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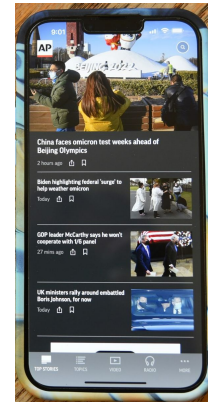
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Connecting

May 15, 2023

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This memorial to AP's Elise Amendola was in the photographers' work area before the 76ers at Celtics NBA game Sunday in Boston (Game 7 semis, won by Celtics). The card at bottom right included this from her obituary: "Elise preferred not to have a formal service or flowers. Instead, she'd love for you to go to the courts and shoot a basketball from the baseline, her best midrange jump shot. Or make an assist in some way, Elise loved to make a good pass. She'd also be grateful for donations in her name to St. Jude's." (Shared by Bill Sikes)

Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this May 15, 2023,

As I expected, Connecting received some wonderful and touching remembrances of AP photographer **Elise Amendola** over the weekend – and how she impacted their lives.

This newsletter published a special edition Saturday on her death two days earlier. Colleague **Jim Gerberich** said that "if anyone deserved a Connecting solely devoted to them, it was Elise. She was as kind and humble as she was a fierce competitor. Losing was not part of her vocabulary. She mentored and touched more people than perhaps she ever knew. David (Ake, AP Photos director) is right, she is a legend."

I hope two items in today's Stories of Interest prompt your thoughts:

The first, a Washington Post story resulting from the May 6 killing of eight people outside an outlet mall in Allen, Tex., that was captured on a dash-cam video as the shooter stood in the middle of a parking lot, methodically murdering people.

The story said, "The footage made clear that the deaths were horrific and the suffering unspeakable. The emotional power of the images would shake almost any

viewer. Their rapid dissemination also rekindled an unsettling debate — one that has lingered since the advent of photography: Why does anyone need to see such images?”

The AP’s top photo editor was quoted in the story:

“Those were not close calls,” said J. David Ake, director of photography for the Associated Press, which did not use the Texas videos. “We are not casual at all about these decisions, and we do need to strike a balance between telling the truth and being sensitive to the fact that these are people who’ve been through something horrific. But I am going to err on the side of humanity and children.”

The second story, also from the Post, is about some car makers’ decision not to include AM radio in the dashboard of their new models.

The story said:

“Some station owners and advertisers contend that losing access to the car dashboard will indeed be a death blow to many of the nation’s 4,185 AM stations — the possible demise of a core element of the nation’s delivery system for news, political talk (especially on the right), coverage of weather emergencies and foreign language programming.”

Connecting would welcome your thoughts on both subjects – and would still welcome any further memories of our colleague Elise.

Here’s to a great week ahead – be safe, stay healthy, live this day to its fullest!

Paul

Your memories of Elise Amendola

Jeff Donn - Though you injected some sadness into my day, thanks for the tribute to Elise Amendola. Now retired, I worked beside Elise for 18 years, first as a Northeast feature writer and then as a Boston-based national investigative writer. I was touched to see that others also remembered her not just for her superlative work, but also for her extraordinary warmth and kindness.

The tribute also made me think of the humanity of other exceptional photographers who worked out of the Boston bureau in my time. In those years, I worked with every photographer on staff, including Elise, Stephan Savoia, Charlie Krupa and Steven Senne. In scores of assignments, I don’t recall any of them – – not one! – – ever saying to me we just can’t do this. I cannot recall a single mean-spirited remark. Writers at times are chasing something different in the field than photographers. Sometimes we even shared a ride. Yet I cannot remember a single unhappy moment dealing with any of the Boston photo team.

In my experience, we writers are often more self-involved, present company not excepted. But some of our kind in Boston also stood out for humanity equal to their

journalism. I am thinking of people like the late George Esper and retired Medical Editor Dan Haney.

Elise and others reminded me daily that superlative people and superlative journalism can occupy the same space.

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Brian Horton - A lot of memories come up from the many events I worked with Elise but none more vivid than her remarkable photo of the rainbow over the 18th green as Davis Love III sank a long putt to win the PGA Championship.

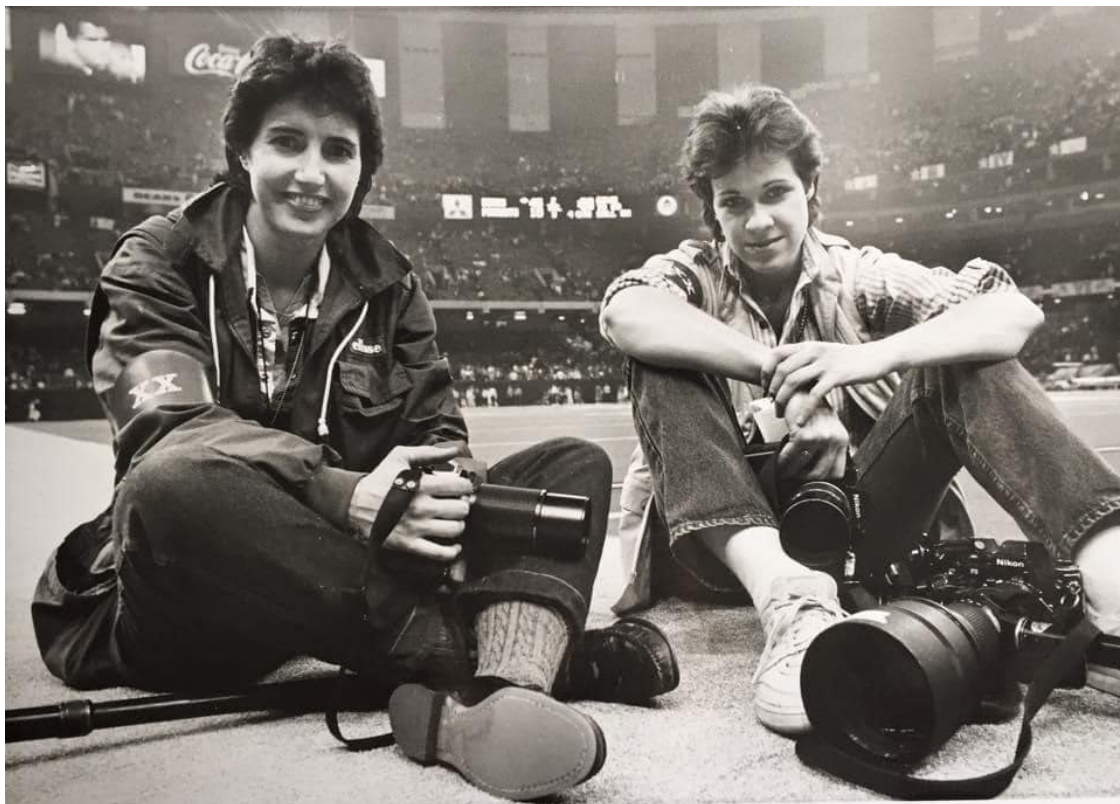
His father, who had mentored him throughout his career, had recently died and it was a dramatic scene.

No one captured it like Elise. That was a tough tournament to cover with lots of rain and mud but, as always, Elise had slogged through it in her determined fashion. The rainbow picture was the perfect cap to that.

When she got back to the trailer, soaked and muddy, we could only hug and shed a few tears looking at the image.

She always put everything into an assignment, like she did in life and on the basketball court, and it was an honor to have worked with her.

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This photo is of Elise and I at the end of our first Super Bowl - 1985 in New Orleans. The whole world before us, our whole lives ahead of us.

Amy Sancetta - I lost a dear dear friend of over 40 years. So many others around the world are also suffering broken hearts. After more than a decade-long battle with cancer, our dearest Elise Amendola slipped into the heavens Thursday night. She fought her illness with the same tenacity, courage and good nature that she carried in all aspects of her life. Elise never, ever gave up; not climbing the hill on 18 at Augusta, not freezing all day at the base of an Olympic ski mountain, and not with cancer. Working, playing hoops, enjoying her life and her friends and her beloved wife Mary Schwalm, Elise showed her joyous spirit and firm determination.

She and I were hired just a few months apart in 1983 and roomed together on assignments all over the world. Her loss will leave a great hole here on earth in so, so many hearts. I know that mine is broken. Peace to you my dear friend.

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Stephan Savoia - I first met Elisa Amendola, "EFA (effa)" as we called her in Boston, when then photo editor Dan Hansen brought me in from Louisiana where I had been working for 10-years as a newspaper photographer. I was interviewing for a staff position. My first recollection of Elise, even before she said hello, was her eyes. Her bright, expressive and outgoing warm presence invited me to feel accepted even if my two-day visit was not to work out as hoped. It did and when I moved in Dan, Charlie Krupa and Elise made me feel welcome in a way that felt right. Like I should be in Boston.

Throughout my 28 years working alongside Elise and Charlie they never made me feel like a plus one. We became friends and the Boston buro became the absolute best place I have ever worked.

As many already know, Elise was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2010. All I really knew at the time was that given a choice, ovarian cancer was not anyone's first pick. Elise was back at work in six months, picking up right where she left off. I remember thinking how truly remarkable that was at the time. Some five years later she experienced a recurrence. I remember walking from the buro to the parking garage on a warm sunny evening after her last day of work before surgery and a second round of treatment. I remember thinking - How is she so calm, I'd have been a basket case. We spoke about her future; I mentioned maybe she might want to think about whether she really wants to come back. Six months later, EFA was back and killin' it. That is when I realized Elise is a very special type of human being.

You might notice at this point I have been speaking about Elise in the present tense. For me she is very present and will forever be. Elise Amendola saved me. In my life she will never be gone. I will never stop speaking with her.

Elise saved my life in ways that my doctor's and family could not. When I was inches from losing mine just over five years ago, she was the one that not only showed me how it's done but she was there to help me pick up the ball and carry it by simply encouraging me to lift one foot and place it down just in front of the other. Slowly but surely showing me how to reach my future while encouraging me all the way. "You've got this Stephan."

Many reading these works may have heard the expression, someone is never really gone until the last person speaks their name. I would go one further. A loved one is really never gone for as long as they continue to live in the heart of another. Elise will be around for many more decades. She will continue to live in Mary's heart, mine and my wife Lynn's hearts. She will be living in her brother, her friends and in the hearts of my children. After all, they are unimaginably grateful for her stepping in to keep their dad alive in the most difficult way of all, by not only showing me a path forward but also by demonstrating how to walk it.

For the past five years and two months, I have been referring to Elise as "coach" and she will always be my friend. Lynn and I were married two days before my kidney removal surgery on the front porch of our home. Mary and Elise stood up for us bearing witness to our union. Elise may not be here in body, but she remains here for me in a very real way. I will not, cannot let her go. The pain I feel today is for Mary. Twenty years ago, I was forced to walk her path and it is at least as difficult a path as the one Elise and I walked fighting cancer. Actually, in many ways it may be more so.

I have one final remembrance to share. One I can see even though I was not there. The day before Elise passed, I called to check on her. Mary picked up; Elise was unable to speak. Mary had me on speaker and at one point Mary said Elise is smiling. In those words, I felt the warmth of the smile I spoke of earlier.

Elise, I will continue to converse with you and while folks may think me crazy, I am sure I will hear you.

I love you, coach.

Connecting series: **Chewed out by a news source**

David Egner - Responding to my own question about a politician or news source who blew up in anger:

As Pierre correspondent, I covered the 1982 gubernatorial election campaign in South Dakota. Based on a tip from a source, I reported that Republican Gov. Bill Janklow had received so many speeding tickets that he faced loss of his driver's license if he committed one more traffic violation.

Janklow's Democratic opponent, state Sen. Mike O'Connor, made a big deal of this, saying the governor should not be breaking the law. I included his criticism of Janklow in my story.

A few days after my story on Janklow's speeding ran, I spent a day on the campaign trail with O'Connor and his wife to do a color story. It was just the three of us in O'Connor's car as he drove south of Pierre through the Fort Pierre National Grassland — 116,000 acres of open country populated by wildlife, cattle, and nothing else.

I was interviewing O'Connor as he drove when he suddenly slowed and stopped. I saw the flashing lights of a Highway Patrol car behind us and exited the vehicle with O'Connor. Sure enough, he received a speeding ticket. O'Connor told the officer he thought his speedometer was broken. I can't remember how fast the officer said O'Connor was going.

As we got back into his car, O'Connor told me: "That was off the record."

"I saw that with my own eyes," I responded. "You can't tell me something I saw was off the record." I then pointed out that it would be unfair for me to ignore his speeding ticket after I had reported on Janklow's speeding.

O'Connor erupted and ordered me out of the car, saying he was canceling our day together. We were probably 10 miles or so from the nearest gas station, long before cellphones existed.

"Calm down, Michael," his wife said from the back seat. "Please calm down." She told me her husband was "just kidding," but I could tell he wasn't kidding.

I calmly told O'Connor that my story about his speeding ticket would probably not get a huge amount of attention and not be of interest to newspapers outside South Dakota. But I said if he kicked me out of his car in the middle of nowhere, that might turn into a national story. He relented and we continued on our way.

I wrote a spot story on the speeding ticket and then mentioned the traffic violation in my longer campaign color story.

O'Connor was trounced in the election, getting only about 29% of the vote against Janklow in the heavily Republican state.

Janklow went on to serve a total of 16 years as governor and one year in the U.S. House. He resigned from Congress in 2004 after he was convicted of second-degree manslaughter, speeding, running a stop sign and reckless driving following a traffic accident that took the life of a motorcyclist.

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Mike Harris - I covered every Formula One race in North America from 1980 through 2009. During that time, I got to know F1's "El Supremo," Bernie Ecclestone, who ran the international racing series with an iron hand. He had his rules and I generally followed them. But there was the time I showed up in Montreal and found signs saying "No smoking or drinks allowed" in the media center. Since I practically lived on coffee in those days, this was very upsetting.

I went to see Bernie and pleaded with him to amend the rules to at least allow coffee and water in the media center. The next day, there was a coffee pot and a water cooler in the foyer of the media center. Somebody had scribbled a sign above the coffee pot "Mike Harris Memorial Coffee Urn!"

This sets the stage for my most difficult run-in with the estimable Mr. Ecclestone.

It was also in Montreal, a year or so later, that I was walking through the race paddock on a quiet Thursday afternoon and saw Bernie holding court with a dozen or so members of the international media. I had no idea what it was about, but I decided I'd better find out.

I pulled out my reporter's notepad and my pocket tape recorder and walked into the scrum. Bernie was explaining F1's stance on some new ruling from a previous race and I immediately began to scribble notes and stuck out my hand with my tape recorder. Suddenly, Bernie stopped talking. I looked up and saw him glaring at me and I had no idea why.

Suddenly, he pushed through the crowd and, with no warning, reached out and whacked the tape recorder out of my hand. It flew about 10 feet away onto the concrete walkway. I must have looked shocked and puzzled and Bernie said, "I said no tape recorders." I was too surprised to reply, and he walked back to his original spot and continued his explanation.

Later that afternoon, he sought me out in the media center and asked if he had broken my tape recorder. When I said it was still working just fine, he very quietly said, "I think I might have overreacted. Sorry!" Then he walked away.

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During my time covering baseball in Cleveland in the mid to late 70's, I had a couple of run-ins with managers.

Like Hal Bock, I ran afoul of Ralph Houk. At his point, he was managing the Detroit Tigers. After losing a game at Cleveland Stadium to the then lowly Indians, Houk was not in a particularly good mood to begin with. The beat reporters peppered him with questions about his pitching choices and you could see the red rising in his neck.

I chose to ask what I thought was a very innocent question about why he brought in a right-handed relief pitcher to face a left-handed hitter. That set him off. He jumped to his feet, came around the desk and, with a string of swear words, balled up his fists and glared at me. I shrank back and said, "Ralph, I didn't mean anything by the question. As a longtime baseball fan, I was just curious."

He suddenly realized where he was, unclenched his fists and, as he went back to his seat, answered my question. Death or maiming averted.

The other baseball manager to physically threaten me was Dick Williams, who was still managing the California Angels in 1976.

His team won that night, so I assumed Dick would be in a good frame of mind. But, for some reason, the fact that I questioned his choice of pinch hitters did not sit well with him. I only wanted to know why he picked one of the two possible reserves on his bench to hit in that situation. But he apparently thought I was challenging him.

He stood up and angrily said, "I oughta knock your block off, you \$%%\$%."

Again, I shakily stood my ground and said, "I wasn't trying to be confrontational. I really want to know your thinking in that situation."

He backed off and my block remained in place.

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[Jim Hood](#) - I've been yelled at by quite a few people but, as far as I know, onetime New Orleans Mayor Moon Landrieu is the only one who broke down in tears after verbally lacerating me.

I had written a lengthy piece for Lou Uchitelle at AP Newsfeatures about the malfeasance, misfeance and downright chicanery at the Superdome back in the 1970s. The Times-Picayune ran the story one Sunday with my byline and with an editor's note explaining that the TP had not written the story and was publishing it only so New Orleanians could see what was being said about them.

The mayor, who billed himself as a reformer, was furious and spent quite some time saying so at a subsequent news conference. He got so worked up he began to cry and stalked out of the room.

A day or two later, I found myself in Moon's orbit. Also in his office. He lambasted me some more and then explained, very slowly and patiently, how things work.

"Son, this is Louisiana. The state gets the graft on big public works construction and the city gets the graft on operations. That's just how it is," he said. "Maybe a vicious New York yankee like yourself doesn't like it but that's how things are done here."

Stunned by this unwarranted slur, I hastened to correct it. "I'm not from New York. I grew up in Illinois," I said.

This brought a torrent of expletives about how Illinois was hardly a paragon of civic virtue and thrift and if I liked it so much, I should go back there.

Instead, I soon found myself in Kansas City. But that's another story.

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Carl P. Leubsdorf - In the lead-up to the 1996 presidential election, Florida Republicans had a straw poll in Florida in which Texas Sen. Phil Gramm hoped to put a dent into the GOP front-runner, Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas. But he failed to meet expectations, finishing a weak second, and afterwards, his campaign chair, Arizona Sen. John McCain, was the campaign official designated to meet with the press and explain what had happened. Needless to say, the questions were critical, from all of us. At one point, McCain, who had quite a temper, clearly had enough and turning straight to me, raised his voice and started complaining about press coverage of Gramm, saying, "You've never taken him seriously. You've never been fair" and the like. "Don't look at me, senator," I replied. "We've been very fair." Even with a home state candidate, The Dallas Morning News had treated all of the GOP hopefuls about the same way. And I felt the need to defend us, even though I was pretty sure I wasn't his target but just happened to be standing in the wrong place.

That theory was proved correct on the following Monday when my office phone rang, and Sen. McCain was on the line, to apologize for his outburst. "You've always been fair," he said, prompting me to observe --without challenge--he might have been displaying some frustration over his candidate's poor showing.

There is a footnote to this story. Four years later, McCain was running against Texas Gov. George W. Bush. Though McCain had been Gramm's chairman, the Texas senator did not reciprocate but supported his home state governor. In fact, he never told McCain in advance what he was going to do.

At the Vienna Symphony



[Mark Mittelstadt](#) - Mary and I enjoyed a Vienna Symphony concert Friday night at the Wiener Konzerthaus. The evening featured a performance by award-winning pianist Anton Gerzenberg. Son Brent joined us from Oxford, UK.

BEST OF THE WEEK — FIRST WINNER
**Extraordinary effort as well as outstanding
planning delivered impeccable coverage
around the King's coronation**



A huge collaboration between dozens of AP staff from across the region with key input from AP reporter Danica Kirka, UK video journalist Kwiyeon Ha, London staff photographer Alastair Grant, London-based photo editor Anne-Marie Belgrave, UK News and Special Events Editor Susie Blann and Rome Senior Producer Maria Grazia Murru resulted in two weeks of extensive all-format coverage, culminating in the Coronation of King Charles III on May 6.

The event had been a long time coming, and a massive amount of work went into the coverage — from the planning to the explanatory and feature driven journalism in the lead-up and the wall-to-wall coverage on the day and across the coronation weekend. Kirka's expert knowledge of the story and sources developed from years of work on the royal beat enabled us to offer clients a variety of stories covering the king and queen's profiles, the Windsor family drama, the clouds over the Commonwealth, the future of the monarchy, the economy and much more. The result has been a story that was told deeply and powerfully across all formats.

Coverage on May 6 threw up several logistical challenges and the team overcame them all to participate in huge video and photo pool operations while also providing exemplary AP unilateral coverage.

Read more [here](#).

BEST OF THE WEEK — SECOND WINNER
AP bureaus in Texas, Oklahoma and Serbia respond with fast, deep all-formats coverage of multiple mass shootings



When gunfire breaks out, AP responds, whether in the United States, which is suffering an epidemic of mass shootings, or in Serbia, where there were hardly any mass shootings — until last week.

In Cleveland, Texas, a man gunned down five people in a house after they complained about him firing a gun and disturbing a sleeping baby. Days later, even as AP journalists were wrapping up reporting on the victims, a man opened fire at shoppers at an outlet mall near Dallas, killing eight people. In between those horrific events, seven people were found shot to death in neighboring Oklahoma. In Serbia, when word emerged of a school shooting in Belgrade that killed eight students and a security guard, AP jumped into action. Within a half-hour, AP was the first to break the news to an international audience. The very next day, staffers had to rush to the scene of another mass shooting that killed eight people.

In Texas and Oklahoma — the only two states in one of the U.S. reporting regions — AP staff covered three mass shootings and the deaths of eight people who were mowed down by a speeding vehicle.

Read more [here](#).

Stories of interest

Raw videos of violent incidents in Texas rekindle debate about graphic images (Washington Post)

By Marc Fisher and Naomi Nix

The shooter who killed eight people outside an outlet mall in Allen, Tex., on May 6 was captured on a dash-cam video as he stood in the middle of a parking lot, methodically murdering people.

The next day, when a driver plowed his SUV into a cluster of men waiting for a bus in Brownsville, Tex., a video showed him speeding into and rolling over so many human beings that the person behind the camera had to pan across nearly a block-long field of mangled bodies, pools of blood and moaning, crying victims to capture the carnage. The driver killed eight people.

These gruesome videos almost instantly appeared on social media and were viewed millions of times before, in many cases, being taken down. Yet they still appear in countless back alleys of the internet.

The footage made clear that the deaths were horrific and the suffering unspeakable. The emotional power of the images would shake almost any viewer. Their rapid dissemination also rekindled an unsettling debate — one that has lingered since the advent of photography: Why does anyone need to see such images?

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dennis Conrad, Lindel Hutson.

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Gannett is experiencing a mass exodus among top execs. Here's who has left. (Poynter)

By: Angela Fu

USA Today's vice president and executive editor of news and initiatives Kristen Go will be leaving Friday, making her the eighth high-ranking editor or executive to depart Gannett in the last six months.

The company, which underwent several rounds of cuts last year, has experienced a mass exodus among top leadership. In November, president of Gannett Media and USA Today publisher Maribel Perez Wadsworth announced she would be leaving at the end of the year. A wave of departures followed, including president of Gannett's news division and USA Today editor-in-chief Nicole Carroll and senior vice president of local news and audience development Amalie Nash.

Executive editors at some of Gannett's largest local papers have also left. George Stanley, editor of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, told staff in December that he made the decision to retire after the company announced its series of cutbacks. Weeks later, Detroit Free Press editor Peter Bhatia announced he would be resigning too. Bhatia told his staff he hoped his departure would reduce the number of planned layoffs at the paper. Both editors were giants in the industry, having led staffs to multiple prestigious awards.

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

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End of a love affair: AM radio is being removed from many cars (Washington Post)

By Marc Fisher

America's love affair between the automobile and AM radio — a century-long romance that provided the soundtrack for lovers' lanes, kept the lonely company with ballgames and chat shows, sparked family singalongs and defined road trips — is on the verge of collapse, a victim of galloping technological change and swiftly shifting consumer tastes.

The breakup is entirely one-sided, a move by major automakers to eliminate AM radios from new vehicles despite protests from station owners, listeners, first-responders and politicians from both major parties.

Automakers, such as BMW, Volkswagen, Mazda and Tesla, are removing AM radios from new electric vehicles because electric engines can interfere with the sound of AM stations. And Ford, one of the nation's top-three auto sellers, is taking a bigger step, eliminating AM from all of its vehicles, electric or gas-operated.

Some station owners and advertisers contend that losing access to the car dashboard will indeed be a death blow to many of the nation's 4,185 AM stations — the possible demise of a core element of the nation's delivery system for news, political talk (especially on the right), coverage of weather emergencies and foreign language programming.

"This is a tone-deaf display of complete ignorance about what AM radio means to Americans," said Michael Harrison, publisher of Talkers, a trade journal covering the talk radio industry. "It's not the end of the world for radio, but it is the loss of an iconic piece of American culture."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dennis Conrad.

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Philadelphia Inquirer hit by cyberattack causing newspaper's largest disruption in decades (AP)

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia Inquirer experienced the most significant disruption to its operations in 27 years due to what the newspaper calls a cyberattack.

The company was working to restore print operations after a cyber incursion that prevented the printing of the newspaper's Sunday print edition, the Inquirer reported on its website.

The news operation's website was still operational Sunday, although updates were slower than normal, the Inquirer reported.

Inquirer publisher Lisa Hughes said Sunday "we are currently unable to provide an exact time line" for full restoration of the paper's systems.

"We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we work to fully restore systems and complete this investigation as soon as possible," Hughes said in an email responding to questions from the paper's newsroom.

The attack was first detected when employees on Saturday morning found the newspaper's content-management system was not working.

Read more [here](#).

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Linda Yaccarino may be "exactly what Twitter needs." But is the new CEO being set up to fail? (AP)

By BARBARA ORTUTAY

Less than two months into his \$44 billion purchase of Twitter, Elon Musk declared that whoever took over as the company's CEO "must like pain a lot." Then he promised he'd step down as soon as he found a replacement "foolish enough" to want the job.

That person, Musk announced Friday, is Linda Yaccarino, a highly-regarded advertising executive from NBCUniversal. She'll start in six weeks. How long she'll last might depend on her pain tolerance.

When Musk tweeted on Thursday that he's found a new CEO but didn't say who, one word stuck out: "she." Some of his more extreme Twitter followers took immediate issue with the new CEO's gender, but the fact that Musk hired a woman is actually notable simply because it is so rare — in business overall and especially in the tech industry — to see female chief executives.

Her appointment renewed questions about the "glass cliff," a theory that women — as well as underrepresented minorities — are more likely to be hired for leadership jobs when there's a crisis, which sets them up for failure. The term was coined in 2005 by University of Exeter professors Michelle Ryan and Alex Haslam, and there have been plenty of famous examples since then, from Yahoo's Marissa Mayer to the U.K.'s Theresa May.

Read more [here](#).

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Mike Pride, Who Proved a Regional Newspaper Could Work, Dies at 76 (New York Times)

By Sam Roberts

Mike Pride, who transformed the New Hampshire newspaper The Concord Monitor into a prizewinning paragon of regional journalism, mentoring generations of reporters and editors, defying the trope about the dying small-town newspaper and exerting an outsized impact on his profession, died on April 24 in a hospice in Palm Harbor, Fla. He was 76.

The cause was myelofibrosis, a rare type of blood cancer, his son Dr. Yuri Pride said.

As The Monitor's managing editor from 1978 to 1983 and its editor until he retired in 2008, Mr. Pride won the National Press Foundation's Editor of the Year Award in 1987 for overseeing The Monitor's eloquent coverage of the death of a hometown heroine, the astronaut and teacher Christa McAuliffe, in the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger.

And he presided over a newspaper that was regarded as a model of objective reporting — in contrast to the strident front-page editorials of its fellow New Hampshire paper The Manchester Union Leader — and an unparalleled training ground in political reporting for young journalists every four years, when the state, as the first to hold a presidential primary, emerges from relative obscurity to draw a scrum of candidates from both major parties and busloads of the national press corps.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Len Iwanski.

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Hodding Carter III, State Department spokesman during Iran hostage crisis, dies at 88 (AP)

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — Hodding Carter III, a Mississippi journalist and civil rights activist who as U.S. State Department spokesman informed Americans about the Iran hostage crisis and later won awards for his televised documentaries, has died. He was 88.

His daughter, Catherine Carter Sullivan, confirmed that he died Thursday in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where he taught leadership and public policy.

Carter “never missed an opportunity to speak truth to power in North Carolina, in the south and around the globe,” wrote his department chair, Daniel P. Gitterman.

Before moving to Washington in 1977, Carter was editor and publisher of his family's newspaper, the Delta Democrat-Times, in Greenville, Mississippi.

Carter had been co-chair of the Loyalist Democrats, a racially diverse group that won a credentials fight at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago, unseating the all-white delegation by Mississippi's governor, John Bell Williams.

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

Today in History - May 15, 2023



Today is Monday, May 15, the 135th day of 2023. There are 230 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 15, 1948, hours after declaring its independence, the new state of Israel was attacked by Transjordan, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon.

On this date:

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed an act establishing the Department of Agriculture.

In 1928, the Walt Disney cartoon character Mickey Mouse made his debut in the silent animated short "Plane Crazy."

In 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court, in its unanimous *In re Gault* decision, ruled that juveniles accused of crimes were entitled to the same due process afforded adults.

In 1970, just after midnight, Phillip Lafayette Gibbs and James Earl Green, two Black students at Jackson State College in Mississippi, were killed as police opened fire during student protests.

In 1972, Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace was shot and left paralyzed while campaigning for president in Laurel, Maryland, by Arthur H. Bremer, who served 35 years for attempted murder.

In 1975, U.S. forces invaded the Cambodian island of Koh Tang and captured the American merchant ship *Mayaguez*, which had been seized by the Khmer Rouge. (All

39 crew members had already been released safely by Cambodia; some 40 U.S. servicemen were killed in connection with the operation.)

In 1988, the Soviet Union began the process of withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan, more than eight years after Soviet forces entered the country.

In 2000, by a 5-4 vote, the U.S. Supreme Court threw out a key provision of the 1994 Violence Against Women Act, saying that rape victims could not sue their attackers in federal court.

In 2007, the Rev. Jerry Falwell, who built the Christian right into a political force, died in Lynchburg, Virginia, at age 73.

In 2009, General Motors told about 1,100 dealers their franchises would be terminated.

In 2015, a jury sentenced Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehv) to death for the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing that killed three and left more than 250 wounded.

In 2020, President Donald Trump formally unveiled a coronavirus vaccine program he called "Operation Warp Speed," to speed development of COVID-19 vaccines and quickly distribute them around the country. Comedic actor Fred Willard, whose films included "Best In Show" and "Anchorman," died at 86.

Ten years ago: Under mounting pressure, President Barack Obama released a trove of documents related to the Benghazi attack and forced out the top official at the Internal Revenue Service following revelations the agency had targeted conservative political groups. Richard Swanson, a man who planned to dribble a soccer ball from Seattle to Brazil to raise money for charity, was struck and killed by a pickup truck in Oregon.

Five years ago: Seattle Mariners second baseman Robinson Cano was suspended for 80 games for violating baseball's drug agreement, becoming one of the most prominent players disciplined under the sport's anti-doping rules. Former Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou was sentenced to four months in prison on charges of leaking classified information related to testimony allegedly disclosed to him illegally five years earlier when he was president and facing challenges from opponents in the legislature.

One year ago: Police said the white 18-year-old who shot and killed 10 people at a Buffalo supermarket a day earlier had researched the local demographics while looking for places with a high concentration of Black residents, arriving there at least a day in advance to conduct reconnaissance. President Joe Biden urged unity to address the "hate that remains a stain on the soul of America" after a deadly mass shooting at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York. Pennsylvania Lt. Gov. John Fetterman, the leading Democrat in the state's high-profile Senate contest, suffered a stroke but his campaign said he was on his way to a full recovery. (Fetterman would defeat Dr. Mehmet Oz in November to win the Senate seat.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor-singer Anna Maria Alberghetti is 87. Counterculture icon Wavy Gravy is 87. Singer Lenny Welch is 85. Actor-singer Lainie Kazan is 81. Actor Gunilla Hutton is 81. Actor Chazz Palminteri is 77. Former Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius is 75. Singer-songwriter Brian Eno is 75. Actor Nicholas Hammond (Film: "The Sound of Music") is 73. Baseball Hall of Famer George Brett is 70. Musician-composer Mike Oldfield is 70. Actor Lee Horsley is 68. TV personality Giselle Fernández is 62. Rapper Grandmaster Melle Mel is 62. Actor Brenda Bakke is 60. Football Hall of Famer Emmitt Smith is 54. Actor Brad Rowe is 53. Actor David Charvet (shahr-VAY') is 51. Actor Russell Hornsby is 49. Rock musician Ahmet Zappa is 49. Olympic gold medal gymnast Amy Chow is 45. Actor David Krumholtz is 45. Rock musician David Hartley (The War on Drugs) is 43. Actor Jamie-Lynn Sigler is 42. Actor Alexandra Breckenridge is 41. Rock musician Brad Shultz (Cage the Elephant) is 41. Rock musician Nick Perri is 39. Tennis player Andy Murray is 36.

Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that reaches more than 1,800 retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013. 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!

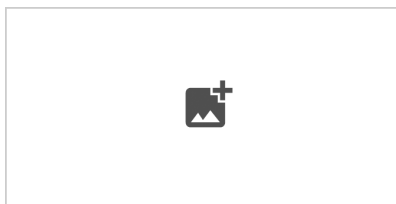
Here are some suggestions:

- **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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