



Monday, March 2, 2026

1. The U.S. and Israel's attack on Iran is expanding into a regional crisis.

This weekend: President Donald Trump said his goal was regime change, but with no plan for what comes next.

Among those killed: Three U.S. service members and Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei. Iran also reported more than 150 children dead in an Iranian elementary school.

Overnight: Three U.S. jets were downed in "apparent friendly fire."

2. Democrats demanded an immediate vote to restrain Trump on Iran.

Their goal: To try and reclaim Congress's constitutional power to declare war. Meanwhile, Trump has sought to avoid owning the attack.

What do Americans think? Some Trump supporters sharply criticized the strikes. And Iranian Americans watched from afar with a mix of frustration, hope and dread.

Another impact: American pocketbooks could be hit with higher prices for gas and other goods.

3. Tomorrow's Senate primary in Texas will shape the midterm elections.

State of play: The race between Rep. Jasmine Crockett and state Rep. James Talarico is testing Democrats on race and gender. And Republican Sen. John Cornyn could lose his primary.

If Democrats take control of the House in January: Lawmakers are already planning to launch an array of investigations — and summon the president to testify.

4. An Ohio newspaper's newest star writer isn't human.

It's AI: At the 184-year-old Cleveland Plain Dealer, a top editor's push to let AI draft news articles is boosting traffic — and spooking staffers.

Zooming out: While other news publications — including this one — have been innovating with AI, using the technology to draft complete articles is mostly uncharted territory.

5. Another winter storm will hit the U.S. this week.

Today and tomorrow: Icy mix will hit the Midwest, Mid-Atlantic and Northeast, with the potential for snow.

Be careful out there: Even small amounts of freezing rain can cause big problems on the roads. In much of the East, this winter has been the coldest one in more than a decade.

6. A doctor answered your burning questions about microplastics.

Readers asked: Should they worry about using plastic bags in the freezer? Water pitchers? Invisalign and retainers? Trisha Pasricha gave five pieces of advice.

Want to eat and drink fewer microplastics? They can be found everywhere — but drinking tap water, avoiding plastic food containers and these other strategies can cut exposure.

7. Wake up early tomorrow if you want to see a lunar spectacle.

What is it? A total lunar eclipse, visible over the entire contiguous U.S. For 58 minutes, the moon will turn into a rusty red "blood moon" as it slips into the Earth's shadow.

For East Coasters: A rare sight will grace the sky, as the eclipsed moon and the sun will briefly be visible on opposite horizons.



Vocabulary 02/3/26

1. retaliatory - taking revenge
to topple - to lose balance and fall down
2. to restrain - to control the actions or behaviour by someone by force
to foreshadow - to act as a warning
3. primary - pre-election vote to determine a party's contender
midterm elections - scheduled for November, in the scope of which all seats in the House of Representatives and a number of seats in the Senate are to be newly elected

to flip blue - to achieve the majority (Blue = colour of the Democrats)
state of play - current status of the matter
Rep. Jasmine Crockett
Rep. James Talarico
Sen. John Cornyn
House - House of Representatives
4. Cleveland Plain Dealer - newspaper
6. invisalign - cosmetic therapy for teeth
retainer - device that keeps a person's teeth straight after their braces have been removed
7. tonic - a liquid medicine that has the general effect of making you feel better

lower 48 - the 48 contiguous continental US American States
contiguous - touching another
to grace - to make attractive

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