



NEWS



News Headlines 11/28/2018

- Rain brings flash flood threats and evacuation notices in Southern California
- Fire tears through home in Hesperia
- Firefighters respond to house fire in Hesperia Tuesday
- Victorville woman arrested for using 911 to have an elderly man removed
- EDITORIALS/OPINIONS/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rain brings flash flood threats and evacuation notices in Southern California

ROBERT GUNDRAN, Los Angeles Daily News

Posted: November 27, 2018



A firefighter looks for hot spots on a ridge along Gateway Drive in Lake Elsinore on Saturday morning, August 11, 2018, after the Holy fire burned through the area forcing thousands in the neighborhood to be evacuated. A voluntary evacuation notice was in place Tuesday for Holy Fire burn areas that could be affected by rain this week in Riverside and Orange counties. (Photo by Mark Rightmire, Orange County Register/SCNG)

Rainfall is expected throughout most of the rest of the week throughout Southern California. While that rain can provide a reprieve from dry weather, it also carries with it potential hazards.

The National Weather Service in San Diego forecasted rainfall throughout Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties starting on Wednesday evening. The showers will be accompanied by 15-25 mph winds, with gusts up to 35 mph. The NWS said it expects the rain to clear out by Monday.

Official forecasts from the NWS in Ventura and Los Angeles counties said rain is also expected to start in those areas Wednesday evening, with a brief halt to the rain on Friday. More showers should come on Saturday with the precipitation ending on Sunday.

A high-surf advisory was declared by the NWS for coastal Orange and Los Angeles counties, with waves between six to 12 feet from Wednesday afternoon through at least Thursday night.

“There is an increased risk for ocean drowning,” the NWS said in a statement. “Currents can pull swimmers and surfers out to sea. Large breaking waves can wash people off beaches and rocks and capsize small boats near shore.”

Most of the rainfall is predicted to come throughout Thursday, when the NWS said coastal areas could receive up to an inch, while mountain regions could get up to four inches.

A flash flood warning was put into effect in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Thursday, with voluntary evacuation notices in place for areas in Riverside County in and around the Holy fire burn scar.

Voluntary evacuation notices were put in place in the unincorporated areas of Maitri, Glen Ivy-A, Grace, Glen Eden, Horsethief-A, Alberhill, Rice, McVicker-A, Withrow-A, Amorose and Laguna-A.

Trilogy-A, Trilogy-B, Glen Ivy-B, Butterfield, Horsethief-B, McVicker-B, Alvarado-A, Alvarado-B, Lakeside-A, Lakeside-B, Laguna-B and El Cariso were noted as at-risk areas for flooding, as well as mud and debris flow. Although these areas were also near the Holy fire, no evacuation notices were put in place.

Some of these communities are in the Temescal Valley, between Lake Elsinore and Corona. Officials with Riverside County urged residents of the areas with voluntary evacuations to leave as soon as possible, while it is still safe.

Cal Fire Riverside said a care and reception center is open at Temescal Canyon High School at 28755 El Toro Road in Lake Elsinore. Small and large animals are being accepted at the San Jacinto Animal Campus at 581 South Grand Avenue in San Jacinto.

Orange County Public Works also issued a voluntary evacuation warning for those in the Holy fire burn area, citing potential debris flow. Voluntary evacuation warnings were put in place for houses in Trabuco Creek, Rose Canyon and Mystic Oaks. These communities are near Rancho Santa Margarita.

Orange County residents can sign up for notifications about natural hazards or disasters at AlertOC.com, or follow @OCpublicworks on Twitter. Riverside County residents can sign up for alerts at rivcoready.org/alertrivco, or follow @RivCoReady on Twitter.

The Cranston fire started a few weeks before, and about 70 miles east of the Holy fire burn area, on July 25. Riverside County officials said residents in that area should avoid areas susceptible to debris flows, though no evacuations warnings or orders were in place there.

The City of Corona said no evacuations were in place for people in the 2017 Canyon fire burn area. The Canyon fire started along the 91 Freeway, near Corona and the Orange-Riverside county line. It burned over 2,600 acres and prompted the evacuation of hundreds of houses.

“Rainfall over the Canyon fire burn areas is still expected in 48-72 hours,” the city said in a statement. “However, based on current weather predictions, it is not expected to cause debris flows. There are no current voluntary or mandatory evacuation orders in place at this time.”

Sandbags were also available for anyone in Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

The NWS warned of rockslides and mudslides in the Woolsey and Hill fire burn areas along Pacific Coast Highway and canyon roads. Debris flow and roadway flooding is possible there.

While evacuation notices were put in place for burn areas in Riverside County, no such evacuations were put in place for the recent Ventura and Los Angeles county fires. San Bernardino County was also free of any voluntary or mandatory evacuation notices.

“We’ll be keeping an eye on it,” said Eric Sherwin, spokesman for the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**. “If any threats pop up, we’ll let people know.”

Snowfall is expected in the San Bernardino Mountains, which prompted the California Department of Transportation to alert the public to always use chains on their tires when traveling in mountain areas. Caltrans said at least four inches of snow are expected at 5,000 feet and above.

“Do not drive past ‘Road Closed’ signs and always follow commands and instructions from Caltrans personnel, California Highway Patrol, law enforcement and emergency responders,” Caltrans said in a statement.

“Remember to bring chains even if it is not snowing, so you don’t get caught without them during sudden weather changes,” Caltrans said.

The Bear Valley Unified School District in the San Bernardino Mountains noted that inclement weather in the region could potentially result in school closures. Those closures would be determined by the superintendent by 5 a.m. and made public by 5:30 a.m. the day of the closure.

<https://www.dailynews.com/2018/11/27/rain-brings-flash-flood-threats-and-evacuation-notices-in-southern-california/>

Fire tears through home in Hesperia

Paola Baker, Daily Press

Posted: November 27, 2018, 5:05 pm



Firefighters at the scene of a blaze that tore through a home in Hesperia Tuesday. [Paola Baker, Daily Press]

HESPERIA — A fire caused major damage when it tore through a home here Tuesday afternoon.

Reported at around 1:30 as coming from a bedroom in a home in the 11700 block of Redwood Avenue, the fire quickly spread to engulf much of the home. Smoke could be seen from Interstate 15.

It took **San Bernardino County Fire** Department firefighters about thirty minutes to extinguish the blaze, Cpt. Steve Castagnola said.

Arriving firefighters found “heavy smoke and flames” in a bedroom and spreading into the attic. Castagnola said live ammunition inside the home initially hampered firefighters’ progress.

“There was live ammo going off in the area and there was fire going down the hallway,” Castagnola said.

Firefighters opened up a ventilation hole on the home’s roof to give them better access and get the flames under control.

Using three engine companies, one truck company, a medic ambulance and a battalion chief, firefighters managed to stop the flames. No one was hurt.

The home sustained heavy smoke and fire damage. A contractor on scene said the damages could exceed \$350,000.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20181127/fire-tears-through-home-in-hesperia>

Firefighters respond to house fire in Hesperia Tuesday

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: November 27, 2018



Bedroom on fire at a home in the 11700 block of Redwood Avenue in Hesperia. (Photo by David Wylie/Facebook)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Firefighters were dispatched to a house fire in the City of Hesperia Tuesday afternoon.

According to radio traffic, at about 1:30 pm, a fire was reported inside the bedroom of a home in the 11700 block of Redwood Avenue.

San Bernardino County Firefighters arrived at the scene and located a single residence with heavy smoke and fire showing and confirmed the fire was quickly spreading from a bedroom.

Crews went into the offensive mode and worked extensively to try and contain the fire from spreading into the rest of the home.

All occupants were reported to have safely exited the structure. Firefighters requested an ambulance to respond and check on a male who was coughing from possible smoke inhalation.

The Red Cross was advised to respond and assist two adult males displaced by the fire.

Additional information will be updated as it becomes available.

<https://www.vvng.com/firefighters-respond-to-house-fire-in-hesperia-tuesday/>

Victorville woman arrested for using 911 to have an elderly man removed

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: November 27, 2018

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A 54-year-old Victorville woman was arrested for abusing the 911 system after she made a false report of an elderly man in her care not breathing, officials said.

It happened at about 12:35 pm, on Monday, November 26, 2018, in the 15700 block of Cottonwood Street in Victorville.

Victorville Sheriff's Spokeswoman Mara Rodriguez said, the suspect, Flora Barajas called 911 to report the 70-year-old male she takes care of in her home was not breathing.

Multiple deputies from the Victorville Police Department, **San Bernardino County fire** personnel, and American Medical Response (AMR) personnel responded to the home.

“Upon arrival, they found the man to be awake and breathing in his bed. Barajas no longer wished to care for the man and admitted to making the false report so that first responder would take the man elsewhere,” stated Rodriguez.

Barajas was booked into the West Valley Detention Center and charged with PC148.3(A) False Report of an Emergency and PC853.6(I)(8) Refusing to Sign a Notice to Appear. Her bail is set at \$10,000 and is scheduled for arraignment in a Victorville courtroom on November 28, 2018.

<https://www.vvng.com/victorville-woman-arrested-for-using-911-to-have-an-elderly-man-removed/>

EDITORIALS/OPINIONS/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fire tax was rigged

Bill Tuck, Jr. of Phelan, Daily Press

Posted: November 28, 2018

I'm still in shock over the new fire tax getting passed, \$157.99 per year. It was rigged to win. All the chickens will come home to roost when the property tax bills come in the mail in October 2019.

Even though Prop 6, the gas tax recall, did not pass statewide, it won in San Bernardino County, 57 percent yes to 47 percent no. So we're still a conservative county. The Daily Press came out against the gas tax and for repealing it (to stay up on all this get the Daily Press E Edition, only \$10 per month), while the paper down the hill was for it and didn't allow opposing letters to the editor to be posted.

This terrible raping of our tax dollars by San Bernardino County won't be forgotten! I live in Phelan so I don't comment on Hesperia politicians as individuals. All the pro Summit Valley homes supporters have now been kicked out except Mayor Holland. So nice to see all the great new people running for office over there in Hesperia.

The Summit Valley Project affects all of us up here in the Victor Mojave River Valley when all those cars from the numerous new homes will dump onto the 15 Freeway. It will be hell on Earth. I hope the council will help get the Highway 138 Route 66 idea by Mr. Pinard done. If they do I will forgive them for the Summer Valley Project.

Out here in Phelan we now have three new Phelan Pinon Hills Community Service Directors. The present till the new directors take over and past directors allowed the ruling staff to take us from \$15 million in the green to around \$25 million in the red, doubling most water users' bills. I hope we will see new employees running our water company. If not we could see another 100 percent increase to our already sky high rates.

As Admiral Nagumo said as the planes took off from the Japanese fleet, "Hell is upon us." You politicians who turned a blind eye to this dirty political taxing trick will be very nicely dealt with in two years.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20181128/your-letters-11-28-2018>