

Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM



Supporters attend a prayer vigil Sunday in Milwaukee for former President Donald Trump the day after Trump survived an assassination attempt during a rally in Pennsylvania. The vigil was held in Zeidler Union Square park. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Illinois GOP leaders say shooting will unite party

Republicans react to assassination attempt ahead of RNC in Milwaukee

By **Jeremy Gorner and Rick Pearson**
Chicago Tribune

MILWAUKEE — The day after former President Donald Trump was targeted in an attempted assassination, Illinois Republicans converging on Milwaukee ahead of this week’s Republican National Convention said the alarming event will only serve to unite the GOP going into the November election.

The most serious assassination attempt on a president or presidential candidate in decades also caused some members of the Illinois delegation to recognize the polar-

ized state of American politics. While many of the GOP delegates solely blamed Democrats, others called for a stop to the toxic war of words from members of both political parties and said the bombast needs to be toned down if there’s ever going to be any prospect for the country to see any cohesion.

“We have to, as elected officials, be very careful of the rhetoric that we’re using. Words have meaning,” state Sen. Terri Bryant, a Republican from Murphysboro and an at-large delegate, said of Republicans and Democrats. “And so, in this, I think that you may find some folks taking

a step back to try to find a better way to get their message out without being incendiary.”

Dozens of Illinois Republicans crossed the Illinois-Wisconsin state line in recent days for the RNC in Milwaukee, joining members of the GOP from across the nation as they are expected to nominate Trump on Thursday. As Republicans prepared for the first in-person political convention in eight years, Trump’s rally in Pennsylvania on Saturday was marred by a gunman who shot at Trump, apparently grazing his ear. One spectator was killed

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INSIDE

■ Protesters plan to go forward with marches in Milwaukee at the RNC despite hurdles. **Chicagoland, Page 3**

■ Assassination attempt plunges the 2024 presidential race into a state of shock and uncertainty. **Nation & World**

■ President Biden said in a prime-time national address from the Oval Office that “we can’t, we must not go down” the road of political violence in America. **Nation & World**

■ Secret Service investigating how a gunman armed with an AR-style rifle was able to get close enough to shoot Trump. **Nation & World**

“I think it shows why it’s so important to unify the country after the election, no matter what happens. There’s just way too much polarization. And it will, certainly, I think, electrify the convention when Trump shows up having survived such a narrow miss.”

— Illinois GOP Chairman Don Tracy of Springfield

Trump has focus, resolve, questions

FBI is investigating possible domestic terrorism in attack

Associated Press

BUTLER, Pa. — Former President Donald Trump called for unity and resilience Sunday after an attempt on his life added fresh uncertainty to an already tumultuous presidential campaign and raised sharp questions about how a gunman was able to open fire from a rooftop near a Pennsylvania campaign rally.

A full day after the shooting, the gunman’s motive was still a mystery, and investigators said they believe he acted alone before being fatally shot by Secret Service agents.

President Joe Biden ordered an independent security review of the attack, which killed one bystander and critically wounded two. The FBI is investigating the shooting as a potential act of domestic terrorism.

The attack shook the firmament of the American political system, causing a reassessment and a detente in the heated 2024 presidential campaign.

Trump, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, said the upper part of his right ear was pierced by a bullet.

His aides said he was in “great spirits” and doing well, and arrived in Milwaukee for the Republican National Convention that begins Monday.

“I knew immediately that something was wrong in that I heard a whizzing sound, shots, and immediately felt the bullet ripping through the skin,” he wrote on his social media site.

“Much bleeding took place.”

In a subsequent social post Sunday, Trump said: “In this moment, it is more important than ever that we stand United, and show our True Character as Americans, remaining Strong and Determined, and not allowing Evil to Win.”

The rallygoer who was killed was identified as Corey Comperatore, a former fire chief from the area, according to Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro, who added that Comperatore “died a hero.”

Turn to Trump, Page 3

Fighting a ‘birthing desert’ reputation

Nurse midwife works to open first center for births on South Side

By **Lisa Schencker**
Chicago Tribune

Jeanine Valrie Logan sat in traffic for nearly two hours while she was in labor with her third child.

Logan was determined to have her daughter at a birth center — a type of small facility focused on childbirth, often staffed by midwives. But there weren’t any birth centers near her home in the south suburbs, so she traveled nearly 30 miles to Berwyn.

“I’m not an anomaly,” Logan said, of the time it took her to get to the birth center. “People deserve to have that access in



Jeanine Valrie Logan stands outside the site of the future Chicago South Side Birth Center on June 25. **EILEEN T. MESLAR/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

their own community.”

Now, six years later, Logan is working to make that belief a reality. Logan, who is a certified nurse midwife, worked with lawmakers in recent years to expand the number of birth centers allowed in Illinois, and she is seeking permission from a state board to open a new birth center on the South Side of Chicago.

If approved, it would be the first birth center on the South Side — an area with a largely Black population that’s faced challenges related to pregnancy and childbirth. Black women in Illinois are significantly more likely than white women to die from pregnancy-related conditions and

Turn to Births, Page 5

Mayor tables plans for ‘teen trend’ party fines

Proposal to penalize organizers of meetups received pushback

By **Jake Sheridan**
Chicago Tribune

Mayor Brandon Johnson appeared set to throw his weight behind a proposal last week to fight chaotic Chicago “teen trend” meetups and illegal parties that sometimes end in gun violence, but backed away from the plan amid progressive pushback.

Aldermen were discussing with the administration Thursday a draft ordinance to levy \$10,000 fines against the organizers of certain “unlawful gatherings” — including many of the raucous, social media-fueled get-togethers pulling crowds of young people together at city parks and abandoned buildings.

The mayor’s administration wanted to push the measure through the City Council as soon as this week, Ald. Lamont

Robinson, 4th, told the Tribune before it was pulled. The ambitious timeline for the crackdown suggested Johnson feels the need to do something about the parties, which have drawn attention for some high-profile acts of violence.

However, his administration quickly changed its tune in the face of questions from aldermen about its ramifications, and instead planned to hold the draft ordinance by Friday morning. Despite the administration’s intergovernmental affairs team’s work to push the ordinance and its appearance on a council agenda, a Johnson spokesperson said Friday it had moved forward “erroneously.”

“A staffer erroneously submitted a proposal for an ordinance that is currently not moving forward,” the spokesperson wrote. “We will continue to have conversations on the most effective strategies, consistent with the mayor’s values, to prevent mass shootings.”

Turn to Teens, Page 5

Hamas: Cease-fire talks not stalled

Hamas said group’s military commander was in good health, a day after being targeted in strike. **Nation & World**

Millennium Park music

Buscabulla show was a tribute to the emotional, spiritual, musical impact of Puerto Rican culture. **Arts & Living**

Cubs begin break on a high note

Bats, defense deliver while Jameson Taillon keeps Cards in check as Cubs secure an 8-3 win. **Chicago Sports**

