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Connecting - April 24, 2019

1 message

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Wed, Apr 24, 2019 at 8:55 AM

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Connecting

April 24, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 24th day of April 2019,

I'm into my third year of writing a monthly Spotlight column for my hometown newspaper - and the most recent column on one of the greatest photos ever taken had a heavy Associated Press theme and included two AP sources - Corporate Archives director **Valerie Komor** and former AP Photos director **Hal Buell**.

The Spotlight as published in The Messenger of Fort Dodge, Iowa, focused on **Joe Rosenthal's** Pulitzer-winning photo of the flag raising at Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945, and its tie to Fort Dodge through a print from the original negative obtained shortly after the photo was taken. Now the family of the sailor aboard the USS Eldorado is looking for a home for the print and other historic photos from their father's World War II service.

I thought I would share the story in today's issue - with thanks to Connecting colleagues Valerie and Hal.

Have a great day!

Paul

Here's one way the flag raising at Iwo Jima connects with Fort Dodge, Iowa



Paul Wright with photo his dad received on ship at Iwo Jima

By PAUL STEVENS

The flag raising at Iwo Jima.

Joe Rosenthal's photo of that iconic event on Feb. 23, 1945, taken in his role as an Associated Press combat photographer, is considered by many to be the greatest and most influential image of World War II - and one of the best photographs ever taken.

The negative of his photo depicting six U.S. Marines raising the American flag atop Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima, a small island in the Pacific Ocean, is stored securely in the AP's Photo Library at its worldwide headquarters in New York City. It is seldom used for printing; a high-quality copy negative is available for routine prints.

One of a handful of prints developed from that original 4-inch by 5-inch negative shortly after the photo was taken is displayed on a wall in the Nashville, Tennessee, home of Fort Dodge native Paul Wright. The print is among a host of historical war photos handed down to him and his sisters Vickie Hoskey and Kit Krussel, by their father, Don Wright, who witnessed the flag raising from the USS Eldorado as a Navy chief petty officer and later was a longtime employee of Shimkat Motor Co.



Joe Rosenthal

The photo, which won a Pulitzer Prize, was the centerpiece of a war-bond poster that helped raise \$26 billion in 1945. On July 11, before the war had ended, it appeared on a United States postage stamp. Nine years later it became the model for the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia.

Now Wright's family is trying to find a home for the Iwo Jima print and other of their father's treasured photos from the war. Among them is a photo showing U.S. servicemen bound and kneeling by the graves they were forced to dig, with Japanese soldiers holding swords behind their heads moments before they were beheaded. Wright mailed it home to his mother in Cass Lake, Minnesota, for safekeeping.

Read more [here](#).

More memories of Carl Bell, Steve Feica

Bob Reid (Email) - I'll always be indebted to Carl Bell. He took a chance on a completely green and untested college student and would-be journalist -- me -- whom he hired in Charlotte in 1969 for what would turn into a more than four-decade career. Carl was extremely supportive, putting me on a shift that would enable me to finish by studies, fulfill some commitments I had taken on before taking the job and giving me unearned time off to get married and have a brief honeymoon while still on probation. When I left for the Army a year later, he greased the skids with Keith Fuller in Personnel so AP would take me back. In the weeks after I joined AP, Carl also hired young reporters who went on to successful careers on the AP's General Desk, The Washington Post and US News and World Report. That says a lot about his skills as a manager.

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Bob Cullen (Email) - I am sad to hear about the passing of Carl Bell. He was my first AP Bureau Chief, in Charlotte in 1971. On my first day at work, he said, "Never write anything you don't know to be a fact, and you'll be okay." It was good advice, and I wish more journalists heard it these days.

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Mike Rouse (Email) - It was 1965 and I was fresh out of the Army. I walked into the AP Charlotte bureau where I had worked for two years before I was drafted. I wanted to meet the new boss, Carl Bell, who had been assigned to succeed my friend Tim Parker as head of the AP operations in the Carolinas. Tim had died while I was in Korea.

Carl was glad to meet me too, largely because he was dealing with a bit of a staff shortage and he wanted me back on the job. I wasn't ready. I wanted a little time off, so I told Carl I'd rather wait for a little while.

"How much vacation do you think you need?" Carl asked. It was obvious that he didn't think I needed much.

I thought, "I'm not going to like this guy.

How wrong can a person be?

Later Carl took a chance and promoted me to news editor when Ben Brown was sent to Helena. For the next five years I studied management, editing, diplomacy, writing and creative thinking under Carl Bell. He taught me much but I'm sure I was never as good at any of that as Carl was.

Moreover, he became a dear friend.

In 1966 the Charlotte bureau was assigned to conduct an election experiment: Assign a reporter to every voting precinct in South Carolina. If memory serves there were 640 precincts. Carl gave the project to me, but only with his oversight.

Each of the reporters was to call in returns from his precinct to a computer operation in Columbia. In addition to several Council of State races, there were congressional races, a U.S. Senate race and races for state legislative seats. All those returns came had to be sorted by county, legislative district and congressional district, and a running total had to be kept on the statewide races.

For reporters, we hired to S.C. Education Association which, of course, had teachers and retirees in each county. This was all for the News Election Service, which then was a new coalition comprising the AP, UPI, CBS, NBC and ABC. Each got the returns at the same time but the raw numbers were all that were shared.

I won't get into the details of how it was done, but you can be sure that Carl Bell had more to do with devising the system than anyone else.

Rightly or wrongly, I also gave him credit for inventing the pocket-board system of calculating returns on election nights. I he didn't invent it, by golly he *could* have.

In 1971 I changed my status with the AP from staffer to member. Carl tried to dissuade me but the alternative for me would have been a transfer to Chicago. Mostly for family reasons, I didn't want that. So I accepted an offer to join the Durham Morning Herald as managing editor.

I edited four other papers, all in North Carolina, before I retired in 2005. Like most old heads, I look back occasionally and think of the people who helped to guide my career. Carl Bell ranks high on that list. My thoughts are also of his sweet wife Ouida and his two sons.

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This photo was taken in December when a few current and former Hartford staffers got together with Steve Feica. From left: former AP Hartford reporter Stephen Singer (now a business reporter with The Hartford Courant), Steve Feica, former AP sports reporter Donna Tommello (now a freelance writer and communications consultant) and Sue Haigh, AP's Connecticut politics reporter.

Lisa Marie Pane ([Email](#)) - It's tough to capture what Steve Feica meant to those he worked with. He was just one of those people who left an indelible mark on those with whom he worked. He was especially adept at coaching younger staffers, advocating for the broadcast wire at a time when most staffers knew or only wanted to write up newspaper text and thought of broadcast versions as an afterthought. He had a wicked sense of humor, irreverent some might say, but it was never biting or demeaning. He saw amusement in even the toughest situations, but had a heart of gold and a tender heart. The only thing he loved more than his colleagues was his family. He adored his children and grandchildren. I believe he would take annual trips to Vegas to spend time at the casinos but also to spend time with his siblings.

Connecting mailbox

PBS documentary to include look at No Gun Ri massacre



Charles Hanley ([Email](#)) - The documentary "Korea, the Never-Ending War," airing on PBS stations next Monday, April 29, will include a look - rare for U.S. television - at the No Gun Ri massacre of refugees, as first confirmed by the AP in its 1999 Pulitzer-winning reporting. Major stations have the 90-minute film scheduled for 9 p.m. local time. It's produced by John Maggio of Ark Media. Click [here](#) for more information on the documentary.

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An invitation for AP journalist past or present to serve as 3ec-TV patron or advisory board member

Grazyna Lallemand ([Email](#)) - I would like to invite an AP journalist - present or past - to join us as a patron or advisory board member of 3ec-TV (headquarters in France), so that we can ensure the highest journalistic standards of our 3ec-TV News section. I am a co-founder of 3ec-TV, which is the first Innovative Independent

International Bilingual English-French TV Channel. Click here for the 3ec-TV presentation page.

If you are interested in learning more, please send me an email - glallemand@3ec-tv.com - and I will answer your questions and if you like, provide you with an official invitation letter and short description of 3ec-TV.

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Interviewing the bereaved

Dave Tomlin (Email) - I was working as a dictationist at the Washington Evening Star in 1970 when word came in one afternoon that a 13-year-old boy had been shot dead in the halls of his middle school.

The paper was a PMer and there was hardly anybody in the newsroom. The duty editor told me to drop whatever I was doing and head for the housing project where the victim had lived with his mother. "Find her and get some quotes," he said.

I was appalled, but I did as I was told and somehow found my way to the right building. As I crept up the stairs I heard voices coming through the open door of a second-floor apartment. A group of women sat around a small living room talking about how awful it was. I asked where the mother was and they told me she might be in her apartment.

She was there, sitting alone at her kitchen table just dying to tell somebody what a wonderful kid her son had been. I never forgot that not every traumatized person thinks reporters are callous pests and that a good listener may be welcomed as a gift by someone in pain.

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Henry Bloch and how newspaper advertising helped launch his company

Scott Charton (Email) - As H&R Block co-founder Henry Bloch is mourned upon his passage on Tuesday at age 96, a fascinating anecdote about old-school

newspaper advertising in his official company bio:

"... as the company began to grow, Henry published a help wanted advertisement, seeking to hire an employee. His mother responded to the ad, and recommended that Henry hire his brother, Richard. The two brothers became partners.

"United Business Company's primary focus was bookkeeping, with tax preparation offered as a courtesy to customers and friends. Shortly before the 1955 tax season, Richard and Henry decided to discontinue tax preparation services, which were not a significant source of revenue. But one of their clients offered what turned out to be pivotal counsel. John White, who worked in display advertising at The Kansas City Star, suggested that the company advertise their tax preparation service in the newspaper. After much discussion, John finally persuaded Richard and Henry to run the ad twice, late in January 1955.

"On the Monday after the first ad ran in The Kansas City Star, Henry was visiting customers when he received an urgent message to call the office. He found himself talking to a breathless Richard, who exclaimed, 'Hank, get back here as quick as you can. We've got an office full of people!'

"The ad had been published shortly after many people had received their W-2 forms, uncovered an overwhelming need for tax services. Additionally, in Kansas City, the Internal Revenue Service had just discontinued its practice of preparing tax returns at no charge to taxpayers. The brothers had uncovered an overwhelming and timely need for tax services...."

Click [here](#) for a link.

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Celebrating with Nick



From left: Dodi Fromson, Nick Ut, Edith Lederer and Linda Deutsch.

Dodi Fromson ([Email](#)) - On the occasion of Edie Lederer being in Los Angeles for the past holiday weekend and prior to her red eye flight back to New York, we braved the traffic and met Nick Ut for delicious VN foodies at Vietnam House in San Gabriel. Edie then flew back to UN duty, and Nick flew to Toronto Tuesday morning to be interviewed there with Kim Phuc, the "napalm girl."

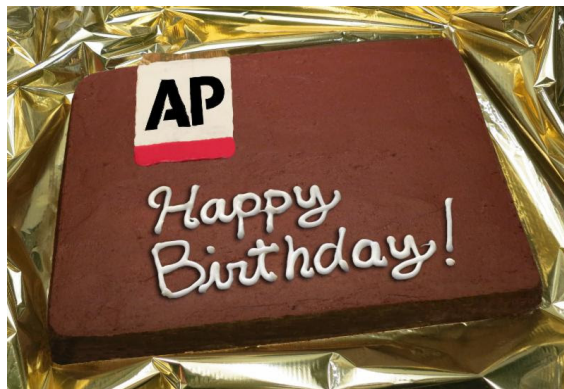
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Birthdays are for celebrating



Susan Clark ([Email](#)) - My former AP colleague Bobbie Seril had a 70th party Monday night. From left to right are Bobbie; Jane Gallagher, daughter of former AP President Wes Gallagher (1962-1976); Betty Osborne, wife of the late Burl Osborne who served on the board of directors for The AP, including the board's chairman from 2002-2007; me, and Sydney Lagier, a niece of Jim Lagier, a former AP bureau chief in the United States and Japan.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Evelyn Calvert-Colucci - eccalvert@ap.org

Welcome to Connecting



Jeff Martin - jemartin@ap.org

Steve Singer - Steve.singer100@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Trump unleashes on the media in morning tweetstorm (Politico)

By **CAITLIN OPRYSKO**

President Donald Trump went on a tear on Twitter on Tuesday morning, demanding an apology from The New York Times, complaining he doesn't get enough credit for the economy, claiming Twitter discriminates against him and ripping into the "Radical Left Democrats."

It was a dizzying burst from Trump, who has bounced from claiming victory after the release of special counsel Robert Mueller's report to seeking revenge on the media, Democrats and even his own aides.

In all, Trump tweeted or retweeted more than 50 times in a 24-hour period.

The media was the primary target of Trump's ire Tuesday morning, as he complained that he is subject to an unprecedented level of press scrutiny and lashed out at outlets from The New York Times to morning cable news shows while also taking shots at individual personalities.

Read more [here](#).

And...

White House ordered Trump administration officials to boycott WHCA Dinner (CNN)

By Jake Tapper, Brian Stelter and Allie Malloy, CNN

(CNN) - The White House has ordered Trump administration officials to boycott the White House Correspondents' Association dinner, according to a senior administration official.

The order was issued Tuesday morning by White House Cabinet Secretary Bill McGinley, who announced that all Trump administration officials are being ordered to boycott the dinner, scheduled for Saturday night.

An administration official adds that the order came from Trump personally, though staffers have been trying to talk him out of it.

Read more [here](#).

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The media are complacent while the world burns (CJR)

By Mark Hertsgaard and Kyle Pope

Last summer, during the deadliest wildfire season in California's history, MSNBC's Chris Hayes got into a revealing Twitter discussion about why US television doesn't much cover climate change. Elon Green, an editor at Longform, had tweeted, "Sure would be nice if our news networks-the only outlets that can force change in this country-would cover it with commensurate urgency." Hayes (who is an editor at large for The Nation) replied that his program had tried. Which was true: in 2016, "All In With Chris Hayes" spent an entire week highlighting the impact of climate change in the US as part of a look at the issues that Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump were ignoring. The problem, Hayes tweeted, was that "every single time we've covered [climate change] it's been a palpable ratings killer. So the incentives are not great."

The Twittersphere pounced. "TV used to be obligated to put on programming for the public good even if it didn't get good ratings. What happened to that?" asked @JThomasAlbert. @GalJaya said, "Your 'ratings killer' argument against covering #climatechange is the reverse of that used during the 2016 primary when corporate media justified gifting Trump \$5 billion in free air time because 'it was good for ratings,' with disastrous results for the nation."

Read more [here](#).

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What to do about Sarah Sanders? White House reporters have a few ideas. (Washington Post)

By Paul Farhi

Reporters have long approached White House press secretary Sarah Sanders with a trust-but-verify attitude, knowing full well that Sanders is tasked with spinning some of the more unspinnable statements made by her boss, President Trump.

But with the publication of special counsel Robert S. Mueller III's report on Thursday, Sanders's credibility among the people who cover her has been stretched about as

taut as a violin string.

One White House reporter, April Ryan, has openly called for Sanders to be fired. While others don't go that far, they acknowledge that Sanders's public statements have damaged her, perhaps permanently, as the president's spokeswoman. In conversations with reporters, it's not unusual to hear her compared unfavorably to Ron Ziegler, President Nixon's press secretary, whose reputation was shredded by the Watergate scandal.

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

Today in History - April 24, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 24, the 114th day of 2019. There are 251 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 24, 1980, the United States launched an unsuccessful attempt to free the American hostages in Iran, a mission that resulted in the deaths of eight U.S. servicemen.

On this date:

In 1800, Congress approved a bill establishing the Library of Congress.

In 1877, federal troops were ordered out of New Orleans, ending the North's post-Civil War rule in the South.

In 1915, in what's considered the start of the Armenian genocide, the Ottoman Empire began rounding up Armenian political and cultural leaders in Constantinople.

In 1916, some 1,600 Irish nationalists launched the Easter Rising by seizing several key sites in Dublin. (The rising was put down by British forces five days later.)

In 1932, in the Free State of Prussia, the Nazi Party gained a plurality of seats in parliamentary elections.

In 1967, Soviet cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov was killed when his Soyuz 1 spacecraft smashed into the Earth after his parachutes failed to deploy properly during re-entry; he was the first human spaceflight fatality.

In 1970, the People's Republic of China launched its first satellite, which kept transmitting a song, "The East Is Red."

In 1990, the space shuttle Discovery blasted off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, carrying the \$1.5 billion Hubble Space Telescope.

In 1995, the final bomb linked to the Unabomber exploded inside the Sacramento, California, offices of a lobbying group for the wood products industry, killing chief lobbyist Gilbert B. Murray. (Theodore Kaczynski was later sentenced to four lifetimes in prison for a series of bombings that killed three men and injured 29 others.)

In 2003, U.S. forces in Iraq took custody of Tariq Aziz (TAH'-rihk ah-ZEEZ'), the former Iraqi deputy prime minister. China shut down a Beijing hospital as the global death toll from SARS surpassed 260.

In 2005, Pope Benedict XVI formally began his stewardship of the Roman Catholic Church; the former Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger said in his installation homily that as pontiff he would listen to the will of God in governing the world's 1.1 billion Catholics.

In 2013, in Bangladesh, a shoddily constructed eight-story commercial building housing garment factories collapsed, killing more than 1,100 people.

Ten years ago: Mexico shut down schools, museums, libraries and state-run theaters across its overcrowded capital in hopes of containing a deadly swine flu outbreak. Back-to-back suicide bombers struck near a Shiite shrine in Baghdad, killing 71.

Five years ago: An Afghan government security guard opened fire on foreign doctors at a Kabul hospital, killing three Americans in the latest of a deadly string of attacks on Western civilians in the capital. The tiny Pacific nation of the Marshall Islands took on the United States and the world's eight other nuclear-armed nations with an unprecedented lawsuit demanding they meet their obligations toward disarmament and accusing them of "flagrant violations" of international law.

One year ago: Former police officer Joseph DeAngelo was arrested at his home near Sacramento, California, after DNA linked him to crimes attributed to the so-called Golden State Killer; authorities believed he committed 13 murders and more than 50 rapes in the 1970s and 1980s. (DeAngelo is awaiting trial.)

Today's Birthdays: Movie director-producer Richard Donner is 89. Actress Shirley MacLaine is 85. Actress-singer-director Barbra Streisand is 77. Former Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley is 77. Country singer Richard Sterban (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 76. Rock musician Doug Clifford (Creedence Clearwater Revival) is 74. R-and-B singer Ann Peebles is 72. Rock singer-musician Rob Hyman is 69. Former Irish Taoiseach (TEE'-shuk) Enda Kenny is 68. Actor-playwright Eric Bogosian is 66. Rock singer-musician Jack Blades (Night Ranger) is 65. Actor Michael O'Keefe is 64. Rock musician David J (Bauhaus) is 62. Actor Glenn Morshower is 60. Rock musician Billy Gould is 56. Actor-comedian Cedric the Entertainer is 55. Actor Djimon Hounsou (JEYE'-mihn OHN'-soo) is 55. Rock musician Patty Schemel is 52. Actress Stacy Haiduk is 51. Rock musician Aaron Comess (Spin Doctors) is 51. Actor Aidan Gillen is 51. Actress Melinda Clarke is 50. Actor Rory McCann is 50. Latin pop singer Alejandro Fernandez is 48. Country-rock musician Brad Morgan (Drive-By Truckers) is 48. Rock musician Brian Marshall (Creed; Alter Bridge) is 46. Actor Derek Luke is 45. Actor-producer Thad Luckinbill is 44. Actor Eric Balfour is 42. Actress Rebecca Mader is 42. Country singer Rebecca Lynn Howard is 40. Country singer Danny Gokey is 39. Actress Reagan Gomez is 39. Actor Austin Nichols is 39. Actress Sasha Barrese is 38. Contemporary Christian musician Jasen Rauch (Red) is 38. Singer Kelly Clarkson is 37. Rock singer-musician Tyson Ritter (The All-American Rejects) is 35. Country singer Carly Pearce is 29. Actor Joe Keery is 27. Actor Jack Quaid is 27. Actor Doc Shaw is 27. Actor Jordan Fisher is 25. Golfer Lydia Ko is 22.

Thought for Today: "The door to the past is a strange door. It swings open and things pass through it, but they pass in one direction only. No man can return across that threshold, though he can look down still and see the green light

waver in the water weeds." - Loren Eiseley, American anthropologist (1907-1977).

Connecting calendar



June 20 - 25-Year Club Celebration, 5:30 - 8 p.m., AP headquarters, 200 Liberty Street, New York, NY. RSVP by May 10. RSVP online [here](#). Any questions may be directed to recognition@ap.org

August 17 - Albany AP bureau reunion (including other upstate bureaus), 1-5 p.m., Marc and Carla Humbert residence on Tsatsawassa Lake, [68 Marginal Way, East Nassau, NY](#). Contact: Chris McKnight ([Email](#)).

Got a story or photos to share?

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:

- **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?

- **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.

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



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