



NEWS



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REACH unveils new base in California

Staff Writer, AirMed & Rescue

Posted: April 4, 2019

REACH air medical services have announced the opening of a new emergency air medical transport base in Victorville, California, which will provide emergency transport services on a 24/7 basis.

The Victorville base will work closely with American Medical Response of San Bernardino County and will operate alongside the company's first Victorville location run in partnership with the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

The base's crew consist of highly trained and experienced pilots, clinicians and aircraft maintenance technicians, and the base will operate a medically configured Airbus H-135 helicopter with the latest avionics and safety features, as well as being one of the only instrument flight rule (IFR) capable helicopters in the region – meaning it can still be operated and flown in adverse weather conditions, when other helicopters would usually be grounded.

The addition, the Victorville base location, said REACH, will result in faster response times for patients in San Bernardino County and surrounding areas, and its proximity with the organisation's other bases located in Riverside, San Diego and Imperial Counties will allow for further air transport coverage in the community when an asset is already in service on another call.

REACH is a participating provider in the AirMedCare Network (AMCN). AMCN members incur no out-of-pocket expenses for a medically necessary flight. Membership is \$85 a year for an entire household or \$65 a year for seniors. REACH's membership also extends to all AMCN's providers in 320 locations across 38 states.

“We are incredibly pleased to open this base and to be serving the residents of our community,” said Sean Russell, President of REACH Air Medical Services. “REACH is proud to now be working alongside AMR of San Bernardino County and to continue working closely with the San Bernardino County Fire Department, as well as increasing our overall support to local EMS and healthcare systems.”

<https://www.airmedandrescue.com/story/113513/reach-unveils-new-base-california>

TWO RESCUES IN NATIONAL PARK, MOTORCYCLE CRASH KEEP FIRST RESPONDERS BUSY

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM

Posted: April 4, 2019

Firefighters were busy Wednesday afternoon, responding to back-to-back-to-back calls for help in Joshua Tree National Park and Twentynine Palms. About 2:15, a hiker fell and broke her leg in the Split Rock area of the national park. Joshua Tree firefighters, Morongo Basin Ambulance, Joshua Tree Search and Rescue, and park rangers responded to help the victim out and she was taken by MBA to a local hospital.

While first responders were at this call, they got a second call at 3:45 p.m. about a rock climber who fell about 40 to 50 feet near the Quail Springs area in Joshua Tree National Park. Due to the critical injuries of the man, who was in his 40s, a Riverside County Sheriff's helicopter landed near the scene and flew him to Desert Hospital in Palm Springs.

And then Twentynine Palms firefighters were called about 4:30 p.m. for a crash in which a motorcycle rider collided with a motorhome at Utah Trail and Sunrise Trail. A second helicopter was called and he was flown to Desert Hospital in Palm Springs.

<http://z1077fm.com/two-rescues-in-national-park-motorcycle-crash-keep-first-responders-busy/>

JUDGE DENIES INJUNCTION AGAINST FP-5 FIRE FEE

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: April 4, 2019

It appears San Bernardino County residents may be paying an extra \$157 on their property taxes this fall for the expansion of Fire Protection Zone 5. On Tuesday, San Bernardino County Superior Court Judge Donald Alvarez ruled against a request—filed by the Red Brennan Group, which was protesting the fire fee—for a preliminary injunction to stop the county from collecting the fee. Managing editor Tami Roleff says the judge denied the injunction on three grounds...

Judge Donald Alvarez denied the Red Brennan Group's request for an injunction to halt the collection of the \$157 annual fire fee on three grounds. The judge said the plaintiffs did not "adequately explain why" the county could not annex the 19,000 square miles of county land. The judge also ruled that the state constitution has a "pay now, litigate later" clause, in which the tax must be paid first before a lawsuit can be brought to stop the tax levy. And the third point was based on a technicality; the judge said the Red Brennan Group was supposed to notify the public that it was suing the Fire Department 60 days before it filed the lawsuit. However, the judge also noted the Red Brennan Group could circumvent this requirement by showing "good cause."

<http://z1077fm.com/judge-denies-injunction-against-fp-5-fire-fee/>

Firefighters discover illegal grow in Phelan

Martin Estacio, Daily Press

Posted: April 3, 2019, 6:25 pm



A San Bernardino County firefighter sprays down the eaves over a fire-damaged garage Wednesday afternoon. Crews discovered the entire house had been converted into an illegal marijuana grow operation. No one was arrested at the scene. [Martin Estacio, Daily Press]

PHELAN — Firefighters battling a fire at a residence Wednesday afternoon discovered an illegal marijuana grow operation.

The fire was reported shortly after 2 p.m. **San Bernardino County firefighters** arrived to find smoke coming from the garage area.

No one was home, so emergency responders cut the lock on the front gate of the home located at 10626 Beaver Ave., said Battalion Chief Kelly Anderson.

During the course of extinguishing the blaze, crews requested law enforcement for a “possible grow house.”

Firefighters were able to douse the fire, which damaged the garage and attic, in about 14 minutes.

One firefighter was injured when he slipped on the roof. He was transported by ambulance to Desert Valley Hospital with minor injuries.

Through a damaged garage door, a reporter could see green plants, ventilation ducts, wiring, and a metal box attached to a wooden post.

A Sheriff’s deputy on scene confirmed with the Daily Press it was an illegal grow. A Southern California Edison worker said the house was using electricity illegally.

Anderson surmised the cause of the fire was electrical, due to all the wiring.

She walked through the nondescript three-bedroom, single-story, describing an entire home — plus covered patio area — that had been converted to grow the plant.

Anderson said County fire typically responds to one to two fires a month in her response area, caused by the clandestine operations.

“Usually nobody lives there. They have kind of a caretaker that shows up and makes sure everything’s functioning and makes sure everything’s getting watered,” she said.

The house was vacant but Anderson saw evidence of someone occupying one of the bedrooms.

A property record search listed Danny Danzhong Lu as the owner of the parcel.

<https://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20190403/firefighters-discover-illegal-grow-in-phelan>

Possible marijuana grow found during house fire in Baldy Mesa

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: April 3, 2019



(Photo courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire via Twitter)

BALDY MESA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — **San Bernardino County Firefighters** responded to a house fire and found a possible marijuana grow operation on Wednesday.

The fire was reported at about 2:00 pm, in the 10600 block of Beaver Avenue in the Baldy Mesa area.

Firefighters arrived and located a single story structure with smoke showing from the garage and went into the attack mode. Once inside, firefighters located fire inside the garage that spread into the attic.

Once inside firefighters located evidence consistent with a marijuana grow house and requested the San Bernardino County Sheriff's to respond for an investigation.

Animal Control was responded due to one dog in the yard, per scanner traffic reports.

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation and no injuries have been reported.

<https://www.vvng.com/possible-marijuana-grow-house-found-during-house-fire-in-baldy-mesa/>

Hesperia man arrested for slashing another man with a machete during argument

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: April 3, 2019



(VVNG.com file photo)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) –A 57-year-old man is behind bars after he allegedly used a machete to slash another man during an argument, officials said.

It happened on March 31, 2019, at about 7:20 pm, in the 18000 block of Sequoia Street in Hesperia.

Deputies responded to the location after receiving reports that a male was just stabbed with a machete.

Through investigation, officers determined the suspect, Joaquin Munoz Olmos, a resident of Hesperia, was still at the scene of the crime. He was detained without incident.

Sheriff's spokesman Edgar Moran said the victim informed deputies that he and Olmos has gotten into an argument outside of the residence.

During the argument, Olmos grabbed a machete and metal pipe out of the trunk of his vehicle.

“The victim then entered his vehicle to attempt to leave when Olmos smashed victim's passenger side window with the metal pipe. The victim then exited the vehicle and grabbed another metal pipe out of a trash can to defend himself. Olmos then swung the machete and cut the victim's right forearm,” stated Moran.

The victim received two deep lacerations to his right forearm and was checked out by **San Bernardino County Fire**.

Olmos was arrested and booked into High Desert Detention Center for PC245(a)(1) Assault With a Deadly Weapon, PC273A(B) Willful Cruelty to a Child, VC23103(A) Reckless Driving, and HS11350 Possession of a Controlled Substance. His combined bail is set at \$100,000 and he is scheduled for a court arraignment on April 8, 2019.

<https://www.vvng.com/hesperia-man-arrested-for-slashing-another-man-with-a-machete-after-argument/>

One Deceased and One Severely Burned in Needles House Fire

Staff Writer, 24/7 Headline News

Posted: April 3, 2019



NEEDLES, Calif. – One person was airlifted for serious burn injuries and a second person died as a result of a fire in Needles.

On Tuesday, April 2, 2019, at around 9:45 p.m., **San Bernardino County Fire** responded to multiple reports of a fire near J Street and West Broadway in the City of Needles. Reporting parties told dispatchers that they could hear yelling inside of the structure. When firefighters arrived they located a single-story home fully involved in fire. Winds of over 20 miles per hour hampered firefighting efforts, spreading the flames throughout the structure.

Firefighters attempted to get into the home, but the extreme fire conditions prevented them from doing so. One of the occupants was able to get out of the burning structure before the fire crew arrived. Baker EMS arrived to provide patient care at the scene. Firefighters had to protect surrounding structures, leading them to a defensive attack. Explosions were heard as the fire burned.

Firefighters with the help of engine companies and chief officers from the Mohave Valley, Fort Mohave and Golden Shores Fire Departments were able to gain control of the fire within around 30 minutes. There was no spread to other structures.

One of the occupants who remained in the structure throughout the fire suffered fatal injuries. The adult female who was able to get out of the home, was airlifted to University Medical Center – Las Vegas for treatment. There were no other injuries reported on scene.

There are no damages estimated yet, but the structure was determined to be a complete loss. The explosions were determined to be from numerous gas cylinders located inside of the home. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

<https://247headline.com/one-deceased-and-one-severely-burned-in-needles-house-fire/>