



NEWS



News Headlines 12/14/2016

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Orange County fire captain jumps onto 5 Freeway, dies after being hit by big-rig

Nathan Percy and Jordan Graham, The Sun

Posted: December 14, 2016 7:08 a.m.



This undated photo provided by the Orange County Fire Authority shows Orange County Fire Authority Capt. Eric Weuve. The Orange County fire captain jumped from an overpass on to a busy freeway and died in an apparent suicide, authorities said. Weuve, a 41-year-old father of two, leapt on to Interstate 5 on Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2016, said Larry Kurtz, who is also a captain. (Orange County Fire Authority via AP)

MISSION VIEJO — A 41-year-old man, a fire captain from Orange, jumped off the Crown Valley Parkway I-5 overpass on Tuesday morning and was killed by a big-rig.

The CHP got a call of a man scaling the chain-link fence on the overpass about 11 a.m. Minutes later, he jumped and was hit.

The Orange County Fire Authority identified the man as Capt. Eric Weuve, an 11-year veteran who was based out of Fire Station 64 in Westminster.

“Weuve was a well-respected member of the Orange County Fire Authority, a wonderful father and will be missed not only in the OCFA community, but the community at large,” OCFA Capt. Larry Kurtz said. “The word tragedy just doesn’t do the situation justice.”

Kurtz says county firefighters saw a pickup truck with fire gear in it atop the overpass, and were stunned when they got down to the freeway and learned it was Weuve. He said OCFA chaplains were sent out and its Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team was at the scene for support.

Kurtz said Weuve was a married father of a 14-year-old boy and a 5-year-old girl.

The incident halted freeway closed traffic in both directions between Oso and Avery parkways. The lanes were reopened at 12:10 p.m., Kurtz said.

County Supervisor Todd Spitzer adjourned Tuesday’s board meeting in Weuve’s honor.

“Incidents like this serve as a reminder the holidays are a very tough time for a lot of people, so just hope everybody spends a great time with their family and remind yourself and your family just how important and

precious life is,” Spitzer said.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20161214/orange-county-fire-captain-jumps-onto-5-freeway-dies-after-being-hit-by-big-rig>

Driver Slams Into Fire Hydrant, Sends Water Gushing Into Air

Victor Valley News

Posted: December 13, 2016

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) A motorist slammed a car into a fire hydrant, sending water gushing into the air Tuesday evening

The driver of an older Honda sedan somehow lost control of the vehicle shortly after 7:00 p.m. and crashed into the hydrant at the 13200 block of Air Expressway Blvd and Nevada Street.

San Bernardino Sheriff’s and **San Bernardino County Fire**, both from Victorville stations responded to the incident.

It took nearly 25 minutes to stop the geyser, which shot an estimated 40-50 feet into the night sky.

The family in the Honda at the time of the crash, including an infant, were not injured. There were no other vehicles involved in the incident.

<http://www.vvng.com/driver-slams-into-fire-hydrant-sends-water-gushing-into-air/>

Community Ho Ho Parade lights up San Bernardino for the first of 3 nights

Michael Nolan, The Sun

Posted: Dec. 13, 2016, 11:27 p.m.



Frosty the Snowman and friends are seen traveling in a Jeep during the Ho Ho Parade Tuesday in San Bernardino. MICAH ESCAMILLA — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

There was magic in the air Tuesday night.

And classic cars, twinkling lights and Santa Claus as Day 1 of the fourth annual Community Ho Ho Parade rolled through 16 miles of neighborhoods from Little League headquarters to Wildwood Park.

The parade continues today and Thursday through different neighborhoods in the city.

I had the privilege, along with Ryan Hagen, The Sun's San Bernardino reporter, of participating and ho-ho-ho-ing Tuesday night, beginning at Little League Headquarters, where Santa Claus held court with bright-eyed children.

The gathering was impressive. The iconic Weinermobile, Albert Okura's newly renovated Boat Car, the Cadillac Kings car club and Santa and Mrs. Claus in a new red Mustang convertible "sleigh,"

This year, Santa's car is equipped with an amplifier in the trunk so his "Ho Ho's" are louder.

"Santa Claus is in the 21st Century," said Debbi Matley, parade committee secretary.

"Santa will be keeping parade fans up-to-date on his location during the parades through Facebook (The Community Ho Ho Parade) and Twitter (@HoHoParade)," she added.

On Tuesday, there were hot rods and classics — 35 vehicles in all — the limit for a community parade.

A San Bernardino County fire truck led the way.

I was riding in a 1956 Dodge Highway Patrol car, one of the original cars used by Broderick Crawford in the old Highway Patrol TV series.

Our driver, artist and musician Rory Murray, sang into his megaphone and played tunes with the old siren and other sound effects.

Tuesday was the kick-off parade — the first of three consecutive nights of the party on wheels.

• Photos: 2016 San Bernardino Ho Ho Parade, Day One

Whimsical and musical, the joyous procession attracted attention from hundreds of residents along the way.

You couldn't help but smile as people lined the streets — families waved from their front yards and from upstairs balconies.

We were greeted by people wearing lighted reindeer hats and scarves. They came out with little children, bundled-up babies in arms, and some carrying little dogs.

This was a fun and simple assignment — ho-ho and wave to the folks.

Easy enough, but it brought a lump to my throat.

This was the heart of Christmas.

The backbone and the strength of the city.

Their joyous spirit was contagious — there was no room for Grinch-ness.

Chuck E. Cheese and Bernie from the Inland Empire 66ers greeted people on the route, along with Frosty the Snowman, Rudolph the Reindeer, the Grinch, Olaf the Snowman, and of course, Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Unfortunately, Brad the Reindeer, who joined us last year, couldn't make it this time — he had gotten a full-time welding job in Orange County.

None of this would have been possible without the gallant motorcycle escort from D&R Traffic Control, who cleared intersections, stopped traffic and guided us safely through the night.

This community parade grew from the grassroots efforts of local people who wanted to continue the annual tradition of a Christmas parade, even after the city's bankruptcy struggles threatened to cancel it.

Because of the spirit of the people, the tradition continues.

About 1,000 people were waiting for Santa and the parade to arrive Tuesday night at Wildwood Park. They were chilled and ready to party.

On Wednesday, the parade starts at 6 p.m. from Blair Park, 1466 W. Marshall Blvd., and ends about 8 p.m. at Lytle Creek Community Center, 380 S. K St.

On Thursday, the parade starts at 6 p.m. from the San Bernardino Train Station, 1170 W. Third St., ending about 8 p.m. at Perris Hill Senior Center, 780 E. 21st St.

Full parade routes are available at www.hohoparade.com.

Community parties with Santa, hot chocolate and cookies start at 5:30 p.m. until 6 p.m. each night at departure locations; and from 8 p.m. at arrival locations.

Movies in the Park are screening "Zootopia" at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Lytle Creek Community Center, before the arrival of the parade; and "Finding Dory" at 6 p.m. Thursday at Perris Hill Senior Center before the parade arrives.

The parties give neighborhood associations a chance to participate, Debbi said.

"We're making this our family tradition."

<http://www.sbsun.com/lifestyle/20161213/community-ho-ho-parade-lights-up-san-bernardino-for-the-first-of-3-nights>

No-Burn Alert: Mandatory Wood-Burning Ban in Effect Through Wednesday, December 14, for Residents of The South Coast Air Basin

Los Angeles Sentinel
Posted: December 13, 2016

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has issued a residential no-burn alert effective today, December 13, through Wednesday, December 14, for all those living in the South Coast Air Basin, which includes Orange County and non-desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. SCAQMD reminds residents in these areas that burning wood in their fireplaces – both indoors and outdoors — is prohibited today through midnight on Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2016.

No-burn alerts are mandatory in order to protect public health due to a high concentration of fine particle air pollution forecast for the area. The no-burn prohibition also applies to manufactured fire logs, such as those made from wax or paper.

Fine particles in wood smoke – also known as particulate matter of PM2.5 – can get deep into the lungs and cause respiratory illnesses, increases in emergency room visits and hospitalizations.

Residents can help reduce the harmful health effects of wood smoke by signing up to receive e-mail alerts at www.AirAlerts.org to learn when a mandatory no-burn alert is issued in their area.

SCAQMD's no-burn alerts do not apply to mountain communities above 3,000 feet in elevation and the Coachella Valley. Homes that rely on wood as a sole source of heat, low-income households and those without natural gas service are also exempt from the requirement. Gas and other non-wood burning fireplaces are not restricted

SCAQMD's Check Before You Burn program is in effect from November through the end of February, when particulate levels are highest.

For additional information on wood smoke and your health, visit www.AirAlerts.org.

SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

<https://lasentinel.net/no-burn-alert-mandatory-wood-burning-ban-in-effect-through-wednesday-december-14-for-residents-of-the-south-coast-air-basin.html>

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