

Chicago Tribune



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Suspect waited 12 hours for Trump

As in July, the top question centers on amount of security

By **Stephany Matat, Eric Tucker, Terry Spencer, Alanna Durkin Richer and Colleen Long**
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — The man suspected in an apparent assassination attempt targeting Donald Trump camped outside a golf course with food and a rifle for nearly 12 hours, lying in wait for the former president before a Secret Service agent thwarted the potential attack and opened fire, according to court documents filed Monday.

Ryan Wesley Routh, 58, faces charges of possessing a firearm despite a felony conviction and possessing a firearm with an obliterated serial number. The Justice Department did not allege that he fired any shots. He did not fire any shots and never had Trump in his line of sight, the Secret Service's acting chief Ronald Rowe Jr. said. Rowe also defended agents. "They are rising to this moment, and they are meeting the challenges right now," Rowe said.

Routh appeared briefly in federal court in West Palm Beach, kickstarting a criminal case in the final weeks of a presidential race already touched by violence and upheaval.

No one was injured, but the episode marked the second attempt on Trump's life in as many months, raising fresh questions about the security afforded to him during a time of amped-up political rhetoric. It prompted Republican allies and even some Democrats to demand to know how a would-be shooter could get so close.

Routh was arrested Sunday afternoon after authorities spotted a firearm poking out of shrubbery on the West Palm Beach golf course where Trump was playing. He was spotted by a Secret Service agent assigned to Trump's security detail who opened fire. Routh sped away and was captured by law enforcement in a neighboring county, the authorities said.

Body camera footage posted Monday on Facebook by the Martin County sheriff's office showed Routh's arrest.

Underscoring the level of planning involved, Routh is believed to have been positioned at the tree

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Getting sights, sites on some soar subjects

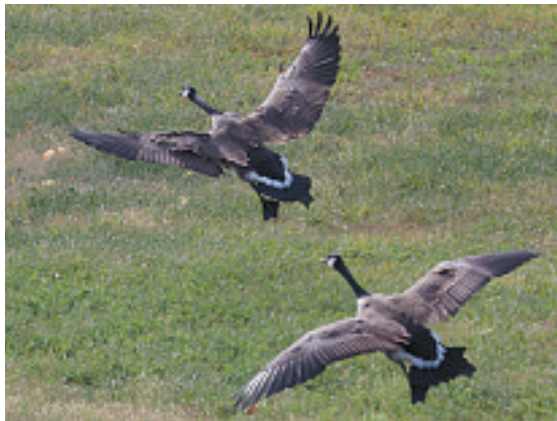
For Chicago's first urban festival, birders flock to some unlikely city spots to gain unimpeded viewing

By **Adriana Pérez** | Chicago Tribune

Legs trembling ever so slightly, it took less than 3 minutes for 66-year-old Beth Genet to reach the top of a 30-foot rock climbing wall built on one of many historic concrete walls at Steelworkers Park in South Chicago. The ascent held the promise of an unimpeded view of hawks and other raptors flying along Lake Michigan's south shore.

More than a dozen birders like Genet perched on the platform, binoculars in hand as they scanned the panoramic view, from the glittering water in the east to the hazy city skyline to the north. Graffitied ore walls from the former industrial site stand out among trees and prairie grass, showcasing how urbanization and nature have combined to make birdwatching in Chicago special and even unexpected.

The city's first-ever Urban Birding Festival last weekend brought together a vibrant community of over 450 birders from



Chicago and beyond to hear from expert speakers and explore prime locations during more than 100 guided field trips. At Steelworkers Park, more than 130 avian species were recorded over the three days. The events also highlighted the challenges of modifying existing buildings and constructing bird-friendly infrastructures in the middle of the country's largest avian migratory route, the Mississippi Flyway.

Festival leaders and bird lovers hope that promoting birding opportunities in the city will lead more

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Top: Sarah Anderson looks for hawks during the Urban Birding Festival at Steelworkers Park on Friday. **Above right:** Canada geese fly Friday at Steelworkers Park in Chicago. **ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS**

INSIDE

Johnson dismisses criticism after staff changes, backlash

Mayor Brandon Johnson defended a former organizer whose appointment to a key post at City Hall created controversy. **Chicagoland, Page 3**

Hearing in DC to address Plainfield boy's killing

Faith leaders, activists and victims' families head to a congressional hearing to address hate crimes like the one that killed Wadee Alfayoumi. **Page 4**

The Academy gets nostalgic, and other Emmy takeaways

As Hollywood weathers instability, it was no surprise the Emmy Awards chose to look backward to get audiences excited about TV again. **Arts & Living**

Jury reviews emails from Madigan's son

Both sides rest in bribery trial of former AT&T boss

By **Jason Meisner and Ray Long**
Chicago Tribune

When AT&T Illinois boss Paul La Schiazza received an email from the son of Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan asking for a charitable contribution in 2017, he forwarded it immediately to a member of his government relations team with a note that reads almost like a weary sigh.

"Here we go ... this will be endless," La Schiazza wrote about the request from Andrew Madigan. The assistant, Bob Barry, responded, "I suspect the 'thank you' opportunities will be plentiful."

"Yep ... we are on the friends and family plan now," La Schiazza replied.

Those words were displayed for jurors at La Schiazza's bribery trial Monday, where prosecutors allege they show his state



Paul La Schiazza, left, leaves the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse in Chicago on Monday. **ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

of mind in the weeks after Madigan helped shepherd AT&T's bill ending mandated landline service — known by the acronym COLR — through the General Assembly.

In his donation request, Andrew Madigan made clear that "our good friend Mike McClain" had suggested he reach out to

AT&T. McClain, according to prosecutors, was at the center of a scheme to have AT&T funnel payments to former state Rep. Eddie Acevedo, a Madigan ally, to help win the speaker's support.

In the email exchange shown to jurors, Barry told La Schiazza "We are" on the friends and

family plan with Madigan, "and there is a sensitivity in that office about us going away now that we got COLR."

"That is something to keep in mind in rest (of) 17 and in 18 regarding budget and profile with the Speakers office," Barry wrote.

La Schiazza responded by noting they still had other pending legislation that would require the speaker's assistance.

"I will emphasize that to leadership. ... Especially if we expect to pass a small cell bill," La Schiazza wrote.

AT&T wound up donating \$2,500 to Andrew Madigan's charity, according to evidence presented in court Monday.

Andrew Madigan is not accused of wrongdoing.

Shortly after presenting the emails, prosecutors rested their case after calling a total of 14 witnesses over four days of testimony. After a short sidebar with the judge, the defense also rested its case without putting on evidence. La Schiazza declined

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