



Television review: Why ‘East of Eden’ remake works

INSIDE, 6A

THE SALINAS Californian

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Where wheels, feet and neighbors meet



Alisal Street was closed to traffic from Front Street to Sanborn Road in Salinas on Oct. 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the annual Ciclovía Salinas event where pedestrians reclaim the busy city street for one day. PHOTOS BY ROSEANN CATTANI/THE SALINAS CALIFORNIAN

Youth-led Ciclovía transforms Alisal Street

Roseann Cattani | Salinas Californian | USA TODAY NETWORK

Pedestrians, cyclists and dancers reclaimed a busy stretch of Alisal Street in Salinas on Sunday for Ciclovía, transforming the thoroughfare into a hub of recreation, exercise and community activity. • Instead of vehicle traffic, families filled the roadway between Front Street and Sanborn Road from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., walking, biking, skating and participating in dance and fitness activities. **See MEET, Page 4A**



Planada Elementary School, built in 1955 below flood level, damaged by heavy rains and a levee break on Jan. 6, 2023. PROVIDED BY PLANADA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

El Niño school closure impact

Thomas Peele
EDSOURCE

A winter of potentially devastating weather driven by what scientists predict to be a massive El Niño event could strain many of California’s TK-12 public schools, experts say, likely damaging aging structures and forcing school closures.

The southern and central parts of the state are expected to be hit hard along with coastal areas, as they were in 2023 when mid-March storms forced the closure of at least 178 schools. Only this time, weather scientists predict El Niño could stress levees to the max, and even bring potential for tornadoes, along with torrential rains, mudslides, storm-driven tides and heavy winds.

While district superintendents in especially vulnerable areas are already planning ahead, some schools may be ill-equipped to handle punishing weather. At least 59 California school districts are seeking voter approval for bonds in the November election, and have identified the need to repair or replace “leaky,” “dilapidated” and “decaying” roofs, an EdSource examination of local ballot language shows.

Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency on Sept. 21, ordering pumps and sandbags to be stockpiled near vulnerable areas, among other precautions. Federal flood data show roughly 20% of the state’s schools are located within flood plains. In 2023, heavy storms flooded schools in Alameda and Merced counties as well as one near Watsonville, where a levee ruptured.

“Climate-driven El Niño conditions could mean months of dangerous

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