



NEWS



News Headlines 10/5/2018

- SBD Fest returns for it's fourth year
- Teenager fights for his life after car collision
- Public speakers and town council rail against fire fee. Fire department: Taxes not enough to pay for services

SBD Fest returns for it's fourth year

Staff Writer, Highland Community News

Posted: October 4, 2018



The fourth annual SBD Fest air show to be held Nov. 3-4 at San Bernardino International Airport will feature an U.S. Air Force A-10C "Warthog" among many other aerial and static displays.

SBD Fest, an air festival, returns for its fourth year with activities in the air and on the ground on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 3-4, at San Bernardino International Airport.

This years highlight is the U.S. Air Force A-10C "Warthog" Thunderbolt II Demonstration Team. Aerobatic performers include the exciting Patriots Jet Team, Rob Harrison "The Tumbling Bear," John Collver with "War Dog," Gregory "Wired" Colyer with "Ace Maker," Air Force Heritage Flight, plus more to be announced.

"While SBD Fest is first and foremost an air show, there is so much happening on or near the ground that people miss out on by not entering the gates," says Catherine Pritchett, air show administrator. "Our ground entertainment includes Lucha Libre wrestlers, motorcycle demos by Quaid Haley Davidson and the Red Bull Motorcycle Stunt Team, a car show, the bat-mobile, and that's just a start. Imagine seeing the Patriots Jet Team fly an L-39 Albatros right in front of your eyes. You cannot see that from outside the gates."

The SBD Fest Concert Series, sponsored by Southern California Toyota Dealers, takes place on the award-winning Boeing 737 concert stage. It will showcase '90s favorite Gin Blossoms, and Latin soul legends, Tierra. Gin Blossoms will close out Saturday night with such favorites as "Hey Jealousy" and "Follow You Down." The music is followed by a fireworks show. Sunday afternoon, you can slow jam to old school favorites performed by Tierra as they take the concert stage.

The SB Strong Public Safety Rivalry, sponsored by the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, also returns for its third year. Rather than a plane pull, this year's "Battle of the Badges" features a highly competitive tug of war. San Bernardino city police will challenge the San Bernardino County sheriff's deputies on Saturday for an opportunity to compete against the 2017 SB Strong Champions, the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**. The final round of the 2018 SB Strong Battle of the Badges will take place on Sunday afternoon.

SBD Fest's mission is to promote aviation and give back to the local community. So, proceeds of this year's SBD Fest will benefit The Unforgettables Foundation and the Riverside National Cemetery Support Committee.

The Fest provides a unique opportunity for local businesses and vendors to present themselves to audiences of nearly 10,000 people from our local communities. Those interested in sponsoring or becoming a vendor can email info@sdbfest.com.

Ticket holders will experience the sights and sounds of an air show, car show, and concert while building family memories to last a lifetime. Free admission for children 12 and under, pre-sale general admission tickets are \$15 until Oct. 22 and \$20 afterward. Senior and military with proper ID can buy discount tickets at the gate on event days.

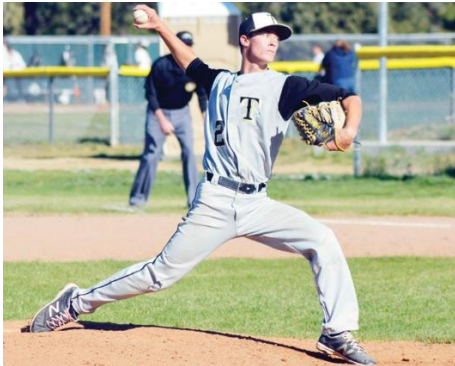
Event hours are 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

https://www.highlandnews.net/entertainment/sbd-fest-returns-for-it-s-fourth-year/article_b9afedaa-c7f6-11e8-8383-03f6f87e97b4.html

Teenager fights for his life after car collision

Jené Estrada Hi-Desert Star

Posted: October 4, 2018



Junior Tim Parker takes the mound for the Trojans Monday afternoon in Big Bear. Pitching two innings, Parker allowed just one run.

LANDERS — Nineteen-year-old Timothy “Tim” Parker was in a car accident a few miles from his house on Sept. 23 and is still in critical condition at Desert Regional Medical Center.

Parker’s vehicle rolled in the collision and he suffered a traumatic brain injury. The **San Bernardino County Fire** Department responded and he was flown from the Yucca Valley Airport to the hospital in Palm Springs.

Since then, surgeons have had to remove part of his skull to control the pressure in his brain. While his diagnosis is still critical, his family and friends remain hopeful.

“We are so thankful to the community,” said Tim’s mother, Shawnanada Parker. “We have received so much love and support and prayers, it’s unbelievable.”

One of 12 siblings, Tim has a large family that has been active in the community for over a decade.

“He’s an awesome big brother and little brother to his siblings and a great son,” said Parker.

Locals might have spotted him playing in Tri-Valley Little League from first grade all the way to high school, and then playing for Yucca Valley High School’s varsity baseball team all four years he attended.

“Baseball was his life,” his mom said. “He played even played intercollegiate over the summer.”

Tim graduated from Yucca Valley High School last spring and, after deciding that college was not his path, has been pursuing a career baseball. He was preparing to play in showcase tryouts in hopes of making his way to a minor-league team.

His family has been staying by his hospital bedside since he was admitted. Added to their agony is that Shawnanada Parker lost another child to illness seven years ago.

“Timothy’s mom lost her 22-year-old daughter seven years ago at this same hospital,” said family friend Cara Cash. “A mom should never have to live this once, much less twice.”

Cash created a GoFundMe page for the family.

“I am trying to help raise money for family to travel, provide meals to the family and help replace lost income so they can be by Timothy’s side during this difficult time,” Cash said.

To donate, visit www.gofundme.com/prayers-for-timothy-parker.

http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article_e4348b6c-c800-11e8-8820-0f977a0c493e.html

Public speakers and town council rail against fire fee. Fire department: Taxes not enough to pay for services

Stacy Moore, Hi-Desert Star

Posted: October 4, 2018

YUCCA VALLEY — Seven residents and most Town Council members spoke out against the fire department’s proposal to expand its zone 5 and charge a \$156 annual fee Tuesday.

Several of the speakers said because 22 percent each property’s taxes goes to the **county fire** department already, they do not want to pay more.

“Yucca Valley property owners already pay one of the highest fire tax rates in the county,” said Donna Davies. “Why would anybody want to pay more and potentially get nothing for it?”

She described the protest process, which requires property owners to download and mail in a form. “Personally I think it will take a miracle for this to happen. I sincerely hope I’m wrong.”

Councilman Jeff Drozd agreed with the criticisms of the process.

“The way this tax I feel is being shoved down our throats is wrong,” Drozd said. “I’m really more upset with the process than the tax.”

Cindy Pague, a resident of Yucca Valley for five years, read part of a complaint letter she sent to the board of supervisors. “The chaos of the fire tax and misinformation are immense,” she read.

“They are asking us to approve a fire tax before we know what the revenue will be used for, which is ludicrous.”

“I’m really in support of our fire and paramedics. I had to use them today for my daughter,” said real estate agent Candice Moulton. “That said, I don’t support rewarding bad behavior. ... They’re just going to keep asking for more and more. When does it ever end?”

Tracey Martinez, a spokeswoman for the county fire department, responded to the charges that they aren’t budgeting well.

“We try our hardest to live within our budget, but there are unexpected expenses,” she said.

For instance, a recent large fire in Forest Falls just cost the fire department about \$1 million.

“You have things like that that come up,” Martinez said.

“We have a need to replace stations, maybe upgrade stations, maybe add stations due to increases in housing.”

The county fire department gets its money from taxes, not contracts like the Sheriff’s Department has with Yucca Valley, which is increased each year without a public vote.

“The majority of the time, the tax base does not cover the costs of fire, rescue and emergency medical services, so the Board of Supervisors has had to augment our budget,” Martinez said. “And we cannot keep operating like that. It also takes away from other county needs.”

Some people at the meeting were concerned that the majority of the department budget goes to pensions. “Less than 17 percent of our entire budget goes to pensions,” Martinez responded.

The lone person speaking up in support of the proposal was Tami Roleff, a resident of the country club area who said her husband remembers watching the Sawtooth Complex Fire burning down the hills toward their house.

“I think firefighters are worth every single penny they earn,” she said.

“I support the fire tax. ... I have no problem paying them money to save my house or my neighbor’s house.”

An extra \$13 a month is a small price to pay for fire protection, Roleff said.

Taxes fall nearly \$12 million short

The purpose of the fire zone expansion and new is to increase revenue to the county fire department, which has been operating over budget for the past few years and has had to ask the county board of supervisors to fill the gap using money from the general fund. Last year, the deficit was \$11.9 million.

“We have two problems currently in the fire district,” Fire Chief Mike Hartwig said at a meeting in Yucca Valley in August.

“We survive off of revenue that we don’t generate within the fire district and when we do have areas that generate enough money, like Yucca Valley, they require better services and better facilities.”

If the service zone is expanded, property owners will be charged \$157.26 per year regardless of the value of their property.

Peppering the comments about fire department funding Tuesday was also talk about wanting more services from the fire department.

“We should be putting more public service out there, more sheriffs, more fire,” Darrel Pague said. “We need them out there,” he said, pointing to the mesa area. “These fire houses that are empty, we need to man them.”

Town Manager Curtis Yakimow said the local government has been working with the county fire department because they want at least one new fire station in Yucca Valley.

“We’ve been in communication with the San Bernardino County fire office highlighting our desire for a replacement for station 41 as well as a fire station in the west end of the town,” he said.

“Irrespective of what happens with FP-5, be assured that town staff will continue those conversations,” Yakimow told the council.

http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article_0e6113aa-c80c-11e8-92e6-3fbc0a8d293c.html