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Connecting March 23, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this the 23rd day of March 2020,

With sadness, I bring you news of the death of our colleague **Paul Shane** – who touched many of us so positively in his 36-year career with The Associated Press and who in retirement served us well as the volunteer archivist of our Connecting newsletter for the past seven years.

Paul died last Thursday, March 18, at a Pennsylvania hospital after a brief battle with kidney cancer. He was 79. (His family said his death had no connection to coronavirus.) He was a personal friend for more than 30 years and it was a delight to hook up with him in person at last year's 25-Year Club celebration in New York.

We lead today's issue with the story of Paul and his career, helped greatly by a Connecting Profile he

wrote. (The date was Aug. 13, 2018, if you want to look it up in the Connecting Archive he maintained.) Knowing his health was deteriorating, he passed on those Connecting Archive duties in the past couple months to our colleague **Jo Steck** – who, in common with Paul, was stricken with cancer and also has a love of dogs.



“I’m so heart-broken,” Jo said. “He was so hoping to make your 80-Year-Old list (Paul would have turned 80 on May 26). We joked about meeting in person to go over his duties – he offered to drive to me in his new Tesla, until I told him I was in Scottsdale! He told me his girls might think that would be a bit too far from Whitehall. I want to thank you for reintroducing us. He made this past month a little richer and so much brighter.”

Paul’s desire was that there be no funeral service. His ashes will be sprinkled into the Delaware River in the Poconos near Portland, Pa., the same place where the ashes of his beloved wife Karen – who died last September – were sprinkled. (They are pictured above.)

If you would like to send a note to his family, you can email daughter **Juleen** at juleenshane@gmail.com or you can mail a card to his family: Shane Family, 1220 N. 13th St., Whitehall, PA 18052. Memorials can be made in Paul's name to the **Kidney Cancer Association** or the **Alzheimer's Association** .

If you have a favorite memory to share of Paul, please send it along to share with your colleagues.

Thanks to colleagues (and active-duty AP journalists) **Noreen Gillespie** and **Ted Anthony** for their contributions to today’s issue on matters relating to the coronavirus pandemic. We also bring you more images of your early press passes. We’re in the market for your own stories on coronavirus and how it impacts your life. And I find the press passes sent in to be fascinating. So more of both this week, please.

The Kansas City metro goes under stringent stay-at-home orders on Tuesday – nothing new to Linda and me as we’ve been doing just that. Be safe and be healthy.

Paul

Paul Shane, who touched many during and after his 36 years with

AP, dies at 79



Paul Shane with 3D printer he built.

Paul J. Shane, whose 36-year career with The Associated Press began as a photographer and evolved into helping transition the AP to computers and an email system, has died at the age of 79.

Shane passed away March 18 at St. Luke's University Hospital in Bethlehem, Pa., after a brief battle with kidney cancer, according to one of his daughters, Juleen Shane. In accordance with his wishes, no services are planned. His wife Karen died last September.

For the past seven years, Shane maintained the archives of the AP Connecting newsletter that is distributed to about 1,500.

Shane grew up the oldest of 13 children on a farm near Peoria, Ill., and got interested in photography through a roommate at the University of Illinois, with whom he teamed to take pictures at fraternity dances and other social functions.

Returning from the university at the end of a school year, he came by a spectacular multi-car accident, took pictures and offered them to the managing editor of the Kewanee (Ill.) Star-Courier, bought his photos and then offered him an \$85 a week writer-photographer job. He took the job and later moved to a staff photographer position at a sister Lee Enterprises newspaper, The La Crosse (Wis.) Tribune.

During the 1965 Mississippi River floods, Shane took photos for the Tribune but also offered them to the AP. As the crest neared, the Milwaukee bureau sent staff photographer Charlie Kelly to the scene and the two teamed up to cover flood events. When Kelly left Milwaukee to join the Atlanta bureau, at the time the Braves moved from Milwaukee to Atlanta, Milwaukee CoB Dion Henderson hired Shane into the AP, in 1966.



"I got my dream job as an AP staff photographer in 1966," Shane said in a Connecting profile in 2018, "and worked out of the Milwaukee bureau for some 13 years covering good stories such as the Green Bay Packers glory years with Vince Lombardi, the Father Groppi open housing protests, Martin Luther King march in Cicero, Ill., and the 1968 National Democratic Convention in Chicago. I'll never forget my first time in the Packers dressing room and having to ask Bart Starr who Jimmy Taylor and Paul Hornung were."

Shane transferred to the Philadelphia bureau in 1976 to be Pennsylvania's Newsphoto editor. In 1980, he transferred to AP's New York headquarters to head up the darkroom department. He commuted 2.5 hours each way to his job in New York from their home in Stroudsburg, Pa.



A 1987 training session by Paul Shane (standing) with Anchorage CoB Dean Fosdick (left) and Phoenix CoB Gavin Scott.

In 1984, as personal computers were becoming more popular, Shane bought a PC and self-trained on it. He moved from the darkroom into the MIS department to help with training of New York administrative staff on newly purchased PCs and then provided that training to AP chiefs of bureau. In the ensuing years, he helped with the introduction of the AP email system within the Communications Department and then returned to MIS for the rollout of the SAP accounting system.

After retirement from the AP in 2002, he and his wife Karen moved from Pennsylvania to Hilton Head, S.C., where they played golf, took square dance lessons, socialized with friends, and traveled. He also found time to start his own business repairing computers. They moved back to Pennsylvania, to Whitehall, a suburb of Allentown, in 2016 to be closer to their daughters. As

Karen's health deteriorated, he cared for her at home until she died in September 2019.

After Karen's death, Paul stayed active learning how to use a 3-D printer, computing and driving his new Tesla and caring for their two beloved poodles.

Shane is survived by their five children: LaVonne in Downingtown, Pa.; Suzanne, Allentown, Pa.; Joseph, Hilton Head, S.C.; Cathleen, Scotch Plains, N.J., and Juleen, Myrtle Beach, S.C.; 13 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

A brief pause for AP virtual cheers heard all around the world



Screenshot moment of toast. Courtesy/Stephanie Mullen, deputy director of storytelling and photography for U.S. West region.

Noreen Gillespie ([Email](#)) – *deputy managing editor for U.S. News* - We held AP virtual cheers around the world Friday, to celebrate the exemplary work we've done in telling the story of the coronavirus pandemic, but also to give everyone a moment to breathe.

Europe/Africa News Director **Anna Johnson** convened one in Europe first to celebrate the Italy team's win in Best of the Week. Anna, (Executive Editor) Sally Buzbee and (deputy news editor for Europe) James Jordan all congratulated the collective coverage, as staff — and some of their families — joined in from homes around the globe. Anna noted that the virtual toasts “with our team in Europe and Africa (was a way) to say thank you for their hard work and dedication and for the amazing journalism they were doing on such an important and challenging story. We said a special ‘salute’ and ‘grazie’ to our team in Italy who have done fantastic and inspiring work and shown the rest of the AP how to cover this story.”

We followed up at 5:30 ET in the US. I gave the West Coast special dispensation to have a sip at 2:30 local time due to the gravity of the story. In the invite, I shared that I wanted us to mark the moment we were in.

All:

We're all feeling inspired, overwhelmed, even scared, and yet have a sense of journalistic mission and purpose perhaps like never before. Whatever you're feeling, let's come together at 5:30 p ET in the U.S. to pause, and raise a glass of water, coffee, tea or something stronger, to marvel at the power of AP teamwork.

Hopefully we don't break Zoom – but if we do, we have a plan for that! Raise your glass anyway, take a moment to exhale, and send an AP colleague you admire a compliment for their heroic work.

See you at 5:30.

Both of the toasts were really touching. I had people share that they saw faces they had not seen in years. And there are proposals afoot to make this a regular event as we go forward on this story.

We've all felt the enormity of what we are doing, professionally and personally. Our journalists are showing courage daily in the field and in their homes. But the resilience, teamwork and dedication the AP has shown over the course of this coverage, going back to when it began in Asia, is truly inspiring. We are up against the unknown. But the globe is better off because this team is the one telling that story.

The AP alumni force is invited to toast in support — but also, reach out to a journalist whose work you are admiring right now. Hearing your support matters — and it does keep us going!

Taking stock of strange days: The week that America changed



FILE - In this March 20, 2020 file photo, Carlos Vasquez, left, and his nephew R.J. Vasquez, wait for customers at their family's barber shop in Houston. Reaction to the coronavirus, change came to the United States during the third week of March in 2020. It did not come immediately, though it came quite quickly. There was no explosion, no invasion other than a microscopic one that nobody could see. (AP Photo/David J. Phillip, File)

By TED ANTHONY

Change came to the United States of America during the third week of March in 2020.

It did not come all at once, though it came quite rapidly. As had happened in other lands, there was no explosion, no invasion other than a microscopic one that nobody could see. There was no fire, no flood, no famine. There were no barbarians at the gates.

Change came quietly in most towns and cities, because the change was one of withdrawal, a shutting of municipal and regional and national doors.

The weather was the same weather. The streets were the same streets. The emptiness fell bit by bit, piece by piece, until the most crowded of places became some of the most ghostly.

Some stopped going out in the evening. Then in the afternoon. Then all day. Some stopped getting haircuts, and some stopped cutting hair. Some stopped

going out to eat, and some restaurants shut their doors except for takeout and delivery.

Some, many, most stopped going to school. Home became the primary landscape. Those who worked outside the home became those who work in the home, or became those who did not work at all.

Read more [here](#) .

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Connecting asked Ted Anthony for a rundown on the Anthony Household in the midst of coronavirus and he obliged well with the following.)

'Are we in hell?'



Ted Anthony ([Email](#)) - One night last week, a few days after we confined our two teenage boys to the house, I heard something curious from the other room. My 13-year-old was talking to his 16-year-old brother, and four words reached my ears in my home office: "Are we in hell?" the younger one asked the older one.

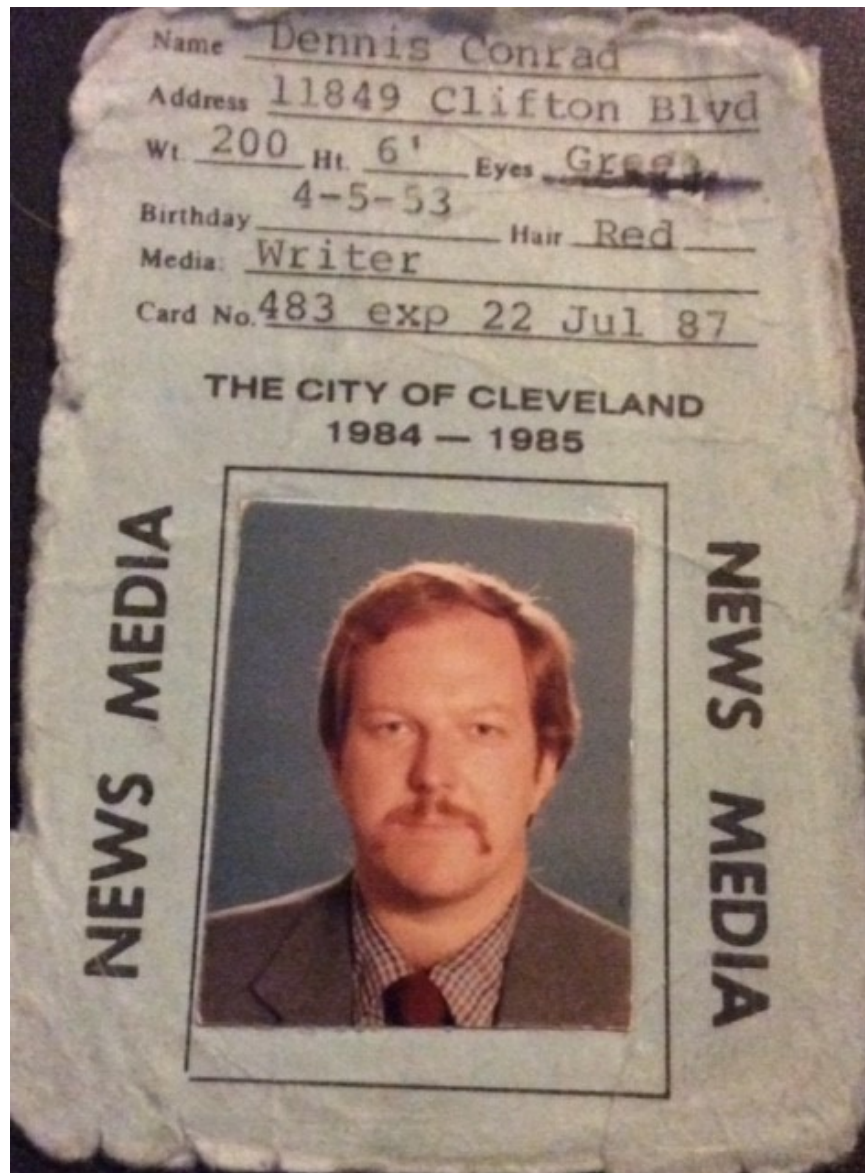
Hearing this, I am deeply troubled – concerned, of course, about their emotional well-being and general state of mind. So I walk into the other room, preparing for what I hope can be some proactive fathering. When I get there, I

realize: They are on Xbox, playing “Doom” – and “Are we in hell?” is not an existential question but an operational one.

But I do wonder: At what point does it all tip? At what point do my sons – intrepid world travelers who see the planet as accessible to them – start feeling like they are in, if not hell, at least purgatory? And then I think: We live in this wonderful, cross-generational house full of books and art and memories, and perhaps they will turn to some of those as they renegotiate their relationships with space in the coming days and weeks. Maybe they will find ways to mitigate not being with their friends in person. They are, for the moment, healthy and safe and protected, unlike so many. Maybe they will be stronger and more resilient on the other end of this chapter. Maybe this will all turn out OK.

“Maybe.” That might be the most valuable word we have these days. Right?

Your first press pass (continued)



Dennis Conrad ([Email](#)) - Here is mine from when I started as an AP newsman in the Cleveland bureau in 1985 after nine years with Florida

newspapers. AP photographer Mark Duncan took my photo. I later worked at the Illinois Statehouse and DC before retiring from AP in 2013.



Dan Day ([Email](#)) - The oldest press ID badge I can find is this one from The Seattle Times, circa 1990. The Seattle AP bureau took up the first floor of a separate building next to the main Times building. After some security scare that has slipped from memory, everyone had to start showing badges to guards to get into the main building.

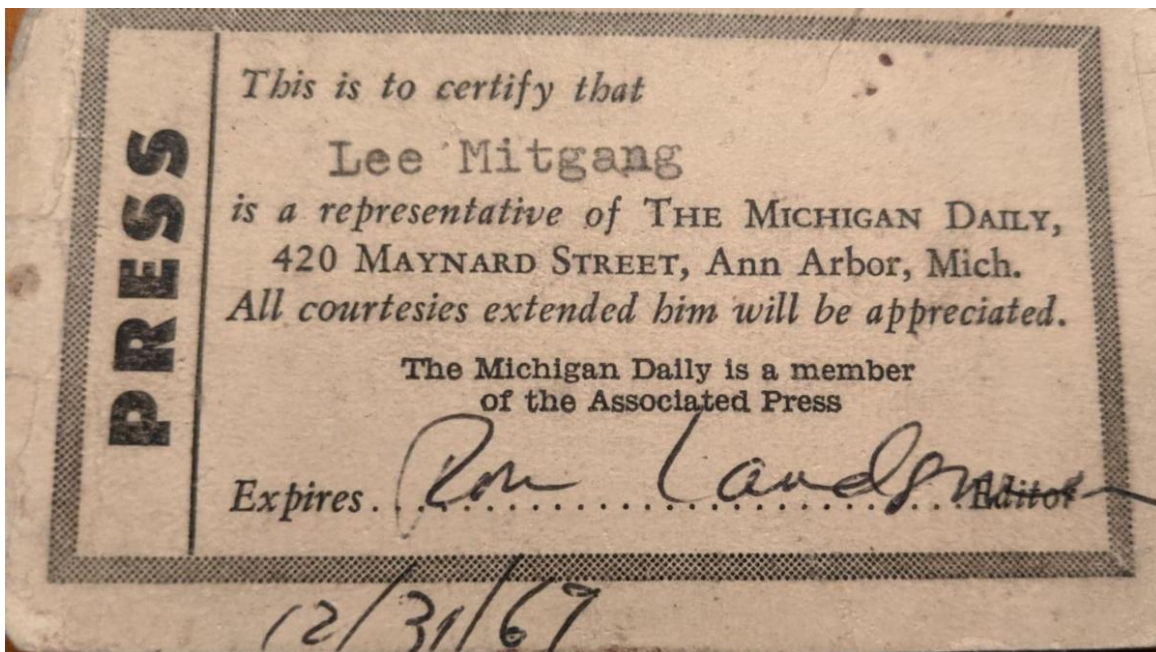


Ralph Gage ([Email](#)) - This press card dates from around 1969.





Joe Galloway (Email) - Attached are my first US and South Vietnamese press cards upon arrival in Vietnam in April 1965. I was sporting a pencil thin mustache that did not survive very long at all.



Lee Mitgang (Email) - Definitely my first press pass, with the Michigan Daily in 1969 -- then and now one of the great college papers. Looking at it today for the first time in decades, I love that it says in fine print that it's a member of the AP. Besides the serious newsgathering, one of the big appeals for us fledglings was the nickel-a-bottle coke machine. There's an added poignancy: with the closure in 2019 of the Ann Arbor News, the Daily is, I believe, the only remaining local print paper covering this sizable city of 102,000.

The News American

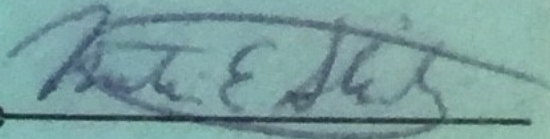


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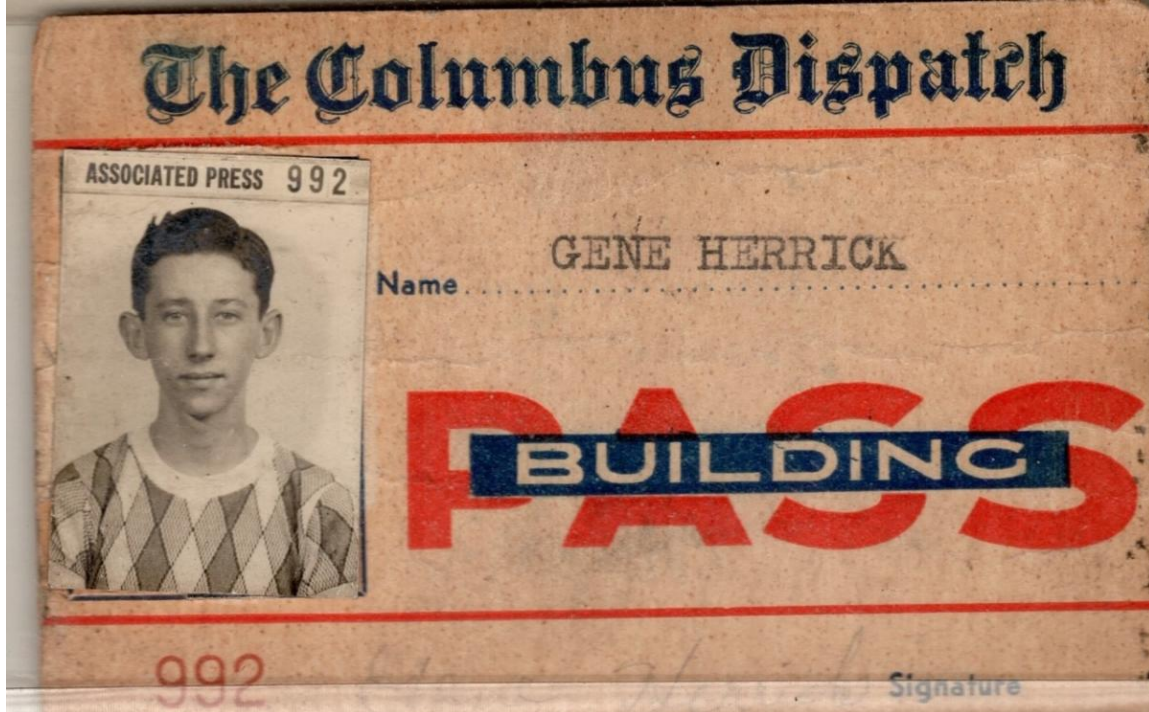
EMPLOYEE NO. 201-8730

MARTIN E. STEINBERG

Signature



Marty Steinberg ([Email](#)) - After working as an editorial assistant at The Philadelphia Inquirer from 1976-'79, I finally got a full-time job as a reporter, at the Baltimore News American in 1979, which is when this card was issued. I was at the Hearst newspaper for 2 1/2 years, then applied at the AP and was hired by Baltimore COB John Woodfield in 1979. It was my second attempt to work at AP. While at the Inquirer, I applied to the Philly bureau but was rejected for lack of full-time reporting experience.



Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - Here is my first press pass, to enter the Columbus Dispatch building in 1943. Ain't I cute, and young? That was 77 years ago.



John Wylie ([Email](#)) - My first press card with a photo was issued in 1974 when I joined the Kansas City Star for my first internship. Metro KC is 199 municipalities in 7 counties and two states, which gave the Metro Chiefs and Sheriff's Association perhaps its only smart idea--of issuing a unified ID card. They were made like iron--this survived the fire. I call this my dork period but Faith says it is the handsome guy she fell in love with three years earlier so I'll accept her description.

Connecting mailbox

A bright light in midst of pandemic



Bill Kole ([Email](#)) - AP New England news editor in a memo to staff: There's beauty and joy everywhere — even in the middle of a pandemic. Congrats, Jen and Sean, on the birth of your first child! She's gorgeous!

Jennifer Grogan McDermott ([Email](#)), a newswoman in the Providence bureau, delivered their first child, Cassandra Rose McDermott, a week ago Saturday, noting she arrived just in time for her to mark her first St. Patrick's Day. "We are all doing well, except for the pandemic of course, which forces us to keep visitors away," Jen wrote.

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And speaking of more beauty in our world



Photo by Kristine Beardsley.

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Sister of former AP Saigon secretary dies of coronavirus

Neal Ulevich ([Email](#)) - Tran Mong Chi, sister of Tran Mong Tu, office secretary in the old Saigon AP bureau, died March 16 of coronavirus. She was employed in a nursing home in Washington State and was 73 at the time of her passing. Her sister - Miss Tu, or Tu Tu as she was known to Saigon AP staffers - said in a brief message, "Thanks to concern about us. It is very hard time for our family because the thing happened too fast."

'We'll spend every minute we have as best we can'



Brian Horton ([Email](#)) - After a week in the hospital, Mar came home Thursday.

Normally a cause for celebration that she is back on track again, this instead was a transition as Mar begins hospice care as the result of the tumor in her left lung.

I got the news Tuesday in the car while headed home from running some errands. Dr. Davanzo, her lung doctor, called (his office is closed because of the virus, so he had to do it by phone) to tell me the results of the PET scan she had taken the previous week. The results were not good, he said, and he recommended hospice care.

He said that the size of the tumor, its location and the fact that it had spread into her bones and her lymph nodes made any treatment difficult, if not impossible. Surgery, chemotherapy or radiation would be so hard on her already frail body that it would do more harm than good with little hope for a positive outcome.

He said in cases like this the prognosis is for up to six months.

We'll spend every minute we have as best we can.

Read more [here](#) .

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Shopper lineup well handled by Walmart

Mark Mittelstadt ([Email](#)) - Shoppers lined up across the front of a large Walmart in suburban Tucson, Az., and into a side parking lot waiting for one side door to open at 7 am Sunday. This Walmart had been 24/7 until last Sunday when it reduced hours to 6 am-midnight in order to clean the store and re-stock. Last Thursday it reduced hours again to 7 am-8:30 pm, although on Tuesdays, seniors (ahem) can shop from 6-7 am. The store is limiting customers to one of the most in-demand items like toilet paper, paper towels, bottled water. The store manager came out about five minutes before opening and went up and down the line telling people the items they were out of and what they were short. Customers were well behaved and several of us thanked the workers for being there.

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The power of suggestion

Robert O'Meara ([Email](#)) - Kathy Curran's article about the polio scare of the early 1950s reminds me of the days working the AP desk in Milwaukee .We did a daily Undated Wisconsin Polio roundup based on the number of new cases around the state.

Burlington, not far from Milwaukee, was one of the polio hotspots. But a group of friends and I liked to meet there at a place called The Plush Horse.

It was the height of the polio season. Very hot outdoors and cold in that over-air conditioned bar and restaurant. Experts had warned against big changes in body temperature as that might weaken resistance to polio. My old friend Ed Clark was there. He loved practical jokes but also had a reputation as being medically knowledgeable, having edited a medical journal for a year before joining the AP in Milwaukee. He told us that an early indication of polio was a tingling in the back of the eyeball.

The power of suggestion:

As we sat there, thoroughly chilled, we began to acknowledge, one by one, there was some tingling deep in our eye sockets. That was enough. "Let's get out of here," we said and rushed out into that hot July night, never to return. The AP eventually transferred Clark to New York where he worked on the General Desk and covered City Hall for many years. Fortunately, none of us ever came down with polio.

Susie Blann named as AP news director for UK, Ireland

LONDON (AP) — Susie Blann, who has helped lead video coverage through Europe and Africa, has been named by The Associated Press as its United Kingdom and Ireland news director and special events editor.

The announcement was made Thursday by Anna Johnson, the AP's news director for Europe and Africa.

As news director, Blann will be responsible for driving the news report in the U.K. and Ireland across formats including video, text and photos. Blann also will play a lead role in organizing the AP's coverage of major news events both in the U.K. and beyond.



Read more [here](#) .

Best of the Week **Italy teams lead the way on coronavirus coverage despite major obstacles**



AP Photo/Luca Bruno

Operating in a country under lockdown, AP's team in Rome and Milan has overcome major challenges to produce outstanding journalism with multiple exclusives and beats across formats.

As sweeping restrictions and lockdown measures rolled out across the world in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, AP's team of staff and freelancers in Italy set an example for how to produce compelling and competitive journalism in all formats despite major challenges affecting them both professionally and personally, including school closures, travel restrictions and the risk of being placed in self-quarantine for covering stories in risk zones.

Three weeks into the Italian outbreak, AP produced some of the strongest coverage yet. Going back to where it all started, Milan correspondent Colleen Barry took the lead on a cross-format story showing how lockdown measures allowed the northern town of Codogno to greatly reduce the spread of the coronavirus, offering a glimmer of hope as infections soared in other parts of the country. The Wall Street Journal matched the story three days later.

Read more [here](#).

Best of the States

'He's an inmate': Anguish mounts over nursing home at center of virus



Scott Sedlacek becomes animated as he holds a picture of his father, Chuck, while talking to reporters outside Life Care Center in Kirkland, Wash., where Chuck Sedlacek is a patient, March 12, 2020. Scott Sedlacek said he and his siblings have barely spoken to their father, who in addition to testing positive for the coronavirus, has blindness, neuropathy and has difficulty using a phone, saying he is more of an

“inmate” than a patient. More than 30 coronavirus deaths have been linked to the long-term care facility. AP PHOTO / TED WARREN

Seattle photographer Ted Warren and reporter Gene Johnson gained the trust of family members at a Seattle-area nursing home where more than two dozen residents have died from COVID-19. The end result was a gripping story of the fear and isolation in the facility that underscored the devastation the virus can cause.

The Life Care Center in Kirkland, Washington, has emerged as the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States. At least 35 coronavirus deaths have been linked to the facility, and more than half of those inside have tested positive, leaving the remaining residents in a sort of purgatory that has anguished their relatives.

Warren’s efforts since the outbreak hit the Seattle area have been inexhaustible. He’s rushed from a government-run “quarantine hotel” to a drive-through testing facility and shot exclusive images of the first U.S. patients in a vaccine trial. In between, he’s made haunting images of empty bars, store shelves and Seattle landmarks like the Space Needle.

Read more [here](#) .

Stories of interest

'We were on borrowed time': coronavirus could strike final blow to local newspapers

(Guardian)

By Abené Clayton

Several local newspapers on the west coast announced this week that the coronavirus crisis is forcing them to suspend publication, perhaps indefinitely.

Jeff vonKanael, the president of the Sacramento, Chico and Reno News & Reviews, three small alternative weekly newspapers in California and Nevada, on Tuesday announced the economic impact of the corona pandemic “could be the end” for the organizations. Almost all of the staff will be temporarily laid off, and the print editions will cease to be published for now.

VonKanael said in a statement that the drastic move came because of a steep drop in ad revenue from local events and businesses, after many California cities closed “non-essential” businesses including movie theaters, concert venues and art galleries to curb the spread of the coronavirus. The Chico News & Review reported losing 50% of its ad revenue in less than a week.

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The media must stop live-broadcasting Trump's dangerous, destructive coronavirus briefings (Washington Post)

By Margaret Sullivan
Media columnist

More and more each day, President Trump is using his daily briefings as a substitute for the campaign rallies that have been forced into extinction by the spread of the novel coronavirus.

These White House sessions — ostensibly meant to give the public critical and truthful information about this frightening crisis — are in fact working against that end.

Rather, they have become a daily stage for Trump to play his greatest hits to captive audience members. They come in search of life-or-death information, but here's what they get from him instead:

- Self-aggrandizement. When asked how he would grade his response to the crisis, the president said, "I'd rate it a 10." Absurd on its face, of course, but effective enough as blatant propaganda

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

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AAP pauses plans for closure after 11th-hour bids to buy news wire service (Guardian)

Australian Associated Press has asked reporters scheduled to leave this month to stay on after several 11th hour bids were made to buy the business.

Chief executive Bruce Davidson told staff a number of unexpected offers to buy "the entire AAP operation, including the Newswire, Pagemasters and Medianet" was made and the shareholders believed it was worth investigating.

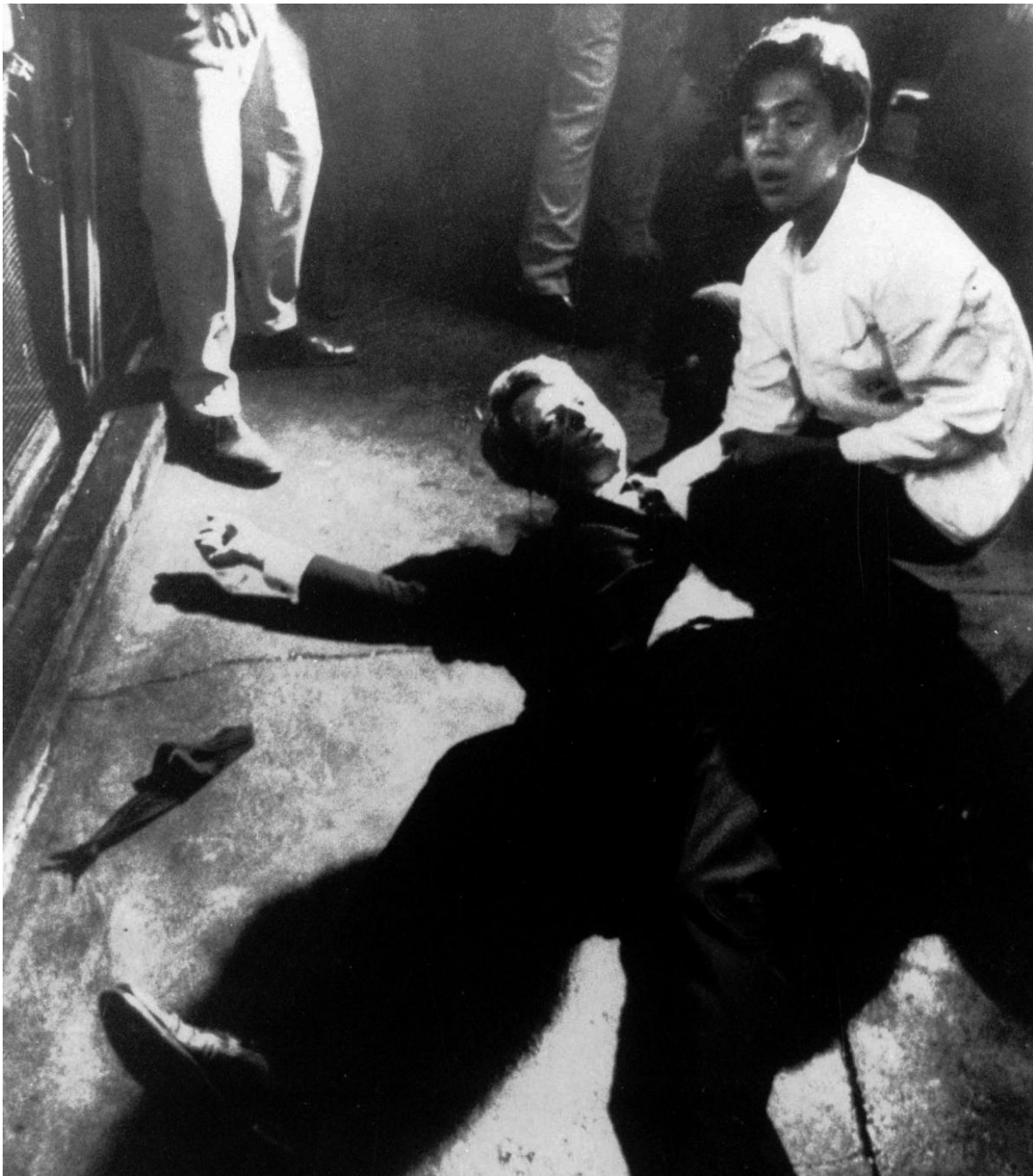
"This development was not expected by management, the AAP board or the AAP shareholders," Davidson said.

“AAP’s shareholders have now asked me to enter into discussions with the interested parties to determine if any of these approaches offer a credible and sustainable future for AAP.”

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Claude Erbsen.

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Boris Yaro, Whose Photo of an Assassination Endures, Dies at 81 (New York Times)



Boris Yaro’s iconic image of Robert F. Kennedy’s assassination. It is part of the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Getty Museum in Los Angeles. Credit...Boris Yaro/Los Angeles Times, via Associated Press

By Julia Carmel

Boris Yaro, a photographer for The Los Angeles Times, wasn't on assignment on June 5, 1968. But he decided to stop by the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles when he heard that Senator Robert F. Kennedy was about to give his victory speech in the hotel's ballroom after winning the California Democratic presidential primary.

As Kennedy finished speaking, Mr. Yaro retreated to a pantry area, expecting Kennedy to exit through it. He hoped he could snap a photograph or two for his wall at home. Then he heard gunfire — “firecrackerlike” explosions, he remembered.

“I stood frozen as the assailant emptied his weapon,” he recalled in an account published with a photojournalism exhibition at the Fahey/Klein Gallery in Los Angeles in 2018. “When he stopped, I heard a voice say, ‘Get him,’ and several men grabbed him and pushed him down on a metal countertop (or freezer top).

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Doug Pizac.

The Final Word

I Spent a Year in Space, and I Have Tips on Isolation to Share - Take it from someone who couldn't: Go outside. (New York Times)



Scott Kelly inside a Soyuz simulator at the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in Star City, Russia, in preparation for travel to the International Space Station. Photo: Bill Ingalls/NASA

By Scott Kelly

Mr. Kelly is a retired NASA astronaut who spent nearly a year on the International Space Station.

Being stuck at home can be challenging. When I lived on the International Space Station for nearly a year, it wasn't easy. When I went to sleep, I was at work. When I woke up, I was still at work. Flying in space is probably the only job you absolutely cannot quit.

But I learned some things during my time up there that I'd like to share — because they are about to come in handy again, as we all confine ourselves at home to help stop the spread of the coronavirus. Here are a few tips on living in isolation, from someone who has been there.

Follow a schedule

On the space station, my time was scheduled tightly, from the moment I woke up to when I went to sleep. Sometimes this involved a spacewalk that could last up to eight hours; other times, it involved a five-minute task, like checking on the experimental flowers I was growing in space. You will find maintaining a plan will help you and your family adjust to a different work and home life environment. When I returned to Earth, I missed the structure it provided and found it hard to live without.

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

Today in History – March 23, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, March 23, the 83rd day of 2020. There are 283 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 23, 1933, the German Reichstag adopted the Enabling Act, which effectively granted Adolf Hitler dictatorial powers.

On this date:

In 1775, Patrick Henry delivered an address to the Virginia Provincial Convention in which he is said to have declared, "Give me liberty, or give me death!"

In 1792, Joseph Haydn's Symphony No. 94 in G Major (the "Surprise" symphony) had its first public performance in London.

In 1806, explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, having reached the Pacific coast, began their journey back east.

In 1919, Benito Mussolini founded his Fascist political movement in Milan, Italy.

In 1942, the first Japanese-Americans evacuated by the U.S. Army during World War II arrived at the internment camp in Manzanar, California.

In 1956, Pakistan became an Islamic republic.

In 1965, America's first two-person space mission took place as Gemini 3 blasted off with astronauts Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom and John W. Young aboard for a nearly 5-hour flight.

In 1990, the romantic comedy "Pretty Woman," starring Richard Gere and Julia Roberts, was released by Buena Vista Pictures.

In 1993, scientists announced they'd found the renegade gene that causes Huntington's disease.

In 2003, during the Iraq War, a U.S. Army maintenance convoy was ambushed in Nasiriyah (nah-sih-REE'-uh); 11 soldiers were killed, including Pfc. Lori Ann Piestewa (py-ES'-tuh-wah); six were captured, including Pfc. Jessica Lynch, who was rescued on April 1, 2003.

In 2005, truck driver Tyrone Williams was convicted in federal court in Houston for his role in the 2003 deaths of 19 immigrants he was smuggling across Texas. (After initially receiving a life sentence, Williams was resentenced in Jan. 2011 to nearly 34 years in prison.)

In 2011, Academy Award-winning actress Elizabeth Taylor died in Los Angeles at age 79.

Ten years ago: Claiming a historic triumph, President Barack Obama signed a \$938 billion health care overhaul, declaring “a new season in America.” President Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met in an unusual pair of low-profile meetings at the White House amid a serious dispute about settlement construction. The National Football League changed its overtime rules for playoff games.

Five years ago: Sen. Ted Cruz launched his bid for the Republican presidential nomination at Liberty University, a Christian school in Lynchburg, Virginia, founded by the late Rev. Jerry Falwell. Lee Kuan Yew, the founder of modern Singapore who was feared for his authoritarian tactics and admired worldwide for turning the city-state into one of the world’s richest nations while in power for 31 years, died at age 91.

One year ago: U.S.-backed forces declared military victory over the Islamic State group in Syria after capturing the last pocket of territory that had been held by the militants. New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft issued an apology after being charged in a Florida massage parlor prostitution investigation. Rescue workers off Norway’s western coast evacuated 1,300 passengers and crew from a disabled cruise ship by helicopter, lifting them to safety one-by-one as waves tossed the ship from side to side.

Today’s Birthdays: Movie director Mark Rydell is 91. International Motorsports Hall of Famer Craig Breedlove is 83. Former Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is 68. Singer Chaka Khan is 67. Actress Amanda Plummer is 63. Actress Catherine Keener is 61. Actress Hope Davis is 56. Actor Richard Grieco is 55. Country musician Kevin Griffin (Yankee Grey) is 55. Actress Marin Hinkle is 54. Rock singer-musician Damon Albarn (Blur) is 52. Actor Kelly Perine is 51. Actress-singer Melissa Errico is 50. Rock musician John Humphrey (The Nixons) is 50. Bandleader Reggie Watts (TV: “The Late Late Show With James Corden”) is 48. Actor Randall Park is 46. Actress Michelle Monaghan is 44. Actress Keri Russell is 44. Actress Anastasia Griffith is 42. Gossip columnist-blogger Perez Hilton is 42. Actress Nicholle Tom is 42. Country singer Paul Martin (Marshall Dyllon) is 42. Country singer Brett Young is 39. Actor Nicolas Wright is 38. Actor Ben Rappaport is 34. NBA point guard Kyrie Irving is 28.

Thought for Today: “When people say, ‘She’s got everything,’ I’ve got one answer [–] I haven’t had tomorrow.” [–] Elizabeth Taylor (1932-2011).

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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