



# NEWS



## News Headlines 09/13/2021

- Victor Valley College holds Patriot Day Ceremony in honor of 9/11 victims
- Driver killed in rollover crash along Arrowhead Lake Road in Hesperia

## Victor Valley College holds Patriot Day Ceremony in honor of 9/11 victims

Martin Estacio, Victorville Daily Press

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An Attendee takes a photograph of memorial flags on a hillside at Victor Valley College on Saturday, September 11, 2021

As a large American flag suspended from a ladder truck waved in the breeze, a pair of bagpipers played “Amazing Grace” during a ceremony Saturday at Victor Valley College in honor of those who died in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The college’s Patriot Day Ceremony marked the 20-year anniversary of the attacks and drew a large crowd of public safety personnel, elected and school officials and community members.

“If I could speak to them, as we’ve thought about them already today, I’d say, ‘We remember. We will never forget what you did for this country,’” Daniel Walden, VVC’s superintendent/president, said of the victims.

The ceremony is an annual tradition for the school in which students and others plant flags with the name of each person killed in the attacks on a hillside near the VVC library.

Robert Sewell, VVC’s spokesperson, said 3,500 flags were standing across the campus this year, including the 3,000 erected on the hillside during the Labor Day weekend.

A group of aspiring firefighters was also on hand, marching in military precision to honor their fallen brothers and sisters.

**San Bernardino County Fire Chief Dan Munsey** addressed VVC’s Fire Academy Class 57 in a speech and asked them to remember the 343 firefighters and other emergency workers who died that fateful morning.

“Don’t ever forget them,” he said to the class. “Thank you for the service that you are about to embark on.”

A county firefighter then rang the bell, a tradition to honor a firefighter killed in the line of duty.

Attendees later laid flowers at the school’s “United We Stand” Monument.

Dedicated in 2006 and designed by a VVC student, the monument features three pillars each with a word — Freedom, Strength and Hope — and the number of deaths of those killed at the Pentagon, the World Trade Center and on Flight 93.

The pillars intersect in a metal arch that holds a bell with the inscription: “We will never forget the innocent lives lost on September Eleventh Two Thousand and One.”

Rep. Jay Obernolte, of California's 8th District, said he saw the country become more united following the attacks.

"We saw thousands and thousands of volunteers in our country flock to New York City to sift through the rubble and many of them paid the health consequences of those actions for the rest of their lives," he said.

One of those affected was Regina "Reggie" Cervantes.

On the morning of Sept. 11, Cervantes was working as an emergency medical technician when she saw the second plane hit the World Trade Center's South Tower.

Cervantes arrived just as the tower collapsed. She said she helped place the body of Mychal Judge, the New York City Fire Department chaplain, into an ambulance after he had been killed by debris during the collapse.

Cervantes spent 33 hours at Ground Zero during the first week after 9/11 but had to leave due to smoke inhalation burns she suffered.

She has been diagnosed with other medical conditions since then.

At the ceremony, Cervantes said she was battling uterine cancer, which is the third cancer she's been diagnosed with and the second time she's had that particular type. She said she relies on federal benefits to pay for her cancer treatment.

When asked how she felt about 20 years going by, Cervantes said she had "mixed feelings."

"Glad to be alive, but sad for how the world is today," she said. "We're back to pre-9/11 intolerance."

<https://www.vvdailynews.com/story/news/2021/09/11/victor-valley-college-holds-ceremony-honor-9-11-victims/8301305002/>

## Driver killed in rollover crash along Arrowhead Lake Road in Hesperia

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News Group

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HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — California Highway Patrol officers investigated a single-vehicle fatal crash Friday evening in Hesperia.

It happened at about 6:15 pm, on September 10, 2021, along the 6200 block of Arrowhead Lake Road, near the Joshua Inn Bar.

Based on preliminary details, the vehicle was southbound at a high rate of speed when for unknown reasons the vehicle went airborne and left the roadway. The vehicle, a white Nissan 370Z landed several hundred feet away on its roof inside the yard of a private residence.

**San Bernardino County Firefighters** reported the vehicle rolled multiple times and the vehicle sustained a total roof collapse. They also reported extrication would be required and confirmed a single driver deceased at the scene of the crash.

Per reports, firefighters searched the area for other possible victims ejected during the crash. Sheriff's helicopter 40king2 responded to assist with an aerial search of the area, per CHP logs.

The Victorville CHP station is handling the investigation and the identity of the deceased driver will be released by the San Bernardino County Coroner's Office. Additional information will be updated as it becomes available.

<https://www.vvng.com/driver-killed-in-rollover-crash-along-arrowhead-lake-road-in-hesperia/>