



NEWS



News Headlines 3/14/2017

- Former Lake Arrowhead fire chief Ray Cenicerros dies
- Redlands house fire causes more than \$400,000 in damages
- 3 Men Arrested For Attempted Murder After Assaulting Teen With Bat

Former Lake Arrowhead fire chief Ray Cenicerros dies

John M. Blodgett, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin

Posted: March 12, 2017, 4:06 PM



Ray Cenicerros of Running Springs, known as “Chief” ever after retiring in 1979 as the fire chief of Lake Arrowhead Fire District, died March 8 after suffering respiratory failure, according to a family statement. He was 88.

“A lot of people still called him Chief,” said his son Gil Cenicerros of West Virginia. “It just stuck with him.”

Born in San Bernardino on May 21, 1928, Ray Cenicerros began his firefighting career in 1945 as a 17-year-old hotshot for the U.S. Forest Service in Del Rosa. He left to serve in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, the family said in their statement.

Ray Cenicerros returned to firefighting for the Forest Service from 1952 to 1965, eventually being assigned to the Sky Forest Ranger Station. It was there that he became one of service’s youngest fire-control officers, said Gil Cenicerros.

“He liked being in charge,” he said with a chuckle, noting that his father had been singled out for showing strong leadership qualities.

In addition to organizing firefighting efforts as a fire-control officer, Gil Cenicerros said his father played a part in the use of helicopters in firefighting and establishing the Heaps Peak Heliport, which is still in service above Santa’s Village in Sky Forest. He also was instrumental in building many firebreaks in the mountains.

In 1965, Ray Cenicerros was named fire chief of Lake Arrowhead Fire District. During his 14 years at the helm there, Gil Cenicerros said his father oversaw the construction of three fire stations and the acquisitions of numerous pieces of firefighting apparatus, including the district’s first snowcat for use in heavy snows.

After retiring from firefighting in 1979, Ray Cenicerros ran a small Mexican restaurant in San Bernardino and then was a Job Corps recruiter, yet he remained active in numerous firefighting-related groups including the Mountain Fire Council, San Bernardino Fire Chiefs Association and the California Fire Chiefs Association. He also was a long-serving member of the Rim of the World Masonic Lodge No. 711 in Twin Peaks and was involved in numerous other community groups.

Ray Cenicerros is survived by his first and second wives, a sister and brother, two daughters, four sons, two stepsons, two stepdaughters, 24 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren.

Services will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, March 18, at Mountain View Mortuary at 570 E. Highland Ave. in San Bernardino, followed by a military honor and graveside service at Mountain View Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages people to donate to the under-construction Shriners for Children Medical Center in Pasadena, Saint Bernardine Medical Center in San Bernardino, or to a charity of choice in memory of Ray Cenicerros.

<http://www.sbsun.com/obituaries/20170312/former-lake-arrowhead-fire-chief-ray-cenicerros-dies>

Redlands house fire causes more than \$400,000 in damages

Doug Saunders, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: March 13, 2017, 6:42 PM

REDLANDS—A structure fire in an upscale neighborhood left one family displaced Monday afternoon in Redlands.

Shortly after 3:30 p.m., Redlands firefighters responded to the 1600 block of Sheffield Lane, Battalion Chief Jim Topoleski said.

A second alarm was sounded and soon thereafter the roof of the home collapsed, Topoleski said.

Fire officials set an early estimate of just under \$500,000 in damages, but expect the total to rise.

“There’s about \$300,000 in structural damage and another \$100,000 in personal items,” Topoleski said. “That number will most likely rise.”

The family was able to evacuate the home after finding the fire, according to a post on the Redlands Fire Department Facebook page.

Units from San Manuel, Loma Linda and **San Bernardino County fire departments** also responded to the fire.

No injuries were reported and firefighters were able to keep the fire contained to just the one home.

The cause of the blaze is under investigation.

<http://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/general-news/20170313/redlands-house-fire-causes-more-than-400000-in-damages>

3 Men Arrested For Attempted Murder After Assaulting Teen With Bat

VVNG

Posted: March 13, 2017

HELENDALE, Calif. (VVNG.com) Three Helendale men are behind bars on attempted murder charges after they conspired to violently assault a teen using a bat, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department announced Monday.

On Friday, March 10, 2017, at approximately 11:24 p.m. San Bernardino County Sheriff's Dispatch received a report of an assault which had occurred in the 13700 block of Smithson Road in Helendale.

The caller reported a 17-year-old male had been hit in the head with an unknown object and needed medical attention. **San Bernardino County Fire Department** responded, and the victim was flown to Loma Linda University Medical Center for care. The victim remains in LLUMC in stable condition.

Deputies began their investigation which led them to the 13700 block of Smithson Road in Helendale. They learned the victim and suspects were at a bonfire at the location. The suspects were upset with the victim due to an earlier altercation the victim was involved in with one of their friends. At some point during the evening, one of the suspects obtained a bat from his vehicle and hit the victim in the head with it.

Through the investigation, it was learned the suspects had talked earlier in the day about assaulting the victim if he attended the bonfire. Investigators identified and arrested three suspects involved in the planning of the assault.

Jason Sherwood, 21, Christopher Michael Sherwood, 18, and Jirmarcus David Dupree, 25, all residents of Helendale were all arrested and booked into the High Desert Detention Center for attempted murder and conspiracy to commit a criminal act. Each of the suspects are being held in lieu of \$1,000,000 bail.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Detective Osvaldo Pelayes at the Victor Valley Sheriff's Station at (760) 552-6801. Persons wishing to remain anonymous may report information to WeTip at 800-78-CRIME (27463) or by accessing WeTip's website at www.wetip.com.

(Victor Valley Sheriff's station news release)

<http://www.vvng.com/3-men-arrested-attempted-murder-assaulting-teen-bat/>

[Find the archived News Clips Here](#)