

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it in your web browser](#)

# — News From The States —

# COUNTDOWN '24

---

By **Robin Opsahl**, [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)

It was a busy week on the 2024 campaign trail across the country. Here's a round-up of where candidates went, and what they said, as they rallied for support ahead of the 2024 election cycle:

- Robert F. Kennedy Jr. [announced Monday](#) he is running for president as an independent. The candidate was in Michigan Thursday, [calling on a room](#) of about 300 people to vote for him in 2024.
- Entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy was also in Michigan, where he [joined local activists](#) opposing the forthcoming construction of the Gotion battery manufacturing plant.
- Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis [told Iowans Saturday](#) that "not only will I keep my promises as president, I'll keep Donald Trump's promises as president."
- Former Vice President Mike Pence weighed in on the ousting of former House Speaker Kevin McCarthy in Iowa Friday, saying he believes Republicans can still govern despite the "chaos caucus," [the Des Moines Register](#) reported.

Former President Donald Trump plans to speak in New Hampshire Monday, [NH Journal reports](#), and plans to return to Iowa next week. On Saturday, he made caucus trail stops in Waterloo and Cedar Rapids. Here's what he said:

**TOP IMPACT** *What to read this week*

**[Trump works to secure caucus support, decrying Biden's electric-vehicle policies](#)**



(Photo by Robin Opsahl/Iowa Capital Dispatch)

While his opponents hope to use the 2024 caucuses as a jumping-off point to break his lead in national polling, former President Donald Trump told Iowans on Saturday that he's not concerned about appearing "arrogant."

"Somebody said 'Sir, please don't take Iowa or Nebraska or Wisconsin or others — farm areas — please don't take them for granted, sir. It's not good,'" Trump told supporters in Cedar Rapids. "I said, 'Listen, I got them \$28 billion from China. And if I sound a little arrogant — I don't see them voting against me no matter what I do. So, I don't want to sound arrogant, but we are leading here by 44 points.'" | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)

---

**[How a fake Keanu Reeves convinced a Kansas woman to abandon her dream of being president](#)**



(Sherman Smith/Kansas Reflector)

After months of online correspondence, \$9,000 in Bitcoin transfers and a confrontation with her family, Joan Farr understood the individual who promised to endorse her presidential campaign and even be her date for her high school reunion wasn't really Keanu Reeves. She had been betrayed by a CIA poser once again.

This is common territory for Farr, has run unsuccessfully for governor and the U.S. Senate in GOP primaries. A federal judge has dismissed a series of lawsuits in which she blames a vast conspiracy for her suffering and setbacks. Farr recounted her experience with the fake Reeves and her short, sad presidential campaign in an interview she requested with Kansas Reflector — and a five-page written statement she provided after the interview. | [Kansas Reflector](#)

---

**BIG PICTURE** *Election coverage across the country*



(Photo illustration via Canva)

- Iowa Democrats plan to release caucus results Super Tuesday in 2024 | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)
- DNC gives Alabama Democrats February deadline to pass new bylaws | [Alabama Reflector](#)
- Diversity numbers among delegates trigger alarm at DNC meeting | [Politico](#)

## Voting rights

- States that send a mail ballot to every voter really do increase turnout, scholars find | [News from the States](#)
- Dems say new Michigan voting rights bills strengthen democracy | [Michigan Advance](#)
- Auditors: New voter residency rules difficult to manage for local election officials | [South Dakota Searchlight](#)
- NC Elections Board sued over 30-day residency requirement | [NC Newsline](#)
- Pennsylvania House rejects voter ID proposal as early primary bill passes to Senate | [Pennsylvania Capital-Star](#)
- Virginia lawsuit over voting rights restoration clears early hurdle | [Radio IQ](#)

## Redistricting

- Federal court selects new Alabama congressional map | [Alabama Reflector](#)
- 5th Circuit hears arguments on Louisiana's congressional map | [Louisiana Illuminator](#)
- The high stakes in a new Supreme Court showdown over gerrymandering | [Vox](#)
- Trial court finds N.M. congressional map is constitutional | [Source New Mexico](#)
- Illinois Democrats drew new maps. The changes pushed the GOP to the right. | [Washington Post](#)

## Candidates

- Nikki Haley rises to second in pair of early-state GOP polls | [NBC News](#)
- Republican women choose Trump as top presidential pick in OKC convention poll | [Oklahoma Voice](#)

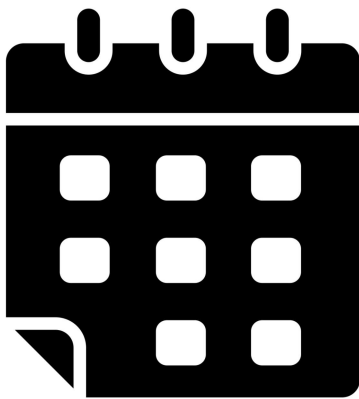


- **Biden touts blue-collar roots in latest AZ ad** | [Arizona Mirror](#)
- **In a campaign stop in Tampa, DeSantis says he'll win Iowa and 'up end conventional wisdom'** | [Florida Phoenix](#)
- **How third-party and independent candidates could threaten Democrats and Republicans in 2024** | [Associated Press](#)

## Courts

- **Judge says there's not sufficient evidence to dismiss charges against 2 Michigan fake electors** | [Michigan Advance](#)
- **Fontes: Donald Trump can't be barred from the AZ ballot by the 14th Amendment** | [Arizona Mirror](#)
- **Fulton 19 recap: DA death threats, judge keeps Oct. 23 trial start on track, plea deals in works** | [Georgia Recorder](#)
- **Trump fraud trial: Judge doesn't stop trial, but pauses dissolution of Trump businesses** | [ABC News](#)

## COMING UP *Calendar of events*



- **Oct. 20, 2023, IOWA CITY, IOWA** | Six GOP presidential candidates will speak at a [tailgate fundraiser](#) for U.S. Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, an Iowa Republican.
- **Oct. 23, 2023, FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA** | The trial date set for Trump codefendant Kenneth Chesebro.
- **Nov. 8, 2023, MIAMI, FLORIDA** | The [third GOP presidential debate](#).

---

Follow state-level coverage of Election 2024 anytime at [News From The States](#). Send tips and thoughts to [ropsahl@iowacapitaldispatch.com](mailto:ropsahl@iowacapitaldispatch.com), and follow them on Twitter [@robinlopsahl](#)

---

Did someone forward you this newsletter?

[SUBSCRIBE](#) | [LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR NEWSROOMS](#) | [FOLLOW](#)

Share this with your community:



---

Copyright © 2023 [States Newsroom](#), all rights reserved.

1414 Raleigh Rd #127 | Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517

[info@newsfromthestates.com](mailto:info@newsfromthestates.com)

*You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website or Facebook signup form.*

TO MANAGE YOUR ACCOUNT, CLICK ON "UNSUBSCRIBE" BELOW

[Unsubscribe](#) or [Manage Your Preferences](#)