



MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

THOUSANDS attend a “No Kings” protest at Gloria Molina Grand Park in downtown L.A. on Saturday.

Millions protest at ‘No Kings’ rallies in U.S.

In L.A. and 3,300 other sites, crowds criticize Trump, ICE, war and affordability.

BY MEG JAMES, JACK FLEMMING, CONNOR SHEETS AND NICOLE MACIAS GARIBAY

A rolling wave of “No Kings” protests swelled through America’s small towns and big cities Saturday, with crowds gathering to blast President Trump, Immigration and Customs Enforcement crackdowns, the war in Iran and high gas and food prices. Saturday’s demonstrations were expected to draw millions of people nationwide, including thousands for a downtown Los Angeles rally. More than 40 protests were planned for L.A., Orange and Ventura counties, part of the national “No Kings Day of Non-violent Action.”

No Kings Coalition organizers were hoping that turnout for the rallies in all

50 states could combine to form the largest single-day protest in U.S. history. They pointed to growing anger over the country’s direction, including fatal ICE shootings and troops dispatched to the Middle East, since the first “No Kings” demonstration was held last June.

Late Saturday, organizers estimated that at least 8 million people participated in 3,300 events held around the U.S. and overseas — an increase of 1 million demonstrators compared with the last “No Kings” event in October. “I’m very disturbed by the degradation of human beings and the destruction of our democracy under this Trump tyranny,” said Rossana Foote, a 62-year-old Los Angeles Unified School District teacher, who traveled to the downtown protest from her Ventura County home.

“We need to come together to show a strong voice, a strong movement that there are no kings, no one’s above the law,” Foote said.

[See ‘No Kings,’ A8]

For state’s farmers, war adds to woe

Shortly after the Iran war started four weeks ago, farming executive Bikram Hundal was beside himself.

The vice president of operations at Sequoia Nut Co. had shipped 15 containers of almonds, walnuts and pistachios from the Port of Long Beach, and he wasn’t exactly sure where they were on the high seas.

Their destination was Dubai’s Port of Jebel Ali, a major trading hub, but the jets, missiles and rockets crisscrossing Middle Eastern skies had diverted one ship to the Netherlands and another to Algeria.

Finally, the remainder of the 300 tons of California nuts worth \$1.7 million was offloaded at the Port of Fujairah, also in

Many struggle as they face higher fertilizer prices and disruptions in exports due to the Iran conflict

By Laurence Darmiento

the United Arab Emirates but on the Gulf of Oman, a bit farther from the fighting.

Now, shipping costs to the region have tripled to \$7,500 per container, and Hundal is uncertain when the Tulare County company will get its money.

“They will be slow in paying for those goods, and they told us whatever goods were sold already to them [that] have not shipped, please do not ship those,” he said. “That will impact our cash flow. We have to pay the growers for them.”

As the war unfolds in Iran, farmers like Hundal are being whiplashed by forces beyond their control, including the cutting off of key export markets and

[See Farmers, A12]

Houthi join war: Iran-backed rebels claim missile launches at Israel as Marines arrive in region. WORLD, A4

HOW THE SMOG ROLLED IN

During wartime, an unwelcome guest walked the red carpet into L.A.

By Patt Morrison

It’s late July in 1943. Over the radio, Bing Crosby is crooning, Bob Hope is joking, and news of the war — against Hitler, against Japan — keeps sizzling and crackling across the dial.

But here in Southern California, something more is in the air: a dense, motionless tsunami of something foul and inexplicable. Grown men are crying and mopping their eyes. Women’s throats are sore, and their eyes are an unflattering shade of red.

For hours, sometimes days, even, people can’t see more than a few feet ahead of them. Cops directing traffic can’t tell whether the stoplights are red or green, and neither can the drivers.

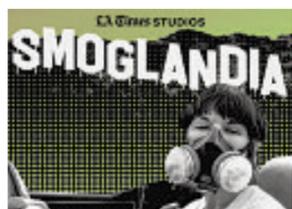
Remember that in 1943, we were at war. Just the year before, in February 1942, a Japanese submarine had shelled an oil field near Santa Barbara, and the very next night, L.A. was ordered into a blackout. Jittery Angelenos sat in the dark, rattled by sounds of sirens and anti-aircraft fire. That turned out to be just a citywide case of nerves.

It wasn’t the Japanese this time, either. That choking siege in July was the worst but not [See Smoglandia, A11]



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A LOS ANGELES commuter drives with a gas mask Oct. 2, 1966.



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IN PRINT: This is a four-part series.

Coming Monday: Smog was killing L.A.; Caltech chemist found the murder weapon — in our garages

Citizens are divided over whether U.S. intervention is a promise or a threat.

By KATE LINTHICUM

HAVANA — Yenisey Taboada’s small apartment on the outskirts of Havana is filled with photos of her imprisoned son.

Duannis was 22 and watching soccer at a cafe when he spontaneously joined Cuba’s biggest antigovernment street protest in decades. He was beaten by security forces, arrested and sentenced to 14 years in prison.

His mother’s apartment is also filled with American

Missing sailboats land in Havana

Vessels carrying aid for Cubans had encountered rough weather and lost contact. WORLD, A4

flags. Taboada fervently dreams of U.S. intervention to topple Cuba’s Communist Party and free her son, now 26, and an estimated 1,000 other political prisoners. The recent U.S. military operation to overthrow Venezuela’s authoritarian leader, Nicolás Maduro, gave her hope.

“We’re being repressed,” Taboada said. “We can’t do it alone.”

[See Cubans, A6]

Critics say Kaiser has strayed from mission

By MELODY PETERSEN

Some employees called it the “dash for cash.”

Months after Kaiser Permanente doctors saw a patient, federal prosecutors said, administrators pushed the physicians to add new, false diagnoses to the medical record in a billion-dollar scheme to defraud the government. Kaiser in February paid \$556 million to settle the allegations.

“Deliberately inflating diagnosis codes to boost profits is a serious violation of public trust,” said Scott Lambert, acting deputy inspector general for the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services.

Kaiser faced further scrutiny a month later when the nonprofit healthcare giant paid \$30 million to settle another case brought by federal investigators, this one involving claims it had failed for years to provide patients with adequate access to mental health care.

Kaiser said it settled the fraud case without admitting wrongdoing. It said the mental health settlement did not involve its current practices.

Yet critics have pointed to the repeated legal payouts, saying they reflect how

[See Kaiser, A14]

Neutra-designed architectural gem restored

Jardinette Apartments opened to acclaim in 1928. But time has not been kind. Until now.

By SAM LUBELL

One of the most painstaking architectural renewals in recent Los Angeles memory has finally pulled a world-class jewel of modern architecture from obscurity.

Designed by pioneering Modernist architect Richard Neutra in 1928, with lim-

ited collaboration from another Modernist icon, Rudolph Schindler, the Jardinette Apartments had been hiding in plain sight on an unassuming Hollywood street for nearly a century.

The complex was a technical and spatial breakthrough, and quickly gained international renown as one of the earliest International Style structures in the U.S., not to mention Neutra’s first L.A. commission.

But the building’s original owner, Joseph H. Miller, went bankrupt during construction and skipped town

to avoid his creditors, and the Jardinette slipped from view.

“After that early burst, it just disappeared,” said Barbara Lamprecht, historical consultant for the Jardinette’s rehabilitation, which is just now wrapping up.

For decades the building stood quietly along West Marathon Street: an austere, four-story complex that most people passed without a second glance. Wedged between Western Avenue and Manhattan Place, amid stucco apart-

ment blocks and scrappy bungalows, the edifice had grown increasingly shabby as time and neglect took their unforgiving toll.

That changed with the intervention of a newcomer to historic preservation named Cameron Hassid.

For years the tireless local developer and his tenacious team have willed the restoration project to the finish line. Hassid plans to bring the apartments to market in the coming days.

When the Jardinette first opened it was featured

[See Neutra, A9]

Plan an escape to the desert

From food to drinks to shopping, there’s a wealth of fun to be had now in Palm Springs. WEEKEND, L3

Female inmates settle with state

Prisoners say they were subjected to violence in a use-of-force incident in 2024. CALIFORNIA, B1

Bronny James proves his worth

LeBron’s son shows he deserves to be a Laker, says columnist Mirjam Swanson. SPORTS, D1

Weather

Warm with sunshine. L.A. Basin: 86/58. B10

