

Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Medical residents join labor uprising

Unionization surge follows pandemic, shifting attitudes

By Lisa Schencker
Chicago Tribune

In hopes of gaining power and pay, medical residents at an increasing number of Chicago-area hospitals are unionizing.

Thousands of residents and fellows in the Chicago area have voted to unionize in the last year — at University of Chicago Medicine in May, Northwestern Medicine in January and West Suburban Medical Center in Oak Park in November. University of Illinois at Chicago residents and fellows unionized in 2021.

Residents have long had to work many hours for relatively low pay, as they train to become specific types of physicians after medical school. Traditionally, residents have been expected to put their heads down and grind, for years, as they gain on-the-job experience and progress toward more lucrative, prominent careers.

But residents say that attitude is shifting, amid changes in the business of health care, frustrations that arose out of the pandemic, and growing unionization across many industries.

“Hospitals rely on us, but we have not been able to rely on them to guarantee fair working conditions,” said Dr. Anis Adnani, chief resident for the University of Illinois at Chicago emergency medicine residency program. “At some point we decided to become self-reliant and demand fair working conditions not only for ourselves, but for what we see every day in terms of taking care of patients.”

Before the union at the University of Illinois at Chicago reached its first contract last year, first-year residents were making a little less than \$60,000 a year for up to an average of 80 hours a week of work — an income that’s about minimum wage, if broken down hourly, Adnani said. Under the contract, residents were able to secure an 18.5% raise over four years and establish a committee focused on resident well-being, among other gains, he said.

“Any entity that relies so

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Biden eyes tighter border

Significant limits on asylum seekers planned after GOP lawmakers rebuffed an earlier deal

By Seung Min Kim, Colleen Long and Elliot Spagat
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Tuesday unveiled plans to enact immediate significant restrictions on migrants

seeking asylum at the U.S.-Mexico border as the White House tries to neutralize immigration as a political liability ahead of the November elections.

The White House detailed the long-anticipated presidential proclamation signed by Biden,

which would bar migrants from being granted asylum when U.S. officials deem that the southern border is overwhelmed. The Democratic president has contemplated unilateral action for months, especially after the collapse of a bipartisan border security deal in Congress that most Republican lawmakers rejected at the behest of former President Donald Trump, the

presumptive GOP presidential nominee.

“The border is not a political issue to be weaponized,” Biden said, adding that he would have preferred deeper and more lasting action via legislation but that “Republicans left me no choice.”

Instead, he said he was moving past GOP obstruction to “do what

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For special education students in Chicago, transitional schools help to bridge the gap between high school and full-time employment



‘Ready for the world’

By Alysa Guffey | Chicago Tribune

Heaven Lockhart had a busy last week of school before her graduation in May.

The 21-year-old wrapped up her last few days of classes, decorated her graduation cap in art class and went to her school’s prom — in the sparkly silver dress and matching shoes she picked out herself.

Then came the culmination of seven years of hard work.

After four years of high school and three years at Southside Occupational Academy, a public special education school in Chicago, she donned a royal blue gown and walked across the stage to receive

Southside Occupational Academy graduate Heaven Lockhart has her cap adjusted by fellow graduate Elijah Winston at the start of their ceremony at Lindbloom Math and Science Academy on May 29 in Chicago. **ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

her high school diploma. Her family, classmates and teachers cheered her on from the audience.

The tight-knit school community at Southside provided more than an education for Lockhart. It provided work training in housekeeping, a part-time paid job and plenty of chances to flex her basketball skills through Special Olympics competitions.

“I’m going to miss my friends, teachers, my principal, the security guards,” Lockhart said on a recent afternoon.

But she is also looking to the future and will enroll in a two-year program at Richard J.

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INSIDE



DOUG MCSCHOOLER/AP

Messy discourse transcends basketball

Indiana Fever guard Caitlin Clark, right, and her 3-pointers have brought a great number of eyes to the WNBA. Now a hip check by Chicago Sky guard Chennedy Carter, center, on Clark last Saturday is dominating headlines in the sport, and the stereotypes and racial undertones that are pervasive throughout these discussions bring an ugliness that lacks historical context, writes columnist Shakeia Taylor. **Chicago Sports**

Stadium pitch unheard: Mayor and governor leave meeting before hearing Bears’ bid for public assistance to build a new facility. **Page 2**

DOLTON

Trustees override veto on Lightfoot

At contentious board meeting, inquiry into Henyard is approved

By Olivia Stevens
Daily Southtown

Solidifying the divide between Dolton Mayor Tiffany Henyard and the majority of the south suburb’s trustees, the Dolton Village Board voted Monday night to override her veto of their April decision to hire former Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot to investigate Henyard’s spending habits.

As at past meetings addressing Henyard’s conduct as mayor, concerned residents lined up



Dolton Mayor Tiffany Henyard arrives for the Village Board meeting Monday followed by Village Administrator Keith Freeman. **TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

outside the board chamber to make sure they had a chance to speak out against what many see as chronic dishonesty and mismanagement of taxpayer funds.

Sherry Now, who said several generations of her family are from the area, came to support those who still live in Dolton.

She criticized Henyard’s spending habits as mayor and said she backs Lightfoot “every

which way.”

“I was never into politics until now,” she said. “People left, people died off, people changed, but they should have what we had — with the love and the families growing and to be comfortable in your town and enjoy it.”

While police taped off most of the block and the building’s parking lot, by the time the meeting

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TODAY’S WEATHER



High 81 Low 61

Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 20

\$4.00 city and suburbs and elsewhere
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