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Connecting

April 22, 2020

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Missouri capitol reporters practice social distancing in the first-floor rotunda of the 103-year-old Missouri State Capitol Building during a news conference by Gov. Mike Parson. (Photo courtesy of Office of Missouri Governor)

Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 22nd day of April 2020,

Our colleague **Bruce Richardson** ([Email](#)) – shares some good news about a former APer—Jack Pace, who is well-known throughout the AP after 48 years of service in both the Communications and Personnel divisions: Jack is getting set for a big celebration in September when he will be 92 years old.

Jack resides in New Jersey and would love to receive cards from his many friends. He spends his days now still practicing his music on a daily basis—he plays the flute, guitar, recorder, harmonica and piano. Jack joined the AP in 1945 as a temp in West Virginia, worked as an automatic operator before becoming a technician and later a chief of Communications before came to New York City in 1959. He retired in 1993 while working out of the Cranbury Technical Center in New Jersey.



His mailing address is: Jack Pace, Room 111, Complete Care at Bay Lea, 1351 Old Freehold Road, Toms River, NJ 08753-2275.



AP GROUND GAME : “The worst is yet ahead of us.” The WHO’s stark warning comes as Trump and other world leaders start to reopen their economies. In this episode of the “Ground Game: Inside the Outbreak” podcast, host Ralph Russo speaks to AP reporters Maria Cheng and Jamey Keaten about the politics at play with the WHO, the Trump administration and China.

Listen [here](#) .

Be safe, be healthy and have a good day.

Paul

Uplifting thoughts in these trying times

Betsy Blaney ([Email](#)) - Here is something you might want to use as an uplifting and inspiring piece of writing:

“When you go out and see the empty streets, the empty stadiums, the barren parks, don't say to yourself, ‘It looks like the end of the world.’ What you're seeing is love in action. What you're seeing, in that negative space, is how much we do care for each other, for our grandparents, for our immunocompromised brothers and sisters, for people we will never meet.

People will lose jobs over this. Some will lose their businesses. And some will lose their lives. All the more reason to take a moment, when you're out on your walk, or on your way to the store, or just watching the news, to look into the emptiness and marvel at all of that love.

Let it fill you and sustain you.

It isn't the end of the world. It is the most remarkable act of global solidarity we may ever witness."

-unknown

-0-

Norm Abelson ([Email](#)) – A favorite song lyric for those separated from loved ones.

I'LL BE SEEING YOU

I'll be seeing you
In all the old familiar places
That this heart of mine embraces
All day and through

In that small cafe
The park across the way
The children's carousel
The chestnut trees
The wishing well

I'll be seeing you
In every lovely summer's day
In everything that's light and gay
I'll always think of you that way

I'll find you in the morning sun
And when the night is new
I'll be looking at the moon
But I'll be seeing you

I'll be seeing you
In every lovely summer's day
In everything that's light and gay
I'll always think of you that way

I'll find you in the morning sun
And when the night is new
I'll be looking at the moon
But I'll be seeing you

Songwriters: Irving Kahal / Sammy Fain

Zoom meeting of Kansas City staffers – past and present



Top row, from left: Cliff Schiappa, Peg Coughlin, Doug Tucker; second row, from left: Paul Stevens, Kia Breaux, Kent Zimmerman; bottom, Jim Bagby.

Cliff Schiappa ([Email](#)) – Retired Kansas City news editor Kent Zimmerman has for years gathered former Kansas City bureau staffers, past and present, for a quarterly lunch at a locally owned restaurant in the famous Country Club Plaza district.

This year, with the coronavirus pandemic closing restaurants and limiting social contact, seven of them gathered Tuesday around their respective computers to catch up on their lives and how they're dealing with being hunkered down.

As the cameras came up, some were seen sporting new beards as daily routines have been far from routine for the past six weeks. For Zimmerman, who has been doing voluntary Meals on Wheels deliveries for years, he's been replaced with county staff whose regular jobs have been upended. Former ACOB (and current AP election coordinator) Peg Coughlin, an avid golfer, rides her cart alone and makes sure to not use the sand trap rake or handle the greens flag. For former Midwest Photo Editor Cliff Schiappa, who normally plays pickleball for 2-3 hours every day, his exercise is now on his bicycle or hiking trails in Palm Springs.

Retired Broadcast Editor Jim Bagby related how a dear friend of nearly 50 years and fellow Barbershop Quartet singer, in his final days suffering from cancer, was regaled by a parade of more than 40 cars with signs that slowly drove past his home to wish him well. And retired Sports Editor Doug Tucker reminded the group that the Spanish Flu, which had its roots in Kansas, was far more devastating than what we are currently experiencing.

Kansas City-based Regional Director Kia Breaux's April wedding plans to former Dallas ACoB Rod Richardson were tossed to the wind by coronavirus shutdowns. She will soon be sharing news along those lines that for now was kept confidential among her fellow KX Zoomers. She reported that, thankfully, her elder son LJ has not recently unplugged the family freezer to recharge his iPhone – and that life as a work-at-home mom is a challenge but rewarding.

As for Paul Stevens, his tennis game has been put on hold, but he certainly has been kept busy with many submissions from his Connecting correspondents while he continues to create the must-read newsletter that has been a steady voice during these turbulent times.

No food was served for this quarterly gathering (a shame, because the Mac Daddy served at the regular restaurant is a crowd favorite) but the KX bureau camaraderie that has existed for decades, still carries on.

And our group heartily recommends to our Connecting colleagues that they hold similar gatherings of their retirees fold.

Former APSE president one of newest Connecting colleagues

Paul Bowker ([Email](#)) - I am a seasoned journalist in waiting, like many of us. I am on furlough from a daily newspaper in upstate New York. So I begin my days by reading Connecting. It's a great way to start the day.

That is a long way from the beginnings of my career in the 1980s, when the Kansas City Star liked my work so much during a summer internship while I was student at Kansas University that they grabbed me away from academia to start me on an adventurous newspaper career.



I became a sports editor at daily newspapers ranging from Massachusetts in the east to South Carolina in the south to Michigan in the Midwest, including at The News Journal in Wilmington, Delaware. I was a deputy sports editor at the Florida Times Union in Jacksonville, where 90-degree days are the norm, and the Cedar Rapids Gazette in Iowa, where 20-below nights are common.

A highlight was rising to national president of Associated Press Sports Editors in 1995 and 1996. My seven-year stint on the executive board created opportunities to meet many sports and photo staffers and managers in the AP. They would become my colleagues and friends (hello, Terry Taylor). And later

on, while I became a dad at home with daughter during the day, I was a sports stringer for the AP in Michigan for Larry Lage, covering Western Michigan football and basketball, along with the occasional Detroit Pistons game.

As a sports editor of a daily newspaper, you write stories about professional, college and high school sports. It really is a triple play that leads to great adventures. In Wilmington, that meant daily special sections during the World Series. In Holyoke, Massachusetts, that meant weekly high school football special sections. In Kalamazoo, Michigan, it meant going to games at the Big House in Ann Arbor.

The people became the stories.

Yet, my memories always go back to Kansas. I grew up in Massachusetts, and wound up serving three years in the U.S. Army at Fort Riley, Kansas. I hesitate to admit I went to school at both K-State and KU. Kansas tugged at me then, and Kansas tugs at me now. Something about Dorothy, I suppose.

But for now, like many of us, it's the time to wait out a furlough and hope there is a newspaper industry to return to, a passion all of us have. If not, well, there's always a soccer refereeing career to get back to. Even at this age. Ha.

Your memories...

Of David Melendy

Bob Moon ([Email](#)) - May David rest in peace. He wasn't just a "nice guy." I think a more appropriate word describes him best: He was a pleasant guy.

I always thought his sharp, precise and yet somehow smooth, unforced articulation of each and every word set his delivery apart as one of the clearest, easiest to understand on-air voices I ever heard in our business. Every word stood out, sort of like the rat-a-tat-tat of a teletype machine. There was a punch to it that added emphasis in exactly the right places. I never, ever heard him even slightly slur a single word. And yet, his presentation was always ... well ... pleasant. In fact, when he came to AP, I tried to emulate those qualities. It's not easy to do without sounding like Ted Baxter. For David, it seemed to come naturally, effortlessly. That delivery dripped with authority and credibility, and I always admired that.

And of Wes Gallagher

Bob Cullen ([Email](#)) - When I joined AP in 1971, I sent the then-customary letter to Wes Gallagher outlining my goals and got the customary response welcoming me aboard. I never met him in person. But I had an encounter with him that told me a bit about the sort of journalist he was and the expectations he had for AP reporters.

I was working in the Raleigh bureau one morning in March when we got an alert that a plane carrying the Army's Golden Knights stunt parachute team had crashed near the farming hamlet of Silk Hope, N.C. I was nominated to drive to the scene, about 75 miles from the bureau. I got there as fast as I could. The plane had come down in a dirt farming field that had yet to sprout any spring crops. I got a look at the wreckage and some body bags (there were no survivors) and talked to a state trooper who was minding the scene. This being long before the era of cell phones, I had to figure out a way to file before the deadline for PM newspapers, which was around noon. There were no pay phones visible. So I went to a farm house and cajoled the couple living there to let me use their phone. I dictated what I thought was a pretty coherent story describing the scene. (I even managed to refrain from inserting a comment about the irony of a parachute team crashing in a place called Silk Hope.) I hung up the phone feeling that I'd done a good job.

Until, that is, the Raleigh bureau got hold of me and said Wes Gallagher wanted to know why the soldiers hadn't used their parachutes to escape when the plane began to crash.

It was a good question, but one I had no way of answering. It did, however, teach me how high Wes Gallagher set the bar.

-0-

Harry Dunphy ([Email](#)) - During home leave one year early in my AP career, Wes and Betty invited our family, my wife Verity and toddler son Sean, to spend an afternoon with them at their country club, Apawamis in Rye. (Crossword Alert: New York City on Long Island Sound, 3 letters).

Wes and I played golf while Verity, Betty and Sean spent the afternoon at the pool.

On the course for me, it was one of those days when few things went wrong and I finished in the mid 80s. These days I'm lucky if I can break 100.

I did not hear Wes invoke the divinity throughout the entire round when he made a poor shot or missed a putt.

One of the greens at Apawamis is surrounded by four intimidating sand traps that Wes informed me some members called Eleanor's (Roosevelt) teeth.

In the locker room afterward, Wes said he was going to have to look into my work habits. I explained that our Cairo apartment in Zamalek was minutes away from the Gezira golf club and I played as often as I could, sometimes only a few holes just before dark.

Wes and Keith Fuller had been very persuasive in getting me to accept the Cairo COB job, saying they would they would not like the momentum I built up

as a new correspondent in Beirut slow down. I was considering applying for a Nieman fellowship.

As the afternoon drew to a close, Verity and I were preparing to return to NY and the Warwick Hotel, when Wes and Betty said no and invited us to their home for supper where we were joined by some other AP staffers who lived nearby.

At the end of the evening Wes called a taxi that he paid for to take us back to the hotel.

Throughout the entire day, this was a charming, relaxed Wes Gallagher, completely different from the one many of us remember as a stern, take-no-nonsense boss at 50 Rock.

I also have to say that our son Sean, who I think was 18 months old, behaved beautifully during what was a long day for him.

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Marty Thompson ([Email](#)) - On a visit to the old San Francisco bureau in Fox Plaza, Wes Gallagher sat down in a chair across from the news editor and asked me in that gruff voice, "So, what do you want to do in the AP?"

I must have mumbled something, maybe about becoming a bureau chief, but it's lost in the memory of that Gallagher presence.

Later, I learned that when the San Francisco CoB job was open, Wes had consulted with Editor Dave Schutz of the Redwood City (Calif.) Tribune and a former APME president, about whether the news editor was ready. I still appreciate Schutz's endorsement and Gallagher's confidence in approving what became an 11-year run as bureau chief in a great place for news.

A profile capturing what many of us former journalists now do

Julie Davey ([Email](#)) – *professor emeritus, Fullerton College* - The LA Times did a profile on me in February and I was going to send you a synopsis. Then came the virus. The reporter did a nice job capturing what many of us former journalists now do: use our actual experiences in the field or in our personal lives as plots for published fiction. (Lots of rejections come in between.)

A career highlight for me was privately interviewing Lady Bird Johnson for the now-closed San Antonio Light. I was just sitting, bored, at the City Desk and a call came in saying the president's wife was just a few doors down and no press knew she was there. I dashed down there with the photog. The Secret

Service stopped me cold as I tried to enter the place she was shopping for furniture for the "ranch" prior to it opening for business. But, Lady Bird graciously allowed me to interview her and called me "honey".

Ben Brazil, the LA Times reporter who interviewed me for the profile, seemed more interested in how I uncovered a black market for babies in Laredo and sent a few people off to jail and/or out of the country. That Laredo Times story was picked up by the wire services and I got a few death threats, something I just thought "came with the territory" when I was in my early 20s. It would get my attention big-time today at 77. I'd probably move out of state, enter a protection program and never have another byline or teach journalism. Yikes.

Author drew from journalism past to write about international conspiracies and families living with wolves



Julie Davey, a Laguna Niguel-based author and former journalist, shows one of her clips from the L.A. Herald Examiner. She keeps bundles of her former reporting, which has inspired her novels and non-fiction books. (Raul Roa/Staff Photographer)

By BEN BRAZIL, Los Angeles Times

As a young, recalcitrant investigative journalist for a community paper in Laredo, Texas in the 1960s, Julie Davey received a tip that a woman was illegally selling babies for adoption.

She found and probed the woman for information in broken Spanish.

“She said to me at one point, ‘Do you have any children?’” Davey said. “I said ‘No.’ She said, ‘Would you want one?’ I said, ‘I don’t know. How does that happen?’ She said, ‘\$10,000.’”

Davey found out during the conversation that a local government worker, a man at the Vital Statistics Bureau, was providing the woman with birth forms.

After Davey broke the story, a court of inquiry was called. Davey was ordered to give up her source but held steady despite the threat of being thrown in jail for contempt of court.

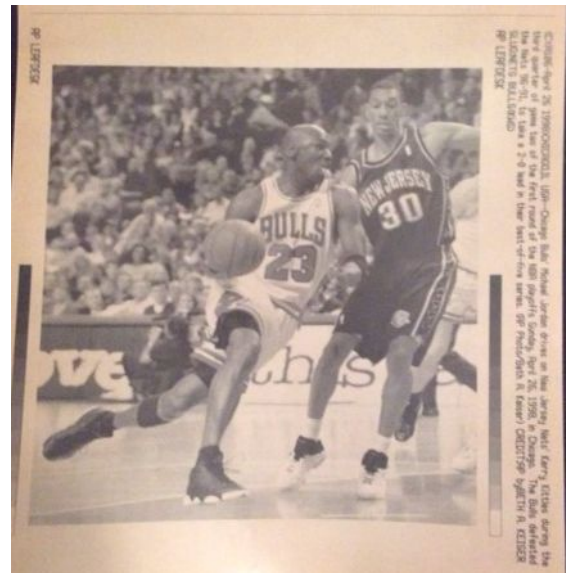
The Vital Statistics man ended up going to prison, and the woman ended up back in Mexico.

Read more [here](#).

The Last Dance, the AP and My Daughter

Dennis Conrad ([Email](#)) - I treasure the moments I had with my daughter Julia as she grew up during the years I was an Associated Press newsman at the Illinois Statehouse. One of the greatest had to be when we saw Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls play in the 1998 NBA playoffs.

Like the rest of the folks in the Land of Lincoln and perhaps even most of those on planet Earth at the time, we had become devoted fans of the team now brought back to life in ESPN’s new documentary series, “The Last Dance.” Atypical of our father-daughter enthusiasm for the team was that my interest was sparked by watching how my little girl of the 1980s became so captivated by watching the Bulls on our TV set at home.



This was before all the glory of the many Bulls championship seasons. It was not until Julia had a passionate interest in the sport that I developed one. I thought to myself: “This is fantastic. This is something I can really get into and have a good time with my daughter.” So, for more than a decade we were fanatical followers of the Bulls on the SportsChannel. But we had yet to see them closeup. Once I got us tickets, but I could feel Julia’s disappointment about our poor view from the nosebleed seats at United Center.

Now, this would be different, Sunday, April 26, 1998. COURTSIDE, Game 2 of the First Round of the NBA Playoffs: Bulls vs. New Jersey Nets. We were given the opportunity by AP Photos in Chicago to be volunteers assisting the photographers, Beth A. Keiser and Michael S. Green. To top it off, before the game started, we got to eat in the dining area with the Bulls broadcast team and many celebrated sports journalists. Then, at halftime, we walked by NBC broadcaster Bob Costas, as he spoke with one of America's great authors, David Halberstam, then researching a Jordan book. This was a real treat as his "The Best and the Brightest" was - and still is -one of my favorite books of all time.

The end of our fantastic day, following a Bulls win, was something Julia and I could never have even dreamed. We got to go to the post-game press conference in a crowded room of reporters and photographers. When nattily dressed MJ came in, with his personal security, he stood next to Julia and myself, and started answering reporters' questions. If there is a photo, people looking at it would have to think we were one big happy family. I know for sure that I and 15-year-old Julia were!

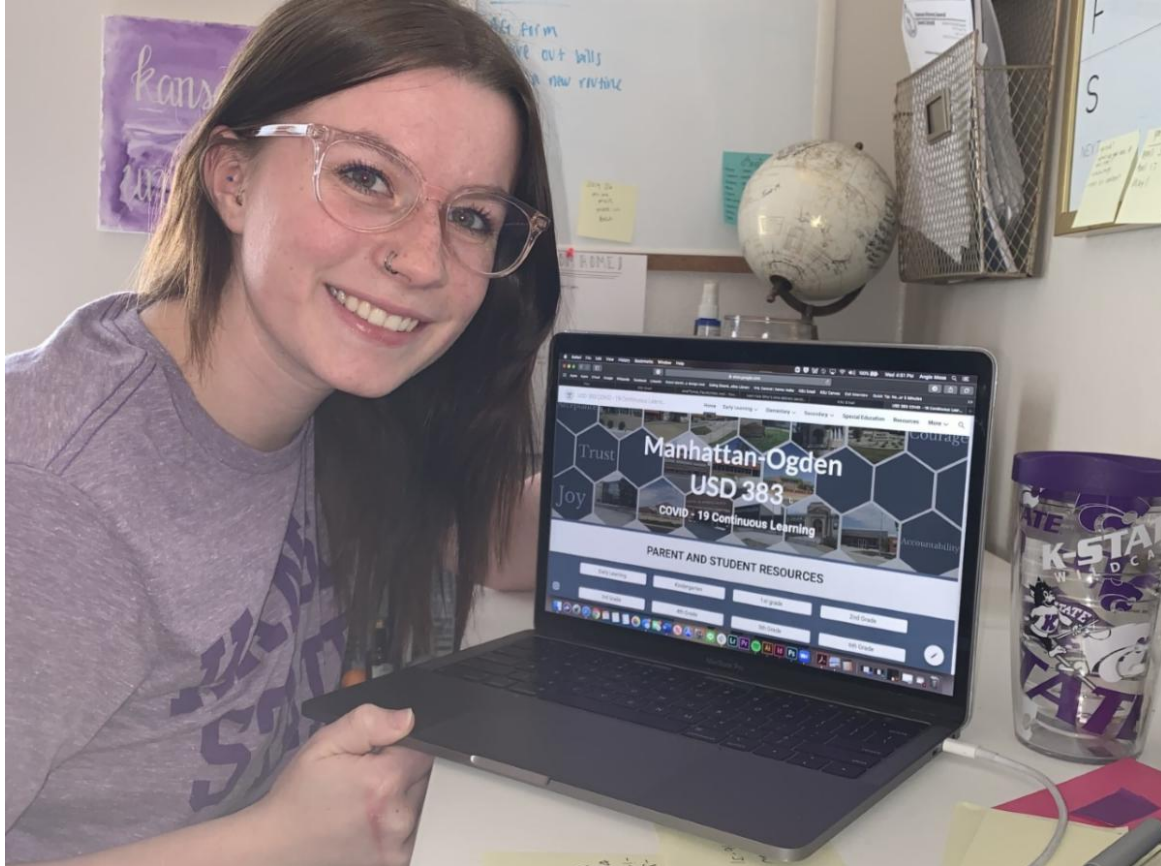
Our AP Photos friends added to our happiness by thanking us for our help at courtside.

The final act of kindness came when AP photo editor Bob Graves sent me a package of eight photos of game action to make sure many memories would stay with us for decades to come.

It also helped that I recorded the NBC broadcast and as a result have Julia on tape at courtside in her role as AP volunteer.

P.S. As luck would have it, Julia married her high school boyfriend from Illinois in a ceremony near Wilmington, NC. And their four children were all born at a University of North Carolina hospital. An educator, she now works for Duke University and her husband Zach is with the Durham YMCA. The last time we both saw Michael Jordan play in person was in DC with the Washington Wizards, when I was in the DC bureau and bought some tickets. It just wasn't the same.

K-State journalism and mass communications students meet COVID-19 challenge



Angie Moss, who is working with the local school district.

Gloria Freeland ([Email](#)) – While all K-Staters have had to adapt to the COVID-19 situation, journalism and mass communications students are facing some unique challenges. Those working in student media have had to adjust the way they get news to their readers, listeners, and viewers, while those working with organizations, such as the local school district and police department, are learning just what crisis management is all about.

The K-State Collegian staff recently re-launched the student newspaper’s online newsletter. It is posted on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays — the paper’s regular print days.

“Technology is helping us a lot right now,” said editor-in-chief Kaylie McLaughlin, junior in journalism and mass communications. “We have weekly full editorial meetings, regular individual meetings and desk specific meetings as needed exclusively using Zoom ...”

She said finding a routine has been difficult, but the staff will continue to be the independent voice of the students and tell K-State stories in spite of being unable to get into their campus newsroom.

McLaughlin was the first person to interview Andrew Smith, the journalism and mass communications professor who was hospitalized with COVID-19 and who is now recovering at home. The Collegian has a feature series that spotlights how the pandemic is affecting individual students. For example, they

have interviewed a first-generation student, an international student, a student from China, a graduating senior, a job-hunting student and others who have found ways to cope.

“Overall, we are trying to do more people-focused stories while also highlighting solutions and innovations other campus entities are working on to carry out their missions,” McLaughlin said.

Abby Pfannenstiel, editor of “Manhappenin” magazine and senior in journalism and mass communications, said her staff also is adjusting and is motivated to come up with ideas on how to create a full-print magazine remotely as a team. She said most advertisers have chosen to stay with them.

“We are hoping this situation turns out to be an opportunity for us to make something we never would have thought to do otherwise,” Pfannenstiel said.

The student radio station Wildcat 91.9 also has adapted to the crisis.

Ian Punnett, chief operator and faculty adviser of the station, hosts “19@Noon,” what he calls “a 19-minute-ish interview show” featuring local business leaders, health professionals, agricultural groups, restaurant owners, COVID sufferers, teachers and other members of the community who have been directly impacted by this novel coronavirus.

Bill Bernard, Wildcat 91.9 radio personality and disc jockey and senior in journalism and mass communications, said the staff is working in its studio, but is following guidelines to sanitize the room and to limit access to a small number of people.

“I would say the biggest thing is the radio station is an outlet to get the word out to people up to the minute and faster than by any other means other than social media,” Bernard said.

Isaiah Cubit, senior in journalism and mass communications and production director, said he thinks the staff is handling the crisis well.

“We are constantly reminded of and following the guidelines set by the CDC when in a public space,” he said. “I only go to the station when I need to record or edit audio.”

Zandt Durham, morning show host and senior in journalism and mass communications, said he is especially proud of his friends at the radio station.

He is on the air every day from 7-9 a.m. and again from 2-4 p.m. and sometimes from 4-6 p.m. He also produces Punnett's "19@Noon" show.

"I love the people I get to interact with every single day, and I like how we make each other better at our jobs," Durham said. "The work we do is important; we inform our listeners and entertain them. In another sense, we help them understand what's happening, while also giving them a sense of normalcy, and hope that things will be okay."

K-State journalism and mass communications students recently did their "MHK All Day" broadcast using a unique application of Zoom software. Staff members highlighted local and state health news related to COVID-19, talked about the DigiFab Club that is making 20 plastic face shields a day with 3-D printers, featured a man who has started "Stay Home MHK" to help area artists, talked to students in theater and art, showed how people can make their own face masks, and more.

"In the midst of the chaos, our news team has had to become adaptive," said Monica Diaz, senior in journalism and mass communications and "MHK All Day" news anchor. "We no longer have the easy access to our equipment or to our team. Our top priority is still to get the news to the people. Whether it be producing a newscast from our bedrooms or interviewing people via Zoom, we will continue to do so. We want to share people's stories through our different forms of media."

Molly Hackett, also a senior and co-anchor for the show, said finding ways of making a live television show work from home with limited resources has been a unique endeavor.

"I have learned how to conduct Zoom interviews for packages, keep up on social media so I always have story ideas, make a makeshift green screen by placing the background that I want on a Zoom call and have the best natural lighting while still being at home. Not having all of the luxuries that we are used to really puts into perspective why the fundamentals of journalism are taught in our classes and why we need to follow them. Without working as a team none of this would be possible.

Dacey Hagedorn, junior and sports reporter/producer of the show, has had to come up with new ideas on "how to talk about sports without sports." He did a behind-the-scenes video about how he finds story ideas, writes his scripts and edits them. The URL for his video is: <https://youtu.be/NA9G5AtHgU0>

Students working in strategic communications positions also have been crucial in getting messages to their audiences.

Angie Moss, junior in journalism and mass communications and communications intern with Manhattan-Ogden USD 383, was part of the team that launched the school district's new continuous learning website. It serves

as the main resource for parents to obtain learning materials for their children during the COVID-19 pandemic. Her work on the site included content hierarchy and organization, as well as overseeing design and layout consistency.

“I’ve been in continuous awe of both the district’s amazing crisis communications throughout this pandemic and the educators and faculty who are continuously giving it their all to ensure children maintain some sense of normalcy – whether that be through lesson plans on this website or being able to provide free meals to children who wouldn’t get fed otherwise,” Moss said.

William Ridge, senior in journalism and mass communications, is interning for the Public Information Officer at the Riley County Police Department.

“As a part of a collaborative public information team with other emergency services and public works departments in Riley County, the public information officer at RCPD has been working in-step with the Emergency Operation Center and Riley County Health Department to develop informational and instructive content about COVID-19 and to put it out to the public through educational social media posts and daily COVID-19 briefing videos,” Ridge said.

“As the PIO intern, I have been assisting her in her regular RCPD duties as well as assisting the EOC through shooting video, designing educational graphics, developing messaging through social media platforms, and adding any creative input I have into the development of messaging and the management of social media for the EOC, RCPD, or Riley County Health Department,” he said. “When I’m at work, or doing any video or photo shoots, I wear a home-made mask over my face, and extra sanitization practices and physical distancing precautions are being made for those who cannot work for the RCPD remotely.”

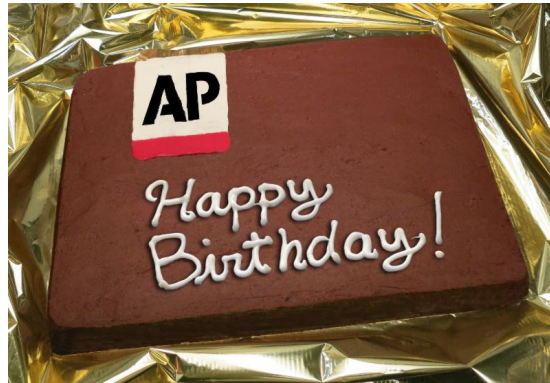
Steve Smethers, director of the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications, said he is in awe of the work the school’s students are doing.

“The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted our lives in so many ways and in the future, there will likely be few good memories of these extraordinary times,” Smethers said. “But I believe that all situations provide teachable moments, and in that regard, we have seen our students rise to the occasion, taking their learned media communication skills and their innate sense of public service, using those talents to provide information that our communities need right now.

“For our students, they will remember this as a time when they showed the campus and outside constituencies that media and strategic communications play an important social function. If we are to find any ‘silver lining’ amidst this chaotic situation, I believe it is the fact that our students will be even more effective as future mass communicators because they have a greater understanding of their roles in times of crisis. And that’s a hard lesson to teach in confined classroom settings.”

(Gloria Freeland, a Connecting colleague, is director of the Huck Boyd National Center for Community Media and assistant professor of journalism and mass communications at Kansas State University. She plans to retire at the end of the current semester.)

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Peter Mattiace – pmattiace@aol.com

Bob Reid - rreid47@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Coronavirus Threatens Press Freedom Around the World, Report Says (New York Times)

By Jenny Gross

The coronavirus pandemic may threaten press freedom and worsen the crises that reporters around the world are facing, according to this year's World Press Freedom Index, which evaluates the landscape for journalists in 180 countries and territories.

The report, published on Tuesday by the media watchdog group Reporters Without Borders, said the United States and Brazil were becoming models of hostility toward the news media. It also singled out China, Iran and Iraq for censoring coverage of the coronavirus outbreak.

The pandemic has already redefined norms. New laws that some governments have passed with the ostensible goal of slowing the spread of the virus — ones that broaden state surveillance, for instance — have raised concerns about long-term negative effects on the news media and freedom of expression.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

Don't Waste Stimulus Money on Newspapers

(Politico)

By JACK SHAFER

My heart commands me to support the 19 Democratic senators who want the next stimulus package to include local news businesses, injured like other industries by the coronavirus apocalypse.

Lord knows the senators have a case. About 33,000 news media workers have been laid off, furloughed or had their wages cut since the pandemic arrived, and few news outlets have dodged the damage. Some daily newspapers have reduced the number of days they go to press, and others have stopped printing altogether. This industrywide death spiral hits me personally because I grew up on newspapers, delivering them when I was a kid. I've always loved the way newspapers smell and the rustle they make as you course through their pages, and I've always enjoyed returning from vacation to plow through a pile of yesterday's papers and catch up on crime, corruption and culture. Nobody will miss newspapers more than me when they finally vanish.

But my brain knows better than to support any such bailout.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by John Brewer.

Today in History - April 22, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 22, the 113th day of 2020. There are 253 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 22, 1915, the first full-scale use of deadly chemicals in warfare took place as German forces unleashed chlorine gas against Allied troops at the start of the Second Battle of Ypres (EE'-preh) in Belgium during World War I; thousands of soldiers are believed to have died.

On this date:

In 1616, Spanish novelist Miguel de Cervantes, author of "Don Quixote," died in Madrid. (The date is according to the New Style Gregorian calendar that was adopted by Spain in 1582.)

In 1864, Congress authorized the use of the phrase "In God We Trust" on U.S. coins.

In 1898, with the United States and Spain on the verge of war, the U.S. Navy began blockading Cuban ports. Congress authorized creation of the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, also known as the "Rough Riders."

In 1954, the publicly televised sessions of the Senate Army-McCarthy hearings began.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson opened the New York World's Fair.

In 1970, millions of Americans concerned about the environment observed the first "Earth Day."

In 1994, Richard M. Nixon, the 37th president of the United States, died at a New York hospital four days after suffering a stroke; he was 81.

In 2000, in a dramatic pre-dawn raid, armed immigration agents seized Elian Gonzalez, the Cuban boy at the center of a custody dispute, from his relatives' home in Miami; Elian was reunited with his father at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington.

In 2003, President George W. Bush announced he would nominate Alan Greenspan for a fifth term as Federal Reserve chairman.

In 2004, Army Ranger Pat Tillman, who'd traded in a multi-million-dollar NFL contract to serve in Afghanistan, was killed by friendly fire; he was 27.

In 2005, Zacarias Moussaoui (zak-uh-REE'-uhs moo-SOW'-ee) pleaded guilty in a federal courtroom outside Washington, D.C. to conspiring with the Sept. 11 hijackers to kill Americans. (Moussaoui is serving a life prison sentence.)

In 2013, a seriously wounded Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehv) was charged in his hospital room with bombing the Boston Marathon in a plot with his older brother, Tamerlan (TAM'-ehr-luhn), who died after a fierce gunbattle with police. Richie Havens, 72, the folk singer and guitarist who was

the first performer at the 1969 Woodstock festival, died in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Ten years ago: The Deepwater Horizon oil platform, operated by BP, sank into the Gulf of Mexico two days after a massive explosion that killed 11 workers. The NCAA announced a 14-year, \$10.8 billion deal with CBS and Turner Broadcasting under which every game during an expanded March Madness schedule would be broadcast live nationally for the first time in the tournament's 73-year history.

Five years ago: A federal judge in Philadelphia approved a settlement agreement expected to cost the NFL \$1 billion over 65 years to resolve thousands of concussion lawsuits. A federal appeals court in San Francisco overturned home run leader Barry Bonds' obstruction of justice conviction, ruling 10-1 that his meandering answer before a grand jury in 2003 was not material to the government's investigation into illegal steroids distribution.

One year ago: Democratic presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren proposed the elimination of existing student loan debt for millions of Americans as part of a sweeping set of education funding proposals. The Trump administration said it would no longer exempt any countries from U.S. sanctions if they continued to buy Iranian oil. A federal court in Detroit declared it unconstitutional for police to mark a car's tires with chalk in order to enforce parking rules; the court said the practice was like entering property without a search warrant. (The ruling applied to Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee.)

Today's Birthdays: Actress Estelle Harris is 92. Actor Jack Nicholson is 83. Singer Mel Carter is 81. Author Janet Evanovich is 77. Country singer Cleve Francis is 75. Movie director John Waters is 74. Singer Peter Frampton is 70. Rock singer-musician Paul Carrack (Mike and the Mechanics; Squeeze) is 69. Actor Joseph Bottoms is 66. Actor Ryan Stiles is 61. Baseball manager Terry Francona is 61. Comedian Byron Allen is 59. Actor Chris Makepeace is 56. Rock musician Fletcher Dragge (DRAH'-guh) is 54. Actor Jeffrey Dean Morgan is 54. Actress Sheryl Lee is 53. Actress-talk show host Sherri Shepherd is 53. Country singer-musician Heath Wright (Ricochet) is 53. Country singer Kellie Coffey is 49. Actor Eric Mabius is 49. Actor Ingo Rademacher (RAH'-deh-mah-ker) is 49. Rock musician Shavo Odadjian (System of a Down) is 46. Rock singer-musician Daniel Johns (Silverchair) is 41. Actor Malcolm Barrett is 40. Actress Cassidy Freeman is 38. Actress Michelle Ryan is 36. Actor Zack Gottsagen is 35. Actress Amber Heard is 34. Singer-songwriter BC Jean (Alexander Jean) is 33. Drummer Tripp Howell (LANCO) is 31. Rapper/singer Machine Gun Kelly is 30.

Thought for Today: "Demasiada cordura puede ser la peor de las locuras, ver la vida como es y no como deberia de ser." (Too much sanity may be the worst folly, see life as it is and not as it should be.) [-] Miguel de Cervantes (1547-1616).

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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