News Headlines 04/16/2020

- Helicopter crew rescues 62-year-old paraglider who had plunged into canyon above San Bernardino
- Blaze Destroys Arrowhead Home
A helicopter crew rescued a 62-year-old paraglider who had plunged into a canyon above San Bernardino on April 15, according to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

At 2:15 p.m., a motorist driving on Highway 18, near Old Waterman Canyon Road, called 911 after witnessing a paraglider deploy what appeared to be an emergency parachute and land in a canyon near Cloudland Truck Trail/2N40. The San Bernardino Police and San Bernardino County Fire Departments received the call and requested Sheriff's Aviation to assist in locating the downed paraglider.

Sheriff's helicopter 40King4 responded to the area and located the victim in steep terrain covered by heavy brush. Due to the terrain and brush, as well as the inability for ground units to access the victim's location, the crew of 40King4 requested Sheriff's Air Rescue 6 for a hoist rescue.

Air Rescue 6 hovered over the man while the crew chief lowered a San Bernardino County Fire medic down approximately 170 feet to the man's location on the hillside. The medic placed the man in a rescue harness and the crew chief then hoisted him up to the helicopter, followed by the medic.

Air Rescue 6 transported the man to a waiting ambulance on Highway 18. The man's condition was unknown.


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Blaze Destroys Arrowhead Home

H. Bradley, Mountain News
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“The fire suddenly broke out around 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday, April 13th, while I was home,” said Candice Teel, owner of the burned home located at 27843 Alpen Drive, Lake Arrowhead, CA, “I rushed to get my dogs out of the house, while looking for a fire extinguisher,” Teel said.

According to Mike McClintock, Battalion Chief/Public Information Officer (PIO), “San Bernardino County Fire Department Crews, some arrived within three minutes of the call, to find smoke and fire billowing from the front of the multi-story home. Once crews transitioned inside to extinguish the remainder of the fire and complete a search a firefighter fell through a compromised section of floor to the basement area below. A second firefighter nearby also partially fell through, but was able to self-rescue. Both firefighters quickly self extricated and were treated by an awaiting ambulance. Ultimately the fire was declared out in approximately 50 minutes. The two firefighters received minor injuries and were transported to a local hospital for evaluation of their injuries and released.”
“A fire investigator was requested to determine cause and origin. No damage estimates were available at the time of the release, but the home received heavy damage. One occupant of the home was displaced by the fire,” said the PIO.

“San Bernardino County Fire responded with four Engines, a Medic Ambulance, two Chief Officers, Training Officer and a Fire Investigator. Running Springs Fire Department, Cal-Fire and United States Forest Service also assisted due to the fire’s threat to nearby vegetation,” concluded Chief McClintock.

Keith Thompson, retired fire chief, reported at the scene that his ‘Pulse Point app’ alerted him to the structure fire. He called the fire department as he drove down through the neighborhood. “When I arrived, two fire trucks were already on the scene. Quick response kept the fire from spreading to adjacent homes. Brush clearance around the home also helped fire fighters in saving the neighbor’s homes,” said Thompson.