



NEWS



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Woman rescued by Sheriff's, County Fire officials after fall on Mt. Baldy

Daily Press

Posted: January 17, 2017, 3:21 PM

MOUNT BALDY - Thanks to the rescue efforts of San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and Fire Department personnel, a woman narrowly escaped falling further down a steep mountain ridge during a hike Monday.

Jennifer Fujita, 34, of Irvine, was hiking down the Devil's Backbone Trail near the Mount Baldy summit on Monday afternoon when the fall occurred, prompting a high-risk rescue operation from Sheriff's and County Fire officials.

Authorities said in a Tuesday news release Fujita was hiking the trail with her brother at 3:35 p.m. Monday when she lost her footing and slipped 50 feet down a snow-covered ridge. Fujita managed to use her ice ax to prevent herself from falling further down the ridge, and her brother immediately called 911 to request assistance.

Sheriff's helicopter 40King4 responded to the area to attempt to locate Fujita. Due to the circumstances and elevation, the helicopter crew requested assistance from Air Rescue 307, which was staffed with Sheriff's and **County Fire** personnel, to also respond and conduct a hoist rescue.

Fujita was located by 40King4 with the assistance of her brother, who provided vital information such as their GPS location and clothing descriptions. Authorities said Fujita was found on a steep, snow-packed ridge. After assessing the situation, officials determined Fujita was in a high-risk area and a technical pick-off hoist rescue would be needed.

Air Rescue 307 Pilot Corporal Mike Gilley hovered over Fujita while battling 45 mph gusts, authorities said, while Crew Chief Deputy Ed Leon lowered Fire Captain Eric Spies 130 feet down on the hoist. Spies made contact with Fujita while remaining on the hook, authorities said, and disconnected her backpack, which fell hundreds of feet down the rocky slope.

Fujita was then placed into a "hasty rescue harness" and secured to Spies on the hook. They were both then hoisted together up to and inside the aircraft, authorities said.

Fujita was then flown to Cow Canyon Saddle, where she was released to medical personnel. Authorities said Fujita was evaluated on scene but did not require medical transport.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20170117/woman-rescued-by-sheriffs-county-fire-officials-after-fall-on-mt-baldy>

High-Risk Hoist Rescue Performed From Mt. Baldy

Victor Valley News

Posted: January 17, 2017

MOUNT BALDY – Jennifer Fujita, 34, a resident of Irvine was hoisted to safety after she slipped and fell down a snow covered ridge while hiking Monday afternoon.

On January 16th, the victim, and her brother were hiking down the Devil’s Backbone Trail near the Mount Baldy Summit at the 9200’ level. While hiking down, she lost her footing and slid down the snow covered ridge approximately 50 feet. The victim managed to use her ice ax to prevent her from falling further down the steep rocky ridge. The victim’s brother immediately called 911 and requested assistance.

Sheriff’s patrol helicopter 40King4 (Pilot Deputy Jon Roberg and Tactical Flight Officer Deputy Carlos Quezada) was dispatched to the location to attempt to locate the victim. Due to the circumstances and elevation, the crew of 40King4 requested the assistance of Air Rescue 307, which was staffed with Sheriff and Fire personnel, to also respond and conduct a hoist rescue. The victim’s brother provided vital information including their GPS location and clothing descriptions. The crew of 40King4 located the victim and her brother and relayed that information to Air Rescue 307. The victim was located on a steep snow packed ridge.

Sheriff’s Air Rescue 307 responded to that location and began assessing the situation. It was determined the victim was in a high-risk area, which would require a technical pick off hoist rescue. Pilot Corporal Mike Gilley hovered over the victim while battling high winds with gusts up to 45 mph. Crew Chief Deputy Ed Leon lowered Fire Captain Eric Spies down on the hoist to the victim 130 feet. Spies contacted the victim while remaining on the hook, and immediately disconnected her backpack, which fell hundreds of feet down the rocky slope. Spies placed the victim into a “Hasty Rescue Harness” and secured the victim to himself on the hook. Deputy Leon hoisted both Spies and the victim together up to and inside the aircraft. The victim was then flown to Cow Canyon Saddle and released to awaiting medical personnel.

<http://www.vvng.com/high-risk-hoist-rescue-performed-from-mt-baldy/>

Hiker Hoist Rescued While Hanging From a Snow Covered Ridge

24/7 Headline News

Posted: January 18, 2017

MT. BALDY – A 34-year-old Irvine woman was rescued while hanging from a steep area of the Devil’s Backbone area of Mt. Baldy on Monday afternoon. At around 3:35 p.m. the woman, identified by Sheriff’s officials as Jennifer Fujita was hiking with her brother down the Devil’s Backbone Trail near Mt. Baldy Summit at the 9200’ level. As the pair hiked down, Fujita lost her footing and slid down approximately 50 feet down the snow-covered ridge. Sheriff’s officials said that Fujita then used her ice ax to prevent her from falling down the steep rocky ridge.

Fujita’s brother called 911 and was able to provide the GPS location and the clothing description for himself and his sister. The Sheriff’s helicopter was dispatched in an attempt to locate the victim and found her on the steep ridge. Air Rescue 307 was called to the scene to conduct the high-risk hoist rescue. When they arrived they determined that a technical pick off hoist rescue would be necessary. In the high winds, the helicopter hovered over the victim.

Fire Captain Eric Spies was lowered down on the hoist to the victim, disconnected her backpack allowing it to fall hundreds of feet down the slope. “Spies placed the victim into a “Hasty Rescue Harness” and secured the victim to himself on the hook,” Deputy E. Leon said in the news release. “Deputy Leon hoisted both Spies and the victim together up to and inside the aircraft.” The woman was flown to Cow Canyon Saddle to emergency medical personnel.

<https://247headline.com/hiker-hoist-rescued-while-hanging-from-a-snow-covered-ridge/>

Authorities conducting investigation at home off Balsam Avenue after one person airlifted to local trauma center

Jose Quintero, Daily Press

Posted: January 17, 2017, 11:52 AM



Sheriff's deputies tape off a home in Hesperia as they investigate a person found injured behind the house. The victim later was airlifted to a trauma center. James Quigg, Daily Press

HESPERIA - Authorities conducted an investigation in the 16000 block of Balsam Avenue after one person was airlifted to a local trauma center Tuesday morning.

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department deputies taped off a home off Balsam Avenue while several investigators worked the scene.

According to Hesperia Sheriff's Station spokeswoman Jackie Chambers, Code Enforcement officers arrived at the home, which is being renovated, to do some follow-up work when a person ran frantically out of the home and sheriff's deputies were requested.

Deputies found a victim behind the home, according to Chambers, and they were taken by ground ambulance to Desert Valley Hospital.

San Bernardino County Fire Department spokesman Eric Sherwin told the Daily Press that Sheriff's officials requested a helicopter to transport a patient to a trauma center from Desert Valley Hospital a little after 11 a.m. and confirmed that the patient was suffering from head trauma.

A woman who lives near the home and declined to give her name told the Daily Press that a man sought after by authorities entered her home and was "acting weird."

"He was like hugging and kissing on my mother who is in her 90s," the woman told the Daily Press. "I was in my room getting dressed and came out and found the man. He was out of breath, I gave him water and told him he had to leave."

The investigation is ongoing. Chambers could not confirm if a suspect was in custody, but said all statements from witnesses would be investigated by authorities.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20170117/authorities-conducting-investigation-at-home-off-balsam-avenue-after-one-person-airlifted-to-local-trauma-center>

Man suspected of causing fire that killed wife arrested

Daily Press

Posted: January 17, 2017, 3:39 PM



Lynda Cestone was killed in a fire that tore through her home last year. Her husband, Donald Wayne Jensen, was arrested on suspicion of murder last Friday after an investigation found the fire was suspicious in nature. Photo courtesy of the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

LUCERNE VALLEY - Authorities arrested a man last Friday they believe is responsible for causing a fire that killed his wife last year.

Donald Wayne Jenman, 68, of Lucerne Valley, was arrested on suspicion of murder last Friday. Sheriff's officials said in a Tuesday news release Jenman's wife, Lynda Cestone, was killed in a structure fire at the couple's home last year. The cause of the fire was found to be suspicious in nature, prompting a homicide investigation.

The blaze occurred on April 16, 2016 at the couple's home in the 9800 block of Mesa Road. **San Bernardino County Fire Department** officials previously said "hoarder conditions" were found in the home at the time of the fire, including several dead cats, according to a previous Daily Press report.

Cestone's body was discovered as firefighters extinguished the blaze. County Fire paramedic Eric Sherwin previously said Cestone used a wheelchair and the hoarding conditions prevented her from exiting in time. Jenman suffered minor burns and was taken to a trauma center for treatment.

As fire officials investigated the cause of the blaze, a gas supply line was found to be disconnected, authorities said, and a homicide investigation was launched. Investigators also found Cestone had previously suffered a stroke which left her paralyzed and bedridden.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20170117/man-suspected-of-causing-fire-that-killed-wife-arrested>

Adelanto men suspected in rash of fires at local apartment complexes, feed store arrested

Jose Quintero, Hesperia Star

Posted: January 17, 2017, 4:20 PM



San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department deputies arrested Cody Michael McGee, 25, and Jerry Paul Fontaine, 50, believed to be connected to a recent rash of fires, early Saturday morning at the Mountain Vista Apartments. James Quigg, Daily Press

VICTORVILLE - Two Adelanto men authorities believe to be connected with fires at a local apartment complexes were behind bars and expected to be arraigned in a Victorville courtroom Tuesday afternoon if criminally charged by prosecutors.

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department deputies arrested Cody Michael McGee, 25, and Jerry Paul Fontaine, 50, early Saturday morning at the Mountain Vista Apartments, located in the 15400 block of Nisqualli Road, booking records show.

San Bernardino County Fire Department officials said McGee and Fontaine were arrested during a "joint surveillance operation" after a dumpster fire at the nearby Golden Sands Apartment complex in Victorville.

Booking records show McGee and Fontaine both live at a home in Adelanto in the 14400 block of Cambridge Street.

Victorville Sheriff's Station spokeswoman Mara Rodriguez said Fontaine and McGee are believed to be connected with other fires at the Mountain Vista Apartments and several other local fires.

Fire Department officials believe the two are responsible for setting fire to hay bales at the J&K Feed and Pet Supplies in Hesperia too.

"Firefighters were instrumental in keeping the fire contained to the hay bales and away from adjacent structures and gas station," County Fire spokeswoman Tracey Martinez said in a statement.

Firefighters responded to three separate fires that were "attempted unsuccessfully" at the Hesperia Feed Bin also located in Hesperia. Fire officials then feared a serial arsonist was targeting the High Desert and set up a surveillance operation in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department.

"The safety of the residents in this county remains top priority for all of us in public safety. The arrests of these two suspects were a result of teamwork and determination," Sheriff John McMahon said in a statement.

The Daily Press previously reported that residents of the Mountain Vista Apartments were concerned that a serial arsonist was in their midst, with some claiming the property's management company was not doing enough to combat the issue.

Martinez told that Daily Press in December that firefighters had responded to a total of 30 fires at the property since the beginning of August. The majority of these blazes were dumpster and vegetation fires.

"One vegetation fire did cause damage to an apartment building, endangering the residents inside," Martinez said. "All other fires were quickly extinguished before the fire spread to adjacent structures."

The Daily Press was previously referred by Mountain Vista's local leasing office to E & S Ring Management Corporation, which manages the property. Portfolio manager Scott Seymour said the company was just as concerned as Mountain Vista's residents about the fires and was doing what it can to ensure residents' safety by maintaining contact with the Sheriff's Department and County Fire, adding extra patrols on the property, with additional security guards at night to try to find those responsible for the blazes.

Fontaine and McGee were being held at High Desert Detention Center in Adelanto each in lieu of \$50,000 bail, booking records show.

<http://www.hesperia.com/news/20170117/adelanto-men-suspected-in-rash-of-fires-at-local-apartment-complexes-feed-store-arrested>

Woman Dies in House Fire, Husband Arrested for Murder

Victor Valley News

Posted: January 17, 2017



(photo courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire)

LUCERNE VALLEY, Calif. (VVNG.com)- Authorities just announced the arrest of Donald Wayne Jenman, 68, for the murder of his wife following a house fire.

The fire was reported at 4:40 a.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 in the 9800 block of Mesa Road in Lucerne Valley.

According to a previous press release, Firefighters made entry into the house to find hoarder conditions which both contributed to the spread of the blaze and slowed their progression toward the seat of the fire.

During the attack, the roof collapsed over the suspected room of origin. It took just over thirty minutes to bring the fire under control.

While conducting a search for victims, the body of 56-year-old Lynda Cestone was discovered in a bedroom which was the suspected room in which the fire began.

The husband Donald Jenman who was initially found outside of the residence was treated for smoke inhalation, burns, and flown to a regional burn center for definitive treatment of his injuries.

Additionally, one dozen cats had been located deceased inside the structure, though firefighters expected that number to climb as overhaul efforts continued through all of the debris inside the residence.

Investigators from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Bomb Arson Detail were contacted and responded to the location.

During the arson investigation, a gas supply line was found to be disconnected. Bomb Arson Investigators requested the assistance of investigators from Homicide Detail due to the suspicious nature of the fire. Investigators from Homicide Detail responded and assumed the investigation.

Investigators learned during their investigation that in 2010, Lynda suffered a stroke. As a result of the stroke, Lynda was paralyzed and bedridden. During the fire, Donald suffered minor burns and was transported by Mercy Air to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center.

On Friday, January 13, 2017, at the conclusion of the Death Investigation, Donald Wayne Jenman was arrested, transported and booked into the West Valley Detention Center for PC 187(a) Murder. Jenman is being held on \$1,000,000.00 bail and is scheduled for court on January 18, 2017.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Detective Mike Cleary or Sergeant Greg Myler of the Specialized Investigations Division, Homicide Detail (909) 387-3589. Callers wishing to remain anonymous are urged to call the We-Tip Hotline at 1-800-78-CRIME (27463) or the We-Tip website at www.wetip.com

<http://www.vvng.com/woman-dies-in-house-fire-husband-arrested-for-murder/>

Lucerne Valley Man Arrested For The Murder Of His Wife

Z107.7 News

Posted: January 18, 2017

A Lucerne Valley man was arrested Friday, nine months after he allegedly killed his wife during a house fire. According to the Sheriff's Department, **county firefighters** found the body of Lynda Cestone, 56, April 19, 2016, while they were battling a house fire in the 9800 block of Mesa Road in Lucerne Valley. Sheriff's investigators discovered that a gas supply line in the home had been disconnected. Cestone, who was paralyzed and bedridden due to a stroke, lived with her husband, Donald Jenman, 68, in their home. After the investigation, Jenman was arrested on suspicion of murder, booked into West Valley Detention Center, with his bail set at \$1 million. Donald Jenman is scheduled to be in court today.

<http://z1077fm.com/lucerne-valley-man-arrested-for-the-murder-of-his-wife/>