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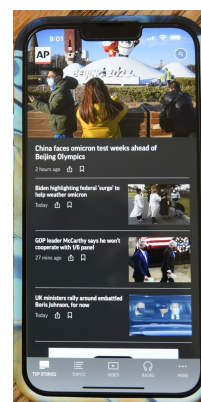
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Connecting

August 26, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this Aug. 26, 2022,

The death of legendary Vietnam War photographer **Tim Page** hit home for a number of Associated Press journalists who knew and worked with him in covering the war.

Our colleague **Edie Lederer** was one of them – and she shares some thoughts and a couple photos in memory of the British-born, self-taught photographer who died Wednesday at his Australian home at the age of 78.

Today’s issue brings more great stories on being called to serve on a jury – and the offer remains open for you to do the same for Monday’s edition.

One of our colleagues, **Margaret Lillard**, wrote to say, “These jury duty stories are killing me! Do you maintain any archive of the newsletter? I hate to think of all these (and other) great stories disappearing into the ether.” All Connecting issues are preserved in the AP’s corporate archive, I responded.

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

A farewell to ‘Gonzo’ journalist Tim Page



Tim Page, second from right, at a 2011 reunion in California of onetime Vietnam journalists, including, from left, Associated Press photo editor Carl Robinson, AP bureau chief Richard Pyle and, far right, AP reporter Edie Lederer. (Nick Ut/AP)



Tim Page photographs AP Vietnam War alums Denis Gray, Edie Lederer, Nick Ut, Peter Arnett. To Denis' left is Bill Reilly who worked for UPI in Vietnam. Photo was taken on the roof of the Rex Hotel at the start of their 2015 reunion.

Edie Lederer – Tim Page arrived in Saigon as a 20-year-old freelance photographer looking for action and adventure, just as the Vietnam War build-up was under way. He quickly got the reputation as a crazy risk-taker. Some colleagues called him Gonzo. He was gripped by the fascination of war in all its aspects as well as all its horrors. He was wounded four times, and each time he returned to the battlefield to take pictures, even after losing a piece of his brain.

He never gave up looking for his two closest wartime buddies and fellow photographers -- Sean Flynn and Dana Stone -- who disappeared on a road in Cambodia.

Tim's fame was evident at every reunion of Vietnam War correspondents in old Saigon, starting in 1995 on the 20th anniversary of the end of the war. He was sought out by young photographers and journalists seeking tips, and just wanting to be in his presence. We were together at the last Vietnam reunion in 2015.

RIP Tim. You became a well-deserved legend in your lifetime and left an incredible legacy.

Click [here](#) for Washington Post story on his death.

Connecting series:

Journalists getting the call to serve on a jury: their stories



Paul Albright - I served for a week on one jury in the 1980s, and my name was not called for consideration at a couple of subsequent trials. What astonished me was the number of no-shows among the jury pool. At least one third of those summoned failed to show up at roll call. I ended up writing a letter to the editor of our local newspaper pointing out this dereliction of civic duty and raising the question as to whether any follow up was conducted by authorities concerning those who ignored their summons for jury duty. I never heard if there was any reprisal for those who failed to appear, and I wonder still.

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Dan Day - I was called but never chosen for jury duty until I transferred into New York Membership. A summons brought me to New Jersey Superior Court in Elizabeth for a criminal matter, and I no longer could say I might end up reporting on the case and thereby be excused.

When it was my turn during voir dire, the judge asked if I'd ever been the victim of a crime.

"Yes," I replied.

"When?" the judge asked.

"Yesterday," I said. "In the juror parking lot."

The whole courtroom, his honor included, burst out laughing.

I explained that someone had bashed in the window of our minivan and swiped my wife's coin purse and a few things out of the glove box.

That did not disqualify me. Sworn in, I got to sit through opening statements (not arguments, as I was taught!) and hear the first witness, whose testimony was ended by a settlement of the case.

I was out about \$1.75, but justice was served.

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Steve Graham - Back in the early '90s when I was working in New York and living in Brooklyn, I received a Brooklyn jury summons. It said I had a one-time opportunity to be excused, but had to comply with the next summons.

I knew I was soon to return to Portland, Ore., so I opted out -- and when the next summons was forwarded to my home in Portland, I replied that I no longer was a New York resident and sadly was ineligible to serve.

I never heard back.

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Mike Harris - I've gotten called for jury duty several times, but the only time I actually had to show up was about 20 years ago in Raleigh, NC.

The card summoning me for jury duty came right in the heaviest part of racing season. But, fortunately, the date to report to the courthouse in downtown Raleigh was on a day off during the week.

Those of us who got the summons were herded into a big courtroom and had to sit through a video explaining why we were given jury duty and why it was important to participate. Then, the bailiff stood at the front of the room and asked if anybody needed to withdraw from possibly serving on a jury. I was among about 20 people who raised their hands.

The bailiff then said that each one of those 20 people would have to make their case in front of the judge. Everyone was sent out into the waiting area outside the courtroom and we were then called in one at a time to stand in front of the judge, a very serious middle-aged man with an x-ray stare. I was nervous as I waited.

When it was my turn, I walked into the room and stood about 10 feet in front of the judge's bench. He looked down on me and said, "So tell me, what's more important than doing your civic duty?"

I explained to him that I worked for The Associated Press as a sports writer and covered auto racing full-time. In that capacity, I had a full weekly schedule at that time of year, with plane, car and hotel reservations and credentials lined up for each event.

In a somewhat nasty tone, the judge asked, "Are you irreplaceable? Would it be a hardship for the AP to find somebody else to cover these races?"

I told him that I was the AP's Auto Racing Writer, spent 40 weekends a year on the road from the end of January to Thanksgiving and was responsible for about 80

percent of the overall coverage. I added that, other than major events like the Daytona 500 and the Indy 500, I often had only one other person from the local bureaus to help on race day."

He stared at me for a few moments, not saying a word, and my heart sunk. I was already thinking about how hard it would be to tell the powers that be in New York Sports that they would have to find somebody else to cover a few events. Then, to my surprise, the judge's face broke into a smile.

"I now understand it would be a hardship for the AP to replace you at this point of the season," he said. "So, you are excused. Thank you for coming in."

I thanked him and began to turn away when he stopped me, saying, "One other thing, Mr. Harris?"

"Yes, your honor," I replied, turning around.

"Do you know Jeff Gordon? He's my favorite driver. What is he like?"

I had almost forgotten I was deep in the heart of NASCAR country.

I said, "Jeff is a very nice young man and one helluva driver,"

The judge grinned and said to the bailiff, "Send in the next person,"

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Diana Heidgerd - I served on a civil jury in Dallas County about 25 years ago when a woman sought damages from the owners of an apartment complex after her ex-husband fell down some exterior stairs, cracked his head and died.

The facts presented in the weeklong negligence trial indicated the man (as I recall he was probably in his late 60s or early 70s) was carrying two 12-packs of soft drinks, one in each hand, and had almost reached the top of the stairs before he suddenly just fell back.

The woman consistently said her former spouse didn't drink beer or hard liquor, even though his blood alcohol level at the time he fell was several times the legal limit for driving in Texas.

I will never forget, during cross-examination, how she repeatedly maintained that her ex-husband wasn't a drinker.

She eventually acknowledged that he preferred "moonshine."

We jurors declined to award damages.

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Robert Ingle - In New Jersey, I was called to jury duty for a case involving auto insurance. I was asked if I could objectively handle it.

"I can," I said. "But in the interest of full disclosure the Court should know I was part of an investigation that concluded large lawsuit awards are a reason insurance rates are so high."

Stunned, apparently, everyone looked at the judge who said, "Mr. Ingle, you have a nice day."

I have often wondered if that affected other potential jurors.

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Kelly Kissel - After nearly two decades in Little Rock, I was finally called for jury duty sometime in the early 2010s. I don't recall the specific day, but it was definitely the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November: Election Day.

By this point, I was news editor for Arkansas and Oklahoma, so had double the number of counties I had to watch when I was news editor for Arkansas alone.

I sat in the back of the courtroom until called up about 10 a.m., in the third wave of people necessary to try a second-degree murder/homicide case. At that point, they had maybe seated four or five jurors and I thought I was a lock to be dismissed. I had edited stories about the crime, I knew the prosecutor and defense lawyers from various death penalty cases and even the judge and I knew each other from somewhere.

Finally, the judge got around to the routine questions about whether jury service that day would interfere with anything. I raised my hand and explained that I had reporters in two states working elections that day and that I really needed to be with them that afternoon and night for the vote count and had to be done by 3 or so. I decided to be a smart-ass when he asked the next question: Is there anything the court could do to make easier for you to serve?

"I guess you could issue an injunction to delay the election but I don't think it would have any impact in Oklahoma."

He kept me in the pool another four hours or so and cut me loose about 2:30 or so.

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Doug Pizac - Back in the early '80s I was tagged for jury duty in the eastern part of Los Angeles County where I lived two years in a row. I thought being an AP photographer would get me booted by either the prosecutor or defense attorneys what with my background covering trials and experience with law enforcement. Wrong.

For the first trial I served as jury foreman and the prosecutor won.

The second duty was in the following calendar year and featured the same prosecutor whereupon I was seated again and repeated as the foreman. Afterwards, I asked the prosecutor why in the world did he not object to me serving. His answer shocked me at first and then made sense. He said because of my journalist background covering

trials, PR people, Hollywood celebrities, etc. he knew I had the instinct to see through all the courtroom BS and recognize the truth. He was right.

As to the outcome of the second trial, the prosecutor lost.

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Joyce Rosenberg - I've had several jury duty stints, my first one notable because of a notable defendant, and more recently -- like last week!! -- because of their (blessed) brevity.

In 1979, when I had been at the AP for less than two years, I was selected for a federal tax trial. That was a big surprise, because in those days, no one expected journalists to be chosen. It was a two-month trial, and in my youth and innocence, I feared my absence from work would be held against me. Of course, it wasn't.

It was a remarkable trial although the testimony was sometimes tedious, and I have had reverberations from it through the decades. Here's why:

1. The defendant was Allen Klein, who had managed the Beatles and Rolling Stones. I had to continually disappoint my friends when they asked if John or Paul had shown up.
2. One of the witnesses was Timothy Crouse, who wrote "The Boys on the Bus." Another was the head of Capitol Records, Bhaskar Menon, who helped foster the careers of so many big names of the '60s and '70s.
3. We were sequestered for one night and taken en masse to lunch. The food was so inedible the first day that while we had a verdict in the morning of the second day, we decided we deserved a better lunch and made the clerk choose a different place. We waited a decent interval after returning and then announced the guilty verdict.
4. It turned out it helped to be a journalist on jury duty. When I heard in 2009 that Klein had died, I called the AP, spoke to the General Desk supervisor and said, make sure the story mentions he was convicted in a tax case -- and if anyone asks how the AP knows, it's because a reporter was there. We had a mini beat on that angle. Other news outlets had to confirm it with his publicist.
5. A biography of Klein was published a few years ago. Its description of the trial and the jury was way off base. We had really struggled to come up with a fair verdict. I also learned from the book that Klein, who clearly was an operator, managed to have a very easy two months in jail.
6. One of the assistant U.S. attorneys was Mark Pomerantz, who recently led and then resigned from the now-aborted investigation of Donald Trump in the Manhattan DA's office. And about 15 years ago, while on a subway train, I realized I was standing next to the lead defense attorney, Gerald Walpin. I told him he almost won the case, and he told me it was a very difficult case -- the biography, which came out after that conversation, made it very clear that Klein was not an easy client.

7. This trial gave me the idea of going to law school. I told Gerald Walpin that he was in part responsible for that fact.

Since then, I've been called a number of times, was chosen for a civil case that was settled, but other than that have done a lot of sitting, waiting, reading, knitting. The past few years I've been called for panels but dismissed, and this little vignette tells you why:

A few years ago, I was on a panel for a criminal case. I was still at AP, but I put onto the questionnaire both of my occupations. The judge asked us to tell him if we had any concerns, and I did, because I had doctor appointments coming up and the schedule was going to be stop-and-go. When I explained my problem to him, he looked at the questionnaire and laughed a little. "You're not going on this jury," he said, and pointed to the defense attorney and assistant DA. "No way they're going to let a psychoanalyst on a jury."

And last week I was on a panel my first day of jury duty and of course I wasn't chosen. Because it was late August and a slow time in the courts, we were all sent home for good. I was not at all disappointed. At this point, they're wasting my time and their money when they call me.

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Karol Stonger - I've been blessed with several jury summons in Manhattan. My most recent case, still some years back, was about a drug raid that put a child in protective services. The mother wanted her back. She claimed she didn't know her live-in had the drugs, etc., etc. However, the NYPD officer for the prosecution was ill prepared to testify. Didn't even have his book with him and could offer few particulars. A short deliberation after lunch ruled in favor of the defense. I hope the kid is OK.

The most interesting was being called for grand jury. A young man shared a room with two school-age half-brothers who slept on bunk beds. While showing his girlfriend his new gun hidden in the radiator, the weapon discharged and killed the child on the top bunk. The young man was devastated and was the main caretaker of the boys. Yes, he probably should have been indicted but his record was clean. He was released to care for the surviving child and had to live with the remorse.

There was a mob trial about to begin in Manhattan, something to do with truck deliveries in the garment district. The defendants were in court every day while potential jurors were subjected to pages of long written questionnaires and verbal questioning. I was working in APN at the time and had some involvement with covering the fashion industry. I made an appointment with the judge and talked my way out of the process because of any potential bias I might have.

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Steve Wolgast - I've been summoned to jury selection at least a half-dozen times. Twice to federal court — in both cases, I had just moved out of state — and at least four times to state district court. In Topeka, Kansas, where I live now, potential jurors call a recorded line the night before they are to go to the courthouse to find out if

there are enough trials to need everyone who was called, and in both cases I didn't need to go.

In New York, when I worked for The Times, I was summoned at least twice, showed up for the voir dire twice, and was questioned twice. My job as a journalist had no bearing on my selection. The first time, I was too far down the list to be chosen even if the lawyers had wanted me. The second time I was chosen and served on a trial about medical malpractice. An eye-opening experience, to be sure. It went on for maybe three days, and because it was fairly technical, we were allowed to take notes. (I didn't end up taking any because the lawyers walked the witnesses through the facts very clearly.)

When we were sent to the deliberation room were split on our initial vote. We requested documents from the trial, but before they were delivered the judge called us to the courtroom and announced that the sides had settled.

As he thanked us for our service, he gave an overview of the history of jury decision-making, emphasizing the Zenger decision. It was heartening to know that a libel decision in which a publisher prevailed was the key example all the other non-journalist jurors learned about.

On calling Putin a dictator

Dan Perry - I felt quite the company man after completing 28 years with the AP, having reported from four continents and supervised several language services , retiring as Middle East Editor in 2018 to move on to different pastures.

I cannot yet tell if these are greener, but they are certainly freer. For years in various leadership positions, I dutifully enforced AP's News Values and Principles. And while I believed in them and still do, certainly in the AP context which serves clients of every national and political stripe, it is also something of a relief to be unshackled.

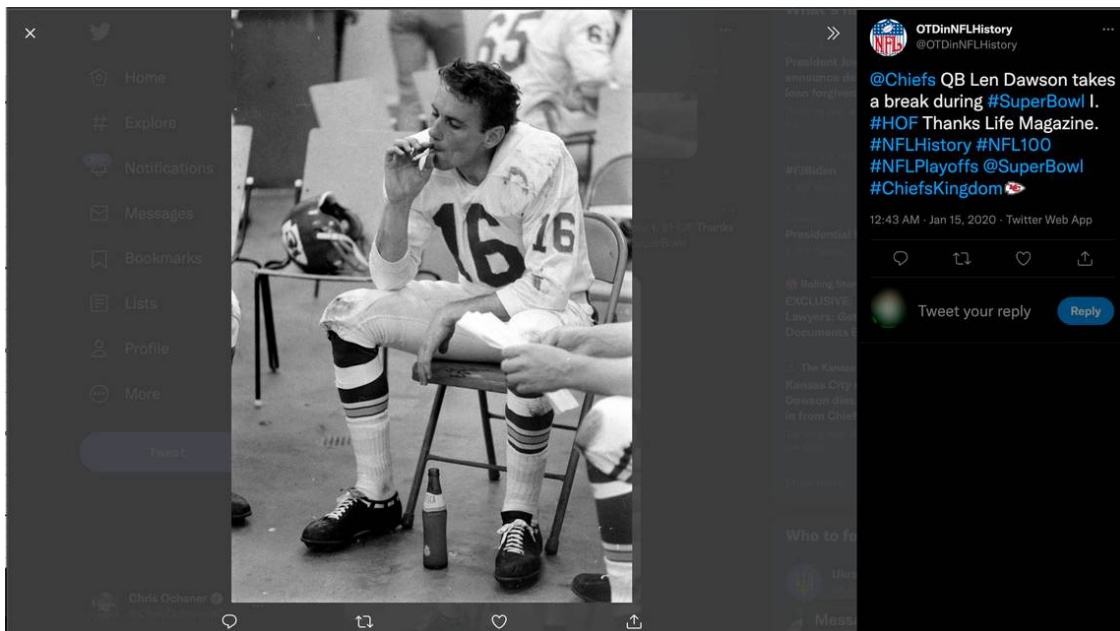
When it comes to these values and principles, the main friction between managers and staff in recent years has been banishing opinions from the internet. AP's desire to do so, cognizant of reputational risk in the social media circus, is understandable and shared by most serious US media. But it is also problematic in a way that's rarely discussed: a lot of it is subjective, and really depends on what the managers choose to believe. Was Stalin bad? Is denying climate change bad? Which is an opinion? The answers are always a matter of opinion. Some very senior manager's opinion.

It attaches often to questions of vocabulary, where using certain words suggests a viewpoint – and potential hypocrisies abound. As AP's bureau chief in Jerusalem I spent hours explaining to Zionist activists why we avoid the word "terrorism" when describing Palestinian "militants" blowing to smithereens cafes and buses filled with pensioners and babies; "suicide bombing" is more precise and less loaded, and we prefer to let the reader decide, and so forth, I would stoically explain. Then came 9/11, and with minimal discussion or fanfare the word terrorism filled the wire. That was the view in America, and the double standard was awkward for far-flung representatives of the "essential global news network."

So it is a relief to me when these days I can call a spade a spade. For example, in an article this week on the Ukraine war at six months ([here](#) in the Times of Israel and [here](#) on my Medium), I refer unimpeded to Vladimir Putin as the “Russian dictator.” AP always prefers to call even the most odious of global miscreants by their official title, at least if they represent a recognized country. The idea is that anything else is necessarily subjective and the borders are fuzzy, so it’s best to avoid loaded language and, again, to let the reader decide.

I still subscribe to that in most cases, but there are exceptions, and I’m deciding this is one. To call Putin “president” is to miss the essence and to risk bestowing upon him some implied legitimacy in the eyes of readers who may not be inclined to read between the lines and expect a president to be elected by a reasonable process. To call him a dictator violates no principle of journalism and serves an imperative of civilization: moral clarity.

RIP, Len Dawson



This Life Magazine image of a smoking Len Dawson, Fresca at his feet during halftime of the first Super Bowl, has grown in popularity decades after it was taken. Twitter screenshot. Click [here](#) for more on the photo.

[Doug Tucker](#) - RIP Len Dawson. Hall of fame quarterback, hall of fame broadcaster. They called him Lenny The Cool because he was.

How revered in Kansas City was this handsome seventh son of a seventh son?

One night when I was a young sportswriter and Len was anchoring sports for a local TV station, I happened to appear on screen as a news conference broke up at Arrowhead Stadium. Len said something to the effect of “And there’s our friend Doug Tucker.”

I didn't see it. But several acquaintances who did were just super impressed.

Not because I was at the news conference. Not because I appeared on TV.

But because the great Len Dawson called me his friend on television.

And you want to know the truth? I was impressed, too.

More on demise of radio wire

Paul Albright - Reading Marc Wilson's well-done posting on Connecting (August 24) concerning the demise of the radio wire stirred some memories for me. In the 1960s, the Albuquerque bureau received a frantic call from a radio station in southern New Mexico that its teletype printer had crashed and they had nothing to rip and read for the top-of-the-hour newscasts.

A technician was dispatched with a replacement teletype, but it would be several hours before he would make it to the station. To fill in, I read five-minute broadcast copy over the telephone each hour until the technician arrived.

This experience provided me with some valuable on-air lessons on writing for speech instead of reading. I remember being complimented by the radio station manager on my skills at presenting the news over the airwaves. That made my day, for sure.

Almost 40 years later – following my retirement – I volunteered to do twice weekly radio recordings for visually impaired residents of central and western Colorado. I scanned online newspapers for interesting, timely, and informative articles and recorded 15-minute news feeds. After 10 months, I gave up that volunteer gig, primarily because I received no interaction or feedback -- good or bad -- from managers at the nonprofit, or from the audience. A kind word now and then does stimulate motivation.

Meet my new boat - After Words



[Jim Carrier](#) - This is my new boat – a 25-foot C-Hawk (kinda like a lobster boat).

Moments after I affixed the name a neighbor boater walked by on the dock.

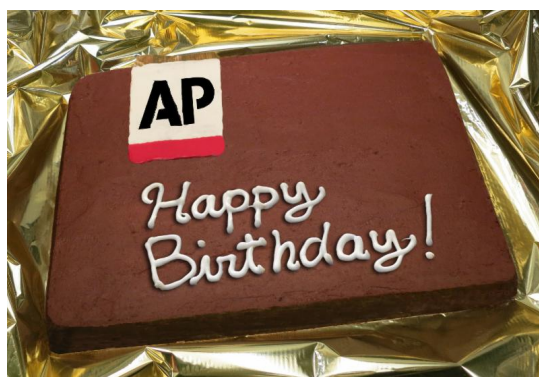
I tell him I'm a writer.

"You got any audio books?" (He's a trucker)

He takes out his phone, finds Audible, and adds "Charity" and "The Ship and The Storm" to his queue.

Talk about your point-of-sale impulse buy!

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Dan Day](#)

[Bob Ritter](#)

[Jane See White](#)

On Saturday to...

[Charlie Monzella](#)

On Sunday to...

[Dan Berger](#)

[Rick Cooper](#)

[Randy Evans](#)

[Michael Harper](#)

Stories of interest

Errin Haines Named the 2022 Recipient of the NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ Journalists Leadership Award

News Release

WASHINGTON, DC (August 25, 2022) – Today NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ Journalists announced that The 19th editor at large and co-founding member Errin Haines is the recipient of the 2022 NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ Journalists Leadership Award. The award recognizes individuals who have made a positive impact on their newsrooms by increasing diversity and improving news coverage of the LGBTQ community.

“Through her work at The 19th, Errin has been a champion of the fair and accurate coverage that we advocate for,” said Executive Director Adam Pawlus. “Errin has worked to build a newsroom that reflects the diversity of our country. She strives to

elevate the voices of LGBTQ people and women, and fully embodies the spirit of this award.

Haines is editor at large and a co-founding member of The 19th, a nonprofit, independent newsroom focused on the intersection of gender, politics and policy. She is also an MSNBC Contributor. Prior to joining The 19th, Haines was national writer on race and ethnicity for The Associated Press. She has also worked at The Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times and Orlando Sentinel. She has taught classes on race, gender and the 2020 election at the Georgetown University Institute of Politics and Princeton University.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Howard Goldberg.

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Nebraska school officials close newspaper after LGBTQ issue (AP)

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (AP) — Administrators at a Nebraska school shuttered the school's award-winning student newspaper just days after its last edition that included articles and editorials on LGBTQ issues, leading press freedom advocates to call the move an act of censorship.

The staff of Northwest Public Schools' 54-year-old Saga newspaper was informed on May 19 of the paper's elimination, the Grand Island Independent reported. Three days earlier, the newspaper had printed its June edition, which included an article titled, "Pride and prejudice: LGBTQIA+" on the origins of Pride Month and the history of homophobia. It also included an editorial opposing a Florida law that bans some lessons on sexual orientation and gender identity and dubbed by critics as "Don't Say Gay."

Officials overseeing the district, which is based in Grand Island, have not said when or why the decision was made to eliminate the student paper. But an email from a school employee to the Independent cancelling the student paper's printing services on May 22 said it was "because the school board and superintendent are unhappy with the last issue's editorial content."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Peg Coughlin, Adolphe Bernotas.

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New Hampshire AG Arrests Small-Town Newspaper Publisher Arrested for Improper Ads (Daily Beast)

By Corbin Bolies

New Hampshire's attorney general announced on Thursday that the state had arrested the publisher of a local weekly newspaper in Londonderry earlier this week,

alleging she illegally published political ads without properly disclosing them to be ads.

Londonderry Times publisher Debra Paul, 62, was arrested Wednesday, according to State Attorney General John M. Formella, and was charged with six violations of the state's misdemeanor laws on political advertisements. Paul, along with her husband, runs Nutfield Publishing, which publishes the Times and the Nutfield News/Tri-Town Times.

In an affidavit, investigator Daniel Mederos wrote that in two different Londonderry Times issues spanning February and March 2022, Paul printed ads for various school board candidates or budget proposals that did not include a "Paid For" label at either the beginning or end of the ads, as required by state law. The ads also did not include the names or addresses of the people who financed the advertisements—also required by state law.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac.

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3 Finnish journalists on trial for revealing defense secrets (AP)

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — Three journalists went on trial Thursday in Finland on charges of revealing national defense secrets for allegedly publishing classified documents in a newspaper article.

The Dec. 16, 2017, article in daily newspaper Helsingin Sanomat focused on the activities of the Finnish Intelligence Research Center, a military intelligence agency. The investigative report revealed the rough location and tasks of an intelligence unit of the defense forces.

Reporters Tuomo Pietilain and Laura Halmi, and the paper's acting manager at the time, Kalle Silfverberg, have denied wrongdoing.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

They throw horseshoes, don't they?



Paul Stevens – If my Connecting gig doesn't work out, I have a new retirement plan: toilet-seat thrower! During our vacation to Branson last weekend, our family attended Dolly Parton's Stampede, a dinner theatre featuring a variety show of sorts with horses and expert riders, bison, lots of action. For a competition resembling horseshoes, employing toilet seat covers in place of the shoes, I was randomly selected (they were looking for someone over 50 and I neglected to wear a hat to disguise my hair) with another guy who was from St. Louis. Two of my three throws came close, and I was the winner. No prize, just the special delight of granddaughter Sophie.

Today in History – Aug. 26, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Aug. 26, the 238th day of 2022. There are 127 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 26, 1968, the Democratic National Convention opened in Chicago; the four-day event that resulted in the nomination of Hubert H. Humphrey for president was marked by a bloody police crackdown on antiwar protesters in the streets.

On this date:

In 55 B.C., Roman forces under Julius Caesar invaded Britain, with only limited success.

In 1910, Thomas Edison demonstrated for reporters an improved version of his Kinetophone, a device for showing a movie with synchronized sound.

In 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing American women's right to vote, was certified in effect by Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby.

In 1939, the first televised major league baseball games were shown on experimental station W2XBS: a double-header between the Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field. (The Reds won the first game, 5-2, the Dodgers the second, 6-1.)

In 1944, French Gen. Charles de Gaulle braved the threat of German snipers as he led a victory march in Paris, which had just been liberated by the Allies from Nazi occupation.

In 1957, the Soviet Union announced it had successfully tested an intercontinental ballistic missile.

In 1958, Alaskans went to the polls to overwhelmingly vote in favor of statehood.

In 1972, the summer Olympics opened in Munich, West Germany.

In 1978, Cardinal Albino Luciani (al-BEE'-noh loo-CHYAH'-nee) of Venice was elected pope following the death of Paul VI; the new pontiff took the name Pope John Paul I. (However, he died just over a month later.)

In 1985, 13-year-old AIDS patient Ryan White began "attending" classes at Western Middle School in Kokomo, Indiana, via a telephone hook-up at his home -- school officials had barred Ryan from attending classes in person.

In 2018, a gunman opened fire on fellow gamers at a video game tournament in Jacksonville, Fla., killing two men and wounding 10 others before taking his own life. Playwright Neil Simon, whose comedies included "The Odd Couple" and "Barefoot in the Park," died at the age of 91.

In 2020, 17-year-old Kyle Rittenhouse was arrested in Illinois in the shooting deaths of two people and the wounding of another during a third night of protests in Kenosha, Wisconsin, over the police shooting of a Black man, Jacob Blake. (Rittenhouse, who

said he was defending himself after the three men attacked him, would be acquitted on all charges, including homicide.) All three scheduled NBA playoff games were postponed, with players choosing to boycott in their strongest statement yet against racial injustice. (The games resumed three days later, after players and owners agreed to expand initiatives, many tied to increased voting awareness and opportunities.)

Ten years ago: In the face of approaching Tropical Storm Isaac, Republicans pushed back the start of their national convention in Tampa, Florida, by a day. Lydia Ko, a 15-year-old South Korean-born New Zealander, won the Canadian Women's Open to become the youngest winner in LPGA Tour history and only the fifth amateur champion. Japan limited Tennessee's potent lineup to two hits in a 12-2 victory in the Little League World Series title game.

Five years ago: Hurricane Harvey spun into Texas, unloading extraordinary amounts of rain. Iraq's military said it had driven Islamic State militants out of 90 percent of the northern town of Tal Afar. Boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. beat UFC fighter Conor McGregor in a boxing match in Las Vegas that was stopped by the referee in the 10th round; it was the last fight of Mayweather's career and earned him an estimated \$200 million. Spotify said Taylor Swift had set a new global first-day streaming record with more than 8 million same-day streams for Swift's new single, "Look What You Made Me Do."

One year ago: An Islamic State suicide bomber detonated two dozen pounds of explosives in a crowd of Afghans pushing to get into Kabul airport to flee the Taliban, killing more than 170 Afghans and 13 U.S. service members. The Supreme Court allowed evictions to resume across the United States, blocking the Biden administration from enforcing a temporary ban that was put in place because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Today's Birthdays: Pop singer Vic Dana is 82. Former Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge is 77. R&B singer Valerie Simpson is 77. Pop singer Bob Cowsill is 73. Broadcast journalist Bill Whitaker is 71. Actor Brett Cullen is 66. Former NBA coach Stan Van Gundy is 63. Jazz musician Branford Marsalis is 62. Country musician Jimmy Olander (Diamond Rio) is 61. Actor Chris Burke is 57. Actor-singer Shirley Manson (Garbage) is 56. Rock musician Dan Vickrey (Counting Crows) is 56. TV writer-actor Riley Weston is 56. Rock musician Adrian Young (No Doubt) is 53. Actor Melissa McCarthy is 52. Latin pop singer Thalia is 51. Actor Meredith Eaton is 48. Rock singer-musician Tyler Connolly (Theory of a Deadman) is 47. Actor Mike Colter is 46. Actor Macaulay Culkin is 42. Actor Chris Pine is 42. Comedian/actor/writer John Mulaney is 40. Actor Johnny Ray Gill is 38. Country singer Brian Kelley (Florida Georgia Line) is 37. R&B singer Cassie (AKA Cassie Ventura) is 36. Actor Evan Ross is 34. Actor Danielle Savre is 34. Actor Dylan O'Brien is 31. Actor Keke Palmer is 29.

Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that focuses on retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and

journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013 and past issues can be found by clicking Connecting Archive in the masthead. Its author, Paul Stevens, retired from the AP in 2009 after a 36-year career as a newsman in Albany and St. Louis, correspondent in Wichita, chief of bureau in Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City, and Midwest vice president based in Kansas City.

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:



- **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.

- **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?

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

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