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Connecting June 24, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 24th day of June 2020,

Connecting brings sad news of the death of **Greg Katz**, AP's London correspondent and formerly acting chief of bureau in London, who died after contracting COVID-19.

"Greg had been ill and in the last few months had contracted COVID-19," said AP's President and CEO **Gary Pruitt** in a note to global staff Tuesday.

Katz came to the AP in 2008 from the Houston Chronicle's London office where he was bureau chief for Europe and the Middle East. In 2013 he was promoted to acting AP Bureau Chief for London.

"He did excellent work in that role, including leading AP's news coverage of Brexit and the election of Boris Johnson as prime minister," Pruitt said. "His death is a loss to the AP and a loss to journalism."

He is the third Associated Press journalist to die from COVID-19 – following the death last Saturday of **John Bompengo**, who covered Congo's political turmoil as a freelance photographer and video journalist for the AP, and of **Anick Jesdanun**, deputy technology editor, who died April 2.



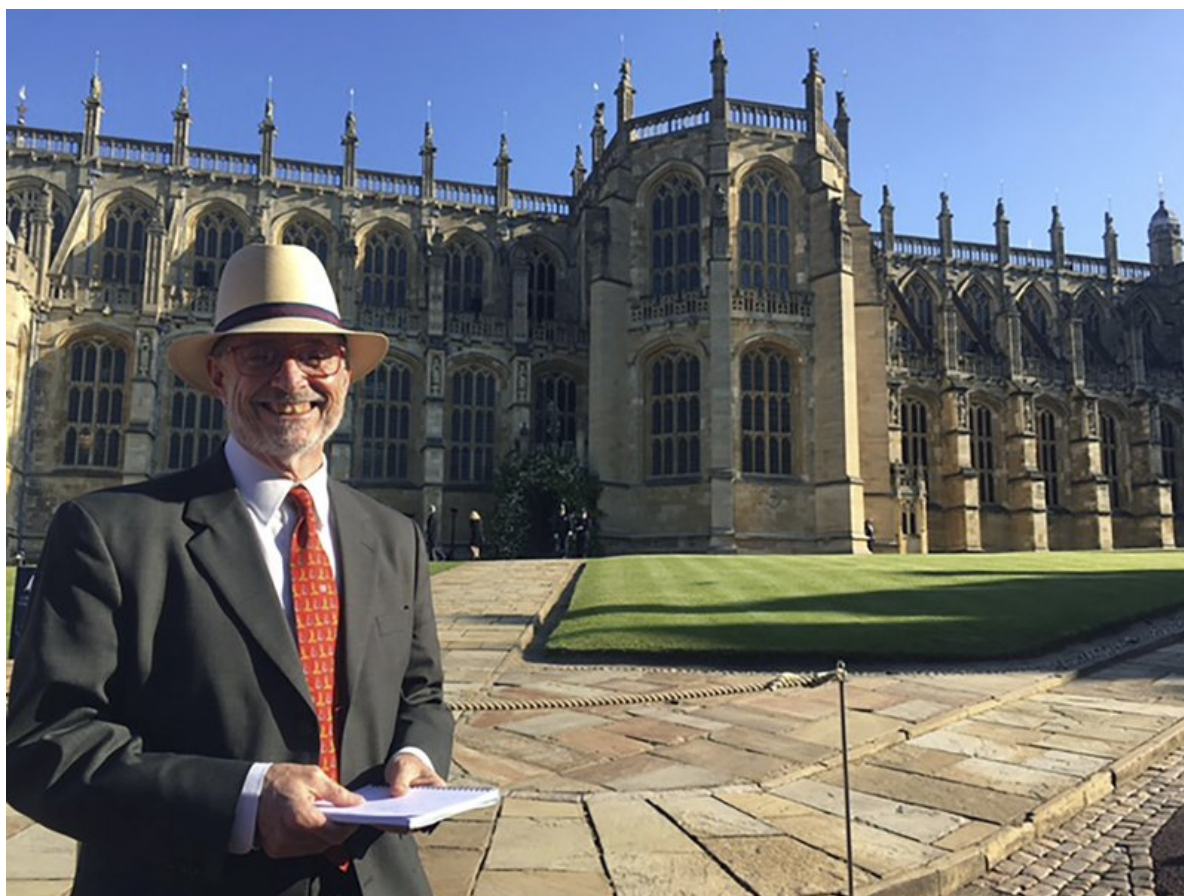
A GoFundMe fundraising drive has been established for the assistance of Bompengo's wife and nine children. Click [here](#).

"Even as this week has underscored the pandemic's dreadful course," Pruitt said, "my spirits are buoyed by all the ways in which our AP colleagues have been providing help and support for one another. Please remember that if you need additional support, you can speak with your manager or HR representative, and employee assistance plan services are available to you."

Be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

Gregory Katz, acclaimed AP journalist, dies at 67



In this May 19, 2018 photo, Gregory Katz, acting London bureau chief for The Associated Press, stands in front of St. George's Chapel in Windsor near London, while covering the royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. (AP Photo)

By JOHN DANISZEWSKI

NEW YORK (AP) — Gregory Katz, an acclaimed correspondent for The Associated Press in London who recently led the news cooperative's coverage of Brexit and the election of Boris Johnson as prime minister, died Tuesday. He had been ill in recent months and had contracted COVID-19. He was 67.

His career over four decades took him across the globe, from Latin America to Africa, Asia to Russia, the Middle East and Western Europe. He was part of the team in 1994 that won the Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting at the Dallas Morning News for a series on violence against women around the world.

"In the male-oriented world of Mexico, where violent crimes against women are often winked at and condoned, the tropical city of Juchitan offers sanctuary to women who want to live without worrying about being raped or assaulted on the streets," Katz wrote in a counterintuitive piece for the series.

"The reason: This is a city where women rule."



In this Feb. 2017 photo, Gregory Katz, right, acting London bureau chief for The Associated Press, shakes hands with Romania's President Klaus Iohannis as AP Bucharest newswoman Alison Mutler looks on during an interview at the Cotroceni Palace in Bucharest, Romania. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)

A native of Westport, Connecticut, Katz also wrote frequently about music, particularly his lifelong passion for rock 'n' roll. He was the only journalist inside the Dakota Apartments on the night in 1980 when John Lennon was murdered and wrote a definitive account of the killing for Rolling Stone magazine.

He recalled how as a pony-tailed teenager still in high school, he had hitchhiked to the Woodstock music festival, sleeping on the muddy ground and drinking in the historic rock concert.

Katz was "a wonderful reporter and lyrical writer," said Scott Kraft, managing editor of the Los Angeles Times and a friend of more than three decades. "I admired his work, and I cherished his friendship. He was such a generous spirit."

Anne-Marie O'Connor, a London-based journalist and author, who covered Haiti and Cuba with Katz in the 1990s, said that "in addition to being a wonderfully curious reporter, Greg could be riotously funny, and his sense of humor elevated the esprit de corps of his colleagues on the road."

Katz joined the AP in London as a correspondent in 2008 and became acting bureau chief in 2013. He was a familiar figure to many as a regular panelist on the BBC's

“Dateline London” program, discussing world events with other foreign correspondents.

Read more [here](#).

‘I will miss him a friend, AP will miss him too’

Dan Perry ([Email](#)) - I had never met Greg Katz until the day he showed up in London to be interviewed for UK correspondent, but I immediately felt I had always known him. It is not just because of familiarity with his elegant and accessible writing at what we used to call the “specials” (the Internet had made them more the “insolvents,” affording us the opportunity of hiring a journalist of his caliber); it was also his manner. He came across as a mensch of the old school, a person of character as well as intellect and wit, whom you always knew was there, and if you got lucky would be here.

Hiring him was one of the best moves of my 2000s term as Europe-Africa Editor, and he served the AP all over the region with distinction. He was a first-class reporter whose writing style was both sophisticated and laid-back. Rare, and valuable as the world grows ever louder.

I cherished every opportunity to be in touch with him after I moved on from London, spending most of my remaining time with AP in Cairo. We had an irresolvable conflict over baseball, beloved to us both: my allegiances were decidedly Philadelphia; his were too unspeakable to mention. I remember his gravelly voice mocking me gently on this topic. I will miss him as a friend. AP will miss him too.

AP Stylebook Twitter chat today focuses on race

Colleen Newvine ([Email](#)) – *product manager, AP Stylebook* - The big news in AP style this month is our change to uppercase Black and Indigenous. Our Twitter chat this week will cover highlights in our updated race-related coverage guidance.

Writing about issues involving race calls for thoughtful consideration, precise language, and an openness to discussions with others of diverse backgrounds about how to frame coverage or what language is most appropriate.

We added an extensive entry on race-related coverage last year, and updated this month to uppercase Black and Indigenous. We aim to decide on upper or lowercase white within a month.

Join us today at 2:30 p.m. EDT for a Twitter chat on race-related terms. Use [hashtag #APStyleChat](#) to ask your questions and follow the conversation.

The AP Stylebook's updated [race-related coverage guidance](#) is open for public review. No login is needed.

Click [here](#) for AP Stylebook's June newsletter.

Connecting mailbox

Reminded of old story

Neal Ulevich ([Email](#)) - The tit-for-tat ejection of journalists (or those who call themselves that) reminds me of an old story: Russia deports an AP correspondent from Moscow. The United States, not to be outdone, ejects an AP correspondent from Washington.

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Flood was life-changing

PENNSYLVANIA

AP LOG

OLDEST AND LARGEST NEWS SERVICE IN THE STATE, NATION AND WORLD

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE



This was the single best picture to come out of the biggest story in Pennsylvania in years--the flooding along major rivers in June. Made by AP's Jack Walton, who is stationed at the Wilkes-Barre newspapers, the picture caught the moment when the Susquehanna broke through the dike, driving away thousands of volunteer sandbaggers.

It was one of a thousand outstanding efforts by AP members and

staff as they covered the story. A roll call would include virtually everyone in the state.

Seven newspapers suffer major damage--the Milton Stand the Harrisburg Patriot and News the Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader and Evening News and the Record the Lebanon Daily News and the Lock Haven Express.

Joni Beall ([Email](#)) - June 23rd was the 48th anniversary of the flood of Tropical Storm Agnes -- a life-changing time in my life.

It happened a short time after my high school graduation. I spent part of my summer serving food at the Larksville (Pa) Fire Department to the people sheltering in a nearby school. After the water receded, I helped shovel out my childhood home and I got a job shoveling out books at the Hoyt Library in my hometown of Kingston, Pa. -- a heartbreaking experience. Radio and TV stations kept us informed and I began my

love of the immediacy of broadcast journalism. Prior to that, I planned to go into print journalism.

I noticed the above in some of the coverage.

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Daily Cal Debuts Live Streaming Sunday Show

BERKELEY -- (June 21, 2020) Need a double shot of hot journalism on Sunday evenings?

The Daily Californian, UC Berkeley's student newspaper, will debut its new streaming series, "Daily Cal Live," at 6 p.m. PDT Sunday, June 28.

One of the oldest college papers in the nation, the Daily Cal was established in 1871 and became independent from UC Berkeley in 1971. Students editors set editorial policy, and a board composed of student and professional directors establishes business policy.

"We've long touted how the Daily Cal is an invaluable training ground for journalism," said Larry Wilson '77, the chair of the board's fundraising committee and the public editor at the Pasadena Star-News. "Daily Cal Live is an excellent way to showcase those talents to everyone and reinforce the importance of the Daily Cal's mission to teach journalism."

The debut installment features New York Times reporter Kurt Streeter, '89, and the NFL Network's Mike Silver, '88, diving into "Shut Up and Dribble? Sports in an Age of Racial Reckoning." (Links to their work below.)

"Mike was sports editor of the Daily Cal when I was playing on the tennis team (in 1987). We had some good and thoughtful discussions back then," said Streeter. "That's part of what inspired me to think about a career in journalism. And now we have a chance to talk about an issue that's all around us. That's powerful."

Viewers can register to join the program at [Crowdcast](#) or [Facebook](#).

"Daily Cal Live" will follow a simple hour-long format, with a brief introduction from the current editor in chief, a conversation with alumni and then a Q&A period with the audience.

The broadcast is free, but viewers are encouraged to make contributions to help the Daily Cal continue training new generations of journalists.

“This is a great opportunity for everyone to get a look at some of the incredible talent that emerges from the Daily Cal,” said Darrin Bell, '97, a board member, winner of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning and creator of the “Candorville” and “Rudy Park” comic strips.

The July 5 installment will feature Erin Allday, '96, the San Francisco Chronicle's lead health care reporter, in conversation about the coronavirus with UCSF's Dr. George Rutherford, one of the nation's premier epidemiologists. Upcoming programs will include Bell, photographer Noah Berger, Washington Post columnist Max Boot, Los Angeles Times reporter Jim Rainey, screenwriter James Schamus and New Yorker staff writer Margaret Talbot.

For more information, contact: Allen Matthews, allenjmatthews@gmail.com

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AP boosts customer choice with new live video replay ability

The Associated Press today (Tuesday) announced a new feature that allows live video customers to access live event coverage for up to a week after it's delivered.

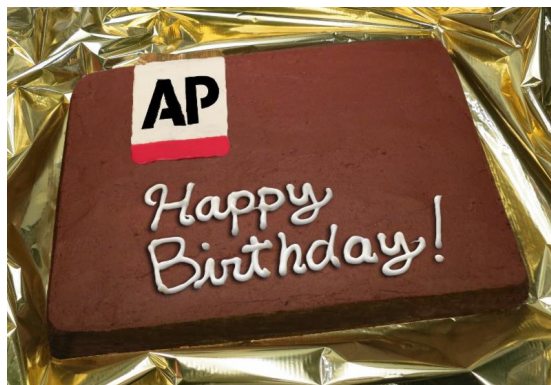
The new feature, Replay, offers AP member news organizations and customers on-demand access to a wide range of video content from around the world.

Recent offerings include extensive coverage of ongoing demonstrations across the U.S. and the globe to protest systemic racism and police brutality, the 2020 U.S. presidential election, and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Replay is available for all events on AP's multichannel Live Choice service. The replayed content is delivered through the existing live video delivery infrastructure with no new customer setup needed.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Cynthia Rawitch - cynthia.rawitch@csun.edu

Stories of interest

A Reckoning Over Objectivity, Led by Black Journalists (New York Times)

By Wesley Lowery

It was a brief interaction, during the first weeks of my career. There had been a stabbing, and I'd been dispatched to a block in Roxbury, a predominantly black section of Boston, to snag quotes from anyone who might know anything about what had happened.

"Who are you with?" inquired the first person I had approached, a black man in his 50s. "The Globe?" he exclaimed after hearing my response. "The Globe doesn't have black reporters. What are you doing over here? You lost? Y'all don't write about this part of town."

His complaints and his skepticism were familiar, voiced for decades by black people both outside newsrooms and within them — that most American media organizations do not reflect the diversity of the nation or the communities they cover and too often confine their coverage of black and brown neighborhoods to the crime of the day.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Michael Rubin, Dennis Conrad.

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'NYT' Staff Won't Return To Office Until 2021 (MediaPost)

By Sara Guaglione

The New York Times will not require staff to return to offices until January 2021, at the earliest.

While the Times may ask "a small number" of people to return "if they do critical work that substantially benefits from being done in the office," the company will "honor the decision" of any employee who does not wish to come into the office, a spokesperson told Publishers Daily.

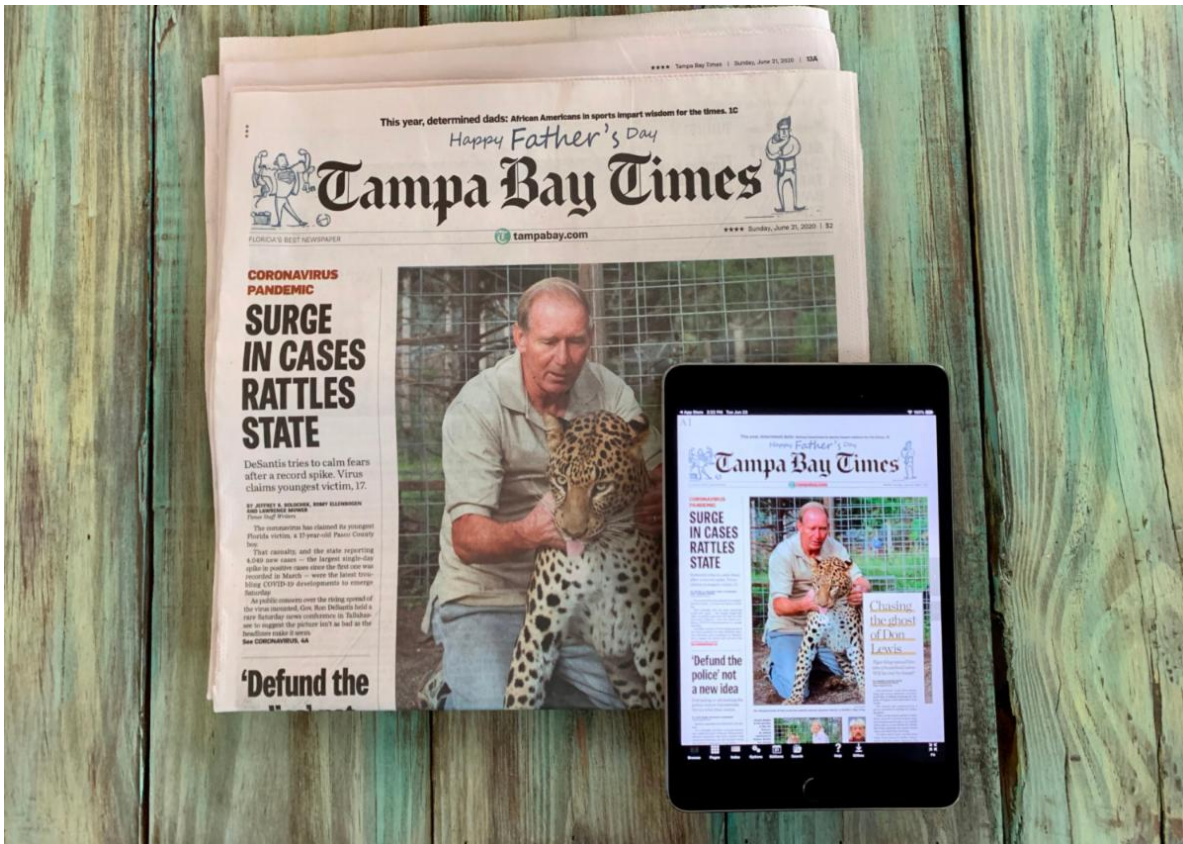
Times employees already overseeing necessary operations, such as print production and security, will continue to do so.

A few Times offices outside of New York have reopened or will soon. Returning to those offices will also be voluntary, according to a memo sent to staff.

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

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E-replica editions, the ugly ducklings of digital news, have suddenly become strategic (Poynter)



By RICK EDMONDS

E-replica editions, the online recreation of print publications, have been around for years. Even without heavy promotion, they have proven surprisingly popular with some readers. But they typically sit to the side of digital transformation strategies and the chorus of discussions and debates about the future of news.

While I would not say e-editions have blossomed into beautiful swans, they have recently become central to the audience approach of several newspapers, notably The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette and the Tampa Bay Times. And more of that is on the way.

The platform has improved significantly in the last couple of years, I learned in a half-dozen interviews.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Bob Daugherty.

Today in History - June 24, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, June 24, the 176th day of 2020. There are 190 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 24, 1497, the first recorded sighting of North America by a European took place as explorer John Cabot spotted land, probably in present-day Canada.

On this date:

In 1807, a grand jury in Richmond, Virginia, indicted former Vice President Aaron Burr on charges of treason and high misdemeanor (he was later acquitted).

In 1940, France signed an armistice with Italy during World War II.

In 1947, what's regarded as the first modern UFO sighting took place as private pilot Kenneth Arnold, an Idaho businessman, reported seeing nine silvery objects flying in a "weaving formation" near Mount Rainier in Washington.

In 1948, Communist forces cut off all land and water routes between West Germany and West Berlin, prompting the western allies to organize the Berlin Airlift. The Republican National Convention, meeting in Philadelphia, nominated New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey for president.

In 1957, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Roth v. United States*, ruled 6-3 that obscene materials were not protected by the First Amendment.

In 1964, AT&T inaugurated commercial "Picturephone" service between New York, Chicago and Washington, D.C. (the service, however, never caught on).

In 1968, "Resurrection City," a shantytown constructed as part of the Poor People's March on Washington, D.C., was closed down by authorities.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon concluded his summit with the visiting leader of the Soviet Union, Leonid Brezhnev, who hailed the talks in an address on American television.

In 1975, 113 people were killed when Eastern Airlines Flight 66, a Boeing 727 carrying 124 people, crashed while attempting to land during a thunderstorm at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport.

In 1983, the space shuttle Challenger [-] carrying America's first woman in space, Sally K. Ride [-] coasted to a safe landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

In 1987, comedian-actor Jackie Gleason died at his home in Lauderhill, Florida, at age 71.

In 1992, the Supreme Court, in a 5-4 decision, strengthened its 30-year ban on officially sponsored worship in public schools, prohibiting prayer as a part of graduation ceremonies.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama declared that he and visiting Russian President Dmitry Medvedev had "succeeded in resetting" the relationship between the former Cold War adversaries. Julia Gillard was sworn in as Australia's first woman prime minister. Apple's iPhone 4 was released in five countries, selling a record 1.7 million units in three days despite criticism of its new antenna design. U.S. tennis

player John Isner defeated Nicolas Mahut of France 70-68 at Wimbledon in the longest-ever professional match: 11 hours, 5 minutes over three days.

Five years ago: A federal judge in Boston formally sentenced Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehv) to death for the 2013 terror attacks. Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley became the first southern governor to use his executive power to remove Confederate banners, as four flags with secessionist symbols were taken down from a large monument to rebel soldiers outside the state capitol in Montgomery.

One year ago: The driver of a pickup truck involved in a collision in New Hampshire that left seven motorcyclists dead was charged with seven counts of negligent homicide. (A grand jury later handed up indictments on 23 charges; Volodymyr Zhukovskyy is awaiting trial.) The U.S. Women's World Cup soccer team advanced to a quarterfinal against France by beating Spain, 2-1. (The U.S. would go on to win its fourth Women's World Cup title.)

Today's Birthdays: Rock singer Arthur Brown is 78. Actress Michele Lee is 78. Actor-director Georg Stanford Brown is 77. Rock musician Jeff Beck is 76. Rock singer Colin Blunstone (The Zombies) is 75. Musician Mick Fleetwood is 73. Actor Peter Weller is 73. Rock musician John Illsley (Dire Straits) is 71. Actress Nancy Allen is 70. Reggae singer Derrick Simpson (Black Uhuru) is 70. Actor Joe Penny is 64. Reggae singer Astro (UB40) is 63. Singer-musician Andy McCluskey (Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark) is 61. Rhythm and blues/pop singer-songwriter Siedah (sy-EE'-dah) Garrett is 60. Actor Iain Glen is 59. Rock singer Curt Smith is 59. Actress Danielle Spencer is 55. Actress Sherry Stringfield is 53. Singer Glenn Medeiros is 50. Actress Carla Gallo is 45. Actor Amir Talai (TV: "LA to Vegas") is 43. Actress-producer Mindy Kaling is 41. Actress Minka Kelly is 40. Actress Vanessa Ray is 39. Actor Justin Hires is 35. Actress Candice Patton is 35. Actress Kaitlin Cullum is 34. Singer Solange Knowles is 34. Actor Max Ehrich is 29. Actress Beanie Feldstein is 27.

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.

Paul Stevens

Editor, Connecting newsletter

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