

Chicago Tribune



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SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2024

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

RFK Jr. suspends bid, backs Trump

Independent says remaining in race would help Harris

By Jonathan J. Cooper, Ali Swenson and Gabriel Sandoval
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Robert F. Kennedy Jr. suspended his independent campaign for president Friday



Kennedy

INSIDE

The Illinois Board of Elections ruled Kennedy could remain on the November ballot, hours before he suspended his presidential campaign. **Page 2**

and endorsed Donald Trump, a late-stage shakeup of the presi-

dential race that could give the former president a modest boost from Kennedy's supporters.

Kennedy said his internal polls had shown that his presence in the race would hurt Trump and help Democratic nominee Kamala Harris, though recent public polls don't provide a clear indication that he is having an outside impact on support for either candidate.

Kennedy cited free speech, the war in Ukraine and "a war on our

children" as among the reasons he would try to remove his name from the ballot in battleground states.

"These are the principal causes that persuaded me to leave the Democratic Party and run as an independent, and now to throw my support to President Trump," Kennedy said.

However, he made clear that he wasn't formally ending his bid and said his supporters could continue to back him in the majority of states

where they are unlikely to sway the outcome.

Kennedy took steps to withdraw his candidacy in at least two states late this week, Arizona and Pennsylvania, but in the battlegrounds of Michigan, Nevada and Wisconsin, election officials said it's too late for him to take his name off the ballot even if he wants to do so.

Kennedy said his actions

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DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

That's a wrap on DNC

Above: The motorcade of Vice President Kamala Harris departs the Park Hyatt Chicago for Solider Field on Friday after the Democratic National Convention.

Right: Wilma Jones, right, and Vicky Amos celebrate standing on the stage of the Democratic National Convention in the United Center on Friday in Chicago. The sorority sisters from Georgia and Mississippi arrived Thursday hoping to get into the convention. After being turned away, they decided to see if they could sneak in the day after. They took many photos of each other, especially where Harris spoke.



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Several GOP figures spoke

Democrats enjoyed DNC speeches from Kinzinger and others

By Dan Petrella and Sarah Freishtat
Chicago Tribune

There was no shocking cameo from Beyoncé or Taylor Swift, but one of the surprises of this week's Democratic National Convention in Chicago was the frequency of appearances by Republicans and former supporters of GOP nominee Donald Trump on the United Center stage.



The roster of defectors included former White House press secretary Stephanie Grisham, former Georgia Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan and Olivia Troye, a former homeland security adviser to then-Vice President Mike Pence.

But none had a more prominent time slot than former Republican Illinois U.S. Rep. Adam Kinzinger, whose spot in the program upstaged even Democratic Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker, the convention's de facto host.

Given the microphone just three speakers before Vice President Kamala Harris accepted the Democratic presidential nomination and closed the convention Thursday night, Kinzinger told Democrats he was "proud to be in the trenches with you as part of this sometimes-awkward alliance that we have to defend truth, defend democracy and decency."

A congressman who represented exurban Channahon for 12 years, Kinzinger has become one of the most outspoken

Turn to Kinzinger, Page 4

Neighbor of DNC felt 'caged in'

By Nell Salzman
Chicago Tribune

As crowds roared inside the United Center over the past week, with Democratic organizers joining together to build enthusiasm for the party's nomination of Vice President Kamala Harris for president, the whole spectacle has been nothing short of a "nuisance" for Dee Henderson.

Henderson's back porch directly faces the large arena that was designated as the convention's hub of late-night political speeches and events. The tall steel fencing put up by officials around the center almost touches the above-ground



Dee Henderson, 66, looks toward the United Center from her back porch while crews prepare for the Democratic National Convention on Aug. 12. Henderson has lived in her house since 1974. She said the convention was nothing short of a "nuisance." **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

pool where her grandson likes to swim on hot summer days."They caged me in," said Henderson, who has lived behind the United Center for the past half-century

in one of the last single-home residential buildings on the block.

On Thursday, the final night

Turn to Neighbors, Page 4

Spotlight brought clean CTA stations, helpful staff

By Sarah Freishtat and Lizzie Kane
Chicago Tribune

After facing years of complaints about service, cleanliness, and safety, the CTA faced a major test this week during the Democratic National Convention.

With tens of thousands of politicians, dignitaries, protest-

ers and media in the city, the agency was tasked with helping show off Chicago to a national audience, while still serving everyday residents on their journeys around the city. And by many accounts, the week was marked by clean trains and stations and reliable service.

It had some Illinois dele-

Turn to CTA, Page 2

DNC fashion choices tell story

Political science professor says clothing is a tool politicians use to communicate, gain support. **Chicagoland, Page 3**

Democrats enjoy new momentum

Analysis: Harris emerged with a burst of momentum that Democrats hardly expected a month ago. **Nation & World**

