

Sun-Reporter



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BEST BUY IN THE WEST

The Sun Reporter Celebrated Its Talented 25

By Lee Hubbard

Black excellence in Northern California was celebrated this past week at the Southeast Community Center on Third and Evans streets at the San Francisco Sun Reporter Newspapers, talented 25 recognition ceremony.

The event celebrates the movers and shakers in Northern California's black community. While the black population across the state is shrinking, the black community in Northern California is still vibrant. There are people doing big things that either live in San Francisco or live outside of the city, but conduct their business in San Francisco.

This year's honorees total 26 individuals. The list includes Karen Clopton, Rashad Johnson, Deka Dike, John Smith, Emily Rogers-Pharr, Meron Foster, Nicole Jordan, Attica Bowden, Majeid Crawford, La Ronda "Sug" Smith, Renard Monroe, Pia Harris, Dr. Rubin Sorrell, Tina Claybon-Carter, E.J. Jones, David Tucker, Milan Balinton, Floyd Rollins, Theresa



San Francisco Mayor London Breed with Publisher Ashley-Ward and S.F. District Attorney Brooke Jenkins



Former San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown with daughter and Talented 25 Recipient Susan Brown

Rutherford, Susan Brown, Brandon, Cedric Akbar and Michelle Peters, Iowayna Pena, Kenneth Little, Everett

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California Must Invest in Young Men of Color This Budget Season

Michael Lynch | Special to California Black Media Partners

College matters. Obtaining a college degree continues to be the most powerful tool we have to combat poverty. College graduates earn more than \$1 million more in their lifetime than individuals with a high school diploma. For low-income youth, it is the most promising path out of poverty.

Despite the economic value of a college degree, Black and Brown boys are still the least likely group to attend and graduate from college. This disparity is not due to lack of intelligence or work ethic on their part; rather, it's because school systems often inhibit their ability to be successful.

I co-founded Improve Your Tomorrow (IYT) in 2013 with the goal of increasing the number of young men of color attending and graduating from colleges and universities. Since our founding, IYT has served over 8,000 young men of color in Sacramento and beyond. After two years of participating in IYT, 99% of



Despite the economic value of a college degree, Black and Brown boys are still the least likely group to attend and graduate from college.

our students graduate from high school on time, and nearly 80% go on to attend college.

If we were a school district, our students would be the highest-performing Black and Brown boys in America.

Over the years, we've looked to the State, private funders, and others to support our efforts. Two years ago, we joined California's Student Success Coach Learning Network to share our methods and to learn from other organizations mentoring youth in school systems across the state. The two-year, \$15

million grant allocated by Gov. Gavin Newsom to the Student Success Coach Learning Network is instrumental in expanding our work with students, especially those needing more personalized support beyond regular school hours.

Now, this grant funding is set to expire, and it may not be renewed as California faces a budget deficit of billions of dollars.

To continue our vital work at its current level, we are

Continued on page 5

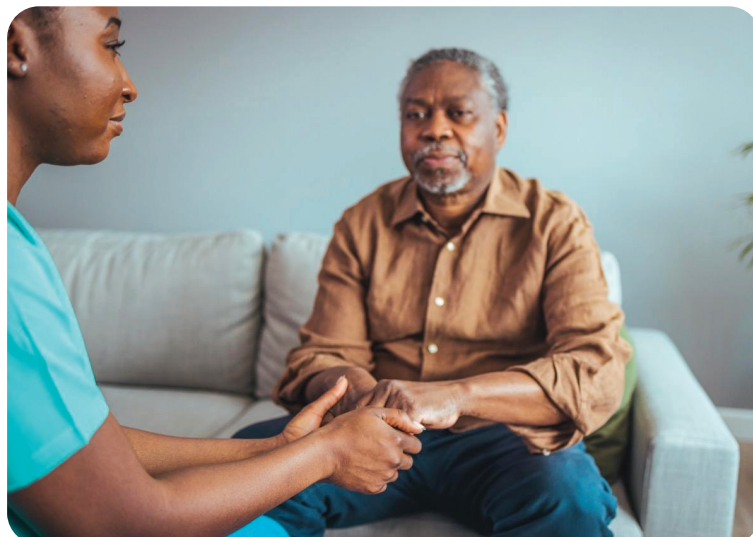
New California Campaign Aims to Improve Alzheimer's Disease Care, Prevention and Detection

Edward Henderson | California Black Media

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) launched the Take on Alzheimer's campaign in late February.

The awareness campaign is aimed toward educating all Californians about brain health, the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia, and ways to improve communication between patients' loved ones and health care providers.

Over the next 20 years, the impact of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dimensions (AD/ADRDs) on the State of California will increase dramatically, according to the CDPH. Longer life expectancies and the aging of the baby boomer generation will lead to an increase in the number and percentage of Californians who will be 65 years of age and older. Since the primary risk factor for AD/ADRDs is older age, a significant increase is



The number of Californians between 55 and 74 years of age living with AD/ADRDs will increase 26%, growing to 194,975 people

anticipated in the numbers of people who will be living with the disease.

"It's critical to build dementia expertise into programs and services supporting our state's increasingly diverse older adult population, including family caregivers and our workforce," said Susan DeMarois, Director of the California Department of Aging in a press release.

"Widespread prevention,

screening and detection will enable more families to make important social, medical, financial, and personal

decisions and we want our aging network to be well equipped to meet their needs."

In 2019, approximately 660,000 Californians over 65 years of age lived with AD/ADRDs, which accounted for roughly 11% of the disease's

Continued on page 7

California Officials React to Pres. Biden's State of the Union

Tanu Henry | California Black Media

On March 7, President Biden delivered his third State of the Union address before a joint session of Congress.

In the wide-ranging and impassioned speech that covered broad political ground, Biden defended Democracy at home and abroad, drawing policy distinctions with his predecessor and probable opponent in the upcoming November elections, Donald Trump.

From global wars between Russia and Ukraine to the ongoing military conflict in the Middle East, moving on to wedge issues at home like abortion, the economy and immigration, Biden challenged his Republican opponents on the issues while highlighting his achievements.

"This is a moment to speak the truth and to bury the lies. Here's the simple truth: You can't love your country only when you win. As I've done ever since being elected to office, I ask all of you,



President Biden also called for more access to internships so that all students can discover their passions and develop career-ready skills

without regard to party, to join together and defend democracy," Biden said.

"Remember your oath of office and defend against all threats foreign and domestic," the President added. "Respect free and fair elections. Restore trust in our institutions. And make clear -- political violence has absolutely no place, no place in America. Zero place."

During the speech and after, California officials reacted to the President's message.

"The President's State of the

Union speech was a powerful reminder that government can be a force for good. Over the last three years,

President Biden has been a defender of our freedoms, a champion of our democracy, and an advocate for our progress," said Sen. Laphonza Butler (D-Calif.).

"He has done the hard work, securing victories that have led to historic job creation and record low unemployment. Americans in cities and

Continued on page 7



Want to Grow Your Digital Skills?

We've got you covered! The Southeast Community Center is offering free classes. No laptop? No problem. We have Macbooks and iPads you can borrow!



Tech Lending

Check out iPads and MacBooks for free



Workspaces

Study/learn in our free co-working space



Workshops

Enroll in digital classes and workshops

How to Enroll

Come visit us at the Southeast Community Center! We're located at 1550 Evans Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94124. Just stop by and we'll help you get started with everything you need. You can also enroll online at sfpuc.org/SECCclasses.



jennyr@fivekeys.org
(415) 214-0276
sfpuc.org/SECCclasses



SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY CENTER LAUNCHES TECHNOLOGY ACCESS PROGRAM

Bridging the Digital Divide in Bayview Hunters Point

By Elise Washington, Southeast Community Center Partnership Analyst

The Southeast Community Center (SECC) is proud to announce the launch of the SECC Access Program, a groundbreaking initiative aimed at providing digital equity for residents of Bayview Hunters Point. This program, developed in collaboration with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development, and Five Keys Schools and Programs, addresses the pressing need for technological resources

and digital literacy in the community.

The SECC Access Program was born out of valuable insights gathered from a comprehensive 2020 community survey that actively sought input from Bayview-Hunters Point residents regarding their desired programs and services at the new community center.

Recognizing the significance of digital inclusion, the SECC Access Program offers a technology loaner program, digital skills classes, and free co-working space to empower community members with the tools and skills needed to thrive in the digital age. The program empowers individuals

of all ages and backgrounds.

Dennis Herrera, the General Manager of SFPUC, expressed his enthusiasm for the SECC Access Program, stating, "Through the SECC Access Program, we are taking a significant step towards digital equity in Bayview Hunters Point. By providing laptops and iPads to community members, we are not just addressing the immediate need for technology but also opening doors of opportunity for education, employment, and personal growth."

How to Sign Up

To sign up for a 1:1 session or attend a workshop, visit the Access Program in person at 1550 Evans Ave on the second

floor Monday-Friday 11-5PM and Wednesdays 11-2PM.

For more information, please visit sfpub.org/secc.

About the SECC Access Program

The SECC Access Program is a testament to the power of collaboration and the dedication of various organizations to create a more equitable society. By addressing the digital divide in Bayview Hunters Point, this initiative will unlock new opportunities, enhance education, and promote economic empowerment.

Technology Loaner Program

Community members can check out laptops and iPads while visiting the SECC. The

technology loaner program ensures access to essential digital tools for education, job search, and communication purposes. By removing the barrier of technology access,

the SECC Access Program aims to bridge the digital divide that disproportionately affects Bayview Hunters Point.

Digital Skills Classes and Training

In addition to technology access, the SECC Access Program hosts weekly digital skills classes and workshops tailored to the needs of the community. These classes emphasize supporting seniors in learning computer skills and preparing individuals for hybrid and remote

work environments.

Community members may also sign up for City wide programs including TechSF. This digital job training initiative helps San Franciscans prepare for entry-level careers in data analytics, IT Support, and Salesforce administration.

Free Co-Working Space and WiFi

Whether community members are working on a personal project, studying, or attending digital literacy classes, they can utilize the free co-working space to access the internet, use productivity software, and explore various digital resources.

Gov. Newsom Announces New Council; \$182 Million Investment to Create More Jobs Faster

By Tanu Henry

Gov. Gavin Newsom is committed to creating more jobs, faster, and increasing pathways to higher paying careers for Californians from all backgrounds, according to his office.

To achieve these goals, on March 8, Newsom announced the formation of a new state-level committee focused on

increasing jobs called the California Jobs First Council. He also awarded \$182 million in grants to 13 organizations around the state involved in developing viable economic development projects that will stimulate employment and attract significant government and private sector investments.

Gov. Newsom has appointed Dee Dee Myers, Senior Advisor to Governor Newsom and Director of the

Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development to co-chair the council. She will work alongside co-chair Stewart Knox, California Secretary of Labor & Workforce Development.

"I am looking forward to working with my colleagues to align strategic investments that further economic growth and job creation in every region of California," said Myers.

Sen. Steve Bradford: New Ebony Alert System Is Working

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent
[@StacyBrownMedia](https://twitter.com/StacyBrownMedia)

The Ebony Alert, a statewide system that has been implemented to notify the public -- and signal the launch of police investigation -- when Black children and young Black women go missing in California is working, says Sen. Steve Bradford.

Bradford authored Senate Bill (SB) 627, the bill that created the Ebony Alert. Gov. Newsom signed it into law on Oct. 8, 2023.

"One Ebony Alert was issued on Jan. 4, and then later they found the young lady who was missing from (the city) of Long Beach," Bradford told California Black Media (CBM).

Bradford added that a 19-year-old Black Los Angeles woman was found on Feb. 20 after the alert system was used.

The Ebony Alert is activated if a law enforcement agency decides that it would help in the investigation of a missing Black youth or a young Black woman between the ages

of 12 and 25 years.

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Police Department, an Ebony Alert was turned on Feb. 16, to locate a missing 14-year-old who was last seen on Jan. 5. The 5-foot-4 woman was last seen West 102nd Street and Figueroa Street in Los Angeles and still has not been located at the time of this report.

On March 5, an alert was released regarding a 22-year-old Black woman from San Mateo County. She was last seen Feb. 16 in East Palo Alto, according to a post on X by the California Highway Patrol (CHP). The East Palo Alto Police Department is the investigating agency that requested the alert.

"This new emergency alert, focused on missing Black youth and young women, marks a significant step in dedicating resources towards a previously underserved community," CHP posted on its Facebook page on Jan. 8.

In 2023, Los Angeles had the most missing persons reports at 10,039, according to California Department of Justice data, followed by San Diego (3,993), San Bernardino



Sen. Steve Bradford (2,833), Sacramento (2,788) Nevada (2,490), and Riverside (2,357) counties. Alameda (1,834), San Francisco (1,743), and Santa Clara (1,515) counties were reported to have the highest number of missing persons among the 58 jurisdictions in the state.

Bradford said he is pleased that law enforcement agencies are using the Ebony Alert early on and will continue to implement it going forward.

"It lets us know that law enforcement has educated themselves and made themselves aware that this tool is available," Bradford told CBM. "All folks want them to do is utilize it. There's not really a learning curve. It's simple: there's a missing child or Black woman missing. Send out the alert."

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INVESTMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (OCII)

Request for Proposals CFD 1 Plaza and Streetscape Maintenance

OCII has released a Request for Proposals for Plaza and Streetscape Maintenance Services in CFD No. 1, located in the South Beach area of San Francisco. The RFP is located at <https://sfocii.org/rfps-rfq-bids>.

Local Small Business Enterprises (SBEs) are encouraged to apply. A virtual pre-submittal meeting will be held on 3/20/2024, 10:00 AM. A Site Tour will be held on 3/22/2024, 11:00 AM. **Proposals are due on 4/22/2024, not later than 5:00 PM.** For further information on the CFD 1 RFP, contact Marie Munson at Marie.Munson@sfgov.org or 415-749-2415. For questions, please contact Marie Munson at: marie.munson@sfgov.org or 415-749-2415.

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A News Journal Dedicated To The Cause Of The People

The Sun-Reporter

EDITORIAL

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

Freedom's Journal, March 16, 1827.

Highway Robbery in Alabama

By Ben Jealous

Whoever
Imagine the

neighborhood your family has lived in for more than 150 years being turned into a deteriorating flood zone. Now imagine the flooding was caused by the state. That is what is happening to the people of Elba, Alabama's historic Black Shiloh community.

Thanks to the construction of an elevated highway through the community in 2018, residents are watching their homes be destroyed by flooding caused by the highway project.

"My house has already sunk two feet into the mud. I see my

inheritance and my children's American Dream being washed away and stolen," says Pastor Timothy Williams.

Pastor Williams is a reverend and the owner of a restaurant and cleaning business. Like many other Shiloh residents, his family has been on this land dating back to Reconstruction. Now he and others in the community see their generational wealth disappearing before their eyes from property devaluation as well as the physical destruction of their homes.

Just eight feet away from Pastor Williams' home, in the direction it is sinking, is a Southeast Gas Company natural gas pipeline. He has been told there is a possibility the sinking house could hit the gas line and blow the house up.

Pastor Williams' story offers but a glimpse into the nightmare Shiloh residents are facing.

Part of the highway project – one of the earliest phases – involved directing stormwater drainage pipes into the community. Now, picture the elevated highway essentially placing the neighborhood in a bowl. There did not used to be flooding. Now it is rampant. And the state will not even own up to its highway expansion being the cause.

In addition to causing floods, the highway also cut off access to the neighborhood's only fire hydrant. In 2020, there was a fire. Someone burned to death in their home. Residents believe their neighbor's death would have been preventable with access to the hydrant.

This is not merely an example of poorly executed urban planning. It is reckless environmental racism. The same kind that has been responsible for creating so-called "sacrifice zones" across the country. Sacrifice zones are populated areas that bear a disproportionate brunt of health and environmental hazards due to their close proximity to sources of pollution and development. They are most often communities of color and low-income communities.

Residents of the Shiloh community are educated ... they are business owners ... many of them are veterans. They have advantages that people in some other neighborhoods sacrificed to development do not have. But simply by speaking up and advocating for themselves, Shiloh residents have become targets of racist hate. There have been incidents of racial harassment ever since the community started receiving news coverage of their plight. A chilling reminder of what white supremacy looks like in the deep South.

Pastor Williams has seen it firsthand. His restaurant's clientele is mostly white. One customer told him that he and others had been told to boycott the eatery because Williams had been vocal about the crisis facing the Shiloh community.



Ben Jealous

Elba, Alabama also happens to be the hometown of Dr. Robert Bullard. Dr. Bullard is known as the "Father of Environmental Justice." He literally wrote the book – actually many books, including one titled "Highway Robbery" – on environmental racism. And his extensive scholarship has earned him a spot on the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council.

Now, Elba has become a textbook example of the environmental harm of racist zoning and transportation policies Dr. Bullard has taught so many of us about. More than a mere twist of cosmic irony, it shows how pervasive the problem of environmental racism is – that the hometown of our nation's great warrior for Environmental Justice, who has helped countless people and communities, is still vulnerable to its impacts.

Ultimately, the Alabama Department of Transportation and Governor Kay Ivey are

the ones who have the ability and responsibility to fix it and compensate the community's residents for all they have lost. So far all they have done is deny wrongdoing and dupe Shiloh residents into signing away their rights.

An ABC News investigation found the state "used an aggressive legal tool to prevent the residents – and future owners of their land – from the possibility of holding the state government accountable through the court system." Pastor Williams and several other residents received settlements of \$5,000 or less that the governor herself signed off on.

Dr. Bullard has said he hopes 2024 will be the year for justice for Shiloh. As Pastor Williams and others from the community continue to sound the alarm and raise awareness, all of us should be joining them.

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FORMER PRESIDENT TRUMP SEES REDUCTION IN FELONY CHARGES

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
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The twice-impeached and four-times indicted former President Donald Trump experienced a mixed bag of legal developments on Wednesday as Fulton County Superior Court Judge Scott McAfee reduced the number of felony charges against him.

While this may seem like a victory for Trump, McAfee's decision to quash six counts in the indictment, including three against the presumptive 2024 Republican presidential nominee, comes with caveats. The judge left several counts, including ten against Trump, intact and allowed prosecutors to seek

a new indictment to reinstate the dismissed charges.

Trump, who has been ordered to pay \$91 million for sexually assaulting a journalist and nearly \$500 million for massive business fraud this year, saw the criminal felony counts against him drop from 91 to 88.

McAfee's ruling marks the first time charges have been dismissed in any of Trump's four criminal cases. The judge cited insufficient detail about the alleged crimes as the reason for dismissing some counts. The sprawling indictment, invoking Georgia's Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO), accuses Trump and over a dozen others of orchestrating a "criminal enterprise" to maintain power following his defeat in the 2020 election to

Democrat Joe Biden.

Trump's defense team and notable figures like Rudy Giuliani and Mark Meadows have all pleaded not guilty and welcomed the judge's decision. Trump's attorney, Steve Sadow, labeled the prosecution as politically motivated and called for its dismissal, alleging interference in the electoral process.

The six dismissed counts primarily revolved around accusations of soliciting public officers to violate their oaths. One count stemmed from a phone call Trump made to Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, urging him to "find 11,780 votes." Another count accused Trump of soliciting then-Georgia House Speaker David Ralston to appoint presidential electors unlawfully.

McAfee's order leaves Trump and Meadows facing RICO charges, while Giuliani sees three out of 13 counts dismissed. McAfee allowed prosecutors to seek a re-indictment to supplement the dismissed counts, with a six-month window to resubmit the case to a grand jury.

Meanwhile, McAfee is also considering disqualifying Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis from the case due to a past romantic relationship with special prosecutor Nathan Wade. Willis has maintained that the relationship ended a long time ago and denies any conflict of interest. McAfee's ruling on the matter, expected by the end of the week, could significantly impact the case's trajectory.

The Georgia indictment,

spanning nearly 100 pages, outlines numerous alleged attempts by Trump and his allies to overturn the election results, including harassing election workers and pressuring Georgia lawmakers. Four individuals charged in the indictment have already pleaded guilty after reaching deals with prosecutors, including prominent Trump allies Sidney Powell and Kenneth Chesebro.

The Georgia case intersects with a federal case in Washington, where Trump faces charges of conspiring to overturn his election loss. Additionally, Trump is scheduled for trial later this month in New York, facing allegations of falsifying company records to conceal payments made during his 2016 presidential campaign.

House Passes Bill Banning TikTok in the United States

The United States House of Representatives passed bipartisan legislation to potentially ban TikTok, the viral video-sharing platform owned by a China-based company. The move highlights lawmakers' growing concerns over the app's possible threats to national security.

The Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary

Controlled Applications Act bill sailed through the House with a decisive vote of 352-65, with one member, Rep. Jasmine Crockett, D-Texas, voting present. Now, all eyes turn to the Senate, where the bill's fate remains uncertain, albeit with less immediate pressure to act.

"Communist China is America's largest geopolitical foe and is using technology to actively undermine America's

economy and security," said House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.), who cautioned against TikTok's potential to access American data and spread "harmful" content.

Yet, despite the bipartisan consensus, the bill faced notable opposition from both ends of the political spectrum. Fifty Democrats and 15 Republicans voted against it, including prominent figures like Reps. Pramila Jayapal

(D-Wash.), Ro Khanna (D-Calif.), and Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-Ga.).

Some members of Congress expressed concerns over potential infringements on free speech, while others feared adverse impacts on small businesses.

Central to the debate is whether TikTok poses a legitimate national security threat or if the legislation risks

curtailing First Amendment rights. Critics argue that the Chinese government could exploit the app to access personal data and influence user behavior, particularly among minority communities.

Recent demographic data highlighted TikTok's broad reach, with over 834 million users globally. In the United States, TikTok boasts the largest audience, with over 135 million users.

THE SUN-REPORTER

RELIGIOUS SECTION

THE BAY AREA'S CHURCH NEWS & ACTIVITIES



Sunday School Lesson

By Shunda Criswell

The Raising of Lazarus

Place: Bethany
Time: A.D. 30

Golden Text: "When he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave-clothes" (John 11:43-44) Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb.

NIV John once again tells us that Jesus was deeply moved (see John 11:33). Jesus' agitation reveals his indignation, anger and outrage that death creates such chaos and suffering in people's lives. Lazarus was buried in a cave, and a stone was laid across the entrance. NIV Tombs at this time were usually caves

carved in the limestone rock of a hillside. A tomb was often large enough for people to walk inside. Several bodies would be placed in one tomb. After burial, a large stone would be rolled across the entrance to the tomb. This burial spot was much like the one in which Jesus would be buried. Jesus said to the crowd, "Take away the stone." NIV When Jesus asked that the stone be removed, Martha protested, saying, "By this time, there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." NIV (Life Application Bible Commentary - John). So it is one scholar recorded, "It is easy to recognize the Lord's presence in the pleasant experience of life, for example, a wedding, births, joyful occasions, but it is more difficult to recognize His presence in the hardships of life. (John 11:38-39). "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" NRSV The purpose of the whole event was for Jesus to exhibit the glory of God. Jesus had proclaimed this from the moment he heard about Lazarus's sickness (see John 11:4). Jesus could have healed Lazarus from a distance, like

He did the Nobleman's son in John 4:46-54). He purposely delayed going there. In order for the miracle to occur and for God to be glorified through it, the sisters would have to believe enough to order the stone to be removed from the tomb's entrance. Keep in mind, Lazarus was buried in a tomb cut from the rocky hillside; such tombs were common. The tomb was closed and opened for further burials with a rolling stone that covered the entrance. A central door led to a cave room where burial benches were carved in stone along the inner wall. Horizontal burial chambers were cut along the top edge of the benches. (New Living Translation Bible). "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me." NIV While the crowd waited beside the tomb—with the stone now rolled away from its entrance—Jesus praised His Father aloud, publicly, so that, upon witnessing the miracle of resurrection, the people might believe in Jesus. His prayer

was not a petition, but a prayer of thanks to the Father. Jesus knew that his request would be answered. To keep animals from entering, a large stone was placed across the entrance, either vertically or horizontally. Jesus ordered that the stone be removed. He told those who were present and nearby to remove the stone. For it was not an easy task nor small because this stone was heavy. No, Jesus did not remove the stone Himself. He assigned the task to others. Jesus loved Martha and Lazarus no doubt, and He wanted to spare Lazarus and his family the indignity of the smell of death and disturbing his decomposed body. On other occasions Jesus had said that men would hear His voice and come out of their graves (see John 5:28) and that His sheep hear His voice. After His brief prayer He called ("shouted loudly") in a loud voice. This verb is used only nine times in the New Testament, eight of them in the Gospels (read Matthew 12:19; Luke 4:41; John 11:43 and Acts 22:23). Jesus shouted only three words: Lazarus come out! If Jesus had not said Lazarus,

would all the dead come out from the graves? If Jesus had not said Lazarus' name all the dead would have come out from the graves. Immediately, the dead man came out. Since he was wrapped in strips of linen, a special work of God's power must have brought him out. Jesus' directive to the people, Take off the grave clothes, enabled Lazarus to move on his own and at the same time gave evidence that he was alive and not a ghost. Amen! This event is a marvelous picture of God's Son bringing life to people. He will do this physically at the Rapture for church saints (see 1 Thessalonians 4:16), and at His return for Old Testament saints (Daniel 12:2) and Tribulation saints (see Revelation 20:4, 6). (The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty). (Life Application Bible Commentary - John). Remember, it is often hard to see how God is working in difficult situations. Jesus showed believers that even death can be used for God's glory and honor. Amen. Be Blessed Saints!!! May God be glorified in our lives.

Young Men of Color Continued from page 1

asking the State of California to include funding for the California Student Success Coach Learning Network and other programs of this kind in its upcoming budget.

We urge others who believe in the power of mentorship to join us in our call to action. This funding is not just about supporting our organization; it's about investing in the future of California education

and ensuring that young men of color have the resources and guidance they need to succeed.

I recently received an email from Rogel Noel, one of our first IYT alumni. Rogel joined the program as a freshman at Valley High School in South Sacramento. When he started high school and joined IYT, he only spoke English for a few years. As an Afro-Latino male from the Dominican Republic, Rogel had tremendous obstacles to becoming a college graduate.

Rogel was being raised by a phenomenal single mother who was working multiple jobs to provide for their family. But unfortunately, he lived in one of Sacramento's most crime-rife neighborhoods, Valley Hi. Just walking to school was, at times, risking his life.

When Rogel joined IYT, he struggled in school but showed tremendous promise. He was paired with a mentor and started to attend our after-school study halls. A couple of times per year, he visited

colleges across the state. During his junior year in high school, he participated in IYT's Capital Internship program and interned in the State Assembly. After a couple of semesters in IYT, Rogel became an honor roll student.

Last year, Rogel graduated from Sonoma State with a degree in Psychology, becoming the first in his family to graduate from a four-year university. Now working as a medical consultant, Rogel emailed me to request

a letter of recommendation for graduate school to become a social worker!

Because Rogel was mentored and served through IYT, he wants to do the same for others.

The Student Success Coach Learning Network plays a pivotal role in our ability to serve our community effectively. This network connects organizations like ours with valuable resources, and it ensures that we can provide the highest quality mentorship and support to

Sacramento's young men of color, helping them overcome obstacles and reach their full potential.

We urge policymakers to prioritize funding for California's Student Success Coach Learning Network and similar mentorship programs. We are not asking for a handout; we are asking for an investment in the future of our students. The community's future depends on the investments we make today in tomorrow's leaders.

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
qm
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:
qm
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:
qm
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
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Morning worship - 10:15 am
Radio: Sunday 9:30 am KQYA
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
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Pastor

Sunday School - 10:am
Morning worship - 11:00 am
Wednesday
Bible Discussion 7: pm
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12 Westlake Ave
Daly City CA. 94014

Rev. Derrick Lomax
Pastor

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

Sun Reporter

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Talented 25
Continued from page 1

Golden State Warriors star Kevon Looney.

“We salute all of our honorees this year,” said Amelia Ashley Ward, the Sun Reporter publisher and founder of the talented 25 event. “We have made great choices throughout the years, starting with our first year honorees, in which we selected then San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris, who is now the Vice President of the United States.”

Luminaries on hand included former San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown, current San Francisco Mayor London Breed, San Francisco District Attorney Brooke Jenkins, San Francisco NAACP head and lead pastor at Third Baptist Church Reverend Amos Brown, as well as previous other talented twenty five honorees including Attorney Geofrea Simpson Morris and Bay View community activist Jameel Patterson.

Mayor Breed spoke at the Talented 25 Ceremony. She thanked the Sun Reporter newspaper for supporting her throughout the years, even when the paper disagreed with a policy position or proposal. While she really didn't talk politics at the ceremony, she acknowledged she will be ready to fight for San Francisco's black community and all people, to better San Francisco.

“I put it all on the line for



SF Human Rights Commission Director Dr. Sheryl Davis with San Francisco Mayor London Breed and Publisher Ashley-Ward



Third Baptist Church Reverend Amos Brown with Talented 25 Recipient Everett Brandon

the black community,” said Mayor Breed in a fiery tone. “I will not walk in fear, as I walk in truth.”

Looking energetic at the awards ceremony, the Mayor, a previous talented 25 awardee, said she had to come to the event, to support the new and old black professionals and

community leaders, who were being acknowledged.

She mentioned that as a teen, she would walk by the newspapers offices on Fulton street, saying to herself, “one day I am going to make it in that newspaper.” Her words were prophetic.

“I am very pleased with

this class of talented 25,” continued Ward. “We honored a young dentist from BayView Hunters Point, a mayor's chief of protocol, a south bay non-profit leader and a 92-year old civil rights leader and servant. We look forward to keeping up this tradition for years to come.”

E.J Jones, was recognized as a Talented 25 Honoree. Jones was the founding member of City Eats, a non-profit organization that feeds 1,500 people a month. He also worked at and headed the I.T Bookman community center in the Ocean View community. He is currently in the process of running for San Francisco Supervisor in District 11 in November.

“It was an honor to be recognized by the Sun Reporter When I was learning to read,” said Jones. “I would read the Sun Reporter paper to my grandmother. So things have come full circle for me.”

Jones said he is proud to be honored with the other black people making a difference in San Francisco. One of those other people honored was Rashad Johnson, a senior Vice President for California 360, which is a consulting firm that does polling, communication and lobbying.

Before this, Johnson was a senior director for Eaze Technology, a cannabis firm, making sure those impacted by the war on Drugs could get cannabis licensing in various states that have legalized cannabis.



Talented 25 Recipients E.J Jones and Renard Monroe

“It's an honor to be part of an institutional publication. better for black people in San Francisco.



Talented 25 Recipient Milan Balinton with Publisher Ashley-Ward and Talented 25 Recipient Rashad Johnson

It made me feel affirmed and it helped me to align, meet and network with other talented black professionals, who are working to uplift the community.”

When Ward started the Talented 25, she wanted to be able to connect people together, to make things

“I am extremely pleased with this class,” continued Ward. “And there are a lot of people making things happen for black people and others in San Francisco and throughout Northern California. We will continue to acknowledge this.”

Alzheimer's Disease
Continued from page 1

prevalence across the United States (5.8 million people).

Between 2019 and 2040 a doubling in the number of Californians living with AD/ADRDs is expected. This increase will affect all regions of the state across various demographic groups.

Women are especially impacted by the disease, making up nearly two-thirds of diagnosed Americans. Other groups disproportionately impacted include older Black Americans, who are twice as likely to develop

the disease. In the next 20 years, the number of people living with AD/ADRDs is projected to triple, growing to 91,071 people.

Latinos are one-and-a-half times more likely to develop Alzheimer's than White older adults.

Additional CDPH estimates indicate that between 2019 and 2040:

California's population will grow by 16%, while the population of people living with AD/ADRDs will expand by 127%;

The number of Californians over 75 years of age living with AD/ADRDs will more

than double, growing to over 1.3 million.

- The number of Californians between 55 and 74 years of age living with AD/ADRDs will increase 26%, growing to 194,975 people.

- The number of people living with AD/ADRDs in California's fifteen most populous counties (those with a population of 700,000 or more) will at least double.

- The number of Californians living with AD/ADRDs will increase by 11% for women, growing to 917,482 people; and increase by 8% for men, growing to 609,197 people.

- The number of people living

with AD/ADRDs more than double for Californians who identify as Asian American/Pacific Islander, growing to 241,106 people.

The Take on Alzheimer's Campaign aims to reach these disproportionately impacted communities through multilingual and multicultural advertising, partnerships with community-based organizations and engaging trusted ethnic media journalists. The campaign also plans to educate these communities about brain health, the signs of aging, and ADRD symptoms to make a positive impact on them and their loved ones

by promoting brain health and benefiting from early detection and diagnosis.

“This campaign will empower our diverse communities to support brain health, better understand and the difference between signs of aging and symptoms of dementia and encourage individuals to have important conversations with their loved ones and health care providers,” said

CDPH Director and State Public Health Officer, Dr. Tomás J. Aragón in a release.

The campaign also believes starting honest and empathetic conversations with friends, loved ones or a healthcare

provider can be critical to improving outcomes and combating fear and stigma associated with AD/ADRDs.

Based on population-level evidence, the sex health conditions and behaviors that increase risk for cognitive decline and AD are midlife hypertension (age 45-64), physical inactivity, midlife obesity (age 45-64), diabetes, smoking (age 45 and older) and poor sleep (less than six hours a night).

Visit TakeonALZ.com to learn ways people can help reduce their risk and take charge of their brain health before or after an AD/ADRD diagnosis.

State Of The Union
Continued from page 1

towns across the country – including those in California – are better off today than the day he took office. I am proud to partner with an Administration that doesn't shy away from taking on our most pressing challenges, and faces our future with urgency and resolve,” she added.

Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA-12) praised Biden for seeking a political solution to the conflict in the Middle East and committing to delivering humanitarian aid to Gaza.

“I'm pleased President Biden underscored the

dire need to secure a two-state solution in Israel and Palestine. However, as I've said several times, in order to reach that goal, the U.S. must call for an immediate and lasting ceasefire,” said Lee.

“Each day that Palestinians continue to suffer from famine, violence, and displacement is a tragedy. President Biden's plan to construct a port for large-scale aid flow is a vital step in the right direction to ending this dire humanitarian catastrophe, but we cannot stop here. The release of hostages is imperative. The lasting peace and security of the Israelis and Palestinians depends on a ceasefire and a hostage deal now.”

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond said he celebrates the President's decision to support students at different stages of their educational attainment.

“The President's call to ensure that every three- and four-year-old has access to preschool and to ensure that every child learns to read by third grade echo our work to invest in early learning, reading specialists, and proven professional development for teachers of literacy,” said Thurmond.

He also touted the President's plan to support opening career pathways for students to

career opportunities.

“President Biden also called for more access to internships so that all students can discover their passions and develop career-ready skills,” said Thurmond. “I am proud of our work to invest in paid internships for our young people, which directly connect California youth with opportunities in high-growth, high-wage industries.”

Reacting to the President's speech, Mayor Karen Bass issued a statement affirming the President's accomplishments and crediting him for investing in programs that have transformed the lives of people and improved

infrastructure in Los Angeles.

“With President Biden's partnership, more than 3,365 Angelenos moved into permanent housing through emergency housing vouchers delivered through his American Rescue Plan and the administration provided historic waivers to cut through bureaucracy and moved more formerly unhoused Angelenos indoors,” Bass said.

“In the midst of a global pandemic, the Biden-Harris Administration also provided relief for local small businesses and helped the city keep essential workers on the payroll and continue delivering critical services,” Bass added.

Biden urged Americans to stand up for America's ideals.

“Hate, anger, revenge, retribution are the oldest of ideas. But you can't lead America with ancient ideas that only take us back. To lead America, the land of possibilities, you need a vision for the future and what can and should be done. Tonight, you've heard mine,” said Biden.

“I see a future where in defending democracy, you don't diminish it. I see a future where we restore the right to choose and protect other freedoms, not take them away,” he said.

Calif. Sec. of Transport Cuts Ribbon to Launch New Central Valley to NorCal Train Service

By Tanu Henry

On March 6, California Secretary of Transportation

Toks Omishakin joined other state leaders to launch a new tech-forward train service --

the San Joaquin's line -- that runs between Bakersfield and Oakland, with a route branching off to Sacramento.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in Stockton at a regional maintenance facility for trains.

Developed in partnership with Amtrak, the train service is the first of seven lines that will make five daily round trips from the Central Valley to the Bay Area. The other six trains will be launched by the end of the year,

according to CalTrans.

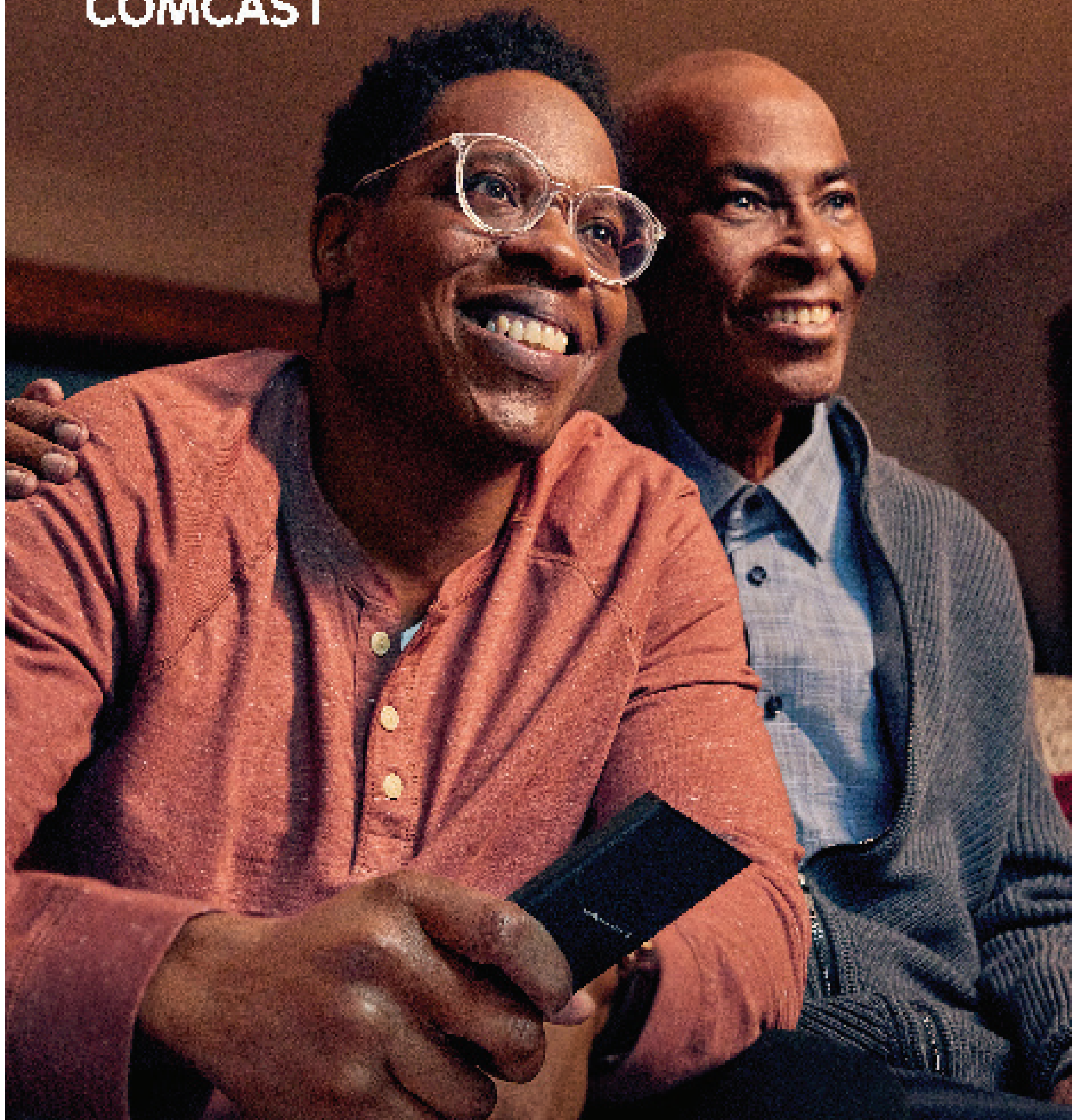
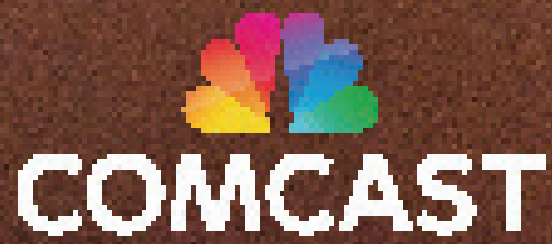
“These trains are a giant leap forward in passenger experience. In addition, they have been built in California, providing economic prosperity to our region, said Omikshakin.

“They show our commitment

to combating climate change and improving the multimodal transportation network for all Californians,” he continued.

The trains were built by Siemens, a German company, at the manufacturer's Sacramento plant.

“These trains were designed with Californians in mind,” said Michael Cahill, Siemens president for rolling stock in North America. “They set a new standard for passenger travel with end-to-end accessibility.”



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