



NEWS



News Headlines 08/07/2020

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OVER 200 AT PIONEERTOWN APPLE FIRE BRIEFING LAST NIGHT

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: August 7, 2020



Smoke from the Apple fire blankets the hills surrounding Pioneertown. Tami Roleff photo

Firefighters held another informational brief Thursday about the Apple fire, this time in Pioneertown. More than 200 people showed up for the briefing, which firefighters said was their largest crowd ever. Firefighters were generally optimistic about their progress against the Apple fire, but Managing editor Tami Roleff said they did share their concerns with residents...

“Millard Canyon ... that’s been giving us fits here over the last couple of days.”

Public Information Officer Daron Wyatt said firefighters have been able to keep the fire to the west of Millard Canyon, which is directly north of the Morongo Casino, and they were pleased with their efforts so far to contain the fire.

“Overall, the fire is looking fairly good, but we’re not out of the woods yet.”

Mike Minton of the Incident Management Team 2 warned residents that if the fire crosses Millard Canyon and the Whitewater Canyon drainage, it will trigger changes in evacuation status for Pioneertown, Rimrock, and Morongo Valley.

“That trigger point is the main primary Whitewater Canyon drainage. If the fire ... crosses the Whitewater drainage .. we’ll be upping the evacuations from a warning to an order. If the fire has enough momentum with energy and wind to drive it hard across the Whitewater drainage, there’s going to a limited amount of time, and you all will need to go.”

The edge of the Apple fire is estimated to be about four miles from Whitewater Canyon drainage, and it’s about another six miles to Pioneertown.

Firefighters have established a line around the southern edge of the Apple fire, and said lines made by bulldozers and fire retardant have done their jobs at containing the flames.

The Apple fire has more personnel working it than any other fires in the state right now, but several other fires have started recently, and resources are starting to become tight at the Apple fire. Airplanes that had been dumping fire retardant on the blaze the past few days have been diverted to other fires, although 14 helicopters are still dropping water and retardant on the lines of the Apple fire.

Members of the Incident Management Team 2 stressed that while their progress against the fire looks good now, it can quickly change with little or no warning. If the fire crosses the trigger point of Whitewater Canyon drainage, the evacuation warning will change to an order, and residents will be required to evacuate. They urged residents to start preparing now for evacuation.

Lieutenant Mike Walker from the Sheriff's Department told residents that if a mandatory evacuation order is issued, deputies will patrol the area, go door to door, and drive through neighborhoods with a PA system announcing that they need to leave.

Yucca Valley Town Manager Curtis Yakimow said that small animals can be brought to the town's animal shelter during a mandatory evacuation, and horses can be brought to the Yucca Valley Equestrian Center.

A meeting will be held tonight for residents of Yucca Valley and Morongo Valley. The location and time have not been announced yet.

<http://z1077fm.com/over-200-at-pioneertown-apple-fire-briefing-last-night/>

Nighttime hoist rescue

Staff Writer, Highland Community News

Posted: August 6, 2020

On Monday, Aug. 3, Sheriff's Aviation's 40King5 helicopter conducted the nighttime hoist rescue of Sykler Ziolaowski, 24, after he injured his leg while rock climbing in Crestline.

According to a sheriff's department press release, at approximately 9 p.m. on Monday the sheriff's dispatch received a request from **San Bernardino County Fire Department** for a hoist rescue.

Ziolaowski of Oxnard, Calif., was rock climbing on a large rock formation and during his rock climb, Ziolaowski slipped and fell and received a non-life-threatening leg injury. Ziolaowski was unable to walk and the location of his fall was in steep rocky terrain, making a ground rescue very difficult.

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Helicopter 40-KING-5 arrived at the location and located Ziolaowski at the bottom of a steep rock formation. The crew of 40KING5, along with fire personnel, were able to hike to the location and agreed that a hoist rescue was necessary to get Ziolaowski out of the area safely. A deputy was hoisted down to Ziolaowski and he was placed into a rescue harness.

Ziolaowski was hoisted to the helicopter and transported to a waiting ambulance on Highway 18. The crew returned and hoisted the deputy back to the helicopter.

Due to the time of night and mountainous terrain, night vision goggles were used during the hoist rescue.

The 40King5 crew consisted of pilot Cpl. Ryan Pepler, hoist operator Deputy Greg Hanrahan and hoist rider Deputy David Negron.

https://www.highlandnews.net/news/public_safety/nighttime-hoist-rescue/article_545a3a5e-d826-11ea-b138-03542fa2129c.html

County making sure businesses stay COVID compliant

DINA COLUNGA, Reporter Redlands Community

Posted: August 6, 2020

San Bernardino County has a plan to boost COVID compliance.

The county has created an Education/Engagement/Enforcement Plan in coordination with its cities. The plan is designed to encourage compliance with public health mandates.

“Our primary emphasis is on educating high-risk businesses about the critical need to comply with directives while offering guidance to assist them in these efforts,” said Board of Supervisors Chairman Curt Hagman. “We prefer to avoid punitive actions but will have no other choice if businesses continue to disregard public health ordinances.”

The **county fire marshal** and Environmental Health Services Division will field a team of 30 inspectors tasked with visiting businesses, confirming reported violations and offering assistance to help businesses come into compliance. Strike teams or local authorities will follow-up with businesses that continue to operate while ignoring public health requirements.

State Strike Force, county staff or the Sheriff’s Department will compile a list of non-compliant operations that have not responded to efforts to come into compliance. County staff will review the list and send a list of non-compliant businesses to the Sheriff’s Department or city law enforcement.

If a business is found to be noncompliant with public health orders, enforcement may issue a citation accompanied by a crime report forwarded to the district attorney’s office. Violations of the health orders are a misdemeanor and risk a fine of \$50 to \$1,000 or imprisonment for 90 days.

https://www.redlandscommunitynews.com/county-making-sure-businesses-stay-covid-compliant/article_8c5ad180-d802-11ea-af7c-2bc6eb1af2b1.html