

Redlands Daily Facts

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SAN DIEGO

USS Abraham Lincoln returns to open arms



The aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln makes its way through San Diego Bay toward Naval Air Station North Island in Coronado, ending a 322-day deployment, which included combat service in the Iran war in the Middle East, on Thursday. Families of the roughly 5,000-member crew welcomed them back. **PHOTO BY HOWARD LIPIN**

Thousands greet ship after long Mideast mission

By Alex Riggins, Gary Robbins and Teri Figueroa
SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

More than 10 months after sailing from San Diego on what would turn into an arduous and twice-extended combat deployment — one that included launching some of the first attacks in the U.S.-Israel war on Iran and spending 264 straight days at sea amid troubling reports of food shortages and low crew morale — the USS Abraham Lincoln returned home Thursday to Naval Air Station North Island.

The roughly 5,000-person crew of the Lincoln, known to many sailors as the “Abe,” was greeted by thousands of cheering family members who had traveled from all over the country to welcome home their loved ones under a hot afternoon sun at the military base in Coronado.

“We would have come in anywhere his ship was coming in,” said Lisa Bisson, who traveled from Maine with her family to see son Joseph return

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Family and friends cheer as the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier returns to its home base in San Diego on Thursday. At one point, the crew went 264 days at sea without any shore leave. **GREGORY BULL — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Camp Pendleton Marines recount realities of patrolling Arabian Sea

By Erika I. Ritchie
ERITCHIE@SCNG.COM

When a group of Marines providing security for the United States’ naval blockade of the Strait of Hormuz boarded ships transiting through, the American commanding officer said there was no question how the search-and-seizure missions would go.

“At 2 a.m., when 30 Force Recon Marines step on your vessel, you’re compliant with a capital C,” Col. Chris Niedziocha said recently during a Pentagon briefing following the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit’s 10-month deployment.

Once Marines were aboard the

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WEATHER

Weekend rain likely to douse heat wave

Remnant of Hurricane Rachel to bring downpours, stoking flood fears in mountain areas

By Sydney Barragan and Laylan Connelly
STAFF WRITERS

Southern California is expected to get a reprieve from its prolonged October heat wave this weekend, but the cooldown will come with widespread rain, the possibility of flash flooding in mountain communities and another round of powerful surf threatening an already battered coastline.

Moisture associated with Hurricane Rachel, weakening into a tropical storm as it approaches northern Baja California, could bring moderate to occasionally heavy rainfall beginning late Saturday, with showers potentially lingering through Tuesday, according to the National Weather Service.

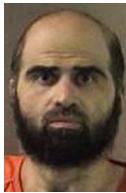
Although the storm’s center is most likely to remain south of Southern California, said Kyle Wheeler, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in San Diego, Rachel’s moisture, combined with approaching low-pressure systems, could bring rain, gusty winds and significantly cooler tempera-

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U.S. MILITARY

Pentagon plans to stream execution by firing squad for Fort Hood shooter

By Konstantin Toropin
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



WASHINGTON — The Pentagon says the firing squad execution of Fort Hood shooter Nidal Malik Hasan will be livestreamed after Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said the execution would be “public.”

Hegseth, speaking to the conservative TV outlet Real America’s Voice News on Wednesday, said the execution of Hasan will take place at Fort Hood on Dec. 3. Hasan was convicted of killing 13 people and injuring 32 others in a shooting spree at the Texas military base in 2009.

“We’ll make sure that people are able to watch it,

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2026 ELECTIONS

Insurance commissioner’s race features clash over how to fix a stressed state system

By Pat Maio
PMAIO@SCNG.COM

The race is a first for candidates going against each other from the same political party since the office became an elected position in 1990.

The next insurance commissioner will inherit a range of political problems, including industry demands to raise premiums amid rising wildfire risk and maintaining distance from insurers accused of getting too cozy with the current commissioner. The winning candidate will be faced with addressing the state’s overburdened Fair Access to Insurance Requirements Plan.

In May, the FAIR Plan got the green light to raise rates 29.1% for certain homeowners starting Oct. 15 — just weeks before the Nov. 3 general election ballot.

We asked both candidates about State Farm litigation, whether insurance executive pay should be capped and more in our Southern California News Group’s 2026 Voter Guide. Both candidates want to lower rates, reduce wildfire risks and improve the FAIR Plan. Their similarities end there.

Here’s a look at the candidates and what



Former Sen. Bernie Sanders aide Jane Kim, left, and state Sen. Ben Allen, both Democrats, are on the Nov. 3 ballot for California insurance commissioner. **COURTESY OF CANDIDATES**

they said about their platforms.

KIM, THE POPULIST

The 49-year-old Kim said she wants to stop the growth of the FAIR Plan, which acts as a backstop for homeowners who can’t get insurance elsewhere due to fire zones in which they live, or have filed claims too high for their private insurer to absorb.

She wants to replace the current multi-payer, private home insurance market and the FAIR Plan with a centralized, state-managed system to cover wildfire and flood risks.

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2026 ELECTIONS

California’s AG candidates explain how they’d handle homelessness and more

By Charlie Borla
CBORLA@SCNG.COM

The race for California attorney general is just the latest showdown between Democratic incumbent Rob Bonta and Republican Michael Gates.

In 2023, while Gates was still city attorney for Huntington Beach, Bonta’s office sued the Orange County coastal community for refusing to submit a compliant housing element plan to lay out where new housing could be built. Huntington Beach officials turned around and filed a federal lawsuit against the state arguing that as a charter city, it’s not required to abide by certain state laws, though a lower court and a federal court ultimately rejected that argument.

Beyond the Huntington Beach case, Bonta, a former Assembly member, has sued the federal government dozens of times since President Donald Trump returned to office in January 2025, overlapping with a 10-month period during which Gates served as a deputy assistant U.S. attorney general. Gates left the Trump administration in January 2025.



Democratic incumbent Rob Bonta, left, and Republican Michael Gates are running for California attorney general in the Nov. 3 general election. **COURTESY OF CANDIDATES**

Given their backgrounds, it’s not surprising to find the two have different ideas and positions.

When it comes to homelessness, Bonta and Gates do agree on one thing: It’s not a crime. But their differences become clear in the solutions they propose.

“On encampments, enforcement — such as restrictions on obstructing sidewalks and sleeping near sensitive locations — should be a last resort,” Bonta said in response to a Voter Guide questionnaire

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