

# Chicago Tribune



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## 1 cop killed, 1 hurt in shooting

Police: Officers shot by man they brought to Swedish Hospital; suspect in custody

By Madeline King, Olivia Olander, Caroline Kubzansky and Rebecca Johnson  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

One Chicago police officer was killed and another critically injured after they were shot at Endeavor Health Swedish Hospital Saturday morning by a man they brought in for treatment at the emergency

room, according to police and hospital officials. The suspect was taken into custody.

Chicago Police Superintendent Larry Snelling said in a department-wide message to police, obtained by the Tribune, that an officer assigned to the Albany Park (17th) District was shot and killed while transporting the suspect inside the Lincoln Square hospital.

Another officer was also shot and remains in critical condition Saturday afternoon, he wrote.

Snelling called the shooting “a devastating loss for our department and our city” and called on the department to support the fallen officer’s family.

“This officer gave his life to protect his fellow Chicagoans, and we will never let our city forget his sacrifice,” he wrote.

While officials haven’t yet named

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A police officer salutes as an ambulance transports the body of a police officer to the medical examiner’s office on Saturday in Chicago. The officer was killed in a shooting at Swedish Hospital. JOHN J. KIM/TRIBUNE



## Icon of America

Photos by E. Jason Wambsgans  
Text by Jonathan Bullington  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

It was created to connect us, a 2,448-mile gateway to vast lands that previously existed only in the collective imagination. Each mile promised freedom and escape, opportunity and adventure.

Route 66, “The Main Street of America.”

There is perhaps no better-known highway anywhere in the world. In its 100-year history, it has offered safe passage to Dust Bowl refugees, World War II transports and vacationing families. John Steinbeck called it “the mother road, the road of flight.” Nat King Cole crooned about its kicks in a 1946 hit song. Disney and Pixar took inspiration from it for a 2006 blockbuster.

Despite being decommissioned in 1985 in favor of a faster and wider interstate highway system, Route 66 continues to capture our imaginations in the remnants of its past glory that remain today.

As the iconic road celebrates its centennial on April 30 with events planned throughout the year, the Chicago Tribune set out across Route 66



to find the stories it holds, introducing readers to the people and places it was designed to connect: the colorful characters and roadside oddities, the business owners trying to revitalize their pieces of history and the ever-changing vistas that continue to define this famed highway. Photo essay on Pages A13-A18

**Above:** Becca Wallace and her children Briar, 7 months, Bowen, 3, and Baron, 4, wait for the movie to start at the Tascosa Drive-In in Amarillo, Texas, on June 13.

**Top:** Route 66 just west of Oatman, Arizona, on Oct. 15.

## Trump safe after reports of gunfire

President rushed off stage at DC dinner; suspect in custody

By Luke Broadwater and Michael M. Grynbaum  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump was rushed out of the White House correspondents’ dinner Saturday night after reports of gunfire.

A suspect was stopped at a security perimeter and taken into custody, according to people familiar with the investigation.

According to the White House press pool, a group of reporters who travel with the president, a member of the Secret Service shouted, “Shots fired.”

Agents with guns drawn sprinted through the aisles to reach the president, who later wrote on social media, “LET THE SHOW GO ON.”

Guests were about five minutes into the dinner hour when a commotion could be heard toward the back of the ballroom. Security officials then sprinted through the aisles toward the stage where the president was seated.

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## Poll: Many hold dim view of Johnson

Mayor may face uphill reelection climb as 44% view him unfavorably

By Rick Pearson  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

With less than a year until Chicago’s next mayoral election and amid a growing field of prospective candidates, more city residents hold a dim view of incumbent Brandon Johnson than a positive one about his often-chaotic first term at City Hall, a new poll shows.

The Suffolk University/Chicago Tribune poll of 500 adult residents, conducted April 11-15, found 44% viewed the mayor unfavorably, while just 34% viewed him favorably. The remainder were undecided or said they had never heard of him. The poll, conducted by David Paleologos, director of Suffolk University’s Political Research Center, carries an overall margin of error of 4.4 percentage points.

The numbers spell an uphill road to reelection for Johnson, the former teachers union organizer and Cook County commissioner who rode the progressive

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## Property tax mess still bedevils Cook County

Months after late bills, thousands still waiting with no resolution in sight

By A.D. Quig and Alex Nitkin  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

This story is a collaboration between the Illinois Answers Project and the Chicago Tribune.

Property tax bills arrived months late for hundreds of thousands of Cook County home-

owners last year, causing headaches and confusion for property owners and the local governments they fund.

Five months later, thousands are still waiting for bills and tens of thousands are waiting for refunds, the latest development in the technology upgrade debacle that has roiled the county’s tax system for

more than four years with no clear end in sight.

“I don’t know what happened — I just never got the bill,” said Melvin Brooks, a 72-year-old retired pastor.

Brooks said he called the Cook County treasurer’s office to ask why he never learned what he owes on his home in west subur-

ban Bellwood.

He worries he’ll get a double bill all at once, a whopping unplanned cost for the home where his children and grandchildren now live, he said.

“I tried online, but I can’t get through,” Brooks said. “There’s some kind of glitch or something.”

The “glitch” is actually dozens

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178th year No. 116  
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# World Cup's impact will still be felt in Europe



**Rick Steves**

The 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup will soon kick off here in North America. But if you're traveling in Europe while it's taking place, you'll certainly feel its impact as well.

For most of the globe, the World Cup is as big as it gets — and Europe is no different. This is when soccer takes over daily life. Player news becomes national news, entire communities grind to a halt to watch games, and shops post unusual hours that suspiciously align with the match schedule. It's when natives brush up on their national anthem, bars take on extra staff (and extra beer), and everyone comes together with one goal: to go nuts cheering for their country.

Sixteen European countries have qualified for the World Cup, and if you're visiting any of them during the tournament (June 11-July 19), it will likely impact your travels. But rather than seeing soccer mania as an obstacle, consider how it can enhance your trip, especially if the national team is playing. Even if you're not a fan, become one for the day. This is a rare and special type of cultural immersion, beyond the everyday museums and attractions.

And it's so easy to jump in. You don't need to know the players, the coaches, or even the rules to enjoy the experience. Buy a jersey — or a flag, or a scarf, or a colorful wig — at any souvenir shop, then just wander the streets at match time. You'll find pubs packed with people squinting at a grainy television; stumble upon large screens erected at parks and piazzas for public watch parties; and hear a chorus of emotions erupting from open apartment windows.



Much of soccer's popularity is rooted in accessibility as the sport doesn't require special equipment or training, just a ball. **DOMINIC ARIZONA BONUCCELLI**

Watching along with the locals, you'll make new friends, pick up the team chant, and begin to recognize the vice grip this sport has on all of Europe.

The "Beautiful Game" was born in Europe: Modern soccer traces its roots back to 1860s England. (If you're in England during a match, you might hear the phrase "It's coming home" — a reference to England being the birthplace of the sport.)

But Europe's love for soccer — football — is more than pride in its invention; it's also rooted in the sport's accessibility. You don't need special equipment or training to play. You just need a ball and ... that's about it. A pitch can be grass or pave-

ment, a team can be three or thirty, and goals can be a pair of shoes or tape on a wall. Regardless of socioeconomic status, virtually everyone in Europe grows up playing football — and watching it.

This accessibility continues through the makeup of Europe's leagues, which operate via a system of promotion and relegation. This concept is foreign to Americans, but easy to grasp: the handful of teams ("clubs") that finish atop their league are "promoted" to the higher league, and the handful that finish at the bottom are "relegated" to the lower one. (Imagine your minor league baseball team winning their pennant and moving up to

the Majors.)

These systems can run deep. England, for example, has nine tiers of football, ranging from professional to amateur. Germany has about a dozen. The top leagues are where the biggest clubs play — think Manchester United and Bayern Munich — with rosters of global superstars who are paid unfathomable wages. At the end of the season, the cream of the crop play in a pan-European tournament called the Champions League.

Meanwhile, the clubs in the lowest tiers are essentially pub teams: bartenders, electricians and truck drivers who moonlight as footballers. But no matter how small your team is, glory is

always accessible. Win your league, and you go up!

While most European football revolves around club teams, every two years those alliances are temporarily abandoned for an international tournament: the World Cup (this year) or the Euros (next up in 2028). Suddenly, Barcelona fans cheer on players from their mega-rival, Madrid, because for this tournament, they're all Spanish.

If you're not traveling this summer, you can still get a taste of Europe's love for soccer right here at home. Head to your local pub, and you'll probably hear some different accents screaming at the TV — especially if you're in a city where matches are taking place.

But if you happen to be in Europe during the World Cup, become a temporary fan. While perennial powerhouses like Germany and France have higher expectations than happy-to-be-here Scotland and Austria, in the end this tournament is a giant, collective celebration of football. And if you find yourself in a participating country when the national team takes the field, join in the celebration. Everyone else certainly will.

*Rick Steves (www.ricksteves.com) writes European travel guidebooks and hosts travel shows on public television and public radio. Email him at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.*

## CELEBRITY TRAVEL

### Greece's Hydra in McEnroe's top spots

By Jae-Ha Kim  
TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY

Former U.S. Davis Cup team captain Patrick McEnroe is now the executive director of the John McEnroe Tennis Academy and a tennis analyst. He also hosts the SiriusXM podcast "Holding Court with Patrick McEnroe."

The former professional athlete said he'll always be grateful to tennis for all the opportunities it provided, including touring the world.

"(Travel) is one of the great perks of working in tennis," he said. "You build relationships all over the world and get to experience different cultures in a really meaningful way. The global tennis community is pretty special in that sense. I've made lifelong friends in all different parts of the world, and it's been fascinating to see how places evolve over time. I like to keep it simple — walking, hiking, exploring and finding great local food."

McEnroe resides in Bronxville, New York, with his Tony nominated wife, Melissa Errico, and their three daughters.

This interview with McEnroe has been edited for clarity and length.

**Q: Do people challenge you to tennis matches when you're out in the wild?**

**A:** It happens once in a while. When I was younger and living in New York, especially playing in Central Park, I'd get challenged all the time by local players. These days, it's less common, but every now and then someone will joke about it. I usually tell them it might not be the smartest idea.



Tennis analyst Patrick McEnroe hopes to take his family to Ireland this summer. **PATRICK MCENROE**

**Q: What is your favorite vacation destination?**

**A:** My wife and I love Hydra in the Greek islands. It's beautiful, relaxed and has a really unique charm that makes it easy to disconnect. I also love Italy for the culture, history and, of course, the food. Paris is another favorite city of mine. There's just something about it that never gets old. And even though I go to Melbourne every year for the Australian Open, it's become one of my favorite places as well. The restaurant scene is fantastic and it's such a vibrant, green city that I always enjoy spending time there, even when it's for work.

**Q: What was a trip you took as a child that stands out?**

**A:** Going to Ireland. Both sides of my family have roots there, so it was a meaningful place to visit. What I remember most is falling off a horse while horseback riding. I was probably around 10 or 12, and it scared me enough that I never really got back on a horse after that. I haven't been back since I was a teenager, but it's definitely on my list. I'd love to return with my wife and my kids and experience it again from a completely different perspective.

**Q: What's the most important thing you've learned from your travels?**

**A:** The biggest thing I've learned from traveling is the importance of being open to different cultures, perspectives and ways of life. You realize pretty

quickly that there's no one right way to do things. I was fortunate to start traveling at a young age through tennis, taking buses and trains around Europe on my own when I was 14 or 15, and that really shaped how I see the world. It forces you to listen more, observe more and respect the people and places you're experiencing.

**Q: Where are your favorite weekend getaways?**

**A:** For a quick getaway, I like places that are easy to get to but feel like a real change of pace. The Caribbean, especially the Bahamas, is great for that. I also love getting up to Upstate New York. The mountains — and the hiking — are a completely different environment.

**Q: Do you have any summer vacation trips planned?**

**A:** We're trying to plan a trip to Ireland, which is at the top of the list right now. It's somewhere I haven't been back to in a long time, and I'd really like to return. If that doesn't come together, we've talked about going back to Greece. We've done the islands a few times and always love it there.

**Q: Where would you like to go that you have never been to before?**

**A:** I'd really like to go to Buenos Aires. I've spent a lot of time in South America, but somehow I've never made it there.

For more from the reporter, visit [www.jaehakim.com](http://www.jaehakim.com).

## TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER

### Customer charged for fraudulent Airbnb property in Beverly Hills

By Christopher Elliott | KING FEATURES SYNDICATE

I booked an apartment through Airbnb in Beverly Hills, California, making an initial payment of \$1,236.

There was just one problem: The address listed for the property didn't exist. Soon after, without my consent, Airbnb charged my card another \$7,080.

Airbnb then canceled my reservation and closed my account, even though I never requested either action.

When I called Airbnb, it told me that it couldn't verify my account. Every time I spoke with a representative, I was given a new case number and was told that the issue would be resolved in a few business days. Instead, the cases were closed without resolution.

I disputed the charges with Barclays, my credit card company. It reversed the \$7,080 charge but refused to return the \$1,236, saying that I had voluntarily provided my card number to Airbnb, so it wasn't fraud. I'd prefer not to take this to court.

Can you help me get my \$1,236 back?

— William Marell, West Palm Beach, Florida

**A:** This one is a tangle of Airbnb's weakest points: fake listings, arbitrary account closures, and a customer service system that can leave guests stranded.

Let's start with the listing. Airbnb requires hosts to provide accurate information and handles payments through its platform, acting as the host's limited collection agent. In theory, once you've paid, your only responsibility is to show up. When a host misrepresents or cancels, Airbnb is supposed to step in with an immediate refund.

In your case, the property never existed. This alone should have triggered a full refund. But there was a second failure — Airbnb added what appeared to be a rental that didn't exist. For reasons that aren't entirely clear, Airbnb then flagged your account.

You fell into a trap many travelers know too well. Airbnb assigns case

numbers, then closes them automatically after a set time. If your account is later deactivated, Airbnb's customer service often refuses to discuss the case because the account is closed.

You did the right thing by documenting everything and filing a credit card dispute. The problem is that Barclays saw your \$1,236 as a voluntary transaction, which it technically was, even though you never got what you paid for. This is a tough but not unusual response from a bank. Barclays could have done a better job of investigating your initial complaint.

A brief, polite email to one of the Airbnb executive contacts whom I list on my consumer advocacy site [elliott.org](http://elliott.org) might have helped move things along. Behind the scenes, Airbnb was willing to refund you if you withdrew your chargeback. (This is a common practice. Companies don't like issuing refunds while a dispute is pending.) But

it looks like you never received this message, and with your account shut down, there was no way for you to follow up with Airbnb.

The lesson for other travelers? Check vacation rental listings carefully before booking. Verify the address independently, and if something feels off, walk away. Keep detailed records of your communication, and don't give up if the company tries to arbitrarily close your case. Persistence, backed up by documentation, is often what gets a result.

After I contacted Airbnb, it reinstated your account and processed the refund. You've now confirmed that the \$1,236 has been returned.

*Christopher Elliott is the chief advocacy officer of Elliott Advocacy, a nonprofit organization that helps consumers resolve their problems. Contact him at [elliott.org/help](http://elliott.org/help) or [chris@elliott.org](mailto:chris@elliott.org).*