News Headlines 04/20/2021

- Red Cross arrives after apartment fire in Barstow displaces 25 residents on Sunday
- One Hospitalized After Hit-And-Run Motorcycle Crash In The Cajon Pass
A fire that broke out in a Barstow apartment complex Sunday afternoon displaced 25 residents and put firefighters on the defensive after multiple HVAC units fell to the ground during a lengthy battle to contain the blaze, officials said.

On Monday, the Barstow Fire Protection District said no injuries resulted among its firefighters, and the American Red Cross was requested and arrived to assist the displaced residents of the May Lane Apartments in the 1000 block of May Lane.

The fire started around 2 p.m. Sunday in the rear of a two-story, eight-unit complex, and thick plumes of brown smoke blew across nearby Interstate 15, south of the complex.

Arriving firefighters initially requested a 2-alarm assignment, according to officials. The fire advanced into the building’s attic and other units as more firefighters arrived on scene.

As crews ... entered a bottom story apartment on the front side of the complex they were met by heavy Fire,” officials said. “Moments later the fire had progressed through the roof and an operational retreat was issued for HVAC units falling.”

At that point, firefighters requested a 3-alarm assignment and transitioned to a defensive operation. Fire personnel totaled 37 by the time they got the blaze under control after 2 hours, 14 minutes, according to the fire district.

Officials said two engines — one from the Victorville Fire Department and one from the San Bernardino County Fire Department — covered the rest of the district as crews battled the apartment fire.

The Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Fire Department, County Fire, Apple Valley Fire Protection District, Victorville Fire, Fort Irwin Fire Department and Rialto Fire Department provided mutual aid, officials said.

The cause of Sunday’s fire is under investigation by County Fire’s Arson Division.

Anyone with information on the fire is asked to contact the Barstow Police Department at 760-220-2669.
Those who want to remain anonymous can call the WeTip hotline at 800-78CRIME or leave information at www.wetip.com.

CAJON PASS, CA. (Pain in The Pass) A motorcycle driver was taken to the hospital Monday afternoon after a car hit his bike and then fled the scene. California Highway Patrol and firefighters from San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to the traffic accident.

The accident was reported at about 4:06pm, Monday April 19, 2021, on southbound Interstate 15 just before Highway 138 exit.