



NEWS



News Headlines 09/13 – 16/2019

- 3 injured after driver runs red light on Bear Valley Road in Victorville
- THE SAGA OF THE CONTROVERSIAL FP-5 FIRE TAX CONTINUES
- Four people are injured in traffic collision in San Bernardino
- DUI suspected in fiery San Bernardino crash that left 4 hospitalized
- Sheriff's Aviation Hoist Rescue at Aztec Falls, Lake Arrowhead
- FP-5 FIRE FEE LITIGATION AND REPEAL INITIATIVE ON AGENDA AT HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
- A&E's Original Documentary Series LIVE PD and LIVE RESCUE Return with New Episodes
- A&E's Live PD & Live Rescue is Returning
- NDBA, donors Bob and Sue Jaussaud bringing 'Grapes of Wrath' display to Needles
- 3 homes catch fire in Victorville neighborhood Saturday
- Victorville house fire damages three other homes
- Victorville Fire Department receives FEMA grant
- Fire damages San Bernardino business on Sept. 13
- Oak Hills High School 9/11 Tribute followed by a winning volleyball game

3 injured after driver runs red light on Bear Valley Road in Victorville

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: September 16, 2019



Police said the driver of the Mercedes ran the red light. (Hugo C. Valdez, Victor Valley News Group)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Three people were taken to a local hospital after officials say another driver ran a red light Sunday afternoon in Victorville.

It happened at about 4:35 pm on September 15, 2019, at the intersection of Bear Valley Road and Balsam Avenue in Victorville.

The crash involved three vehicles, a 2015 Mercedes-Benz, GMC Yukon, and a GMC Arcadia.

Sheriff's spokeswoman Mara Rodriguez said the driver of the Mercedes was traveling west on Bear Valley Road and failed to stop for the red light at the intersection with Balsam and collided with a GMC Yukon and a GMC Acadia, who had been traveling south on Balsam.

Only minor injuries were sustained and the three occupants of the Yukon were transported to a local hospital for treatment.

Bear Valley Road was backed-up in both directions for several hours as a result of the crash.

On September 1, 2019, at about 12:38 am a young doctor identified as Markell Lakeith Trinh, 37, of Apple Valley, was killed at the same intersection. The official cause of the fatal crash remains under investigation by the Victorville Police Department.

<https://www.vvng.com/3-injured-after-driver-runs-red-light-on-bear-valley-road-in-victorville/>

THE SAGA OF THE CONTROVERSIAL FP-5 FIRE TAX CONTINUES

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: September 16, 2019

Come this November owners of property within the county's more than 19,000-square-mile Fire Protection District 5 will see the new \$157 per parcel fee added to property tax bills. First conceived of by **County Fire** administrators, the fee was to provide a steady revenue stream and bail the department out of a \$29 million budget shortfall. And despite near universal public opposition, the fee has survived a dubious public protest vote, attempted court injunctions, and at least two lawsuits. So at this point any reasonable person would have to conclude the battle has been lost and the fee is here to stay; but they'd be wrong. Reporter Mike Lipsitz picks up the story from here...

In June, even before property owners had seen their first tax bill with the new fee added, county fire sought a three percent increase to next year's fee. What they failed to calculate was that the third district supervisorial seat vacated by fee proponent James Ramos had been filled by Morongo Basin's own, Dawn Rowe, who had been vocal in her opposition to the fee and the process by which it was imposed even before her appointment. At their June 11 meeting county supervisors passed a resolution imposing a three-year sunset clause ending

the fee and directing the county CEO to report back in 90 days with possible funding alternatives that could be put to voters in November 2020. Supervisor Rowe tacked on an amendment killing the proposed three percent increase. At next Tuesday's meeting, county supervisors will hear from administrators on alternatives for funding County Fire. And on another front, the Red Brennan Group is gathering signatures for a voter initiative to repeal the fee. The San Diego-based non-profit has led the way initiating several failed lawsuits to end the tax.

Supervisor Rowe and representatives from The Red Brennan Group will discuss the fire tax and efforts to repeal it at today's 3 p.m. meeting of the Homestead Valley Community Council at the Bellfield Hall on Reche Road in Landers. The public is invited to attend.

<http://z1077fm.com/the-saga-of-the-controversial-fp-5-fire-tax-continues/>

Four people are injured in traffic collision in San Bernardino

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: September 16, 2019



Firefighters extinguished a fire which erupted when a vehicle crashed into a building after being hit by another vehicle in San Bernardino. (Contributed photo by San Bernardino County Fire Department)

Four people were injured in a traffic collision in San Bernardino on Sept. 14, according to the San Bernardino Police Department.

At about 10:46 p.m., a Ford van was traveling south in the 800 block of North D Street. At the same time, a Lincoln Navigator was traveling east on 8th Street, and the two vehicles collided in the intersection. As a result, the Lincoln Navigator struck a building, causing a fire.

Two occupants of the Lincoln escaped the burning vehicle and were transported to a local hospital for treatment of life-threatening injuries.

Two passengers in the Ford were transported to a local hospital for treatment of non-life threatening injuries.

The driver of the Ford was arrested at the scene for suspected drunk driving and child endangerment.

The intersection of 8th Street and D Street is controlled by stop signs for east and west traffic. At this time, it is unknown if the Lincoln Navigator stopped at the stop sign or if speed was a factor in the collision.

San Bernardino County Fire Department crews responded to the location and extinguished the fire, which damaged the outside of the building and also caused minor damage to the inside.

The collision is still under investigation and anyone with additional information is asked to contact Detective Dan Acosta or Sergeant Jeff Harvey at (909) 384-5792.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/inland_empire_news/four-people-are-injured-in-traffic-collision-in-san-bernardino/article_e9ca7134-d896-11e9-aeac-af5c370edc19.html

DUI suspected in fiery San Bernardino crash that left 4 hospitalized

Eric Licas, Daily Bulletin

Posted: September 15, 2019, 10:40 pm



Two people were hospitalized after escaping from a burning SUV, while one motorist was arrested on suspicion of drunken driving and child endangerment at the scene of a two-vehicle crash in San Bernardino on Saturday, Sept. 14.

A Ford van that was traveling south on North D Street collided with a Lincoln Navigator that had been headed east on 8th Street at about 10:46 p.m., San Bernardino Police said in a Sunday news release. The SUV then struck a building and caught fire, which spread to the adjacent structure.

Flames gutted the Lincoln. The two occupants of the Navigator managed to get out of the vehicle, but suffered life-threatening injuries and were taken to a hospital, police said. Two passengers of the van were also hospitalized, but were expected to survive. One is a 13-year-old whose name was withheld by authorities, and the other is an 18-year-old man.

Police arrested the man who was behind the wheel of the van on suspicion of drunken driving and child endangerment. He was identified as Jeffrey Dakarai, 44, of San Bernardino. He was held at the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Central Detention Center in lieu of \$100,000 bail, and was scheduled to appear in court on Tuesday, Sept. 17, inmate records showed.

The crash remained under investigation Sunday evening. It was not immediately clear if speed played a role in the crash, or if the Lincoln had stopped at a stop sign at the intersection of D and 8th Streets, the release said. Authorities asked anyone with information relevant to the incident to contact San Bernardino Police Detective Dan Acosta or Sgt. Jeff Harvey by calling 909-384-5792.

<https://www.dailybulletin.com/2019/09/15/dui-suspected-in-fiery-san-bernardino-crash-that-left-4-hospitalized/>

Sheriff's Aviation Hoist Rescue at Aztec Falls, Lake Arrowhead

Michael P. Neufeld and G. T. Houts, Rim Of The World News

Posted: September 15, 2019



Lake Arrowhead, CA – On Saturday, September 14, 2019 at approximately 5:00 p.m. Sheriff's Aviation assisted **San Bernardino County Fire** Department with a hiker that had fallen and was having a medical emergency near Aztec Falls, The Caller told the 9-1-1 dispatcher they were near some large rocks where people jump off into the water.

The Sheriff's patrol helicopter, 40King 1, responded to the area and began a search for the victim. The crew located the victim, Troy Holenberger, 52 years of age from Laguna Beach, CA., with another subject waving at the helicopter.

Holenberger was in a canyon with large rocks and surrounded by trees. Due to the location and terrain 40King 1 requested Air Rescue 307 to perform a hoist rescue. The crew of Air Rescue 307 lowered a medic 112- feet to the victim. Holenberger was placed into a rescue harness and hoisted to the helicopter. Holenberger had no life-threatening injuries and was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

<https://rotwnews.com/2019/09/15/sheriffs-aviation-hoist-rescue-at-aztec-falls-lake-arrowhead/>

FP-5 FIRE FEE LITIGATION AND REPEAL INITIATIVE ON AGENDA AT HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: September 15, 2019

The FP-5 fire fee and expansion will be on the agenda for the Homestead Valley Community Council meeting on Monday, September 16. Supervisor Dawn Rowe will provide an update on the fire fee and a representative from the Red Brennan Group will speak about litigation and its FP-5 repeal initiative. The community council meeting will be held at 3 p.m. in Belfield Hall on Reche Road in Landers.

<http://z1077fm.com/fp-5-fire-fee-litigation-and-repeal-initiative-on-agenda-at-homestead-valley-community-council/>

A&E's Original Documentary Series LIVE PD and LIVE RESCUE Return with New Episodes

Staff Writer, Broadway World

Posted: September 15, 2019



A&E Network has set the weekend of Friday and Saturday, September 20 and 21, 9pm ET/PT for the season four premiere of the groundbreaking original documentary series, "Live PD." "Live Rescue" returns with a new host, Matt Iseman, and new episodes on Monday, September 23 at 9pm ET/PT. Both series are produced by MGM's Big Fish Entertainment.

"Live PD" is the #1 series on cable on Friday and Saturday nights*. Since its premiere in October 2016, "Live PD" has grown +148% in total viewers**, with a series high of 2.4 million total viewers on June 21, 2019. Over the course of 82 episodes during season three, the series was the #1 broadcast of the night on all of television 24 times.***

Hosted by Dan Abrams, with analysis from Tom Morris Jr. and Sgt. Sean 'Sticks' Larkin, "Live PD" delivers an unprecedented look at policing in America in real time, as live cameras document the work of diverse departments from across the country and the communities they serve. "Live PD" returns with three new law enforcement agencies for the season four premiere, including the Tallahassee Police Department (FL) and the

Missoula County Sheriff's Office (MT). Returning departments include, the Richland County Sheriff's Department (SC), the Lawrence Police Department (IN), the East Providence Police Department (RI), the Salinas Police Department (CA), and the Lafayette Police Department (LA).

Emmy(R) Award-winner Matt Iseman joins "Live Rescue" with impressive media and medical credentials. He is the host of NBC's "American Ninja Warrior" and Universal Kids' "American Ninja Warrior Junior," and hosted the HISTORY specials, "Evel Live" and "Evel Live 2." Iseman is a licensed physician with a medical degree from the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Colorado.

"Live Rescue" follows America's first responders as they bravely put their lives on the line answering emergency rescue calls across the country. The series returns with two new agencies, including the Tallahassee Fire Department (FL) and the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department (CA). Returning departments include the Mesa Fire and Rescue Department (AZ), the Paterson Fire Department (NJ), the St. Louis Fire Department (MO), the Hamilton County EMS (TN), and the Sacramento Fire Department (CA).

"Our viewers have been clamoring for the return of new episodes of 'Live PD' and 'Live Rescue,'" said Elaine Frontain Bryant, Executive Vice President and Head of Programming for A&E. "We are pleased to bring back both series with new departments, and to welcome Matt Iseman to the A&E family."

Added Executive Producer and Big Fish President Dan Cesareo, "With both 'Live PD' and 'Live Rescue,' each new location and agency we follow gives us the opportunity to showcase more of the fabric of America - it's gratifying work that we get to experience through viewers' continued loyalty to these shows and we're committed to continuing to deliver an unparalleled viewing experience."

"Live PD" is produced for A&E by Big Fish Entertainment, an MGM Company. Executive producers for Big Fish Entertainment are Dan Cesareo, Lucilla D'Agostino, John Zito and Kara Kurcz. Executive producers for A&E Network are Elaine Frontain Bryant, Shelly Tatro, Sean Gottlieb, and Brad Abramson.

"Live Rescue" is produced by Big Fish Entertainment, an MGM Company, with Dan Cesareo, Lucilla D'Agostino, John Zito, and Jordana Starr serving as Executive Producers. Elaine Frontain Bryant, Shelly Tatro, and Sean Gottlieb are Executive Producers for A&E.

<https://www.broadwayworld.com/bwwtv/article/AEs-Original-Documentary-Series-LIVE-PD-and-LIVE-RESCUE-Return-with-New-Episodes-20190915>

A&E's Live PD & Live Rescue is Returning

Jennifer O'Brien, Screen Rant

Posted: September 14, 2019



Live PD and Live Rescue is returning to television. A&E's number one original documentary series at the time they left the airways, Live PD and Live Rescue are returning for more seasons.

A&E announced earlier this week on September 13th that the hit programs will be returning on Friday and Saturday nights, Live PD will premiere season 4 on September 20th while Live Rescue will return September 23rd. Live PD will be showing three new law enforcement agencies in the upcoming season. Live Rescue will be using a new host - Matt Iseman - who was announced as the new anchor, spearheading their new season. Since Live PD's premiere back in October of 2016, the show had seen its viewers grow by 148 percent which was considered a series high at 2.4 million viewers. The 82-episode series was the number one broadcast of the night for all television during its run.

Live PD is hosted by award-winning anchor Dan Abrams with a special analysis from Tom Morris Jr. and Sgt. Sean Larkin. The show helped display a look into how policing is done in America today. The production crew used live cameras to help document the job being done by diverse departments from across all walks of life and all throughout the country. The new agencies being used will be the Tallahassee Police Department who is based in Florida, the Missoula County Sheriff's Office who is in Montana. While there are some returning departments that will be aired are from South Carolina's Richard County Sheriff's Department to Louisiana's Lafayette Police Department.

While over on Live Rescue Matt Iseman will be in charge of taking the show to the next level thanks to his medical credentials and Emmy Award-winning attitude. Iseman was best known for his hosting duties on NBC's American Ninja Warrior and also hosted the History special, Evel Live. What fans of the show may not know is Iseman is a licensed doctor with a degree from Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons. The anchor completed his residency in Internal Medicine from the University of Colorado. The focus of Live Rescue is to follow first responders as they risk their lives answering 911 calls. The series will show agencies from Tallahassee's Fire Department, the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department, Mesa Fire, and Rescue Department, and the St. Louis Fire Department.

While fans have been jumping at the bit for the return of new seasons for both shows, it seems that the A&E network executives are just as excited saying that they are more than pleased to bring back both series. Fans of the network only have to wait one more week to get their fix of Live Rescue and Live PD.

Live PD airs September 20 at 9 PM and Live Rescue airs September 23 at 9 PM ON A&E

<https://screenrant.com/aes-live-pd-live-rescue-is-returning/>

NDBA, donors Bob and Sue Jaussaud bringing ‘Grapes of Wrath’ display to Needles

Saul A. Flores, News West/Needles Desert Star

Posted: September 15, 2019

NEEDLES —The Needles Downtown Business Alliance met on Sept. 5 in the Wagon Wheel Restaurant.

Janet Jernigan, NDBA president, said that Bob and Sue Jaussaud had purchased the original truck that was used in the “Grapes of Wrath” movie.

“The vehicle is going to be placed at the west end of El Garces,” said Jernigan. “So I’m going to meet with them on Monday to find a spot for it in that location.”

Jernigan said that the truck was at the Oxnard Museum, which was going out of business, so they purchased it.

Staying with the “Grapes of Wrath” theme Jernigan said that a “Grapes of Wrath” sign is going to be nine by 16 feet and it’s going to be placed near the Needles Wagon on Broadway.

“It’s going to be three feet off the ground so that people can be able to take a picture in front of it,” said Jernigan.

Jernigan said that a travel writer from the Palm Springs Insider is going to come to Needles on Sept. 16 and 17.

“She’s writing about things or events that are taking place which are about a day trip from Palm Springs for people to do,” said Jernigan.

Vasu Jolly is the new owner of the Rio del Sol Inn located at 1111 Pashard St.

Terry Campbell said that he talked to the **San Bernardino County Fire Station 32** Fire Captain and the fire captain is going to go to the Route 66 Wayside Rest Stop to scope out existing burn piles and schedule a burn day.

During the meeting, Oct. 19 was scheduled to be the next clean up at the Route 66 Wayside Rest Stop.

A boat show and beach party is to be held at Needles Marina Resort on Sept. 28.

Rick Daniels, Needles city manager, said that the city is continuing to work with San Bernardino County on North Needles Highway.

“The first thing they have to do is fence off the construction area from desert tortoises,” said Daniels. “They have eight days to get it done and they expect to take a much shorter time than that.”

Daniels said that the city completed a master plan for running water and sewer out to North Needles. He said that the master plan triggered about a dozen property owners who wanted to fund it with the idea that they would be reimbursed as other people hook to it.

Daniels said that there is a new cannabis manufacturing facility with a building permit pending at 110 Cibola and one under construction called Bazoobuth Cultivation. He said that the Lilyhill project is awaiting a state permit and MIH just got their city permit.

The city is expecting a pizza parlor to open on Broadway. They are awaiting a final onsite acceptance form from the health department, said Daniels. The city applied for a grant to replace water and electric meters with automatic read meters. The city council was to see a presentation this week on a private party who wants to use part of the El Garces to house a children's museum. The shopper shuttle bus that is going to Safeway and Walmart has been full and this week new glass backboards are going to be hung at the Needles Recreation Center gym Daniels said.

Phil LeJeune, liaison to Dist. 1 County Supervisor Robert Lovingood, said that Lovingood would not be seeking reelection as the county supervisor in 2020.

Mary McNeil, Needles Unified School District superintendent, said that the school district is at 1,006 students currently enrolled.

McNeil said that the NUSD was approved for a grant through the state for the addition of three new kindergarten classrooms and an entire facility on the Vista Colorado Elementary School playground which would adhere to new state regulations. She said that the Needles Middle School Associated Student Body is working on the beautification of the middle school.

McNeil said she is working with a program called Stop The Bleed. Part of the program is to have the school district staff trained so if someone is injured they know how to stop the bleeding.

"Recently we had a lockdown at the school district because a couple of students said they had seen a gun," said McNeil. "We are going to be meeting with the San Bernardino County Sheriff and my team to see what the incident looked like and how we could do better should we ever have another time. We do take that very seriously and I locked down all the campuses that day."

McNeil said that at the moment they have a communication system that is dependent upon the information that parents give them to be able to contact them.

"That's great except when they move, don't give us a number or it's wrong," said McNeil. "I had several people who became upset they weren't notified but when I looked at every one of them either they didn't have a phone number, an email or it was the wrong information. I do have an app that I purchased for this year that is called Share 911 and the individual has to put their information into the app."

Shawn Gudmundson, city of Needles councilor, said that a couple of members are going to the International Council of Shopping Centers. Gudmundson said that this Saturday there was to be a community clean up from L Street to J Street on Broadway and when it cools down they will start scheduling some more cleanups throughout the city.

The next NDBA meeting is scheduled for Oct. 3 at 11:30 a.m. at the Wagon Wheel Restaurant.

http://www.mohavedailynews.com/needles_desert_star/ndba-donors-bob-and-sue-jaussaud-bringing-grapes-of-wrath/article_09ce60e4-d810-11e9-b3e0-b3471bc6061e.html

3 homes catch fire in Victorville neighborhood Saturday

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: September 15, 2019



(Photo by Eric Guerrero)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A raging fire inside a vacant boarded-up home located in a culdesac quickly spread to several other homes and nearby vegetation in Victorville.

It happened at about 6:10 pm on Saturday, September 14, 2019, in the 15900 block of Fresno Way.

Victorville City Firefighters arrived on scene and found the residential structure fully engulfed in flames and threatening adjacent homes.

Due to the immediate structure threat and strong northern winds, a second-alarm response was called prompting additional resources from **San Bernardino County Fire**, Cal Fire, and Apple Valley Fire to respond and assist.

The fire created a huge plume of dark smoke to billow into the air, making the fire visible from around the Victor Valley and even motorists traveling along the I-15 corridor.

The wind-driven flames were pushed into large pine trees and even started a couple of spot fires in vegetation away from the original fire.

Miriam Sanchez, a neighbor from across the street was sitting outside when she noticed the smoke and flames. Without any hesitation, Miriam said she ran over to the homes and started knocking on peoples doors and alerting them to the fire.

“A lady in her 90’s was in the middle house by herself and she had no idea there was a fire. We helped get her out to safety,” stated Sanchez.

Officials said the fire was under control within 2 1/2 hours and two firefighters were treated for heat exhaustion. A total of three homes were damaged in the fire. Officials said the home located farthest to the north had mild damage to its roof, the middle home sustained heavy damage including an attic fire and the third home was a total loss.

“This is the neighborhood where I raised my kids and where they and my family still live today. I can tell you as a mom seeing this is heartbreaking,” stated Robin Wilson-Walpole. “My family’s home was spared and am so happy to report that the neighbors came together and helped one another instead of just standing and watching.”

Neighbors told VVNG firefighters were called to the same home in October for a house fire that also caused major damages. According to residents, the vacant home has been an ongoing issue with squatters and transients.

The official cause of the fire is under investigation. An investigator from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Bomb & Arson was requested to respond to the scene, scanner traffic reported.

<https://www.vvng.com/3-homes-catch-fire-in-victorville-neighborhood-saturday/>

Victorville house fire damages three other homes

Martin Estacio, Victorville Daily Press

Posted: September 16, 2019, 12:01 am



A firefighter hoses down a house that was destroyed by a fire Saturday evening in Victorville. [MARTIN ESTACIO/DAILY PRESS]

VICTORVILLE — A fire that may have begun in a house previously gutted by a blaze nearly a year ago, damaged three neighboring homes before firefighters brought it under control Saturday evening.

Firefighters received a call at about 6:11 p.m. of a structure fire threatening a home a in the 15900 block of Fresno Way, Victorville Fire Department Battalion Chief Ron Myers said.

Myers said firefighters faced strong northern winds that, in addition to damaging neighboring homes, also started spot fires in vegetation behind the homes.

A second alarm was sounded, bringing fire engines from Apple Valley Fire Protection District, **San Bernardino County Fire**, and Cal Fire.

The fire was under control about 2½ hours later, Myers said. One house, from where the blaze likely originated, was destroyed.

Two firefighters suffered heat exhaustion but remained on duty, Myers said. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

A neighbor who lives in an adjoining house, who did not want to be identified, said that the destroyed home had previously been heavily damaged in a fire in October 2018.

He said despite the damage to most of the home, the front remained standing.

“It was like a Universal Studios house,” he said.

The neighbor said he saw people who he believed were squatters on the property and that he had filed police reports documenting his sighting.

He said his house was not damaged in the October 2018 fire. His fence, however, was burned in the fire on Saturday.

“It was really close this time,” he said.

<https://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20190914/victorville-house-fire-damages-three-other-homes>

Victorville Fire Department receives FEMA grant

Rene Ray De La Cruz, Victorville Daily Press

Posted: September 15, 2019, 7:24 pm

VICTORVILLE — Rep. Paul Cook announced Thursday that the city's new fire department has received a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Victorville Fire Department's grant of \$310,633 will provide resources to the department to assist with its operations and safety, Cook's office reported.

The grant will be used by the department to purchase thermal imaging units, testing and calibration, air filling stations for self-contained breathing apparatus, additional fire hoses and other vital tooling for engines.

"I'm pleased to announce that our first responders in Victorville have received this critical grant funding," said Cook, in a written statement. "This money will provide much-needed resources to the fire department that will modernize our fire trucks with life-saving enhancements, keeping our firefighters safe and prepared to protect the community."

Mayor Gloria Garcia said the grant was applied for after the municipality broke with **San Bernardino County Fire**, which previously provided fire protection services to the city.

"The grant money will be used to replace unusable or non-working equipment left by the county," Garcia said. "It will also help pay for the replacement of medicine and supplies that were expired."

A report presented to the City Council in June highlighted the damaged and missing equipment and alleged the county overcharged the city for fire prevention services that weren't rendered, the Daily Press previously reported. Staff estimated the fiscal impact of the issues to cost more than \$400,000.

In March, the city officially ended an 11-year contract with the county, which revived the old VFD. The City Council made the decision to cut ties with the county in order to cut costs and tighten ties between residents and emergency responders.

The new department started with 58 fully-trained and sworn employees, in addition to an administrative position and emergency medical services coordinator.

Each firefighter/paramedic has at least four years of prior experience, with higher positions such as engineers and captains all having at least eight to 10 years, Fire Chief Greg Benson told the Daily Press in an earlier interview.

Benson added that service levels will be the same as under the county, with four stations fully staffed and 18 firefighters on-call at any one time.

Deputy City Manager George Harris II projects the city's in-house fire department will save the City of Victorville about \$1 million per year.

The federal grant is part of FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant program. The primary goal of AFG is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations.

Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.

<https://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20190915/victorville-fire-department-receives-fema-grant>

Fire damages San Bernardino business on Sept. 13

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: September 14, 2019



A San Bernardino business was damaged by a fire on Sept. 13. (Contributed photo by San Bernardino County Fire Department)

A San Bernardino business was damaged due to a two-alarm fire on Sept. 13, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

No injuries to firefighters or civilians were reported.

At 11:37 p.m., crews were dispatched to a location in the area of Mountain View and Central avenues. The first engine to arrive found a large exterior fire containing stacked plastic materials with a direct exposure to a large commercial building. A second alarm was quickly struck, bringing much needed manpower and equipment.

Crews immediately deployed multiple attack lines, coordinating firefighting efforts to limit the spread, but found the fire had extended into a large metal commercial building. Crews engaged in both interior and exterior firefighting efforts to suppress the fire, limit spread and search the building. The fire was ultimately knocked down in about 40 minutes and no occupants were found inside the structure.

Due to a large amount of plastic liquid containers and unknown substances, members of a Hazardous Materials Team were requested to investigate the liquids, determine if intervention was needed, and assist with decontamination if needed. Upon investigation, they found no immediate hazards.

The cause of the fire is under investigation. No damage estimates were immediately available.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/inland_empire_news/fire-damages-san-bernardino-business-on-sept/article_2dbf1ffa-d72c-11e9-ab63-537d7d437595.html

Oak Hills High School 9/11 Tribute followed by a winning volleyball game

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: September 13, 2019



(Photo by @jalyngivens.photograhyy)

OAK HILLS, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Oak Hills High School held a 9/11 tribute on September 11, 2019, in the gymnasium.

The 9/11 tribute started with seniors Keilana Gardner, Emilee Cortez, and Keona Pascua reading a speech that they had written.

Then a moment of silence for those who lost their lives on 9/11/2001 as well as all active military and veterans and all current first responders.

The ceremony began with a song “where were you that September day” by Alan Jackson followed by “American soldier” by Toby Keith at that time all active military and veterans were escorted onto the court by our freshman team.

The next song was “God bless the USA” the Oak Hills JV team presented all first responders.

Oak Hills High School Junior ROTC and the varsity volleyball team presented the colors the national anthem was sung by two ASB members.

The ceremony ended by thanking and giving a special thanks to all active military, veterans and their families who were in attendance; **San Bernardino County Fire** Department (they also brought a fire truck) HUSD school police with a vehicle Victorville sheriffs department, one member who brought a canine.

The ceremony was followed by a great game of volleyball with Oak Hills Bulldogs coming out on top in five games with a three to 3 win over rim.

<https://www.vvng.com/oak-hills-high-school-9-11-tribute-followed-by-a-winning-volleyball-game/>