

# Sun-Reporter



A NEWS JOURNAL DEDICATED TO THE CAUSE OF THE PEOPLE 77 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE ENTIRE BAY AREA

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**.30¢**  
BEST BUY IN THE WEST

## Gov. Newsom Signs Sen. Steve Bradford's Ebony Alert Bill Into Law

Antonio Ray Harvey | California Black Media

**G**ov. Gavin Newsom signed the "Ebony Alert" bill to help locate missing Black youth and Black women in the state of California, according to an Oct. 8 written statement from his office.

Senate Bill (SB) 673, authored by Sen. Steven Bradford (D-Inglewood), provides a notification system to address the often ignored or lack of attention given to Black children and young Black women that are missing in California.

"I am signing Senate Bill 673," Newsom said in an Oct. 8 statement. "I thank the Legislature for highlighting this important issue, addressing well-documented disproportionality in the number of children of color who go missing every year."

SB 673 authorizes a law enforcement agency to request that an Ebony Alert be activated



Senator Steven Bradford (D- Inglewood)

if that agency determines that it would be an effective tool in the investigation of a missing Black youth or young Black women between the ages of 12 and 25 years.

The U.S. population is 14% Black. Black children are disproportionately classified as "runaways" in comparison to their White counterparts who are classified as "missing" and, therefore, many Black children do not receive the Amber Alert.

"It's very important to have

the Ebony Alert because far too often when Black Women and children go missing there is little to no publicity which hinders the effort to find them," said Kellie Todd Griffin, CA Black Women's Collective Empowerment Institute.

"I applaud Senator Bradford for bringing this forward and the Governor for signing the Ebony Act into law. Now we have to be diligent to ensure it is implemented effectively into practice."

Continued on page 3

## California-Hawaii Conference of the NAACP Is Hosting 36th Convention in San Francisco

**T**he NAACP California Hawaii State Conference is hosting its 36th State Convention Oct. 26 - 29, at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront.

This year's NAACP CA/ HI State Convention theme is "This Is How We Thrive." The convention will bring together elected officials, activists, organizers, faith leaders, and entertainers for workshops and discussions to promote solutions to some of the most pressing issues facing Black communities within California and Hawaii.

Topics on the agenda include Next-Gen Leadership, environmental justice, housing, veterans' affairs, labor, education, and more.

"Branch members and civil rights leaders from across the state of California and Hawaii come together every year to discuss our most pressing priorities together to find solutions to the issues impacting our communities



Hon. Willie Brown, Kamilah Moore, chair of the California Reparations Task Force, Rick Callender, NAACP State President, and Assemblymember Lori Wilson (D- Suisun)

the most," said NAACP CA/ HI President Rick Callender. "We are excited to come together and thrive together in San Francisco, home to the NAACP San Francisco Branch, the first to initiate and inaugurate reparations in the state."

Guest speakers at this year's Convention include Dr. Hazel N. Dukes, NAACP Board of Directors and NAACP New York President; Rob Bonta, California Attorney

General; Assemblymember Lori Wilson (D-Suisun City), chair of the California Legislative Black Caucus;

Los Angeles Attorney Kamilah Moore, chair of the California Reparations Task Force; Willie Brown, former Assembly Speaker and former San Francisco mayor; and Sen. Aisha Wahab (D-Hayward).

For tickets and more information please visit: [bit.ly/3qM4kcD](https://bit.ly/3qM4kcD).

## Urban League of Greater San Francisco Bay Area's 2nd Annual Empowerment Awards and Garden Soiree

**O**n September 23rd, government, community, and corporate leaders gathered at the Urban League of Greater San Francisco Bay Area's 2nd Annual

Empowerment Awards and Garden Soiree at the Oakland Museum of California.

Attendees at this 2nd Annual Gala included State Treasurer Fiona Ma, California State Superintendent Tony Thurman,

California Legislative Black Caucus Leader Lori Wilson, and Oakland Mayor Sheng Thao, all of whom gathered to celebrate and support the Urban League Bay Area in creating a pathway to Economic Empowerment for All.

The Urban League of Greater San Francisco Bay Area, led by President Kenneth E. Maxey II, operates throughout the nine Bay Area counties to ensure that African Americans have access to a better future. Their programs range from

job fairs and mentoring, leadership and technology training for youth, government leadership fellowships, uniting Bay Area communities to combat hate, celebrating community leaders, to ensuring the communities they

serve have access to financial and health wellness.

Join the movement by becoming a member of the Urban League Bay Area today at [www.ulbayarea.org](https://www.ulbayarea.org).

Continued on page 2





Urban League  
Continued from page 1



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Carlton B. Goodlett, PH.D., MD., Editor/Publisher 1945-1997

**Amelia Ashley-Ward**  
Editor/Publisher

# Hughes Van Ellis, 102-Year-Old Tulsa Race Massacre Survivor, Dies

By Lauren Victoria Burke,  
NNPA Newswire Contributor

**O**ne of only three known survivors of the Tulsa Race Massacre has died on October 9 at the age of 102 years old.

Hughes Van Ellis, 102, died in Denver, Colorado on the morning of October 9. Van Ellis was born on Jan. 11, 1921. The two last known survivors of the Tulsa Race Massacre are now Viola Ford Fletcher, 109 and Lessie Benningfield Randle, 108.

The Greenwood District was a prosperous African American community in Tulsa,

Oklahoma, often referred to as "Black Wall Street." It was a thriving business district with a vibrant Black cultural and economic life, home to many Black-owned businesses and residences. On May 31, 1921, a young Black man named Dick Rowland was falsely accused of assaulting a young white woman named Sarah Page in an elevator. The allegation led to Rowland's arrest and tensions escalated as rumors spread about the incident.

At the time, Hughes Van Ellis was three months old. Over the years there have been several attempts to earn damage rewards for the destruction of life and property by the white community in Tulsa.

None of the challenges have been successful so far.

A statement released by the family stated, "Mr. Hughes Van Ellis, 102, passed Mon. Oct. 9th at 11:30 am in Denver, Colorado. A loving family man, he was known as "Uncle Redd." He was among the three last known survivors of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, one of the most horrific acts of racist terrorism on American soil. A WWII war veteran, Mr. Ellis, bravely served America, even as he spent a lifetime awaiting atonement related to the Tulsa Race Massacre. Mr. Ellis was aware, that survivors, his sister Mrs. Viola Ford Fletcher, 109, Mrs. Lessie Benningfield



Hughes Van Ellis

Randle, 108, and family descendants were recently at our state capitol as part of an interim study focused on 2001 state-commissioned reparation recommendations.

**Funeral details are not yet**

**known. Van Ellis' funeral ceremony is likely to be another touchpoint around the issue of reparations for the damage done to members of the Black community as a result of systemic racism.**

## Ebony Alert Bill Continued from page 1

According to the Black and Missing Foundation Inc. (BAMFI), 38% of children reported missing in the U.S. are Black. BAMFI is a non-profit organization whose mission is to bring awareness to missing persons of color. It provides resources and tools to missing person's families and friends and educates the minority community about personal safety.

AMBER – the moniker that stands for America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency

Response – was created as a legacy to nine-year-old Amber Hagerman, who was kidnapped and murdered while riding her bicycle in Arlington, Texas.

Similar to Amber Alert, California has an existing law that authorizes the issuance and coordination of a "Silver Alert" relating to a person who is 65 years of age or older, developmentally disabled, or cognitively impaired who is reported missing.

The "Feather Alert," relating to an endangered indigenous person who has been reported missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances,

is also on books.

Newsom did note "broader concerns" he had with SB 673 and expressed them to Bradford. His administration questioned standards in the bill and stated that they "do not align with the criteria in existing alerts," specifically the Amber Alert, Endangered Missing Advisory, Feather Alert, and Silver Alert.

Black women and girls are at increased risk of being harmed and sex trafficked. A recent report on human trafficking incidents across the country also found that 40% of sex trafficking

victims were identified as Black women. The county of Los Angeles reported that 92% of girls in the juvenile justice system identified as victims of sex trafficking are Black, according to the Congressional Black Caucus.

"When someone who is missing is incorrectly listed as a runaway, they basically vanish a second time," Bradford said in a statement after he introduced the bill on the Senate floor in March," Bradford stated.

Earlier this year, community advocates in Oakland's announced

a "state of emergency" in response to 10 attempted abductions and kidnappings of Black girls and women.

Oakland Councilmember Treva Reid of District 7, announced in May that of the 1,500 missing person cases reported in the city, 400 were Black women. In 2022 alone, 20% of missing cases went unsolved.

**Reid supports SB 673. On May 30, the Oakland City Council unanimously voted in favor of her resolution endorsing the alert system statewide.**

# Solidarity and Sisterhood: L.A. Mayor Karen Bass Celebrates U.S. House Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi

Antonio Ray Harvey, Lila Brown and Joe W. Bowers Jr. | California Black Media

**F**rom one former speaker to another, two of California's top political brass honored one another, showing mutual admiration amid continuing political chaos in Washington.

On Oct. 5, Karen Bass the Mayor of Los Angeles and former Speaker of the California Assembly, hosted a reception at the Getty House -- the official mayoral residence -- to celebrate Nancy Pelosi, Speaker Emerita of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Singer John Legend performed, and hundreds of

officials, donors, and other guests attended the event held in the mansion's backyard just hours after Pelosi spoke at the funeral of Sen. Dianne Feinstein in San Francisco. This was also two days after the former speaker accused the new interim speaker, Patrick McHenry (R-NC-10), of ordering her to vacate her

office in the U.S. Capitol. Some reports suggest the order to relocate Pelosi from her "hideaway office," assigned to her when she was Speaker, was a direct order from the recently ousted Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA-20).

"What we've witnessed this week, the chaos, the disrespect of the leader,

the disregard for national and international impact for the whole world to see never happened under the leadership of Madam Speaker," said Bass referencing the United States House of Representatives vote to remove McCarthy on Oct. 3, through a motion to vacate filed by Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Fla-1).

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L.A. Mayor Karen Bass

# Biden-Harris Administration Unveils Sweeping Measures to Shield Consumers from Junk Fees

By Stacy M. Brown

**I**n a bid to shield consumers from hidden and excessive charges, the Biden-Harris Administration, in collaboration with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), is set to implement a series of robust measures targeting junk fees across various industries while also prohibiting fees for essential bank services.

Junk fees, clandestine charges that businesses surreptitiously tack onto customer invoices, have long plagued American consumers, costing families billions annually and obstructing fair competition. In a news release, the White House cited

President Biden's previous call to arms for federal agencies, Congress, and private enterprises to combat these fees and ensure full-price transparency, culminating in these latest initiatives.

Administration officials said research indicates that fees levied after the point of purchase hinder consumers' ability to comparison shop, resulting in payments that can exceed the base price by up to twenty percent. "Such fees also unfairly disadvantage honest businesses, impede innovation, and disproportionately impact small enterprises," officials stated in the news release.

The Federal Trade Commission proposed a groundbreaking rule that, if enacted, would outlaw the imposition of hidden and

deceptive fees, obliging companies to divulge the complete cost upfront. The regulation would encompass various sectors, including event tickets, accommodations, rentals, and more. Non-compliance could incur substantial penalties and necessitate refunds to consumers.

Meanwhile, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau announced it is taking a stand against major financial institutions, mandating that they furnish essential information to consumers without charge. The move would eliminate fees for vital services like checking account balances, loan payoff details, and application-related account information.

Later this month, the

CFPB plans to introduce a rule facilitating the secure and reliable transmission of banking transaction data among financial institutions. That measure aims to simplify the process of switching banks and managing accounts across multiple providers, thus encouraging competition based on service quality and upfront pricing.

The CFPB also revealed that its crackdown on junk fees has already delivered substantial savings to consumers. Bounced check fees have plummeted by over 86 percent since 2021, equating to nearly \$2 billion in savings, officials said in the release. Additionally, two-thirds of major banks have entirely abolished these charges. Coupled with prior reductions in banking junk fees, that action translates

to an average annual savings of \$170 for the 33 million households affected.

The CFPB also announces a triumph in securing an extra \$140 million in consumer reimbursements from companies guilty of imposing illegal junk fees, such as surprise overdraft charges and multiple bounced check fees for a single transaction. The White House said these announcements follow the issuance of guidance to financial institutions last October regarding these illicit fees.

Simultaneously, the White House said it bolstered its comprehensive approach to competition, with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs unveiling new guidelines to fortify the

integration of competition-centric elements into agency regulations. Developed in concert with key economic councils, officials said the directive will steer agencies in designing regulations that foster competition while upholding other vital policy objectives.

The Federal Communications Commission has also mandated the implementation of "Broadband Nutrition Labels," providing consumers with clear and concise information about the costs and fees associated with internet services. Various agencies, including the FTC, CFPB, and FCC, have proposed rules to curtail fees from credit cards to auto sales.

# The Sun-Reporter

## EDITORIAL

We wish to plead our own cause.  
Too long have others spoken for us.

*Freedom's Journal, March 16, 1827.*

## Protecting Their Dream Homes from a Fracking Nightmare

By Ben Jealous

**F**orever home. That's how folks from Aurora I met last week describe the houses they bought outside Denver.

Now those dream homes are caught in what may be America's most dire urban fracking nightmare.

Over the last year, residents have discovered, and began a grassroots challenge against, a plan to erect 174 10-story-high oil wells that stretch horizontally underground for thousands of feet.

The project is to be built next to a pristine, vital reservoir that hugs on the city's edge and shares its name. Nearby communities without reservoirs buy their water from Aurora. The snowmelted water is so clean you can drink it while you swim in it.

That all could change fast. Civitas, an oil company whose biggest investor is the Canadian equivalent of the Social Security Administration, wants to frack -- inject water, sand, and toxic chemicals underground to free oil -- under the reservoir, neighborhoods, and close to

a Superfund toxic waste site. The entire area in the proposal is more than 33,000 acres with one drilling pad within 3,000 feet of a neighborhood.

What started as a Facebook page grew into a full-fledged campaign involving residents and allied environmental groups pushing city, county, and state officials to stop the fracking proposal from moving forward. Residents only learned of the plan when Civitas started trying to acquire the mineral rights under their houses and common areas controlled by homeowners' associations.

When they go to a hearing, "it's the suits versus the t-shirts" says Marsha Goldsmith Kamin, referring to the blue shirts she and other opponents wear. Kamin and her husband learned about the fracking proposal after they moved in November to be closer to their three grandchildren. Opposing the wells amounts to a full-time job for the retiree now.

In Colorado, like most Western, states access to water remains a contentious issue. As its name suggests, the leading opposition group Save the Aurora Reservoir leads with the threat to drinking water for much of metro Denver.

Beyond the direct threat of fracking under and around the reservoir, the proposed wells will demand billions of gallons of water that end up so polluted they're lost to other uses. So Aurora, which has experienced recent droughts, would see precious water used to produce fossil fuels that are accelerating climate change that can make water even more scarce.

The fracking would worsen Denver's poor air quality as well. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) raised its concern about ozone levels in the Rockies' Front Range from serious to severe last year. The proposed wells would emit thousands of tons of "volatile organic compounds" and nitrogen oxide that make up ozone.

The Superfund site, created



Ben Jealous

by a now-closed Air Force base and city and county dumping, could be an unlikely hero in the story. The EPA won't allow fracking under the unlined landfill, and more recently has raised questions about the impact of fracking close by on the already leaking site's structural integrity. Opponents hope that federal concern will help sway regulators in Colorado.

Opponents have made progress. Civitas agreed to move five well sites. The county commission, which narrowly defeated a drilling halt, this week is considering closing loopholes to its oil and gas ordinances to ensure no development within a mile of the reservoir. U.S. Representative Jason Crow wrote to commissioners reiterating residents' concerns.

But Save the Aurora Reservoirs activists are learning how far powerful

interests can tilt the playing field. Civitas needs mineral rights from fewer than half of the property owners to force fracking on the rest. While the city has a one-mile setback preventing drilling near the reservoir, opponents must fight for the same from the county.

"We think it's so obvious that the downside is so much greater than the upside. But it feels like so much of the structure -- the laws and regulations and approval process -- are really working against us," says Julie Huygen, an Air Force veteran who moved to Aurora two years ago.

Kamin said she's fighting for the grandchildren she relocated for. She's energized by her eight-year-old granddaughter's desire to take part. "She asked me, if they do that to the ground, where are the prairie dogs going to go?"

## OP-ED: We Must Protect the Foundation of Our Democracy

By Assistant Democratic Leader James E. Clyburn

**E**arlier this month, I stood alongside my colleagues as we announced the reintroduction of the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, legislation aptly named after the stalwart civil rights champion and my dear departed friend. I often recount the story of how and when I first met John Lewis. It was in October 1960. We were 19-year-old college students attending an organizing meeting of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in Atlanta, Georgia. Years later, we would serve together in the U.S. House of Representatives, once again united under the cause for "a more perfect Union."

In 2013, we sat down together and discussed the Supreme Court's decision in Shelby v. Holder. We reflected on the efforts that we had undertaken as college

students and wondered what the decision meant in the larger fight for equal access to the ballot box. We were reminded of the years when our Black brothers and sisters, especially those in the South, were subjected to indignities such as being required to answer questions like how many jellybeans were in a jar and being subjected to literacy tests to cast a ballot. Importantly, we feared what was to come. Although we lost John just a few short years later, he too began to see some of those fears realized.

In the years since Shelby v. Holder, several state legislatures across the country have introduced or enacted laws to curb Black Americans' access to the ballot box. Arizona and Mississippi enacted legislation to require burdensome proof of citizenship to determine eligibility to register to vote. Dozens of state legislatures introduced bills to restrict the practice of voting by mail. Other states have begun aggressively removing

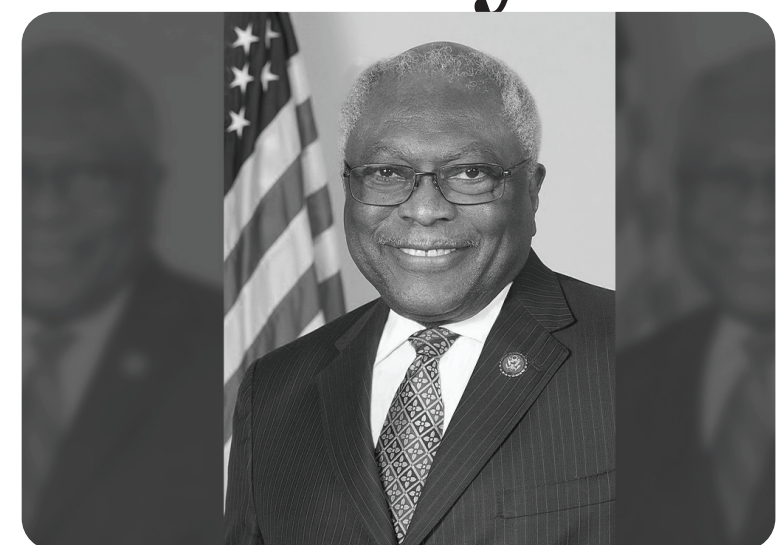
voters from the rolls and re-drawing Congressional maps blatantly designed to silence the Black vote. Look no further than Ron DeSantis' Florida and the dismantling of an opportunity district held by former Congressman Al Lawson. Then, in July 2021, the Court further weakened the 1965 Voting Rights Act in its decision in Brnovich v. DNC, making it more difficult to challenge discriminatory voting laws.

Yet, this is far from the first time that access to the ballot box has come under such attacks. Ahead of the 1876 Presidential Election, South Carolina Democratic Congressman Martin Witherspoon Gary devised a devious campaign, known as the "Edgefield Plan," to impede the Black vote. The Edgefield Plan called for physical violence, and even murder, to keep Blacks from voting. He worked closely with rifle clubs and the South Carolina white supremacist group known as the "Red Shirts" to execute

it. Devastatingly, he was successful. The violence and disorder tilted the scale and placed the Democrats back in power after years of Republican control.

We've already begun to see these terrifying echoes of the past reverberating today. There are the restrictive voter suppression laws I described above. Then came January 6, 2021 -- a day that will live forever in our history as a moment of discredit and disgrace. We are clearly treading in dangerous waters and if we want to preserve the foundation of our democracy, we must pass this bill.

The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act would restore and modernize the protections outlined in the 1965 Voting Rights Act and call on states and localities, with a recent history of discrimination, to preclear new election changes. It would also restore Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, which was struck down in Brnovich v. DNC, making it easier to challenge discriminatory voting laws.



Dozens of state legislatures introduced bills to restrict the practice of voting by mail. Other states have begun aggressively removing voters from the rolls and re-drawing Congressional maps blatantly designed to silence the Black vote.

It is the remedy our nation needs to fight back against these dangerous challenges to our democracy and ensure that all Americans can make their voices heard at the ballot box.

Importantly, it would also honor John's life work. He was one of the most courageous people I've ever known, and I think constantly of how much we owe him. Almost none of us made the kinds of sacrifices that John

made, even as a young college student, at a level that some of us could only strive for.

Enacting the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act would make a statement to the people of this country that this august body believes in the sacred promise of "a more perfect Union" as expressed in the preamble to our Constitution.

## CSU Workers Get Approval for Unionized Election

Antonio Ray Harvey, Lila Brown and Joe W. Bowers Jr. | California Black Media

**C**alifornia State University student workers announced on Oct. 4 that the California Public Employment Relations Board (CPERB) has decided that they have enough support to initiate a union vote.

The process puts the student workers in the position to unionize after more than 8,500 union cards were certified by CPERB. The group filed a petition for a unionized election in April.

Many Student workers in the CSU system make low wages without benefits like sick leave, health insurance, and they are limited to weekly 20-hour shifts.

If the student workers' effort to unionize is successful, they would be represented by the California State University Employee Union (CSUEU). Over 20,000 student assistants across the CSU system will vote on whether to join the existing union.

CSUEU serves staff members who support the California State University's

23 campuses as well as the Office of the Chancellor. The union represents 16,000 CSU support staff -- working in six distinct bargaining units -- covering the academics and operations of the CSU, including information technology, healthcare, clerical, administrative and academic support, campus operations, grounds and custodial.



THE SUN-REPORTER

# RELIGIOUS SECTION

THE BAY AREA'S CHURCH NEWS & ACTIVITIES



## Sunday School Lesson

By Shunda Criswell

### Ears to Hear

**Lesson Text:**  
**Matthew 13:9-17**  
**Place:** Sea of Galilee  
**Time:** A.D. 28  
**Golden Text:** "Who hath ears to hear, let him hear" (Matthew 13:9)

In Matthew 13:9, Jesus' audience must have wondered at these strange words. Didn't they all have ears, and hadn't they all heard? But Jesus wasn't talking about the act of simply hearing his words. Human ears hear many sounds, but there is a deeper kind of listening that results in spiritual understanding. Jesus was speaking of the response of the mind and heart necessary to gain spiritual understanding. Some people in the crowd were only curious about Jesus; a few were looking for evidence to use against him; others truly wanted to learn and grow. Jesus' words were for the honest seekers,

Human ears hear many sounds, but there is a deeper kind of listening that results in spiritual understanding. When speaking in parables, Jesus was not hiding truth from sincere seekers, because those who were receptive to spiritual truth understood the illustrations. To others they were only stories without meaning. (Life Application Study Bible, (Matthew 13:9-10). Jesus purposely spoke in parables at the Sea of Galilee to weed out the halfhearted and curiosity seekers from the true seekers. His words, like the farmer's seed, fell on various types of hearts. Those who truly heard and understood would become his followers. Those not ready for Jesus would not understand his words, would lose interest, and finally would either fade away or become his avowed enemies (as did most of the religious leaders). It is easy for us to

hear Jesus' words on others' behalf. We hear what Jesus says and may even understand a deeper meaning, but we are quick to apply the message to someone else's need. When we hear Jesus' words, we should apply them to our lives, not to someone else. If you honestly seek God, you have spiritual hearing, and these parables will give you new perspectives. When Jesus got away from the crowd and was alone with his true followers (the twelve disciples and the larger group of believers from whom the Twelve had been chosen), a more intimate question-and-answer period followed. Perhaps these close followers did not want to reveal their ignorance about Jesus' words in front of the entire crowd. More likely, they were noticing that many people in the crowd were not understanding Jesus' message. So, when they were alone with Jesus, his followers asked him why he spoke to the people in parables, in stories that seemed to confuse his listeners and obscure the message. A parable is a story to illustrate and express a moral or spiritual truth. It can be a proverb, riddle, complex story, or extended comparison. The purpose for using them was to get people to think. (Life Application Study Bible, Matthew). When speaking in parables, Jesus was not hiding

truth from sincere seekers, because those who were receptive to spiritual truth understood the illustrations. To others they were only stories without meaning. This allowed Jesus to give spiritual food to those who hungered for it while preventing his enemies from trapping him sooner than they might otherwise have done. To those who have the knowledge given by God (read Matthew 13:11), God will give even more knowledge and understanding so that they will have an abundance. In contrast are those who have nothing—no knowledge or understanding from God (as explained in Matthew 13:11). From

these people, even what they have will be taken away. How can people "have nothing" yet lose what they have? Jesus' words meant that those who had rejected him, and his message had no knowledge and therefore would lose their privileged status. Those who "have nothing" were the religious leaders and the vast majority of the Jews. They thought they were privileged and secure as God's chosen people, but they would lose that position. They would never understand the secret because they would not come to God for the answer. Choosing not to believe in Jesus as their Messiah, they would not be able to

understand the kingdom. This phrase means that we are responsible to use well what we have. When people reject Jesus, their hardness of heart drives away or renders useless even the little understanding they had. **The disciples** immediately noticed a change in Jesus' method of teaching. They **came** and **asked** Him directly why He was speaking in parables. The Lord gave three reasons. First, He was communicating through parables in order to continue to reveal truth to His disciples (see Matthew 13:11-12a). The Lord said He was making known to them the secrets of the kingdom of heaven. The word "secrets" is translated "mysteries" in other Bible versions and in most of its other NIV occurrences. This term in the New Testament referred to truths not revealed in the Old Testament, but which now were made known to those instructed. Jesus spoke in **parables** to hide the truth from unbelievers. **The secrets of the kingdom** would be given to the disciples, but would be hidden from the religious leaders who rejected Him (see Matthew 13:11b, but not to them). In fact, even what they had previously known would no longer be clear to them. By using parables in public, Jesus could preach to as many individuals as before, but He could then draw the

disciples aside and explain to them fully the meaning of His words. Also, Jesus spoke in parables in order to fulfill Isaiah 6:9-10. As **Isaiah** began his ministry, God told him that people would not comprehend his message. Jesus experienced the same kind of response. He preached the Word of God and many people saw but they did not truly perceive; they heard but did **not... understand** (see Matthew 13:13-15). By contrast, the disciples were blessed because they were privileged to **see** (understand) and hear these truths (v. 16), truths that people in Old Testament times **longed to know** (v. 17; and also read 1 Peter 1:10-11). Jesus' disciples heard the same truths as the national leaders, but their response was entirely different. The disciples saw and believed; the leaders saw and rejected. Since the leaders turned from the light they had been **given**, God gave them no additional light. (The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty). One writer wrote, "It is a serious thing to hear spiritual truth and then reject it." Amen! Remember, "Listening to God is not just a matter of hearing with our physical ears, but also of listening with the heart." Be Blessed Saints!!!

THE SUN-REPORTER

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Little Zion Baptist Church**  
 1245 Divisadero Street  
 San Francisco, CA

Sunday School 9:00am  
 Morning Worship 11:am  
 Evening Worship 6:pm

**El Bethel Missionary Baptist Church**

Rev. Keva L. McNeill,  
 Pastor

1320 Golden Gate  
 San Francisco, CA.  
 921-4850, 921-0878

Church School 9: am  
 Children's Church 10:am  
 Morning Worship 10:45 am  
 Bible Study 1-2pm & 6:30-7:30pm  
 Prayer meeting Wednesday 12:00 Noon

**St. Peter's Missionary Baptist Church**

1601 Newcomb Avenue  
 San Francisco, CA.  
 94124  
 Rev. Dr. J.P. Alexander

Church School 9:30 am  
 Morning Worship 11: am  
 Tuesday Usher meeting 7:pm  
 Wednesday Bible Study 7: pm  
 Tuesday Choir Rehearsal 7: pm  
 Prayer and Teacher meeting Wednesday 7:30PM

**Neighborhood Baptist Church**

608 Hayes Street  
 San Francisco, CA  
 Rev. Lane Hawkins

Sunday School 9:30 am  
 Morning Worship 11: am  
 Evening Worship 6: pm  
 Bible Class Monday 5: pm

**Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church**

6190 3rd Street  
 San Francisco, CA.  
 94124  
 Phone: (415) 822-4071  
 Fax: (415) 822-0156

Rev. Kenneth R. Reece  
 Pastor

Sunday School 9:00 am  
 Morning Worship 10:25: am  
 Communion Every 1st Sunday  
 Baptism Every 2nd Sunday  
 Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 6:30-8:30 pm Wednesday  
 Abundant Life Recovery Ministry 6:30 pm Mondays

**Evergreen Baptist Church**

6270 3rd Street  
 San Francisco, CA.

Rev. Jackey Wilson  
 Pastor

Sunday School 9:15 am  
 Morning Worship 10:40: am  
 Wednesday Teacher's Meeting 6: pm  
 Sr. Mission 5: pm  
 Children's Bible Study 5: pm  
 Bible Study 6:45 pm  
 Saturday Food Pantry 10-11 am

**Ascension Baptist Church**

1311 Quesada ave.  
 San Francisco, CA.  
 94124  
 (415) 822-9488

Rev. Anthony Anderson

Morning Worship 10:15: am  
 Bible Study Tuesday 6:30 PM  
 Church School Wednesday 7: pm  
 Communion every 1st Sunday

**Shekinah Christian Fellowship**

790 Tennessee St.  
 San Francisco, CA.  
 94107  
 (415) 646-0747

Ella Henderson, Bishop & Founder of SCF

Tyrone and Demetra Hillman  
 Pastor  
 Sunday School - 9:am  
 Morning worship - 10:15 am  
 Radio: Sunday 9:30 am KDYA  
 TV: Tuesday and Friday 8:30am  
 KTLN Total Living Network

**Ebenezer Baptist Church**

275 Divisadero Street  
 San Francisco, CA.

Sunday School 9:15 am  
 Morning Worship 10:45: am  
 Evening Worship 7:30 pm

**Mount Calvary Baptist Church**

4000 Middlefield Rd.  
 (Cubberly Community CTR)  
 Palo Alto, CA. 94306  
 (650) 569-6944  
 Rev Roy Northington  
 Pastor

Sunday School - 10:am  
 Morning worship - 11:00 am  
 Wednesday Bible Discussion 7: pm  
 Come and Listen to Rev. Roy Northington, a gifted speaker, as he delivers the most powerful and timely message of our day and age. Prepare to be changed. Expect to be changed

**Living Word Church of God In Christ**

12 Westlake Ave  
 Daly City CA. 94014

Rev. Derrick Lomax  
 Pastor

Sunday School - 10:00: am  
 Morning worship - 11:30 am  
 Wed Bible Class 8:00 pm  
 Friday Prayer Service 8:00 pm

# Sun Reporter

## CLASSIFIED ADS (415-671-1000)

### ADOPTIONS

**PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION?** Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 1-877-879-4709 (Cal-SCAN)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Place these house ads sporadically through our classified sections to promote the network - Thank you!

### DID YOU KNOW 7 IN 10 Americans or 158 million U.S. Adults read content from newspaper media each week? Discover the Power of Newspaper

Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

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info contact Cecelia @ 916-288-6011 or http://prmediarelease.com/california (Cal-SCAN)

### AUTOS WANTED

DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR BOAT TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. FREE 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care of. Call 800-731-5042 (Cal-SCAN)

Got an older car, boat or RV? Do the humane thing. Donate it to the Humane Society. Call 1-800-743-1482 (Cal-SCAN)

### GET CASH FOR CARS/TRUCKS!!! All Makes/Models 2000-2016! Top \$\$\$ Paid! Any Condition! Used or wrecked. Running or Not. Free Towing! Call For

Offer: 1-888-417-9150. (Cal-SCAN)

WANTED! Old Porsche 356/911/912 for restoration by hobbyist 1948-1973 Only. Any condition, top \$ paid 707-965-9546 (Cal-SCAN)

**CABLE/SATEL-LITE TV**

Switch to DIRECTV. Lock in 2-Year Price Guarantee (\$50/month) w/AT&T Wireless. Over 145 Channels PLUS

Popular Movie Networks for Three Months, No Cost! Call 1-800-385-9017 (Cal-SCAN)

DISH TV - BEST DEAL EVER! Only \$39.99/mo. Plus \$14.99/mo. Internet (where avail.) FREE Streaming. FREE Install (up to 6 rooms.) FREE HD-DVR. Call 1-800-357-0810 (Cal-SCAN)

FINANCIAL SERVICES

**SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! WIN or Pay Nothing! Contact Bill Gordon & Associates at 1-800-**

966-1904 to start your application today! (Cal-SCAN)

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**ELIMINATE CELLULITE and Inches in weeks! All natural. Odor free. Works for men or women. Free month supply on select packages. Order now! 844-703-**

9774. (Cal-SCAN)

HEALTH/MEDICAL NEW AD - OXYGEN - Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 844-359-3976. (Cal-SCAN)

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! Cut your drug costs! SAVE \$\$! 50 Pills for \$99.00. FREE Shipping! 100% Guaranteed and Discreet. CALL 1-800-624-9105 (Cal-SCAN)

Stop OVERPAYING for your prescriptions! SAVE! Call our licensed Canadian and International pharmacy, compare prices and get \$25.00 OFF your first prescription! CALL 1-800-273-0209 Promo Code CDC201625. (Cal-SCAN)

Got Knee Pain? Back Pain? Shoulder Pain? Get a pain-relieving brace - little or NO cost to you. Medicare Patients Call Health Hotline Now! 1-800-796-5091 (Cal-SCAN)

### HELP WANTED

Sales Representative-California Trade Association located in Sacramento is seeking someone with strong knowledge for Advertising, print, digital and social media solutions, great with detail, an amazing attitude, and a passion for selling content and integrated partnerships. 3-5 years experience a plus. We offer a competitive base salary, commission and bonus plan, along with great benefit package. Email Resume and Salary

History to jobs@cnpa.com. EOE (Cal-SCAN)

### HOME SECURITY

Protect your home with fully customizable security and 24/7 monitoring right from your smartphone. Receive up to \$1500 in equipment, free (restrictions apply). Call 1-800-918-4119 (Cal-SCAN)

### INSURANCE/HEALTH

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**NORTHERN AZ WILDERNESS RANCH \$236 MONTH - Quiet & secluded 37 acre off the grid self-sufficiency ranch bordering 640 wooded acres of State Trust**

lands at cool clear 6,200' elevation. Minutes from historic pioneer town & fishing lake. True wilderness with free roaming wildlife, no urban noise & dark sky nights. Blend of evergreen woodlands & grassy meadows with sweeping views across surrounding uninhabited wilderness mountains and valleys. Abundant groundwater, rich loam garden soil & maintained road

access. Camping and RV use ok. \$27,500, \$2,750 dn. with no qualifying seller financing. FREE BROCHURE with additional property descriptions, prices, photos, topo map, weather chart, area info. 1st United Realty 800.966.6690. (Cal-SCAN)

### LEGAL SERVICES

Xarelto users have you had complications due to internal bleeding (after January 2012)? If so, you MAY be due financial compensation. If you don't have an attorney, CALL Injuryone today! 1-800-425-4701. (Cal-SCAN)

DID YOU KNOW Information is power and content is King? Do you need timely access to public notices and remain relevant in today's hostile business climate? Gain the edge with California Newspaper Publishers Association new innovative website capublicnotice.com and check out the FREE One-Month Trial Smart Search Feature. For more information call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or www.capublicnotice.com (Cal-SCAN)

### MEDICAL SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT

Safe Step Walk-In Tub!

Alert for Seniors. Bathroom falls can be fatal. Approved by Arthritis Foundation. Therapeutic Jets. Less Than 4 Inch Step-In. Wide Door. Anti-Slip Floors. American Made. Installation Included. Call 800-799-4811 for \$750 Off. (Cal-SCAN)

### MISCELLANEOUS

SAWMILLS from only \$4397.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill. Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SAL

HOME BREAK-INS take less than 60 SECONDS. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets NOW for as little as 70¢ a day! Call 855-404-7601(Cal-SCAN)

### PERSONALS-ADULT

Meet singles right now! No paid operators, just real people like you. Browse greetings, exchange messages and connect live. Try it free. Call now: 800-945-3392. (Cal-SCAN)

### REAL ESTATE

DID YOU KNOW Information is power and content is King? Do you

need timely access to public notices and remain relevant in today's highly competitive market? Gain an edge with California Newspaper Publishers Association new innovative website capublicnotice.com and check out the Smart Search Feature. For more information call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or www.capublicnotice.com (Cal-SCAN)

### A PLACE FOR MOM.

The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE/ no obligation. CALL 1-800-550-4822. (Cal-SCAN)

### TAX SERVICES

Do you owe over \$10,000 to the IRS or State in back taxes? Our firm works to reduce the tax bill or zero it out completely FAST. Call now 855-993-5796 (Cal-SCAN)

### NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT'S ("BART"), REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ("RFP") FOR BENEFIT BROKER AND CONSULTING SERVICES, RFP NO. 6M4847, ISSUED THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023**

BART is now accepting proposals from California State licensed insurance brokerage firms. The awarded Consultant will provide a variety of benefit broker and consulting services to assist BART's Human Resources Department. Interested firms must register on BART's Procurement Portal at: <https://suppliers.bart.gov>. All solicitation documents, including the RFP, must be downloaded directly from the Portal. A Pre-Proposal Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 11:00 a.m local time via Zoom - instructions on registering are included within the RFP. The District's Equity Program(s) will be explained, and participants can share contact details to network with other firms. The due date for submission of proposals for this RFP is 2:00 PM local time Thursday November 7, 2023.

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THE SUN REPORTER



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"Our Family Serving Your Family"

*Installation Services*

**DR. FREDRICK FAIRLEY, SR.**

St. John Missionary Baptist Church  
1050 Bay Road  
East Palo Alto, CA 94303

SUN DAY OCT 10 AM  
22 4 PM

Dr. Emil Thomas 10:00 am  
Dr. Claybon Lea 4:00 pm

**St. John Missionary Baptist Church**  
825 Newhall Street  
Reverend Mervin Redmond, Pastor  
San Francisco, CA 94124  
(415) 826-5639 or 550-9324

Sunday  
Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Morning Worship 10:25 AM  
Children's Ministry 10:25 AM  
Nurture for Baptist 6:15 PM  
Wednesday  
Prayer Services/Bible Study  
Midday 11:30 AM  
Evening 6:45 PM  
Communion - 1st Sunday

For information about other activities  
Call (415) 826-5639 or visit us at  
[www.stjohnsf.org](http://www.stjohnsf.org)



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Restrictions apply. Ends 12/21/23. Not available in all areas. New Gigabit Extra Internet 1.2 Gig and Xfinity Mobile Unlimited Intro customers only. Offer requires enrollment in both paperless billing and automatic payments with stored bank account. Without enrollment, the monthly service charge automatically increases by \$10 (or \$5 if enrolling with credit or debit card information). The discount will appear on your bill within 45 days of enrolling in automatic payments and paperless billing. If either automatic payments or paperless billing are subsequently canceled, the \$10 monthly discount will be removed automatically. All other installation, taxes & fees extra, and subject to change during and after promo. After 24 months, or if any service is canceled or downgraded, regular charges apply to internet service. Service limited to a single outlet. May not be combined with other offers. **Internet:** Actual speeds vary and not guaranteed. For factors affecting speed visit [www.xfinity.com/networkmanagement](https://www.xfinity.com/networkmanagement). All devices must be returned when service ends. **Mobile:** Requires residential post-pay Xfinity Internet service. Line limitations may apply. For Xfinity Mobile Broadband Disclosures visit: [www.xfinity.com/mobile/policies/broadband-disclosures](https://www.xfinity.com/mobile/policies/broadband-disclosures). For factors affecting speed visit [www.xfinity.com/networkmanagement](https://www.xfinity.com/networkmanagement). Actual savings vary and are not guaranteed. Call for restrictions and complete details or visit [xfinity.com](https://xfinity.com). © 2023 Comcast. All rights reserved. NPA400405-0003

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