



NEWS



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Officers find grenade inside home in western Fontana on July 16

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: July 16, 2019



The Fontana Police Department found a grenade at a house in western Fontana on July 16 and briefly evacuated nearby residents. The grenade was later rendered safe. (Contributed photo by Fontana Police Department)

The Fontana Police Department found a grenade at a house in the 8100 block of Banana Avenue in western Fontana on the afternoon of July 16, resulting in the evacuation of some of the nearby residents and business owners.

The grenade was rendered safe, and so the evacuation was lifted after about two hours, police said.

The incident began when police were asked to conduct a welfare check on an elderly couple, and when officers entered the residence, they found more than 100 guns as well as the suspicious device.

As a precaution, police called for the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department and San Bernardino County Sheriff's Bomb squad to come to the location to check the device.

Police continued to investigate why the grenade was at the location.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/officers-find-grenade-inside-home-in-western-fontana-on-july/article_45a975d0-a80a-11e9-887a-a7acae1207b2.html

Inaugural San Bernardino Food Fest monumental for city

Manny Sandoval, Inland Empire Community News

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Photo Manny B. Sandoval: San Bernardino's first Food Fest was held on Saturday, July 13th. From left: Luis Ojeda, Ivan Garcia, Kim Knaus, Jesus Medina and City of San Bernardino Parks, Recreation & Community Services Director Jim Tickemyer.

The first ever San Bernardino Food Fest was held on Saturday, July 13th, at Court Street Square in downtown San Bernardino.

The food festival featured a couple dozen food and merchandise vendors, along with live music and great company.

"Events like this are necessary because we lack community. At the end of day people in San Bernardino want to have activities that are inexpensive and family-based. We are trying to get as many people together to make some change happen. Starting off small is beautiful," said Carmen Reyes-Gonzalez, Food Fest attendee.

City officials and dignitaries who attended the Food Fest included Mayor John Valdivia, California State Assemblymember Eloise Gómez Reyes, and San Bernardino City Unified School District Board Members Gwendolyn Rodgers and Dr. Margaret Hill.

Another group who was heavily involved in the coordination of the festival was We Are the Change organization based in San Bernardino.

“I arrived earlier today to volunteer around 4 p.m. and help set everything up,” said Ivan Garcia, member of We Are the Change. “I feel very grateful that council approved of this event. It’s the beginning of something historical. It’s great to have support from the mayor and city council.”

Another member from We Are the Change who was heavily involved in the execution of the food festival is Luis Ojeda.

Ojeda attended many city council meetings to speak out during public comment in hopes of gaining city support of the food festival, along with coordinating food vendors and the San Bernardino County health inspectors.

“Everything ran so smoothly today. Thank you to the community for coming out and making the first San Bernardino Food Festival a success,” said Ojeda.

“I would especially like to thank Mayor John Valdivia, the city council, the city manager and all of the city employees, **San Bernardino County Fire**, San Bernardino County Health Department, the vendors, and of course all of the volunteers,” concluded Ojeda.

The Food Fest will be held every Saturday from 6 p.m. to midnight.

For more information, visit <http://sbfoodfest.com/>.

<https://iecn.com/inaugural-san-bernardino-food-fest-monumental-for-city/>

Property tax relief available to property owners affected by quakes

Rene Ray De La Cruz, Victorville Daily Press

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HESPERIA — With the recent earthquakes experienced in the Trona region of San Bernardino County, the assessor’s office has announced tax relief to property owners affected by natural disasters.

“State law provides that if a calamity such as an earthquake damages or destroys your property, you may be eligible for property tax relief through a reassessment by your county assessor,” said San Bernardino County Assessor-Recorder-Clerk Bob Dutton in a press release. “As county assessor, my office will reassess damaged property according to its damaged state and property taxes will be adjusted accordingly. It’s important we do all we can to help those impacted by natural disasters.”

To qualify for property tax relief, property owners must file a claim with the county assessor within 12 months from the date of damage or destruction. The loss estimate must be at least \$10,000 of current market value to qualify the property for this relief.

This property tax relief is available to owners of real property, business equipment and fixtures, orchards or other agricultural groves, and to owners of aircraft, boats, and certain manufactured homes. It is not available to property that is not assessable. In addition, when damaged property is rebuilt in a like or similar manner, the property will retain its prior value (Proposition 13) for tax purposes.

The county tax collector has announced its full support behind the reassessment efforts Dutton regarding properties in the earthquake stricken Trona region.

“I have directed my staff to prioritize taxpayer requests for earthquake property tax relief after they file requests with the assessor and those requests are approved by his office,” said, Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector Ensen Mason.

After contacting the assessor, those affected by the natural disaster may contact the ATC office at 909-387-8308 or 877-885-7654 for possible payment deferral, Mason said.

County property owners who have questions regarding a Damaged Property Reassessment in the Trona region are asked to contact the Assessor’s Hesperia District office at 15900 Smoke Tree Street, Ste. 120 in Hesperia or by calling 760-995-8030.

To download the Damaged Property Reassessment Application form, visit <https://www.sbcounty.gov/Uploads/ARC/Forms/ARP033.pdf>

For other needs, including reporting damage, please contact the **San Bernardino County Emergency Operations Center** at 909-356-3998.

<https://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20190716/property-tax-relief-available-to-property-owners-affected-by-quakes>