

KVCR FM News

Issues and Programs from July 16 2017 through August 15 2017

In addition to our regular weekly segments with Inland Empire Economist John Husing, longtime Inland Empire journalist Cassie MacDuff, and contributions from Capital Public Radio, The California Report, KVCR TV and FNX, following are some of the local segments produced and aired over the past month on KVCR FM News: *(most of the following segments can be heard on demand at kvcrnews.org).*

7/17/17 LOCAL EDUCATION; STEM EDUCATION "Riverside Police And Fire Will Host Summer STEM Academies For Local High School Students" The City of Riverside Police and Fire Departments will host a public safety-oriented STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) academy for local high school students this summer.

7/17/17 CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE; AIR QUALITY; CAP-AND-TRADE "California Legislature Expected To Vote On Gov. Brown's Request To Extend Cap-And-Trade Program" California lawmakers today will take up an extension of the state's cap-and-trade program -- a vote Governor Jerry Brown has called the "most important" of their lives. Our report explains the cap-and-trade concept and why it's been so politically-charged.

7/17/17 LOCAL CIVIC AND CULTURAL EVENTS "Winter Is Coming: Mission Inn Festival Of Lights Merchant And Vendor Deadlines Loom This Summer" Even though the Inland Empire is still amid the steamy summer of 2017, the City of Riverside is reminding anyone who wants to be a merchant, vendor, or other commercial participant in the Mission Inn Festival of Lights celebration has some summer deadlines.

7/18/17 ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE; LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY "Riverside County Begins Public Education Campaign On Dangers Of "Honey Oil" Production" Riverside County District Attorney Michael Hestrin will today unveil the county's new media and public information campaign designed to discourage the production of marijuana-based "honey oil" throughout Riverside County.

7/18/17 CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE; AIR QUALITY; CAP-AND-TRADE "With Votes To Spare, California Legislature Extends Cap-And-Trade" A bi-partisan supermajority of the California Legislature voted to extend the state's cap-and-trade program yesterday.

7/19/17 LOCAL TRANSPORTATION; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT "Frontier Airlines Will Serve ONT Beginning This Fall" Barely a year after being returned from Los Angeles ownership to Inland Empire control, Ontario International Airport continues to expand its flight offerings. Frontier Airlines will begin service this year to and from Ontario International.

7/19/17 IMMIGRATION ISSUES "Trump Adm. Will Grant Visas To Additional 15-Thousand Foreign Workers" Criticism is coming in from workers rights groups regarding the Trump Administration's announcement this week that it will allow an additional 15,000 foreign workers to get visas.

7/19/17 LOCAL POLITICS; CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE; AIR QUALITY; CAP-AND-TRADE "IE Assembly Leader Chad Mayes Angers GOP Colleagues After Cap-And-Trade

Vote" This week's vote extending California's signature effort to fight climate change - the cap-and-trade- agreement - showcased a deep split among legislative Republicans. Most fought hard against the deal, but a few GOPs proved crucial to its passage, including Inland Empire GOP Assembly Leader Chad Mayes. That vote now has some of Mayes' colleagues asking him to give up his leadership position.

7/19/17 LOCAL POLITICS; CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO "Businessman And School Board Member Michael Gallo Enters San Bernardino Mayor Race" The San Bernardino mayor's race is still well more than a year away, but already three notable candidates have announced they'll run. The latest to say he'll enter the race is local entrepreneur and civic leader Mike Gallo.

7/19/17 CALIFORNIA MARIJUANA POLICY "Are California And Local Governments Dragging Their Feet In Preparing For Legal Pot?" Last year, the voters of California gave the state well more than a year to prepare for the legal sale and distribution of marijuana for recreational use. That was 8 months ago. With less than 6 months left, it appears the state -- and especially local governments -- are running behind the schedule dictated by Proposition 64, the ballot measure that legalized recreational marijuana in California.

7/20/17 HOUSING AFFORDABILITY "Gov. Brown, Legislature Agree To Pursue A Plan For Affordable Housing In California" Housing advocates are cheering a deal reached between Governor Jerry Brown and Democratic lawmakers to work on an affordable housing plan.

7/20/17 AIR QUALITY; LOCAL ENERGY FACILITIES "Porter Ranch Residents Furious With Calif. Regulators' Decision To Reopen Aliso Cyn. Gas Facility" In the face of fierce opposition from local residents, California state regulators have decided the natural gas storage facility at Aliso Canyon north of Los Angeles is safe enough to resume operations. Operations at the facility have been shut down since a leak at the facility nearly two years ago released massive amounts of methane into the air, prompting evacuations from homes in the nearby community of Porter Ranch.

7/20/17 CALIFORNIA LOTTERY "Owner Of Half-Billion-Dollar Powerball Ticket Purchased At IE Store Comes Forward To Claim Prize" The owner of a lottery Powerball ticket worth nearly a half-billion dollars that was purchased at an Inland Empire convenience store has finally come forward to claim his winnings.

7/21/17 LOCAL HIGHER EDUCATION; LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH "UCR Researcher Gets \$15 Million Defense Grant To Curb Mosquito-Borne Diseases" A UC Riverside entomologist and his research team have been awarded the largest-ever grant to a UCR researcher. The federal grant will be used to study how manipulating mosquito genes could neutralize their ability to spread disease.

7/21/17 LOCAL MUNICIPAL ISSUES "Beaumont Officials Will Try To Convince Voters To Approve Library Expansion Bond" Local officials in Beaumont are preparing a public information campaign designed to convince Beaumont Library District taxpayers to approve a future library expansion bond.

7/21/17 CONVENTIONS & EVENTS; LOCAL ECONOMY "Crowds Swarm Comic-Con In San Diego" Comic-Con 2017 is taking place at the San Diego Convention Center through

the weekend. Over the years, the number of people who attend Comic-Con each year has gone up from a few hundred a few decades ago, to some 130,000 people this year.

7/24/17 EMPLOYMENT "California Unemployment Rate Holds At 4.7 percent" The California labor market slumped last month. The state lost 1,400 jobs in June and the unemployment rate froze at 4.7 percent. This is the first time in eight months that the jobless rate hasn't dropped. The civilian labor force dropped by about 20 thousand last month.

7/24/17 LOCAL POLITICS; CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE; AIR QUALITY; CAP-AND-TRADE "Brown Defends GOP Assemblyman Chad Mayes on Cap-and Trade Vote" Governor Jerry Brown is coming to the defense of an embattled Republican legislative leader who played a crucial role in passing California's Cap-and-trade deal last week.

7/24/17 LOCAL ELECTIONS; LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT "The California Report Asks Riverside DA Michael Hestrin About Hacked Voters In Riverside County" KQED's Penny Nelson hosted the California Report this morning (Monday). She introduced this story from John Sepulvado about Riverside County and claims around last year's primary election.

7/24/17 WILDFIRES "The Rainy Season Was A Hinder And A Help For California Fires" California's wildfire season is off to an intense start thanks to thick grasslands left behind after the year's heavy rainfall. While the rains may be the cause of bigger grass fires this year, they may help prevent our state's alpine forests from burning as badly.

7/25/17 LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH & NUTRITION "Local Communities Not Waiting For Congress" As Congress battles it out over healthcare reform, local Community Health Centers are quietly making progress in California, improving families' health by helping them afford nutritious food and trying to prevent illness instead of treating it.

7/27/17 IMMIGRATION ISSUES "Sanctuary Cities And Federal Grants" Law enforcement Agencies in California are keeping a close eye on conditions placed on federal grant money this week by the Trump administration as part of its crackdown on sanctuary cities.

7/27/17 HOUSING AFFORDABILITY "Investors Driving Home Prices Up" Cash purchases made up a larger share of California real estate transactions in the second quarter. Analysts say it's one reason home prices continue to climb.

7/27/17 ENVIRONMENT "Brown Signs New Pollution Bill" Governor Jerry Brown has signed a new air pollution control bill. It's a companion to a measure he signed Tuesday that extended cap-and-trade. However, the law signed yesterday in Bell Gardens remains controversial.

7/31/17 LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY "Fire Fees for Rural Areas Eliminated" Rural California property owners now have one less bill to pay. And it's one that they've been responsible for for the last six years. The Cap-And-Trade deal signed last week by Governor Jerry Brown ends a \$150 a year fire protection fee.

7/31/17 LOCAL ECONOMY; STATE POLITICS "FACT CHECK: Lieutenant Governor Newsom Claims IE is a Job Leader" [TweetShareGoogle+Email](#)

Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom recently claimed that the Inland Empire is the second fastest growing region for jobs in the Golden State. Politifact reporter Chris Nichols check out the claim for our Tracking the Truth series as the 2018 governor's race heats up.

8/1/17 LOCAL TRANSPORTATION "Toll Lanes Project On 15 Fwy South of Corona Gets Final Piece Of Funding" Plans to build toll lanes on the 15 Freeway from south of Corona to Jurupa Valley have received a major boost with approval of a \$152 million federal loan.

8/1/17 LOCAL AGRICULTURE; LOCAL HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH "Local And State Officials Need Public Help In Fighting Citrus Tree Disease" The discovery of a diseased grapefruit tree in Riverside on July 25 has officials considering how to alert the public to the potential devastation the disease could wreak across Southern California.

8/1/17 WILDFIRES "IE Wildfire Update: Mile Fire In San Bernardino; Rose Fire In Lake Elsinore" Inland Empire firefighters are keeping a close watch on two blazes still burning in our region; one near San Bernardino, and the other near Lake Elsinore.

8/2/17 LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY "Riverside Police Dept. To Host "Citizen Academy" Public Safety Classes" Residents who want a better understanding of police operations and how they can contribute to the safety of their neighborhoods are being encouraged to attend a "Citizen Academy" hosted by the Riverside Police Department.

8/2/17 LOCAL CIVIC AND CULTURAL EVENTS; LOCAL ECONOMY "2017 Idyllwild "Jazz In The Pines" Festival Set For Aug. 11-12" The 24th annual Jazz In The Pines Festival will be held August 11-13, featuring more than two-dozen artists on multiple stages at a mile-high venue in Riverside County's San Geronimo Mountains.

8/2/17 WILDFIRES "Wildfires in Lake Elsinore And San Bernardino Are Still Active" Firefighters are still working on containing two brush fires in the Inland Empire that started earlier this week.

8/2/17 LOCAL WEATHER AND STORMS "Damaging Summer Storm Rips Through IE; More Stormy Weather Expected Today" A warm, wet, windy storm tore through the Inland Empire yesterday, resulting in flooded streets, downed trees and power poles, power outages, and some property damage. And forecasters say today could be a repeat of yesterday's weather.

8/3/17 HOUSING AFFORDABILITY "Gov. Brown, Legislative Leaders Put Focus On California's Housing Affordability Crisis" California lawmakers are on summer recess right now - but a major piece of unfinished business awaits their return later this month. While they're away, Governor Jerry Brown and Democratic legislative leaders are negotiating a package of bills to address the state's housing crisis.

8/3/17 LOCAL WEATHER AND STORMS "One More Muggy, Stormy Day Before The Promise Of Clear Skies And Less Humidity This Weekend" The heat and humidity that have been plaguing the Inland Empire recently was aggravated by rain and wind whipping through the Inland Empire again yesterday.

8/4/17 LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH "UC Study: Alzheimer's Rates Are 50% Higher Among Latinos Than Whites" As California's Latino population ages, a worrisome trend of high dementia rates is becoming clear. UC Davis researchers are embarking on a new study to find out why.

8/4/17 IMMIGRATION ISSUES "Calif. Immigrants Rights Groups Call Trump Immigration Plan, "Racist, Inhumane"" Immigrant rights advocates in California are issuing harsh criticism

at President Trump's plan to cut legal immigration and favor high-skilled English speakers.

8/4/17 IMMIGRATION ISSUES "Justice Department Threatens San Bernardino For Being A 'Sanctuary City'... Even Though It's Not" U. S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions yesterday said the Justice Department might not grant federal crime-fighting funds to four so-called 'sanctuary cities' - including San Bernardino - if they don't help federal officials' efforts to detain and deport illegal immigrants. There's one problem with Sessions' threat: San Bernardino is not a sanctuary city, and isn't eligible for the federal crime-fighting funds.

8/5/17 IMMIGRATION ISSUES "Attorney General Threatens San Bernardino over Supposed "Sanctuary City" Status" Attorney General Jeff Sessions sent out a letter to four cities - Albuquerque, Baltimore, Stockton, and San Bernardino - urging them to cooperate with federal immigration authorities or lose federal funding.

8/7/17 LOCAL TRANSPORTATION "Riverside Has Concerns About Planned 60 Fwy Full-Weekend Shutdown Next Year" Cal Trans has announced that it will shut down a portion of the 60 freeway between Jurupa Valley and Riverside for an entire weekend early next year to accommodate roadwork on the 60. The City of Riverside says it has concerns about impacts of the temporary shutdown that it would like to discuss with Cal Trans.

8/7/17 LOCAL ECONOMY; ENVIRONMENT "KVCR Series, Part 1: Have Calif. Climate Policies Helped Or Hurt The IE Economy?" A recent study conducted by the University of California, Berkeley and the non-profit group Next 10 provided a cost-/benefit analysis of how California's progressive climate policies have affected the economy of the Inland Empire. In part 1 of a two-part series continued tomorrow, KVCR's Ise! Cuapio spoke with the founder of Next 10, Noel Perry, and UC Berkeley's Betony Jones.

8/8/17 LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY "IE Firefighter's Body Returns Home After His Death Fighting Wildfire In Montana" Local first responders and other Inland public safety officials gathered to pay their respects as the remains of an Inland Empire firefighter arrived in San Bernardino yesterday (Monday), following his death while fighting a wildfire in Montana.

8/8/17 WILDFIRES; LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT "Yucaipa Man Arrested On Suspicion Of Starting Several Recent IE Wildfires" San Bernardino County authorities say a 23-year-old Yucaipa man has been arrested on suspicion of starting several recent wildfires, including one that injured a firefighter.

8/8/17 WILDFIRES "Cal Fire Gets Help From Regional Firefighters In Battling Aguanga Brush Blaze" Firefighters from the Inland Empire and elsewhere around Southern California are fighting a brush fire near the southwestern Riverside County community of Aguanga.

8/8/17 LOCAL ECONOMY; ENVIRONMENT "KVCR Series, Part 2: Have Calif. Climate Policies Helped Or Hurt The IE Economy?"

8/8/17 A recent study conducted by the University of California and the non-profit group Next 10 released a cost/benefit analysis of how California climate policies have affected the Inland Empire's economy. In part 2 of the series, KVCR's Ise! Cuapio speaks with Noel Perry from Next 10, and Betony Jones from the UC Berkeley Center For Labor And Research's Green Economy Program, to discuss the benefits of cap and trade, and of solar programs in the IE.

8/9/17 LOCAL CIVIC AND CULTURAL EVENTS "Local Performers Wanted For Riverside

Festival Of Lights 25th Anniversary” Local dancers, singers, and musicians of every stripe and style are being invited to apply for a spot in the entertainment lineup for this winter's 25th anniversary celebration of the Riverside Festival of Lights at the iconic Mission Inn Hotel & Spa.

8/10/17 LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH & NUTRITION “Calif. Low-Income Nutrition Assistance Program To Get Boost From Federal Funds” A system in California that helps low-income people eat more state-grown fruits and vegetables is getting nearly \$4 million from the federal government to expand.

8/10/17 LOCAL CIVIC AND CULTURAL EVENTS “Jazz In The Pines Festival In Idyllwild Is Tomorrow Through The Weekend” The 24th annual Jazz In The Pines Festival takes place this weekend in the Riverside County mountain community of Idyllwild. Area traffic could be affected.

8/10/17 IMMIGRATION ISSUES “In The Inland Empire, The Debate Over Sanctuary Cities Is Intensifying” Inland Empire residents, activists, and officials are divided on the issue of sanctuary cities, and with recent events, the local debate is intensifying. KVCR's Ben Purper has this feature report.

8/11/17 ENERGY ISSUES “Calif. Electric Grid Prepares For Loss Of Solar Power During Eclipse” On August 21, the U.S. will experience its first total solar eclipse since 1979. While Californians will only see a partial eclipse, the rare event will darken skies and challenge the electric grid.

8/11/17 LOCAL CIVIC AND CULTURAL EVENTS “Annual Little League Western Regional Playoffs Under Way In San Bernardino” Every August, the ball fields in northern San Bernardino host a tournament that proves to be the biggest competition of some young players' lives.

8/11/17 LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH “More Mosquitos That Could Carry Zika, Other Diseases, Found In IE” Officials with the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control District -- the agency that monitors mosquito activity in northwestern Riverside County -- is warning local residents to take precautions, now that an exotic breed of mosquito that can spread diseases has been detected in our area.

8/14/17 WILDFIRES “Blaine Fire Between Riverside And MoVal 30 % Contained At Just Over 1000 Acres; Evacuations Lifted” Firefighters continue battling a wildfire that at one point forced some home evacuations and at last report had burned more than 1000 acres adjacent to Box Springs Mountain, east of Riverside and northwest of Moreno Valley.