

# Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

## Deepest pool in the US proposed

N. Chicago facility would be godsend for disabled, planners say

By Chloe Hilles  
Chicago Tribune

When Erin Tunison was finally submerged in the warm pool water, her once-clenched fists relaxed into wide-spread fingers. In a full scuba oxygen tank and mask, Tunison glided around the hotel pool in Downers Grove with the help of her father Mike and Diveheart founder Jim Elliott.

"She's weightless underwater," Mike Tunison said. "She gets so much out of it from the motor extension."

On land, Erin Tunison, 34, uses a wheelchair to move around due to cerebral palsy, a congenital condition that affects movement and posture. But in the water, she has the mobility and dexterity that she wouldn't experience elsewhere.

Diveheart, a non-profit dedicated to building confidence, self-esteem and independence through adaptive scuba diving for people with physical and cognitive disabilities, launched a \$300 million fundraising effort in February to build a three-pool scuba dive and scuba therapy facility in North Chicago, a suburb about 30 miles north of Chicago.

Plans for the facility include the deepest pool in the country at 130 feet to provide the experience of deep-water diving, with water pressure similar to a more than 10-story depth, but without the chill of the deep ocean or its currents.

Though there are deeper pools elsewhere in the world — the largest at 200 feet in Dubai — Diveheart's Executive Director Tinamarie Hernandez said the North Chicago pool would be the deepest used for therapy.

"No one has ever done anything like this before," Hernandez said. "The others are solely for recreational purposes."

Hernandez also said the planned facility would allow the organization's offerings to exponentially grow, and be provided on a regular basis. Currently, the organization

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ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

## Standing Beast sculpture leaving Thompson Center

Workers remove the sculpture Monument With a Standing Beast by Jean Dubuffet outside the Thompson Center on Friday as they prepare to move it to an undisclosed location. **Page 2**

## City pitches O'Hare change

Proposes key alteration to rebuild after months of talks with airlines

By Sarah Freishtat and Jake Sheridan  
Chicago Tribune

After months of negotiations with airlines over the massive, delayed rebuild of O'Hare International Airport, city officials are proposing a path forward with a key change.

In a letter to airlines this week, the city proposed changing the sequencing of construction on a new Global Terminal and nearby satellite concourses, opting to "accelerate the completion of the Global Terminal," which is set to replace aging Terminal 2, city Chief Operating Officer John Roberson told the Tribune. Initially, the plan was to build two satellite concourses first, which would have added gate space for airlines to use while Terminal 2 was torn down and replaced with the Global Terminal.

A change in the order of construction had been sought by airlines during months of contentious negotiations with the city over the rebuild, as they sought to ensure the new terminal wasn't threatened by future budget issues. O'Hare's two main carriers, American and United, had pushed back against rising construction costs at the airport, a key piece of the city's economy and a hub in the nation's air system.

The airlines signed off on an \$8.5 billion overhaul of the airport in 2018. The main feature of the rebuild was the soaring, 2.2 million-square-foot Global Terminal, designed by a team led by architect Jeanne Gang, which would more than double the space of the current Terminal 2 and add additional gates, and allow travelers to move more seamlessly

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## Support for public defenders proposed

Senate president says emphasis is on a fair criminal justice system

By Jeremy Gorner  
Chicago Tribune

Following a report that revealed a number of shortcomings in the public defender system in Illinois, state lawmakers are considering a measure that would create a statewide office to provide public defenders with additional support in an effort to ensure indigent criminal defendants receive adequate legal representation.

The source of funding for the proposed Office of Public Defense Trial Support was not specified and its functions were only broadly defined.

But Senate President Don Harmon said in an interview that his goal for the legislation he filed on Thursday is to promote further negotiations with criminal justice reform advocates, resulting in a version that could be passed by the Democratic-controlled General Assembly before its spring session ends on May 24.

"With our increased emphasis on a fair criminal justice system, it's critical that defendants who can't afford counsel have access

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## Israel dismisses 2 officers over aid workers' killings

Inquiry results likely to boost doubts over military's decisions

By Julia Frankel  
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — The Israeli military said Friday that it dismissed two officers and reprimanded three others for their roles in drone strikes in Gaza that killed seven aid workers on a food-delivery mission, saying they had mishandled critical information and violated the army's rules of engagement.

The findings of a retired general's investigation into the Monday killings marked an embarrassing admission by Israel, which faces growing accusations from key allies, including the United States, of not doing enough to protect Gaza's civilians from its

war with Hamas.

The findings are likely to bolster widespread skepticism over the Israeli military's decision-making.

Palestinians, aid groups and human rights organizations have repeatedly accused Israeli forces of firing recklessly at civilians throughout the conflict — a charge Israel denies.

"It's a tragedy," the military's spokesman, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, told reporters. "It's a serious event that we are responsible for, and it shouldn't have happened and we will make sure that it won't happen again."

With pressure mounting on Israel to hold itself accountable, Hagari and other officials late Thursday shared the results of the investigation, headed by retired Gen. Yoav Har-Even, that

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Onlookers look Tuesday at one of the three cars involved in Monday's deadly drone strike on World Central Kitchen aid workers in Deir al-Balah, Gaza Strip. **ABDEL KAREEM HANA/AP**

## Judge chides witness in Madigan case for lying

A federal judge told ex-ComEd executive Fidel Marquez he's essentially "given a really beautiful piece of ammunition to (Michael) Madigan's lawyers." **Chicagoland, Page 3**

## Mäkelä takes the stage at Orchestra Hall

In a thrilling Shostakovich, CSO music director designate Klaus Mäkelä shows 2027 can't come soon enough. Read Hannah Edgar's review. **A+E**

## In series opener Cubs defeat Dodgers 9-7

With the sun out and Wrigley Field abuzz with Shohei Ohtani coming to town, the Cubs defeat the Dodgers 9-7. **Paul Sullivan, Chicago Sports**

