



QUARTERLY ISSUES / PROGRAM LIST

3rd QUARTER 2016

KRON-TV

Young Broadcasting of San Francisco, Inc. / Media General

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ISSUE-RESPONSIVE PROGRAMMING

KRON-TV programs that regularly address issues of community concern include (but are not limited to) the following:

KRON 4 Morning News, a weekday news/informational program aired 4 am to 10 am, includes reports and in-depth features, typically of 30 seconds to 2 minutes in duration, dealing with community issues in addition to the day's major news stories.

KRON 4 News @ 5, a weekday news/informational program aired 5 pm to 6 pm, includes reports and features, typically of 30 seconds to 2 minutes in duration, dealing with community issues, and the day's major news stories.

KRON 4 News @ 6, a weekday news/informational program aired 6 pm to 7 pm, includes reports and features, typically of 30 seconds to 2 minutes, dealing with community issues, and the day's major news stories.

KRON 4 News @ 8, a daily prime time news/informational program aired from 8 pm to 9 pm, includes reports and features, typically 30 seconds to 2 minutes long, dealing with community issues, and the day's major news stories.

KRON 4 News @ 10, a daily prime time news/informational program aired from 10 pm to 11 pm, includes reports and features, typically 30 seconds to 2 minutes long, dealing with community issues and the day's major news stories.

KRON 4 News @ 11, a daily news/informational program aired 11 pm to 11:15 pm, providing a summary of the day's headlines, featuring both community issues and major news stories.

KRON 4 Morning News Weekend, a weekend news/informational program aired Saturdays and Sundays 7 am to 10 am, includes reports and in-depth features, dealing with community issues and major news stories.

The following pages summarize program and program segments that provided the most significant treatment of community issues during the past quarter. Programming frequently deals with more than one issue.

KRON-TV has presented programs addressing these issues:

CRIME
DIVERSITY
EDUCATION
ENVIRONMENT
HEALTH
TRANSPORTATION

Listed in the following pages are a sampling of typical and illustrative programs used to meet those problems and needs. These programs were broadcast during the preceding three-month period.

3Q16 CRIME

CRIME

7/5/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Smartphone malware is a growing problem

A WARNING FOR YOU TONIGHT, DANGEROUS MALWARE CALLED "HUMMINGBAD" HAS INFECTED OVER TEN MILLION PHONES. THE MOBILE SECURITY RESEARCH FIRM "CHECK POINT" DISCOVERED THE CHINA-BASED GROUP OF CYBER CRIMINALS THAT HAS BEEN USING THIS MALWARE TO ATTACK ANDROID PHONES. OVER A FIVE-MONTH PERIOD THEY GENERATED THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PER MONTH IN FRAUDULENT AD REVENUE. THEY DID THIS BY TAKING OVER PEOPLE'S PHONES AND THEN FORCING THEM TO DOWNLOAD APPS AND CLICK ON ADS. MALWARE ON SMART PHONES IS A GROWING PROBLEM AND SOMETHING YOU NEED TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM.

KRON 4'S TECH REPORTER GABE SLATE SHOWS YOU HOW:

CYBER CRIMINALS DON'T JUST TRY TO INFECT PHONES WITH MALWARE FOR FAKE AD REVENUE. JUST LIKE A COMPUTER, IF YOUR PHONE IS INFECTED WITH MALWARE, YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AT RISK. SO LET'S KEEP THAT NASTY STUFF OFF YOUR PHONE.

I TALKED WITH MOBILE SECURITY EXPERTS WITH INTEL WHO GAVE ME THESE WORDS OF ADVICE TO PASS ALONG.

BE DILIGENT ABOUT UPDATING YOUR SMART PHONE'S SOFTWARE. DON'T EVEN WAIT A DAY. WHEN YOU SEE THAT NOTIFICATION POP UP, JUST DO IT.

DELETE OLD APPS YOU DON'T USE. EACH APP YOU FORGET ABOUT AND NEVER USE WILL LIKELY BE AN APP YOU DON'T REGULARLY UPDATE. IT COULD BE SITTING THERE WITH SECURITY HOLES.

ONLY DOWNLOAD APPS FROM THE OFFICIAL APP STORES. DON'T DOWNLOAD AN APP BY CLICKING ON LINKS. THAT CAN BE RISKY.

AND IF YOU'RE THINKING YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THIS BECAUSE YOU HAVE AN IPHONE OR AN IPAD, YOU'RE WRONG. YES, IT USED TO BE A THING THAT BAD GUYS DIDN'T GO AFTER APPLE DEVICES, BUT THAT HAS CHANGED. ALREADY THIS YEAR THERE HAVE BEEN THREE BIG MALWARE ATTACKS ON IOS.

SO I RECOMMEND THAT WHATEVER TABLET OR PHONE YOU HAVE, DOWNLOAD SECURITY SOFTWARE TO IT, JUST LIKE YOU WOULD ON A COMPUTER. THERE ARE SEVERAL APPS TO CHOOSE FROM. THESE WILL RUN IN THE BACKGROUND, MONITORING YOUR PHONE FOR VIRUSES AND MALWARE AND HELP KEEP YOU SAFE.

GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

7/13/16 KRON 4 Evening News

New crime trend and new efforts to combat it

IN THE EAST BAY, A BREAK IN AT A HOME FOR SALE HAS HOMEOWNERS AND REAL ESTATE AGENTS ON HEIGHTENED ALERT. THIS IS BECOMING SOMETHING OF A TREND. THE THIEVES STOLE SEVERAL ITEMS AFTER GOING INTO A HOME THAT HAD BEEN RECENTLY FIXED UP AND DECORATED SO IT WOULD BE ATTRACTIVE TO BUYERS. AS KRON 4S TERISA ESTACIO REPORTS, IN ONE NEIGHBORHOOD, SOME RESIDENTS ARE USING NEW TECHNOLOGY TO KEEP A WATCHFUL EYE WHEN THEY ARE NOT AROUND.

KRON 4 NEWS HAS LEARNED THAT THE THIEVES STOLE SEVERAL ITEMS OUT OF A HOME HERE IN CLAYTON. THE HOMEOWNERS HAD JUST STAGED IT BEFORE PUTTING IT ON THE MARKET FOR AN OPEN HOUSE. ACCORDING TO THE OWNERS, THEY HAD DECIDED NOT TO SPEND THE NIGHT BEFORE AN OPEN HOUSE, BUT WHEN THEY ARRIVED BACK HOME THEY DISCOVERED THE HOME HAD BEEN BROKEN INTO.

DANE AND KAHNI HORTON ARE REAL ESTATE AGENTS IN THE CLAYTON AREA. THEY SAY THEY ALWAYS KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON THEIR PROPERTIES UP FOR SALE. THEY SAY LOCK BOXES ARE SAFE AND CHECK THIS OUT THIS IS ACTUALLY A PICTURE OF ME TAKING VIDEO OF ONE OF THEIR HOMES FOR SALE IN CLAYTON. KAHNI SAYS SOME OF THEIR CLIENTS ARE NOW USING VIDEO SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMS TO KEEP WATCH WHILE THEY ARE AWAY.

Kahni Horton: "I'm not exactly sure how it works, but if you walked up to their front door, her phone will ring and display a picture of who is outside. So even if she's not there, she can say I can't come to the door right now and it will give the appearance that she is at home."
KAHNI ALSO SAID THEY USE A SOCIAL MEDIA WEBSITE TO WATCH OUT FOR ONE ANOTHER. IT'S A WAY TO ALERT PEOPLE AND KEEP EVERYONE INFORMED.

Kahni: "If we see someone who looks suspicious or also the neighbors if they see someone suspicious, we report it on this site and depending on how closely you monitor this site you can know instantly if something is happening, if there's a prowler or someone driving around looking or someone knocking on doors or anyone who looks like they don't belong in the neighborhood."

IN CLAYTON, THE POLICE ARE CERTAINLY ON THE ALERT AND WERE OUT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR WHERE THE CRIME OCCURRED. DESPITE THE INCIDENT, RECENT FBI STATISTICS LIST CLAYTON AS THE THIRD SAFEST CITY IN CALIFORNIA.

IN CLAYTON, TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

7/14/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Another reminder to keep valuables out of sight in your car

NOW TO A STORY YOU WILL SEE ONLY ON KRON4. A STRING OF CAR BURGLARIES ALL AT A POPULAR EAST BAY RESTAURANT. POLICE SAY THIEVES ARE TARGETING CARS PARKED IN A LOT BEHIND THE ELEPHANT BAR IN CONCORD. INVESTIGATORS SUSPECT THE AUTO BURGLARS HAVE PICKED THE SPOT BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE LEAVING VALUABLES IN THEIR CAR, OFTEN IN PLAIN SIGHT. AND BECAUSE EASY ACCESS TO THE LOT FROM A NEARBY TRAIL PROVIDES A QUICK GETAWAY:

THE 680 FREEWAY OR A WALKING TRAIL, THOSE ARE THE TWO OPTIONS FOR AUTO BURGLARS TARGETING VEHICLES IN THE PARKING LOT OF THE ELEPHANT BAR RESTAURANT IN CONCORD

Corporal Christopher Blakely, Concord Police Dept.: "It's always the location, it's the getaway."

THE RESTAURANT IS A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Corp. Blakely: "After they commit these crimes how do they get out of here before the police get here? I think what people need to realize is that not every parking lot has surveillance cameras."
HE SAYS THE ELEPHANT BAR PARKING LOT IS ONE OF THOSE LOCATIONS WITHOUT SECURITY CAMS. HOWEVER, MANAGEMENT DOES HAVE SIGNS POSTED ADVISING THE RESTAURANT IS NOT LIABLE FOR ITEMS STOLEN FROM VEHICLES. INVESTIGATORS SAY IN 3 RECENT INCIDENTS THIEVES ARE SMASHING AUTO WINDOWS AND GRABBING VALUABLE ITEMS LEFT INSIDE.

Corp. Blakely: "One of our most recent cases, two laptops, a projector and two iPads, all taken from the car, valued at over \$5000 dollars."

IN TERMS OF SLOWING DOWN THE AUTO BURGLARS GETAWAY, NOTHING CAN BE DONE ABOUT THE RESTAURANT'S CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE 680 FREEWAY. HOWEVER, THESE HUGE HOLES IN THE REAR FENCE BEHIND THE RESTAURANT ON THE OTHER HAND...

Corp. Blakely: "Yeah, it's something we will be working on with the business owner, trying to get these fences repaired."

IN THE MEANTIME PATROLS HAVE BEEN INCREASED, BUT CUSTOMERS COULD DO THEIR PART, TOO. POLICE ARE ALSO ADVISING FOLKS DON'T BE A VICTIM. DON'T LEAVE VALUABLES OUT IN THE OPEN IN THEIR VEHICLES.

IN CONCORD HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

CRIME

7/18/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Staying safe from hackers in the cloud

WHEN YOU ARE STORING MUSIC, MOVIES, AND EVEN YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION IN THE CLOUD, HOW CAN YOU STAY SAFE FROM HACKERS? MARY MOLONEY HAS WAYS TO PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY:

MANY ARE UNEASY ABOUT TRUSTING THIRD PARTIES WITH PERSONAL DATA, EVEN THOUGH ONLINE TRANSACTIONS AND INTERACTIONS HAVE BECOME A WAY OF LIFE.

BY NOW, MOST HAVE HEARD THE WARNINGS. CREATE STRONG PASSWORDS. CHANGE THEM PERIODICALLY. AND DON'T USE THE SAME ONE ACROSS ALL ONLINE ACCOUNTS.

PERSONAL EXPERTS ALSO RECOMMEND CHECKING CLOUD SETTINGS ON MULTIPLE DEVICES, TO MAKE SURE WHAT'S PRIVATE, CAN'T EASILY GO PUBLIC. ALSO, YOU DON'T ALWAYS HAVE TO HAND OVER INFORMATION WHEN ASKED -- ESPECIALLY A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.

ONLINE SHOPPERS CAN ALSO TAKE THE EXTRA PRECAUTION OF CHECKING OUT AS A GUEST, RATHER THAN STORING BILLING INFORMATION ON A RETAILER'S WEBSITE. THAT WAY IF THE SITE IS HACKED, THIEVES WON'T GET YOUR INFO.

FOR CONSUMER WATCH -- I'M MARY MOLONEY

CRIME

7/20/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Update on Highway 4 surveillance cameras

THERE'S MORE HELP COMING TO EAST BAY DRIVERS TRYING TO STAY SAFE ON ROADWAYS. COUNTY LEADERS HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY ARE RE-DIRECTING MONEY TO HELP PAY FOR CAMERAS ALONG HIGHWAY 4. THAT FREEWAY AND OTHERS IN THE EAST BAY HAVE SEEN A SURGE IN SHOOTINGS IN RECENT MONTHS. KRON 4'S TERISA ESTACIO SPOKE WITH DRIVERS:

THAT'S HIGHWAY 4 IN PITTSBURG RIGHT BEHIND ME. SINCE EARLY 2015, THERE HAVE BEEN MORE THAN 40 SEPARATE SHOOTINGS ON HIGHWAY 4 AND THOSE SHOOTINGS HAVE LEFT SEVERAL PEOPLE DEAD.

COUNTY LEADERS, INCLUDING CITY GOVERNMENTS, HAVE BEEN DEALING WITH THIS ISSUE AND IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS, FUNDING HAS BECOME AVAILABLE TO PIECE TOGETHER A CAMERA SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM.

ON TUESDAY NIGHT, THE COUNTY COSTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVED ALLOCATING MONEY FROM ONE FUND INTO THE CAMERA PROGRAM TO HELP PAY FOR THE SYSTEM, SAYING THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO DO ALL THAT CAN BE DONE TO HELP ENSURE THE SAFETY OF COMMUTERS IN THE GROWING AREA.

I SPOKE WITH SOME COMMUTERS THIS MORNING WHO APPLAUDED THE ACTIONS, BUT I ALSO SPOKE WITH ONE DRIVER WHO SAID ALTHOUGH SHE BELIEVES A BETTER SAFETY NETWORK IS GOOD, SHE WANTS STATE AND NOT LOCAL GOVERNMENT MONEY TO BE SPENT.

Highway 4 commuter: "Yes, this is a good step forward. We need to keep an eye on the freeways. There's a lot of crazy things going on right now. It would keep people from getting away with things and get them caught. That would be very, very good."

Highway 4 commuter: "I do think it's important, but I also think the state of California should be paying for the cameras on the highway instead of the city of Pittsburg."

HERE IN PITTSBURG, THE CITY COUNCIL HAS ALREADY APPROVED CAMERAS AND THEY ARE EXPECTED TO GO ONLINE THIS WEEK.

TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEW

CRIME

7/25/16 KRON 4 Evening News
ID thefts

BETWEEN TRAVEL, VACATIONS, AND SENDING THE KIDS OFF TO CAMP, SUMMER CAN BE A HOT TIME FOR IDENTITY THEFT. CNN'S KARIN CAIFA LOOKS AT SOME RISKY SITUATIONS TO AVOID.

YOU PROBABLY DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT IDENTITY THEFT ON VACATION. BUT CERTAIN ASPECTS OF SUMMER FUN CAN LEAVE ANYONE IN THE FAMILY SUSCEPTIBLE TO SCAMS.

CONSUMER REPORTS RECOMMENDS TRAVELING WITH A MINIMUM NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS AND OTHER ITEMS WITH SENSITIVE PERSONAL INFORMATION. FOR EXAMPLE, LEAVE SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS AND EXTRA CREDIT CARDS AT HOME.

ALSO MAKE BANK AND CREDIT CARD COMPANIES AWARE OF TRAVEL PLANS - SO THEY CAN BETTER MONITOR FRAUD.

THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION WARNS HOTEL GUESTS OF CERTAIN COMMON SCAMS -- INCLUDING CALLS PURPORTEDLY FROM THE FRONT DESK SEEKING VERIFICATION OF A CREDIT CARD NUMBER. WHEN A HOTEL REALLY HAS AN ISSUE WITH A CREDIT CARD, THEY'LL ASK GUESTS TO COME TO THE DESK TO DEAL WITH IT FACE-TO-FACE.

ANOTHER PITFALL - FAKE WI-FI NETWORKS. CONFIRM THE HOTEL'S AUTHORIZED NETWORK AT CHECK-IN TO AVOID HANDING INFORMATION OVER TO SCAMMERS.

AND IDENTITY THEFT ISN'T LIMITED TO ADULTS. CHILDREN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS CAN BE A TARGET BECAUSE THEY PROVIDE A CLEAN SLATE FOR SCAMMERS TO OPEN CREDIT ACCOUNTS - AND BECAUSE MOST PARENTS DON'T SUSPECT YOUNG ONES COULD BE VICTIMS OF FRAUD.

WHEN A CHILD ATTENDS SUMMER CAMP OR ANOTHER SUMMER PROGRAM, THE F-T-C URGES PARENTS TO FIND OUT WHERE PERSONAL INFORMATION IS STORED, HOW THOSE RECORDS ARE USED, AND WHO HAS ACCESS.

FOR CONSUMER WATCH, I'M KARIN CAIFA.

CRIME

8/10/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Update on East Bay freeway shootings

YOU ARE LOOKING THE MUG SHOTS OF 24 SUSPECTED NORTENO GANG MEMBERS

Chief Guy Swanger, Concord Police Department: "I will tell you that these are bad guys and what they are doing is bad things."

IT WAS CALLED OPERATION OMEGA RED. THE SUSPECTS WERE THE TARGETS OF THE FBI SAFE STREETS TASK FORCE, A JOINT CRIME SUPPRESSION EFFORT WHICH IS MADE UP OF MULTIPLE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY.

Chief Swanger: "Probably 250, close to 300 officers. There were 19 locations hit simultaneously."

Mark Peterson, Contra Costa County District Attorney: "We charged the Norteno street gang members with various crimes."

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY D.A. MARK PETERSON BREAKS DOWN THE CHARGES.

Peterson: "At least three individuals were charged with multiple attempted murders, four individuals charged with conspiracy to commit murder, four individuals charged with conspiracy to commit witness intimidation, five individuals charged with conspiracy to commit assault with a firearm, and at least two multiple witness murder plots."

NUMEROUS ITEMS WERE SEIZED INCLUDING 15 THOUSAND DOLLARS, OVER 200 MARIJUANA PLANTS, A PAIR OF VEHICLES AND THIS CIGARETTE BOAT, WITH THE NORTENO NUMBER 14 PAINTED ON THE SIDE. CONCORD POLICE CHIEF GUY SWANGER SAYS HIS CITY WAS THE PRIMARY FOCUS POINT AFTER FOUR GANG RELATED MURDERS OCCURRED IN HIS TOWN LATE LAST YEAR.

Chief Swanger: "We joined the task force with a few of our members at that time, turned the focus a little bit, made them a priority to stop how they were preying on our community."

Peterson: "I've been doing this for 30 years and you began to wonder sometimes does this make a difference? It does to the family members who have been victimized by these crimes."

CRIMES THAT HAVE INCLUDED OVER 30 FREEWAY SHOOTINGS ON EAST BAY FREEWAYS SINCE NOVEMBER OF 2015. THE CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL HAS GIVEN THE MEDIA PRECIOUS FEW DETAILS ABOUT THAT INVESTIGATION UNTIL NOW.

Chief Paul Fontana, California Highway Patrol: "Some of the people in custody from the Operation Omega Red takedown were involved in freeway shootings."

THE ARRESTS WENT DOWN ON AUGUST THIRD.

Chief Fontana: "We talked about the Norteno gangs. They live in the cities and counties, but they use the freeways and highways that we patrol, whether they are going to the store or they are conducting criminal activity."

CHIEF FONTANA SAYS SINCE THE CHP TEAMED UP WITH THE FBI'S MULTI-LAW-ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TASK FORCE, FREEWAY SHOOTINGS HAVE BEEN ON THE DECLINE

Chief Fontana: "On Highway 4, for example, there hasn't been a shooting since June 24th, and on Highway 80 in Contra Costa County there hasn't been a shooting since May 28th."

Peterson: "Every freeway shooting is assigned to a specific D.A. in my office."

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY MARK PETERSON SAYS THE FREEWAY SHOOTINGS ARE ONE OF HIS TOP PRIORITIES, BUT CAUTIONS AGAINST EXPECTATIONS OF SOLVING EVERY FREEWAY SHOOTING.

Peterson: "I want the public to know that we are working as hard as we can to solve the freeway shootings, but some of them realistically will never be solved."

CHP CHIEF FONTANA SAYS THESE RECENT ARRESTS WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE JUST THE SAME.

Chief Fontana: "Those people are in custody now, so people should rest assured that additional arrests will hopefully be forthcoming also."

IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

CRIME

8/12/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Police department adopts new policies in response to police shootings

IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME, A POLICE OFFICER ON A CALL ASSESSES THE SITUATION AND HAS TO DECIDE WHETHER HE NEEDS HELP. BUT IN ONE EAST BAY CITY, CALLING FOR BACK UP IS NO LONGER AN OPTION. IT IS MANDATORY.

KRON4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN WAS IN CONCORD TODAY TO SEE HOW THIS NEW "COVER OFFICER PROCEDURE" WORKS IN REAL LIFE. IT'S A STORY YOU'LL SEE ONLY ON KRON4:

Cpl. Christopher Blakely, Concord Police Department: "We are going to go ahead and make our approach. Looks like we have our cover officers here, too."

THESE CONCORD POLICE OFFICERS ARE RESPONDING TO A DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE CALL. THE FIRST OFFICER ON THE SCENE HAD TO WAIT FOR BACK-UP BEFORE GETTING OUT OF THE VEHICLE. A NEW OFFICER SAFETY PROCEDURE, SAYS CORPORAL CHRISTOPHER BLAKEY

Blakely: "One thing we don't do is we don't jeopardize our safety, especially with the events in Dallas and Baton Rouge. You have a call that's pending. It's a domestic disturbance. This could be very heated and it's not a call you go to by yourself."

IN FACT, CONCORD POLICE NO LONGER RESPOND TO CALLS FOR SERVICE WITH A SOLO OFFICER. WHILE CONCORD POLICE OFFICERS ARE NOT PAIRING UP LIKE IN SOME OTHER BAY AREA CITIES, THEY ARE IMMEDIATELY COVERING EACH OTHER.

FOR EXAMPLE, HERE IS A SITUATION WHERE I WAS IN ONE OF THE COVER VEHICLES ON A SUSPICIOUS PERSONS STOP, WHEN DISPATCH ANNOUNCED A SOLO OFFICER RESPONDING TO ANOTHER CALL.

Blakely: "L-9 I will go with X-20 to Grant Street. We are going to go stretch to the other side of town and cover that officer so he is not alone."

CONCORD POLICE ANSWER BETWEEN 300 AND 400 SERVICE CALLS PER DAY. THEN THERE ARE THE TRAFFIC STOPS. BACK UP IS NEEDED THERE, TOO.

Blakely, pulling over vehicle: "Right there is good."

THIS TIME CORPORAL BLAKELY NEEDED BACK UP. WITHIN SECONDS OF PULLING THIS DRIVER OVER FOR NOT WEARING A SEATBELT, THIS COVER VEHICLE ARRIVED WITH OFFICER AMEET PATEL.

Officer Ameet Patel: "You never know what you're going to run into, every stop is different."

Blakely: "If it's a call that usually requires cover, we are going two persons to those calls now and we are not so quick to cancel our cover. It's not being complacent – that's the point we are trying to get to all of our officers."

OFFICIALS AT CONCORD PD SAY THE COVER OFFICER PROCEDURE WILL REMAIN IN PLACE FOR THE FORSEEABLE FUTURE. THAT IS OKAY WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S 163 OFFICERS WHO PRIDE THEMSELVES ON HAVING EACH OTHERS' BACKS. NOW EVEN MORE SO.

IN CONCORD HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

CRIME

8/17/16 KRON 4 Evening News
East Bay city reports spike in crime

HAYWARD POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR A SUSPECT IN CONNECTION TO A VIOLENT ARMED ROBBERY WHERE ONE VICTIM WAS SHOT. THAT CRIME HAPPENED LATE LAST NIGHT. BUT AS KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY REPORTS, IT'S PART OF A BLOODY CRIME WAVE THAT POLICE ARE CALLING UNPRECEDENTED.

Sgt. Ryan Cantrell, Hayward Police Department: "In 20 years, I haven't seen it that busy in a two week period for this agency."

HERE'S THE SCENE FROM LAST NIGHT'S LATEST ACT OF VIOLENCE. THE VICTIMS, A MARRIED COUPLE IN THEIR 40'S, OUT WALKING JUST BEFORE MIDNIGHT. AT THE CORNER OF FLORIDA STREET AND DOLPIN WAY POLICE SAY THE COUPLE WERE APPROACHED BY A GUN-TOTING SUSPECT DEMANDING THEIR CELL PHONES.

Sgt. Cantrell: "They complied gave up their phones and for some reason he shot the male victim right there at the scene."

THE VICTIM WAS TRANSPORTED TO A LOCAL HOSPITAL AND WAS LAST REPORTED AS OUT OF SURGERY, CONSCIOUS AND TALKING WHICH MAKES THIS VICTIM ONE OF THE LUCKY ONES.

BECAUSE HOMICIDES HAVE SPIKED IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS MONTH.

Sgt. Cantrell: "We've had five homicides in the last 14 days."

HERE'S THE MEMORIAL AT THE SCENE OF THE MOST RECENT KILLING. POLICE SAY 42 YEAR OLD JASON VILLEGAS WAS STABBED TO DEATH WHILE WALKING BACK FROM A NEIGHBORHOOD STORE ON SUNDAY.

Sgt. Cantrell: "I wish I had the answer as to why these things are happening. Ours appear to be random. There's not a serial killer out there."

TWO OF THE OTHER MURDERS IN AUGUST WERE DOMESTIC AND ARRESTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THOSE. TWO OTHERS ARE POSSIBLY GANG-RELATED. POLICE SAY THEY ARE BOOSTING PATROLS IN AREAS KNOWN FOR GANG ACTIVITY.

Sgt. Cantrell: "All those incidents appear to be isolated except two of the incidents have some gang relations to it. "It's a tragedy that these are happening in such a short period of time."

Mike, neighborhood resident: "For a small community, that's something else."

RESIDENTS NEAR WHERE LAST NIGHT'S SHOOTING TOOK PLACE SAY THEY ARE SICK OF THE VIOLENCE.

Danielle De La Cruz, neighborhood resident: "I wish it would stop. There are kids around. People just want to live their lives. People just want to live safely."

Mike: It's terrible. It's scary. You can't even walk out your front door without something like this happening anymore."

POLICE SAY THE SUSPECT IN LAST NIGHT'S SHOOTING DROVE AWAY IN A LARGE CANDY APPLE RED SUV WITH GOLD RIMS. THEY BELIEVE THIS WAS A RANDOM ACT.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

CRIME

8/18/16 KRON 4 Evening News

East Bay police warn of new crime trend

WALLET THIEVES ARE TARGETING RESTAURANTS IN AN EAST BAY CITY. TODAY POLICE RELEASED A KEY PIECE OF EVIDENCE THAT THEY HOPE WILL LEAD TO THE ARRESTS OF THE TWO SUSPECTS. KRON4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN GIVES US A LOOK AT WHO POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR:

Lt. Lanny Edwards, Walnut Creek Police Department: "Our victims have no idea that a wallet was just stolen."

THIS IS SURVEILLANCE VIDEO OF TWO FEMALE WALLET THEFT SUSPECTS. THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED BACK ON AUGUST 1ST. WALNUT CREEK POLICE LT. LANNY EDWARDS SAYS THESE TWO WOMEN ARE SUSPECTS IN SIMILAR CRIMES.

Lt. Edwards: "There is a total of three different restaurants in the downtown core area."

HE DESCRIBES WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE VIDEO

Lt. Edwards: "So, there is the primary suspect putting her hand down into the victim's bag and taking a wallet. This one stays on the cellphone the entire time as a lookout, watching all of the victims, make sure she is not getting caught. She is using her body to conceal it and putting the wallet into her own purse. Then watch how smooth she is with her foot. She takes her foot and slides the purse back up against the victim."

HE SAYS WITHIN 30 MINUTES OF STEALING THE WALLET THESE TWO SUSPECTS USED THE VICTIM'S CREDIT CARDS AT STORES HERE IN THE SUN VALLEY MALL IN CONCORD.

Lt. Edwards: "Actually they were still at lunch when they got a notification on their smart phone that their credit card was being used. Our primary suspect is described as an African American female. And this is the second suspect, the lookout, who was on the cellphone the whole time."

INVESTIGATORS SAY FRAUDULENT PURCHASES WORTH THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WERE MADE WITH CREDIT CARDS. POLICE SAY THIS VIDEO IS A KEY PIECE OF EVIDENCE.

Lt. Edwards: "Big brother is watching. It's just a matter of time before someone calls us and tells us who these two are."

IN WALNUT CREEK HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

CRIME

8/19/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Follow up on wallet theft story

WE FIRST BROUGHT YOU THIS STORY YESTERDAY ON KRON 4 NEWS. THEIVES SNATCHING WALLETS FROM CUSTOMERS AT BUSY EAST BAY RESTAURANTS. NOW WE ARE HEARING OF ADDITIONAL CASES. WALNUT CREEK POLICE TELL KRON 4 A FOURTH VICTIM HAS NOW COME FORWARD. AND WE HAVE LEARNED THE OWNER OF ONE OF RESTAURANTS WHERE THE ROBBERIES HAPPENED IS OFFERING A REWARD TONIGHT.

AS FOR HOW THE SUSPECTED THIEVES OPERATE, AN EMPLOYEE OF ONE OF THE RESTAURANTS WALKED KRON 4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN THROUGH WHAT HAPPENED:

THIS IS THE VIDEO OF TWO WOMEN SUSPECTED OF STEALING A WALLET FROM A CUSTOMER WHO PLACED HER PURSE ON THE FLOOR OF THE ROOFTOP RESTAURANT IN WALNUT CREEK.

Breanne Morgan, Rooftop hostess: "The two girls were sitting right here and the family was sitting at these two tables pushed together."

BREANNE MORGAN IS A HOSTESS HERE AT ROOFTOP. SHE RECALLS THAT THE TWO WOMEN DECIDED TO SEAT THEMSELVES WHICH IS UNUSUAL AT THIS RESTAURANT

Morgan: "Yeah it was a little bit weird because the entire restaurant was pretty much empty and they specifically chose that table right there, after they told me they were just going to look around and they told me that they weren't going to eat here. Then they sat down, and I asked them what was going on? And they said, yay, we can seat ourselves right? I said you told me you were just looking around, but you can sit there if you want to."

Shannon Hargis, Rooftop manager: "The suspects did come in and pretty much cased out the table that they wanted."

WALNUT CREEK POLICE INVESTIGATORS SAY THAT OVER A THREE WEEK PERIOD ENDING ON AUGUST 5TH THE TWO SUSPECTS STOLE THREE WALLETS FROM PURSES AT THREE DIFFERENT RESTAURANTS. AFTER EACH THEFT, TWO WOMEN WERE CAUGHT ON SURVEILLANCE VIDEOS COMMITTING CREDIT CARD FRAUD.

INVESTIGATORS SAY AFTER THIS VIDEO WENT PUBLIC, A FOURTH VICTIM CAME FORWARD. THE OWNERSHIP OF ROOFTOP IS NOW OFFERING A ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR REWARD FOR SOMEONE TO COME FORWARD WITH INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARRESTS OF THE TWO SUSPECTS

Hargis: "Yeah, our ownership is just upset that this has happening in our area of downtown Walnut Creek and they'd like to offer up a \$1000 reward, you know, to help find these two women and set an example that you can't come into Walnut Creek and steal people's personal belongings. We're watching you on cameras. We're glad we have the footage and we hope someone turns in some information on these two."

IN WALNUT CREEK HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

CRIME

9/1/16 KRON 4 Evening News

How to protect yourself from latest phone scam

PHONE SCAM ALERT.... TODAY, THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY ISSUED A PUBLIC WARNING ABOUT HARRASSING "ROBO-CALLS" THAT HE SAYS HAVE BECOME WIDESPREAD. KRON 4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL EXPLAINS THE PROBLEM AND HOW THE D.A.'S OFFICE SAYS YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELVES FROM BECOMING A VICTIM:

Robo-caller: "Hello, we have been trying to reach you."

AT AN ALARMING RATE...

Phone customer: "It's very annoying."

Robo-caller: "This call is officially a final notice from IRS."

...FRAUDULENT ROBO-CALLS ARE PESTERING LANDLINE AND CELLPHONE USERS LIKE LUCY GONZALES.

Gonzales: "I just ignore it and hang up."

OFTEN DURING THESE CALLS, THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SAYS, THE POTENTIAL VICTIMS ARE ASKED TO SEND MONEY OR PROVIDE PERSONAL INFORMATION.

Contra Costa County DA Office: "We found that the best protection is a healthy dose of skepticism."

THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SAYS PHONE SCAMMERS HAVE BEEN AT IT FOR MONTHS, BUT RECENTLY, THE NUMBER OF CALLS, NATIONWIDE, HAS ESCALATED.

Contra Costa County DA Office: "A lot of the victims go essentially unreported in this case. I mean, sometimes people are embarrassed to admit that they got ripped off."

SENIOR DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY STEVE MOAWAD SAYS THE NATURE OF THE CALLS RUN THE GAMUT FROM ALLEGED POLICE OFFICERS CLAIMING A PERSON'S PERSONAL INFORMATION HAS BEEN COMPROMISED AND WILL RECEIVE A VISIT FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT TO FAKE FAMILY MEMBERS PRETENDING TO BE IN TROUBLE OVERSEAS IN NEED OF MONEY TO THE IRS THREATENING LAWSUITS.

Robo-caller: "The reason of this call is to inform you that IRS is filing lawsuit against you."

MOAWAD SAYS KEEP IN MIND THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL NEVER ASK FOR A PAYMENT OVER THE PHONE. HE SAYS IRS AGENTS TYPICALLY REACH OUT BY MAIL FIRST AND NEVER DEMAND PAYMENTS FROM DEBIT OR CREDIT CARDS.

THE DA'S OFFICE SAYS THE ROBO-CALLS ARE A NATIONWIDE PROBLEM, STEMMING FROM SCAMMERS RENTING OR BUYING PHONE NUMBERS IN BULK. MOAWAD SAYS THIS CRIME IS TOUGH TO PROSECUTE BECAUSE MANY OF THESE OPERATIONS ARE RUN OVERSEAS.

Moawad: "There are laws about unsolicited phone calls and robo-calls. Those are generally federal laws, and that's why we refer them to the Federal Trade Commission. A number of these callers may be from outside the country, so even if we could track them down to a particular location, it'd be hard to bring them in to Contra Costa County to prosecute them."

IF YOU DO RECEIVE ONE OF THESE HARRASSING PHONE CALLS, MOAWAD SAYS, YOU CAN CALL YOU LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT, BUT IT'S BEST TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION OR I-R-S DEPENDING ON THE NATURE OF THE CALL.

AND YOU CAN FOLLOW LUCY'S LEAD...

Gonzales: "I block them."

IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

9/19/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Bike theft on the rise at BART

NEW TONIGHT, WE HAVE A WARNING FOR PEOPLE WHO LEAVE THEIR BIKES AT BART STATIONS. THE TRANSIT AGENCY IS SAYING THIEVES HAVE STARTED TARGETING BIKES SECURED WITH U-LOCKS. THIS IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNING BECAUSE BART HAS LONG ADVISED RIDERS TO USE THE U-LOCKS. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD IS IN PLEASANTON WITH DETAILS:

OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, BART HAS SEEN AN OVERALL DECREASE IN THE NUMER OF BIKES BEING STOLEN EVEN WHILE BIKE RIDERSHIP HAS GONE UP.

Alicia Trost, BART spokesperson: "Bike ridership is up big time at BART. A 33 percent increase in the past few years. So it's wonderful news that while we have had this surge in bike riders, we have not been seeing more thefts."

AS PART OF AN ONGING EFFORT TO REDUCE BIKE THEFTS, BART ADVISES RIDERS TO SECURE THEIR BIKES WITH STURDY U-LOCKS INSTEAD OF CALBE LOCKS. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE IS GROWING EVIDENCE THAT U-LOCKS MIGHT NOT BE ENOUGH.

Trost: "But what we are now seeing for the first time is thieves cutting through u-locks, and that's upsetting."

Bruce Engelfried, bike rider: "I have both. I have a cable and I have a u-lock."

BRUCE ENGELFRIED RIDES HIS BIKE TO BART FOR WORK. HE SAYS HEARING THAT THIEVES ARE NOW CUTTING THROUGH U-LOCKS IS BAD NEWS.

Engelfried: "Yeah it's concerning of course, especially since I can't afford another bike."

BART OFFICIALS SAY THEY WILL CONTINUE TO ADVISE PEOPLE TO USE U-LOCKS. THEY'RE STILL BETTER THAN CABLE LOCKS. BART ALSO SAYS THEY ARE PLANNING EXPANDING SECURE BIKE PARKING TO MORE THAN A DOZEN ADDITIONAL STATIONS.

Trost: "Those are really 100 percent theft proof because you walk it to an attendant and the leave it safe and secure in an office environment."

BART ADVISES USING TWO U-LOCKS IF POSSIBLE AND TO PARK BIKES AT THE INDOORS BIKE RACKS IF POSSIBLE.

IN PLEASANTON CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

9/19/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm
Local college prioritizing student safety

HAPPENING NOW AROUND THE BAY AREA AND THE NATION, UNIVERSITIES ARE TRYING TO STOP THE GROWING PROBLEM OF SEX ASSAULTS. THE STANFORD RAPE CASE AND THE RECENT SEX ASSAULTS AT A U.C. BERKELEY CONCERT ARE JUST SOME OF THE RECENT EXAMPLES. NOW, ONE BAY AREA COLLEGE IS HANDING OUT SOMETHING SMALL THAT COULD HELP STOP A CRIME. KRON 4'S SPENCER BLAKE REPORTS AT CAL STATE EAST BAY ON THIS NEW PERSONAL ALARM STUDENTS ARE GETTING:

THIS IS PART TWO OF POLICE CHIEF SHERYL BOYKINS SAFETY INITIATIVE FOR CAL STATE EAST BAY. HER DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY ENCOURAGED STUDENTS TO USE THE 'RAVE GUARDIAN'

APP, WHICH CAN HELP POLICE TRACK YOUR WHEREABOUTS IF YOU HAVE TO WALK SOMEWHERE ALONE AND DON'T FEEL SAFE.

Julia Samar, Cal State EB student: "We're probably the safest campus in the region."
NOW, THEY'RE JUST STARTING TO HAND OUT ROBOCOPPS – LOCALLY MADE PERSONAL SAFETY ALARMS.

Chief Sheryl Boykins: "It's easy to activate, it's lightweight. It's kind of tech-savvy, and we think the students will use it. Students can hook it on their clothing very easily, They can hook it on their backpacks, they can hook it on their belts."

Student: "Yeah, I'd probably carry it on campus, yeah. Just put it in my backpack."

Boykins "And the longer it is separated, the device is activated, the louder it gets."

Student: "Grab it and pull it."

Student: "It's really loud."

THE FIRST PEOPLE TO GET THEM WERE STUDENTS MOVING INTO ON-CAMPUS HOUSING LAST WEEK. SOON, ALL INCOMING FRESHMEN WILL BE ABLE TO GET THEIR HANDS ON THEM. EVEN THOUGH CLASSES DON'T START UNTIL WEDNESDAY, SOME STUDENTS HAVE ALREADY HEARD ABOUT THEM. THEY'RE EASY TO USE, BUT THEY MIGHT TAKE SOME GETTING USED TO.

Student: "That won't be like my first reaction to pull it out and have it blare."

THOUGH A LOUD NOISEMAKER MIGHT BE TEMPTING FOR SOME MILLENIALS TO USE AS A PRANK, CHIEF BOYKINS DOESN'T THINK THAT WILL BE A PROBLEM.

Boykins: "I think there's a real distinction between high school and college, and the students that would probably do that are in high school."

SO FAR ON-CAMPUS HOUSING HAS GIVEN OUT JUST UNDER A THOUSAND ROBOCOPPS, AND THERE ARE FOUR THOUSAND MORE WAITING TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO INCOMING FRESHMEN OR TO ANYONE WHO STOPS BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO GET ONE.

IT'S PERFECT FOR MELLIE BARON, WHO WAS ALREADY CONCERNED FOR HER SAFETY BEFORE SHE CAME TO SCHOOL.

Brown."Yeah, I was looking into apps that would have something similar to that - that could call for help if I needed it."

UNIVERSITY POLICE TESTED SEVERAL SIMILAR DEVICES BEFORE SELECTING THIS ONE - FROM OAKLAND-BASED COMPANY ROBOCOPP. THREE OTHER UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS PITCHED IN TO HELP PAY FOR THE FIRST FIVE THOUSAND.

CHIEF BOYKINS IS MIXED ON WHAT FUTURE ALARM STATISTICS MIGHT SHOW. BECAUSE THE ALARMS DON'T SEND ANY AUTO-ALERTS TO POLICE, BOYKINS HOPES ANYONE WHO DOES HAVE TO USE THE ALARM WILL COME LET POLICE KNOW ABOUT IT AFTERWARDS.

Boykins: "If we use it and it's successful, that means we've had a victim. And so that's not really what we want. But it's hard to determine, if it never gets used, was it a good product or not?"

AFTER HANDING OUT THOSE PERSONAL SAFETY ALARSM, THE NEXT SAFETY INITIATIVE ON CHIEF BOYKIN'S LIST WILL BE TO HAVE TRAININGS TO TEACH PEOPLE ON CAMPUS WHAT TO DO IF THERE'S A VIOLENT INTRUDER.

IN HAYWARD SPENCER BLAKE KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

9/26/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Is violent crime increasing in America?

IF YOU'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THE NEWS IN THE PAST FEW DAYS, YOU'VE SEEN STORY AFTER STORY ABOUT VIOLENT CRIME. FIVE PEOPLE KILLED AT A MALL IN WASHINGTON STATE ON FRIDAY. THREE MURDERED IN ORANGE COUNTY. ONE DEAD AND FOUR SHOT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS. AND TODAY, A NEW MASS SHOOTING IN TEXAS.

Texas police spokesperson: "The individual was firing actively at the officers, at which time the officers engaged the individual. Suspect was pronounced dead."

NINE PEOPLE WERE INJURED WHEN THE SUSPECT, DESCRIBED AS A DISGRUNTLED LAWYER, OPENED FIRE AT A STRIP MALL IN SOUTHWEST HOUSTON. ONE PERSON IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION.

IN WASHINGTON STATE, THE MAN ACCUSED OF GUNNING DOWN FOUR WOMEN AND A MAN AT A SHOPPING MALL FRIDAY WAS CHARGED WITH FIVE MURDER COUNTS.

GUNFIRE JUST AFTER MIDNIGHT YESTERDAY NEAR THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS. A DISPUTE ENDED WITH FOUR PEOPLE SHOT.

Witness: "People were covered in blood, like all over their face."

ONE OF THOSE VICTIMS DIED AND THE CAMPUS IS IN SHOCK.

Student: "I'm so thankful to God that I am still here. It could have been anyone."

THE FBI SAYS VIOLENT CRIME INCREASED LAST YEAR, BUT ONLY BY FOUR PERCENT. AND THAT IS STILL 40 PERCENT BELOW THE LEVELS OF THE 1990S. MURDERS, RAPES AND AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS ARE ALL DOWN SHARPLY IN THE PAST TEN YEARS. THE REPORT ALSO NAMES THE MOST DANGEROUS CITIES. BALTIMORE TOPS THE LIST, FOLLOWED BY DETROIT, MILWAUKEE AND WASHINGTON D.C. OAKLAND IS IN SEVENTH PLACE AND CHICAGO, DESPITE ITS REPUTATION, BARELY MAKES IT IN THE TOP TEN.

3Q2016 DIVERSITY

DIVERSITY

7/11/16 KRON4 News at 8pm
Report confirms racial bias at SFPD

RACIAL BIAS DOES EXIST WITHIN THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT. SO SAYS A SCATHING NEW REPORT BY A BLUE RIBBON PANEL CHARGED WITH INVESTIGATING THE DEPARTMENT. PANEL MEMBERS SAID THE SFPD HAS A LOUSY SYSTEM OF OVERSIGHT AND TRANSPARENCY IS LACKING, BECAUSE DATA THAT IS COLLECTED IS NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO ANALYZE AND DETERMINE IF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ARE BEING FOLLOWED. THE REPORT ALSO HAS HARSH WORDS FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE UNION.

THE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION SHOT BACK, CALLING THE SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT ATTORNEY, WHO ESTABLISHED THE PANEL, BIASED. THE P-O-A ALSO REFERRED TO THE PANEL AS A "KANGAROO COURT." THE REPORT ALSO HAD SOME RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDING ESTABLISHING A POSITION TO REVIEW S-F-P-D POLICIES AND MAKE SURE THEY ARE WORKING.

KRON 4'S ALECIA REID SPOKE WITH A COMMUNITY ADVOCATE TODAY ABOUT THE REPORT.

Oscar Salinas, community advocate: "We don't have very much confidence in these types of findings, but we are confident that we will not go away and we will consistently put pressure on the Mayor's office, on the Chief."

THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS HAD ITS SHARE OF PROBLEMS. NOW, FINDINGS BY THE BLUE RIBBON PANEL SHOW THAT COMPLAINTS BY MINORITIES AFFIRM THERE'S A SYSTEMATIC PROBLEM WHEN IT COMES TO RACE RELATIONS. OSCAR SALINAS' FRIEND ALEX NIETO WAS SHOT AND KILLED BY POLICE. SALINAS BELIEVES A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY, CAN CUT DOWN ON RACIALLY BIASED STOPS AND POLICE INVOLVED SHOOTINGS. BLACK AND LATINO PEOPLE ARE SEARCHED FAR MORE THAN WHITE AND ASIAN PEOPLE.

Salinas: "The community wants the SFPD to do more community policing. We want to engage so they know who we are in the community so they don't have to stop and search us anymore."

WHEN THERE ARE ISSUES WITH PARTICULAR OFFICERS, THE INVESTIGATION FINDS THAT COMPLAINTS TO THE OFFICE OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RARELY LEAD TO ANY CONSEQUENCES.

Salinas: "More than likely there's never any discipline for any of the officers at all."

WITH THE DIFFERENT FINDINGS, THERE'S HOPE THAT THIS WILL LEAD TO CHANGE. WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY LEAD TO THE COMMUNITY TRUSTING THE OFFICERS THAT ARE SWORN TO PROTECT THEM.

Salinas: "I'll tell you right now there are a whole bunch of dedicated coalitions that will be putting pressure to make sure that this goes forward. I think it's very important that the city, the Mayor, the Chief, and SFPD work with the community and that's the bottom line."

THEIR GOAL IS TO HAVE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT. WITH THESE FINDINGS, ACTIVISTS HOPE THEY CAN WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE CHANGE.

REPORTING IN SAN FRANCISCO ALECIA REID KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

7/13/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Evidence of hate mongering reported in San Francisco

REPORTS OF HATE MONGERING IN SAN FRANCISCO'S HAIGHT ASHBURY NEIGHBORHOOD HAS RESIDENTS AND POLICE CONCERNED. RECRUITMENT FLIERS FOR THE KU KLUX KLAN HAVE BEEN REPORTEDLY SPOTTED IN SEVERAL LOCATIONS IN THAT PART OF TOWN. KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY GOT REACTION:

HERE'S A PHOTO OF THE FLIER THAT WAS POSTED ON THE NEWS BLOG HOODLINE. IT ACCUSES THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT OF TELLING ITS FOLLOWERS TO KILL WHITE PEOPLE AND POLICE OFFICERS AND CALLS ON WHITES TO JOIN THE KKK BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

IT'S REPORTEDLY BEEN FOUND IN SEVERAL DOORWAYS IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD AND WHILE MANY HAD HEARD ABOUT IT THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA, NO ONE I TALKED TO HAD ACTUALLY SEEN IT THEMSELVES. BUT NEVERTHELESS THEY ARE DISTURBED.

Resident: "This is horrible. Horrible!"

Resident: "I'm a little bit shocked by that. But I think it's probably getting taken down as fast as it's being put up. You know what I mean? Because that's not how we're rockin' out here."

Resident: "If you really feel like you should come out into public. Just like the Black Lives Matter. Those protesters, they're out. You see them. You see their faces. Show your faces!"

I CALLED THE PHONE NUMBER ON THE FLYER SO THIS HAIGHT STREET RESIDENT COULD HEAR IT THE MESSAGE...

Message: "For far too long, these liberals have lodged ... [inaudible]"

HE FOUND THE RECORDED MESSAGE LAUGHABLE.

Resident: "That's just crazy. But It seems too elaborate to be a joke."

MANY WERE CONFUSED WHY SOMEONE WOULD BOTHER TO TRY TO RECRUIT FOR A WHITE POWER ORGANIZATION IN AN AREA MADE SO FAMOUS BY THE 60'S PEACE MOVEMENT THAT TOUR BUSES CAN OFTEN BE SEEN ROLLING THROUGH. THIS TOURIST IN TIE DYE SAYS HE'S SAD FOR THOSE WHO HAD TO SEE IT.

Tourist: There's crazy people in the world. What can you say? Just ignore them and rise above it."

THE POLICE SAY NO CRIME AS BEEN COMMITTED BUT THEY ARE STILL INTERESTED IN HEARING FROM ANYONE WHO'S GOTTEN THIS FLIER.

Captain John Sanford, SFPD: "Although they have a right to their first amendment freedom of expression, we just want to make sure that it's not related to any type of hate crime."

LATE THIS AFTERNOON SOMEONE POSTED A RESPONSE TO THE KU KLUX KLAN ON A LIGHT POLE THAT READS "NOBODY WANTS TO JOIN YOUR PATHETIC HATE GROUP SO YOU CAN KEEP YOUR BEDSHEETS AND RACISM TO YOURSELF."

APPARENTLY HATERS AREN'T WELCOME ON HAIGHT STREET.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

7/14/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Kids and cops hold community meeting in Oakland

FOLLOWING THE RECENT OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS, AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS IN OAKLAND HAD AN OPEN AND HONEST CONVERSATION WITH LOCAL POLICE ON RACIAL PROFILING. KRON 4'S ELLA SOGOMONIAN CAPTURED BOTH SIDES AND WHAT THEY FEEL CAN BE DONE TO INSTILL TRUST ONCE AGAIN IN THE COMMUNITY'S COPS.

Glen Phason, Oakland school district junior: "It's a great chance to get our voice heard and let them know how we feel about what's going on."

FOLLOWING NATIONAL HEADLINES ABOUT ALLEGED POLICE BRUTALITY, FOUR OAKLAND UNIFIED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS VOICED CONCERNS ABOUT RACIAL PROFILING.

Darius Aikens, Oakland school district senior: "We've heard from everyone except those most impacted, our young African American males. So it's important that we get their understanding, their perspective."

Charles Cole III, community engagement specialist with the Oakland Unified School District: "And you could tell that they were a little bit nervous, but I don't care. I really wanted them to have comments and thoughts because they are the folks that have to walk down these streets and have certain feeling about cops."

TODAY'S OPEN DIALOGUE ALLOWED OFFICERS TO EXPLAIN THE NECESSITY OF THE USE OF FORCE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPLYING DURING A STOP. THEY SAY THE HIGH STRESS OF APPROACHING A STRANGER IN A CRIME-RIDDEN AREA COULD CAUSE A SITUATION TO QUICKLY ESCALATE, SO IT'S BETTER TO REPORT WHAT MAY BE AN UNJUST ACTION BY AN OFFICER AFTER YOU'RE STOPPED.

Alex Galloway, Oakland Police Department: "You go in with this mindset of maybe this car stop might be dangerous and usually as a cop you have a split second to make a decision."

STUDENTS ADMITTED THEIR CLASSMATES FEEL THREATENED BY POLICE PRESENCE.

Glen Phason, Oakland junior: "A lot of students don't really get along with police especially the area that we're in."

BUT BOTH GROUPS AGREED CONSISTENT HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS VISITS BY OAKLAND POLICE COULD HELP BUILD TRUST IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FREE OF THE DRAMA ON THE STREETS.

Aikens: "They get to spend more time with the students, not just guarding the school, but also more personalized."

Officer Galloway: "I like to interact with people. I like to speak with people and just let them know that I'm human."

TO COMBAT STEREOTYPING BY BOTH THE COMMUNITY AND POLICE, OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE CHIEF JEFF GODOWN HAS OFFICERS ENGAGE WITH STUDENTS ON CAMPUS AND IN TURN BREAK DOWN WALLS.

Jeff Godown, OUSD Police Chief: "We've got a lot of officers that have been mentoring students that I think are positive interactions and they get a chance to see the officer's other side."

COME NEW SCHOOL YEAR, THE EFFORT MAY BE SHIFTED TO HIGH SCHOOLS, AND ALTHOUGH STUDENTS ON THE PANEL SAY SOME OF THEIR CLASSMATES MAY TEASE COPS ON CAMPUS, THEY AGREE WITH CONSISTENT VISITS THAT COULD CHANGE FOR THE BETTER.

Phason: "I'm open to them visiting our campus and things like that. Or if we could maybe visit the police station."

IN OAKLAND ELLA SOGOMONIAN KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

7/15/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Follow-up on KKK fliers

WE ARE LEARNING MORE TONIGHT ABOUT THOSE KU KLUX KLAN FLIERS THAT HAVE BEEN CIRCULATING IN SAN FRANCISCO'S HAIGHT ASHBURY. KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY TALKED WITH A HIGH RANKING MEMBER OF THE NOTORIOUS ORGANIZATION WHO CONFIRMED THE FLYERS ARE PART OF A NATIONWIDE RECRUITMENT EFFORT.

THE GRAND DRAGON OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE KKK CONFIRMS THAT THE FLIERS REPORTEDLY LEFT AT SEVERAL HOMES IN THE HAIGHT ASHBURY ARE THE REAL DEAL. THIS IS A PHOTO OF ONE POSTED ON THE NEWS BLOG HOODLINE. HE SAYS THE NEIGHBORHOOD, MADE WORLD FAMOUS DURING THE 60'S SUMMER OF LOVE FOR BEING THE EPICENTER OF PEACE AND TOLERANCE, WAS NOT SPECIFICALLY TARGETTED, BUT ON THE PHONE HE TOLD ME HIS GROUP IS NOT SHYING AWAY FROM LIBERAL AREAS.

Grand Dragon: "We are actively recruiting in every city, county, and state in the United States of America. I'm sure there are some people who don't like these flyers, but these flyers need to be put out there."

THIS IS A PHOTO OF THE KLANSMAN, BASED IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. HE CLAIMS THAT THE KKK NO LONGER ADVOCATES KILLING BLACK AMERICANS BUT IS NOW A WHITE CHRISTIAN CIVIL RIGHTS ORGANIZATION.

Grand Dragon: "We are not racist. We are not white supremacist. And we are not violent. But if violence is brought upon us, we put that threat down. You look at the flier and the verbiage is there. It's defined by race, talking about elevating the white race, the only race is the human race."

I SHOWED THE FLYER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER OF THE NAACP, REVEREND AMOS BROWN. YOU CAN SEE IT MENTIONS THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT, ACCUSING THEM OF TELLING FOLLOWERS TO KILL WHITE PEOPLE AND POLICE. BUT THE REVEREND SAYS THAT'S NOT WHAT THAT MOVEMENT IS ABOUT.

Rev. Brown: "The Black Lives Matter movement was in response to the age-old historical expression of black lives not mattering."

REV. BROWN SAYS HE'S CONCERNED TO SEE EVIDENCE OF THE KLAN'S RESURGANCE JUST BLOCKS FROM THE CHURCH HE LEADS.

Rev. Brown: "We got evil in our own house and our own backyard emerging out of the minds of folks who claim to be Christian."

THE GRAND DRAGON CLAIMS THIS CAMPAIGN HAS GENERATED A NUMBER OF INTERESTED MEMBERS FROM ALL OVER THE WEST AND EVEN SOME FROM THE BAY AREA.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

7/21/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Racial disparity in restaurant wages

STUNNING NEW NUMBERS ON THE RESTAURANT INDUSTRY IN THE BAY AREA. A REPORT SAYS THERE IS A LARGE RACIAL PAY GAP AMONG WORKERS. ACCORDING TO "RESTAURANT OPPORTUNITIES CENTER UNITED," WORKERS OF COLOR ARE PAID \$6.12 LESS PER HOUR THAN WHITE WORKERS AT FINE DINING ESTABLISHMENTS.

THE STUDY SAYS PART OF IT IS BECAUSE OF THE POSITIONS THEY HOLD. WHITE WORKERS MAKE UP LESS THAN ONE QUARTER OF THE WORK FORCE. HOWEVER THEY ACCOUNT FOR 55 PERCENT OF THE BARTENDER POSITIONS. THEY ALSO HAVE 35 PERCENT OF SERVING POSITIONS.

DIVERSITY

7/25/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Michael Jordan speaks out on police violence

A MAN WIDELY CONSIDERED TO BE THE BEST N-B-A PLAYER OF ALL TIME IS SPEAKING OUT ABOUT RECENT SHOOTINGS INVOLVING POLICE AND DONATING MILLIONS TOWARDS IMPROVING OFFICER AND CITIZEN RELATIONS. BASKETBALL LEGEND MICHAEL JORDAN... WILL DONATE \$1 MILLION TO THE INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY-POLICE RELATIONS AND \$1 MILLION TO THE NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE FUND.

JORDAN ALSO RELEASED A STATEMENT WHERE HE SAID "I GRIEVE WITH THE FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES, AS I KNOW THEIR PAIN TOO WELL..." HE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT

THE CONTRIBUTIONS WILL NOT COMPLETELY FIX THE PROBLEMS, BUT HOPED TO USE THEM TO HELP THE ORGANIZATIONS MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE.

DIVERSITY

8/1/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Oakland tries to address homeless camp problems

MORE HOMELESS PEOPLE ARE SETTING UP TENTS IN THE EAST BAY. SOME RESIDENTS SAY IT'S BECOMING MORE AND MORE OF A PROBLEM. KRON 4'S HERMELA AREGAWI SPOKE TO CITY LEADERS ABOUT WHAT'S BEING DONE TO MANAGE THE ISSUE.

THIS IS ALL THAT'S LEFT OF THIS TENT CITY ON 16TH AND EMBARCADERO. THE CITY JUST CLEANED IT UP. DONNA EWING STILL LIVES HERE. SHE HELPED THE CITY WITH THE CLEANUP AND IS BEING ALLOWED TO STAY.

Donna Ewing, tent city resident: "I'm living in a tent right now. It's hard out here. Us homeless people get a lot of the blame when the cars are broken in and stuff like that and it's actually not us homeless people. It's cold out here in the nighttime and that's why everyone throws everything out."

THIS CAMP IS ON 5TH AND BRUSH STREET AND IS JUST ABOUT A MONTH OLD. IT'S ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT TENT CITIES IN THE AREA.

HOW QUICKLY A TENT CITY IS REMOVED CAN DEPEND ON ITS LOCATION. SO, FOR EXAMPLE THIS ONE WHERE IT'S REMOTE AND THERE AREN'T A LOT OF BUSINESSES, THE TENTS MAY BE ALLOWED TO STICK AROUND LONGER.

Noel Gallo, Oakland city council member: "In areas like this, I don't get a complaint so they'll stay until someone complains. Usually in the neighborhoods, the parks, the business corridor, the complaints come immediately and in numbers and so we tend to address those first."

OAKLAND CITY COUNCILMAN NOEL GALLO SAYS THE CITY IS LOOKING FOR SOLUTIONS BUT IS COMING ACROSS OBSTACLES.

Gallo: "We're looking at the tiny house issue and those cost about three thousand dollars and will be on public lands on CalTrain. But, the issue we're having right now is who's going to take care of them?"

IN OAKLAND HERMELA AREGAWI KRON 4 NEWS.

DIVERSITY

8/12/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Public outcry over gay shaming at Olympics

THE DAILY BEAST WEBSITE IS TAKING AN UNUSUAL STEP AND REMOVING AN ARTICLE AFTER PUBLIC BACKLASH FOR REVEALING INFORMATION ABOUT GAY ATHLETES IN RIO WHO HAD NOT COME OUT OF THE CLOSET. KRON 4'S VICKI LIIVIAKIS IS HERE WITH DETAILS ABOUT THE CONTROVERSIAL ARTICLE AND WHY IT WAS CONSIDERED DANGEROUS TO THE ATHLETES.

THE PIECE WAS CALLED "I GOT THREE GRINDR DATES IN ONE HOUR IN THE OLYMPIC VILLAGE." THE IDEA WAS TO SHOW HOW MUCH "HOOKING UP" WAS GOING ON AMONG ATHLETES.

READERS SLAMMED IT FOR BEING OFFENSIVE, IRRESPONSIBLE AND DOWNRIGHT DANGEROUS FOR GAY ATHLETES. AT FIRST THE NEWS WEBSITE REVISED THE ARTICLE THEN ISSUED AN APOLOGY AND TOOK IT DOWN.

MOST OF THE OUTRAGE WAS BASED ON HOW "OUTED" ATHLETES FROM COUNTRIES WITH HARSH ANTI-GAY LAWS COULD BE PUT IN DANGER WHERE HOMOSEXUALITY IS PUNISHABLE BY DEATH.

NO NAMES WERE USED BUT THERE WERE PROFILES AND COUNTRIES. AGAIN, THAT ARTICLE IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE.

DIVERSITY

8/12/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Olympics results inspire African American children to swim

SIMONE MANUEL BECAME THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN TO CAPTURE A GOLD MEDAL FOR THE U.S. IN SWIMMING WITH A VICTORY IN THE 100 METER FREESTYLE. AND THE STANFORD CARDINAL IS INSPIRING KIDS TO GET IN THE POOL.

WE WENT TO BURLINGAME AQUATIC CLUB TODAY WHERE KIDS OF ALL AGES WERE SPLASHING AROUND AND WORKING ON THEIR STROKES.

BUT WE ALSO DID A LITTLE DIGGING TODAY. AND WE FOUND THIS STATISTIC. ALMOST 69 PERCENT OF AFICAN AMERICAN CHILDRED HAD "LOW OR NO SWIM ABILITY" ACCORDING TO A 2010 STUDY BY USA SWIMMING.

SIMONE'S HISTORIC WIN COULD BE A GAME CHANGER AND INSPIRE OTHER KIDS TO DREAM BIG AND SWIM.

Ben Chung, Burlingame Aquatic Club: "There aren't a lot of minorities involved. To see someone from the minority community rise to that height is something all minorities can identify with and be really excited about."

SIMONE IS JUST 20 YEARS OLD AND SHE HAS SAID THAT SHE ALMOST QUIT SWIMMING BECAUSE SHE HAD ISSUES WITH NOT SEEING PEOPLE WHO LOOKED LIKE HER IN THE SPORT. BUT TODAY SIMONE SAID SHE IS GRATEFUL AND BLESSED AND THAT TO INSPIRE OTHERS IS SOMETHING SHE IS REALLY PROUD SHE CAN DO.

SIMONE HAS ONE MORE EVENT TOMORROW.

DIVERSITY

8/16/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Navy dedicates ship named after gay rights advocate

AN HISTORIC MOMENT ON TREASURE ISLAND TODAY AS THE NAVY HELD A NAMING CEREMONY FOR A SHIP ABOUT TO BE BUILT. IN RECOGNITION THAT THE MILITARY HAS GONE BEYOND DON'T ASK DON'T TELL, A NEW CLASS OF SHIPS WILL BE NAMED FOR CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS LEADERS. TO THAT END, TODAY A NEW SHIP ABOUT TO BE BUILT WAS NAMED AFTER GAY RIGHTS ADVOCATE HARVEY MILK.

Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy: "To name a ship for a person who stood for and was killed for equality, justice, freedom, Harvey Milk."

Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi: "The USNS Harvey Milk is another powerful sign of how far we've come."

Mabus: "Next month the military will celebrate the fifth anniversary of the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

Pelosi: "When we repealed Don't Ask Don't Tell we became stronger and when we ended the ban on transgender service we became stronger. Mr. Secretary, your announcement today that a United States Navy ship will forever bear the name USNS Harvey Milk is part of the legacy of Harvey's unfinished work."

AS WAS APPROPRIATE THE CEREMONY WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE SAN FRANCISCO GAY MEN'S CHOIR. MILK MADE HISTORY BECOMING THE FIRST OPENLY GAY ELECTED OFFICIAL IN

CALIFORNIA. HE WAS ELECTED TO SAN FRANCISCO'S BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN 1977 AND ALONG WITH MAYOR GEORGE MOSCONE WAS ASSASSINATED BY DAN WHITE THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

DIVERSITY

8/22/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Ongoing controversy over transgender restrooms

AS SCHOOL GETS BACK UNDERWAY, A FEDERAL JUDGE IN TEXAS IS BLOCKING THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S DIRECTIVE ON TRANSGENDER RESTROOMS. THE ADMINISTRATION HAS DIRECTED PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO ALLOW PEOPLE WHO ARE TRANSGENDER ACCESS TO THE RESTROOM OF THEIR CHOICE.

BUT ON SUNDAY, A FEDERAL JUDGE GRANTED A TEMPORARY NATIONWIDE INJUNCTION AGAINST THE POLICY. THAT MEANS, FOR NOW, FEDERAL AGENCIES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST SCHOOLS WHICH DO NOT FOLLOW THE RESTROOM POLICY.

TODAY, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY JOSH ERNEST WAS ASKED ABOUT THE INJUNCTION .

Ernest: "Our goal has been from the beginning to provide for the safety and security dignity of students all across the country. So I guess the point is we have a lot of confidence in the guidance that was put forward. We certainly have a lot of confidence in the legal basis for issuing that guidance but obviously we are respectful of rulings that are put forth by federal judges. My colleagues in the Justice Department can comment on the next steps in the legal process."

MANY SUPPORTERS SAY THE POLICY IS NECESSARY TO PROTECT TRANSGENDER STUDENTS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION.

DIVERSITY

8/23/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Legal ruling on gay aversion therapy

A FEDERAL APPEALS COURT HAS AGAIN UPHELD CALIFORNIA'S BAN ON "GAY AVERSION THERAPY." CATHERINE HEENAN IS HERE WITH DETAILS ON THE RULING:

CALIFORNIA WAS THE FIRST STATE IN THE NATION TO BAN THE ATTEMPT TO USE THERAPY TO "TREAT" GAY PATIENTS. AND THIS IS THE SECOND TIME A FEDERAL APPEALS COURT HAS UPHELD THE BAN WHICH WAS SIGNED INTO LAW BY GOVERNOR BROWN IN 2012.

THE COURT TODAY TOSSED OUT A LEGAL CHALLENGE FROM A SAN DIEGO PASTOR. AND IT THREW OUT A SIMILAR LAWSUIT IN 2014. THAT SAME YEAR, A BAN WAS ALSO UPHELD IN NEW JERSEY. THE U.S. SUPREME COURT DECLINED TO HEAR BOTH CASES..

THE 9TH CIRCUIT SAID TODAY THAT THE BAN DOES NOT VIOLATE RELIGIOUS RIGHTS BECAUSE THE LAW IS LIMITED ONLY TO LICENSED THERAPISTS -- AND NOT AIMED AT PASTORS OR OTHER RELIGIOUS LEADERS.

DIVERSITY

9/14/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Homeless outreach

YOU SEE HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS ACROSS THE AREA. BUT THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO HAS STARTED TARGETING ENCAMPMENTS IN THE MISSION DISTRICT. WHILE NOT EVERYONE IS

HAPPY ABOUT IT, WE TALKED TO A HOMELESS MAN WHO SAYS HE'S IN FAVOR OF THE CITY MAKING HIM MOVE. KRON4'S LYDIA PANTAZES SHOWS US WHY.

J.R. Carter: "I don't know, it ain't much."

J.R CARTER HAS LIVED ON THE STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO FOR 17 YEARS. RIGHT NOW HE CALLS THE CORNER OF 19TH AND FOLSOM HIS HOME. BUT HE KNOWS HE'LL HAVE TO MOVE.

Carter: "It's kind of a cat and mouse game."

HE SAYS POLICE HAVE ALREADY MADE HIM MOVE SEVERAL TIMES.

Carter: "They'll have you move across the street and like a week later, they'll have you move right back."

BUT THE CITY IS HOPING TO PUT AN END TO THIS "CAT AND MOUSE GAME." THE HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM CAME OUT TO THE AREA TO TELL PEOPLE THEY'LL HAVE TO LEAVE WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. BUT THEY'RE ALSO TRYING TO GIVE PEOPLE RESOURCES SO THEY DON'T COME BACK.

City homeless outreach spokesperson: "We come out to the street with a nurse from time to time, substance abuse providers to engage with folks and to help people identify an individualized plan to help them get some to a place of safety."

THE HOPE IS TO MOVE THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE TO NAVIGATION CENTERS OR SHELTERS.

Reporter to Carter: "If they come here and ask you to go to a shelter, are you willing to go?"

Unidentified homeless encampment resident: "No, I'm not."

WHILE SOME SAY THEY WON'T, OTHERS ARE ANXIOUSLY WAITING TO GET INTO ONE OF THE CITY'S NAVIGATION CENTERS.

Carter: "I'm just getting too old and I've got a lot of health problems right now, It' just too hard living like this, I need a bed and some cable TV and a shower."

J.R. CARTER SAYS THAT'S ALL HE NEEDS.

Carter: "My American dream."

IN SAN FRANCISCO, LYDIA PANTAZES KRON4 NEWS.

DIVERSITY

9/16/16 KRON 4 News at10pm

Local high school football team takes a knee

THE SOCIAL PROTEST STARTED BY 49ERr COLIN KAEPERNICK HAS NOW SPREAD TO THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL. PLAYERS FROM SAN FRANCISCO'S MISSION HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM TOOK A KNEE DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AT TONIGHT'S VARSITY FOOTBALL GAME. AND THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THEY HAVE DONE IT. KRON 4'S SPENCER BLAKE SPOKE WITH SEVERAL OF THE PLAYERS TODAY:

FOR THE SECOND WEEK IN A ROW, MISSION HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYERS KNELT TOGETHER DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM. THEIR FIRST GO AT THE COLIN KAEPERNICK-INSPIRED GESTURE WAS LAST WEEKEND IN A GAME AGAINST REDWOOD HIGH. THE TEAM HAD BEEN TALKING ABOUT RACIAL INJUSTICES AND COLIN KAEPERNICK'S STATEMENTS ON THE BUS RIDE TO THEIR GAME. THEN, JUST BEFORE THEIR SEASON OPENER, QUARTERBACK NIAMEY HARRIS WAS THE FIRST TO DROP TO A KNEE DURING THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER.

Naimey Harris, quarterback: "I'm just standing up for what I think is right, and what I believe in. From the peripheral, when I looked to my left, then I turned and I saw my entire team kneeling. Takin'a knee."

THEN EVERYONE ELSE NOTICED, EVEN NATIONAL MEDIA OUTLETS. THE OTHER TEAM DID, TOO.

Harris: "They were laughing and kind of looking at us like, 'what's going on?' It was an unbelievable moment. We don't really care about the reaction. We're sticking up for something we believe in."

ALMOST EVERYONE JOINED IN AGAIN BEFORE THE BEARS TOOK ON SAN MATEO HIGH SCHOOL FRIDAY. ON A VERY DIVERSE TEAM, EVEN WHITE PLAYERS JOINED IN.

Brindan Shepard, guard: "It was weird because, I'm white. I haven't really done the things that they have gone through, with all the cops and stuff and being oppressed."

PLAYERS CERTAINLY AREN'T REQUIRED TO KNEEL. NOT EVERYONE DID FRIDAY NIGHT. BUT WITH COACH HILL'S SUPPORT YOU CAN EXPECT MISSION HIGH TO DO THIS AT SEVERAL MORE GAMES TO COME.

SO FAR, PLAYERS SAY THERE HASN'T BEEN A SINGLE BIT OF NEGATIVE FEEDBACK FROM CLASSMATES - NO ANGER, NO COMPLAINTS. THEY SAY EVERYONE AT SCHOOL HAS BEEN SUPPORTIVE.

Marvin Pusung-Zita, defensive end: "I knew that what I was doing was right - it was what I believed in - so I was confident."

COLIN KAEPERNICK HIMSELF RETWEETED AN ARTICLE ABOUT THE MISSION HIGH FOOTBALL TEAM THIS WEEK. WHEN WE ASKED THE MISSION HIGH QUARTERBACK HOW HE FELT WHEN HE SAW THAT TWEET, HE SAID, "EQUAL."

IN SAN MATEO, SPENCER BLAKE, KRON 4 NEWS.

DIVERSITY

9/19/16 KRON 4 Evening News
New app to help kids fit in at school

THE ANXIETY OVER FINDING A PLACE TO SIT IN THE LUNCHROOM COULD BE OVER. A SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HAS CREATED AN APP THAT ACTUALLY HELPS STUDENTS FIND OTHER CLASSMATES TO EAT LUNCH WITH. FROM OUR PARTNERS AT CNN, KRISTINE LAZAR HAS THE STORY:

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WASN'T KIND TO 16 YEAR OLD NATALIE HAMPTON.

Hampton: "I was physically attacked on multiple occasions and in addition I was cyber bullied and verbally attacked."

LUNCH TIME WAS OFTEN THE HARDEST TIME OF HER SCHOOL DAY.

Hampton: "I ate alone pretty much every day for the two years that I was there and I have personally felt all the feelings of rejection and isolation and embarrassment that go along with that."

SO THE SHERMAN OAKS STUDENT DECIDED TO FIGHT BACK, NOT WITH HER FISTS BUT WITH HER PHONE. SHE RECENTLY LAUNCHED AN APP CALLED "SIT WITH US." IT'S A LUNCH PLANNING APP THAT ALLOWS STUDENTS TO SIGN UP TO BE AMBASSADORS OF THEIR LUNCH TABLE AT SCHOOL.

Hampton: "Meaning that you'll agree to post open lunches and these lunches are visible to everyone else in the school so anyone who doesn't know where to go or who to sit with can join your lunch and join your table and make friends with you."

THE APP THEN DISPLAYS ALL THE LUNCHES AVAILABLE AT YOUR SCHOOL.

THE APP IS FREE TO DOWNLOAD ON YOUR PHONE, BUT BEFORE STUDENTS CAN COMPLETE THEIR REGISTRATION, THEY HAVE TO SIGN A PLEDGE.

Hampton: "It's saying that you will agree to accept anyone who tries to join your table and you'll work to make your school more inclusive."

HAMPTON IS NOW AT A NEW SCHOOL AND THRIVING. SO FAR THERE ARE 40 "SIT WITH US" REGISTERED LUNCHES AT HER HIGH SCHOOL.

Hampton: "I think the real change happens when kids help kids because an adult telling you not to bully isn't going to stop you."

IN LESS THAN A WEEK SINCE LAUNCHING, THE APP HAS BEEN DOWNLOADED MORE THAN THREE THOUSAND TIMES, SO IT IS CATCHING ON. HAMPTON HOPES IT SPREADS TO SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE.

DIVERSITY

9/19/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Making sense of political implications of immigration

IMMIGRATION IS SHAPING UP TO BE ONE OF THE BIGGEST ISSUES OF 2016. BUT WITH ALL THE HEATED TALK, IT'S EASY TO GET LOST IN WHAT THE WORDS REALLY MEAN. TO GET YOU IN THE KNOW, KRON 4'S NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT CHANCE SEALES BREAKS DOWN ALL THE BUZZWORDS:

TRUMP WANTS LEGALIZATION. CLINTON SUPPORTS CITIZENSHIP. BOTH WANT MAJOR REFORM. WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

LET'S START WITH COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM - A TERM WE'VE HEARD FOR YEARS.

President Obama: "The time has come for common sense comprehensive immigration reform."

A REFORM PACKAGE USUALLY INCLUDES MORE BORDER SECURITY PLUS A WAY TO DEAL WITH 11-14 MILLION PEOPLE ALREADY HERE IN THE COUNTRY ILLEGALLY. IT ALSO NEEDS CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

Trump: "What to do about illegal immigrants in this country."

NEXT UP, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AND UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS? IN A WORD, NOTHING. MOST DEMOCRATS PREFER THE TERM "UNDOCUMENTED" BECAUSE IT'S CONSIDERED MORE POLITICALLY CORRECT AND HISPANICS ARE A BIG PART OF THEIR BASE.

REFUGEES, THOUGH, THAT'S A BIG DIFFERENTIATION. REFUGEES ARE A DIFFERENT GROUP. THEY'RE LEGALLY ALLOWED TO ENTER THE U.S. WHILE FLEEING PERSECUTION AND VIOLENCE IN THEIR HOME COUNTRIES.

Trump: "There will be no amnesty."

THINK OF AMNESTY AS BLANKET LEGAL FORGIVENESS FOR BEING HERE IN THE COUNTRY ILLEGALLY, A MOVE THAT'S BEEN ACCEPTED BY BOTH PARTIES IN THE PAST. BUT THE FAR-RIGHT TODAY CONSIDERS ALMOST ANYTHING SHORT OF MASS DEPORTATION AMNESTY-LIGHT.

Senator Tom Kaine: "...earn the right to citizenship..."

FINALLY, THE REAL STICKING POINT -- CITIZENSHIP. THERE'S A HUGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LEGAL STATUS AND GETTING CITIZENSHIP. LEGAL STATUS WOULD NOT APPLY TO ANYONE WHO IS A VIOLENT CRIMINAL AND WOULD MEAN REGISTERING WITH THE GOVERNMENT, PAYING BACK TAXES, AND OBTAINING A LEGAL RIGHT TO WORK.

CITIZENSHIP, THOUGH, IS A DIFFERENT STORY. TRUMP DOESN'T SUPPORT IT, BUT CLINTON DOES. EVENTUALLY, ONE DAY, THOSE PEOPLE WHO OBTAIN CITIZENSHIP, THEY COULD VOTE AS U.S. CITIZENS. MOST OF THOSE VOTES, IF CURRENT TRENDS HOLD, WOULD GO TO DEMOCRATS.

IN WASHINGTON, I'M CHANCE SEALES.

DIVERSITY

9/20/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Racist Graffiti at local high school

AN INVESTIGATION IS UNDERWAY INTO A POSSIBLE HATE CRIME AT A LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL. LATE LAST NIGHT, OR EARLY THIS MORNING, SOMEONE SPRAY-PAINTED A RACIAL SLUR ON THE CAMPUS OF REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL IN LARKSPUR. IT TARGETED ONE OF THE SCHOOL STAFF. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD HAS THE LATEST DETAILS.

ACCORDING TO THE TAMALPAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT, SOMEONE SPRAY-PAINTED GRAFFITI ON REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL'S SPIRIT BALL EARLY TUESDAY MORNING BEFORE CLASSES. THE GRAFFITI WAS TARGETED AT A SPECIFIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEE, REDWOOD HIGH'S VICE PRINCIPAL, AND INCLUDED A RACIAL SLUR.

THE STAFF AT REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL DECLINED TO COMMENT ON THE INCIDENT, BUT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SUPERINTENDENT SAID IN A STATEMENT:

"Redwood High School, the Tamalpais Union High School District, and I believe the greater Marin community has zero tolerance for activities of this nature. We are working closely with Central Marin PD in the investigation of the incident and are treating this very seriously."

I TALKED TO SEVERAL STUDENTS AT THE SCHOOL WHO ALL CONDEMNED THE GRAFFITI.

Student: "That's just terrible. It kind of grosses me out. Why would you be doing that?"

Student: "We are trying to have a nice community in our school and it's not good to have that stuff sitting around."

Student: "It's pretty disrespectful. I know people have different views on things, but it's not appropriate to express those at the school."

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT SAYS THAT PICTURES WERE TAKEN AS EVIDENCE AND THEN THE GRAFFITI WAS PAINTED OVER BEFORE SCHOOL STARTED ON TUESDAY. INVESTIGATORS ARE TREATING THE CASE AS A HATE CRIME

DIVERSITY

9/21/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm
Another incident of racist graffiti at local school

OUTRAGE TONIGHT ON THE CAMPUS OF SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY AFTER TWO SWASTIKAS AND HATEFUL LANGUAGE WERE FOUND INSIDE TWO UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS. UNIVERSITY POLICE HAVE NOT MADE ANY ARRESTS IN THE CASE. KRON 4'S J.R. STONE IS FOLLOWING THE STORY AND JOINS US WITH MORE FROM THE SOUTH BAY.

THE SWASTIKAS AND HATE LANGUAGE WERE FOUND ON TUESDAY. STUDENTS I TALKED WITH SAW THE SWASTIKAS ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THIS BUILDING BEHIND ME AND SAY THEY ARE DISTURBED BY THE HATEFUL MESSAGES SPRAYED ON THEIR WALLS.

Student: "It was just like swastikas and kind of like written on it, but it was offensive. Nobody should be hating on a certain race of people. You shouldn't be doing this stuff, especially on school property. It's just not right."

Student: "I don't think it was a joke. He was like trying to piss somebody off, like attack somebody, hurt some feelings."

ACCORDING TO UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT MARY PAPAIZIAN, THE SWASTIKAS WERE FOUND INSIDE TWO BUILDINGS, WASHBURN HALL AND CAMPUS VILLAGE, ON FLOORS THAT PRIMARILY HOUSE FIRST YEAR STUDENTS. PAPAIZIAN SAYS SHE IS SADDENED AND OUTRAGED BY THE NEWS. WE WERE NOT ALLOWED IN THOSE BUILDINGS THIS EVENING. TONIGHT R.A.'S AND OTHER STAFF MEMBERS ARE MEETING WITH STUDENTS TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED. NO ARRESTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

KEEP IN MIND THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAS HAPPENED HERE AT SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY. THREE STUDENTS WERE SUSPENDED BACK IN 2013. THEY WERE THEN CHARGED WITH HATE CRIMES FOR RACIALLY MOTIVATED HAZING.

IN SAN JOSE, J.R. STONE KRON 4 NEWS.

DIVERSITY

9/21/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Local students respond to hate crime at their school

STUDENTS AT REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL IN LARKSPUR RESPONDED TO A HATE CRIME WITH LOVE TODAY, AFTER THEIR SPIRIT BALL WAS DEFACED WITH A RACIAL SLUR AIMED AT THEIR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL. KIDS SHOWED UP TO SCHOOL TODAY WITH HUNDREDS OF ROSES, LINING THE SCHOOL'S OFFICE TO COUNTER ONE PERSON'S HATE AND TO STAND AS A TRIBUTE TO A BELOVED SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR.

David Sondeim, Redwood High principal: "Our students love our Assistant Principal and have rallied behind her in a way that is unprecedented. Our students showed up this morning with flowers for her and cards with notes on them, posters in the hallways to show how much they support her and how much they love her. This kind of hate crime is inappropriate and represents the actions of just one person. Today's outpouring represents the actions of hundreds of our students who love our Assistant Principal and care deeply about our community."

THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT THAT SCHOOL IS BLACK. THE SLUR WAS DISCOVERED BY A SCHOOL EMPLOYEE EARLY TUESDAY MORNING ON THE LARGE METAL SPHERE AT THE ATHLETIC FIELD. THE CENTRAL MARIN POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING THE VANDALISM AS A HATE CRIME.

DIVERSITY

9/21/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Basketball coach's perspective on Kaepernick protest

COLIN KAEPERNICK IS ALSO GETTING SUPPORT FROM WARRIORS HEAD COACH STEVE KERR. THE DUBS OPEN TRAINING CAMP NEXT WEEK AND CERTAINLY THE KEVIN DURANT ADDITION HAS THE WARRIORS THE TALK OF THE LEAGUE. BUT THIS AFTERNOON, AS KRON4'S MARK CARPENTER REPORTS, COACH KERR TOOK TIME TO WEIGH IN ON COLIN KAEPERNICK'S SOCIAL ACTIVISM:

STEVE KERR MET WITH THE MEDIA FOR ABOUT A HALF HOUR THIS AFTERNOON AND FIELDERD QUESTIONS ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS, INCLUDING THE ONGOING NATIONAL ANTHEM PROTESTS, A MOVEMENT THAT KERR SEES POSSIBLY CROSSING OVER INTO THE NBA.

Steve Kerr, Golden State Warriors head coach: "This is what our country is about. It's non-violent protests. That's what it should be about. I think Colin has really clarified his message over the last couple weeks. I would think that something similar will happen in the NBA and as I said, nobody has to be right. Nobody has to be wrong. I would hope that everybody respects each other's point of view."

STEVE KERR KNOWS FIRST HAND WHAT IT'S LIKE TO MAKE HIS VOICE HEARD AND STEP INTO THE REALM OF SOCIAL ACTIVISM. BACK IN JUNE, HE MADE A PASSIONATE PLEA FOR GUN CONTROL, A SUBJECT THAT HITS CLOSE TO HOME SINCE HIS FATHER WAS ASSASSINATED BY ISLAMIC TERRORISTS WHILE WORKING AS A UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT IN LEBANON IN 1984.

Kerr: "You do have to think, do I want to say something? Am I the right person to say this? I felt like I was the right person to talk about gun control because of what happened to my dad. And so I felt strongly about it. I talked about it. I'm sure there was negative reaction, but again, it's discourse, it's important."

AND DISCOURSE IS HAPPENING AMONG PEOPLE IN THE WARRIORS ORGANIZATION. KERR SAYS HE'S TALKED WITH HIS TEAM ABOUT COLIN KAEPERNICK'S ANTHEM PROTEST AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. IT'S NOT YET KNOWN IF THE GROUP AS A WHOLE OR ANY PLAYERS PLAN TO TAKE A SIMILAR PUBLIC STAND, BUT KERR APPRECIATES THE DISCUSSIONS THAT ARE TAKING PLACE.

Kerr: "You know, no matter what side of the spectrum you are on, I would hope that every American is disgusted about what is going on around the country, with what just happened in Tulsa two days ago with Terrence Crutcher. And in my mind, as long as the message is clear, I'm all for people speaking out against injustice and whatever form that takes if it's nonviolent and it leads to conversation, then I think that's a good thing."

DIVERSITY

9/29/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Hate-filled flyers at BART

IN THE EAST BAY, SOMEONE IS PUTTING ANTI-SEMITIC FLIERS ON CARS IN A BART PARKING LOTS. BART SAYS IT CAN'T FORCE THE PERSON TO STOP, HOWEVER, AS KRON 4'S TERISA ESTACIO REPORTS, BART IS LOOKING INTO WHETHER THE PERSON MAY HAVE CROSSED A LINE THAT COULD WARRANT ACTION.

THIS IS THE FLIER FOUND ON SEVERAL CARS IN THE LAFAYETTE BART PARKING LOT ON THURSDAY. IT CONTAINS ANTI-SEMITIC STATEMENTS SUCH AS CALLING JEWS SERPENTS AND ACCUSING THEM OF CONTROLLING SEGMENTS OF SOCIETY.

Laura Mastin, East Bay resident: "Hate speech is not free speech."

MANY RIDERS AT BART THURSDAY TOOK OFFENSE TO THE FLIER.

Derrick Furr, East Bay resident: "I don't think it's right."

OTHER RIDERS BLAMED THE FLIER'S WORDING ON THE CURRENT POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT.

Carolyn Wan, East Bay resident: "I think it's about our political world right now."

BART SPOKESPERSON ALICIA TROST TELLS KRON 4 NEWS THEY CAN NOT REMOVE THE FLIERS. BART IS A PUBLIC AGENCY, AND FREE SPEECH IS A PROTECTED FIRST AMMENDMENT RIGHT. HOWEVER, BART POLICE HAVE LAUNCHED AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE UNIDENTIFIED BLOGGER WHO PUT UP THE FLIERS AFTER A RIDER COMPLAINED THAT THE BLOGGER MADE A THREATENING COMMENT AND MAKING THREATS IS A CRIME.

KRON 4 ATTEMPTED TO REACH OUT TO THE BLOGGER THROUGH THE LINKS ON THE FLIERS BUT DID NOT RECEIVE A REPLY BACK. ON THURSDAY, ONLY ONE OF NEARLY A HUNDRED FLIERS REMAINED ON THE CARS IN THIS PARKING LOT.

TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

3Q2016 EDUCATION

EDUCATION

7/7/16 KRON 4 Evening News
UC admissions update

UCLA AND UC BERKELEY HAVE EACH ADMITTED ONE THOUSAND ADDITIONAL CALIFORNIA FRESHMAN. FOR THE FALL OF 2016. THIS ADDITION OF STUDENTS FROM ALL ETHNICITIES .. MAKES FOR AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 11 PERCENT TO THE OVERALL STUDENT POPULATION. CRITICS HAVE COMPLAINED THAT CALIFORNIA STUDENTS HAVE BEEN EDGED OUT BY INTERNATIONAL AND OUT-OF-STATE STUDENTS WHO PAY HIGHER TUITIONS. THE NINE UC UNDERGRADUATE CAMPUSES HAVE ADMITTED MORE THAN 62 THOUSAND CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS IN THE PAST YEAR. THAT IS A 15 PERCENT INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR.

EDUCATION

7/11/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Tobinworld update

THE SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOOL IN ANTIOCH WHERE THE ABUSE OF A STUDENT BY A TEACHER'S AIDE WAS CAUGHT ON VIDEO IS CLOSING ITS DOORS IN A LITTLE OVER TWO WEEKS. WE FIRST TOLD YOU LAST WEEK ABOUT THE LETTER SENT BY TOBINWORLD'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TELLING PARENTS THE SCHOOL NEEDS TO CLOSE BECAUSE SO MANY STUDENTS HAVE BEEN PULLED FROM THE SCHOOL.

ALL OF THIS HAPPENING IN THE WAKE OF KRON4'S INVESTIGATIVE SERIES INTO OTHER ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AT THAT SCHOOL. TONIGHT, KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY GOT REACTION FROM ONE OF THE AIDES WHO SPOKE OUT.

Ayesha Viann, former Tobinworld aide: "I'm over the moon."

AYESHA VIAAN WAS ONE OF FOUR FORMER TOBINWORLD TEACHER'S AIDES WHO SAW THE VIDEO OF A NINE YEAR OLD BOY BEING ABUSED AND SPOKE OUT TO KRON4 NEWS. THEY TALKED ABOUT OTHER INSTANCES OF STUDENTS IN THAT SCHOOL BEING RESTRAINED TOO OFTEN, TOO ROUGHLY FOR TOO LONG AND SOMETIMES FOR ONLY MINOR INFRACTIONS. AFTER SHE SPOKE OUT TO KRON4 NEWS, SHE AND AT LEAST ONE OTHER AIDE WERE SUPEONAED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

THE DOJ HAS LAUNCHED A INVESTIGATION INTO TOBINWORLD AND OTHER NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO SEE IF THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF DISABLED STUDENTS ARE BEING VIOLATED. SHE SAYS SHE TESTIFIED FOR SEVERAL HOURS AND BELIEVES SHE WAS JUST CONFIRMING WHAT THOSE INVESTIGATORS ALREADY KNEW.

Viann: "I'm relieved that I am not the only one that saw things. Apparently they talked to other people and they all saw the same things."

IT WAS AFTER WORD OF THE ATTORNEY GENERALS' INVESTIGATION THAT TOBINWORLD'S BIGGEST CLIENT, THE ANTIOCH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, PULLED THEIR STUDENTS.

THAT'S WHEN THIS LETTER WENT OUT TO PARENTS LETTING THEM KNOW BECAUSE ANTIOCH PULLED 44 KIDS OUT AND OAKLAND UNIFIED ALSO REMOVED ANOTHER EIGHT STUDENTS THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR TOBINWORLD TO OPERATE IN ANTIOCH ANY LONGER.

THE SCHOOL'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HAS CONSISTANTLY DENIED THE ALLEGATIONS COMING FROM THE FORMER AIDES AND OTHER WITNESSES I'VE TALKED TO. IN THE LETTER, SHE SAYS THEY'VE SERVED STUDENTS IN THE EAST BAY FOR ALMOST 20 YEARS AND HER HEART IS BREAKING FOR HAVING TO SHUT THE CAMPUS DOWN.

Viann: "The good news is the kids will be placed in facilities where they have only their best interest at heart."

TOBINWORLD'S LAST DAY IN ANTIOCH IS SET FOR JULY 26TH.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

EDUCATION

7/12 16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Cameras for special needs schools?

ONLY ON KRON4 - NOW THAT A SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOOL IN ANTIOCH WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER FIRE AND UNDER INVESTIGATION IS SHUTTING DOWN, THOSE FAMILIAR WITH TOBINWORLD ARE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO KEEP THAT SEGMENT OF THE STUDENT POPULATION SAFE FROM ABUSE. AS KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY REPORTS, SOME ARE CALLING FOR CAMERAS TO BE INSTALLED IN CLASSROOMS SERVING DISABLED STUDENTS.

Peter Alfert, attorney for family of former Tobinworld student: "That type of behavior is likely to have gone on for a very long period of time."

ATTORNEY PETER ALFERT IS TALKING ABOUT THE ABUSE OF A SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENT INSIDE THE TOBINWORLD SCHOOL IN ANTIOCH. WHILE THE SCHOOL HAS MAINTAINED THIS WAS AN ISOLATED INCIDENT AND FIRED TWO AIDES INVOLVED, THE ATTORNEY WHO REPRESENTS THE BOY IN THE VIDEO AND OTHER FAMILIES SUING OR PLANNING TO SUE TOBINWORLD, BELIEVES OTHERWISE.

Alfert: "There were many other claims that were not substantiated and the school says no that's not happening... But then you have the video which shows a carnival atmosphere, and then things start to change."

THAT VIDEO LAUNCHED KRON4'S INVESTIGATION WHICH UNCOVERED OTHER ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AT TOBINWORLD, A DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE INVESTIGATION INTO POSSIBLE CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, AND RECENTLY PROMPTED THE ANTIOCH AND OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO PULL THEIR STUDENTS FROM THAT SCHOOL. AND NOW THE SCHOOL HAS SENT THIS LETTER TO PARENTS LETTING THEM KNOW THEY ARE CLOSING UP THEIR EAST BAY CAMPUS AT THE END OF THE MONTH.

ALFERT THINKS LAWMAKERS SHOULD STEP IN AND REQUIRE CAMERAS INSIDE SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOOLS. THE STATE OF TEXAS PASSED A SIMILAR LAW THAT GOES INTO EFFECT THIS YEAR.

Alfert: "I think it's a good idea because some of these special needs students cannot talk."

Ayesha Viann, former Tobinworld aide: "Cameras don't lie."

AYESHA VIAAN USED TO BE A TEACHER'S AIDE AT TOBINWORLD. SHE AGREES IT'S A GOOD IDEA THAT COULD PROTECT A VUNERABLE POPULATION.

Viann: "It would leave out any room for rumors or lies."

THE LAWYER SUING TOBINWORLD BELIEVES THAT SCHOOL WOULD HAVE REMAINED OPEN IF THAT VIDEO NEVER CAME TO LIGHT.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

EDUCATION

7/25/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

What's next for Tobinworld students?

THE ANTIOCH PRIVATE SCHOOL WHERE THE ABUSE OF A SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENT WAS CAUGHT ON CELL PHONE VIDEO IS SET TO CLOSE FOR GOOD TOMORROW AFTERNOON. THIS SHUT DOWN COMES AFTER A KRON4 NEWS INVESTIGATION THAT UNEARTHED OTHER ALLEGATIONS OF A CULTURE OF ABUSE AT TOBINWORLD. TONIGHT KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY HAS AN UPDATE ON THE SCHOOL AND WHERE THIS LEAVES THE STUDENTS WHO JUST WANT TO GO TO CLASS:

THIS WAS THE SHOCKING SCENE OF ABUSE THAT TRIGGERED A CHAIN OF EVENTS LEADING TO THE CLOSURE OF AN INSTITUTION. A 9 YEAR OLD BOY SLAPPED AND ROUGHED UP BY A TEACHER'S AIDE BACK IN JANUARY. TOBINWORLD FIRED TWO AIDES AS A RESULT, BOTH OF WHOM ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING PROSECUTED FOR MISDEMEANOR CRIMINAL CHARGES.

OUR CONTINUING INVESTIGATION REVEALED OTHER ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE.

Ayesha Viann, former Tobinworld aide: "I saw students with scratches and bruises all over their arms and legs."

AND THEN LAST MONTH THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ANNOUNCED HER OFFICE WAS GOING TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT HOW DISABLED STUDENTS ARE BEING TREATED INSIDE TOBINWORLD AND OTHER NON PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Kamala Harris, Attorney General: "We are concerned and we are going to do something about it."

THEN TOBINWORLD'S BIGGEST CLIENT, THE ANTIOCH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, ANNOUNCED THEY WERE PULLING THEIR STUDENTS FROM THAT SCHOOL.

Antioch Unified School District spokesperson: "Our biggest concern is the safety of our students."

THE SCHOOL'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SENT THIS LETTER TELLING THEIR PARENTS THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM STAY OPEN GIVEN THE CURRENT SITUATION. TUESDAY IS THE LAST DAY OF BUSINESS FOR THE ANTIOCH CAMPUS.

Adrienne Pantell, mother of former Tobinworld student: "It's a huge sense of relief to know that no more children will be abused physically and emotionally."

THAT'S THE REACTION FROM ONE MOTHER WHO FILED THIS LAWSUIT AGAINST TOBINWORLD, ALLEGING THAT HER SON WAS ABUSED AT THAT SCHOOL WHEN HE WAS 8 YEARS OLD. ADRIANNE PANTELL SAYS IN 18 OF THE 22 DAYS HER SON WENT TO TOBINWORLD HE SPENT

HALF THE DAY RESTRAINED. SHE SAYS EVEN NOW, AT AGE 11, HE HAS NIGHTMARES ABOUT THE TREATMENT SHE SAYS HE RECEIVED THERE.

Pantell: "He continues therapy and probably will have to for a very long time because I don't know how long it will take if ever for the emotional damage to go away."

NOW SEVERAL STUDENTS FROM THE ANTIOCH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ARE BEING BUSED TO THE SIERRA SCHOOL OF SOLANO COUNTY. THE SIERRA SCHOOL IS ALSO LOOKING TO TAKE OVER THE FOUR SATELLITE TOBINWORLD CAMPUSES THAT WERE CLOSED IN JUNE.

OTHER FORMER TOBINWORLD STUDENTS ARE HEADING TO THIS SPECTRUM SCHOOL IN PITTSBURG. ANDRIANNE SAYS THAT'S WHERE HER SON ENDED UP GOING AFTER SHE PULLED HIM OUT OF TOBINWORLD. SHE SAYS IN HIS TWO AND HALF YEARS AT SPECTRUM HE WAS NEVER RESTRAINED. SHE CREDITS SPECTRUM FOR THE FACT THAT HE IS NOW ATTENDING A REGULAR PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Pantell: "They do everything in their power to ensure the success of their students."

SHE SAYS HER SON LOVED SPECTRUM SO MUCH HE STILL GOES BACK TO VISIT THE STAFF THERE.

WE'VE REACHED OUT TOBINWORLD SEVERAL TIMES TO SEE IF WE COULD INTERVIEW THEIR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. THEY SAY THEY ARE UNABLE TO COMMENT DUE TO THE ONGOING LITIGATION.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS.

EDUCATION

8/3/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Local school district cited by federal government for infractions

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HAS RULED THAT THE OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST AN STUDENT WHO HAS AUTISM. THIS AFTER THEY FOUND THAT THE 9 YEAR OLD HAD BEEN RESTRAINED CLOSE TO ONE HUNDRED TIMES IN LESS THAN A YEAR AT ONE EAST BAY SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOOL. KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY FIRST BROUGHT THIS STUDENT'S STORY TO LIGHT BACK IN MAY. TONIGHT SHE HAS DETAILS ON THE IMPACT OF THIS RULING:

Stuart Candell: "Two people would hold my legs. It really hurt and I was screaming like, no stop!"

STUART CANDELL IS DRAWING ME A PICTURE OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO HIM IN SCHOOL WHEN HE WAS NINE YEARS OLD. IT'S CALLED A PRONE RESTRAINT AND IT HAPPENED TO HIM 92 TIMES IN 11 MONTHS WHEN HE ATTENDED THE ANOVA CENTER FOR EDUCATION IN CONCORD.

THESE RESTRAINTS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE USED WHEN A CHILD IS A DANGER TO HIMSELF OR OTHERS. STUART'S ATTORNEY SAYS IT WOULD OFTEN START WITH MUCH MORE MINOR INFRACTIONS.

Suge Lee, attorney: "When he yelled or tore up his homework. It's the most dangerous form of restraint and they have two to three adults holding down their arms and legs."

SUGE LEE IS THE LAWYER FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS CALIFORNIA WHO FILED A COMPLAINT WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Lee: "When they added up all the minutes, they found that it totaled 22 hundred minutes which translates into 36 hours."

SHE SAYS ACCORDING TO THE SCHOOLS RECORDS THE LONGEST TIME STUART WAS HELD DOWN AGAINST HIS WILL WAS MORE THAN AN HOUR AND A HALF. STUART'S MOTHER SAYS THIS TREATMENT HAD A TROUBLING EFFECT ON HER VERY YOUNG SON.

Stuart's mom: "He became depressed. He became suicidal. He talked about dying – I just want to die."

AFTER BEING RESTRAINED, HE WOULD BE SENT TO THE WINDOWLESS RESOURCE ROOM TO RECOVER FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME. THE FED'S REPORT FOUND THAT STUART WAS OUT OF THE CLASSROOM MORE OFTEN THAN HE WAS IN IT.

Lee: "At the end of the day it's just indecent and cruel. They recognized that it was discrimination and that he was deprived of an equal educational experience."

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOUND THAT THE OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ALLOWED STUART TO BE SUBJECTED TO A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT AT ANOVA. HERE'S THE SETTLEMENT IN WHICH THE OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AGREES TO BREAK OFF CONTRACTS WITH SCHOOLS THAT USE PRONE RESTRAINTS AND DEVELOP A PROTOCOL TO BETTER MONITOR THESE PRACTICES AND TO HIRE AN EXPERT TO TEACH POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS.

IN A STATEMENT, THE DISTRICT SAYS THEY ARE COMPLYING WITH THE AGREEMENT...AND THEIR HIGHEST PRIORITY IS TO PROVIDE A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS. KRON 4 HAS REACHED OUT TO THE STAFF AT ANOVA WHICH IS ON SUMMER BREAK AND HAVE SO FAR HEARD NO RESPONSE.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

EDUCATION

8/12/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Back pack giveaway help kids get ready for school

KRON FOUR IS GETTING YOU READY FOR SCHOOL. TODAY WAS THE 14TH ANNUAL BACKPACK GIVEAWAY ORGANIZED BY SACRED HEART COMMUNITY SERVICES IN SAN JOSE.

MORE THAN 33 HUNDRED ANXIOUS STUDENTS RECEIVED A NEW BACKPACK, AS WELL AS NEW SCHOOL SUPPLIES AHEAD OF THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS. KIDS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO PICK ONE OF THE MANY VARIETIES OF BACKPACKS AND THEN PICKED UP BAGS OF AGE APPROPRIATE SUPPLIES, ALL WORTH 75 DOLLARS.

PARENTS WHO ARE STUGGLING TO MAKE ENDS MEET SAY THE GIVEAWAY IS A MAJOR RELIEF.

Sacred Heart spokesperson: "We shouldn't be in a community, in a society where people have to decide between buying school supplies or paying rent. And that's our current state. So the parents are grateful."

SACRED HEART SAYS THE 33 HUNDRED CHILDREN SERVED THIS YEAR IS THE LARGEST GROUP OF KIDS IT HAS EVER HELPED.

EDUCATION

8/16/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Overcrowding in popular school district

OVERCROWDING IS A PROBLEM FOR STUDENTS AT AN EAST BAY HIGH SCHOOL. IN FACT SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT ARE SEEING A JUMP IN ENROLLMENT. OFFICIALS TELL KRON4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN THE ANSWER IS BUILDING NEW SCHOOLS.

IT IS GETTING A LITTLE CROWDED THIS YEAR FOR STUDENTS HERE AT DUBLIN HIGH SCHOOL.

Student: "Yeah, it's like really, a lot of people here."

Student: "It is really crazy to see how many kids are coming here."

Maureen Byrne, principal: "In the 12 years that I have been here, we have doubled in size."

THAT IS BECAUSE DUBLIN IS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING CITIES IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA. THERE WERE 14-THOUSAND RESIDENTS HERE IN 1982. NOW THERE IS OVER 53-THOUSAND PEOPLE LIVING HERE...AND ONLY ONE HIGH SCHOOL IN TOWN

Byrne: "And we are poised to increase exponentially next year as well. From last year to this year we have increased about 200 students. We are at 25 hundred. Next year we will probably be at 27 and we will keep going from there."

EVEN WITH THE COLLEGIATE STYLE CAMPUS AND FEWER ENCLOSED BUILDINGS THAN A TYPICAL HIGH SCHOOL, STUDENTS SAY THEY CAN DEFINITELY FEEL THE PRESENCE OF THE ADDITIONAL CLASSMATES

Student: "Especially walking through the hallways to get to classes, you know it gets a little cluttered"

Student: "Yeah I have been kind of getting use to that, the growth"
WITH THAT GROWTH COMES BIG PLANS FOR BUILDING NEW SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT SAYS DUBLIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SPOKESPERSON MICHELLE MCDONALD

Michelle McDonald, Dublin Unified School District: "We have one school in the pipeline, a Kk-8 school that will come online in May 2018. We have a plan to build a second high school in Dublin and we probably have to put up another couple of schools in the next 10 years or so."

IN THE MEANTIME PARENTS SAY A LITTLE OVER CROWDING DOESN'T TAKE AWAY FROM THEIR KIDS ATTENDING ONE OF THE TOP PERFORMING SCHOOLS IN ALAMEDA COUNTY.

Parent: "We're adjusting. It's so worth it, the quality of education, the staff that's here."

IN DUBLIN HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

EDUCATION

8/17/16 KRON 4 Evening News

New immunization regulations in effect for new school year

KRON FOUR IS GETTING YOU READY FOR SCHOOL AS TENS OF THOUSANDS OF KIDS ACROSS THE STATE HEAD BACK TO THE CLASSROOMS. AND THERE'S A NEW LAW THAT HAS PUT AN END TO THE SO-CALLED 'PERSONAL EXEMPTION' FOR IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS. KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE HAS MORE:

IN WHAT SUPPORTERS SAY WILL PROTECT THE VAST MAJORITY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES, THE NEW LAW DOES AWAY WITH A CONTROVERSIAL PROVISION IN VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS. IT MEANS PARENTS CAN NO LONGER OPT OUT DUE TO THEIR PERSONAL BELIEFS. MELINDA LANDAU IS THE DISTRICT'S HEAD NURSE.

Nurse Melinda Landau, San Jose Unified School District: "We used to allow personal belief waivers that the parents would sign. We no longer allow personal belief waivers. The only waivers that are accepted for immunizations are medical waivers signed by doctors."

RIGHT NOW, 37 OUT OF 32,000 STUDENTS IN THE DISTRICT HAVE A PERSONAL EXEMPTION AND THEY ARE GRANDFATHERED IN. GOING FORWARD, PARENTS HAVE THREE OPTIONS. THEY CAN

GET THE VACCINATIONS, THEY CAN ASK A DOCTOR FOR A MEDICAL EXEMPTION, OR THEY CAN CHOOSE TO HOME SCHOOL THEIR KIDS.

Landau: "Perhaps they are in chemotherapy and their doctor doesn't want them to have vaccinations during the time they're in chemo and the doctor will give that exemption for six months, a year, two years."

THE NEW LAW WAS INSPIRED IN PART BY THE EMOTIONAL DEBATE BOTH FOR AND AGAINST VACCINATIONS THAT FOLLOWED LAST SUMMER'S MEASLES OUTBREAK AT DISNEYLAND. EARLY INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF STUDENTS IN THE SOUTH BAY'S LARGEST SCHOOL DISTRICT ARE IN COMPLIANCE.

Landau: "We probably had a handful of parents come in and question the waiver system, but for the most part families get their immunizations for their children. So, we're not seeing an impact."

ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

8/22/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Legal setback for students' case against tenure

A BIG RULING TODAY FOR CALIFORNIA TEACHERS. THE STATE SUPREME COURT IS LETTING A TEACHER TENURE LAW STAND. A GROUP OF STUDENTS HAD FILED A LAWSUIT CLAIMING THAT IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO FIRE INCOMPETENT TEACHERS BECAUSE OF THE LAW. IN ITS RULING, THE APPEALS COURT SAID THE STUDENTS FAILED TO SHOW THE STATE'S HIRING AND FIRING RULES WERE UNCONSTITUTIONAL. THIS OVERTURNED A 2014 RULING BY A LOS ANGELES JUDGE THAT HAD SIDED WITH THE STUDENTS.

EDUCATION

8/23/16 KRON 4 Evening News

California school arms its teachers

TEACHERS AT A SCHOOL IN FRESNO COUNTY ARE GOING TO WORK ARMED SINCE THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR GOT UNDERWAY THIS WEEK. KINGSBURG HIGH SCHOOL IS ALLOWING UP TO FIVE STAFF MEMBERS TO HAVE GUNS ON CAMPUS. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT PASSED THAT RULE IN APRIL.

BUT THE GUNS HAVE TO BE CONCEALED AND STUDENTS DON'T KNOW WHICH TEACHERS HAVE WEAPONS. THE IDEA CAME FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT WHO SAYS THE SCHOOL MUST BE ABLE TO RESPOND QUICKLY IF SOMETHING DANGEROUS HAPPENS.

Randy Morris, superintendent: "We're not trying to take the place of law enforcement officials who spend hours upon hours training for these types of situations. All we're trying to do is provide an opportunity to limit or eliminate potential casualties during that response time."

THE ARMED STAFF MEMBERS MUST HAVE CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS. THEY ALSO HAVE TO UNDERGO TRAINING AND EVALUATION.

EDUCATION

8/23/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Charter school problems put pressure on public schools

IN THE EAST BAY, THE LIVERMORE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT IS DEALING WITH A SURGE IN ENROLLMENTS. THIS WAS NOT EXPECTED AND THE DISTRICT SAYS THAT THE MAJORITY OF THOSE NEW STUDENTS ARE TRANSFERS FROM THE LIVERMORE'S TWO CHARTER SCHOOLS, WHICH HAVE COME UNDER INTENSE SCRUTINY OF LATE. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD IS LIVE

FOR US TONIGHT IN LIVERMORE WHERE PARENTS ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE CHARTER SCHOOLS:

WITH THE SCHOOL YEAR JUST STARTED, PARENTS ARE RELUCTANT TO MOVE A CHILD FROM ONE SCHOOL TO ANOTHER UNLESS THEY HAVE TO. BUT APPARENTLY THAT'S WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE FOR HUNDREDS OF PARENTS WHO FEEL THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONS MAY BE AT RISK.

ACCORDING TO THE LIVERLMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT, APPROXIMATELY 500 NEW STUDENTS HAVE ENROLLED IN CLASSES THIS YEAR. THE DISTRICT SAYS THAT 80 PERCENT OF THOSE STUDENTS HAVE TRANSFERRED FROM LIVERMORE'S TWO CHARTER SCHOOLS, LIVERMORE VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL AND LIVERMORE VALLEY CHARTER PREPARATORY.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS, WHICH ARE RUN BY TRI-VALELY LEARNING CORPORATION, ARE FACING ACCUSATIONS FO MISMANAGEMENT INCLUDING FISCAL MISMANAGEMENT.

Lara Bauman, parent: "Definitely concerned. Definitely lots of talk, lots of rumors."

LARA BAUMAN HAS TWO KIDS WHO ATTEND LIVERMORE VALLEY CHARTER SHOOOL. SHE SAYS THAT MANY PARENTS HAVE PULLED THEIR KIDS OUT FEARING THAT THE CHARTER'S FINANCIAL WOES COULD PUT THEIR KIDS' EDUCATION IN JEOPARDY.

Bauman: "It will trickle down and effect their education because the teachers will leave."

LARA LIKES LIVERMORE VALLEY CHARTER AND SHE HAS DECIDED TO KEEP HER KIDS ENROLLED THERE FOR THE TIME BEING. SHE'S HOPING THE SCHOOL CAN ADDRESS ITS PROBLEMS AND GET BACK ON TRACK.

Bauman: "I'm hoping that whatever does happen they will keep the good things that make the charter school really good."

MEANWHILE, THE LIVERMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT SAYS THAT IT HAS BEEN ABLE TO FIND SPACE FOR ALL OF THE NEW STUDENTS AND BECAUSE THE KIDS ARE SPREAD OUT ACROSS MULTIPLE GRADE LEVELS, CLASS SIZES HAVE ONLY INCREASED BY ONE OR TWO STUDENTS. AT THIS POINT, THE DISTRICT DOES NOT PLAN TO HIRE ADDITIONAL TEACHERS ALTHOUGH THEY SAY THAT COULD HAPPEN AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL LATER IN THE YEAR.

WE DID REACH OUT TO TRI-VALLEY LEARNING CORPORATION THIS EVENING, BUT NO ONE WAS AVAILABLE TO COMMENT.

IN LIVERMORE CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

8/25/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Dads participate in first day of school

DADS IN ONE EAST BAY CITY ARE PARTICIPATING IN A NATIONWIDE EVENT CALLED THE "MILLION FATHER MARCH". IT'S A DAY FOR DADS TO MAKE A COMMITMENT TO THEIR KIDS AND FAMILIES BY TAKING THEIR CHILDREN TO THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. KRON 4'S WILL TRAN WAS AT LONGWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN HAYWARD, WHERE THE EVENT TOOK PLACE. HE BRINGS US THE STORY:

MANY FATHERS ARE RESPONDING, NOT JUST AT HAYWARDUNIFIED, BUT AT SCHOOLDISTRICTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. IT'S A WAY TO REMIND DADS THEY ARE VERY IMPORTANT IN CHILDREN'S LIVES. MOTHERS ARE ALWAYS THERE, BUT THIS PROGRAM IS A REMINDER THAT DDS CAN HELP OUT, TOO.

Adam Carabajal, dad: "It's my son's first day of kindergarten so it's the one chance to do it. I told the boss I'd be in late because it's first day and he didn't really give me any heat. It's once in a lifetime."

Anthony Jasper, dad: "You start somewhere. I start somewhere. We got to show the fathers that don't know no better. See, I know better. I was raised by a good mother. The kids are gonna follow our lead."

Jasper's son: "It makes me feel like I have someone who really cares about me."

Reporter to school official: "You started this six years ago. Have you seen a difference in participation and morale and spirit with the kids over the years?"

Will Bell, Hayward Unified School District: "Absolutely. We created this event. We got it from the Black Star Project. And hats off to our staff because they do a phenomenal outreach. We do it district-wide, so at every school site, fathers and parents together are taking their kids to the first day of school. We ask the employers to let the dads take time off of work because we know parents want to participate so we ask the community to support us and help us take the roadblocks down that do not allow parents to participate."

THE EVENT WAS JUST FOR TODAY, BUT THE ORGANIZERS HOPE THE GOOD FEELINGS WILL LAST MUCH LONGER. MANY FATHERS SIGNED UP TO VOLUNTEER FOR FIELD TRIPS AND OTHER CLASS ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. THEY SAY WHEN FATHERS GET INVOLVED, EVERYBODY WINS.

REPORTING FROM HAYWARD, WILL TRAN KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

9/1/16 KRON 4 Morning News

Schools partner with local hospitals for help with head injuries

TRAINERS FROM MARIN GENERAL HOSPITAL ARE WORKING WITH HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE NORTH BAY TO TEACH COACHES AND PLAYERS ABOUT HOW TO PREVENT CONCUSSIONS. A MARIN COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDED THAT SCHOOLS IN MARIN COUNTY TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT STUDENT ATHLETES FROM THE LONGTERM HEALTH IMPACTS OF REPEATED HEAD INJURIES. SCHOOL OFFICIALS SAY WORKING WITH TRAINERS FROM MARIN GENERAL HOSPITAL HAS MADE A BIG DIFFERENCE. THE TRAINERS SAY IT CAN BE HARD FOR COACHES TO TELL IF A PLAYER SUFFERED A SERIOUS HEAD INJURY, SO THE TRAINERS HELP TEST THE STUDENT TO SEE IF IT'S SAFE FOR THEM TO KEEP PLAYING.

EDUCATION

9/6/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Federal loans for defunct schools

HOW TO GET YOUR MONEY BACK IF YOU HAVE TAKEN OUT LOANS TO PAY FOR AN EDUCATION AT A NOW DEFUNCT SCHOOL. GRANT LODES HAS BEEN LOOKING INTO THIS AND FINDS IT DEPENDS ON WHAT KIND OF LOANS PEOPLE HAVE:

RIGHT. THERE ARE TWO BASIC TYPES OF LOANS. FEDERAL LOANS AND THEN PRIVATE LOANS THROUGH A BANK OR OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTION..

THE FEDERAL LOANS ARE VERY POPULAR WHEN IT COMES TO GOING TO SCHOOL. WHEN IT COMES TO THESE FEDERAL LOANS, IF YOU WANT THEM FORGIVEN OR DISCHARGED, MEANING YOU WON'T HAVE TO PAY THEM BACK, ONE OF TWO THINGS HAS TO BE THE CASE.

NUMBER ONE, IF THE SCHOOL CLOSES WHILE YOU'RE ENROLLED AND YOU DO NOT COMPLETE YOUR PROGRAM...YOUR LOANS CAN BE FORGIVEN.

YOU CAN ALSO GET THE LOAN TOSSED OUT IF YOUR SCHOOL CLOSES WITHIN 120 DAYS AFTER YOU WITHDRAW FROM THE SCHOOL.

IF YOU'VE TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER SCHOOL, YOU'RE STILL ON THE HOOK FOR THE LOANS AT THE PREVIOUS SCHOOL. AND IF YOU HAVE A LOAN FROM A PRIVATE LENDER LIKE A BANK...YOU NEED TO CONTACT THAT ORGANIZATION DIRECTLY TO SEE WHAT ITS POLICY IS. THEY CAN ALL HAVE DIFFERENT RULES UNLIKE THE FEDERAL LOANS WHICH HAVE VERY STRICT GUIDELINES.

EDUCATION

9/10/16 KRON 4 News at 10p

Local school controversy over dress code

IN THE EAST BAY, A VICE-PRINCIPAL IN PLEASANT HILL IS FACING SCRUTINY THIS EVENING. THAT'S AFTER FOUR FEMALE STUDENTS SAY HE 'SHAMED' THEM FOR WHAT THEY WERE WEARING AT A SCHOOL ASSEMBLY.

SOPHOMORE STUDENTS AT COLLEGE PARK HIGH SCHOOL WERE TAKEN INTO THE GYM TO TALK ABOUT NEW SCHOOL RULES. STUDENTS SAY THAT'S WHEN VICE PRINCIPAL GARY JENSEN STARTED TALKING ABOUT THE DRESS CODE. SOME STUDENTS SAY THEY FELT THE VICE PRINCIPAL WAS SINGLING OUT AND SHAMING CERTAIN STUDENTS.

Dariana Mihalachi, student: "He just basically went like this, do not wear this, it's scandalous and like he never went on about the boys dress code, he only went on about the short shorts and spaghetti straps and like bras showing."

Marissa Mulholand, student: "I know they're trying to be more strict this year with the dress code but I thought it was a bit inappropriate to be doing it in front of 300 people."

Joseph Alvarez, principal: "We had 4 students who felt that they were targeted as models of what not to be dressed in."

THE PRINCIPAL SENT OUT A NOTE TO PARENTS ABOUT THE INCIDENT. THE LETTER TELLS PARENTS THAT THE SCHOOL IS REVIEWING WHAT HAPPENED AND SEEING IF ANY CHANGES IN PROTOCOL ARE CALLED FOR AT THE SCHOOL. THE DISTRICT IS INVESTIGATING AND THE VICE PRINCIPAL COULD FACE DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

Alvarez: "We're taking precautions as much as possible to make sure this type of incident doesn't happen again."

EDUCATION

9/15/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Local school ends homework

In the 5
IT'S SEEMS LIKE A KIDS DREAM COME TRUE.

Student: "I think it's great."

ZEV WASSERMAN GOT THE NEWS THAT HIS SCHOOL, FAIRMOUNT ELEMENTARY, WILL NO LONGER BE ASSIGNING "TRADITIONAL" HOMEWORK. BUT LIKE SOME PARENTS, HE'S GOT MIXED EMOTIONS.

Wasserman: "I'd rather have a tiny bit because I kind of like it."

THE IDEA MAKES HIM A LITTLE NERVOUS, BUT PRINCIPAL LUIS RODRIGUEZ IS ADAMANT THAT IT'S NOT AN END TO ALL HOMEWORK. HE SAYS INSTEAD OF SITTING AT HOME, ISOLATED, WORKING ON MATH PROBLEMS, HE WANTS KIDS TO HAVE REAL LIFE EXPERIENCES.

Rodriguez: "Go to the store, go to the beach, whatever it is and count things. If you're adding, count things. Play games where addition is part of the objective or division or multiplication, whatever it is."

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS STARTED TALKING ABOUT THE IDEA INFORMALLY AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR AND FROM THERE A COMMITTEE OF TEACHERS AND INSTURCTGIONAL COACHES GOT TOGETHER TO RESEARCH THE IDEA."

Rodriguez: "We know that the traditional homework hasn't yielded significant positive results in elementary school in their academic performance and on the contrary has actually increased negative attitude towards school for some children that are struggling."

IN SAN FRANCISCO, LYDIA PANTAZES, KRON4 NEWS

EDUCATION

9/29/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Teacher of the Week profile

KRON FOUR IS PROFILING SOME OF THE BAY AREA'S OUTSTANDING TEACHERS. OUR TEACHER OF THE WEEK IS LEAH MURRAY FROM FARALLONE VIEW ELEMENTARY IN MONTARA. CATHERINE HEENAN SAYS THAT JUST ONE OF THE REASONS HER STUDENTS LOVE HER IS WEEKLY TEA PARTIES:

LEAH MURRAY BELIEVES THINGS DON'T GET MUCH BETTER THAN A GOOD BOOK AND A NICE CUP OF TEA. AND IT'S MORE THAN THAT. IT'S A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS FOR HER 4TH GRADERS. THEY'RE LEARNING TO LOVE THE POWER OF READING.

Schoolyard playground: "Can we get a basketball. Yes!"

IT'S RECESS AT FARALLONE VIEW ELEMENTARY, MEANING LOTS OF BALL GAMES, CATCHING UP WITH FRIENDS, AND KIERAN DOING HIS FAMOUS MAGIC TRICKS.

Leah Murray, teacher: "All right. Line up. Just right book. Meet me on the rug."
BUT WHEN IT'S TIME FOR MS. MURRAY'S 4TH GRADERS TO HEAD BACK INTO THE CLASSROOM, NO ONE'S COMPLAINING. SHE TELLS THEM TO PICK A "JUST RIGHT" BOOK, BECAUSE IT'S FRIDAY AND THE FOCUS IS READING. NOT JUST READING, BUT 'READING INTENSELY.'

Murray: "I see students reading so intensely that they're not even looking up from their books."

IF YOU'RE IN LEAH MURRAY'S CLASS, YOU'RE SURROUNDED BY BOOKS. EVERYWHERE YOU LOOK THERE'S CARTONS AND STACKS AND SHELVES OF THEM. YOU'RE ENCOURAGED TO READ WHAT YOU WANT AND JUST GET LOST IN THE STORY.

[montage of students talking about what they're reading]

Student: "It's like I survived in books that are about true things."

Student: "A girl named Nikki and her sister."

Student: "I'm reading Goosebumps."

Student: "I'm reading Walt Disney."

MISS MURRAY DOESN'T JUST WANT STUDENTS TO BE 'ABLE' TO READ, SHE WANTS THEM TO 'LOVE' IT.

Murray: "It's just such a wonderful part of life. It would be so sad if they didn't get to enjoy that."

AND WHAT COULD MAKE IT EVEN BETTER? AFTERNOON TEA PARTIES.

ON FRIDAYS, EVERYONE GETS A STEAMING CUP OF THEIR FAVORITE TEA, ADDING TO LEAH'S PLAN TO CREATE A SENSE OF EXCITEMENT AND COSINESS AND 'LOVE' AROUND BOOKS. IT COULD BECOME A LIFETIME HABIT.

Murray: "They could curl up on a rainy day with a book and a cup of tea even when they're 20 or 30 or 40 or beyond and remember being in 4th grade and doing the same thing."

Cesar Gaytan, principal: "It's just the tone of her voice. And the music that she plays. The way in which she addresses class – it's incredible."

Murray: "I adored my teachers! I just thought they were perfect."

SO THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A LITTLE GIRL GROWS UP AND WANTS TO BE JUST LIKE THOSE TEACHERS SHE ADORED. TO RECREATE FOR HER OWN STUDENTS THAT SENSE OF MAGIC AND JOY IN THE DISCOVERY OF A GOOD BOOK.

AND READING A BOOK IS NEVER ASSIGNED AS HOMEWORK IN MS. MURRAY'S CLASS. SHE SAYS IT'S NOT NECESSARY, MOST OF HER STUDENTS NOW REACH FOR A BOOK AT HOME FOR THE SHEER PLEASURE OF IT.

YOU CAN NOMINATE A TEACHER OF THE WEEK. JUST GO TO OUR WEBSITE, KRON FOUR DOT COM, AND CLICK ON THE TEACHER OF THE WEEK TAB TO SUBMIT AN ENTRY.

3Q2016 ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT

7/6/16// KRON 4 Evening News

Water conservation update

NEWLY RELEASED NUMBERS REVEAL CALIFORNIANS ARE CUTTING BACK ON WATER. CALIFORNIA'S WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT RESIDENTS CUT THEIR WATER USE BY 28 PERCENT IN MAY, COMPARED TO THE SAME MONTH IN 2013.

EL NINO FUELED STORMS THIS WINTER HELPED THE WATER CRISIS IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE STATE, BUT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MISSED OUT ON MUCH OF THAT RAIN.

GOVERNOR BROWN ORDERED STATEWIDE MANDATORY WATER CONSERVATION A YEAR AGO.

ENVIRONMENT

7/18/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Polluter's fine will help improve air quality

THE OWNER OF AN EAST BAY OIL REFINERY IS PAYING MORE THAN 10 MILLION IN CIVIL PENALTIES TO SETTLE ALLEGATIONS IT VIOLATED THE U-S CLEAN AIR ACT.

THE SETTLEMENT INVOLVES TESORO AS WELL AS "PAR HAWAII REFINING". BOTH COMPANIES WILL SPEND MILLIONS TO REDUCE AIR POLLUTION IN SIX STATES INCLUDING CALIFORNIA.

TESORO OPERATES A REFINERY IN MARTINEZ...AND WILL PAY OVER \$1 MILLION TO THE MOUNT DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT. THAT MONEY WILL PURCHASE COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS

SCHOOL BUSES FOR OVER 20 SCHOOLS ACROSS THE BAY AREA .THE NEW AND IMPROVED BUSES...WILL REDUCE AIR POLLUTION.

ENVIRONMENT

7/25/16 KRON 4 News at 5pm

Drought conditions mean high fire danger

WITH FIRES IN MONTEREY COUNTY AND IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAGING OUT OF CONTROL, FIRE FIGHTERS ARE CLOSELY WATCHING CONDITIONS HERE IN THE BAY AREA. IN FACT, TODAY THERE WAS A WILDLAND FIRE IN PLEASANTON AND OVER THE WEEKEND A FIRE ALONG HIGHWAY 4 IN MARTINEZ. KRON 4'S TERISA ESTACIO RODE WITH FIRE PREVENTATION OFFICIALS AS THEY GIVE US A CLOSE UP LOOK AT THE CONDITIONS:

A FIRE IGNITED IN THE EAST BAY THIS MORNING. THIS WAS THE SCENE IN PLEASANTON THIS MORNING. FORTUNATELY, NO ONE WAS INJURED, BUT IT IS RAISING CONCERNS WITH FIRE FIGHTERS ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FOR A BIG DEVASTATING FIRE ESPECIALLY IN THE EAST BAY WITH SUCH DRY CONDITIONS.

Capt. George Laing: "This dried out grass is ready to ignite."

GEORGE LAING, FIRE PREVENTION CAPTAIN WITH THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, TOOK ME UP TO THE FOOTHILLS ABOVE HIGHWAY 24 SO I COULD SHOW YOU JUST HOW BAD IT IS RIGHT NOW WHEN WE TALK ABOUT THE POTENTIAL OF A FIRE ERUPTING IN THE EAST BAY.

Capt. George Laing, Contra Costa County Fire Prevention District: "You have so many issues up here. Dry vegetation. High winds."

AND, HE SAYS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT IT'S NOT JUST THE HOMES UP HERE WITH THE SPECTACULAR VIEWS NEXT TO OPEN LANDS, BUT HOMES BELOW IN DOWNTOWN LAFAYETTE THAT ARE AT RISK. HERE IS WHY.

Capt. Laing: "Fires when they burn through this type of vegetation one of the main hazards comes from what are called burning embers. That's material that has ignited and is carried airborne and travels with the wind. When the material lands on other material that can ignite and burn, that's called spotting and that's the primary means of fire spreading itself downwind. In this case, because of the elevation change and proximity to structurally dense neighborhoods where there are a lot of homes per block, there's a chance that the spotting phenomenon could cause a fire to burn in downtown Lafayette."

CAPTAIN LAING SAYS DEFENSIBLE SPACE IS IMPERATIVE FOR HOME OWNERS TO PROTECT THEIR HOMES AND OTHERS, BUT SO IS NOT DOING THIS – HERE ALONG THE TRAIL WE FOUND MANY CIGARETTE BUTTS.

Capt. Laing: "These can start a fire that can have devastating effects, threaten an entire community."

THROUGHOUT THE DAY CAPTAIN LAING SAID THE DISTRICT RESPONDED TO MANY CALLS ABOUT SEEING SMOKE , BUT HE SAID MOST OF THE CALLS HAD TO DO WITH THE WINDS BRINGING IN SMOKE FROM THE FIRES BURNING IN MONTEREY COUNTY AND FURTHER SOUTH.

CAPTAIN LAING SAID JUST ONE LOOK AND SMELL OF THE SMOKE, SHOULD REMIND EVERYONE THAT FIRE SEASON IS HERE AND PRECAUTIONS NEED TO BE TAKEN.

IN THE FOOTHILLS OF LAFAYETTE, TERISA ESTACIO, KRON 4 NEWS.

ENVIRONMENT

7/25/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Air travel contributes to global warming

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY IS MOVING TO REGULATE AIRLINER POLLUTION THAT CONTRIBUTES TO GLOBAL WARMING. THE GOVERNMENT SAYS RESEARCH SHOWS THAT JET ENGINE EXHAUST IS ENDANGERING HUMAN HEALTH. THE EPA ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT IT WILL IMPOSE LIMITS ON AIRCRAFT EMISSIONS, USING ITS AUTHORITY UNDER THE CLEAN AIR ACT.

JET ENGINES SPEW SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF GREENHOUSE GASES LIKE CARBON DIOXIDE AND METHANE INTO THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE, WHERE THE GASES TRAP THE SUN'S HEAT AND WARM THE PLANET. A UNITED NATIONS PANEL HAS ALREADY RECOMMENDED NEW EMISSIONS STANDARDS FOR INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS STARTING IN 2020.

ENVIRONMENT

7/25/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Local water supplies compromised by algae bloom

A WARNING TO BAY AREA RESIDENTS: SOMETHING IN YOUR DRINKING WATER HAS CITY OFFICIALS CONCERNED. IN THE SOUTH BAY, THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT IS DEALING WITH AN ALGAE BLOOM THAT HAS CREATED A FOUL ODOR IN THE WATER SUPPLY. AS A RESULT, WATER MANAGERS HAVE SWITCHED TO USING TWO RESERVOIRS WHICH ARE NORMALLY TAPPED ONLY AS A LAST RESORT. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD WAS IN THE SOUTH BAY TODAY AND HAS DETAILS:

NORMALLY THIS TIME OF YEAR THERE MIGHT BE BOATS OUT ON COYOTE LAKE RESERVOIR OR SWIMMERS IN THE WATER TRYING TO ESCAPE THE SUMMER HEAT, BUT RIGHT NOW THE BOAT RAMP GATE IS CLOSED AND PADLOCKED.

AND SIGNS ARE POSTED WARNING WOULD-BE SWIMMERS TO STAY OUT OF THE WATER. THE REASON IS THAT COYOTE LAKE AND NEARBY ANDERSON LAKE HAVE GONE FROM BEING THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT'S BACKUP WATER SUPPLY TO ITS MAIN WATER SUPPLY.

THIS ALL STARTED SEVERAL WEEKS AGO WHEN THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT STARTED GETTING REPORTS FROM ITS CUSTOMERS ACROSS THE SOUTH BAY THAT THERE WAS A FOUL ODOR COMING FROM THEIR WATER. THE WATER DISTRICT TRACED THE PROBLEM TO AN ALGAE BLOOM IN THE SAN LUIS RESERVOIR NEAR MERCED. THE WATER LEVEL IN THE RESERVOIR HAD GOTTEN SO LOW THAT THE ALGAE THAT NORMALLY FLOATS HARMLESSLY ON THE TOP OF THE WATER WAS GETTING SUCKED INTO THE INTAKES. THE WATER DISTRICT'S TWO TREATMENT PLANTS CAN REMOVE THE ALGAE AND MAKE THE WATER DRINKABLE, BUT THEY CAN'T COMPLETELY REMOVE THE SMELL.

ONCE THE WATER DISTRICT FIGURED OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON, THEY STOPPED DRAWING WATER FROM THE PROBLEM RESERVOIR AND STARTED TAKING WATER FROM TWO RESERVOIRS NORMALLY KEPT FOR EMERGENCIES. IN ORDER TO KEEP COYOTE AND ANDERSON LAKES FROM GETTING CONTAMINATED, THE RECREATION BAN WAS PUT IN PLACE WEEKS OR EVEN MONTHS EARLIER THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

AND FINALLY, ON MONDAY THE WATER DISTRICT TOLD ME THAT THEY ARE ACTUALLY HOPING TO START SWITCHING BACK TO THE ORIGINAL RESERVOIR STARTING ON TUESDAY. THEY BELIEVE THAT WATER MAY NOW BE CLEAN ENOUGH TO START USING AGAIN. THEY ARE GOING TO KEEP MONITORING THE SITUATION TO MAKE SURE THAT ALGAE PROBLEM DOESN'T RETURN. ALSO AT THIS POINT IT'S UNCLEAR WHEN RECREATION MIGHT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN HERE TO COYOTE CREEK. IN THE SOUTH BAY, CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS.

ENVIRONMENT

7/26/16//KRON 4 Evening News
Economic downside to water conservation

AN ORANGE COUNTY JUDGE HAS RULED THAT A LOCAL WATER DISTRICT CAN HIKE ITS MONTHLY WATER RATES TO OFFSET A DECLINE IN USAGE DURING THE DROUGHT. A JUDGE RULED TODAY THAT THE YORBA LINDA WATER DISTRICT CAN RAISE RATES IN ORDER TO COPE WITH THE FACT PEOPLE ARE CONSERVING WATER AND THE DISTRICT IS MAKING LESS MONEY. OFFICIALS SAY A MONTHLY 25 DOLLAR RATE INCREASE WILL DEAL WITH A MORE THAN 8-MILLION DOLLAR REVENUE SHORTFALL. A LOCAL TAXPAYERS GROUP IS UPSET ABOUT THE HIKES -- AND HAS SUED TO HAVE THE ISSUE PLACED ON A BALLOT

ENVIRONMENT

7/26/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Air quality warning

BEWARE THAT IS THE MESSAGE FROM THE BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT. THEY ISSUED ANOTHER SPARE THE AIR ALERT TODAY BECAUSE THE HEAT AND SMOKE FROM THE MONTEREY COUNTY WILDFIRE. KRON 4'S TERISA ESTACIO WENT UP INTO THE EAST BAY HILLS AND SHOWS US HOW BAD THINGS ARE.

RIGHT NOW, I AM JUST OFF OF GRIZZLY PEAK IN BERKELEY - AND YOU CAN SEE OVER MY SHOULDER JUST HOW BAD IT IS.

THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA IS EXPERIENCING IT'S TENTH SPARE THE AIR DAY THIS YEAR IN 2016. TODAY'S SPARE THE AIR IS BEING BLAMED ON SEVERAL FACTORS AND HERE IS ONE BIG REASON - THE LARGE WILDFIRE BURNING IN MONTEREY COUNTY. THE WILDFIRE IS EXPECTED TO IMPACT THE SOUTH BAY AND STRETCH INTO THE EAST BAY AND BEYOND THIS WEEK AS FIRE FIGHTERS CONTINUE TO BATTLE THAT BLAZE.

ALSO, OUR HIGH TEMPERATURES THIS WEEK ARE PROBLEMATIC. THAT COUPLED WITH A STONG HIGH PRESSURE SYSTEM AND HOT INLAND TEMPERATURES CREATE A RECIPE THAT PRODUCES BAD AIR QUALITY.

TO GIVE YOU ANOTHER LOOK AT THE DINGY AIR, THIS IS VIDEO FROM LAFAYETTE MONDAY. AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT UP IN THE FOOTHILLS ABOVE HIGHWAY 24, THE AIR LOOKS VERY DIRTY. AND, UP THERE IT SMELLED AND STUNG MY EYES.

HOW LONG WILL THIS LAST? WE HAVE A TEAM OF EXPERTS IN THE WEATHER CENTER THAT WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF ANY CHANGES, SO STAY TUNED.

IN BERKELEY, TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

7/27/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Follow up on blue green algae conditions

A HIGHLY TOXIC ALGAE HAS BEEN SPOTTED IN THE MARINA IN DISCOVERY BAY. HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS TELL KRON 4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN TESTS ARE BEING PERFORMED RIGHT NOW TO FIND OUT THE TOXICITY LEVEL AND HOW DANGEROUS THE WATER IS FOR PEOPLE:

BLUE GREEN ALGAE IS TOXIC, HARMFUL TO HUMANS AND IT'S IN DISCOVERY BAY.

Dr. Marilyn Underwood, Contra Costa County Health Services: "We just don't know how much of the toxin is in the water."

THAT IS WHY TEST SAMPLES HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY CONTRA COSTA COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND SENT TO STATE LABS FOR FURTHER TESTING SAYS DR. MARILYN UNDERWOOD.

Dr. Underwood: "They will then give us quantifiable numbers. Based on that we will be able to tell you how concerned we are."

ACCORDING TO THE CALIFORNIA WATER DEPARTMENT, THE BLUE GREEN ALGAE NATURALLY OCCURS IN SURFACE WATER DURING WARMER MONTHS.

Dr. Underwood: "Heat, stagnant water, and a nutrient source, all that combines for a perfect environment for that stuff to grow."

THE HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS ISSUING A WARNING TO DISCOVERY BAY RESIDENTS TO STAY AWAY FROM THE WATER UNTIL THE RESULTS FROM THE TESTING ARE IN.

Resident: "If it's toxic, I don't want it on me, I don't want it on my kids, I don't want it on my animals."

Dr. Underwood: "If you happen to get the water on you, make sure you wash it off. It's very important if you let your dog get wet to rinse them off with clean water."

OFFICIALS HERE SAY SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO REPORTS OF PEOPLE OR PETS COMING IN CONTACT WITH THE BLUE GREEN ALGAE.

IN DISCOVERY BAY HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

8/2/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Californians stop conserving

WATER BOARD OFFICIALS SAY CALIFORNIANS CONSERVED LESS WATER IN JUNE. THAT'S THE FIRST MONTH AFTER STATEWIDE MANDATES WERE EASED.

RESIDENTS USED JUST OVER 20 PERCENT LESS WATER IN JUNE THAN BACK IN 2013.

A NEAR-AVERAGE AMOUNT OF WINTER RAIN AND SNOWFALL EASED THE DRY SPELL WHICH HELPED REGULATORS TO ABANDON TOP-DOWN CONSERVATION ORDERS. THE STATE HAS CUMULATIVELY CONSERVED 24 PERCENT OF WATER OVER THE LAST 13 MONTHS, CLOSE TO THE 25 PERCENT TARGET.

ENVIRONMENT

8/3/16 KRN 4 Evening News
Local school district sets energy example

AT ACALANES HIGH SCHOOL IN LAYFAYETTE CONSTRUCTION CREWS ARE NEARING COMPLETION OF A LARGE SOLAR PROJECT.

THE INSTALLATION IS SET TO HELP LESSEN CARBON USE AND PROVIDE STAFF AND STUDENTS WITH A COVERED PARKING AREA. IT IS ALSO A TOOL TO HELP FACILITIES MEET THEIR ENERGY NEEDS FROM SUN-GENERATED POWER, WHILE SETTING AN EXAMPLE FOR STUDENTS. THE LAFAYETTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT WAS THE FIRST TO INSTALL SOLAR PANELS IN 2010.

ENVIRONMENT

8/12/16 KRON 4 Evening News

New legislation proposed to cut pollution from state's freeways

CALIFORNIA'S ROADS COULD BE GETTING EVEN GREENER IN A FEW YEARS. A STATE LAWMAKER IS PROPOSING LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE 15 PERCENT OF ALL NEW VEHICLES SOLD IN THE STATE BE EMISSION-FREE. AUTOMAKERS THAT FAIL TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS WOULD FACE FINES OR HAVE TO MAKE PAYMENTS TO THEIR RIVALS. THE DEADLINE WOULD BE THE YEAR 2025. THIS IS SEPARATE FROM THE CLIMATE CHANGE LAW THAT WOULD DRAMATICALLY REDUCE THE STATE'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 2030.

ENVIRONMENT

8/17/16 KRON 4 Evening News

No new water restrictions?

SOME CALIFORNIANS MIGHT BE SURPRISED TO HEAR WHAT STATE AUTHORITIES DO NOT PLAN TO PRESSURE THEM ABOUT CONSERVATION THIS YEAR. THEY'RE NOT MAKING AS BIG A DEAL ABOUT REDUCING WATER USE AS PRIOR YEARS. CATHERINE HEENAN IS HERE WITH THE DETAILS:

YOU MIGHT START SEEING SOME OF YOUR NEIGHBORS WORKING A LITTLE HARDER TO MAKE THINGS GREEN – USING MORE WATER. NO ONE IS SUGGESTING THAT THE DROUGHT IS OVER -- BECAUSE IT'S NOT.

BUT ABOUT 85 PERCENT OF THE STATE'S WATER DISTRICTS SAY THEIR WATER SUPPLIES CAN HANDLE THE CONTINUED DROUGHT AND THEY SHOULDN'T BE HIT WITH MANDATED CONSERVATION TARGETS.

THAT'S A BIG CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR, BUT A RELATIVELY NORMAL AMOUNT OF RAIN AND SNOWFALL IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LAST WINTER HELPED A LOT.

SO, BOTTOM LINE, STATE OFFICIALS WILL NOT FORCE MOST CALIFORNIANS TO REDUCE THEIR WATER USE. THAT'S DESPITE THE FACT THAT AS MUCH AS 60% OF THE STATE IS CONSIDERED TO BE IN VARIOUS PHASES OF A SERIOUS DROUGHT.

ENVIRONMENT

8/30/16 KRON 4 Evening News

New bill targets water wasters

GOVERNOR BROWN TODAY SIGNED A NEW LAW TO AGGRESSIVELY GO AFTER WATER GUZZLERS. IT REQUIRES ALL WATER DISTRICTS TO CREATE RULES TO IDENTIFY AND PUNISH PEOPLE WHO USE TOO MUCH WATER DURING DROUGHTS. POLICIES WOULD INCLUDE FINES OR A RATE SYSTEM THAT CHARGES MORE FOR USING LARGE AMOUNTS OF WATER. SAN MATEO STATE SENATOR JERRY HILL SAYS THE LEGISLATION WAS PROMPTED BY NEWS REPORTS THAT SOME RESIDENTS USED MILLIONS OF GALLONS OF EXCESSIVE WATER DESPITE THE STATE'S ONGOING DROUGHT. THE MEASURE TAKES EFFECT JANUARY FIRST.

ENVIRONMENT

9/5/16 KRON 4 Evening News

New study debunks popular climate change myth

A LENGTHY STUDY OF GLOBAL WARMING IS SHOOTING DOWN THE IDEA THAT POLLUTION CAN HELP MAKE THE PLANET GREENER. PLANTS LIKE CARBON DIOXIDE AND THAT IS THE PRIMARY GREENHOUSE GAS. IT'S BEEN ARGUED THAT AN ABUNDANCE OF CARBON DIOXIDE WOULD ACTUALLY MAKE FOR A GREENER EARTH. HOWEVER SCIENTISTS DOING AN EXTENSIVE CLIMATE

CHANGE STUDY SAY EVEN WITH EXTRA CARBON DIOXIDE AND WARMTH, PLANTS DID NOT GET BIGGER OR ANY GREENER.

ENVIRONMENT

9/7/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Water consumption rates going back up

NEW STUDIES SHOW WATER USE BY CALIFORNIANS CREPT BACK UP IN JULY. THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD SAID TODAY THAT THE JUMP IN WATER USE HAPPENED AFTER THE LIFTING OF MANDATORY STATEWIDE CONSERVATION ORDERS FOR THE DROUGHT.

THE WATER SAVINGS ARE DOWN SHARPLY FROM LAST YEAR WHEN CALIFORNIANS CUT WATER USE BY 31-PERCENT. THE STATE IS NOW IN ITS FIFTH YEAR OF DROUGHT, BUT STATE OFFICIALS LIFTED THE WATER CONSERVATION ORDERS THIS SPRING AFTER EL NINO BROUGHT RAIN AND SNOW.

ENVIRONMENT

9/8/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

California's tough climate change law

CALIFORNIA ALREADY HAS A VERY AMBITIOUS CLIMATE CHANGE LAW, AND NOW GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN IS MAKING IT EVEN STRONGER. KRON 4'S CATHERINE HEENAN HAS THE DETAILS:

IT'S AMBITIOUS ALRIGHT. THE GOVERNOR IS MAKING MORE CUTS IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND CHARTING YET ANOTHER NEW GOAL TO REDUCE CARBON POLLUTION.

THE GOVERNOR SIGNED THAT LEGISLATION TODAY, DESPITE OPPOSITION FROM THE OIL INDUSTRY, BUSINESS GROUPS AND REPUBLICANS.

CALIFORNIA IS ALREADY ON TRACK TO MEET THE CURRENT TARGET, SET A DECADE AGO, TO REDUCE EMISSIONS TO 1990 LEVELS BY 2020. THE NEW LAW EXTENDS, BY ANOTHER TEN YEARS, THE STATE'S LANDMARK CLIMATE CHANGE LAW AND NOW IT SETS A NEW GOAL OF CUTTING EMISSIONS 40 PERCENT BELOW 1990 LEVELS BY THE YEAR 2030.

GOVERNOR BROWN IS CALLING THIS THE MOST AGGRESSIVE TARGET ENACTED BY ANY GOVERNMENT IN NORTH AMERICA. HE ALSO SIGNED ANOTHER LAW THAT WILL MEAN MORE OVERSIGHT OF THE AIR RESOURCES BOARD WHICH IS IN CHARGE OF CLIMATE POLICY.

ENVIRONMENT

9/12/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Environmental impact of marijuana growth

WITH THE NOVEMBER ELECTION NEARING, A LOT PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT THE VOTE ON PROPOSITION 64 LEGALIZING THE RECREATIONAL USE OF MARIJUANA AND ITS POTENTIAL IMPACT. KRON 4'S MAUREEN KELLY IS COVERING THIS TOPIC INDEPTH FOR US, AND TONIGHT TALKS WITH A BIOLOGIST WHO SAYS THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED.

Mark Higley, wildlife biologist: "They are out there raping the land basically, and for their own personal gain." THESE ARE PICTURES OF A TRASHED CAMP SITE LEFT BEHIND ON THE HOOPA VALLEY INDIAN LAND IN NORTH EASTERN HUMBOLDT COUNTY. THEY WERE TAKEN BY A WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST WORKING FOR THE TRIBE WHO'S BEEN DOCUMENTING THE DEVASTATION THAT'S HAPPENED THERE AND MANY PARTS OF THE SIERRA.

THE CULPRITS, BELIEVED TO BE BIG DRUG TRAFFICKING OPERATIONS THAT TRESSPASS ON TO PRIVATE, PUBLIC AND SOMETIMES EVEN NATIONAL FOREST LAND TO GROW BLACK MARKET MARIJUANA. ITS NOT JUST THE MESS, THE CLEARED FOREST, THE CHEMICAL FERTIZLERS AND WATER DIVERTED FROM STREAMS FOR POT PLANTS, BUT THE TOXICS LEFT BEHIND. LIKE RAT POISON, WHICH IS BEING INGESTED AND SOMETIMES KILLING WILDLIFE.

Higley: "And often if the sites are not cleaned up the toxicants are still there for years and years waiting for a bear to tear it open. So they are like little time bombs out there."

THIS IS VIDEO THAT SHOWS A FISHER WHICH IS LIKE A LARGE WEASAL THAT WAS FOUND AS IT LAY DYING..AFTER EATING RAT POISON. TESTS ON FISHER CARCASSES IN THIS REGION HAVE FOUND CLOSE TO 80 PERCENT WITH RAT POISON IN THEIR SYSTEM. TRACES OF THE POISON HAVE ALSO TURNED UP IN MANY SPECIMENS OF BARRED OWLS...AND EVEN THE THREATENED SPOTTED OWL.

AND OUR BIOLOGIST SAYS SOMETIMES WILDLIFE IS KILLED ON PURPOSE, TO KEEP THEM FROM DISTURBING PLANTS OR THE GROWERS THEMSELVES. THIS PHOTO SHOWS THE REMAINS OF A BEAR. IT WAS FOUND BURIED WITH A TUNA CAN AT AN ILLEGAL TRESSPASS GROW SITE. BOTH THE BEAR AND THE CAN TESTED POSITIVE FOR AN EXTREMELY TOXIC INSECTICIDE. THE BIOLOGIST IS CONCERNED THAT THIS RAPING OF THE LAND WILL CONTINUE EVEN AFTER THE PASSAGE OF PROP 64.

Higley: "It's very depressing. We don't see that legalization on a state by state basis will make these trespass grow sites go away because they aren't marketing to a legal market to begin with. They are trying to market to a black market, the further east they get their product the more valuable it is. As long as there is a black market somewhere, I suspect there will be trespass grow sights."

PROP 64 ACKNOWLEDGES THE ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT AND IF APPROVED WOULD SET ASIDE SOME OF THE HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS IN POT TAX REVENUE TO CLEANING UP AND PREVENTING ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE FROM ILLEGAL MARIJUANA GROWING OPERATIONS.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

9/19/16 KRON 4 Evening News

THE SOUTHERN SEA OTTER POPULATION IN CALIFORNIA IS ON THE RISE, BUT THERE ARE STILL REASONS FOR CONCERN. THAT'S ACCORDING TO SCIENTISTS WHO SAY A RECENT COUNT REVEALED THE MINIATURE MAMMAL'S NUMBERS HAVE EXCEEDED THREE THOUSAND FOR THE FIRST TIME. IF THOSE NUMBERS HOLD FOR TWO YEARS, FEDERAL OFFICIALS WILL CONSIDER REMOVING THE OTTER FROM THE "THREATENED SPECIES LIST". SCIENTISTS SAY THE SPIKE IS DUE IN PART TO THE INCREASED AVAILABILITY OF SEA URCHINS, THE SEA OTTER'S FOOD OF CHOICE. BUT SCIENTISTS ALSO SAY LOCALIZED POPULATION DECLINES AT THE NOTHERN AND SOUTERN ENDS OF THE RANGE CONTINUE TO BE A CAUSE OF CONCERN AMONG WILDLIFE OFFICIALS. THE SOUTHERN SEA OTTER'S RANGE SPANS THE COAST FROM MONTEREY SOUTH TO CAMBRIA NEAR PASO ROBLES.

ENVIRONMENT

9/21/16 KRON 4 Evening News

How safe is California drinking water?

A NEW REPORT SAYS MILLIONS OF AMERICANS ARE DRINKING TAP WATER CONTAMINATED WITH CHROMIUM-6 WHICH CAN CAUSE CANCER. THE CHEMICAL WAS FEATURED IN THE 2000 MOVIE "ERIN BROCKOVICH." THE EPA NEVER SET A SPECIFIC LIMIT FOR CHROMIUM-6 IN DRINKING WATER. THERE'S SCIENTIFIC UNCERTAINTY ON THE SAFE LEVELS AND LONG-TERM

CONSEQUENCES. THE NEW REPORT SAYS THE TAP WATER OF 218 MILLION AMERICANS CONTAINS UNSAFE LEVELS. IT ALSO FOUND THAT OKLAHOMA, ARIZONA AND CALIFORNIA HAD THE HIGHEST AVERAGE LEVELS.

3Q2016 HEALTH

HEALTH

7/5/16 KRON 4 Evening News

One man's stem cell campaign

ONE MAN IS ON A MISSION - TO MOVE BILLIONS OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS - INTO BREAKTHROUGH STEM CELLS STUDIES. HIS BLINDNESS WAS CURED BY CELLS FROM HIS HIP BONE. AND NOW, TOP LAWMAKERS IN WASHINGTON ARE TAKING NOTICE. KRON 4'S NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT CHANCE SEALES HAS HIS STORY ON CAPITOL HILL.

DOUG OLIVER HAD A NORMAL LIFE IN NASHVILLE. THEN ONE DAY, HIS VISION STARTED CHANGING.

Doug Oliver, formerly blind stem cell advocate: "I almost hit two pedestrians in a crosswalk."

DOCTORS TOLD DOUG THAT MACULAR DEGENERATION WOULD MAKE HIM BLIND IN SEVERAL DECADES, BUT WITHIN A YEAR HE WAS BACK IN THE DOCTOR'S EXAM ROOM.

Oliver: "He wrote in red across my chart: No More Driving."

FOR TEN YEARS, DOUG SEARCHED FOR A CURE. FINALLY IN 2015, A VANDERBILT SURGEON EXPERIMENTALLY TOOK STEM CELLS FROM DOUG'S HIP SPUN THEM IN A CENTRIFUGE AND INJECTED THEM INTO HIS EYES.

Oliver: "Today I'm 20/40 in this eye and 20/30 in that one."

Senator Lamar Alexander, R-Tennessee: "We need to take advantage of this because it will help the lives of millions of Americans and we need to do it now."

LAMAR ALEXANDER LEADS THE SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE, TRYING TO PASS THE "CURES ACT" WHICH IS A SET OF BILLS FUNDING MEDICAL INNOVATIONS, LIKE THE ONE DOUG FOUND.

THE INITIATIVE WOULDN'T STOP WITH CLINICAL TRIALS. SENATOR ALEXANDER SAYS HE WANTS TO GO EVEN BIGGER, EVEN BROADER WITH THE "CURES" LEGISLATION.

Alexander: "A Zika vaccine. An artificial pancreas. They'd rebuild hearts so they won't have to be transplanted. Provide non-addictive pain medicine."

THE HOUSE VERSION COST \$8 BILLION, BUT THE SENATE NUMBER IS STILL BEING NEGOTIATED. TO MAKE THE FINAL SALES PITCH, DOUG AND ALEXANDER HAVE NOW TEAMED UP, URGING ACTION IN D.C.

Oliver: "We all know that this type of treatment is really working."

AND THAT DRIVER'S LICENSE DOUG SURRENDERED A DECADE AGO? HE JUST GOT A BRAND NEW ONE AND HE PLANS TO GO BACK TO WORK. MEANWHILE, ALEXANDER PREDICTS THE SENATE WILL PASS THE "CURES ACT" THIS YEAR.

REPORTING IN WASHINGTON, I'M CHANCE SEALES

HEALTH

7/5/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Studies show advertising impacts children's eating habits

SCIENTISTS CONFIRM COMMERCIALS FOR JUNK FOOD STRONGLY INFLUENCE THE EATING HABITS OF CHILDREN. RESEARCHERS VISITED SIX SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND SPOKE TO CHILDREN AGES EIGHT TO 12-YEARS-OLD... SHOWING TWO ADVERTISEMENTS FOR JUNK FOOD.

THE CHILDREN REPORTED BEING TEMPTED BY THE ADS. RESEARCHERS SAY THE USE OF CELEBRITIES AND BRIGHT COLORS IN THE COMMERCIALS STRONGLY INFLUENCES EATING HABITS IN KIDS. RESEARCHERS SAY TIGHTER CONTROLS ON WHEN THE ADVERTISEMENTS CAN BE SHOWN COULD HELP BRING DOWN CHILDHOOD OBESITY NUMBERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ON THE PLUS SIDE, A NEW STUDY FOUND MARKETING TACTICS ARE EFFECTIVE IN GETTING KIDS TO EAT THEIR VEGGIES. THE STUDY FOUND BRANDED MARKETING TACTICS NEARLY TRIPLED THE LIKELIHOOD OF A CHILD CHOOSING TO EAT VEGETABLES AT LUNCH.

RESEARCHERS TESTED THREE MARKETING APPROACHES IN PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN NEW YORK FOR SIX WEEKS. THEY INCLUDED DISPLAYING VINYL BANNERS OF ANIMATED VEGETABLE CHARACTERS WITH SUPER POWERS. ABOUT 90 PERCENT MORE STUDENTS TOOK VEGETABLES FROM THE SALAD BAR WHEN EXPOSED TO THE BANNERS.

HEALTH

7/13/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Update on South Bay suicide crisis

A NEW REPORT FINDS YOUTH SUICIDE HAS BEEN ON THE INCREASE SINCE 2003 IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY. AND WORTH NOTING, TEEN SUICIDE IS HIGHER AMONG MALES THAN FEMALES AND OFTEN PRECEDED BY MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES.

THOSE ARE AMONG THE FINDINGS OF A PRELIMINARY REPORT RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL. THE STUDY WAS COMMISSIONED BY THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT IN RESPONSE TO SUICIDES ON THE CALTRAIN TRACKS IN PALO ALTO. A TOTAL OF TEN KIDS TOOK THEIR OWN LIVES BETWEEN 2009 AND 2015. THE REPORT PUTS FORTH SEVERAL RECOMMENDATIONS, INCLUDING OUTREACH TO TROUBLED TEENS, CRISIS INTERVENTION AND RAMPING UP EFFORTS TO PREVENT BULLYING.

Evelyn Tirumalai, Santa Clara County Health Department suicide prevention coordinator: "It does provide for us in different communities what would be some of those next steps to really look into more in depth studies and is hopefully something we will continue to look into."

THE REPORT FOCUSED NOT JUST ON THOSE SUICIDES ALONG THE CALTRAIN TRACKS BUT ON YOUTH SUICIDE ACROSS SANTA CLARA COUNTY GOING BACK TO 2003. ROB FLADEBOE HAS MORE:

SIX YOUTHS DIED BY SUICIDE IN 2009 AND 2010 AND THEN FOUR MORE IN 2014 AND 2015, SEVERAL ON THE CALTRAIN TRACKS ON THE PENINSULA. THEY ARE AMONG 232 PEOPLE AGES 10 TO 24 WHO TOOK THEIR OWN LIVES SINCE 2003 IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY AND IT TURNS OUT ALMOST HALF MAY HAVE HAD A MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM AT THE TIME. EVELYN TIRUMALAI IS A SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATOR.

Tirumalai: "I think it really helps in these communities to have these conversations to start to de-stigmatize mental health. It's one of the issues that we know is important and sometimes creates a barrier to people seeking help for mental health issues."

REQUESTED BY THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, THE THE CDC'S 'EPI AID' REPORT, AS IT'S KNOWN, FOUND THAT THE SUICIDE RATE WAS HIGHER FOR MALES THAN

FEMALES AND THAT SLIGHTLY MORE THAN HALF HAD EXPERIENCED A CRISIS LEADING UP TO THEIR DEATHS.

Tirumalai: "I think the report really facilitates discussion among different school districts and communities to start really talking about mental health."

PALO ALTO SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDED MAX MCGEE WELCOMED THE REPORT, SAYING IT VALIDATES PREVENTION MEASURES ALREADY UNDERWAY. BUT FORMER TEACHER MARC VINCENTI CRITICIZED THE REPORT FOR FAILING TO CONSIDER ROOT CAUSES OF SUICIDE SUCH AS STRESS FROM WHAT HE TERMED A 'SHARED ENVIRONMENT' AT SCHOOL. EVELYN TIRUMALAI SAYS THE REPORT IS HELPFUL NONETHELESS.

Tirumalai: "It is not a report that will sit on a desk or a shelf. We hope it will really help us motivate and also create opportunities for other communities that were not involved in suicide prevention before to take part and start moving forward."

THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT CAUTIONS THAT THIS IS BY NO MEANS A COMPREHENSIVE PICTURE OF YOUTH SUICIDES HERE AND THE FINAL REPORT WHICH INCLUDES ANALYSIS OF TRENDS AND RELATED BEHAVIOR IS DUE OUT LATER THIS YEAR.

ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

7/14/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Studies show negative side effects of multitasking

TEXTING WHILE WALKING. SENDING E-MAILS WHILE TALKING TO A CO-WORKER. MULTITASKING IS PART OF OUR DAILY LIVES. BUT IN TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, MARY MOLONEY EXPLAINS WHY JUGGLING SO MANY THINGS AT ONCE CAN DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD.

CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF, MULTITASKING DOESN'T ALWAYS SAVE TIME. IN MOST CASES, IT WILL PROBABLY TAKE YOU LONGER TO FINISH TWO OR MORE PROJECTS THAN IT WOULD TO FINISH EACH ONE SEPARATELY. EXPERTS SAY THAT WHEN SWITCHING BETWEEN TASKS YOU'RE MORE LIKELY TO MAKE MISTAKES ... ESPECIALLY IF WHAT YOU'RE WORKING ON INVOLVES A LOT OF CRITICAL THINKING. RESEARCHERS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAY IT'S NOT ONLY THE PHYSICAL ACT OF MULTITASKING THAT CAN STRESS YOU OUT.. BUT ALSO THE CONSEQUENCES. BOMBING AN EXAM OR FAILING TO PERFORM AT WORK CAN LEAD TO SELF-ESTEEM ISSUES OR EVEN DEPRESSION. MULTITASKING CAN EVEN EFFECT HOW MUCH YOU EAT. EATING WHILE DISTRACTED MEANS YOU MAY EAT TOO MUCH TOO QUICKLY OR THAT YOU WON'T FULLY REMEMBER THE FEELING OF EATING AND BEING FEEL BECAUSE OF THAT, YOU MIGHT BE PICKING UP A FORK AGAIN TOO SOON EXPERTS SAY EACH TASK REQUIRES A SPECIFIC MINDSET .. AND ONCE YOU GET STARTED YOU SHOULD COMMIT TO THE END. FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, I'M MARY MOLONEY.

HEALTH

7/14/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

West Nile update

A LOCAL SUMMER SCARE. MORE DEAD BIRDS ARE TESTING POSITIVE FOR WEST NILE VIRUS IN THE BAY AREA. GRANT LODES IS HERE WITH WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW:

THE LATEST WEST NILE CASES FOUND IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY. ONE BIRD IN ANTIOCH AND TWO IN BRENTWOOD TESTED POSITIVE FOR THE MOSQUITO-BORNE VIRUS. SINCE 2005, 55 PEOPLE HAVE TESTED POSITVE FOR WEST NILE IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY AND TWO PEOPLE

ACTUALLY DIED IN 2006. AS FOR THE BEST WAYS TO HELP DECREASE THE SPREAD OF WEST NILE...

Deborah Bass, Mosquito and Vector Control: "It's as simple as getting rid of standing water. It's really the best thing we can do, because if we don't have mosquitos then we don't have to worry about their bites. So, to protect us from their bites, let's not have mosquitos. And, we really need people to report dead birds because the birds are what tell us where the virus is active. So reporting dead birds to the state hotline is very important."

THOSE ARE GOOD TIPS TO PAY ATTENTION TO.

IN ADDITION TO CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, THE VIRUS HAS ALSO BEEN DETECTED IN SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, SANTA CLARA COUNTY, SAN MATEO COUNTY, MARIN COUNTY AND SOLANO COUNTY SO FAR THIS YEAR.

HEALTH

7/19/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Importance of adequate sleep

RECENT STUDIES ARE SAYING WHAT YOU MIGHT ALREADY KNOW – MANY AMERICANS AREN'T GETTING THE SLEEP THEY NEED. FROM OUR PARTNERS AT CNN, HERE'S MARY MOLONEY WITH TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE:

START SNOOZING...

PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 60 NEED TO SLEEP AT LEAST SEVEN HOURS A NIGHT. THAT'S ACCORDING TO TWO MAJOR SLEEP-RELATED ASSOCIATIONS. BUT A NATIONAL SURVEY BY THE CDC SHOWS MORE THAN ONE THIRD OF US SLEEP LESS THAN SEVEN HOURS, AND THAT'S A PROBLEM.

HERE'S WHY: RESEARCH SHOWS THE LESS SLEEP YOU GET, THE MORE RISK YOU HAVE FOR OBESITY, DIABETES, HEART DISEASE AND MENTAL ILLNESS.

TO MAKE SURE YOU GET ENOUGH SHUT-EYE, TRY TO STICK TO A SCHEDULE, GO TO BED AND WAKE UP AT THE SAME TIME EACH DAY, INCLUDING WEEKENDS. KEEP YOUR ROOM DARK, TURN THE THERMOSTAT LOW, AND GET RID OF ELECTRONICS. YES, PUT THAT PHONE AWAY.

BEFORE BED, DONT EAT A BIG MEAL, DON'T DRINK CAFFEINE OR ALCOHOL, AND DURING THE DAY TRY TO EXERCISE.

IF YOU DO ALL THAT AND STILL DON'T GET ENOUGH REST, GO THE DOCTOR. THERE MAY BE ANOTHER PROBLEM THAT'S PREVENTING GOOD SLEEP.

SO CONSIDER THIS YOUR WAKE-UP CALL TO START SLEEPING MORE.

FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, I'M MARY MOLONEY.

HEALTH

7/25/16 KRON 4 Evening News
New Alzheimers treatment?

RESEARCHERS SAY THEY'VE FOUND WHAT COULD TURN OUT TO BE A MIRACLE DRUG TO TREAT ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE. THE NEW STUDY SUGGESTS MARIJUANA MAY BE EFFECTIVE. IT SAYS

THE PSYCHO-ACTIVE INGREDIENT KNOWN AS "THC" STIMULATES THE REMOVAL OF TOXIC PLAQUE IN THE BRAIN. IT ALSO BLOCKS INFLAMMATION, WHICH DAMAGES BRAIN NEURONS.

THIS SUPPORTS A 2014 REVIEW OF EXISTING RESEARCH ON MARIJUANA WHICH ALSO INDICATED THAT THC HELPS EASE THE SYMPTOMS OF ALZHEIMER'S. THERE ARE STILL NO EFFECTIVE THERAPIES FOR STOPPING THE DISEASE.

HEALTH

8/1/16 KRON 4 Evening News
New report on risks of meat-eating

A NEW HEALTH WARNING TO WATCH WHAT YOU EAT IF IT'S MEAT. THE NEW STUDY SUGGESTS MEAT-EATERS HAVE A HIGHER RISK OF AN EARLY DEATH.

THE CONCLUSION APPEARS IN THE LATEST EDITION OF THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. IT FINDS REPLACING ANIMAL PROTEIN IN YOUR DIET WITH PLANT PROTEIN -- SUCH AS FROM NUTS AND BEANS -- IS ASSOCIATED WITH DECREASING ONE'S RISK OF PREMATURE DEATH FROM HEART OR CIRCULATION PROBLEMS. AND RESEARCHERS FOUND THAT RED MEAT IS MORE HARMFUL THAN OTHER KINDS OF MEAT.

RESEARCHERS LOOKED AT THE DIETS OF MORE THAN 130 THOUSAND PEOPLE, GOING BACK DECADES.

HEALTH

8/2/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Should you floss?

SOMETHING STRANGE IN THE WORLD OF DENTAL HEALTH – THE LONG-TIME RECOMMENDATION TO ALWAYS FLOSS HAS BEEN QUIETLY DROPPED. CATHERINE HEENAN IS HERE WITH A CHANGE THAT SOME PEOPLE WILL CONSIDER SURPRISING:

IF YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO FEELS GUILTY ABOUT NOT FLOSSING ENOUGH, APPARENTLY YOU CAN RELAX A BIT. IT TURNS OUT THAT FLOSSING MIGHT BE OVER-RATED.

THE LATEST FEDERAL GUIDELINES, JUST RELEASED, NO LONGER EVEN MENTION FLOSSING. SOME EXPERTS SAY IT'S BEEN AN OPEN SECRET FOR YEARS THAT IT DOES NOT SEEM TO PREVENT CAVITIES OR SEVERE GUM DISEASE. AND NOW OFFICIALS HAVE FINALLY TAKEN A CLOSER LOOK AT THAT FACT.

STILL, SOME DENTISTS' GROUPS ARE INSISTING THAT YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO FLOSS, ARGUING THAT IT CAN PREVENT BLEEDING GUMS AND INFLAMMATION. AND SOME EVEN SAY THAT IF THE TESTING SAYS OTHERWISE, IT'S ONLY BECAUSE MOST PEOPLE DO A TERRIBLE JOB OF FLOSSING AND THAT COULD HAVE AFFECTED THE RESULTS.

HEALTH

8/4/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Healthy tips for back to school

WITH SCHOOL JUST AROUND THE CORNER, KRON 4 WANTS YOU TO GET SCHOOLED AS YOUR CHILDREN GET READY TO HEAD BACK INTO THE CLASSROOM. GAYLE GUYARDO SHOWS US SEVERAL EASY AND HEALTHY WAYS TO PACK LUNCH FOR YOUR KIDS:

DON'T BUY EXPENSIVE PRE-PACKAGE LUNCH MEALS IT'S EASIER THAN YOU THINK TO PUT YOUR OWN TOGETHER.

Dietician: "So you have less ingredients, less weird stuff for your kids, less chemicals plus you're saving money and you're adding extra nutrition for your kids."

DIETICIAN ABIGAIL DOHERTY DESCRIBES THE FAST FIVE. FIRST IS FRUIT.

Doherty: "So include one fruit. I've got some blueberries."

NEXT SOME VEGGIES.

Doherty: "Let's put some carrots in."

THEN ADD A WHOLE GRAIN.

Doherty: "Let's do whole wheat pita."

NEXT ROLL UP A PIECE OF PROTEIN, LIKE HAM OR TURKEY.

Doherty: "Just grab a couple of slices."

THEN ADD A HEALTHY FAT LIKE CHEESE.

Doherty: "It's not only calcium but it's a healthy source of fat."

AND YOU CAN PLAN AHEAD WITH THESE LUNCHESES.

Doherty: "Honestly, you could make three or four of these. This stuff will last."

AND DOHERTY SAYS YOU CAN SWITCH THINGS OUT. SHE FOUND THIS BANANA PEANUT BUTTER ROLL ON PINTEREST. YOU JUST ROLL OUT WHOLE GRAIN BREAD, SPREAD PEANUT BUTTER AND PUT IN A BANANA.

Doherty: "So in this one item we have the whole grain, the healthy source of fat and protein from the peanut butter and the fruit."

BY COMPARTMENTALIZING THESE EASY LUNCH PICKS, YOUR CHILD WILL GET ALL THE NUTRIENTS THEY NEED DURING THE DAY.

HEALTH

8//12/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm & 10pm

Local community public health campaign promoting HPV vaccination

VACCINES HAVE STIRRED QUITE A DEBATE AMONG PARENTS IN RECENT YEARS. BUT TODAY A BAY AREA HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS URGING THEM TO GET KIDS VACCINATED FOR THE HUMAN PAPALOMA VIRUS. DOCTORS HAVE LINKED H-P-V TO SEVERAL CANCERS THAT STUDIES HAVE SHOWN CAN BE PREVENTED WITH A SERIES OF SHOTS. KRON 4'S ELLA SOGOMONIAN JOINS US LIVE IN SAN MATEO WHERE TEENS JOINED IN ON THE CONVERSATION.

MOST TEENS AND YOUNGER ADULTS I SPOKE WITH SAID THEY WEREN'T TOO SURE IF THEY'VE GOTTEN THE HPV VACCINE AND THAT WORRIES SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS WHO KNOW FOR A FACT THAT LESS THAN HALF OF STUDENTS IN THE AREA ARE GETTING THE PREVENTATIVE SHOTS.

Katherine Martinez, teen: "I would say you should probably get it because it's probably now or never because it could happen in the future and you could eventually get it."

Alexa Frankos, teen: "I feel like I might have, I'm not sure yet. But I'll probably go check just to see if I have gotten it."

HPV OR HUMAN PAPALOMA VIRUS IS THE MOST COMMON SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE IN AMERICA. THE CDC SAYS 79 MILLION AMERICANS ARE INFECTED WITH HPV OR HUMAN PAPALOMA VIRUS WHICH CAN CAUSE AT LEAST 5 TYPES OF CANCER. . NOW THE SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE PUSHING PARENTS TO GET THEIR KIDS VACCINATED BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS, SAYING ONLY 30% OF STUDENTS IN THE COUNTY WHO WOULD BENEFIT HAVE HAD A PREVENTATIVE VACCINE AGAINST THE MOST COMMON SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE.

Peter Emanuel, San Mateo County Health Department: "If there's a vaccine that will prevent me from getting cancer I would take it any day of the week."

Bryn Nuenschwander, San Mateo County Health Department: "Vaccination is a godsend and good for individual health and public health and I think we should be doing more of it."

COUNTY DOCTORS ARE URGING PARENTS TO TAKE THEIR KIDS TO GET THE SHOT.

Dr. Scott Morrow, San Mateo County Health Officer: "For the HPV vaccine to be most effective, patients need to take three doses over the course of 6 months."

THE SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTEMENT IS SPECIFICALLY TARGETING 11 AND 12 YEAR-OLDS.

Dr. Morrow: "So we want to make sure they are vaccinated before they are sexually active So we don't want to wait until they are 16 or 17 because it might be too late."

THE HPV VACCINE IS EFFECTIVE FOR ADULTS UP TO 26 YEARS-OLD, AFTER WHICH IT BECOMES LESS EFFECTIVE AS MOST SEXUALLY ACTIVE PEOPLE COULD HAVE ALREADY CONTRACTED HPV.

MOST WE SPOKE WITH AGREE THE BENEFITS OF THE VACCINE OUTWEIGH ANY HESITATION.

Parent: "We know that cancer causes lots of harm and if we have a thing that can prevent cancer, probably the balance of it is going to be in favor of the vaccination."

Sarah Howard, parent: "HPV is definitely a cancer causer and it can be easily prevented by a vaccine so why not, especially as a parent."

IT MAY SOUND ONE-SIDED, BUT THIS IS THE GENERAL RESPONSE I GOT OUT HERE IN SAN MATEO. MOST PEOPLE ARE FOR THE VACCINE. I TRIED TO FIND AT LEAST ONE PARENT THAT MAY BE OPPOSED - ONE WOMAN - WHO TOLD ME OFF CAMERA SHE IS A DOCTOR SAID SHE DIDN'T SUPPORT ANY TYPE OF VACCINATION BUT WASN'T ABLE TO GIVE ME A CLEAR REASON WHY OTHER THAN SKEPTICISM.

LIVE IN SAN MATEO ELLA SOGOMONIAN KRON 4 NEWS.

HEALTH

8/15/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

New risk associated with popular OTC pain reliever

PREGNANT WOMEN WHO TAKE ACETAMINOPHEN ARE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE A HYPERACTIVE CHILD, THAT'S ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY. RESEARCHERS SAY EXPECTANT MOTHERS EXPOSED TO THE DRUG RUN A HIGHER RISK OF HAVING CHILDREN WITH EMOTIONAL OR BEHAVIORAL SYMPTOMS.

ACETAMINOPHEN IS THE ACTIVE INGREDIENT IN TYLENOL AND OTHER POPULAR OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS. USERS TAKE IT FOR EVERYTHING FROM ALLERGIES, COLDS, THE FLU, AND TO SLEEP BETTER. THE STUDY SAYS IT IS SAFE FOR PREGNANT WOMEN TO USE, BUT SHOULD BE TAKEN ONLY WHEN NECESSARY TO MINIMIZE RISKS.

HEALTH

8/17/16 KRON 4 Evening News
New study links obesity to impaired brain health

NEED ANOTHER REASON TO WATCH YOUR DIET AND HIT THE GYM? A NEW STUDY SAYS IT MIGHT HAVE A GREAT ONE FOR YOU. CNN'S JEREMY ROTH HAS MORE:

IS THERE A LINK BETWEEN OBESITY AND BRAIN DEGENERATION?

A RECENTLY PUBLISHED UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE STUDY TOOK A LOOK AT THE BRAINS OF HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE BETWEEN AGES 20 AND 87.

SCIENTISTS FOUND OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE MIDDLE-AGE SUBJECTS HAD BRAINS THAT RESEMBLED BRAINS OF SOMEONE TEN YEARS OLDER. SPECIFICALLY, THEY HAD MUCH LESS "WHITE MATTER" -- WHICH APPEARS YELLOW IN THIS IMAGE -- THAN THEIR LEANER PEERS.

WHITE MATTER LINKS REGIONS OF THE BRAIN TOGETHER. YOU CAN THINK OF IT AS A SUBWAY FOR YOUR MIND. RESEARCHERS SAY IT'S TOO EARLY TO TELL WHAT THIS MEANS -- BUT WANT MORE STUDIES DONE. ESPECIALLY AS THE POPULATION CONTINUES TO AGE, AND OBESITY RATES CONTINUE TO RISE. THEY ALSO WANT TO KNOW IF WEIGHT LOSS COULD BRING WHITE MATTER BACK.

WHILE STUDIES LOOKING AT A LINK BETWEEN OBESITY AND BRAIN AGING ARE RELATIVELY NEW, BEING OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE HAS BEEN SHOWN TO PROMOTE THE RISK OF VARIOUS OTHER CONDITIONS -- INCLUDING DIABETES, CANCER AND HEART DISEASE.

FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, I'M JEREMY ROTH.

HEALTH

8/22/16 KRON 4 Evening News
New advice on how to maximize workouts

GO HARD OR GO HOME, RIGHT? THAT'S THE MENTALITY YOU NEED TO GET THOSE SIX PACK ABS. BUT NOT EVERYBODY WANTS TO SPEND THAT KIND OF TIME IN A PILATES CLASS. WHETHER YOU DREAD IT OR NOT, WORKING OUT TAKES A CHUNK OUT OF YOUR DAY. IN TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, JEREMY ROTH HAS MORE ON HOW TO CUT DOWN ON GYM TIME WITHOUT SACRIFICING YOUR WORKOUT.

CAN'T BE IN THE GYM FOR HOURS ON END? DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO ATTEND THAT 90 MINUTE CYCLING CLASS?

NO WORRIES.

SHORTER CLASSES, LIKE 30 TO 40 MINUTES, ARE THE TREND.

IT STARTED WITH HIGHER INTENSITY INTERVAL TRAINING, ALSO CALLED HIIT.

THOSE UPBEAT CLASSES THAT GET YOUR BLOOD PUMPING CAN ALSO BURN CALORIES FAST. IT'S PERFECT FOR PEOPLE WITH BUSY SCHEDULES. AND BECAUSE THESE SHORT CLASSES CAN BE MORE ACCESSIBLE -- YOU CAN TAKE MORE THAN ONE.

NOW, BOUTIQUE WORKOUT STUDIOS AND GYM CHAINS ARE POPPING UP AROUND THE COUNTRY. AND EVEN CLASSES LIKE PILATES AND YOGA ARE SHORTENING THEIR SESSIONS.

SO, TO MAXIMIZE YOUR WORKOUTS AND BURN CALORIES TRY INTERVAL TRAINING. ALTERNATING HIGH INTENSITY CARDIO WORKOUTS WITH MODERATE INTENSITY WORKOUTS CAN MAKE YOU SWEAT -- AND BOOST YOUR FITNESS LEVEL.

BE SURE TO PLAN YOUR WORKOUTS. THAT WAY, YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO DO WITHOUT WASTING TIME. AND TAKE SHORTER BREAKS BETWEEN EXERCISES.

YOU'LL MOVE THROUGH YOUR ROUTINE FASTER AND GET OUT OF THE GYM SOONER.

FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, I'M JEREMY ROTH

HEALTH

8/26/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Concerns about rising prescription drug costs

MANY FAMILIES ARE FACING STICKER SHOCK AT THE DRUG STORE. AND BY NOW YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD ABOUT THE DRAMATIC INCREASE IN THE COST OF EPI-PENS. BUT THE ALLERGY MEDICATION IS NOT ALONE. FROM OUR PARTNERS AT CNN, ANDREW SPENCER LOOKS AT WHAT'S BEHIND THE RISING COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS:

SINCE 2009 THE COST OF AN EPIPEN USED TO HELP PEOPLE SAVE PEOPLE HAVING A SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTION HAS SKYROCKETED. THAT'S LEFT MANY FAMILIES CHOOSING BETWEEN THEIR HEALTH AND THEIR WALLETS.

Parent: "The challenge is we really feel that we have any other options and when your kids' lives are at stake, you do what you have to do to keep them safe."

BUT EPIPENS ARE JUST ONE EXAMPLE OF A GROWING CONCERN. ACCORDING TO A STUDY IN THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, CONSUMER SPENDING ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS INCREASED 20% BETWEEN 2013 AND 2015. THE DOCTOR BEHIND THIS STUDY BLAMES INEFFICIENT GOVERNMENT POLICIES, FDA REGULATORY RULES AND PHYSICIAN PRESCRIBING PRACTICES FOR THE DRAMATIC SPIKES. SOME LAWMAKERS ARE NOW SPEAKING OUT ABOUT THE ISSUE.

[unidentified] member of Congress: "This company, and others like it, have literally taken advantage of the fact that they are able to push back at Congress against any laws that allow more competition or negotiations and then they use that market power, jack up the price and expect Americans to pay it while they're making money. I just think it's wrong and that's why the laws have to change."

FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, ANDREW SPENCER

HEALTH

9/2/16 KRON 4 Evening News

Local cities taking fight on obesity to the ballot box

VOTERS IN THREE BAY AREA CITIES WILL BE DECIDING ON WHETHER OR NOT TO PASS A TAX ON SODAS THIS NOVEMBER. MEASURES ARE ON THE BALLOT IN SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, AND

ALBANY. KRON 4'S MAUREEN KELLY WAS THERE AS MAYORS OF TWO OF THOSE CITIES CAME OUT TO STUMP IN FAVOR FOR THE YES VOTE.

CHILDREN FROM A BAYVIEW DAYCARE CHANTED "NO MORE SODA" AND "BAD FOR YOUR HEALTH" AS THEY SAT ON THE STEPS OF SAN FRANCISCO'S CITY HALL DURING A RALLY FOR TWO SODA TAX CAMPAIGNS. SAN FRANCISCO VOTERS WILL BE DECIDING ON MEASURE V AND OAKLAND VOTERS ON MEASURE HH.

Mayor Lee: "Let's make sure V is for victory for our families and our children. HH is healthy health."

MAYORS ED LEE AND LIBBY SCHAAF SPOKE AT THE RALLY PUSHING FOR THE TAXES. THEY SAY IT REQUIRES DISTRIBUTORS TO PAY A ONE CENT TAX PER OUNCE OF SUGARY BEVEAGES SOLD. BOTH CITIES ARE CALLING IT A FIGHT AGAINST BIG SODA. THEY LINK THE DRINKS TO ELEVATING RATES OF TYPE 2 DIABETES, OBESITY AND HIGH BLOOD PRESURE AMOUNG OTHER HEALTH PROBLEMS. ESPECIALLY IN COMMUNTIES OF COLOR.

Mayor Schaaf: "These are taxes on distributors of death-causing sugary beverages. These diseases are killing us and we need to do something about the crisis."

THE NO CAMPAIGN IS CALLING IT A GROCERY TAX THAT'S GOING TO ADVERSELY AFFECT THE LOWEST INCOME POPULATION BECAUSE THEY SPEND THE HIGHEST PORTION OF THEIR INCOME ON GROCERIES.

Spokesperson for the No campaign: "In this case the distributor is a small mom and pop grocery. It's the corner store. These are the people selling sugar-sweetened beverages and the common misconception is that the tax is on the drinks. But, it's not. It's on those small businesses. They are the ones who are going to have to pay and they are going to pass on that tax to their customers in the form of higher prices."

A LAWYER FOR THE AMERICAN BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION EVEN TRIED TO SUE OAKLAND OVER ITS BALLOT LANGUAGE WHICH STATES THAT THE TAX CAN'T BE PASSED ON TO THE CORNER STORE. A PRELIMINARY RULING FROM THE JUDGE IN THAT CASE ALLOWS THE LANGUAGE TO STAND, LETTING THE VOTERS DECIDE.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

HEALTH

9/2/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Banning anti-bacterial soaps?

THE GOVERNMENT IS BANNING CHEMICALS USED IN MANY ANTI-BACTERIAL SOAPS. KRON-4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS IS HERE WITH WHY HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE SAYING CUT IT OUT!

THEY'RE SOAPS YOU LIKELY USE EVERYDAY, JUST LIKE THIS. ANTI-BACTERIAL IS WHAT THE LABEL SAYS, BUT THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT BUYING IT.

THE FEDS TODAY BANNED MORE THAN A DOZEN CHEMICALS LONG-USED IN ANTIBACTERIAL SOAPS AND WASHES, SAYING THE MAKERS HAVE FAILED TO SHOW THAT THEY'RE SAFE AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF GERMS. THE FDA SAYS THERE IS NO SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE THE PRODUCTS ARE ANY BETTER THAN PLAIN OLD SOAP AND WATER.

TODAY'S DECISION TARGETS TWO ONCE-POPULAR INGREDIENTS, TRICLOSAN AND TRICLOCARBAN. SOME RESEARCH SUGGESTS THOSE CHEMICALS CAN INTERFERE WITH HORMONES AND EVEN SPUR DRUG-RESISTANT BACTERIA.

THE CLEANING INDUSTRY SAYS MANY COMPANIES HAVE ALREADY REFORMULATED THEIR PRODUCTS.

HEALTH

9/6/16 KRON 4 Evening News

New findings on link between obesity and cancer

IT'S BEEN MORE THAN A DECADE SINCE ONE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GROUP CONDUCTED THEIR STUDY ON THE LINK BETWEEN OBESITY AND CANCER. AND THE RESULTS MAY NOT COME AS A SURPRISE. FROM OUR COVERAGE PARTNERS AT CNN, REPORTER KIM HUTCHERSON HAS THE NEW FINDINGS.

THERE HAVE BEEN COUNTLESS STUDIES DONE OVER THE YEARS THAT HAVE TRIED TO LINK WHAT WE DO OR WHAT WE EAT AND DRINK TO CANCER.

BUT THE LATEST STUDY FROM THE "INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER" REAFFIRMS THAT OBESITY IS LINKED TO NUMEROUS TYPES OF CANCERS.

THE AGENCY'S FIRST STUDY ON OBESITY WAS CONDUCTED BACK IN 2002, AND THE RESEARCH FOUND THAT PEOPLE WITH EXCESS BODY FAT WERE AT A HIGHER RISK FOR CERTAIN CANCERS LIKE COLON, KIDNEY AND POSTMENOPAUSAL BREAST CANCER.

FAST FORWARD TO 2016, AND RESULTS FROM THEIR REASSESSMENT ONLY ADD TO THE LIST – LIVER, GALLBLADDER, PANCREAS, OVARIAN AND THYROID CANCERS, JUST TO NAME A FEW.

THE LEAD AUTHOR OF THE STUDY BELIEVES THE LINK LIES IN EXCESS BODY FAT TRIGGERING CHRONIC INFLAMMATION WHICH CAN LEAD TO CANCER. THE HEAD OF THE NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH SAYS TWO SIMPLE THINGS CAN HELP REDUCE CANCER RISKS, EATING HEALTHIER AND EXERCISING.

FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, I'M KIM HUTCHERSON.

HEALTH

9/6/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Connections between sleep and health

NEXT WE LOOK AT THE HEALTHIEST TIME TO PUT YOUR CHILD TO BED. ACCORDING TO NEW RESEARCH, IF YOU LET YOUR KID STAY UP TOO LATE IT COULD HAVE SOME CONSEQUENCES ON THEIR HEALTH IN THE LONG RUN. KRISTIN MCLARTY HAS WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW:

ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY RELEASED BY THE JOURNAL OF PEDIATRICS, CHILDREN WITH AN INCONSISTENT AND LATE BEDTIME HAVE A GREATER CHANCE OF BECOMING OBESE AS AN ADULT.

HERE'S FIVE YEAR OLD CALEB BROOKS. HE GOES TO BED AT 8:30 EVERY NIGHT. HE LOVES BEDTIME BECAUSE THAT MEANS STORY TIME. ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY, IT'S A GREAT THING THAT CALEB LIKES TO SLEEP BECAUSE THAT MEANS LESS CHANCE OF BEING OBESE LATER IN LIFE, RESEARCHERS AT OHIO UNIVERSITY TRACKED THE SLEEP SCHEDULE OF ABOUT A THOUSAND STUDENTS FROM PRE-SCHOOL TO ADOLESCENTS. STARTING AT FOUR YEARS OLD, THEY LOOKED AT WHEN THE CHILDREN WERE PUT TO BED – 8PM OR EARLIER, BETWEEN 8 AND 9, OR 9PM OR LATER. THEY FOUND THAT PRE-SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN WHO WENT TO BED EARLIER WERE HALF AS LIKELY TO BE OBESE AT ADOLESCENCE THAN CHILDREN WHO WENT TO BE 9PM OR LATER.

Pediatrician: "Sleeping can affect all body parts. It can affect your brain. It can affect your heart. It affects growth. It affects cognition. Neuro-developmentally, it affects things."

THIS HOLY SPIRIT HOSPITAL PEDIATRICIAN SAYS CHILDREN NEED MORE SLEEP BECAUSE THEIR BRAIN AND BONES ARE DEVELOPING.

Pediatrician: "Ideally at least 8 to 10 hours every night. The younger they are, the more they need.

SO WHANEVER YOUR CHILD'S SLEEP SCHEDULE IS, MAKE SURE IT'S EARLY AND THEY'LL BE THANKING YOU FOR YEARS TO COME.

HEALTH

9/8/16 KRON 4 Evening News

School is open that means more exposure to germs

SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION, AND FOR A LOT OF PARENTS THAT MEANS MORE VISITS TO THE DOCTOR. CNN'S KIM HUTCHERSON HAS SOME TIPS ON HOW TO AVOID THE SO-CALLED 'BACK-TO-SCHOOL PLAGUE':

SCHOOLS ARE A BREEDING GROUND FOR GERMS. ELEMENTARY-AGED CHILDREN CONTRACT A COLD OR THE FLU AN AVERAGE OF EIGHT TO 12 TIMES PER SCHOOL YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION.

SOME OF THE WORST "HOT ZONES" FOR GERMS ARE WATER FOUNTAINS. THEY ARE GERMIER THAN TOILET SEATS, AND DON'T GET DISINFECTED AS OFTEN. CAFETERIA TRAYS ALSO BREED GERMS. THEY'RE NOT ALWAYS WIPED BETWEEN MEALS AND FOOD OFTEN COMES INTO DIRECT CONTACT. ANYTHING SHARED AMONG STUDENTS -- DESKS, ART SUPPLIES, SPORTS EQUIPMENT -- SPREADS GERMS.

BUT THERE ARE A FEW THINGS PARENTS CAN DO TO STAVE OFF DISEASE.

MAKE SURE CHILDREN GET ENOUGH REST. SLEEP DEPRIVATION LOWERS THE IMMUNE SYSTEM'S ABILITY TO FIGHT OFF INFECTION. A GOOD DIET AND EXERCISE ALSO HELP WARD OFF DISEASE. AND HAND-WASHING -- USING SOAP AND WATER -- IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO ELIMINATE GERMS.

I'M KIM HUTCHERSON, FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE.

HEALTH

9/8/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Preparing for flu season

WITH SCHOOL BACK IN SESSION AND FLU SEASON AROUND THE CORNER, DOCTORS' OFFICES COULD BE FILLING UP.

THIS YEAR, U.S. HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE URGING PARENTS TO HAVE THEIR CHILDREN GET THE FLU SHOT, RATHER THAN USE THE NASAL SPRAY. A NEW STUDY SHOWS THE SPRAY IS NOT AS EFFECTIVE.

A DOCTOR AT THE SEATTLE CHILDRENS HOSPITAL IS SHARING SOME TIPS FOR PARENTS WHOSE CHILDREN MAY BE NERVOUS ABOUT GETTING THE SHOT.

THE FIRST TIP IS TO MAKE IT A FAMILY AFFAIR AND ALL GET THE SHOT TOGETHER. ALSO LET YOUR CHILD KNOW IT MIGHT HURT A LITTLE BIT, BUT NOT FOR LONG. AND SOMETIMES IT HELPS TO HAVE THE YOUNGEST GO FIRST -- TO SHOW THE REST OF THE FAMILY THEIR BRAVERY.

HEALTH

9/10/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Results of new autism study

NEW STUDIES SHOW THAT SOME CASES OF AUTISM MAY BE LINKED TO GENETICS. RESEARCHERS AT U.C. DAVIS SAY THESE RECENT DISCOVERIES COULD LEAD TO A BREAKTHROUGH IN AUTISM TREATMENT. FROM OUR PARTNERS AT CNN, ANGELA MUSALLAM HAS THE STORY:

FIVE YEAR OLD LUCY FIRMAN HAS A PRETTY PACKED SCHEDULE COMPARED TO MOST KIDS HER AGE.

Caroline Firman, mother: "She has some days when she does swimming. She plays piano. And she has a social group that she goes to in the afternoon three days a week and that's play based therapy."

LUCY WAS DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM AT JUST 18 MONTHS.

Firman: "She was very attached to things in sort of an abnormal way. Swings – she just wanted to swing all day."

LUCY'S MOTHER CAROLINE SAYS THE LAST FOUR YEARS HAVE BEEN TOUGH BUT REWARDING.

Firman: "She worked really hard and she did great. But we didn't find it too strenuous because she was getting really great help from the team here."

FOR THE FIRST TIME FRIDAY, LUCY AND HER MOM BECAME PART OF A NEW STUDY THAT COULD LINK AUTISM TO GENETICS.

Dr. Leonard Abbeduto, MIND Institute: "We know there are lots of different and they don't rise to the top if you don't have a big enough sample of people participating."

DR. LEONARD ABBEDUTO SAYS IT'S SIMPLE. FAMILIES CAN ENROLL ON LINE AND THEN MAIL OUT THEIR SALIVA COLLECTION KITS TO A LAB. THEIR DNA IS THEN ANALYZED AND STORED FOR THE STUDY.

LUCY'S MOM SAYS SHE'S NOT AWARE OF ANYONE WHO'S BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM FROM HER SIDE OF THE FAMILY OR HER HUSBAND'S.

Firman: "Lucy is the first person who's been diagnosed that we know of."

CAROLINE SAYS SHE HOPES THE NEW STUDY WILL SHED MORE LIGHT ON THE DISORDER SHE'S HAD SO MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT.

Dr. Abbeduto: "It could be a game changer in really understanding what causes autism. Once we understand the causes then we can really start to work on more tailored treatments."

THE MIND INSTITUTE HAS RECRUITED OVER NINE THOUSAND FAMILIES SO FAR. RESEARCHERS PLAN TO CONDUCT THE STUDY OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS.

HEALTH

9/12/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm
New risks for kids playing soccer

WHEN YOU THINK CONCUSSIONS, YOU MIGHT THINK FOOTBALL. BUT NEW RESEARCH LINKS SOCCER TO THE CRITICAL HEAD INJURY. DOCTORS WARN CHILDREN ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE. MORE AND MORE YOUNG SOCCER PLAYERS HAVE BEEN SHOWING UP IN EMERGENCY ROOMS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. KRON 4'S ELLA SOGOMONIAN IS LIVE TONIGHT WITH SOME SAFETY TIPS PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT:

I MET A TEENAGER ON THE SOCCER FIELD TODAY WHO SAYS HE'S HAD MULTIPLE CONCUSSIONS IN HIS SHORT CAREER.

BUT IT SEEMS THAT DOESN'T STOP HIM NOR OTHER PLAYERS AND THEIR LOVE FOR THE SPORT.

MORE KIDS ARE PLAYING SOCCER. AND A RECENT STUDY SHOWS THAT WITH THE INCREASE COMES A LARGER NUMBER OF THOSE KIDS IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM WITH A CONCUSSION.

Shannon Pfister-Mackie, soccer mom: "I'm not worried., I think with proper training and just starting out, ya know."

CHILDREN BETWEEN 7 AND 17 YEARS OLD WERE POLLED BY THE CENTER FOR INJURY RESEARCH WHO LOOKED AT DATA BETWEEN 1990 AND 2014. THEY FOUND THE NUMBER OF KIDS REPORTING A CONCUSSION FROM SOCCER IS UP BY 16 HUNDRED PERCENT.

Manish Doshi, soccer coach director: "I haven't seen a rise, but I have seen more awareness in concussions. In my belief, concussions have always been a part of the game. Soccer is a contact sport."

MICHAEL ALDACO IS THE GRANDFATHER TO THIS BUDDING SOCCER PLAYER. AND ALTHOUGH HE IS CONCERNED BY THE RISK AS HE SUFFERED A CONCUSSION FROM HIS SPORTSMAN DAYS, ALDACO SAYS THE NEW STATISTICS DON'T ALARM HIM.

Alcado: "I went to the dugout and I couldn't remember what day it was. I couldn't remember my first name. But I don't think it's more dangerous. I think now people are more apt to take their child to the emergency room if they're still feeling dizzy after some contact."

RESEARCHERS BEHIND THE STUDY SUGGEST SOCCER PLAYERS FOLLOW A LIST OF TIPS TO AVOID A CONCUSSION. THOSE INCLUDE PRESEASON CONDITIONING, A GOOD WARM-UP, WEAR PROTECTIVE GEAR, FOLLOW AND ENFORCE RULES, LIMIT HEADING AND CONCUSSION EDUCATION.

AUTHORS OF THE STUDY NOTED CONCUSSIONS WERE MOST PREVALENT AMONG PATIENTS BETWEEN 12 AND 17, MOST LIKELY BECAUSE THEY PLAYED MORE AGGRESSIVELY THAN THOSE YOUNGER THAN 12.

AND THE COACH HERE TELLS ME THAT ANOTHER PREVENTATIVE MEASURE THEY USE IS NOT TO ALLOW KIDS TO HEAD BUTT THE BALL UNTIL THEY REACH THE AGE OF 12. A MEASURE BACKED BY A MANDATE BY U.S. SOCCER.

Soccer coach: "So none of the kids that you see on this field are heading the ball until they turn 12. Even then, if their parents don't want them to, they get on a no heading list."

IN SAN FRANCISCO ELLA SOGOMONIAN KRON 4 NEWS.

HEALTH

9/13/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Antibiotics losing their effectiveness

SINCE THE 1940'S ANTIBIOTICS HAVE BEEN USED TO TREAT PEOPLE WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASES. AND FOR SOME 70 YEARS, THESE DRUGS HAVE SAVED COUNTLESS LIVES. BUT THESE FORMER WONDER DRUGS ARE LOSING THEIR EFFECTIVENESS. NOW, A GROUP OF GOVERNMENT HEALTH AGENCIES ARE ASKING FOR HELP WITH A SOLUTION. KIM HUTCHERSON HAS MORE.

DRUG RESISTANT BACTERIA ARE A GROWING THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH. ACCORDING TO THE CDC, BACTERIA THAT CAN'T BE KILLED BY ANTIBIOTICS CAUSE AT LEAST TWO MILLION INFECTIONS EVERY YEAR AND SOME 23 THOUSAND DEATHS.

Dr. Francis Collins, NIH Director: "The antibiotics aren't working anymore for lots of these bugs. This is a growing problem that desperately needs better tools in order to be able to tackle it."

NOW, HEALTH AGENCIES WANT TO CROWD SOURCE A SOLUTION. THEY'VE LAUNCHED THE ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGE. OFFICIALS ARE LOOKING FOR LABORATORY DIAGNOSTIC TESTS THAT CAN BOTH ID AND DESCRIBE DRUG-RESISTANT BACTERIA AND FOR TESTS THAT CAN DISTINGUISH BETWEEN VIRAL AND BACTERIAL INFECTIONS.

TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS IN PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED.

Dr. Collins: "We hope that the size of that award will draw attention from people who might have worked on something else but now will work on this. It's a huge public health problem. We need all hands on deck."

YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION AT WWW DOT CCCINNOVATIONCENTER DOT COM. THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISIONS IS JANUARY 9, 2017.

FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, KIM HUTCHERSON

HEALTH

9/23/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Effects of Smoking & Alcohol

A NEW STUDY SHOWS THAT TOBACCO SMOKE CAN LEAVE A 30-YEAR LEGACY ON YOUR DNA. NEARLY 16 THOUSAND BLOOD SAMPLES FROM SMOKERS, FORMER SMOKERS, AND NON-SMOKERS WERE ANALYZED. RESULTS REVEAL THAT TOBACCO SMOKE CHANGES THE DNA'S CHEMICAL SURFACE. THAT IN TURN, AFFECTS HOW SOME GENES FUNCTION.

STUDY LEADERS SAY THE GENES IMPACTED WERE ONES ASSOCIATED WITH SMOKING-RELATED DISEASES. SOME CHANGES WERE STILL SEEN IN PEOPLE THAT STOPPED SMOKING 30 YEARS AGO. EXPERTS HOPE THIS EVIDENCE COULD BE USED TO IDENTIFY AND DEVELOP TREATMENTS FOR SMOKING-RELATED DISEASES SUCH AS CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE AND LUNG CANCER.

AND NOW THERE'S NEW RESEARCH SUGGESTING THAT A LITTLE BIT OF BOOZE MIGHT NOT BE AS HARMLESS AS ONCE THOUGHT. THE STUDY EXAMINED DATA FROM THE FRAMINGHAM HEART STUDY, A LARGE, ONGOING STUDY THAT LOOKS AT THE RISK FACTORS FOR HEART DISEASE. FROM OUR PARTNERS AT CNN, KIM HUTCHERSON BRINGS US THE STORY.

A NEW STUDY SHOWS THAT DRINKING ALCOHOL, EVEN IN MODERATION, MAY INCREASE THE SIZE OF ONE OF THE HEART'S CHAMBERS AND LEAVE PEOPLE AT RISK FOR IRREGULAR HEARTBEAT AND A HOST OF OTHER PROBLEMS.

RESEARCHERS ANALYZED DATA FROM MORE THAN 52 HUNDRED PEOPLE FROM THE SAME MASSACHUSETTS TOWN. PARTICIPANTS REPORTED HOW MUCH ALCOHOL THEY DRANK EACH WEEK. THE SIZES OF THEIR HEARTS WERE MEASURED AND THEY WERE TESTED FOR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION OR IRREGULAR HEARTBEAT.

ANALYSTS FOUND THAT OVER THE STUDY PERIOD, HAVING ABOUT ONE ALCOHOLIC DRINK DAILY WAS LINKED TO SMALL INCREASES IN THE SIZE OF THE LEFT ATRIUM, ONE OF THE TWO UPPER CHAMBERS IN THE HEART. AN ENLARGED LEFT ATRIUM INCREASES A PERSON'S RISK FOR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION. THAT CAN CAUSE BLOOD TO POOL INSIDE THE LEFT ATRIUM LEADING TO BLOOD CLOTS OR STROKE.

BUT RESEARCHERS POINT OUT THAT THESE FINDINGS MAY NOT APPLY TO EVERYONE. SOME PEOPLE MAY BE GENETICALLY PREDISPOSED TO ATRIAL FIBRILLATION. THE STUDY WAS PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION.

FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, KIM HUTCHERSON

3Q2016 TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION

7/12/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Many SUVs have inadequate headlights

IF YOU DRIVE ONE OF THOSE SMALL SUV'S YOU MAY WANT TO LISTEN UP. THEY DID PRETTY BADLY DURING NEW HEADLIGHT TESTING BY THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY. KRON 4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS FINDS OUT WHY:

WE HOPE TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON IT. A BATCH OF NEW MODEL SMALL SUV'S - AND NOT A SINGLE ONE EARNED THE HIGHEST RATING FROM THE INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY. IN FACT, THE RESULTS ARE BEING CALLED DISMAL.

THE HEADLIGHT TESTS MEASURED THE AMOUNT OF USABLE LIGHT FROM LOW BEAMS AND HIGH BEAMS ON STRAIGHT AND CURVED ROADS. OF 21 SMALL SUV'S, MORE THAN HALF ACTUALLY GOT THE LOWEST RATING. THE MODELS THAT PERFORMED BEST - IF NOT GREAT - WERE THE FORD ESCAPE, HONDA CR-V, HYUNDAI TUCSON AND MAZDA CX-3. THOSE WITH THE LOWEST RATING INCLUDED THE SUBARU FORESTER AND THE AUDI Q-3. THE WORST? THE HONDA HR-V.

SO WE WENT TO MIKE THE MECHANIC AT R & M MOTORS TO SEE WHAT'S UP.

Mike, mechanic at R&M Motors: "The halogen technology that's used on a lot of the inexpensive vehicles... I mean, the visibility is pretty bad. You can't really see."

AND IF YOU'RE WONDERING HOW IMPORTANT YOUR HEADLIGHTS ARE TO SAFETY, STATISTICS SHOW THAT MORE THAN HALF OF ALL ACCIDENTS HAPPEN EITHER AT DUSK OR AT NIGHT.

Mike: "The vehicles that you're able to get good visibility at night have adaptive xenon headlights or they have LED headlights which is the new technology."

STARTING NEXT YEAR, THE INSURANCE INSTITUTE WILL STOP HANDING OUT ITS HIGHEST SAFETY AWARDS TO CARS WITH MEDIOCRE HEADLIGHTS. SO IT'S EXPECTED THAT AUTO MAKERS WILL START UPGRADING THEIR LIGHTING SOON.

VICKI LIVIAKIS KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

7/13/16 KRON 4 Evening News

New efforts to improve East Bay commute

GET READY FOR A "SMARTER" WAY TO DRIVE IN THE EAST BAY. CALTRANS IS LAUNCHING THE INTERSTATE-80 SMART CORRIDOR PROJECT. THIS PROJECT WILL BE IMPLEMENTING A NETWORK OF NEW ELECTRONIC SIGNS, RAMP METERS, AND OTHER ELEMENTS ON I-80 BETWEEN THE CARQUINEZ BRIDGE AND THE BAY BRIDGE.

THE CHANGES ARE MEANT TO ENHANCE DRIVER SAFETY, IMPROVE TRAVEL TIME AND REDUCE ACCIDENTS AND CONGESTION. HERE'S A BREAK DOWN OF WHAT DRIVERS WILL SEE AND WHAT

THEY SHOULD DO.

YOU'LL SEE NEW RAMP METERS. THEY'LL SHOW A CONTINUOUS GREEN LIGHT FOR TWO WEEKS TO ALERT DRIVERS THAT METERING WILL BEGIN. THE RAMP METERS WILL BE ACTIVATED IN PHASES TO HELP PEOPLE MERGE ONTO I-80 SMOOTHLY AND SAFELY.

NEXT YOU'LL SEE THESE NEW OVERHEAD ELECTRONIC SIGNS. THE SIGNS WILL DISPLAY COLORED ARROWS, X'S AND SPEED LIMITS. THEN THE TRAFFIC INFORMATION BOARDS WILL BEGIN SHOWING REGIONAL CONGESTION AND TRAVEL TIMES. THESE SIGNS WILL ALLOW YOU TO CHOOSE THE BEST ROUTE TO GET TO YOUR DESTINATION.

AND FINALLY, THESE LOCAL STREET SIGNS ALSO KNOWN AS "TRAILBLAZER" SIGNS. THESE WILL HELP YOU NAVIGATE AROUND AN INCIDENT. IF YOU'VE EXITED THE FREEWAY ONTO CITY STREETS, THE SIGNS WILL LET YOU KNOW WHEN YOU'VE PASSED THE INCIDENT AND CAN SHOULD GET BACK ON THE HIGHWAY.

TRANSPORTATION

7/15/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Previewing the new SMART train

A BIG PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROJECT IS MOVING CLOSER TO THE FINISH LINE. AT THE END OF THE YEAR, THE SMART TRAIN IS SCHEDULED TO HIT THE TRACKS, OPENING TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE FIRST TIME. KRON 4'S TERISA ESTACIO HAS A LOOK FROM INSIDE AND ABOVE:

THIS IS A VIEW FROM INSIDE THE SLEEK NEW SMART TRAIN. AND CHECK THIS OUT – THIS IS WHAT ONE OF THE NEW STATIONS LOOKS LIKE FROM ABOVE VIEWED FROM OUR QUADCOPTER4.

SMART train spokesperson : "I certainly think this is an excellent commuting option."

SMART TRAIN'S SPOKESPERSON TOOK ME ON A TOUR, AS THEY'RE MOVING INTO THE FINAL STAGES OF THIS ENORMOUS 450 MILLION DOLLAR PROJECT. CURRENTLY OPERATORS ARE TESTING THE TRAINS AS THEY TRY OUT VARIOUS SPEEDS , CHECK OUT COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND MAKE SURE THAT GATES ARE WORKING PROPERLY.

Spokesperson: "One of our main concerns is getting the community used to the fact that we're up and running. We are testing the gates both with and without trains. For drivers – please, never stop on the tracks. People are still walking on our tracks and we really want them to know that walking on railroad tracks is dangerous It's also illegal."

THE SMART TRAIN WILL COVER 43 MILES IN THE NORTH BAY.

Spokesperson: "So that will start at Sonoma County airport and go down to downtown San Rafael."

AND THEN THERE'S THIS NEWS. THEY RECENTLY GOT FUNDING TO GO AHEAD AND BUILD TO THE FERRY TERMINAL IN LARKSPUR.

THE TRAINS HAVE MANY FEATURES. THERE ARE BARS TO HOLD ONTO, BIKE HOOKS, TRAY TABLES AND ACTUAL TABLES. PLUS THE DOORS BETWEEN CARS OPEN AT THE TAP OF BUTTON. THERE ARE REST ROOMS AND A MINI RESTAURANT SERVING COFFEE AND ALCOHOLI BEVERAGES.

Spokesperson: "Passengers will be whizzing by 101. We have a top speed of 79."

THAT'S RIGHT. SOON YOU CAN KICK BACK, RELAX, TAKE IN THE NORTH BAY SCENERY IN STYLE AND SKIP THE TRAFFIC AS YOU HEAD TO WORK OR PLAY. THE TRAINS GO ONLINE BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

7/19/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Installing BART's new security cameras is a slow process

BACK IN JANUARY WE LEARNED 70 PERCENT OF THE SECURITY CAMERAS ON BART TRAINS ARE DECOYS AFTER A MAN WAS SHOT AND KILLED ON A TRAIN. BART PROMISED TO INSTALL WORKING SECURITY CAMERAS ON ALL CAR, BUT SO FAR THEY HAVENT DELIVERED ON THAT PROMISE. KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN BRINGS US THE STORY:

THIS IS CELL PHONE VIDEO OF THE AFTERMATH OF JANUARY'S DEADLY SHOOTING OF A MAN ON A BART TRAIN. IT'S CELL PHONE VIDEO BECAUSE THE ACTUAL TRAIN CAR CAMERA DID NOT WORK. IN FACT, MORE THAN 70% OF CAMERAS ON BART TRAINS ARE DECOYS OR BROKEN.

IN JANUARY, BART ANNOUNCED IT WAS COMMITTED TO INSTALL A WORKING CAMERA SYSTEM ON EACH AND EVERY TRAIN CAR AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. THEN IN FEBRUARY THE TRANSIT AGENCY ANNOUNCED "THE PROJECT HAS BEGUN." WHILE MANY THOUGHT THAT MEANT INSTALLATION WAS UNDERWAY, SIMPLY MEANT THAT KRON HAD BEGUN INVESTIGATING NUMEROUS OPTIONS.

AS OF TODAY, ONLY TWO BART CARS HAVE HAD CAMERAS INSTALLED AND PARTS ARE ON HAND FOR ANOTHER EIGHT INSTALLATIONS. BUT THE MORE THAN FOUR HUNDRED CAMERAS AND RECORDING DEVICES THAT ARE NEEDED WON'T BE ORDERED UNTIL THE BOARD APPROVES THE EXPENDITURE. AND INSTALLATION WON'T BE COMPLETE UNTIL THE END OF JUNE OF NEXT YEAR.

Joel Keller, BART board director: "I'm disappointed we haven't made more progress. This is an important project for me and for the people I represent. Public safety, the safety of our riders and our employees is a top priority for me."

BART board director Joel Keller says he is now taking steps to expedite the process.

Keller: "I was told this would be on the September agenda. But I've spoken to the board president and I've spoken to the general manager and I have both of their assurances that this contract will now be on the first meeting in August. Presumably at that point, the board can award the contract and begin the process of installation."

AGAIN, THAT INSTALLATION WON'T BE QUICK. THAT'S BECAUSE BART IS SO CROWDED, THEY CAN'T JUST PULL CARS OUT OF SERVICE FOR INSTALLATION OF THESE CAMERAS. THEY ARE GOING TO BE INSTALLED WHEN THE CARS ARE OUT FOR REGULAR MAINTENANCE. AND THAT'S WHY IT'S GOING TO TAKE UNTIL THE END OF JUNE FOR THESE MORE THAN 400 CAMERAS TO BE INSTALLED.

IN WALNUT CREEK DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

7/28/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local resident's plan to improve congestion

THESE DAYS WILLO ROAD IN MENLO PARK CAN GET VERY CONGESTED. DURING COMMUTE HOURS IT SOMETIMES LOOKS LIKE A PARKING LOT.

Jen Wolosin, concerned resident: "and all these people are stressed out of their minds trying to get to and from home and work,"

JEN WOLOSIN, WHO HAS TWO YOUNG CHILDREN, SAYS SHE WON'T LET HER KIDS CROSS WILLOW ALONE. DRIVERS HERE DON'T SEEM TO BE AWARE THAT THEY ARE DRIVING THROUGH A RESIDENTIAL AREA.

Wolosin: "You have cars thinking they are on an extension of the freeway."

BUT STARTING THIS FALL, SHE AND MANY OTHER FAMILIES MAY HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO START CROSSING WILLOW ON A DAILY BASIS. UNTIL NOW, THE ONLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE AREA WAS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF WILLOW, BUT LATER THIS YEAR A NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS SET TO OPEN ON THE SOUTH SIDE. ONE SCHOOL WILL TAKE KIDS K THROUGH SECOND GRADE AND THE OTHER WILL HANDLE THIRD GRADE THROUGH FIFTH GRADE. THAT MEANS MANY KIDS WILL NEED TO START CROSSING OVER WILLOW IN ORDER TO GET TO AND FROM THEIR SCHOOL.

THE CITY HAS WORKED ON MAKING THE STREETS AROUND THE SCHOOLS SAFER, JUB JEN SAYS VERY LITTLE HAS BEEN DONE TO IMPROVE THE WILLOW ROAD CROSSINGS. SHE DOES HAVE A FEW SUGGESITONS.

Wolosin: "This intersection needs a crossing guard. I think it needs a button specifically for bikes. I also think there should be signs in this area and maybe one of those sidewalk signs that light up."

JEN WROTE UPA ROUGH DRAFT PLAN OF HER IDEAS AND SENT IT AROUND TO NEIGHBORS AND BUSINESSES IN THE AREA. SHE SAYS SHE'S GOTTEN A LOT OF GOOD FEEDBACK. SHE ALSO SAYS THE CITY HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL AND RECEPTIVE TO HER IDEAS, BUT SHE ADMITS IT WILL PROBABLY TAKE TIME TO COME UP WITH A PLAN THAT WILL WORK FOR EVERYONE.

Wolosin: "I'm actually getting a huge lesson in democracy and how city politics work."

DESPITE THE CHALLENGES, SHE IS HOPEFUL THAT SOMETHING CAN BE DONE SOON.

Wolosin: "I would hate for the community to wait until a tragedy occurs before action is taken."

IN MENLO PARK CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

7/28/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

BART offers riders a rewards program

RIDING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND EARNING CASH SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE? BUT IT IS REALLY GOING TO HAPPEN, IF YOU TAKE BART. BART IS LAUNCHING A SPECIAL REWARDS PROGRAM. IT'S SIMILAR TO WHAT SOME BANKS OFFER WHEN YOU USE THEIR CREDIT CARDS. AS KRON 4'S TERISA ESTACIO REPORTS, THE PROGRAM IS AN EFFORT TO DEAL WITH OVERCROWDING:

PACKED TRAINS ARE JUST A FACT OF LIFE THESE DAYS ON BART AND BART OFFICIALS KNOW ALL ABOUT IT. AND NOW THEY ARE TRYING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, STARTING WITH THIS – BART WILL BEGIN OFFERING RIDERS CASH TO TAKE TRAINS DURING OFF-PEAK TIMES.

Alicia Trost, BART spokesperson: "Is the Bay Area open to a concept like this? We will actually reward with cash if you move your commute."

IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE, RIDERS WILL HAVE TO TAKE A FEW STEPS.

Trost: "You have to have an email address, a Clipper Card and a PayPal account. You will need all three of those to participate. We're making sure the three of those are working and integrating so that we can actually give you the money through PayPal. That's what we're testing right now."

ONCE YOU EARN POINTS, THEN YOU CAN GET YOUR REWARD.

Trost: "The idea would be that you can either just take your small cash reward or you can use it to spin the wheel and that's how you can get up to a hundred dollars. The idea is these are micro incentives. There's not a lot of money to get from this, unless you spin the wheel and hit the hundred dollar cash prize which would be great."

THE BIGGER PLAN TO REDUCE OVERCROWDING IS TO PUT NEW TRAINS LIKE THIS ONE INTO THE SYSTEM AND RUN MORE OF THEM. BUT THAT TAKES TIME.

THE BART PERKS PROGRAM IS MADE POSSIBLE BY A GRANT.

Trost: "It's very important for people to know that we're not using the BART operating funds from your tickets. For this project we have different pots of money. The biggest one is a grant to try this out. The federal government said this is a worthy project so let's see what you can produce for us."

BART RIDERS SHOULD BE ON THE LOOKOUT BECAUSE THE NEW PROGRAM WILL LAUNCH SOON, PERHAPS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

IN OAKLAND TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORATION

8/11/16 KRON 4 Evening News
BART restrooms reopening?

IT LOOKS LIKE BART IS GETTING CLOSER TO REOPENING SOME OF ITS UNDERGROUND RESTROOMS. IT'S A BIG DEAL - BECAUSE THEY'VE BEEN CLOSED A LONG TIME. CATHERINE HEENAN IS HERE TO EXPLAIN THE LONG WAIT:

IT'S ALSO A BIG DEAL BECAUSE A LOT OF PEOPLE SIMPLY WANT THE CONVENIENCE OF THOSE RESTROOMS BACK. THEY'VE BEEN CLOSED SINCE THE 9-11 TERROR ATTACKS IN 2001. BACK THEN, BART TOOK THE SUGGESTION OF FEDERAL SECURITY OFFICIALS, ALSO ADDING MORE CAMERAS AND REMOVING TRASH CANS.

TODAY BART SAYS IT'S CONSIDERING RE-OPENING A RESTROOM AT THE POWELL ST. STATION IN SAN FRANCISCO AND ONE AT THE 19TH STREET STATION IN OAKLAND. AND THEY WON'T JUST UNLOCK THE DOORS. THEY'RE LOOKING AT REDESIGNED, SAFER FACILITIES. THEY'VE BEEN CIRCULATING DESIGN IDEAS FOR SOME TIME WHICH INCLUDE THINGS LIKE VANDAL-RESISTANT FIXTURES AND LIGHTING AND A MORE OPEN DESIGN. BART ADMITS THOSE UNDERGROUND RESTROOMS HAVE BEEN A LOT MORE VULNERABLE TO WHAT THEY DESCRIBE AS 'DESTRUCTIVE BEHAVIOR'.

THE PILOT PROGRAM COULD BE APPROVED THIS FALL AND COULD BE COMPLETED IN SPRING OF 2018.

TRANSPORTATION

8/18/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Uber plans to go driverless

THE FUTURE IS CLOSER THAN WE KNOW. UBER'S FIRST SELF-DRIVING CARS WILL SOON START PICKING UP PASSENGERS. KRON 4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS IS HERE TO TELL US WHERE:

LIKE THE OLD COMMERCIAL – LOOK MA, NO HANDS. UBER DRIVERLESS CARS ARE REVVED UP AND READY TO HIT THE PAVEMENT IN PITTSBURGH, PA.

UBER IS LAUNCHING PUBLIC TRIALS OF FULLY SELF-DRIVING CARS IN PITTSBURGH THIS MONTH. VOLVO AND UBER ARE TEAMING UP TOGETHER IN A THREE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLAR DEAL TO CREATE THE VEHICLES.

SO WOULD YOU TRUST A CAR WITHOUT A HUMAN BEHIND THE WHEEL? ACCORDING TO A NEW SURVEY, 48 PERCENT OR NEARLY HALF OF AMERICANS ARE WILLING TO TRY OUT. SO WE SPOKE WITH A FEW PEOPLE HERE IN THE BAY AREA TO GET THEIR TAKE.

Person on Street #1: "I like the conversation. I like meeting new people. I think that's one of the cool things about Uber. I wouldn't get in a car without anyone in it."

POS #2: "If it drove itself, would I get in it? I can't say that I would."

POS #3: "Maybe in 2017. Not this year."

POS #4: "Right now? Probably not today. Give it a couple years."

SOUNDS LIKE MOST PEOPLE WANT UBER TO WORK OUT THE BUGS FIRST. SO FAR, THERE ARE SIX SELF-DRIVING CARS BEING TESTED IN PITTSBURGH. BUT UBER AND VOLVO PLAN TO HAVE 100 ON THE ROAD BY THE END OF 2016... GET READY!

TRANSPORTATION

8/19/16 KRON4 News at 10pm
California legalizes lane splitting

WATCH OUT FOR MOTORCYCLES! IT'S OFFICIAL. THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IS NOW THE FIRST STATE TO LEGALIZE THE PRACTICE OF LANE SPLITTING. GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN SIGNING IT INTO LEGISLATION EARLIER TODAY. DEMOCRATIC ASSEMBLY MEMBER BILL QUIRK OF HAYWARD SPONSORED THE BILL.

LANE-SPLITTING IS WHERE MOTORCYCLES DRIVE BETWEEN TWO LANES OF VEHICLES, AND IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A GRAY AREA IN THE GOLDEN STATE. POLICE HAVE ALLOWED MOTORCYCLES TO DO IT, BUT IT HAS NEVER BEEN DECLARED LEGAL OR ILLEGAL UNTIL NOW.

WE TOOK AN INFORMAL POLL AND HERE'S WHAT A COUPLE PEOPLE THINK OF THE NEW LAW.

MOS: "I think it is cause for concern considering that it can cause additional accidents. It's already dangerous as is."

MOS: "If it's law then probably the word will spread around and people will learn to watch out for the bikes. Right now it's kind of like people aren't aware and they think they're coming up the side of them illegally."

THAT PERSON USED TO RIDE, SO HE CAN SEE BOTH SIDES OF THE ISSUE.

THE BILL IS AB-51 AND IT HAS SOME STIPULATIONS. ONE RULE IS THAT BIKES CAN'T BE GOING MORE THAN 15 MILES PER HOUR FASTER THAN CARS AROUND IT. SO THEY CAN'T JUST WHIZ BY. AND THE OTHER IS THAT LANE SPLITTING HAS TO BE DONE NO FASTER THAN 50 MILES PER HOUR – PERIOD, REGARDLESS OF WHAT OTHER TRAFFIC IS DOING. AND, FINALLY, YOU HAVE TO HAVE TWO WHEELS ON THE ROAD AT ALL TIMES.

TRANSPORTATION

8/23/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm
Highways becoming less safe

THE ECONOMY IS IMPROVING AS GASOLINE PRICES ARE GETTING LOWER AND THAT COMBINATION MEANS MORE PEOPLE ON THE ROAD.

BUT WHILE THE COST OF GAS IS DOWN, A DIFFERENT KIND OF PRICE IS NOW BEING PAID. ACCORDING TO REPORTS, TRAFFIC DEATHS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2016 ARE UP ALMOST 10 PERCENT. THAT'S COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL SAYS WHILE REASONS FOR THE HIGHER NUMBER OF DEATHS INCLUDE AN INCREASE IN NEIGHBORHOOD AND RURAL SPEED LIMITS AND THE LACK OF HELMET USE., IT DOES PARTLY BLAME THE INCREASE ON LOW GAS PRICES AND THE IMPROVED ECONOMY.

TRANSPORTATION

8/25/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm
New freeway safety features debut

IT'S SOMETHING DRIVERS WILL HAVE TO GET ACCUSTOMED TO - WHAT THESE NEW TRAFFIC SIGNALS MEAN AND HOW THEY COULD SPEED UP YOUR COMMUTE. NEARLY FOUR ACCIDENTS A DAY! THAT IS THE AVERAGE FOR A STRETCH OF INTERSTATE 80 FROM THE BAY BRIDGE TO THE CARQUINEZ BRIDGE. AND NOW, THAT BUSTLING EAST BAY CORRIDOR HAS GOTTEN A MAKE-OVER. GRANT LODES IS HERE TO BREAK DOWN SOME OF THE CHANGES THAT DRIVERS ARE NOW SEEING:

IF YOU DROVE THAT STRETCH OF 80 WEST TODAY, AS SO MANY COMMUTERS DO, YOU MAY HAVE SEEN SIGNS LIKE THESE. MAYBE BLACK OR MAYBE LIT UP. THIS AFTERNOON THEY WERE NOT LIT UP AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS - NO ACCIDENTS OR BIG LANE BACK-UPS.

THE SIGNS ARE MOUNTED ON 11 OVERHEAD STRUCTURES ON THE BUSY WESTBOUND 80 CORRIDOR FROM THE CARQUINEZ BRIDGE TO THE BAY BRIDGE. MORE THAN 100 OF THEM WERE ACTIVATED TODAY. THEY WILL ALERT DRIVERS WHEN AN INCIDENT HAPPENS THAT CAUSES LANES TO BE BLOCKED.

THE SIGNS WILL THEN GUIDE THE DRIVERS OUT OF THE BLOCKED LANES AND PROVIDE A CLEAR PATH FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS. THE GREEN ARROW MEANS THE LANE IS CLEAR, THE YELLOW "X" MEAN TO START MOVING OUT OF THE LANE, AND THE RED "X" MEANS TO MOVE OUT OF THE LANE AS SOON AS IT IS SAFE BECAUSE IT IS BLOCKED AHEAD.

WHILE THE SIGNS WENT LIVE TODAY, THERE ARE OTHER ELEMENTS TO THIS PROJECT. NEW METERING LIGHTS ON RAMPS THAT WILL ADJUST TO TRAFFIC PATTERNS IN REAL TIME. AND SPEED LIMIT SIGNS THAT WILL CHANGE WHEN THERE'S AN ACCIDENT.

ALSO ELECTRONIC DETOUR SIGNS ON LOCAL SIDE STREETS THAT GUIDE YOU THROUGH UNFAMILIAR NEIGHBORHOODS IF YOU HAVE GOTTEN OFF THE FREEWAY TO AVOID AN ACCIDENT.

TRANSPORTATION

8/26 16 KRON 4 Evening News
Proposed trucking regulations would improve highway safety

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WANTS TO LIMIT HOW FAST TRUCKS, BUSES AND OTHER BIG VEHICLES CAN TRAVEL ON THE NATION'S HIGHWAYS. CATHERINE HEENAN IS HERE WITH DETAILS ON THE PROPOSAL:

THIS WOULD BE A BIG CHANGE IF IT ACTUALLY HAPPENS. THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION WANTS TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SPEED-LIMITING DEVICES IN BIG TRUCKS AND BUSES. SPEED WOULD BE CAPPED AT 60, 65 OR 68 MILES AN HOUR.

IF APPROVED, ALL NEW TRUCKS, BUSES AND PASSENGER VEHICLES WEIGHING MORE THAN 26-THOUSAND POUNDS WOULD COME EQUIPPED WITH THE DEVICES.

SUPPORTERS ARGUE IT WOULD BE A BIG WIN FOR SAFETY, ENERGY CONSERVATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT. SOME PEOPLE ARE SURPRISED THAT THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY LIKES THE IDEA. A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AMERICAN TRUCKING ASSOCIATION SAYS THAT SPEED IS A FACTOR IN 23 PERCENT OF ALL TRUCK CRASHES AND THE SLOW-DOWN SOUNDS GOOD TO THEM.

TRANSPORTATION

8/26/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

New problem for BART riders

THE BAY AREA'S BIGGEST TRANSIT AGENCY IS WARNING PEOPLE TO WATCH OUT! CELL PHONES ARE BEING STOLEN AT AN ALARMING RATE AT SEVERAL BART STATIONS. PEOPLE WITH I-PHONES ARE BEING TARGETED. GRANT LODES IS HERE WITH WHERE IT'S HAPPENING AND HOW YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF.

TONIGHT, A WARNING FOR PEOPLE WHO RIDE BART AS THE TRANSIT AGENCY IS TELLING PASSENGERS TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT BECAUSE OF A SPIKE IN CELL PHONE THEFTS. IN ALL, 13 PHONES HAVE BEEN STOLEN OVER A TWO-WEEK PERIOD. PASSENGERS FROM NINE DIFFERENT STATIONS, IN BOTH SAN FRANCISCO AND OAKLAND, HAVE REPORTED THE THEFTS.

NOW POLICE ARE ON THE HUNT FOR THE SUSPECTS AND ARE MAKING RIDERS AWARE OF THE TARGET ON I-PHONES. SOME PEOPLE TOLD KRON-4 THEY ARE ALREADY TAKING PRECAUTIONS.

Passenger: "I normally just keep my things on me, keep them close by and pay attention to my surroundings."

Passenger: "Probably not be on my phone. Not have it out in public. But that's about it."

Passenger: "I keep my back pack in front of me on the train and keep my cell phone in my pocket."

POLICE HAVE A FEW TIPS FOR BART RIDERS. THEY SAY OF COURSE TO ALWAYS BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS AND MAKE SURE TO KEEP YOUR PHONE SECURE, ESPECIALLY NEAR TRAIN DOORS BEACUSE THE THIEVES LIKE TO SNATCH PHONES, JUST AS THE DOORS ARE CLOSING. ALSO BE CAUTIOUS AS SOME PEOPLE MIGHT ASK TO BORROW YOUR PHONE TO MAKE AN EMERGENC CALL. AND USE PASSWORD PROTECTION. THERE ARE ALSO ANTI-THEFT AND TRACKING APPS THAT CAN HELP YOU GET IT BACK IF IT'S TAKEN. AND IT'S NOT A BAD IDEA TO REGISTER YOUR PHONE AND HAVE A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF IT...INCLUDING SERIAL NUMBER, COLOR AND MODEL.

TRANSPORTATION

9/4/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Reducing noise on BART

A QUIETER BART RIDE IS ON THE WAY. AFTER MORE THAN A YEAR OF TESTS, BART SAYS IT HAS FIGURED OUT HOW TO SILENCE THE SCREECHING NOISES THAT RIDERS KNOW ALL TOO WELL.

KRON 4 WAS THERE YESTERDAY AS BART ENGINEERS UNVEILED A NEWLY DEVELOPED WHEEL-CUTTING TECHNOLOGY.

THE NEW WHEELS ARE ALREADY BEING USED ON THE "FLEET OF THE FUTURE" PILOT CAR. OPERATORS TESTING THE NEW TRAINS SAY THE WHEELS CUT DOWN NOISE BY MORE THAN 50 PERCENT. THE NEW WHEELS WILL ALSO BE INSTALLED ON EXISTING TRAINS, BUT IT COULD TAKE UP TO TWO YEARS TO REPLACE WHEELS ON ALL OF THE TRAINS.

Alicia Trost, BART spokesperson: "We are here today because we finally found the solution to that horrible screeching that occurs at BART."

WHAT HORRIBLE SCREECHING SOUND? [sound of a BART train] OH YOU MEAN THAT?

Passenger: "It doesn't bother me that much."

DOESN'T SEEM TO BOTHER THIS GUY EITHER. [video of man sleeping on floor of platform]

SOON IT WILL BOTHER BART PASSENGERS EVEN LESS NOW THAT THE TRANSIT AGENCY HAS DEVELOPED A NEW WAY TO LITERALLY CUT AWAY THE PROBLEM, CHANGING THE WHEEL'S PROFILE

Trost: "It's a very subtle difference, but what it does is prevent the wheels from spinning over the tracks."

THIS IS NEW PIECE OF MACHINERY THAT WILL CUT THE WHEELS.

BART engineer: "It has blades and this is one blade, and it has multiple blades as you can see here and this thing rotates against the wheel and takes the materials as needed."

BUT IT WILL BE A WHILE BEFORE THE WHOLE FLEET GETS THE SILENT TREATMENT.

Trost: "It's going to take a whole year, if not longer, possibly up to two years. But we can confidently say that this is safe and it's going to work and it's less noisy."

IN HAYWARD HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

9/8/16 KRON 4 Evening News
Bay Area mayors stump for BART bond issue

THE MAYORS OF THE THREE BIGGEST BAY AREA CITIES JUMPED ON A BART TRAIN TODAY, ALL IN HOPES OF URGING VOTERS TO SUPPORT A BOND MEASURE ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT FOR REPAIRS TO THE BART SYSTEM.

SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR ED LEE, SAN JOSE MAYOR SAM LICCARDO AND OAKLAND MAYOR LIBBY SCHAAF CAUGHT THEIR 10:21 A.M. TRAIN AT THE 12TH STREET OAKLAND STATION AND HEADED FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

Mayor Licardo, San Jose: "Measure RR is critical because we need to fix it first. As a 46 year old, I know that things break down over time. We've got a 44 year old transit system."

Mayor Schaaf, Oakland: "We need a working transportation system to serve our working families."

Mayor Lee, San Francisco: "The 440 thousand daily passengers on BART are a reflection of how badly needed this system is."

THE MONEY FROM THE 3.5 BILLION DOLLAR BOND, IF IT PASSES, WOULD GO TOWARD REPLACING WORN TRACKS AND TUNNELS, UPGRADING OLD COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND FIXING FAILING ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS, AMONG OTHER PROJECTS.

TRANSPORTATION

9/10/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Locals turnout for National Electric Car Week

THIS IS AN ELECTRIFYING WEEKEND FOR CAR SHOPPERS IN THE BAY AREA. IT IS NATIONAL DRIVE-ELECTRIC WEEK, AND IN SAN MATEO TODAY OWNERS AND ELECTRIC-CAR REPS MADE THEIR ALL-ELECTRIC VEHICLES AVAILABLE FOR TEST DRIVES. IT WAS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO LOOK AT MORE THAN A DOZEN ELECTRIC CARS IN A PERSONAL, LOW PRESSURE ENVIRONMENT.

Dave Atherton, National Drive Electric Week spokesperson: "You'd have to go to a bunch of different dealerships to look at all these cars. And also you get to hear directly from a lot of owners of cars. Most of the cars here are being shown by their owners.

Tiffany Silva, electric car shopper: "I'm interested in electric cars and this is a good way to test out a bunch of them or look at them without dealing with the sales pitch at the dealers."

THERE ARE NOW MORE THAN A HALF MILLION ALL ELECTRIC CARS ON THE NATION'S ROADWAYS. NATIONAL DRIVE ELECTRIC WEEK WILL HOLD SIMILAR EVENTS IN CUPERTINO AND SAN FRANCISCO NEXT SATURDAY AND IN PALO ALTO THIS SUNDAY.

TRANSPORTATION

9/19/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

BART bike ridership up along with bike theft

NEW TONIGHT, WE HAVE A WARNING FOR PEOPLE WHO LEAVE THEIR BIKES AT BART STATIONS. THE TRANSIT AGENCY IS SAYING THIEVES HAVE STARTED TARGETING BIKES SECURED WITH U-LOCKS. THIS IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNING BECAUSE BART HAS LONG ADVISED RIDERS TO USE THE U-LOCKS. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD IS IN PLEASANTON WITH DETAILS:

OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, BART HAS SEEN AN OVERALL DECREASE IN THE NUMER OF BIKES BEING STOLEN EVEN WHILE BIKE RIDERSHIP HAS GONE UP.

Alicia Trost, BART spokesperson: "Bike ridership is up big time at BART. A 33 percent increase in the past few years. So it's wonderful news that while we have had this surge in bike riders, we have not been seeing more thefts."

AS PART OF AN ONGING EFFORT TO REDUCE BIKE THEFTS, BART ADVISES RIDERS TO SECURE THEIR BIKES WITH STURDY U-LOCKS INSTEAD OF CALBE LOCKS. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE IS GROWING EVIDENCE THAT U-LOCKS MIGHT NOT BE ENOUGH.

Trost: "But what we are now seeing for the first time is thieves cutting through u-locks, and that's upsetting."

Bruce Engelfried, bike rider: "I have both. I have a cable and I have a u-lock."

BRUCE ENGELFRIED RIDES HIS BIKE TO BART FOR WORK. HE SAYS HEARING THAT THIEVES ARE NOW CUTTING THROUGH U-LOCKS IS BAD NEWS.

Engelfried: "Yeah it's concerning of course, especially since I can't afford another bike."

BART OFFICIALS SAY THEY WILL CONTINUE TO ADVISE PEOPLE TO USE U-LOCKS. THEY'RE STILL BETTER THAN CABLE LOCKS. BART ALSO SAYS THEY ARE PLANNING EXPANDING SECURE BIKE PARKING TO MORE THAN A DOZEN ADDITIONAL STATIONS.

Trost: "Those are really 100 percent theft proof because you walk it to an attendant and then leave it safe and secure in an office environment."

BART ADVISES USING TWO U-LOCKS IF POSSIBLE AND TO PARK BIKES AT THE INDOORS BIKE RACKS IF POSSIBLE.

IN PLEASANTON CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

9/21/16 KRON 4 News at 10pm
BART unveils new service

IN THE EAST BAY, BART GAVE THE PUBLIC A SNEAK PEAK AT THE TRAIN CARS WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY RUN ALONG THE NEW EAST BAY ROUTE BETWEEN ANTIOCH AND PITTSBURG. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD WAS IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY TODAY. HE HAS A LOOK AT THE NEW TRAINS AND HAS DETAILS ON WHEN COMMUTERS WILL BE ABLE TO RIDE THEM.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON IN ANTIOCH, HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE CAME TO CHECK BART'S NEW DIESEL-POWERED TRAIN CARS. EACH TRAIN IS AIR CONDITIONED, CAN HOLD UP TO 200 PEOPLE AND TRAVEL A MILE AND A HALF ON A GALLON OF FUEL. IN ALL, BART HAS PURCHASED EIGHT OF THESE CARS FOR ITS NEW E-BART ROUTE BETWEEN ANTIOCH AND THE PITTSBURG BAY POINT BART STATION. VISITORS SEEMED TO LIKE THE NEW TRAINS.

Diane, commuter: "They are very nice!"

NOW, THE TRAIN CARS ARE UNDENIABLY NICE. THEY EVEN HAVE THAT NEW TRAIN SMELL. BUT, COMMUTERS WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO WAIT AT LEAST A YEAR TO RIDE THEM.

BART spokesperson: "Well, we have to put the finishing touches on our maintenance facility as well as test the cars. They have to go through rigorous testing. We will be able to carry passengers by the spring of 2018."

WHEN THE TRAINS EVENTUALLY DO GO INTO SERVICE, THEY WILL BE ABLE TO TRAVEL THE TEN MILES FROM ANTIOCH TO THE PITTSBURG BAY POINT BART STATION IN ABOUT TEN MINUTES. THAT SOUNDS GOOD TO COMMUTERS LIKE BARBARA GOODRICH. SHE SPENDS HOURS COMMUTING ACROSS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY EVERY DAY.

Goodrich: "The busses are inconsistent. They run every hour. Every half hour. If you miss one, that's bad. You're late for work. A train would be better."

BART SAYS THE ENTIRE E-BART PROJECT WILL COST ABOUT 520 MILLION DOLLARS, WHICH IS LESS THAN HALF OF WHAT IT WOULD HAVE COST TO EXTEND TRADITIONAL BART SERVICE TO ANTIOCH.

IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS