

Connecting - February 24, 2020

1 message

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Connecting

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this the 24th day of February 2020,

Today's Connecting Profile focuses on **Barbara King Lord**, who served as AP's director of editorial training from 1991 to 2005 and helped countless staffers and bureaus - and Associated Press members - in improving their writing.



Kansas City CoB Paul Stevens with AP New Yorkers in the Flint Hills of Kansas - from left, Barbara King, Clo Dillon and Madhu Krishnappa. (1998 photo by Peg Coughlin, then Kansas City ACoB - courtesy of AP Corporate Archives)

My favorite outside-the-classroom stories of Barbara's work when I was Kansas City chief of bureau were - with ACoB **Peg Coughlin** - taking her and two Human Resources employee relations managers, **Clo Dillon** and **Madhu Krishnappa**, on a trip through the majestic Flint Hills of Kansas en route to their appearance at a Kansas APME convention in Hutchinson ... and on the Missouri side, seeing her let her hair down with go-cart racing at the Lake of the Ozarks after a long day with the Missouri APME. If you've got a favorite story involving Barbara, please send it along.

Today's issue also brings some follow-up reaction on **Hal Buell's** five-part series on the 75th anniversary of **Joe Rosenthal's** photo of the American flag being raised on Mt. Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima. One of the most poignant received came from colleague and my friend **Darrell Condon**, who served with the Marines in Vietnam: "Thanks for the Iwo Jima stories. Brought a lump in my throat and a tear to my eye."

Here's to a great week ahead!

Paul

Connecting profile

Barbara King Lord



Barbara King Lord making corn chowder

What are you doing these days?

I'm taking advantage of, then enjoying lots of surprise opportunities. One of the most recent has been teaching graduate writing for the past four semesters at Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York, the oldest independent seminary in the country. A very special and rewarding project has been working with one of the scripture scholars, fluent in eight languages, on his latest book that was published just a few weeks ago. Dissertation assistance has also kept me busy. (We actually have a little AP-related trio on campus: former AP colleagues Charlotte Porter and

Bryan Mealer are pursuing degrees.) Then there are the concert halls (PORGY AND BESS last month), the theaters (GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY this past week), the lecture halls (RUTH BADER GINSBERG interviewed by Bill Moyers at Union a few days ago), the travels near and far (Eastern European destinations in play for this summer), the garden (almost time to prep for the annual prevention of wild-life salad-making), and volunteering in church-related activities (a 125th anniversary celebration going on now).

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



Barbara in 1999 (AP Photo/Corporate Archives/Bob Jordan)

In the late '80s I was the assistant training director at Ottaway Newspapers, the community newspapers division of Dow Jones. The group comprised about 20 dailies around the country. During this time, I met Bill Ahearn, then AP Executive Editor, at a newsroom training conference where I'd made a presentation. That meeting marked the beginning of my conversations with the AP around the subject of expanding its training efforts.

What were your different past jobs in the AP, in order? Describe briefly what you did with each?

In order? I had one job. Its title was mysterious to me and, I'd guess, to everyone else: Director of Editorial Training. It was a first. No precedent. I certainly realized that hiring me was a risk in the eyes of many (especially those with a lengthy, respected AP

history!), that my first responsibility was to know what I didn't know (LOTS!) and that I needed to figure out how to learn and move forward in this challenging context.

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

Let me qualify "career" by adding "journalistic." It was my second one -- the first having been 16 years as the principal of two high schools.

Back to my AP career. I could not express more forthrightly that my colleagues with whom I ever worked directly -- in New York, in every domestic and international bureau, in every correspondence -- made a significant contribution to what I was hoping for and trying to accomplish. Each one's vision, openness, trust, collaboration and sense of humor helped moved the AP report to a higher level, a feat I could never have accomplished solo.

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

I certainly would do a rerun. By no means, however, am I suggesting this would require other than a radical revision for today's needs. I often think about what strikes me as an interesting challenge: Developing avenues of training in a journalistic world with today's unparalleled minute-by-minute demands and decisions. I can dream, can't I, as I support, encourage and congratulate the AP work I see and hear many times each day.

I'm a proud offspring of three generations of journalists. The first, my great grandfather George Morris Forbes, introduced Mamaroneck, NY's first newspaper -- The Investigator -- in 1879. All four pages! His five sons -- my great uncles -- continued ownership and oversight of a number of dailies and weeklies in Westchester County, NY, until 1929 just prior to the crash, they were sold to the Macy chain. I'm happy to report that my paternal grandmother Amy Forbes King had an editorial role in her brothers' newsrooms.

Charles A. King, my father, started his career under his uncles' tutelage by covering the Larchmont, NY, Yacht Club races, then moving up to local council meetings. He spent a number of years at Gannett's Utica, NY, newspapers before joining Ottaway Newspapers, Inc. He was the first publisher of The Times Herald-Record in Middletown, NY, and retired from Ottaway as Vice President News.

Perhaps these forbears in no small measure account for my pride in having shared the AP's unique and incomparable mission.

What's your favorite hobby or activity?

No single answer. I love being with friends, whether around a table or on a new excursion. Preparing what's on that table is a favorite pastime as well. I love hearing from and being in touch with friends at a distance. I love the thump of the New York Times in my driveway each morning and the endless Washington Post news alerts on my phone all day and all night - or so it seems.

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

NO "bests" here, either. Every trip has had its unique beauty and joy and learning.

Barbara King's email is - bockl38@hotmail.com

On the Joe Rosenthal photo of Iwo Jima flag-raising

Peter Leabo (Email) - When Joe Rosenthal traveled to Washington, DC, in 1998 to participate in memorial services at the Iwo Jima Memorial, he was escorted by

Gary Fong, director of photography for the San Francisco Chronicle (where Joe worked after returning from the war).

Gary found a cab driver who took pride in knowing everything about every DC monument and arranged for a tour of the monuments by night.

As they pulled up to the Iwo Jima Memorial, the cab driver began to explain how the memorial was inspired by the greatest photo ever taken, showing the Marines raising the flag over Iwo Jima.

From the back seat, Joe asked, "Whatever happened to the photographer?"

"Oh, he died a while back," replied the cabbie.

"Oh, that's sad," said Joe. And, the tour continued to the next memorial.

(Small world note: My mother, Kathleen Leabo, was society editor for the Chronicle in the early '50s and Joe did many assignments for her and with her. When I became photo editor in San Francisco in 1984, Joe would stop in the bureau and we'd take him out for coffee or lunch. He had wonderful memories of working with my mom. And, he could never understand all the fuss, complaining about having a plain-clothes Marine guard following him wherever he went. He quipped that, "the only time they're useful is when it's raining and I can't find a cab." What an amazing and humble man.)

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Bravo to Hal Buell for his Rosenthal series

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - A big and respected tip of the hat to Hal Buell for his series on Joe Rosenthal's magnanimous photo - a historic photograph that will live in history, and a picture that every photographer in the world wishes he or she had taken.

Combat photography is not easy, and it takes an informed, and alert cameraman to capture one of those instant pictures.

Also, thanks to AP, and others, for keeping history alive.

And...

Norm Abelson ([Email](#)) - Hal Buell's five-parter on the 75th anniversary at Iwo Jima is a sterling example of the finest in both memoir and history. He made both the man, Joe Rosenthal, and the event, the frightful yet inspiring events so long ago on that distant Pacific isle, come to life.

The words and the photos were moving reminders of both the horror of war and the bravery of the young men who left their homes and quiet lives behind to fight it. And for too many, to die in it. All these years later, we remain in their debt.

Hal Buell's series also reminded me of one thing more: For those who despair over the loss of first-class meaningful writing in this text and tweet era, I say start reading Connecting.

***A follow on the other photographer at
Suribachi***



Pvt. Bob Campbell, Marine Corps still photographer (left), and Sgt. Bill Genaust, Marine Corps film cameraman, pose atop Mt. Suribachi after the raising of the flag photographed by Joe Rosenthal.

Hal Buell ([Email](#)) - With so many Joe Rosenthal/Iwo Jima stories in Connecting we tend to overlook the motion picture film shot by Marine photographer Sgt. Bill Genaust. His story is of a different kind though it begins alongside Joe on Mt. Suribachi where both shooters recorded the famous flag raising.

Weather turned bad after Feb. 23 making light too weak for the low ASA Kodachrome Marines used to film the war. Genaust, in the Corp's tradition, put aside his camera, picked up his weapon and joined an infantry unit.

On March 4th he entered a cave on Hill 362-A where Japanese had been sighted. Why he did that was never determined but Japanese opened fire and Genaust was killed. Marines used dynamite to close the cave sealing the slain Genaust and Japanese inside.

Genaust's film was highly prized and appeared for years in theaters and on television as a closer scene in those days when TV shut down at midnight. In a peculiar twist Marine Corps rules prevented use of the photographer's name on film. Genaust's widow, who saw the film, did not know until much later that her husband was the photographer.

A post war effort was started - and completed in 1954 -- to return to the U.S. Marine remains buried in an Iwo cemetery. Genaust's body was never recovered, at first for fear of unexploded material in the area, later because Hill 862's location could not be confirmed. Search parties over the years explored hills in the area but 862's precise location was lost.

To this day Genaust rests in a hidden tomb on Iwo Jima. He never saw his celebrated film.

A news staff, a reunion, a half century



At the Florida reunion: Seated, L/R: Susan Carelli, Marion Merzer, Larry Hobbs, Reid Miller, Pauline Jelinek, Kathy Martin. Standing, L/R: Dick Carelli, Ken Gepfert, John Mueller, John Dorschner, Nick Tatro, David Powell, Lorraine Cichowski, Marty Merzer, Brent Kallestad, Johnsie Sandlin, Bill Kaczor, Dan Sewell, Liz Warriner, John Hopkins, Marty Crutsinger. Not shown: Phil

Sandlin.

Marty Merzer ([Email](#)) - At its best, the staff of a newsroom - in particular, the staff of a small-to-medium AP bureau - can be viewed as something of a family.

We combine to accomplish common goals. We like most of our partners. We endeavor to tolerate the rest.

Each day is sort of like Thanksgiving, except with cheap pizza instead of roasted turkey.

Around 50 years ago, plus or minus a decade or so, the staff of AP's Miami and other Florida bureaus forged family-like links that never dissolved - that, instead, strengthened and remain sturdy to this day.

These bureaus were staffed and managed by Chief of Bureau Reid G. Miller, one of the most widely acclaimed and lionized writers, editors and managers in the 174-year history of the Associated Press.



From left: Larry Hobbs, Reid Miller, Pauline Jelinek, Kathy Martin

And so, this past Saturday, 16 veterans of the AP's Miami bureau and its Florida branches, some accompanied by spouses or significant others (but not, to our knowledge, both), met in Winter Park, near Orlando. It was our second reunion in the last five years and, possibly, our last.

All of these AP staffers worked in Miami or elsewhere in Florida during the 1970s or a few years on either side of that decade. And here we were again.

We hugged, drank, ate, reminisced about adventures large and small and occasionally true, drank, told some great stories, hugged a bit more and also drank.

among us that persists to this day, and we owed to Reid much of whatever success we had achieved.

And, repeatedly and with great emotion, we expressed gratitude to our patriarch, our leader, our creator - COB Reid Miller. He somehow established an esprit de corps

Serving as chief of the Miami bureau from 1971 until 1977, when he was promoted to assistant chief of the Washington, D.C., bureau (later serving - and being shot at

or bombed - in African and Latin American hotspots) Reid sculpted a Florida staff widely viewed as one of AP's most talented and most aggressive.

It also very likely was viewed as AP's most whiny when the doubters on the General Desk failed to properly appreciate Miami's obviously worthy A-wire digest budget offerings.

In fact, for a time, Miami and Detroit engaged in a monthly competition - well, war - to score the most A-wire budgets. Miami usually won, though I don't recall ever seeing any of the liquid trophies that, now that I think of it, probably served as the main component of Reid's "lunches."

Anyway, it was a helluva staff, one that was infused with Reid's work ethic, that was informed by his talent (he was a terrific writer and editor) and that was kept in line through post-"lunch" wet-willies (look it up).

Also effective were his repeated threats to transfer dunderheaded staffers (including, on a weekly basis, me) from the warmth of Miami to, I'm not making this up, Fargo, N.D.

In addition, Reid, now 85, was, and remains, something of a lovable scoundrel. At one point Saturday, he pointed to my wife and asked, "Would you mind if we ran away together?" My response, "First of all, I don't see you running anywhere. I'm pretty sure I could catch you."

Now, back to the past. Virtually always under crushing deadline pressure (God forbid that UPI should beat us on anything - there would be hell to pay), we did good work. Really good work. Memorably good work.

You can see these genuine though mostly unheralded journalistic stars identified in the group photo caption.

There were many more, and - point of personal privilege here - they meant the world to me.

I've said this before and I'll say it again:

I was as green as a palm frond when Reid, for no perceptible reason, hired me in July 1973. I was just awful. Consistently, reliably awful. Every story, every day. And, back then, we might write 10, 15 or more stories of varying lengths every day.

It was Reid and news editor Ann Hellmuth and day/night editors Larry Hobbs and Ike Flores and everyone else in that bureau who nudged and pushed and slapped me into shape. They taught me quite literally everything I might know about newswriting and, more importantly, about conducting myself as a newsman.

Through those efforts, Reid and the rest of them, all of them, not only changed my life - they created the lives that I and my wife and daughter and grandchildren have experienced. Without Reid and the rest of them, it simply would not have happened.

It was an honor to be considered a colleague of these people - and it remains so today and forever.

We had a helluva fine bureau.

We had a helluva fine reunion Saturday.

It was and remains a helluva fine group of people.

On the 40th anniversary of The Miracle on Ice

Hal Bock ([Email](#)) - I was privileged to cover the whole spectrum of major sports events in my career at The Associated Press from 30 World Series, 30 Super Bowls, 11 Olympics countless Final Fours and Stanley Cups championships, championship fights, Triple Crown races, Indy 500, Masters golf and on and on and on.

Nothing, however, touched me more or stayed with me longer than the 1980 Miracle on Ice when a team of college kids and minor leaguers won the Olympic hockey gold medal, defeating a world champion Soviet Union team in the semifinals. As I think about it 40 years later, I can still feel the excitement of that night, the lesson that team taught the world about believing in yourself and beating the odds.

I remember the game and the night like it happened yesterday. I remember the joy those players exhibited and how it spilled over into the streets of Lake Placid. I can't tell you much about the last World Series or Super Bowl I covered. But I can tell you about that hockey game.

I talked with Mike Eruzione, who scored the go-ahead goal with 10 minutes to play and he told me that those last 10 minutes were the longest of his life, watching the clock wind down. The writers and broadcasters in the press box that night felt the same way.

We were amazed at what was happening in front of us but your professionalism kicks in. Tell the story. Tell it fast and tell it accurately. That is the AP mantra. But boy, what a story was. I'll never forget it.

Dave Lubeski (Email) - I'm fortunate to have witnessed in person some sports history during my time with AP Radio. When I'm asked what was #1 on my list, I don't have to hesitate. I had a ringside seat in the Lake Placid Field House 40 years ago for the Miracle on Ice.



Part of the AP Radio reporting team - L to R: Jack Doniger, Dave Lubeski, Jack Briggs, Shelby Whitfield.

The late Jake Doniger had the assignment for radio. Before joining AP, Jake's long radio career included time as the color announcer for the Washington Capitals. For this game he was tasked with filing in-game reports. I went along for the ride. I wasn't even sure I'd stay for the entire game. Fresh in everyone's mind was the last pre-Olympic exhibition game in Madison Square Garden where the Russians beat the American kids 10 to 3.

This was the rematch only a few days later. The noise level was so intense that I wore headphones to get cues from the studio in the Main Press Center. I'd tap Jack on the shoulder when I got the signal in my ear so he'd know when to start talking. Towards the end of the game I couldn't hear him as he shouted reports into the microphone even though I was sitting right next to him.

As the game ended, I stood in my seat describing the celebration on the ice into my tape recorder. I wasn't sure if my voice was making it onto the tape. I couldn't even hear myself talking.

The biggest moment in my reporting career - and it wasn't even my assignment.

(photo caption: Part of the AP Radio reporting team - L to R: Jack Doniger, Dave Lubeski, Jack Briggs, Shelby Whitfield)

Great photo moments

Warren Lerude ([Email](#)) - The Pulitzer Prize in Journalism Jury for Photography was meeting on a cold winter day in 1973 at Columbia University. Photographs were stacked by the dozens on a table. We, dutifully, began looking them over. And then one of the five jurors said something like, well, you guys, look at this, pulling from the stack the shockingly dramatic photo taken by 24-year-old Huynh Cong Ut, better known as Nick Ut, of the AP. It was the graphic image of nine-year-old Phan Thi Kim Phuc running down a road in Vietnam. She was screaming. Her clothes were blown from her body, burned by the napalm bombing.

The photograph showed her anguish, her crying eyes, her arms limply outstretched. A young boy, screaming in pain, was slightly ahead of her, a young girl holding the hand of a young boy slightly behind, armed soldiers behind them, all running. The jurors considered all the photos. But there was really only one in the unanimous recommendation to the Pulitzer Prize Board by Jury Chairman John Hughes, Christian Science Monitor; John Emmerich Jr., Houston Chronicle; Alan Moyer, Wichita Eagle-Beacon; Waldo Proffitt Jr., Sarasota Herald-Tribune, and myself, Reno Evening Gazette and Nevada State Journal.

Best of the Week

AP team follows African migrants risking all to reach Saudi Arabia



AP Photo/Nariman El-Mofty

The AP took powerful, intimate reporting on the dangerous journey of Ethiopian migrants - crossing the sea to Yemen and then making their way to Saudi Arabia - and giving the package even more impact with stunning visual storytelling.

After Maggie Michael, Nariman El-Mofty and Maad al-Zekri followed Ethiopian migrants across Djibouti and Yemen, they spun an all-formats tale that hooked readers from the very start, weaving together the differing fates of two migrants - one who succeeded in his long walk to Saudi Arabia, the other who failed, left stranded and hopeless along the way.

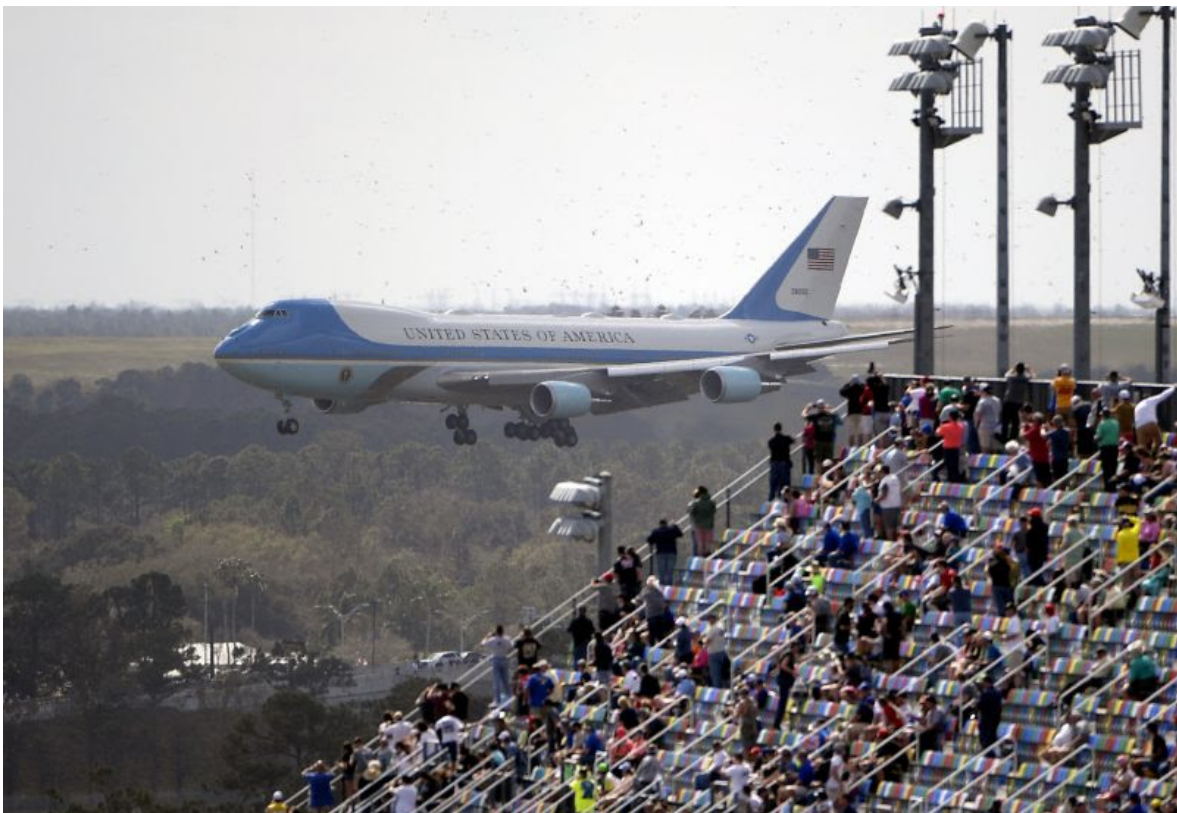
Read more [here](#).

Best of the States

AP crew expertly covers a wild and constantly shifting Daytona 500



The car of Ryan Newman (6) goes airborne after a violent collision with Corey LaJoie (32) on the final lap of the NASCAR Daytona 500 auto race at Daytona International Speedway in Florida, Feb. 17, 2020. Newman was hospitalized for two days before being released. AP PHOTO / CHRIS O'MEARA



AP Photo/Phelen M. Ebenhack

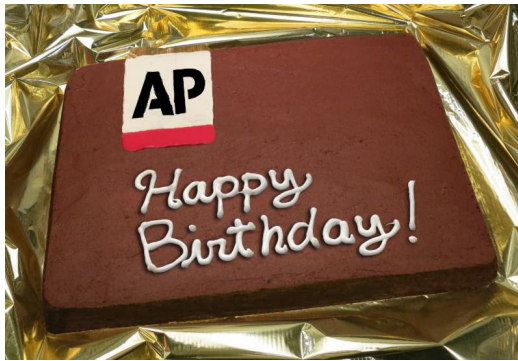
The text team of Jenna Fryer, Dan Gelston and Mark Long, as well as photographers John Raoux, Chris O'Meara and several freelancers, dominated coverage of the Daytona 500, which turned into a chaotic event as President Donald

Trump decided to attend, the race was postponed by rain, and driver Ryan Newman had a horrifying accident on the decisive last lap.

The Daytona 500 is a massive, annual sporting event that is part of the American fabric. The event stretches nearly two weeks and story planning begins a month in advance. This year, the team of Jenna Fryer, Dan Gelston, Mark Long and photographers John Raoux and Chris O'Meara, who co-managed a talented team of several freelance photographers, was thrown a curve when President Donald Trump decided he'd be the second sitting president in history to attend the race.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Phil Dopoulos - pdopoulos@gmail.com

Stories of interest

An absolute treasure': Album of Iwo Jima photos shows work of famed photographer Rosenthal

(Columbia Daily Tribune)



Photo/Don Shrubshell, Columbia Daily Tribune

By RUDI KELLER

On the morning of Feb. 23, 1945, Col. Chandler Thompson ordered a 40-man patrol of Marines from the 28th Regiment to climb to the top of Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima and raise a U.S. flag so observers could see if they made it.

The Marines, with 70,000 troops, had invaded the volcanic island, defended by approximately 21,000 Japanese, four days earlier. The dormant volcano towered above the landscape of the 8-square-mile island, rising nearly 550 feet above sea level.

They made it. Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal, who had been observing the battle offshore, came on the island with Gen. Holland "Howlin Mad" Smith and, seeing the flag, asked for it as a souvenir. Chandler, who believed the flag was rightfully owned by his 2nd Battalion, sent a messenger with a larger flag to replace it.

Attached to a heavy water pipe, the second flag, with six Marines working to raise it, went up. Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal, who was piling rocks to get a better angle, swung his Graflex Speed Graphic camera into position and snapped a photo.

He would later write that he had no idea if he had a usable image.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Brent Stewart, Scott Charton.

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These Students Are Learning About Fake News and How to Spot It (New York Times)



Raheem Waris, right, in an eighth-grade news literacy class at I.S. 303 in Coney Island. Fourteen states require media literacy education in elementary and secondary schools. Photo/Julia Gillard for The New York Times

By Alina Tugend

This article is part of our latest Learning special report. We're focusing on Generation Z, which is facing challenges from changing curriculums and new technology to financial aid gaps and homelessness.

The students sit at desks in groups of four, watching videos about the recent bush fires in Australia. One shows an apocalyptic landscape in flames, the other a tourist paradise, with assurances that much of the continent is safe.

Instead of dismissing both as fake news, the eighth graders know what questions to ask to tease out the nuances: Who put out the videos? What does each source have to gain? How big is Australia? Could both videos be true?

It is no wonder these students at Herbert S. Eisenberg Intermediate School 303 in the Coney Island neighborhood of Brooklyn approach their task with such sophistication. They have been studying news literacy since sixth grade in one of the only schools in the country to make the subject part of an English language arts curriculum that all students must take for an hour a week for three years.

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

Today in History - Feb. 24, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Feb. 24, the 55th day of 2020. There are 311 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 24, 1989, a state funeral was held in Japan for Emperor Hirohito, who had died the month before at age 87.

On this date:

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued an edict outlining his calendar reforms. (The Gregorian Calendar is the calendar in general use today.)

In 1761, Boston lawyer James Otis Jr. went to court to argue against "writs of assistance" that allowed British customs officers to arbitrarily search people's premises, declaring: "A man's house is his castle." (Although Otis lost the case, his statement provided early inspiration for American independence.)

In 1803, in its *Marbury v. Madison* decision, the Supreme Court established judicial review of the constitutionality of statutes.

In 1864, the first Union prisoners arrived at the Confederates' Andersonville prison camp in Georgia.

In 1868, the U.S. House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson by a vote of 126-47 following his attempted dismissal of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; Johnson was later acquitted by the Senate.

In 1942, the SS *Struma*, a charter ship attempting to carry nearly 800 Jewish refugees from Romania to British-mandated Palestine, was torpedoed by a Soviet submarine in the Black Sea; all but one of the refugees perished.

In 1961, the Federal Communications Commission authorized the nation's first full-scale trial of pay television in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1981, a jury in White Plains, New York, found Jean Harris guilty of second-degree murder in the fatal shooting of "Scarsdale Diet" author Dr. Herman Tarnower. (Sentenced to 15 years to life in prison, Harris was granted clemency by New York Gov. Mario Cuomo in December 1992.)

In 1988, in a ruling that expanded legal protections for parody and satire, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned a \$150,000 award that the Rev. Jerry Falwell had won against *Hustler* magazine and its publisher, Larry Flynt.

In 1994, entertainer Dinah Shore died in Beverly Hills, California, five days before turning 78.

In 1996, Cuba downed two small American planes operated by the group Brothers to the Rescue that it claimed were violating Cuban airspace; all four pilots were killed.

In 2008, Cuba's parliament named Raul Castro president, ending nearly 50 years of rule by his brother Fidel.

Ten years ago: Testifying before Congress, Toyota CEO Akio Toyoda apologized personally and repeatedly to the United States and millions of American Toyota owners for safety lapses that had led to deaths and widespread recalls. Trainer Dawn Brancheau was dragged to her death by a killer whale, Tilikum, at SeaWorld in Orlando, Florida.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama, defying a Republican-led Congress, rejected a bill to approve construction of the Keystone XL oil pipeline. The Justice Department announced that George Zimmerman, the former neighborhood watch volunteer who fatally shot Trayvon Martin in a 2012 confrontation, would not face federal charges. A Texas jury rejected the insanity defense of Eddie Ray Routh, convicting him of murdering famed "American Sniper" author Chris Kyle and Chad Littlefield. A Metrolink passenger train collided with a truck at a crossing in Oxnard, California, killing the engineer and injuring 29 other people. Alaska became the third U.S. state to legalize the recreational use of marijuana.

One year ago: The segregation-era road-trip drama "Green Book" was crowned best picture at the 91st Academy Awards; top acting honors went to Rami Malek for "Bohemian Rhapsody" and Olivia Colman for "The Favourite." Pope Francis closed a summit on preventing clergy abuse by vowing to confront abusers, end the cover-ups by their superiors and prioritize the victims; survivors of abuse by priests were disappointed by his failure to offer a concrete action plan.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-singer Dominic Chianese (kee-uh-NAY'-see) is 89. Opera singer-director Renata Scotto is 86. Singer Joanie Sommers is 79. Actress Jenny O'Hara is 78. Former Sen. Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn., is 78. Actor Barry Bostwick is 75. Actor Edward James Olmos is 73. Singer-writer-producer Rupert Holmes is 73. Rock singer-musician George Thorogood is 70. Actress Debra Jo Rupp is 69. Actress Helen Shaver is 69. News anchor Paula Zahn is 64. Baseball Hall of Famer Eddie Murray is 64. Country singer Sammy Kershaw is 62. Actor Mark Moses is 62. Actress Beth Broderick is 61. Actor Emilio Rivera is 59. Singer Michelle Shocked is 58. Movie director Todd Field is 56. Actor Billy Zane is 54. Actress Bonnie Somerville is 46. Jazz musician Jimmy Greene is 45. Former boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brandon Brown (Mista) is 37. Rock musician Matt McGinley (Gym Class Heroes) is 37. Actor Wilson Bethel is 36. Actor Alexander Koch is 32. Actor Daniel Kaluuya (Film: "Get Out") is 31. Rapper-actor O'Shea Jackson Jr. is 29.

Thought for Today: "It is my feeling that Time ripens all things; with Time all things are revealed; Time is the father of truth." [-] Francois Rabelais, 16th century French writer and physician.

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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