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SPORTS, 1B

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Xi: China opposes militarizing Hormuz



Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the Trump administration hopes to convince China to “play a more active role” in ending the standoff around the strait that has driven up global fuel prices and inflation to rates not seen in years. EVAN VUCCI/REUTERS

U.S., Chinese leaders discuss Iran conflict

Francesca Chambers, Michael Loria, Cybele Mayes-Osterman and Joey Garrison

USA TODAY

Chinese President Xi Jinping on May 14 told President Donald Trump during a high-stakes meeting in Beijing that China opposes militarizing the Strait of

Hormuz and levying a toll on the critical waterway amid the U.S. war in Iran.

Although Trump officials made clear the United States is not seeking – nor did Trump ask for – China’s help to carry out the military aims, the White House sought China’s agreement on the strait, which for weeks has been under competing blockades by the United States

and Iran.

“The Chinese side said they are not in favor of militarizing the Strait of Hormuz and they’re not in favor of a tolling system, and that’s our position,” Secretary of State Marco Rubio said in an interview with NBC News.

“It’s good we have alliance, or at least agreement, on that point,” the

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\$1.3B in Medicaid funds for CA to be deferred

Noe Padilla

USA TODAY

Vice President JD Vance announced on May 13 that the Trump administration will be deferring \$1.3 billion in Medicaid reimbursements from the state of California.

It’s part of a new initiative to root out fraud in federally funded health programs, he said.

Hospice care fraud in California has drawn major scrutiny from state leadership, members of President Donald Trump’s administration and Gov. Gavin Newsom’s critics.

In his announcement, Vance claimed that the administration was set on deferring these funds “because the state of California has not taken fraud very seriously.”

Because of that, “there are California

taxpayers and American taxpayers who are being defrauded,” he said at a news conference.

California Attorney General Rob Bonta called the Trump administration’s action “unlawful” and noted that his office would be “carefully reviewing all available information” and may challenge the administration’s decision to

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The Lone Stranger and Sidekick mock robbed the Five Star Bank at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, May 12. The pretend robbery at the Hartnell Avenue bank in Redding kicked off the annual Redding Rodeo Week game.

DAVID BENDA/RECORD SEARCHLIGHT

Last day to solve clues and win cash

Redding Rodeo Week game to end

Jessica Skropanic

Redding Record Searchlight
USA TODAY NETWORK

Please embargo for 5 a.m. May 15, 2026

Friday is the last day to solve clues to win cash in the Asphalt Cowboys’ citywide Redding Rodeo Week game.

No one yet solved the clues — issued daily since Tuesday — and called in to correctly identify local celebrities playing this year’s mock bank robbers, the Lone Stranger and Sidekick, according to the Asphalt Cowboys. Nor did anyone find the loot, located on public property in Redding.

If someone wins either contest on Friday, they win a \$200 cash prize, said Asphalt Cowboy Dave Tappan. The prize started out at \$500 per game. Each day, the prize was reduced by \$100.

Regardless if someone wins either contest, the game ends at 5 p.m. Friday.

Here are Friday’s clues and a reminder of what the other clues were Tuesday through Thursday. Call 530-223-1188 with your guess. Check back at redding.com each day for more

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Good morning!

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