



NEWS



News Headlines 6/3-6/2016

- UPDATE 2: Firefighters Respond To Three Fires Sunday Morning – Two Condos Destroyed
- 2 Lake Arrowhead condos burn, 1 firefighter injured in fire
- Training for the future: County Fire's new crop of hires participate in rescue drills
- Apple Valley Man Celebrates 100 Years Young
- BFPD names Williams interim fire chief
- County Fire replaces engine in Phelan
- UPDATE: Fire training which was scheduled for northern Fontana June 6-8 has been cancelled

UPDATE 2: Firefighters Respond To Three Fires Sunday Morning – Two Condos Destroyed

Michael P. Neufeld, Rim of the World News

Posted: June 5, 2016, 4:29 AM



Two condominiums in the Meadow Bay Condos in Lake Arrowhead were destroyed by a fire early Sunday morning. (Photo by San Bernardino County Fire/Jeff Allen)

UPDATE 2: Sunday, June 5 – 2:47 p.m.

Lake Arrowhead, CA – Firefighters returned to the Meadow Bay Condo complex Sunday afternoon about 2:35 p.m. to reports of smoke from the morning fire. It was not a new fire, according to scanner reports.

UPDATE: Sunday, June 5 – 2:28 p.m.

Lake Arrowhead, CA – Significant damage was sustained by two units in the Meadow Bay Condos in Lake Arrowhead early Sunday morning. The blaze — which was reported about 2 a.m. in the 27000 block of Peninsula Avenue — was one of three fires reported in a short period of time keeping firefighters busy.



It took firefighters 39 minutes to knock down the fire that destroyed two condos in Lake Arrowhead Sunday morning. (Photo by Bryant Bolton/RimFire)

The first engine company arrived six (6) minutes after dispatch and encountered a two-story condominium complex with heavy fire showing with exposures to the adjoining occupancies and vegetation.

Five additional engine companies and a chief officer were dispatched to support the defensive fire attack by deploying multiple hoselines.

The effort prevented lateral fire spread throughout the complex.

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The fire was knocked down in 39 minutes with significant damage to the two units. Firefighters were successful in preventing spread to nearby vegetation.

One firefighter suffered a minor knee injury and was transported to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton for evaluation.

San Bernardino County Fire had 21 personnel on scene and was assisted by CalFire, Running Springs Fire, San Bernardino City Fire, Redlands Fire, San Manuel Fire, Loma Linda Fire and Colton Fire.

ORIGINAL STORY

Mountain Communities – The smell of smoke in the mountain communities roused residents from their beds Sunday morning and three fires kept local firefighters and responding mutual aid units plenty busy.

LAKE ARROWHEAD



A Lake Arrowhead fire in the 27000 block of Peninsula Drive destroyed two condominiums with units arriving on scene just before 2 a.m. to find the structure fully involved.

County Fire reported that the two-story structure was under control about 3 a.m.

WATERMAN CANYON

Two small spot fires were reported in Waterman Canyon just after 2 a.m. and units were able to get hose lines around both.

The fires brought a response from multiple agencies as County Fire personnel were on the structure fire in Lake Arrowhead.

CRESTLINE

A vegetation fire in the 600 block of Acacia Drive in Crestline was reported about 1:30 a.m.

Units quickly contained the fire and were in the mop up stage when the Lake Arrowhead Fire was reported.

<http://rotwnews.com/2016/06/05/firefighters-respond-to-three-fires-sunday-morning/>

2 Lake Arrowhead condos burn, 1 firefighter injured in fire

John M. Blodgett, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin

Posted: June 5, 2016, 3:41 PM

Updated: June 6, 2016, 12:10 AM

LAKE ARROWHEAD >> Firefighters from eight agencies responded about 2 a.m. Sunday to a fire at a Lake Arrowhead condominium that damaged two units, according to a San Bernardino County fire news release.

One firefighter suffered a minor knee injury while fighting the fire in the 27000 block of Peninsula Drive. No other injuries were reported.

The fire threatened to spread to nearby vegetation but was prevented, the news release stated.

San Bernardino County Fire Department was assisted by Cal Fire and departments from Running Springs, San Bernardino, Redlands, Sam Manuel, Loma Linda and Colton.

The fire marshall's office is investigating the cause of the fire.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20160605/2-lake-arrowhead-condos-burn-1-firefighter-injured-in-fire>

Training for the future: County Fire's new crop of hires participate in rescue drills

Paola Baker, Daily Press

Posted: June 3, 2016, 11:38 AM

Updated: June 3, 2016, 2:34 PM



San Bernardino County Fire Department trainee Michael Stachowicz checks his rigging before repelling during a low-angle rescue training recently in Wrightwood. The training is part of a 16-week course all newly hired firefighters undergo. James Quigg, Daily Press

WRIGHTWOOD — **San Bernardino County Fire Department's** latest hires got ready for their upcoming careers by participating in a rope training drill recently.

The department's Tower 7 consists of 48 new hires, the largest tower in the history of the department, according to County Fire engineer Jeff Allen. The future firefighters are set to graduate in early July.

The May 29 drill consisted of low-angle rope rescue operation training, in which the new hires learned to rappel off a low-angle hill and climb back up. Firefighters also used ladders and baskets to simulate rescues off the hill.

“This is one class you need for urban search and rescue,” said Robert Stine, a training firefighter/paramedic. The drill capped the 10th of 16 weeks of training for the new firefighters and is a state fire marshal course.

Various groups of future firefighters took ladders and baskets for rescue victims down a steep embankment during the drill. If a person falls from a rock 15 to 20 feet down, Stine explained, the training helps firefighters learn how to slide the basket down, rescue the person and bring them back up.

The new hires also learned basic rappelling techniques, which Stine said can be used for rescues and incidents such as major earthquakes where buildings may collapse. The training prepares firefighters for the possibility of having to rappel between collapsed buildings and debris.

“It’s a high-risk, yet low-use operation as these types of incidents don’t happen every day,” Stine said. “But when they do, there’s lots of manpower involved.”

He and Allen cited examples such as crashes in the Cajon Pass, where a vehicle or person falls down a steep embankment and needs rescue. Low-angle rescues also can occur as a result of hiking accidents in the San Bernardino Mountains.

After their graduation this summer, the future firefighters will begin their careers at various fire stations across the county. Training drills will continue over their first year, and the new hires will be tested several times to ensure they have the skills they need.

“Again, many of these incidents don’t happen all the time,” Stine said, referencing the drill. “But when an incident happens, we need to have the training to be able to respond.”

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/article/20160603/NEWS/160609914>

Apple Valley Man Celebrates 100 Years Young

Hugo C Valdez, Victor Valley News

Posted: June 3, 2016



Norman Butler (left) & Brock Davis (right) sit together enjoying Norman's 100th birthday celebration.

APPLE VALLEY:(VVNG.com)- Norman Butler, was born on June 2nd, 1916 and yesterday he reached a milestone. On Thursday evening, his friends from the neighborhood gathered together to celebrate 100 years of love and laughter.

Norman is a Veteran and after working as a building inspector for the County of Los Angeles for 44 years he retired to live in Apple Valley.

Brock Davis is 19-years-old and he met Norman when he and his family moved into their grandparents home in Apple Valley at 5-years-old. For over a decade Brock and Norman have been friends sharing countless laughs and life stories.

“I’ve brought him (Norman) plates of food on Thanksgiving and Christmas since I can remember, to show our families appreciation for his service to our country, life experience, and kindheartedness,” says a very excited Davis.

Davis is a volunteer Fire intern with the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** at station 311 in Victorville. He also recently landed an EMT job with Care Ambulance in Orange.

“Norman is a huge inspiration in my life and has so many stories to tell. He’s an amazing role model and a great friend,” says Davis.

Davis describes Norman as kind hearted, strong, and caring. “He loves to have a good laugh and he loves to watch baseball.” Norman enjoys spending his free time sitting on his chair swing that sits inside his garage and speaking to passersby.

When we asked Davis what he feel’s is Norman’s secret to making it this long he said, “I would say his secret is his true passion and appreciation for life. He is a very motivated older gentleman. He was still walking just a couple years back”!

Davis would like to finish by reminding everyone to cherish the older generation. “They have so many amazing stories and knowledge the younger generation couldn’t even comprehend. You being there for the older generation makes their day every time, never forget to stay kind hearted.”

<http://www.vvng.com/apple-valley-man-celebrates-100-years-young/>

BFPD names Williams interim fire chief

Rich Ross retiring after nearly 30 years

Jose Quintero, Desert Dispatch

Posted: June 5, 2016 at 1:48 PM



Jamie Williams

BARSTOW — As Barstow Fire Protection District Chief Rich Ross is days away from retiring, he feels the district is in good hands as Capt. Jamie Williams will officially assume the interim chief’s position on June 20.

Ross is retiring on June 19, wrapping up a career with the district that spans nearly three decades. In 1991, Ross, who began his career with the district in 1987, was named a fire captain in 1991, a title he held until 2012 when he was named the interim fire chief as former chief Darrell Jauss retired.

Ross announced Williams will be the district's interim chief and he says he's confident in Williams moving forward.

Williams has been in the fire service 18 years and has been a captain for nine years. Williams joined the BFPD as a captain eight years ago.

"She has my full support," Ross said. "I'm confident in Jamie. She's always been a leader. She is very qualified and dedicated to the district."

Ross said he announced his intentions to retire earlier this year to the captains in the district and Williams showed the most interest in the possibility of taking over for Ross. Since then, Ross said the district has been working on a succession plan to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Williams said it's been privilege to work alongside and under Ross' leadership. Williams said she wished Ross the best as he begins a new chapter in his life.

"Chief Ross knew the challenges associated with leadership change, as he moved forward with his retirement plans," Williams said. "Preparing for such a leadership change is something that Chief Ross has taken very serious. His primary focus has been ensuring a seamless transition and arming me with the things needed to meet this challenge. I am looking forward to carrying his legacy forward."

<http://www.desertdispatch.com/article/20160605/NEWS/160609951>

County Fire replaces engine in Phelan

Old model retired after 16 years, 294,000 miles

Staff reports, Daily Press

Posted: June 5, 2016, 3:26 PM

Updated: June 5, 2016, 3:53 PM



San Bernardino County Fire recently replaced a 16-year-old fire engine at Station 10 in Phelan with this nearly brand-new model. Photo courtesy of Brandon Barsugli

PHELAN — **San Bernardino County Fire** recently replaced a 16-year-old fire engine at Station 10, introducing a nearly brand-new model that carries 500 gallons of water, officials say.

The old Kovatch Mobile Equipment engine that had been serving Phelan and surrounding areas had accrued 294,000 miles. Its replacement, a 2015 model Type 1, maintains a 1,500-gallon-per-minute pump.

"One of the many additional features of this fire engine includes a backup and side-view camera that will assist the operator when backing up or changing lanes," County Fire officials said in a statement Saturday.

It also includes an iPad to give the company officer the use of technology for real-time decision making, a full set of hydraulic rescue tools or "Jaws of Life," rope rescue gear and a floatable pump that can be used to pull water from static water sources.

Station 10 is located at 9625 Beekley Rd. in Phelan and serves the tri-communities area, which also includes Pinon Hills and Wrightwood. The station is staffed by three personnel: a captain, engineer and firefighter/paramedic.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20160605/county-fire-replaces-engine-in-phelan>

UPDATE: Fire training which was scheduled for northern Fontana June 6-8 has been cancelled

Fontana Herald News

Posted: June 5, 2016 4:45 PM

Updated: Jun 5, 2016, 6:48 PM

A live fire training burn that was scheduled to take place in northern Fontana on Monday, June 6 through Wednesday, June 8 has been cancelled, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

The training event has been called off due to AQMD restrictions, said Jeff Allen, a Fire Department engineer and public information officer, on June 5.

Fire officials throughout the region had previously been scheduled to converge in Fontana to carry out their training on a 100-acre parcel. The training was scheduled to be contained to an area between Summit Avenue to the south; Citrus Avenue, near Casa Grande Drive, to the north; Sierra Avenue to the east; and Cypress Avenue to the west.

There was no immediate indication about when or if the scheduled fire training would be rescheduled.

http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/update-fire-training-which-was-scheduled-for-northern-fontana-june/article_a3fd1b36-2b77-11e6-9995-27c6fed17cc0.html

[Find the archived News Clips Here](#)