



NEWS



News Headlines 1/31/2017

- Driver dies in head-on collision in Landers
- Fire parcel tax and annexation

Driver dies in head-on collision in Landers

Hi Desert Star

Posted: January 30, 2017, 3:50 PM

LANDERS — A head-on collision on Old Woman Springs Road around 2 p.m. Friday took the life of one man and sent three other people to the hospital.

Steven Carl Long, a 34-year-old resident of Taft, was driving his GMC Envoy south on the highway and allowed the SUV to cross over the center lane, into the direct path of a Chevrolet Silverado traveling northbound near Marmac Road.

The two vehicles hit each other head-on.

Long was pronounced dead at the scene by **San Bernardino County Fire** personnel.

The driver of the Chevrolet, Daniel Roberts, 40, of Upland, and his two passengers, Cheryl Robers, 49, and Danielle Roberts, 19, both of Upland, were trapped in their truck.

They were extricated by firefighters, then driven by paramedics from the Fire Department and Morongo Basin Ambulance to Desert Regional Medical Center with moderate injuries.

Old Woman Springs Road was closed from Reche Road to Napa Road for approximately three hours for the investigation and clean-up.

The CHP is investigating the collision.

http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article_ec3acbce-e746-11e6-aa4c-e799225a60eb.html

Fire parcel tax and annexation

Letters to the Editor, Daily Press

Posted: January 31, 2017

I applaud the Victorville City Council's approach to let the citizens decide the parcel tax by special election, and not by a LAFCO protest vote.

This is a tax, not a fee. A fee is for services rendered (such as charging me for putting out a fire on my property), a tax is for general benefit that can be used any way "they" see fit. If the annexation were to occur, "they" would be the County Board of Supervisors, not the Victorville City Council.

Fire protection is going the way of the dinosaur and the fire professionals have themselves to thank/blame. The barrage of new construction rules that now mandate fire sprinklers for single-family residences, and when more than three-quarters of fire calls are for medical aid, firefighters aren't needed at the levels of the past. Fire service is stuck in the "we've always done it that way" scheme.

There are efficiencies that can save money. Start with their policy mandating fire engines having to run with ambulance responses, which forces more staff than needed. Stop running an engine crew when a paramedic and ambulance crews are all that are needed.

Shift staffing at stations during non-peak times, replace fire stations with paramedic staff only - these are dichotomy shifts that should be addressed first. Only then would I support another tax on top of the taxes I already pay.

Scott Priester

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/opinion/20170131/letters-to-editor-01-31-2017>