

# The Bresnan Distributor

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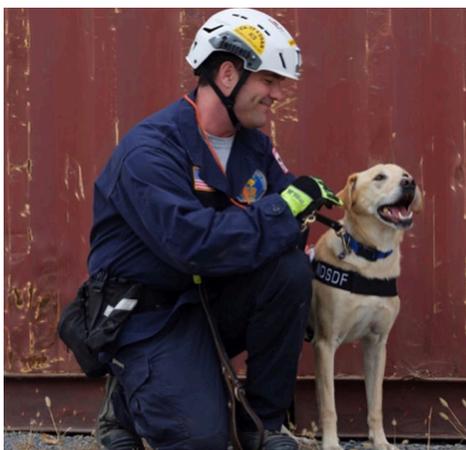
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## **Message From The Editors**

- Please join us in congratulating Fire Chief David Rocha on his retirement. Although he has retired from CalPERS, he will be an annuitant while the ACFD transitions and looks for a replacement. The Board of Supervisors along with Chief Rocha have expressed that they would like to fill the position with someone within the Organization. We would like to thank him for his hard work, leadership, and dedication to the Alameda County Fire Department and the communities we serve.



- Please also join us in congratulating Division Chief Alan Evans on his retirement. We wish him many years of health and happiness.
- As you know FF Brian Derickson and I, FF Sam Berry, have been in charge of the Bresnan Distributor Newsletter and the website for over a year. We have appreciated your patience as we transition and continue to learn the best way to provide you with the Newsletter you deserve. Currently our primary cost is the website itself. We will be transitioning from the current Bresnan Distributor website to our existing union website [IAFFLocal55.org](http://IAFFLocal55.org), as we run this site as well. The benefits of transitioning to our existing website will be a decrease in cost, Retiree only forum, and an integrated calendar with upcoming events.
- We are also looking to expand our media presence on the website. If you have any old photos, videos or anything you would like to see on the website please let us know. We are specifically looking for the Chief's Chat videos of Station 7, 15, and 16. We would like to put old videos on the website for retirees to enjoy and the history to be taught to our newest members. We have had a few retirees already contact us regarding the Chief's Chat videos, so if that is you, please disregard.
- Please join us in thanking FF Alex Mengell for participating in the monthly CPF Podcast called Firewire. On January 13th, Alex, along with Moraga-Orinda Firefighter Mike Lacy went to Sacramento to the CPF Headquarters to meet with CPF President Brian Rice. All three participated in the monthly Podcast discussing Presumptive Illness and Personal Exposure Reporting (P.E.R.), the importance of reporting, and how it can help you in the event of contracting a job-related illness, which both Alex and Mike have experienced. Alex is a brain cancer survivor, and Mike had Meningitis, both of which were determined to be job-related thanks to the established presumptive illness laws and the availability of exposure reports via (P.E.R.). Please stay tuned for the the actual podcast, which will be released the third week in February.



## **Blast From the Past**

- Former Castro Valley Fire Chief Bill Pedroni stopped by the Firehouse and shared some coffee and stories of the good ole' days. It's always great learning about our history.

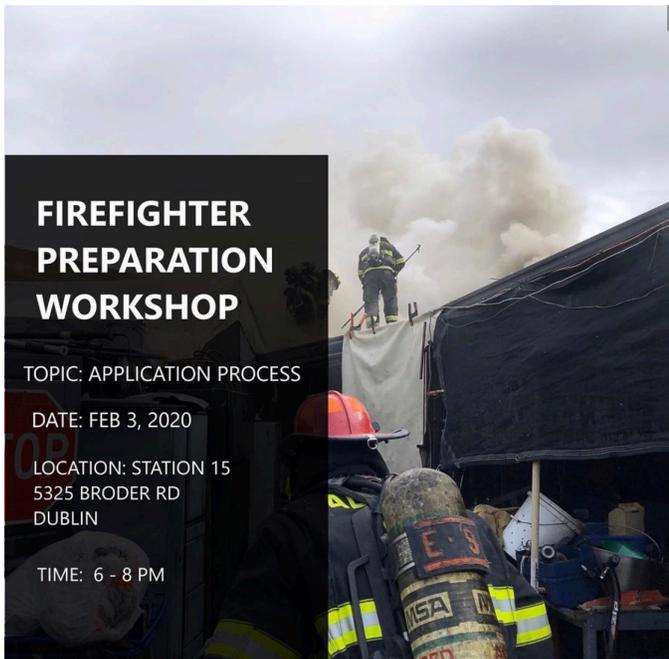


## **Upcoming Events**

- The 2020 California Firefighter Summer Games will be held from July 12th - July 17th. The Anaheim Firefighters Association will be hosting the games. For details of the Events, Registration and Host Hotel booking please visit [cfaa.org](http://cfaa.org). Registration opens May 15, 2020.



- Monday, February 3rd the ACFD will be hosting a Firefighter Preparation Workshop in Dublin at Station 15. The topic being covered will include the Application Process. Firefighters will also be there to answer questions. To learn more please direct those interested to subscribe to future job alerts. <https://bit.ly/2plrPmY>



- Stay tuned on [www.bresnandistributor.com](http://www.bresnandistributor.com) for more upcoming events.

## **Reader's Rides**

- We have not received any new Readers Rides submissions. Please send us your ride to keep this section alive.

- If you would like your vehicle featured in our Readers Rides section please email [TheBresnan@gmail.com](mailto:TheBresnan@gmail.com). Please include a photo, year/model and a brief history of your vehicle.

## **Retiree Roster**

- We are continuing to create a Roster of Retirees. If you would like to be listed in the roster can you please email the following to [TheBresnan@gmail.com](mailto:TheBresnan@gmail.com).
- If you personally know any of the recent retirees, please inform them to register with the Bresnan.
- Name, Phone Number, Email, Department you were hired with, a photo from when you were working, a current photo and years that you worked.
- This is voluntary and feel free to omit any information that you do not want to share.
- Thank you to all that updated their information.

## **In the ACFD**

- The City of Union City has directed ACFD Admin to close Station 30 on Jan. 15th at 0800 hours. This is a major issue/concern for Local 55 as there is no successor contract between the ACFD and Union City. Local 55 has asked our Admin to provide a complete plan on how operations will be impacted based on the closure. Local 55 has ensured the Board of Supervisors has been updated on this development and the concerns regarding public and firefighter safety. The ACFD is using social media platforms to put out messages regarding the closure. Local 55 has developed a press release in conjunction with the IAFF Communications Department that was distributed to all of the TV, radio, and print media in the SF Bay Area.
- For the first time in nearly 25 years, an election for District 1 Supervisor will be contested. Supervisor Scott Haggerty will be retiring. Four candidates have entered the race for the March primary. While Local 55 has relationships with three of the four candidates, Local 55 has partnered with other public safety labor unions and have endorsed Melissa Hernandez. Melissa is a current council member in Dublin and has the support of all but one (Fremont Firefighters) public safety unions in District 1.
- Supervisor Miley and Carson are also running for re-election. Supervisor Miley has a challenger for his seat and of this writing Local 55 has NOT endorsed in his race and has not given any monetary donations. Supervisor Carson also has a challenger and Local 55 has NOT endorsed in this race either.

- The ACFFA has established the ACFFA Ballot Issues PAC. This member driven Political Action Committee is for Local 55 ballot issues only. As of this writing, Local 55 members have committed over \$111,000 to ensure Local 55 has the resources to be effective politically.
- The good news about the March election is the 1/4 cent tax measure on the Emeryville ballot for staffing in the city. This would include 3 additional firefighters, for one four member company in Emeryville should the measure pass.
- The Board of Supervisors has placed a nearly \$100 million Bond for infrastructure for all county stations. The Executive Board is putting together the final plan for the March Primary as well as the November election.
- Local 55 is beginning the process for negotiating the next contract. Bargaining will begin on Feb. 1, 2020 and continue thru April 1, 2020. Should no agreement occur or the Board refuse to ratify an agreement, mediation will commence with Arbitrator Buddy Cohen immediately. Local 55 will adhere to the strict timelines of the MOU and ensure no overages of timelines occur.
- Elections are currently taking place for President, Advisory Board Chair, B-Group Rep, and Executive Board for the ACFFA Local 55. Voting will close in early February.
- The ACFFA Toy Drive has come to an end. We would like to thank all who stepped up this year to make the 2019 season a success. With your help and that of active duty members we were able to pick up and drop off toys, organize events, serve food, distribute toys, dress up as Santa and uphold the traditions of this program. Thank you for bringing positivity and a helpful hand when you were present. ACFD and ACFFA both worked very hard to accomplish the following for the 2019 Holiday season:
  - 4 Santa at the Firehouse events
  - Supplied 11 different local non-profit organizations with thousands of toys and gift cards
  - Directly assisted in 5 toy distributions
  - Received donations at 11 community toy drives
  - Featured live on 2 Bay Area radio stations (KMEL and KBLX)
  - Started a new Toy Drive web site: [www.alcoff55toys.com](http://www.alcoff55toys.com)
  - Created Toy drive T-shirts

- The Alameda County Fire Department 2020 Recruit Academy is currently beginning week 3, which will conclude the EMS portion of the Academy. 22 Fire Recruits will go through a 20 week Fire Academy. 18 Recruits are from the ACFD, and 4 Recruits are from the Moraga-Orinda Fire District. We wish them luck as they begin their journey together.



- The Bresnan's website overhaul will be ongoing. Please visit [www.bresnandistributor.com](http://www.bresnandistributor.com). You will be able to view Retiree Submissions, Readers Rides, History of the ACFD and a forum to be able to communicate with other Retirees.

## **Your Newsletter and Website**

- This newsletter and website are here for you, the retiree. We would like to modify it to fit the needs of the retirees, so if you have any suggestions, complaints, questions or comments please email [TheBresnan@gmail.com](mailto:TheBresnan@gmail.com).