



QUARTERLY ISSUES / PROGRAM LIST

2ND QUARTER 2015

KRON-TV

Young Broadcasting of San Francisco, Inc. / Media General

Community of License: San Francisco, CA

ISSUE-RESPONSIVE PROGRAMMING

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

KRON-TV has presented programs addressing these issues:

**CRIME
DIVERSITY
EDUCATION
ENVIRONMENT
HEALTH**

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

CRIME

4/8/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Community meeting addresses problem of violent crime

VIOLENT CRIME IN OAKLAND WAS THE SUBJECT OF A COMMUNITY MEETING IN OAKLAND TONIGHT, PARTICULARLY THE OLD TOWN AREA WHERE A YOUNG MUSICIAN WAS KILLED BY A STRAY BULLET LAST WEEKEND. IT HAPPENED AS HE WAS LOADING UP HIS EQUIPMENT AFTER A SHOW AT A CLUB ON 14TH STREET. KRON 4'S JEFF BUSH IS LIVE TONIGHT WITH THE LATEST:

IT WAS A PACKED HOUSE IN THE BANQUET HALL OF THE MARRIOTT HOTEL ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT. CLUB OWNERS, MUSICIANS AND FRIENDS OF EMILIO NEVAREZ WERE ALL THERE AND WERE SAYING THE SAME THING – THE VIOLENCE HAS TO STOP IN OAKLAND.

JOAN EDELSTEIN LIVES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND SAYS EMILIO'S MURDER SHINES A LIGHT ON A BIGGER PROBLEM IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

Edelstein: "I'm really concerned about the safety and our families and our community and our property values and our businesses. We've been able to build a really nice community here and we would like it to stay that way."

COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS SAY THAT AS MANY AS 14 GUN RELATED CRIMES – MURDERS, SHOOTINGS, AND RANDOM BULLETS FOUND IN HOMES – OCCURRED WITHIN THE TWO YEAR STRETCH FROM MARCH 2013 THROUGH MARCH OF THIS YEAR. YOU CAN SEE ON THIS MAP, THE LOCATIONS OF EACH INCIDENT, MANY OF THEM OCCURRING NEAR ONE OF THE SEVERAL CLUBS IN THE AREA.

EMILIO'S DEATH HAS SOLIDIFIED THE COMMUNITY WHOSE MEMBERS SAY THE VIOLENCE HAS TO STOP.

Community member: "I was the one who was with him, trying to help him. I work security for Vinyl and I have been here six months. I'm here to offer my condolences to the family and, yes, I do want to see the gun violence estop. I want these kids to be able to come out and have fun and not to have their last days end up on the street the way he did. It was unfair and it was wrong."

POLICE SAY NO ARRESTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE CASE.

I'M JEFF BUSH, LIVE IN OAKLAND, KRON 4 NEWS.

CRIME

4/14/15

Multiple newscasts

Interview with San Francisco Police Chief Greg Suhr

A STANLEY ROBERTS EXCLUSIVE, ASKING POLICE CHIEF GREG SUHR THE TOUGH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT. THE CHIEF RECENTLY VISITED OUR NEWSROOM AND STUDIO. HE TALKS ABOUT THE RACIST TEXTING SCANDAL THAT HAS ROCKED THE DEPARTMENT AND THE SPIKE IN HOMICIDES IN THE CITY:

Extensive 2-part interview including topics crime rates; gang violence; racism; texting scandal; increase in smash & grab auto thefts; impact of Sacramento-mandated release of "low-level" offenders to address over-crowding on crime rates, types of crime and overall law enforcement; staffing issues and recruitment challenges; partnerships with local schools to focus on employment opportunities with SFPD; the impact on morale of vocal community support for the force

[full unedited interview placed on KRON4 website]

CRIME

4/14/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

San Jose Police body camera trial

IN SAN JOSE, THE CITY AND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT HAVE DECIDED TO MOVE FORWARD WITH A PLAN TO EQUIP SOME POLICE OFFICERS WITH BODY CAMERAS. THE IDEA WAS DISCUSSED AT TODAY'S CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND THAT'S WHERE WE FIND KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD WITH DETAILS:

THE CITY OF SAN JOSE HAS TRIED PUTTING BODY CAMERAS ON OFFICERS BEFORE, BUT THOSE EFFORTS NEVER GOT PAST A PILOT PROGRAM. NOW AFTER SEVERAL INCIDENTS NATIONWIDE INVOLVING EXCESSIVE FORCE BY POLICE OFFICERS, THE CITY HAS DECIDED TO GIVE THE IDEA A SECOND TRY.

SOMETIME LATER THIS YEAR, THE SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT WILL EQUIP A DOZEN OFFICERS WITH BODY CAMERAS AND TEST THEIR USE OVER A FOUR MONTH PERIOD. SAN JOSE MAYOR SAM LICCARDO HOPES THAT THE PROGRAM WILL EVENTUALLY BE EXTENDED TO ALL 600 OF THE DEPARTMENT'S PATROL OFFICERS.

Mayor Liccardo: "I would be happy to bring a policy to the Council next week to implement the body-worn cameras throughout the force. At this point, we don't have the funding."

THERE ARE SEVERAL MAJOR HURDLES TO OVERCOME BEFORE THE PROGRAM CAN BE EXPANDED. FIRST OFF, THE CITY ESTIMATES THAT TO EQUIP ALL PATROL OFFICERS WITH CAMERAS AND BUILD A SYSTEM TO MANAGE THE VIDEOS THAT THEY RECORD WOULD COST ABOUT A MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR. SO FAR, NO ONE KNOWS HOW THAT BILL WOULD BE PAID.

THERE ARE ALSO QUESTIONS OF PRIVACY. FOR EXAMPLE, POLICE OFFICERS OFTEN INTERACT WITH MINORS OR SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS. POLICIES WOULD HAVE TO BE DEVELOPED TO DECIDE WHEN OR IF RECORDED VIDEOS OF THOSE ENCOUNTERS SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE MADE PUBLIC.

DESPITE THE CHALLENGES, LICCARDO SAYS THAT PUTTING CAMERAS ON OFFICERS COULD BENEFIT THE PUBLIC AND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Liccardo: "We've seen that body-worn cameras can be very effective

THE SAN JOSE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION ALSO SUPPORTS THE IDEA.

CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

4/21/15 KRON 4 Evening News
New form of cyber stalking to be aware of

A WASHINGTON FAMILY SAYS ITS BABY MONITOR WAS HACKED. KRON 4'S ALECIA REID HAS MORE ON HOW THESE PARENTS FIGURED OUT A STRANGER WAS COMMUNICATING WITH THEIR YOUNG SON:

IT'S AN EERIE STORY OUT OF SEATTLE. THE COUPLE'S 3 YEAR OLD SON WAS COMPLAINING THAT HE WAS AFRAID, SAYING SOMEONE WAS TALKING TO HIM OVER THE PHONE AT NIGHT.

THEY WEREN'T SURE WHAT HE MEANT UNTIL THEY HEARD VOICES COMING FROM THE BABY-MONITOR. AFTER LOOKING INTO IT FURTHER, THEY NOTICED THE MONITOR MOVING WHEN THEY WEREN'T CONTROLLING IT.

THE COUPLE CALLED FOS-CAM, THE MONITOR'S MAKER, WHO TOLD THEM IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT SOMEONE SOMEWHERE COULD HAVE HACKED INTO THE SYSTEM AND WERE CONTROLLING IT WITH A LAPTOP OR SMARTPHONE APP.

BUT THERE IS NO WAY OF KNOWING WHO IT WAS, IF THEY WERE LIVING NEARBY OR ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COUNTRY. NOW THE DUO DOESN'T WANT TO SHOW THEIR IDENTITIES FOR FEAR THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE WILL KNOW WHO THEY ARE.

CRIME

4/23/15 KRON 5 Evening News
Federal government seeks tech partnership to fight cybercrime

THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY IS GOING TO OPEN A SATELLITE OFFICE IN SILICON VALLEY, THE DECISION ANNOUNCED TODAY AT A CONFERENCE IN SAN FRANCISCO. THE IDEA IS TO WORK MORE CLOSELY WITH TECH COMPANIES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CYBER-ATTACKS. PRESIDENT OBAMA HAS MADE CYBER-SECURITY A TOP PRIORITY, CALLING ON SILICON VALLEY TECH EXECUTIVES TO PARTNER WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

THAT COULD BE A TALL ORDER, HOWEVER, SINCE MANY TECH LEADERS DON'T FULLY TRUST THE GOVERNMENT AND ARE SKEPTICAL ABOUT INFORMATION SHARING, THAT'S PARTICULARLY TRUE AFTER EDWARD SNOWDEN'S LEAKS EXPOSED WIDESPREAD SPYING BY THE N-S-A.

CRIME

4/23/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Cybercrime and air transportation

THE GAO, A GOVERNMENT AGENCY THAT WORKS FOR CONGRESS, RELEASED A 56 PAGE REPORT WARNING THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND THE FAA THAT THEY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE WI-FI IN THE SKY.

THE REPORT SUGGESTS THAT IT COULD BE POSSIBLE FOR PASSENGERS WITH A LAPTOP OR INTERNET DEVICE DURING A FLIGHT TO HACK A PLANE THROUGH THE ONBOARD WI-FI NETWORK.

IT ALSO WARNS THIS COULD BE DONE FROM THE GROUND AS WELL.... THE CYBER CRIMINAL WOULD NOT HAVE TO BE IN THE PLANE AT THE TIME.

THE FEAR HERE IS THAT SOMEONE COULD TAKE CONTROL OF THE PLANE THROUGH THE WI-FI

AFFECT KEY SYSTEMS OF THE PLANE. AND POSSIBLY EVEN CRASH IT.

Adam Kujawa, cyber security researcher: "If you got a secure network attached to an insecure network that can be accessed from the outside world you are putting yourself in danger. "

ADAM IS A CYBER SECURITY EXPERT WITH MALEWAREBYTES. HE HAS 10 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE FIGHTING AGAINST VIRUSES, BUGS, WORMS, MALWARE, THE DARK SIDE OF INTERNET. I ASKED HIM IF IT WAS POSSIBLE FOR SOMEONE TO HACK AN AIRPLANE AND TAKE IT OVER.

Kujawa: "With the current technology, no. it's possible in theory and, depending on the software and hardware, it's possible, but the GAO's study did not go into enough detail and there was not enough research to see if this is really a possibility or if this is just hype. Go ahead and fly you are safe."

ALTHOUGH ADAM DOESN'T SEE AN IMMEDIATE THREAT FROM THIS, HE SAYS IT'S GOOD THE REPORT CAME OUT WARNING THAT THIS COULD BE A MAJOR ISSUE IN THE FUTURE AS AVIATION TECHNOLOGY BECOMES MORE AUTOMATED AND DEPENDENT ON THE INTERNET. SO HE IS GLAD THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FAA ARE WORKING ON SOLUTIONS.

HOWEVER, ADAM DOES SAY THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE THREAT TO YOU WHEN YOU USE THE AIRPLANE WI-FI. HE SAYS TO TREAT IT LIKE ANY OTHER PUBLIC WI-FI HOTSPOT AND DON'T DO ANYTHING WITH YOUR PERSONAL FINANCES WHEN YOU'RE LOGGED IN ON THE AIRPLANE.

Kujawa: "Beware what you're doing on network, no banking, no social media. All could be hacked and taken."

GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

4/23/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Warning about a new local crime trend

WE'RE ALWAYS TRACKING NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME AND HERE'S A KRON-4 CRIME TRACKER IN THE EAST BAY. THERE HAS BEEN A SERIES OF CATALYTIC CONVERTERS STOLEN FROM TOYOTA TRUCKS AND SUV'S. EIGHT PEOPLE HAVE BEEN VICTIMIZED IN LESS THAN A WEEK.

THIEVES ARE TARGETING SEVERAL ROADS IN THIS HERCULES NEIGHBORHOOD. TOYOTA SEQUOIAS, 4-RUNNERS AND TACOMAS WITH MODEL YEARS 1990 THROUGH 2005 WERE HIT. TOYOTAS ARE TARGETED BECAUSE THEY'RE HIGH OFF THE GROUND AND THE PRICEY CATALYTIC CONVERTERS, WHICH ARE OFTEN SOLD FOR THEIR VALUABLE PLATINUM, ARE PRETTY EASILY ACCESSIBLE IN THOSE VEHICLES.

POLICE SAY THEY'VE INCREASED PATROLS IN THESE AREAS.

CRIME

5/1/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

New crime trend targets consumers at gas pumps

THE PHRASE 'PAIN AT THE PUMP' TAKES ON NEW MEANING WITH THIS SCHEME. IN SANTA ROSA, THIEVES HAVE DRUMMED UP A NEW WAY TO STEAL GASOLINE, AND THERE'S NOTHING HI-TECH ABOUT IT. THIEVES IN SANTA ROSA ARE USING THE OLD-FASHIONED SWITCHEROO TO GET THE GAS. KRON 4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL SHOWS US HOW THEY ARE GETTING AWAY WITH IT:

Lynn Damato, gas station manager: "There's just thieves out there and this is what they do. It's the new thing."

THREE TIMES IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS, THE REDWOOD OIL COMPANY SAYS THIEVES HAVE STOLEN GAS FROM CUSTOMERS AT ITS GAS STATIONS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. TWO OF THE INCIDENTS HAPPENED HERE AT THIS SANTA ROSA CHEVRON STATION ON BENNETT VALLEY ROAD.

LYNN DAMATO IS A COMPANY MANAGER AND SHE EXPLAINED THE RUSE.

What they're doing is taking the nozzle from one side and bringing it over to the other and replacing the other in exactly the same way so that when the next customer that pulls up on either side of the pump, it doesn't matter, when somebody pulls up to get gas, they'll pull up to the other side and as you slide your card in to pay, they've got your hose on the other side and they are filling up with your gas and they leave before you realize what's happening."

DAMATO SHARED THIS SURVEILLANCE VIDEO OF THE LATEST INCIDENT. YOU CAN SEE A MAN IN A DARK JERSEY SWITCHING THE NOZZLES. MOMENTS LATER, WHEN A VAN PULLS UP, THE THIEF'S ACCOMPLICE ALSO PULLS UP ON THE OPPOSITE PUMP AND FILLS UP. THE THIEVES GET THE GAS AND THE CUSTOMER LEAVES EMPY.

FLIERS HAVE BEEN POSTED AROUND THE GAS STATION WARNING CUSTOMERS TO BE AWARE OF THIS. NOT JUST HERE -- BUT ANY GAS STATION.

Damato: "When you see something like this where it doesn't look like the hoses line up. It should never hang across the front of it. If you ever see that, go inside and let somebody know."

IN SANTA ROSA, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON FOUR NEWS.

CRIME

5/8/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Why Oakland seeing decrease in office use of force events

OAKLAND POLICE SAY, THEY HAVE SEEN A DRAMATIC DROP IN 'USE OF FORCE' INCIDENTS IN THEIR CITY AND POLICE CHIEF SEAN WHENT GIVES SOME OF THE CREDIT TO A NEW VIDEO 'SCENARIO SIMULATOR'. THE CHIEF GAVE KRON 4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN A CLOSE LOOK AT THE NEW SYSTEM THAT'S BEING USED TO TRAIN OFFICERS. IT'S A STORY YOU WILL ONLY SEE ON KRON 4:

Video: "You want to see my I.D.? Alright, man, here's my I.D.1"

YOU ARE GETTING AN EXCLUSIVE LOOK AT THE NEW VIDEO SCENARIO-BASED TRAINING PROGRAM HERE AT THE OAKLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Chief Whent: "Basically putting officers through high stress scenario based training so they perform better under stress."

OAKLAND POLICE CHIEF SEAN WHENT SAYS THIS TRAINING IS PART OF OPD'S NEW DE-ESCALATION OF FORCE POLICY

Chief Whent: "We can't prevent it all, but there are absolutely a number of steps we can take to minimize the chance of a use of force from occurring. Some of that is scenario-based training, stress inoculation training. Simulation, whether it be role-player or video screen "

Video: "I'm so glad you guys are here; look what he did to my face."

CHIEF WHENT SAYS OPD HAS ALSO INSTALLED NEW RESTRICTIONS TO THEIR VEHICLE AND FOOT PURSUIT PPOLICIES.

Whent: "That really emphasizes slowing down, doing things tactically safer. We don't chase people into back yards. Instead we stop, surround the area, call the person out, and if we have to methodically go in to look for them, it's safely. We don't create that chance contact that so often leads to use of force."

HE SAYS ANOTHER KEY ELEMENT IN DECREASING USE OF FORCE IS EQUIPPING ALL UNIFORMED OFFICERS WITH BODY CAMS

Whent: "With body cams, virtually all the interactions we have are recorded and I think that has a sort of civilizing effect on both sides of the camera. Obviously officers behave better when they know they're being filmed, but the people they're interacting with behave better as well."

IN FACT, HE SAYS SINCE HIS OFFICERS HAVE BEEN DE-ESCALATING, THERE HAS BEEN A DRASTIC REDUCTION OF USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS IN THE CITY

Whent: "In 2014, we had no officer involved shootings at all. The last fatal officer involved shooting we had was in 2013."

HOWEVER THE CHIEF IS QUICK TO POINT OUT THAT HIS OFFICERS ARE STILL BEING SHOT AT.

Whent: "Just last week we had one out in East Oakland where undercover officers were shot at. Our officers have been involved in very dangerous situations and have been able to find a safe way to take people into custody."

THE SIMULATOR HAS CLOSE TO 700 DIFFERENT SCENARIOS AND OFFICIALS SAY OFFICERS RECEIVE ONGOING TRAINING IN THE DE-ESCALATION OF FORCE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

AT OAKLAND POLICE HEADQUARTERS HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

CRIME

5/8/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Local restaurant helps keep kids out of trouble

SAN FRANCISCO IS FULL OF RESTAURANTS., BUT THERE IS A UNIQUE PLACE JUST OFF THIRD STREET IN THE BAYVIEW DISTRICT. IT HAS AN OLD FEEL, BUT IT IS RUN BY YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE 16 TO 22 YEARS OLD. THE KIDS COME IN "AT RISK" AND LEAVE WITH A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS.

IN A NEW SEGMENT WE CALL "25 AND UNDER", WE'RE GOING TO THE "OLD SKOOL CAFE" A BAY AREA CAFÉ THAT IS SERVING UP GREAT FOOD AND CHANGING LIVES AT THE SAME TIME.

Chef Kevin: "The food is fabulous. We have some of the best young chefs in San Francisco right here."

Romayn Williams: "Old Skool gave me a place. A place where I can believe, where I can put my energies and see growth."

Desiree Maldonado: "I think Old Skool to this community means hope."

THE MOODY DARK 1940'S SUPPER CLUB DÉCOR AND THE NAME ARE REALLY THE ONLY THINGS HERE THAT ARE OLD. THIS RESTAURANT IS RUN BY YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE LEARNING A NEW WAY OF LIFE.

I'M HERE IN THE OLD SKOOL CAFÉ KITCHEN WHERE IT IS VERY BUSY RIGHT NOW AS IT IS IN ANY SAN FRANCISCO RESTAURANT AN HOUR BEFORE OPENING TIME EXCEPT FOR ONE THING – THE YOUNG PEOPLE RUNNING THIS KITCHEN: DANNY, 17; TERRELL 20, DESIREE 21 AND MIA 19 AND MELVIN 16 ALONG WITH NICK AND AIYISHA ON STAFF.

Terisa Goines, speaking to diners: "My name is Terisa Goines and I'm the founder and director here at Old Skool.."

TERISA GOINES WAS A CORRECTIONS OFFICER WORKING WITH KIDS WHEN SHE DECIDED SHE NEEDED TO DO MORE.

Goines: "The young men I worked with in law enforcement, the inmates, were the ones who inspired me to find a solution to try to break the cycle of recidivism."

SHE BROUGHT IN CATERER CHEF KEVIN TO WORK WITH THE KIDS. HE GREW UP IN THE BAYVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD.

Chef Kevin: "They get life skills here. They learn how to do everything. It's more than just a restaurant, it's a school."

AND THEY DO DO BETTER. THESE THREE PARTICIPANTS ARE ALL HEADING TO COLLEGE. DESIREE HAS BEEN HERE SINCE 2008.

Desiree Maldonado: "I was drinking, getting into a lot of trouble. Stealing, robberies, home invasions. Then I came to Old Skool."

Jeremiah Rushing: "Before I came here, I was pretty lost. I was trying to find my own truth – on the streets."

SOME OF THESE KIDS HAVE BEEN IN JAIL, IN FOSTER HOMES, ON THE STREET, INVOLVED IN GANGS DRUGS CRIME WEAPONS AND MORE. BUT OLD SKOOL CAFÉ IS AN OASIS OF HOPE IN A NEIGHBORHOOD THAT NEEDS A LOT MORE OF IT.

THIS SIGN HANGING ABOVE THE FRONT DOOR SAYS IT ALL: "ENTER AS STRANGERS – LEAVE AS FRIENDS".

OLD SKOOL CAFÉ HAS RECEIVED NATIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION, BUT FOR OLD SKOOL TO SUCCEED IT NEEDS LOCAL SUPPORT. TERESA GOINES SAYS THE KIDS ARE DOING THEIR PART, BUT THEY NEED THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY. THEY NEED LOCAL CUSTOMERS TO COME IN AND HAVE A GREAT MEAL.

AND MY RECOMMENDATION? DON'T MISS OUT ON THE SWEET POTATO BISCUITS!

CRIME

5/11/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

New cybercrime details and how to prevent

IMAGINE BEING LOCKED OUT OF YOUR PHONE AND THE MESSAGE ON THE SCREEN SAYS YOU NEED TO PAY TO GET ACCESS TO YOUR DEVICE. THIS IS A GROWING CRIME. CYBER CRIMINALS ARE POSING AS THE FBI AND TAKING OVER PEOPLE'S SMARTPHONES WITH VIRUSES.

Matthew Palefsky, cybercrime victim: "My phone went black. It was like The Matrix. All this code came down the screen."

MATTHEW, THE BROTHER OF A KRON EMPLOYEE, IS FROM THE BAY AREA BUT IN COLORADO RIGHT NOW, SO WE SKYPED. RECENTLY WHEN DOWNLOADING AN APP TO HIS ANDROID PHONE HE PICKED UP A NASTY VIRUS BUILT BY CYBER CRIMINALS TO BLACK MAIL PEOPLE FOR MONEY.

Palefsky: "There was like an overlay that came over my screen that said FBI warning, your phone has been locked by the FBI. It said to unlock your phone and to get it back you would have to pay the \$500 fee."

THE MESSAGE LOOKED REAL. IT EVEN USED REAL FBI LOGOS, NSA LOGOS, AND HAD REAL CRIMINAL CODES LISTED OUT IN DETAIL. THE FAKE FBI MESSAGE WAS FOLLOWED BY INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO SEND CASH FOR THE PAYMENT THROUGH PAYPAL CASH.

MATHEW TRIED EVERYTHING – TURNING THE PHONE OFF, TAKING THE BATTERY OUT. NOTHING WILL WORK. HE HAS NO ACCESS TO ANYTHING ON HIS PHONE. THE VIRUS HAS COMPLETELY TAKEN OVER. HE CAN'T EVEN MAKE CALLS.

RIGHT NOW MATTHEW'S PHONE IS A USELESS BRICK. HE WON'T PAY THE RANSOM SO HE REMAINS LOCKED OUT OF HIS PHONE.

Palefsky: "Your phone is your lifeline. It's inconvenient."

I SPOKE WITH CYBER SECURITY EXPERTS WHO TOLD ME THERE ARE A COUPLE TRICKS YOU TRY WITH YOUR PHONE TO GAIN BACK ACCESS AFTER ONE OF THESE RANSOM HACKS. I POSTED THESE INSTRUCTIONS ON OUR WEBSITE KRON 4 DOT COM. AND I PUT A DIRECT LINK THERE TO FREE ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE FOR YOUR PHONE THAT YOU SHOULD INSTALL. IF YOU HAVE THE SOFTWARE ON YOUR PHONE, IT WILL PROTECT YOU FROM THESE RANSOM VIRUSES.

GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

5/15/15 KRON 4 Evening News
BART Crime Statistics

WARNING SIGNS LIKE THIS ARE EVERYWHERE AT THE FRUITVALE BART STATION, POSTED BY BART POLICE, REMINDING DRIVERS WHO PARK NOT TO LEAVE VALUABLES IN PLAIN SIGHT.

FOR THE MOST PART, CAR OWNERS ADHERE TO THE WARNING AND IN SOME CASES EVEN GO ABOVE AND BEYOND TO PROTECT THEIR CAR. WE DID FIND A FEW THINGS LIKE BACKPACKS AND OTHER ITEMS IN PLAIN VIEW. BUT IT WASN'T JUST BACKPACKS WE FOUND, HOW ABOUT THIS...? YUP, A DOG!! THANKFULLY, HIS OWNER SHOWED UP SHORTLY AFTER.

NOW BECAUSE OF THE WARNINGS, WE WANTED TO FIND OUT WHICH STATIONS TOP THE LIST WHEN IT COMES TO THEFT. HERE'S WHAT WE FOUND OUT:

NEARLY NINE HUNDRED BICYCLES WERE STOLEN FROM BART RIDERS LAST YEAR. THIS YEAR, THE THIEVES ARE STRIKING AN AVERAGE OF EVERY 14 HOURS. AND DRIVERS WHO LEAVE THEIR CARS IN BART PARKING LOTS ARE BURGLARIZED EVERY 15 HOURS.

THE HOT SPOTS FOR AUTO BREAK-INS ARE MOSTLY ALONG THE FREMONT LINE. FRUITVALE STATION IS TOPS, WITH 23 UP TO APRIL 13TH. THE COLISEUM IS NEXT, FOLLOWED BY SOUTH HAYWARD. ACROSS THE BAY, DALY CITY HAS HAD 12 AUTO BURGLARIES THIS YEAR. BUT HAYWARD, WHICH TOPPED THE LIST LAST YEAR, HAS ONLY HAD FOUR REPORTED THIS YEAR.

NORTH BERKELEY IS THE MOST DANGEROUS PLACE TO LEAVE YOUR BIKE. SEVENTY-ONE WERE STOLEN THERE LAST YEAR, ALONG WITH ANOTHER 14 THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF APRIL OF THIS YEAR. TWO STOPS AWAY, ASHBY IS IN SECOND PLACE THIS YEAR. MACARTHUR STATION IS RIGHT BEHIND FOLLOWED BY DUBLIN/PLEASANTON. FREMONT ROUNDS OUT THE TOP FIVE.

BACK AT FRUITVALE STATION, PEOPLE HERE SAY THE CRIME PROBLEM IS OUT OF CONTROL.

BART patron: "I don't like to park here, but it's \$3 here and it's \$10 over in the open lot. But this is Oakland and they don't even respond to 459 burglaries. I expect the same from BART police."

SCOTT RATES KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

6/15/15 KRON 4 Evening News
New phone app for child abduction emergencies

WE HAVE AN IMPORTANT RESOURCE TO SHARE WITH PARENTS. IF THE UNTHINKABLE HAPPENS AND YOUR CHILD GOES MISSING OR IS ABDUCTED, OUR TECH REPORTER GABE SLATE SHOWS YOU A MOBILE APP THAT COULD SAVE THEIR LIFE:

THIS IS A FREE DIGITAL TOOL CREATED FOR PARENTS BY THE FBI. IT'S CALLED THE FBI CHILD ID APP.

IF YOUR CHILD GOES MISSING, THE FIRST 48 HOURS IS CRUCIAL. THIS APP CAN HELP YOU TAKE ACTION IMMEDIATELY. IT STORES ALL THE DIGITAL INFORMATION

AUTHORITIES NEED ABOUT YOUR CHILD AND HELPS YOU GET THAT INFORMATION INTO THE RIGHT HANDS INSTANTLY.

AFTER YOU INSTALL THE APP YOU ADD YOUR KID'S PROFILE. YOU ADD PICTURES FROM YOUR PHONE'S PHOTO LIBRARY. YOU GO THROUGH AND RECORD ALL THE IMPORTANT DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHILD.

IF SOMETHING HAPPENS AND YOU NEED TO SHARE THIS INFO WITH AUTHORITIES USING A SPECIAL TAB ON THE APP, YOU CAN QUICKLY AND EASILY E-MAIL THE INFORMATION TO AUTHORITIES WITH JUST A FEW CLICKS. YOU CAN STORE YOUR LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFO AS WELL.

AND WITH ONE CLICK YOU CAN PLACE A CALL TO THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN.

THE APP ALSO INCLUDES TIPS ON KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE, AS WELL AS SPECIFIC GUIDANCE ON WHAT TO DO IN THE FIRST 24 HOURS THEY ARE MISSING AND THE SECOND 24 HOURS. AND HELPFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES ARE PROVIDED.

NO INFORMATION ON YOUR CHILD WILL BE COLLECTED OR STORED BY THE FBI UNLESS YOU PROVIDE IT DURING AN EMERGENCY.

BOTTOM LINE, IF THE UNTHINKABLE SHOULD HAPPEN THIS IS A GOOD RESOURCE TO TURN TO IN A MOMENT OF CRISIS AGAIN IT'S CALLED THE CHILD ID APP AND IT'S A FREE DOWNLOAD.

GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

6/15/15 KRON 4 Evening News

New program in Oakland appeals to public to help solve crimes

OAKLAND POLICE UNVEILED A NEW TACTIC TODAY TO TRY AND REVIVE SOME OF THEIR MANY COLD CASES. THIS POSTER, WHICH READS "DO YOU KNOW WHO KILLED ME?" ABOVE THE FACES OF SEVERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT'S UNSOLVED MURDER VICTIMS, WILL SOON BE UP IN BUS SHELTERS AND ON BILLBOARDS AROUND THAT CITY. THE POLICE DEPARTMENT SAYS THE PROGRAM IS BEING FUNDED WITH FEDERAL DOLLARS.

THE MOTHER OF AN UNSOLVED MURDER VICTIM FROM MAY OF 2010 SAYS SHE IS HOPEFUL THE PROGRAM WILL SPUR THE PUBLIC TO DO THE RIGHT THING.

Pat Hendricks Munson, mother: "We are just praying that someone will speak up. We know they're afraid. I know there are risks in speaking up, but it could be your child, your brother or sister, mother, father. So, please – we've got to stop this."

THE POSTER ALSO FEATURES ONE COLD CASE THAT HAS BEEN SOLVED. POLICE SAY THEY WANTED TO SEND A MESSAGE THAT IS POSSIBLE TO BRING THESE KILLERS TO JUSTICE AND TO BRING THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES SOME PEACE.

CRIME

6/22/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Follow-up on cold case program

GET A GOOD LOOK AT THIS SKETCH THAT WAS PROVIDED TO KRON 4 NEWS BY OAKLAND POLICE. THIS IS THE MAN THAT HOMICIDE DETECTIVES SAY FIRED MULTIPLE ROUNDS INTO THE CAR THAT 18 YEAR OLD AYANA DOMINGEZ WAS SITTING IN WITH HER BOYFRIEND NEARLY ONE YEAR AGO. THAT CAR WAS IN THE WENDY'S DRIVE THROUGH ON INTERNATIONAL BOULEVARD ON JULY 10, 2014. POLICE SAY THEY HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE SHE OR HER BOYFRIEND DID ANYTHING THAT WOULD MAKE SOMEONE WANT TO KILL THEM.

DETECTIVES SAY THE SHOOTER WAS DRIVING THIS CAR – A 2013 TO 2015 FORD ESCAPE SUV.

POLICE SAY THE NEW INFORMATION CAME FROM A WITNESS WHO SAW OUR STORY ABOUT THE CASE LAST WEEK. HOMICIDE DETECTIVES ARE HOPING THIS NEW INFORMATION WILL LEAD TO AYANA'S KILLER.

Lt. Roland Holmgren, Oakland police: "This is what we are asking for. This is what our partnership is, and as we rapidly approach the anniversary of her death, I would really like to have this case solved for her family. And, so, it is imperative that we push information out to the community so we can get information back and get these persons responsible for the crime."

IF YOU RECOGNIZE THE PERSON IN THE SKETCH OR KNOW WHO DRIVES THAT SUV, OPD WOULD LIKE YOU TO GIVE THEM A CALL.

I'M JEFF BUSH, LIVE IN OAKLAND, KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

6/25/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm
Another local police department steps up cold case efforts

A KRON4 EXCLUSIVE – AN EAST BAY POLICE DEPARTMENT IS CRACKING DOWN ON COLD CASES, TRYING TO CLEAR OUT SOME OLD FILES AND BRING SOME LONG SOUGHT AFTER CRIMINALS TO JUSTICE.

TONIGHT, PINOLE'S POLICE CHIEF SITS DOWN WITH US ONE-ON-ONE TO DISCUSS WHAT HE IS HOPING TO GAIN FROM THE NEW UNIT. KRON4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL HAS OUR EXCLUSIVE:

Pinole police chief Neil Gang: "I understand that it's probably a needle in a haystack."

FOR PINOLE INVESTIGATORS, TIME IS NOT ON THEIR SIDE.

Gang: "But I'm very, very confident that with our team, with the relentless pursuit of being able to uncover that needle, this program is going to be able to do that."

NEARLY TWO YEARS AS CHIEF OF POLICE IN PINOLE, NEIL GANG WANTS TO FINALLY BRING CLOSURE TO THE AMBER SWARTZ-GARCIA ABDUCTION CASE FROM 1988.

Gang: "That's our oldest case. Then we also have two other cold case homicides that we're still looking at and still working."

INCLUDING THE BOWLING ALLEY EXECUTION OF 19-YEAR-OLD BRANDON YOUNG IN 2008.

Gang: "He was sitting facing the bowling lanes, somebody came up behind him and riddled him with bullets, and it was just execution style, cold blooded homicide."

AS FOR AMBER, SHE VANISHED FROM HER FRONT YARD IN 1988 AND HASN'T BEEN SEEN SINCE, THOUGH THIS IS WHAT AN AGED-ENHANCED PHOTO SHOWS SHE'D LOOK LIKE TODAY. A CONVICTED CHILD MOLESTER AND KILLER CONFESSED TO HER MURDER IN 2007. STILL, HER BODY HAS NEVER BEEN FOUND. AND, FOR THAT REASON, ON THE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMBER'S DISSAPPEARANCE LAST MONTH, HER MOTHER KIM SAID SHE HASN'T GIVEN UP HOPE THAT HER DAUGHTER IS STILL ALIVE.

Amber's mother: "I believe it's entirely possible. Jaycee Duggard was found alive after many years."

IN 2013, PINOLE POLICE OFFICIALLY REOPENED AMBER'S CASE. AND, JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO, CHIEF GANG LAUNCHED A COLD CASE UNIT TO SIFT THROUGH BOXES AND BOXES OF OLD CASE FILES AND EVIDENCE. CLEARLY, AS YOU CAN SEE, BY SHEER VOLUME, THIS IS NO EASY TASK.

Gang: "Whether it's suspect leads, whether it's evidence, whether it's witnesses. So, you could see the magnitude of what the challenge is for these investigators to go through. When we say we're looking at cases, now hopefully people will understand exactly what that means."

Retired officer Darryl Engan: "Memories deteriorate over time."

DARRYL ENGLAND SPENT 28 YEAR WITH THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND IS ONE OF TWO REITRED INVESTIGATORS RECRUITED TO THIS UNIT.

England: "I was the sergeant supervising the office when Laci Peterson washed up on the shores of Richmond."

ENGLAND WILL WORK WITH DETECTIVES IN THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION, SUPERVISED BY DETECTIVE SERGEANT RICH JENSEN TO CRACK THESE UNSOLVED CASES.

England: "We didn't have the technology in 1988 that we do now and so getting it organized and getting it so we can figure out who suspects are, who we have to talk to, that's our emphasis right now."

Gang: "They're just very vigilant and they're not gonna give up."

THE YEAR SHE WAS BORN, AMBER SWARTZ' FATHER WAS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY WORKING AS A PINOLE POLICE OFFICER. ADDED INSPIRATION, CHIEF GANG SAYS, TO BRING CLOSURE TO THIS CASE.

Gang: "If that needle is in this haystack, in one of those boxes, we need to find out where it is and uncover that."

IN PINOLE, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

4/6/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Parents upset by comments made in school board meeting

SOME MARTINEZ PARENTS ARE UPSET AFTER WHAT A BOARD MEMBER SAID AT THE MOST RECENT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING. BUT THAT PERSON IS FIRING BACK, SAYING HER MEANING WAS MISCONSTRUED WHEN HER COMMENTS WERE EDITED INTO A YOU-TUBE VIDEO. KRON4'S EMILY TURNER REPORTS FROM ONE OF THE SCHOOLS AFFECTED..

Parent: "I think it's out of line. I think she, something should be done. I don't think she should be in that position if that's the way she feels about it."

PARENTS LIKE MARIO QUINTERO WERE APPALLED WHEN THEY WATCHED THIS YOUTUBE VIDEO ABOUT MARTINEZ SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DENISE ELSKEN. THE VIDEO WAS PUT TOGETHER BY A THIRD PARTY AND PIECES TOGETHER A PORTION OF HER REASONING BEHIND DENYING THE LAS JUNTAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AIR CONDITIONING, BUT VOTING IN FAVOR OF IT FOR ANOTHER SCHOOL.

Elsken (in the video): " I would say 95%of students at Las Juntas do not have air conditioning in their homes. So whether that means those students are more acclimated and can handle more heat than the John Swett students, I would say 95% of their residents have air conditioning in their homes."

BECAUSE IT IS EDITED DOWN FROM THE FULL RECORDING OF THE MEETING, ELSKEN ARGUES, THIS VIDEO MISCONTRUES HER MEANING. WE CHECKED AND THE UNEDITED VERSION ISN'T UP ON THE MUSD SITE, BUT THIS VIDEO INDICATED EDITS WITH A SMALL NOISE.

EDITED OR NOT, QUINTERO SAYS ELSKEN'S WORDS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES AND HE WANTS TO SEE HER STEP DOWN.

Quintero: "She, from what I heard, explained herself perfectly, the way she wanted to and that's the way she feels. I don't see how that can be taken out of context. It's upsetting. I just don't think it's right"

ELSKEN WAS ON SPRING BREAK THIS WEEK AND NOT IN TOWN, BUT SHE SENT ME THIS STATEMENT VIA EMAIL:

"I am sorry that my use of an overgeneralized statement during a recent discussion meeting has caused the families of Las Juntas and this school district to be portrayed in a bad light. I spent nine years volunteering in the classrooms of Las Juntas, my children went to school there, and I still live in the Las Juntas community. I am a passionate advocate for the school and its families and I was simply trying to make a point that in light of the fact that it already has cool roofs and some temperature control that I believed there were other more important needs at Las Juntas that would better serve its students. I am deeply sorry that I did not express that advocacy in a different manner during the recent discussion meeting."

EMILY TURNER KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

4/14/15 KRON 4 Evening News

State of the art ADA compliant playground

WHERE IN THE WORLD CAN A CHILD OR ADULT IN A WHEELCHAIR PLAY SIDE BY SIDE WITH EVERYONE ELSE, REGARDLESS OF THEIR PHYSICAL ABILITIES? OPENING THIS WEEKEND IN PALO ALTO IS A TRULY MAGICAL NEW PLAYGROUND WHICH, SO FAR AS WE KNOW, IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND ANYWHERE. KRON FOUR'S ROB FLADEBOE HAS A SNEAK PREVIEW OF THIS AMAZING PLACE, WHICH WILL BE OPEN TO EVERYBODY.

Jill Archer, magical Bridge Playground: "It is fun, it is safe, it's secure. It's a whole lot of fun."

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE A KID TO ENJOY THE GROWN-UP SIZE SWINGS AND OTHER COOL STUFF HERE AT THE MAGICAL BRIDGE PLAYGROUND IN PALO ALTO. JILL ARCHER SAYS IT'S THE MOST INNOVATIVE, INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND IN THE COUNTRY.

Archer: "We worked with inclusion experts over the last few years to design a playground for children and adults of all abilities.

BUILT WITH LAND AND SEED MONEY FROM THE CITY AND SOME \$4 MILLION DOLLARS IN PRIVATE DONATIONS, THE MAGICAL TREEHOUSE AND OTHER PLAY STATIONS GO WELL BEYOND WHAT'S REQUIRED BY THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT.

Archer: "A child or an adult in a wheel chair can play side-by-side with a child who is visually impaired or a child with autism or a child who is typically developing."

I ASKED ARCHER AND PROJECT MANAGER NICK PETERSON TO DEMONSTRATE A FEW OF THE INNOVATIONS.

[visual demonstration and verbal explanation of multiple pieces of equipment at the playground]

THERE'S NO TAN BARK, NO SAND AND PLACE WHEELCHAIRS CAN'T GO. IN SHORT, A DIFFERENT KIND OF PLAYGROUND.

Archer: "We hope that this will be a playground that will spark a national conversation that playgrounds need to be built for children and adults of all abilities."

ASSUMING IT CAN BE HEARD OVER THE CEASELESS DIN OF HAPPY CHILDREN AND PARENTS, IS THIS GADGET HERE. IT'S CALLED A LASER HARP WHICH ALLOWS YOU TO LITERALLY PLUCK A TUNE OUT OF THIN AIR. IT'S VERY COOL. YOU CAN SEE AND HEAR FOR YOURSELF WHEN THE PLAYGROUND OPENS THIS WEEKEND.

ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

PALO ALTO'S NEW MAGICAL BRIDGE PLAYGROUND AT 600 EAST MEADOW STREET OPENS FOR BUSINESS THIS SATURDAY AT 10 A.M. EVERYBODY IS WELCOME.

DIVERSITY

4/16/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Public backlash against local archbishop

A GROUP OF PROMINENT LOCAL CATHOLICS HAS TAKEN OUT A FULL PAGE NEWSPAPER AD TO GET A MESSAGE TO POPE FRANCIS AT THE VATICAN THEIR REQUEST – TO REMOVE THE ARCHBISHOP OF SAN FRANCISCO FROM HIS POST. KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY EXPLAINS WHY:

THE FULL BACK PAGE AD WAS EYE OPENING TO SOME VISITING ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL TODAY. BUT THE GROUP OF 100 LOCAL CATHOLIC LEADERS WHO

PLACED THE AD , MANY OF WHOM DEVOTE LOTS OF TIME AND MONEY TO CHURCH CAUSES, CALL IT...

Michael Kelly, signed open letter: "...an unprecedented step..."

DIRECTED TO THE HOLY FATHER, THE LETTER ASKS THE POPE TO REMOVE ARCHBISHOP SALVATORE CORDILEONE BECAUSE, THEY SAY, HE HAS FOSTERED AN ATMOSPHERE OF DIVISION AND INTOLERANCE.

WHILE HE IS OUTSPOKENLY PRO LIFE AND OPPOSED TO GAY MARRIAGE, THOSE WHO SIGNED THE LETTER SAY THEY ARE ESPECIALLY CONCERNED WITH THE MORALITY CLAUSE WHICH TEACHERS AT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ARE BEING ASKED TO SIGN.

...

Kelly: "Which limits then and frightens them and gives them cause to be terminated for everything from using birth control to advocating for stem cell research."

THE MORALITY CLAUSE CALLS PREMARITAL SEX, HOMOSEXUAL RELATIONS AND ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION GRAVELY EVIL. PARENTS ARE WORRIED ABOUT QUALITY TEACHERS LEAVING RATHER THAN SIGNING IT AND THEY WORRY ABOUT THE MESSAGE IT SENDS TO THEIR CHILDREN.

Pia Hinkle, signed open letter: "My children are like why does the archbishop say such mean things, about our friends, about our friends' families?"

IN A STATEMENT, THE ARCHDIOCESE SAYS:

"The advertisement is a misrepresentation of Catholic teaching, a misrepresentation of the nature of the teacher contract, and a misrepresentation of the spirit of the archbishop. The greatest misrepresentation of all is that the signers presume to speak for 'the Catholic Community of San Francisco.' They do not."

Kelly: "This is not a group of fringe lunatics. These are absolutely the bedrock of our Catholic community."

THE GRASSROOTS GROUP SAYS THEY TRIED TO GET WORD TO THE POPE THROUGH BACK CHANNELS AND ADMIT THEY DON'T KNOW HOW THEIR LETTER WILL BE RECEIVED, BUT THEY ARE HOPING FOR CHANGE.

MAUREEN KELLY, KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

4/17/15 KRON 4 Evening News

School kids participate in Cherry Blossom Festival

THE SAN FRANCISCO CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL IS A TRADITION ENJOYED BY PEOPLE OF MANY DIFFERENT ETHNICITIES. KRON 4'S MAUREEN KELLY SHOWS US ONE OF THE MORE DIVERSE GROUPS PARTICIPATING – KIDS COMING FROM AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAM WHICH MAKES THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PART OF ITS EVERYDAY CIRCULUM:

THESE KINDERGARTNERS ARE SAYING "GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE" IN JAPANESE, PRACTICING FOR THEIR UPCOMING PERFORMANCE ON SATURDAY. THEY'LL BE SINGING JAPANESE SONGS AT THE PEACE PLAZA IN JAPANTOWN WHICH IS JUST A FEW BLOCKS FROM THEIR SCHOOL, ROSA PARKS ELEMENTARY.

THIS JAPANESE BILINGUAL BICULTURAL PROGRAM FOUND A HOME AT ROSA PARKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEARLY 10 YEARS AGO. IF YOU THINK IT'S AN ODD PAIRING TO HAVE KIDS AT A SCHOOL NAMED AFTER AN AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER LEARNING JAPANESE, THE TEACHERS HERE ASK THAT YOU THINK AGAIN.

Teacher: "Historically, the Western Addition neighborhood was African American and Japanese American, so we feel we are coming back to our roots here. Our kindergarteners know their civil rights. They know about Martin Luther King. They learn about Caesar Chavez. And they also learn about Japanese internment.

THIS FIFTH GRADER, HELPING HER SCHOOLMATES PRACTICE THEIR DANCE FOR SUNDAY'S PARADE, EXPLAINS WHY SHE'S HERE.

Student: "My mom wanted me to learn another language and another culture, not just stay with the one language I'll know in my heart all my life."

IT'S AN ANNUAL EVENT FOR KIDS IN ALL GRADES IN THE JAPANESE PROGRAM HERE TO MARCH IN THE PARADE, AND MOST ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO IT. AND NOT JUST BECAUSE THEY GET TO WEAR SNAZZY RED COSTUMES.

Student: "A: you get to dance without getting in trouble with your teachers; and B: you get to spend time with your friends.

Student: "It's important to me because it's my culture, but it should be important to everyone because it's a happy festival. It's a spring festival."

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

4/123/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Follow-up on prominent incidents of deaths of young black men

THE FAMILY OF MICHAEL BROWN HAS FILED A CIVIL WRONGFUL DEATH SUIT AGAINST THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI. THEY'RE ASKING FOR 75-THOUSAND DOLLARS IN DAMAGES IN ADDITION TO ATTORNEY FEES. THE LAWSUIT CLAIMS THAT OFFICER DARREL WILSON "UNJUSTIFIABLY" SHOT AND KILLED BROWN, USING AN "UNNECESSARY AND UNREASONABLE AMOUNT OF FORCE." A GRAND JURY AND THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DECIDED NOT TO BRING CHARGES AGAINST WILSON FOR THE SHOOTING.

Benjamin Crump, family attorney: "To this day, we still don't believe that the shooter of an unarmed 18-year-old teenager has never been cross-examined. And when you allow a person to not be cross-examined, they can get the story, the narrative, the way they want it."

THE FAMILY'S LAWSUIT ALSO ACCUSES WILSON OF "DESTROYING EVIDENCE AND INTERFERING WITH THE INVESTIGATION."

WHILE OFFICER WILSON WAS CLEARED OF ANY WRONG-DOING, A JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATION DID FIND A PATTERN OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION BY FERGUSON POLICE AND CITY OFFICIALS.

MEANWHILE IN BALTIMORE TODAY, AT LEAST TWO PEOPLE WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY AS PROTESTERS, ANGRY OVER THE DEATH OF FREDDIE GRAY, CLASHED WITH POLICE.

HUNDREDS OF PROTESTERS RALLIED AT CITY HALL BEFORE MARCHING TO A POLICE STATION. THEY WALKED THROUGH TRAFFIC AND TWO PEOPLE WERE DETAINED FOR DISORDERLY CONDUCT AND DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY. GRAY DIED SUNDAY, A WEEK AFTER HE WAS ARRESTED BY BALTIMORE POLICE. PROTESTORS SAY THEY WANT ANSWERS ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED. AT SOME POINT, GRAY SUFFERED A SEVERE SPINAL CORD INJURY, HIS VOICE BOX WAS CRUSHED AND HIS NECK SNAPPED BEFORE HE LAPSED INTO A COMA.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS NOT RELEASE DETAILS ABOUT THE SIX OFFICERS INVOLVED. THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IS INVESTIGATING WHETHER GRAY'S CIVIL RIGHTS WERE VIOLATED.

DIVERSITY

5/1/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Charity helps family stay in Silicon Valley area

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY EAST BAY/SILICON VALLEY IS HELPING BAY AREA RESIDENTS FIND AFFORDABLE HOUSING ONE FAMILY AT A TIME. KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE WAS THERE AS THE LATEST EFFORT WAS DEDICATED TODAY IN SAN JOSE:

AS HE POSED WITH HIS FAMILY FOR A PICTURE IN HIS NEW HOME, SEIFU ANEBO HAD TO FIGHT BACK A FEW TEARS OF JOY.

Seifu Anebo: "I don't know how to express my internal feelings. I am excited. I am really so happy right now."

THE HOME WAS DEDICATED ON FRIDAY BY THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING INSTITUTION KNOWN AS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, WHICH HAS HELPED THOUSANDS OF LOW INCOME FAMILIES FIND AND BUY THEIR FIRST HOME.

Janice Jensen, Habitat for Humanity: "These children will have a safe happy home to grow up in. There is such an acute need for affordable housing, especially in Silicon Valley. This is one way that we are trying to achieve that."

1081 PALM STREET WAS CONSIDERED A BLIGHT ON THE NEIGHBORHOOD A FEW SHORT MONTHS AGO, WITH TRASH PILING UP IN THE BACKYARD. AND THEN HABITAT'S VOLUNTEERS STRIPPED IT DOWN TO THE STUDS AND MADE THE SMALL BUT COZY THREE BEDROOM RAMBLER NEW AGAIN.

Nigatuwa Sagaroo: "I'm so happy. I can't wait to move into my new house. I'm so happy for my kids. Now no one can say don't run don't jump."

Seifu Anebo: "I'm so excited. I don't have words. Habitat is not just building my house, they are building my hope, my family future, my family dream."

UNTIL THIS HAPPENED, SEIFU AND SAGATUWA SAID THEY HAD ALL BUT GIVEN UP ON OWNING A HOME IN SILICON VALLEY. NOW IT APPEARS, THEY'RE HERE TO STAY.

IN SAN JOSE ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

5/26/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
New gadget helps speech-impaired live more normal lives

TECH REPORTER SLATE HERE.....
THIS NEW GADGET IS HELPING PEOPLE WITH SPEECH DISABILITIES COMMUNICATE.....
I LOVE THIS KIND OF STORY.....
THIS IS A GREAT EXAMPLE OF TECHNOLOGY IMPROVING SOMEONE'S LIFE.....
THIS IS BRIAN....
A REALLY COOL KID.....
AND HE IS GOING TO SHOW US THIS DEVICE.....
LOOK AT THAT SMILE....

BRIAN CAN NOW TELL JOKES USING THIS DEVICE, THE "NOVA CHAT".

Brian's mom: "Brian has cerebral palsy."

THE NOVA CHAT IS A MODIFIED PHONE OR TABLET WITH A BEEFED UP SPEAKER SYSTEM RUNNING SPECIAL SOFTWARE...

THERE ARE ICONS AND PICTURES FOR EVERYTHING. BY TAPPING THE ICONS YOU SAY ONE WORD OR FORM SENTENCES...

BRIAN IS 5 YEARS OLD... HE DOESN'T EVEN READ YET BUT MAN KIDS AND TECHNOLOGY.... IT'S CRAZY.. ON HIS OWN HE TOTALLY FIGURED OUT HOW TO USE THIS AND CAN NOW TALK THROUGH IT.

Brian, using Nova Chat: "I like croquet."

Mom: "...instead of noise uh uh uh..."

THERE ARE PRE-LOADED IMAGE TILES ON THE DEVICE... BUT YOU CAN ALSO CUSTOMIZE IT AND ADD ANY NAME, PLACE, THING... ANY WORD YOU WANT TO ADD YOU CAN....

THE NOVA CHAT COMES IN DIFFERENT SIZES... AND CAN HELP KIDS OR ADULTS WITH SPEECH PROBLEMS.

LET'S END ON A HIGH NOTE... BRIAN'S GOT ONE MORE JOKE FOR YOU.....

[tells joke using Nova Chat]

DIVERSITY

5/26/15//KRON 4 News at 8pm

Lawmakers seek to protect hate-based initiatives

THE CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY IS TAKING PRECAUTIONS AGAINST UNCONSTITUTIONAL BALLOT MEASURES. THE ASSEMBLY WANTS TO CHANGE THE PROCESS REQUIRED TO QUALIFY A MEASURE. THIS COMES AFTER A PREVIOUS PROPOSAL ADVOCATED THE SLAYINGS OF GAY AND LESBIAN PEOPLE. TODAY A PAIR OF BILLS ADVANCED, ONE IS TO INCREASE FILING FEES FOR AN INITIATIVE FROM TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS TO EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE SECOND WOULD HAVE DISCLAIMERS ON PROPOSED MEASURES ACKNOWLEDGING THEY COULD BE UNCONSTITUTIONAL. BOTH BILLS WILL GO TO THE STATE SENATE.

DIVERSITY

5/28/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Transgender student raises awareness

THOUSANDS OF BAY AREA HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ARE LOOKING TOWARD GRADUATION, A RITE OF PASSAGE FILLED WITH HONORS AND HOPE. TONIGHT, WE CELEBRATE THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY PROFILES ONE OF THOSE TOP GRADS, AT SAN BRUNO'S CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL, WHO IS COMMITTED BOTH TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, AS WELL AS SOCIAL JUSTICE.

MEET AIDEN CASTELLANO. IN SOME WAYS, THE 18 YEAR OLD SENIOR IS LIKE ANY OTHER AVERAGE TEENAGE BOY. HIS FAVORITE SUBJECT IS MATH. HIS FAVORITE THING TO DO IS TO HANG OUT WITH HIS FRIENDS. BUT IN ONE IMPORTANT WAY HE'S FAR FROM AVERAGE.

Aiden: "I'm transitioning from being a female to being a male."

BUT BEING TRANSGENDER IS NOT THE ONLY WAY IN WHICH AIDEN IS EXCEPTIONAL. HERE AT SAN BRUNO'S CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL, HE HAS BEEN PRESIDENT OF THE GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE SINCE HIS SOPHOMORE YEAR. HE WORKS WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP IMPROVE THE LIVES OF LGBT YOUTH. HE FOUGHT TO GET GENDER NEUTRAL BATHROOMS IN PLACE AT HIS SCHOOL AND TEACHES ABOUT GENDER IDENTITY IN THE FRESHMAN HEALTH CLASS.

Aiden: "More to just teach about equality, but also it gives more of an acceptance when folks come out as transgender."

AIDEN'S ACTIVISM IS NOT THE ONLY REASON HE'S BEING SINGLED OUT AS A TOP GRAD. HE'S IN THE HONORS PROGRAM, HAS A 4.2 GPA AND AFTER GRADUATING FROM CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL, HE'LL HEAD TO THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA IN FALL, AN IVY LEAGUE SCHOOL ON A FULL RIDE SCHOLARSHIP.

THE CHILD OF MEXICAN IMMIGRANTS, AIDEN WILL BE THE FIRST IN HIS FAMILY TO ATTAIN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND ATTEND COLLEGE. HE'S PLANNING TO STUDY PSYCHOLOGY AND AMERICAN PUBLIC POLICY.

Aiden: "I just want to help people. It's something where I can just be a psychologist and help people one on one or I can be a political activist and help more and more people and being able to pass laws and public policies, being able to make a difference in the world."

HIS COUNSELOR SAYS AIDEN IS AN INSPIRATION WITH WHAT HE HAS ALREADY ACHIEVED AND IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT HIS FUTURE.

Counselor: "I am really excited to see all he accomplishes."

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

6/1/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local transgender community reacts to Caitlyn Jenner

IT'S NOW OFFICIAL BRUCE JENNER IS CAITLYN JENNER. PICTURES AND VIDEO FROM A VANITY FAIR PHOTO SHOOT HAVE BEEN RELEASED. THEY COME AFTER A 10 -HOUR FACIAL FEMINIZATION SURGERY. KRON 4'S J.R. STONE IS FOLLOWING THE STORY.

J.R. YOU TALKED WITH THOSE IN THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY HERE IN SAN FRANCISCO ABOUT THE IMPACT THIS HAS HAD AND WILL HAVE...

I DID AND EVERYONE I SPOKE WITH IN TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY IS GENERALLY EXCITED ABOUT THIS. THEY BELIEVE THAT CAITLYN CAN HAVE A HUGE IMPACT WHEN IT COMES TO HELPING TRANSGENDER WOMEN AND MEN. IN FOUR HOURS TODAY SHE PICKED UP MORE THAN A MILLION TWITTER FOLLOWERS. I SPOKE WITH THERESA SPARKS WHO HEADS THE SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AND IS A TRANSGENDER WOMAN.

Theresa Sparks: "Overall I'm very pleased. I think what she's done on TV with interviews and family so far has been very respectful. I'm a little surprised she came out in such a provocative photo shoot. But any time someone like her can get 17 million, 15 million, 20 million people start understanding what is transgender, then that makes a big difference. That could be a movement shift for the transgender community so I think, overall, it's good."

THIS IS THE ONE MINUTE VIDEO THAT VANITY FAIR PUT OUT TODAY SHOWING THE PHOTO SHOOT. CAITLYN WAS CALLED BRUCE AT ONE TIME AND WAS BEST KNOWN FOR HER OLYMPIC CAREER IN THE 70'S. THERESA SPARKS SPOKE WITH ME EARLIER THIS EVENING AND SAID RIGHT NOW IT'S ABOUT CAITLYN COMING INTO HER OWN SKIN. SHE SAYS AFTER THAT HAPPENS SHE'S HOPEFUL THAT CAITLYN CAN HELP WITH SOME OF THE CHALLENGES THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY FACE. AND THERE ARE CHALLENGES. I ASKED SPARKS IF SHE BELIEVES MORE MEN AND WOMEN WILL COME FORWARD LOOKING FOR A TRANSGENDER CHANGE AND SHE DOESN'T NECESSARILY THINK SO.

Sparks: "When we did transgender health insurance for employees of San Francisco, way back in 2001, 2002, one of the critics said that if San Francisco passed the law everyone would want to have sex change operations. But that's not really true. There's no rush or stampede"

DURING MY INTERVIEW WITH SPARKS, SHE TALKED ABOUT SOME OF THE CHALLENGES THAT JENNER WILL FACE. YOU CAN HEAR THAT ENTIRE INTERVIEW ON OUR WEB SITE KRON 4 DOT COM. PAM, NOW BACK TO YOU.

DIVERSITY

6/12/15 KRON4 Evening News
Spokane NAACP Controversy

THE PRESIDENT OF THE NAACP IN SPOKANE, WASHINGTON IS ACCUSED OF PRESENTING HERSELF AS A BLACK WOMAN -- WHEN IN FACT SHE'S WHITE. HER OWN PARENTS SAY THAT RACHEL DOLEZAL IS CAUCASIAN AND HAS BEEN MISREPRESENTING HERSELF FOR YEARS.

IN MANY POSTINGS AND PUBLIC APPEARANCES SHE HAS REPRESENTED HERSELF AS AFRICAN AMERICAN. THAT INCLUDES AN APPLICATION FOR A POLICE COMMISSION JOB. HER PARENTS SAY SHE GREW UP IN PREDOMINANTLY WHITE MONTANA... AND IMMERSING HERSELF IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY WHEN SHE AT COLLEGE IN MISSISSIPPI. SHE WAS CONFRONTED WEDNESDAY BY A REPORTER ABOUT A FACEBOOK PHOTO WITH AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN MAN SHE CLAIMED WAS HER FATHER.

Reporter: "Are you African American?"

Dolezal: "I don't, I don't understand the question of I did tell you that yes, that's my Dad and he was unable to come in January."

Reporter: "Your parents ... are they white?"

THE CITY OF SPOKANE IS CHECKING TO SEE IF SHE VIOLATED ANY POLICIES.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN WHITE STUDENTS AT HOWARD AND WHITE MEMBERS OF THE NAACP.

TODAY THE NAACP IS COMING TO DOLEZAL'S DEFENSE, SAYING IN A STATEMENT THAT IT STANDS BEHIND HER ADVOCACY RECORD, ADDING:

"ONE'S RACIAL IDENTITY IS NOT A QUALIFYING CRITERIA OR DISQUALIFYING STANDARD FOR NAACP LEADERSHIP. "

IS THIS UNPRECEDENTED? CAN YOU RECALL ANOTHER CASE LIKE THIS?

George Holland Sr., lawyer: "No!"

I STOPPED BY THE LAW OFFICES OF GEORGE HOLLAND SR., THE PRESIDENT OF THE OAKLAND BRANCH OF THE NAACP TO GET HIS THOUGHTS ABOUT THE CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING THE RACIAL IDENTITY OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CIVIL RIGHT'S ORGANIZATION'S SPOKANE WASHINGTON BRANCH RACHEL DOLEZAL.

Holland: "People want to know why did she do that; so that's the question and she has a story to tell now and they can listen to it if they wish but we don't want to forget what she was trying to do, if it was positive for African American people. We have to try to appreciate that."

HIS THOUGHTS ON HER BEING ACCUSED OF MISREPRESENTING HER IDENTITY ON AN APPLICATION FOR A PROMINENT POLICE COMMISSION.

Holland: "I think what happened is that issues surrounding African American people can take you to the front of the line. And some people want to try to take advantage of that opportunity. She got appointing to all these boards and committees because she was a star up there. She was making things happen, bringing attention to the causes she supported. But she wanted some notoriety about herself. She wanted to do something and she did it, but she thought she had to be African American to do it. But you don't have to be an African American to lead the cause that you are trying to support."

HE SAYS FOR PAST 106 YEARS THE NAACP HAS HAD NO RACIAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Holland: "She has every right to be the president of the Spokane branch of the NAACP as anybody else."

HOWEVER WHEN IT COMES TO HOW DOLEZAL SHOULD HANDLE THIS DUST UP REGARDING HER RACIAL BACKGROUND...THE ATTORNEY SAYS INSTEAD OF HIS CIVIL RIGHTS COLLEAGUE RUNNING AWAY FROM THE ISSUE

Holland: "You face up to it. No reason to hide. C'mon – we aren't crybabies. People should be who they are. No matter what race or nationality, you gotta just accept it."

IN OAKLAND HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

DIVERSITY

6/15/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Follow-up on Spokane NAACP director

TONIGHT A MEMBER OF THE N-A-A-C-P IN SPOKANE, WASHINGTON IS WELCOMING THE RESIGNATION OF THE CHAPTER'S PRESIDENT, RACHEL DOLEZAL. THAT RESIGNATION COMES JUST DAYS AFTER DOLEZAL'S PARENTS SAID, DESPITE HER CLAIMS, SHE IS WHITE. A MEMBER OF THE ORGANIZATION, KITARA JOHNSON, CALLED ON DOLEZAL TO STEP DOWN. SHE SAYS IT IS THE BEST THING THAT CAN HAPPEN RIGHT NOW. STEPHANIE ELAM HAS THE LATEST...

HERE HE IS ON ABC:

Ezra Dolezal, adopted brother: "She took me aside when I was over there and told me and told me to make sure no one found out where she was from and for me not to blow her cover."

BUT THIS REVELATION IS GIVING FUEL TO SOME OF HER CRITICS WHO NOW SEE DOLEZAL'S ACTIONS AS DELIBERATE AND CALCULATING.

Angela Finney, teacher at Spokane Community College: "It's a hurtful thing to me, because I believed in somebody that I thought was someone else."

THOUGH DOLEZAL IS STEPPING DOWN, SHE SAYS SHE IS NOT BACKING DOWN FROM HER SOCIAL ACTIVISM -- A STANCE SOME IN SPOKANE HONOR, DESPITE THE DRAMATIC TURN.

Ayanna Ky Fernandez, student at Spokane Community College: "It doesn't change how we feel about Rachel. And it doesn't discredit her work, and everything she has built and accomplished as long as we've all known her."

DOLEZAL ONCE SUED HOWARD UNIVERSITY, A HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE, FOR ALLEGEDLY DENYING HER TEACHING POSTS AND A SCHOLARSHIP BECAUSE SHE WAS A WHITE WOMAN. DOLEZAL'S MOTHER MEANTIME, SAID TODAY THAT SHE HOPES HER DAUGHTER GETS THE HELP SHE NEEDS TO DEAL WITH WHAT SHE CALLED HER "IDENTITY ISSUES."

DIVERSITY

6/15/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

A's received backlash about LGBT Night plans

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAMS, INCLUDING THE GIANTS, ALL HOST L-G-B-T PRIDE NIGHTS. THE A'S WILL HOST THEIR OWN ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT, A PLAN THAT CREATED A BACKLASH ON SOCIAL MEDIA FROM SOME FANS WHO REFUSE TO ATTEND. BUT DESPITE THAT BACKLASH, KRON 4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS FINDS ONE FAN WHO IS PITCHING IN TO MAKE SURE THE GAME IS A HIT:

IT'S A FIRST FOR THE OAKLAND A'S BALL TEAM – LGBT NIGHT AT O.CO. BUT SOME TICKET HOLDERS WERE NOT HAPPY.

Eireann Dolan: "There were a lot of people who commented on social media that they wanted to sit out the game."

FOR DIE-HARD A'S FAN EIREANN DOLAN, THAT HURT.

Dolan: "It was sort of a personal thing for me, my mom and her partner. My mom is gay."

SO EIREANN, ALONG WITH HER BOYFRIEND A'S PITCHER SEAN DOOLITTLE, CAME UP A GAME PLAN.

Dolan: "Rather than judge them or make them feel bad about their decision, why not offer to buy their tickets?"

YOU PERSONALLY?

Dolan: "Yeah. So I personally went and offered to purchase their tickets if they didn't want to go. If they already had tickets to Pride Night, I offered to purchase their tickets back and give them to a local LGBT community center for at risk youth. As soon as Sean found out, as soon as he got home, he said whatever I couldn't afford he would go in on and match."

Doolittle: "I just try and stay out of the way and support her in any way I could."

Dolan: "Thanks for staying out of the way. I was as proud of him as he is of me."

THE REACTION? OVERWHELMING. LGBT NIGHT FOR THE A'S IS SOLD OUT – USUALLY IT TAKES THE YANKEES IN TOWN TO DO THAT! ALL IT TOOK IS THIS COUPLE TO PITCH-IN AND OFFER PRIDE IN PLACE OF PREJUDICE.

Dolan: "I've seen that judgment first-hand and I was like there's no place for that in baseball. At the end of the day, we're all baseball fans and we can come together around something like this and realize how much we have in common. It's a great place to start the conversation."

IN SAN FRANCISCO, VICKI LIVIAKIS, KRON4 NEWS.

DIVERSITY

6/16/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Spokane NAACP president follow-up

THE CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING FORMER SPOKANE N-A-A-C-P LEADER RACHEL DOLEZAL JUST TOOK ANOTHER CONFUSING TURN. ALECIA REID IS HERE TO TELL US ABOUT THE WOMAN'S FIRST PUBLIC STATEMENT SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE CONTROVERSY OVER HER RACE:

DOLEZAL RESIGNED AFTER HER PARENTS REVEALED SHE WAS NOT, AS SHE CLAIMED, AFRICAN AMERICAN. TODAY SHE SPOKE OUT FOR THE FIRST TIME, INSISTING THAT WHAT MATTERS NOW IS NOT *HOW* SHE WAS BORN, BUT WHAT SHE HAS BECOME.

Rachel Dolezal, Former Spokane NAACP President: "I identify as black."

IN AN INTERVIEW ON NBC'S TODAY SHOW, RACHEL DOLEZAL SAID THAT SHE FELT SHE WAS AFRICAN-AMERICAN FROM A YOUNG AGE, AND DESPITE THE CRITICISM SHE HAS RECEIVED THAT HASN'T CHANGED.

Dolezal: "I did feel that at some point I would need to address the complexity of my identity."

THE 37 YEAR OLD'S PARENTS, WHO ARE BOTH WHITE, SAY THEY CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY SHE IS CLAIMING TO BE AFRICAN-AMERICAN.

Ruthanne Dolezal, Rachel's mother: "We would like to say Rachel, we love you and we hope that you will get the help that you need to work through these identity issues and integrity issues so that you can move on with your life in a positive direction."

Larry Dolezal, father: "We love you Rachel. We're willing to forgive and move forward."

HER ADOPTIVE BROTHER, WHO IS AFRICAN AMERICAN, IS LESS FORGIVING...

Ezra Dolezal, Rachel's adopted brother: "She's parading around saying that she's been born black and she knows what it's like to grow up as an African American. And I call it blackface, because that's pretty much what it is."

DOLEZAL SAID SHE NEVER PURPOSELY MISLED ANYONE.

Dolezal: "It's a little more complex than me identifying as black or answering a question of are you black or white."

BUT SHE STOPPED SHORT OF ADMITTING THAT PRESENTING HERSELF AS BLACK WAS A POOR CHOICE.

Dolezal: "My life has been one of survival and the decisions that I have made along the way have been to survive and to carry forward in my journey and life continuum."

IN ADDITION TO STEPPING DOWN AS THE SPOKANE CHAPTER PRESIDENT, DOLEZAL NO LONGER HAS HER PART-TIME JOB IN THE AFRICANA STUDIES PROGRAM AT EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY. THE CITY ETHICS COMMISSION IS INVESTIGATING HER APPLICATION, TO JOIN THE POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD, WHERE SHE IDENTIFIED HERSELF AS WHITE, BLACK AND AMERICAN INDIAN.

LAST NIGHT, AFTER DOLEZAL STEPPED DOWN AS PRESIDENT OF THE SPOKANE N-A-A-C-P, MEMBERS HELD A SOLIDARITY RALLY, WHICH WAS INITIALLY SUPPOSED TO BE A PROTEST CALLING FOR HER TO STEP DOWN. MANY MEMBERS SAY THEY'RE READY TO MOVE ON AND FORGIVE HER, BUT FIRST THEY NEED AN EXPLANATION – AND AN APOLOGY.

DIVERSITY

6/16/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Did California water park discriminate against a special needs customer?

ONE FAMILY FELT SNUBBED BY A CALIFORNIA WATER PARK WHEN IT TRIED TO ENFORCE SOME STRICT RULES. A GIRL LEFT IN TEARS, AFTER HER MOTHER SAYS HER SPECIAL NEEDS DAUGHTER WAS TOLD SHE COULDN'T RIDE WATER SLIDES AT A SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER PARK. JENNIFER KASTNER EXPLAINS WHY THE PARK TURNED HER AWAY:

THIS PICTURE SHOWS LITTLE SAVANNAH FULKERSON IN TEARS MONDAY AFTER SHE SAYS SHE WAS TOLD SHE COULDN'T RIDE THE WATER SLIDES AT SIX FLAGS HURRICANE HARBOR BECAUSE OF HER SPECIAL PROTECTIVE SWIMWEAR.

Savannah: "It made me really mad and upset. It's just not right."

WE MET UP WITH THE 11-YEAR-OLD AND HER MOTHER AFTER THEY LEFT THE PARK. SAVANNAH HAS TO COVER UP FROM HEAD TO TOE--SHE EVEN WEARS GLOVES---

BECAUSE SHE HAS A RARE DISORDER CALLED EPP. IT CAUSES THE SKIN TO HAVE A PAINFUL REACTION TO LIGHT.

Savannah: "It feels like lava is being poured on you. It hurts and you just want to curl up in a ball and cry."

HER MOTHER SAYS SAVANNAH WAS TURNED AWAY FROM THE SLIDES BECAUSE MANAGEMENT TOLD HER THAT HER SWIMWEAR WAS TOO LOOSE AND IN TOO MANY SEPARATE PIECES.

Savannah's mom: "And I said well guys wear board shorts, what's the difference? Those are loose. Those aren't tight. And she said "that's a bathing suit" and I said "this is a bathing suit too."

AFTER A FRIEND FROM A SUPPORT GROUP POSTED THE PHOTO ON A SOCIAL MEDIA SITE, WE'RE TOLD SEVERAL PEOPLE CALLED AND EMAILED TO COMPLAIN, CLAIMING DISCRIMINATION.

THE FULKERSONS TELL US MANAGEMENT EVENTUALLY ALLOWED SAVANNAH TO GO ON THE RIDES WITH INNER TUBES. BUT THE FAMILY SAYS IT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

THE PARK CITED SAFETY CONCERNS, ISSUING US THIS STATEMENT, READING IN PART:

"...T-shirts and surf/rash shirts are not allowed on body slides. All other attractions were available to the family. The family chose to stay in the park after discussing the situation with our park supervisor."

THE FULKERSONS SAY THEY HOPE THE PARK WILL MAKE CHANGES TO HELP THOSE WITH HER DISORDER...FEEL MORE ACCEPTED.

DIVERSITY

6/18/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Local reaction to Charleston shooting

LOCAL FAITH LEADERS ARE REACTING TO THE CHURCH SHOOTING MASSACRE IN SOUTH CAROLINA. THE REVEREND AMOS BROWN, SENIOR PASTOR OF THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH AND PRESIDENT OF THE SAN FRANCISCO NAACP, SPOKE TODAY ABOUT LOVING ONE ANOTHER AND KEEPING PARISHONERS SAFE.

Rev. Brown: "We have to be offensive in our moves to make our sanctuaries safe, secure for our congregants">

REVEREND BROWN ALSO SAID THAT THE CHURCH AND SOME TEMPLES IN SAN FRANCISCO PLAN TO TAKE NEW SECURITY MEASURES. HE MENTIONED SOME LOCATIONS COULD SEE POSSIBLE METAL DETECTORS AT THE DOORS AND SECURITY CAMERAS.

ACROSS THE BAY KRON 4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN SPOKE WITH OTHER FAITH LEADERS WHO ARE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO ADD SECURITY TO PLACES OF WORSHIP WHICH HAVE ALWAYS BEEN OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Rev. Freda Cash, praying: "We just ask that you touch the hearts and minds of the entire congregation."

ONCE PRAYER WAS OVER, THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHURCH MASSACRE DOMINATED THE DISCUSSION AT THE MONTHLY GATHERING OF THE A.M.E. CHURCH, CALIFORNIA MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE HERE AT SOULS RESTAURANT IN OAKLAND, SECURITY BEING A MAJOR CONCERN ACROSS THE BOARD.

Rev. Vernon Burroughs, Brookins A.M.E. Church: "I have already put my trustees on guard to keep a watch, not just for Bible study but for Sunday services. We need to be aware of our surroundings even when we are in our churches."

REV. FREDA CASH URGES THE GROUP TO PROCEED WITH CAUTION WHEN IT COMES TO IMPLEMENTING ANY NEW SAFETY MEASURES IN THE CHURCH.

Rev. Cash: "We don't want people to panic because that will cause more disturbances so we need to deal with that issue as well."

REV. ANTHONY L. HUGHES IS CONCERNED THAT TOO MUCH SECURITY COULD SEND THE WRONG MESSAGE TO THOSE MOST IN NEED OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Hughes: "as a pastor I need to be accessible. I can't hide myself behind locked doors or cages and still do the work that God has called me to do."

THE FIRST AME CHURCH IN OAKLAND HAS BEEN AROUND FOR 153 YEARS. REVEREND DR. HAROLD MAYBERRY LAMENTS THE NEED TO PLACE GUARDS AROUND THE SANCTUARY. THE NEED TO PROTECT CHURCH MEMBERS FROM BEING ATTACKED BY A GUNMAN BRINGS UP FEELING OF...

Rev. Mayberry: "...sadness, disappointment. That persons can't even be in the house of God, in prayer service and not be safe speaks to the times we live in. It speaks to the culture of America that even when they're trying to worship they're not safe."

YET A CONFLICT REMAINS IN THAT THE CHURCH'S LONG TRADITION OF DOORS BEING OPEN TO ANY AND EVERYONE MEANS THERE WILL BE LIMITS ON ANY NEW SECURITY

Rev. Hughes: "So yes, there will be a conversation about that. There may be some minor changes but it won't be a major change because we still have to be out there."

IN OAKLAND HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

DIVERSITY

6/19/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

European heritage event cancelled

THERE'S A STORY THAT'S TRENDING ON SOCIAL MEDIA TONIGHT. A MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM IN UTAH HAS CANCELLED A PROMOTIONAL NIGHT CALLED "CAUCASION HERITAGE NIGHT".

THE OREM OWLZ, A LOS ANGELES DODGERS AFFILIATE, ANNOUNCED THAT IN LIGHT OF THE RACIAL KILLINGS IN CHARLESTON, THEIR INTENTIONS HAVE BEEN MISCONSTRUED AND THEY APOLOGIZE.

THEY ALSO SAID THEIR PLANS FOR THE NIGHT WAS TO INVITE FANS WHO ARE IRISH, ITALIAN, SCANDANAVIAN, GERMAN, OR EVEN UTAHN. THEY WERE GOING TO HAVE BURGERS ON WONDER BREAD WITH MAYONAISE, SHOW CLIPS FROM SEINFELD AND FRIENDS, AND TRY TO SOLVE THE VERTICAL LEAPING CHALLENGE.

DIVERSITY

6/24/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

Confederate flag controversy – local angle

THE CHURCH MASSACRE IN SOUTH CAROLINA RENEWED THE CONTROVERSY OVER THE CONFEDERATE FLAG. AROUND THE NATION, HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE HAVE DEMONSTRATED TO HAVE THAT FLAG REMOVED FROM OUTSIDE STATE BUILDINGS AND FROM RETAILERS. NOW A CONFEDERATE FLAG IS HANGING FROM A HOME IN A PETALUMA NEIGHBORHOOD. KRON 4'S JEFF BUSH HAS REACTION FROM NEIGHBORS IN THE AREA AND THE FLAG'S OWNER.

Janice Cader-Thompson, neighborhood resident: "I drove by this morning and saw this confederate flag flying in my neighborhood."

JANICE CADER-THOMPSON SAYS THE CONFEDERATE BATTLE FLAG HAS NO PLACE IN MODERN AMERICAN SOCIETY AND WAS OFFENDED THAT THE FLAG'S OWNER WOULD DISPLAY SUCH A SYMBOL OF DIVISION IN THIS COUNTRY'S HISTORY, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF THE TRAGEDY IN SOUTH CAROLINA WHERE A DERANGED MAN KILLED NINE PEOPLE WHILE THEY WERE IN CHURCH...THAT SUSPECT IS SEEN IN SEVERAL IMAGES HOLDING THE FLAG.

Janice: "I was taken aback and very offended."

JANICE SAYS FLYING THIS FLAG IS IN VERY POOR TASTE AND CONJURES UP OLD WAYS IN SONOMA COUNTY.

Janice: "I just think that it's really unfortunate that it's flying in our community. Petaluma has a history of racism."

I WENT TO THE HOUS. THE OWNER'S NAME IS TRAVIS. HE DIDN'T WANT TO GO ON CAMERA, BUT DEFENDED HIS CHOICE TO FLY THE FLAG.

Travis: "It's not a symbol of racism. I'm not a racist person. That's that. We have to accept our history. We can't just white-wash things. That gets into an area we don't need to get into as a society."

TRAVIS SAYS HE'S GOING TO KEEP HIS FLAG FLYING UNTIL HE DECIDES TO TAKE IT DOWN AND HIS NEIGHBORS SAY THEY ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT IT.

JEFF BUSH IN PETALUMA, KRON FOUR NEWS.

story updated the following evening when the flag had come down:

NOW YOU CAN SEE THE CONFEDERATE FLAG HAS BEEN REPLACED WITH AN AMERICAN FLAG. AFTER SEEING THE REACTION OF HIS NEIGHBORS AND OUR REPORT LAST NIGHT, THE HOMEOWNER HAD A CHANGE OF HEART.

2Q2015 EDUCATION

EDUCATION

4/14/15 KRON 4 Morning News

Parents in local school district up in arms

A MARTINEZ SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER IS BACKING DOWN AFTER SOME CONTROVERSIAL COMMENTS ABOUT AIR CONDITIONING AT SOME DISTRICT SCHOOLS, BUT PARENTS ARE STILL ANGRY AND CALLING FOR THE RESIGNATION OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DENISE ELSKIN BECAUSE OF COMMENTS SHE MADE ABOUT THE TRADITIONALLY POORER AND ETHNIC STUDENTS OF LAS JUNTAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. KRON FOUR'S JEFF BUSH WAS AT THE FIRST SCHOOL BOARD MEETING SINCE THE CONTROVERSY STARTED AND TALKED TO PARENTS ABOUT THE POORLY CHOSEN WORDS.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DENISE ELSKIN WISHES SHE HAD NOT SAID WHAT SHE SAID LAST MONTH DURING A DISCUSSION ABOUT HOW TO SPEND PROP K FUNDS IN THE DISTRICT.

Elskin: "I would say that 95 percent of the students at Las Juntas do not have air conditioning in their homes and would be better acclimated to the heat."

THAT IS HOW ELSKIN DESCRIBED HER REASONING FOR BEING AGAINST A NEW AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM AT LOS JUNTAS ELEMENTARY. MANY IN THE DISTRICT TOOK HER WORDS AS RACIST AND ELITIST AND MADE THEIR DISSATISFACTION KNOWN AT THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING ON MONDAY NIGHT.

Parent: "Treat these kids equally to the other kids in the district. Show them their health and their safety and their education are valuable."

Parent: "Ms. Elskin gave us insight on how she makes important decisions about our children and how she makes Martinez Unified School District school board decisions. She makes decisions based on bias, faulty assumptions and leaps of logic."

ELSKIN FINALLY MADE AN APOLOGY IN FRONT OF EVERYONE AT THE MEETING.

Elskin: "Unfortunately, my poor choice of words and a malicious video that was widely circulated on social media have now cast a shadow on our district and have taken away from the important work that we still have to do for our children. For that I am truly sorry."

BUT, ELSKIN'S MEA CULPA SEEMED TO FALL ON DEAF EARS. PARENTS SAY HER WORDS SHOW HER INSENSITIVITY AND THAT SHE IS OUT OF TOUCH WITH THE NEEDS OF THE STUDENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

I'M JEFF BUSH IN MARTINEZ, KRON FOUR NEWS

EDUCATION

4/23/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Teacher of the week profile (on-going series of weekly vignettes and monthly profiles highlighting contributions of Bay Area teachers)

KRON FOUR NEWS IS RECOGNIZING SOME OF THE BAY AREA'S OUTSTANDING TEACHERS. OUR FIRST 'TEACHER OF THE WEEK' IS MARCIE MITCHELL, FROM SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO HIGH SCHOOL. MARCIE WAS NOMINATED BY COLLEAGUES WHO

CALL HER DEDICATED AND ALWAYS READY TO GO 'ABOVE AND BEYOND' FOR HER STUDENTS.

THIS IS SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO HIGH SCHOOL WITH ROUGHLY 14 HUNDRED STUDENTS AT ONE OF THE MOST DIVERSE CAMPUSES IN THE BAY AREA AND AMONG THE STAFFERS CONSIDERED 'FAMILY' -- SHE'S BEEN HERE 17 YEARS -- IS MARCIE MITCHELL, THE CAMPUS LIBRARIAN AND MEDIA TEACHER. MARCIE TEACHES CLASSES, CHECKS OUT BOOKS, HANDLES TECH ISSUES, SUPPORTS OTHER TEACHERS -- AND ALWAYS SEEMS READY TO HELP.

Mitchell: "My mantras are 'kindness always' and the second thing I always try to remember is a quote I love 'everyone needs a good listening to.'..."

YOU KNOW PEOPLE ON THE JOB LIKE YOU WHEN THEY CALL YOU AN "UNsung HERO" AND "THE PERSON WHO MAKES LIFE EASIER FOR EVERYONE ON CAMPUS."

Cindy Schusterman, fellow teacher: "She's just incredibly caring and always looking out for everyone."

MARCIE SAYS HER STUDENTS ARE POLITE AND GRATEFUL AND SAYS THAT EVEN WHEN THINGS GET TOUGH, SHE'S LEARNED THAT THERE MIGHT BE A GOOD REASON. .

Mitchell" I learned a long time ago that you can't assume what a kid is going through. Some of our kids have been through things that most adults don't even have to deal with."

AND THAT CAN MEAN ANYTHING FROM STRUGGLING IN FOSTER CARE TO A PARENT'S DEATH.

BUT IT'S NICE TO KNOW THAT THE LIBRARY AT SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO HIGH ISN'T JUST A PLACE FOR BOOKS, COMPUTERS, AND TECH QUESTIONS. IT ALSO FEATURES SOMEONE WITH A KIND HEART WHO IS ALWAYS WILLING TO LISTEN.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO NOMINATE A SPECIAL TEACHER GO TO OUR WEBSITE KRON 4 DOT COM AND CLICK ON "TEACHER OF THE WEEK".

EDUCATION

4/26/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm
Surprise closure of local college systems

THOUSANDS OF LOCAL COLLEGE STUDENTS WON'T BE GOING TO CLASS TOMORROW. WITH LESS THAN A DAY'S WARNING, CORINTHIAN COLLEGES ARE CLOSING THEIR CAMPUSES AND SENDING STUDENTS INTO A PANIC. KRON 4'S EMILY TURNER JOINS US IN THE STUDIO, AND EMILY WHERE WILL THESE STUDENTS GO?

THAT'S THE BIG QUESTION. THERE IS NOTHING PLANNED, SO THESE STUDENTS WHO HAVE ALREADY PAID FOR THEIR EDUCATION ARE WITH OUT ONE OR A MEANS TO GET ONE AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING.

THE CLOSURES INCLUDE HEALD COLLEGE HERE IN THE BAY AREA, EVEREST..AND WYO-TECH CAMPUSES ALL OVER CALIFORNIA. THAT'S 28 CAMPUSES IN TOTAL, AFFECTING 16 THOUSAND STUDENTS. THEY FOUND OUT THROUGH AN EMAIL AND A PUBLIC STATEMENT TODAY. IT SAYS CORINTHIAN COULD EITHER SELL THE COLLEGES OR HANDLE THE FINANCIAL PENALTIES IMPOSED UPON IT BY THE GOVERNMENT, SO THEY CLOSED UP SHOP.

THE STATEMENT DOES SAY THEY ARE WORKING WITH OTHER SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE CONTINUING EDUCATION, BUT THERE'S NO GUARANTEE. ACCEPTING STUDENTS WILL BE UP TO THOSE INSTITUTIONS.

STUDENTS PAID ANYWHERE FROM 33 TO 75 THOUSAND DOLLARS, BUT THERE IS SOME SILVER LINING. THOSE GOVERNMENT PENALTIES WERE FOR DECEPTIVE CLAIMS OF JOB PROSPECTS AND AS PART OF THE SETTLEMENT 408 MMILLION DOLLARS IN STUDENT LOANS WILL BE FORGIVEN.

EDUCATION

4/27/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Follow up on surprise closure of local college systems

THOUSANDS OF LOCAL COLLEGE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN LOCKED OUT OF CLASS. AFTER CORINTHIAN COLLEGES ANNOUNCED THEY ARE CLOSING 28 CAMPUSES NATIONWIDE. SIX OF THEM ARE HERE IN THE BAY AREA. KRON 4'S WILL TRAN GOT REACTION FROM STUDENTS AT HEALD COLLEGE IN CONCORD TODAY.

ASTUDENTS WERE BLINDSIDED. THEY LEFT HERE ON FRIDAY THINKING THEY WOULD BE BACK IN CLASS ON MONDAY, BUT OVER THE WEEKEND THEY RECEIVED EMAILS STATING THAT HEALTH COLLEGE ALONG WITH WYO TECH AND ALL THE COLLEGES IN THE CORINTHIAN GROUP WERE SHUTTING DOWN IMMEDIATELY. THE STUDENTS ARE SHOWING UP HERE TODAY AND THEY ARE ANGRY;

Vanessa McDonald: "I was doing my homework like normal for class this week and I got an email. Daisy called me; I didn't even know about it. They just told us sorry come to a meeting on Wednesday and we'll explain but school is closed."

Daisy Lopez: "I have loans. It's a lot of money just to come to Heald College because it's a private school. I was at a different school before I came over here. I wish I'd stayed there."

Jenny Valencia: "All I know is they promise you a really good feature. You know – 'Get in. Get out. Get ahead.' It's definitely not true."

Wesley Andreen: "I just checked my federal loan this morning, my grant. I have 25 thousand dollars of debt to Heald College. We just started the second week of quarter. So we've already purchased our books. We already paid for this quarter, eleven weeks of tuition. Where's that money?"

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WENT AFTER CORINTHIAN SAYING THEIR CLAIM "GET IN. GET OUT. GET AHEAD" JOB PLACEMENT – ALL SIMPLY NOT TRUE.

WILL TRAN KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

4/29/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Follow up on Corinthian shut down

TONIGHT COLLEGE STUDENTS LEFT HIGH AND DRY BY THE CLOSURE OF CORINTHIAN COLLEGES ARE GETTING SOME ANSWERS. HEALD COLLEGE, ONE OF THE SCHOOLS OWNED AND SHUT DOWN BY CORINTHIAN, HELD AN OPEN HOUSE TODAY FOR STUDENTS. THEY GOT TRANSCRIPTS AND MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER

LOCAL COLLEGES. BUT AS KRON 4'S EMILY TURNER REPORTS, THEY STILL HAVE QUESTIONS.

HEALD COLLEGE'S CAMPUS SAW A CONSTANT PARADE OF UNHAPPY PEOPLE TODAY.

Melissa Kava, former student: "I'm pissed. I literally didn't sleep last night."

MELISSA KAVA IS ONE OF THE THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS WITHOUT A SCHOOL NOW THAT CORINTHIAN HAS SHUT THE DOORS TO ALL OF ITS COLLEGES.

WE WEREN'T ALLOWED IN, BUT TODAY, ONE OF THOSE COLLEGES HELD AN OPEN HOUSE FOR THEIR FORMER STUDENTS WHO ARE NOW IN A VERY TIGHT SPOT ACADEMICALLY – AND FOR SOME, FINANCIALLY.

Kava: "I start over. I start back at square one."

THERE WILL BE NO WAY FOR ANYONE TO FINISH OUT THE DEGREE THEY STARTED, AND THE CREDITS THEY'VE EARNED MAY OR MAY NOT TRANSFER TO OTHER SCHOOLS. ELEVEN LOCAL COLLEGES SHOWED UP TODAY TO HELP FIGURE IT OUT.

Jeff Hamilton, City College San Francisco: "The goal is to bring some velocity to the situation so these students aren't set back."

THE GOVERNMENT IS OFFERING LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR STUDENTS, BUT EVEN THAT, STUDENTS SAY, COMES AT A PRICE.

Kava: "There are two options: keep you school credits and keep the debt; or release your credits and release your debt."

EMILY TURNER KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

5/12/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Follow up on pre-school lost-lease story

IN A MY KRON 4 STORY WE'VE BEEN TRACKING EXCLUSIVELY SINCE MARCH, ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S TOP SCHOOLS IS LOSING ITS LEASE AND THE PUSH IS ON TO FIND A NEW PLACE FOR THE CELEBRATED "KIDS' CLUB" PRE-SCHOOL. KRON 4'S EMILY TURNER IS LIVE IN ANTIOCH WHERE STAFFERS AND PARENTS ARE WORKING TO SAVE THE SCHOOL. EMILY, THIS STORY HAS REALLY TOUCHED A NERVE:

IT HAS, BECAUSE KIDS CLUB SERVES A NEED HERE. IT'S ONE OF VERY FEW PRE-SCHOOLS IN THE AREA AND THEY SERVE HUNDREDS OF KIDS. ALL OF THIS HAS TO MOVE AT THE END OF JULY AND THEY ARE HOPING THEY CAN MAKE THAT HAPPEN.

WHEN IT COMES TO SAVING ANTIOCH'S KIDS CLUB IT'S ABOUT MORE THAN JUST THE BRICK AND MORTAR WHERE THESE KIDS LEARN.

School director Mark Moksey: "The livelihoods of 300 low income families and the academic futures of 300 children and the future lives of 300 members of our community are at stake."

THE NON-PROFIT'S LEASE WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS RUN OUT, NOT TO BE RENEWED. And while it has the capital and the resources need to put together a new school, IT DOESN'T HAVE A PLACE TO PUT IT.

Teacher: "If they close this school they'll be making the biggest mistake in the world. It's just a fantastic school. We love it."

Parent: "There's only one other pre-school out here that I know of, and they have a long wait list. They aren't able to take as many kids as the Kids Club can so it's going to push a lot of kids out of school. Education is important and our kids are important."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARK MOKSEY HAS IDENTIFIED SEVERAL LOCATIONS AND TODAY MET WITH THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER TO DISCUSS THE ONES THE CITY OWNS. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, THOUGH, HAS YET TO MEET WITH HIM. BUT IN THE MEANTIME, THE CLOCK IS TICKING ON A PROBLEM THAT CAN BE SOLVED, HE SAYS, IF HE CAN GET THE COOPERATION NECESSARY.

Mark Moksey: "It's a big deal because we're dealing with a vulnerable population. Three and four year olds need to be protected. Low-income minority families need to be assisted. You're looking at equity in education. The problem is solvable. We just need to act quickly and we need to get the community leaders to assist us."

THE PROOF IS IN THE PUDDING. WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT CREATING SMART FUTURE HUMANS FOR A SOCIETY, THAT LITTLE GIRL WHO WAS IN OUR LEAD STORY ABOUT ARRESTING THE ANTIOCH HOME INVADER, SHE GOES TO THIS PRE-SCHOOL AND SHE'S ONE SMART COOKIE.

AS FOR WHAT THE CITY IS GOING TO DO? THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE A MEETING TOMORROW AND WE WILL BRING YOU THE RESULTS OF THAT MEETING.

EMILY TURNER KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

5/19/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Teacher of the week profile (part of on-going series of weekly vignettes and monthly profiles celebrating the Bay Area's best teachers)

Student: "This is a butterfly plant."

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU SAW A CHILD TAKE SUCH PLEASURE IN A GARDEN?

Student: "And I saw a monarch and it landed here and I even put it on my finger!"

WELCOME TO SPRING CREEK ELEMENTARY IN SANTA ROSA WHERE CAROLE GEIER RUNS A GARDENING PROGRAM THAT COVERS EVERYTHING FROM THE LIFE CYCLE OF INSECTS TO COOKING AND EATING WHAT YOU GROW. WE WATCHED CHILDREN ZESTING LEMONS, GRATING CHEESE, WORKING WITH MULCH AND LEARNING HOW TO EAT AN ARTICHOKE.

Carole Geier: "This is the wrong way! See the thistle here?"

THREE HUNDRED CHILDREN FROM KINDERGARTEN THROUGH THIRD GRADE GET WEEKLY CLASSES THAT TEACH THEM TO LOVE GARDENING.

Student: "My sister and me and my mom and dad just planted a flower garden!"

CAROLE THOUGHT SHE WAS FINISHED WITH TEACHING TEN YEARS AGO, WHEN SHE WAS TALKED INTO COMING BACK TO RUN THE GARDEN PROGRAM.

Carole: "When we're out here, it's just so natural. There are not discipline problems. My husband keeps telling me to retire, but it's not work to me."

Student: "Pull this out and if you suck it there's pollen in here that tastes like honey!"

CAROLE'S ENTHUSIASM IS CONTAGIOUS. SHE EVEN GETS OTHER RETIRED TEACHERS AND WHOLE FAMILIES INVOLVED. AMAZED PARENTS SAY THE PART WHERE EVERYBODY GETS TO COOK AND EAT HAS CHILDREN ACTUALLY ASKING FOR VEGETABLES.

Parent: "Madison came home from kindergarten and wanted to eat fava beans and different types of vegetables and wanted to plant them in our garden."

YOU ARE NEVER FAR FROM SOMETHING ALIVE AND GROWING HERE – PLANTS, TREES AND VEGETABLES ARE EVERYWHERE. AS CAROLE GEIER SHOWS, A CLASSROOM CAN GO WAY BEYOND BOOKS, LEAVING YOU WITH LESSONS FOR A LIFETIME.

EDUCATION

KRON 4 Honors The Bay Area's Top Grads

A series of 10 profiles featuring the top achievers in this year's graduating class, highlighting graduates from all Bay Area counties

A few examples from the series:

5/28/15 KRON 4 Evening News

THOUSANDS OF BAY AREA HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ARE LOOKING TOWARD GRADUATION, A RITE OF PASSAGE FILLED WITH HONORS AND HOPE. TONIGHT, WE CELEBRATE THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY PROFILES ONE OF THOSE TOP GRADS, AT SAN BRUNO'S CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL, WHO IS COMMITTED BOTH TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, AS WELL AS SOCIAL JUSTICE.

MEET AIDEN CASTELLANO. IN SOME WAYS, THE 18 YEAR OLD SENIOR IS LIKE ANY OTHER AVERAGE TEENAGE BOY. HIS FAVORITE SUBJECT IS MATH. HIS FAVORITE THING TO DO IS TO HANG OUT WITH HIS FRIENDS. BUT IN ONE IMPORTANT WAY HE'S FAR FROM AVERAGE.

Aiden: "I'm transitioning from being a female to being a male."

BUT BEING TRANSGENDER IS NOT THE ONLY WAY IN WHICH AIDEN IS EXCEPTIONAL. HERE AT SAN BRUNO'S CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL, HE HAS BEEN PRESIDENT OF THE GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE SINCE HIS SOPHOMORE YEAR. HE WORKS WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP IMPROVE THE LIVES OF LGBT YOUTH. HE FOUGHT TO GET GENDER NEUTRAL BATHROOMS IN PLACE AT HIS SCHOOL AND TEACHES ABOUT GENDER IDENTITY IN THE FRESHMAN HEALTH CLASS.

Aiden: "More to just teach about equality, but also it gives more of an acceptance when folks come out as transgender."

AIDEN'S ACTIVISM IS NOT THE ONLY REASON HE'S BEING SINGLED OUT AS A TOP GRAD. HE'S IN THE HONROS PROGRAM, HAS A 4.2 GPA AND AFTER GRADUATING FROM CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL, HE'LL HEAD TO THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA IN FALL, AN IVY LEAGUE SCHOOL ON A FULL RIDE SCHOLARSHIP.

THE CHILD OF MEXICAN IMMIGRANTS, AIDEN WILL BE THE FIRST IN HIS FAMILY TO ATTAIN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND ATTEND COLLEGE. HE'S PLANNING TO STUDY PSYCHOLOGY AND AMERICAN PUBLIC POLICY.

Aiden: "I just want to help people. It's something where I can just be a psychologist and help people one on one or I can be a political activist and help more and more people and being able to pass laws and public policies, being able to make a difference in the world."

HIS COUNSELOR SAYS AIDEN IS AN INSPIRATION WITH WHAT HE HAS ALREADY ACHIEVED AND IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT HIS FUTURE.

Counselor: "I am really excited to see all he accomplishes."

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

5/29/15 KRON 4 Evening News

BAY AREA HIGH SCHOOLS ARE GRADUATING SOME OF THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST. TONIGHT WE SALUTE A TOP GRADUATE WHOSE SUCCESS DOESN'T STOP WITH READING, WRITING, AND ARITHMETIC. KRON 4'S JEFF PIERCE INTRODUCES US TO AN INSPIRATIONAL SENIOR:

EBONI AGEE IS ABOUT TO GRADUATE FROM ANTIOCH HIGH SCHOOL AS ONE OF THE TOP ACADEMIC STUDENTS IN HER CLASS. SHE HAS ACHIEVED ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE WHILE CARRYING A LOAD OF SEVEN ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES TO INSURE HER A PLACE AMONG THOSE ENROLLED IN COLLEGE IN THE FALL. YET EBONI'S PURSUIT OF EDUCATION HAS NOT BEEN SINGLE MINDED.

Terri Chapman, teacher: "She's my library assistant and has been for two years. She takes art so those are both classes that don't bump up her GPA because those are just regular classes."

BUT HER STERLING ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IS NOT THE SOLE REASON PRINCIPAL LOUIE ROCHA BROUGHT EBONI TO OUR ATTENTION.

Louie Rocha, school principal: "Academically she's one of our **top** students, but what really caught my attention was how much she does for others. She volunteers at the memory care unit for Alzheimer patients. She's part of the Rotary here on campus. She cleans up the city when they have city wide clean up days. She helps out here with our food pantry. So here she is as a high flying student, but yet she does so much for others."

EBONI'S UNSELFISH ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN SERVING THE COMMUNITY BROUGHT HER RECOGNITION FROM THE CITY OF ANTIOCH WHEN THEY NAMED HER YOUTH OF THE YEAR.

Antioch city official: "She embodies everything there is for Youth of the Year." FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS ACHIEVED SO MUCH EBONI'S UNDERSTATED DEMEANOR ACCEPTED IT ALL WITH A QUIET MODESTY.

Eboni: "There were so many students in the ASU district who were really exceptional students, so I didn't really think I would win it."

EBONI WANTS TO CONTINUE A CHALLENGING ACADEMIC CAREER WITH THAT SAME SENSE OF SERVICE.

Eboni: "Hopefully do something in chemistry because I like chemistry and science. I hope to do something big and meaningful for the planet."

Rocha: "This community is very proud of Eboni and what she's accomplished and we're very excited about the future."

Chapman: "I can't wait to see what she does, because everything she touches turns into gold."

Eboni: "I don't know what's really in my future, but I'm hoping it's really good."

"REALLY GOOD" SHOULD BE A FOREGONE CONCLUSION FOR TOP GRAD EBONI AGE. IN ANTIOCH JEFF PIERCE KRON FOUR NEWS.

6/4/15 KRON 4 Evening News

TIME NOW FOR ANOTHER INSTALLMENT OF KRON 4'S ANNUAL TIP OF THE CAP TO SOME STAND-OUT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FROM AROUND THE BAY AREA. TONIGHT FROM SAN JOSE, KRON 4 ROB FLADEBOE INTRODUCES YOU TO WILLOW GLEN HIGH'S LINDA PECURIMAY:

Linda Pecurimay: "It's kind of sad that it's over, but I'm proud of what I've accomplished."

IT'S A LONG WAY FROM SAN JOSE'S WILLOW GLEN HIGH SCHOOL TO NEW JERSEY, BUT SENIOR LINAD PECURIMAY IS BOUND FOR PRINCETON NEXT FALL AS JUST ONE OF A THOUSAND GATES MILLENIUM SCHOLARS NATIONWIDE.

Pecurimay: "I know it's going to be difficult, but I don't think that's stopped me in high school. If anything, I feel very empowered."

HEADED FIRST TO STANFORD FOR A SUMMER INTERSHIP, LINDA IS MAJORING IN CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING. AFTER SUFFERING A SEVERE BURN AS A CHILD, SHE IS FOCUSED ON A CAREER SHE HOPES WILL HELP OTHER BURN SURVIVORS.

Pecurimay: "My goal is to become a tissue engineer eventually, to develop more practical recovery options for burn survivors and enhance basically the quality of life for not only burn victims but for people with skin cancer, war victims."

OUTGOING AND WISE BEYOND HER YEARS, PERCURIMAY HAS LOGGED SOME 500 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE AND IS KNOWN FOR HER INSATIABLE WORK ETHIC AT SCHOOL SAYS HER ADVISOR OLGA MORALES-ANAYA.

Morales-Anaya: "She has a list of things she wants to accomplish, and nothing is going to stop her. During the summer she would take classes at our local community college so she could take more science classes here. Linda finds ways to make things work so that she can grow, so that she can learn more."

IF ALL GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN, THIS TIME NEXT YEAR WILL FIND PERCURIMAY IN CHINA, VOLUNTEERING HER WAY TOWARD HER GOAL OF BECOMING WHAT SHE CALLS A "SOCIAL ENGINEER" DEDICATED TO HELPING OTHERS.

Pecurimay: "All of these communities really believe in me to go out and do change in the world, so that's more empowering. It's not scary. I'm just excited!"

6/9/15 KRON 4 Evening News

HE IS THE FIRST IN HIS FAMILY TO HEAD OUT OFF TO COLLEGE. TONIGHT, AS WE CONTINUE TO SHINE A LIGHT ON TOP GRADUATES IN THE BAY AREA WE TURN OUR ATTENTION TO ALEXIS FLORES. KRON FOUR'S TERISA ESTACIO CAUGHT UP WITH FLORES TO FIND OUT HOW THIS GRAD PERSERVERED TO MAKE HIS DREAMS COME TRUE:

ALEXIS FLORES SAT CALMLY IN CLASS, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THIS WAS AN EXTORDINARY DAY. THIS WAS THE LAST DAY OF HIGH SCHOOL AND FOR FLORES THAT IS A VERY BIG DEAL. NOT ONLY IS HE GRADUATING WITH TOP HONORS FROM VINTAGE HIGH, IN THE FALL, HE IS HEADING OFF TO UC SANTA CRUZ - HIS DREAM PICK. PLUS, THERE IS THIS - FLORES IS THE FIRST IN HIS FAMILY TO GO TO COLLEGE.

Flores: "I think everyone here helped me a lot. This high school has motivated me to become a stronger leader. They all have the clarity to help me become who I am today."

Principal Michael Pearson: "For him to stick through four years of high school here and to stick to his goals is a huge accomplishment.

You meet someone like that and you think wow!"

VINTAGE HIGH SCHOOL PRINICIPAL MICAHEL PEARSON SAYS HE IS VERY PROUD OF ALEXIS AND THAT IS ECHOED FROM HIS TEACHERS...

Ted Ward: "He's one of those students that always looks for opportunities to join clubs, participate in programs that take him to other places so he can travel and learn about others

He's always been super smart,, so I'm not surprised that he's gotten this far.

BESIDES HIS STELLER ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE - HIS FRIENDS AND TEACHERS ALSO SAY WHAT MAKES ALEXIS A STAND OUT STUDENT IS HIS COMPASSION. IN YEARS PAST, HE HAS VENTURED TO COSTA RICA TO HELP BUILD PLAYGROUNDS FOR POVERTY STRICKEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

Fellow student: "He is the nicest person. The best thing he's done is help me with math because I really struggle with it and I'm really stubborn. So that tells me he's really nice because it's hard to get through to me."

AND WHEN YOU TALK WITH ALEXIS, IT IS CLEAR THAT WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET - A PERSON WHO CARES AND WANTS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Flores: "In the world today everything is on computers, it's all technology-driven. What I want to do is help communities have the tools we have. To have computers and internet worldwide; to build my own technology to share with the world."

TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

6/12/15 KRON 4 Evening News

ONLY ON FOUR, WE CONTINUE TO HONOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERS ON THE VERGE OF GRADUATION. TONIGHT'S TOP GRAD IS FROM SAN RAMON'S CALIFORNIA HIGH. KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY SAYS THIS GRAD REALLY IS FOLLOWING HER HEART WHEN IT COMES TO CHOOSING HER CAREER PATH:

Sneha Suresh: "I've always wanted to be a cardio-thoracic surgeon."

18 YEAR OLD SNEHA SURESH SAYS HER INTEREST IN BEING A HEART SURGEON STARTED WITH HER OWN. SHE WAS BORN WITH BENIGN TUMORS IN HER HEART WHICH HAS LEFT HER WITH A LOW AND IRREGULAR HEART RATE. A HEART RATE SO LOW THAT WHEN SHE WAS IN THE WOMB, HER MOTHER'S DOCTOR IN INDIA THOUGHT SHE WAS GOING TO BE STILL BORN. SHE SAYS THE TUMORS FADED AS SHE GREW, BUT HER PASSION DID NOT.

Suresh: "I've always been fascinated with the heart and the conditions that it can have."

SHE HOPES TO BE ABLE TO TURN HER FASCINATION INTO A SKILL TO HELP PEOPLE.

Suresh: "If someone needs heart surgery, then they lose hope. It would be a great feeling to help people feel hope again."

SHE IS ALREADY HELPING GIVE HOPE TO OTHERS. SNEHA IS THE PRESIDENT OF INTERACT, A HIGH SCHOOL ROTARY CLUB THAT RAISES MONEY FOR CHARITIES LIKE THE WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION. HER OTHER INTERESTS INCLUDE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS. SHE AND A PARTNER CAME IN SECOND PLACE IN A STATEWIDE CERTIFICATION COMPETITION. SHE'S ALSO PART OF VENTURE CREW 911, A WILDERNESS TRAINING GROUP AND SHE'S EARNED MEDALS THERE EQUIVALENT TO AN EAGLE SCOUT.

WHEN SNEHA GRADUATES FROM CALIFORNIA HIGH, SHE IS HEADED TO RHOADES COLLEGE, A SMALL LIBERAL ARTS SCHOOL, ON A FULL SCHOLARSHIP. HER PRINCIPAL CALLS HER AN ACADEMIC ALL-STAR, BUT THE TOP GRAD SAYS IT WASN'T ALWAYS

WHEN SHE WAS A SOPHOMORE, SHE SUFFERED SEVERE SIDE EFFECTS AFTER RECEIVING A SHOT OF AMOXICILLIN BECAUSE IT TURNED OUT SHE WAS ALLERGIC TO IT. SHE SAYS SHE HAD TROUBLE CONCENTRATING IN CLASS AND HER GRADES TANKED AS A RESULT. BUT SHE SAYS SHE WAS ABLE TO TURN IT AROUND IN HER JUNIOR YEAR, AFTER REALIZING THAT SHE NEEDED TO STOP WORRYING ABOUT HER GRADES AND JUST TAKE CARE OF HERSELF FIRST. HER GRADES ENDED UP IMPROVING RIGHT ALONG WITH HER HEALTH.

Suresh: "I had to hit rock bottom, before realizing that I had to find a balance in my life."

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

YOU CAN MEET ALL OF OUR TOP GRADS ON OUR WEBSITE KRON 4 DOT COM.
THERE WE HAVE ALSO CREATED OUR OWN YEARBOOK FOR THE CLASS OF 2015.
SEND US YOUR GRADUATION PICTURES.. TO BREAKING NEWS AT KRON 4 DOT COM.

EDUCATION

6/16/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Teacher of the week profile (on-going series of weekly vignettes and monthly profiles highlighting contributions of Bay Area teachers)

KRON FOUR HAS BEEN HONORING BAY AREA TEACHERS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING WORK. CATHERINE HEENAN IS HERE - WITH OUR LATEST "TEACHER OF THE WEEK":

HIS NAME IS DAVID EBERSOLE AND HE TEACHES ENGLISH, DRAMA AND CREATIVE WRITING. DAVID BELIEVES THAT A LOVE FOR WORDS OPENS ALL KINDS OF DOORS IN LIFE.

THE BIG SUNNY CAMPUS OF LEYVA MIDDLE SCHOOL IN SAN JOSE IS HOME TO NEARLY A THOUSAND STUDENTS, AND SINCE 1986 HAS FEATURED A DRAMA PROGRAM CREATED BY THIS MAN - DAVID EBERSOLE.

THE WALLS ARE COVERED WITH PHOTOS OF PAST PRODUCTIONS, THE YOUNG ACTORS HE'S INSPIRED PERFORMING PLAYS THAT IN MANY CASES HE'S WRITTEN HIMSELF.

VISITING CLASSMATES MAKE UP THE AUDIENCE FOR TODAY'S PERFORMANCE AND THEY ARE REMINDED YOU DON'T TALK DURING A PLAY.

DAVID HAS LOVED THE ARTS SINCE HE WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL, AND, AS A TEACHER, HE FIGURED HIS STUDENTS WOULD, TOO.

Ebersole: It's a delightful experience and it language creating pleasure. It's writing creating pleasure. Many of these children have no pleasurable association with text.:

TODAY THEY'RE HAVING SOME FUN WITH AESOP'S FABLES. MANY OF THE 7TH AND 8TH GRADERS HAVE NEVER SEEN LIVE THEATRE, MUCH LESS PERFORMED BEFORE THEIR CLASSMATES, AND THEY SEEM TO BE COMING AWAY WITH MORE THAN STAGE EXPERIENCE.

Student: "Everything that's happened outside, good or bad, I bring. I bring the good in here. I use the bad to express it. It's helped me a lot with everything."

Student: "Being in front of peers, it's hard, because they judge you, but being in drama gives me a boost of confidence."

Teacher: "Nobody learns something they don't like."

IT'S A CLASS THEY DON'T HAVE TO TAKE – BUT THE CLASS IS ALWAYS FULL.

Student: "It sort of gives you a reassurance. Okay, you're into this. You'll be a star someday. It sort of joys you."

DAVID EBERSOLE KNOWS THAT JOY IS GOOD. AND SO IS CONFIDENCE. AND SO IS A LOVE OF WORDS. UNDER HIS WATCHFUL EYE, THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS HAVE BEEN

SENT INTO THE WORLD WITH ALL OF THAT AND MORE. AND AS HE RETIRES FROM DAILY TEACHING NEXT YEAR, HE'S LOOKING FOR WAYS TO EXPAND THE PROGRAM BY MAKING ITS ELEMENTS MORE WIDELY AVAILABLE, PERHAPS WITH A BOOK. FOR NOW, HE'S KRON4'S TEACHER OF THE WEEK.

EDUCATION

6/16/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Schools benefit from new state budget

GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN AND DEMOCRATIC LEADERS SAY THEY ARE MAKING PROGRESS ON THE STATE BUDGET. THE LAWMAKERS HAVE NOW APPROVED A RECORD \$115- BILLION DOLLARS SPENDING PLAN WHICH IS A SCALED-BACK VERSION OF A LARGER BUDGET PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE ON MONDAY.

A COUPLE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BUDGET INCLUDE MORE THAN SIXTY BILLION DOLLARS FOR EDUCATION FROM KINDERGARTEN THROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND EXPANDED CHIDCARE AND EARLY EDUCATION FUNDING. IN ADDITION, THE CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM WOULD GET OVER TWO HUNDRED MILLION MORE PER YEAR, TO ENROLL TRANSFER STUDENTS TO FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITIES.

EDUCATION

6/24/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

New product helps kids learn while gaming

ONE OF THE BIG CHALLENGES OF PARENTING TODAY IS LIMITING KIDS' TABLET TIME. KIDS LOVE THEIR TABLETS. WE'VE ALL SEEN OUR KIDS AS THEY GET LOST IN THOSE MINDLESS GAMES. THEY'RE NOT REALLY LEARNING ANYTHING FROM THEM.

BUT THIS NEW DEVICE, THE OSMO, CHANGES THE TABLET INTO A STIMULATING EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND OFFERS IT IN A REALLY FUN WAY THAT THE KIDS DON'T EVEN KNOW THEY'RE LEARNING. FOR THEM, IT'S ENTERTAINING GAMES.

OSMO BLENDS THE PHYSICAL WORLD WITH THE DIGITAL TO CREATE EDUCATIONAL GAMES AND PUZZLES FOR ELEMENTARY AGED KIDS.

THIS IS DILLION HE IS 7.... HE IS TRYING TO ARRANGE THE BLOCK SHAPES ON HIS DESK TO MATCH THE IMAGE ON THE SCREEN. WHEN HE COMPLETES IT THIS FUN REWARDING SOUND HAPPENS...

OSMO WORKS BY PLACING THE TABLET IN THIS BASE AND THEN CLIPPING ON THE MIRROR SENSOR THAT TURNS THE PHYSCIAL SPACE IN FRONT OF THE TABLET INTO A DIGITAL CANVAS PLAYGROUND OF SORTS.

THERE ARE ALL KINDS OF GAMES THAT TEACH DIFFERENT SKILLS.

I LIKE THE WORDS ONE... DILLION HERE IS TRYING TO FIGURE OUT THE WORD ON THE SCREEN BASED ON THE PICTURE HINT AND THE AMOUNT OF LETTERS... HE BRINGS UP A LETTER INTO THE VIEW OF OSMO IN FRONT OF THE TABLET AND IT TELLS HIM IF THAT LETTER IS IN THE WORD.

OSMO GAMING IS VERY INTERACTIVE, AND PARENTS SEEM TO LOVE IT...

Mom: "When my kids are playing on Osmo, at least they're learning something. They are thinking and problem-solving versus shooting things or exploding things or building little farms."

GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

Note: Teacher of the Week vignettes aired a total of 330 times in 2Q, running across all days and dayparts.

2Q2015 ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT

4/4/15 KRON 4 news at 8pm

Local community hard hit by drought

Valli Bowman, concerned resident: "We're not asking for water for golf courses or fancy yards. We're asking for it for survival."

OFF THE BEATEN PATH, BETWEEN BLACKHAWK AND DUBLIN, YOU'LL FIND THE QUIET COMMUNITY OF CAMINO TASSAJARA VALLEY, WHERE THERE IS NO CENTRAL WATER SUPPLY. INSTEAD, THESE HOMES USE LOW-FLOWING WELLS TO GET THEIR WATER.

Bowman: "Our well produces pretty low, about two gallons a minutes."

Octavio Ricart, concerned resident: "One of our neighbors has a well that's producing one eighth of a gallon."

THIS GROUP OF CONCERNED NEIGHBORS SAYS EVEN BEFORE GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN CALLED FOR MANDATORY WATER CUTS THEY'VE CUT BACK ON SHOWERS, WATERING LAWNS AND PLANTS. IN FACT, RESIDENTS SAY THAT THEY'RE SO CONSERVATIVE WITH THEIR WATER THAT TYPICALLY THE GRASS IS BROWN BECAUSE IT'S DIED OUT. IT'S GREEN RIGHT NOW BUT THAT'S BECAUSE OF THE RECENT RAINS.

Bowman: "In a month, all of this will be brown."

ALL OF THE HOMES ARE ALSO FITTED WITH RESERVE TANKS, BUT WITH THE DRY CONDITIONS, SUPPLY IS GETTING LOW.

Ricart: "We're already on military showers. Minimal use."

IN THE PAST, THIS COMMUNITY HAS PAID FOR WATER USING THE METER SYSTEM, DRAWING FROM EAST BAY MUDS' SUPPLY AT NEARBY FIRE HYDRANTS. BUT NOW, THE UTILITY DISTRICT IS PUTTING AN END TO THAT.

Ricart: "So, you cannot take EBMUD water out of the water district. Other water districts are saying the same thing."

Bowman: "This is a grim reality caused by the drought."

TRACIE MORALES SPEAKS FOR EAST BAY MUD.

Morales: "Our supply levels are at record lows."

THEREFORE, MORALES SAYS THERE'S ONLY ENOUGH WATER FOR THE DISTRICT'S 1.3 MILLION CUSTOMERS. SHE SAYS UNFORTUNATELY, TASSAJARA VALLEY IS OUTSIDE THE SERVICE AREA.

Morales: "Legally, we cannot allow access to our water supply to communities outside of our service boundaries."

Ricart: "Try going a day without water in your house and you'll quickly realize what a critical situation it is."

Bowman: "It's a wonderful neighborhood. It would be very sad if we couldn't find someone that could help us find a solution."

PHILIPPE DJEGAL KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

4/7/15 KRON 4 Morning News
Water Concerns

TODAY'S RAIN IS DESPERATELY NEEDED, THOUGH IS WON'T BE ENOUGH TO PUT A DENT IN CALIFORNIA'S SEVERE DROUGHT. KRON FOUR'S CHARLES CLIFFORD HAS THAT PART OF OUR WEATHER COVERAGE THIS MORNING.

LESS THAN A WEEK AFTER GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN ORDERED A MANDATORY 25 PERCENT REDUCTION IN WATER USE STATEWIDE, CRITICS ARE ALREADY SAYING THAT IT ISN'T ENOUGH. SPECIFICALLY, THE GOVERNOR IS BEING CRITICIZED FOR FOCUSING ON URBAN WATER WASTE AND NOT PUTTING ENOUGH PRESSURE ON THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY WHICH USES 80 PERCENT OF CALIFORNIA'S AVAILABLE WATER. BROWN DEFENDED HIS DECISION ON ABC'S "THIS WEEK."

MEANWHILE, THE CALIFORNIA WATER RESOURCES BOARD HAS ISSUED A WARNING TO 36,000 WATER RIGHTS HOLDERS ACROSS THE STATE, SAYING THAT THEIR ALREADY MEAGER WATER ALLOTMENTS COULD BE FURTHER REDUCED. EVEN SENIOR RIGHTS HOLDERS WHO OFTEN RECEIVE A LARGER PORTION OF AVAILABLE WATER COULD SEE CUTBACKS.

LAST YEAR, WATER CURTAILMENTS RESULTED IN 400,000 ACRES OF FARMLAND BEING LEFT FALLOW AND THOUSANDS OF JOBS BEING LOST. THE WATER BOARD ANTICIPATES A REPEAT THIS YEAR.

STATE WATER BOARD CHAIR FELICIA MARCUS SAID IN A STATEMENT:

"As we deal with an unprecedented drought, both urban and rural water users should anticipate we will continue to take unprecedented actions."

ENVIRONMENT

4/8/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Local utility responsible for fouling creek with cement

EAST BAY MUD CREWS IN OAKLAND ARE CLEANING UP A HUGE CEMENT SPILL. IT'S FILLED MORE THAN HALF A MILE OF THE GLEN ECHO CREEK IN THE UPPER ROCKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD AND COULD TAKE DAYS TO CLEAN THIS UP. CHARLES CLIFFORD IS LIVE IN THE EAST BAY, WITH A STORY YOU'LL SEE ONLY ON KRON 4.

ACCORDING TO EAST BAY MUD, AROUND 9:30 WEDNESDAY MORNING, THIS CONSTRUCTION CREW WORKING ALONG CLAREWOOD DRIVE IN OAKLAND ACCIDENTLY LEFT A VALVE OPEN ON A CONCRETE MIXING TRUCK.

AS A RESULT, CELLULAR CEMENT SIMILAR TO BATHROOM GROUT POURED INTO THE BROADWAY BRANCH OF GLEN ENCHO CREEK. MARK GOYNE WHO LIVES DOWNSTREAM WAS FIRST PERSON TO NOTICE A PROBLEM.

Mark Goyne: "I was out on the deck doing some work and I noticed this chalky foam was flowing down. It looked like paint."

MARK INFORMED THE CONSTRUCTION CREW OF WHAT WAS GOING ON AND THE VALVE WAS TURNED OFF JUST BEFORE NOON. UNFORTUNATELY, BY THEN CEMENT HAD FILLED ABOUT A HLF MILE OF THE CREEK WITH A THICK GOO. IN SOME PLACES IT WAS UP TO A FOOT DEEP. EAST BAY MUD INSPECTORS SPENT SEVERAL HOURS ASSESSING THE DAMAGE.

East Bay MUD spokesperson: "The insects are dead. We don't know if there were any fish. All east bay creeks have been low because of the drought. But the insects are probably gone."

JUST AFTER 3PM, CREWS BEGAN SHOVELING AND SUCKING UP THE SPILLED CONCRETE. EAST BAY MUD ESTIMATES IT WILL TAKE ABOUT THREE DAYS TO COMPLETELY CLEANUP THE SPILL. THEY ALSO SAY THEY'RE LOOKING INTO HOW THIS HAPPENED IN THE FIRST PLACE.

East Bay MUD spokesperson: "This is not good. East Bay MUD takes all kinds of precautions when we have construction jobs."

ENVIRONMENT

4/9/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Follow-up on cement spill

WHAT A MESS. THE BIG EAST BAY CEMENT SPILL INTO A CREEK IS HURTING WILDLIFE AND WILL KEEP CREWS BUSY FOR WEEKS. KRON 4 WAS THE FIRST TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE SPILL THAT WAS INITIALLY ESTIMATED TO TAKE 3 DAYS FOR CLEAN UP. BUT NOW WE'RE LEARNING THE WHOLE PROCESS MAY TAKE MUCH LONGER. KRON4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD WHO BROKE THE STORY LAST NIGHT IS LIVE IN THE OAKLAND HILLS:

THROUGHOUT THE DAY THURSDAY, CLEAN UP CREWS CONTINUED SHOVELING AND VACUUMING CEMENT SPREAD ALL ALONG A HALF-MILE STRETCH OF THE BROADWAY BRANCH OF GLEN ECHO CREEK. EAST BAY MUD NOW SAYS THAT ABOUT 106 CUBIC YARDS OF CEMENT SPILLED NI THE CREEK EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING. THAT'S LESS THAN THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATE OF 120 CUBIC YARDS.

CREWS ALSO DISCOVERED THURSDAY THAT THE CEMENET HAD SPREAD FARTHER THAN PREVIOUSLY BELIEVED. EAST BAY MUD NOW SAYS THAT CEMENT HAS REACHED AN EXPOSED PORTION OF THE CREEK ALONG THE CLAREMONT GOLF COURSE, ABOUT 1000 FEET DOWNSTREAM FORM THE MAIN CLEAN-UP EFFORT.

East Bay MUD spokesperson: "This can never happen again."

EAST BAY MUD ALSO SAID TODAY THAT THEY NOW BELIEVE A PIPELINE INSPECTOR WRONGLY ASSUMED THAT A VALVE ON AN AGING SECTION OF PIPELINE WAS CLOSED, WHEN IN FACT IT WAS STILL OPEN. THAT INSPECTOR THEN TOLD A SUBCONTRACTOR TO POUR CONCRETE INTO THE PIPE AS PART OF AN ONGOING EFFORT TO CLOSE OFF THAT AGING SECTION OF PIPELINE. THE CONCRETE Poured THROUGH THE OPEN VALVE FOR ALMOST 90 MINUTES BEFORE CREWS FIGURED OUT THE PROBLEM. EAST BAY MUD SAYS THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF VALVES LIKE THIS ONE THROUGHOUT THE EAST BAY.

ENVIRONMENT

4/13/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Local city steps up conservation efforts

THE CALENDAR SAYS IT'S STILL APRIL, BUT SOME PEOPLE IN THE SOUTH BAY ARE BEING ASKED TO CONSERVE WATER LIKE IT WAS HIGH SUMMER. KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE HAS DETAILS ON WHAT'S BEING CALLED A 'LEVEL TWO' WATER SHORTAGE IN THE CITY OF MORGAN HILL.

DRIVE AROUND TOWN AND YOU STILL SEE LOTS OF GREEN GRASS, BUT MORGAN HILL WILL SOON BE THE POSTER CITY FOR THE SLOGAN 'BROWN IS THE NEW GREEN' AND RESIDENT YVETTE CASTANON, FOR ONE, SAYS BRING IT ON.

Yvette Castanon, resident: "I think we all have to be more conscious about how we use our water. It's a precious commodity and if we don't have it, we're not going to be able to eat, we're not going to be able to drink, and do so many other things."

FROM NOW ON, ALL OUTDOOR WATERING LIKE THIS WILL BE LIMITED TO JUST TWO DAYS A WEEK BEFORE 9 A.M. LEAKS MUST BE FIXED WITHIN 48 HOURS AND ALL DO-IT-YOURSELF CAR WASHING HAS BEEN BANNED.

Anthony Eulo, Morgan Hill Public Works: "This summer is going to be a challenge, but we can do it. Definitely it's time to look at how you're using water as an individual or a household and do what you can to reduce."

IN ADDITION, NO CITY WATER CAN BE USED TO FILL NEW SWIMMING POOLS AND CURRENT POOL OWNERS, LIKE CRAIG MAIN, MUST LIMIT TOPPING-OFF FOR EVAPORATION LOSS TO A SINGLE FOOT.

Craig Mann, resident: "We've made a conscious effort this year to make sure any leaks that we had in the pool are fixed so that our pool level stays consistent and doesn't drop."

IRONICALLY, MORGAN HILL IS ONE OF THE FEW CITIES TO HAVE MET LAST SUMMER'S GOAL OF CUTTING WATER USE BY 20-PERCENT. BUT IT WAS NONETHELESS SINGLED OUT RECENTLY BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR OVER-CONSUMPTION AND COULD BE ASKED TO SAVE AS MUCH AS 35-PERCENT, WHICH COULD MEAN EVEN TOUGHER RESTRICTIONS ARE COMING.

Eulo: "We do have a lot of larger homes in the community and of course it gets quite warm down here in the summer, so just keeping a normal landscape alive is going to take more water here than in a place like Palo Alto or somewhere on the Peninsula where the weather is cooler."

WHILE MOST RESIDENTS HERE SEEM TO BE ON BOARD WITH THE NEW CALL FOR CONSERVATION, SOME FEEL THE RESTRICTIONS DON'T GO FAR ENOUGH AND THE CITY OUGHT TO CONSIDER A MORATORIUM ON NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION.

IN MORGAN HILL ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS.

ENVIRONMENT

4/14/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Local resident frustrated by neighborhood water waster

WATER RUNNING DAY AND NIGHT DURING THE DROUGHT. IT IS HAPPENING AT A COMMERCIAL PROPERTY IN EAST OAKLAND. THE SITUATION HAS OUTRAGED ONE WOMAN WHO LIVES IN THE AREA. SHE TELLS KRON 4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN THAT SHE WANTS SOMEONE TO PUT A STOP TO IT IN THIS MY KRON 4 STORY:

THIS IS HARD TO LOOK AT – GALLONS OF WATER POURING ONTO THE STREET AND LITERALLY GOING DOWN THE DRAIN, THIS STORM DRAIN THAT IS HERE ON 98TH AVENUE IN EAST OAKLAND

Resident: "That's a lot of water that's coming out of there."

AND SHE IS NOT HAPPY ABOUT IT! THIS OAKLAND RESIDENT WHO ASKED US NOT TO REVEAL HER IDENTITY SAYS AN ENDLESS AMOUNT OF WATER HAS BEEN COMING FROM THIS PROPERTY HERE ON THE CORNER OF 98TH AVENUE AND MEDFORD STREET.

RESIDENT: "This water continues to run every day, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. I'm concerned because of the drought that we're having right now and the governor talking about us rationing water."

SHE SAYS PRIOR TO CALLING KRON4, SHE CONTACTED EASTBAYMUD ABOUT THE PROBLEM. EASTBAYMUD SAYS THE WATER IS COMING FROM A NATURAL SPRING FROM A WELL UNDER THE PROPERTY

Resident: "I feel that if it is a natural well and it's running and producing this much water, why can't East Bay MUD try to capture this water?"

Andrea Pook, East Bay MUD: "It's technically not East Bay MUD's water"

EAST BAY MUD SPOKESPERSON ANDREA POOK SAYS THE UTILITY COMPANY HAS NO RIGHT TO ACCESS WATER COMING FROM A NATURAL UNDERGROUND SOURCE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.

Pook: "Right, so it's technically that property owner's water. If they would like to save that water, they could install a well or take other measures to do something with that water, rather than let it go out."

I CONTACTED THE REAL ESTATE BROKER WHO REPRESENTS THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY AND HE TOLD ME THAT THEY ARE AWARE OF THE LEAK COMING FROM THE WELL CAUSING THIS PROBLEM AND THAT THEY ARE IN THE PROCESS OF CAPPING

THAT LEAK, SOMETHING THAT CAN'T HAPPEN FAST ENOUGH FOR THIS OAKLAND RESIDENT.

Resident: "I'm very upset about it, because of the fact that we usually camp during the summer months and we go boating. But there's no water this year and this water continues to flow and not be used or the problem corrected."

IN OAKLAND HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

4/17/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Severity of drought – impact on wildlife

THE DROUGHT CONTINUES TO TAKE A MAJOR TOLL ON THE BAY AREA. AS WE HAVE BEEN REPORTING, MANY CREEKS AND STREAMS ARE NOW ALL BUT DRY. AND THAT PUTS A MAJOR STRAIN ON THE ANIMAL AND PLANT LIFE WHICH DEPEND ON THAT WATER. KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE REPORTS AMONG THE HARDEST HIT IS THE COYOTE CREEK IN THE SOUTH BAY:

YOU ARE LOOKING AT THE CRACKED, DRY BOTTOM OF WHAT USED TO BE AN ESPECIALLY LUSH SECTION OF COYOTE CREEK, IN SOUTH SAN JOSE. IT'S AS IF THE FISH THAT ARE HOLDING ON IN A FEW HIDDEN POOLS HERE AND THERE ARE HOWLING FOR WATER. HENCE THE NAME OF FRIDAY'S COYOTE CREEK SUMMIT AT SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY WHERE EXPERTS SOUNDED THE ALARM.

Stephanie Moreno, Guadalupe Coyote Conservation District: "When there's no water for the fish to get upstream, it has a long-term impact on our fishery stock and the ability for them to do the migration that is necessary for them."

A TRICKLE OF ANDERSON RESERVOIR WATER IS BEING PUMPED INTO THE CREEK IN THE DIM HOPE IT WILL HELP THE FISH, BUT THERE ARE ALSO GROWING CONCERNS ABOUT THE DROUGHT'S IMPACT ON THE HABITAT, ON PLANT SPECIES THAT ARE LITERALLY DYING OFF AND MAY NOT COMEBACK AT ALL.

Ryan Phillips, wildlife biologist: "Species like willows and cottonwoods need water. When there's no water there's no longer any habitat left for them and we see them dying off. We've seen it just in the past year. That's scary for wildlife"

EXPERTS AT THE SUMMIT SPOKE ABOUT LONG-TERM EFFECTS ON THE CREEK, NOT JUST FROM THE DROUGHT BUT ALSO FROM TRASH AND POLLUTION FROM HOMELESS CAMPS LIKE THE NOW DEFUNCT JUNGLE WHERE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE USED THE CREEK FOR A TOILET.

IF THEY WERE LOOKING FOR A DRINK, THIS FLOCK OF SWALLOWS FOUND NOT A DROP HERE WHERE A GROUNDWATER RECHARGE POND, NEXT TO THE CREEK, IS ALSO DRY, BOTH PART OF THE LARGEST WATERSHED IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

ANOTHER STRIKING IMAGE, THIS BOAT LAUNCH RAMP, HIGH AND DRY. WHAT CAN I DO? WHAT CAN YOU DO? EXPERTS SAY WE CAN CONSERVE WATER. EVERY GALLON SAVED IS A GALLON THAT MIGHT BE USED TO HELP KEEP THESE CREEKS AND WATERSHEDS ALIVE UNTIL IT STARTS RAINING AGAIN.

IN SAN JOSE ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

4/29/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Follow up on earlier story about a local community's struggle to find water

THE ON-GOING DROUGHT IS LEAVING ONE EAST BAY COMMUNITY DRY. AND SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS. THE RURAL NEIGHBORHOOD OF TASSAJARA VALLEY SITS BETWEEN BLACKHAWK AND DUBLIN, AND AS WE TOLD YOU EARLIER THIS MONTH, THEIR PRIVATE WATER WELLS ARE ALMOST TAPPED OUT. TONIGHT, KRON 4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL REPORTS THAT THE RESIDENTS ARE HOLDING A TOWN HALL MEETING LOOKING FOR SOLUTIONS.

Octavio Ricart, concerned resident: "There are families who basically have no water flow. So, those people, um, they need water."

AND, UNFORTUNATELY, THAT PROBLEM IS SHARED BY MOST OF THE PEOPLE PACKED INSIDE THIS ROOM. FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THIS PROBLEM SURFACED, LONGTIME RESIDENTS OF TASSAJARA VALLEY GATHER AT THE TOWN MEETING HALL IN DANVILLE, JOINED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM CONTRA COSTA ENVIROMENTAL HEALTH AND THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES – ALL LOOKING FOR ALTERNATIVE MEANS TO FIND DRINKING WATER.

WITH MANY OF THE PRIVATE WATER WELLS IN THE COMMUNITY DRYING UP, RESIDENTS ARE STRUGGLING TO FIND ANSWERS NOT JUST FOR THEMSELVES, BUT ALSO THE ANIMALS ON THEIR RURAL PROPERTIES. THE EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITIY DISTRICT AND OTHER WATER AGENCIES RECENTLY PUT A STOP TO ALLOWING COMMUNITIES OUTSIDE THEIR SERVICE AREAS TO TRUCK-IN METERED WATER, AS TASSAJARA HAS DONE IN THE PAST. NOW, RESIDENTS ARE EXPLORING OTHER OPTIONS.

Marilyn Underwood, Contra Costa Environmental Health: "There's no clear solutions now, but we know if they need water immediately, we're trying to find them sources in the various water districts that can at least provide water to them on a hauling basis. And, then also be in discussion with them when they start to think about what are some long-term solutions if they need to think about something 5, 10 years from now."

Ricart: "One possible solution is forming our own water district, which seems onerous, but I think there are grants out there that can be taken advantage of."

AT THIS POINT, THIS COMMUNITY IS IN THE BRAINSTORMING PHASE -- NO SOLUTIONS YET SET IN STONE, BUT FOR THEM, TIME IS CERTAINLY OF THE ESSENCE.

IN DANVILLE, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

5/1/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Tracking eagles to develop safer wind farms

A GOLDEN EAGLE TOOK TO THE SKIES AGAIN TODAY IN WALNUT CREEK AFTER BEING RESCUED BY FIREFIGHTERS WHEN SHE APPEARED DISORIENTED. THE THREE YEAR OLD EAGLE PASSED FLIGHT AND LIVE PREY TESTS YESTERDAY AND WAS RELEASED TODAY WITH A GPS TRACKING DEVICE SO BIOLOGISTS CAN TRACK HER FLIGHT PATTERNS. DATA FROM THAT TRACKING DEVICE WILL HELP SCIENTISTS DETERMINE THE FUTURE PLACEMENT OF WIND TURBNIES.

Doug Bell, East Bay Regional Park District: "In particular, we can see how the eagles use the landscape related to the Altamont Pass wind resource area. We're using that information to develop risk maps, probability maps of how they use the landscape in the Altamont area and with that we hope to inform the repowering of the Altamont, that is advised the wind companies on where to place turbines in places that will be least likely area to come into contact with eagles."

SAN RAMON VALLEY FIREFIGHTERS SAW HER CRASHING INTO WINDOWS ABOUT A MONTH AGO AS SHE ATTEMPTED TO FLY. THE EAGLE HAD SEVERE HEAD TRAUMA AND WAS PARTIALLY BLIND IN HER LEFT EYE WHEN SHE ARRIVED AT THE WILDLIFE CENTER. BUT SHE IS HEALTHY AND FREE NOW.

ENVIRONMENT

5/1/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Urban sea lion symptom of larger problem

NEW DETAILS TONIGHT ON THAT SEA LION PUP WE FIRST TOLD YOU ABOUT YESTERDAY MORNING. THE PUP WAS DISCOVERED ON A BUSY SAN FRANCISCO STREET DURING THE RUSH HOUR COMMUTE. EXPERTS RESCUED THE MAMMAL, SAYING HE WAS LUCKY NOT TO BE SERIOUSLY INJURED. AS KRON 4'S TERISA ESTACIO REPORTS, THESE EXPERTS ALSO SAY THAT PUP IS PART OF A BIGGER CRISIS FACING SEA LIONS RIGHT NOW:

HERE AT THE MARINE MAMMAL CENTER, THERE'S GOOD NEWS THAT THE SEA LION PUP FOUND ON A SAN FRANCISCO CITY STREET IS DOING BETTER.

THIS IS VIDEO FROM OUR HELICOPTER PARTNERSHIP WITH ABC 7 NEWS. THE SEA LION IS A 10 MONTH OLD PUP AND HIS NAME IS RUBBISH. EXPERTS FRIDAY MORNING EXAMINED RUBBISH AT THE MARINE MAMMAMMAL CENTER IN SAUSALITO. RUBBISH HAD BEEN AT THE CENTER BEFORE BACK IN FEBRUARY AFTER BEING RESCUED IN SANTA BARBARA. IT WAS POSSIBLE AN ILLNESS CAUSED RUBBISH TO STRAY FROM THE OCEAN AND GO ASHORE IN THE MARINA DISTRICT OF SAN FRANCISCO. BUT THE EXAM SO FAR HAS SHOWN THAT HE IS OK. THIS IS THE CENTER'S VET DIRECTOR:

Shawn Johnson, Marine Mammal Center: "On physical exam, we didn't really find anything than abnormal. He's just a really thin sea lion pup. He's lost 17 pounds since the last time we saw him. We took some blood samples and are running them now."

JOHNSON SAYS RUBBISH'S TALE IS SADLY NOT UNIQUE. RIGHT NOW, THERE IS A SEA LION CRISIS. IN THE FIRST FEW MONTHS OF 2015, THE CENTER HAS TAKEN IN MORE SEA LIONS AND OTHER MAMMALS THAN ALL OF 2014.

Johnson: "It's a real crisis. These sea lions should all be down on the Channel Islands this time of year with their mothers, nursing and learning how to be sea lions. Unfortunately, they got separated and abandoned and they don't have the skills they need to survive."

JOHNSON SAYS WARMER WATERS OFF THE COAST AND CHANGING WINDS ARE CAUSING THE SEA LIONS TO COME ASHORE. HE SAYS THE GOAL OF THE CENTER IS TO HELP THE SEA LIONS RECOVER SO THEY CAN RETURN.

Johnson: "We don't interact a lot with them, beyond giving them food they can eat, so they can get a second chance out in the wild."

IF YOU'D LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT RUBBISH HERE AT THE CENTER AS WELL AS HOW TO HELP THOSE SEA LIONS IN CRISIS, WE'VE PUT TOGETHER INFORMATION ON THE KRON 4 FACEBOOK PAGE AS WELL AS KRON 4 DOT COM.

TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

5/6/15 KRON 4 Evening News

New stricter water rules

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY, CALIFORNIA WATER REGULATORS HAVE ORDERED MANDATORY WATER CUTBACKS WHICH COULD REACH AS HIGH AS 36- PERCENT FOR SOME RESIDENTS. KRON 4'S ALECIA REID HAS DETAILS ON THE HISTORIC NEW WATER RESTRICTIONS AND ON WHAT GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE DROUGHT:

GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN ISSUED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER BACK IN APRIL TO CUT WATER USE BY 25-PERCENT STATEWIDE, AND TODAY THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD APPROVED RULES THAT WOULD HELP REACH THAT GOAL. THESE RULES WILL FORCE CITIES TO LIMIT WATERING ON PUBLIC PROPERTY AND ENCOURAGE HOMEOWNERS TO LET THEIR LAWNS DIE. THE CUTBACKS RANGE FROM 8-PERCENT TO 36-PERCENT, DEPENDING ON HOW MANY GALLONS RESIDENTS USE A DAY. GOVERNOR BROWN SAYS EFFORTS TO CONSERVE OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS HAVE NOT GONE FAR ENOUGH.

Governor Brown: "This is about preparing for a drought that we now know can go beyond what we've seen in this century.... We do have a challenge, you know that. All of you in here know lots more about water than we here in Sacramento and you're dealing with it. And just in this room, the diversity of what you're dealing with is so great that it's hard to generalize. Yet we do have to say we have to cut back 25 percent, that's the goal, and then how does that play out from the Oregon border to the Mexican border."

AMONG THE BAY AREA COMMUNITIES SINGLED OUT BY THE STATE WATER BOARD FOR USING THE MOST WATER PER CAPITA IS ATHERTON, ON THE PENINSULA. AND THAT MEANS ATHERTON WILL HAVE ONE OF THE HIGHEST CONSERVATION MANDATES AT 36-PERCENT. KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE SHOWS US ONE RESIDENT WHO IS WELL ON HIS WAY TO MEETING THAT GOAL:

DRIVE AROUND ATHERTON AND YOU WILL SEE A LOT OF LARGE, STILL GREEN LAWNS AND LUSH LANDSCAPES BUT RESIDENT CLIVE MERREDEW, FOR ONE, IS CUTTING BACK.

Merredew: "Atherton residents do use a lot of water and without having any statistics I'd say 80 to 90 percent of that is used for landscaping."

MERREDEW HOPES TO MEET THE 36-PERCENT STATE-MANDATED WATER CONSERVATION TARGET BY WAY OF HIS NEW LANDSCAPE, COMPRISED OF THIS DROUGHT-TOLERANT 'NO MOW' FESCUE GRASS.

ASIDE FROM THAT, MERREDEW REPLACED OTHER THIRSTY PLANTS WITH NATIVE GRASSES AND MULCH, WHICH WHEN ESTABLISHED WILL REQUIRE A DRINK OF WATER ONLY ABOUT ONCE A MONTH. AND HE'S USING LESS WATER INDOORS TOO.

Merredew: "I replaced the washer with a new model that uses a fraction of the water that the old machine used and I've installed dual flow toilets."

MERREDEW POINTS OUT THAT WHILE SOME IN ATHERTON CAN PROBABLY AFFORD TO PAY A FINE THAT MIGHT BE LEVIED FOR OVER-CONSUMPTION, HE AND OTHERS CANNOT AND PASSERS BY ARE TAKING A CLOSE LOOK AT WHAT HE'S DONE.

Merredew: "People on bikes or even in cars stop and take a look. There's been quite a bit of interest."

OH AND BY THE WAY, THAT 'NO MOW' GRASS MEANS JUST THAT, NO MOWING.

IN ATHERTON ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS.

ENVIRONMENT

5/8/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Unexpected unpleasant side-effect of the drought

SOME EAST BAY RESIDENTS MAY NOTICE A STRANGE SMELL AND TASTE WHEN DRINKING TAP WATER IN THE NEAR FUTURE. EAST BAY MUD SAYS IT IS CHANGING THE WAY IT COLLECTS WATER BECAUSE OF THE DROUGHT. KRON 4'S MAUREEN KELLY REPORTS CUSTOMERS WILL HAVE TO GET ACCUSTOMED TO THE CHANGE UNTIL THE DROUGHT ENDS:

Customer: "A lot of people said it tasted really disgusting, like raw meat or something. We didn't experience that in our water in North Berkeley, but it definitely tasted off, kind of algae-ridden. It tasted mucky."

SOME EAST BAY MUD CUSTOMERS EXPERIENCED THE WEIRD TASTING AND SMELLING WATER AT THE END OF MARCH. IT HAPPENED THEN AND IT'S HAPPENING NOW BECAUSE THE RESERVIORS ARE LOW AND THE WATER DISTRICT IS PULLING IN WATER FROM DIFFERENT SOURCES.

AND BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO SAVE THEIR COLD WATER IN ORDER TO PROTECT THREATENED FISH SPECIES, THEY NOW HAVE TO DRAW DRINKING WATER FROM HIGHER UP WHERE IT'S WARMER AND CLOSER TO WHERE ALGAE BLOOMS.

East Bay MUD spokesperson: "Algae is filtered out in our treatment plant, but it leaves behind a taste and a smell that is different."

IT'S SAFE TO DRINK, BUT BECAUSE OF THE ONSLAUGHT OF COMPLAINTS THEY GOT IN MARCH THEY TRIED TO FIGURE A WAY AROUND IT. BUT THE HARSH REALITY IS WE ARE HEADED INTO THE FOURTH DRY SUMMER IN A ROW, SO CUSTOMERS ARE GOING TO HAVE GET USED TO WHAT BEING IN A DROUGHT TASTES LIKE.

Spokesperson: "The bad news is this is until the drought ends. We need a lot of rain and snow next winter. Not only to fill our reservoirs but also to help break up the algae in the reservoirs."

NOT EVERYONE WILL NOTICE. IT DEPENDS ON INDIVIDUAL SENSITIVITY. AND WHEN THOSE CONTROLLING THE VALVE MAKE THE SWITCH ON SUNDAY, THEY'LL DO IT MORE GRADUALLY THIS TIME SO THE DIFFERENCE IN THE WATER WON'T BE AS STARK AS THE LAST TIME. BUT BY EARLY NEXT WEEK THOSE WITH TENDER TASTE BUDS MAY FIND THE CHANGE HARD TO SWALLOW.

TO HELP MAKE THE WATER TASTE AND SMELL BETTER, THE UTILITY SUGGESTS SUGGESTS USING A BRITA OR CARBON FILTER, OR SIMPLY CHILLING IT OVER ICE.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

5/15/15

Water use at Candlestick Park demolition

CANDLESTICK PARK HAS BEEN THE CENTER OF CONTROVERSY OVER THE YEARS, AND IT STILL IS, EVEN DURING ITS DEMOLITION. THE DEMOLITION PROCESS AT CANDLESTICK IS RAISING CONCERNS OVER USE OF FRESH DRINKING WATER IN THE MIDDLE OF A HISTORIC DROUGHT.

THIS IS WHAT THE STICK LOOKS LIKE AS OF YESTERDAY. BUT IF WE REWIND THE DEMOLITION TO LAST FEBRUARY, YOU CAN SEE WHAT HAS SOME PEOPLE CONCERNED. THE WORKERS ARE SPRAYING WATER AS THEY KNOCK DOWN THE STADIUM. THAT'S DRINKING WATER, THOUSANDS OF GALLONS OF IT.

SAN FRANCISCO'S PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION SAYS BECAUSE PEOPLE CAN BREATHE THE DUST, ONLY DRINKING WATER CAN BE USED TO CONTROL IT.

PUC spokesperson: "The fact is they do need to use potable water to control the aerial dust that's resulting from the demolition work. Recycled water can only be used for certain activities. Controlling aerial dust is not one of them. So, as they are demolishing parts of the stadium, they need to ensure that dust does not spread out to the neighborhood and they are using water to control that dust from spreading. That water has to be potable water under state health regulations."

THE DEMOLITION HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR TWO MONTHS NOW. NEITHER THE DEMOLITION COMPANY NOR THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION CAN SAY HOW MUCH WATER HAS BEEN USED SO FAR.

ENVIRONMENT

6/1/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Local community bans foam

A BAN AGAINST FOAM CONTAINERS CARRYING FOOD, DRINKS AND ICE WENT INTO EFFECT TODAY IN LOS GATOS. FOOD VENDORS MUST NSTEAD USE CONTAINERS MADE OF PAPER, PLASTIC, OR REUSABLE MATERIALS.

THE ORDINANCE IS PART OF THE TOWN'S EFFORT TO REDUCE LITTER THAT CAN TRAVEL THROUGH WATERWAYS. THE FOAM IS A LIGHTWEIGHT MATERIAL THAT CAN EASILY BREAK APART AND TRAVEL BY WIND INTO THE ENVIRONMENT AND IS VERY DIFFICULT TO CLEAN UP.

ENVIRONMENT

6/1/15//KRON 4 News at 8pm

Implementing statewide water restrictions

ENVIRONMENT

6/12/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Local entertainment venues cope with drought restrictions

CALIFORNIA'S BALLPARKS ARE EXPERIMENTING WITH ALL SORTS OF WAYS TO CUT BACK ON WATER USE BECAUSE OF THE HISTORIC DROUGHT. HERE AT AT&T PARK, THE GRASS IS A CONSTANT PROJECT FOR GROUNDSKEEPERS. THEY'RE WATCHING FOR DAYS WHEN THEY CAN CUT BACK ON OVERNIGHT WATERING ON THE FIELD WHERE THE WORLD SERIES CHAMPION GIANTS PLAY. THE BALLPARK IS ALSO CONSIDERING ASKING FANS TO CLEAN UP THEIR OWN SODA SPILLS, AFTER ALREADY DECIDING TO POWER-WASH THE STANDS AFTER EVERY OTHER GAME.

AND IN THE SOUTH BAY, WHAT BETTER WAY TO BEAT THE HEAT, THAN TO HEAD TO THE WATER PARK KRON 4'S ALECIA REID IS AT BOOMERANG BAY AT CALIFORNIA'S GREAT AMERICA:

Patron: "It's summer and it's time to play!"

OH AND THEY PLAYED. PEOPLE OF ALL AGES TOOK TO THE WATER.

Patron: "I've been here 3 days in a row because of the heat."

Patron: "No one said you can't have fun because there's a drought."

GREAT AMERICA IS MAKING SURE OF THAT. THE THEME PARK HAS ALWAYS BEEN FOCUSED ON SMART WATER USAGE.

Great America spokesperson: "We do recycle and we get to use it over and over again."

THAT'S RIGHT, A SPOKESPERSON FROM THE PARK TELLS ME THEY RECYCLE WATER AND MAINTAIN A CLOSED LOOP SYSTEM, SO THEY CAN USE IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN. A RETENTION POND IS USED FOR THEIR SPRINKLER SYSTEM. THIS KNOWLEDGE PUT A LOT OF PARENTS AT EASE.

Patron: "It's nice the kids can come and enjoy the water without me getting a call from my neighbors saying I'm wasting water."

ENVIRONMENT

6/12/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

Concerns about fracking and the environment

OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, THERE'S BEEN GROWING CONCERN OVER FRACKING – A METHOD OF GETTING OIL OUT OF THE GROUND USING A HIGH PRESSURE MIX OF CHEMICALS AND WATER. SOME HAVE WORRIED THE PRACTICE CAN TRIGGER EARTHQUAKES. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD TALKED TO A GEO-PHYSICIST WHO SAYS, IT'S NOT TRUE.

USGS RESEARCH GEOPHYSICIST JUSTIN RUBINSTEIN SAYS THAT SINCE 2009 THERE'S BEEN A DRAMATIC SPIKE IN THE NUMBER OF EARTHQUAKES IN PARTS OF THE U.S. THAT NORMALLY HAVE VERY LITTLE SEISMIC ACTIVITY.

Rubinstein: "We think that most or all of the seismicity changes that we are seeing in the Midwest is coming from induced or man-made earthquakes."

RUBINSTEIN ALSO SAYS THERE IS A WIDESPREAD MISCONCEPTION THAT HYDRAULIC FRACTURING OR FRACKING IS CAUSING THE EARTHQUAKES, BUT THE REAL CULPRIT IS WHAT'S CALLED WASTE WATER INJECTION.

Rubinstein: "Waste water injection is a process that's existed for a long time, just like hydraulic fracturing, and it is the process of getting rid of waste fluids that are produced as a part of the oil and gas production process."

OIL COMPANIES OFTEN PUMP INCREDIBLE AMOUNTS OF WASTE WATER INTO THE GROUND, SOMETIMES 2-3 MILLION BARRELS PER MONTH. OVER TIME, THAT FLUID CAN FIND ITS WAY INTO FAULTS AND TRIGGER EARTHQUAKES.

Rubinstein: "Not just in the area where the injection is, but over a much larger area. We've seen earthquakes triggered over ten miles away from injection sights."

INDUCED EARTHQUAKES AREN'T JUST A PROBLEM THAT'S HAPPENING IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. IT'S HAPPENING HERE IN CALIFORNIA AS WELL. THE PROBLEM IS THAT WE HAVE SO MANY NATURALLY OCCURRING QUAKES THAT IT'S HARD FOR GEOLOGISTS, LIKE THE ONES HERE AT THE USGS, TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN AN INDUCED EARTHQUAKE AND A NATURAL ONE.

Rubinstein: "There's not an immediate diagnostic tool that we have to say this earthquake was induced and this quake was not. It's a problem."

AND FINALLY, RUBINSTEIN IS OPTIMISTIC THAT ONE DAY THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY, THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT REGULATORS CAN WORK TOGETHER TO AVOID INDUCED EARTHQUAKES.

Rubinstein: "I don't think we are going to be able to solve it entirely, but there is hope."

IN MENLO PARK, CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

6/15/15

How to make a wedding more environmentally friendly

INVITATIONS, FLOWERS AND FOOD ARE AMONG THE THINGS THAT DRIVE UP THE COST OF A WEDDING. BUT THEY ALSO CAN INCREASE A CELEBRATION'S TOLL ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND FOR MANY COUPLES, THAT'S A BIG CONCERN. CNN'S KARIN CAIFA LOOKS AT WAYS TO MAKE THE BIG DAY MORE GREEN, WITHOUT BEING TOO EXTREME:

THERE ARE MORE THAN 2 MILLION WEDDINGS IN THE UNITED STATES EVERY YEAR. THAT'S A LOT OF INVITATIONS, MENUS, DRESSES, FLOWERS, CAKES AND MORE.

WHILE MANY COUPLES WILL SPARE NO INDULGENCE, THE LAST DECADE OR SO, HAS BROUGHT A NEW FOCUS ON GOING GREEN.

Katie Martin, Elegance & Simplicity CEO: "Every single part of the wedding process can be eco-friendly, and not necessarily the color green."

KATIE MARTIN IS A WEDDING PLANNER BASED IN BETHESDA, MARYLAND, AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF ECO-BEAUTIFUL WEDDINGS MAGAZINE. SHE SAYS KEEPING THINGS CLOSE, IS THE FIRST STEP.

Martin: "It's all about going local. The more local you have your vendors, the better you are at being sustainable and having your wedding be less wasteful."

THAT INCLUDES LOCAL FLORALS AND LOCAL FLAVOR, TWO THINGS ANNEE GILLETT RECOMMENDS TO COUPLES AT THE HOTEL MONACO IN ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA.

Annee Gillett, Hotel Monaco Alexandria Director of Catering: "Pick something seasonal. Pick something that comes from local farms. An easy thing to do is to go to the farmers markets and see what's happening in season now. That way you still have something beautiful that will actually be at its peak. So you're being eco-friendly but you're also going to get a better product from that."

THE HOTEL'S EXECUTIVE CHEF BRIAN MCPHERSON OFTEN WALKS TO THE FARMER'S MARKET FOR INGREDIENTS, TAKING FUEL AND TRANSPORTATION OUT OF THE EQUATION. AND ITEMS THAT ARE IN SEASON, OFTEN HAVE A LOWER PRICE TAG.

WHILE WEDDINGS ARE PRIME FOR KEEPSAKES, COUPLES CAN SCALE BACK ON PROGRAMS, AND MAYBE JUST ONE MENU PER TABLE, MADE OF RECYCLED, OR SEEDED PAPER.

Gillett: "It basically has seeds from wildflowers and herbs woven within it. So the guests can take that home and plant it and then have a little memory of your wedding of their own when their wildflowers grow."

THAT SAME IDEA CAN TRANSLATE TO FAVORS, LIKE A PACKET OF SEEDS THAT CAN BE PLANTED, OR SOMETHING EDIBLE. EITHER WAY, NO WASTE.

FOR COUPLES WHO WANT A MORE ECO-SAVVY CELEBRATION, BUT DON'T QUITE KNOW WHERE TO START, MARTIN SAYS, JUST ASK.

Martin: "It begins with you as the consumer, to say, you know what, I want a wedding that gives back to the community, and I want to know what my vendors are going to do about it."

PLANNING A CELEBRATION THAT HAS A POSITIVE IMPACT, LONG AFTER THE PARTY ENDS.

FOR CONSUMER WATCH, I'M KARIN CAIFA.

ENVIRONMENT

6/16/15 KRON 4 Evening News

2 stories highlight policy ramifications of ongoing drought

A NEW POSSIBLE STATE ORDINANCE WOULD MEAN BIG CHANGES FOR HOMEOWNERS DURING THE DROUGHT. ALL NEW HOMES WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAVE TURF AND WOULD NEED TO USE THIRTY-PERCENT LESS WATER.

THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE SAYS TURF WOULD ONLY BE ALLOWED IF IT HAS A SPECIFIC PURPOSE, SUCH AS SPORTS OR GATHERING AREAS. AND ALL LAWNS WOULD REQUIRE EFFICIENT SPRINKLER NOZZLES. HAVING GRASS IN MEDIANS AND PARKWAYS WOULD ALSO BE RESTRICTED.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED IN SACRAMENTO FOR TODAY AND FRIDAY TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL.

A PUBLIC WATER AGENCY IS ASKING THE STATE TO ORDER FARMERS IN THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA TO STOP IRRIGATING DURING THE DROUGHT. THE STATE WATER CONTRACTORS FILED A COMPLAINT TODAY WITH STATE WATER OFFICIALS.

THEY ACCUSE THE FARMERS OF ILLEGALLY TAKING IRRIGATION WATER, WHICH IS NEED TO KEEP THE DELTA FLOWING. THEY SAY NOW, BECAUSE OF THIS ACTION BY THE FARMERS, THEY ARE BEING FORCED TO RELEASE WATER STORED IN RESEVOIRS.

THE CONTRACTORS SAY THIS WATER COULD SERVE TWO- MILLION PEOPLE FOR ONE YEAR. HOWEVER, THE SOUTH DELTA WATER AGENCY DENIES THE CLAIM. THEY SAY THE FARMERS HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO THE WATER.

ENVIRONMENT

6/17/15 KRON 4 Evening News
New warnings about ocean conditions

A NEW STUDY BY NOAA SHOWS THE ARCTIC OCEAN IS BECOMING LESS HOSPITABLE TO MARINE LIFE. RESEARCH SUGGESTS SURFACE WATERS IN TWO ARCTIC SEAS COULD BECOME SO ACIDIC ANIMALS WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO BUILD AND MAINTAIN THEIR SHELLS BY 2030. AND THE BERING SEA COULD EXPERIENCE SIMILAR ISSUES IN NEARLY 30 YEARS. RESEARCHERS SAY THE GROWING ACIDITY OF THE WATER IS DUE, IN PART, TO MELTING GLACIERS CAUSED BY GLOBAL WARMING. THE RESEARCH WAS PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL "OCEANOGRAPHY".

ENVIRONMENT

6/17/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Catholic Church takes a stand on global warming

POPE FRANCIS HAS ENTERED THE CLIMATE CHANGE DEBATE, WARNING, IN HIS OWN WORDS -- OUR HOME IS BEING RUINED. THE PONTIFF GREETED CROWDS IN SAINT PETER'S SQUARE ON HIS WAY TO GIVE HIS WEEKLY MESSAGE. THE ENCYCLICAL -- OR PUBLIC LETTER -- ON THE ISSUE OF CLIMATE CHANGE WILL BE OFFICIALLY RELEASED THURSDAY. AN ENCYCLICAL IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST TEACHING DOCUMENTS OF THE CHURCH. BY ISSUING SUCH A LETTER ON CLIMATE CHANGE, THE PONTIFF IS PUTTING THE ISSUE HIGH ON THE LIST WITH OTHER MORAL ISSUES.

ENVIRONMENT

6/17/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Local town runs out of water

KRON 4'S DROUGHT COVERAGE TONIGHT TAKING YOU TO A COMMUNITY JUST ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ALTAMONT PASS IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY. MOUNTAIN HOUSE IS REALLY FEELING THE SQUEEZE FROM THE STATE'S MANDATORY WATER RATIONING. ITS 15 THOUSAND RESIDENTS HAVE JUST LOST THEIR SOLE SOURCE OF WATER.

Anthony Gordon: "Never in a million years! Who would've ever thought?"

MOUNTAIN HOUSE RESIDENT ANTHONY GORDON SAYS HE'S MAKING SURE HE WON'T GO THIRSTY.

Gordon: "Oh my God, my wife thinks I'm nuts. I have like 500 gallons of drinking water stored in my home."

THE GROWING COMMUNITY OF MOUNTAIN HOUSE IS ALMOST OUT OF WATER, AND NOT JUST FOR LAWNS. WE'RE TALKING NO DRINKING WATER. NOT EVEN A DROP.

Steve Battista, resident: "This is, uh, this is scary stuff."

THE COMMUNITY'S SOLE SOURCE OF WATER, THE BYRON-BETHANY IRRIGATION DISTRICT, IS ONE OF 114 SENIOR WATER RIGHTS HOLDERS CUT OFF BY THE STATE FRIDAY. MOUNTAIN HOUSE GOVERNMENT MANAGER ED PATTISON SAYS HE IS FACING A CRISIS.

Pattison: "Well, we have storage tanks, but uh those are basically just to ensure the correct pressurization of the distribution system. No more than two days are in those storage tanks."

SEVERAL WATER DISTRICTS PLAN TO GO TO COURT FIGHT THE STATE WATER BOARD'S ORDER. BYRON-BETHANY IS ONE OF THEM. IN THE MEANTIME, MOUNTAIN HOUSE LEADERS MUST FIND SOMEONE TO SELL THEM WATER,

Pattison: "We don't want this town to become a ghost town. It's a beautiful master-planned community."

A STATE PROGRAM PROVIDES EMERGENCY DRINKING WATER TO DROUGHT-STRICKEN TOWNS FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SAFETY REASONS. BUT OFFICIALS SAY TRUCKING IN SUPPLIES WOULD PROBABLY BE MUCH MORE EXPENSIVE, THAN SIMPLY ALLOWING THE IRRIGATION DISTRICT TO PUMP WATER TO THE TOWN.

2Q2015 HEALTH

HEALTH

4/14/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
Technology and your health

THE FTC IS WARNING PEOPLE ABOUT DECEPTIVE MOBILE APPS CLAIMING TO HELP YOU WITH HEALTH ISSUES LIKE EARLY CANCER DETECTION. IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT MELANOMA OR OTHER SERIOUS CANCERS, HEAD TO THE DOCTOR NOT THE APP STORE.

THE FTC HAS BROUGHT DOWN THE HAMMER ON TWO MOBILE APPS, SLAPPING THEM WITH BIG FINES FOR DECEIVING USERS.

"MEL-APP" WAS FINED \$18,000 AND MOLE DETECTIVE WAS FINED \$4,000.

BOTH OF THESE APPS WERE POPULAR IN THE DIGITAL APP STORES EVEN THOUGH THEY COST MONEY. MEL APP WAS \$2 TO DOWNLOAD AND MOLE DETECTIVE COST \$4.

THE APPS ALLOWED USERS TO TAKE A PICTURE OF A MOLE ON THEIR BODY AND FIND OUT IF THEY WERE AT RISK FOR MELANOMA WHICH IS A SKIN CANCER. BUT THE FTC SAYS THESE APPS CAN NOT ACCURATELY DIAGNOSE PEOPLE.

BOTH OF THESE APPS HAVE NOW BEEN REMOVED FROM THE APP STORE.

I COULD NOT REACH THE MAKERS OF THESE APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT, BUT
HERE'S THE TAKE-AWAY:

AT THIS POINT, THERE'S NO SUBSTITUTE FOR A COMPLETE SKIN EXAM PERFORMED
BY AN EXPERT DERMATOLOGIST FOR PICKING UP MELANOMA AS WELL AS OTHER
SKIN CANCERS. THIS ACTION BY THE FTC SHOWS HOW DIFFICULT IT WILL BE FOR
FUTURE MOBILE ENTREPRENEURS TO LAUNCH HEALTH APPS THAT GO BEYOND BASIC
FITNESS AND HEART RATE MONITORING.

GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

4/21/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

San Francisco passes new anti-tobacco regulation

A BIG ANTI-TOBACCO PUSH COMING FROM THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO. THE BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TODAY TO BAN CHEWING TOBACCO
PRODUCTS AT ALL BASEBALL VENUES IN THE CITY INCLUDING A-T&T PARK. KRON 4'S
J.R. STONE IS FOLLOWING THE STORY AND JOINS US WITH THE DETAILS:

THIS SITE OF A BASEBALL PLAYER CHEWING A BIG WAD OF TOBACCO MAY SOON BE A
THING OF THE PAST HERE AT AT&T PARK. THIS AFTER SUPERVISORS WITH THE CITY
CAME DOWN HARD ON TOBACCO COMPLANIES TUESDAY BY UNANIMOUSLY BANNING
CHEWING TOBACCO PRODUCTS FROM ALL BASEBALL VENUES.

Supervisor Mark Farrell: "This simply states that tobacco-related products including chewing
tobacco will not be allowed at baseball stadiums or athletic fields across San Francisco."

A MEASURE THAT NOW ONLY NEEDS THE MAYORS SIGNATURE TO BECOME LAW.
THOSE WITH THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HAVEN'T BEEN SHY ABOUT GIVING THEIR
OPINIONS ON CHEWING TOBACCO AND ITS EFFECTS ON KIDS.

Supervisor Farrell: smokeless tobacco use substantially increases the risk of oral and pancreatic
cancer, gum disease, and nicotine addiction."

Supervisor Eric Mar: "These young people are highly susceptible to nicotine addiction and the
advertising and marketing that goes along with it."

Supervisor Mahlia Cohen: "They are threatening the health and vitality of our future."

BALL PLAYERS HAVE BEEN VOCAL ABOUT THIS AS WELL. GIANTS MANAGER BRUCE
BOCHY SAID EARLIER THIS YEAR HE'S DEALT WITH A CHEWING TOBACCO ADDICTION
THOUGHTOUT HIS CAREER.

Bruce Bochy: " I have two sons and I would not let them dip. I told them just do me a favor, never
chew, never dip."

AS TO ENFORCING THE RULE, THOSE BACKING THE NEW POLICY SAY IT WILL HAPPEN.

Supervisor Farrell: "Of course we pass laws in San Francisco and we want to make sure that they
are enforced."

Kevin O'Flaherty, Tobacco-Free Kids: "It is important to realize that not just the Giants are going
to have to play by these rules. Every team that comes through AT&T Park next year will have to
while they are playing the game here."

HEALTH

4/23/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm

The science of mosquito bites

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO SEEMS TO ATTRACTS MOSQUITOES? A NEW STUDY SAYS ABOUT 20 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION SEEMS TO BE MORE POPULAR WITH THE INSECTS.

SOME SCIENTISTS SAY MOSQUITOES ARE ATTRACTED TO PEOPLE WHO EXERCISE VIGOROUSLY, BECAUSE OF CERTAIN SUBSTANCES IN SWEAT AND AN ELEVATED BODY TEMPERATURE. OTHER RESEARCHERS SAY THE INSECTS LIKE LARGER PEOPLE, BECAUSE THEY OFTEN EXHALE MORE CARBON DIOXIDE.

THIS MEANS BAD NEWS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN. THEY ATTRACT TWO TIMES MORE MOSQUITOES, BECAUSE THEY GENERALLY HAVE HIGHER BODY TEMPERATURES AND EXUDE MORE CARBON DIOXIDE.

HEALTH

4/27/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Link between television and childhood obesity

A NEW STUDY SUGGESTS AN HOUR OF DAILY TV CAN SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE A CHILD'S RISKS FOR OBESITY. A SAN DIEGO PEDIATRICIAN'S GROUP PRESENTED THEIR FINDINGS IN FRONT OF MORE THAN 11 THOUSAND KINDERGARTNERS AND FIRST GRADERS. THEIR RESEARCH SHOWED KIDS WHO WATCHED TELEVISION FOR AN HOUR OR MORE A DAY HAD SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER BODY MASS INDEXES THAN THOSE WHO WATCHED JUST 30 MINUTES OR LESS. RESEARCHERS SAID MOST AMERICAN KINDERGARTNERS WATCH AN AVERAGE OF MORE THAN THREE HOURS OF TV A DAY. EXPERTS ARE CALLING FOR NEW GUIDELINES ON TV VIEWING TIMES.

HEALTH

5/8/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Post-partum depression comes out of the closet

UP TO 16 PERCENT OF MOMS WILL SUFFER FROM POST-PARTUM DEPRESSION AFTER GIVING BIRTH FOR THE FIRST TIME STUDIES SHOW. MANY OF THEM CHOOSE TO KEEP THEIR STRUGGLE A SECRET, BUT THAT'S A DECISION DOCTORS DISCOURAGE. FROM OUR PARTNERS AT CNN, POLO SANDOVAL SHARES THE STORY OF TWO MOTHERS AND THEIR STRUGGLE WITH POST-PARTUM DEPRESSION:

STACY KRAVITZ IS A MOTHER OF THREE SMALL CHILDREN. STEPHANIE DULLI HAS THREE OF HER OWN. THESE YOUNG WOMEN WERE THRILLED TO BECOME NEW MOMS, BUT BEHIND THE SMILES, A DARK CLOUD WAS FORMING.

Stacy Kravitz, North Potomac, MD: "It's like a storm. Like tumultuous."

STACY WAS DIAGNOSED WITH POST-PARTUM DEPRESSION NINE MONTHS AFTER HER SON WAS BORN.

Stephanie Dulli, Germantown, MD: "I was so paralyzingly panicked, all the time."

STEPHANIE WAS TOLD SHE HAD POST-PARTUM ANXIETY WHEN HER SON WAS A YEAR AND A HALF.

Stephanie Dulli: "It was like these horror movies would play in my head. These visions and anxieties of these horrible things happening to him."

POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION IS A DISORDER TRIGGERED BY CHILDBIRTH AND IS ASSOCIATED WITH FEELINGS OF SADNESS AND HOPELESSNESS. IT'S OFTEN PAIRED WITH EXTREME ANXIETY. HORMONE CHANGES AFTER PREGNANCY, COUPLED WITH SLEEP DEPRIVATION, ARE SOME OF THE MAIN CAUSES.

Dr. Elizabeth Carr, Kentlands Psychotherapy: "It can often times feel for people like it's coming out of left field."

DOCTOR ELIZABETH CARR TREATS WOMEN SUFFERING FROM POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY. SHE SAYS MILLENNIAL MOM'S OFTEN SEEK ADVICE ONLINE, A HABIT THAT COULD LEAD TO HEALTH PROBLEMS.

Dr. Carr: "It's a tremendous mix of information that's not all based necessarily on professional opinions or expertise."

STACY AND STEPHANIE AGREE.

Stephanie Dulli: "People online, Twitter, Facebook -- people say some really horrible things to other mothers."

DOCTOR CARR SAYS TALK THERAPY, REGULAR EXERCISE, A HEALTHY DIET, SLEEP MANAGEMENT -- AND IN SOME CASES, MEDICATION -- ARE COMMON WAYS TO HELP PREVENT POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION.

Dr. Carr: "And the earlier you can start, the better chance you have nipping it in the bud before it gets a foothold."

BY SHARING THEIR STORIES, STACY AND STEPHANIE HOPE TO PROVIDE STRENGTH FOR FELLOW MOTHERS, WOMEN STRUGGLING WITH THE SAME FEELINGS THAT ARE MOSTLY BEHIND THEM NOW.

Stacy Kravitz: "I definitely felt better by the time my first one was about one. I look back at pictures and I can see that I'm happy. You know? I was really happy in that moment."

IN GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND, I'M POLO SANDOVAL

HEALTH

5/11/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Surprising easy way to support weight loss

DIET AND EXERCISE ARE ESSENTIAL TO SLIMMING DOWN, BUT SOMETHING AS SIMPLE AS A GROCERY LIST COULD HELP JUMPSTART YOUR WEIGHT LOSS JOURNEY.

ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY IN THE JOURNAL OF NUTRITION EDUCATION AND BEHAVIOR, THOSE WHO MADE A SHOPPING LIST BEFORE GOING TO THE STORE HAD A HEALTHIER WEIGHT THAN THOSE WHO DIDN'T. RESEARCHERS FOUND THEY WEIGHED AN AVERAGE OF FIVE POUNDS LESS THAN THOSE WHO SHOPPED WITHOUT A LIST. ACCORDING TO THE RESEARCH, THOSE WHO REGULARLY MADE GROCERY LISTS ALSO BOUGHT HEALTHIER FOOD.

HERE'S HOW THEY CAME TO THAT CONCLUSION. RESEARCHERS INTERVIEWED MORE THAN 13 HUNDRED RESIDENTS IN A PAIR OF LOW-INCOME PITTSBURGH NEIGHBORHOODS. NEARLY 80% OF THE PEOPLE INTERVIEWED WERE OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE. THE RESEARCHERS CAUTION THESE RESULTS MIGHT NOT APPLY TO HIGHER INCOME FAMILIES.

HERE'S WHY PLANNING IS IMPORTANT. A THIRD OF AMERICAN ADULTS ARE OBESE, AND IN LOW-INCOME AREAS THERE ARE TYPICALLY FEWER OPTIONS FOR HEALTHY FOOD. WHEN HEALTHIER FOODS ARE AVAILABLE, THEY'RE OFTEN MORE EXPENSIVE THAN PROCESSED FOODS.

FOR TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE, MARTHA SHADE

HEALTH

5/28/15 KRON 4 News at 11pm

High profile basketball injury puts concussions in the spotlight

Summary: Basic explanatory information about concussions; interview with a sports medicine physician covering future health problems associated with concussions and also addressing which sports have a higher risk factor for concussions; advice to parents to seek medical attention for kids who receive any sort of injury to the head

HEALTH

6/12/15 KRON 4 Evening News

Local hospital bans sugary drinks

HAPPENING TODAY...SUGARY SODAS ARE NOW A THING OF THE PAST AT SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HOSPITAL. TODAY, THE HOSPITAL REMOVED ALL SUGAR SWEETENED DRINKS FROM ITS VENDING MACHINES AND GIFT SHOPS. AND THEY WON'T BE OFFERED WITH PATIENT MEALS. SUPPORTERS SAY THE SWEETENED DRINKS CONTRIBUTE TO PROBLEMS LIKE OBESITY AND DIABETES. THE ONLY OPTIONS NOW -- WATER, MILK, DIET SODAS AND CERTAIN FRUIT JUICES. THE BAN EVEN EXTENDS TO THE FOOD TRUCKS AND VENDORS ON THE HOSPITAL CAMPUS.

HEALTH

6/15/15 KRON 4 Evening News

New study should ease working moms' anxiety

MOMS CAN STOP STRESSING ABOUT LEAVING THEIR CHILDREN IN ORDER TO GO TO WORK. RESEARCHERS AT THE HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL FOUND THAT DAUGHTERS OF WORKING MOTHERS GROW UP TO BE MORE SUCCESSFUL IN THE WORKPLACE THAN THEIR PEERS. THEY ALSO EARN MORE AND ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE BOSSES.

THE STUDY ALSO FOUND THAT SONS OF WORKING MOMS ARE MORE LIKELY TO GROW UP CONTRIBUTING TO THE CHILDCARE AND HOUSEHOLD CHORES.

HEALTH

6/15/15 KRON 4 News at 8pm
California health officials on MERS outbreak

TONIGHT CALIFORNIA HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE TALKING ABOUT THE MERS OUTBREAK IN SOUTH KOREA AND THE IMPACT HERE. MERS, SHORT FOR MIDDLE EAST RESPIRATORY SYNDROME, HAS KILLED 19 PEOPLE IN SOUTH KOREA SINCE IT APPEARED THERE LAST MONTH. SCHOOLS THERE ARE RE-OPENING AFTER BEING CLOSED FOR WEEKS. MORE THAN 150 PEOPLE HAVE CONTRACTED IT IN SOUTH KOREA.

STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS HERE SAY NO ONE HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED, BUT THEY ARE WARNING PEOPLE WHO TRAVEL TO SOUTH KOREA OR MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES WHERE MERS IS MORE COMMON TO BE VIGILANT.

SYMPTOMS INCLUDE FEVER, COUGH, AND BREATHING PROBLEMS.

HEALTH

6/16/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Government takes stand on trans fat

YOU CAN SOON SAY GOODBYE TO ARTIFICIAL TRANS FATS IN PROCESSED FOODS. YESTERDAY, THE F-D-A ISSUED A FINAL RULING ON PARTIALLY HYDROGENATED OILS, FINDING THEY ARE NOT "GENERALLY RECOGNIZED AS SAFE" IN HUMAN FOOD. P-H-O'S ARE A PRIMARY SOURCE OF ARTIFICIAL TRANS FATS IN PROCESSED FOODS.

THE F-D-A SAYS MANUFACTURERS HAVE THREE YEARS TO REMOVE TRANS FATS FROM PRODUCTS. STILL, COMPANIES CAN PETITION THE FDA FOR SPECIAL PERMIT TO USE THE ARTIFICIAL TRANS FATS.

EATING A DIET HEAVY IN TRANS FAT IS LINKED TO HIGHER BODY WEIGHT, HEART DISEASE AND MEMORY LOSS.

HEALTH

6/25/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Federal and state government regulations impact individual health care

Coverage of Supreme Court Affordable Care Act decision; including impact on preserving affordable health insurance for Americans
Coverage of passage of California Assembly bill to mandate vaccination for all school children; including public reaction for and against

HEALTH

6/29/15 KRON 4 Evening News
Summer skin care advice for parents and kids

SUMMER IS IN FULL SWING AND LOTS OF KIDS SPEND MOST OF THEIR DAYS OUTSIDE. WHILE IT IS GOOD THEY ARE KEEPING ACTIVE, THE SUN CAN DAMAGE THEIR SKIN, UNLESS YOU TAKE PRECAUTIONS. HOLLY FIRFER HAS SOME THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

SUNBURNS HAPPEN TO PEOPLE OF ALL AGES. BUT THESE BURNS IN CHILDHOOD ARE OF SPECIAL CONCERN.

Dr. Zakiya Rice, dermatologist: "There's a lot of evidence to show that this sun damage results in sun-related skin cancers."

ACCORDING TO THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, A FEW SERIOUS SUNBURNS IS ALL IT TAKES TO INCREASE A CHILD'S RISK OF SKIN CANCER LATER IN LIFE. PARENTS CAN START TAKING GOOD SUN PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR THEIR KIDS EARLY ON.

FOR BABIES YOUNGER THAN SIX MONTHS, SUNSCREENS ARE NOT ROUTINELY RECOMMENDED. INSTEAD, PARENTS SHOULD AVOID DIRECT SUNLIGHT, SEEK SHADE, AND ONLY USE SUNSCREEN ON THE BABY'S FACE AND THE BACKS OF THEIR HANDS IF OTHER OPTIONS AREN'T AVAILABLE.

FOR ALL OTHERS, REMEMBER THIS PHRASE: SLIP- SLOP- SLAP- AND WRAP.

ALSO, WEAR SUN PROTECTIVE CLOTHING WITH ULTRAVIOLET PROTECTION FACTOR, OR U-P-F, 50. AVOID THE SUN BETWEEN 10 AND 4. FOLLOW THE SAME RULES ON CLOUDY DAYS.

BUT DON'T LET THESE MESSAGES INTERFERE WITH YOUR PLANS...

Dr. Rice: "It's is fine to be outside. In fact, we like to encourage kids to be outside and be active."

JUST REMEMBER THAT SUN DAMAGE IS CUMULATIVE. EVEN MODERATE SUN EXPOSURE CAN HAVE NEGATIVE LASTING EFFECTS.

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