



NEWS



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Plane with 4 aboard crash-lands near Santa’s Village

Associated Press, Seattle Times

Posted: January 17, 2018, 7:27 p.m.

SKYFOREST, Calif. (AP) — A small plane has made a crash-landing in the parking lot of Santa’s Village but all four people on board escaped without serious injury.

The San Bernardino Sun says a single-engine Mooney M20E went down Wednesday morning in the parking lot of the Christmas-themed tourist hamlet in the San Bernardino mountains east of Los Angeles.

San Bernardino County Fire Department photos show the plane on its belly in a corner of the lot. It had some damage but was mostly intact.

Nobody on the ground was hit.

There’s no word on what caused the plane to crash.

<https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/plane-with-4-aboard-crash-lands-near-santas-village/>

Property inspection, structure fire uncover illegal pot grows in Apple Valley and Hesperia

Kevin Trudgeon, Daily Press

Posted: January 17, 2018, 11:03 a.m.



San Bernardino County Fire Department personnel reportedly found “several hundred marijuana plants growing inside a residence” in Hesperia after extinguishing a fire there. [Photo courtesy of the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department]

Authorities discovered a pair of marijuana grows with hundreds of plants and several pounds of processed cannabis at a commercial building in Apple Valley and a residence in Hesperia.

The first grow was found at a building in the 14000 block of Pioneer Road at approximately 5:55 p.m. Tuesday after Apple Valley Code Enforcement officials discovered it while performing an inspection of the property.

Members of the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department’s Marijuana Enforcement Team (MET) were requested to assist in the investigation and found over 90 plants growing inside one unit and more than 250 plants inside a second, according to authorities.

“Faulty electrical wiring was found throughout both units,” sheriff’s officials stated. “Unpermitted structure modifications to both units were documented by the Code Enforcement personnel.

“Code Enforcement personnel will assist in the notifications to the property owners to make them aware of the violations occurring on their property.”

No arrests were made, but the investigation is ongoing and reports will be sent to the District Attorney’s Office for review of criminal charges, including cultivation of cannabis over six plants.

Early Wednesday morning, Hesperia Sheriff’s Station deputies responded to a structure fire at a residence in the 14200 block of Desert Rose Street.

According to authorities, **San Bernardino County Fire** Department personnel had entered the residence after extinguishing the fire to check the structure for occupants and found “several hundred marijuana plants growing inside the residence.”

“Investigators found a large-scale indoor grow inside the house,” sheriff’s officials stated. “Over 1,400 marijuana plants and several pounds of processed marijuana was seized from the residence.

“The grow operation used advanced lighting, air conditioning, fans, exhaust blowers and an air-filtering system to control the climate inside the house, as well as the odor coming from the residence. The suspects were stealing electrical power to facilitate the grow operation.”

No arrests were made, but authorities said the suspects will face criminal charges of arson, vandalism, utility theft and cultivation of cannabis over six plants.

The investigation into both incidents is ongoing and anyone with information is urged to contact the Sheriff’s Gangs/Narcotics Division at 909-387-8400. Callers wishing to remain anonymous may call the We-Tip Hotline at 1-800-782-7463 or visit www.wetip.com.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20180117/property-inspection-structure-fire-uncover-illegal-pot-grows-in-apple-valley-and-hesperia>

2 sisters waiting for school bus pinned under vehicle that was speeding in Mentone

Beatriz E. Valenzuela, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: January 17, 2018, 8:57 a.m.

Two Clement Middle School sisters waiting for a school bus were struck by a vehicle and then pinned underneath it in Mentone on Wednesday morning, according to **San Bernardino County Fire** officials.

“I was standing right next to the girls that were hit,” said a teary Estefany Rodriguez, who narrowly escaped being struck by a white Chevrolet sedan. “They’re my friends.”

The sisters, 12 and 13 years old, were hit in the 1800 block of Capri Avenue in Mentone just after 8 a.m., said Eric Sherwin, spokesman for the county fire department.

The male driver of the Chevrolet ran off and was still being sought, said California Highway Patrol Officer Raul Arriaga. A description of the driver was not immediately available.

Estefany's mother, Irma Gomez, comforted her daughter as she called the mother of the two injured girls.

"They're going to be OK but I can't believe this guy," Gomez said. "How do you leave two little girls on the ground pinned under your car and just run away?" Arriaga said the incident began when the unidentified driver was speeding south on Turquoise Avenue and blew a stop sign at Capri Avenue, striking a westbound white Ford sedan, he said.

The impact of the collision sent both vehicles into the southwest corner of Turquoise and Capri, where close to 15 Clement students were waiting for a school bus.

The sisters were hit and their legs ended up pinned under the Chevrolet. Authorities say they are expected to survive their injuries.

The woman and girl in the Ford were also taken to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries, CHP officials said.

Davina Combs was outside smoking when she heard the initial impact then saw the injured sisters.

One girl was pinned up against the buckling block wall, she said, and the other was on the ground with the vehicle sitting on her legs.

According to Combs, the driver of the Chevrolet was often at a home north of the intersection and she said she often saw him speed down the road and would run the stop sign.

"He's always doing that," Combs said as she watched the investigators gather evidence. "I hope they get him. He's always doing this. This is a real shame. I'm glad the girls will be OK."

Adds Christopher Brooks, whose daughter, Summer Brooks, 12, was grazed by the Chevrolet: "By the grace of God those girls are alive."

Brooks' daughter, along with the students who were not injured or picked up by their parents, was bused to school, where school officials say counselors are being made available to them.

Brooks said he learned of the crash because his daughter – who has seizures – routinely texts him as soon as she gets to school.

"I was waiting for her text and nothing," he said soon after he spoke to CHP investigators. "I texted her and got nothing. I called and nothing, so I started to panic and drove here."

Brooks arrived to the horrifying sight of emergency vehicle at the corner where Summer and her friends wait for the bus.

"I was so scared it was her," the Mentone father said. "I ran up and I saw the two little girls pinned. They're Summer's friends."

Soon after, he learned Summer dropped her phone at the crash scene and was taken to school, where school officials told him she was safe but needed a change of clothes.

<https://www.pe.com/2018/01/17/2-juveniles-hit-by-pinned-under-vehicle-in-mentone/>

Fort Mohave Mesa fire department seeking two federal grants

Rodd Cayton, The Daily News

Posted: January 17, 2018

FORT MOHAVE — Fort Mojave Mesa fire crews will soon be better communicating with their nearby counterparts.

The fire district's governing board voted Wednesday to approve the purchase of a new radio for a battalion chief's vehicle.

The dual-band radio, Fire Chief Bret Scholz said, will allow the FMMFD to receive frequencies used by the Clark County and **San Bernardino County fire** departments.

The vendor is Las Vegas-based McIntosh Communications.

Scholz said the \$6,499 item was placed on the agenda because it exceeds \$5,000, the amount set in the board's policies as the threshold for authorization.

He said the item was already in the budget.

Scholz said the FMMFD is seeking two federal Assistance to Firefighters Grants. One, he said, would cover new self contained breathing apparatus units and spare bottles. The department's current units need to be replaced by next year, he said.

The FMMFD was unsuccessful in applying for a grant to cover SCBAs last year. Scholz said that if it doesn't get the grant this time around, the department will have to pay for new units through its budget.

His preliminary estimate is that replacing the department's 25 SCBAs and 27 spare bottles will cost at least \$250,000.

The other grant being sought would pay for power gurneys and an automatic loading system, EMS coordinator Raymond Proa said.

Proa told board members that the FMMFD is completing training in its heads-up CPR initiative. He said that the department will use special equipment to keep the heads of cardiac patients elevated to a 30-degree angle, which improves their chances for brain health.

FMMFD paramedics are using a machine that performs compression CPR.

Proa said that heads-up CPR will not just get patients resuscitated, but also have them "walking out neurologically intact."

He said that the FMMFD is the first fire department in Arizona to use heads-up CPR and is one of about 10 in the U.S.

Board members also voted to write off \$1,780.28 in delinquent ambulance accounts and send another \$25,578.59 to collections.

Matt Branson, president of the Fort Mojave Professional Firefighters Association, said that last month's Toys for Tots and Shop with a First Responder events were successes and that Proa was named the department's Firefighter of the Year.

http://www.mohavedailynews.com/news/fort-mohave-mesa-fire-department-seeking-two-federal-grants/article_24a73e96-fc1a-11e7-92fa-47501848291a.html