

SCHLITTLER,
YANKS' ARMS
STINGY TO
OPEN SEASON
SPORTS | PAGE B1



ARTEMIS II'S
'LUNAR LOO'
WORKING
AGAIN
NEWS | PAGE A4

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EGG PRICES DROP AS EASTER APPROACHES



Tara Fuller, of Scranton, shops for eggs at the Schiel's Family Market in Dunmore on Thursday. PHOTOS BY SEAN MCKEAG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PAM BONDI OUT AS ATTORNEY GENERAL

Trump loyalist oversaw Justice Dept. upheaval

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

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Thursday that Pam Bondi is out as his attorney general, ending the contentious tenure of a loyalist 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 of the country's chief law enforcement officer followed months of scrutiny from angry conservatives over the Justice Department's handling of files related to the Jeffrey Epstein sex trafficking investigation and failed efforts to please Trump through unsuccessful efforts to build criminal cases against prominent foes, investigations that in some cases have been rejected by judges or grand juries.

Trump named Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche as the acting attorney general, though three people familiar with the matter have said he has privately discussed Lee Zeldin, the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, as a permanent pick.

"Pam Bondi is a Great American Patriot and a loyal friend, who faithfully served as

See BOND1 on Page A5

HAZLETON GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION

Panel drafts Office of Law, other appointed officials articles

By Gregory Adams
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HAZLETON — The Hazleton Government Study Commission began drafting the Office of Law article and addressed other appointed officials at its meeting Wednesday at City Hall.

The Office of Law will be led by the city solicitor who will serve as the chief legal advisor of the city and control all legal matters including though not limited to litigation, contracts, drafting ordinances and providing legal opinions.

The solicitor will not work for the mayor or council but act at all times on behalf of the City as their client.

The city solicitor may be an individual or

See PANEL on Page A5

Customers flock to area grocery stores to stock up

By Robert Tomkavage
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As the price of eggs plummeted leading up to Easter and Passover, customers have been flocking to area grocery stores to cash in on the savings.

U.S. egg prices have fallen 60% from last year's record highs, according to an Associated Press report. Bird flu was to blame for elevated retail prices during the first five months of 2025, and the course of the highly contagious disease is a big reason why prices are much lower now, per the AP.

Fred Schiel, store manager of Schiel's Family Market in Dunmore, noted shoppers appreciate the relief at the register as costs have come down, especially from last year when (prices) were "astronomical."

"Since they came down, customers are pleased and they've been stocking up," he said. "We keep our prices up to date with the market prices. Once they go down, our prices go down. If they go up, unfortunately we do as well."

Tom Slattery, dairy manager at Boyer's Food Market in Hazleton, noted an 18-count carton of eggs, currently on sale, is selling for \$1.99.

"That's a good price," he said. "It crept up a little bit, and then it just went back down again a little bit more."

The regular price is \$2.89, but when they were up, they could have been \$6, if not more, Slattery added.

"After the New Year, the price started coming down," he said. "We get local eggs from Heisler's (Egg Farm) in Tamaqua, so we know where they're coming from, and she tells me when



Dairy manager Rick Engleman organizes the eggs at Schiel's Family Market in Dunmore on Thursday.

That's (an 18-count carton of eggs on sale for \$1.99) a good price.... It crept up a little bit, and then it just went back down again a little bit more.

— TOM SLATTERY, dairy manager, Boyer's Food Market, Hazleton

Since they came down, customers are pleased and they've been stocking up.... We keep our prices up to date with the market prices. Once they go down, our prices go down. If they go up, unfortunately we do as well.

— FRED SCHIEL, store manager, Schiel's Family Market, Dunmore

they're up and down. Some of these warehouses, you don't know where they're coming from. It just started dropping, all of a sudden. There was definitely a big time increase when the price dropped. When they see the price, instead of taking one, they're taking

two." An outbreak forced farmers and commercial producers to slaughter entire broods of egg-laying hens, but ebbing cases in the second half of last

See EGGS on Page A5

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WEATHER

TODAY H:72 L:54
SAT. H:77 L:55
SUN. H:60 L:33
Full weather report B5

INDEX

Business B5
Classified B6
Comics A7
Horoscopes A6
Lottery A2
Obituaries A5
Opinion A9
Sports B1
Television B7

