



# NEWS



## News Headlines 7/20/2017

- Commercial building burns at Victorville fairgrounds
- Building Destroyed by Fire at San Bernardino County Fairgrounds in Victorville
- Blaze burns through Choice Medical Building at County Fairgrounds Wednesday night
- 10 elderly Alzheimer’s residents displaced after fire burns through nursing home
- Fire tears through Helendale Alzheimer’s care facility
- Sheriff's Aviation Air Rescue 307 Team rescues and transports an injured hiker to a local hospital
- Hiker from Fontana is rescued by helicopter after being injured in Aztec Falls
- Deputies, firefighters rescue injured hiker in San Bernardino County Mountains
- Important MAC meeting set
- 4-year-old child falls from 2nd story window in Victorville
- Big rig causes small blaze on 138
- Fireworks blamed for car fire that nearly spread to a Victorville home

## **Commercial building burns at Victorville fairgrounds**

**Gail Wesson, The Press-Enterprise**

Posted: July 19, 2017, 10:26 PM

**San Bernardino County firefighters** responded to a two-alarm fire in a commercial structure on the San Bernardino County Fairgrounds in Victorville, according to a tweet from the fire agency.

The fire was reported at 9:40 p.m. in one of the community buildings where there was an event in progress, according to Eric Sherwin, spokesman for the San Bernardino County Fire Department, said by phone.

Occupants were safely evacuated, he said. He did not have details about what kind of event was in progress or which community building was damaged.

The fire was in the roof of a large steel building, and the roof collapsed. By 10:24 p.m., the majority of active fire had been knocked down, but firefighters were expected to remain on scene for quite awhile.

No injuries were reported.

The fairgrounds is in the 14800 block of Seventh Street, east of the I-15 near the La Paz Drive/Roy Rogers Drive exit in the city.

The venue is home to the county fair in May, with other events scheduled year round.

<http://www.pe.com/2017/07/19/commercial-building-ablaze-at-victorville-fairgrounds/>

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## Building Destroyed by Fire at San Bernardino County Fairgrounds in Victorville

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: July 19, 2017



A fire destroyed a building Wednesday night at the San Bernardino County Fairgrounds in Victorville. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) A Wednesday night fire engulfed the Community Building at the San Bernardino County Fairgrounds, and now investigators are trying to determine what caused it.

At around 9:40 p.m., nearly a dozen fire trucks and engines arrived at the fairgrounds, located at 14800 7th Street in Victorville, after receiving multiple reports of a structure fire.

The fire was upgraded to a second-alarm commercial structure fire as heavy flames and smoke tore through the building causing the roof to collapse, **San Bernardino County Fire** Captain Steve Tracy said.

Sheriff's officials spoke with a man who stated him and a crew painted a stage earlier in the day in preparation for an upcoming MMA fight.

In response to a question about vapors causing fires, Capt. Tracy said It depends on the amount in the air and what the ignition source is. However, he did say it's too early to speculate on what caused it.

"We have our investigators en route, and they'll be investigating what the cause of this fire was," Tracy said.

The Community Building, also known as the Choice Medical Group Building, is approximately 16,000 square feet and can accommodate 2,285 people standing.

At 10:33 p.m., firefighters declared a knockdown on the fire and said all personnel was accounted for no injuries were reported.

<http://www.vvng.com/building-destroyed-fire-san-bernardino-county-fairgrounds-victorville/>

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## **Blaze burns through Choice Medical Building at County Fairgrounds Wednesday night**

**Rene Ray De La Cruz, Daily Press**

Posted: July 20, 2017, 8:38 AM

VICTORVILLE — Firefighters responded to a two-alarm blaze that damaged the Choice Medical Building at the San Bernardino County Fairgrounds Wednesday night.

Firefighters took approximately 50 minutes to knock down the fire that was reported at 9:40 p.m. at the fairgrounds in Victorville, Eric Sherwin, spokesman for the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**, told the Daily Press.

The blaze, which was contained to the large metal building, caused the dropped ceiling inside the structure, known also as the “Community Building,” to collapse, said Sherwin, who reported no injuries as a result of the fire.

Geoff Hinds, the CEO/General Manager of the fairgrounds, reported staff was setting up for a weekend event inside the building located near the east entrance to the fairgrounds when the fire began.

Known also as “Building No. 4,” the 16,000-square-foot, column-free structure is the largest building on the property and has hosted numerous events over the years, such as High Desert Opportunity, the High Desert Bridal Expo, the Home and Garden Show, MMA fights and concerts.

Sherwin said the cause of the fire is still under investigation.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20170720/blaze-burns-through-choice-medical-building-at-county-fairgrounds-wednesday-night>

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## 10 elderly Alzheimer's residents displaced after fire burns through nursing home

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: July 19, 2017



10 people were displaced after a fire burned through a senior living care facility. (PHOTO: Danielle Boyd, for the Victor Valley News)

HELENDALE, Calif. (VVNG.com) Several Good Samaritans helped evacuate residents of a nursing home after it caught fire Wednesday night.

At around 8:15 p.m., firefighters with **San Bernardino County Fire Department** responded to the Loving Care Ranch, located on the 25400 block of National Trails Highway in Helendale.

Danielle Boyd told Victor Valley News she was driving to Silver Lakes and slammed on her brakes when she saw flames shooting through the roof of the facility.

"I knew it was a home for seniors, so I immediately jumped out of my car and ran inside, several neighbors also ran inside and started helping me get everyone out, it was a community effort," Boyd said.

"All the elderly people have oxygen masks on their faces now, but I'm just glad to see they're all safe," Boyd stated.

A total of 10 residents were removed from the home and were all treated at the scene for smoke inhalation.

The Red Cross will respond to assist the ten residents who all have Alzheimer's after being displaced as a result of the fire.

A fire investigator was dispatched to the location to determine the exact cause of the fire, which was almost entirely knocked-down just after 9 p.m.

National Trails Highway was temporarily closed in both directions as firefighters battled the blaze.

Information will be updated as more details are released.

<http://www.vvng.com/10-elderly-alzheimers-residents-displaced-fire-burns-nursing-home/>

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## Fire tears through Helendale Alzheimer's care facility

Paola Baker, Daily Press

Posted: July 20, 2017, 12:01 AM



San Bernardino County Fire Department crews battled a blaze at Loving Care Ranch, an assisted living facility, in Helendale on July 19. [Photo courtesy of Kayla Leistman]

HELENDALE — Fire officials said no injuries were reported after a blaze tore through a residential home here Wednesday evening.

**San Bernardino County Fire Department** crews responded to the blaze, which occurred at the Loving Care Ranch assisted living facility, 25445 National Trails Highway, just after 8 p.m. Wednesday.

County Fire Battalion Chief Dave Meddles said the home consists of two buildings that house 10 Alzheimer's patients. Five of the patients were displaced by the blaze and Red Cross was requested to assist them.

Four engines, one truck company, a brush patrol, water tender, fire investigator and a chief officer responded to the blaze and found heavy flames coming from the roof of one of the buildings. The home's caretaker, along with bystanders, were able to get the home's residents safely out of the building. No injuries were reported from the blaze, Meddles said.

As of 10:30 p.m. the blaze was extinguished, but fire crews were still on scene for cleanup and to ensure no hot spots remained. Damages are estimated to be over \$100,000, officials said.

Traffic on National Trails Highway was stalled in both directions for about an hour as fire crews battled the blaze. As of 10:30 p.m. traffic was moving smoothly.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20170720/fire-tears-through-helendale-alzheimers-care-facility>

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## **Sheriff's Aviation Air Rescue 307 Team rescues and transports an injured hiker to a local hospital**

**Highland News**

Posted: July 19, 2017, 11:45 AM

On Tuesday, July 18, 2017 the crew of Air Rescue 307 was requested to assist the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** (Medic Brush Patrol 91) with an injured hiker in the area of Aztec Falls. The victim was reported to have slipped and fell, rolling her ankle.

Once Medic Brush Patrol 91 made contact with the victim, they attempted to hike the victim out of the area, but due to rough terrain, were unable to do so. Medic Brush Patrol 91 then requested the assistance of Air Rescue 307 to perform a hoist rescue of the victim.

Once on scene, Firefighter/Paramedic E. Sherwin was lowered approximately 100 feet to the victim. The victim was secured in a rescue harness and hoisted inside Air Rescue 307. Once Sherwin was hoisted back into Air Rescue 307, the victim, identified as Stacy Chavez, 24, of Fontana, was transported and released to Mountains Community Hospital for medical care.

[http://www.highlandnews.net/news/public\\_safety/sheriff-s-aviation-air-rescue-team-rescues-and-transport-an/article\\_63a52218-6cb2-11e7-895b-b7e1f1cc7add.html](http://www.highlandnews.net/news/public_safety/sheriff-s-aviation-air-rescue-team-rescues-and-transport-an/article_63a52218-6cb2-11e7-895b-b7e1f1cc7add.html)

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## **Hiker from Fontana is rescued by helicopter after being injured in Aztec Falls**

**Fontana Herald News**

Posted: July 19, 2017, 8:18 PM

A 24-year-old Fontana resident was rescued by helicopter after being injured while hiking in Aztec Falls, according to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

On July 18, the crew of Air Rescue 307 was requested to assist the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** (Medic Brush Patrol 91) with the female victim, who was reported to have slipped and fell, rolling her ankle. Once members of Medic Brush Patrol 91 made contact with the victim, they attempted to hike the victim out of the area, but due to rough terrain, were unable to do so. Medic Brush Patrol 91 then requested the assistance of Air Rescue 307 to perform a hoist rescue.

Once on scene, Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Sherwin was lowered about 100 feet to the victim, who was secured in a rescue harness and hoisted inside Air Rescue 307. Once Sherwin was hoisted back into Air Rescue 307, the victim was transported and released to Mountains Community Hospital for medical care.

[http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/hiker-from-fontana-is-rescued-by-helicopter-after-being-injured/article\\_12df60da-6cfa-11e7-a13d-93ffe767db78.html](http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/hiker-from-fontana-is-rescued-by-helicopter-after-being-injured/article_12df60da-6cfa-11e7-a13d-93ffe767db78.html)

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## Deputies, firefighters rescue injured hiker in San Bernardino County Mountains

Alex Groves, The Press-Enterprise

Posted: July 20, 2017, 6:30 AM

San Bernardino County sheriff's deputies rescued a 24-year-old Fontana woman who became injured as she was hiking in the San Bernardino County Mountains on Tuesday, July 18, sheriff's officials say.

The woman was hiking in the Aztec Falls area of the Pacific Crest Trail northeast of Lake Arrowhead when she slipped and fell, rolling her ankle, according to a San Bernardino County sheriff's news release.

**San Bernardino County firefighters** attempted to hike their way to the woman, but were unable to because of the rough terrain, according to the release.

Officials say a sheriff's helicopter was summoned. A firefighter paramedic was lowered down to grab the woman and hoisted back up.

The woman was then taken to Mountains Community Hospital for treatment of her injuries, according to officials.

<http://www.pe.com/2017/07/20/deputies-firefighters-rescue-injured-hiker-in-san-bernardino-county-mountains/>

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## Important MAC meeting set

Hesperia Star

Posted: July 18, 2017, 10:29 AM

A big crowd is expected Thursday for the Lucerne Valley/Johnson Valley Municipal Advisory Council meeting, which will be held at 5 p.m. at the Lucerne Valley Community Center, 33187 Highway 247 East, Lucerne Valley.

There will be three guest speakers, according to MAC Board Chair Roger Peterson, with 30 minutes set aside for them. Tony Malone will discuss the dangers of dust pollution, particularly so-called PM10 dust.

Brad Poiriez and Bret Banks of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District also will speak. Malone wrote a letter to MDAQMD asking the agency to expand its monitoring of particulate matter. The MDAQMD has a monitor at Lucerne Valley Middle School, but Malone and others believe additional monitors are needed in other locations of the community.

The Board has two action items on the agenda:

- 1) A vote to endorse the letter by the North Slope Task Force in opposition to the Ord Mountain Solar Project and;
- 2) A vote to endorse the letter by Malone regarding the dust hazards associated with industrial solar projects.

There also will be reports from the following: The San Bernardino County Sheriff's representative, the **San Bernardino County Fire** representative, a CALFIRE representative, a CSA 29 representative, Third District Supervisor James Ramos' field representative, Roger Peterson from the Land Use Committee and Jean Fuqua from the Cemetery Committee.



This will be the MAC's final meeting before the County's August public hearing on the Renewable Energy Element (now called RECE).

That hearing has been scheduled for 10 a.m. Aug. 8 in the Covington Chambers, First Floor, County Government Center, 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., San Bernardino.

Remote video conferencing will be available at the Jerry Lewis High Desert Government Center, 15900 Smoke Tree St., Hesperia, and at the Bob Burke Joshua Tree County Government Center, 63665 Twentynine Palms Highway, Joshua Tree.

Written comments on the April 2017 Final Public Hearing Draft should be submitted by Monday to be included in the Board of Supervisors Agenda Item. Comments received after this date may be submitted to the Clerk of the Board at the Public Hearing.

<http://www.hesperia-star.com/news/20170718/important-mac-meeting-set>

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## 4-year-old child falls from 2nd story window in Victorville

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: July 19, 2017



A child was airlifted to a trauma center after he fell from a 2nd story window.

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) A 4-year-old boy suffered major injuries after falling from a second story window of a Victorville home.

At 5:08 p.m. Wednesday, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department (Victorville Station), **SBC Fire**, and AMR responded to a home on the 13000 block of Vista Del Sol Court and located the child on the ground.

The child could be heard screaming as medical personnel treated the young boy and placed a brace around his neck.

The 4-year-old child was transported by helicopter to Loma Linda University Medical Center. The extent of his injuries was not immediately known.

A woman at the scene was temporarily detained after becoming irate with a Sheriff's Deputy.

<http://www.vvng.com/4-year-old-child-falls-2nd-story-window-victorville/>

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## **Big rig causes small blaze on 138**

Terri Hill, Mountaineer Progress

Posted: July 20, 2017

A small fire broke out on the south side of Highway 138, near Oil Well Road, on Monday July 17. At approximately 11 a.m., the blaze, dubbed the “Pinon Incident,” was reported and San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF) Fire units responded. Chris Calomino, SBNF Mormon Rocks, stated his unit was just returning to the station when the call came in.

According to Calomino, the tractor trailer was heading west on 138, when lugs on the driver’s side wheel of the tractor came loose. The entire wheel broke free from the semi, crossed the highway, and came to rest about 20 feet from the road, on the south side of 138. Heat from the rubber tire was so intense, it ignited the surrounding manzanita and brush.

The resulting fire spread to just 10 feet by 20 feet before responders from **County Fire** and SBNF Fire were able to extinguish the flames. By the time mop-up procedures began, the event had lasted just an hour. At 11:15, the driver of the RTS company rig was still waiting for roadside assistance.

Remarkably, the semi’s wheel did not come into contact with other vehicles, and the incident did not result in any injuries.

<http://mtprogress.net/home/newsforjuly202017.html>

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## Fireworks blamed for car fire that nearly spread to a Victorville home

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: July 20, 2017



A Firework set off by juvenile is suspected for damaging a car after it caught fire. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) Firefighters were dispatched to reports of a car fire that nearly spread to a home after juveniles were witnessed lighting fireworks.

Just before midnight, Dispatch received initial reports of a red 2000 Jaguar on fire in the driveway of a home on the 12400 block of Freeport Drive.

Within minutes, the fire began to spread to a garage exterior causing some damage but was quickly doused by firefighters upon arrival.

Witnesses said several unsupervised juveniles were in the street setting off fireworks seconds before the incident occurred.

The official cause of the fire remains under investigation.

<http://www.vvng.com/fireworks-blamed-car-fire-nearly-spread-victorville-home/>