



NEWS



News Headlines 07/23/2021

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2 Killed in Head-On Collision on Highway 18 near Hacienda Road in Phelan

Accident News Team, Newsni.com

Posted: July 23, 2021



San Bernardino, California (July 23, 2021) – Two people were killed in a head-on collision that occurred in Phelan on Thursday evening, July 22.

At about 6:13 p.m., the California Highway Patrol and the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** received reports of a collision in the area of SR 18 and Hacienda Road, near Johnson Road.

A preliminary investigation indicated that a white Ford Ranger truck and a black 2000 Subaru Impreza collided head-on for unknown reasons.

Two people were pronounced dead at the scene of the accident.

The identities of the deceased were not immediately established.

Three people sustained critical injuries and were flown to area trauma centers for treatment.

Two other people were hospitalized with minor injuries.

No additional information about the accident was provided.

The CHP is investigating the cause of the accident.

<https://newsni.com/latest-news/2-killed-in-head-on-collision-on-highway-18-near-hacienda-road-in-phelan/>

8-year-old boy who died in San Bernardino fireworks accident is identified

Brian Rokos, The Press Enterprise

Posted: July 22, 2021

The 8-year-old boy who died in a fireworks accident on July 4 in San Bernardino has been publicly identified.

The San Bernardino County Coroner's Office identified him Thursday, July 22, as Urijah Jacob Roque.

The incident happened at a block party on South San Carlo Avenue. Someone lit a mortar-style firework and placed it in a launching tube. The tube somehow tipped over, and when the mortar rocketed out of the tube, it struck the boy in the chest, the San Bernardino Police Department said.

Those present took the boy to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton, where he died.

San Bernardino police are investigating the death. No arrests have been announced.

The death came after months of pleas by public safety officials not to shoot off illegal fireworks such as the mortar that killed the boy. During that time, investigators seized tens of thousands of pounds of fireworks that likely were purchased legally elsewhere and smuggled into the state.

Some communities increased fines for possession of illegal fireworks and established web pages where the public could report them. The **San Bernardino County Fire Department** scheduled days when people could turn in illegal fireworks — no questions asked — but got a meager response, officials said.

Overall, officials say, the tactics appeared to have worked in the Inland Empire. The number of fireworks reports were down notably from 2020, they said.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2021/07/22/8-year-old-boy-who-died-in-san-bernardino-fireworks-accident-is-identified/>

Crash leaves Hesperia man dead after 14-year-old runs stop sign

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News Group

Posted: July 22, 2021



HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A 59-year-old man was killed in a traffic accident after a 14-year-old boy ran a stop sign Thursday morning in Hesperia, officials said.

On Thursday, July 22, 2021, at approximately 7:00 a.m., Deputies from the Hesperia Station and rescue personnel from the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** responded to a traffic collision on Choiceana Avenue, at the intersection with Yucca Street, in the city of Hesperia.

Upon arrival, deputies determined a 14-year-old male, driving a 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe traveled west on Yucca Street, a 2008 Honda Civic traveled north on Choiceana Avenue, and a 2020 Kia Sportage traveled south on Choiceana Avenue.

Sheriff's officials said, "the Chevrolet driver failed to stop at the posted stop sign on Yucca Avenue and the other two involved vehicles almost simultaneously broadsided the Tahoe from opposite directions."

The driver of the Kia was pronounced deceased after being transported to a nearby hospital. The San Bernardino County Coroner's Office identified him as Craig Sale, a resident of Hesperia.

Sheriff's officials said at this time, it has not been determined if drugs and/or alcohol were a factor in the collision.

The intersection of Choiceana Avenue and Yucca Street was closed for several hours while deputies from the Hesperia Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) processed the scene.

Anyone with information, or anyone who may have witnessed the collision is asked to contact Deputy T. Rogoff or Deputy D. Caudle at the Hesperia Station at 760-947-1500.

<https://www.vvng.com/crash-leaves-hesperia-man-dead-after-14-year-old-runs-stop-sign/>

Evacuations lifted as firefighters start containment on Jurupa Valley brush fire

Quinn Wilson, The Press Enterprise

Posted: July 22, 2021

Evacuation orders were lifted Thursday evening, July 22, as firefighters reached 40 percent containment on a brush fire that sparked along Van Buren Boulevard in Jurupa Valley earlier in the afternoon, Cal Fire/Riverside County Fire said.

The Jurupa Fire's forward progress was stopped just before 5 p.m., fire officials said. The fire was downgraded to 30 acres in size after it reportedly had grown to 40 acres earlier in the evening, the Fire Department said.

The evacuation orders that affected Felspar Street and Pedley Road, between 54th and 56th streets were lifted at 9 p.m.

Van Buren Boulevard was reduced to one lane headed south in the area of the fire, the Fire Department said.

The number of properties evacuated was unclear; the area mostly holds businesses, with neighborhoods nearby.

A temporary evacuation center was set up at Van Buren Elementary, at 9501 Jurupa Road.

The fire was first reported at 2:16 p.m. near Jurupa Road and Van Buren Boulevard.

The cause of the blaze was under investigation.

Fire departments from the cities of Ontario, Corona and Riverside assisted. Additional aid was provided by the Murrieta Fire Protection District, the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** and Cal Fire/San Bernardino County Fire.

<https://www.pe.com/2021/07/22/2-acre-brush-fire-sparks-along-jurupa-valley-road/>

Northern California wildfire crosses into Nevada, prompting new evacuations

Associated Press

Posted: July 22, 2021



In this photo provided by the Bootleg Fire Incident Command, a tanker drops retardant over the Mitchell Monument area at the Bootleg Fire in southern Oregon on Saturday, July 17, 2021. The 569-square-mile (1,474 square kilometers) Bootleg Fire is burning 300 miles (483 kilometers) southeast of Portland in and around the Fremont-Winema National Forest, a vast expanse of old-growth forest, lakes and wildlife refuges. (Bootleg Fire Incident Command via AP)

Lower winds and better weather helped crews using bulldozers and helicopters battling the nation's largest wildfire in southern Oregon, but gusty winds pushed a Northern California wildfire into Nevada on Thursday, prompting evacuations as blazes burn across the West.

Oregon's Bootleg Fire grew to 624 square miles (1,616 square kilometers) — over half the size of Rhode Island. However, authorities said higher humidity Wednesday and overnight and better conditions allowed crews to improve fire lines. The fire also was approaching an area burned by a previous fire on its active southeastern flank, raising hopes that a lack of fuel could reduce its spread, and the forecast was for favorable firefighting weather again Thursday.

"Fire crews and support personnel have made significant progress in containing this fire in the last few days," Joe Prummer, incident commander trainee of Pacific Northwest Incident Management Team 2, said in a statement. "However, we still have a long road ahead of us to ensure the safety of the surrounding communities."

The Oregon fire, which was sparked by lightning, has ravaged the sparsely populated southern part of the state and had been expanding by up to 4 miles (6 kilometers) a day, pushed by strong winds and critically dry weather.

The blaze, which is being fought by more than 2,200 people, is now more than one-third contained.

On Thursday, authorities said at least nine people working the fire had tested positive for COVID-19.

The Oregon Department of Forestry said people who test positive are quarantined away from the main fire camp. Also, people who report symptoms and anyone who worked closely with them are tested and isolated until results are returned.

At least 2,000 homes were ordered evacuated at some point during the fire, and an additional 5,000 homes were threatened. At least 70 homes and more than 100 outbuildings have burned, but no one is known to have died.

Meanwhile the Tamarack Fire south of Lake Tahoe had burned more than 78 square miles (202 square kilometers) of timber and head-high chaparral in national forest land. It erupted July 4 and was one of nearly two dozen blazes sparked by lightning strikes.

Windy conditions were hampering more than 1,200 firefighters Thursday battling the Alpine County blaze. It has destroyed at least 10 buildings, forced evacuations in several communities and had closed parts of U.S. 395 in Nevada and California.

Bill Beidler, an evacuee from Woodfords, California, said: “We’ve been suppressing fires for so many generations, when we get one, this is what we get. Everything burns. People are losing their homes and everything.”

Blowing embers from flames ignited a new spot fire Thursday afternoon that jumped the highway north of Topaz Lake on the California-Nevada line, prompting an evacuation order at Topaz Lake Estates and neighboring areas.

Fire officials reported later Thursday the spot fire that started east of the highway in winds gusting to 25 mph (40 kph) was “growing rapidly despite firefighters’ diligent efforts to contain it.”

“Firefighters on the ground and aircraft continue to battle the growing spot under exceptionally difficult weather and fuel condition,” the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest said in an update.

It estimated the new blaze already had burned nearly 4 square miles (10 square kilometers). There were no immediate reports there of any injuries or structures destroyed.

To the northwest, the summer fun of boating and bathing came to an abrupt end for vacationers at Lake Almanor as the Dixie Fire spread up the west flank of the Sierra Nevada, expanding to more than 162 square miles. The west shore of the resort lake and many other small communities were under evacuation orders.

Meanwhile, Oregon on Wednesday banned all campfires on state-managed lands and in state campgrounds east of Interstate 5, the major highway that is commonly considered the dividing line between the wet western part of the state and the dry eastern half.

Extremely dry conditions and recent heat waves tied to climate change have made wildfires harder to fight. Climate change has made the West much warmer and drier in the past 30 years and will continue to make weather more extreme and wildfires more frequent and destructive.

<https://ktla.com/news/california/northern-california-wildfire-crosses-into-nevada-prompting-new-evacuations/>