

Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

‘Known criminal threat actor’ hit Lurie

Children’s hospital has remained open despite systems being down since Jan. 31

By **Angie Leventis Lourgos and Kate Armanini**
Chicago Tribune

The mother of a patient at Lurie Children’s Hospital said a recent cyberattack on the health care provider has left her feeling vulnerable and worried about her ability to access her child’s extensive medical history.

Danica Stull said her 4-year-old son has VACTERL association — a broad spectrum of congenital anomalies — and has been treated by multiple specialists at Lurie, including an emergency open-heart surgery just after his birth.

“His medical history is pages and pages and pages,” said Stull, of Bourbonnais. “So that kind of thing makes me uncomfortable. Because

literally everything we have for him is at Lurie. Every specialist, every treatment, every surgery has been through Lurie.”

Hospital officials announced Thursday that their network had been accessed by “a known criminal threat actor,” which spurred the health care provider to take its electronic systems offline for more than a week.

“We take this matter very seriously and have been working closely, around the clock, with outside and internal experts and in collaboration with law enforce-

ment, including the FBI,” said Dr. Marcelo Malakooti, chief medical officer, at a news conference outside the hospital. “As an academic medical center, our systems are highly complex and these incidents can take time to resolve.”

The FBI confirmed to the Tribune that it is assisting with the investigation, which is ongoing.

“FBI Chicago is aware of the recent cybersecurity incident affecting Lurie Children’s Hospital and is utilizing all available investigative tools and resources

to provide assistance,” the agency said in a statement. “As always, our attention remains on ensuring the safety of our citizens and our nation’s critical infrastructure.”

The hospital offered no other details about the known criminal actor or when its network would be back online.

Since Jan. 31, the hospital’s systems have been offline, including phone, email, the electronic medical records system and the patient family portal MyChart, the

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BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago Auto Show tuneup

Chevrolet and Honda vehicles are prepared for display during the Chicago Auto Show’s preview day at McCormick Place on Thursday. The show runs from Saturday through Feb. 19. **Business**

Sox likely need law change for funding

Illinois Sports Facilities Authority doesn’t have resources for stadium

By **Robert McCoppin and Brian J. Rogal**
Chicago Tribune

The Chicago White Sox met with a state funding agency to present plans for a new stadium, but officials say lawmakers would have to increase the borrowing limit if the team wants taxpayer financing.

The Illinois Sports Facilities Authority would be a major potential source of financing, because it funded construction of the current Sox home at Guaranteed Rate Field. But without a change in state law, the agency has only about \$100 million in available funding, CEO Frank Bilecki said — not nearly enough for a development that could cost more than \$1 billion.

The briefing last week between agency officials, the team and developer Related Midwest addressed their desire to build a ballpark and surrounding development on The 78, a vacant site on the Chicago River in the South

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ELECTION 2024

Supreme Court hears Trump ballot dispute

Justices seem set to reject bids that claim Jan. 6 rules him out

By **Mark Sherman**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court seems poised to reject attempts to kick former President Donald Trump off the 2024 ballot.

A definitive ruling for Trump, the leading Republican candidate for president, would largely end efforts in Colorado, Maine and elsewhere to prevent his name from appearing on the ballot.

Conservative and liberal justices alike questioned during arguments Thursday whether Trump can be disqualified from being president again because of his efforts to undo his loss in the 2020 election to Democrat Joe Biden, ending with the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Their main concern was whether Congress must act before states can invoke a constitutional provision that was adopted after the Civil War to prevent former officeholders who “engaged in insurrection” from holding office again. There also were questions about whether the president is covered by the provision.

Without such congressional legislation, Justice Elena Kagan was among several justices who wanted to know “why a single state should decide who gets to be president of the United States.”

The outcome could reflect a broad consensus of the court, and

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Snow sculptors work in human-made piles of snow Feb. 2 at Flat Iron Park in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. WinterFest endured, despite the unseasonably warm weather. **STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

WINTER ACTIVITIES FACING DEGREES OF DIFFICULTY

An especially warm February cutting away at season’s prime time

By **Shanze Ahmad**
Chicago Tribune

Last weekend’s sunshine made for a pleasant walk for visitors to downtown Lake Geneva as they surveyed creations from the U.S. National Snow Sculpting Championship, part of the town’s annual Winterfest.

But for the sculptures themselves, it was a different story. Constructed over a two-day period late last week, the whimsical structures were starting to become dripping mounds of ice and snow Sunday in the afternoon sun as temperatures approached 40 degrees.

UPCOMING FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High 56 Low 32	High 42 Low 28	High 40 Low 28	High 40 Low 29

Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 12

A Yeti eating spaghetti had lost his fork, while a first-place-finishing head of what appeared to be a cyborg lost much of its definition and detail by Sunday afternoon. By Wednesday, they were unrecognizable.

“It’s fleeting art, I like to say,” said Deanna Goodwin,

vice president of marketing, communications and development for Visit Lake Geneva. “Here today, gone tomorrow.” The festival, which typically draws 65,000 to 70,000 people, took extra precautions this year against Mother

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INSIDE



CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Bears greats take it to the house

The wait is over for Devin Hester. In his third year as a finalist for the Pro Football Hall of Fame, the Bears great was expected to break through and be formally announced Thursday as a member of the Class of 2024. Hester was expected to be joined by former Bears defensive tackle Steve McMichael and pass rusher Julius Peppers. Peppers would go in as a member of the Panthers. **Chicago Sports**

NU law student says cousins taken hostage

Yasmeen Elagha says two cousins from Lombard have been taken hostage by Israeli forces in Gaza. **Chicagoland, Page 3**

\$4.00 city and suburbs and elsewhere
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