



# NEWS



## News Headlines 11/22-25/2019

- Yucca Valley's Dan Munsey named fire chief: Local man will oversee all fire and rescue operations
- Blaze in Old Town Victorville destroys several buildings
- Three vehicles collide in intersection in Fontana on Nov. 22
- County Fire reminds you to "Candle With Care" for a safe holiday season

## Yucca Valley's Dan Munsey named fire chief: Local man will oversee all fire and rescue operations

Sara Kernan, Hi-Desert Star

Posted: November 22, 2019



Director Dan Munsey asks General Manager Ed Muzik about the potential to seek bids for engineering services during construction of the sewer system during a Hi-Desert Water District meeting last week.

**SAN BERNARDINO** — Dan Munsey, a Yucca Valley local who is president of Hi-Desert Water District, was appointed **fire chief for San Bernardino County** this week.

Munsey was serving as assistant county fire chief and was promoted to replace Mark Hartwig, who left in February to become fire chief for Santa Barbara County.

“Being chosen to serve as fire chief for this organization is a tremendous honor,” Munsey said in a released statement.

“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.”

His promotion is effective immediately, following his appointment by county CEO Gary McBride with agreement from the board of supervisors.

Munsey, who grew up in Yucca Valley, started with the county as a paid-call firefighter in 1995. He became a full-time firefighter in 1998 and since then has worked in every division of county fire, promoting to captain in 2004, battalion chief in 2008 and assistant chief in March 2014.

As assistant chief, Munsey was responsible for rescue, fire and emergency medical response in the High Desert, the largest of the fire department's five regions. It stretches from Apple Valley to Trona, and from past Interstate 395 to the Nevada border.

Munsey's appointment to chief concluded a nationwide recruiting effort.

“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.”

Munsey holds a master's degree in public administration with an emphasis on business and government and a bachelor's degree in business administration from Grand Canyon University.

He is president of the operations section of the California Fire Chiefs Association.

Munsey was first elected to the Hi-Desert Water District board of directors in 2008 and has served as president this year.

As fire chief, he will oversee around 1,000 employees responsible for fighting fires, providing emergency medical care, responding to hazardous materials, investigating arson, hazards and weapons of mass destruction and rescuing people from flooding, mudslides and extreme weather.

County spokesman David Wert said the pay range for county fire chief \$185,681 to \$253,531.

The value of his benefits will depend on what options he chooses, Wert added.

[http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article\\_33d2c614-0d76-11ea-993a-af716f9a89fe.html](http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article_33d2c614-0d76-11ea-993a-af716f9a89fe.html)

## Blaze in Old Town Victorville destroys several buildings

Staff Writer, Victorville Daily Press

Posted: November 23, 2019



A multiple-alarm commercial fire destroyed a number of connected buildings in Old Town Victorville on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019. [Lewis Busch, for the Daily Press]

**VICTORVILLE** — A multiple-alarm commercial fire destroyed a number of connected buildings in Old Town on Saturday night.

First reported at about 9 p.m. in the 15500 block of Seventh Street, firefighters called to the scene saw flames through the roof, according to freelance news videographer Lewis Busch.

Crews went into defensive mode when first tackling the blaze. The fight was ongoing as of 10:30 p.m. that night, Busch said.

Units from the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** and Apple Valley Fire Protection District were called to assist.

The cause of the fire was not reported immediately as of Saturday.

<https://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20191123/blaze-in-old-town-victorville-destroys-several-buildings>

## Three vehicles collide in intersection in Fontana on Nov. 22

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: November 25, 2019



Three vehicles collided at an intersection in eastern Fontana on Nov. 22. (Contributed photo by Mike Myers)

Three vehicles collided at an intersection in eastern Fontana on Nov. 22.

The Fontana Police Department and the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** responded to the incident in the 17800 block of Arrow Boulevard.

Authorities said that at about 6:47 p.m., the driver of a beige Chevy Trailblazer was traveling eastbound on Arrow and made a left turn at Laurel Avenue.

The driver of a white Subaru Legacy was traveling westbound on Arrow and broadsided the Chevy in the intersection, flipping it on its side, authorities said.

Both vehicles slid into a Nissan Frontier pickup, and the Subaru was lodged under the Chevy.

Emergency medical responders transported a six-year-old girl and her mother to a local hospital for precautionary measures, according to a Fontana P.D. officer.

The intersection at Laurel and Arrow does not have stop signs for east and westbound traffic.

The Fontana P.D. is handling the investigation.

[https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/three-vehicles-collide-in-intersection-in-fontana-on-nov/article\\_3bbb3a32-0e25-11ea-9047-a770cf9bf6e7.html](https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/three-vehicles-collide-in-intersection-in-fontana-on-nov/article_3bbb3a32-0e25-11ea-9047-a770cf9bf6e7.html)

## County Fire reminds you to “Candle With Care” for a safe holiday season

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News Group

Posted: November 25, 2019



Candles are a great way to create a warm glow for your home and can add an elegant touch to holiday decor. But candles are an open flame in your home, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), December is the peak time of year for home candle fires.

In December, 12% of home candle fires begin with decorations compared to 4% the rest of the year. On average, 23 home candle fires are reported per day. More than one-third of home candle fires started in the bedroom. And 60% of home candle fires occur when some form of combustible material is left or placed too close to the candle.

Battery operated candles are a safe alternative to real candles. They look and smell like real candles and are easy to find in holiday themes. Plus, if you find one you really like you can use it for many years! However, if you decide you want to use real candles in your home, just remember to “Candle with Care”.

- Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.
- Use candle holders that are sturdy and won't tip over easily.
- Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
- Don't burn a candle all the way down — put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens.
- Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.
- Never leave a child alone in a room with a burning candle. Keep matches and lighters up high and out of children's reach, in a locked cabinet.

For more holiday decorating safety tips, visit <https://www.sbcfire.org/SafetyTips/CandleSafetyTips.aspx>. The **San Bernardino County Fire Department** wishes you a safe and happy holiday season.

<https://www.vvng.com/county-fire-reminds-you-to-candle-with-care-for-a-safe-holiday-season/>