

It should also be noted that our collaborative spirit on community-building events is not relegated to external partnerships; it is equally evident in our internal, cross-agency partnerships. Take our recent Fill the Boot event spearheaded by Local 3631 in which we, as an agency, worked collaboratively — online and in the streets — to raise money for muscular dystrophy. I could go on but the bottom line is this: Thanks in large part to all of you, terms like mutual aid have come to mean far more than their traditional incident-based definitions, tapping into the power of our partnerships on non-emergencies; events at which we educate, inspire, and serve our communities beyond the already high standards of our respective

With all that in mind, I am confident you will feel this collegial spirit throughout this issue of the Chief's Bulletin — from Chiefs Contreras and Dossey's presentation on our cross-agency efforts to decrease forced staffing in "Ask the Chief," to the CAL FIRE video that applauds the collaborative relationship between us and the five other contract counties that assist in the protection of California's SRAs (there go those pesky fire service acronyms again). And if you believe, as I do, that each of these stories (and the people behind them) expand upon the already profound meaning of terms like "mutual aid," then you know of at least one acronym-based fire service phrase that needs no

As always, it is an honor and privilege to be a part of it with each of vou. Sincerely, **Brian Fennessy** Fire Chief

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missions.

translation: OCFA Family.

Be sure to check out this month's *Ask the Chief* in which Chiefs Fennessy, Dossey, and Contreras provide an expansive update/presentation on **forced hiring**. Other topics covered by Captain/PIO Nguyen and Chief Fennessy include Station 46 excellence, beach city lifeguard programs, and traditional 880 helmets. Watch below!

MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT - EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE Ask the Chief

Want to ask the Fire Chief an anonymous question? Click the thumbs up below! OCFA's 2021 Best & Bravest Awards Ceremony On May 20, 2022, we celebrated our 14th Annual Best & Bravest Awards in a special ceremony here at RFOTC. If you were unable to attend or watch the livestream, you can now watch the full show by clicking on the image below!

second of these three academies concluded with the promotion of these 15 new OCFA captains!

Fire Captain Promotions

As mentioned above in *Ask the Chief*, our many efforts to decrease forced hiring among the captain rank include the facilitation of three Captains Academies in one calendar year for the first time in OCFA history. This past Thursday, the

The 15 new Fire Captains are: Oscar Ayala, Todd Baldridge, John Baranger, Matthew Berger, Paul Burgon, Philip Chun, Vincent Cicconi, Ryan Cummings, Robert Elliott, Jordan Jemiola, Thomas Morones, Jonathan Pahissa, Brett Pearson, David Sparks, Randall Wilkinson. **CAL FIRE** As mentioned above, CAL FIRE recently explained and applauded the collaborative relationship between OCFA and the five other contract counties that assist in the protection of California's State Responsibility Areas:

CAL FIRE has 21 units, & six contract counties, that

assist in the protection of State Responsibility Areas

collaboratively with us & provide invaluable services to

throughout CA? These counties - Marin, Kern, Los

Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara & Orange – work

CAL FIRE @CAL_FIRE

their communities.

12.4K views

CAL FIRE - Contract Counties (All Access)

CAL FIRE has 21 units, & six contract counties, that assist in the protection of State Responsibility Areas throughout California. These counties - Marin, Kern, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara & Orange - work collaboratively with CALFIRE and provide invaluable services to their communities. Watch Video

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OCflex.com / ON DEMAND LOCAL SHUTTLE

Fill the Boot for Muscular Dystrophy

Last week, Local 3631 and OCFA partnered to raise money for muscular dystrophy. The donations are still being calculated, but it's looking like a record number of generous Orange County residents made this year's Fill the Boot

one of our most successful ever! Thank you to Local 3631 and all our firefighters and donors!

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION Asian American Pacific Islander Month Since our last Chief's Bulletin, we finished May with a proud celebration of Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month on social media, including a tribute to retired Deputy Chief Craig "Kino" Kinoshita: In recognition of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we would like to highlight a trailblazer of our own, retired Deputy Chief Craig "Kino" Kinoshita. Chief Kinoshita began his illustrious career in 1977 as a Paid Call Firefighter at Station 7 in San Juan Capistrano. Fast forward three years and he was hired as a career Firefighter in 1980, attending the first, Orange County Fire Department Fire Academy, Class 1. Chief Kinoshita would serve the citizens of Orange County for the next 35 years with excellence, selflessness, and compassion. Chief Kinoshita's service included field assignments in Battalion 1 and 3, staff assignments at "606," and in the Emergency Command Center. He was involved with FIRESCOPE, the Association of Contract Counties, OC Fire Chiefs, Operations Chiefs, and Communications Managers. Chief Kinoshita participated on CAL FIRE Incident Command Teams (Plans and Operations Section Chiefs), and as Incident Commander for OCFA Incident Management Team 3. Additionally, he was a tenured chief officer for over 20 years. Kino learned the value of hard work at an early age. His grandfather was the patriarch of Kinoshita Farms in San Juan Capistrano (1955 to 1995). "He taught me the value of hard work, as all my boyhood summers were spent helping with the family business. My grandparents came to the United States with nothing to start a better life for themselves and their family." Chief Kinoshita spent decades as a firefighter working hard and inspiring the men and women of the OCFA to follow his lead. Chief Kinoshita offered this advice to those aspiring to follow in his footsteps. "My advice is not to forgot the basic skill sets you were taught during the Firefighter Academy. Those fundamental skills such as donning and doffing your

breathing apparatus, the art of interior firefighting, appropriate hose line selection (GPM vs BTU), will remain with you throughout your career. Please never lose sight of why you accepted this job, and no matter how bad your day may be,

View Post

Girls Empowerment Camp

In addition to a record number of campers, this year's GEC will also have a record number of volunteers! We are so proud and thankful for everyone who continues to enhance this free, two-day camp designed to help eliminate the

you need to park that aside when you make 'patient contact,' engage in your community and be compassionate."

Thank you, Chief, for making a lasting impact on not only us here at OCFA but on the communities we serve!

opportunity gap for girls and young women who aspire to achieve a career in the fire service.

Saturday, June 25 & Sunday, June 26, 2022 8 am - 5 pm both days

Lunch included

1 Fire Authority Road

Irvine, CA 92602

To learn more about how you can volunteer, please contact OCFA Captain/Paramedic Natalie Nacker at NatalieNacker@ocfa.org or (949) 697-4688 **SOCIAL MEDIA** Over the past month OCFA's social media platforms had: • Over 5.9 million impressions (eyes on our content) • 376,527 engagements (interaction with our content) • 40,154 link clicks/redirects Despite that success, we are always looking to improve and share information of interest with each other and the communities we serve. To that end, and per Chief Fennessy's June 20, 2022 memo 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 information-sharing platforms. Click to Submit Photos/Videos Click to Read the Memo June's Top Social Media Posts Aliso Viejo Vegetation Fire It took firefighters under 40 minutes to stop the forward progress of a vegetation fire located along the Aliso Creek Bikeway near Alicia Parkway and Avila Rd this afternoon. The call came in at 5:48 p.m. Crews are still on scene to ensure the fire is out. Fire investigators are on scene. View Social Media Post **US&R Technical Rescue - Coastal Fire** As we continue to share moments with the community after the Coastal Fire, this story is about our US&R Technical Rescue Truck Firefighters. With the homeowners of an affected two-story house not in the area at the time, our firefighters asked a neighbor if they could contact the residents to relay what items they would most like recovered. To safely enter the house, we worked to extinguish small pockets of fire hidden in void spaces, and our Heavy Equipment Operators assisted gaining access. US&R firefighters then constructed a shoring system right there on the street, with the family watching the team do their technical work. The shoring system was put in place and a section of a beam was removed to access the pockets of hidden fire. Once the scene was safe, our firefighters assisted for many hours recovering important items, packing them in boxes (even in bubble wrap), and loading their vehicles. Our time shared with the family meant a lot - to all of us.

View Social Media Post

Santa Ana Technical Rescue

View Social Media Post

Laguna Hills Fire

On May 5th firefighters responded to a strip center in the 25300 block of Alicia Parkway at 3:03 a.m. Engine 22 reported smoke showing from one business on arrival. Crews attacked the fire and confirmed no one was inside. A second alarm was requested which brought additional firefighters and equipment. With an aggressive attack, firefighters were able to

isolate the blaze to the unit of origin. No injuries reported and the cause is under investigation.

Firefighters from our technical rescue team recently responded to a market for a female worker that got her hand stuck in a dough rolling machine. Crews attempted to free the hand with air bags but ultimately dismantled the

machine to release it with the assistance provided by a maintenance employee for the machinery company. Fortunately, the woman only sustained minor injuries.

She was treated by firefighter paramedics and transported to a

hospital for further care.

View Social Media Post

Kittens Rescued

OCFA firefighters put out a fire in a storm drain with several surrounding trees that could've potentially caught fire. They then noticed a kitten in a nearby planter. Firefighters suspected this kitten might be part of a litter. After a quick search, they discovered 5 more kittens and their mother. Firefighters tended to the kittens while they waited for Santa Ana Animal Control. Fortunately, all the kittens were in good health and meowing while with our crews (we suspect they were saying

thank you).

View Social Media Post New Engine in Service Earlier this month Station 24 in Mission Viejo put a new engine into service. A lot of hard work by our support staff and apparatus committee members make this possible. Be sure to wave as you see 24's rolling by! View Social Media Post **Drowning Prevention**

Another safety topic we're starting to share with our community partners this month is Drowning Prevention.

Community Education has put together a campaign of

presentations, public service announcements and fun kids

New to the campaign this year is a Drowning Prevention Escape Room! This is perfect for kids of all ages to become water safety experts. You can test your knowledge, and try

Try the Escape Room!

social media posts, safety flyers, pre-recorded

the escape room by clicking the link below.

activities as part of the campaign.

OCFA sent out a Wildfire Awareness Campaign to all our city partners to encourage them to share this important safety message with their communities. Visit the RSG! Website **Pass-Along Podcast** The Pass-Along Podcast addresses firefighter issues from top to bottom. On the newest episode of the Pass-Along Podcast, Deputy Chief Kenny Dossey sits down to discuss the latest efforts regarding staffing.

Drowning Prevention Public Service Announcements

Wildfire Preparedness

Adults 50 years and older are the most at-risk age group for fatal drewning

Wildfire season is all year round in California. There's no better time than now to prepare in case one of these

dangerous blazes affects your neighborhood.

Orange County Fire Authority In the News Firefighters Douse Flames At Laguna Hills Eatery Patch.com - May 5, 2022 Car barrels toward home before crash-landing and catching fire in Tustin MSN.com - May 9, 2022 <u>Crime and Public Safety | \$30 million awarded to fund wildfire-monitoring...</u>
The Orange County Register - May 10, 2022 <u>Laguna Niguel, County Issue Emergency Declarations For Coastal Fire</u> MSN.com - May 12, 2022 Couple reunited with priceless wedding photo rescued by firefighters battling Laguna Niguel wildfire MSN.com - May 12, 2022

<u>Aerial Imaging Shows Coastal Fire Burning in Orange County</u> Yahoo! News - May 12, 2022

Multiple people shot at Southern California church, sheriff says

The Orange County Register - May 16, 2022

Warehouse fire in Los Alamitos Tuesday morning

Orange County Breeze - May 24, 2022

Patch.com - May 12, 2022

MSN.com - May 15, 2022

KNBC-TV - May 17, 2022

Patch.com - May 30, 2022

Santa Margarita Catholic High Students Partake In Mock DUI Event

<u>Crime and Public Safety | Drones hunting down hot spots of Coastal fire...</u>
The Orange County Register - May 14, 2022

Crime and Public Safety | Search is on for Garden Grove stabbing suspect

Coastal Fire Now 100% Contained; Two Firefighters Injured But Recovering

<u>Crime and Public Safety | Fire investigators working to determine cause...</u>
The Orange County Register - May 18, 2022

Listen Now!

3 children struck by vehicle whose driver was kicked off their campus, police say MSN.com - May 23, 2022 New State Grant to fund regional coordination on fire prevention in Orange County Orange County Breeze - May 27, 2022 Woman Killed, 2 Men Injured In 605 Connector Road Crash In Seal Beach Years of Service 20 Years Management Analyst Tamera Rivers 15 Years

Fire Communications Dispatcher Velecia Stevens Fire Communications Supervisor Samantha Maria Soto Fire Communications Supervisor Loni Jones Fire Prevention Analyst Andrew Keyworth 10 Years Fire Apparatus Engineer John Timoti May Retirements Robert Bialobreski, Fire Captain Michael Baker, Heavy Equipment Technician II