



NEWS



News Headlines 01/03 – 06/2020

- Fontana officers use an offer of a 'Happy Meal' to coax robbery suspect off a roof
- Colton apartment complex fire displaces four families
- Air rescue of stuck rock hound in the Newberry Mountains
- Firefighters credited for saving litter of puppies from house fire
- Mama Bulldog and Puppies Saved by Firefighters in San Bernardino County
- Firefighters save several puppies from fire which erupted at residence in Fontana
- Firefighters rescue litter of puppies from burning garage in Fontana
- PILOT UNINJURED IN PLANE CRASH WEST OF TWENTYNINE PALMS AIRPORT
- More than \$33K in hoses donated to Victorville Fire
- Firefighters battling blaze engulfing 2 homes in Rialto
- Four pets die in Yucca Valley house fire

Fontana officers use an offer of a 'Happy Meal' to coax robbery suspect off a roof

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: January 5, 2020



Fontana officers were able to coax a robbery suspect off the roof of a business on Jan. 4. (Contributed photo by Fontana Police Department)

Some people just can't resist the alluring smell of food.

Fontana Police Department officers received a burglary call on the night of Jan. 4 at a San Bernardino County facility in the 17600 block of Arrow Boulevard.

The officers located a 35-year-old man on the roof of a closed building, the P.D. said on Facebook.

Sgt. Ernes managed to coax the suspect off the roof with a "Happy Meal" and a walk down a Fire Department ladder, the P.D. said.

"Unfortunately he'll have to wait for the prize until after he's released from West Valley Jail," the P.D. said.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/fontana-officers-use-an-offer-of-a-happy-meal-to/article_88d5e11a-3011-11ea-bc68-133b6ca29378.html

Colton apartment complex fire displaces four families

Eric Licas, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: January 5, 2020, 6:33 pm



Flames leap from the window of a burning multi-unit structure in Colton Sunday, Jan. 5 (Photo courtesy of the Colton Fire Department).

A fire that gutted an apartment in Colton also left four families displaced on Sunday, Jan. 5. No serious injuries were reported.

The blaze was reported at 10:04 a.m., and broke out on the upper floor of an eight-unit complex on North Rialto Avenue, near East Laurel Street, Colton Fire Department Battalion Chief Henry Perez said. One man was treated at the scene for injuries related to smoke inhalation, but he was not hospitalized.

San Bernardino County and Loma Linda **firefighters** assisted local crews in tackling the blaze, which was extinguished at about 10:35 a.m. Perez said. Flames scorched the unit where the fire started as well as the attic of the building.

The fire did not spread to the rest of the structure, firefighters said. However, smoke and water damage rendered three additional second-floor units that were adjacent to the burning apartment uninhabitable.

In total, seven adults and five children were displaced from their homes, Perez said. They received assistance from the American Red Cross.

“It gutted that one apartment, but the building isn’t a total loss,” Perez said. “It’s mostly smoke and water damage, so I think they will be able to do some work to salvage it.”

Four other apartments in the complex were not damaged, Perez said. Residents living in those units were able to stay in their homes Sunday evening.

The fire prompted the temporary closure of Laurel Street between La Cadena Drive and Mt. Vernon Avenue. All lanes were later reopened, Colton Police said in an 11:25 a.m. tweet.

Details regarding the extent of the damage caused by the fire and what might have led up to it were not immediately released. The incident was under investigation.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2020/01/05/colton-apartment-complex-fire-displaces-four-families/>

Air rescue of stuck rock hound in the Newberry Mountains

Staff Writer, *The Desert Independent*

Posted: January 4, 2020

NEWBERRY SPRINGS, Calif – On Tuesday, December 31 at 2:10 pm, Gaven Johansen (age 21 of Claremont) was in the Newberry Mountains searching for rocks and minerals, when he attempted to climb a dry waterfall which was approximately 200 feet tall. Johansen became stuck on the rock face of the waterfall and was unable to move. His father, who was also in the area, called 9-1-1 for help.

San Bernardino County Sheriff Pilot Deputy Jon Roberg and Tactical Flight Officer Deputy Cody Korkotsakis, the crew of 40King4, responded to the area, located Johansen and determined a pick-off hoist rescue would be necessary, due to Johansen's position on the rock face.

Air Rescue 306, with a crew of Pilot Sergeant Daniel Futscher, Crew Chief Deputy Chris Mejia, **SBCFD** Fire Captain Scott Michaels and SBCFD Firefighter/Paramedic Mike Demoff, responded to the scene to conduct the hoist. Mejia hoisted Michaels approximately 125 feet down to Johansen. Because of Johansen's position on a small ledge, Michaels remained connected to the hoist hook and secured Johansen with a pick-off rescue harness. Before Michaels could secure the optional leg straps on him, Johansen, who was already securely connected to the rescue harness around his waist, slid from the rock. Mejia lifted Michaels and Johansen and moved them to a position where they both could safely stand, then lowered them to the ground.

Once safely on the ground, Michaels placed Johansen fully in an additional rescue harness. Mejia then hoisted Johansen up to the helicopter, followed by Michaels.

Johansen had no injuries and was transported to personnel from the Barstow Station.

<https://www.thedesertinde.com/Articles-2020/SandR-Air-rescue-of-stuck-rock-hound-in-the-Newberry-Mountains--0104.html>

Firefighters credited for saving litter of puppies from house fire

Brittany Rall, FOX 8 Cleveland News

Posted: January 4, 2020, 7:33 pm

SAN BERNARDINO, Ca. (WJW) — Firefighters in California are being credited for saving a litter of puppies from a fire.

According to **San Bernardino County Fire**, the fire happened at a home on Jan. 3.

When firefighters arrived on scene, they were told multiple animals were still trapped inside the garage, which had heavy smoke.

Thankfully, the firefighters were able to rescue all of the dogs without injury.

They had the fire put out in 13 minutes. The garage suffered serious damage.

<https://fox8.com/2020/01/04/firefighters-credited-for-saving-litter-of-puppies-from-house-fire/>

Mama Bulldog and Puppies Saved by Firefighters in San Bernardino County

Tony Shin, NBC 4 News

Posted: January 3, 2020

A mama bulldog and her six puppies were recovering after firefighters saved them from a burning garage in San Bernardino County early Friday.

The fire erupted Friday at 9:15 a.m. in the 9700 block of Tangelo Ave. in Bloomington.

"All I could hear were the puppies crying and the mom barking," Isaiah Baldonado said.

Baldonado said he and his brother Elijah jumped into action when they heard the English bulldogs crying and saw smoke pluming out of their garage.

His brother kicked in the back door as Isaiah grabbed a water hose.

"[I was] just spraying... couldn't see anything," he said.

The family dog Abby and her six puppies, born just days before, were trapped inside.

Isaiah said they were in a crate in a corner with smoke and flames surrounding them.

"It was really hot. It was like I was being cooked alive in an oven," he said.

A neighbor who's a retired firefighter rushed over and also helped spray down the fire until **San Bernardino County firefighters** arrived. They quickly pulled Abby and her puppies to safety.

But Abby and one of her puppies were struggling to survive.

"We immediately went into life saving mode," said Battalion Chief Steve Tracy.

Firefighters used special animal oxygen masks to breathe life into Abby and her puppy.

"And we just put this dog's nose and it supplies oxygen as if we were supplying oxygen to someone who had difficulty breathing," Tracy said.

As firefighters were giving oxygen to the dogs, Isaiah's dad drove up. He had just gotten home from the hospital after having gallbladder surgery.

"For me it was like going to one extreme to the next. 2020 is not starting out too great," Robert Baldonado said.

But thankfully firefighters stabilized Abby and her puppy.

The family then took all seven dogs to a veterinarian for treatment.

Robert can't explain how grateful he is for the quick life saving actions of firefighters, and everyone else who helped save their beloved dogs.

Firefighters are still investigating the cause of the fire, but family members believe it was accidentally started by a space heater.

To donate, go to their gofundme site.

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/mama-bulldog-and-puppies-saved-by-firefighters-in-san-bernardino-county-fire/2284926/>

Firefighters save several puppies from fire which erupted at residence in Fontana

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: January 3, 2020



Firefighters rescues a litter of puppies from a burning residence in Fontana. (Contributed photo by San Bernardino County Fire Department)

Firefighters saved a litter of puppies from an early-morning blaze which erupted at a residence in Fontana on Jan. 3, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department.

At 9:14 a.m., firefighters responded to a residential structure fire in the 9700 block of Tangelo Avenue, according to Public Information Officer Jimmy Schiller.

Initial reports were that there were multiple trapped animals still inside of the garage. Upon arrival, ME71 reported heavy smoke coming from the garage as well as the attic vents.

Crews quickly rescued the puppies, who were evaluated by Animal Control personnel.

Crews had the fire under control in 13 minutes with 19 personnel, four medic engines, one medic squad, one medic truck, one battalion chief, and one investigator.

There were no reports of injuries to firefighters or civilians. The cause of the fire was under investigation.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/firefighters-save-several-puppies-from-fire-which-erupted-at-residence/article_bff7e484-2e79-11ea-83b6-9bfa2dc4ea61.html

Firefighters rescue litter of puppies from burning garage in Fontana

Alma Fausto, Orange County Register/The Press Enterprise

Posted: January 3, 2020, 2:34 pm



San Bernardino County firefighters saved a litter of puppies trapped in a burning garage in Fontana on Friday, Jan. 3, 2020. (Photo courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire)

San Bernardino County firefighters saved a litter of newborn puppies trapped in a burning garage in Fontana on Friday.

The firefighters responded at about 9:15 a.m. to a house in the 9700 block of Tangelo Avenue, said Jimmy Schiller, a San Bernardino County Fire Department spokesman.

“There was a decent amount of smoke coming from the garage and attic vents,” Schiller said. “There were some bystanders that tried to get to the dogs but couldn’t.”

Firefighters quickly entered and retrieved the “tiny” six or seven puppies, he said. They were given oxygen with special masks for animals carried by firefighters; they appeared to be doing well.

It was unclear if the puppies’ mother lived in the home, though no other dog had to be rescued, firefighters said. The dogs’ breed was unclear.

Animal control officials were called in to evaluate them.

Meanwhile, firefighters put out the garage fire in 13 minutes. The fire’s cause was under investigation.

No injuries were reported.

<https://www.pe.com/2020/01/03/firefighters-rescue-littler-of-puppies-from-burning-garage-in-fontana/>

PILOT UNINJURED IN PLANE CRASH WEST OF TWENTYNINE PALMS AIRPORT

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News
Posted: January 4, 2020



This small airplane crashed outside the Twentynine Palms Airport Friday night. The pilot walked away. San Bernardino County Fire Department photo

A pilot escaped injury when his plane crashed west of the Twentynine Palms airport Friday night. Rescue personnel were called to the plane crash at Sullivan and Francis Roads at 9:18 p.m. **County Fire** Battalion Chief Scott Tuttle said there was no fire or other hazards. The California Highway Patrol and Federal Aviation Administration are investigating the cause of the crash.

<http://z1077fm.com/pilot-uninjured-in-plane-crash-west-of-twentynine-palms-airport/>

More than \$33K in hoses donated to Victorville Fire

Martin Estacio, Victorville Daily Press
Posted: January 4, 2020, 5:26 pm

VICTORVILLE — More than \$33,000 in new fire hoses was donated to the Victorville Fire Department, city officials announced earlier this week.

The Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation, a nonprofit created by the founders of the restaurant chain of the same name, awarded the donation.

Victorville Mayor Gloria Garcia said the city, and its fire department, were grateful for the donation that's expected to replace older hoses on front-line engines, according to a statement released Thursday, Jan. 2.

“This donation of valuable safety equipment will be of great benefit to our Victorville residents and visitors,” Garcia said.

The donation comes as the city-run department works to replace broken and aging equipment. Victorville Fire was reestablished in March after 10 years of contracting services with the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department.

A report received by the City Council in June highlighted issues with the equipment returned from the county after the transition.

According to the report, “the majority of the current hose inventory (would) need to be replaced as budget funding allows.”

At the time, County Fire spokesperson Tracey Martinez said the agency would examine the report and follow up with the city on any issues that needed to be addressed.

In September, Victorville Fire received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant for more than \$310,000 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

City staff said the money would be used to purchase thermal imaging cameras, air fill stations for firefighters' breathing apparatuses and other necessary tools.

About \$49,000 of the grant also went toward new fire hoses.

Since 2005, the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation has granted more than \$46 million to provide equipment, training and support to first responders, according to its website.

<https://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20200104/more-than-33k-in-hoses-donated-to-victorville-fire>

Firefighters battling blaze engulfing 2 homes in Rialto

Brian Rokos, San Bernardino Sun/The Press Enterprise

Posted: January 3, 2020, 12:16 pm



Viviana Alvarado, 6, of Rialto jumps a puddle created by her uncle who used a hose attempting to extinguish a fire, which he said occurred after a downed utility line sparked. Two Rialto homes along 230 block of E. Merrill and two homes directly behind along Ceres Ave. near S. Sycamore Ave. were affected by flames on Friday, Jan 3, 2020. (Photo by Cindy Yamanaka, The Press-Enterprise/SCNG)

Two homes were burning in Rialto at midday Friday, Jan. 3, the Rialto Fire Department said.

The fire, which was reported at 11:37 a.m., was burning on the 200 block of E. Merrill Ave. The **San Bernardino County** and Colton **fire** departments also responded.

The smoke was visible for miles.

This story is developing. Check back for updates as more information becomes available.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2020/01/03/firefighters-battling-blaze-engulfing-2-homes-in-rialto/>

Four pets die in Yucca Valley house fire

Stacy Moore, Hi-Desert Star

Posted: January 3, 2020



Firefighters climb onto the roof to ventilate a house burning in the 7500 block of Apache Trail Thursday.

YUCCA VALLEY — Two dogs and two cats died in a fire that burned a home in the 7300 block of Apache Trail just south of Twentynine Palms Highway Thursday morning.

County engines from Yucca Valley, Yucca Mesa and Joshua Tree responded when the fire was reported at 11:10 a.m.

The first engine from Yucca Valley found fire coming out of the front window and entered the home to knock down the flames, Battalion Chief Scott Tuttle said.

The people renting the house drove up on the scene as firefighters worked, the chief added.

Flames extended into the attic. ‘There’s a lot of heat, smoke and fire damage inside the house,’ Tuttle said.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation but arson is not suspected, according to Tuttle and the Sheriff’s Department.

http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article_f6689870-2e73-11ea-96b9-efc5d2c94c2b.html