



NEWS



News Headlines 7/7/2017

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Police arrest 2 people in Fontana for possession of explosives and issue 63 citations for fireworks code violations

Fontana Herald News

Posted: July 6, 2017, 3:20 PM

The **San Bernardino County Fire Department** and Fontana Police Department were kept busy trying to prevent injuries due to the use of illegal fireworks and the misuse of Safe and Sane fireworks.

During an operation which started on June 1 and continued through July 4, fire investigators and police officers seized thousands of pounds of illegal fireworks in Fontana, according to Fontana Police Sgt. Kevin Goltara.

The operation included undercover investigations into the selling and possession of illegal fireworks as well as responding to calls for service, Goltara said.

As a result of this operation, the Fontana P.D. issued a total of 63 citations for code violations. Fines for these violations range from \$2,500 to \$10,000.

There were also two felony arrests related to the possession of explosives in Fontana, police said.

Overall in San Bernardino County over the past month, firefighters extinguished 129 fires, said Tracey Martinez, a spokesperson for the Fire Department. Six people were injured by fireworks, including three children in San Bernardino.

Within the Fontana city limits, 12 fires caused by fireworks were confirmed, and 10 other fires were possibly related to fireworks, Martinez said.

In the unincorporated county areas of Fontana, six fires started by fireworks were confirmed, and another three fires were possibly related to fireworks, she said.

http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/police-arrest-people-in-fontana-for-possession-of-explosives-and/article_572d413c-6299-11e7-a8c9-371510da1921.html

Brush fire erupts in Cajon Pass for second day in a row; I-15 traffic jammed

Daily Press

Posted: July 6, 2017, 3:43 PM



An aircraft drops fire retardant on a brush fire along northbound Interstate 15 near Kenwood Avenue on Thursday afternoon. The blaze spread to nearby vegetation after a truck caught fire along the shoulder of the freeway. [Photo courtesy of Eunkyung Oh]

CAJON PASS — A vehicle fire along northbound Interstate 15 spread to nearby vegetation between Kenwood Avenue and the Blue Cut area.

According to California Highway Patrol logs, a white work truck was reported to have “huge flames coming from under the hood” at 2:42 p.m. and a man was seen running from the vehicle.

San Bernardino National Forest Service officials reported that the fire, dubbed the Kenwood Fire, spread to vegetation along the shoulder and that crews from **San Bernardino County Fire Department** and CAL Fire were responding to assist with battling the blaze.

A hard closure was issued for the No. 5 lane of northbound I-15 as the fire burned roughly 5 acres and traffic was backed up in both directions as crews worked to contain the fire.

CHP logs reported that the fire was out by 5:16 p.m. but that fire personnel were still going through vegetation.

It's the second day in a row that a brush fire has erupted in the area following the Cleghorn Fire that burned 5 acres Wednesday.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20170706/brush-fire-erupts-in-cajon-pass-for-second-day-in-row-i-15-traffic-jammed>

County Fire mourns death of local first responder Matthew Bashaw

Charity Lindsey, Daily Press

Posted: July 6, 2017, 4:23 PM



Local first responder Matthew Bashaw, left, recently died while on vacation in Arizona. He was the son of San Bernardino County Fire Department Captain Sam Bashaw and completed his field internship with county firefighter/paramedic John Marini. [Photo courtesy of Victor Valley College]

A local first responder died unexpectedly while on vacation near Parker, Arizona, on Saturday, according to the San Bernardino County Professional Firefighters Union.

Matthew Bashaw, 27, was vacationing with friends at the Colorado River in Arizona when he died, according to a Facebook post from the union. He was the son of Local 935 member and County Fire Department Captain Sam Bashaw of Station 14 in Wrightwood.

“Matthew was attempting to retrieve a boat anchor that was stuck in the mud,” the post states. “When he did not surface as quickly as expected, his friends — many of whom are (Anaheim firefighters) — pulled him unresponsive from the water and initiated CPR. Through resuscitation efforts Matt regained a pulse; however, he ultimately did not survive his injuries.”

Bashaw was a recent graduate of Victor Valley College’s Paramedic Academy.

“His determination and drive to achieve his dream job of becoming a firefighter/paramedic was evident with every goal he made and achieved,” VVC Paramedic Program officials said. “In the past three weeks alone, he graduated paramedic school, successfully passed his (National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians) exam and had already landed his first job as a paramedic.”

Bashaw completed his field internship with Local 935 member and county firefighter/paramedic John Marini at Station 71 in Fontana and began his fire service career as an explorer assigned to the Phelan post under the direction of County Fire Captain Bob Kittleman, union officials said.

Kittleman said Bashaw was inspired by his father and two of his brothers, Aloysius and Tyler, who are firefighter/paramedics in Los Angeles and Anaheim, respectively.

“He was a nice young man. He was quiet, but he was very thoughtful and family-oriented,” Kittleman said. “He was very much dedicated, especially in the wildland aspect of firefighting.”

Bashaw served as a paid-call firefighter for the county before becoming one of the original members of the Old Cajon Crew 6, union officials said. This all-risk hand crew is stationed at the fire camp in Devore, where Bashaw “was one of the top guys as a sawyer,” Kittleman said.

His experience led him to employment with the United States Forest Service, serving the San Bernardino National Forest as a wildland firefighter.

“He also had the aspirations and motivation from his brothers to become a paramedic and (become a municipal firefighter) as well,” Kittleman said.

“Local 935 could not be more proud of Matthew’s accomplishments,” the union’s post states. VVC officials said the loss of Bashaw, an “ambitious and good-hearted individual,” “has impacted our program, our community and families, more than we can express.”

“We will miss you, Bashaw,” college officials said. “It will be impossible to forget the positive impact you had on our lives.”

Services for Matthew Bashaw will be held on July 17 at Holy Innocents Parish, 13230 El Evado Road in Victorville. A viewing will be held at 9:30 a.m., followed by a rosary at 10 a.m. and a funeral service at 10:30 a.m.. Graveside services will immediately follow at the Desert View Memorial Park, located at 11500 Amargosa Road in Victorville.

A reception will then commence at the Oak Hills Brewing Company, located at 12221 Poplar St. in Hesperia.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20170706/county-fire-mourns-death-of-local-first-responder-matthew-bashaw>

Man severely burned after alleged 'honey oil' lab blows up in Victorville

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: July 6, 2017



A man with burns to his body was airlifted following an explosion at a home in Victorville Thursday night. (Hugo C. Valdez, Victor Valley News)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) A man suffered burns to his body after an explosion at a Victorville home being used to extract concentrated hash oil from marijuana, authorities said.

The **San Bernardino County Fire Department** responded to the call at 6:19 pm after receiving reports of an explosion in the 11500 block of Topaz Road on Thursday, July 6, 2017.

“The reports said the garage door flew off the house and that a male was running down Topaz with burns,” stated County Fire spokesman Ryan Vaccaro.

Officials reported finding remnants of skin in the driveway of the home and “definite signs of an explosion.”

The badly burned man showed up a short time later at Victor Valley Global Medical Center after being dropped off in a personal vehicle.

Sheriff’s officials confirmed that the male victim was transported to a burn center at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center by a Mercy Air helicopter.

It’s unknown if the man, whose name was not available, will face criminal charges in connection with the alleged honey oil lab.

Topaz remains closed between Tamarack Street and Maple Valley Road as of 11:10 pm while officials conduct an investigation.

<http://www.vvng.com/man-severely-burned-alleged-honey-oil-lab-blows-victorville/>

Fireworks enforcement brings fines, arrests

Inland News Today

Posted: July 6, 2017



INLAND EMPIRE – (INT)- There were consequences to the indiscriminate, wholesale use of illegal fireworks in many neighborhoods across the region during the Fourth of July.

They included injuries to children, fires and an assortment of citations.

In Corona, several grass fires and a 115-year-old history home burned. Citations included \$13,000 in fines.

In Winchester, it took 65 firefighters to squelch a 9-acre fire.

Two dozen Riverside firefighters made quick work of a 2-acre fire Wednesday night in the Sycamore Canyon Park.

Riverside County Firefighters responded to 22 wildland fires.

In San Bernardino, three young boys were burned in a fireworks mishap. One lost a hand.

The Fontana Police Department handed out 63 citations issued for City Codes (FCC) violations. The fines range from \$2,500.00 to \$10,000.00. 37 confiscations of fireworks were also done. There were 2 felony arrests related to possession of explosives.

The **San Bernardino County Fire Department** responded to 53 separate vegetation fires, many of which were related to fireworks. Countywide, a dozen fireworks-related injuries were reported.

A 4.5-acre fire hampered traffic on Interstate 15 through Cajon Pass Wednesday.

<http://www.inlandnewstoday.com/story.php?s=46885>

Suicide Attempt Closes 15 Freeway in Victorville

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: July 6, 2017



A person's legs can be seen dangling from the freeway overpass just before being rescued. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) A person's suicide attempt forced the closure of the 15 Freeway in Victorville Thursday night.

At approximately 9:35 pm a deputy arrived at the Mojave Drive freeway overpass bridge and located a 30-year-old subject sitting on a freeway sign and cutting themselves, scanner traffic reported.

All southbound and northbound lanes of traffic were stopped as deputies and firefighters attempted to rescue the subject.

An **SBC Fire** Captain climbed a ladder in a bid to reach the victim, who was safely rescued at around 10:00 pm.

Both directions of traffic were reopened at around 10:15 pm.

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

<http://www.vvng.com/suicide-attempt-closes-15-freeway-victorville/>

Vehicles Burn in Twentynine Palms Salvage Yard

Z107.7 News

Posted: July 7, 2017

A motorhome caught fire in an auto salvage yard in Twentynine Palms Thursday night. According to **County Fire Battalion Chief** Mike Snow, firefighters from Twentynine Palms, Wonder Valley, and the Combat Center were called to a vehicle fire at the B&B Auto Wrecking salvage yard, in the 75800 block of Baseline Road, at 7:54 p.m. Snow said the fire spread from the motor home to four or five other vehicles. There were no injuries. The cause of the fire is undetermined, and the loss is estimated at about \$3,000.

<http://z1077fm.com/vehicles-burn-in-twentynine-palms-salvage-yard/>