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Rice's Market announces permanent closure



Rice's Market in Solebury is closing at the end of its 2026 season. Its last day will be Dec. 29.
MICHELE C. HADDON / BUCKS COUNTY COURIER TIMES

The century-old Solebury flea market will close Dec. 29

Michele Haddon
Bucks County Courier Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

It's the end of an era for a popular longstanding flea market in Bucks County.

Rice's Market, a longstanding indoor-outdoor market on Greenhill Road in Solebury, is permanently shutting down at the end of the season, according to an announcement posted to its Facebook page on Oct. 6.

"After over a hundred years of being part of this community, we have made

the difficult decision to close our doors at the end of the year," the post read in part, adding that the market will continue with its normal schedule through its last day on Dec. 29.

On Tuesday morning, office manager Kathy Bowland confirmed the closure.

The announcement didn't elaborate on the decision to close other than citing a changing economy.

"The market and economy changed over the last few years but the golden years of before sunrise Tuesdays, Saturdays and the great chaos that was a Black Friday will never be forgotten.

Porkroll, egg and cheese sandwiches on a perfect Kaiser roll, the echo of "Pretzels... Fresh squeezed lemonade!" throughout the market and so many high school kids' first job selling sodas out of coolers will be a core memory of the 90s and early 2000s," it read.

Reporter Michele Haddon covers local news, small business, food and drink, economic revitalization, art and culture for The Intelligencer and Bucks County Courier Times at Philly-Burbs.com. Please consider supporting local journalism with a subscription.

U.S. trade deficit widens further

Imports hit record high despite Trump's tariffs

Lucia Mutikani
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – The U.S. trade deficit widened more than expected in August as imports jumped to a record high against the backdrop of robust domestic demand, keeping trade on track to again subtract from economic growth in the third quarter.

The deterioration reported by the Commerce Department on Oct. 6 was despite President Donald Trump's aggressive tariffs on imports, which he has argued are meant to shrink the trade gap. The nation posted record goods trade deficits with at least three countries, including Mexico.

Economists have long argued that the United States did not have the capacity to produce enough goods to meet its consumption needs. Some lowered their gross domestic product growth estimates for the July-September quarter.

"The administration's trade policies have largely been a failure, trade tariffs have done nothing to reduce America's reliance on the import of foreign-produced goods," said Christopher Rupkey, chief economist at FWDBONDS. "The cost of American labor is simply too high to produce goods here cheap enough for consumers to even think about purchasing. Even if U.S. manufacturers were willing, the factories could not be built here fast enough to

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The U.S. trade shortfall increased 13.7% to \$105.6 billion, the largest since March 2025.
CARLOS BARRIA/REUTERS FILE

Teens allegedly attempted to bring guns, drugs to football game

Jo Ciavaglia
Bucks County Courier Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Bristol Township police and school officials are crediting a district no-backpack policy with stopping teens from bringing marijuana and firearms into a home football game at Harry S Truman High School on Friday.

The two unidentified teens, one a Truman student, are facing criminal

charges in juvenile court, Bristol Township police confirmed.

The incident happened Oct. 2 at the Truman Tigers game against Springfield High School. School employees turned the teens away when they attempted to enter the stadium with backpacks, police and district officials said in separate press releases.

After the students were turned away at the gate, they left the backpacks on school property and reentered the

event. School employees later found the backpacks containing marijuana, an air soft gun and a firearm inside and called police.

The teen suspects were identified and taken into custody. No firearms were discharged and no threats were reported, Bristol Township Superintendent Michael Nitti said in a community message to parents on Saturday.

Neither press release said where the teens obtained the firearm or why they

brought it to the game. The incident remains under police investigation.

"We are grateful for the vigilance of our administrative team in identifying and safely addressing this situation, as well as for the support and cooperation of the Bristol Township Police Department in helping to keep our school community safe," Nitti said.

Crime and Courts Reporter Jo Ciavaglia can be reached at jciavaglia@gannett.com

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