

News Headlines 7/9-11/2016

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Firefighters battle another blaze in San Bernardino foothills

Doug Saunders, The Sun Posted: July 7, 2016, 1:46 PM



San Bernardino County Fire and San Bernardino National Forest Service departments battle a five-acre vegetation fire near Sterling Avenue and Foothill Drive in San Bernardino on Thursday. Rachel Luna — Staff Photographer



San Bernardino County Fire and San Bernardino National Forest Service departments battle a five-acre vegetation fire near Sterling Avenue and Foothill Drive in San Bernardino on Thursday. Rachel Luna — Staff Photographer

SAN BERNARDINO >> Fire trucks lined the intersection of Foothill Boulevard and Sterling Avenue Thursday as firefighters battled a wildfire in the foothills above the city.

The Eucalyptus Fire broke out shortly after 9:30 a.m.

They arrived to find a plume of smoke and flames emanating from an area east of the water tower.

Firefighters, assisted by water-dropping helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft, were able to stop the fire at 8 acres with full containment, **San Bernardino County Fire** spokesman Jeremy Kern said.

"It was mainly grass and medium fuels in the canyon area that was burning," Kern said. "But luckily it ran into the area that burned the other day."

On Sunday, a 5-acre fire charring mostly grass, scorched an area just east of Thursday's blaze, U.S. Forest Service spokesman Bob Poole said.

In that blaze, firefighters were assisted by two helicopters, and two fixed-wing air tankers were called in along with about 100 firefighters on the ground, Poole said.

Both fires are being considered suspicious and are under investigation by the county's arson squad and the San Bernardino Police Department.

Kern said the winter rains mixed with the recent heat wave have made conditions worse than prior years.

San Bernardino County Fire officials say homeowners can make a difference in wildfire preparedness by utilizing their Ready, Set, Go program.

They suggest homeowners remove fuels 100-feet from homes and create a defensible space.

Many fire officials fear the fire season ahead may become one of the worst they've seen in years.

"We're in our fifth year of drought and we've already seen devastating fires in recent weeks," Poole said. "The Lake Isabella area, the Complex Fire in the Angeles National Forest and even in the city with the Kendall Fire. It's not looking good."

http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20160707/firefighters-battle-another-blaze-in-san-bernardino-foothills

Arson Suspected in San Bernardino Brush Fire that Destroyed 3 Homes Leticia Juarez, ABC7

Posted: July 7, 2016, 1:47 PM



An arson investigation is underway after a brush fire destroyed three homes in San Bernardino over the Fourth of July weekend. (KABC)

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (KABC) -- An arson investigation is underway after a brush fire destroyed three homes in San Bernardino over the Fourth of July weekend.

The fire originated along Kendall Drive and quickly raced up an adjacent hill on July 2, officials said.



Investigators with the **San Bernardino County Fire Marshal's Office** said that the blaze was deliberately set.

Three homes were considered fully destroyed, while two were heavily damaged, fire officials said.

"Those investigations have pointed our people in the direction, it is now an arson investigation," said Eric Sherwin with the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

Resident Grace Elliott's home was in the fire's path.

"And I was just like wailing, wailing, and just watching my patio burn, everything, and I said 'that's it, my house is gone," Elliott said.

Elliott's home only suffered moderate fire damage, but her next door neighbors lost everything. Their home has been tagged unsafe.

"It is so disgusting. How could somebody do that on purpose? Destroy so many lives," Elliott said.

Noemi Solano is the newest resident to Skylark Drive, and her home was not damaged during the fire.

"Well, it is scary because we're still up here, and maybe it could happen again," Solano said.

Investigators are asking for people with any information to contact the WeTip Hotline at (800) 78-CRIME.

http://abc7.com/news/arson-suspected-in-san-bernardino-brush-fire-that-destroyed-3-homes/1417475/

"Thirty Fire" Reported at Bottom of Highway 330 Quickly Contained Michael P. Neufeld, Rim of the World News

Posted: July 9, 2016, 10:23 AM

UPDATE: Saturday, July 9 – 2 p.m.

Highland, CA – **San Bernardino County Fire** is reporting a wet line has now been established around the "Thirty Fire" and that firefighters are currently mopping up.

ORIGINAL STORY

Highland, CA – A second alarm has been ordered for the "Thirty Fire" in the wash area at the bottom of Highway 330 in Highland, according to San Bernardino County Fire.

The fire — reported at 1:22 p.m. — was last reported at about two acres in light fuels.

County Fire and CALFIRE units reported access problems to the fire.

http://rotwnews.com/2016/07/09/breaking-news-thirty-fire-reported-at-bottom-of-highway-330/

SB hit/run Highland Community News Posted: July 9, 2016, 9:07 AM

On 07-08-16 at approximately 10:37pm San Bernardino Police dispatch received an emergency call of an auto vs. pedestrian traffic collision at the intersection of Baseline Ave/ Crestview. When the first officers arrived on scene they found the victim, a female approximated to be in her 60's, down in the roadway. **San Bernardino County Fire/Paramedics** also responded to the scene where they provided treatment to the victim. She was then transported by ambulance to a local hospital where she later died as a result of her injuries.

The initial investigation indicates that the woman was struck by a possible black truck that fled the scene after the collision.

Anyone that may have witnessed this collision or has any information is urged to contact San Bernardino Police Det. Peck at (909)384-5664.

http://www.highlandnews.net/news/crime_and_fire/sb-hit-run/article_3428b7b0-45ef-11e6-b26bc38fd935931d.html

Hiker with head injury rescued near Aztec Falls

John M. Blodgett, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin Posted: July 10, 2016, 3:35 PM

LAKE ARROWHEAD >> **San Bernardino County firefighters** rescued a man Saturday night after he fell onto rocks near a popular hiking trail east of Lake Arrowhead, a fire official said.

Rescue crews were dispatched 7:42 p.m. Saturday to the Splinters Cabin trailhead south of Aztec Falls, engineer/paramedic Jeff Allen wrote in an email. They found the man with a head injury about one mile from the trailhead.

Rescuers at first called for a San Bernardino County sheriff's helicopter to perform a hoist rescue, but Allen wrote that they determined the man's injuries "were not severe enough to warrant a high-risk hoist operation." Instead a ground crew rescued the man by 10 p.m.

Allen did not provide details about the man's condition.

http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20160710/hiker-with-head-injury-rescued-near-aztec-falls

Fire at former San Bernardino dental office under investigation

John M. Blodgett, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin Posted: July 10, 2016, 3:38 PM

SAN BERNARDINO >> **The San Bernardino County Fire Department** is investigating a Saturday afternoon two-alarm fire at happened at a former dental office, according to a fire official.

A report of a couch on fire outside a 3,000 square foot building in the 1300 block of Mt. Vernon Avenue came in at 4:19 p.m, firefighter/paramedic Jeff Allen wrote in an email. The first units to arrive found heavy smoke and the attic on fire.

A second alarm was requested due to the potential for the fire to spread, Allen wrote. Colton and Rialto fire departments also responded.

The fire was kept to the front of the building and partly into the roof line, Allen wrote. It was extinguished by 5:06 p.m.

Allen wrote the cause is under investigation.

 $\underline{http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20160710/fire-at-former-san-bernardino-dental-office-under-investigation}$