

KVCR FM News

Issues and Programs from June 16 2017 through July 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.*

6/16/17 EXTREME WEATHER “Triple-Digit Temperatures Will Bake Inland Valleys And Local Mountains For Next Several Days” Temperatures are expected to soar into the triple digits in the Inland Empire from this weekend through most of next week.

6/16/17 EXTREME WEATHER; AIR QUALITY “Authorities Warn That The Hot Weather Could Create "Very Unhealthy" Air Quality In IE” Regional air quality officials warned this week that much of Southern California could experience "very unhealthy" air pollution as the heat wave takes hold of the weather in the coming days.

6/20/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES “As Of Tuesday A.M., Holcomb Fire North Of Big Bear Has Burned 950 Acres; 10 Percent Contained” Two wildfires are burning in the mountains of Southern California this morning, including a blaze that has burned nearly a thousand acres north of Big Bear Lake. The so-called Holcomb Fire near Big Bear, at last report, was 10 percent contained, but was moving away from more populated areas of that section of the San Bernardino National Forest. The other wildfire is burning near Lake Castaic, north of Simi Valley.

6/20/17 EXTREME WEATHER “Triple-Digit Temps Continue In The Inland Empire Valleys And Mountain Communities” Triple-digit high temperatures are expected to continue today and tomorrow throughout the inland valleys and in the local mountain communities, as an excessive heat advisory continues throughout Southern California.

6/20/17 PUBLIC SAFETY; ANIMAL ISSUES “People Who Coax Moreno Valley Wild Burros Could Be Fined Under Proposed RivCo Law” Riverside County Supervisors are scheduled to take action on an ordinance that would impose fines on people who have potentially hazardous interactions with wild burros that roam north of Moreno Valley.

6/21/17 EXTREME WEATHER; ELECTRICITY SUPPLY “Calif. Energy Authorities Issue Another Statewide 'Flex Alert' To Conserve Electricity” Just like yesterday, the operator of California's electricity distribution grid has once again issued a statewide Flex Alert for today (Wednesday). Residents all across the state are being asked to take measures to conserve power - particularly during the afternoon and evening hours - to help relieve stress on the grid that comes from an extreme demand for power.

6/21/17 EXTREME WEATHER; LABOR ISSUES “California Is Drafting Heat Safety Rules For Indoor Workplaces” California requires employers in several outdoor industries to take extra precautions on hot days to protect their workers. But the state has yet to establish heat safety rules for indoor workplaces, such as logistics warehouses.

6/22/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES "Wildfire Burning Near Big Bear Compromising Power Lines That Supply Mtn. Communities" Power lines that supply electricity to mountain communities around Big Bear are being compromised by a wildfire burning north of Big Bear Lake.

6/22/17 EXTREME WEATHER "SoCal Heat Wave Continues; The Heat Will Let Up Slightly Tomorrow" The heat wave continues across Southern California, pushing temperatures to record-breaking highs, stressing the electrical grid, and aggravating wildfires being fought around the region. Temperatures will be a bit more moderate tomorrow (Friday), but triple-digit temps will likely hang around the Inland Empire through the weekend.

6/23/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES "Good Progress On Holcomb Wildfire Northeast Of Big Bear Lake, But Hazardous Conditions Continue" Firefighters have been making good progress containing the Holcomb Fire, burning northeast of Big Bear Lake, but with above-normal high temperatures and an excessive heat advisory continuing through the weekend, firefighters will continue to have their work cut out for them.

6/26/17 HEALTH CARE "Calif. Assembly Speaker Says State-Run Single-Payer Health Care Bill Is Dead For This Year" The leader of the California Assembly says he does not have plans to take up the state single-payer health care proposal passed by the state Senate earlier this session.

6/26/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES "Big Bear's Holcomb Wildfire Now 91 Percent Contained At 1503 Acres" More progress was made over the weekend by firefighters working to contain the Holcomb wildfire burning northeast of Big Bear Lake for the past week. The fire has burned 1503 acres and is 91 percent contained.

6/26/17 EXTREME WEATHER "One More Day Of Triple-Digit Temps Before IE Cools Off A Bit This Week" High temperatures broke records in the inland deserts over the weekend, and the National Weather Service says we'll have one more triple-digit day in the inland valleys before things start to cool down a bit this week.

6/27/17 HEALTH CARE "Firestorm Of Backlash From Democrats After Calif. Single-Payer Health Care Bill Is Shelved" When California Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon announced late Friday that he would hold the single-payer health care bill for the year, he set off a firestorm of reactions that showcase a split in the Democratic Party.

6/27/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES "Manzanita Wildfire South Of Beaumont Still Growing At 5,000 Acres, 10 Percent Contained" The Manzanita Fire, a fast-growing wildfire that started yesterday along Highway 79 south of Beaumont, has burned 5000 acres, and is 10 percent contained.

6/28/17 HEALTH CARE "California's Governor And Both U.S. Senators Join Forces To Blast GOP Health Care Bill" California's governor and both U.S. senators appeared together yesterday to criticize the proposed GOP health care plan, and pledged to cooperate to try to defeat the bill.

6/28/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES "Mart Fire Burns 900 Acres Above Highland; Manzanita Fire Has Scorched 6,300 Acres South Of Beaumont" **EDITOR'S NOTE: AFTER THIS REPORT WAS PUBLISHED, ESTIMATES OF THE ACTUAL ACREAGE BURNED IN THE MART**

FIRE WERE CORRECTED FROM SOME 900 ACRES TO 670 ACRES WITH 40 PERCENT CONTAINMENT, AS OF THURSDAY, JUNE 29.

In Highland, a brush blaze that started yesterday afternoon has - as of this morning (Wednesday) - burned 902 acres and is 15 percent contained. And south of Beaumont, firefighters are optimistic they'll get better control of the Manzanita Fire, which has burned 6309 acres since it started Sunday and is 20 percent contained.

6/29/17 TAXES "California's Earned Income Tax Credit Expanded For Lower-Income Workers" More low-income, working Californians will qualify for a key tax break under the new state budget that takes effect next month.

6/29/17 TRAFFIC SAFETY "CHP Will Continue Maximum Enforcement Of Traffic Laws Through July 4th" Beginning tomorrow (Friday), the California Highway Patrol will begin it's annual "Maximum Enforcement Period," during which CHP officers will swarm the freeways and highways looking for impaired and unsafe drivers.

6/29/17 LOCAL ARTS "Annual Lake Arrowhead Mountain Artists Studio Tour Is This Weekend" The 5th Annual Lake Arrowhead Mountain Artists Studio Tour will take place this weekend, featuring more than a dozen artists opening their galleries and studios to the public. It's a fundraiser for the Mountain Artists Network.

6/29/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES "IE Firefighters Getting Control Of Mart, Manzanita Fires; Holcomb Fire Almost Out" The Manzanita Fire burning south of Beaumont is 90 percent contained, and has not grown from 6,309 acres since Wednesday morning. The Mart Fire burning near Highland has scorched 670 acres and is 60 percent contained. The Holcomb Fire that began June 19 north of Big Bear has burned 1,503 acres and is 100 percent contained.

6/30/17 CALIFORNIA MARIJUANA POLICY "Calif. Bill Would Limit Local Law Enforcement From Helping Feds With Marijuana Cases" Recreational marijuana businesses will soon be legal in California. It's unclear what - if any - enforcement will come from the federal government. But a bill in the state Legislature would limit state and local law enforcement from teaming up with the feds on certain marijuana cases.

6/30/17 GUN ISSUES "Federal Judge Blocks California Gun Law Restricting Ammunition Magazines" A federal judge in San Diego has temporarily blocked one of California's high-profile gun control laws.

7/3/17 TRAFFIC SAFETY "Inland Empire Traffic Accidents Mar First Part Of Long Holiday Weekend" The long 4th of July weekend has not been without traffic accidents around the Inland Empire.

7/3/17 TRAFFIC SAFETY "The Weekend Is Over, But CHP Still Looking For Holiday Highway Violators" The California Highway Patrol will continue to be out in large numbers as the long 4th of July weekend continues, looking for careless, dangerous, and impaired driving.

7/3/17 LOCAL HOLIDAYS "Some IE Communities Will Celebrate With "3rd Of July"

Fireworks Tonight” This year, the saying seems to be: "The 3rd is the new 4th." Because July 4th falls on a Tuesday this year, many people have extended their holiday weekend into this week, and some communities are holding fireworks celebrations on the 3rd.

7/4/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES “July 3 Wildfires Put Out Relatively Quickly In Beaumont, Lake Perris, And Moreno Valley” Three wildfires broke out around the Inland Empire yesterday. Firefighters put out all three relatively quickly.

7/4/17 LOCAL HOLIDAYS “If You're In The IE, There's A Fireworks Display Near You” No matter where you live in the Inland Empire, chances are good that there is a 4th of July fireworks display within an easy drive.

7/5/17 TRAFFIC SAFETY “California Stops Suspending Drivers Licenses For Unpaid Traffic Fines” Failure to pay traffic fines and fees won't cost Californians their driving privileges under a provision signed into law as part of the state budget package.

7/5/17 PUBLIC SAFETY “Hate Crimes Are Up In California For Second Year In A Row” Hate crimes in California increased by more than ten percent for the second year in a row, according to new data from the state Attorney General's Office.

7/5/17 POLITICS & ELECTIONS “Will The Top Two Candidates In Next Year's Governor's Race Be From The Same Party?” After two California Democrats advanced in last year's open U.S. Senate primary, some pundits think that could happen again in the 2018 governor's race. But one expert insists that won't happen, and he's willing to put his modesty and dignity on the line.

7/5/17 EXTREME WEATHER “IE Weather: Hot, Then Hotter... And Humid, Too. In The Mts: Hot And Wet” From today (Wednesday) for the rest of the week, Inland Empire weather is going to be hot. And then, through the coming weekend, it'll be even hotter, and muggy as well. And in our local mountains, above-normal heat will persist alongside a chance of showers and thunderstorms for the next few days.

7/6/17 POLITICS & ELECTIONS “PolitiFact Check: OC GOP Travis Allen Stretches The Truth About Crime In California” In a video announcing his run for California governor, Orange County conservative Republican Travis Allen made some bold claims about crime in the Golden State. Capital Public Radio fact-checked Allen's statements as part of our "Tracking The Truth" series, which examines claims in the 2018 governor's race.

7/6/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES “Firefighters Contain Wildfires In Riverside, Lake Mathews; Make Progress On Jurupa Valley Blaze” Inland Empire firefighters were working to contain three wildfires burning around the region yesterday (Wednesday), including a blaze that broke out overnight in a Riverside park that resulted in some brief residential evacuations.

7/6/17 EXTREME WEATHER “Get Ready For Oppressive Humidity And Potentially Dangerous Heat In The IE For The Next Few Days” The hot, humid weather the Inland Empire will feel today (Thursday) will be amplified tomorrow and Saturday, and the National Weather Service has issued an Excessive Heat Warning for the inland valleys and the mountains for potentially hazardous temperatures from tomorrow morning through Saturday night.

7/7/17 HIGHER EDUCATION "UC Resident Students: Admission vs Enrollment" The UC System increased the number of out-of-state freshmen it offered admission this fall while offering slightly fewer freshman spots to California residents.

7/10/17 LOCAL TRANSPORTATION "91 Freeway Express Lane Closures This Week" Late night and early morning commuters may pass work crews during Express Lane closures on the 91 in Corona again this week.

7/11/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES "Inland Empire Fires Update" TweetShareGoogle+Email Though a record breaking heatwave is easing this week, California is still focused on fighting fires around the region and the state. Cal Fire reports that there were 17 major active wildfires across the state as of Monday.

7/12/17 EDUCATION "Senate Committee Debates Possible Changes To Teacher Tenure" The teacher tenure debate is back in the state legislature. A bill in a Senate committee today would let school districts choose whether to allow teachers to reach permanent status after two years or add a third year of probation.

7/13/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES "Anonymous Diner Pays \$405 Meal Tab For IE Wildfire Fighters" After more than a dozen firefighters wrapped up their shift fighting the La Cadena fire in Colton last weekend, they went to eat at a local Denny's. Colton Fire Chief Tim McHargue told NPR's Steve Inskeep in an interview from this morning's (Thursday) Morning Edition that an anonymous Good Samaritan quietly paid the firefighters' meal tab.

7/13/17 ANIMAL ISSUES "IE Shelter Pets Airlifted To Their New Lives In The Pacific Northwest" Dozens of dogs and cats living at the Western Riverside County Animal Shelter in Jurupa Valley were airlifted to a new - and perhaps a longer - life in the Pacific Northwest.

7/13/17 HEALTH CARE "Lawsuit Claims Low Medi-Cal Reimbursement Rates Are Harmful To Many Californians' Health" A lawsuit has been filed charging that the state of California is harming the health of millions of lower-income residents - particularly Latinos - with Medi-Cal reimbursement rates that are so low that many doctors won't accept them as patients.

7/13/17 WORKPLACE SAFETY "Riverside Man Awarded \$17 Million After IE Warehouse Forklift Accident" A Riverside County jury has awarded a \$17 million settlement to a Riverside warehouse security guard who was severely injured by a runaway forklift.

7/14/17 LOCAL ARTS "Tickets Go On Sale Today For "Desert Oasis" Music Festival In October" The latest big music festival event set for the Coachella Valley is the Desert Oasis Music Festival on October 8 and 9.

7/14/17 AFFORDABLE HOUSING "Mayor Bailey, Other Riverside Employees To Rappel 7 Stories Down Riverside City Hall To Raise Funds" A number of Riverside city employees - including Mayor Rusty Bailey - will use ropes to rappel from the top of the 7-story Riverside City Hall building this afternoon (Friday). And They'll do it again tomorrow morning. It's all part of a fundraiser for Habitat For Humanity.

7/14/17 POLITICS & ELECTIONS "PolitiFact Check: GOP Gov Candidate Travis Allen Is Mostly Correct About High Calif. Taxes" Republican candidate for governor Travis Allen - an assemblyman from Huntington Beach - recently claimed California's taxes "are among the highest in the nation." Capital Public Radio fact-checked Allen's statement as part of our Tracking The Truth series, which examines claims in the 2018 governor's race.

7/14/17 IMMIGRATION ISSUES "Calif. Bill Would Crack Down On Fraudulent Immigration Consultants" A bill aimed at cracking down on fraudulent immigration consultants in California has now passed the Assembly and a key state Senate committee.

7/14/17 LOCAL WILDFIRES "CalFire Quickly Contains Wildfires Near Winchester, Perris" Firefighters quickly contained two brush fires that broke out yesterday (Thursday) in southwest Riverside County, one in Winchester near Temecula, and another west of Perris.