

Quarterly Community Issues

2019: October - December

KQNC 6:04 am– 6:06 pm Weekdays

October

01: PFTRUMPSUITS

California has filed more than 60 lawsuits against the Trump administration on a variety of issues ... including the border wall and the U.S. census.

01: RALLY

Hundreds of high school seniors rallied in Stockton this morning [Tuesday] to promote filing financial aid applications for college.

02: FOODWASTE

An estimated 30-million tons of food is wasted every year in the United States, according to researchers at U-C Davis.

02: TAXRETURNBLOCK

A Sacramento federal judge has temporarily blocked a California law aimed at forcing President Donald Trump to release his personal income tax returns in order to appear on the 2020 state primary ballot.

03: HARRISRENO

Senator Kamala Harris was in Reno today for a couple of campaign stops as she runs for president.

03: CAPOTUS

Two trends are emerging in California's Democratic presidential primary, with voting set to begin in just four months: Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren is surging, and home-state Senator Kamala [KAH-mah-lah] Harris is dropping back.

04: HOMELESSPOLL

Californians have named homelessness as the most important issue in the state, along with jobs and the economy.

04: CADREAMSTOCKTON

Since February, 125 people from low-income neighborhoods in Stockton have been getting a monthly cash boost, with no strings attached. The 18-month experiment is aimed at finding solutions to the income inequalities that plague the city and our state.

07: AFFORDABLE

An effort to increase the construction of affordable housing projects, the city of Sacramento will do away with a state environmental requirement for such developments.

07: SCHOOLBOND

Governor Gavin Newsom has signed a bill that places a 15 billion dollar school facilities bond on California's March 2020 ballot. As CapRadio's Ben Adler reports, it's a fresh example of Newsom setting himself apart from his predecessor.

08: ICESAC

Sacramento County Sheriff Scott Jones told the board of supervisors his department has complied with new rules regarding federal immigration holds.

08: RENTCAPLAW

California is joining Oregon as the only states with rent caps. CapRadio's Ben Adler reports on the new law signed today [TUESDAY] by Governor Gavin Newsom that takes effect next year.

09: PGEWEBDOWN

Across the state of California, people have been checking the PG&E website to see if their homes are in the blackout area. But the utility's map has often been unavailable.

09: STDS

Sexually transmitted disease cases in California are at their highest levels in nearly 30 years according to state health officials.

10: PGECENTER

With the PG & E power shutoff expected to continue through the weekend, some people are relying on resource centers that the utility company opened throughout the state.

10: MMTWOWAY

The Meadowview neighborhood in South Sacramento was launched into the national spotlight after Clark was shot by police in his grandmother's back yard...That story marked the neighborhood, and may have created a false narrative about what goes on there... High crime rates, a lot of clashes with police...

11: PGEAUBURN

Before Pacific Gas and Electric begins turning the power back on, crews must inspect each foot of power line that was de-energized.

11: SOLAROUTAGE

More than a million homes in California have rooftop solar panels soaking up the sun. But during last week's intentional power outages, very few helped keep the lights on.

14: COVEREDCAL

Governor Gavin Newsom signed several bills this weekend that seek to move California closer to universal health care. That's the idea that everyone gets access to insurance coverage.

14: CADAMADOR

Our California Dream collaboration is reporting this fall on SOLUTIONS to some of the challenges facing the state. In Amador county, a unique scholarship fund is now providing an educational stepping stone for residents who want to work in mental health. Sammy Caiola (KAY-oh-la) of CapRadio reports.

15: DIALYSIS

An ongoing conflict between dialysis companies and some patient advocates came to a head over the weekend. California Governor Gavin Newsom signed a bill intended to limit dialysis industry profits.

15: GAVINBILLS

Gavin Newsom may have found his sweet spot after clearing his desk of the more than a thousand bills California lawmakers sent the first-year governor: more liberal than his predecessor, Jerry Brown ... but not as far left as some progressives might have hoped.

16: PFCAHARRIS

California Senator Kamala Harris leveled new and blistering attacks on President Trump during last night's [Tuesday] Democratic presidential debate in Ohio.

16: DIOCESE

A new lawsuit filed in Sacramento says the Catholic Church helped a priest obtain a new position with a parish in Mexico after he had been accused of sexual abuse in Northern California.

17: CALCHANNE

For the first time in 25 years, California cable subscribers can't watch the state Legislature on T-V. The industry shut down the California Channel yesterday.

17: RENOSHAKE

Nearly 11-million Californians participated in the Great ShakeOut safety drill today [Thursday]. Residents of Nevada also ducked, cover, and held on, including officials from the University of Nevada, Reno.

18: BLACKOUTAFTERMATH

The California Public Utility Commission has called an emergency hearing today to question company leaders about the recent power outage that left more than 700-thousand homes and businesses in California without electricity for days.

18: FEWHOMES

First-time home buyers in the Sacramento area are finding it tougher to purchase an affordable property.

21: MLSANNOUNCE

Major League Soccer today is expected to announce Sacramento as an expansion franchise.

21: HOMELESSMEASURE

People who are homeless in California and commit lower-level offenses could be sentenced to treatment instead of jail time under a new ballot measure proposal.

22: ORIENTAL

There's a threat to agriculture in San Joaquin County. Cap Radio's Rich Ibarra reports 2 Oriental fruit flies were discovered in traps in the Tracy area and if more show up it could trigger a quarantine of farm produce.

22: PRIMARYNPP

Californians registered as "no party preference" won't be able to vote for a presidential candidate in next year's March primary unless they specifically request a party's ballot.

23: WHITEOUT

The California State University system is searching for its next chancellor. Timothy White announced yesterday he'll retire next June after more than 7 years running the 23-campus system.

23: CALISOUPGRADE

The California Independent System Operator ... or Cal ISO ... maintains the power grid for 80 percent of the state... and some of Nevada too ... evaluating the energy supply and demand for at least 30 million people ... every second of the day. Those managers plan for heat waves ... but have been using technology purchased 20 years ago ... that was discontinued. This month a new energy management system was installed ... which Cal ISO says is the most advanced in the world.

24: PGEMED

Hundreds of thousands of P-G-and-E customers are without power for the second time in 2 weeks as dangerously windy weather prompts safety shutdowns by the utility company.

24: CAPANDSUE

The Trump administration is opening a new front in its battle over climate change policy with California. The Justice Department announced yesterday that it's challenging part of the state's "cap and trade" program.

25: COLLEGETRANS

Whether California's college students and employees can get transgender health services varies from campus to campus.

25: LLAMALAND

California is cracking down on these attractions— Governor Gavin Newsom just signed a bill banning wild animals in circuses. As social norms change, AirBnB is offering new ways to meet, and protect, the state's beloved creatures.

28: PGEMISTAKES

The utility didn't say where those customers lived or if any with medical problems had some complication because they weren't notified.

28: PGEMISTAKES

Pacific Gas & Electric says it failed to notify 23-thousand customers earlier this month, including 500 with medical conditions, that their power was being shutoff.

29: SANCTUARY

Under California's sanctuary state law signed in 2016, law enforcement agencies can't transfer undocumented detainees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or "ICE." But a new analysis found many departments are doing it anyway.

29: OUTAGEMED

California's power outages and fire evacuations can be a big problem for sick people who need electricity to store medicine or run equipment.

30: NTSBSAC

The preliminary report on the collision between two Sacramento Regional Transit trains says the operators of both trains had been given permission to be on the same track.

30: NOAMGEN

The Amgen Tour of California bicycle race has drawn hundreds of thousands of spectators to different cities in the state over its 14 year history, but the race will not take place next year.

31: CIRCUSACT

A Sacramento theatre company is under fire for teaming up with a Catholic health system that's being sued for transgender discrimination.

31: DYNAHEALTH

The California ballot measure filed this week by Uber and other gig companies promises new health care subsidies for app-based drivers in exchange for keeping them classified as independent contractors.

November

01: CIRCUSACT

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01: NEWMETERS

There could be more lights and delays in your daily commute around the city of Sacramento.

04: BRIDGEOPTIONS

The cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento have narrowed the design choices for the new I Street Bridge from four down to two.

04: PFTRUMPFIRE

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06: CRANE

A familiar visitor has returned to this area to spend the winter. Thousands of greater sandhill cranes are roosting in the Delta coming from as far away as Siberia.

06: SACEVICT

Landlords can still evict tenants without giving a reason in Sacramento County.

07: USATTYGUN

The Department of Justice says gun-related indictments in California's Eastern District have increased dramatically in the past two years while gun-related homicides and assaults have decreased by almost the same amount.

07: ROLANDAMESUPERSPOT

How do you prevent deep-rooted social problems from moving on to the next generation? That's the question CapRadio explores in the latest episode of the documentary podcast, Making Meadowview.

08: POTSUSPENSIONS

California suspended the licenses of nearly 400 legal marijuana businesses in the state. It's a move that could at least temporarily reduce the amount of cannabis on the market.

08: HOMELESSSTUDENTS

Schools in California are underestimating the number of homeless students. CapRadio's [Capital Public Radio's] Randol White explains has more on a new report by the state auditor's office.

12: HOMEKITCHEN

Home cooks in California have been selling food under the radar for years. It's a vital source of income for some, even though they risk fines and criminal penalties.

12: BEBELG

Brazilian music stars Sergio Mendes and Bebel Gilberto [beh-BELLjill – BAIR - toe] will celebrate the 60th anniversary of Bossa Nova tomorrow night [WED] at the Mondavi Center in Davis.

13: TURKEYS

Thousands of people are depending upon local food banks to set the table for Thanksgiving. In Stockton, one such place is coming up short with the holiday just around the corner.

13: VOTEOUTAGE

Recent power shutoffs left millions of Californians without electricity for days. With state elections next year, counties aren't wasting any time preparing their voting infrastructure in case of an outage.

14: SPLITTITLE

Backers of a California ballot measure to roll back Proposition 13 tax protections for commercial and industrial properties have started gathering voter signatures.

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15: TECHHOUSING

Apple, Google and Facebook recently pledged a combined four and a half billion dollars to ease California's affordable housing shortage.

15: GQSECONDHANDPOT

Californians may be more likely to get a whiff of marijuana while walking down the street, now that the drug is fully legal in the state. One of our listeners wanted to know whether anyone's raising the alarm about secondhand pot smoke.

18: CADEMSWAY

When California moved its primary election up from June to March, backers hoped the nation's biggest state would have more sway in nominating presidential candidates. But so far, the jury's still out.

18: CIT-CADEMVOTERS

We're trying something new for our 2020 election coverage. Instead of asking candidates about ideas and topics, we want YOU to tell us what issues matter.

19: UTILITIES

Leaders of California's three largest utilities were before senators at the state capitol. Senators grilled them about the thinking that goes into cutting the power to tens of thousands of people and about methods of fire prevention.

19: CAROLINE

PG&E says it has installed 600 weather stations in recent weeks and says it will install 1200. It is looking to San Diego Gas and Electric for best practices when it comes to targeted outages and fire prevention.

20: SHUTOFFAGAIN

PG&E is planning to shut off power tomorrow (WEDNESDAY) to large swaths of Northern California. As winter nears, colder temperatures pose additional challenges for customers in the Sierra Foothills.

20: NOFRACK-V

California Governor Gavin Newsom's administration has announced the state will issue no new fracking permits for oil companies.

21: NATTRAIN

The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission says it wants to spend 900 million dollars to connect Merced and Sacramento with a new commuter line.

21: RENTALS

The Stockton City Council voted for an ordinance to protect renters from eviction and rent increases effective immediately.

22: MM2WAY

They encourage it. 311 actually fields up to 250,000 calls a year and they're staffed by operators 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Most of those calls relate to garbage pick up - as in, the city missed their can or they need a new one. But about 22,000 of those end up routed to the city's code enforcement department. Low-level. They say people like Marg save them money!!! 300,000

22: TAXRETURNS

The California Supreme Court says a new state law cannot force President Trump to submit his tax returns. And even though four of the seven justices are Democratic appointees, the vote siding with the state Republican Party's lawsuit was unanimous.

25: CULTIVATIONFINES

The city of Sacramento has struggled with illegal cannabis cultivation for years. So in 2017, it launched an aggressive enforcement campaign. It's main tool? Hefty fines against homeowners.

25: YUBAGAS

Meanwhile, if you're taking a road trip this Thanksgiving, you might want to gas up before heading north.

26: OUTAGEMED

During this fall's planned PG and E power outages, many sick and disabled Californians were scrambling to find ways to keep medications refrigerated and medical devices turned on.

26: MCSETTLE

McDonalds has settled a lawsuit for 26 million dollars with employees at its corporate-owned restaurants in California. Michael Rubin is one of the attorneys for the plaintiffs and says McDonalds shorted employees on overtime pay for work that took place over the course of two days.

27: TURKEYTIME

It's turkey time. Forty-six million turkeys are consumed in America during Thanksgiving.

27: CAPRICE

California's extreme housing costs are driven by many factors: Strong demand ... a lack of supply ... and strict zoning rules, to name a few.

29: YOUTHCLIMATE

Sacramento area youth gathered today [Friday 11/29] at the state capital with a list of demands around climate change.

29: WILDFIRENOEND

A major storm system will sweep across much of California in the coming days.

December

01: NEWPOTAUDIT

The discovery that two men had cornered a large part of the legal cannabis market in Sacramento has the city looking to make changes.

01: GQHOMELESSHANDOUTS

As California's homelessness crisis worsens, it's become common to see people on sidewalks and street corners, asking for food or cash.

03: SHUTDOWNNDA

Ahead of PG&E's first major shutoff in October, the company refused to give counties information on medically vulnerable customers ... despite directions from the state utility commission to release the data.

03: CERESHOOT

Smith says PG&E has since provided the information to all counties that have requested it...but several say they continued to experience difficulties accessing the database during subsequent shutoffs.

04: LEGHARASS

The California Legislature launched a new office earlier this year to investigate sexual harassment complaints. But the Senate and Assembly are declining to release data on allegations from the new "Workplace Conduct Unit" — even though they've made similar disclosures in the past.

04: PANICITY

The city of Sacramento is a step closer to requiring panic buttons for all hotel workers. Cap Radio's Bob Moffitt reports the law would provide greater protection than a similar law in Sacramento County'.

05: BENEFITCUTS

The Trump Administration will tighten work requirements for people on food stamps.

05: WESTTAHOE

Forest experts want to make the West Shore of Lake Tahoe more resistant to wildfires while improving the ecosystem.

06: NOSUELUKE

A lawsuit accusing Sacramento Kings head coach Luke Walton of sexual assault has been dropped, according to multiple media reports.

06: OESPREP

California is not adequately prepared to protect vulnerable residents from natural disasters, according to a new state Auditor's report.

09: TRAUMASCREEN

California health officials say identifying childhood trauma could be key to preventing chronic disease later on.

09: CANNABISFINES

Cities and counties across California are increasingly using steep fines against property owners to stop illegal cannabis cultivation.

10: CALFIREVEG

Cal Fire is making substantial progress on fire prevention projects identified at the start of this year.

10: SACHEMP

The city of Sacramento would like to extend a ban on hemp cultivation and manufacturing from 45 days to a full year.

11: NO LOCAL NEWSCASTS DUE TO IMPEACHMENT COVERAGE

12: SALMON

The salmon run on the Mokelumne River in San Joaquin County is almost at an end.

12: CLEANTRUCK

California is exploring whether to require big rig manufactures to make more zero emission trucks.

13: NOPARTY

Dozens of Sacramento voters say their registration cards are incorrect. The registrar says two-thirds of them registered at the DMV.

13: WICKHAMS

Sacramento's Capital Stage is presenting another holiday season play recalling British writer Jane Austen, whose books still enjoy quite a following.

16: TOXICLIONS

Mountain lions in California are often at risk because of cars or chemicals like rat poisoning.

16: NEWDEV

Building new housing hasn't been easy. But a pilot project to incentivize new construction in Reno is exceeding expectations.

17: DAVISRESPITE

Some people who live in Davis are worried that city council members tonight [Tuesday] will approve money for a homeless shelter in their neighborhood.

17: CRABSEASON

The commercial dungeoness crab season south of Mendocino County has opened after a month long delay...and some of the crab is already making it to market.

18: SIERRAVISTA

You're in luck if you were hoping to have fresh Dungeoness crab caught off the Bay Area coast on your holiday menu.

18: MEDICALBENEFITS

California started slashing Medi-Cal benefits such as eyeglasses, speech therapy and incontinence treatments as a cost-saver during the recession.

19: PFBIDENFIRE

A new campaign ad for Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden asserts that California firefighters 'spoke out' against President Trump during last year's deadly wildfires.

19: OFFICIALS

Then it shows the controversial tweet President Trump sent out during the fires – he blamed them on California's lack of forest management ... and threatened to withhold federal funding.

20: AGSUTTERSUIT

The health system announced a settlement with the state, including a promise to end some alleged anti-competitive practices.

20: CINNABON

Both owners say the friendly competition is really tight this year ... and they won't know which location is number one until the December books come in.

23: WEEDPASS

Recreation marijuana has been legal in Nevada since 2017. Now, Nevada's state legislature is giving people who use marijuana some job protection.

23: BBSCAMS

If you're doing some last-minute shopping, there are all kinds of ways to get scammed, including one involving puppy fraud.

26: NASASEA

California based NASA scientists and researchers from around the world are launching a mission that will measure sea level rise from space.

26: NLCOSMETIC

Selling cosmetics like shampoo or deodorant that were tested on animals will be illegal in the new year in California.

27: TRAFFICKING

Stockton has become a recognized hub for human trafficking in recent years.

Cap Radio's Rich Ibarra tells us more than half a million dollars will go towards helping those survivors to find a safe haven.

27: NL DOGBITE

Before a dog rescue group or shelter can adopt out a dog, they must let people know if the animal has ever bitten anyone or been in a dog fight.

30: SALMONCLIMATE

Over the next century scientists say about three fourths of California's salmon and trout could disappear.

30: NEVADA

The law prohibits people under eighteen from getting married, with one exception: a seventeen-year-old can still be married if they and their spouse are both Nevada residents.

31: NL_UNDER12

California has no minimum age for sending children to juvenile hall. But that's about to change. Cap Radio's Steve Milne reports ... as part of our series on new California laws taking effect in 2020.

31: MARRIAGEAGE

Nevada has dozens of new laws that will take effect in the new year, just like California. But some measures passed in the recently completed session are already in place and being tracked by their authors.