January 11th

On this day in...

2013: Very high “king” tides around 7.5 feet hit the coast. Some beach areas became inundated with sea water in Seal Beach, La Jolla Shores, and Imperial Beach.

2005: Five consecutive days of heavy rainfall started on 1/7 and ended on this day. The wet weather was blamed on an atmospheric phenomenon known as the “Pineapple Connection” or “Atmospheric River”. 31.75 inches fell in Lake Arrowhead, 29.70 inches at Lytle Creek, 19.86 inches in Devore, and 15.09 inches at Palomar Mountain. Four to ten inches fell at lower elevations. Flash flooding and mudslides caused millions of dollars of damage to homes, businesses, vehicles, parks, crops, roads and bridges. A state of emergency was declared in Riverside, Orange, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties. Widespread catastrophic floods impacted nearly every community. This followed heavy storms in late December and earlier in January.

2001: A strong winter storm that started on 1/10 and ended on this day brought two to four inches of rain to the coast and the valleys and 1.74 inches of precipitation to
Phelan. Flash flooding occurred in Seal Beach, Huntington Beach, Garden Grove and Costa Mesa. 13 to 18 inches of snow fell in the Idyllwild area and three inches of snow blanketed Phelan. On this day a waterspout was observed three miles west of Chula Vista and a funnel cloud was reported in Kearny Mesa - San Diego. Wind gusts reached 71 mph at Phelan.

1995: Heavy rain that started on 1/10 and ended on this day caused extensive flooding in Orange County.

1993: A very wet series of storms that began on 1/6 and ended on 1/19 produced 20 to 50 inches of precipitation in the mountains and up to 12 inches at lower elevations over a two week period. It was one of the longest periods of consecutive days of rain on record (14) and measurable rain fell nearly every day from 1/2 to 1/19. Flooding and flash flooding, mud slides, etc., resulted.

1989: High pressure over Nevada and Utah brought Santa Ana winds with gusts of 80 to 100 mph to communities in the northern Inland Empire. The winds shredded a blimp moored at Ontario International Airport. In Rancho Cucamonga the winds removed part of the roof at the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s substation. Powerlines downed by the winds ignited two small wildfires near Ramona and Trabuco Canyon.

1978: Two waterspouts and several waterspouts were sited off the coast of La Jolla.

1949: The most significant snowstorm to hit lower elevations started on 1/9 and ended on this day. 14 inches fell in Woodland Hills, eight inches in La Canada and Catalina Island (at 2,100 feet), six inches in Altadena, five inches in Burbank, four
inches in Pasadena, one inch in Laguna Beach and Long Beach. A trace fell in San Diego, the only time since 1882. Three feet piled up at Mt. Laguna, and 18 inches fell on Cuyamaca, one foot in Julian, four to eight inches fell as low as 1000 feet in elevation. From 1/10 to 1/13, 43 inches of snow fell at Palomar Mountain, the greatest snowfall on record. A light covering was reported in La Jolla, Point Loma, Miramar, Escondido, Spring Valley, and other outlying San Diego areas. The snow snarled all kinds of transportation and caused power outages and emergencies. A plane crash killed five and injured one near Julian. A camping group was stranded at Cuyamaca. The high temperature was 46° in San Diego, the lowest maximum temperature on record. The high temperature was 47° in Escondido, the lowest maximum temperature on record, which also occurred on 1/20/1917.

1942: It was 82° at Palomar Mountain, the highest temperature on record for January.

1930: Two inches of snow fell at Palm Springs, the greatest daily snowfall on record. The only other daily measurable snowfall on record was 1.5 inches on 1/31/1979.