

Issues and programs from February 1 through February 28 2014

KVCR FM NEWS

2/1/14 through 2/28/14

In 2014, 91.9 KVCR continues to produce a phenomenal amount of high-quality local news and cultural programming with proportionally one of the smallest staffs in the nationwide public radio system. The fiscally-cautious decision to add Matt Guilhem on as a part-time reporter allowed us to provide KVCR listeners with weeks of in-depth reporting on the watershed San Bernardino Mayor's race, and to provide NPR listeners coverage of the Southern California storms and their aftermath. Our local African American History Month features included former newspaper publisher and now State Assemblywoman Cheryl Brown recounting the history of the black press in the Inland Empire. Our weekly contributor John Husing, Chief Economist for the Inland Empire Economic Partnership, began a weeks-long critique of poverty in the IE. We also want to convey our appreciation for our CSUSB intern Mindi McNeil for her reporting on a variety of local and regional issues. As well, listeners get the benefit of great local programs like "My Awesome Empire," and "American Parlor Songbook," and KVCR's David Fleming continues to expand "KVCaRts."

In addition to our regular weekly conversations with Inland Empire Economist John Husing and Press Enterprise Columnist Cassie MacDuff, below are some of the stories and issues we reported on 91.9 KVCR FM News over the past month:

(most of the following segments are available to hear on demand at kvcr.org/news)

2/3/14 EDUCATION – KVCR News reported on a study by Children Now and the Annie E. Casey Foundation finding the majority of California's fourth-graders are not reading at their grade level.

2/5/14 LOCAL POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT – KVCR FM News wrapped up our month-long focus on the San Bernardino Mayor's race with an election-night recap for KVCR's Morning Edition that included interviews with both candidates and thoughts from voters from both camps.

2/6/14 EDUCATION, TECHNOLOGY, JOBS & THE ECONOMY – KVCR FM NEWS reported on how the San Bernardino Community College District's Applied Technology Training Center and other local educational institutions are collaborating to offer grant-funded, no-cost education and training in the 21st century industrial science known as nanotechnology.

2/7/14 INTERNATIONAL POLITICS – KVCR FM News attended a day-long Solar Energy Conference at UC Riverside and reported on how representatives from several major solar energy companies were wowed by engineering students' inventions and projects advancing solar power.

2/10/14 LOCAL POLITICS & GOVERNMENT – Our "State of the Cities" series continued with a two-part interview with the outgoing mayor of San Bernardino, Patrick Morris. In part 1, Mayor Morris describes the long list of positive things to happen in the city in recent years, and presents his formula for the bankrupt city to get back to fiscal health. In part 2, Morris talks about the toxic city hall politics that surrounded the city's descent into bankruptcy, and why the departing two-term mayor still has high hopes for San Bernardino's future.

2/11/14 LOCAL ECONOMY, WEALTH & POVERTY – KVCR FM NEWS weekly contributor John Husing, the Chief Economist for the Inland Empire Economic Partnership, begins a series of discussions over the coming weeks about poverty in the Inland Empire, and what to do about it.

2/13/14 SPORTS & ATHLETICS – KVCR FM NEWS reported on An Inland Empire native on the U.S. Bobsledding Team at the Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

2/13/14 LOCAL HEALTH CARE – KVCR News reported on St Bernardine's Hospital in San Bernardino being awarded a national ranking for excellence for the second year in a row.

2/19/14 LOCAL BUSINESS – KVCR FM NEWS featured a local public relations firm's effort to get nonprofit government and other small groups with small budgets to realize the importance of public relations.

2/21/14 LOCAL ENVIRONMENT, AIR QUALITY, ENERGY – KVCR FM News reported a local environmental leader sparring with an Inland Empire member of the South Coast Air Quality Management District over a proposal to allow new natural gas-fired power plants in Southern California to be fast-tracked to take up the slack left by the closure of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.

2/24/14 LOCAL POLITICS & GOVERNMENT – KVCR FM News' "State of the Cities" series featured a profile of San Bernardino City Clerk Gigi Hanna as she went from barely being elected to becoming one of the senior leaders on the city's road to recovery.

2/26/14 KVCR FM News was one of the first to report on why union-represented service and patient care workers at UC Riverside and 9 other UC campuses across the state called a five-day strike for the first week of March, and on the UC response to the strike.

2/26/14 EDUCATION, LOCAL LEADERSHIP – KVCR FM News interviewed Dr. Judy White, the Superintendent of the Moreno Valley Unified School District, on how the district dramatically turned around student performance, receiving applause from state education officials, the state teachers' union, local businesses, and parents of kids who attend Moreno Valley schools.

2/27/14 LOCAL AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY – KVCR FM News featured a two-part interview with former Inland Empire newspaper publisher and current State Assemblywoman Cheryl Brown about the history of the black press in the IE -- much of it personal to her and her family. Brown also talks about her family's many efforts to get young people interested in documenting and disseminating black history.

2/28/14 PUBLIC SAFETY, EXTREME WEATHER – KVCR FM News filed numerous reports for NPR covering the severe storms in Southern California and the aftermath in Inland communities.