



NEWS



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Man suffers severe burns after climbing a transformer in Hesperia

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: July 21, 2019



(Photo by Jennie Fregoso)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A man was seriously burned after attempting to climb a transformer inside a power plant early Sunday morning.

At about 4:37 am, Hesperia station deputies responded to the 9000 block of Topaz Avenue regarding a suspicious person.

“Upon arrival, deputies were advised by the reporting party, an Edison employee, that he had been called to the location due to a transformer malfunction,” Sherriff’s spokeswoman Jodi Miller told Victor Valley News.

Miller said while checking the equipment, a white male with burns on his body appeared within the secured area of the power plant. The male subject appeared to have severe burns to his body and he left the area on foot.

Deputies found the male in the area of Topaz and Desert Rose with several electrical burns.

County Firefighters landed helicopter H325 in the residential neighborhood and airlifted the male to a trauma center.

“Through investigation, it appears the subject, for unknown reasons, attempted to climb the transformer, the extent of damage to the transformer is unknown at this time,” stated Miller.

Jenni Fregoso lives in the area and she told VVNG the male suspect rang her doorbell twice and both incidents were captured on Ring cam video.

During the first visit at 12:57 am the shirtless man rang Jennie’s doorbell and for about 10 seconds messed around with an unknown object in his hands and on his feet before walking off.

“At that hour I have no idea what he was trying to do. Then at 4:45 am he came back with a shirt on and pants down ringing the doorbell, started to scream and then walking to my neighbors trying to use their hose,” stated Jennie.

Many residents in the general area reported a brief power outage that lasted between 2-5 minutes at around the time of the incident.

An update on the suspect’s condition was not available at the time of this article.

<https://www.vvng.com/man-suffers-severe-burns-after-climbing-a-transformer-in-hesperia/>

Ridgecrest earthquakes: In Trona, Red Cross will open service center Monday

Richard K. De Atley, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: July 21, 2019, 5:59 PM



Trona resident Benny Eldridge, 76, who has lived in the small town since 1955, looks into his wife's destroyed office Wednesday July 10, 2019. The home has numerous cracks and shifted three inches off its foundation. State and county officials attended a town hall meeting at Trona High School giving information and answering questions from concerned residents of the small town, which was hit with two large earthquakes this past week. (Photo by Will Lester, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin/SCNG)

Trona, hit hard by the July 4 and July 5 earthquakes that left at least 31 homes and eight commercial buildings red-tagged, will see the scheduled opening of a Red Cross service center and the resumption of services at its post office on Monday, July 22.

The Red Cross said the new center, at 13207 Jones St., will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. It invited area residents whose buildings have been red-tagged or yellow-tagged to visit its caseworkers.

The Red Cross center in Ridgecrest in Kern County also will remain open for service, at Immanuel Baptist Church, 1201 N. China Lake Blvd., 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

In addition to the red-tagged homes in the Trona area, the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department said 51 homes and four commercial buildings were yellow-tagged in a survey of the area that includes Trona, Argus, Red Mountain and Windy Acres. Four underground fuel tanks also were red-tagged.

Red-tagged buildings are considered unsafe to inhabit. Yellow-tagged buildings are moderately damaged and are safe for temporary, but not overnight stays, the department said.

In addition to building damage, the town lost its water supply for several days; a requirement to boil water or use bottled water only ended July 17.

In addition to the two large quakes, aftershocks continue to rumble through the area, including at least three registering above 3.0 on Sunday morning.

The post office at 82905 Searles St. is expected to re-open for business Monday, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays; closed Saturdays and Sundays. It had been closed since July 9 due to earthquake damage, the U.S. Postal Service said in a release.

And for cleanup, San Bernardino County said trash dumpsters will be available at three locations in the area, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. through Friday, July 26. No hazardous materials are allowed.

The locations are:

The Trona Library, 82805 Mountain View St., household items only.

Transfer Station, 13177 Trona Dump Road, Searles Valley, starts Monday, clean construction material only.

Argus area, 82275 Trona Road, across from the Shell station — household items only.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2019/07/21/ridgecrest-earthquakes-in-trona-red-cross-will-open-service-center-monday/>

Crash jams traffic on 15 freeway southbound in Hesperia

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: July 20, 2019



HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Traffic on the southbound 15 freeway is at a near standstill following a crash here Saturday.

The crash was reported at 12:06 p.m. on the southbound 15 freeway just south of Main Street.

Two lanes of traffic were closed as a result of the incident, per CHP logs.

The collision involved a green 2007 Toyota Camry and a gray 2018 Chevrolet Colorado.

Per scanner traffic, three people reportedly sustained minor injuries.

Traffic was backed up for several miles on the southbound side and also slightly heavy on the northbound side as drivers slowed to view the wreck.

<https://www.vvng.com/crash-jams-traffic-on-15-freeway-southbound-in-hesperia/>

Pile-up crash on the NB I-15 in the cajon pass, expect delays

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: July 20, 2019



CAJON PASS, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A major pile-up crash on the northbound I-15 freeway near Oak Hill Road is causing major traffic delays Saturday morning.

At about 6:14 am the California Highway Patrol incident logs recorded a crash involving 3-4 vehicles. Additional reports stated the sun was bright and hard to see vehicles.

As the crashes continued, vehicles started piling up. Per the logs, at least one vehicle was on its side with a possible fuel leak.

According to the logs, 10-15 vehicles were involved in the incident that blocked all lanes of the freeway.

San Bernardino County Fire treated two patients, one was transported to a local hospital and the other declined medical treatment.

Per the logs, CHP has reopened the no.5 lane, however, motorists are reporting a major back-up for at least 10 miles.

Tow trucks have already started to remove the damaged vehicles off the freeway.

The official cause of the accident is under investigation.

<https://www.vvng.com/major-pile-up-crash-on-the-nb-i-15-in-the-cajon-pass-expect-delays/>

2 motorcycles crash head-on with a vehicle on Highway 173, 1 rider airlifted

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: July 20, 2019



(VVNG.com undated file photo)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A head-on crash involving a vehicle and two motorcycles left one rider critically injured Saturday afternoon.

It happened on July 20, 2019, at about 3:45 pm on Highway 173 near mile marker 5, at a curve in the roadway.

According to the California Highway Patrol incident logs, a Jeep Cherokee and two Harley Davidson motorcycles were involved in the crash. One rider was reported to be up and walking around. The second rider was on the ground.

San Bernardino County Fire tweeted about the incident and said County Fire Air Ambulance H325 was requested for one person with life-threatening injuries.

Helicopter H325 landed at the scene and airlifted a male patient to Loma Linda University Medical Center.

Highway 173 is currently blocked in both directions for an unknown duration.

No other injuries were reported.

This is a developing story and additional information will be updated as it becomes available.

<https://www.vvng.com/2-motorcycles-crash-head-on-with-a-vehicle-on-highway-173-1-rider-airlifted/>

Sheriff's helicopter rescues young man who was injured after jumping off cliff

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: July 19, 2019

A Sheriff's helicopter conducted a hoist rescue for a young man who was injured after jumping from a cliff near Aztec Falls in the Twin Peaks area, according to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

On July 18 at 2:40 p.m., **San Bernardino County Fire** requested the assistance of the Sheriff's Aviation Unit for a hoist rescue. A reporting party called 9-1-1 to report a drowning.

The crew of Air Rescue 306 flew to the location and observed several subjects pointing to the 19-year-old injured man on top of a large rock.

A San Bernardino County Fire medic was hoisted down to the victim and a rescue harness was placed on the victim to hoist him up to the helicopter. The victim was flown to Loma Linda University Medical Center for treatment.

It was determined the victim jumped off a small size cliff into the water and became unconscious upon impact. Bystanders pulled the victim out of the water and rendered aid until help arrived. The victim was alert and oriented while en route to the hospital.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/inland_empire_news/sheriff-s-helicopter-rescues-young-man-who-was-injured-after/article_d881427c-aa51-11e9-acc8-071bbf24342d.html

ILLEGAL VEGETATION BURN STARTS FIRE IN YUCCA VALLEY THURSDAY

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: July 19, 2019



An illegal burn is responsible for a half-acre vegetation fire in Yucca Valley Thursday afternoon. Firefighters from Yucca Valley and Joshua Tree—assisted by Calfire and BLM firefighters—were called to a vacant lot on the corner of Lisbon and Warren Vista Avenues at 12:04 p.m. **County Fire** Chief Mike McClintock said the fire was started by a couple who were burning weeds in their yard, and the windy conditions caused it to spread. The blaze threatened two homes, and one home suffered minor damage to the eaves from the flames.

McClintock reminds residents that the entire county is under a burning prohibition as of June 1. He added that even if a resident has been issued a burn permit, residents must call each time to confirm whether burning is allowed that day. McClintock said the couple who were burning the vegetation were counseled by the fire investigator about the burn ban. He added that several neighbors called the fire department to report that it wasn't the first time the couple had accidentally started vegetation fires, but noted that without back-up documentation of dates and times, the fire investigator was unable to pursue the matter.

<http://z1077fm.com/illegal-vegetation-burn-starts-fire-in-yucca-valley-thursday/>

SECOND VEGETATION FIRE IN YUCCA MESA THURSDAY EVENING

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: July 22, 2019



Firefighters were called to a second fire in one day at Aberdeen and Warren Vista in Yucca Mesa Thursday evening. **San Bernardino County Fire** photo.

And then at 7:20 p.m., firefighters responded to a second vegetation fire, near Warren Vista and Aberdeen in the Yucca Mesa neighborhood of Yucca Valley. Yucca Mesa, Yucca Valley, and Joshua Tree firefighters were able to contain the blaze to about one-quarter acre. Firefighters were unable to determine the cause of the fire.

<http://z1077fm.com/second-vegetation-fire-in-yucca-mesa-thursday-evening/>

FIRE DESTROYS HOUSE IN TWENTYNINE PALMS

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: July 18, 2019



A Twentynine Palms family is homeless after a fire destroyed their house Wednesday. **County Fire** Chief Mike McClintock said a passer-by saw the flames and called to report the fire in the 3000 block of Sunrise Avenue just after 3 p.m.

Firefighters from Twentynine Palms, Joshua Tree, Wonder Valley, and the Combat Center arrived to find the home fully involved in flames with heavy smoke and flames showing from a single story house. Crews initiated a fire attack, trying to limit the fire's spread through the home. Due to strong winds, the flames quickly spread to nearby the house's interior. Firefighters worked aggressively to prevent the fire from spreading to nearby vegetation.

Southern California Edison was called to turn off the power when the flames compromised the electrical service. The fire was knocked down in about 25 minutes.

McClintock said the home's occupants were not at home at the time of the blaze. Sheriff's deputies were on scene and helped with the evacuation of two dogs from the yard, keeping them in a patrol car until animal control arrived. There were no injuries. The cause and origin of the fire are still under investigation. Red Cross is assisting the residents.

<http://z1077fm.com/fire-destroys-house-in-twentynine-palms/>