

A+E SUMMER ARTS

OUR TOP 10

From “Midnight” and “Lord of the Rings” to Laurie Metcalf, Chicago theaters offer a rich lineup. Plus, a look at jazz, classical and experimental music.



PAMELA RAITH



SAVERIO TRUGLIA



JOAN MARCUS

LIFE+TRAVEL

It’s not retirement

Columnist Amy Dickinson says goodbye, making way for new advice columnist R. Eric Thomas. But she insists she’s not retiring. She’s creating time and space for other ventures.

Milwaukee’s having a moment: All eyes are on Wisconsin’s largest city this summer. What to do beyond the Republican National Convention.



A MOTHER DEEP IN GRIEF OVER THE LOSS OF HER DAUGHTER, ALLEGEDLY SLAIN BY A MAN SHE HAD REPORTED FOR HARASSING HER

‘She was beautiful’

By Megan Crepeau | Chicago Tribune

In the small back bedroom of a West Side apartment, the ceiling light stays on.

Day and night, rain or shine, the light falls on an elaborate tribute to Rickisha King-Tiggs: her backpack, her graduation regalia, the expensive Fendi bag she once hid under her bed. It sits on the dresser, never used, protective wrapping still on its handles.

There is a tall stand-up cutout of Rickisha in long braids and a blue dress, the one she wore to Gibsons on her last birthday. Dried roses, more after each visit to the cemetery. A stack of small Bibles in the corner by the window. The bed is covered in neatly arranged clothes from all eras of Rickisha’s life: gym shorts from grammar school, her beret from high school, college sweatshirts. Next to the bed are two laundry bags stuffed full.

Rickisha was shot dead in October 2022, at age 25. Her mother Misty Tiggs washed the dirty clothes she left behind; she hasn’t yet found the strength to fold them.

Before Misty leaves the house, she gives the figure of Rickisha a goodbye kiss. And then she steps outside, lonely and grieving, furious and fragile and desolate, with a bone-deep belief that it all could have been avoided.

The man charged in Rickisha’s killing was their neighbor. Misty and Rickisha had reported him to law enforcement at least twice before for threatening incidents, one of which allegedly turned violent.

The system has limits, even against a known potential threat — a reality underscored in March when a pregnant woman in Edgewater was allegedly stabbed by a man who had harassed her for years, killing her 11-year-old son when he came to her aid.

Above: Misty Tiggs, right, and Adoness Baucom look skyward while celebrating the birthday of Rickisha King-Tiggs, who was Misty’s daughter and Adoness’ girlfriend, at Rickisha’s Forest Home Cemetery gravesite on March 29. CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Communities urged to double down on coal


Several suburbs are investors in polluting downstate power plant

By Michael Hawthorne
Chicago Tribune

As President Joe Biden pushes to accelerate the nation’s transition to clean energy, three Chicago suburbs and more than two dozen other Illinois communities are mulling plans to double down on lung-damaging, climate-changing coal.

Naperville, St. Charles, Winnetka and 29 downstate municipalities are investors in the Prairie State Generating Station, a massive coal-fired power plant in southern Illinois that last year spewed 12.4 million tons of heat-trapping carbon dioxide into the atmosphere — more than only six other electricity providers in the United States.

The Illinois cities, towns and villages are under contract until 2035 to purchase a share of Prairie State’s electricity and help pay off \$5 billion in construction debt. But instead of preparing to quickly shift away from the fossil fuel, like scores of other utilities across the country are doing, the Illinois communities could end up relying on Prairie State and another coal plant in Kentucky for most of their electricity until



The Prairie State Energy Campus on Sept. 16, 2021, in Marissa, Illinois.
E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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Budget talks lurch to finish line

Negotiators push back on aspects of Pritzker’s proposal, tax increases

By Dan Petrella, Olivia Olander, Jeremy Gorner and Olivia Stevens
Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD — The challenges of reaching consensus among the various factions of the big-tent Democratic supermajorities in the Illinois legislature were on full display as lawmakers continued working into Memorial Day weekend after blowing through Friday’s self-imposed deadline to pass a state budget.

Despite advantages over Republicans of 77-40 in the Illinois House and 40-19 in the state Senate, it took Democrats until late on the final scheduled day of the truncated election-year spring session to introduce the initial version of a more than \$50 billion spending plan.

On Saturday evening, a full day after Senate Democrats unveiled a 3,374-page proposal, there had yet to be a vote on the spending plan or related tax increases, and budget negotiators were still working through changes.

As it stood, the earliest lawmakers could send a budget to Gov. J.B. Pritzker’s desk would be Monday, all but eliminating any chance they’d be home in time to kick off campaign season by marching in holiday parades with their work behind them.

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INSIDE



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Sky poised for high-profile season

Fans of the WNBA team — now one of the hottest tickets in the city — temper newfound attention with heightened expectations ahead of the Sky’s 2024 home debut against the Sun. **Chicago Sports**

Israel insists it must control Rafah

Despite a court order, Israel says it will continue its operation, attempting not to anger the U.S. while trying to achieve strategic aims it considers too important to abandon. **Nation & World**

School board up for election in Nov.

Chicago’s first school board elections are in November. What to know on the possible outcomes for schools. **Chicagoland, Page 9**