



NEWS



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Tesla driver in grave condition after head-on crash in Hesperia

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: September 16, 2018



The head-on crash happened Sunday on Mariposa Road in Hesperia. The Tesla driver was airlifted after sustaining life-threatening injuries. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A male driver of a Tesla was taken to the hospital in grave condition following a head-on crash in Hesperia.

The crash happened on Mariposa Road and Mojave Street at about 5:37 p.m. Sunday afternoon, and involved a black Tesla and a maroon Dodge Ram pick-up truck.

According to Deputy D. Zane of the Hesperia Sheriff's Station, the Tesla driver was traveling northbound on Mariposa Road and the pick-up truck was traveling southbound when the crash occurred.

A witness told officials that the driver of Tesla crossed over into southbound lanes while attempting to pass other vehicles, but instead went head-on into the Dodge Ram.

Emergency personnel immediately began advanced life-saving measures on the driver of the Tesla, who sustained critical injuries. He was transported to Desert Valley Hospital and then airlifted to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center.

An adult male from the pickup truck sustained minor injuries and was transported to a local hospital. A female passenger in the truck was uninjured.

A stretch of Mariposa Road was closed while authorities conducted an investigation. Information will be updated as it becomes available.

<https://www.vvng.com/tesla-driver-in-grave-condition-after-head-on-crash-in-hesperia/>

Police and Fire Open House Draws Crowds Today

Alisa Hayashida, SouthPasadenan

Posted: September 16, 2018



Photo: Alisa Hayashida, SouthPasadenan.com, Fire rescue helicopter coming in for a landing next to the South Pasadena Fire Department during their annual Open House

Officer Perez and South Pasadena Police Department K-9, Barry, were on hand to greet local South Pasadena children and residents coming to the hugely popular Police and Fire Open House today. The big event takes place from 11am-3pm Sunday September 16 and is something, along with the classic car show on Mission Street, the entire community and the city looks forward to all year.

Says Fire Chief Riddle, “the sense of bringing the city together to celebrate community, and allow the police and fire departments an opportunity to showcase our equipment and our commitment in serving the community is something we all look forward to.”

The doors to the fire station are wide open and welcome the community to climb aboard their fire engines, watch and participate in fire demos, police dog demos, tour the police department, take photos on a police motorcycle, meet officers and firefighters and watch the take-off and landings of several search and rescue helicopters throughout the day.

Thank you to our police and fire departments for opening their doors today for all to enjoy.

10:00 AM Opening Ceremonies, includes a fly-over by LA City Fire Department

10:05 AM First Helicopter Landing (LA City Fire Department), departs at 11:25 AM*

11:00 AM Emergency Preparedness Puppet Show, performed by the American Red Cross in the fire station apparatus floor.

11:30 AM Second Helicopter Landing (**San Bernardino County Fire/ REACH Air Medical**), departs 1:25 PM*

12:00 PM South Pasadena Police Department Demo (Performed at rear of fire station)

12:30 PM South Pasadena Fire Department Demo (Performed at rear of fire station)

1:00 PM Emergency Preparedness Puppet Show, performed by the American Red Cross in the fire station apparatus floor.

1:30 PM Third Helicopter Landing (Pasadena Police Department), departs at 3 PM*

3:00 PM Closing of Open House

*Times are approximate and helicopters are subject to call.

Emergency Preparedness hands-on demonstrations continuous throughout the day at the fire station Police Station Tours, continuous throughout the day.

<https://southpasadenan.com/police-and-fire-open-house-draws-crowds-today/>

Police, Fire Open House Bonds Community Together

Steve Whitmore, South Pasadena Review

Posted: September 14, 2018



Police and fire open their doors Sunday to the public. Galvin Media Archive Photo

It's been going on for more than 18 years, fire and police officials say. Every year, it's pretty much the same thing, but public safety officials and community members do not seem to tire of the South Pasadena Police and Fire Department open house taking place this Sunday.

"I really do think these are important," So Pas Fire Chief Paul Riddle said during a telephone interview last week. "There're always members of the community that are amazed by all the resources we have at our disposal. This is a great event for the community and us."

Acting Police Chief Brian Solinsky agreed, saying that although it does happen annually, the open house affords the public a chance to see behind the mystique.

"We give tours of the station and it breaks down the mystique of the police station; people get to see what our station is actually like," Solinsky said.

Solinsky also said he sees parents coming to the open house that came when they were children years ago and are now bringing their own kids.

"You know, I've been here 25 years," Solinsky said. "I've seen kids come years ago that are now grown and have their own families and they are bringing their own kids to the open house. This is a great way to bring the community closer to what we do."

The open house, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, occurs the same time and day as the Cruz'n for Roses event that shuts down Mission Street for the display of hot rod and vintage automobiles. It is a major fundraiser for the Tournament of Roses entry.

The open house takes place at the fire and police stations along Mission Street. The back parking lot for fire and police, usually closed to public access, will be open to the public, officials say.

"The big hit always, of course, is the landing of the helicopters," Riddle said. "We also will have specialized equipment on display from various departments. There's a lot to see and do."

The helicopters, scheduled to come from Los Angeles County and **San Bernardino** fire departments and Pasadena Police, will be landing on top of the parking structure at the corner of Hope Street and Fremont Avenue.

The new So Pas police mascot, Justice, will be on hand along with police canines, demonstrations, child fingerprinting and photographs and a raffle to win a ride in a police helicopter.

Most everybody from both departments will be available during the open house. There will be plenty of food and refreshments as well.

Solinsky and Riddle say community support is vital for public safety.

<https://southpasadenareview.com/police-fire-open-house-bonds-community-together/>

Motorcyclist arrested in Hesperia following high-speed chase

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: September 15, 2018



The rider lost control and crashed on Highway 395, ending the pursuit. (Hugo C. Valdez, Victor Valley News)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A motorcyclist who refused to yield for a traffic stop in Apple Valley led authorities on a high-speed pursuit that ended with his arrest in Hesperia after he crashed his bike.

The rider fled when a San Bernardino County Sheriff's deputy tried to pull him over for speeding and no license plate in the Town of Apple Valley, shortly after 9:00 p.m. Saturday night.

The motorcyclist tore away towards Victorville at high speeds, officials confirmed.

A California Highway Patrol helicopter crew assisted with the pursuit, tracking the reckless rider's path from above while ground units stayed in close proximity.

The chase ended on Highway 395 just south of Joshua Road when the motorcyclist lost control and crashed his bike near the Park and Ride.

An Apple Valley Sheriff's Deputy attempted to arrest the suspect, but he resisted and got into a brief physical altercation with the deputy.

Firefighter/Paramedics with the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department responded to the incident and evaluated the suspect on scene. The deputy did not require medical attention.

The identity of the suspect has not been released.

<https://www.vvng.com/motorcyclist-arrested-in-hesperia-following-high-speed-chase/>

Bicyclist airlifted after being hit by car on D Street in Victorville

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: September 14, 2018



(Photo by Alechia Ann Treece)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A bicyclist was airlifted to a trauma center after he was hit by a car Friday.

The accident happened just after 11:30 am, at the intersection of Sixth and D Streets in Victorville.

Details on the accident are scarce, however, officials confirmed a male in his late 30's was struck by a black 2013 Hyundai in the westbound lanes of D Street.

The impact caused the bike to split into several pieces and the rider was thrown to the ground. His injuries included head trauma and lacerations.

Firefighters with **San Bernardino County Fire** requested a helicopter to airlift the patient to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center.

The driver of the vehicle remained at the scene and cooperated with authorities.

The official cause of the accident remains under investigation by the Victorville Police Department.

<https://www.vvng.com/bicyclist-airlifted-after-being-hit-by-car-on-d-street-in-victorville/>

Jerry Romero, 29, identified as motorcyclist killed in Hesperia hit-and-run crash

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: September 14, 2018



(Facebook)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — The San Bernardino County Coroner's Office identified the motorcyclist killed in a Wednesday night hit-and-run crash as Jerry Romero, 29, of Apple Valley.

At about 7:50 pm, on September 12, 2018, Romero had left work and was on his way home to be with his family and pregnant girlfriend.

As Romero traveled eastbound on Main Street a white SUV type vehicle pulled out of the shopping center on the south-west corner and directly into the path of Romero. Unable to stop, Romero's Harley-Davidson Sportster collided with the SUV causing him to be ejected and to sustain fatal injuries.

According to the coroner's report, Romero was pronounced deceased at 8:02 pm, by **San Bernardino County Fire Department Personnel**.

Immediately after the impact, the suspect driver fled the scene with no concern for the rider's condition.

Jerry's employer Sam Kassab with Trident T Fire Protection created a Gofundme account to help Jerry's family to get through the hard times. Donations can be made by clicking this link: Jerry Romero.

"Jerry was a great guy in every way and didn't deserve to have this happen to him. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him. Our hearts and prayers are with his family, wishing them hope and comfort in these difficult times," stated Kassab.

Jerry is survived by a son and his girlfriend who is 8-months pregnant with their next. The young couple recently celebrated a baby shower for their unborn child in August.

Authorities are continuing to search for a white SUV type vehicle with damage to the front and/or left side of the vehicle.

Anyone who might have witnessed the crash or with any information is urged to contact Sgt. Hubbard with the Hesperia Sheriff's Station at (760)947-1500.

ROCK CLIMBER RESCUED IN JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK THURSDAY

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: September 14, 2018

A female Joshua Tree National Park Ranger was critically injured while climbing in Joshua Tree National Park Thursday. According to County Fire Captain Jett Schuster, park rangers, Joshua Tree firefighters, and Morongo Basin Ambulance were called to the Hemingway area in the park about 7 p.m. Schuster said the woman, who was wearing safety gear, fell about 30 to 40 feet, but landed in a spot where she couldn't get out about 100 feet above the ground. Park rangers were first on scene and climbed up to her, and firefighters also climbed up to get her down. She was transported by Mercy Air to a local trauma hospital with multiple injuries. Schuster reminds residents and rock climbers to bring water and cell phones with them when in the park.

<http://z1077fm.com/rock-climber-rescued-in-joshua-tree-national-park-thursday/>

Man arrested for possession of burglary tools in Apple Valley

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: September 14, 2018



(Photo by Tammy Jo Farrar-Pelletier)

APPLE VALLEY, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Police arrested a man found with burglary tools and wearing a stolen **San Bernardino County Fire Department** shirt, officials said.

At about 8:04 am, on Friday, September 14, 2018, deputies from the Apple Valley Station were dispatched to two suspicious vehicles parked in the area of Tussing Ranch and Kiowa Roads.

Deputies arrived and found James Coleman, 40, of Apple Valley sitting in a black Ford.

According to Sheriff's Spokeswoman Joy Ballinger, Coleman was wearing a San Bernardino County Fire Department shirt that appears to be stolen.

"He was arrested for possession of burglary tools and drug paraphernalia," stated Ballinger.

In the same vicinity as Coleman was a white Honda that had been reported stolen out of Colton. The stolen Honda was parked and unoccupied.

Ballinger said, "deputies believe Coleman is somehow related to the stolen vehicle and there is additional information that there may be an outstanding suspect."

Deputies are continuing the investigation. Additional information will be updated as it becomes available.

<https://www.vvng.com/man-arrested-for-possession-of-burglary-tools-in-apple-valley/>

Car fire on SB-15 freeway shuts down all lanes of traffic

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: September 14, 2018



(Hugo C. Valdez, Victor Valley news)



(photo by Robery Hunsaker)

HESPERIA, California (VVNG.com) — A vehicle fire following a collision has shut down all lanes of southbound traffic Friday afternoon.

The incident occurred just before 3:30 p.m. on the southbound 15 Freeway between Highway 395 and Ranchero Road.

According to **San Bernardino County Fire** Spokesman Eric Sherwin, the incident was reported at 3:19 p.m. and involved a vehicle that had caught fire after crashing.

“The vehicle had major damage and was well involved with fire. The vehicle had two occupants who were able to get out before firefighters arrived,” Sherwin stated.

One person was transported to a local hospital for treatment of minor injuries. There was no threat to surrounding vegetation.

A second SUV vehicle that had rear end damage was pulled to the shoulder near the off-ramp. Two occupants in that vehicle were not injured.

The California Highway Patrol shut down the #1,2, and 3 lanes during fire suppression, according to Sherwin.

Traffic is being diverted off the freeway at the Joshua Street exit as of 4:00 p.m. and no further updates are currently available.

<https://www.vvng.com/car-fire-on-sb-15-freeway-shuts-down-all-lanes-of-traffic/>

Chillin' and Grillin' Barbecue Cook Off will be held Sept. 29

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: September 14, 2018



Daniel Vasquez and Draymond Crawford will judge the Chillin' N Grillin' Barbecue Cook Off contest again this year.

The 3rd Annual Chillin' and Grillin' Barbecue Cook Off will be held Saturday, Sept. 29 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Jessie Turner Turner/Fontana Park Sports Pavilion located at 15556 Summit Avenue in Fontana.

Deborah Hall-Lindsey of the Concerned Citizens for the Development of North Fontana (CCDNF) said that the event is a partnership between CCDNF, the Fontana Police Officers Association and the City of Fontana.

Hall-Lindsey said, "We call it 'UNITY in CommUNITY.' It's a barbecue where the community can meet the officers and find out they are just regular people who do a really difficult job."

There will be activities for children, including a jumper, and static displays of police and fire vehicles.

The barbecue competitors regularly win awards for their culinary efforts. The Fontana Police Officers Association barbecue team will go tongs-to-tongs for bragging rights with Fontana **firefighters of San Bernardino County** Local 935 and Fontana Unified School District employees from the United Steel Workers.

The cost is \$10 per person.

For more information, call Ellen Turner at (909) 333-9950.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/chillin-and-grillin-barbecue-cook-off-will-be-held-sept/article_49a4a5b4-b838-11e8-ba70-9b1d760ca1c9.html

HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL TO DISCUSS FP-5 FIRE FEE MONDAY

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: September 14, 2018

The Homestead Valley Community Council will discuss the proposed \$157 fire fee for FP-5 at its next meeting Monday, September 17. The council will also discuss the countywide action plan to replace the Homestead Valley Community Plan that was adopted in 2007. Those who have attended meetings for either the fire fee or the countywide plan are especially encouraged to attend. The meeting is set for Monday, September 17 at 3 p.m. at Belfield Hall, 58380 Reche Road in Landers.

<http://z1077fm.com/homestead-valley-community-council-to-discuss-fp-5-fire-fee-monday-2/>

Candidate Profile: Conservatively principled, Laws is anti-fees and for larger home lots in Victorville

Shea Johnson, Victor Valley Daily Press

Posted: September 14, 2018



Victorville City Council candidate Jerry Laws, a Marine veteran and retired truck driver, is in the middle of his second-straight council race. He's no stranger to politics, where he has sought in recent years to represent voters in all levels of government including offices of state Assembly and Senate. [James Quigg, Daily Press]

VICTORVILLE — For Jerry J. Laws, a strict adherence to conservative principles — a central theme, most recently, of an unsuccessful U.S. Senate bid — can serve local government well.

“Look, if you believe in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights,” Laws said, “of course then you should run your city the same way.”

Laws, 79, added that the value system's most obvious impression in his campaign for city council is reflected in his aversion to raising rate fees on taxpayers, saying that if utility customers must live within their means, so too should the city.

The Marine veteran and retired truck driver is in the middle of his second-straight council race — no stranger to politics, where he has sought in recent years to represent voters in all levels of government including offices of state Assembly and Senate.

Laws has never finished particularly close in any of several contests since 2014, but he has adopted an optimistic practice-makes-perfect mentality as he forges ahead into November, seeking to serve in the governmental capacity he notes should primarily be concerned with protecting residents.

He said the city should further grow out Southern California Logistics Airport and find ways to hire more San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department deputies and target street gangs to bolster public safety. He also

questioned whether the city was financially stable and, on his spending philosophy, described his thinking: “Don’t go into debt unless we have to.”

Laws was less committal on two hot-button issues: the city’s underway transition from **County Fire** to its own fire department and the stalled budget for Green Tree Golf Course.

He said he believed the county was doing a “pretty good job” — its quality of service has never been doubted by city officials — but he also cast questions over whether the reported financial benefit of a switch to independence was factual.

Meanwhile, the golf course earlier this year lacked a third vote to pass its budget, requiring Sierra Golf Management to use its cash reserves to bankroll operations through Dec. 31. Councilwoman Blanca Gomez, the holdout, had said the \$532,243 taxpayer subsidy (of a roughly \$1.1 million budget) was unfair because the course’s use is too niche.

Laws proposed potentially selling the course to a private entity, but tempered that he needed to learn more.

“We want to make sure we keep that under control,” he said, adding that subsidizing about half of operations was “not too cool.”

He also reintroduced a nearly forgotten and polarizing issue from four years ago, saying he would support larger lot sizes to provide residential homes with a bit more open space. Former Councilwoman Angela Valles had championed upping the minimum lot size for new single-family homes to 10,000 square feet, a proposal that miffed real estate and building industries.

Ultimately, Laws said he pledged to be respondent to the will of the voters and transparent.

“Local government should listen to the people,” he said. “If (policymakers) don’t agree, they should make a good reason why they don’t agree.”

The general election is Nov. 6. Visit www.vvdailypress.com to see videos of each candidate explaining why they’re running for office and what key issues they’re focused on.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20180914/candidate-profile-conservatively-principled-laws-is-anti-fees-and-for-larger-home-lots-in-victorville>

EDITORIALS/OPINIONS

Kudos to firefighters for offering hands-only CPR training

Editorial Board, Victor valley Daily Press

Posted: September 16, 2018

More than half of all Americans know Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, or CPR, according to a recent study. But less than 17 percent realize that the recommended technique for bystander CPR is just chest compressions. Giving the affected victim mouth-to-mouth isn't actually needed, as hands-on CPR has been shown to be just as effective.

The good news is firefighters are hoping to educate more Americans about the facts when it comes to so-called "hands-only" CPR, and we commend them for their efforts. The other good news is such training only takes 2 to 4 minutes per person.

Technology is making learning the techniques even easier than in the past. You can go online and watch a one-minute YouTube video (Google "2 steps to save a life") or you can visit www.heart.org/handsonlycpr. Basically, you'll learn that all you need to do is put your hands in the middle of a person's chest and push at a rate of about 100 times or beats per minute.

There is even a smartphone app you can download if you want to be alerted to people around you who may be in need of immediate CPR. PulsePoint Respond, which doubles as a scanner, can be found in the Google Play store for Android phones and devices.

San Bernardino County Professional Firefighters Local 935, the firefighters' union, is offering hands-only CPR training throughout the region in hopes of reducing the number of people who die from cardiac arrest every year.

And the numbers are staggering. According to the union, more than 350,000 people suffer cardiac arrest outside of a hospital in the United State every year. Their survival rate, of course, depends on immediately receiving CPR. Those who do are two to three times more likely to survive a cardiac arrest episode than those who don't.

Seventy percent of the time, people suffer cardiac arrest at home. So making sure you and your loved ones have this training could be vital to saving a family member's life.

We urge everyone to at least consider taking the training, either by watching a YouTube video or contacting the firefighters' union.

Businesses especially are encouraged to contact the union so their employees can receive this valuable training. You never know when it is going to come in handy and save someone's life.

For information on setting up training at your business or place of employment, contact Engineer Lee Martin at lmartin@sbcfire.org or call 760-981-8164.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20180916/kudos-to-firefighters-for-offering-hands-only-cpr-training>

Parceling out the economics of the San Bernardino County Fire District expansion

Jay Prag, Press Enterprise

Posted: September 15, 2018, 11:00 a.m.



San Bernardino County Firefighters battle the Little Mountain Fire near the Shandin Hills area of San Bernardino, Ca., Tuesday, December 5, 2017. The brush fire threatened houses and apartment around Little Mountain Drive and Blair Park. (John Valenzuela/The Sun/SCNG)

Every once in a while, a news story appears that highlights a truly classic issue in economics. The Aug. 29 story in the San Bernardino Sun about the expansion of the fire protection district is one of those stories. The gist: the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors voted to replace the existing patchwork of service zones throughout the **San Bernardino County Fire** Protection District, which do not cover the entire county, with a single, unified service zone (FP-5) that does. This sounds innocuous — even efficient — and, yet, there is controversy about that change and the process that led to it.

Over the years, the individual service zones of the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District have been funded by relatively small parcel taxes (about \$150 per year) levied on landowners within each service zone.

The problem is: the first responders who work for the Fire Protection District must respond to fire and medical emergencies in any part of San Bernardino County (except in areas covered by a city fire department or a local fire protection district, or areas covered under a contract with Cal Fire). Since most of the county's land is not in one of the Fire Protection District service zones, that means a huge swath of the county is being served without paying the parcel tax. In economics we call this free riding.

Most goods and services that exist in the economy are produced and distributed effectively by a free market. Producers create a product as efficiently as possible and sell it to consumers. The price that consumers pay must cover the cost of production, or the business, in reality, cannot survive. But some services are impossible to produce that way. So-called “public goods” are things that are provided, but they can be used without paying at the time of use. For example, we can't charge homeowners to put out a fire when we put it out. We need our emergency services ready and able to respond before they are needed. Like all other public goods, fire services are paid for by taxes.

But the cost of public goods only covers production if the cost is shared among all users. In San Bernardino County, people can opt out of paying for the service by moving out of a Fire Protection District service zone, and they still get the service. As a result, this public good — emergency services — cannot be adequately funded. Every year, the Fire Protection District goes, hat in hand, to the county government to get extra funding to pay for those residents who are free riding. This system is simply not sustainable. As it stands, the majority of the residents of the county are subsidizing the minority — those who pay no parcel tax. Therefore, the single Fire Protection District service zone (FP-5) with one parcel tax for all of San Bernardino County is

a fair decision, as it will keep emergency services adequately funded and available to everyone who lives there.

Also, the parcel tax should be paid by everyone who gets the service, so the controversy over the supervisors' vote is also a bit silly (or a misunderstanding of how representative governments work). The supervisors voted 3-2 in favor of the single service zone, and this is precisely what their constituents would have wanted. The representatives of those who aren't currently paying voted no; the representatives of the majority who are paying voted yes.

The notion that this change should be done by popular vote violates a basic premise of representative government. If asked, every individual would say they wanted their taxes to be low or zero. The individual would always rather the "other guy" pay all the taxes. Elected representatives exist to allocate taxes more uniformly, more fairly, and in a way that allows us to sustain vital services. The San Bernardino County supervisors were prudent and sensible in voting for this change and everyone in the county should be comforted knowing emergency services are fairly and adequately funded.

<https://www.pe.com/2018/09/15/parceling-out-the-economics-of-the-san-bernardino-county-fire-district-expansion/>