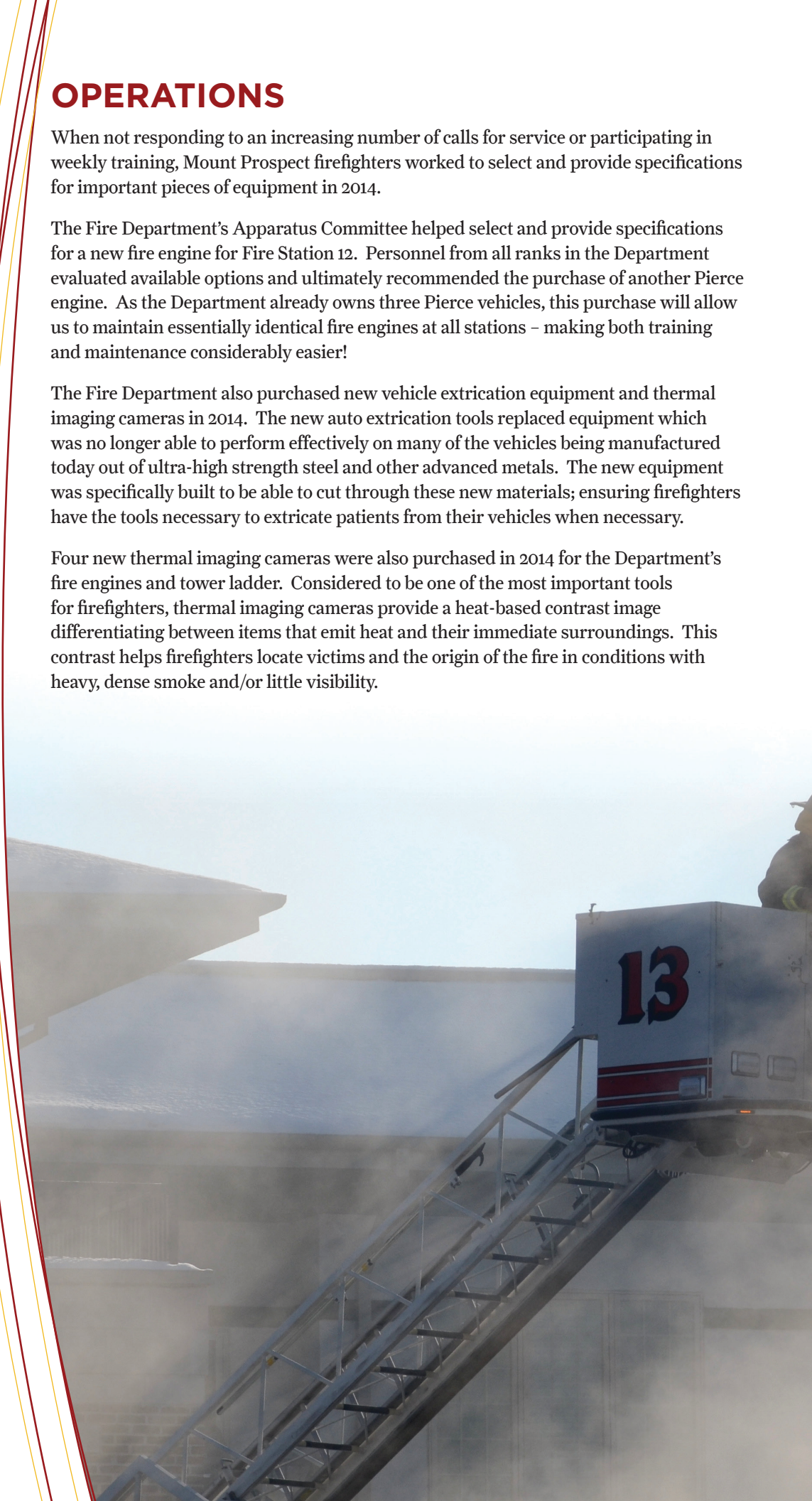
OPERATIONS

When not responding to an increasing number of calls for service or participating in weekly training, Mount Prospect firefighters worked to select and provide specifications for important pieces of equipment in 2014.

The Fire Department's Apparatus Committee helped select and provide specifications for a new fire engine for Fire Station 12. Personnel from all ranks in the Department evaluated available options and ultimately recommended the purchase of another Pierce engine. As the Department already owns three Pierce vehicles, this purchase will allow us to maintain essentially identical fire engines at all stations - making both training and maintenance considerably easier!

The Fire Department also purchased new vehicle extrication equipment and thermal imaging cameras in 2014. The new auto extrication tools replaced equipment which was no longer able to perform effectively on many of the vehicles being manufactured today out of ultra-high strength steel and other advanced metals. The new equipment was specifically built to be able to cut through these new materials; ensuring firefighters have the tools necessary to extricate patients from their vehicles when necessary.

Four new thermal imaging cameras were also purchased in 2014 for the Department's fire engines and tower ladder. Considered to be one of the most important tools for firefighters, thermal imaging cameras provide a heat-based contrast image differentiating between items that emit heat and their immediate surroundings. This contrast helps firefighters locate victims and the origin of the fire in conditions with heavy, dense smoke and/or little visibility.



105 S. MAIN STREET FIRE

In the early morning hours of February 9, 2014, the Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire at 105 S. Main Street. What began as a basement fire at the Sakura Restaurant, quickly turned into the largest fire in downtown Mount Prospect in recent history. When all was said and done, 13 neighboring departments provided mutual aid to Mount Prospect firefighters who worked in cold and icy conditions to put out the fire. The 105 S. Main Street building sustained over \$2 million worth of damage, but firefighters were able to keep the fire from spreading to adjacent buildings.



FIRE PREVENTION

The Mount Prospect Fire Prevention Bureau had an exciting and eventful year once again in 2014. In addition to the daily responsibilities of annual fire inspections, fire investigations, plan reviews and public education programs, the Fire Prevention Bureau kept busy organizing the Department's Children's Fire Safety Festival, Open House and Poster/Essay Contest - all successful programs again this past year! The Fire Prevention Bureau also welcomed a new mascot, Sparky the Fire Dog, and congratulated three of its members for receiving a Special Recognition Award.



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU ACTIVITIES

3,047
FIRE INSPECTIONS

18
FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

311
PLAN REVIEWS

362
PUBLIC EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

374
SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLATIONS
(in 107 homes)

MOUNT PROSPECT FIRE DEPARTMENT

OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY SEPT. 27
10AM TO 2PM

Kids, Come Meet Sparky!
Slide Down a Fire Pole! Dunk a Fireman!

- Fire Trucks, Ambulances, & Special Response Teams
- YMCA Climbing Wall
- Two magic shows performed by Marshall Brodien Jr, son of Marshall Brodien from the Bozo Show
- Vehicle Extrication Demonstration
- Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness Programs & more
- FREE hot dog lunch

FIRE STATION 13 • 112 E. NORTHWEST HIGHWAY



MEET SPARKY!

The Fire Department welcomed its new mascot, Sparky the Fire Dog, in 2014. Created in 1951 by the National Fire Protection Association, Sparky has become a widely recognized fire safety icon beloved by children and adults of all ages. Thanks to funding from the Mount Prospect Foreign Fire Insurance Tax Board, the Fire Prevention Bureau was able to purchase a Sparky costume for use at community and public education events. Sparky was out and about in Mount Prospect in 2014, spreading fire safety messages and giving lots of high fives. Keep your eyes out for Sparky and his firefighter friends in 2015!



UNION LOCAL 4119

Union Local 4119 members take an active role in the community both on and off-duty.

- In April, Local 4119 sold hamburgers and hot dogs at Irish Fest and raised \$2,750 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.
- Six members of Local 4119 shaved their heads on April 21 to support pediatric cancer research - they raised \$5,900 for the St. Baldrick's Foundation.
- Local 4119 held a boot drive in September and collected over \$900 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.
- Members of Local 4119 presented the Northwest Community Hospital Gift-A-Mammogram Program with a \$1,000 check in October. The program provides free mammograms to under-resourced women.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Three members of the Fire Prevention Bureau were honored with a Special Recognition Award on October 9, 2014 at the 73rd Annual Fire Prevention Week Luncheon. Fire and Life Safety Educator Jim Miller, Fire Inspector Cory Pikora and Fire Inspector Andy Skic received the award from the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance for their work implementing the Department's Senior Smoke Alarm Program. In 2013, the Fire Department received a Fire Prevention and Safety Grant from FEMA, which was used to install over 1,400 10-year battery life smoke alarms in nearly 400 senior-owned homes, at no cost to the residents. Miller, Pikora and Skic dedicated over 150 night and weekend hours to these smoke alarm installations for one of Mount Prospect's most at-risk demographic groups.

Fire Chief John Malcolm (far left) and Fire Marshal Bryan Loomis (far right) congratulate Special Recognition award recipients Andy Skic, Jim Miller and Cory Pikora (middle from left to right).





COMMUNITY SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

FEED THE CHILDREN FOOD DELIVERY

On March 6, the Fire and Human Services Departments accepted a donation of \$25,000 worth of food and personal care items from Feed the Children. The donation was sponsored by Sam's Place restaurant in Mount Prospect and was distributed to local families in need.



PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDRAISER AT OBERWEIS

The Fire and Police Departments teamed up with Oberweis Ice Cream on June 16 and raised almost \$600 for the Village's public safety education programs. Firefighters and police officers scooped ice cream and talked to patrons about 9-1-1.



MEALS FROM THE HEART

The Fire Administration and Fire Prevention Bureau served up a barbeque dinner to the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House located at the University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital on June 30. The dinner was part of the Ronald McDonald House's "Meals from the Heart" program.



COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE AT RANDHURST VILLAGE

The Fire Department and Union Local 4119 sponsored a community food drive for the fourth year in a row on October 18. Fire Department employees accepted donations at the Randhurst Village Costco store to help fill the Village's Emergency Food Pantry for the upcoming holiday season. When all was said and done, the Department collected 12 pallets worth of food, with a retail value of over \$10,000, and \$1,700 in cash donations.



TOYS FOR KIDS PROGRAM

In November and December, the Fire Department accepted donations of toys and gift cards from the community for Mount Prospect's annual Toys for Kids program. On December 20, members of the Fire and Human Services Departments invited 350 underprivileged children, from about 120 families, to Fire Station 14 to pick-up their toys and visit with Santa Claus.

Many of the photos are courtesy of CERT Member and Resident Mike Zarnek.

COMMUNITY SUPPORTED GROUPS

PAID-ON-CALL FIREFIGHTERS

The Mount Prospect Fire Department began as a volunteer organization in 1913. Unlike many area fire departments, Mount Prospect still maintains this volunteer group, now called Paid-On-Call (POC) as they receive a nominal amount for their service. The Department currently has 13 POC members. In 2014, the POCs volunteered their time at a Public Safety Education Fundraiser at Oberweis, the Fire Department's Open House, the Police Department's National Night Out and the Christmas Toys for Kids Program. They also donated \$2,000 toward the purchase of smoke alarms, which were distributed to Mount Prospect residents at various events.

BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS

In Mount Prospect, as in many communities across the nation, hiring firefighters is the responsibility of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners (BOFPC), not the Fire Department. Commissioners are residents of Mount Prospect who volunteer their time to oversee the testing process and interview potential candidates. In 2014, the BOFPC oversaw a new hire written exam and interviewed 16 potential candidates. Current Commission members are Michael Skowron (Chairperson), James Powers, Charles Bennett, Mark Busse and Jackie Hinaber.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Members of Mount Prospect's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) contributed over 1,100 hours of volunteer time to the community in 2014. CERT is made up of resident volunteers trained to "aid and assist Mount Prospect Village departments when professional emergency resources become overwhelmed." In 2014, CERT training included search and rescue procedures, a review of fire extinguishers and a large-scale drill focusing on incident command, SMART triage and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations. CERT members also assisted Village staff at community events such as the Fire Department Open House, Police Department's National Night Out, Family Bike Ride, Downtown Block Party and Fourth of July fireworks.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DOES THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFER CPR CLASSES?

Yes! The Fire Department offers American Heart Association Healthcare Provider and Heartsaver CPR classes throughout the year. All classes cover recognition and emergency resuscitation techniques for heart attack, cardiac arrest, stroke and airway obstruction on adults, children and infants. Classes also demonstrate the use of an automatic external defibrillator (AED). For more information about CPR classes, visit mountprospect.org/cpr.

HOW DO I GET A COPY OF AN AMBULANCE REPORT?

The Fire Department's ambulance reports/medical records are processed and stored with the Northwest Community Emergency Medical Services System (NWCEMSS), located at 901 Kirchoff Road in Arlington Heights. To obtain a copy of an ambulance report/medical record, contact the NWCEMSS at (847) 618-4480.

WHAT DO INSPECTORS TYPICALLY LOOK FOR DURING AN ANNUAL FIRE INSPECTION?

In general, inspectors are looking for any fire or life safety issues that may make the building unsafe for residents, occupants and/or employees. Inspectors look to make sure the building is properly addressed, that emergency lights and exit signage are working and that the correct number and type of fire extinguishers are present. Ensuring that all exits and utility rooms are clear and that a building's fire alarm and/or fire suppression system has been properly tested and maintained are also part of an annual fire inspection. For more information, visit mountprospect.org/fire or call the Fire Prevention Bureau at (847) 818-5253.



FIRE STATION 12
1601 W. Golf Road



FIRE STATION 13 (Headquarters)
112 E. Northwest Highway



FIRE STATION 14
2000 E. Kensington Road

EMERGENCY SERVICES: 9-1-1

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
FIRE SUPPRESSION**

**NON-EMERGENCY SERVICES:
847-870-5660**

**COMMUNITY CPR AND
FIRST AID TRAINING**

DISASTER/CRISIS PLANNING

INCIDENT REPORTS

LIFELINE/PREMISE ALERT PROGRAM

PARAMEDIC SERVICE QUESTIONS

**FIRE PREVENTION:
847-818-5253**

BUILDING EVACUATION PLANNING

**CITIZEN EMERGENCY
RESPONSE TRAINING**

FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT

**FIRE CODE AND FIRE
PROTECTION SYSTEMS QUESTIONS**

FIRE INSPECTIONS

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

**FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY
EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

FIRE STATION TOURS

JUVENILE FIRE SETTER COUNSELING

KNOX BOX PROGRAM

**SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLATION
AND BATTERY REPLACEMENT**

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 4 - 8
Children's Fire
Safety Festival at
Fire Station 14

SEPTEMBER 26
Fire Department
Open House at
Fire Station 13

OCTOBER 4 - 10
Fire Prevention Week

NOVEMBER TBD
Fire Prevention
Poster/Essay Contest
(K - 8th grade)

mountprospect.org/fire



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