



QUARTERLY ISSUES / PROGRAM LIST

3RD QUARTER 2014

**Young Broadcasting
San Francisco, Inc.**

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 Weekend, a Saturday and 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
ECONOMY
DIVERSITY
GOVERNMENT
ENVIRONMENT
HEALTH
EDUCATION
HOUSING
TRANSPORTATION**

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

CRIME

7/7/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Oakland Police Chief on why crime is down in his city

SOME IMPROVEMENT IN THE CRIME THAT HAS LONG PLAGUED OAKLAND. THE LATEST NUMBERS INDICATE VIOLENT CRIME IS DROPPING. KRON 4S SCOTT RATES GOT AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH THE POLICE CHIEF WHICH YOU'LL SEE ONLY ON KRON 4 TONIGHT. SCOTT, WHAT DID THE CHIEF TELL YOU?

OAKLAND'S POLICE CHIEF IS OBVIOUSLY VERY HAPPY TO NOTE THAT THE NUMBERS FOR VIOLENT CRIME HERE ARE DROPPING. BUT THE QUESTION IS, WHAT IS THE POLICE DEPARTMENT ROLE IN THIS AND WILL WE CONTINUE TO SEE THESE NUMBERS DROP?

THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE KNOW AT TIMES CRIME IN OAKLAND CAN BE SOME OF THE WORST IN THE COUNTRY. BUT, NOW NEW NUMBERS SHOW VIOLENT CRIME IS ACTUALLY DROPPING!

Oakland Police Chief Sean Whent: "We're encouraged by the numbers. It definitely shows our strategies appear to be working."

SO HERE ARE THE LATEST NUMBERS FROM OPD. COMPARED TO LAST YEAR AT THE SAME TIME, HOMICIDES ARE DOWN 16%, ROBBERIES DOWN 35%, AND ROBBERY WITH A FIREARM DOWN 50%. OAKLAND'S POLICE CHIEF SEAN WHENT HAS BEEN ON THE JOB SINCE MAY OF LAST YEAR AND HE BELIEVES THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS FOR THE DROP IN CRIME.

HE SAYS GIVING AREA COMMANDERS MORE RESOURCES, AND UNVEILING PROGRAMS SUCH AS OPERATION CEASEFIRE HAVE PUT A DENT IN THE CRIME PROBLEM. THE CHIEF SAYS SOME OF THE BIGGEST HELP, THOUGH, IS COMING FROM THE COMMUNITY AND OTHER AGENCIES!

Chief Whent: "The FBI has partnered with us to help with human trafficking and also to assist with homicide investigations. The U.S. Marshalls have been very good about locating wanted suspects. In the community, people have provided tips, provided video they've captured from their homes for instance. And all of that helps us."

AND BECAUSE THE CITIZENS OF OAKLAND KNOW THE CITY IS NOTORIOUS FOR DRAMATIC SWINGS IN ITS CRIME RATE, I ASKED THE CHIEF HOW HIS DEPARTMENT PLANS ON KEEPING CRIME ON THE CURRENT DOWNWARD TREND.

Chief Whent: "We have to stay the course. We've identified strategies that do appear to be working. Sometimes in the past, we've had problems with not remaining committed to strategies that work. We're not going to make that mistake anymore. We know what's working. We're going to remain committed. And if we can keep up with our hiring, we'll be able to actually grow the efforts that we're doing now."

SCOTT RATES KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

7/9/14 KORN 4 News at 8pm

Antioch addressing increase in crime rate

THE CITY OF ANTIOCH IS DEALING WITH A SUDDEN SURGE IN VIOLENT CRIME. A 23-YEAR -OLD MAN WAS KILLED JUST YESTERDAY AND A DOZEN PEOPLE HAVE BEEN WOUNDED BY GUNFIRE IN JUST THE PAST MONTH. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD IS LIVE TONIGHT IN ANTIOCH WITH DETAILS ON WHAT THE CITY IS DOING TO TURN THINGS AROUND:

SO FAR THIS YEAR IN ANTIOCH THERE HAVE BEEN FIVE HOMICIDES. THE LATEST WAS THE DEATH OF A 23 YEAR OLD PITTSBURG MAN WHO WAS SHOT AND KILLED ALONG DELTA FAIR BOULEVARD. ANOTHER MAN WAS INJURED BY GUNFIRE AT THE SAME LOCATION.

LAST WEEK, 11 YEAR OLD GREGORY KENT WAS SHOT AND WOUNDED BY A 14 YEAR OLD BOY IN THE 800 BLOCK OF I STREET. THESE ARE JUST THE LATEST IN A STRING OF VIOLENT ATTACKS IN RECENT WEEKS. BUT WHAT'S CAUSING THE VIOLENCE? WHILE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IS STILL INVESTIGATING THESE LATEST ATTACKS, POLICE CHIEF ALLAN CANTADO DID SAY THIS WEEK IN A FACEBOOK POST THAT:

"During our investigation into all of these incidents, we have determined that many of them are gang- and/or drug-related."

AND MOST OF THE VIOLENCE HAS BEEN ON OR NEAR SYCAMORE DRIVE. IN RESPONSE, CITY OFFICIALS ARE NOW LOOKING AT MULTIPLE OPTIONS. CHIEF CANTADO ALSO SAID THAT THE CITY WANTS TO BOOST THE NUMBER OF OFFICERS CITYWIDE FROM 88 TO 97. THE DEPARTMENT IS ALSO ORGANIZING POLICE DETAILS THAT WILL FOCUS SPECIFICALLY ON VIOLENT CRIMES IN PROBLEM AREAS LIKE SYCAMORE DRIVE.

BUT CITY OFFICIALS ALSO WANT TO GET THE COMMUNITY INVOLVED, THOROUGH THINGS LIKE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCHES. THAT PROCESS HAS ACTUALLY BEEN GOING ON FOR A WHILE. THIS IS VIDEO FROM A NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING HOSED BY ANTIOCH MAYOR WADE HARPER THAT WAS HELD LAST MONTH ALONG SYCAMORE.

Mayor Harper: "We have a crime problem in this area."

HARPER SAID THEN, EVEN BEFORE THESE LATEST SHOOTINGS, THE CITY NEEDS TO CONFRONT THE PROBLEM ON MULTIPLE FRONTS.

Harper: "I'm really tired of seeing reports of shootings on a regular basis. We need to do something about it."

THE CHIEF ALSO SAID THIS WEEK THAT ONE OF THE PROBLEMS THEY ARE HAVING IS THAT THE VICTIMS IN THESE CASES ARE RELUCTANT TO COME FORWARD WITH INFORMATION AND INVESTIGATORS ARE HAVING A TOUGH TIME IDENTIFYING SUSPECTS.

CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

7/16/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Reaction to new death penalty ruling

A FEDERAL JUDGE SAYS THE DEATH PENALTY IN CALIFORNIA IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL. THE JUDGE SAYS, CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IS IN VIOLATION OF THE EIGHTH AMENDMENT'S PROTECTION AGAINST CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT. THE RULING WAS BASED ON A PETITION BY DEATH ROW INMATE ERNEST DEWAYNE JONES, WHO WAS SENTENCED TO DIE NEARLY TWO DECADES AGO.

THIS COMES AFTER A DECISION EIGHT YEARS AGO SUSPENDED EXECUTIONS IN THE STATE. CALIFORNIA PUT A MORATORIUM ON THE DEATH PENALTY IN 2006 AND HASN'T EXECUTED ANYONE SINCE THEN. THERE ARE CURRENTLY 748 PEOPLE ON DEATH ROW IN THE STATE.

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDER JEFF ADACHI ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AFTER THE RULING. HE SAYS:

Adachi: "Today's ruling which found California's death penalty unconstitutional is a monumental victory for justice... I am hopeful that California Attorney General Kamala Harris will choose not to appeal this decision."

KRON 4'S J.R. STONE TALKED WITH FAMILY MEMBERS OF VICTIMS WHO ARE LEFT SHAKING THEIR HEADS: SCOTT PETERSON, WESLEY SHERMANTINE, RICHARD DAVIS – THREE DEATH ROW INMATES WHO WON'T BE EATING A PLANNED LAST MEAL ANYTIME SOON. WEDNESDAY A FEDERAL JUDGE RULED THAT CALIFORNIA'S DEATH PENALTY IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL. SOME FAMILY MEMBERS OF VICTIMS ARE OUTRAGED.

Marc Klaas: "I think it's a slap in the face to any crime victim in the state of California."

THAT FROM MARC KLAAS WHOSE DAUGHTER POLLY WAS KILLED IN 1993. THE MAN CONVICTED OF KILLING HER, RICHARD DAVIS, IS ON DEATH ROW AT SAN QUENTIN. HE'S BEEN THERE FOR 17 YEARS. WEDNESDAY'S UNCONSTITUTIONAL DECISION COMES 8 YEARS AFTER ANOTHER DECISION SUSPENDED EXECUTIONS IN CALIFORNIA.

Klaas: "Listen this really upsets me in a lot of ways. Shouldn't the victim's rights supersede the rights of those individuals who took our loved ones lives? I certainly think we at least deserve equity in this system."

IN A 29 PAGE DECISION, JUDGE CARNEY WROTE THAT THE PENALTY SYSTEM IN CALIFORNIA IS "PLAGUED BY INORDINATE AND UNPREDICTABLE DELAY," PUTTING THE BLAME ON A SYSTEM THAT HAS EXECUTED JUST 13 PEOPLE SINCE 1978. DEATH PENALTY OPPONENTS HAVE HAILED THE DECISION, BUT MARC KLAAS SAYS TO HIM IT'S ABOUT JUSTICE FOR HIS FAMILY AND OTHERS WHO ARE LEFT WITHOUT THEIR LOVED ONES.

Klaas: "I think it's injustice for Polly for one thing. I think it devalues the crime against her by allowing this guy to live instead of executing him."

THIS JUDGE'S DECISION CAN BE APPEALED BY EITHER THE GOVERNOR OR THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE. OFFICIALS IN THAT OFFICE TELL ME THEY ARE CURRENTLY REVIEWING THE RULING.

JR STONE KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

7/22/14 KRON 4 News at 8 & 11

Antioch residents want something done about crime in their city

ANGRY NEIGHBORS, SICK OF SHOOTINGS, CAME OUT IN DROVES FOR A CRIME MEETING IN ANTIOCH. POLICE SAY CRIME IS DOWN, BUT THE NEIGHBORS DON'T BUY IT. IN FACT, THERE WAS A SHOOTING TODAY WHILE WE WERE COVERING THIS STORY. A VIEWER TOLD US SHE AND OTHERS WERE TAKING A STAND TONIGHT. J.R. STONE HAS MORE IN THIS "MY KRON 4 STORY":

BULLET HOLES IN A RED NISSAN VERSA AFTER GUNSHOTS RING OUT AGAIN IN ANTIOCH.

Unidentified resident: "I've lived here 58 years and the crime right now is the worst it's ever been."

COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN ANTIOCH SAY SCENES LIKE THIS ARE NOW A DAILY OCCURANCE. TUESDAY AFTERNOON TEENAGE GIRLS WERE IN THIS CAR AND SOMEONE OPENED FIRE. FORTUNATELY, NO ONE WAS HURT.

William Banks, Antioch resident: "It's so sad to hear neighbors tell you that they won't come out of their house anymore because of the shootings."

Kathryn Linscheid, Antioch resident: "This is terrible. We've never had this. I've lived in Antioch 58 years. The crime is outrageous, and I want something done, and I want to know what the city is going to do about it."

POLICE SAY THAT VIOLENT CRIME THIS YEAR IS ACTUALLY DOWN, BUT THEIR NUMBERS FOR JULY HAVE YET TO BE TALLIED AND DON'T TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NUMBER OF SHOOTINGS.

Roberta Haynes, Antioch resident: "I hear gunshots behind my house and I call the PD and they're like no, it's firecrackers. I'm like no, I've shot weapons. That's a gun. And no one shows up."

ANTIOCH'S POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALLY HAS 88 OFFICERS. THAT'S WELL BELOW OTHER CITIES OF THEIR SIZE. THEY ARE AIMING TO PUT MORE ON THE STREET, BUT IT IS A SLOW PROCESS.

Royal Corralejo, Antioch resident: "I talked to a police officer who said that he is working 18-20 hours a day days. He's just so tired and he doesn't have enough back up."

Kathryn Linscheid: "There's people who are afraid to even leave their home."

Unidentified Antioch resident; "Right now we need to do more. We need people to step up to the plate."

POLICE DID PRESENT SOME CRIME STATISTICS TO THE CITY COUNCIL THIS EVENING. THEY SAY SHOOTING-WISE THEY ARE ALMOST IDENTICAL THIS YEAR TO WHAT THEY SAW LAST YEAR AND THE YEAR BEFORE. MEANWHILE ONE OF THE BIG CHURCHES IN THIS AREA HAS SCHEDULED A RALLY AND MARCH AGAINST THE VIOLENCE. THAT WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY MORNING.

JR STONE KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

8/19/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Community response to help school victimized by burglars

WE'RE FOLLOWING UP ON A STORY WE BROUGHT YOU LAST NIGHT, ABOUT AN EAST BAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BURGLARIZED BY THIEVES, NOT ONCE BUT TWICE. IT WAS A MY-KRON-4 STORY LAST NIGHT AT 8. THE PRINCIPAL CONTACTED US ASKING FOR HELP, SO WE TOOK OUR CAMERA TO THE SCHOOL. KRON 4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS IS BACK WITH SOME GOOD NEWS FOR THE SCHOOL:

IT'S PRETTY AMAZING. LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER WE FIRST REPORTED THE BREAK-INS AT COLONIAL ACRES SCHOOL, VIEWERS HAVE STEPPED UP FOR THE STUDENTS.

COLONIAL ACRES SCHOOL IN HAYWARD WAS BROKEN INTO TWICE. FIRST THE SCHOOL SUPPLY CLOSET WAS HIT, CLEANED OUT OF COMPUTERS AND SCISSORS. THE NEXT TARGET WAS THE SPORTS EQUIPMENT LOCKER, RIPPING OFF THINGS LIKE BASKETBALLS AND BASEBALL BATS.

THE SCHOOL WAS WIPED OUT. AND JUST BEFORE SCHOOL IS SET TO OPEN NEXT WEEK. SO WE SHOT THE VIDEO, AND RAN THE PRINCIPAL'S STORY. BOY, WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES.

THE PRINCIPAL GOT BACK IN TOUCH WITH US THIS AFTERNOON. APPARENTLY HER STORY TOUCHED A NERVE AND FOLKS HAVE BEEN DROPPING OFF SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND SPORTS EQUIPMENT ALL DAY LONG, TO HELP THE SCHOOL GET BACK ON TRACK.

HERE'S A CELLPHONE PICTURE SHE TOOK SHOWING SOME OF THE PENCILS, TAPE DISPENSERS AND SOCCER BALLS THAT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED SO FAR. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN CASH DONATIONS TOTALING MORE THAN 14 THOUSAND DOLLARS. AND EVEN AN OFFER FROM ONE KRON VIEWER TO INSTALL SECURITY CAMERAS, SO THAT THE RIP-OFFS NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN.

REALLY SHOWS THE GENEROSITY OF PEOPLE IN A TIME OF NEED. AND IT WENT BEYOND THEIR WILDEST IMAGINATIONS. IN FACT, THE COLONIAL ACRES SCHOOL NOW HAS A BIT OF A SURPLUS – UNHEARD OF IN THESE TIMES – AS WELL AS A REALLY BIG LESSON FOR THE STUDENTS.

VICKI LIVIAKIS KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

8/28/14 KRON 4 News at 11pm

State passes new bill to address campus rape crisis

CALIFORNIA STATE LAWMAKERS HAVE PASSED A FIRST-EVER BILL WHICH DEFINES "SEXUAL CONSENT" ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES. THIS COMES AFTER COLLEGES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES HAVE COME UNDER PRESSURE TO CHANGE HOW THEY HANDLE SEXUAL ASSAULT ON CAMPUS. KRON4'S SCOTT RATES HAS MORE:

BACK IN APRIL OF THIS YEAR, SEVERAL UC BERKELEY STUDENTS, VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, CAME FORWARD, SPEAKING OUT TO SAY THEY WANTED TO SEE MORE DONE TO PREVENT SEXUAL ASSAULTS ON CAMPUS.

NOW STATE LAWMAKERS HAVE UNANIMOUSLY PASSED A BILL THEY SAY WILL START TO HELP CALIFORNIA CAMPUSES PREVENT AND INVESTIGATE SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES. DEMOCRATIC SENATOR KEVIN DEON FROM LOS ANGELES LAID OUT THE BILL

THE BILL WOULD CHANGE THE LANGUAGE FROM “NO MEANS NO” TO “YES MEANS YES”. THE DEFINITION OF CONSENT UNDER THE BILL REQUIRES AN “AFFIRMATIVE, UNAMBIGUOUS AND CONSCIOUS DECISION BY EACH PARTY” TO ENGAGE IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY.

STUDENTS I SPOKE WITH ON CAMPUS TELL ME THEY THINK THIS COULD BE A GOOD FIRST STEP, HOWEVER THEY HOPE THE FOCUS WILL BE ON HELPING VICTIMS.

Student: “This sounds like it’s helping the process for the university, but I think it also needs to help the victims get through the process easier.”

THE NEW BILL APPLIES TO ALL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ACCEPTING STATE FINANCIAL AID.

SCOTT RATES KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

9/2/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Worrisome trends in parking garage thefts

UNION SQUARE PARKING OFFICIALS ARE SEEING A SPIKE IN THEFTS IN A PARKING GARAGE THAT SERVES THE POPULAR SHOPPING DISTRICT. THEY ADMIT SOME CONCERN, WANTING TO GET A HANDLE ON THINGS SO SHOPPERS WILL FEEL COMFORTABLE BEFORE THE BUSY HOLIDAY SHOPPING SEASON KICKS IN. KRON 4'S ALECIA REID EXPLAINS FROM SAN FRANCISCO:

THIS IS AN EXTREMELY BUSY GARAGE AND DRIVERS PARKING INSIDE FOR ANY AMOUNT OF TIME SHOULD KNOW THAT THE NUMBER OF BREAK-INS THAT HAPPEN HERE IS MUCH HIGHER THAN AT ANY OTHER GARAGE IN THE AREA.

Kevin Barrett, uses Sutter Stockton garage: “I’ve seen things. So I’m alert. Situational awareness. Things happen. I saw a guy loitering who seemed to be watching people.”

WITHIN THE LAST YEAR, POLICE SAY THERE HAVE BEEN 80 REPORTED CAR BREAK-INS. BUT THE ACTUAL NUMBER MAY BE EVEN HIGHER. CUSTOMERS WHO REGULARLY PARK THEIR CARS AT SUTTER-STOCKTON SAY THEY’VE SEEN SHADY BEHAVIOR IN THE GARAGE BEFORE.

Barrett: “Strange people who were not there to park their car, wandering around. And the men’s bathroom there’s regularly homeless men hanging out in there.”

PAUL ROSE FROM THE SFMTA SAYS THEY ARE WORKING WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND UPTOWN PARKING CORPORATION TO MAKE THE FACILITY MORE SECURE. THAT MEANS UPGRADING THE GARAGE’S SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM AND ADDING MORE CAMERAS IN THE LONG RUN.

Rose: “What we’re doing is upgrading and repairing the surveillance cameras in the garage so we have better equipment to work with and we are working with police to develop brochures to inform customers about the rash of break-ins at the garage and educate them to be as safe as possible.”

ROSE SAYS THAT THE FACILITY’S TWO-YEAR BUDGET WAS JUST FULFILLED AND THERE’S NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS LEFT OVER THAT CAN GO TOWARDS MORE CAMERAS, BUT THEY ARE LOOKING INTO POSSIBLE GRANTS AND OTHER OPTIONS. HE SAYS DRIVERS SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT LEAVING VISIBLE OBJECTS IN THEIR CARS WILL ATTRACT THIEVES. PUTTING EVERYTHING AWAY AND OUT OF SIGHT MAKES IT

ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR A THIEF TO FIGURE OUT IF THERE ACTUALLY IS ANYTHING OF VALUE IN YOUR VEHICLE.

ALECIA REID KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

9/8/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Ray Rice case and the issue of domestic violence

PUBLIC OUTCRY AFTER AN INCREDIBLY DISTURBING VIDEO RELEASED TODAY OF BALTIMORE RAVENS RUNNING BACK RAY RICE KNOCKING OUT HIS THEN-FIANCEE INSIDE AN ELEVATOR IN ATLANTIC CITY.

TODAY, THE RAVENS CUT RICE AND THE NFL FOLLOWED SUIT BY SUSPENDING THE STAR RUNNING BACK IN-DEFINITELY. JUSTINE WALDMAN JOINS US IN THE STUDIO TONIGHT WITH MORE ON THE STORY:

WHEN THE STORY FIRST BROKE: THE BALTIMORE RAVENS SUSPENDED RICE FOR JUST TWO GAMES. PLENTY OF PEOPLE WERE UPSET ABOUT THAT DECISION AT THE TIME. NOW, THIS NEW VIDEO HAS SET OFF A FIRESTORM.

THE NEW TMZ VIDEO BEGINS IN AN ATLANTIC CITY HOTEL LOBBY. RICE IS AT THE TOP OF THE SCREEN. HIS FIANCEE JANAY PALMER WALKS BY AND APPEARS TO PUSH HIM ANGRILY. THE TWO ENTER THE ELEVATOR. BEFORE THE DOORS EVEN CLOSE, THEY ARE SHOVING EACH OTHER. THE CONFRONTATION ENDS WITH A PUNCH. IN SLOW MOTION YOU CAN SEE PALMER'S HEAD HIT THE ELEVATOR HANDRAIL AND SHE FALLS UNCONSCIOUS TO THE FLOOR. THEN RICE DRAGS HER HALFWAY OUT OF THE ELEVATOR. WE'VE SEEN THIS PART OF THE INCIDENT BEFORE IN ANOTHER SURVEILLANCE VIDEO RELEASED LAST SPRING.

RICE AND PALMER MARRIED ON MARCH 28, ONE DAY AFTER A GRAND JURY INDICTED RICE FOR AGGRAVATED ASSAULT. SHE REFUSED TO TESTIFY AGAINST HIM AND RICE AVOIDED JAIL TIME BY ENTERING A PRETRIAL DIVERSIONARY PROGRAM.

TODAY THE NFL SAID THE ELEVATOR VIDEO WAS QUOTE "NOT MADE AVAILABLE TO US AND NO ONE IN OUR OFFICE HAS SEEN IT UNTIL TODAY." THE RAVENS TWEETED THAT THEY HAD IMMEDIATELY TERMINATED HIS CONTRACT. COACH JOHN HARBAUGH EXPRESSED HIS SADNESS AND HIS SUPPORT FOR RICE AND HIS WIFE.

Harbaugh: "When someone you care about does wrong and is faced with the consequences of doing wrong and rightfully so, it is tough. It is hurtful. My pain is for both of them as a couple."

FANS REACTED ON THE RAVENS' WEBSITE, ONE FAN WRITING:

"Ray Rice was not cut because "they" saw that video. He is cut because "you" saw that video."

PEOPLE ARE ALSO SOUNDING OFF ON TWITTER. THE MAJORITY OF TWEETS - 73% OF THEM - ARE NEGATIVE, COMING FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE MAD AT RAY RICE FOR WHAT HE DID. POSITIVE TWEETS COME FROM PEOPLE APPLAUDING THE NFL AND THE RAVENS FOR THE SWIFT PUNISHMENT AFTER THEY SAW THE VIDEO FOOTAGE.

CONTINUING OUR TEAM COVERAGE, THE RAVENS' DECISION TO CUT RICE FROM THE TEAM IS GETTING A MIXED REACTION FROM ANTI-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATES. AS KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN TELLS US, WHILE THEY ARE PLEASED HE HAS BEEN DISCIPLINED, THEY ARE DISAPPOINTED IT TOOK VIDEO OF THE ABUSE FOR IT TO HAPPEN:

ANTI-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATES SAYS THE RAVENS FIRING OF RAY RICE AND THE NFL'S INDEFINITE SUSPENSION OF RICE IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

Carolyn Thomas-Russell, A Safe Place: "We are pleased to see there is some action that has taken place."

BUT CAROLYN THOMAS-RUSSELL WITH THE BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTER A SAFE PLACE SAYS IT SHOULD NOT BE THE PUBLIC RELEASE OF THIS VIDEO THAT FORCES THE N.F.L. TO DO THE RIGHT THING

Thomas-Russell: "Had this not been captured on film, had we not seen the images of the abuse and the level of abuse that took place, had this been a word of mouth, had this been just her word, because most often the burden of proof is on the victim, had we not truly seen the images would this discipline have occurred today? I don't believe so."

THOMAS RUSSELL SAYS THE NFL HAS IGNORED THE PROBLEM FOR YEARS, AND IS NOW JUST WAKING UP TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ITS RANKS... SHE SAYS IT STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO.. CASE IN POINT,THE 49ERS ALLOWING DEFENSIVE LINEMAN RAY MCDONALD TO CONTINUE PLAYING DESPITE HIS ARREST FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Thomas-Russell: "Unless these players are penalized, there is no way we will ever be able to feel comfortable to talk about this issue. Victims, wives, girlfriends will not come forward until a very strong message is sent."

ANTI-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATES SAY IF THE NFL REALLY WANTS TO TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY, THEY NEED TO PUT PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN PLACE TO STOP THESE THINGS FROM HAPPENING IN THE FIRST PLACE.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

9/9/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Has Apple found a way to make online transactions safe from hackers?

TONIGHT ONE OF THE BIG QUESTIONS BEING ASKED ABOUT THE NEW I-PHONE IS HOW SECURE IS IT? LAST MONTH, THERE WAS AN I-CLOUD BREACH AND TODAY NEWS OF AN ALL NEW 'APPLE PAY' SYSTEM , ALLOWING YOU TO PAY FOR THINGS WITH THE NEW I-PHONE. KRON 4'S J.R. STONE IS FOLLOWING THE STORY AND JOINS US TONIGHT WITH MORE ON THE SAFETY OF THIS PHONE:

THIS NEW APPLE FEATURE IS THE TALK OF THE DAY. THE TECHNOLOGY IS CALLED NFC AND IT HAS BEEN AROUND FOR A WHILE, BUT THE SECURITY INTEGRATION IS WHAT PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT.

IT'S CALLED APPLE PAY AND IT ENABLES YOU TO PAY WITH THE NEW IPHONE 6 OR IPHONE 6 PLUS., MEANING YOU DON'T NEED YOUR CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD. INSTEAD YOU SCAN YOUR PHONE.

Erica Sandberg, consumer expert: "That magnetic strip is many decades old now. It's ancient technology. This is definitely a step in the right direction."

BUT JUST HOW SAFE IS USING YOUR PHONE AS A WALLET? LAST MONTH, DOZENS OF ICLOUD ACCOUNTS WERE HACKED. PRIVATE PICTURES OF JENNIFER LAWRENCE AND OTHER STARS WENT PUBLIC. APPLE PAY, THOUGH, IS NOT PART OF ICLOUD.

TUESDAY APPLE CEO TIM COOK EXPLAINED SOME OF THE SECURITY MEASURES WITH THE NEW I-PHONES.

Cook: "We don't store the credit card number and we don't give it to the merchant. We store it safely in the secure element. Each time you pay, we use a one-time payment number along with a dynamic security code."

EXPERTS WE TALKED WITH EXPLAIN HOW HACKERS HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN ABLE TO GET YOUR INFORMATION.

Sandberg: "The magnetic strip on traditional credit card you swipe it. It stays on the point of sale system and that's where crooks have been able to make away with sensitive data when they hack into it."

WITH THIS NEW PHONE THAT INFORMATION WON'T BE THERE. ALSO, WHEN USING APPLE PAY, PAYMENTS MUST BE AUTHORIZED WITH YOUR FINGERPRINT.

Sandberg: "It's either gonna be "Yay! I'm so excited!" or "Ew! I'm so scared!" because there have been so many data breaches lately that people are understandably nervous."

THE SECURITY FEATURES THAT APPLE APPEARS TO HAVE IN PLACE FOR THIS SYSTEM WERE NOT IN PLACE FOR THE PAST COMPANIES THAT USED THIS KFC TECHNOLOGY. ALSO, WE ARE NOW SEEING BUSINESSES AND BANKS JUMP ON TO THESE IDEAS BY BUYING THE ACTUAL EQUIPMENT NECESSARY SO THAT THESE PHONES CAN BE USED. THAT'S SOMETHING THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN IN THE PAST.

JR STONE KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

9/11/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Oakland crime rate numbers down

GOOD NEWS FOR THE CITY OF OAKLAND. THE CITY IS SEEING A DECREASE IN SOME SERIOUS CRIMES. KRON 4 CAUGHT UP WITH THE POLICE CHIEF AS HE WAS MEETING WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS TODAY:

Chief Sean Whent, Oakland Police Department: "Overall our crime is down significantly this year. Our murders as of today are down, 23 below last year's number. We've gone six weeks in the summertime without a murder in Oakland. Robberies are down 37%. Residential burglaries are down 31%. So we are seeing some significant reductions in some very serious crimes which we find encouraging."

CAN YOU REMEMBER THE LAST TIME IN OAKLAND WITHOUT A HOMICIDE OVER A SIX WEEK PERIOD?

Chief Whent: "I honestly cannot remember the last time we went this long. And that's sad to say."

CRIME

9/18/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Another retailer another data breach

HOME DEPOT NOW SAYS AN ASTOUNDING 56 MILLION CREDIT CARDS WERE COMPROMISED IN ITS RECENT DATA BREACH. THE COMPANY SAYS THE MALWARE THAT CAUSED THE BREACH HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM NETWORKS IN THE U.S. AND CANADA AND THE COMPANY HAS ALREADY FINISHED A NEW ENCRYPTION PROGRAM TO MAKE DATA SAFER. A VERSION OF THAT WILL HIT CANADA IN 2015. THE BREACH OCCURED BETWEEN APRIL AND SEPTMBER OF THIS YEAR. HOME DEPOT IS OFFERING FREE IDENTITY PROTECTION SERVICES TO ANY CUSTOMERS WHO SHOPPED DURING THAT TIME.

HERE TO HELP US EXPLORE THESE DATA SECURITY PROBLEMS IS SETH BROMBERGER, HIGH TECH SECURITY EXPERT.. HIS COMPANY IS N-C-I SECURITY, BASED IN SAN FRNACISCO. SETH, 56 MILLION – WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Bromberger: "This is one of the largest breaches on record. I think it could actually have been a lot worse. The recent Target breach was 40 million. That hit during the peak shopping season. From what we know about the investigation so far, this breach affected a sub-set of stores and a sub-set of terminals in the stores. So it was a longer operation, but fewer cards per month were compromised.

CUSTOMERS ARE STARTING TO FEEL "THESE STORES ARE NOT TAKING CARE OF US. WE ARE NOT BEING PROTECTED." WHAT WOULD BE THE RESPONSE TO THAT?

Bromberger: "To a certain extent that is true, although customers are not responsible, with certain exceptions, for fraudulent charges. So aside from the inconvenience there is not a monetary concern."

BUT YOU FEEL SO VULNERABLE. WHO KNOWS WHERE YOUR DATA IS AND WHERE IT GOES FROM THE FIRST SET OF CRIMINALS TO THE NEXT SET OF CRIMINALS. WHAT OTHER ADVICE IS THERE FOR CUSTOMERS.

Bromberger: "Customers who shopped at Home Depot during this time frame need to be particularly vigilant, scrutinizing their credit card statements."

WHY ARE THESE COMPANIES LAGGING SO FAR BEHIND THE CRIMINALS? IS IT A MONEY ISSUE THAT COMPANIES DON'T WANT TO SPEND THE MONEY TO UPGRADE?

Bromberger: "To a certain extent it is, but the criminals are getting smarter as well. So it's a game of leap frog."

HOME DEPOT SAYS IT HAS A NEW ENCRYPTION SERVICE. SHOULD THE COMPANIES CHANGE THEIR ENCRYPTION EVERY FEW MONTHS JUST LIKE CONSUMERS ARE SUPPOSED TO CHANGE THEIR PASSWORDS EVERY FEW MONTHS?

Bromberger: "Without knowing the details of their security, they were certainly lacking in this event. But I don't know what they have planned on-going."

THANKS SETH. AND WHEN YOU TALK TO YOUR COMPANIES, TELL THEM THE CUSTOMERS WANT SOME ACTION ON THIS!!

ECONOMY

ECONOMY

7/16/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Chocolate prices on the rise

CHOCOLATE LOVERS – YOU'RE IN FOR SOME BITTER SWEET NEWS. THE COST OF YOUR BELOVED TREAT IS STARTING TO SOAR. KRON 4'S SCOTT RATES EXPLAINS WHY AND TALKS WITH THE OWNER OF A LOCAL CHOCOLATE BUSINESS WHICH IS FEELING THE IMPACT FIRST HAND:

FOR SOME, IT'S JUST A TASTY DESSERT. FOR OTHERS, WELL, IT'S A FORM OF THERAPY.

BUT HOW MUCH LONGER WILL YOU BE ABLE TO AFFORD THIS SWEET TREAT? FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THREE YEARS, HERSHEY'S HAS RAISED THE PRICE OF THEIR CHOCOLATE. AND NOT JUST BY A LITTLE – BY 8%! BUT THE IMPACTS ARE BEING FELT FAR BEYOND JUST HERSHEY'S.

Dennis Kearny, East Bay chocolatier: "We have been slowly raising prices."

DENNIS KEARNY OWNS COCO DELICE. YOU'VE PROBABLY SEEN HIS PRODUCTS ON STORE SHELVES. TODAY HE SHOWED ME AROUND HIS EMERYVILLE PRODUCTION FACILITY. HIS BUSINESS IS THE WINNER OF THE 2014 GOOD FOODS AWARD, SO HE KNOWS A THING OR TWO ABOUT CHOCOLATE AND WHY THE PRICE OF COCO IS ANYTHING BUT SWEET.

Kearny: The main thing is just increased interest in chocolate, consumer interest. Especially in developing countries, is what I understand. So there is increased demand and there are weather changes coming along that are complicating the growing seasons. But it's mainly the demand.:

AND DENNIS TELLS ME AS CHOCOLATE PRICES GO UP MAYBE LITTLE TREATS LIKE THIS TRUFFLE WILL NO LONGER BE SUCH AN EVERYDAY THING.

Kearny: "There's speculation out there. I don't know what the timeframe is maybe 10 years or 20 years. But it's not going to go down. There's only so much chocolate to go around. I think people need to get used to the fact that prices are going to keep creeping up and either they're going to make the products smaller or they're going to find something else to help minimize the amount of coco solids or coco butter they need to put into the product."

SCOTT RATES KRON 4 NEWS

ECONOMY

7/17/14 KRON 4 Evening News

San Francisco protest demonstration puts spotlight on economic issues

A GROUP OF ADVOCATES CONCERNED ABOUT ISSUES OF INEQUALITY RALLIED ON THE STEPS OF SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL TODAY TO BRING ATTENTION TO THREE BALLOT MEASURES ON THE CITY'S NOVEMBER BALLOT.

MEMBERS OF THE COALITION FOR A FAIR ECONOMY ARE SEEKING SUPPORT FOR MEASURES THAT WILL CALL FOR MORE LOW INCOME HOUSING, A FIFTEEN DOLLAR MINIMUM WAGE AND LEGISLATION AIMED AT HOUSING SPECULATORS.

Coalition spokesperson: "Housing balance is about making sure that the new construction that is being built that at least thirty per cent of it is affordable for sixty percent of our residents. The second is if you are going to be a speculator and potentially evicting tenants that there is a tax that is placed on people who flip their building. The last of course is to raise the minimum wage. We know that people are making more here and it's incredibly expensive to live here."

AFTER THE RALLY, THE DEMONSTRATORS WENT INSIDE CITY HALL TO TAKE THEIR CONCERNS TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RULES COMMITTEE.

ECONOMY

8/9/14 KRON 4 Weekend Morning News

Booming economy creates commercial real estate boom and surprising beneficiaries

AN UNDERGROUND BATTLE IS BREWING IN SAN FRANCISCO. OFFICE SPACE IS LIMITED. SO, MARKET RATES ARE SKYROCKETING. WE'RE HEARING THAT THE PRICE PER SQUARE FOOT IN SOME AREAS IS NEARING THE TRIPLE DIGITS, WITH LANDLORDS ENTERTAINING MULTIPLE BIDS. OUR CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EXPERT KYM MCNICHOLAS IS HERE WITH KALIN KELLY, A REAL ESTATE BROKER WITH CM COMMERCIAL, TO EXPLAIN WHAT'S HAPPENING:

SUMMARY OF POINTS RAISED IN THE INTERVIEW:

IT'S A LANDLORD'S MARKET RIGHT NOW

2 GROUPS HAVING A PARTICULARLY HARD TIME:

- SMALL COMPANIES WITH 10-15 EMPLOYEES LOOKING TO GET OUT OF SHARED OFFICE/INCUBATOR SPACES INTO THEIR OWN SPACE OF 3000SF
- AND VERY LARGE COMPANIES LOOKING FOR 100,000SF WHERE THEY MIGHT HAVE ONLY 10 OPTIONS TO CHOOSE FROM IN THE ENTIRE CITY SO COMPETITION IS FIERCE.
- EXAMPLE OF SALESFORCE WHICH HAD TO BUILD ITS OWN BUILDING IN ORDER TO HOUSE ALL ITS EMPLOYEES IN ONE LOCATION (CURRENTLY SPLIT INTO 5 LOCATIONS AROUND THE CITY)

GRAPHIC SHOWING VACANCY RATES AND PRICES FOR VARIOUS NEIGHBORHOODS:

- MOST EXTREME IS SOMA NEIGHBORHOOD WITH ONLY A 4% VACANCY RATE AND AVERAGE ASKING OF \$60-85/SF
 - SOMA HAS 58% OF ALL TECH IN THE CITY; LOOKING FOR CREATIVE OFFICE SPACE BUILDOUTS, EASE OF PUBLIC TRANSIT; PROXIMITY TO OTHER TECH COMPANIES FOR POACHING OPPORTUNITIES
- WHAT ABOUT MID-MARKET AND MISSION BAY/DOGPATCH WHERE VACANCY RATES ARE MUCH HIGHER? THESE AREAS HAVE REQUIRED REZONING FROM THE CITY AND THE CITY HAS BEEN LENIENT IN THAT REGARD TO GET COMPANIES INTO THOSE AREAS
- THERE IS TALK OF MOVEMENT INTO BAYVIEW WHICH IN THE PAST WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED DESIRABLE;
 - A LOT OF VIOLENCE AND POVERTY IN THE AREA; TECH MOVEMENT INTO THAT AREA COULD BE HELPFUL
 - RATES ARE AS LOW AS \$1/SF WHICH IS ENTICING TO TENANTS LOOKING FOR LARGE SPACES AND PRICED OUT OF THE MORE TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOODS
- EXPANDING INTO THE MISSION DISTRICT IS CONTROVERSIAL BECAUSE OF THE RESIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND THE ZONING RESTRICTIONS

COMPANIES ARE BEING CREATIVE WITH THE USE OF "WORKSHOP CAFES"

- THIS REPRESENTS A TREND IN WHAT COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE IS EVOLVING INTO
- CAFES ARE CAPITALIZING ON THE TIGHTNESS IN THE MARKET, SUCCESSFULLY OFFERING HOURLY, DAILY, WEEKLY SUBSCRIPTION FEES

ECONOMY

8/29/14 KRON 4 Evening News
Gas prices low for the holiday weekend

WHATEVER TRAFFIC PROBLEMS YOU MIGHT RUN INTO THIS LABOR DAY WEEKEND... THEY WON'T INCLUDE THE PRICE OF GAS BECAUSE GAS PRICES ARE FALLING.

IN FACT, THEY'RE THE LOWEST SINCE 2010. NATIONWIDE, THE AVERAGE PRICE OF A GALLON OF REGULAR IS NOW \$3.41 A GALLON. THAT'S BECAUSE CRUDE OIL PRICES HAVE FALLEN – DESPITE TURMOIL IN THE MIDEAST AND RUSSIA. ALSO, AMERICA IS PRODUCING MORE OIL ON ITS OWN.

GAS HAS BEEN GETTING CHEAPER SINCE JULY AND PRICES ARE EXPECTED TO KEEP SLIDING THROUGH NOVEMBER.

AS FOR THE BAY AREA PRICES, IN SAN FRANCISCO, GAS IS JUST OVER FOUR DOLLARS A GALLON. IT WAS \$4.12 A MONTH AGO. IN SAN JOSE...IT'S \$3.88. THAT'S DOWN 11 CENTS FROM MONTH AGO. AND IN OAKLAND, A GALLON OF REGULAR THERE IS \$3.90, DOWN FROM \$4.01 A MONTH AGO.

ECONOMY

9/9/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Economic impact of Napa earthquake

CALL IT BOTTLE SHOCK AND STICKER SHOCK. NAPA WINE-MAKERS MAY BE CRYING OVER SPILLED WINE TONIGHT. THE DAMAGE REPORTS ARE NOW OUT FOLLOWING NAPA'S 6.0 EARTHQUAKE, AND THEY'RE SIGNIFICANT.

THE TALLY FROM NAPA'S BIG QUAKE IS COMING IN AT MORE THAN 80 MILLION DOLLARS. AND THAT'S CONSIDERED A CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE. THE REPORT, ISSUED BY SILICON VALLEY BANK'S WINE DIVISION, SAYS MORE THAN HALF OF NAPA COUNTY WINERIES SUSTAINED SOME DEGREE OF DAMAGE.

THAT INCLUDES BUILDINGS, BOTTLES AND BARRELS. LOST REVENUE TO TASTING ROOMS. PLUS, DELAYED HARVEST WHICH IS GOING ON NOW. LOSSES RANGE FROM \$50 THOUSAND PER WINERY UP TO \$8 MILLION IN THE MOST DEVASTATING CIRCUMSTANCES, AND THE PRICE TAG IS EXPECTED TO GO UP, AS WINERIES DISCOVER MORE DAMAGE. EXPERTS SAY THIS SHOULDN'T TRANSLATE INTO HIGHER PRICES FOR A BOTTLE OF WINE, BUT THAT'S YET TO BE SEEN. AND THE REALLY BAD NEWS FOR SOME OF THE SMALLER WINERIES? MANY WERE NOT COVERED BY EARTHQUAKE INSURANCE. SO THE LOSSES WILL BE COMING OUT OF THEIR OWN POCKETS.

VICKI LIVIAKIS KRON 4 NEWS.

ECONOMY

9/17/14 KRON 4 Evening News
Positive economic indicators in retail sector

IT'S A BIG YEAR FOR HOLIDAY HIRING. RETAILER KOHL'S SAYS IT WILL HIRE MORE THAN 67 THOUSAND SEASONAL WORKERS. THAT'S ABOUT A THIRD MORE THAN LAST HOLIDAY SEASON. ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION, A RETAILER'S HIRING PLANS CAN INDICATE ITS EXPECTATIONS FOR THE HOLIDAY SHOPPING SEASON..

A BOOM IN ONLINE SHOPPING IS BOOSTING BUSINESS FOR FED EX. THE COMPANY SAYS IT'S PLANNING AHEAD FOR A BUSY HOLIDAY SEASON. FED EX ANNOUNCED IT WILL HIRE 50 THOUSAND SEASONAL WORKERS. THAT NUMBER UP FROM 20 THOUSAND LAST YEAR

AND FED-EX RIVAL U-P-S SAYS IT'S HIRING 95 THOUSAND SEASONAL WORKERS. THAT, TOO, IS AN INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR WHEN THE COMPANY ADMITS IT WAS UNPREPARED FOR A DELUGE OF ONLINE ORDERS. SEASONAL WORKERS WILL BE PAID AT LEAST 10 DOLLARS AN HOUR TO SORT PACKAGES, LOAD TRUCKS AND ASSIST DRIVERS IN MAKING DELIVERIES. U-P-S SAYS AFTER THE HOLIDAY SEASON, MANY OF THE TEMPORARY JOBS COULD BECOME FULL-TIME POSITIONS.

ECONOMY

9/18/14 KRON 4 Evening News

The polarizing economy

GOOGLE BUSES, TEN DOLLAR LATTES AND 3 THOUSAND DOLLAR A MONTH STUDIO APARTMENTS. TODAY THE CENSUS BUREAU RELEASED NEW NUMBERS CONFIRMING WHAT ALL THE EVIDENCE INDICATES: SAN FRANCISCO IS BECOMING A CITY WHERE THE HAVES ARE FAST REPLACING THE HAVE NOTS

SEVENTY-NINE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS MAY SOUND LIKE A LOT OF MONEY, BUT IF YOU MADE THAT MUCH LAST YEAR, YOU ARE ONLY MIDWAY BETWEEN SAN FRANCISCO'S HIGHEST AND LOWEST HOUSEHOLD INCOMES. NEW CENSUS BUREAU STATS SHOWS THE SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND-HAYWARD REGION IS THE SECOND RICHEST IN THE COUNTRY BEHIND WASHINGTON, DC.

SAN FRANCISCO HAD BY FAR THE BIGGEST YEARLY INCREASE OF ALL THE COUNTRY'S BIG METROPOLITAN AREAS. BUT ALL THAT MONEY IS NOT TRICKLING DOWN. THE CITY'S POVERTY RATE WAS VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED. AT THE SAME TIME, THE FEDERAL RESERVE SAYS AMERICA HAS NEVER BEEN RICHER. THE NET WORTH OF ALL U.S. HOUSEHOLDS REACHED A RECORD 81.5 TRILLION DOLLARS LAST QUARTER. THAT NUMBER WENT UP BY ONE POINT SEVEN TRILLION DOLLARS SINCE APRIL. MOST OF THE INCREASE WAS DUE TO RISING STOCK PRICES, MEANING THE VERY RICH BENEFITED THE MOST.

ONE EXAMPLE IS MANHATTAN WHICH IS BECOMING AN ISLAND OF CONTRASTS. LAST YEAR, THE TOP 5 PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS EARNED 864 THOUSAND DOLLARS OR 88 TIMES AS MUCH AS THE POOREST 20 PERCENT. THAT'S THE BIGGEST INCOME GAP OF ANY COUNTY IN THE COUNTRY. AS A SIDE NOTE, THE CENSUS BUREAU REPORT ALSO FOUND THAT ABOUT 26 PERCENT OF THE NATION'S HOUSEHOLDS STILL HAVE NO ACCESS TO ANY FORM OF THE INTERNET AND 16 PERCENT DO NOT HAVE A DESKTOP, LAPTOP, TABLET OR A SMARTPHONE.

ECONOMY

9/28/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Economic impact of ongoing drought

THE STATE DROUGHT IS ALSO AFFECTING THIS YEAR'S FALL HARVEST. OFFICIALS SAY STATE CROPS WILL BE SMALLER THAN USUAL THIS YEAR DUE TO THE DROUGHT. THE WATER SHORTAGE WILL AFFECT RICE, ORANGES, AND PISTACHIO CROPS – JUST TO NAME A FEW.

ABOUT 420 THOUSAND ACRES OF FARMLAND, OR ABOUT 5 PERCENT OF THE STATE'S TOTAL, HAS GONE UNPLANTED THIS YEAR. ADDITIONALLY, ECONOMISTS SAY THE AGRICULTURE BUSINESS WILL SUFFER ABOUT 2.2 BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF REVENUE LOSSES AND HIGHER WATER COSTS THIS YEAR.

DIVERSITY

DIVERSITY

7/15/14 KRON 4 News at 8 & 11pm

Issues of freedom of speech and hate speech in local government

IT IS LOUD DISRUPTIONS LIKE THIS ONE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS IN RICHMOND SAY ARE RUINING THEIR MEETINGS. SO THEY ARE TRYING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT TONIGHT. THERE'S A COUNCIL MEETING GOING ON RIGHT NOW, AND ON THE AGENDA IS A PLAN TO STOP THESE KINDS OF OUTBURSTS. KRON 4'S ALECIA REID IS LIVE NOW IN RICHMOND TO EXPLAIN:

TONIGHT'S CITY COUNCIL MEETING IS PACKED, AND THERE ARE OVER 50 SPEAKERS WAITING TO EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS ON THE VICE MAYOR'S PROPOSAL. VICE MAYOR BECKLES TELLS ME THAT THIS PROPOSAL CAME ABOUT BECAUSE OF OUTBURSTS FROM ONE PARTICULAR GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT CONSTANTLY DISRUPTS THE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS.

DURING THE 4 YEARS SHE'S BEEN IN OFFICE, THIS IS WHAT VICE MAYOR JOVANKA BECKLES SAYS SHE'S HAD TO DEAL WITH – TAUNTING FROM A GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT SHE CLAIMS SHOW UP TO EVERY CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO HARASS HER.

THERE ARE YOUTUBE VIDEOS OF CONSTANT OUTBURSTS DURING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS. THE PLAN IS TO HAVE THE CITY MANAGER AND POLICE CHIEF COME UP WITH POSSIBLE OPTIONS ON RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING DISRUPTIONS. VICE MAYOR BECKLES SAYS MOST OF THE HATEFUL TAUNTS ARE DIRECTED AT HER.

Vice Mayor Beckles: "I am the face of the hate that we are seeing. But I'm a representative of the many, many people those attacks are being directed towards. And we're talking about immigrant people of color of African descent, we're talking about women, and we're talking about queer people."

BUT KENNETH DAVIS FROM THE BAY AREA COALITION OF CONCERNED CITIZENS SAYS:

Davis: "She's more of a disruption than anyone I know of. This resolution should be drafted for her and not for the people she says are always against her. I have too many gay members of my family. I have too many gay friends to be that stupid. I am against the sin, but not the sinner."

THE ALTERCATION THAT HAPPENED AT THE END OF THE LAST MEETING GOT VERY HEATED AND I'M TOLD THE FRICTION GETS WORSE. BOTH BECKLES AND DAVIS ARE RUNNING FOR A SEAT ON THE CITY COUNCIL. AS FOR TONIGHT, THAT PROPOSAL IS THE LAST ITEM ON THE AGENDA. WE'LL HAVE DETAILS IN THE 11PM NEWSCAST.

LIVE IN RICHMOND ALECIA REID KRON 4 NEWS

EMOTIONS ARE REACHING THE BOILING POINT. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS IN RICHMOND SAY DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR HAS PLAGUED THEIR MEETINGS, AND THEY WANT TO STOP IT – NOW.

THE VICE-MAYOR IS PUSHING TO SUSPEND CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC FROM COMING TO THE MEETINGS. AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, THOSE PEOPLE DON'T LIKE THE IDEA, AND THEY ARE NOT BEING QUIET ABOUT IT.

KRON 4'S ALECIA REID IS LIVE NOW OUTSIDE TONIGHT'S MEETING IN RICHMOND. ALECIA, IS THE MEETING STILL GOING ON?

YES, THE MEETING IS STILL IN SESSION AND THERE IS A WHOLE LOT OF BICKERING GOING ON. SO FAR, AT LEAST ONE PERSON HAS BEEN KICKED OUT. DISRUPTIONS CAUSED KENNETH DAVIS TO BE KICKED OUT OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING, BUT HE SAYS HE WASN'T THE ONE THAT CAUSED THE OUTBURST. EITHER WAY, HE WASN'T LET BACK IN. THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF DISTRACTIONS IN RICHMOND'S CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS. VICE MAYOR BECKLES IS ASKING THE CITY MANAGER AND POLICE CHIEF TO COME UP WITH POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR HANDLING DISRUPTIONS. BECKLES SAYS MOST OF THE HATEFUL TAUNTS ARE DIRECTED AT HER.

Citizen: "I'm gonna keep coming up here and talk about how you gays have no morality. You're filth. You're dirt."

Vice Mayor Beckles: "I'm the face of the hate that you're seeing. You're not free to be hateful and to throw out fighting words towards any individual, whether it's myself or especially audience members."

BECKLES SAYS SHE'S BEEN DEALING WITH THIS FOR FOUR YEARS, AS LONG AS SHE'S BEEN IN OFFICE. BUT CITY COUNCIL MEMBER CORKY BOOZE DISAGREES WITH HER PROPOSAL.

Booze: "You should hold yourself to higher standards and she needs to have a thicker skin and stop using the terms of gayness to further her cause."

THE CITY ATTORNEY ADVISES AGAINST KICKING PEOPLE OUT FOR THEIR SPEECH, SAYING THE GOVERNMENT HAS TO BE CAREFUL WITH JURISDICTION. ALTHOUGH THE FIRST AMENDMENT AND BROWN ACT GIVE CITIZENS THE RIGHT TO CRITICIZE CITY LEADERS, FIGHTING WORDS AREN'T PROTECTED.

Citizen: "She decided to debate with Reverend Ellis and Reverend Davis, calling them ignorant black men. She said you people are ignorant. She embarrassed the black community. She started it. Nobody said nothing to Jovanka."

BOTH BECKLES AND DAVIS ARE RUNNING FOR A CITY COUNCIL SEAT. AS OF ABOUT 30 MINUTES AGO, THEY STILL HAD ABOUT TWELVE MORE SPEAKERS WAITING. MEETINGS USUALLY LAST UNTIL ABOUT 11:30. WE'LL SEE HOW THE NIGHT ENDS.

ALECIA REID KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

7/24/14 KRON 4 Morning News

Tech's diversity problem – Twitter's demographics

AFTER A WAVE OF PRESSURE FROM SOCIAL MEDIA, TWITTER HAS FINALLY RELEASED ITS DIVERSITY FIGURES. AND THE REPORT SHOWS? THE COMPANY IS NOT VERY DIVERSE AT ALL. KRON 4'S MIKE PELTON HAS A LOOK AT JUST WHO IS KEEPING THE WORLD TWEETING:

WELL IT SEEMS TWITTER IS NOT VERY DIVERSE. DESPITE THE FACT THAT TWITTER IS USED AROUND THE WORLD AND THE COMPANY'S GOAL IS TO REACH EVERY SINGLE PERSON ON THE PLANET.

ACCORDING TO THE NUMBERS RELEASED BY THE SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANY YESTERDAY, OF THEIR GLOBAL WORK FORCE OF AROUND THREE THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, 70% OF THEM ARE MEN. AND OF THEIR U.S. EMPLOYEES, 88% OF THEM ARE EITHER WHITE OR ASIAN WITH THE MAJORITY OF THAT GROUP BEING WHITE.

NOW, TWITTER RELEASED THEIR FIGURES AFTER OTHER TECH COMPANIES DID SO – SUCH AS GOOGLE, YAHOO, AND LINKED IN – WITH SIMILAR DIVERSITY ISSUES.

IN A STATEMENT, TWITTER SAID:

“At Twitter, we have a goal to reach every person on the planet. We believe that goal is more attainable with a team that understands and represents different cultures and backgrounds.”

IN AN EFFORT TO BECOME MORE DIVERSE, TWITTER IS PARTNERING WITH WOMEN'S AND MINORITY ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY AND IS RECRUITING FROM THOSE AREAS. WE'LL SEE, MOVING FORWARD, HOW THAT CHANGES THE FACE OF THEIR WORKFORCE.

MIKE PELTON KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

7/24/14 KRON 4 Evening News

More on Twitter's diversity report

TWITTER HAS JOINED OTHER TECH COMPANIES IN REVEALING THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF ITS WORK FORCE. THAT'S AFTER MOUNTING PRESSURE FROM MINORITY GROUPS, INCLUDING JESSE JACKSON'S RAINBOW COALITION.

TWITTER'S STATISTICS SHOW THAT IT IS PREDOMINATELY WHITE AND MALE. FIFTY-NINE PERCENT OF EMPLOYEES ARE WHITE AND 29 PERCENT ASIAN. LATINOS REPRESENT ONLY 3 PERCENT AND BLACKS 2 PERCENT. WOMEN REPRESENT ONLY 30 PERCENT OF THE WORKFORCE.

THE PICTURE THAT TWITTER IS PAINTING IS CONSISTENT WITH WHAT OTHER LARGE SILICON VALLEY COMPANIES HAVE ALREADY REPORTED. IN SHORT, THE TECH INDUSTRY IS DOMINATED BY WHITE MEN.

KRON 4 ANALYST MICHAEL YAKI IS HERE TONIGHT TO HELP PUT THESE NUMBERS IN PERSPECTIVE.

DIVERSITY PROBLEMS AREN'T NEW TO YOU. YOU SIT ON THE U.S.COMMISSION FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, AND WE JUST CELEBRATED THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT THAT SEEKS TO INSURE EQUALITY IN OUR COUNTRY. IS THERE ANY

SURPRISE IN TWITTER'S DIVERSITY REPORT? THE NUMBERS ON ETHNICITY AND GENDER ARE NEARLY IDENTICAL TO YAHOO, GOOGLE, FACEBOOK AND LINKED IN.

Michael Yaki: "I'm surprised and not surprised. This is a Wild West type situation. There's a lot of money flowing in, largely without much supervision of what's going on or who's doing it. Now you have a lot of groups trying to get transparency about what's going on. It took some time to get these numbers out. And they may not be attractive, but they should be viewed as a challenge, not as problem. This is an industry that people want to be in. How these companies respond will have a lot to do with whether outside people think of them as responsible growing companies."

GOOGLE WAS THE FIRST TECH COMPANY TO REVEAL ITS DIVERSITY NUMBERS. AT THAT TIME, GOOGLE EXECUTIVES SAID ONE OF THE REASONS FOR THE LACK OF WOMEN AND BLACKS AND LATINOS WAS BECAUSE THERE ARE NONE IN THE PIPELINE.

Yaki: "I think it's more than that. There is a pipeline problem. Women and minorities are having a hard time getting into the STEM curriculums in colleges. But it starts in high school where there is not enough focus on STEM for women and minorities. There's not a requirement for computer sciences. High school is where you need to start in terms of getting minorities and women into the pipeline. But this is also a recruitment issue because there are a lot of perceptions about "who fits in our culture." These companies need to look at their workforce and say "How did we get here? What made us get to this particular composition.? Was it unconscious bias? Was it deliberate selection? Was it criteria that has a disproportionate impact on excluding women and minorities? That's part of the deep self-examination that they need to get involved in."

CATHERINE: THIS IS SIMILAR TO WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION IN RECENT YEARS, ISN'T IT? ARE THEY MAKING ANY PROGRESS?

Yaki: "Some, but not really. If you look at the number of women partners, there is a numeric increase. In the number of minorities, there's a numeric increase. Put as a percentage, after 25 years the Bar has been struggling with this, having made it one of their priorities, it is still 88-90% white and 70% male."

DIVERSITY

7/24/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Anti-Muslim hate crimes in Long Beach

POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR A SUSPECT AFTER A WOMAN WAS ATTACKED OUTSIDE A LONG BEACH TRADER JOE'S STORE OVER WHAT SHE WAS WEARING. INVESTIGATORS ARE CALLING IT A HATE CRIME. CAROLYN COSTELLO REPORTS.

Marwa Abdelghania: "It is a symbol of modesty."

MARWA ABDELGHANI, A MUSLIM WOMAN LIVING IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, EXPLAINS THE SPIRITUAL REASON, SHE WEARS A HIJAB, A HEAD SCARF TO COVER HER HAIR AND NECK.

Abdelghania: "It is meant for women to be looked at on the basis of what's inside, their intellect, their personality, instead of on their physical attraction."

THREE WEEKS AGO, A WOMAN OF THE SAME FAITH, WEARING A HIJAB WAS ATTACKED WHILE LOADING HER CAR WITH GROCERIES AT THIS TRADER JOE'S IN THE 4000 BLOCK OF ATLANTIC AVENUE IN LONG BEACH.

Police spokesperson: "The suspect cursed at the victim while referring to the cover as a hijab, indicating he had some knowledge of Muslim culture."

A MAN DESCRIBED AS WHITE AND IN HIS 30S WAS MOTIVATED BY HATE ACCORDING TO LONG BEACH POLICE, WHEN HE RIPPED THE SCARF OFF THE WOMAN'S HEAD, CHOKING, SCRATCHING, AND CUTTING HER NECK.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE MUSLIM PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL IN LOS ANGELES TOLD REPORTERS TODAY THAT THE VICTIM AND HER FAMILY FLED VIOLENCE AND PERSECUTION IN IRAQ 8 YEARS AGO.

Muslim Public Affairs Council president: "They decided that they wanted to come to America because of the freedoms, and they would tell their families back in Iraq, you can have women, Muslim women in headscarfs and orthodox Jewish women in headscarfs, and they're walking down the same street."

THAT SENTIMENT WAS ECHOED TODAY BY RIVKA LEVY, A JEWISH WOMAN OUTSIDE THE TRADER JOE'S WHERE THE ATTACK OCCURRED.

Levy: "It makes you lose your sense of freedom, to live in a country that's supposed to accept all types of cultures and religion, I have never felt that way living in America at all, so I'm quite surprised at what happened here."

DIVERSITY

8/2/14 KRON 4 Weekend News at 8pm

Bay Area citizens speak out for different sides in Gaza conflict

ABOUT 100 PEOPLE GATHERED ON THE CORNER OF 24TH STREET AND MISSION IN SAN FRANCISCO. CHALK ON THE SIDEWALK OUTLINED THEIR CAUSE.

Frankie Rivera, against US support for Israel: "With the United States giving support to Israel, you have 268 children that have been murdered in Palestine."

ELI RABER SUPPORTS ISRAEL. HE IS ALSO BOTHERED BY THE VIOLENCE, BUT BLAMES A DIFFERENT SOURCE.

Raber, pro-Israel: "When Hamas is firing rockets from schools, from churches and from graveyards, against humans, Israel has to respond. Hamas, in some ways, is using their own Palestinian population as human shields."

Hend Omran, against Israeli government: "They are freedom fighters in my mind, I don't support violence and I don't always support what they do, but it comes out of oppression and an apartheid state."

IN CONCORD, A CANDLELIGHT VIGIL WAS ALSO HELD TO REMEMBER THE LOSS OF CIVILIANS. BACK IN SAN FRANCISCO, THERE ARE DIFFERENT TAKES ON WHAT UNITED STATES CITIZENS NEED TO DO AT HOME.

Omran: "I'm against the U.S. funding of Israel, and I'm not against Israel in itself, but the Israeli Zionist government."

Raber: "Israel is America's little brother, and the U.S. is going to stand by the only true democracy in the Middle East and I think they should."

AT HOME AND ABROAD, THERE ARE DIVISIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS AND THEIR PEOPLE. UNTIL THEY FIND HARMONY, PEACE MAY BE DIFFICULT TO REACH.

Raber: "Right now Hamas isn't interested in peace and the Palestinian Authority is weak, and so Israel has no one to make peace with, and that's a problem."

Omran: "When you have one state, one solution, one military, there's no more Hamas, so that's the solution."

REPORTING IN CONCORD DAN RUBIN KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

8/5/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Same sex marriage back in court this week

CHALLENGES TO SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BANS IN FOUR STATES WILL BE ARGUED IN A FEDERAL APPEALS COURT IN CINCINNATI THIS WEEK. A PANEL OF FEDERAL JUDGES OF THE 6TH U-S CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS WILL CONSIDER SIX CASES FROM KENTUCKY, MICHIGAN, OHIO AND TENNESSEE TOMORROW.

ADDITIONAL ARGUMENTS ON SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BANS ARE AHEAD OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS IN COURTS IN CHICAGO AND SAN FRANCISCO. THE CIRCUIT COURTS ARE THE LAST STEP BEFORE THE U.S. SUPREME COURT. THERE HAS BEEN AN EIGHT-MONTH STREAK OF FEDERAL RULINGS AGAINST BANS.

DIVERSITY

8/19/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Surge in immigrant enrollment poses challenges for local school district

SCHOOL IS IN FULL SWING IN SAN FRANCISCO, AND SO FAR THIS YEAR 1000 RECENT IMMIGRANT STUDENTS HAVE ENROLLED. THAT COMPARES TO 840 TWO YEARS AGO. THE BIGGEST SURGE IS AMONG CHILDREN FROM CENTRAL AMERICA. AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THIS CHART, THE NUMBERS FROM EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA AND HONDURAS HAVE BEEN STEADILY RISING IN RECENT YEARS. AS TO WHETHER THESE ARE UNACCOMPANIED MINORS, THE DISTRICT DOESN'T ASK, BUT THEY HAVE ADDED ADDITIONAL RESOURCES.

Richard Carranza, San Francisco School Superintendent: "The resources we are talking about are additional teachers to make sure class sizes are kept as small as possible, teachers with specialized training in English language learning strategies, additional resources in the form of materials in the native language."

SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT RICHARD CARRANZA SAYS THOSE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES NOT ONLY DEAL WITH THE STUDENTS' EDUCATION BUT ALSO THEIR OVERALL WELL-BEING.

Carranza: "We know many unaccompanied minors who have come to the U.S. have suffered a lot of trauma getting here, so we are being careful with counseling services and social workers in our wellness centers to provide support and wrap-around services for those students as they need it."

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THIS AND IS NOW BEEFING UP ITS TRAINING AND STAFFING. THEY ARE ALREADY IN THE PROCESS OF HIRING TWO TEACHERS AND A SERVICE COORDINATOR. AND IF OPENING DAY ENROLLMENT NUMBERS ARE ANY INDICATION, THEY WILL BE HIRING ADDITIONAL TEACHERS.
DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

9/25/14 KRON 4 Evening News

San Jose tries new policy on homelessness

THE CLOCK IS TICKING TOWARD THE BEGINNING OF THE END FOR THE AREA CALLED "THE JUNGLE," THE TARGETS HOMELESS CAMP IN SAN JOSE. HUNDREDS OF HOMELESS PEOPLE HAVE BEEN CAMPED OUT ALONG COYOTE CREEK, OFF STORY ROAD FOR THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS. NOW, AS KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE REPORTS, THE CITY HAS A PLAN TO SHUT DOWN "THE JUNGLE" ONCE AND FOR ALL:

Angela Castro, homeless: "It's rough. It's a rough place to be. It really is.

HOMELESS FOR OVER A YEAR NOW, ANGELA CASTRO SAYS ANYTHING WOULD BE BETTER THAN LIFE IN 'THE JUNGLE.'

Castro: "It's hard, really hard. It's hard to get water. It's hard to go to the bathroom."

CASTRO IS AMONG AN ESTIMATED 300 HOMELESS PEOPLE LIVING IN TENTS AND UNDER TARPS HERE IN A HEAVILY WOODED AREA JUST NORTH OF STORY ROAD. BUT THE JUNGLE'S DAYS ARE NUMBERED. SAN JOSE IS GEARING UP TO SHUT IT DOWN IN EARLY DECEMBER.

Ray Bramson, San Jose Homelessness Response Manager: "The real challenge that we're facing right now is finding the housing necessary to get these people out of the encampments and into stable living situations. Once we house all the people from the site, we're going to close the area down and conduct environmental remediation and continue deterrent measures to keep it free of encampment."

IN A RECENT MEASURE TO KEEP THE JUNGLE FROM GETTING ANY LARGER, THE CITY INSTALLED THIS ROW OF BOLDERS JUST OFF STORY ROAD RIGHT AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CAMP.

ALREADY IN MOTION IS A PLAN TO ASSIST AS MANY AS 200 HOMELESS PEOPLE OUT OF THE JUNGLE AND INTO MORE PERMANENT HOUSING. STEVE GUTIERREZ IS HOPING TO BE AMONG THEM.

Steve Gutierrez, homeless: "You know, I'm an ex-con and I'm getting off drugs now after 28 years and it's hard to find a job and you know how the housing is, it's ridiculous."

IF IT WORKS HERE IN THE JUNGLE, THE CITY IS HOPING TO APPLY THE FORMULA TO NUMEROUS OTHER SUCH HOMELESS CAMPS AROUND TOWN.

IN SAN JOSE ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT

7/15/14 KRON 4 News at 8 & 11pm

Local city council proposes measure to limit protests

IT IS LOUD DISRUPTIONS LIKE THIS ONE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS IN RICHMOND SAY ARE RUINING THEIR MEETINGS. SO THEY ARE TRYING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT TONIGHT. THERE'S A COUNCIL MEETING GOING ON RIGHT NOW. AND ON THE AGENDA IS A PLAN TO STOP THESE KINDS OF OUTBURSTS. KRON 4'S ALECIA REID IS LIVE NOW IN RICHMOND TO EXPLAIN:

TONIGHT'S CITY COUNCIL MEETING IS PACKED, AND THERE ARE OVER 50 SPEAKERS WAITING TO EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS ON THE VICE MAYOR'S PROPOSAL. VICE MAYOR BECKLES TELLS ME THAT THIS PROPOSAL CAME ABOUT BECAUSE OF OUTBURSTS FROM ONE PARTICULAR GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT CONSTANTLY DISRUPTS THE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS.

DURING THE 4 YEARS SHE'S BEEN IN OFFICE, THIS IS WHAT VICE MAYOR JOVANKA BECKLES SAYS SHE'S HAD TO DEAL WITH – TAUNTING FROM A GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT SHE CLAIMS SHOW UP TO EVERY CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO HARASS HER.

THERE ARE YOUTUBE VIDEOS OF CONSTANT OUTBURSTS DURING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS. THE PLAN IS TO HAVE THE CITY MANAGER AND POLICE CHIEF COME UP WITH POSSIBLE OPTIONS ON RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING DISRUPTIONS. VICE MAYOR BECKLES SAYS MOST OF THE HATEFUL TAUNTS ARE DIRECTED AT HER.

Vice Mayor Beckles: "I am the face of the hate that we are seeing. But I'm a representative of the many, many people those attacks are being directed towards. And we're talking about immigrant people of color of African descent, we're talking about women, and we're talking about queer people."

BUT KENNETH DAVIS FROM THE BAY AREA COALITION OF CONCERNED CITIZENS SAYS:

Davis: "She's more of a disruption than anyone I know of. This resolution should be drafted for her and not for the people she says are always against her. I have too many gay members of my family. I have too many gay friends to be that stupid. I am against the sin, but not the sinner."

THE ALTERCATION THAT HAPPENED AT THE END OF THE LAST MEETING GOT VERY HEATED AND I'M TOLD THE FRICTION GETS WORSE. BOTH BECKLES AND DAVIS ARE RUNNING FOR A SEAT ON THE CITY COUNCIL. AS FOR TONIGHT, THAT PROPOSAL IS THE LAST ITEM ON THE AGENDA. WE'LL HAVE DETAILS IN THE 11PM NEWSCAST.

LIVE IN RICHMOND ALECIA REID KRON 4 NEWS

EMOTIONS ARE REACHING THE BOILING POINT. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS IN RICHMOND SAY DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR HAS PLAGUED THEIR MEETINGS, AND THEY WANT TO STOP IT – NOW.

THE VICE-MAYOR IS PUSHING TO SUSPEND CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC FROM COMING TO THE MEETINGS. AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, THOSE PEOPLE DON'T LIKE THE IDEA, AND THEY ARE NOT BEING QUIET ABOUT IT.

KRON 4'S ALECIA REID IS LIVE NOW OUTSIDE TONIGHT'S MEETING IN RICHMOND. ALECIA, IS THE MEETING STILL GOING ON?

YES, THE MEETING IS STILL IN SESSION AND THERE IS A WHOLE LOT OF BICKERING GOING ON. SO FAR, AT LEAST ONE PERSON HAS BEEN KICKED OUT.

DISRUPTIONS CAUSED KENNETH DAVIS TO BE KICKED OUT OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING, BUT HE SAYS HE WASN'T THE ONE THAT CAUSED THE OUTBURST. EITHER WAY, HE WASN'T LET BACK IN.

THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF DISTRACTIONS IN RICHMOND'S CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS. VICE MAYOR BECKLES IS ASKING THE CITY MANAGER AND POLICE CHIEF TO COME UP WITH POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR HANDLING DISRUPTIONS. BECKLES SAYS MOST OF THE HATEFUL TAUNTS ARE DIRECTED AT HER.

Citizen: "I'm gonna keep coming up here and talk about how you gays have no morality. You're filth. You're dirt."

Vice Mayor Beckles: "I'm the face of the hate that you're seeing. You're not free to be hateful and to throw out fighting words towards any individual, whether it's myself or especially audience members."

BECKLES SAYS SHE'S BEEN DEALING WITH THIS FOR FOUR YEARS, AS LONG AS SHE'S BEEN IN OFFICE. BUT CITY COUNCIL MEMBER CORKY BOOZE DISAGREES WITH HER PROPOSAL.

Booze: "You should hold yourself to higher standards and she needs to have a thicker skin and stop using the terms of gayness to further her cause."

THE CITY ATTORNEY ADVISES AGAINST KICKING PEOPLE OUT FOR THEIR SPEECH, SAYING THE GOVERNMENT HAS TO BE CAREFUL WITH JURISDICTION. ALTHOUGH THE FIRST AMENDMENT AND BROWN ACT GIVE CITIZENS THE RIGHT TO CRITICIZE CITY LEADERS, FIGHTING WORDS AREN'T PROTECTED.

Citizen: "She decided to debate with Reverend Ellis and Reverend Davis, calling them ignorant black men. She said you people are ignorant. She embarrassed the black community. She started it. Nobody said nothing to Jovanka."

BOTH BECKLES AND DAVIS ARE RUNNING FOR A CITY COUNCIL SEAT. AS OF ABOUT 30 MINUTES AGO, THEY STILL ABOUT TWELVE MORE SPEAKERS WAITING. MEETINGS USUALLY LAST UNTIL ABOUT 11:30. WE'LL SEE HOW THE NIGHT ENDS.

ALECIA REID KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

7/15/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

State and city government clash over voter-approved ballot measure

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IS NOW SUING THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO AFTER VOTERS APPROVED THE PROPOSITION B WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT MEASURE LAST MONTH. PROP B LIMITS HOW HIGH DEVELOPERS CAN BUILD ALONG THIS STRETCH OF WATERFRONT, FROM THE AQUATIC PARK AREA ALMOST TO HUNTERS POINT.

YOU'LL RECALL THE WARRIORS WANTED TO BUILD A NEW ARENA BETWEEN THE BAY BRIDGE AND AT&T PARK, BUT THE TEAM SCRAPPED THAT PLAN TO DEVELOP PIERS 30-

32 BEFORE THE PROP B VOTE EVEN HAPPENED. AND OTHER BIG PROJECTS HAVE ALSO BEEN TABLED.

BUT NOW, THE FUTURE OF PROP B COULD BE HANGING IN THE BALANCE THANKS TO ONE STATE AGENCY. KRON 4'S JEFF BUSH IS LIVE ALONG THE EMBARCADERO TONIGHT TO EXPLAIN THIS NEW TUG OF WAR:

THIS NEW LAW IS ABOUT MORE THAN HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS AND VOTER APPROVAL. I'M HERE AT THE NEW CRUISE TERMINAL NEXT TO PIER AND THIS AREA WOULD LOOK COMPLETELY DIFFERENT IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STEPPING IN AND SAYING NO TO THE ORIGINAL PLAN. IN 2006, THE IDEA WAS TO HAVE A SHOPPING MALL HERE AT THE CRUISE TERMINAL WITH HIGH END STORES FOR PEOPLE TO COME OFF THEIR CRUISE SHIPS AND SHOP. BUT BACK THEN, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SAID "NO" TO THAT IDEA AND DEFERRED TO A PLAN CALLING FOR A PLAZA AND OPEN SPACE, WHICH IS WHAT YOU SEE HERE TODAY.

EXPERTS I SPOKE WITH SAY THIS NEW LAW SUIT IS NOTHING MORE THAN AN ISSUE OF MONEY AND POWER.

Jon Gollinger, No Wall on the Waterfront: "For almost 50 years, the voters and the City have weighed in on whether we should build tall buildings on the waterfront, restaurants, retail, recreation. It's been the choice of the City since the waterfront was transferred from the State to us. This is a lawsuit to take the waterfront back. There's a pretty obscure state agency that is concerned that they are losing control over our waterfront and they are trying to persuade a court that not only do the voters not have the power to set height limits, but the City as a whole has no power at all over our own waterfront."

THREE PEOPLE SIT ON THAT STATE LANDS COMMISSION: FINANCE MINISTER MICHAEL COHEN, STATE CONTROLLER JOHN CHANG, AND LT. GOVERNOR/FORMER SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR GAVIN NEWSOM.

JEFF BUSH KRON 4 NEWS

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IS NOW SUING THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO OVER ITS NEW RULES GOVERNING WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT. SAN FRANCISCANS PASSED PROPOSITION B IN JUNE, LIMITING HOW TALL BUILDINGS CAN BE ON THE WATERFRONT. THE MEASURE ESSENTIALLY ENDED BIG PROJECTS SUCH AS THE CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPMENT CALLED 8 WASHINGTON AND THE PROPOSED WARRIORS ARENA. NOW, THE STATE SAYS THE CITY HAD NO RIGHT IN THE MATTER. KRON 4'S JEFF BUSH HAS MORE:

SAN FRANCISCO VOTERS HAVE HAD A SAY IN WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT FOR DECADES. PROP B JUST MADE IT OFFICIAL. WELL NOW, A SMALL STATE AGENCY IS SUING SAN FRANCISCO SAYING THE CITY HAS BEEN DOING IT WRONG ALL ALONG.

PROPOSITION B PASSED BY A CONSIDERABLE MAJORITY AND WENT INTO LAW LAST MONTH. ON TUESDAY, THE STATE LANDS COMMISSION, WHICH IS MADE OF THREE POLITICIANS, FILED A LAWSUIT SAYING THAT ALL DEVELOPMENT PLANS ALONG THE WATERFRONT HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY THE PORT AUTHORITY ONLY. THE PLANNING COMMISSION CAN'T DO IT, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CAN'T DO IT AND THE VOTERS CAN'T DO IT.

MATT DORSEY REPRESENTS THE CITY ATTORNEY AND SAYS SAN FRANCISCO WILL FIGHT BACK.

Dorsey: "City Attorney Dennis Herrera disagrees strongly. San Francisco's land use planning when it comes to the waterfront for decades has been a deliberative and participatory process. It has included voters and the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors and the Port Commission. And we have a great waterfront to show for it."

DORSEY POINTS TO ATT BALLPARK AS AN EXAMPLE OF THAT COORDINATED EFFORT AND THE INCLUSION OF THE VOTING SAN FRANCISCANS AND SAYS KEEPING THE VOTERS IN THE LOOP IS A GOOD THING.

THE GROUP CALLED NO WALL ON THE WATERFRONT SAYS THE CITY ATTORNEY IS DOING THE RIGHT THING.

Jon Golinger, No Wall on the Waterfront: "This is about money and power. For almost 50 years, the voters and the City have weighed in on whether we should build tall buildings on the waterfront, restaurants, retail, recreation. It's been a choice of the City since the waterfront was transferred from the State to us. This is a lawsuit to take the waterfront back. There is a pretty obscure state agency that is concerned they are losing control over our waterfront."

MEANWHILE, THE SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SAYS THE STATE'S LAW SUIT IS A GOOD THING.

JEFF BUSH KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

7/20/14 KRON 4 Weekend Morning News
Six Californias Initiative

INTERVIEW WITH POLITICAL ANALYST MICHAEL YAKI ABOUT THE SIX CALIFORNIAS BALLOT INITIATIVE. YAKI'S MAIN POINTS:

- This is a vanity project on the part of a tech-made billionaire who thinks the rich are being discriminated against; it's designed to put a finger in the eye of government
- Yes, it's on the November ballot; but there are accusations of voter fraud with claims that signature gatherers gave the impression that signing the petition meant you were against the proposal; a lot of taxpayer money will be wasted trying to get it off the ballot prior to the election
- It's basically going nowhere; it's unconstitutional; Congress would ultimately have to approve such division and it is unlikely that they would for the expedient reason that they would likely not want to give California twelve votes in the Senate

GOVERNMENT

7/22/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Controversial soda tax makes November ballot

THE SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS VOTED TO PUT THE CONTROVERSIAL SODA TAX ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT. THE MEASURE WOULD ADD A TWO CENTS PER OUNCE TAX ON SODAS AND OTHER SUGARY DRINKS. SO, A 20 OUNCE COKE, FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD COST AN EXTRA 40 CENTS.

THE MONEY RAISED WILL BE USED FOR NUTRITION AND HEALTH PROGRAMS, AND THE CITY CONTROLLER'S OFFICE FIGURES THE TAX WILL CUT DOWN ON SUGARY DRINK PURCHASES BY AS MUCH AS 31 PERCENT.

ALMOST EVERYONE COMMENTING ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE SAYS THEY DON'T LIKE THE TAX ONE BIT:

Will: "A tax will not and cannot save lives."

Marina: "I don't believe the government is doing this to protect people's health. It's just another way to get more money."

YOU'RE WELCOME TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND ON KRON-4-DOT-COM.

GOVERNMENT

7/23/14 KRON 4 Evening News

City of San Jose tries new approach to police staffing

THE SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT IS ROLLING OUT A NEW PROGRAM THAT WOULD ADD A NEW TYPE OF OFFICER TO THE FORCE. THE IDEA IS TO HELP WITH A SHORTAGE OF OFFICERS AND FREE UP MORE TIME FOR REGULAR OFFICERS TO DEAL WITH EMERGENCIES AND OTHER PRIORITY SITUATIONS. BUT AS KRON4'S MIKE PELTON REPORTS THERE ARE SOME SERIOUS CONCERNS ABOUT THE PLAN:

THEY ARE CALLED COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS AND RIGHT NOW 12 WOMEN AND 13 MEN ARE GOING THROUGH AN ACADEMY. ONCE THEY COMPLETE THAT TRAINING ACADEMY, THEY WILL HELP SAN JOSE POLICE RESPOND TO LOWER PRIORITY CALLS. YOU'RE LOOKING AT A PICTURE OF THE OFFICERS THAT WAS TWEETED OUT BY POLICE CHIEF LARRY ESCOVAL.

THE COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER FIVE WEEK ACADEMY STARTED YESTERDAY. NOW SAN JOSE PD AS WE KNOW IS UNDERSTAFFED AND HAS SEEN OFFICERS LEAVE THE DEPARTMENT OVER ISSUES SUCH AS WAGES AND BENEFITS, SO SAN JOSE POLICE NEED THE HELP.

THESE 25 NEW OFFICERS WILL BE SPLIT AMONG THE CITY'S FOUR DIVISIONS AND WILL RESPOND TO LOWER PRIORITY CALLS SUCH AS HOME BURGLARIES, VANDALISM, AND MISISSING PERSONS CASES OR TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS WHERE NO ONE IS INJURED. THEY WON'T, HOWEVER, CARRY A GUN, AND THEIR POWER IS LIMITED.

Sgt. Heather Randol, SJPD spokesperson: "They will not be doing any type of enforcement activity. They will not be writing citations. They won't be towing abandoned vehicles. They won't be making arrests or detentions. They just will simply be taking reports and filing with the police department."

WHILE SAN JOSE POLICE CALL THIS A GREAT RESOURCE FOR THE DEPARTMENT, THE SAN JOSE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION SAYS IT WOULD RATHER SEE FULL-TIME OFFICERS HIRED AND RELEASED A STATEMENT THIS MORNING THAT READS IN PART:

"Some of our officers are referring to CSO's as standing for "Can't Staff Officers". This is political misdirection stemming from failed leadership. We need more police officers on the street, not more report writers."

AFTER THESE 25 OFFICERS COMPLETE THE FIVE-WEEK TRAINING ACADEMY, THEY WILL UNDERGO THREE WEEKS OF FIELD TRAINING BEFORE FINALLY HITTING THE STREETS, LIKELY IN LATE SEPTEMBER.

MIKE PELTON KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

7/28/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Federal vs local guidelines at local abortion clinics

THERE IS BACKLASH HERE IN SAN FRANCISCO FROM A SUPREME COURT DECISION LAST MONTH. PLANNED PARENTHOOD SAYS PROTESTERS HAVE BECOME MORE AGGRESSIVE AND ARE HARASSING PATIENTS AND STAFF MEMBERS, THEY THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO MORE TO PROTECT THEM. KRON 4'S JR STONE WENT TO CITY HALL TODAY TO SEE WHAT SORT OF ACTION -- IF ANY -- THE CITY IS PLANNING IN RESPONSE:

Jackie Mansfield-Marcoux, Planned Parenthood: "What we've noticed over the last month is that it's getting worse."

JACKIE MANSFIELD-MARCOUX OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD IS TALKING ABOUT ABORTION PROTESTERS LIKE THIS MAN. MANSFIELD-MARCOUX SAYS THAT PROTESTERS IN SAN FRANCISCO ARE DISREGARDING THE 25 FOOT BUFFER ZONE EVER SINCE THE SUPREME COURT RULED A 35 FOOT BUFFER ZONE WAS UNCONSTITUTIONAL IN MASSACHUSETTS LAST MONTH, BRINGING PROTESTERS CLOSER TO PATIENTS.

Mansfield-Marcoux: "We have individuals outside our health center who are filming women, who are following women, who are blocking women on their way to seeking medical care at the health center. Make no mistake, these are aggressive individuals."

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE SAY THEY DON'T PLAN ON ENFORCING THE BUFFER ZONE UNTIL CITY LEADERS ADVISE THEM ON HOW THEY WANT TO POLICE THINGS IN LIEU OF THE COURT RULING.

David Campos, San Francisco Supervisor, District 9: "I believe that we have a basis to support the buffer zone and we should protect it. It's clear that there are differences between what we are doing versus what Massachusetts was doing."

BUT THERE ARE FEARS THAT IF PROTESTERS ARE CITED THE CITY MAY FACE FUTURE LAWSUITS. MANSFIELD-MARCOUX SAYS THE ISSUE NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED IMMEDIATELY.

Mansfield-Marcoux: "What we really need right now is for the city and the police department to stand up for women and help us and help enforce the laws that we have so they can protect women."

JR STONE KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

8/18/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Federal, state and local government involvement in Ferguson crisis

On-set interview with political analyst and U.S. Civil Rights Commission member Michael Yaki

KEY POINTS COVERED IN INTERVIEW:

- Problems with local County Prosecutor; history of poor relations with African American community; community members calling for him to recuse himself from case; not backing down
- Lack of accurate, reliable information; some accuse Prosecutor of manipulating the flow of information by leaking some sensitive information and withholding other, often basic, information

- State involvement: Missouri governor offered to step in with state personnel but County Prosecutor declined wanting to rely solely on local forces
- U.S. Attorney General being on-site is step to get things more under control and increase transparency; not sharing information just causes more problems
- Feds ordering their own autopsy sends message that they don't trust how locals are handling and will be watching very closely
- But Feds cannot take over the situation; the State can take over (precedent in how the Trayvon Martin case was handled in Florida)
- What the Feds can do is file their own civil rights criminal investigation which is an option for them to keep on hold

GOVERNMENT

8/18/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Ferguson unrest puts spotlight on controversial militarization of local police forces

THEY'RE SOMETHING WE'VE SEEN IN FERGUSON, BUT IT'S NOT JUST FERGUSON. IN THE BAY AREA AND BEYOND, WE'RE SEEING MORE POLICE DEPARTMENTS USING MILITARY-TYPE EQUIPMENT TO DEAL WITH UNREST. AN EXAMPLE IS THIS ARMORED VEHICLE RECENTLY USED IN BERKELEY DURING A STAND-OFF WITH A SUICIDAL MAN. MORE DEPARTMENTS NOW HAVE HEAVY WEAPONRY AND THIS KIND OF VEHICLE. OFFICIALS INSIST IT'S NECESSARY TO PROTECT OFFICERS AND IS NOT INTENDED TO RUN ROUGHSHOD OVER CIVILIANS. IN SOME CASES THE EQUIPMENT COMES FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, LIKE THE DE-COMMISSIONED COAST GUARD CUTTER NOW USED BY THE ALAMEDA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. THE ACLU RECENTLY WROTE A REPORT CRITICAL OF U.S. POLICE USE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND TACTICS

GOVERNMENT

9/6/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Immigration Reform

ANY EXECUTIVE ACTION ON IMMIGRATION REFORM WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER NOVEMBER'S MID-TERM ELECTIONS. THAT'S THE WORD FROM THE WHITE HOUSE TODAY. AS MARY MOLONEY REPORTS, STAKE-HOLDERS ON BOTH SIDES ARE CRITICAL OF THE DECISION:

POLITICAL PUNDITS TOOK TO THE AIRWAVES FOLLOWING THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT WILL DELAY EXECUTIVE ACTION ON IMMIGRATION REFORM.

Maria Cardona, CNN Political Commentator): "As a Latina activist who's been working for immigration reform for many, many years, I am disappointed because I would have hoped the president would've acted two months ago."

PRESIDENT OBAMA HAS BEEN CONSIDERING MOVES TO ALLOW UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS TO REMAIN IN THE COUNTRY, AS WELL AS EXPANDING A DEFERRED DEPORTATION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN OF IMMIGRANTS.

THE ADMINISTRATION SAYS IT WANTS TAKE THE ISSUE OUT OF THE POLITICAL ARENA. THE DELAY MEANS REPERCUSSIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT AND OTHER DEMOCRATS WOULD COME AFTER NOVEMBER'S CONGRESSIONAL MID-TERM ELECTIONS.

Cardona: "He wants a long-term solution."

Ben Ferguson, CNN Political Commentator: "If he wanted to have a long-term solution, he would have passed it at the beginning of his administration."

FOR THE PRESIDENT, IT'S AN APPARENT ABOUT-FACE. EARLIER THIS YEAR, HE SPOKE OF ACTING QUICKLY.

President Barack Obama: "If Congress will not do their job, at least we can do ours. I expect the recommendations before the end of the summer, and I intend to adopt those recommendations without further delay."

HOUSE SPEAKER JOHN BOEHNER TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO BLAST OBAMA FOR EVEN CONSIDERING EXECUTIVE ACTION. HE ISSUED A STATEMENT SAYING, IN PART, "THERE IS NEVER A 'RIGHT' TIME FOR THE PRESIDENT TO DECLARE AMNESTY BY EXECUTIVE ACTION. THE DECISION SMACKS OF RAW POLITICS."

I'M MARY MOLONEY REPORTING

GOP LAWMAKERS HAVE SAID THEY RESENT BEING LEFT OUT BY THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION. AS LATE AS LAST WEEK THE PRESIDENT SAID HE WOULDN'T DELAY IMMIGRATION ACTION EVEN IN THE FACE OF REPUBLICAN THREATS OF A GOVERNMENT SHUT-DOWN.

GOVERNMENT

9/7/14 KRon 4 News at 8pm

Fallout from Obama's immigration decision

PRESIDENT OBAMA STUNNED SUPPORTERS OF IMMIGRATION REFORM WHEN HE ANNOUNCED HE WILL DELAY TAKING EXECUTIVE ACTION ON IMMIGRATION UNTIL AFTER THE MIDTERM ELECTIONS. THE MOVE DREW NEAR INSTANT IRE FROM IMMIGRATION REFORM ADVOCATES. REPUBLICANS, MEANWHILE, SLAMMED OBAMA FOR MAKING WHAT THEY SAY IS A PURELY POLITICAL CALCULATION. CNN'S ERIN MCPIKE LOOKS AT THE FALLOUT:

PRESIDENT OBAMA UNDER ATTACK FOR BREAKING HIS PROMISE MADE IN JUNE THAT HE'D TAKE EXECUTIVE ACTION ON IMMIGRATION REFORM BY THE END OF SUMMER.

President Obama: "If Congress will not do their job, at least we can do ours."

DELAYING ANY ACTION UNTIL AFTER THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS, THE WHITE HOUSE SAYS WILL STOP "... those who would use it to score points as a kind of grandstanding issue."

THE MOVE COULD HELP DEMOCRATS IN TIGHT SENATE RACES IN ARKANSAS, NORTH CAROLINA AND, IOWA, KEEPING THEIR SEATS FROM FLIPPING TO THE GOP AND CAUSING DEMOCRATS TO LOSE CONTROL OF THE SENATE. BUT THE SIGH OF RELIEF FOR ENDANGERED DEMOCRATS SPARKED FURY FROM GROUPS PUSHING FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM, LIKE UNITED WE DREAM WHICH BLASTED:

"The President's latest broken promise is another slap to the face of the Latino and immigrant community."

AND LATINO GROUPS CNN TALKED TO IN IOWA WERE JUST AS ANGRY

Claudia Thrane, activist: "I think it's terrible. They always use our community - and believe me, I'm a Democrat - but I'm tired of waiting. It's time for him to comply, and actually do something about this now. Not tomorrow. Now."

WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS INSIST IMMIGRATION REFORM IS COMING BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. PRESIDENT OBAMA DEFENDED REVERSING HIMSELF IN AN INTERVIEW WITH NBC NEWS:

President Obama: "What I'm saying is that I'm going to act because it's the right thing for the country, But it's going to be more sustainable and more effective if the public understands what the facts are on immigration, what we've done on unaccompanied children, and why it's necessary. And you know, the truth of the matter is, is that the politics did shift midsummer because of that problem."

REPUBLICAN LEADERS LIKE HOUSE SPEAKER JOHN BOEHNER AND SENATE MINORITY LEADER MITCH MCCONNELL ARE ACCUSING THE PRESIDENT OF PLAYING POLITICS WITH THE ISSUE. MEANWHILE REPUBLICAN STRATEGISTS WHO ARE WORKING ON THE MIDTERM ELECTIONS SAY THEY WILL CONTINUE TO USE THIS AS A CAMPAIGN ISSUE IN THE FINAL SPRINT TO ELECTION DAY.

GOVERNMENT

9/7/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Government-sponsored Urban Shield program proves controversial

BAY AREA FIRST RESPONDERS ARE WRAPPING UP THEIR WEEKEND OF TRAINING FOR CATASTROPHIC EVENTS. THIS IS THE EIGHTH YEAR "URBAN SHIELD" HAS BEEN HOSTED BY THE ALAMEDA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. BUT KRON 4'S DAN RUBIN SAYS ONE ALAMEDA COUNTY CITY WILL NOT WELCOME THE PUBLIC SAFETY EVENT NEXT YEAR.

URBAN SHIELD TAKES PLACE IN MANY OF THE BAY AREA'S URBAN CENTERS AND COVERS A VARIETY OF SCENARIOS.

Chief David Rocha, Alameda County Fire Department: "We're at the hazmat site here and we're rotating teams through from throughout the Bay Area that are coming here and learning real life lessons on how to deal with hazardous materials and deal with terrorism incidents that they could face."

OAKLAND MAYOR JEAN QUAN NOTES THE EVENT HAS BEEN HELD IN OAKLAND FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS, BUT SAYS "URBAN SHIELD" WILL NOT BE COMING TO OAKLAND NEXT YEAR.

Rocha: "I don't understand why someone wouldn't want better training for their first responders, and even more so, I'm sure I'm not the only one who sees the irony of having a mayor who for years has been saying 'we need more police officers in Oakland,' and we bring hundreds of them into the city, and now she doesn't want them."

OUR HELICOPTER PARTNERSHIP WITH ABC SEVEN CAPTURED SEVERAL HUNDRED PROTESTORS OUTSIDE AN URBAN SHIELD CONFERENCE IN OAKLAND ON SATURDAY.

MAYOR QUAN TAKES PRIDE IN THE FACT THAT....

Quan: "OPD has no military surplus hardware at all, and no fully-automatic weapons."

Rocha :They see four hundred people out there protesting, but they forget about the four hundred thousand people that live in the city of Oakland, and the four million people that live in the Bay Area, that don't feel that way."

LOCAL POLICE AND FIRE OFFICIALS ACKNOWLEDGE THE SENSITIVITY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT PROTESTS IN FERGUSON MISSOURI.

Sgt. Nelson, Alameda County Fire Department: "I don't think there's anybody that looked at their television and watched the events unfold in Ferguson, and said 'boy, those guys need less training."

MAYOR QUAN'S STANCE DOES NOT SIGNAL AN END TO "URBAN SHIELD" IN THE BAY AREA. SERGEANT NELSON SEES IT AS A DEMONSTRATION BY A POLITICAL MINORITY AGAINST MORE LIKE-MINDED GOVERNING AUTHORITIES.

Nelson: "If the city doesn't want the revenue that we bring, and the crime rate reduction that we bring, I'm sure some other community would be glad to have us, probably anywhere would be glad to have us, except Oakland."

DAN RUBIN KRON FOUR NEWS.

GOVERNMENT

9/16/14 KRON 4 News at 11pm
Oakland mayoral campaign

TONIGHT IN OAKLAND, CANDIDATES ARE MAKING THEIR PITCH TO VOTERS TO BE THE CITY'S NEXT MAYOR. THE TOP CANDIDATES MADE THEIR CASE IN A FORUM THIS EVENING. AND AS KRON 4'S JEFF BUSH REPORTS, THEY TALKED ABOUT EVERYTHING FROM CRIME TO BUSINESS AND EVEN GARBAGE:

SEVEN CANDIDATES, MULTIPLE ISSUES. EVERYONE WAS PUTTING THEIR BEST FOOT FORWARD. THE ELECTION SEASON IS ON IN OAKLAND AND THE FIELD IS WIDE OPEN.

Jean Quan, mayor: "Oakland is on the rise and I hope you will help me keep it that way."

Joe Tuman, candidate: "Oakland has an unemployment rate that is higher than all the communities that we touch."

Cortney Ruby, candidate: "We have the best city in the Bay Area, but something is holding us back. We need to fix this mess that is Oakland city government."

Rebecca Kaplan, candidate: "I'm running for mayor of Oakland to provide strong leadership that puts Oakland first. That means we support our local businesses."

Brian Parker, candidate: "I see a future that holds technology jobs. I see a future that sees a billion dollars being invested in this city as a reasonable amount."

Dan Seagal, candidate: "The question is why is it that when you talk to a business person they say it is a laughing stock to get a permit at City Hall?"

Libby Schaff, candidate: "I was raised in a family that believed in community service and I have spent a lifetime in service to this city."

CRIME, BUSINESS, SPORTS AND GARBAGE WERE THE MAIN TALKING POINTS AND THE CANDIDATES WERE NOT SHORT ON OPINIONS. THE DEBATE WAS HOSTED BY A COMBINATION OF ALL OF THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN OAKLAND AND THE MAIN ISSUES WERE CLEAR TO EACH OF THE CANDIDATES...THE AUDIENCE WAS FAMILIAR WITH THEM, TOO.

THIS IS THE FIRST OF MANY DEBATES THAT WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN NOW AND THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS, AND, WHILE THE CANDIDATES WERE MOSTLY CIVIL THIS EVENING, IT'S STILL EARLY AND SOME ARE SAYING THINGS COULD GET NASTY BY THE TIME THE ELECTION IS HELD. JEFF BUSH KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

9/25/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

FBI's right of search vs individuals' right to privacy

A BIG BATTLE IS BREWING BETWEEN BIG TECH AND BIG GOVERNMENT. THE FBI IS UPSET WITH GOOGLE AND APPLE OVER PRIVACY ISSUES RELATED TO TECHNOLOGY IN THEIR SMART PHONES THAT THE FBI WORRIES WILL MAKE CRIMINALS MORE DIFFICULT TO CATCH.

FBI DIRECTOR JAMES COMEY HAS SHARPLY CRITICIZED APPLE AND GOOGLE FOR DEVELOPING FORMS OF SMARTPHONE ENCRYPTION SO SECURE THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS CANNOT EASILY GAIN ACCESS TO INFORMATION STORED ON THE DEVICES, EVEN WHEN THEY HAVE VALID SEARCH WARRANTS.

COMEY'S REMARKS FOLLOWED NEWS LAST WEEK THAT APPLE'S LATEST MOBILE OPERATING SYSTEM IOS 8, IS SO THOROUGHLY ENCRYPTED THAT THE COMPANY IS UNABLE TO UNLOCK IPHONES OR IPADS FOR POLICE. THIS SAME TYPE OF BEEFED UP ENCRYPTION IS COMING IN GOOGLES' NEXT ANDROID OPERATING SYSTEM SO THEY ALSO WILL NOT BE ABLE TO OPEN UP DEVICES FOR AUTHORITIES. THE FBI BELIEVES THAT THE ABILITY TO SEARCH PHOTOS, MESSAGES AND WEB HISTORIES ON SMART PHONES IS ESSENTIAL TO SOLVING A RANGE OF SERIOUS CRIMES, FROM MURDER TO CHILD PORNOGRAPHY TO ATTEMPTED TERRORIST ATTACKS.

COMEY TOLD REPORTERS: "THERE WILL COME A DAY WHEN IT WILL MATTER A GREAT DEAL TO THE LIVES OF PEOPLE. THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO GAIN ACCESS TO SUCH DEVICES."

THIS IS A TOUGH ONE. I HAVE MIXED FEELINGS ON THIS. I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO BE ABLE TO SEARCH MY PHONE, EVEN POLICE. BUT IF SOMEONE KIDNAPS MY SISTER, THEY FIND THE GUY, AND HE WON'T TALK BUT THEY HAVE HIS PHONE – I WANT THEM TO SEARCH THAT PHONE TO FIND OUT WHERE SHE IS.

[QUESTION TO ANCHOR] WHAT DO YOU THINK, PAM?

THIS IS SOMETHING, AS A COUNTRY, WE REALLY HAVE TO FIGURE OUT. WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT, OUR PERSONAL PRIVACY OR POSSIBLY OUR SAFETY?

ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT

7/4/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Some Bay Area water restrictions get tougher

MY WATCH SAYS IT'S AROUND 10:35 AM AND SOMEBODY IN BENICIA IS WATERING THEIR LAWN. THAT IS A BIG NO-NO.

Barbara Frederickson, Benicia resident: "I don't think the landlord has heard about the new restrictions yet."

ACCORDING TO BENICIA'S RECENTLY ENACTED EMERGENCY ORDINANCE RESTRICTING WATER USAGE, CITY WATER CANNOT BE USED FOR IRRIGATION BETWEEN 8AM AND 7PM. LOOKS LIKE THIS PROPERTY OWNER DIDN'T GET THE MESSAGE.

IN FACT, THE EMERGENCY ORDINANCE IS FOCUSED ON LIMITED OUTDOOR WATER USE, 50% OF WHICH IS USED ON LAWNS AND LANDSCAPING. AND 30% OF THAT IS LOST DUE TO OVER-WATERING AND EVAPORATION FROM WIND AND THE SUN. BUT WATERING THE LAWN DURING THE WRONG TIME OF DAY IS ONLY HALF THE PROBLEM. TAKE A LOOK AT THIS. THE RUN-OFF IS COMING CLEAR ACROSS 6TH STREET, ALL THE WAY DOWN K AND GOING DOWN THE STORM DRAIN.

Frederickson: "That's really surprising to see that."

AND YOU'RE HERE WORKING ON YOUR YARD AND LIKE YOU WERE TELLING ME, YOU'RE DOING EVERYTHING TO CONSERVE.

Frederickson: "I'm trying my best, yup."

AND WHEN YOU SEE THAT?

Frederickson: "Well, that makes me a little mad. It does, because that's just carelessness."

ACCORDING TO BENICIA'S NEWLY-ENACTED EMERGENCY WATER ORDINANCE, VIOLATORS WILL RECEIVE WARNINGS AT FIRST BEFORE BEING FINED FOR SUCH ACTIONS. IN ADDITION TO RESTRICTIONS ON THE TIME OF DAY FOR OUTDOOR WATER USE, DEPENDING ON YOUR ADDRESS, CITY WATER CAN ONLY BE USED FOR IRRIGATION EVERY OTHER DAY. AND SUNDAYS IS A NO-GO FOR EVERYBODY. NO ONE CAN USE WATER FOR OUTDOOR IRRIGATION ON THAT DAY.

IN BENICIA HAAZIQ MDYUN KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

7/7/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Recycled water giveaway

THE DROUGHT IS TAKING A TOLL ON LAWNS AND GARDENS, BUT ONE EAST BAY WATER DISTRICT HAS COME UP WITH A NOVEL WAY TO STAY GREEN 'AND' CONSERVE. KRON 4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS TAKES US TO A RECYCLED WATER GIVE-AWAY:

THEY'RE LINING UP FOR A FILL UP

Resident: "We're fillin' up."

Resident: "It's like going to the gas station."

Resident: "But it's free!"

Resident: "It's drastic right now, so you have to do what you have to do."

THESE PLEASANTON RESIDENTS ARE BRINGING EMPTY MILK CARTONS, CHLOROX BOTTLES, AND ANYTHING THEY CAN TO FILL UP ON FREE WATER. IT'S ACTUALLY RECYCLED WATER FROM THE DUBLIN SAN RAMON WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY IN PLEASANTON..WATER THAT WOULD NORMALLY BE FLUSHED INTO THE BAY.

Levi Fuller, Dublin San Ramon Water Services District: "Because of the drought in California and the 25% mandatory water restrictions that we have, a lot of our residents find their lawns and flowers are looking a little stressed. So we've set up this program, which we think is probably the first one in the state of California."

AND ON THIS DAY, IT'S STANDING ROOM ONLY TO FILL UP THE TANK. ANYTHING TO SAVE LANDSCAPING.

Resident: "It's heartbreaking to think that 50 years of landscaping is just going to die. We've cut our use by 50%, but there's still not enough water to do landscaping. So we'll be coming here a couple times a week to try to keep the trees and shrubs alive. The lawn is just going to have to go."

BEHIND ME HERE IS THE TREATMENT CENTER WHERE ALL THE WATER IS RECYCLED AND IF YOU'RE WONDERING ABOUT THE ORIGINAL SOURCE? YES, IT IS THE TOILET BOWL. AND THAT'S WHY RESIDENTS ARE GIVEN A SIGN AND INSTRUCTIONS FIRST ON HOW TO USE THIS SEWAGE WATER. IT IS NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION, ONLY FOR THIRSTY GARDENS.

Fuller: "Your lawns can drink it. Your trees can drink it. It's fabulous for those purposes."

PEOPLE CAN HAUL AWAY UP TO 300 GALLONS PER TRIP FOR FREE WITH NO LIMITS ON TRIPS THEY MAKE.

IN PLEASANTON VICKI LIVIAKIS KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

7/14/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Report on litter at Lands End national park

Part of an ongoing series from People Behaving Badly reporter Stanley Roberts documenting the trashing of local parks. Reports in multiple newscasts from multiple locations showing the extent of litter, trash and environmental degradation and featuring comments and reactions from local citizens and tourists who use the parks responsibly.

ENVIRONMENT

7/15/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Californians not conserving water during drought

AS DROUGHT CONDITIONS PERSIST ACROSS THE STATE, THERE IS GROWING EVIDENCE THAT CALIFORNIANS HAVE FAILED TO HEED THE CALL TO SAVE WATER. LAST JANUARY, GOVERNOR BROWN ASKED FOR A VOLUNTARY 20 PERCENT REDUCTION IN WATER CONSUMPTION, BUT A NEW SURVEY BY THE STATE SHOWS WATER USE HAS ACTUALLY INCREASED THIS YEAR BY ONE PERCENT, WITH SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA USING THE MOST WATER. IN RESPONSE, LATE TODAY WATER OFFICIALS IN SACRAMENTO TOOK THE UNPRECEDENTED STEP OF AUTHORIZING PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF WATER WASTE. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD HAS DETAILS:

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD APPROVED A FIRST OF ITS KIND PLAN AUTHORIZING FINES FOR PEOPLE WHO WASTE WATER. IT FALLS TO REGIONAL WATER AGENCIES TO ENFORCE THE NEW RESTRICTIONS, BUT VIOLATORS COULD BE PENALIZED AS MUCH AS 500 DOLLARS PER DAY.

VIOLATIONS INCLUDE: POWERWASHING HARD SURFACES, LIKE DRIVEWAYS; ALLOWING WATER FROM LAWN SPRINKLERS TO RUN ONTO SIDEWALKS; WASHING A CAR WITHOUT A SHUT-OFF NOZZLE ON THE HOSE; USING POTABLE WATER IN A DECORATIVE FOUNTAIN, UNLESS THE WATER IS RECIRCULATED; AND IRRIGATING LAWS MORE THAN TWO TIMES PER WEEK.

THERE ARE A FEW EXCEPTIONS: POWER WASHING OF STREETS AND SIDEWALKS WILL STILL BE ALLOWED IF IT'S FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY REASONS; RESTRICTIONS WILL NOT APPLY TO WATER THAT'S USED FOR URBAN OR RURAL AGRICULTURE.

THE NEW RULES TAKE EFFECT ON AUGUST 1ST. AND FINALLY, THE WATER RESOURCES BOARD ALSO GAVE ITSELF THE AUTHORITY TO FINE REGIONAL WATER AGENCIES TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS PER DAY IF THEY DON'T ENFORCE THESE NEW RESTRICTIONS.

CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

7/15/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Are earthquakes and fracking connected?

LOCALLY, TWO SMALL EARTHQUAKES JOLTED PARTS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY TODAY. ONE WAS A 3.2 MAGNITUDE AND THE OTHER A 3.3. THE TREMORS OCCURRED JUST AFTER 1:00 THIS AFTERNOON, ABOUT SIX MILES SOUTH-EAST OF GILROY NEAR THE CALAVERAS FAULT. THERE WERE NO REPORTS OF INJURY OR DAMAGE.

BUT ON THE NATIONAL FRONT, SCIENTISTS ARE INVESTIGATING WHETHER "FRACKING" HAS LED TO AN OUTBREAK OF EARTHQUAKES IN OKLAHOMA. TWO SMALL QUAKES CAUSED MINOR DAMAGE IN CENTRAL OKLAHOMA THIS MORNING. THE 3.8 AND 3.9 MAGNITUDE QUAKES COME ON THE HEELS OF SEVEN OKLAHOMA QUAKES RECORDED IN A SPAN OF JUST 14 HOURS EARLIER THIS WEEK. THE LARGEST WAS A MAGNITUDE OF 4.3.

A STUDY IN THE JOURNAL "SCIENCE" NOW SUGGESTS THAT JUST FOUR FRACKING WELLS IN OKLAHOMA HAVE CAUSED ABOUT 20 PERCENT OF THE EARTHQUAKES FROM COLORADO TO THE ATLANTIC COAST SINCE 2008.

FRACKING IS AN OIL DRILLING METHOD WHICH FORCES HIGH PRESSURE BLASTS OF WATER, SAND AND CHEMICALS INTO ROCK TO FREE UP OIL AND GAS DEEP UNDERGROUND.

ENVIRONMENT

7/16/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local water agency reaction to new state water fines

WITH THE ONGOING DROUGHT, WASTING WATER IN CALIFORNIA NOW HAS CONSEQUENCES. STARTING AUGUST FIRST, ANYONE CAUGHT SPRAYING DOWN A DRIVEWAY, LETTING SPRINKLERS SPRAY WATER ONTO SIDEWALKS, OR WATERING A LAWN MORE THAN TWICE PER WEEK COULD BE HIT WITH A FIVE HUNDRED DOLLAR FINE. IT'S PART OF A NEWLY APPROVED PLAN BY STATE REGULATORS AND THE JOB OF ACTUALLY ENFORCING THE NEW RULES WILL FALL TO LOCAL WATER AGENCIES. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD SPOKE WITH ONE OF THE LARGEST WATER WHOLESALERS IN CALIFORNIA:

Marty Grimes: "We support the state. We really need to step up our efforts."

MARTY GRIMES, WITH THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT, SAYS THAT EARLIER THIS YEAR THEY ASKED THEIR CUSTOMERS TO REDUCE WATER CONSUMPTION BY 20 PERCENT, BUT SO FAR THEY'VE FALLEN SHORT OF THAT GOAL. THE DISTRICT HOPES THAT THE STATE'S NEW RESTRICTIONS WILL HELP PEOPLE GET THE MESSAGE.

Grimes: "In a drought like what we're in now, there's really no excuse for someone washing a driveway or letting sprinklers run off into the street. We think they are common sense restrictions that everyone should be following and it shouldn't be hard. We are encouraged that this action by the state will really build awareness and everyone will do what they can to reduce water use."

GRIMES ALSO SAYS THAT THE DISTRICT IS WORKING ON AN OUTREACH CAMPAIGN TO GET THE WORD OUT BEFORE THE NEW RULES KICK IN AUGUST FIRST.

Grimes: "This really focuses on outdoor use. It focuses on letting your lawn suffer a little bit during this drought because you can save a lot of water just in that landscaping."

ACTUALLY ENFORCING THE NEW RULES WILL FALL TO THE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES THAT RECEIVE WATER FROM THE DISTRICT, BUT GRIMES SAYS THEY ARE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO HELP.

Grimes: "We understand that cities are strapped for cash and may not be able to put a team of folks out to look for violators. So, we are actually talking to our board and looking for ways we might be able to assist those local water providers."

AND FINALLY, EVEN THOUGH SANTA CLARA RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN SAVING MORE WATER THAN OTHER PARTS OF THE STATE, GRIMES SAYS THAT THE DISTRICT'S WATER SUPPLY IS TOO LOW TO IGNORE.

Grimes: "Certainly if anyone is wasting water in the ways that are now prohibited, they need to take care of that right away. But everyone needs to look at their water use. We're not going to reach the 20% target if everybody doesn't do what they can. We have very little reservoir storage. We have very little water coming in. We depend on our groundwater basin and we want to make sure we don't withdraw too much water from that ground water basin. Independent of what anyone else is doing, Santa Clara County needs to reduce water use by 20 percent."

CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

7/22/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Local water district hires "water cops" / not everyone is happy about it

THE SOUTH BAY IS ABOUT TO GET A LOT TOUGHER ABOUT WATER CONSERVATION. THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT HAS DECIDED IT WILL HIRE A TEAM OF PEOPLE TO ACT AS "WATER COPS." IT WON'T BE CHEAP, BUT THEY FIGURE IT WILL MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE. KRON 4'S JEFF BUSH HAS MORE ON WHAT THEY'LL BE DOING:

IT WAS A UNANIMOUS DECISION. THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT VOTED TO SPEND A HALF MILLION DOLLARS THAT WILL INCLUDE PUBLIC OUTREACH AND MORE INCENTIVES FOR THOSE WHO SAVE WATER. BUT THE BIGGEST PART OF THE NEW PLAN IS THE HIRING OF UP TO TEN WATER COPS. THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE CONSERVATION GOALS WILL SOON BE A REALITY.

PART OF THE PLAN IS TO ESTABLISH A NEW LEVEL OF BUREAUCRACY IN THE DISTRICT. A SMARTPHONE APP IS IN THE WORKS AND PEOPLE CAN TAKE A PICTURE OF WATER WASTERS, OR SEND THE DISTRICT AN ADDRESS, ANONAMOUSLY TO LET THEM KNOW WHERE WATER WASTERS ARE.

THE CONSERVATION OFFICERS WILL GO TO THE REPORTED LOCATION AND TALK TO THE PEOPLE OR BUSINESS OWNERS AND TELL THEM OF THEIR WATER WASTING WAYS. IF THEY CONTINUE TO IGNORE THE CONSERVATION EFFORTS A FINE COULD BE IMPOSED.

Marty Grimes, Santa Clara Valley Water District: "When we get reports of water waste, which we are getting a lot of, we want to send this team out to check it out. And, if it is somebody who

doesn't know that they are wasting water, we will explain the rules. Maybe help them, maybe refer them to some of our own programs. If there is egregious waste, we would report that to their local water provider who has the ability to issue a fine."

THAT FINE COULD BE AS MUCH AS \$500 PER VIOLATION

JEFF BUSH KRON 4 NEWS

[NOT EVERYONE IS IN FAVOR OF WATER COPS]

WILLOW GLEN RESIDENT CELESTE BRANDT SAYS SHE'S ALL FOR CONSERVING WATER, BUT SHE THINKS THE IDEA OF SO-CALLED 'WATER COPS' PATROLLING THE STREETS, LOOKING TO ELIMINATE WASTE GOES TOO FAR...

Celeste Brandt, Willow Glen resident: "So then we're all going to start ratting out our neighbors and driving around and seeing somebody doing something you don't like and turning them in for wasting water. No way."

A FEW DOORS DOWN, DONNA VERRET, WHO HAS DECIDED TO LET HER LAWN GO BROWN FOR THE SUMMER, SAYS BRING IT ON.

Donna Verret, Willow Glen resident: "I think we should be really conscientious about the water shortage, yeah. Lawns are just big water hogs anyway. So, if you can do what I did, great."

IT ISN'T JUST LAWNS OF COURSE, BUT WATERING YOUR GRASS, OR IN THIS CASE, THE SIDEWALK TOO, DURING THE HEAT OF THE DAY IS WASTEFUL. NO ONE CAME TO THE DOOR WHEN I KNOCKED, BUT THIS HOMEOWNER COULD SOON GET A VISIT FROM THE WATER POLICE ABOUT TO BE HIRED BY THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT TO ROOT OUT THAT WASTE.

Marty Grimes, Santa Clara Valley Water District: "We will contact whomever is responsible and try to educate them and try to address the problem right then and there."

THE ENFORCERS WILL MOSTLY RESPOND TO COMPLAINTS, BUT COULD ACTUALLY PATROL STREETS IN SEARCH OF WASTE. CELESTE BRANDT, WHO'S TAKING SHORTER SHOWERS AND USING THE EXTRA WATER ON HER LAWN, SAYS THE WATER COPS SHOULD BE TROLLING FOR BIGGER FISH.

SHE SAYS RESIDENTIAL LAWNS ARE AN EASY TARGET AND SHE'S CONCERNED THAT HOMEOWNERS ARE BEING ASKED TO DO MORE THAN THEIR FAIR SHARE, ARGUING THAT CITIES ARE CONTINUING TO APPROVE NEW DEVELOPMENTS WITH LITTLE REGARD FOR WHERE THE WATER WILL COME FROM.

Celeste Brandt: "It's pretty hard to take this seriously with all the building going on. I agree with editorials in the paper that say if you keep building all these houses and shopping centers, how serious are people going to think the drought is."

SHE HAS A POINT. SO FAR, NONE OF THE WATER PROVIDERS THAT SERVE 1.8 MILLION SOUTH BAY CUSTOMERS HAVE MET THE DISTRICT'S CALL FOR CONSERVING 20 PERCENT OF THEIR CONSUMPTION.

ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

7/23/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Viewers report water wasters

WE'VE GOTTEN SEVERAL MY KRON 4 TIPS RECENTLY ABOUT WATER BEING WASTED DURING THIS EPIC DROUGHT, THREE OF THEM JUST TODAY. ALL WERE IN SAN JOSE, TWO ISSUES IN NEIGHBORHOODS AND ONE IN A TARGET PARKING LOT. WE LOOKED INTO IT...AND HERE'S WHAT WE FOUND OUT:

FIRST UP, JIM TOLD US ABOUT THIS ONE. THIS IS SANTA YSABEL WAY IN SOUTH SAN JOSE. JIM SAYS A MAIN WATER LINE BROKE AND GALLONS OF WATER PER MINUTE WERE GUSHING ONTO THE STREET. HE CALLED IT IN ON SUNDAY. SINCE THEN, SAN JOSE WATER COMPANY CAME OUT, INSPECTED, AND PUT UP A SIGN THAT SAYS WET ROAD AHEAD.

BUT JIM SAYS WATER IS STILL FLOWING TODAY, THREE DAYS LATER. WE CALLED THE WATER COMPANY TODAY AND THEY TELL US THEY'VE ISSUED AN UNDERGROUND SERVICE ALERT TO UTILITY COMPANIES SO THEY CAN SAFELY DIG UP THE ROADWAY. THE MATTER SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY TOMORROW.

BILL SHARED THIS IMAGE WITH US FROM HIS SAN JOSE NEIGHBORHOOD, THE CORNER OF ADMIRAL PLACE AND BRANBURY WAY. HE SAYS FOR THE PAST WEEK, WATER HAS BEEN COMING OUT OF THIS WATER METER BOX. WE CALLED THE SJWC WHICH SAYS COMPLAINTS ARE FIXED BASED ON SEVERITY. AS WE SAW WITH THE PREVIOUS EXAMPLE, THAT PROBLEM IS MORE SEVERE. NO TIMEFRAME FOR A FIX ON THIS ONE.

AND THEN THERE'S TARGET. ANA TIPPED US OFF TO THIS ONE. THIS IS ON COTTLE ROAD IN SAN JOSE. ANA SAYS WATER BEING USED TO WATER PLANTS WAS SHOOTING IN THE AIR, MUCH OF IT BEING WASTED IN THE PARKING LOT. WHEN WE CONTACTED TARGET, A REPRESENTATIVE TOLD US THE SPRINKLER IS NOW OFF, AND THE STORE WILL HAVE SOMEONE PERFORM A COMPREHENSIVE CHECK ON THE WATER SYSTEM.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR A TIP ABOUT WATER BEING WASTED – OR ANYTHING ELSE – ON OUR WEBSITE KRON 4 DOT COM..

JUST CLICK ON THE MY KRON 4 STORY, FILL OUT A COUPLE AREAS REAL QUICKLY, CLICK SUBMIT, AND WE'LL CHECK IT OUT.

ENVIRONMENT

8/18/14 KRON 4 Evening News
Water services waste water while asking customers to conserve

A NEW STUDY SHOWS BAY AREA WATER PROVIDERS HAVE BEEN LOSING ABOUT 23 BILLION GALLONS OF WATER A YEAR DUE TO AGING AND BROKEN PIPES. THIS STUDY IS BASED ON RECORDS FROM THE 2010 DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES. ABOUT THREE TO 16 PERCENT OF TREATED WATER IS LOST DUE TO DAMAGED PIPES. REPORTS SAY THESE PIPES HAVE LEAKED ENOUGH WATER ANNUALLY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF 71 THOUSAND FAMILIES FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR. THE CITIES AFFECTED INCLUDE ANTIOCH, BENICIA, SANTA CLARA, LOS ALTOS, AND HAYWARD.

ENVIRONMENT

8/21/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Homeowner penalized for drought resistant landscaping

HERE IN SAN RAMON IN LIGHT OF DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN THE STATE, A HOMEOWNER PUT IN THIS DROUGHT TOLERANT LANDSCAPING AND GETS FINED BY HER HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION.

FRANCES PAXSON HAS LIVED IN HER HOME ON POSADA COURT FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS AND SAYS SHE WAS ONLY TRYING TO DO HER PART TO ADHERE TO MANDATED STATEWIDE WATER RESTRICTIONS.

Frances Paxson: "They decided because I was not compliant with their recommendations that I should be fined \$50 per month until such time as I complied with their requests. It doesn't seem fair to me. In a time of drought where we are being asked to conserve water as much as possible, I felt I needed to go ahead and do the drought resistant landscaping."

TWIN CREEKS SOUTH ESTATES HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION DECLINED TO COMMENT BEYOND SAYING IT WAS A BOARD OF DIRECTORS DECISION.

THERE IS CURRENTLY LEGISLATION PENDING IN CALIFORNIA WHICH WOULD MAKE THESE TYPES OF HOA FINES ILLEGAL.

IN SAN RAMON HAZIIQ MADYUN KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

9/9/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Impact of wild fires on air quality

AS THIS WILDFIRE GROWS, THE HEAVY SMOKE IS BECOMING A PROBLEM IN AND AROUND YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD IS LIVE TONIGHT IN THE NEWSROOM WITH AN UPDATE ON THE AIR QUALITY AND DETAILS ON HOW THE BAY AREA MIGHT ALSO START SEEING SMOKEY SKIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE:

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MONITORS AIR QUALITY IN AND AROUND YOSEMITE. BEHIND ME HERE IS A CHART SHOWING THE QUALITY OF THE AIR IN THE PAST WEEK OR SO. YOU CAN SEE THAT LAST WEEK AIR QUALITY IS IN THE GOOD TO MODERATE RANGE, BUT SEE THIS SPIKE INTO THE RED ON TUESDAY INTO LEVELS CONSIDERED UNHEALTHY. NOW, THIS FIRE IS PRETTY MUCH CONTAINED TO THE AREA AROUND YOSEMITE, BUT FARTHER NORTH IN CALIFORNIA THERE ARE NUMEROUS FIRES BURNING AND SHIFTING WINDS COULD BRING THAT SMOKE TO THE BAY AREA.

Aaron Richardson, air quality control manager: "The smoke is going to be blowing down the Sacramento Valley."

AARON RICHARDSON WITH THE BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT SAYS THAT ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY WINDS COULD BLOW SMOKE FROM WILDFIRES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ALL THE WAY TO THE BAY AREA.

Richardson: "The smoke could be potentially impacting the East Bay, especially during the afternoon hours of Wednesday and possibly on Thursday as well."

THE EXPECTED SMOKY CONDITIONS WILL NOT BE BAD ENOUGH TO TRIGGER A SPARE THE AIR ALERT, BUT OFFICIALS STILL WANT PEOPLE WHO ARE SENSITIVE TO AIR POLLUTION TO USE CAUTION.

Richardson: "If you are sensitive, the best thing is if you see or smell smoke, keep windows and doors closed. You can set your air conditioning at home or in the car to recirculate. And it won't be a good day to go outdoors and exercise a lot."

FINALLY, WHILE A LOT OF PEOPLE MAY SEE AND SMELL THAT SMOKE IN THE AIR, AIR QUALITY MANAGERS SAY IT WILL NOT BE SIGNIFICANT ENOUGH TO VIOLATE FEDERAL CLEAN AIR STANDARDS.

CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

9/17/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Concern regarding impact of drought on Bay Area trees

AFTER MONTHS OF DRY WEATHER, AT LEAST A SMALL AMOUNT OF RAIN IS EXPECTED TO FALL IN THE NORTH BAY THIS EVENING. BUT EXPERTS SAY IT WON'T BE NEARLY ENOUGH TO END THE ONGOING DROUGHT. AND ACROSS THE NORTH BAY, THE DRY CONDITIONS ARE STARTING TO TAKE A TOLL ON THE TREES. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD IS LIVE TONIGHT IN THE NORTH BAY WITH DETAILS ON THAT:

ACROSS MARIN COUNTY, A THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR OF DRY CONDITIONS IS STARTING TO TAKE ITS TOLL.

Tad Jacobs, arborist: "The trees aren't as healthy as they could be if the normal growth patterns were intact."

TAD JACOBS IS AN ARBORIST WITH TREEMASTERS IN SAN RAFAEL. HE SAYS THEY ARE SEEING PROBLEMS IN NUMEROUS SPECIES OF TREES.

Jacobs: "We are seeing a lot of boring insects in the conifer trees because their sap flow has been reduced by the lack of water that's available. A lot of the other deciduous trees are having sparse canopies on them as well."

IN CORTE MADERA WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, THIS CREW WAS REMOVING SEVERAL LARGE PINES THAT HAD FALLEN VICTIM TO BURROWING BEETLES. EVEN MORE NEARBY TREES WERE SHOWING SYMPTOMS OF STRESS – DEAD BRANCHES AND BROWN NEEDLES.

Jacobs: Stressed trees are also a lot more prone to disease and insect attack."

TAD SAYS THAT IF THERE ISN'T SIGNIFICANT RAINFALL IN THE COMING MONTHS, THE PROBLEM COULD GET EVEN WORSE.

Jacobs: "We could see complete die back of trees."

IN ORDER TO KEEP TREES ALIVE AND NOT WASTE WATER DURING DROUGHT, JACOBS SUGGESTS THAT HOME OWNERS USE A VERY TARGETED METHOD OF IRRIGATION.

Jacobs: Do thorough deep watering of their trees with a soaker hose. Slow is better. Don't pour a bunch of water down on the ground. It will just evaporate and skirt off the top. Put that soaker hose down and let the hose sweat water all night long.

CHUCK CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

9/23/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Air quality control organization offering incentives to improve air

BAY AREA COMMUTERS WILL SOON HAVE GREATER INCENTIVE TO TAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TO WORK INSTEAD OF DRIVING ON THEIR OWN. KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN EXPLAINS:

IF YOU LOOK AT THESE CARS GETTING ON THE FREEWAY, YOU'LL NOTICE MOST HAVE ONE PERSON INSIDE. IN FACT IT'S ESTIMATED 2/3 OF BAY AREA COMMUTERS DRIVE ALONE TO WORK.

Tom Flannigan, Bay Area Air Quality Management District: "Single vehicle commuting is one of the biggest contributors to air pollution in the Bay Area."

NOW THE BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT IS HOPING TO REDUCE THAT TREND BY FORCING COMPANYS WITH 50 OR MORE FULLTIME EMPLOYEES TO GIVE WORKERS AN INCENTIVE TO GET OUT OF THEIR CARS.

Flannigan: "Employers will choose one of 4 options."

THESE INCENTIVES RANGE FROM GIVING EMPLOYEES A SUBSIDY OF UP TO 75 DOLLARS A MONTH TO OFFSET THE COSTS OF PUBLIC TRANSIT, TO SETTING ASIDE UP TO 130 -DOLLARS A MONTH OF PRE-TAX MONEY FOR TRANSIT OR VAN POOL COSTS. COMPANIES CAN ALSO OFFER LOW COST BUS OR SHUTTLE SERVICES LIKE THE GOOGLE BUS, OR THEY CAN COME UP WITH A PLAN OF THEIR OWN. THAT'S WHAT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT TOM FRASER DID AT HIS SAN RAFAEL COMPANY.

Tom Fraser, WRA Environmental Consultants: "An employee has to take transit ten or more days a month and they will earn 2 extra vacation hours. If they do that every month for 12 months, they will accumulate an extra 3 vacation days."

EMPLOYEES LIKE LESLIE LAZAROTTI SAY THE COST SAVINGS OF CARPOOLING MAKES IT ATTRACTIVE, AND THE VACATION INCENTIVE IS LIKE ICING ON THE CAKE.

Lazarotti: "That definitely inspired us to be even more consistent with the carpooling and people made more of an effort once we had that system in place."

THE AIR QUALITY DISTRICT'S PROGRAM GOES INTO EFFECT ON SEPTEMBER 30TH AND SO FAR ONLY ABOUT 25% OF THOSE REQUIRED TO SIGN UP HAVE DONE SO. THE DISTRICT SAYS IT'S GETTING THE WORD OUT AND DOESN'T PLAN TO START FINING COMPANIES RIGHT AWAY. AGAIN, THE IDEA IS TO GET COMPANIES TO GET INTO THE PROGRAM AND GET PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR CARS.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

9/25/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Drought persists despite early rain

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG WHILE, BAY AREA RESIDENTS WOKE UP TO RAIN. THE MUCH-NEEDED WATER SOAKED STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, CAUSING SOME PROBLEMS FOR THE MORNING COMMUTE. THE WET CONDITIONS CAUSED ACCIDENTS ON INTERSTATES 580, 680 AND 880. IT ALSO KNOCKED OUT POWER TO PARTS OF THE SOUTH BAY AND EAST BAY. P-G&E IS STILL WORKING TO RESTORE POWER TO SOME OF THE RESIDENTS AFFECTED.

YOU'VE BEEN SENDING US YOUR PICTURES FROM THE MUCH NEEDED RAIN. TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE WET WEATHER FROM AROUND THE BAY. THESE WERE SENT TO US LAST NIGHT AND THIS MORNING. TODAY'S MORNING COMMUTE LOOKED A LITTLE RAINY AND GLOOMY, BUT IT DIDN'T SEEM TO BOTHER THESE KIDS, ALL BUNDLED UP IN THEIR RAINCOATS AND UMBRELLAS.

THE RAIN HAS BEEN A NICE RELIEF FOR THE DROUGHT STRICKEN BAY AREA, BUT WE'RE KEEPING TABS ON THE BIG PICTURE AS WELL, IN TERMS OF THE IMPACT OF THE DROUGHT ON OUR WATER SUPPLY. AS KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE REPORTS NOW, TODAY'S RAIN DID LITTLE TO MAKE THINGS BETTER AS FAR AS THE DROUGHT IS CONCERNED:

THE LATEST RAIN SHOWERS TO ARRIVE HERE IN THE BAY AREA ARE WELCOME, BUT THEY WERE ONLY A BRIEF DISTRACTION FROM THE REAL WEATHER STORY, WHICH, OF COURSE, IS THE ON-GOING DROUGHT. AMONG THE MANY IMAGES REINFORCING THAT IS THE WATER VANISHING FROM OUR RESERVOIRS.

ONLY LAST WEEK I PAID A VISIT HERE TO CHESBRO RESERVOIR OUTSIDE MORGAN HILL, WHICH WAS JUST ONE PERCENT FULL AT THAT TIME. NOW, JUST A WEEK LATER, WATER MANAGERS HAVE DECLARED THE RESERVOIR TO BE EMPTY. AS YOU CAN SEE, THERE'S STILL SOME WATER TO BE SEEN NEAR THE DAM BUT THE LEVEL IS NOW BELOW THE POINT WHERE IT CAN FLOW INTO THE CREEK BELOW. IT'S ALSO BELOW THIS VALVE WHICH IS USED TO TAKE WATER FROM THE RESERVOIR AND RECHARGE THE BELOW-GROUND AQUIFERS IN THE AREA.

THERE WILL BE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES FOR THE FISH AND WILDLIFE AND NO REAL RELIEF FOR ABOVE-GROUND WATER STORAGE UNTIL IT RAINS HARD AND LONG ENOUGH TO CREATE SOME RUNOFF.

TAKEN TOGETHER, CHESBRO AND THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY'S OTHER RESERVOIRS ARE ONLY A COMBINED 35 PERCENT FULL.

IN MORGAN HILL ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS.

ENVIRONMENT

9/28/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
State considering water rationing

AS CALIFORNIA'S DROUGHT CONTINUES, STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES ARE LOOKING TO BUDGET WATER USE BY CREATING A DAILY WATER ALLOCATION FOR EACH HOUSEHOLD.

UNDER THE PLAN, EACH HOUSEHOLD WOULD GET A CERTAIN NUMBER OF GALLONS ALLOTTED FOR INDOOR WATER USE AND ANOTHER FOR OUTDOOR WATER USE.

THE WATER USAGE AMOUNT WOULD BE CALCULATED USING CENSUS DATA, AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY, AND SATELLITE IMAGERY.

THOSE WHO USE ABOVE THEIR DESIGNATED AMOUNT WOULD PAY EXTRA.

HEALTH

HEALTH

7/7/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

New technology eases emergency room wait times

EMERGENCY ROOMS ARE NOTORIOUS FOR LONG WAIT TIMES. BUT NOW, YOU CAN AVOID SITTING AROUND A HOSPITAL WAITING TO SEE A DOCTOR. INSTEAD YOU CAN WAIT FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN COUCH. KRON 4'S JUSTINE WALDMAN TELLS US YOU CAN NOW BOOK YOUR VISIT TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM ONLINE:

WHEN YOU ARE SICK, NOTHING IS MORE PAINFUL THAN SITTING IN A HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM. BUT NOW, WITH JUST A FEW CLICKS ONLINE, YOU CAN SKIP THE WAITING PART AND SEE A PHYSICIAN WHEN YOU ARRIVE.

Deb Morton, RN: "IF someone is not feeling well and doesn't want to sit in a waiting room and they want to wait in their own bed, this would be great for them."

DEB MORTON IS THE SENIOR DIRECTOR OF NURSING AT ST. MARY'S MEDICAL CENTER, PART OF DIGNITY HEALTH. THE HOSPITAL USES AN ONLINE ER WAITING SERVICE.

PATIENTS CAN MAKE AN APPOINTMENT ON THE HOSPITAL'S WEBSITE. A FAX THEN COMES TO THE ER, SO THE STAFF KNOWS AHEAD OF TIME WHAT SYMPTOMS ARE COMING IN. BUT, THE ONLINE SYSTEM IS NOT MEANT FOR EVERY ILLNESS.

Morton: "It's not for a life threatening situation. There are key words like chest pain, hemorrhaging. If those type of words come up, the system will automatically stop that patient and will tell them to call 911 or come straight to the emergency room. So it does filter that out."

NATURALLY THERE IS SOME EXPLAINING TO DO WHEN A PATIENT WITH A RESERVATION GETS USHERED IN WHILE OTHERS ARE LEFT IN THE WAITING ROOM.

SOME HOSPITALS CHARGE ABOUT \$10 TO BOOK ONLINE AND RESERVE THAT EXAM ROOM BED, BUT DIGNITY HEALTH DOES NOT. PATIENTS USUALLY GET AN APPOINTMENT WITHIN THE HOUR, AND WHILE THEY'RE WAITING AT HOME THEY FEEL BETTER AND MORE COMFORTABLE THAN WAITING HERE.

IN SAN FRANCISCO JUSTINE WALDMAN KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

7/16/14 KRON 4 Evening News

West Nile virus a growing Bay Area concern

THE WEST NILE VIRUS IS APPEARING IN A RECORD NUMBER OF CASES IN THE BAY AREA THIS YEAR. NAPA COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS HAVE REPORTED ONE DEAD BIRD INFECTED WITH THE WEST NILE VIRUS. THAT'S THE COUNTY'S FIRST INFECTED ANIMAL SO FAR THIS YEAR. THE DEAD CROW WAS FOUND IN THE CITY OF NAPA ON JULY 2ND.

AS OF NOW, HEALTH OFFICIALS HAVE NOT SCHEDULED ANY FOGGING IN THE AREA. HOWEVER, OTHER BAY AREA COUNTIES ARE DEALING WITH BIGGER PROBLEMS.

KRON 4'S GRANT LODES HAS MORE:

MOSQUITO CONTROL CREWS ARE IN THE MIDST OF A BUSY DAY OF FOGGING IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY. THIS COMES AFTER MORE MOSQUITOS AND DEAD BIRDS TESTED POSITIVE FOR WEST NILE IN PARTS OF MARTINEZ AND DISCOVERY BAY.

STARTING TONIGHT AROUND 8:30 AND LASTING UNTIL ABOUT 11:30, CREWS WILL BE SPRAYING INSECTICIDE NEAR THE CARQUINEZ STRAIT IN MARTINEZ. AND THIS MORNING, CREWS DID THE SAME IN THE DISCOVERY BAY AREA, NEAR THE YACHT HARBOR AND COUNTRY CLUB.

EXPERTS SAY THE FOGGING IS NOT HAZARDOUS TO PEOPLE AND PETS. THEY STRESS THAT CONTROLLING MOSQUITO POPULATIONS IS CRITICAL TO PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF THE WEST NILE VIRUS TO HUMANS.

HEALTH

7/21/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Town hall addresses health care delivery for veterans

IN THE WAKE OF PROBLEMS PLAGUING VA MEDICAL CENTERS AROUND THE COUNTRY, FROM IMPOSSIBLE-TO-GET APPOINTMENTS TO ALLEGED COVER-UPS, LAWMAKERS HERE IN THE BAY AREA ARE HOPING TO HEAR FROM VETS THEMSELVES. KRON 4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS CHECKS OUT WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY ABOUT CARE IN SAN FRANCISCO:

VETERANS, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, PACKED THE AUDITORIUM AT THE VA SAN FRANCISCO MEDICAL CENTER. IT'S THE SECOND TOWN HALL HOSTED BY CONGRESSWOMAN JACKIE SPEIER TO TRY AND ROOT OUT PROBLEMS.

THIS VETERAN'S TOWN HALL MEETING IS A CHANCE FOR THE VETS TO TALK ABOUT THEIR OWN PERSONAL ILLS, BUT ALSO ABOUT THE HEALTH OF THE SYSTEM ITSELF.

Veteran 1: "Excellent doctors here. I was hooked up with UCSF and with Stanford. But I think, as I addressed here, it's understaffed. They need more staff."

Veteran 2: "They are over-prescribing medications to many of the veterans from different pharmaceutical companies."

FROM UNDERSTAFFING TO OVER-MEDICATING TO OUTDATED COMPUTERS, THE LIST WAS LONG.

Congresswoman Speier: "The fact that we have a software system that is 30 years old. A phone system that's antiquated. All those things actually impede the kind of expectations a veteran has of getting a timely appointment, getting a surgery when they need it. And the result is that many of them spend a good part of their lives in pain, and that's not something we should be setting up for them."

Veteran 3: "I don't know. We can only try. It's the only government we got. So we can only try till it falls."

Speier: "A bandaid is only going to make that sore fester. We've got to fix it once and for all."

IN SAN FRANCISCO VICKI LIVIAKIS KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

7/23/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Perception is part of the problem in battling childhood obesity

MORE THAN A THIRD OF U.S. CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS ARE OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE, BUT A NEW STUDY SAYS MANY OF THEM DO NOT SEE THEMSELVES THAT WAY. A CDC STUDY SAYS NEARLY A THIRD OF YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 8 AND 15 PUT THEMSELVES IN THE WRONG WEIGHT CATEGORY.

CHILDREN OF A NORMAL WEIGHT RANGE ALMOST ALWAYS SAID SO, BUT OVERWEIGHT AND OBESE CHILDREN WERE WAY OFF IN THEIR SELF-ASSESSMENT. AS AN EXAMPLE, MORE THAN 40% OF OBESE CHILDREN APPARENTLY DIDN'T REALIZE THEY EVEN HAD A WEIGHT PROBLEM. BEING FAT CAN CAUSE ALL KINDS OF HEALTH PROBLEMS, INCLUDING DIABETES AND HEART PROBLEMS. ON OUR WEBSITE KRON-4 DOT COM WE'VE POSTED LINKS TO HEIGHT AND WEIGHT RECCOMENDATIONS.

HEALTH

8/5/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Addressing viewer concerns about ebola

THE SECOND EBOLA PATIENT EVER IN THE U.S IS BEING TREATED IN ATLANTA TONIGHT. NANCY WRITBOL WAS CARRIED INTO EMORY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN ATLANTA ON A STRETCHER THIS MORNING. THE 59 YEAR OLD MISSIONARY WORKER GOT SICK IN LIBERIA WHILE SERVING AS PART OF AN EBOLA DECONTAMINATION TEAM. AFTER TWO DOSES OF AN EXPERIMENTAL SERUM, DOCTORS THINK SHE HAS A FIGHTING CHANCE TO SURVIVE. WRITBOL IS DESCRIBED AS WEAK, BUT IMPROVING.

THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION SAYS THE EBOLA EPIDEMIC HAS KILLED NEARLY 900 PEOPLE IN WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND INFECTED MORE THAN 16 HUNDRED OTHERS.

A SACRAMENTO PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER WHO HAS JUST BEEN EVACUATED BACK TO CALIFORNIA FROM WESTERN AFRICA SAYS AFRICAN OFFICIALS ARE NOT DOING A GOOD JOB OF HANDLING THE OUTBREAK.

Dawson Jopes, Peace Corps participant: "The proper management procedures and techniques that should be taking place to contain it have not always taken place. There have been some crucial points where the ball has really been dropped and responsibility has not been taken effectively."

SIERRA LEONE IS NOW SENDING OUT PLEAS FOR HELP, ACKNOWLEDGING IT IS NOT ABLE TO DEAL WITH THE CRISIS.

AN EBOLA SCARE IN NEW YORK TONIGHT AS A PLANE FROM ABU DHABI WAS HELD AT JFK AIRPORT FOR AWHILE WHEN A BABY BEGAN COUGHING UP BLOOD. OFFICIALS NOW THINK THE CHILD WAS SIMPLY DEHYDRATED. MEANTIME, DOCTORS IN NEW YORK ARE STILL WAITING FOR TEST RESULTS ON A MAN WHO CHECKED HIMSELF INTO THE HOSPITAL WITH A HIGH FEVER YESTERDAY. HE HAD BEEN TRAVELING IN WEST AFRICA. THEY DO NOT THINK HE HAS EBOLA, BUT THEY ARE NOT TAKING ANY CHANGES. THERE HAS BEEN A STRING OF CASES WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE FALSE ALARMS, INCLUDING A WOMAN IN OHIO, A HALF DOZEN PEOPLE IN NEW YORK, AND A MAN IN BALTIMORE.

JUSTINE WALDMAN CONTINUES OUR COVERAGE WITH LOCAL CONCERNS ABOUT THE VIRUS OUTBREAK:

THERE ARE LOTS OF WORRIES ABOUT EBOLA. YOU SENT US YOUR QUESTIONS ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER AND WE WANT TO ANSWER SOME OF YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT THE DEADLY DISEASE.

Mary asks us.. "I am wondering at Emory hospital how they dispose of all the clothing, etc that is being used there."

EMORY IN ATLANT IS WHERE THE TWO PATIENTS WITH EBOLA ARE BEING TREATED RIGHT NOW. I FOUND OUT THAT ALL THE MEDICL STAFF DEALING WITH THE PATIENTS WEAR SPECIAL MASKS, HOODS AND GLOVES TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM THE FLUIDES THAT SPREAD THE VIRUS. AND THE AMBULANCE USED TO TRANSPORT THE PATIENTS WAS BLEACHED. THE PLANE THEY FLEW IN WAS DISINFECDTED AND ALL THE SHEETS THEY TOUCHED WERE BURNED.

Tasha, on Facebook, asks us: "How do we keep our children safe? I have a 1-year-old and I'm extremely concerned."

IF YOU LIVE IN THE UNITED STATES, YOUR WORRY LEVEL SHOULD BE QUITE LOW. UNTIL THIS PAST WEEKEND, EBOLA HAD NEVER ENTERED THE UNITED STATES. THINK OF IT THIS WAY. GLOBALLY, SO FAR THIS YEAR, EBOAL HAS KILLED NEARLY 900 PEOPLE VS IN 2009 THE FLU VIRUS KILLED 284 THOUSAND PEOPLE. MOST AMERICANS ARE NOT AT RISK. KEEP IN MIND, EBOLA IS NOT CONTAGIOUS UNTIL SYPMTOMS APPEAR AND TRANSMISISON HAPPENS THROUGH DIRECT CONTACT WITH BODILY FLUIDS.

ANOTHER FREQUENT QUESTION ON VIEWERS' MINDS IS REGARDING TRAVEL AND HOW OFFICIALS WILL KEEP AN INTERNATIONAL TRAVELER WITH EBOLA FROM TRANSMITTING IT TO OTHERS.

THE CDC HAS ISSUED A LEVEL 3 TRAVEL WARNING, ASKING PEOPLE TO AVOID TRAVEL TO WEST AFRICA. IF AIRPLANE STAFF NOTICE A SICK PERSON ON A PLANE, THE PILOT WILL CALL IT IN AND MEMBERS OF THE CDC WILL BOARD UPON ARRIVAL AND ASK THE SICK PASSENGER ABOUT SYMPTOMS. IF A SICK PERSON MAKES IT THROUGH THE AIRPORT, IMMIGRATIONS OFFICIALS TRAINED TO SPOT THE SIGNS OF EBOLA WILL NOTIFY THE CDC AND ESCORT THE TRAVELER TO AN ISOLATION ROOM AT THE AIRPORT FOR CLINICAL ASSESSMENT. IF EBOLA IS SUSPECTED, THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE DISINFECTED.

THESE CONCERNS ARE ALSO AFFECTING THE AIRLINE INDUSTRY. BRITISH AIRWAYS HAS TEMPORARILY STOPPED ITS FLIGHTS TO AND FROM SIERRA LEONE AND LIBERIA, SAYING IT DOES NOT WANT TO TAKE ANY CHANCES WITH THE SAFETY OF ITS CUSTOMERS AND CREW MEMBERS. THAT SUSPENSION IS EXPECTED TO LAST UNTIL AT LEAST THE END OF AUGUST.

MEANWHILE,CLOSER TO HOME, WHY WOULD ANYONE WILLINGLY TRAVEL TO THE DANGER ZONE IN WEST AFRICA? A SAN FRANCISCO WOMAN IS THERE NOW ON A QUEST TO BRING HOME HER SON. KRON 4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS SPOKE WITH HER ABOUT WHAT IT'S LIKE RIGHT NOW IN SIERRA LEONE AND ASKED IF SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT GETTING SICK WITH EBOLA AND BRINGING IT BACK TO THE BAY AREA.

ARMED WITH ONLY HANDI-WIPES AND LATEX GLOVES, NATALIE WISNIEWSKI LEFT THE SAFETY OF SAN FRANCISCO TO CATCH A FLIGHT TO SIERRA LEONE, THE HEART OF THE EBOLA OUTBREAK.

SHE IS DETERMINED TO PICK UP HER ADOPTED SON KAI AND BRING HIM BACK TO THE BAY AREA TO START SCHOOL.

JUST BEFORE LEAVING NATALIE HAD A SCARE.

Wisniewski: "I was terrified. Three weeks ago, he started to show symptoms. I was mortified. His symptoms subsided after about two days."

IT WASN'T EBOLA, BUT A TREATABLE TROPICAL DISEASE.

NATALIE IS NOW IN SIERRA LEONE AND IS COMMUNICATING VIA TEXT THAT SHE AND KAI ARE IN A PROTECTED AREA SHE IS ASSURED IS SAFE AND SANITARY. SHE ALSO SAID THAT THE STREETS ARE DESERTED, CORROBORATED BY THIS CNN FOOTAGE OF WHAT'S BEING CALLED A NATIONAL EBOLA EMERGENCY DAY WHERE PEOPLE ARE TOLD TO STAY HOME.

Wisniewski: "It's best that it stay far away from you. It can't be spread through the air. It has to be through direct contact. So that makes it very manageable, compared to other diseases that are airborne. It's just the education."

IS WISNIEWSKI AFRAID OF BACKLASH IN THE BAY AREA FROM PEOPLE WHO HEAR THAT KAI IS COMING FROM AN AREA WITH EBOLA?

Wisniewski: "I am well-aware of the signs and I definitely wouldn't want to put anybody at risk. I would be glad to sit with him in quarantine. It's a 21 day incubation period. He doesn't have any signs anymore, so it would just be a precautionary measure. But I feel he'd be safer in a U.S. quarantine facility than where he is now."

NATALIE AND KAI ARE PLANNING TO LEAVE WEST AFRICA AND RETURN TO SFO AS EARLY AS NEXT WEEK.

IN SAN FRANCISCO VICKI LIVIAKIS KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

8/8/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Bay Area West Niles numbers and how public can help contain the virus

BRAND NEW NUMBERS JUST RELEASED SHOW THE NUMBER OF WEST NILE CASES IN BIRDS AND MOSQUITOES IS ON THE RISE AROUND THE BAY AREA. THE NUMBERS ARE EXTREMELY HIGH IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY. IN FACT, THAT COUNTY HAS THE MOST CASES IN THE STATE. THAT'S WHERE KRON 4'S ALECIA REID IS TONIGHT, WITH MORE ON WHAT OFFICIALS ARE DOING TO KEEP THE VIRUS FROM SPREADING:

WEST NILE IS RAMPANT HERE IN SANTA CLARA – 560 DEAD BIRDS WHO TESTED POSITIVE FOR THE VIRUS HAVE BEEN FOUND SO FAR THIS YEAR. THE VECTOR CONTROL IS BUSIER THIS SUMMER THAN THEY'VE BEEN IN A LONG TIME. I GOT TO VISIT A FEW MOSQUITO BREEDING GROUNDS, AND IT'S A CONSTANT BATTLE KILLING THAT LARVA.

Bob Kaufman, Santa Clara County Vector Control: "In this area right here, if you zoom in, you can see the larva swimming."

ALL THOSE LITTLE BLACK THINGS SWIMMING AROUND ARE MOSQUITO LARVA. HUNDREDS OF THEM ARE IN THIS LITTLE PUDDLE OF WATER. AT ALUM ROCK PARK, BOB KAUFMAN FROM THE VECTOR CONTROL FOUND EVEN MORE IN THE CREEK.

Kaufman: "We keep trying to treat and keep it in check, but as you can tell it's a difficult one to keep in check. We're probably due to treat it again."

ONCE THOSE BUD INTO ADULT MOSQUITOS, THEY CAN EASILY TRANSMIT THE WEST NILE VIRUS. MOST OF THE BIRDS THAT'VE BEEN FOUND IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY ARE CROWS. TO HELP SLOW DOWN THE SPREAD OF THE DISEASE, CREWS REGULARLY VISIT KNOWN BREEDING GROUNDS.

Kaufman: "This pool has bred mosquitos in the past, so let's see if we got any. Oh, that's kinda nasty, but we can see if there's any larva is in here."

A LOT OF CASES THE VECTOR CONTROL HEARS ABOUT ARE FROM CONCERNED RESIDENTS THAT LIVE NEAR MOSQUITO-INFECTED BREEDING GROUND. SO IF YOU'RE BEING BOTHERED BY MOSQUITOS, OR KNOW OF A POTENTIAL BREEDING SOURCE, CONTACT THE VECTOR CONTROL.

REPORTING IN SAN JOSE ALECIA REID

HEALTH

8/10/14 KRON 4 WEEKEND MORNING NEWS

Summer poses unique challenges for seniors

AS WE MOVE INTO MID- AUGUST, TEMPERATURES IN THE BAY AREA OFTEN GET HIGHER. AND THAT POSES A SPECIAL RISK TO SENIOR CITIZENS. JOINING ME NOW IS MICHELLE ROGERS, A FRANCHISE OWNER OF THE HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE TO TALK ABOUT HOW SENIORS CAN TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES IN THE HEAT:

WHAT ISSUES DO SENIORS FACE?

As we age and become less active, muscle mass breaks down and that's where water is stored in the body. Less available water in the body and the tendency for seniors to drink less fluid means proper hydration becomes a serious issue for seniors.

IS THE STANDARD "8 GLASSES OF WATER A DAY" ANY DIFFERENT FOR SENIORS?

That is still the guideline and seniors are encouraged to flavor their water to make it more interesting and palatable. Also, eat more vegetables and fruits which have a higher water content, and don't overdo protein which pulls away water.

HOW DO SENIORS ON FIXED INCOMES MANAGE HEAT WITHOUT AIR CONDITIONING?

Try fans which are less costly and keep the house as cool as possible by shutting blinds and drapes during the heat of the day. Try a cool bath or shower in the afternoon to cool down the body. Wearing less clothing, not being as covered up, is another tactic but sometimes an issue with older people. Avoid housework, anything taxing to the body, during heat of the day; schedule for early morning or evening instead.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF OVERHEATING?

The most obvious are lethargy and not thinking clearly. Call a doctor or even 911. Don't take a chance.

HEALTH

9/6/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
New virus outbreak widens

A MYSTERIOUS RESPIRATORY VIRUS IS SENDING HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN TO HOSPITALS IN SEVERAL STATES. THE VIRUS CAUSES SYMPTOMS LIKE A COLD, EXCEPT WORSE AND IN A SIGN OF A POSSIBLE REGIONAL OUTBREAK, COLORADO, ILLINOIS AND OHIO ARE REPORTING CASES WITH SYMPTOMS SIMILAR TO THE SAME VIRUS.

HOSPITALS ACROSS THE DENVER AREA ARE ON ALERT FOR AN ILLNESS THAT CAN LEAVE CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS WITH ASTHMA DEBILITATED. MARC STEWART HAS MORE.

Will Carnejo, patient: "A couple of days ago, a couple days ago, I couldn't breathe at all."

THE OXYGEN MASK IS A NECESSITY FOR HIM.

Carnejo: "My head started hurting. After that, my lungs started closing up."

13 YEAR OLD WILL CARNEJO ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT.

Carnejo's mother: "White as a ghost, blue lips. He just passed out. Had his eyes rolled back in his head. We had to call 9-1-1."

NOW AT ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, WILL IS LIKELY DEALING WITH ENTEROVIRUS 68. IT MAKES BREATHING CHALLENGING AND REQUIRES ROUND THE CLOCK TREATMENT.

Rocky Mountain Hospital spokesperson: "Our pediatric floor is full of patients with severe respiratory distress."

WILL WAS AT RISK BECAUSE HE ALREADY DEALS WITH ASTHMA, BUT DOCTORS SAY KIDS UNDER 5 ARE ALSO PRONE TO THE VIRUS THAT APPEARS AS THE COMMON COLD.

Carnejo: "To go from a cold to you know, minutes away from death is kind of scary."

DESPITE THE TUBES, THIS EIGHTH GRADER IS ON THE MEND...

Carnejo "I feel better than I did before."

HIS FAMILY IS SHARING THEIR STORY, HOPING PARENTS WILL PAY ATTENTION, UNTIL THERE'S AN ALL-CLEAR. DOCTORS SAY THE VIRUS IS EXTREMELY RARE AND THEY HAVE YET TO PINPOINT WHY SO MANY CASES HAVE SPRUNG UP RECENTLY. SINCE MID AUGUST MORE THAN 900 CHILDREN HAVE BEEN TREATED FOR SEVERE RESPIRATORY ILLNESS IN THE DENVER AREA.

HEALTH

9/6/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Health Digest

MAKING HEALTH HEADLINES THIS WEEK, YOUR SHRINKING BRAIN, DOUBLE MASTECTOMIES AND DOCTORS WITH EBOLA. HERE'S HOLLY FIRFER WITH TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE.

CAN A LACK OF SLEEP SHRINK YOUR BRAIN?

A NEW STUDY IN THE JOURNAL "NEUROLOGY" SEEMS TO SUGGEST THAT. RESEARCHERS SCANNED 147-PARTICIPANTS' BRAINS... THEN ABOUT THREE-AND-A-HALF YEARS LATER, SCANNED THEM AGAIN. THOSE WHO SLEPT POORLY HAD A MORE RAPID DECLINE IN BRAIN VOLUME...ESPECIALLY IN PARTICIPANTS OVER 60.

AND A NEW STUDY SUGGESTS PRE-EMPTIVE DOUBLE MASTECTOMIES WILL NOT IMPROVE SURVIVAL ODDS FOR PATIENTS BATTLING EARLY-STAGE CANCER IN ONE BREAST. THE STUDY LOOKED AT NEARLY 200-THOUSAND WOMEN. IT FOUND NEARLY IDENTICAL 10-YEAR SURVIVAL RATES FOR THOSE WHO EITHER CHOSE A DOUBLE MASTECTOMY OR CHOSE REMOVAL OF THE TUMOR AND RADIATION IN THE CANCEROUS BREAST INSTEAD. BUT THE STUDY ALSO FOUND THAT THOSE WHO ELECTED A SINGLE MASTECTOMY HAD A SLIGHTLY LOWER SURVIVAL RATE. THE RESEARCH APPEARS IN THIS WEEK'S JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

AND THE NUMBER OF EBOLA CASES IN WEST AFRICA HAS NOW SURPASSED 35-HUNDRED. THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION SAYS MORE THAN 240-OF THEM ARE MEDICAL STAFF, SO WHY DO THEY KEEP GETTING SICK? MANY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS SAY THEY JUST DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PROTECTIVE GEAR, AND SOMETIMES IT ISN'T USED PROPERLY. THE EBOLA VIRUS IS SPREAD THROUGH DIRECT OR INDIRECT CONTACT WITH BODILY FLUIDS FROM AN INFECTED PATIENT, WHICH MEANS TAKING *OFF* CONTAMINATED PROTECTIVE GEAR CORRECTLY IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS PUTTING IT ON.

FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, I'M HOLLY FIRFER.

HEALTH

9/10/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

California extends sick leave benefits to more workers

A BIG DEAL FOR CALIFORNIA WORKERS THAT WE WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU TONIGHT. GRANT JOINS ME NOW WITH A BREAKDOWN OF A NEW LAW THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE GOING TO LIKE.

THE GOVERNOR SIGNED A BILL TODAY PROVIDING MILLIONS OF WORKERS WITH UP TO THREE PAID SICK DAYS EACH YEAR. NOW, SOME PEOPLE PROBABLY TAKE THIS FOR GRANTED -- BUT IT'S A SERIOUS THING. SUPPORTERS SAY AS MANY AS 6.5 MILLION WORKERS -- INCLUDING TEMPORARY AND PART-TIME EMPLOYEES -- WILL BENEFIT FROM THE LAW THAT BECOMES EFFECTIVE NEXT JULY. THE GOVERNOR SAYS THE LAW IS "THE LEAST WE CAN DO" WITH A GROWING INCOME GAP DIVIDING AMERICA." AND HERE WHAT A COUPLE OF OUR VIEWERS HAD TO SAY ABOUT IT TONIGHT ON TWITTER:

RG: "All California workers get pad sick leave now. Thanks Governor."

Alyssa: "Hooray for 3 days of paid sick leave in 2015!"

IT'S AMAZING THAT THERE HAD TO BE A LAW TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN. OF COURSE, A LOT OF BUSINESS INTERESTS WILL SAY THIS IS A JOB KILLER AND WILL HURT SMALL BUSINESSES. BUT IT WOULD SEEM MENTAL HEALTH WOULD BE IMPROVED AS MUCH AS PHYSICAL HEALTH FOR WORKERS WHO DID NOT HAVE SICK LEAVE BEFORE. ESPECIALLY FOR WORKERS WITH CHILDREN. WHEN CHILDREN ARE ILL YOU HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE BETWEEN WORKING AND STAYING HOME TO CARE FOR A SICK CHILD AND RISK LOSING YOUR JOB.

HEALTH

9/10/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Update on spread of enterovirus

THAT RESPIRATORY ILLNESS...THAT'S TERRIFYING PARENTS ACROSS MUCH OF THE U.S. IS SPREADING AND GETTING CLOSER TO CALIFORNIA.

RIGHT NOW 12 STATES ARE REPORTING WIDESPREAD CASES OF ENTEROVIRUS D-68. HALF OF THOSE STATES HAVE CONFIRMED CASES OF THE RESPIRATORY ILLNESS. YOU CAN SEE IT'S MAKING ITS WAY WEST, NOW BEING REPORTED IN UTAH.

MOST AT RISK ARE YOUNG CHILDREN. KIDS UNDER THE AGE OF FIVE WHO HAVE ASTHMA ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE.

YOU MIGHT CONFUSE ENTEROVIRUS SYMPTOMS WITH THAT OF THE COMMON COLD. SNEEZING, RUNNY NOSE, COUGHING, SORE THROAT...IN SOME CASES FEVER, BODY ACHES AND WHEEZING.

THE BIGGEST DISTINCTION BETWEEN ENTEROVIRUS AND THE FLU IS WHEN THESE SYMPTOMS APPEAR. ENTEROVIRUS...GENERALLY PEAKS IN SEPTEMBER, BUT IT'S MUCH WORSE THIS YEAR THAN A NORMAL YEAR. WE HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED FLU SEASON, WHICH TENDS TO PEAK IN THE WINTER MONTHS.

HEALTH

9/11/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Do consumers need to adhere to sell by dates?

MOST OF US ARE PROGRAMMED TO THROW AWAY MILK, EGGS AND MEAT ONCE THEY ARE PAST THEIR EXPIRATION DATE. BUT GRANT IS HERE WITH ANOTHER APPROACH THAT COULD SAVE PEOPLE LOTS OF MONEY.

I'M USUALLY "BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY" IN MY APPROACH TO THOSE DATES, HOWEVER, EXPERTS SAY WE AMERICANS WASTE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS BECAUSE WE TOSS AWAY FOOD TOO EARLY DUE TO DATE CONFUSION. WE TOSS OUR FOOD TOO EARLY.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BABY FORMULA, THERE ARE NO OFFICIAL FEDERAL EXPIRATION DATES FOR FOOD. AND ONE HEALTH EXPERT SAYS THE SELL BY DATE ON MOST PACKAGES IS NOT MEANT FOR CONSUMERS.

Karen Ansel, Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist: "A lot of people think they are expiration dates. But they're not. They are actually dates to tell stores how long to display food in terms of freshness. It has nothing to do with how safe the product is."

SO, HOW LONG IS FOOD SAFE TO EAT PAST THAT PRINTED SELL BY DATE? FOR MILK, IT'S 3 TO 5 DAYS, BUT IT'S WISE TO USE YOUR NOSE ON THAT. EGGS ARE GOOD FOR 3 TO 5 WEEKS PAST THE CARTON DATE. MEAT IS A DIFFERENT STORY. YOU NEED TO USE MEAT BY THE DATE ON THE PACKAGE OR FREEZE IT. BUT EVEN FROZEN, IT'S ONLY GOOD FOR 4 MONTHS, WHICH WAS NEWS TO ME. FREEZING DOES NOT MEAN FOREVER.

HEALTH

9/17/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Health concerns can show up in some unlikely places

A DENTAL HYGIENIST IN PHOENIX NOTICED SOMETHING STRANGE IN THE MOUTHS OF HER PATIENTS -- AND SPOKE UP ABOUT IT. NOW, A TOOTHPASTE MANUFACTURER IS TAKING ACTION. STEPHANIE HOCKRIDGE HAS THE STORY.

Trish Walraven, dental hygienist: "I didn't have any clue what it was."

TRISH WALRAVEN HAS SEEN LOTS OF THINGS AS A DENTAL HYGIENIST, BUT UNTIL A FEW YEARS AGO SHE HAD NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS!

Walraven: "We thought it was a cleaning product or something that people were chewing."

LITTLE BLUE DOTS, TRAPPED IN THE TINY SPACES BETWEEN PEOPLE'S TEETH AND GUMS.

Walraven: "Some weeks, I'll see 5 or 6 patients."

WALRAVEN STARTED ASKING AROUND AND OTHER HYGIENISTS WERE SEEING IT TOO. IT TOOK A WHILE, BUT THEY FINALLY FIGURED OUT WHAT IT WAS.

Walraven: "Polyethylene."

THAT'S A PLASTIC USED IN ALL KINDS OF THINGS. GARBAGE CONTAINERS. GROCERY BAGS. BULLET PROOF VESTS. EVEN KNEE REPLACEMENTS. AND NOW IT'S IN TOOTHPASTE. WALRAVEN SAYS ONE BRAND APPEARS TO USE THE PLASTIC MICROBEADS MORE THAN OTHERS.

Walraven: "Pretty much everyone was saying that they were using some form of Crest toothpaste."

VALLEY DENTIST JUSTIN PHILLIP SAYS THE MICROBEADS SHOULDN'T BE ANYWHERE NEAR YOUR MOUTH.

Dr. Justin Phillip, Valley Dentist: "They'll trap bacteria in the gums which leads to gingivitis, and over time that infection moves from the gum into the bone that holds your teeth and that becomes periodontal disease. Periodontal disease is scary."

WALRAVEN WANTS THE BEADS GONE, TOO. SHE WROTE A BLOG THAT HAS GOTTEN NATIONAL ATTENTION. IT EVEN CAUGHT THE EYE OF PROCTOR AND GAMBLE. IN A STATEMENT TO ABC15 THE CREST MANUFACTURER SAYS: "WHILE THE INGREDIENT IN QUESTION IS COMPLETELY SAFE, WE UNDERSTAND THERE IS A GROWING PREFERENCE FOR US TO REMOVE THE INGREDIENT. SO WE WILL."

HEALTH

9/17/14 KRON 4 Evening News

New link between artificial sweeteners and diabetes

IF YOU USE ARTIFICIAL SWEETENERS YOU MAY BE TRADING ONE EVIL FOR ANOTHER. THERE'S NEW INFORMATION ABOUT ARTIFICIAL SWEETENERS AND THE CONNECTION TO DIABETES, AND SOME RESEARCHERS ARE RAISING SERIOUS CONCERNS.

A STUDY OF FOUR HUNDRED SUBJECTS AT ISRAEL'S WEIZMAN INSTITUTE FOUND THOSE WHO CONSUMED THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF ARTIFICIAL SWEETENERS ALSO

HAD THE GREATEST PROBLEM CONTROLLING THEIR BLOOD SUGARS. AND WHEN SWEETNERS WERE GIVEN TO PEOPLE WHO DID NOT NORMALLY USE THEM, IN FOUR OUT OF SEVEN CASES, THEIR BLOOD SUGARS SOARED.

THAT WAS PUZZLING BECAUSE THE SWEETNERS ARE SUPPOSED TO PASS THROUGH THE BODY WITHOUT BEING ABSORBED. WHEN RESEARCHERS REPEATED THE TESTS WITH MICE, THEY GOT THE SAME RESULTS. THEY FOUND THAT BEFORE PASSING THROUGH THE BODY, THE ARTIFICIAL SWEETNERS SOMETIMES DISRUPT THE BACTERIA NORMALLY PRESENT IN THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM. AND THAT LED TO GLUCOSE INTOLERANCE, A CONDITION THAT CAN LEAD TO DIABETES.

EDUCATION

EDUCATION

7/28/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local for-profit college goes bankrupt, strands students

DESPITE THEIR HARD WORK AND THOUSANDS PAID IN TUITION, SOME BAY AREA COLLEGE STUDENTS GETTING A HARD DOSE OF TOUGH LUCK AS THEIR COLLEGE SHUTS DOWN, PERMANENTLY.

A PUNCH TO THE GUT FOR HUNDREDS OF LOCAL STUDENTS TODAY AFTER BRYMAN COLLEGE FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY AND CLOSES FOR GOOD. EMAILS WERE SENT, SIGNS WERE POSTED, AND THE DOORS WERE LOCKED TODAY. BRYMAN IS A VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, WITH CAMPUSES IN SAN FRANCISCO, SAN JOSE, HAYWARD AND LOS ANGELES. ONE BAY AREA BRYMAN STUDENT REACHED OUT TO US, STUNNED THAT THE SCHOOL CLOSED SO SUDDENLY. TONIGHT, SHE TALKED TO KRON4'S JUSTINE WALDMAN:

Student: "My name is Jennifer Cortes-Morales and this is My KRON 4 Story."

A SIGN ON THE FRONT DOOR SAYS THE SCHOOL IS NOW CLOSED. BRYMAN COLLEGE AND ITS BIOHEALTH COLLEGE SHUT DOWN ON MONDAY, LEAVING ABOUT 300 STUDENTS WITH NOTHING BUT TRANSCRIPTS. JENNIFER CORTES-MORALES IS ONE OF THEM.

Cortes-Morales: "I have no other options."

THE 39 YEAR OLD MOTHER OF FOUR IS A MEDICAL ASSISTANT. SHE JOINED THE PHARMACY PROGRAM AS A PATH TO START A BETTER LIFE FOR HER FAMILY.

Cortes-Morales: "I go to work at 8 in the morning. I get off at 6 and then I would go to class and be here until 9:30 or 10 at night. And so now, the last two months was for nothing."

JENNIFER DIDN'T LOSE ANY TUITION MONEY. BUT SOME STUDENTS HAD PAID ANYWHERE FROM 16 TO 18 THOUSAND DOLLARS IN TUITION. WHEN BRYMAN SUDDENTLY CANCELED CLASSES ON FRIDAY, JENNIFER KNEW SOMETHING WASN'T RIGHT.

Cortes-Morales: "So I was up to suspicion that something was going on at that time. Why would you cancel class? You would never cancel class unless it is a dire emergency."

THE DOORS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES ARE NOW LOCKED. THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT STUDENTS' CREDITS WILL TRANSFER ANYWHERE ELSE. MEANING JENNIFER MIGHT HAVE TO START OVER. BREAKING THIS NEWS TO HER KIDS WAS THE HARDEST PART.

Cortes-Morales: "I said there is an issue and something going on and my school is no longer going. And they are like 'you are not going to make more money?' and I'm like no, not at this time. But we will figure something out and we will go from there."

THE SCHOOL HAS NOT COMMENTED ON THE CLOSURE.

JUSTINE WALDMAN KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

8/6/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Controversy over new sex ed text book

HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH? THAT IS THE QUESTION SOME BAY AREA PARENTS ARE ASKING AFTER SEEING THE SEX EDUCATION THEIR CHILDREN MAY BE GETTING. THE FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANS TO USE A NEW BOOK TO TEACH SEX EDUCATION, BUT SOME SAY THE BOOK IS TOO GRAPHIC. KRON 4'S J.R. STONE REPORTS FROM FREMONT:

SEXTING, HOOKING UP, INTERNET PORNOGRAPHY AND CYBERSEX. ALL SUBJECTS ADDRESSED IN THE BOOK "YOUR HEALTH TODAY" THAT THE FREMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANS ON USING TO TEACH 9TH GRADERS SEX EDUCATION.

Cheryl Perez, teacher: "There is a reason these movies are rated R, because they are not age appropriate. This book is not age appropriate."

CHERYL PEREZ IS A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER WHO ONCE TAUGHT SEX ED. SHE DOESN'T AGREE WITH WHAT IS BEING TAUGHT IN THIS BOOK, SAYING IT IS GEARED TO 18-24 YEAR OLDS, NOT 13,14, AND 15 YEAR OLDS.

Teri Topham, parent: "About the push for safer sex in the adult film industry. I have a 13 year old daughter and I really don't think it's appropriate for her to be thinking about whether or not the adult film industry is practicing safe sex."

Carol Zilli, educator: "You cannot expose everyone in a classroom like that without hurting somebody if it's inappropriate, which I find this to be."

THE DISTRICT SAYS THEY MUST FOLLOW THE STATE GUIDELINES AND THIS BOOK IS THE BEST WAY TO DO SO.

Dr. Jim Morris, Fremont USD Superintendent: "They really did a review and said this is the best material available. Here's what we're required to teach by the standards and this is the best material we can find that is most accurate and up to date."

BUT THESE PARENTS AND TEACHERS DISAGREE, SAYING SOME THINGS ARE EVEN LEFT OUT OF THE BOOK. ISSUES LIKE BULLYING AND PUBERTY.

Zilli: "This is a how-to book about sex in certain sections. If any portion of a curriculum item is inappropriate, unfortunately you can't use it."

BUT THE DISTRICT SAYS THE BOOK WILL BE USED AND PARENTS WHO HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT CAN OPT THEIR CHILD OUT OF THE COURSE.

Dr. Morris: "Our board members made that decision. The books have been ordered and school begins on August 27th."

PARENTS HAVE STARTED AN ONLINE PETITION AGAINST THIS BOOK. THAT'S WHERE THEY'VE GAINED TRACTION HERE. SO FAR, MORE THAN 13 HUNDRED PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED THE PETITION.

JR STONE KRON 4 NEWS

THIS STORY IS POLARIZING. STRONG OPINIONS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ISSUE. OUR KRON4 FACEBOOK PAGE LIT UP WHEN WE POSTED THE STORY TODAY.

Jana: "By all means, don't bother talking to your kids about the realities of adulthood or anything. I'm sure hiding it and burying it deep down inside is the right way to go for their mental health. Ugh!"

Norman: "Bondage? Who in their right mind thinks that's appropriate for kids?"

THOSE ARE JUST TWO OPPOSING OPINIONS AND WE'D LIKE TO HEAR YOUR TAKE ON THE ISSUE AS WELL. YOU CAN JOIN THE CONVERSATION ON OUR KRON 4 FACEBOOK FAN PAGE.

EDUCATION

8/15/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

School choice problems in San Francisco

IT WAS TWO MONTHS AGO THAT WE FIRST MET SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL PARENT BILL FORD IN A MY KRON 4 STORY. HE TOLD US HOW, DESPITE MONTHS OF TRYING, HE WAS UNABLE TO GET HIS 11 YEAR OLD SON ENROLLED IN A NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL. THAT FORCED HIM TO EITHER PUT THE CHILD ALONE ON PUBLIC TRANSIT FOR TWO HOURS A DAY OR ENROLL HIM IN PRIVATE SCHOOL.

IT IS A PLIGHT FACED BY A NUMBER OF PARENTS IN THE SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, WHO ARE UNABLE TO GET THEIR SCHOOL OF CHOICE FOR THEIR KIDS. NOW WITH SCHOOL STARTING THIS MONDAY IN SAN FRANCISCO, KRON 4'S DAN KERMEN CHECKED BACK IN WITH BILL FORD TO SEE IF ANYTHING HAS CHANGED. IT'S A STORY YOU WILL SEE ONLY ON KRON 4:

WITH THREE DAYS TO GO BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, PARENT BILL FORD RETURNED TO THE SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES FRIDAY STILL TRYING TO GET HIS 11 YEAR OLD SON INTO A NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL.

Bill Ford, parent: "The only school he was assigned to – we were told over and over there were no other options – was over an hour and 15 minutes away by MUNI. So, he would have to ride by himself two and half hours on MUNI or his mom would have to leave her job to take him back and forth."

FORD, WHO HAPPENS TO BE A SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER HIMSELF, HAD THE SAME PROBLEM WITH THE CITY'S SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM LAST YEAR WHEN HIS SON WAS TEN AND FORD WAS FORCED TO PUT HIM IN A PRIVATE SCHOOL.

Ford: "There are things the district can do. I don't think they are working on the problem."

AND AFTER HIS LATEST MEETING, IT LOOKS LIKE THE SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM IS FAILING HIM AGAIN.

Ford: "They said there are other students on the wait list, you can wait, you will be notified September 5th, if there's an opening for this one school. The indication was, though, that the schools are full. This is the third application I have put in since last spring."

AND WITH THE LIKELIHOOD THAT HOOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL IS OUT OF THE PICTURE, AND HIS SON CAN ONLY BE WAIT LISTED FOR ONE SCHOOL, FORD SAYS HE WILL LIKELY HAVE TO COME UP WITH THE 7 THOUSAND DOLLARS AND PUT HIS CHILD BACK IN PRIVATE SCHOOL.

Ford: "It's a tough one. I don't know what we are going to do. It feels like a game we are playing here and these are people's lives, these are children's lives."

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT SAYS RIGHT NOW THERE ARE MORE THAN 2700 PARENTS IN THE SAME BOAT AS BILL FORD, NOT KNOWING IF THEY WILL GET THEIR CHILD INTO THEIR SCHOOL OF CHOICE.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

8/18/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Problems in San Francisco's school choice policy (Pt 2)

SOME STUDENTS IN SAN FRANCISCO HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED SCHOOLS THEY DID NOT CHOOSE AND REFUSE TO ATTEND. INSTEAD, THEY ARE WAITING FOR A SPOT TO OPEN UP IN THEIR SCHOOL OF CHOICE. WE HAVE BEEN REPORTING ON WHAT APPEAR TO BE PROBLEMS WITH THE CITY'S 'SCHOOL CHOICE' SYSTEM. TONIGHT, KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN HAS A FOLLOW UP TO A 'MY KRON 4 STORY' WE FIRST BROUGHT YOU IN JUNE

SCHOOL IS UNDERWAY AT SAN FRANCISCO'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS, HOWEVER NOT EVERYONE IS IN CLASS.

Nubia Garcia, parent: "Today is the first day of school and he is not going to school."

NUBIA GARCIA IS REFUSING TO SEND HER 11 YEAR OLD SON JAVIER TO VISITACION VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE DISTRICT SAYS IT'S HIS ONLY OPTION.

Garcia: "We just have to take what the district wants to give us and it's not acceptable."

AS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM, GARCIA BEGAN APPLYING FOR SCHOOLS 9 MONTHS AGO. MONTH AFTER MONTH SHE WAS TOLD THERE WAS NO ROOM AT ANY OF HER 4 SCHOOLS OF CHOICE AND HER SON WOULD HAVE TO GO TO VISITACION VALLEY.

Garcia: "I want a quality education for him, because he deserves it. We all deserve the best for our child."

GARCIA SAYS VISITACION VALLEY'S LOW TEST SCORES MAKE THE SCHOOL UNACCEPTABLE. SHE ALSO FEARS HAVING HER SON WAIT FOR A BUS IN THAT NEIGHBORHOOD.

Garcia: "He is only 11 years old, so he shouldn't be around neighborhoods that are not safe for him."

GARCIA'S SON REMAINS ON THE WAITLIST FOR GIANINNI MIDDLE SCHOOL, BUT THE FAMILY WILL NOT KNOW IF A SPOT OPENS UP FOR AT LEAST A WEEK AND MAYBE TWO

Javier Flores, Garcia's son: "It's very frustrating having no education and having nothing to look forward to."

WITH NO WHERE ELSE TO TURN GARCIA WENT TO CITY HALL TO TRY AND SPEAK WITH THE MAYOR. HE WAS UNAVAILBLE SO NOW SHE AND HER SON WAIT.

SAN FRANCISCO'S SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT SAYS MOST PARENTS WHO APPLY ON TIME GET ONE OF THEIR TOP SCHOOL CHOICES, THOUGH THERE IS NO GUARANTEE. DISTRIC OFFICIALS SAY PARENTS SHOULD NOT GIVE UP HOPE YET BECAUSE NOW THAT SCHOOL HAS STARTED, SPOTS WILL OPEN UP.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

9/15 14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Hi tech help for students and their parents

WE ARE A COUPLE WEEKS INTO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR. THE HOMEWORK IS STARTING TO PILE UP. IT CAN BE OVERWHELMING FOR STUDENTS OF ALL AGES AND FOR PARENTS OF YOUNG STUDENTS. SO LET ME OFFER YOU A LIFELINE. IF YOU THINK YOU NEED A TUTOR, HERE'S AN EASY WAY ONLINE TO FIND A GOOD AFFORDABLE ONE:

THIS WEBSITE CALLED WYZANT IS LIKE A YELP FOR TUTORS. YOU GET ON THERE, ENTER YOUR ZIP CODE AND THE SUBJECT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR AND YOU SHOP FOR TUTORS. ONCE YOU FIND ONE YOU LIKE WHO IS IN YOUR PRICE RANGE, YOU BOOK AN IN-PERSON SESSION.

IT CAN BE AT YOUR PLACE OR A LIBRARY OR YOU COULD MEET AT ANY CAFÉ OR ANYWHERE IN PUBLIC. THE TUTORS ON HERE ARE THOROUGHLY CHECKED OUT WITH BACKGROUND CHECKS. THE TUTORS ARE RATED AND REVIEWED BY THE CLIENTS, SO YOU CAN GET A GOOD IDEA OF WHO YOU'RE GOING TO WORK WITH.

TUTORS CHARGE IN THE RANGE OF \$15 UP TO \$50 AN HOUR. AND SOME OF THEM WILL NEGOTIATE, DEPENDING ON YOUR INCOME. WHAT I SAW IN MOST CASES THE TUTORS ON HERE ARE CHEAPER THAN OUT OF THE PHONE BOOK.

THIS SERVICE IS REALLY TAKING OFF IN THE BAY AREA. JUST IN SAN FRANCISCO ALONE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS, WYZANT HAS DISPATCHED TUTORS TO OVER 35 THOUSAND TUTORING LESSONS.

Peter Felton, "After working as a classroom teacher for four years, I really began to see that students succeed the best when it's one-on-one.

THIS IS PETER FELTON. HE IS A TUTOR ON WYZANT. HE HAS WORKED WITH THE SITE FOR 2 YEARS. HE HAS BUILT UP HIS CLIENTELE AND IS NOW MAKING A LIVING FROM IT.

Felton: "It's mostly college students and adults. The adults will say my son is in first grade and he really needs help reading."

GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

HOUSING

HOUSING

7/9-11/14 KRON 4 Evening News

On-going series focusing on Ellis Act evictions in San Francisco

SEVERAL DOZEN PROTESTORS RALLIED TODAY, CALLING FOR AN END TO THE RISING NUMBER OF EVICTONS IN SAN FRANCISCO. DEMONSTRATORS GATHERED IN FRONT OF THE OFFICES OF URBAN GREEN INVESTMENTS THIS MORNING. THEY SAY THIS FIRM IN PARTICULAR HAS PUCHASED A NUMBER OF BUILDINGS IN THE CITY, EVICTED THE TENATNTS THROUGH THE ELLIS ACT AND THEN RESOLD THE BUILDINGS FOR PROFIT. MANY OF THOSE BEING EVICTED ARE LOW INCOME FAMILIES AND SENIROS. TONIGHT, KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN TALKED WITH A 98 YEAR OLD WOMAN WHO IS NOW FIGHTING HER EVICTION.

YOU MIGHT NOT EXPECT A 98 YEAR OLD WOMAN TO ANSWER HER OWN DOOR, BUT MARY PHILLIPS DOES. SHE'S LIVED IN THIS DOLORES STREET APARTMENT FOR 50 YEARS...

Phillips: "I've been very happy here and I've always paid my rent. I've never been late."

BUT PHILLIPS DOESNT KNOW HOW LONG SHE'LL BE ABLE TO STAY HERE. THE BUILDING'S OWNER HAS EVICTED HER.

Phillips: "I didn't sit down and cry. I just refused to believe it. I thought, well, they're going to have to take me out of here feet first."

PHILLIPS SAYS SHE HAS NO WHERE ELSE TO GO, AND NOW SHE AND HER ATTORNEYS ARE FIGHTING THE EVICTION.

Phillips: "I've too old. I'm crowding 100. I'm too old to pack up and leave. I'll just kick the bucket right here."

THE APARTMENT IS FILLED WITH MEMENTOS AND MEMORIES OF DAYS GONE BY. PHILLIPS DOESN'T GO OUT ANYMORE, BUT SHE WAS ABLE TO ENJOY 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS FROM HER PATIO

Phillips: "Even when you're alone, as I am most of the time, as long as you can see activity, I think that's a big help."

FOR NOW SHE CONTINUES TO LIVE HER LIFE. AND IN CASE YOU THINK HER AGE MIGHT CAUSE HER TO CAVE IN AND CHANGE HER MIND, THINK AGAIN.

Phillips: "Just because of your age, don't let people push you around."

MARY PHILLIPS IS HOPING THAT THOSE WHO OWN THIS BUILDING WILL RETHINK THEIR DECISION TO EVICT HER. SHE SAYS THEY MUST HAVE PARENTS OR GRANDPARENTS WHO ARE HER AGE. SHE THINKS MAYBE ONCE THEY THINK ABOUT THAT THEY'LL COME TO THE DECISION YOU SHOULDN'T BE KICKING AN OLD LADY OUT OF HER HOME.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

THE URBAN GREEN INVESTMENT WEBSITE SAYS IT "Invests in multi-family, commercial and entitled land real estate in California."

TENANTS RIGHTS ADVOCATES THAT DOESN'T TELL THE FULL STORY.

Erin McElroy, tenants' rights advocate, "They're finding rent-controlled building and they're flipping them. They are evicting the tenants first and then they are selling the buildings for profit."

ERIN MCELROY IS WITH THE ANTI-EVICTION MAPPING PROJECT, WHICH TRACKS THE NUMBER OF EVICTIONS IN SAN FRANCISCO. ON THE GROUP'S WEBSITE, URBAN GREEN CEO DAVID MCCLOSKEY IS LISTED AMONG THE WORST EVICTORS.

McElroy: "They have bought at least 385 units with cash over the last few years alone in San Francisco. And they have Ellis Acted at least 5 buildings."

AMONG THE BUILDINGS WHERE THEY HAVE SERVED EVICTION NOTICES IS THIS DOLORES STREET APARTMENT BUILDING WHERE 98 YEAR OLD MARY PHILLIPS HAS LIVED FOR HALF A CENTURY.

Phillips: "I am not going to leave."

AS KRON 4 NEWS REPORTED WEDNESDAY, PHILLIPS HAS REFUSED TO GO AND WILL FIGHT THE EVICTION IN COURT.

Phillips: "I can't believe people can be so uncaring, I don't expect any special privileges or anything. I can understand from his standpoint how they'd want more income, but they should have looked into that before they purchased the property."

FOR THE SECOND DAY IN A ROW, WE TRIED TO CONTACT URBAN GREEN, BY PHONE AND EMAIL, AS WELL AS ITS PARENT COMPANY, ALSO BY PHONE AND EMAIL, TO HEAR FROM THEM ABOUT MARY PHILLIPS AND OTHER EVICTIONS. ONCE AGAIN, NO RESPONSE. SO WE CAME DOWN TO THEIR UNION STREET HEADQUARTERS. BUT, NO LUCK. WE WERE TOLD CEO DAVID MCCLOSKEY WAS NOT HERE, NO ONE ELSE COULD COMMENT AND YES THEY HAD RECEIVED MY EMAIL.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

A 98-YEAR-OLD WOMAN FIGHTING EVICTION. TONIGHT, URBAN GREEN DEVELOPMENT, THE COMPANY WHICH RUNS THE BUILDING THAT MARY PHILLIPS LIVES IN, SAYS IT PREVIOUSLY OFFERED HER A DEAL TO STAY IN HER APARTMENT. DAN KERMAN REPORTS ON WHY SHE TURNED DOWN THE DEAL IN THIS STORY YOU WILL ONLY SEE ON KRON4.

URBAN GREEN INVESTMENTS, THE COMPANY THAT SENT THIS EVICTION NOTICE TO 98 YEAR OLD MARY PHILLIPS LAST YEAR, AND FOLLOWED IT UP WITH THIS LAWSUIT IN APRIL OF THIS YEAR, NOW SAYS IT HAS OFFERED TO LET HER STAY. IN AN EMAIL TO KRON 4 NEWS, CEO DAVID MCCLOSKEY SAYS:

"Urban Green Investments offered Mary Phillips the opportunity to remain in her home for the rest of her life with no cost to Mary. This offer was first communicated to Ms. Phillips' lawyer in March 2014, and has been the topic of negotiation ever since then."

Sarah Sherburn-Zimmer, Eviction Free San Francisco: "Isolating elderly folks is deadly. Mary is 98 years old. She can't be alone in this building."

SARAH SHERBURN-ZIMMER WITH EVICTION FREE SF CALLS THE LANDLORD'S OFFER DISINGENUOUS BECAUSE AS PART OF THE COMPANY'S BUILDING-WIDE EVICTION, IT'S

TRYING TO FORCE MARY'S LONGTIME FRIEND, NEIGHBOR AND CAREGIVER SARAH BRANT OUT OF HER APARTMENT.

Sherburn-Zimmer: "For Mary to be able to walk across the hall and knock on Sarah's door in the middle of the night when she needs something is an important part of making sure Mary is okay and can continue living in her home. By pushing Sarah out, Urban Green is doing a silent eviction of Mary."

MARY PHILLIPS ATTORNEY AGREES. IN AN EMAIL TO KRON 4 NEWS, ATTORNEY STEVE COLLIER SAYS:

"The reality is that offering the 98 year old Mary Phillips the opportunity to live alone in a construction zone without her close friend and caregiver being able to stay in the building is an illusory offer, and UGI knows that. UGI always intended to evict Mary, but the media attention to Mary's plight has changed UGI's attitude, not any concern for her wellbeing."

SINCE WE FIRST BROADCAST THIS STORY, IT HAS SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE ACROSS THE INTERENT AND THE WORLD. EMAILS HAVE COME IN TO KRON 4 NEWS, OFFERING MARY HELP IN FINDING A NEW APARTMENT, AS WELL AS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. IT'S ALSO CREATING A REUNION FOR MARY HERSELF. SHE CALLED ME THIS MORNING TO SAY SINCE OUR STORY AIRED, SHE HAS HEARD FROM OLD FRIENDS SHE HASN'T SPOKEN WITH IN YEARS. PEOPLE FROM ATLANTA, CHICAGO AND NEW YORK. MARY SAYS SHE'S OVERWHELMED BY THE SUPPORT AND IS VERY APPRECIATIVE.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

HOUSING

7/16 KRON 4 News at 8pm

The latest numbers on the Bay Area housing market

RENTAL PRICES SKY-ROCKETING IN THE BAY AREA'S BIGGEST CITIES. LOTS OF PEOPLE ARE ALL TOO AWARE OF THIS. BUT NOW REAL FACTS HAS NEW NUMBERS THAT SHOW THE AVERAGE PRICES PEOPLE ARE PAYING FOR APARTMENTS.

WE'LL FOCUS ON ONE BEDROOM, ONE BATHROOM PLACES. SAN FRANCISCO LEADS THE WAY, WHERE A MONTHLY RENTAL COSTS MORE THAN THREE THOUSAND DOLALRS. A ONE BEDROOM PLACE IN OAKLAND WILL RUN YOU ALMOST 21 HUNDRED. AND IN SAN JOSE, IT'S MORE THAN 19 HUNDRED.

BUT IT'S OAKLAND WHERE THE RENTS ARE RISING THE FASTEST. COMPARED TO ONE YEAR AGO, RENT FOR A ONE BEDROOM IN OAKLAND IS UP MORE THAN 13 PERCENT. IN SAN JOSE, IT'S UP MORE THAN 9 PERCENT, AND SAN FRANCISCO IS JUST SHY OF THE 9 PERCENT MARK.

BAY AREA HOME PRICES ARE ALSO TAKING ANOTHER JUMP. IN SAN FRANCISCO, THE MEDIAN PRICE IS NOW AN EVEN ONE MILLION DOLLARS. CATHERINE HEENAN HAS THAT PART OF THE STORY:

THE REAL ESTATE NUMBERS FIRM DATAQUICK SAYS BAY AREA WIDE, THE MEDIAN HOME PRICE IS 618 THOUSAND DOLLARS. THAT IS A JUMP OF NEARLY ELEVEN AND A HALF PERCENT OVER LAST YEAR, OR ABOUT 5 THOUSAND DOLLARS A MONTH.

SOME PARTS OF THE BAY AREA ARE SEEING EVEN BIGGER INCREASES. SAN MATEO (14.9%), SOLANO (14.5%), AND SAN FRANCISCO (13.3%) ARE THE HOTTEST MARKETS,

DATAQUICK SAYS THE BAY AREA'S ROSY REAL ESTATE PICTURE HAS A SIMPLE EXPLANATION: THE BOOMING ECONOMY..

YES, THEY'RE HIGH, BUT THE FIGURES SHOW WE'RE STILL RECOVERING FROM THE NATIONAL HOUSING CRISIS. HOME PRICES ARE STILL BEHIND THEIR ALL TIME PEAK IN NOVEMBER 2007.

HOUSING

7/29/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Protesters target Airbnb landlords

PROTESTORS MARCHED AROUND SAN FRANCISCO'S NORTH BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD TODAY TO BRING ATTENTION TO WHAT THEY SAY IS A PROBLEM THAT HAS BEEN EXPLODING ALONGSIDE THE POPULARITY OF THOSE SHORT TERM VACATION RENTAL WEBSITES SUCH AS AIRBNB. THEY SAY LONG-TERM TENANTS ARE BEING EVICTED, SO THE BUILDINGS CAN BE ILLEGALLY CONVERTED INTO ILLEGAL HOTELS. AND THEY CLAIM THE CITY IS NOT DOING ENOUGH TO STOP IT. AS KRON 4'S MAUREEN KELLY REPORTS, TENANTS ADVOCATES GROUPS ARE ALSO DOING MORE THAN JUST DEMONSTRATING. THEY NOW HAVE THE POWER TO TAKE THEIR OWN LEGAL ACTION AGAINST LANDLORDS:

ACTIVISTS WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO TENANTS UNION SLAPPED BRIGHT GREEN WARNING SIGNS ON ABOUT 20 APARTMENT BUILDINGS TODAY. PLACES WHERE LONG-TERM TENANTS USED TO LIVE. THE PROTESTORS SAY THESE APARTMENTS ARE NOW BEING RENTED OUT TO TOURISTS FOR BIG BUCKS.

THIS ONE ON MASON STREET HAD THREE UNITS TAKEN OFF THE MARKET, THE TENANTS EVICTED UNDER THE ELLIS ACT. THE DEMONSTRATORS SAY THE UNITS ARE NOW BEING USED AS SHORT TERM VACATION RENTALS .WHICH IS ILLEGAL UNDER SAN FRANCISCO LAWS.

THERESA FLANDRICH IS FIGHTING HER EVICTION FROM HER NEARBY NORTH BEACH APARTMENT OF MORE THAN 30 YEARS. MANY OF HER NEIGHBORS HAVE ALREADY BEEN FORCED OUT.

Theresa Flandrich, North Beach resident: "Two doors down, it's a 4 unit vacation rental, where once they were neighbors that we knew. Two doors down from that is another building where one of the units is a vacation rental. At the end of the block is a corporate rental. And this is just on one street."

THE DEMONSTRATORS AREN'T JUST PUTTING UP SIGNS. THEY WILL BE FOLLOWING UP BY FILING COMPLAINTS WITH THE CITY ABOUT, AND THEN SUING, THE LANDLORDS OF 50 BUILDINGS IN ALL. A POWER GRANTED TO NON-PROFITS UNDER A NEW PROVISION OF THE APARTMENT CONVERSION LAW.

THEY SAY THE STICKERS WILL HELP PUT THE BUILDINGS' VACATIONING VISITORS ON NOTICE.

Ted Gullicksen, SF Tenants Union: "Enforcement could be coming any day now. I know that if I was in London staying at an Airbnb place and I knew that the city was suing and trying to close it down, I wouldn't want to stay there and I'd want to be alerted. So we want to make sure the tourists know what's happening."

THE DEMONSTRATORS SAY THEY ARE TAKING ACTION BECAUSE THE CITY ISN'T DOING ENOUGH TO COMBAT THE PROBLEM.

THE CITY ATTORNEY IS CURRENTLY SUING TWO LANDLORDS FOR ILLEGAL TOURIST RENTALS AND INVESTIGATING SEVERAL OTHER CASES. THE MAYOR SAYS SUPERVISOR DAVID CHIU'S PROPOSED LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD LEGALIZE AND REGULATE A LIMITED AMOUNT OF SHORT TERM RENTALS SHOULD HELP THE PROBLEM.

Mayor Ed Lee: "Airbnb wasn't created to evict long-term tenants. That was not their purpose. We want to make sure that doesn't occur."

THE DEMONSTRATORS SAY CHIU'S PROPOSAL WILL HELP STREAMLINE THE COMPLAINT PROCESS, BUT SAY THEY MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE TO SEND A MESSAGE TO LANDLORDS.

Gullicksen: "Some landlords just need to get slapped with heavy fines so that other landlords know there's a stiff price to pay for doing this."

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

HOUSING

8/3/14 KRON 4 Weekend News at 8pm

Iconic AIDS shelter serves as model for preserving low income housing

MANY PEOPLE CONSIDER IT A SAN FRANCISCO LANDMARK. FOR OVER 15 YEARS, "MARTY'S PLACE" WAS THE ONLY PLACE SAN FRANCISCO RESIDENTS SUFFERING FROM HIV AND AIDS COULD TURN TO.

MARTY'S PLACE SHUT THEIR DOORS THREE YEARS AGO, BUT THANKS TO THE SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNITY LAND TRUST, THOSE DOORS COULD BE OPENING AGAIN. IT'S A RELATIVELY NEW IDEA THAT HELPS PRESERVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN THE CITY. "MARTY'S PLACE" WILL RUN AS A CO-OP, WHERE ALL THE RESIDENTS WILL PITCH IN FOR RENT. KRON 4'S DAN RUBIN HAS MORE:

HAPPINESS AND JOY HAVE RETURNED TO "MARTY'S PLACE." THE OUTER MISSION HOME HAS A LONG HISTORY OF LOVE AND COMPASSION.

Tommi Avicoli, SF Housing Rights Committee: "Richard Purcell, who was a Franciscan friar, came to San Francisco in 1989 to take care of his brother who was dying of AIDS. Marty died shortly after Richard arrived and then Richard continued to take care of people with aids in Marty's old apartment."

RICHARD PURCELL PASSED AWAY IN 2011. HE LEFT "MARTY'S PLACE" TO "DOLORES STREET COMMUNITY SERVICES," ON A CONDITION THAT THEY KEEP THE HOME OPEN TO PEOPLE WITH AIDS. BUT, WHERE THE MONEY WOULD COME FROM WASN'T MADE CLEAR.

Avicoli: "It is absolutely vital that we preserve an institution like this that is the very heart and the very essence of what San Francisco is all about."

THE SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNITY LAND TRUST, A RELATIVELY NEW IDEA TO PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN THE CITY, IS PROVIDING A WAY TO RE-OPEN MARTY'S PLACE AFTER THREE YEARS OF CLOSURE.

San Francisco Community Land Trust spokesperson: "They're going to be leasing the property from us and the residents will form their own co-operative, and so they pay rent into the building and self-manage and so that really saves a lot of money."

BUT, THERE'S STILL MORE MONEY THAT NEEDS TO BE RAISED.

Avicolti: "Today we're kicking off our fundraising drive to raise 250 thousand, because we want to renovate the place before we move people in."

"MARTY'S PLACE" WAS THE FIRST SAFE PLACE FOR PEOPLE WITH AIDS TO STAY. NOW THEY THINK IT COULD BE A MODEL FOR HELPING ANY LOW-INCOME RESIDENT IN SAN FRANCISCO KEEP THEIR HOME.

Biran Basinger, AIDS House Alliance SF, "Instead of empire building, we're actually building a movement and we can help train those young people on what that looks like, and how to do it, and how to be successful."

IN SAN FRANCISCO DAN RUBIN KRON 4 NEWS

HOUSING

8/4/14 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Battle in San Ramon over new housing development

THE BATTLE BETWEEN DEVELOPERS AND RESIDENTS INTENSIFIES IN SAN RAMON, WHERE RESIDENTS ARE CONTINUING TO TAKE A STAND AGAINST BUILDING HUNDREDS OF NEW HOMES IN THE PRISTINE FOOTHILLS THERE. TONIGHT, THE CITY COUNCIL HELD A HEARING TO GET RESPONSES FROM THE DEVELOPER ON A NUMBER OF CONCERNS RESIDENTS ARE RAISING. KRON 4'S ALECIA REID IS LIVE TONIGHT WITH THE LATEST:

PEOPLE ARE RILED UP OVER THIS PROPOSED PROJECT. TONIGHT WAS ANOTHER CHANCE FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK OUT AND ASK DEVELOPERS TOUGH QUESTIONS. AND THAT THEY DID.

James Meese, San Ramon resident, opposes the project: "We're hoping they don't approve the project. We're giving them the legs to stand on."

THE FARIA PRESERVE'S PLANNING COMMITTEE CAME PREPARED WITH TRAFFIC PLANS AND ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSED 740 HOME PROJECT. ANOTHER CONCERN OPPONENTS HAVE IS POSSIBLE LANDSLIDES FROM BUILDING TOO MANY HOMES ON THE LOS TRAMOS FOOTHILLS.

Jim Gibbon, San Ramon resident, opposes project: "That was highly discouraged to have project ramrodded through, which had been done before in the past, before the infrastructure had been well thought out."

ONE OF THE OPTIONS DEVELOPERS CAME UP WITH IS REDUCING AFFORDABLE HOUSING, WHICH WOULD DROP THE NUMBER OF UNITS FROM 740 TO 710. FOR SOME, THAT'S STILL NOT ENOUGH.

Meese: "We want to reduce that project down to maybe 200 units. It's covering all the properties. It's cutting all the ridges. There are 3 ridges. And there are 3 valleys. They're planning on filling those valleys with the ridges and creating flatland. That's not allowed under the new general plan. You can't do that."

ALTHOUGH THIS PROPOSAL AND DISCUSSION HAVE BEEN ONGOING FOR YEARS, THESE PEOPLE WANT TO KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING UNTIL AN APPROPRIATE DECISION IS MADE.

Meese: "If the City Council doesn't do the right thing and turn this project down, or defer it, or send it back, or do something, they're facing a lawsuit."

THERE STILL HASNT BEEN AN OFFICIAL VOTE. AT THIS POINT, BUT THE CITY COUNCIL SAYS THEY CAN'T DISAPPROVE AN ALREADY-APPROVED PROJECT. THEY'RE JUST ASKING THE PLANNING COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER DROPPING AN ADDITIONAL TEN UNITS FROM THE PLAN. THE ISSUE WILL BE PICKED UP AT THE NEXT MEETING.

LIVE IN SAN RAMON ALECIA REID KRON 4 NEWS

HOUSING

9/26/14 KRON 4 Evening News
Developers vs historic home

IN REDWOOD CITY, A HISTORIC HOUSE DOWNTOWN IS ABOUT TO GO ON THE MARKET AND IT COULD SELL FOR AS LOW AS ONE DOLLAR. BUT THERE'S A CATCH... WHOEVER BUYS THIS HOUSE WILL NOT BE BUYING THE LAND IT SITS ON.

THE GREYSTAR DEVELOPMENT COMPANY OWNS THE LAND AND WANTS TO BUILD A SEVEN STORY APARTMENT COMPLEX ON IT. BUT CITY RULES SAY EFFORTS HAVE TO BE MADE TO RELOCATE HISTORIC STRUCTURES BEFORE THEY CAN BE TORN DOWN. SO THE CITY IS MAKING GREYSTAR PUT THE HOUSE UP FOR SALE FOR 90 DAYS AT A PRICE OF AT LEAST ONE DOLLAR.

IF THE HOUSE ISN'T SOLD, GREYSTAR CAN THEN TEAR IT DOWN. IF IT'S PURCHASED, THE NEW OWNERS WILL HAVE TO MOVE IT. THE REDWOOD CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY HAS APPROVED THE PROJECT.

HOUSING

9/27/14 KRON 4 Morning News
Housing market hit by student debt

A NEW STUDY SHOWS STUDENT LOAN DEBT IS HAVING A BIG IMPACT ON THE HOUSING MARKET. IT'S PREVENTING MILLIONS OF MILLENNIALS AND GEN XERS FROM BUYING THEIR FIRST HOMES.

RESEARCH SHOWS STUDENT LOAN DEBT IS CAUSING AN 8 PERCENT DROP IN HOME PURCHASES AMONG AMERICANS AGES 20 TO 39. THAT'S AN ESTIMATED 83 BILLION DOLLAR LOSS FOR THE REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY.

THE TOTAL OUTSTANDING STUDENT LOAN DEBT NOW STANDS AT ONE-TRILLION DOLLARS. REPORTS SHOW THE AVERAGE DEBT FOR A GRADUATE UNDER THE AGE OF THIRTY IS 21 THOUSAND DOLLARS.

TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION

7/7/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Local businesses delay BART project

THE BART EXTENSION TO SILICON VALLEY HAS HIT A SNAG, CAUSING A DELAY TO COMPLETION OF THE MILPITAS LEG OF THE PROJECT. KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE EXPLAINS WHAT CAUSED THE DELAY AND WHY V.T.A. SAYS IT WON'T IMPACT THE OVERALL CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE.

CONSTRUCTION OF A TUNNEL FOR THE BART TRACKS BENEATH DIXON LANDING ROAD HERE IN MILPITAS WAS SUPPOSED TO TAKE ABOUT TEN MONTHS TO COMPLETE. BUT NOW, BECAUSE THE CITY AND NEIGHBORS OF THE PROJECT OPPOSE CLOSING THE ROAD COMPLETELY AT SOME POINT, THIS LEG OF THE BART EXTENSION WILL TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

Bernice Alaniz, Valley Transportation Authority spokesperson: "We went out to the community early this year and we gave them some options. We told them about the different scenarios and they expressed that they preferred a closure of short duration with a detour versus have a partial closure for a longer period."

THAT WAS THEN AND THIS IS NOW. THE PARTIAL CLOSURE OF DIXON LANDING ROAD, WHICH CAN MEAN VERY SLOW GOING DURING COMMUTE HOURS AND DURING LUNCH TIME, IS HAVING A GREATER-THAN-EXPECTED IMPACT ON BUSINESSES LIKE THE DIXON LAUNDRY, WHICH IS USUALLY BUSY ON A MONDAY MORNING.

Mark Cansino, Dixon Laundry proprietor: "People just aren't going to go out of their way to find a laundromat. So no, if they were to close the road, it would not be good for us."

ON THE LOSING SIDE OF A COURT DECISION, V.T.A. ARGUED THE PARTIAL CLOSURE WILL NOT ONLY DELAY THE MILPITAS PROJECT BUT ALSO REDUCE ABILITY TO MAINTAIN ACCESS FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES, BICYCLES AND PEDESTRIANS. BUT V.T.A. SAYS IT WILL LIKELY NOT IMPACT THE OVERALL TIMELINE OF THE BART EXTENSION PROJECT.

Alaniz: "This delay does not correlate to added time for the overall construction schedule of the project, but what it does do is greatly increase the duration of construction in this individual area."

V.T.A. SAYS THE EXTRA WORK IN MILPITAS IS NOT EXPECTED TO ADD TO THE COST OF THE 2-POINT-3 BILLION DOLLAR, 10-MILE BART EXTENSION FROM FREMONT TO NORTH SAN JOSE, WHICH IS SUPPOSED TO BE READY BY LATE 2017.

IN MILPITAS ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

7/15/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Some BART riders take overcrowding into their own hands

IF YOU RIDE BART, YOU KNOW IT'S NOT USUALLY BORING. ONE RIDER WITH A CHAIR MADE PEOPLE WATCHING THAT MUCH MORE INTERESTING THE OTHER DAY. AFTER A FELLOW-RIDER SNAPPED HIS PICTURE AND POSTED IT ONLINE, IT'S GONE VIRAL AND THEN NEW, SIMILAR PICTURES STARTED POPPING UP, OF PEOPLE JUST BRINGING THEIR OWN CHAIRS ONTO BART AND SITTING DOWN.

WHEN NEW BART TRAINS HIT THE TRACKS IN A FEW YEARS, THE SEATS WILL BE EASIER TO CLEAN. IN THE MEANTIME, THIS GUY BROUGHT HIS OWN STERILE SEAT, OR HE RIDES A CROWDED TRAIN AND WANTS TO ENSURE HE HAS A SEAT. WE'RE NOT SURE THE MOTIVE, BUT HE IS NOT THE FIRST PASSENGER WHO HAS RESORTED TO BRINGING MAKESHIFT SEATING. PAST SOCIAL MEDIA PHOTOS SHOW RIDERS IN HAMMOCKS, AN OFFICE CHAIR, AND EVEN A SWING.

OUR FACEBOOK FRIENDS TELL US WHAT THEY THINK:

Shannon Teresa Ford: "It's a good idea for some of the long rides. That's why I don't necessarily like the model of the new trains. Less seats and more standing room."

Joselyn Guillen-Hernandez: "They're taking up space just for the sake of not conforming. If you have a medical problem, it's fine. But if you don't, then stand like the rest of us."

TRANSPORTATION

7/23/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Taxi/ride-share wars heat up

A MAJOR PLAYER IN SAN FRANCISCO TAXI SERVICE IS THREATENING TO HIT THE ROAD, THAT'S UNLESS LOCAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS BEGIN REGULATING THE NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK LIKE UBER AND LYFT. WHILE SOME CITIES HAVE TAKEN ACTION TO EVEN THE PLAYING FIELD BETWEEN TAXI CABS AND ON DEMAND SERVICES LIKE UBER AND LYFT, IT HASN'T HAPPENED IN SAN FRANCISCO. BUT NOW, ONE CAB COMPANY IS CONSIDERING OTHER OPTIONS. KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN HAS MORE:

RIGHT NOW THERE ARE SOME 2000 LICENSED TAXICABS ON THE STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO. ABOUT 200 OF THOSE ARE DESOTO CABS. BUT NOW THE OWNER OF THAT COMPANY IS THREATENING TO EXIT THE TAXI BUSINESS, GET STATE LIMO LICENSES AND TURN HIS CABS INTO SEDAN LIKE LIMOS, WHICH CAN DO MOST OF THE SAME THINGS CABS CAN, FOR A MUCH LOWER COST.

Hansu Kim, president of DeSoto Cab Company: "I have to look at how do I compete in a deregulated environment when one set of rules are applied to me and another set of rules are applied to my competitors."

THOSE COMPETITORS DESOTO CAB COMPANY PRESIDENT HANSU KIM SPEAKS OF AREN'T OTHER TAXI COMPANIES, BUT ON DEMAND TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES LIKE UBER AND LYFT WHICH ALLOW DRIVERS TO TAKE PASSENGERS IN THEIR PERSONAL CARS AND ARE NOT REGULATED.

Kim: "They don't have real commercial insurance on those vehicles. They don't have workers comp. Are those vehicles inspected? I see pickup trucks now with pink moustaches."

AND KIM SAYS THE BIGGEST IMBALANCE IS THAT TAXI'S ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE A MEDALLION, WHICH COSTS HIM 22 HUNDRED DOLLARS PER MONTH, FOR EACH OF HIS 200 CABS.

Kim: "This is not something I want to do, but if we are talking economics, 5 million dollars is a big difference in the cost of operations."

KIM SAYS HIS PREFERENCE IS TO KEEP DESOTO AS A TAXI COMPANY, BUT THAT WILL REQUIRE REGULATORS TO LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD.

Kim: "Hopefully the state and city will wake up and discover they must apply the same set of rules and standards to these new services."

DESOTO CAB HASN'T MADE ANY DECISION YET. THEY SAY THE REAL QUESTION IS HOW SOON WILL REGULATORS LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD AND CAN THE CAB COMPANY WAIT THAT LONG.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

7/23/14 KRON 4 Evening News

Another Bay Area transit strike looming?

ANOTHER PUBLIC TRANSIT STRIKE COULD BE LOOMING IN THE BAY AREA.. WORKERS WITH THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT DON'T HAVE A CONTRACT RIGHT NOW.

AS KRON FOUR'S TERISA ESTACIO REPORTS....BOTH SIDES SAY THEY HOPE FOR A COMPROMISE - BUT NOTHING HAS BEEN WORKED OUT YET. AND THAT HAS COMMUTERS WORRIED.

FERRY WORKERS ARE SOME OF THE PEOPLE THAT COULD BE HEADING TOWARD A STRIKE HERE IN MARIN COUNTY.

HERE IS WHAT'S GOING ON: ACCORDING TO A UNION REPRESENTATIVE THE DISTRICT HAS RECENTLY PROPOSED A THREE YEAR CONTRACT WITH A 2.5% RAISE STARTING NOW IN 2014, THEN SMALLER RAISES FOR THE YEARS AFTER THAT. THE UNION REP SAYS THE DISTRICT IS ALSO ASKING FOR BIGGER CONTRIBUTIONS TO HEALTH CARE PREMIUMS.

THEY SAY THE TOTAL PACKAGE DEAL RIGHT NOW IS UNACCEPTABLE. ESPECIALLY SINCE IN THE PAST FEW YEARS THEY HAVE COMPROMISED ON SALARY ISSUES TO HELP THE DISTRICT DEAL WITH A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR SHORTFALL.

HOWEVER, THESE DAYS THE DISTRICT IS DOING BETTER FINANCIALLY AND WORKERS SAY NOW IT'S TIME FOR THEM TO RECEIVE A BETTER COMPENSATION DEAL.

MEANWHILE, COMMUTERS SAY THAT JUST THIS TALK OF STRIKE IS HORRIBLE TO THINK ABOUT.

Commuter: "Yeah, it would be awful. People rely on this to get to work. I can be sympathetic to everyone's problems. I sure have problems. I have three kids. But I've got to feed those kids. I've got to get to work."

Commuter: "It would be devastating. The evening commute would be hours coming home across the bridge. It's already bad – that's why I take the ferry."

IN ADDITION TO FERRY WORKERS, BUS SERVICE WORKERS, MECHANICS, BRIDGE IRON WORKERS AND INSPECTORS ARE INVOLVED IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS.THE LAST TIME THERE WAS A STRIKE WAS BACK JUST A FEW YEARS AGO, IN 2011. IT LASTED HALF A DAY.

TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

BAY AREA COMMUTERS HAVE SUFFERED THROUGH TRANSIT STRIKES BEFORE. JUST LAST MONTH, MUNI DRIVERS, WHO ARE NOT ALLOWED TO STRIKE, STAGED AN APPARENT SICK-OUT BEFORE EVENTUALLY REACHING A NEW DEAL. AT THE END OF

LAST YEAR, AN A.C. TRANSIT STRIKE WAS NARROWLY AVERTED WHEN THE GOVERNOR ORDERED A COOLING OFF PERIOD. A DEAL WAS EVENTUALLY REACHED. AND OF COURSE LAST YEAR, THERE WERE TWO BART STRIKES – A NIGHTMARE FOR THOUSANDS OF COMMUTERS – DURING A BITTER DISPUTE BETWEEN UNIONS AND MANAGEMENT.

TRANSPORTATION

8/6/14 KRON 4 Evening News
Updates on ridesharing

THE RIDESHARING COMPANY UBER IS ABOUT TO GET EVEN CHEAPER – AS LONG AS YOU'RE WILLING TO RIDE WITH A STRANGER.

UBER- POOL WILL SOON ALLOW USERS TO SHARE RIDES WITH OTHER USERS GOING THE SAME ROUTE. AT THE END OF THE JOURNEY, THE FARE WILL BE SPLIT. THE CARS ARE BOOKED THE SAME WAY, BUT IF UBER FINDS A MATCH, THE APP WILL NOTIFY THE RIDER ABOUT THE POTENTIAL NEW PASSENGER.

THE NEW IDEA IS IN BETA-TESTING IN SAN FRANCISCO RIGHT NOW, BUT UBER HOPES TO EXPAND THE SERVICE BY THE 15TH.

MEANWHILE, A BEEF IS BREWING BETWEEN UBER AND LYFT IN THE BIG APPLE. SOME UBER DRIVERS SAY THEY GOT A TEXT MESSAGE TELLING THEM NOT TO DRIVE FOR THEIR RIVAL. THE TEXT CITED REGULATIONS BY THE NEW YORK TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION.

HOWEVER, THE COMMISSION SAYS THE MESSAGES ARE NOT ACCURATE. MANY DRIVERS USE MULTIPLE TAXI AND RIDESHARING APPLICATIONS SO THEY CAN PICK UP AS MANY POTENTIAL FARES AS POSSIBLE.

TRANSPORTATION

8/28/14 KRON 4 Evening News
Local transit agency unveils new app

[Report on BART's new "BART Watch" app that allows riders to directly report problems using their smart phones. "If you see something, say something." Options include "report an incident" or "call BART police" for "crime in progress" or "illegally parked vehicle" or "other". Riders are able to submit photos with their reports.]

TRANSPORTATION

9/7/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Ongoing challenges of integrating increased bicycle traffic into the general traffic flow

AT THE INTERSECTION WHERE MARKET MEETS 10TH AND MARKET, FELL AND POLK, THERE'S A BICYCLE LIGHT FOR RIDERS COMING OFF THE POLK STREET BIKE LANE.

IT'S A LIGHT THAT WILL NEVER EVER GIVE RIDERS A GREEN LIGHT. INSTEAD IT GIVES RIDERS A RED LIGHT, A SOLID YELLOW LIGHT AND A FLASHING YELLOW LIGHT.

FIRST, LET'S LOOK AT THE FLASHING YELLOW LIGHT, ALONG WITH THIS SIGN WHICH READS "BICYCLES YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS" WHICH MEANS BICYCLISTS SEEING THE SOLID OR FLASHING YELLOW HAVE TO YIELD TO PEOPLE WALKING IN THE CROSSWALK. LET'S SEE IF THAT HAPPENS.

JUDGING BY THIS FIRST RIDER, I WOULD SAY THE ANSWER IS NO. BUT LET'S NOT JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS. LET'S LOOK AT THESE RIDERS...

OKAY. MAYBE UNDERSTANDING THE CONCEPT OF "YIELDING" IS HARD TO GRASP FOR SOME RIDERS. SO LET'S TRY SOMETHING SIMPLER, LIKE "STOP."

THIS RED BIKE SYMBOL IS NOT A SUGGESTION TO STOP. IT IS A REQUIREMENT. FOR BICYCLISTS ONLY. AND WHILE SOME RIDERS DO STOP AND WAIT, MANY OF THEM ONLY DO IT JUST AS LONG AS TRAFFIC IS COMING. AS SOON AS THE COAST IS CLEAR THEY PREMATURELY ROLL THROUGH THE LIGHT. BUT THERE ARE OTHERS WHO SIMPLY IGNORE THE RED LIGHT ALTOGETHER.

FOR THE RECORD, I SPOKE WITH SFPD AND THE SFMTA ABOUT THE LIGHT. SFPD TELLS ME BICYCLISTS RUNNING THAT LIGHT COULD BE SUBJECT TO A RED LIGHT TICKET. THE SFMTA MADE IT CLEAR THIS STOP LIGHT IS MANDATORY FOR RIDERS, BUT SOME RIDERS STILL SEEM TO CONSIDER IT ONLY A SUGGESTION.

THEN AGAIN, AT THIS INTERSECTION YOU WILL SEE BIKES DOING WHATEVER THEY PLEASE – INCLUDING RIDING ON THE SIDEWALK. THIS IS WHY I'M NOT SURPRISED WHEN I FIND BICYCLISTS PLAIN AND SIMPLE IGNORING THE RULES OF THE ROAD.

STANLEY ROBERTS KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

9/11/14 KRON 4 Evening News
Report on road conditions

SOMETIMES IT SEEMS AS IF EVERY STREET IN THE BAY AREA IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. AND THOSE THAT AREN'T, SHOULD BE. NOW A NEW STUDY FINDS NOT ENOUGH MONEY IS BEING SPENT STATEWIDE TO KEEP UP WITH NEEDED REPAIRS. IN FACT, THE TRIP REPORT FINDS NEARLY HALF OF THE BAY AREA'S MAJOR ROADS AND HIGHWAYS ARE IN POOR CONDITION. AND THAT POOR CONDITION IS COSTING MOTORISTS A LOT OF MONEY.

Rocky Moretti, Trip Transportation Research Group: "Here in the Bay Area, the report estimates the average traveler spends an additional \$2206 dollars because of a transportation system that has pavements in rough conditions, is very congested and also lacks some desirable safety features."

ANALYSTS WITH THE TRIP TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH GROUP SAY THAT 22 HUNDRED DOLLAR ANNUAL COST BREAKS DOWN THIS WAY: \$145 FOR TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, \$800 IN VEHICLE MAINTENANCE DUE TO ROUGH ROADS, AND \$1266 DUE TO TRAFFIC DELAYS.

Moretti: "It's estimated the average motorist in the Bay Area spends an additional 61 hours stuck in traffic because of that traffic congestion and that is time taken away from family. It's businesses that can't get to customers as quickly as they would like."

TRANSPORTATION EXPERTS SAY THE SITUATION IS NOT GOING TO GET BETTER ON ITS OWN. FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING MUST BE INCREASED, BUT THAT IS EASIER SAID THAN DONE.

Moretti: "Unfortunately, Congress has been in deliberations over a period of time to put in place a long-term adequately-funded program, and they have failed to do that so far."

WITH FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING A BIG UNKNOWN, IT WILL LIKELY COME DOWN TO LOCAL JURISDICTIONS AND INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS TO DECIDE HOW MUCH THEY WANT TO PAY TO FIX THEIR ROADS.

IN SAN FRANCISCO DAN KERMEN KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

9/16/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm

More on the coexistence of cars and bicycles on the streets of San Francisco

DRIVERS NEED TO BE EXTRA CAREFUL WHEN IT COMES TO STEERING CLEAR OF BICYCLISTS. A LAW THAT REQUIRES CALIFORNIA DRIVERS TO GIVE BICYCLISTS A BUFFER ZONE OF AT LEAST THREE FEET WENT INTO EFFECT TODAY. VIOLATORS WILL BE FINED 35 DOLLARS. ADDITIONALLY, DRIVERS WHO COLLIDE WITH BICYCLISTS WILL BE FINED 220 DOLLARS. CYCLISTS CAN STILL USE A FULL TRAFFIC LANE ON ROADS, BUT MUST FOLLOW THE SAME LAWS AS CARS. CALIFORNIA IS THE 24TH STATE TO ENACT THE 3 FOOT PASSING LAW. KRON 4'S STANLEY ROBERTS HAS MORE:

I MANAGED TO STUMP ONE OF THE CALIFORNIA BICYCLE COALITION DIRECTORS BY ASKING A SIMPLE QUESTION, ARE MOTORISTS REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THE THREE FOOT LAW IF THE CYCLISTS ARE, WELL, BEHAVING BADLY?

THE THREE FOOT RULE IS NOW LAW AND WHAT IT BASICALLY MEANS IS DRIVERS ARE REQUIRED TO GIVE BICYCLISTS 3 FEET OF CUSHION TO AVOID BIKE VS AUTO COLLISIONS.

THE THREE FOOT LAW DOES NOT APPLY IF THE CYCLIST IS IN A PROTECTED BICYCLE LANE, LIKE THIS ONE ON POLK STREET WHICH IS TECHNICALLY KNOWN AS A CATEGORY 3 BIKE LANE. ALSO THE THREE FOOT LAW DOES NOT APPLY IF THE CYCLIST IS RIDING ON THE SIDEWALK AND THE THREE FOOT LAW DOES NOT APPLY TO CYCLISTS THEMSELVES. IN FACT, CYCLISTS CAN GET AS CLOSE AS THEY WANT TO YOUR CAR OR BUS WHILE RIDING, BUT IT'S THE MOTORIST WHO NEEDS TO USE CAUTION WHEN DRIVING AROUND.

I KNOW MANY OF THE MOTORISTS ARE ASKING HOW IS THAT FAIR? WELL LETS BE REALISTIC. DRIVERS, YOU ARE OPERATING A 4000 POUND PLUS CAGE WITH WHEELS AND CYCLISTS ONLY HAVE ON A HELMET. SO, IT IS FAIR TO THE CYCLIST THAT YOU HAVE TO WATCH OUT. THAT BEING SAID, CYCLISTS NEED TO FOLLOW THE RULES OF THE ROAD AT ALL TIMES. IF YOU SEE SIGNS THAT SAY BICYCLES GET FULL USE OF THE LANE, THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM THE THREE FOOT RULE, THAT MEANS IF THERE IS A BIKE YOU NEED TO CHANGE LANES TO PASS.

NOW BACK TO THE THREE FOOT RULE, REALISTICALLY THE LAW WAS INTENDED FOR RURAL AREAS, MORE THAN URBAN AREA LIKE SAN FRANCISCO WHERE IT'S SORT OF CONTROLLED CHAOS EVERYWHERE. BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT DRIVERS SHOULD TREAT THE LAW LIKE IT DOESN'T EXIST. DRIVERS NEED TO DO EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER TO GIVE BICYCLIST A SAFETY NET.

NOW WITH ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL, IN A COLLISION INVOLVING A CAR AND A BIKE, IF THE POLICE CAN DETERMINE THE COLLISION WAS IN FACT THE DRIVER'S FAULT, THE TICKET COULD REACH AS HIGH AT 900 DOLLARS.

WE ALL HAVE TO GET ALONG, WHETHER YOU'RE A CYCLIST OR A MOTORIST. IN THE END, IT ALL BOILS DOWN TO EVERYONE GETTING TO AND FROM HOME SAFELY. OUR LIVES DEPEND ON IT.

IN SAN FRANCISCO STANLEY ROBERTS KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

9/23/14 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Another possible Bay Area transit strike

THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE LABOR COALITION WHICH CALLED A STRIKE A WEEK AGO NOW SAYS IT IS VERY LIKELY TO STRIKE AGAIN AT THE END OF THIS WEEK. KRON 4'S ALECIA REID IS LIVE IN SAN FRANCISCO WITH MORE ON WHETHER THIS STRIKE IS LIKELY TO HAVE A DIRECT IMPACT ON COMMUTERS:

WORKERS CLAIM THE DISTRICT MADE IT CLEAR THEY'RE IN NO RUSH TO COME TO AN AGREEMENT ANY TIME SOON. AND THAT IS WHAT'S PUSHING THEM TO STRIKE. THEY'VE BEEN WORKING WITHOUT A CONTRACT SINCE JULY 1ST. IN JUST A FEW DAYS, ALL THAT MAY COME TO A HALT, AND THAT COULD MEAN A CRIPPLED COMMUTE FOR RIDERS.

THE LABOR COALITION SAYS AN ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE SOON, SO COMMUTERS CAN KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. NEGOTIATIONS TOOK PLACE ON MONDAY, AND WHILE HEALTHCARE IS A HUGE ISSUE, WORKERS SAY THE DISTRICT MADE VERY MINOR ECONOMIC MOVEMENT.

Coalition spokesperson: "These employees have given back to the district in the form of lower wages, no wages, higher pension contribution. Three contracts in a row they've made these concessions."

450 WORKERS AND 13 UNIONS ARE REPRESENTED BY THE LABOR COALITION. THAT INCLUDES FERRY DECK HANDS, CAPTAINS, BRIDGE INSPECTORS AND MANY OTHERS. UNLIKE LAST WEEK'S STRIKE, WHERE MACHINISTS PICKETED FOR UNFAIR PRACTICE CLAIM, THIS LOOMING STRIKE WILL IMMOBILIZE THE COMMUTE.

Coalition spokesperson: "It's very clear the district doesn't care about commuters or the middle class workers that do these jobs, so a strike that affects commuters looks like it's really going to happen now. It could be the entire district; it could be just ferry, just bus, or just the bridge."

THE NEXT MEETING IS SET FOR MONDAY. WE SPOKE WITH A REP FROM THE DISTRICT WHO SAYS THERE'S NO PLANNED MEETING BEFORE THEN TO TRY AND PREVENT A STRIKE. SHE TELLS US THEY'RE DISAPPOINTED A STRIKE IS BEING CONSIDERED. ALTHOUGH THERE HASN'T BEEN AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT, THE DISTRICT IS ALREADY PREPARING IN THE EVENT THERE IS ONE.

ALECIA REID KRON 4 NEWS