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Connecting August 24, 2020

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Colleagues,

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

Today's Connecting Profile focuses on **Colleen Newvine**, who is responsible for the marketing of the AP's best-selling and most widely known publication - the AP Stylebook – the style bible of the news industry.

The Stylebook operation brings in more than \$2 million annually – important revenue that helps finance the AP's worldwide journalistic efforts.

The Republican National Convention launches today – and we bring you more memories of colleagues who covered conventions in more normal times – in person, and not virtually as the coronavirus pandemic has dictated for both political parties.

Here's to a great week ahead – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

Connecting profile
Colleen Newvine



What are you doing these days?

Like most people, I'm navigating the pandemic, figuring out how to stay safe personally and what's most important professionally. I've mostly worked from home since 2011 but I still really miss seeing my AP colleagues in person.

I have been part time at AP since 2011, serving as product manager for the AP Stylebook. That means all the business functions, like writing marketing copy and setting prices. Our big move this year was reducing print frequency from annual to every other year. I'm responsible for the Stylebook's P&L.

When I'm not working for AP, I'm a marketing consultant who specializes in helping small organizations and self-employed people. Because it's hard to talk to a small business owner about their career goals without also talking about life goals, I went through coach training with CTI, the largest in-person coach training organization in the world. Now I have better skills for helping people build the life and business they want.

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

While I was pursuing my MBA at University of Michigan, I visited many media companies to learn about opportunities to combine my journalism background and new business degree. Seth Sutel on the business desk helped arrange a visit for about a dozen Michigan business students, and Jim Kennedy's overview of the transformation AP was undertaking convinced me this was where I wanted to be.



Colleen and Dwayne Desaulniers in their respective old offices at 33rd Street, where both hired in to US Newspaper Markets.

After that, I watched closely for any opportunity to get in. I interviewed with Ellen Hale for a corporate communications job and interviewed with Lorraine Cichowski for a product position, before Tom Slaughter hired me to be a deputy director of U.S. Newspaper Markets in 2006.

On my first day at headquarters on 33rd Street, Tom met me in the 16th floor lobby and walked me up to my office on the mezzanine. He said to settle in and come to his office when I was ready. The second he walked out, I stared out the window at my straight-on view of the Empire State Building, grinning ear to ear. Eventually I looked over at my desk, where AP stationary was waiting, with my name printed on it. Tom walked me around the mezzanine to meet my new colleagues. I just marveled at it all.

Shortly thereafter, we had a daylong meeting where Sue Cross, John Lumpkin and Jim Reindl flew in to work with us on strategy for products and pricing for U.S. newspapers. Dwayne Desaulniers had done a bunch of Excel analysis of who took what services. I was slightly bewildered keeping up with the acronyms and the basic service requirements of the two-year membership contract, but I was fascinated learning how the world's oldest and largest news service sold its content.

What were your different past jobs in the AP, in order? Describe briefly what you did with each? And what'd you do post AP?

I hired in as deputy director, U.S. Newspaper Markets, in 2006. That job included a grab bag of responsibilities to support the bureau chiefs and assistant bureau chiefs in their sales functions, and working closely with the administrative assistants on orders and contracts. I managed the SAP CRM database of members and their services, I oversaw the order process to get services turned on and billed, and I coordinated the monthly COB newsletter, among other things. I also facilitated the play study, working with the Spokane Data Center to measure how much AP content newspapers used in print and online.

Then in a reorg during the recession, my boss, Tom Slaughter, retired and our department shifted around. In 2009, I became director of market research in a new worldwide marketing department headed by Toby Hartwell. Among the projects I worked on were a survey of broadcast customers, research into what current and potential customers in LatAm wanted from AP, and a study of U.S. newspapers' needs, which informed the first iteration of Member Choice.

In 2011, I shifted to part time and began to focus exclusively on AP Stylebook. I'd had Stylebook as part of my portfolio since my first year, but it became my top priority. We've launched our automated style-checking tools for Word, Outlook and web browsers, added an e-book and launched the Spanish-language Manual de Estilo, which is in transition from an online subscription to print and e-book. We've grown from a six-figure business to more than \$2 million in sales annually.

What was the biggest story or stories (or biggest project) you covered?

I joined AP on the business side, having left my newsroom days behind me. I've written some freelance features for Julie Rubin, but mostly my focus is helping AP make money so others can cover big stories.

I've worked on many projects but the one that comes to mind is Lake Placid 2007, when I worked with Sarah Nordgren on a wide-ranging project that advocated for establishing regional editing hubs and creating 1-2-3 filing. That was one of the most challenging points in my AP career – we worked long, hard hours trying to tackle big, complex issues – and also one of the most rewarding, because of the collaboration with smart, dedicated team members.

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

I loved working for Tom Slaughter and Tom Brettingen in USNM. They brought me into the AP and assigned me to meaty, high profile projects where I learned so much about the organization. They had decades more experience than I did but they would respect my recommendations on my areas of responsibility, treating me like a peer not a rookie. They gave me such a solid foundation that I can't imagine what my AP career would be like without that first stop with them.

That said, Jessica Bruce gets the nod here. Almost 10 years ago, she helped me shape the proposal to create my current part-time role as product manager of the AP Stylebook. She helped me think through difficult questions and gave me invaluable advice about making it clear how I would cost justify the new position by growing revenue. Without Jessica's help, I almost certainly would not be at AP today.

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

I would 100% do it all over again. I'm so proud to be part of The Associated Press.

If I could change anything ... I'd love to have joined AP back at Rockefeller Center, to have seen the tree lighting parties and to go to lunch with the big bosses at the Rainbow Room. Barring that, I'd love to have known when I joined that I was witnessing the end of an era, working with so many of the longtimer COBs and VPs at a high point in newspaper revenue.



At Colleen's induction into the Central Michigan University Journalism Hall of Fame in 2017 because of her work on the AP Stylebook. She's shown with T.J. Bucholz, who she worked with on their college newspaper, CM LIFE. He led her nomination and introduced her at the ceremony.

What's your favorite hobby or activity?

Lately I am loving writing on a book about what I call manageable sabbaticals, going someplace else for three weeks to three months. After years of writing 15 column inch newspaper stories, it's a different creative challenge to think about writing and reporting at book length and mostly, I'm enjoying the challenge.

It's inspired by our own travels, including living in New Orleans, San Francisco, Patchogue out on Long Island and Tannersville up in the Catskills. Since I mostly work from home, I've been able to work from homes in all these other places, as well.

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

My husband, John, and I love to travel so we've taken a lot of enjoyable trips. I'm not sure I could pick one best.



Colleen and John with bikes in front of the house they rented in New Orleans.

One that's most significant is when we rented a friend's home and lived in New Orleans for about two months in 2011. I had newly transitioned to part time WFH when we were planning to go to a wedding. Both the bride and the groom owned homes so on a whim, I asked whether it would be useful to have us pay one of their mortgages for a while so they didn't have to plan a wedding and a move simultaneously. They said yes!

It was life changing to settle in to a city we love long enough to experience it as locals, working during the day and seeing music at night, going grocery shopping (or making groceries, as they call it), doing laundry and making friends. I got to practice piano at Preservation Hall and we went to our first New Orleans crawfish boil. When you aren't sprinting through a week, trying to pack in as much fun as possible, a visit has a totally different rhythm.

We've gone back to New Orleans for several more long visits since then. It feels like our home away from home.

Names of your family members and what they do?

I've been married to John Tebeau for 20 years this year. We had planned to celebrate with a big party and a trip to Hawaii, but COVID-19 had other ideas.

John is an artist and a writer. He wrote and illustrated Bars, Taverns, and Dives New Yorkers Love, a book celebrating great bars of New York.

He's also been a bartender, a producer at the NPR affiliate in Ann Arbor, and most recently, he's doing freelance digital marketing.

What's a funny memory about your current role?

I've told this story a bunch of times but it always cracks me up so I'll do it again.

I was at the American Copy Editors Society conference, taking place in New Orleans that year. Since I know the city, I had a posse of people who asked me to show them my favorite restaurants and bars.

We were at a packed music bar past midnight, when a group of guys out for a bachelor party asked what we were in town for. It turns out several of them were writers, and when some of my compatriots said we were at a copy editing

convention and I work on the Stylebook, they immediately struck up a spirited discussion with me about the Oxford comma.

It was a moment when I realized not everyone knows what I do, but those who care REALLY care.

Colleen Newvine's email - cnewvine@ap.org

He was always there for me

Tad Bartimus ([Email](#)) - Standing in the grocery store picking out peaches, my phone pinged.

“Hank is dead.”

A friend from Columbia, Mo., was kindly letting me know that a man I’d admired and loved for 54 years, who gave me my first enterprise reporting bylines and five decades of personal and professional encouragement, was gone from our lives (www.columbiatribune.com) (www.columbiamissourian.com).

So the headline on my tribute to Henry J. Waters III is HE WAS ALWAYS THERE FOR ME.



Waters.

I was a University of Missouri junior walking across campus in 1967 when a fellow journalism major pointed out that the handsome guy getting into a snazzy sports car was the editor of the Columbia Tribune newspaper.

As a reporter wannabe trying to earn extra money to pay for college I’d failed to get a couple of good local stories published in the J-School’s Columbia Missourian newspaper as part of student assignments. I decided on the spot to pitch them to Hank

I was sure getting in to see him would be tough and the stories a hard sell. I was still trying to figure out how to gain access to him when I tagged along to the Trib late one night with a student photographer getting help with his negatives.

Dressed in jeans and one of dad's old blue dress shirts, I parked myself under an empty desk for a quick snooze. I woke up to see The Boss in a dinner jacket – nobody could wear a dinner jacket like Hank, even a Kennedy – peering under the desk at me as he stopped off at the paper on his way home from a party.

I crawled out from under the desk, introduced myself and made my pitch. He didn't buy my beginner stories on the spot, but he asked about my goals, my family background and if I had other story ideas. I had lots, so he told me to come in and see an editor the next day. Within a month I found myself way in over my head as the Tribune's "campus correspondent."

When my MU columns started appearing in the Trib, I was summoned to the office of J-School Dean Earl English, who politely chewed me out for "writing for the competition and being disloyal to the Missourian." Then, as now, the two Columbia papers competed head to head, which is what makes the Missourian such an amazing "real life" journalism laboratory for Mizzou students.

English (a formidable authority figure as well as distinguished educator) intimated I had to make a choice – quit writing for the Trib or leave the J-School.

I made my case:

- I was going to journalism school to learn how to become a reporter & editor in the real world and what I learned there would also benefit my Missourian stories;
- The Trib offered me a chance to get on-the-job experience and paid enough money so I could quit one of my hated extra jobs of selling brassieres in a dress shop in order to stay in school.

I think I had Dean English at brassieres.

From that day on, I had the support of not only Dean English but also Hank Waters III, who became a treasured friend and supporter of my passion for journalism, which continues today.

Getting to know Hank was to be taken into the fold. I held Hank's son Andy when he was just a few weeks old. When Hank transited Miami (my first fulltime AP assignment of a decades-long career) on the way to the Bahamas to sail his 61-foot sloop 'Mata Hara' he treated me and my friends to great meals far beyond our means. He hired a grieving friend of mine to crew on Mata for a few months following the death of his father, an interlude my friend still calls "an idyllic time."

Hank was always available when I called from Saigon or Anchorage or Belfast (regardless of time zone changes) seeking advice and a friendly voice to buck me up, celebrate with me when I scored a reporting coup, congratulate me on my engagement, sympathize with me when I lost my parents, both of whom knew and admired him.

One of the most enduring joys of my life was to be enfolded, along with my husband Dean Wariner, into Hank Waters' friendship circle.

Dean and I were thrilled when Hank married Vicki Russell – a Chillicothe, Mo., girl who grew up just a few miles from my hometown of Trenton, whom I'd known as a Mizzou student and then publisher of his paper, The Fulton Sun. The four of us vacationed together, sailing on Mata in the Caribbean and fly fishing in Wyoming, and their guest room was always offered when I'd return to MIZZOU. They were the happiest of couples, partners in everything, and to be in their company was a gift.

A special blessing was my Reynolds Journalism Institute fellowship year in Columbia, 2015-16, when we got to spend more happy times with Hank and Vicki. They were among the first to stand up and applaud when, as white-haired old lady, I was awarded my Missouri Honor Medal by the J- school.

I am grateful to the gods that I was able to know and love Hank Waters. June 7th will always, in my mind, be his birthday. I will always see him – all four of us – in my mind. He didn't waste a minute of his time on earth. That is his legacy to me... don't waste a minute being unhappy, and make others happy, too.

HJWIII – Hank

Your stories of covering political conventions

Jerry Bodlander ([Email](#)) - A brief addendum to what Ed Tobias wrote about the 1984 convention accommodations in Dallas.

I too vividly remember the red, white and blue birds in the cage in the lobby of the Dallas Plaza Hotel.

I also remember that while the AP Radio staff stayed at that hotel, some AP reporters and editors stayed elsewhere —a late decision having been made by someone that the hotel (which was built in the 1920s and was the FIRST Hilton Hotel in the U.S.) was below expected standards.

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Michael Weinfeld ([Email](#)) - In 1996, my boss, Brad Kalbfeld, did something daring. He assigned me, AP Broadcast's Entertainment Editor, to cover the national political conventions. The idea was for me to cover everything BUT serious politics and to do it in a way that traditional AP Radio affiliates might find, shall we say, unconventional.

It was called Unconventional Convention coverage and was geared toward FM stations. I have to hand it to Brad. He supported me all the way, even as I filed stories that would never have aired on traditional all-news radio.

In San Diego for the GOP convention in 1996, I reported from the Museum of Death, where delegates had been spotted. When Bob Dole said he wanted to appeal to young voters, I had a leather shop owner describe the makeover he'd suggest including leather chaps and nipple rings. At the Democratic convention in Chicago that year, I reported on the Vomitoriums at the United Center, which is what they called the tunnels leading in and out of the building. I also interviewed the owner of the Billy Goat Tavern, made famous by John Belushi's "Cheez-burgah, cheez-burgah" sketch on SNL.

In 2000, it was on to Philadelphia, where Republicans were holding their convention at the First Union Center. It was commonly called the F-U Center, which gave me the idea for this lead: "Philadelphia is supposed to be the City

of Brotherly Love, so why is everyone saying F-U?” The 2000 Democratic convention was held in Los Angeles, where I got to visit the Playboy mansion and interview Hugh Hefner and two of his three girlfriends at the time. Hefner was holding a fundraiser for Al Gore. I also interviewed porn star Nina Hartley, who wasn’t interested in Gore, but was curious about his wife Tipper.

My final two conventions were in 2004. The Democrats were in Boston, where some delegates were trying to book the Britney Spears room at the Onyx Hotel. I interviewed the hotel manager in the room that was made up to look like Britney’s bedroom and was full of her CDs and favorite foods. The Republican convention was in New York and protests were predicted. My overriding memory of that convention was being trained by some Israeli anti-terrorist officer on what to do if you found yourself tear gassed or in the middle of a riot.

Needless to say, the conventions gave me many opportunities to interview celebrities. Highlights (other than Hugh Hefner, of course) included hanging out with Rodney Dangerfield at his home in L-A – and I do mean hanging out. He was in his bathrobe, which kept slipping open. Other interviews included Jon Stewart, Kerry Washington, Bo Derek, Ted Nugent, Joe Piscopo, Jerry Springer, Willard Scott, William Baldwin, Joan and Melissa Rivers, Ben “Cooter” Jones, and John Waters.

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Marc Wilson ([Email](#)) - My favorite convention story was witnessing a governor getting kicked out of a café by a snippy New York waitress.

I was assigned to cover the 1980 Republican National Convention in Detroit and the Democratic National Convention in New York.

As the Boise correspondent I was assigned to cover the delegations from Idaho, Utah and Oregon.

In New York, I stayed at the same hotel as the Idaho delegation.

All major convention events were staged for prime-time television, so delegates mostly just killed time during the day.

Gov. John Evans, chair of the Idaho delegation, and was killing time sitting in the hotel café informally meeting with delegates.

I sat down with him in hopes of finding a sidebar.

The café was mostly empty. It was about 10 a.m.

A waitress came over to us and addressed the governor.

“Sir, if all you’re going to do is drink coffee, you’ll have to leave.”

The governor sat in stunned silence.

“Mam,” I said, “this is the governor of Idaho. He’s chairman of the Idaho delegation here at the Democratic National Convention. We are guests in this hotel. There are plenty of empty tables and booths.”

“I don’t care if he’s the Queen of Sheba,” the waitress responded. “If all he’s going to do is drink coffee, he’ll have to leave.”

Gov. Evans graciously paid his bill and left.

I had a sidebar that made the front page of many newspapers the next day.

Ironically, Gov. Evans got in trouble back home.

He’s Mormon, and not supposed to be drinking coffee.

My 83-year-old mom came for a summer visit. Then coronavirus showed up as well



Mike Fannin is president and editor of The Kansas City Star. He has worked at The Star for 23 years, serving as its top editor since 2008.

By MIKE FANNIN ([Email](#))

Mom was in intensive care, and one of her doctors was calling.

The news wasn't good.

If her oxygen level doesn't improve, he said, and if she requires a ventilator, her prospects would be dire. "We haven't had anyone older than their mid-60s survive."

Just two weeks earlier, my 83-year-old mother had come to Kansas City to celebrate summer birthdays and watch my daughter graduate from high school.

COVID-19 had other plans.

Shortly after her arrival and despite the fact that we've all been wearing masks for months, our whole house — thankfully, minus our teenager — was sick. It was no surprise when the clinic called on a Saturday morning in mid-July to let us know we had all tested positive.

By then, the symptoms we'd been hearing about for six months had shown up in force. They wouldn't leave for weeks.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting mailbox

Remember ‘Plink, Plank, Plunk’?

Marty Thompson ([Email](#)) - Thanks to Chris Sullivan for bringing up Leroy Anderson's musical ode to the typewriter (in Friday's Connecting). It's a personal favorite, along with Anderson's bright "[‘Plink, Plank, Plunk,’](#)" which was the theme song of the TV show "I've Got a Secret." The show, with Garry Moore as host, was on CBS and ran from 1952 to 1967.

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Book tells experiences of young reporter on Mauch Chunk/Jim Thorpe Times-News

Dick Lipsey ([Email](#)) - The *Washington Post* column on the demise of the *Allentown Morning Call*, referenced in last Wednesday's Connecting, brings to mind a different perspective on the *Morning Call*. "The overwhelming competition for the *Times-News* came from the *Morning Call*, the big paper out of Allentown."

The quotation is from *East Mauch Chunk: Another Novel of 1968* (to be published), by Richard Benyo.

I recently edited this book, a semi-autobiographical novel based on the author's experiences as a young reporter on the *Mauch Chunk/Jim Thorpe Times-News* in Carbon County, Pennsylvania.

The book and its predecessor, *Mauch Chunk: A Novel of 1968*, (published in 2013, which I also edited), might interest anyone who worked in small-town papers in that era. The cast of characters includes several real-life figures who

worked at the paper then and is dedicated to its editor, Joe Boyle, “a newspaperman who was the real article.”

In *Mauch Chunk*, the protagonist, fresh out of college, begins work at his hometown paper the week of the Robert Kennedy assassination, and the book includes several AP references.

“News about the assailant came across, not terribly well edited, rushed. Bob Thomas of the Associated Press filed the piece that we used on the far-right column under the 48-point headline KENNEDY STILL CRITICAL.”

Competition with the *Morning Call* is a recurring consideration for *Times-News* staffers covering murders, kidnappings, floods, and more.

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Connecting sky shot – Eastport, Maine



Michael Giarrusso ([Email](#)) - This was the last night of our vacation in Eastport, Maine. My oldest and I wanted to take the tandem kayak out one last time, even though it is very difficult to carry in and out at low tide. It was cloudy when we started, but the cover cleared just as the sun began to go down and we lucked into this lovely moment.

Best of the Week

Dual honorees: Stunning coverage of Belarus protests, and a Ganges River odyssey



AP Photo/Sergei Grits

Riveting coverage of the Belarus protests, and a far-removed but equally powerful photo essay on the Ganges River share AP's weekly honors.

Much of the AP's work across the world focuses on breaking news, like the gripping coverage of Belarus' largest protests in decades, shaking the power of the man often styled as Europe's last dictator.

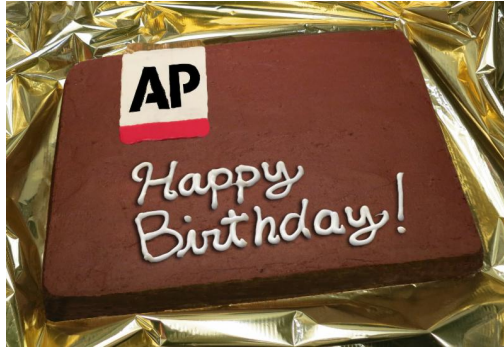
And then there are times when journalists devote months to a single project close to their heart. Such was the case with Altaf Qadri's unforgettable photo package that documented life along India's eternal Ganges River.

This week, AP recognizes these two very different bodies of work for their distinctive, outstanding coverage, sharing Best of the Week honors.

An all-formats team in Minsk, Belarus, for the second consecutive week delivered exclusive coverage that called into question the government's narrative of what was happening around the country's disputed elections and the popular red-and-white revolt against Alexander Lukashenko's authoritarian rule.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Dave Lubeski - davelubeski@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Film shows trailblazing Black female editor, VP candidate



In this 1952 photo, Charlotta Spears Bass, publisher of The California Eagle, a Black newspaper, sits in her Los Angeles office. The groundbreaking journalist and civil rights activist who ran in 1952 on the Progressive Party ticket is the subject of a new PBS/WNET "American Masters" short. (Courtesy of Los Angeles Public Library via AP)

By RUSSELL CONTRERAS

RIO RANCHO, N.M. (AP) — Kamala Harris made history last week by becoming the first Black woman to be nominated to run for vice president on a major party's ticket. But the first Black woman to run for vice president in the nation's history was trailblazing newspaperwoman Charlotta Spears Bass.

The groundbreaking journalist and civil rights activist who ran in 1952 on the Progressive Party ticket is the subject of a new PBS/WNET "American Masters" short. The 12-minute film is the final installment of a series focusing on 26 American women from 1890 to 1920, like Mexican American journalist Jovita Idar and Tye Leung Schulze, the first Chinese American woman to vote in the U.S.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

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Belarus blocks over 50 news websites but protests continue

By YURAS KARMANAU

MINSK, Belarus (AP) — Authorities in Belarus blocked more than 50 news media websites that were covering weeks of protests demanding that authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko resign but protesters still turned out again Saturday, some forming a chain of solidarity in the capital.

The Belarusian Association of Journalists reported the shutdowns Saturday, which included sites for the U.S.-funded Radio Liberty and Belsat, a Polish-funded satellite TV channel focusing on neighboring Belarus. The state publishing house has also stopped printing two top independent newspapers, the Narodnaya Volya and Komsomolskaya Pravda, citing an equipment malfunction.

Protests unprecedented in Belarus for their size and duration broke out after the Aug. 9 presidential election, in which election officials say Lukashenko won a sixth term in a landslide. Protesters allege the officials results are fraudulent and are calling for Lukashenko to resign after 26 years in power.

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

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CNN Reporters Share Their Perspectives as Women of Color Covering an Election Year (NCTA)

As the Democratic National Convention wrapped up last night, and with the Republican National Convention approaching, general election season is just around the corner. Television plays an especially important role during election seasons, as millions of Americans tune in to stay informed of the news, learn, and get perspective on the country's state of affairs. It's therefore the job of those TV network reporters and journalists to report the facts and to bring a comprehensive and inclusive view of current events.

In a CNN film recently released on HBO Max, *On the Trail: Inside the 2020 Primaries*, audiences get an up close and personal look into the lives of a few of CNN's anchors and video producers who are women as they broke news on the primary election campaign trail this past spring. But as the country continues to come to grips with systemic racism, it's the reporters of color in the film who demonstrate why it is critical to have diverse perspectives in front of and behind the camera, especially during an election year. During a virtual panel for the Television Critics Association press tour, CNN Senior National Correspondent Kyung Lah, and CNN Video Producer Jasmine Wright, discussed how their experiences as women of color affect the news cycle and what you see on TV.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Peg Coughlin.

Today in History - August 24, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Aug. 24, the 237th day of 2020. There are 129 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 24 in A.D. 79, long-dormant Mount Vesuvius erupted, burying the Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum in volcanic ash; an estimated 20,000 people died.

On this date:

In A.D. 410, Rome was overrun by the Visigoths, a major event in the fall of the Western Roman Empire.

In 1814, during the War of 1812, British forces invaded Washington, D.C., setting fire to the Capitol (which was still under construction) and the White House, as well as other public buildings.

In 1932, Amelia Earhart embarked on a 19-hour flight from Los Angeles to Newark, New Jersey, making her the first woman to fly solo, non-stop, from coast to coast.

In 1949, the North Atlantic Treaty came into force.

In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Communist Control Act, outlawing the Communist Party in the United States.

In 1968, France became the world's fifth thermonuclear power as it exploded a hydrogen bomb in the South Pacific.

In 1981, Mark David Chapman was sentenced in New York to 20 years to life in prison for murdering John Lennon. (Chapman remains imprisoned.)

In 1989, the Voyager 2 space probe flew by Neptune, sending back striking photographs.

In 2003, the Justice Department reported the U.S. crime rate in 2002 was the lowest since studies began in 1973.

In 2007, the NFL indefinitely suspended Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick without pay after he acknowledged in court papers that he had, indeed, bankrolled gambling on dogfighting and helped kill some dogs not worthy of the pit.

In 2012, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency wiped out 14 years of Lance Armstrong's cycling career [–] including his record seven Tour de France titles [–] and barred him for life from the sport after concluding he'd used banned substances.

In 2018, the family of Arizona Sen. John McCain announced that he had discontinued medical treatment for an aggressive form of brain cancer; McCain died the following day.

Ten years ago: A Chinese passenger jet broke apart and burst into flames as it hit the runway, killing 42 people and injuring 54 others. A suicide bomber and gunmen attacked a hotel near Somalia's presidential palace; at least 32 people were killed, along with two militants. In Florida, political newcomer Rick Scott beat Bill McCollum for the GOP gubernatorial nomination. (Scott went on to win election in November, narrowly defeating Alex Sink.)

Five years ago: U.S. Airman Spencer Stone, National Guardsman Alek Skarlatos, their longtime friend Anthony Sadler and British businessman Chris Norman were presented with the Legion of Honor by French President Francois Hollande, who credited them with tackling a heavily armed attacker and preventing carnage on a high-speed train headed to Paris. Driver Justin Wilson, 37, died one day after he was struck in the head by a piece of debris during the Verizon IndyCar Series race at Pocono Raceway.

One year ago: Two weeks before the Indianapolis Colts were to play their season-opening game, 29-year-old quarterback Andrew Luck announced that he was retiring after three injury-plagued seasons. Six people were injured when lightning struck a 60-foot pine tree at the PGA Tour Championship in Atlanta where they had been taking cover from rain.

Today's Birthdays: Composer-musician Mason Williams is 82. Rhythm-and-blues singer Marshall Thompson (The Chi-Lites) is 78. Rock musician Ken Hensley is 75. Actor Anne Archer is 73. Actor Joe Regalbuto is 71. Actor Kevin Dunn is 65. Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee is 65. Actor-writer Stephen Fry is 63. Actor Steve Guttenberg is 62. Baseball Hall of Famer Cal Ripken Jr. is 60. Actor Jared Harris is 59. Talk show host Craig Kilborn is 58. CBS News correspondent Major Garrett is 58. Rock singer John Bush is 57. Actor Marlee Matlin is 55. Basketball Hall of Famer Reggie Miller is 55. Broadcast journalist David Gregory is 50. Country singer Kristyn Osborn (SHeDaisy) is 50. Movie director Ava DuVernay is 48. Actor-comedian Dave Chappelle is 47. Actor James D'Arcy is 47. Actor Carmine Giovinazzo (jee-oh-vihn-AH'-zoh) is 47. Actor Alex O'Loughlin is 44. Actor Beth Riesgraf is 42. Actor Chad Michael Murray is 39. Christian rock musician Jeffrey Gilbert (Kutless) is 37. Singer Mika is 37. Actor Blake Berris is 36. Actor Rupert Grint ("Harry Potter" films) is 32.

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

paulstevens46@gmail.com