

The Breakfast Table Times

TODAY'S NEWS, MADE FOR KIDS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

EDITION NO. 17

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TOP STORY

Nation Marks 25th Anniversary of September 11

WASHINGTON, D.C. — This week marks the 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. On Tuesday, President Trump spoke near a steel beam from the World Trade Center. The beam has traveled the country and returns to New York on Friday. That tunnel is named for firefighter Stephen Siller, a 9/11 hero. Trump also honored Welles Crowther with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Crowther, known as the Man in the Red Bandana, helped many survivors escape. Sadly, he died while helping others that day. Many students today were born after the attacks happened. Ceremonies like these teach new generations about courage and memory.

BACKGROUND

The September 11 attacks occurred in 2001, killing thousands of people in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

Why it matters: Anniversaries like this help younger generations learn about history and honor those who died or helped others.

What to watch: Watch for the beam's return trip through the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel on Friday, exactly 25 years after the attacks.

Source: World News Group, Wednesday Morning News (<https://wng.org/podcasts/wednesday-morning-news-september-9-2026-1788897891>); Your Erie, Today's Top Stories (<https://www.youerie.com/news/local-news/todays-top-stories/todays-top-stories-september-8-2026/>)

NATION & WORLD

Sununu Wins New Hampshire Senate Primary

MANCHESTER, N.H. — New Hampshire voters went to the polls this week for a special Senate primary. Republican candidate John E. Sununu won his party's nomination in Manchester. He will now run for the U.S. Senate seat in the general election. Primaries let voters in each party choose their favorite candidate first.

The winner then competes against candidates from other parties later this year. This race is being watched closely ahead of the November midterm elections. Special elections like this one can shift the balance of power in Congress.

BACKGROUND

Special elections fill political seats that become vacant outside the usual election calendar.

Why it matters: The result could affect which party controls the Senate ahead of the November midterms.

What to watch: Watch for the Democratic primary results and the scheduled general election date.

Source: World News Group, Wednesday Morning News (<https://wng.org/podcasts/wednesday-morning-news-september-9-2026-1788897891>)

Thieves Steal Millions in Renoir Paintings

CAGNES-SUR-MER, FRANCE — Thieves broke into a museum in France and stole several paintings. The artwork was created by the famous painter Pierre-Auguste Renoir. Experts say the stolen pieces are worth about nine million euros. The theft happened at the Musée Renoir in Cagnes-sur-Mer.

Police are investigating how the thieves got in and escaped. Art crimes like this are rare but not unheard of in Europe. Investigators hope to recover the paintings before they are sold illegally. Museums worldwide are reviewing their security after the theft.

BACKGROUND

Renoir was a famous French painter known for his colorful, realistic style.

Why it matters: Art thefts like this can affect museums and the preservation of cultural history.

What to watch: Watch for updates from French police on the investigation and any recovered artwork.

Source: Wikipedia, Portal:Current Events September 2026, citing BBC News (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Current_events/September_2026)

GOVERNMENT

Congress Passes Bill to Avoid Government Shutdown

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congress passed a bill this week to keep the government funded. The House voted 370 to 48, a strong bipartisan majority. The bill extends funding through December 11, avoiding a shutdown. It now goes to President Trump to be signed into law.

A government shutdown happens when Congress can't agree on spending bills. This Congress already set a record for the longest shutdown in U.S. history. Lawmakers wanted this issue settled before the November midterm elections. Now, funding fights will likely resume after voters go to the polls.

BACKGROUND

Government shutdowns happen when Congress cannot agree on funding bills before deadlines.

Why it matters: Avoiding a shutdown keeps government services running and affects workers and citizens nationwide.

What to watch: Watch for new funding talks as the December 11 deadline approaches.

Source: CNN Politics (<https://www.cnn.com/2026/09/01/politics/congress-government-shutdown-midterms>); NPR (<https://www.npr.org/2026/09/01/nx-s1-5951536/house-government-funding-vote-midterms>)

MONEY & WORK

Hannaford to Pay \$9 Million Over Manager Pay

PORTLAND, MAINE — Grocery store chain Hannaford agreed to pay \$9 million in a settlement. The case involved how the company paid its store managers. Hannaford has many stores across Maine and New England. Settlements like this often happen when workers claim they were underpaid.

The company did not admit any wrongdoing in the agreement. Workers affected by the case may receive money from the settlement. Cases like this remind companies to follow fair pay laws. Labor experts say wage disputes are common in retail jobs.

BACKGROUND

Wage laws require certain employees to receive extra pay for overtime hours.

Why it matters: Settlements like this can lead to back pay for workers and prompt companies to review pay practices.

What to watch: Watch for details on how eligible employees can claim settlement money.

Source: Central Maine News (<https://www.centralmaine.com/news/>)

MONEY & WORK (CONT.)

Maine Raises Minimum Teacher Pay, Budgets in Question

AUGUSTA, MAINE — Maine's minimum pay for teachers is going up this year. State lawmakers raised the minimum salary to attract more teachers. Some school districts worry about paying for the higher salaries. Smaller towns often have tighter budgets than big cities.

Supporters say better pay helps schools keep good teachers. Critics worry taxes might need to rise to cover costs. The debate shows how school budgets affect towns statewide. Officials will decide how to fund the new pay levels this fall.

BACKGROUND

Maine schools are funded through a mix of state aid and local taxes.

- Why it matters: How much teachers are paid can affect whether schools can hire and keep good teachers.
- What to watch: Watch how school districts adjust budgets this fall to meet the new pay requirement.

Source: Central Maine News (<https://www.centralmaine.com/news/>)

SCIENCE & TECH

Apple Unveils Foldable iPhone and New Gadgets

CUPERTINO, CALIF. — Apple held a major product event this week. The company unveiled new iPhone models, including a foldable design. This is Apple's first foldable phone, called the iPhone Ultra. New Apple Watches and AirPods were also announced.

The event marked new CEO John Ternus's first big product reveal. Foldable phones can bend in half to fit in a pocket. Fans and tech reviewers are excited to try the new features. The new gadgets will go on sale in the coming weeks.

BACKGROUND

Apple releases new phones and gadgets almost every year.

- Why it matters: New technology like foldable phones could change how people use their devices.
- What to watch: Watch for pricing and release dates for the new iPhone Ultra.

Source: 9to5Mac (<https://9to5mac.com/2026/09/03/apple-will-launch-six-major-new-products-next-week-heres-whats-coming/>)

SPORTS

Judge Returns as Yankees Top Rockies, 5-3

NEW YORK, N.Y. — The Yankees defeated the Colorado Rockies 5 to 3 on Tuesday. Pitcher Gabriel Hughes faced off against Yankees ace Cam Schlichter. Hughes struck out star slugger Aaron Judge during the game. It was Judge's first game back after a long injury absence.

The Yankees bullpen held on late to secure the win. New York improved its record to 81 wins and 62 losses. Colorado fell to 55 wins and 88 losses this season. The two teams play again later this week.

BACKGROUND

Aaron Judge is one of the Yankees' star players and a past MVP.

- Why it matters: His return could boost the Yankees as they push toward the playoffs.
- What to watch: Watch how Judge performs in the upcoming games this week.

Source: Yahoo Sports (<https://sports.yahoo.com/articles/rockies-homer-yankees-2-1-022741431.html>); MLBDB Box Score (<https://www.mlbdb.com/score/new-york-yankees-vs-colorado-rockies-823500>)

OUR TEAMS

New York Yankees Yankees 5, Rockies 3

Aaron Judge returned to the lineup after a long injury absence and was struck out by Rockies starter Gabriel Hughes in a tight pitching battle before New York's bullpen closed out the win.

SOUTHERN MAINE

South Portland Ranks Among Best Places for Families

SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE — South Portland earned a spot on Fortune's list of best places for families. The city ranked 17th in the country this year. This marks the second time in a few years South Portland made the list. Rankings like this often look at schools, safety, and community life.

Local leaders say the honor reflects years of community effort. Residents say the city's parks and schools make it special. The recognition brings pride to families across Southern Maine.

BACKGROUND

Fortune's rankings look at schools, safety, and community life in cities nationwide.

- Why it matters: The recognition can boost local pride and attract new families to the area.
- What to watch: Watch for how the city promotes this recognition in the months ahead.

Source: South Portland, ME Official Website (<https://www.southportland.gov/>)

GOOD NEWS

Law Enforcement Operation Rescues Nearly 80 Missing Children

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Police and other agencies teamed up this week to rescue nearly 80 missing children. The children were found in different states and brought home safely. Officers worked for weeks, following leads and sharing information between departments.

Missing children cases can be hard to solve. They often need many people working together. This time, agencies shared tips and used new technology to find the kids faster. Most children are now back with their families or safe caregivers.

Police say teamwork made the rescue possible. Families are thankful for the officers' hard work. Experts hope this kind of teamwork continues to help other children in the future.

BACKGROUND

Investigations into missing children often involve multiple police agencies working together.

- Why it matters: Successful operations like this show how cooperation among agencies can protect kids.
- What to watch: Watch for updates on how agencies plan to continue this kind of teamwork.

Source: World News Group, Wednesday Morning News (<https://wng.org/podcasts/wednesday-morning-news-september-9-2026-1788897891>)