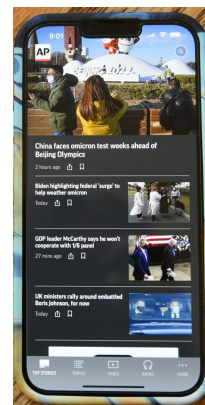


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Connecting

Aug. 16, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this Aug. 16, 2023,

Friends to the very end, they were – AP photojournalist **Patrick Hamilton** and AP foreign correspondent **Susana Hayward**.

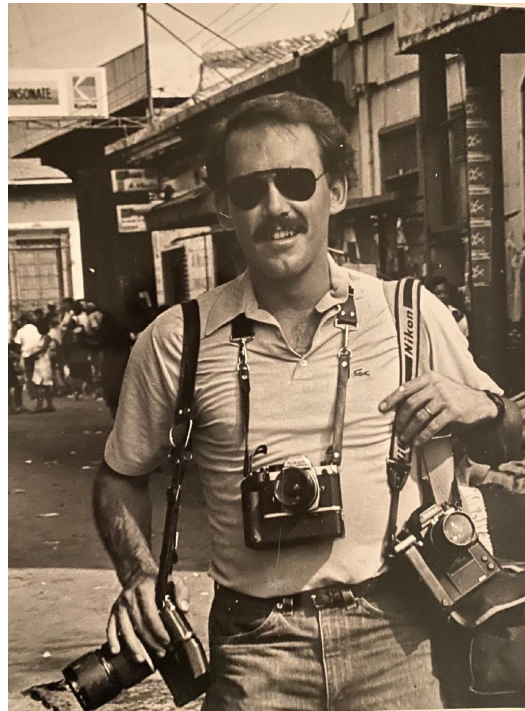
When Patrick took his last breath Sunday, Susana was at his side along with his wife **Sylvia** and son **Michael** and a hospice nurse. Ever the journalist, even while mourning his death, she wrote the obituary for her friend that appears in today's Connecting.

Hamilton, a former Marine and veteran of the Vietnam War who covered the wars in Central America for The Associated Press, died Sunday after a long battle with cancer. He was 74. He was an award-winning professional who mentored countless photographers and writers as a photojournalist and editor for AP and later Reuters, for which he covered the Iraq War.

“Pat was a dear friend of mine who I've known since college and we ended up on many assignments together throughout Latin America,” Hayward said. “I was with him

last night when he died...I haven't slept much. But I think with **Joe Frazier's** help and his family, we could put an obituary together. Joe was also a dear close friend of Pat's and they worked together during the worst of the conflicts in Central America.”

Connecting – like the lives it chronicles – contains happy news along with the sad – and we feature in today’s edition a Connecting anniversary profile of our colleague **Kevin McGill** – who last week celebrated his 40th anniversary with the AP. All of his years have been in the New Orleans bureau where he was hired by our colleague, then-bureau chief **Hank Ackerman**.



Kevin is married to **Angie Lamoli**, whom he met when she worked in Services and Technology in the New Orleans bureau. Angie retired in 2014 after 31 years with the AP.

We bring you more stories in the aftermath of the police raid on the small Kansas weekly newspaper, the Marion County Record.

MAUI WILDFIRE DISASTER: This from colleague **David Herron**, retired Seattle senior technician: “I really enjoyed David Briscoe’s story in Monday’s Connecting with his personal insight as to life in the Hawaiian islands and his take on the horrible tragedy on Maui. The devastation there is beyond comprehension. Frankly, their loss is our loss, and our island neighbors need help. Yet, it’s also difficult to help from afar. This is where a donation will go a long way. For anyone who would like to make a donation to help those in need, [here is a link](#) to a web portal for ‘Maui Strong’.”

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

Paul

AP photojournalist Patrick Hamilton – a Marine, a gentle soul – dies at 74



Susana Hayward - Patrick Hamilton, a combat veteran of the Vietnam War who covered the civil wars in Central America as a photojournalist for The Associated Press, has died after a long struggle with cancer. He was 74.

Hamilton joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1968 after graduating from Gladewater High School in Texas. In the Marines, he was a member of the Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol, (LRRP) a Marine Corps version of the Navy Seals, taking part in patrols into enemy territory for days at a time.

“Pat had seen war as a Marine combatant in Vietnam and those experiences in some ways prepared him to return to war; but this time with a different weapon, a camera,” said former AP vice president and director of photography Santiago Lyon, “and a different mission - to show the world both the horrors of war itself and the quiet dignity of so many whose lives were upended or ruined.

“Beyond his photographic excellence he was, perhaps most importantly, a kind and generous mentor to many aspiring photojournalists, myself included. A generation has lost a pillar of our profession.”



Patrick Hamilton (with sunglasses far left), colleagues and military officials covering the civil war in El Salvador. Photo by Bill Gentile.

Hamilton's experience in Vietnam served him well in Central America during the 1980s and 1990s and afterwards with Reuters, for which he covered Desert Storm.

Colleagues praised him for being cool under pressure, a professional you wanted by your side in conflict zones like in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

"When I drove around in a war zone in northern Nicaragua with a guy like Hamilton sitting shotgun, I had a sense of security that I did not enjoy if riding around with some everyday John Doe," photojournalist and author Bill Gentile wrote in his memoir "Wait for Me."

A man of few words, he was patient and humble, slowly twisting his moustache when expounding on what colleagues called his "Patisms."

He liked to say, "All news is local," whenever someone extolled the virtues of foreign news versus domestic reporting, and, if lamenting their place in the world, he'd say, "Wherever you are, there you are."

"Both of us had been combat veterans in Vietnam and had worked together almost exclusively since the Somoza Revolution," said AP writer Joseph Frazier, also a former Marine based in Mexico City with Hamilton. "He fit into it unlike many who came down to try to make sense out of it. Pat saw it for what it was but saw no joy there."

Although brevity of words was a characteristic, Hamilton didn't mince them, and his sardonic humor was renowned.

“There was a day early on in El Salvador, Pat and I were headed toward to border with Honduras, just the two of us (he, the former LURP, me a still pretty damn green behind the ears AP reporter, and after we left a village to another one, I said, ‘Geez, Patrick, I am pretty scared right now,’ ”recalled former foreign correspondent Gordon Mott. “Without turning toward me in the car, he said, ‘If you’re not scared, you are (expletive) stupid.’ “

A private man, only his family and close friends knew of his illness, and news of his death shocked and saddened many. The Facebook page Journalist Vets of Central America were replete with remembrances of Hamilton as a great photographer, editor and mentor who gave many aspiring journalists their start.

“He was a gentle soul, a great human being. Always concerned about others. He was a great teacher and a good friend of 44-plus years,” said Miami-based photographer J.B. Diederich, who got his start when Hamilton hired him.

Before digital photography, Pat worked with 35mm film, and he was known to use only one or two rolls during assignments because he was judicious with images he saw, saying they shouldn’t even need cropping if done right.

“We worked under so much pressure, you had to be precise in shooting those 36 frames (in a roll),” said Reuters photographer Jorge Nuñez, who worked with Hamilton for seven years. “Besides being a great photographer, he was an excellent editor. He could see the front-page observing every frame he developed. He never missed.”

Hamilton left Reuters in 1991 for personal reasons and was hired as photo editor at the Texas newspaper, the McAllen Monitor. An avid reader, Hamilton taught English literature at the University of Texas-Pan American in Edinburg, where he finished his bachelor’s degree and obtained a master’s degree in English.

At the McAllen Monitor, a border newspaper that launched the careers of many foreign correspondents, Hamilton was lauded for his mentoring of young journalists.

“I learned so much from Patrick. As a young photojournalist I was intrigued by his stint with the AP Mexico City and his coverage of the Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua and the other tumult in Central America,” said McAllen Monitor photographer Delcia Lopez in a Facebook post. “I remember Patrick showing me a collection of his amazing black and white photos. There was one photo that stuck with me, the photo of Cuban president Fidel Castro having a drink with author Ernest Hemingway.”

Before joining the AP in Mexico City in 1979, Hamilton was a photographer at the San Antonio Express-News. One of his most famous photos was of President Gerald Ford in front of The Alamo biting into a tamale with the shuck still on. Analysts said this blunder cost Ford Texas – and probably the presidency due to Texas’ electoral votes.

Pat is survived by his wife of 44 years, the former Sylvia Browne, whom he met in Managua, Nicaragua, while she was standing in line at the U.S. Embassy to help a friend get a visa.

“There was a long line for visas and all the photographers and reporters came. I saw something I liked and smiled, and he approached me,” said Sylvia.

The couple had three children, Patrick R. Hamilton, Michael M. Hamilton and Alina M. Hamilton. He is also survived by three granddaughters Kayle A. Magnum, Avery C. Magnum and Emery D. Magnum.

Other survivors are sisters Claire Ann Hamilton Hays; Susan Lee Hamilton Johnson; Margaret Marie Hamilton-Houser and brother Robert Neff Hamilton. Another brother, Luke Edward Hamilton, died in 2014.

A funeral is planned at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to SA Life Academy, a day program for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Connecting 40th Anniversary Profile

Kevin McGill



**Kevin McGill and his wife Angie Lamoli:
Combined 71 years of AP service, and counting...**

What are you doing these days?

At work, writing occasionally about New Orleans music and culture, but mostly keeping an eye on federal courts, especially the 5th US. Circuit Court of Appeals, which is regularly hearing challenges to Biden administration policy. At home, enjoying being an empty-nester with my wife (former AP Services and Technology coordinator Angie Lamoli). That said, we seem to have supplanted childcare with

constant attention to a couple of rescue pups — one large and the other larger — who adopted us over the last few years.

How did you get your first job with the AP? Who hired you? What were your first days like?

Former New Orleans COB Hank Ackerman hired me away from my first newspaper job at the Gannett-owned News-Star-World in Monroe, La. I had started out in radio in nearby Ruston in 1978 but was persuaded by a friend who worked for the paper to give newspapering a try. I got to know the AP crew in Baton Rouge when I helped out Gannett's capitol reporter with legislative coverage.

My first days at AP were mostly nights — night broadcast rewrite. Lots of stitching together college basketball and football from stat boxes and sports information directors' notes. Lots of dull routine rewriting of member pickup copy or AP staff's stories. Occasional bolts of adrenaline and furious phone work when, for instance, an oil refinery blew up.

What were your different past jobs in the AP, in order?

I was gradually weaned off of night broadcast and spent a year or two as a general reporter, pitching in at the Legislature, covering big trials at the federal courthouse in New Orleans. By around 1987 I had settled into the day supervisor's job, helping guide what was then a staff of half a dozen or so to shape the daily news report. I did that for more than 20 years. Back to general assignment and federal courts after regionalization was instituted around 2007 or so.

What was the biggest story or stories you covered or handled?

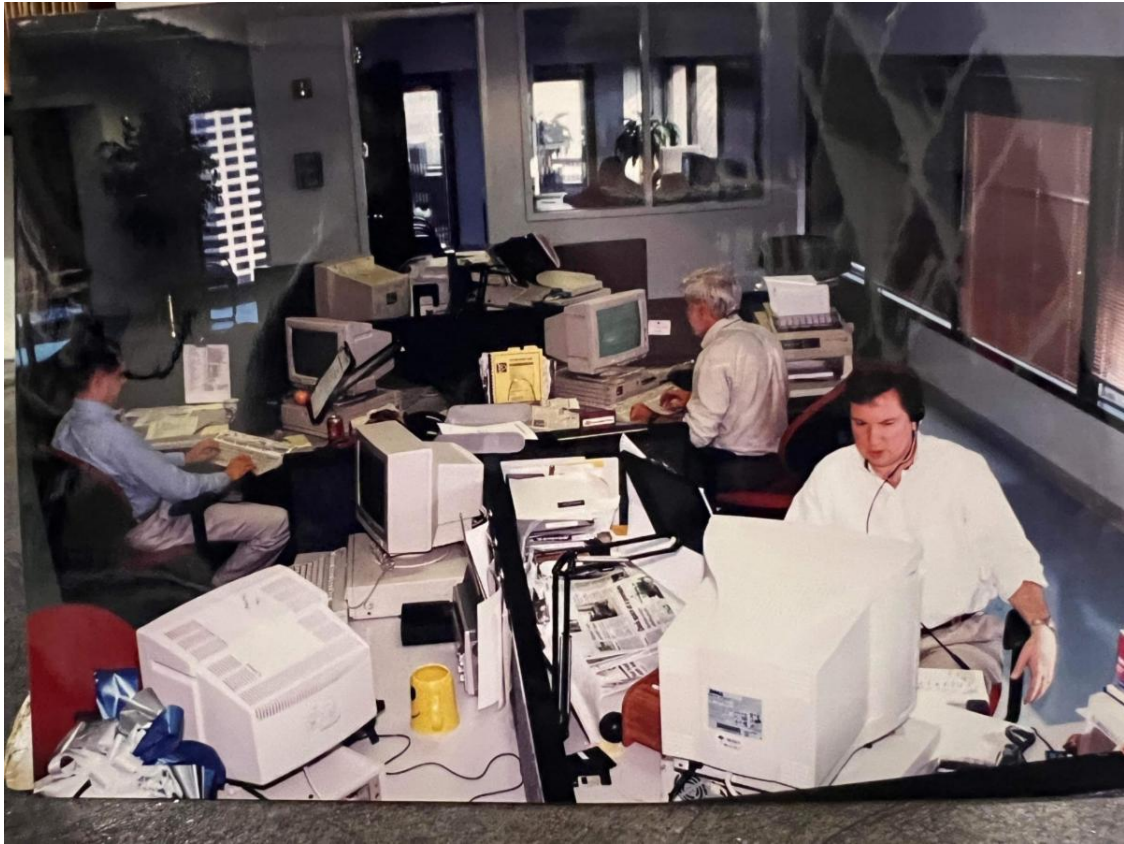
Katrina, of course, was the biggest and most emotionally draining. Memories of the destruction, death and resulting abject misery still haunt me at times.



Gov. Edwin Edwards (right) interviewed by, from left: BJ Austin, then of WTIX; Bob Pavlovich, then WWL-AM (now WWNO); Kevin McGill, AP; Marsha Shuler, then of The Morning Advocate.

The late former Gov. Edwin Edwards dominated Louisiana politics for a quarter century and continued to grab headlines for another couple of decades. I covered his first two federal trials in New Orleans in 1985 and 1986 — mostly arcane, complicated cases inside the courtroom; frequent spectacle outside — demonstrators, souvenir hawkers and the defendant sometimes setting the tone by arriving in a mule-drawn buggy or walking backwards into court to accommodate photographers. I helped our Baton Rouge correspondents cover his last two terms as governor and edited copy on his later trials, including the one that sent him to prison for nearly a decade.

I covered executions at the state penitentiary. I covered memorably raucous, recurring debates over abortion at the Legislature. Then, there was Baton Rouge's long hot summer of 2016 — when the police killing of a Black man outside a convenience store set off tense protests, followed by a sniper fatally shooting four police officers and killing two, followed by devastating floods.



New Orleans bureau news desk, mid 1980s



From New Orleans bureau circa 2000. From left: Kevin McGill, reporter Janet McConnaughey, bureau administrative assistant Elna Kammler, reporter Phil Drysdale,

technician Bryan Nichols, unidentified, news editor Kent Prince, election coordinator Faye Prince (Kent's wife), regional technical coordinator Angie Lamoli, Chief of Communications Jim Van Sickle. Seated, Chief of Bureau Hank Ackerman.

Who played the most significant role in your career and how?

That would be difficult to say. There were a host of good people at the News-Star-World. John Hill with Gannett News Service really helped me tighten my writing - a duty taken up by retired New Orleans news editor Kent Prince. And not a day at the bureau goes by when I don't think of three fine reporters and writers who we have lost over the years — Bill Crider, Ed McHale and Austin Wilson — each of whom I found myself trying to emulate at times.

Would you do it all over again - or what would you change?

I'd do it all over again if for no other reason than that I met Angie at the AP! I am like a lot of reporters I've known: I complain about this or that but when I look back, I can't imagine not being a part of The Associated Press.

What's your favorite hobby or activity?

Re-reading old books and discovering new ones. (I'm a slow reader, perhaps because as an old-line editor I tend to read only in chunks of 500 to 700 words.

What's the best vacation trip you've ever made?

Any among my trips to visit family in Puerto Rico.

Names of your family members and what they do?

My wife, Angie Lamoli, retired from AP services and technology in 2014 after 31 years. Angie started about two weeks after I started working in the newsroom in August 1983. We were friends for many years, and we even dated for a time after we met. But it wasn't until 1998 — after she had married and divorced — that we married. I'm proud to say the blending of families was a success — her ex-husband and I walked my older stepdaughter down the aisle last year!

My older stepdaughter, Marianna Downer, is an attorney who lives a few blocks away from us. My younger stepdaughter, Angelina Knister, is an artist, designer and marketer with DL 1961, a denim apparel business in New York.

Kevin McGill's email — mcgill56@bellsouth.net

Aftermath of police raid of Kansas weekly newspaper



Walt Handelsman on Kansas newspaper raid; shared by Len Iwanski

Too accurate

Marc Wilson - Mort Rosenblum's contribution to Tuesday's Connecting reminds me of the time he visited us in Montana to learn about publishing a small-town weekly newspaper after a career in the AP.

I'd worked for three dailies and five AP bureaus before we bought the Bigfork Eagle, circulation 1,950.

As I told Mort, the differences between "big time" and small market journalism are huge. A major difference, in big market journalism, reporters get in trouble for inaccurate reporting. In small towns, reporters get in trouble - sued, boycotted, harassed and shunned -- for being "too accurate."

In Kansas, they get raided by the cops.

Eric Meyer, publisher of the Marion County Record, (who also came from a "big time" background), found that out when his newspaper and home were searched by police who confiscated the newspaper's computers and staff members' cell phone. The home raid possibly contributed to the death of Meyer's 98-year-old mother.

One of the first stories I wrote for the Eagle was about a fund-raiser for the village arts center. I included the fact that the previous director of the center had allegedly embezzled \$75,000, prompting the need for the fund-raiser. The day that issue came out I was visited by three of the town's leaders who told me the story was "too accurate." They appreciated the publicity for the fund-raiser, but didn't think it necessary to dredge up the embezzlement.

During the 14 years we owned the Eagle, we were sued twice, boycotted multiple times (with limited but noticeable affect), had a rock thrown into a front window, and were threatened by the county's undersheriff: "I'm going to own that paper."

Some folks unhappy with the "negative reporting" of the Eagle started a "good-news only" publication that siphoned off much-needed advertising.

We made our share of mistakes, but most of the major battles involved us being "too accurate." One boycott occurred after we accurately reported a local man had committed suicide after being convicted of incest. Another time almost all the Bigfork High school students signed a petition complaining that we had identified an 18-year-old student who had been arrested for drunken driving and vehicular homicide for causing a crash that killed two people. Too accurate.

The marinas started a boycott because we editorially supported lowering the level of Flathead Lake because of research proved huge erosion issues. It was true, the boycott leaders said, but couldn't the paper just stay silent?

What's occurring in Marion County Kansas, is tied to the paper being "too accurate."

The local police chief, other officials and some residents in Marion County obviously would prefer a good-news-only publication, a ghost newspaper or no newspaper at all.

My old paper in Bigfork is now a "ghost newspaper," and I'm sure that makes some folks happy that the "negative news" goes unreported.

But the negative news still occurs, (along with a lot of positive news that now also goes unreported).

As many have said, far too many markets (some in decent-size markets) are now served by ghost newspapers or no news media at all.

Perhaps all that is happening in Marion County, Kansas will serve as a wake-up call.

We need all the "too accurate" stories we can get.

-0-

With a nation's eyes scrutinizing Kansas community, let's be careful with the facts

**By Clay Wirestone
Kansas Reflector**

As the furor over police raiding the Marion County Record boils and bubbles, I want to take a step back and write about parts of the story that have been miscommunicated or missed altogether.

This happens. Stories that spread nationally from a local dispute can get facts wrong or miss vital subtleties. The addition of social media to the mix means that news can become distorted in the game of telephone resulting from quickly skimmed headlines and half-read articles. But if we're all going to be paying attention to a story about newspapers and newsgathering, it's worth knowing what's true, what's false and what we just don't know yet.

We should all have the patience and fortitude, when facing a situation like this, to refrain from easy or simplistic attacks and assumptions.

First off, U.S. Rep. Jake LaTurner has nothing to do with the situation.

Yes, journalists from the Record were asked to leave a meeting featuring LaTurner at Kari's Kitchen, a restaurant owned by one of the protagonists in this small-town drama. Yes, the person asking them to leave was the town's police chief, the same person who led the raid on the newspaper offices Friday. Yes, according to meeting coverage, venue owner Kari Newell requested the reporters' removal.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

-0-

Joann Meyer, Longtime Editor of a Besieged Newspaper, Dies at 98



A memorial for Joann Meyer, who began working at The Marion County Record in the 1960s, outside the newspaper's offices in Marion, Kan. Credit...John Hanna/Associated Press

By Clay Risen
The New York Times

Joann Meyer, who spent nearly 60 years as a reporter, columnist, editor and associate publisher at The Marion County Record in Kansas, died on Saturday at her home, a day after the police searched the newspaper's offices. She was 98.

Her son, Eric Meyer, the newspaper's publisher, confirmed the death. He said that the cause had not been determined, but that the coroner had concluded that the stress of the searches — at her home, which she shared with him, as well as at the paper's offices — was a contributing factor.

The raids came after a local businesswoman accused the newspaper of illegally acquiring a letter from the local government explaining how she could reinstate her driver's license after it had been suspended following a citation for drunken driving in 2008.

The newspaper, which said it had received the document from an anonymous source, verified the information, but Mr. Meyer decided not to publish an article about it. Nevertheless, on Friday morning a judge issued a warrant permitting the police to search the Meyer residence and the newspaper's offices for evidence of identity theft and the "illegal use of a computer."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Peggy Walsh.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Bobby Baker](#)

[Ray Krell](#)

Stories of interest

Report on Anti-Gay Slur Could Put Local News Site Out of Business (New York Times)

By Jeremy W. Peters

The county board meeting in Wausau, Wis., on Aug. 12, 2021, got contentious fast. Nobody disputes that.

But what happened about 12 minutes in, as members of the north-central Wisconsin community squabbled over a resolution intended to promote diversity and inclusion, has become the subject of a bitter legal fight that threatens to bankrupt one of the few remaining sources of local news in the area. First Amendment experts say the case highlights a troubling trend of wealthy and powerful people using defamation law as retribution.

Acting on a tip from a reader, The Wausau Pilot & Review reported that during the meeting, the owner of a shredding and recycling company, Cory Tomczyk, called a 13-year-old boy a “fag.” Mr. Tomczyk, who is now a Republican state senator, denied using the slur and demanded a retraction. When The Pilot & Review stood by its article, Mr. Tomczyk sued.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen, Michael Rubin, Peggy Walsh.

-0-

U.S. Ambassador Meets With Evan Gershkovich, Detained WSJ Reporter, in Russia (New York Times)

By Edward Wong

The U.S. ambassador to Russia met with Evan Gershkovich, the jailed American reporter for The Wall Street Journal, in Lefortovo Prison in Moscow on Monday, the State Department said hours after their talk.

The visit by the ambassador, Lynne Tracy, marked the third time she had met with Mr. Gershkovich since he was detained by the Russian authorities in March.

“Ambassador Tracy said that Evan continues to appear in good health and remains strong, despite his circumstances,” the State Department said in a written statement.

American officials have said that their Russian counterparts are blocking them from getting regular consular access to Mr. Gershkovich, the first American journalist arrested on an espionage charge in Russia since the end of the Cold War.

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

-0-

New York Times drops out of AI coalition (Semafor)

By Max Tani

The New York Times has decided not to join a group of media companies attempting to jointly negotiate with the major tech companies over use of their content to power artificial intelligence.

The move is a major blow to efforts to Barry Diller's efforts to establish an industry united front against Google and Microsoft.

Diller said at a Semafor media event in April that publishers should sue major tech companies that have trained their AI models on data produced by media organizations. As the Wall Street Journal and Semafor reported, his company IAC has been spearheading an effort to form a group of key publishers that would press for legislative and potential legal action to force the tech companies to pay billions of dollars back to those publishers. The presence of the two pillars of American news — the Times to the center-left and Journal to the center-right — would have been a powerful statement for that coalition.

Diller and IAC CEO Joey Levin had discussed the group with media organizations including Axel Springer and News Corp, which believed that the others were on board for the effort, and that the Times would also participate.

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

Today in History - Aug. 16, 2023



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 16, the 228th day of 2023. There are 137 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 16, 1977, Elvis Presley died at his Graceland estate in Memphis, Tennessee, at age 42.

On this date:

In 1777, American forces won the Battle of Bennington in what was considered a turning point of the Revolutionary War.

In 1812, Detroit fell to British and Native American forces in the War of 1812.

In 1861, President Abraham Lincoln issued Proclamation 86, which prohibited the states of the Union from engaging in commercial trade with states that were in rebellion — i.e., the Confederacy.

In 1948, baseball legend Babe Ruth died in New York at age 53.

In 1962, the Beatles fired their original drummer, Pete Best, replacing him with Ringo Starr.

In 1978, James Earl Ray, convicted assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., told a Capitol Hill hearing he did not commit the crime, saying he'd been set up by a mysterious man called "Raoul."

In 1987, people worldwide began a two-day celebration of the "harmonic convergence," which heralded what believers called the start of a new, purer age of humankind.

In 2002, terrorist mastermind Abu Nidal reportedly was found shot to death in Baghdad, Iraq; he was 65.

In 2003, Idi Amin, the former dictator of Uganda, died in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia; he was believed to have been about 80.

In 2014, Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon declared a state of emergency and imposed a curfew in the St. Louis suburb of Ferguson, where police and protesters repeatedly clashed in the week since a Black 18-year-old, Michael Brown, was shot to death by a white police officer.

In 2020, California's Death Valley recorded a temperature of 130 degrees amid a blistering heat wave, the third-highest temperature ever measured.

Ten years ago: In a spacewalk lasting seven hours and 29 minutes, Russian cosmonauts rigged cable outside the International Space Station for a new lab that was due to arrive in a few months. A magnitude-6.5 earthquake struck near Seddon, New Zealand, bringing moderate damage to Wellington and the Marlborough region.

Five years ago: Aretha Franklin, the undisputed "Queen of Soul," died of pancreatic cancer at the age of 76. Newspapers across the country pushed back against President Donald Trump's attacks on "fake news" with a coordinated series of editorials in defense of a free press. The Pentagon said the Veterans Day military parade ordered up by President Trump wouldn't happen in 2018 and that officials were now looking at 2019; the announcement came hours after reports that the parade would have an estimated cost of \$92 million, more than three times the price first suggested by the White House.

One year ago: President Joe Biden signs Democrats' landmark climate change and health care bill. It was the "final piece" of the president's pared-down domestic agenda as he aimed to boost his party's standing with voters ahead of midterm elections. Explosions and fires ripped through an ammunition depot in Russia-annexed Crimea in the second suspected Ukrainian attack on the peninsula in just

over a week. Russia blamed the explosions on an “act of sabotage” without naming the perpetrators. Wolfgang Petersen, a German filmmaker whose WWII submarine epic “Das Boot” propelled him into a blockbuster Hollywood career, died at age 81.

Today’s Birthdays: Actor Ann Blyth is 95. Actor Gary Clarke is 90. Actor Julie Newmar is 90. Actor-singer Ketty Lester is 89. Actor John Standing is 89. Actor Anita Gillette is 87. Movie director Bruce Beresford is 83. Actor Bob Balaban is 78. Ballerina Suzanne Farrell is 78. Actor Lesley Ann Warren is 77. Rock singer-musician Joey Spampinato is 75. Actor Marshall Manesh is 73. Actor Reginald VelJohnson is 71. Former TV host Kathie Lee Gifford is 70. R&B singer J.T. Taylor is 70. Movie director James Cameron is 69. Actor Jeff Perry is 68. Rock musician Tim Farriss (INXS) is 66. Actor Laura Innes is 66. Singer Madonna is 65. Actor Angela Bassett is 65. Actor Timothy Hutton is 63. Actor Steve Carell (kuh-REHL’) is 61. Former tennis player Jimmy Arias is 59. Actor-singer Donovan Leitch is 56. Actor Andy Milder is 55. Actor Seth Peterson is 53. Country singer Emily Strayer (The Chicks) is 51. Actor George Stults is 48. Singer Vanessa Carlton is 43. Actor Cam Gigandet is 41. Actor Agnes Bruckner is 38. Singer-musician Taylor Goldsmith (Dawes) is 38. Actor Cristin Milioti is 38. San Diego Padres pitcher Yu Darvish is 37. Actor Shawn Pyfrom is 37. Country singer Ashton Shepherd is 37. Actor Okieriete Onaodowan is 36. Country singer Dan Smyers (Dan & Shay) is 36. NHL goalie Carey Price is 36. Actor Kevin G. Schmidt is 35. Actor Rumer Willis is 35. Actor Parker Young is 35. Rapper Young Thug is 32. Actor Cameron Monaghan is 30. U.S. Olympic swimming gold-medalist Caeleb Dressel is 27. Singer-pianist Greyson Chance is 26.

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 Central Region 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.

Paul Stevens

Editor, Connecting newsletter

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