



NEWS



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Local Digest: Jan. 12, 2020

Staff Writer, Victorville Daily Press

Posted: January 12, 2020

BARSTOW

Blood drive set for Tuesday

A community blood drive will be held from 1 to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday at the Barstow Community Center, 841 Barstow Road. Donors receive free cholesterol screening and Gift of Life Donor Loyalty points that may be redeemed in the online donor store at www.LStream.org.

Healthy individuals at least 15 years of age may donate blood. Everyone under 17 years of age must provide LifeStream with written parental consent. Parent consent forms are available at any donor center, community blood drive or at www.LStream.org. All prospective donors should be free of infections or illness, weigh at least 110 pounds, and not be at risk for AIDS or hepatitis. Donors receive a free mini-physical as part of the donation process. For information, please call 1-800-TRY GIVING.

OAK HILLS

Water conservation, new legislation info at MAC meeting

During the Jan. 21 meeting of the Oak Hills Municipal Advisory Council, representatives from San Bernardino County Special Districts/Zone J Water will share information regarding the water conservation, and new state legislation and what that means for the Oak Hills community. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at Oak Hills Fire Station #40, 6584 Caliente Road.

Agency representatives from 1st District County Supervisor Robert Lovingood's office, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, Zone J Water, CalFire and **San Bernardino County Fire** will provide updates and useful information regarding the status of the area, recent incidents and future plans. Please share information about the meeting with your neighbors and plan to attend. You may RSVP at OHMAC2018@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.Facebook.com/oakhills.mac.

VICTORVILLE

Regional Council on Aging meets Tuesday

High Desert seniors can learn more about services and activities in their communities by attending the High Desert Regional Council on Aging's monthly meetings. The Council focuses on issues related to successful aging, connecting with essential available services, improving quality of life, aging in place, and other related topics.

The Victor Valley RCA meets monthly at 9:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday at the Department of Aging and Adult Services, 17270 Bear Valley Road, Suite 108, Victorville. The Jan. 14 meeting will feature a speaker from Victor Valley Community Services Council. They will provide information on their many services for local seniors and volunteer opportunities. During this meeting, RCA members will also select its 2019-20 Board of Directors. If you are interested in being considered for a Board seat, contact susan.drake@bos.sbcounty.gov. For more information, call 760-995-8100.

Bunco Mania planned Jan. 18

Bunco Mania will be offered from 1 to 3 p.m. on Jan. 18 at the Sterling Inn, 17738 Francesca Road, Victorville. The event will be hosted by Marty Pierce for local and world Christian missionaries. A donation for charity is \$10. For reservations, call 760-885-8778.

Peace March planned Jan. 20

The 14th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Peace March and ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 20 at the corner of Seneca Road and Civic Drive in Victorville. The High Desert MLK Reception Celebration featuring local politicians, speakers, entertainment and refreshments will follow the march at 1 p.m. at the Victorville Senior Center, 14874 S. Mojave Drive, Victorville. The event is sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. The event is open to the public. For information, call 760-245-6559 or 760-240-3370.

<https://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20200112/local-digest-jan-12-2020>

Highway 138 in Hesperia shut down for helicopter to land following head-on crash

Hugo Valdez, Victor Valley News Group

Posted: January 11, 2020



(Photo taken by Dana Mauer)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A multi-vehicle head-on crash with extrication has prompted a temporary closure on Highway 138, on the Hesperia side.

The crash was reported at 12:40 pm on SR-138, south of the 15 freeway in the Cajon Pass.

San Bernardino County Firefighters responded to the crash and located three vehicles with major damage blocking the highway.

Scanner traffic reported a total of three patients with one trapped inside one of the involved vehicles.

Firefighters determined extensive extrication would be required to free the occupant trapped. Also requested was a medical helicopter to land at the scene of the crash.

Highway 138 is currently closed in both directions between the 15 freeway and Wagon train for an unknown duration.

Mercy Air 22 helicopter has landed on the highway to airlift a 40-year-old male driver to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, his injuries were reported to be life-threatening.

This story is developing and information will be updated as it becomes available.

<https://www.vvng.com/highway-138-in-hesperia-shut-down-for-helicopter-to-land-following-head-on-crash/>

2 airlifted, 4 others injured in crash on Arrowhead Lake Road in Hesperia

Hugo Valdez, Victor Valley News Group

Posted: January 11, 2020

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Several underage teens were amongst six people injured in a late-night crash Friday in Hesperia.

The crash was reported on January 10, 2020, at 11:21 pm in the 5900 block of Arrowhead Lake Road.

According to the California Highway Patrol incident logs, the involved vehicle was on its side with occupants trapped inside.

Firefighters from **San Bernardino County Fire** arrived on scene and determined they had multiple patients, some with critical injuries. Firefighters requested two helicopters to land at the nearby Joshua Inn.

The 20-year-old male driver of the vehicle was airlifted to Loma Linda University Medical Center (LLUMC) with major injuries. The left-rear passenger, a 17-year-old male also sustained critical injuries and was airlifted to LLUMC.

The right-front passenger, a 19-year-old female was transported by ground ambulance to Loma Linda with unknown injuries.

The right-rear passenger, a 17-year-old male was transported by ground ambulance to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. Two passengers seated in the middle rear, a 17-year-old female and a 29-year male were also transported to ARMC via ground ambulances, according to the CHP incident logs.

Officers from the California Highway Patrol – Victorville Office are handling the investigation. Anyone with information is asked to call 760-241-1186.

<https://www.vvng.com/2-airlifted-4-others-injured-in-crash-on-arrowhead-lake-road-in-hesperia/>

Video Shows Firefighters Battling Adelanto House Fire Amid High Winds

Catherine Park, KTLA 5 News

Posted: January 10, 2020

Video released from the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department Friday shows how high winds can make fighting fires more difficult than they already are.

On Nov. 25, firefighters were dispatched to a residential blaze in the 11020 block of Chamberlain Way in Adelanto at 9:51 a.m., where they were met with a fully-involved fire, according to the Facebook post posted by the department.

Video shows firefighters arriving to giant flames engulfing one side of the single-story home. The flames can be seen whipping in high winds, which were blowing at 25 miles per hour, with wind gusts of up to 50 miles per hour, according to the post.

Water supply was also limited, and it took crews 40 minutes to knock out the fire. They were able to contain the fire to the one home using 15 firefighters.

No one was injured and the cause of the fire is still under investigation, according to the department.

<https://ktla.com/2020/01/10/san-bernardino-release-video-showing-high-winds-fueling-fire-as-crews-battle-flames/>

Gavin Newsom seeks more money for homeless, health care for undocumented seniors

Alexei Koseff and John Wildermuth, San Francisco Chronicle

Posted: January 10, 2020, 5:28 pm



Gov. Gavin Newsom introduced a \$222 billion state budget Friday that he said represents a snapshot of his priorities for California.

Photo: Rich Pedroncelli, Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Gavin Newsom proposed a \$222 billion state budget Friday that he said represents a snapshot of his priorities for California, including boosting funding for homelessness programs, paying for health care for undocumented-immigrant seniors and closing a state prison.

He repeatedly portrayed those plans as a rebuke of a federal government that he said is increasingly unwilling to help the state tackle its most pressing problems, as well as of “a California derangement syndrome going on in the popular media — that somehow our best days are behind us, that somehow California’s not hitting on many cylinders.”

“I’m very proud to be a Californian,” Newsom said during a news conference at the state Capitol. “I’m proud of this state, and I’m proud of the budget that we are presenting today, because I am not naive about the areas where we’re falling short.”

The governor’s proposed spending blueprint for fiscal 2020-21 is 2.3% larger than the current budget. It calls for a 3% hike in funding for K-12 schools and community colleges, an \$80.5 million expansion of the Medi-Cal health program for poor people to cover about 27,000 undocumented-immigrant seniors, and a \$1.5 billion boost in the state’s rainy day fund.

The budget estimates a \$5.6 billion surplus, slightly less than the \$7 billion predicted by the Legislative Analyst’s Office in December, because it does not count on the Trump administration renewing California’s expiring tax on health insurance plans. Most of that money will go toward one-time expenditures, projects that can be quickly completed and won’t be a long-term drain on the budget, Newsom said.

While the governor said the budget is balanced for this year and at least three years after that, he warned that the state’s growth isn’t guaranteed, “although some seem to think that it is” — a dig at legislators and interest groups calling for increased state spending on new and existing California programs.

Newsom did endorse one new tax: a vaping levy of \$2 per 40 milligrams of nicotine, which would raise about \$32 million that would be used for youth e-cigarette prevention and other health care programs.

The rise in youth vaping, he said, “scares the hell out of me as a parent.”

The governor pledged to close a state prison within five years, and end most of California's private prison contracts this year, if the inmate population continues to decline at projected rates. In a change that he acknowledged would be controversial, Newsom also called for cutting the time that convicted felons remain on probation to two years, down from the current five years. That would reduce the prison population by keeping offenders from being locked up for what the governor suggested are low-level offenses committed during a longer probation term.

Newsom touched on countless minutiae during a presentation and news conference that lasted nearly three hours, but there were a few things he didn't want to talk about in detail.

While he said that the budget provides \$20 million to acquire land for the first major state park since the 1940s, Newsom refused to say where that park would be, arguing it would boost the price of the land.

And when asked what he planned to do about tax reform, the governor said the state desperately needs dramatic change, but declined to give specifics.

"I can be stubborn," Newsom said. "I can be pragmatic. Here, I'm stubbornly pragmatic."

The governor's spending plan kicks off months of negotiations with the Legislature over the state budget. He will offer a revised proposal in May, and lawmakers must approve a budget by June 15.

Democratic leaders had plenty of good words for Newsom's budget, but made it clear that it's the beginning, not the end, of the process.

"The governor's proposal provides a solid starting point," said state Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins of San Diego. "My colleagues and I appreciate the governor giving us the opportunity to start that process with a budget plan that is already so in sync with California values."

Newsom got most of what he sought in last year's budget, spending billions to pay down debts and build up reserves while also taking initial steps toward a sweeping liberal policy agenda that is shared by much of the Democratic-controlled Legislature.

California reinstated the individual mandate to carry health insurance, which the federal government had eliminated; became the first state in the country to extend health benefits to undocumented young adults; added a second year of free community college; and expanded paid parental leave by two weeks.

Newsom previewed several major proposals in the days leading up to the announcement of his new budget plan, including a renewed push to move homeless people off the streets and into more stable living situations. He signed an executive order that directs state agencies to find vacant properties that could be used for emergency homeless shelters.

His budget would create a \$750 million fund to pay rent and build affordable housing for homeless people, which Newsom would seek to augment with private contributions. He proposed a \$1.4 billion annual expansion of Medi-Cal to cover preventive care and housing support services that could keep chronically homeless people out of the emergency room and other costly care.

That focus earned praise from Republican lawmakers, though Assemblyman Jay Obernolte, R-Big Bear Lake (San Bernardino County), said he would push to make sure the homeless problem in rural areas was not

overlooked. Obernolte, vice chair of the Assembly Budget Committee, added that the state would not solve homelessness without a stronger dedication to bringing down the cost of housing.

“It’s more than just moving people into shelters,” he said.

On wildfire prevention, the budget provides “north of \$1 billion for emergency preparedness,” Newsom said. That includes money for more full-time firefighters, additional fire engines and other equipment and \$110 million to make structural improvements to buildings in fire zones to make them more resistant to wildfires.

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/Gavin-Newsom-seeks-more-money-for-schools-health-14965627.php>