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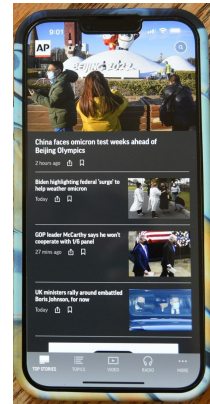
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Connecting

Feb. 3, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this Feb. 3, 2023,

There are hard-core print newspaper readers among our Connecting fold, but I would venture to say none moreso that our colleague **Joe Carter**.

Today's edition brings you some great stories in reaction to our call Thursday for your thoughts on subscribing to a print newspaper edition or taking it online only. Thanks to our colleague **Bill Hancock** for getting this started.

Joe Carter wrote: *"At age 90, I swear to continue reading print editions of THE NEW YORK TIMES, OKLAHOMA OBSERVER, NORMAN TRANSCRIPT AND DAILY OKLAHOMAN until eternity.*

"Two weeklies and four dailies where I once was a reporter or editor since have vanished from print editions. I hope as hard copies they reappear in eternity to make it worthwhile.

"Lindel Hutson once filed on the AP wires a yarn I wrote which blessedly allows me to read your electronic Connecting column. Despite my input, the AP richly and wonderfully survives and thrives.

"As I pledged, I aim to stay loyal to Connecting and these printers' ink and newsprint editions until they or I expire."

Me, I am counting on Joe not going anywhere for a long time.

STILL WITH THE AP: The listing of AP bureau chief names in the plaque honoring Wick Temple that appeared in Thursday's Connecting included three who are still with the AP 20 years later. They are **Julie Aicher March**, director of global training and development, Albuquerque, who's approaching 25 years with AP; **Jocelyn Noveck**, national culture and feature writer, New York, who reaches 36 years in March, and **David Wilkison**, vice president local media, New York, who reaches 35 years in June.

I am repeating use of that plaque in today's Final Word. A -30- to those bureau chiefs listed on it who are no longer with us.

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Reading your newspaper – in print or online?



Howard Graves reading the Gallup (NM) Independent in 2009. Photo by Tim Marsh.

Paul Albright - A couple of things come to mind after Connecting's request for experiences with at-home delivery of printed newspapers:

First, when I occasionally arise early, I spot our erratic delivery driver toss our three (yes, three) printed newspapers in the general direction of the driveway, then make a swift U-turn and head out. There are 26 homes on our suburban street, and we apparently are the only ones on the entire block who subscribe to printed newspapers. That statistic of 1-in-26 does not speak well for the future of printed newspapers.

Second, I am reminded of departed AP colleague Howard Graves (1926-2015). After 40+ years with The AP as chief of bureau in Albuquerque, Portland, and Honolulu, Howard retired in 1993 and settled in Prescott, AZ, which he liked to call "Press Kit."

Howard became known as the "Morning Walker." For years, he would take an early-morning stroll through his Prescott neighborhood, picking up the just-delivered newspapers from the driveways and placing them on the steps and front porches. This morning ritual added to his exercise and gained him attention and appreciation from the neighbors, some of whom thanked him with a surprise bottle of wine or a baked

treat during the holidays. One neighbor would leave his daily New York Times on his doorstep so that Howard could include it in his one-man clipping service. For the "Morning Walker" had another pastime as the self-named "Unaclipper." As the Unaclipper, Howard would clip bylined articles from national and local newspapers and mail them to AP colleagues around the globe.

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Hal Bock - I am a newspaper junkie. We subscribe to Newsday and the New York Times seven days a week. I believe in supporting local journalism, so I also get two local weeklies. I don't play golf. I read newspapers.

-0-

Henry Bradsher - On the subject of print newspapers, I still like to hold real newsprint, while also paying to read The Washington Post online and scanning the Wall Street Journal web site without paying to read its articles.

I get two papers in my driveway every morning: Baton Rouge's local paper, The Advocate, and the national edition of The NY Times, whose high cost also earns me the right also to read it online.

The Times edition, printed in Mobile and trucked across to Louisiana, goes to press in NYC by 9 p.m. EST and so has no late news or sports. But it is, when compared the next morning with the web site, fairly complete (including son Keith's reports as the paper's Beijing bureau chief).

The Advocate is in this day and age of reduced newsroom staffs elsewhere a remarkably good, complete newspaper. Originally just a Baton Rouge morning paper, it is published in three editions, for the Baton Rouge region, New Orleans (with the remains of the Times-Picayune) and Acadiana (around Lafayette). Elsewhere in Louisiana, papers have dwindled as Gannett and others have cut costs and staffs. With hardly any competition The Advocate routinely wins most Louisiana journalism prizes (but AP reporters in Louisiana have broken some big stories in recent years).

The Advocate maintains a large newsroom with comprehensive coverage of all the areas that the best newspapers have traditionally watched. Locally, under a metro editor with good AP experience, Kelly Kissel, it deploys reporters in many directions. It thoroughly covers the state government, spends money for investigative reporting, and keeps a correspondent in Washington. It has a healthy amount of display advertising and some classifieds that apparently justify its operational expenses.

While delaying deadlines to cover evening meetings of the city council and school board, it is, however, often slower to report new nighttime developments than our best television stations' 10 p.m. newscasts (virtually the only television I watch, mainly for forecasts of tennis weather the next morning).

Overall, I feel fortunate to live in a city with a local paper that has not felt the ravages so widespread in journalism today, while a shoestring operation brings in The Times

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Rick Cooper - We recently cut out daily delivery of our last print newspaper, the Palm Beach (FL) Post. It had shrunk to a pale anemic version of its former self, with daily editions some days no more than 16 pages long. They were relying on wire reports for national news and due to staff cuts which spread it too thin to adequately cover local news. Coupling that with an editorial policy antithetical to beliefs it just wasn't worth keeping our subscription going just for the supermarket and furniture store flyers and grocery coupon free-standing inserts.

Our national news is well provided by digital subscriptions to WAPO and the NYTIMES (Regardless of any disagreements with editorial policy, I won't give up my access to the digital version of the daily and Sunday crossword puzzles, Wordle and "Spelling Bee which I expect will disappear behind a paywall sooner than later.)

I still subscribe to print editions of several Palm Beach County weeklies which do a more than adequate job of covering local government happenings.

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Dan Day - I bailed on home-delivery newspaper subscriptions about five years ago.

I read all sorts of free content online from (mostly) reputable news sources, paying for the ones that I rely on the most.

This is a major reversal from when I had three or four dailies brought to my door. Increasingly over time, I found that most of what I saw in the printed version, I had already seen online -- often many days before.

I reached the point where I was getting home delivery mainly to have enough newsprint to line the bottom of our pet guinea pig's cage. Now I line the cage with grocery store ads that once came in the newspaper and now come in the mail.

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Alan Flippen - The New York Times has a policy that employees receive half-price print delivery and free full digital access (including the extra-cost services like recipes and crosswords). They also extend this privilege to retirees. Since my departure was technically an early retirement, that includes me, and I plan to keep the print as long as the deal continues and I live in an area where home delivery is available. I find that even now, there is usually at least one story every day in print that I missed online, and the magazine and food sections are just more pleasant to read in print. But if I moved out of New York, all bets are off -- from what I hear, most other print newspapers these days aren't worth the money.

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Dodi Fromson - I subscribe to the daily LA Times and NY Times. I like to sit down with a newspaper or both every morning. Digital for an article, ok, but not for a whole paper...at least not yet.

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Terry Ganey - Judy and I still subscribe to the print edition of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. We like the feel of printed news in the morning, and believe paying for the subscription does more to support the news collection business model. The morning paper is not crimped by the deadline issues that other papers seem to be facing. We also digitally subscribe to the New York Times and the Washington Post.

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Tom Gillem - My wife and I, both AP alums, stopped our subscription to the print edition of The Tennessean after Gannett started publishing it not in Nashville, but 180 miles away in Knoxville, and then trucking it back to Tennessee's capital city. We still get the day-old information (the word "news" rarely applies) via an online subscription.

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Ken Herman - In what most certainly grants me the full honors and privileges of geezerdom, i still get the print edition of the Austin American-Statesman, the paper where I worked for 26 years before retiring in 2021. As you can see from the photo, the paper, somehow, showed up every day this week at the usual time and in the usual spot despite an ice storm that paralyzed the Austin area. Kudos to my deliverer, who has been amazingly consistent for many years.

Truth be told, I'm not sure I'd be taking the print edition if I wasn't still paying the greatly discounted employee rate. The paper, under the Gannett ax, has become a sad shell of its former self. The print edition has become a reasonable compendium of

two-day-old news and news from other Texas papers and the Texas Tribune. Sad indeed.

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Lindel Hutson - I gave up on print a couple of years ago because of spotty delivery. The only print I get are hobby magazines and The Oklahoma Observer, a monthly publication which bills itself as the state's leading source for progressive news and commentary.

I take The Oklahoman, The Washington Post, Tulsa World and New Yorker online. Navigating these publications takes some getting used to, but they're now part of my daily routine. I've saved money by giving up on print along with the daily frustration that went with it.

I prefer having news I can hold in my hand. But it became too annoying. I subscribed to The Oklahoman and the New York Times, but delivery became sporadic. The Oklahoman reached the point where phone calls about non-delivery were ignored.

There used to be a joke, something like: the newspaper industry is the only business in the country whose reputation depends on a bicycle and a 10-year-old boy.

-0-

John Marlow - I have two pairs of ancient corduroy pants, one green and one brown, that I slip on in the evenings after having screwed up my day as much as I can. I don't feel comfortable until I am wearing one pair or the other. In the morning, I walk down my driveway and pick up the morning newspaper. It also makes me comfortable. And informed! There really aren't any alternatives. (I also remember slipping into those comfortable corduroys in the evening and picking up the PMs newspaper. So many, many years ago.)

Bless the newspapers that try to provide a digital alternative. Most miss the mark by a great deal. Alternative sources: political mouthpieces, misinformed intentionally or unintentional. Television news shows that are 30 minutes of "news" and 30 minutes of advertising. No thanks! Social media? God help us! We are blessed in Santa Fe with a local newspaper, a local newspaper locally owned thanks to a publisher who many years ago understood what a local newspaper was and after selling to a chain, went to court to reclaim a newspaper he felt was not providing what the community needed. I believe there are still publishers out there who know what journalism is about and adhere to the high standards the profession has maintained for centuries and produce a product all of us who call ourselves journalists can be proud of. Please continue to subscribe to your printed newspaper.

My apologies to Jack Cappon for what could have probably been said in two sentences. My corduroys have made me too comfortable. As I write this, I am looking at a beautiful piece of calligraphy by my late wife, Sigrid: "There are only two forces that can carry light to all orders of the globe...the sun in the heavens and The Associated Press down here." Whenever I travel, the first thing I do at the airport is head for the gift shop to pick up a local newspaper and the first thing I do when I get

to a new town is to look for a newspaper vending box on the corner. Unfortunately, their ranks have diminished considerably. God Bless Johann Gutenberg!

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Charlie Monzella - Reading a print edition of a newspaper has been part of my daily routine for as long as I can remember. When we moved to New Jersey in 1965 after I was transferred to New York, we subscribed to one of the Newark newspapers, The Evening News. When that folded, we started subscribing to the morning Star-Ledger. My subscription now includes the digital edition as well. So when I am away from home, I still get to read the newspaper.

Each morning, I read the Star-Ledger while eating breakfast. I then will do the crossword puzzle before going to my laptop to check for emails or do other internet browsing.

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David Morris - I would still read a print newspaper if I could. But one of the tradeoffs for the peace of living in the middle of nowhere is that home delivery isn't an option. At our new home in northeastern Pennsylvania, newspapers aren't all we can't get. There are no food deliveries or mail (we have to drive to the post office eight miles away). Amazon Prime? Forget it. If something isn't sent through the postal system, we have to have it shipped to a relative. The trash collector won't even come down our gravel road. (We have to lug our garbage out to the state highway three-quarters of a mile away, and put up with the occasional passerby accusing us of littering).

So I'm thankful for digital editions. They allow me to start the morning the same way I have for decades, with freshly ground coffee and my faithful companions — The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, and the local paper (22 miles away).

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Greg Nokes - Can't give up print. I subscribe to print editions of the daily NYT and The Oregonian. Old school, I guess. But I like the feel of newsprint. Easier for me to read than on a cell screen, or even a PC screen. And as a newspaper reader, I feel rewarded. But I realize I'm a fading breed. Of the six houses on our cul de sac in West Linn, Oregon, only one other driveway reveals a newspaper in the morning. Yes, I suppose some of those other homeowners get their news from a screen, but maybe not. I doubt anyone else in our family under age 60 or so reads a newspaper in print.

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Nora Raum - I subscribe to home delivery of both the Washington Post and the New York Times. When my husband was alive, we also received the Wall Street Journal and Baron's. It took months to cancel them. I read them but decided they weren't worth the price. I tried to cancel and stopped paying.

Finally, the nice person on the phone said "our records show you are no longer a subscriber." I said tell that to my front porch.

Eventually they stopped coming.

But I really like the hard copies of the Post and the Times. I feel I miss stuff when I read newspapers online. I like turning each page. I've actually read newspapers since I was ten years old in Harrisburg PA. The Patriot News had a morning and an evening edition. I read both. Why yes, I was an odd child. Why do you ask?

Anyway, I moved to the Washington DC area right before Watergate. Every morning I would eagerly scoop up the Post to learn the latest.

To this day I need both papers. I know I kill a lot of trees to keep the newspaper industry alive. I can live with that.

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Cynthia Rawitch - The Rawitches do faithfully get and read the home-delivered edition of the Los Angeles Times, or what I call the "real" newspaper. I doubt that will change for us until there is no more home delivery, which may very well happen in my lifetime. (We also indulge in home delivery of The New York Times and the Los Angeles Daily News on Sundays.) The vast majority of our friends also read print newspapers. Makes sense, since they are about our age—or older. Our grown children read online.

More interesting, I think, is that The Daily Sundial, the college newspaper of which I was publisher/advisor for 10 years, is entirely online now, printing only a twice-monthly features section distributed on campus. This gives the journalism students the experience they will need in the future and gives the rest of Cal State Northridge the type of newspaper more likely to be read by students.

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Estes Thompson - I grew up with newspapers in my hands. As a boy in the small town of Chatham, Va., my family had home delivery of the morning Register and afternoon Bee from nearby Danville. And the first edition of The Times-Dispatch from Richmond. There also was the weekly Star Tribune. Now, I live on Buggs Island Lake. My only print news source is the weekly Mecklenburg Sun. I still read news delivered via Google as well as digital editions of The Washington Post and New York Times.



Dear Subscriber,

We are reaching out to let you know that due to changes in our subscriber services we will no longer be mailing subscriptions to our newspapers Kent County Daily Times, Coventry Courier, EG Pendulum, or the Chariho Times.

- 1) You will be sent a refund for the unused portion of your subscription. The last papers you will be billed for were from December 2022.
- 2) Please note that we have two weekly papers with coverage in Southern and Central RI that are available by mail. The Narragansett Times and The NK Standard Times.
- 3) Also our local news websites in the area are updated daily/weekly with local RI news. RIcentral.com, IndependentRI.com and TheWesterlySun.com

We are sorry for any inconvenience that this has caused you. We value you as a reader and want to continue bringing you the latest news from Kent and Washington County.

Sincerely,

John Layton
General Manager
Southern RI Newspapers
401-388-8575

Mark Thompson - The Rhode Island Pendulum swings one last time. I began reading the Rhode Island Pendulum, the weekly that serves East Greenwich, where I grew up, in 1965 (Greg White made my family subscribe). I read it at home when I was in high school. I paid to subscribe to it so I could keep up with local news when I went away to college. When I graduated, I returned to East Greenwich. The Pendulum was my first job, for nearly three years. And I have read it every week since. But now the Rhode Island Pendulum — it changed its name to the East Greenwich Pendulum a couple of decades back, for marketing-driven palaver — says it is no longer able to mail me the paper each week to my home in Maryland. The paper is a frail shell of the one I knew and worked for. I can't really blame anyone. But I feel good that as a loyal reader for nearly 60 years, it abandoned me before I abandoned it.

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Marty Thompson - What a contrast: From the days I walked a newspaper route delivering print copies of The Daily News of Longview, Washington to porches, sidewalks and driveways in our neighborhood. Learning the route was a snap, you only had only to learn the two or three homes that didn't take the local afternoon newspaper.

What a change. Mornings now take me to our driveway to retrieve copies of the local Press Democrat of Santa Rosa, California and The New York Times.

It's a lonely trip. Our papers are the only ones visible from our yard. Replaced by online subscribers, I hope.

Our papers are well-read. They go first to the breakfast table where Janet and I trade sections. Beyond Page One, we work our way through opinion columns, letters to the editor, puzzles and while the Times lacks comics, the PD delivers.

We got the NYT habit in 1989 when I became AP managing editor and we moved to New York. Thanks to the national edition, it's still a habit decades later.

There have been a lot of print mastheads on our AP journey. The Seattle Times and Post-Intelligencer, Nevada State Journal, San Francisco Chronicle, Los Angeles Times, Pasadena Star-News, Stamford Advocate.

Two pluses from reading today's papers: It's still stimulating. It's also cleaner now that the ink doesn't rub off on one's hands.

Remembering Craig Ammerman

[Jim Rowley](#) - Craig Ammerman introduced me to the world of big-city media when he was chief of the New York City bureau and granted me a job interview in 1978.

It was the only time I met Craig, and ironically, was also the only visit I ever made to 50 Rock.

My visit to Craig's dingy office off the smoky newsroom was in the midst of an almost three-month New York newspaper strike against the Times, the Daily News and (more briefly) the Post. During the hour or more that I sat in Craig's office, our conversation was interrupted numerous times while he took phone calls from executives of the three struck papers, including Post publisher Rupert Murdoch, not yet the media and political powerbroker he would become over the ensuing 45 years. At the time, Murdoch was trying to make a separate peace with the striking unions so the Post could become the only city-wide daily publishing in New York.

True to his role as an AP bureau chief, Craig was a clearinghouse of information for newspaper members as the renegade Murdoch was preparing to break ranks with his fellow publishers. Murdoch announced his agreement to accept whatever terms the Times and the Daily News ultimately settled on with the striking unions and resume publication later that day. The strike lasted another month and Murdoch's defection no doubt pressured the other publishers to settle a month later.

I don't remember much else about the interview, there was no apparent job (for me at least). Craig spent time with me as a much-appreciated courtesy to a reporter from a member paper (the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle) who had passed the news-writing test and was aspiring to join the AP.

He was a very welcoming, genial and engaging conversationalist, regaling me with football stories and media gossip all the while conferring with the reporter covering the labor negotiations and taking calls from the likes of Murdoch. The interview may

not have produced a job – my AP career began in Baltimore two years later. But it was an afternoon I will never forget.

Remembering Wick Temple

[Rick Cooper](#) - It's hard to believe it has been 20 years since Wick Temple has passed away. I worked with Wick in the Human Resources Department at 50 Rock when he moved upstairs to the seventh floor, replacing Tom Pendergast, as the department morphed from Personnel to Human Resources.

It was under Wick's directorship that the AP's 401(k) program was initiated.

Wick brought his assistant Kiki Lascaris with him and even though she never admitted it as pipe smokers Wick and I probably drove her crazy as Wick smoked a tobacco that had a vanilla aroma and mine smelled like chocolate.

Quitting your job in a huff

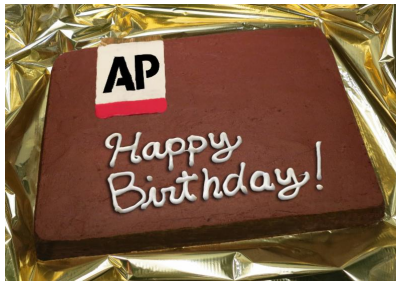
[Alan Flippen](#) - I actually got to do this over a principle of journalism once. I was the news director (and only news staff member) for my hometown radio station in Delaware right out of college. One day I discovered by going through city council minutes that there was a gas station with a leaky underground tank that was threatening to pollute a nearby city water well. So I went on the air with it, and the station owner called me up to tell me not to report the story -- it impinged somehow on an advertiser (I don't remember the details). We argued, then I agreed not to do it again. Later that day I called a friend at the local newspaper and gave them the tip, which they duly printed the next morning. So I went on the air and said in my newscast, "The News Journal is reporting this morning that a water well had to be shut down ... " The owner calls me within seconds. I say, "But Al, it's in the paper. It's not a secret anymore." He was unmoved. So I walked out and never went back.

Of course, I had a secret too -- I was planning to leave in a couple of weeks anyway to go to graduate school. In the meantime, I was single and living with my parents, so I had essentially no expenses. Would I have been able to do that if I had a mortgage or lease, car payments, and a family? Highly unlikely. But when you're young, you can do crazy things.

Wish I had met Mark Gillispie

[Peggy Walsh](#) - Mark Gillispie's essay about the death of his wife Mary Lou spoke beautifully about love and loss. I sometimes offer my condolences to people who never met someone I particularly admire who has died. This time I'm the one who's sorry I never met Mark. My condolences to his children and friends.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



On Sunday to...

[Richard Boudreaux](#)

[Mike Doan](#)

Stories of interest

Herald executive editor named to oversee all large newsrooms for parent company McClatchy (Miami Herald)

Monica Richardson, executive editor of the Miami Herald and el Nuevo Herald, has been named vice president of news for large markets for parent company McClatchy.

Richardson will oversee all news operations for McClatchy's six largest newsrooms, including the Herald. Kristin Roberts, McClatchy's chief content officer, made the announcement Wednesday.

In a memo to the company, Roberts said having Richardson in this new role ensures "that we achieve the highest ambitions of local journalism, extend our unmatched record of audience growth and establish our newsrooms as the preeminent local media brands."

Richardson joined the Miami Herald two years ago, and supervised the Herald's Pulitzer Prize-winning coverage of the Surfside condo collapse. As Florida regional editor, she also has overseen the Bradenton Herald newsroom on Florida's Gulf Coast.

Read more [here](#).

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Longtime Virginian-Pilot freelance photographer dies after fall from parking garage

By Jane Harper

There were many things in life that Jason Hirschfeld was passionate about.

His photography, sports, friends and family were among those he was most fervent about. Especially his two children.

On Saturday, the award-winning photojournalist who'd worked as a freelancer for The Virginian-Pilot and multiple other news organizations for more than two decades, died after a fall from the top of a downtown Norfolk parking garage. He was 48.

Hirschfeld grew up in Portsmouth and returned to the area in the early 2000s, according to his photography website. His photos were published mostly by The Pilot and the Associated Press, but also appeared in The New York Times, Washington Post, USA Today, Sports Illustrated and ESPN.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Albright.

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Old-fashioned newspaper war brews in Southern Oregon (Seattle Times)

By Brier Dudley
Seattle Times Free Press editor

The news desertification of Medford, Oregon, didn't last long.

Within a week of the Medford Mail Tribune shutting down on Jan. 13, not one but two newspaper publishers announced they're moving in to serve Medford and the Jackson County region.

Steve Forrester, president of EO Media, shared why his Salem-based company moved quickly to start a paper in Medford.

"In any community someone has to do it," he said.

EO Media publishes 18 titles, including The Bend Bulletin, The Astorian and its namesake East Oregonian in Pendleton. A broker tried selling it the Medford Mail Tribune a year ago but the family-owned company declined.

Instead, EO Media drew on connections in Southern Oregon to launch a paper it's calling the Rogue Valley Tribune.

Beginning in February, it will produce an online edition and print editions three days per week, delivered by mail at first and potentially through carriers later this year.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Linda Deutsch.

The Final Word



WICK TEMPLE

1937-2003

VICE PRESIDENT, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

*Newsman - Chief of Bureau - Sports Editor - Managing Editor
Director of Human Resources - Director of Newspaper Membership*

*"Despite all the changes the years have brought,
two things have remained the same for us: AP's values,
and the trust of the staff and members in those values,
and in those who safeguard them."*

-Wick Temple, personal note to COBs, Oct. 17, 2002

*"AP people share an assumption that their work is a calling,
that what they do makes a difference for the good.
They are right to think that."*

-Frank Batten, AP chairman, 1982-87

In fondest memory of Wick Temple:
our true north, our adviser, our trusted friend

From AP's domestic chiefs of bureau as of Feb. 1, 2003

DOROTHY ABERNATHY, RICHMOND
JULIE AICHER, ALBUQUERQUE
BILL BEECHAM, SALT LAKE CITY
ED BELL, BOSTON
JOHN BOLT, CHARLESTON
DAVID BRISCOE, HONOLULU
BRYAN BRUMLEY, PORTLAND
DENISE CABRERA, BALTIMORE
LARRY CAMPBELL, ANCHORAGE
KRISTI CHEW, DES MOINES
GARY CLARK, ATLANTA
SUE CROSS, LOS ANGELES
STEVE ELLIOTT, PHOENIX
FRANK FISHER, JACKSON
KENT FLANAGAN, NASHVILLE

GEORGE GARTIES, DENVER
BETH GRACE, ALBANY
SALLY HALE, TRENTON
TENA HARALDSON, SIOUX FALLS
CLAY HASWELL, SAN FRANCISCO
CHARLES HILL, DETROIT
MIKE HOLMES, OMAHA
ELAINE HOOKER, HARTFORD
T. LEE HUGHES, MILWAUKEE
LINDEL HUTSON, OKLAHOMA CITY
SANDY JOHNSON, WASHINGTON
JOHN KUGLIN, HELENA
LARRY LAUGHLIN, CONCORD
DALE LEACH, SEATTLE

JOHN LUMPKIN, DALLAS
JOCELYN NOVECK, NEW YORK
EVA PARZIALE, COLUMBUS
CHARLOTTE PORTER, NEW ORLEANS
DAVE PYLE, MINNEAPOLIS
JIM REINDL, CHICAGO
KEITH ROBINSON, INDIANAPOLIS
ROBERT SHAW, LITTLE ROCK
JOHN SHURR, COLUMBIA
PAUL STEVENS, KANSAS CITY
LINDA STOWELL, PHILADELPHIA
KEVIN WALSH, MIAMI
DAVID WILKISON, LOUISVILLE
SUE PRICE WILSON, RALEIGH

Today in History - Feb. 3, 2023



Today is Friday, Feb. 3, the 34th day of 2023. There are 331 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 3, the 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, providing for a federal income tax, was ratified.

On this date:

In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln and Confederate Vice President Alexander H. Stephens held a shipboard peace conference off the Virginia coast; the talks deadlocked over the issue of Southern autonomy.

In 1917, the United States broke off diplomatic relations with Germany, the same day an American cargo ship, the SS Housatonic, was sunk by a U-boat off Britain after the crew was allowed to board lifeboats.

In 1943, during World War II, the U.S. transport ship SS Dorchester, which was carrying troops to Greenland, sank after being hit by a German torpedo in the Labrador Sea; of the more than 900 men aboard, only some 230 survived.

In 1959, rock-and-roll stars Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson died in a small plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa.

In 1966, the Soviet probe Luna 9 became the first manmade object to make a soft landing on the moon.

In 1988, the U.S. House of Representatives handed President Ronald Reagan a major defeat, rejecting his request for \$36.2 million in new aid to the Nicaraguan Contras by a vote of 219-211.

In 1994, the space shuttle Discovery lifted off, carrying Sergei Krikalev (SUR'-gay KREE'-kuh-lev), the first Russian cosmonaut to fly aboard a U.S. spacecraft.

In 1995, the space shuttle Discovery blasted off with a woman, Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Eileen Collins, in the pilot's seat for the first time in NASA history.

In 1998, a U.S. Marine plane sliced through the cable of a ski gondola in Italy, causing the car to plunge hundreds of feet, killing all 20 people inside.

In 2006, an Egyptian passenger ferry sank in the Red Sea during bad weather, killing more than 1,000 passengers.

In 2009, Eric Holder became the first Black U.S. attorney general as he was sworn in by Vice President Joe Biden.

In 2020, in closing arguments at President Donald Trump's first impeachment trial, Democratic prosecutors urged senators to stop a "runaway presidency" and recognize Trump's actions in Ukraine as part of a pattern of behavior that would allow him to "cheat" in the 2020 election; Trump's defenders accused Democrats of trying to undo the 2016 election and said voters should decide Trump's fate.

Ten years ago: A fired Los Angeles police officer launched a revenge war on law enforcement and the families of those he blamed for ending his career, killing four people during a 6-day manhunt that ended with his apparent suicide at a cabin in San Bernardino County. The Baltimore Ravens survived a partial power outage during Super Bowl XLVII in New Orleans to edge the San Francisco 49ers 34-31.

Five years ago: Linebacker Ray Lewis and receiver Terrell Owens were among eight people voted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. The New York Times reported an accusation from actress Uma Thurman that disgraced movie mogul Harvey Weinstein had forced himself on her sexually years ago in a London hotel room; Weinstein acknowledged making an "awkward pass" but strongly denied any physical assault.

One year ago: Winter storms across the United States knocked out power to hundreds of thousands, brought the cancellation of more than 9,000 flights, caused a deadly tornado in Alabama and brought rare measurable snowfall to parts of Texas. President Joe Biden announced that the leader of the Islamic State group blew up himself and members of his family during a raid by U.S. special operations forces of his hideout in the village of Atmeh, Syria. U.S. officials called it a "significant blow" to the radical militant organization.

Today's birthdays: Football Hall of Famer Fran Tarkenton is 82. Actor Blythe Danner is 80. Football Hall of Famer Bob Griese is 78. Singer-guitarist Dave Davies (The Kinks) is 76. Singer Melanie is 76. Actor Morgan Fairchild is 73. Actor Pamela Franklin is 73. Actor Nathan Lane is 67. Rock musician Lee Ranaldo (Sonic Youth) is 67. Actor Thomas Calabro is 64. Rock musician/author Lol Tolhurst (The Cure) is 64. Actor-director Keith Gordon is 62. Actor Michele Greene is 61. Country singer Matraca Berg is 59. Actor Maura Tierney is 58. Actor Warwick Davis is 53. Actor Elisa Donovan is 52. Reggaeton singer Daddy Yankee is 47. Actor Isla Fisher is 47. Human rights activist Amal Clooney is 45. Singer-songwriter Jessica Harp is 41. Actor Matthew Moy is 39. Rapper Sean Kingston is 33. Actor Brandon Micheal Hall is 30.

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.

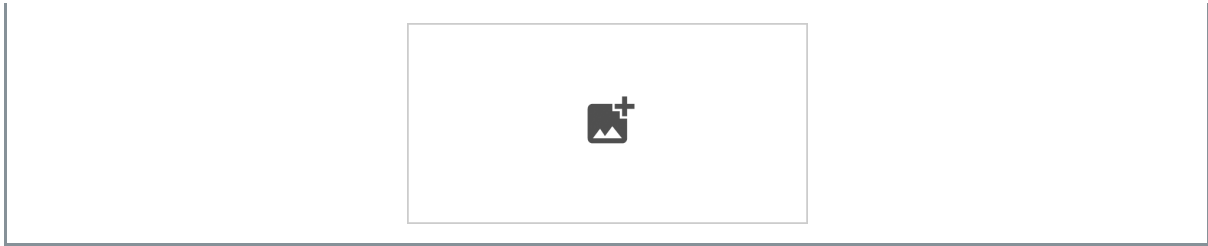


Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

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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