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\$2.50 | FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026 | OCREGISTER.COM

## POLITICS

# Trump fires loyalist AG Bondi

### Contentious tenure saw fumbling of Epstein files, large-scale ousters

By Alanna Durkin Richer, Eric Tucker, Michael Balsamo and Michelle L. Price  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Thursday that Pam Bondi is out as his attorney general, ending the contentious tenure of a loyal-

ist who upended the Justice Department's culture of independence from the White House, oversaw large-scale firings of career employees and moved aggressively to investigate the Republican president's perceived enemies.

The departure followed months of scrutiny over the

Justice Department's handling of files related to the Jeffrey Epstein sex trafficking investigation and failed efforts to meet Trump's unwavering demands for criminal cases against his adversaries. As Trump's own frustrations mounted, he began privately discussing firing Bondi, people familiar with the matter say.

"Pam Bondi is a Great Ameri-

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Attorney General Pam Bondi, here in Washington in February, has been fired. Under her leadership, the Justice Department's culture of independence from the White House was eroded. **ALEX BRANDON THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**Inside:** Bondi, despite firing, will still need to answer to Congress about Epstein files, House Dems say. A6

## ANAHEIM



Harold Palomino, left, and Mariano Mares unroll a red carpet in preparation for today's opening day events for Angels baseball at Angel Stadium in Anaheim on Thursday. **PHOTOS BY JEFF GRITCHEN — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER**

# As Angels host home opener, stadium's future is up in the air

### Negotiations with city have checkered history, but a fresh swing at issue may find a winning way

By Victoria Le  
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With the 2026 season home opener at Angel Stadium tonight, the Angels are celebrating 60 years of calling Anaheim home.

The Major League Baseball team has a lease to play up to 12 more years in the city-owned stadium, but multiple rounds of negotiations for the team to secure a longer stay have stumbled in recent years.

While earlier councils talked with the Angels in fits and starts, it wasn't until then-Mayor Harry Sidhu came into City Hall in 2018 vowing to keep the team in Anaheim

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Visitors to Angel Stadium, including Ralph and Winnie Harp, center, of Yorba Linda, buy tickets for Angels baseball in Anaheim on Thursday.

## ANGELS' HOME OPENER: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

### ANGELS VS. MARINERS

**When:** Today, 6:38 p.m., Angel Stadium

**Early arrivals:** The Angels have a red carpet event planned from 12:30 to 4 p.m., featuring player appearances and interviews.

**Pregame ceremony:** A flyover is

expected before the game, and former Angels President John Carpino is scheduled to throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

**Notable:** Both the Angels and Mariners are 3-4. Reid Detmers (Angels) and Bryan Woo (Mariners) are the scheduled starting pitchers.

## MIDDLE EAST WAR

# Iran shoots missiles at Israel, Gulf neighbors

### Strikes continue even as Trump claims threat from Tehran nearly eliminated

By Jon Gambrell, David Rising and Mike Corder  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Iran fired more missiles at Israel and Gulf Arab states Thursday, demonstrating Tehran's continued ability to strike its neighbors even as U.S. President Donald Trump claimed the threat from the country was nearly eliminated.

Iran's attacks on Gulf states along with its chokehold on the Strait of Hormuz have disrupted the world's energy supplies with effects far beyond the Middle East. That has proved to be Iran's greatest strategic advantage in the war. Britain held a call with nearly three dozen countries about how to reopen the strait once the fighting is over.

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## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

# 15 charged in hospice, health care fraud scams totaling \$50M

By Jason Henry  
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A nurse from Anaheim passed envelopes of cash — \$600 every month — to an elderly couple enrolled in hospice services they did not need.

A husband and wife in Covina used fake hospice billings to cover mortgage and car payments, international flights, and other personal bills. Twenty-two of their patients did not have terminal illnesses, investigators found.

A 76-year-old woman, already awaiting trial for hospice fraud, operated three fraudulent facilities

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## SPACE

# NASA's No. 1 and No. 2 priorities: Astronauts fix Artemis II toilet before their flyby of the moon

By Richard Tribou  
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The first-ever toilet in deep space barely made it into orbit before NASA astronauts had to roll up their sleeves and make some repairs.

There was no plumbing backup, of course — there is no actual plumbing on the Orion spacecraft, as urine is vented out into space and fecal matter

is collected for later disposal.

Instead, the crew of the historic Artemis II mission headed around the moon reported a blinking fault light on their lunar latrine.

"We had a controller issue with the toilet when they spun it up. So we've got to work through that. That's going to take up maybe a few hours of troubleshooting," said NASA Associate Administrator Amit Kshatriya when asked

Wednesday about any minor problems on the spacecraft.

But a NASA update early Thursday morning confirmed that the 10-day mission to fly around the moon would not need to revert to any Plan B.

"The Artemis II crew, working closely with mission control in Houston, were able to restore the Orion space-

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Artemis II astronauts Jeremy Hansen, left, Victor Glover, Reid Wiseman and Christina Koch before liftoff Wednesday. **RICARDO RAMIREZ BUXED — ORLANDO SENTINEL**

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