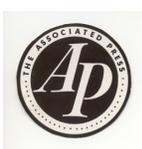
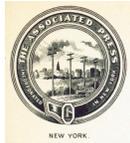


From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2014 10:27 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - July 22, 2014

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Connecting

July 22, 2014

Click [here](#) for sound of the Teletype



Colleagues,

Good morning!

The timing of my return from vacationing in the mid-70s temperatures near Lake George, Colorado, to the sweltering 100-degree temperatures of home-sweet-home Midwest might have been better.

Here's a favorite scene from that trip, along the South Platte River. Brimming with rainbow trout!

But heat or not, it is good to be back - and thanks again to **Mark Mittelstadt** for his Connecting editorship during my absence.

With that, some stories of interest.

Paul

News about AP

Finding elephants and fancy food on Namibia safari

AP newswoman **Donna Bryson** went on a safari in Namibia, and filed this report for the wire:

TORRA CONSERVANCY, Namibia (AP) - Before setting out on a game drive across ruggedly beautiful northwest Namibia, we told the safari camp managers we were happy to take sandwiches. We were intent on finding the notoriously elusive desert elephant, and we didn't want to waste time returning to camp to eat.



"Lunch in the bush?" food and beverage manager Alfonzo Langbooi queried with an enthusiasm we did not immediately understand.

We did find the elephants. After all, looking for wildlife - rhinos, lions, leopards, cheetahs, hyenas, giraffes, mountain zebras, antelopes, baboons - is the main reason to come here. The sight of an ostrich galloping across the semi-desert will charm even those who don't consider themselves birders.

Click [here](#) to read more on the story, shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

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AP's robot-written stories have arrived

Poynter.org: AP earnings-report stories written with automation technology have begun to appear. Earnings reports for Hasbro Inc., Honeywell International Inc. and GE, among others, bear the legend "This story was generated automatically by Automated Insights (<http://automatedinsights.com/ap>) using data from Zacks Investment Research."

AP announced at the end of June that it would start using the technology to produce significantly more earnings report stories.

Reached by phone, AP Managing Editor **Lou Ferrara** said the stories began to appear around the middle of July, and all the ones you're seeing right now have been checked by human eyes, as was the plan. "The tap isn't fully open yet," he said. Some stories were published just as Automated Insights filed them, others have had a few "bugs here and there," Ferrara said.

"What I'm trying to get out of is the data processing business," Ferrara told Poynter earlier this month. "I can't have journalists spending a ton of time data processing stuff. Instead I need them reporting."

A gallery of images by AP's Carolyn Kaster

With the president, at home and abroad, here is a gallery of 50 images by AP photojournalist **Carolyn Kaster**.



Kaster began her career as a freelance photojournalist and joined the AP staff in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in 2003. She is currently based in Washington, DC.

For the AP, Kaster has created video essays and stills for various national assignments, including hurricanes in the Carolina's and Texas, the presidential campaigns of Hillary Clinton and John McCain and Michael Jackson's death and funeral.

Kaster has won multiple awards for her work including first place for 2013 Pictures of the Year International Campaign Single and first place at the 2012 Atlanta Photojournalism seminar.

Click [here](#) for more images; shared by Paul Colford

Where we were when man walked on the moon

Here are more remembrances from Connecting colleagues to the call in Monday's newsletter: Where were you when men landed on the moon July 20, 1969?

Tad Bartimus: I was with AP at the Cape for the launch, Howard Benedict got me in to the hangar to see them get into the tracked vehicle that took them out to the launch pad, then in the VIP viewing area for the actual liftoff -- what a thrill... and on the roof of the AP bureau on Biscayne Bay in Miami with the whole MH AP "family" -- spouses and kids and grandkids -- for the moon walk...

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Ed Breen: July 20, 1969. I was working on the late, lamented Marion (Ind.) Leader-Tribune news desk (staff of one) and had no assurance that NASA and the AP could give me a Wirephoto of The Moment in time for my drop-dead deadline. Solution: A 4x5 Speed Graphic with a Polaroid back on a tripod in front of the 12-inch b/w newsroom TV screen. Made four or five Polaroids, picked the least bad and got it to engraving on deadline. The other story that day was Father James Groppi leading a civil rights march in downtown Marion. Thus the heds: "Man on Moon" and "March on Marion."

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George Bria: I was on the Cable desk in New York (so known by old-timers because foreign news originally was cabled and eventually called the Foreign desk and later the International desk and now, alas, eliminated.) In 1969, we were not yet computerized and the din of tickers in that great fourth-floor newsroom at 50 Rock was usually deafening. But as the moment of the landing approached, I remember a gradual stillness. All of us were glued to TV screens watching the historic step. Then the tickers sprang to life and the news poured in of reaction around the world. I remember especially a story of how people listened on ships in mid-ocean.

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Mike Doan: Moon landing: In Las Vegas, I interviewed a stripper who jumped out of a space capsule on stage for her reaction. It was fun, but I decided it was about time to leave Las Vegas.

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Valerie Komor: I was 11 years old and living in Davenport, Iowa . We bought our first television to watch the landing.

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Chuck Lewis: I was with the Chicago Sun-Times, as was the fashionable fashion writer, who also was my date that afternoon. We were extremely self-conscious that we would always remember where we were and who was with us on that date. So, we selected Jimmy's Woodlawn Tap. on 55th Street in Hyde Park, Chicago. When Armstrong intoned "a giant leap for man," we put aside our steins, leaned over and notched the moment with a 21-gun salute kiss. (Gosh, I hope she remembers it that way.)

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Joe McGowan: I was AP COB in Lima, Peru. We, like the rest of the world, were entranced with the coverage. We had Peruvian TV, of course, and it was in Spanish, except that all of the reports from the moon were in English. So we had a bilingual experience. Our son was 5 and already pretty fluent in Spanish and he spent a lot of time in front of the TV.

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Kent Prince: I was on the general desk for the moon landing, and I can add a footnote: AP swept the play in large part because Lou Boccardi, who was directing coverage in Houston, cleverly figured out he could break the story in advance.

Back in those teletype days, nothing ever went on the wire before it actually happened. This led to those often-ridiculous early stories with excruciating "was to" leads. The verb allowed newspapers to print versions for readers who would see them hours after the event was over, but the AP was protected in case it was called off.

Lou, however, went ahead and put the landing on the wire as a hold-for-release bulletin before it happened so that presses could start the instant the event took place. At the time, HFR was primarily for prepared speeches and announcements embargoed by the source -- not commonly, if ever, used for breaking news. To apply it to a breaking story, full of urgents, was audacious. The source was an inch-and-a-half thick flight plan outlining what was supposed to happen minute by minute. Obviously, if things didn't go as planned, we and the members would toss the HFR and the wire would move every detail as it broke. The HFR gave newspapers copy to set in type and have ready to run when it happened. Here's the way the landing moved in advance:

URGENT

Telegraph Editors:

Following is a hold-for-release top to NL Apollo to be used only after it is released by an AP FLASH reporting touchdown on the moon. Please take every precaution against premature release. The release will be automatic with movement of the flash. Repeat, please guard against premature release. The AP

HOLD FOR RELEASE

APOLLO TOUCHDOWN

BULLETIN

BY JOHN BARBOUR

Associated Press Writer

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) -- Man landed on the moon Sunday, July 20, 1969....

Certainly better than "man was to land on the moon Sunday...." It ran about 200 words and picked up in the 5th graf of the night lead. After release it was updated, literally step by step. Not only did it get the play, it claimed the space for later AP leads which could be dropped on top as they developed. The same technique was used several times during that dramatic week. The AP Log called AP's sweep on the whole week the greatest competitive play margin on a big story that anybody could remember.

At the risk of pre-empting something Lou might offer on the subject, let me add that I asked him about it, and he said he had not heard previously of the HFR technique being used that way. "Because of the way we filed," he wrote, "a Monday morning paper with a midnight deadline could blast 'Man Walks On Moon', which they never could have done had we filed conventionally."

Another footnote. In the middle of the afternoon on that historic day, Lou called the general desk and -- all but apologizing for back-seat driving -- told me, "You've got a hell of a story there." He was talking about a report out of the Boston bureau. Dudley Lehew had called earlier to tell me it was coming and that they had dispatched a reporter to Chappaquiddick. The story made the bjt although it didn't have many details other than that it was Ted Kennedy's car. Two stories for page 1.

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[Ed Tobias](#): The summer of '69 was the summer between my Junior and Senior years in college and I had a primo summer job as a Desk Assistant (the broadcast version of a Copy Boy) in the newsroom of the ABC Radio Network in NYC. Two of us DAs had the good fortune to be assigned to work during the hours that spanned the landing and the moon walk, and I was one of them. Ralph Begleiter, who later worked with me at WTOP radio and then went on to become CNN's State Department correspondent, was the other. Each of us took turns typing a running transcript of the radio conversation between Apollo 11 and Mission Control and I was actually at the keyboard typing "That's one small step for man..." as Neil Armstrong spoke those words.

I wanted to nab one of the Bulletins that chattered onto the wire as Armstrong

stepped onto the Moon but, since I was one of the two lowest on the totem pole, pickings were scarce. I did manage to get "Armstrong steps on Moon" but I had to settle for the "SNAP" that was moved by Reuters.

And, from the Ocean City editor's desk.....

What's wrong with this line?

Apollo 11 landed the first humans on the moon on July 20, 1969, at 6:18 p.m. EDT. Neil Armstrong became the first man to step onto the lunar surface six hours later on 10:56 p.m. EDT.

I think the landing took place a few seconds before 4:18 p.m. EDT which would be about six hours before the walk, as you report.

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Seymour Topping: I was then assistant managing editor of the New York Times and at the desk when we decided to use that headline on the Moon walk. Like most of the rest of the world, the Times had been tracking the Moon mission. When our astronauts landed, we senior editors debated how to headline this incomparable achievement. Then, Hank Lieberman, head of the Science Department, came up with the with the only supremely unquestionable headline: Man Walks On Moon.

And related to the anniversary coverage...

One Giant Leap ... and a Stumble

From the Charleston (South Carolina) Daily Mail blog, by Philip Maramba

As in any line of work, journalism is susceptible to mistakes. Unlike many, however, ours can happen on the front page where everyone can see it.

On Friday, I was very proud to see our 1A centerpiece celebrating the 45th anniversary of the Apollo moon landing.

It was lovely and had everything - an Apollo astronaut and the American flag on the surface of the moon. But, Charleston, we had a problem.

There was also a lunar rover in the picture. This was not an image from the historic 1969 Apollo



11 moon landing; this was James P. Irwin from the Apollo 15 mission in 1971.

In my position as managing editor, I also wear the hats of design editor and acting graphics editor, the latter of which means I'm mostly responsible for garnering file images for the publication.

We had planned earlier in the week to do a special front for Friday, so I quickly gathered photos from the Associated Press archives for our designer to work with.

Unfortunately, in my search, the image of Irwin was in the same batch of results as the iconic picture of Buzz Aldrin. In my hurry to grab good art, I failed to read all the captions and lumped them all together.

That was my first mistake.

The second mistake came when looking at the proof. I am now one of only a handful of people on staff old enough to remember the Apollo program. I knew the lunar rover did not go up on the first landing, but in my focus on the astronaut, the flag and the lunar module, I didn't notice the second vehicle that shouldn't have been there in '69.

And now it's part of the permanent record - with a correction forthcoming, of course.

If we're lucky, aside from the chiding of an eagle-eyed readership, that's the worst fallout of our mistakes. (The worst usually involves lawyers.) The only salve we can apply is that we get another chance to do a good paper with our next edition and that we will try harder to be more careful in the future.

Click [here](#) for the blog; shared by Bob Daugherty and Doug Pizac.



Connecting wishes Happy Birthday

To

[Jim Anderson](#)

Stories of interest

[Russian Public Has a Totally Different Understanding of What Happened to Malaysia Airlines Flight 17](#)

Did you know Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 was full of corpses when it took off from Amsterdam? Did you know that, for some darkly inexplicable reason, on July 17, MH17 moved off the standard flight path that it had taken every time before, and moved north, toward rebel-held areas outside Donetsk? Or that the dispatchers summoned the plane lower just before the crash? Or that the plane had been recently reinsured? Or that the Ukrainian army has air defense systems in the area? Or that it was the result of the Ukrainian military mistaking MH17 for Putin's presidential plane, which looks strangely similar?

Did you know that the crash of MH17 was all part of an American conspiracy to provoke a big war with Russia?

Well, it's all true-at least if you live in Russia, because this is the Malaysia Airlines crash story that you'd be seeing.

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[Financial Times appoints Megan Murphy Washington bureau chief](#)

The Financial Times today announces the appointment of Megan Murphy as Washington bureau chief to lead the FT's coverage of US politics. She will assume the role on 1 January 2015 and will relocate from London to Washington, DC, this fall. Murphy succeeds Richard McGregor, who will work on longer-term projects.

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[How statehouse reporting power compares with a state's population](#) (Latrice Davis/Facebook)

A new Pew Research Center report found a decline in the ranks of newspaper reporters covering government from some of the most important venues in the U.S.-the 50 state capitol buildings. Our data also revealed that one key indicator of the size of a statehouse press corps is state population, with eight of the 10 most populous states-California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan-ranking in the top 10 in the number of full-time reporters.

But there is another way to look at the relationship between statehouse reporting power and population. The color-coded interactive map (below) ranks states by the number of statehouse reporters for every 500,000 residents. And by that measure, the results are very different.

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[On That Over-Processed Times Cover Photo of MA17 Crash Site](#) (Bob Daugherty)

You may have seen this Times cover of the commercial plane shot down by Russian separatists in the Ukraine with the over-processed image that has many photo people shaking their heads. The original version is below.

Of course the printed version goes way too far, fundamentally misrepresenting reality. If something happened at night, you can't turn it into day. It's the kind of factual misrepresentation - in terms of orienting an event in time - that opens Pandora's Box. (You'll notice, by the way, how the alteration also makes the colors freaky - like you're looking at the scene through a kaleidoscope.)

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[Not The Onion: White House press secretary criticizes anonymous sourcing](#)

This is rich: On Monday, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest criticized The Washington Post for running a story in which anonymous sources -- former government officials, outside experts and immigrant advocates -- said that the White House had been warned of the current immigration crisis.

"The lede is hooked entirely to anonymous sources," Earnest said dismissively. "That's a fact."

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[Amid old S.F. newspaper wars, real blood was shed](#)(Doug Pizac)

California's first two newspapers, the Star and the Californian in San Francisco, closed down in the early days of the Gold Rush as editors and readers alike headed for the diggings in the summer of 1848. For five months, there was no newspaper in the state.

But the 19-year-old "boy editor" of the Star, Edward Kemble, soon returned to San Francisco with blistered feet, a sore back and a renewed certainty that his career lay in newspapers, not standing in a freezing foothill stream under the blazing sun with a heavy metal pan in his hands.

And Finally...

Bees are killing newspaper single-copy sales?

"Another blow to the struggling newspaper industry," tweets the @dailynewshack. This photo, which is about a year old, is circulating on social media again. The newspaper shown is the July 18, 2013, edition of Lansdale (PA) Reporter. The photo "has been out there for a while," I'm told by a Reporter staffer who didn't want to be named. She adds: "Bees can be an issue. We've taken preventative measures to make sure people don't get stung while getting their daily paper." The boxes are occasionally sprayed, she says.



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