



NEWS



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Pedestrian struck by car Thursday morning; westbound Bear Valley lanes shut down

Jose Quintero, Daily Press

Posted: November 10, 2016, 8:11 AM



A white Nissan pickup truck remains where it stopped after striking a pedestrian on Bear Valley Road on Thursday morning. James Quigg, Daily Press

VICTORVILLE — One person was airlifted to a local trauma center with major injuries after he was struck by a vehicle Thursday morning. Authorities said the westbound Bear Valley Road lanes at Seventh Avenue are expected to be shut down for approximately three hours.

Authorities responded to a report of a vehicle versus pedestrian in the area of Bear Valley Road and Seventh Avenue at approximately 6:18 a.m. The pedestrian suffered major injuries and was airlifted to Loma Linda University Medical Center a little before 7 a.m. Mercy Air 2 arrived on scene at 6:41 a.m. to transport the man, according to **San Bernardino County Fire Department** spokesman Peter McKernan said.

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Victorville Station spokeswoman Mara Rodriguez confirmed that the sheriff's Major Accident Investigation Team has taken over the investigation. However, Rodriguez did not have any additional information on the crash Thursday morning.

"Detours will be posted," Victorville spokeswoman Sue Jones said. "We ask that motorists obey all traffic devices and posted signs. We encourage motorists to utilize alternate routes and to exercise caution when driving in the vicinity."

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20161110/pedestrian-struck-by-car-thursday-morning-westbound-bear-valley-lanes-shut-down>

Cajon Pass fires extinguished, forestry crew to watch for flare ups

Beatriz Valenzuela, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: November 10, 2016, 11:41 AM

CAJON PASS >> Firefighters contained a 1-acre grass fire in the Cajon Pass Thursday morning which forced officials to temporarily shut down at least one lane of the northbound 15 Freeway near Highway 138.

“We’re actually looking at two smaller fires and maybe an additional two more, but we’ve gotten hose around one and we’ve canceled the second-alarm,” said Gregg Goodland, spokesman with the San Bernardino National Forest Service.

The collection of small blazes, named the Border fire, started around 10:40 a.m., and was knocked down within an hour, according to fire officials.

A forestry service crew has been assigned to check on the burn area throughout the night to make sure there aren’t any flare ups, according to the San Bernardino National Forest Twitter account.

Smoke was reported going across some lanes of traffic causing motorists to slam on their brakes, reports show, prompting officers to shut down one lane of traffic.

All lane were reopened shortly after 2 p.m..

Firefighters with the San Bernardino National Forest Service, Cal Fire and **San Bernardino County Fire** joined in efforts to battle the flames.

The cause of the blazes has not been determined.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20161110/cajon-pass-fires-extinguished-forestry-crew-to-watch-for-flare-ups>

Border Fire: Cajon Pass Blazes Char About An Acre (Update)

Michael P. Neufeld, Rim of the World News

Posted: November 10, 2016, 12:37 PM



Firefighters made quick work of two vegetation fires in the Cajon Pass just before noon Thursday. (Photo by U.S. Forest Service)

UPDATE: Thursday, November 10 – 2:29 p.m.

Cajon Pass – All lanes of I-15 impacted by the Border Fire(s) have reopened.

The U.S. Forest Service will be checking the area periodically.

Agencies involved in the incident included the U.S. Forest Service, CalFire, **San Bernardino County Fire**, California Highway Patrol and Caltrans.

ORIGINAL STORY

Cajon Pass – Two vegetation fires in the Cajon Pass near Highway 138 consumed a total of one acre before firefighters were able to gain control and establish hose lines around both fires.

The so-called Border Fire(s) promoted the California Highway Patrol and Caltrans to close the number four lane on I-15 to allow access to the fire by responding agencies including the U.S. Forest Service and CalFire.

CONTROL ESTABLISHED

Firefighters reported they had controlled the vegetation fire by noon on Thursday.

The fires were reported about 11 a.m.

<http://rotwnews.com/2016/11/10/border-fire-cajon-pass-blazes-char-about-an-acre/>

Fire destroys park bathroom in Redlands

Sandra Emerson, Redlands Daily Facts

Posted: November 11, 2016, 8:11 PM



A fire damaged a restroom at Crafton Park in Redlands early Friday. Courtesy Photo

REDLANDS >> A fire caused severe damage to a park restroom early Friday, according to city officials.

Redlands firefighters responded to reports of the smell of smoke in the area of Colton Avenue, between Dearborn and Judson streets, around 1 a.m., according to a news release from the Redlands Fire Department.

There were additional reports of a structure fire at Crafton Park in the 500 block of Wabash Avenue.

When firefighters arrived they found a park restroom engulfed in flames with portions of the roof collapsing. Firefighters put the blaze out within 15 minutes and worked for another two hours to overhaul the building.

No injuries were reported.

Late Friday, the department was investigating the cause of the fire, which caused \$110,000 in estimated damages, according to the city's news release.

One engine from the **San Bernardino County Fire** Station in Mentone provided assistance. Redlands police provided traffic control.

<http://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/general-news/20161111/fire-destroys-park-bathroom-in-redlands>

Town pays tribute to Americans who served

Kurt Schauppner, The Desert Trail

Posted: November 11, 2016, 6:30 PM



A town worker hands out miniature American flags before Friday's ceremony gets started.

Speeches were made, prayers were offered, free meals were served, Young Marines demonstrated the flag-folding ceremony and residents from across the Basin gathered to honor veterans at a ceremony sponsored by the town of Yucca Valley Friday.

The Veterans Day Tribute started with breakfast served by members of the Mojave Viper Young Marine Program in the Yucca Valley Senior Center.

Organizers said they hoped to serve 300 people. The group has served free breakfasts on Veterans Day in Yucca Valley since 2008.

One of those enjoying breakfast was Cliff Rayl, 92, who served on the USS San Diego during World War II and who now serves as the chaplain for the local American Legion post.

Also enjoying the morning meal was Mike Weatherford, a disabled vet who served from 1969 to 1972. After his service to his country, he said, began the battle to secure health care.

"I finally got my disability within the last year," he said. "I've been fighting for 44 years and I finally got it."

"It makes me think of the people that sacrificed a lot more than me," he said of Veterans Day.

Residents and visitors gathered in the parking lot behind the Yucca Valley Community Center where Marines from the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center set up military vehicles and a Howitzer that, according to Cpl. Caleb McClanahan, is used to support friendly forces.

McClanahan, who hails from Tennessee, has served in the Marine Corps for two years and has deployed to Okinawa.

Saying he is a new section chief, he admitted he has not had a chance to fire the big gun.

"My day is coming," he added.

Vietnam era veteran Stephan Hulbert, with his dog looking on, took a turn spinning one of the controllers on the big gun, then commented on how difficult a job it was.

“So you can let me borrow this for the weekend,” he joked. Later he said he served in the Marine Corps from 1972 to 1974.

“I was one of the last people to be drafted,” he said.

The **San Bernardino County fire** and San Bernardino sheriff’s departments and California Highway Patrol vehicles were also on display.

The Fire Department brought one of its big ladder trucks and the Sheriff’s Department landed one of its helicopters on a nearby softball field.

Sgt. Christopher Fox, an Army recruiter who works in Yucca Valley, staffed a table, though he admitted he does not get many recruits at similar events.

“It’s more just showing my face to the community,” he said. He has served in the Army for seven years, including a tour of duty in Iraq.

Second Lt. Taylor Kitasato showed one of the four LAV 25s under his command.

The vehicle, he said, is often used for reconnaissance missions and can hold up to seven Marines. Members of the Community Emergency Response Team were on hand with information, including how to shut off a gas line.

Veterans in attendance were given free drawing tickets for a quilt that was, at the end of the ceremony, won by Tom Purcell, of Landers.

‘What did we do to deserve such people?’

Yucca Valley Mayor Bob Leone hosted a ceremony that began with presentation of colors by the combat center color guard, the Pledge of Allegiance led by Yucca Valley Councilman Rick Denison and the national anthem sung by Keirsten King. At the end of the ceremony, King led everyone in singing “God Bless America.”

Capt. Stephen M. Lee, a Navy chaplain, gave an invocation “for the veterans who stood the lonely watch, for those veterans still abiding by their injuries.”

“We also give thanks to our families,” he said.

Before introducing the day’s special guests, Leone asked veterans in the audience to stand and be recognized.

“Thank you for your service,” he said.

Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III, commanding general at the combat center, was the morning’s keynote speaker.

Of the men and women who choose to serve in the armed forces, he said, “They signed a blank check to the United States for payment up to and including their lives.”

For him, he said, Nov. 11 is the most important day of the year because it is the day we honor those who have served and those who continue to serve.

“As I look across this crowd I see a mix of generations,” he said. “It is essential that no one be forgotten.”

If our freedoms are not continually defended, they can all be lost,” he warned the audience. He also spoke of a new generation of Americans defending American freedoms.

“These people are totally committed,” he said. “We are not protecting someone else’s interests, we are protecting our own.”

He spoke of two Marines serving in Iraq who sacrificed their lives to stop a suicide bomber in a truck laden with explosives.

“I see stories like that and I ask what did we do to deserve such people,” he said.

As the ceremony continued, Leone read a proclamation in honor of veterans, including special guest Sidney B. Jones, who was a submariner during World War II and a recruiter during the Vietnam War.

“It just about flabbergasted me,” Jones said of the honor. “God bless America and thank you folks.”

After the ceremony, the Yucca Valley High School Jazz Band played and members of the Yucca Valley Elks Lodge served hot dogs and chips.

Among those enjoying lunch was Peggy Savage, who served as an Army medic in Korea from 1950-55, including service at the Chosin Reservoir.

“I am glad to see so many veterans,” she said.

http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article_00855ce4-a880-11e6-9868-07f80fc215cb.html

Four Men Injured in Crash on Amboy Road Thursday Night

Z107.7 News

Posted: November 11, 2016



San Bernardino County Fire photo

Three men were ejected, and a fourth suffered minor injuries, in a single-vehicle crash on Amboy Road Thursday night that also caused sporadic power outages. According to County Fire Captain Dan Nelson, rescue personnel were called at 10:52 p.m. to the crash site, just south of the town of Amboy, where they found a mid-size sedan with major damage in the highway. The car had collided with a power pole, which caused at least one power line to break and begin arcing in the area. Three of the car's occupants, including the driver, had been ejected onto the road and into the surrounding desert and suffered major injuries. The car's front seat passenger was not ejected and was walking around when paramedics arrived; he suffered only minor injuries and was taken to Hi-Desert Medical Center by Morongo Basin Ambulance. The victims were all between the ages of 18 and 19. The other three men were flown by Mercy Air to trauma centers in the lower desert. The cause of the crash is under investigation by the California Highway Patrol.

<http://z1077fm.com/four-men-injured-in-crash-on-amboy-road-thursday-night/>

VVTA Bus Involved in Early Morning Crash

Victor Valley News

Posted: November 11, 2016



(Photo courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire)

HESPERIA – San Bernardino County Fire responded to a traffic collision involving a pickup truck and a Victor Valley Transit Authority bus Friday morning.

The crash was reported at about 9:30 a.m. on Arrowhead Lake Rod and Danbury Avenue in Hesperia.

Per scanner reports, the response was upgraded to a traffic collision with extrication. When firefighters arrived they confirmed negative on the extrication.

Authorities located VVTA bus route #46 with damage to the rear driver side directly in front of a bus stop along Danbury Avenue. And a Dodge Ram pickup truck with major front end damage was blocking lanes of traffic.

According to San Bernardino County Fire Battalion Chief Kelly Anderson, no passengers were on board the bus and the bus driver was not injured.

The driver of the pickup truck was taken to a local hospital with moderate injuries, stated Anderson.

The cause of the crash is currently under investigation and at this time it's unknown if alcohol or drugs were a factor in the crash.

Information will be updated as it becomes available.

<http://www.vvng.com/vvta-bus-involved-in-early-morning-crash/>

Firefighter's Daughter, Charlotte Rae, Gains Her Wings

Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News

Posted: November 12, 2016



(Father, Jared Newcomer, held the hand of his precious baby girl.)

VICTOR VALLEY, CALIF. (VVNG.com) A Victorville firefighter and his wife shared their emotional roller coaster of a ride experience trying to keep their newborn twins, Charlotte Rae and Aubry Jean, alive.

The twins were born prematurely in NICU at Kaiser Permanente in Fontana three weeks ago.

On Wednesday, Charlotte Rae required a major emergency surgery due to a massive and extremely rapidly spreading infection. They immediately called on everyone who believed in the power of prayer to uplift their baby girl.

The outpouring of support for the Newcomers came flowing in by the hundreds with many thoughtful and caring messages from complete strangers who were moved by their story.

On Saturday afternoon, the family shared in a heartfelt post that Charlotte Rae passed away, "Our beautiful baby girl Charlotte Rae lost her fight yesterday. She died without pain in Kelly's lap with both of our arms around her. There are no words to describe our pain, so I just won't go into that right now," Jared shared.

Jared went on to thank everyone for their prayers and support, and also thanked his daughter Charlotte Rae for restoring his faith in humanity:

"Charlotte touched so many lives in just 3 weeks on this earth. We were hesitant to post on FB but seeing how many people it reached and how many prayers lifted Charlotte literally restored my faith in humanity. I know now that will be part of my daughter's memory and story... That at just 3 weeks old, she restored her Dad's faith in humanity... (w)e find comfort knowing that so many family, friends, and good people lifted our family in prayer.," stated the grieving father.

The family's spokesperson, Captain Eric Spies, with the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**, told Victor Valley News that the family is overwhelmed with gratitude with the amount of support the department members and the community has shown.

“Twin sister Aubrey is still in the NICU and has a long road ahead of her, so we’re going to support them through that, and just help them through any way we can,” stated Capt. Spies.

Jared has been dedicated to the San Bernardino County Fire Department since he was 15-years-old when he started as a fire explorer in Phelan. He has since dedicated his career to the Victor Valley protecting the community and currently, serves as Fire Captain in Victorville. His wife Kelly is a registered nurse at St. Mary’s Hospital in Apple Valley.

“Our firefighters have come together to help Jared and Kelly come through this tragedy, we put together the Fire Fighter Foundation Fund to help them out. If the public would like to help out, they are more than welcomed to, 100% of (the money raised) will go to Jared and Kelly for all the expenses they are incurring,” stated Captain Spies.

Jared Newcomer finished his message with how proud he was for his daughter’s fight. “Charlotte fought hard and we are so proud of her. We know we will always be her Mom and Dad and that one day we will see her again. It is not goodbye, just goodbye for now. Mommy and Daddy love you, Charlotte...”

If you would like to help the family during their time of need, please click the following link to donate: ([Fire Fighter Foundation Fund](#))

<http://www.vvng.com/firefighters-daughter-charlotte-rae-gains-her-wings/>

HOUSE FIRE: Firefighters Knock Down Residential Structure Fire

Michael P. Neufeld, Rim of the World News

Posted: November 13, 2016, 4:04 AM

Lake Arrowhead, CA – Shortly after 10 p.m. Saturday, **San Bernardino County Fire** personnel were dispatched to a residential structure fire in the 1300 block of Portillo Lane in Lake Arrowhead.

First units on scene of the 10:11 p.m. blaze reported fire on the roof and went into attack mode while the incident commander called for assistance from the U.S. Forest Service and CALFIRE.

FIRE KNOCKED DOWN

At 10:32 p.m., the incident commander reported that the fire had been knocked down and that crews had switched to overhaul mode, according to San Bernardino County Fire.

<http://rotwnews.com/2016/11/13/house-fire-firefighters-knock-down-residential-structure-fire/>

Adelanto House Fire Displaces Occupants

Victor Valley News

Posted: November 13, 2016



(Photo obtained from a hands free Go Pro Camera)

ADELANTO – An early morning house fire on Saturday, November 12th in Adelanto left six occupants displaced.

At 5:04 a.m. dispatch received numerous reports of a structure fire in 11000 block of Lee Avenue in the city of Adelanto. First arriving San Bernardino County Sheriffs Deputies reported a house fully involved.

Medic Engine 322 arrived on scene several minutes after dispatch and reported a single story home with fire visible through the roof. All occupants were out of the home prior to arrival.

Subsequent arriving crews secured a water supply from a nearby hydrant, deployed additional hoselines and prevented fire spread to nearby residences. The fire was knocked down in approximately 30 minutes. The residence sustained significant damage and displaced 6 occupants including 4 adults and 2 children. The Inland Empire American Red Cross is providing assistance to the displaced occupants.

County Fire responded with 3 paramedic engines companies, 1 truck company, 1 battalion chief and 1 fire investigator for a total of 14 personnel. The cause is under investigation by the office of the fire marshal.

There were no injuries to civilians or firefighters.

<http://www.vvng.com/adelanto-house-fire-displaces-occupants/>