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San Bernardino County salutes 31 'Safety Heroes' for making communities safer, saving lives

Sandra Emerson, San Bernardino Sun Posted: August 16, 2019



(SBCoFD livestream)

Some were ready to lend a hand during an emergency. Others saved lives.

But all of the 31 Safety Heroes recognized by San Bernardino County officials Wednesday, Aug. 14, in San Bernardino volunteered their time to make communities safer.

Those recognized were nominated by the public through the Vision4Safety campaign, an initiative in the Countywide Vision that aims to create safer neighborhoods, schools and workplaces.

The Board of Supervisors, District Attorney Jason Anderson, Assistant Sheriff Lana Tomlin and Interim (**San Bernardino County**) **Fire** Chief Don Trapp honored the winners, who live across the county.

The honorees took part in emergency-preparedness programs and neighborhood watches or intervened when someone needed help.

https://www.sbsun.com/2019/08/16/san-bernardino-county-salutes-31-safety-heroes-for-making-communities-safer-saving-lives/

Ambulance in Traffic Collision

Staff Writer, Mountain News Posted: August 15, 2019



SBCoFD ambulance carrying a patient to a hospital was involved in a two-vehicle accident, causing the ambulance to roll on its side. Vehicle occupants' injuries were not life threatening

San Bernardino County Fire Medic Ambulance 26 (MA26) was involved in a two-vehicle traffic accident at the intersection of 40th Street and North Waterman Avenue in the City of San Bernardino at approximately 9:40 a.m. on Aug. 12, according to Tracey Martinez, public information officer.

MA26, stationed in Twin Peaks, was transporting a patient Code 3 (lights and sirens) to a San Bernardino hospital when it became involved in a two-vehicle traffic collision at the intersection, causing the ambulance to roll on its side.

Following the collision, crews notified dispatch and requested assistance, then immediately rendered aid to injured parties, Martinez noted.

Additional San Bernardino County Fire crews responded and continued rendering medical aid. Firefighter Paramedics provided medical assistance to the initial ambulance patient, two SBCoFD ambulance operators, and sole occupant/driver of the other vehicle involved in the collision. All four were transported to local hospitals with non-life-threatening injuries.

Ambulance personnel and patient were in restraints and seat belts. It's unknown if the other driver was wearing a seat belt. The San Bernardino Police Department is investigating the accident.

According to the most recent Caltrans data online (2017), the annual average daily traffic at 40th Street and North Waterman Avenue (at the base of State Route 18) in San Bernardino is 23,500 cars. Seasonal fluctuations in traffic and peak hours affect the amount of congestion at any point in time, but the high volume of traffic serves as a reminder for commuters and visitors to be particularly cautious in this area.

http://www.mountain-news.com/news/article_f38ca756-bf77-11e9-849c-5b282987b91a.html

Invasive goldspotted oak borer found in Big Bear

Staff Writer, Big Bear Grizzly Posted: August 15, 2019



CalFire and the U.S. Forest Service have a message for Big Bear. Don't purchase firewood or transport it from other areas into Big Bear. The wood can carry an invasive species that attacks oak trees.

The invasive goldspotted oak borer (GSOB, Agrilus auroguttatus) was detected last week in Sugarloaf. It was discovered in recently-killed and dying California black oaks on private property in Sugarloaf. Larval, pupal and adult life stages of the beetle were extracted by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and U.S. Forest Service personnel from under the tree bark.

A **San Bernardino County Fire** hazard officer, who had received goldspotted oak borer identification training, made the initial discovery while conducting hazard inspections. This is the second infestation identified in San Bernardino County, the first in the Oak Glen area in fall of 2018. This is also the second goldspotted oak borer infestation on the San Bernardino National Forest, the first in Idyllwild in 2012.

The long-range spread of goldspotted oak borer from its native range in Arizona to San Diego, then Riverside, Orange, Los Angeles counties and, now, San Bernardino County, has been attributed to the movement of GSOB-infested firewood. It is critical to take precautions to avoid transporting potentially-infested oak firewood within, to or from the San Bernardino Mountains, officials say.

The goldspotted oak borer may already be in other portions of San Bernardino County but haven't been discovered yet. These non-native beetles aggressively attack California black oaks, coast live oaks and even canyon live oaks, whether in mountain communities, forests, valleys or cities. To make matters worse, the goldspotted oak borer prefer larger oaks, the very trees communities depend on for beauty, shade and wildlife habitat.

To learn more about goldspotted oak borer, visit www.GSOB.org, including how to identify and report a suspected GSOB infestation. If you have oak trees that have recently died and have been cut down, it's critical to make sure the wood is not infested before transporting it. The goldspotted oak borer website has information on how to manage infested wood.

CalFire, the San Bernardino National Forest and other collaborating agencies will develop a GSOB response plan for the mountaintop communities in San Bernardino County. This will include determining the current extent of the infestation in the area. In the interim, at-risk communities should educate themselves about the threat and share the information with their neighbors and friends in any San Bernardino County communities with oak trees.

http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/news/invasive-goldspotted-oak-borer-found-in-big-bear/article_6d6fab4e-bfba-11e9-9516-2bd90ab1de10.html

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Fire crews complete fuels reduction along Interstate 15

Staff Writer, Redlands Community News Posted: August 15, 2019

With peak fire season approaching, a fuels reduction project along Interstate 15 in the Cajon Pass was completed last week by an interagency effort between the U.S. Forest Service, CAL FIRE, Caltrans, California Highway Patrol and the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**. Grasses and brush were removed with hand tools 30 feet from the shoulder of northbound lanes between Kenwood Avenue and Cleghorn Road, a distance of about 5 miles.

"After several large, disruptive fires that started here in past years, we're seeking to reduce the threat of future accidental fire starts," said Forest Supervisor Jody Noiron. "We're extremely thankful for all of the help from our partners. Such shared stewardship is critical to managing your public lands."

By analyzing fire starts, San Bernardino National Forest staff determined that the Cajon Pass is a high frequency fire start area, namely the area treated last week, where the freeway hugs vegetated hillsides. In future years, forest staff are looking forward to more collaborations with partner agencies to expand the Cajon Pass project footprint and treat other highways throughout the national forest.

https://www.redlandscommunitynews.com/news/fire-crews-complete-fuels-reduction-along-interstate/article_4bb00642-bfb6-11e9-9c00-dbd4250308a2.html