



QUARTERLY ISSUES / PROGRAM LIST

1ST QUARTER 2015

KRON-TV

Young Broadcasting of San Francisco, Inc. / Media General

Community of License: San Francisco, CA

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.

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

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.

KRON 4 News @ 8, a 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 @ 11, a daily news/informational program aired 11 to 11:30 pm, includes reports and in-depth features, typically of 30 seconds to 2 minutes, dealing with community issues, and major national and international news.

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.

KRON 4 News @ 8, a Saturday news/informational program aired 8 pm to 9 pm, includes reports and in-depth features, typically of 30 seconds to 2 minutes, dealing with community issues.

KRON 4 News @ 8, a Sunday news/informational program aired 8 pm to 9 pm, includes reports and in-depth features, typically of 30 seconds to 2 minutes, dealing with community issues.

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
ECONOMY
EDUCATION
ENVIRONMENT
GOVERNMENT
HEALTH**

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.

1Q2015 CRIME

CRIME

1/8/15 KRON 4 Evening News

San Leandro police get new armored medevac vehicle

YOU'VE GOT THE RED CROSSES PAINTED ON THE DOORS. YOU'VE GOT THE PARAMEDIC EQUIPMENT SET UP INSIDE...AND IT'S BULLET PROOF.

Lt. Randy Brandt, San Leandro Police Department: "It's basically an ambulance with armor around it for extra protection"

IT IS AN ARMORED TACTICAL MEDEVAC VEHICLE PRODUCED BY A CORPORATION THAT PRODUCES ARMORED VEHICLES FOR THE U.S. MILITARY AND IT'S SOMETHING THE SAN LEANDRO DEPARTMENT SAYS IT NEEDS TO PROTECT FIRST RESPONDERS DURING ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATIONS

Lt. Brandt: "Now we can transfer them in...and then transfer them out. It's not much different than an ambulance, if you look inside of it"

HOWEVER THIS BULLET PROOF AMBULANCE COMES WITH ROOF HATCH AND GUNNER STAND. AND THERE IS CONCERN BY SOME IN THE COMMUNITY THAT THE VEHICLE WILL BE USED FOR NON-MEDICAL SITUATIONS, LIKE RECENT SOME PROTESTS HERE IN THE BAY AREA. TO THAT HE SAYS

Lt. Brandt: "If someone was in a crowd and potentially weapons were fired, and they were injured and were not even a protestor but just stuck in a violent situation this could save their lives. I won't say it won't be used, but there will be a lot of discretion when we deploy this type of resource out there."

A HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT WOULD COVER MOST OF THE MEDEVACS \$275 THOUSAND DOLLAR PRICE TAG. PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN SAN LEANDRO HAVE MIXED THOUGHTS ON IDEA

Resident: "I think they could be better investing that money into a lot of other things we need in our community in terms of safety."

Resident: "I trust the police department to do the right thing. I think they know their business better than I do."

IN SAN LEANDRO HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

CRIME

1/13/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

New Facebook Amber Alert system

FACEBOOK IS LAUNCHING A REVISED, BEEFED UP AMBER ALERT SYSTEM TO TRY AND HELP FIND MISSING CHILDREN. THIS IS A GREAT EXAMPLE OF HOW SOCIAL MEDIA CAN IMPACT OUR LIVES IN A GOOD WAY.

THE BILLBOARD AND PHONE TEXT ALERTS ARE GREAT, BUT THEY DON'T FEATURE PICTURES AND THEY DON'T PASS ALONG THAT MUCH INFO. FACEBOOK WILL NOW GET REAL TIME INFORMATION FROM AUTHORITIES WHEN A CHILD IS MISSING AND POST A DETAILED AMBER ALERT ON FACEBOOK DIRECTLY TO USERS' NEWSFEEDS.

John Walsh, Victims' Rights Advocate: "I know first-hand from having a Facebook page for years, especially while I was doing America's Most Wanted, how powerful the network of Facebook users is. They literally helped catch fugitives and helped us recover, alive, 61 missing children. So I know Facebook will make a huge difference in the search for these children. It will be a phenomenal tool for law enforcement."

THIS SYSTEM IS UNIQUE BECAUSE ALERTS WILL ONLY BE SHOWN TO PEOPLE WHO ARE MOST LIKELY IN A POSITION TO HELP - THOSE DIRECTLY WITHIN THE DESIGNATED SEARCH AREA.

THE ALERT WILL INCLUDE IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT THE CHILD SUCH AS A PHOTO, DESCRIPTION, LOCATION OF THE ABDUCTION, AND ANY OTHER AVAILABLE INFORMATION THAT CAN BE PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC TO AID IN THE SEARCH.

PEOPLE WILL ALSO HAVE A DIRECT LINK TO THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CASE AND, IMPORTANTLY, WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE THE ALERT WITH FRIENDS - A FEATURE NO OTHER SYSTEM OFFERS.

Emily Vacher Facebook Security, Trust & Safety Manager: "When a child goes missing in a community we see that people have been using the Facebook platform to share this information with their friends and family. What we want to do with this new distribution system is get this information to even more people in the community in the hope that somebody will know something, share that information and the child will be brought home."

CRIME

1/13/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local neighborhood takes crime prevention into its own hands

SOME RESIDENTS OF ONE SAN JOSE NEIGHBORHOOD ARE SO CONCERNED ABOUT CRIME THEY HAVE HIRED PRIVATE SECURITY TO PATROL THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE ALMEDEN VALLEY COMMUNITY IN SAN JOSE. I'M TOLD ONE NEIGHBOR GOT A FEW OTHERS TO PITCH IN SOME MONEY TO GET THESE UNARMED PRIVATE PATROLS IN HERE TO HELP KEEP THE AREA SAFER. SHE WOULD NOT SPEAK TO ME ON CAMERA.

HOWEVER THE DISTRICT 10 COUNCIL MEMBER DID SPEAK TO ME, AND WHILE SOME OF NEIGHBORS HERE FEEL LIKE POLICE AREN'T DOING ENOUGH, HE SAYS IT'S JUST THE OPPOSITE..

Johnny Khamis, San Jose City Council: "I think our police officers are doing a great job arresting criminals. Just in the last week we have arrested 3 separate criminals, one from a crime ring responsible for 25 burglaries – 9 in that particular area. I am very grateful for the work the police are doing, but I know crime is going up in spite of the efforts of our police department and I know the citizens are not happy about it."

THE COUNCIL MEMBER ALSO TELLS ME THAT IT VERY IMPORTANT TO GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS AND WATCH OUT FOR EACH OTHER HE SAYS THAT IF THE PRIVATE SECURITY HELPS SOME FEEL SAFE THAT'S A GOOD THING HE SAY HOWEVER THAT POLICE WILL NOT RESPOND ANY FASTER JUST BECAUSE IT'S A SECURITY GUARD MAKING THE CALL.

CRIME

1/26/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Google vs local law enforcement

Report on the "Waze Controversy"

Google app allows users to track location of police officers, as subset of traffic app

Law enforcement agencies want the app removed, citing safety issues for officers (using execution of NYPD officers as an example of harmful results) and could actually aide criminals in commission of crimes

Comments from SFPD spokesperson assessing the ubiquity of cameras and location information anyway, regardless of the app; app can be a positive by inducing good behavior or alerting citizens in need of help of location of closest officer; also understands how officer safety is an issue, especially in more rural areas where backup is miles away

Comments from Dave Maass, spokesperson for the Electronic Frontier Foundation claiming Google has every right to have the app on its platform and users have every right to enter and access locational data; to force removal of the app would be suppression and censorship by the government

CRIME

1/29/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm
Local municipality part of trend for decreasing crime rates

GOOD NEWS OUT OF ANTIOCH TONIGHT. CRIME OVERALL IS DOWN, AND THE NUMBER OF ARRESTS OFFICERS ARE MAKING IS UP. THAT'S ACCORDING TO THE CITY'S POLICE CHIEF. CHIEF ALLAN CANTANDO TELLS KRON 4 THAT FROM YEAR-TO-YEAR, VIOLENT CRIMES WERE DOWN NEARLY 10 PERCENT AND PROPERTY CRIMES ARE DOWN CLOSE TO 6 PERCENT IN 2014 COMPARED TO 2013. THE CHIEF CREDITS PRO-ACTIVE POLICE WORK FOR THE DROP-OFF, INCLUDING OFFICERS WORKING MORE OVERTIME TO FOCUS ON GANG SUPPRESSION IN SOME OF THE CITY'S MORE VIOLENT NEIGHBORHOODS.

Chief Cantando: "We are focusing on many areas in town, including the Sycamore Corridor. During this last year, we received a cops grant for five officers, and the requirement to get that grant was put one of those officers in a high crime area. We're actually going to put that officer in that location and double that officer up with another officer to work 40 hours full-time in that very small geographic area and we're hopeful we're gonna see some good results from that."

AT THE MOMENT, THE CHIEF SAYS HIS DEPARTMENT IS UP TO 90 OFFICERS ON STAFF, WITH THREE SOON -TO- BE OFFICERS CURRENTLY TRAINING IN THE ACADEMY. IN ADDITION TO THAT, THERE ARE NINE VACANT OFFICER POSITIONS WHICH THE CHIEF HOPES WILL BE FILLED THIS YEAR.

CRIME

2/10/15 multiple newscasts

Disturbing burglary trends in San Francisco

Reporting on 2 recent developments in local crime trends – statistics on alarming uptick in armed heists and a dangerous new phenomenon of driving vehicles at speed directly into the storefronts for smash and grab theft

CRIME

2/12/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local city plans to use private security cameras to fight crime

THE HOPE IS THIS PROGRAM WILL GIVE A STRUGGLING POLICE FORCE A USEFUL TOOL TO COMBAT THE INCREASE IN BURGLARIES AND OTHER CRIME THAT RESIDENTS SAY HAS BEEN PLAGUING SAN JOSE.

THE CITY IS PUTTING INTO EFFECT FOR THE FIRST TIME A 'SURVEILLANCE CAMERA DATABASE'. BASICALLY POLICE ARE ASKING ANYONE WHO HAS A SURVEILLANCE CAMERA SET UP, IT CAN BE A HOME OR A BUSINESS, TO VOLUNTARILY REGISTER YOUR CAMERA AND LOCATION WITH POLICE. THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR FOR SAN JOSE SAYS THIS A RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE WAY TO HELP INVESTIGATORS SOLVE CRIMES...

Communications Director: “Really, there will be savings down the road, allowing investigators to jump on a case more effectively, sooner. It’s an extension of what you’re doing already. If you already have your security camera installed, this is a way of leveraging that to keep your neighborhood safe, without any cost to you.”

BUT SOME RESIDENTS I SPOKE TO IN THE ALMEDEN VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD, A COMMUNITY THAT HAS SEEN A SPIKE IN BURGLARIES, BELIEVE IT'S NOT GOING TO HELP THE PROBLEM MUCH.

Resident: “If they want us to sign up for it, I would do that. But I just don’t know how much the cameras can help them, finding somebody’s face. They need hard evidence they can act on. Fingerprints or license plates. So if you have a picture of some person breaking into a house, I don’t think it’s very actionable for the police.”

NOW IF YOU DO WANT TO SIGN UP FOR THIS IT'S AS EASY AS GOING TO THE CITY’S WEBSITE AND TYPING IN INFORMATION. AND YOU CAN OPT OUT AGAIN AT ANY TIME.

CRIME

2/13/15 Multiple newscasts

Government and private sector meet to battle cybercrime

Coverage of cybersecurity summit at Stanford; President Obama and Silicon Valley executives meet to address growing security issues of cybercrime; sometimes strained relationship of federal government and private tech firms

CRIME

2/19/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

MyKRON4 Story: Viewer complaint about crime at his apartment complex

HE'S BEEN LIVING AT THE CREEKWOOD APARTMENTS IN HAYWARD FOR NEARLY SEVEN MONTHS, AND FOR THE MOST ANDREW BOZANT LIKES LIVING HERE.

Bozant: "But, because of the recent activity, it's starting to make me feel a little unsafe."

THE RECENTLY ACTIVITY HE'S REFERRING TO? WELL OVER THE PAST THREE WEEKS, THE COMPLEX HAS SEEN AN INCREASE IN CRIME, INCLUDING AN ATTEMPTED BURGLARY, VANDALISM TO THE MAILBOXES, AND...

Bozant: "Car theft. A car was stolen from the parking lot."

BOZANT SAYS HE'S TAKEN HIS CONCERNS TO THE MANAGEMENT AT THE COMPLEX MULTIPLE TIMES AND SAYS NOTHING IS BEING DONE.

Bozant: "I haven't seen anything done on the part of management to increase private security."

SO TODAY I DECIDED TO TAKE HIS CONCERNS TO MANAGEMENT TEAM MYSELF.

Reporter: "Hi, I'm Scott Rates. I'm here on behalf of a couple of your residents. They have some concern about safety. One gentleman had his car stolen. They say not enough is being done. Are you stepping up security in any way? What are you doing?"

Manager: "That is something we are looking into. I can't comment on it right now."

THAT'S ALL THE MANAGER ON DUTY WOULD SAY, ONLY DIRECTING ME TO AN OFF-SITE PR FIRM. BOZANT HOPES SOMETHING WILL CHANGE, BUT IF NOT HE'S READY TO MAKE A CHANGE HIMSELF.

Bozant: "I'm concerned, God forbid, that someone is actually attacked – physically attacked. But if it's not getting better, if I still don't feel safe then I would have to break my lease and leave."

NOW I DID REACH OUT TO A MARKETING COMPANY WHO REPRESENTS THE COMPLEX. THEY TELL ME SAFETY IS THEIR NO. 1 PRIORITY AND THEY SAY CRIMINAL ACTIVITY IS RARE. THEY WENT ON TO SAY THAT THEY UNDERSTAND THE CONCERNS OF THEIR RESIDENTS, AND THAT THEY HAVE INCREASED COURTESY PATROLS. THEY ALSO SAY THEY CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT.

SCOTT RATES KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

2/23/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Thief sinks to new low, targets Girl Scout cookie stand

IS NOTHING OFF LIMITS? A DEPLORABLE CRIME IN THE SOUTH BAY. FORTUNATELY, NO ONE WAS HURT. THIS IS THE SAFEWAY ON BRANHAM LANE IN SAN JOSE. POLICE SAY A CROOK TRIED TO CASH-IN ON GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALES THIS WEEKEND. THEY SAY HE STOLE A MONEY JAR AND TOOK OFF RUNNING. ONE OF THE SCOUTS' MOTHERS WAS ABLE TO GET HIS LICENSE PLATE AND CALL POLICE.

Girl Scout: "First it made me worried that this would happen again. It's scary that someone would just come and take our money box and the money we were earning. It was all for a project for water conservation."

BUT THE YOUNG GIRL SAYS SHE IS UNDETERRED. SHE PLANS TO BE BACK OUT SELLING COOKIES AGAIN THIS WEEKEND.

CRIME

3/9/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

TOMORROW THE CITY OF BERKELEY WILL DECIDE WHETHER CERTAIN LIQUOR STORES IN THE CITY WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS.

IF THE LAW PASSES, STORES WOULD HAVE TO HAVE SYSTEMS IN PLACE WITHIN 6 MONTHS. IT'S SUPPOSED TO IMPROVE SAFETY, BUT AS KRON 4'S EMILY TURNER TELLS US, NOT EVERYONE IS ON BOARD.

BERKELEY WANTS MORE SURVEILLANCE IN THE PLACES THAT NEED IT THE MOST, AND THE BURDEN TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN COULD FALL ON THE SHOULDERS OF STORES LIKE BING'S LIQUORS. A PROPOSED LAW WOULD REQUIRE LIQUOR STORES IN THE CITY'S MOST CRIME-RIDDEN AREAS TO HAVE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS IN PLACE.

THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO A STRING OF CRIMES SURROUNDING CERTAIN ALCOHOL OUTLETS, LIKE THIS SHOOTING THAT HAPPENED IN MAY OF LAST YEAR.

TWO MURDERS HAPPENED WITH TWO BLOCKS OF THIS LIQUOR STORE. THE PROPOSAL SAYS CAMERAS COULD HELP REDUCE CRIMES LIKE THAT. OR AT THE VERY LEAST, HELP SOLVE THEM. IN FACT, ONE OF THOSE MURDERS WAS SOLVED USING THIS SYSTEM.

UNIVERSITY, TELEGRAPH, SAN PABLO AND ADELIN AVENUES, ALONG WITH DOWNTOWN, ARE AMONG THE AREAS THAT WOULD BE AFFECTED BY THE LAW. BING'S IS IN ONE OF THOSE AREAS. THE OWNER SAYS HE'S HAPPY TO HELP FIGHT CRIME AND ALREADY HAS SECURITY CAMERAS IN PLACE, BUT THE UPGRADE TO MEET BERKELEY'S PROPOSED STANDARDS WOULD COST HIM FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS OF HIS OWN MONEY.

[INTERVIEW WITH PAVANDEEP ATWAL, OWNER OF BING'S]

THE COUNCIL VOTES TUESDAY NIGHT AT 5:30PM.

IN BERKELEY, EMILY TURNER KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

3/13/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

One woman's campaign to speak out about abuse

A BAY AREA WOMAN IS ON A MISSION TO EMPOWER OTHERS. SHE WAS MOLESTED AS A CHILD AND TOLD TO KEEP QUIET ABOUT IT. NOW, SHE HAS FOUND THE STRENGTH TO

SPEAK UP AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO DO THE SAME. TERISA ESTACIO HAS TONIGHT'S MY-KRON-4 STORY:

ALLESHA BARLOW SAYS WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG, SHE WAS SEXUALLY MOLESTED. SHE FELT HELPLESS THEN, BUT NOT ANYMORE. NOW, AS AN ADULT, SHE IS TAKING ACTION.

Allesha Barlow: "I have launched a website to help others. I am having a BBQ. I want to be around my supporters."

THIS IS BARLOW LAYING OUT T-SHIRTS SHE HOPES TO SELL TOMORROW AT AN AWARENESS BBQ PLANNED FOR SATURDAY IN FAIRFIELD.

Barlow: "I was told to stay quiet."

BUT THEN HER BROTHER CAME FORWARD AND THAT MADE HER REALIZE THAT SHE WAS NOT ALONE. SHE SAYS TALKING ABOUT HER PAST IS STILL PAINFUL, BUT BARLOW SAYS IT IS VITAL.

Barlow: "My tears are not sad, just that I want to help."

BARLOW ALSO SAYS THAT SHE HAS ANOTHER REASON TO BE STRONG – HER DAUGHTER.

Barlow: "I want to break the cycle."

BARLOW SAYS SATURDAY'S BBQ IS JUST THE BEGINNING OF MANY EVENTS SHE PLANS TO ORCHESTRATE IN ORDER TO EMPOWER SURVIVORS TO "TELL SOMEBODY."

Barlow: "People say I am brave, but we are all warriors."

IN FAIRFIELD, TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

3/18/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Local group fighting back against gang violence

AN EAST BAY NEIGHBORHOOD IS TAKING ACTION TO FIGHT AGAINST ESCALATING GANG VIOLENCE. KRON 4'S EMILY TURNER SHOWS US HOW A RICHMOND LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM IS TRYING TO STOP THE VIOLENCE THAT'S CREEPING CLOSER TO THEIR PARK:

Mark Torres: "We play games at Davis Park with San Pablo baseball. One of our managers was leaving there and drove right into a shootout. It wasn't at the park, it was in the neighborhood, but you're not supposed to shoot around kids because the bullets don't have any names. His kid was in the car and it was just narrowly escaping a nightmare."

SO RICHMOND LITTLE LEAGUE MANAGER MARK TORRES MOVED THE NEXT DAYS' GAMES TO NICOLLS PARK. HE ALSO MET WITH SAN PABLO POLICE AND RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL ABOUT MAKING IT SAFE FOR THE KIDS TO PLAY BECAUSE THIS, HE SAYS, IS SO MUCH MORE THAN BASEBALL

Torres: "Richmond and San Pablo, we both have hard reputations. But, both of us are doing Little Leagues to keep the kids out of trouble, you know try to make safe zones for them. And we don't want our parents abandoning the leagues because of something like this happening."

SO HE'S NOT ONLY CALLING UPON LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES TO BE MORE VIGILANT, BUT REACHING OUT TO THE PARENTS AS WELL. HE WANTS THEM TO STICK WITH LITTLE LEAGUE, INVESTING IN THEIR COMMUNITY AND THEIR CHILDRENS' FUTURES.

Torres: "You know we don't want the parents to give up the fight. We don't want to lose the parks to the streets. These are the kids' parks, not the street's parks. The main thing for us to deal with is just not losing to the streets, getting our kids out here, participating together and being safe. And learning how to not shoot someone for stepping on your shoe."

RICHMOND LITTLE LEAGUE IS ALSO ASKING THE CITY COUNCIL TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF A FUND THAT WOULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR YOUTH RECREATION AND HELP KEEP KIDS OFF THE STREET.
EMILY TURNER KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

3/19/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

In-studio interview with Marc Klaas about child abduction

CHILD SAFETY ADVOCATE MARC KLAAS OF THE KLAAS KIDS FOUNDATION IS HERE TO TALK WITH US ABOUT WHAT PARENTS NEED TO TELL THEIR KIDS WHEN THEY ARE APPROACHED BY STRANGERS.

DISCUSSION TOPICS INCLUDED:

HAYWARD POLICE CREDIT THIS 10 YEAR OLD BOY'S BRAVERY FOR SPEAKING UP ABOUT WHAT HAPPENDED TO HIM. BUT THAT IS AN EMOTIONAL THING FOR ADULTS TO ASK OF A CHILD. WHAT'S YOUR REACTION? ARE THERE LONG-TERM EFFECTS?

YOU ADVOCATE EMPOWERING CHILDREN IN CASE SOMETHING BAD SHOULD HAPPEN. WHAT DO PARENTS NEED TO TELL THEIR KIDS IN ORDER TO GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO BE PREPARED?

IS IT TRUE THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF KIDNAPPINGS HAPPEN WHEN KIDS ARE WALKING TO SCHOOL?

WHAT CAN BE DONE IN ORDER TO HELP PREVENT ABDUCTIONS AND ABDUCTION ATTEMPTS?

WHAT ELSE CAN PARENTS DO TO PROTECT THEIR CHILDREN THAT THEY MIGHT NOT BE DOING NOW?

CRIME

3/26/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Changes to sex offender parole laws draw criticism from community

THE CALIFORNIA STATE CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT IT IS CHANGING THE POLICY ON WHERE SEX OFFENDERS CAN LIVE. INSTEAD OF PREVENTING ALL REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS FROM LIVING NEAR SCHOOLS AND PARKS, THE RESTRICTION WILL SOON ONLY BE FOR PEDOPHILES AND OTHERS WHOSE SEX CRIMES INVOLVED CHILDREN. THE DEPARTMENT SAYS IT IS CHANGING ITS POLICY AFTER THE STATE SUPREME COURT FOUND THE BLANKET PROHIBITION UNCONSTITUTIONAL. BAY AREA RESIDENTS ARE UPSET ABOUT THE CHANGE.

Parent: "Nobody's happy about it. We've got a lot of young kids in the neighborhood and uh, everybody's, uh, on high alert about it."

PAROLE AGENTS CAN STILL FORCE SEX OFFENDERS TO LIVE MORE THAN 2,000 FEET FROM SCHOOLS AND PARKS, BUT WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE DECISION FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL CASE. IT WILL TAKE CORRECTIONS OFFICIALS ABOUT 60 DAYS TO REVIEW THE FILES OF ABOUT 6,000 SEX OFFENDER PAROLEES.

1Q2015 DIVERSITY

DIVERSITY

1/16/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local reaction to expected new SCOTUS rulings on same-sex marriage

Same-sex activist John Lewis: "Just this leap of excitement that I felt in my chest like wow...wow...it's actually maybe here."

THAT WAS THE REACTION FROM JOHN LEWIS AFTER HEARING NEWS THAT THE SUPREME COURT WILL MAKE A RULING ON FOUR GAY MARRIAGE CASES WITHIN OTHER STATES. SOMETHING THAT HASN'T BEEN DONE TO THIS DAY. HIS HUSBAND STUART GAFFNEY IS JUST AS OPTIMISTIC.

Gaffney: "We couldn't be more excited than to imagine people to be able to exchange wedding vows and for wedding bells to ring out from coast to coast in all 50 states."

THE SUPREME COURT WILL DECIDE IF SAME SEX COUPLES HAVE THE RIGHT TO MARRY EVERYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE CONSTITUTION.

Rory Little, UC Hastings college of Law: "They will almost certainly decide it by the end of June. That's their tradition. They almost never go past June. It's possible that they would be so divided that they set it for a re-argument in October, but probably not."

JOHN AND STUART HAVE BEEN TOGETHER FOR 28 YEARS. THEY'VE BEEN THROUGH TWO MARRIAGE CEREMONIES, OFFICIALLY TYING THE KNOT IN 2008. AS TO WHAT WILL HAPPEN WITH THE SUPREME COURT DECISION IN JUNE.

Little: "You can bet on a couple of things. They are going to be divided. The real question is where is Justice Kennedy, because he is the fifth vote in both of those cases and where is the Chief Justice who, I remained convinced, will vote in favor of same sex marriage when he is forced to confront the question."

SOMETHING THAT WOULD CERTAINLY MAKE JOHN AND STUART VERY HAPPY.

Lewis: "It's a very important day because this is a day we've really been dreaming about for over a decade when the highest court in our country would actually take a case that would we hope very soon say every single American regardless of who you are or you love has the freedom to pursue your dream of happiness and the dream to marry the person you love."

JR STONE KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

1/19/15 KRON 4 Evening News

End of the line for civil rights tradition Freedom Train

IT WAS 'STANDING ROOM ONLY' ON BOARD CALTRAIN'S LAST FREEDOM TRAIN THIS MORNING. SOME 14 -HUNDRED FREEDOM RIDERS BOARDING IN SAN JOSE AND SINGING THEIR WAY NORTH TO SAN FRANCISCO.

THIS AND SIMILAR FREEDOM TRAIN RIDES WERE STARTED THIRTY YEARS AGO BY CORETTA SCOTT KING, TO COMMEMORATE THE MARCH HER HUSBAND LED FROM SELMA TO MONTGOMERY. THAT MARCH WAS DESIGNED TO PUSH FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE 1965 VOTER RIGHTS ACT. ALONG THE WAY RIDERS TODAY SHARED THEIR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING ALIVE DOCTOR KING'S MESSAGE ABOUT RACIAL EQUALITY.

TODAY'S HOLIDAY ALSO MARKED THE END OF A BAY AREA TRADITION. THE "FREEDOM TRAIN" -- THE LAST OF ITS KIND IN THE NATION -- IS MAKING ITS LAST RUN TODAY. KRON-4'S ROB FLADEBOE EXPLAINS WHY THIS ANNUAL EVENT IS COMING TO AN END.

THEY RAISED THEIR VOICES ONE LAST TIME. ONE FINAL RIDE ABOARD THE FREEDOM TRAIN TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JUNIOR AND WHAT HE STOOD FOR.

[QUOTES FROM FREEDOM RIDERS]

AS SOME 14-HUNDRED FREEDOM RIDERS BOARDED IN SAN JOSE, THERE WAS NO SIGN OF THE DECLINING RIDERSHIP, WHICH ALONG WITH A LACK OF FUNDING MADE THIS THE LAST FREEDOM TRAIN, ONE OF MANY SUCH TRAINS BEGUN BY CORETTA SCOTT KING TO COMMEMORATE THE MARCH HER HUSBAND LED FROM SELMA TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, FIFTY YEARS AGO WHILE PUSHING FOR THE 1965 VOTING RIGHTS ACT.

[QUOTES FROM FREEDOM RIDERS]

ALONG THE WAY, SOME RIDERS READ FROM DR. KING'S I HAVE A DREAM SPEECH, OTHERS NOT ALONE IN THE VIEW THAT IN LIGHT OF RECENT EVENTS IN FERGUSON AND NEW YORK, THERE IS STILL A WAYS TO GO IN ACHIEVING DR. KING'S DREAM OF RACIAL EQUALITY IN TODAY'S AMERICA.

[QUOTES FROM FREEDOM RIDERS]

WITH STORIES TO SHARE AND SONGS TO SING, RIDING THE BAY AREA'S OWN FREEDOM TRAIN HAS BEEN A KIND OF PILGRIMAGE IN ITS OWN RIGHT SINCE ITS INNAGUARAL RUN 30 YEARS AGO, ITS RIDERS DOING THEIR PART TO KEEP THE DREAM ALIVE.

ON BOARD THE FREEDOM TRAIN ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

1/19/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Assessing racial equality on Martin Luther King Jr Day

COMMEMORATIONS FOR DR. KING HAPPENING ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY TODAY ON THE HOLIDAY IN HIS HONRO. KRON4'S CATHERINE HEENAN IS HERE WITH MORE ON THOSE:

EVENTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY INCLUDED THIS PARADE IN LOS ANGELES AND MANY MEMBERS OF THE WHITE HOUSE HAVE BEEN JOINING EVENTS TO HONOR

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY. BUT NEARLY FIVE DECADES AFTER THE DEATH OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER, LAST YEAR REMINDED US THAT RACIAL TENSION STILL EXISTS. RYAN NOBLES HAS MORE:

ACROSS THE COUNTRY, AMERICANS ARE COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF CIVIL RIGHTS ICON MARTIN LUTHER KING JUNIOR. IN WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT OBAMA AND THE FIRST LADY PARTICIPATED IN A COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT AT A LOCAL BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB. ALSO IN THE NATION'S CAPITOL, THE NINTH ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PEACE WALK AND PARADE WITH THE THEME "LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER".

BUT TODAY'S EVENTS FALL IN THE SHADOW OF A YEAR OF ESCALATING RACIAL TENSIONS. THE DEATHS OF TWO UNARMED BLACK MEN, MICHAEL BROWN AND ERIC GARNER, AT THE HANDS OF TWO WHITE POLICE OFFICERS LED TO WIDESPREAD PROTESTS AND SOME VIOLENCE.

ON MONDAY, MARCHERS IN CITIES ACROSS THE U.S. AND CANADA CONTINUED TO EXPRESS THAT ANGER, UNDERSCORING THE MISTRUST BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE BLACK COMMUNITY. EARLIER, VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN ADDRESSED THAT MISTRUST.

Vice President Joe Biden: "In too many neighborhoods in this country, that fear is compounded by the fear that your child may be presumed to be a gang member, or a suspect."

QUOTING DOCTOR KING, BIDEN SAID A LACK OF COMMUNICATION IS WHAT KEEPS THESE TWO GROUPS SEPARATED.

Biden: "We have to bridge that separation, particularly society as a whole, but particularly today between police and the community that exists in some places."

A MESSAGE OVER FIFTY YEARS OLD THAT STILL CARRIES MEANING TODAY.

IN WASHINGTON, I'M RYAN NOBLES.

AND IN ATLANTA TODAY, DR. KING'S DAUGHTER BERNICE TALKED TO CROWDS TELLING PEOPLE TO REMEMBER HER FATHER'S MESSAGE OF NONVIOLENCE WHILE ACTING AGAINST INJUSTICE.

DIVERSITY

1/15/15 KRON 4 EVENING NEWS

New evictions in San Jose's ongoing struggle with homelessness

EVICTON NOTICES HAVE GONE UP ALONG THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD TRACKS IN SAN JOSE WHERE NEARLY 50 HOMELESS PEOPLE HAVE SET UP CAMP.

YOLANDA GUTIERREZ/HOMELESS: "It's hard, it's hard I don't know what I am going to do, who knows what's going to happen."

YOLANDA GUTIERREZ LIKE MANY HERE MOVED TO THIS LOCATION AFTER BEING EVICTED FROM THE HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT KNOWN AS THE JUNGLE.

ROBERT AGUIRRE/HOMELESS ADVOCATE: "This is a real tragedy because the city is not dealing with the problem, just playing a game of whack-a-mole. We're being hunted because no matter where the homeless go we are being chased out.:

ROBERT AGUIRRE USED TO BE HOMELESS AND NOW ADVOCATES ON THEIR BEHALF.

AGUIRRE: "The city has made it clear we can't be by the water so we are not there; we can't be in public parks so we are not there;, we can't be in the public streets so we are not there. So, where do we go? Homeless people do not evaporate."

AGUIRRE SAYS A CITY OWNED LEGAL CAMPSITE IS THE SOLUTION. FOR NOW THERE IS NO SUCH THING, AND RESIDENTS HERE ARE PLANNING TO PACK UP AND MOVE ON SOMEHWERE BEFORE EVICTION DATE ON THE 21ST.

CITY OFFICIALS SAY THEY HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH UNION PACIFIC TO MAKE SURE WHEN THEY CLEAN THE SITE THEY D ON'T TRASH THE BELONGINGS OF THE HOMELESS AND INSTEAD TURN THEM OVER TO THE CITY SO THEY CAN BE CLAIMED.

IN SAN JOSE DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

Month of February

Black History Month – Special Programming

Black History Month vignettes featuring students from various Bay Area schools reflecting on racism, racial equality, etc.; various airdates for total of 10 runs.

"KRON 4's Selma to Ferguson: What's Changed?" aired 2/21, 2/22, & 2/27; a 30 minute Black History Month special featuring prominent African Americans in conversation about the state of race relations today (hosted by Pam Moore, with Belva Davis, Mayor Willie Brown, the Rev. Jesse Jackson)

DIVERSITY

2/17/15

Setback to White House immigration reform program

A LOT OF REACTION TODAY TO THE POTENTIAL SETBACK TO PRESIDENT OBAMA'S IMMIGRATION REFORM. A FEDERAL JUDGE IN TEXAS TEMPORARILY BLOCKED THE PROGRAM. IT IS PART OF A LAWSUIT FILED BY 26 STATES WHICH ARE TRYING TO STOP THE EXECUTIVE ORDER THAT WOULD OFFER ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS PROTECTION FROM DEPORTATION.. THE PROGRAM'S FIRST STAGES WERE SET TO KICK IN TOMORROW.

THE WHITE HOUSE NOW SAYS IT WILL DELAY ACTION ON IMMIGRATION AND PROMISES TO APPEAL THE JUDGE'S RULING.

AND A RESPONSE TODAY FROM CALIFORNIA'S GOVERNOR. JERRY BROWN ISSUED A BRIEF STATEMENT TODAY ON THE JUDGE'S RULING. BROWN SAYS QUOTE "CALIFORNIA STANDS FIRMLY WITH THE WHITE HOUSE. FURTHER DELAY WILL NOT FIX OUR BROKEN IMMIGRATION SYSTEM."

AND LOCAL SUPPORTERS OF THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVES ON IMMIGRATION REFORM WASTED NO TIME DENOUNCING THE COURT RULING BLOCKING THOSE ACTIONS. IN SAN JOSE, ACTIVISTS RALLIED ON THE STEPS OF SACRED HEART CHURCH, CALLING THE LAWSUIT AGAINST DEFERRED ACTION PROGRAMS A 'POLITICAL STUNT.'

THE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS AND EDUCATION NETWORK CALLED THE RULING A TEMPORARY OBSTACLE INSTIGATED BY OUT-OF-TOUCH GROUPS TRYING TO SCARE AWAY ELIGIBLE IMMIGRANTS FROM APPLYING FOR THE PROGRAMS.

SUPPORTERS SAY THE IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY WILL PUSH FORWARD, REGARDLESS OF THE COURT RULING AND WILL CONTINUE TO APPLY FOR THE DEFERRED ACTION PROGRAMS. THEY SAY THESE PROGRAMS ARE THE ONLY THEY CAN LEGALLY REMAIN IN THE UNITED STATES WITH THEIR FAMILIES.

DIVERSITY

2/19/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Politician speaks from personal experience in support of transgender children

SAN JOSE CONGRESSMAN MIKE HONDA IS TRENDING ON SOCIAL MEDIA, FOLLOWING A TWEET HE MADE IN SUPPORT OF HIS TRANSGENDER GRANDCHILD. KRON 4'S JEFF BUSH IS LIVE IN THE NEWSROOM TONIGHT WITH REACTION FROM THE CONGRESSMAN:

CONGRESS MEMBER MIKE HONDA TWEETING SUPPORT AND LOVE FOR HIS EIGHT YEAR OLD GRANDAUGHTER, MELISSA. THE TWEET IS A SIMPLE MISSIVE OF SUPPORT AND CONCERN FOR HER WELLBEING. IT READS, "AS THE PROUD GRANDPA OF A TRANSGENDER GRANDCHILD, I HOPE SHE CAN FEEL SAFE AT SCHOOL WITHOUT FEAR OF BEING BULLIED."

SIMPLE WORDS WITH A SIMPLE MESSAGE FROM A GRANDFATHER WHO WANT'S WHAT ANY GRANDFATHER WANTS, FOR HIS FAMILY TO BE SAFE AND HAPPY.

HONDA SAYS HE WAS SURPRISED BY THE INTEREST IN HIS COMMUNICATION.

Honda: "I didn't expect such a response. But hopefully, this becomes a teaching moment for our friends, for parents, for those youngsters who are facing difficulties because of who they are and the way they were born."/>

MELISSA WAS BORN A BOY BUT HAS IDENTIFIED AS A GIRL FROM A VERY EARLY AGE AND FAMILY SUPPORT HAS MADE HERE A WEEL-ADJUSTED YOUNG PERSON BECAUSE SHE HAS FELT ACCEPTED.

Honda: "She certainly wasn't coached, because she's the one who at 18 months said 'I'm a girl' and at 3 years she said 'I'm a girl and Melissa is my name and this is how you spell it.' So there was an insistence and a consistency in her behavior and her self-awareness. So, you pay attention to that."

HONDA SAYS THAT HE DOESN'T WANT TO SEE HIS GRANDAUGHTER PICKED ON FOR BEING WHO SHE IS. HE SAID THAT SEEING HIS GRANDAUGHTER GROWING UP HAS INFLUENCED HIS WORLD VIEW AND HOW TRANSGENDER PEOPLE FIT INTO THAT WORLD.

Honda: "It prepared me to be a person that takes things in stride and understand that you listen and learn and you support youngsters who are declaring themselves."

HONDA SAYS THE TIME HAS COME FOR TRANSGENDER PEOPLE OF ANY AGE TO BE ACCEPTED IN MAINSTREAM SOCIETY FOR WHO THEY ARE.

I'M JEFF BUSH, LIVE IN THE NEWSROOM, KRON FOUR NEWS

DIVERSITY

3/16/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Evidence of racism in SFPD

TONIGHT ALL EYES ARE ON THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT AFTER RACIST AND HOMOPHOBIC TEXT MESSAGES AMONG OFFICERS SURFACED IN COURT DOCUMENTS. THE MESSAGES WERE SENT BETWEEN A FORMER OUSTED OFFICER AND FOUR OTHER OFFICERS WHO ARE STILL ON THE FORCE. KRON 4'S J.R. STONE IS FOLLOWING THE STORY AND HAS DETAILS.

AMONG THESE COURT DOCUMENTS ARE DOZENS OF RACIST AND HOMOPHOBIC TEXT MESSAGES. ALL OF WHICH WERE SENT AMONG 4 SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS AND A FORMER COP ACCORDING TO FEDERAL PROSECUTORS. INCLUDING:
"CROSS BURNING LOWERS BLOOD PRESSURE."
"WHITE POWER."
"YEAH WE BURN THE CROSS ON THE FIELD. THEN WE CELEBRATE WHITEMAS."
"TOTAL HOMO! AND YOU'RE GAY."

DR. AMOS BROWN IS WITH THE NAACP AND TONIGHT HE IS OUTRAGED

Dr. Brown: "It's the same old negative stuff that I heard in Mississippi where I was born."

Yulanda Williams, Officers for Justice POA: "Our membership is appalled by these texting incidents."

SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR ED LEE AND SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT ATTORNEY GEORGE GASCON ISSUED SEPARATE STATEMENTS TODAY CALLING THE MESSAGES SHOCKING AND DISTURBING. BOTH SAY THEY WILL SEEK TERMINATION. THE MESSAGES CAME TO LIGHT IN COURT FILINGS CONCERNING THE IAN FURMINGER CASE, A FORMER SAN FRANCISCO COP WHO WENT TO JAIL BUT NOW SEEKS TO APPEAL HIS CONVICTION AND IS REQUESTING BAIL IN THE PROCESS.

Dr. Brown: "A firewall has been put up between the community and the department. The gay community in this town needs to unite with the black community and show that they understand that an injustice to one is an injury to all."

JR Stone KRON 4 News

DIVERSITY

3/18/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm
Public outrage over church's treatment of homeless people

CONTROVERSY SWIRLING AROUND THIS SAN FRANCISCO CHURCH. SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL IS ACCUSED OF USING ITS SPRINKLERS TO KEEP HOMELESS PEOPLE FROM SLEEPING IN ITS DOORWAYS.

TODAY THE ARCHDIOCESE ANNOUNCED THAT THE SPRINKLER SYSTEM, WHICH WAS ALSO NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH CODES, IS BEING DISMANTLED.

BISHOP WILLIAM JUSTICE WITH THE ARCHDIOCESE SAYS THE SPRINKLERS WERE INSTALLED AS A SAFETY MEASURE. HE SAYS HOMELESS PEOPLE WERE LEAVING NEEDLES, FECES, AND OTHER DANGEROUS ITEMS IN THE DOORWAYS OF THE CHURCH.

TODAY THE BISHOP CALLED THE SPRINKLER SYSTEM "ILL-CONCEIVED" AND SAID IT WOULD BE REMOVED BY DAY'S END. HE SAYS THE IDEA WAS NOT TO DO AWAY WITH HOMELESS PEOPLE, BUT TO "ENCOURAGE THEM TO RELOCATE TO OTHER AREAS OF THE CATHEDRAL."

DIVERSITY

3/18/15 KRON 4 Evening News

High profile war of words over gay adoption

IT HAS BEEN A WAR OF WORDS OVER IN-VITRO FERTILIZATION BETWEEN DESIGNERS DOLCE AND GABBANA AND SINGER ELTON JOHN, RESULTING IN THE SINGER CALLING FOR A BOYCOTT OF THE FASHION LABEL. IN THE LATEST TWIST, THE DESIGNERS ARE EXPLAINING THEMSELVES TO CNN. CATHERINE HEENAN HAS MORE:

IT'S BEEN VERY BAD PUBLICITY FOR THE DESIGNERS, AND THEY KNOW IT. NOW THEY'RE DECLARING THAT THEY 'LOVE' ELTON JOHN. THEY LOVE GAY ADOPTION. BASICALLY THEY LOVE EVERYBODY.

THIS STARTED WHEN DOMENICO DOLCE REFERRED TO I-V-F BABIES IN A MAGAZINE INTERVIEW AS "SYNTHETIC" CHILDREN BORN FROM "WOMBS FOR RENT." THAT ENRAGED ELTON JOHN AND HIS HUSBAND WHO HAVE TWO CHILDREN THROUGH IN-VITRO-FERTILIZATION. AFTER THE SINGER CALLED FOR A BOYCOTT, THE DESIGNERS AGREED TO TALK TO CNN, IN AN APPARENT EFFORT TO MAKE PEACE.

[quotes from the designers, who point out they are both gay]

NOTE THAT DOLCE IS NOT DENYING HIS VIEWS, SAYING IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO CHANGE HIS 'CULTURE'. BUT HE NOW SAYS HE'S NOT JUDGING ANYONE WHO CHOOSES THE PROCEDURE. THERE'S BEEN NO NEW COMMENT FROM ELTON JOHN....

DIVERSITY

3/23/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Indiana's controversial religious freedom law

INDIANA'S GOVERNOR SIGNED A CONTROVERSIAL 'RELIGIOUS FREEDOM' BILL TODAY.. THE NEW LAW COULD ALLOW BUSINESSES TO TURN AWAY GAY AND LESBIAN CUSTOMERS. CATHERINE HEENAN IS HERE WITH THE DETAILS.

THIS BILL HAS HAD PEOPLE UP IN ARMS FOR MONTHS -- BUT INDIANA GOVERNOR MIKE PENCE SIGNED IT IN A PRIVATE CEREMONY TODAY ANYWAY. HE POSTED THIS PHOTO, SHOWING HIS DESK SURROUNDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS RELIGIONS, INCLUDING A GROUP OF NUNS. NO REPORTERS WERE ALLOWED..

GOVERNOR PENCE IS DEFYING CRITICS WHO SAY THE BILL WOULD ALLOW DISCRIMINATION AGAINST GAYS. HE ARGUES HE'S SIMPLY ALLOWING BUSINESSES AND ASSOCIATIONS TO FOLLOW THEIR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS.

THE CEO OF SALESFORCE - HEADQUARTERED IN SAN FRANCISCO - IS AMONG THE TECH EXECUTIVES WHO OPPOSE THE LAW. SOME MAJOR CONVENTIONS HAVE THREATENED TO CANCEL THEIR EVENTS IN INDIANA, AND THE NCAA IS VOICING CONCERN AS WELL.

DIVERSITY

3/27/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Response to Indiana's controversial religious freedom law

SAN FRANCISCO BECAME THE FIRST MAJOR CITY IN THE COUNTRY TO BOYCOTT THE HOOSIER STATE AFTER MAYOR ED LEE ISSUED A DIRECTIVE TO BAR ANY PUBLICLY FUNDED TRAVEL TO INDIANA EXCEPT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY. IT'S MOSTLY A SYMBOLIC MOVE, BUT SUPERVISOR SCOTT WIENER SAYS IT'S AN IMPORTANT FIRST STEP.

Wiener: "What Indiana did is so beyond the pale. It's absolutely unacceptable and immoral. It's important for San Francisco and the entire country to say absolutely not."

AFTER THE GOVERNOR OF INDIANA SIGNED THE BILL INTO LAW, REACTION HAS BEEN COMING IN FROM MULTIPLE DIRECTIONS INCLUDING BAY AREA BUSINESS LEADERS.

THE FOUNDER OF YELP WROTE AN OPEN LETTER SAYING IT'S "UNCONSCIONABLE TO IMAGINE THAT YELP WOULD CREATE, MAINTAIN OR EXPAND A SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS PRESENCE IN A STATE THAT ENCOURAGED DISCRIMINATION..." THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF APPLE TIM COOK TWEETED HIS DISAPPROVAL. THE TWEET WITH THE MOST WEIGHT CAME FROM THE CEO OF SALESFORCE, WHICH JUST BOUGHT AN EMAIL MARKETING COMPANY BASED IN INDIANA, SAYING "TODAY WE ARE CANCELLING ALL PROGRAMS THAT REQUIRE OUR CUSTOMERS/EMPLOYEES TO TRAVEL TO INDIANA TO FACE DISCRIMINATION."

NOW THE NFL, WHICH HOSTS THEIR ANNUAL SCOUTING COMBINE IN THAT STATE, SAYS THEY ARE STUDYING THE NEW LAW. AS IS THE NCAA WHICH IS HOLDING THE UPCOMING FINAL FOUR BASKETBALL GAMES IN INDIANAPOLIS NEXT WEEK.

AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR THIS SPORTS FAN WHO IS PLANNING TO WATCH A MARCH MADNESS GAME IN THE CASTRO'S MOBY DICK BAR.

Patron: "I don't think there is enough time for them to change this week, but I hope they reconsider holding future games there."

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS.

1Q15 ECONOMY

ECONOMY

1/5/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local group worried about economic impact of Olympics

ALWAYS THE BRIDESMAID AND NEVER THE BRIDE - SAN FRANCISCO HAS TRIED FOR YEARS TO ENTICE THE OLYMPIC GODS. NOW IS THE CHANCE. SAN FRANCISCO IS ON THE SHORT LIST - UP AGAINST BOSTON, LA AND DC AS POTENTIAL HOSTS FOR THE 2024 SUMMER OLYMPICS. BUT A GROUP IS LAUNCHING A CAMPAIGN TO STOP THE CITY'S OLYMPIC DREAMS.

THIS IS THE LETTER SENT TO THE U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE PROMISING TO TAKE POLITICAL ACTION. IT WANTS CITY VOTERS TO DECIDE WHETHER TO HOLD THE GLOBAL GAMES HERE IN THE BAY AREA. YES, THE TEMPERATURES ARE FAVORABLE FOR SUMMER ATHLETES, BUT THE NEGATIVE CLIMATE COULD BE ANOTHER MATTER.

MAYOR ED LEE SAYS THE 4.5 BILLION DOLLAR PRICE TAG FOR THE GAMES WOULD COME FROM PRIVATE DONORS. BUT THAT AMOUNT COULD DOUBLE. OPPONENTS ARE WORRIED THAT COST OVERRUNS COULD LEAVE TAXPAYERS HOLDING THE BAG.

THEY ALSO SAY THAT TRAFFIC WILL BE MORE OF A NIGHTMARE THAN IT ALREADY IS. AND THEY POINT TO PLACES LIKE GREECE WHERE THE ATHENS SUMMER GAMES LEFT BEHIND VENUES THAT LOOK LIKE GHOST TOWNS.

SAN FRANCISCO ORGANIZERS SAY WITH LEVY'S STADIUM, THE NEW SOCCER STADIUM, AS WELL AS COLLEGE FACILITIES AND THE NEW WARRIORS ARENA, THE BAY AREA IS ALREADY EQUIPPED. BUT YOU HAVE TO WONDER IF THIS LATEST ANTI-OLYMPICS CAMPAIGN MIGHT AFFECT SAN FRANCISCO'S CHANCES OF GOING FOR THE GOLD.

ECONOMY

1/10/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

In polarized economy, food programs more important than ever

Story profiles the "White Pony Express" an East Bay non-profit that "rescues and relays" perishable food items; transferring foodstuffs no longer suitable for retail but still nutritious healthy food to local homeless shelters and missions. In first year of operation delivered over 600 thousand pounds of food; different model than standard food bank; only perishable items which they receive and deliver in less than 2 hours; comments from volunteers on satisfaction of helping address the "huge poverty epidemic" in our back yard.

ECONOMY

1/30/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Economic impact of drought

Story looks at low snow levels due to worsening drought and impact on businesses who rely on snow accumulation. Includes interview with inn owner in Lake Tahoe who has no bookings and therefore no revenue at all for the weekend, inn would normally be full if there were snow on the ground

ECONOMY

2/11/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Low gas prices and labor unrest

Story looks at ongoing labor strikes at local refineries and considers the impact of strikes on gas prices which have been trending lower which is good for the economy.

ECONOMY

2/17/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Victims of the booming economy

Booming local economy has ripple effects in the local housing market. This story focuses on the other victims of the eviction crisis. People priced out of their homes have nowhere to house their pets. Local pounds are seeing an influx of surrendered pets as a result.

ECONOMY

2/19/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Gas prices on the rise

COULD YESTERDAY'S EXPLOSION AT A SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OIL REFINERY LEAD TO PAIN AT THE PUMP? IT COULD BE PART OF A PERFECT STORM THAT COULD LEAD TO HIGHER GAS PRICES FOR THE BAY AREA. PRICES AT THE PUMP JUMPED AGAIN OVERNIGHT. TO MAKE THINGS WORSE, A STRIKE AT THE TESORO REFINERY COULD DRIVE PRICES EVEN HIGHER. KRON 4'S EMILY TURNER IS LIVE IN LAFAYETTE TONIGHT WITH MORE:

ALREADY, THE STATE AVERAGE HAS JUMPED TEN CENTS IN A WEEK. WE NOW SIT AT ABOUT 2.83. LET ME SHOW YOU WHY:

THIS IS VIDEO OF THAT STRIKE WE ARE TALKING ABOUT. IT'S THE UNITED STEELWORKERS UNION. BECAUSE OF THIS STRIKE TESORA HAS SHUT DOWN THE MARTINEZ REFINERY. THAT'S THE FOURTH LARGEST REFINERY IN THE STATE. SUPPLY HAS TAKEN A HIT WHILE DEMAND HAS STAYED THE SAME. FOR US IN THE BAY AREA, THAT MEANS WE'VE SEEN A TEN CENT JUMP IN JUST THE LAST WEEK IN SAN FRAN AND SAN JOSE. OAKLAND EVEN WORSE WITH AN ELEVEN CENT SPIKE THIS WEEK. FOR THE FOLKS WHO'VE GOTTEN USED TO THOSE LOW PRICES it's a BIG SHOCK- ESPECIALLY THOSE LIKE THIS TAXI DRIVER

Taxi driver: "I was really happy when they were going down. Made life easier and now costing me a lot more money. I mean, I just started my job and all the extra money from tips I get to keep. But now with gas prices up I don't know. Gotta find another job."

ADDING INSULT TO INJURY, FEBRUARY ALWAYS SEES A JUMP IN GAS PRICES. BUT EVEN WITH THE RECENT INCREASES, PRICES ARE STILL A DOLLAR LESS THAN LAST YEAR.

EMILY TURNER KRON 4 NEWS

ECONOMY

3/3/15 KRON 4 Morning News
A different take on minimum wage

Story focuses on the response to new minimum wage laws by one restaurant in Oakland. The restaurant will pay entire staff above minimum wage while eliminating tips and increasing all prices 20% the amount of a standard tip. Customers do not see an increase in what they pay; workers gain greater financial security.

Owner: Our employees shouldn't have to rely on a tip to make sure they can pay their rent.

Owner: Everyone will be paid well and consistent, whether it's a busy night or a slow night.

Owner: It's important to me that everyone in the community knows that we support our workers, that we support a living wage and we're going to guarantee that living wage. On a tip-based model, we're not guaranteeing anything.

ECONOMY

3/18/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Not everyone is on board with the 'new economy'

A GERMAN COURT HAS IMPOSED A BAN ON UBER. LAST SUMMER A GERMAN TAXI UNION LAUNCHED A LEGAL COMPLAINT AGAINST THE RIDE-SHARING SERVICE, CALLING IT UNSAFE BECAUSE THE DRIVERS AREN'T PROFESSIONALS. THE COURT SIDED WITH THE UNION SAYING ... UBER VIOLATES THE NATION'S TAXI LAWS. UBER PLANS TO APPEAL THE DECISION. THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME UBER HAS FACED A COURT CHALLENGE. TAXI UNIONS IN FRANCE, SPAIN AND THE NETHERLANDS HAVE ALL SUED TO BLOCK THE SAN FRANCISCO- BASED COMPANY FROM EXPANDING.

ECONOMY

3/23/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

San Jose still cutting services to save money

TONIGHT, THE PUBLIC IS CHIMING IN ON THE MAYOR OF SAN JOSE'S BUDGET PROPOSAL. ONE THING HE WANTS TO DO IS HAVE FIREFIGHTERS TAKE PEOPLE TO HOSPITALS INSTEAD OF AN AMBULANCE COMPANY. KRON 4'S ALECIA REID IS IN THE NEWSROOM, WEIGHING THE IMPACT OF THE MAYOR'S MONEY-SAVING PLAN:

THE MEETING IS UNDERWAY AS WE SPEAK WHERE MAYOR SAM LICCARDO IS EXPLAINING HIS PROPOSAL, AND LISTENING TO PUBLIC COMMENT. THE CITY COUNCIL WILL VOTE ON THIS TOMORROW.

MAYOR LICCARDO IS TRYING TO FIX THE CITY'S BUDGET WHILE KEEPING ITS RESIDENTS SAFE. HE BELIEVES IT WILL BE MORE COST EFFECTIVE TO HAVE FIREFIGHTERS TRANSPORT VICTIMS TO THE HOSPITAL, SINCE THEY ARE NORMALLY THE FIRST TO RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES AND STABILIZE PATIENTS UNTIL AN AMBULANCE ARRIVES.

LICCARDO SAYS IT HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN OTHER CITIES WHERE EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND TRANSPORT WERE CONSOLIDATED INTO A SINGLE PROVIDER.

SANTA CLARA CURRENTLY HAS A CONTRACT WITH RURAL METRO. SINCE THE BEGINNING, THE MAYOR SAYS THE COMPANY HAS HAD SUBPAR RESPONSE TIMES, DECLARED BANKRUPTCY AND FAILED TO OBTAIN PROPER CPR CERTIFICATIONS FOR EMPLOYEES.

HE BELIEVES BY CANCELING OUT THE COMPANY, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CAN IMPROVE RESPONSE TIMES, AND CONSERVE PUBLIC RESOURCES.

THE CITY MANAGER WILL WORK WITH OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES AND COME UP WITH A FEASIBILITY STUDY, TO SEE IF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CAN HANDLE THE TASK.

THE FINDINGS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL BEFORE THE FALL, TO COINCIDE WITH THE COUNTY'S EMS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PROCESS.

WE REACHED OUT TO THE SAN JOSE FIRE FIGHTERS UNION FOR THEIR RESPONSE TO THE IDEA. THE PRESIDENT SAYS A NUMBER OF FIRE STATIONS WERE SHUT DOWN BACK IN 2010 AND SAYS IT MAKES LITTLE SENSE TO JUMP INTO THE AMBULANCE BUSINESS BEFORE RESTORING THOSE CUTS AND IMPROVING THEIR RESPONSE TIMES.

ALECIA REID KRON 4 NEWS

1Q2015 EDUCATION

EDUCATION

1/9/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Reaction to Obama's plan for free community college tuition

THE WORD OPPORTUNITY IS ALREADY ETCHED INTO THE CEMENT HERE AT SAN JOSE CITY COLLEGE AND THAT'S JUST WHAT THE PRESIDENT'S PLAN MEANS TO MANY STUDENTS HERE, WHO FEEL THE ONLY WAY FORWARD IS TO GET AN EDUCATION.

SOT DAVID GETHERS/STUDENT: "It's the way to the middle class, to get your education. If you want to be somebody or go somewhere, it's definitely the thing to do, get your degree."

PRESIDENT OBAMA SAYS HELPING NEEDY KIDS WITH TUITION WILL HELP ADDRESS THE GROWING INCOME INEQUALITY IN AMERICA TODAY. THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EVERGREEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT SAYS IT'S A NO BRAINER.

RITA CEPEDA/CHANCELLOR: "The notion that they don't have to choose between groceries and fees or buying a textbook is monumental. It's very significant. It's a matter of perspective."

THE PLAN WOULD ONLY APPLY TO THOSE SCHOOLS, LIKE SAN JOSE CITY COLLEGE, THAT OFFER CREDIT TOWARD A FOUR YEAR DEGREE OR OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING IN HIGH-DEMAND FIELDS, LIKE COMPUTER SCIENCE AND OTHER TECHNOLOGY DEGREES.

SAM HOUT/STUDENT: "I think it's incredibly important to close the class gap because when you have the financial incentive to attend schooling, that means you're better prepared to enter the professional world."

GIANNA GARRETT/STUDENT: "This is a great starting point really for people who haven't had the privilege before and now they're able to. I think we can all rise up and grow together with this great opportunity for everyone."

THE PRESIDENT DIDN'T SAY EXACTLY WHERE THE MONEY WILL COME FROM, HOW MUCH IT WILL COST TAXPAYERS, BUT IF APPROVED, THE PLAN COULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARD MAKING COMMUNITY COLLEGE A REALISTIC GOAL FOR ALL STUDENTS.

IN SAN JOSE ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

1/13/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Controversy over change in school year

Student: "I love learning and school work, but I also love chilling out and relaxing for weeks."

THE SAME GOES FOR THESE VALLEY VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN PLEASANTON. THEY ARE OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL WITH THEIR PARENTS, PROTESTING THE PLEASANTON SCHOOL BOARD'S DECISION TO SHORTEN SUMMER VACATION THIS YEAR BY ONE WEEK. IN EXCHANGE A WEEKS VACATION HAS BEEN ADDED IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER PRIMARILY FOR THE BENEFIT OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS APPLYING FOR COLLEGE DURING THEIR SENIOR YEAR.

Parent: "My argument is that's one year of a 13-year education system. We're making a radical change that degrades the school and summertime experience for all the student for the benefit of just one year."

LAST JUNE THE PLEASANTON SCHOOL BOARD APPROVED THE MODIFIED 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR. AS A RESULT PARENTS LIKE ROCIO ARANGO SAYS THE TIME TO VOICE OPPOSITION HAS COME AND GONE.

Arango: "Our opportunity to talk about it was back then and I feel we are just wasting our tax dollars."

BUT SOME PARENTS SAY THEY DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH NOTIFICATION ABOUT THE PROCESS

Parent: "I don't think it was publicized enough. I'm on top of emails, but I didn't know."

School district spokesperson: "We undertook a full year-long process that included communicating with the parents, with surveys and forums and having this as an agenda item on the school board meetings."

AND UNLESS THERE IS SOME LAST MINUTE CHANGE BY THE SCHOOL BOARD SUMMER VACATION WILL BE A LITTLE SHORTER THIS YEAR

Student: "I want to go back to the way it was and have more summer, because summer is fun to play with your friends."

Haaziq Madyun KRON 4 News

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EDUCATION

1/13/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Controversy over change in school year

Follow-up story featuring a number of additional quotes from students, parents and educators.

EDUCATION

2/12/15 KRON 4 Evening News

New school lunch program popular with students and teachers alike

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TEENS TURNING GREEN IS TRYING TO STIR THINGS UP WITH A NEW PROGRAM CALLED CONCIIOUS KITCHEN. THE IDEA?

Judi Shils, director: "It's fresh, local, organic, seasonal, non-GMO food."

COOKED UP BY CHEFS FROM SCRATCH INSIDE A SCHOOL CAFETERIA. FOR THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF, THEY'VE BEEN FEEDING THE KIDS HERE AT BAYSIDE MLK ACADEMY. MOST IF NOT ALL OF THESE STUDENTS ARE ON THE FREE OR REDUCED SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM. HE NON PROFIT RAISED MONEY TO COVER EXTRA COSTS....AND THEY TEAMED UP WITH THE EXECUTIVE CHEF OF SAUSALITO'S CAVELLO POINT LODGE....HE HELPS KEEP THE MENU AFFORDABLE BY USING HIS CONNECTIONS WITH LOCAL FARMERS AND PURVEYORS TO BUY THE FOOD. AND THE KIDS SEEM TO LIKE THE WHAT THEY ARE EATING AND THE IDEA BEHIND IT.

[QUOTES FROM KIDS WHO SAY IT TASTES BETTER AND IS BETTER FOR THEM BECAUSE IT'S "REAL" FOOD AND HELPS PREVENT OBESITY]

JUDI SAYS THE SCHOOL IS SEEING THE POSITIVE RESULTS FROM THE KIDS EATING BETTER

Shils: "The difference seen in the kids from eating this food every day is phenomenal. We've talked with the teachers who say the students pay better attention in class, discipline rates have gone down, test scores have gone up. Our dream is for this to become a model for the world."

THE NON-PROFIT WILL BE OPENING KITCHENS IN ANOTHER MARIN COUNTY SCHOOL AS WELL AS A SCHOOL IN COLUMBUS OHIO IN THE NEXT YEAR, AND PLANS ARE IN THE WORKS FOR MORE, INCLUDING A SCHOOL IN BOGOTA, COLOMBIA.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

2/18/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm
San Bruno School District protests

OUTRAGED PARENTS SPEAK OUT ABOUT CUTS AT THE SAN BRUNO SCHOOL DISTRICT. A ONE - PERCENT PAY CUT ACROSS THE BOARD, SEVERAL SUPPORT POSITIONS ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK AND 14 TEACHING POSITIONS ELIMINATED. KRON-4'S JEFF BUSH IS LIVE IN SAN BRUNO WHERE THERE ARE A LOT OF DISAPPOINTED PEOPLE TONIGHT:

OUTRAGED AND OUTSPOKEN, PARENTS AND TEACHERS RALLIED OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING IN AN ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE THE BOARD NOT TO CUT MORE THAN A DOZEN TEACHING POSITIONS. TEACHERS AND PARENTS SAY THE CUTS ARE UNFAIR.

MEGHAN CLARK/TEACHER: "Our district is not supporting us. They are looking for pay cuts. They are looking to maximize class sizes. We know that's not good for kids."

TERESA GUERRO/PARENT: "We all agree with the teachers about what the district is trying to do. We are against cutting their salaries. We are totally against them trying to combine grades.

THE DISTRICT SAYS THEY DON'T WANT TO MAKE THE CUTS BUT THEY HAVE NO CHOICE.

PATRICK FLYNN/BOARD MEMBER "This was a surprise to us. It came up in December. We found we have a 2.15 million dollar deficit and we need to solve that deficit. The district has been living beyond its means for 5 years. That needs to end and we need to balance our budget. It's going to be painful and there is no way around that. Our teachers deserve more, but we can't give it to them."

THOSE PINK SLIPS GO OUT ON MARCH 15TH.

I'M JEFF BUSH, LIVE IN SAN BRUNO, KRON FOUR NEWS

EDUCATION

2/18/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Controversy over pamphlet distributed at local school

Several weeks ago, a pamphlet entitled examination of conscience and catholic doctrine was distributed here at the star of the sea catholic school in san Francisco's Richmond district. The pamphlet contains several basic church teachings, such as the ten commandments, but there's also a section that has dozens of questions designed to identify what the church considers to be bad behavior, including "did I fail to keep secrets that I should have kept?" and "did I fail to pray daily?" There are also several questions that have stirred controversy such as "did I perform impure acts by myself (masturbation) or with another (adultery, fornication or sodomy)?" . another question asks, "did I physically injure or kill anyone?"

As this material was handed out to elementary school children, some parents are now upset.

Ryan Brooks, Parent: "Of course we are not ok with it. "

Ryan brooks has two sons at Star of the Sea, one in 4th grade and another in 6th . He says that handing out the pamphlet was a bad idea.

Brooks: "As parents we have to protect our children. When you have a pamphlet that talks about sodomy, about masturbation, about mercy killing, about murder I don't think that's appropriate for kids of this age at this school."

While Star of the Sea is a Catholic school, many children who attend do not identify as Catholic. Brooks feels that if pamphlets like this one are going to be handed out, at the very least parents should get to see them first.

Brooks: "If someone is going to hand out that type of material, as a parent at least I would want to be informed first."

No one from the school or San Francisco's archdiocese was immediately available this afternoon for comment.

Chuck Clifford, KRON 4 News

EDUCATION

2/28/15 KRON 4 News at 11p

One parent's efforts to improve school lunches

HIGH IN CALORIES, MICROWAVEABLE FOODS. THAT IS WHAT IS ON THE LUNCH MENU AT AN EAST BAY SCHOOL AND A LOCAL MOTHER SAYS THAT IS UNACCEPTABLE. IN TONIGHT'S MY-KRON-4 STORY, KRON-4'S DAN KERMAN TELLS US ABOUT THE CHANGES SHE IS WORKING ON TO IMPROVE THE CAFETERIA FOOD SERVED TO CHILDREN IN THE WEST CONTRA COSTA SCHOOL DISTRICT.

WHEN GABRIELLA BRACAMONTES ISN'T VOLUNTEERING INSIDE HER SON'S CLASSROOM, SHE'S OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL ASKING PARENTS TO SIGN HER PETITION.

Bracamontes: "Our objective is to see if they can add some kind of salad bar."

BRACAMONTES SAYS THE SALAD BAR IS ALL ABOUT SERVING HEALTHIER FOOD FOR HER SON AND HIS CLASSMATES.

Pablo Bracamontes, 5 years old: "I don't like the food because it's not yummy and its not healthy."

Bracamontes: "The lunches they provide in the cafeteria aren't very healthy, microwaveable, high in sodium."

SHE TOOK PHOTOS OF SOME OF THOSE ITEMS.

Bracamontes: "Chimichangas with 410 milligrams of sodium, a gordita with 540 milligrams of sodium. I was surprised because I would never allow my child to eat this at home."

THE DISTRICT'S ONLINE MENU MAKES NO SECRET ABOUT WHAT IS BEING SERVED OR THE AMOUNT OF CALORIES OR SODIUM IN AN AVERAGE DAILY MEAL, BUT THEY SAY EVERYTHING BEING SERVED MEETS CURRENT USDA STANDARDS AND EVERY MEAL COMES WITH SALAD FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Bracamontes: "It would be great if they could try a little bit harder."

DIRECTOR OF FOOD SERVICES BARBARA JELISON SAYS IF IT WAS UP TO HER THEY WOULD HAVE SALAD BARS IN ALL 57 DISTRICT SCHOOLS. SHE SAYS RIGHT NOW THERE ARE 7, AND IT'S JUST A MATTER OF GETTING GRANT MONEY TO FUND MORE. BRACAMONTES HOPE THE SIGNATURES SHE AND OTHER PARENTS ARE GATHERING WILL HELP, TOO.

IN RICHMOND, DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS.

EDUCATION

3/6/15 KRON 4 Evening News
San Bruno parents stage student sick-out

TODAY AT A SAN BRUNO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, PARENTS STAGED A SICK OUT WITH THEIR CHILDREN TO PROTEST SCHOOL CUTS. TERISA ESTACIO REPORTS"

Chanting moms: "We want our teachers!"

THESE MOMS ARE UPSET AND THEY WANT TO MAKE SURE THEIR VOICES ARE HEARD - LOUD AND CLEAR

Parent: "We want our kids to have good teachers. We don't want classes crowded."

TODAY, THESE MOMS AND OTHER PARENTS PULLED THEIR CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL HERE AT BELLE AIR IN SAN BRUNO. 321 KIDS NORMALLY ATTEND THIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. BUT NOT TODAY - 261 KIDS WERE OUT SICK. AT ISSUE ARE CUTS BEING CONSIDERED BY THE DISTRICT TO DEAL WITH A

MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR SHORTFALL. REDUCING THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS AS WELL AS INCREASING CLASS SIZE ARE SOME OF THE CONSIDERATIONS.

Student: "We want our teachers to stay."

Student: "It's not fair."

MEGHAN CLARK HAS BEEN A TEACHER FOR TEN YEARS. SHE SAYS IT IS CONFUSING WHAT IS GOING ON.

Clark: "We have not had a raise in 10 years. The state has money, but we are broke? It is not making any sense. We have lots of unanswered questions."

Parent: "Our children are important. They need a quality education."

PARENTS SAY THEY KNOW IT HURTS THEIR CHILDREN NOT TO BE IN SCHOOL AND DON'T WANT TO DO THIS AGAIN, BUT FEEL HELPLESS WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THEIR DISTRICT.

A SERIES OF MEETINGS IS PLANNED IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS TO REVIEW THE PROPOSALS.

EDUCATION

3/27/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Disability doesn't deter local chemistry student

A BLIND DOCTORAL STUDENT AT U-C DAVIS IS OVERCOMING OBSTACLES TO LIVE HIS DREAM. AND HOW HE'S DOING IT IS REALLY BLOWING HIS PEERS AWAY.

HOBY WEDLER WAS BORN BLIND, BUT THAT'S NOT STOPPING HIM FROM WANTING TO GUIDE FUTURE COLLEGE STUDENTS THROUGH SOME OF THE MOST DIFFICULT SCIENTIFIC COURSES. WITH EVERY TAP OF HIS WALKING STICK, HOBY WEDLER USES SOUND TO NAVIGATE HIS WAY TO HIS CHEMISTRY LAB AT UC DAVIS.

Wedler: "I don't have to see things to really put them in my mind's eye. In fact, I've never seen things in my eyes. I always visualize things. We've learned a lot from each other and we are hoping to teach a lot to other people with our work."

AND WITH THE HELP OF THIS 3D PRINTER, HE CAN USE HIS SENSE OF TOUCH TO TEACH HIMSELF ABOUT MOLECULES.

Wedler: "Your fingertips. I don't think are any more sensitive than mine, just like your hearing isn't more sensitive than mine. I've just been trained to use it more than you have because you rely on your vision for, studies say, about 85% to 90% of your information input."

HIS PEERS USUALLY VIEW THE DIAGRAMS OFF A COMPUTER SCREEN. BUT HOBY CAN TURN THESE COMPLICATED MOLECULAR STRUCTURES INTO SOMETHING HE CAN REALLY GET HIS HANDS ON.

Wedler: "It's very exciting for me to be able to hold these structures and to be able to feel the differences in atom types and molecules and really ponder chemistry at my fingertips."

HE SAYS HE'S NOT MUCH DIFFERENT THAN HIS LABMATES, IT JUST TAKES HIM A LITTLE LONGER TO LEARN.

Wedler: "Just the same way you might think it's amazing that I can read braille, I think it's pretty cool you guys can read print."

AND HE'S NEVER LET HIS INABILITY, KEEP HIM FROM HIS GOALS.

Wedler: "I like to work hard and hold my head high and believe in what I do."

HE DREAMS OF ONE DAY BEING A COLLEGE CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR HIMSELF.
AND HIS 3D MODELS ALREADY HELP HIS SIGHTED PEERS SEE SCIENCE IN A NEW WAY.

Wedler: "It's fun when a tool that we build to make things accessible for me, really works to make science more accessible to everyone."

HOBY WEDLER PLANS TO GRADUATE WITH HIS DOCTORAL DEGREE IN CHEMISTRY IN JUNE 2016.

EDUCATION

3/28/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Cheating at Stanford

OFFICIALS AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY ARE INVESTIGATING AN UNUSUALLY HIGH NUMBER OF STUDENTS SUSPECTED OF CHEATING. AN ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATOR SENT A LETTER TO FACULTY HIGHLIGHTING THE ALLEGATIONS. ONE INSTRUCTOR BELIEVES THAT 20 PERCENT OF STUDENTS IN A LARGE INTRODUCTORY COURSE MAY HAVE CHEATED. SCHOOL OFFICIALS ARE CONTACTING STUDENTS IN A NUMBER OF CLASSES. A UNIVERSITY SPOKESWOMAN SAYS THAT THE CONCERNS ARE ROUTINE. IN THE 2013-2014 ACADEMIC YEAR...83 STUDENTS VIOLATED THE HONOR CODE. STUDENTS CAUGHT CHEATING FOR THE FIRST TIME FACE SUSPENSION.

EDUCATION

3/28/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Missouri school district causes body image controversy

A MISSOURI MOTHER IS UP IN ARMS AFTER THE SCHOOL SENT HOME A NOTE ABOUT HER DAUGHTER'S BODY MASS INDEX. MOM SAYS THAT IT SENDS AN UNHEALTHY MESSAGE AND IT'S WRONG. REPORTER ELI ROSENBERG WITH OUR CNN PARTNERSHIP HAS THE STORY:

AT 3'10 AND 54 POUNDS -- JUST 54 -- KYLEE MOSS IS AS ACTIVE A 2ND GRADER AS YOU'LL FIND.

Amanda Moss, Kylee's mom: "She is tiny; she has no body fat like at all."

MOM IS LAUGHING NOW, BUT IMAGINE HER SURPRISE LAST FRIDAY WHEN HER DAUGHTER CAME HOME FROM HILLCREST ELEMENTARY WITH THIS NOTE.

Amanda Moss: "Trade current snacks for healthier ones and find opportunities for activity."

THE SCHOOL SAYS KYLEE'S BMI OF 17.9 WAS OUT OF THE HEALTHY RANGE FOR 7-YEAR-OLDS.

Amanda Moss: "She goes, does this mean I'm fat and I said no, this does not mean you are fat."

THE BODY MASS INDEX OR BMI IS CALCULATED BY TAKING YOUR WEIGHT AND MULTIPLYING IT BY 703 THEN DIVIDING IT BY YOUR HEIGHT. THE GOVERNMENT GIVES THESE RANGES. IT IS MATH THAT COMES WITH CONTROVERSY – ESPECIALLY IN SCHOOLS.

Amanda Moss: "They send home a piece of paper that says here is a box, your child doesn't fit into it and here is what you should do to make them fit into the box."

BELTON'S SUPERINTENDENT TELLS ME THERE IS "NO MALICIOUS INTENT" WITH THIS PROGRAM WHICH IS FUNDED BY A GRANT FROM GOING FORWARD. NONETHELESS, HE SAYS THAT IN THE FUTURE PARENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF TESTING DATES IN ADVANCE AND HAVE THE CHANCE TO OPT OUT.

Amanda Moss: "Personal image is a big deal and if you are starting out a child at a very young age telling them they are overweight, it is a problem, it is absolutely unacceptable."

ONE FAMILY -- AND ONE SEEMINGLY FIT 2ND GRADER -- WISHING WHEN IT COMES TO THIS ISSUE A SCHOOL DISTRICT NOT WEIGH IN.

IN BELTON, ELI ROSENBERG

EDUCATION

3/30/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Popular local pre-school forced to close

CONCERNED PARENTS, STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS ARE REACHING OUT TO KRON-4 AFTER FINDING OUT THEIR HIGHLY-ACCLAIMED PRESCHOOL IS BEING FORCED TO CLOSE ITS DOORS. KRON-4'S SCOTT RATES HAS THE LATEST:

ARIADNA SANTOS KNOWS HOW IMPORTANT A PRESCHOOL EDUCATION IS. HER SON IS CURRENTLY A PRE-SCHOOL STUDENT AND HER DAUGHTER, WHO IS NOW IN 4TH GRADE, ATTENDED THE KIDS CLUB PRE-SCHOOL AS WELL.

Santos: "I had trusted them for pre-school not just for my daughter, but for my son as well who didn't qualify for kindergarten and had to do an extra year."

Santos' daughter: "I had trouble with language arts. But it got better for me because the pre-school explained it."

THE STAFF HERE AT THE KIDS CLUB PRE-SCHOOL HAVE BEEN HELPING LOW INCOME FAMILIES PUT THEIR KIDS THROUGH PRE-SCHOOL FOR 20 YEARS.

Mark Mokski, executive director of Kids Club Pre-School: "One hundred percent of the children that are in this program receive some kind of subsidy"

AND THE SCHOOL HAS QUITE THE RESUME.

Mokski: "We are accredited by the High School Educational Research Foundation. We are the only program in the state of California that holds that accreditation."

DESPITE THAT, IN LESS THAN THREE MONTHS THE TOYS IN THESE CLASSROOMS COULD BE DISAPPEARING, THE BOOKS VANISHING, AND THE TABLES AND CHAIRS GONE FOR GOOD.

Daughter: "My brother goes to this school and it's very hurtful that it could close."

Mokski: "Antioch Unified is not able to renew our lease."

THE DIRECTOR SAYS THERE ARE AT LEAST 300 STUDENTS WHO GO THROUGH THIS PROGRAM ANNUALLY. BUT IF THE SCHOOL CAN NOT RENEW THEIR LEASE, THOSE 300 STUDENTS MIGHT NOT HAVE ANYWHERE TO GO.

Mokski: "Unfortunately, in this community, there are very few or no alternatives for these children. My belief is that these children will go without care because there is no other program in town that will absorb this number of children."

THE DISTRICT TOLD THE SCHOOL'S DIRECTOR THAT THEY WERE LETTING THE LEASE EXPIRE BECAUSE THEY NEED THE SPACE. SANTOS SAYS THE SCHOOL BOARD NEEDS TO REEVALUATE.

Santos: "We gave the City our petition. The interest should be the children. The fact that they are putting 300 kids out says they don't care about these kids".

THE LEASE HERE IS SET TO EXPIRE AT THE END OF JULY. THE PRE-SCHOOL WILL BE HOLDING A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE. I DID REACH OUT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD, BUT SO FAR THEY HAVE NOT GOTTEN BACK TO ME.

SCOTT RATES KRON4 NEWS

1Q2015 ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT

1/20/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Unidentified goo killing Bay Area birds

THE MYSTERIOUS SUBSTANCE THAT HAS KILLED DOZENS OF BIRDS IN THE EAST BAY IS NOW SHOWING UP IN OTHER PARTS OF THE BAY AREA. THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE IS CONDUCTING NECROPSIES TODAY TO TRY AND PINPOINT THE MYSTERIOUS AND POTENTIALLY DEADLY SUBSTANCE. NOW WE'VE LEARNED THE PROBLEM MAY BE MORE WIDESPREAD THAN ORIGINALLY THOUGHT. GRANT LODES IS HERE TO SHOW US WHERE THE GOO HAS NOW BEEN SPOTTED. GRANT?

MOST RECENTLY TODAY RESCUE CREWS FOUND FOUR AFFECTED BIRDS ALONG THE PENINSULA COASTLINE, BETWEEN FOSTER CITY AND COYOTE POINT. OFFICIALS ARE CONFIDENT THE PROBLEM ORIGINATES ACROSS THE BAY WHERE HUNDREDS OF BIRDS WITH GUNK ON THEM HAVE BEEN FOUND SINCE LAST FRIDAY. AS FAR NORTH AS ALAMEDA AND ALSO AT THE SAN LEANDRO MARINA AND THE HAYWARD REGIONAL SHORELINE. AND AS FAR SOUTH AS COYOTE HILLS PARK IN FREMONT. KRON 4'S JR STONE HAS BEEN FOLLOWING THIS STORY FOR US AND IS LIVE WITH THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS:

GRANT, THIS IS DAY FIVE OF SEARCHING FOR MANY OF THESE CREWS. THE DIFFERENCE TODAY IS THAT MOST OF THE BIRDS THEY ARE FINDING NOW WITH THE SUBSTANCE ON THEM ARE DEAD. SO IT'S MORE OF A RECOVERY EFFORT. THIS IS THE SEARCH OPERATIONS CENTER HERE IN HAYWARD. IT'S QUIET RIGHT NOW BECAUSE TONIGHT MANY CREWS ARE STILL OUT LOOKING FOR BIRDS NOT ONLY ON THE PENINSULA BUT HERE IN THE EAST BAY AS WELL.

THIS IS ONE OF THE DUCKS THAT CAME IN WITH THE SUBSTANCE ON IT IN THE LAST HOUR. SO FAR MORE THAN 300 BIRDS HAVE BEEN RESCUED, BUT MORE THAN 100 HAVE BEEN FOUND DEAD. AS ALL OF THIS IS HAPPENING HERE, SCIENTISTS IN SACRAMENTO ARE TRYING TO DETERMINE WHAT THIS SUBSTANCE IS. THEY SAY IT IS NOT PETROLEUM

BASED, A CLEAR LIKE SUBSTANCE THAT IS STICKY. YOU SEE THE PLASTIC BAGS IN THESE SHOTS. THOSE ARE THE BAGS WHERE THEY ARE PUTTING THE DEAD BIRDS. A NUMBER OF THOSE CAME IN EARLIER THIS AFTERNOON.

AS TO THE POSSIBLE CAUSE HERE...

Andrew Hughan, California Department of Fish and Wildlife: "We don't have an update on any causes yet. The lab started first thing this morning. It has the highest priority in the department, but it's most important that we be right rather than fast."

THIS IS VIDEO COMING TO USE FROM SACRAMENTO. THESE ARE THOSE SCIENTISTS I TALKED ABOUT WHO ARE TESTING THAT SUBSTANCE TRYING TO SEE WHAT IT IS... THEN THEY CAN FIGURE OUT WHERE IT CAME FROM. BUT AS YOU HEARD, THEY DO NOT HAVE AN UPDATE AT THIS POINT AS TO WHAT THE SUBSTANCE IS. THAT INFORMATION COULD COME LATER TONIGHT OR TOMORROW. MEANWHILE, CREWS ARE STILL OUT SEARCHING HERE SO WE WILL HAVE MORE ON THIS STORY TONIGHT AT 8 O'CLOCK.

JR STONE KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/27/15 KORN 4 Evening News
Drought assessment

Marty Grirmes, Santa Clara Valley Water District: "January as been dry as a bone, so every indicator of water supply that we have is dismal, below normal, looking worse than it was even a year ago."

WHILE THE DECEMBER STORMS HELPED BRING WATER LEVELS HIGHER AT LEXINGTON RESERVOIR AND MANY OF THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT'S OTHER RESERVOIRS, THEY REMAIN BELOW AVERAGE. AND THE VALLEY'S GROUNDWATER SITUATION IS IN EVEN WORSE SHAPE. THIS DUSTBOWL IS NORMALLY A POND THE DISTRICT FILLS WITH WATER SO IT CAN DRAIN BACK INTO THE GROUND AND RECHARGE THE GROUNDWATER BASIN.

Grmines: "We haven't had enough water to put into the ponds so at the same time we are using more ground water, we are putting less into the ground water basin, that's why the levels have been dropping."

THAT AND OTHER DISAPPOINTING DROUGHT FIGURES WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT AT ITS TUESDAY MEETING

THE BOARD ISN'T EXPECTED TO TAKE ANY ACITON AT ITS EVENING MEETING. HOWEVER, IF THIS LACK OF RAINFULL CONTINUES OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, IT'S LIKELY WHAT IS NOT 20 PERCENT CONSERVATION COULD GO AS HIGH AS 40% CONSERVATION.

IN SAN JOSE DAN KERMEN KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/29/15 KRON 4 Morning News

Creative way to address illegal dumping

THIS ILLEGALLY DUMPED MATTRESS IN EAST OAKLAND HAS JUST RECEIVED A CASH VALUE NOW THAT IS HAS BEEN TAGGED. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GET IT OFF THE STREET AND BRING IT IN HERE TO DR3 RECYCLING.

Robert Jaco, DR3 Recycling: "This is a way to clean up the street and get the mattresses off of the street."

THE DIRECTOR OF DR3 RECYCLING, ROBERT JACO SAYS BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF MARCH HIS COMPANY WILL BE PART OF A PILOT PROGRAM CREATED BY STOPWASTE.ORG SEEKING WAYS TO CURB BLIGHT AND REDUCE LANDFILL WASTE IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

Robert Jaco, "We're trying to tag a thousand mattresses, that's what we are trying to do."

HE EXPLAINS HOW IT WORKS

Jaco: "We keep track when we tag a mattress that is out on the street; we write down the information."

SO WHAT ARE THE MATTRESSES WORTH?

Jaco: "\$12 for each king size piece, \$10 queen, \$8 full, \$6 twin."

THE PILOT PROJECT COMES ON THE HEELS OF RECENTLY PASSED STATE LEGISLATION REQUIRING MATTRESS MANUFACTURERS TO CREATE A RECYCLING PROGRAM FOR DISCARDED MATTRESSES. THE DATA COLLECTED FROM THE PILOT WILL BE USED TO FORMULATE THE NEW PROGRAM. ILLEGAL DUMPING IS A HUGE PROBLEM IN CITIES LIKE OAKLAND WHERE LAST YEAR THEIR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT COLLECTED 5000 MATTRESSES, COSTING TAX PAYERS 500 THOUSAND DOLLARS.

JACO SAYS SOME OF THE TAGGED MATTRESSESS HAVE ALREADY MADE THEIR WAY TO DR3.

Jaco: "And a guy brought them in on a shopping cart, so it was a guy that definitely needed the money."

IN OAKLAND HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/30/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Toxic algae in public lake killing local dogs

Katie Stone\ "She went in down here and I see some of that green algae down there in the water.

"

KATIE STONE IS SHOWING ME THE LOCATION WHERE HER CHOCHOLATE LABRADORE JOSIE INGESTED THIS BLUE-GREEN ALGAE WEDNESDAY HERE AT LAKE CHABOT IN CASTRO VALLEY...

Stone: "She came down and went in the water and was playing here on the shore."

HOWEVER, STONE SAYS, WITHIN HOURS OF RETURNING HOME, JOSIE BECAME CRITICALLY ILL.

Stone: "She started having seizures. Within a couple hours after that we had to euthanize her due to liver failure caused by this toxic green algae we believe."

OFFICIALS AT THE EAST BAY REGIONAL PARKS DISTRICT SAY THIS IS THE 3RD DOG THAT HAS DIED FROM POSSIBLY INGESTING THE ALGAE IN RECENT WEEKS AND ARE TAKING STEPS TO WARN VISITORS AT LAKE.

Caroline Jones, East Bay Regional Park District: "We have put up numerous signs warning people, especially dog owners: keep your pets away from the lake. Dogs are not allowed to swim in the water anyway. It's a backup water supply for East Bay MUD."

Abby Figueroa, East Bay MUD: "Lake Chabot is one of the reservoirs in our water system and we became aware of a situation last September where there was a significant algae bloom on the lake. Algae blooms happen on a regular basis during the hot weather, but it is not typical for them to persist into the wintertime. We think it is probably because of the drought that we are still seeing algae at Lake Chabot."

THERE ARE STILL LINGERING CONCERNS FOR KATIE AND VINCE ABOUT THE CAUTION SIGNS NOT BEING MORE VISABLE THE ALONG THE HIKING TRAIL THEY USED THE DAY JOSIE DIED

Katie Stone: "I could have missed it but I didn't see it the other day when I was here with the dog."

Vince Stone: "I would have never put my dog at risk had I known there was poison in the lake."

NOW JOSIE'S MEMORY THEY WILL DO WHAT THEY CAN TO WARN OTHERS

Katie Stone: "I'm not the only one who wasn't aware of the situation and I'm trying to get the word out so other people don't have to go through this."

IN CASTRO VALLEY HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

2/17/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

State considers tougher water use regulations

MORE POTENTIAL CHALLENGES CAUSED BY THE ONGOING DROUGHT. CALIFORNIA IS CONSIDERING NEW and TOUGHER RULES ON WATER USE. THE STATE WATER BOARD HELD A HEARING TODAY AND SAID IT IS CONSIDERING A BAN ON RUNNING OUTDOOR WATER FOUNTAINS, A BAN ON WATERING LAWNS DURING COLD AND RAINY PERIODS.

ALSO, FOR RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS, THEY WANT RESTAURANTS TO ONLY SERVE WATER UPON REQUEST AND THEY WANT HOTELS TO GET OUT OF THE HABIT OF AUTOMATICALLY PROVIDING FRESH TOWELS AND SHEETS FOR GUESTS EVERY DAY.

ALL OF THIS WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO THE BANS ALREADY IN PLACE.

ENVIRONMENT

2/25/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Changes in ocean temperatures bring hardship to sea lion population

TODAY I VISITED THE HARD WORKING VETERINARIANS HERE AT THE MARINE MAMMAL CENTER IN SAUSALITO AND THEY ARE SEEING A DISTURBING TREND. SICK SEA LIONS ARE BEING BROUGHT IN FROM ALL UP AND DOWN THE WEST COAST. JUST RECENTLY SIX WERE RECOVERED ON THE SONOMA COAST. THIS IS THE MARINE MAMMAL CENTER IS THE ONLY HOSPITAL OF IT'S KIND IN CALIFORNIA, AND RIGHT NOW IT'S CLOSE TO CAPACITY. ASKED IF THEY'VE EVER SEEN THIS MANY AT ONE TIME, THEY SAY:

Lorraine Barbosa, veterinarian: "No. This is unprecedented"

TODAY WE GOT AN EXCLUSIVE UP CLOSE LOOK AT THE NON-PROFIT HOSPITAL.. THE VETERINARIANS HERE PERFORMING EVERYTHING FROM

SOT

Barbosa: "Routine physical admin exam. Morphometrics. We listen to lungs. We search the animal for lesions and wounds."

EVEN USING A FEEDING TUBE ON SOME OF THE MOST MALNOURISHED. LORRAINE BARBOSA HAS BEEN WORKING HERE FOR THREE YEARS. SHE'S ONE OF THE VETS WHO'S CURRENTLY TREATING MORE THAN 140 SEA LIONS SUFFERING SEVERAL SYMPTOMS

Barbosa: "We mostly bringing in pups and yearlings. California sea lions that are malnourished. They are starting out there close to the beaches. We're getting them washed up on shore. We treat them mainly for malnutrition with some secondary infections, like pneumonia and abscesses."

AND IF 140 SOUNDS LIKE A LOT, IT IS. TO PUT IT IN PERSPECTIVE, THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE HOSPITAL ONLY HAD A DOZEN OR SO SEA PUPS BEING TREATED. THE STAGGERINGLY HIGH NUMBERS ARE CAUSE FOR CONCERN. BARBOSA SAYS WARMER OCEAN TEMPS ARE MOST LIKELY BEHIND THE SPIKE IN SICKLY SEA LIONS.

Barbosa: "With the warmer waters that we're seeing, the fish the sea lions feed on are in abnormal locations and we suspect the adult female sea lions are taking longer to forage and are not getting back to their pups to nourish them in time. And sometimes they are not able to nourish themselves so they are not able to pass on nourishment to their pups."

TELLING ME THEY RELY ON DONATIONS TO KEEP GOING, AND WITH SO MANY SEA LIONS BEING TREATED, THEY SAY THE RESOURCES ARE HARDER TO COME BY.. THEY ALSO SAY THEY ARE STILL GETTING CALLS AND THEY ARE EXPECTING TO TREAT MORE HIGH NUMBERS OF SEA LIONS AS THE YEAR GOES ON.

SCOTT RATES KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

2/26/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Local school kids help distressed birds

VOLUNTEERS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL BIRD RESCUE RELEASED SEA BIRDS IN ALAMEDA TODAY ALONG WITH THIRD GRADERS FROM THE PARK DAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WHO HELPED MAKE IT POSSIBLE.

WHEN THE STUDENTS HEARD ABOUT BIRDS STRUGGLING WITH THE MYSTERIOUS GOO EARLIER THIS YEAR THEY RAISED MONEY TO DONATE TO THE CAUSE.

Student: "We raised money for the birds."

Student: "We did a book sale and a jewelry sale and a toy sale and we raised a lot of money."

Student: "If we didn't the birds would die."

Student: "If I was a bird I would probably be scared and be thankful that the person is helping me get better."

THE STUDENTS PRESENTED THE INTERNATIONAL BIRD RESCUE WITH A CHECK FOR MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS.

Julia Winasis: "Their hearts just went out and they just wanted to help and it was their idea. They put in the work to make the fundraiser happen."

AFTER THE RELEASE THE STUDENTS COMBED THE BEACH FOR PLASTIC THAT MIGHT HARM OTHER BIRDS.

Cindy Margulis, Golden Gate Audubon Society: "Those kids were really great stewards of the environment and they went out and picked up that stuff and I congratulate the third graders from Park Day elementary. They did an amazing thing."

Student: "Probably the best field trip I ever had."

IN ALAMEDA JEFF PIERC KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

2/27/15 KRON 4 Evening News

More signs of worsening drought

THIS SIGN HERE ALONG HIGHWAY 85 NEAR THE BONE DRY GUADALUPE PERCOLATION POND IN SAN JOSE SAYS IT ALL. THE DROUGHT IS STILL WITH US AND THE GRIM NEWS ABOUT LESS IMPORTED WATER IS NOT SOMETHING WATER MANAGERS WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO.

Aaron Baker, Santa Clara Valley Water District: "It's lower than what we've ever had before. It's half of what we got last year. And last year we had to call for 20% water reduction to make it through."

THAT MEANS PERCOLATION PONDS LIKE THIS AND DOZENS MORE ACROSS

THE VALLEY ARE LIKELY TO REMAIN DRY BECAUSE THERE WILL BE THAT MUCH LESS IMPORTED WATER AVAILABLE TO PUMP FROM THE ALREADY RAIN-STARVED RESERVOIRS INTO THE 'PERC PONDS,' WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO PERCOLATE THAT WATER TO RECHARGE THE UNDERGROUND AQUIFERS.

Baker: "We started last year with our ground water reserve in the normal range. We drew a good portion of that out and we've now dropped the level down into an "alert" range. We're worried that if we go any further, it will go down into a "severe" range."

WHAT'S MORE, THERE ARE WORRIES THAT HEAVY PUMPING COULD RESULT IN WHAT'S CALLED 'SUBSIDENCE,' WHEN THE GROUND ABOVE THE AQUIFER STARTS SINKING AND CAN ACTUALLY SHRINK THE SIZE OF THE AQUIFER, REDUCING IT'S STORAGE CAPACITY, EVEN WHEN THE DROUGHT IS OVER.

AS FOR THOSE RAIN CLOUDS YOU SEE BEHIND ME ON THE HORIZON, THEY'RE NOT EXPECTED TO GENERATE ANY APPRECIABLE RUN-OFF AT ALL INTO AREA RESERVOIRS, MUCH LESS DO ANYTHING FOR THE PERCOLATION PONDS.

ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

3/13/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Drought worsens

TONIGHT A NEW DOWNRIGHT FRIGHTENING WARNING ABOUT THE EXTENT OF OUR FOUR YEAR DROUGHT. A SENIOR NASA SCIENTIST SAYS CALIFORNIA HAS ONLY ONE YEAR OF WATER LEFT IN ITS RESERVOIRS.

THIS IS THE UVAS RESERVOIR IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY. THE DROUGHT EXPERT WROTE AN OP-ED IN THE L-A TIMES, SAYING "WE'RE NOT JUST UP A CREEK WITHOUT A PADDLE IN CALIFORNIA, WE'RE LOSING THE CREEK TOO."

AND IT'S NOT ONLY WATER WE CAN SEE THAT'S DWINDLING. FARMERS ARE PUMPING UNDERGROUND WATER AT A RATE THAT'S "EXCESSIVE AND UNSUSTAINABLE." WELLS ARE DRYING UP.

THIS NEWS COMES AS THE STATE'S WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD CONSIDERS TIGHTER RESTRICTIONS STATEWIDE.

ENVIRONMENT

3/20/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
New report cites common herbicide as environmental toxin

THE QUEST TO KEEP YARDS AND FIELDS WEED- FREE COULD BE COSTING US OUR HEALTH. A NEW STUDY LINKS THE USE OF THE CHEMICAL IN TODAY'S MOST POPULAR WEED -KILLER TO CANCER AND TO AUTISM. KRON 4'S EMILY TURNER JOINS US LIVE WITH THE STORY:

RIGHT HERE ON THE LABEL IT SAYS "SAFE FOR CHILDREN", BUT TOP HEALTH EXPERS DISAGREE. THE REPORT IS FROM A BRANCH OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION. IT SAYS THE MAIN INGREDIENT IN MONSANTO'S ROUNDUP IS A "PROBABLY CARCINOGEN." THAT MEANS IT COULD CAUSE CANCER. AND FURTHER STUDIES OUT OF MIT HAVE LINKED IT TO THE GROWING RATE OF AUTISM.

"The fact that it disrupts and possibly furthers autism is disconcerting.

GLYPHOSPHATE, THE MAIN INGREDIENT IN WHAT'S MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS ROUNDUP, IS USED BY HOMEOWNERS AND COMMERCIAL FARMERS ALIKE. SO IT COULD BE ON THE FOOD YOU EAT OR THE PLACES YOU PLAY.

It's scare because food is supposed to make us grow and be healthy.

MEDICAL EXPERTS SAY THE GLYPHOSPHATE AMPLIFIES THE TOXICITY OF OTHER CHEMICALS YOU MAY TAKE INTO YOUR BODY, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME DIRECTLY TARGETING DETOXIFYING ORGANS LIKE THE KIDNES AND LIVER THAT WORK TO GET RID OF THE TOXINS. THAT'S A ONE-TWOPUNCH TO THE BODY THAT HAS MADE THE DECISION TO KICK ROUNDUP TO THE CURB A SIMPLE ONE FOR MANY IN THE BAY AREA.

"I just grow organically, so I don't have to worry about it."

MONSANTO, THE MAKERS OF ROUNDUP, ISSUED A STATEMENT DISAGREEING WITH THE FINDING OS THE STUDY. THE USE OF THE POSISBLY HARMFUL CHEMICAL IS UP FOR REVIEW THIS YEAR BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

EMILY TURNER, KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

3/19/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Stark drought outlook

IN JUST TWO WEEKS CALIFORNIA OFFICIALLY ENTERS ITS FOURTH STRAIGHT YEAR OF DROUGHT. TODAY, STATE OFFICIALS ANNOUNCED NEW STEPS TO HELP ALL OF US. ALSO TODAY, FEDERAL OFFICIALS UNVEILED NEW PREDICTIONS ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF THE DROUGHT.

AND WE LOOK AT HOW BAY AREA WATER CONSUMERS MAY BE HIT WITH HIGHER PRICES AND TIGHTER CONSERVATION RULES.

CATHERINE HEENAN BEGINS OUR TEAM COVERAGE.

FIRST LET'S LOOK AT THE NEW DROUGHT MONITOR MAP OUT TODAY. IT'S BASICALLY UNCHANGED SINCE LAST WEEK: FORTY PERCENT OF THE STATE IS IN A STATE OF EXCEPTIONAL DROUGHT; 93 PERCENT -- IS IN A SEVERE DROUGHT -- OR WORSE. AND THE MAP ONLY TELLS PART OF THE STORY.

Gov. Jerry Brown: "It's not a partisan problem. The drought is a real problem."

DRAINED RESERVOIRS. A VANISHING SNOWPACK.

Brown: "This is a struggle. It's something we are going to have to live with, for how long we are not sure."

THE NEW LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE WOULD SPEED UP MONEY FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY DRINKING WATER IN HARD-HIT COMMUNITIES. THE BULK OF THE FUNDS

WOULD GO TO RECYCLING AND DESALINATION PROJECTS THAT WILL TAKE YEARS TO COMPLETE.

TODAY NOAA RELEASED ITS SPRING WEATHER PREDICTION: HIGHER THAN NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND LITTLE RAIN IN THE WEST.

Mike Halpert, NOAA Climate Prediction Center: "The April-June outlook offers little relief for this long-running drought."

THE RESULT: AN EARLY AND ACTIVE FIRE SEASON, CONTINUED STRESS ON AGRICULTURE, AND A NEED TO EXPAND AND ENFORCE WATER CONSERVATION.

UNDER RULES APPROVED THIS WEEK BY THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD, CALIFORNIANS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO WATER THEIR LAWNS DAILY. ALSO, RESTAURANTS CAN'T SERVE WATER TO CUSTOMERS UNLESS THEY ASK FOR IT.

THE GOVERNOR'S CALL TO ACTION ON THE DROUGHT IS BEING ECHOED BY THOSE KEEPING TRACK OF OUR WATER SUPPLY HERE AT HOME. AS KRON FOUR'S ROB FLADEBOE REPORTS, WATER MANAGERS IN THE SOUTH BAY ARE SET TO CALL FOR MORE CONSERVATION.

WITH THE PROSPECT OF ANY MORE, SIGNIFICANT RAIN YET THIS SEASON FADING FAST AND IMAGES LIKE THIS BONE DRY GROUNDWATER RECHARGE POND HERE IN SOUTH SAN JOSE LIKELY TO LINGER ALL SUMMER, THE PLAN IS TO RATCHET UP EFFORTS TO MAKE EXISTING WATER SUPPLIES LAST AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.

WITH RESERVOIRS NOW SLIGHTLY LESS THAN HALF FULL AND THE DEMAND FOR WATER EXPECTED TO INCREASE WITH WARMER WEATHER, THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER BOARD IS SET TO CALL ON WATER RETAILERS AND CITIES TO FIND NEW WAYS TO USE LESS WATER.

Marty Grimes, Santa Clara Valley Water District: "We're going to be presenting the water supply picture to the board. They will have the opportunity on Tuesday to make a decision of whether to increase the goal of water use reductions from the current 20% to something higher."

SO THE 20-PERCENT GOAL IMPOSED LAST SUMMER COULD RISE TO 25 OR POSSIBLY 30 PERCENT THIS YEAR. THAT COULD TRIGGER NEW, MORE AGGRESSIVE OUTDOOR WATERING RESTRICTIONS OR FINES FOR OVER-CONSUMPTION. THE DISTRICT IS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE GROWING DEMAND ON WATER PUMPED FROM THE GROUND.

Marty Grimes, Santa Clara Valley Water District: "We can't have another year of depleting our ground water supply by 80 thousand acre feet without really beginning to suffer the consequences. There is the threat of subsidence where the ground water is depleted to the point where the ground starts to sink and causes damage."

WITH THE SIERRA SNOWPACK IN SUCH SAD SHAPE, THERE IS ALSO LESS AND LESS IMPORTED WATER AVAILABLE TO REPLENISH THESE PONDS AND RESERVOIRS, MANY OF WHICH, YOU MAY RECALL, WENT COMPLETELY DRY LAST SUMMER. WITHOUT THE EXTRA CONSERVATION, WATER MANAGERS SAY THEY WILL GO DRY AGAIN THIS SUMMER TOO, ONLY SOONER.
IN SAN JOSE ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS.

ENVIRONMENT

3/23/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Wood-burning fireplaces on the way out

THE OLD WOOD-BURNING FIREPLACE MAY BECOME A THING OF THE PAST. KRON FOUR'S VICKI LIVIAKIS REPORTS THAT BAY AREA AIR QUALITY OFFICIALS ARE TAKING AIM AGAINST THE SMOKE POLLUTION THAT COMES FROM YOUR CHIMNEY:

ALL IT TAKES IS ONE FIREPLACE BURNING IN A NEIGHBORHOOD TO IMPACT THE ENTIRE NEIGHBORHOOD'S AIR QUALITY. WOOD SMOKE POLLUTION IS THE NUMBER ONE WINTER AIR POLLUTER. THAT'S WHY BAY AREA AIR QUALITY OFFICIALS WANT TO PHASE OUT THE OLD FASHIONED FIREPLACE.

Air quality official: "We're not banning fireplaces; we're proposing a number of amendments that are more health protective."

CHRISTINE ROSELIUS OF THE BAY AREA AIR QUALITY DISTRICT SAYS HOMES WITH WOOD-BURNING FIREPLACES COULDN'T BE SOLD OR RENTED UNLESS THEY'RE OUT-FITTED WITH A CLEANER DEVICE.

Roselius: "If you are a homeowner and you sell your property, you would be required to upgrade to an electric, gas, or EPA-certified wood stove."

THE COST FOR THAT IS ANYWHERE FROM \$300 TO \$6,000 DOLLARS. AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, SOME PEOPLE ARE BURNED UP ABOUT IT.

Roselius: "We've had some calls today from people who are really concerned about it. I like to remind people that when we first banned cigarette smoking in restaurants, we got a very similar feedback from people."

LET'S FACE IT – A GOOD FIRE IS ABOUT AS PRIMAL AS IT GETS. BUT WOOD BURNING FIREPLACES MAY BECOME AS EXTINCT AS THE DINOSAURS.

THE MOVE IS FUELING DEBATE. JUST HOW FAR SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT GO IN SNUFFING OUT SMOKE? THE AIR QUALITY DISTRICT IS HOLDING A SERIES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS IN ALL NINE BAY AREA COUNTIES TO GET MORE FEEDBACK ON THE PROPOSALS – SET TO TAKE EFFECT JUST BEFORE THE HOLIDAY SEASON WHEN SANTA COMES DOWN THE CHIMNEY.

IN SAN FRANCISCO VICKI LIVIAKIS KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

3/23/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

A visual reminder of the severity of California drought

YOU WANT TO SEE HOW BAD THE DROUGHT IS? ON THE TOP OF AN ICONIC ROCK? THE SUMMIT OF YOSEMITE'S HALF DOME, SHOWN HERE, SHOULD BE BLANKETED WITH SNOW.

HERE'S A YEAR-BY-YEAR LOOK AT THE DROUGHT'S IMPACT, STARTING WITH MARCH OF 2011. YOU CAN SEE IT COVERED IN SNOW. IN 2012, GOO NEWS – EVEN MORE SNOW.

BUT THERE'S A HUGE CHANGE IN 2013 – YOU CAN SEE THERE IS SO MUCH LESS SNOW COVER. AND FOR 2014, IT'S ABOUT THE SAME.

BUT THIS YEAR IS BY FAR THE WORST WE'VE SEEN IN RECENT YEARS. THIS PHOTO PROVIDES A SOBERING LOOK AT THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE DROUGHT AND HOW LITTLE SNOWPACK THERE IS IN THE SIERRA.

1Q2015 GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT

1/8/15 KRON 4 Evening News

San Leandro police force gets new armored medevac vehicle

YOU'VE GOT THE RED CROSSES PAINTED ON THE DOORS. YOU'VE GOT THE PARAMEDIC EQUIPMENT SET UP INSIDE...AND IT'S BULLET PROOF.

Lt. Randy Brandt, San Leandro Police Department: "It's basically an ambulance with armor around it for extra protection"

IT IS AN ARMORED TACTICAL MEDEVAC VEHICLE PRODUCED BY A CORPORATION THAT PRODUCES ARMORED VEHICLES FOR THE U.S. MILITARY AND IT'S SOMETHING THE SAN LEANDRO DEPARTMENT SAYS IT NEEDS TO PROTECT FIRST RESPONDERS DURING ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATIONS

Lt. Brandt: "Now we can transfer them in...and then transfer them out. It's not much different than an ambulance, if you look inside of it"

HOWEVER THIS BULLET PROOF AMBULANCE COMES WITH ROOF HATCH AND GUNNER STAND. AND THERE IS CONCERN BY SOME IN THE COMMUNITY THAT THE VEHICLE WILL BE USED FOR NON-MEDICAL SITUATIONS, LIKE RECENT SOME PROTESTS HERE IN THE BAY AREA. TO THAT HE SAYS

Lt. Brandt: "If someone was in a crowd and potentially weapons were fired, and they were injured and were not even a protestor but just stuck in a violent situation this could save their lives. I won't say it won't be used, but there will be a lot of discretion when we deploy this type of resource out there."

A HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT WOULD COVER MOST OF THE MEDEVACS \$275 THOUSAND DOLLAR PRICE TAG. PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN SAN LEANDRO HAVE MIXED THOUGHTS ON IDEA

Resident: "I think they could be better investing that money into a lot of other things we need in our community in terms of safety."

Resident: "I trust the police department to do the right thing. I think they know their business better than I do."

IN SAN LEANDRO HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

GOVERNMENT

1/18/15 KRON 4 Morning News

Political analysis with commentator Michael Yaki

Discussion/analysis of the upcoming senatorial campaigns to replace Senator Barbara Boxer who is retiring.

GOVERNMENT

1/20/15 KRON 4 Evening News, KRON 4 News at 8pm
State of the Union address

Live coverage of address in addition to pre-speech and post-speech analysis by political commentator Michael Yaki

GOVERNMENT

1/21/15 KRON 4 Evening News
State moves to legislate end of life decisions

SHE BECAME THE FACE OF THE DEATH WITH DIGNITY MOVEMENT. NOW, TWO MONTHS AFTER THE HIGHLY PUBLICIZED CASE OF BRITTANY MAYNARD, CALIFORNIA LAWMAKERS ARE PUSHING TO ALLOW TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS TO END THEIR OWN LIVES.

AFTER FAILING IN THE PAST, CALIFORNIA LAWMAKERS HAVE ONE AGAIN INTRODUCED RIGHT TO DIE LEGISLATION SAYING ALLOWING THIS OPTION FOR TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS IS THE COMPASSIONATE CHOICE. KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN ATTENDED A NEWS CONFERENCE IN THE STATE CAPITOL AND HAS THE STORY:

Brittany Maynard: "I can't tell you the amount of relief it provides me to know I don't have to die the way it's been described to me that my brain tumor would take me on its own."

IN THIS YOU TUBE VIDEO, FILMED BEFORE SHE ENDED HER LIFE, 29 YEAR OLD BRITTANY MAYNARD TALKS ABOUT BEING DIAGNOSED WITH TERMINAL BRAIN CANCER AND HER DECISION TO MOVE FROM HER HOME IN CALIFORNIA TO OREGON BECAUSE IT HAS A DEATH WITH DIGNITY LAW.

Debbi Ziegler, Maynard's mother: "Brittany and I felt appreciative of her legal right in Oregon to decide when enough was enough."

NOW MAYNARD'S FAMILY IS JOINING WITH CALIFORNIA LAWMAKERS TO GIVE ALL CALIFORNIANS THE SAME OPTION WITHOUT LEAVING THE STATE.

Dan Diaz, Maynard's husband: "This option is something Brittany and I thought should be available to all Californians and all people regardless what state they live in."

THE PROPOSED LAW WOULD ALLOW DOCTORS TO PRESCRIBE LIFE-ENDING MEDICATION TO QUALIFIED TERMINALLY ILL ADULTS IN CALIFORNIA.

State Senator Bill Monning: "The core of this is respecting the dignity and self-determination and I believe a civil right and a human right, of a patient with a terminal diagnosis."

THE LEGISLATION COMES WITH SAFEGUARDS. TWO PHYSICIANS MUST CONFIRM THE PATIENT'S PROGNOSIS OF 6 MONTHS OR LESS TO LIVE AND THAT THE PATIENT HAS THE MENTAL COMPETENCY TO MAKE HEALTH CARE DECISIONS FOR THEMSELVES.

Ziegler: "Please help me carry out my daughter's legacy. Please help me assure that other terminally ill patients don't face what we had to face."

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

1/26/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Google vs local law enforcement

Report on the "Waze Controversy"

Google app allows users to track location of police officers, as subset of traffic app

Law enforcement agencies want the app removed, citing safety issues for officers (using execution of NYPD officers as an example of harmful results) and could actually aide criminals in commission of crimes

Comments from SFPD spokesperson assessing the ubiquity of cameras and location information anyway, regardless of the app; app can be a positive by inducing good behavior or alerting citizens in need of help of location of closest officer; also understands how officer safety is an issue, especially in more rural areas where backup is miles away

Comments from Dave Maass, spokesperson for the Electronic Frontier Foundation claiming Google has every right to have the app on its platform and users have every right to enter and access locational data; to force removal of the app would be suppression and censorship by the government

GOVERNMENT

2/19/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Local government agencies' impact on local sports project

YOU ARE LOOKING AT DIGITAL RENDERINGS OF THE OAKLAND COLISEUM CITY PROJECT. IT COMES COMPLETE WITH HOTELS RETAIL AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES, AND SPORTS FACILITIES INCLUDING A BRAND NEW HOME OF OAKLAND RAIDERS. THE PROJECT COMES WITH AN ESTIMATED 2 BILLION DOLLAR PRICE TAG

Floyd Kephart: "The financing of the project is not the issue, the issue here is the political will."

THAT IS THE MESSAGE THAT FLOYD KEPHART, THE MANAGER OF NEW CITY DEVELOPMENT, GAVE TO MEMBERS OF THE WEST OAKLAND COMMERCE ASSOCIATION HERE AT THE LUNGOMARE RESTAURANT AT JACK LONDON SQUARE. KEPHART'S FINANCIAL GROUP CURRENTLY HOLDS THE EXCLUSIVE NEGOTIATING RIGHTS TO BUILD COLISEUM CITY.

Kephart: "We think it's a good plan and we are prepared to support it."

HOWEVER, HE SAYS HE IS WAITING FOR A RESPONSE FROM THE CO-OWNERS OF THE LAND REPRESENTED BY THE ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

Kephart: "It's a political will issue. At this time, we really need the County to come forward. The City has done the heavy lifting with the specific plan and hopefully the County will come on board."

OAKLAND'S NEW MAYOR LIBBY SCHAAF AGREES COLISEUM CITY COULD BE MOVING FASTER WHEN IT COMES TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

Schaaf: "We want it to happen. We want our sports teams to stay in Oakland. I'm excited that for the first time the City and the County are working together. Is it moving quickly? Nothing moves as quickly as I would like."

IF THE COUNTY DOESN'T LIKE THE DEAL MAYBE THEY COULD BE BOUGHT OUT?

Schaaf: "Well I think that could be put on the table, but we have to get them to the table."

WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO BUY THE COUNTY OUT? YOU WILL HEAR ALAMEDA COUNTY SUPERVISOR NATE MILEY'S SURPRISING RESPONSE ON KRON4NEWS AT 6.

Supervisor Nate Miley: "There are provisions that favor the private developer and it seems like they are stuck on those provisions at the moment. And there are things that clearly favor the City. Now, what's going to interest the County are we have to provide safety net services. We have to be sure there are resources providing these services and meeting these needs. Quite frankly, we'd be very much interested in being bought out. If the private developer would buy out the County, then it could just be the private developer and the City working on this deal themselves."

THE SUPERVISOR SAYS, IN ADDITION TO PAYING OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF BONDS OWED ON THE COLISEUM, THE APPRAISED VALUE OF THE PROPERTY WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION.

GOVERNMENT

2/24/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

City of Hercules police department accused of racial profiling

RODEO RESIDENT IAN TAHA. . SEEN HERE. . . CLAIMS THAT HERCULES POLICE OFFICERS PULLED HIM OVER ON SUNDAY WITHOUT EXPLAINING WHY. TAHA RECORDED A PORTION OF THE ENCOUNTER WITH HIS IPHONE. HE WAS ALSO PLACED IN HANDCUFFS AND DETAINED AFTER HE FAILED TO SHOW A VALID I.D. THE OFFICERS THEN SEARCHED TAHA'S CAR AND THE IPHONE CAPTURED A PORTION OF THEIR CONVERSATION.

Police: "Whatever you do make sure he gets a ticket." "Oh, I know that" "To document that, yeah."

TAHA SAYS HE WAS RELEASED AFTER ABOUT 10 MINUTES AND GIVEN A CITATION FOR DRIVING ACROSS A DOUBLE YELLOW LINES. . . A CHARGE HE DISPUTES. HE CLAIMS HE WAS NEVER TOLD WHY HE WAS PULLED OVER IN THE FIRST PLACE AND IS NOW ACCUSING THE OFFICERS OF RACIAL PROFILING.

Taha: "I think they racially profiled me. That's the only reason I can think of. I have no criminal history. I don't do anything wrong. I'm not a felon, I'm not on parole."

THE HERCULES POLICE DEPARTMENT SAYS THEY HAVE SPOKEN WITH IAN TAHA ABOUT THE INCIDENT AND REVIEWED HIS VIDEO. THEY SAY THE MATTER IS NOW A "PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION" AND HAVE MADE NO FURTHER COMMENT.

Taha: "It's hard for me to believe as a citizen of Hercules."

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, HERCULES VICE MAYOR DAN ROMERO SAID THAT HE FINDS TAHA'S RACIAL PROFILING ACCUSATION HARD TO SWALLOW.

Romero: "Knowing the officers, they interact with the community at different types of functions, it's hard to believe that kind of accusation."

ROMEROS SAYS THAT THE CHIEF OF POLICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INVESTIGATING ANY CLAIMS OF WRONG DOING AGAINST AN OFFICER. IF THERE IS CAUSE FOR CONCERN, THE CHIEF WOULD TAKE THE CASE TO THE HERCULES CITY MANAGER.

Romero: "And the city manager and the police chief will take action on whatever come out of the investigation."

Taha: "I just hope they take it very seriously. I'm going to take it to an attorney and I'm going to take it to the next level until I get some answers."

GOVERNMENT

2/24/15 KRON 4 News at 11p

Debate heats up over use of drones by government bodies

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY ARE TESTING OUT THE USEFULNESS OF UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES, OR DRONES LIKE THIS. THERE ARE A LOT OF LEGITIMATE USES FOR THE NEW TECHNOLOGY BUT THE CONCERN FOR ABUSE IS SOMETHING THAT THE PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMISSION OF BERKELEY IS CONCERNED ABOUT.

"It will be easier to regulate drones now than it will be later. Berkeley needs to pass this legislation saying no drones for 2 years and should urge the state to do the same. Should also urge the state and federal government to draft legislation prohibiting information collected by drones to be introduced as evidence."

THAT IS THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE COMMISSION AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY SEEM TO AGREE WITH THAT FINDING.

"... there is not enough regulation that is clear and strong enough to ensure responsible use...."

"... drones are for military purposes and observation..."

"...if you gave drones to a fire department there is nothing to prevent that drone being used by the police department in police action against citizens...."

THE ITEM IS STILL BEING DEBATED. THE CITY DOES NOT CURRENTLY OWN ANY DRONES.

I'M JEFF BUSH, LIVE IN BERKELEY, KRON FOUR NEWS.

GOVERNMENT

2/26/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Clash between local government and tech giants

Lenny Siegel: "We think too rapid employment growth without housing, without transportation isn't good for Mt. View."

COUNCIL MEMBER LENNY SIEGEL SAYS THE EXPANSION PLANS THAT GOOGLE AND OTHER TECH FIRMS WANT HAVE NOT TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHERE THE NEARLY 20,000 NEW EMPLOYEES THAT THE PLANS ENVISION WILL LIVE AND HOW THEY WILL GET TO THE EXPANDED CAMPUS WHERE THEY WILL WORK.

Siegel: "Housing and traffic are the two major concerns with this development. I see we'll have difficulty since we'll have more proposals than we'll have space for."

SIEGEL SAYS CAREFUL CONSIDERATION WILL BE MADE FOR EACH PROPOSAL AND HE SAYS GOOGLE IS AWARE OF THE CITY'S CONCERNS...NOW, IT'S A WAIT AND SEE GAME.

Siegel: "Every proposal is associated with land. It's not like we're giving away land. Google owns land. LinkedIn owns land. Sobratto owns land. So, all these are going to come forward. And we're going to have to decide among them. I don't look forward to that prospect – picking the winners and losers."

SIEGEL SAYS THAT THE GOOGLE PLAN IS DESIGNED TO BE A CAR FREE ZONE. THOSE PLANS ARE DUE BY THE END OF THE DAY TOMORROW.

I'M JEFF BUSH, LIVE IN MOUNTAIN VIEW, KRON FOUR NEWS.

GOVERNMENT

2/27/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Federal government water policy impacts California farmers

FARMERS WILL GO ANOTHER YEAR WITHOUT WATER AS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SAYS NO FOR SECOND YEAR. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SAY IT WILL NOT RELEASE ANY WATER FOR CENTRAL VALLEY FARMERS IN 2015.

THE SEVERE CALIFORNIA DROUGHT IS THE CAUSE. FARMERS SAY THIS DECISION IS FORCING THEM TO FIND OTHER SOURCES OF WATER OR LEAVE THEIR FIELDS UNPLANTED. THIS IS THE SECOND YEAR THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION HAS MADE THIS DECISION FOR AN AREA OF THE STATE WHICH PROVIDES MUCH OF THE NATION'S PRODUCE.

OFFICIALS WITH THE STATE RESERVOIR SYSTEM SAY THEY ARE PROVIDING LOCAL AGENCIES AND FARMERS 15 PERCENT OF THE WATER THEY REQUESTED, WHICH IS ONLY A SLIGHT INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR.

FARMERS SAY, THEY WILL HAVE TO TRY PUMPING SCARCE GROUNDWATER OR LEAVE FIELDS UNPLANTED.

GOVERNMENT

3/3/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local reaction to events in Washington

IN THE NATION'S CAPITOL TODAY ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU APPEARED BEFORE BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS TODAY TO EXPRESS CONCERNS OVER A PROPOSED NUCLEAR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U-S AND OTHER WORLD POWERS AND IRAN. IN SAN FRANCISCO THERE WAS A PROTEST AGAINST NETANYAHU AT THE ISRAELI CONSULATE. CHARLES CLIFFORD HAS MORE:

TUESDAY MORNING, ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU TOLD THE U.S. CONGRESS THAT NEGOTIATING WITH IRAN IS A MISTAKE.

Netanyahu: "This deal will not change Iran for the better; it will only change the Middle East for the worse."

NETANYAHU'S SPEECH WAS WIDELY SEEN AS A JAB AT PRESIDENT BARRACK OBAMA'S EFFORTS TO REACH A NUCLEAR ARMS AGREEMENT WITH IRAN. THE PRESIDENT WAS NOT IMPRESSED BY THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH.

Obama: "As far as I can tell, there was nothing new."

IN SAN FRANCISCO TUESDAY AFTERNOON, AROUND 50 PROTESTORS GATHERED OUTSIDE THE ISRAELI CONSULATE IN THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT. THEY CAME TO EXPRESS FRUSTRATION WITH ISRAEL'S POLICES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, ESPECIALLY TOWARDS PAESTINE, AND THEY ALSO CONDEMNED NETANYAHU'S SPEECH. ORGANIZERS OF THE REALLY SAY THEY BELIEVE THE PRIME MINISTER WANTS TO START A WAR WITH IRAN.

Protester: "The real meaning of Netanyahu's speech is war with Iran. He has made no secret of his desire for a war with Iran."

Protester: "The last thing our communities need is another war. The last thing our communities need is more aggression against the civilian population. And that's what we are here today to talk about."

Charles Clifford KRON 4 News

GOVERNMENT

3/5/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local government official has novel approach to community outreach

Story focuses on the Antioch Police Chief's efforts at public relations and community outreach through an ongoing series of "Pizza with the Police" events. The most recent event had a turnout of approximately 50 Antioch residents who took advantage of the opportunity to engage with one of their local officials in an informal setting, hear the latest in crime statistics and trends for their community, voice their concerns, ask questions directly and get immediate answers, and enjoy some pizza together with their neighbors.

GOVERNMENT

3/9/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local impact of proposed new federal marijuana law

SEVERAL HIGH- PROFILE SENATORS WILL INTRODUCE A FEDERAL 'MEDICAL MARIJUANA' BILL TOMORROW. THE MEASURE WOULD LEGALIZE MEDICAL MARIJUANA UNDER FEDERAL LAW THIS IS A

BIG DEAL FOR OAKLAND'S HARBORSIDE HEALTH CENTER IN PARTICULAR. IT IS ONE OF THE LARGEST MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES IN THE COUNTRY. KRON 4'S SCOTT RATES TALKED WITH HARBORSIDE'S CO-FOUNDER AND CEO ABOUT THE BILL:

MEDICAL MARIJUANA IS NO STRANGER TO THE BAY AREA. IT'S BEEN LEGAL HERE SINCE 1996. BUT WHILE THE STATE ALLOWS IT, IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN ILLEGAL ON A THE FEDERAL LEVEL.

BUT SOON PATIENTS AND DOCTORS WHO PRESCRIBE THE PLANT COULD SEE THOSE FEDERAL LAWS CHANGE. SENATORS KRISTEN GILLIBRAND OF NY, CORY BOOKER OF NJ AND RAND PAUL OF KY ARE EXPECTED TO INTRODUCE A PROPOSAL THAT WOULD ALLOW MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS AND PATIENTS TO POSSESS CANNABIS WITHOUT ANY FEDERAL LAWS INTERFERING.

STEVE DEANGELO OWNS HARBORSIDE HEALTH CENTER IN OAKLAND. IT'S ONE OF THE LARGEST MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES IN THE COUNTRY. HE SAYS THE BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION IS A GOOD FIRST STEP, BUT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE.

DeAngelo: "Now I would like to see the Senate pass it; and then I would like to see them follow up with the next logical step which is to set up a nationwide system of regulated cultivation and distribution. Because this doesn't set up a legal, regulated system for patients to access that medicine. So, dispensaries like Harborside would still remain unprotected. But younger politicians like Rand Paul and Cory Booker and Kristen Gillebrand, they know that this vote is going to be remembered for a long time and it's something they need to get right if they value their careers. So, I hope to see increasing numbers of candidates and elected officials coming to what we understand to be true. Embracing cannabis reform will win more votes than resisting cannabis reform."

THOSE SENATORS ARE EXPECTED TO LAY OUT THEIR PROPOSED LEGISLATION TOMORROW. IT WILL STILL NEED TO BE PASSED BY A VOTE IN THE SENATE.

SCOTT RATES KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

3/15/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Local citizens' angry reaction to new Federal Parks regulations

IT HAS TO DO WITH THIS DOCUMENT. THE NPS MANAGEMENT PLAN. IT CONTROLS HOW ALL OF THIS LAND IS GOVERNED. THESE 114 PAGES COULD DRASTICALLY CHANGE THE WAY THESE PARKS ARE USED. AND THOUSAND OF PEOPLE DON'T LIKE THOSE CHANGES.

LANDS END, MUIR BEACH, MARIN HEADLANDS, AND MOST OF OCEAN BEACH AND FORT FUNSTON ARE GOVERNED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. ITS NEW GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN CHANGES THOSE AREAS FROM "HIGH USE" TO "LOW TO MODERATE USE" LEVELS WHICH, SAYS ANDREA BUFFA OF SAVE OUR RECREATION, MAY MEAN RESTRICTED ACCESS FOR THE FOLKS WHO USE THE PARKS.

Buffa: "There are restrictions on bonfires at Ocean Beach. There are restrictions about horseback riding in Marin. There are restrictions to dog walking. We don't know how it will all paly out, but that's why we are saying people need to get active now."

THAT'S WHY SHE IS HEADED TO WASHINGTON DC THIS WEEK, TO LOBBY FOR THOSE CHANGES TO BE REVISED. THE MANAGEMENT PLAN HAS ALREADY TAKEN EFFECT, BUT SHE'S HOPING IT CAN BE RESCINDED OR AT THE VERY LEAST MODIFIED. THERE'S A PETITION WITH MORE THAN EIGHT THOUSAN SIGNATURES OF PEOPLE WHO AGREE WITH HER.

Park user: "That's what this area is here for. Should it go to waste?"

Park user: "They should allow thoughts on both sides, but my daughter wants to bring our dog out here and that won't change."

Park user: "I understand there have to be rules, but you want to see people being free and not too constricted."

AT LAND'S END EMILY TURNER KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

3/18/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Special election in the East Bay pits Democrats against each other

THE MAYOR OF ORINDA AND A CONTRA COSTA ASSEMBLYWOMAN ARE POISED TO GO HEAD TO HEAD FOR A STATE SENATE SEAT. DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES MAYOR STEVE GLAZER AND ASSEMBLYWOMAN SUSAN BONILLA WILL ADVANCE FROM TUESDAY'S SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION TO FILL A VACANT STATE SENATE SEAT REPRESENTING PARTS OF CONTRA COSTA AND ALAMEDA COUNTIES. THE RESULTS WILL BE READY MARCH 27TH. BONILLA'S CAMPAIGN IS FOCUSED PRIMARILY ON EDUCATION, WHILE GLAZER HAS EMPHASIZED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AND EDUCATION REFORM IN HIS CAMPAIGN LITERATURE. THE GENERAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON MAY 19TH.

1Q2015 HEALTH

HEALTH

1/16/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Candlestick demolition and neighborhood health concerns

THE DEMOLITION OF CANDLESTICK PARK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN AT THE END OF THE MONTH. BUT IT TURNS OUT THE STICK ISN'T GOING OUT WITH A BANG AFTER ALL. THE DEVELOPER IN CHARGE OF DEMOLISHING THE OLD STADIUM SAYS THEY HAVE BEEN GRANTED A PERMIT TO USE CONVENTIONAL MECHANICAL METHODS RATHER THAN IMPLOSION.

BAYVIEW RESIDENTS CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPACT ON THEIR HEALTH BY THE HIGH LEVELS OF DUST CAUSED BY IMPLOSION HAD FOUGHT THE IDEA.

THE DEVELOPER SAYS THEY PLAN ON USING HIGH REACH EXCAVATORS WITH PULVERIZING ATTACHMENTS LIKE YOU SEE HERE IN THIS PHOTO. IT WILL TAKE LONGER BUT WILL BE CHEAPER THAN THEIR IMPLOSION PLAN.

BACK IN THE 90'S, THE OLD GENEVA TOWERS PROJECT WAS LEVELED BY IMPLOSION WHICH YOU CAN SEE HERE IN THIS YOUTUBE VIDEO. YOU CAN SEE THE CLOUDS OF DUST

THAT ROSE UP. BAYVIEW RESIDENTS DIDN'T WANT THE SAME THING TO HAPPEN TO THE STICK.

Thompkins: "Over 40 thousand tons of cement would have been blown up and would have leached into the air."

RAYMOND THOMPCKINS IS A RETIRED PROFESSOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY. HE'S HAPPY THAT THE STICK WILL BE DISMANTLED BY CONVENTIONAL METHODS. HE SAYS THE BAYVIEW HAS A LONG HISTORY OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS AND DOESN'T NEED ANY MORE.

Thompkins: "We're dying. The average life expectancy for a black male in the Bayview is 56 years. For a white man living in San Francisco, it's 78. That's the worst health disparity in the nation."

THOMPCKINS AND HIS GROUP AREN'T HAPPY WITH THE CURRENT DUST REMEDIATION PLAN FOR THE DEMOLITION PLAN NOW GOING AHEAD AND ARE CONTINUING TO SEEK TO HAVE THEIR VOICES HEARD TO MAKE SURE THE DUST AND POLLUTANTS FROM THE PROJECT WILL BE KEPT AT A MINIMUM.

Thompkins: "Everyone wants to develop it. But we don't need to die for development."

IT'S EXPECTED TO TAKE TWO MONTHS BEFORE THE SITE IS LEVELED TO MAKE WAY THE NEXT DEVELOPMENT – A SHOPPING CENTER, HOTEL AND HOUSING COMPLEX.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

HEALTH

1/18/15 KRON 4 Morning News

Update on flu season

THE FLU IS CONTUING TO SPREAD ACROSS THE NATION. TAKE A LOOK AT THIS LATEST FLU MAP PROVIDED BY GOOGLE. THE DARKER COLORS OVER SOME STATES INDICATE HIGHER FLU ACTIVITY. GOOGLE GETS THIS INFORMATION BY TRACKING INTERNET SEARCHES.

HERE IN THE BAY AREA, AS WE'VE BEEN TELLING YOU, FLU CASES ARE ON THE RISE AS WELL AND SO FAR THERE HAVE BEEN AT LEAST FOUR LOCAL DEATHS RELATED TO THE FLU.

MAKING THINGS WORSE THIS YEAR, THE FLU SHOT IS NOT AS EFFECTIVE AS IT HAS BEEN IN THE PAST, WITH SOME EXPERTS SAYING THIS YEAR'S SHOT IS ONLY 23 PERCENT EFFECTIVE.

SO WHAT SHOULD YOU DO? DOCTOR SANJAY GUPTA HAS SOME FLU ADVICE.

Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Chief Medical Correspondent: "Let me try and settle this flu shot thing, although I'm sure it's going to keep coming up. You can't get the flu from the flu shot. It's a dead virus. It can't actually cause flu. Why do people feel sort of crummy afterwards? It's because the flu vaccine is actually working. It makes your immune system fire up, get ready and recognize if it actually sees the flu it knows how to kill it. No, it's not a 100% fail-safe. For instance, this particular group, the dominate strain is something known as H3N2. But its mutated just a little bit, which means that the flu vaccine that was made months ago is not going to be quite as effect as if it hadn't mutated at all. But l'ts still going to offer a lot of protection since you are not going to be as sick or as likely to get sick, or if you do get sick it will have a shorter duration.

If you're like me, your mom said don't go outside in the cold without your hat on or you're going to catch the flu. You can't catch the flu from simply being outside in the cold. But it does raise the question, why are there so many more flu cases in the winter months? You're likely to stay indoors more. So if one person is sick, more people are likely to get sick. The sun is lower in the sky and, as a result, you have less vitamin D actually being produced in your body. Your immune starts to get suppressed a little bit and you're more likely to get sick with the flu. Winter months tend to be lower humidity. Viruses like the flu viruses like lower humidity. They're likely to live longer.

So your mom may have been right. Look, mom's are always right. But maybe not for the reasons you originally thought."

HEALTH

1/18/15 KRON 4 Morning News

Local government legislates against e-cigarettes

A NEW ORDINANCE IS NOW IN EFFECT IN SHASTA COUNTY BANNING E-CIGARETTE SMOKE INDOORS. LAWMAKERS SAY THE ORDINANCE WILL PROTECT EMPLOYEES AND THE PUBLIC FROM THE DANGERS OF SECOND HAND SMOKE.

BUT THE OWNER OF NORCAL VAPE SAYS THIS MOVE NEGATIVELY AFFECTS HER E-CIGARETTE BUSINESS.

NorCal Vape owner: "There's a lot of publicity around the California Department of Health saying how harmful it is. And I don't understand where they're getting their studies from because the evidence that I have shows it's not as harmful at least as cigarettes."

CUSTOMERS CAN NO LONGER SMOKE AT THE INDOOR BAR AT NORCAL VAPE. THEY NOW HAVE TO SAMPLE E-CIGARETTE FLAVORS OUTSIDE.

HEALTH

1/18/15 KRON 4 Morning News

Gallbladder 101

IN OTHER HEALTH NEWS, WE'VE ALL HEARD ABOUT OUR GALL BLADDER AND GALL STONES. BUT MANY PEOPLE DON'T KNOW WHAT OUR GALL BLADDER DOES AND HOW TO AVOID GETTING GALL STONES. CHRISTI PAUL HAS THE DETAILS IN TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE.

IT'S SOMETHING YOU RARELY HEAR ABOUT, BUT 10-15% OF AMERICANS SUFFER FROM GALLSTONES.

Dr. Jennifer Christie: "Gallstones are a combination of things actually. They form from bile, and bile contains things like cholesterol, calcium and pigment."

THE STONES FORM IN THE GALL BLADDER, A SMALL POUCH BENEATH THE LIVER THAT STORES THE BILE WE NEED TO BREAK DOWN FOOD.

Dr Christie: "It happens that if there is an excess of cholesterol in the bile then it becomes super-saturated and forms stones."

CHRISTIE SAYS THE MAJORITY OF STONES PASS RIGHT THROUGH OUR SYSTEMS AND NEVER CAUSE PROBLEMS, BUT WHEN THEY BECOME BIG ENOUGH TO BLOCK A BILE DUCT, IT CAN BE QUITE PAINFUL.

Dr. Christie: "People who are overweight or obese have a higher prevalence of gallstones. But to lower your risk of developing gall stones you want to eat a diet that is high in vegetable proteins and nuts. Maintaining a healthy weight is important. And getting adequate exercise."

TREATMENT FOR GALLSTONES OFTEN MEANS SURGICALLY REMOVING THE STONES OR EVEN THE GALLBLADDER ITSELF, PROCEDURES THAT ARE DONE WITH SMALL MINIMALLY INVASIVE ENDOSCOPES. DR. CHRISTIE SAYS NOT TO WORRY.

Dr. Christie: "Most people do fine without a gallbladder."

HEALTH

2/3/15 KRON 4 Morning News
Measles outbreak

Comments from Dr. Jannet Berreman, Director of Public Health for the City of Berkeley, on the city's efforts to proactively reach out to its schools and inform officials and parents alike
Explanation of state and federal policies requiring at risk children to stay home at least 21 days
Response to the policies from parents at a Berkeley school; 3 parents interviewed and all were in favor, citing need to protect all children in school

HEALTH

2/10/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Measles outbreak and the immunization debate

Response to the measles outbreak from several perspectives.
Reference to pending proposed state legislation to make vaccination mandatory.
Local story featuring opposing sides at a local school board meeting discussing the issue with parents of a leukemia survivor arguing that not vaccinating puts entire community at risk, especially those with immune system deficiencies; other side arguing there is no proof that vaccines are effective; school board postponed a decision in favor of having a community-wide meeting with experts to better inform the public.
Coverage of Capitol Hill hearings, including testimony from Dr. Anne Schuchat of the CDC

HEALTH

Multiple February dates / multiple newscasts
Ongoing coverage of the measles outbreak on the local, state and national levels and vaccination controversy

HEALTH

2/23/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Possible relief for peanut allergies?

PEANUTS AND PEANUT BUTTER ARE JUST ABOUT EVERYWHERE. AND FOR FAMILIES OF A CHILD WITH PEANUT ALLERGIES, IT CAN BE A REAL NIGHTMARE TRYING TO KEEP THEM SAFE. WE FOUND TWO PIECES OF NEWS TODAY THAT OFFER REAL HOPE.

KIDS AND PEANUTS GO TOGETHER LIKE, WELL PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY. BUT FOR SOME CHILDREN, JUST ONE PEANUT CAN SEND THEM TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM.

Parent: "If we're touching peanuts we have to wash our hands very carefully because he can very easily start to have an allergic reaction where his throat swells up and he has trouble breathing."

Parent: "Everywhere we go, we carry an epi-pen."

BUT RELIEF MAY BE ON THE WAY. IT'S A PEANUT PATCH CALLED VIASKIN. IT WORKS BY GRADUALLY RELEASING PEANUT PROTEIN INTO THE BODY. THE NEW STUDY SHOWS ABOUT HALF SAW THEIR TOLERANCE FOR PEANUTS INCREASE BY 10 FOLD.

IN ANOTHER BREAKTHROUGH, RESEARCHERS SHOW IT'S NOT ONLY POSSIBLE TO TAMP DOWN PEANUT ALLERGIES, BUT AVOID GETTING ALLERGIC IN THE FIRST PLACE BY STARTING YOUNG INFANTS ON PEANUTS. THE REPORT PUBLISHED IN THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE SHOWS BABIES CAN START DEVELOPING ANTI-BODIES TO PEANUTS BEFORE IT BECOMES A PROBLEM. IT EVEN SUGGESTS THAT BABIES WHOSE MOMS EAT PEANUTS WHILE NURSING MIGHT ALSO BE BETTER EQUIPPED TO HANDLE A PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICH WHEN THEY GROW UP.

BUT PARENTS, BEFORE YOU START SPOON-FEEDING YOUR BABIES PEANUT BUTTER, PEDIATRICIANS ARE JUST GETTING THE REPORT TODAY. AND DOCTORS WE'VE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ARE HESITANT TO SAY WHETHER THEY'LL RECOMMEND AN INFANT DIET THAT INCLUDES PEANUTS. AS FOR THE PATCH - IT'S NOT AT THE DRUG STORE YET.

VICKI LIVIAKIS KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

2/24/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Marin County Concerns about polio resurfacing

Story looks at polio survivor who works with the Rotary Club for polio awareness, especially in light of statistic that 11% of Marine County kindergartners have not been immunized against the disease. Includes interview with Marin County Public Health Officer, Dr. Matthew Willis: "What a shame it would be for polio to come back because we dropped our guard.... The recent measles and ebola outbreaks have demonstrated to us that we live in a single global ecology. Any disease that's present anywhere in the world is really only just a plane ride away. So we really want to be well-protected against any disease that can be present anywhere in the world."

HEALTH

3/12/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local outbreak of Hepatitis A

FIVE CASES OF THE LIVER-INFLAMING DISEASE HEPATITIS-A HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN NAPA COUNTY IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS. TWO OF THE INFECTED PEOPLE WORK AT FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS INSIDE THE WESTIN VERASA HOTE NEAR DOWNTOWN NAPA. TONIGHT,

KRON 4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL IS LIVE OUTSIDE THE HOTEL WHERE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY VISITORS MAY HAVE POTENTIALLY BEEN EXPOSED TO THE VIRUS:

LA TOUQUE RESTAURANT AND THE BANK CAFÉ AND BAR INSIDE THE WESTIN VERASA HOTEL. THAT'S WHERE NAPA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION DEPUTY DIRECTOR DOCTOR KAREN SMITH SAYS THE TWO INFECTED EMPLOYEES MAY HAVE EXPOSED VISITORS TO THE LIVER-SWELLING DISEASE HEPATITIS A.

Karen Smith, MD: "There is a very small chance that while they were sick, they actually potentially transmitted the virus to some of the patrons."

SMITH SAYS THE SOURCE OF THE INFECTIONS IS STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION. SHE ADDS THE VIRUS CAN BE PASSED ON THROUGH PERSON-TO-PERSON CONTACT, OR, MORE COMMONLY, BY INGESTING CONTAMINATED FOOD OR DRINKS.

Smith: "We have every reason to believe that they did have good hand hygiene. We have seen no evidence of transmission. We're just being excessively safe in making sure that we tell people."

THE HEALTH DIVISION SAYS HOTEL VISITORS MAY HAVE POTENTIALLY BEEN EXPOSED TO THE VIRUS BETWEEN FEBRUARY 9TH AND 26TH OF THIS YEAR. RIGHT NOW, SMITH SAYS SHE'S LOOKING INTO WHAT ALL FIVE VICTIMS ATE OR DRANK BEFORE INFECTION.

Smith: "What we're trying to figure out is, is there a food in common between the first set of cases that didn't go to the restaurant and these two restaurant workers, which makes us think that the possibilities that there's some sort of common product that both groups of individuals had accessed."

THE HOTEL GENERAL MANAGER AND THE OWNER'S OF BOTH RESTAURANTS SAY THEY'RE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE HEALTH DIVISION TO FIND THE SOURCE OF THE VIRUS.

SMITH SAYS MOST CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS RECEIVED THE HEPATITIS A VACCINE AS INFANTS, AS HAVE MOST PEOPLE WHO FREQUENTLY TRAVEL OVERSEAS. THE VIRUS IS RARELY DEADLY, BUT IT CAN TAKE CLOSE TO TWO MONTHS TO SHOW SIGNS OF SICKNESS AFTER BEING INFECTED.

PHILIPPE DJEGAL KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

3/12/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Rabid bat concerns

A DEAD BAT FOUND AT A FREMONT COMMUNITY CENTER TESTED POSITIVE FOR RABIES. THE INFECTED BAT WAS FOUND HERE NEAR THE ENTRANCE OF THE IRVINGTON COMMUNITY CENTER IN FREMONT LAST WEEK. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS PICKED IT UP AND LATER FOUND THAT IT HAD RABIES, A FATAL LIVER DISEASE THAT IS PASSED ON BY TOUCHING THE SALIVA OR BRAIN TISSUE OF AN INFECTED ANIMAL OR BEING BITTEN BY ONE.

THE AREA WHERE THE BAT WAS FOUND IS POPULAR WITH YOUNG CHILDREN... WHICH RAISED CONCERNS.

Daniel Wilson, Alameda County Health Department: "As far as we know, no one had direct contact with the bat. But we don't know. Somebody might have been walking by with a toddler who picked it up."

OFFICIALS PLAN TO GO INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD TO TALK WITH RESIDENTS TO LET THEM KNOW ABOUT THE RABID BAT AND FIND OUT WHETHER ANYONE OR ANY PETS HAD CONTACT WITH IT.

ANYONE WHO DID HAVE CONTACT WITH THE INFECTED BAT MUST GO THROUGH A SERIES OF SHOTS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE DISEASE.

HEALTH

3/17/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Rabid bat concerns

A follow-up story focused on finding another rabid bat in Alameda County. In this incident a resident's dog picked up the bat and the resident removed it from the dog's mouth, placed it in a container and took it home before taking it to county health officials for testing.

HEALTH

3/18/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm
Health alert issued in connection with rabid bats

A further follow-up story following the discovery of additional rabid bats:

SEVERAL DEAD BATS WITH RABIES HAVE BEEN FOUND IN FREMONT RECENTLY AND ALAMEDA COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL IS ANNOUNCING A RABIES ALERT.

THE BATS PICTURED HERE ARE FROM THE SAME BREED OF BATS, RECENTLY FOUND IN FREMONT INFECTED WITH RABIES. ALAMEDA COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL IS PASSING OUT FLIERS ALERTING RESIDENTS NEAR NILES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WHERE THE SECOND BAT WAS FOUND.

A THIRD DEAD BAT WAS FOUND ON A NEIGHBOR'S PROPERTY NEAR THE SCHOOL, BUT IT DID NOT TEST POSITIVE FOR RABIES. PEOPLE ARE ADVISED TO SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION SHOULD THEY OR THEIR PETS HAVE CONTACT WITH ANY DEAD BAT.

HEALTH

3/19/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
On-going coverage of rabid bat story

TONIGHT ALAMEDA COUNTY RESIDENTS ARE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR BATS WITH RABIES, THAT'S AFTER A FOURTH ONE WAS FOUND.

THE LATEST BAT WAS FOUND IN SUNOL ON SATURDAY, BUT COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS DIDN'T CONFIRM UNTIL TODAY THAT IT TESTED POSITIVE FOR RABIES. THREE OTHER BATS WERE FOUND IN THE FREMONT AREA EARLIER THIS MONTH.

HUMANS INFECTED WITH RABIES DEVELOP SYMPTOMS WITHIN ONE TO THREE MONTHS. EARLY SYMPTOMS INCLUDE FEVER, HEADACHE, FATIGUE AND IRRITABILITY. ANYONE WHO HAS CONTACT WITH A BAT SHOULD CALL THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

HEALTH

3/18/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Myopia on the rise in children

A GROWING PROBLEM ON THE VERGE OF BECOMING AN EPIDEMIC – NEAR-SIGHTEDNESS IN CHILDREN. KRON4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS TELLS US WHY RESEARCHERS SAY IT'S HAPPENING AND HOW TO PROTECT YOUR KIDS:

IS YOUR CHILD HAVING TROUBLE SEEING BEYOND HER NOSE?

Dr. Wendy Lam, optometrist: “Nowadays, kids as young as 7, 8, and 9, they’re having prescriptions for being near-sighted. If you have any doubt in your mind if your child is having trouble seeing in school, bring them in for an eye exam.”

DR. WENDY LAM OF U.C. BERKELEY'S SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY NOT ONLY SEES MORE AND MORE CHILDREN WITH MYOPIA OR NEAR-SIGHTEDNESS, BUT THEY'RE YOUNGER TOO.

Dr. Lam: “People before were more focused at distance and people were more rural, more farming, and looking far away. Now that everything is really close to us on our computers, our phones, and everything like that, their eyes are changing to match..”

AS MYOPIA IS CHANGING, SHE MEANS THE EYEBALL IS GETTING LONGER AND THE LIGHT CAN'T REACH THE BACK, SO IT'S BLURRY. HERE'S A CHART THAT SHOWS WHAT HAPPENS WITH MYOPIA OR NEAR-SIGHTEDNESS.

SOME ESTIMATES PREDICT ONE THIRD OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION WILL BE MYOPIC IN THE NEXT DECADE. WITH AN ASSOCIATED RISK OF BLINDNESS, WHAT CAN A PARENT DO?

Dr. Lam: “I would say it's healthy for them to exercise their focusing power. You don't want them to never read up close, plus you want them to do well in school, but at the same time, give them a chance to look far away and relax their eyes. Get them used to looking far away to make sure that they're not going to progress to being too near-sighted.”

IT'S RECOMMENDED THAT KIDS UNDER THE AGE OF SIX GET AT LEAST 10 HOURS A WEEK OUTDOORS TO HELP PREVENT MYOPIA. EVEN SUNSHINE IS GOOD PREVENTION. GET THEM OUTSIDE TO PLAY A LITTLE MORE?

Dr. Lam: “Definitely. Plus it's good for their overall health anyway!”

HEALTH

3/18/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Dangers of artificial sweeteners for seniors

YOU MAY WANT TO PUT DOWN YOUR DIET SODA FOR A SECOND. A NEW STUDY BY THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT SAN ANTONIO SUGGESTS THAT DRINKING MORE OF IT CAN LEAD TO GREATER BELLY FAT IN ADULTS AGE 65 AND OLDER. RESEARCHERS SAY THAT WHILE MANY ADULTS TRY TO REDUCE THEIR SUGAR HABIT, OBESITY HAS SEEN DRAMATIC GROWTH ALONGSIDE THE AVERAGE DIET SODA INTAKE. RESEARCHERS RECOMMEND THAT OLDER PEOPLE SHOULD TRY TO CURB THEIR CONSUMPTION OF ARTIFICIALLY SWEETENED DRINKS. THE STUDY WAS PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY.

HEALTH

3/19/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Correlation between loneliness and death?

NEW RESEARCH SUGGESTS THAT BEING LONELY CAN INCREASE YOUR RISK OF DEATH. SCIENTISTS ANALYZING SEVERAL STUDIES FOUND THAT BEING ALONE AND FEELING LONELY INCREASE ONE'S CHANCES OF EARLY DEATH BY ABOUT 30-PERCENT.

THE AVERAGE AGE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE STUDIES WAS 66 AND DISEASE WAS ALSO A FACTOR, SO MORE RESEARCH IS NEEDED ACROSS AGE GROUPS TO DETERMINE THE TRUE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LONELINESS AND COMPANIONSHIP AND MORTALITY.

THE STUDY, PUBLISHED IN THE MARCH ISSUE OF 'PERSPECTIVES IN PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE, ALSO SUGGESTS THAT HAVING COMPANIONS CAN HELP YOU LIVE LONGER.