



NEWS



News Headlines 6/15/2018

- HI-DESERT MEDICAL CENTER CEREAL DONATION FOOD DIVE A BIG SUCCESS
- County to annex Hesperia Fire Protection District with no additional taxes for residents
- Celebration Set for New Fire Boat
- Rutherford's Second District Youth Council will be entering its second year of service
- Wildfire Burning near Corona Expressway 40 Percent Contained

HI-DESERT MEDICAL CENTER CEREAL DONATION FOOD DIVE A BIG SUCCESS

Staff Writer, z1077 news

Posted: June 15, 2018



A cereal donation food drive co-sponsored by Hi-Desert Medical Center brought in nearly 1800 boxes of cereal and more than \$5000 in cash to help feed hungry residents a healthy breakfast. The Healthy Over Hungry cereal food drive, which ran June 4-8 at the Hi-Desert Medical Center, Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs, and JFK Memorial Hospital in Indio, collected 49,270 servings of cereal combined through food and monetary donations. Nearly half—22,478—were donated at Hi-Desert Medical Center. The donations benefit The Way Station food bank of Joshua Tree and FIND food bank of Indio. San Bernardino County Professional Firefighters Local 935 donated approximately 100 boxes and \$200 toward the cereal food drive.

<http://z1077fm.com/local-news/todays-full-newscast/>

County to annex Hesperia Fire Protection District with no additional taxes for residents

Rene Ray De La Cruz, Daily Press

Posted: June 14, 2018, 6:12 p.m.



HESPERIA — The Local Agency Formation Committee has approved the annexation of one High Desert city into the **San Bernardino County Fire** Protection District-North Desert Service Zone.

The Hesperia Fire Protection District will soon relinquish control of all fire and emergency services to County Fire after LAFCO approved the move on Wednesday, according to Hesperia City Manager Nils Bentsen.

“The city is pleased with the vote by the LAFCO board to approve our application to annex the Hesperia Fire Protection District,” Bentsen said. “We are thankful for all of the work done by San Bernardino County Fire, the CAO’s office, and both LAFCO and city staff during this lengthy process.”

Over the past four years, the city of Hesperia has worked to identify solutions to funding shortfalls in the fire district by examining its options closely, Bentsen said.

The annexation does not include the expansion of Special Fire District 941, which would have meant an additional fire tax for citizens, something the Council has opposed since submitting an application to LAFCO in March 2017.

“The county and fire district both objected to LAFCO’s recommendation to expand District 941,” Councilman Paul Russ told the Daily Press. “LAFCO approved the annexation 5-0 and the decision is a big win for the city, the county and the residents of Hesperia.”

County Fire has adequate revenue to provide existing services to over 42,000 properties in 73.2 square miles, said Russ, who’d like to see the annexation completed by this summer.

The annexation will increase the city’s general tax revenue from 1.59 percent to 3.50 percent, with the bump in funds paying the “pension legacy cost” that comes from the current Hesperia Fire District, Russ said.

County Fire estimates that in addition to the \$3.5 million in property tax revenue transfers from the city, revenues of just over \$5.3 million will be available to fund services beginning in the next fiscal year. The cost of providing services to Hesperia will be approximately \$11.2 million.

Upon the effective date of the reorganization, the appropriation limit of the successor county fire district shall be increased by \$8.5 million for Fiscal Year 2018-19 to recognize the anticipated first-year proceeds of taxes for the provision of fire protection, emergency medical response, and ambulance services, according to a LAFCO document.

“With the transfer of our capital, the county could possibly reopen Fire Station 301, which is located on 11th Avenue,” Russ said. “Only ambulance services have been run out of that station since it was closed.”

Several residents said Hesperia’s budget woes come from the more than 80 percent of voters shooting down Measure F, which was designed to help fund the HFPD with a new \$85 parcel tax.

One resident who objected to the annexation said the city would be giving away taxpayer money by handing over millions of dollars in assets to the county. The Council replied by saying taxpayer dollars are simply being transferred from one government agency to another.

“The county just annexed San Bernardino and Upland and is expected to annex even more cities,” Russ said. “With pensions today, owning a Fire Department is not efficient.”

Mayor Russ Blewett participated in the meeting via an online telecommunications app as he was still recovering from a medical procedure performed in December.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20180614/county-to-annex-hesperia-fire-protection-district-with-no-additional-taxes-for-residents>

Celebration Set for New Fire Boat

Heidi Fron, Mountain News

Posted: June 14, 2018, 10:44 a.m.



County Fire's boat on Lake Arrowhead was specifically designed to be a rescue and fire boat with specialized equipment to enhance its capabilities. (Harry Bradley)

The new fire boat on Lake Arrowhead will be officially "christened" at a special event on June 16 at the marina, located on North Highway 173.

The morning will begin with a ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly renamed Ralph Wagner Building at 10:30 a.m. The second ceremony, dedicating the fire boat, will follow directly afterward.

Personnel from the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department will give rides and show off the boat's new technology. This opportunity will be of particular interest to children, who are welcome to attend.

The fire department launched the high-tech fire boat on Oct. 7, 2017, and Saturday's event will celebrate the official "inaugural season" of the vessel's being in service on the lake.

This state-of-the-art boat replaces an older, less effective one. Purchased at a cost of \$245,000, the new vessel has advanced life- and property-saving equipment on board.

According to Captain Carlos Corletto of Fire Station 91, the new boat is capable of pumping a stream of water at 1,500 gallons per minute to effectively fight fires on the lake and stream onto lakefront homes when needed.

With speeds up to 55 miles per hour, sonar, GPS, night-vision and underwater mapping, the new fire boat can quickly assist in any type of emergency situation that comes up, Corletto explained. Designed to be beached, the boat has a drop-down bow ramp, allowing for fast, easy loading on and off. The fire boat is powered by twin 300 horsepower Mercury engines and was custom built in Wisconsin.

http://www.mountain-news.com/news/article_a1e2d0ec-6ffa-11e8-9a1d-8bc64c29f8d8.html

Rutherford's Second District Youth Council will be entering its second year of service

Audrey Nguyen and Jeslyn Nguyen, Fontana Herald News

Posted: June 15, 2018



Second District Youth Council members pose for a photo after their first meeting with Supervisor Janice Rutherford.

Change often starts with the young. Youth are the leaders of tomorrow, so they say.

Youth civic involvement increases success in school and leads to greater civic participation later in life.

Unfortunately, many young people can name an American Idol winner but cannot name their state's governor. The youth are disengaged from the political process due to the lack of knowledge necessary for an effective democratic society. Creating opportunities for young people to grow into thriving adults will increase the well-being of the next generation.

Young people must be leaders of today, not of the distant future. Our engagement is crucial in addressing local as well as global challenges. But how do we begin? Where do we start? Are we too young to be taken seriously? These are some of the questions that we faced as we entered high school.

Fortunately, we stumbled upon the Second District Youth Council spearheaded by San Bernardino County Supervisor Janice Rutherford. She is a politician, a wife, and most importantly a mother of two young boys. In an effort to educate and empower youth about governance, she created the Second District Youth Council. It is now in its second successful year of service.

Our first experience with the Second District Youth Council was at a Career Day at Vineyard Junior High. We learned from many professionals about what it takes to do their jobs, opening up our minds to different career options. Since then, we have job-shadowed professionals in the medical, law, government, and behavioral health fields. We attended a business summit at the State of the County where we learned about the economic development in San Bernardino County.

Through the Youth Council, we engaged in our community by working on projects that we believe in, like the Social Media Campaign for mental and physical health. We organized events to give back to the community like the Christmas Toy Drive and Donate to Sanitate projects. In collaboration with the **San Bernardino County Fire** Office of Emergency Services, we created the "Pathway to Preparedness" pamphlet to prepare local residents for emergency or natural disaster.

The Youth Council brought so many people together -- a diverse cast of members from different schools, backgrounds, ages, and leadership skills -- to organize and improve the quality of life for our community. We learned what happens beyond the classroom: how to get prepared for the real world, from writing a resume to networking. We gained invaluable experience and life skills that will certainly help us grow into productive adults.

• “Being director and serving on the Council for two years has opened my eyes to many great things San Bernardino County offers, from outstanding schools, great careers, beautiful cities, as well as the importance of County government. The Council gave me the opportunity to have a voice and make a change as well as taught me the importance of teamwork, soft skills, and communication. I leave this incredible program determined, inspired and motivated to make a difference in my future.” -- Isaiah Torres, senior at Alta Loma High School

• “The Youth Council has opened so many doors for me. I met many new people and can say with certainty that my fellow youth council members have become some of my biggest role models. I’m amazed by how driven they all are to get to where they want to be in life. They inspired me to work even harder to succeed. I have learned to be a better team player and have strengthened my leadership skills. I watched as my new friends on the youth council grew with me.” -- Romeo Zendejas, sophomore at Upland High School
The Second District Youth Council is an effective platform, providing young people with information, tools, and support to work effectively together. It allows youth like us to take ownership of the process, mobilize others, and act as positive role models. We acquire new skills, while learning about responsibility and accountability.

All of this was made possible thanks to Supervisor Janice Rutherford. Despite her busy schedule, Supervisor Rutherford always finds the time to engage us on a personal level, encouraging us on the projects we care about. She sees us as future leaders of our community. Following the example of our supervisor, we will definitely return after college to contribute to the place that has given us so much.

Applications for the 2018-19 Youth Council are due June 30. The Second District includes Upland, Rancho Cucamonga, and the western part of Fontana, as well as Devore, Lytle Creek, San Antonio Heights, and some mountain communities.

Applications can be found at www.sbcounty.gov/Rutherford. For more information, contact Stephanie at (909) 948-5043 or at Stephanie.Rose@bos.sbcounty.gov.

(Audrey Nguyen and Jeslyn Nguyen are freshmen at Los Osos High School.)

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/opinion/rutherford-s-second-district-youth-council-will-be-entering-its/article_1b341610-7012-11e8-b6a6-4721f5156f38.html

Wildfire Burning near Corona Expressway 40 Percent Contained

Staff Writer, my news LA

Posted: June 14, 2018

A brush fire that erupted two days ago northwest of Corona, charring about 120 acres, was 40 percent contained Thursday.

More than 200 firefighters are working to encircle the blaze, which broke out early Tuesday afternoon alongside the Corona (71) Expressway, near the boundary separating Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

For a time, the flames crossed into San Bernardino County, approaching Euclid Avenue in Chino, but the bulk of the fire remains concentrated just inside Riverside County, according to reports from the scene.

Crews from the Riverside County Fire Department, **San Bernardino County Fire** Department, Ontario Fire Department and Corona Fire Department are on the fire lines.

No homes or other structures are threatened by the now-low intensity blaze.

Officials said that a white sedan caught fire, possibly from overheating, and the vehicle was quickly engulfed, after which flames jumped from the car to dry vegetation nearby, culminating in a wildland blaze that prompted the CHP to shut down all northbound lanes of the 71 Tuesday.

Lanes were re-opened late Tuesday night.

One firefighter was evaluated in the early stages of the brusher for an unspecified, non-life-threatening injury, according to the Riverside County Fire Department.

No other injuries have been reported, and there was no word on when the blaze might be fully contained.

<https://mynews1a.com/uncategorized/2018/06/14/wildfire-burning-near-corona-expressway-40-percent-contained/>