

Erin’s outer rainbands pound Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

BY ALLEN CONE
UPI.com

Hurricane Erin weakened to a Category 3 storm with maximum sustained winds of 125 mph while the outbands pounded the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico with gusty winds and heavy rains on Sunday.

The U.S. East Coast is forecast to have rough ocean conditions through the middle of the week, the National Hurricane Center said.

The storm is moving westerly at 14 mph and could affect the East Coast this week, the the NHC reported in an 8 a.m. EDT update.

The storm was located about 170 miles north-northwest of Puerto Rico and about 270 miles east of Grand Turk Island after passing the Leeward Islands on Saturday.

The season’s first Atlantic hurricane reached Category 5 status Saturday morning, the highest in the class, after rapidly intensifying overnight. It became

a Category 1 hurricane on Friday, the years’ fifth named storm.

Erin dropped to a Category 4, and then 3 overnight into Sunday, but remained a major hurricane.

“Since the large-scale environment is expected to be favorable for about another day, re-strengthening is possible during that time period,” NHC forecaster John Cangialsi said in a discussion. “However, it should be noted that predicting the intensity evolution from internal dynamics are challenging, and models often provide Little reliability in their solutions.”

There is a tropical storm warning for the Turks and Caicos Islands and a tropical storm watch is in effect for the southeast Bahamas.

The storm was skirting Puerto Rico rather than hitting it directly.

Erin’s motion is expected to decrease in forward speed on Sunday, followed by a gradual turn to the north on Monday and Tuesday, NHC said.

On the forecast track, Erin’s core is projected to

pass to the east of the Turks and Caicos Islands and southeastern Bahamas on Sunday and Monday.

By Thursday, the storm is forecast to be a few hundred miles west of Bermuda and just outside the big tracking cone. Erin is then forecast to travel north hundreds of miles from the East Coast.

Erin’s outer bands will produce rainfall of 3 to 6 inches across the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, with isolated totals of up to 8 inches. “Locally considerable flash and urban flooding, along with landslides or mudslides, are possible,” NHC said.

Also, swells will affect those places, as well as Hispaniola and the Turks and Caicos Islands, during the next couple of days, the agency said.

“Erin is expected to produce life-threatening surf and rip currents along the beaches of the Bahamas, much of the East Coast of the U.S., Bermuda, and Atlantic Canada during the next several days,” Cangialsi said.

He said interests along the North Carolina and mid-Atlantic coasts, as well as Bermuda “should monitor the progress of Erin as there is a risk of strong winds associated with the outer rainbands during the middle of next week.”

Erin became the first hurricane of the 2025 Atlantic storm season on Friday.

There have been four named storms so far this season in the Atlantic. Tropical Storm Chantal caused major flooding in North Carolina but has been the only of the four to make landfall in the United States this year.

The Atlantic hurricane season began on June 1 and ends on Nov. 30. The peak hurricane season goes from mid-August through September and into mid-October.

Ninety-three percent of hurricane landfalls along the U.S. Gulf Coast and the East Coast have occurred from August through October, the Weather Channel reported in citing data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



DOMINICK WILLIAMS dowilliams@kcstar.com

A security guard walks past Sun Fresh Linwood, which had a sign on the door on Wednesday announcing that it would not reopen. The troubled grocery store had closed the previous day.

FROM PAGE 1A RESIDENTS

was back empty. I just don’t understand it.

“I was so used to the employees; they were some nice, sweet people,” she said. “I hope they were able to get jobs at the other store locations.”

CITY SPENT MILLIONS TO HELP SUN FRESH

A black tarp covered Sun Fresh’s logo on the building on Thursday, and a sign remained on the entrance, informing the public that the store would not open. An employee corralling shopping carts into the building declined to speak to The Star.

Builders.

But those funds did little to help the store stay afloat. Now residents are concerned that taxpayer money was poorly invested.

‘VERY DISAPPOINTING’

A Kansas City resident who lives just outside the Linwood neighborhood said she used to shop at Sun Fresh, but its prices were too high compared to other stores.

Vickie Franklin, 63, who was parked at Aldi, said she is concerned about how so much money from the city could go toward a failed business.

“I only went there when I had to,” Franklin said of the Linwood Sun Fresh. “They would mark down meats and you could sometimes find good deals.”

“The city poured all that money into it and it still didn’t thrive. Obviously there’s bad management or something. Not only does it hurt the community as far as not having a grocery store in the area, but the mismanagement of taxpayer money and no accountability. The whole thing is very disappointing.”

Sitting at a bus stop on East 31st Street on Thursday, Shana Timbs, 45, said she hopes another grocery store replaces the closed Sun Fresh. While she doesn’t often do a lot of grocery shopping herself, she said the store met needs, even with rising crime concerns.

“The community has changed a lot, and the store gave people a place to be and connected the community in some ways,” Timbs said.

Previous reporting by The Star’s Jenna Thompson and Illana Aroughetti contributed.

The next closest grocery stores to the shopping center is Aldi at 3830 Prospect Ave. and Happy Food Center at 4019 E. 31st St., both about a four-minute drive away.

Sun Fresh opened in 2018 after the city spent \$17 million to acquire and redevelop the building. The nonprofit Community Builders Kansas City took over the store in 2022.

Earlier this year, city council approved an ordinance for Community Builders to receive \$161,000 in rent relief and \$750,000 in expedited funding so that Sun Fresh could remain open. The ordinance also authorized the city attorney to pay \$450,000 to settle legal claims between the city and Community

on the procedure.

A Chiefs spokesperson told The Star at the time that the donation to the anti-abortion group came from Lamar Hunt Jr., who wired money from his account with Unity Hunt to the PAC.

Hunt Jr., the son of Chiefs founder Lamar Hunt, has previously been outspoken about his opposition to abortion and in 2020 served as the master of ceremonies at a Kansans for Life banquet.



TAMMY LJUNGBLAD tjungblad@kcstar.com

Arrowhead Stadium at the Truman Sports Complex on July 1, 2025, in Kansas City.

FROM PAGE 1A STADIUM

The donation comes as officials in Missouri and Kansas jockey over the future of the Chiefs and Royals. Lawmakers in both states have passed public funding in the hopes of securing the teams, but neither team has committed to residing in either state.

A lobbyist for the Chiefs told Missouri lawmakers

this summer that, if the team stays inside state lines, they want to build a \$1.15 billion renovation of Arrowhead Stadium in Jackson County. The Royals, on the other hand, have been less specific about their plans if they decide to stay in Missouri.

Campaign finance records reviewed by The Star show that the Chiefs have

frequently contributed to the PAC, in addition to the political arm for state Senate Republicans, over the past several years.

Last year, Unity Hunt, a company that oversees the assets of the Lamar Hunt family, including the Chiefs, paid \$300,000 to a political action committee opposing a statewide abortion rights ballot measure. Voters later approved the measure, called Amendment 3, last November, overturning the state’s near-total ban

on the procedure.

A Chiefs spokesperson told The Star at the time that the donation to the anti-abortion group came from Lamar Hunt Jr., who wired money from his account with Unity Hunt to the PAC.

Hunt Jr., the son of Chiefs founder Lamar Hunt, has previously been outspoken about his opposition to abortion and in 2020 served as the master of ceremonies at a Kansans for Life banquet.

FROM PAGE 1A UKRAINE

ceasefire, saying he would move straight to a permanent peace deal. Zelensky said on Saturday Russia’s refusal to sign a ceasefire “complicates the situation.”

Russia is not in a position to seize Donetsk through military means, and, for Ukraine, the region has huge strategic importance, Merezhko said.

Close to three-and-years of full-scale war has seen Russia gain control of large areas of Luhansk and Donetsk, but much of the latter still remains in Ukrainian control. The Institute for the Study of War (ISW), a U.S.-based think tank that tracks the daily changes to the front lines in the conflict, said earlier this month Ukraine still controls roughly

6,500 square kilometers of territory in Donetsk—equivalent to a quarter of the region.

Russia’s slow but steady gains, concentrated in Donetsk, have come at an eye-watering human cost, according to Ukrainian and Western assessments.

Crucially, west of the front lines, in Ukrainian-held Donetsk, are several cities known as “fortress settlements” that are vital to Ukraine’s defenses.

The region is a “bulwark” for Ukraine to shield its other regions,

Merezhko said.

After the Anchorage summit, Trump told European leaders that he backed a plan in which Ukraine would cede territory it still controlled to Russia, The New York Times reported, citing two senior European officials.

Several European leaders will travel to participate in Zelensky’s meeting at the White House on Monday, including British Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer.

BIRTHDAYS: AUGUST 18

Britannica

Biographical information from August 18 is from Encyclopaedia Britannica. Explore more at [britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com).

Edward Norton, American actor (b. 1969).

Patrick Swayze, American actor and dancer (b. 1952).

Robert Redford, American actor and director (b. 1936).

Roman Polanski, Polish film director (b. 1933).

Franz Joseph, emperor of Austria-Hungary (b. 1830).

Virginia Dare, English colonist (b. 1587).

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

See an error or another problem with content in this edition? Report it by calling 1-888-905-2036.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

290-240 (ISSN 0745-1067)

WEEKLY SUBSCRIPTION PUBLISHED RATES

Sunday-Friday	\$34.99/week*
Sunday only	\$34.99/week*
Wednesday/Sunday	\$34.99/week*

Single-copy rates: Daily \$3*, Sunday \$5.99*, Special Editions \$7.99*/\$9.99*.
Digital only, including Edition: \$34.99 per week*

plus applicable sales tax

Subscriptions renew automatically at the then-current rate (up to \$34.99/week) unless canceled. Payments are non-refundable and include applicable tax. Payments, credits, debits, and price changes may adjust your expiration date. A \$0.59 weekly supply-chain charge and a \$4.99 fee for mailed renewal bills apply. Home delivery includes the Thanksgiving Edition; premium fees of \$4.99 apply on 4/13, 6/22, 8/24, 10/19, and 11/27 and \$9.99 on 5/11, 12/7 in 2025, and on 4/26, 7/26, 9/27, 11/26, and 12/27 in 2026. Content delivery methods may vary, and print subscriptions may be substituted with digital editions. Rate change notices are sent 30 days before they take effect. To cancel, contact us 30 days before expiration at 1-877-962-7827 or at <https://kansascity.com/cancel> Cancellations take effect at the end of the current term. Additional Terms of Service apply at <https://www.kansascity.com/terms-of-service>

The Kansas City Star is published daily, except Saturday. 5151 Merriam Drive, Merriam, Kansas 66203 (by appointment only.) Periodicals Postage Paid at Kansas City, MO. (USPS 290-240.)
Postmaster: Send all UAA to CFS : NON-POSTAL & MILITARY FACILITIES: send address corrections to McClatchy 1601 Alhambra Blvd Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95816.

Contact The Star

Customer Service
Call toll-free 1-877-962-STAR (7827) or visit kansascitystar.com/myaccount.

Legals
Kathy Wilson, 817-390-7111, kwilson@mcclatchy.com

Place a Classified Ad
816-234-4636 or online at classifieds.kansascity.com

The Kansas City Star

Executive Editor
Greg Farmer
816-234-4321 | gfarmer@kcstar.com

Vice President, Opinion Editor
Yvette Walker
816-234-4079 | ywalker@kcstar.com

VP/Advertising
Stephanie Boggins
816-234-4069 | sboggins@kcstar.com

VP/Advertising Operations
Jane Howard
816-234-4896 | jhoward@kcstar.com