

Contra Costa County Fire Protection District

Press Release

Subject: Commercial Structure Fire
Tina's Place, 4241 Valley View Road
El Sobrante

Date: November 25, 2010

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The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District responded to a structure fire at Tina's Place, a restaurant located at 4241 Valley View Road in unincorporated El Sobrante on Wednesday night. The fire was called in to 911 at 5:57pm and the first fire engine arrived just after 6:00pm to find a fire in the chimney of an old brick oven that extended to the attic of the structure. The fire was brought under control within 25 minutes. Automatic aid units from the Pinole and Richmond Fire Departments assisted in controlling the fire. The business sustained moderate damage to the attic, roof, and ceiling. Fire damage was held to a minimum due to early notification of the fire department and the efficient action of the responding crews. The four adjacent businesses in this strip mall sustained no damage and Tina's Place should be able to re-open for business after some repairs. There were no injuries to emergency personnel or members of the public.

As the temperatures begin to cool, it is important to ensure your chimney is inspected prior to its first use and that it is cleaned if necessary. The Chimney Safety Institute of America (www.CSIA.org) and the National Fire Protection Association recommend annual chimney inspections by a qualified and licensed professional and sweeping when necessary. According to the most recent statistics from the Consumer Product Safety Commission, an average of 25,100 chimney fires are responsible for 30 deaths and \$126.1 million in property damage each year.

Annual chimney inspections allow the chimney sweep to note cracks, creosote buildup or other obstructions which may diminish the functionality of the system and create an environment where chimney fires or carbon monoxide intrusion are likely.