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BayArea NewsGroup

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LIVING IN THE BAY AREA

WANT OUT? YOU'RE NOT ALONE

With high rents, homelessness, traffic, pricey food and raging wildfires all threatening our way of life, most people say the quality of life in the Bay Area has become unsatisfactory



JEFF DURHAM — BAY AREA NEWS GROUP

By Louis Hansen
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Despite a booming economy, pleasant climate and natural treasures, nearly two-thirds of Bay Area residents say the quality of life here has gotten worse in the past five years, according to a new poll.

They cite a litany of reasons: high housing prices, traffic jams, the cost of living and homeless-

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

65%
Quality of life in the Bay Area is worse

44%
Likely to leave the Bay Area in next few years

Source: FM3 research poll
SEE PAGE A8 FOR MORE

ness. It's so bad that about 44 percent say they are likely to move out of the Bay Area in the next few years, with 6 percent saying they have definite plans to leave this year.

The poll, conducted for this news organization and the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, reflects the paradox of Bay Area life — how does a thriving job center with world-class universities and culture stir such dis-

satisfaction and misery in its people?

Home prices have risen at a record pace since early 2012. Commutes have grown longer and congestion has become worse as workers move farther away for affordable housing.

"It's a mix of hopelessness and understanding," said Clint Caldwell, 26, a recruiter at a San Francisco tech firm who

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RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

Trump's legal troubles far from over as Mueller probe ends

By Rosalind S. Helderman and David A. Fahrenthold
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON » For 22 months, Donald Trump's presidency has been haunted largely by one legal foe, a Washington prosecutor with seemingly unlimited power, but was also a single target for Trump to portray as the leader of an unfair "witch hunt."

And yet even as one legal cloud lifts with the conclusion of special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation, others loom large on the horizon, creating additional threats to the president's standing as he seeks to shift attention toward his 2020 re-election campaign.

Nearly every organization Trump has run over the past decade remains under investigation by state or federal authorities, and he

is mired in a variety of civil litigation, with the center of gravity shifting from Mueller's offices in southwest Washington to Capitol Hill and state and federal courtrooms in New York, the president's hometown and the headquarters of his company.

Federal prosecutors in New York have been investigating hush money paid before the 2016 election to two women who

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JUST A LITTLE BOOST

Wealthy parent, lucky student

How families with money help get their children into top-tier schools

By John Woolfolk

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The national college admissions scandal has renewed focus on an uncomfortable truth: If mom and dad have the means, there are plenty of legal ways to boost an otherwise average student's chances to get into a coveted university.

The scandal involved what authorities this month described as an illegal "side door" scheme of parents paying a California consultant who either bribed college coaches to flag their unathletic children as freshman recruits or paid proxies to cheat and inflate entrance exam scores. Many of those parents — including a dozen from Silicon Valley — are due in federal court in Boston on Friday to face conspiracy and fraud charges.

But for years, monied families have been taking advantage of legacy connections; coaches for applications, essays and tests; club sports; and large donations

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JUSTIN SULLIVAN — GETTY IMAGES

Stanford is among the universities that have been implicated in the widespread elite college admission bribery scheme.

17-PAGE COMPLAINT

San Jose foster care provider blasted

Licenses for Unity Care's homes revoked: CEO says, 'We simply failed'

By Julia Prodis Sulek

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To celebrate its 25-year anniversary providing "safe, secure and positive living environments" to thousands of local foster children, San Jose-based Unity Care threw a sold-out gala last summer at Club Auto Sport featuring Oprah Winfrey's longtime boyfriend, Stedman Graham.

Within four months, the state of California — in a rare move — took action to revoke the licenses of Unity Care's five San Jose foster homes that were part of a new program serving the highest-risk foster youths.

In a legal action obtained by the Bay Area News Group, the state Department of Social Ser-

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