

# Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM



Ukrainian asylum-seekers Olha and Oleksandr Korobov hold hands on the patio of their apartment Wednesday in Highland Park. The couple are from Makivka, Ukraine. **STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

## ESCAPE FROM IZOLYATSIA

By Angie Leventis Lourgos | Chicago Tribune

**T**he Russian prison was notorious for the torture and human rights abuses of its inmates, a mix of prisoners of war and illegally detained civilians. Although it has been a decade since his release, Oleksandr Korobov of Highland Park says the psychological scars remain from his 26 days in captivity in Izolyatsia, one of more than a hundred illegal and highly secretive prisons or detention centers dotting Russian-occupied Ukraine.

“Those nightmares were with me for a long time,” the 59-year-old former Ukrainian businessman said through an interpreter, while sipping coffee on a recent afternoon in his north suburban apartment.

The panic attacks mostly hit when he is alone

and unpreoccupied, he said, sometimes triggered by a certain sound, thought or memory.

“It’s the feeling as if something is pushing you. And I have that anxiety that I have to go somewhere or do something, and I just can’t stay in the same place anymore,” he added. “It’s something like, if you don’t run now, you will be dead.”

As Russia’s full-scale war against Ukraine continues in its third year, Ukrainian and European Union leaders have recently been urging Western powers to lift restrictions on the Ukraine’s use of arms against targets inside Russia. The United States limits the use of long-range ballistic missiles given to Ukraine; some EU members restrict use of their arms as well.

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**Detention in brutal Russian prison years ago still haunts Ukrainian now living in Highland Park**

## Israel PM: ‘No one will preach to me’

Netanyahu pushes back against new pressure over Gaza

By Tia Goldenberg  
Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday pushed back against a new wave of pressure to reach a cease-fire deal in Gaza after hundreds of thousands of Israelis protested and went on strike and President Joe Biden said he needed to do more after nearly 11 months of fighting.

In his first public address since Sunday’s mass protests showed many Israelis’ furious response to the discovery of six more dead hostages, Netanyahu said he will continue to insist on a demand that has emerged as a major sticking point in talks — continued Israeli control of the Philadelphia corridor, a narrow band along Gaza’s border with Egypt where Israel contends Hamas smuggles weapons into Gaza. Egypt and Hamas deny it.

Netanyahu called the corridor vital to ensuring Hamas cannot rearm via tunnels.

“This is the oxygen of Hamas,” he said.

He added: “No one is more committed to freeing the hostages than me. ... No one will preach to me on this issue.”

Israelis had poured into the streets late Sunday in grief and anger in what appeared to be the largest protest since the start of the war. The families and much of the public blamed Netanyahu, saying the hostages could have been returned alive in a deal with Hamas. A rare general strike was held across the country Monday.

But others support Netanyahu’s drive to continue the campaign in Gaza, which was triggered by Hamas’ Oct. 7 attack into Israel and has caused massive death and destruction in the territory. Netanyahu says the

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Sheila Hogan tends to her garden in the Edgewater neighborhood of Chicago on Aug. 24. Cannabis gummies have helped relieve Hogan’s debilitating pain from spinal stenosis, allowing her to resume activities such as gardening. **TESS CROWLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

## With marijuana at a new level of scrutiny, here’s what research says

By Robert McCoppin  
Chicago Tribune

“Illinois Democrats legalized marijuana,” proclaims a new billboard in Chicago. The ad, paid for by Gov. JB Pritzker’s campaign fund, takes credit for a change that polls show is supported by about two-thirds of Americans.

Chicagoan Sheila Hogan, one of 140,000 people registered in

the state to use medical cannabis, believes in its powers. She uses mild gummies at bedtime to relieve debilitating pain from spinal stenosis, which has allowed her to get back to gardening and pickleball.

“I could not even believe it,” she said. “It was remarkable. I was able to get a lot more active.”

Despite support for legalization, and increasing use of mari-

juana nationwide, a recent Gallup poll showed slim majorities say it negatively affects both society and most people who use it — but is still less harmful than tobacco and alcohol.

The evolving perceptions of cannabis come as major changes are afoot in the regulation of the drug.

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## Going solar, but with a lot less confusion

Consumer watchdog part of program for roof panel shoppers

By Nara Schoenberg  
Chicago Tribune

Dawn Stockmo wanted solar panels for her Oak Park Victorian, but a funny thing happened when she and her husband started calling installers.

“When we talked to one, all of a sudden we started getting lots and lots of calls from other installers,” said the retired affordable housing director. “It just got to be absolutely overwhelming.”

At a time when customers complain about aggressive sales practices, confusing offers and lack of transparency, going solar can be daunting, but there are government-backed programs that smooth the way.

For Stockmo, help arrived in the form of an e-newsletter from her village.

Oak Park was spreading



Dan Portincaso displays an app on his phone that allows him to monitor the energy production of the solar panels at his Oak Park home. **TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

the word about Solar Switch Chicagoland, a group-buy program offered by a partnership that includes the nonprofit consumer watchdog Citizens Utility Board, five local counties and the Midwest Renewable Energy Association.

The program — formerly known as Grow Solar Chicagoland — has helped more than 600 customers get solar roofs

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## Four killed in Blue Line shooting

A suspect is in custody after the deadliest incident of gun violence on a CTA train in decades — possibly ever.

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## Harris, Biden campaign together

Vice President Kamala Harris used Monday’s joint appearance to say that U.S. Steel should remain domestically owned.

**Nation & World**

