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SPORTS, 1B

The Voice

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President Donald Trump speaks while visiting federal troops at the US Park Police Anacostia operations facility in Washington, DC, on August 21. MANDEL NGAN/AFP

‘Residents deserve safety’

Pritzker rails against Trump plan to send troops to Chicago

Steven Spearie
Springfield State Journal- Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

President Donald Trump’s plan to deploy federal law enforcement to perform civilian duties in the city of Chicago has been met with severe blowback.

Trump called Chicago “a mess” with a “grossly incompetent” mayor in Brandon Johnson.

On Aug. 11, Trump deployed 800

National Guard troops to Washington D.C., declaring a public safety emergency there. There are now over 2,000 troops there.

In California, Gov. Gavin Newsom sued the Trump administration over the White House’s deployment of thousands of National Guard members to Los Angeles.

While Trump made his comments at the White House on Aug. 22, the Washington Post reported over the weekend that a plan to mobilize troops has been in the works for “weeks.”

Gov. JB Pritzker cautioned that Trump was attempting to “manufacture a crisis.”

The Illinois governor has gone toe-to-toe with Trump recently over legis-

lative redistricting in Texas. Dozens of Texas Democratic lawmakers fled to Illinois Texas to thwart a GOP effort to redraw maps.

“The safety of the people of Illinois is always my top priority,” Pritzker said in a news release Saturday. “There is no emergency that warrants the President of the United States federalizing the Illinois National Guard, deploying the National Guard from other states or sending active activity duty military within our own borders.”

Chicagoans, Trump claimed, were “screaming for us to come.” He said New York City might be next on the list.

See CHICAGO, Page 2A

These stores will be open for Labor Day

Hannah Hudnall and John Tufts
USA TODAY NETWORK

Labor Day is almost here, which means many Americans will soon get a three-day holiday off work.

But will you be able to run errands? And will mail be delivered?

Here’s what you need to know.

When is Labor Day 2025?

Monday, Sept. 1, 2025, is Labor Day. The holiday is held annually on the first Monday in September.

Is Labor Day a federal holiday?

Yes, Labor Day is a federal holiday.

What’s the origin of Labor Day?

You can thank organized labor groups for getting Labor Day on the national calendar, just like you can thank them for enshrining an eight-hour workday as opposed to toiling 12 hours a day for pennies on the dollar.

“Labor activists pushed for a federal holiday to recognize the many contributions workers have made to America’s strength, prosperity, and well-being,” according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

Oregon gets credit for recognizing Labor Day first in 1887. Twenty-three states soon followed and in 1894, then-President Grover Cleveland signed a law making the first Monday in September Labor Day.

Are government offices closed on Labor Day?

Yes, since Labor Day is a federal holiday, state, local and federal offices will be closed.

Schools, courthouses, banks, Illinois Secretary of State facilities and

See LABOR DAY, Page 2A

\$11.3M in state funds headed to Western IL schools

Abreanna Blose
AI-assisted reporter

Schools across Western Illinois are set to receive an additional \$11.3 million in state funding, according to a community announcement.

The funds come from the state’s evidence-based funding model, which was passed in 2017. This model aims to create a more equitable distribution of state revenue by considering factors such as poverty rate, enrollment, special education and English language

learners.

“Evidence-based funding is one of the true bright spots we have accomplished here in Illinois,” State Sen. Mike Halpin said in the announcement. “Our schools are the key to a healthy community and a bright future. We are

making sure our state dollars are put to work aiding the schools that need it most.”

The funding is expected to benefit a wide range of school districts. The

See FUNDS, Page 2A

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