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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

## Netanyahu dismisses US warnings

Israeli prime minister says Biden's threatened arms embargo won't stop invasion into Rafah

By Joseph Krauss and Josef Federman  
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Thursday that a U.S. threat to withhold some arms would not prevent

Israel from continuing its offensive in Gaza, indicating it might proceed with an invasion of the packed city of Rafah against the wishes of its closest ally.

President Joe Biden has urged Israel not to go ahead with such an operation over fears that it

would exacerbate the humanitarian catastrophe in the Palestinian enclave. On Wednesday, he said the United States would not provide offensive weapons for a Rafah offensive, raising pressure on Netanyahu.

But in a statement released Thursday, Netanyahu said "if we have to stand alone, we will stand alone. If we need to, we will fight with our fingernails. But we have

much more than fingernails."

Israel's top military spokesman, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, also appeared to downplay the practical impact of any arms holdup. "The army has munitions for the missions it plans, and for the missions in Rafah, too — we have what we need," he said in response to a question at a news conference.

The United States also warned on Thursday that Israel will be

dealing a strategic victory to Hamas if it carries out plans for an all-out assault on Rafah.

The U.S. believes such a move would result in significant civilian casualties and exacerbate an already dire humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

The U.S. is making its sharpest moves yet to influence the deci-

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## New test may help spot lung cancer

OSF blood screening part of trend toward noninvasive scans

By Lisa Schencker  
Chicago Tribune

Julie Harris had never been tested for lung cancer. A low-dose CT scan, the only recommended screening for adults at risk of developing lung cancer, was not something she'd ever found time to do.

But when her primary care doctor recently suggested a new blood test to help look for signs of the disease, Harris was intrigued. She had her blood drawn the same day, in the same building as her doctor's appointment.

"It was something that was accessible at the moment, so it was like, 'Sure, let's go ahead and do that and see how the results are,'" said Harris, 67, of Pekin. Harris, who is a longtime smoker, said if the results are positive, she'll get a low-dose CT scan next to screen for the disease.

"Science just keeps moving forward," she said.

Harris is among the first group of patients in Illinois to get the blood test as part of a pilot program at health system OSF HealthCare, which is offering the test at 18 locations. OSF leaders hope the blood test will improve early detection of lung cancer, which kills more people in the U.S. than any other single type of cancer.

OSF's adoption of the blood test is part of a growing movement in medicine to use less invasive screenings to look for signs of cancer in patients, especially patients who may be reluctant to undergo more traditional, involved tests. A number of blood tests to help detect various types of cancer are now in development, according to the University

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Migrant who came from Venezuela in search of a better future for her family now mourns the death of her child, one of the many unaccounted for in Chicago



## 'WITHOUT MONEY, YOU'RE NOBODY'

By Nell Salzman  
Chicago Tribune

Karis Calderon, 25, walked across seven countries to make it to Chicago for a stable job. Four weeks later, she couldn't even afford to pay for the funeral services of her youngest child.

The Venezuelan mother lost her 3-year-old — Luciana Valentina Suarez Calderon — at the end of April to a bacterial infection in Chicago. But without the \$2,750 needed for a funeral, Calderon had to wait in mourning while her daughter's body sat at the morgue for days. "I wanted people to be able to visit her body to say goodbye. If I had the money, I would have taken her out immediately," Calderon said. "Uno sin plata no es nadie. Without money, you're nobody."

Those who helped the mother in the days follow-

Karis Calderon, 25, from Venezuela sits on a curb near her home in Chicago on April 30. Her daughter, Luciana Valentina Suarez Calderon, 3, who made the journey with her mother, died from a bacterial infection last month.

ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

ing Luciana's death on April 25 at Stroger Hospital say it is difficult to say how the city could have prevented it from happening. Chicago has received 41,000 migrants, mostly fleeing desperate poverty and violence in Venezuela, in the past 20 months since Texas Gov. Greg Abbott began busing them here. But the number represents just those migrants whom city officials have tracked. Some, like Calderon and her daughter, arrive through channels that aren't included in Chicago's daily census totals. While they don't have to rely on the city's existing shelter system for housing, they often have high needs and can miss out on social services — such as vaccines — as a result.

Last year alone, almost 100 million passengers passed through Chicago's airports, and a spokesperson for the city said that officials do not screen

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## A pick of the litter to protect the Chicago River



Wendella engineer Miguel Chavez works with the Trash Trap on Wednesday in the Chicago River near Michigan Avenue. The floating trash-collection trap is the first technology of its kind used in the Chicago River to remove litter and learn where it's coming from. ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Floating trash trap helps collectors identify plastic 'nurdles' threatening wildlife, water

By Adriana Pérez  
Chicago Tribune

Wendella engineer Miguel Chavez climbed down a ladder and over a small dock Wednesday to pull up a trap floating in the Chicago River near the Michigan Avenue Bridge. The size of a standard garbage can, the trap is designed to collect trash and can hold up to 44 pounds.

Chavez tapped the bin three times to release the contents into a trash bag. At first glance, it looked like a brownish, wet pile of leaves and twigs.

"Once you start sifting through it, it's a lot easier to see

the trash," he said.

While large trash is not as big of a threat, plastic debris from food and product packaging and the smaller bits from when it breaks down has emerged as a persistent problem that affects wildlife, water quality and public health.

"It's no longer the dumping ground it was — it's more of this incidental, wind-blown picnic, restaurant, parking lot pollution," said Margaret Frisbie, executive director of the nonprofit Friends of the Chicago River. "What we used to find was shopping carts and

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## INSIDE New child services agency on the way?

The Illinois House on Thursday passed Gov. J.B. Pritzker's initiative to consolidate early childhood services under a single agency, paving the way for the creation of a new state Department of Early Childhood. The bill is part of Pritzker's effort to enhance early childhood services in Illinois. The governor has also pushed for greater preschool funding in order to make the state "the best place to raise young children." **Chicagoland, Page 3**

**A SPLENDID PITCH:** How a rare lefty splitter has helped fuel Shota Imanaga's historic start for the Cubs. **Chicago Sports**

