



# NEWS



## News Headlines 6/29/2016

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## Man is shot to death while walking down a street in Fontana on June 25

Fontana Herald News

Posted: June 27, 2016, 3:48 PM

Updated: June 27, 2016, 6:08 PM



The Fontana Police Department is investigating a homicide which took place in eastern Fontana on June 25.

A 33-year-old man was shot to death while walking down a street in Fontana in the early morning hours of Saturday, June 25, according to the San Bernardino County Sheriff Coroner's Division.

The victim was heading westbound on the north side of the street in the 17500 block of Merrill Avenue, near Tamarind Avenue in eastern Fontana, at 1:39 a.m.

After words were exchanged with occupant(s) in a moving vehicle, shots were fired and the pedestrian sustained upper body trauma, the Coroner's Division said.

The **San Bernardino County Fire Department** responded to the location at 1:49 and the victim was pronounced deceased at 1:52 a.m.

The Fontana Police Department is investigating the incident.

This was the second homicide in Fontana this month. Another shooting death was reported on June 11 in western Fontana. In addition, a shooting took place on June 9, and the victim in that incident was hospitalized in critical condition.

[http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/man-is-shot-to-death-while-walking-down-a-street/article\\_520cd53e-3cb9-11e6-bc86-8f4f8c8d5c7f.html](http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/man-is-shot-to-death-while-walking-down-a-street/article_520cd53e-3cb9-11e6-bc86-8f4f8c8d5c7f.html)

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## Night Vision Goggles Help Chopper Crew Rescue Injured Man at Aztec Falls

Michael P. Neufeld, Rim of the World News

Posted: June 28, 2016, 1:15 PM



A 19-year-old man with life threatening injuries was rescued from Aztec Falls in Lake Arrowhead early Tuesday morning by 40-King-5 utilizing night vision goggles. (Contributed Photo)

Lake Arrowhead, CA – Night vision goggles led San Bernardino County Sheriff's Helicopter 40-King-5 to an injured 19-year-old Lancaster man who fell about 75-feet early Tuesday morning at Aztec Falls in the Deep Creel area of Lake Arrowhead.



A media advisory indicated that Wyatt Zink was with friends at Aztec Falls at 12:30 a.m. Tuesday morning when he fell on a steep, rocky slope and sustained life threatening injuries.

### THE RESCUE EFFORT

Due to the remote location and terrain involved, **San Bernardino County Fire** personnel requested Sheriff's helicopter 40-King-5 to conduct a Night Vision Goggle hoist rescue of Zink.



Pilot deputy Jim Landry, hoist operator deputy Edward Leon, and air medic Matt Perkins responded to the location.

As Landry held the helicopter in a hover over the scene, Leon lowered Perkins down approximately 110-feet to the injured man. After assessing his injuries, Perkins packaged Zink in a Bauman Bag and Zink was hoisted into the helicopter.

Zink was flown to Mountains Community Hospital for treatment.

The chopper then returned to Aztec Falls and hoisted the air medic Perkins back into the aircraft.

<http://rotwnews.com/2016/06/28/82408/>

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## **Deadly wildfires spark debate about development**

**Scott Smith, The Associated Press**

Posted: June 28, 2016, 1:28 PM

Updated: June 28, 2016, 4:58 PM



Nathan Looper uses a hoe to sift through the ashes of the home of his stepfather, Lucas Martin, on Sunday in South Lake, Calif. Rich Pedroncelli, The Associated Press

FRESNO, Calif. — A speeding wildfire in California that turned hundreds of homes near Lake Isabella to piles of twisted rubble has forced a conversation about how to minimize destruction in the most populous state experiencing the effects of climate change.

Wildfires in the last years have killed several people in California, a drought-prone state experiencing a five-year dry spell.

Weather is one factor, but more critical is the state's exploding population, spawning communities in the once sparsely inhabited ranch and timberland regions long known to burn, experts say.

“We know this is going to happen,” said Kevin Ryan, a former U.S. Forest Service fire scientist, now a consultant with FireTree Wildland Fire Sciences. “We need to manage to take the crisis out of it.”

Judy and Ken Brown were among hundreds who narrowly escaped the firestorm last week that swept down a mountainside and through their community beside Lake Isabella, an hour east of Bakersfield.

They've seen wildfires in the past, but none like this one that quickly consumed their mobile home and dozens in the neighborhood largely made up of retirees.

Judy Brown said she and her husband received an automated call telling them to leave. They soon heard exploding propane tanks and neighbors screaming.

With their two dogs loaded in their car, the couple drove to safety through thick smoke as their home burned behind them. Judy Brown said they were lucky to survive.

“It was like a tornado, but it was fire,” she said. “I thought it was the end of the world.”

The fire, driven by strong winds across mountains covered with dry grass and trees, travelled 11 miles in its first 13 hours, which firefighters say is fast. It killed an elderly couple and destroyed more than 200 homes.

California’s wildfire season typically starts in August, raising concerns about the June fire at Lake Isabella sparking so early.

It also follows 2015’s voracious wildfire season marked by six deaths. Four people died in a Lake County fire north of San Francisco that destroyed 1,300 homes. A fire in Amador and Calaveras counties destroyed more than 800 buildings and killed two people. Both fires rapidly spread.

Climate change will continue to make wildfires more severe throughout the western states, including California, according to a report by the Climate Central, a nonprofit organization of scientists.

An estimated 11 million Californians live in areas with a high risk of wildfire, the report says, and by 2050 California’s wildfire season is expected to increase from 120 days to 144 days.

Bill Patzert, a climatologist at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory, says changing weather patterns are one factor. Winter temperatures have risen 2 to 3 degrees in the last century, he said, and California’s snowpack is more fleeting. Millions of trees in the Sierra Nevada have died in drought.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/article/ZZ/20160628/NEWS/306289908/0/SEARCH>

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## Accident stops traffic on Yucca Grade

Stacy Moore, Hi-Desert Star

Posted: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 2:33 PM

Updated: June 28, 2016, 2:42 PM



San Bernardino County firefighters finish up at the scene of a single-vehicle collision Tuesday afternoon on Twentynine Palms Highway in Morongo Valley. **Stacy Moore Hi-Desert Star**

**MORONGO VALLEY** — A woman was taken to the hospital with unknown injuries after she lost control of her Chevrolet pickup truck on the Yucca Grade Tuesday afternoon.

The woman was going west on Twentynine Palms Highway when she lost control of her Silverado and went off the road, CHP Officer Jake Griffith said on the scene at 2:15 p.m. The truck overturned before landing on its wheels facing south, perpendicular to the direction of traffic.

Firefighters and paramedics from the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** treated her on the scene and then took her to an area hospital, Griffith said.

Westbound traffic was slowed by the accident and the investigation and then stopped while a tow truck driver removed the wrecked Silverado.

The CHP is investigating the cause of the crash.

[http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article\\_e8958d3e-3d77-11e6-83c4-fb1c4f10e18f.html](http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article_e8958d3e-3d77-11e6-83c4-fb1c4f10e18f.html)

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## San Bernardino fire, city reach last-minute agreement

Ryan Hagen, The Sun

Posted: June 28, 2016, 4:22 PM

**RIVERSIDE >>** A last-minute disagreement that could have prevented city firefighters from getting \$3 million the city agreed to pay them by next week was averted Tuesday by negotiations ending half an hour after a court hearing was scheduled to begin.

City officials didn't deny that they owed the settlement, which is part of a far-reaching agreement that ended \$40 million in claims along with the union's opposition to the annexation by county fire that's scheduled to take effect Friday. The first half of settlement payments totaling \$6 million were due by two business days after that annexation — in other words, by July 6.

But the city could be held liable if the lump-sum settlement wasn't properly dispersed by the union, and so it asked for a bond to cover that liability as the February settlement agreement allows, City Attorney Gary Saenz said after the hearing in U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

"Our dilemma was that we weren't responsible for giving the money, but we could be liable if it wasn't done right, so to speak," Saenz said. "(San Bernardino City Professional Firefighters) was not able to obtain that bond."

In court, union attorney Corey Glave said the agreement stated that the union would be found in compliance with the bond language, and that the proposed bond would be accepted with a few modifications.

The union will also indemnify against any possible claims using \$430,000 that it has in reserves and the proceeds from sales of union-owned property that will be sold once city employees join the county Fire Department and county union, Glave said.

The city's bankruptcy attorney, Paul Glassman, told Judge Meredith Jury he agreed with Glave's explanation.

Jury didn't take her seat until more than half an hour after the hearing was scheduled to begin, because the two sides had requested more time to negotiate.

After hearing from Glave, she praised the parties for agreeing.

"If you had not been in the hallway talking, one of the things I was going to rule was that you had to go talk," Jury said. "That's a very good resolution, because it doesn't delay anything. Anything else might have caused the people who were supposed to get checks not to get them timely, and I am sure the people that will get those checks are waiting for them, probably waiting longer than they would have liked."

Saenz said the city had tried to reach an agreement earlier, but he was glad for the result.

"Sometimes, the negotiations on the courthouse steps are the most fruitful," Saenz said. "That was the case today. I think everyone wins today."

Glave declined to comment beyond what he said in court.

**County fire** is on track to annex the city Fire Department on Friday, with the change in personnel coming Sunday.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20160628/san-bernardino-fire-city-reach-last-minute-agreement>

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## County firefighters battle 210 Freeway blaze in San Bernardino

Doug Saunders, The Sun

Posted: June 28, 2016, 4:34 PM



San Bernardino County firefighters battled a blaze Tuesday along the westbound 210 Freeway near Del Rosa Avenue in San Bernardino. (Doug Saunders/The Sun)

SAN BERNARDINO >> A brush fire that broke out along the westbound 210 Freeway near Del Rosa Avenue kept firefighters busy Tuesday.

Shortly before 2 p.m., firefighters could see the plume of smoke and flames running along the freeway embankment, **county fire** spokesman Shane Glaze said.

“We’ve contained the fire to one acre,” Glaze said. “It started at the top of the freeway embankment. The wind and heat quickly pushed the fire further along.”

Glaze said the fire was under investigation, but firefighters had the blaze knocked down with the forward spread halted within 30 minutes.

There were no reports of injuries.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20160628/county-firefighters-battle-210-freeway-blaze-in-san-bernardino>

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## Officials confiscate over 25,000 pounds of illegal fireworks

Staff Reports, Daily Press

Posted: June 28, 2016, 6:01 PM

PUBLIC SAFETY — Over 25,000 pounds of illegal fireworks were confiscated throughout the month of June by the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** Office of the Fire Marshal.

According to officials, investigations conducted along the Interstate 15 agriculture inspection station in Yermo found Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino counties to be among the top three regions where fireworks were being smuggled.

Seven days of operations resulted in County Fire investigators issuing 116 citations totaling \$145,000 in fines.



With San Bernardino County facing a dangerous wildland fire season, County Fire has increased its vigilance in enforcing state and county firework laws to protect public health and safety, officials said.

Fire officials will be issuing citations for the illegal use of fireworks, with fines up to \$1,250 for the first offense and the possibility of arrest. Property owners may be cited if they allow fireworks to be possessed, stored or used on their property.

All fireworks that explode, shoot into the air or move along the ground are termed dangerous and are illegal anywhere in California.

“Safe and Sane” fireworks are only allowed in the following cities: Adelanto, Barstow, Chino, Colton, and Rialto, as well as specific locations in Fontana, Grand Terrace, and San Bernardino. All fireworks are illegal elsewhere in the county, officials said.

County Fire encourages residents to leave fireworks to the professionals and enjoy a local show in their community. A schedule of public firework shows in San Bernardino County can be found at [sbcfire.org](http://sbcfire.org) and anyone wishing to report the possession or use of illegal fireworks may call 1-800-47-ARSON.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20160628/officials-confiscate-over-25000-pounds-of-illegal-fireworks>

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## County set to provide San Bernardino fire protection

Inland News Today

Posted: June 28, 2016



SAN BERNARDINO – (INT) – Effective Friday, July 1st, the city-operated fire department will be no more.

Fire protection is being switched over to the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District as part of the city’s impending emergence from bankruptcy.

It's been nearly four years since the one-time All American city filed for bankruptcy. A plan allowing the city to reorganize includes outsourcing its fire and refuse services.

San Bernardino has had its own fire department for over 100 years.

On Monday, the city/county branded fire engines were unveiled during a noontime ceremony at Indian Springs High School.

<http://www.inlandnewstoday.com/story.php?s=42670>

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## **New cameras keep electronic eye on Western wildfires**

**Haven Daley, The Associated Press**

Posted: June 29, 2016, 10:09 AM EDT

ELDORADO NATIONAL FOREST, Calif. (AP) — As the summer wildfire season heats up in the West, a growing network of online cameras installed on forested mountaintops is changing the way crews fight fires by allowing early detection that triggers quicker, cheaper and more tactical suppression.

The network of roughly 20 high-definition cameras being installed around the Lake Tahoe region can pan, tilt and zoom into fires. They can rotate 360 degrees. And the cameras even have night vision to supplement human lookouts that only work during daylight hours.

"At night, it becomes real easy to see a fire. Just a few days ago, we could see a fire from northern Nevada into Oregon, about 100 miles away, and it wasn't hard to see at all," said Graham Kent, director of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory and a professor at the University of Nevada, Reno.

"We know from last year with lightning strikes, it can be just one or two trees on fire and it looks like a Roman candle," he said.

Scientists with the University of Nevada, Reno, who built the system, are trying to teach the cameras to recognize fire and smoke and send an alert.

At the command tower, dispatchers monitor and operate the cameras remotely. The feeds should help dispatchers make more efficient decisions when it comes to deploying resources.

The cameras will augment — not replace — human fire spotters who climb high towers armed with only a radio and binoculars, scanning the forest for faraway smoke, fire officials say.

They hope to install the internet-ready cameras throughout California and other Western states.

At a seismological meeting earlier this year, the cameras were credited with the discovery of six fires and provided early intelligence on more than two dozen fires last summer, Kent said.

(Follow link to view video)

<http://bigstory.ap.org/7e692d6447bf4d889844e0dfd484fc14>

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