



NEWS



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See a fire? Don't take video, call 911, officials remind

Beatriz Valenzuela, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: May 19, 2017, 11:28 AM



Firefighters mop up a tractor-trailer fire that ignited nearby brush and trailers in a truck yard near Larch and Santa Ana avenues in Bloomington, CA., Friday, May 19, 2017. (Staff photo by Jennifer Cappuccio Maher/The Sun/SCNG)



Fire officials inspect the scene of a tractor-trailer fire that ignited nearby brush and trailers in a truck yard near Larch and Santa Ana avenues in Bloomington Friday. JENNIFER CAPPUCIO MAHER — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BLOOMINGTON >> As Southern California braces for a heat wave this weekend, local fire officials are asking residents to remember the basics — like calling 911.

“We’ve been seeing a problem with people taking video or pictures of the fire instead of calling 911,” said Capt. Dan Nelson with the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**. “I think they think someone else is making the call and we don’t hear about it right away.”

A cellphone can help emergency crews get to sites faster if witnesses call immediately.

“They want to get that video and that can actually delay our response,” he said.

Despite record rains, the possibility for an explosive fire season remains as some of the grasses produced by the rains begin to dry out, officials said.

The potential for large fires “is expected to remain near normal through the spring, but once fine fuels dry out, there will likely be a spike in grass fire activity,” according to a report by the National Interagency Fire Center.

“With the high winds and the low humidity, we are on alert going into this weekend,” Nelson said.

In addition to calling 911, fire officials are reminding people to watch outdoor fires during windy weather, not flicking lit cigarettes and making sure their homes have at least 100 feet of space cleared from dry brush and combustibles.

All local fire authorities promote the wildfire action plan “Ready, Set, Go!” at www.wildlandfirersg.org. The program educates residents on how to protect themselves before, during and after a wildfire event.

A spattering of smaller fires throughout San Bernardino and Riverside counties began before noon Friday, starting with a small 4-acre blaze that erupted around 2:30 a.m. near the Glen Helen area on the east side of the 15 Freeway.

Then, at 10:42 a.m., a wildland fire began at Stobbs Way and Mission Boulevard in the Rubidoux neighborhood of Jurupa Valley; it was contained to a quarter-acre, the Cal Fire/Riverside County Fire Department said. Later in the morning, a fire broke out at a Bloomington truck yard, where a motor home caught fire before 11 a.m., officials said.

The motor home, some outbuildings and other items were destroyed, but no one was hurt in the blaze, fire officials said.

Temperatures are expected to jump to the mid-90s today in some Inland Empire cities, including 93 degrees in Redlands, 95 in Moreno Valley and a cooler 90 degrees Sunday, according to the National Weather Service.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20170519/see-a-fire-dont-take-video-call-911-officials-remind>

Three fires erupt in local area on May 19; Fontana house is destroyed, two people are displaced

Fontana Herald News

Posted: May 19, 2017, 6:56 PM



A small fire was extinguished quickly in Rialto on the morning of May 19. (Herald News photo by Alejandro Cano)

Three fires erupted in the local area on May 19, including two which caused property damage, officials said.

----- IN FONTANA, a house in the 15000 block of Valencia Avenue was destroyed, resulting in the displacement of two adults and a dog, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

Just after 1 p.m., the first responding crew arrived within six minutes from dispatch to find heavy flames and smoke coming from the rear of the single story residence. Immediately, fire crews began an aggressive interior attack.

High winds at the time of the incident helped quickly push the fire throughout the home and into the attic. Fire crews were able to extinguish the fire in 20 minutes, but damage to the house was significant and determined to be a total loss.

The Red Cross was called to the scene to assist the residents and their pet. There was no damage to neighboring homes.

A female resident of the home was transported to a local hospital after the fire for a non-burn related medical issue. There were no firefighter injuries.

In total, 20 fire personnel responded to the incident, including a fire investigator, said Captain Dan Nelson.

----- IN BLOOMINGTON, units from San Bernardino County Fire responded to a vehicle fire in a semi-truck storage yard on Santa Ana Avenue at 10:42 a.m.

While en route, units were advised a semi-truck was on fire and that the fire was spreading toward additional semi-truck trailers and toward homes in the area. At this point, the incident was upgraded to a structure fire response.

The first arriving unit took command and ordered a second alarm response due to the fact that high winds were pushing the fire into neighboring vegetation and toward homes. Additional units arrived and mounted an aggressive attack.

It took crews one hour to completely extinguish the fire. A total of four 53-foot semi trailers were burned in the blaze. Three were destroyed and one trailer was partially burned. A “Conex” box and an outbuilding located behind the truck yard was also damaged by the blaze.

Crews were able to save a small kitten that was living in one of the semi trailers.

No homes or other buildings were damaged and there were no injuries to firefighters or civilians. The cause of the fire is under investigation, Nelson said.

In total, seven fire engines, four ladder trucks, two water tenders, a medic squad, three chief officers, and a fire investigator responded to the incident. Rialto and Colton Fire Departments assisted with firefighting efforts.

----- IN RIALTO, a small brush fire started at 8:45 a.m. in the 1700 block of Highland Avenue, between Alder and Locust avenues.

The fire apparently began on a homeless encampment and was quickly contained by several firefighters.

No surrounding businesses were in danger.

http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/three-fires-erupt-in-local-area-on-may-fontana-house/article_9c8dec32-3cff-11e7-8b8d-6b8e49b1f29b.html

Fire damages house in northwestern Fontana on May 21

Mike Myers, Fontana Herald News

Posted: May 22, 2017, 8:53 AM



A fire damaged the rear of this house in the 6600 block of Catawba Avenue in Fontana on May 21. (Contributed photo by Mike Myers)

A backyard grass fire damaged the back of a house in the northwestern part of Fontana on May 21 and burned dangerously close to a house next to it, the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** said.

At about 3:25 p.m, the Fire Department received calls of a vegetation fire in the 6600 block of Catawba Avenue.

When firefighters arrived on scene, they saw smoke coming from the rear of the location. They quickly knocked down the blaze, which was burning in the grass area behind the home next to the location.

The homeowner of the damaged house said he heard a crackling noise outside and noticed his backyard was on fire. "I got lucky. I just had a new roof put on the house," he said.

The fire, which damaged the two rooms at the back of the residence, was extinguished in about 20 minutes. No other structures were damaged. There were no evacuations or injuries.

The Fire Department is investigating the cause of the fire.

http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/fire-damages-house-in-northwestern-fontana-on-may/article_d59ea954-3f06-11e7-b595-ffe7c7aa85a0.html

Brush fire burns structure in Cajon Pass

Daily Press

Posted: May 21, 2017, 6:48 PM

A vegetation fire was reported just before 5 p.m. on Keenbrook Road and Cajon Boulevard, according to **San Bernardino County Fire**.

The fire was being fought by the San Bernardino National Forest Service, with assistance from County Fire.

One acre has burned, as last reported at 6 p.m. with at least one structure burned. County Fire said it looked to be under control.

This post will be updated with new information as it is received.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20170521/brush-fire-burns-structure-in-cajon-pass>

Keenbrook Fire burns near Cajon Blvd

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: May 21, 2017



Brush fire burning off Cajon Blvd. (photo by Gabriel Cerda)

CAJON PASS, Calif. (VVNG.com) A small brush fire dubbed the “Keenbrook” fire was reported at about 5:00 p.m. Sunday.

The fire is reportedly burning off Cajon Blvd. by the train tracks near Keenbrook Road approximately 1 mile north of Kenwood Blvd. from the I-15.

According to officials, the fire started as a brush fire that went into a structure with multiple vehicles on the property.

Per scanner reports, propane tanks on the property were seen/heard exploding.

The latest information as of 5:40 p.m., the fire is at 1 acre with low to moderate rate of spread.

The fire is not impacting traffic on the I-15 freeway through the Cajon Pass.

Firefighters with the US Forest Service are handling the incident. **San Bernardino County Fire** was requested to assist.

Information will be updated as it becomes available.

<http://www.vvng.com/keenbrook-fire-burns-near-cajon-blvd/>

San Bernardino officials bring lessons to Duluth

Tom Olsen, Duluth News Tribune

Posted: May 16, 2017, 8:34 PM

When two terrorists opened fire at a government building in San Bernardino, Calif., in December 2015, training and collaboration were key to a successful response, emergency managers told a crowd in Duluth on Tuesday.

While 14 people were pronounced dead at the scene, an additional 22 victims were taken to local hospitals in just 57 minutes — and there was not a single in-hospital death.

The perpetrators, a married couple, were tracked down by law enforcement and killed in a shootout just four hours after the attack, preventing a widescale disruption like the four-day manhunt for the suspects in the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing.

"People died. It was awful," said Robin Lindsay, an emergency services officer for the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**. "But our response was as textbook as it could get."

Lindsay and colleague Michael Antonucci, the county's emergency services manager, were on hand to deliver a keynote address at the seventh annual Under One Roof Preparedness and Emergency Management Conference at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center.

The conference brings together emergency managers, health care providers, law enforcement, volunteer agencies and others for two days of training on preparing for disasters ranging from floods to terrorist attacks to wildfires.

Lindsay and Antonucci stressed to attendees the importance of inter-agency collaboration and training before disaster strikes.

At the time, the San Bernardino attack was the deadliest shooting in the United States in three years. The perpetrators targeted a county health department training session and holiday party, where more than 70 people were present.

Lindsay noted that the attack occurred in a gathering space where her own department had held a holiday party just two years prior.

"It gives you pause," she said. "This could've happened to any one of us at any time. The world has changed for us. It should've changed for you too. That's why we're bringing our lessons learned, because you never expect something so heinous to happen in an environment like this."

First responders were on the scene within four minutes, Lindsay said. There were about 350 people in the building at the time, Antonucci said — and every one of them had to be treated as hostile until law enforcement could sort out the situation.

Hospitals were notified so the transport of patients could begin. Other county employees were placed in lockdown. The search for the perpetrators quickly began.

A unified command post was set up to ensure a centralized strategy and public message. The FBI and other federal agencies came in to assist, and, Lindsay said, they were able to find areas where their resources could be pooled.

Noting the targeting of a government agency, Lindsay said public officials need to plan for the worst-case scenario.

"Stop and think about your department, your division," she said. "What if 66 percent of your department was gone? Just gone. Do you have a plan for continuing business? This is a business that has to continue to go."

That proved to be a difficult task for the health department, which Antonucci said has had plenty of struggles in the 17 months since the attack.

"Every time there's something like the Pulse (nightclub) shooting in Orlando, there's more resignations," he said. "They just can't take it."

Local agencies also have been slapped with monumental costs — to the tune of \$26 million, he said — because the expenses fall short of the threshold to receive federal funds. That's something local officials are now trying to change.

"If that \$26 million price tag happened in the city of Duluth, how would it affect them?" Antonucci said. "Our county budget is \$4.5 billion. How would it affect one of our cities that have a \$30 million budget or a \$40 million budget? It would wipe one of these municipalities off that map."

The Under One Roof conference, which concludes Wednesday, is being attended this year by more than 400 people from five states and Canada, said Tony Guerra, a member of the planning committee and the disaster program manager at the American Red Cross in Duluth.

Attendees were met with a video message from U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar, who said Minnesota is prone to an above-average number of natural disasters and stressed that planning brings fiscal savings.

Organizers said the conference has been a fast-growing event, selling out in just one month this year and leading them to consider plans for next year.

"This conference just keeps on growing," said Adam Shadiow, executive director of the Arrowhead EMS Association. "We can't hardly see to the back of the room anymore, which is really great news. It's also kind of humbling for those of us who do the work to put this conference on."

<http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/news/4268197-san-bernardino-officials-bring-lessons-duluth>

New exhibits boost excitement at WDAD

Terri Hill, Mountaineer Progress

Posted: May 18, 2017



Representatives of CERT, ANF, and SBCo Fire test the simulator. Photo by Terri Hill

Wrightwood Fire Safe Council (WFSC) hosts the Wildfire and Disaster Awareness Day (WDAD) annually on Mother's Day weekend. More than a dozen fire agencies and others organizations participate, bringing tips, techniques, and information for keeping our families safe during wildfire, earthquakes, floods, and other disasters. On Saturday, two interactive displays were added to the event; both had a dramatic impact on those who participated.

San Bernardino County Fire (SBCF) Office of Emergency Services (OES) demonstrated their Seismic Simulator. The simulator is a mobile exhibit, which can be taken to schools, fairs, and organizations for earthquake safety education. Four people at a time are seated inside the simulator; they watch a short film on earthquake safety, then they experience the shaking and rolling of a magnitude 7.5 quake. Reactions to the experience varied. Zach, a 10-year old said, "It was fun, but I wouldn't want it to happen at home." For some, it was a scary reminder of earthquakes in California's all too recent history. Keith Morris, of OES said, "It isn't a matter of "if," it's "when," an earthquake happen." He stressed the importance of Californian's education and preparedness for the next major quake in the state.

SBCF brought another exhibit that created a realistic emergency situation, a Fire Safety Trailer Fire Explorers from Hesperia, Division Q, have trained to demonstrate fire safety to schoolchildren, using the specially equipped trailer. Students enter the kitchen of the house first. There, they are reminded of safety tips, such as pointing the handle of a pot on the stove toward the back, to avoid spills that can cause burns.

Next they enter the mock living room. Among other things, the Explorers teach the safe practices of anchoring the T.V., and how to call 911 in an emergency. An "operator" answers and gives the child the opportunity to practice staying calm, and delivering information about the nature of the emergency. The last room is a bedroom. Here, the children are taught to feel the door with the backs of their hands before opening it, to crawl below the smoke, and to escape through the window if necessary in the event of a fire.

Representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Emergency Communications Service (ECS) brought literature and models regarding severe weather events and the SKYWARN Spotter program.

Wrightwood Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members had “Grab and Go” bags on display. They had lists of items to pack for family members, as well as pets, in case of disaster or evacuation.

Cal Fire representatives brought an engine and allowed children to climb into the driver’s seat, encouraging the dream many have of becoming a firefighter. Cal Fire also had a booth and distributed literature about defensible space around home and property.

Kathy Smith of WFSC demonstrated plants that are low-water use, fire resistive, and native to our area. She created a poster with graphics showing the most efficient way to water trees.

Angeles National Forest (ANF) had an engine on display, and gave Smokey Bear a ride to the event. Smokey greeted children, of all ages, and posed for pictures. Comic book style storybooks telling Smokey’s story were a popular item at the ANF booth.

Explores from Hesperia joined the Station 10 Phelan Post 351 in cooking hotdogs, and serving those with chips and soft drinks for a donation. The explorers were indispensable while setting up and tearing down the event.

<http://mtprogress.net/home/newsmay182017.html>

Why Upland firefighters are in support of dissolving their own department

Liset Marquez, Daily Bulletin
Posted: May 19, 2017, 1:55 PM



Santa Claus waves to the crowd from the top of the Upland Fire Department’s truck during the 38th Annual Upland Christmas Parade & Holiday Faire in downtown Upland, Saturday, December 6, 2014. (Photo by John Valenzuela/ Inland Valley Daily Bulletin)

UPLAND >> Upland firefighters have a message for city residents: Rethink protesting the annexation of their fire department.

The Upland Professional Firefighters said its members may not be able to adequately safeguard the community should the Upland Fire Department be prevented from annexing into **San Bernardino County Fire**. So the organization has endorsed the city’s effort to dissolve the department and is asking for the public’s support.

“The condition of the Fire Department in Upland has eroded to a dangerous situation,” Upland Professional Firefighters President Jeff Schneider said in an emailed statement.

Annexing the more than 100-year-old department to San Bernardino County Fire has proven unpopular with some residents, specifically those in the community of San Antonio Heights. The move would transfer the city’s fire station properties, employees, assets, obligations, as well as liabilities, to county fire. San Antonio Heights, which is already served by county fire, would be incorporated into the same service zone as Upland.

Some property and landowners in both Upland and San Antonio Heights are irked because they would have to pay an annual \$150 parcel tax — which may increase 3 percent annually — and have launched a campaign to stop the process.

“Residents should think twice about protesting the annexation,” Schneider said. “A vote to protest this process most certainly could mean that you want to put your community at risk now and in the future.”

He was referring to the month-long period during which residents can protest to disband Upland’s fire department to the Local Agency Formation Commission, the agency in charge of annexations. That period began May 12 and will culminate with a hearing June 14, at Upland City Hall.

If LAFCO receives protests from more than 50 percent of the landowners or registered voters, the process is terminated. Protest coming from between 25.01 and 50 percent of registered voters or parcel owners would trigger an election on the matter.

Protest from 25 percent or fewer landowners or voters would result in the annexation’s automatic approval.

San Antonio Heights resident John Goss is helping lead efforts opposing the annexation process. The statement from the union did not sway his opinion.

“The unions support the politicians,” he said. “As far as I’m concerned, they are in bed together.”

But Goss said he’d loved to hear how the rank-and-file firefighters, not the president, feel, adding that he believes many are concerned about job security.

Schneider said the firefighters decided Thursday night to release the statement to dispel any rumors or misstatements about the group’s stance, adding they are “anxious to be a part of a professional organization.”

No firefighter will lose his job, according to Schneider, and the county is committed to keeping most of the personnel in Upland.

Citing the city’s financial instability, the union said the transition to the San Bernardino County Fire is the only option which doesn’t compromise public safety.

“Over the course of the past few years, the city of Upland and its City Council have not supported the Fire Department in terms of maintaining its ability to properly provide adequate fire services to the Upland community,” Schneider said in the statement.

The city’s fire apparatus are failing and its facilities are in need of major repair — to the tune of at least \$3 million, he said.

Staffing at the department also fails to meet the demands of Upland’s jurisdiction while San Bernardino County Fire Department has committed to making investments to the facilities, Schneider said.

It’s more than Upland can offer, he said.

Upland city officials have said that if the annexation process were to fail, they would have to lay off firefighters and close a fire station.

“The county relies on economies of scale, focuses its resources and strategic planning on enhancing fire and (emergency medical) services to the communities they serve,” Schneider said.

According to analysis done by city staffers, the annexation could result in \$50 million savings over 10 years. It saves Upland the burden of having to pay salaries, benefits and pension of firefighters in the future.

“This move is one that will undoubtedly save lives and property,” Schneider said in the statement. “It will also lift a significant financial burden off of the city so that they can focus on other financial needs such as city police and infrastructure, which are equally important to fire services.”

<http://www.dailybulletin.com/government-and-politics/20170519/why-upland-firefighters-are-in-support-of-dissolving-their-own-department>

Car Crashes into Rear of Semi on Highway 395 in Hesperia

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: May 19, 2017



A man sustained serious head trauma after crashing his Impala into the rear of a tractor trailer. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) A man was airlifted to a trauma center after his vehicle slammed into the back of a tractor-trailer Friday morning.

The accident was reported at 11:25 a.m. on the northbound lanes of Highway 395 about a mile north of Main Street.

Upon arrival, authorities located a red Chevy Impala under the rear of the semi with major damage.

The only occupant of the red car was trapped inside and had serious head trauma, according to deputy Zane of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Hesperia Station.

CHP helicopter H-80 was requested to land east of the accident on Highway 395 in a dirt field.

San Bernardino County Firefighters were able to extricate the driver and get him stabilized before he was airlifted to Loma Linda University Medical Center.

The tractor trailer was stopped in the northbound lane for another vehicle that was making a left when the Impala, also traveling north, failed to stop in time.

Deputy Zane said witnesses reported the vehicle traveling at speeds of 50-55 MPH before trying to swerve to miss the stopped semi-trailer.

"DUI is not ruled out at this point but we are looking into it," stated Zane.

All lanes of traffic in the northbound direction were closed to traffic while the fire department personal worked to extricate the driver of the sedan.

<http://www.vvng.com/car-crashes-rear-semi-highway-395-hesperia/>

New Needles fire truck built to county's specifications

Saul A. Flores, Needles Desert Star

Posted: May 19, 2017



San Bernardino County Fire Station 32 in Needles receives their new Medical Engine (ME) 32 with brand new equipment on board. From left to right: John Sorensen, engineer; Ron Feldman, captain; and Steve Newcomer, paramedic/fireman are the members of B shift at the new station along U.S. Hwy. 95 just south of Interstate 40.

NEEDLES — San Bernardino County Fire Department Station 32 in Needles recently received a new fire engine. The engine will replace the 2004 KME fire engine that had been assigned to the Needles station for many years and had almost 200,000 miles on it. The old engine had exceeded the standard 10 year “life span” of first-run fire apparatus. The new fire engine was manufactured by KME to the exact specifications of County Fire.

“The new fire engine is a type one pumper that has a 1500 GPM (gallons per minute) pump and can carry 500 gallons of water,” said John Sorensen, engineer at Fire Station 32. “So having a new rig just makes it more reliable when we are on calls, which is important.”

In addition, to the new engine, all of the equipment carried on the unit is new. The total cost of the new Medic Engine 32 (ME-32) and all equipment on board is approximately \$750,000.

According to County Fire, The cost of both the new fire engine and refurbishing the old ME-32 will be covered by the county of San Bernardino, as part of the annexation of Needles fire protection authority into a county fire district. There will be no additional fees charged to the city of Needles. The new unit will save the department maintenance fees. In 2016, County Fire spent more than \$50,000 in repair costs to keep the old ME-32 in service. The amount spend in 2015 was just below that amount. The new ME-32 will provide firefighters with a state of the art fire apparatus which includes new technologies and capabilities.

The old ME-32 has been sent to County Fire’s maintenance shop in San Bernardino for a complete overhaul to repair and/or replace parts that have worn out over time. After the overhaul is completed, the 2004 KME will be returned to Station 32 and become ME-32A, a reserve unit.

“If the new fire truck has a mechanical problem or goes down for some reason we we’ll have the old ME-32 as a reliable back up,” said Ron Feldman, captain at Station 32.

http://www.mohavedailynews.com/needles_desert_star/new-needles-fire-truck-built-to-county-s-specifications/article_dd4ba19c-3ce1-11e7-ae42-9fe7959e8e24.html

Man Arrested After Setting Car Fires Outside San Bernardino Church

Police say they don't know why the man set the fires

Rudy Chinchilla, NBC News

Posted: May 21, 2017, 12:24 PM



Two cars were set on fire outside a San Bernardino church.

A man was arrested Sunday for allegedly setting cars on fire at a church parking lot in San Bernardino.

San Bernardino Police Department officers arrested 62-year-old Fred Lee Wilson after responding to a report of two cars on fire just before 3 a.m. outside a church on the 1200 block of north Sierra Way, said SBPD Lt. Mike Madden.

The man ran away from the church before being spotted by an officer and taken into custody, Madden said. Police don't yet know why Wilson set the cars on fire Madden said.

Wilson is being held on numerous charges, including arson. No one was hurt in the fire before the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** put out the flames, Madden said.

<http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Man-Arrested-After-Setting-Car-Fires-Outside-Church-423489283.html>

Community honors its best at Rotary Awards banquet

Rhea-Frances Tetley, Alpenhorn News

Posted: May 21, 2017



(L to R) County Supervisor Janice Rutherford, Rotary Award winners Peter Venturini, Gregg Rice, Jeannie Venturini, Anthony Muscarello, Bill Mellinger, Marci Collar, Shelli Arons, Jennifer Tilden, and Crestline-Lake Gregory Rotary Club President Derek Leistra. (Photo by Rhea-Frances Tetley)

The 15th annual Mountain Community Awards Banquet was held last Thursday. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Crestline/Lake Gregory and held at Thousand Pines Conference Center, eight community leaders that have made a difference in the mountain communities were honored.

Various community groups honor their best volunteers and contributing members during this annual banquet. It gives each organization an opportunity to honor their own in a public setting. A short biography is given for each person, showing the many roads to this special evening.

The Mountain Hero Award was presented to Gregg Rice for his desire to make these mountains the best place to live. Over the past couple of years, he attended community planning meetings, giving expert input from his years of working for San Bernardino County where he enforced environmental compliance and land use regulations. He attends MAC meetings, giving informed information and presentations to help others make excellent decisions for the community's future.

Jennifer Tilden was nominated by the Crestline Friends of the Library for her years of dedicated service, both on the mountain and her years working with special needs children and adults and with the Mission Inn. She met husband, Stephen Tilden, at Thousand Pines Camp in the 70s, moving back to the mountain in 2003, and now it was a full circle getting recognized at Thousand Pines. She is a director for the Friends of the Library and runs its bookstore, benefiting the entire community.

Marci Collar was honored for her dedicated management of the Senior Citizen's Thrift Store. Her history is quite colorful, with many years in the TV industry, and now she uses her memorabilia from those years to decorate the windows at the store in Top Town Crestline. The Seniors said, "Marci has turned the store around from a dusty thrift store into a profitable 'resale shop' by presenting items in a desirable fashion." She has a big heart wanting to make the Crestline community a better place to live.

Jeannie and Peter Venturini were honored by the Rim of the World Historical Society (ROWHS) for the many changes they have spearheaded this last year at the Mountain History Museum. Although they only arrived in 2014, they have joined many community organizations (AAA, MOW, Soroptimists, Rotary) and Jeannie

brings years of knowledge of working with museum collections with her. This winter, the ROWHS undertook completely reorganizing the entire museum, from the new floor to new lighted displays, and even adding additional outdoor displays. Peter, a former race car driver, often drives the restored historic 1950s Crestline Bus in local parades.

The Lake Gregory Yacht Club recognized one of their founding members, Shelly Arons, described as “A person who never turns down an opportunity to help out in the community, especially if it involves kids.” The LG Yacht Club has been honored as a Southern California Yacht Club of the Year for the past two years, for their many community outreach activities, many spearheaded by Shelly. She has been involved in many other community activities as well, including Old Fashioned July 4th Picnic and crafts for the Boys and Girls Club. Anthony Muscarello was honored by the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** for his outstanding contributions to the youth of the community by mentoring the Fire Explorer Boy Scouting Post. He has mentored hundreds of youths over the past six years, exposing them to the skills and discipline required, while inspiring them to become firefighters.

This year’s Master of Ceremonies was Rotary President Derek Leistra, replacing Bill Mellinger, who has acted as MC for years. The reason is that they surprised Mellinger with the Rotarian Of the Year Award. Bill has been involved in many aspects of the Crestline community, from announcing the Jamboree Days Parade to pastor of the Crestline First Baptist Church and serving as Chaplain for the Crest Forest Fire District (now County Fire), helping support families in times of desperate need and tragedy. He exemplifies the ideals of Rotary through his daily life and is a past president of the Crestline/Lake Gregory Rotary Club.

The evening was joyous as the many organizations swelled with pride honoring their best and demonstrating that the community grows much stronger with so many dedicated organizations supporting it.

<http://alpenhornnews.com/community-honors-its-best-at-rotary-awards-banquet-p8121-155.htm>

Woman Injured When She Is Thrown From a Horse

Z107.7 News

Posted: May 22, 2017

A woman was taken to the hospital Saturday after she was thrown from her horse in Joshua Tree National Park. According to County Fire Battalion Chief Mike Snow, the woman was riding a horse with a friend on a trail near Black Rock Campground in Yucca Valley around 4 p.m. For unknown reasons, she was thrown from her horse and was unconscious for about 5 minutes. By the time firefighters and rangers reached her, she was awake, and they escorted her as she walked the half mile back to the campground. She was taken to Hi-Desert Medical Center for observation. Her friend walked the horse back to the campground.

<http://z1077fm.com/woman-injured-when-she-is-thrown-from-a-horse/>