



‘Ted Lasso’ returns: How season 4 stacks up

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Gunshot detection tech ignites controversy



Springfield, Illinois, Police Officer Timara Pflug demonstrates in 2021 how officers can see a notification of gunfire on a map from Shotspotter, now called SoundThinking, in their squad cars. JUSTIN L. FOWLER/SPRINGFIELD STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

Critics cite concerns about privacy, accuracy

N’dea Yancey-Bragg USA TODAY

When gunshots ring out on America’s streets, bystanders face an instant, high-stakes dilemma. • *Do I call the cops? Were those even gunshots? Maybe it was just fireworks.* • Every moment of hesitation risks a delay in medical treatment or gives a suspect extra time to escape. But a high-tech solution to the problem has ignited a fresh round of controversy in cities across the nation.

Law enforcement officials in states including New York, Georgia, California, Michigan and Virginia have credited one system with helping them make arrests and alerting them to gunshots that would have otherwise gone unreported.

The system – part of an arsenal of police surveillance technology that advocates have warned about – is a network of audio sensors designed to record the sound of gunshots and tell authorities where the shots were fired.

That’s where the problems start.

The technology has faced a host of controversies: concerns over privacy and eavesdropping; complaints about accuracy; and even reports of many devices being installed in the wrong places.

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The Springfield, Missouri, Police Department has installed gunshot detection devices through Flock’s gunshot detection system, Raven. NATHAN PAPES/SPRINGFIELD NEWS-LEADER

CENTRAL VALLEY

Heatwave brings triple digit temps

Sheyanne N Romero

Visalia Times-Delta
USA TODAY NETWORK

A heat wave has gripped the Central Valley this week, with National Weather Service officials warning that temperatures could reach 110 degrees in some portions of the region.

The National Weather Service has issued a heat advisory through Sunday, Aug. 9. High temperatures between 106 and 108 degrees are expected across Tulare County.

“Afternoon high temperatures of 105 to 108 degrees will occur daily through the upcoming weekend,” NWS officials said. “Overnight lows will generally only fall into the mid-60s to mid-70s, providing little overnight relief.”

Forecasters expect Sunday to be the hottest day of the week, with a high near 106 degrees. Some weather apps predict temperatures could climb to around 111 degrees on Sunday in Visalia.

The Visalia Transit Center serves as a cooling center when an excessive heat

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Poll: Cost of living has pushed ‘young voters to the brink’

Daniella Segura

USA TODAY NETWORK

Nearly half of young Californians believe the state is headed in the wrong direction as rising costs continue to strain their finances, according to a new poll.

The 2026 Power California Youth Poll found that the cost of living and inflation are the top issues young residents want elected officials to address, followed by housing affordability and homelessness.

The survey found economic

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