



# NEWS



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## Two-vehicle collision takes place in northern Fontana on Nov. 11

MIKE MEYERS, Fontana Herald News

Posted: November 12, 2018



A two-vehicle collision took place in the northern part of Fontana on Nov. 11. (Contributed by Mike Meyers)

The Fontana Police Department and the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department responded to a report of a two-vehicle collision in the northern part of Fontana on Nov. 11.

At about 4:32 p.m., a blue Hyundai Genesis and a silver Hyundai Elantra collided in the intersection at Oleander Avenue and Miller Avenue, which is a four-way stop.

According to a Fontana Police officer, the driver of the blue Genesis was southbound on Oleander and the driver of the silver Elantra was traveling eastbound on Miller. The collision caused the Elantra to jump the curb and smash into a brick wall in the 7700 block of Oleander.

There were conflicting stories and "both drivers say they stopped at the intersection," said an officer. Officers were looking for independent witnesses to give their accounts of the accident.

Both drivers declined medical treatment at the scene.

[https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/two-vehicle-collision-takes-place-in-northern-fontana-on-nov/article\\_ab4111f8-e6ab-11e8-92ec-17468e4cbfba.html](https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/two-vehicle-collision-takes-place-in-northern-fontana-on-nov/article_ab4111f8-e6ab-11e8-92ec-17468e4cbfba.html)

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## Wheelchair bound man struck and killed on Bear Valley Road

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: November 12, 2018



HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A stretch of Bear Valley Road was shut down for many hours after a wheelchair-bound man was struck and killed by a vehicle Sunday night.

It happened at about 9:15 pm, in the eastbound lanes of Bear Valley Road, just west of Tamarisk/I Avenues in the city of Hesperia.

Sheriff's deputies along with **San Bernardino County Firefighters** and paramedics from American Medical Response (AMR) arrived at the scene and located a man lying in the roadway next to a 2002 Toyota Prius.

According to preliminary reports, the man was ejected from his wheelchair and was pronounced deceased at the scene by first responders.

The Prius had a shattered windshield with a large hole and damage to the lower front bumper. Pieces of the wheelchair along with personal items were scattered over a large area of the roadway.

The driver of the Prius was transported by an AMR ambulance to a local hospital for treatment of unknown injuries.

The decedent's identity will be released when he has been positively identified and his family has been notified of the death.

Bear Valley Road between Ridgecrest Road and Tamarisk/I Avenue was closed for several hours while the Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) handled the investigation.

The Hesperia sheriff's station is investigating the collision.

<https://www.vvng.com/wheelchair-bound-man-struck-and-killed-on-bear-valley-road/>

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## **Inland firefighters pounce on wind-fed fires**

Staff Writer, Inland News Today

Posted: November 12, 2018



University Fire

INLAND EMPIRE – (INT) – Riverside and San Bernardino counties have been spared California's firestorms that have burned into the state's history books.

Firefighters pounced on three in San Bernardino County Sunday quickly surrounding each before causing any damage.

Erratic winds fanned a 2-salarm fire off University Parkway above the Cal State San Bernardino campus. Voluntary evacuations were advised for a brief time Sunday evening before the flames were stopped at 30-acres.

Smaller fires burned along Hook Creek Road at Cedar Glen and in sparse vegetation just below the peak of Mt. Baldy.

<http://www.inlandnewstoday.com/story.php?s=52775>

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## **Firefighters stop the forward progress of a fire which erupted on Nov. 11 near Cal State San Bernardino**

**MIKE MEYERS, Fontana Herald News**

Posted: November 12, 2018



A fire erupted near Cal State San Bernardino on Nov. 11. (Herald News photo by Alejandro Cano)

Firefighters stopped the forward progress of a fire which erupted near Cal State San Bernardino on Nov. 11, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

At about 7:24 p.m., a fire broke out in the Badger Canyon area. Erratic Santa Ana winds advanced the fire eastward and caused it to grow to about 30 acres before forward progress was stopped. The structure threat was mitigated and crews remained in the area.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or structural damage.

Voluntary evacuations were lifted for residents in the area of I and 59th street.

[https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/inland\\_empire\\_news/firefighters-stop-the-forward-progress-of-a-fire-which-erupted/article\\_bab64c66-e69c-11e8-81fd-7f41f031d16f.html](https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/inland_empire_news/firefighters-stop-the-forward-progress-of-a-fire-which-erupted/article_bab64c66-e69c-11e8-81fd-7f41f031d16f.html)

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## **Wind-driven brush fire burns 30 acres of dry hillside near Cal State San Bernardino**

**Leticia Juarez, abc 7 News**

Posted: November 11, 2018, 11:15 pm

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (KABC) -- A wind-driven brush fire burned behind the California State University, San Bernardino campus Sunday night, but authorities said it did not threaten the campus.

The fire started shortly before 8 p.m. in the 5500 block of University Parkway. Authorities said the 3-acre blaze appeared to be moving uphill and was fueled by dry brush and strong winds. In less than an hour it grew to about 30 acres, authorities said.

It was burning in Badger Canyon, right behind an observatory. The campus community was not under threat, fire officials said, but set up structure protection out of an abundance of caution.

Voluntary evacuations were also issued for residents living near 59th Street and Carleton Street. But no structures were threatened and two crews as well as water tenders were in the area.

"The key to getting this fire under control quickly was a massive resource response from both county fire as well as the U.S. Forest Service. First-alarm resources reinforced by second-alarm resources, getting our hand crews, our engine companies and dozers - all the work before the wind could really exert its influence and create havoc on the community," said Eric Sherwin, with **San Bernardino County Fire** Department.

By 9:45 p.m., authorities said the forward progress of the blaze was stopped and they began mopping up the blaze.

The cause of the fire was unknown.

<https://abc7.com/wind-driven-brush-fire-burns-near-csu-san-bernardino/4671297/>

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## **CSU San Bernardino fire 'holding at 40 acres'; cause under investigation**

**Kristin Scharkey and Colin Atagi, Palm Springs Desert Sun**

Posted: November 11, 2018, 10:09 pm

Firefighters have fully contained a vegetation fire that broke out Sunday night near California State University, San Bernardino and investigators are expected to spend Monday trying to determine how it was sparked.

There was no lightning in the area when the 40-acre blaze broke out about 7:30 p.m., which indicates the fire was likely human-caused. However, that still leaves "a very broad list" of potential causes, said Eric Sherwin, spokesman for the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department.

"Investigators are returning to the scene to continue their part of the investigation during the daylight hours," he said.

Erratic Santa Ana winds helped the blaze spread rapidly from 3 to 30 acres above the 5500 block of University Parkway, according to the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

At 9:36 p.m., officials reported the fire's forward progress had been stopped, and the threat to structures had been mitigated. However, the fire ultimately grew another 10 acres overnight.

Firefighters "remained on scene overnight and will be there until early afternoon (Monday)," Sherwin said. He added there have been no injuries to firefighters or civilians.

A voluntary evacuation for about a dozen residences in a neighborhood near 59th Street and I Street in north San Bernardino County was lifted at 9:15 p.m.

Engines had been moved into place to protect buildings, and firefighters were holding structure protection assets in place "out of an abundance of caution," Sherwin said.

The fire did not pose a threat to the university community and did not force road closures in areas in or around the campus.

Extreme fire weather continues throughout the state as multiple wildfires burn in California. The Camp Fire in Butte County grew to 111,000 acres Sunday and continued to burn out of control with just 25 percent containment. It has matched the 1933 Griffith Park Fire as the deadliest wildfire in California history, as authorities Sunday evening announced six new bodies had been found, bringing the total to 29 dead.

In Ventura and Los Angeles counties, the total acreage of the Woolsey Fire was at 85,500 Sunday night, with containment at 15 percent, according to CalFire.

At least 177 structures were destroyed by the Woolsey Fire as of Sunday morning, authorities said.

Flare-ups were reported Sunday north of Pepperdine University, West Hills and Bell Canyon, stoked by increased Santa Ana winds. The National Weather Service issued a wide-spread red flag warning, saying dry air, gusty winds and very dry fuel are creating "extremely critical fire weather conditions." Gusts could potentially reach 70 mph.

<https://www.desertsun.com/story/news/2018/11/11/california-fires-new-wildfire-above-cal-state-san-bernardino/1974265002/>

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## **Crews stop 30-acre wildfire near Cal State San Bernardino from growing**

ALENE TCHEKMEDYIAN, Los Angeles Times

Posted: November 11, 2018, 10:05 pm

A new fire broke out Sunday night in the hills above Cal State San Bernardino, spreading rapidly as erratic Santa Ana winds whipped through the area, officials said.

The wind-driven blaze was reported about 8 p.m. above the 5500 block of University Parkway and quickly grew from 3 to 30 acres, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

Fire crews were putting engines in place to protect buildings. But by about 9:40 p.m., officials said, crews had stopped the blaze from growing and mitigated the threat to structures.

The blaze erupted as thousands of firefighters across the state are battling three large wildfires that have ravaged nearly 200,000 acres and claimed the lives of 31 people.

The deadly Woolsey fire straddling Ventura and Los Angeles counties has charred 85,550 acres and killed two people. By Sunday night, it was 15% contained.

In Northern California, the death toll from the Camp fire in Butte County has risen to 29, with six new bodies recovered Sunday, officials said.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-cal-state-san-bernardino-fire-20181111-story.html>

## Crews halt forward progress of fire near Cal State San Bernardino in Badger Canyon

Eric Licas, Orange County Register

Posted: November 11, 2018, 8:37 pm

Crews tackled a two alarm fire north of Cal State San Bernardino on the evening of Sunday, Nov. 11.

Firefighters were dispatched sometime before 7:30 p.m. to Badger Canyon, where a fire was spreading to the east, said Eric Sherwin, a spokesman for the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**. He said it “We expect that number to change,” said Sherwin.

Crews managed to halt the forward progress of the fire at about 9:30 p.m., according to social media updates from firefighters. He said there had been voluntary evacuations recommended in the area of I and 59th Street, which have since been lifted.

He said it was driven by Santa Ana winds and had grown to about 30 acres in size by 9 p.m.

Sherwin said there is no further risk to structures, but firefighters would remain in the area for most of the evening, if not overnight.

“We’re mopping up, reinforcing precautions and patrolling for hot spots,” he said.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2018/11/11/two-alarm-fire-reported-north-of-cal-state-san-bernardino-in-badger-canyon/>

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## Wind-fueled fire burns near Cal State San Bernardino

MATTHEW MEYER, Fox 5 News

Posted: November 11, 2018, 9:29 pm

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — A fire spread rapidly near Cal State San Bernardino Sunday night but crews were able to keep the flames from reaching campus.

The fire first broke out near the university around 8 p.m., quickly ballooning from three to 30 acres.

**San Bernardino County Fire** said “erratic” Santa Ana winds were fueling the fire, and had set up bulldozer crews and rows of engines to protect the campus and surrounding buildings.

Officials named the blaze the University Fire. It was burning near University Parkway, a main roadway surrounding the campus.

County fire officials said they had stopped the flames from spreading any further by 9:30 p.m.

CSUSB issued campus alerts warning students about the blaze. Later, the university said the flames had moved away from campus to the east and that there was no longer any threat.

The news came as three major wildfires rage on both ends of the state, killing at least 31 people and forcing hundreds of thousands to evacuate. A Red Flag Warning indicating extreme wildfire conditions is in effect for much of the state.

<https://fox5sandiego.com/2018/11/11/fire-breaks-out-above-cal-state-san-bernardino/>

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## **Hickory Fire Cedar Glen**

Staff Writer, Rim Of The World News

Posted: November 11, 2018

Cedar Glen, CA – The Hickory fire is burning in Cedar Glen. It is at 100 X 200 feet spot fire and aircraft is on order. No immediate structure threat at this time. Multiple units from **San Bernardino County Fire** and Forest Service on scene. Slow Rate of spread.

Updates as they become available.

UPDATE 1 November 11, 2018 4:38 p.m.

Forward rate of spread has been stopped and all aircraft has been canceled. Units on site can handle.

<https://rotwnews.com/2018/11/11/hickory-fire-cedar-glen/>

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## **Barton Flats Fire 50 percent contained**

Staff Writer, Big Bear Grizzly

Posted: November 11, 2018

Firefighters with the U.S. Forest Service, CalFire and **San Bernardino County Fire** have been fighting a small fire near Barton Flats since late in the evening Nov. 10.

The Barton Flats Fire was reported in the Coon Creek area near Barton Flats by hikers in the area. Access to the fire was made by a crew hiking into the area. The fire is located east of Coon Creek Cabins.

As of 9:52 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 11, firefighters working in cold conditions have the 1.6-acre fire under 50 percent containment. Units on scene made good progress overnight. A request for aircraft was canceled with one helicopter remaining available on standby at the Heaps Peak Base.

During the night, a couple called the California Highway Patrol reporting that they were surrounded by fire. The couple was located, suffering from mild hypothermia.

There is no threat to the Big Bear Valley at this time. This story will be updated as more information becomes available.

[http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/news/barton-flats-fire-percent-contained/article\\_2ed9b1c2-e5e5-11e8-b7bd-0fb626857daf.html](http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/news/barton-flats-fire-percent-contained/article_2ed9b1c2-e5e5-11e8-b7bd-0fb626857daf.html)

## Pedestrian pinned under car in Hesperia airlifted to trauma center

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: November 10, 2018



A man was struck by a vehicle in Hesperia and airlifted to a trauma center. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A pedestrian was pinned under a vehicle Saturday night after he was struck by a car in Hesperia.

The incident happened at about 5:19 p.m. on Main Street and G Avenue.

**San Bernardino County Firefighters** quickly arrived on scene and extricated the male pedestrian who was trapped underneath the white 2010 Ford Fusion.

The California Highway Patrol helicopter landed in a nearby field to airlift the man to an out-of-area trauma center.

No other injuries were reported and the male driver of the involved vehicle remained on scene and cooperated with police.

The man's identity and the extent of injuries were not immediately known. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Hesperia station is investigating the crash.

<https://www.vvng.com/pedestrian-pinned-under-car-in-hesperia-airlifted-to-trauma-center/>

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## 2 separate crashes jam traffic on 15 Freeway NB in Hesperia

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: November 10, 2018



This vehicle rolled several times off the Joshua Road onramp. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News) A man from a second crash half-mile apart from the first crash was airlifted to a trauma center. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

**HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com)** — Two separate collisions half-a-mile-apart are causing major traffic for commuters on the 15 Freeway Saturday afternoon.

A jackknifed Robertson's Transportation truck was involved in a traffic collision on the I-15 Freeway along with two other vehicles.

The crash was reported at about 12:20 p.m. on the northbound 15 freeway between Highway 395 and Joshua Road.

According to the California Highway Patrol incident logs, the truck jackknifed in the center divider and then was struck by a white sedan.

A second white sedan involved in the same crash was located off to the right shoulder of the northbound 15 freeway with major rear-end damage.

An RV with front-end damage was also pulled along the right shoulder. It's unclear how the four vehicles were involved in the crash.

Emergency personnel arrived on scene and determined there were no serious injuries as a result of that collision.

A second crash was reported about 30 minutes later and involved a single gold-colored vehicle that rolled multiple times off the Joshua Road on-ramp.

First responders arrived and located an adult male adult responsive and alert. The extent of his injuries is unknown at this time.

Commuters should expect heavy traffic in this area as a result of the crashes.

<https://www.vvng.com/2-separate-crashes-jam-traffic-on-15-freeway-nb-in-hesperia/>

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## **Hesperia man dies after his big rig topples over in the Cajon Pass**

Jonah Valdez, San Gabriel Tribune

Posted: November 10, 2018, 4:35 pm

A driver of a big rig died after his truck toppled over on a gravel ramp off the 15 Freeway in the Cajon Pass on Thursday morning.

At about 11:17 a.m., **San Bernardino County Fire** Department crews responded to a call about an overturned semi-truck on the gravel runaway truck ramp adjacent to Interstate 15, in the unincorporated area of Phelan, north of Highway 138, officials said. Such ramps are in place for safety reasons — they're for rigs with brake problems on steep grades.

Fire officials arrived and found the driver of the big rig, Gabriel Edwardo Torres, 40, of Hesperia, in the truck, said San Bernardino County coroner's officials. After an attempt to rescue Torres, he was declared dead at 11:39 a.m.

California Highway Patrol officials, who are investigating the crash, believe that Torres drove his big rig off the 15 freeway as he traveled south, and onto the gravel runaway ramp. That's when Torres lost control of the truck, which fell on its side, injuring and ultimately killing him, said CHP Officer Brian Alvarez.

Torres was trapped in the vehicle following the crash, Alvarez said.

The reason Torres drove the truck, which was attached to two trailers carrying gravel, onto the ramp was not immediately known, Alvarez said.

Officers were investigating to see if the collision was caused by a mechanical malfunction or a driver error, Alvarez said. They do not believe alcohol or drugs played a factor in the crash.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2018/11/10/hesperia-man-dies-after-his-big-rig-topples-over-in-the-cajon-pass/>

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## Trucker killed in Cajon Pass crash ID'd as Hesperia man, 40

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: November 9, 2018



(Submitted Photo)

CAJON PASS, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Family and friends are mourning the loss of a father and husband whose life was cut short after an accident Thursday morning.

The San Bernardino County Coroner's Office identified the man killed in a tractor-trailer crash as Gabriel Eduardo Torres, 40, of Hesperia.

At about 11:15 am, on November 8, 2018, Torres was driving a white 2008 Freightliner semi-truck pulling two trailers loaded with gravel southbound on the I-15 freeway, north of State Route 138.

According to a California Highway Patrol news release, "for unknown reasons, the driver allowed the vehicle to exit the freeway, onto the runaway truck ramp. The truck drove onto the gravel runaway ramp and the driver lost control."

The truck and trailers overturned and Torres became trapped inside the cab. **San Bernardino County Fire** and other emergency personnel arrived on scene and attempted to rescue him.

Torres sustained life-threatening injuries and died at the scene of the crash. According to the coroner's office, Torres was declared deceased at 11:39 am.

Many motorists who were traveling on the freeway and witnessed the crash are calling the truck driver a hero. According to multiple witness reports, the truck's brakes were smoking and on fire as the driver laid on the horn trying to warn other vehicles before driving off the freeway and into the runaway truck ramp.

Victor Valley News commenter Autumn Mosier said, "This breaks my heart. Truckers do so much for this country. This man gave his life for all of us to have it easier. It sounds like this man did his best to not hurt

others on the freeway. Cajon is dangerous for trucks, trains and other vehicles. I think people forget that sometimes. My heart goes to his family.”

Long-time family friend, Lizet Morales, told Victor Valley News Gabriel and his family recently moved here from Arizona about a month ago. Gabriel worked hard to provide for his family and was the owner of a company called G Samurai Trucking.

“Gabriel was a loving person and he loved his three daughters and would go out of his way to help everyone. He was a loving and caring person that will greatly be missed by many,” said Morales.

Torres leaves behind a wife and three daughters ages 23, 16, and 10. Morales said Gabriel was very excited about becoming a grandpa in just a few short weeks.

The family is asking for the public’s help with donations to help lay their father to rest. Donations can be made via the following link: Forever in my heart.

CHP officers are investigating to determine if the collision was caused by a mechanical malfunction or driver error.

<https://www.vvng.com/trucker-killed-in-cajon-pass-crash-idd-as-hesperia-man-40/>

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## **WEATHER UPDATE: Threat of fire danger remains high as strong winds return to Fontana**

**MIKE MEYERS, Fontana Herald News**

Posted: November 10, 2018



Firefighters put out a small fire on South Highland Avenue near the 210 Freeway in Fontana on Nov. 9. The San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to a small fire in northern Fontana on Nov. 9. (contributed photo by Mike Myers)

Thanks to quick work by firefighters, two small fires in northern Fontana were extinguished in recent days. However, the threat of fire danger remains a major concern because strong winds have returned again this week.

On Nov. 8, a vegetation fire (called the Highland Fire) burned 5.5 acres in the northwestern area of the city before being contained. Then in the early afternoon of Nov. 9, another small fire erupted in a vacant field on South Highland Avenue close to the 210 Freeway but was quickly stopped. No injuries or property damage were reported during either blaze.

The Santa Ana winds died down on Nov. 10, but they have since come back. A red flag warning and a high wind warning will be in effect until Tuesday, Nov. 13, according to the National Weather Service.

"As extreme fire conditions continue, remember to stay vigilant. Use extreme caution with flammable or combustible materials," the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department said on Twitter.

In Lytle Creek, a road closure was announced for San Sevaine Road (1N34), a rough but popular road for street legal vehicles and hikers to access the Wilderness Crest Trail. The road is usually open from September to March, with weather conditions permitting. The Front Country Ranger Station in Lytle Creek can be contacted at (909) 382-2851 for details on closures.

[https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/weather-update-threat-of-fire-danger-will-remain-high-as/article\\_9c76bb94-e518-11e8-b87a-93b4a6b6d1a4.html](https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/weather-update-threat-of-fire-danger-will-remain-high-as/article_9c76bb94-e518-11e8-b87a-93b4a6b6d1a4.html)