

Quarterly Community Issues

2014: January – March

KQNC 6:04 – 6:06 pm Weekdays

January

PLUMB

02: Californians who want to alter or remodel a home built before 1994 may have to agree to install water-efficient plumbing in order to obtain a building permit. As Capital Public Radio's Amy Quinton reports, the 2009 law that takes effect this week is creating some confusion in the building industry.

METERLAW

02: Meter readers are now prohibited from giving you a ticket if you park at a broken meter in California. Capital Public Radio's Bob Moffitt reports on the new law that took effect yesterday.

DOMAIN

03: The City of Sacramento says the California Public Employees Retirement System owns land the City needs for a proposed arena project, but that Cal PERS won't sell. The City wants the City Council to approve the use of eminent domain.

BOOZE

03: Craft breweries and liquor distillers in California could get shots of new business as a result of two new state laws taking effect in 2014. And as Capital Public Radio's Ben Adler reports, beer and liquor drinkers will likely be happy as well.

NEWHOGAN

06: New Hogan serves Stockton East Water District which in turn supplies drinking water for the City of Stockton and irrigation water for farmers in east and north San Joaquin County. Stockton East General Manager Scot Moody says, unlike other reservoirs, New Hogan doesn't use sierra runoff but is entirely dependent upon rainfall.

CAPHSR

06: The state has generated 530 million dollars from auctions under its greenhouse gas emission reduction program called "cap and trade." Brown, who will release his proposed budget Friday, has pitched the 68-billion dollar rail project as an environmentally-friendly alternative to cars.

FOOD

07: Public school menus were overhauled nation-wide last year to deal with childhood obesity. About one-third of U.S. children are overweight. Oliver says school districts need to keep up the pressure on food service contractors to provide healthy choices.

NOWATER

07: Cowin says a proclamation would likely come on February first, which is the date of the next snow survey. A drought proclamation would make it easier to relax water quality standards and streamline water transfers.

EMINENT

08: The City of Sacramento is going to court to acquire part of the Downtown Plaza mall where a new Kings arena would be built. Capital Public Radio's Bob Moffitt has more on last [TUESDAY] night's city council vote to approve the controversial tactic of eminent domain.

FOODIES

08: People involved with agriculture say that as the climate changes California's current water shortage is probably a sign of things to come. To deal with it, lawmakers and food policy advocates recommend increased conservation, and improved water distribution efficiency.

TGREF

09: The law allows transgender students in California public schools to choose which sports and extracurricular activities they participate in – and which bathrooms and locker rooms to use – based on their gender identity, not their physical characteristics. Governor Jerry Brown signed the measure last August. Opponents immediately gathered more than 600-thousand voter signatures for a November referendum to overturn the law.

PANHANDLE

09: Heather Graves of the Modesto Police Department says people called to complain that the couple's 5 and 7 year old kids were being used in the begging effort. Graves says the family made more than 350 dollars cash in two hours. Police say the couple also had several hundred dollars in gift cards and several thousand dollars in money transfers to Romania. The family came from Sacramento but is known to have panhandled in Napa, Manteca, and Stockton as well.

PREVMON

10: A small spending item in Governor Jerry Brown's California budget proposal would pay for education about children's dental care. As health Care reporter Pauline Bartolone has learned, it may be a sign of a shift in state spending on health care.

CALBRAIN

10: A national effort is underway to better understand the human brain, and a California lawmaker wants to make sure the state is in on it. Democratic State Senator Ellen Corbett has introduced legislation to create a California based research program to contribute to the federal BRAIN initiative.

LAOBUDG

13: Governor Jerry Brown's budget proposal is getting solid marks from California's Legislative Analyst's Office. The LAO released its overview of Brown's budget today [Monday]. It found the governor's proposal would continue the economic progress California has made and commended his commitment to debt repayment.

FISHDRY

13: This week, biologists will try to get a better picture of how reduced water flows from Folsom Dam are affecting salmon in the American River. The U-S Bureau of Reclamation has cut water releases from 11-hundred cubic feet per second down to 500-feet.

RAFTS

14: Some rafting companies say despite the dry winter, whitewater river rafting conditions in the south and middle forks of the American River should be relatively normal this year.

IHSS

14: Federal rule changes now allow home care workers to receive time and a half overtime pay. The Brown administration says that could cost California an extra \$600 million a year. Instead, the governor proposes establishing a pool of temporary caregivers who could step in when I-H-S-S providers reach their 40 hour a week limit.

LIBTAX

15: The Sacramento City Council voted unanimously Tuesday night to put a parcel tax for libraries on the June ballot. Third grader Joseph O'Toole from Leonardo DaVinci School in Sacramento. He was one of about a dozen people speaking in support.

OLDTREE

15: New research published in the journal Nature shows that as trees get older their growth rate continues to accelerate. That means older trees are better at absorbing carbon dioxide than what's been commonly assumed.

RTRACSAC

16: Foreclosure numbers for 2013 show a substantial decrease for California cities, but a real estate analyst says a state law could be hiding a pending wave of new foreclosures. Capital Public Radio's Bob Moffitt reports.

LATWATER

16: The Latino Water Coalition also wants to see legislation that would put a water bond on the 2014 ballot. Supporters say the state is experiencing some of the driest conditions on record, and farmers livelihoods are at stake.

EATS

17: After nearly 20-years in business, Enotria [en-OH-tree-uh] Restaurant and Wine Bar closed. Enotria's owner says several prospective renters have expressed interest in the space on Del Paso Boulevard. Sacramento Business Journal Editor Jack Robinson points out that while the city lost Enotria this week, it gained two new eateries.

DROUGHT

17: Water agencies are breathing a sigh of relief, at least a bit anyway because the drought declaration allows them to more easily transfer water. It essentially streamlines transfers of water between the state water project and the federal central valley project. It allows those who have water to sell it to those who need it, be it municipalities or farmers.

BACKWAGE

20: A bill that would allow employees who are owed back wages to place liens on their employers' property until the wages are paid is making its way through the California legislature. A recent UCLA study shows that more than 80 percent of California workers who are owed back wages never recover them, even after a court order. Assembly member Bonnie Lowenthal wrote the legislation.

FATBACK

20: The seven-day event includes: a bacon-inspired cocktail competition; "how to" classes on bacon curing; and artisan dishes prepared by some of the city's top chefs.

SPEEDHI

21: California transportation officials say even though the state is trying to cope with the drought, efforts to build a bullet train should not be cast aside.

SACBIZ

21: Robert Emerick plans to open Empress Tavern in the basement of the Crest Theater on K Street later this year. In one indication of better credit climates, he says he was able to finance the tavern.

NORAIN

22: Sacramento is expected to tie an unwelcome record today: This will be the 46th day in a row without rain, which hasn't happened since 1884, according to the National Weather Service.

SCHOOLCASH

22: Gabe Ross with the district says they're holding a public forum tonight [Wednesday] so that parents can learn about the state's new "Local Control Funding Formula," or L-C-F-F, approved by the state Board of Education.

DRYDUPE

23: Lopes says that includes: not paying taxes or worker's compensation insurance. Earlier this month, the board caught 11 people engaged in illegal contracting during a one-day sting operation in the Sacramento area.

FIFTY

23: Caltrans Project manager Rod Murphy says both sides of the freeway between 18th and 24th Streets have significant cracking in the concrete which will be sealed with a protective coating. A new four-inch concrete deck will then be poured on top of the existing roadway.

FPPC

24: California's Fair Political Practice Committee says two political action committees have agreed to repay more than \$15 million they received in the days leading up to the 2012 election. The contributions came from two Arizona based non-profits that were found to be in violation of California law.

FEWJOBS

24: 2013 ended with a whimper on the California jobs front. The state gained slightly under 14-thousand jobs in December, wrapping up a year of disappointing economic growth. Capital Public Radio's Ben Adler has more.

ROSEWATER

27: Kriz points out that this will be the first time Roseville has turned on all four of its aquifer wells. He says using well water now will help stretch the supply of water in Folsom Reservoir this summer. The reservoir also supplies water to the City of Folsom and the San Juan Water District. Roseville city officials are asking residents to voluntarily cut back on their water usage by 20-percent, including shutting off their sprinklers.

PROJECTS

27: The Sacramento City Council is expected to decide tomorrow [Tuesday] if the City Department of Utilities should install 38-hundred water meters and replace some backyard water mains. The work would be done in the Valley High area of south Sacramento.

RODWRONG

28: A second California Democrat is in legal trouble, but it may not cause much upheaval in the party. A Los Angeles jury convicted State Senator Rod Wright today [Tuesday] on eight counts of voter fraud and perjury. He faces several years in prison. State Senator Ron Calderon (CALL-der-own) is currently under federal investigation for allegedly accepting bribes. Calderon denies the allegations.

STATEDT

28: The Sacramento Downtown Partnership says the state of downtown is improving as the Kings get closer to breaking ground on a new arena. The group's Executive Director Michael Ault says a combination of efforts by private groups and city government is paving the way for a new kind of downtown experience.

ALSTRS

29: Some lawmakers say it's time to get serious about paying down debt accrued by California's teachers' retirement system. But, as Capital Public Radio's Katie Orr reports, that will take a big financial commitment.

CALSTRS

29: Assembly Democrats say they're ready to look for ways to pay down the unfunded liability of the California State Teachers' Retirement System. The governor's office puts the debt at more than 80 billion dollars.

UOPBIZ

30: Growth is projected to be below three percent this year but accelerating to three and a half percent between 2015 and 2017. Center Director Dr. Jeff Michael says the drought could have a major impact on agricultural areas in the southern part of the valley.

WATERLEG

30: According to Senate Leader Darrell Steinberg's office, the 588 million dollar proposal would fund shovel-ready water projects, clear away some regulations and help water agencies use existing supplies more efficiently. More specifically, it would increase the use of clean recycled water, encourage conservation programs and expand the use of captured storm-water. Most of the money would come from unspent Proposition 84 state bond funds; the rest would come from another bond measure, Prop 1E; the state's general fund; and cap-and-trade revenues.

COVEREDSPACE

31: The agency that runs the state's new health insurance exchange, "Covered California," signed a big deal this week for office space in Sacramento. Jack Robinson, editor of The Sacramento Business Journal, says the agency will lease more than 120-thousand square feet of space across from Cal Expo.

BRANDATHON

31: They describe it in a way that may not be flattering - 'yeah Sacramento, it's that place between Tahoe and San Francisco.'" Christi Black-Davis is with Edelman, a public relations agency. She's one of the organizers of today's Brandathon, along with the Sacramento Metro Chamber.

February

DOLEDD

03: The California Employment Development Department can't answer all of the phone calls coming in and is struggling to process tens of thousands of claims. Capital Public Radio's Bob Moffitt reports the U.S. Department of Labor has been in Sacramento to lend a hand.

FATFOOD

03: An international study led by UC Davis Researchers finds that governments could reverse the growing epidemic of obesity with tighter regulation of fast food. Capital Public Radio's Marianne Russ explains.

INTERNET

04: The new data show in 2012, 68.5 percent of Californians accessed the Internet at home -- that's below the national average of 69.1 percent. And 73.5 percent of Californians got online away from home....also below the national rate, which was 74.7 percent.

SACTRAFFIC

04: When the plan is completed, its components will be prioritized into short, medium and long-term projects. If the Council approves, City staff will likely solicit ideas from the public this spring and then go before the City Council again in 14 months with the first short-term project.

DROUGHT

05: The 20 million dollar grant comes from a Department of Agriculture program to help farmers improve conservation and reduce environmental impacts. The money will fund water conservation, improved irrigation and other drought mitigation efforts. US Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack made the announcement yesterday. He says the money will be awarded to farmers based on need: "It will be prioritized because the need is great on croplands where reduced water allocations are at least 85 percent. And to that extent, those lands will receive the highest priority in terms of these resources."

MARKER

05: The Mile Marker report follows a recent independent study which, along with the accusations of opaqueness, criticized Caltrans for not doing enough to reduce congestion and promote green house gas reductions.

STORM

06: The National Weather Service says a couple of different storms will move through Northern California between now and Monday. The first is a colder storm that's bringing this morning's rain, as well as Sierra snow down to about 2500 feet. The second storm is expected to come in Saturday and be wetter and warmer, bringing up to two feet of snow to the mountains and heavy rainfall in the Valley.

HOUSEWA

06: The U-S House has given the O-K to a controversial bill that would divert water from the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta to farmers in the Central Valley. The measure, which was prompted by the drought, has led to intense partisan bickering, particularly among local members of Congress. Republican Tom McClintock supports the plan. He argued on the House floor yesterday that it was needed to cope with future droughts:

DAVISTRICITY

07: Back in 2006 there were ballot measures that would have let Davis join SMUD. That failed because voters outside Davis opposed the idea. People in Sacramento and elsewhere worried that it would raise their rates. It's worth noting I think that PG&E spent heavily in that election and SMUD couldn't do the same because it's a public agency. Some in Davis remain committed to the idea of seceding from PG&E though."

STOR

07: We still have a long ways to go. We're still quite a ways below normal - from where we should be obviously, but every little bit helps. It'll get us going in the right direction at least." Even more encouraging, Smith says there's more wet weather in next week's forecast.

TASWAT

10: The Max Pro M-RAP is as big as a semi truck and looks like a tank. It can survive a hit from a bomb, run on flat tires and if it catches fire, it can put that fire out. The gun turret on top towers over the curious people it attracts like Angela Phillips

RAINSNOW

10: Sacramento got almost as much rain as it normally gets during the entire month of February over the past few days --- but meteorologists say we're still a long way from coming out of the drought

FLOWERS

11: He says most California flower farms haven't been affected by the drought because they already implement water conservation techniques such as drip irrigation and "hydroponics" - a way of growing plants, not in dirt, but in recycled water.

LIBRARY

11: It was paid for out of a bond act for these beautiful buildings that are down here, part of the capitol group. And I think also probably some modernization needs to be done to fit the times with more wi-fi access and Internet access and things like that.

SIGNS

12: McGowen also says Cal-Trans is cutting back, by 50-percent, on the amount of water it uses to irrigate landscaping along the state's highways.

TULARE

12: The governor toured the World Ag Expo in drought-weary Tulare [too-LARRY] today [WEDNESDAY]. Brown said the needs of California's northern, central and southern regions often conflict – which makes it hard to find water policies that satisfy the entire state.

PREREG

13: Pre-registered voters would be automatically eligible to vote when they turn 18. Amanda Brown with Rock the Vote says pre-registration could be integrated into high school civics class discussions about the importance of voting.

KJSOTC

13: Johnson talked about new parks, new housing developments, and new resources for the arts. But he focused largely on the proposed downtown arena for the Sacramento Kings. The Mayor said despite controversy over the plan, the 258 million dollars the city will put toward the project is justified.

POTCOVER

14: A Sacramento-based insurance broker is offering a new kind of coverage...for the medical marijuana industry.

CAGOP

14: Madrid says the San Diego and San Bernardino races were two of the biggest prizes the party could capture this year. But he notes local races are generally non-partisan. He says Republicans still have a problem on the state level, where candidate names are listed along with party affiliation. That tends to hurt the GOP in a state where less than 30 percent of registered voters are Republicans.

CALGOP

17: California Republicans may not hold any state-wide offices, but they're picking up steam on the local level. Recent elections saw the GOP take the mayor's office in San Diego and capture the mayor's office and two city council seats in San Bernardino.

PRISONS

17: According to California Officials, there's plenty of money available to abide by a federal court order requiring the state to reduce its prison inmate population. Capital Public Radio's Max Pringle reports.

SMOKEBAN

18: State law bans smoking inside bars and restaurants, but dozens of cities around California have enacted tougher laws that ban or limit smoking for outdoor diners too - including Davis. Sacramento City Councilman Steve Hansen has asked the council's Law and Legislation committee to look into a ban as well given the public health concerns about second-hand smoke.

DRYHEALTH

18: Rudolph says the drought could also trigger other health problems such as an increase in diabetes in some poor, rural communities. She says when drinking water becomes scarce, people turn to other alternatives such as soda.

FARMAID

17: State and federal agriculture officials are holding workshops this month on drought resources for farmers, rangers and farm workers.

MEDI-CAL

17: Assembly member Nancy Skinner says her bill would reverse the 10 percent reduction made to physician payments in the 2011 budget.

FEBGAS

20: West coast refineries get started on this transition a little bit ahead of the rest of the country. So, you probably started to see fuel prices rising maybe a week to ten days ago. And, that's going to be consistent with everything we're seeing across the country.

REFOOD

20: The co-op is busy. Sales were up 38 percent last year to two and a half million dollars. General Manager Jolene Cook compares that growth rate with more than 100 co-ops around the country. Turns out, the Reno co-op's growth is nearly four times what the National Cooperative Grocer's Association considers "healthy."

COOKIE

21: There's definitely more to cookies than what's in the box. The Girl Scouts that sell them learn so many essential skills like goal-setting and decision-making and people skills.

DONOR

21: A crowd at the Sacramento's basketball arena watched two new teams run the court before the Kings home game last night. A team of doctors played a team of organ donors and recipients to encourage people to sign up as donors. Capital Public Radio Health Care Reporter Pauline Bartolone was at the pre-game scrimmage.

GLOVES

24: United States Bartenders Guild Executive Director Aaron Gregory Smith owns a restaurant and bar in San Francisco. He says the law requiring employees to wear gloves has far too many unintended consequences – to the environment and to small businesses' bottom lines.

CARTS

24: Darin Gale is the Economic Development Director for the city. He says business owners had been complaining about the carts for some time.

GUIDOG

25: Guide dog advocates say it's a growing problem: pet owners dressing their dogs up to look like a "service dog" in order to take them places they wouldn't otherwise be allowed, like stores and restaurants.

NASA

25: Scientists can now forecast the weather pattern as much as four weeks in advance. The Department of Water Resources says the information will help the state better prepare and respond during droughts.

PRECIATE

26: The RealtyTrac data also show the percentage of short-sales is going down in California. That's when a property owner sells a home for less than it's worth. Short sales in California were at five-and-a-half percent in January, down from nearly 11-percent a year ago.

STORMY

26: Clapp says thunderstorms are possible, especially tomorrow, along with high winds and blowing snow in the Sierra.

FUDBANK

27: In western Fresno County, the Fresno Community Food Bank serves about 58-hundred people a month. CEO Andy Souza says because so many farmers in the area are fallowing land, he expects the need to increase dramatically.

BIGDRY

27: Water levels around the state may be low, but at least some money is flowing from California's capital. The state Senate and Assembly today [Thursday] both approved emergency drought relief legislation. The 687 million dollar package will immediately provide emergency drinking water and food assistance for parts of California. It will also accelerate grants for water projects around the state.

H2OPARK

28: We have an application in to the federal economic development administration to begin the work on that. That's a long-term project, but it's essential to the long-term health of the bridge district. The new park wraps around the water tank and is named after former baseball player and Yolo County Justice of the Peace Jerome D. Barry.

SALMON

28: McManus says the impact of this year's drought will be felt next year and the year after, as younger salmon return to drought-depleted Central Valley waterways.

March

ABSENCE

03: His fellow Democrats had threatened suspension if Calderon did not resign or take a leave of absence by today. In a statement, Calderon said he would seek a voluntary leave of absence, but said it was not a resignation, noting that he would still have his day in court. Calderon was indicted on 24 counts last week by a federal grand jury. He has pleaded not guilty. During the leave of absence, Calderon will continue to be paid his annual salary of \$95-thousand dollars.

ALLERG

03: Pinkerton says drought might prevent some blooming, but on the other hand, flora respond to just a little bit of rain. He says allergy sufferers should be aware of other environmental triggers from drought – such as more dust in the air and particulate from wildfires.

BENCH

04: Judge David Rubin is with the Judicial Council, the agency that governs California's court system and released the survey. Rubin is also a San Diego Superior Court Judge. He says diversity on the bench can take a while.

CASHGRASS

04: The City Council unanimously approved the "cash for grass" pilot program last night. Here's how it would work: You'd apply through the city's 3-1-1- program, then if approved, have the work done, then submit your receipts for the new landscaping and irrigation systems to the city. It's unclear exactly how much the rebate would be, but the city's department of utilities has already set aside 100-thousand dollars for the program.

MARRY

05: Stockton Mayor Anthony Silva announced at last night's city council meeting he was newly ordained on Monday. So now Mayor Silva will assume another duty at city hall. He'll be performing marriages. Silva says his calendar is already filling up.

SACONSERV

05: Many people in the Sacramento region responded to calls to conserve water, using less last month than in the previous two Februarys. Many cities have not met conservation goals. Sacramentans failed to meet the City of Sacramento's 20-percent water-conservation target for the month of February

SACONSERV

06: The City considers 12-percent in February to be a great number. It's important to remember that February even in a non-drought year is a low water-use month. A lot of our customers turn off irrigation or use it less simply because it's cooler and wetter.

UNFUND

06: It's called the unfunded liability. From 2012 to 2013 it grew by 730 million dollars. That's actually less than expected because there have been fewer health care claims and health care inflation was lower than expected. But State Controller John Chiang says the state should stop covering only the minimum amount needed to fund health care costs as they are due. Instead, some money should be set aside in a trust solely for future retiree benefits, just like a savings account.

UCOFFEE

07: German says a dedicated coffee research center would involve teaching the science behind the beverage to students. He says U-C Davis could eventually offer a major in coffee science.

SACJOBS

07: While employment in the Sacramento region fell month-over-month by more than 11-thousand jobs, it actually grew year-over-year. Between January 2013 and January 2014, employment in the region increased by nearly 15-thousand jobs, or close to two-percent.

DEDLIN

10: Gregg Stokes of Reno had been paying more than \$1800 dollars a month for health coverage for his wife and two kids – more than his mortgage payments. So Stokes was looking for a better deal this open enrollment period.

IBRIDGE

10: The City of Sacramento hopes to build a new bridge across the American River and rip out access to the I Street Bridge.

ECIG

11: The U-S Food and Drug Administration has yet to come out with regulations for electronic cigarettes. And Davis may soon join a growing group of cities writing their own regulations. Capital Public Radio's Steve Milne explains.

GRNWTR

11: Jay Famigletti with U-C Irvine says his research gives a compelling reason for better monitoring and managing of groundwater basins.

REFUND

12: The Reno City Council is considering a \$577,000 grant to a Massachusetts company to move to Reno. Its part of a 10 million dollar state incentive program. The Nevada Policy Research institute had already filed suit to stop similar agreements in which cities use state funds as incentives to companies. The suit says Nevada's constitution doesn't allow taxpayer money to be used that way. Reno Deputy City Attorney Johnathan Shipman says the city's proposed contract has been changed so Reno will have no obligation if the subsidy is ruled unconstitutional.

EDDAUDIT

12: Democratic Assemblymember Henry Perea [peh RAY uh] says last year, at least 125-thousand people were improperly denied unemployment insurance payments.

ENROLLED

13: Of the people who have signed up for a Covered California plan, the vast majority will get financial help from the federal government. And most have paid their first month's premium.

BODCAM

13: The small cameras attach to the front of an officer's shirt and can video record any encounters, confrontations, or arrests.

BIGFISH

14: The Pacific Fisheries Management Council says 630-thousand mature Fall Run Chinook Salmon are in the Pacific Ocean, which is more than enough for a full commercial fishing season.

MASSAGE

14: Human trafficking and prostitution have been on the rise at massage parlors throughout California, according to law enforcement agencies and state lawmakers.

SPEAKER

17: The San Diego Democrat was first elected to the Assembly in 2010 after several years on the San Diego City Council. She says her plate will be full as Speaker in helping to lead the state through some big challenges.

TRUCKEAT

17: Brad Wasson is with the City's Finance Department. He says under current law vendors can stay at one location for just half-an-hour non-industrial parts of the city.

PRIVATE

18: Democratic State Senator Bill Monning says his bill would allow car owners to see their car's data and would give them final say over who else gets to see it.

FCEXPO

18: Crews are clearing the area near the Bill Graham Presents Amphitheater for a new soccer field and grandstands.

PARKLET

19: They're called "parklets" - and one may be coming to a Sacramento parking space near you. Last night, the full City council voted to move forward with a pilot project to convert some parking spaces into the small public gathering places.

ASPARAGUS

19: Asparagus prices at U.S supermarkets have seldom been lower, even dropping to 99 cents a pound. Capital Public Radio's Rich Ibarra reports that is making harder for Delta farmers to compete.

TABUDGET

20: South Lake Tahoe's City Manager says her number one priority is reducing the millions of dollars the city is spending on retiree healthcare and pensions. Capital Public Radio's Ky Plaskon reports.

INSPECTS

20: Assemblyman Ian Calderon says recent reports of abuse and neglect at community care facilities show that inspections every five years are not enough.

DOMAIN

21: Sacramento can take possession of a former Macy's department store, the last parcel of land needed for the development of a new downtown sports arena.

UNEMPLOY

21: However, California is still above the national unemployment rate of 6.7 percent. The Employment Development Department reports the state has lost nearly two-thousand manufacturing jobs since 2013.

JANET

24: Napolitano said that for the first time in years, the UC is in a position to make education more affordable and, despite rumors, tuition is not going up.

GOVCASH

24: The third major candidate, Republican Assemblyman Tim Donnelly, had not yet filed his finance report at press time. However, previous filings show he received about \$375 thousand in campaign contributions in 2013.

MUDRESCUE

25: California's office of Emergency Services is sending 18 urban search and rescue specialists from around the state to assist in the search and recovery.

H20BUST

25: After seeing a spike in water production numbers last Thursday and Friday and an increase in complaints from people about water wasters, the city deployed enforcement officers earlier in the morning and later in the afternoon.

SURVEY

26: A state-wide survey of Californians' views about the drought shows a majority would support an \$11 billion water bond now on the November ballot. Support is higher for water bonds at lower amounts.

GRACE

26: Covered California says people who start a health insurance application through the exchange by March 31st, will have until April 15th to finish the paperwork.

FLAMELEG

27: Supporters say that flame retardants are associated with a variety of health problems including cancer, hormone disruption and decreased fertility. The bill is co-sponsored by the California Professional Firefighters.

NUFIFTY

27: Cal Trans now says the I-5 and Business 80 connectors will remain open during construction. Both sides of the freeway will also stay open during the project but there will be some lane closures on the side under construction.

SUSPEND

28: Steinberg has also introduced a Constitutional Amendment that would allow members of the legislature to be suspended without pay. Currently there is no provision to withhold the pay of suspended members.

RESPEECH

28: Reno only has 4 street artists licensed currently. City Business License Manager Michael Chaump expects more now. He says city leaders didn't oppose the elimination of fees, but they did face a learning curve.

PROCRAST

31: Garcia and other Californians who started their insurance applications by the midnight deadline will have until April 15th to complete them.

PUCREDIT

31: Edward Randolph with the California Public Utilities Commission says the amount of the discount depends on the progress each utility made toward using more green energy.