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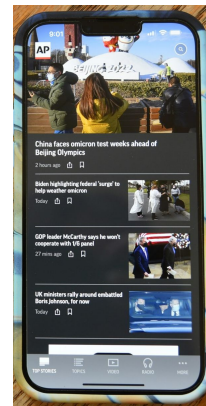
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Connecting

Aug. 10, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this Aug. 10, 2023,

Our colleague [Patricia Casillo](#) was on hand when the supersonic Concorde was loaded on a barge Wednesday and taken to a Brooklyn shipyard for a makeover, and took the two photos above.

The once-glamorous jet needs a paint job after spending the last 15 years at the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum, the former aircraft carrier anchored at Pier 86 in

the Hudson River.

The lead of a [New York Times story](#), “The Concorde Is Taking a Slow Boat to Brooklyn,” by James Barron:

This morning, the supersonic jet that set a New York-to-London speed record will go on a sub-sub-sub-sub-subsonic ride at 5.7 miles per hour, tops. Quite a contrast to the days when it could cruise at 1,350 m.p.h., more than twice the speed of sound.

CONDOLENCES TO MARK MITTELSTADT on the death Wednesday of his mother, Marilyn Mittelstadt, at the age of 92. She was under hospice care in Fort Dodge, Iowa, when she died. Mark’s father, Ray Mittelstadt, died five years ago. Mark’s email - markmitt71@yahoo.com

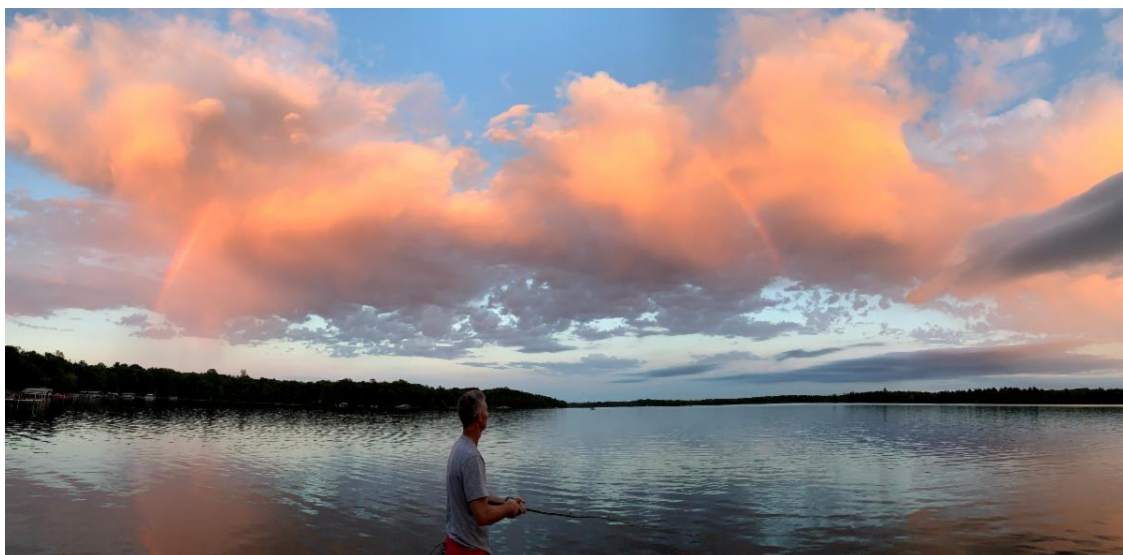
CONGRATULATIONS to our colleague [David Crary](#) on being named by NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ+ Journalists as the recipient of the 2023 Randy Shilts Award for LGBTQ+ Coverage, which honors journalists who bring stories of the LGBTQ+ community to life in mainstream media outlets. We bring you the story in today’s edition.

We lead today’s issue with a touching essay by colleague **Ned Seaton** on final respects paid to his father, **Edward Seaton**, former publisher of The Manhattan Mercury. Ned, who worked for the AP early in his career, followed in his father’s footsteps as head of the Kansas newspaper. Ned’s brother Jay is publisher of The Daily Sentinel in Grand Junction, Colo. [Edward Seaton died](#) last Dec. 26 at age 79.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy, live the day to your fullest.

Paul

The pair of eagles on Rainbow Bay



By [Ned Seaton](#)

Three years ago, we scattered my mom's ashes in Bay Lake, in north-central Minnesota. It's what she wanted, and so my dad carried what was left of her down to the dock and onto the pontoon.

We cut the engine in the shallow water of Rainbow Bay; Dad said a few words, and...a bald eagle watched us from the tallest tree on the east end of Malkerson's Island. We felt as if that was Mom, or it was Nature representing Mom, or Mom telling us through Nature that she was there.



We also scattered some down by Mrs. Hall's, where Mom and Dad took us fishing all those years growing up, and right out in front of our dock. Later, after an afternoon rain shower, Angie and I went out in a fishing boat and, as I cast out to the shelf with my white single-spin, a rainbow appeared, connecting Rainbow Bay to Mrs. Hall's. She took a picture; that picture hangs in our living room. I still wonder about that rainbow.

Last week, we carried Dad's ashes down to that same dock, cut the engine in Rainbow Bay. My brother and I scattered him in the same spot. I believe it was his grandson Jake who was talking about Dad's love for Mom, when two eagles soared overhead.

They were...playing. There's no other way to describe it.

They were relatively young, so neither had the white head yet. I presume one was a male and the other a female, and that they were a pair. This was not a fight. It was clearly a couple having fun with each other. They soared together, circled around us several times, and then left when we did.

My son Brett, a devoted agnostic, later said he was left with wonder about the meaning of that moment. Was it Mom and Dad? Was it Nature showing us that they were OK, that they were together? Was it something more than that?

I don't know. But he pointed out in a poem he wrote that day that eagles mate for life, at about age 5, which is also when the male's head turns white. Considering their typical life span, 5 in eagle years is equivalent to the age of my parents when they first met, my mom just out of college and my dad heading into his last year of it, in Madrid.

His third stanza:

"...a lone eagle, flying above a tree on a small lake next to a small town, is lost," he wrote. Half of him is missing, or not yet found.

I guess it's appropriate that it's the next generation who pointed this out. They've been coming up to this lake every year of their lives, just as I did, just as my dad did.

So now I think of that one eagle, three years ago, in an entirely different light. That wasn't Mom. That was Dad. Waiting.

He waits no more. They're together, soaring. The circle goes on, unbroken.

(AP's) David Crary Named the 2023 Recipient of the Randy Shilts Award for LGBTQ+ Coverage

Washington, D.C. (August 9, 2023) – Today, NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ+ Journalists announced that award winning journalist David Crary is the recipient of the 2023 Randy Shilts Award for LGBTQ+ Coverage, which honors journalists who bring stories of the LGBTQ+ community to life in mainstream media outlets.

“David Crary has consistently produced high-quality and insightful stories that foreground LGBTQ+ communities and individuals, regardless of the beat or coverage area,” said NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ+ Journalists Executive Director Adam Pawlus. “Through his work at The Associated Press, he has helped set the standard for what fair and accurate coverage looks like. We are proud to recognize him for his work.”

Crary has been a reporter, editor and bureau chief with The Associated Press during a four-decade career entailing a variety of postings in the U.S. and abroad. Until mid-2021, he was a national writer based in New York, primarily reporting on volatile social issues, including scores of in-depth features about a variety of LGBTQ+ topics. More recently, he has been news director of AP's global religion team.

Beyond his own reporting, Crary has been active over the years in improving AP's company-wide coverage of LGBTQ+ issues and related material in the AP Stylebook. In 2013, when Stylebook editors suggested that married same-sex couples should be referred to as “partners” rather than as husbands or wives, Crary's public objection to that guidance helped lead to a reversal. “The AP style guidance will have no effect on how I write about legally married same-sex couples,” Crary told blogger Rex Wockner. “I will continue to depict them on equal terms, linguistically and otherwise, with heterosexual married couples, with no hesitation about using husband and wife in the cases where that's the appropriate term.”

His coverage has been recognized many times over. In 2000, he became the first man to win the General Federation of Women's Clubs annual award for excellence in covering issues of concern to women. His 2006 article about gay and lesbian people in Alabama was honored with a second-place award for Excellence in News Writing by NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ+ Journalists. In 2022, Crary and AP colleague Lindsay Whitehurst shared GLAAD's Award for Outstanding Print Article for a story about the lack of evidence justifying bans on transgender youths' sports participation.

(Shared by Howard Goldberg)

Remembering Aug. 9

[Linda Deutsch](#) - Some dates stick our memories like a bad dream. Aug. 9 is one of them for me.

That was the day in 1969 when the news broke that actress Sharon Tate and four others had been slain at her Los Angeles home. I had been with the AP for barely two years and, as a newbie, I had a dull assignment that day. I was to go to the Orange County Airport to meet the arriving Air Force One which was delivering then President Richard Nixon en route to his Western White House in San Clemente. While a press pool traveled with him, the AP always had a local reporter on hand to report that the President's plane had touched down safely. I had touch down duty . Nixon arrived safely and I headed for a phone booth to call the AP.

"The President has arrived," I told the staffer who answered the phone.

"Forget about the President!" he exclaimed. "There's been a terrible mass murder. A movie star has been killed. Get in here as fast as you can."

I headed to the bureau, began making calls and writing stories. At midnight I was still there when the City News Service machine sprang to life. There had been another gruesome double murder of a husband and wife, Leno and Rosemary LaBianca. The scene had the same bloody scrawlings that had marked the earlier murder site. And thus began one of the nation's most notorious murder cases subsequently dubbed the Tate-LaBianca killings. I would cover the Manson trial and I returned to the story many times for the rest of my career. My original stories are now in the AP archives.

But what was so odd was that I also occasionally covered Nixon at the Western White House. And exactly five years later, on Aug. 9, 1974, Nixon resigned the presidency, having been caught up in the Watergate scandal. I was dispatched to his childhood hometown of Whittier to interview residents about the shocking news that day. I didn't look at the calendar then but later it occurred to me how strange a coincidence it was that I was covering Nixon on both of those historic August 9th's.

(AP's) Kat Stafford appointed Reuters Global Race & Justice Editor

Reuters Global Managing Editor, Politics, Economics and World News, Mark Bendeich shared the following message with Reuters colleagues about Kat Stafford's appointment as Global Race & Justice Editor:

I am delighted to announce that award-winning journalist Kat Stafford has been appointed as our Global Race & Justice Editor, effective Sept 5. With the help of the entire newsroom, Kat will help lead our collective efforts to tell stories from a wider range of perspectives. She will also pursue new and ambitious projects with a view to producing agenda-setting coverage in the areas of race, identity and social justice. We will be opening three roles for Race & Justice reporters who will report directly to Kat.

Based in her hometown of Detroit, Kat comes to us from the Associated Press, where she is a national investigative race writer and global investigations correspondent. She was recently named the recipient of the National Press Club Journalism Institute's 2023 Neil and Susan Sheehan Award for Investigative Journalism.

In the new role, Kat will work with text and visuals editors to ensure journalists are pursuing a range of perspectives across the entire news file, from politics and society to economics and financial markets. Her team will focus heavily on deeply reported, investigative stories.

Read more [here](#).

Stories of interest

Will Donald Trump's Trials Be Televised? Courts Can Consider An Array Of Options To Boost Access To Momentous Proceedings (Deadline)

By TED JOHNSON

Donald Trump's election conspiracy case may be billed as the trial of the century, but as things stand, the public won't have any way of seeing or hearing it — save for going to the E. Barrett Prettyman United States Courthouse in Washington, D.C., waiting in line and hoping for a seat.

Federal criminal courts long have prohibited cameras or recording devices of any kind, but the momentous nature of the Trump case already has seen Capitol Hill lawmakers argue for an exception, and a coalition of major news organizations is expected to make some sort of appeal to the judicial branch.

Yet as unlikely as Depp/Heard-like live coverage of Trump's federal case seems, given futile efforts so far to secure camera or audio of the proceedings, legal experts say that there are other options that would at least expand what is available.

Other options include:

Read more [here](#).

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Top Texas A&M officials were involved in botched recruiting of journalism professor, who will receive \$1 million settlement (Texas Tribune)

BY KATE MCGEE

Multiple Texas A&M University System regents voiced concerns about the perceived left-leaning credentials of Kathleen O. McElroy, a Black journalism professor, hired to launch a new journalism program at their flagship school, according to an internal report released Thursday.

Top system leaders questioned the decision after a conservative website blasted the hiring of McElroy, a tenured professor at the University of Texas at Austin and a former New York Times editor. As Texas A&M University officials fielded pushback from regents and external concerns from conservative groups, McElroy's offer was watered down after A&M held a public signing ceremony announcing her hire. She ultimately rescinded her acceptance.

A review of the failed hiring also revealed that former university President M. Katherine Banks was heavily involved in discussions about making changes to McElroy's offer, contradicting Banks' earlier claims that she was unaware that the school had weakened its proposed terms of employment. Banks abruptly retired last month amid turmoil spurred by the botched hiring.

Read more [here](#).

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News firms seek transparency, collective negotiation over content use by AI makers - letter (Reuters)

By Yuvraj Malik

Aug 9 (Reuters) - A group of the world's biggest news media organizations called for revised regulations on the use of copyrighted material by makers of artificial intelligence technology, according to an open letter published on Wednesday.

The note, signed by industry bodies like the News Media Alliance - which includes nearly 2,000 publications in the United States - and the European Publishers' Council, batted for a framework enabling media companies to "collectively negotiate" with AI model operators regarding the operators' use of their intellectual property.

"Generative AI and large language models ... disseminate that content and information to their users, often without any consideration of, remuneration to, or attribution to the original creators. Such practices undermine the media industry's core business models," according to the letter.

Services like OpenAI's ChatGPT and Google's Bard, which use the language producing generative AI, has led to a surge in online content produced by bots and several industries are assessing its impact on their businesses.

Read more [here](#).

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Doing internal work to improve newsrooms in ways readers may never hear about (Poynter)

By: Omar Gallaga

Newspapers are not particularly known for moving swiftly (except when it comes to news coverage), and those who've worked in legacy newsrooms for a long time know that the pace of internal change can be glacial.

This makes it all the more remarkable that three journalists working in three separate newsrooms (two of them in the same city) took it upon themselves to push forward projects meant to get the ball rolling on improvements meant to help present and future staffers.

As part of the Poynter-Koch Media and Journalism Fellowship's mission to focus on local journalism, those three journalists – Megan Cardona at the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Rose Monique Valera Henriquez at El Nuevo Herald and Michael Butler at the Miami Herald – decided to dedicate their innovation projects for the fellowship to improving their newsrooms' internal workings. Cardona's efforts were to advance the work of a just-formed newsroom diversity committee. Henriquez and Butler separately worked on guides for future reporters new to their beats: One is a guide to being a reporter in Miami, the other focuses specifically on covering Cuban immigration.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - Aug. 10, 2023



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Aug. 10, the 222nd day of 2023. There are 143 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 10, 1945, a day after the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, Imperial Japan conveyed its willingness to surrender provided the status of Emperor Hirohito remained unchanged. (The Allies responded the next day, saying they would determine the Emperor's future status.)

On this date:

In 1792, during the French Revolution, mobs in Paris attacked the Tuileries (TWEE'-luh-reez) Palace, where King Louis XVI resided. (The king was later arrested, put on trial for treason, and executed.)

In 1821, Missouri became the 24th state.

In 1885, Leo Daft opened America's first commercially operated electric streetcar, in Baltimore.

In 1944, during World War II, American forces overcame remaining Japanese resistance on Guam.

In 1962, Marvel Comics superhero Spider-Man made his debut in issue 15 of "Amazing Fantasy."

In 1969, Leno and Rosemary LaBianca were murdered in their Los Angeles home by members of Charles Manson's cult, one day after actor Sharon Tate and four other people were slain.

In 1977, postal employee David Berkowitz was arrested in Yonkers, New York, accused of being "Son of Sam," the gunman who killed six people and wounded seven others in the New York City area.

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed a measure providing \$20,000 payments to still-living Japanese-Americans who were interned by their government during World War II.

In 1993, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was sworn in as the second female justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1995, Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols were charged with 11 counts in the Oklahoma City bombing (McVeigh was convicted of murder and executed; Nichols was convicted of conspiracy and involuntary manslaughter and sentenced to life in prison).

In 2006, British authorities announced they had thwarted a terrorist plot to simultaneously blow up 10 aircraft heading to the U.S. using explosives smuggled in hand luggage.

In 2019, Jeffrey Epstein, accused of orchestrating a sex-trafficking ring and sexually abusing dozens of underage girls, was found unresponsive in his cell at a New York City jail; he was later pronounced dead at a hospital. (The city's medical examiner ruled the death a suicide by hanging.)

Ten years ago: In an address at the Disabled American Veterans' convention in Orlando, Florida, President Barack Obama assured disabled veterans that his administration was making progress on reducing a backlog of disability claims. A harrowing weeklong search for a missing California teenager ended when FBI agents rescued 16-year-old Hannah Anderson and shot and killed 40-year-old James Lee DiMaggio at a campsite deep in the Idaho wilderness. (Authorities say in addition to kidnapping Hannah, DiMaggio killed her brother and mother at his home east of San Diego.) Singer Edyie Gorme, 84, died in Las Vegas.

Five years ago: Richard Russell, a 29-year-old airline ground agent, stole a commercial plane from Sea-Tac International Airport near Seattle; he flew for 75 minutes, performing dangerous stunts while being chased by military jets before crashing into a remote island in Puget Sound, killing himself. Two police officers and two others were killed in a shooting in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada.

One year ago: Donald Trump invoked his Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination as he testified under oath in the New York attorney general's civil investigation into the former president's business dealings. A fear of attacks that had rippled through Muslim communities nationwide after the fatal shootings of four men in Albuquerque, New Mexico, gave way to surprise when it turned out the suspect in the killings was himself Muslim. Muhammad Syed, 51, denied any connection to the crimes. But investigators said they had ample evidence to prove his guilt.

Today's Birthdays: Actor James Reynolds is 77. Rock singer-musician Ian Anderson (Jethro Tull) is 76. Country musician Gene Johnson (Diamond Rio) is 74. Singer Patti Austin is 73. Actor Daniel Hugh Kelly is 71. Folk singer-songwriter Sam Baker is 69. Actor Rosanna Arquette is 64. Actor Antonio Banderas is 63. Rock musician Jon Farriss (INXS) is 62. Singer Julia Fordham is 61. Journalist-blogger Andrew Sullivan is 60. Actor Chris Caldovino is 60. Singer Neneh Cherry is 59. Singer Aaron Hall is 59. Former boxer Riddick Bowe is 56. Actor Sean Blakemore is 56. R&B singer Lorraine Pearson (Five Star) is 56. Singer-producer Michael Bivins is 55. Actor-writer Justin Theroux is 52. Actor Angie Harmon is 51. Country singer Jennifer Hanson is 50. Actor-turned-lawyer Craig Kirkwood is 49. Actor JoAnna Garcia Swisher is 44. Singer Cary Ann Hearst (Shovels & Rope) is 44. Actor Aaron Staton is 43. Actor Ryan Eggold is 39. Actor Charley Koontz is 36. Actor Lucas Till is 33. Reality TV star Kylie Jenner is 26. Actor Jeremy Maguire is 12.

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?

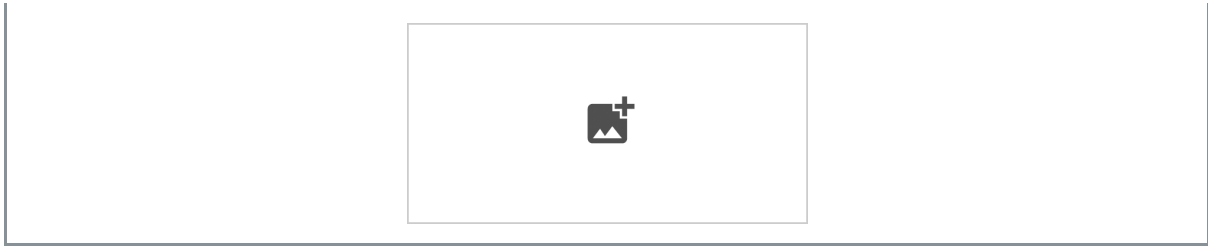
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.



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