



## EMS in Kern County – working in total secrecy? Part 2

*By Gunnar J Kuepper*



The level of secrecy by Kern County authorities is rarely seen in other EMS jurisdictions

On Sunday, April 13, 2014 around 5p.m. a major accident happened on the southbound Interstate 5 just

about a mile south of Gorman. The location was within the County of Los Angeles, just a few miles south of the

border with Kern County. Two vehicles, a SUV and a minivan collided, and all occupants sustained severe injuries. Initially ground crews from nearby Los Angeles County Fire Station 77 (includes one paramedic), an AMR Paramedic Ambulance from Gorman, and Kern County Fire Station 56 were dispatched around 5:03 p.m. En route to the scene, Engine 77 requested additional resources including a Helicopter. Los Angeles County Helicopter 11 was sent at 5:11 p.m. Upon arrival at 5:14 p.m. Los Angeles County Engine 77 gave an initial report of 5 patients and requested a second ambulance. Shortly thereafter, at 5:17 p.m., the Captain cancelled that ambulance request and asked for two additional Medevac copters for a total of three. At 5:17 p.m. Los Angeles County Fire Helicopter 16 and a minute later Los Angeles City Fire Helicopter 2 were dispatched to the accident site. All three Helicopters arrived within 35 minutes or less.

LA County Fire Helicopter 16 transported four patients to UCLA Medical Center, LA County Fire Helicopter 11 transported one patient to Henry Majo Hospital in Santa Clarita, and Los Angeles City Fire Helicopter 2 flew one patient to Holy Cross Medical Center in Mission Hills.

All six patients, described as being in critical condition, arrived at major trauma centers within the “golden hour,” meaning within 60 minutes after the accident. Considering the very remote location in Gorman (about 40 miles from Bakersfield, Lancaster, or Santa Clarita), this is remarkable in itself. At the same time none of the receiving hospitals became overwhelmed with too many patients. The well thought distribution of the patients to three Trauma Centers ensured that each of the victims had medical personnel and operating room capacities available.

So, how would the same scenario play out just five miles south on the Interstate 5 in Lebec? How long would it take for ambulances, helicopters, and medical personnel to arrive? Would Kern County use all resources available, or...?

Those questions are not only legitimate, but important. One Kern County EMS provider has, despite numerous requests, initially refused to even provide the most basic information on the so called Canyon Rescue on March 28, 2014. But now the County will continue this, what I call excessive, secrecy into the future. On Tuesday, April 15, 2014, Deputy Counsel *Gurujodha S. Khalsa* with the Office of Kern County Counsel stated in a letter to GBU Mountain News that information about

- Response and arrival times of an ambulance in Kern County
- Transportation times (how long did it take from the accident site to the hospital)
- Transportation mode (whether the transport was done via helicopter, street ambulance, or any other means)
- Level of treatment (whether a paramedic or somebody with just a first-aid course)
- The Use of lights and sirens by the ambulance

would not be released to the public. The argument of Deputy Counsel *Gurujodha S. Khalsa* is that “*this information is medical information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy...*”

“*...this office (Kern County Counsel) has concluded that the information requested regarding methodology of transportation, treating personnel, the arrival time(s), circumstance(s) and destination(s) of the transporting vehicles...constitutes medical information...since it is information regarding a patient’s medical history, mental or physical condition, or treatment*”.

“*... this office (Kern County Counsel)has deemed...that disclosure of the...information would serve to reveal the individual’s identity...*”



Are Kern County's EMS providers capable to handle a major pile-up on the Interstate in a timely manner, like this one on February 8, 2013 involving 40 vehicles between Gorman and Frazier Park in Los Angeles County?

We will not know, since the Kern County bureaucracy will not release any relevant EMS data.

I am not sure how the arrival or transportation time of a 9-1-1 ambulance can reveal the identity of any patient.

What is clear, however, is that with this blanket statement by Kern County Deputy Counsel *Gurujodha S. Khalsa*, the EMS authority, and particularly all the private ambulance companies, now work in total secrecy,

unchecked by the Media and not accountable to the Public they are supposed to serve.

The public and the media in Kern County, according to the binding statement of Deputy Counsel *Gurujodha S. Khalsa*, have no right to question or find out the arrival time of a private (contracted to Kern County) ambulance at a major accident site, even if it took a very long time for that ambulance to arrive. No information will be given, even if people die while waiting for an ambulance in Kern County.

The public and the media in Kern County, according to Deputy Counsel *Gurujodha S. Khalsa's* letter, have no right to question or find out whether a patient received the needed level of pre-hospital treatment.

The public and the media in Kern County, according to Deputy Counsel *Gurujodha S. Khalsa*, have no right to question or find out why a patient in critical condition had to be transferred from a Sheriff's Office Helicopter (equipped with medical supplies and a licensed paramedic on board) to a simple ambulance van provided by the largest ambulance company in Kern County. The Helicopter would have reached Kern Medical Center in four minutes.



Emergency Responders from Fire, Law Enforcement, and EMS do their best every day to save lives and help people while an uncontrolled County Authority wants to create a veil of silence and secrecy about public activities

According to Kern County Deputy Counsel *Gurujodha S. Khalsa*, the public and the media have no right to question or receive information on how long it took the street ambulance to reach the same hospital and whether there was a paramedic on board of that ambulance van.

In other words, from now on –until a court decides otherwise- the Kern County Emergency Medical System (EMS), and particularly the contracted private ambulance

companies, can work in total secrecy and basically without any accountability to the public. That is amazing, and certainly unique in California. Other jurisdictions throughout the state provide on request the information regarding methodology of transportation, treating personnel, the arrival time(s), circumstance(s) and destination(s) of the transporting vehicles.

Since the legal statement of the Kern County Deputy Counsel creates such a unique situation, it is worth noting that the owner of the largest ambulance company in Kern County, and the one involved in the Canyon Incident, is also the three-time mayor of Bakersfield and a very influential politician. However, there is at this point in time no indication that he was personally involved in creating this veil of secrecy.

Kern County authorities, particularly the Department of Public Health and its EMS division as well as the ambulance companies will treat arrival (was it 20, or 30, or 60 minutes or even longer?) and transport times and hospital destination (was the right medical facility chosen for the specific injury or illness?) as protected information and can even refuse to provide any information about the use of lights and sirens. This newly established veil of secrecy creates the perfect recipe for systemic maltreatment and abuse.

It is important to realize that this decision to absolute secrecy comes from Kern County Counsel and a seemingly uncontrolled bureaucracy. From my experience the Kern County Fire Department and the Kern County Sheriff's Office are open and welcome questions and inquiries from the media and the general public. Both agencies have held town hall meetings regularly throughout the county, something not seen by the EMS authority.

A policy of secrecy creates suspicion and tension between the general public and emergency services. Certainly none of the Kern County law enforcement, fire, and EMS personnel will favor these developments. They chose their profession to serve and protect the people, not to join some kind of covert operations.

GBU Mountain News had asked members of the Kern County Supervisors for a comment. Supervisor *Gleason*, in which district 1 the Canyon Incident occurred, did not respond. Neither did *Leticia Perez*, the current Chair of the Board of Supervisors, provide any comment.

Supervisor *David Couch*, whose district 4 covers all of the Frazier Mountain Communities stated: "The security and safety of Mountain Community residents is important to me. We will continue to look into our procedures and practices to ensure that our residents have



the very best emergency response and care from all of our first responders."



There was once a time when ambulances simply served the people and were not strangled by a multitude of rules, regulations, processes, systems, policies and politics.

Deficiencies in EMS programs, policies, or budgets always cost people's lives. And those deficiencies are more common than many of us want to believe. The Cities of Los Angeles, Detroit, or even Washington, D.C. are only a few of too many examples for EMS systems with major malfunctions.

Robert Davis' wrote an article about EMS in the U.S. titled "the price of just a few seconds lost: People die" in the USA Today on May 20, 2005:

*"LOS ANGELES — When baggage handler Andrew Redyk, 64, collapsed on the job at Los Angeles International Airport, his co-workers leaped into action. One called for help. Another did CPR.*

*The Los Angeles Fire Department sent a nearby fire engine and an ambulance, which arrived at the airport in six and seven minutes, respectively. Officially, their response time was quick enough to save Redyk.*

*In truth, almost half an hour passed before rescuers actually reached Redyk. He died.*

*This official deception is not unusual. Los Angeles is one of many cities that routinely lie to themselves about their true response times to medical emergencies. The result is needless deaths.*

*There is no nationwide standard for measuring emergency response times. A USA TODAY study of the 50 biggest U.S. cities found that most report only the slice of the response that looks most favorable: the time it takes for the emergency crew to drive to the scene. On many emergency runs, that is just a fraction of the time that passes between the call for help and the arrival of rescuers.*

*Yet most cities base quality-control decisions on these official response times, which are misleading and incomplete. As a result, people die, and attempts to improve survival rates fail...*

*"More than 1,000 "saveable" lives are lost needlessly each year in the nation's biggest cities because of inefficiencies in the cities' emergency medical systems, USA TODAY's investigation found, and at the root of these inefficiencies in many cases is the simple matter of counting seconds. Cities that rely on these imprecise response times leave precious minutes unaccounted for — minutes that are lost as the call for help is routed through a busy dispatch center..."*

In Kern County we will not know about any Andrew Redyk or how long it took the ambulance to arrive. Kern County will simply not provide any of that information to the public or the media.

The California legislature enacted in 1968 the California Public Records Act. Nearly 50 years ago it was expressly declared that "access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a fundamental and necessary right of every person in this state."

Throughout the U.S. and California "access to government records has been deemed a fundamental interest of citizenship" and has emphasized that "maximum disclosure of the conduct of governmental operations [is] to be promoted by the act."

By promoting prompt public access to government records, the California Public Records Act is "intended to safeguard the accountability of government to the public." As the California Supreme Court recognized in Television Network CBS, Inc versus Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block on October 9, 1986: "Implicit in a democratic process is the notion that government should be accountable for its actions. In order to verify accountability, individuals must have access to government files. Such access permits checks against the arbitrary exercise of official power and secrecy in the political process."

It is therefore somewhat sad (and yes, this is a very nice expression) that Kern County and particularly its Deputy Counsel Gurujodha S. Khalsa have a very different view on what We, The People should be allowed to know.

Nearly 2,500 years ago, the Greek Philosopher *Sophocles* wrote, "Do nothing secretly; for time sees and hears all things, and discloses all." And *Gautama Siddhartha*, the Buddha, once said "Three things cannot long stay hidden: the sun, the moon and the truth".

To be continued.

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See what's happening in the Frazier Mountain Communities



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## CLUB LIFE

### TEENS OWN THE NIGHT AT THE CLUB

#### TEEN NIGHT EVENTS AND FIELD TRIPS

**APRIL 11 - EGG-STROORDINARY GLOW IN THE DARK  
EASTER EGG HUNT**

**May 23 - Total Tiki Luau**

**June 18 - Six Flags Magic Mountain \***

**JUNE 27 - GAME SHOW NIGHT**

**July 18 - The Amazing Race - Scavenger Hunt**

**JULY 23 SANTA MONICA PIER \***

Teens, ages 13-18 are all welcome!  
For more information on these teen nights, or the teen program please contact the Boys & Girls Club at (661)245-3139, or stop by and see us at Frazier Park School between 3:30-6:00pm M-F

All events are 7-9pm at Frazier Park School, Room 13

Any event marked with a \* are TBA and will be announced when we get closer to the event date.

Check us out on Facebook  
 [www.facebook.com/boysandgirlsclubsofkerncountyfraziermountainclub](http://www.facebook.com/boysandgirlsclubsofkerncountyfraziermountainclub)



## **News from the El Tejon Unified School District (ETUSD)**

### **What's for Lunch?**

See the April 2014 Lunch Menus for the Frazier Park Elementary, El Tejon Middle, and Frazier Mountain High Schools at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/GBU-Mountain-News/1400308640212535>



## **Frazier Mountain High School (FMHS)**

### **Sports**

#### **Schedule**

Info provided by *Jerry Quick*

#### **Varsity Softball**

- Tuesday, April 22nd Home vs Bishop at 3:15pm
- Friday, April 25th @ Bishop at 3:15pm
- Tuesday, April 29th @ Rosamond at 3:15pm
- Friday, May 2nd Home vs Rosamond at 3:15pm
- Tuesday, May 6th Home vs Cal City at 3:15pm-no JV baseball or softball
- Friday, May 8th @ Cal City at 3:15pm-No JV baseball or softball

#### **Varsity Baseball**

- Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> Home vs Bishop at 3:15pm
- Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> @ Bishop at 3:15pm
- Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> @ Rosamond at 3:15pm
- Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> Home vs Rosamond at 3:15pm
- Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> Home vs Cal City at 3:15pm (No JV)
- Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> @ Cal City at 3:15pm (No JV)

#### **Junior Varsity Softball**

- Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> vs Bishop at 3:15pm
- Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> @ Bishop at 3:15pm
- Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> @ Rosamond at 3:15pm
- Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> vs Rosamond at 3:15pm

## **El Tejon Middle School**

## **Frazier Park Elementary School**

### **Frazier Park's Finest for April 10, 2014**

Info & photo provided by *Michelle Penner*



Left to right: *Zaria Kimbrough, Taylor Delatova, Reanna Valez, Madeline Castro, Rodderick Olson*





## All Things Local



## California Poppy (a.k.a Eschscholzia californica) Bloom along the Grapevine and the Western Antelope Valley



The hills in our area have become green and along SR 138, particularly between Gorman and Neeenach entire fields of orange blooming California Poppies can be seen. The California poppy was designated the state flower of California in 1903, and May 13 - 18 is Poppy Week. Native California tribes valued the poppy as a food source and for the oil extracted from the plant.

#####



## Proposed Water Rate Increase - Townhall Meeting by the Frazier Park Public Utility District (FPPUD) on Thursday, April 17, 2014

The FPPUD Board, after many discussions, came to the conclusion that it is necessary for the financial stability of the District and therefore in the best interest of the District's landowners to propose an increase in fees for the use of clean, safe, and sufficient water.

At a tomorrow's townhall meeting, **on Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Community Building across from the Frazier Park Library, the Board will recommend an increase for the monthly basic water charges, which currently (and in the future) depend on the size of the meter which go from 3/4 inch to 6 inch meters for businesses.

At the same time the Board will introduce a commodity charge for the water used, staggered by 1-10,000 gallons, 10,001 - 15,000 gallons, 15,001 - 20,000 gallons, and over 20,000 gallons.

*Rob Shirley*, Water System Technical and Professional Services consultant, will present findings of the water rate study.

With the adoption of Proposition 218, which added Article XIID Section 6 to California's Constitution, the FPPUD as a public agency is required to hold a "majority protest" hearing before any increase in certain property related fees and charges may be adopted. The Board will explain the process, in which notices will be sent to residents and landowners 45 days prior to a public hearing. That hearing has been tentatively scheduled for June 21, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. and its purpose is to review any protests of possible proposed changes.

According to the Water Rate Study using the financial statements from 2011 to 2012 the FPPUD had a net loss of at least \$175,000. This net loss was caused by additional capital assets and long-term debt and was paid out of the district's reserve fund. The operating revenue for the year 2012 was \$658,420, but the operating expenses for the same time were \$811,778.

The California Water Code 540 states "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a water district, as defined in Section 20200, may ... charge a fee that is equal to the district's cost for providing that service."

In a public meeting on Monday, April 14, 2014 Water Consultant *Rob Shirley* recommended "the water system review their fixed expenses and adjust the water system's revenue with their monthly fixed water charges. The purpose is to ensure the water system will meet their fiduciary responsibility covering cost of services for fixed expenses each month during a fiscal year... For example: Debt services is required to meet interest and principal payments to banking institutions and regulatory agencies and for FPPUD this would be the repayment for the USDA loan."

If you are a landowner / resident in Frazier Park you should come to the Thursday's (April 17) meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Building across from the Frazier Park Library. You will hear about the reasons and the details for the proposed Water Rate Increase, you can ask questions, speak up, and raise any concerns you may have.

####

## **32nd Annual Pine Mountain Club Lilac Festival**

By *Rosetta Burgelin* PMC-CPOA Events Director

Take a typical southern California spring weekend in May, add tall trees, snow-streaked mountain peaks, blue

sky and pine-scented air, and you have the beginnings of a recipe for Family Fun.

Begun in 1982 as a way to forget winter and welcome the approaching summer, the Lilac Festival started as little more than a bake sale and a Maypole Dance, and has grown into a full-fledged Mountain tradition. The Lilac was chosen as a centerpiece for the Festival because it thrives in our mountain climate, and its short flowering season falls roughly at the same time as the Festival. The powerful scent of lilacs is one of the few that outshines the always-present scent of sugar pine.

This year's Festival is **Saturday & Sunday, May 17th & 18th, and begins at 9 am each day**, and ends at 5pm or so.

The traditional Parade is at 11 am on Saturday. Over 100 Arts & Crafts booths will be open all day, along with international food vendors, restaurants and unique shops, live music throughout the Festival, and a kiddie amusement area. There are also lots of places to sit, relax, and enjoy the beautiful surroundings of the Village and all of Pine Mountain Club.

If you would like to be a vendor (Art & Crafts or Food), participate in the Lilac Festival Parade, or help out as a volunteer, please go to [www.pmcililacfestival.com](http://www.pmcililacfestival.com), or call Rosetta Burgelin at 661-242-1996.

####

## **Mommy & Me Calendar**

Info provided by *Amy Crippen*, Family Resource Center

- Wednesday, April 23: CALM Zoo Bakersfield - Meeting at 10:00am at CALM 10500 Alfred Harrell Hwy, Bakersfield, 93306. The group is sponsored by First 5 and funded by Prop 10 which will pay for 1 parent/caregiver and all children 0-5 for up to 30 families. We encourage you to carpool & bring a lunch or snacks for you & your child.
- Wednesday, April 30, 10-12: Meet at the Park - Planting Party, We will make our own Herb garden. Let's celebrate Spring!

The Mommy & Me group meets weekly on Wednesdays. The group provides parents with social opportunities to meet other parents in the Mountain Communities, while offering fun, child development and stimulating activities that everyone can enjoy. If you have any questions or would like to know about upcoming events please contact Amy Crippen at (661)245-4303.

####

## **MCCASA Meeting on April 17, 2014**

by *Tina Fessia*, MCCASA

This is just a friendly reminder that this **Thursday, April 17, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** we are having our



MCCASA (Mountain Communities Coalition Against Substance Abuse) Meeting at the Family Resource Center (downstairs meeting room) in Frazier Park.

We look forward to seeing all of you there. Here is an overview of the agenda for the meeting:

- Medication Take Back April 26th, 2014. Sign up to volunteer at this fun event.
- Updates on : C-BERR, MyC3, and Color the Mountain
- MCCASA outreach at local Ridge Route Car Show on May 24, 2014.

###

### **Kern County Fire Department Declares the End to Open Burning within the State Responsibility Areas of Kern County**

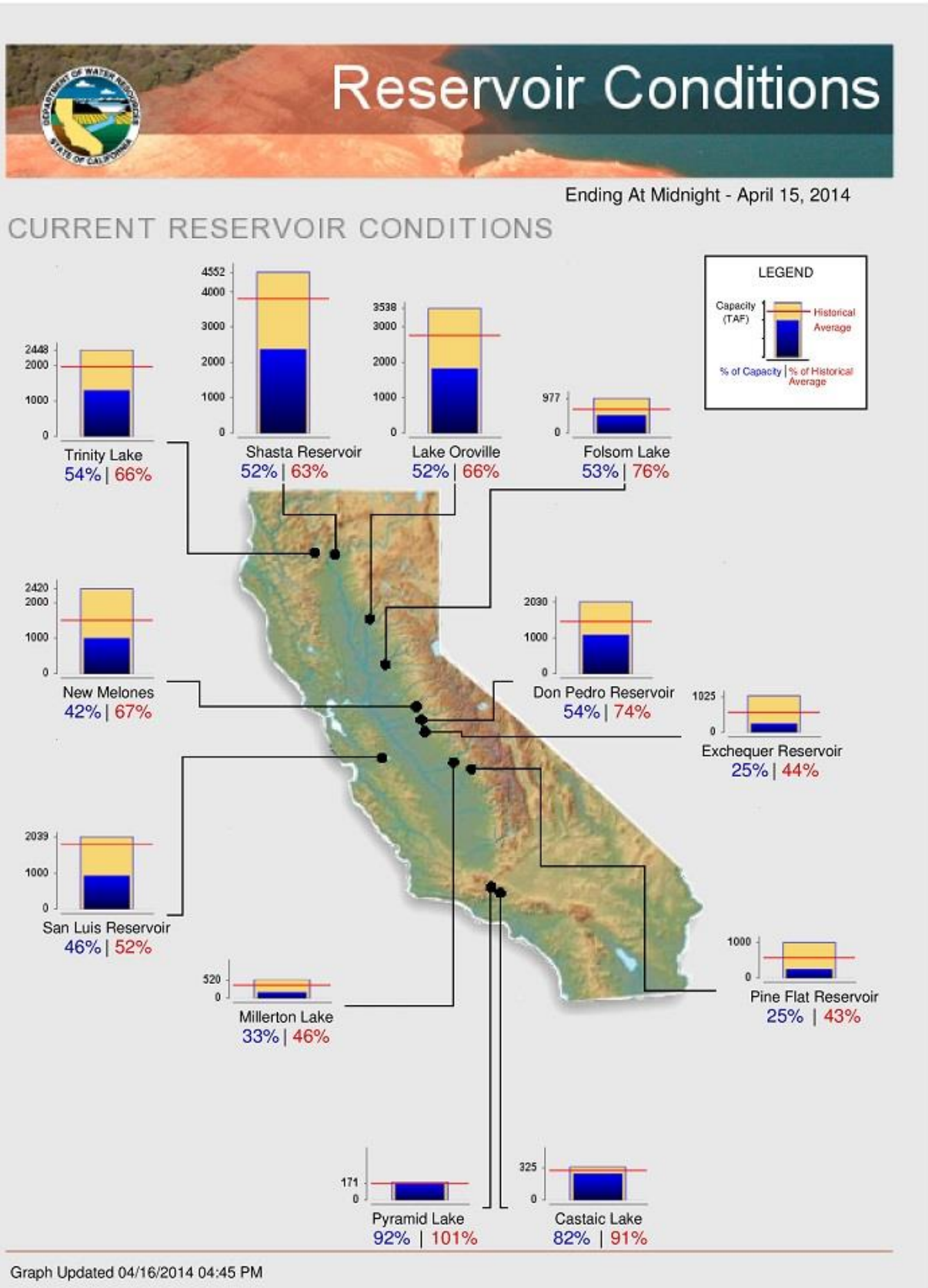
*By Kern County Fire Department*

As of April 14, 2014 and effective immediately the Kern County Fire Department has declared an end of open burning within the State Responsibility Area of Kern County.

This declaration has been made a little earlier than usual due to higher than normal temperatures, low humidity and drying conditions of the vegetation.









Dear Frazier Park Residences,

Due to the recent Proclamation of a State Emergency by Gov. Jerry Brown pertaining to the prolonged drought your Frazier Park Public Utility District (FPPUD) has implemented a Water Conservation Plan (available for review in the district office as well as an electronic copy emailed to you upon request). It consists of four parts.

- A) The voluntary Conservation Measures (that we ask everyone to abide by year round) and three stages of drought response which are
- B) Warning Stage,
- C) Alert Stage, and
- D) Emergency Stage.

At present, while we evaluate our water supply and the drought, we are at Voluntary Conservation Measures.

In an effort to promote conservation and voluntarily conserve water, Frazier Park PUD is adopting water-use regulations to promote water conservation during **non-emergency** situations. These regulations include the following non-essential water use and are currently voluntary unless specifically noted:

- 1) No use of water through any connection when the district has notified the customer in writing to repair a broken or defective plumbing, sprinkler, watering or irrigation system and the customer has failed to make such repairs within 5 days after receipt of such notice.
- 2) No use of water which results in flooding or run-off in gutters, waterways, patios, driveway, or streets.
- 3) Use of water for washing aircraft, cars, buses, boats, trailers or other vehicles without a positive shut-off nozzle on the outlet end of the hose.
- 4) Use of water through a hose for washing buildings, structures, sidewalks, walkways, driveways, patios, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas in a manner which results in excessive run-off or waste.
- 5) Use of water for watering streets with trucks, except for initial wash-down for construction purposes (if street sweeping is not feasible), or to protect the health and safety of the public.
- 6) Use of water for construction purposes, such as consolidation of backfill, dust control, or other uses unless no other source of water or other method can be used.
- 7) Use of water for more than minimal landscaping in connection with any new construction.
- 8) Recommend the use of water for outside plants, lawn, landscape, and turf areas on a Odd/Even Program (Odd numbered addresses Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday. Even numbered addresses Wednesday, Friday, & Sunday). Watering of plants, lawn, landscape, and turf areas are prohibited between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Recommend no watering of plants, lawn, landscape, and turf areas allowed on Mondays.
- 9) Use of water for watering outside plants and turf areas using a hand-held hose without a positive shut-off valve.
- 10) Use of water for decorative fountains or the filling or topping off of decorative lakes or ponds. Exceptions are made for those decorative fountains, lakes, or ponds which utilize recycled water.
- 11) Use of water for the filling or refilling of swimming pools.

**For valuable information on conserving water we recommend that you visit [saveourh2o.org](http://saveourh2o.org)**

## All Things Global

### **Ebola Haemorrhagic Fever Outbreak in West Africa**

A Haemorrhagic Fever outbreak in February of 2014 was by caused by the Ebola virus and took place in Guinea, a small country in West Africa. As of April 9, 2014 the outbreak has spread to four nations (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Mali) with at least 187 people infected. Of those infected 117 have already died creating a fatality rate of 62.5%.

There is no specific treatment for the Ebola virus disease and no vaccine. Once infected the death rate for people can be as high as 90% (nine out of ten infected people will die). Human-to-human transmission occurs via direct contact with blood or bodily fluids from an infected person (including embalming of an infected dead person) or by contact with contaminated medical equipment such as needles. Bodily fluids from diarrhea, vomiting, and bleeding represent a major hazard. In the past, explosive transmissions have occurred in under-equipped African hospitals due to the reuse of needles and lack of even basic hygienic practices.

The first outbreak of Ebola virus disease was reported 1976 in Sudan and Zaire, and all following outbreaks have also occurred Sub-Saharan Africa. The name of the disease originates from one of those first recorded outbreaks in 1976 in Yambuku, Democratic Republic of the Congo (then Zaire) which lies on the Ebola River.

####

### **2014 Pulitzer Prizes**

On Monday, April 14, 2014, the Pulitzer Prize Board announced the winners for what is considered the top award for journalism.

*The Washington Post* and *The Guardian US* shared the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service, for their coverage of the disclosures about surveillance done by the US National Security Agency.

The *Newsday* in Long Island, N.Y. received a Pulitzer Prize for Public Service "for its use of in-depth reporting and digital tools to expose shootings, beatings and other concealed misconduct by some Long Island police officers, leading to the formation of a grand jury and an official review of police accountability."

The *Boston Globe* Staff received the Pulitzer Price in the category Breaking News Reporting "for its exhaustive and empathetic coverage of the Boston Marathon bombings and the ensuing manhunt that enveloped the

city, using photography and a range of digital tools to capture the full impact of the tragedy.

In the same category Breaking News Reporting the *Arizona Republic* staff received the award "for its compelling coverage of a fast-moving wildfire that claimed the lives of 19 firefighters and destroyed more than a hundred homes, using an array of journalistic tools to tell the story," and *The Washington Post* Staff, "for its alert, in-depth coverage of the mass shooting at the Washington Navy Yard, employing a mix of platforms to tell a developing story with accuracy and sensitivity."

In the category Investigative Reporting prizes were given to *Chris Hamby* of *The Center for Public Integrity*, Washington, D.C. "for his reports on how some lawyers and doctors rigged a system to deny benefits to coal miners stricken with black lung disease, resulting in remedial legislative efforts," to *Megan Twohey* of *Reuters*, "for her exposure of an underground Internet marketplace where parents could bypass social welfare regulations and get rid of children they had adopted overseas but no longer wanted, the stories triggering governmental action to curb the practice," as well as to *Cynthia Hubert* and *Phillip Reese* of *The Sacramento Bee*, "for their probe of a Las Vegas mental hospital that used commercial buses to "dump" more than 1,500 psychiatric patients in 48 states over five years, reporting that brought an end to the practice and the firing of hospital employees."

In the category Local Reporting Pulitzer Prizes were given to *Will Hobson* and *Michael LaForgia* of the *Tampa Bay Times* "for their relentless investigation into the squalid conditions that marked housing for the city's substantial homeless population, leading to swift reforms", to *Joan Garrett McClane*, *Todd South*, *Doug Strickland* and *Mary Helen Miller* of the *Chattanooga Times Free Press*, "for using an array of journalistic tools to explore the "no-snitch" culture that helps perpetuate a cycle of violence in one of the most dangerous cities in the South", and to *Rebecca D. O'Brien* and *Thomas Mashberg* of *The Record*, Woodland Park, New Jersey, "for their jarring exposure of how heroin has permeated the suburbs of northern New Jersey, profiling addicts and anguished families and mapping the drug pipeline from South America to their community."

Pulitzer Prizes in the category International Reporting were given to *Jason Szep* and *Andrew R. C. Marshall* of *Reuters* "for their courageous reports on the violent persecution of the Rohingya, a Muslim minority in Myanmar that, in efforts to flee the country, often falls victim to predatory human-trafficking networks," to



*Rukmini Callimachi* of the *Associated Press*, "for her discovery and fearless exploration of internal documents that shattered myths and deepened understanding of the global terrorist network of al-Qaida," and to *Raja Abdulrahim* and *Patrick McDonnell* of the *Los Angeles*

*Times*, "for their vivid coverage of the Syrian civil war, showing at grave personal risk how both sides of the conflict contribute to the bloodshed, fear and corruption that define daily life."

## Law Enforcement Corner



### Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) – Frazier Park Substation

Sergeant Mark Brown from the Kern County Sheriff's Substation in Frazier Park released the following information about law enforcement related incidents and activities between **March 31 and April 8:** \*

- 1) On March 31, 2014, at about 1:45 PM, deputies conducted a probation search at a house on the 4400 block of High Trail in Frazier Park, and located approximately .2 of a gram of suspected heroin and suspected drug paraphernalia. The probationer, *Jerome Altemus*, was not there at the time, but a deputy contacted him there two days later and arrested him for suspicion of possessing suspected heroin and drug paraphernalia.
- 2) On April 1, 2014, at about 11:10 AM, deputies contacted HC at a house on the 900 block of Starr Court in Lebec, and arrested him on a California Department of Corrections parole warrant.
- 3) On April 1, 2014, at about 3:00 PM, a deputy contacted CR at a house on the 500 block of Wyoming Trail in Frazier Park, and arrested him for suspicion of possessing approximately 1.6 grams of suspected methamphetamine, a prescription drug without a prescription, and drug paraphernalia.
- 4) On April 2, 2014, at about 1:40 PM, a deputy called a Frazier Park resident on the telephone and the resident reported that unknown person(s) stole his black and blue wallet, containing his SSA card, from his vehicle while it was parked on the 3600 block of Mt. Pinos Way in Frazier Park.
- 5) On April 3, 2014, at about 3:55 PM, deputies were dispatched to a house on the 2900 block of Harriet Drive in Frazier Park to investigate a peace disturbance. *Canaan Sloat* was arrested on a Riverside County Sheriff's Parole violation warrant.
- 6) On April 5, 2014, at about 11:10 PM, deputies contacted *Bret Reed* at a house on the 4200 block of

Decator Trail in Frazier Park, and arrested him on a felony drug possession warrant. Another man at the house, *Corey Werden*, was arrested for suspicion of possessing suspected methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia.

- 7) On April 8, 2014, at about 6:30 AM, a deputy was dispatched to a house on the 2000 block of Tulip Place in PMC to investigate domestic violence. The suspect, *Jason Ramsey*, fled prior to the deputy's arrival, but returned a few hours later. Ramsey was arrested for suspicion of committing spousal abuse and child endangerment.

*Anyone having information about any of the above incidents is asked to contact the Kern County Sheriff's Office at (661) 861-3110, contact Secret Witness at (661) 322-4040 or send an anonymous text to TIP411 (847411). Type the key word, "KCSO," prior to the message.*

**You will notice that the names of arrestees and suspects are not always published here. The presumption of innocence means that one is to be considered innocent until proven guilty in a fair and open court of law. Individuals that have been arrested, but not convicted and that do not pose a risk for others should not be subject to public humiliation.**

**However, if you have been arrested and convicted before, and you have a considerable criminal record, your full name AND your criminal record will be published. If you are a repeated offender you will be considered a threat to our Youth and risk to the community.**

### Los Angeles County Sheriff (LASD)

### California Highway Patrol (CHP)

### Distracted Driver Awareness Month

April is National Distracted Driver Awareness Month. The California Highway Patrol, California Office of Traffic Safety, and Allied Law Enforcement Agencies are launching the fourth annual Distracted Driver Enforcement and Awareness Campaign. This is a month long effort targeting distracted drivers as well as bringing awareness to the public of the deadly consequences of driving while distracted.

## Distracted Driving

Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a driver's attention away from the primary task of driving. Types of distractions include:

- Texting
- Using a cell phone or smartphone
- Eating and drinking
- Talking to passengers
- Grooming
- Reading, including maps
- Using a navigation system
- Watching a video
- Adjusting a radio, CD player, or MP3 player

The number of people killed in distraction-affected crashes was 3,360 in 2011 and 3,328 in 2012. An estimated 421,000 people were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver in 2012, up from the estimated 387,000 people injured in 2011.

10% of all drivers under the age of 20 involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of the crash. This age group has the largest proportion of drivers who were distracted.

As of December 2012, 171.3 billion text messages were sent in the US (including Puerto Rico, the Territories, and Guam) every month. Five seconds is the average time a driver's eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55mph, that's enough time to cover the length of a football field blindfolded.

#####



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## Animals Matter

### Two Mountain Lion Cubs at the California Living Museum (CALM)

On Friday, April xx, the Californian Living Museum (CALM) in Bakersfield introduced two new mountain lion cubs, *Laurel* and *Acacia*.



Laurel, probably born in October of 1913 was orphaned was brought to CALM in January of 2014. The seven months old cup is described as having a calm demeanor and being very majestic and ladylike.

The younger cup, *Acacia*, probably born in December of 2013 was also orphaned and was also brought to CALM in January. Both cups already share a close bond, with the younger one being described as the "firecracker" — tiny but mighty. Both cups have fully recovered from some health issues and eat about 20 pounds a chicken a week.



Both Mountain Lions are expected to spend the rest of their lives at CALM in the Cats of California Exhibit. As adults, mountain lions will stand 24 to 35 in tall at the shoulder with an average weight of 93lb for females.



Females reach sexual maturity between one-and-a-half to three years of age. They typically average one litter every two to three years throughout their reproductive lives.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife estimates a population of between 4,000 and 6,000 mountain lions in California. Mountain Lions can be found wherever deer are present, since deer are their main food source. It has become increasingly common for mountain lions to prey on pets and livestock as more people move into mountain lion habitat. Mountains and foothills are their most suitable habitat.

With the passage of Proposition 117 in 1990, mountain lions became a "specially protected species," making mountain lion hunting illegal in California. Mountain lions have an instinctive wariness of humans, and are typically solitary and elusive. However, studies of collared mountain lions show that they often co-exist around people, unseen and unheard.

Mountain lion attacks on humans are extremely rare. There have been only 16 verified mountain lion attacks on humans in California since 1890, six of them fatal. The last documented attack occurred in January, 2007, in Humboldt County. Statistically speaking, a person is one thousand times more likely to be struck by lightning than attacked by a mountain lion.



The California Living Museum (CALM) opened its doors in 1983. One of its first animals was a mountain lion cub named *Whisker*. It is reported that as a cub *Whisker* spend more time in the office with Zoo Manager Lana Fain or walked the grounds on a leash than being in a fenced enclosure. In 1984 another young mountain lion came to the California Living Museum and both mountain lions spend their life in the Zoo until the late 1990s.

The purpose of the California Living Museum is to provide a place to both educate the public about native wildlife, as well as to help injured and orphaned wild animals. Those that could be released into the wild would be, while others would be cared for in the facility. Currently about 250 animals representing 80 species live on the 14 acre property in the northeastern corner of Bakersfield.

CALM is operated by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools and is even an official school site. About 13,000 school children visit the zoo every year. *Don Richardson* is the Animal Curator, one of only about 400 in the U.S. As such he oversees the care for all animals, including acquiring animals, creating appropriate displays and settings, and maintaining the health of the animals.

**From April 12 – 19 the annual Spring Fling** is scheduled at the California Living Museum. As a way of welcoming springtime to Bakersfield, all children (up to 12 years-old) will be admitted free and must be accompanied by an adult. CALM Docents and Animal Keepers will be onsite to give visitors an up close and personal animal encounter. Weather permitting, the Central California Children's Railroad will be chugging along the tracks at CALM from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and tickets are only \$1. To add to the experience, a Children's Crafts Corner will be open in the Education Center. For information, call 661-872-2256. Visit the website [calmzoo.org](http://calmzoo.org).



Another resident of CALM is this beautiful Burrowing Owl. Burrowing Owls are fairly common in open fields and grasslands throughout the Central Valley. The ground dwelling Owl has long legs and is 9"-11" tall. The Burrowing Owl does not dig its own burrow, but uses abandoned squirrel, tortoise, or rabbit burrows.



**Pine Mountain Club Commercial Property Owners Association**

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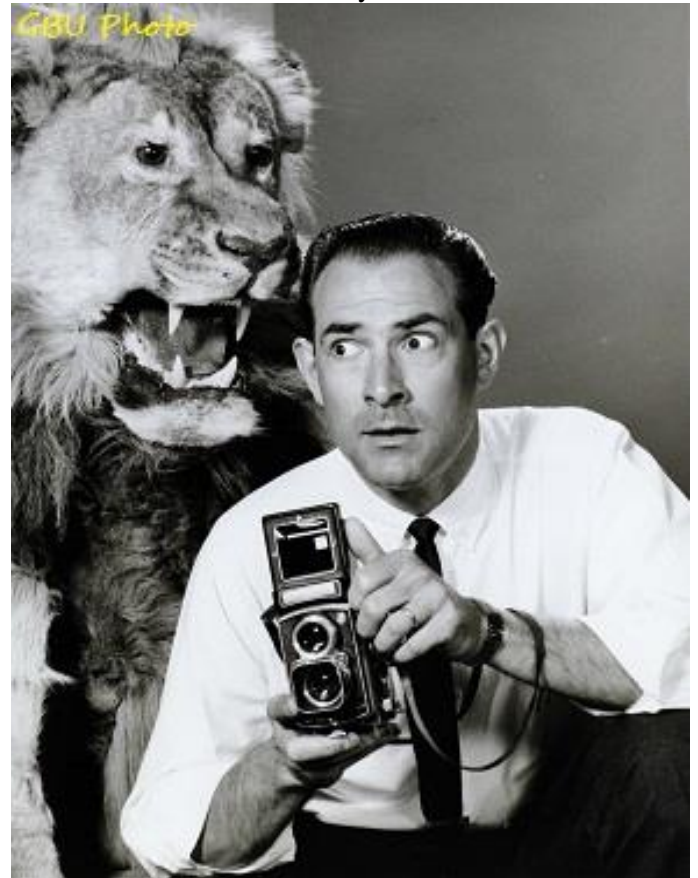
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***SORRY, NO DOGS ALLOWED.***

**Frazier Park Library (کتابخانه)****Library Hours & Calendar**

- Sunday: closed  
Monday: closed  
Tuesday: 11am – 7pm  
Wednesday: 11am – 7pm  
Thursday: 11am – 7pm  
Friday: 9am – 5pm  
Saturday: 9am – 5pm
- Tuesday: 11:30 a.m. Family Storytime with *Christine Kearns-Brown*
- Wednesday: 3:30 p.m. **Chess** Everyone is welcome. Chess Coach, *Bill Hopper* available to teach beginners.
- Thursday: 11:30 a.m. **Personal Computer Coach**.  
3:30 p.m. **Barks & Books** with *Donna Marie Kuehn*; children build their reading skills by sharing stories with therapy dog *Ginger Snap*.  
3:30 p.m. **Sign Language Class** by *Anita Anderson*. All ages welcome!
- Saturday: 9-9:30 a.m. **Free Beginning Piano**  
3:30 -5:00 p.m. **Reading of the Classics** by local actors and community; all are welcome.
- April 26: 10:00 a.m. **Quilt & Chat** - learn techniques, share ideas, & work on group projects
- May 3: 10:00 a.m. **“I used to Be”** Photography Presentation by *Gerald Smith*, one of the Last great studio photographers of the glamorous Hollywood era presents

photos and stories from a time gone by. Listen and see what you otherwise only read in history books.



Please call 661-245-1267 for more info.

####

**In-N-Out Books & Burger Program**

The "In & Out" fast food restaurant had a contest with the Kern County Libraries from March 1 to April 12 for children ages 4 to 12 years old. Each child received a hamburger for every five books read, up to three burgers for 15 books.

34 children participated in the program at the Frazier Park Library.

19 kids received burger certificates for reading at least 15 books.

6 kids received In & Out Burger certificates for reading at least 10 books.

9 children received burger certificates for reading at least 5 books.

## Incidents & Accidents

### Throughout Kern County

#### **Bakersfield – Traffic Accident with Motorcycle**

*by Bakersfield Police Department*

On April 16, 2014, at 11:59 am, Bakersfield police officers were dispatched to the report of a collision at Hwy 178 and Valley St. Initial reports indicated that there was a motorcyclist down and the injuries were major. In addition, reports were that there was another vehicle involved that was on fire. When officers arrived they discovered that the collision involved a single vehicle, the motorcycle, and the driver, a 56 year old male suffered from several broken bones and abrasions but would survive his injuries.

Investigation revealed the motorcyclist was eastbound on Hwy 178 when he failed to see traffic slowed in front of him. The traffic was slowed due to a vehicle fire that the fire department was in the process of extinguishing. The motorcycle driver lost control of the motorcycle and fell. He was transported to an area hospital for treatment.

*Photo by Bakersfield PD*



###

#### **Bakersfield – Molotov Cocktail thrown at a Residence**

*by Bakersfield Police Department*

On Tuesday, April 15, 2014, at 11:51 pm Bakersfield police officers were dispatched to a residence in the 6200 block of Landfair Dr. regarding the report of an object being thrown through the front window that smelled like gasoline. On officers' arrival they discovered that an incendiary device, commonly known as a Molotov cocktail, had been thrown through the front window of the residence. The device had been lit by the suspects prior to it being thrown through the window but had extinguished itself upon impact with the window screen and did not ignite inside the residence. Another Molotov cocktail was thrown at the residence but did not ignite.

The residence was occupied by two adults and four small children one of whom is a special needs child.

The investigation revealed that two suspects had thrown the Molotov cocktail through the residence window. The suspects also left behind at the scene two other Molotov cocktails that were not lit. Officers were able to gather evidence at the scene revealing *Marco Gutierrez*, 24 from Bakersfield and another as yet unidentified suspect were responsible for the crime.

The motive for the firebombing appears to be domestic violence related. A short time later the Kern County Sheriff's Office responded to the report of a shooting into an inhabited dwelling in the 700 block of Park Dr. Evidence at that scene indicated that *Gutierrez* and another suspect may also be responsible for that offense. The Sheriff's Office is investigating.

At 2:55 am Bakersfield police officers arrested *Gutierrez* without incident at Aldo's Night Club located at 1900 Union Av. *Gutierrez* was arrested for six counts of Attempted Murder, four counts of Possession of an Incendiary Device, Attempted Arson and Conspiracy. He was booked into the Kern County Jail. The investigation is on-going.

Anyone with information regarding this case is encouraged to call Detective Ken Sporer at (661) 326-3275 or the Bakersfield Police Department at (661) 327-7111.

###

#### **Delano/Bakersfield - Traffic Pursuit & Narcotics Arrest**

*by Kern County Sheriff's Office*

On Tuesday, April 15, 2014, detectives from the California Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team (CalMMET), along with assistance from the Kern Narcotics Enforcement Team (KNET), attempted to make a traffic stop on *Jose Ayon-Navarro* (27 years old) for a Vehicle Code violation. *Ayon-Navarro* failed to stop for the detectives and led detectives on a pursuit through the outskirts of Delano. *Ayon-Navarro* was able to evade detectives for a short while, but was subsequently located and arrested near his home in Bakersfield. A search of *Ayon-Navarro's* home in the 1000 block of Delores Street resulted in three quarters of a pound of suspected methamphetamine being located, as well as rock cocaine, ammunition, and evidence indicating sales of controlled substances from the residence. *Ayon-Navarro* was arrested on several charges including sales of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance, felon in possession



of ammunition, felony evading, and escape from the Sheriff's Electronic Monitoring Program. *Ayon-Navarro* was booked into the Sheriff's downtown jail (SR14-10092).

###

### **Bakersfield – Major Injury Hit-and-Run Accident**

*by Bakersfield Police Department*

On Monday, April 14, 2014, Bakersfield police officers were dispatched to the intersection of East Truxtun Ave. and Miller St. regarding a hit and run collision. On arrival they discovered that a 90 year old male was riding a motorcycle eastbound on E. Truxtun Ave. when he was struck by the suspect who was driving a '99 gray Dodge Caravan southbound on Miller Street. Witnesses stated that the driver of van failed to stop at a stop sign on Miller St. before striking the victim. The motorcyclist was transported to an area hospital where he is undergoing surgery for major injuries.

Officers were able to follow an evidence trail left behind by the van to the 1100 block of Delores St. where they found the vehicle abandoned. The suspect vehicle has been impounded by officers. Based on witness statements and evidence at the scene officers are searching for:

Juan Armando Cortez, hispanic male, 33, 5'9"-11", stocky build, black hair and brown eyes.

Anyone with information regarding this case is encouraged to call the Bakersfield Police Department at (661) 327-7111. You can now send an anonymous text message to the Bakersfield Police Department. It's quick and it's easy. Simply enter 274637 into your phone and text BPDCRIMES along with your message. The text is sent to the police department and the sender remains completely anonymous. Tips can also be anonymously sent through the smartphone "TipSubmit" mobile App or via email at <https://www.tipsubmit.com>.

###

### **Bakersfield - Seizure of Methamphetamine, 3 Arrests**

*by Kern County Sheriff's Office*

On Friday, April 11, 2014 at approximately 10:30 p.m., deputies from the Sheriff's Office Gang Suppression Section went to a residence at 929 Richmond St in Bakersfield to conduct a search of 28 year old *Gabriel Cruz* per the terms of his probation on the Electronic Monitoring Program. At the residence, deputies also contacted 25 year old *Tranquilino Lopez*, who is also on

the Electronic Monitoring Program and 23 year old *David De La Garza*. During a search of the residence, deputies located over a quarter of a pound of methamphetamine, several thousand dollars in U.S. currency, surveillance equipment and indicia indicative of the sale of controlled substances. A search of *De La Garza* found he was in possession of methamphetamine and narcotics paraphernalia. *Cruz* was arrested on charges of possession of narcotics for the purpose of sale, possession of drug paraphernalia, and violating the terms of the Electronic Monitoring Program. *De La Garza* was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and possession of narcotics paraphernalia. *Lopez* was arrested for violating the terms of the Electronic Monitoring Program. All subjects were booked into the Central Receiving Facility.

###

### **Bakersfield - Death of an Infant**

*by Kern County sheriff's Office Coroner Section*

On Monday, April 7, 2014, four-months-old *Mia Rios* was found unresponsive at 400 Block of Jeffrey Street in Bakersfield. The infant was transported to the Emergency Room of Bakersfield Memorial Hospital where death was pronounced on April 8, 2014 at 12:34 p.m. An autopsy was performed on Wednesday, April 9, 2014 and the cause of death is pending histology and toxicology studies.

###

### **Oildale - Garage Fire**

*by Kern County Fire Department*

On Sunday, April 13, at 10:14 a.m. the Kern County Fire Department received multiple calls for a structure on fire in the 1500 block of Rench Road in Oildale. A reinforced alarm was dispatched, consisting of 4 engines, 2 ladder trucks and three additional units with a total of 21 fire personnel. First arriving firefighters reported a detached garage that was approximately 500 square feet and 25% involved with fire. Firefighters were able to quickly knockdown the fire in less than 10 minutes and protect a nearby structure. Fire crews determined the cause of the fire was discarded coals from a BBQ.

The structure value destroyed by the fire is estimated at \$5,000; the structure value saved is estimated at \$20,000. No injuries were reported during the incident.

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## Teens

## Nature, Science & Technology

## Weather



### Frazier Park Weather Forecast:

Thursday, April 17:	high 77°F	low 48°F
Friday, April 18:	high 73°F	low 46°F
Saturday, April 19:	high 73°F	low 48°F
Sunday, April 20:	high 73°F	low 48°F
Monday, April 21:	high 81°F	low 43°F
Tuesday, April 22: RAIN 20%	high 61°F	low 36°F
Wednesday, April 23:	high 59°F	low 39°F

### Rainiest US Cities annual average:

Aberdeen in Washington State with 83.7 inches,  
Astoria in Oregon with 67.1 inches,  
Mobile in Alabama with 66.3 inches,  
Miami in Florida with 66 inches;  
Bakersfield: 6.47 inches  
Frazier Park: 8.83 inches  
California: 22.97 inches  
U.S.: 38.67 inches

## Kern County

### Board of Supervisors Meetings

The Kern County Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 9:00 am and 2:00 pm in the County Administrative Building at 1115 Truxtun Ave. in Bakersfield.

At each meeting Members of the Public can address the Board on any matter even if it is not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Board. Board members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed by the public. They may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Board at a later meeting. Also, the Board may take action to direct the staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. Speakers are limited to two minutes and asked to state and spell their names (for the record) before making a presentation.

If you are interested to receive the agenda(s) for upcoming or the minutes for previous Board meetings, please send an e-mail to [GBUmountainNews@gmail.com](mailto:GBUmountainNews@gmail.com)

####

### Kern County History – from Basket-Weaving Indians to Supersonic Airplanes (Part II)

1850 – California became the 31<sup>st</sup> US state with the Kern area being part of Mariposa County

1852 – Edward F Beale arrived as Superintendent of Indian Affairs

1853 – Gold discovered in Greenhorn Gulch

1850 – California became the 31<sup>st</sup> US state with the Kern area being part of Mariposa County

1854 – Fort Tejon established

1854 – Phineas Banning started stagecoach service between Los Angeles and Fort Tejon

1857 – U.S. Camel Corps reached Fort Tejon

1857 – Fort Tejon Earthquake

1860 – Telegraph Service from Los Angeles to San Francisco through Kern

1864 – Gold discovered at Havilah

1864 – Fort Tejon abandoned

1865 – Buena Vista Oil Refinery began operations in the Temblor area

1866 – Kern County became incorporated with Havilah (located just south of Lake Isabella in the mountains) as County Seat

1872 – County seat is moved to Bakersfield

1888 – Telephone Service began in Bakersfield with 29 individuals (i.e., H.F. Condict, B. Brundage, Alfred Harrell) and businesses (i.e., Black's Drug Store, Buffalo Brewery, Drury's Drug Store, Dinkelspiel Brothers, Arlington Hotel, County Jail)





BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

# **THE CLUB**

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**For Teens 13 to 18 – Open Now!!  
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month. Come share your ideas!**

**GBU Mountain News** is an electronic newspaper that currently reaches out to **4,572** residents, businesses, and organizations throughout the Frazier Mountain Communities as well as public and elected officials in the Kern-Los Angeles-Ventura Counties area. The *GBU Mountain News* is published and distributed twice to four times a week.

**Publisher & Editor: Gunnar J Kuepper**

**Tel.: 661-402-2717** (always dial area code)

The electronic format allows the readership to be always informed in a timely fashion.

If you are interested in receiving *GBU Mountain News* regularly, just send an e-mail to [GBUmountainNews@gmail.com](mailto:GBUmountainNews@gmail.com)

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**LIV – April 10, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/04/10/gbu-mountain-news-liv-april-10-2014/>

**LIII – April 5, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/04/05/gbu-mountain-news-liii-april-5-2014/>

**LII – March 28, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/03/29/gbu-mountain-news-lii-march-28-2014/>

**LI – March 20, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/03/21/gbu-mountain-news-li-march-20-2014/>

**L – March 13, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/03/13/gbu-mountain-news-l-march-13-2014/>

**IL – March 6, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/03/06/gbu-mountain-news-xlix-march-6-2014-1/>

**XLVIII – Feb 27, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/02/27/gbu-mountain-news-xlvi-27-2014/>

**XLVII – Feb 15, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/02/15/gbu-mountain-news-xlvi-february-15-2014/>

**XLVI – Feb 5, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/02/05/gbu-mountain-news-xlvi-february-5-2014/>

**XLV – Jan 31, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/02/01/gbu-mountain-news-xlv-january-31-2014/>

**XLIV – Jan 27, 2014:**

**XLIII – Jan 20, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/01/21/gbu-mountain-news-xliii-jan-20-2014/>

**XLII – Jan 13, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/01/14/gbu-mountain-news-xlii-jan-13-2014/>

**XLI – Jan 4, 2014:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2014/01/07/gbu-mountain-news-xli-jan-4-2014/>

**XL – Dec 30, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/12/30/gbu-mountain-news-xl-dec-30-2013/>

and

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=cd65038fe9422e63110138aa73c3fc2>

**XXXIX – Dec 20, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/12/20/gbu-mountain-news-xxxix-dec-20-2013/>

**TThXXXVIII – Dec 17, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/12/17/gbu-mountain-news-xxxviii-dec-17-2013/>

**XXXVII – Dec 11, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/12/12/gbu-mountain-news-xxxvii-dec-12-2013/>

**XXXVI – Dec 8, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/12/09/gbu-mountain-news-xxxvi-dec-8-2013/>

**XXXV – Nov 28, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/11/29/gbu-mountain-news-xxxv-nov-28-2013/>

**XXXIV – Nov 22, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/11/23/gbu-mountain-news-xxxiv-nov-23-2013/>

**XXXIII – Nov 14, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/11/14/gbu-mountain-news-xxxiii-nov-14-2013/>

**XXXII – Nov 10, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/11/13/gbu-mountain-news-xxxii-nov-10-2013/>

**XXXI – Nov 6, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/11/13/gbu-mountain-news-xxxi-nov-6-2013/>

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=0689343fb6b43ae03b637f0fce290bb2>

**XXX – Nov 1, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/11/13/gbu-mountain-news-xxx-nov-1-2013/>

**XXIX – Oct 24, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=184b00573d53b7f10a124a10b38e5556>

**XXVIII – Oct 16, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=fe1115a24159830ac202a88f8013cc4b>

**XXVII – Oct 12, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=70688be4d8fdf65c31852bb5e1f26453>

**XXVI – Oct 9, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=1634eb0f9c47f71371f53ec077a73d8f>

**XXV – Oct 2, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=dd98d8bec0ca3ff378e52ea2f0e7aed>

**XXIV – Sep 25, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=839da0afacc95a7a3bc42b5e1e565a4e>

**XXIII – Sep 19, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=896979c0c06c3189cff861a116d76b7a>

**XXII – Sep 16, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=ed5d6de8f8979bb41e5184f14b48820e>

**XXI – Sep 10, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=37fc6ad6d109abfbec51164a7f5b72835>

**XX – Sep 5, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=78a14d5c5dfc275a74fa1abddc9308bd>

**XIX – Sep 2, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=178de8b870e7bd47cebbd67cf794d62d>

**XVIII – Aug 28, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=489a13bb372ace9cbdda0594e7db804e>

**XVII – Aug 23, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=557098f177680d3973e253271b81e052>

**XVI – Aug 21, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=389ccd1a24948015a2c24e8b48a237e4>

**XV – Aug 14, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=6eaf2c0a19d3de8f76e10e4a88988dbd>

**XIV – Aug 9, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=3864abb7e1ebae5f4a42fe487eb8a15b>

**XIII – July 31, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=3ce28ff3c74179c5a7d37d9e954f13dd>

**XII – July 25, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=27b0e476a28874f6e0d1d49c93b7076b>

**XI – July 19, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=cd6832f58c7770f5552bfedc7b2aa2e0>

**X – July 16, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=ae3339331d2e9cf724a8219d503235b4>

**IX – July 14, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=6a9d166fa152309f80814299a2d69646>

**VIII – July 10, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=c8bff35fe567c1c6d44cbe3e66f1bb9a>

**VII – July 6, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=826d4d4d858754ae676661147b92632>

**VI – July 4, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=f13b9b1efb39698d08b0e2351b7268b0>

**V – July 2, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=078a39763e0690799332432d4eb1185c>

**IV – July 1, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=bca5abf2bcb5773008d2e73e63229e9f>

**III – June 29, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=1e19e3f7f4c3af9b36cebbe6f6c4910c>

**II – June 28, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=d0d9fa86f77bf270ce0046d46eaf0b8b>

**I – June 26, 2013:**

<http://www.pdfhost.net/index.php?Action=Download&File=11c4331666da75c354a4ec5815f22b38>

**S3 – 2013 Fiesta Days from Aug 6, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/11/13/gbu-mountain-news-s3-on-fiesta-days-aug-6-2013/>

**S2 – Rancho Fire from July 22, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/11/13/gbu-mountain-news-s2-on-rancho-fire-july-22-2013/>

**S1 – Lebec Fire from July 7, 2013:**

<http://www.pdf-archive.com/2013/11/13/gbu-mountain-news-s1-on-lebec-fire-july-7-2013/>

## Safety & Disaster Preparedness

### Six P's for immediate evacuation

If you have to leave / evacuate your home immediately, remember the six “P’s”:

1. People & Pets
2. Purse: ID, driver's license, credit cards, cash, keys
3. Personal Computer (laptop): critical information
4. Pills: medication, eye-glasses
5. Papers: important insurance, financial, and other documents (can also be scanned and stored on PC)
6. Pictures: irreplaceable memorabilia (can also be scanned and stored on PC)



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Frazier Park, CA 93225-1687

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mitch@mitchwoodinsurance.com

Hours: Tues-Fri 9-5 and Sat 10-1

**LIFE INSURANCE IS A GREAT INVESTMENT FOR THE FUTURE**



**Kern County Fire Hazard Reduction Requirements Due June 15th**

# 100' DEFENSIBLE SPACE Make Your Home FIRE SAFE



Contact your local Kern County Fire Station, CAL FIRE office,  
fire department, or Fire Safe Council for tips and assistance.  
[www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)

## Why 100 Feet?

Following these simple steps can dramatically increase the chance of your home surviving a wildfire!

A Defensible Space of 100 feet around your home is required by law.<sup>1</sup> The goal is to protect your home while providing a safe area for firefighters.

### 1 "Lean, Clean and Green Zone."

– Clearing an area of 30 feet immediately surrounding your home is critical. This area requires the greatest reduction in flammable vegetation.

### 2 "Reduced Fuel Zone."

– The fuel reduction zone in the remaining 70 feet (or to property line) will depend on the steepness of your property and the vegetation.

Spacing between plants improves the chance of stopping a wildfire before it destroys your home. You have two options in this area:

- a Create horizontal and vertical spacing between plants. The amount of space will depend on how steep the slope is and the size of the plants.
- b Large trees do not have to be cut and removed as long as all of the plants beneath them are removed. This eliminates a vertical "fire ladder."

When clearing vegetation, use care when operating equipment such as lawnmowers. One small spark may start a fire; a string trimmer is much safer.

Remove all build-up of needles and leaves from your roof and gutters. Keep tree limbs trimmed at least 10 feet from any chimneys and remove dead limbs that hang over your home or garage. The law also requires a screen over your chimney outlet of not more than ½ inch mesh.

1. These regulations affect most of the grass, brush, and timber-covered private lands in the State. Some fire department jurisdictions may have additional requirements. Some activities may require permits for tree removal. Also, some activities may require special procedures for, 1) threatened and endangered species, 2) avoiding erosion, and 3) protection of water quality. Check with local officials if in doubt. Current regulations allow an insurance company to require additional clearance. The area to be treated does not extend beyond your property. The State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection has approved Guidelines to assist you in complying with the new law. Contact your local CAL FIRE office for more details.



March 2011

## Legislative Affairs

### What is an Electronic Newspaper?

An electronic Newspaper is a self-contained, reusable, and refreshable version of a traditional newspaper that acquires and holds information electronically. (The electronic newspaper should not be confused with newspapers that offer an online version at a Web site.)

### What is the difference between a Newsletter and a Newspaper?

A newspaper publishes stories and information for and about a city/region/state/country and covers a variety of topics, events, and developments.

A Newsletter is published by a specific organization (school, club, business) and informs mainly about the organization's activities.

####

### Distances from Frazier Park

Pine Mountain Club	14 miles
Laval Road/I-5	18 miles
Castaic	32 miles
Santa Clarita, Shopping Centr	41 miles
Bakersfield, Panama Lane	41 miles
Bakersfield, Truxtun Avenue	46 miles
Lancaster	54 miles
Los Angeles, Downtown	75 miles
LAX	78 miles
Santa Maria	120 miles
Las Vegas, NV	298 miles
Sacramento, CA	320 miles
Washington, D.C.	2,700 miles
Kiev, Ukraine	6,300 miles
Kabul, Afghanistan	7,700 miles

## Open Editorial (Op Ed)

An op-ed, abbreviated from opposite the editorial page, is a newspaper article that expresses the opinions of a named writer who is usually unaffiliated with the newspaper's editorial board. These are different from editorials (which are usually unsigned and written by editorial board members) and letters to the editor (which are submitted by readers of the newspaper).

## Health & Fitness

### *Family Dentistry for the Mountain Communities*

**Peter Porazik, D.D.S. & Mimi Porazik, D.D.S.**

We serve seniors, adults, and children in the Mountain Communities since 1997

We do: Crowns and bridges, esthetic filling and veneers, gum treatments, minor oral surgery and implants, orthodontics and invisiline, endodontics, full and partial removable dentures, full mouth reconstructions, bleaching, temporomandibular joint treatments ... and more.

We are: Peter Porazik has 38 years of experience in dentistry, is licensed in California since 1996. Our daughter Dr. "Mimi" Maria Porazik added orthodontics to our treatment offer and she is very good with children. All our younger patients love "Doctor Mimi". Our dental assistant Alicia speaks Spanish fluently and can overcome any language hurdles.

**Tel 661-245-1434 or 661-644-5456**

**We are located in Lebec at 2045 Lebec Road,**  
near the Lebec Post Office and just north of the I-5 Lebec exit.

We are here for you Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. And we are available for appointments on Saturdays.

We use modern technologies which allow for drill-less and painless care with no needles needed.

We accept most insurances – City Healthcard - Care Credit

### **CDPH Submits Final Regulation Package Regarding Hexavalent Chromium (Cr VI) and Drinking Water**

*By California Department of Public Health (CDPH)*

SACRAMENTO - The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) today submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) its final proposed regulation establishing the first ever drinking water Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for hexavalent chromium (Cr VI). More than 18,000 comments were received by CDPH regarding the proposed regulation. The proposed final regulation documents include the Summary and Response to comments received.

The proposed final regulation will take effect after it has been reviewed and approved by OAL in compliance with the Administrative Procedures Act. This review can take up to 30 working days to complete. Once approved, the regulation is then filed with the Secretary of State and

will become effective the first day of the following quarter.

"The drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium of 10 parts per billion will protect public health while taking into consideration economic and technical feasibility as required by law," said Dr. *Ron Chapman*, CDPH director and state health officer.

If the regulation is approved as expected, implementation of the new drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium will begin July 1, 2014.

Today's filing also complies with timelines imposed by the Alameda Superior Court in *Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. California Department of Public Health*. The department's submission to OAL can be found on the CDPH website.



## **Business Directory**

### **Automobile Repair & Service**

- DunnRight, 3811 Mount Pinos Way, Frazier Park, Tel 661-245-3866
- Martin's Garage Auto Repair, 1441 Frazier Mountain Road, Lebec, Tel 661-248-6000

### **Computer Repairs**

- Computer & Games, 633 San Gabriel Trail, Frazier Park, Tel 661-242-1214

### **Day Spas**

- LeBeau Organic Day Spa and Wellness Center, 23460 Cinema Drive, Suite E, Valencia, CA 91355, Tel 661-287-5828 - [www.lebeauspa.com](http://www.lebeauspa.com)
- The Ivy Day Spa, 24320 Town Center Drive, Valencia, CA, Tel 661-260-1244
- La Ti Da Salon & Boutique, 2025 18TH Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301, Tel 661-631-1112

### **Grocery Stores**

- Trader Joe's Bakersfield, 8200 Stockdale Highway, Tel 661-837-8863
- Trader Joe's Santa Clarita, 26517 Bouquet Canyon Road, Tel 661-263-3796
- Ralphs Grocery Store, 29675 The Old Road (at Hasley Canyon Rd), Castaic, CA 91384

### **Hotel**

- Holiday Inn Express, 612 Wainright Ct, Lebec, CA 93243, Tel 661-248-1600

### **Insurance**

- State Farm, Mitch Wood, 3015 Mt Pinos Way, Frazier Park, Tel 661-245-3728

### **Pet Food & Supplies**

- Petco Animal Supplies, 26501 Bouquet Canyon Road, Saugus, Tel 661-297-6936
- Petco Animal Supplies, 8220 Rosedale Hwy, Bakersfield, CA 93312, 661-587-1097

### **Pet Services**

- Blue Rose Pet Salon, 3429 Los Padres Drive, Frazier Park, for appointments call 661-245-3635

### **Pharmacy**

- Walgreens Castaic, 27983 Sloan Canyon Road, Tel 661-775-0840
- Rite Aid Castaic, 31910 Castaic Road, Tel 661-295-0966

### **Photographer**

- GBU Photography, Frazier Park, Tel 661-402-2717, see [https://www.facebook.com/pages/GBU-Photography/109453262410990?sk=photos\\_albums](https://www.facebook.com/pages/GBU-Photography/109453262410990?sk=photos_albums)

### **Realtors**

- The Gorman Real Estate Co., Ron & Karen Blevins, Gorman, Tel 661-248-6196 - [www.gormanrealestate.com/](http://www.gormanrealestate.com/)
- Carol Swanston, All Seasons Realty, Pine Mountain Club, Tel 661-242-3752
- Greg & Monica Brackin, Alpine Village Realty, 16215 Pine Valley Ln, PMC, Tel 661-242-2685 - <http://gregbrackin.point2agent.com/>

### **Restaurants**

- Outback Steakhouse Valencia, 25261 The Old Road, Newhall, CA 91321, Tel 661- 287-9630
- Outback Steakhouse Bakersfield, 5051 Stockdale Hwy., Bakersfield, CA 93309, Tel 661-834-7850
- Elephant Bar Restaurant, 27063 McBean Parkway, Valencia, CA 91355, 661- 799-8640

### **T-Shirts**

- Your T-Shirt Man, Jerold Parker, 3441 Mt Pinos Way, Frazier Park, Tel 661-245-2350

### **Travel Agent**

- Teri Pierce, Protravel Inc., Lake of the Woods, Tel 661-245-4798

### **Toys & Games**

- Computer & Games, Scott Parson, 633 San Gabriel Trail, Frazier Park, Tel 661-242-1214

### **Veterinarian**

- Valencia Veterinary Center, open 24/7, 23928 Summerhill Lane, Santa Clarita, CA 91354 Tel 661-263-4770

## Classifieds:

### Cars for Sale

- **2000 Black Chevy Truck** as is, licensed and smogged; please submit offer (661) 248-6872 - Lebec County Water District
- **2000 Dodge Van** – lift for disabled, 7 passengers, tinted windows, new tires, \$8,500 OBO; 661-808-4643 or 661-204-9597
- **2001 Nissan Quest** – V6 engine, automatic, A/C, power windows, P/L, runs good, clean title, 138,000 miles \$4,800; 661-204-1833
- **Ford Explorer 1994** Sport, 5-spd, Runs Great New Tags, Need Some TLC, \$1,650/OBO, Call 661-873-1189
- **2000 Ford Explorer XLS** – automatic, AC, clean title, runs great, 134,000 miles, 661-335-2174
- **1995 Dodge Ram Sport** – good condition, Sport, V8 with longbed, extended cab, and liner, \$2,900, [anafores89@yahoo.com](mailto:anafores89@yahoo.com), 760-468-2669, 661-748-5610
- **1998 Dodge Durango** – 4x4, A/C, runs & looks good, V8, all power, \$4,000 OBO, Jesus, 661-301-0531

**(For private / non-commercial sellers: list your car, trailer, motorcycle, boat, or airplane for FREE throughout the month of April)**

### Rental Equipment

- Lebec County Water District is looking for daily, weekly, and monthly rental rates for the **Use of a backhoe** from local companies or individuals; please submit bids (661) 248-6872

### Miscellaneous

- **For Garage Sales:** After your sale, call us to come to pick up unwanted items at no fee & we will give you a tax donation receipt for our 501 Organization. 661-245-1342

## Job Offers



- The El Tejon Unified School District is accepting applications for a **Business Manager**. Please apply online at [www.edjoin.org](http://www.edjoin.org)
- PMCPOA, Inc. is currently accepting applications for **Recreation Department Supervisor, Recreation/Pool Attendant, Certified Water Aerobics Instructor, and Stable Hand**. Pre-employment drug screening, DMV and background check are required for all positions. For more information about these positions visit the PMCPOA, Inc. website at [www.pinemountainclub.net](http://www.pinemountainclub.net). Under the “PMC Main Menu” (on the left side of the Home Page), click “The Association”, then click “Breaking News/Employment”. Under the “Business Office” heading you will find the job descriptions and a downloadable employment application. For additional information you can also call the PMCPOA Business Office at 661-242-3788.
- Looking for Local (Lebec-PMC) **Contractors and Handymen** for yard clearance, lawn mowing, refuse removal, etc.; must be absolute reliable, no criminal records, valid California Driver’s license – apply at [TejonPassJobs@gmail.com](mailto:TejonPassJobs@gmail.com)
- Michael Kors Outlet in Tejon Ranch, CA is actively looking for a **Store Manager** (New Store Opening); Email [melissa.hanson@michaelkors.com](mailto:melissa.hanson@michaelkors.com); Responsibilities include but are not limited to:  
Recruit, train and develop staff for store, ensuring all positions are filled in a timely manner with qualified personnel  
Demonstrate sales leadership for staff by playing an active role on the selling floor  
Ensure that all associates provide the highest level of customer service  
Ensure all operational procedures are properly followed

Implement and maintain all merchandising directives  
Qualifications:

2-5 years of Sales Management experience

Must have strong operational skills

Excellent communication & interpersonal skills

- **Medical Social Worker:** Make a lifetime difference! Join our unique team of professionals who are committed to providing compassionate hospice care to Kern County families facing a final season of life. Excellent problem solving and communication skills a must. Enjoy the flexibility and independence in a most rewarding Profession that serves others in their greatest time of need. Masters in Social Work required Bilingual Preferred Apply in person at: Hoffman Hospice, 8501 Brimhall Road; Fax resume to 661-410-1044 or e-mail to hr@hoffmannhospice.org
- CSUB #1736 - **Student Outreach Counselor** (Student Services Professional II) - FT perm. position available in University Outreach Dept. File by: 3/28/14. Description at: <http://www.csub.edu/bas/hr/EmployRecruit/Job%20Status%20Inquiry/index.html> Use position number when applying. EOE
- Assistant Manager needed for Bakersfield auto recycler. Need good leadership & communication skills. Knowledge of auto parts & fork lift operation a +, good salary / benefits. Email resume to mgonzales@lkqcorp.com
- California Highway Patrol, Selection Standards and Examinations Unit, P.O. Box 942898, Sacramento, Ca 94298 - Questions can be directed to Public Safety Dispatch Supervisor, April Manuel at 661-864-4444.
- Habitat for Humanity: **Office Manager/Bookkeeper** Habitat for Humanity is seeking a full time office manager/bookkeeper with strong bookkeeping skills. For a full job description visit:

[www.habitatbakersfield.org](http://www.habitatbakersfield.org)

>get

involved>employment Salary: \$35,000 - \$40,000

Please email resumes to: [jobs@habitatbakersfield.org](mailto:jobs@habitatbakersfield.org)

- Stevens Transportation Inc. at 210 Fairfax Road in Bakersfield: **Drivers** Reg. Full Time Class A License w/DBL 661-366-3286
- Arvin Union School District Certificated: **7th/8th Grade Special Day Class Teacher** Mild/Moderate Salary: Current Salary Schedule Application deadline: Open until Filled

####

## Important Phone Numbers

**Fire 911**

**Ambulance 911**

**Sheriff or CHP 911**

**Frazier Park Sheriff Station 661-245-3440**

**Frazier Park Public Utility/Water District**

**661-245-3734**

**Lebec County Water District 661-248-6872**

**Southern California Edison 800-655-4555**

**Southern California Gas 800-427-2200**

**Pacific Gas & Electric (PGE) 800-743-5000**

**El Tejon Unified School District 661-248-6247**

**Frazier Mountain High School 661-248-0310**

**Frazier Park Library 661-245-1267**

**Pine Mountain Club Patrol 661-242-3857**

**Supervisor David Couch 661-868-3680**

**Fire Station 56 (Lebec) 661-248-6426**

**Fire Station 57 (Frazier Park) 661-245- 3706**

**Dentist Porazik, Lebec 661- 245-1434**

**The Photographer** (fires, accidents, weddings, & all other disasters)

**661-402-2717**





National Cement Company of California, Inc.

Located 5 miles off of Hwy 138 in Lebec, National Cement's mission is to be the leader in the cement industry; operating in a safe, environmentally sound and profitable manner while being a good corporate citizen.



The Plant operates 24 hours a day, 7 days per weeks and has a workforce of approximately 120 employees who work in a variety of departments in support of operations.



The heart of the organization revolves around a people-centric philosophy where employees are our greatest asset. This being the case, the health, well-being and safety of our dedicated workforce is always our number one priority.



If you are a hard working, conscientious individual with a proven track record as a valued employee with prior cement or heavy industry experience, you are invited to email your resume to [talexis@natcem.com](mailto:talexis@natcem.com) for consideration.



*National Cement is an  
Equal Opportunity Employer*



*If you have  
everything under  
control  
you are not  
moving  
fast enough*



GBU Photography by Gunnar J Kuepper  
phone: 661-402-2717  
Email: [gbuphotography@gmail.com](mailto:gbuphotography@gmail.com)

