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Connecting - August 22, 2017

1 message

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Connecting

August 22, 2017

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Solar Eclipse 2017



Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning!

Thanks to all of our Connecting colleagues who shared their stories and photos of Monday's solar eclipse - an event that those of us lucky enough to witness it will remember for the rest of our lives.

Your stories are great stuff!

In just 90 minutes, the eclipse traversed a 3,000-mile path, from Oregon through Idaho, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina, before finally disappearing off the coast of Charleston, S.C., at 2:49 p.m. Eastern time.

Linda and I experienced the eclipse in my birthplace, Excelsior Springs, Missouri, a community of 11,000 just north of Kansas City. We were situated right outside the Elms Hotel where once my father, as editor of the local newspaper, interviewed Harry Truman on Election Night 1948 and closeby the now-abandoned church where my mom and dad were married. We drove there in pouring rain, and I credit my folks for heavenly intervention in lifting the rain and clouds an hour before the total eclipse. The clouds returned minutes after the sun had reappeared and rain was not far behind.



The AP umbrella in the photo was purchased at The AP Store and we were lucky it wasn't needed for very long. Unfortunately, it would have been a necessity in communities closeby that were in the path of the totalality, as you will read in some of the stories below. This photo of the two of us was taken by a fellow eclipse watcher who took Amtrak from his home in Los Angeles to witness the event. And the photos above show The Elms before and during the eclipse.

If you were delayed with sending us your own story and photo, it would be welcomed today.

Here's to a Happy Day-After-Eclipse Day!

Paul

Portland, OR - Where it started on Monday morning



Karen and Steve, taken by their son, David.

Steve Graham (Email) - The great 2017 solar eclipse came ashore in Oregon this morning just after 9 a.m. as predicted with uncanny accuracy.

Unlike the many thousands of people who trooped to premier viewing spots and traffic jams, my family and I opted to be satisfied with 92.2 percent of totality and leisurely watched the event over breakfast from our patio in suburban Portland.

The small towns of Madras (MAA-druhs) and Prineville in Central Oregon, both in the center of totality and virtually guaranteed clear skies, were overrun with hordes of tourists swelling the populations to many times their normal size and providing a temporary economic boom as well as impossible traffic jams.

(As I remember it, the last time Madras was in the national news was when the late Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh made his daily drive there in one of his many Rolls Royces.)

Despite the proclivity of local TV broadcasters who seemed unable to utter "eclipse" without prepending "once in a lifetime," it was actually the third solar eclipse for Karen and me.

Back in February, 1979 a total eclipse swept over Portland and up the Columbia River Gorge. That eclipse was only seen in the Pacific Northwest, however, and Portland was under a heavy cloud layer.

But I was doing some flying in those days and rented a turbocharged Piper Cherokee Lance, loaded our three children and a neighbor into the seats and watched the event from above the clouds while flying the path of totality. Unfortunately, Karen, my wife, was teaching school and only saw the skies darken outside the school window.

Today, 38 years later, our sons joined my wife, me and our daughter, from Kobe, Japan and Atlanta, Ga. to watch again.

We both happened to be in Mexico for the July, 1991 solar eclipse, but clouds and pollution were a problem.

In Portland and the Willamette Valley today, however, the skies were crystal clear, as were the skies in Central Oregon.

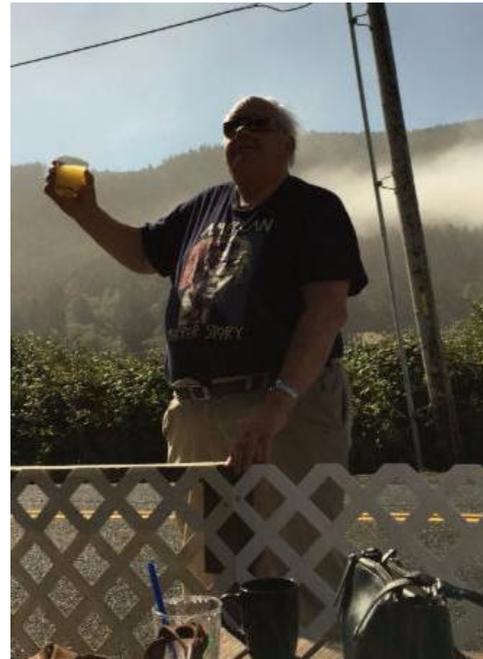
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Yachats, OR - Life is back to its blissfully comatose pace

Joe Frazier ([Email](#)) - Most August days find Our Little Town (pop. 700 or so) on the central Oregon coast fairly full of visitors and predictions were for of an onslaught of Mongol hords in their campers, trailers and God knows what to come barreling in on U.S. 101 for the eclipse, bringing gridlock, collapsing the infrastructure, raping our women, running restaurants and the only grocery store out of food and worse. The place was on a state of emergency footing.

But when the much-ballyhooed eclipse crept ashore here for its American debut a little after 9 a.m. you could have fired a cannon through town and not hit a soul. Well, not very many. My hunch is people were scared off of the prime viewing sites to the north by the possibility of cloudy skies and well-publicized shameless gouging by some motel owners. Local TV stations were doing pieces on well-known restaurants that had geared for swarms but were half full if that.

A few of us gathered at a favorite watering hole that had opened early for the occasion but stood nearly empty, donned our special glasses and watched the sun get eaten by a dragon or whatever it was that was going on up there. As we rattled out ice cubes and let out wolfish howls at the moon a state cop drove by. You rarely see them here. He took one look and kept going. Why was that, I wonder?



Funny thing, though. A couple of hours after it was over the highway (2 lanes) was backed up southbound by many accounts for 10 miles or more. Where did these people come from? we never saw them arrive.

They seem [to.be](#) gone now mostly. Life is back to its blissfully comatose pace in Yachats (YAH-hots), home to the world's greatest ocean.

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Sisters, OR - Crowds, what crowds?

Mark Thayer (Email) - My wife and I met friends from our home in Sonoma County to view the eclipse, having rented an apartment about nine months ago before the prices went sky high. We drove through Madras on Sunday, before the eclipse and traffic was what a resident of the San Francisco Bay Area would call normal. We stopped on the two-lane highway when cars were turning left. In Madras, itself, we hit some stop lights; but never waited more than one cycle.

With Totality at two minutes in Madras and 30-seconds in Sisters we decided to stay here. I've attached photos of the tent city we passed in Madras, and us in the park around the corner from the apartment. Crowds, what crowds?



Oregon Department of Transportation has a great web site showing bottlenecks or lack thereof all over the state. They showed green most of the time on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There was huge jam on Thursday for a festival in Prineville, also in the path of the eclipse.

After the eclipse traffic cams showed a different story with bumper to bumper traffic leaving Madras.

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St. Joseph, MO - Nature has a mind of its own, but there was some good news

Eileen Lockwood ([Email](#)) - As we all know, nature has a mind of its own. It doesn't care how many people cluster in a city to watch an almost once-in-a-lifetime nature presentation. In this case, the total eclipse "scheduled" for this afternoon.

I bought my dark glasses (only a dollar, thank goodness), opened the garage door, set up my chair and, luckily, brought out today's Wall Street Journal to read until the moon stopped on top of the sun, just above my driveway. Well, the "appointed time" came and went, but so did the heavy clouds overhead. Bottom line: No historic eclipse in St. Joseph, Missouri. I hope the outcome was different in some of the other cities along the way.

The good news: Hotels were filled, so it was a good financial weekend for them. Ditto for restaurants and probably some of the stores. Relatives from far and wide found an excuse to visit. Etc., etc., etc. The Convention and Visitors Bureau was more than ready for the onslaught, and so were the police, et al. For the CVB, police, et al., it was a good exercise that can provide good experience in the future. The bad news, though: A lot of people were disappointed.

Other good news: It was a good chance for residents -- and school students -- to learn about astronomy, et al. And it was good training for some future big public event. Or maybe some people were able to jump into their cars and head toward the next city along the eclipse line. Stay tuned.

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Atchison, KS - Somewhere sun shining bright, but not here



Ralph Gage ([Email](#)) - "Oh somewhere in this favored land, the sun is shining bright..."

But that was not the case in Atchison's Jackson Park Monday, even though Atchison, Kan., was in the path of totality for the long-awaited solar eclipse.

My wife and I, equipped with glasses and binoculars approved for viewing the moon's path across the sun, were there along with busloads of Osher classmates and others who packed the park.

We had omens on the trip from Lawrence: No working address system on the bus, meaning that Dr. David Besson, professor of Astronomy and Physics at the University of Kansas, had to shout to make his presentation heard. And the rain began as traffic increased as we neared Atchison.

Then rain it did. Poured. We were teased intermittently as the clouds faded. But during totality, when the park's lights came on and darkness encompassed us, the eclipse was not to be viewed. Later, we got glimpses of the eclipse. It was disappointing.

On our trip back to Lawrence, the sun was shining though wispy clouds. Mother Nature had had her way with us.

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Hartsburg, MO - A sold-out bike ride on the Katy Trail where Dotty's Cafe opened for breakfast



Bruce Smith (Email) - intrepid Connecting eclipse reporter on the Katy Trail in Hartsburg, MO, population 106: A sunny day awaited bike riders where 500 riders sold out the Rocheport to Jefferson City solar eclipse 38-mile trek. For the event, Dotty's Cafe even opened on Monday with a band at breakfast. Folks enjoyed hash browns and eggs to the sounds of the Denny Ville Five minus One.



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Cooper Hill, MO - Luck won out, bringing perfect skies



Dennis Robert Peters, left, from Lake of the Ozarks, Mo., watches the solar eclipse with his family from Gasconade Ridge roadside park in Cooper Hill, Mo.

Jody Kurash ([Email](#)) - In the center of the Missouri eclipse path, luck won out. Weather forecasters had predicted partly to mostly cloudy skies but after being completely shrouded by an inconvenient cloud minutes before totality, the skies cooperated and provided spectators with a brilliant view of the corona.

I witnessed the 2017 eclipse from the Gasconade Ridge roadside park north of Cuba, Mo., where less than 50 people had gathered. The eclipse viewers included Romanian immigrants living in Dallas and a group that believed the event was the start of a biblical prophecy.

The lead-up was stunning with a rosy sunset-like view over rolling hills and a golden hue over the park. The pinnacle was met with cheers and applause.

The drive from Bartlesville, Oklahoma to Cuba, the day before was relatively traffic free. Other than hotel rooms being booked within an 80-mile radius, the atmosphere was rather subdued - there were empty tables at restaurants and a discount store still had commemorative t-shirts in stock.

All of the people I encountered had driven to the event and minutes after the spectacle, many started on their way back home.

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Austin, TX - A lizard forged in iron



Harry Cabluck ([Email](#)) - Just in case you wish a filler for "Connecting," here's a black and white photo from Austin, Texas, made during the eclipse.

The lizard was forged in iron by our friend Tom Lupton, who made the fence and gate for our front yard.

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Lonedell, MO - Nudist club prez thanked me for giving them exposure



J.B. Forbes (Email) - More than 350 sun worshippers gathered at the Forty Acre Club near Lonedell, Mo. Monday to watch the eclipse. Couples from France and England and several Midwest states traveled to the nudist club to experience the event. One man from Dallas said that this was the only nudist club he could find in the country that was in the path of totality. The club president thanked me for giving them exposure.

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Grand Junction, CO - Doing it old school

**Jim**

Spehar (Email) - We don't need no stinkin' glasses. The Spehars, Bonnie and Jim, doing it old school. It's what happens when you live with an ex-elementary school teacher. And are too lazy to go downtown and pick up free eclipse glasses at the local library.

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Brevard, NC - definitely worth 1,000-mile round trip



Robert Meyers ([Email](#)) - Brevard, N,C, with friend and former Greenpeace colleague Melissa Thompson at her mother's home. Clouds approached from the south shortly after the 1:08 start of the eclipse but parted enough for views right up to totality but then seemed to cover the sun and moon in full darkness. Sirens from town center .7 of a mile away. Birds chatter went quiet and dogs howled. A breeze stirred. The light began to return through orange and gold cloud. I phone photos poor. I watched the rest of the transit until 3:55 in 95-degree temps and high humidity. An hour later torrential rain. Typed this on phone without glasses. Forgive errors. Definitely worth 1,000 mile round trip.

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Owassa, AL - Eclipse better if there were chickens to watch

Ed Williams ([Email](#)) - I remember my grandmother's story about experiencing an eclipse of the sun when she was growing up.

My grandmother Dealie Diamond Darby was born on a farm in 1893 in Conecuh County, Alabama.



She told me that as a child she and her brothers and sisters were working in the field when there was a solar eclipse.

My grandmother said the community had learned in the Farmers' Almanac about an impending eclipse that year, but they didn't know exactly when it would occur.

She said the sky got completely dark, and the siblings had trouble seeing their way home. The chickens were roosting and crickets chirping their evening songs when they got home.

When daylight began returning their roosters started crowing.

My newspaper pal Madelyn Dinnerstein in Pittsburgh mailed me a pair of eclipse sunglasses from the Carnegie Science Center up there! They are certified and safe.

I was ready for the 2017 eclipse.

But eclipse day would have been a lot more fun if I'd had some chickens to watch.

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Columbia, MO - Stepping onto patio to view the eclipse

Terry Ganey ([Email](#)) - My wife, Judy, and I did not have far to go to view the eclipse. Columbia was in the path of totality, and we merely had to step out onto the patio to get the full experience.

Viewing the run-up was about what I expected, as PAC MAN gradually consumed Mr. Sun.

But when the totalization came, and we were able to take off the glasses, it was a moving and memorable experience. My oldest son is an astronomy teacher, and all the briefings he gave us on this event proved to be true: Remarkable.

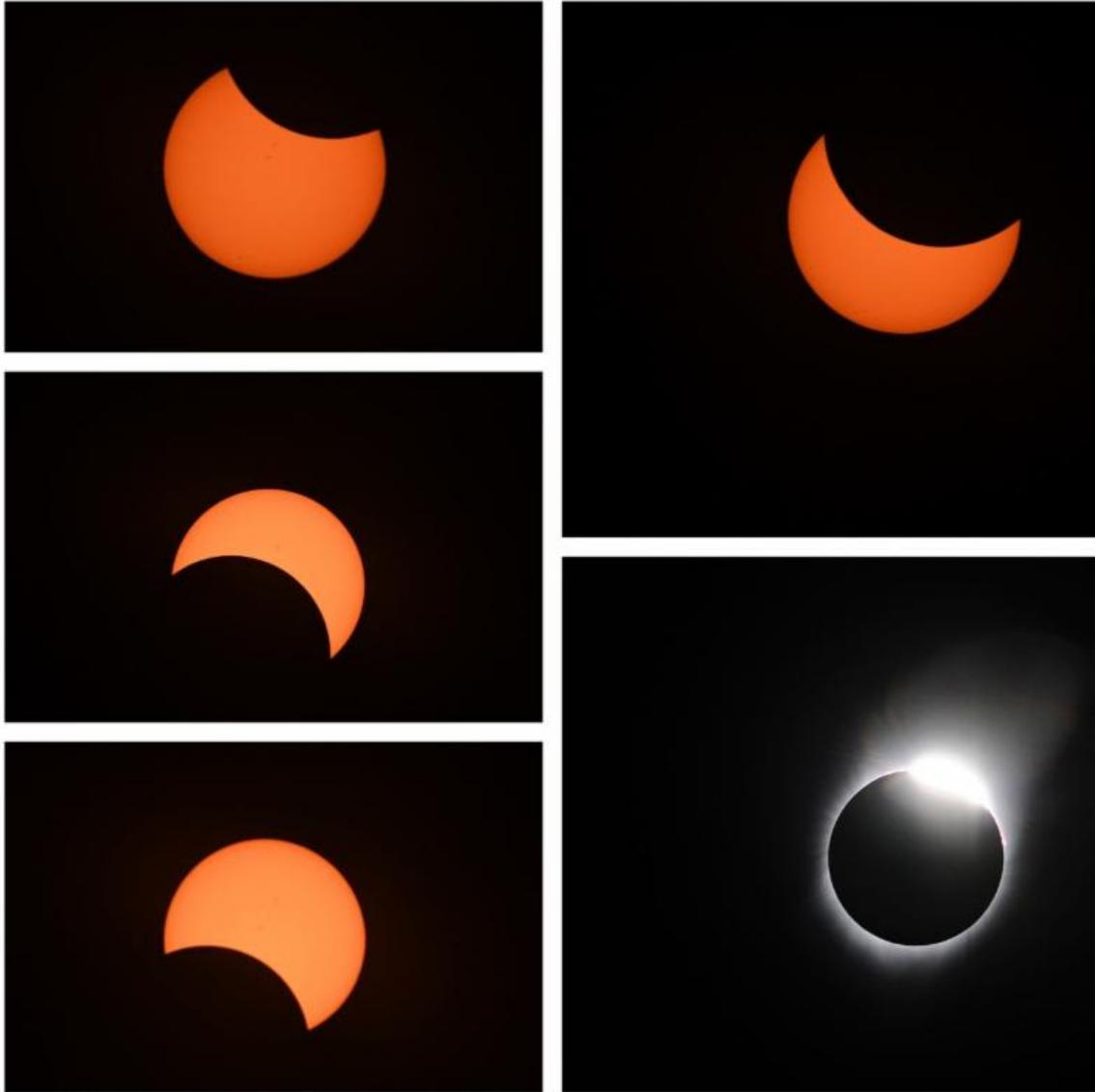
And finally, a familiar face in Oregon





Wherever the story, Nick Ut seems to be there - even though months have passed since the Los Angeles-based photographer retired after a 51-year AP career that included a Pulitzer Prize for his work in his native Vietnam. Here, near John Day, Oregon, he shoots the solar eclipse.

And the below is some of what he shot:



Connecting mailbox

Happy AP 25th to Nancy Nussbaum



Nancy Nussbaum, AP's director of Training and Engagement (and Connecting colleague), joins colleagues in Columbus, Ohio, for her 25th service anniversary celebration on Aug. 17, 2017. Left to right, newswoman Kantele Franko, Nancy, Legal Affairs reporter Andrew Welsh-Huggins, desktop engineer Jeff Shreves and Statehouse reporter Julie Carr Smyth. (Photo by Eva Parziale)

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AP Top 25 preseason poll featured on ESPN



Michael Giarrusso ([Email](#)) - Love seeing Sportscenter using AP logo and spending much of the show talking #aptop25 preseason poll. Michael, AP's global sports editor, notes that on Tuesday, today, the AP will release its first preseason football All America team.

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Bob Thomas credit, even after his death? Nothing would stop him from doing his work

Lyle Price ([Email](#)) - What do I see on A8 of the Aug. 21 edition of the Seattle Times' jump page of the Jerry Lewis obit but a byline report by Bob Thomas summarizing the star's long association with annual Muscular Dystrophy fundraisers--including the on-camera famed 1976 reunion between Lewis and his one-time partner Dean Martin. The story covered the top third of the page. An editor's note at the bottom of the story says that Thomas is a late Associated Press entertainment writer and that a still-extant AP Film Writer Lindsey Bahr contributed from Los Angeles.

This has to top even coming off of a sick bed in order to cover a story, but those of us fortunate enough to have worked with Bob in LA would not be overly surprised

that nothing would stop him from doing so.

A closer look at 'Trump Country'



Robert LaCount, a recovering addict who voted for Donald Trump, sits for a photo in the old church he is fixing up as a community center in Hoquiam, Washington, June 12, 2017. (AP Photo/David Goldman)

By LAUREN EASTON

The latest installment of AP's "Trump Country" series examines Washington state's Grays Harbor County, plagued by addiction and deaths from drugs, alcohol and suicide, and the varying degrees to which Trump supporters there believe the president can help turn things around.

Reporter Claire Galofaro, based in Louisville, Kentucky, recounted how "Trump Country" came about and commented on some of its key findings.

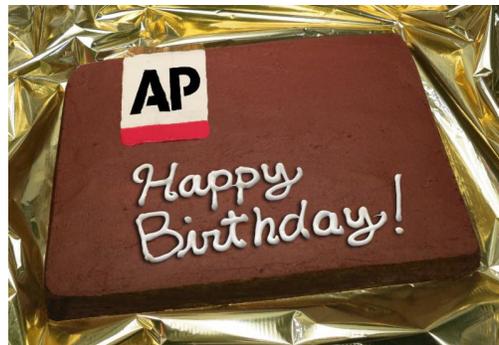
What prompted the idea to return to the traditionally Democratic counties that had voted for Donald Trump?

Right after Donald Trump was elected president, we sat down with a bunch of spreadsheets and tried to figure out what data would offer us the best lens through which to examine voters' embrace of Trump's message. We decided to look at the tipping points, these counties that voted Republican for the first time in decades. That signaled to us that there was something about Trump specifically that spoke to those voters in a way no Republican had before, and they were ultimately the people and places that handed him the presidency.

Many voters talked about wanting "change." We felt that going to these counties would help us dig more deeply into what sort of change they were looking for - and what issues were most crucial. Was it the economy? Did anti-immigrant sentiment play a role? Why were these communities feeling so forgotten?

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Jenny Volanakis - jvolanakis@gmail.com

Stories of interest

How a small magazine responded to its White House-shattering scoop (Poynter)

By JAMES WARREN

Amy Lambrecht, publisher of The American Prospect, faces a tough challenge every day: How can she make her magazine stand out in a wickedly competitive media universe where being interesting and provocative may be a higher priority than being smart?

But that task got way easier last week when the co-founder of the intellectual and scholarly quarterly picked up a phone and heard the preternaturally inflammatory Steve Bannon at the other end.

Bannon's outreach last week to co-founder and co-editor Robert Kuttner was a more highbrow version of Anthony Scaramucci's self-immolation in contacting The New Yorker's Ryan Lizza. But the resulting unrelated comments on a variety of topics and West Wing colleagues provided a similar impact and, soon, the White House chief strategist was gone, just like The Mooch, and in Bannon's case he was quickly back at his old proselytizing perch at Breitbart News.

Read more [here](#).

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Why mobile will dominate news media by 2020 (journalism.co.uk)

"In the next three to four years we are going to see an exponential explosion on several different fronts that are going to have massive impact on both the smartphone and your daily lives," said Glen Mulcahy, head of innovation, RTÉ Tech, at the latest Mojo (mobile journalism) Meetup in London on 16 August.

Warning news organisations not to see technology as linear, but as a quickly evolving medium that will change workflows and production on a wider scale, he explained why he thinks mobile will dominate news media in just three years' time.

Read more [here](#).

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LA Times ousts editor-publisher and other top managers

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The Los Angeles Times ousted its editor-publisher and several top newsroom executives Monday in what its parent company says is a shake-up aimed at moving one of the nation's flagship newspapers more quickly into the digital age while bolstering its Washington coverage and other reporting.

Veteran media executive Ross Levinsohn was named Times publisher. Jim Kirk, who until last week was editor and publisher of the Chicago Sun-Times, was named interim executive editor.

The pair replace Davan Maharaj, a 28-year veteran of the Times who had held both titles since 2016.

The Times reported that Maharaj was terminated Monday, along with Managing Editor Marc Duvoisin, Deputy Managing Editor for Digital Megan Garvey and Assistant Managing Editor of Investigations Matt Doig.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

Brenda Smiley ([Email](#)) - I wrote this story about the 1979 eclipse. Editors at the L.A. Weekly asked me to go up to Missoula at the last minute -no easy feat - let alone the unpredictability of seeing the event itself.

Our friends arrived with safe solar sunglasses and we made a short climb up to our roof to experience a little magic right here in Brooklyn. We experienced the not-quite-complete totality (71%, if that!), a cloud-free view of the 2017 Great American Eclipse, arriving as predicted, although I thought it a minute late. The wind picked up, temperatures dropped sharply, the sunny day turned gravelly grey - while unwanted guests, pigeons and a pesky wasp suddenly disappeared.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: If you have trouble reading the type below, drop me a note and I will send you the story separately. Paul Stevens, Editor)

Personal View

A Little Magic At 9:22

by Brenda Smiley

THE INDIANS CALLED THE canyon Helgate because of the arctic winds which blow through it from the Continental Divide to the east. It was 7:15 a.m. when the caravan drove into the leaden sunrise; a bus, some cars, a few mud-splattered pickups—all full and headed in search of a singular vision.

What has inspired this determined little caravan and why have I left the sun-soaked security of L.A. for the freezing new experience of Missoula, Montana, you may ask? Well, it is all to see and experience the very last solar eclipse on the North American continent in this century... the last until August 21, 2017.

Early Monday morning, Feb. 26th, the new moon intersects the Earth's plane and for a time blots out some of the sun's powerful rays. As the Earth rotates on its axis, the moon's elliptical shadow hits the Pacific Ocean west of Washington state and races eastward in an upward curving arc at the rate of 1,700 miles per hour.

This parabola-shaped path which the moon's shadow takes across the Earth's surface is called the "Path of Totality." Missoula, nestled deep in the Montana Rockies, happens to be almost dead center on the path; a 180-mile wide swath in which the sun's light is completely obliterated.

While other charmed towns situated in the "path" knocked themselves out vying for visiting scientists and tourists by offering Eclipse fairs, lectures and hot-air balloon trips, Missoulians were offered two interesting possibilities: a chairlift ski ride to the top of the Snow Bowl ski area (for only \$3.00, coffee and donuts included), or a weekend festival starting Wavy Gravy and the Hog Farm, sponsored by Headwaters Alliance and the University of Montana's Progressive Student Union, Student Action Center and Nuclear Free Missoula.

The choice is obvious. I'm no fool. Given the opportunity to be the one out of every thousand on this planet to experience a solar eclipse in his or her lifetime, what better way to do it than with the Perfect Fool, Merry Prankster Wavy, ser of many visions, master of many total-experiences.

No Here Hippies These

WITH THEIR FADED JEANS and battered army jackets, and in the presence of Wavy and the Hog Farm—one of the surviving communities of wisened flower adults—the sponsors appear reminiscent of the '60s, but the nostalgic tone is only superficial. The coalition of community groups from Missoula and student organizations from the university (a mixture nearly unheard of ten years ago) has a startling record of accomplishment in this state of environmental activists and giant energy corporations. The environment and progressive causes generally take the same beating in Montana's corporation-dominated legislature as they do everywhere these days. But last November, these people were instrumental in passing not one but two major anti-nuclear initiatives. It will now require a two-thirds

vote of the entire state electorate to approve construction of a nuclear reactor here. And Missoula County is the country's first nuclear-free zone, by a 2-1 vote of the county's residents.

On Monday, eclipse day, the caravan heads southward from Helgate Canyon. An hour later the Hog Farm has pulled over to the side of a snow-banked country road near an open field in the sloping Drummond Valley area.

The bus is a victim in smoke as it grinds to an unsteady halt. Puffs of black exhaust bring up the rear. A sweeter smelling variety trickles from open window cracks and dissolves in the crisp, nuclear-free air.

People, children and dogs pile out. Even though the latest weather report is not encouraging—only a 10 percent chance for

it out... out... out... It's here, energy, please, break the planet... Let it out... 'til there's no more air... It's really buzzin' now. Stand up... up..."

I haven't felt my toes in hours. If I have to have my toes amputated after coming all the way up here, and not even see an eclipse...

It's getting darker. The temperature has dropped noticeably. Everybody's looking up. A small hole is beginning to appear in the big cloud that's covering the sun. It is all very unusual. A weird mixture of still, wilderness and Disney movies.

The dogs start barking... birds are no longer chirping. The children have become quiet.

Very quiet. I forget my toes.

Wavy yells, "Really concentrate on



Sun worshippers in the snow.

Photo by Josephine Lowery

clear skies—optimism and spirits run high. Waddlers and lasso players start up, immediately, people are dancing and strutting in the middle of the road. There are in all about 15 adults, four children and six dogs.

Fireworks Before The Fireworks

WAVY GETS OFF THE BUS. He wears a striped serape poncho and funky cowboy hat and carries a bundle and a crumpled paper bag. He starts handing out firecrackers from the paper bag. "Shooting off firecrackers and banging pots and pans are part of the Tibetan trip for scaring off the dragon to keep it from swallowing up the sun," he explains.

Firecrackers pop and sizzle over the shadowless blue-lit terrain.

In the center of the field, Wavy opens his bundle and sets up what he calls his Alter Ego Altar. It is a well-worn prayer rug on which he sets a lion head, a walking penguin toy, Stan and Laurel heads, candles, a gourd and a clam shell filled with brown liquid. He claps his Tibetan bell and leads the group in tracing in the snow Hopi symbol of emergence. Everyone is now concentrating on getting the clouds to part so the sun can emerge and we can see the eclipse.

I'm beginning to feel a little silly. All of these toys and firecrackers and rituals from the past, including the dead '60s and its relic rhetoric. According to my watch, the first stages of the eclipse are already under way. Somewhere up there. And I can't see a thing because of all the clouds.

People are getting a little crazy now, hanging on tambourines, yelling like coyotes and singing something like "May the Pure Sun Shine Within You." Nothing happens, and Wavy calls for a circle.

"Hook it up. Hook it up and hold on tight! I can't feel it yet. The circle's not complete."

Wavy yells out breathing instructions: "Take it in. Take it in. Take it in! Then let

moving these clouds away!"

Good idea. It's now or never.

"Talk to the wind! Talk to the wind!" he continues.

Someone else yells, "Do you see anything yet?"

Wavy: Keep the circle going... keep it moving!"

Suddenly, No Light

THEN, JUST WHEN I'M THINKING it's too late now, it's not going to happen, everything goes black! I can't believe it! It is so dark that only the little candle shows up on the ground. Bells. Whoops. Shouts of "Oh, man!" "Oh, wow!" "Pan the welder's goggles!" ring out.

For two minutes and 22 seconds it remains that way, dark except for a band of light over the hills to the south which looks like a sunrise in the wrong place.

So it was that at 9:22 a.m.—exactly on schedule, the only time we could have seen the eclipse—the clouds parted and Totality was experienced.

Wavy's magic worked.

Riding back into town with this group of Earth lovers and protectors, I can see that even though the sun was out, the clouds have returned to cover the hole that so unbelievably opened at the right time and in the right place.

I wonder if I missed anything by not going on that skilift? No, how could I have. What on Earth—or more precisely, off it—could have been a more amazing and wondrous experience than the one I just had? I still can't believe it happened... and right on schedule.

Mmmm... I can finally feel my toes.

Back in Missoula, I find out that the clouds didn't open for the skilift riders. All they got for their three bucks was hot coffee and donuts at the top.

I guess the moral to the story is that if you give to the planet, to the environment... it will, in turn, give back to you. ■

Brenda Smiley is a free-lance writer.

March 15, 1979

Today in History - August 22, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 22, the 234th day of 2017. There are 131 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 22, 1851, the schooner *America* outraced more than a dozen British vessels off the English coast to win a trophy that came to be known as the America's Cup.

On this date:

In 1485, England's King Richard III was killed in the Battle of Bosworth Field, effectively ending the War of the Roses.

In 1787, inventor John Fitch demonstrated his steamboat on the Delaware River to delegates from the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

In 1846, Gen. Stephen W. Kearny proclaimed all of New Mexico a territory of the United States.

In 1910, Japan annexed Korea, which remained under Japanese control until the end of World War II.

In 1922, Irish revolutionary Michael Collins was shot to death, apparently by Irish Republican Army members opposed to the Anglo-Irish Treaty that Collins had co-signed.

In 1932, the British Broadcasting Corp. conducted its first experimental television broadcast, using a 30-line mechanical system.

In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Vice President Richard Nixon were nominated for second terms in office by the Republican National Convention in San Francisco.

In 1968, Pope Paul VI arrived in Bogota, Colombia, for the start of the first papal visit to South America.

In 1972, President Richard Nixon was nominated for a second term of office by the Republican National Convention in Miami Beach. John Wojtowicz (WAHT'-uh-witz) and Salvatore Naturile took seven employees hostage at a Chase Manhattan Bank branch in Brooklyn, New York, during a botched robbery; the siege, which ended with Wojtowicz's arrest and Naturile's killing by the FBI, inspired the 1975 movie "Dog Day Afternoon."

In 1985, 55 people died when fire broke out aboard a British Airtours charter jet on a runway at Manchester Airport in England.

In 1986, Kerr-McGee Corp. agreed to pay the estate of the late Karen Silkwood \$1.38 million, settling a 10-year-old nuclear contamination lawsuit. The Rob Reiner coming-of-age film "Stand By Me" was put into wide release by Columbia Pictures.

In 1992, on the second day of the Ruby Ridge siege in Idaho, an FBI sharpshooter killed Vicki Weaver, the wife of white separatist Randy Weaver (the sharpshooter later said he was targeting the couple's friend Kevin Harris, and didn't see Vicki Weaver).

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, addressing a Veterans of Foreign Wars conference in Kansas City, Missouri, offered a fresh endorsement of Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki (NOO'-ree ahl-MAHL'-ih-kee), calling him "a good guy, good man with a difficult job." A Black Hawk helicopter crashed in Iraq, killing all 14 U.S. soldiers. Hurricane Dean slammed into Mexico for the second time in as many days.

The Texas Rangers became the first team in 110 years to score 30 runs in a game, setting an American League record in a 30-3 rout of the Baltimore Orioles in the first game of a doubleheader. (Texas won the second game, 9-7.) Poet and short story writer Grace Paley died in Thetford Hill, Vermont, at age 84.

Five years ago: Ousted Penn State president Graham Spanier and his lawyers attacked a university-backed report on the Jerry Sandusky sex abuse scandal, calling it a "blundering and indefensible indictment." (Spanier was later convicted of child endangerment for failing to report a child sexual abuse allegation against Sandusky.) Nina Bawden, 87, a British author who wrote children's classics, including the World War II story "Carrie's War," died in London.

One year ago: Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, appearing on ABC's "Jimmy Kimmel Live," pushed back against charges that she was physically unfit for the White House, saying the accusations were part of a "wacky strategy" by GOP rival Donald Trump and an "alternative reality" that was not focused on the kinds of issues that were most important to voters.

Today's Birthdays: Broadcast journalist Morton Dean is 82. Author Annie Proulx (proo) is 82. Baseball Hall of Famer Carl Yastrzemski is 78. Actress Valerie Harper is 78. Pro Football Hall of Fame coach Bill Parcells is 76. Writer-producer David Chase is 72. CBS newsman Steve Kroft is 72. Actress Cindy Williams is 70. Pop musician David Marks is 69. International Swimming Hall of Famer Diana Nyad is 68. Baseball Hall of Famer Paul Molitor is 61. Rock musician Vernon Reid is 59. Country singer Ricky Lynn Gregg is 58. Country singer Collin Raye is 57. Actress Regina Taylor is 57. Rock singer Roland Orzabal (Tears For Fears) is 56. Rock musician Debbi Peterson (The Bangles) is 56. Rock musician Gary Lee Conner (Screaming Trees) is 55. Singer Tori Amos is 54. Country singer Mila Mason is 54. Rhythm-and-blues musician James DeBarge is 54. International Tennis Hall of Famer Mats Wilander is 53. Actress Brooke Dillman is 51. Rapper GZA (JHZ'-ah)/The Genius is 51. Actor Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje (ah-day-WAH'-lay ah-kih-NOY'-yay ah-BAH'-jay) is 50. Actor Ty Burrell is 50. Celebrity chef Giada DeLaurentiis is 47. Actress Melinda Page Hamilton is 46. Actor Rick Yune is 46. Rock musician Paul Doucette (Matchbox Twenty) is 45. Rap-reggae singer Beenie Man is 44. Singer Howie Dorough (Backstreet Boys) is 44. Comedian-actress Kristen Wiig is 44. Actress Jenna Leigh Green is 43. Rock musician Bo Koster is 43. Rock musician Dean Back (Theory of a Deadman) is 42. Talk show host James Corden is 39. Rock musician Jeff Stinco (Simple Plan) is 39. Actor Brandon Adams is 38. Actress Aya Sumika is 37.

***Thought for Today: "Works of art make rules; rules do not make works of art."
- Claude Debussy, French composer (born this date in 1862, died 1918).***

Got a story or photos to share?



Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?
- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

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