News Headlines 09/01/2022

- Overnight temperatures to make heat wave more miserable
- North Etiwanda Preserve will be closed until Sept. 8 due to fire danger
- Driver killed after being broadsided
Overnight temperatures are going to make it harder for residents to cool down after baking in triple-digit weather.

"You need that relief for sure and there definitely is more of a risk when you don't have that cooling off period," said medical director Dr. Steve Ernst. Ernst said his emergency room at San Antonio Hospital has seen a recent uptick in heat-related illnesses as the heat wave drives temperatures across Southern California above 100 degrees.

"Could be an athlete at a football game, could be a construction worker involved in something," he said. "And they're not really paying attention to their body. Next thing you know they're on the ground. They've passed out confused or feeling very weak or tired.

Night and overnight temperatures throughout the next seven days will average at about 70 to 80 degrees, providing little relief for those spending most of their day outside in the heat.

According to UCLA researchers, these very hot nights are caused by heat waves similar to this and worsened by climate change.

"Our job does not stop when it gets hot," said San Bernardino County Fire Department engineer paramedic Jimmy Schiller. The heat wave will be top of mind for first responders this week too.

"We're getting ready to deploy a pre-positioned strike team in response to the heat wave," said Schiller.

He also offered advice to those stuck working in the heat.

"If you're doing something strenuous in this heat and your friend is no longer sweating or says they're cold, that's a big indication that they're about to have a heat-related event."

North Etiwanda Preserve will be closed until Sept. 8 due to fire danger

Staff Writer, FONTANAHERALDNEWS.COM
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This map shows the boundaries of the North Etiwanda Preserve.

Due to increased fire danger and concern for public safety, the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District and the San Bernardino County Fire Department have ordered a joint closure of the North Etiwanda Preserve.

The closure began on the night of Aug. 31 and will continue through Thursday, Sept. 8 at 6:30 a.m. at the preserve, which is located north of the Rancho Cucamonga city limits.

A violation of the closure order is punishable by a fine of $1,000.

The National Weather Service is forecasting record-breaking heat for the Southern California region through the Labor Day weekend.

The extreme heat combined with low relative humidity and wind create fire weather conditions that can ignite fires easily at a rapidly growing pace. A fire in the foothills could result in devastating destruction. The closure is necessary for public safety and to prevent igniting a wildfire that can damage or destroy the region's natural resources and the historically significant areas within the North Etiwanda Preserve, the Rancho Cucamonga Fire District said in a news release.

To request additional information related to the North Etiwanda Preserve closure, contact the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District at 1-909-477-2770 or by emailing RCFire@cityofrc.us

A 33-year-old driver was killed after he was broadsided by an 18-year-old driver who sheriff’s officials believe ran a red light in Adelanto.

The Victor Valley Sheriff’s Station reported that at 1:19 p.m. on Sunday, deputies responded to a traffic collision at the intersection of Highway 395 and Chamberlaine Way.

Deputies reported that Apolinar Lopez, 18, from Adelanto, was traveling northbound on Hwy. 395, while Enrique Meza, 33, also from Adelanto, was driving eastbound on Chamberlaine Way and crossing the highway.

At that time, Lopez allegedly ran a red light at the intersection, broadsiding Meza’s vehicle and causing major damage to both vehicles while trapping Meza inside.

Meza was extricated by San Bernardino Fire personnel and transported to a local hospital, where he died of his injuries, sheriff’s officials said.

No arrests were made, sheriff's booking records show.

The investigation is ongoing by Deputy L. Torres of the SBC Sheriff’s Department’s Major Accident Investigation Team.

Mourning Meza

A GoFundMe account was created by Meza's family, who explain that he left behind his wife, Becca, and two daughters, Bells and Rosie Meza.

“He had his whole future before him. His family was his No. 1 priority,” Meza’s family said. “Enrique was the best husband & father. Saying he will be deeply missed is an understatement.”

The family said they are thankful for everyone's condolences and loving support during this very difficult time.

Anyone with information about the collision is asked by the Sheriff’s Department to contact Deputy L. Torres at the Victor Valley Sheriff’s Station at 760-552-6800. Callers can remain anonymous and contact We-Tip at 800-78-CRIME (27463) or www.wetip.com.

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