

The Breakfast Table Times

TODAY'S NEWS, MADE FOR KIDS

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TOP STORY

Two Storms Hit Hawaii's Big Island in a Rare One-Two Punch

HILO, HAWAII — Hawaii faced two storms in one week, a rare weather event. Hurricane Lala struck first, dropping over 30 inches of rain quickly. The heavy rain caused serious floods and mudslides across the Big Island. Roads and bridges were destroyed by the rushing water. Just days later, Tropical Storm Moke passed by, adding more rain. Moke stayed offshore, about 320 miles from Hilo, but still soaked the islands. Experts say this back-to-back storm pattern has happened only once before since 1949. Emergency officials are now helping families find temporary housing. A call center answers questions daily from nine a.m. to six p.m.

BACKGROUND

Hawaii sits far out in the Pacific Ocean, making it prone to tropical storms each summer.

Why it matters: Back-to-back storms rarely hit the same islands, so recovery teams face double the damage at once.

What to watch: Watch for more storm season activity and updates on housing aid for affected families.

Source: NPR, <https://www.npr.org/2026/08/23/nx-s1-5941769/tropical-storm-moke-hawaii>; CNN, <https://www.cnn.com/2026/08/23/weather/tropical-storm-moke-dumping-heavy-rain-on-hawaiis-big-island-climate>; Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, <https://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/tropical-storm-moke/>

NATION & WORLD

Storms Damage Homes Across the Midwest

GARY, INDIANA — Severe storms swept through the Midwest this month, causing damage. In Gary, Indiana, strong winds toppled a large tree onto a house. Cleanup crews arrived quickly to clear away the fallen branches. Meteorologists say storms like this often develop in late summer. Warm and cool air can collide, creating powerful winds and rain. Fortunately, no injuries were reported after the storm. Power crews worked nearby to repair damaged electrical lines. Several towns across the region are still recovering from earlier summer storms. Experts recommend that homeowners inspect trees for weak or broken branches. Forecasters warn that more storms could arrive before autumn begins.

BACKGROUND

Late summer often brings strong storms to the Midwest as temperatures shift.

Why it matters: These storms show how sudden severe weather can damage homes and why quick cleanup crews matter.

What to watch: Keep an eye on weather alerts as storm season continues into fall.

Source: NPR, <https://www.npr.org/sections/national/>

GOVERNMENT

Canada Vows to Match U.S. Tariffs Dollar for Dollar

PORTLAND, MAINE — Canada says it will match new U.S. tariffs "dollar for dollar," according to Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney. Tariffs are taxes on goods traded between countries, and when one country raises them, the other often responds the same way. This kind of back-and-forth is sometimes called a trade dispute. Businesses in Maine could feel the effects, since the state trades heavily with Canada, its northern neighbor. Higher tariffs can raise prices for materials and products that cross the border. Maine business owners are watching closely to see how the dispute affects their costs and customers. Government leaders on both sides say they hope to resolve the disagreement, but no clear timeline has been announced.

BACKGROUND

Maine shares a long border with Canada and depends on cross-border trade for many local businesses.

Why it matters: Tariff disputes between countries can directly affect prices and jobs in border states like Maine.

What to watch: Watch for how Maine businesses respond and whether the two countries reach a new trade agreement.

Source: WGME, <https://wgme.com/>

MONEY & WORK

SpaceX Posts First Earnings Report as a Public Company

HAWTHORNE, CALIF. — SpaceX shared its first earnings report as a public company. The report covered the second part of 2026. Going public means SpaceX now sells shares to the public. This means the company must share money details often. Investors read the report to see how rocket launches are doing. They also looked at the Starlink satellite business. SpaceX launches rockets and satellites very often. It also sends astronauts into space. This report gave people a rare look inside SpaceX's finances. Experts say the report could change how people view space companies. Many investors are watching closely.

BACKGROUND

SpaceX went public in June 2026, joining a small number of major space companies that sell shares to the public.

Why it matters: Public earnings reports let regular people see how a major space company is really performing financially.

What to watch: Watch for analyst reactions and how SpaceX's stock performs after its first earnings report.

Source: SpacePolicyOnline, <https://spacepolicyonline.com/news/whats-happening-in-space-policy-august-2-8-2026/>

Maine Contractor Faces Over \$1 Million in Judgments

PORTLAND, MAINE — A Maine contractor now owes more than one million dollars. Courts ordered him to pay after complaints from homeowners. Judgments happen when a court says someone owes money. Homeowners said work was left unfinished or done poorly. They had to pay more money to fix the problems. Maine does not have strict rules for contractors. Some people want the state to add stronger licensing rules. This would help protect families in the future. Lawmakers have not said if they will act. The case has drawn attention to gaps in consumer protection.

BACKGROUND

Maine currently has limited licensing requirements for general contractors compared to some other states.

Why it matters: Cases like this show why some homeowners and lawmakers want stronger rules to protect consumers from unreliable contractors.

What to watch: Watch for whether Maine lawmakers propose new contractor licensing rules in response to this case.

Source: Fox23 Maine, <https://fox23maine.com/>

SCIENCE & TECH

NASA's New Space Telescope Nears Launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, FLA. — NASA is getting ready to launch a new space telescope. It is called the Roman Space Telescope. Launch day is planned for August 30. The telescope will ride on a powerful rocket. It will study how the universe has grown over time. Roman will also look for planets outside our solar system. The telescope is named after Nancy Grace Roman. She was NASA's first chief astronomer. Roman can see much wider parts of the sky than older telescopes. Scientists say this will help them learn new things about space. Everyone is excited for the launch.

BACKGROUND

The telescope honors Nancy Grace Roman, known as the mother of Hubble, for her role in early NASA astronomy programs.

Why it matters: A wider view of space could help scientists answer big questions about dark energy and the universe's growth.

What to watch: Watch for confirmation of the August 30 launch date and the telescope's first images once it reaches orbit.

Source: ScienceDaily, https://www.sciencedaily.com/news/space_time/

Astronauts Complete Spacewalk to Fix Station Antenna

INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION — Two astronauts fixed the Space Station's antenna. Their names are Anil Menon and Sophie Adenot. They worked outside the station for six and a half hours. The antenna helps send signals to Earth. It carries voice, video, and data. Astronauts wear big suits during a spacewalk. They must move carefully in space. Ground teams watch every step from Earth. This kind of repair keeps the station working well. NASA plans these fixes often. The station has flown in space for over twenty years. Good repairs keep astronauts safe.

BACKGROUND

The International Space Station relies on a network of antennas to stay in contact with mission control.

Why it matters: Regular spacewalk repairs keep the aging space station safe and functional for astronauts living and working there.

What to watch: Watch for more scheduled spacewalks as crews continue station maintenance.

Source: Spaceflight Now, <https://spaceflightnow.com/2026/08/>

SPORTS

Astros Edge Yankees, Giants Blank Reds' Bats

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO — The Houston Astros beat the New York Yankees 9-7 on Tuesday in a high-scoring game. Both teams' hitters were active, combining for 16 runs. The Yankees kept things close late but couldn't complete the comeback. Meanwhile, the San Francisco Giants topped the Cincinnati Reds 3-1, backed by strong pitching. Giants pitchers held the Reds' offense in check for most of the game. Both results came as part of a busy week of late-season baseball, with teams jockeying for playoff positioning as the regular season nears its final stretch. Fans in both cities packed the stands to watch the late-summer matchups.

BACKGROUND
Late August games matter a lot as teams try to secure spots in the playoffs.

- Why it matters:** Every win or loss now can affect which teams make the postseason.
- What to watch:** Watch how both teams perform as the regular season winds down.

Source: ESPN, https://www.espn.com/mlb/game/_/gameId/401816667; ESPN, https://www.espn.com/mlb/game/_/gameId/401816675/reds-giants

OUR TEAMS	
New York Yankees	Lost 9-7 to the Houston Astros <i>Both teams' bats were hot in a back-and-forth Tuesday game.</i>
San Francisco Giants	Beat the Cincinnati Reds 3-1 <i>Strong pitching helped the Giants control the game from the start.</i>

SOUTHERN MAINE

North Berwick Voters to Decide Data Center Rules

NORTH BERWICK, MAINE — North Berwick is a small town in Maine. This November, voters there will decide on new rules. The vote is about data centers. Data centers are big buildings full of computer servers. They power things like the internet and artificial intelligence. Some people want to allow data centers with rules. Other people want to ban them completely. The vote lets the town choose its own path. This shows how local voting works in real life. Voters will decide the outcome this fall.

BACKGROUND
Data centers have become more common as companies build more artificial intelligence tools that need heavy computing power.

Why it matters: This vote shows how local communities can shape decisions about new technology in their own backyard.

What to watch: Watch for the November ballot results and how other Maine towns respond to similar questions.

Source: WGME, <https://wgme.com/>; Fox23 Maine, <https://fox23maine.com/>

GOOD NEWS

Help Arrives for Hawaii Families After Storms

HONOLULU, HAWAII — Hurricane Lala and Tropical Storm Moke damaged homes in Hawaii. State workers moved fast to help families. Temporary housing help is now open for storm victims. A call center answers questions every day. It is open from nine in the morning to six at night. Neighbors have also stepped in to help. Volunteers clear debris and check on older neighbors. Community groups collected clothes and supplies for families. Leaders say this quick help shows real community spirit. Officials hope the program eases the burden for families. Recovery will take time, but help is here now.

BACKGROUND
Hawaii's Big Island was hit hard by both Hurricane Lala and Tropical Storm Moke this month.

Why it matters: Fast community and government support can make a big difference for families who lose their homes.

What to watch: Watch for updates on how many families receive housing assistance in the coming weeks.

Source: Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, <https://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/tropical-storm-moke/>