News Headlines 02/25/2020

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Deputies respond to Hesperia 7-Eleven for shooting victim; man airlifted
Gabriel Espinoza, Victor Valley News
Posted: February 24, 2020

A man was airlifted with a gunshot wound. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) A man suffering from a gunshot wound outside a gas station on the 14500 block of Main Street Monday evening was airlifted.

Deputies from the Hesperia Sheriff’s Department and emergency personal from the San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to the 7-Eleven located on Main Street and Maple Avenue at about 6:29 pm, February 24, 2020.

Upon arrival, a man with a gunshot wound was located and transported by ambulance to a landing zone at Hesperia High School.

The shooting victim was then airlifted by a Mercy Air helicopter to an out-of-area trauma center.

One witness told VVNG that deputies had the front door of the store and entrance of the parking lot surrounded within minutes of the shooting.

“There is additional information that indicates there may be another scene on Yucca Street,” Sheriff’s Spokeswoman Cindy Bachman told Victor Valley News.

Deputies photographed a dark-colored gree 2002 Ford Explorer that was in the parking lot of the 7-Eleven. A purse, with what appeared to be blood on the bag, was also photographed on the hood of the SUV.

There was no suspect information immediately available.

https://www.vvng.com/deputies-to-respond-to-hesperia-7-eleven-for-shooting-victim-man-airlifted/
Hesperia, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Hesperia Mayor Larry Bird and SBCoFD Assistant Chief Dave Corbin announced the promotion of Dan Munsey as the new Fire Chief at a recent city council meeting.

“As you may or may not know, over the course of the past year, the County conducted a rather exhaustive year-long search for a new fire chief of County Fire. It really should come to no surprise to anybody that the best and most qualified candidate was one of our own,” Corbin stated during the February 18th meeting.

Chief Munsey started his career with County Fire back in 1995 and has been promoted through the ranks. He’s worked in every division and overseen numerous programs and projects.

According to the Department’s website, Chief Munsey holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration, a Master’s Degree in Public Administration and holds multiple Incident Command System (ICS) certifications. Munsey has completed many specialized leadership-training courses, including the California Special Districts Association Leadership Academy and the San Bernardino County Management and Leadership Academy; a program that provides comprehensive management and leadership training to county employees.

Chief Munsey is one of few fire chiefs in California who possesses a Center for Public Excellence Chief Fire Officer credential and a California State Fire Marshal Chief Fire Officer certificate. Currently, Chief Munsey is halfway through the four-year National Fire Academy’s Executive Fire Officer Program.

“On a more personal note, I’ve known this man for a long time – long before I worked for the county agency; we collaborated together, we went to classes together, we worked together on different projects,” Corbin said during the introduction of the new Fire Chief.

“I will tell you that he has a forward-thinking vision of the fire service that’s really second to none. He’s definitely going to take our organization to the next level, and I’m personally proud to call him my boss,” declared Corbin.

Mayor Larry Bird, Council Member Brigit Bennington, Mayor Pro Tem Cameron Gregg, Council Member Bill Holland, and Council Member Rebekah Swanson were also in attendance. They stood in front of the Dias as the new fire chief gave a brief statement.

“I’m completely honored to be in this partnership with the City of Hesperia. We are your Fire Department, and while I can never be ‘the Hesperia City Fire Department,’ I can be the very best fire department that Hesperia has,” stated Fire Chief Munsey.

Munsey said community engagement, communication and cooperation are important to him.
“I’m going to be here speaking to you directly, I’m going to be involved in your communities, you’re going to see me at your rotary clubs, see me at your chamber of commerce and receive emails from me. I need to have that exchange of information,” Munsey said.

Dan Munsey became Fire Chief of the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District on November 20, 2019.

https://www.vvng.com/new-county-fire-chief-introduced-at-hesperia-city-council-meeting/

Needles City Council to meet on February 25
Robin West, Needles Desert Star / Mojave Daily News
Posted: February 24, 2020

NEEDLES — The public may comment on adopting the San Bernardino County Fire Protection Code, referencing the 2019 edition of the California Fire Code; with some changes, modifications, amendments, additions, deletions and exceptions; during the Feb. 25 regular meeting of the Needles City Council.

The council convenes in executive session at 5:30 p.m. in chambers, 1111 Bailey Ave. at J Street. Open session is to begin at 6 p.m.

Needles is a part of the county fire protection district, which adopted the revised code Jan. 28. The council must ratify the ordinance for it to take effect within the city.

Acting as the Needles Public Utility Authority, council will be asked to approve a resolution allowing for expenses in repairing mid-January water line ruptures to be reimbursed from a tax exempt bond.

City documentation emphasized that the resolution does not mandate bonds be issued and is not an approval of issuance. The item allows for the NPUA to be reimbursed from tax exempt money.

The financial impact of the ruptures incurred to date is reported to be $300,000. There will be additional expense in making permanent repairs. Money to meet those expenses is currently being drawn from asset replacement funds.

The bonding resolution covers water transmission and storage facilities with a stated principal amount of approximately $1 million.

Other items to be heard in the Feb. 25 session include changes to terms and conditions for the provision of water service; a presentation on an NPUA audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019; requesting funding for improvements on a critical safety section of Needles Highway; revisions of job descriptions for a golf pro, assistant utility manager and community services manager; and discussion of an appropriate memorial for the late Jose ‘JoJo’ Garcia, a long-time community volunteer.

SBCoFD donates two life-saving fire apparatus to firefighters in Mexico

Gabriel Espinoza, Victor Valley News

Posted: February 24, 2020

SBCOFD DONATES HEAVY RESCUE UNIT AND WATER TENDER TO FIREFIGHTERS IN MEXICO (Photo: SBCoFD)

FONTANA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — San Bernardino County Fire Protection District (SBCoFD) was able to donate lifesaving fire apparatus to the San Felipe Fire Department in Baja California, Mexico.

In a ceremony at Sierra Lakes Golf Club in Fontana, SBCoFD Fire Chief Dan Munsey presented San Felipe Fire Chief Ruben Osuna Beltran and Battalion Chief Juan Cortez with the keys to two units, the Department said.

“It’s a tremendous honor to be able to help our brothers and sisters in San Felipe with these donations,” said San Bernardino County Fire Chief Dan Munsey. “We are humbled by the opportunity to see these units that have faithfully served our residents continue to serve and protect the residents of our friends in San Felipe. It is a great example of the type of cooperation and partnership that unites us as people beyond geographic borders.”

SBCoFD Captain Jay Dimoff brokered the relationship between the two departments and has served as the liaison. In April 2018, this relationship led to the donation of two fire engines deemed too old to remain in service in San Bernardino County.

“Today, SBCoFD is pleased to announce the donation of a 1990 Pierce Heavy Rescue Fire Engine and a 1980 Mack Water Tender to the San Felipe Fire Department. Before being permanently decommissioned due to age, mileage and maintenance costs, the heavy rescue unit served the City of Grand Terrace, while the water tender served the community of Crest Forest,” the SBCoFD Public Information Officer Tracey Martinez stated.

Captain Dimoff worked alongside Fire Mechanic Tom Pitts and Fleet Supervisor Dale Sandoval to coordinate the donations. This coordination included planning with the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, as well as the Fontana and San Felipe Rotaries. SBCoFD donated the engines to the Fontana Rotary, which then donated them to the San Felipe Rotary to be put into service by the San Felipe Fire Department, the Department stated.

For the past several decades, Captain Dimoff has been able to assist the San Felipe Fire Department with their overwhelming need for equipment through the donation of items like turnouts and other necessary equipment.

For more information on the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, visit SBCFire.org.