

**KGO-TV**  
**SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

**QUARTERLY LISTING OF COMMUNITY PROBLEMS  
AND RELATED PROGRAMMING**

**FIRST QUARTER - 2001**

**REGULARLY SCHEDULED PROGRAMMING**

During the first quarter of 2001, KGO-TV aired the following regularly scheduled local newscasts identified on air as "ABC 7 News" with a total cumulative average of over 100 hours per month:

Monday - Friday	5:00-7:00AM
Monday - Friday	11:30AM-12:00PM
Monday - Friday	5:00-5:30PM
Monday - Friday	6:00-7:00PM
Monday - Sunday	11:00-11:35PM
Saturday	6:00-6:30PM
Sunday	7:00-8:00AM
Sunday	9:00-10:30AM
Sunday	6:00-6:30PM

**During the first quarter of 2001, KGO-TV also aired the following regularly scheduled locally produced programs that addressed the problems and needs of the San Francisco-San Jose-Oakland Market area:**

**SUNDAY ON 7:** Half-hour public affairs program produced by KGO-TV Public Affairs, that consisted of a variety of subjects primarily dealing with issues related to the local community. This program was hosted by KGO-TV news anchor Dan Ashley, and it aired on Sundays from 10:30-11:00am.

**SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE:** In its sixth year, Michael Finney headed this local consumer affairs unit. These segments involved consumer alerts and product recalls during the local 5pm newscasts, and consumer investigations or resolutions during the 6pm newscasts. The unit was staffed by volunteers who received letters and telephone calls via a special hotline from viewers seeking help with a variety of consumer problems. On the average, each month, the unit received over 1000 letters, over 400 e-mails, and approximately 2000 phone calls.

## **LOCAL SPECIALS**

**During the first quarter of 2001, KGO-TV aired the following locally produced special programs that addressed the problems and needs of the San Francisco-San Jose-Oakland Market area:**

**PROFILES OF EXCELLENCE:** This program, in a series of specials under the generic title of Profiles of Excellence, highlighted the accomplishments of five outstanding members of the Bay Area's African American Community. This program aired on Sunday, February 18, 2001 from 5:00-5:30pm, and on Sunday, February 25, 2001 from 10:30-11:00am.

**SAN FRANCISCO ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE-** KGO-TV provided exclusive televised coverage of this annual parade sponsored by the United Irish Societies. The parade was comprised of over 200 contingents of dance groups, musicians, bands, politicians, and people from the Bay Area and across the nation. Several children took part in the parade as cultural dancers, and many Irish non-profit groups marched to gain community awareness. This program aired on Saturday, March 17, 2001 from 5:00-6:00pm.

**(local specials cont.)**

**THE PROMISE OF EDUCATION:** This broadcast forum featured a panel of distinguished education experts as they addressed some of the most controversial issues facing public education: funding, testing, reforms & accountability, recruiting and retaining good teachers, and inspiring positive parental and community involvement. ABC 7 news anchors Dan Ashley and Cheryl Jennings hosted this special before a live studio audience. This program aired on Sunday, March 18, 2001 from 5:00-6:00pm.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

During the first quarter of 2001, KGO-TV aired a total of 1,715 public service announcements that aired throughout the broadcast day in various time periods, and involved many different topics. Some of these PSA sponsors included- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, National Diabetes Education Program, Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, Environmental Defense Fund, Guide Dogs to the Blind, Paralyzed Veterans of America, National Arbor Day Foundation, Leukemia Society of America, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, U.S. Centers For Disease Control & Prevention, Peace Corps, Social Security Administration, American Lung Association, Crime Prevention, Community For Firesafe Dwellings, Arthur Ashe Institute of Urban Health, American Heart Association, U.S. Air Force, Catholic Charities, Americorps, National Institute On Aging, and locally produced African American Salutes.

\* \* \* \*

In addition to the local news and public affairs programs described in this report, KGO-TV carries all of the ABC Television news & public affairs programs listed and described in the report filed as "Network Programming."

\* \* \* \*

KGO-TV regularly surveys community leaders and organizations, and responds to these surveys. Through these efforts we've determined that the following issues are important to the community:

**Youth Issues**

**Power Crisis**

**Education Issues**

**Housing Issues**

**Transportation/Traffic Issues**

**Special News Reports**

Some of the station's most significant treatments of these issues are described on the following pages.

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING THE PROBLEMS**  
**AND NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY**

**YOUTH ISSUES**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 7, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:55

Subject:

This report profiled the East Bay's first juvenile drug court. Dozens of troubled Contra Costa County teenagers received help through this comprehensive program. It was unique in that it provided free drug treatment and supervision for youthful drug offenders. The youths were required to visit drug court weekly, undergo regular testing, and almost constant monitoring while they voluntarily participated in this outpatient program.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 3, 2001 (4:30 - 5:00PM)

Length: 1:17

Subject:

This report reviewed a shooting at a high school in San Francisco. Police believed that the suspect allegedly discharged the gun by accident shooting the other student as he was showing off the gun. The suspect didn't put up a fight, and told police that he threw the gun outside. Some of the students who knew the suspect insisted that the shooting must have been accidental. Counselors were provided for students traumatized by the incident. School officials expected that the suspect would be expelled according to district policy.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 14, 2001 (7:00 - 8:00AM)

January 14, 2001 (11:00 - 11:35PM)

Length: :26, :25

Subject:

This report discussed a study that found controlling the amount of violence children were exposed to on TV and video games could make them less aggressive. Stanford University researchers took a look at groups of third and fourth graders. They found that the youngsters would be 25% less likely to show verbal and physical aggression if their parents limited the amount of time they spent with TV and video games.

**(Youth Issues cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 5, 2001 (5:00 - 5:30PM)

January 7, 2001 (7:00 - 8:00AM)

Length: 1:26, 1:15

Subject:

This report followed the winner of Intel's "Invention of the Future Contest" as the prize patrol delivered gifts to him at his junior high campus. The student invented a language converter that he described to work like a Walkman with a speaker. He was headed for the national competition in San Jose with other students from around the country. His teacher believed that many of his students would become innovators of the future.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 23, 2001 (11:00 - 11:35PM)

Length: :29

Subject:

This report discussed how an appeals court in San Francisco was considering whether parents could hold libraries responsible for material their children viewed on library computers. A group called the "Public Justice Institute" claimed that a 12-year-old boy was traumatized after seeing pornography on a computer at the Livermore main library. The group wanted a court order to block such access to minors, but the city of Livermore argued that it would be a violation of free speech.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 31, 2001 (5:00 - 5:30PM)

February 1, 2001 (5:00 - 7:00AM)

Length: 1:19, 1:21

Subject:

This report covered the press conference of a San Jose teenager who tipped police off to the works of an alleged bomber. She said that she didn't think twice about calling authorities, and that was the right thing to do. The 18-year-old, who was hailed as a hero, worked in the photo department of a local drug store. She noticed suspicious pictures that allegedly showed the bombing suspect posing with home made bombs, guns, and Molotov cocktails. Police were waiting for the suspect when he arrived to pick up his photos.

**(Youth Issues cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 6, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:42

Subject:

This report originated from De Anza College where police and school officials held the first of two town meetings to discuss the bombing threat to the campus. The preceding report discussed how a local teenager called police when she spotted suspicious looking pictures of a man allegedly posing with homemade bombs and other items. It was revealed that another employee, a De Anza student, was also working at the photo lab at the time. Both employees received commendations from the City of San Jose for their actions that helped prevent a potentially dangerous chain of events at the school.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 6, 2001 (5:00 - 7:00AM)

February 6, 2001 (11:00 - 11:35PM)

Length: :25, :31

Subject:

This report discussed a study from the Kaiser Family Foundation warning that parents and their children were seeing more sex on TV. Out of 1,100 TV shows surveyed, not limited to just prime time, some two-thirds of the shows included sexual themes. This number was higher compared to the survey two years before. The study also warned that despite all of the sexual activity on TV, only 10% of those shows included safe sex messages.

Date/Time: January 16, 2001 (5:00 - 7:00AM)

Length: 1:35

Subject:

This report profiled a teen investor who was helping his parents by paying his own way. It all started when his father suggested that he open a savings account. Thanks to his parents, he learned how to manage his money. By age 19, he had been investing for years, and by purchasing stock in large companies he had made quite a bit of money. An investment broker discussed the merits of children saving and investing. Viewers were invited to find out more by logging onto the KGO-TV website.

**(Youth Issues cont.)**

**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

During the 1<sup>ST</sup> Quarter of 2001, there were over 600 public service announcements that aired in various day-parts which addressed issues related to youth. Sponsors of these PSA's included- America's Promise, Boys Hope-Girls Hope, Boys Town National Hotline, Center for Juvenile & Criminal Justice, ChildReach, Children Now, Children of Shelters, Connect for Kids, DARE, Easter Seals, Girl Scouts, Independent Adoption Center, Job Corps, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International, March of Dimes, Muscular Dystrophy Association, National Center For Missing & Exploited Children, National Fatherhood Initiative, National Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Alliance, Partnership for a Drug-Free California/America, Society For Adolescent Medicine, and Youth for Understanding.

## **POWER CRISIS**

### **ABC 7 NEWS (Local)**

Date/Time: January 17, 2001 (11:00 - 11:44PM)

Length: 1:31

Subject:

This report reviewed the public reaction in the South Bay to the first rolling blackout to hit the area. Just before noon, state power regulators began rolling blackouts that shut down street lights, cut power to homes, and left businesses in parts of Silicon Valley in the dark. High tech companies that lost power felt the impact and lost revenue. Sales of flashlights, power-saving bulbs, and generators were brisk at local stores.

### **ABC 7 NEWS (Local)**

Date/Time: January 22, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:58

Subject:

This report discussed state plans to consider the appointment of an individual to run the Independent System Operator, the chief buyer and seller of power in California. Sources close to the governor said he was seriously considering and offer to make a Los Angeles area power executive "energy Czar." One state senator commented that "one wants to be careful about giving one person unfettered authority." Lawmakers also were working on historic legislation to buy out huge parts of Southern California Edison and P. G. & E.

### **ABC 7 NEWS (Local)**

Date/Time: January 28, 2001 (7:00 - 8:00AM)

Length: 2:11

Subject:

This report took a look at the problem of traffic lights that were inoperable during rolling blackouts. Intersection traffic meltdowns were reported throughout California during rolling blackouts. The CHP was worried that drivers could be hurt or killed when the lights were off. An East Bay man discussed his invention, a diesel powered generator that would keep the lights working for up to 40 hours, or turn off automatically when power came back on line. Designers predicted that dozens of the units would be installed throughout Northern California in the future.

**(Power Crisis cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 1, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 2:39

Subject:

This report detailed the governor's \$800 million energy conservation plan that offered incentives for businesses to reduce outdoor lighting by March 15<sup>th</sup>. It also included a \$20 million public education campaign with commercials offering energy saving tips. The situation was discussed with a retailer who had already gone through two blackouts at home. The governor called on every Californian to do their part in easing the energy crunch. He said sacrifice was necessary because summer, the most energy-draining season, was yet to come.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 29, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:40

Subject:

This report reviewed the increases that consumers noticed on their P.G. & E. bills since the start of the power crisis. On the average, from the previous month, bills had reflected a 9% increase in electricity costs, and an average 60% increase in the cost of natural gas. Since energy bills varied widely, three consumers discussed the amounts of their bills, and what they were doing differently in reaction to the energy crisis.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 31, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:40

Subject:

This report reviewed state senate's approval for millions of dollars to enter into long term contracts to buy power. The action was expected to keep energy rates down for customers of P.G. & E. and Southern California Edison. Lawmakers in Washington, D.C. were also addressing the power crisis by looking for ways to fix the problem. State Republican leaders introduced a bill that would lift restrictions to build more power plants.

**(Power Crisis cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 7, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:24

Subject:

This report talked about an “e-conservation” campaign supported by the governor and high tech companies. It was designed to reach hundreds of thousands of employees. They hoped to make energy saving a daily practice for corporations and households by sending out a barrage of e-mail reminders. The campaign hired energy experts to demonstrate how appliances left on drained energy, and cost millions of dollars when multiplied by thousands of households.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 8, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 2:10

Subject:

This report discussed the governor’s emergency plan to have at least 5,000 new megawatts of power online by the summer. The entire project involved building more than a dozen new power plants that would collectively power up to 20 million homes. The governor also appointed what he termed as a construction czar to ensure on time plant completion. He also wanted air pollution districts to relax and redefine power plant air emissions. The Bay Area Air Quality Board said their initial assessment was positive.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 11, 2001 (9:00 - 10:30AM)

Length: 2:00

Subject:

This report showed how homeowners could conserve energy by participating in the P.G.& E. “Time of Use” conservation plan. A Mill Valley family that had been using the plan for years said they only paid \$140 dollars per month to run their 2,800 square foot home. The plan charged residents 31 cents per kilowatt-hour during peak hours and only 8.5 cents for all other hours. Residents not on the plan paid 11.7 cents per kilowatt-hour. A consumer watchdog group accused P.G. & E. of not doing all it could to inform customers about the plan. P.G. & E. disputed the charges and pointed to the Mill Valley home as proof they had gotten the word out.

## **EDUCATION ISSUES**

### **ABC 7 NEWS (Local)**

Date/Time: January 22, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:30

Subject:

This report discussed a lawsuit that alleged several paint manufacturers used lead-based paints, although they knew it could cause health problems, especially among children. The cities of Oakland and San Francisco joined the same lawsuit that Santa Clara filed in the previous year against eight paint makers. Although lead-based paint was banned over twenty years before, officials said it was still found in older structures. The suit asked for the removal of the paint from schools, playgrounds, and other public buildings. It also wanted the paint companies to treat lead-poisoned children, and finance an education campaign that could cost them millions of dollars. Paint manufactures claimed the suit was a misguided attack, and a defense attorney said it attempted to unfairly seek money.

### **ABC 7 NEWS (Local)**

Date/Time: February 6, 2001 (11:30AM -12:00PM)

Length: :41

Subject:

This report covered a press conference by an Oakland mother who announced she was filing a lawsuit against the Oakland School District. She alleged that her daughter's civil rights were violated when the elementary school girl was forced by her teacher to lick a chalkboard after misbehaving in class. She said the incident caused both personal injury and emotional distress on the little girl. The event sparked other parental complaints about other children being mistreated at the school.

### **ABC 7 NEWS (Local)**

Date/Time: January 10, 2001 (5:00 - 7:00AM)

Length: :30

Subject:

This report discussed a new state program to help provide more housing opportunities for teachers. The California State Treasurer and the Mayor of San Jose unveiled the details of the mortgage credit certificate program. This came at a time when the housing market made it difficult for teachers to live and work in Silicon Valley. In the prior year, San Jose's teacher housing program helped to provide more than three million dollars in loan assistance.

**(Education Issues cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 5, 2001 (11:00 - 11:35PM)

Length: 1:44

Subject:

This report reviewed the details surrounding a dog-biting incident at a San Jose elementary school. Just before school started, a one-year old pit bull ran onto a playground where two boys were playing, and attacked one, then the other. Then the dog ran into an open classroom and bit a third boy. When police arrived it lunged at an officer who shot and killed the animal. Students were kept in their classrooms until officials were sure the danger was over. The father of the dog's owner described the dog as a docile pet. Records showed that the same dog bit a child at another school down the street six months before. But that time the dog was only quarantined for ten days then returned to its owner without citation.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 6, 2001 (5:00 - 5:30PM)

Length: :49

Subject:

This report covered the kickoff of Berkeley High School's "Food Pavilion Program." After the school lost its cafeteria in the 1989 earthquake, many students walked off campus to eat at fast food places for lunch. To show students that nutritious food could also taste good, a world famous chef cooked for the students. The new program planned to have five area restaurants serving a healthy entrée daily on the campus for just three dollars. The school planned to have a new cafeteria operating by the fall of 2002.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 4, 2001 (11:00 - 11:35PM)

January 5, 2001 (5:00 - 7:00AM)

Length: 1:42, 1:59

Subject:

This report profiled the newest member of the San Francisco School Board on the night members were sworn in. As a teacher, he led the fight for better pay and more fiscal accountability, and even bought classroom supplies for his students with his own money. He ran as a Green Party member on an education platform of quality, and a fair deal for teachers. Another teacher said it was going to be very exciting to have someone on the board who really understood what it's like to be in a classroom with kids.

**(Education Issues cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 8, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00AM)

Length: 2:16

Subject:

This report visited a high school where students were not allowed to have cell phones on campus. The school and its district were trying to get cell phones under control, but with 4,400 students, officials couldn't possibly search everyone. It had become an issue of "the-have" and have-nots." Students discussed reasons why they had to have cell phones and how they used them. Students who did not have phones said they used their friends' phones. Students interviewed said their schedules were so busy that cell phones had become as necessary as book-bags.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 21, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

February 21, 2001 (11:00 – 11:35PM)

Length: 1:30, 1:46

Subject:

This report discussed how a San Francisco charter school was in risk of being revoked. In over two years that the school was run by a for-profit business, test scores had risen, parents were happier, the campus was cleaner, and students were better behaved. The school board president, other board members and the teachers union were critical of turning over public resources to profit making companies. The charter school was expected to turn a profit over to its parent company within two years. Critics said that could change the way the school was being run.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: March 11 2001 (9:00 - 10:30AM)

Length: 1:44

Subject:

This report reviewed a survey that found 74% of children ages 8 to 11 said teasing and bullying occurred at their school. This was just after a school shooting in Santee, California earlier in the week. It was becoming more apparent with each school shooting that the suspects were also victims. Experts said children who were bullied might develop low self-esteem or act out in violent ways. Fifth graders at a San Jose elementary school were shown discussing issues of bullying and threats of violence.

## HOUSING ISSUES

### ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 21, 2001 (6:00 - 6:30PM)

Length: 1:33

Subject:

This report originated from San Jose where renters saw a break in prices for the first time in three years. Due in part to the end of the dot-com boom, rental agencies and landlords weren't getting as many inquiries so rents were dropping. A Bay Area rental agency realized a 30% increase in the number of listings. High-end luxury rentals were feeling most of the pinch. The vacancy rate in San Jose grew to four percent up from the previous low of one to two percent.

### ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 12, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:44

Subject:

This report reviewed San Francisco's six-month moratorium on the construction of live-work lofts. The ban was in effect while the board of supervisors examined the affordable housing problem. Builders said they would not suffer from the ban, but predicted the city's economy would. Lofts were originally built as places for struggling artists to live and work. Critics said developers had used changes in city law in recent years to turn lofts into homes for the wealthy or into offices without housing. The head of the builders association claimed that the board of supervisors had demonized developers, but also felt they wouldn't suffer due to supply & demand in a tight market.

### ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 25, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:40

Subject:

This report discussed Wells Fargo Bank's new program to provide one billion dollars for affordable housing in Oakland. Rising prices had made home ownership quite challenging. Only about 44% of Oakland residents owned their own homes. The program would offer a no-money down program for people without a cash down payment. A home buying assistance center said they had many clients with good credit, but no funds to purchase. Some 800 Oakland families were expected to participate in the affordable housing program.

**(Housing Issues cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 12, 2001 (5:00 - 6:00AM)

February 12, 2001 (6:00 – 7:00AM)

Length: :26, :26

Subject:

This report announced that the City of San Jose approved a new subdivision on 37 acres of cherry orchards in the Evergreen area. This was at a time when open land had been disappearing quickly in South San Jose. A builder was expected to start construction of 140 homes on this hot property within two months.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 25, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:55

Subject:

This report discussed how the Bay Area housing market had cooled. New home sales had dropped over 20%, the median price dipped –4.1%, and December year-to-date numbers slid –13.1%. A person from the HomeBuilders Association said this was a wake-up call to the builders to make sure they didn't overextend and get ahead of the market. The housing market downturn was good for buyers. But the seller of a condo was confident that another buyer would come along if he didn't accept the first offer. This type of bullish market confidence was also evident at several East Bay real estate offices where there were more buyers than homes for sale.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 1, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:15

Subject:

This report reviewed consumer problems with a San Jose rental agency. A client said the agency wasn't living up to its promises, and claimed she couldn't get a refund although her contract said she could. She received an immediate refund after KGO-TV's consumer unit got involved. The State Department of Real Estate filed a "desist and refrain" order that charged the rental agency had operated without a valid real estate license, failed to provide timely refunds to clients, and listed properties for rent without the owner's permission. The manager of the rental agency blamed the problems on a clerical error. He said they did have a real estate license that was in the renewal process.

**(Housing Issues cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 29, 2001 (11:30AM - 12:00PM)

Length: :27

Subject:

This report announced that San Jose Mayor Ron Gonzalez wanted to devote another ten million dollars to help build “extremely low income housing” in Silicon Valley. The mayor was expected to officially announce the proposal later in the afternoon as part of his pre-state of the city address.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 23, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

February 23, 2001 (11:00 – 11:35PM)

Length: 2:55, 1:45

Subject:

This report showed how a San Francisco family had been living in dreadful conditions, and afraid to complain for fear of being thrown out. The family of six had lived in the two-room apartment with a five-foot ceiling, a cramped kitchen, no toilet, no shower, and no heating. They took the matter up with the city after the landlord failed to keep his promise to install a bathroom after one year. He even had plans to raise their rent. Building inspectors notified the district attorney’s office, and filed charges against the landlord after he failed to comply with fixing the problems.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 24, 2001 (11:00 - 11:35PM)

Length: 1:42

Subject:

This report covered a decision by a Federal Appeals Court that struck down the Federal Housing Authority’s “zero tolerance drug policy.” A 78 year-old resident of a high rise public housing project was targeted for eviction because a caregiver and another woman who visited his apartment were found with drug paraphernalia. Justices for the court of appeals said Federal law didn’t allow for the eviction of innocent tenants.

## TRANSPORTATION / TRAFFIC ISSUES

### ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 22, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:59

Subject:

This consumer report looked into the problem of out of service BART elevators. A woman who used a mobile cart spent a long time trying to exit a San Francisco station due to a shut down elevator. This report, on the first day of this investigation, found eight people trapped in a BART elevator, six of them were disabled. A BART spokesperson said their elevators were designed to be overly sensitive, and would shut down since they interpreted movement the same way they did weight.

### ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 14, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:50

Subject:

This report reviewed a study that found California was having a difficult time keeping up with road repairs. The disrepair of roads and highways were taking a heavy toll on motorists who were forced to spend millions of dollars on vehicle repairs. According to CalTrans, compared to other states, California's roads were in good shape, but required constant care due to the daily use by millions of vehicles. Since road construction often caused gridlock, much of the repairs had to be done in off-peak hours, which added to the multi-million dollar cost. The cost of highway projects in the Bay Area was over two billion dollars, with billions more spent statewide.

### ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: March 2, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:30

Subject:

This report covered the U.S. Secretary of Transportation's trip to the Bay Area to hand out money for transportation. Secretary Norm Mineta, a former San Jose mayor and U.S. Representative, provided over \$122 million in funding for Bay Area projects. The biggest portion was to be spent on BART's extension to the San Francisco International Airport. The secretary called it the most significant public works project in the Bay Area. It was projected that the SFO-BART extension would provide 68,000 trips per day, and would significantly reduce traffic congestion.

**(Transportation / Traffic cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: January 8, 2000 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 2:15

Subject:

This report discussed how construction on 1<sup>st</sup> Street in San Francisco would limit vehicle access to eastbound lanes of the Bay Bridge. The first phase of the two-block project had begun on this main artery to east and southbound bridge ramps. This report suggested the best alternate routes for avoiding the gridlock that had already sent motorists scrambling. The \$1.4 million project included paving, a new water main, sewer and traffic lights. As a commuter convenience, a city committee coordinated construction with utilities so all work could be completed at one time.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 14, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: :41

Subject:

This report covered the announcement by CalTrain of a new public service campaign beginning on Valentine's Day. Called "Take Safety To Heart", CalTrain hoped the public service announcements would reduce the number of accidents along train tracks. 17 people were killed on train tracks trying to outrun trains in the previous year.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 8, 2001 (5:00 - 7:00AM)

February 8, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: :28, 2:18

Subject:

These reports discussed results from a report on commuting released by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority. It found that vehicles were bumper-to-bumper on 163 miles of South Bay highways, a 60% increase in five years. Speeds on most expressways were down to seven miles per hour during commute times. Carpool lanes created to relieve congestion were backed up daily. The study cited freeways that received an "F" grade for speeds below 35 mph. The miserable drives were steering commuters to find elaborate alternate routes to beat the backup. The report also found that traffic had eased slightly on San Jose's Capitol Expressway and on El Camino Real in Mountain View.

**(Transportation / Traffic cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 13, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 2:24

Subject:

This report talked about new, larger, and clearer to read traffic signs installed on California Street by the San Francisco Department of Parking & Traffic. The signs told motorists that by law they must stop for cable car passengers. A previous news report pointed out this danger that city leaders had never before aggressively addressed. The Director of S.F. Parking & Traffic asked his pedestrian safety team to include cable car danger one of its top issues. When KGO-TV contacted major car rental agencies, two jumped at the chance to work with the station by printing cards warning drivers of the cable car safety law.

SUNDAY ON 7 (Local)

Date/Time: January 21, 2000 (10:30 - 11:00AM)

Length: 30:00

Subject:

This half-hour program featured a discussion on Bay Area transportation and traffic problems. 43% of respondents in a survey named transportation as the region's worst problem. CalTrans confirmed that traffic congestion had increased 87% on Bay Area highways from 1985. Studio guests discussed issues surrounding proposed BART extensions to San Jose, Livermore and Antioch, and the progress of FASTRAK, the electronic toll collection system on area bridges.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 2, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 1:24

Subject:

This report provided details of a controversial plan to ban delivery trucks from 7am to 7pm in San Francisco's financial district. The plan, unveiled at a meeting of business, labor and civic leaders, would affect trucks 25 feet or longer. San Francisco's traffic czar said years of aggressive ticketing had made no difference in curtailing blocked traffic, even though citations were up +50%. Strong opposition was heard from restaurants and hotels that operated around the clock. Buildings with their own loading docks, and garbage trucks would be exempt. Overnight and messenger services would be allowed, but a parcel service official said that 40% of their trucks were longer than 25 feet.

## **SPECIAL NEWS REPORTS**

ABC 7 News provided several, in-depth news reports that examined a variety of issues important to the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose Market. The following are examples of these in-depth reports:

### **ABC 7 NEWS (Local)**

Date/Time: February 1, 2001 (6:00 - 7:00PM)

Length: 2:05

Subject:

This special report talked about how moderate coffee drinking might not cause health problems, but what was added to it could. Researchers found some evidence that moderate coffee drinkers were in better health than non-coffee drinkers. But People were turning an innocent cup of coffee into almost a dessert by adding lots of sugar, and cream or whole milk that contained fat and calories. This report warned of blended or flavored drinks since they contained hidden calories that could add up. The key was moderation since a high fat, high calorie diet were risk factors for heart disease, obesity and diabetes.

### **ABC 7 NEWS (Local)**

Date/Time: February 5, 2001 (11:00 - 11:35PM)

Length: 2:56

Subject:

This special report reviewed a dermatological procedure to repair sun damaged skin. The process involved a cool touch laser that released a cold vapor in a split second prior to the laser. This protected the skin surface from the laser's damaging effects. The heat from the laser stimulated collagen production in deeper skin layers to gradually puff up wrinkles or lines. A dermatologist demonstrated the technique on two patients who discussed their interest in undergoing the procedure. Patients typically experienced between 40-70% improvement with their skin issues.

**(Special News Reports cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 5, 2001 (6:00 – 7:00PM)

Length: 4:30

Subject:

This special report investigated a consumer complaint about poor DSL Internet service. The customer said he got “the run-around: from ten customer service representatives when he called the company. Other subscribers also acknowledged their displeasure with the service. An executive with the company addressed the complaints by saying customer service lines were increased from 220 to 1200. Some glitches appeared in the service after regulators split the DSL group in half, and a new second company got involved. However, the company added more DSL customers and new service areas at the same time complaints about the service to KGO-TV declined dramatically.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 2, 2001 (11:00 – 11:35PM)

Length: 4:30

Subject:

This special report warned people to not be alone when service employees did work in their homes. There were several incidents in the Bay Area of violent crimes against homemakers by cleaning and delivery service employees. Employers that didn't do background checks when hiring, often had to make settlement payments after dangerous employees committed crimes in unsuspecting households. Complete background checks could take several weeks, and cost more than many companies wanted to pay. However, sometimes nothing in a person's past predicted violent behavior. Viewers were told not to be afraid to ask a company- who were they sending out, how long they had been employed, and whether the person ever had any complaints?

**(Special News Reports cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 5, 2001 (6:00 – 7:00PM)

Length: 2:55

Subject:

This special report recapped the case for the killer of 7 year-old Xiana Fairchild of Vallejo. This 14 month-old mystery had a number of twists and turns that police were still investigating. The girl's natural mother and her boyfriend denied allegations of lying to investigators. The boyfriend's lawyer dismissed accounts of a possible connection to his client. The child's skull was found 60 miles from her Vallejo home. A man awaiting trial on other assault and kidnapping charges involving a Vallejo child was taken to the sight where the skull was found. He did not provide investigators with any new significant information.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 1, 2001 (6:00 – 7:00PM)

February 2, 2001 (6:00 – 7:00PM)

Length: 6:50, 5:00

Subject:

Part one of this special report looked into litigation against a drug store chain by former employees who alleged they were wrongfully terminated. Nine former employees claimed they were falsely accused of stealing and pressured into signing confessions after lengthy interrogations. They also said the company forced them to pay money for the losses they had been charged with. The employees discussed their situations, and an attorney for the company discussed the charges and refuted their claims.

In part two of this report, three other former employees of the drug store chain discussed their case. They also said that the store's loss prevention department searched their homes for stolen merchandise. An internal company memo, written a year after the group was fired, appeared to support their other claim that loss prevention had a goal to fire more employees. A store attorney said they didn't have a goal of firing a certain number of employees. He said that their claims were without merit since they had been able to confirm the accuracy of the employees' written statements that admitted to the theft. The report also heard from a law school professor who specialized in labor issues.

**(Special News Reports cont.)**

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 13, 2001 (11:00 – 11:35PM)

Length: 4:00

Subject:

This special report reviewed “Speed Dating”, one of the most popular singles programs in the world. Women and men from all over the Bay Area in search of a date gathered at San Francisco’s Jewish Community Center, sponsor of the program. Each person sat down with another, and in the span of eight minutes decided if they’d like to go on another date. After two hours, numbers were used to match possible soul mates. Specific individuals were interviewed or profiled about the program. This session produced 16 dates for couples.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 4, 2001 (11:00 – 11:35PM)

Length: 3:01

Subject:

This special report looked into Chronotherapy, a medical philosophy that used the body’s natural rhythms to help fight illness. Researchers found that health could be improved by being aware of one’s internal body clock. The circadian rhythms are a tiny part of the brain that determines many physiological bodily functions. A physician who wrote a book on the subject discussed how exercise, medications, and treatment could be synchronized for maximum effectiveness. An animal researcher discussed the implications for humans who didn’t listen to their internal clocks.

ABC 7 NEWS (Local)

Date/Time: February 7, 2001 (6:00 – 7:00PM)

Length: 6:10

Subject:

This special report reviewed a program in Oakland for recently released parolees. Each week, sixty new parolees made their first step in their fragile freedom by attending an orientation, the centerpiece of the program. The orientation had parolees face-to-face with officers who would take them back to prison if they violated their parole. In Oakland, two out of three parolees went back to prison within three years. Parole agents and police officers had worked together to put pressure on parolees as soon as they went astray. Those who spent their careers working with convicts said that over time this aggressive approach should slow the revolving door to prison.