



P.O. Box 616 / 100 BRYANT STREET • BRIDGEPORT, CA 93517 • (760) 932-7549 / FAX (760) 932-7435

Richard C. Scholl
Sheriff/Coroner

MONO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
- PRESS RELEASE -

Ralph Obenberger
Undersheriff

To: All Media Outlets
From: Jennifer Hansen, PIO
Date: 08/31/2010
Subject: Boy helps father after traffic accident

On the evening of Sunday, August 29, 2010, at approximately 7:35 pm, Mono County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a report of an overturned vehicle on a remote dirt road in the Bridgeport area. Chadwick Gilzean, age 48 of Shingle Springs, CA, and his son, Ian, age 13, were on a Boy Scout camping trip and were traveling on a remote dirt road when Mr. Gilzean lost control of their vehicle causing the vehicle to strike a tree and overturn. Ian was able to undo his seat belt and climb free of the vehicle using the driver's side window. Ian sustained a minor cut to his hand as a result of the accident. He bandaged his own hand and then assisted his father.

Ian was able to free his father from his seat belt and drag him clear of the wreckage. His father was unconscious, unresponsive, and having difficulty breathing. Ian was able to clear his father's airway allowing his father to breathe freely and eventually regain consciousness. Due to his father's injuries, Ian moved him into a position of comfort and covered him with a sleeping bag. Ian located a GPS and was able to determine his approximate location and the direction of the nearest highway. Ian loaded a backpack with a sleeping bag, water purifier, small hatchet, first aid kit, flashlight, matches and several other survival items and then set out on foot to get his father medical help.

Ian hiked for an unknown time and distance before coming to a steep hillside leading down to the West Walker River. Ian slide down the hillside and then crossed the Walker River to get to the highway on the opposite side. He was able to flag down a passing motorist who assisted in getting Ian to a phone to call 911. Ian was then able to explain in detail to Sheriff's Deputies, California Highway Patrol Officers, Paramedics, and Fire Personnel where his father was located and assisted in guiding them to his father's aide. Due to the severity of his injuries, Mr. Gilzean was flown by helicopter to the hospital.

The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff's Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.