



NEWS



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Residents express frustration over constant explosions of illegal fireworks in Fontana

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: June 28, 2018



These are some of the illegal fireworks that have been confiscated by authorities. The fireworks were displayed during a press conference in Fontana recently.

Many Fontana residents are expressing their frustration over the illegal fireworks that repeatedly explode at various locations throughout the city, making loud noises and disrupting neighborhood tranquility.

Some of the residents are questioning whether the Fontana Police Department and the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department have been effective in addressing the problem.

Here are some of the comments on the Fontana Herald News Facebook page:

- "They have been shooting off illegal fireworks since May. And come July 4th it is ludicrous. And to date in the last 25 years, the police have done zero to curtail this activity." -- Deborah Martinez
- "People shoot off illegals just about every night in my neighborhood. Year around." -- Sarah J. Hamby
- "People ask me where I'm going to go for 4th of July, and I tell them my backyard garden hose to make sure my house doesn't burn down." -- Greg Ooms
- "Really wish the police were more on top of this. My neighborhood has been sounding like a war zone every single night for the past month." -- Jessica Chandler
- "What is it with Fontana? Illegal fireworks are going off year round in the area between Sierra Avenue and Citrus Avenue (east and west) and Highland Avenue and Baseline Avenue. It is especially bad for the 4th of July AND New Year's Eve. Why is it not being handled better?" -- LeAnna Gradecki
- "Prohibition obviously does not work because people use them anyway. Why do we even have a fire department?" -- Aaron Flores.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/opinion/residents-express-frustration-over-constant-explosions-of-illegal-fireworks-in/article_2589d47c-7aeb-11e8-80ca-13468a5ce2f5.html

Fire erupts at Victorville home Wednesday

Paola Baker, Daily Press

Posted: June 27, 2018, 6:46 p.m.



San Bernardino County Fire Department officials douse a blaze at a home in Victorville Wednesday/ [Photo by Caleb Aguilera, for the Daily Press]

VICTORVILLE — A blaze at a home here was quickly mitigated by firefighters before it could spread to other structures Wednesday.

Reported just after 4 p.m., the fire erupted at a home in the 12600 block of Silver Saddle Way. Driven by strong winds, several neighbors said they could all see smoke and flames billowing from a second-story window.

San Bernardino County Fire Department units arrived within four minutes, according to Battalion Chief Josh Sprague, and found a fire with “heavy smoke and flames” showing from a bedroom in the back of the home.

“The first truck arrived and performed ventilation on the roof and that aided them when going inside to get to the fire,” Sprague said.

Firefighters focused on ensuring the flames wouldn’t spread to nearby homes while getting the fire under control. Using three engines, two truck companies, a chief officer and a fire investigator, the blaze was under control within 30 minutes, Sprague said.

Several neighbors said there had been a fire at the home in question last year. Rita Herrera, who lives nearby, said a fire occurred there last December. Others said they believed that fire may have been drug-related.

But Sprague said on scene there didn’t appear to be any suspicious factors behind Wednesday’s blaze.

“The house looked clean from the inside. We didn’t notice anything suspicious right away,” Sprague said.

No injuries were reported. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20180627/fire-erupts-at-victorville-home-wednesday>

Conveyor Fire Reported at Cemex Plant in California

Staff Writer, Powder Bulk Solids

Posted: June 27, 2018



The CEMEX cement plant in Victorville, CA. Image courtesy of Google Maps

Firefighters responded to a fire in a rock conveying system on Tuesday at the CEMEX facility in Victorville, CA, the Victorville Daily Press reported.

Called to the plant at about 2 p.m., members of the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department arrived and observed fire coming from the conveyor. County Fire Captain Jeff Allen told the *Daily Press* that firefighters were able to put the fire down quickly.

No injuries resulted from the blaze. A fire investigator was called to the scene to look into the cause of the incident, Allen said in the newspaper's report. The cause remains unknown.

The Victorville plant, which has supplied concrete for major construction projects like the Hoover Dam, marked 100 years in operation in 2016, according to a company press release. At the time of its anniversary, the CEMEX facility had a capacity of 3 million tn/yr of cement.

A search of inspections conducted by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) from the last five years reveals that the CEMEX plant in Victorville was cited with three repeat violations and five "other" violations on Jan. 3, 2018. The company was ordered to pay fines totaling \$7,210, according to agency documents.

<http://www.powderbulksolids.com/news/Conveyor-Fire-Reported-at-CEMEX-Plant-in-California-06-27-2018>

Pedestrian struck by vehicle on SR-138 after allegedly jumping into traffic

Staff Writer, VVNG

Posted: June 27, 2018



(Google Maps)

PINON HILLS, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Officers with the California Highway Patrol are investigating vehicle versus pedestrian crash.

At about 5:33 am, 911 dispatch received multiple calls of a pedestrian jumping in and out of traffic lanes on SR-138 at Oasis Road.

As officers were responding to the call they received another call relating to a red Hyundai Accent, driven by a 62-year-old man from Pinon Hills that had struck a pedestrian in the same area.

When officers arrived on the scene, the pedestrian was awake and disoriented and suffering from major injuries, stated a CHP news release.

The pedestrian is a middle age, white male, who was wearing brown pants and a grey shirt. He was transported by **San Bernardino County Fire** Air Rescue to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center for treatment.

Anyone with information regarding this traffic collision or any information regarding the identity of the pedestrian is urged to call the California Highway Patrol, Victorville Area office at (760) 241-1186.

<https://www.vvng.com/pedestrian-struck-by-vehicle-on-sr-138-after-allegedly-jumping-into-traffic/>

Pedestrian airlifted after being struck by vehicle on SR-138 Wednesday morning

Kevin Trudgeon, Daily Press

Posted: June 27, 2018, 9:08 a.m.

A pedestrian was airlifted to an area trauma center after he was struck by a vehicle on State Route 138 Wednesday morning.

At approximately 5:33 a.m., the “Barstow Communication Center received multiple calls of a pedestrian jumping in and out of traffic lanes on SR-138 at Oasis Road,” according to California Highway Patrol officials.

As CHP officers were responding to the location, another call reported that a red Hyundai Accent, driven by a 62-year-old Pinon Hills man, had struck the pedestrian.

“When officers arrived on scene, the pedestrian was awake but disoriented, suffering from major injuries,” CHP officials said. “The pedestrian was unable to provide any identification. The pedestrian is a middle age, white male, who was wearing brown pants and a gray shirt.”

The pedestrian was transported by **San Bernardino County Fire** Air Rescue to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center for treatment.

Anyone with information regarding the traffic collision or the identity of the pedestrian is urged to call the CHP Victorville Area office at 760-241-1186.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20180627/pedestrian-airlifted-after-being-struck-by-vehicle-on-sr-138-wednesday-morning>

Fireworks Alert!

Tracey Martinez, Public Information Officer

Posted: June 27, 2018, 1:05 p.m.



With it being summer and dangerous fire season, always be careful when using safe fireworks.

“Safe and Sane” fireworks are only allowed in the following cities: Adelanto, Chino, Colton, and Rialto, as well as specific locations in Fontana, Grand Terrace, and San Bernardino. Please call the fire department in these cities for more information. All fireworks are illegal elsewhere in the county. All fireworks that explode, shoot into the air or move along the ground are termed dangerous and are illegal anywhere in California.

With San Bernardino County facing a dangerous wildland fire season, the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department (SBCoFD) has increased its vigilance in enforcing state and county firework laws to protect public health and safety. Fire and law enforcement agencies will be conducting operations this year to stop attempts to smuggle tens of thousands of pounds of illegal fireworks with fines up to \$1,250 for the first offense with the possibility of arrest. Property owners may be cited if they allow fireworks to be possessed, stored or used on their property.

“Residents play an important role in our fireworks investigations. If you see something, say something. Call the authorities or WeTip hotline at 1-800-47-ARSON to anonymously report illegal fireworks,” Fire Marshal Mike Horton said.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, on a typical 4th of July, fireworks cause more fires in the U.S. than all other causes combined. In addition to fires, fireworks cause deaths, blindness, maiming injuries to children and adults, re-traumatize war veterans suffering from PTSD, and frighten household pets.

While “Safe and Sane” fireworks are allowed in some San Bernardino County communities, the County Board of Supervisors and SBCoFD encourage residents to watch fireworks at community celebrations rather than use their own.

Visit sbcfire.org for a schedule of local firework displays.

When using Safe and Sane fireworks where allowed, SBCoFD offers some safety tips:

- Always use fireworks (“Safe and Sane” only) with an adult present. Even a “Safe and Sane” sparkler burns at a temperature that ignites clothing easily
- Always read and follow label directions
- Always have water (garden hose/bucket) and a fire extinguisher within reach
- Always place fireworks on a firm, non-combustible surface, like a sidewalk or pavement
- Never alter fireworks
- Never re-light “dud” fireworks
- Homemade fireworks are often deadly; leave the making of fireworks to the experts
- Never point, throw or mishandle fireworks

For more information on fireworks safety, contact your local fire station.
Have a SAFE celebration!

<http://grandterrace.citynewsgroup.com/articles/fireworks-alert>

Seized fireworks pile up, arrests expand, man injured

Staff Writer, Inland News Today

Posted: June 27, 2018



INLAND EMPIRE – (INT) – As the Fourth of July approaches, local authorities are ramping up their campaign against illegal fireworks.

Moreno Valley police have scored a series of busts seizing 700 pounds of pyrotechnics and arresting four men.

Two handguns, an assault weapon and some methamphetamine were seized.

In their Wednesday announcement, authorities did not identify the location of the seized fireworks.

One suspect, Alberto Garibay, 26, was allegedly in possession of 455 pounds.

All the suspects resided in Moreno Valley.

In Perris, a 20-year-old man was severely injured Tuesday after lighting a firecracker at Copper Creek Park.

San Bernardino County Fire Marshal Mike Horton insists his agency is being effective. Fireworks seizures this month totaled approximately 30,000 pounds of dangerous illegal fireworks. Horton says 69 citations were issued resulting in about \$90,000 in fines. "Operations will continue through the 4th of July holiday," Horton said.

<http://www.inlandnewstoday.com/story.php?s=51231>