

As I will share with our 10 new Board Directors at the year's first Board of Directors meeting this evening, the two-word phrase in the salutation above — "OCFA Family" — is not an empty or hyperbolic tagline.

Yes, there are approximately 1,200 firefighters running more than 170,000 calls per year. Yes, there are nearly 400 professional staff supporting those firefighters and the lifesaving work they do. And yes, there are 25 Board Members who represent nearly two million people across the 23 cities and unincorporated county areas that we serve.

It takes a village, as they say, but for us, it really is more than that. It is family. And like all families, there are times when we experience the push and pull of differing viewpoints and conflicting opinions. This is not a

weakness or a vulnerability; it is a strength, and the ensuing discourse often results in the three tenets this agency has long embraced and I have sought to emphasize: Positive growth, continued learning, and infinite improvement. The through-line of those tenets, of course, is change, because as our communities change, we must change with them. It's right there in the first few words of our mission statement: "Proudly serving the changing needs of our communities." So, as we resume our work in this new year, it is important to reflect on our success in

changing with the challenges of the time. Through pandemics and perfect storms. Through major disasters

and mass shootings. Through thick and thin, and always with the most professional, character-driven firefighters and professional staff imaginable. Despite all that success, we now find ourselves at one of the most opportune intersections of growth and opportunity in recent memory. It is a New Year. We have 10 new OCFA Board Members, two newly promoted members of Executive Management in Deputy Chief McGovern and Assistant Chief Capobianco, a new president of Local 3631, Chris Hamm, and new leaders stepping up for all our represented groups.

On top of all that, as we further emerge from the pandemic, we also have new freedoms to meet in person, open our stations and offices, host our first Open House in three years, and leverage the power of face-to-face interactions. For some, all this change might be daunting, but as Abraham Maslow once wrote, "In any given moment, we have two options: Step forward into growth or step back into safety."

As I meet with our newest leaders and visit stations in this new year, it is evident that all of us are vested in capitalizing on this moment to step forward toward growth, and I could not be more proud or excited to take that step with all of you. There will be challenges, but together, we can and will overcome them for the greater

good of our personnel and the nearly two million people we serve. That is what will cement our reputation as a destination agency around the state. That is what will empower us to better serve the changing needs of our community.

And of course, that is what will tighten our bonds as OCFA Family. Sincerely,

Brian Fennessy

Fire Chief

IN THIS ISSUE

Monthly Spotlight - Excellence in ServiceDiversity, Equity and Inclusion Updates

OCFA Social Media

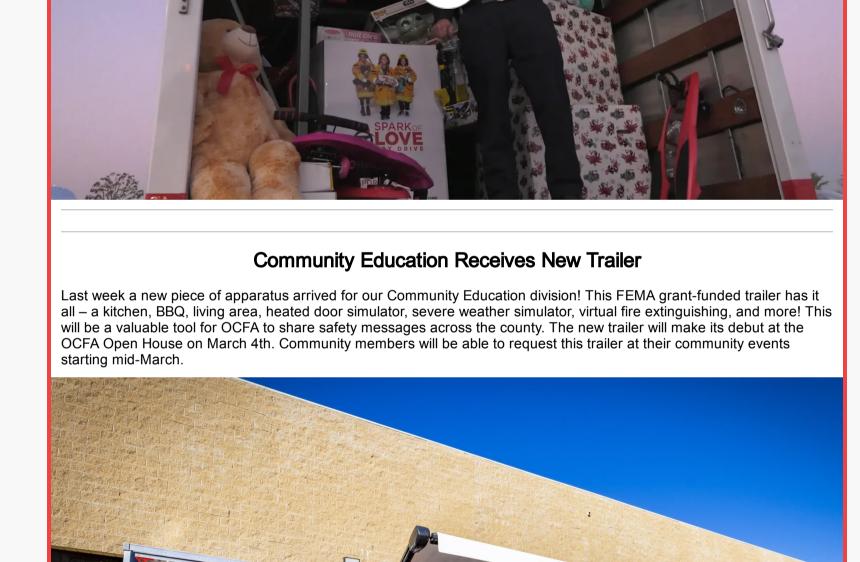
Retirements

MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT - EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE

\$50,000 in monetary donations for children in need -- both all-time highs. In addition to collecting toys at all 78 of our fire stations, we worked with over 155 organizations within our jurisdiction to collect toys for more than 100 non-profit agencies. We also hosted Stuff-A-Bus with ABC7 and multiple pop-up events in the community. Thank you for those who volunteered! We had over 60 drivers covering over 90 shifts - that's over 550 hours of your time and service to your community.

Spark of Love Wrap Up!

OCFA was excited to participate in the Spark of Love Toy Drive again for 2022! This year, we collected 37,378 toys and



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion On January 26th, the Orange County Fire Authority honored and celebrated the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King,

CAN SERVE. - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. **SOCIAL MEDIA** Over the past month OCFA's social media platforms had: Over 3.1 million impressions (eyes on our content) 174,486 engagements (interaction with our content)

Despite these numbers and all of our social media success, we are always looking to improve and share information of interest with each other and the communities we serve. To that end, there is now a new area on the HIVE for all OCFA personnel (safety and non-safety) to submit photos, videos, and story ideas for OCFA's social media accounts and other

his leg caught over a gate in his Yorba Linda trailer this evening. After a veterinarian responded to first sedate the horse, our tech truck firefighters quickly loosened and cut the hinges of the gate to free him. We were all happy to see Cactus exit the trailer safely to be further assessed and then go home with his family. Thank you to Anaheim Fire and OCSD.

Click to Read the Memo

EVERYBODY CAN BE

GREAT BECAUSE

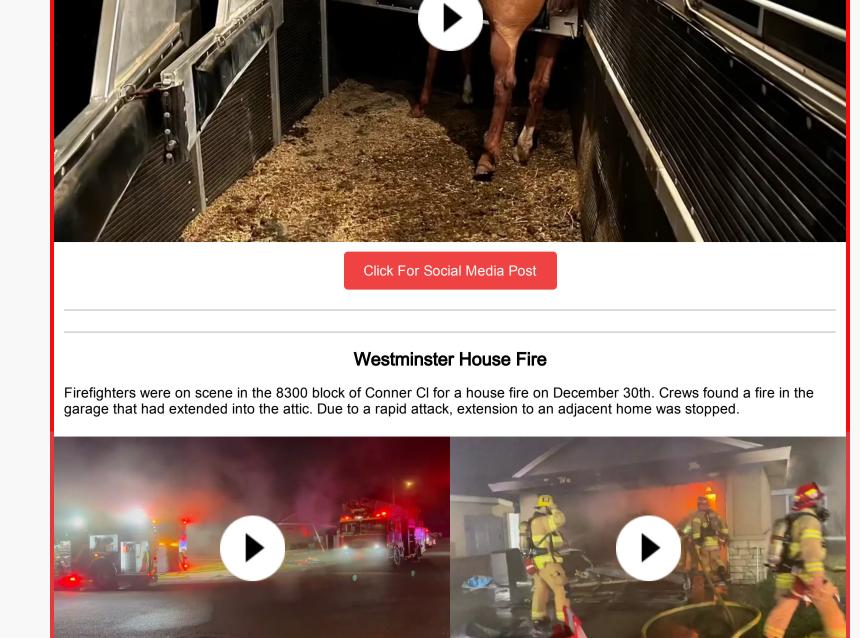
EVERYBODY

Top Social Media Posts Horse Rescue A horse named Cactus will be back on the trails again soon. Our technical rescue truck firefighters freed him after he got

Click to Submit Photos/Videos

650 link clicks/redirects 895 new followers

information-sharing platforms.

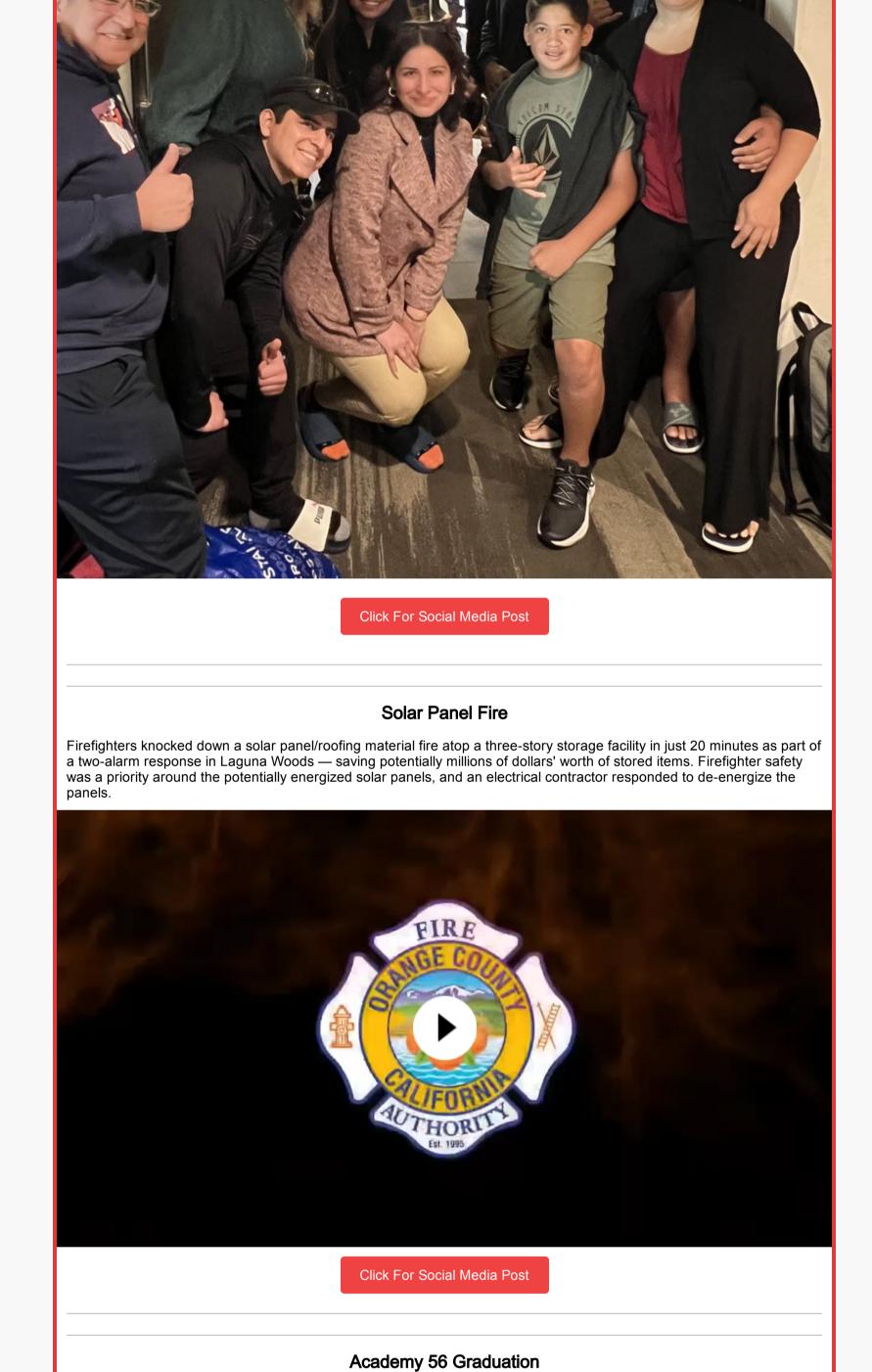


elevator. Some of them stopped by the fire station afterwards to thank the firefighters and wish them a Merry Christmas.

Click For Social Media Post

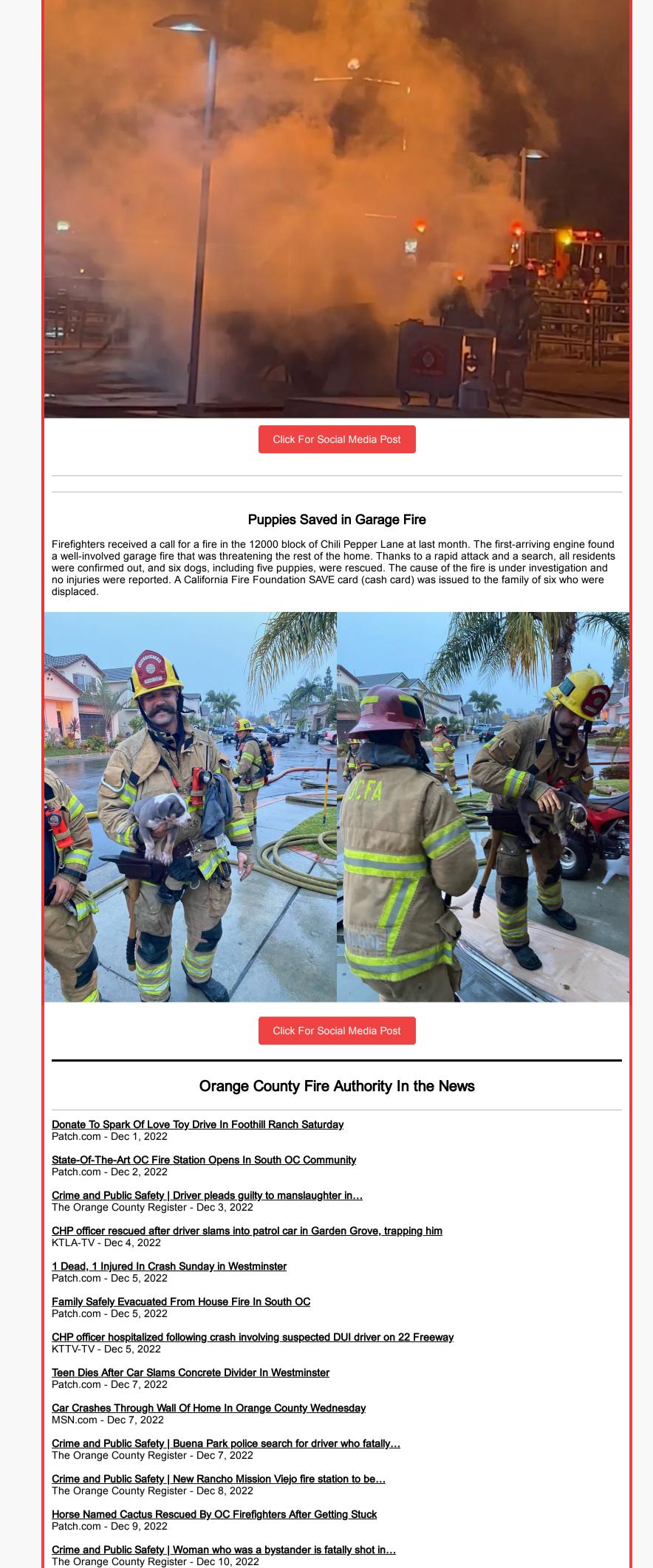
Elevator Rescue

On Christmas Eve, OCFA firefighters from Buena Park rescued two separate families (nine people total) from a stuck hotel



Congratulations to our newest probationary firefighters from academy 56 who graduated tonight! We welcome you and

your families to the OCFA fire family.



Rancho Mission Viejo unveils state-of-the-art fire facility VIDEO: Watch how fast Christmas trees can ignite Local News | 2022 Stuff-A-Bus event fills 10 buses in Orange... The Orange County Register - Dec 16, 2022

Senator Dave Min announces six new laws to be enacted on January 1, 2023 Orange County Breeze - Dec 22, 2022 Orange County King Tides Flooding Concern KNBC-TV - Dec 22, 2022 Orange County firefighters rescue 9 people from hotel elevator KTLA-TV - Dec 24, 2022 Two families rescued from Buena Park hotel elevator

Families rescued from Buena Park hotel elevator on Christmas Eve

OC Family Displaced, 5 Puppies Rescued From Garage Fire Tuesday

Crime and Public Safety | Missing hiker, 63, found dead in Carbon Canyon...

9 People Rescued From Hotel Elevator In Orange County

Vehicle Crashes Into Storefront Causing Severe Damage in Garden Grove

Narcan could be coming to more OC school districts thanks to newly-approved grants

Nueve personas quedan atrapadas en ascensor de hotel: todos fueron rescatados a salvo

Effective Saturday, December 31 at 10 am: Evacuation Warning (Voluntary) Issued for Bond Fire Burn Area

Residents re-enter burning home in Buena Park to search for cat; 3 hospitalized

Orange County firefighters rescue man from Santa Ana River

Crime and Public Safety | Man lifted to safety by helicopter from swollen...

One Man Dead, One Rescued from Orange County Flood Control Channels

Orange County firefighters show how quickly a Christmas tree can burn down a room

Crime and Public Safety | Ferrari collision in Silverado leaves 1 dead, 3...

Man Dead, Another Rescued From Flooding As Rain Pummels OC

Firefighters rescue man swept away in Santa Ana River

The Orange County Register - Dec 11, 2022

Orange County mother killed by a stray bullet

The Orange County Register - Dec 16, 2022

Fatality Reported in 3-Car Crash in Silverado

Fire engulfs Mission Viejo garage, vehicles

Fire Engulfs Vacant Building In OC Early Monday Morning

One Dead, One Hospitalized in Santa Ana Shooting

KTLA-TV - Dec 11, 2022

Yahoo! News - Dec 11, 2022

The Epoch Times - Dec 12, 2022

MSN.com - Dec 12, 2022

KTLA-TV - Dec 12, 2022

KTLA-TV - Dec 13, 2022

Patch.com - Dec 13, 2022

KFOR-TV - Dec 15, 2022

MSN.com - Dec 16, 2022

KTLA-TV - Dec 16, 2022

Patch.com - Dec 19, 2022

KNBC-TV - Dec 20, 2022

KTTV-TV - Dec 21, 2022

Yahoo! News - Dec 24, 2022

Univision Television Network - Dec 25, 2022

KTTV-TV - Dec 24, 2022

KTLA-TV - Dec 26, 2022

Patch.com - Dec 27, 2022

Patch.com - Dec 29, 2022

Orange County Breeze - Dec 31, 2022

The Orange County Register - Dec 31, 2022

The Epoch Times - Dec 19, 2022

• TJ McGovern, Deputy Fire Chief Emergency Operations Tara Miali, Management AnalystAnjan Purohit, Management Analyst **PROMOTIONS** • Collette Whitlock, ECC Manager Austen Berryman, Firefighter Kyle Boss, Firefighter Kyle Burdett, Firefighter



Linda Madrid, Senior Accounting Support Specialist **December Retirements**

