

The

Eagle



Newsletter



Summer 2023

Orland Fire Protection District

ORLAND FIRE DISTRICT RECEIVES THE HONOR OF BEING INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED

Great News for the OFPD! On August 30, 2023, the Orland Fire Protection District appeared in front of the Board for the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. The Board consisted of Fire Chiefs, Village/City Managers, County Administrators and representatives from, NFPA, ISO, International Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA) and the International Firefighters Association (IAFF). The Board reviewed our evaluations from the Peer Review that came out to Orland in June, they asked us many questions and then took a vote on us being accredited or not. Not everyone

that makes it this far gets accredited. The vote by the Board was unanimous in favor of being Internationally Accredited.

This is no easy feat, we are 1 of only 318 fire departments out of 12 countries to be accredited, and 1 of only 116 that are accredited and ISO1 rated. The benefit is transparency in what we do and how we do it. It is also a road map for our future. We are the only department in our region that is accredited and one of a handful that are an ISO1. Great job by the whole team who worked so hard to get this accomplished!





Orland Fire Protection District

Administration

TRUSTEES

John Brudnak, President
Beth Damas Kaspar, Secretary
Jayne Schirmacher, Treasurer
Tina Zekich
Angela Greenfield

FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Matthew Rafferty
Brian O'Neill
Donald Jeffers

CHIEF/ADMINISTRATOR

Michael Schofield

DEPUTY CHIEF

Nicholas Cinquepalmi

ADMINISTRATIVE CHIEF

John Purtill

OPERATIONS CHIEF

Erick Johnson

BATTALION CHIEFS

William Leddin
James Hynes
Nickolas Tufts

MISSION STATEMENT

The Orland Fire Protection District's staff is dedicated to preserving life and property while valuing full accountability to each other and the people we serve.

View from Command



Michael Schofield
Fire Chief/Administrator



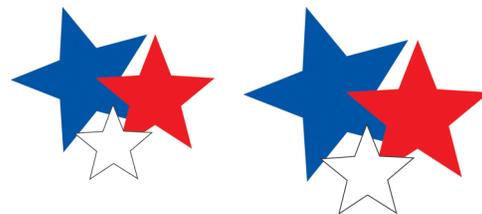
Dear Orland Fire Protection District Residents:

The Orland Fire District continues to be named one of the best fire departments in the country—from training to cardiac arrest saves— from transparency to being Internationally Accredited. The entire fire district members —from Chief to Firefighters are Paramedics; all of our front-line fire engines and trucks are ALS/ Paramedic units; our response times are quick and seconds save lives. Our success is built on the shoulders of the volunteers that came before us. They created the foundation that we continue to build on. We are extremely proud of our members and what they have accomplished.

Please check out this edition of the Eagle and see what we have been up to this summer and see upcoming fall events!

Be Safe!

Fire Chief Michael Schofield



WELCOME FIRE COMMISSIONER JEFFERS



Welcome to recently appointed Fire Commissioner DJ Jeffers who was administered his Oath of Office by Trustee Beth Damas Kaspar at the Monday, July 10, 2023 Regular Meeting.

The Board of Fire Commissioners are appointed by the Board of Trustees to fill a 3-year term. The function of this Board is to conduct the testing of new Firefighter candidates, promotional processes and potential discipline process.

WELCOME HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR ALICE STEVENSON

Alice Stevenson started working at the Orland Fire Protection District in March of 2023 as an HR Associate. On August 22, 2023 the Board of Trustees' appointed her the Human Resources Director.

Before joining the fire district, she worked for 23 years in Education. She started out in Higher Education at Robert Morris University in Orland Park as a Financial Services Advisor for 11 years. From there, she moved to elementary education in Human Resources as the Payroll/Benefits Coordinator for Palos School District 118 in Palos Park for 10 years, and lastly, moved to Orland School District 135 as an HR Coordinator for 1 year.

She has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, from Robert Morris University and received a Master's Degree in Human Resources from Saint Xavier University.

Alice lives in Oak Forest with her husband Dave, son Patrick, mom Alice, and her 1 ½-year-old pup, Roxy.





AED



CPR



Basic Life Support Provider CPR

Basic Life Support Provider CPR is for the professional that needs CPR as a term of employment. This course follows the guidelines for CPR and foreign body airway obstruction maneuvers outlined by the American Heart Association.

CPR classes are conducted at Orland Fire Protection District Administration Building, 9790 W. 151st Street, Orland Park, IL

Class Time 9:00 to 1:00 PM.

Fee: \$50

Remaining Classes in 2023:

- September 30th
- October 28th
- November 18th
- December 16th

Free Friends & Family CPR

The FREE Family & Friends CPR course is for anyone interested in learning CPR that does not need a completion card. Registration is still required so that the Orland Fire Protection District can accommodate all requests.

CPR classes are conducted at Orland Fire Protection District Administration Building, 9790 W. 151st Street, Orland Park, IL

Class time 9:00 to Noon.

Fee: Free

Remaining Classes in 2023:

- October 21st
- December 9th

**REGISTRATION FOR THESE CLASSES IS DONE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.ORLANDFIRE.ORG**



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



MEET

Lieutenant
Steven Prohaska



Steve Prohaska was hired in May of 2014 and was assigned to Red Shift Station 2. Steve became involved in the District's Hazardous Materials Team early on and has held the position of Team Coordinator for the last two years. Steve is also a member of the Southwest Hazardous Materials Response Team. This regional team is comprised of multiple local fire departments that assist with large-scale hazardous materials incidents. In 2020, Steve was promoted to the rank of Engineer. Then in 2022, he was promoted to Lieutenant. Steve is currently assigned to Black shift at Station 4.

Steve and his wife Ashley reside in the Palos area with their daughter and son.



Q & A

What's the best advice you can give to someone who just started their firefighter career?

Take the job seriously and never stop training because complacency is the biggest threat to anyone in this field. No two calls are alike, and you must be able to adapt to the dynamics of the scene. The job is constantly changing and it's every firefighter's responsibility to keep up with the advancements in our field. Also, treat the residents like it's your own family. Maintaining a high level of professionalism will go a long way when dealing with the public.

What has been your toughest challenge at Orlando Fire District?

The toughest challenge I've had to face is the transition from a non-supervisory role to one with managerial requirements. Going from a position in which I didn't have to deal with paperwork or telling someone how to complete a task, to managing a shift crew was the biggest challenge I've had yet. Although it's the toughest challenge I've had at Orlando, I feel I can complete it successfully.

What do you hope to be remembered for?

I hope I will be remembered as a dedicated worker who was always trying to make things better for the fire district. There's an old saying that a lot of the more senior firefighters tell the new hires, "Leave the job a little better than it was when you were there." I try to follow that passage and hopefully will have a positive impact at Orlando by the time I retire.

Who has influenced you most when it comes to your work ethic?

My work ethic is mostly influenced by my father. He was a firefighter for over 25 years with the Chicago Fire Department. He worked multiple jobs while I was growing up and always gave 100% in everything he did. I remember going to his firehouse when I was a kid, and he would still help with mopping the floor or cutting the firehouse grass even though he was one of the more senior firefighters. I think watching him all those years instilled the current work ethic that I have to this day.

What are your hobbies and spare time activities?

On my days off I enjoy watching historical documentaries. I also enjoy spending time with my family.

What's the next destination on your travel bucket list?

One thing I would like to do for a travel bucket list is to visit Norway. I really like the scenery of the area and would love to experience it first-hand.

“...Watson, I need you... come here...”

By Dispatcher Jon Hultman



When Alexander Graham Bell uttered this famous exclamation to his assistant, Watson, he ushered into the world a radical change in the way people communicate. Orland Central Dispatch (OCD) is an outlier in the Emergency Communications Center world, dispatching fire, and emergency medical resources for ten fire departments and fire districts in urban northeast Illinois, but no law enforcement assets. In 2022, OCD processed over 125,000 phone calls and dispatched over 52,000 fire and EMS incidents. When the local hospital discontinued continuing education for Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), OCD needed a replacement fast, but also one that was standards-based, supported, and intuitive for users. As Orland Central Dispatch looked to replace our EMD guide card system, we wanted the latest in medical practice and to have the guide cards integrated into our upgraded Computer-Aided-Dispatch (CAD) technology. We also wanted training resources and to utilize our staff for in-house education opportunities. The old guide cards had both flip style and digital offerings, but neither was linked to our CAD system. After reviewing several protocol systems, we identified APCO's IntelliComm software as the best choice for the Center, both now and moving forward into the future.

The APCO IntelliComm criteria-based guide card software is supported by IBM Watson analytics and is a high-tech, configurable software suite that allows rapid and intuitive navigation between medical and fire service needs. IntelliComm can be customized to meet local medical standards and upgrades take place in the IBM Cloud, so there is no hardware installation. It also includes the fire and EMD platforms that OCD needs to process emergency calls for service. IntelliComm's dashboard feature lets OCD staff monitor trends, staff strengths and weaknesses, and Center performance across selectable intervals. Possibly the most helpful feature is in the area of quality assurance (QA) where IntelliComm and Watson by IBM can be used to generate QA reports as desired by the Center leadership. The foundation of APCO's EMD program is centered on the National Highway Traffic Safety Association curriculum and utilizes all the current ASTM and NHTSA guidelines to assure professional implementation and strong legal standing.

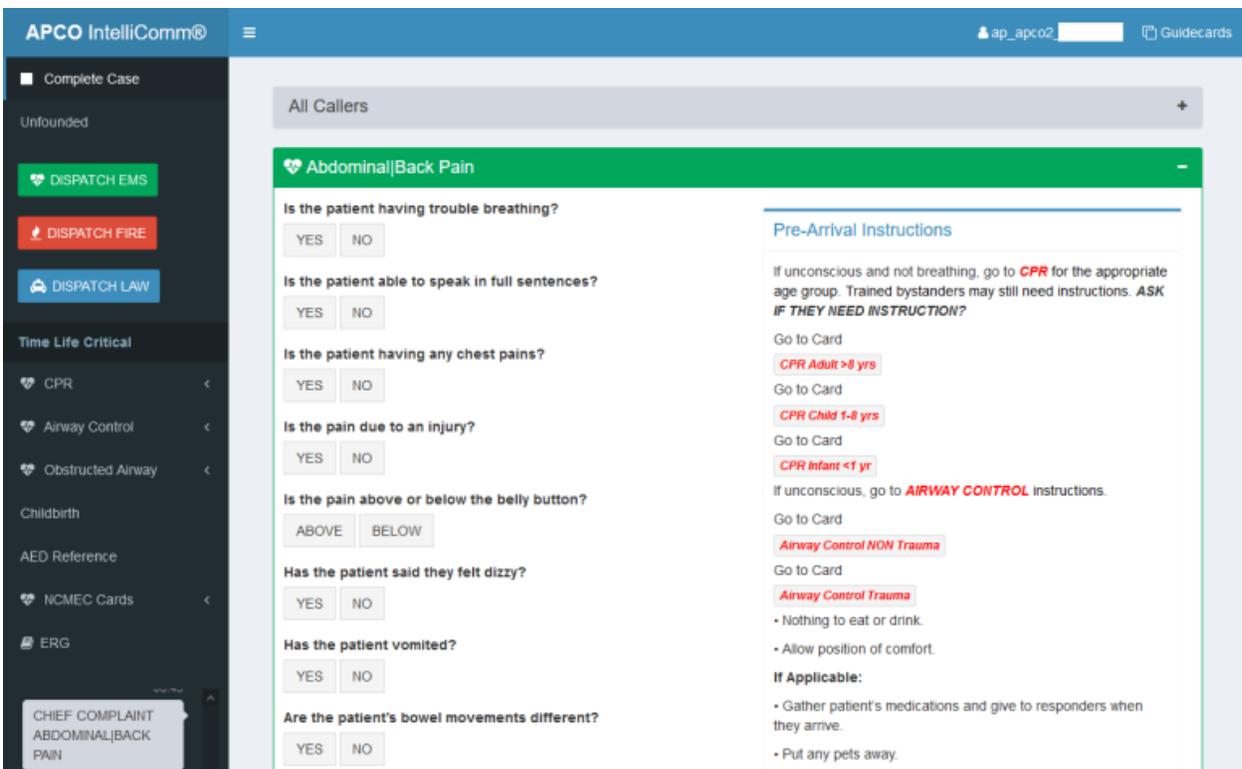
Orland Central Dispatch has from the beginning desired to use its own staff for training and continuing education and the APCO train-the-trainer system allows us to select and educate in-house (**cont'd.**)

(Cont'd.) "...Watson, I need you... come here..."

By Dispatcher Jon Hultman

personnel for those purposes. OCD can then create its own schedule of refresher training as well as participate in the APCO monthly continuing education online. The leadership at OCD has found it beneficial to integrate numerous APCO certifications into the training suite and has been getting our staff members trained as instructors to teach those classes in-house and possibly host local classes in the future. With ever-increasing call volumes, NG9-

1-1, text to 9-1-1, and future unforeseen events, the implementation of APCO's IntelliComm software supported by IBM's Watson cloud-based technology may be just what the Doctor ordered for Orland Central Dispatch and its team of skilled emergency communications professionals. IntelliComm and Watson ... we need you ... and you may need them too.



FIRE & LIFE SAFETY



BUS SAFETY



WAITING FOR THE BUS

- Be there on time.
- Stand back, wait for the door to open.

RIDING THE BUS

- Stay in your seat.
- Keep yourself and your things inside the windows.
- LISTEN to and OBEY your bus driver.

GETTING OFF THE BUS

- Get off carefully, use the handrails.
- Stand where your bus driver can see you.
- Watch for the bus driver to signal you before crossing.
- Wait until the bus driver tells you it's OK to pick up anything you may have dropped.

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY

School Buses Are Like Traffic Signals



National School Bus Safety Week is October 16–20, 2023

Prevent Illegal School Bus Passing Awareness Campaign

Nearly every day, millions of children across the United States line up to ride the bus to school. The school bus is one of the safest modes of transportation, but illegal school bus passing poses a significant threat to children and their caretakers. During National School Bus Safety Week help share the message about the dangers of illegal school bus passing.



WHAT'S NEW?



What's new?

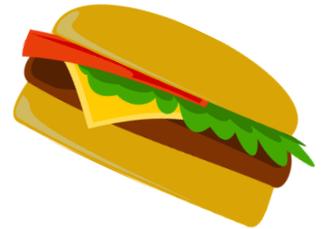
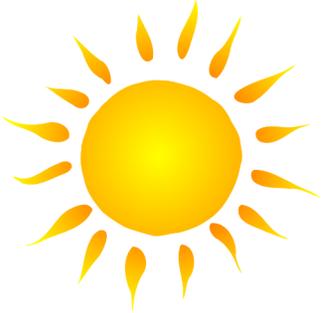
ADOPT A FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM



The Cardinal Joseph Bernadine first graders concluded their *Adopt a Firefighter* program with Firefighter Hogan. What a great way to wrap things up - with a fire engine *Show & Tell* Day! At the end of the presentation, they each received their own firefighter hats.

WHAT'S NEW?

EMS APPRECIATION BARBECUES



Every year around "National Emergency Services Week" Orland Fire District provides a cookout for the EMS providers and support staff. We cannot take a vacation or holiday from providing emergency service to our community but providing a meal and acknowledging the good work done is a small gesture. This year they were held on June 20th to 22nd. EMS Administration does the cooking with help from Fire Prevention, and food prep by Administrative Assistant Joan Pickens-Mulchrone. Thanks Josh, Mike, Ryan, Betsy & Joan!

WHAT'S NEW?

What's
new?

MAN PLUMMETS DOWN WELL—IS RESCUED BY ORLAND FIREFIGHTERS

On Wednesday, June 21, 2023, Orland Firefighters rescued a victim that fell down a 35 foot well beneath a home. The victim was safely extricated by OFPD's Special Rescue Team and transported to the hospital in stable condition. Great job by all the firefighters and police officers involved!



WHAT'S NEW?

MABAS 22 WATER RESCUE BOX ALARM

On the morning of Monday, August 14, 2023, OFPD assisted the Blue Island Fire Department during a 2nd alarm Dive Box.



THANKS FOR THE DONATION HOME DEPOT

Many thanks to The Home Depot for donating a picnic table to the OFPD to be used at our CTC, and, in particular, to Ashley for her beautiful work on painting/stenciling the table. It will be enjoyed by many for years to come!



ORLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRST IN COUNTRY TO RECEIVE THE NEW STRYKER EXPEDITION POWERED STAIR CHAIRS



The Orland Fire Protection District is excited to announce that it is the first in the country to take delivery of the new Stryker Expedition Powered Stair Chairs. According to Stryker, the Xpedition, its first powered stair chair, helps move patients easier and more effectively with increased comfort and security for both first responders and their patients. The new Xpedition Stair Chairs will allow Orland Paramedics and Firefighters to safely and ergonomically move patients up and down stairs, utilizing a powered track, while decreasing the risk of First Responder injury and fatigue, and increasing patient safety. The six Xpedition Powered Stair Chairs will be located

throughout the District at each of the six Orland Fire Stations. Thanks to the work of Lieutenant Carl Jones, the purchase of the six stair chairs was partially funded by an ICRMT Safety Grant obtained in the amount of \$10,000.

WHAT'S NEW?

What's
new?

KIDS CAMP 2023

Our annual Kid's Fire & Life Safety Camp for children between the ages of 8-12 years, was held this past month from July 10th-12th at our Fire District Training Facility. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our guests, volunteers, cadets, and duty crews for their invaluable contributions to our Kid's Fire and Life Safety Camp. Your dedication and efforts have made a lasting impact on children's safety awareness! Our young residents were extremely fortunate to have had assistance from our Cadets, High School Volunteers, Healing Hearts Dogs and their Handlers, and our gracious speakers:

- CPR/AED Training (CPR/AED Instructor; Ret. FF Bob Palermo)
- First Aid Training (CPR/AED Instructor; Ret. Lt. Chris Smith)
- How to make a 9-1-1 Call (Communications Shift Supervisor; Desiree Breese)
- Stop the Bleed (EMS Coordinator; Josh Girdick and FF Russ Siska)
- Fire Safety (Fire & Life Safety Educator; Betsy Dine)

- Car Fire-Fire Safety (Training Supervisor; Lt. Mike Siefert)
- Tornado Safety (FF Mike Dorencz)
- Train Safety (Operation Lifesaver; Gordon Bowe)
- Electrical Safety (Com Ed; Neal Ruane)
- Water Safety (Aqua-Tots Swim Schools; Tamara Kaelin)
- Bike Safety (Chicago Bicycle; Elizabeth Madamczyk)
- Medicine Safety (Injury Prevention and Community Relations Specialist; Carly Trump)
- Sparkler Safety (Fire Prevention Supervisor; Mike Ercoli)
- Weather Safety (Pillowcase Project-American Red Cross; Kristen Flanagan)
- Overall Helper (Administrative Assistant; Joan Mulchrone)

This unique camp has been designed to provide our children with essential skills and knowledge to navigate potential hazards confidently. Ensuring that the safety and well-being of our future generation of children is our number one goal and the top priority for our annual Kid's Fire & Life Safety Camp! We will see you again next year!





WHAT'S NEW?

What's new?

OFPD'S ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

Thanks to all who came out to our OFPD annual Open House event held on Thursday, July 13th from 6:30-8:30 pm at our District Training Facility. We hope you had a great time and learned a bit more about the great work our Firefighters/Paramedics do!

Thanks to all the community vendors that participated in our event. Your participation played a crucial role in making our event a huge success! The time and effort you invested in preparing your booths, engaging with visitors, and showcasing your offerings were truly outstanding. So thank you to those who participated this year: our Orland Fire Protection District CPR and AED instructors, our 9-1-1 Dispatchers/calling 9-1-1 station, Our Senior Advisory Council Members (SAC), the Healing Hearts Comfort Dogs and their incredible raffle table, Chicago Bicycle Safety, Home Depot- Kid's building table, Project Fire Buddies, Versiti Blood Center, Spectrum Racing,

Lowes-Kid's building table, Cook County Sheriff's Police Department, and Aqua-Tots Swim School. We appreciate all of your hard work and look forward to future collaborations that will continue to benefit our community.

Thanks to Trustees Greenfield, Kaspar and Zekich for your participation in the evening.

A special thank you to our outstanding Cadet Crew who goes above and beyond each time they are requested to help and their instructor EMS Coordinator Lt. Josh Girdick! And, our Training Officer Lt. Michael Siefert.

Lastly a special shout out to our Public Life & Safety Educator Betsy Dine who coordinates this entire event; our Administrative Assistant Joan Pickens Mulchrone, who helps her out tremendously; and to the staff members who participated in the event as well!



OFPD'S ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE



WHAT'S NEW?

What's
new?

RETIREMENT OF B/C STACHNIK

On July 20, 2023, the OFPD celebrated retiring Operations B/C R. J. Stachnik who retired after 35 years of service to the Orland Fire Protection District. Chief Schofield spoke of his many accomplishments during his long career with the District, and Chief Stachnik shared a few words about his career. As is tradition, he then moved his picture from the active wall to our Legacy Lane wall, which displays the pictures of all who have retired and helped make the OFPD the fire district it is today! Congratulations and Best Wishes for a Healthy and Happy Retirement!



PROMOTION OF LIEUTENANT TUFTS TO B/C

On Wednesday, July 26, 2023, Fire Commissioner Matt Rafferty administered the Battalion Chief Oath of Office to Nick Tufts. His wife Christine and son Ben pinned his badge, while his extended family looked on. Chief Schofield spoke of all the wonderful qualities he has that make him a great addition to the Command Staff, and his friend, D/C Chris Bednarek, delivered his conferment speech. Congrats Nick!



WHAT'S NEW?

PROMOTION OF 4 ENGINEERS AND 1 LIEUTENANT

Congratulations to Firefighters Matt Hoover, Jeff Sheldon, Charlie Duer and John Cortilet who were promoted to the rank of Engineer, and Engineer Dan Fagan who was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, at a promotional

ceremony held Wednesday, August 30, 2023. Fire Commissioner Matt Rafferty administered their Oaths of Office and their loved ones pinned their new badges. Congrats to all!



FIRE / AMBULANCE EMERGENCY

Orland Park and Orland Hills.....**9 - 1 - 1**
 Unincorporated Areas.....(708) 349-3121
 TDD.....(708) 349-6633
 Administration (Non-Emergency)..... (708) 349-0074

Other Numbers:

Orland Police (Non-Emergency).....(708) 349-4111
 Orland Hills Police (Non-Emergency)..(708) 349-4434
 Orland Park Village Hall.....(708) 403-6100
 Orland Park Public Works.....(708) 403-6350
 Orland Township.....(708) 403-4222
 Animal Control.....(708) 974-6140
 Poison Control.....(800) 222-1222

Fire Prevention Week™ 2023 October 8–14.
 This year's Fire Prevention Week™ (FPW™) campaign, "Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention™," works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safer when cooking.



Upcoming Fall Events

'23:



Please come visit at our OFPD table at the following events:

SEPTEMBER

- 6 Car Show Event 7500 Sycamore 5-7:30 p.m.
- 9 Melka Landscaping Fall Fest Begins at 10:00 a.m.
- 16 Orland Township Pet-Palooza noon – 3:00 p.m.
- 23 Alden Estates Annual Fishing Derby 8:00-1:00 p.m.

OCTOBER

- 1 Christian Hills Church Fall Fest Noon – 2:00 p.m.
- 7 Home Depot Safety Days 9:00 – Noon
- 7 Annual Pumpkin Party-VOOP 10:00 – Noon
- 7 Annual Pumpkin Party-VOOP 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- 16-18 Active Aging Week- Sportsplex (am) 9:00 – Noon
- 19 Active Aging Week – Sportsplex (pm) 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Trunk or Treat (Parkview Church) 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 8 Steps to Safety Program for Older Adults (Fire Prevention) 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 15 Steps to Safety Program for Older Adults (Fall Prevention) 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Coming in December 2023, watch for our 1 ½ day Babysitting Class. Each child will get certified in CPR/AED Training. Cost of the class will be \$50.00.

Be sure to check Orland Fire and the Village of Orland Park's websites for updated information, additions, etc.

OFPD: www.orlandfire.org

Village: <https://www.orlandpark.org/departments/recreation-parks/special-events>