

QUARTERLY ISSUES / PROGRAM LIST 1ST QUARTER 2013

Young Broadcasting 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 indepth 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
ECONOMY
DIVERSITY
GOVERNMENT
ENVIRONMENT
HEALTH
EDUCATION
TRANSPORTATION

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

CRIME

CRIME

1/13/14 KRON 4 Evening News Credit card breaches at major retailers

DEVELOPING TONIGHT, ANOTHER MAJOR RETAILER HACKED AND MORE CREDIT AND DEBIT CARD NUMBERS ARE IN THE HANDS OF CYBER CRIMNALS. TONIGHT, KRON 4 GOES ONE-ON-ONE WITH AN EXPERT, ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS ON HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF. BUT FIRST, CATHERINE HEENAN IS HERE WITH MORE ON THE LATEST SECURITY BREACHES:

NEIMAN MARCUS HAS ALSO BEEN HACKED. WE FOUND OUT THIS WEEKEND, WHEN THE HIGH-END RETAILER CONFIRMED THAT THIEVES HAVE STOLEN SOME OF THEIR CUSTOMERS' CREDIT CARD INFORMATION. THE HACKERS WERE ABLE TO CHARGE THINGS, .AND NOW NEIMAN MARCUS IS BUSY ALERTING THE PEOPLE AFFECTED. THE STORE ISN'T SAYING YET HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE INVOLVED.

NOW, THERE ARE REPORTS THAT OTHER SMALLER RETAILERS WERE HACKED OVER THE HOLIDAY SHOPPING SEASON. THE DETAILS AREN'T PUBLIC YET, BUT AT LEAST THREE OTHER U.S. BUSINESSES WERE AFFECTED. THEY'RE REPORTEDLY RETAILERS WITH STORES IN MALLS, AND THE TECHNIQUES USED WERE SIMILAR TO WHAT HAPPENED TO TARGET.

AND SPEAKING OF TARGET, IT'S NOW SENDING OUT LETTERS TO ITS CUSTOMERS - CONFIRMING THAT ITS HUGE DATA THEFT WAS EVEN BIGGER THAN BELIEVED. THE LETTERS SPELL OUT THE FACT THAT NAMES, MAILING ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS AND E-MAILS MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN. INFORMATION BELONGING TO AS MANY AS 110 MILLION CUSTOMERS AND THE KIND OF BREACH THAT CAN LEAD TO IDENTITY THEFT.

WHEN TARGET RELEASES A FINAL TALLY, THE THEFT COULD BECOME THE LARGEST DATA BREACH ON RECORD FOR A RETAILER.

KRON 4'S J.R. STONE CONTINUES OUR TEAM COVERAGE ON THIS ISSUE TONIGHT. J.R., YOU HEARD CATHERINE GIVE THOSE NUMBERS. TENS OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE POSSIBLY AFFECTED BY THIS.

EXACTLY AND THE EXPERT I TALKED WITH SAID THAT THIS COULD VERY WELL BE THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG BECAUSE THERE IS NOW TALK THAT THREE OTHER MAJOR U.S. CHAINS WERE HACKED AS WELL. ERICA SANDBERG OF CREDIT CARD DOT COM SPOKE TO ME THIS AFTERNOON AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS THAT COULD HELP YOU OUT.

Question: How do I know if I'm a victim?

Sandberg: "You know you're a victim by checking your statements. If you see accounts that are not yours, fraudulently opened accounts, balances that are incorrect, items that you did not purchase with that card. You will see it. But you have to look at your statement in order to find it. If you do see all that information, then you've got to take the next steps"

Question: What should I do if I think I've been victimized?

Sandberg: "There is nothing wrong with contacting any of your credit card accounts saying look, I'm afraid that I was hit by this nefarious activity, what can I do? They will probably issue you a new card. Definitely file a police report if you spot fraudulent activity, and sometimes that means pressing the police. They don't necessarily always want to file reports on these issues but that's what they're for. It's a crime; so really press them."

Question: What type of information has been breached at Target and Neiman Marcus?

Sandberg: "We're talking extremely personal information. Names, address, email addresses, telephone numbers, anything to do with you and your banking information and personal information except, as far as we know, not Social Security numbers. But everything else, yes, they have it."

Question: Will these stores call me if I was affected by the breach?

Sandberg: "Neiman Marcus is actually being very proactive about it. They are notifying their customers. But Target not so much, but their situation is much, much larger."

Question: Is it worth hiring a credit monitoring company?

Sandberg: "It can be, if it gives you peace of mind. Credit monitoring can be fantastic because you aren't the one who is actively constantly checking because the service is doing it for you. But, you do have to pay for it. So unless it's included in the Target incident, then it's a question you have to answer. Do you want to spend the money when you could do it yourself as well? So it depends on how dedicated you want to be."

ERICA SANDBERG TELLS ME THAT KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON THAT ACCOUNT IS CERTAINLY THE WAY TO GO BECAUSE YOU HAVE 60 DAYS TO CONTEST SOMETHING ON THERE. SHE ALSO SAYS THAT WHEN YOU CALL THE BANK OR THE STORE BE PREPARED TO WAIT ON THE PHONE BECAUSE THEY ARE NOW BEING SWAMPED WITH CALLS.

CRIME

1/16/14 ONLINE DATING SITE FRAUD

DESPITE ALL THE ADVANTAGES THE INTERNET BRINGS US, IT HAS ALSO BECOME HOME TO RIPOFF ARTISTS WHO PREY ON THE MOST VULNERABLE. NOW, THOSE PEOPLE ARE FINDING NEW TARGETS ON DATING SITES. TONIGHT KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN SPOKE TO A SAN JOSE WOMAN WHO SAYS SHE WAS BILKED OUT OF MORE THAN A HALF MILLION DOLLARS:

Victim: "I hope knowing about my experiences will help others avoid becoming the victim that I have become."

THIS 66 YEAR OLD SAN JOSE WOMAN DOESN'T WANT HER IDENTITY REVEALED, BUT SHE DOES WANT HER STORY TOLD... SHE MET SOMEONE ON A DATING SITE, WAS TOO TRUSTING, AND GOT RIPPED OFF.

Victim: "Over the course of six months, it ended up being \$524,000 dollars."

THE WOMAN MET THE SCAMMER AT CHRISTIANMINGLE.COM. HE TOLD HER HE WAS A BRITISH CITIZEN WORKING ON A SCOTTISH OIL RIG, BUT WOULD SOON BE RETURNING HOME TO THE BAY AREA...

Victim: "I chose a Christian site thinking that would be safe and that I would meet individuals who had values similar to mine."

NOT KNOWING HIS CHRISTIAN MINGLE PROFILE WAS FAKE, THEY STRUCK UP A RELATIONSHIP, ONLINE, THEN BY EMAIL AND THEN BY PHONE. EVENTUALLY, HE STARTED ASKING FOR MONEY, MONEY THAT HE PROMISED TO PAY BACK...AND ENCOURAGED HER TO KEEP THIS INFORMATION BETWEEN THE TWO OF THEM.

Victim: "I had searched the internet. I found his picture. I verified that he was indeed the person that he was. I asked for receipts. I asked for contracts. I even viewed his bank account and I was convinced he was a real individual and that he was being honest with me."

BUT EVERYTHING SHE CHECKED TURNED OUT TO BE PHONY. OVER THE HOLIDAYS, FAMILY MEMBERS DISCOVERED WHAT WAS GOING ON AND CONTACTED AUTHORITIES...WHO LUCKILY WERE ABLE TO RECOVER THAT LAST 200 THOUSAND DOLLAR WIRE TRANSFER AND ARREST AN ACCOMPLICE OF THE SCAMMER. BUT THE OTHER 300 THOUSAND DOLLARS IS GONE TO SOMEONE IN NIGERIA AND THIS WOMAN'S LIFE WILL BE FOREVER CHANGED.

Victim: "It does look like I will lose my house and I am out a lot of my retirement funds. My lifestyle will be changed drastically."

THE DA'S OFFICE SAYS IF SOMETHING SEEMS TO BE TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE IT PROBABLY IS. THE BEST WAY TO PROTECT YOURSELF? DON'T SEND MONEY TO STRANGERS, ESPECIALLY IF YOU'VE NEVER MET THEM.

IN SAN JOSE DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

2/5/14 KRON 4 Morning News New credit cards could thwart cyber data theft

WITH ALL THE DATA BREACHES WE'VE BEEN THROUGH RECENTLY, LIKE THE TARGET ONE, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND RETAIL CHAINS ARE FINALLY GETTING ON BOARD WITH SMART CREDIT CARDS. THESE ARE CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS WITH A COMPUTER CHIP BUILT INSIDE THEM FOR EXTRA PROTECTION. ALMOST THE ENTIRE BANKING AND SECURITY INDUSTRY AGREES THAT ALL OUR CARDS SHOULD USE THIS TECHNOLOGY TO KEEP US SAFE.

THE TECHNOLOGY ALREADY EXISTS. MOST OF EUROPE ALREADY USES THESE TYPES OF CARDS. WE DON'T HAVE THEM IN THE U.S. BECAUSE THE CARDS AND CARD READERS ARE EXPENSIVE TO PRODUCE. BUT THERE HAVE BEEN SO MANY DATA BREACHES RECENTLY, THAT COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED, THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS HERE CAN'T WAIT FOR THIS ANY LONGER. THESE CARDS WILL BE IN YOUR WALLETS IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

HERE'S A LOOK AT WHAT THEY ARE AND HOW THEY WORK. THE SMART CARDS ARE ALSO CALLED EMV CARDS, WHICH STANDS FOR EUROPAY MASTERCARD AND VISA, THE COMPANIES THAT DEVELOPED THIS PAYMENT STANDARD. YOU DON'T SWIPE AN EMV CARD THAT HAS THE BUILT IN COMPUTER CHIP. YOU INSERT IT INTO AN EMV CARD READER. THEN THE SHOPPER ENTERS A SECRET FOUR DIGIT CODE WHICH IS VERIFIED BY THE COMPUTER CHIP. IF THE SHOPPER USES THE CORRECT FOUR DIGIT

CODE, THE PURCHASE GOES THROUGH. IF THE SHOPPER PUNCHES IN THE WRONG CODE THREE TIMES, THE CARD LOCKS UP AND IS UNUSABLE. IT'S A PRETTY SIMPLE SYSTEM THAT WOULD HELP CUT DOWN SIGNIFICANTLY ON CREDIT AND DEBIT CARD FRAUD.

THIS SYSTEM IS USED IN 80 COUNTRIES. SEVENTY PERCENT OF ATM'S IN THE WORLD USE EMV READERS. THE U.S. IS WAY BEHIND ON ADDING THIS SECURITY MEASURE TO OUR CARDS. BUT WITH ALL THE FRAUD LATELY, RETAIL CHAINS AND BANKS ARE GETTING ON BOARD WITH BRINGING THIS TECHNOLOGY TO THE U.S. IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS.

BUT NOW LET'S TALK THE DOWN SIDE OF SMART CARDS. PEOPLE WILL HAVE TO REMEMBER YET ANOTHER FOUR DIGIT CODE FOR THEIR DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES. AND EMV CARD READERS ARE EXPENSIVE SO IT COULD HURT SMALL BUSINESSES THAT DON'T HAVE THE MONEY TO UPGRADE TO THE NEW SYSTEM. IT'S LIKELY A LOT OF MOM AND POP SHOPS WILL BE FORCED TO GO BACK TO THE OLD DAYS OF ONLY ACCEPTING CASH OR CHECKS.

GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

2/24/14 KRON 4 News at 11p
Officer explains home search procedures

WE ARE LEARNING TONIGHT ONE OF THE INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE SHOOTING DEATH OF BART POLICE SARGENT TOM SMITH IS EXPECTED TO BE WRAPPED UP THIS WEEK. THERE ARE SEVERAL ONGOING PROBES INTO THE JANUARY FRIENDLY FIRE BART SHOOTING IN DUBLIN.

A TEAM OF BART OFFICERS WAS EXECUTIVNG A PROBATION SEARCH ON AN APARTMENT WHEN SMITH WAS SHOT BY A FELLOW OFFICER. IN AN INTERNAL MEMO SENT OUT LAST WEEK, AND FIRST REPORTED IN THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, BART POLICE CHIEF KENTON RAINEY DEFENDED HIS DEPARTMENT'S LEGITMACY AND REPUTATION. THE CHIEF WROTE TO THE RANK AND FILE, SAYING:

"I have been disappointed by news reports and rumors that a few individuals inside and outside our department have insinuated that Tommy lacked the knowledge, skills and abilities to safely perform building searches..."

HE ALSO REFERRED TO REPORTS THAT A DEPUTY CHIEF, QUOTE, "REBUFFED CALLS FOR DEPLOYING OUR SWAT TEAM IN SITUATIONS THAT CALLED FOR A SWAT TEAM RESPONSE, AND THEREBY JEOPARDIZED OFFICER SAFETY. "

RAINEY SAYS "I do not accept or agree with either of those characterizations." KRON 4 TRIED CONTACTING THE CHIEF TODAY REGARDING THIS MEMO. OUR CALLS HAVE NOT BEEN RETURNED.

BUT TONIGHT WE ARE GETTING AN IDEA OF JUST HOW DANGEROUS RESIDENTIAL PROBATION SEARCHES CAN BE FOR OFFICERS AS A VETERAN COMMANDER GOES OVER SOME OF THE DO'S AND DON'T'S WITH KRON4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN IN A STORY YOU WILL ONLY SEE HERE:

Lt. Commander Sid Dejesus, Vallejo Police Department: "Whatever we do, we are not going to be turning a blind eye to any of the officers moving about the structure."

VALLEJO POLICE LT. COMMANDER SID DEJESUS IS USING THIS DRY ERASE BOARD AS HE EXPLAINS SOME OF THE BASIC YET VERY IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN CLEARING A RESIDENCE OF POTENTIAL THREATS. IT IS DANGEROUS WORK

Dejesus: "It's a very high stress situation, you don't know what's on the other end of that door. You don't know if there's a potential threat inside that you may stumble across. You don't know if there's someone inside that's armed."

WITH THAT IN MIND HE SAYS THE FIRST THING OFFICERS NEED TO DO IS ESTBALISH A PLAN BEFORE ENTERING.

Dejesus: "What you and your search team are going to do once you're inside the structure, you have a goal and an objective and that's obviously to search it effectively, efficiently but more important safely."

ONCE INSIDE A RESIDENCE, COMMUNICATION BETWEEN OFFICERS BECOMES A MAJOR FACTOR

Dejesus: "The most important thing that is really paramount is that we are communicating with each other as we move about the structure. Sometimes in a situation where we have to be separated we will hold point at certain corners. For instance we may hold point right here until this area is searched or we may hold point here until this area is searched. We are not going to just enter the structure and go here, there and everywhere else. We are going to have a very systematic method."

THE 20 YEAR POLICE VETERAN AND CURRENT VALLEJO POLICE HOSTAGE NEGOTIATOR TALKS ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SWAT TEAM AND UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICERS CLEARING A STRUCTURE

Dejesus: "It's a whole different scenario. If we are a swat team searching a building, we've already done as much research as we possibly could on the structure itself, whereas if we were just uniformed officers rolling up on perhaps a residential burglary with an open door and we don't have a K-9 we are going to get as many officers as we can to conduct the search."

HOWEVER HE SAYS OFFICERS CAN TAKE EVERY PRECAUTIONS AND TRAGEDY CAN STILL OCCUR.

Dejesus: "Police work is very dangerous and you can take all of the precautions that you feel are necessary to ensure your own safety, but that doesn't guarantee that something bad won't happen."

HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4 NEWS

CRIME

3/5/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Oakland approves surveillance center

THE CONTROVERSIAL OAKLAND SURVEILLANCE CENTER IS MOVING FORWARD, BUT ON A MUCH SMALLER SCALE. OAKLAND MAYOR JEAN QUAN CAST THE DECIDING VOTE LATE LAST NIGHT. FOR NOW, THE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED MOVING FORWARD WITH ONLY MONITORING THE PORT OF OAKLAND. BUT, AS KRON4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN REPORTS, ONE CONCERNED CITY COUNCIL MEMBER BELIEVES THE WATERED-DOWN SURVEILLANCE PLAN WILL NOT DO THE JOB OF KEEPING OAKLAND RESIDENTS SAFE.

Oakland City Councilmember Noel Gallo: "You know a young man lost his life right here on this corner and another young lady was shot."

VIOLENCE IN OAKLAND'S FRUITVALE DISTRICT IT IS ONE OF THE REASONS CITY COUNCILMEMBER NOEL GALLO IS A STRONG PROPONENT OF SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS WHEN IT COMES TO FIGHTING CRIME

Gallo: "As you can see, we've got two cameras located directly above us."

HOWEVER, WHEN IT CAME TIME TO CAST HIS VOTE FOR THE CONTROVERSIAL DOMAIN AWARNESS CENTER, A CITYWIDE SURVEILLANCE CAMERA NETWORK, GALLO WHO ALSO CHAIRS THE CITY'S PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE, VOTED NO LAST NIGHT. WHY?...

Gallo: "I voted no because the proposal that was approved had too many road blocks."

ROAD BLOCKS THAT HE SAYS ULTIMATELY SHIFTED THE CONCEPT OF A CENTRALIZED PUBLIC SAFETY SYSTEM TO ONE THAT ONLY COVERS THE PORT OF OAKLAND. HOWEVER, HE SAYS THE CITY IS WHERE THE CRIME IS TAKING PLACE.

Gallo: "The reality is we are the most crime ridden city in the state of California. We are 3rd in the nation. We are basically on our knees when it comes to crime We have to deal with it. The businesses and the neighbors are crying out for help. The reality is we only have 660 officers today. By attrition, we are losing ten per month. So we need to provide other tools as necessary. A camera is not the perfect system and I wish we didn't have to go there, yet it helps with investigations and it does deter some individuals from committing crime."

THE ALTERNATIVE?

Gallo: "If not, you're going to continue to have the results here where these young men are creating negative activity, killing each other."

IN OAKLAND HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

CRIME

3/7/10 KRON 4 News at 11 New legislation proposed to address cyberbullying

THE SUICIDE OF A SOUTH BAY TEEN WHICH WAS TIED TO A CYBER-BULLYING CASE IS NOW PROMPTING NEW LEGISLATION. TODAY, LAWMAKERS, AS WELL AS THE FAMILY OF AUDRIE POTT, ANNOUNCED THE PROPOSED BILL, CALLED AUDRIE'S LAW. THE MEASURE WOULD MAKE CYBER-BULLYING A FELONY AND STIFFEN PENALTIES FOR SEX ASSAULTS. THE LAW IS BEING INTRODUCED IN SACRAMENTO AND AUDRIE'S MOTHER PLANS TO TESTIFY. IF IT PASSES, IT COULD GO INTO EFFECT AS EARLY AS NEXT JANUARY.

Shiela Pott: "The law needs to be changed. Teens need to be made aware that sexual assaults and the photographing of these assaults create an environment where the victim is bullied and revictimized."

FIFTEEN YEAR OLD AUDRIE POTT KILLED HERSELF IN 2012 AFTER PICTURES OF HER BEING SEXUALLY ASSAULTED WERE REPORTEDLY SENT AROUND HER SCHOOL THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA. THREE TEENS WERE CONVICTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE CASE, B UT OF LESSER CRIMES.

CRIME

3/10/11 KRON 4 News at 11p A neighborhood fights back against crime

RESIDENTS IN ONE CONCORD NEIGHBORHOOD ARE FED UP AND FIGHTING BACK AGAINST CRIME TONIGHT. THIS SIMPLE HANDMADE SIGN ON A TELEPHONE POLE ISSUES A WARNING TO CRIMINALS IN THE AREA THAT RESIDENTS ARE WATCHING AND THEY WON'T BE AFRAID ANY MORE. KRON 4'S ALECIA REID SPOKE TO SOME RESIDENTS WHO SAY THIS MESSAGE IS THE FIRST STEP IN TAKING BACK THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD:

NEIGHBORS HERE SAY THEY ARE TIRED, FED UP WITH PEOPLE THEY CONSIDER "DIRT BAGS" CASING THE STREETS AND WATCHING FOR ANY CHANCE TO BREAK INTO THEIR HOMES. FED UP HOMEOWNERS LEFT NOTES FOR THE DIRTBAGS CASING THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD, LETTING THE CULPRITS KNOW THEY'RE BEING WATCHED AND THAT THEY WILL NOT ALLOW THEM TO INVADE THEIR LIVES. HOMEOWNERS SAY THEY ARE WATCHING OUT FOR EACH OTHER AND NOW THAT DRUG USE, PROSTITUTION AND BREAK INS HAVE GOTTEN OUT OF CONTROL THEY NO LONGER WANT TO PUT UP WITH IT.

Rod Perry, resident: "I was sleeping and then I heard smash and the alarm went off and the key fob alarm paged me. I ran outside but there was no one around. I called 911 to have them come check it out."

Lynn, homeowner: "We've had a robbery break-in. They attacked a dog. We've had a car stolen from down the street. We've had mail stolen from people. "One of our neighbors down the street, his mailbox was knocked over. He chased the guys down and they attacked him with a baseball bat. He was out of work for a year. They're getting very brazen, not worried about anybody or anything. It's getting out of control."

OUR CAMERAS NOTICED A NUMBER OF SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS. WHICH A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE NOW INSTALLING.IN THIS VIDEO YOU CAN SEE A CAR BACKING INTO A DRIVEWAY, THE THIEF RUNNING TO AND FROM THE HOUSE, AND ABOUT 20 MINUTES LATER, LEAVING WITH A PACKED TRUNK.

Rod Perry: "I've had more than 20 thousand dollars worth of tools stolen out of the truck before."

BEFORE THIS SITUATION GETS ANY WORSE, THE PLAN IS TO SEND LETTERS OUT TO ALL THE NEIGHBORS, THEN HOLD A MEETING WITH CONCORD POLICE HERE AT VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH WHERE HOMEOWNERS CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE UPCOMING NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH.

REPORTING IN CONCORD ALECIA REID KRON 4 NEWS.

CRIME

3/21/14 KRON 4 Evening News Medical records vulnerable to cyber crime

PATIENT INFORMATION BELONGING TO TENS OF THOUSANDS OF BAY AREA RESIDENTS REPORTED STOLEN, THE SENSITIVE DATA NOW APPARENTLY IN THE HANDS OF THIEVES. NEARLY 56 THOUSAND PATIENTS OF SAN FRANCISCO'S DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ARE AFECTED. KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN HAS DETAILS ON THE THEFT AND HOW YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF IF YOU ARE IMPACTED:

PATIENTS WHO WERE SEEN AT ONE OF SAN FRANCISCO'S PUBLIC HEALTH CLINICS LIKE THIS ONE IN THE CASTRO OR THIS ONE IN POTRERO HILL BETWEEN AUGUST OF 2012 AND NOVEMBER OF 2013 MAY HAVE HAD THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION COMPROMISED.

Roland Pickens, SF Health Network: "The type of information included patient names, billing information, and in some cases social security numbers, dates and location of services, and date of birth."

THE DATA WAS STOLEN FROM A LOS ANGELES BILLING COMPANY THAT DOES BILLING FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH. DPH HAS SUSPENDED SENDING BILLING TO THAT COMPANY AND IS NOW REVIEWING OTHER OUTSIDE CONTRACTORS TO MAKE SURE A SIMILAR SECURITY BREACH CAN'T HAPPEN AGAIN.

Pickens: "One requirement will be that all providers ensure that all of their computers are encrypted. We're told by the IT experts that had these computers been encrypted the information would not be at risk."

THOSE ATTENDING OUTPATIENT CLINICS AT GENERAL HOSPITAL OR WERE SEEN AT THE EMERGENCY ROOM BUT NOT ADMITTED ARE ALSO AMONG THE NEARLY 56 THOUSAND PATIENTS IMPACTED.

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH IS SENDING OUT LETTERS TO AFFECTED PATIENTS AND ALSO SETTING UP A CALL CENTER SO PATIENTS CAN CALL IN TO FIND OUT IF THEY WERE IMPACTED. A YEAR OF FREE CREDIT MONITORING WILL ALSO BE OFFERED.

ON A POSTIVE NOTE, THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH SAYS THEY HAVE NO INDICATION THAT ANY MEDICAL RECORDS, MEDICAL HISTORY, OR MEDICAL TREATMENTS HAVE BEEN RELEASED AS PART OF THIS BREACH.

IN SAN FRANCISCO DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

IT WAS JUST EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT NINE THOUSAND UCSF PATIENTS HAD THEIR PERSONAL DATA COMPROMISED AFTER DESKTOP COMPUTERS WERE STOLEN FROM A CLINIC. THEY WERE STOLEN BACK IN JANUARY FROM THE FAMILY MEDICINE CENTER AT LAKESHORE AND SLOAT BOULEVARD IN SAN FRANCISCO. INVESTIGATORS SAY THE COMPUTERS HAD PERSONAL AND HEALTH INFORMATION THAT INCLUDED INDIVIDUALS' NAMES, DATES OF BIRTH, MAILING ADDRESSES AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS. THE UNIVERSITY HAS SENT OUT NOTIFICATION LETTERS TO THOSE AFFECTED.

ECONOMY

ECONOMY

1/14/14 KRON 4 Evening News Minimum wage

CONGRESS IS THINKING ABOUT RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE NATIONALLY. IT'S A HOT-BUTTON ISSUE THESE DAYS AND PASSAGE MAY BE DIFFICULT. AS LAWMAKERS FIGHT IT OUT, A NEW STUDY SAYS AN INCREASE COULD MEAN HIGHER PAY FOR A LOT MORE THAN JUST MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS. ALISON KOSIK IS AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE:

A MINIMUM WAGE HIKE COULD MEAN A RAISE FOR MOST WORKERS. THAT'S THE CONSENSUS FROM ONE MAJOR GROUP. THE ECONOMIC POLICY INSTITUTE, A NON-PARTISAN THINK TANK, SAYS BOOSTING MINIMUM WAGE COULD MEAN HIGHER PAY FOR 4.6 MILLION WORKERS AND ONLY ABOUT 2.6 MILLION OF THEM ARE MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS. SO WHERE DO THE OTHER 2-MILLION COME FROM?

THE GROUP SAYS THOSE 2 MILLION PEOPLE WILL BE AFFECTED INDIRECTLY. BASICALLY, THEIR PAY WILL GO UP BECAUSE MANY BUSINESS OWNERS HAVE A MIX OF EMPLOYEES. THEY CAN'T JUST RAISE THE PAY FOR LOWEST LEVEL WORKERS. THEY HAVE TO RAISE THE PAY OF MORE SENIOR WORKERS TOO TO KEEP THE PAY STRUCTURE IN PLACE.

THIS COMES AS FAST FOOD AND RETAIL WORKERS HAVE WALKED OFF THE JOB DURING PROTESTS, CALLING FOR HIGHER PAY. FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE, CURRENTLY AT \$7.25 AN HOUR, HASN'T GONE UP SINCE 2009. SOME STATES ARE TAKING MATTERS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS.

THIRTEEN STATES BOOSTED MINIMUM WAGE ON JANUARY FIRST. BUT RAISING WAGES ISN'T CUT AND DRY. CRITICS AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS SAY IT CAN ACTUALLY HURT JOBS BECAUSE IT'S AN ADDED COST FOR EMPLOYERS.

ONE DAY CARE OWNER TOLD US THAT BECAUSE BUSINESS ISN'T BOOMING, SHE HAD TO TAKE A PAY CUT WHEN SHE GAVE HER WORKERS A RAISE. AND A MARKETING COMPANY OWNER SAYS SHE HAS TO LAY OFF ONE WORKER BECAUSE SHE CAN'T RAISE PRICES TO COMPENSATE.

IN NEW YORK, ALISON KOSIK FOR KRON 4 NEWS

ECONOMY

1/17/14 KRON 4 News at 11pm Negative impact of increased minimum wage

SEVERAL CITIES AROUND THE COUNTRY HAVE INCREASED THE MINIMUM WAGE FAR ABOVE THE FEDERAL LEVEL OF \$7.25 AN HOUR. SAN JOSE WENT FROM EIGHT TO TEN DOLLARS AN HOUR JUST ONE YEAR AGO AND INCREASE THE WAGE TO \$10.15 ON JANUARY FIRST OF THIS YEAR. NOW A SURVY BY A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SAYS TWELVE RESTAURANTS WERE FORCED TO CLOSE DUE TO THE WAGE INCREASE. KRON-4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL SPOKE WITH SAN JOSE CITY COUNCILMAN SAM LICCARDO, WHO SAYS PEOPLE IN HIS CITY DIDN'T NEED A RAISE, THEY NEEDED A JOB:

San Jose Councilmember Sam Liccardo: "I'm not surprised to hear that small businesses have struggled with the increase."

EMPTY STOREFRONTS ARE NOTHING NEW TO SAN JOSE. CITY LEADERS IN THE PAST YEAR HAVE CREATED PILOT PROGRAMS TO ENCOURAGE BUSINESSES TO SET UP SHOP IN THE CITY. BUT A NEW STUDY FROM A WASHINGTON DC BASED NON-PROFIT, THE EMPLOYMENT POLICIES INSTITUTE, SAYS THAT LAST YEAR'S MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE HAS CAUSED SOME RESTAURANTS TO CLOSE DOWN. COUNCILMAN SAM LICCARDO, WHO IS ALSO RUNNING FOR MAYOR, SAYS HE SAW THIS COMING.

Liccardo: "Many of the small businesses in downtown areas like my own are often owned and operated by people who are making very close to minimum wage themselves."

THE AUTHORS OF THE STUDY WILL NOT PROVIDE A LIST OF THE FAST-FOOD AND TABLE-SERVICE RESTAURANTS THAT TOOK PARK IN THE REPORT, BECAUSE THEY WERE GUARANTEED ANONYMITY. BUT THE STUDY SAYS ABOUT 40 PERCENT OF THE BUSINESSES REPORTED AN ADDITIONAL COST OF BETWEEN 10 THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 69 THOUSAND DOLLARS PER YEAR, AS A RESULT OF THE TWO-DOLLAR MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE. TWELVE RESTAURANTS REPORTED CLOSING AT LEAST ONE LOCATION DUE TO THE RATE HIKE. AND, TWO THIRDS OF THE BUSINESSES HAD TO RAISE THEIR PRICES.

BUT COUNCILMAN SAM LICCARDO SAYS NOT ALL OF THE NEWS IS BAD.

Liccardo: "What we've seen in the last year in downtown alone for example is over 15 new restaurants opening in downtown. In the long run, I think this will be a positive for the city of San Jose. I like the fact that many of my residents are now able to survive with at least a little better sense of opportunity for the future. But the reality is, it's going to cause disruption in the short term. And we know that."

IN SAN JOSE, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON FOUR NEWS.

ECONOMY

2/21/14 KRON 4 Evening News The wage gap is real

THOSE GOOGLE BUSSES THAT ANGER SOME PEOPLE AND ELICIT PROTESTS ARE A TANGIBLE SIGN OF THE GROWING GAP BETWEEN SAN FRANCISCO'S RICH AND POOR. THAT GAP HAS GROWN DRAMATICALLY IN THE PAST FEW YEARS, AND THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION NOW HAS THE NUMBERS TO PROVE IT.

HERE IS A COMPARISON OF THE TOP FIVE PERCENT IN BLUE AND THE BOTTOM 20 PERCENT IN GREEN. IN 2007, THE FIVE PERCENT EARNED AN AVERAGE OF 238 THOUSAND DOLLARS IN OAKLAND, 265 THOUSAND IN SAN JOSE AND NEARLY 325 THOUSAND IN SAN FRANCICSO.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE BOTTOM 20 PERCENT EARNED ALMOST 19 THOUSAND IN OAKLAND, 26 THOUSAND IN SAN FRANCISCO AND 35 THOUSAND IN SAN JOSE.

FIVE YEARS LATER, THE RICH ARE RICHER IN SAN FRANCISCO AND SAN JOSE. AND THE POOR ARE POORER IN ALL THREE CITIES. THE CHANGE IS PARTICULARLY DRAMATIC IN SAN FRANCISCO WHERE THE TOP FIVE PERCENT SAW THEIR INCOME GO UP AN AVERAGE OF NEARLY 28 THOUSAND DOLLARS, WHILE THE BOTTOM 20 PERCENT'S DROPPED BY MORE THAN 4 THOUSAND.

AMONG ALL U.S. CITIES, SAN FRANCISCO RANKS NUMBER TWO BEHIND ATLANTA AS HAVING THE BIGGEST RICH-POOR GAP. MIAMI, BOSTON AND WASHINGTON, D.C. ROUND OUT THE TOP FIVE.

ECONOMY

3/11/14 KRON 4 Evening News Gas prices on the rise again

GAS PRICES ARE RISING ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, ESPECIALLY HERE IN THE BAY AREA. U.S. DRIVERS ARE PAYING NEARLY 10 CENTS MORE PER GALLON AT THE PUMP THAN THEY DID TWO WEEKS AGO. THE NATIONAL AVERAGE RIGHT NOW IS SITTING AT \$3.49 WHILE IN CALIFORNIA, THE STATE AVERAGE IS AT \$3.92. THAT'S UP 26 CENTS FROM LAST MONTH.

HERE IN THE BAY AREA, SAN FRANCISCO AVERAGES \$3.97 WITH SAN JOSE AT \$3.90 AND ACROSS THE BAY IN OAKLAND, \$3.87.

TRIPLE A SAYS PRICES COULD GO EVEN HIGHER BECAUSE OF SEASON REFINERY MAINTENANCE AND THE REQUIRED SWITCH OVER TO A SUMMER BLEND OF GASOLINE.

ALSO DEVELOPMENTS, SUCH AS THE TENSION WITH RUSSIA, COULD ALSO CAUSE PRICES TO SHOOT UP. EXPERTS SAY WORRIES ABOUT UKRAINE CONTRIBUTED TO THE JUMP IN THE COST OF GAS. UKRAINE IS A BIG CORN EXPORTER, AND THAT HAS INCREASED WORRIES ABOUT ETHANOL SUPPLY.

WITH GAS PRICES ON THE RISE, KRON 4 HAS AN EASY WAY HERE ON OUR WEBSITE TO HELP YOU FIND THE CHEAPEST GAS AROUND.

IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER, CLICK ON THIS GAS PRICES LINK. YOU'LL SEE AN INTERACTIVE MAP. DARKEST REDS INDICATE THE MOST EXPENSIVE GAS. YOU CAN ZOOM IN AND CLICK ON A PRICE YOU LIKE. WE'LL TELL YOU WHERE THAT FUEL IS BEING SOLD.

WE ALSO LIST THE CHEAPEST GAS SPOTS IN SAN FRANCICO AND THE PENINSULA, OAKLAND AND THE EAST BAY, AS WELL AS SAN JOSE AND THE PENINSULA.

IT'S A GREAT RESOURCE. CHECK IT OUT ON KRON4.COM.

ECONOMY

3/18/14 KRON 4 News at 11pm Minimum wage debate in Richmond

INCOME INEQUALITY AND THE DEBATE OVER THE MINIMUM WAGE ARE CONTROVIERSIES GETTING ATTENTION TONIGHT IN THE BAY AREA. THE CITY OF RICHMOND IS DEBATING THREE PROPOSALS WHICH COULD MAKE RICHMOND HAVE THE HIGHEST MUNICIPAL MINIMUM WAGE IN THE STATE AND TONIGHT THE PUBLIC SPOKE OUT. KRON 4'S JEFF BUSH IS LIVE OUTSIDE RICHMOND CITY HALL. JEFF, HAS THE COUNCIL VOTED?

PAM, THE COUNCIL HAS JUST FINISHED VOTING. THEY WERE SCHEDULED TO VOTE ON WHICH OPTION TO SEND TO THE VOTERS FOR APPROVAL AT THE BALLOT BOX IN NOVEMBER, BUT IN A SURPRISE CHANGE OF EVENTS THE COUNCIL DECIDED TO TAKE IT UPON THEMSELVES AND JUST VOTED SIX TO ONE TO RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE IN RICHMOND TO \$12.30 AN HOUR.

WHILE IT SEEMED THERE WAS OVERWHELMING SUPPORT IN THE CHAMBER FOR RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE, THERE WERE SEVERAL SPEAKERS OPPOSED, AT LEAST TO THE COUNCIL'S DECISION TO MOVE ON WITH THE ISSUE INSTEAD OF LETTING THE PEOPLE DECIDE.

Resident: "Arguments will be made that San Francisco and other cities have higher minimum wages. But if you look at San Francisco, they have a captive audience when it comes to shoppers. It would be ludicrous to think they would cross the Golden Gate or Bay Bridges to get a cheaper bucket of chicken. But all the people in Richmond have to do is head to San Pablo or El Cerrito or Pinole to get our goods for a lot less money."

Resident: "You know if you earn \$8 or \$9 dollars an hour that's maybe \$1100 take home after taxes. How can you survive on that a month? To pay rent, food, transportation, utilities is really a struggle. I also think we want to send a message to new businesses coming to Richmond that yes, we welcome new businesses, but we want them to bring good jobs that pay a decent wage. We'd really like them to pay a living wage."

Resident: "If we could do this on a state basis or a national basis, I would say immediately let's push the minimum wage up on a national basis to what it should be – \$17 or \$20 an hour. But we are stuck, though, in a regional economy, so we have to make concessions."

ONCE AGAIN, THE RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL HAS VOTED TO RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE TO \$12.30 AN HOUR. BUT THAT MINIMUM WAGE WOULD ONLY APPLY TO THOSE EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE TEN EMPLOYEES OR MORE.

JEFF BUSH KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

DIVERSITY

1/8/14 KRON 4 News at 8p
Transgender high school student faces battery charges

THE TRANSGENDER STUDENT INVOLVED IN THIS FIGHT AT HERCULES HIGH SCHOOL TWO MONTHS AGO IS NOW FACING A CHARGE OF BATTERY. KRON 4'S J.R. STONE IS FOLLOWING THE STORY AND SPOKE EXCLUSIVELY WITH THE STUDENT THIS AFTERNOON:

JEWLYES GUTIERREZ IS A TRANSGENDER STUDENT WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THIS FIGHT AT HERCULES HIGH SCHOOL. GUTIERREZ IS IN THE WHITE DRESS AND WAS FIRST TO SLAP A GIRL, BUT SAYS IT CAME AFTER MONTHS IF NOT YEARS OF BEING PICKED ON. AFTER THE SLAP, SEVERAL GIRLS BEGAN ATTACKING JEWLYES.

Jewlyes Gutierrez: "I had all these emotions building up already and I didn't have anyone to talk to."

EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THE FIGHT WAS SUSPENDED INCLUDING GUTIERREZ. JEWLES IS NOW BACK AT SCHOOL, BUT IS ALSO THE ONLY ONE KNOWN TO BE FACING CHARGES.

Gutierrez: "Hearing that I'm charged with a crime is shocking."

IN FACT THE FAMILY DIDN'T KNOW WHERE TO GO, SO THEY ARE NOW PETITIONING THAT CHARGES BE DROPPED AGAINST JEWLYES, A HIGH SCHOOL SOPHMORE. GUTIERREZ SAYS THAT THINGS HAVE GOTTEN BETTER AT SCHOOL SINCE THE DAYS LEADING UP TO THE FIGHT. BUT SAYS THEY ARE STILL NOT THERE.

Gutierrez: "I was picked on and I still get dogged on. Going to school I get mugged and I'm like okay, well..."

I ASKED JEWLYES ABOUT BEING VIOLENT.

Gutierrez: "No, I'm not a violent person. Just tired. I feel like they did more damage than what I did."

THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COULD NOT SPEAK ABOUT THE CASE BECAUSE IT IS A JUVENILE CASE. AS FOR THE PETITION THAT JEWLYES'S SISTER STARTED, YOU CAN FIND THAT ON MY FACEBOOK PAGE – KRON 4 J.R. STONE.

DIVERSITY

1/21/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Swastika fliers posted in Oakland

A CITY COUNCILWOMAN TARGETED IN OAKLAND. SOMEONE PUT UP FLIERS SHOWING A SWASTIKA ON LIBBY SCHAAF'S FOREHEAD. SHE REPRESENTS OAKLAND'S MONTCLAIR DISTRICT. KRON4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN SHOWS US WHAT ELSE WAS WRITTEN ON THOSE FLIERS WHICH MAY GIVE A CLUE INTO WHY THIS HAPPENED:

Councilwoman Libby Schaaf: "I have Jewish heritage in my family and that's why this is particularly painful for me."

FLIERS BEARING THE IMAGE OF OAKLAND CITY COUNCILMEMBER AND MAYORAL CANDIDATE LIBBY SCHAAF WITH A NAZI SWASITKA PLASTERED ON HER FOREHEAD WERE POSTED UP BY SOMEONE OVER THE WEEKEND ALONG MOUNTAIN BOULEVARD IN THE CITY'S MONCLAIR DISTRICT.

Schaaf: "As a public official, I'm accustomed to passionate opinions and criticism, but it was painful to see these papered where so many people go to enjoy the farmers market, to shop in Montclair Village and patronize that wonderful commercial area. And it's also of course a place where I bring my children and my family."

SO FAR, NO ONE HAS COME FORWARD TO TAKE CREDIT FOR THE FLIERS. HOWEVER, A CLUE CAN FOUND HERE BELOW THE PHOTO WHERE THE POSTER READS STOP THE D-A-C, WHICH STANDS FOR DOMESTIC AWARENESS CENTER. THE DAC IS A FEDERAL GRANT-FUNDED AND HIGHLY CONTROVERSIAL SUPER SURVEILLANCE NETWORK, A PROJECT THAT CONTINUES TO MOVE THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS IN OAKLAND WITH MAJORITY APPROVALS BY SCHAAF AND HER FELLOW CITY COUNCILMEMBERS.

Schaaf: "My impression is that this was a personal attack. While it was tied to an issue, the portrayal of my position on that issue wasn't even accurate. One thing that I have said is that I will not support it unless I am satisfied that our citizens' privacy is protected."

IN THE MEANTIME, OFFICIALS AT OPD TELL ME THEY ARE INVESTIGATING THE POSTING OF THE FLIERS AS HATE CRIME.

IN OAKLAND HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

DIVERSITY

2/6/14 KRON 4 Evening News Racial stereotyping in school menu

THE PRESIDENT HERE AT CARONDELET HIGH SCHOOL IS APOLOGIZING TO PARENTS, STUDENTS, AND FACULTRY FOR WHAT SHE CALLS A RACIALLY INSENSITIVE MENU PLAN FOR AN UPCOMING BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION.

Sister Ann Bernard: "Fried chicken, cornbread, and watermelon."

THOSE THREE FOOD ITEMS HAVE CAUSED A MAJOR CONTROVERSY HERE ON THE CAMPUS OF CAONDELET HIGH SCHOOL, A PRIVATE, ALL-GIRLS CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN CONCORD.

Bernard: "That announcement described a menu that was racially insensitive."

THE SCHOOL'S INTERIM PRESIDENT, SISTER ANN BERNARD, SAYS THE MENU WAS RECENTLY ANNOUCED OVER THE SCHOOL'S P.A. SYSTEM AS PART OF AN UPCOMING BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENT INITIATED BY THE BLACK STUDENT UNION, WHICH IS ALSO COMPRISED OF STUDENTS RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET AT DE LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL.

Bernard: "Their first thought was they wanted to do something with food. They were talking with their moderator, our activity moderator was also involved. They went to the kitchen crew and the next thing we knew there was an announcement made, before it went through all the channels."

SOME STUDENTS SAY THE INCIDENT IS JUST A BIG MISUNDERSTANDING.

Student: "No one had the intention of coming off as racist. It was an embarrassing mistake."

Student: "I agree. Our school doesn't try to perpetrate any segregated views."

ACCORDING TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS, AFRICAN AMERICANS MAKE UP ONLY 2% OF THE 802 STUDENTS HERE AT CARONDALET. PRINCIPAL BERNARD SAYS THE INCIDENT SHOWS THE NEED TO EDUCATE THE TOTAL STUDENT BODY ABOUT SOME OF THE OLD STEREOTYPES REGARDING AFRICAN AMERICANS.

Bernard: "There is education needed on every single level. We are addressing this communications breakdown and using this incident to raise our awareness of cultural diversity so that such incidences never again occur here at Carondelet."

IN CONCORD HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

2/6/14 KRON 4 News at 11pm Update on hate crime incident at San Jose State

THREE DAYS AGO, AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION REVEALED SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY DID MANY THINGS CORRECTLY IN ITS HANDLING OF INCIDENTS WHERE FOUR WHITE STUDENTS ALLEGEDLY TORMENTED A BLACK STUDENT. NOW, THE SCHOOL BEGINS THE ARDUOUS TASK OF CHANGING CAMPUS CULTURE SO INCIDENTS LIKE THIS DON'T HAPPEN IN THE FIRST PLACE. TONIGHT A PUBLIC MEETING WAS HELD ON CAMPUS AND IT WAS MIXED WITH ANGER, CONFUSION AND HOPE.

Judge Ladoris Cordell: "It's a about a student who had this idea they were going to call this other student 'Three Fifths' and then that morphed into 'Fraction' and this student knew what Three Fifths meant because the student explained it to the fact finder."

RETIRED JUDGE LADORIS CORDELL LEADS THE TASK FORCE COMPRISED OF 18 MEMBERS WHO ARE STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF AT SAN JOSE STATE. THE JUDGE SAYS THE ABUSE OF A BLACK STUDENT BY HIS WHITE SUITEMATES WAS THE PERFECT STORM OF IGNORANCE, YOUTH AND A LACK OF SUPERVISION AMONGST THE DORMATORY STAFF AT THE UNIVERSITY.

Judge Cordell: "So we get this whole issue now about students who were, one, actively involved and didn't apparently have a problem with it; and, two, others who were told by the victim this is happening to me but I don't want you to say anything."

THE WHITE STUDENTS STOLE THE BLACK STUDENT'S SHOES, PUT A U-SHAPED LOCK AROUND HIS NECK AND DISPLAYED A CONFEDERATE FLAG OPENLY IN THE COMMON SPACE OF THE SUITE.

Task force member: "That flag is used as a symbol of intimidation. It's used to threaten people. And nobody said "Wait a second. We need to look at everything that's going on. We need to stop."

GARY DANIELS IS A STUDENT AT SAN JOSE STATE AND SAYS A LOT NEEDS TO BE DONE TO IMPROVE RACE RELATIONS ON CAMPUS.

Gary Daniels: "I would like to see the African American Studies department and the Mexican American Studies department strengthened. I would like to see resource centers specifically targeting the retention and graduation rates of African American and Latino American students."

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 21ST AND THE TOPIC WILL BE WHAT CAN BE DONE TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE ON CAMPUS.

JEFF BUSH KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

2/12/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Same-sex marriage: then and now

AN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION TODAY AT SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL. MAYOR ED LEE AND FORMER MAYOR GAVIN NEWSOM JOINED A NUMBER OF SAME SEX COUPLES WHO WERE THE FIRST TO TIE THE KNOT IN SAN FRANCISCO IN 2004..

IN FACT, IT WAS 10 YEARS AGO TODAY THAT THEN-MAYOR NEWSOM ORDERED THE COUNTY CLERK TO BEGIN ISSUING MARRIAGE LICENSES TO SAME-SEX COUPLES. PEOPLE LINED UP IN THE POURING RAIN TO MAKE THEIR RELATIONSHIP LEGAL, AND BEFORE A COURT PUT A HALT TO THE MARRIAGES A MONTH LATER, SOME FOUR THOUSAND COUPLES FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY TIED THE KNOT IN SAN FRANCISCO.

John Lewis, one of first to marry in 2004: "When we heard these words ring out in this grand City Hall building. "By virtue of the authority vested in me by the State of California, I pronounce you spouses for life", we felt transformed. We felt for the first time in our lives we were being treated by our government as equal human beings. That moment changed everything for us."

THOSE MARRIAGES WERE EVENTUALLY DECLARED ILLEGAL, BUT MANY CREDIT NEWSOM WITH PAVING THE WAY FOR WHAT IS NOW LEGAL SAME SEX MARRIAGE IN 17 STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN SITS DOWN WITH NOW LT. GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM TO GET HIS THOUGHTS ON THIS ANNIVERSARY.

Then-President George Bush: "Our nation must defend the sanctity of marriage." WHEN THEN-PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH CALLED FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROTECT TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE IN HIS 2004 STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS,... THEN-SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR GAVIN NEWSOM WAS SEATED IN THE AUDIENCE LISTENING. DAYS LATER, PLANS WERE IN THE WORKS TO ALLOW SAME SEX COUPLES TO MARRY.

Lt. Governor Newsom: "We wanted to put a human face on the issue, and rather than just filing a legal brief with a lot of legalese that doesn't really materialize or manifest telling a story, we asked Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin who at the time had been together 50 years."

PHYLLIS LYON AND DEL MARTIN WERE MARRIED JUST BEFORE 9AM AND NEWSOM THOUGHT THE COURTS WOULD STOP IT IMMEDIATELY. BUT THEY DIDN'T.

Newsom: "There was this huge line and people had literally traveled overnight, not sleeping, joyfully sitting out in the rain, and we knew something big was happening."

FOUR THOUSAND COUPLES TIED THE KNOT IN THE NEXT MONTH. THE MARRIAGES WERE DECLARED ILLEGAL, BUT MANY CREDIT NEWSOM WITH TAKING THE LEAD, AND GETTING SAME SEX MARRIAGE WHERE IT IS TODAY.

Newsom: "I think if we did anything, we put a human face on it and we forced the conversation in people's living rooms, not just in the State of California and across the country, but around the world."

NEWSOM GIVES CREDIT TO THE COUPLES THEMSELVES.

Newsom: "Had they all not shown up; had they not been willing to put themselves out in an act of civil disobedience; if they hadn't been willing to sign a marriage license that they knew with 99.9% certainly was going to be invalidated and still stand on principle and be there, we never would be where we are today."

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

TEN YEARS LATER, A BAY AREA SAME SEX COUPLE TIED THE KNOT LIVE AT THE GRAMMY'S. ON THEIR BIG DAY, THEY WERE PART OF A BIG MOMENT IN HISTORY WITH 33 SAME-SEX AND INTER-RACIAL COUPLES WHO GOT MARRIED DURING THE GRAMMY AWARDS SHOW. KRON 4'S JUSTINE WALDMAN INTRODUCES US TO THE NEWLYWEDS.

QUEEN LATIFAH AS YOUR OFFICIANT AND MADONNA SINGING AT YOUR WEDDING, ALONG WITH RYAN LEWIS AND MACKLEMEORE. AND SAYING "I DO" IN FRONT OF HUNDREDS OF COMPLETE STRANGERS.

Kevin: "We were all celebrating the same thing which is love and marriage equality."

IT WAS A WEDDING LIKE NO OTHER FOR KEVIN MASEK AND BRANDON STYLES.

Brandon: "I just completely lost it. I don't think I've ever cried so hard in my life."

ENJOYING THEIR HONEYMOON IN GUERNEVILLE, THEY REMEMBER THEIR BIG DAY BY FLIPPING THROUGH THEIR WEDDING PHOTOS – FEATURED IN NATIONAL MAGAZINES.

Kevin: "This was in People."

THE COUPLE, FROM SANTA CLARA, GOT PICKED TO GET MARRIED AT THE GRAMMY'S WITH 33 OTHER COUPLES BECAUSE THEIR FRIEND WORKS AS A CASTING AGENT. THEY WERE SWORN TO SECRECY ABOUT THE LIVE WEDDING, NOT ALLOWED TO TELL THEIR FAMILIES UNTIL A FEW DAYS BEFORE.

Kevin: "I feel very privileged and fortunate to have been part of it."

THE NEWLYWEDS CANNOT BELIEVE THAT IT HAPPENED AND THAT THEY CELEBRATED WITH SO MANY CELEBRITIES.

Brandon: "I saw Jennifer Lawrence crying hysterically, and Kevin got to high five Doogie Howser, Neil Patrick Harris."

EVEN WITH A HUGE AUDIENCE, SURROUNDED BY STARS, LIGHTS AND CAMERAS, THEY SAY THE MOMENT THEY SAID "I DO" FELT INTIMATE AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THEIR SAME-SEX WEDDING, STANDING NEXT TO OTHER COUPLES ONCE ALSO DENIED THE RIGHT TO LEGALLY GET MARRIED WAS NOT LOST ON THEM.

Brandon: "It was unforgettable. It was crazy and awesome and the memory of a lifetime."

DIVERSITY

2/14/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Woman alleges gender discrimination in CHP lawsuit

CHP DASH CAM VIDEO CAPTURES A BAY AREA TRAFFIC STOP AND NOW THE OFFICER IS BEING SUED BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED. THE PASSENGER IN THAT CAR SAYS THE CHP OFFICER USED EXCESSIVE FORCE. SHE ALLEGES THE OFFICER "VIOLENTLY FORCED HER TO THE GROUND." KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN HAS MORE ON HER FEDERAL LAWSUIT:

IT WAS BACK IN OCTOBER WHEN JENNIFER DONOVAN ALLEGES SHE AND HER PARTNER DONNA WERE PULLED OVER NEAR GUERNEVILLE BY CHP OFFICER J.A. PHILLIPS BECAUSE ONE OF THEIR HEADLIGHTS WAS OUT. DONOVAN'S ATTORNEY PROVIDED US WITH THIS CHP DASHCAM VIDEO.

JENNIFER'S PARTNER WAS DRIVING. AFTER 14 MINUTES OF FIELD SOBRIETY TESTS, DONNA IS ASKED TO TAKE A BREATHALYZER. SHE AT FIRST REFUSES AND THEN CALLS TO HER PARTNER JENNIFER WHO IS STILL IN THE VEHICLE. THIS VIDEO SHOWS WHAT TRANSPIRES NEXT:

[VIDEO]

JENNIFER DONOVAN SUFFERED A TORN ROTATOR CUFF AND EVENTUALLY LOST HER JOB AS A STATE PARKS RANGER. NOW SHE'S SUING THE OFFICER FOR EXCESSIVE FORCE.

John Scott, attorney: "Simply because you may have probable cause or a legitimate reason to arrest or detain a person does not give you carte blanche license to rough up somebody and physically injure a person."

DONOVAN'S ATTORNEY JOHN SCOTT SAYS THE VIDEO SHOWS DONOVAN WAS IN NO WAY THREATENING THE OFFICER AND HIS SAFETY.. AND SCOTT SAYS THE OFFICER ESCALATED THE SITUATION INSTEAD OF CHOOSING TWO MORE OBVIOUS OPTIONS.

Scott: "For instance, 'I'm going to ask you one more time, get in the car. If you don't enter the car, I'm going to arrest you.' That was one option. Option #2 is to simply say 'You're under arrest. Turn around and put your hands behind your back."

JENNIFER DONOVAN ENDED UP BEING ARRESTED FOR DISOBEYING AN OFFICER'S COMMAND AND BEING DRUNK IN PUBLIC. SCOTT SAYS BOTH CHARGES ENDED UP BEING DISMISSED AND IN THIS LAWSUIT DONOVAN ALSO CHARGES THE OFFICER WITH A BAD FAITH ARREST AND GENDER DISCRIMINATION.

Scott: "If my client had been a male, off-duty police officer this situation would have been handled very differently."

WE CONTACTED THE CHP FOR A RESPONSE. THEY SAY THEY DO NOT COMMENT ON PENDING LITIGATION.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

2/14/14 kron 4 News at 8pm Bullying in the NFL

IT'S OFFICIAL: MIAMI DOLPHINS GUARD RICHIE INCOGNITO HAS A NEW TITLE. A REPORT COMMISSIONED BY THE NFL CONCLUDES THAT HIS TREATMENT OF TEAMMATE JONATHAN MARTIN WAS THE ACT OF A BULLY AND THAT MARTIN, A STANFORD ALUM, WAS NOT THE ONLY VICTIM.

THE NFL OPENED THE INVESTIGATION AFTER MARTIN ABRUPTLY LEFT THE TEAM LAST OCTOBER AND SOUGHT MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT. MARTIN TOLD INVESTIGATORS HE "BOILED OVER" AFTER ENDURING "RACIALLY DEROGATORY LANGUAGE" FROM INCOGNITO AND OTHERS.

THE 144 PAGE REPORT INCLUDES NUMEROUS EXAMPLES OF VERBAL ABUSE OF MARTIN AND SEXUAL JOKES ABOUT MARTIN'S SISTER. IT SAYS INCOGNITO WAS THE RINGLEADER OF A GROUP OF TEAMMATES WHO ENGAGED IN A CLEAR PATTERN OF HARASSMENT AGAINST MARTIN AND ANOTHER PLAYER ,AS WELL AS A TRAINER. THEIR ACTIONS ARE DESCRIBED AS A CLASSIC CASE OF BULLYING.

BUT THE REPORT ALSO SAYS THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT INCOGNITO INTENDED TO DRIVE MARTIN OFF THE TEAM. IN FACT IT DESCRIBES THE TWO MEN AS HAVING AN "ODD BUT SEEMINGLY CLOSE" RELATIONSHIP. AT ANOTHER POINT, IT TALKS ABOUT THEIR "UNUSUAL, 'BIPOLAR' FRIENDSHIP."

THAT WOULD SEEM TO BE BORNE OUT BY INCOGNITO'S TWITTER MESSAGES THIS WEEK. ONE TWEET COMPLAINS ABOUT BEING DRAGGED THROUGH THE MUD BY HIS (QUOTE) "BEST FRIEND" WHILE ANOTHER THREATENS TO BURY MARTIN.

INCOGNITO'S LAWYER CONDEMNED THE REPORT, SAYING IT IS FULL OF ERRORS. THE NFL PLAYERS ASSOCIATION SAYS IT WILL COMMENT AFTER STUDYING THE REPORT. JONATHAN MARTIN'S ATTORNEY SAYS HIS CLIENT FEELS VINDICATED BY THE REPORTS FINDINGS.

GOVERNMENT

1/1/14 KRON 4 Evening News A roundup of new laws for the new year

NEW YEAR, NEW LAWS. HERE IN CALIFORNIA AND ACROSS THE COUNTRY, A WIDE RANGE OF BOTH STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS WENT INTO EFFECT AT MIDNIGHT.

IN 2013, CALIFORNIA LEGISLATORS PASSED MORE THAN 800 NEW LAWS AND SOME OF THEM COULD AFFECT YOU. THE ONE GETTING THE MOST ATTENTION IS THE MINIMUM WAGE. IT'S GOING UP IMMEDIATELY IN SAN JOSE AND SAN FRANCISCO, AND IN THE REST OF THE STATE IN JULY.

OTHER WORKERS WILL SEE THEIR BENEFITS AND RIGHTS EXPANCE. HOUSEKEEPERS, MAIDS AND DOMESTIC EMPLOYEES MUST GET TIME AND A HALF IF THEY WORK MORE THAN NINE HOURS IN A DAY OR MORE THAN 45 HOURS IN A WEEK.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WILL GET MORE PROTECTION. EMPLOYERS CAN BE ARRESTED FOR TRYING TO EXTORT MONEY BY THREATENING TO REPORT THEM. AND DRIVERS COULD BE FINED FOR COMING WITHIN THREE FEET OF BICYCLISTS, EVEN IF THERE IS NO ACCIDENT.

TEENAGERS CAN'T USE HANDS-FREE DEVICES TO TEXT WHILE DRIVING AND TRANSGENDER STUDENTS WILL NOW BE ABLE TO CHOOSE WHICH BATHROOM TO USE AT SCHOOLS, AS WELL AS WHETHER TO PLAY ON BOYS' OR GIRLS' TEAMS.

THAT'S A LAW YOU WILL SEE ONLY IN CALIFORNIA. AND SO IS THIS ONE. JUDGES ARE NOW ALLOWED TO DECLARE THAT A CHILD HAS MORE THAN TWO LEGAL PARETNS.

IT'S NOW A CRIME FOR PAPARAZZI TO PHOTOGRAPH OR HARASS THE CHILDREN OF CELEBRITIES, JUDGES AND POLICE OFFICERS. AND FINALLY, LIMOUSINE SAFETY LAWS ARE TIGHTER. OPERATORS HAVE TWO YEARS TO INSTALL EMERGENCY EXITS ON ANY LIMOUSINE THAT HAS BEEN EXTEND TO ACCOMMODATE EXTRA PASSENGERS. THAT BILL WAS INTRODUCED AFTER LAST MAY'S FIRE ON THE SAN MATEO BRIDGE THAT KILLED FIVE CALIFORNIA NURSES.

HOMELESS CHILDREN ARE NOW ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD STAMPS. IN THE PAST, THERE WAS A MINIMUM WAGE REQUIREMENT.

ANOTHER FIRST FROM CALIFORNIA. THE STATE WILL REQUIRE WEBSITES THAT COLLECT PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR USERS TO REVEAL HOW THEY DO IT. THE SITES WILL ALSO HAVE TO DISCLOSE HOW THEY RESPOND TO "DO NOT TRACK" REQUESTS AND WHETHER THIRD PARTIES CAN COLLECT PERSONAL INFORMATION FROM THEM.

AND HERE'S A LOOK AT A FEW OF THE NEW LAWS ENACTED IN OTHER STATES.

MANY PEOPLE HAVE DRONE PRIVACY CONCERNS HERE IN THE BAY AREA. IN ILLINOIS, DRONES ARE NOW BANNED IF THEY'RE BEING USED TO SPY ON HUNTERS OR FISHERMEN. THIS IS AFTER PETA, THE ANIMAAL RIGHTS GORUP, SAID IT WANTED TO SUE DRONES TO SPY ON PEOPLE.

IN OREGON, EMPLOYERS ARE NO LONGER ALLOWED TO REQUIRE A JOB APPLICANT TO PROVIDE THE PASSOWRDS TO THEIR SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS.

AND THE ONE THAT HAS SOME PEOPLE PLANNING ROAD TRIPS TO COLORADO, IT'S NOW LEGAL TO SELL MARIJUANA FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES IN COLORADO. LONG LINES AND INVENTORY SHORTAGES ARE EXPECTED THERE TODAY.

NEW MOMS IN OREGON CAN NOW DO THIS. AFTER GIVING BIRTH, NOT ONLY CAN THEY TAKE THEIR BABIES HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL, THEY CAN TAKE HOME THEIR PLACENTAS, TOO. IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHY DO THAT IN THE FIRST PLACE, SOME EXPERTS THINK EATING THE PLACENTA HAS POSITIVE HEALTH BENEFITS.

AND THAT CUTE PUPPY YOU GOT FOR CHRISTMAS? YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP IT, IF IT'S SICK – IF YOU LIVE IN ILLINOIS. ILLINOIS'S NEW PET LEMON LAW ALLOWS PEOPLE TO RETURN A FOUR-LEGGED FRIEND IF AN ILLNESS WAS NOT DISCLOSED BY THE SELLER. YES, THERE IS NOW A LEMON LAW FOR PET PURCHASES.

GOVERNMENT

1/9/14

Governor Brown unveils his budget

Press conference reporter: "Governor, given these large surpluses, in retrospect was Prop 30 really....

Governor Brown: "Wait. I just want you to look at that, look how little that is. That says it all."

GOVERNOR BROWN SAYS THE SURPLUS THIS YEAR IS DWARFED BY THE HUGE DEFICITS BEFORE HE TOOK OFFICE. HE WANTS TO PUT ASIDE 1.6 BILLION DOLLARS FOR THE LEAN YEARS HE SAYS INEVITABLY FOLLOW THE GOOD ONES.

EDUCATION IS A PRIORITY IN HIS BUDGET. FOR K-12 SCHOOLS, SPENDING PER STUDENT WOULD GO UP BY ABOUT ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS. DISTRICTS WOULD ALSO BE COMPENSATED FOR THE PAYMENTS DEFERRED BECAUSE OF PREVIOUS BUDGET SHORTFALLS.

THE UC SYSTEM WOULD GET 1.6% MORE IN FUNDING AND CAL STATE WOULD GET MORE THAN A 4% INCREASE. CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES WOULD SEE A 4.5% INCREASE AND STUDENT AID NEARLY 13%. THE GOVERNOR SAYS THE MONEY SHOULD PREVENT ANY FURTHER TUITION HIKES.

GOVERNOR BROWN SAYS SCHOOLS CAN SAVE MONEY BY MAKING SURE MORE OF THEIR STUDENTS GRADUATE ON TIME.

Governor Brown: "It used to be four years and free. Now it's six years and expensive."

GOVERNMENT

2/14/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Federal government weighs in on California drought

PRESIDENT OBAMA IS IN CALIFORNIA TODAY. HIS FIRST STOP FRIDAY AFTERNOON WAS IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY WHERE HE TALKED ABOUT THE ONGOING DROUGHT EMERGENCY AND WHAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO DO TO HELP. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD HAS DETAILS:

AFTER MEETING WITH CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN AND A HOST OF STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS, PRESIDENT OBAMA ANNOUNCED THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN RELIEF MONEY TO FARMERS, RANCHERS AND COMMUNITIES HIT HARD BY THE ONGOING DROUGHT.

President Obama: "California's our biggest economy. California is our biggest agricultural producer. So what happens here matters to every American, right down to the food you put on your table."

AS PART OF THE LIVESTOCK DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAMS INCLUDED IN THE RECENTLY PASSED 2014 FEDERAL FARM BILL, ELIGIBLE CALIFORNIANS COULD RECEIVE UP TO 150 MILLION DOLLARS IN FEDERAL FUNDS TO COVER THE COST OF LIVESTOCK LOST AS A RESULT OF THE ONGOING DROUGHT. THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PLANS TO START SIGNING PEOPLE UP FOR THE PROGRAM BY APRIL.

FIVE MILLION ADDITIONAL DOLLARS WILL BE USED TO HELP CALIFORNIA FARMERS AND RANCHERS REDUCE SOIL EROSION AND DEVELOP BETTER WATER CONVERSATION PRACTICES. SIXTY MILLION DOLLRS WILL BE USED TO BOLSTER FOOD BANKS IN COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE BEEN HIT HARD BY THE DROUGHT. FIVE MILLION WILL GO TOWARD PROTECTING WATERSHEDS AND THREE MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF GRANTS WILL BE SET ASIDE FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES WHERE WATER QUALITY HAS BEEN IMPACTED BY THE DRY CONDITIONS.

THE PRESIDENT SAID TODAY THAT HE HOPES THESE PROGAMS WILL HELP CALIFORNIA'S FARMERS AND RANCHERS GET BACK ON THEIR FEET.

President Obama: "Your government is going to be there for you when you need it this year. But, in the years to come, we are all going to have to work together to protect this land and protect it for our children and grandchildren."

CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

3/18/14 KRON 4 Morning News New app to fight parking tickets

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE RECEIVED A PARKING TICKET UNFAIRLY, IT CAN BE AN ENORMOUS HEADACHE TO DISPUTE THE TICKET. KRON 4'S TECH REPORTER GABE SLATE SHOWS US A NEW, HANDY MOBILE APP THAT WILL FIGHT PARKING TICKETS FOR YOU:

IF YOU'VE EVER TRIED TO FIGHT A PARKING TICKET YOU THOUGHT WAS UNFAIR, YOU KNOW HOW MASSIVE A CHORE THAT IS. WELL, TECHNOLOGY TO THE RESCUE. I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU A NEW APP THAT HELPS YOU FIGHT PARKING TICKETS.

IT'S CALLED FIXED. IT'S BRILLIANT. IT CAN HELP YOU SAVE MONEY. CHECK IT OUT:

David Hegarty, creator of the Fixed app: "I came back to my car one day. I'd already paid four parking tickets in the morning and I came back and found another two. At that point I lost it. Those two were very questionable. So I learned how to contest parking tickets and I actually won those two tickets. Friends asked how I did it and suggested I turn it into an app. People think it's the best iPhone app they've ever heard of.

"There is not one big book at City Hall that says these are the parking regulations. Regulations get written over many different sessions of government. Some are at a city level, some at a state level. When you have that many iterations, that's when you tend to have errors and contradictions. So parking regulations are far from black and white; there's lots of gray area.

"The way the app works, if you come back to your car and find a ticket, you take out our app and take a photo of the ticket. We read the citation type and tell you your chances of beating that ticket. Our data base will tell you the most common types of error associated with your type of ticket. You determine which error applies to you and the app will prompt you to take a supporting photograph and then we take care of the rest. Our paralegal compiles the evidence and writes a contest letter for you on your behalf.

"The app is free to download. It's free to contest your ticket. If you win, we charge 25% of what you would have had to pay if you had not contested the ticket. There's nothing to lose by using the app. At this point, we do have a wait list, but we're working through it. So the sooner you get the app, the sooner we can help."

GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

GOVERNMENT

3/20/14 & 3/21/14

2 stories on fallout over San Jose's shrinking police department

THE CITY OF SAN JOSE SAYS THE NUMBER OF POLICE OFFICERS ON THE STREET IS FALLING, AND FALLING FAST. HERE'S THE LATEST. RIGHT NOW, THERE ARE 970 STREET-READY OFFICERS, WITH 905 OF THEM ARE READY TO DEPLOY AT ANY TIME.

ACCORDING TO PROJECTIONS, BY JUNE OF 2016 THE DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE 879 STREET-READY OFFICERS. BUT IN REALITY, ONLY ABOUT 800 WILL BE AVAILABLE BECAUSE OF DISABILITY AND MILITARY REASONS.

AT THIS RATE, THE NUMBER OF OFFICERS IN 2016 COULD DWINDLE TO TWO THIRDS OF THE 1400 OFFICERS AVAILABLE IN 2008. THAT'S THE YEAR BUDGET RESTRAINTS FORCED THE CITY TO MAKE BIG CUTS.

TONIGHT, THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS TALKED ABOUT THESE PROJECTIONS WITH PEOPLE IN THE WILLOW GLEN NEIGHBORHOOD. KRON4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL WAS THERE:

Erik Fong, Willow Glen Neighborhood Association: "Willow Glen is just flat out underserved."

WILLOW GLEN RESIDENTS, LIKE ERIK FONG, SAY THEY'VE NOTICED A STARK INCREASE IN CRIME OVER THE YEARS.

Fong: "There's been a lot of car thefts, there's been a lot of break ins and people who would normally feel safe in an area like this, don't feel that way."

IN TODAY'S COMMUNITY MEETING, DOZENS OF CONCERNED NEIGHBORS LISTENED TO POLICE OFFICERS AND FIRE FIGHTERS DESCRIBE THEIR UPHILL BATTLES WITH LOW STAFFING, AND DWINDLING RESOURCES, LEADING TO DRASTICALLY INCREASED RESPONSE TIMES.

James Gonzalez, San Jose Police Officers Association: "Response times to things like domestic violence or attempted rape have gone from an average of 11 minutes to over 20 minutes."

THAT'S CITY-WIDE. AND DURING THAT TIME, JAMES GONZALES, WITH THE SAN JOSE POLICE OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION SAYS ARRESTS ARE DOWN 49 PERCENT.

Gonzales: "We are just like the citizens. We need help."

GONZALES SAYS A COUNCILMAN'S PROPOSED PLAN TO ADD 200 OFFICERS TO THE POLICE FORCES OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS IS UNREALISTIC, UNLESS THERE'S A CHANGE TO MEASURE B, THE VOTER-BACKED INITIATIVE THAT GONZALES SAYS REDUCED BENEFITS FOR NEW HIRES.

Gonzales: "We are no longer competitive with neighboring agencies and that's made a problem with San Jose being able to hire or retain its public safety personnel."

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT SAYS IT TOO IS UNDERSTAFFED.

Jose Guerror, San Jose Fire Department: "If you look at the top 40 departments in the nation, we're number 40."

DESPITE VOTERS APPROVING A BALLOT MEASURE N 2008 TO BUILD A NEW FIRE STATION IN THE WILLOW GLEN AREA, IT HAS NOT BEEN CONSTRUCTED. AND FIRE FIGHTER JOSE GUERRERO SAYS THERE ARE TALKS TO FURTHER REDUCE STAFF. HE TOLD THESE RESIDENTS THAT SOMETHING HAS TO CHANGE, AND CHANGE QUICKLY. BECAUSE RIGHT NOW, HE SAYS RESIDENTS ARE ESSENTIALLY ALREADY RECEIVING THE BARE MINIMUM IN SERVICES.

IN SAN JOSE, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON FOUR NEWS.

SAN JOSE MAY BE THE BAY AREA'S LARGEST CITY, BUT COMPARED TO OTHER LARGE CITIES, ITS POLICE FORCE IS SMALL. WITH ROUGHLY 970 OFFICERS, SAN JOSE'S POLICE FORCE IS ALREADY AMONG THE SMALLEST BIG CITY DEPARTMENTS IN THE COUNTRY. BUT IT MAY GET EVEN SMALLER. AS KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE REPORTS, THERE ARE PROJECTIONS THE CITY COULD LOSE ANOTHER 100 OFFICERS BY 2016.

LIKE THE SIGN SAYS, THE SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT IS HIRING, TRYING TO RECOVER FROM BUDGET CUTS AND LAYOFFS BACK IN 2009. BUT DESPITE THAT, AS MANY AS HALF OF ALL RECENT ACADEMY GRADUATES ARE NOT STAYING, BUT RATHER MOVING ON FOR BETTER PAY AND MORE BENEFITS ELSEWHERE. BASED ON THE DEPARTMENTS OWN PROJECTIONS, BY JUNE OF 2016, THE NUMBER OF COPS LIKE THIS ONE PATROLLING DOWNTOWN AND ELSEWHERE COULD FALL BY AT LEAST 100 AND PERHAPS MORE, ACCOUNTING FOR RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY ISSUES.

JAMES GONZALES, SJ POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION: "San Jose is absolutely on an island. Other cities have been able to negotiate their way to pension cost savings, where San Jose went through a plan that was not competitive and has made San Jose a place where officers are choosing not to work. Because of the policies that this Council has put into place, Measure B particularly, our officers continue to leave for other agencies. Recruits who go through our training process are graduating then leaving for agencies that provide them disability protection like every other officer in the state of California."

SAN JOSE HAS LOST ABOUT 100 MOSTLY YOUNGER OFFICERS TO OTHER, BETTER PAYING JOBS IN EACH OF THE LAST THREE YEARS, BUT CITY HALL DEFENDS ITS EFFORT TO RESTORE OFFICERS' PAY TO 2009 LEVELS WHICH HAS SLOWED THE EXODUS SOME.

David Vossbrink, SJ City Spokesperson: "We haven't seen the impact yet because it's just happened. We're hoping that as officers look at that package and will make their personal decisions about coming to San Jose and staying in San Jose, they will in fact stay here.

MANY COPS BLAME MEASURE B, THE VOTER APPROVED PLAN TO REDUCE PENSIONS FOR A SITUATION THAT CRITICS SAY HAS COMPROMISED PUBLIC SAFETY IN SAN JOSE. BUT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE SAYS THAT HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR FISCAL REFORMS THERE WOULD BE EVEN FEWER COPS ON THE STREET TODAY

CITY HALL INSISTS THAT ITS EFFORTS TO HIRE AND RETAIN MORE COPS MUST BE GIVEN TIME TO WORK AND THAT A LOT CAN CHANGE IN TWO YEARS. BUT IF CURRENT TRENDS CONTINUE THE DEPARTMENT COULD SHRINK EVEN FURTHER TO ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF ITS SIZE BACK IN 2008.

IN SAN JOSE ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

NOW COMPARE THE NUMBER OF OFFICERS IN SAN JOSE TO SAN FRANCISCO. SAN FRANCISCO HAS ABOUT TWO THOUSAND OFFICERS AND A SMALLER POPULATION. THERE ABOUT 825 THOUSAND PEOPLE IN SAN FRANCISCO, COMPARED TO SLIGHTLY UNDER A MILLION IN SAN JOSE. OAKLAND, WITH A POPULATION OF ABOUT 400 THOUSAND, HAS A LITTLE MORE THAN 600 POLICE OFFICERS, ALTHOUGH THE CITY IS NOW HIRING AND WITH NEW POLICE ACADEMIES GRADUATING, OAKLAND OFFICIALS SAY THEY PLAN TO GET THEIR NUMBER TO ABOUT 800.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE SAN JOSE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION IS BLASTING COUNCILMAN AND MAYORAL CANDIDATE SAM LICCARDO FOR HIS PLAN TO RETAIN MORE OFFICERS AND BOLSTER THE POLICE FORCE BY 200 OFFICERS BY 2016. THE UNION SAYS HIS NUMBERS JUST DON'T ADD UP.

BUT LICCARDO SAYS THAT'S WRONG. HE SAYS USING SAVINGS FROM THE PHASED ELIMINATION OF SICK LEAVE PAYMENTS UPON RETIREMENT IS JUST ONE OF A LIST OF WAYS TO SAVE UPWARDS OF 35 MILLION DOLLARS WHICH. HE SAYS, COULD THEN BE USED TO HIRE NEW OFFICERS. HE SAYS PART OF HIS PLAN HAS ALREADY BEEN APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL AND RATIFIED BY THE POLICE UNION, LEADING TO PAY RAISES FOR OFFICERS.

Councilmember Sam Liccardo: "As a result of that funding, we're able to restore pay incrementally over the next two years by 11%, so it's going up every six to twelve months. We are enacting pay increases continually over the next two years to be able to keep police officers on board."

BUT THE UNION ALSO SAYS CHANGES NEED TO BE MADE TO THE VOTER-APPROVED INITIATIVE THAT REDUCES BENEFITS FOR NEW POLICE OFFICERS. LICCARDO SAYS THE CITY DOES NOT HAVE THE MONEY TO DO THAT OR RESTORE CERTAIN BENEFITS. BUT HE SAYS HE PLANS TO ANNOUNCE SOME CLARIFICATIONS ON DISAIBILITY PROTECTIONS FOR OFFICERS WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

GOVERNMENT

3/26/14 Multiple newscasts

Extended coverage and analysis of State Senator corruption case

Excerpts from interviews with political analyst Michael Yaki:

QUESTION: HOW MUCH DOES THIS HURT THE DEOMCRATIC PARTY WITH, NOW, THREE STATE SEANTORS IN TROUBLE WITH THE LAW?

Yaki: I think this hurts a lot. The Democrats took back the House of Representatives in Congress on the theme of the culture of corruption. Now we have three very prominent Democrats in the State Senate all being indicted, all in very big legal trouble, it accentuates the fact that if you're an independent or a Republican, this is a good year to run."

CALIFORNIA SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEM AND DEMOCRATIC LEADER DARRELL STEINBERG TALKED ABOUT THE CHARGES AGAINST YEE:

Steinberg: We recognize that under the law anybody accused of a crime is considered innocent unless and until proven guilty. And yet, this indictment is sickening. I want to, on behalf of my colleagues today, call on Senator Yee to resign. Leave. Don't burden your colleagues and this great institution with your troubles. Leave."

YOU SERVED WITH LELAND YEE ON THE SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, DO YOU THINK HE IS GOING TO LEAVE?

Yaki: These are very serious charges the feds have brought against him. I don't think anyone would have thought of Leland Yee and rocket launchers in the same sentence. This is very serious. He is, of course, innocent until proven guilty, but needs to focus on this. His freedom is at stake. I think he will be withdrawing from the Secretary of State race and I wouldn't be surprised if he resigned from his State Senate position.

CHARGES OF POLITICAL CORRUPTION ARE NOTHING NEW. BUT THE LEVEL OF DRAMA SURROUNDING THIS IS UNUSUAL.GUN RUNNING. LOCAL ORGANIZED CRIME. IT'S A VERY DRAMATIC SCENARIO.

Yaki: True, but the size and scope of this really has nothing to do with Yee except for one incident which involves him with the possible selling of a proclamation for Shrimp Boy Chow's organization. But the fact is that it has stunned the political establishment in San Francisco and has caused ripples in Sacramento and is very bad for the Democrats statewide.

THE BIG STORY IS THE CORRUPTION CHARGES AGAINST STATE SENATOR LELAND YEE. HE IS ACCUSED OF DRUG RUNNING, MONEY LAUNDERING AND A MURDER FOR HIRE SCHEME. POLITICAL ANALYST MICHAEL YAKI SAYS HE'S GONE FROM SHOCK AND AWE TO HORROR AND DISGUST:

Yaki: When you first read about this complaint, you think someone has betrayed the public trust. But what grabbed everyone's attention was that somehow Senator Yee was involved in procuring an arms deal and that was the salacious part of it. But thinking more about it, this goes into revulsion about issues of public trust. There are two sides of this. On the legal side, he is presumed innocent and will have his day in court. But on the political side, there are all these statements in the affidavits taken from wiretaps or body wires and regardless of whether these meet legal standards, the statements taken by themselves, coming from his mouth, are horrifying. They are horrible in terms of betraying public trust on two levels. The first is the idea that you would connect your normal duties that you were elected to do – proclamations, legislation, facilitate meetings for constituents, etc. – to a monetary price tag is abhorrent. You are elected to

represent and help your constituents. To say for me to actually speak to, for example, the Department of Public Health on your behalf will cost you money – that is not how our government is supposed to work. And the second level is that you present yourself as a certain kind of person and a certain kind of elected official, but yet you are doing the exact things you present yourself as being against. He presented himself as an advocate of gun control and as an advocate of transparency in government and yet was apparently part of schemes to bring weapons into this state and engaged in unethical activities in the course of doing his job. That's a betrayal of who you are as a politician and of the groups who stood behind you. And that's the kind of stuff you can't recover from.

On Friday, March 28, the California State Senate suspended Yee and called for his resignation.

ENVIRONMENT

1/1/14 KRON 4 Evening News Styrofoam ban begins in San Jose

THE CITY OF SAN JOSE IS ALREADY TRYING TO MAKE 2014 A GREENER YEAR THAN THE LAST YEAR. ROB FLADEBOE SHOWS HOW:

THIS IS WHAT SAN JOSE AND MANY OTHER CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY ARE TRYING TO DO AWAY WITH, OR AT LEAST KEEP OUT OF THE TRASH.

BEGINNING TODAY, JANUARY 1, 2014, MANY RESTAURANTS WILL NO LONGER BE USING THESE FOAM OR POLYSTYRENE CONTAINERS. THE NEW LAW, PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL LAST SUMMER, MEANS THAT ALL MULTI-RESTAURANT CHAINS WILL NO LONGER BE USING THEM FOR TAKE OUT OR DOGGIE BAGS. OR ANYTHING ELSE FOR THAT MATTER. THE GOAL IS TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT BY KEEPING THE CONTAINERS OUT OF LANDFILLS AND WATERWAYS – MAINLY BECAUSE THEY TAKE A LONG TIME TO BREAK DOWN. NEXT YEAR, SMALLER RESTAURANTS MUST ALSO COMPLY WITH THE BAN.

OTHER BAY AREA CITIES LIKE SAN FRANCISCO AND OAKLAND ALREADY HAVE SIMILAR BANS IN PLACE, BUT SAN JOSE NOW BECOMES THE LARGEST CITY IN CALIFORNIA TO SAY NO TO FOAM CONTAINERS.

IN SAN JOSE ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/3/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm No snow in the Sierra

SOME DISAPPOINTING NEWS COMING FROM THE SIERRA AS THE FIRST SIERRA SNOW SURVEY OF THE SEASON IS CONFIRMING THE FEARS OF STATE WATER MANAGERS. A SNOW SURVEY TAKEN TODAY FOUND RECORD LOW SNOWFALL AMOUNTS SO FAR THIS WINTER. THAT SNOW NORMALLY PROVIDES ABOUT A THIRD OF OUR WATER SUPPLY. KRON 4'S J.R. STONE IS FOLLOWING THE STORY AND JOINS US WITH NEW DETAILS:

WELL IT'S NO HIDDEN FACT THAT WE'VE HAD A LACK OF SNOWFALL, BUT NEW NUMBERS SHOW JUST HOW LITTLE WEVE ACTUALLY HAD.

ON AN AVERAGE YEAR IN THE SIERRA, AT THIS TIME OF YEAR WE WOULD HAVE 11.5 INCHES OF WATER CONTENT AT PHILLIPS CREEK IN TAHOE. LAST YEAR WE HAD 12.1 INCHES AT THIS LOCATION. THIS YEAR THOUGH, WE HAVE 2.3 INCHES. YES, 2.3 INCHES. THAT'S JUST 20 PERCENT OF THE NORMAL AMOUNT.

TEAMS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES MADE MEASUREMENTS AT NUMEROUS LOCATIONS FRIDAY. THE LOWEST ELEVATION WAS 6,800 FEET AND THE HIGHEST 7600 FEET. THEY FOUND QUOTE MORE BARE GROUND THAN SNOW. THEY TELL ME WE ARE NOW TIED FOR THE DRIEST READING ON RECORD. THAT'S A TIE WITH WHAT WE SAW BACK IN 2012.

OFFICIALS TALKED ABOUT WHAT THEY FOUND IN THE SIERRA.

Department of Water Resources team member: "Obviously the results are not particularly encouraging and it just reflects the fact that we've had minimal storm activity this year."

SO THIS LACK OF SNOW AND RAINFALL IS GOOD FOR NO ONE, BUT IT HAS A QUICKER IMPACT ON FARMERS WHO ARE TRYING TO IRRIGATE THEIR CROPS. TWENTY-NINE AGENCIES ACROSS THE STATE HAVE REQUESTED WATER FOR THE COMING YEAR AND AT THIS POINT IT APPEARS THAT ONLY 5 PERCENT OF THAT WILL BE ABLE TO BE DELIVERED. THAT MEANS THE PRICE YOU PAY FOR PRODUCE WOULD THEN INCREASE.

SO WHILE THE NUMBERS AREN'T GOOD, THE HOPE IS FOR RAIN AND SNOW IN THE COMING MONTHS AND THAT IS SOMETHING THAT COULD CHANGE THOSE ESTIMATES.

J.R. STONE KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/7/14 KRON 4 Evening News California's drought concerns

IT'S NOT COLD WEATHER BUT DRY WEATHER THAT IS A PROBLEM IN THE BAY AREA.. AND IN THE STATE .AS KRON 4'S MAUREEN KELLY REPORTS, IN THE NORTH BAY, OFFICIALS ARE ALREADY STARTING TO ASK RESIDENTS TO VOLUNTARILY RATION THEIR USE OF WATER:

TAKE A LOOK AT THE RUSSIAN RIVER NEAR HEALDSBURG. IT'S AS DRY AS IT'S BEEN FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR SINCE THE 1950'S AND BEING KEPT THAT WAY BECAUSE THE RESERVOIRS THAT FEED IT ARE ALSO AT HISTORICALLY LOW LEVELS. AND THAT HAS PEOPLE UP HERE WORRIED.

Brad Sherwood, Sonoma County Water Agency: "Every drop of water matters right now."

SO WATER AGENCIES SERVING SONOMA AND MARIN COUNTIES ARE TAKING THE UNUSUAL STEP OF PUSHING A WINTERTIME MESSAGE OF CONSERVATION....

Sherwood: "The drought is on; turn the water off."

HERE ARE SOME OF THE ADS THEY ARE ROLLING OUT IN A MULTIMEDIA CAMPAIGN WEDNESDAY TO GET THE MESSAGE ACROSS THAT DIRTY CARS AND DRY LAWNS ARE OKAY THIS TIME OF YEAR.

THE CUTBACKS ARE VOLUNTARY RIGHT NOW, BUT IF THINGS STAY AS DRY AS THEY'VE BEEN THEN SOME PUBLIC UTILTIES COULD ASK FOR MANDATORY WATER

RESTRICTIONS. THE SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY SAYS THEY NEED MORE THAN JUST A FEW RAINY DAYS TO AVOID THAT SCENARIO.

Sherwood: "We need a gusher. We need Mother Nature to open up the sky on us. We need 10 to 12 inches of rain in order to get water into our reservoirs."

MAUREEN KELLY KRON 4 NEWS

AND STATE LAWMAKERS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE DROUGHT, TOO. THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MET WITH WATER RESOURCE AGENCIES TODAY IN SACRAMENTO. THEY DISCUSSED HOW CALIFORNIA'S FARMERS AND RANCHERS NEED TO PREPARE FOR A POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT DROUGHT YEAR. NINE OF CALIFORNIA'S TWELVE MAJOR RESERVOIRS ARE BELOW 50% CAPACITY, INCLUDING LAKE SHASTA AND LAKE ORVILLE.

ENVIRONMENT

1/8/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Is Fukushima radiation contaminating California beaches?

EVER SINCE THE 2011 FUKUSHIMA NUCLEAR ACCIDENT IN JAPAN, THERE HAS BEEN CONCERN THAT RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION COULD REACH THE WEST COAST. NOW, A NEW YOU TUBE VIDEO SHOWS WHAT APPEARS TO BE ELEVATED RADIATION LEVELS AT A BEACH IN PACIFICA. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD HAS BEEN LOOKING INTO EXACTLY WHAT THIS VIDEO MEANS AND WHETHER OR NOT IT IS RELATED TO WHAT HAPPENED IN JAPAN:

ACCORDING TO THE DESCRIPTION ON YOU TUBE, THIS VIDEO WAS TAKEN ON DECEMBER 23RD AND IT SHOWS A MAN REFERRED TO AS DAVE WALKING NEAR PACIFICA STATE BEACH IN PACIFICA, CARRYING A GEIGER COUNTER, A DEVICE USED TO DETECT RADIATION. AWAY FROM THE BEACH, THE COUNTER APPEARS TO SHOW NORMAL LEVELS OF RADIATION, BUT AS DAVE GETS CLOSER TO THE WATER THE NUMBERS GO UP.

ACCORDING TO THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, A GEIGER COUNTER LIKE THIS ONE CAN DETECT RADIATION, BUT IT CAN'T DETERMINE THE EXACT SOURCE OR TYPE OF RADIATION. FOR EXAMPLE, IT CAN'T DISTINGUISH BETWEEN NORMAL BACKGROUND RADIATION COMING FROM A PILE OF ROCKS AND RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION FROM A NUCLEAR ACCIDENT.

IN RESPONSE TO THE VIDEO, THE SAN MATEO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONDUCTED TESTS ALONG THE COAST LAST WEEK, AND THEY SAY THAT THEY DID DETECT ELEVATED RADIATION LEVELS NEAR HALF MOON BAY. BUT, THEY ALSO SAY THAT THE HIGHER LEVELS ARE THE RESULT OF NATURALLY OCCURRING MATERIALS AND THAT THE RADIOACTIVITY IS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH THE FUKUSHIMA INCIDENT. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GOES ON TO SAY THAT "THERE IS NO PUBLIC HEALTH RISK AT CALIFORNIA BEACHES DUE TO RADIOACTIVITY RELATED TO EVENTS AT FUKUSHIMA."

I ALSO ASKED THE USNRC IF THEY HAD ANY OPINION ON THIS VIDEO AND A SPOKESMAN RESPONDED IN AN EMAIL SAYING, "THE VIDEO FALLS WELL SHORT OF PROVIDING ENOUGH INFORMATION TO PUT THE READINGS IN ANY SORT OF APPROPRIATE CONTEXT. ALL THE AVAAILABLE INFORMATION CONTINUES TO SHOW U.S. RADIATION LEVELS REMAIN UNAFFECTED BY THE AFTERMATH OF FUKUSHIMA."

CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/16/14 KRON 4 Evening News Water district response to drought conditions

IN THE EAST BAY, WATER OFFICIALS ARE KEEPING AN EYE ON THE DRY CONDITIONS. KRON 4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN REPORTS ON HOW OFFICIALS ARE PREPARING FOR A POTENTIAL WATER SHORTAGE:

East Bay MUD spokesperson Andrea Pook: "This is the driest year we have ever had on the Mokelumne watershed. We have seen, so far this winter, 4.6 inches of rain. That's not a lot. In a wet year we could get that much rain in one day, and that's what we've seen this whole winter. So that's pretty low. It's 22% of average."

EAST BAY MUD OFFICIALS SAY AT THIS POINT THEY ARE IN PLANNING SESSIONS FOCUSED ON THE POSSIBILITY OF DROUGHT COME THIS SPRING. THEY ARE LOOKING AT OFFSETTING MEASURES FOR A POTENTIAL WATER SHORTAGE – INCLUDING MANDATORY CONSERVATION.

YOU'RE LOOKING AT THE LAFAYETTE RESERVOIR...AN EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY...FOR EAST BAY MUD...ONE OF 7-WATER RESOURCES FOR THE UTILITY'S 1.3 MILLION CUSTOMERS

Pook: "All of our reservoirs, together, are at 68%"

AND THAT IS NOT UNUSUAL FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR SAYS EAST BAY MUD SPOKESPERSON ANDREA POOK...HOWEVER she says TOO MUCH SUNSHINE and not enough rain OVER THE LAST MONTH AND HALF has RAISED SOME SERIOUS CONCERN FOR THE WATER SUPPLY COMPANY

Pook: "The problem that we are seeing is that our Mokelumne watershed, which is where we get 90% of our water in the form of snowfall this time of year, is bone dry. [looking at map] This represents the East Bay MUD watershed. It's the Mokelumne River watershed in the foothills of the Sierra Mountains. East Bay customers get their drinking water, 90% of it, from right here."

HERE IN THE EAST BAY MUD OPERATION CENTER THEY'RE KEEP AN EYE ON RESERVIOR LEVELS 24-HOURS A DAY...HOPING FOR SOME MUCH NEEDED PERCIPITATION...TO REPLENISH WATER LEVELS THROUGHOUT THE SYSTEM...

Pook: "We do have trigger points that would indicate to us what our options might be. So we might, at a certain level, choose to ask customers to voluntarily conserve. It it gets worse we might ask them for mandatory conservation. Getting worse, we might ask for alternative supplies. So it's really not clear yet, but we will know in the next few months."

IN THE MEANTIME OFFICIALS AT EAST BAY MUD OFFICIALS SAY THEY ARE NOT JUST MONTORING THE SITUATION.

Pook: "We have half a winter ahead of us, so we are working hard in case there is a drought. We are not just monitoring. We are taking steps now so that we are ready."

A DROUGHT COMMITTEE HAS BEEN HAS BEEN FORMED AND THEY ARE WORKING ON INTERNAL MEASURES AND STRATEGIES ON HOW TO HANDLE, COME THIS SPRING, A POTENTIAL WATER SHORTAGE IN THEIR RESERVOIRS

IN LAFAYETTE HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/17/14 KRON 4 Evening News Governor declares drought emergency

WITH THE NEWLY DECLARED DROUGHT EMERGENCY, WE WANTED TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH WATER SUPPLIES HERE IN THE BAY AREA. KRON4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN TALKED TO WATER OFFICIALS IN THE EAST BAY, ASKING IF AND WHEN WE COULD SEE MANDATORY CONSERVATION:

NOW THAT GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN HAS OFFICIALY DELCARED A DROUGHT STATE OF EMERGENCY HERE IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO EAST BAY MUD'S 1.3 MILLION CUSTOMERS?

East Bay MUD spokesperson Andrea Pook: "Right now what we are asking our customers to do is to continue to use water smartly and wisely."

EASTBAY MUD SPOKESPERSON ANDREA POOK EXPLAINS WHY REDUCING WATER USAGE BY 20%, AS THE GOVERNOR'S DROUGHT DECLARATION RECOMMENDS, SHOULD NOT BE A MAJOR HURDLE FOR EAST BAY MUD CUSTOMERS.

Pook: "Our customers are fantastic. They are already using 15% less water. Aside from the anomaly of January and December being so non- rainy, which means people are watering their plants, overall people are using the same amount of water now that they were using during the drought in 2008."

THAT BEING SAID, THERE IS STILL CONCERN ABOUT THE WORST CASE SCENARIO – LITTLE TO NO RAIN OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, LEADING TO DROUGHT WATER LEVELS IN EASTBAY MUD'S SEVEN RESERVOIRS. MIGHT RATIONING BE MANDATORY AT THAT POINT FOR CUSTOMERS?

Pook: "We will know the answer to that question in April. We are definitely monitoring the situation really closely, and we are planning for an eventuality of a drought. In case things do not improve, we will be at the ready to do what is needed to meet our water needs for our customers. That could involve a number of different options. We still have several months of winter and potential rain left. We will know better in April. Our board will make a decision in May whether customer rationing and drought rates will need to go into effect."

HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/21/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Pollution coming from China

SINCE NOVEMBER, THERE HAVE BEEN TWENTY-NINE'SPARE THE AIR DAYS' HERE IN THE BAY AREA. NOW A NEWLY RELEASED STUDY SUGGESTS THAT AN INCREASING AMOUNT OF OUR AIR POLLUTION IS COMING FROM CHINA. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD HAS DETAILS:

IN A STUDY PUBLISHED MONDAY IN THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, A TEAM OF RESEARCHERS, INCLUDING SCIENTISTS FROM UC IRVINE, CLAIMS THAT A LEAST A QUARTER OF THE SULFATE POLLUTION ALONG THE US WEST COAST ORIGINATES IN CHINA.

THEY SAY THAT NITROGEN OXIDES, CARBON MONOXIDE AND SULFATE POLLUTION, ALL OF WHICH CAN CONTRIBUTE TO SMOG AND SOOT, IS BEING BLOWN THOUSANDS OF MILES ACROSS THE PACIFIC OCEAN FROM CHINESE FACTORIES TO HERE IN THE

US. THE POLLUTANTS ARE THEN SETTLING IN BASINS AND VALLEYS ACROSS CALIFORNIA AND OTHER WESTERN STATES.

THE REPORT ALSO SAYS THAT POWERFUL WESTERLY WINDS CAN MOVE THE POLLUTION AROUND THE GLOBE IN JUST A MATTER OF DAYS.

RESEARCHERS DO POINT OUT THAT THE MAJORITY OF OUR AIR POLLUTIN STILL COMES FROM OUR OWN CARS, TRUCKS AND REFINERIES, BUT THAT THE ADDED CHINESE PARTICULATES CAN CAUSE DANGEROUS SPIKES IN CONTAMINATION.

THE LATEST REPORT SEEMS TO CONFIRM A STUDY THAT WAS RELEASED IN 2010. IN THAT CASE, RESEARCHERS FROM UC BERKELEY ANALYZED AIR SAMPLES FROM AROUND THE BAY AREA AND DETERMINED THAT AS MUCH AS 29 PERCENT OF OUR AIR POLLUTION ORIGINATES IN CHINA.

THE AUTHORS OF THE CURRENT STUDY HOPE THAT THIS NEW INFORMATION WILL HELP POLICY MAKERS CRAFT BETTER CLEAN AIR TREATIES.

CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/31/14 KRON 4 Evening News California drought worsens

BAY AREA WATER OFFICIALS REACT TODAY TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN SACRAMENTO THAT NO WATER WILL BE RELEASED TO LOCAL DISTRICTS. AS YOU JUST HEARD, THAT HAS NEVER HAPPENED, EVEN IN THE MOST SEVERE DROUGHT YEARS IN THE PAST. GRANT LODES HAS MORE:

IT'S OFFICIAL, THE STATE'S WATER DEPARTMENT IS TURNING OFF THE SPIGOT. FOR THE FIRST TIME, LOS ANGELES AND OTHER CITIES WILL HAVE TO DO WITHOUT ANY DELIVERIES FROM THE STATE WATER PROJECT. THE CUTOFF WILL IMPACT SOME AGENCIES HERE IN THE BAY AREA.

State water official: "This is not a coming crisis. This is not an evolving crisis. This is a current crisis."

ONE AFTER ANOTHER STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS STEPPED UP TO THE MICROPHONE IN SACRAMENTO TODAY, WITH BLUNT STATEMENTS ABOUT CALIFORNIA'S WATER SUPPLY.

Official: "Everyone, farmers, fish, and people in our cities and towns -- will get less water because of the drought."

BEFORE AND AFTER PICTURES SHOW THE REASON FOR CONCERN. LAKE OROVILLE IS AT 36 PERCENT OF CAPACITY. IT IS THE MAIN SOURCE FOR THE STATE WATER PROJECT, A SERIES OF AQUEDUCTS, CANALS AND WATERWAYS EXTENDING FROM SHASTA IN THE NORTH ALMOST ALL THE WAY TO THE MEXICAN BORDER.

WATER PROJECT ALLOTMENTS GO TO CLIENTS SUCH AS FARMERS IN PLUMAS AND BUTTE COUNTIES, WHO GET ABOUT ONE TENTH OF A PERCENT. IN THE BAY AREA.. THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT, GETS ABOUT TWO PERCENT.

Santa Clara Valley Water District spokesperson: "It just makes the situation that much more difficult. We are looking at every drop of water."

THE BIGGEST ALLOTMENT IS NEARLY 49 PERCENT TO THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. MWD OFFICIALS SAY THEY HAVE ENOUGH WATER IN STORAGE TO AVOID MANDATORY RATIONING FOR THEIR 17 MILLION CUSTOMERS.

THE HEAD OF THE STATE WATER BOARD SAYS SHE IS GLAD TO SEE A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION.

Head of State Water Board: "There will be those who try to pit one kind of water use against another, or one region against another, or one agency against another. That's understandable given the hardship to come. But it won't help us get through this."

THE ZERO ALLOCATION POLICY WILL BE REVIEWED ON A MONTHLY BASIS, BUT WATER OFFICIALS SAY IT'S UNLIKELY TO BE EASED VERY MUCH. IN ORDER TO REACH NORMAL WATER LEVELS, IT WOULD HAVE TO RAIN OR SNOW EVERY OTHER DAY FROM NOW UNTIL MAY.

TODAY THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISION OFFICIALLY ASKED ITS 2.5-MILLION CUSTOMERS TO VOLUNTARILY REDUCE WATER CONSUMPTION BY 10 PERCENT. RECORD DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HAVE REDUCED THE REGION'S WATER SUPPLY AT YOSEMITE'S HETCH HETCHY RESERVOIR BY 25 PERCENT. SAN FRANCISCO'S PUC OFFICIALS SAY THERE IS STILL TIME IN THE SEASON FOR MORE RAIN TO FALL OVER THE NEXT MONTH OR SO BEFORE THEY WOULD HAVE TO RESORT TO MANDATORY RATIONING FOR ITS CUSTOMERS.

HERE IS THE LATEST ON BAY AREA WATER RESTRICTIONS:

THIS WEEK, THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT HAS ASKED FOR A 10 PERCENT VOLUNTARY REDUCTION IN WATER USE.

RESIDENTS IN PLEASANTON, LIVERMORE, DUBLIN, NEWARK, AND FREMONT ARE BEING URGED TO CUT BACK 20 PERCENT.

MARIN COUNTY WANTS PEOPLE TO VOLUNTARILY CUT BACK ON WATER USE BY 25 PERCENT. AND ALREADY, THREE CITIES ARE BEING FORCED SAVE WATER WITH MANDATORY RATIONING – HEALDSBURG, CLOVERDALE, AND SAINT HELENA.

GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN HAS DECLARED A DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN CALIFORNIA. HE IS ASKING EVERYONE TO TRY AND CONSERVE WATER AT LEAST 20 PERCENT.

KEEP IT HERE ON KRON 4 FOR THE LATEST ON THE DROUGHT EMERGENCY. LATER WE'LL LOOK AT HOW CALIFORNIA DEALT WITH THE LAST BIG DROUGHT. WE HAVE POSTED WATER SAVING TIPS ON KRON 4 DOT COM AND YOU CAN USE THE KRON4 APP TO TRACK THE DRY WEATHER.

ENVIRONMENT

2/25/14 KRON 4 Evening News NASA tracking California drought

MORE NEWS ON THE DROUGHT NOW. IN SACRAMENTO TODAY, THE STATE'S WATER EXPERTS JOINED FORCES WITH NASA TO TRY TO COME UP WITH WAYS TO RESPOND TO CALIFORNIA'S DROUGHT CRISES. NASA IS FOCUSING ITS "EYES IN THE SKIES" ON OUR BONE-DRY STATE. THE SPACE AGENCY SAYS THE BEST WAY TO MEASURE THE EFFECT OF THE DROUGHT IS TO LOOK AT IT FROM SPACE.

Michael Gunson, NASA: "This year we have five new instruments being put in space, three of which are focused on water."

HUNDREDS OF SATELLITES PASS OVER EVERY PART OF THE GLOBE DAILY. ONE OF THESE NEW SATELLITES WILL MEASURE GLOBAL RAIN AND SNOWFALL. ANOTHER WILL TRACK EARTH'S WATER INTO WHAT NASA CALLS ONE OF ITS LAST HIDING PLACES: THE SOIL.

NASA MANAGER MICHAEL GUNSON SAYS RADAR EQUIPPED SATELLITES ARE ALREADY MAPPING POTENTIAL TROUBLE SPOTS WHERE GROUNDWATER IS BEING DEPLETED. THIS MAP OF THE CENTRAL VALLEY SHOWS HOW THE TERRAIN HAS BEEN SINKING AS WATER IS PUMPED FROM BELOW GROUND.

Gunson: "The real piece of information that's critical here is if we continue overdrawing that water from below ground, it could cause problems. And this is really important to understand. If we really are using up a limited resource and in fact something that could be in fact irreversible."

NASA SAYS PUMPING TOO MUCH WATER FROM WELLS COULD SET OFF A CHAIN REACTION. THE SINKING GROUND COULD DAMAGE AQUEDUCTS AND FREEWAYS, AND FORCE EXPENSIVE CHANGES IN THE HIGH SPEED RAIL PROJECT.

ENVIRONMENT

2/25/14 KRON 4 Evening News Drought by the numbers

RAIN IS COMING TO CLAIFONRIA AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR THE STATE'S ONGOING DROUGHT PROBLEM. BUT WE ARE IN A VERY DEEP HOLE AND IT WILL TAKE A LOT OF MOISTURE TO GET THINGS BACK TO NORMAL.

HOW MUCH? WELL THIS MAP PUT TOGETHER BY NOAA, THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, TELLS A PRETTY DRAMATIC STORY.

ALONG THE NORTH COAST, THEY WILL NEED BETWEEN 10 AND 15 INCHES OF RAIN TO END THE DROUGHT. IN THE CENTRAL PART OF THE STATE, INCLUDING SACRAMENTO, TAHOE AND THE CENTRAL VALLEY, THEY'LL NEED 15 TO 20 INCHES. IN THE SOUTHEAST, IT'S 5 TO 10 INCHES. AND FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA ALONG THE COAST ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE MEXICAN BORDER, WE'LL NEED MORE THAN 20 INCHES OF RAIN IN THE NEXT 30 DAYS TO END THE DROUGHT.

IN SAN FRANCISCO CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

3/18/14 KRON 4 Evening News Diverting food waste into energy production

SANITATION AGENCIES IN MARIN ARE TURNING FOOD WASTE INTO WATTS OF ELECTRICITY. THE 'FOOD-TO-ENERGY" PROGRAM WAS LAUNCHED TODAY AND AIMS TO CUT FOSSIL FUEL USE AND LANDFILL WASTE BY CONVERTING FOOD SCRAPS INTO A RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCE. KRON 4'S JOHN FENOGLIO IS IN MARIN AND SHOWS US HOW IT WORKS:

THE PROCESS STARTS HERE AT THE MARIN SANITAITON SERVICE WHERE 20 TONS OF FOOD SCRAPS ARE COLLECTED EVERY WEEK FROM AREA BUSINESSES AND SEPARATED FROM TRASH THAT IS HEADED FOR THE LANDFILL. AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT IN REMOVING FOOD WASTE FROM LANDFILLS BECAUSE

Patty Garbarino, Marin Sanitary Service president: "About 15% of the effects of global warming are the result of putting organics into the landfill.

IN FACT, FOOD WASTE IS THE LARGEST SINGE SOURCE OF SOLID WASTE IN CALIFORNIA AND IN THE LANDFILL IT CAN BECOME VOLATILE.

Garbarino: "It puts off a number of gasses that are extremely damaging to the environment. In the next couple of years, there will be bans on organics or green waste at the landfill."

ONCE ALL OF THAT FOOD HAS HAS BEEN SORTED AND GROUND UP, IT IS THEN BROUGHT HERE TO THE CENTRAL MARIN SANITATION AGENCY WHERE IT IS COMBINED WITH FATS, OILS AND GREASE TO CREATE METHANE GAS. IN OTHER WORDS, THINK OF THIS PROCESS AS A GIANT INDUSTRIAL STOMACH. THE METHANE GAS PRODUCED BY THIS GIANT STOMACH IS USED AS A FUEL TO RUN GENERATORS THAT PRODUCE ELECTRICITY."

Marin Sanitary Service technician: "We're trying to mix, to get a good consistency like a puree. And what that's going to do is make our bio gas production just skyrocket.

THE SANITATION AGENCY USES THE BIOFUEL TO POWER THEIR WASTEWATER FACILITY. IT HAS REDUCED ITS RELIANCE ON NATURAL GAS BY ROUGHLY FIFTY PERCENT, SAVING TAXPAYER DOLLARS. THEY SAY THERE IS THE POTENTIAL TO SEND ELECTRICITY FROM THESE BIOFUELS BACK TO THE GRID.

Christina Heartquist, Marin Sanitary Service: "The community benefits from this by them being able to create their own energy from methane gas from food waste."

NOW, THE CENTRAL MARIN SANTITATION AGENCY IS ONE OF ONLY A FEW COMPANIES IN CALIFORNIA THAT ARE CONVERTING FOOD WASTE INTO RENEWABLE ENERGY. THEY HOPE THEIR EFFORTS HERE WILL SERVE AS A ROLE MODEL FOR OTHER COMPANIES TO FOLLOW SUIT IN THE FUTURE.

IN MARIN JOHN FENOGLIO KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

HEALTH

1/8/14 KRON 4 News at 11pm Flu outbreak turns deadly

THERE ARE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF CASES OF THE FLU ACROSS THE NATION. EVERY STATE HAS REPORTED AT LEAST ONE CASE OF THE FLU THIS YEAR. AT LEAST SIX CHILDREN NATIONWIDE HAVE DIED FROM THE VIRUS THIS SEASON, AND HERE IN THE BAY AREA THINGS ARE GETTING WORSE AS THE NUMBER OF DEATHS NOW REACHES SIX.

THE LATEST ANNOUNCEMENT COMES FROM MARIN COUNTY, WHERE TWO PEOPLE HAVE DIED – ONE A 63 YEAR OLD MAN AND THE OTHER A 48 YEAR OLD WOMAN. FOUR OTHER COUNTIES HAVE RECORDED ONE DEATH EACH. KRON4 CONFIRMED CASES IN ALAMEDA AND SAN MATEO COUNTIES TODAY WHILE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY A 48 YEAR OLD WOMAN DIED THERE. THE FIRST FLU DEATH IN THE BAY AREA WAS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY WHERE A 41 YEAR OLD WOMAN DIED.

IT IS AN EPIDEMIC.

WE START OUR TEAM COVERAGE WITH KRON-4'S JEFF BUSH, LIVE IN MARIN COUNTY:

MARIN COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY THE TWO DEATHS HERE ARE FROM THE H1N1 STRAIN, OR SWINE FLU. THE FIRST DEATH WAS REPORTED ON DECEMBER 27TH. THE VICTIM, A 63 YEAR OLD MAN DIED FROM FLU-RELATED COMPLICATIONS. THE SECOND DEATH WAS ON JANUARY 6TH AND INVOLVED A 48 YEAR OLD WOMAN WHO WAS PERFECTLLY HEALTHY PRIOR TO COMING DOWN WITH THE FLU. HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY SOME ADULTS SUFFER A SEVERE CASE WHEN THEY GET SICK.

Matt Willis, Marin Public Health Department: "Unfortunately, with H1N1, for reasons that are not clear to us, in some young people it can cause a cycle of inflammation and irritation in the airways that can lead to respiratory distress and that is what occurred in this case and in other cases in California this year."

COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY THIS YEAR'S STRAIN IS SERIOUS BUSINESS AND, AS WITH THESE TWO VICTIMS, CAN CAUSE DEATH.

Willis: "It establishes in the lower airways and interferes with the ability to exchange oxygen so people have trouble breathing. Many intubated, so they are put on breathing machines in the intensive care unit and support in any way they can. Unfortunately, once that cycle of inflammation and irritation is established, it's very difficult to reverse."

HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY GETTING YOUR FLU SHOT IS THE BEST WAY TO PROTECT YOURSELF.

Willis: "We find that sometimes the people who choose not to get vaccinated are the young and healthy people who think they don't need it. This is a good year to rethink that decision."

JEFF BUSH KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

1/13/14 KRON 4 Evening News Flu outbreak worsens

THERE ARE NOW FOURTEEN REPORTED BAY AREA DEATHS CONNECTED TO THE FLU. AND WHILE HEALTH OFFICIALS URGE PEOPLE TO GET FLU SHOTS, THERE IS A STRAIN LOCALLY ON AVAILABLE SUPPLIES OF THE VACCINE.

BUT FIRST, MORE ON THE NEW FLU DEATH TOLL NUMBERS. IN THE LAST FEW HOURS, KRON 4 HAS CONFIRMED A TOTAL OF FOUR PEOPLE HAVE DIED IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY. WE HAVE ALSO JUST LEARNED TWO PEOPLE ARE RECORDED DEAD FROM THE FLU IN SAN MATEO COUNTY. IN ALAMEDA, THREE FATALITIES ARE REPORTED. AND IN MARIN COUNTY, TWO PEOPLE HAVE DIED. CONTRA COSTA, SONOMA AND SAN FRANCISCO COUNTIES HAVE EACH REPORTED ONE DEATH. ALL THESE DEATHS HAVE HAPPENED SOMETIME THIS FLU SEASON, WHICH TECHNICALLY STARTED IN OCTOBER.

RIGHT NOW, A NUMBER OF LOCATIONS ACROSS THE BAY AREA ARE REPORTING LOW STOCKS OF THE FLU SHOT WHILE OTHERS ARE COMPLETELY OUT. EARLIER, WE SENT KRON4'S TERISA ESTACIO TO FIND OUT WHETHER SHE COULD LOCATE ANY VACCINE:

HERE IN MARTINEZ THIS CVS STORE OVER THE WEEKEND RAN OUT OF THE FLU VACCINE BECAUSE THE DEMAND WAS SO HIGH. THEY HAVE SINCE RECEIVED ANOTHER SHIPMENT BUT THE PHARMACIST IS NOT SURE IT WILL LAST VERY LONG,

DEPENDING ON HOW MANY PEOPLE WALK IN WANTING A SHOT. THE STORY HERE IS SIMILAR TO WHAT OTHER BAY AREA PHARMACISTS ARE TELLING US.

THIS WALGREENS IN SAN FRANCISCO RAN OUT THIS WEEKEND AS WELL AND IS STILL WAITING FOR A SHIPMENT. THIS WALGREENS IN CONCORD ALSO RAN OUT LAST WEEK.

SPOKESPEOPLE WITH THE TWO COMPANIES, CVS AND WALGREENS, SAY THEY ARE AWARE OF SPOT SHORTAGES IN THE BAY AREA DUE TO THE RECENT HEIGHTENED DEMAND. WALGREENS SAYS IF YOUR LOCAL STORE IS OUT THE PHARMACIST CAN HELP YOU LOCATE ANOTHER WALGREENS WITH THE VACCINE. THEY ARE WORKING WITH DISTRIBUTORS TO GET MORE SUPPLIES IN STOCK IN ORDER TO FILL THE NEED.

IN MARTINZEZ, TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

AND FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FLU OR IF YOU NEED A FLU SHOT, LOG ON TO KRON-4-DOT-COM AND WE'LL SHOW YOU AN EASY WAY TO FIND OUT WHERE SHOTS ARE AVAILABLE NEAR WHERE YOU LIVE.

HEALTH

1/15/14 KRON 4 Evening News Shortages of oral anti-flu medicines

THE FLU IS WIDESPREAD NATION-WIDE AND THAT IS PUTTING PRESSURE ON SUPPLIES OF FLU MEDICATIONS. NOW, SOME STORES ARE REPORTING A SPOT SHORTAGE OF TAMIFLU. THAT'S THE DRUG SOME PEOPLE USE TO DEAL WITH THE FLU ONCE THEY'VE GOTTEN SICK. TERISA ESTACIO HAS MORE:

TODAY KRON 4 CHECKED SEVERAL BAY AREA STORES TO FIND OUT THE STATUS OF TAMIFLU AND FOUND THAT THERE IS INDEED A SHORTAGE. AT THIS CVS STORE IN GREENBRAE, THEY WERE COMPLETELY OUT OF ALL FORMS OF THE DRUG, BUT HOPING TO GET MORE SOON. AND THE CVS IN WALNUT CREEK WAS OUT OF THE LIQUID FORM OF TAMIFLU. THAT'S THE FORM GIVEN TO CHILDREN. THE PHARMACIST AT THE WALNUT CREEK STORE TELLS ME SHE HAS BEEN TRYING TO GET NEW SUPPLIES FOR THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS BUT WITH NO SUCCESS.

TAMIFLU IS MANUFACTURED BY GENENTECH. IN A STATEMENT GIVEN TO KRON 4 NEWS TODAY, GENENTECH SAYS THEY HAVE HAD A VERY STRONG AND EARLY DEMAND FOR THE LIQUID VERSION OF TAMIFLU AND ARE EXPERIENCING A TEMPORARY DELAY GETTING IT TO STORES, CREATING SPOT SHORTAGES. THEY ARE WORKING ON RESOLVING THE ISSUE.

PEOPLE WE SPOKE WITH TODAY SAY THEY ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE FLU THIS YEAR AND ABOUT THE LACK OF ACCESS TO MEDICINE.

Question: "Are you concerned about the lack of Tamiflu for kids and supplies of the adult dosage is also low?"

Shopper: "Definitely. I'm glad my kids already got their flu shots. But I feel bad for people who haven't."

Shopper: "Yes, I think that is a concern. I think it's important to have as much in stock as possible."

IN LAFAYETTE, TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

2/13-02/15 Multiple newscasts Various reports/updates about potential threat of measles outbreak Example:

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY THEY LEARNED ABOUT THIS YESTERDAY. WE'RE TOLD THE BERKELEY STUDENT LIVES OFF-CAMPUS IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY AND USES BART TO COMMUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY. AND FOR THAT REASON, POTENTIALLY TENS OF THOUSANDS OF BART RIDERS MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THIS AIRBORNE VIRUS.

UNIVERSITY AND BART OFFICIALS SAY THE STUDENT USED BART, TRAVELING FROM THE EL CERRITO DEL NORTE STATION TO DOWNTOWN BERKELEY LAST WEEK FROM TUESDAY THE 4^{TH} THROUGH FIRDAY THE 7^{TH} DURING THE MORNING AND AFTERNOONEARLY EVENING COMMUTES. IN ADDITION, THE UNIVERSITY SAYS ABOUT 100 STUDENTS MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE VIRUS IN THE CLASSROOM AS WELL. OFFICIALS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF CONTACTS ALL OF THOSE STUDENTS.

THE MEASLES VIRUS IS TRANSMITTED THROUGH THE AIR AND THE VIRUS CAN LIVE IN THE AIR FOR UP TO TWO HOURS. BART SAYS IT USES INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH DISINFECTANT TO CLEAN ITS TRAINS AT THE END OF THE LINE DURING THE DAY AND EACH NIGHT. GRANT LODES IS HERE NOW WITH MORE:

MOST PEOPLE IN THE U.S. HAVE BEEN VACCINATED FOR MEASELS, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN EVERYONE IS SAFE. MEASLES IS A RESPIRATORY VIRUS. IT USUALLY STARTS WITH A FEVER AND A COUGH. PEOPLE GET PINK EYE. A COUPLE OF DAYS LATER, YOU GET THIS AWFUL RED BOLTCHY RASH THAT STARTS ON YOUR FACE AND NECK AND MOVES DOWN YOUR BODY. THIS FULL-BODY RASH USUALLYS LASTS ABOUT A WEEK.

ACCORDING TO THE CDC, "THE SYMPTOMS OF MEASLES GENERALLY BEGIN ABOUT 7-14 DAYS AFTER A PERSON IS INFECTED AND INCLUDE MEASLES RASH, BLOTCHY RASH, FEVER, COUGHING, RUNNYNOSE, RED AND WATERY EYES, FEELING ACHY AND RUNDOWN, AND TINY WHITE SPOTS WITH BLUISH WHITE CENTER INSIDE THE MOUTH.

Dr. Sara Cody, Stanford Medical Center: "The vast majority of people in this country are immune, that's true. But remember, our population is comprised of people who grew up in various parts of the world with widely different vaccination polices and so, every now and again, we find someone who was vaccinated and isn't immune or simply wasn't vaccinated at all. In addition, there are some families among us who don't believe in vaccine and don't vaccinate their children. So, those children would also be susceptible."

NOT ONLY WERE BART RIDERS EXPOSED, SO WERE UC BERKELEY STUDENTS AS KRON 4'S TERISA ESTACIO EXPLAINS THERE ARE NOW CLINCS OPEN ON CAMPUS TO HELP CONCERNED STUDENTS:

HERE AT UC BERKELEY HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY THEY HAVE A BATTLE PLAN IN PLACE TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION OF A STUDENT HAVING MEASLES. THEY SAY ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT STEPS IS TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE IS VACCINATED. THEY HAVE REPLENISHED THEIR SUPPLY AND STOCKED UP ON VACCINES. THEY NOW HAVE 300 READY TO GO. HEALTH OFFICIALS SENT AN EMAIL OUT TO ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY AND WORKERS ABOUT THE IMPORTANTCE OF BEING VACCINATED AS WELL AS THE SYMPTOMS.

TODAY UC HEALTH OFFICIALS WILL BE TALKING WITH STATE OFFICIALS ABOUT WHAT HAS HAPPENED WITH THE STUDENT AND WHAT THE PLAN IS GOING FORWARD. THEY

SAY THAT RIGHT NOW THEY ARE IN SURVEILLANCE MODE AND WILL BE WAITING TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS, IF ANYONE ELSE COMES DOWN WITH THE MEASLES.

AND TODAY WE'LL SEE IF ANYONE SHOWS UP TO GET VACCINATED.

AT UC BERKELEY TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

2/25/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Two stories about the fight against childhood obesity

NEW RULES PROPOSED BY FIRST LADY MICHELLE OBAMA WOULD PULL ADS FOR UNHEALTHY FOOD FROM SCHOOLS AND ENCOURAGE MORE HEALTHY EATING. MELISA RANEY HAS THE STORY:

First Lady Michelle Obama: "Our classrooms should be healthy places where our kids are not bombarded with ads for junk food."

NEW RULES PROPOSED BY FIRST LADY MICHELLE OBAMA AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WOULD ELIMINATE ADVERTISEMENTS FOR UNHEALTHY FOOD AND DRINKS IN SCHOOLS.

Obama: "Parents should be in control of their kids' health and their efforts should not be undermined when they send their kids off to school."

IT WOULD MEAN HALLWAYS AND SCOREBOARDS WITH COKE OR PEPSI ADVERTISEMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE CHANGED. NO LOGOS ALLOWED. THE NEW PUSH COMES ON THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST LADY'S "LET'S MOVE" INITIATIVE. IT'S FIGHTING CHILDHOOD OBESITY BY PROMOTING HEALTHY EATING AND EXERCISE WHILE ENCOURAGING HEALTHY CHOICES.

Obama: "And water just surpassed soda as the most commonly consumed beverage. Yay! Go water!"

SHE SAYS THE PROGRAM IS SHOWING RESULTS.

Obama: "Children born today will be accustomed to eating healthy during the school day, so for them the norm will be fruits and vegetables and not chips and candy."

SHE SAYS FOR SCHOOLS HEALTHY STUDENTS ARE NOT THE ONLY BENEFIT.

Obama: "Although they're not charging any more for their lunches, they're actually making more money because more kids are participating in the school lunch programs."

THE AMERICAN BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION WHICH REPRESENTS BRANDS LIKE COKE, PEPSI AND DOCTOR PEPPER CAME OUT IN FAVOR OF THE NEW PROPOSED MEASURES.

I'M MELISA RANEY REPORTING

NOW, WITH ALL THE BAD NEWS WE HEAR ABOUT THE HEALTH OF OUR KIDS, THERE'S FINALLY SOMETHING GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. CHILDHOOD OBESITY MAY BE ON THE DECLINE NATIONWIDE, AT LEAST FOR THE LITTLE ONES.

A NEW GOVERNMENT STUDY FINDS THAT OBESITY AMONG KIDS AGES TWO TO FIVE HAS DROPPED TO 8 PERCENT. THAT'S DOWN FROM 14 PERCENT A DECADE AGO. RESEARCHERS SAY IT'S HARD TO KNOW WHETHER THE WEIGHT FIGURES FOR PRESCHOOLERS ARE PERMANENTLY CURVING DOWN OR JUST A STATISTICAL BLIP.

HEALTH OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN HOPING FOR MORE SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE THAT THEY'VE TURNED A CORNER IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CHILDHOOD OBESITY. PRESCHOOLERS WHO ARE OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE ARE FIVE TIMES MORE LIKELY THAN OTHER CHILDREN TO BE HEAVY WHEN THEY GROW UP. AND THAT MEANS A GREATER RISK OF HIGH CHOLESTEROL, HIGH BLOOD SUGAR, ASTHMA AND EVEN MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS. SO FIGHTING THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE EARLY ON IS CERTAINLY A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

VICKI LIVIAKIS KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

2/25/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Update on new polio-like disease

AN UPDATE ON THE POLIO-LIKE ILLNESS THAT HAS STRICKEN SEVERAL CHILDREN, INCLUDING THIS FOUR YEAR OLD GIRL FROM BERKELEY. SYMPTOMS INCLUDE PARALYSIS OF ARMS AND LEGS.

DOCTORS SAY OVER THE PAST 18 MONTHS AS MANY AS 20 CASES HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN CALIFORNIA AND THEY ACKNOWLEDGE THERE IS STILL A LOT THEY DON'T KNOW.

KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN JOINS US NOW TO ANSWER SOME OF YOUR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS MYSTERY ILLNESS.. DAN?
PAM, OUR VIEWERS HAVE VOICED A LOT OF CONCERN ABOUT THIS ILLNESS, MANY HEADING TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO ASK QUESTIONS. HERE ARE SOME OF THOSE

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS GIVEN TO US BY DOCTORS STUDYING THE DISEASE AT STANFORD AND UCSF.

Cynthia writes: "What area is this illness being reported?

Answer: "The illness is being reported just in California, about 20 cases in the last 18 months. Doctors say there is no link between any of them."

Teresa writes: "What is the age range that is affected by this?"

Answer: "Doctors have not specified an age range, they've only said children. We do know at least 2 of the cases are in the Bay Area, a 4 year old girl in Berkeley and an 8 year old boy in San Jose."

Gail writes: "Were they otherwise healthy before the onset of this illness?

Answer: "Doctors say many of them suffered from a cold or other respiratory issues prior to the onset of the paralysis."

Kristina writes: "What can parents do to protect their children?"

Answer: "Doctors say if you see a sudden onset of paralysis in one of your child's arms or legs and it last for more than a few minutes, get them to a neurologist immediately."

Joelle writes: "Did I read correctly that a person could get this virus, but not necessarily become paralyzed?"

Answer: "Yes, that is true. Doctors say this is extremely rare and it's tied to each person's own biological make up, and thus most who get this illness will not develop paralysis."

NOW, AGAIN, THERE ARE 20 KNOWN CASES SO FAR AND DOCTORS EXPECT THAT NUMBER MAY INCREASE NOW THAT THEY HAVE GOTTEN THE WORD OUT TO PEOPLE AND PHYSICIANS ABOUT WHAT TO LOOK FOR. THERE IS STILL NO CAUSE AND NO TREATMENT, BUT IT APPEARS TO BE VERY RARE.

HEALTH

3/7/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Tough new sugar guidelines

THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION WANTS YOU TO STOP EATING SO MUCH SUGAR. THIS WEEK THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION CHANGED ITS GUIDELINES FOR THE HEALTHY AMOUNT OF SUGAR IN OUR DIET, DROPPING IT BIG TIME - FROM TWELVE TEASPOONS A DAY TO JUST SIX. SUGAR HAS BEEN BLAMED FOR A WHOLE RANGE OF HEALTH PROBLEMS, FROM HEART DISEASE TO DIABETES. SO THE QUESTION DOESN'T SEEM TO BE WHETHER PEOPLE *SHOULD* CUT THEIR CONSUMPTION, IT'S WHETHER THEY *CAN*.

THE RECOMMENDED SIX TEASPOON MAXIMUM IS A LONG WAY FROM WHAT MOST AMERICANS ACTUALLY CONSUME.

TWENTY-TWO TEASPOONS OF SUGAR IS THE DAILY AVERAGE, ABOUT THREE AND A HALF TIMES AS MUCH AS WHAT WE SHOULD BE PUTTING IN OUR BODIES. HITTING THAT SIX TEASPOON TARGET IS QUITE A CHALLENGE NO COKE. NO PEPSI. JUST ONE CAN OF THE NON-DIET VERSIONS PUTS YOU OVER THE PROPOSED DAILY MINIMUM. SO DOES A RED BULL. A STARBUCKS CARAMEL FRAPPUCINO IS WAY OVER THE LINE. EVEN A SINGLE FRUIT-FLAVORED YOGURT PUTS YOU IN THE RED.

THE RULE OF THUMB IS FOUR GRAMS OF SUGAR ON THE LABEL EQUALS ONE TEASPOON. AND DIETICIANS SAY DON'T BE FOOLED BY THE FANCY NAMES. WHETHER YOU CALL IT HIGH FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP, AGAVE NECTAR OR MOLASSES, AS FAR AS YOUR HEALTH IS CONCERNED, IT'S JUST SUGAR.

THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION SAYS SUGAR HAS BECOME LINKED TO A LENGTHENING NUMBER OF HEALTH PROBLEMS AND THEY CALLED IT "THE NEW TOBACCO."

HEALTH

3/20/14 KRON 4 Evening News Women's health issues from fashion to stroke awareness

HIGH HEELS AND SKINNY JEANS MAY BE IN STYLE. BUT AS HOLLY FIRFER REPORTS, WOMEN MAY BE PUTTING THEIR HEALTH AT RISK BY FOLLOWING THE LATEST FASHION TRENDS:

SOMETIMES OUR CHOICE IN FASHION CAN BE HAZARDOUS TO OUR HEALTH. LET'S TAKE HIGH HEELS.

Women's health specialist: "If they start to get over two inches you start to run into all kinds of foot problems, ranging from hammer toes to nerve damage. As well as problems in the legs.

SO THE ADVICE IS TO WEAR THEM IN MODERATION. MANY WOMEN WEAR SKINNY JEANS, BUT DON'T GET THEM TOO TIGHT.

Specialist: "You can start to see stomach related problems with bloating, indigestion, heartburn, as well as nerve-related problems from nerves getting pinched and irritated which would cause burning, numbness and sensitivity changes in the thigh."

AND WHAT ABOUT WHAT'S UNDER THE JEANS? WHAT YOUR UNDERWEAR IS MADE OF IS PROBABLY MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE CUT.

Specialist: "The more delicate material like silk or a breathable cotton that doesn't trap in humidity.

DANGLING EARRINGS ARE POPULAR, BUT IF THEY ARE TOO HEAVY THEY CAN ELONGATE THE WHOLE IN YOUR EAR AND IF THEY GET SNAGGED ON SOMETHING YOU CAN TEAR YOUR EARLOBE. WEARING EARRINGS THAT CONTAIN NICKEL GIVES SOME PEOPLE A RASH.

AS WITH ALL FASHION ITEMS, WEAR THEM FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME AND JUST BE SMART. LOOKING GOOD WITHOUT DAMAGING YOUR HEALTH IS WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.

HOLLY FIRFER WITH TODAY'S HEALTH MINUTE

AND A NEW STUDY FINDS MANY WOMEN DON'T RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF A STROKE, EVEN IF THEY ARE HAVING ONE.

A STUDY IN THE JOURNAL "STROKE" FOUND TWENTY PERCENT OF U.S. WOMEN CANNOT IDENTIFY A SINGLE WARNING SIGN OF A STROKE, EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE THIRD LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN WOMEN.

SYMPTOMS INCLUDE A DROOPING FACE, DIFFICULTY SPEAKING, AND NUMBNESS. IN ADDITION, DIZZINESS, A SEVERE HEADACHE AND VISION LOSS CAN ALSO BE WARNING SIGNS.

DOCTORS SAY A FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE WARNING SIGNS CAN DELAY TREATMENT AND RAISE A WOMAN'S RISK OF DEATH OR LONG TERM DISABILITY.

EDUCATION

EDUCATION

1/15/14 KRON 4 Evening News Volunteers make city streets safer for school kids

IN SAN FRANCISCO, A GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS IS DOING THEIR PART TO MAKE THEIR COMMUNITY A LITTLE SAFER. KRON 4'S JOHN FENOGLIO CAUGHT UP WITH THEM IN THE TENDERLOIN AND SHOWS US HOW THEIR PRESENCE IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN ONE OF THE CITY'S TOUGHEST NEIGHBORHOODS:

Kate Robinson: "We stand out here from 2:45 to 3:45 when they're walking home from school, making sure they're getting through the neighborhood safely."

KATE ROBINSON IS JUST ONE OF A HANDFUL OF VOLUNTEERS THAT MAKE UP TENDERLOIN SAFE PASSAGE, A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION WITH A MISSION TO MAKE PASSING THROUGH ONE OF SAN FRANCISCO'S TOUGHEST NEIGHBORHOODS A LITTLE EASIER.

Robinson: "This is our primary corner. It's a very active corner, a lot of people and frankly a lot of drug dealing and it's also where a lot of kids are walking through the neighborhood to get to their afterschool programs or to get home from school."

THESE VOLUNTEERS COVER ROUGHLY ELEVEN SQUARE BLOCKS – 34 STREET CORNERS – AND THEY TELL ALL OF THE CHILDREN THEY INTERACT WITH THAT IF THEY EVER FEEL SCARED OR UNSAFE TO LOOK FOR ONE OF THESE YELLOW PATHS. AT THE END OF IT, THEY'LL FIND SOMEONE WEARING AN ORANGE VEST WHO WILL HELP THEM FIND SAFE PASSAGE.

Robinson: "On the corners of these routes you will see the corner captains standing in their vests. They are there as a safety presence."

THEIR PRESENCE IS ALREADY FELT BY THE KIDS AT SAN FRANCISCO ACADEMY.

Student: "They protect us."

Student "When I talk to P.E. and recess it's like people are loud and yelling at kids. And it's just scary. Like how are we supposed to get through this?"

THEY GET THROUGH IT WITH A LIITLE HELP FROM THEIR FRIENDS IN ORANGE. JOHN FENOGLIO KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

2/24/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Uproar over school district plans to move special needs kids

PARENTS AT A SAN FRANCISCO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ARE UPSET ABOUT A NEW SCHOOL DISTRICT PLAN TO CLOSE TWO CLASSROOMS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN. KRON 4 'S CHARLES CLIFFORD IS LIVE TONIGHT IN THE CITY'S SUNSET DISTRICT WITH DETAILS.

I'M LIVE OUTSIDE FRANCIS SCOTT KEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WHERE A WEEK AGO PARENTS HERE RECEIVED A LETTER SAYING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANS TO CLOSE THE ITALC PROGRAM WHICH CATERS TO SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN.

SHUTTING DOWN THE PROGRAM WOULD INVOLVE ABOUT A DOZEN KIDS IN TWO DIFFERENT CLASSROOMS. THE DISTRICT SAYS IT IS RESTRUCTURING HOW SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN ARE EDUCATED.

THIS EVENING THERE WAS AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING HERE IN THE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM. ABOUT 100 PARENTS AND STUDENTS ATTENDED, AND THEY ARE NOT HAPPY ABOUT WHAT THE DISTRICT IS DOING.

THIS IS A MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL'S PTA BOARD EXPRESSING HIS FRUSTRATION:

Parent: "To take these kids and uproot them out of this school and spread them across the district into different programs where they're already going to have the problem of being the new kid in school let alone being a disabled kid in a new school that completely marginalizes them at a systematic level. The district should be ashamed of that, to let that happen." [applause]

BACK LIVE, THE ITALC PROBLEM WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE END OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR AND SOME PARENTS WILL BE ABLE TO KEEP THEIR KIDS HERE AT FRANCIS SCOTT KEY. BUT OTHER PARENTS WILL NEED TO FIND ANOTHER SCHOOL FOR THEIR CHILDREN BY NEXT FALL.

THERE IS A DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW NIGHT. MANY OF THE PARENTS HERE TONIGHT SAID THEY WOULD BE AT THAT BOARD MEETING TO EXPRESS THEIR FRUSTRATION.

IN SAN FRANCISCO CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

2/26/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm
East Bay School address safety and public image issues

SCHOOL ADMINITRATORS IN OAKLAND HAVE RESPONDED TO A SET OF VIDEOS SHOWING STUDENTS FIGHTING AT FRUITVALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. KRON 4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN SPOKE TO A SCHOOL OFFICIAL, AS WELL AS A PARENT VOLUNTEER, AND THEY SAY THESE VIDEOS DO NOT ADEQUATELY SHOW WHAT THE SCHOOL IS ALL ABOUT:

THIS CELLPHONE VIDEO WAS RECENTLY MADE AVAILABLE TO THE MEDIA AND SHOWS STUDENTS FIGHTING AT FRUITVALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN OAKLAND. AS DIFFICULT AS IT IS TO WATCH, IT IS NOT A COMMON OCCURRENCE ACCORDING TO THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION MONICA THOMAS.

REPORTER: ARE FIGHTS FREQUENT ON THIS CAMPUS?

Monica Thomas: "No!"

IN FACT THE VIDEO WAS RECORDED BACK IN DECEMBER OF 2013.

Thomas: "That is not a recent incident that happened here at all. It was taken care of."

AND THAT IS WHY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION SHANI BROWN SAYS THE VIDEO IS AN UNFAIR REPRESENTATION OF THE SCHOOL.

Shani Brown: "Oh no. I am here every day for 5 or more hours a day, spending time with the kids in the yard, in the classroom, helping teachers with homework preparation, helping out with substitutes. I pretty much know the ins and outs of what is going on here. Just because one incident was spotlighted, it doesn't mean that this is a negative school and that bad things happen here every day."

SHE SAYS THE PUBLIC SHOULD KNOW THERE ARE SOME PRETTY GOOD THINGS HAPPENING HERE AT FRUITVALE ELEMENTARY.

Brown: "We have a 5th grader that just won the district spelling bee, and now she's going on to the national spelling bee."

JUST THE SAME, THE RECENT MEDIA ATTENTION GIVES SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS A CHANCE TO GO OVER THEIR EFFORTS TO KEEP STUDENTS SAFE.

Sue Piper, Oakland Unified School District: "Regardless of what happened or what didn't happen, it is always a good opportunity to look at school culture and school safety. New steps will be to increase adult supervision on the playground before, during and after school and to provide training to the staff on how to be more supportive to students who might be facing bullying or other kinds of situations."

IN OAKLAND HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4 NEWS

EDUCATION

3/17/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Sexting scandal at East Bay middle schools

NEW AT 8 TONIGHT, A NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL YOUNG STUDENTS HAVE NOW BEEN IMPLICATED IN THE BRENTWOOD SEXTING SCANDAL WE TOLD YOU ABOUT LAST WEEK, INVOLVING SEVERAL MIDDLE SCHOOLS. INVESTIGATORS NOW BELIEVE AT LEAST 20 STUDENTS TOOK AN ACTIVE ROLE IN SEXTING IMAGES OF CLASSMATES. KRON 4'S J.R. STONE IS FOLLOWING THE STORY. HE SPOKE WITH A DOCTOR ABOUT THE REAL PROBLEM HERE.

THE NEWS IS EVEN MORE GRIM THAN IT WAS LAST WEEK. INVESTIGATORS NOW SAYING AT LEAST 20 MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS WERE INVOLVED IN SEXTING IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY.

Dr. Brenda Wade, psychologist: "No, I'm not surprised middle schoolers are sexting. Sex is everywhere."

DR. BRENDA WADE IS A RENOWNED PSYCHOLOGIST WHOSE THOUGHTS ECHOED THAT OF ANTI-SEXTING ACTIVISTS I TALKED WITH, SAYING THAT ADULTS ARE TO BLAME HERE AND IN OTHER SEXTING CASES BECAUSE THERE IS A LACK OF EDUCATION ABOUT RIGHT AND WRONG.

Dr. Wade: "The teachers will say it should be the parents. The parents will say it should be the teachers. I say it's all the adults around the child."

OFFICERS TELL ME THEY ARE STILL SEARCHING THROUGH CELL PHONES IN THE CASES. IN AT LEAST ONE INSTANCE, AT ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL, POLICE SAY A TEEN BOY USED A GIRL'S INCRIMINATING PHOTO TO FORCE THE GIRL TO PERFORM SEX ACTS ON HIM. THAT TEEN COULD FACE FELONY CHARGES, SOMETHING DR. WADE DISAGREE'S WITH.

Dr. Wade: "This isn't children committing criminal acts. This is children doing dumb, child-like things and hurting one another in the process."

MOST EXPERTS AGREE THAT PART OF THE PROBLEM IN CYBERBULLYING AND SEXTING CASES IS THAT TEENS HAVE THE UPPER HAND ON ADULTS WHEN IT COMES TO THE TECHNOLOGY THEY ARE USING.

Dr. Wade: "We have to say to ourselves, okay, my child now has hormones flooding through their bodies. I've got to get on it and make sure they're educated about what to do, and how to be responsible with those feelings."

OFFICERS TELL ME ARRESTS ARE LIKELY TO COME, PROBABLY NOT FOR ANOTHER WEEK OR TWO THOUGH. AND GET THIS, SOME ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS HAVE EVEN STARTED GIVING STUDENTS TALKS ABOUT USING THEIR PHONES FOR PROPER REASONS.

J.R. STONE KRON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

3/19/14 KRON 4 Evening News New insights into "math anxiety"

IF YOU GET NERVOUS AT JUST THE SIGHT OF A MATH EQUATION, YOUR GENES MAY BE TO BLAME. AT LEAST THAT'S ACCORDING TO OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS. THEY FOUND THAT MATH ANXIETY CAN COME FROM HOW YOU GENETICALLY DEAL WITH ANXIETY IN GENERAL AND YOUR INHERITED GENES FOR MATH SKILLS. THAT COMBINATION CAN LEAD TO GREATER OR REDUCED STRESS OVER MATH.

BUT YOU CAN'T JUST BLAME YOUR PARENTS. OTHER ANXIETY INDUCING FACTORS INCLUDE THE ENVIRONMENT. FOR EXAMPLE, HOW SUPPORTIVE A TEACHER IS DURING THE LEARNING PROCESS.

RESEARCHERS SAY IF THEY CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT CAUSES PEOPLE TO BE ANXIOUS ABOUT MATH. THEY MAY BE ABLE TO DEVELOP WAYS TO HELP THEM.

EDUCATION

3/19/14 KRON 4 News at 11pm Antioch charter school debate

TONIGHT, STUDENTS AND PARENTS OF THE ANTIOCH SCHOOL DISTRICT PACKED A SPECIAL MEETING, PLEADING THEIR CASES AS TO WHY THE DOZIER-LIBBEY MEDICAL HIGH SCHOOL SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE DISTRICT AND BECOME IT'S OWN CHARTER SCHOOL. KRON FOUR'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL HAS THE DETAILS:

THE HEARING OVER WHETHER TO CONVERT DOZIER-LIBBEY MEDICAL HIGH SCHOOL IN ANTIOCH INTO A CHARTER SCHOOL WAS ATTENDED BY HUNDREDS, WITH PASSIONATE VOICES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ARGUMENT.

THIS GROUP IS AGAINST THE IDEA:

Parent 1 Now they want to take a success that was built for this district with the resources of this district and its community and its taxpayers and its parents and move it from the very district where it found its success

Parent 2: "I disagree with some of the things that they want like the No D (discrimination) policy. I think the No D policy needs to be in the home with parents. We should have the No D policy for our children as parents. It's our responsibility as parents. It's not the school's responsibility."

THIS GROUP SUPPORTS THE CONVERSION:

Student 1: "The teachers at Dozier-Libbey want to be here. They will help the students. They care for the students. I don't think you're going to find that in other teachers.

Student 2: "The quality of education at Dozier-Libbey surpasses that of most in our area. The main reason for this is because our staff challenges us to be better students."

Student 3: "Dozier-Libbey made me a responsible quality student, not only to be ready for college but also to be ready for my future and career."

TWENTY-THREE OF DOZIER-LIBBEY'S 26 TEACHERS FILED A PETITION LAST MONTH, ASKING FOR AUTONOMY, ALLOWING THE SCHOOL TO OPERATE INDEPENDENTLY FROM THE ANTIOCH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.

SUPPORTERS SAY THAT WOULD ALLOW DOZIER-LIBBEY TO CHANGE ITS GRADING SYSTEM AND GIVE A NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MORE SAY OVER BUDGETING ISSUES. THOSE AGAINST THE IDEA SAY DOZIER-LIBBEY IS ALREADY SUCCESSFUL AND DOESN'T NEED CHANGE. THEY SAY JOBS COULD BE LOST AND STUDENTS WOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS AT THE DISTRICT'S OTHER SCHOOLS.

IN THE END, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UNANIMOUSLY VOTIED TO DENY THE PETITION TO CONVERT DOZIER-LIBBEY INTO AN INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOL.

IN ANTIOCH, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON FOUR NEWS.

EDUCATION

3/21/14 KRON 4 Evening News Too much stress for today's students?

IT MAY NOT BE UNUSUAL FOR STUDENTS TO COMPLAIN ABOUT HAVING "TOO MUCH HOMEWORK," BUT A NEW STANFORD STUDY SAYS HOMEWORK MIGHT ALSO BE MAKING SOME STUDENTS SICK.

A SURVEY OF MORE THAN 43 HUNDRED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN MIDDLE TO UPPER INCOME COMMUNITIES SHOWS ON AVERAGE STUDENTS WERE DOING THREE HOURS OF HOMEWORK A NIGHT. FIVE PERCENT OF STUDENTS SAID HOMEWORK WAS THE PRIMARY STRESS FACTOR IN THEIR LIVES, WITH MANY REPORITING PHYSICAL HEALTH PROBLEMS INCLUDING MIGRAINES, ULCERS, EXHAUSTION AND WEIGHT LOSS.

THIS STORY HAS TRIGGERED QUICK REACTION FROM PARENTS ON THE KRON 4 FACEBOOK PAGE.

LISA SAYS: "YES!!! THEY SPEND HOURS A DAY AT SCHOOL. BY THE TIME THEY GET HOME, THEY ARE BEAT. BUT INSTEAD OF RELAXING, THEY HAVE 3 OR 4 MORE HOURS OF HOMEWORK. IT'S CRAZY!"

BARBARA ASKS: "MAYBE TEACHERS SHOULD DO THEIR JOBS. NOT ALL KIDS HAVE PARENTS AT HOME WHO CAN HELP THEM. MY DAUGHTER HAD FIVE TO SIX HOURS A

NIGHT IN HIGH SCHOOL. NO TIME TO EAT DINNER. STILL WORKING AT 10:00 AT NIGHT . ENOUGH IS ENOUGH."

AND HERE'S ANOTHER THING THAT'S CREATING ANXIETY FOR SOME STUDENTS. BEGINNING TUESDAY, CALIFORNIA WILL ROLL OUT A NEW STANDARDIZED TEST. IT'S THE FIRST CHANGE TO THE "STAR TEST". IN 15 YEARS. AS KRON 4'S JUSTINE WALDMAN REPORTS, WITH THE NEW TEST NO PENCILS ARE NEEDED:

GONE ARE THE DAYS OF PENCILING IN SMALL BUBBLES ON A SCANTRON SHEET. STUDENTS WILL NOW USE A MOUSE AND A KEYBOARD. DONE ON A COMPUTER, SMARTER BALANCED WILL TEST STUDENTS IN GRADES 3 THROUGH 8 AND SOME STUDENTS IN 11TH GRADE. THE QUESTIONS ARE MULTIPLE CHOICE, MATCHING, DRAG AND DROP, SHORT TEXT, AND LONG ESSAY. THE TEST TAKES ABOUT 4 HOURS AND CAN BE DONE OVER MULTIPLE SESSIONS. THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE A MORE MODERN WAY TO TEST STUDENTS AND DONE ON A PLATFORM THEY ARE FAMILIAR WITH.

THE STATE WILL NOT BE COLLECTING STUDENT SCORES THIS YEAR, THIS WILL BE A TEST OF THE TEST, MAKING SURE THE COMPUTER VERSION WORKS. THE STATE WILL THEN IRON OUT THE KINKS AND ROLL OUT THE OFFICIAL TEST FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR.

JUSTINE WALDMAN KRON 4 NEWS

IF YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEW TEST, HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE KRON 4 DOT COM. THERE'S A LINK ON OUR HOME PAGE WHERE YOU WILL FIND SAMPLE TESTS FOR GRADES 3 TO 8 AS WELL AS ANSWERS TO SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.

TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION

1/6/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm City of San Francisco sets fees for private commute buses

THESE DAYS, SAN FRANCISCO CITY STREETS ARE FILLING UP WITH THOSE CORPORATE SHUTTLE BUSES TAKING PASSENGERS TO THE PENINSULA OR SILICON VALLEY FOR WORK. AND NOW, OTHER COMMUTERS ARE COMPLAINING THAT THE BUSES ARE CLOGGING THE STREETS AND DELAYING MUNI BUSES. AS KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN EXPLAINS, THE CITY HAS A PLAN TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM:

ON ANY GIVEN DAY, THE GOOGLE BUS AND OTHER CORPORATE SHUTTLE BUSES TAKE MORE THAN 35 THOUSAND SAN FRANCISCO RESIDENTS TO WORK EITHER SOMEWHERE ELSE IN THE CITY, ALONG THE PENINSULA OR DOWN TO THE SILICON VALLEY.

San Francisco mayor Ed Lee: "Shuttles are here to stay, but they have got to be coordinated and better aligned with our municipal system

AND WHILE THEY'VE REDUCED VEHICLE CONGESTION ON THE ROADWAY, AND POLLUTION IN THE AIR. THEY'VE ALSO CAUSED SOME PROBLEMS.

Ed Reiskin, SF MTA director: "Sometimes these buses are delaying MUNI from being able to get to a stop, offload, board passengers and move on."

SO NOW THE CITY IS LAUNCHING AN 18 MONTH PILOT PROGRAM REQUIRING 3 DOZEN COMPANIES AND SHUTTLE SERVICES TO GET A PERMIT IF THEY WISH TO USE MUNI BUS STOPS. AND THOSE TAKING PART WILL HAVE TO FOLLOW A SET OF RULES DESIGNED TO AVOID CAUSING MUNI DELAYS, AVOID CERTAIN STREETS AND ONLY USE A SELECT 200 OF THE CITY'S MORE THAN 25-HUNDRED BUS STOPS.

David Chiu, president, SF Board of Supervisors; "In recent years, we have seen a wild wild west on our streets and this is an important first step at bringing some more order and rules to our roads as well as asking our companies to pay a fall share of what it costs the city to maintain our streets."

THE 18 MONTH PILOT PROGRAM IS EXPECTED TO LAUNCH THIS SUMMER. IT WILL COST EACH COMPANY ABOUT 100 THOUSAND DOLLARS AND GENERATE ABOUT A MILLION AND A HALF DOLLARS WHICH WILL BE USED TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

SOME HAVE ENCOURAGED THE CITY TO CHARGE THESE CORPORATE SHUTTLES EVEN GREATER FEES TO BOOST THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND, FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING OR TO MAKE MUNI RUN BETTER. BUT THAT'S AGAINST STATE LAW WHICH ONLY ALLOWS THE CITY TO CHARGE JUST ENOUGH TO COVER THE COST OF ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM. ONLY THE VOTERS OF SAN FRANCISCO CAN ENACT A TAX TO GENERATE ADDITIONAL REVENUE.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

1/17/14 KRON 4 News at 8 & 11pm San Francisco plans for improving pedestrian safety

JUST ONE DAY AFTER SAN FRANCISCO HOLDS A SPECIAL MEETING ON PEDESTRIAN SAFETY, ANOTHER PEDESTRIAN IS HIT IN A CROSSWALK, AND ONCE AGAIN, THE DRIVER WORKS FOR ONE OF THE RIDE-SHARING COMPANIES YOU CONTACT THROUGH YOUR MOBILE PHONE. WE HAVE TEAM COVERAGE TONIGHT. DAN KERMAN IS AT THE SCENE OF THE LATEST INCIDENT AND JEFF BUSH LOOKS AT WHAT MUST BE DONE TO IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY:

I'M HERE AT THE INTERSECTION OF LARKIN AND JACKSON WHERE THE CRASH OCCURRED ABOUT 1:20 IN THE AFTERNOON. THIS PHOTO TAKEN BY A WITNESS SHOWS THE PINK-MUSTACHED LYFT VEHICLE AND IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY YOU CAN SEE A WOMAN ON THE GROUND.

Witness: "I looked and I saw a pedestrian laying right there. I said oh my god the Lyft driver ran over a pedestrian."

POLICE SAY THE LYFT CAR WAS HEADING WEST ON JACKSON AND MAKING A LEFT TURN ONTO LARKIN WHEN THE DRIVER HIT THE ELDERLY ASIAN WOMAN WHO WAS IN THE CROSSWALK AND SUFFERED A LEG INJURY AS A RESULT.

A STATEMENT FROM LYFT SAYS: "The safety of everyone on the road is our top priority. We've deactivated the driver as we collect more details."

Witness: "It's very sad. These guys are out there on the streets running around without training."

THIS SAN FRANCISCO CAB DRIVER WHO CAME UPON THE ACCIDENT HAS SERIOUS CONCERNS ABOUT THESE RIDE-SHARING COMPANIES.

Witness: "Hopefully this will not keep happening. But there are more and more people getting run over by these guys."

THIS IS NOT THE FIRST ACCIDENT INVOLVING A PEDESTRIAN AND RIDE-SHARING COMPANIES. ON NEW YEAR'S EVE, AN UBER DRIVER STRUCK A FAMILY OF THREE IN A TENDERLOIN CROSSWALK, KILLING SIX YEAR OLD SOPHIA LU. IN THAT CASE, THE DRIVER WAS ARRESTED.

TODAY'S ACCIDENT HERE IS STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION. WE CAN TELL YOU THAT BOTH UBER AND LYFT SAY THEY HAVE VERY STRINGENT POLICIES FOR THEIR DRIVERS INCLUDING BACKGROUND CHECKS AND REVIEWS OF THEIR DRIVING RECORDS.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

TWENTY-ONE PEDESTRIANS WERE KILLED IN SAN FRANCISCO LAST YEAR. THAT'S THE MOST SINCE 2007 AND IT MAKES SAN FRANCISCO ONE OF THE 22 DEADLIEST CITIES FOR PEDESTRIANS IN THE COUNTRY. BECAUSE OF THAT SAN FRANCISCO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A FEDERAL GRANT TO STUDY THE RISING NUMBER OF PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS. SO WHAT IS THE CITY DOING WITH THAT MONEY? WELL, PEDESTIRAN SAFETY IS A HOT TOPIC WITH CITY LEADERS AND SEVERAL PLANS ARE ALREADY IN THE WORKS TO MAKE IT SAFER TO WALK IN SAN FRANCISCO. OUR COVERAGE CONTINUES WITH KRON 4'S JEFF BUSH WHO HAS MORE ON SOME OF THE CITY'S PLANS:

IT'S CALLED A BULB OUT INTERSECTION AND CAN BE FOUND AT THE CORNER OF MARKET AND SIXTH STREET. THIS INTERSECTION IS THE LOCATION WHERE MORE PEDESTRIANS WERE HIT BY CARS THAN ANY OTHER IN THE CITY.

Natalie Burdick, Walk SF: "At least four people have died here since 2005 and as many as 140 people have been hit here. So, this is a very dangerous corridor."

THE CITY IS TESTING OUT THE DESIGN TO SEE IF THERE IS ANY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT TO THE INTERSECTION. A PARKING SPACE WAS REMOVED AND THIS TREE WAS PUT UP AS A BARRIER, EXTENDING THE SIDEWALK FARTHER INTO THE STREET. THE IDEA IS TO MAKE IT EASIER TO SEE PEDESTRIANS, SHORTEN THE DISTANCE THAT A PERSON HAS TO WALK TO CROSS, AND IT FORCES DRIVERS TO MAKE A WIDER RIGHT TURN, GIVING MORE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE PEOPLE AND CARS.

BUT, OTHER OPTIONS ARE BEING CONSIDERED TO MAKE SAN FRANCISCO A SAFER PLACE TO WALK.

Natalie Burdick, Walk SF: "Well, luckily, the City has identified that there are only 6% of its roads where 60% of the accidents resulting in death or serious injury are happening. So, we don't actually have to fix all 1200 miles of our streets, just the 6% which works out to be about 70 miles. And for those, sometimes it's a corridor, sometimes it's an intersection. So at an intersection there are different solutions. Bulb-outs are one solution. You can have things like countdown signals where there weren't any signals. Or stoplights where there weren't any stoplights. You could do something like put up a radar or lightdar system so vehicles passing through know their speed is unsafe."

Paul Rose, SFMTA: "We are adjusting and revamping a lot of our traffic signals to make sure they are clear and letting pedestrians know how much time they have and motorists know how much time the pedestrians have and when they should make their move through the intersection. We are also looking into slowing down traffic because that is one of the major causes of fatalities and

major injuries. We've slowed down traffic in the SOMA area and around our schools. We want people to slow down, be aware of their surroundings, so we can all coexist on the same roadway."

CITY OFFICIALS SAY ALL IDEAS ARE ON THE TABLE AND THEY ARE WELCOMING PUBLIC INPUT.

JEFF BUSH KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

1/20/14 KRON 4 News at 8p Golden Gate Bridge toll hike

IF YOU LIVE IN THE NORTH BAY AND TRAVEL INTO SAN FRANCISCO, YOU ARE ALREADY PAYING FIVE OR SIX DOLLARS FOR EACH TRIP ACROSS THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE. WELL, BRACE YOURSELF – THE BRIDGE DISTRICT WANTS TO HIKE THE TOLL ANOTHER TWO DOLLARS MORE OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN EXPLAINS WHY AND SPOKE TO COMMUTERS ABOUT THE PROPOSAL:

DRIVING ACROSS THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE INTO SAN FRANCISCO COULD SOON GET A LOT MORE EXPENSIVE. RIGHT NOW, DRIVERS PAY A SIX DOLLAR TOLL OR FIVE DOLLARS IF THEY HAVE FASTRAK... BUT THE BRIDGE DISTRICT IS PLANNING TO GRADUALLY HIKE TOLLS BY AS MUCH AS TWO DOLLARS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

Commuter: "That's about \$440 dollars a year. Right? Two hundred twenty work days a year. Two dollars a day. That's a trip somewhere, a vacation, a couple nights at a hotel."

THAT WOULD MEAN COME SUMMER OF 2018 FASTRAK USERS WOULD PAY BETWEEN \$6.50 AND \$7.00 TO CROSS AND NON FASTRAK USERS WOULD PAY \$8.

Commuter: "A couple of dollars really adds up right now. Everybody's trying to save money and do the right thing."

MOST COMMUTERS WE SPOKE WITH IN MARIN COUNTY FOUND THE FARE HIKE DIFFICULT TO SWALLOW

Commuter: "I go into the city a couple times a day sometimes. So I think that's going to change."

Commuter: "Well I will continue to commute but it may force me to look into carpooling and using the Marin bus system."

Commuter: "I think if the bridge toll going up gets more people on the buses that's good for everybody."

Commuter: "It just seems like they're gouging us. It seems like an awful lot of money. Can't they raise money a different way besides hitting the people who are working?"

THE BRIDGE DISTRICT SAYS CURRENT TOLLS WILL NOT COVER ITS FUTURE COSTS...NOT JUST REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BRIDGE, BUT SUBSIDIES OF GOLDEN GATE BUS AND FERRY SERVICE, AS WELL AS THE RECONSTRUCTION OF DOYLE DRIVE. PUBLIC MEETINGS TO DISCUSS THIS FARE HIKE HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY OF THIS WEEK IN SAN RAFAEL, PETALUMA AND SAN FRANCISCO WITH A FORMAL PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 12 IN SAN RAFAEL.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

2/25/14 KRON 4 Evening News
Public transit part of the plan at new 49ers stadium

MORE TRAINS, MORE BUSES, BETTER CONNECTIONS AND A BETTER CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE. AS KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE REPORTS NOW, TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS IN THE SOUTH BAY ARE RAMPING UP EFFORTS TO ACCOMMODATE THOSE WHO WILL BE RIDING PUBLIC TRANSIT TO LEVI'S STADIUM:

ONE THING IS CERTAIN. WHEN THE 49ERS NEW HOME HERE IN SANTA CLARA OPENS LATER THIS YEAR, THERE WILL BE A LOT MORE LIGHT RAIL TRAINS RUNNING, LIKE THIS ONE ON TASMAN AVENUE, HEADED FOR THE GREAT AMERICA STOP JUST OUTSIDE LEVI'S STADIUM.

Colleen Valles, Valley Transportation Authority: "We're going to be adding a lot of trains on days when there is an event at the stadium. We will go from our standard Sunday deployment of 20 cars to about 70 to 80 cars, especially when there's a football game."

AND THERE WILL BE MORE BUSES TO BACK UP THOSE TRAINS AND MORE PARKING OPTIONS AT LIGHT RAIL HUBS. WITH INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC BEING SOUGHT, HERE ARE SOME IDEAS FROM A COUPLE OF REGULAR RIDERS.

Dave Zander, public transit rider: "I think they could time the rides for when the games are starting and ending so people can get there and not have a lot of wait time.

Adam Snyder, public transit rider: "They need to add more information as far as the ease of finding the way to get here, information on tickets and pricing. That sort of thing."

BEGINNING TOMORROW, VTA'S TRANSIT PROGRAM COMMITTEE WILL BE HOLDING A SERIES OF STRATEGY SESSIONS, DESIGNED TO MAKE SURE THOSE RIDERS HAVE A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE WITH PLENTY OF OPTIONS.

THAT COULD MEAN SOME CHANGES TO THE LIGHT RAIL AND BUS SCHEDULES IN THE MONTHS AHEAD, BUT THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE CONSIDERING SOME CHANGES TO POLICIES REGARDING BICYCLES, FARES, AND SOMETHING DESIGNED TO SHORTEN THOSE LINES: MOBILE TICKETING.

Valles: "That would mean being able to buy a ticket on your tablet or phone or mobile device and being able to show it to a fare inspector."

WHEN THE TIME COMES, AT LEAST ONE IN FIVE PEOPLE HEADED FOR A GAME, CONCERT OR OTHER EVENT HERE AT LEVI'S STADIUM ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PUBLIC TRANSIT. EASY ACCESS TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION WAS ONE OF THE SELLING POINTS FOR LOCATING LEVI'S STADIUM IN NORTH SANTA CLARA. AND EVENTUALLY, THERE WILL BE ANOTHER OPTION FOR PATRONS WHEN THE SOUTH BAY EXTENSION OF BART IS COMPLETED.

IN SANTA CLARA ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

3/6/14 KRON 4 Evening News
The taxi/ride share battle continues

THE BATTLE BETWEEN TAXI CAB DRIVERS AND RIDESHARING SERVICES HEATS UP. TAXI CAB DRIVERS WANT SAN FRANCISCO TO CRACK DOWN ON RIDESHARING COMPANIES, SUCH AS LYFT AND UBER. SOME DRIVERS WHO SPOKE UP AT A HEARING HELD BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SAY THEY ARE FED UP WITH THE RIDESHARING COMPANIES WHICH ARE ALSO KNOWN AS TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES.

Ben Valis, San Francisco taxi driver: "The Board of Supervisors needs to send a strong message that any of these TNC drivers without commercial insurance need to be pulled off the street immediately."

Barry Korengold, San Francisco taxi driver: "They're skimming off the cream of the business. They're stealing our business and they are taking business that is needed to survive."

THIS COMES A DAY AFTER ONE SAN FRANCISCO BASED RIDE SHARING COMPANY, CALLED SUMMON, BECAME THE FIRST TO GET AN OFFICIAL OPERATING PERMIT. THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION SAYS OTHER COMPANIES, INCLUDING UBER, LYFT AND SIDECAR, HAVE ALREADY APPLIED AND ARE BEING ALLOWED TO OPERATE WHILE THEIR APPLICATIONS ARE BEING EVALUATED.

WELL, PLAY BY THE RULES. THAT'S WHAT SAN FRANCISCO SUPERVISORS SAY THEY WANT UPSTART RIDE-SHARING COMPANIES TO DO. AND AS KRON 4'S DAN RUBIN REPORTS, CAB DRIVERS WHO COMPETE FOR THE SAME FARES SHARE SOME OF THE SAME CONCERNS:

YELLOW CABS AND UN-MARKED CAR RIDES ARE LIKE OIL AND WATER.

Stew, taxi driver: "Their drivers, they don't have experience. They don't have experience."

Andrew, ride-share driver: "Some cab drivers are really against it, and then again, I've also noticed a lot of cab drivers have stopped driving for cabs and have tried to jump on the train with Uber and Lyft."

ANDREW DRIVES FOR UBER. HE'S AS CONCERNED FOR HIS PASSENGERS' SAFETY AS HE IS FOR HIS OWN LEGAL LIABILITY.

Andrew: "If you do get in an accident, you're not really sure what Uber is going to cover or not and you can't go to your own insurance because they'll drop you, too."

Tom, taxi driver: "They are competing on an unfair basis, while putting the public at danger for not having the proper insurance."

UBER IS DOING ITS BEST TO ALLEVIATE THOSE CONCERNS. THEY OFFER ONE MILLION DOLLARS OF LIABILITY COVERAGE IN ADDITION TO THEIR DRIVERS' REGULAR INSURANCE. THE COMPANY'S INVESTMENT IMPLIES THEIR SERVICES ARE IN DEMAND.

AND SOME CAB DRIVERS ARE WORRIED THEIR FARES WILL FALL IN SHORT SUPPLY.

Tom, taxi driver "Three, four thousand limos coming in from the outer areas, pouring in on the city, it's going to wreak havoc."

NOT JUST FOR LIFE ON THE ROAD, BUT FOR LIVELIHOODS ON A WHOLE.

Stew, taxi driver: "Lots of cab drivers, they've been here more than 20 years. But not because of Uber, those guys, they live it."

Andrew, Uber driver: "Something has gotta change. It's gotta be more regulated. You can't play the game that way."

REPORTING ALONG THE EMBARCADERO IN SAN FRANCISCO, DAN RUBIN, KRON FOUR NEWS.

TRANSPORTATION

3/10/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Technology to improve pedestrian safety

SAN FRANCISCO HAS BEEN DANGEROUS LATELY FOR CYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS. THERE HAS BEEN A SPIKE IN VEHICLE VERSUS PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS, BUT OUR GABE SLATE HAS DISCOVERED NEW TECHNOLOGY THAT COULD HELP PEOPLE STAY SAFE WHILE NAVIGATING THE STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO:

SAN FRANCISCO HAS NOT BEEN A VERY SAFE PLACE FOR CYCLISTS OR PEDESTRIANS WHICH IS WHY I'M EXCITED TO INTRODUCE YOU TO NEW WEARABLE TECH THAT COULD HELP SAVE LIVES. THESE ARE CALLED ZACKEES. THEY ARE BICYCLE GLOVES WITH A HIGH-TECH SAFETY FEATURE BUILT IN.

ZACKEES LOOK AND FEEL JUST LIKE ANY OTHER BIKE GLOVE. THEY'VE DONE A REALLY GOOD JOB WEAVING THE TECH INTO THE MATERIAL. WHEN IT COMES TO CYCLING SAFETY ON THE STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO, EVERY BIT HELPS AND I THINK THIS IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF USEFUL WEARABLE TECH. AND THEY'RE EASY TO USE.

ON THE GLOVES ARE THESE TWO METAL CONTACTS POINTS. IF THE USER TOUCHES THE CONTACTS TOGETHER, THE GLOVES LIGHT UP. THE GLOVES FLASH AN ARROW SAYING WHICH WAY A CYCLIST INTENDS TO TURN. IT WORKS WHEN HOLDING THE HANDLEBARS, FACING FORWARD FOR ONCOMING TRAFFIC OR FOR SIGNALLING TRAFFIC BEHIND YOU WITH AN ARM RAISED UP.

ZACH VORHIES INVENTED ZACKEES IN HIS SPARE TIME WHILE WORKING AT GOOGLE. HE HAS SINCE QUIT GOOGLE TO PURSUE HIS DREAM OF MAKING ZACKEES A REALITY. HE IS CURRENTLY AT THE BIG SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST TECH SHOW IN AUSTIN, TEXAS SHOWING THE GLOVES OFF. I CAUGHT UP WITH HIM OVER THE PHONE AND, SO FAR, IT SOUNDS LIKE HIS INVENTION IS GETTING A LOT OF GOOD BUZZ.

Zach Vorhies: "Imagine you're a cyclist and you want to turn left. As soon as I put my hand up with my blinking signal, people see the value of it right away and say they can't believe no one has ever made something like this before. When I was young I had a friend who was hit by a car while he was riding home for dinner resulting in the amputation of his arm. So for me, cycling safety is a very important and personal thing."

YOU CAN PREORDER ZACKEES ON LINE FOR \$75. THEY WILL BE SHIPPING SOON.

GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

3/11/14 KRON 4 News at 8pm Traffic barriers for Golden Gate Bridge

ANOTHER MAJOR BRIDGE CLOSURE IS COMING TO THE BAY AREA. THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE WILL SOON UNDERGO CONSTRUCTION OF A MOVEABLE MEDIAN BARRIER. BRIDGE OFFICIALS SAY THE PROJECT WILL IMPROVE DRIVER SAFETY. KRON 4'S JOHN FENOGLIO HAS AN UPDATE ON WHEN THE WORK WILL BEGIN AND WHAT IT WILL MEAN TO DRIVERS:

Golden Gate Bridge District spokesperson: "We are going to have to close the Golden Gate Bridge; we hope in October."

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ITS HISTORY, THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE WILL CLOSE FOR 52 STRAIGHT HOURS.

Bridge spokesperson: "If we can't make that mid-to-late October date, we're going to wait until early 2015. We're not going to go into the holidays."

WHEN CONSTRUCTION IS COMPLETE, THE OLD PLASTIC DIVIDING TUBES WILL BE REPLACED WITH SOME 800 THREE-FOOT HIGH STEEL AND CONCRETE BARRIERS THAT CAN BE MOVED TO ASSIST THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC BY USE OF A CUSTOM-DESIGNED BARRIER TRANSFER VEHICLE CALLED A CLIPPER TRUCK.

Bridge spokesperson: "This puts a physical barrier between the north and southbound lanes of the bridge, which will enhance safety for everyone."

AND WHILE THE 26 MILLION DOLLAR PROJECT MAY MAKE PASSAGE ACROSS THE GATE SAFER, DRIVERS WILL HAVE TO MAKE SOME ADJUSTMENTS OF THEIR OWN. THE TRAFFIC LANES WILL BE MORE NARROW.

Bridge spokesperson: "Currently, the two outside lanes are 11 feet wide and the inside lanes are 10 feet."

BUT AFTER THE BARRIER IS INSTALLED?

Bridge spokesperson: "Those lanes will go down to nine and a half feet."

AND THEN THERE'S THE CLOSURE ITSELF. BRIDGE OFFICIALS SAY THEY ARE PREPARED TO ADD EXTRA RESOURCES, INCLUDING MORE FERRY SERVICE FROM SAUSALITO AND LARKSPUR. THE ONLY TRAFFIC THAT WILL BE ALLOWED ACROSS THE BRIDGE WILL BE GOLDEN GATE TRANSIT BUSES.

AT THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, JOHN FENOGLIO KRON 4 NEWS