



KPIX TELEVISION
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose,
California

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT

First Quarter, 2021
January 1- March 31

KPIX News has ascertained that during the 1st Quarter of 2021 that these subjects were of concern to San Francisco Bay Area residents. KPIX News broadcast stories during this quarter on these subjects, which during this unprecedented time focused largely on stories about the Covid-19 Pandemic. KPIX News is broadcast Monday through Friday at 4:30AM, 5AM, 6AM, 12PM, 5PM, 6PM, 7PM and 11PM. Saturdays at 6AM, 5PM, 6PM and 11PM. Sundays at 6AM, 5PM, 6PM and 11PM.

COVID 19 - HEALTH

1/4

CORONAVIRUS KAISER EMERGENCY ROOM (ER) OUTBREAK

Kaiser reports an employee working in the San Jose Medical Center ER has died of COVID-19. Apparently that employee had appeared in the ER briefly on Christmas wearing an air-powered costume. It's not clear how many employees or patients may have been exposed. Kaiser says it is taking precautions to ensure it doesn't happen again.

1/6

CORONAVIRUS SONOMA HOSPITAL HELP

California's Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, most often used in response to wildfires, floods and other natural emergencies, is now assisting in the state's response to COVID-19. A North Bay hospital is one of the first in the state to receive help from emergency workers elsewhere as it tries to cope with the surge in COVID-19 patients.

1/7

COVID-19 TIMELINE

There are only 3 ICU beds available in Santa Clara County right now. Health experts are worried about the post-holiday COVID-19 timeline they've been able to piece together, showing deaths peak about 28 days after a holiday. Basically, we're still dealing with the Thanksgiving surge right now and we haven't gotten to Christmas or New Year's yet.

1/11

SMART ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT

Some Bay Area transit providers are testing a new weapon against the Coronavirus: ultraviolet light. Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit, or SMART, appears to be the first Bay Area transit provider that plans to install ultraviolet lights in the air ventilation systems of its entire fleet of train cars. Ultraviolet light has been shown to be effective at breaking down the structural proteins and the RNA molecules that allow viruses such as Coronavirus to reproduce.

1/12

SAN FRANCISCO VACCINE ROLLOUT

In an effort to protect California's most vulnerable population and healthcare workers, 560 residents and employees of San Francisco Towers, a senior living facility, will receive the COVID-19 vaccine. This includes 297 senior residents and 263 staff.

1/13

CONTRA COSTA VACCINATION PLANS

To help protect more Contra Costa County residents who are vulnerable to serious illness from a COVID-19 infection, Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) is opening up eligibility for vaccinations for county residents who are 75 years and older.

1/14

VACCINE SENIORS

Forty seniors ages 75+ are getting vaccinated today by Sutter Pacific Medical Foundation (SPMF). These are Sutter's first patients to be vaccinated in San Francisco. The vaccinations will take place on the 4th floor in the medical office building's large conference room. Onsite for interview will be patients, health care workers and SPMF leadership.

VACCINE HESITANCY

Officials have talked repeatedly now about the reluctance of some healthcare workers to get vaccinated. It seems to be a very binary thing. Some people would push their mom out of line to get a shot, and others seem reluctant. The county has only managed to vaccinate roughly 1/3 of its healthcare workforce.

1/14

VACCINE CONFUSION

There's a lot of confusion tonight as people try to sign up for vaccines. We talk to one person who was on hold for more than 2 hours, trying to make an appointment. Some counties are pushing along with their COVID-19 vaccine distribution while others seem to be stumbling out of the gate.

1/18

MODERNA VACCINE PULLED

In the latest pitfall of California's COVID-19 vaccine rollout, the state's top epidemiologist recommended Sunday night that clinics put hundreds of thousands of doses on hold after a series of allergic reactions in Southern California.

1/19

VACCINE PROBLEMS

New problems getting vaccines in the Bay Area. San Francisco's sign-up website crashed on day one, and the number of vaccines they have could run out in a couple of days. The health director of San Mateo County says, he doesn't even know how the rollout is going.

1/27

VACCINE GUIDELINE CHANGES

With California now changing the rules on who is eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine, some people who are at high risk are concerned about when they will get vaccinated. We are talking to patients who suffer from cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

2/2

COVID-19 VARIANTS

There are now new COVID-19 variants specific to northern & southern California. Are they more contagious, etc.? We ask an expert tonight.

2/8

LEVI'S VACCINE PREVIEW

The San Francisco 49ers and Santa Clara County announced that Levi's Stadium will soon become the largest vaccination site in California with goals of vaccinating 15,000 people per day. According to the team, the site will open this week and will have the initial capacity to vaccinate 5,000 people per day. The ramp up will not occur until vaccine supply increases. What are health workers doing today to get things set up?

2/9

VACCINE TIMELINE

In going to these sites now you can learn a lot about how the MyTurn website is working for people, age, location, etc. You can see the algorithm results. Scott Gottlieb says we're going to see a lack of demand for vaccine sooner than we think, maybe as soon as March. He says we'll have to make decisions about how to expand eligibility much sooner than we think.

2/11

CVS VACCINES

CVS Health will begin to offer COVID-19 vaccinations to eligible populations at a limited number of CVS Pharmacy locations across 11 states. Vaccines in a retail setting will be offered on an appointment only basis via CVS.com or through the CVS Pharmacy app. The scheduling system opens today.

2/22

CALIFORNIA VARIANT

Two studies released today show some alarming findings about a California variant of COVID-19. It's showing up in half of the samples in 44 counties and there are signs that it causes severe disease and spreads quickly.

3/8

NEW CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL(CDC) GUIDELINES

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released guidance for fully vaccinated people, outlining what they can safely do, including indoor, mask-free visits with other vaccinated people. The CDC still says those who are vaccinated should wear a face covering in public, and it still discourages nonessential travel. It also says that, for now, vaccinated people should continue to avoid medium and large sized gatherings, and they should use prevention measures like masks and distancing when around multiple unvaccinated households.

3/16

DR. CODY ONE YEAR LATER

In a year framed by near impossible choices in the Coronavirus pandemic, between saving lives and causing widespread economic and social devastation, the decision to issue the first shelter-in-place order in the United States and shut down the Bay Area ended up being one of the easiest, said Dr. Sara Cody. Dr. Cody sits for an interview and we ask if she has any regrets.

3/18

VACCINE RULE CHANGES

California made more than 4.4 million people with health risks newly eligible for the scarce COVID-19 vaccine this week, but the state also has quietly dropped millions who are vulnerable to the disease due to their age or occupation from any mention in its priority plan. Many of those 50-64 years old and other essential workers facing exposure on the job, are left wondering whether they'll ever be prioritized, or left to join the mosh pit with everyone else when the U.S. opens the doors to anyone wanting a vaccine, perhaps as early as May.

COVID 19 – BUSINESS IMPACT

1/1

BUSINESS IMPACT

Many businesses limped into 2021, and are still barely hanging on. For those that have survived, do they think they can make it the next 3 to 6 months that it would likely take to truly begin to emerge from the pandemic?

1/5

OVERCROWDED MORTUARY

Funeral homes are faced with turning away bereaved families because they're running out of space for all the bodies. Grissoms Chapel and Mortuary in San Lorenzo is preparing for the surge after the holidays.

1/6

CAN SHORTAGE

Aluminum cans are in high demand due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which means you might not see your favorite beverage on the shelves of your local grocery store.

1/14

RETAIL CLOSURES

Dom's family-owned sporting good business of 51 years in Livermore is closing for good. The community has set up a go fund me to keep the family's business afloat but the family has asked that the money be distributed to other businesses in town to help keep them operating.

1/19

RESTAURANTS SUE

50 restaurants & tasting rooms in Napa County have just filed a lawsuit against the governor for forcing them to close. This is the latest salvo against the Governor for his Stay-at-Home order.

SATURDAY NIGHT OUT

For the first time in more than two months, Bay Area residents are able to enjoy dinner outside. Combined with a break in the weather, they're almost dancing in the streets. Betty Yu is in Burlingame speaking to diners and restaurant owners.

2/2

HERO PAY

Oakland approves Hero Pay for grocery store workers and San Jose is considering it, and could give workers a \$5/hour raise.

2/15

SANTA CLARA COUNTY CHURCH RULING

Santa Clara County officials are applauding a federal court's ruling that affirmed the county's ban on indoor gatherings. The ruling reversed the court's earlier decision to provide an exception for churches after determining that the ban does not single out churches or houses of worship. The ban now remains until the court makes a final decision.

2/17

COVID-19 ASH WEDNESDAY

This year, instead of tracing a cross of ashes on the forehead, ashes will be distributed by the ancient custom of sprinkling over the crown of the head. This practice is used extensively in Europe, and the Holy See has mandated it be used throughout the world this year. After the homily, the priest will bless the ashes as usual and recite the invocation over everyone.

2/19

GARAGE BUSINESS BATTLE

AJ gets laid off during COVID-19. He starts a bike repair shop out of his garage as more people are looking to have their bikes tuned up. Someone calls the city to report him. He's now been cited and is on the brink of having to shut down his business. Should there be accommodations made during COVID-19 for businesses like these?

RESTAURANT SUPPLY GLUT

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced tens of thousands of restaurants to permanently shut their doors as dining restrictions keep customers away. It has also been a boon for commercial auctioneers that buy used equipment and sell them to restaurants that managed to stay afloat, particularly ones that have expanded their takeout business and are eager to snatch up supplies at bargain prices.

2/23

SAN MATEO COUNTY RED TIER

As San Mateo County's COVID-19 positivity rate and other metrics improve, the state of California today announced the wider reopening of businesses and certain activities in the county. The county moves from the most-restrictive purple Tier 1 to red Tier 2 in the state's four-tier, color-coded reopening plan. The move allows changes for numerous types of businesses, restaurants can resume indoor dining with modifications; gyms can open indoors with modifications; and retail and shopping centers can increase capacity.

2/24

VACCINE ACCESS CODES

KPIX is investigating multiple reports from tipsters that it is very easy to use and abuse the MyTurn app, and in some cases reuse access codes at the Oakland Coliseum. We tracked down the Senior Communications Advisor for the Vaccine Task Force, and Wilson Walker is going to ask him some tough questions about these tips, are they true? How are people getting the codes? Are they being reused?

2/26

MOVIE THEATRES REOPEN

Cinemark Holdings, Inc., one of the world's largest and most influential movie theatre companies, will reopen select Bay Area theatres beginning Feb. 26, with additional reopening's to be announced in the coming weeks. Moviegoers can purchase tickets for standard showtimes, and those looking to stay within their trusted group can book a Private Watch Party to watch the film of their choice with the group of their choice for just \$99 for Comeback Classics and \$149 for new movies.

3/17

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY RENT RELIEF

Contra Costa County tenants and landlords impacted by COVID-19 can apply for assistance from the COVID-19 Rent Relief program. Over \$75 million is Contra Costa County's allocation of federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program funds from the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, which allocated \$2.6 billion to Californians in need of rental relief.

3/21

SAN FRANCISCO ORANGE TIER PREVIEW

San Francisco is expected to move to the Orange Tier as soon as Wednesday, adding capacity increases for retail, dining, gyms, and more, as well as allowing outdoor bars and additional youth sports. The announcement of loosened restrictions is perhaps most impactful for bars that don't offer food service, which haven't yet been allowed to reopen. In the new Orange Tier, they will be allowed to reopen for outdoor service on the condition that patrons must be seated and not mingle with other tables.

3/23

REOPENING LABOR STRUGGLE

As businesses push to reopen, some are finding it difficult to hire back former employees laid off at the height of the pandemic. With uncertain job prospects for the past year many people have simply had to move on or move out of the bay area. We look at the labor force as more and more counties are now reopening.

SAN FRANCISCO DOWNTOWN REOPENING

Mayor London Breed and Dr. Grant Colfax, Director of Health, to provide updates about COVID-19 and reopening in San Francisco. They will be joined by Jeff Lawson, CEO of Twilio, whose offices are located at Rincon Center, and Rodney Fong, President and CEO of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.

COVID 19 – EDUCATION

1/5

SAN MATEO COUNTY SCHOOL PUSHBACK

A letter from school states the pandemic has been brutal in California and many people in San Mateo County are suffering. It's important that officials at every level of government do everything possible to stop the spread of the virus. Strong public health policies will enable families to get back to work and school. A lack of proactive policies will continue to damage the lives of county residents.

1/27

SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPORTS

New health restrictions in Santa Clara County that extend beyond the current statewide mandate could deal a fatal blow to the prospect of a spring high school sports season. The new measures, which were unveiled at a meeting of school superintendents Tuesday afternoon, prohibit any practice or competition between two "stable groups," which would be defined as individual teams.

2/1

SCHOOL PLANS

The governor wanted plans in place by today for reopening schools, but that's not happening, in large part because of pushback from the teachers' unions. Oakland Unified School District held a meeting tonight, where we learned they are still only in the initial planning stages.

2/8

ALAMEDA COUNTY VACCINES

The Alameda County Public Health Department announced that vaccination of Alameda County's education staff and others in Phase 1B Tier One on the state's vaccination plan will commence the week of February 8. This is an important step forward for school communities. The Alameda County Office of Education is committed to supporting public health efforts to swiftly vaccinate education staff, teachers, classified staff and administrators against COVID-19.

2/9

SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL REOPENING

City Attorney Dennis Herrera is amending his lawsuit against the San Francisco Board of Education, the San Francisco Unified School District and Superintendent Vincent Matthews to add three new allegations, including violations of the California Constitution. The expanded lawsuit alleges that the school district is violating students' right under the California Constitution to attend public school, discriminating against students on the basis of wealth in violation of the California Constitution's equal protection clause and violating the state law that requires school districts to offer in person instruction to the greatest extent possible. Herrera intends to file a motion for an emergency court order, known as a preliminary injunction, later this week.

2/11

PALO ALTO OLDER STUDENTS

Middle and high school students in Palo Alto now have the option to come back to school in person as soon as March 1st, making Palo Alto Unified one of the first school districts in the Bay Area to set out a plan to bring back secondary school students.

SCHOOL REOPENING PRESSURE

Juliette Goodrich has received some emails from teachers in the Livermore School District who want to get back into the classroom, vaccine or not. They are frustrated they don't have a voice in this. They are also afraid to go on camera because they worry about retaliation from the teachers' union.

2/17

SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (SFUSD) REOPENING PLAN

SFUSD continues to prepare so that the District can safely resume in person learning once all the areas on the dashboard have been completed. The District has submitted applications to the Department of Public Health for the elementary schools in Wave 1 and site inspections have been completed at all six school sites.

2/18

ZOOM SCHOOL PROTEST

Nearly one full year into school closures, San Francisco's kids and families are struggling. Cities such as New York, Chicago, private and parochial schools in San Francisco, have figured out how to safely and successfully return children to the classroom. Unfortunately, in San Francisco, February 18th will mark the second missed contract ratification deadline between San Francisco Unified School District and United Educators San Francisco, further delaying families' hopes of reopening classrooms for the remainder of the year, according to organizers of the morning protest.

2/19

SCHOOL SPORTS RETURN

Golden State Coaches and Let Them Play California leaders will respond to Governor Newsom's decision on youth and high school sports, which is expected this morning. Let Them Play California and Golden State Coaches Association have more than 60,000 student athlete

members and parents who have been pushing Governor Newsom and legislators to start youth sports immediately in California.

3/1

SCHOOLS REOPENING PLAN

Governor Gavin Newsom and legislative leaders have reached a deal on reopening schools during the Coronavirus pandemic that could get more California students back into the classroom by the end of the month. According to two sources familiar with the agreement, the plan would provide \$2 billion to school districts that resume at least some in person instruction by March 31. It foregoes conditions on collective bargaining, testing and vaccinations that have held up negotiations for months.

3/15

OAKLAND SCHOOLS REOPENING

Oakland schools will begin reopening before the end of March after leaders from the teachers' union and the school district reached a deal Sunday after weeks of negotiations. Not all teachers are pleased with the agreement.

3/16

MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT REOPENING PLAN

Mt. Diablo Unified School District (MDUSD) and Mt. Diablo Education Association (MDEA) have arrived at a tentative agreement to welcome students back to campuses in phases. They will begin with Pre-K through 2nd Grade and Special Day Classes on Thursday, March 25.

RACIAL JUSTICE

1/5

OAKLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT CUTS

The Oakland Police Officers' Association (OPOA) warned that murders, violence, assaults, and dangerous sideshows will likely increase in 2021 as the city continues to cut police and public safety budgets. In a new series of paid advertisements, the OPOA called upon Oakland residents to speak up to City leaders to ensure their own safety after the dramatic rise in violent crime in 2020.

1/7

BLACK LIVES MATTER (BLM) RESPONSE

The police response to yesterday's mob at the Capitol was very different from the response to the Black Lives Matter protests in Washington, DC. Tonight, Bay Area BLM organizers weigh in.

1/21

LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL RACIST INTERRUPTION

A discussion on anti-racism was interrupted by pornography and racist images. We talk to students who say it's a symptom of a bigger problem at Lowell High.

2/17

HUEY NEWTON STREET

As part of Black Panther Party celebration events held during black history month, Fredrika Newton, clergy members, elected officials and neighbors will unveil the newly designated "Dr. Huey P Newton Way." The group will hold a ceremony honoring Newton on his birthday, then walk a block together.

2/22

SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT/RECALL AND SCHOOL RENAMING

Facing intense pressure on multiple fronts including school reopening and a recent decision to halt merit-based admissions at Lowell High School, San Francisco's school board president has signaled that its members are pausing controversial efforts to rename 44 district schools. In an opinion piece published Sunday on San FranciscoChronicle.com and in Monday's print editions of The Chronicle, Gabriela López acknowledged mistakes in the process that have resulted in a potential lawsuit and recall efforts targeting several board members.

CRIMES AGAINST ASIANS

Tonight state lawmakers are taking action, after a string of crimes against Asians. Also, a store owner in Vallejo who was shot a week ago in a robbery, is back home.

2/23

SAN LEANDRO PARK

A new public park could be built in memory of Steven Taylor. Taylor, a Black man, was fatally shot by police as he held a baseball bat inside a Walmart store while having a mental health crisis. The proposed park at the San Leandro Marina would also memorialize others who died at the hands of police, such as Oscar Grant in Oakland and George Floyd in Minneapolis.

BERKELEY POLICE REFORM

As anti-police brutality protests swept the Bay Area last summer, Berkeley and other cities vowed to address racial disparities in police departments. On Tuesday, the Berkeley City Council could take the first step in adopting sweeping reforms to the city's Police Department by approving recommendations that include requiring written consent for police searches, firing officers who have engaged in racist behavior and eliminating police stops for low-level offenses, such as failing to wear a seat belt or driving with expired license plate tags.

BLACKFACE LAWSUIT

A pair of teenage boys and their parents are seeking \$20 million in a lawsuit against an exclusive Catholic high school in Mountain View, saying school officials forced the boys out last year over an alleged blackface photo that they say actually showed acne medication. The selfie photo, showing the two former St. Francis students and a third boy with their faces covered in painted masks of dark green, went viral amid last year's racial reckoning, prompting outrage from administrators and some other parents. The boys' families said the school offered a choice: leave or be expelled.

3/10

ELDERLY ATTACK FOLLOW UP

Hopefully the family of a 75-year-old man attacked in Oakland will agree to release info about the identity of the victim, pictures, details about his life, etc. State Senator Nancy Skinner is proposing a bill that would make robbing someone without a weapon simply a petty theft. Carl Chan with the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce says the exact scenario of what happened to this 75-year-old man is exactly why SB82 is a horrible idea, and could increase the number off attacks on the elderly for whom being shoved to the ground could be life threatening.

3/11

BOUDIN PRESS CONFERENCE

San Francisco District Attorney Chesa Boudin is holding a live press conference with other political and community leaders to condemn violence against the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

3/18

CHINESE VIRUS STUDY

In the week after former President Donald J. Trump tweeted about “the Chinese virus,” the number of Coronavirus related tweets with anti-Asian hashtags rose precipitously, a study from the University of California San Francisco has found. The study examined nearly 700,000 tweets containing nearly 1.3 million hashtags, the week before and after the president’s tweet on March 16, 2020, to see whether his use of the term “Chinese virus,” may have led others to use anti-Asian language on Twitter.

ASIAN ATTACK FEAR

All the media coverage, and viral videos of attacks on Asians has stirred anxiety, anger and fear in the community. We talk to regular people about their reactions. What steps are they taking to protect themselves? What are they telling their kids? We talk to a psychologist about how to calm the anxiety.

3/23

SAN FRANCISCO ASIAN STUDENTS RALLY

Parents, students, alumni from San Francisco public high schools and the community at large join to highlight the failure of the School Board to provide resources to ensure quality education for ALL San Francisco students. They are also challenging the elimination of academic based admissions for Lowell High School.

3/23

OAKLAND BASIC INCOME

Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf is holding a press conference to announce a new pilot program that will give money monthly, to residents in the city of Oakland. It’s a program that is already happening in the town of Stockton. The money would go to hundreds of Oakland families. They say it’s a way to break the cycle of poverty and help those who have been most impacted by the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic.

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (EDD) UNEMPLOYMENT FRAUD

1/5

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FROZEN ACCOUNTS

Follow up to Kenny Choi's ongoing reporting and updating with new information on freezing accounts suspected of fraud or other irregularities.

1/11

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (EDD) FRAUD BANK OF AMERICA LAWSUIT

Our latest investigative story on the problems with EDD. The EDD and Bank of America claim they are working together to fight fraud. We obtain information they are not always on the same page and it's backfiring on victims.

1/15

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT BANK OF AMERICA LAWSUITS

A class action suit has been filed against Bank of America for its role in the widespread fraud involving California Employment Development Department (EDD) debit cards provided by the bank to people receiving unemployment benefits. KPIX 5 first exposed how hackers took advantage of people in need. A San Francisco law firm filed the class action lawsuit Thursday alleging a laundry list of failings by Bank of America, saying the suit is a wakeup call for the bank and that the problems could have been foreseen.

1/18

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HACKED & HIJACKED

A frightening new twist in an epidemic of debit card hacks, bank accounts are being hacked and hijacked.

1/21

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT ID.ME FOLLOW UP

EDD suspended payments for 1.4 million benefit recipients on New Year's Eve asking them to re-verify their identities to weed out ineligible/fraudulent claims from people who shouldn't be getting benefits. The agency sent out re-verification info and links in phases. Some victims have been forced to wait weeks. Some are saying they've spent 40 plus hours with EDD and ID.me. It's separate from Bank of America's effort to tackle fraudulent transactions/hacks by criminals.

ENVIRONMENT

1/8

JENNER FLOODING

The recent high tides and heavy surf have created a sand dam at the mouth of the Russian River, and the Jenner visitor's center has flooded. What is being done to prevent further flooding? This has an impact on how the Russian river drains into the Pacific Ocean.

1/26

DEBRIS FLOW SOIL

After a CZU burn scar story last month we've contacted the geologist Cal Fire uses to assess slide risk. He can tell us how the fire cooked the ground in a specific way there. Why the risk is particularly bad in some spots, and how it all ties into the area's seismic risk (think Loma Prieta earthquake).

2/9

WATER RATIONING

Marin County water districts are weighing the need for mandatory conservation actions in the face of abnormally low rainfall and what could be another prolonged drought. Marin's two largest suppliers, the Marin Municipal Water District and the North Marin Water District plan to begin with voluntary conservation measures before considering more restrictive options such as rationing and irrigation bans.

3/12

MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

Jordan Vineyard & Winery announces a multi-year planting program to turn acres of grassland into preserved habitat for vital pollinators, including the endangered Western Monarch butterfly, native bees and other insects. In collaboration with Pollinator Partnership, the world's largest non-profit dedicated to the protection and promotion of pollinators and their ecosystems, Jordan is restoring habitat at four sites on its sustainably certified estate this year with plans to expand habitats over the next 2-3 years.

Jefferson Awards -Founded in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Senator Robert Taft Jr., and Sam Beard, the Jefferson Awards are the country's longest standing and most prestigious celebration of public service. KPIX produces news segments honoring San Francisco Bay Area recipients of these awards. These segments air during KPIX News broadcasts on Wednesdays at 6pm, Thursdays at noon, and Sunday mornings. The following Jefferson Awards were given during 1st Quarter 2021. □

1/6

Susan Farron

Retired paramedic Susan Farren founded First Responder Resiliency, Inc. in Santa Rosa in 2018. So far, the nonprofit has held 50 conferences and taught more than 4,000 emergency officers nationwide how to prepare for job related trauma and its after affects. First responders like fire fighters and law enforcement are taught to use such techniques as diet, exercise, meditation, mindfulness, and yoga to combat such health concerns as depression, stroke, and even suicidal thoughts built up over time from on the job stress. Farren, herself a cancer survivor, sold her home three years ago for seed money to start First Responder Resiliency.

1/13

Hasitha Nimmagadda

Hasitha Nimmagadda learned as a young child how meaningful music can be, so the Lynbrook High School junior started Compassion for Seniors in 2017. This is a volunteer service group that performs music and uses art to bring cheer to older adults in memory or hospice care. To date, Compassion for Seniors has spent 3,000 volunteer hours serving several hundred people in 10 South Bay nursing homes. They have also made more than 1,500 face masks to give away to caregivers and families of hospice patients. Since the pandemic it has expanded its services into Florida, Texas and Maryland. During the pandemic, volunteers pivoted to a virtual format offering on line poetry reading, stories and musical performances.

1/20

Nithila Poongovan

Meghana Ripka

Best friends Meghana Ripka and Nithila Poongovan formed Young Inquisitive Minds in 2018 to bring hands on STEM learning to people with developmental disabilities. Since then, the South Bay high school seniors have spent more than 850 hours teaching 350 children and adults at local recreation centers and high schools. They offer STEM based activities like learning how to construct a paper boat that will float on a tray of dish soap. Since the pandemic the teens have transitioned to virtual classes, expanding to programs like Stanford's Kids with Dreams and a Florida nonprofit. Young Inquisitive Minds serves under the umbrella of Via Services, a Santa Clara nonprofit serving people with disabilities.

1/27

Neo Guerrero

Cleo Guerrero

Cleo and Neo are a brother and sister volunteer team from San Francisco . Neo, a student at Harvard, and Cleo a High School senior play four instruments between them. They give free music lessons through Music Mission in San Francisco to young children who otherwise would not have the funds to learn how to play the violin, piano and more. Cleo and Neo are also tutors. When COVID-19 hit, Cleo was worried about her students falling behind in classes so she started a free on-line study group called Study Buddy. She and Neo patiently helped other young people improve their math skills as well as a variety of other subjects. Cleo also hopes to attend Harvard this fall.

2/3

Michel Thouati

When the pandemic hit, software developer and tech guru Michel Thouati was worried that thousands of Bay Area residents could be stuck in their homes, ill from COVID-19 and unable to get meals they needed. In ten days, Michel founded HelpBerkeley, a meal service specifically geared towards seniors and others who have compromised immune systems. Michel and his nearly 400 volunteers deliver meals for free to hundreds of Berkeley, Albany and some North Oakland residents. The meals cost \$10 for two. Participating Restaurants are all local, and get paid directly from HelpBerkeley. Michel says the restaurants decide what meal they will cook based on affordability and available ingredients. Those who receive the meals say they are delicious and much needed during this hard time. Additionally, on Thanksgiving and Christmas Michel worked with a Berkeley based non-profit commercial kitchen to prepare and deliver 800 free meals and 1000 free meals respectively.

2/10

Ahmed Muhammad

Eli Berrick

When high school student Ahmed Muhammad was babysitting his niece and nephew, he noticed they were bored with the usual chess games and books he would read to them. Ahmed asked the pair if they would like to learn more about science. Both told Ahmed they thought science was boring! He set out to change that, and Kits Cubed was born. Ahmed and his best childhood friend Eli Berrick founded the organization with one goal in mind, to make fun, inexpensive science kits for elementary aged children. The kits are \$15, with all the proceeds going back into Kits Cubed, as they have donated dozens of it to underserved communities and schools. One Oakland elementary school principal told KPIX5 that her students loved the donated kits so much, she hopes to soon receive a \$10,000 grant to buy several hundred more.

2/17

Vincent Ray Williams

When Vincent Ray saw the unhoused in his community needing help to clean up the areas in which they lived, he decided to act. The 33-year-old Oakland resident started picking up trash by himself on weekends. Soon he was joined by friends, who encouraged Vincent Ray to post about his cleanup efforts on social media. Urban Park Clean Up was launched. The organization operates entirely from donations and volunteers. So far it has cleaned fifteen sites around

Oakland. At each site the group bags up around 250 industrial sized garbage bags of trash. Vincent Ray and his army of volunteers also give unhoused residents clean up supplies so they can pick up trash themselves. Vincent Ray was homeless himself for many years. He was born into foster care, and later battled addiction. He says he believes in giving everyone love and respect.

2/24

Teri Lynch Delane

Teri Lynch Delane co-founded Life Learning Academy, a free city funded school for high risk San Francisco High School students. One year ago, she opened a free dorm on campus for those students attending the Academy who were un-housed or unable to live with family.

About 50 Life Learning Academy students each year learn academics, get internships, and gain hands on skills like cooking, gardening and even caring for the school's roosters and chickens. The model is very successful. In June 2020 at the height of the pandemic, every student graduated. Eight out of ten students are employed. Teri's own story is also very inspiring. She herself battled addiction as a teenager, gained her sobriety, then went on to graduate college and become a clinical therapist.

3/3

Kristin Houk

Restaurant Owner and Chef Kristin Houk uses her background in non-profit work as a model for how she runs her three restaurants. All three are based in San Francisco's Bayview district. The Bayview has long been a food desert with few grocery stores, but also an industrial area that for many years produced food commercially, then shipped goods out of the neighborhood. Kristin vowed to change that by sourcing hyper local food products to serve at her restaurants. Prior to the pandemic she regularly opened her restaurants to the community for meetings and social gatherings. When the pandemic shut down happened, Kristin worked with local community leaders to open and operate a free food pantry for Bayview friends and neighbors in need. She continues to offer a pay what can meal at her taco shop. She also serves on a local board that champions women and Black Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) owned businesses.

3/10

Margaret Gonzalez and Steve Perdicaris

In 2015, Steve Perdicaris and Margaret Gonzalez founded Music Mission San Francisco as a way to serve underserved students in San Francisco's Mission District. Prior to the pandemic, volunteers taught about 80 students, aged six through fifteen years old, on donated instruments. Classes are taught afterschool twice a week for free at the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts. During the pandemic, violin and cello classes moved online, which professional musicians Steve and Margaret say has been a comfort to their students. Steve, an associate professor at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, says the Mission District was the ideal place to start the non-profit, as many local school music programs have been cut. Margaret says she wanted to replicate the free music program she had growing up in Venezuela, El Sistema, which teaches music as a vehicle for social change.

3/17

Valerie Freitas and Alex Freitas

In 2013 Valerie Freitas and her then 13 year old son Alex founded TriValley CoderDojo, a nonprofit designed to teach kids coding skills. Since then, the free club has served more than 14,000 kids grades kindergarten through high school. Prior to the pandemic, up to 80 students met each week, mostly at public libraries or conference rooms of corporate sponsors. Now meetings have shifted to an on-line format where dozens of adult volunteers help teach 50 plus kids a week skills like scratch coding. They also encourage students to mentor each other. Valerie and Alex say TriValley CoderDojo's focus is on independent learning, as students explore several topics, from video game design to cyber security. Alex Freitas is now a college sophomore but he's still active in the organization. He led a team of young TriValley CoderDojo students that won second place in Cal Poly Cyber Innovation Competition on cybersecurity two years ago.

3/24

Ken Berrick

Thirty-six years ago, Ken Berrick founded Seneca Family of Agencies, an Oakland based non-profit designed to help children and families through tough times. Today, the non-profit serves more than 18,000 young people and families a year in California, Washington and across the US. Seneca offers "wraparound" services like counseling, that come directly to the child or family so there is no need to move to an 'institution' to receive services. Instead, intensive treatment can be provided in the child's home or a foster family's home. Berrick also helped sponsor legislative reforms from the 1990's that are becoming pillars of the state foster care system today. Under Berrick's leadership, Seneca is also working with dozens of schools to provide mental health and other services to thousands of struggling students. He is also reuniting and offering therapy to hundreds of immigrant families who were separated at the border.

3/31

Jack Hayes

82 year old Jack Hayes has always done things, large and small, with great love and affection for those less fortunate. For the past 20 years Jack has directed his talents, and compassion to the work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP) of his home parish, St. Rita's Catholic Church in Fairfax. Jack has led the way for SVdP to provide direct rental assistance as well as financial support for past due bills such as utilities, mobile phones, car payments, insurance premiums, etc, for Marin County residents in need. Twelve years ago, Jack recognized that even more financial resources were needed to help at risk community members, so he initiated an innovative fundraising event, the Marin County Free Throw Championship. The yearly event has become a community tradition, and since its inception has raised over \$175,000 with no overhead and every penny going to support the work of SVdP. Jack also built a church food pantry, and has been regularly delivering food during the pandemic. Along with food he also brings notes of encouragement, and even fresh flowers.

Recognizing that access to college was not enough to ensure college completion; Students Rising Above was a pioneer in providing comprehensive services to help students successfully navigate the academic, emotional, and social challenges of college. Summer internships and career guidance programs were later added to provide students with the skills and experience to successfully transition into the workforce and break the cycle of poverty. □□KPIX produces news segments that air every other Monday on the KPIX News at 5PM focusing on these special students. □ The following is a list of students recognized during the 1st Quarter, 2021. □□□□

1/2

NO STUDENTS RISING ABOVE

1/8

NO STUDENTS RISING ABOVE

1/15

Alondra Vazquez Lopez

Students Rising Above Alum Alondra Vazquez Lopez has been selected to be a Rhodes Scholar, one of only 32 American students to have received this honor in 2020. She is headed to Oxford in the fall of 2021, where she plans on graduating with two master's degrees, both focused on immigrant studies. Alondra's parents came to the United States as undocumented immigrants. From a young age Alondra recalls visiting family members in detention, experiences she says inspired her to serve the immigrant community.

1/22

Isreal Laviene

For Isreal Laviene, family is everything, and his drive to succeed stems from his desire to take care of his mother and siblings. The seventeen-year-old Mission High School senior boasts a 3.9 GPA, dabbles in modeling and sees himself as a future entrepreneur, eyeing Morehouse in Atlanta as his college of choice. He grew up in a rough area of San Francisco, and he says he saw many friends lose their lives to incarceration and gun violence. Not wanting to repeat those mistakes in his own life inspired Isreal to make school his focus. After his story aired on KPIX5, a Morehouse representative contacted the station with scholarship information. Isreal recently let KPIX5 know he has just been accepted at Morehouse.

1/29

Rana Salem

Rana Salem is a senior at San Francisco's Balboa High School. She's a youth leader at the Arab Resource and Organizing Center (AROC), a non-profit that serves Arabs and People of Color, and a Cloud Engineer Intern at Snowflake Inc, a tech start up that offers data warehouse services. During the pandemic Rana says she has seen her family and community hit hard by job loss and mental health care struggles. The 17-year-old college bound student plans on becoming a Therapist, then Psychiatrist, using her education, and work experience as a tool for community activism and connection. In her spare time, Rana also tutored grade school students at Dr.

Charles Drew Elementary school in San Francisco so teaching could be another career for this busy Students Rising Above scholar.

2/5

A'Nya Johnson

A'Nya Johnson is studying music management at Columbia College Chicago. The 19-year old's journey to the Midwest started at Oakland School for the Arts. A'Nya and her high school's choir had the privilege of joining another Oakland native R&B artist Kehlani on stage at Bill Graham's Civic Center. A'Nya credits this event with jumpstarting her love for the music business. During her high school years A'Nya says she also realized that she was the only Black student in many of her classes. She says she was determined to gain other perspectives and increase her opportunities both in education and the workplace. A'Nya says Chicago and its music scene fit that bill. Now she is anxious for local music venues to open back up after the pandemic is over.

2/12

Andrea Taylor-Alarcon

For Andrea Taylor- Alarcon and her adoptive moms Marcela Taylor and Sylvia Alarcon, family time is everything. The 19-year-old college freshman at Cal Poly Pomona came to the United States when she was very young. Her birth mom struggled to care for Andrea and her two sisters, so all three girls were placed in foster care together. When a social worker and judge wanted to split the sisters up, the then 11 year old Andrea spoke up and fought to make sure they all would stay together. It worked, and all three were soon adopted by their new loving moms. Andrea recently declared Biology for her major and she plans on becoming a heart surgeon, a career choice her moms' say is no surprise to them as their daughter is always thinking of ways she can serve others.

2/19

Miguel Angel Moya

Miguel Angel Moya is a freshman at USC, his dream university. The 18 year old Human Biology major admits he struggled in the past with school. In the 8th grade he failed algebra. But by his senior year at Richmond High School, Moya was taking AP Calculus, eventually graduating as Valedictorian. It's an academic turnaround Moya attributes in part to the lessons he learned playing on his school's baseball team, which helped him stay away from temptations.

2/26

Keila Audelina Calderon Ordonez

For Keila Audelina Calderon Ordonez success means putting her family and community first. Calderon Ordonez' mom was just a teenager when her daughter was born, and left school to raise her daughter. The family struggled financially. Now, after much hard work and sacrifice, the 18 year old Richmond resident, and high school class valedictorian is a freshman, majoring in biology and business at the University of California Berkeley. Calderon Ordonez is bilingual and her fluency in Spanish translation enables her to excel at medical internships and volunteer opportunities. She frequently translates for English speaking doctors and their Spanish speaking patients. Calderon Ordonez' mom is now studying for her G.E.D., hoping to follow her daughter's educational success.

3/5 and 3/12

Maximus Vega

Maximus Vega and his dad Steven are best friends. The duo's favorite pastime is watching movies. In fact, Maximus is named after a very famous movie character, Russell Crowe's character in the Hollywood Blockbuster, Gladiator. It is a great name for a great kid, one who is dedicated to his family. Maximus was just 5 years old when dad Steven Vega was diagnosed with cancer. The illness left him unable to work. The family was hit hard financially and would eventually lose their home. Even during such a tough time, Maximus maintained a perfect school attendance record, completed 238 hours of volunteer work, and graduated in 2020 with a 4.5 GPA from Casa Grande High School in Petaluma. Now he is majoring in Psychology at the University of California Santa Cruz. Dad Steven is fully recovered, and the family has a new home.

3/20

Versia Gipson

University of San Francisco sophomore Versia Gipson and her mom Alice are the best of friends. Both share a determined spirit which has helped see them through some very tough times. When Versia was just a child, Alice lost her job. The family then lost their home, and with nowhere to go they found themselves living in motels. Their living situation would push Versia towards academics, as she sought a way to secure a better future for her family. Getting to college became Versia's top priority. Now she is a sophomore at the University of San Francisco. As she proudly watched her daughter's accomplishments unfold, Alice pushed towards her own success, securing a new job and family home.

3/27

NO STUDENTS RISING ABOVE