

QUARTERLY ISSUES / PROGRAM LIST

1ST QUARTER 2017

Nexstar Broadcasting, Inc.

KRON-TV

Community of License: San Francisco, CA

ISSUE-RESPONSIVE PROGRAMMING

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

KRON-TV has presented programs addressing these issues:

CRIME DIVERSITY EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT HEALTH HOUSING TRANSPORTATION

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

1Q17 CRIME

CRIME

1/3/17 KRON 4 Morning News Despite recent shooting, residents say crime rates in their town getting better

NEIGHBORS ARE IN FEAR THAT WHOEVER PULLED THE TRIGGER ON NEW YEARS EVE IS STILL AT LARGE.

Resident: "It's scary."

JUST BEFORE EIGHT O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING, PEOPLE LIVING INSIDE THE DELTA PINE APARTMENTS HEARD A BARRAGE OF GUNSHOTS RING OUT. BY THE TIME OFFICERS ARRIVED, TWO MEN HAD BEEN SHOT, A 20 YEAR OLD AND A 56 YEAR OLD. THE YOUNGER MAN WAS RUSHED TO THE HOSPITAL AND IS EXPECTED TO LIVE. THE 56 YEAR OLD WAS PRONOUNCED DEAD AT THE SCENE.

THERE WERE CHILDREN IN NEARBY APARTMENTS, PLAYING WHILE WAITING TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH THEIR FAMILIES.

Witness: "We were having fun, then we heard several gunshots outside the door. We opened it to tell them get outta here, but there was blood on the ground so we ran in and called police."

THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF SHOOTINGS AT THE APARTMENT COMPLEX IN RECENT YEARS. NEIGHBORS SAY THEY'VE COMPLAINED ABOUT POSSIBLE ILLEGAL ACTIVITY IN THE AREA, BUT SAY NOTHING HAS CHANGED.

Resident: "It seems they're not doing anything about the problems we're having here. We tell them about the traffic in and out of here, but they do nothing about it."

ALTHOUGH THE YEAR CAME TO A DEADLY END IN THE CITY OF ANTIOCH, SOME IN THE COMMUNITY BELIEVE IT'S ACTUALLY GETTING BETTER.

Resident: "We're not a bad place. In fact crime isn't any more present in this city than it is in Oakland or Richmond or anywhere across the country."

THERE'S NO SUSPECT DESCRIPTION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. IF YOU KNOW THE PERSON OR PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE, YOU'RE URGED TO CALL POLICE.

REPORTING LIVE IN ANTIOCH ...

CRIME 1/3/17 KRON 4 Evening News New trend in East Bay burglaries THIS HOUSE IS ONE OF THE NINE HOMES THAT WERE BROKEN INTO IN DECEMBER. IN ALL OF THE CASES, THE HOMES HAD FOR SALE SIGNS OUT IN FRONT AND EVERY TIME, THE THIEVES CAME IN BY BREAKING INTO THE LOCK BOXES.

THAT'S THE DEVICE THAT REAL ESTATE AGENTS LEAVE ON THE PROPERTY OF VACANT HOMES SO OTHER AGENTS CAN COME IN AND SHOW THE PROPERTY. IN ALL OF THESE INCIDENTS, THE THEIVES ARE CUTTING THE LOCK BOXES AND GETTING THE KEYS FROM INSIDE THE VAULTS.

THE PROPERTIES HIT HAVE BEEN VACANT AND MOST HAVE BEEN STAGED. HERE'S AN EXAMPLE WHAT A STAGED HOME LOOKS LIKE. IT'S WHERE THE HOMES ARE FILLED WITH FURNITURE AND ELECTRONICS TO GIVE THE WOULD- BE BUYER AN IDEA OF WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE TO LIVE THERE. LIVERMORE POLICE SAY THE THIEVES AREN'T TAKING ANY BIG PIECES OF FURNITURE IN THESE CASES, BUT ARE WALKING AWAY WITH MORE PORTABLE ITEMS.

Joanna Johnson, Livermore Police Department spokesperson: "It appears that they are stealing mostly electronics like TV's. video equipment, appliances and even home décor. In some cases it doesn't even appear that anything was taken. It just appears to have been someone squatting in the home."

THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED INSIDE REAL ESTATE AGENT GENE WILLIAMS LISTING. NOTHING WAS STOLEN, BUT THEN THEY'D DE-STAGED IT A FEW WEEKS BEFORE. HE SAYS HE CAME IN AFTER FINDING OUT THE FRONT DOOR WAS OPEN AND FOUND EVIDENCE SOMEONE HAD BEEN THERE.

Williams: "There was nothing out of the ordinary, but upstairs there were cigarettes on the floor and stains on the carpet that weren't there before and someone had used the bathroom facility."

HE SAYS IN HIS 38 YEARS IN THE BUSINESS NOTHING LIKE THIS HAS HAPPENED BEFORE. HE SAYS HE'S NOW HIDING THE LOCK BOXES FOR HIS LISTINGS AND NOT LISTING HIS PROPERTIES AS VACANT ON REAL ESTATE WEBSITES.

POLICE CAN'T SAY FOR CERTAIN IF THESE NINE BURGLARIES ARE CONNECTED. THEY ARE PROCESSING EVIDENCE LEFT AT THE SCENE TO TRY AND CATCH THOSE RESPONSELE.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

CRIME

1/11/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Follow up on freeway crime spree

AFTER A STRING OF HIGHWAY SHOOTINGS DATING BACK TO 2015, THREE NEW VIDEO CAMERAS WILL SOON BE POINTED AT INTERSTATE 80 IN BOTH DIRECTIONS NEAR SAN PABLO DAM ROAD. THE CAMERAS ARE A RESPONSE TO THE SERIES OF FREEWAY SHOOTINGS ALONG THAT CORRIDOR IN THE PAST TWO YEARS. THE CHP AND THE CITY OF SAN PABLO SAY THE CAMERAS WILL RECORD EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS ON THE FREEWAY 24 HOURS A DAY. THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER SAYS THE CAMERAS WILL BE A VALUABLE INVESTIGATIVE TOOL FOR DETECTIVES TO USE IN CASE OF ANOTHER SHOOTING OR OTHER CRIME THAT MIGHT OCCUR ON INTERSTATE 80.

CRIME

1/25/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Car theft spree in local city

SEVEN CARS STOLEN IN THE PAST TWO DAYS IN ONE EAST BAY CITY AND MANY OF THE THEFTS HAPPENED JUST HOURS APART. KRON 4'S HERMELA AREGAWI IS LIVE IN LIVERMORE TONIGHT. WE UNDERSTAND THE COLD WEATHER MAY HAVE PLAYED A FACTOR IN THESE CRIMES?

43 VEHICLES HAVE BEEN STOLEN IN JUST 30 DAYS. POLICE SAY THE THEFTS ARE SPREAD OUT THROUGHOUT LIVERMORE. IN JUST THE LAST TWO DAYS.. 7 VEHICLES HAVE BEEN STOLEN. POLICE SAY THE COLD SNAP WE'RE DEALING WITH PLAYED A PART.

Officer Art Rosa, Livermore Police information officer: "In the reports they read that the victims were warming up their cars. Essentially they had left their vehicles running to go back inside the house while the vehicle was defrosting."

LAUREN DUTCH IS A WORKING MOM OF A 4 MONTH OLD. SHE SAYS HER 2012 BLACK AUDI WASN'T LEFT UNATTENDED BUT WAS STOLEN ON SUNDAY.

Dutch: "We looked across the street and we saw a Jeep Cherokee with a few people in the car and they were incredibly close to the neighbor's car. I thought it was a little weird but a lot of times they have people dropping off and picking up. My husband got home that morning. and he said where is your car. I said in the driveway and he said no its not. So he went and called the police."

MINUTES LATER, DUTCH SAW A REPORT ON THE NEXT DOOR NEIGHBORHOOD APP ABOUT HER CAR.

Dutch: "The report that we got was that people were in a Jeep Cherokee and they were loading stuff that they had stolen from other locations into the back of my car."

DUTCH AND HER HUSBAND WERE ABLE TO GET A RENTAL CAR, BUT IT'S NOT AS BIG AS THEIR MIDSIZE SUV.

Dutch: "Now we only have one vehicle that I can basically transport our son around if we need to and I work and he works, so we actually had to get a rental car. But I can't put my stroller and a lot of other things in there, so that's a huge inconvenience."

HER AUDI MODEL DOESN'T HAVE A TRACKING DEVICE BUT SHE'S HOPEFUL POLICE WILL FIND IT.

POLICE TELL ME THEY HAVE A FEW MINOR LEADS THEY'RE FOLLOWING. AND THEY ALSO TELL ME THESE THEFTS ARE HIGH PRIORITY FOR THEM. SO THEY HAVE ALLOCATED ADDITIONAL RESOURCES IN ORDER TO CATCH THESE CRIMINALS.

IN LIVERMORE, HERMELA AREGAWI KRON 4 NEWS.

CRIME

2/10/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Police ask public help with Girls Scout cookie crime

NEW TONIGHT AT 8, POLICE IN THE EAST BAY AREA ASKING FOR THE PUBLIC'S HELP IN FINDING THE MAN WHO ROBBED A GIRL SCOUT AND HER MOTHER. IT HAPPENED THIS PAST WEDNESDAY IN UNION CITY. INVESTIGATORS HAVE NOW RELEASED A SKETCH OF THE SUSPECT. KRON 4'S

CHARLES CLIFFORD IS LIVE FOR US TONIGHT AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS IN UNION CITY WITH DETAILS:

THE SUSPECT IN THIS CASE APPARENTLY PULLED A GUN ON A 12 YEAR OLD AND HER MOTHER TRYING TO SELL GIRL SCOUT COOKIES. FORTUNATELY, NO ONE WAS INJURED BUT POLICE HAVE RELEASED THIS SKETCH HOPING IT WILL HELP THEM FIGURE OUT WHO THIS GUY IS.

TAKE A LOOK. THIS IS THE MAN UNION CITY POLICE SAY ROBBED A 12 YEAR OLD GIRL SCOUT AND HER MOTHER AT GUNOINT THIS PAST WEDNESDAY. THE ROBBERY ALLEGEDLY OCCURRED JUST OUTSIDE THIS SAFEWAY ALONG DECOTO ROAD WHERE THE GIRL AND HE MOM WERE SELLING GIRL SCOUT COOKES.

ACCORDING TO POLICE, THE SUSPECT APPROACHED THEM TWICE. THE FIRST TIME HE ONLY ASKED ABOUT BUYING COCOKIES, BUT MOMENTS LATER HER RETURNED, DISPLAYED A HANDGUN AND DEMANDED CASH FROM THE PAIR.

THE SUSPECT WAS LAST SEEN FLEEING THROUGH THE SAFEWAY PARKING LOT. THE 12 YEAR OLD AND HER MOTHER WERE UPSET BUT UNINJURED.

SO FAR, INVESTIGATORS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY HIM, BUT THEY ARE HOPOING THIS SKETCH WILL HELP LEAD TO AN ARREST.

HE IS DESCRIBED AS BEING A BLACK MALE IN HIS LATE TEENS, 5'4" TO 5'6". AT THE TIME OF THE ROBBERY, HE WS WEARING DARK CLOTHING AND A HOODED SWEAT SHIRT.

IN A STATEMENT, THE GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SAY "THE PARENT INVOLVED STATED THAT ALTHOUGH THEY WERE INITIALY SHAKEN UP, THEY WILL CONTINUE TO SELL COOKIES AND SPECIFICALLY ASKE DUS TO TELL OTHER GIRLS AND PERENTS TO "BE SAFE. BE VIGILANT."

ONE FINAL NOTE, THE UNION CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTUALLY BOUGHT THAT GIRL SCOUT'S REMAINING COOKIES AND COVERED HER LOSSES FROM THE ROBBERY TO THE TUNE OF ABOUT A THOUSAND DOLLARS."

IN UNION CITY CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

2/10/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Don't leave valuables in plain sight

NEW TONIGHT AT TEN. MORE THAN TWO DOZEN CARS WERE BURGLARIZED IN SAN RAMON, DANVILLE AND BLACKHAWK. NOW AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THE CRIMES ARE CONNECTED. KRON4'S LYDIA PANTAZES IS LIVE IN SAN RAMON.

Esha Ray: "I try not to leave anything inside, that's right."

ESHA RAY IS BEING EXTRA CAREFUL NOW WHEN SHE GOES TO THE GYM.

Ray: "I heard that there were multiple cars that were broken into a couple nights ago."

THE MAJORITY OF THOSE BREAK-INS HAPPENED MONDAY NIGHT IN THE PARKING LOT OF THIS 24 HOUR FITNESS ON NORRIS CANYON ROAD IN SAN RAMON.

POLICE SAY THE BURGLARS BUSTED OUT THE WINDOWS OF 14 CARS IN THIS PARKING LOT AND ANOTHER IN AND ADJACENT PARKING LOT.

Ray: ""I come to the gym pretty much 4 to 5 times a week so not that I leave a lot of my valuables in the car but it's definitely worrisome, I feel like it's been a safe neighborhood so far so it's worrisome."

ANOTHER SIX CARS WERE BURGLAIRZED IN THE BLACKHAWK PLAZA ON MONDAY AS WELL. AND THREE OTHER CARS WERE HIT IN DANVILLE.

Cpl Mike Pistello, San Ramon Police Dept.: "That feels like a group effort and that just doesn't feel right for a community like this, I'm concerned. For that many to happen in one day, that's definitely a rarity."

CORPORAL MIKE PISTELLO WITH THE SAN RAMON POLICE DEPARTMENT SAYS MOST OF THE ITEMS STOLEN WERE LEFT IN PLAIN SIGHT, INCLUDING PURSES AND LAPTOPS.

Cpl. Pistello: "Suspects see that and they go for that as sort of a crime of opportunity kind of thing. So basically you know when the items are in plain view people tend to go after those cars more than those that are locked with no valuables in sight."

Ray: "I would actually leave my purse in the front seat. So now that I know, I'm not going to leave it there."

STEPHANIE RAPLEY WORKS NEARBY AND GOT A WARNING FROM HER EMPLOYER ABOUT THE BREAK-INS.

Rapley: "They told us just to be aware of you know that there has been break-ins. Just to keep your stuff safe."

THERE ARE SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS IN AT LEAST ONE OF THE PARKIGN LOTS. POLICE ARE FOLLOWING UP ON SEVERAL LEADS BUT SO FAR, NO ARRESTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

A SPOKESPERSON FOR THE SAN RAMON POLICE DEPARTMETN SAYS THEY ARE INCREASING PATROLS IN THE AREAS HIT B Y THE BURGLARS.

IN SAN RAMON LYDIA PANTAZES KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

2/15 17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Update on East Bay freeway crime

RECENTLY WE'VE TOLD YOU ABOUT SOME SCARY EXPERIENCES DRIVERS HAVE HAD ON INTERSTATE 680 AND HIGHWAY 24. DRIVERS ENDING UP WITH BROKEN WINDOWS, DAMAGE TO THEIR CARS. SOME THOUGHT THEY WERE BEING SHOT AT; OTHERS THOUGHT SOMEONE WAS THROWING ROCKS AT CARS. BUT TODAY, KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN LEARNED AUTHORITIES DON'T BELIEVE ANY CRIMES HAVE ACTUALLY TAKEN PLACE.

IT WAS THIS PAST SUNDAY WHEN A SOFTBALL SIZE PIECE OF CEMENT FLEW THROUGH ALEX GREEN'S WINDSHIELD AS HE DROVE ALONG HIGHWAY 24. EARLIER THIS MONTH SERETA CHURCHILL TOLD KRON4 NEWS SOMETHING CAME CRASHING THROUGH HER SUNROOF IN THE SAME LOCATION.

Sereta Churchill: "It was just very scary. The sunroof just shattered all over."

AND THE CHP SAYS THERE HAVE BEEN ANOTHER 50 COMPLAINTS IN THE SAME AREA.

THE CHP HAS CONCLUDED ITS INVESTIGATION AND DETERMINED THERE'S NO CRIMINAL INTENT HERE. IN FACT, THE PROBLEM IS NOT A CRIME BUT A BAD ROADWAY. SPECIFICALLY DEBRIS IS COMING UP FROM THE ROADWAY AND CAUSING THESE INCIDENTS. CHURCHILL AND GREEN AREN'T NECESSARILY BUYING THAT EXPLANATION, BUT CALTRANS CONFIRMS THAT SINCE DECEMBER THEY'VE KNOWN OF A PROBLEM NEAR THE 680/24 INTERCHANGE.

Rocquel Johnson, CalTrans: "it's regular wear and tear on the area. But in addition, we're also looking at the storms we've been impacted with lately and how that has really moved the wear and tear process forward quicker than we thought."

CALTRANS HAS PUT IN AN EMERGENCY REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE A REPAIR PROJECT ON 24 BETWEEN PLEASANT HILL AND 680 AND ON 680 BETWEEN RUDGEAR ROAD AND MONUMENT BOULEVARD.

Johnson: "Our maintenance crews are going in to do some sweeping when we can in between the weather to be sure that whatever is on the roadway is picked up."

CALTRANS SAYS SO FAR ONLY ONE DRIVER HAS FILED A CLAIM FOR DAMAGES BECAUSE OF THESE ROADWAYS. AS FOR WHEN THE WORK WILL GET UNDERWAY, APPROVAL COULD TAKE ANOTHER MONTH AND THEN ONCE THE WORK DOES GET UNDERWAY IT COULD TAKE TWO MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

2/16/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Update on status of BART security cameras

IT HAS BEEN MORE THAN A YEAR SINCE BART SAID IT WOULD EQUIP ALL TRAINS WITH CAMERAS. TODAY WE HAVE LEARNED WHEN THAT PROJECT WILL BE COMPLETED. BART SAYS ALL TRAINS WILL HAVE WORKING CAMERAS BY JULY FIRST.

YOU MAY REMEMBER, IN JANUARY OF LAST YEAR, A 19 YEAR OLD MAN WAS SHOT AND KILLED ON THE TRAIN. THE GUNMAN IS STILL ON THE LOOSE. AFTER THAT SHOOTING, BART CAME CLEAN, ANNOUNCING THAT MOST OF THE CAMERAS ON ITS TRAINS WERE FAKE, DESIGNED TO TRICK CRIMINALS INTO THINKING THEY WERE BEING FILMED.

NOW, BART SAYS, 491 OF ITS 669 TRAIN CARS HAVE CAMERAS.

BART spokesperson: "We were bringing in trains for regular maintenance, outfitting them with the cameras, and those systems being developed over the last year are going at a good pace. We're gonna have it all wrapped up quickly."

BART SAYS ITS NEW FLEET OF TRAINS, SET TO BE UNVEILED LATE NEXT YEAR, WILL ALL BE EQUIPPED WITH CAMERAS.

CRIME

2/16/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Warning on coffee shop thefts

HAPPENING NOW: A WARNING IN THE EAST BAY FOR COFFEE SHOP CUSTOMERS. POLICE ARE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR ROBBERS WHO ARE TARGETING LAPTOPS.

THE MOST RECENT ROBBERY HAPPENING ON VALENTINE'S DAY. A MAN WAS ROBBED AT GUNPOINT ON PIEDMONT NEAR STUART STREET, AND THE SUSPECTS TOOK OFF.

OFFICERS WENT AFTER THE SUSPECTS AND DURING THE CAR CHASE, THE DRIVER HIT A PARKED CAR. THAT'S WHEN EVERYBODY GOT OUT AND RAN. THEY ARE STILL ON THE LOOSE.

BEFORE THIS ROBBERY, THERE WERE FIVE REPORTED CRIME WHICH HAPPENED EARLIER THIS MONTH. MANY OF THE SUSPECTS HAD A GUN. OFFICERS ARE GIVING SOME TIPS TO KEEP YOU SAFE.

Sgt. Andrew Frankel, Berkeley Police Department: "Be aware of your surroundings, if you see something suspicious, please call it in. If you're out in a cafe, we've had a series of robberies and grand theft in our cafes between the third and the sixth of this month where people fought back and struggled over their laptops. We would say your property is not worth being injured or potentially your life."

IN ALL THE CASES, THE VICTIMS' LAPTOPS WERE STOLEN. NO ONE WAS INJURED. DETECTIVES ARE WORKING TO SEE IF THESE CASES ARE RELATED. THEY ARE EXAMINING SURVEILLANCE VIDEO AND THEY HAVE EXTRA OFFICERS PATROLLING THE STREETS.

CRIME

3/2/17 KRON 4 Evening News Local city warns about cat burglar activity

IN THE EAST BAY, A SPIKE IN CRIME IN ONE BAY AREA COMMUNITY HAS A NEIGHBORHOOD ON ALERT TONIGHT. POLICE SAY A CAT BURGLAR IS ON THE LOOSE IN LAFAYETTE. THEY'RE INVESTIGATING NEARLY A DOZEN BURGLARIES OF CARS AND HOMES AND, AS KRON FOUR'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL REPORTS, THE BURGLARIES HAPPENED WHILE THE VICTIMS WERE HOME -ASLEEP.

Chris Wilcox, victim: "The only thing they've really taken from us is our sense of security."

AND THAT NOT ONLY GOES FOR CHRIS WILCOX, BUT HIS WIFE AND TWO YOUNG CHILDREN AS WELL.

Wilcox: "My kids last night were kind of thinking if they heard something. They're a little bit nervous, you know the fact that they've been in our garage."

THE WILCOX FAMILY LIVES ON CORDOVA WAY IN LAFAYETTE'S SOUTHERN BURTON VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD, WHERE SOMETIME BETWEEN LATE TUESDAY NGHT AND EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING SEVEN HOMES AND THREE CARS IN THE AREA WERE RANSACKED BY SOMEONE WHO THE LAFAYETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT IS CALLING A CAT BURGLAR.

CHRIS SAYS HE NOTICED WEDNESDAY THAT SOMEONE HAD RUMMAGED THROUGH HIS UNLOCKED CAR WHILE HIS FAMILY WAS ASLEEP THE NIGHT BEFORE...

Wilcox: "They had come through the gate, you know our gate is broken storms. We're about one week out from getting a new gate, which is, timing is everything right, and we just kind of, I went into the garage and saw that they had rifled through my car, inside the garage."

ONE NEIGHBOR FOUND A WALLET IN THE DRIVEWAY BELONGING TO ANOTHER NEIGHBOR. A HOMEOWNER ALSO FOUND SOMEONE ELSE'S KEYS IN THEIR HOME.

Wilcox: "The idea that someone is inside your home, especially during hours while you're sleeping, is a scary thought for all of us."

THE LAFAYETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT ALL OF THESE CRIMES ARE CONNECTED AND ARE THE WORK OF ONE PERSON AND ONE PERSON ALONE.

Chief Eric Christensen: "Crooks will come into town. They'll go through and they'll look for unlocked cars, and they're just looking for things that they can steal from inside the vehicles without having to break into them."

LAFAYETTE POLICE CHIEF ERIC CHRISTENSEN SAYS MOST OF THESE INCIDENTS COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED IF NEIGHBORS SIMPLY LOCKED THEIR HOMES AND THEIR CARS.

Chief Christensen: "For the police department, we'll deploy some extra resources down in that sector of the city, certainly, but we're also asking for residents to be more vigilant."

Wilcox: "There's talk about, you know, a dad's group that can just go around the neighborhood in the evening and just kind of patrol and keep out eyes out for something."

FORTUNATELY, THERE WERE NO CONFRONTATIONS AND NO ONE WAS INJURED, BUT CHRIS WILCOX AND THE REST OF HIS NEIGHBORS KNOW NOW THAT EVERYTHING AT ALL TIMES MUST BE LOCKED MOVING FORWARD.

Wilcox: "You get the sense of it being pretty safe and quiet. So, things like this really do, um, rattle you a little bit. This is a really tight-knit community and it's uh, hopefully we'll catch the people responsible, and, you know, it'll only make us stronger."

IN LAFAYETTE, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS

CRIME

3/14/17 KRON 4 Evening News Local community experiencing crime wave

IN ONE WEEK, NEARLY A HALF DOZEN ROBBERIES AT GUNPOINT REPORTED IN FREMONT AND POLICE TELL KRON 4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL IT APPEARS ALL OF THEM MAY BE CONNECTED:

THE MOST RECENT OF FIVE ARMED ROBBERIES THAT FREMONT POLICE BELIEVE ARE CONNECTED HAPPENED LATE FRIDAY NIGHT NEAR ALDER COURT. POLICE SAY THE VICTIM WAS APPROACHED BY THREE AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN IN THEIR EARLY 20'S, ONE ARMED WITH A HANDGUN. DESCRIPTIONS THAT MATCH THE OTHER ROBBERIES TOO. POLICE SAY THE VICTIM WAS ROBBED OF HIS PHONE, CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS. THEN THE SUSPECTS TOOK OFF IN A SILVER COLORED S-U-V.

Elena Leon, neighbor: "That definitely surprises me."

IN EACH CASE, THE FREMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT SAYS THE VICTIMS COMPLIED WITH THE GUNMAN, DOING EVERYTHING THE GUNMAN ASKED. AND, THAT'S WHY NO ONE WAS INJURIED.

ELENA LEON/NEIGHBOR- "It depends on if any of my family members are around. If they were around, I would definitely comply with anything they told me to do."

THE STRING OF ARMED ROBBERIES STARTED LAST TUESDAY NIGHT WHEN THREE DIFFERENT PEOPLE WERE HELD UP AT GUNPOINT IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF TOWN, ALL WITHIN A SPAN OF 13 MINUTES.

ONE VICTIM WAS APPROACHED DURING HER WALK. ANOTHER VICTIM WAS PARKED IN HIS CAR, WHEN THE SUSPECTS KNOCKED ON HIS WINDOW AND TOOK HIS PHONE. A THIRD VICTIM WAS STANDING ON HER DRIVEWAY ON EVERGLADES PARK DRIVE WHEN SHE WAS ROBBED OF HER PURSE.

PATRICIA HAUZER LIVES NEARBY.

Patricia Hauzer, neighbor, "I've never even thought of having to protect myself, you know. I've never felt scared or alarmed about anything. It's just hasn't happened. But I would do as they say as long as they didn't shoot.""

THE FREMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT SAYS THEY ARE POURING A LOT OF RESOURCES INTO THESE HIGH PRIORITY CASES, MAKING SURE THAT ALL DETECTIVES AVAILABLE ARE INVOLVED IN THE INVESTIGATION AND WORKING WITH NEIGHBORING AGENCIES TO TRACK THE SUSPECTS DOWN. POLICE SAY THE MOTIVE BEHIND THE ROBBERIES IS UNCLEAR, BECAUSE THE SUSPECTS ARE ONLY GETTING AWAY WITH SMALL ITEMS.

IN FREMONT, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON FOUR NEWS.

CRIME

3/16/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Police try new approach with criminals

OAKLAND OFFICERS SAY THEY USED RECENT DE-ESCALATION TRAINING IN A SITUATION LAST NIGHT WHEN THEY WERE DEALING WITH A KNOWN FELON DRIVING A STOLEN VEHICLE THAT HAD JUST SLAMMED INTO A POLICE CRUISER.

THIS IS WHAT'S LEFT OF THE PATROL CAR, AFTER THE SUSPECT CRASHED INTO IT HEAD ON. INVESTIGATORS SAY THE SUSPECT INTENTIONALLY USED HIS VEHICLE AS A WEAPON, BUT ULTIMATELY, AFTER A STANDOFF, THE ARREST WAS PEACEFUL WITH NO WEAPONS USED.

OAKLAND PD HAS BEEN PARTICIPATING IN SIMULATION TRAINING VIDEOS TO PRACTICE NON-USE-OF-FORCE SENARIOS TO HANDLE SITUATIONS LIKE THESE.

Oakland PD spokesperson: "This is just one component and one training tool that we use in dealing with deescalation of force."

Soundtrack of training video: "Alright. Hey. Sir, let's go ahead and step away from the brick. Let's put that brick down."

OAKLAND POLICE SAY THEY WILL CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN TRAINING COURSES TO PROPERLY PREPARE THIER PATROLLING OFFICERS.

CRIME

3/17/17 KRON 4 Evening News Area struggling to curb freeway shootings

POLICE IN THE SOUTH BAY ARE LOOKING FOR A GUNMAN WHO SHOT A TEENAGER ON A BUSY FREEWAY. THE INCIDENT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT AROUND SEVEN ON HIGHWAY 101 IN EAST SAN JOSE. POLICE DO SAY THIS WAS A TARGETED GANG-RELATED SHOOTING.

THIS IS JUST THE LATEST IN A STRING OF SHOOTINGS TO OCCUR ON BAY AREA FREEWAYS, AND TONIGHT CHP OFFICERS ARE ADDRESSING THE ISSUE. KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN IS TRACKING THIS STORY AND HAS AN UPDATE ON THE TEEN'S CONDITION. HE JOINS US LIVE NOW FROM CHP HEADQUARTERS IN VALLEJO WITH MORE:

THAT 17 YEAR OLD IS SAID TO BE IN STABLE CONDITION TONIGHT AS THE SEARCH FOR THE SHOOTER IS UNDERWAY. IN THE MEANTIME, THE HIGHWAY PATORL IS HOPING THE ADDITION OF MORE OFFICERS, MORE PATROLS, MORE INVESTIGATORS AND ZERO TOLERANCE GANG ENFORCEMENT OEPRATIONS WILL HELP TURN THE TIDE.

CHP Chief Paul Fontana: "The level of violence on our freeways in unacceptable."

CHP GOLDEN GATE DIVISION CHIEF PAUL FONTANA SAYS THE NUMBER OF FREEWAY SHOOTINGS IN THE 9 COUNTY BAY AREA CONTINUES TO RISE – 37 IN 2015, 55 IN 2016, AND ALREADY 19 IN THE FIRST TWO AND A HALF MONTHS OF 2017. SO FAR, TWO PEOPLE HAVE DIED IN THIS YEAR'S SHOOTINGS.

Chief Fontana: "These shootings have mostly involved targeted individuals, many related to gang on gang violence or other criminal associations."

AUTHORITIES SAY LAST THURSDAY'S SHOOTING ON I-80 IN RICHMOND, WHERE 24 YEAR OLD DEMARCUS DOSS WAS KILLED, WAS NOT RANDOM, BUT THE VICTIM IS NOT CONNECTED WITH A GANG.

Mark Peterson, Contra Costa County District Attorney: "All information we have is the victim was an innocent victim. He had no gang affiliation."

TWO 17 YEAR OLDS AND THIS MAN ELLIOT JOHNSON HAVE BEEN ARRESTED FOR DOSS'S MURDER AND THE CHP SAYS THESE ARRESTS AND MORE THAN A DOZEN OTHERS CANNOT HAPPEN WITHOUT THE PUBLIC'S HELP

Peterson: "Almost all of the 16 arrests that we have been able to make is due to people paying attention to details and not being afraid to come forward. Crimes can be solved, individuals can be charged, if we have individuals who are responding and helping us with information."

THE BULK OF THE VIOLENT SHOOTINGS HAVE TAKEN PLACE ALONG I-80 AND HIGHWAY 4. THAT'S WHY CONTRA COSTA COUNTY'S D-A SAYS HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE CAMERA FROM RICHMOND TO PITTSBURG

Peterson: "It is a funding issue and we are still looking for that we think it can help solve these crimes and prevent these crimes."

POLICE CHIEFS AND THE CHP WILL BE MEETING WITH STATE OFFICIALS NEXT WEDNESDAY TO DISCUSS THE FUNDING OF CAMERAS. THEY ESTIMATE A FEW HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS WILL BE NEEDED. BUT IF THEY SAVE LIVES, MANY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT SAY THAT'S MONEY WELL SPENT.

CRIME

3/17/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Bay Area drivers wary of local freeways

NEW TONIGHT AT TEN: DESPITE 19 FREEWAY SHOOTINGS SO FAR THIS YEAR IN THE BAY AREA, THE CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL SAYS, DRIVERS SHOULD FEEL SAFE. BUT THE QUESTION TONIGHT IS DO DRIVERS THEMSELVES AGREE WITH THAT ASSESSMENT? THE LATEST SHOOTING HAPPENED LAST NIGHT ON HIGHWAY 101 SAN JOSE. A 17-YEAR-OLD PASSENGER WAS HIT BY GUNFIRE. THE SHOOTER STILL ON THE LOOSE. AND IN RICHMOND JUST OVER A WEEK AGO, TWO PEOPLE WERE SHOT. ONE PERSON DIED. INVESTIGATORS SAY THE SHOOTINGS WERE "TARGETED". KRON 4'S ELLA SOGOMONAN IS LIVE ALONG INTERSTATE 80 TONIGHT, FINDING OUT IF THAT FACT IS EASING DRIVERS CONCERNS:

TARGETTED OR NOT, EAST BAY COMMUTERS SAY GUN VIOLENCE ON BAY AREA FREEWAYS HAS THEM LOOKING OVER BOTH SHOULDERS, KEEPING A WATCHFUL EYE ON PASSERSBY FOR FEAR THEY MAY BE THE NEXT VICTIM. CONCERN HAS GIVEN WAY TO SUSPICION FOR OAKLAND NATIVE JOHNNY FEAZELL AND OTHERS WE SPOKE WITH AFTER THEY'VE NOTICED A RISE IN FREEWAY SHOOTINGS.

Johnny Feazell, East Bay Commuter: "Every time I come to a stop now I find myself looking to the left and right of me."

THESE DAYS EAST BAY COMMUTERS IN PARTICULAR SAY THEY'RE SUSPECTING OF OTHER DRIVERS THAT SURROUND THEM ON PACKED HIGHWAYS.

Christine Ouch, East Bay commuter: "It affects a lot of people because everybody is sitting in traffic all the time."

Denise Marshall, East Bay commuter: "I commute on the freeways all the time and I'm very afraid of what could happen."

IN A PRESS CONFERENCE FRIDAY, CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL CONFIRMED THE INCREASE IN GUN VIOLENCE ON LOCAL FREEWAYS IN THE PAST TWO YEARS. THEY REPORTED 37 SHOOTINGS IN 2015. THAT NUMBER WENT UP TO 55 LAST YEAR. AND SO FAR, 19 WERE REPORTED THIS YEAR ALONE. MOST SHOOTINGS WERE SAID TO HAVE HAPPEND IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ON INTERSTATE 80 AND HIGHWAY 4.

Chief Paul Fontana, California Highway Patrol: "CHP warns those that think they can hide on a dynamic freeway environment to commit their crimes. The CHP is on high alert and we will catch you."

SO FAR - MORE THAN 2 DOZEN PEOPLE TIED DIRECTLY TO FREEWAY SHOOTINGS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED AND CHARGED. CHIEF FONTANA ADDED MOST INCIDENTS WERE GANG RELATED. SO TO COMBAT THE PROBLEM LAW ENFORCEMENT IS GOING AFTER GANG MEMBERS. CHP WILL ALSO ADD MORE PATROLS AND ARE LOOKING TO FUNDING FOR MORE FREEWAY CAMERAS.

Commuter: "There are cameras on the streets and there is still incidents happening."

Commuter: "I'm not sure if it will stop it but it may hinder some people."

Chief Fontana: "It will be a great deterrent to make people think twice."

CHP ALSO RELY HEAVILY ON EYE WITNESSES TO HELP THEM TO CATCH SUSPECTS INVOLVED IN FREEWAY SHOOTINGS AND HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE DEATH AND DESTRUCTION.

LIVE IN EL CERRITO ELLA SOGOMONIAN KRON 4 NEWS.

CRIME

3/17/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Warnings about spike in trafficking fake medications

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARE BECOMING MORE ADVANCED AND MORE DARING. SOME, EVEN IMPORTING INDUSTRIAL PILL PRESSES TO PUMP OUT HIGHLY DANGEROUS PILLS WHICH, EXPERST SAY, ARE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL FROM REAL PRESCRIPTION DRUGS. CNN'S SARA GANIM HAS HOW THESE MACHINES ARE COMING INTO THE COUNTRY AT SUCH A HIGH RATE.

IT'S HAPPENING ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, IN NEW MEXICO, IN FLORIDA, IN CALIFORNIA ---PEOPLE ARE DYING FROM COUNTERFEIT PILLS MADE WITH A DANGEROUS SYNTHETIC DRUG CALLED FENTANYL, A DRUG THAT'S 25 TO 50 TIMES STRONGER THAN HEROIN, UP TO 100 TIMES MORE POTENT THAN MORPHINE. Special Agent John Martin, Drug Enforcement Agency: "People have died from ingesting what they think is a legitimate painkiller and it's a counterfeit pill that contains fentanyl."

THE DEATH OF POP ICON PRINCE COULD TURN OUT TO BE THE MOST FAMOUS CASE OF COUNTERFEIT PILLS. POLICE REPORTEDLY FOUND MISLABELED PILLS LACED WITH FENTANYL IN HIS HOME. THE DRUG WAS FOUND IN HIS SYSTEM.

THIS IS THE TOOL DRUG DEALERS ARE USING TO MAKE THOSE PILLS, TURNING SYNTHETIC POWDER INTO SOMETHING THAT LOOKS JUST LIKE PRESCRIPTION MEDS.

Martin: "If you have counterfeit pills, you can't make them without pill presses."

AS THE DEA'S JOHN MARTIN SHOWS CNN, PILL PRESSES ARE SIMPLY BOUGHT OFF THE INTERNET. MOST COME FROM CHINA.

Martin: "Here's a large industrial one for almost \$5,000."

THE MACHINES MAKE PILLS SO DECEIVINGLY ACCURATE, EVEN VETERAN AGENTS HAVE TROUBLE TELLING THE DIFFERENCE. THE MACHINES THEMSELVES ARE NOT ILLEGAL, BUT BUYING THEM WITHOUT PROPER REGISTRATION, IS. THE NUMBER OF ILLEGAL IMPORTS HAS SPIKED 19-FOLD SINCE 2011.

Cheryl Davies, Assistant Port Director of LAX, Customs and Border Protection: "So you just put the product in here and you turn it. And then it shoots out the front".

Reporter: "This was seized?"

Davies: "This was seized, yes. And this machine came from China."

CHERYL DAVIES LEADS THE ANTI-TERRORISM CONTRABAND TEAM AT AMERICA'S LARGEST SEAPORT IN LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA. FINDING PILL PRESSES AMONG MILLIONS OF TONS OF GOODS, IS NO SMALL CHALLENGE. ONE CONTAINER HERE IS PROCESSED EVERY 7.8 SECONDS. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION OPENED UP ITS SECRET WAREHOUSE FOR CNN SHOWING US THE SEIZED PILL PRESS MACHINES WITH INVESTIGATIONS UNDERWAY TO SEE WHETHER THEY WERE LEGALLY IMPORTED.

Davies: "We see a variety of machines. They range from manual, little, manual machines that you can make one or two at a time. All the way up to machines that can generate 170,000 per minute. Huge, industrialsized machines. With all the overdoses that we're seeing, the increase in overdoses in the last couple years, I think these types of interceptions are extremely important. They have a lot of impact on our communities."

THE ONES THEY DON'T CATCH END UP IN PLACES LIKE THIS LUBBOCK, TEXAS POLICE RAID WHERE POLICE FIND A TABLE-TOP PILL PRESS AND NEARLY 7 POUNDS OF SYNTHETIC FENTANYL. IT'S SO DANGEROUS, EVEN TO TOUCH, THAT AGENTS HAVE TO GET INTO FULL HAZMAT GEAR. THE DEA'S JOHN MARTIN SAYS PILL PRESSES HAVE MADE IT EASIER FOR DRUG DEALERS TO MAKE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OUT OF THEIR HOMES.

Martin: "They're going to get on the dark net. They'll order fentanyl or some type of fentanyl related compound. It usually comes from China. The setup is relatively cheap."

FOR 5 TO 6 THOUSAND DOLLARS MARTIN SAYS, SOMEONE COULD POTENTIALLY SELL 10 MILLION DOLLARS OF FAKE PILLS. PILLS, THAT CAN BE DEADLY.

Martin: "It's almost like playing Russian roulette. It's extremely dangerous."

THERE HAVE BEEN MULTIPLE DEATHS IN THE BAY AREA FROM FAKE DRUGS BEING DISTRIBUTED. IN 2015 A SAN FRANCISCO MAN DIED AFTER REPORTEDLY TAKING COUNTERFEIT "XANAX" PILLS.

CRIME

3/22/17 KRON 4 Evening News Authorities alert public to new crime threat

A BOLD AND TROUBLING CRIME TO TELL YOU ABOUT TONIGHT. ON THE PENINSULA, AUTHORITIES SAY, A WOMAN STOLE FROM AN ELDERLY RESIDENT THEN WENT ON A SHOPPING SPREE, AND DID IT WHILE DRESSED UP AS THE VICTIM.

THIS IS ONE OF TWO PICTURES OF THE SUSPECT RELEASED BY THE SAN MATEO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. AUTHORITIES SAY THE VICTIM, A 90- YEAR OLD SAN MATEO RESIDENT, WAS OUT PICKING UP GROCERIES AT BIANCHINI IN PORTOLA VALLEY AND AT SOME POINT AFTER PAYING THE SUSPECT WAS ABLE TO LIFT THE WOMAN'S WALLET.

San Mateo Sheriff Department spokesperson: "From what we know right now, she went into the local bank and she posed as the victim and made a substantial withdrawal. We also know she attempted to go to a local store to make a large purchase but the credit card was rejected which is good. So we know that she's trying. We want to share her picture. We want to let the public know what she's doing. And we want to make them aware. We want to remind them, when they're out shopping, keep your purses secure. Keep your bags closed because at this point we don't know how the wallet was taken. It's just safe to make sure that your purses are closed."

AUTHORITIES SAY THE THIEF WENT ON A SHOPPING SPREE AND ATTEMPTED TO USE THE CARD AT THE UPSCALE NEIMAN MARCUS STORE AT THE STANFORD SHOPPING CENTER. ALTHOUGH SHE TRIED TO CHARGE A LARGE AMOUNT, THE ACCOUNT WAS FROZEN AND THE SUSPECT GOT AWAY. AUTHORITIES SAY SHE HAS DONE THIS BEFORE IN OTHER STATES.

CRIME

3/22/17 KRN 4 News at 8pm Despite high profile incidents BART says it's safe

HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF BAY AREA RESIDENTS TAKE BART EVERY DAY AND THE VAST MAJORITY DO SO WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS OF NOTE, BUT RECENT HIGH PROFILE INCIDENTS ARE PUTTING THE QUESTION OF RIDER SAFETY BACK IN THE FOREFRONT.

BART TELLS US PROPERTY CRIMES ARE SIGNIFICANTLY DOWN AT STATIONS. BUT CRIME AGAINST PEOPLE IS UP SLIGHTLY. WHILE RIDERSHIP IS DOWN 2.7 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR, CRIMES AGAINST PEOPLE ARE UP 1.4%. BUT BART TELLS US OVERALL, RIDERS ARE SAFER..

THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS PER STATION HAVE DECREASED BY HALF FROM THIS TIME LAST YEAR, WELL BELOW THE BENCHMARKS BART OFFICIALS HAVE SET.

WE SPOKE TO PEOPLE ON THEIR COMMUTE HOME FROM WORK, THEY SAY THEY GENERALLY FEEL SAFE.

Meghan Rancesconi, BART rider: "I'm pregnant so I take it less and less. At night I would feel unsafe but during the day because I'm pregnant I get a seat, so I'm relatively okay. Overall, I wish there was more space and more cars."

Kadi Thompson, BART rider: "There's occasionally someone who gets on who is aggravated or disturbed in some way, but I've never physically felt unsafe. I feel like the train conductors are really responsive. I've been on one where someone pushed the button and the train conductor got on and then we stopped until the police got on and removed the person that was making the trouble."

WE ALSO TALKED TO PEOPLE WHO SAY THEY RARELY SEE BART POLICE ON TRAINS WHICH IS WHERE THE TODAY'S ATTACK IN FREMONT HAPPENED.

IN A STATEMENT, A BART SPOKESMAN SAYS..

"The bulk of our police presence is in stations and zone waystations because if our officers were mostly on trains, they wouldn't be able to contact criminal suspects elsewhere."

WE ASKED BART ABOUT THAT AND THEY TELL US OFFICERS ARE POSITIONED MOSTLY INSIDE THE STATIONS SO THEY CAN GET TO WHERE THEY'RE MOST NEEDED QUICKLY. IF THEY WERE ON THE ACTUAL TRAIN CARS, THAT WOULD BE MORE COMPLICATED.

REPORTING IN LAFAYETTE, HERMELA AREGAWI, KRON 4 NEWS

1Q2017 DIVERSITY

DIVERSITY

1/9/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Facebook post demeans disabled woman

A PASTOR IS APOLOGIZING FOR A FACEBOOK VIDEO THAT QUICKLY WENT VIRAL. THIS IS THE VIDEO THAT HAS SINCE BEEN REMOVED FROM FACEBOOK. THE PASTOR SAYS IT WAS INTENDED TO HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING UNUSUAL, BUT CRITICS SAY ALL IT DID WAS MAKE FUN OF SOMEONE.

BECKY KITTRELL SAYS HER POWER WHEELCHAIR BROKE DOWN YESTERDAY AND SHE WAS FREEZING IN KANSAS CITY'S DANGEROUSLY COLD WEATHER. THANKFULLY, A MAN IN A PICKUP TRUCK OFFERED TO HELP GET HER HOME.

Kittrell: "If I get stuck for a period of time and stuff, I get so cold I'll be like, 'I got to get home.' They were nice and they did everything they could do for me, and I thanked them for doing it for me,"

LITTLE DID KITTRELL KNOW, SOMEBODY WAS FILMING HER AND THEN POSTED THE VIDEO ON FACEBOOK FOR THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE TO SEE. THAT MAN WAS PASTOR LAMOND RUSHING.

PASTOR RUSHING SAYS HE ONLY POSTED THE VIDEO BECAUSE IT WAS SOMETHING HE HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE, NOT BECAUSE HE WAS TRYING TO MAKE FUN OF THE WOMAN. RUSHING HAS SINCE REMOVED THE VIDEO AND APOLOGIZED.

DIVERSITY

1/12/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Nazi boots controversy

IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A HORRIFYING MISTAKE, A COMPANY'S BOOTS ARE LEAVING OFFENSIVE IMPRINTS. TONIGHT, THE COMPANY IS APOLOGIZING AND RECALLING THE BOOTS. GRANT LODES IS HERE WITH THIS HARD TO BELIEVE STORY:

YOU CAN SEE HOW PEOPLE WOULD BUY THEM AND NOT REALIZE ANYTHING WAS UP UNTIL YOU WALK IN FRESH SNOW. BUT LOOK AT THE SOLE AND LOOK AT THE SWASTIKA SYMBOLS LEFT WHEN YOU WALK ON A LITTLE SNOW AND THE ISSUE IS CRYSTAL CLEAR.

THEY'RE CALLED POLAR FOX BOOTS, AND THE ISSUE CAME TO LIGHT WHEN A GUY POSTED A PICTURE OF THE IMPRINTS ON REDDIT. HE WROTE THERE WAS AN ANGLE I DIDN'T GET TO SEE WEHEN ORDERING MY NEW WORK BOOTS.

THE COMPANY BEHIND THE BOOTS, CONAL INTERNATIONAL TRADING INCORPORTATED, SAYS IT WAS UNINTENTIONAL AND THEY LEARNED ABOUT IT WHEN THE REDDIT POST WENT VIRAL. BUT PEOPLE ON THE STREET...ARE SKEPTICAL.

MOS Comment: "It's strange to me that that would be unintentional."

MOS Comment: "When you design them, if you look at it, it would remind you of something."

MOS Comment: "I think it's a lie because you test out everything on a shoe before you put it out, so I'm sure they knew there were swastikas."

IN A LATER STATEMENT, CONAL INTERNATIONAL TRADING CALLED THE DESIGN AN "OBVIOUS MISTAKE" MADE BY ITS MANUFACTURERS IN CHINA. THE COMPANY ALSO WROTE THAT IT NEVER INTENDED TO HAVE SWASTIKA DESIGNS ON ITS SHOES.

DIVERSITY

1/14/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Immigration protest

AHEAD OF PRESIDENT-ELECT DONALD TRUMP'S INAUGURATION AND TWO DAYS BEFORE CIVIL RIGHTS ICON MARTIN LUTHER KING JUNIOR'S BIRTHDAY, TODAY IMMIGRATION ADVOCATES MARCHED AND RALLIED IN SAN JOSE. KRON 4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL SHARES THE GROUP'S MESSAGE TO THE INCOMING ADMINSTRATION.

Chant: "No to deportation!"

A THIRST FOR JUSTICE QUENCHED BY THE SHEER NUMBER OF IMMIGRATION REFORM ADVOCATES, LOCKED HAND IN HAND AGAINST HATE AND THE FEAR OF RATCHETED DEPORTATIONS BY THE INCOMING TRUMP ADMINSTRATION.

Protester: "All people are equal. We're all immigrants in this country, treat us with respect."

Protester: "We believe everybody should be treated in the same way."

IMMIGRATION IS A SENTIMENTAL SUBJECT FOR JODI EDWARDS AND DON MANGALA.

Edwards: "We just got married. My husband's from Sri Lanka. So, we are very excited about the process we've begun in our lives. Love brought us together and now we're a part of this community."

HUNDREDS MARCHED FROM CITY HALL THROUGH THE STREETS OF SAN JOSE, YOUNG AND OLDER, DOCUMENTED AND UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS CONCERNED THEIR FAMILIES MAY SOON BE RIPPED APART.

Protester: "I'm very concerned. Um, I grew up in an immigrant community. Um, most of my friends come from immigrant backgrounds all over the world and, yeah, I don't, I don't want to see what will potentially happen to them against the Trump Administration."

Chant: "Hey, Trump, escucha estamos te la lucha."

THE GROUP GATHERED IN FRONT OF THE FEDERAL BUILDING WHERE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSWOMAN ZOE LOFGREN ADDRESSED THE CROWD.

Lofgren: "Repealing healthcare, deporting immigrants, trashing the planet, that's not where America needs to go and we will not stand for it."

SAN JOSE CITY COUNCILMEMBER SERGIO JIMENEZ MARCHED AS WELL. HE CAME TO THE STATES AS A THREE YEAR OLD AND BECAME A CITIZEN IN 2008.

Jimenez: "I want to make sure my kids and other children and other families across the city have the same opportunities that I had, I want them to see me and know that anything's possible."

THE MARCH AND RALLY REMAINED PEACEFUL, ONE OF MANY DEMONSTRATIONS EXPECTED ACROSS THE BAY AREA BEFORE PRESIDENT-ELECT TRUMP IS SWORN INTO OFFICE.

Chant: "Stand up for your rights!"

IN SAN JOSE PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

1/16/17 KRON 4 Evening News Local congresswoman honors Dr. Martin Luther King

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING IS SOMETHING OAKLAND CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA LEE IS PROUD TO TAKE PART IN THIS MLK DAY. BUT THE CONGRESSWOMAN HAS ALSO MADE HEADLINES STATING SHE WILL NOT ATTEND PRESIDENT ELECT DONALD TRUMPS' INAUGURATION. LEE TELLS KRON4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN THAT IT IS A DECISION SHE BELIEVES IS IN-STEP WITH THE LEGACY OF DR.KING:

Lee: "I have a duty and responsibility to call it like it is."

TODAY MAY BE THE MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY HOLIDAY BUT OAKLAND CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA LEE IS NOT TAKING ANY TIME OFF FROM STANDING FIRM IN HER DECISION NOT TO ATTEND THE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION.

Lee: "I chose not to celebrate the inauguration. Of course I agree with the peaceful transfer of power, respect the office of the presidency., Donald trump will be President, but when you look at the campaign of divisiveness and bigotry, when you look at the fact that nothing has changed since the campaign, you know I don't think that is something I need to do in terms of celebrating."

PRESIDENT ELECT TRUMP'S RECENT TWEETS TARGETING GEORGIA CONGRESSMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS HERO JOHN LEWIS DIDN'T HELP THE SITUATION SAYS CONGRESSWOMAN LEE.

Lee: "John Lewis is a moral leader, an icon, a human rights and civil rights leader and he's not just about talk, he has worked all of his life for voting rights, civil rights, for human rights."

SHE SAYS SOME OF DONALD TRUMP'S ADVISORS AND CABINET NOMINEES ARE ALSO A PROBLEM.

Lee: "When you look at Senator Jeff Sessions who has a history of opposing equal justice under the law for everyone, Steve Bannon, a white nationalist who will be in the White House."

ALL THE MORE REASON THIS CONGRESSWOMAN FROM OAKLAND WILL BE ABSENT DURING THE UPCOMING PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION AND SHE SAYS THE MOVE IS CONSISTENT WITH THE LEGACY OF REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING ON THIS HOLIDAY.

Lee: "I thought about this very carefully, Dr King, again, in thinking about what his life demonstrated. He said over and over again that we have a moral obligation to do what's right, that silence is betrayal. I just cannot celebrate in good conscience."

CONGRESSWOMAN BARARA LEE SAYS SHE WILL HOWEVER ATTEND THE PRESIDENTIAL STATE OF THE UNION.

IN OAKLAND HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

DIVERSITY

1/16/17 KRON 4 Evening News Unusual prayer meeting

IT WAS BILLED AS A FIRST OF ITS KIND PRAYER MEETING BETWEEN CATHOLICS AND MUSLIMS THIS AFTERNOON AND IT TOOK PLACE AT A MOSQUE. AND AS KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE EXPLAINS FOR US NOW LIVE FROM SAN JOSE, THE INSPIRATION FOR IT IS THE LEGACY OF DOCTOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JUNIOR:

THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S A FIRST FOR SAN JOSE AND ACCORDING TO FATHER JOHN PEDIGO OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN JOES IT'S A FIRST FOR THE ENTIRE REGION, CATHOLICS AND MUSLIMS WORSHIPPING TOGETHER UNDER THE SAME ROOF AND FINDING COMMON GROUND IN PEOPLE OF BOTH FAITHS INVOKING THE WORDS AND DEEDS OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Bishop Patrick McGraw: "Christians and Muslims alike honor our common patriarch Abraham."

DIOCESE OF SAN JOSE BISHOP PATRICK MCGRAW CALLING ON CATHOLICS AND MUSLIMS HERE AT SAN JOSE'S SABA ISLAMIC CENTER TO COME TOGETHER IN THE NAME OF PEACE.

Bishop McGraw: "Peace drives our work within our communities and within our world."

BILLED AS A MUSLIM-CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE, THE FIRST EVER SUCH PRAYER MEETING INSPIRED BY THE MESSAGE OF UNITY PUT FORTH BY THE LATE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Imam Nabi Raza Abid, Saba Islamic Center: "The message is for social justice and for unity. Because we believe that all the prophets, those that came from God to guide us, they had one common goal which is to establish justice among the people."

A CONTINGENT OF CATHOLICS FROM OUR LADY BY THE SEA WALKED TO THE MOSQUE FROM ALVISO TO SYMBOLIZE THE PLIGHT OF IMMIGRANTS IN AMERICA TODAY.

Father John Pedigo, Diocese of San Jose: "What has happened with our Muslim community, what's happened with our immigrant community that are Catholic, we've had a lot of negative attention placed on those two communities."

Zahra Billoo, Council of American Islamic Relations: "The message we take from MLK's life is that we are stronger when we're working across faith and racial lines, that we can advocate for each other and we can protect each other when we do it together more effectively."

CATHOLICS AND MUSLIMS PRAYED AND LAUGHED AND LATER BROKE BREAD TOGETHER, ECHOING A THEME FAMILIAR TO BOTH FAITHS THAT 'MAN IS EITHER YOUR BROTHER IN FAITH OR YOUR EQUAL IN HUMANITY.' BISHOP MCGRAW, FOR ONE, SOUNDING AN OPTIMISTIC NOTE FOR THE FUTURE.

Bishop McGraw: "This will be the beginning now of a conversation that we will have with our brothers and sisters of the Muslim tradition and I'm hoping that we will be able to work together and support each other in the days, months and years ahead.

STRIKING A NERVE INSIDE AND DRAWING THE PERHAPS THE BIGGEST RESPONSE FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE WAS SISTER AURORA SOLIECE OF SAN JOSE'S MOST HOLY TRINITY CHURCH WHO SAID THAT IF MUSLIMS ARE CALLED UPON TO REGISTER WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT THEN SHE WOULD TO AND CALLED ON ALL CATHOLICS TO ESPOUSE THE SAME FEELINGS.

ATTENDEES, BOTH CATHOLIC AND MUSLIM, ALL SAYING THEY HOPE THEY CAN DO THIS AGAIN SOON.

ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

1/16/17 KRON 4 Evening News Oakland's MLK events

INITIATE CHANGE THROUGH NON-VIOLENCE AND EDUCATION TO KEEP THE DREAM ALIVE. THAT WAS TODAY'S THEME FOR THE 25TH ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MULTI-CULTURAL RALLY IN OAKLAND. KRON4'S HAAZIQ MADYUN WAS THERE AND FILES THIS REPORT:

IT WAS A HIGH SPIRITED 25TH ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MULTICULTURAL RALLY HERE AT THE I-L-W-U WAREHOUSE UNION HALL IN OAKLAND.

Otis Sanders: "Today is the day. Time for celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King."

OTIS SANDERS IS THE CHAIR OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING RALLY COMMITTEE.

Sanders: "Remember Martin Luther King and the message he brought to us. It is still needed today. The dream is still alive. We still have mountains to climb."

THE PROGRAM INCLUDED YOUTH SPEAKERS FROM THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR FREEDOM CENTER.

Laelah Jackson, Martin Luther King, Jr. Freedom Center: "We have the right to be upset. We have the right to be mad, but that should not turn into hating someone. We shouldn't be channeling our hurt, our anger, our pain into hate."

Layda Carillo, Martin Luther King, Jr. Freedom Center: "I feel like being together and having a lot of diverse communities come together, really embracing each other, is what's going to make a stronger community."

Jake Harrison Martin Luther King, Jr. Freedom Center: "Dr. King was much more than a dream. We often hear that. He was someone who went against what this country was about back then in terms of discrimination."

Congresswoman Barbara Lee: "You know the history is so important."

OAKLAND CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA LEE WAS TODAY'S KEY NOTE SPEAKER

Lee: "When you look at Dr. King's legacy and where we are, some of us have to fight for those ideals and his vision for liberty and justice for all."

IN OAKLAND HAAZIQ MADYUN KRON4NEWS

DIVERSITY

1/25/17 KRON 4 Evening News Sanctuary cities under fire

Sean Spicer, White House Press Secretary: "We're going to strip federal grant money from the sanctuary states and cities that harbor illegal immigrants. The American people are no longer going to have to be forced to subsidize this disregard for our laws."

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER FROM THE WHITE HOUSE CUTS OFF CITIES IN THE BAY AREA FROM FEDERAL FUNDING. THIS IS JUST ONE OF SEVERAL ACTIONS ON IMMIGRATION TODAY TAKEN BY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION.

SAN FRANCISCO IS ONE OF SEVERAL LOCAL SANCTUARY CITIES. THERE'S ALSO OAKLAND, ALAMEDA, BERKELEY, RICHMOND AND SAN JOSE. AND THE BAY AREA IS CERTAINLY NOT ALONE. THERE ARE MORE THAN 200 SANCTUARY CITIES IN THE U.S.

THE PRESIDENT'S ACTIONS ON IMMIGRATION HAS SAN FRANCISCO CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS GEARING UP FOR A FIGHT. AND MAYOR ED LEE VOWS TO UPHOLD THE SANCTUARY CITY POLICY, DESPITE THE PRESIDENT'S PROMISE TO WITHHOLD FEDERAL FUNDING.

KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY REPORTS THAT HOW MUCH SAN FRANCISCO STANDS TO LOSE IN THIS POLITCAL BATTLE IS STILL UNCLEAR.

Sandra Fewer, San Francisco supervisor: "We will not back down and we will stand up for what we believe is right."

SAN FRANCISCO SUPERVISOR SANDRA FEWER, THE GRANDAUGHTER OF AN UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANT, WAS ONE OF MANY POLITICIANS AND CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS ON THE STEPS OF CITY HALL VOWING TO FIGHT PRESIDENT TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS.

Fewer: "We will fight you in the streets we will fight you in the courts. We will build a wall, not one that separates us but a wall of resistance to racism xenophobia and fascism."

Hillary Rosen, SF supervisor: "You better be ready for a fight because we are protecting our immigrant communities by any means necessary. Here in San Franciso we are going to make sure our immigrant brothers and sisters have the legal means to fight back. When we know there is a violation of human rights here, this is where we excel and this is where we lead the nation. Well, we are certainly not backing out now."

INSIDE CITY HALL, THE MAYOR REITERATED HIS POSITION TO MAINTAIN SAN FRANCISCO'S STATUS AS A SANCTUARY CITY DESPITE THE PRESIDENT'S ORDER TO STRIP FEDERAL FUNDING FROM CITIES WHO PREVENT LOCAL OFFICIALS FROM COMMUNITICATING WITH FEDERAL AUTHORITIES ABOUT SOMEONE'S IMMIGRATION STATUS.

Mayor Lee: "We are and continue to be a sanctuary city."

BUT THE MAYOR SAYS THEY ARE STILL TRYING TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH OF THE ONE BILLION DOLLARS THAT SAN FRANCISCO GETS FROM THE FEDS THAT WILL BE CUT OFF.

Mayor Lee: "We get about a billion dollar but I am unsure and so is the City Attorney about what's under review at this time. They specified federal grants and we do get some federal grants, but they are designed specifically to carry out federal protection. So we will have to take a look at what they are actually saying."

City Attorney spokesperson: "I don't think they've designed that very specifically. They didn't say all federal grants as far as we know."

THE SPOKESPERSON FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY SAYS THEY AREN'T TAKING LEGAL ACTION YET BECAUSE SO FAR THE FUNDS HAVE NOT BEEN CUT. BUT ONCE THAT FEDERAL TAP IS TURNED OFF, THEY DO PLAN TO CHALLENGE THE EXECUTIVE ORDER IN COURT.

PRESIDENT TRUMP MADE SAN FRANCISCO'S SANCTUARY CITY POLICY A NATIONAL ISSUE WHILE ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL, AFTER THE 2015 DEATH OF KATE STIENLE. SHE WAS FATALLY SHOT ON PIER 14 BY AN UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANT AND REPEAT FELON WHO HAD BEEN RELEASED BY COUNTY OFFICIALS RATHER THAN TURNED OVER TO FEDERAL AUTHORITIES. THE ACCUSED JUAN FRANCISCO LOPEZ SANCHEZ PLEADED NOT GUILTY, HIS ATTORNEY CLAIMS THE SHOOTING WAS ACCIDENTIAL.

I REACHED OUT TO KATE STEINLE'S BROTHER BRAD....AT THIS TIME HE SAYS HIS FAMILY IS DECLINING TO COMMENT ON THIS THE PRESIDENT'S MOVE.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

SAN FRANCISCO IS NOT THE ONLY BAY AREA CITY AFFECTED BY TODAY'S ACTION. OAKLAND, SAN JOSE, BERKELEY, ALAMEDA AND RICHMOND ARE ALSO SANCTUARY CITIES. AND OF COURSE, IT IS NOT JUST THE BAY AREA.. LOS ANGELES HAS PROMISED TO PROTECT UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS AND OUTSIDE OUR REGION, CHICAGO IS ALSO A SANCTUARY CITY.

MAYORS FROM OTHER SANCTUARY CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY ARE ALSO REACTING TO PRESIDENT TRUMP'S SIGNING OF THE EXECUTIVE ORDERS. AND THE MOVE BROUGHT A QUICK RESPONSE FROM HIS OWN HOMETOWN AND NEW YORK MAYOR BILL DE-BLASIO.

SEVERAL OTHER CITY AND STATE LEADERS ARE REACTING TO THE PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE ACTIONS ON IMMIGRATION.

YOU SAW OAKLAND ON THAT LIST AND HERE IS HOW MAYOR LIBBY SCHAAF IS REACTING TO TODAY'S EXECUTIVE ORDER AND THE IMPACT IT WILL HAVE ON HER CITY:

"OAKLANDERS RELY ON \$130 MILLION IN FEDERAL FUNDING FOR EVERYTHING FROM EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAMS LIKE HEAD START TO GETTING OFFICERS OUT OF THEIR CARS AND ONTO OUR STREETS AT A TIME WHEN COMMUNITY POLICING IS SO DESPERATELY NEEDED. WE WILL NOT ALLOW THIS PRESIDENT TO PLAY POLITICS WITH OUR SAFETY AND SECURITY."

SENATOR KAMALA HARRIS ECHOED THE MAYOR'S STATEMENT AND WENT A LITTLE FARTHER IN HER RESPONSE: "DIRECTING A DEPORTATION FORCE TO BREAK UP IMMIGRANT FAMILIES CONTRIBUTING TO OUR COUNTRY IS NOT A SHOW OF STRENGTH, IT DAMAGES OUR COMMUNITIES AND ERODES LOCAL ECONOMIES."

CALIFORNIA SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN RELEASED A STATEMENT TODAY SAYING: "THE TWO EXECUTIVE ORDERS SIGNED TODAY BY PRESIDENT TRUMP WON'T HELP FIX OUR IMMIGRATION SYSTEM. THE SOLUTION TO IMMIGRATION WON'T BE A SERIES OF DISJOINTED POLICY PROVISIONS. WHAT WE NEED IS COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM. THE SENATE PASSED A BI-PARTISAN BILL IN 2013 AND WE NEED TO DO SO AGAIN."

WE CAUGHT UP TO CONGRESSWOMAN JACKIE SPEIER THIS AFTERNOON. SHE REPRESENTS SECTIONS OF SAN FRANCISCO, AS WELL AS THE PENINSULA. HER TAKE: THE PRESIDENT IS SIMPLY PLAYING POLITICS AND ADDRESSING WHAT HE TOLD HIS BASE DURING THE CAMPAIGN. BUT SPEIER IS ADAMANT THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL HAVE TO GO THROUGH CONGRESS TO STRIP CITIES OF MONEY.

DIVERSITY

1/25/17 KRON 4 news at 8pm & 10pm Trump supporters speak up

WE HAVE HEARD THE OUTCRY FROM THOSE UPSET WITH PRESIDENT TRUMP, BUT TONIGHT HIS SUPPORTERS ARE SPEAKING UP TOO. KRON 4'S J.R. STONE IS IN SAN FRANCISCO TONIGHT. J.R. YOU TALKED WITH SOME SAN FRANCISCO RESIDENTS WHO SUPPORT TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDER ON DEFUNDING SANCTUARY CITIES. WHAT DID THEY HAVE TO SAY?

THEY BELIEVE THE SANCTUARY CITY POLICY IS NOT RIGHT AND SAY IT HARBORS UNDOCUMENTED PEOPLE WHO BROKE THE LAW IN COMING HERE. BOTH THESE PEOPLE THAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO HEAR FROM ARE SAN FRANCISCO RESIDENTS WHO SUPPORT DEFUNDING THEIR OWN CITY FOR THIS CAUSE.

Trump supporter: "In California almost 10% of our population is undocumented and that's just not a situation that we can let fester. It's something we have to deal with and solve."

Chris Miller, Trump supporter: "I think that San Francisco should lose its federal funding if it is keeping illegal immigrants here, housing them and giving them entitlements that some residents, legal residents, veterans, citizens, don't have. Finally we have a president who does what he said he was going to do. I'm a fact-based thinker. I'm logical. I'm a middle-class single mom raising two kids in San Francisco. I'm not privileged. I'm not a racist because I have these beliefs. But I do believe that America needs to start putting America first."

CHRIS MILLER SAYS SHE DOESN'T SUPPORT EVERYTHING THAT PRESIDENT TRUMP HAS DONE SO FAR AND DOESN'T SUPPORT ALL HIS NOMINEES BUT SAYS AT THIS POINT THE GOOD OUTWEIGHS THE BAD.

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

DIVERSITY

2/3/17 KRON 4 Evening News Local spiritual communities speak out against travel ban

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS ON IMMIGRATION AND TRAVEL HAVE GALVANIZED MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED PEOPE IN WALNUT CREEK. THE GATHERING TOOK PLACE TODAY OUTSIDE THE WALNUT CREEK ISLAMIC CENTER. ELECTED OFFICIALS JOINED LEADERS FROM SEVERAL DIFFERENT FAITHS IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY AND OTHER PEOPLE WHO SAYS THEY'VE BEEN NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY THE PRESIDENT'S ORDERS. THE GROUP SHARED A PRAYER TOGETHER, JOINING IN A CIRCLE OUTSIDE THE MOSQUE. DEMONSTRATORS CALLED FOR PEACE, LOVE AND TOLERANCE.

Demonstrator: "We are gathered here in the struggle and the power."

REFUGEES TURNED AWAY, VISAS REVOKED AND WORRY OVER AMERICA'S PERCEPTION AROUND THE WORLD WERE THE INSPIRATIONS BEHIND THIS DEMONSTRATION.

Demonstrator: "Make a circle for each soul."

JEWS, CHRISTIANS, CATHOLICS, SIKH'S AND MORE FORM A CIRCLE OUTSIDE THE WALNUT CREEK ISLAMIC CENTER, JOINING IN PRAYER...

Speaker: "God, we pray for justice and righteousness ."

EXTENDING AN OLIVE BRANCH TO A WOUNDED MUSLIM COMMUNITY GRAVELY CONCERNED BY PRESIDENT TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS ON IMMIGRATION AND TRAVEL.

Demonstrator: "We're here to, uh, oppose inequality and injustice."

YASSER MOTEN LIVES IN WALNUT CREEK AND PRAYS AT THIS MOSQUE ON A DAILY BASIS. HIS 13-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER HERE AS WELL, TAKING PART IN THE MEETING HELD IN HER MOTHER YASMINE KHAN'S HOMETOWN.

Yasmine Khan: "I've attended elementary school here, middle school, high school, um, and just to see this level of support in a city that I call my home is absolutely moving. And it gives me hope for the next four years and the years to come."

SEVERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS JOINED THE SERVICE, CALLING FOR UNITY, NOT FURTHER DIVISION.

Speaker: "It may be cloudy up there but there's a lot of sun shining on this place right now."

97 YEARS ON THIS EARTH AND MARY LOUISE LYNCH IS ALARMED.

Lynch: "I'm concerned and I'm hoping we're on the right track."

Speaker: "Love matters. Peace matters."

Speaker: "And, as a Jew, I'm particularly proud of my Muslim neighbors, who I feel have been vilified unnecessarily."

Speaker: "We're all Americans, regardless of our race, regardless of what we believe. We have to standup for each other or we fall apart."

MOTEN AND HIS FAMILY FEELING REASSURED THAT THEY DON'T STAND ALONE.

Moten: "We have millions and millions of other people here, uh, who believe in the constitution, who believe in the rule of law and that we're not going to be left alone, during the next four years."

Speaker, praying: "Spirit draw near."

IN WALNUT CREEK, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

2/9/17 KRON 4 News 6P / 8P Black Panthers museum exhibit

AS THE BAY AREA CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH, THE OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA IS EXTENDING ITS POPULAR EXHIBIT HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY. THE EXHIBIT HAS RECEIVED EXTRAORDINARY INTEREST FROM THE BAY AREA COMMUNITY.

IT IS CALLED " ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE; BLACK PANTHERS AT 50" AND IT TAKES A FRESH LOOK AT THE REMARKABLE AND CONTROVERSIAL MOVEMENT STARTED BY A GROUP OF YOUNG BLACK COLLEGE STUDENTS IN OAKLAND, A MOVEMENT THAT TOOK ON NATIONAL AND EVENTUALLY INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE IN THE FIGHT FOR JUSTICE.

IT IS A MULTI-MEDIA, INTERACTIVE EXHIBIT THAT INCLUDES INTERVIEWS, VIDEOS, DOCUMENTS, MUSIC AND ART FROM A MOVEMENT THAT CHALLENGED THE NATION. RENE' de GUZMAN IS THE SENIOR CURATOR OF ART AND TALKS ABOUT THE PARTY'S NEWSPAPER:

De Guzman: "The Black Panthers newspaper is a great story. Hundreds of thousands of copies were published every week. The folks who sold the paper could keep a dime and the remaining 15 cents would go to support the party's survival program. It was an important economic base for the organization but also for individuals who wouldn't have jobs."

THE EXHIBIT ALSO ILLUSTRATES THE FREE FOOD, THE FREE BREAKFAST, AND FREE HEALTH CLINIC PROGRAMS STARTED BY THE PANTHERS, WHO AT THE TIME WERE LARGELY ONLY IDENTIFIED AS "VIOLENT MILITANTS".

THE EXHIBIT WILL RUN THROUGH THE END OF FEBRUARY AT THE OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA AND COMING UP TONIGHT ON KRON 4 NEWS AT EIGHT, WE WILL GO IN-DEPTH ON THE EXHIBIT.

FIFTY YEARS AGO THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY STARTED IN OAKLAND, AND ITS MISSION CAUGHT FIRE ACROSS THE UNITED STATES, THEIR MESSAGE RESONATING WITH BLACK AND POOR COMMUNITIES FRUSTRATED BY A WORLD THEY FELT DID NOT TREAT THEM FAIRLY NOR WITH DIGNIT. PEOPLE ALWAYS HEAR ABOUT THE PANTHER POLITICS, THE GUNS, THE CONTROVERSIAL SIDE OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY. AN EXHIBIT AT THE OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA TRACES THAT HISTORY, BUT ADDS SO MUCH MORE. IT'S CALLED "ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE" AND IT WILL WRAP UP AT THE END OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH. WE WANTED TO GIVE YOU A SENSE OF IT TONIGHT.

HUEY NEWTON'S PICTURE IN THE CHAIR BECAME AS ICONIC AS THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY SYMBOL ITSELF, AND A BRONZE ART REPLICA OF THE HUEY CHAIR GREETS VISITORS AS THEY ENTER THE 'ALL THE POWER TO THE PEOPLE' EXHIBIT.

RENE' de GUZMAN IS THE MUSEUM'S SENIOR CURATOR OF ART.

deGuzman: "For folks who lived in the period or were former Panthers, there's a lot of pride because a big institution has legitimized their story which has largely been ignored."

"BLACK PANTHERS AT 50" TAKES A FRESH LOOK AT THE REMARKABLE AND CONTROVERSIAL MOVEMENT THAT GAINED NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MOMENTUM AND SIGNIFICANCE.

deGuzman: "One of the things that occurred during the making of this show was how contemporary issues started becoming relevant to our work on the show. The Black Lives Matter movement started and then the presidential election which was so divisive and brought up issues of race identity and injustice – things that the Panthers were all about."

IT'S ALSO A CHANCE TO LEARN THINGS YOU MAYBE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT 'THE BLACK PANTHERS'..

Museum visitor: "We were taught growing up that they were these bad, gun-toting black guys. To walk through this museum and see that they had food give-aways and clinics and elderly programs to walk people to cash their checks, it's just awesome."

AND SOME OF THOSE SAME PROGRAMS ARE A PART OF THE AMERICAN CULTURE TODAY. THE PANTHERS BELIEVED THE REAL REVOLUTION STARTED WITH TAKING CARE OF THE COMMUNITY FIRST.

THIS IS AN INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE. YOU CAN SEE THE INTERVIEWS, HEAR THE VOICES OF HUEY NEWTON, BOBBY SEALE AND OTHERS WHO LED THE PANTHERS. FEEL THE SENSATION OF BEING BEHIND THE JAIL BARS FROM HUEY NEWTON'S CELL AND SEE A SAMPLING OF THE THOUSANDS OF THE INTELLIGENCE REPORTS ..

Museum visitor: "This is absolutely a fantastic exhibit. I'm so glad I got to come and see this. It should be a permanent exhibit somewhere. It has so much relevance to what was going on then and what's going on now."

deGuzman: "I think the Panthers signified that leadership can come from anyplace. The Panthers came out of the Black experience, but they became leaders for a broader community. They built coalitions with feminists, with gay liberation, Latino communities, Asian communities. So it's really a model for us coming together."

Museum visitor: "If you don't learn from the past, you're going to repeat history."

THE EXHIBIT HAS ALREADY SEEN RECORD ATTENDANCE – 45-HUNDRED PEOPLE ON ONE RECENT DAY. IT RUNS UNTIL THE END OF FEBRUARY - BLACK HISTORY MONTH – AT THE OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA IN DOWNTOWN OAKLAND SO THERE'S STILL TIME TO GO. AND YOU CAN FIND ALL OUR BLACK HISTORY MONTH STORIES ON OUR WEBSITE KRON 4 DOT COM

DIVERSITY

2/16/17 KRON 4 Evening News Shops closed to support immigration rights

A DAY WITHOUT IMMIGRANTS. THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT MADE ITS WAY TO THE BAY AREA TODAY WHERE SEVERAL BUSINESSES KEPT THEIR DOORS CLOSED TODAY. IT IS ALL IN SOLIDARITY WITH DOCUMENTED AND UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS WHO ARE LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES. KRON 4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL REPORTS FROM SAN FRANCISCO WHERE DEMONSTRATORS SAY IMMIGRANTS ARE INVALUABLE TO THE WORKFORCE.

Demonstrator: "I was there in deportation proceedings in Bakersfield California."

HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM THE U.S. NAVY, JOAQUIN SOTELO-TARIN FOUGHT IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN. A LEGAL U-S RESIDENT WITH A GREEN CARD, SOTELO-TARIN COMMITTED A FELONY WHEN HE RETURNED FROM WAR, AND SPENT TIME IN PRISON. BUT EVEN AFTER SERVING TIME, HE SAYS HE'S RECENTLY BEEN THREATENED WITH DEPORTATION. FOR CLOSE TO A YEAR AND A HALF, HE SAYS HE WAS DETAINED BY IMMIGRATION SERVICES WITHOUT LEGAL REPRESENTATION.

Sotelo-Tarin: "Some of us veteran or some of us immigrants don't have the, the, those amounts, those high amounts of money that we need to pay to get represented by well-known lawyer or a lawyer at least that is going to help us get out through this process."

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDER JEFF ADACHI SAYS HE IS PLEADING WITH THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO HIS OFFICE SO THAT HE COULD FIGHT THE LEGAL BATTLES IN COURT FOR THOSE UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS WHO HAVE BEEN JAILED OR DETAINED.

Adachi: "There's a huge backlog in the San Francisco immigration court, some 46,000 cases, and so, what this would do is provide legal advice to people. It's just a matter of due process, which we think is the American way."

NABIL FARA SUPPORTS THE CAUSE. THAT'S WHY HE JOINED THE "DAY WITHOUT IMMIGRANTS" PROTEST OUTSIDE CITY HALL. HE OWNS TWO BUSINESSES IN SAN FRANCISCO, WHICH TODAY REMAINED CLOSED, IN SOLIDARITY WITH DOCUMENTED AND UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS FEARING RATCHETED DEPORTATIONS BY THE TRUMP ADMINSITRATION.

FARA IS FROM YEMEN, ONE OF THE SEVEN BANNED COUNTRIES LISTED IN PRESIDENT TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDER ON IMMIGRATION AND TRAVEL, AN ORDER RULED UNCONSTITUTIONAL BY THE 9TH U.S. CITCUIT COURT OF APPEALS.

Fara: "If we stop working, everything will be shutting down in the United States, because all the people that they work with me, they are immigrants and they are from a different country. They're not from here."

SENTIMENTS SHARED BY THE DOZENS OF OTHERS WHO SHOWED UP TO PROTEST. ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION, IMMIGRANTS ACCOUNT FOR 23 PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE EMPLOYED AT RESTAURANTS.

IN SAN FRANCISCO, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS

ANCHOR: THERE WERE A NUMBER OF "DAY WITHOUT AN IMMIGRANT" MARCHES AROUND THE COUNTRY. LARGE CROWDS ALSO FILLED THE STREETS OF CHICAGO, DETROIT, ST. PAUL AND WASHINGTON D.C..

DIVERSITY

2/16/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm & 10pm Addressing immigration fears

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S AGGRESSIVE STANCE ON IMMIGRATION IS HAVING AN IMPACT ON FAMILIES HERE IN THE BAY AREA. MANY UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS FEAR THEY WILL BE ROUNDED UP AND SHIPPED OUT OF THE COUNTRY. KRON 4'S HERMELA AREGAWI IS LIVE IN THE NEWSROOM. SHE SPOKE TO A WOMAN WHO IS HELPING THOSE FAMILIES:

Veronica Guinto, immigration lawyer: "What's interesting is the conversation has shifted from undocumented immigrants to whether or not documented immigrants.. even those with green cards.. or naturalized citizens are safe."

I SPOKE WITH AN IMMIGRATION LAWYER THAT WORKS WITH CLIENTS FROM THE MIDDLE EAST AND LATIN AMERICA. SHE TELS ME THE FEAR IN THE IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY HAS HEIGHTENED, ESPECIALLY IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS. SHE RUNS COMMUNITY FORUMS TO EDUCATE PEOPLE ON WHAT THEIR RIGHTS OR THEIR LOVED ONES' RIGHTS ARE AND SHE SAYS RECENTLY SHE'S GOTTEN QUESTIONS THAT SHE HASN'T GOTTEN FOR THE MORE THAN TEN YEARS THAT SHE'S PRACTICED LAW. CITIZENS ARE ASKING AM I SAFE IF I HAVE AN IMMIGRANT OR PERMANENT RESIDENT LIVING IN MY HOUSE? WHAT CAN THE GOVERNMENT DO TO ME?

Guinto: "People are now afraid now, afraid of what's going to happen to them. Even people who have status, people who are permanent residents, people who have visas. Even citizens. The ban and the airports. When people were not boarding. Some people with visas, already issued visas. Some people who were being detained who are legal permanent residents. I mean these are people who were actually already vetted and went through this entire immigration process. And to see that, if you are someone without status, I mean they were like oh my gosh someone is coming from me."

GUINTO REPRESENTS MOSTLY IMMIGRANTS FROM LATIN AMERICA. AND MUSLIM CLIENTS AS WELL. WE HEAR A LOT ABOUT MUSLIM IMMIGRANTS FROM MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES, BUT WHAT ABOUT THOSE COMING FROM AFRICA? COMING UP AT 10 WE'LL HEAR FROM A WOMAN WHO IS HELPING THEM FIGHT BACK.

10pm:

FEAR IS ON THE RISE AMONG BAY AREA IMMIGRANTS. CLEMENTINE NTSHAYKOLO SAYS THE LAST FEW WEEKS, SHE'S BUSIER THAN SHE COULD HAVE IMAGINED.

Ntshaykolo: "It just has been constant calls from clients worried about their cases. What will happen to my processing. And especially clients from Muslim countries. And when we talk about Muslim we often times just think about the Arabs, but a lot of African countries are predominately Muslim. We knew it was going to be bad, but I didn't realize it would be this bad this quickly."

NTSHAYKOLO SAYS MANY OF HER CLIENTS ARE ASYLUM SEEKERS AND SO THE STAKES ARE HIGH FOR THEM.

Ntshaykolo: "We have a lot of clients who are reliving the traumas that they experienced in their home countries, especially LGBTQ clients. Even the ones with green cards, they are still afraid."

AND NTSHAYKOLO SAYS HER WORK HAS CHANGED.

Ntshaykolo: "In addition to being legal service providers, we're also now acting as counselors. Like I spent so many times just counseling, trying to reassure clients that you are safe. You will be safe. The community is behind you. The African community is behind you."

HERMELA AREGAWI KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY 2/17/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Hate crime in SF SWASTIKAS AND THE NAME OF A NAZI DOCTOR SPRAY-PAINTED ALL OVER A SAN FRANCISCO GARAGE DOOR, AN INCIDENT WHICH COULD CONSTITUTE A HATE CRIME. KRON 4'S SPENCER BLAKE HAS SOME OF THE REACTION FROM A VERY ALARMED WOMAN WHO LIVES IN THE APARTMENT BUILDING:

THE MARKINGS THAT WERE ON THIS GARAGE DOOR FRIDAY HAVE SINCE BEEN COVERED UP, BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE WHAT HAPPENED ANY LESS DISCONCERTING. THERE'S NO DOUBT THESE MARKINGS ARE ANTI-SEMITIC, NAZI SWASTIKAS AND THE NAME JOE MENGELE, WHO WAS HIMSELF A NAZI DURING WORLD WAR TWO. IN FACT, HE WAS A DOCTOR AT AUSCHWITZ WHO PERFORMED DEADLY GENETIC EXPERIMENTS ON HUMAN VICTIMS.

Resident: "I came home last night to see this on my garage door."

GHAZAL VAGHEDI, WHO'S ORIGINALLY FROM IRAN, IS ONE OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVES IN THE BUILDING WHO FILED A POLICE REPORT. SHE SAYS SHE NORMALLY FEELS SAFE IN THIS PART OF THE MARINA DISTRICT, BUT WAS CONCERNED TO SEE A DISPLAY OF HATE AND RACISM.

Vaghedi: "It's very random, like, to have something like this happen in our neighborhood."

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS HAVE BEGUN AN INVESTIGATION AND ARE TRYING TO FIND WITNESSES OR VIDEO SURVEILLANCE. LUCKILY, THERE WAS A SECURITY CAMERA RIGHT ABOVE THE DOOR THAT WAS VANDALIZED. VAGHEDI DOESN'T KNOW YET IF IT CAPTURED VIDEO OF THE SUSPECT.

Vaghedi: "We don't know yet. I've contacted the landlord twice now and left him a voicemail so I'm hoping that he'll be in touch."

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, WHO HAS PUT SPECIAL VICTIMS INVESTIGATORS ON THE CASE, SAYS THIS DEFINITELY COULD BE CONSIDERED A HATE CRIME, BUT THAT'S NOT A SURE THING YET.

SFPD spokesperson: "It's possible, but again it's too early to say. It could be someone maybe with mental health issues that's just spray painting. We don't know the motive yet. That's something we'll definitely look into."

SO FAR, POLICE HAVE NOT FOUND OTHER SIMILAR CASES RECENTLY OR NEARBY.

IN RESPONSE TO THE RACIST GRAFFITI, VAGHEDI STARTED A RAZOO FUNDRAISER FOR THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER AND HAS RAISED MORE THAN 12 HUNDRED DOLLARS.

IN SAN FRANCISCO'S MARINA DISTRICT, SPENCER BLAKE, KRON 4 NEWS.

DIVERSITY

3/2/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Growing list of Bay Area sanctuary cities

YOU CAN NOW ADD SAN LEANDRO TO THE GROWING THE NUMBER OF SANCTUARY CITIES IN THE BAY AREA. KRON 4'S HERMELA AREGAWI IS LIVE IN SAN LEANDRO, WHERE SHE SPOKE WITH THE MAYOR AND PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE: WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE, SAN LEANDRO BECAME THE SEVENTH SANCTUARY CITY IN THE BAY AREA. IN A FEBRUARY 21ST MEETING, DOZENS OF RESIDENTS SHOWED UP TO SUPPORT THE MOVE. STUDENTS RHAMIA HALL AND JORDAN WOODS WERE AMONG THEM.

Jordan Woods, student, San Leandro High Social Justice Academy: "I know family members. I know cousins. I know a lot of people that are affected. This has been something that has been affecting them their whole life. And all they wanted was a better education and a better life for them and their families."

Rhamia Hall, student, San Leandro High Social Justice Academy: "Their immigration status should have no effect on whether or not they're protected underneath the law. So for me, a sanctuary city just makes sense."

HOWEVER, NOT EVERYONE WAS HAPPY ABOUT THE MOVE.

Mayor Pauline Cutter, San Leandro: "I think what happened was people were... there's a lot of fear out there and angst about what's going on. The fear is that all of a sudden the police weren't going to be arresting people. Some people felt they were going to be less safe, taxes would get raised, and all of those things which just aren't going to happen."

AT THE MEETING, SOME STUDENTS WITH UNDOCUMENTED PARENTS TALKED ABOUT THEIR OWN FEAR.

Woods: "Middle school students and elementary students come up saying I'm scared. I can't even focus on my education which I should be focusing on, but I'm scared that when Ii come home my parents aren't going to be there."

MAYOR CUTTER TELLS ME NO BUDGET OR RESOURCE CHANGES COME WITH THIS STATUS AND SAYS THIS IS LARGELY A SYMBOLIC MOVE TO LET ALL RESIDENTS HERE KNOW THEY WILL BE TREATED FAIRLY REGARDLESS OF THEIR IMMIGRATION STATUS. THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO SAN LEANDRO BECAUSE IT TOUTS ITSELF AS ONE OF THE MORE DIVERSE CITIES IN THE BAY AREA. ABOUT HALF THE PEOPLE HERE SPEAK A SECOND LANGUAGE AT HOME AND 30% ARE IMMIGRANTS. THIS MEANT LARGELY AS A UNIFYING MOVE AND SO FAR IT HAS BEEN THAT.

HERMELA ARAGAWI KRON 4 NEWS

ANCHOR: SAN LEANDRO FOLLOWS ALAMEDA, WHICH BECAME A SANCTUARY CITY IN JANUARY. SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, BERKELEY, RICHMOND AND SAN JOSE ARE THE OTHER 5.

DIVERSITY

3/7/17 KRON 4 Evening News Anti-Muslim posters at local school

ANTI MUSLIM FLIERS TURN UP ON THE CAMPUS OF ONE EAST BAY SCHOOL. MORE THAN A HALF DOZEN OF THE POSTERS WERE DISCOVERED BY STUDENTS AT THE JOAQUIN MORAGA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL IN MORAGA. KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY HAS THE LATEST ON THE PERSON BELIEVED TO BE RESPONSIBLE.

Bruce Burns, Moraga Unified School District: "It's very upsetting and troubling and disappointing."

THE UNSETTLING DISCOVERY OF 7 TO 8 FLIERS HANGING IN VARIOUS PLACES ON THE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS HAPPENED WEDNESDAY. TWO 8TH GRADERS FOUND THEM AND TURNED THEM IN TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS. THE SUPERINTENDENT SAYS THE POSTERS SHOWED AN IMAGE OF A DRUM WITH A CARTOON CHARACTER POPPING OUT OF IT AROUND WHICH WERE THE WORDS MUSLIM LOONEY TUNES.

Burns: "The source of the poster came from the animated TV show Family Guy."

ANOTHER STUDENT WAS DETERMINED TO BE BEHIND THE INCIDENT.

THEY MET WITH THE PARENTS. THEY CONTACTED LAW ENFORCEMENT. THEY HAD A CONFERENCE WHICH INCLUDED THE STUDENT FORTHE PURPOSE OF BETTER UNDERSTANDING WHAT HAPPENED, WHAT THE MOTIVATION WAS, AND ALSO TO TAK ABOUT WHAT KIND OF SUPPORT WOULD BE PROVIDED AND THAT THERE WERE CONSEQUENCES AS WELL.

BUT THOSE CONSEQUENCES DID NOT INVOLVE THE CHILD BEING ARRESTED.

Burns: "Our job is to promote civility and respect for all people, to take opportunities like this to educate kids and to talk to them about their choices."

PARENTS WERE SURPRISED THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN AT THIS SCHOOL OR HERE IN THIS TOWN.

Suzanne Jones, parent: "I'm surprised to see it honestly. I didn't expect that to happen here. But I think the important thing is that certainly I and everyone I know in Moraga does not want anyone to feel unwelcome here this is a community that welcomes everyone. I am really dismayed that anyone would put up fliers that would send a different message, especially at the school."

HERE'S A COPY OF THE EMAIL THAT THE PRINCIPAL SENT OUT TO PARENTS, LETTING THEM KNOW ABOUT THE INCIDENT AND ALSO LETETING THEM KNOW THAT OCUNSELORS AND ADMINISTRATORS WOULD VISIT ALL THE CLASSROOMS, REMINDING STUDENTS THAT EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT TO FEEL SAFE AT SCHOOL AND ALSO THAT INSENSITIVE AND INFLAMMATORY MATERIAL OR BEHAVIOR WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

3/10/17 KRON 4 Evening News Homeless flood victims

THEY WERE ALREADY HOMELESS WHEN FLOODWATERS CHASED THEM FROM THEIR CAMPSITES ALONG COYOTE CREEK LAST MONTH IN SAN JOSE. NOW, AS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN RELIEF MONEY IS BEING DISTRIBUTED TO OTHER FLOOD VICTIMS, THE HOMELESS ARE SAYING "WHAT ABOUT US?" KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE IS BACK ON THE FLOOD BEAT TONIGHT. ROB ARE THESE PEOPLE GOING TO GET ANY MONEY?

I'M HERE ALONG ROCK SPRINGS DRIVE, GROUND ZERO FOR THE FLOOD. COYOTE CREEK IS JUST BEHIND THIS LITTLE PARK AREA, AS YOU CAN SEE, A NUMBER OF HOMELESS PEOPLE ARE LIVING IN A PARK SHELTER, HAVING LOST MOST OF THEIR TENTS AND OTHER POSSESSIONS. THEY AND THEIR ADVOCATES ARE ASKING FOR HELP, SAYING THAT THEY WERE VICTIMIZED BY THE FLOOD TOO. HERE'S MORE.

Amanda Fukamoto, homeless: "You can see how high the water was here...'

AMANDA FUKAMOTO, WHOSE HOME WAS A TENT PITCHED HERE ALONG COYOTE CREEK NEAR OLD OAKLAND ROAD, IS AMONG THE HUNDREDS OF HOMELESS PEOPLE WHO LOST EVERYTHING WHEN THEY ESCAPED THE FLOOD.

Amanda Fukamoto: "I'm pretty sure that everybody out here feels left behind. They have nothing...."

FUKAMOTO IS TALKING ABOUT THE COYOTE CREEK RELIEF FUND THAT IS HELPING OTHER FLOOD VICTIMS GET BACK ON THEIR FEET. LONG-TIME HOMELESS ADVOCATE PASTOR SCOTT WAGERS SAYS THOSE WHO HAVE CALLED THE CREEK HOME FORYEARS ARE MUCH WORSE OFF NOW THAN BEFORE THE FLOOD.

Pastor Scott Wagers, advocate for the homeless: "If you have six million dollars at least give some to the homeless.. I think it's legitimate, it's logical and it's humane. To simply say they were already homeless is sending the wrong message."

FOR ITS PART, THE CITY SAYS IT WARNED THE HOMELESS IN ADVANCE TO GET AWAY FROM THE CREEK AND INDEED RESCUED SEVERAL PEOPLE DURING THE FLOOD AND THAT IT IS ALREADY SPENDING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS ON PROGRAMS TO HELP THE HOMELESS.

Ray Bramson, San Jose Housing Dept.: "The city has been committed to working on issues surrounding homelessness, investing over \$70 million dollars in the last two years to create housing opportunities, invest in services and create outreach with a lot of work on the ground to get people housed."

Pastor Wagers: "Why not give them a piece of this money? They don't need much, enough for a few tents and tarps, some basic necessities. The city says they want to get them into housing. When? Three years from now when they're ready to die?"

THURSDAY'S PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FLOOD HEARD FROM STILL OTHERS, PROPERTY OWNERS AND RENTERS WHO WERE HURT BY THE FLOOD AND ARE ALSO IN NEED OF HELP. BUT WITH NO ADDRESS WITH WHICH TO APPLY FOR RELIEF, AMANDA FUKAMOTO IS NOT EXPECTING MUCH AND HAS ALREADY RETURNED TO THE CREEKSIDE, THE ONLY HOME SHE CLAIMS TO HAVE KNOWN FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

Amanda Fukamoto: "Well, we have to keep in mind that we're not supposed to be here in the first place, we're here illegally and that's just the way society is going to look at it, you know, like if we just weren't here in the first place..."

AMANDA IS NOT THE ONLY ONE. I SAW DOZENS OF TENTS ALONG THE CREEK BETWEEN HERE AND OLD OAKLAND ROAD TODAY AND THE FOLKS I TALKED WITH WERE NOT VERY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT WHETHER THEY WOULD GET AND HELP FROM THIS COYOTE CREEK FUND. THEY'RE ALSO NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT ATTEMPTS TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION WITH THE CREEK ITSELF. THEY BELIEVE IT WILL FLOOD AGAIN. IT'S JUST A MATTER OF WHEN.

IN SAN JOSE ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

3/16/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Organization teaches immigrants their legal rights

AS CONCERNS GROW AMONG UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS ABOUT A TRUMP ADMINSTRATION IMMIGRATION CRACKDOWN, ONE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ORGANIZATION IN SAN JOSE SAYS IT HAS BEEN SWAMPED WITH CALLS FOR HELP. NOW THEY ARE RESPONDING BY MAKING SURE FAMILIES KNOW THEIR RIGHTS AND ARE PREPARED IN CASE ICE COMES TO THEIR DOOR. KRON4'S LYDIA PANTAZES SHOWS US HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS:

Workshop attendee: "We need to be educated about our rights."

IT'S A LESSON THAT FOR MANY IN THIS GROUP COULD MEAN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING WITH THEIR FAMILY...

Workshop attendee: "Imagine you're at the door and you hear a loud knock at the door and you see ICE officers outside."

AND BEING DEPORTED.

Workshop attendee: "They don't realize that they're not just targeting criminals, they're targeting innocent families."

THIS WOMAN, WHO DID NOT WANT TO BE IDENTIFIED, IS PART OF WHAT'S KNOWN AS A MIXED STATUS FAMILY. SHE ANDHER CHILDREN ARE U.S. CITIZENS, BUT HER HUSBAND IS UNDOCUMENTED. SHE DROVE TWO HOURS TO GET HERE.

Workshop attendee: "Yes, but this is important to me. I actually requested the time off of work. I work but this is more important right now."

SHE'S TAKING PART IN A KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WORKSHOP AT SIREN, THE SERVICES, IMMIGRANT RIGHTS AND EDUCATION NETWORK IN SAN JOSE.

SIREN spokesperson: "We remind folks not to answer their door if ICE is knocking at their door, to ask for a warrant and if they do have one, to slide it under their door."

BUT IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS, THE WORKSHOPS HAVE GROWN TO INCLUDE FAMILY PREPAREDNESS PLANS. FOR EXAMPLE, WORKSHEETS TLIKE THESE THAT FAMILIES FILL OUT TOGETHER TO PREPARE IN CASE THEY ARE SEPARATED.

Attendee: "I'm hoping to be more prepared if the situation arises where he was detained."

SIREN spokesperson: "Between 40 and 50 people come here to the SIREN offices for the presentation each week, but SIREN also holds these types seminars in other parts of the community from Salinas to San Francisco in places like union halls, churches and schools and other community organizations."

THE WORKSHOPS AREN'T JUST FOR FAMILIES FACING DEPORTATION.

Spokesperson: "Undocumented people alone are not in a position to defend themselves, so it's up to the rest of us as Californians, as human beings to stand up for their rights."

SHARAT LIN IS HERE ETO BE A PART OF THE RAPID RESPONSE TEAM, A GROUP OF PEOPLE WILLING TO EHLP FROM PROTTESTING TO PROVIDING SHELTER.

SIREN spokesperson: "The hope is that when we hear of an ICE raid we can get people there on scene with cameras and if we have enough people, we can actually block it."

BUT FIRST...

"No habra la puerta."

... PEOPLE HAVE TO KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR AND HOW TO RESPOND.

LYDIA PANTAZES KRON 4 NEWS

DIVERSITY

3/20/17 KRON 4 Evening News Sesame Street addresses autism

SESAME STREET IS ABOUT TO ADD A NEW CHARACTER. BUT THIS IS NO ORDINARY ADDITION. THE NEW MUPPET.

IT'S A PRETTY BIG DEAL WHEN THE ICONIC CHILDREN'S SHOW SESAME STREET HAS A NEW MUPPET. AND THE LATEST CHARACTER HAS AUTISM, RAISING AWARENESS AT A YOUNG AGE TO HELP TEACH CHILDREN ABOUT ACCEPTANCE.

THIS IS JULIA. SHE FIRST APPEARED ON SESAME STREET'S ONLINE DIGITAL STORYBOOK SERIES BACK IN 2015. SHE IS MAKING HER TV DEBUT NEXT MONTH. THE PURPOSE OF HER CHARACTER IS TO COMBAT STIGMAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE AUTISM SPECTRUM, AND TO EXPOSE YOUNG VIEWERS TO CHILDREN WITH AUTISTIC TRAITS. RATHER THAN BEING TREATED LIKE AN OUTSIDER, JULIA WILL BE ONE OF THE GANG. THE SHOW'S CREATORS SAY THEY HOPE JULIA WILL HELP CHILDREN BETTER UNDERSTAND PLAYMATES WHO HAVE AUTISM.

1Q2017 EDUCATION

EDUCATION

1/19/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Catholic school closure

IN THE EAST BAY, STUDENTS AND PARENTS AT AN EL CERRITO CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY HAVE LEARNED THEIR SCHOOL WILL NOT RE-OPEN NEXT FALL. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE LEARNED LATE THIS EVENING THAT FOUR OTHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS OPERATED BY THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND WILL CLOSE AS WELL.

KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD IS LIVE FOR US TONIGHT IN EL CERRITO WITH DETAILS. HE TALKED WITH PARENTS AND STUDENTS WHO SAY THEY ARE SADDENED B Y THE NEWS:

WE'VE LEARNED THIS EVENING THAT THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND IS RESTRUCTURING ITS EDUCATION SYSTEM AND PART OF THAT RESTRUCTURE INVOLVES CLOSING FIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND WORD WENT OUT TO PARENTS TODAY.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, PARENTS PICKING UP THEIR KIDS HERE AT ST. JEROME CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN EL CERRITO FOUND THEIR CHILDREN CARRYING THIS LETTER. IT SAYS THAT AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, THE DIDOCESE OF OAKLAND, WHICH OPERATES ST. JEROME, WILL BE UNABE TO RE-OPEN THE SCHOOL NEXT FALL.

SHAWN ROSE'S DAUGHTER IS IN 4TH GRADE HERE. HE'S STUNNED BY THE NEWS.

Shawn Rose: "If St Jerome closes it's going to be very difficult for us.

Ana Nakamura: "I'm disappointed and really sad."

ANA NAKAMURA'S TWO SONS, ANTHONY AND PATRICK, BOTH GO TO SCHOOL HERE. THEY REALLY LIKE ST. JEROME.

Ana Nakamura: "It's really nice people here. Very open. Very nice."

Anthony Nakamura: "The teachers here are nice and fun."

THE LETTER ALSO STATES THAT THE REASON THE SCHOOLS WILL BE SHUT DOWN IS A DECLINE IN ENROLLMENT DUE TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, A DROP IN THE NUMBER OF CATHOLIC FAMILES IN THE AREA. IN A STATEMENT THURSDAY, THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND CONFIRMED THAT IN ADDITION TO ST. HEROME, FOUR OTHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ACROSS THE EAST BAY WOULD NOT RE-OPEN IN THE FALL – ST. JARLATH, ST. LAWRENCE O'TOOLE, AND ST. MARTIN DE PORRES ALL IN OAKLAND, AND OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY IN UNION CITY.

BOTH SHWAN AND ANA SAY FINDING NEW SCHOOLS WILL BE TOUGH ON THEIR KIDS.

Shawn Rose: "Stability is what every parent should want for their kid. It's something that's very important to me. It's going to be hard for her to adapt."

Ana Nakamura: "And it's not easy for them. It's not easy. Like I said, they are happy with this school."

IN ALL, THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND OPERATES 45 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND EIGHT HIGH SCHOOLS ACROSS THE EAST BAY. THEY ALSO SAID ON THURSDAY THAT PARENTS FROM SCHOOLS THAT ARE CLOSING WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENROLL THEIR KIDS AT ONE OF THE OTHER SCHOOLS. BUT THEY HAVE EXHAUSTED ALL THEIR OPTIONS AND MUST CLOSE FIVE OF THE 53- SCHOOLS it OPERATES ACROSS THE EAST BAY

AND, IN ADDITION TO CLOSING THOSE FIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS THE DIOCESE IS ALSO GOING TO SPIN OFF SEVEN OTHER SCHOOLS INTO AN INDEPENDENT NETWORK THAT WILL OPERATE SEPARATELY FROM THE DIOCESE. THAT NETWORK IS EXPECTED TO BE IN PLACE BY THE FALL OF 2018.

CHARLES CLIFFORD KORON 4 NEWS

EDUCATION

1/25/17 KRON 4 Evening News UC tuition increase

STUDENTS ATTENDING A UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOL SHOULD PREPARE TO PAY MORE. THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM'S BOARD OF REGENTS VOTED TODAY TO INCREASE TUITION BY TWO AND A HALF PERCENT. U.C. PRESIDENT JANET NAPOLITANO CALLED FOR AN ANNUAL TUITION INCREASE OF 282 DOLLARS...AND BUMPING FEES BY 54 DOLLARS FOR THE 2017/2018 SCHOOL YEAR.

THIS IS THE FIRST U.C. PRICE INCREASE IN SEVEN YEARS. SINCE 2011, STUDENT POPULATION HAS GROWN EACH YEAR AND STATE FUNDING HAS BEEN CUT. ACCORDING TO NAPOLITANO, THE TUITION HIKE IS NEEDED TO MAINTAIN THE QUALITY OF THE TEN CAMPUSES.

MANY STUDENTS HAVE VOCALLY OPPOSED THE TUITION INCREASE. CRITICS SAY HIGHER TUITION PUTS TOO MUCH OF A BURDEN ON STUDENTS ALREADY STRUGGLING TO PAY FOR THEIR EDUCATION.

EDUCATION

1/26/17 KRON 4 Morning News Students' class project addresses bullying issues

A GROUP OF MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS IS WORKING TO CREATE AN APP TO HELP STOP BULLYING. THE GROUP OF 7TH AND 8TH GRADERS IN WISCONSIN STARTED THE PROJECT AS PART OF A COMPETITION.

Teacher: "But as they started working, the idea for the app became personal for several of the students."

THEY SAY THEY HAVE BEEN BULLIED AND KNOW SOME STUDENTS DON'T REPORT BULLYING IN REAF OF BEING MAD E FUN OF. SO THE TEAM WANTED TO FIND A WAY FOR STUDENTS TO REPORT BULLYING IN AN EASY, SECRETIVE MANNER. SO THEY CREATED THEIR APP CALLED 'PASS IT ON.'

Student: "You just go into your phone and write what happened and send it. It won't be anonymous to the teachers so the teachers will know who sent it."

Teacher: "We know bullying is in the schools, but at the same time it's important to emphasize there are positive things that are going on and that's what this app does."

THE APP ALSO ALLOWS STUDENTS TO REPORT NICE ACTS BY FELLOW CLASSMATES WHICH WILL TURN INTO E-CASH TO BE SPENT ON REWARDS. IF THE STUDENTS WIN THEIR APP COMPETITION THEY WILL GET HELP FROM M-I-T TO MAKE THE APP A REALITY.

EDUCATION

1/26/17 KRON 4 News at 10p School kids eating outside in the rain

PARENTS OF SOME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE OUTRAGED ABOUT THEIR CHILDREN HAVING TO EAT LUNCH OUTSIDE. EVEN ON DAYS WHEN IT HAS BEEN COLD AND RAINING.

IT'S HAPPENING IN VALLEJO. KRON 4'S HERMELA AREGAWI SPOKE WITH A PARENT AT WARDLAW ELEMENTARY AND THE DISTRICT TO GET ANSWERS ON WHY THIS IS HAPPENING...

THE PARENT I SPOKE WITH HAS A 4TH GRADER WHO'S BEEN GOING TO WARDLAW ELEMENTARY SINCE KINGERGARTEN. DURING THE LAST STORM, HIS DAUGHTER CAME HOME TWO DAYS IN A ROW, SAYING THAT SHE AND HER CLASS HAD EATEN LUNCH OUTSIDE. HE SAID HE JUST COULDN'T BELIEVE THAT THE SCHOOL WOULD DO THAT.

Jesus Hinojoza: "She said we're eating outside today. I was like what? She's like yeah we were eating outside today. I said in the cold, in the rain? She said yeah. I said where? She pointed out to where she was eating at. I said just you? She said no, my whole class."

THAT WAS LAST WEDNESDAY AND THEN THE NEXT DAY HINJOZA WENT TO THE SCHOOL TO ASK ABOUT IT IN PERSON. HERE'S WHAT HE SAYS THE PRINCIPAL TOLD HIM.

Hinojoza: "Um we don't. We can't fit all of our kids inside. So I think one or two classes take a turn eating under the structure. Under the structure, but in the cold. And it's windy. I mean we definitely, we remind them to wear their jackets and we have a staff member with them. We can't put them in the class? Unfortunately, we can't. We can't eat in the rooms, but they do take turns. But emergencies? We can't, but there's 9 classes. so it should only be within a two week period, even if every day it rains, it should only be one time."

HINJOZA SAYS HE WENT TO THE SCHOOL THIS PAST SUNDAY WITH A LETTER ASKING SOMETHING BE DONE ABOUT THE LUNCH ARRANGEMENT. HE ALSO WENT TO THE VALLEJO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AND FILED A COMPLAINT. HE SAYS HE DIDN'T HEAR BACK.

WE REACHED OUT TO THE DISTRICT AND THEY CONFIRMED THAT ONE CLASS EATS OUTSIDE EACH DAY DUE TO THE INCREASE IN STUDENTS. THEY SIT UNDER THIS PAVILLION BUILT IN NOVEMBER. BUT THE KIDS SHOULD HAVE NEVER BEEN EATING LUNCH IN THE COLD.

Hinojoza: "They had so much time to prepare winter for these kids. And they're putting their health in danger by putting them in the cold. It's ridiculous."

WHILE THE DISTRICT IS CONFIDENT THAT THE CURRENT ARRANGEMENT HAS WORKED WELL FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF AT WARDLAW THEY ARE ACTIVELY EXPLORING ALTERNATIVE LUNCH TIME ARRANGEMENTS.

HINOJOZA SAYS THIS IS NO ASSURANCE THAT SOMETHING WILL CHANGE.

HERMELA AREGAWI KRON 4 NEWS.

EDUCATION

1/29/17 KRON 4 Sunday Morning News Student project is part of the solution WHEN A TEACHER IN KENTUCKY COMPLAINED ABOUT THE SCHOOL NOT RECYLING ENOUGH, HE CAME UP WITH A CLASS PROJECT ASKING FOR A WAY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

THE STUDENTS REALLY TOOK OFF WITH THE IDEA AND EVEN CAME UP WITH A WAY TO SAVE ENERGY. IT'S A MACHINE THAT PROMOTES RECYCLYIN BY OFFERING A FREE CELL PHONE CHARGE IN EXCHANGE.

THE STUDENTS PUT A SENSOR INSIDE THE RECYCLING MACHINE AND IT RECOGNIZES A RECYCLABLE ITEM, THEN SENDS POWER TO 32 USB OUTLETS WHICH CAN CHARGE CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES. ONE BOTTLE EQUALS A 15 MINUTE CHARGE.

STUDENTS SAY, EVEN WITH ALL THE OUTLETS, IT STILL USES LESS ENERGY THAN A REGULAR CELL PHONE CHARGER. THEY CREATED A WIN- WIN SOLUTION BY ENCOURAGING RECYLCING AND SAVING POWER.

James Rogers, student: "And then you take a bottle, place it down the slot in the machine, and it's going to trigger power to all 32 of these USB ports across the front."

JAMES ROGERS IS EXPLAINING THE NEW MACHINE HE AND HIS CLASS BUILT LAST SEMESTER. DROPPING IN A PLASTIC BOTTLE IS LIKE PAYMENT FOR 15 MINUTES OF PHONE CHARGING TIME.

Rogers: "Just about every backpack you see at school has some kind of water bottle there in it."

THE ORIGINAL NAME FOR THE MACHINE WAS DEBORAH.

Rogers: "But then somebody spelled it wrong and they ended up called it Duh-bor-uh."

Joe Stuecker, energy management instructor: "This is huge!"

JOE STUECKER LEADS THE ENERGY MANAGEMENT CLASS.

Stuecker: "I hate that we don't recycle. And then they said well we hate dead cellphones. And I said well why don't we use those together."

HE'LL BE THE FIRST TO TELL YOU THIS ISN'T YOUR TYPICAL CLASS PROJECT.

Stuecker: "No one has done anything like this before."

THIS COMPLEX LOOKING CHART SHOWS WHY.

Stueckekr: "So we're at 1 point 6 watts."

THE MACHINE USES LESS ENERGY TO CHARGE THAN A NORMAL OUTLET. AND THE SAVINGS GET BIGGER. . AS MORE PHONES ARE PLUGGED IN.

Stuecker: "Every time we plug a phone in it doesn't double. It just goes up a small percentage each time."

SO THEY'RE ENCOURAGING RECYLCING. . ADDING PHONE OUTLETS. . AND SAVING POWER.

Stuecker: "What really gets me excited is the applications that this could be used for."

WHAT STARTED AS GROUP PROBLEMS HAS TURNED INTO A SOLUTION.

Stuecker: "For them to be able to see it now and to get credit for the work that they've done, it's huge."

EDUCATION

2/1/17 KRON 3 Morning News High cost of success at state campuses

RECORD HIGH ENROLLMENT NUMBERS AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITIES COULD MEAN A TUITION HIKE FOR ALL OF ITS 23 -CAMPUSES. IN MARCH, UNIVERSITY LEADERS WILL VOTE ON WHETHER TO IMPOSE THE CHANGE, MAKING IT THE FIRST TUITION HIKE IN SIX YEARS FOR THE NATION'S LARGEST PUBLIC UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.

THE PROPOSED ANNUAL HIKE WOULD INCREASE THE CURRENT UNDERGRAD TUITION BY 270 DOLLARS FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR. ACCORDING TO THE C-S-U'S VICE CHANCELLOR, INSUFFICIENT STATE FUNDING COULD LEAVE NO OTHER OPTION BUT TO RAISE TUITION. JUST LAST WEEK, THE U.C. SYSTEM ALSO RAISED THEIR TUITION FOR THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR.

EDUCATION

2/13/17 KRON 4 Evening News School study shows drug use declined last year

DRUG USE AMONG AMERICAN TEENAGERS WENT DOWN IN 2016. A RECENT STUDY FOUND THAT OVERALL USE OF ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA, PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS AND ILLICIT SUBSTANCES DROPPED AMONG U.S. TEENS IN THE LAST YEAR.

THE STUDY, FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE, SURVEYED NEARLY 50 THOUSAND 8th-, 10th- AND 12th-GRADE STUDENTS FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS. THE RESEARCH FOUND THAT ILLICIT DRUG USE -- LIKE COCAINE AND HEROIN -- AMONG 8TH GRADERS WAS AT THE LOWEST LEVEL IN THE SURVEY'S HISTORY.

AND IN ALL THREE GRADES, USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS OVER THE PAST YEAR ALSO DROPPED, EXCEPT FOR POT.

MARIJUANA USE AMONG EIGHTH-GRADERS DID DECLINE IN THE LAST YEAR, FROM 6.5 PERCENT TO 5.4 PERCENT. HOWEVER, 10TH AND 12TH-GRADE MARIJUANA USE DID NOT CHANGE.

THE STUDY FOUND HIGHER RATES OF POT USE AMONG OLDER STUDENTS IN STATES THAT LEGALIZED MEDICAL MARIJUANA. IN 2016, NEARLY 40 PERCENT OF SENIORS LIVING IN STATES WITH MEDICAL

MARIJUANA LAWS REPORTED SMOKING POT. IN STATES WITHOUT MEDICAL MARIJUANA LAWS, JUST OVER 33 PERCENT OF SENIORS REPORTED USING THE DRUG.

EDUCATION

2/16/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Schools weigh in on fake news

WE'VE BEEN HEARING A LOT ABOUT FAKE NEWS CRICULATING THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. WELL NOW, SCHOOLS ACROSS THE NATION ARE TRYING TO HELP STOP IT...

TEACHERS FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS THROUGH COLLEGE ARE TEACHING STUDENTS HOW TO FIGURE OUT FACT FROM FICTION WHEN IT COMES TO NEWS ONLINE. AND TO STOP THEM FROM SPREADING IT. THE LESSON PLAN INCLUDES LOOKING AT THE U-R-L'S AND MAKING SURE THEY ARE AUTHENTIC. AND UNDERSTANDING THAT MOST FALSE REPORTS OFTEN MAKE THE READERS MAD SINCE THEY TRY AND TARGET EMOTIONS.

HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO FIGURE OUT WHETHER WHAT YOU ARE READING ONLINE IS REAL OR FAKE:

EXPERTS SAY IF IT IS REAL, OTHER NEWS SITES ARE LIKELY REPORTING IT.

HOW IS THE WRITING? CAPS LOCK AND MULTIPLE EXCLAMATION POINTS DO NOT HAVE A

PLACE IN REAL NEWSROOMS.

ALSO, WHO ARE THE WRITERS AND THE PEOPLE IN THE STORY? GOOGLE THE NAMES OF THE PEOPLE FOR CLUES TO SEE IF THEY ARE REAL, OR NOT.

AND LASTLY, THINK TWICE BEFORE SHARING A STORY. IN THIS DAY AND AGE, ALOT OF PEOPLE HAVE THE ABILITY TO PUBLISH ANYTHING ONLINE.

EDUCATION

3/8/17 KRON 4 Morning News UC considering limits on out of state students

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA OFFICIALS HAVE PROPOSED LIMITING OUT OF STATE ENROLLMENT TO 20 PERCENT OF ALL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS. THE MOVE IS AN EFFORT TO PRIORITIZE IN-STATE APPLICANTS. THIS WOULD BE THE FIRST LIMIT OF ITS KIND FOR THE 10-CAMPUS PUBLIC UNIVERSITY. THE BOARD OF REGENTS WILL CONSIDER IT STARTING NEXT WEEK. LAST YEAR, LAWMAKERS THREATENED TO HOLD BACK NEARLY 19 MILLION DOLLARS IF THE U-C SYSTEM DID NOT PUT A CAP ON STUDENTS FROM OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA.

EDUCATION

3/10/17 KRON 4 Evening News California plan for college students

CALIFORNIA LAWMAKERS HAVE ANNOUNCED WHAT THEY CALL THE MOST AMBITIOUS PROPOSAL IN THE COUNTRY TO REDUCE STUDENT LOAN DEBT. TODAY ASSEMBLY DEMOCRATS PROPOSED A PLAN THAT WOULD CREATE A NEW SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AND CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEMS. ACCORDING TO THE PLAN, THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WOULD COST \$1.6 BILLION AND WOULD BE PHASED IN OVER FIVE YEARS. OFFICIALS SAY MORE THAN HALF OF CALIFORNIA COLLEGE STUDENTS GRADUATE WITH STUDENT LOAN DEBT. DEMOCRATS SAY THEIR PLAN AIMS TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF DEBT STUDENTS HAVE TO TAKE ON TO AFFORD COLLEGE.

EDUCATION

3/17/17 KRON 4 Evening News Change to San Francisco school year

KIDS IN THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ARE GETTING A BONUS THAT'S TURNING INTO A HEADACHE FOR THEIR PARENTS. THE DISTRICT IS SHIFTING THE ACADEMIC YEAR, WHICH MEANS SUMMER BREAK WILL BE ONE WEEK LONGER THIS YEAR. KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY REPORTS THAT SOME WORKING PARENTS LEFT SCRAMBLING.

THE TROUBLE ISN'T SO MUCH THAT CITY KIDS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL ARE GETTING A LONGER SUMMER. IT'S THAT THE CITY'S REC AND PARK IS NOT OFFERING SUMMER CAMPS FOR THAT EXTRA WEEK OF SCHOOL AND THAT'S TAKING SOME PARENTS BY SURPRISE

Parent: "Ohh, what are we going to do? Who wants to babysit?"

REC AND PARK PROVIDES A VARIETY OF DAY CAMPS FOR 1500 KIDS A WEEK AND THEIR SCHEDULE USUALLY LINES UP WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT. THEY WERE ALERTED OF THE CHANGE BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR THAT SUMMER WOULD BE 12 WEEKS, BUT THEY SAY THAT WASN'T ENOUGH NOTICE FOR THEM.

Rec and Park spokesperson: "We typically really plan out our camps well in advance, at least two seasons in advance because, if you can imagine, we have to hire staff. We have to have a budget and plan it all out and make sure the facilities are safe and allow us to utilize. So by the time we were alerted in January, it was unfortunately a bit late for us to make the adjustment."

REC AND PARK WILL HOWEVER BE GEARED UP TO DEAL WITH ANOTHER CHANGE COMING TO THE SFUSD CALENDAR. KIDS WILL BE GETTING A FULL WEEK OFF FOR THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY NEXT YEAR, SO WINTER CAMPS ARE BEING PLANNED FOR MONDAY TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY OF THAT WEEK. THE REC AND PARK SAYS THEY AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL BE BACK IN SYNC COME SUMMER 2018.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

EDUCATION

3/20/17 KRON 4 Evening News Novel way to pay for college tuition

A CALIFORNIA LAWMAKER IS PITCHING A RATHER UNIQUE IDEA TO MAKE COLLEGE TUITION FREE FOR IN-STATE STUDENTS. MAKE MILLIONAIRES PAY FOR IT. AN ASSEMBLYWOMAN FROM STOCKTON HAS CRAFTED A BILL THAT WOULD PLACE A ONE-PERCENT TAX ON CALIFORNIANS EARNING MORE THAN 1 MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR. SHE CLAIMS IT WOULD GENERATE ENOUGH REVENUE TO MAKE PUBLIC COLLEGES FREE FOR CALIFORNIANS. BUT IN ORDER TO PASS, IT NEEDS A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE IN THE LEGISLATURE BECAUSE IT WOULD CREATE A NEW TAX.

EDUCATION

3/22/17 KRON 4 Evening News State university system hikes rates

GET READY TO PAY MORE IF YOU OR YOUR CHILD ATTENDS A CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY. THE UNIVERSITY BOARD APPROVED THE TUITION HIKE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SIX YEARS.

TUITION IS GOING UP 270 DOLLARS A YEAR AT 23 DIFFERENT CAMPUSES. THIS MEANS UNDERGRADUATE TUITION FOR THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR WILL NOW COST NEARLY 55 HUNDRED DOLLARS. SOME STUDENTS ARE PRETTY UPSET ABOUT IT...

Cal State student: "That's money that could be used for rent. We already pay too much for tuition compared to how little it used to be. People are going into debt."

THE REASON FOR THE HIKE? THE BOARD SAYS IT NEEDS MORE MONEY TO HIRE MORE PROFESSORS, ADD CLASSES FOR THE GROWING ENROLLMENT, AND SUPPLEMENT THE LACK OF STATE FUNDING.

EDUCATION

3/26/17 KRON 4 Morning News High school construction class builds house

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A CHEAP AND ECO-FRIENDLY NEW HOME, KRON 4'S JEFF PIERCE REPORTS A GROUP OF EAST BAY STUDENTS MAY HAVE THE HOUSE FOR YOU.

IN THE BAY AREA'S HOT HOUSING MARKET, OPEN HOUSES ARE DRAWING LINES WAITING TO LOOK AT AN OPEN HOUSE JUST ON THE MARKET IN CONCORD. THE BALLOONS ARE OUT, PROSPECTIVE BUYERS ARE LOOKING IN THE WINDOWS, WHILE OTHERS GATHER THE REAL ESTATE BROCHURES, BUT THIS HOME WAS BUILT ENTIRELY BY CONCORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND COMES IN AT AN AFFORDBLE TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Concord High student: "I think it's two hundred and fifty eight square feet, sleep two right now. There's running water, lights."

THE TINY HOUSE WAS THE PROJECT OF CONCORD HIGH'S CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY CLASS AND THEY ARE AUCTIONING IT OFF THIS MONTH.

Concord High teacher: "I mean in high school you build a house in high school class. That's fantastic."

Concord High student: "It was one of my favorite classes my senior year, one the best I ever took in high school really."

Teacher: "I had kids staying after school, working late, coming in on the weekends. Just the engagement was huge. I never had a class that engaged in a project."

THE HOME BUILDERS EXPECT THE SALE OF THE TINY HOUSE WILL MAKE THE CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY CLASS A SUSTAINING HOME BUILDING ENDEAVOR.

Teacher: "The money we get from this auction will go to the house we've already started. So regardless of the state budget, the district budget, we'll be able to have a program that carries on."

THOSE WHO VIEWED THE LITTLE HOME WERE IMPRESSED.

Concord resident: "Kids build this and use the money to build another one, develop their survival skills, skills they might use in an occupation, it's a good idea."

THE COOPERATIVE EFFORTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION MEANT ANOTHER VALUABLE LESSON ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ASPIRE TO.

Student: "About twenty kids you don't know build a house together and you become good friends with them you know."

Student: "I'm proud of it. It looks good, came out really good."

AT CONCORD HIGH SCHOOL JEFF PIERCE KRON 4 NEWS

1Q2017 ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT

1.9.17 KRON 4 News at 10 More dangers from heavy rain

FALLING TREES ARE POSING A SERIOUS THREAT AROUND THE BAY AREA TO LIVES AND PROPERTY. ON SATURDAY, A WOMAN WAS HIT AND KILLED BY A TREE IN SAN RAMON. THE VICTIM, DEBORAH MCKEOWN, WAS WALKING THROUGH THE CANYON LAKES GOLF COURSE WHEN IT HAPPENED. KRON 4'S ELLA SOGOMONIAN IS LIVE IN SAN FRANCISCO WITH SOME ADVICE FROM TREE EXPERTS ON STAYING SAFE.

BEFORE WE GET TO THE ADVICE, TAKE A LOOK. THIS IS JUST ONE TREE WE'VE FOUND IN SAN FRANCISCO WHOSE LARGE BRANCHES HAVE FALLEN OVER BARELY MISSING THESE PARKED CARS BY AN INCH.

David Gimbelivich, resident: "It happened yesterday. I walked out of my house saw it was down."

OUTSIDE THIS SAN FRANCISCO HOME AT MONTEREY BLVD AND RIDGEWOOD AVENUE, IT WAS A CLOSE CALL.

Gimbelivich: "Very lucky nobody was parked nearby."

TREES HAVE CRUSHED CARS, HOMES, AND UNFORTUNATELY THIS WEEKEND A WOMAN WAS FATALLY STRUCK ON A SAN RAMON GOLF COURSE.

Gimbelivich: "I hadn't been thinking about it but yeah I've seen on the news that people have been hit by trees."

JUST TWO BLOCKS AWAY, MORE TREE LIMBS WERE FOUND LYING WHERE A CAR COULD HAVE BEEN PARKED.

Phil Danielson, Bay Area Arborist Cooperative: "If that's in a forest, it's not a big problem, but in an urban environment you have targets. You have people and structures and cars."

IT'S NOT ALWAYS OBVIOUS, BUT THERE ARE SOME SIGNS A TREE MAY BE VULNERABLE TO TOPPLING OVER.

Danielson: "Trees are not maintained. They get large. They're not thinned out to allow wind to go through. The ground gets saturated and all you need is a little wind and the whole tree can go over."

SO DANIELSON SAYS MAINTAINING TREES IS JUST AS CRUCIAL AS PREVENTATIVE CARE IN MEDICINE.

ELLA SOGOMONIAN KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/12/16 KRON 4 Evening News Rains ease state's drought conditions JUST HOW HELPFUL WERE THE MOST RECENT STORMS? THEY'VE BEEN SO BENEFICIAL THAT 40 PERCENT OF CALFIRONIA IS NOW OUT OF THE DROUGHT. JUST LOOK AT THIS VIDEO OF THE LEXINGTON RESERVIOR WHICH IS OVERFLOWING. KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN IS LIVE IN THE EAST BAY TONIGHT AT SAN PABLO RESERVOIR WITH MORE ON THE DROUGHT:

THE DROUGHT IS MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION FOR MOST OF CALIFORNIA. YOU SEE SAN PABLO DAM BEHIND ME WHICH IS CERTAINLY MUCH FULLER THAN IT WAS A YEAR AGO WHICH IS TRUE FOR MOST OF THE RESERVOIRS IN THE STATE.

PARDEE RESERVOIR IN THE SIERRA, WHICH IS EAST BAY MUD'S MAIN SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER FOR ITS 1.4 MILLION CUSTOMERS, IS AT 100 PERCENT CAPACITY, AND FOR GOOD REASON. THE RECENT STORMS HAVE PROVED TO BE NOT JUST GOOD, BUT GREAT.

Andrea Pook, East Bay MUD: "We had a very wet October. The wettest in our history. January is proving to be even wetter, and for the month of January we are at 470% of average for the month. Our snow levels have doubled since January first. So things are looking very up for us."

EAST BAY MUD LIFTED ITS DROUGHT RESTRICTIONS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SUMMER AND NOW FEDERAL DROUGHT MONITORS THINK THAT NEARLY HALF OF CALIFORNIA MIGHT CONSIDER DOING THE SAME THING. BACK IN JANUARY OF 2016 ONLY 3% OF CALIFORNIA WAS OUT OF THE DROUGHT. BUT OVER TIME, THINGS HAVE STEADILY IMPROVED OVER MUCH OF THE STATE OTHER THAN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. FEDERAL OFFICIALS NOW SAY 42% OF THE STATE HAS EMERGED FROM THE DROUGHT.

BUT, WHILE THE NEWS IS GOOD, EVEN THOSE FLUSH WITH WATER SAY IT'S NOT TIME TO START GOING BACK TO THE OLD WATER-WASTING HABITS.

Pook: "We are at the point in the rainy season where we have about 40% of our season left. So we never want to count those chickens even though things look good. So, it could be and it has happened, last year or the year before, that we had a wet early part of the season and then come January the spigot gets shut off. So even though it's wet right now, a month from now it may not be or a year from now it might not be. So things can change rather quick and they have before."

HERE AT SAN PABLO RESERVOIR, WE CAN TELL YOU THAT WHILE THE FEDERAL OFFICIALS ARE SAYING 42% OF CALIFORNIA IS OUT OF THE DROUGHT, IT'S STILL UP TO THE GOVERNOR TO LIFT THAT DROUGHT EMERGENCY WHICH HAS BEEN IN EFFECT FOR SEVERAL YEARS. HE WILL LIKELY WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE SEASON TO MAKE THAT DECISION.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

1/12/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Dangers linger from heavy rain

IN MENLO PARK GEOLOGISTS SAY AFTER THE RAIN STORM PASSES OVER THE THREAT OF LAND SLIDES REMAIN. THE DROUGHT AND HEAVY RAIN CREATE THE PERFECT COMBINATION FOR TRIGGERING SLIDES, AS WE HAVE SEEN IN THE NORTH AND SOUTH BAY. KRON 4'S ELLA SOGOMONIAN IS LIVE IN THE NEWSROOM WITH THE SIGNS TO LOOK OUT FOR

GEOLOGISTS EXPLAIN LAND SLIDES ARE ALL ABOUT GRAVITY THE HIGHER UP, THE MORE VULNERABLE THE AREA, ESPECIALLY AFTER HEAVY RAIN IN A REGION IMPACTED BY A DROUGHT YEARS IN THE MAKING.

MENLO PARK GEOLOGISTS ARE ASSESSING DAMAGE TO HILLSIDES ACROSS THE BAY AREA FOLLOWING A HEAVY DOWNPOUR.

Kevin Schmidt: "We definitely have our hands full more than usual for our employees."

NOW THEY'RE ANALYZING HOW FAR MATERIAL HAS FLOWN OFF HILL AS WELL AS HOW THICK THE SOIL IS OVER BEDROCK. BECAUSE THE BAY AREA HAS SEEN A 6TH YEAR OF DROUGHT, THE REGION IS MORE VULNERABLE TO LANDSLIDES.

Schmidt: "In the Bay Area, the drought is now in the rear view mirror. We're looking more at the problem that the ground is wet and with rain storms moving in to the area those are falling on already wet ground."

AND DR. SCHMIDT SAYS JUST BECAUSE A RAIN STORM MAY END, THAT DOESN'T MEAN THE POTENTIAL FOR A LAND SLIDE IS OVER. IT TAKES A TRAINED EYE TO SPOT THE THREAT, BUT THERE ARE SOME MORE OBVIOUS SIGNS TO LOOK OUT FOR.

Schmidt: "There are cracks in the ground that may indicate that the slide is just beginning or debris flow."

OTHER SIGNS INCLUDE WATER COMING FROM GROUND WHERE YOU NORMALLY WOULDN'T SEE IT PLUS THE SOUND OF RUSHING WATER. OVERLY SATURATED GROUND IS NOW VULNERABLE AND CAN COME DOWN FAST IF THE SLOPE IS HIGH ENOUGH. BURN SCARS FROM RECENT WILDFIRES ARE MORE PRONE TO A LAND SLIDE.

GEOLOGISTS HAVE YET TO PINPOINT WHICH REGIONS IN THE BAY AREA HAVE BEEN MOST AFFECTED BY LAND SLIDES AND RAINFALL, RELYING ON MEDIA FOR THE ANSWERS.

ENVIRONMENT

1/14/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Alameda cleanup

TODAY PROVIDED PERFECT TIMING FOR PEOPLE TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY AND HELP OUT FOLLOWING THE RECENT ROUGH WEATHER. KRON 4'S JEFF PIERCE SHOWS US WHAT SOME VOLUNTEERS FOUND AS THEY PICKED UP DEBRIS FROM BAY AREA'S BEACHES.

DOZENS OF VOLUNTEERS GATHERED AT THE ALAMEDA ESTUARY SATURDAY TO TAKE CARE OF ONE OF THE NEGATIVE RESULTS OF LAST WEEKS STORMS.

Sejal Choksi-Chugh, San Francisco Baykeeper: "The timing of this cleanup is perfect this year mainly because the big storms pushed a lot of trash into the bay and on to the shore line. Between the strong winds, strong tides as well as strong rains it has brought an army of what I call treasures to our shore line for these volunteers to pick up."

THOSE TREASURES WERE ALL ALONG THE SHORELINE AND FLOATING IN THE ESTUARY. TRASH THAT WAS CARELESSLY THROWN ON CITY STREETS AND FOUND THEIR WAY TO ALAMEDA.

Rachel Campos de Ivanov, The Point: "After that big storm, that's when all this garbage washes up. It's a great time to get rid of it all."

THOSE VOLUNTEERING COMBED THE SHORELINE FILLING BAGS WITH ALL THAT HAD COME ASHORE. THEY CAME TO REALIZE THAT THE PROBLEM HAS COME FROM THAT CARELESSNESS.

Phil Gravem, volunteer: "We just need to stop throwing away our garbage up in the cities because it just goes in the gutters and makes its way down here."

AS DISCOURAGING OF WHAT THE WINTER STORMS HAVE BROUGHT TO THE ALAMEDA SHORELINE THESE VOLUNTEERS WERE PLEASED TO MAKE IT A LITTLE BETTER.

Andy McKee, volunteer: "All this trash, it's kind of depressing. But now we're here to make this place nice and clean for everybody."

IN ALAMEDA JEFF PIERCE KRON 4 NEWS.

ENVIRONMENT

1/24/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Status of state drought

WITH A BARRAGE OF STORMS SOAKING CALIFORNIA IN RECENT WEEKS, MANY RESIDENTS WONDER IF STATE OFFICIALS WILL DROP DROUGHT CONSERVATION RULES. MEMBERS OF THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD SAY NO DECISION WILL BE MADE UNTIL THE BOARD VOTES FEBUARY SEVENTH. BOARD CHAIR FELICIA MARCUS SAYS SHE SUPPORTS CONTINUED CONSERVATION RULES – A GOOD IDEA FOR EVERYONE – BUT SHE IS KEEPING AN OPEN MIND. SHE FEARS HEAVY RAINS COULD DISSAPPER, SOMETHING THAT'S HAPPENED BEFORE IN THE GOLDEN STATE. CALIFORNIA HAS ENDURED MORE THAN FIVE YEARS OF DROUGHT.

ENVIRONMENT

1/27/17 KRON 4 Evening News Drought numbers

IT SEEMS ODD TO IMAGINE, ONE MOMENT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT THE DROUGHT, T HE NEXT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT RELEASING EXCESS WATER. THAT'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE EAST BAY THANKS TO OUR UNUSUALLY WET WINTER. KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN IS LIVE AT SAN PABLO RESERVOIR WITH DETAILS:

WHEN WE HAD THE WETTEST OCTOBER IN HISTORY MANY THOUGTH WELL OKAY THAT'S OCTOBER BUT WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT. WELL, NOW WE'RE IN THE MIDST OF THE WETTEST JANUARY ON RECORD AND THE MONTH ISN'T OVER YET. AS A RESULT, RESERVOIRS ARE FULL.

THERE WAS SO MUCH RAIN IN THE EAST BAY THIS MONTH, IT WAS THE WETTEST IN HISTORY AND NOW EAST BAY MUD SAYS IT'S AT 300 PERCENT OF ITS AVERAGE RAINFALL AND THAT'S JUST LOCALLY

Andrea Pook, Eat Bay MUD: "When it rains it pours it seems this year."

SO MUCH SO THAT ITS RESERVOIRS ARE FILLED TO THE BRIM.

Pook: "We are switching our operations from drought management to managing our water storage and flooding."

SO THIS WEEK, THE UTILITY IS RELEASING WATER FROM ITS EAST BAY RESERVOIRS AMONG THEM SAN PABLO RESERVOIR.

Pook: "We are continuing to release water, specifically now, making sure we have enough room to make way for the storms to come next week."

DOING THESE COORDINATED RELEASES ALSO AVOIDS OVERFLOWING RESERVOIRS WHICH CAN LEAD TO FLOODING DOWNSTREAM... BUT EAST BAY MUD ASSURES CUSTOMERS THERE WILL STILL BE AN AMPLE SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER.

HOW MUCH LONGER WILL THEY DO THESE RELEASES FROM THE RESERVOIRS? FOR ABOUT A WEEK AND THEN THEY WILL REASSESS TO SEE WHERE WE STAND.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

2/2/17 KRON 4 Evening News Results of water managers' snow survey

STATE WATER MANAGERS HAVE TAKEN ANOTHER MEASURE OF THE SIERRA SNOWPACK AND THE RESULTS WERE BETTER THAN GOOD. IN FACT, THE RESULTS MIGHT GO A LONG WAY IN HELPING THE GOVERNOR DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO LIFT THE LONG-STANDING DROUGHT EMERGENCY. CATHERINE HEENAN IS HERE WITH DETAILS:

ONE OF THE PEOPLE TAKING MEASUREMENTS SAID HE WAS "ECSTATIC." THE SIERRA NEVADA SNOW DRIFTS ARE AT 173 PERCENT OF AVERAGE. THAT'S THE MOST SNOW RECORDED SINCE 1995. STATE WATER MANAGERS WERE POKING RODS INTO DRIFTS AS HIGH AS TREE BRANCHES IN SOME PLACES. THIS IS PARTLY THANKS TO ONE OF THE STORMIEST JANUARYS IN DECADES.. THE STORMS BROUGHT THREE-FOURTHS OF CALIFORNIA'S NORMAL YEARLY PRECIPITATION IN JUST A FEW WEEKS.

Frank Gehrke, Dept. of Water Resources: "The snowpack overall is way above average. And in some areas, particularly central and southern Sierras they are in excess of their normal April accumulation."

WHEN YOU LOOK AT THIS, YOU CAN'T HELP BUT TO REMEMBER APRIL OF 2014 WHEN GOVERNOR BROWN STOOD IN A SIERRA MEADOW THAT WAS BARE OF 'ANY' SNOW. THE GOVERNOR IS EXPECTED TO WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE RAINY SEASON IN APRIL BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TO LIFT A DROUGHT EMERGENCY.

ENVIRONMENT 2/3/17 KRON 4 Evening News

Too much rain?

WITH FORECASTERS KEEPING AN EYE ON WHAT MIGHT BE ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE GULLY-WASHING ATMOSPHERIC RIVERS HEADED OUR WAY, WE MIGHT BE RUNNING OUT OF ROOM FOR ALL THAT WATER. IN THE SOUTH BAY, RESERVOIRS ARE PRETTY NEARLY FULL AND WATER MANAGERS ARE TAKING ACTION TO MAKE SURE THOSE RESERVOIRS CAN HANDLE WHATEVER MIGHT BE IN STORE. KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE SHOWS YOU WHAT'S HAPPENING:

I'M STANDING ON THE BANKS OF THE COYOTE CREEK AND IT'S A PRETTY DRAMATIC SCENE JUST BELOW THE DAM AND ANDERSON RESERVOIR WHICH IS ALL BUT FULL, AS FULL AS THEY'RE GOING TO LET IT GET. SO THEY'VE OPENED THE SPIGOT AND THEY'RE PULLING WATER OUT. THEY'VE GOT YELLOW TAPE UP TO KEEP PEOPLE AWAY BECAUSE THERE ARE CLASS 3 RAPIDS HERE FOR A BOUT A QUARTER OF A MILE DOWNSTREAM.

IT'S NOT JUST ANDERSON RESERVOIR. ALL THE RESERVOIRS IN THE SOUTH BAY ARE IN VERY GOOD SHAPE. THEY'VE GOT TO TAKE WATER OUT TO MAKE ROOM FOR MORE.

THERE WILL BE NO TALK OF MANDATORY WATER RATIONING IN THE BAY AREA THIS YEAR. NOT WITH MOST RESERVOIRS SO FULL THAT WATER IS BEING RELEASED DOWNSTREAM – IN THIS CASE FROM ANDERSON RESERVOIR INTO COYOTE CREEK – SO THERE IS ENOUGH ROOM IN THOSE RESERVOIRS TO HOLD WHAT THE REMAINING SIX WEEKS OF WINTER MIGHT BRING.

Garth Hall, Santa Clara Valley Water District: "Some of them are spilling and some of them are in a situation where we are having to release the maximum amount out of the outlets in order to try to make sure we don't get too high."

ANDERSON RESERVOIR, WHICH MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO GET TOO FULL BECAUSE OF SEISMIC SAFETY REGULATIONS, IS NOW AT 76 PERCENT FULL. IN LOS GATOS, LEXINGTON

RESERVOIR IS 85 PERCENT FULL. FARTHER SOUTH, CHESBRO RESERVOIR IS AT 84 PERCENT AND OUTSIDE GILROY, UVAS RESERVOIR IS AT 102 PERCENT OF CAPACITY AND SPILLING OVER INTO UVAS CREEK AMID WORRIES ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS IF AND WHEN THE NEXT ATMOSPHERIC RIVER STRIKES THE REGION.

Hall: "Every dam also has a spillway which takes water over the top and on down the creek and so if we got another one of those "rivers" most of them would be spilling and the water would be running through the spillway and down into the creeks."

HEAVY RAIN AND SNOW IN THE SIERRA ALSO BODES WELL FOR THE SOUTH BAY, WHICH GETS ROUGHLY HALF ITS WATER FROM LAKE SHASTA AND LAKE OROVILLE. BUT THOSE ALLOCATIONS, ALL BUT ELIMINATED IN RECENT YEARS, COULD STILL BE IMPACTED AS MORE WATER IS DIVERTED TO RESTORE FISH HABITAT.

Hall: "We may not get all the allocations that we would normally anticipate because of that. The fish conditions are going to be very determinative as to how much water we get from the federal and state projects this year."

CONSUMERS TOO CAN REJOICE AT THE SIGHT OF ALL THIS WATER BECAUSE THE DISTRICT HAS STOPPED REQUIRING WATER RETAILERS TO IMPOSE FINES AND SURCHARGES FOR OVERUSE, ALTHOUGH PEOPLE ARE STILL BEING ASKED TO KEEP WATER CONSUMPTION AT 20 PERCENT BELOW 2013 LEVELS.

FULL RESERVOIRS ARE ALSO VERY GOOD NEWS FOR LATER ON IN THE SUMMER BECAUSE THAT MEANS BOATING WILL ONCE AGAIN BE REINSTITUTED AFTER BEING MORE OR LESS SHUT DOWN FOR THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS AND OTHER WATER SPORTS AS WELL.

ENVIRONMENT

2/14/17 KRON 4 Evening News Permanent erosion damage from last year's storms

LAST YEAR'S EL NINO IS NOW BEING CALLED THE MOST POWERFUL WEATHER EVENT OF ITS KIND EVER RECORDED. THE USGS SAYS CALIFORNIA'S COASTLINE SUFFERED EROSION TO A DEGREE NEVER SEEN BEFORE. AND IT MAY NEVER RECOVER,

WITH POUNDING WAVES AND CRUMBLING CLIFFS, THE WINTER OF 2015-16 SAW THE PACIFIC OCEAN CRASHING INTO BUSINESSES, DESTROYING DECADES-OLD ICONS.

[news clip from 2016] Reporter: "The USS Palo Alto, otherwise known as the Cement Ship, is foundering."

THE RESEARCHERS FOCUSED ON SEASONAL CHANGES ON 29 BEACHES ALONG ABOUT TWELVE HUNDERED MILES OF THE WEST COAST. THEY USED 3D SURFACE MAPS, GPS TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEYS AND MEASUREMENTS OF SAND LEVELS ALONG WITH WAVE AND WATER LEVEL DATA FROM EACH BEACH BETWEEN 1997 AND 2016. THE AVERAGE EROSION WAS 76 PERCENT ABOVE AVERAGE, WAY ABOVE THE PREVIOUS RECORD OF 49 PERCENT.

LAST YEAR'S EL NINO GENERATED UNUSUALLY POWERFUL WAVES. MONITORING BUOYS AT POINT REYES AND MONTEREY REPORTED HISTORIC HIGH NUMBERS. AND NOWHERE ARE THE RESULTS MORE EVIDENT THAN IN THE CLIFFISDE COMMUNITY OF PACIFICA, AS WE REPORTED IN JANUARY OF LAST YEAR

[NEWS CLIP FROM 2016] Reporter: "With each wave and each El Niño driven storm, more and more of this retaining wall goes, meaning bad news for these apartments in the Manor District of Pacifica."

HISTORICALLY, BEACHES REBUILD THEMSELVES DURING LA NINA YEARS, MAINLY THOUGH RIVER RUNOFF. BUT THE USGS SAYS CLIMATE CHANGE IS INTERRUPTING THAT CYCLE. GLOBAL WARMING MEANS EL NINOS WILL OCCUR MORE FREQUENTLY AND THEY WILL BE STRONGER. AND CALIFORNIA WILL GET LESS RAINFALL, REDUCING RIVER FLOW. ALL OF THAT, SOBERING NEWS FOR THE 25 MILLION PEOPLE LIVING ALONG THE WEST COAST.

ENVIRONMENT

2/15/17 KRON 4 Evening News Rain proves bad for the Bay

STORM DEBRIS LITTERS THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY. AN ASTONISHING LOOK FROM ABOVE, IN THIS VIDEO FROM OUR HELICOPTER PARTNERSHIP WITH ABC7 NEWS. LARGE PILES OF DEBRIS CAN BE SEEN FLOATING NEAR THE RICHMOND-SAN RAFAEL BRIDGE AND SEVERAL OTHER AREAS NEARBY. THE COAST GUARD IS NOW URGING BOATERS TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT AS RIVER LEVELS ARE EXPECTED TO RISE THIS EVENING. KRON 4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL REPORTS FROM SAN FRANCISCO, WHERE DEBRIS IS WASHING ASHORE:

IT'S A JARRING VIEW FROM THE SHORE. BROKEN TREE LIMBS AND BRANCHES SCATTERED FOR SEVERAL HUNDRED YARDS ALONG SAN FRANCISCO'S AQUATIC PARK COVE.

CERTAINLY A SIGHT TO BEHOLD, EVEN FOR BRIAN PERILLO, VISITING FROM NEW JERSEY, WHO SAYS THIS IS A COMMON OCCURANCE AFTER STORMS ON THE EAST COAST.

Perillo: "It's actually pretty crazy. I wasn't expecting anything like this, um, but looking around, you can certainly tell that there's been some damage."

NOT DANGEROUS ENOUGH THOUGH FOR KERRY LABELLE, A MEMBER OF THE DOLPHIN CLUB NEXT DOOR, WHO SWIMS HERE FIVE DAYS A WEEK.

LaBelle: "Um, kind of like swimming in soup, haha. Lot of wreaths; lot of sticks."

LYNN CULLIVAN, WITH THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SAYS THE DEBRIS HAS BEEN BUILDING UP FOR SEVERAL DAYS.

Cullivan: "If there's a storm in the mountains, it goes into a stream, into a river and maybe now even out of a dam and it winds up here in the bay."

CULLIVAN SAYS THIS IS NOT UNUSUAL AFTER A STORM. DEBRIS TYPICALLY WASHES UP HERE AT AQUATIC PARK COVE. BUT MOST OF IT IS WOOD AND ORGANIC. AND, HE SAYS THAT ITS NOT MUCH OF A THREAT TO WILDLIFE.

Cullivan: "We're in the process of renting a big dumpster to load it all into. This is probably going to fill a big dumpster."

AND UNTIL ITS ALL GONE, AND POSSIBLY RETURNS AFTER THE NEXT ROUND OF RAIN, VISITORS WILL KEEP COMING TO CHECK IT OUT.

Visitor: "I've never seen anything like it."

THE COVE IS STILL OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – JUST WATCH YOUR STEP.

IN SAN FRANCISCO, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS

ENVIRONMENT 3/1/17 KRON 4 Evening News Drought-busting snowpack THE RESULTS ARE IN FROM THE LATEST SURVEY OF THE SIERRA SNOWPACK, AND AS EXPECTED THEY'RE IMPRESSIVE. AFTER 5 YEARS OF PUNISHING DROUGHT., CALIFORNIA SURVEYORS SAY THE SIERRA NEVADA SNOWPACK IS ACTUALLY CLOSE TO SETTING RECORDS.

THEY DID THE MEASUREMENTS THIS MORNING AND SAY THE WATER CONTENT IS 185% OF NORMAL. A YEAR AGO IT WAS 84 PERCENT. IT'S SO DEEP, IN SOME PLACES IT'S NEAR LEVELS LAST SEEN IN 1983.

THE SNOWPACK IS VITAL SINCE IT PROVIDES ABOUT A THIRD OF THE STATE'S WATER TO HOMES AND FARMS. THE NEW NUMBERS VARY DEPENDING ON THE AREA. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE SOUTHERN SIERRA THE SNOWPACK IS AT MORE THAN 200% OF NORMAL.

ENVIRONMENT

3/1/17 KRON 4 Evening News New era at EPA

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SAYS WASHINGTON'S FAMOUS CHERRY TREES WILL START TO BLOSSOM IN TWO WEEKS. THAT'S TEN DAYS EARLIER THAN LAST YEAR AND THE EARLIEST DATE ON RECORD. IN FACT, MOST OF THE WHITE BLOSSOMS WILL BE GONE BY THE START OF THE OFFICIAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL ON MARCH 20TH.

TODAY THE NEW HEAD OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY SEEMED TO BACK OFF FROM HIS DENIAL OF CLIMATE CHANGE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION IS PREPARING TO MAKE BIG CUTS TO THE EPA BUDGET.

FORMER OKLAHOMA CONGRESSMAN SCOTT PRUITT IS A LONGTIME CRITIC OF THE AGENCY HE NOW HEADS. HE HAS A REPUTATION AS A CLIMATE DENIER. NOW HE IS BLAMING CONGRESS FOR FAILING TO GIVE THE EPA THE POWER TO STUDY GLOBAL WARMING.

Scott Pruitt: "I mean, we know there is a warming or -- a warming of the planet, climate change is occurring and there's some human contribution to that or human activity that contributes to that. How to measure that precisely is challenging but a very important question people leave out, what power has Congress given the EPA to respond?"

AS THE PRESIDENT MENTIONED IN HIS ADDRESS TO CONGRESS, CHANGES ARE COMING TO THE EVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. LEAKED GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS SHOW THE EPA IS TARGETED FOR DEEP BUDGET AND STAFF CUTS. THREE THOUSAND JOBS, TWENTY PERCENT OF THE WORKFORCE IN THE NEXT YEAR. ALONG WITH THEM, SEVERAL KEY PROGRAMS: ELECTRONIC TOXIC WASTE MANAGEMENT, RECLAMATION OF CONTAMINATED INDUSTRIAL SITES, AND AN INITIATIVE AIMED AT HELPING VICTIMS OF THE LEAD WATER CRISIS IN FLINT, MICHIGAN.

THESE CUTS ARE STILL PROPOSALS, BUT THE NEW PRESIDENT HAS ALSO TAKEN DIRECT ACTION TO LIMIT THE EPA'S POWER. ON TUESDAY HE DIRECTED THE AGENCY TO REVIEW ITS WATER REGULATIONS.

President Trump: "With today's executive order I'm directing the EPA to take action, paving the way for the elimination of this very destructive and horrible rule."

ENVIRONMENT

3/7/17 KRON 4 Evening News Water conservation efforts

SOME OF US MIGHT BE WONDERING WHERE EXACTLY CALIFORNIA STANDS WITH THE ONGOING DROUGHT. ACCORDING TO THE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD, IN JANUARY CALIFORNIANS USED THE LOWEST RESIDENTIAL AMOUNT OF WATER PER DAY SINCE OFFICIALS STARTED TRACKING WATER USE IN SUMMER 2014. THE STATE IS CURRENTLY IN THE MIDDLE OF

ONE OF ITS WETTEST WINTERS IN DECADES. IT REMAINS UNDER A DROUGHT EMERGENCY, BUT GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN IS EXPECTED TO REVIEW THAT DECLARATION. DESPITE FULL RESERVOIRS, OFFICIALS ARE STILL ENCOURAGING CALIFORNIANS TO CONSERVE.

ENVIRONMENT

3/22/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Plastic straws are the new plastic bags

STOP SUCKING. THAT'S THE NAME OF A NEW, GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN, TRYING TO GET PEOPLE TO STOP USING PLASTIC STRAWS. THE IDEA IS, LIKE PASTIC BAGS AND ANYTHING PLASTIC, IT'S POLLUTING OUR OCEANS AND ELSEWHERE. GRANT LODES IS BACK NOW WITH A PRETTY CREATIVE VIDEO CAMPAIGN TO HELP GET THE MESSAGE OUT.

THE GROUP BEHIND THIS EFFORT WENT ALL IN AT THE RECENT SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST FESTIVAL IN AUSTIN TEXAS, SETTING UP A VIDEO BOOTH AND GETTING PEOPLE TO STAND THERE WITH CUP AND STRAW IN HAND. THEY PROCEED TO GET WHACKED BY AN ENORMOUS FAKE OCTOPUS TENTACLE.

THE WEBSITE STRAW-LESS OCEAN DOT ORG IS NOW LADEN WITH VIDEOS LIKE THESE FROM THAT VIDEO BOOTH. ORGANIZERS ARE TRYING TO GET THE STOP SUCKING CAMPAIGN TO GAIN TRACTION.

PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HASHTAGGING IT AND VIDEOS LIKE THESE ARE GETTING SHARED ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

THE GROUP SAYS AMERICANS USE 500 MILLION PLASTIC STRAWS EVERY DAY. AND THEY'RE SIMPLY NOT NECESSARY. THE GROUP POINTS OUT IF WE DON'T CHANGE OUR WAYS, BY THE YEAR 2050 PLASTICS WILL OUTWEIGH FISH IN OUR OCEANS.

SOME PEOPLE ARE TALKING THE PLEDGE: THE TIME HAS COME, MY FRIENDS, TO #STOPSUCKING. I'M GOING STRAWLESS FROM THIS DAY FORWARD TO HELP KEEP PLASTIC STRAWS OUT OF THE OCEAN. TURTLES NEVER ASKED FOR THIS!

RECYCLEABLE SINGLE-USE PAPER STRAWS ARE FINE.

1Q2017 HEALTH

HEALTH

1/5/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm New approach to peanut allergies

IT'S ONE OF THE MOST COMMON ALLERGIES... PEANUTS. TONIGHT -- WE LOOK AT THE NEW RECOMMENDATION TO KEEP KIDS FROM BECOMING ALLERGIC. COMBATTING PEANUT ALLERGIES WITH PEANUTS SOUNDS SURPRISING, BUT EXPERTS ARE RECOGNIZING THE RESULTS OF A STUDY FIVE YEARS IN THE MAKING THAT COULD PREVENT A LIFE OF REACHING FOR AN EPI PEN.

FOR FIVE YEARS A GROUP OF MORE THAN 600 CHILDREN WERE TESTED IN THIS LARGE SCALE RANDOMIZED STUDY. THEY FOUND PROMISING RESULTS IN INFANTS BETWEEN 4 AND 6 MONTHS OLD WHO ARE FED PEANUT PRODUCTS. LIKE PEANUT BUTTER FOR EXAMPLE - BECAUSE THE WHOLE PEANUT WHICH CAN BE A CHOKING

HAZARD FOR A BABY. THE NATIONAL INSTITUE OF ALLERGIES RECOGNIZED FEWER CHILDREN DEVELOPED THE CONDITION AND THAT HAS THE PEDIATRIC COMMUNITY EXCITED.

Yasuko Fukuda, American Academy of Pediatrics, district VP: "They found lo and behold, children developed less peanut allergies and I don't know if they understand it but I think they're thinking maybe we should introduce it earlier and maybe children will have less peanut allergies which would be wonderful."

Daniel Kelly, pediatrician: "I think it must be a nightmare for families who have to live with this every day."

NEARLY 6 MILLION AMERICAN KIDS HAVE A FOOD ALLERGY WITH PEANUTS AT THE TOP OF THE LIST ACCORDING TO FOOD ALLERGY DOT ORG. EXPOSURE TO THE SMALLEST AMOUNT COULD TRIGGER A DEADLY REACTION.

Dr. Kelly: "If the child is exposed and goes into shock he or she can die within 5 minutes."

BABY RIO HERE IS ALLERGIC TO EGGS WHICH MAKES HIM A CONTENDER FOR A PEANUT ALLERGY. BECAUSE EXPOSURE TO PEANUTS CAN BE FATAL, PARENTS ARE FORCED TO MAKE SURE THERE IS AN EPI PEN NEARBY AT ALL TIMES IN CASE OF AN ATTACK.

Macy, Fujiu, mom: "I do keep the Epipen on me at all times and if we go on vacation I have multiple Epipens on me."

BUT THURSDAY, THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGIES AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES PUBLISHED A NEW GUIDELINE BASED ON A STUDY FIVE YEARS IN THE MAKING. THE LEARNING EARLY ABOUT PEANUT ALLERGY, OR LEAP, STUDY TESTED MORE THAN 600 KIDS FOR FIVE YEARS. SOME WERE GIVEN PEANUT PRODUCTS; OTHERS WERE NOT. LEAP FOUND EXPOSING INFANTS 4-6 MONTHS OLD CAN PREVENT BABIES FROM DEVELOPING A PEANUT ALLERGY.

Fukuda: "It changes how we as pediatricians introduce foods to children and so now we will introduce peanuts and say try some peanuts on your vegetables."

THE STUDY IS A GAMECHANGER FOR PEDIATRICS. BUT ONE REMINDER FROM THE RESEARCHERS, DON'T GIVE YOUNG BABIES WHOLE PEANUTS OR PEANUT BITS BECAUSE THEY CAN BE A CHOKING RISK.

LIVE IN THE NEWSROOM ELLA SOGOMONIAN KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

1/15/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Trying to save Affordable Care Act

WHILE CONGRESSIONAL REPUBLICANS ARE TAKING FIRST STEPS TO REPEAL OBAMACARE, DEMOCRATS ARE HOLDING RALLIES TO SAVE IT. DOZENS OF RALLIES WERE UNDER WAY ACROSS THE NATION. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE GATHERED ON THE STEPS OF SAN FRANCISCO, INCLUDING MAYOR ED LEE AND DEMOCRACTIC LEADER NANCY PELOSI.

THE RALLY WAS PART OF A NATIONAL DAY OF ACTIONIN WHICH SIMULTANEOUS RALLIES WERE HELD IN MORE THAN 40 CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING LOS ANGELES AND SACRAMENTO.

SENATOR BERNIE SANDERS SPOKE AT THIS EVENT IN WARREN, MICHIGAN, THAT ORGANIZERS SAY WAS ATTENDED BY EIGHT THOUSAND PEOPLE.

Senator Sanders: "Mr. Trump when he ran for president he promised the people of Michigan and the people of America that he was a different type of Republican. He was not going to cut Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid, so part of what today is about is reminding Mr. Trump that he better keep his promises because we're watching."

DEMOCRATS SAY THEY HAVE MORE RALLIES LINED UP FOR THE COMING DAYS AND WEEKS

HEALTH

1/16/17 KRON 4 Mews at 8pm Bay Area meningitis scare

PEOPLE IN THE BAY AREA WILL LIKELY BE ON HEIGHTENED ALERT WITH THIS SECOND SUSPECTED CASE OF MENINGITIS. GRANT LODES IS HERE TO REMIND US WHAT WE NEED TO LOOK OUT FOR

SOME OF YOU MAY BE WONDERING WHAT CAUSES BACTERIAL MENINGITIS AND WHAT SYMPTOMS TO LOOK FOR IF YOU THINK YOU MAY HAVE COME IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS IT.

ACCORDING TO THE C-D-C, GERMS ARE SPREAD FROM PERSON TO PERSON, USUALLY THROUGH SALIVA SUCH AS FROM KISSING, SNEEZING, OR COUGHING. SYMPTOMS INCLUDE NAUSEA OR VOMITING, INCREASED SENSITIVITY TO LIGHT, AND ALSO CONFUSION,...FEVER, AND NECK STIFFNESS.

THE SYMPTOMS ARE TYPICALLY FELT WITHIN 3 TO 7 DAYS OF EXPOSURE.

LIKE WE SAW IN THE MARIN COUNTY CASE, MENINGITIS CAN BE DEADLY. IT CAN ALSO CAUSE SEIZURES OR A COMA.

FORTUNATELY, MENINGITIS IS NOT AS CONTAGIOUS AS THE COMMON COLD OR FLU. SO CASUAL CONTACT OR SIMPLY BREATHING THE SAME AIR AS AN INFECTED PERSON WILL NOT GET YOU SICK.

HEALTH

1/17/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm

Concern over uncertain status of Affordable Care Act

ANOTHER CONCERN FOR SOME AS THE TRUMP PRESIDENCY IS ABOUT TO BEGIN, WHAT WILL ACTUALLY HAPPEN TO THEIR MEDICAL BILLS.

THE PRESIDENT ELECT HAS PROMISED TO REPEAL AND REPLACE THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT, KNOWN AS OBAMA-CARE. GRANT LODES IS BACK NOW WITH HOW SOME PATIENTS, ADVOCATES AND LAWMAKERS ARE PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE:

IT'S HARD TO PLAN WITHOUT KNOWING THAT THE REPLACEMENT WILL BE. AND THAT'S WHY CRISS MADRIGAL IS NERVOUS. SHE AND HER 5-YEAR-OLD TWIN DAUGHTERS CELESTE AND ALEXIA LIVE NORTH OF SACRAMENTO IN MARYSVILLE. HER TWINS WERE BORN WITH A GENETIC DISORDER THAT SLOWS THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND MOTOR SKILLS. THEIR INSURANCE COMPANY, ANTHEM BLUE CROSS, CANNOT CURRENTLY LIMIT HOW MUCH THEY WILL PROVIDE IN COVERAGE FOR THE GIRLS. BLUE CROSS ALSO CAN'T RAISE THE FAMILY'S RATES OR DROP THEM FROM THE PLAN BECAUSE OF THE PRE-EXISTING CONDITION. AND THE PRE-EXISTING CONDITION ISSUE MAY BE THE BIGGEST.

Criss Madrigal, parent of special needs children: "If they remove that piece of it, what will my daughters' insurance look like?

State Senator Richard Pan, (D) Sacramento: "The insurance company is going to see that the child is part of that family and not offer health care coverage for the entire family."

Pat McConahay, spokesperson for Disability Rights California: "The Affordable Care Act also offered funding for people with disabilities so that they can have more support and live in the community and not in an institution."

PRESIDENT ELECT TRUMP SAID IN A WEEKEND INTERVIEW REGARDING A POTENTIAL REPLACEMENT THAT HE DOES ENVISION INSURANCE FOR EVERYONE IN AMERICA AND HE VOWED TO FORCE DRUG COMPANIES TO NEGOTIATE DIRECTLY WITH THE GOVERNMENT WHEN IT COMES TO PRICES FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID.

HEALTH

1/19/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm New concerns about STD

A NEW NATIONAL ESTIMATE FINDS NEARLY HALF OF ALL AMERICAN MEN HAVE GENITAL INFECTIONS CAUSED BY A SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED VIRUS AND THAT ONE OUT OF FOUR HAVE STRAINS LINKED TO CANCER. RESEARCHERS FOUND THAT HIGH-RISK HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS INFECTIONS CAN CAUSE CANCER IN THE MOUTH AND UPPER THROAT. THOUGH MOST H-P-V INFECTIONS CAUSE NO SYMPTOMS AND DISAPPEAR WITHOUT TREATMENT, THEY SAY MOST ADULTS WILL GET IT AT SOME POINT IN THEIR LIVES. EXPERTS SAY VACCINES CAN PREVENT THE INFECTIONS BUT THAT VACCINATION RATES ARE STILL TOO LOW.

HEALTH

1/23/16 KRON 4 Evening News Jet Lag & Athletes

TRAVELERS KNOW JET LAG IS NO FUN AND IT APPEARS EVEN SOME OF THE WORLD'S BEST ATHLETES CAN SUFFER FROM ITS EFFECTS.

RESEARCHERS AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SAY JET LAG CAN WIPE OUT HOME FIELD ADVANTAGES IN MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL. WEARY PITCHERS ARE MORE LIKELY TO GIVE UP MORE HOME RUNS AND IT CAN TAKE SOME PUNCH OUT OF A TEAM'S BATS.

RESEARCHERS LOOKED AT DATA FROM 20 YEARS OF MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL GAMES. THE ANALYSIS SHOWED JET LAG AFFECTED TEAMS MORE WHEN THEY RETURNED HOME THAN WHEN THEY WERE ON THE ROAD. AND, NO SURPRISE, TRAVELING EASTWARD WAS MORE DISRUPTIVE THAN GOING WESTWARD.

HEALTH

1/23/17 KRON 4 News at 10p Flu season hits

IF YOU'VE GOTTEN SICK THIS WINTER OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS ILL, YOU'RE NOT ALONE. SO FAR THIS YEAR IN CALIFORNIA AND THE BAY AREA, THERE'S BEEN A SPIKE IN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE BEING HOSPITALIZED FOR THE FLU. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD SPOKE WITH DOCTORS ABOUT WHY THEY THINK SO MANY PEOPLE ARE SICK THIS YEAR.

ACCORDING TO THE CDC, FLU ACTIVITY HAS BEEN STEADILY CLIMGINB ACROSS THE COUNTRY SINCE LAST FALL. HERE IN CALIFORNIA, INFLUENZA INFECTIONS ARE NOW BELIEVED TO BE WIEDESPREAD. PEOPLE I TALKED TO ON MONDAY AGREE THAT SOMETHINGIS GOING AROUND.

MOS: "Seems like everyone I know has been sick, staying home off work, things like that."

MOS: "We have an IT contractor working with us whose entire office was out sick the first week of January, except for maybe two people."

DR. LISA WINSTON IS AN EPIDEMIOLOGIST AT SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HOSPITAL AND A PROFESSOR AT UCSF. SHE SAYS THE FLU HAS HIT THE BAY AREA HARD.

Dr. Winston: "We have had more hospitalizations this year than we've had in past years."

WHILE IT MIGHT SEEM LIKE THE WET AND COLD WEATHER IS MAKING PEOPLE SICK, DR. WINSTON SUSPESCTS THE REAL REASON IS THAT THE TYPE OF FLU SPREADING AROUND THIS YEAR IS A PARTICULARLY NASTY STRAIN KNOWN AS INFLUENZA A.

Dr. Winston: "In a year when that strain circulates, we tend to have a more severe flu season and to see more hospitalizations, especially in older folks, people who are over the age of 65 and if they also have other medical conditions."

Most years, flu activity tapers off by summer time but that's still months away. Dr. Winston says that even though the flu is now widespread the best way to avoid getting sick is to be vaccinated.

Dr. Winston: "It is definitely not too late to get vaccinated. We still have plenty of influenza vaccine."

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ALREADY SICK, SHE ALSO RECOMMENDS SOME COMMON SENSE STEPS TO KEEP THE FLUE FROM SPREADING SUCH AS STAYING HOME FROM WORK OR SCHOOL IF YOU ARE SICK AND WASHING YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY.

AND FINALLLY DR. WINSTON TELLS ME THE VACCINE BEING USED THIS YEAR IS VERY SIMILAR TO THE TYPE OF FLU THAT IS SPREADING AROUND SO THE VACCINE, THEY'RE HOPING, WILL BE VERY EFFECTIVE. CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH

1.25 17 KRON 4 Evening News Cancer hot spots

SOME GOOD NEWS FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION – OVERALL CANCER DEATHS IN THE UNITED STATES HAVE DROPPED 20 PERCENT SINCE 1990.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE STUDY ALSO FOUND CERTAIN CLUSTERS WHERE THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE. KIM HUTCHERSON WITH OUR PARTNERS AT CNN EXPLAINS WHAT COULD BE BEHIND THESE CANCER HOT SPOTS.

A NEW STUDY BREAKS DOWN CANCER DEATHS IN THE U-S COUNTY-BY-COUNTY

IT REVEALS CLUSTERS LAGGING BEHIND NATIONAL CANCER PREVENTION EFFORTS.

IN THESE MAPS, RED SHOWS WHAT THE STUDY CALLS CANCER HOT SPOTS.

DEATHS FROM ALL CANCERS IN 2014 WERE HIGHEST ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, NEAR THE KENTUCKY-WEST VIRGINIA BORDER, IN WESTERN ALASKA AND IN THE SOUTH IN GENERAL. DEATHS WERE LOWEST IN PLACES LIKE UTAH AND COLORADO.

ACCORDING TO THE STUDY, REASONS FOR THE GAP COULD INCLUDE A HIGHER PREVALANCE OF RISK FACTORS LIKE SMOKING AND OBESITY.

PREVENTION AND SCREENING IN SOME COUNTIES CAN LAG BEHIND OTHERS, SO NORMALLY TREATABLE CANCERS GO UNDETECTED. LIMITED HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND LIMITED AWARENESS OF CANCER RISKS CAN ALSO AFFECT THE QUALITY OF TREATMENT.

RESEARCHERS SAY WE SHOULD LOOK TO DELAWARE AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW TO TAKE ACTION. WHEN THE STATE NOTICED AN ALARMING RATE OF CANCER DEATHS THEY BEGAN AN INITIATIVE TO INCREASE SCREENING RATES AMONG MINORITIES, CREATED A PROGRAM TO TREAT CANCER FOR THE UNINSURED AND SENT NURSES AND OTHER HEALTH WORKERS INTO COMMUNITIES.

IN A DECADE, THE STATE WENT FROM HAVING THE SECOND HIGHEST RATE OF CANCER DEATHS TO THE FOURTEENTH.

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

HERE IN THE BAY AREA, MARIN COUNTY WAS ONE OF THE HOT SPOTS, AN AREA LONG CONSIDERED TO HAVE AMONG THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF BREAST CANCER DIAGNOSES IN THE WORLD. THE NUMBER HAS FALLEN IN RECENT YEARS AND IS NOW ABOUT AVERAGE ACCORDING TO A STUDY BY THE CANCER PREVENTION INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA.

HEALTH

2/2/17 KRON 4 Evening News Kids getting too much sugar

JUST HOW MANY CALORIES AND ADDED SUGARS ARE CHILDREN CONSUMING IN THEIR DRINKS? A NEW STUDY SHEDS LIGHT ON THIS ISSUE. KIM HUTCHERSON WITH OUR PARTNERS AT C-N-N HAS THE NUMBERS:

U.S. DIETARY GUIDELINES SAY SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGES SHOULD BE LIMITED OR REMOVED FROM YOUR DIET. BUT A RECENT STUDY FOUND THAT ALMOST TWO-THIRDS OF CHILDREN IN THE UNITED STATES CONSUME AT LEAST ONE SUGARY BEVERAGE ON ANY GIVEN DAY. ABOUT 30% CONSUME TWO OR MORE EVERY DAY, DESPITE HEALTH EXPERTS' RECOMMENDATION THAT LESS THAN 10 PERCENT OF DAILY CALORIES COME FROM ADDED SUGARS.

THE STUDY WAS CONDUCTED BY THE C-D-C'S NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS.

RESEARCHERS ANALYZED DATA FROM THE NATIONAL HEALTH AND NUTRITION EXAMINATION SURVEY ABOUT THE CONSUMPTION OF SUGARY DRINKS, LIKE SODA, SOME FRUIT DRINKS, SPORTS AND ENERGY DRINKS AND SWEETENED COFFEES AND TEAS.

THEY FOUND THAT MORE THAN 64-PERCENT OF BOYS UNDER 19 AND MORE THAN 61-PERCENT OF GIRLS IN THE SAME AGE GROUP DRANK AT LEAST ONE SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGE EVERY DAY.

THE LEAD AUTHOR OF THE STUDY SAYS THAT CHILDREN WHO DRANK TWO OR MORE SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGES A DAY WERE GETTING MORE THAN 10-PERCENT OF THEIR TOTAL DAILY CALORIES FROM THOSE DRINKS. THE AMERICAN BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION SAID IN A STATEMENT THAT IT HAS LAUNCHED VARIOUS INITIATIVES TO ENCOURAGE HEALTHY CALORIE INTAKE AMONG AMERICANS.

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

HEALTH

2/2/17 KRON 4 News at 8p Hazard warning for laundry pods

NEW CONCERNS TONIGHT ABOUT THOSE LAUNDRY DETERGENT PODS. NOW CHILDREN ARE GETTING CHEMICALLY BURNED FROM THEM.

A NEW STUDY SAYS THERE HAS BEEN A SPIKE IN CHILDREN GETTING EYE BURNS FROM LAUNDRY PODS FROM 2012 TO 2015. AND THE NUMBER ROSE MORE THAN 30 TIMES AMONG KIDS BETWEEN THREE AND FOUR YEARS OLD.

THE STUDY WAS DONE BY THE MEDICAL JOURNAL JAMA OPHTHALMOLOGY, AND THEY SAY MOST OF THE BURNS HAPPENED AT HOME.

THE KIDS WOULD PLAY WITH THE PODS AND THE PODS WOULD BREAK OR LEAK ONTO THE CHILDRENS HANDS AND THEN THEY WOULD RUB THEIR EYES.

SCIENTISTS SAY THE DETERGENT IN THE PODS IS NOT THE SAME AS REGULAR DETERGENT. IT HAS A HIGHER CONCENTRATION OF CHEMICALS, MAKING THE EYE BURNS EXTREMELY PAINFUL.

HEALTH

2/8/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Heroin/Opioid epidemic Part 3 of 3-part series

DRUG USE IN THE SUBURBS IS NOT NEW, BUT THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL CONFIRM THE PROBLEM WITH HEROIN IS GETTING WORSE. IT'S IN OUR SCHOOLS AND IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS. AND THE C-D-C REPORTS IT IS KILLING KIDS IN GREATER NUMBERS. TONIGHT, KRON 4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS INTRODUCES US TO THOSE IN THE BAY AREA WHO ARE HELPING TO STEM THE EPIDEMIC:

YOU'D NEVER KNOW THAT TOM ASWAD WAS A JUNKIE.

Tom Aswad: "I don't look like a heroin addict."

ASWAD IS A SUCCESSFUL WALNUT CREEK BUSINESSMAN WHO HID HIS \$250 DOLLAR A DAY HEROIN HABIT FROM HIS WIFE. NOW CLEAN FOR MANY YEARS, HE RUNS THE REHAB GROUP CALLED SUPPORT FOR RECOVERY. HIS CLIENTS INCLUDE EAST BAY TEENAGERS.

Aswad: "Parent don't even associate that their children might be using opiate drugs or transitioning to heroin."

BUT HE SAYS HE SEES TOO MANY TEENS WHO ARE HOOKED ON HEROIN.

Aswad: "I've got a report from one of our local school districts that includes 6-7 ambulance rides for young people, drug abusers going to the hospital."

AND THIS IS WHERE SOME OF THOSE KIDS END UP - AT JOHN MUIR REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Dr. Fred van Stieff: "When they come in and they've overdosed, you wonder which one is gonna be the next one."

DR. FRED VAN STIEFF IS AN ADDICTION SPECIALIST OTHERWISE KNOWN AS DR. DETOX.

Dr. van Stieff: "I've detoxed 30,000 people."

Reporter: "You personally?"

Dr. van Stieff: "30,000 people."

Reporter: "Successfully?"

Dr. van Stieff: "Sure. Nothing is perfect, but at 30,000 detoxes I've never had a death."

DR. VAN STIEFF HAS WRITTEN A BOOK CALLED "THE BRAIN IN BALANCE."

Dr. van Stieff: "The opiates in heroin, may you get a lot of dopamine."

HE SAYS HEROIN CHANGES THE BRAIN AND THAT'S WHAT MAKES OPIOIDS SO SEDUCTIVE AND QUITTING SO HARD.

Dr. van Stieff: "We can detox people, but the condition or the neuro-cognitive structures of the brain are lagging behind our detox. Some people call that wet brain. That's why people relapse."

PART OF HIS ARSENAL? NARCAN. IT'S A LIFE-SAVER WHEN ADMINISTERED IN TIME TO STOP AN OVERDOSE FROM BECOMING DEADLY.

DR.VAN STIEFF IS ON A MISSION TO MAKE SURE KIDS DON'T START IN THE FIRST PLACE. THE NATIONAL INSTUTUTE ON DRUG ABUSE REPORTS OPIOID AND HEROIN USE IS SKYROCKETING. IN 2015, MORE THAN 52 THOUSAND DIED FROM OVERDOSE, A RECORD HIGH.

Dr. van Stieff: "You know that you're fighting to try and do something about it. But they just keep on coming. You don't know why and you don't know how to stop it because it's too big."

HE CALLS THE EPIDEMIC A SILENT INJUSTICE AND AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY.

VICKI LIVIAKIS KRON 4 NEWS

WE'VE POSTED SEVERAL LINKS ON OUR WEBSITE OF ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS THAT ARE FOCUSED ON THE OPIOID AND HEROIN EPIDEMIC AND HOW TO HELP STEM THE TIDE. GO TO KRON 4 DOT COM AND SEARCH FOR THE WORD "OPIOIDS".

HEALTH

2/9/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm American life expectancy drops

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS, LIFE EXPECTANCY FOR AMERICANS HAS DROPPED. THE CAUSE? ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY, PREMATURE DEATHS ARE ON THE RISE.

YOUNG WHITE AMERICANS AND NATIVE AMERICANS ARE DYING PREMATURE DEATHS AT AN INCREASING RATE. A RECENT STUDY PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL "THE LANCET" FINDS DRUG OVERDOSES AND SUICIDE CONTRIBUTE HEAVILY TO THE RISE IN NUMBERS.

IN 2015, THE LIFE EXPECTANCY FOR AMERICANS DROPPED BY ABOUT A MONTH WHICH IS NOT LONG, BUT IT IS THE FIRST TIME IT'S HAPPENED SINCE 1993.

HEALTH

2/16/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm

TB scare

HAPPENING NOW, A HEALTH SCARE AT A BAY AREA HIGH SCHOOL. OFFICIALS CONFIRM ONE PERSON HAS CONTRACTED TUBERCULOSIS AND NOW HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE WILL HAVE TO BE TESTED TO MAKE SURE IT HAS NOT SPREAD. KRON 4'S ELLA SOGOMONIAN IS LIVE AT ARMIJO HIGH SCHOOL IN FAIRFIELD WHERE SOME STUDENTS SAY THEY DIDN'T EVEN KNOW ABOUT THE HEALTH SCARE:

THERE WERE LOTS OF SURPSISED LOOKS ON STUDENTS FACES ON CAMPUS HERE TODAY WHEN I LET THEM KNOW ABOUT THE CASE OF TB. WE WERE TOLD THAT LETTERS WERE SENT OUT TODAY, BUT STUDENTS SAY THEY WISH THEY HAD BEEN INFORMED IMMEDIATELY ON CAMPUS.

ARMIJO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WERE STUNNED TO FIND OUT ONE PERSON OUT OF THE 25 HUNDRED PEOPLE ON THEIR CAMPUS IS BEING TREATED FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

Jeremy Tereul, Armijo High junion: ""I actually didn't know about the tuberculosis case until you told me about it."

Student: "I have not heard about it yet."

EACH ONE HEARD OF THE HEALTH SCARE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN AN INTERVIEW WITH KRON 4 NEWS.

Student: "I don't know what to do about it. I just hope everyone is safe and okay."

SOLANO COUNTY, ALONG WITH THE SCHOOL, TEAMED UP TO ANNOUNCE THE NEWS THURSDAY IN A PRESS CONFERENCE, SAYING LETTERS WERE SENT OUT THE SAME DAY. MEDICAL SERVICES DIRECTOR MICHAEL STACEY ASSURES THEIR TEAM IS EXPERIENCED IN HANDLING T-B CASES. THEY WILL TEST UPWARDS OF 200 PEOPLE THAT MAY HAVE COME INTO CONTACT WITH THE PATIENT, AS WELL AS HAVE SCREENINGS ON CAMPUS AT A LATER DATE.

Michael Stacey, Solano County Medical services Director: "A detailed approach as to who the patient may have come in contact with."

COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS WOULDN'T SAY IF IT WAS A STUDENT OR FACULTY MEMBER WHO CONTRACTED THE AIRBORNE VIRUS. NOR WAS A NAME RELEASED IN ORDER TO PROTECT THEIR PRIVACY.

ONE CONCERNED PARENT SAYS THIS IS A REMINDER HOW CRUCIAL IT IS TO VACCINATE TO PREVENT DISEASE LIKE TB FROM SPREADING.

William Matias, parent of Armijo High student: "There is a responsibility for parents to have their children inoculated and get their shots and I think it would be the same for the teachers as well."

TB IS SPREAD FROM ONE PERSON TO ANOTHER THROUGH THE AIR IN CLOSE PROXIMITY WITH THE INFECTED PATIENT. DOCTOR STACEY SAYS THERE IS NO ON-GOING RISK FROM THE PATIENT AT THIS TIME. SO THE PRINCIPAL ENCOURAGES STUDENTS AND FACULTY TO CONTINUE ATTENDING ARMIJO HIGH CLASSES.

LIVE IN FAIRFIELD ELLA SOGOMONIAN KRON 4 NEWS

IF YOU FEEL LIKE YOU MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO TUBERCULOSIS, ACCORDING TO THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL HERE ARE SOME OF THE MAJOR SIGNS YOU NEED TO LOOK OUT FOR.

A BAD COUGH THAT LASTS THREE WEEKS OR LONGER, CHEST PAIN, SWEATING AT NIGHT, FEVER AND CHILLS, AND COUGHING UP BLOOD IN YOUR MUCUS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WHAT TUBERCULOSIS IS, HOW IT SPREADS, AND THE RISK FACTORS LOG ONTO KRON FOUR DOT COM.

HEALTH

3/1/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm STD rates skyrocketing

IN PARTS OF THIS STATE AND IN PARTS OF THE U.S., AN ALARMING TREND HAS EMERGED. NEWBORNS ARE BEING DELIVERED IN RECORD NUMBERS WHO HAVE SYPHILIS. THE S-T-D WAS ALMOST NON-EXISTENT IN THE YEAR 2000, BUT NOW IT'S SOARING, AND THE MOST VULNERABLE AMONG US ARE FALLING VICTIM. GRANT LODES HAS THE DISTURBING NUMBERS.

STD'S IN GENERAL ARE WAY UP. THE MOST GLARING NUMBER? SYPHILIS RATES ROSE 27 PERCENT ACROSS THE COUNTRY FROM 2014 TO 2015.

AND THE C-D-C SAYS LOTS OF WOMEN DO NOT KNOW THEY HAVE SYPHILIS OR ARE UNAWARE THEIR UNBORN BABY COULD BE INFECTED. DOCTORS SAY THE PROBLEM IS EXPLODING AND THE RESULTS ARE HORRIFYING.

BABY AFTER BABY BORN SEVERELY ANEMIC, LUNGS FILLED WITH FLUID, BODIES COVERED WITH RASHES. SOME ONLY LIVED MINUTES, WHILE OTHERS DIED WITHIN DAYS OR WEEKS.

THE PROBLEM IS RAMPANT IN LOW INCOME AREAS AND IN CALIFORNIA'S CENTRAL VALLEY IT'S OUT OF CONTROL. IN FRESNO FOR INSTANCE, THERE WERE 40 NEWBORNS BORN WITH SYPHILIS IN 2015, UP DEOM JUST TWO BABIES FOUR YEARS EARLIER.

SOME ADVOCATES AND PEOPLE IN THE HEALTH PROFESSION ARE FEARFUL THAT REPEALING OBAMA CARE COULD RESULT IN THIS TREND CONTINUING, WITH MORE LOW INCOME WOMEN UNABLE TO AFFORD ROUTINE CARE DURING PREGNANCY WHICH WOULD ALERT A DOCTOR TO THEIR CONDITION.

HEALTH

3/3/17 KRON 4 Evening News Cell phone radiation dangers

THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HAS RELEASED A DRAFT OF A DOCUMENT WARNING AGAINST CELL PHONE RADIATION. SOME SAY IT'S ABOUT TIME. WHAT'S INSIDE THAT DRAFT IS ALARMING, BUT STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY IT WAS NEVER FINALIZED OR OFFICIALLY ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT. KRON 4'S TECH REPORTER GABE SLATE JOINS US NOW AND EXPLAINS HOW THIS DRAFT DOCUMENT SURFACED:

A BERKELEY BASED DOCTOR, JOEL MOSKOWITZ, SUED THE STATE IN 2016 UNDER THE "CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RECORDS ACT" TO GET IT RELEASED. SO, LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT IT.

THE FIRST THING YOU'LL NOTICE IS THE BIG BLACK LETTERS STAMPED ACROSS IT "DRAFT AND NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE." THE DOCUMENT, TITLED "CELL PHONES AND HEALTH" DETAILS CONCERNS OF CELL PHONE RADIATION EXPOSURE.

THE FIRST PARAGRAPH STATES HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSSIBLE HEALTH EFFECTS FROM CELL PHONES BECAUSE RECENT STUDIES SUGGEST THEY MAY CAUSE AN INCREASE IN THE RISK OF BRAIN CANCER AND OTHER HEALTH ISSUES. THEN THE GUIDELINE GOES ON TO EXPLAIN HOW CELL PHONES EMIT RADIATION AND THEIR ADVICE OF HOW TO AVOID IT, WHICH IT INCLUDES KEEPING THE DEVICE AWAY FROM YOUR BODY, KEEPING CALLS SHORT AND USING SPEAKER PHONE ON LENGTHY CALLS. USE A HEADSET WHEN POSSIBLE.

IT ALSO WARNS THAT RADIATION FROM PHONES CAN PASS DEEPER INTO CHILDREN AND TEENS SO THEY MAY BE AT GRETER RISK.

THE AGENCY BEHIND THIS DRAFT DOCUMENT, THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH. SENT US A STATEMENT SAYING THIS WAS A DRAFT AND NEVER INTENDED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE. THEY SAID THIS GUIDANCE WAS NEVER FINALIZED OR ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT. THE PROJECT WAS DISCONTINUED WHEN THE CDC, OR CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, ISSUED NATIONAL GUIDANCE ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH SAID PEOPLE CONCERNED OR CONFUSED ABOUT CELL PHONE USAGE SHOULD LOOK AT THE CDC WEBSITE.

I LOOKED AT THAT, AND HERE IS WHAT THE CDC SAYS ABOUT CELL PHONES CAUSING CANCER:

"THERE IS NO SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE THAT PROVIDES A DEFINITE ANSWER. SOME ORGANIZATIONS RECOMMEND CAUTION IN CELL PHONE USE. MORE RESEARCH IS NEEDED BEFORE WE KNOW IF USING CELL PHONES CAUSES HEALTH EFFECTS."

HEALTH

3/6/17 KRON 4 news at 8pm High heal health worries

A LOT OF WOMEN LOVE THEM. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HIGH HEELS. BUT A NEW REPORT OUT SAYS THEY COULD BE HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH. KRON 4'S VICKI LIVIAKIS IS HERE WITH DETAILS:

YEAH, STEVE, WE SUFFER FOR BEAUTY. SURE, HIGH HEELS ARE HARD TO WALK ON. STILETTOS CAN GIVE YOU HAMMER TOE AND BUNIONS. BUT COULD THEY ALSO GIVE YOU CANCER?

IT SOUNDS OUTLANDISH, BUT NOW A LEADING CANCER SPECIALIST SAYS THERE'S A LINK BETWEEN YOUR HIGH HEELS AND THE BIG C – BY WEAKENING OUR NATURAL DEFENSES.

USC PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE DR. DAVID AGUS ARGUES THAT WEARING UNCOMFORTABLE SHOES DOESN'T JUST CAUSE FOOT PAIN, IT TRIGGERS LOW LEVEL INFLAMMATION IN THE BODY. AND IF IT'S CHRONIC, THAT INFLAMMATION MAKES YOU MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO DISEASE LIKE CANCER.

THE HIGHER THE HEEL, THE MORE DISCOMFORT AND BIGGER RISK. LOWER HEELS OR WEDGES CAN HELP. BUT IF YOUR TOES ARE SQUISHED INTO A POINTY TIP, YOU'RE STILL DE-FEETING THE PURPOSE, SO TO SPEAK.

SO, IF AT THE END OF THE DAY YOU FEEL YOUR FEET ARE KILLING YOU, YOU MIGHT WANT TO FIND A WAY TO "HEEL" ...

HEALTH

3/7/17 KRON 4 Evening News

Analysis of new health care proposal

THE REPUBLICAN HEALTH CARE BILL TO REPLACE OBAMACARE IS FINALLY OUT THERE FOR EVERYONE TO READ. THE PLAN RECEIVED A STRONG ENDORSEMENT FROM PRESIDENT TRUMP, BUT IT FACES SKEPTICS FROM BOTH THE LEFT AND THE RIGHT. SCOTT MCLEAN WITH OUR PARTNERS AT CNN GOES OVER WHAT THE BILL CONTAINS AND THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP THAT IS ALREADY BASHING IT:

THE REPUBLICAN VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE PROMISES TO MAKE COVERAGE CHEAPER AND MORE ACCESSIBLE. THE ARCHITECT OF THE GOP PLAN SAYS, IT'S SIMPLE:

Rep. Kevin Brady (R-Texas): "The American Health Care Act transfers power from Washington back to the American people."

TO DO THAT, THE REPUBLICAN BILL WOULD ...

-PROVIDE REFUNDABLE TAX CREDITS BASED ON AGE AND INCOME

-LIFTS TAXES THAT OBAMACARE HAD IMPOSED ON DRUG COMPANIES AND THE WEALTHY

-REPEAL THE INDIVIDUAL MANDATE REQUIRING PEOPLE TO BUY INSURANCE

-AND LOOSEN RULES TO ALLOW CARRIERS TO OFFER MORE POLICIES.

President Donald Trump: I'm proud to support the replacement plan released by the House of Representatives and encouraged by members of both parties, we're going to have something that is much more understood and popular than people can even imagine."

ON ONE SIDE, THERE'S PLENTY OF PUSH BACK FROM DEMOCRATS, WHO ARGUE THE GOP PLAN WILL LEAVE MILLIONS UNINSURED.

ON THE OTHER, SOME REPUBLICAN LAWMAKERS ARE CALLING THE BILL "OBAMACARE LITE."

Sen. Rand Paul (R-Kentucky): "Conservatives across the country aren't going to accept it."

AND SOME KEY CONSERVATIVE GROUPS SAY IT DOESN'T GO FAR ENOUGH. THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION CALLS IT, "BAD POLITICS AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, BAD POLICY"

BUT HOUSE SPEAKER PAUL RYAN SAYS THE PLAN DELIVERS ON WHAT CONSERVATIVES ARE HOPING FOR.

Rep. Paul Ryan, House Speaker: "We are doing an act of mercy by repealing this law and replacing it with patient-centered health care reforms that conservatives have been arguing for and fighting for, for years."

TWO HOUSE COMMITTEES PLAN TO START REVIEWING THE BILL THIS WEEK.

IN WASHINGTON, I'M SCOTT MCLEAN.

HEALTH

3/9/17 KRON 4 Evening News Opposition to health plan

REPUBLICAN LEADERS HAVE THEIR WORK CUT OUT FOR THEM IF THEY HOPE TO PASS THE HOUSE PLAN TO REPEAL AND REPLACE OBAMACARE. AS A HANDFUL OF SENATORS AND SOME CONSERVATIVE HOUSE MEMBERS INDICATE THEY'D VOTE NO, SPEAKER PAUL RYAN LAID OUT THE CASE FOR WHY THEY SHOULD GET ON BOARD. IANNE GALLAGHER WITH OUR PARTNERS AT C-N-N HAS MORE ON THE DEBATE - AND THE WARNING FROM THE PRESIDENT.

THE SPEAKER BECAME THE PROFESSOR THURSDAY. AS PAUL RYAN ROLLED UP HIS SLEEVES, PULLED OUT THE POWER POINT AND ATTEMPTED TO SCHOOL THE COUNTRY ON THE G-O-P'S PLAN TO REPLACE OBAMACARE.

Rep. Paul Ryan, (R) House Speaker: "Lower costs, more choices, patients in control and universal access to care – these are the driving principles we are focused on."

BUT THE SPEAKER'S PRESENTATION WAS LIKELY AIMED JUST AS MUCH AT PRESSSURING MEMBERS OF HIS OWN PARTY AS IT WAS CONVINCING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Rep. Paul Ryan, (R) House Speaker: "If you told me 2, 10 years ago that this is where we would be, I'd think I was in a dream. I'd be doing backflips."

BUT MANY CONSERVATIVES IN THE HOUSE... AND SENATE... SEEM LESS EXCITED... AND ARE VOCAL IN OPPOSITION.

Rep. Mo Brooks, (R) Alabama: "This bill is a lump of coal."

Sen. Rand Paul, (R) Kentucky: "We have to admit we are divided on replacement."

DEMOCRATS HAVE TAKEN NOTICE.

Sen. Chuck Schumer, (D) Minority Leader: "Look, no one likes this bill. Hospitals, doctors, governors, conservatives, liberals, non-partisan groups, and most of all, the people who will no longer have affordable health care."

G-O-P LEADERS, INCLUDING PRESIDENT TRUMP, ARE LOBBYING FROM ALL ANGLES TO EASE THEIR FELLOW REPUBLICANS FEARS, DRIVING HOME THE IDEA THAT, IF THEY DON'T DO SOMETHING, AS THE PRESIDENT SAYS, IT COULD BE AN ELECTORAL BLOODBATH COME 2018.

Rep. Paul Ryan, (R) House Speaker: "This is the closest we will ever get to repealing and replacing Obamacare. The time is here, the time is now."

IT TOOK 18 HOURS, BUT THE BILL DID MAKE IT THROUGH ITS FIRST COMMITTEE VOTE OVERNIGHT, BUT IT'S STILL EARLY AND WILL LIKELY TAKE MORE THAN A POWERPOINT PRESENTATION TO UNITE CONGRESS OR EVEN THE PARTY ON THE AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT

IN WASHINGTON, DIANNE GALLAGHER.

HEALTH 3/10/17 KRON 4 Morning News Gluten good? Pot bad?

FOR YOUR HEALTH... GOING GLUTEN-FREE COULD INCREASE YOUR CHANCE OF DEVELOPING TYPE-TWO DIABETES. THAT'S ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY FROM HARVARD. SCIENTISTS SAY EATING ONLY SMALL AMOUNTS OF GLUTEN, OR AVOIDING IT ALTOGETHER, INCREASES THE DANGER OF DIABETES BY AS MUCH AS 13 PERCENT. THEY SAY MANY HEALTH-CONSCIOUS PEOPLE ELIMINATE GLUTEN FROM THEIR DIETS... BUT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE IT BENEFITS YOUR HEALTH. RESEARCHERS RECOMMEND NOT CUTTING GLUTEN OUT OF YOUR DIET UNLESS YOU HAVE AN INTOLERANCE... LIKE CELIAC DISEASE. AND, AS MORE STATES LEGALIZE MARIJUANA, THERE ARE MORE STUDIES SHOWING THE HEALTH REPERCUSSIONS. THIS MORNING RESEARCHERS FROM THE EINSTEIN MEDICAL FACILITY IN PHILADELPHIA SAY SMOKING POT INCREASES YOUR RISK OF STROKE AND HEART FAILURE. THEY SAY STROKE RISK IS INCREASED BY 26 PERCENT AND HEART FAILURE BY 10 PERCENT. THE STUDY ALSO FOUND MARIJUANA LINKED TO FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO HEART PROBLEMS INCLUDING OBESITY AND HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE.

HEALTH

3/20/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm New bill would legislate testing for lead poisoning

NEW TONIGHT, A STATE ASSEMBLYMAN FROM THE EAST BAY IS PUSHING TO HAVE ALL KIDS IN CALIFORNIA TESTED FOR LEAD EXPOSURE. RECENT STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT IN SOME PART OF THE BAY AREA, AS MUCH AS SEVEN PERCENT OF KIDS HAVE ELEVATED LEVELS OF LEAD IN THEIR BLOOD. LEFT UNTREATED, EXPOSURE CAN RESULT IN T LEARNING DISABILITIES AND LONG TERM HEALTH PROBLEMS. KRON 4'S CHARLES CLIFFORD HAS DETAILS:

CURRENTLY IN CALIFORNIA, ONLY KIDS WHO ARE RECEIVING SOME SORT OF GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE ARE REQUIRED TO BE TESTED FOR LEAD EXPOSURE. BUTUNDER A NEW BILL INTRODUCED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BILL QUIRK OF HAYWARD, ALL KIDS BETWEEN 6 MONTHS AND 6 YEARS OF AGE WOULD BE TESTED.

AB-1316 WOULD CHANGE CALIFORNIA'S HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE TO REQURIE ALL KIDS IN CALIFORNIA TO BE TESTED FOR LEAD EXPOSURE.

PREVIOUS ATTEMPS AT SIMILAR BILLS HAVE FAILED BECAUSE SUCH TTESTING WOULD BE EXPENSIVE AND AT THE TIME THERE DIDN'T APPEAR TO BE A NEED FOR IT. BUT, IN RECENTYEARS THE DANGEERS OF LEAD EXPOSURE HAVE BECOME APPARENT IN PLACES LIKE FLINT, MICHIGAN. MANY SPOTS IN CALIFOLRNIA AHD THE BAY AREA HAVE ALSO SEEN A LARGE NUMBER OF KIDS WITH ELEVATED BLOOD LEAD LEVELS.

Larry Brooks: "This universal lead testing bill would help prevent children from falling through the cracks."

LARRY BROOKS IS WITH THE ALAMEDA COUNTIES HEALTHY HOMES DEPARTMENT WHICH WORKS WITH FAMILIES WHO ARE DEALING WITH LEAD EXPOSURE. THEY BELIEVE BROAD TEST WOULD HELP THEIR DEPARTMENTS REACH MORE KIDS WHO ARE AT RISK.

Brooks: "This would give us some advance notice as far as cluster areas that we could then approach those residents about child lead poisoning prevention."

BROOKS ALSO SAYS THAT EVEN THOUGH TESTING ALL CHILDREN MIGHT BE AN EXPENSIVE, HE BELIEVES THAT BY HELPING THEM AVOID LONG-TERM TREATMENT FOR PROBLEMS RELATED TO EXPOSURE.

Brooks: "When you can find a child and prevent them from being lead poisoned you're actually saving money."

THE BILL WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE ASSEMBLY LAST MONTH. IT IS CURRENTLY IN COMMITTEE. AT THIS POINT IT'S UNCLEAR WHAT IT WOULD COST TO TEST ALL KIIDS IN CALIFORNIA OR WHO WOULD PAY FOR IT.

IN OAKLAND CHARLES CLIFFORD KRON 4 NEWS

HEALTH 3/22/17 KRON 4 Evening News Does football have another head injury problem? DWIGHT CLARK'S ALS DIAGNOSIS HAS CERTAINLY INCREASED AWARENESS OF THE DISEASE. ONE OF THE QUESTIONS THAT'S BEEN RAISED OVER THE LAST COUPLE DAYS IS 'DOES FOOTBALL CAUSE ALS?' IN HIS ANNOUNCEMENT, CLARK SAID WHILE HE CAN'T SAY FOR SURE, HE SUSPECTS THAT THE SPORT MAY HAVE PLAYED A ROLE IN HIS ILLNESS.

TODAY, KRON4 NEWS SPOKE TO THE EXPERTS AT GLADSTONE INSTITUTES AN ORGANIZATION THAT RESEARCHES NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES. DOCTORS SAY STUDIES HAVE YET TO REVEAL A DEFINITIVE LINK BETWEEN HEAD TRAUMA FROM FOOTBALL AND ALS.

Dr. Steve Finkbeiner, Gladstone Institutes: "That connection has been looked at in a variety of epidemiological studies. Whether it's physical activity, physical fitness or some sort of head trauma and the studies don't agree basically. So some studies seem to suggest there may be a link and one or more of those dimensions may increase your risk for ALS, but others aren't able to replicate it."

DR. STEVE FINKBEINER EXPLAINING ONE OF THE FRUSTRATING ASPECTS OF RESEARCHING A COMPLEX DISEASE LIKE ALS. ONE OF THE SCIENTIFIC LINKS THAT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS IS REPEATED SHOTS TO THE HEAD CAN LEAD TO CHRONIC TRAUMATIC ENCEPHELOPATHY.

LIKE ALS, CTE IS ASSOCIATED WITH NEURODEGENERATION. HOWEVER, THE ILLNESSES AREN'T INTERTWINED.

Dr. Finkbeiner: "We know that there's a clear connection between head trauma and changes that the brain undergoes that are connected to neurodegeneration, even if we don't have a specific path to ALS."

A POSSIBLE BYPRODUCT OF DWIGHT CLARK'S DIAGNOSIS IS INCREASED ALS AWARENESS. YOU MAY REMEMBER THE ICE BUCKET CHALLENGE CRAZE FROM 2014, A TREND THAT WENT VIRAL AND RAISED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR ALS RESEARCH.

FRED FISHER, PRESIDENT OF THE ALS ASSOCIATION-GOLDEN WEST CHAPTER, SAYS CLARK'S STATUS AS A PUBLIC FIGURE HAS A CHANCE TO ADVANCE SCIENTIFIC STUDIES, AND FINALLY, FIND A CURE.

Fred Fisher: "Every time a new famous person gets diagnosed with ALS it helps us remind people of the ice bucket challenge and helps us remind people that we need more funding so we can drive more research, so we can get to that cure quicker."

CLARK IS NOT THE ONLY NFL PLAYER LIVING WITH ALS. ONE OF THE MOST WELL-DOCUMENTED CASES IS THAT OF FORMER NEW ORLEANS SAINT STEVE GLEASON. HE WAS DIAGNOSED IN 2011 AND HAS SINCE RAISED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR RESEARCH.

1Q2017 HOUSING

HOUSING 1/1/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Rental law controversy

A BAY AREA HOMEOWNER HAD A TOUGH TIME GETTING A TENANT TO LEAVE THANKS TO A LOOPHOLE IN A CALIFORNIA LAW.

Elizabeth Abel, homeowner: "It was an experience of radical dispossession."

AN EAST BAY LANDLORD LOCKED OUT OF HER OWN HOME. THIS TIME LAST YEAR ELIZABETH ABEL ENTRUSTED HER KENSINGTON HOUSE TO A FELLOW COLLEGE PROFESSOR WHILE AWAY ON SABBATICAL WITHOUT FULLY CHECKING INTO HIS RENTAL HISTORY.

Abel: "I knew he was also an academic I just took for granted a common code that turns out not to have been the case."

WHEN SHE CAME BACK RENT HADN'T BEEN PAID BY THE TENANT FOR THREE MONTHS, HER UTILITIES WERE CUT OFF, AND NEIGHBORS REPORTED THE MAN HAD MOVED HER FURNITURE OUT. ABEL WAS FORCED TO MOVE IN WITH NEIGHBORS. SHE NOTIFIED POLICE WHOSE HANDS WERE TIED.

Abel: "And I was completely helpless. I had no legal recourse except what I was doing. The police were sympathetic but they said he's not breaking the law."

THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS EXPLAINS STATE LAW PROTECTS TENANTS FROM RETALIATION OR DISCRIMINATION. BUT THIS CAN PROLONG AN UNPAYING RENTER'S STAY FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. IF A TENANT FAILS TO PAY RENT A LANDLORD FIRST HAS TO GIVE A

- THREE DAY'S WRITTEN NOTICE
- EVICT BY FILING AN UNLAWFUL DETAINER LAWSUIT
- A JUDGE WILL HEAR THE CASE IN APPROXIMATELY 20 DAYS
- CAN COST THOUSANDS IN ATTORNEY FEES

Abel: "It was not the money. It was not the lost research time although that weighed on me. It was realizing that one can go in a flash from being a relatively secure citizen to invisible and without rights."

THE STRESS GREW TO BE TOO MUCH.

Abel: "I was so stressed and distracted that I ran a red light and totaled my car."

HOUSING

1/9 KRON 4 News at 8pm Mortgage help for new homebuyers

IT'S A GIFT FROM THE OUTGOING OBAMA ADMINISTRATION TO WOULD-BE HOMEOWNERS. THE ANNUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PREMIUMS BORROWERS PAY IS GOING DOWN. THIS APPLIES TO HOME LOANS TAKEN OUT AND INSURED BY THE GOVERNMENT. THE QUARTER PERCENTAGE POINT CUT BY THE FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION AMOUNTS TO AN AVERAGE ANNUAL SAVINGS OF 500 DOLLARS FOR HOMEOWNERS. THE BENEFIT IS EVEN BIGGER IF A LARGER LOAN IS TAKEN OUT. OFFICIALS HOPE LOWER PREMIUMS PUSH FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS TO JUMP INTO THE

MARKET. THE NEW RATE GOES INTO EFFECT ON HOME SALES CLOSED STARTING ON JANUARY 27TH.

HOUSING

1/24/17 KRON 4 Evening News New tenant assistance law THE CITY OF OAKLAND HAS JUST PASSED AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE IN THE WAKE OF THE GHOST SHIP FIRE, NOW REQUIRING LANDLORDS TO PAY MORE ASSISTANCE TO THEIR TENANTS THAT ARE EVICTED OVER CODE VIOLATIONS.

THE ORDINANCE WILL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY IN AN EFFORT TO HELP TENANTS DISPLACED BY NEW SCRUTINY OVER WAREHOUSE SPACES USED TO LIVE AND WORK IN. ASSISTANCE PAID BY LANDLORDS HAS BEEN RAISED FOR EVICTIONS BASED OFF SAFETY OR CODE VIOLATIONS. LANDLORDS WILL ALSO HAVE TO PAY TO HOUSE TENANTS KICKED OUT FOR THE TIME IT TAKES TO COMPLETE REPAIRS.

HOUSING

2/2/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Housing crisis creates new group of residents – Part 1

AS RENTS SKYROCKET SO DOES HOMELESSNESS HERE IN THE BAY AREA. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE LIVING IN THEIR CARS, BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD A ROOF OVER THEIR HEADS. IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY, A RECENT SURVEY SHOWS MORE THAN 6 THOUSAND PEOPLE IN THE COUNTY ARE HOMELESS AND 23 PERCENT OF THEM ARE LIVING IN THEIR CARS, VANS AND RV'S. KRON 4'S LYDIA PANTAZES GIVES US AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE BAY AREA'S RISING CLASS OF VEHICULAR HOMELESS AND THE CHALLENGES THEY FACE ON A DAILY BASIS.

Salvador Sanchez: "It's kind of messy right now, but you're welcome to take a look."

THEY SAY THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME, BUT FOR SALVADOR SANCHEZ HOME IS ON FOUR WHEELS. HE'S BEEN LIVING IN HIS RV FOR MORE THAN SIX YEARS.

Sanchez: "It's a small kitchen, but it works for me."

HE HAS ALL THE NECESSITIES.

Sanchez: "This is a seating area. I can have up to two visitors and it's great because me and my wife, we can just sit here and have dinner."

HIS WIFE OF 39 YEARS LIVES NEXT DOOR - IN HER OWN RV.

Sanchez: "Some people's parents have two different bedrooms. It is a space issue. We're living, not camping. I'm too noisy when I sleep, I snore too much. Happy wife, happy life."

A PLUMBER BY TRADE, SALVADOR LOSTHIS JOB AFTER A SERIES OF INJURIES.

Sanchez: "It's difficult to admit to yourself that you can't earn a lot of money and you're at the mercy of the county or the state."

EILEEN ALSO WORKED, BUT THE COUPLE LIVED PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK AND COULD NO LONGER AFFORD THE SKYROCKETING RENT IN SAN JOSE, WHERE THE AVERAGE FOR A 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT IS JUST OVER \$2800 A MONTH, ACCORDING TO THE SAN JOSE HOUSING MARKET UPDATE.

Eileen Sanchez: "I did work when we first went homeless. I worked for a full year living in the RV. Yes."

THEN EILEEN WAS LAID OFF AND NOW SHE CAN'T WORK DUE TO MEDICAL REASONS.

SALVADOR AND EILEEN ARE ONE OF MORE THAN 15 HUNDRED PEOPLE LIVING IN VANS, CARS OR RV'S IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY. WHILE LIVING IN AN RV IS BETTER FOR THE SANCHEZ FAMILY THAN LIVING ON THE STREET, IT'S STILL A CHALLENGE.

Eileen: "You worry about who is walking around outside. You worry if the police are going to make you move."

Salvador: "The hardest thing to do when you have an RV is you're gonna have to find a place to sleep at night and that's going to be difficult because there's a lot of places that will not allow you to sleep overnight."

NEITHER SANTA CLARA COUNTY NOR SAN JOSE HAVE PERERMANENT PROGRAM WHICH ALLOWS THE VEHICULAR HOMELESS TO STAY IN COUNTY- OR CITY-OWNED PARKING LOTS OVERNIGHT. BUT A COALITION OF CHURCHES IN THE AREA KNOWN AS THE WINTER FAITH COLLABORATIVE DOES ALLOW PEOPLE TO PARK IN CERTAIN CHURCH PARKING LOTS. BUT IT'S ONLY A WINTER PROGRAM.

Phil Mastrocola: "What they really need basically is a safe place, away from harassment."

PHIL MASTROCOLA IS PART OF THE WINTER FAITH COLLABORATIVE. HE'S BEEN LOBBYING FOR A PERMIT PROGRAM THAT WOULD ALLOW PEOPLE TO PARK IN COUNTY- OR CITY-OPERATED LOTS OVERNIGHT, A PROGRAM ALREADY IMPLEMENTED IN OTHER CALIFORNIA CITIES SUCH AS SAN DIEGO AND SANTA BARBARA.

Mastrocola: "Which is very simple if you have registration. People make sure their cars are registered, they have valid drivers' licenses, they comply with certain vehicle issues. They have use of a parking spot or lot that's otherwise vacant all night. These are city lots, there's county lots, there's park and ride lots."

UNTIL THIS HAPPENS, HOMELESS PEOPLE LIKE SALVADOR AND EILEEN WILL KEEP SHUFFLING THEIR RV'S AROUND THE SOUTH BAY.

Salvador: "Side by side... always."

LYDIA PANTAZES KRON 4 NEWS

HOUSING

2/3/17 KRON 4 Evening News Median home price goes up again

SOME MIXED NUMBERS COMING FROM THE BAY AREA'S HOUSING MARKET TO CLOSE OUT 2016. CORELOGIC SAYS THE NUMBER OF SALES DROPPED BY 9.1 PERCENT COMPARED TO DECEMBER OF 2015. THERE WERE JUST OVER 71 HUNDRED HOMES SOLD. BUT HERE IS THE CAVEAT. THE MEDIAN PRICE JUMPED BY 4-PERCENT TO 676-THOUSAND DOLLARS. THAT'S COMPARED TO 650-THOUSAND DURING THE SAME TIME LAST YEAR.

HOUSING

2/3/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Housing crisis creates new group of residents – Part 2

A SIMPLE ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT IN SAN FRANCISCO CAN COST FOR MORE THAN 35-HUNDRED DOLLARS A MONTH TO RENT. THAT IS WHY SOME PEOPLE ARE CHOOSING TO LIVE OUT OF THEIR VEHICLES INSTEAD. NEW TONIGHT, KRON4'S LYDIA PANTAZES INTRODUCES US TO A BUSINESS OWNER WHO CALLS HIS VAN HIS HOME:

SANDWICHED BETWEEN BUSINESSES AND LUXURY APARTMETNS SITS A BRIGHTLY COLORED VAN, DECORATED WITH HAND-PAINTED LIONS, FLOWERS AND EVEN INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES.

Constantine Kosov: "People ask, well what part of the city do you live in and I'm like well, I live in my van so home is where I park it, you know?"

THIS IS HOME FOR CONSTANTINE KOSOV, A NATIVE SAN FRANCISCAN, AND HIS DOG PHOENIX. HE CALLS HIS VAN HARRY PEACHES VANDERBEAST.

Kosov: "Certain people are like omg, that's so cool like, your van is so cool and others are like oh!"

ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENT SAN FRANCISCO POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT AND SURVEY FROM 2015, 4% OF THE MORE THAN 6 THOUSAN HOMELESS IN THE CITY LIVES IN A CAR, LIKE THIS ONE, OR VAN OR RV.

Kosov: "I try to vacuum every day."

INSIDE, HIS VAN IS NEAT AND ORGANIZED.

Kosov: "Vitamins... water... "

BUT CONSTANTINE DOESN'T CONSIDER HIMSELF HOMELESS AND DOESN'T USE THE TERM VEHICULAR HOMELESS.

Kosov: ""A van dwelling, a van dweller. Really? That's like a thing, I didn't make that up!"

CONSTANTINE IS ALSO ONE OF THE 11 PERCENT OF SAN FRANCISCO'S HOMELESS WHO IS EMPLOYED. HE OWNS HIS OWN COMPANY, A FRUIT DELIVERY BUSINESS CALLED FRUIT ROLL UP DOT ORG.

Kosov: "I can haul up to 500 pounds of fruit."

WHILE CONSTANTINE PREFERS LIVING IN HIS VAN TO PAYING THE SKYROCKETING RENT IN SAN FRANCISCO, IT'S STILL A CHALLENGE.

ON SEVERAL STREETS YOU EITHER CAN'T PARK OVERNIGHT DURING CERTAIN HOURS OR NOT AT ALL.

Kosov: "There's other areas where they put restrictions on the height and the length, which kind of put me off because my van is so tall."

Dayton Andrews: "The city's been cracking down on overnight parking."

DAYTON ANDREWS IS A HIMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZER WITH THE COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS. THE GORUP PUSHES POLICY INITIATIVES TO H ELP SAN FRANCISCO'S HOMELESS.

Andrews: "San Francisco has over 22 laws on the books that specifically target homeless activity."

THINGS LIKE STANDING, SITTING OR RESTING IN PUBLIC PLACES CAN GET YOU A CITATION.

Kosov: "Plants really make everything feel more homey."

CONSTANTINE SAYS HE'S NEVER HAD AN ISSUE WITH POLICE. DESPITE PARKING RESTRICTIONS, HE STILL PREFERS HIS VAN TO PAYING THOUSANDS A MONTH IN RENT.

Kosov: "The van is my happy center yeah!

IN SAN FRANCISCO LYDIA PANTAZES KRON 4 NEWS

HOUSING

2/16/17 KRON 4 Morning News

SAN FRANCISCO IS THE MOST EXPENSIVE PLACE TO RENT A HOME IN THE WORLD. THAT'S ACCORDING TO LONDON-BASED COMPANY "NESTED" WHO JUST RELEASED THE "RENTAL AFFORDABILITY INDEX".

RESEARCHERS LOOKED AT SEVERAL FACTORS INCLUDING THE MINIMUM SALARY NEEDED TO PAY RENT, AND THE COST OF HOUSING IN MAJOR CITIES ALL OVER THE WORLD. IN SAN FRANCISCO, THE AVERAGE MONTHLY RENT FOR ONE PERSON IS JUST OVER TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS. AND THE INCOME NEEDED FOR ONE PERSON TO BE ABLE TO LIVE IN THE CITY IS JUST BELOW 86 THOUSAND DOLLARS PER YEAR. FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR, THE SALARY NEEDED IS 163 THOUSAND DOLLARS. NEW YORK IS THE SECOND MOST EXPENSIVE, FOLLOWED BY HONG KONG, DUBAI, AND SINGAPORE.

MEANWHILE.....

U.S. HOUSING STARTS TOTAL 1.25M IN JANUARY VERSUS 1.22M STARTS EXPECTED. U.S. HOMEBUILDING FELL IN JANUARY AS THE CONSTRUCTION OF MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING PROJECTS DROPPED, BUT UPWARD REVSISIONS TO THE PRIOR MONTH'S DATA AND A JUMP IN PERMITS TO A ONE-YEAR HIGH SUGESSTED THE HOUSING RECOVERY REMAINED ON TRACK. THE HOUSING MARKET RECOVERY IS BEING DRIVEN BY A STRONG LABOR MARKET WHICH IS BOOSTING EMPLOLYMENT OPPORTUNTIES FOR YOUR PEOPLE AND SUPPORTING HOUSEHOLD FORMATION. HIGHER MORTGAGE RATES COULD, HOWEVER, SLOW DEMAND FOR HOUSING.

HOUSING

2/11 KRON 4 News at 10p Eviction protest

IN SAN FRANCISCO 100 YEAR OLD IRIS CANADA WAS EVICTED FROM HER APARTMENT THIS MORNING. CANADA LIVED IN THE WESTERN ADDITION APARTMENTS FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS. THIS AFTERNOON ABOUT 50 PROTESTORS ARRIVED TO CITY HALL AND HELD A RALLY OUTSIDE THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. A SAN FRANCISCO SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RULED THAT CANADA COULD BE EVICTED SINCE SHE FAILED TO PAY COURT-ORDERED ATTORNEYS FEES. PROTESTORS HELD SIGNS ACCUSING INTERIM SHERIFF VICKI HENNESSY OF BEING AN ELDER ABUSER.

HOUSING

3/3/17 KRON 4 Evening News Mortgages may soon cost more

HOME BUYERS BEWARE! INTEREST RATES MIGHT BE GOING UP. TODAY FEDERAL RESERVE CHAIR JANET YELLEN INDICATED THAT A RATE HIKE IS LIKELY WHEN FED LEADERS MEET LATER THIS MONTH.

RISING RATES AFFECT MILLIONS OF AMERICANS AND HAVE A MAJOR IMPACT ON FINANCIAL MARKETS. IN FACT, TODAY'S NEWS IS ALREADY AFFECTING MORTGAGE RATES.

KRON 4'S DAN KERMAN JOINS US LIVE TONIGHT IN SAN FRANCISCO WHERE THE HOT HOUSING MAKERT COULD BE IMPACTED:

WE'VE SEEN THE STICKER SHOCK THAT HAS BECOME THE NORM WITH THE BAY AREA REAL ESTATE MARKET. NOW IT MAY GET EVEN MORE DIFFICULT AND EXPENSIVE TO BUY A HOME. FEDERAL RESERVE CHAIR JANET YELLEN IS INDICATING THE FED WILL LIKELY RAISE INTEREST

RATES LATER THIS MONTH, AND JUST THAT SIGNALING IS ALREADY HAVING AN IMPACT ON MORTGAGE RATES.

Dan McLean, realtor: "Just after she made that announcement, the rate went up an 1/8 of a percent."

COLDWELL BANKER RELATOR DAN MCLEAN SAYS A RATE HIKE WILL IMPACT ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGES, ESPECIALLY IF THIS IS THE FIRST OF THREE HIKES EXPECTED THIS YEAR.

McLean: "An easy way to look at it is if a quarter point goes up in your adjustable rate mortgage, it effects your payment each month about 100 to 150 dollars."

THAT'S ON A LOAN OF 800 THOUSAND TO A MILLION DOLLARS. AND, OF COURSE IT CAN MAKE IT HARDER TO EVEN QUALIFY FOR A LOAN. FIXED RATE MORTGAGES HAVE ALREADY BEEN INCREASING, BUT THAT IS MORE A RESULT OF THE RISE IN STOCKS AND SELL OFF OF BONDS.

AS FOR WHAT THIS MEANS FOR PROSPECTIVE BUYERS...

McLean: "I think for the ones sitting on the couch waiting for rates to go down, I think it's time to get off the couch and start hunting for a house. Rates are not going down. Since the election, rates have gone up ³/₄ of a point. I would take advantage of the rates today."

OFTENTIMES WHEN YOU SEE A RATE HIKE IT MEANS THE PRICES OF HOMES FOR SALE WILL LEVEL OFF OR MAYBE EVEN GO DOWN A LITTLE BIT. BUT EXPERTS TELL US THAT INVENTORY IS SO LOW – NOT JUST NI SAN FRANCISCO, BUT ACROSS THE BAY AREA – THAT A PRICE DROP WILL LIKELY NOT HAPPEN.

DAN KERMAN KRON 4 NEWS

HOUSING 3/4/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Tenant rally

UPSET TENANTS IN THE EAST BAY JOINED TOGETHER TODAY TO TRY GETTING ANSWERS FROM THEIR LANDLORD.

THE TENANTS IN THIS CONCORD APARTMENT COMPLEX HAVE BEEN SUFFERING WITH SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR YEARS AND THEY CAME TOGETHER ON SATURDAY IN THE HOPE OF ADDRESSING THOSE ISSUES.

Olga Perez, tenant: "We have some mold, bugs, and these are not good conditions either for us and our kids."

OLGA PEREZ SHOWED ME WHERE AN INFESTATION OF COCKROACHES ENTERS HER MODEST APARTMENT. HER BATHROOM HAS CONSTANTLY HAD MOLD RECCURING. THIS CHILD LIES JUST FEET FROM WORN CARPETING AND A MOLDY DOOR FRAME.

COMPLAINTS TO BUILDING MAINTAINENCE HAVE GONE UNANSWERED, BUT THE FINAL BLOW CAME WHEN THEY WERE TOLD THERE WOULD BE LARGE INCREASES IN THEIR RENT.

Perez: "To get anywhere from one hundred to three or four and I even heard as much as five hundred dollar increases while staying in your tenancy that's a hardship and that's a burden on a family and sacrifices need to be made just to maintain housing and some housing within these units are bad building conditions."

SO THEY TOOK THEIR COMPLAINTS DIRECTLY TO THE HOME OF THEIR LANDLORD – WHO LIVES IN HILLSBOROUGH ON THE PENINSULA.

Paula Riastos, tenant: "The manager doesn't do anything, so this is why we are here to talk to you." WHILE THEY WERE NOT RECEIVED THEY LEFT LETTERS AT HIS DOOR AND WENT TO NEARBY HOMES TO LET THEM KNOW WHAT KIND OF CONDITIONS THEIR NEIGHBOR WAS SUBJECTING HIS TENANTS TO.

Melvin Willis, community organizer, "If building management isn't going to handle this and they keep passing the buck off to the landlord, I think the landlord needs to be made aware of what's happening at his units and the kind of rents that he's charging and the conditions that people are living in."

COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS FEEL IT IS CLEARLY A CASE FOR RENT CONTROL FOR LOW INCOME HOUSING IN CONCORD.

IN HILLSBOROUGH JEFF PIERCE KRON FOUR NEWS.

HOUSING

3/17/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm High cost of real estate

WITH THE FEDERAL RESERVE'S HIKE IN INTEREST RATES EARLIER THIS WEEK, THE AVERAGE PERSON MAY NOT FEEL MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR POCKETS.

BUT IT MAY MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN WHAT PEOPLE DECIDE TO DO WITH REAL ESTATE. KRON FOUR'S SPENCER BLAKE HAS MORE FROM PACIFICA.

Lisa Eccleston, real estate agent: "When a broker can send out a mailer to people in Pacifica showcasing some of the houses that sold over the asking price – by 11 to 13% some of them – then you know it's a seller's market. But that may not be all it is."

REAL ESTATE BROKER LISA ECCLESTON REMEMBERS THE DAYS OF 2005, WHEN SHE COULD HOLD TWO OPEN HOUSES FOR A HOME ON THE MARKET, AND BASICALLY GIVE THE SELLERS A CALENDAR OF THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, PREDICTING WHEN THEY WOULD CLOSE. NOW, 12 YEARS AND A RECESSION LATER, HOMES ON THE PENINSULA CAN GET SNATCHED UP IN LESS THAN TWO WEEKS.

Eccleston: "Pretty much, in this market, I would say in my case I'm putting houses up on a Monday, doing a broker's tour on a Tuesday, one open house, and taking offers the next week."

THAT'S WHY BUYERS ARE IN BIDDING WARS, A FAR CRY FROM THE DAYS WHEN ECCLESTON USED TO BE IN THE BUSINESS OF HELPING BUYERS GET THEIR HOUSE FOR THE LOWEST PRICE.

Eccleston: "What I usually say to buyers in this market is we're gonna help you - we're gonna help you get the house."

THIS TOWNHOUSE IN PACIFICA HAS HAD FIVE OFFERS JUST THIS WEEK. WHILE IT MAY SEEM LIKE THE RECENT QUARTER-OF-A-PERCENT HIKE IN INTEREST RATES BY THE FED IS ONLY GOOD FOR SELLERS, IT'S ALSO SPURRING A LOT OF BUYERS.

Eccleston: "Usually any small hike up in the interest will actually have the opposite effect of what most people think."

BECAUSE MORE INTEREST RATE INCREASES ARE EXPECTED THIS YEAR, A LOT OF BUYERS ARE WILLING TO OVERLOOK HIGH HOME PRICES AND JUMP IN BEFORE RATES GET ANY HIGHER.

AND HERE'S SOME "OK" NEWS FOR RENTERS. ECCLESTON SAYS RENT RATES, THOUGH STILL EXTREMELY HIGH, ARE 'SOFTER,' MEANING A LANDLORD WHO WANTS TO LEASE FOR FOUR GRAND A MONTH MIGHT NOT FILL THE UNIT FOR A FEW MONTHS, TEMPTING THEM TO DROP THE PRICE BY A COUPLE HUNDRED BUCKS.

Eccleston: "Rental rates are high, so what I'm seeing is people aren't staying very long in a house if they're paying basically a mortgage payment as rent."

IT'S A LOT OF ACTIVITY IN A MARKET THAT'S SURE TO CONTINUE CHANGING THROUGHOUT 2017.

IN PACIFICA, SPENCER BLAKE, KRON 4 NEWS.

HOUSING

3/26/17 KRON 4 Morning News Tiny house selling for \$20K

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A CHEAP AND ECO-FRIENDLY NEW HOME, KRON 4'S JEFF PIERCE REPORTS A GROUP OF EAST BAY STUDENTS MAY HAVE THE HOUSE FOR YOU.

IN THE BAY AREA'S HOT HOUSING MARKET, OPEN HOUSES ARE DRAWING LINES WAITING TO LOOK AT AN OPEN HOUSE JUST ON THE MARKET IN CONCORD. THE BALLOONS ARE OUT, PROSPECTIVE BUYERS ARE LOOKING IN THE WINDOWS, WHILE OTHERS GATHER THE REAL ESTATE BROCHURES, BUT THIS HOME WAS BUILT ENTIRELY BY CONCORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND COMES IN AT AN AFFORDBLE TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Concord High student: "I think it's two hundred and fifty eight square feet, sleep two right now. There's running water, lights."

THE TINY HOUSE WAS THE PROJECT OF CONCORD HIGH'S CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY CLASS AND THEY ARE AUCTIONING IT OFF THIS MONTH.

Concord High teacher: "I mean in high school you build a house in high school class. That's fantastic."

Concord High student: "It was one of my favorite classes my senior year, one the best I ever took in high school really."

Teacher: "I had kids staying after school, working late, coming in on the weekends. Just the engagement was huge. I never had a class that engaged in a project."

THE HOME BUILDERS EXPECT THE SALE OF THE TINY HOUSE WILL MAKE THE CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY CLASS A SUSTAINING HOME BUILDING ENDEAVOR.

Teacher: "The money we get from this auction will go to the house we've already started. So regardless of the state budget, the district budget, we'll be able to have a program that carries on."

THOSE WHO VIEWED THE LITTLE HOME WERE IMPRESSED.

Concord resident: "Kids build this and use the money to build another one, develop their survival skills, skills they might use in an occupation, it's a good idea."

THE COOPERATIVE EFFORTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION MEANT ANOTHER VALUABLE LESSON ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ASPIRE TO.

Student: "About twenty kids you don't know build a house together and you become good friends with them you know."

Student: "I'm proud of it. It looks good, came out really good."

AT CONCORD HIGH SCHOOL JEFF PIERCE KRON 4 NEWS

1Q2017 TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION

1/6/17 KRON 4 Evening News BART's ongoing problems

A BROKEN BART TRAIN CAUSED MAJOR DELAYS THIS MORNING FOR BART RIDERS. A TRAIN ON THE SAN FRANCISCO-BOUND TRACKS AT THE WEST OAKLAND STATION BECAME DISABLED AROUND 7:30. SERVICE INTO SAN FRANCISCO WAS THEN HALTED SO CREWS COULD REMOVE THE TRAIN. THEY GOT IT OUT OF THERE BY 9:00.

TODAY'S PROBLEM LEFT THOUSANDS OF RIDERS STRANDED DURING THE BUSY MORNING COMMUTE HOURS. AND PROBLEMS LIKE THIS WITH BART SEEM TO BE AN EVERYDAY OCCURANCE. TONIGHT KRON 4'S TERISA ESTACIO DIGS DEEPER INTO WHAT'S CAUSING ALL THESE PROBLEMS FOR THE TRANSIT SYSTEM.

THE DISABLED TRAIN HERE AT THE WEST OAKLAND BART STATION CAUSED A LOT OF DELAYS AND A LOT OF FRUSTRATION WE TALKED WITH SOME OF THE RIDERS WHO WERE STRANDED HERE AND BOTTOM LINE A LOT OF PEOPLE HAD A LOT OF QUESTIONS. SO WE WENT TO BART OFFICIALS TO TRY TO GET SOME ANSWERS.

BART spokesperson: "On all of our trains we have what's called a train line and it's a group of cables that run from one of the train to another. There was a short right in the middle of this particular train line and that's why it was so difficult to move."

I ASKED HIM WHAT HE WOULD SAY ABOUT THESE DAILY PROBLEMS TO BART RIDERS WHO ARE JUST TRYING TO GET TO WORK OR TO SCHOOL.

Spokesperson: "I would say that we're sorry for the inconvenience. We know it costs people money when they can't get to work on time. We are launching an effort to rebuild the system with money thanks to voters who approved Measure RR. We realize our reliability has gone down. We keep on-time performance records on a daily basis and we're maintaining about a 90% on time performance right now, but when it's your train and you're the one who is late to work or late to school, that doesn't really matter. So we apologize and hope that down the line we can solve some of these problems that are reoccurring."

TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

1/6/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm More affordable electric car available in California

NO LONGER BEING DEPENDENT ON GAS AND BUYING AN "ALL-ELECTRIC" CAR JUST GOT EASIER. CHEVY'S NEW LOWER COSTING EV CALLED "THE BOLT" IS NOW ON THE MARKET IN CALIFORNIA. WE ARE THE FIRST STATE IN THE U.S. TO HAVE DEALERSHIPS SELLING THIS TESLA RIVAL. KRON 4'S TECH REPORTER GABE SLATE TOOK ONE FOR A TEST DRIVE TODAY AND SHOWS US THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS VEHICLE. THE BOLT OFFERS A QUIET RIDE. IT'S VERY SMOOTH AND HANDLES WELL. I'M A PRETTY BIG GUY AND IT FELT ROOMY. IT'S A 4-DOOR THAT FITS FIVE.

I GUNNED IT WHEN TRAFFIC ALLOWED AND IT'S GOT SOME PICK UP. IT'S FASTER THAN I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE.

AND THERE IS COOL TECH INSIDE. USB PORTS IN BACK. THE FRONT AND REAR SEATS HEAT UP, AND THE STEERING WHEEL. THERE'S A 10 INCH COLOR DASHBOARD TOUCH SCREEN.

AND CHECK THIS OUT. THE REAR VIEW MIRROR DOUBLES AS THE REAR FACING CAMERA SO YOU CAN SEE WHAT'S BEHIND YOU WHEN BACKING UP. IT'S EXTREME FISH EYE SO IT HAS A WIDER VIEW THAN TRADITIONAL REAR CAMS.

AND THIS IS PRETTY COOL – THEY CALL IT SURROUND VISION... THIS IS AN ANIMATION OF THE CAR BUT THE SPACE AROUND IT IS A REAL TIME 360 DEGREE VIDEO FEED OF WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND YOUR CAR. SO IF AN ANIMAL OR PERSON IS IN YOUR WAY OR INVADING YOUR PERSONAL CAR SPACE, YOU WILL SEE IT. AND IF YOU GET TOO CLOSE TO AN OBJECT OR PERSON, AN ALERT WILL GO OFF TO WARN YOU.

WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT THE BOLT? IT DOES NOT HAVE A TRUNK THAT CLOSES LIKE THE TESLA MODEL 3. THE BOLT IS A HATCHBACK. IT DOESN'T LOOK AT COOL AS THE TESLA.

TESLA HAS ADDITONAL BELLS AND WHISTLES LIKE THE AUTO PILOT FEATURE. AND IT CAN HAVE NEW FEATURES ADDED WITH UPDATES TO ITS SOFTWARE. IT'S A LIKE A PHONE IN THAT WAY, SO NEW THINGS ARE ALWAYS BEING ADDED. THE BOLT DOES NOT HAVE THAT FEATURE.

YOU CAN TEST DRIVE THE BOLT AT THE SILICON VALLEY AUTO SHOW WHICH IS RUNNING NOW THROUGH SUNDAY AT THE SAN JOSE MCENERY CONVENTION CENTER

IN SAN JOSE GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

1/14/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm SF Muni upgrading its fleet

NEW YEAR AND NEWLY DESIGNED SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL RAILWAY TRAINS. THESE ARE IMAGES OF THE REVAMPED TRAINS ON YOUR SCREEN. MUNI OFFICIALS SAY THE TRAINS WILL PROVIDE A MORE COMFORTABLE, RELIABLE AND RIDER-FRIENDLY EXPERIENCE. THE NEW FEATURES INCLUDE WIDER AISLES, LEANING PADS AND EXTRA SEATS FOR DISABLED RIDERS. THE TRAINS WLL ALSO BE FASTER, QUIETER, AND LESS PRONE TO BREAKING DOWN.

THE NEW TRAINS ARE CURRENTLY UNDERGOING TESTING AND OFFICIALS BELIEVE THEY WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THE PUBLIC BY LATE SUMMER.

TRANSPORTATION

1/17/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm BART riders unhappy over fees

BART PASSENGERS LISTEN UP. GET READY TO PAY EVEN MORE TO PARK. FEES ARE GOING UP NEXT MONTH, AND THAT'S NOT SITTING TOO WELL WITH SOME RIDERS. KRON 4'S J.R STONE WENT TO THE EAST BAY WHERE COMMUTERS SAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH:

ONE DOLLAR TO PARK AT CONCORD BART. NO IT'S FREE. NO WELL ACTUALLY IT APPEARS MANY OF THESE SIGNS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING CHANGED. IT'S ACTUALLY GOING TO BE THREE DOLLARS TO PARK HERE COME FEBRUARY SIXTH. BART patron: "It's sad. Cause it's a lot of money."

BART patron: "When I started coming here the parking was free."

FIFTY CENT PARKING INCREASES ARE COMING TO NOT JUST CONCORD BART BUT NORTH CONCORD, WEST OAKLAND, HAYWARD, AND THE COLISEUM. ASK BART RIDERS HOW THEY FEEL AND WELL MOST ARE UNHAPPY TO SAY THE LEAST.

BART patron: "I don't like it. They give way too much money as it is and they don't patrol the parking lots. So people's cars get broke into all the time."

BART patron: "They just keep paying their people more and more."

INCREASES TO THE PARKING PRICE ARE BASED ON DEMAND, EVALUATED EVERY SIX MONTHS. THOSE WITH BART SAY THEY'VE ADDED SPACES WHERE THEY CAN BUT THERE ISN'T ROOM TO BUILD MORE PARKING. SOME PASSENGERS THAT I TALKED WITH IN CONCORD SAY THEY NOW WALK TO PRIVATE LOTS NEARBY.

BART patron: "Anything that I can do to get away from paying BART anything is a good thing. Their trains are never on time. I had to wait for four trains to go by tonight to even get on one."

BART HAS BEEN PUSHING CARPOOL INCENTIVES. RIDERS I TALKED WITH SAY THAT WORKS AT CONCORD BART BUT AT OTHER STATIONS, SAY PITTSBURG, NOT SO MUCH.

BART patron: "People are violating carpool rules left and right, so they need to police that."

BART patron: "First it was free, but over time little by little, it's been sneaking upwards."

BART SAYS THEY ARE GOING TO RECEIVE BOND MONEY AND THEY WILL BE USING THAT HELP IMPROVE THE WAYS THAT PEOPLE GET TO BART.

JR STONE KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

2/1/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Bicyclists ignoring basic rules of road

OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS, KRON 4 HAS RECEIVED COUNTLESS EMAILS FROM VIEWERS COMPLAINING ABOUT PEOPLE RUNNING RED LIGHTS IN SAN FRANCISCO. BUT, THE THING IS, IT'S NOT DRIVERS PEOPLE ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT. STANLEY ROBERTS EXPLAINS ON THIS EDITION OF PEOPLE BEHAVING BADLY:

THIS IS A RED LIGHT AND THIS IS A BICYCLIST STOPPED AT THE LIGHT, BEHIND THE RIDER A FULLY MARKED SFPD CRUISER

NOTICE HOW THE RIDER ROLLS THROUGH THE CROSSWALK AND GOES AROUND PEDESTRIANS WHO HAVE THE RIGHT AWAY.

I'LL COME BACK TO THAT RIDER IN A MOMENT.

THERE IS A PROBLEM WITH BICYCLISTS NOT STOPPING FOR RED LIGHTS. MANY HAVE THE FEELING IF THERE IS NO ONE AROUND THEN THEY DON'T HAVE TO STOP. NOW BEFORE I SHOW YOU ALL THE RIDERS I CAUGHT BLOWING THROUGH RED LIGHTS, PERMIT ME TO SHOW YOU THIS.

HERE'S ANOTHER SFPD CRUISER AT THE LIGHT. NOTICE HOW THE BIKE RIDERS WAIT FOR THE LIGHT TO CHANGE. HERE IS YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE. AGAIN AN SFPD POLICE CRUISER AND THE TWO CYCLISTS ARE NOT ROLLING THOUGH THE CROSSWALK. IN FACT, THEY WAIT PATIENTLY

NOW, LET'S REMOVE THE POLICE FROM THE EQUATION AND WATCH WHAT HAPPENS. THIS CYCLIST GETS TO THE LIGHT AND STOPS AND THEN AFTER SITTING FOR A MOMENT ROLLS THROUGH THE RED LIGHT.

THIS RIDER JUST BLOWS THE LIGHT WITH LITTLE REGARD FOR PEDESTRIANS. THEN ANOTHER RIDER FOLLOWS SUIT AND ROLLS THROUGH THE RED LIGHT.

BICYCLISTS ARE REQUIRED BY STATE LAW TO STOP FOR RED LIGHTS AND WAIT UNTIL THEY GET A GREEN LIGHT, AND MUST STOP FOR STOP SIGNS NOT YIELD FOR THEM.

THE INTERESTING PART, I DID NOT GO OUT WITH THE POLICE. WE ALL JUST HAPPENED TO END UP IN THE SAME PLACE FOR DIFFERENT REASONS. WHICH BRINGS ME BACK TO THE RIDER WO RAN THE LIGHT IN FRONT OF THE SFPD CRUISER.

IN THE END, THE RIDER WAS ISSUED A TICKET FOR FAILURE TO STOP AT A RED LIGHT.

SFPD officer: "There was a red light. There were pedestrians in the crosswalk. You are also getting cited for weaving through the pedestrians that had the right of way in the crosswalk."

MORAL OF THE STORY, IF YOU'RE ON A BICYCLE DON'T RUN RED LIGHTS.

TRANSPORTATION

2/9/16 KRON 4 News at 10p BART implements seat reduction plan

BIG CHANGES ARE COMING TO BART. GET READY TO SEE FEWER SEATS ON BART TRAINS. GRANT LODES IS BACK NOW WITH THE DETAILS AND HOW IT WILL AFFECT RIDERS.

THE BOARD SAYS THIS IS ALL ABOUT DEALING WITH BART'S DIRE OVER-CROWDING PROBLEM. YES, A NEW UPDATED FLEET IS ON THE WAY, BUT BART SAYS THIS WILL MAKE LIFE BETTER FOR PASSENGERS IN THE MEANTIME.

MORE THAN 25 -HUNDRED SEATS WILL BE TAKEN OUT OF 360 BART CARS. THEY WILL BE TAKEN FROM ONE SIDE OF THE CARS AND THEY'LL BE REMOVED FROM THE MIDDLE SECTIONS WHICH TEND TO GET THE MOST CROWDED.

IT WIL TAKE NINE MONTHS TO A YEAR TO GET THE SEATS OUT. BART ESTIMATES 14 EXTRA PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO FIT ON EACH CAR ONCE THE SEATS ARE GONE. THE PROJECT WILL COST ONE-POINT-SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS, BUT BART WILL ONLY HAVE TO PAY ABOUT 200 THOUSAND OF THAT. THE REST COMES FROM FEDEERAL GOVERNMENT TO PROMOTE PUBLIC TRANSIT. THE NEW BART FLEET IS EXPECTED TO BE ROLLED OUT STARTING IN 2018 AND ENDING IN 2023.

ALSO VOTED ON TODAY, A PLAN TO BUILD 20 NEW BIKE LOCKERS AT BART STATIONS. MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE BIKING TO BART AND AT THE MAC ARTHUR STATION FOR INSTANCE ONE BOARD MEMBER SAID IF YOU SHOW UP AFTER 8:30 IN THE MORNING THERE'S NO SPACE IN THE BIKE LOCKER. THIS PROJECT WILL COST NEARLY HALF A MILLION DOLLARS.

TRANSPORTATION

2/13/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Crushing Commute Pt 1: BART NEW AT TEN: WE'RE TAKING AN INDEPTH LOOK AT BART AND THE HEADACHE THE SYSTEM CAN CAUSE FOR RIDERS.

THERE IS NO QUESTION, BART IS AN INVALUABLE SERVICE FOR BAY AREA COMMUTERS. BUT ONE HICCUP CAN LEAD TO SYSTEMWIDE DELAYS, AND THAT CAN HAPPEN SEVERAL TIMES IN ONE WEEK. AS KRON FOUR'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL REPORTS, THAT IS TAKING A MENTAL TOLL ON SOME OF ITS RIDERS.

WALK INTO A BART CAR AND I'll BET THE FIRST THING ON YOUR MIND IS FINDING AN OPEN SEAT ON BART AND HOW LONG YOU CAN ENJOY IT BEFORE YOU'RE FORCED TO STAND.

SEATS APLENTY WHEN BOARDING AT THE FIRST STOP ON THE LINE, PITTSBURG BAY POINT. BUT THIS WILL BE AS GOOD AS IT GETS DURING THE MORNING COMMUTE, HEADING INTO SAN FRANCISCO..

BART rider: "The further you get into the city, more and more people get on and it's like a sardine can, you know."

WE'RE OFTEN TOO WRAPPED UP IN OUR OWN LIVES. BUT NEXT TRIP, LOOK UP AND AROUND. EVERYONE HAS A STORY. SOME ARE SICK. SOME ARE TIRED. AND, SOME ARE BOTH.

BART rider: "By the time you get off the train, everybody is sweaty. They're grouchy."

MICHAEL NIEBUHR SAYS HE CAN'T AFFORD A CAR RIGHT NOW, SO HE HAS TO RELY ON BART.

Niebuhr: "It's hard. It's hard for everybody nowadays."

FOR MANY, THIS PAUSE IN LIFE IS FAR TOO OFTEN THE WORST AND YET MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE DAY...

Niebuhr: "It's not a delightful thing to arrive to work late and already stressed out."

BUT REMEMBER, ITS NOT JUST YOU. ITS HIM ...

BART rider: "It makes you claustrophobic almost, you know."

IT'S HER...

BART rider: "I wouldn't call it pleasurable. I, you know, its gets me from point A to B."

IT'S THE PLIGHT OF THE CRUSHED BAY AREA COMMUTER, WHERE RAPID TRANSIT IS OFTEN JUST THE OPPOSITE, BUT STILL THE PREFERRED CHOICE...

Niebuhr: "You look out and see here on 24 right now, and there's cars backed up. So I'd rather not be dealing with that. I get frustrated as it is. But this can be -- I mean, it can make your day pretty rough."

TRADING GRIDLOCK FOR SYSTEM DELAYS, WHICH RIDERS SAY HAPPEN TOO FREQUENTLY..

KRON traffic reporter Robin Winston: ""I'm tracking your commute on BART right now. I just got word of a major delay."

A DELAY THAT FOR THE SECOND TIME THIS WEEK, TAKES A BITE OUT OF JACKIE JACKSON'S SON'S EDUCATION.

Jackson: "He's late for school because of the delays."

A HOMECARE NURSE, JACKSON TAKES HER SON TO SCHOOL ON BART FIVE DAYS A WEEK...

Jackson: "My son's school starts at 9:30."

IT'S NOW CLOSE TO TEN. AND OVER TIME, JACKSON SAYS THIS SOMETIMES UNRELIABLE RIDE HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY EXPENSIVE.

Jackson: "I pay over 100 dollars a week in just in commuting, yeah."

BART SAYS IT IS CONSTANTLY WORKING ON WAYS TO IMPROVE THE SYSTEM. 775 NEW TRAIN CARS HAVE BEEN ORDERED. AND THE NEW CARS WILL ALLOW ALL TRANSBAY TRAINS DURING THE COMMUTE TO EXTEND TO 10 CARS, HOPEFULLY ALLEVIATING OVERCROWDING.

BART IS ALSO PLANNING TO UPGRADE THE CONTROL SYSTEM, ALLOWING TRAINS TO RIDE IN CLOSER INTERVALS AND AT FASTER SPEEDS. THE GOAL IS TO GET 25 PERCENT MORE TRAINS THROUGH THE TRANSBAY TUBE BY 2023.

BART rider: "My brother even quit his job because it was so difficult, and, um, just uncomfortable having to ride the train."

DATA SHOWS BART'S AVERAGE WEEKDAY RIDERSHIP HAS BEEN ON A STEADY INCLINE AND CONTINUES GROW, PRODUCING OFTEN AGITATED AND FRUSTRATED PEOPLE WALKING THE STREETS, BEFORE AND AFTER AN ALREADY STRESSFUL DAY.

BART rider: "Something needs to change. Something needs to happen to make it more easy, you know, for us. You know, regular people."

BECAUSE THAT'S WHO RIDES BART. YOU AND I AND EVERYONE ELSE.

PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

2/14/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Crushing Commute series, Pt 2: CalTrain

THIS WEEK, WE ARE TAKING AN INDEPTH LOOK AT THE "CRUSHING COMMUTE" MANY PEOPLE EXPERIENCE HERE IN THE BAY AREA. LAST NIGHT WE LOOKED AT THE PROBLEMS BART RIDERS DEAL WITH. TONIGHT WE TURN OUR ATTENTION TO CALTRAIN.

THE POPULAR TRAIN SERVICE, WHICH FOR DECADES HAS SEEN STEADY INCREASES IN RIDERSHIP RECENTLY SAW A DIP. IT'S POSSIBLE CALTRAIN IS A VICTIM OF ITS OWN SUCCESS. TONIGHT, KRON FOUR'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL TAGS ALONG WITH RIDERS WHO SAY OVERCROWDING HAS BECOME AN ISSUE.

FOR MIKE SPIEGEL, THE DAY STARTS DARK AND EARLY IN REDWOOD CITY, A THREE MILE BIKE RIDE FROM HIS HOME TO THE CALTRAIN STATION BEFORE JUMPING ON BOARD THE BULLET TRAIN.

TWO DAYS A WEEK, SPIEGEL USES CALTRAIN TO GET TO WORK IN SAN FRANCISCO, THEN BACK HOME, ABOUT AN HOUR COMMUTE EACH WAY, COMPARED TO POSSIBLY TWO PLUS HOURS BEHIND THE WHEEL.

Spiegel: "In the morning, it can definitely be crowded and hard to find a seat."

AND HE'S NOT ALONE. CALTRAIN CONSISTENTLY RIDES ABOVE CAPACITY, PASSENGERS WITHOUT A SEAT LEFT STANDING IN THE AISLES, SITTING ON STEPS AND IN THE CORRIDORS FOR THE ENTIRE RIDE.

KAREN STEVENSON GOT A SEAT THIS TIME, BUT SAYS SHE'S NOT ALWAYS THIS LUCKY.

Stevenson: "I usually eat my breakfast on my train ride in, so that's not very pleasant trying to eat standing up and I've had to do that a few times."

SINCE 1997, CALTRAIN'S AVERAGE WEEKLY RIDERSHIP HAS INCREASED BY ABOUT 137 PERCENT AND, UNTIL RECENTLY HAD A SIX-YEAR STRETCH, WHERE RIDERSHIP GREW EVERY MONTH. BUT THAT STOPPED IN AUGUST THROUGH NOVEMBER.

DURING THAT PERIOD, CALTRAIN SAYS RIDERSHIP TOOK SMALL DIPS EACH MONTH, COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD IN 2015. AND FRUSTRATIONS WITH OVERCROWDING MAY BE TO BLAME.

CalTrain spokesperson: "At some point, we knew that it might level off. Um, are we concerned, absolutely because we want to keep as many riders as we can on our trains."

CALTRAIN SPOKESPERSON TASHA BARTHOLOMEW SAYS THE SMALL RIDERSHIP SLIDE ENDED IN DECEMBER WHEN, UNLIKE THE PREVIOUS FOUR MONTHS, RIDERSHIP SHOT BACK UP.

Bartholomew: "Our average weekday ridership for the last, you know, six years has been over 60,000, you know, average weekday riders. And, I mean, even now with the dip, it's slightly under 60,000. So, we still have a lot of riders on board our trains."

AND, THEY'RE LOYAL, LIKE MIKE SPIEGEL, WHO SAYS OVERALL, THE SYSTEM IS RELIABLE.

Spiegel: "I feel like if they had more evenly spaced bullet trains with maybe a couple more cars, that'd probably help some of the crowding."

TASHA BARTHOLOMEW SAYS CALTRAIN WILL, IN THE COMING MONTHS, ADD MORE STOPS TO THE BABY BULLET TRAIN SERVICE. THINKING LONG-TERM, CALTRAIN PLANS TO ELECTRIFY THE SYSTEM BY 2021.

Bartholomew: "And that means, uh, more service per hour and added capacity."

AND THAT'S MUSIC TO TYLER CONRATH'S EARS. HE TAKES THE TRAIN DOWN THE PENINSULA FOR WORK AND DREADS THE TYPICALLY PACKED EVENING RIDE BACK UP HOME TO SAN FRANCISCO.

Conrath: "It's not ideal, I mean riding home, half an hour on the train standing up is never fun after a long day."

BUT WHAT ALL RIDERS WE SPOKE WITH AGREE ON IS THAT A CONGESTED TRAIN STILL BEATS A CRAWLING CAR IN THE BOTTENECKED BOONDOGLE THAT IS BAY AREA TRAFFIC.

Spiegel: "I really like riding the train. I never got the opportunity before I was a grown up. It's kind of a neat experience."

CalTrain loudspeaker system: "We thank you for riding CalTrain. This is San Francisco, 4th and King. Have a great day."

PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS.

TRANSPORTATION

2/15/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Crushing Commute Pt 3: MUNI

IF YOU HAVE TO GET AROUND SAN FRANCISCO, MUNI IS ONE OF THE MAIN WAYS TO DO IT. IT'S NOT ALWAYS A SMOOTH RIDE, BUT FOR THE MOST PART GETS YOU WHERE YOU NEED TO GO.

TONIGHT, OUR SERIES "CRUSHING COMMUTE" CONTINUES WITH KRON FOUR'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL. HE SHOWS US AN EXCLUSIVE LOOK AT THE NEW TRAIN CARS MUNI WILL SOON ROLL OUT WHICH WILL HOPEFULLY IMPROVE THE RIDE FOR PEOPLE WHO PACK INTO JAMMED BUSES AND TRAINS DAILY.

ON A MUNI BUS YOU'LL FIND PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE AND IN SUCH TIGHT CONDITIONS EMOTIONALLY SOME RIDERS HAVE A SHORT LEASH.

ADAM FRANCISCO MOSTLY KEEPS HIS HEAD DOWN.

Francisco: "Sometimes I get a little anxious."

HE'S BEEN RIDING THE BUS FOR MORE THAN 15 YEARS.

Francisco: "It's a bad experience. It smells bad. I'm late. Etc."

FRANCISCO SAYS OVERCROWDING IS ONE OF HIS BEEFS WITH THE SYSTEM.

Francisco: "Sometimes, to be honest, I prefer to walk than ride the bus."

BUT HIS MAIN ISSUE IS THE PASSENGERS WHO SLOW THE RIDE DOWN.

Francisco: "I don't mean the disabled people. I mean the crazy people. Sometimes even they fight on the bus."

AND DESPITE THE OVERHEAD ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT SAVING SEATS IN THE FRONT FOR SENIORS AND DISABLED, SENIORS SAY YOUNGER PEOPLE DON'T LISTEN OR FOLLOW THE RULES.

Senior passenger: "People just sit there with their ear plugs in and they don't pay attention to the signs."

DURING OUR TRIP, BOUNCING FROM THE 30, 22 AND T LINES, WE DID NOTICE FARE INSPECTORS BOARDING BUSSES MAKING SURE EVERYONE PAID. ALTHOUGH LENIENCY WAS USED FOR SOME.

Robert Slack, bus driver: "Even with the number of buses we have in circulation, it's pretty tight."

OPERATOR ROBERT SLACK SAYS CAPACITY IS ALWAYS A PROBLEM, MIDDAY AND EARLY MORNING.

ACTOR ZACH HACKER RIDES...

Hacker: "Every day to work."

AND HE SWITCHED LINES A COUPLE OF TIMES BECAUSE SO MANY TOURISTS TRAVEL TO HIS DESTINATION AT FISHERMAN'S WHARF.

Hacker: "You don't have a place to sit down and you're being tossed around and people are pushing into you and yeah."

John Haley: "We have over 350 new buses and trolleys in service right now. Our goal is to replace 800."

SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY TRANSIT DIRECTOR JOHN HALEY SAYS HIS AGENCY HAS LISTENED TO THE PUBLIC'S CONCERNS.

Haley: "We added service by 10%, additional service hours over the last two years alone."

THIS IS AN EXCLUSIVE LOOK AT THE NEW LIGHT RAIL VEHICLE TRAINS THAT MUNI IS TESTING ON THE STREETS THIS MONTH. HALEY SAYS OVER 60 OF THESE NEW TRAIN CARS WILL BE OPERATIONAL OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS. SAME SPACE IN SIZE BUT THE NEW DESIGN SHOULD MAKE IT MORE COMFORTABLE. CLEARLY DESIGNATED SEATS FOR THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED. FLASHY SIGNS WITH REAL TIME TRAVEL UPDATES AND AN UPDATED OPERATORS CABIN WITH BETTER TECHNOLOGY TO IDENTIFY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHILE IN SERVICE.

Haley: "This also has the airplane black box."

SO MUNI SAYS YOUR COMPLAINTS HAVE BEEN DULY NOTED AND HELP IS ON THE WAY.

Francisco: "I don't blame people if they don't want to take MUNI ever and prefer to ride their bicycles or drive their cars because sometimes it's very frustrating."

IN SAN FRANCISCO PHILIPPE DJEGAL KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

2/16/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Uber for elders

IT'S BEING CALLED UBER FOR SENIORS, A NEW SERVICE CONNECTING PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE SMART PHONES TO RIDE SHARE SERVICES LIKE UBER OR LYFT. KRON 4'S TECH REPORTER GABE SLATE SHOWS US HOW "ARRIVE RIDES" CAN HELP SENIORS GET AROUND TOWN EASIER AND MORE AFFORDABLY THAN EXPENSIVE SHUTTLE SERVICES.

Ann, uses Arrive Rides: "I don't want to give up driving."

ANN IS 92 YEARS YOUNG. SHE DID NOT FEEL SAFE DRIVING ANYMORE BUT DID NOT WANT TO GIVE UP HER INDEPENDENCE.

SHE WANTS TO USE UBER OR LYFT FROM TIME TO TIME TO GET TO THE DOCTOR, LIBRARY, GET HER HAIR DONE OR RUN ERRANDS, BUT SHE DOES NOT WANT THE EXPENSE OR HASSLE OF A SMARTPHONE OR TABLET.

Ann, on phone..."Hi! I need a ride to Safeway."

WITH A \$5 A MONTH ARRIVE RIDES MEMBERSHIP, SHE JUST CALLS A PHONE NUMBER, TALKS TO A REAL HUMEN BEING ON THE OTHER END WHO WILL SET UP A LYFT OR UBER RIDE FOR HER.

IF THERE IS ANY SPECIAL PICK UP OR DROP OFF INSTRUCTIONS THE DRIVER WILL BE TALKED THROUGH THEM.

Amy Stice, Arrive Rides creator: "We will talk to your parents or grandparents and make sure where to pick them up and take care of everything."

AMY STICE SAID SHE CREATED THIS SERVICE BECAUSE ORDERING AN UBER FOR HER GRANDMOTHER DIDN'T ALWAYS WORK.

YOU COULD JUST ORDER AN UBER FOR YOUR PARENTS OR GRANDPARENTS BUT NOT EVERYONE HAS TIME FOR THAT AND TALKING TO ANN, THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT THE EXTRA SECURITY THAT APPEALED TO HER.

Ann: "I feel safer. The person on the phone knows where I'm going and when I'll be there. I feel safer."

Amy: "We will take care of them like they are our parents. We will make sure they're okay. Imagine there is a giant medical center with seven exits. We will do the work to make sure they get picked up accurately, at the right exit."

WITH YOUR TECH REPORT GABE SLATE KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

2/16 17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Crushing commute Pt 4 Ride share services

INDEPTH TONIGHT: SOME SAY RIDESHARE COMPANIES LIKE UBER AND LYFT MAY SOON MAKE TAXIS IN SAN FRANCISCO EXTINCT. BUT ARE THEY HELPING TO ALLEVIATE CONGESTION OR MAKING THE PROBLEM WORSE? THE JURY ON THAT IS STILL OUT. WHAT WE DO KNOW IS, THOUSANDS OF RIDESHARE DRIVERS ARE COMING INTO SAN FRANCISCO EVERYDAY TO MAKE A LIVING, AND AS KRON4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL SHOWS US THEY'RE ACTUALLY COMING FROM ALL OVER THE STATE.

MEET 24-YEAR-OLD JUSTIN ABEOLARA...

Abeolara (on phone): "I'm in the city making money -- I'm trying to."

HE LOGS IN AT LEAST 40 HOURS A WEEK, DRIVING FOR TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES UBER AND LYFT, WHILE BALANCING HIS SCHEDULE AS A COLLEGE STUDENT.

Abeolara: "It's pretty long hours, to be honest. Yeah, it is."

NOT ONLY IN TIME, BUT DISTANCE. JUSTIN LIVES IN AMERICAN CANYON, GOES TO SCHOOL IN NAPA, BUT CHOOSES TO DRIVE FOR WORK SOME 40 MILES SOUTH IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Abeolara: "It's more consistent here than it is anywhere else in the Bay Area, at that."

AND, HE HAS COMPANY. LAST YEAR, THE SAN FRANCISCO TREASURER'S OFFICE REACHED OUT TO T-N-C DRIVERS LIKE JUSTIN, ASKING THEY REGISTER FOR A BUSINESS LICENSE, AND IN THE PROCESS TOOK AN UNOFFICIAL TALLY OF HOW MANY OF THOSE DRIVERS ARE WORKING IN SAN FRANCISCO.

OF THE 57 THOUSAND LETTERS SENT OUT, 20 THOUSAND DRIVERS REGISTERED; 25 THOUSAND HAVE NOT REPLIED; AND 12 THOUSAND RESPONDED SAYING THEY NO LONGER DRIVE.

MEANING, IN TOTAL, SOME 45 THOUSAND DRIVERS MAY BE WORKING IN SAN FRANCISCO. AND, JUSTIN SAYS SOME ARE COMING FROM FAR AWAY.

Abeolara: "They come in and they like sleep in their cars, really, like, for weeks on end."

WALNUT CREEK, BRENTWOOD, SACRAMENTO, AND FROM WAY DOWN SOUTH.

Abeolara: "I've meet some Uber drivers that come from LA and San Diego for like three weeks and then, uh, make their money here and then go back."

MAKING MONEY IN THE CITY AND SPENDING IT ELSEWHERE ISN'T OUT OF THE ORDINARY, BUT YOU WONDER IF THIS INFLUX OF DRIVERS IS ACTUALLY HELPING TO CURB CONGESTION. TRAFFIC INFORMATION COMPANY INRIX SAYS, ON AVERAGE, SAN FRANCISCO COMMUTERS WASTED 75 HOURS LAST YEAR SITTING IN TRAFFIC IN THE THIRD MOST CONGESTED CITY IN THE U.S.

Abeolara: "I feel like we're at least helping in the city because a lot of people like, uh, let loose of their cars because it's too much to handle for them, like whether its parking tickets or not, so we're moving it in that part you know."

IN CHINA, TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES ARE MULLING NEW REGULATIONS ON T-N-C COMPANIES LIKE UBER. REGULATORS ARE PROPOSING DRIVERS LIVE IN THE CITY THEY'RE WORKING IN AND ONLY DRIVE CARS REGISTERED IN THE TWO CITIES CONSIDERING THIS -- BEIJING AND SHANGHAI. COULD SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPEN HERE?

WE'VE REACHED OUT TO THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTION AGENCY AND THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION WHICH REGULATES TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES, BUT NEITHER SAID ANY REGULATIONS MIRRORING THOSE DISCUSSED IN CHINA ARE BEING TALKED ABOUT HERE.

A METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION SPOKESPERSON SAYS...

"Economics tells us that such regulation may not be needed and that the market ultimately will sort itself out. When too many Uber drivers are chasing too few fares in San Francisco, the pricing will drop to a point that fewer drivers will find it profitable to seek business in San Francisco and they will look for fares elsewhere. Or decide to drop out of the business."

FOR NOW, JUSTIN SAYS HE'LL KEEP COMMUTING AND WORKING IN THE CITY ...

Abeolara: "Everyone from anywhere just comes here, because it's just the most consistent and where you're going to make the most money."

THE BEST OPTION IS THE ONE THAT PAYS.

IN SAN FRANCISCO, PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

2/17/17 KRON 4 Evening News Feds deal blow to local rail plans

IN THE FOLLOWUP FILE:

A 650 MILLION DOLLAR FEDERALI GRANT THAT WOULD SPEED UP THE CONSTRUCTION FOR A BULLET TRAIN IN THE BAY AREA HAS BEEN REJECTED. THIS IS A STORY WE FIRST TOLD YOU ABOUT ON TUESDAY. THE GRANT WOULD HELP CAL-TRAIN PUT ELECTRICITY ON A SECTION OF TRACK BETWEEN SAN JOSE AND SAN FRANCISCO.

CONGRESSIONAL REPUBLICANS DID NOT APPROVE THE GRANT, AND THEY ARE ASKING THAT IT BE PUT OFF UNTIL AN AUDIT OF THE TRACK IS DONE.

CAL-TRAIN HAD HOPED TO HAVE FUNDING APPROVED BY MARCH, TO BEGIN CONTRACT BIDDING. THIS PROJECT IS PART OF A TWO BILLION DOLLAR PROJECT CAL-TRAIN REQUESTED TO REPLACE DIESEL TRAINS WITH ELECTRIC TRAINS.

TRANSPORTATION

2/17/17 KRON 4 News at 10pm Crushing commute: Pt 5 Freeway Express Lanes

INDEPTH TONIGHT, WE ARE LOOKING AT THE IMPACT NEW EXPRESS LANES ARE HAVING ON YOUR COMMUTE.

LAST YEAR THE TOLL LANES WERE ADDED TO PART OF INTERSTATE 580 IN THE EAST BAY. IT'S BASICALLY A CAR POOL LAN, BUT ANYONE CAN PAY TO DRIVE ON IT. MORE OF THESE LANES ARE BEING BUILT. NEW AT TEN: KRON4'S PHILIPPE DJEGAL SHOWS US THE EFFECT THEY ARE HAVING ON DRIVETIMES:

IT'S A 55-MILLION DOLLAR PROJECT BUILT TO EASE CONGESTION ALONG THE DREADED I-580 TRI-VALLEY CORRIDOR, AND. THE ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION SAYS SO FAR SO GOOD.

AS WE REPORTED LAST FEBRUARY, EXPRESS LANES WERE ADDED TO THE EAST AND WESTBOUND SIDES OF THE FREEWAY, A 14 MILE STRETCH THAT BEFORE THE LANES WERE INSTALLED WAS THE SOURCE OF CONSTANT COMPLAINTS FROM DRIVERS WHO SAY THEY TRAVELED DAILY AT A CONSISTANT CRAWL.

SINCE BEING FULLY LAUNCHED, THE A-T-C SAYS THE EXPRESS LANES HAVE AVERAGED 30,500 TRIPS PER DAY. OVERALL, THAT'S 6.8 MILLION TRIPS THROUGH DECEMBER. AND, IN TOLLS, THE A-T-C SAYS THE EXPRESS LANES HAVE GENERATED ABOUT 7.4 MILLION DOLLARS IN REVENUE.

THE A.T.C. SAYS TRAFFIC NOW IS MOVING UP TO 23 MILES PER HOUR FASTER IN THE EXPRESS LANES THAN THOSE IN THE GENERAL PURPOSE LANES. BUT THE CRUX OF THE ISSUE IS HOW TO GET MORE CARS OFF THE ROAD, PERIOD.

Promotional video: "Welcome to Waze Carpool."

THAT'S WHERE WAZE CARPOOL FACTORS IN

Promotional video: "Here at Waze Labs, we've been looking at ways to beat rush hour traffic."

LAUNCHED ABOUT SEVEN YEARS AGO IN ISRAEL AS A NAVIGATION APP, THE COMPANY HAS SINCE BEEN BOUGHT BY GOOGLE AND WAZE HAS NOW MORPHED INTO A CARPOOL SERVICE, AVAILABLE IN ALL NINE BAY AREA COUNTIES.

Josh Fried, Waze spokesperson: "Waze Carpool, is um, making the most of the drives that are happening anyway. So, this is a true peer-to-peer carpool solution."

Promotional video: "Waze analyzes these drives and automatically eliminates all rides, except for the one with the closest start and end point, commute timing and real-time traffic conditions."

JOSH FRIED WITH WAZE SAYS UNLIKE UBER AND LYFT, WAZE DRIVERS DON'T NECESSARILY MAKE A PROFIT. JOSH HARDLY BROKE THE BANK PICKING ME UP NEAR THE MOSCONE CENTER IN SAN FRANCISCO, AND DROPPING ME OFF AT THE KRON4 STUDIOS ALONG THE EMBARCADERO.

Fried: "I made 80 cents, haha."

JUST ENOUGH TO COVER GAS AND INSURANCE. THE FREE WAZE APP HAS THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION'S FULL ENDORSEMENT, AND, RECENTLY, UC SAN FRANCISCO AND KAISER PERMANENTE PARTNERED WITH WAZE, ENCOURAGING THEIR EMPLOYEES TO USE THE SERVICE AND CARPOOL INTO WORK.

Fried: "This is a seven passenger vehicle and I feel bad, when i'm the only one sitting in it and by filling some of these seats with extra passengers, I'm doing my part in taking cars off the road. I'm also helping the environment."

ULTIMATELY, JOSH SAYS EXPRESS LANES AND OTHER CONGESTION RELIEF PROJECTS WILL HAVE A BETTER SHOT AT SUCCESS WITH FEWER CARS ON THE ROAD AND MORE PEOPLE PACKED IN THEM.

PHILIPPE DJEGAL, KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

3/1/17 KRON 4 Evening News Mixed reaction for major corridor transit plan

THERE WAS A PROMISE TODAY FROM OFFICIALS TO MAKE NAVIGATING A VERY POPULAR ROUTE IN SAN FRANCISCO EASIER. BUT IT WILL COME WITH A HEFTY COST. FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS TRAVELING ON VAN NESS IS GOING TO BE TOUGHER, AND IT'S NO PICNIC RIGHT NOW. AS KRON 4'S TERISA ESTACIO SHOWS US, THE FINAL PROJECT IS BILLED AS A BENEFIT TO DRIVERS, PEDESTRIANS AND ANY ONE ELSE PASSING THROUGH. BUT NOT EVERYONE IS SOLD.

THIS IS WHAT VAN NESS LOOKS LIKE NOW - THE MIDDLE SECTION CHEWED UP WITH ROAD SIGNS BLOCKING DRIVERS FROM MAKING LEFT TURNS AND SWALLOWING UP A LANE ON BOTH SIDES MAKING THE ROUTE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT THEN USUAL IN THIS CITY DEALING WITH INCREASING CONGESTION.

NOW, LOOK AT THIS. THIS IS WHAT IT WILL LOOK LIKE IN THE FUTURE. IT IS ALL PART OF THE VAN NESS IMPROVEMENT CORRIDOR PROJECT.

Mayor Ed Lee: "I am very happy. It will benefit many."

WEDNESDAY WAS THE OFFICIAL GROUND BREAKING, ALTHOUGH TECHNICALLY CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN UNDERWAY FOR MONTHS. BUT OFFICIALS ELABORATED ON THE DETAILS INCLUDING THE MANY BENEFITS SUCH AS PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ZONES.

Ed Relskin, San Francisco director of transportation: "We are going to be widening the sidewalk at the intersections to make the crossing distance shorter. We're adding audible pedestrian countdown signals."

AND WITH THE ENTIRE MIDDLE AREA OF VAN NESS ZONED FOR BUSES, OFFICIALS SAY THE FINAL PROJECT WILL MAKE TRAVELING THE CORRIDOR FASTER AND SAFER FOR EVERYONE.

London Breed, SF Supervisor: "It will speed up travel times by 32%. Traffic will have its own dedicated lanes as well. So we expect traffic will hopefully improve."

ALTHOUGH VAN NESS CUTS RIGHT THROUGH SAN FRANCISCO, THIS IS ACTUALLY A STATE HIGHWAY. BECAUSE OF THAT, FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT COMES FROM STATE, FEDERAL, AND LOCAL MONIES.

AND WHILE MANY APPLAUD ALL OF THE PROMISED FEATURES OF THE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, NOT EVERYONE IS SOLD THAT IT WILL BE BETTER.

David Ababsech, commuter: "They don't understand the road is like a highway. They would need one more lane if they were going to do that. There's a lot of deliveries, a lot of commercial vehicles. What about us? Why just help the buses?"

AND WITH THE PROJECT ALSO INCLUDING PUTTING IN NEW SEWER AND WATER LINES, IT IS GOING TO BE A MESSY PROJECT FOR QUITE SOME TIME.

Breed: "With improvements, comes sacrifice."

THE ENTIRE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN 2019. TERISA ESTACIO KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION 3/6/17 KRON 4 Evening News Bay Area roadways deteriorating MOVING TO THE SOUTH BAY, WHERE LOCAL LEADERS ARE CALLING FOR EMERGENCY ACTION TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT BAY AREA ROADS, WHICH ARE QUITE LITERALLY FALLING APART. A COMBINATION OF DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND STORM DAMAGE IS TO BLAME. KRON 4'S ROB FLADEBOE HAS MORE ON THE STORY NOW LIVE FROM SAN JOSE. ROB?

IT'S BONE JARRING. IT REMINDS ME OF THE OLD TV COMMERCIAL ABOUT WHY YOU SHOULD GET THE OIL CHANGED IN YOUR CAR REGULARY AND THE MECHANIC IN THE AD SAYS YOU CAN PAY ME NOW OR YOU CAN PAY ME LATER.

ONE SOUTH BAY LAWMAKER SAYS THIS IS THE SAME THING. UNLESS WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT OUR DETERIORATING ROADS RUIGHT NOW, PASS LEGISLATION TO RAISE SOME MONEY, IT WILL COST A LOT MORE IF WE WAIT AND DO IT DOWN THE ROAD.

IF HITTING A POTHOLE DOESN'T GET YOUR ATTENTION, THE COST OF A NEW TIRE OR RIM SHOULD DO THE TRICK. BAY AREA DRIVERS ARE PAYING NEARLY A \$1,000 A YEAR IN ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE FEES FROM DRIVING ON BAD ROADS. WHICH IS WHY SOUTH BAY LEADERS ARE URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO PASS SB-1, AN EMERGENCY FUNDING MEASURE THAT WOULD RAISE AT LEAST \$6 BILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY FOR ROAD REPAIRS.

Jim Beall, state senator: "It's just going to get worse and worse because of a lack of maintenance that continues to build up over many years. Now we're paying the price."

WINTER STORMS HAVE TAKEN A HUGE TOLL ON BAY AREA ROADS AND BRIDGES, LEADING TO MANY STILL-ACTIVE CLOSURES, MUD SLIDES, SINKHOLES AND A PLAGUE OF POTHOLES. CALTRANS SAYS THE BILL FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS ALONE IS MORE THAN 600 MILLION DOLLARS SO FAR.

Beall: "That money comes right off the top of the regular budget for regular on going road repairs so we need to find some extra money to catch up and that is what this bill is about."

TEN OF CALIFORNIA'S URBAN CENTERS HAVE PAVEMENT CONDITIONS THAT RANK AMONG THE NATIONS MOST DETERIORATED, INCLUDING THE TOP THREE: SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND, LOS ANGELES AND SAN JOSE, WHICH ALONE HAS ABOUT 548 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF BACK-LOGGED REPAIRS IN NEED OF FUNDING.

SENATOR BEALL IS CALLING ON THE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR BROWN TO PASS THAT EMERGENCY SB-1 NO LATER THAN APRIL 6. HE SAYS THAT WILL PROVIDE A STABLE LONG-TERM SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR OUR ROADS.

ROB FLADEBOE KRON 4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION 3/101/7 KRON 4 Evening News BART wants fare hikes

BART IS FACING A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET DEFICIT. TODAY, ITS BOARD DIRECTED STAFFERS TO CONSIDER TWO WAYS TO BRING IN MORE MONEY. AND BOTH WOULD MEAN HIGHER FARES FOR SOME RIDERS.

ONE WAY WOULD BE TO START CHARGING THOSE WHO USE PAPER TICKETS. BART NOW HAS TO PAY 6 CENTS FOR EVERY DOLLAR PAID IN CASH TO BUY THOSE TICKETS. THE BART BOARD WANTS THE STAFF TO GET PUBLIC COMMENT ON CHARGING THREE DIFFERENT SURCHARGES.

THE BOARD ALSO DIRECTED STAFF TO LOOK AT REDUCING THE DISCOUNTS GIVEN TO SENIORS, YOUNG RIDERS, AND THOSE WITH DISABILITIES.

DIRECTORS SAY THEY DON'T LIKE THE OPTIONS, BUT SAY THAT SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO BALANCE THE BUDGET.

Joel Keller, BART director: "There are no easy good ways, so we all have to look at options and do what is best for the district."

BART RECENTLY GOT 3.5 BILLION DOLLARS IN A VOTER APPROVED BOND MEASURE. BUT THAT MONEY IS FOR CORE INFRASTRUCTURE AND NOT OPERATING EXPENSES. ALL PROPOSLAS WILL GO TO THE PUBLIC FOR HEARINGS.

TRANSPORTATION

3/16/17 KRON 4 Evening News Report on carpooling

CARPOOLING IS UP AND CONGESTION IS DOWN ALONG THE 580 CORRIDOR IN THE TRI VALLEY AREA. THAT'S ACCORDING TO A NEW REPORT CARD FOR THE 580 EXPRESS TOLL LANES THAT OPENED UP LAST FEBRUARY. KRON4'S MAUREEN KELLY REPORTS THAT THE NEW TOLLING SYSTEM IS ALSO CAUSING A DROP IN THE NUMBER OF CARPOOL LANE CHEATERS.

THERE ARE 14 MILES OF EXPRESS LANES RUNNING BETWEEN LIVERMORE AND DUBLIN. THE 345 MILLION DOLLAR PROJECT ADDED LANES IN BOTH DIRECTIONS, 55 MILLION JUST FOR THE TOLLING SYSTEM WHICH CHARGES MONEY TO THOSE PEOPLE WHO AREN'T CARPOOLING BUT USE THE DIAMOND LANES FROM 5AM TO 8PM DURING THE WORK WEEK.

MONEY IS CHARGED AT SEVERAL DIFFERENT LOCATIONS ON THE STRETCH, SO SOLO DRIVERS CAN USE THEM TO GET AROUND CONGESTION IF THEY DON'T MIND PAYING THE FARE. THE COST IS HIGHER WHEN THE TRAFFIC IS THE HEAVIEST. THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE TOLL IS 13 DOLLARS WESTBOUND, 9 DOLLARS EASTBOUND, ALTHOUGH THE AVERAGE TOLL PAID WAS CLOSER TO 2 DOLLARS.

THERE'S BEEN MORE THAN 7.5 MILLION TRIPS LOGGED IN THESE LANES AND THAT'S HELPING TO LIGHTEN THE LOAD IN THE OTHER LANES.

Supervisor Scott Haggerty: "I've driven this route for most of my adult life and this used to be a pretty horrific commute. It used to take a tremendous amount of time and it's really gotten to the point of being almost bearable."

SINCE THESE LANES WENT IN, THERE'S BE A 20% REDUCTION IN CARPOLL LANE VIOLATIONS. THE NEW SYSTEM MAKES IT HARD TO CHEAT. A DRIVER HAS TO HAVE A SPECIAL KIND OF FASTRAK DEVICE CALLED A FASTRAK FLEX THAT HAS A SWITCH ON IT TO INDICATE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE RIDING IN THE CAR. IF YOU HAVE TWO OR MORE YOU CAN RIDE IN THE EXPRESS LANES FOR FREE. IF YOU DRIVE IN THE HOV LANES WITHOUT FASTRAK THE LICENSE PLATE READERS WILL GENERATE AN AUTOMATIC 25 DOLLAR FINE SENT TO YOUR HOME. BUT IF YOU GET CAUGHT BY CHP DRIVING SOLO IN THE EXPRESS LANES WITH THE FASTRAK FLEX SET HIGHER THAN IT SHOULD BE, YOU COULD BE HIT WITH FINES UP TO 500 DOLLARS.

SO FAR THIS YEAR, 9 MILLION DOLLARS HAS BEEN SHELLED OUT BY DRIVERS LOOKING TO GET TO HOME OR WORK FASTER. .ALAMEDA COUNTY SUPERVISOR SCOTT HAGGERTY SAYS THAT MONEY RAISED GOES BACK INTO THE OPERATING COSTS OF THESE LANES FIRST.

Haggerty: "We do have a high-level of what we want to see in maintenance of this facility because we want to make sure these lanes are free of potholes. We want to make sure they're lanes that people want to ride in. So we want to make sure they have a high-quality of maintenance, free of debris. We want people happy when they're in these lanes."

ANY MONEY RAISED ABOVE THAT WILL GO TOWARDS FUNDING OTHER TRANSIT PRODUCTS IN THIS CORRIDOR. EXPRESS TOLL LANES LIKE THIS ONE HERE ARE GOING TO BE OPENING UP ON 680 BETWEEN WALNUT CREEK AND SAN RAMON SOMETIME THIS SUMMER.

MAUREEN KELLY KRON4 NEWS

TRANSPORTATION

3/22/17 KRON 4 Evening News Governor goes to bat for CalTrain

ONLY ON FOUR TONIGHT, OUR BUREAU IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL TRACKED DOWN GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON, D.C. HE ARRIVED YESTERDAY AND IS MAKING THE ROUNDS AT THE CAPITOL. WE LEARNED HE IS PUSHING TO GET FUNDING FOR SEVERAL BIG PROJECTS IN CALIFORNIA, ONE OF THEM IS ELECTRIFYING CALTRAIN.

CONGRESS SHOT DOWN THE 650 MILLION DOLLAR GRANT EARLIER THIS YEAR. BUT THE GOVERNOR IS NOT GIVING UP. HE IS LOBBYING ONCE AGAIN TO GET IT FUNDED.

Governor Brown: "So I would say the door isn't closed. Um, it's difficult. We're not there yet, but I'm cautiously optimistic that we will find a way to fund CalTrain. It's a good project. It's good on its own merits and we are gonna do everything to get it."

THE GOVERNOR ADDED THERE IS STRONG SUPPORT FOR THIS PROJECT, PARTICULARLY IN SILICON VALLEY. HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON IS SUPPOSED TO WRAP UP TOMORROW.

TRANSPORTATION

3/22/17 KRON 4 News at 8pm Residents take action on potholes

MONTHS OF RAIN HAVE NOT HELPED WITH POTHOLES WHICH ARE PROMINENT ALL OVER THE BAY AREA. IN THE OAKLAND HILLS, A WOMAN WHO GOT TIRED OF THE HOLES STARTED TAKING MATTERS INTO HER OWN HANDS. KRON FOUR'S SPENCER BLAKE IS LIVE IN THE NEWSROOM WITH HER STORY. SPENCER, SHE WASN'T TRYING TO *FILL THOSE POTHOLES WAS SHE?

NO, NOTHING THAT LABORIOUS. SHE SIMPLY DECDED TO MARK THE POTHOLES TO MAKE THEM MORE VISIBLE AND EASIER FOR DRIVERS TO AVOID.

WHAT STARTS AS A CRACK CAN EASILY TURN INTO A HOLE ON ANY STREET, ESPECIALLY DURING A VERY RAINY WINTER. AND ON THORNHILL ROAD IN THE OAKLAND HILLS, THERE ARE PLENTY OF POTHOLES. DRIVE ALONG THORNHILL DRIVE AND YOU'LL HAVE TO NAVIGATE A WHOLE LOTTA HOLES. BUT ONE IN PARTICULAR GOT ON LINDA FOUST'S LAST NERVE.

Linda Foust: ""The thing that finally got my attention was 'The Big One' right after Heather Ridge, and I kept bumping into it every morning. I was hitting it fairly frequently, and then it just got so big. All times of the night and during the day, you can hear a tremendous thud of people's suspensions."

JUST YARDS AWAY FROM THE CORNER OF HER STREET IS 'THE BIG ONE,' AS SHE CALLS IT. BUT NOW IT COMES AS LESS OF A SURPRISE.

Foust: "I decided that I would paint it so that I could see it in advance."

FOUST AND HER FRIEND WENDY REPLACED THEIR SCHEDULED TEA DATE LAST WEEK WITH A PAINT DATE TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE BIG WHOPPERS ON THORNHILL.

AT FIRST THEY STARTED WITH YELLOW PAINT, MAKING A RING AROUND THE POTHOLES. BUT IT WASN'T VERY VISIBLE, SO THEY SWITCHED TO ORANGE PAINT.

Foust: "Then I noticed the circles weren't very apparent or visible, so I went and got some white paint."

WITH THAT, THEY STARTED PAINTING ARROWS POINTING TO THE HOLES. IF YOU PAY ATTENTION AS YOU DRIVE, YOU CAN SEE JUST HOW MANY THEY TAGGED.

Neighbor: "She must've done a lot of work because they're all up and down the road."

NEIGHBORS HAVE NOTICED, AND REALLY LIKE WHAT THE LADIES SPENT THREE OR FOUR HOURS DOING. ONE NEIGHBOR EVEN GAVE THEM MONEY TO COVER THE COST OF THEIR PAINT.

Neighbor: "I don't know who did it, but it's actually a little help because you can do a little dive and dodge. People think you're crazy - they think you're drunk coming down the hill but, you've gotta miss the holes!"

Foust: "The thought crossed my mind that it might not be strictly legal but on the other hand, I thought it was doing a bit of good. But the last thing I expected was to end up on television."

FOUST ALSO PLANS ON POLITELY CONTACTING THE CITY TO LET THEM KNOW THE HOLES ARE ALREADY MARKED FOR THEM. SHE'S HEARD THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE THAT CREWS MIGHT BE OUT TO START FILLING THEM WHEN THEY GET A DAY WITHOUT RAIN.

UNTIL THEN, THIS MILE-LONG STRETCH OF THORNHILL NOW SITS AS A REVERSE TREASURE MAP, WITH THE ARROWS TELLING YOU WHERE NOT TO GO.

LIVE IN THE NEWSROOM, SPENCER BLAKE, KRON 4 NEWS.