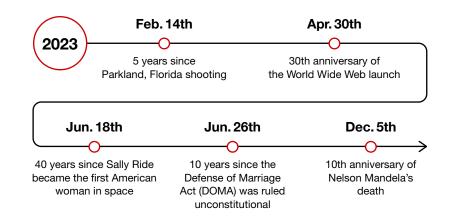


Five key news anniversaries in 2023

A quarter into the year, historic events are in no short supply. Already, 2023 news coverage includes the War in Ukraine, TikTok controversy, spy balloons, extreme weather, and numerous school shootings. As we move farther into the year, reflecting on events that shaped where we are now may shed light on where we're going with news footage. These are just a few notable anniversaries happening in 2023.

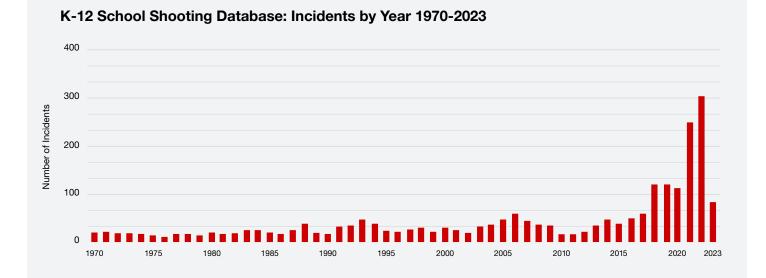


February

5 years since the Parkland, Florida shooting

On Valentine's Day in 2017, an unspeakable tragedy unfolded when seventeen people were gunned down at Marjory Stoneman Public High School in Parkland, Florida. Fueled by anger and frustration, survivors organized March for Our Lives (MFOL), a student-led movement to eliminate the epidemic of gun violence. Just a month after the incident, MFOL coordinated a march in Washington, D.C. that became the largest single day of gun violence protest in history (marchforourlives.com).

The movement continues organizing protests, lobbying for common-sense gun laws, and registering voters. Since MFOL was founded, more than 250 gun safety laws have been passed, and we've seen recordbreaking youth voting turnouts (March for our Lives). Still, school shootings are on the rise. The 2020 and 2021 school years each had more than double the number of school shooting incidents than any other year (the Violence Project).



As of April 1, 2023, there have already been several gun-related incidents, including the shooting of administrators by a Denver high school student. Across the country, 131 mass shootings have been recorded year-to-date – more than the number of days so far this year (<u>Gun Violence Archive</u>).

In January 2023, MFOL co-founder Maxwell Frost became the U.S. representative for Florida's 10th district. Frost is Generation Z's first congressman, and he continues to advocate for gun control. The gun safety movement marches on.



Number of Assets: School Shootings - 5,639



April

30th anniversary of the World Wide Web launch

In April 1993, the first launched website described the World Wide Web as "a wide-area hypermedia information retrieval initiative aiming to give universal access to a large universe of documents" (CERN). This mission to share information between universities and scientific institutes evolved into a tool that transformed our global society.

Learning from the past:

Thirty years later, the Web is ever-present, from online shopping and virtual doctor visits to social media and viral news. Google has become a verb synonymous with searching for information. It has also become the preferred channel to consume news, with more than 86% of adults getting news from a digital device (Pew Research Center).



Number of Assets: Science and Technology - 1,257

The impact of the Internet continues to grow as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Metaverse become more prevalent. Microsoft Bing touts "your AI-powered co-pilot for the Web" (Microsoft), Google has its own AI tool called Bard, and millions of dollars are being invested in AI start-ups. Still in testing mode, <u>chat.openai.com</u> offers ChatGPT, an AI-driven chatbot that can answer questions, compose essays, have philosophical conversations, write code, and more. There are kinks to work out, including interactions some have had with Bing claiming to be in love with users (<u>CNBC</u>). Chatbots have given incorrect information based on old data, displayed offensive biases, and created potentially dangerous situations when it is unclear where information has originated (<u>Harvard Business Review</u>). Yet new, innovative uses of the Internet emerge every day, and it's certain that the World Wide Web will continue to transform the world.



June **18**

Learning from the past:

40 years since Sally Ride became the first American woman in space

Forty years ago, Sally Ride made history as the first American woman in space. During a six-day journey, Ride oversaw Space Shuttle Challenger's robotic arm to deploy and retrieve a satellite, the first time the shuttle was used to return a spacecraft to Earth. The satellite took photographs of Challenger as they flew in formation (NASA).

Ride served on the commission tasked with investigating causes of the Challenger explosion, heading a subcommittee on operations. She again lent her expertise following the Columbia tragedy in 2003 by serving on the Columbia Accident Investigation Board, becoming the only expert to have served on both shuttle accident boards. (Space Flight Insider).

Ride inspired a generation of girls to study math and science. She established Sally Ride Science to promote STEM literacy, and the program still thrives at the University of California in San Diego where Ride taught physics.



Number of Assets: Sally Ride - 99

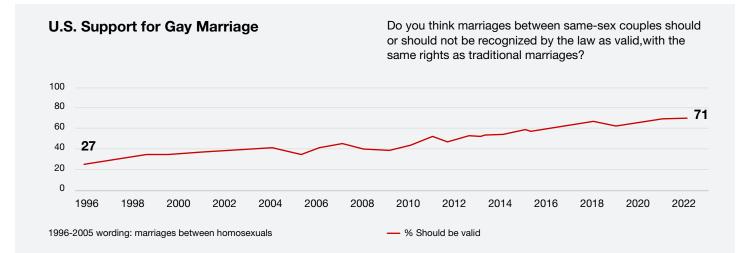
"As the first American woman to travel into space, Sally was a national hero and a powerful role model," President Barack Obama said in a statement released by the White House. "She inspired generations of young girls to reach for the stars and later fought tirelessly to help them get there by advocating for a greater focus on science and math in our schools" (White House archives). President Obama posthumously awarded Ride the presidential medal of honor, a designation reserved for "especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors" (NASA).





10 years since the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was ruled unconstitutional

In 2013, the Supreme Court made a landmark decision when it ruled the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) unconstitutional. The Court declared that when determining benefits like Social Security and health care, the federal government can't discriminate against gay, married couples in states where same-sex marriage is legal. Subsequently, in 2015, it ruled that all Americans have the right to marry the person they love, extending marriage benefits and protections to same-sex couples across the country. These historic decisions paved the way for the 2022 Respect for Marriage Act (RMA). This federal law means that if the 2015 decision is overturned, all states must continue to recognize same-sex marriages licensed in other states. RMA reflects public sentiment, with 71% of those polled saying they support same-sex marriage (Gallup). The Human Rights Campaign called RMA the "biggest legislative win in the fight for LGBTQ+ equality in over a decade," noting it was achieved in the most politically polarized Congress to ever exist.





Number of Assets: LGBTQ+ - 113





10th anniversary of Nelson Mandela's death

December 5th will mark 10 years since the passing of Nelson Mandela at the age of 95. Mandela was a renowned human rights leader and "a man whose dedication to the liberties of his people inspires human rights advocates throughout the world" (<u>United for</u> <u>Human Rights</u>). Mandela became South Africa's first democratically elected president in 1994 after spending nearly three decades in prison for opposing the country's apartheid system. He brokered peace between Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, educated the public about HIV and AIDS, and called for women to be emancipated from all forms of oppression (<u>Global Citizen</u>).

As Antonio Guterres writes for the <u>United Nations</u>, "Nelson Mandela was a healer of communities and a mentor to generations. He remains a moral compass and reference to us all."



Number of Assets: Nelson Mandela - 2,284

Commemorate these and other historical milestones with footage, audio, or stills from CNN Collection

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