

## 7,500-Acre Wildfire Burning Throughout Orange County

By Macee Binns - Oct 11, 2017

CALIFORNIA—Thousands of residents were forced to flee their homes after a wild fire burned throughout the canyons of Orange County and destroyed several residences in the area. Residents were allowed to return home after the fire was partially contained on Tuesday, October 10.

It was reported that 24 structures were destroyed and 7,500 acres were burned in Orange County, but progress in containing the wildfire has been made, according to fire officials.

Orange County Fire officials stated, “about 3,500 structures continue to be threatened, but added that they stopped the forward progression of the fire and expect full containment by Saturday.”

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By 12 p.m. on Tuesday the dry, fire inducing Santa Ana winds shifted to moist, ocean breezes, which allowed fire crews to begin attacking the blaze directly in an attempt to contain the fire. Over 40 percent of the blaze was reported to be contained by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

The wildfire could be seen from Southern California and created a smoke filled view over Disneyland, which prompted a flood of pictures depicting the fire on social media. The exact cause of the wildfire has yet to be determined, but fire officials state that they will be conducting a full investigation to determine the source of the flame.

# SOCIAL MEDIA AND MAINSTREAM AMERICA

By Trevor Roberts

UNITED STATES—Social media, it has its benefits, but at the same time it has massive drawbacks. I still think back to nearly a decade ago, where social media was just beginning to become prevalent, but was not as prevalent as it has become today. Why? It is everywhere and no matter what you do it can easily make the internet with the snap of a finger. This is most notable for those utilizing Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, where one post can make you a viral sensation, the laughing stock of America or the enemy of the people.

So the question of the hour remains: should we refrain from utilizing social media to let the world know how we feel all the time? Hmm, that is indeed a tough question and I waiver back and forth on it. The one great thing about social media is that it allows instant gratification for most people. They are able to get out how they feel RIGHT AWAY without delay; it allows public consumption to take place. However, one of those drawbacks is once you make a statement it doesn't just go away; you can delete, but by the time you do that, someone has already screen shot what you wrote and shared it across the web America.

I think I'm more concerned about Twitter, because all it takes is one tweet or one statement to cause uproar or a division in the world. I'm bringing this issue to concern because of recent issues with NFL players choosing not to stand during the national anthem. President Trump made his thoughts clear on the issue, and what was a wave of madness a few weeks ago has di-



Everyone has a voice when it comes to social media nowadays, which has gotten plenty of people in trouble.

minished slightly. However, Vice President Mike Pence decided to leave an Indianapolis Colts game after several players kneeled. What was the problem with this? Nothing, but the concern was that Pence didn't really do this on his own volition; he did it after being informed by President Trump if it transpired to vacate the premises.

That is just one incident, because things have become dicey with Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones noting that any player who chooses not to stand for the national anthem will not play. I'm not going to get into the politics of these issues, because to be honest if you look at the First Amendment there is a case that would not be that difficult to argue in the courtroom about one's rights being infringed upon.

Anyway, the result of that statement led to ESPN host Jemele Hill, who already

faced a bit of heat after sending out a tweet a few weeks ago calling President Donald Trump a white supremacist. Many were on Hill's side, while others argued that was a risky claim to make, and to some degree it is. Hill was suspended this week from ESPN after tweeting about hitting Jerry Jones where it hurts most: his pockets. How? To go after the advertisers that helps secure money for the organization. ESPN noted Hill was being suspended for 2 weeks for violating company policy.

So the question we all have to ask is should we be refrained from utilizing social media in our personal lives if we work for a company where voicing your opinion or being in the news media arena causes issues? That's a very tough call. I think it sucks that you can work for an organization and not make statements about certain things that you feel without

being reprimanded, but at the same time I totally understand why if you work in the news arena TWEETING or utilizing social media to express how one feels about political issues can be problematic. The goal is to remain unbiased. It creates an issue of conflict.

Some of you might think this isn't such a big deal, but I'm arguing that this is a big deal. Why? We could run into a situation where you are seeing more and more employers indicate in contracts for employees that they could be reprimanded as a result of partaking in making public statements that could reflect badly on the organization or place them in a situation where they have to address the comment at hand. For all the good that social media does in this country, there are plenty, and I mean plenty of drawbacks, which means: in this world today you have to be careful what you say.

# SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN HOLLYWOOD

By Trevor Roberts

UNITED STATES—I was in utter shock to learn in recent days that Hollywood film executive Harvey Weinstein had been accused of sexual harassment in the past and that it had been transpiring for decades. This is the guy who established Miramax films and helped usher in The Weinstein Company. Not to mention he has been the name behind some massive blockbusters and dramas that have walked away with the coveted Academy Award for Best Picture.

After news broke across the world of the New York Times writing a piece about Weinstein and multiple alleged incidents of sexual harassment in the past, he lawyered up. As the days progressed more and more detail surfaced about Mr. Weinstein and several of his victims including actress Ashley Judd and Rose McGowan. Over the weekend, attorney Lisa Bloom resigned as an advisor for the film executive and on Sunday, The Weinstein Company announced that Harvey, the guy who started the company had been fired. It's amazing that such behavior has transpired by this media mogul for years, and no one inside his inner circle was willing to call him out on his antics and behavior. However, things exploded, and I mean exploded Tuesday, when the New Yorker released a story chronicling many more victims of Weinstein, and the floodgates opened with A-list actresses Gwyneth Paltrow and Angelina Jolie coming forward noting they had encounters with Weinstein that was nothing to laugh about.

Several of the victims came forward, but now their voices are just being heard. Its despicable behavior; it's sad and it's sickening and unbelievable that



Harvey Weinstein has been the talk of the town as numerous reports have surfaced of his involvement in countless sexual harassment incidents.

Weinstein came out issuing a statement that was beyond disturbing. Noting his behavior was a result of behavior that he grew up knowing about in the industry. Are you kidding me? That may be the most pathetic excuse I have ever heard someone deliver without comprehending the magnitude of the matter at hand. That is indeed a very disturbing claim, and the fact that he thought it was acceptable because it was perceived as being ok is worrisome even more.

In Hollywood, we've all heard tales about certain rules having to be 'played' in order to climb to the top, and the idea is that it still seems to echo not in small waves, but tidal waves. Why is this still the case? Well, victims who speak out are ignored and worse, those who commit the crime pay off the victims or continue to be in a position of power at the studios and make such advances. In the world of celebrity, some are willing to make sacrifices to climb to the top, while others find themselves in un-

comfortable positions and are not 100 percent certain of what to do, and what they should say in such a compromising situation.

Big names have come out in support of the victims who suffered despicable actions at the hands of Harvey Weinstein. I mean Meryl Streep. God bless the woman did not mince words in the statement she issued on Monday morning, as did Kevin Smith, who has worked with Weinstein for close to 15 years. Other celebs voicing concerns included actresses Jessica Chastain, Jennifer Lawrence and Dame Judi Dench. However, what many have argued is that more MEN in the industry need to come forward and discuss the issue at hand. That transpired as the week progressed with more men in the industry coming out and denounced Weinstein and his behavior.

Weinstein's ouster at The Weinstein Company is certainly going to impact the studio moving forward as it attempts to market films just in time as awards sea-

son comes to fruition. Some have even called for the Board of Directors at The Weinstein Company to be fired. A settlement in most situations is a claim that something transpired, and people want to have things swept under the rug, that can no longer be done. I don't believe that a bevy of industry insiders had no idea what Weinstein was doing behind the scenes. Someone had to know something and just kept quiet.

An open dialogue and conversation needs to be had in this industry where men have all the power, and many use that power to their advantage making promises to kick-start ones career in return for sexual favors. Is it going to be difficult to change the world of sexual harassment in this industry? Yes, but it all starts not only with the victims speaking in waves, but for those closest to the perpetrator speaking out and alerting the authorities of such incidents. Make it be known what this person is doing rather it's a male or female. If you're tarnishing one's reputation, and the pieces fit the crime I'm all for it.

It's unacceptable and no one should have to endure such behavior rather it's in the entertainment world, or everyday life. This is the problem with power and money: they go hand and hand and some people use it to their advantage to keep people quiet and to get the things they want out of life. Sexual harassment is wrong America, and Hollywood has a long history with this issue that is just now making national headlines. That little secret has exploded and hopefully this will lead to more changes in the industry to halting such deplorable behavior.

# WILDFIRE CONTINUES TO BURN THROUGHOUT ORANGE COUNTY

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Anaheim Hills fire seen from Disneyland.

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# HEPATITIS A PLAGUES SAN DIEGO, WORST UPRISING IN DECADES

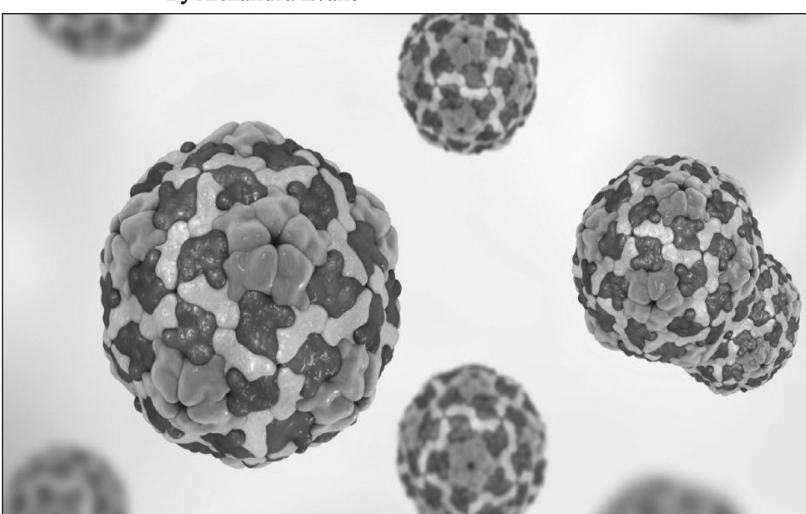
By Alexandra Evans

SAN DIEGO—Reports began surfacing on Friday, October 6 that Hepatitis A has plagued the San Diego area, impacting members of the homeless population and illegal drug users. The outbreak, which was first discovered about a year ago, is the worst in decades.

Public health officials have shared that the heavily contagious virus is transported through fecal, oral, or sexual contact. Touching objects or eating food which handled by an infected person can cause the disease to spread.

In 1996, a vaccine for the disease was cultivated and has led to the decline in the number of cases.

Dr. Monique Foster from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed that illegal drug users, those who travel to regions where hepatitis A is a natural case, and amongst homosexual and bisexual males are at a higher risk of infection. Outbreaks can surface for up to 2 years.



Hepatitis A virus (via WebMD).

There is currently no treatment, and those with liver diseases and the elderly population are also at a high risk of contracting the virus. Some symptoms are not discovered until about a month after an individual has contracted the illness and can lead to liver failure and death.

On October 3, public health officials discovered 481 cases of the virulent

liver disease, and 337 victims were hospitalized and 17 died. Eighty-five percent of verified cases have been located in San Diego, prompting street maintenance crews to rid local areas of bodily fluids (including blood and feces) by dousing the streets with a mixture of bleach and high-pressure water. Movable hand-washing stations were set up in areas with a large percentage

of homeless individuals. Additional cases of the virus have been reported in Los Angeles and Santa Cruz, but no deaths have occurred. Dr. Eric McDonald of the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency indicated that medical officials are taking action to fight the plague; 54,000 city residents have received vaccinations thus far.

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