

The

Eagle Newsletter



Orland Fire Protection District

Summer 2022



There will be no Kids Camp or Jr. Fire Cadet Camps this Summer.

See You in '23!



**Promoting Fire
Safety
Awareness &
Action in the
Community**

Summer, 2022

ORLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BRINGS BACK THE EAGLE NEWSLETTER

The Eagle Newsletter was a publication sent to all residents and businesses in the district in the 1990's. As personnel changed and some retired, it was no longer published for many years. We are now bringing back this newsletter. It will be published quarterly starting with this Summer edition. We will not be mailing it out now that we can post it on our website and social media.

The Eagle will have pertinent information regarding safety, events, happenings in the District, FAQ's etc. Please share it with others who live in the District.



Orland Fire Protection District

Administration

TRUSTEES

Christopher Evoy, President
Craig Schmidt, Secretary
Jayne Schirmacher, Treasurer
John Brudnak
James Hickey

FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Matthew Rafferty
Brian O'Neill
Beth Damas Kaspar

CHIEF/ADMINISTRATOR

Michael Schofield

DEPUTY CHIEF

Nicholas Cinquepalmi

OPERATIONS CHIEF

Joseph Moore

ADMINISTRATIVE CHIEF

John Purtill

BATTALION CHIEFS

Robert Stachnik
William Leddin
Erick Johnson

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

Welcome to The Eagle. The Eagle is a quarterly, on-line Orland Fire District news source for our residents. The Eagle will highlight personnel, safety tips, District news and programs. The Eagle originally was established many years ago and we brought it back with this edition.

The Orland Fire District is experiencing its busiest year ever. Request for service have seen a steady increase. Just like every resident in our District, the impact of the high cost of fuel, supplies and vehicles have impacted us. Through concrete budgeting, a great vehicle maintenance program and some of the best personnel in the fire service, we continue to provide the best Fire/EMS to the residents of our District.

The last couple of years dealing with COVID-19 have proven some of the most challenging ever in the history of the District, but they also have proven that whatever challenge is thrown at us, we can adapt and overcome. I am extremely proud of our members. We all came together and we created policies and operational procedures that never existed before this pandemic.

Today we face new challenges. The cost of doing business has skyrocketed, and Cook County is predicting a delay in sending out the final real-estate tax bills this year. Over 80% of our budget comes from real estate tax money. We have our own Fleet Maintenance Facility where we can get our vehicles worked on quickly and keep them in service longer, where other departments have to send their equipment out to third-party facilities and have to wait extended times to get those units back in service.

The Orland Fire District is trained in active shooting responses. We work extremely close with our police and every fire unit is equipped with ballistics vests and helmets. We do multiple drills each year focusing solely on active shooters. We are fortunate to have the areas only Regional Training Center. We can create scenarios for fire, EMS, building collapse, construction accidents and almost anything we could be called for at this site.

The Orland Fire Protection District is an ISO-1 classified fire department and also an Internationally Accredited fire department. We are 1 of 100 fire districts in the county to carry both certifications. Our Paramedics are the finest in the region, with a high save rate for cardiac arrest. This can be traced back to our intense training at the region's only EMS Sim Lab at our Training Center.

The Orland Fire District is Proud to serve our residents and I am proud to serve as the Fire Chief.

COMMON INQUIRIES

Below are answers to some of the most common non-emergency questions we receive:

Citizen Assist

Need help with getting a handicapped or elderly family member into the car for an appointment? Call our non-emergency number @ 708-349-0074 during normal business hours, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or dial 911 and ask for a "Citizen Assist". There is no charge for this service. No appointments can be pre-scheduled but if you call shortly before you are leaving and a crew is available, they will be happy to help. Also, if you call when you arrive back at your destination, they will help you back into your residence.



How to Dispose of old/depleted Fire Extinguishers?

There are 2 places in the area that will accept them:

EFR Fire Equipment
19418 97th Ave. Suite 3
Mokena, IL.
(708)479-1889

**Reliable Fire Extinguishers
& Equipment**
12845 S. Cicero Ave.
Alsip, IL.
(708)597-4600



How do I dispose of unwanted and expired medication?

Place medication in a sealed baggie, crush pills, mix in an absorbent material such as kitty litter, coffee grounds, or water, and place in the trash. You may also dispose of pill-form medication in the lobby of the Orland Park Police Department, 15100 Ravinia.



How do I dispose of Syringes/Needles?

Syringes / Sharps can be placed in a rigid container, such as an empty milk or detergent bottle. Secure the lid with duct tape, writing "DO NOT RECYCLE" and throw the container out with your household trash.



How do I dispose of Paint?

You can mix it with an absorbent material such as kitty litter or strips of paper. When it is dry, the material can be placed in the garbage with other household trash. For empty cans, leave the lid off to dry, then recycle the can and lid.



For more information with any other Disposal or Recycle, contact Illinois Environmental Protection Agency @ www.epa.state.il.us or by phone (217) 785-8604

EMS



Following is an excerpt from a historical document prepared by Lieutenant John Hartmann (deceased) and Lieutenant Thomas Grossman (retired) of Orland Fire Protection District.

DEPARTMENT GETS FIRST AMBULANCE

Over the years, the volunteers had proven their dedication to the community. In return, the community always supported the volunteers. This would ring true again in the mid-'60s.

Prior to 1960, the Orland area didn't have an ambulance. Residents sometimes had to wait twenty to thirty minutes for one to arrive from the now-defunct Columbus Manor Fire Department, near Chicago Ridge. For a seriously ill or injured patient, that must have been a long wait.

That changed in 1960 when the department purchased a step van for use as a rescue squad and ambulance. The "pie wagon," as it was called, carried the basics: tools, first aid equipment, an inhalator and a stretcher.



Nevertheless, a call for the rescue squad in August 1965 became one of the most dramatic and influential incidents in the history of the department. The incident led directly to the first legitimate ambulance for the volunteers.

That year, Orland Park resident Henry (Hank) Anderson led both the fire department and the community in a campaign to raise \$15,000 to buy a new, fully-equipped ambulance.

Anderson sparked the program after his two-year-old son Kent was suddenly stricken at home and became unconscious. The child was in the bathtub when his mother left the room for a minute. When she returned, Kent was not breathing. He stopped breathing again after the Orland rescue squad got to the house and each time the volunteers revived him.

They worked on Kent all the way to St. Francis Hospital in Blue Island. "It was a grand sound at the hospital when that youngster began to cry," recalled Chief Granat Sr., who drove the rescue squad to St. Francis.



"The firemen saved our son," added Hank Anderson.

After the dramatic ride in the rescue squad, Hank Anderson felt the volunteers needed an ambulance. Being transported in the "pie wagon" proved quite an ordeal for patients, especially seriously injured ones. Chief Granat described the ride charitably as "hard-riding." Another volunteer who had driven it said, "If you hit a corner doing 30 mph, you're going to flip the patient right out of the stretcher."

Anderson decided to show his appreciation for the fire department's help. He contacted civic and church organizations throughout Orland Township to solicit their support. The response was enthusiastic. A committee was soon formed with Anderson as Chairperson, Bill Bishop, Vice-Chairman, William E. Kane, Secretary, and Raymond B. Nihlean, Treasurer. They opened an account at the Orland State Bank. Local students pitched in by making and distributing posters for the campaign.



In a house-to-house canvass on November 6–7, 1965, \$14,000 was collected. More money trickled in over the next few days, boosting the total raised to \$16,062.94.

The whole town celebrated the successful drive with a dinner at Silver Lake Country Club. At the sold out dance, Anderson presented a symbolic gold key to Chief Granat. Department spokesperson Elmer Kukac presented plaques to

Anderson and Nihlean for their work in the Ambulance Drive. The ambulance also received two mementos: Kent's



name was engraved on the hood, and mounted to the dash was a chrome-plated bank that four-year-old Johnny Zichtergerman donated with his life's savings.

The ambulance purchase marked the beginning of an effort to provide the highest-quality emergency medical care for Orland-area residents.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

In the early-to-mid-'70s, fire departments across the country were now being counted on for more than just putting out fires. Many departments, especially the larger ones, had already been providing basic first aid and furnishing routine hospital transports. Orland had been transporting patients in the rescue squad and Cadillac ambulance since 1960. At that time, ambulance crews could offer little more than first aid and a quick ride to a hospital.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) expanded dramatically in the early 1970s when paramedic training was introduced to the fire service. Trained in Advanced Life Support (ALS) techniques, paramedics brought the emergency room to the patient. Providing a critically ill or injured person with lifesaving treatment on the scene was more effective than the former grab-and-go days. Fire departments clamored to get their people trained; Orland was no different.

Five Orland volunteers who had already received basic emergency medical training—William Bonnar Sr., Robert Kennedy, Jerry Panozzo, John Carline and Robert Hamilton—enrolled in two area paramedic classes. They graduated in May 1975, and helped to bring a higher level of emergency medical care to the area.

An "ambulance tax" referendum was approved by voters in 1976. The money that referendum brought in helped the District to hire those first three full-time firefighters. The referendum also provided money to purchase advanced life support equipment for the two ambulances. Early the next year, the South Cook County Emergency Medical System accepted the Orland Fire District. This meant ALS service would have to be available twenty-four hours a day.

TODAY ALL ORLAND FIRE APPARATUS IS ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT EQUIPPED AND STAFFED WITH PARAMEDICS.

MAY OF 2022 REPRESENTS 45 YEARS OF ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SERVICE PROVIDED TO OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS, THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK, ORLAND HILLS AND ORLAND TOWNSHIP.

TRAINING



2022 TRAINING UPDATE

We're about half way through the year and Training is always a top priority at Orland Fire District. Orland Fire Protection District personnel earned more than 36 Office of the State Fire Marshall certifications. Members completed various certification courses on their off-duty days to further their professional development and growth. Additionally, our members completed 7325.25 hours of training to date or 61.55 hours per person. Training activities include Quarterly Live Fire Training, Quarterly SCBA training, Pump Operations Training, Forcible Entry tactics, Drivers Training, Vehicle Extrication, and other Specialty training topics. Our training is conducted by two primary methods: company-level training and Multi-Company Level training. Company level training is primarily done at the company officer level at our Training site or within the station. The Station Lieutenant will conduct daily training with their crew and record those hours. Multi-Company Level training is conducted with multiple stations either at the Training Site or other locations involving multiple stations and personnel completing numerous tasks to accomplish defined training objectives. With the summer months upon us, you will likely see our members outside their stations or at our training site crafting and perfecting their skills.



2022 CANDIDATE CLASS



On March 10, 2022, the Orland Fire Protection District hired 15 new candidates. The 2022 group was the largest group of Firefighter/Paramedics the organization has hired at one time in over 20 years. All new hire candidates must complete a nine-week training academy that consists of 4 weeks of Emergency Medical Training and four weeks of Firefighting training, followed by one week of shift preparation training. While our new Firefighter/Paramedics are certified as Paramedics and Firefighters with the State of Illinois, the Orland Fire Protection District values the importance of training each of our personnel. Our new employees have a wide range of experience, skills, and abilities. The nine-week training academy allows the Orland Fire Protection District to evaluate, prepare, and train our new personnel to meet our high service standards. The 2022 candidates were placed on shift starting May 15th and will be on probation until their first year with the Orland Fire Protection District is complete.



SUPPORT SERVICES

Orland Fire Protection Districts New Maintenance Facility

In 2020 the Orland Fire Protection District Board of Trustees made the decision to take advantage of low interest rates and issued debt certificates for the construction of a new Maintenance Facility. The Board directed Fire Chief Michael Schofield and his staff to work with Knight Engineering to design a building that would not only address the fleet and facility maintenance needs of the OFPD, but also allow us to provide fleet maintenance for other area

fire districts and fire departments. A cost effective and operationally efficient repair facility design was approved by the Board and over 70 bids were received from construction firms. Osman construction was awarded the bid at 2.9 million dollars which was the lowest of all bids received. We broke ground in December of 2020 and the facility was completed in December of 2021. This project was significantly under budget and became operational in January of 2022.



The new facility is a tremendous improvement over our previous maintenance facility which was constructed in 1987 and no longer met the needs of the OFPD. Since opening we have performed numerous repairs large and small and have also begun performing maintenance for the Oak Forest Fire Department and the Palos Fire Protection District.



MEET
Erick Johnson
 Battalion Chief
 Shift 3—Gold



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Battalion Chief Erick Johnson started his career with the Orland Fire Protection District in 1997.

He started his career with the North Palos Fire District after his home caught fire when he was in high school. He also worked for the Alsip Fire Department.

Battalion Chief Johnson has been instrumental in developing the Orland Fire Academy and operational plans for Orland Fire. Prior to his promotion to Battalion Chief in 2021, he spent most of his career at Station 4 in Orland Hills.

Battalion Chief Johnson is married to his wife Kathy and has three children Jack, Delaney and Kiley. He lives in Orland Park.

Q & A

What advice do you have for Probationary Firefighter candidates?

I would tell candidates to work hard and earn your position on the Fire Department. Listen to your officers and senior Firefighters. Lastly, make a 5, 10 and 20 year career plan.

What are 3 words to describe Orland Fire Protection District?

- Professional
- Dedicated
- Driven

What 3 hashtags describe your personality best?

#loyal #hardworking #humorous

What drew you to Orland Fire District originally? And how has Orland Fire changed since?

Orland was always one of the Departments that I wanted to work for. I lived in the area and Orland was always a place of growth and opportunity. Since I started, our capabilities in life-saving has greatly increased due to technology, innovation and training. We currently have one of the highest cardiac arrest save rates in the country. We have made great strides in 24 years.

What are your Hobbies and Spare Time Activities?

In my spare time I like to exercise and spend time in the outdoors. I also like to travel and watch my kids participate in sports.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



MEET

Gina Cortez

Assistant Director of Communications
Orland Central Dispatch



In the summer of 2021, Assistant Director Gina Cortez joined the Orland Fire Protection District. She started her career as an emergency communications specialist for the City of Des Plaines. Over the course of her 22-year public safety communications career, Gina has served as a Training Officer, Supervisor, Training Coordinator, Deputy Director and Director.

In the upcoming year, the District will be upgrading several emergency communications components. Assistant Director Cortez and her team are working to ensure these changes enhance the District's ability to provide exceptional fire protection and EMS services.

Gina and her wife, Sherrill, live in Orland Park.



Q & A

What advice do you have for Telecommunicators just starting out in the field?

Everyday strive to be a great teammate

What are 3 words to describe Orland Fire Protection District?

- Dynamic
- Exceptional
- Proud

What 3 hashtags describe your personality best?

#passionate #driven #conscientious

What drew you to Orland Fire District originally? And how has Orland Central Dispatch changed since?

The Center and Staff's potential. We're a more resilient and accountable family

What are your Hobbies & Spare-Time Activities

Cheering on the White Sox; listening to the Avett Brothers; reading and riding my bike

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY

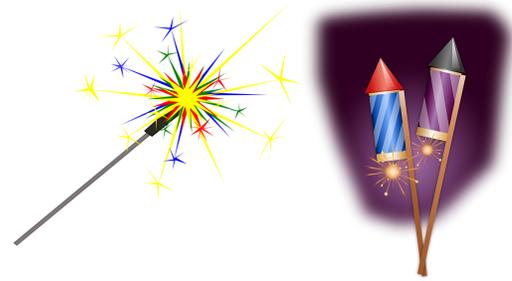


GRILLING SAFETY

Keep the following safety suggestions in mind when grilling:

- Check the gas tank hose before using it for the first time each year.
- Keep your grill at least 10 feet away from other objects, including your house, trees and outdoor seating.
- Grill outside only on a flat surface, and don't bring the grill into an unventilated or enclosed space such as the garage, carport or porch.
- Only use starter fluid with charcoal grills—never with gas grills.
- Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away from the grilling area.
- Don't leave your grill unattended, as fires can double in size every minute.
- Clean the grill regularly to remove grease and fat buildup.

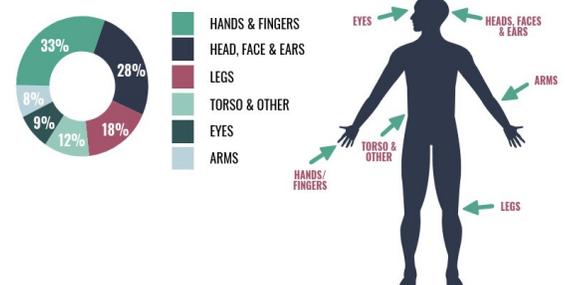
Overall, practicing vigilance and taking proper precautions can help reduce fires and associated burn injuries caused by grills.



FIREWORKS AND SPARKLER SAFETY

- Each July 4th, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks. Despite the dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks, devastating burns, other injuries, fires and even death.
- Sparklers burn at about 2000* -hot enough to melt some metals.
- They are quick to ignite clothing and children have received severe burns from dropping sparklers.
- Consider using a safer alternatives:
 - ◇ Glow sticks glow in the dark and are a safe alternative to a sparkler
 - ◇ Confetti poppers
 - ◇ Colored streamers
 - ◇ Noise makers are sure to make a statement
 - ◇ Red, white and blue silly string
- Make a patriotic craft with the family
- Throw a birthday party for the USA, and don't forget the cake
- The only safe way to view fireworks is to attend a professional show.

Most Injured Body Parts





DROWNING—IT CAN HAPPEN IN AN INSTANT!

- The most important rule for water safety still lies with adults: never leave your child unsupervised near any amount of water for any amount of time.
- Not including boating incidents, on average about 10 people die from drowning every day in the United States, according to the National Safety Council.
- Boys younger than 15 die from drowning at twice the rate as girls.
- Emergency departments treat about 6,400 pool and spa injuries in children younger than 15 every year.
- If your child is a non-swimmer or a new swimmer, it is important to have them wear an approved life jacket near any type of water.
- Teach your child to ask permission before approaching any type of water and make sure there is a responsible adult supervision at all times.
- Never dive into a shallow end of a pool or a body of water with an unknown depth. Always enter feet first.
- Children should never swim alone, always have a buddy system.
- Don't swim in moving water. Teach your children that water with a current can be unpredictable. Rivers, streams and creeks are off limits to children.
- Get out when you are tired as drowning can occur when someone is too tired to make it back to shore or to the side of the pool. Set a time limit for swimming with your children and have them get out of the pool before they are too tired.
- Obey all “no swimming signs” on docks.
- Do not swim before, during or after thunderstorms.



FIRE & LIFE SAFETY



SMOKE ALARMS

As always, every family needs to remember that working smoke alarms save lives. Smoke alarms that are properly installed and maintained play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out.

Here's what you need to know!

A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire. Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home.

Smoke alarms should be interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound.

Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.

Test your smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.

Replace all smoke alarms in your home every 10 years.

Today's smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions, yet mitigate false alarms.

When a smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside.

NEVER go back inside for anything!

Practice fire drills with your whole family, at least, twice a year. Go to your outside meeting place in front of your home. Call 911.

CHILDREN & SMOKE ALARMS

NFPA is aware of research indicating that sleeping children don't always wake when a smoke alarm activates. While this research is worrisome, we shouldn't allow them to obscure the fact that smoke alarms are highly effective at reducing fire deaths and injuries.

Almost three-fifths of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

NFPA emphasizes the need to continue planning and practicing home fire escape plans and to make sure everyone in a home can be awakened by the sound of the smoke alarm. NFPA suggests practicing the escape plan during which the smoke alarm is activated so all family members know its sound.

Every home fire escape plan is different, and every family should know who will - and who won't - awaken at the sound of the smoke alarm. If someone doesn't wake up when the alarm sounds during a drill, the family should design an escape plan that assigns a grown-up who is easily awakened by the alarm to wake the sleepers, perhaps by yelling "FIRE," pounding on the wall or door, or blowing a whistle.



PLAN YOUR ESCAPE

Your ability to get out of your house during a fire depends on advance warning from smoke alarms and advance planning.

Get everyone in your household together and make a home escape plan. Go to www.NFPA.org to get your home escape planning grid. Walk through your home and look for two ways out of every room.

Make sure escape routes are clear of debris and doors and windows open easily. Windows with security bars or grills should have an emergency release device.

Plan an outside meeting place where everyone will meet once they have escaped. A good meeting place is something permanent, like a tree, light pole, or mailbox a safe distance in front of the home.

If there are infants, older adults, family members with mobility limitations or children who do not wake to the sound of the smoke alarm, make sure that someone is assigned to assist them in the event of an emergency.

If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Respond quickly – get up and go, remember to know two ways out of every room, get yourself outside quickly, and go to your outside meeting place with your family.

Respond quickly. Have a backup plan. If the planned exit routes are blocked and it's not possible to leave the house, close all doors between you and the fire. Place a towel under the door and go to an exterior-facing window. Call the fire department to report your location.



REMEMBER:

- Plan for everyone
- Find two ways out
- Involve children in planning
- Choose a meeting spot
- Check smoke alarms
- Be visible
- Share with everyone
- Practice and review the plan regularly

With a smart and well thought-out plan in place, you can be one step ahead of the unexpected when you may not have the time or ability to think things through.



FIRE & LIFE SAFETY



LAWN & GARDEN EQUIPMENT SAFETY

- Children should never be in the yard while you're mowing, and they should never ride on the mower.
- Never assume children will remain where you last saw them. Be alert and turn off the mower if children enter the mowing area. Use extra care when backing up or going around corners, shrubs, trees or other obstacles.
- Many children suffer serious burns to their hands and arms when they touch the hot muffler of running or recently running engines.
- Be sure you know how to operate the equipment. Know where the controls are and what they do. Make sure the equipment is in proper operating condition and guards or other safety devices have not been removed or disabled.
- Dress appropriately for the job. This includes: sturdy shoes with slip-resistant rubber soles, long pants and long-sleeved shirts, close-fitting clothes, eye protection, heavy gloves, hearing protection when needed, and no jewelry, which can get caught in moving parts.
- Before mowing, walk around the area in which you will be working to remove any objects like sticks, glass, metal, wire, stones and string that could cause injury or damage equipment. Nails and wire are the most hazardous objects thrown by mowers, capable of killing bystanders.
- Never work with electric power tools in wet or damp conditions. For protection against electrocution, use a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). GFCIs come in several models, including portable plug-in types and as part of some extension cords.
- Be sure that extension cords are in good condition, are rated for outdoor use, and are the proper gauge for the electrical current capacity of the tool.
- Be sure that power tools are turned off and made inoperable if they must be left unattended. This will help prevent use by children.
- Handle gasoline carefully. Remember never to fill gas tanks while machinery is operating or when equipment is still hot. Do not fuel equipment indoors. Wipe up spills. Store gas in an approved container away from the house. Finally, never smoke or use any type of flame around gasoline.



CONDO/APARTMENT LIVING SAFETY TIPS

General Safety:

- Don't prop open exit, stairway, or garage doors.
- Contact building owner/manager if you see a damaged fire extinguisher, smoke detector or non-functioning emergency light.
- Make sure your unit has working smoke detectors.
- Do not use a charcoal or gas grill on/or beneath wooden balconies or stairs.
- Have a NOAA Weather Radio, or local weather app on your cell phone for weather related emergencies.
- Have a working carbon monoxide detector.
- Have a working flashlight in the event of power outage or fire.
- Have a fire extinguisher in your unit and know how to use it.

Escape Plan:

- Create an escape plan in the event of fire and practice it.
- Know where all stairs and exit doors are on your floor.
- Learn the building evacuation plan if it has one.
- Count the number of doors that are between your unit and the nearest exit/ stairway and memorize that number. It will help you find the exit in dark/smoky conditions.

In the Event of a Fire:

- Stay calm, exit the building and call the Fire Department once outside the building.
- First feel the unit door before opening it, if it is warm/hot to the touch, do not open it. Instead call 911 and tell the dispatcher your unit number and that you cannot open the door.
- Stuff cracks around door with towels, blankets, rags and cover any vents.
- Wait at a window and signal for help with a flashlight or by waving a light colored cloth.
- If your unit door is cool to the touch, open it slowly and check for smoke/fire in the hallway. If hallway is safe evacuate the building.
- Do not use the building's elevator to escape, always use the stairs.

Once Outside:

Stay outside, do not go back in the building for any reason.

If you think that someone is still inside the building, tell firefighters or police officers where you think that they are.



WHAT'S NEW?

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT ENGINEER MATT BURKE!

On Monday, May 2nd, the OFPD & Local 2754 celebrated Engineer Burke's retirement after 28 years of dedicated service to the Orland Fire District with an Open House Luncheon. Congratulations Matt and enjoy retirement!!



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT TELECOMMUNICATOR DAWN KURRY!

On Thursday, June 2nd, the OFPD hosted a retirement Open House Luncheon for Dispatcher Dawn Kurry. Dawn was a dedicated employee with Orland Central Dispatch for close to 30 years. Congratulations Dawn and enjoy retirement!



TWO FIREFIGHTERS PROMOTED TO ENGINEERS

On Thursday, June 23rd, Firefighters Shaun McDonald and Charles Murray were administered their Engineer Oaths of Office at a promotional ceremony held at Orland Fire. Congratulations gentlemen!



ORLAND CENTRAL DISPATCH WELCOMES NEW TELECOMMUNICATORS

As part of the many ongoing changes in Orland Central Dispatch, the Center has welcomed the following new Telecommunicators to the team:



ORLAND FIRE CELEBRATES OUR EMERGENCY MEDICAL PROVIDERS

Though Emergency Medical Services Appreciation Week was May 15 –21 this year, Orland Fire celebrated it June 14 -16 with 3 days of appreciation lunches to honor each shift who spend heir careers serving others.

EMS Administrator Lieutenant Mark Duke and members of the Fire Prevention Bureau staff grill up a large amount of burgers, brats, hot dogs, chicken, served along with delicious side dishes, as a way to say thank you for the hard work they do. It always seems to be the week that is close to 100 degrees but they do it with a smile!





DEDICATION OF NEW MAINTENANCE FACILITY TO SONNY AND MIKE MORGAN

Deputy Chief Bernard “Sonny” Morgan was a long time member of the Fire District. Sonny had a big part in building the organization we have today, starting as a volunteer Firefighter with Orland in approximately 1969. He was one of our first Paramedics and was hired as one of our first full-time Firefighters in 1977. He was a charter member of Local 2754, an OFPD Fleet Mechanic, helped design our Maintenance Facility and much more.

Mike Morgan was a Fleet Maintenance mechanic of the Orland Fire District with 40 years of service. Mike was instrumental in keeping all OFPD apparatus in service and operating safely, and was a valued member of the OFPD Family. A retired OFPD Engineer eloquently shared the impact Mike had on our organization:

“...You may have never known him or met him but every time you get behind the wheel of any district vehicle and you apply the brakes, or step on the accelerator, or switch from road to pump, or open the cabinet door and see a custom bracket or pull out tray, I want you to think of the skilled craftsmen/mechanic that built that - Mike.... He was a quiet man, but a great man and he will be dearly missed.”

On Saturday, June 18, 2022, an Open House and Dedication Ceremony was held at the new facility. Fire Chief Michael Schofield, Retired Fire Chief Robert M. Buhs and Lieutenant Jim Hynes each spoke about the importance of a strong emergency vehicle maintenance program and paid tribute to former Deputy Chief Bernard “Sonny” Morgan and his son, Fire Mechanic Michael Morgan, for their contributions to the Orland Fire Protection District Maintenance Program. May their dedication and contributions never be forgotten.





**EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CENTER
TO BE DEDICATED TO FORMER CHIEF ROBERT M. BUHS**

Bob started his full-time career with Orland Fire in 1977, was promoted to Lieutenant in 1981 and promoted to Deputy Chief in 1986. He was first appointed Fire Chief/Administrator in 1988.

One of Chief Buhs' earliest visions was to build a regional training facility. He was one of the first to start training officers in command functions, knowing the importance of a unified command. Chief Buhs was always a leader within the State of Illinois with regard to training, and his vision for the fire service was that every Firefighter had the opportunity to learn, practice and implement the best practices of the fire service. This did not stop at the Firefighter level. Bob saw that the Command Staff needed to become leaders and it was accomplished by training and giving them the opportunities to learn and practice their knowledge in a controlled environment. Today, we train the region's Firefighters to the highest level, creating the next generation of Firefighters, Command Officers and Leaders. Chief Buhs retired from Orland Fire in 2003, but he continued as a consultant and mentor of every Chief who has served since.

On June 28th the Board of Trustees approved Resolution 2022-01:

**A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
HONORING RETIRED FIRE CHIEF ROBERT M.
BUHS BY RECOGNIZING CHIEF BUHS AS THE
ORLAND FIRE DISTRICT'S FIRST FIRE CHIEF
EMERITUS, AND NAMING THE EDUCATION &
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CENTER
THE ROBERT M. BUHS EDUCATION &
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CENTER ON
THE ART GRANAT, SR. TRAINING CAMPUS**

On Friday, July 15, 2022 at 4:00 pm. this facility will be dedicated to Retired Chief Robert M. Buhs at our Art Granat, Sr. Training Campus located at 10728 W. 163rd Place, Orland Park.



ORLAND FIRE DISTRICT'S SENIOR ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Senior Advisory Council (SAC) of the Orland Fire Protection District (OFPD) was established in 2009 and serves as a bridge between OFPD officials and the large senior population in the District. SAC both communicates *to* seniors and brings information *from* seniors to the leadership of the District. The goal is to communicate health and safety concerns and to preserve the lives and property of seniors within the community. The OFPD encompasses a large population of seniors. According to the 2020 U.S. Census, residents 65 and older comprise 23% of the total population of Orland Park. That is 1.5% greater than the overall rate for Illinois.

SAC members, who are appointed by the Chief, serve two-year terms. Volunteers must be 55 years or older and a resident of Orland Park. SAC members have staffed tables at Orland Days, OFPD

Open House, Orland Health and Fitness, Sportsplex, as well as assist at Senior Luncheons put on by the District. SAC also presents a health or safety topic at Coffee & Conversation, which is slated to resume on July 17th at the Administration Building. They also present a yearly report to the Board of Trustees.

According to SAC volunteer Carolyn Newkirk, "SAC was recently at the Orland Fitness Center where we spoke with many people, 57 of whom completed our short, informative questionnaire. We distributed handouts, pamphlets and *My Medical Information* refrigerator magnets to assist emergency medical personnel. While our main focus is seniors, our information applies to anyone wishing to learn about safety. We are happy to have everyone stop, talk, and pick up our handouts. We have a fun time chatting and you'll walk away with information and possibly some free items!"



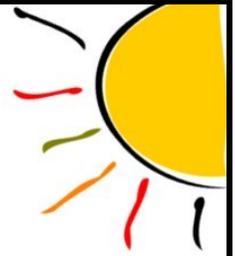
PREVENTION SAFETY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Prevent unnecessary falls and improve your safety by making yourself aware of environmental hazards. Take action to remove fall risks from your home by:

- Install secure handrails and bright lights with switches at the top and bottom of stairways.
- Repair loose or uneven steps. Check stairs for worn or loose carpeting and install anti-slip treads.
- Always wear shoes with traction and make sure throw rugs have non-skid backing.
- Install grab bars for the toilet, bathtub and/or shower, and use non-slip mats or decals on ceramic surfaces both inside and outside the tub.
- Install nightlights in areas you frequent at night. Also, consider keeping a flashlight near your bed.
- Store frequently-used items on lower shelves in the kitchen to limit the use of stools or step-ladders. If you must use a step stool, use one with a bar to hold onto.



**Save
the
Date**



Orland Fire Open House

Saturday, September 24, 2022

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. @ Training Facility

10728 W. 163rd Place, Orland Park, IL



FIRE WON'T WAIT, PLAN YOUR ESCAPE!

JOIN US FOR:

- A LIVE SIDE-BY-SIDE BURN TO SHOW HOW SPRINKLERS CAN PROTECT YOUR HOME
- FIREFIGHTERS DEMONSTRATIONS THROUGHOUT THE DAY
- LEARN "HANDS ONLY" CPR
- FIRETRUCK, ENGINES AND AMBULANCE DISPLAYS
- FACE PAINTING
- ACTIVITIES, ARTS & CRAFTS
- DIVE SCENARIO AND WATER BALL GAMES (weather permitting)
- VISION & HEARING SCREENINGS

Come Rain or Shine!



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

Upcoming Events Summer '22:

Market at the Park

Thursdays, June 2-Aug 18 (No market June 30 or August 4) | 4-8pm

Independence Day Concert & Fireworks

July 4, 2022 7:15 PM - 10:00 PM
 Centennial Park, Orland Park

***OFPD Dedication of Robert M. Buhs
 Education & Leadership Development Center***

July 15, 2022 4:00 p.m.
 10728 W. 163rd Place, Orland Park

Taste of Orland

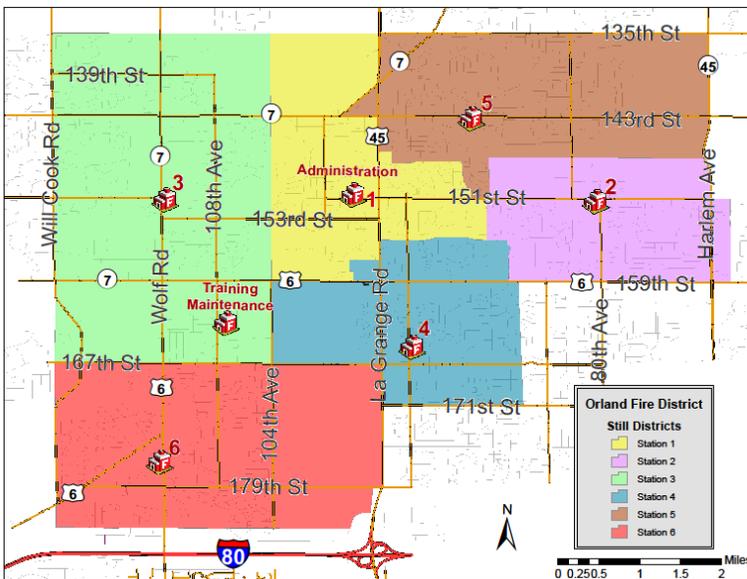
August 5-8
 Orland Park Village Hall Grounds

Orland Fire District Open House

September 24, 2022 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 Training Facility, 10728 W. 163rd Place, Orland Park

*Check Village of Orland Park website for a complete listing of their summer activities

ORLAND FIRE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES



HAVE A SAFE &
HAPPY SUMMER!