



PAUL FONG cooks meals for the lunch rush at the Chicago Cafe, which has been operating in the town of Woodland, Calif., since 1903.

CARL COSTAS For The Times

Chevron exit latest blow to state oil industry

Firm's move to Texas continues California's shift from production of goods, fossil fuels.

BY DON LEE

With the announcement Friday that it was moving its headquarters from California to Texas, Chevron Corp. became perhaps one of the last dinosaurs to slip into the tar pit, a symbol of California's monumental transition from a manufacturing and production state to the brave new world of services.

In the popular imagination, California has long been seen as Hollywood, sunshine and beaches that attracted millions of new residents and built its sprawling cities. But in reality the great magnet of growth for decades was the production of things: Think the aerospace industry, petroleum and agriculture.

The transition away from manufacturing has been going on for decades, exemplified by Silicon Valley, which churns out the ideas for high-tech devices but leaves the actual production to others, overseas, and the sprawling ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, which offload the vast flow of manufactured goods from abroad.

Now, it's Chevron's turn. The oil giant was founded in California 145 years ago at the beginning of an era when the state became one of the world's leading suppliers of oil and its byproducts.

[See Chevron, A8]

And now add history to the menu

The Fongs were delighted to learn they owned the oldest continuously operating Chinese diner in California. But that status has complicated their retirement dreams.

BY JESSICA GARRISON

WOODLAND, Calif. — The conundrum facing the Fong family of Woodland arose earlier this year, shortly after a UC Davis law professor grew interested in a sign posted above the counter that read: "The Chicago Cafe since 1903."

The Fongs had never given that sign much thought, beyond taking pride in running a family

business with a cherished history in the community.

Not Paul Fong, 76, who has worked at the restaurant with his wife, Nancy, 67, since emigrating from Hong Kong in 1973.

And not his children, Amy Fong, 47, a physical therapist, and Andy Fong, 45, a software quality engineer at Apple. They grew up sweeping floors and doing homework in the restaurant after school, but had gone off to college (UC Berkeley for Amy; San José

State for Andy) under strict orders from their parents to find good careers far from the grind of restaurant work. Now, with children of their own, they were looking forward to their parents' retirement; they wanted their parents to be able to relax and spend time with their grandchildren.

Then, one day in 2022, Gabriel "Jack" Chin, a law professor at UC Davis, stopped in for lunch. Chin is an expert in immigration law, specifically the Chinese Exclusion

Act of 1882 that made it incredibly difficult for Chinese people to immigrate to the U.S. And he knew something the Fongs didn't, something that would complicate the family's efforts to wind the business down: If the sign behind the counter was accurate, if the Chicago Cafe truly had been operating since 1903, that would make it a treasure of historic significance.

In January, UC Davis announced [See Diner, A10]

L.A. County aging faster than most of the state



GENARO MOLINA Los Angeles Times

ALEX ORTEGA, 84, dances during a gathering of about 100 partygoers at the Crescent Arms senior housing's inaugural prom in Los Angeles in 2023.

High cost of living, other factors drive a shift with 'devastating' implications.

BY TERRY CASTLEMAN

Despite its image as a magnet of youth, Los Angeles County is aging fast.

The region is getting older thanks to a series of demographic shifts, including slowing immigration, declining birth rates and unaffordable housing that is pricing out young people on a budget.

"We've never been top-heavy like this before," with a

lack of young people to support older generations, said Dowell Myers, a professor of policy, planning and demography at USC. "We're still figuring out how to deal with it."

Between 2012 and 2022, the county's median age rose by 2.6 years to 37.4 years old. The 7.5% increase was more than 50% higher than the national rate of aging.

In the 10-year period, the number of Angelenos younger than 10 decreased by 20%. The number of those between 10 and 19 decreased by 14%.

Those in their 60s rose by 32%, and in their 70s by 40%.

The county and state are [See Aging, A10]

Israel targeting Hezbollah in assassination campaign

Intelligence war based on tech has picked off two dozen leaders in Lebanon since Oct. 7.

BY NABIH BULOS

BEIRUT — The first assassination took two tries. An Israeli drone fired a missile that hit a Renault van in southern Lebanon. When the target, a Hezbollah operative, climbed out and fled into a roadside thicket, a second missile finished the job.

That same morning, 60

miles to the northeast, another drone struck a Dodge pickup carrying a commander in Jamaah al-Islamiyah, a Lebanese Sunni Islamist faction allied with Hamas and Hezbollah.

The third assassination took place that night, when a missile slammed into a three-story building in the town of Jmaimeh, killing Ali Maatouq, a senior commander with Hezbollah's elite Radwan force.

The three hits last month were part of a particularly violent day across southern Lebanon, where Hezbollah, the Shiite paramilitary fac-

[See Hezbollah, A4]

Harris secures delegate votes

Vice president says she's "honored" to be presumptive Democratic presidential nominee. **NATION, A6**

COVID summer is heating up

With virus levels and infections surging, masks and hand sanitizer are advised. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Weather

Warm with sunshine. L.A. Basin: 93/65. **B8**

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In boxing, the biggest fight is over gender

BY DAVID WHARTON

PARIS — A Summer Olympics that hoped to champion inclusivity — choosing "Games Wide Open" as its slogan — has become embroiled in loud, angry debates over who should and should not be allowed to compete as a woman.

The dispute has triggered conflicting official statements, pointed comments and unhinged social media posts, all whirling around two athletes in the women's boxing competi-

tion at Arena Paris Nord.

This isn't about how Imane Khelif of Algeria and Lin Yu Ting of Taiwan identify. By all accounts, they were born as women but appear to have unusual body chemistry that triggered gender tests and caused them to be disqualified from last year's world championships.

The Olympics, however, have broader eligibility rules.

"I think we all have a responsibility to dial down this and not turn it into some [See Boxing, A4]

PARIS OLYMPICS



WALLY SKALIJ Los Angeles Times

TAIWANESE boxer Lin Yu Ting, left, shakes hands after beating Sitora Turdibekova of Uzbekistan. Lin and Algeria's Imane Khelif have come under attack from people who question their gender despite the IOC declaring them eligible.



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