



Dreamstime/TNS

The rise of the equity rich: How US homes have gained value and owners home equity.

In today's paper

**SPORTS:** Bryce Eldridge gets the call, and just barely his gear. **1B**



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# THE SACRAMENTO BEE

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## California Legislature tries to speed up home building

BY STEPHEN HOBBS  
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By the time California legislators finished their work for the year on Saturday, they had pro-

vided a clear statement for how they want to reduce the explosive costs to buy or rent a home in the state and the staggering number of people living on the streets.

They were eager to make it

easier to get housing projects ready to be built.

The Legislature passed bills that lessen the power of a major state environmental law, speed up permit reviews and inspections and take some control

away from cities to shape housing developments near public transportation stops.

“The crisis has metastasized to such a level that it’s finally forcing politicians to say ‘Ok, actually we need to take on

some sacred cows, have some tough conversations, and take some tough votes,” said Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, D-Oakland, who introduced a bill this year to create an exemption in the California Environmental Quality Act, known as CEQA, for many housing projects.

Yet advocates for more affordable housing were left unsatisfied. The Legislature did extend the state’s cap-and-trade greenhouse gas auction system, which generates money that is used to

**SEE HOME, 3A**

## Kirk killing suspect charged with aggravated murder

BY SONIA A. RAO  
AND JACEY FORTIN  
*NYT News Service/Syndicate Stories*

Prosecutors formally charged a 22-year-old man from southern Utah with aggravated murder Tuesday for the killing of prominent right-wing political activist Charlie Kirk.

Jeff Gray, the Utah County attorney, said that he would seek the death penalty against the defendant, Tyler Robinson. In addition to aggravated murder, a capital offense, Robinson was also charged with felony discharge of a firearm and multiple counts of witness tampering and obstruction of justice.

Court records released Tuesday shed more light on Robinson’s possible motive. In a series of messages with his romantic partner after the shooting, Robinson said he had killed Kirk because he “had enough of his hatred,” according to a transcript included in the court records.

The records also described how Robinson was apprehended after initially being recognized by his parents.

A first court appearance was expected at 3 p.m. Mountain time for Robinson, who turned himself in late Thursday, about 33 hours after Kirk was shot at Utah Valley University.

Here’s what else to know:

**Details of surrender:** After authorities shared a photograph of Robinson the day after the shooting, his parents called their son and persuaded him to return home, prosecutors said. His mother told police that her son

**SEE KIRK, 3A**



HECTOR AMEZCUA [hamezcua@sacbee.com](mailto:hamezcua@sacbee.com)

Christian Tonatiuh González, consul general of Mexico in Sacramento, waves the Mexican flag on Monday at the state Capitol as he re-enacts the “Grito de Dolores” – a call for independence – which is traditionally performed on the eve of Mexican Independence Day.

## Mexican Independence Day crowd smaller this year

BY MATHEW MIRANDA  
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Though smaller in size, Sacramento’s decadeslong El Grito celebration at the state Capitol carried added significance for the region’s Mexican community as the federal administration continues its immigration crackdown.

The celebration on Monday night drew about 250 people — from grandparents waving Mexican flags to infants

dressed in green and red attire — who chanted, sang and took pride in their country’s Independence Day. The annual event commemorates El Grito De Dolores or the Cry of Dolores, the ceremonial marking of Mexico’s independence from Spain.

This year’s celebration was far smaller than in years past, when organizers estimated up to 7,000 attendees. The festivities follow months of increased immigration enforcement under President Donald Trump.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has deported nearly 200,000 people during the first seven months of Trump’s second term, according to reporting last month from CNN.

Earlier this month, the Mexican Cultural Center of Northern California — which typically organizes the event — announced the celebration would be scaled down “due to the political climate” and concerns for the community. Unlike in previous years, the festivities

would not include dancers, booths or vendors.

Still, for many in attendance, the importance of showing up and celebrating tradition outweighed the absence of the typical festivities.

“This is not time for hiding,” said Christian Tonatiuh González, the consul general of Mexico in Sacramento. “This is time for showing our pride. This is time to give to our community what they need: pride, honor and dignity.”

González led this year’s ceremony from the west balcony of the Capitol.

Like in major cities across Mexico and the U.S., González received the national flag and then repeated the words of

**SEE CROWD, 4A**

**ROBERT REDFORD, 1936-2025**

## Screen idol became Oscar-winning director and activist

BY BROOKS BARNES  
*NYT News Service*

Robert Redford, the big-screen charmer turned Oscar-winning director whose hit movies often helped America make sense of itself and who, off screen, evangelized for environmental causes and fostered the Sundance-centered independent film movement, died early Tuesday morning at his home in Utah. He was 89.

His death, in the mountains

outside Provo, was announced in a statement by Cindi Berger, the chief executive of the publicity firm Rogers & Cowan PMK. She said he had died in his sleep but did not provide a specific cause. He was in “the place he loved surrounded by those he loved,” the statement said.

With a distaste for Hollywood’s dumb-it-down approach to moviemaking, Redford typically demanded that his films carry cultural weight, in many cases making serious topics like grief (familial, societal) and

political corruption resonate with audiences, in no small part because of his immense star power.

As an actor, his biggest films included “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid” (1969), with its loving look at rogues in a dying West, and “All the President’s Men” (1976), about the journalistic pursuit of President Richard M. Nixon in the Watergate era. (Redford played Bob Woodward and used his clout in Hollywood to bring Woodward’s and Carl Bernstein’s book to the



FRED R. CONRAD NYT

Actor and director Robert Redford poses for a photo on Sept. 23, 2013, in Provo, Utah. Redford died at his home in Utah early Tuesday. He was 89.

screen.) In “Three Days of the Condor” (1975) he was an inverted CIA codebreaker caught in a murderous cat-and-mouse

game. “The Sting” (1973), about Depression-era grifters, gave Redford his first and only Oscar nomination as an actor.

Redford was one of Hollywood’s preferred leads for decades, whether in comedies, dramas or thrillers; he had range. Studios often sold him as a sex symbol. Although he was a subtle performer with a definite magnetism, his body of work as a romantic leading man owed a great deal to the commanding actresses who were paired with him — Jane Fonda in “Barefoot in the Park” (1967), Barbra Streisand in “The Way We Were” (1973), Meryl Streep in “Out of Africa” (1985).

“Redford has never been so radiantly glamorous,” critic Pauline Kael wrote in The New

**SEE REDFORD, 4A**



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