



NEWS



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Safe Surrender Baby Kits Supplied to All Full-Time San Bernardino Fire Stations

Vanessa Arredondo, NBC 4 News

Posted: August 6, 2019



All 60 fire stations in San Bernardino County will be equipped with one newborn baby kit, which includes a onesie, a beanie, a blanket, and newborn diapers.

A new partnership is ensuring that all newborn babies safely surrendered to **San Bernardino County fire** stations are comfortable and cozy.

Loma Linda University Children's Health is providing all full-time fire stations in San Bernardino County with supply kits to care for safely surrendered newborns. Each baby kit will include a onesie, beanie, blanket and diapers.

Through this partnership, firefighters will be fully equipped to make surrendered infants as comfortable as possible when they are transported to hospitals to be monitored and cared for before a new home is found for them.

"When babies are dropped off, it's a moment of crisis. The mother or parents aren't thinking about the baby having all of the essentials," said Sherry Nolfie, the chief nursing officer of Loma Linda University Children's Hospital.

The Safe Surrender program allows for newborns less than three days old to be dropped off at hospital emergency rooms or other designated safe surrender sites in California--no questions asked and regardless of the circumstances. The policy was developed to prevent newborn infants from being injured or killed as a result of abandonment.

"We honor these moms because the hardest thing to do is leave your child. We applaud moms who safe surrender their babies because they aren't able to care for them, but they want them to be safe. And we want to be a part of that solution," Nolfie said.

In 2004, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors designated all full-time fire stations in the county to be equipped as safe haven/surrender sites.

Due to this partnership, all 60 fire stations in the county will be equipped with one newborn baby kit and have more available in storage. Previously, the stations used whatever medical supplies was on hand.

Nolfie said fire stations soon realized their facilities did not have the basic resources needed for surrendered babies, whether it was a lack of weather-appropriate clothing or enough diapers. She said these kits were created to meet a newborn's basic needs.

"Loma Linda University Children's Health generous donation has helped ensure that the Safe Surrender program remains a tremendous resource for the citizens of San Bernardino County," said Interim Fire Chief Don Trapp. "Ensuring the safety and security of these babies and their mothers is one of the many ways the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District remains committed to integrity, compassion, professionalism and service."

Three newborns have been dropped off at San Bernardino fire stations within the last five years. Although safe surrenders do not occur too often in their department, San Bernardino Fire wants to make sure they are ready to accommodate newborns when they arrive.

To find a safe surrender site, visit this website.

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Safe-Surrender-Baby-Kits-Will-Be-Supplied-to-San-Bernadino-Fire-Station-521868021.html>

Gas leak caused by digging in Yucca Valley yard

Stacy Moore, Hi-Desert Star

Posted: August 5, 2019



Firefighters with San Bernardino County wait for the arrival of a Gas Company worker to shut off the gas on Borrego Trail Monday afternoon

YUCCA VALLEY — A high-pressure gas line was clipped by someone digging in the yard of a home in the 7400 block of Borrego Trail Monday afternoon.

A **San Bernardino County** fire captain said on the scene that the homeowners were working in the yard when they hit the gas line. Firefighters closed off the street in the immediate vicinity, just north of Papago Trail, and aimed hoses at the house while waiting for the Gas Company to arrive.

A Gas Company worker got on the scene around 2 p.m.

The captain said the potential for gas leaks like this one is why it's important to call 811 at least two working days before starting a digging project.

You can also call (800) 422-4133 or visit www.digalert.org to enter an online ticket to check for gas lines.

http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article_a5270bb0-b7c5-11e9-93d3-cb2a84204885.html

VEGETATION FIRE IN FLAMINGO HEIGHTS CONFIRMED TO 15 ACRES

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: August 5, 2019



Local firefighters worked together Saturday afternoon to stop a vegetation fire from spreading in the Flamingo Heights area north of Yucca Valley . Just before 2 p.m., crews from Calfire, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, Morongo Valley, and **county crews** from Yucca Mesa, Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, Twentynine Palms, and Wonder Valley converged on Old Woman Springs Road and La Brisa where a fire quickly spread to 15 acres. Two air tankers and two helicopters were also called in to help fight the blaze. A

slight breeze contributed to the spread of the fire. Firefighters stopped the forward progress of the fire in about an hour and 15 minutes. The cause is still under investigation.

<http://z1077fm.com/vegetation-fire-in-flamingo-heights-confined-to-15-acres/>

Helicopter rescue after man falls down waterfall

Staff Writer, The Desert Independent

Posted: August 5, 2019

FOREST FALLS, Calif – On Wednesday, July 31 about 1:30 p.m., the Julian Jaimes (age 18 of San Jacinto) was hiking to Big Falls in the Forest Falls area. While attempting to climb to the top of the waterfall, Jaimes slipped on the wet rocks and fell approximately 20 to 30 feet.

As a result of the fall, Jaimes sustained serious injuries and was unable to hike out of the area on his own. Due to the remote location of the victim, **San Bernardino County Fire** Department personnel requested the Sheriff's rescue helicopter for a hoist rescue.

Sheriff's helicopter 40K6 responded to the area, located Jaimes at the base of the falls and confirmed a hoist rescue was required to safely extricate Jaimes from the rocky terrain. Sheriff's rescue helicopter Air Rescue 306 responded and lowered rescue personnel to Jaimes. Jaimes was placed into a rescue basket, hoisted up to the helicopter and transported to Loma Linda University Medical Center with serious injuries.

<https://www.thedesertindependence.com/Articles-2019/SandR-Helicopter-rescue-after-man-falls-down-waterfall--0805.html>

Unfinished parking lot and extreme heat holds up Chemehuevi Indian Tribe's Havasu Landing Casino opening

K Morrison, World Casino News

Posted: August 5, 2019



Nearly seven years in the making, “work force challenges” are being blamed for the delay of the long-awaited opening of the new \$40 million Havasu Landing Resort & Casino in California across the border from Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

The Chemehuevi Indian Tribe broke ground on the 25,000 square-foot resort and casino on November 14, 2017. At that time, California-based Bernards Bros. Construction slated the project for completion in spring 2019. However, tribal officials say that an unpaved parking lot now stands in the way of the much-anticipated grand opening.

“We’ve done several walk-throughs but we don’t have any firm, hard dates yet (for opening) because there’s no parking lot.”

According to Today's News-Herald, vice chairman for the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, Brian McDonald, said...

"Find me some concrete workers. We're having work force challenges in trying to get our parking lot finished. We can't invite people here if the lot isn't done.

Excessive heat contributing factor:

The news report indicates that the intense heat this summer has contributed to concrete finishers being prevented from completing the work. The Desert Southwest continues to experience blistering temperatures as a heat wave makes its way through the region, with temps easily reaching triple digits.

The region is currently under an excessive heat warning.

Otherwise good-to-go:

All other construction work, however, is on schedule, noted McDonald...

"Things are progressing on track for the dates we had with contractors. The parking lot is the last big piece of the project."

From humble beginnings:

The federally recognized Chemehuevi Indian Tribe is also responsible for the Havasu Landing Resort and Casino situated on the western shores of Lake Havasu at Havasu Lake, California. And in 1967 Havasu Palms Inc. leased the casino site property from the federal government, and the land/Havasu Landing wasn't added to the reservation until 1974 and has been the primary source of revenue for the tribe since then. The new casino, located just a quarter-mile north, will reportedly replace the nearby existing gambling venue.

Targeted opening:

Former tribal official, Glen Lodge, told Today's News-Herald in the spring that July was targeted for both the opening of the new hotel and the casino. According to the news agency, McDonald said that Lodge's statement was by all accounts factual a few months ago.

"We had to choose a date for the alcohol license, so we chose July 31," said, McDonald. "We've done several walk-throughs but we don't have any firm, hard dates yet (for opening) because there's no parking lot."

McDonald also reportedly made note of the fact that art for the new facility is being assembled by the tribe and that this week furniture will be delivered.

New digs:

A previously published report by the news agency explained that at 13,000 square feet, the soon to open gaming venue's single-story casino will be about 30 percent larger than the existing one and include 320 gaming machines and 6 gaming tables. Additionally, at 2,000 square feet, the adjoining restaurant would also be approximately 30 percent larger than the Trails End Restaurant in the existing facility. It also appears as though there will be a full-service bar on the casino floor.

Adjacent to the casino, the new resort hotel that broke ground almost two years ago includes 48 guestrooms and along with a 117-slip marina with a fuel dock, the new property will feature a small meeting space, fitness center, pool and an arcade for kids.

Lodging demand:

With no hotels currently located on the Chemehuevi reservation, there have been logistical problems for families who visit and a significant number of inquiries from people who visit regarding overnight accommodations.

Fire protection a non-issue:

According to Today's News-Herald, talk in the town blaming the opening delay on a lack of around the clock fire protection was dismissed by McDonald, who said...

"The fire protection issue has been resolved. We'll have 24-hour fire service through **San Bernardino County**. We're having a celebration on Aug. 5 to recognize it."

The fire department will reportedly cover the Tribe reservation as well as other real estate in the county.

"We have pockets of county property on the reservation," said McDonald. "We have 32,000 to 36,000 acres of pristine desert. It runs from just north of Copper Canyon to just short of the (Havasupai) wildlife refuge."

Call for finishers:

McDonald reiterated the issue with the delay and said that they "need good concrete workers" and for "good finishers" to contact him.

Visitors can get to the new casino resort via hourly ferry rides from Lake Havasu City.

The existing casino at One Main Street, features 245 gaming machines including penny slots, video poker and keno games, in-house progressives, million-dollar progressives, along with a card room for live blackjack and three card Poker.

A 2016 report indicated that before the construction process could start, in 2015 the tribe was still waiting for an Environmental Impact Report to be approved before going forward with the project. No issues were reportedly found.

<https://news.worldcasinodirectory.com/unfinished-parking-lot-and-extreme-heat-holds-up-chemehuevi-indian-tribes-havasupai-landing-casino-opening-69522>

National Night Out events set for Tuesday

Rene Ray De La Cruz, Victorville Daily Press

Posted: August 5, 2019, 4:48 PM



Last year's National Night Out event in Victorville included McGruff the Crime Dog, Sparky the fire fighting dog and sheriff's Explorers showing off their dancing skills. [James Quigg, Daily Press]

APPLE VALLEY — Many High Desert residents are expected to participate in Tuesday's National Night Out, an event designed to build and strengthen the relationship between neighbors and members of law enforcement.

The annual community-building campaign includes large public gatherings that include various activities such as a meet-and-greet with public safety personnel, first responder vehicle tours, inflatables, food, vendors, music, exhibits, face painting, activities for the kids, resources and more.

"We took our son Daniel to a National Night Out party in Apple Valley one year and he fell in love with a few sheriff's deputies who let him sit in their patrol car," said Cheryl Osterman, who lives in Apple Valley. "Now, every time we see a sheriff's car, he tells us that he wants to be a policeman."

"These National Night Out events are the perfect place for young people to connect with those that protect and serve our community," retired teacher Kendra Davis-Malone, 68, told the Daily Press.

"In today's society, we need to teach our children that the police are here to protect them and that they shouldn't fear them," said Davis-Malone, who lives in Victorville. "They also need to know that the police department is made up of people who are moms, dads, brothers, and sisters."

High Desert National Night Out events on Tuesday include:

- Apple Valley: 5 to 6 p.m at Apple Valley Commons/Super Target Shopping Center, 20288 Hwy. 18
- Barstow: 6 to 9 p.m. at Dana Park, 850 Barstow Rd.
- Hesperia: 5 to 6 p.m at Civic Plaza Park, 15833 Smoke Tree St.
- Silver Lakes: 5 p.m. at Silver Lakes North Shore, 27722 Lakeview Dr.
- Victorville: 5 to 8 p.m. at Victorville City Hall, 14343 Civic Dr.

For more information on National Night Out, visit <https://natw.org/>

<https://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20190805/national-night-out-events-set-for-tuesday>