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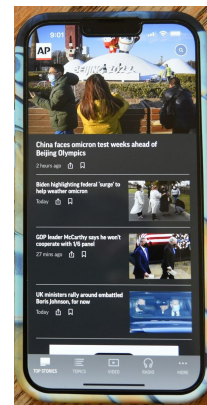
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Connecting

Sept. 28, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this Sept. 28, 2023,

Services for **Dennis D'Agostino** will be held Saturday, Sept. 30. Dennis, who worked in AP Sports in New York and later with the New York Mets and New York Knicks in public relations, died Sept. 16 at the age of 66. Services will be held at Manchester Memorial Funeral Home, 28 Schoolhouse Road, Whiting, NJ 08759. 732-350-1950. Visitation begins at 9:30 am, service is scheduled to begin promptly at 10 am. Entombment will follow at: St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery & Mausoleums, Risen Christ Chapel Mausoleum, 62 Cedar Grove Road, Tom's River, NJ 08753.

At 12:30 pm, there will be a celebration of life and lunch in honor of Dennis at: Aqua Blu Kitchen & Cocktails, 3410 New Jersey-37, Tom's River, NJ 08753.

Here's to a great day – be safe, stay healthy, live the day to your fullest.

Paul

Childhood memories of Brooks Robinson



David Tirrell-Wysocki - Word of Brooks Robinson's death brought back fond childhood memories of watching him play at Baltimore's Memorial Stadium, meeting him several times through the 1960s and trying to field grounders and line drives just like him.

At age nine, I was at a baseball event in my community outside Baltimore. Brooks Robinson was the star attraction. A man with a camera who was speaking with Brooks waved me over and handed me a bat. The man was a photographer for the Baltimore News-Post. He posed Brooks showing me how to hold the bat. Click. The photo was in the paper the next day. Later, carrying a glossy print my parents bought for me, I

waited for Brooks outside Memorial Stadium after a game. He signed the photo, no charge. It hangs on the wall in my den.

It would have been a more lively photo if Brooks had demonstrated how to dive for a grounder. When my brother and I played catch, he knew better than to throw the ball right to me. I wanted them wide right or wide left so I could dive, make an amazing catch, then throw to first from my knees – just like Brooks.

Classic AP photo by Bob Daugherty featured in Baltimore Sun's remembrance of Brooks Robinson

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

BROOKS ROBINSON 1937-2023

REMEMBERING NO. 5

LEGENDARY HALL OF FAME THIRD BASEMAN
'WAS THE HEART AND SOUL OF THE BALTIMORE ORIOLES'



Third baseman Brooks Robinson leaps across the infield to congratulate pitcher Dave McNally and catcher Andy Etchebarren after the final out of Game 4 at Memorial Stadium as the Orioles swept the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1966 for their first World Series championship. BOB DAUGHERTY/AP

By Mike Klingaman

He was known, simply, as Brooks — a name that stirs images of a ball-player sprawled in the dirt, glove arm raised in triumph to show an impossible catch.

Hall of Fame third baseman Brooks Robinson died Tuesday. The Owings Mills resident was 86.

"An integral part of our Orioles Family since 1955, [Robinson] will continue to leave a lasting impact on our club, our community, and the sport of baseball," read a joint statement released by his family and the Orioles. "He played the game with a childlike spirit [and]... third basemen from all levels of the game will forever look to Brooks for inspiration."

Through much of baseball's golden age, Brooks Calbert Robinson Jr. was a poster boy for the national pastime, a symbol of Americana whose visage was

even captured in a 1971 Norman Rockwell painting.

The face of the Orioles for nearly a quarter of a century, Robinson won the heart of the city that adopted the deft-handed kid from Arkansas in 1955 and never let go. Before Ripken, there was Robinson. Before Cal, there was Brooks. Before the Iron Man, there was the Human Vacuum Cleaner. As Oriole icons, no others come close.

Turn to Robinson, Page 10



Inside

■ Dan Rodricks: Forever Brooks, a fixture in Baltimore long after his baseball days. [Page 3](#)

■ A look back at Robinson's life in photos. [Page 12](#)

■ Orioles fans mourn Robinson and recall the impact he left on the game. Also, a look at his 10 greatest moments with the team. [Sports](#)

Brooks Robinson commemorates the 1966 championship team at Oriole Park at Camden Yards in July 2016. [KARL MERTON FERRON/BALTIMORE SUN](#)

AP Washington photojournalist (and Connecting colleague) **Bob Daugherty** captured this moment in the 1966 World Series, won by the Orioles over the Dodgers. It is featured in the Baltimore Sun's remembrance of the Hall of Famer. (Shared by Chris Connell)

Feeling blessed at 70

Mark Mittelstadt - The Connecting Decades Game is challenging. Had I realized just how hard it was, I may have done my best to stop a day short of the latest trip around the sun. Connecting may have a new memory exercise or MOCA cognition test for use by hospitals and nursing homes. In retrospect, I might have added that at 70 I feel blessed having good health and the love of family!

A Connecting colleague

Veteran news leader George Stanley named CEO of Wisconsin Watch

by Wisconsin Watch

George Stanley, a nationally respected veteran news leader and longtime Milwaukee Journal Sentinel editor, has been named CEO of Wisconsin Watch, effective Oct. 16.



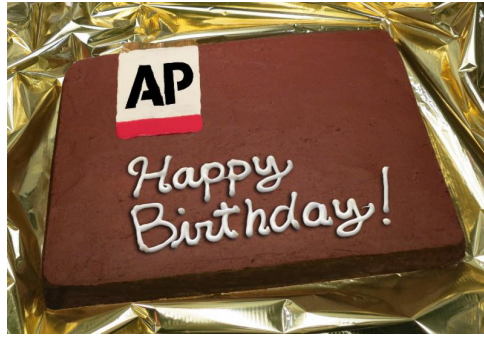
“We are pleased that a journalist of George’s stature will lead Wisconsin Watch into the future,” said Brant Houston, chair of Wisconsin Watch’s board of directors. “He has the experience and vision to ensure that Wisconsin Watch rebuilds local news throughout the state through new initiatives and collaborations.”

Wisconsin Watch created the CEO position when the organization’s co-founders, Andy and Dee J. Hall, announced their departures in June. The Halls started the nonprofit Wisconsin Watch in 2009 and grew it into a \$2 million newsroom with two dozen people.

Stanley is president of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association and past president of the national News Leaders Association. He was the editor of the Journal Sentinel from 2015 to 2022 and managing editor since 1997. In addition, he built and oversaw the extensive in-depth and investigative reporting efforts that resulted in the Journal Sentinel being a Pulitzer Prize finalist 10 times since 2000 and winning three times.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Jeff Barnard](#)

[Linda Sargent](#)

Stories of interest

What is news, anyway? Readers' answers depend on how much they see people like themselves in the story (Nieman Lab)

By JOSHUA BENTON

What is news, anyway?

I don't mean to get all metaphysical with you on a Tuesday, but it's not a question with an obvious answer. What's news to you might not be news to me. Sometimes, when people talk about "the news," they really mean "politics and government." News changes at scale; a new restaurant opening in Zwolle, Louisiana is "news" in a way a new restaurant opening in Manhattan is not. Some news is "hard"; other news is "soft" and often subject to being declared not news at all. Somewhere, there's a boundary between news and entertainment, but it's not easy to point at it on a map. And sometimes, the label of "news" implies a certain worthiness, a justification of its request for your attention. ("That story was just a bunch of embedded tweets — that's not news.")

These are all important distinctions! The primary discourse around news the past two decades has been about saving it. Something we value is threatened. But even before we get into debates over quality or importance, it's hard to save something when you can't even define it.

This is a problem that two academics — Stephanie Edgerly at Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism, Media, and Missing Conjunctions and Emily K. Vraga at the University of Minnesota — have been poking at in recent years. In 2021, they published a paper, cited dozens of times since, that tried to define the quality of news-ness. The abstract:

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

-0-

Agenda Watch: Shining a bright light on local government meetings, agendas and documents (Editor and Publisher)

Bob Sillick | for Editor & Publisher

A journalist's job can be exciting: uncovering a critical lead for a new story or elbowing aside a gaggle of other media pros to question a government official. Many journalists must also attend city council, school board or other local meetings — often for hours, waiting for a newsworthy decision or statement. Reading the minutes can require even more precious time to find the kernel of the story or determine who best to interview.

Making that process easier is the goal of Agenda Watch, a new platform from Big Local News at Stanford University and with the support of the Reynolds Journalism Institute. The project is the brainchild of Cheryl Phillips, director and Hearst Professional in Residence, and Serdar Tumgoren, associate director for tools and Lorry I. Lokey Visiting Professor.

According to Phillips, the idea for Agenda Watch germinated in a class Tumgoren taught during his first year at Stanford — Exploring Computational Journalism — which attracted students from various academic programs, including computer science, engineering and journalism.

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

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Head of Hong Kong journalists' group sentenced to jail for obstructing police (Reuters)

By Jessie Pang

HONG KONG, Sept 25 (Reuters) - The head of Hong Kong's leading journalists group was sentenced on Monday to five days jail for obstructing police officers in September last year after a case seen by some critics as a further blow to media freedoms in the financial hub.

Ronson Chan, chairman of the Hong Kong Journalists Association, was detained and handcuffed by two plainclothes officers while covering a story after he failed to hand over his personal identity card.

Chan, who pleaded not guilty, earlier told the court that he had asked the police to show their warrant cards before handing over his document, which all Hong Kong residents must carry.

Magistrate Leung Ka-kie found Chan guilty, saying that a fine instead of jail would not reflect the gravity of the offence. Leung also refused to consider community service instead as she said Chan showed no remorse.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

25 WAYS YOU KNOW YOU WORKED IN SMALL MARKET RADIO BACK IN THE DAY

1. You knew who the Station Owner was and had actually met him.
2. Your Station Manager could "pull an air shift" when necessary.
3. You have stormed through the back door at 5:55 a.m., turned on the lights, pounded the "plates and filaments" buttons, raced to the studio chair, cued a record and played the National Anthem all before 6 o'clock.
4. You have worked an air shift, interviewed a community leader, written and recorded a commercial, sold an advertising package, done a remote broadcast, and called a play-by-play broadcast all in the same day.
5. You know what the terms back timing, dead air, network tone, cart tone and segue mean.
6. You have jumped into your car and turned on a competing station to see who was advertising on the station and what promotions they were running.
7. You could put on a record, run down the hallway and "take care of your business," making it back to the control room before the song ran out.
8. Your Third Class Operator's Permit with Broadcast Endorsement was your most "prized" possession.
9. You have gone to the transmitter building with your First Class Engineer to "forge" a month's worth of meter readings.
10. You have lit news copy on fire with a cigarette lighter, and then watched and laughed uncontrollably as the News Director tried to put it out while reading the copy.
11. You knew how to use an "hourly song wheel."
12. You remember playing the National Anthem at midnight.
13. You have attended a Christmas Party at your Station Manager's home.
14. You knew how to change the spooled ribbon on a teletype machine.
15. You have a box of "air check" tapes stashed somewhere in your basement.
16. You have driven around with a Marti in your backseat.
17. If you close your eyes and are completely silent, you can still hear the telephone recording "beep" tone.
18. You knew how to use a razor blade, a wax pencil, and 3M splicing tape.
19. You understand what the term "a dollar a holler" means.
20. You have used a hand-written broadcast log.
21. Most everyone in town knew you by name.
22. You have played in a Donkey Basketball Game.
23. You have sold advertising for a high school graduation ceremony broadcast.
24. You have answered your home phone using the station's call letters.
25. You still dream that you are on the air and the song runs out, but you can't find the next record or commercial cartridge.



Shared by Pat Milton.

Today in History – Sept. 28, 2023



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Sept. 28, the 271st day of 2023. There are 94 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 28, 1928, Scottish medical researcher Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin, the first effective antibiotic.

ON THIS DATE:

In 1781, American forces in the Revolutionary War, backed by a French fleet, began their successful siege of Yorktown, Virginia.

In 1841, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow completed his poem "Excelsior."

In 1850, flogging was abolished as a form of punishment in the U.S. Navy.

In 1920, eight members of the Chicago White Sox were indicted for allegedly throwing the 1919 World Series against the Cincinnati Reds. (All were acquitted at trial, but all eight were banned from the game for life.)

In 1924, three U.S. Army planes landed in Seattle, having completed the first round-the-world trip by air in 175 days.

In 1939, during World War II, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union signed a treaty calling for the partitioning of Poland, which the two countries had invaded.

In 1958, voters in the African country of Guinea overwhelmingly favored independence from France.

In 1962, a federal appeals court found Mississippi Gov. Ross Barnett in civil contempt for blocking the admission of James Meredith, a Black student, to the University of Mississippi.

In 1995, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat signed an accord at the White House ending Israel's military occupation of West Bank cities and laying the foundation for a Palestinian state.

In 2000, capping a 12-year battle, the government approved use of the abortion pill RU-486.

In 2018, reversing course, President Donald Trump agreed to the demands of Democrats for a deeper FBI investigation of Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh.

In 2019, voters in Afghanistan went to the polls to elect a president for the fourth time since a U.S.-led coalition ousted the Taliban regime in 2001; the vote was marred by violence, Taliban threats and widespread allegations of mismanagement.

In 2020, the worldwide death toll from the coronavirus pandemic topped 1 million, according to a count by Johns Hopkins University.

In 2021, testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, called the 20-year war in Afghanistan a "strategic failure," and said he had favored keeping several thousand troops in the country to prevent a collapse of the U.S.-backed government and a rapid takeover by the Taliban.

In 2022, Hurricane Ian barreled ashore in southwestern Florida as a massive Category 4 storm. About 2.5 million people were ordered to evacuate before the storm hit the coast with maximum sustained winds of 150 mph (241 kph).

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Actor Brigitte Bardot is 89. Actor Joel Higgins is 80. Singer Helen Shapiro is 77. Actor Vernee Watson is 74. Movie writer-director-actor John Sayles is 73. Rock musician George Lynch is 69. Zydeco singer-musician C.J. Chenier is 66. Actor Steve Hytner is 64. Actor-comedian Janeane Garofalo is 59. Country singer Matt King is 57. Actor Mira Sorvino is 56. TV personality/singer Moon Zappa is 56. Actor-model Carre Otis is 55. Actor Naomi Watts is 55. Country singer Karen Fairchild (Little Big Town) is 54. Singer/songwriter A.J. Croce is 52. Country singer Mandy Barnett is 48. Rapper Young Jeezy is 46. World Golf Hall of Famer Se Ri Pak is 46. Actor Peter Cambor is 45. Writer-producer-director-actor Bam Margera is 44. Actor Melissa Claire Egan is 42. Actor Jerrika Hinton is 42. Neo-soul musician Luke Mossman (Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats) is 42. Pop-rock singer St. Vincent is 41. Comedian/actor Phoebe Robinson is 39. Rock musician Daniel Platzman (Imagine Dragons) is 37. Actor Hilary Duff is 36. Actor Keir Gilchrist is 31.

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.

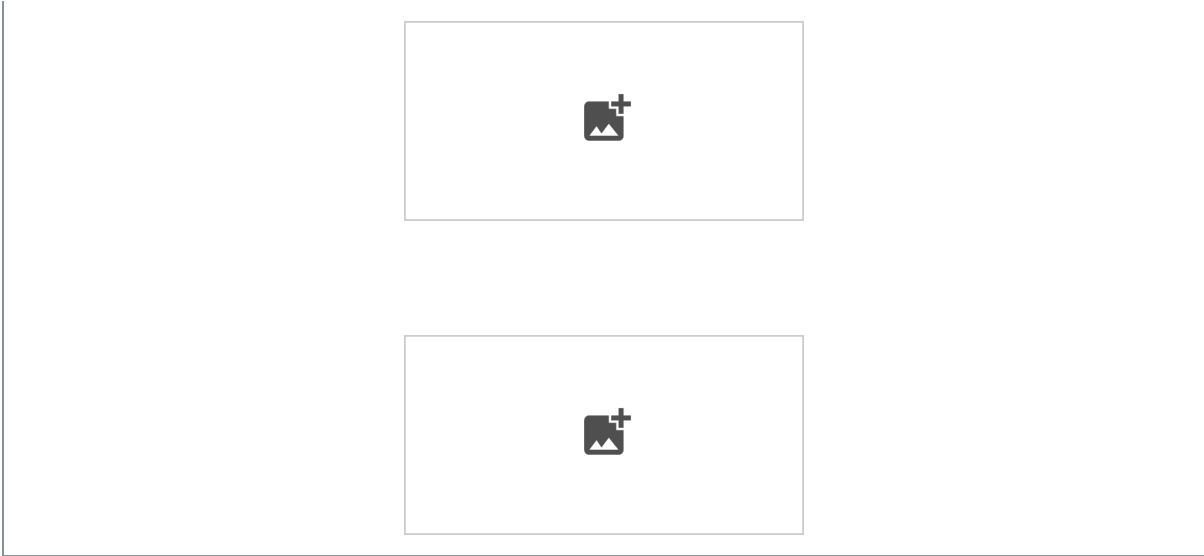
Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

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.

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