



NEWS



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Man suffers 'serious injuries' in head-on crash on Palmdale Road Friday

Paola Baker, Daily Press

Posted: March 10, 2017, 4:49 PM



San Bernardino County Firefighters prepare a collision victim for transport on Palmdale Road in Adelanto on Friday. [James Quigg, Daily Press]

ADELANTO — A man suffered serious injuries while 2 others were injured in a crash on Palmdale Road on Friday, authorities said.

The incident, which occurred on Palmdale Road just east of Verbena Road, was reported just before 4 p.m. Friday and involved a man in a tan Infiniti sedan and two people in a black Ford Explorer.

The man in the Infiniti was partially ejected from the vehicle from the impact, according to Sheriff's officials and several witnesses.

Victor Valley Sheriff's Station Sgt. Robert Vaccari said the man in the Infiniti was headed west on Palmdale Road when he attempted to pass a vehicle by entering the eastbound lane over double yellow lines.

"The driver of the Infiniti saw the Ford Explorer headed east on Palmdale Road, so he moved back into the westbound lane onto the right shoulder," Vaccari said. "He then overcorrected and struck the Explorer head-on."

James Bell and Denell Poff were headed west on Palmdale Road with their 14-year-old pet iguana Charlie and said they saw the sedan spin out in front of them before colliding with the Explorer.

"He would have hit us too if we hadn't stepped on the brakes," Bell said. "He had to have been going at least 60 miles per hour."

One witness on scene told the Daily Press the driver of the sedan was "driving erratically" while trying to pass traffic, while another said he was "hanging out of the passenger side window" and was pulled out by firefighters before being transported.

San Bernardino County Fire Department spokesman Jeff Allen said the man was partially ejected from his vehicle and suffered "serious, non-life threatening injuries". He was transported to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center for treatment.

The two people traveling in the Explorer suffered minor to moderate injuries and were transported to Desert Valley Hospital, Allen said. Further details on their injuries weren't provided Friday. No other injuries were reported.

Authorities requested a hard closure of Palmdale Road from Bellflower to Aster roads at 4 p.m. for an estimated 30 minutes, according to California Highway Patrol logs. Caltrans said on Twitter that all lanes were open as of 5:30 p.m.

The crash remains under investigation by the Victor Valley Sheriff's Station.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20170310/man-suffers-serious-injuries-in-head-on-crash-on-palmdale-road-friday>

3 Injured in Head-on Crash on Palmdale Road

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: March 10, 2017



ADELANTO, Calif. (VVNG.com) One person was partially ejected and two others injured in a traffic collision on Palmdale Road Friday afternoon.

At about 3:55 pm dispatch received reports of a head-on traffic collision with one person ejected in the area of Palmdale Road and Verbena Road in Adelanto.

First responders arrived and located a blue 2005 Ford Explorer and a silver Infinity sedan with major damage blocking the eastbound lanes.

The male driver from one of the involved vehicles was partially ejected from the sedan, authorities said.

Due to injuries sustained an airship was initially requested, however, the airship was cancelled and the patient was transported via ground ambulance to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center with serious non-life threatening injuries.

According to witnesses the driver who was ejected was reported driving erratically and at a high rate of speed prior to the collision.

Two occupants inside the Ford Explorer were transported to local hospitals with non life threatening injuries.

The cause of the crash is currently under investigation.

Eastbound traffic on Palmdale Road was temporarily closed at Monte Vista while officials cleared the roadway.

Information will be updated as it becomes available.

<http://www.vvng.com/3-injured-head-crash-crash-palmdale-road/>

Man struck by vehicle, killed in Pinon Hills

Daily Press

Posted: March 12, 2017, 11:06 AM

PINON HILLS — A 45-year-old man was struck by a vehicle and killed early Saturday while crossing the roadway, officials said.

Jeffery Ballard, of Pinon Hills, was pronounced dead at the scene, according to the San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner's Office.

The incident was reported at 4:44 a.m. Saturday.

California Highway Patrol officers and **County Fire** paramedics responded to a vehicle-versus-pedestrian call on Highway 138, east of Scrub Oak Road, in Pinon Hills, officials said.

Ballard "was crossing the roadway outside of the crosswalk and was struck by a westbound traveling vehicle," officials said in a statement.

No other information about the incident was immediately provided.

CHP is investigating the crash.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20170312/man-struck-by-vehicle-killed-in-pinon-hills>

Pinon Hills Man Killed on Highway 138

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: March 12, 2017



(Google Maps)

PINON HILLS, Calif. (VVNG.com) A 45-year-old Pinon Hills man died as a result of being struck by a vehicle early Saturday morning.

On March 11, 2017, at 4:44 am, the California Highway Patrol and the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** responded to a vehicle versus a pedestrian on State Route 138 east of Scrub Oak Rd., in unincorporated Pinon Hills.

Jeffery Ballard was crossing the roadway outside of the crosswalk and was struck by a westbound traveling vehicle., authorities said.

Ballard was pronounced dead at the scene.

The California Highway Patrol is investigation the collision.

<http://www.vvng.com/pinon-hills-man-killed-highway-138/>

Attic fire at San Bernardino business prompts evacuation

Doug Saunders, The Sun

Posted: March 10, 2017, 11:03 AM



A fire forced employees and customers to evacuate Shoe City at 808 S E St. in San Bernardino Wednesday evening. Photo courtesy of Carmen G. Montes

SAN BERNARDINO >> A fire forced customers and employees to evacuate a downtown San Bernardino shoe business Wednesday evening.

“The facade burned with smoke extension into the building,” **San Bernardino County Fire** spokesman Eric Sherwin said. “The sprinkler in the attic kept the fire at bay, but still had active fire in a 60-foot section of the facade on the store front side.”

The fire was first reported shortly after 5:30 p.m. with several reports of smoke coming from the attic of Shoe City at 808 S E St.

“Shortly after the fire erupted, the sprinklers activated and the store was evacuated,” Sherwin said. “An attic fire was located and knocked down in 25 minutes.”

Fire investigators were on scene and no injuries were reported. Fire officials haven’t released the cause of the fire.

It’s unclear when the business will reopen or how much damage was caused by the blaze.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20170310/attic-fire-at-san-bernardino-business-prompts-evacuation>

Man is injured in shooting incident in western Fontana

Fontana Herald News

Posted: March 11, 2017, 9:15 AM



A man is transported to a hospital after being shot in an early-morning incident in Fontana on March 11. (Contributed photo by Mike Myers)

A man was injured in a shooting incident which took place in the early morning hours of Saturday, March 11 in the western area of Fontana.

At about 1:20 a.m., authorities responded to the 8300 block of Pampas Lane after receiving reports of a person shot.

A party was taking place in the area, and witnesses said the victim was shot in the back.

Paramedics treated the victim at the scene and he was transported to a hospital. He was alert and talking when they loaded him in the ambulance.

The shooter left the location in a black pick-up truck, according to reports. No other information was immediately available.

http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/man-is-injured-in-shooting-incident-in-western-fontana/article_5d442328-067e-11e7-b949-d71ce3330da3.html

More than 20 displaced in fire at San Bernardino assisted living facility

Alex Groves, The Press-Enterprise

Posted: March 11, 2017, 9:46 AM

SAN BERNARDINO >> A fire at an assisted living facility in San Bernardino displaced more than 20 people early Saturday morning, a Fire Department spokesman said.

The fire was reported shortly after 1 a.m. at the two-story complex in the 1500 block of North Waterman Avenue, **San Bernardino County Fire** spokesman Ryan Vaccaro said.

Vaccaro said the blaze started in one of the rooms of the facility and that it quickly triggered overhead sprinklers.

The fire was knocked down by the time firefighters arrived, but there was a lot of flowing water and a lot of smoke, according to Vaccaro.

The residents were evacuated. Vaccaro said that the smoke and water damage was bad enough that the evacuees can't immediately return to the building.

"There's going to be a lot of construction that needs to be done before they can move back in," he said.

It wasn't immediately clear where the evacuees were staying.

Vaccaro said the cause of the fire was still under investigation Saturday.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20170311/more-than-20-displaced-in-fire-at-san-bernardino-assisted-living-facility>

1 Dead, 1 Transported To Trauma Center After Rescue Call At Devil's Backbone On Mount Baldy

AB7 News

Posted: March 11, 2017, 6:07 PM

MOUNT BALDY, Calif. (KABC) --

One person was pronounced dead at Mount Baldy Saturday morning and a second victim was hospitalized after **San Bernardino County fire** officials responded to a rescue call at an infamous trail in the area.

Officials said they were called at about 10:45 a.m. to the Devil's Backbone Trail, where two people were spotted.

The first victim, who was declared dead at the scene, was not yet identified. The second victim was hoisted and transported to a nearby trauma center.

According to officials, the trail is especially hazardous this time of year due to melting snow having made portions of the trail only 12 inches wide.

<http://abc7.com/news/1-person-found-dead-at-devils-backbone-trail-in-mount-baldy/1796531/>

Have opinions about Upland ditching its fire department? Here's where to take them

Liset Márquez, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin

Posted: March 12, 2017, 11:54 AM



Engineer Paul Kramer, with Upland Fire Station 163 on Benson Avenue, climbs into his engine Wednesday November 27, 2013 for an assignment. File photo by Will Lester/Staff Photographer

UPLAND >> Councilwoman Janice Elliott has seen the social media dialogue about the city's effort to disband its more than century old fire department and annex to San Bernardino County Fire Department's service area.

After getting the OK from Interim City Manager Martin Thouvenell, Elliott decided to hold a town hall about the discussion. It is set for Tuesday evening at the Magnolia Park & Recreation Center's south hall.

"There's a lot of misinformation, a lot of questions and a lot of concerns," she said Friday afternoon.

City officials formally began the process in November as a cost-cutting measure for the financially strapped city. If approved, by Local Agency Formation Commission — the agency that oversees annexations — it will transfer fire station properties, employees, assets, obligations, as well as liabilities. The move could be completed within the next six months.

Joining Elliott Tuesday night will be John Chamberlin, deputy chief of administration with the **San Bernardino County Fire**, who will talk about the upcoming annexation process.

"This is a very complex process and there are different perspectives from it. This is really good to have two of us there to answer the questions," she said.

To clear up any confusion about the process, Elliott noted that the city has created a section on its website with frequently asked questions about the process.

Elliott acknowledges she had some trouble in the past in attempting to address the issue on social media.

"Instead of trying to respond to all of these (questions), and getting things taken out of context, I could just respond then and there," she said, referring to the town hall meeting.

Because there is a \$75 fee to rent the room, Elliott said she would accept donations.

Tuesday's meeting will run from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the south hall of the Magnolia Park & Recreation Center, 651 W. 15th St., Upland.

<http://www.dailybulletin.com/government-and-politics/20170312/have-opinions-about-upland-ditching-its-fire-department-heres-where-to-take-them>

Man, girl injured by falling boulder on Mt. Baldy trail

Ali Tadayon, The Press-Enterprise

Posted: March 12, 2017, 2:04 PM

MOUNT BALDY >> A man and a female juvenile were injured Sunday when a falling boulder knocked them off a Mount Baldy-area trail.

They were hiking along the fire road to Mt. Baldy near San Antonio Falls about 1:15 p.m. when they were struck by a boulder that witnesses described as "massive," **San Bernardino County Fire Department** spokesman Capt. Mike McClintock said.

They were found about 300 feet below the trail. Rescue helicopters were called out, but bystanders and Mt. Baldy Fire Department firefighters were able to hike to the victims and get them to safety. Their injuries were "mild to moderate," McClintock said.

San Antonio Falls can be viewed from the trail to Mt. Baldy near the Manker Flats trailhead at the 6,500-foot level.

A few miles farther along -- at the 9,000-foot level -- is the Devil's Backbone portion of the trail, known for being treacherously narrow with steep drop-off. On Saturday, two hikers fell from the Devil's Backbone Trail, one of whom died, authorities said.

McClintock said Sunday that the changing weather has attracted lots of hikers to Mt. Baldy, whose official name is Mount San Antonio. The increased foot traffic and melting snow can make the terrain dangerous. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department urges hikers to use caution and be aware of their surroundings.

<http://www.pe.com/articles/bernardino-827345-mount-foot.html>

Pilot Fire caused by Off-Highway Vehicle

Douglas W. Motley, Alpenhorn News

Posted: March 12, 2017

Following a seven-month-long investigation into the cause of last summer's devastating Pilot Fire, which charred 8,110 acres of dry brush in the Summit Valley area north of Lake Arrowhead, the U.S. Forest Service announced on Friday, March 3 that a vehicle fire was responsible for igniting the 9-day-long blaze. Authorities said the fire erupted just before noon on August 7, 2016 in the Miller Canyon Off Highway Vehicle Area near Pilot Rock Conservation Camp.

Though fire officials initially declined to comment on the fire's cause, saying only, "It's under investigation," *The Alpenhorn News* reported on August 25, 2016 that the California Highway Patrol's online incident reports, at 12:03 p.m. on August 7, reported a vehicle fire in the vicinity of Highway 138 and Pilot Rock Camp, with a subject standing outside the vehicle yelling, "It's going to blow!" Minutes later, the next posting on the CHP website stated, "The whole mountain is on fire." A source close to the incident corroborated the scenario, saying that the vehicle in question was in fact a four-person OHV (off-highway vehicle). Fire officials on Friday, March 3 declined to describe the make and model of the OHV.

The timing of last Friday's Forest Service announcement is curious given the federal agency's same-day request for public comment on its proposals for the 2016-2017 State of California Off-Highway Vehicle grant program. According to a U.S. Forest Service news release, dated March 3, 2017, public comments can be submitted from Tuesday, March 7 through Monday, April 3, 2017 by 5 p.m.

The proposed grant funding, if approved, would reportedly be used for OHV ground operations and maintenance, restoration, law enforcement, development, and education and safety. Public comments must be submitted by email to both the State of California at www.ohv.parks.ca.gov as well as the U.S. Forest Service at dkopp@fs.fed.us.

At the height of the Pilot Fire, on Tuesday, August 9, over 14,000 persons had been ordered evacuated from their homes in Lake Arrowhead, Summit Valley and Hesperia. Over 1,000 firefighters on the ground were aided by 91 fire engines, 15 water tenders, 14 hand crews, 11 bulldozers, 8 helicopters and 8 air tankers, including one modified DC-10 airliner.

<http://alpenhornnews.com/pilot-fire-caused-by-offhighway-vehicle-p7969-155.htm>