

Chicago Tribune



★

\$4.00

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026

CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

CHICAGO MARATHON



Runners cross the LaSalle Street Bridge as spectators cheer Sunday during the Chicago Marathon. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS**

Spirit on the sidelines

Race spectators cheer for charity, culture and support for the running community



Todd Hill, of Arlington Heights, and his son Logan, 17, pause to greet members of the Angelman Syndrome Foundation supporting them along the Near West Side charity mile during their “duo run.”

By **Finnegan Belleau**
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

■ More coverage in Sports, **C2**

Inside the Bank of America Chicago Marathon’s Charity Block Party, Amanda Moore stood in a blue tent watching for two runners: Todd Hill and his 17-year-old son, Logan Hill. They were one of only six “duo teams” in the marathon, where one racer pushes another with a physical disability.

The pair from Arlington Heights were racing to raise money for research into Angelman syndrome, a rare genetic condition that can impair a person’s ability to walk, speak and sleep.

Moore, CEO of the Aurora-based Angelman Syndrome Foundation, was trying to pick

out the racers in the crowd when they passed by before noon, Todd pushing Logan in a stroller.

“These are parents who have a child with a rare disease, who are exhausted and they’re tired, but they have trained for months to run and push their amazing child with Angelman,” Moore said.

Between energy-boosting pickle shots and life-sized cutouts of the Pope, racers in this year’s Chicago Marathon had plenty of help from the sidelines. Many organizations set up stations along the course, some raising money for causes, others representing cultural communities in Chicago.

See **MARATHON** on Page A4

Immigration judges feel pressure from above

Amid firings, individual judges in Chicago see scrutiny by higher-ups on case management

By **Caroline Kubzansky**
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

By the time one of Chicago’s immigration judges was called in to the court supervisor’s office and asked about a case they had recently shelved, the city’s immigration court had replaced Operation Midway Blitz as the main thrust of the Trump administration’s push to reshape American immigration enforcement.

The judge was asked why they had determined to suspend the case through what’s known as an administrative closure and was reminded the administration and system leadership are opposed to such decisions.

It was just one of a number of developments that raised concerns about the integrity of the courts among former immigration judges, attorneys and government scholars, according to Tribune interviews. It’s also a quieter example of the federal government’s increasingly heavy hand in the operations of immigration courts in Chicago and beyond, they said.

The questioning took place between waves of firings and shortly after Chief Immigration Judge Theresa Riley started sending out weekly emails commending judges who completed more than 100 cases in a week.

Weeks later, assistant chief immigration judges, including Craig DeFoe in Chicago, were told in a July 15 email to ensure that their judges were not terminating or dismissing asylum cases for unaccompanied minors. Instead, system officials told local supervisors to make sure judges continued those cases under a particular classification.

Spokesperson Kathryn Mattingly said in an email that the Executive Office for Immigration Review,

See **JUDGES** on Page A8

Who knew about Amtrak’s Bridgeport plans, and when?

Railroad says plan to move maintenance there, opposed by residents, hasn’t been a secret

By **Talia Soglin and A.D. Quig**
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bridgeport Democrats trying to stave off Amtrak’s attempt to move maintenance operations into the neighborhood find themselves in a rare bind — fighting both longtime union allies who support the project’s promised trade jobs and the rail company they are convinced advanced its plans for years without their full knowledge.

Gov. JB Pritzker entered the fray Friday, saying via a spokesman Amtrak pulled a “bait and switch” on government officials and neighbors in its rollout. And the governor’s office suggested a state-owned easement in the Bridgeport property could complicate Amtrak’s

efforts to move ahead without state support.

A Wednesday City Council hearing with Amtrak exposed those tensions — with Bridgeporters booing union members and aldermen grilling company officials about their transparency around the evolving project.

Public records reviewed by the Tribune reveal some early awareness of Amtrak’s Bridgeport plans by local officials, though questions remain about how much they knew about its scope.

The standoff has unfolded in the 11th Ward — a longtime center of local Democratic strength, home of the White Sox and, historically, a neighborhood full of union workers.

See **AMTRAK** on Page A2



A Bears fan dressed like former player and coach Mike Ditka takes pictures with Packers fans in the fourth quarter of the Bears-Packers game on Sunday in Green Bay. **JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

On game day, Bears and Packers fans come together over Ditka

By **Rebecca Johnson**
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

■ Bears lose to Packers, **C1**

A parking lot full of Packers fans wearing cheesehead hats and Jordan Love jerseys isn’t the place where you’d usually find much respect for anyone associated with the Bears.

But, at Sunday’s game, Green Bay devotees made it a point to

commend one of Chicago’s most accomplished coaches and players. Mike Ditka, they told the Tribune, had a lot of passion and helped make the legendary rivalry great.

“When Ditka was there, running things, it was always intense, it was

always a fierce rivalry,” said Calleb Zyduck. “Hard nosed football.”

Ditka, perhaps best known for coaching the 1985 Bears to the franchise’s sole Super Bowl championship, died at age 86, his family announced Friday. Across the Chicago area and country, people from across all walks of life shared

See **DITKA** on Page A4

SUBSCRIPTION

Visit myaccount.chicagotribune.com or call 312-546-7900 to sign up for a subscription. To place an ad, visit placeanad.chicagotribune.com.

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY H: 85 L: 70
TUE. H: 82 L: 63
WED. H: 67 L: 57
Complete details on Page A10

INDEX

Almanac A8
Arts & Living B5
Comics B8-9
Crossword B9
Editorials A5
Horoscope B8
Nation & World B1
Obituaries A8
Television B7

179th year No. 285
© Chicago Tribune

