By Shareen Awad

2020 became a year of uncertainty, with the coronavirus pandemic drastically changing our way of life. KVCR began asking listeners, how has your lifestyle changed during the stay-at-home order? Listeners were able to submit their story to kvcrnews.org/lifestyles for a chance to be featured on one of our radio programs, Inland Edition, or Lifestyles with Lillian Vasquez.

KVCR listener Donna Elliot also submitted her story to the KVCR news website. Donna is the president of the Art Alliance of Idyllwild. Typically, the Art Alliance showcases local artists in a gallery, and they hold several fundraisers throughout the year, including their popular Art Walk and Wine Tasting event every October. The events attract people from out of town, which helps support local artists and businesses in Idyllwild. COVID-19 has forced the closure of galleries, and cancellation of art instruction and events, but Donna shares that their small community continues to rally together to support one another. One example of their efforts is the “I made this for you” initiative. Local artists donate small art items and put together gift packages for local sequestered seniors, families, first responders, and essential workers. Some of those items include handmade cards, ceramic magnets, sun catchers, homemade soap, walking sticks, and more. Community members stand outside their post office and hand out the gifts.

The Art Alliance of Idyllwild also purchased over $1,000 of art materials and kits and distributed them to local families with children. They hope to inspire creativity in children and keep up the art lessons they are unable to do in person.

Donna Elliot said that as an outdoor enthusiast, personally, she’s missing the adventure of scaling mountains and carrying on the tradition she and her husband share of visiting the Grand Canyon every spring. Fortunately, there are plenty of local hiking spots to enjoy.

Donna shared her story on the public affairs program Inland Edition, June 2. It was a great experience to connect with 91.9 KVCR listeners and hear how COVID-19 has affected their lives, but also how they’ve adapted to the changes and made the best out of the situation through both creativity and generosity.

Debbie Schnur did just that, reaching out with her story of change. KVCR host Lillian Vasquez interviewed Debbie for a segment on Lifestyles. As a FoodCorps service member, Debbie Schnur taught nutrition and gardening to students at Phelan Elementary School. Once in-class sessions were suspended, Debbie wanted to continue educating her students, so she started a remote garden and began recording video lessons for her YouTube channel, Ms. Debbie the Garden Lady. She said that at first, she had to have her daughter help her with the technical part, but now she records and edits her own videos. Her content includes instructing students how to tend the Root 66 Community Garden in Rancho Cucamonga, cooking lessons, and storytime.

Even from afar, Ms. Debbie has been able to educate children about growing their own food and eating healthy. One of her video lessons, entitled “All in for Applesauce”, demonstrates a simple way to make homemade applesauce with no added sugar. Her “Bean Buddies” video lesson teaches how to grow green beans in a bag. Her videos begin with proper hygiene techniques- a twenty second handwashing session, timed by singing a nursery rhyme. The videos are fun, engaging, and have kept Debbie connected with her students.

Debbie’s segment aired on Lifestyles with Lillian Vasquez June 25 and June 27.
Application Window Opens For Riverside County Rental Assistance Program - This was a public service story designed to make listeners aware of a rental assistance program in Riverside County for individuals and families behind on their rent due to COVID-19. The money comes from the CARES Act funding awarded by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors to support 10,000 households affected by COVID-19 and behind on their rent. Residents can apply at UnitedLift.org or by calling 2-1-1. The application portal was available in English and Spanish until July 25.

How COVID-19 Could Accelerate the Loss of Jobs to Automation in the Inland Empire - An interview with University of Redlands economist, Johannes MoeNiuss, an expert on automation. MoeNiuss describes how COVID-19 could accelerate the loss of jobs to automation in the Inland Empire, and how to prepare the region’s workforce to meet that change.

Redlands Water Main Leak - Thousands of Redlands residents are being urged to conserve water due to a huge leak in the distribution system.

Mission to Mars - The U.S., China, and the United Arab Emirates are sending spacecraft to Mars in July, to seek signs of ancient microscopic life.

Virtual Palm Springs International ShortFest – the largest film festival in the United States was held virtually for the first time in its 25-year history due to the coronavirus.

Niland Wildfire - A brush fire destroyed 37 homes in Niland, a desert town near the Salton Sea. The fire broke out as coronavirus cases surge drastically in the county.

Teachers Urge Delay on Reopening – The California Federation of Teachers press Governor Gavin Newsom to delay physical school reopening until COVID-19 infections drop and safeguards are in place.

Sammy Hagar House for Sale - Veteran rocker Sammy Hagar’s Lake Arrowhead chateau is back on the market for 3.9 million dollars. In 2017, the lakefront French chateau was on the market for $5.9 million.

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A Salute To Graduates

KVCR television production has been hard at work creating a series of 26, underwriter funded, one-minute interstitials saluting High School graduates of the class of 2020. Each one-minute spot highlights 5 local 2020 high school graduates, featuring a photo, their name, their high school and a short congratulatory message. To participate in this program, friends and family of the graduate submitted their information at our website at kvcr.org/graduation.

Members of the KVCR team, then proofed the text and photos before they were inserted into the interstitials. We had several submissions in Spanish as well. The “A Salute To Graduates” interstitials are premiering daily from July 20th through August 14th. Each day one interstitial will air for one full day between the hours of 10am to 10pm. All one-minute spots will be featured on our social media platforms during the same period.

This was a station wide collaboration with KVCR TV and KVCR Radio. We created a TV and Radio announcement inviting the public to submit their graduate and allow KVCR to acknowledge them. We received 130 submissions and we were able to include every student submitted.

This project was funded by the Frieda Berlinski Foundation, whose mission is to provide funding for programs designed to reach marginalized or underserved communities and to aid in the telling of stories related to those communities.

American Experience: Clinton - From draft dodging to the Dayton Accords, from Monica Lewinsky to a balanced budget, the presidency of William Jefferson Clinton veered between sordid scandal and grand achievement. This film explores the story of an American president who rose from a broken childhood in Arkansas to become one of the most successful politicians in modern American history.

August 13 and 20 at 8:00pm

One Woman, One Vote - The story of the women’s suffrage movement. This day marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution.

August 18 at 8:00pm

Samurai Wall - In the 17th century, when stone walls were a prominent feature of castles across Japan, the town of Sakamoto in Japan’s Shiga Prefecture became famous for its stonemasons’ expert technique. This program follows a 15th-generation Japanese master stonemason, Suminori Awata, as he revives his family’s ancient techniques to complete a modern-day commission: a castle-style wall in a new, modern office tower in downtown Dallas, Texas.

August 27 at 10:00pm

Red, White and Rock - Join Frankie Valli, The Righteous Brothers, Connie Francis and more for a 2002 patriotic celebration of America and pop oldies music, from the rock, pop and doo-wop days.

August 30 at 8:30pm

Iconic Women of Country - Join Kathy Mattea, Trisha Yearwood, Wynonna Judd and more as they pay tribute to the legends who inspired them. From Dolly to Tammy to Patsy to Loretta, this is an intimate look at iconic female artists and their timeless music.

August 29 at 4:00pm

Linda Ronstadt: Live in Hollywood - Celebrate the superstar in an electrifying 1980 concert filmed at the height of her career. Ronstadt held the audience spellbound with powerful renditions of her biggest hits, including “Blue Bayou,” “It’s So Easy” and “You’re No Good.”

August 29 at 7:30pm
COMMUNITY MATTERS

Radio Programming Changes Goodbye, Only A Game

The coronavirus pandemic continues to dominate news coverage both nationally and locally. 91.9 KVCR continues to provide listeners with frequent live news conferences called by Governor Gavin Newsom to update Californians on the fight against the pandemic.

With radio program adjustments and negotiations complete, we will decrease program costs on the FM side of KVCR for FY2021. In other programming news, WBUR in Boston is making some major changes in national program offerings. WBUR currently provides our station with 14 hours of weekday programming:

• On Point, which airs from 9 to 11am Monday through Friday, reduces the length of the program from two hours to one at the end of September.

• Here and Now remains in our weekday schedule from 11am to 1pm Monday through Thursday and 11am to 12 noon on Friday.

• Only A Game will no longer be produced after September. The one-hour national sports program airs at 12 noon and 9 pm every Saturday.

The On Point announcement came at the perfect time for KVCR as we were in the planning stages to become part of a statewide call-in show. This program began as an experiment prompted by our statewide collaborative hub project and a desire from newsrooms across the state for more state programming about the coronavirus crisis. In this daily hour long program, KQED’s Forum will focus on the state’s response and how residents are coming together, including interviews with state and national experts, and fielding phone calls from across the state.

On August 3 at 10:00am, KVCR joined this program and project. We hope for local engagement and KVCR listener participation as the show catches on with our audience.

We had the opportunity to interview the host of Forum Mina Kim. The interview segments were featured on Morning Edition and All Things Considered, leading up to the first broadcast of the show on KVCR. Her entire interview was featured on Lifestyles with Lillian Vasquez on August 6.

***COVID-19 ALERT***

Public Health Officer Dr. Cameron Kaiser has ordered all bars in Riverside County and seven other counties closed to help slow the spread of coronavirus, which has seen a recent upswing in confirmed cases. The order is effective June 30.

“People don’t social distance well after a couple drinks, and it’s one of the hardest environments to trace contacts in,” said Dr. Cameron Kaiser.

Restaurants, pubs and breweries that offer dine-in services may still offer alcoholic drinks, but only in the same transaction as a meal. If a bar offers meals, they are required to comply with the same industry guidance as restaurants.

***BREAKING NEWS***

As of today, Gov. Gavin Newsom has announced statewide closures AND modifications. Effective July 13, 2020, ALL counties must close indoor operations in these sectors:

dine-in restaurants, wineries and tasting rooms, movie theaters, family entertainment centers, zoos and museums, cardrooms, bars.
PROGRAMS IN AUGUST

Greasy Loot – Palm oil is an ingredient central to make-up, margarine and innumerable other products. It’s a story of horrendous abuse, of torture, child labor and corruption at the highest level, revealing the true cost of the Western world’s desire for cheap palm oil.
August 10 at 9:00pm

Lost Village – The end of traditional civilization is in sight. For the first time in human history villages across the world, once the cornerstone of the majority of the world’s population, are dying out.
August 24 at 9:00pm

Pathmakers – Pathmakers is offering makerspace programming for native and non-native youth in grades K-12 throughout Humboldt County. Activities will help students learn about the history, culture, and technologies of the tribes in the region, from pre-colonization to today. The project team is working with students, college students, parents, teachers, tribal members, and regional native cultural and education experts to develop the programming. The curriculum will strive to bridge the gap between traditional Native technologies and maker activities using today’s technologies.
August 30 at 5:00pm

IN PRODUCTION

Pioneer PBS in Minnesota Signs FNX Partnership
Pioneer PBS based in Appleton Minnesota signed an FNX partnership contract on July 22nd. The station will begin airing FNX on a full-time basis September 1, 2020. The station can be seen in the southwest region of Minnesota and also has a footprint along the eastern borders of North and South Dakota.

The Culture Stories series produced by Culture Story, the White Raven Foundation and in association with FNX, was awarded the Rasmussen Foundation Grant. The Alaska based organization picked 25 award recipients from a pool of over 300 and chose to support the series, announcing all winners July 1st. The Culture Stories series is created and hosted by Alyssa London, a Tlingit & Haida tribal member and former Miss Alaska based in Anchorage, and started airing on FNX in February. New episodes of a 13-part half-hour series will begin broadcasting in late 2020.

The FNX NOW series which transitioned into a weekly 30-minute news show to accommodate reporting regarding the Covid-19 pandemic, has continued to premiere content, and currently releases a new segment every Monday with a repeat on Fridays. The series is hosted by longtime KVCR and FNX staff member Frank Blanquet and continues to be recorded online via Zoom.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Washington R*dskins announced on Monday that after 88 years, 2 cities and 3 Superbowl wins that the team’s name and imagery will be changing. So FNX wants to know: What should the new name be?

We.love the work of @withoutreservationscartoon artist Ricardo Cate . . . .
#withoutreservations #changethename #nfl #washington #ricardocate