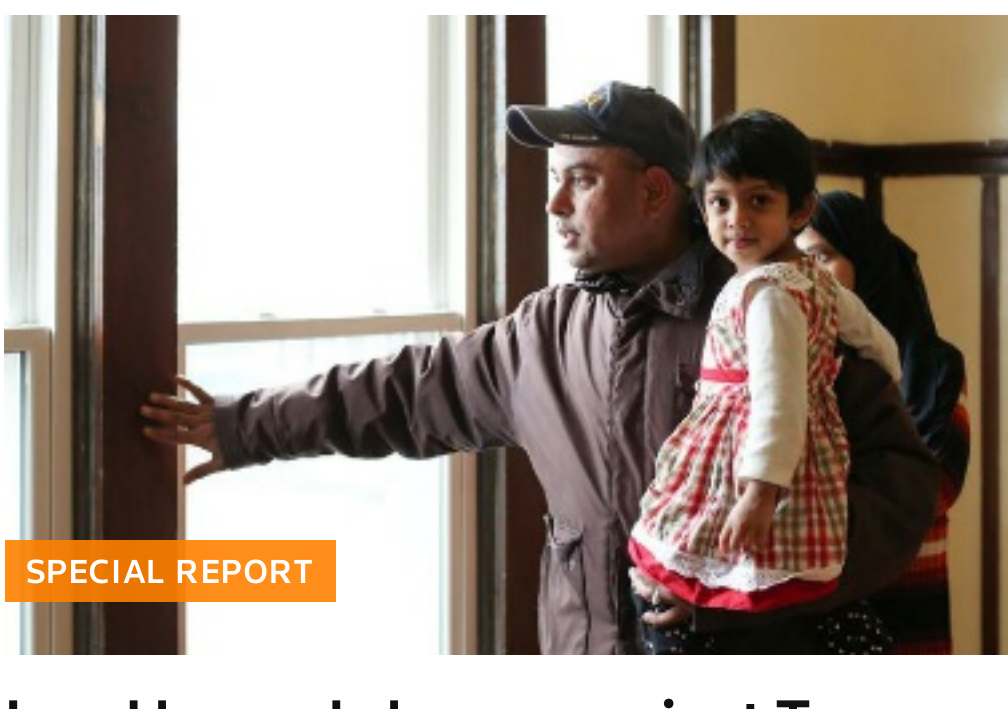


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Lead hazards bump against Trump funding cuts

A Reuters investigation found more than 3,300 U.S. areas with childhood lead poisoning rates double that found in Flint. But cities across the country say pending federal budget cuts could imperil efforts to eradicate the toxic metal.

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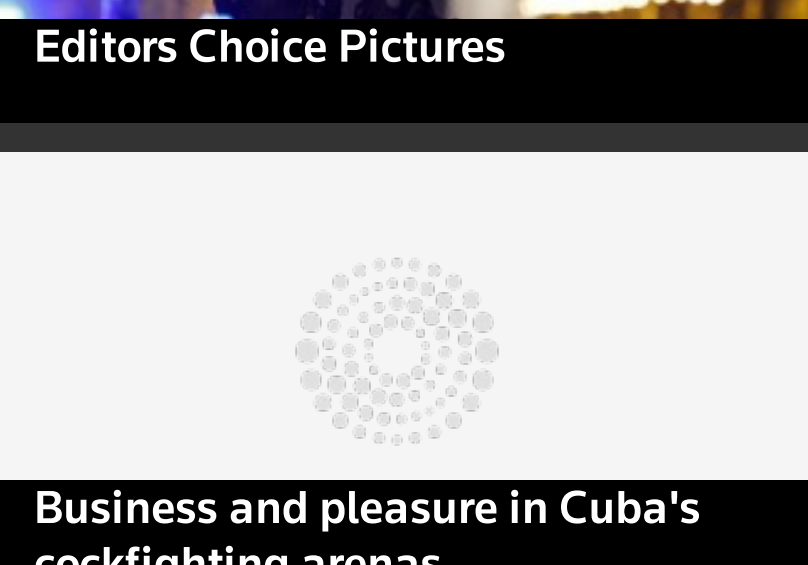
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- Arkansas executes inmate after U.S. Supreme Court gives go-ahead**
Arkansas executed its first inmate in 12 years on Thursday after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected the inmate's request to halt the lethal injection in a late-night ruling.
9:23AM EDT
- Death toll in Venezuelan protests reaches nine**
A man was killed in a protest in the Venezuelan capital on Thursday night, an official said on Friday, marking the ninth death in a wave of sometimes violent demonstrations against President Nicolas Maduro's government.
10:17AM EDT

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Trump budget cuts could increase lead hazards

The water crisis in Flint, Michigan focused national attention on the dangers of lead exposure, and over the past year Reuters has found more than 3,400 neighborhoods across the United States where childhood lead poisoning rates are at least twice as high as Flint's. Now President Trump is pushing for steep budget cuts that experts say could cause more children, not fewer, to suffer the lifelong effects of lead exposure.

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