

## <u>News Headlines 11/27 – 12/2/2019</u>

- > A NEW FIRE ENGINE IN THE CITY OF TWENTYNINE PALMS
- San Bernardino County Fire Department provides tips on keeping safe while keeping warm this winter
- > People in RV ejected after crashing into gas station parking lot in the cajon pass
- > Two small brush fires tamped down in San Bernardino and Rialto despite 'howling' winds
- > 8,000 People Stuck Overnight Without Power Due to Weather in Lake Arrowhead
- > Power still out for thousands in San Bernardino County mountain communities; highways treacherous
- ▶ 4,200 Remain Without Power in Lake Arrowhead Area Following Heavy Snowfall
- > Thousands without electricity on freezing night in San Bernardino Mountains; firewood distributed

1

- Munsey is new fire chief for San Bernardino County Fire Protection District
- > LTAB wants to know the cost of fire protection
- Christmas tree lighting ceremonies planned
- > Upcoming Christmas tree lighting ceremonies in the Victor Valley
- ➢ CRASH IN DOWNTOWN JOSHUA TREE LAST NIGHT
- ➢ COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE FIRE IN JOSHUA TREE THIS MORNING

### A NEW FIRE ENGINE IN THE CITY OF TWENTYNINE PALMS

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News Posted: December 2, 2019



Twentynine Palms City officials with Assistant Chief Tom Marshall, Battalion Chiefs Scott Tuttle and Donnie Viloria, and members of the Twentynine Palms Fire Department in front of Station 44's new Type-1 Fire Engine.

A new fire engine has been put into service at the Twentynine Palms Fire Department. Officials from the City of Twentynine Palms met with Assistant Chief Tom Marshall as well as Battalion Chiefs Scott Tuttle and Donnie Viloria at Fire Station 44 in Twentynine Palms on November 21 to see the new fire engine. The new KME Type-1 fire engine features numerous modern safety updates, is fully stocked with brand new life-saving equipment, and meets all **County Fire** Department standards and specs. The fire station's old engine will remain on-site and will be used as a reserve vehicle.

http://z1077fm.com/a-new-fire-engine-in-the-city-of-twentynine-palms/

## San Bernardino County Fire Department provides tips on keeping safe while keeping warm this winter

**Tracey Martinez, Fontana Herald News** Posted: December 2, 2019

As the cooler weather months arrive, most homes need a little extra help from additional heat sources such as a fireplace or space heater.

However, taking precaution to use these heat sources safely can greatly decrease the chance of having a preventable home fire.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department urges residents to keep safe while they keep warm.

The following tips are some cool weather safety precautions to help you and your loved ones stay warm in the safest way possible.

----- FIRE SAFETY TIPS for fireplaces and other heating devices:

• Before the cold weather arrives, change furnace filters to keep equipment running efficiently and safely.

• Place all space heaters at least three feet away from furniture, walls, curtains, or anything that burns. Make sure to turn them off when you leave home or go to bed. Contact the Gas Company or a heating contractor if you suspect that your heater is not functioning properly.

• Check thermostats to make sure the furnace doesn't turn itself on before you're ready for it, and give yourself time to check furnace vents, especially floor vents, to make sure they're not blocked. Furniture and drapes placed over heating vents can sometimes catch fire.

• Never install unvented gas heaters in bedrooms or bathrooms, where the small room size poses an added danger of rapid carbon monoxide build-up.

• Have your chimneys inspected and cleaned by a professional before each heating season and have it cleaned regularly.

• Be sure to have a proper spark arrester on all chimney tops to prevent burning embers from blowing out of the top of the chimney and starting a fire on your roof or a neighbor's. Screens should have openings of no more than a half-inch -- a quarter-inch if you live next to a wilderness area. If you have a manufactured fireplace, check with the manufacturer for installation requirements before placing anything on top of the fireplace.

• Never use a fireplace during high winds, especially if you have a wood shake roof.

• Make sure tree branches are cleared at least 10 feet from the chimney opening.

• Store paper, kindling, and other flammable material at least three feet from the fireplace.

• Store cooled ashes in a tightly sealed metal container. Cardboard boxes, paper bags, and plastic containers quickly catch fire. Even apparently cool ashes may contain enough heat to ignite these containers.

• Be sure that you have a fireplace screen large enough to block flying embers and rolling logs from escaping onto your floor.

• Never burn trash, paper, or green wood in your fireplace. These materials cause a combustible build-up on the lining of your fireplace that may eventually catch fire, possibly damaging the chimney and threatening your home.

• Make sure that any fireplace fires are completely out before leaving the house or going to bed.

• Remember, never use a charcoal-burning barbecue or heater indoors. When burned indoors, charcoal produces deadly amounts of carbon monoxide gas that is odorless, tasteless, and invisible. Charcoal-burning devices are for outdoor use only!

----- BEFORE LIGHTING ANY FIRE

• Check to see that the flue is open.

• Keep a screen in front of the fireplace at all times, especially when fire is burning.

• Before closing the flue, be sure that the fire is completely out.

• Check the phone directory for a professional fireplace contractor to assist you with any needs or questions you may have.

San Bernardino County Fire also reminds you to make sure your home is equipped with working smoke detectors and fire extinguishers. Don't forget to install, test, and maintain these devices in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. An approved smoke detector with fresh batteries doubles your chances of surviving a fire in your home.

Provide two means of escape from every room and make sure everyone knows where to meet after leaving the house. Develop and practice a fire escape plan for your household. Remember, never return to a burning building for any reason. Your belongings can be replaced -- you can't!

For more information, visit www.sbcfire.org.

(Tracey Martinez is the public information officer for the San Bernardino County Fire Department.)

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/inland\_empire\_news/san-bernardino-county-fire-department-provides-tips-on-keeping-safe/article\_c8645660-1525-11ea-bc97-336302210dbf.html

## People in RV ejected after crashing into gas station parking lot in the cajon pass

Hugo Valdez, Victor Valley News Group Posted: December 1, 2019



(Photos courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire)

UPDATE @ 3:00 PM – A relative said the brakes on the RV failed as it drove southbound down the cajon pass. Two dogs that were also traveling in the RV are reported to be missing. They are described as a white-spotted boxer named Annie and a fox-like looking dog named Mitten missing her back right foot. Both very sweet girls. Chihuahua was found. Please text (928) 458-6259 if found.

CAJON PASS, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Multiple people were critically injured after an RV they were traveling in lost control and crashed into a gas station parking lot in the cajon pass.

It happened just before 1:00 pm on December 1, 2019, at the Shell Gas Station in the 14900 block of Cajon Blvd., at Highway 138 and the I-15 freeway.

The large recreation vehicle came to a stop on its side after landing on large steel barricades that were installed following a fatal traffic collision in 2014 that claimed the lives of two teens and injured three others.

**San Bernardino County Firefighters** arrived and located an RV with major damage and 2-3 people that were ejected during the crash.

Firefighters requested two helicopters to land near the scene and airlift two people with life-threatening injuries.

Helicopter H325 transported one patient to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. Helicopter Air Rescue 307 airlifted the second immediate patient to Loma Linda University Medical Center.

A third pediatric patient was transported by ground ambulance to Loma Linda University Medical Center.

County fire confirmed the gas station building was not impacted and there were no hazards or fire.

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

https://www.vvng.com/people-in-rv-ejected-after-crashing-into-gas-station-parking-lot-in-the-cajon-pass/

# Two small brush fires tamped down in San Bernardino and Rialto despite 'howling' winds

**Staff Writer, Hoback Herald Daily News** Posted: December 1, 2019

Two small brush fires that in San Bernardino County were quickly knocked down by firefighters who remained on alert with a red flag warning for the Inland area until Monday evening.

The fires both broke out Sunday evening and were a short distance from each other, almost "in a straight line," **San Bernardino County Fire** Department spokesman Jimmy Schiller said Monday morning.

The first, in the 2300 block of W. Base Line Street in the Rialto area, was reported around 10 p.m. Sunday and burned just over an acre before county and Rialto firefighters got the upper hand; the second fire in the 1000 block of Terrace Road in San Bernardino broke out about 30 minutes later.

The Terrace Road fire briefly threatened some homes, Schiller said. "The winds were howling and there was one strike team ordered to defend homes," he said, but the team was withdrawn when the fire's progress was stopped. It burned about two acres, he said.

Schiller said both fires were taken care of within 90 minutes of being reported. The cause was under investigation. He said fire investigators were checking to see if the Terrace Road fire was caused by embers from the Base Line Street fire to its north, or started separately.

On Monday, at least three strike teams were on standby at a staging area in Devore, on watch with a red flag warning issued for San Bernardino and Riveside County mountains, valleys and passes through 6 p.m. Monday due to northeasterly Santa Ana winds.

The National Weather Service San Diego office forecast winds will reach gusts as fast as 65 mph in the Cajon Pass.

In addition to the strike teams in Devore, "every hand crew that can be staffed up is staffed. We are ready for whatever the wind throws at us," Schiller said.

Another red flag warning for the area is effective from 11 p.m. Tuesday to 6 p.m. Thursday.

https://hobackherald.com/two-small-brush-fires-tamped-down-in-san-bernardino-and-rialto-despite-howling-winds/72777/

## 8,000 People Stuck Overnight Without Power Due to Weather in Lake Arrowhead

Briana Trujillo, NBC 4 News Posted: December 1, 2019 12:36 pm

About 10,000 people are stuck without power Saturday night due to weather conditions, and most of them are located in the Lake Arrowhead area.

The snowy weather first caused trouble on Friday, when almost 25,000 people found themselves without power, SoCal Edison said. That number has dropped to 8,000 in the Lake Arrowhead area alone.

The **San Bernardino County Fire** Department is providing firewood for residents on a first come basis at the following locations:

San Bernardino County Fire Station 26, 737 Grandview Dr. in Twin Peaks

San Bernardino County Fire Station 91, 301 Highway 173 in Lake Arrowhead

At 6 a.m. Sunday firewood will be available at San Bernardino County Fire Station 95, 33596 Green Valley Lake Rd. in Green Valley Lake

Snow and strong winds toppled trees, which resulted in a large number of wire down calls and outages in the Arrowhead Valley area, SoCal Edison said.

Dangerous road conditions and road closures on Routes 18 and 330 and county roads are slowing access to the area to repair damage, the utility said in a statement.

Power has been restored in the Redlands and Antelope Valley areas as well as Mentone and Forest Falls.

https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/8000-People-Stuck-Overnight-Without-Power-Due-Weather-Lake-Arrowhead-565655392.html

#### Power still out for thousands in San Bernardino County mountain communities; highways treacherous

**Richard K. De Atley and Robert Gundran, The Press Enterprise** Posted: December 1, 2019, 12:06 pm



San Bernardino County Fire Department distributed firewood in areas of the San Bernardino County mountains that were without power. Southern California Edison purchased the wood. (Courtesy San Bernardino County Fire Department)

Thousands remained without electricity in San Bernardino Mountain communities Sunday, with emergency firewood supplied for warmth, while highways leading into the area opened but remained treacherous with icy conditions requiring chains for most vehicles.

About 4,200 customers were still without power Sunday evening in Lake Arrowhead-area mountain communities also including Crestline, Twin Peaks, Running Springs and Green Valley Lake, according to Southern California Edison spokesman Ron Gales.

The number of affected customers was down from the 10,300 reported on Saturday evening. There were as many as 24,600 customers without power on Friday.

Crews were working in snow and ice to restore power, most of which was lost from trees brought down onto power lines by strong winds during a snowstorm that surged through the area Thursday.

The mid-morning temperature in Lake Arrowhead was 42 degrees, warmer already than Saturday's high of 38.

Authorities reported major San Bernardino County Mountain roadways that had sections closed due to snow and ice — highways 330, 18, 38 and 2 — had opened by mid-morning Sunday.

But chain requirements were still in effect for many areas, and "driving conditions remain treacherous" because of lingering ice, the Big Bear Sheriff's Station said in a tweet.

The open roads cleared access to ski resorts, including Snow Summit and Bear Mountain in Big Bear Lake and Mountain High Resort in Wrightwood.

Highway 2 still had on Sunday closures for stretches inside Los Angeles County, according to Caltrans' Check Current Highway Conditions website.

The California Highway Patrol and Caltrans urged driver caution, and tire chains, for anyone venturing into the mountains, including carrying chains in vehicles that may be exempt in most circumstances — those with four-wheel drive and snow tires on all four wheels.

Highway 243 from Banning to Mount San Jacinto communities including Idyllwild in Riverside County was open without restrictions Sunday. On Highway 74 from Hemet to the Riverside County mountain communities, chains were required for most vehicles from Mountain Center to Pinyon Drive.

However, Caltrans warned motorists at around 5:30 p.m. Sunday that a stretch of Highway 138 in Crestline was closed for emergency repairs. No immediate timeline was given for when repairs would be completed and the highway would be reopened.

Caltrans on its website said the closure extended from Miller Road to Balsam Lane.

In the mountain areas without power, Edison purchased four cords of firewood that were distributed Saturday by the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department in areas of the mountains without power.

More wood was delivered on Sunday, the department said. Supplies were limited, and the department urged people to take only what they needed.

Wood was available at

- Fire Station 26 at 737 Grandview Drive in Twin Peaks
- Fire Station 91 at 301 Highway 173 in Lake Arrowhead
- Fire Station 95, 33596 Green Valley Lake Road, in Green Valley Lake

Wood had been available at The Crestline Chamber of Commerce at 24385 Lake Drive, but the Fire Department said all wood was depleted as of 3:30 p.m. More wood was delivered at 7:30 p.m.

Additional firewood was delivered Sunday evening to Fire Station 200 at 6736 Mt. Baldy Road and Fire Station 99 at 40847 Valley of the Falls Drive.

https://www.sbsun.com/2019/12/01/power-still-out-for-thousands-in-san-bernardino-county-mountaincommunities-highways-treacherous/

## 4,200 Remain Without Power in Lake Arrowhead Area Following Heavy Snowfall

Marissa Wenzke, KTLA 5 News Posted: December 1, 2019

Thousands of people in the Lake Arrowhead area remained without power Sunday morning as temperatures hovered around 40 degrees.

More than 24,000 Southern California Edison customers lost electricity Friday as a snow storm hit the region, tearing down electrical wires in Arrowhead and nearby areas of Redlands, Idyllwild and Antelope Valley. The utility reported it was working to "restore power as quickly and safely as possible."

SoCal Edison representative said Sunday evening that the utility was working overtime to restore power to the 4,200 customers still in the dark on Sunday night.

"To expedite this work, we have brought in additional crews from other parts of our service territory, and as of Sunday evening approximately 75% of the Lake Arrowhead area has been restored, SCE officials said in a written statement. "We thank **San Bernardino County and Fire** Department for their partnership, and most importantly we thank our customers for their patience during this difficult recovery."

Meanwhile, authorities continue to provide firewood at the following locations:

Green Valley Lake Fire Department San Bernardino County Fire Department's Lake Arrowhead Station Crestline/Lake Gregory Chamber of Commerce San Bernardino County Fire Department's Twin Peaks Station Most of the outages have been blamed on Saturday's snow storm, which brought strong winds and snowfall triggering several road closures along State Routes 18 and 330.

SoCal Edison recommends residents in the region carry battery-operated radios and flashlights.

https://ktla.com/2019/12/01/6000-remain-without-power-in-lake-arrowhead-area-following-heavy-snowfall/

## Thousands without electricity on freezing night in San Bernardino Mountains; firewood distributed

**Brian Rokos, The Press Enterprise** Posted: November 30, 2019, 5:45pm



San Bernardino County firefighters deliver firewood to residents in areas of the San Bernardino Mountains affected by an electricity outage. (Courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire Department)

Thousands of residents of the San Bernardino Mountains faced a night without electricity amid a forecast of subfreezing temperatures because of a widespread power outage Saturday, Nov. 30. The affected areas included Crestline, Lake Arrowhead, Twin Peaks, Running Springs and Green Valley Lake, said Southern California Edison spokesman Paul Griffo.

Edison purchased four cords of firewood, Griffo said, and the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department distributed the wood to residents at the Crestline Chamber of Commerce at 24385 Lake Drive.

"Supplies are limited. We encourage affected residents to only take what is needed to get through the night," a Fire Department Facebook post said. "Depending on the status of power restoration, additional firewood may be made available (Sunday) for customers who remain impacted by the storm outage."

Wood was also available at Fire Station 26 at 737 Grandview Drive in Twin Peaks and Station 91 at 301 Highway 173 in Lake Arrowhead. Wood will be available starting at 6 a.m. Sunday at Station 95, 33596 Green Valley Lake Road in Green Valley Lake, a Fire Department tweet said late Saturday.

The forecast for the area, which is approximately at 5,400 feet elevation, was for an overnight low of 29 degrees. Sunday's forecast was for a high of 43 and a low of 38.

Elsewhere, freezing rain and light snow were possible for the 5 Freeway in the Grapevine northwest of Los Angeles on Saturday night before a warming trend, the National Weather Service said. A storm that could drop rain in the valleys and snow on the higher elevations in Southern California was expected to begin Tuesday evening.

The San Bernardino Mountains outage, which Edison attributed to snow and strong winds causing trees to topple and knock down power lines, began Friday, affecting 24,600 customers. By 2 p.m. Saturday, that number was down to 7,500 customers. But at 5:30 p.m., that figure had increased to 10,300. At 9 p.m., 8,000 customers were without electricity.

"Due to the significant snowfall that has caused some road closures and additional access issues in the Arrowhead area, damage assessment and repairs are ongoing and we do not expect to have all customers restored overnight," Edison said on its major outage website. Some 100 employees were attempting to get the lights back on, Edison said.

Roads covered by snow and ice and others that were closed entirely were slowing the response to the outage, Edison said.

Other Edison outages in the region were reported in Idyllwild, Redlands, Mentone, Forest Falls, Temescal Valley and the Antelope Valley. In all, 10,000 customers were without electricity at 9 p.m. Saturday.

Some residents of Temescal Valley lost electricity for 18 hours over Friday and Saturday after a vehicle hit a power pole on Lake Street in Lake Elsinore. Temescal Valley is served by only one transmission line, and that's the one that was knocked out. Edison plans to begin construction on a 27-mile-long line from Menifee that will run through Perris, Lake Elsinore and into Temescal Valley starting next summer.

Mountain residents did receive some good news late Saturday.

In the San Bernardino Mountains, Highway 330, which had been closed from 3 miles north of San Bernardino, was opened in both directions to all motorists, Caltrans tweeted at 9:12 p.m. Highway 38 was opened from Yucaipa to Big Bear, as was Highway 18 from Lucerne Valley. Highway 18 was opened from Highway 330 to Green Valley Lake but not to Big Bear. Motorists were required to carry snow chains.

Also, Angeles Crest Highway remained closed at 6,000 feet (mile post 54.22).

All lanes of the eastbound 10 Freeway at 6th Street in Redlands were open Saturday after repairs were completed for a sinkhole on the shoulder caused by a drain that collapsed on Thanksgiving.

Precipitation is expected in Southern California after 5 p.m. on Tuesday, becoming heaviest about 11 p.m. The precipitation should continue into Wednesday morning. A slight chance of rain is forecast for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The storm will be warmer than the previous two, the weather service said, with much less snow accumulation expected. High temperatures in the mid- to high-60s are expected in the coming week.

"Consensus of rainfall amounts is around 1/2 to 1 inch at the coast, with some of the valleys and higher coastal terrain likely in the 1-2 inch range," the NWS forecast discussion said.

Updates on road conditions are available on Caltrans' Twitter feeds and at the Caltrans website at roads.dot.ca.gov.

https://www.pe.com/2019/11/30/thousands-without-electricity-on-freezing-night-in-san-bernardino-mountains/

### Highway 138 in the cajon pass briefly closed due to crash

**Hugo Valdez, Victor Valley News** Posted: November 30, 2019



(photo by Kellie Rogers)

CAJON PASS, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Highway 138 in the cajon pass was briefly closed following a traffic collision Saturday morning.

It happened at about 8:30 am, on November 30, 2019, near the Del Taco and the SB I-15 on/off ramps.

**San Bernardino County Fire** arrived on scene and determined extrication would be required for one of the drivers.

According to the California Highway Patrol incident logs, east and westbound lanes on highway 138 were blocked by firefighters.

Two ground ambulances were requested to the scene for two people with injuries. The critical patient was rushed to Community Hospital in San Bernardino.

CHP – Inland is handling the crash investigation, additional information will be updated as it becomes available.

The backed-up traffic on Highway 138 is also affecting traffic on the I-15 freeway.

https://www.vvng.com/highway-138-in-the-cajon-pass-briefly-closed-due-to-crash/

#### Munsey is new fire chief for San Bernardino County Fire Protection District

**Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News** Posted: November 29, 2019



Dan Munsey has been named the new fire chief for the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District.

Assistant County Fire Chief Dan Munsey will serve as the new fire chief for the **San Bernardino County Fire** Protection District effective immediately.

Munsey was appointed by San Bernardino County Chief Executive Officer Gary McBride, with concurrence from the Board of Supervisors.

Munsey, who has served with County Fire since 1995, succeeds Mark Hartwig, who left the department in February to accept a job as fire chief for Santa Barbara County. Deputy Fire Chief Don Trapp has served as interim chief since Hartwig's departure.

Munsey's appointment concluded a nationwide recruiting effort that began shortly after Hartwig's departure and yielded a broad field of applicants.

"There were several outstanding candidates," McBride said. "But the Board and I concluded that Assistant Chief Munsey offered the best combination of the traits we were seeking: the leadership skills and commitment to operate County Fire effectively and professionally, and the ability and desire to work productively with public safety agencies throughout the county."

"Being chosen to serve as fire chief for this organization is a tremendous honor," Munsey said. "This is a team of highly skilled, dedicated professionals who serve a great community. I am excited about this opportunity to lead them and provide them with the tools and the environment they need to help County Fire fully achieve its great potential."

In his most recent assignment as assistant chief in Division 11, Munsey was responsible for rescue operations, fire, and emergency medical response in the High Desert region, which is the largest of the five regions served by San Bernardino County Fire.

Munsey began his career in the fire service in 1995 as a paid-call firefighter. He became a full-time firefighter in 1998, where he was assigned to Lake Arrowhead. He has worked in every division of County Fire, promoting to captain in 2004, battalion chief in 2008, and assistant chief in March 2014.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/inland\_empire\_news/munsey-is-new-fire-chief-for-sanbernardino-county-fire/article\_186f4b4e-12cc-11ea-ab92-434a4e533b91.html

#### LTAB wants to know the cost of fire protection

Kane Wickham, The Laughlin Times Posted: November 29, 2019

LAUGHLIN — Laughlin Town Advisory Board Member Jim Maniaci asked for a budget report from Clark County Fire Department-Laughlin to see what it would take for Laughlin to have a self-reliant fire-fighting service. The Laughlin fire stations currently are manned by Clark County Fire Department personnel. The department also has a long-standing mutual aid agreement with Bullhead City and other fire agencies in the region.

In the past two months, there have been three fires in Laughlin that have required Clark County to call up help from other sources in the area. This prompted a question from the LTAB to the CCFD-Laughlin asking why they have had so much trouble in putting these fires out, their response times to them, and their need for assistance on all of them. The fires were the Big Bend Fire that ate up 235 acres, a house fire in Laughlin the recent small fire near Big Bend fire.

The response from CCFD was that it needs more personnel in Laughlin. LTAB has asked Clark County Fire Department-Laughlin what is needed in budgetary terms and to produce a number to the LTAB at its next scheduled meeting in December.

Pointedly, the LTAB asked how much money the department needed to be staffed to a level of — or close to — self sufficiency or at least to be able to handle most of the fires in Laughlin without relying on BCFD or any of the other agencies who participate in the mutual aid agreement to the extent they currently do. The budget for the Clark County Fire Department is produced by Clark County with no control wielded over it by

the Laughlin Town Advisory Board. The LTAB does make recommendations to the Clark County Board of Commissioners regarding Laughlin.

The issue also encompasses the larger picture of potential incorporation as well as the lack of fire-fighting self-sufficiency that the township of Laughlin has had for many years.

Another common worry is what happens if a fire were to break out in one of the casino's above the third floor? How would Laughlin fire personnel handle it without a ladder truck of its own? And, even if BCFD came to the aid in such an instance, to what degree could it help if the fire were above their ladder truck's ability to reach? The questions and fears arise from the 26-story MGM Grand in 1980 where 85 people perished, mostly due to smoke inhalation in stair wells and upper floors.

The answer to that question for some time now, and reiterated again at one of the recent LTAB meetings, is that the sprinkler systems in the casinos would perform as designed, snuffing out any serious blaze.

Yet another issue no one seems to know the answer to is just how much money is spent by BCFD, Fort Mojave Mesa Fire Department, Mohave Valley Fire Department and the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department's Needles station for the help they put in on a yearly basis fighting fires in Nevada.

At a recent LTAB meeting, one of the battalion captains from CCFD said that Laughlin had a ladder truck in the past. The ladder unit was old and in need of much expensive repair so it was retired rather than replaced in the tight budgetary times of 2008.

http://www.mohavedailynews.com/laughlin\_times/ltab-wants-to-know-the-cost-of-fire-protection/article\_bd1ae60c-1278-11ea-9e2b-bbe4252bc45d.html

#### Christmas tree lighting ceremonies planned

Rene Ray De La Cruz, Daily Press Posted: November 29, 2019, 12:58 pm



Local municipalities will begin hosting Christmas tree lighting ceremonies starting on Monday. [Daily Press File Photo]

ADELANTO — Less than a week after the end of the Thanksgiving Day holiday, local municipalities and agencies will begin hosting Christmas tree lighting ceremonies across the Victor Valley.

Adelanto

The City of Adelanto will kick off the local Christmas Tree Lighting season from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Dec. 2 at Adelanto City Hall, 11600 Air Expressway in Adelanto. The event will include a tree lighting, an appearance by Santa Claus, carols and refreshments.

Apple Valley

The Town of Apple Valley Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m. on Dec. 3 at Apple Valley Civic Center Park, 14955 Dale Evans Parkway in Apple Valley. The event will also include

"warm goodies," holiday entertainment and a photo opportunity with Santa Claus. For more information, call 760-240-7880.

#### Hesperia

The Hesperia Recreation and Park District will host its Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony beginning at 5 p.m. on Dec. 5 at Hesperia Civic Plaza Park located at 15833 Smoke Tree Street in Hesperia. The event includes introductions by City of Hesperia, Hesperia Unified School District and Hesperia Recreation and Park District officials; musical numbers by local schools, food, drink and a visit by Santa Claus. Letters to Santa may be dropped in a special mailbox. Show your Christmas spirit by bringing a new, unwrapped toy for the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department Spark of Love Toy Drive. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/HesperiaParks.

#### Victorville

The City of Victorville's Festival of Lights & Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled from 4 to 7 p.m. on Dec. 7. The event also includes a light show, horse-drawn carriage rides, hot cocoa, cookies and music by the High D Boys performing a selection of Christmas Favorites. Take photos with Mrs. and Mrs. Santa Claus, create festive Christmas art and crafts to give as gifts this holiday season. For more information, call 760-245-5551.

https://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20191129/christmas-tree-lighting-ceremonies-planned

### Upcoming Christmas tree lighting ceremonies in the Victor Valley

Hugo Valdez, Victor Valley News Posted: November 27, 2019



VICTOR VALLEY, Calif. (VVNG.com) A list of upcoming Christmas Tree lighting ceremonies from around the Victor Valley in 2019.

#### VICTORVILLE:

Kick-off the holiday season with the Festival of Lights & Tree Lighting! Join us on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. at #cityofvv City Hall for this magical event. There will be horse-drawn carriage rides, hot cocoa, cookies, and the High Desert's own High D Boys performing a selection of Christmas Favorites. Take photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, or create festive Christmas art and crafts to give as gifts this holiday season; and enjoy the celebrational lighting of the tree followed by a spectacular light show. Admission, parking and event attractions are FREE! For more info call (760) 245-5551.

#### APPLE VALLEY:

The Town of Apple Valley will host a Christmas Tree Lighting event on December 3, 2019, from 5 pm -7 pm at the Apple Valley Civic Center Park located at 14955 Dale Evans Parkway. "Santa is stopping by to light the Town's Christmas Tree! Warm goodies will be given away, holiday entertainment will fill the air, and don't forget to take your "selfie" with Santa. Please provide your own camera. You may take photos for a short time. For more information call our office at 760-240-7880.

HESPERIA:

Illuminate your holiday season at Hesperia's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Thursday, December 5th. The annual event, presented by the Hesperia Recreation and Park District and the City of Hesperia, is open free to the public and will take place at Hesperia Civic Plaza Park, 15833 Smoke Tree Street.

Festivities kick-off with the arrival of Santa at 5:00 p.m. The holiday celebration includes Christmas music featuring performances by youth choirs from various HUSD schools. Children will also have an opportunity to visit with and deliver their letters to Santa. Refreshments will be served while supplies last. The celebration concludes with the ceremonial lighting of the Christmas tree.

**San Bernardino County Fire** will be at the park collecting toys for The Spark of Love Toy Drive. In the spirit of Christmas giving, the public can support the toy drive by bringing a new, unwrapped toy for a child.

#### ADELANTO:

The City of Adelanto will host its Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 2, 2019, from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm at the Adelanto City Happ. Santa Claus will be visiting. There will be carolers singing and refreshments.

https://www.vvng.com/upcoming-christmas-tree-lighting-ceremonies-in-the-victor-valley/

## **CRASH IN DOWNTOWN JOSHUA TREE LAST NIGHT**

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News Posted: November 27, 2019



Photo courtesy Ron Johnson

We have very sketchy information about a 2-car crash in Joshua Tree that partially closed the highway.

According to witnesses, at 4:47 p.m., a vehicle drove across state route 62 from Castaneda's, just west of park Blvd., directly into the path of a vehicle heading eastbound on the highway.

The impact of striking the eastbound vehicle flipped the car crossing the highway up on it's side.

Responding Emergency and Medical responders had to divert traffic around the scene while they stabilized the occupants of the cars and cleaned up the accident scene in the middle of State route 62.

County Fire Battalion Chief Donnie Villoria said there were no significant injuries.

http://z1077fm.com/crash-in-downtown-joshua-tree-last-night/

## COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE FIRE IN JOSHUA TREE THIS MORNING

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News Posted: November 26, 2019

Firefighters from Joshua Tree, Yucca Valley, Yucca Mesa, and Twentynine Palms made quick work of a commercial structure fire in the 61100 block of 29 Palms Highway this morning.

**County Fire** Battalion Chief Mike McClintock said at 7:04 AM San Bernardino County Fire crews were dispatched to a reported commercial structure fire in Joshua Tree.

Crews arrived in 2 minutes to find smoke coming from the attic of a stand alone commercial occupancy.

Crews went in to the attack mode, working to gain access to the fire in the attic.

Crews utilized a coordinated fire attack, fighting the fire from the inside & utilizing crews on the roof for vertical ventilation and to gain access to the fire.

The fire was knocked down in approximately 15 minutes.

No injuries to citizens or firefighters were reported. The cause and origin of the fire is under investigation by San Bernardino County Fire Investigators. Damage estimates were not available at the time of the release.

San Bernardino County Fire responded with (4) Engines, a Battalion Chief & a Fire Investigator.

Combat Center FD responded with a Truck Company, but their response was cancelled prior to their arrival.

CCFD covered Station 44 in 29 Palms for approximately 45 minutes while crews cleaned up and returned to service.

http://z1077fm.com/commercial-structure-fire-in-joshua-tree-this-morning/