

Chicago Tribune



\$4.00 | FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026 | CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Fire that killed four investigated as arson

2 adults and 2 kids died in West Englewood blaze, 2 others injured

By Allison Kiehl and Tess Kenny
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A wrong turn on the way to his friend's house led Cadarius Wilson to be in the right place at the right time Wednesday to help save two teenage boys in a fatal house fire in West Englewood that authorities say they are investigating as arson.

The 16-year-old and 14-year-old survived the flames by jumping out a window from the engulfed home and into Wilson's arms.

"I told them I am not going anywhere. Y'all can jump," said Wilson, 24. "I am right here to catch y'all. I am not going to leave."

The teens were listed in stable condition at Comer Children's Hospital on Wednesday, authorities said, and Chicago police had no updates on their conditions Thursday. But the overnight fire on the 6200 block of South Paulina Street claimed the lives of Reginald Lee Wilson, 57, Lisa Brown, 57, and Royalty Rattler, 8, whose deaths were ruled a homicide by the Cook County medical examiner's office Thursday.

The death of a 15-year-old boy, who wasn't publicly identified, was also ruled a homicide.

All four died from thermal injuries and carbon monoxide toxicity due to a residential fire, per the medical examiner's office. The adults died from severe burns after being in critical condition for hours.

Wilson told the Tribune he

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GOP delays Iran war vote in the House

Patience is wearing thin as signs of a Republican shift start to emerge

By Stephen Groves
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Republicans struggled Thursday to find the votes to dismiss legislation that would compel President Donald Trump to withdraw from the war with Iran, delaying planned votes on the matter into June.

The House had scheduled a vote on a war powers resolution, brought by Democrats, that would rein in Trump's military campaign. But as it became clear that Republicans would not have the numbers to defeat the bill, GOP leaders declined to hold a vote on it.

Republicans are also working to ensure they have the votes to dismiss another war powers resolution in the Senate that advanced to a final vote earlier this week, when four GOP senators supported the resolution and three others were absent from the vote.

Prior votes on similar resolutions have failed, but Democrats hoped that Thursday could be a turning point.

Though the votes have mostly unfolded along party lines, there have been notable defections on both sides.

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"Broadview Six" defendants Kat Abughazaleh, from left, Michael Rabbitt, Andre Martin and Brian Straw embrace outside the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse after federal prosecutors dismissed all remaining counts on Thursday. JOSH BOLAND/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

'Broadview Six' case unravels completely

US attorney dismisses all remaining counts as grand jury improprieties revealed

By Jason Meisner
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The unraveling of the politically charged "Broadview Six" case against Operation Midway Blitz protesters began earlier this week when a federal judge agreed to look at unredacted grand jury transcripts to "see if there is anything suspicious" about portions that had been mysteriously removed by the U.S. attorney's office.

What U.S. District Judge April Perry found was beyond suspicious, according to a transcript of a

closed-door hearing released late Thursday. It was shocking.

Before two separate grand juries last year, a federal prosecutor repeatedly stepped over the line, including "vouching" about the strength of the evidence, telling panel members who disagreed with the prosecution's theory of the case that they could just leave, and having "ex parte" communications with a grand juror outside the proceedings, according to a series of bombshell revelations in court Thursday.

The first grand jury refused to return an indictment, leading to

a second panel being convened, the transcript showed. That time, several grand jurors "made comments" and walked out of the proceedings. The testimony of the agent ended abruptly, and they had to start anew the next day to get the indictment.

"Although I am not going to prejudge the issue without a hearing, I will say that I was incredibly shocked by the redactions that were made," Perry told the assembled parties, according to the transcript. "I have read hundreds, if not thousands, of grand jury transcripts involving prosecutors

who are the most junior of prosecutors to several U.S. Attorneys who appeared before the grand jury. I have never seen the types of prosecutorial behavior before a grand jury that I saw in those transcripts."

Perry also said there was a "potential" for "sanctions for prosecutorial misconduct and for potential ethical violations, including lack of candor to the court," the transcript showed.

The stunning developments led U.S. Attorney Andrew Boutros to

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Birding groups tracking deadly window collisions



It's peak time for migratory birds flying through Chicago

By Christiana Freitag
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

As dawn broke over the Loop, Annette Prince patrolled the streets armed with a lime green net, racing to collect fourcolorful birds lying dead under glass skyscrapers before seagulls could snatch them up.

It's like an Easter egg hunt, she said — just not the fun kind.

Every morning during the spring migration season of March to June, Prince, director of the Chicago Bird Collision Monitors, leads hundreds of volunteers who scour downtown Chicago searching for migratory birds that have collided with windows.

Their busiest period is right now: Mid-May is the peak time for migratory birds to fly north

J'orge Garcia, founder and executive director of Windy City Bird Lab, center, and a crowd of birders watch for migrating birds passing through the "Magic Hedge" at the Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary on May 13. E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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