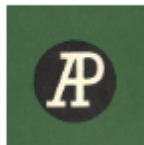


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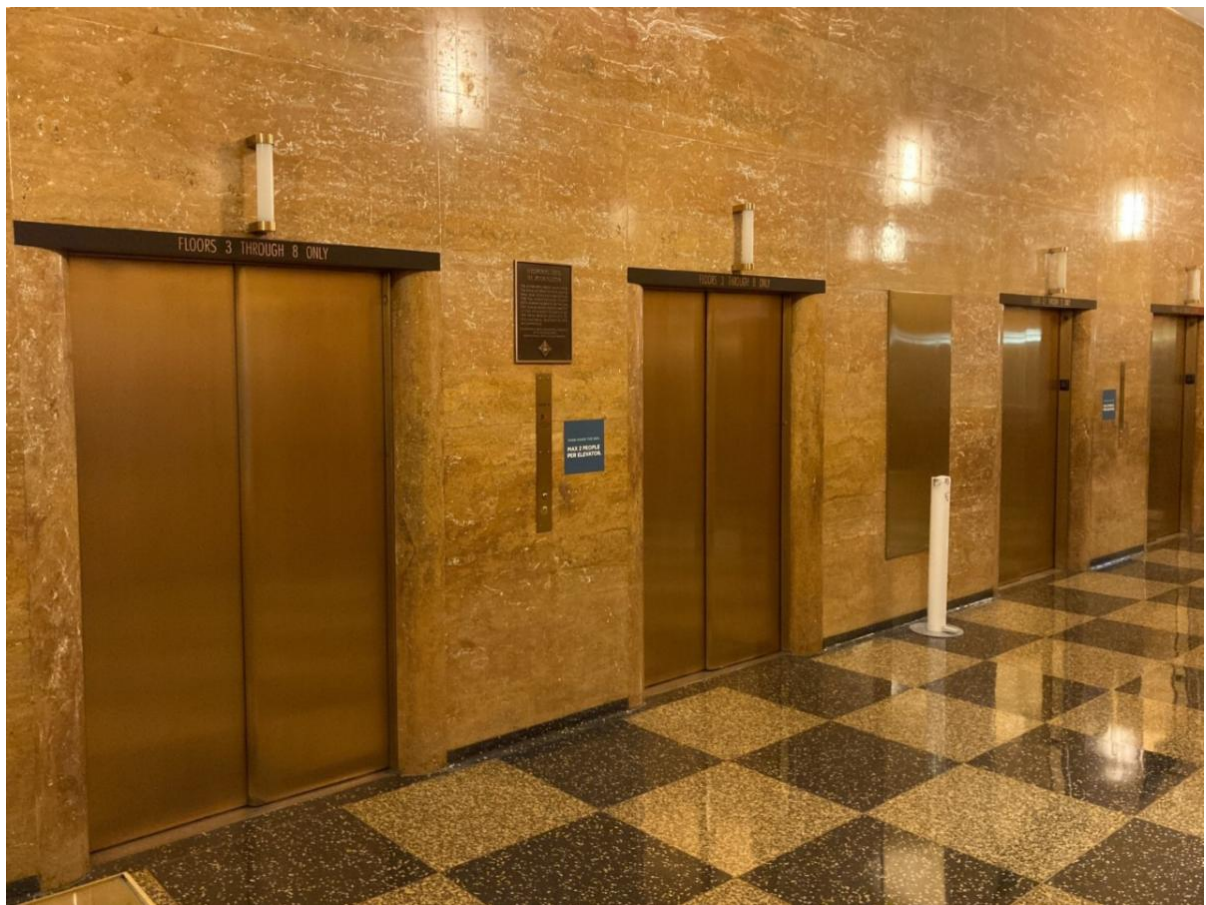
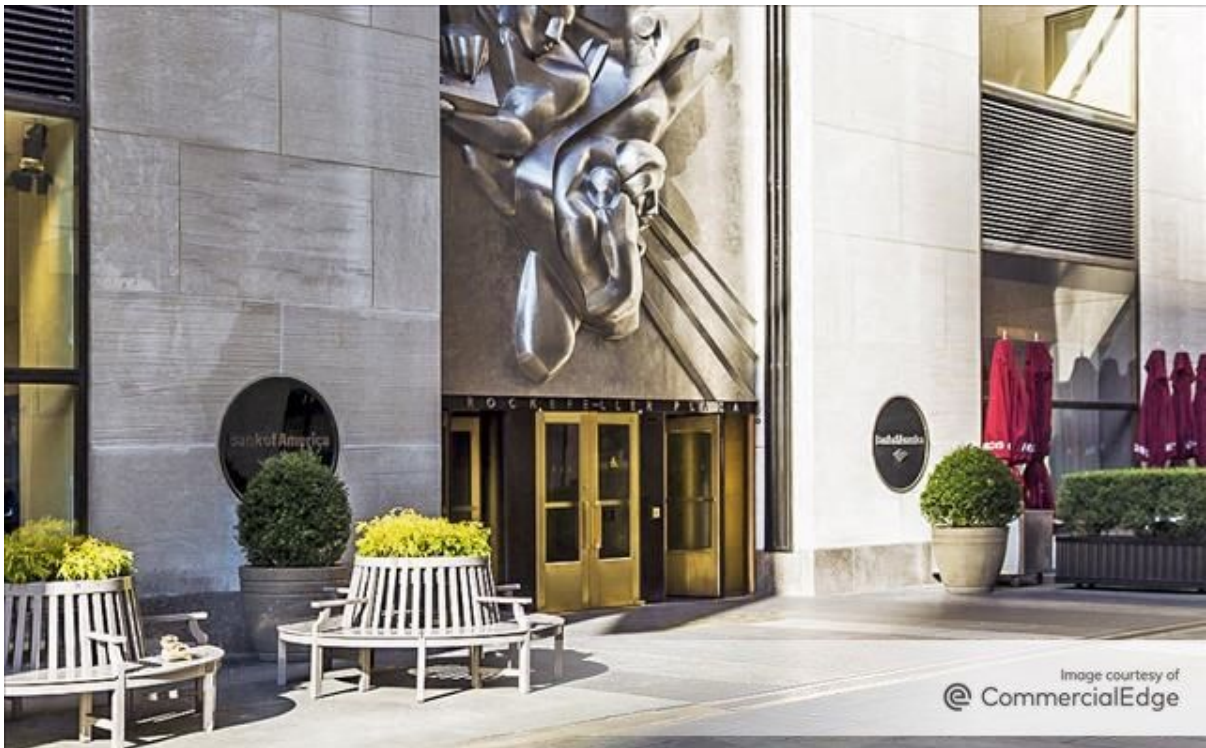
## Connecting December 08, 2020

Click [here](#) for sound of the Teletype



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Colleagues,

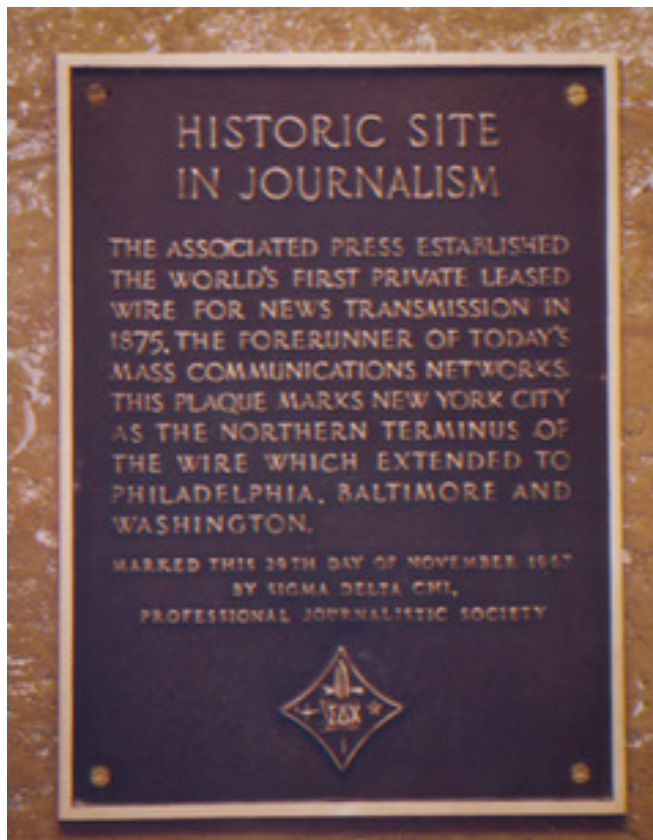
Good Tuesday morning on this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020,

The question came up in a recent Connecting on whatever happened to the plaque presented to The Associated Press in 1967 designating its headquarters building at 50 Rockefeller Plaza as a Society of Professional Journalists Historic Site in Journalism. The AP has moved twice since.

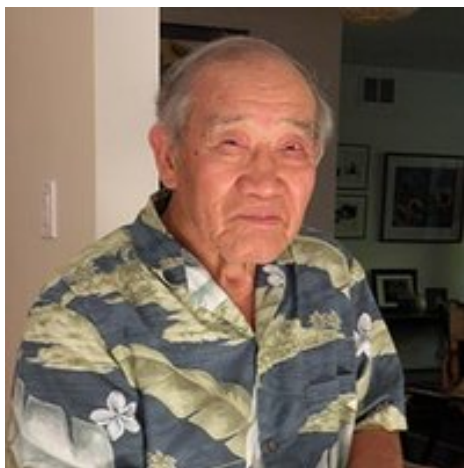
Our colleague **Malcolm Ritter** ([Email](#)) took the photo in the lobby of the building, which is the corporate headquarters for the Bank of America.

AP moved out of 50 Rock in 2004 after 66 years in the building. "I took this photo on Friday," Malcolm said, "and the plaque remains in its spot between two elevators — above a far more modern sign that restricts elevator occupancy to two people, because of Covid-19."

Mystery solved. (Though it should be noted that another remnant of AP was left behind - Isamu Noguchi's stainless steel panel, News, located above the building's entrance. The entrance below it is flanked with the round logos that once held AP logos but now display Bank of America.)



Another Malcolm is featured in today's issue – **Malcolm Barr Sr.** ([Email](#)) – who wrote regarding the anniversary Monday of the Pearl Harbor attacks.



He wrote: "December 7, 2020, the first "Pearl Harbor Day" in 50 years that Akio Konoshima (UPI) and I are unable to call one another to commemorate the day. Aki, as he was known, and who served time in the internment camps in WWII before joining the U.S. Army, died in October.

"Born in Tokyo, Aki was assigned from UPI's London bureau to UPI Washington in the late 1960s. Part of his assignment was Capitol Hill and I met him while working as press secretary to U.S. Sen. Hiram L. Fong (R-Hawaii), having quit the AP following the 1969 strike. We fast became firm friends - we both had ties to the 50th state - and he was my successor when I left my congressional job for a 25-year career in downtown government. During my six years at AP Honolulu I wrote the Pearl Harbor Day story,



once earning the ire of the New York desk when I accepted a playful challenge to report on the traditional event without mentioning "Pearl Harbor!" Aki was amused by this, hence the annual phone call which I'm missing this year. R.I.P. Aki."

We lead today's issue with the good news that AP's **Lisa Nicole Matthews** ([Email](#)), a Connecting colleague, has been named president of the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

Congratulations, Lisa!

And, today's issue brings a touching remembrance of journalist **Tim Clifford** by his friend and colleague **Karen Ball**. I found it remarkable.

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

Paul

## AP's Matthews elected 114th National Press Club president



Photo/Alan Kotok

By Daniel Moore

Members of the National Press Club elected Lisa Nicole Matthews of the Associated Press to serve as the Club's 114th president as the organization continues to confront

the COVID-19 pandemic and a challenging media environment.

Matthews, the AP's U.S. Video assignment manager and winner of two Edward R. Murrow Awards, has more than two decades of experience in journalism. She is the third person of color to lead the Club, after Sheila Cherry in 2004 and Jeff Ballou in 2017.



For the first time, the Club elected an all-female leadership team. In addition to Matthews, other Club officers chosen Friday, Dec. 4, were Vice President Jen Judson (Defense News), Membership Secretary Emily Wilkins (Bloomberg Government), Secretary Gillian Rich (Investor's Business Daily), and Treasurer Eileen O'Reilly (Axios).

Past Club President Jonathan Salant announced the election results Friday evening after 12 days of online voting.

Read more [here](#).

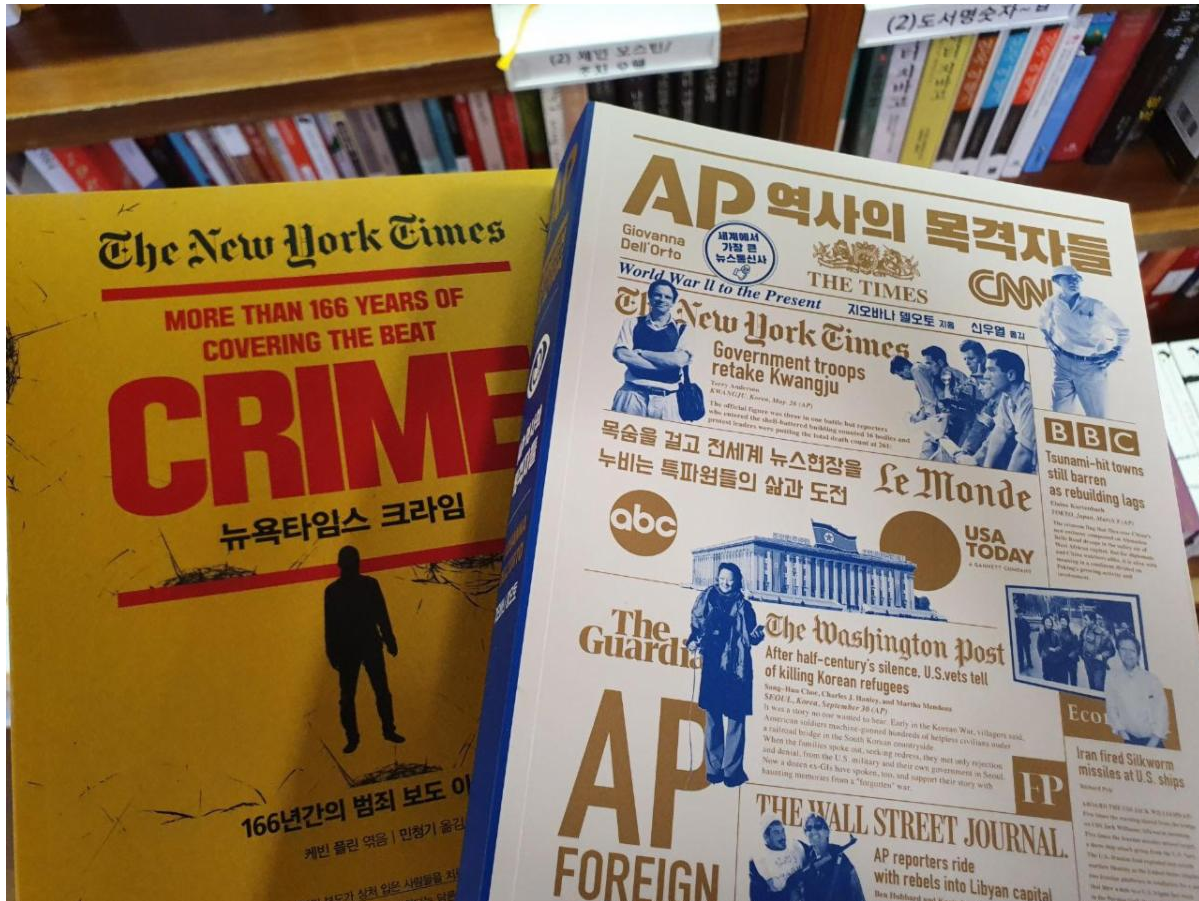
## Follow AP Photo Archive on Instagram

**Julia Weeks** ([Email](#)) - *Photo Editor, Content Curation, AP Images* - With a photo archive dating back to the 1800's and more than a century of photojournalism experience, we've captured some of history's most iconic images.

Follow our AP Photo Archive account on Instagram to discover the unrivaled heritage of groundbreaking photography from The Associated Press.

Click [here](#).

# Her book on AP foreign correspondents now published in Korean



**Giovanna Dell'Orto** ([Email](#)) - I have some pretty cool news that might be worth sharing in Connecting ... my book AP Foreign Correspondents in Action -- based on 61 interviews with AP journalists who covered everything overseas from WWII to the present -- has just been published in Korean!

Above is a photo of the book the November day it was released at the Kyobo bookstore in Seoul (the book was originally published by Cambridge University Press). Note the photos on the Korean golden cover ... clockwise from top left: David Crary (during the Bosnian War), Sam Summerlin (during the Korean War), Charles Hanley (in Iraq), Charles Hutzler (in Beijing), Paul Schemm (in Libya), and Jean Lee (in Pyongyang)! (Note to the other 55 correspondents I interviewed: The Korean publisher chose the photos and the cover!).

The translator who did this monumental job (the book is 393 pages in English ...) is Prof. Wooyeol Shin, my former Ph.D. advisee at the University of Minnesota who now teaches at Kyungnam University in South Korea.

Wooyeol tells me that the book was ranked in the top 10 best-selling books in the social science field throughout November at multiple online bookstores in Korea, and was reviewed in at least ten major daily newspapers and news agencies (like Dong-A Daily and Yonhap News Agency).

Jean Lee very generously provided a preface. In a blurb, the director of the Korea Center for Investigative Journalism, Kim Yong-jin, wrote "This book, which vividly shows the 'reporter spirit' pursued by AP, will be a warning ringing in the Korean media ecosystem that is in crisis today." Je Jung-im, the director of the Semyung Journalism School (modeled after the Missouri School of Journalism) wrote:



The stories of AP correspondents who were “at the forefront of history” at risk of losing their lives on the battlefield, being kidnapped by terrorist forces, or being swept away by a landslide make us look back on “the mission of the press” in awe. Terry Anderson's story that instead of dictating the martial law army's lies in Gwangju in 1980, counted the bodies of the streets, reminds me of how a reporter should work. I hope every Korean who is concerned about journalism today reads this book.

I'm so thrilled (and grateful to Wooyeol) that now Korean journalists and journalism students can be inspired by AP's legendary foreign correspondence!

(Giovanna Dell'Orto is an associated professor at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Minnesota. [Here](#) is an Amazon link to her book.)

## A remembrance of a fine reporter, Tim Clifford





**ABOVE:** Tim Clifford of Newsday and the AP's Karen Ball were close campaign friends in 1992, shown here on then Democratic candidate Bill Clinton's plane. **AT RIGHT:** Tim with his daughter Keely.



**Karen Ball (Email)** - Tim Clifford, one of my best friends and a revered journalist in the 1980s and 1990s when top-notch reporters were widely respected, died Friday after a four-year battle with ALS. He was 66.

He died peacefully at his Manhattan apartment with his wife Susan Jordan and their daughter Keely, a junior at Smith, by his side. He left journalism in the late 1990s for a successful run as an executive level communications strategist for some of New York's biggest firms.

He was stoic about the deadly card he drew and maintained his wicked sense of humor to the end. When I last saw him two years ago, he talked matter-of-factly about his hope to leave Susan and Keely with the means to live comfortably. There was no self-pity in his voice, other than a father's worry about how his death would affect Keely, now 20.



Tim first exhibited symptoms four years ago this Thanksgiving, but it wasn't until August 2017 that he was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive form of ALS called bulbar onset. This wicked form first attacks speech and swallowing. They told Tim he had six to 18 months to live.

I believe making it four years is a testament to his love for Susan and Keely and his zest for life. He brushed off his diagnosis, noting he could still read books and communicate with friends via text, attend sporting events and even travel to Europe, because his limbs still worked. When things got really bad a few months ago, he texted me. "Trying to get used to the new normal. I just hope it lasts a while." At a time when many of us might have opted for the less painful morphine exit, I think he wanted to squeeze every last second he could with Susan and Keely.

To be around Tim was the joy of hearing something interesting or funny every few minutes. Tim's daughter had a friend from the Midwest, whose family was the outdoorsy type. She wondered how a city girl would explain her laid back NY weekends.

"Tell them the truth. We go to brunch, we drink Bloody Marys and we bitch about Trump." Tim said from his beloved Upper East side second-story flat, where he'd had oversized bookshelves installed on a long wall so he could organize his vast collection of books, two deep.

Ben Bradlee, the late executive editor of The Washington Post, personally knew JFK and movie stars alike; he famously gave his reporters the leash to break Watergate and fought to publish the Pentagon Papers. When Bradlee, born to wealth, published his memoir, he titled it The Good Life.

"What's he talking about," I remember Tim scoffing. "That was a GREAT life."

He was an avid reader and sports fan; I'm not sure I ever saw him without a book. We stopped at a Walmart once, and he joked we were "going back to our roots," claiming he'd grown up without much in Buffalo, NY, just as I had on the old East side of Kansas City.

He was exaggerating or just damn smart, because I now realize he must have had his pick of colleges. I vaguely knew he'd gone to Yale but he never boasted about his academic pedigree and it wasn't until after he got sick, when Susan sent me his old resume, that I knew his full story.

YALE UNIVERSITY Graduated magna cum laude with combined degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in History. Awarded Fulbright-Hays Grant to France, Andrew D. White History Prize and Robert C. Bates Traveling Grant.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, UK American Keasbey Scholar. Awarded graduate degree of Bachelor of Philosophy in Modern European History.

I think he told me once he planned to return to the states after Oxford and go for his master's at Princeton, but newspapering was a relentless tug. He quickly found himself at the Boston Herald, where the Irish cops he covered would often greet him with, "Ah, Timmy me boy."

He moved on to Newsday, and that's how we met in 1992, when I covered the presidential race for The Associated Press. We both lived on the Clinton plane for much of the year, and became fast friends.



A few standout memories: drinking decaf cinnamon coffee with him and Clinton aide Bruce Lindsey on a red-eye when the rest of the plane tried to sleep, while an angry and beautiful electric storm lit up the sky outside the galley window.

During the frenetic New York primary, the press corps bus got stuck in traffic on the FDR. Tim and famed Post columnist E.J. Dionne grabbed their heavy laptop bags and decided it would be faster to hoof it into the city.

When I broke the 3 a.m. AP bulletin that Clinton had asked Al Gore to be his running mate, I returned to my Little Rock hotel room later that day to find a huge bouquet of flowers. "Congratulations Karen — Bill and Hillary," the card read. Working on no sleep, it took me a good minute to realize this was a delightful Clifford prank.

On a rare day off, we drove 30 minutes south of DC to the outlet malls called Potomac Mills. Back then, the place was busier than Disneyland on Christmas Day. We circled the acres of car-crammed parking lots hunting for an opening. Then Tim spotted the empty "Employee of the Month" space. Tim argued the odds were in our favor, and we tried to look nonchalant as we enjoyed our short walk into the mall.

Later, after Clinton was in the White House, we were on a trip to the Middle East and idling on the runway in Damascus. We saw the heavily armed Syrian soldiers, their cigarettes glowing in the dark. We looked at each other with an unspoken "Let's go for it." We snuck down the plane's back steps and joined the soldiers for a smoke.

At the end of the 1992 campaign, the AP assigned me to cover Congress and Tim took the reins as DC bureau chief for The New York Daily News. Tim held my hand as I began dating the reserved and talented David Von Drehle of the Post. "OK, we're not gonna let him spit the bit," I remember Tim counseling.

That autumn Tim asked me to join the Daily News to cover the White House; I was reluctant to leave the mothership AP and go to work for a tabloid with screaming headlines. But a lot of big names in DC, including Bradlee, urged me to jump. Tim was offering to put me on Air Force One to Moscow and a \$25,000 raise.

I went for it and looking back, I'm glad I did, if for no other reason than how it deepened my friendship with Tim. We had one of the best editors in the biz back in New York, Susan Jordan, who of course turned out to be the love of Tim's life. My short three-year stint at the Daily News also gave me the gift of getting to know Susan. She's wacky smart, like him, and so creative. Pre-pandemic, she had become one of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's most knowledgeable docents.

Tim was a gentleman, old school, opening doors for men and women alike. He fought for staff raises but I know he gave our young office manager an extra few hundred bucks now and then to make ends meet. I never saw him pass a homeless person without putting some cash in the beggar's pot. He donated platelets faithfully twice a month.

He was graceful and knew how to effortlessly tip cab drivers, valets and doormen. The only place his vanity showed through were his clothes; he wore fine suits and many mornings I'd find him in his office, polishing his Italian loafers.

We held each other up when we got blue. Before he met Susan, a woman he had just started dating ditched him for a congressman. He called me about 6:30 that night and said he needed to go someplace; we set out for Atlantic City and hit the boardwalk and casinos until dawn, and then posed alongside the gaudy statue of Caesar. I'd give anything to have back the pink Caesars t-shirt I picked up on that trip.

I kept dating Von Drehle and he proposed, three months after I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Tim held my hand through all of it, and when I would recount a newlyweds' argument, he would advise, "You really swing from the ankles, Karen. You need to be nicer to hm."

I'm so blessed to have spent that glorious day with Tim in May 2018. His speech was really slurred, but since I knew hm, he was easy enough to understand if I watched his lips. My naughty t-cells had robbed me of the ability to walk very far, so he pushed me around in a wheel chair. Tim had long ago given up cigarettes, but after the ALS diagnosis, well, why not?

We laughed at how funny we must have looked: Tim with a cigarette dangling from his mouth, talking in an ALS language most wouldn't know, pushing the crippled lady around, with her frumpy skirt and Converse sneakers

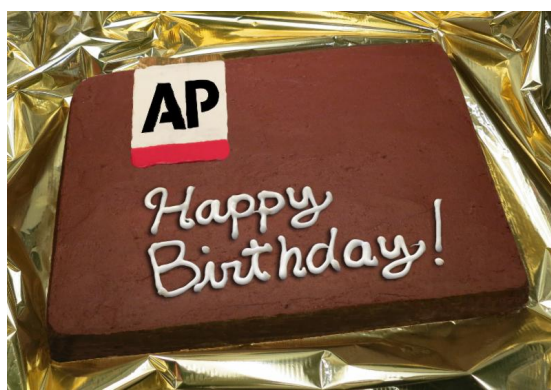
I wonder why this gentle soul with so much to give and say was taken from us while evil bloviators still walk the planet. I'm glad to hear Keely is double majoring in history (like Tim) and government. Besides Susan and his daughter, he leaves his brother Mark and his parents. He kept his mom and dad in the dark about his diagnosis for



many months. "Why worry them?" he explained. Just one of thousands of thoughtful gestures. I will miss him so.

*(Karen Ball worked legislative relief in Jefferson City and Topeka before joining AP in Kansas City in 1985 where she was always proud she'd been part of the coverage of the 1985 World Series even if it was just as a gopher shagging quotes in the locker room. She returned to Jefferson City in 1986 and became correspondent of the state house bureau in 1987, before transferring to the Washington National Desk. Besides politics she covered the Labor beat and Congress before leaving the AP in January 1994. She covered the 1992 presidential campaign for AP and was with the Daily News for the 1996 race.)*

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Dennis Redmont - [dennisredmont600@hotmail.com](mailto:dennisredmont600@hotmail.com)

Kathy Willens - [kathywillens@gmail.com](mailto:kathywillens@gmail.com)

## Stories of interest

***Biden's media diet: Newspapers, magazines, books, and Apple News*** (CNN)

By Brian Stelter

In the same way that "you are what you eat," as the old saying goes, you are what you read and watch and hear. Your beliefs and actions and bets are all based on your sources of information. That's why presidential media diets are important. President Trump's time in office reaffirmed how much these diets matter and made me wonder: What sorts of news does the incoming president consume? What is President-elect Biden reading and watching? On "Reliable Sources," I asked Evan

Osnos, CNN's newest contributor. Osnos is a staff writer at The New Yorker and the author of the new biography "Joe Biden: The Life, The Run, and What Matters Now."

"The President-Elect's media diet is what we would call the classics," Osnos said. "He relies on things like The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal. He reads some of The Economist and The New Yorker. A lot of it in print. He also relies on Apple News to help him get headlines from other reputable media sources. What he is not doing, of course, is reading things like Newsmax, he's not watching One America News Network."

Read more [here](#).

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## ***A Powerful Reporter Got Away With Sexual Misconduct for Decades. His Paper, and His Union, Looked the Other Way.*** (New York Times)

By Ben Smith

As the American news business shrank and struggled over the past decade, a new wave of labor activism caught fire. A younger generation of labor leaders rose up and offered a powerful and progressive vision: They would be transparent, sensitive to issues of racism and sexism and truly accountable to workers.

The movement delivered new leadership, including a stunning upset last December, as a 32-year-old data reporter named Jon Schleuss ousted the longtime, 61-year-old president of the NewsGuild, the nation's largest journalists' union.

"We must do more to promote democracy and transparency in our own house," declared Mr. Schleuss, the first openly gay president of the union.

So it would seem natural that when Mr. Schleuss was alerted, just days after his election, to sexual misconduct by a prominent union official, he would be eager to investigate.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***MSNBC Names Rashida Jones as President, Succeeding Phil Griffin*** (New York Times)

By Michael M. Grynbaum and John Koblin

MSNBC was already preparing for one momentous presidential transition next year. Now the 24-hour cable channel and home to liberal stars like Rachel Maddow is about to take on a second.

Phil Griffin, the MSNBC president whose left-leaning shows yielded big ratings in the Trump years and minted media brands like “The Rachel Maddow Show” and “Morning Joe,” will depart on Feb. 1 after a 12-year tenure, the network said on Monday.

He is to be succeeded by Rashida Jones, a senior vice president for news at MSNBC and NBC News, who will become the first Black woman to take charge of a major television news network. Ms. Jones, 39, currently oversees daytime news coverage for the network and breaking news and specials for NBC’s broadcast news division.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Miami Herald names Monica Richardson first Black executive editor in paper’s history*** (Miami Herald)

BY DAVID SMILEY

The Miami Herald’s parent company named a new executive editor on Monday to lead its newsrooms in Florida — a 30-year veteran of the news business, with expertise in Metro reporting and a specialization in digital news.

Monica R. Richardson, currently the senior managing editor of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, will join the Miami Herald Jan. 1 as its top editor, according to a McClatchy news release.

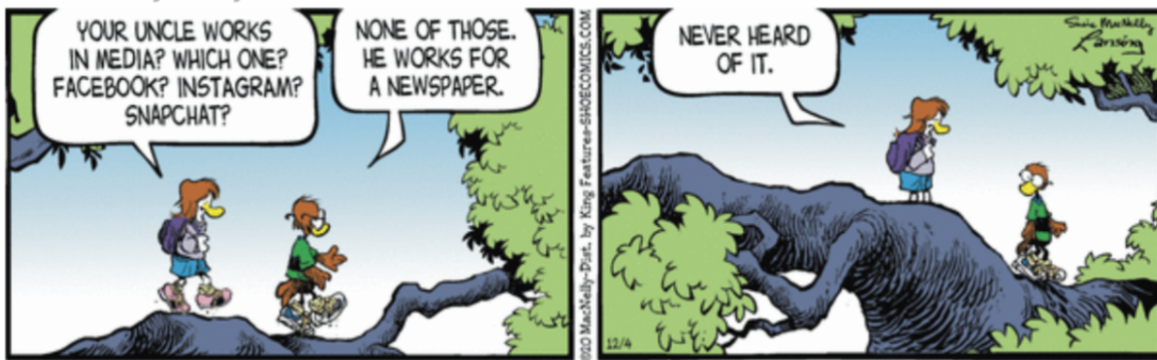
Richardson will be the first Black executive editor in the Herald’s 117-year history.

Read more [here](#).

## **The Final Word**



## Shoe by Gary Brookins



Shared by Len Iwanski

## Today in History - Dec. 8, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 8, the 343rd day of 2020. There are 23 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 8, 1941, the United States entered World War II as Congress declared war against Imperial Japan, a day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

### On this date:

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued his Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction for the South.

In 1886, the American Federation of Labor was founded in Columbus, Ohio.

In 1949, the Chinese Nationalist government moved from the Chinese mainland to Formosa as the Communists pressed their attacks.

In 1972, a United Airlines Boeing 737 crashed while attempting to land at Chicago-Midway Airport, killing 43 of the 61 people on board, as well as two people on the ground; among the dead were Dorothy Hunt, wife of Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt, U.S. Rep. George W. Collins, D-Ill., and CBS News correspondent Michele Clark.

In 1980, rock star and former Beatle John Lennon was shot to death outside his New York City apartment building by an apparently deranged fan.

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev signed a treaty at the White House calling for destruction of intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

In 1991, AIDS patient Kimberly Bergalis, who had contracted the disease from her dentist, died in Fort Pierce, Fla., at age 23.

In 1998, struggling to stave off impeachment, President Bill Clinton's defenders forcefully pleaded his case before the House Judiciary Committee. The Supreme Court ruled that police cannot search people and their cars after merely ticketing them for routine traffic violations.

In 2008, in a startling about-face, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed told the Guantanamo war crimes tribunal he would confess to masterminding the Sept. 11 attacks; four other men also abandoned their defenses.

In 2012, Pakistan's president visited a British hospital where a 15-year-old schoolgirl, Malala Yousafzai (mah-LAH'-lah YOO'-suhf-zeye), was being treated after being shot in the head by a Taliban gunman in October.

In 2013, hundreds of thousands of protesters poured into the streets of the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv (KEE'-ihv), toppling the statue of former Soviet leader Vladimir Lenin and blocking key government buildings in an escalating stand-off with the president on the future of the country.

In 2014, the U.S. and NATO ceremonially ended their combat mission in Afghanistan, 13 years after the Sept. 11 terror attacks sparked their invasion of the country to topple the Taliban-led government.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama rejected claims that he had betrayed Democrats by cutting a deal with Republicans on Bush-era tax cuts and implored his party to back the compromise, arguing it could jump-start the economy. Hackers rushed to the defense of WikiLeaks, launching attacks on MasterCard, Visa, Swedish prosecutors, a Swiss bank and others who had acted against the site and its founder,

Julian Assange. A fire that started during an inmate brawl swept through an overcrowded prison in Chile, killing at least 81 people.

Five years ago: China declared its first ever red smog alert as poisonous air quality forced the government to close schools, order motorists off the road and shut down factories in and around Beijing.

One year ago: Puppeteer Carroll Spinney, who voiced and operated Muppets Big Bird and Oscar the Grouch on "Sesame Street" for nearly 50 years, died at his Connecticut home at the age of 85. Rapper Juice WRLD, age 21, who rose to the top of the charts with "Lucid Dreams," died after what was called a "medical emergency" at Chicago's Midway International Airport; a coroner determined that the death resulted from an accidental overdose of the opioid oxycodone and codeine. Actor Rene Auberjonois, best known for the TV shows "Benson" and "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine," died of lung cancer at his Los Angeles home; he was 79.

Today's Birthdays: Flutist James Galway is 81. Singer Jerry Butler is 81. Pop musician Bobby Elliott (The Hollies) is 79. Actor Mary Woronov is 77. Actor John Rubinstein is 74. Actor Kim Basinger (BAY'-sing-ur) is 67. Rock musician Warren Cuccurullo is 64. Rock musician Phil Collen (Def Leppard) is 63. Country singer Marty Raybon is 61. Political commentator Ann Coulter is 59. Rock musician Marty Friedman is 58. Actor Wendell Pierce is 57. Actor Teri Hatcher is 56. Actor David Harewood is 55. Singer Sinead (shih-NAYD') O'Connor (AKA Shuhada' Davitt) is 54. Actor Matthew Laborteaux is 54. Baseball Hall of Famer Mike Mussina is 52. Rock musician Ryan Newell (Sister Hazel) is 48. Actor Dominic Monaghan is 44. Actor Ian Somerhalder is 42. Rock singer Ingrid Michaelson is 41. R&B singer Chrisette Michele is 38. Actor Hannah Ware is 38. Country singer Sam Hunt is 36. MLB All-Star infielder Josh Donaldson is 35. Rock singer-actor Kate Voegelé (VOH'-gehl) is 34. Christian rock musician Jen Ledger (Skillet) is 31. NHL defenseman Drew Doughty is 31. Actor Wallis Currie-Wood is 29. Actor AnnaSophia Robb 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**  
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