

# Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

## ELECTION 2024



Former President Donald Trump speaks to the media during a campaign stop in Londonderry, N.H., on Tuesday. **MATT ROURKE/AP**

## Trump wins New Hampshire primary

Biden prevails with Democrats despite not campaigning

By Holly Ramer, Jill Colvin and Will Weissert  
Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Donald Trump won the New Hampshire primary on Tuesday, tightening his grip on the Republican presidential nomination and bolstering the likelihood of a rematch later this year against President Joe Biden.

The result was a setback for former U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley, who invested significant time and financial resources into winning the state but finished second. She is the last major challenger in the race after Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis ended his presidential bid over the weekend, allowing her to campaign as the sole alternative to Trump. Haley intensified her criticism of the former president, questioning his mental acuity and pitching herself as a unifying candidate who would usher in generational change.

The appeals failed to resonate with enough voters. Trump can now boast of being the first Republican presidential candidate to win open races in Iowa and New Hampshire since both states began leading the election calendar in 1976, a striking sign of how rapidly Republicans have rallied around him to make him their nominee for the third consecutive time.

By posting easy wins in both early states, Trump is demonstrating an ability to unite the GOP's factions firmly behind him. He has garnered support from the evangelical conservatives who are influential in Iowa and New Hampshire's more moderate voters, strength he hopes to replicate as the primary quickly expands to the rest of the U.S.

Haley was unable to capitalize on New Hampshire's more moderate political tradition. Now, her path to becoming the GOP standard-bearer is narrowing quickly. She won't compete in a contest that awards delegates until South Carolina's Feb. 24 primary. As the state's former governor, she's hoping a strong showing there could propel her into the March

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# Shooting deaths of 8 called 'reign of terror'

Joliet police say pair of teenage girls, multiple relatives among the victims

By Rebecca Johnson, Kate Armanini, Angie Leventis Lourgos, Caroline Kubzansky | Chicago Tribune and Alexandra Kukulka | Daily Southtown

Joliet police described a "reign of terror" in the southwest suburban community this weekend, when they believe one man killed eight people, including two teenage girls and multiple relatives.

Romeo Nance, the 23-year-

old man wanted in the fatal shootings of eight people and wounding of another man in the Joliet area, died from a self-inflicted gunshot Monday night after being pursued by U.S. Marshals in Texas. While some

of the details of the case remain unclear, including his motive, police believe Nance shot and killed seven relatives before killing another man at "random." He is believed to have shot and injured one other man in the shooting spree.

Will County Coroner Laurie Summers identified five of the victims found in the homes as Christine Esters, 38, Tameka Nance, 47, William Esters II, 35, and Joshua Nance, 31, all of Joliet, and Alexandria Nance, 20. The teenage girls, ages 16 and 14, were

not identified as of Tuesday afternoon.

Summers said all the victims' deaths appeared to be homicides and the final cause and manner of death were pending autopsy results. Prosecutors charged Nance with murder Tuesday, but closed the case due to his death, court records show.

The deadly saga began when Nance killed five individuals in one residence and two in another home in the 2200 block of West

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Mourners move one of four caskets for Majeda Kassem, 53, and her daughters Halema Kassem, 25, Zahia Kassem, 25, and Hanan Kassem, 24, into the Mosque Foundation in Bridgeview for a prayer service Tuesday. **TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

## Husband, father charged in slaying of wife, 3 daughters

'They're gone ... I'm going to jail': Man detained in wake of Tinley Park shootings

By Mike Nolan  
Daily Southtown

The husband and father who is charged with shooting his wife and three adult daughters to death Sunday in their Tinley Park home told police, "They're gone," and "I'm going to jail," after officers arrived, according to Cook County prosecutors.

Maher Kassem, 63, shot the women during an argument Sunday in the 7400 block of West 173rd Street, officials said.

Cook County Judge Linzey Jones ordered Kassem detained during a hearing Tuesday at the Bridgeview courthouse, dismissing a request by Kassem's attorney, public defender Daniel Johnson, that Kassem be confined to his home and placed on electronic monitoring.

"If he gets his hands on a gun again, there's no telling who he might shoot," Jones said.

The judge said Kassem fired at his wife and daughters "clearly intending to end their lives,"

and posed too great a threat to be released under any circumstances.

Assistant State's Attorney Scott Clark said Kassem fired at least 13 rounds into his wife, Majeda Kassem, 53, and daughters Halema Kassem, 25, Zahia Kassem, 25, and Hanan Kassem, 24, during the argument in the basement of their home.

They were pronounced dead at 11:36 a.m. on Sunday, and the medical examiner later listed the cause of death as multiple

gunshot wounds.

Kassem's wife was shot seven times, including in her head, neck and chest, according to Clark. His daughters suffered gunshot wounds to their heads, he said.

Kassem, wearing a black T-shirt and gray sweatpants, "became overwrought, disturbed over an argument with his own family members," the judge said.

Clark said the 19-year-old son of Maher and Majeda Kassem

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## New rules restrict Native American artifacts



Various Field Museum display cases in the Halls of the Ancient Americas and the Hall of Northwest Coast and Arctic Peoples are covered on Jan. 18. **CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Field Museum, others in Illinois must comply amid ongoing reviews

By Christopher Borrelli  
Chicago Tribune

If you stop by the Field Museum right now and find yourself in the Alsdorf Hall of Northwest Coast and Arctic Peoples, or the Robert R. McCormick Halls of the Ancient Americas, you will notice something about the display cases: Several are covered up.

That in itself is not unusual — who hasn't been to a museum and seen a display case displaying nothing? What's unusual is the reason: On Jan. 12, federal regulations concerning the exhibition and study of Native American

remains and sacred artifacts were tightened, to bring teeth and clarity to a set of rules that languished for decades.

The revised regulations are sweeping: They demand museums speed up the process of repatriating Native American "human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony," establishing ownership and lineage between museum collections and Native American descendants, returning anything requested. Museums must update their inventories of Native American remains and funerary objects within five years. Also, curators can no longer categorize such items as "culturally unidentifiable," thereby holding them

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### A new Ukrainian revolution at Anelya

James Beard award-winning chefs create a culinary safe house to expand borders of Ukrainian culture. **Food & Health**

### 21 Israeli troops killed in Gaza blast

The attack by Palestinian militants is a significant setback that could add to calls for a cease-fire. **Nation & World**

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