



August 2015

HB CERT HIGHLIGHTS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

U.S. Open First Aid Tent 2015 Page 1

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Page 1

The Newport-Inglewood Fault Page 2

Our Bass Lake Vacation and Fire Safety Page 3

July 4th Parade Pages 4

How to Locate and Turn Off Your Utilities Page 4

Proper Disposal of Charcoal Page 4

Recent Information on the Drought Page 4

Photos from July 4, 2015 Parade Page 5

Photos from July/Aug 2015 U.S. OPEN - CERT Staffing The First Aid Station Pages 6

CERT Mission Statement, CPR Classes, Newsletter Staff Page 7

U.S. Open First Aid Tent 2015

By Susan McClaran

This year's U.S. Open First Aid Tent proved to be a HUGE success in many ways. Starting off, the event coordinators put out walkways that were the best we've seen so far. The walkways were treated plywood with taped edges which held up to the various beatings that they received daily. They were able to withstand the "mule trucks" driving over them all day long and the heavy skateboard use. No walkways cracked or splintered, That meant first aid treated no splinter injuries! OK, maybe we had one, but that was the last day and it happened in the stands, not on the walkways.

The mornings were mainly quiet and cool while the afternoons heated up, not only weather wise, but also with more folks in need of first aid attention. We had our basic cuts, scrapes and blisters, handed out a lot of Band-Aids and had some eyes needing eyewash, but our major focus seemed to be on heat exhaustion. This year, the event had a new vendor that was having folks participate in a Cross-Fit challenge with the prize being a substantial amount of money. First Aid had their hands full on quite a number of occasions dealing with the effects of over-exercising in the hot weather. For those who need brushing up on heat exhaustion and the effects thereof.....well, it includes: rapid pulse rate, headaches, body aches, dizziness and vomiting.

Overall though, this year was very quiet, not only for us at the U.S. Open First Aid Tent, but also according to Battalion Chief Dave McBride, for his crew too. Speaking of that, a very heartfelt "thank you" to Chief McBride and his team. He was very supportive. He was there every morning assisting in the setup of the tent and every afternoon for teardown, not to mention throughout the day checking in on us to see if we needed anything.

A very special "thank you" to all the volunteers and team leaders for taking time to help out. You helped make it happen. Please know too, that the Huntington Beach Fire Department was very appreciative of all the volunteers' efforts and time.

The CERT members who volunteered at the U.S. Open were Susan McClaran, Stephanie Deagle, Roy Alzua, Richard Batistelli, Mimi Irvin, Michael Depin, Melisse Bridges, Heidi Ross, Linda Vircks, Deborah Morris- Quintero, John Downing, Linda Vollmar, Raji Shunmugavel, Cynthia Goebel, Bob Zamalin, Shelly Wilbert, Karen Robinson, Ken Robinson, Nancy Grijalva and Cindy McDaniel. They were joined by Brevyn Mettler, Emergency Services Coordinator and Stephanie Vazquez, Emergency Services Aide.

See page 6 for photos.

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome

By: Stephanie Vazquez

Public health and medical professionals are scrambling to understand the number of exotic illnesses rearing their heads in the past five years, including the deadly Ebola Virus. Most importantly, for a local individual, is to learn the risk associated with travel to affected nations and what to avoid.

The Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) first occurred in Saudi Arabia in 2012. Much continues to be unclear regarding the virus causing a zoonotic infection. Molecularly and genetically the virus has "jumped" from an animal host to humans. However, no confirmation of this suspicion has been verified. The World Health Organization reports clinical trials utilizing anti-viral medications are ongoing. To this date, no effective vaccination or treatment has been established.

Last week, South Korea quarantined over 3,000 individuals with 175 confirmed cases of MERS. Twenty three have reportedly died from the illness, which is characterized by fever, cough, and shortness of breath as well as gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea and vomiting.

For more information regarding MERS please visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers>



CLASS 1

## The Newport-Inglewood Fault

By Stephanie Vazquez

When people think of deadly earthquakes striking the Southern California Region, many are quick to think of the San Andreas Fault. However, another fault that is local to Huntington Beach, has been recorded as the cause for one of the state's most damaging earthquakes. This fault, known as the Newport-Inglewood fault, was discovered in 1920 after a damaging quake.

According to *The Next California Quake*, a grassroots documentary and educational effort, Southern California is unique in having a number of right lateral-strike-slip faults, which include not only the Newport-Inglewood and San Andreas, but also the

San Jacinto and Elsinore faults. What is characteristic of a right-lateral-strike-slip fault? Imagine standing on one side of a fault and having a friend stand on the other side the of the fault. An earthquake on a right-lateral-strike-slip fault would cause your friend to move to your right.

Although the Newport-Inglewood fault is presently at a lower probability to have a large earthquake due to the movement, which is reportedly 20 to 30 times slower than the San Jacinto Fault, much continues to be unknown because of the lack of historical record seismologists have of the fault.

The region's most populous areas are crisscrossed by faults capable of delivering jolts of magnitudes equal to or greater than the 1994 Northridge earthquake, which measured 6.7. Below, the latest fault map released by the California Geological Survey is coupled with earthquake scientists' estimates of the maximum magnitude of potential quakes on those faults.

— Less than 6.7 or unrated — 6.7 to 7.5 — 7.5 to 8.0 — 8.0+



Sources: United States Geological Survey, California Geological Survey, Uniform California Earthquake Rupture Forecast, Southern California Earthquake Center  
Graphics reporting by DOUG SMITH, THOMAS SUH LAUDER

Los Angeles Times

## Our Bass Lake Vacation and Fire Safety

By Peter Petrelis

This was our 34<sup>th</sup> year of a summer boating vacation with our daughter, four grandchildren and many of their friends. Our CERT friends, Anna Pinter and Art Weiland have also joined us for quite a few years. This year, Richard Batistelli, his granddaughter and her friend, Richard's brother and his wife joined us.

We arrived at Bass Lake on Thursday, July 23, 2015, and found the water level very low due to the extended drought, but experienced nice clean mountain air. Little did we know our vacation would be altered due to one small careless act that started a raging forest fire not far from the lake. It was reported that the fire started Saturday, July 25, by a boy who was playing with a lighter he found in the family's toolbox. The parents tried to put the fire out and also called 911 but the very dry brush, pine needles, and many dead trees developed into a raging inferno. At one point, 450 structures were threatened and several areas were evacuated.

Each morning for a week, we were engulfed in thick smoke. Sunday, August 2, when we left, was the first semi-clear morning as the fire was being contained. As of Saturday, over 5,000 acres have burned and a huge amount of resources have been expended at a cost of over \$10.5 million. Resources included 1,958 personnel, 142 engines, 20 bulldozers, 40 hand crews, 35 water tenders, 8 helicopters, 5 air tankers, and one very large air tanker (VLAT). Every day we saw and heard a constant string of helicopters draw water from the lake.



On Saturday night, a large wind came up and I noticed a raging campfire in the adjacent campsite. The wind pushed the fire over to a 45 degree angle and sparks were flying! Where was the common sense? I was very concerned and brought it to the attention of the campground host who shut it down.

Due to the drought and bark beetles our forests are dying. Everyone must be very careful with fire when out in the forest.



Richard was well prepared for camping, practicing what he teaches which is disaster sheltering



Veronica Miracle @VeronicaABC30 Jul 25

Wow! Shot of the day by [#abc30insider](#) Katie Wilson who snapped this shot of the [#WillowFire](#) burning near Bass Lake.

## July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade

By Raji Shunmugavel

This year the CERT volunteers escorted parade celebrities and staffed the First Aid tent.

- Walkers with radios were: Linda Vollmar and Raji Shunmugavel
- Walkers were: Nancy Grijalva, John Muse, Annette South and Steve Yamashita
- Volunteers in the CERT First Aid tent were: Guy Jackson, Susan McClaran, Richard Batistelli, Roger Krause, Mimi Irvin, Melisse Bridges, Chad Hicks-Beach and Roy Alzua

See page 5 for photos

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## How to Locate and Turn Off Your Utilities

By Virginia Petrelis

To be prepared for emergencies, we should know the location of the utility shut-off valves for our home and make sure they are still functional. Over time, the water shut-off valve (usually located at a faucet on the exterior of your house) can become frozen or cannot be completely turned off. This is also true for the shut off valves under your sinks and toilets. It's a good idea to discover the problems now and have a plumber install a new shut-off valve outside as well as check all the plumbing valves in the home.

Understanding where your utility shut-offs are located is important, but you should also have the right tools to shut them off. Emergency gas and water shut-off tools are available at hardware stores as well as online. Keep a tool attached to your gas meter so you don't have to search for it in an emergency.

If you live in a single family residence and you are unable to use your water shut-off valve, you can also shut off the water at the water meter (usually located in a cement box near the curb in front of the house.) See informative You Tube from the city of Ventura at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gBUGCBLPERc>

A You Tube video with instructions on how to turn off your gas in an emergency is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ALW51nCIAFM>

Prepare now—don't wait until an emergency occurs to locate your shut-off valves and find your tools!

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## Proper Disposal of Charcoal

By Virginia Petrelis

Grilling on the barbecue is especially popular during the summertime. If proper handling and disposal of coals are not followed, they can be extremely dangerous. Just as those coals helped get the fire started in the barbecue, they can easily start a fire in your trash can or even on the garbage truck.

Here are some safety tips on the safe disposal of coals:

- Hot coals or ashes fresh from the barbecue should never be put immediately into trash containers.
  - Allow the coals to cool for several days and then place them in a metal container with a tight lid for proper disposal. To speed up the cooling process, you can carefully place coals in a metal container full of water to "drown" them, just as you would when putting out a campfire.
  - Never place them in plastic, paper or wood containers.
  - When the coals are completely cool, you may safely place them in the trash container, not in the recycling or green containers.
- 

## Recent Information on the Drought

From The National Weather Service

With the sporadic rainfall during May and July many California residents have been asking questions about the impact on the drought. The answer is, overall, the recent rains had little or no impact on the statewide drought and fire season.

The following website has the best information on the current drought:

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sqx/newsletter/current-newsletter.pdf>

National Weather Service-San Diego Volume 22 Number 3 July 2015

Are Recent Rains Easing the Drought and Fire Potential? By Miguel Miller

Other Items of Interest inside the issue are:

- Drought and Fire Season
- Seasonal Rainfall
- Outlook: El Nino
- Weather Fest Expo
- Quarterly Summary
- Spotter/Skywarn News

Two more informative sites are:

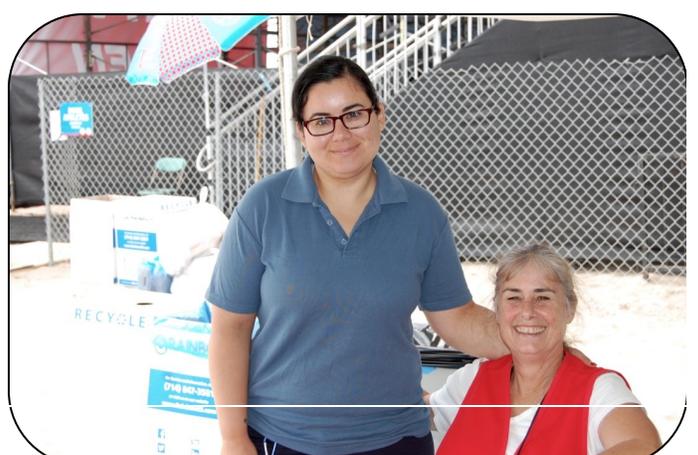
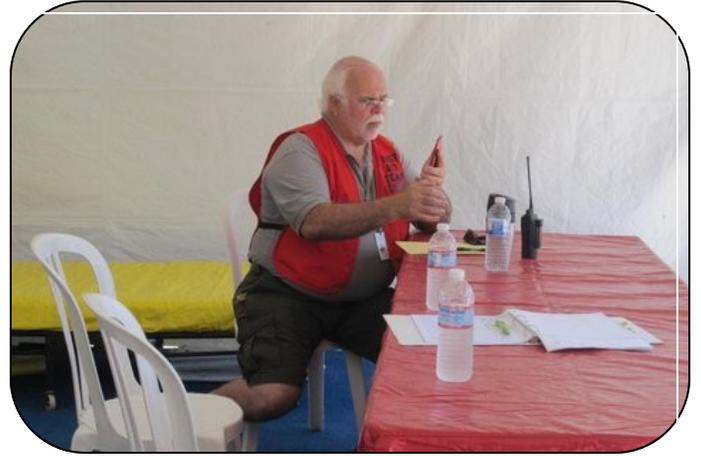
An interesting video by Alex Tandy – NWS San Diego, July 16, 2015

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LtVAD5NwG0I>  
<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sqx>

JULY 4, 2015 PARADE



# U.S. OPEN CERT STAFFING THE FIRST AID STATION



# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CERT

## Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The mission of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is to provide information and training on disaster preparedness; provide leadership and coordination during an emergency, and assistance to help victims recover from an emergency.

### Upcoming CERT Events & Activities

- CERT General membership meeting, 6:30pm August 13, 2015 in B8
- Ham Radio Class to study for Technician Level License August 11, 6:30-7:45pm and August 14, 6:30 to 8:30pm, and August 15, 8:00am to 5:00pm
- SoCal Animal Response Pet Fair August 15, 2015 at 10AM-3PM - See more at: <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/fire/cert/cert-members-only.cfm#sthash.YLgASIBf.dpuf>
- Rancho Huntington Mobile Estates Preparedness Fair August 22, 2015
- CERT General membership meeting, 6:30pm September 10, 2015 in B8
- Senior Saturday, September 12th 2015 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED For logistics !
- Rancho Huntington Mobile Estates Preparedness Fair August 22, 2015

### CPR Classes

Fire Med customers can take CPR classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee. Dates are listed below:

- Saturday, August 8, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, August 19, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Saturday, Sept 12, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, Sept 23, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

To enroll in CPR classes, call 800-400-4277 or 714-556-4277. Class location is in the HB area and exact location given at time of enrollment.

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### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

CERT Website: [www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert) CERT Contact: [CERT@surfcity-hb.org](mailto:CERT@surfcity-hb.org)  
CERT Message line 714-536-5974 (THIS IS A MESSAGE LINE ONLY!)