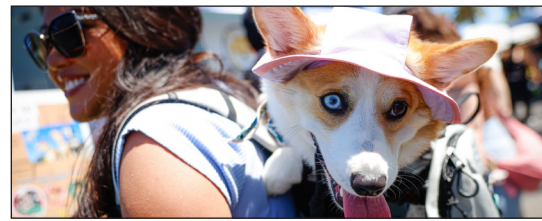


Business: 1st-quarter net income tumbles. C7



Local: Short dogs have their day (and more) at StumpyCon. B1



Sports: Kurtenbach: Draft is 49ers GM Lynch's prove-it moment. C1



Nation: Witness details 'catch and kill' efforts. A3



The newspaper of Silicon Valley

The Mercury News

BayArea NewsGroup 111

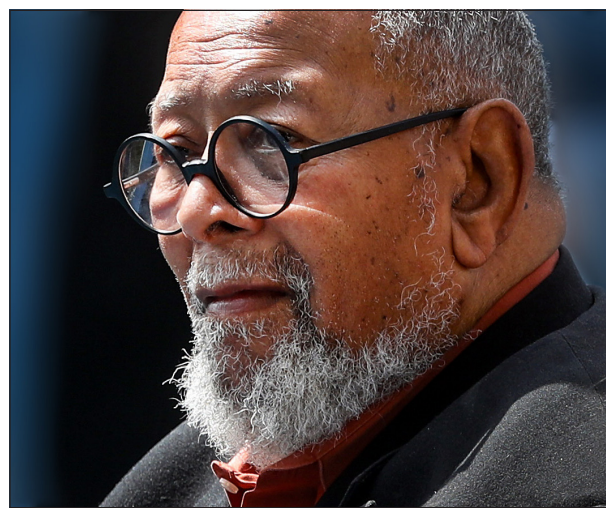
Volume 173, issue 310

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024

24/7 COVERAGE: MERCURYNEWS.COM » \$3.00

OBITUARY

'Kindness brought people together'



KARL MONDON — STAFF ARCHIVES

Rev. Cecil Williams, the co-founder of Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco who died Monday at the age of 94, had a vision that "changed our city and the world," according to San Francisco Mayor London Breed.



PAUL SAKUMA — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, left, California Assembly Speaker Willie Brown and Rev. Cecil Williams hold hands during the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. march in downtown San Francisco in January 1986. Being involved in a variety of social justice causes was a continuous driving force for Williams, his friends, colleagues, parishioners and mourners said Tuesday.

Rev. Cecil Williams, who died Monday at 94, sought justice for all

By Martha Ross and Caelyn Pender
Bay Area News Group

When the Rev. Cecil Williams took over leadership of Glide Memorial Church in the 1960s and began transforming it into a national powerhouse for social jus-

stice and nonprofit services, he became an early ally of Tenderloin residents who were then among the city's most marginalized: gay men, lesbians and transgender youth.

In the 1960s, San Francisco was still "a pretty conservative town" and police,

supported by City Hall, regularly targeted gathering spots for LGBTQ men and women, arresting them for merely being social. As part of Williams' mission to welcome the poor and disenfranchised into his Tenderloin congregation, he began allowing LGBTQ groups to

meet at Glide and to even host drag balls.

Williams' message of inclusion prevailed into the 21st century, and not just for the LGBTQ community. Under Williams' leadership, Glide has been at the forefront of many civil rights

WILLIAMS » PAGE 5

SEX ABUSE SETTLEMENT

Nassar victims to receive \$138.7M

Feds admit mistakes were made in handling of claims against former USA Gymnastics doctor

By Glenn Thrush and Juliet Macur
New York Times

WASHINGTON » The Justice Department said Tuesday it would pay \$138.7 million to resolve claims by young women and girls, including many top female gymnasts, of sexual abuse by former USA Gymnastics doctor Larry Nassar.

The far-reaching settlement, which covers 139 claims, stems from the failure of FBI officials to promptly investigate allegations that would ultimately lead to a horrifying conclusion: Nassar had sexually assaulted hundreds of women and girls under the guise of examinations and treatment.



Nassar

It likely signals the end of a yearslong effort by the gymnasts — including Olympic gold medalists Simone Biles, McKayla Maroney and Aly Raisman — to achieve a measure of justice in the courtroom. It also reflects public recognition that the institutions entrusted to protect young female athletes failed to protect them.

Lawyers for the young women hailed the settlement, which brings total civil payouts associated with Nassar to about \$1 billion. But they cast the government's monetary compensation for its early reluctance to fully investigate Nassar as a case of too little, too late.

"These women were assaulted because of the FBI's failure, and there is no amount of money

SETTLE » PAGE 5

'WE'RE STILL HUMAN BEINGS'

Rushed prison closure results in more anxiety

Dublin prisoners say hurried moves to distant sites creating new problems

By Julia Prodis Sulek
jsulek@bayareanewsgroup.com

Closing the women's federal prison in Dublin was supposed to put a swift end to the abuse and dysfunction of the facility. But inmates say the hurried transfer of 600 inmates to prisons as far as Minnesota and Miami has wrought suffering all its own.

Prisoners have been sent on cross-country bus trips and flights — some without medical prescriptions or sanitary products, prisoners say — with little sense of their destination.

"We were all bruised up on our wrists because of the fact that they put the handcuffs on so tight and so long," inmate Vaudencia Hamilton told the Bay Area News Group in a phone call Tuesday from the Miami prison after a three-day journey

PRISON » PAGE 5

BAY AREA

Dangerous streets spark push for safety

Millions to go toward upgrades in Oakland, some Peninsula cities

By Kristin J. Bender
kbender@bayareanewsgroup.com

OAKLAND » International Boulevard in Oakland is home to a vibrant mix of cultures from downtown Oakland to the San Leandro border. Street murals cover restaurant facades and the street is peppered with food carts and vendors selling everything from fruit cups to T-shirts. But navigating the busy thoroughfare can be a heart pumping challenge for pedestrians and drivers.



ARIC CRABB — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A pedestrian crosses 42nd Avenue along International Boulevard on Tuesday in Oakland. The dangerous stretch of roadway is slated for upgrades to help improve safety.

Alameda County transportation officials are now pouring several million dollars into making the street

safer, more transit friendly and easier to navigate.

And they are not alone. Major planning efforts

are happening throughout the Bay Area to make it easier for people to get around, whether it's reconnecting communities severed by freeways or highways, or figuring out ways to make streets safer to cross and transit more easily accessible.

Last month, Caltrans also announced \$149 million for three projects, including one in South San Francisco to add safe walkways, bike lanes, bus stops and other upgrades in areas with neglected transit infrastructure, including El Camino Real. The six-lane thoroughfare is the site of multiple pedestrian fatalities on the Peninsula each year.

SAFE » PAGE 5

NEWS ON YOUR PHONE

Download the Mercury News mobile app for iPhone or Android.

INDEX

BusinessC7
ClassifiedB6

Comics/TVB10
LotteryA2
LocalB1

ObituariesB5
PuzzlesB2, C5, C6
WeatherB12

WEATHER

H: 69-71 L: 49-51
Full report on B12



MediaNews Group
Subscribe:
MercuryNews.com
©2024



KEEP TERMITES OUT OF YOUR HOME



Schedule a *FREE Inspection! 1-800-PACIFIC

WWW.PACIFICCOASTTERMITE.COM

*\$350 inspection fee for homes in escrow or for sale.