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Contact: Scott Thomsen
Director of Communications and Public Affairs
Phone: (805) 914-8502
Email: scott.thomsen@ventura.org

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Attn: Supervisor Jeff Gorell and Municipal Advisory Committees

- The Spark of Love holiday toy drive collected and distributed more than 40,000 toys, stuffed animals, games and sports items to government agencies and nonprofit organizations serving needy children across Ventura County. Those toys supported about 14,000 children, which is equivalent to 68% of the Ventura County children living in poverty.
- The Ventura County Fire Department placed four new rescue ambulances into service in December, replacing older vehicles that now move to reserve status for use when a frontline vehicle needs maintenance or repairs. The new rescue ambulances are based at Fire Stations 26 in Santa Paula, 30 in Thousand Oaks, 41 in Simi Valley and 42 in Moorpark.
- In December, the Ventura County Fire Department and California State University – Northridge cohosted a Wildfire Resiliency Summit. About 60 regional leaders from fire departments and community organizations gathered at VCFD headquarters to share success stories, identify challenges, brainstorm potential solutions and strengthen relationships to further public safety before, during and after wildfires. The results of those discussions are being compiled in a report by CSUN, which plans to present it at their Wildfire Resiliency Convention in March.

Sincerely,

Scott Thomsen
Director of Communications and Public Affairs
Ventura County Fire Department