

The Daily Scoop

THE NEWS, MADE SIMPLE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026

EDITION NO. 1

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TOP STORY

A Fight Far Away Makes Gas Cost More

WASHINGTON — The United States and Iran have been fighting since February. Iran is a country in the Middle East. Big ships that carry oil have trouble getting past it. Oil is what we make gas from. So gas costs more now. A gallon costs about \$4.10. Last year it was about \$3.13.

Why it matters: Gas costs more, so every car trip your family takes costs more money.

SCIENCE & TECH

Scientists Solve a Cat Mystery

JAPAN — Cats leave smells to tell other cats they were there. Scientists in Japan finally know how it works. A cat's kidneys store 13 kinds of fatty acid, and those acids end up in the cat's pee. Every cat has its own mix, so the smell is like a name tag. Lions and tigers do the same thing.

Why it matters: If you have a cat, it is leaving notes for other cats every single day.

SPORTS

Kids Play Ball at the Little League World Series

PENNSYLVANIA — Twenty teams of kids came to play baseball in Pennsylvania. They came from all over the world. New England sent a team from Bridgewater. They lost on Saturday and went home. Twelve teams are still playing. The last game is on August 30.

Why it matters: Those players are the same age as many kids right here in York.

OUR TEAMS

Yankees Lost 4-3 to Toronto on Saturday

Record 73-56, second in the AL East. Play Toronto again Sunday, then host Houston Aug. 25-27.

SOUTHERN MAINE

Maine Needs Rain

KITTERY — Maine has not had enough rain for a long time. That is called a drought. Ponds and wells are getting low. Kittery made new rules this week. People there can water their yards only two days a week. Almost 900,000 people in Maine live in a dry spot.

Why it matters: Your town may ask your family to use less water at home.

Sharks Swim Near Maine Beaches

KENNEBUNKPORT — People saw sharks near two beaches on Thursday. The beaches are in Kennebunk and Kennebunkport. Police told swimmers to be careful. Most of these sharks are young. They come to Maine to eat fish, not people. Lifeguards watch the water with drones and boats.

Why it matters: If you swim at a Maine beach, stay where a lifeguard can see you.

GOOD NEWS

An Otter Comes Back After 100 Years

NEW YORK — A hidden camera took a picture of a river otter in New York City. No one had seen one there in about 100 years. The water used to be too dirty. People spent years cleaning it up. Now fish live there again. Otters eat fish, so the otter came back.

Why it matters: Cleaning up a dirty river can bring animals home again.

WORD OF THE DAY

drought

A long stretch of time with almost no rain.

Used in a sentence: In a drought, the grass in your yard turns brown and crunchy.

TALK ABOUT IT

1. Kittery told people to water their yards only two days a week. What is one way your family could use less water?
2. People worked for years to clean up the river before the otter came back. What is something you would keep working on for a long time?