



NEWS



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BODY FOUND DURING FIRE IN TWENTYNINE PALMS THURSDAY

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: February 22, 2019

A body was found in a fire in Twentynine Palms Thursday night.

According to **County Fire** Battalion Chief Donnie Vioria, firefighters from Twentynine Palms, Joshua Tree, and the Combat Center were called to a fire in the 70200 block of Indian Trail about 10:20 p.m.

The home, which firefighters at first believed to be abandoned, was well-involved with fire when they arrived.

During a search of the structure, a body was found in the kitchen area.

Vioria said the fire was knocked down in about 10 minutes, after which time firefighters waited for investigators from the Sheriff's and Fire Departments to arrive.

The cause of the fire is unknown, as is the sex of the victim.

<http://z1077fm.com/body-found-during-fire-in-twentynine-palms-thursday/>

UNATTENDED HOTPLATE BURNS MOTORHOME IN WONDER VALLEY

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: February 22, 2019

Earlier in the day, Twentynine Palms and Combat Center firefighters were called to a fire in the 76500 block of Diamond Bar in Wonder Valley about 11:30 a.m.

Vioria said that a resident had left a hot plate unattended inside a motor home and returned to find the motorhome on fire.

Vioria said the fire department does not recommend leaving stoves and hot plates unattended.

During a records check of the resident by Sheriff's deputies, it was determined that the resident, Esther Harris, had a felony warrant for her arrest for conspiracy from October 2017 in which she is accused of conspiring to steal items from Walmart and return them for cash.

Esther Harris was arrested and booked into West Valley Detention Center and is being held without bail.

<http://z1077fm.com/unattended-hotplate-burns-motorhome-in-wonder-valley/>

Man arrested for attempted murder after attacking family member with an axe

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: February 21, 2019



AMR Ambulance and SBC Fire. (Undated VVNG.com file Photo)

APPLE VALLEY, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A man is facing attempted murder charges after using an axe to attack a family member, officials said.

Zachery Scott Koger, 29, was arrested on February 18, 2019, after deputies responded to a disturbance call on the 16200 block of Pauhauska Road.

Officials said when deputies arrived they located two adult male family members in the roadway.

“One of the subjects had a large wound to his forehead and was bleeding profusely. The second male subject attempted to flee the area when deputies arrived but was detained after a brief foot pursuit,” stated Sheriff’s Service Specialist Jackie Alban.

After further investigation, it was determined the two subjects had a verbal argument which escalated into a physical altercation.

“During the physical altercation, one subject retrieved an axe, hitting the other subject in the forehead causing the injury,” stated Alban.

Alban said the victim was transported to a local hospital and was treated for his injuries.

Koger was booked into the High Desert Detention Center for violation of PC664/187(a) attempted murder. He’s being held on a \$225,000 bail and is scheduled to appear in a Victorville courtroom on February 25, 2019.

<https://www.vvng.com/man-arrested-for-attempted-murder-after-using-an-axe-to-attack-a-family-member/>

Fire Safe Council seeks funds for fuel modification

Staff Writer, Mountaineer Progress Newspaper

Posted: February 21, 2019

The Wrightwood Fire Safe Council has applied for a grant, the funds from which would be used for fuel modification (reduction of fire-fuel vegetation via mastication and hand crew work) surrounding the community of Wrightwood.

Below is a current summary of the CCI Forest Health grant application:

The Forest Health Program is part of California Climate Investments (CCI), a statewide program that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing GHG emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment— particularly in disadvantaged communities.

The application was submitted on Jan 24, 2019. Requested funds \$3,960,656.

The Wrightwood Fire Safe Council and its partners propose to complete fuel reduction on private lands adjacent to the Angeles National Forest, to reduce the threat of wildfire to the community. On federal lands, fuel reduction objectives will be accomplished through existing environmental documents on the Angeles National Forest, all projects reside in the Sheep Creek, Mescal and Grandview watersheds. Other agency partners include **San Bernardino County Fire Department** and Los Angeles County Fire Department.

CAL FIRE will review completed Applications that meet the Program Eligibility Criteria. Eligible Applications will be scored by CAL FIRE staff and an inter-agency panel against the Grant Selection Criteria.

Final awards will be determined based on project scores, program need, and relative fit of the awarded projects to each other both geographically and with respect to proposed activities.

<http://mtprogress.net/home/february2019news.html>

Redlands declares local emergency due to ‘catastrophic’ storm damage to Greenspot Road

Jennifer Iyer, Redlands Daily Facts

Posted: February 21, 2019



The washed out portion of Greenspot Road at Florida Ave in Mentone on Thursday, February 21, 2019. The Redlands City Council has declared a local emergency after the road was washed out by Mill Creek during a recent storm. (Photo by Jennifer Cappuccio Maher, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin/SCNG)

Redlands has declared a local emergency after Greenspot Road washed out in last week’s storm.

The move, taken Tuesday, Feb. 19, by the City Council is a first step toward seeking state and possibly federal money for repairs expected to cost \$250,000.

Photos posted Feb. 15 to social media by the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District show at least half of one of the road’s two lanes had fallen into a turbulent Mill Creek. The damage is located where the road turns a corner and becomes Florida Avenue along the city’s northeastern border.

Documents in the council’s agenda called the damage “catastrophic,” and said the road is heavily used by commuters, residents and emergency vehicles to access State Route 38 and the 210 Freeway. The closure is forcing some to detour more than an hour.

“This particular storm hit San Bernardino County with a lot of rain,” city Emergency Operations Manager Fay Glass told the council Tuesday.

The declaration, she said, would “move this up to the state, so that we can try to receive California Disaster Assistance Act funding for this particular event.”

According to the National Weather Service, rain totals for Feb. 13 and 14 show the biggest storm of the season dumped 2.76 inches of rain at the nearby Crafton Reservoir, but in the mountains east of Redlands, Yucaipa Ridge was drenched by 14.96 inches of rain, the most in the region.

As Mill Creek whisked the water downstream, the fast flow eroded the bank, which undercut the road.

“The shoulder has been washed away with portions of a lane compromised, however, the entire two lane roadway is closed until damages are fully assessed and repairs are made,” city spokesman Carl Baker wrote in an email.

Crews are currently working to divert the water away from the road, Baker said, and repairs could take two to three months.

The **San Bernardino County Fire** Department’s Office of Emergency Services is compiling assessments of storm damages from around the county to submit to the State Office of Emergency Services.

The storm damaged many roads and highways in the Inland area, including Highway 18 in the San Bernardino Mountains and Highways 243 and 74 in the San Jacinto Mountains.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2019/02/21/redlands-declares-local-emergency-due-to-catastrophic-storm-damage-to-greenspot-road/>

Snow, crashes, falling trees shut down Southern California freeways

Allison Horn, Channel 10 News

Posted: February 21, 2019, 3:21 pm



Photo by: **San Bernardino County Fire**

(KGTU) - Interstates 5 and 15 shut down in both directions Thursday due to snow falling in low elevations, just two of the weather-related problems on Southern California freeways amid a cold winter storm.

In the Grapevine, Fort Tejon-based California Highway Patrol officers escorted traffic through the mountain pass on I-5 north of Los Angeles.

Officers stopped all drivers about noon while snowplows cleared lanes of the freeway.

Interstate 5 reopened to traffic two hours later, but limited speeds to 25 miles an hour.

At the California-Nevada state line, California Highway Patrol officials shut down traffic between Baker and Nipton from noon until about 3 p.m. due to multiple crashes.

One of the crashes involved a woman who was flown to a Las Vegas hospital after falling from a moving big rig, Nevada Highway Patrol officials said.

Twitter photos showed the normally dry and brown landscape south of Primm covered in snow. Lower elevations are also feeling the punch of the storm.

The southbound lanes of Interstate 405 closed at Burbank Boulevard Thursday afternoon when a eucalyptus tree fell on the freeway. The fallen tree contributed to a crash involving three vehicles.

San Bernardino County also reported several weather-related traffic closures.

<https://www.10news.com/news/national/snow-crashes-falling-trees-shut-down-southern-california-freeways>

From Santa Clarita To Malibu, Snow Falls Across Southland

Staff Writer, CBS/KCAL News

Posted: February 21, 2019, 10:40 pm

LOS ANGELES (CBSLA) — It was a rare sighting in Southern California on Thursday as snow fell, making for icy conditions and forcing the closure of several major freeways.

The 5 Freeway through the Grapevine was closed in both directions early Thursday afternoon after snow fell to levels as low as 1,500 feet. The freeway reopened hours later.

Snowfall was also reported in Calabasas, Sylmar, Northridge, Pasadena, Rancho Cucamonga, and even Malibu.

Employees at the Malibu Surf Shack have seen their fair share of big waves, and of course rain, but certainly not snow locally.

“I was just like, ‘Wait why is the rain white?’ And I looked at the car hoods, and sure enough, there was snow sticking to it,” Arlen Krouse said. “Lasted about 30 seconds, but it was crazy. I’ve never seen that here ever.” Actor Jerry O’Connell captured some of the white stuff falling near his Calabasas home.

Some students at Cal State Northridge were more than a little unnerved by the weather.

With temperatures gradually dropping, a cold evening was the end to a day of snow, sleet and hail all across Santa Clarita.

“This has got to be one of the coldest winters we’ve had here,” said Newhall resident Ken Chase.

There was a sudden hail storm around 2 p.m. in Valencia, catching people who were running errands off guard.

But there was plenty of snow to make kids and adults happy.

“As the snow came down, it was flurries. It was all on our grass and it made our whole grass look white, it was so beautiful,” said Canyon Country resident Tamala Crawford. “I was going to bring my dogs in because I was scared for them being too cold, but it was great.”

Multiple collisions due to weather, meanwhile, were reported along Interstate 15 in both directions between Baker and Nipton, according to **San Bernardino County Fire** officials.

Just before 1 p.m., snow was falling at the 1,500-foot level in the Santa Monica Mountains above Malibu, where Los Angeles County Fire Department Air Operations Section officials warned that roads there “will be slippery.”

State Route 39 / San Gabriel Canyon Road was closed in both directions north of Crystal Lake Road to State Route 2 in the Angeles National Forest due to mud and rock slides, according to Caltrans.

Light snowfall was reported in the Cajon Pass as California Highway Patrol units kept traffic deliberately slow with occasional traffic breaks. But with 2 to 4 inches of snow forecast for the top of the Cajon Summit, drivers were advised to bring chains.

The snow took many passing through the area by surprise.

“Coming from Texas, and this being California known as heat and beaches and stuff, I wasn’t prepared for this,” visitor Chris Lambert said as he looked at his snow-cruled windshield.

The 74 Highway between Lake Elsinore and San Juan Capistrano prompted the California Highway Patrol to shut down the 30-mile corridor. The hard closure went into effect about 4:20 p.m., after CHP officers encountered heavy snow on segments of the two-lane route, which connects Riverside and Orange counties via the Cleveland National Forest.

Thursday was a snow day for several schools in the mountains and desert areas, including Bear Valley, Snowline, and Morongo unified school districts.

<https://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2019/02/21/la-inland-empire-snowfall/>

I-15 at Nevada-California stateline reopens hours after hazardous weather conditions caused closure

Staff Writer, KABC 7 News

Posted: February 21, 2019



San Bernardino County Fire tweeted out images of the shuttered 15 Freeway that was blanketed with snow on Thursday, Feb. 20, 2019. (twitter/sbcountyfire)

EVADA (KABC) -- The I-15 at the Nevada-California stateline was shut down due to hazardous weather conditions Thursday, authorities said.

The southbound side was closed between Primm Road and Baker Street shortly after noon. The Nevada Highway Patrol said there was no time frame for when the closure would be lifted.

The agency warned drivers to expect major delays if they are attempting to travel between California and Nevada.

Shortly thereafter, the California Highway Patrol in Barstow said both sides of the 15 were shut down. Also, the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department said there were several traffic collisions due to weather in the area.

CHP tweeted a little after 3:30 p.m. that the highway was reopened.

<https://abc7.com/traffic/i-15-at-nevada-california-line-closed-due-to-hazardous-weather/5149615/>

UPDATE: Highway 18 open from Lucerne Valley to Big Bear, 1:40 p.m. Routes to Big Bear closed as of 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 21

Kathy Portie, Big Bear Grizzly News

Posted: February 21, 2019



Heavy snow is blanketing Big Bear Valley and other areas of Southern California Thursday, Feb. 21. If you don't need to be anywhere today, consider staying at home.

UPDATE: 1:40 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 21. Highway 18 between Lucerne Valley and Big Bear has reopened under R2 chain requirements.

UPDATE: 10:40 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 21. Highway 38 closure is due to numerous rock and mud slides on the road, according to **San Bernardino County Fire**. Duration of closure is unknown.

Closure of Highway 18 to Lucerne Valley at Delta Avenue in Baldwin Lake area is due to 30 to 50 cars stuck following a traffic collision. Duration of closure is unknown.

UPDATE: Highway 330 has reopened. All other roads remain closed.

The snow is piling up on the roads to Big Bear, and so are the cars. All three routes to Big Bear are closed as of 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, because of deep snow or traffic collisions.

According to the California Highway Patrol, Highway 18 to Lucerne Valley is closed at Delta Way in the Baldwin Lake area of Big Bear City. A traffic collision on Highway 18 below the switchbacks involves multiple vehicles stuck.

Highway 18 between Green Valley Lake turnoff and Bear Valley Dam remains closed because of rockslides and road damage.

Highway 38 is closed from 0.4 miles east of Redlands at Bryant Street to Hatchery Road in Big Bear City because of snow.

And Highway 330 is closed at the junction of I-210 in Highland due to snow.

http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/news/update-highway-open-from-lucerne-valley-to-big-bear-p/article_75f57bc8-3602-11e9-908b-87981be36b9b.html

Man struck and killed by train Monday

Paola Baker, Daily Press

Posted: February 20, 2019

VICTORVILLE — Authorities said a man was struck by a train and killed while walking along railroad tracks Monday evening.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad is investigating the incident, which happened near the 17200 block of D Street at around 8:30 pm.

Details are scarce, but authorities with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and the **County Fire** Department both said they were asked to respond after BNSF called to report that a train may have struck a person walking on the tracks.

BNSF spokeswoman Lena Kent said the train was headed west from Victorville to San Bernardino when the train struck a man "trespassing between east Victorville and east Oro Grande."

The man was pronounced dead at the scene, Victorville Sheriff's Station officials said. The identity of the man is being withheld pending positive identification and notification of next of kin.

Further details weren't available.

<https://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20190220/man-struck-and-killed-by-train-monday>