News Headlines 05/20/2020

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Making noise full of thanks
Judi Bowers, Big Bear Grizzly News
Posted: May 20, 2020

San Bernardino County Fire Department in Fawnskin joined the parade on the water, shooting water from their fire boat cannon on Big Bear Lake.
JUDI BOWERS/Big Bear Grizzly

It was a perfect sunny Sunday afternoon, ideal for a ride around the lake and the entire Valley. And that’s just what about 100 motorists did May 17 for the Joyful Noise Parade in Big Bear.

Led by Big Bear Lake Mayor Rick Herrick in the lead vehicle, there were cars, pickups, motorcycles, even a John Deer tractor and an armored tank. And they came in airplanes. Members of the Big Bear Pilots Association took to the skies above the Valley circling several times during the parade. The San Bernardino County Fire Station personnel in Fawnskin left their engine behind and jumped in the fire boat to join in the fun shooting water from its cannon on board.

The ground vehicles were decorated with signs, balloons, flags and more. Drivers and passengers cheered, waved and honked their horns as the parade made its way from the Bear Mountain Resort parking lot in lower Moonridge to the hospital, the utility companies, the fire stations and more.

Residents and visitors lined the route cheering and waving. The turnout was larger than he expected, Herrick said. The line of cars at the starting point was impressive.

Herrick said motorists along the route were patient with the slow-moving parade, many getting caught up in the line of vehicles.

It was a positive way to enjoy the day amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The event was organized by Big Bear Connected, a group of Big Bear residents who joined together to keep people connected but apart during the pandemic and stay-at-home order. Phil Hamilton, who helped organize the Joyful Noise Parade, said he estimates there were about 100 vehicles participating.

It was cathartic, Hamilton said. Big Bear, and the state and country, has been under stay-at-home orders of some sort since early March. The parade allowed people to get out and say thank you to the essential workers who have been on the front lines during the pandemic, from first responders and healthcare workers to grocery store employees, they were all honored. It was touching to see so many people participating and willing to say thank you, Hamilton said.

Hamilton said the word went out to the Valley’s antique car clubs and that spread off the mountain. There were about 15 cars in the parade from the High Desert area, which was a reunion of sorts for Hamilton. As he was wandering the line of cars prior to the parade start, Hamilton asked who was in charge of the group. The man who stepped forward asked Hamilton if he remembered him. He and his wife were students in Big Bear when Hamilton was principal.

“It was a fun thing,” Hamilton said of the parade. Momentum for participation grew, and he was pleasantly surprised when the airplane group joined in, Hamilton said.
He was surprised at the number of people along the side of the road. It was good for the community, Hamilton said.

“Cathy and I thoroughly enjoyed it,” Herrick said of he and his wife’s participation. He said it was difficult to see the balance as the community attempts to get back to business and re-open. Some people were happy to celebrate while others are still hurting and fearful, he said. Overall, it was fun and exciting to drive the car in the parade, Herrick said. It was the largest parade he’s been in, he said. And as a pilot himself, Herrick said it was great to see the pilots participate.

The Joyful Noise Parade was very successful and Hamilton said he was very pleased with how it turned out.

http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/news/a-joyful-parade/article_86817482-9a2a-11ea-837a-5f4d0b22b9a6.html

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**Person is injured in vehicle collision in Fontana on May 19**

MIKE MYERS, Fontana Herald News

Posted: May 19, 2020

A vehicle collision took place on S. Highland Avenue in Fontana on May 19. (Contributed photo by Mike Myers)

One person was injured in a single-vehicle collision in the northern part of Fontana on May 19.

The Fontana Police Department and the San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to the accident in the 16600 block of S. Highland Avenue at about 12:28 p.m.

According to a Fontana P.D. officer, the driver of a gray Honda Civic stated he was traveling northbound on Juniper Avenue and the brakes failed when he tried to stop at Highland.

The Honda continued through the intersection, collided with a palm tree, and came to a stop in the westbound lanes of Highland.

Emergency medical responders treated a female at the scene and transported her to a local hospital with minor injuries.

The Fontana P.D. is investigating the accident.

Fawnskin residents can participate in a wood chipping program this year, thanks to the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District. The district, in cooperation with San Bernardino County Public Works, CalFire and Mountain Rim Fire Safe council, offers wood chipping throughout the mountain communities prior to summer and fall. In an effort to bolster safety in these areas, these agencies will assist residents in maintaining wildfire safety in their communities with chipping days. Other communities in the program include Lytle Creek, Crestline, Twin Peaks, Lake Arrowhead, Angelus Oaks and Green Valley Lake.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on May 31, Fawnskin residents may drop their tree limbs off at Fire Station 96 at 39188 Rim of the World Drive, in Fawnskin. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, residents are asked to remain in their vehicles. Crews will unload materials from the resident’s vehicle. In the event that a resident must exit their vehicle, they will be required to wear a face covering for the protection of other residents and crews.

Wood chips will be available free of charge for residents’ flower beds, front yards and backyards at Fire Station 20 in Lytle Creek. Residents may take what they need. In addition, residents may pick up wood chips at any wood chipping locations only on the date of the event.

For more information on preparing the home and property for wildfire weather, visit www.sbcfire.org.

http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/news/county-fire-offers-chipping-program-day-at-fawnskin-station/article_ce121f26-9a2b-11ea-a1b7-5b82e33b516b.html