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Connecting

January 04, 2021

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this the 4th day of January 2021,

This is the first issue of Connecting of 2021, a year in which we celebrate the 175th anniversary of the founding of The Associated Press.

The AP was formed in May 1846 by five daily newspapers in New York City to share the cost of transmitting news of the Mexican–American War. The venture was organized by Moses Yale Beach (1800–68), second publisher of The Sun, joined by the New York Herald, the New York Courier and Enquirer, The Journal of Commerce, and the New York Evening Express.

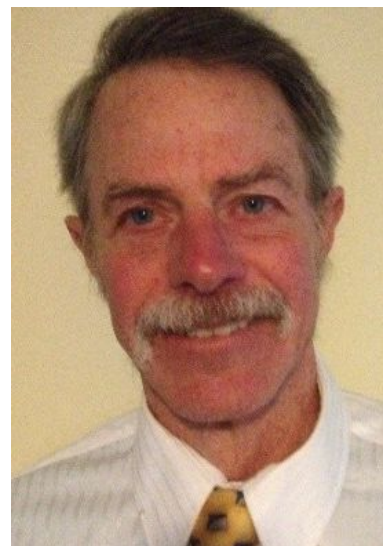
Today, the AP operates in 250 locations in 100 countries relaying breaking news, covering war and conflict and producing enterprise reports that tell the world's stories. Over the past 175 years, the AP was the first to inform the world of many of history's most important moments, from the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and the bombing of Pearl Harbor to the fall of the Shah of Iran and the death of Pope John Paul.

We're saddened to report the death of our colleague **Glenn Adams**, who for more than three decades

covered Maine government, politics and breaking news for the AP. He died last Friday, New Years Day, of complications after heart surgery at Maine Medical Center. He was 70.

If you would like to share a favorite memory of Glenn, please send it along.

IN MEMORIAM CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS: In the listing of those who died in 2020, in last Thursday's Connecting memorial issue, these corrections on spelling of: Lou Felice, Virginia Byrne, Nick Jesdanun. An additional name submitted for the list: Chege Mbitiru.



AND A MEMORY... One of those who died in 2020 was **Carl Niederman** - and our colleague **Bob Seavey** ([Email](#)) wrote to say: "I was saddened to learn of the passing of my friend Carl Niederman in Thursday's Connecting. Carl was a longtime clerk on the International Desk, where I worked with him for several years. He retired in 2009 as the department was reduced during regionalization. Carl was an avid reader with an incredible memory. His knowledge of World War II, hurricanes and old movies was especially remarkable. Though not his job, Carl's information on those topics proved useful many times in adding to a story or getting me on the right track as it was developing."

If you would like to share a memory of any of those who died in 2020, please send it along.

Here's to a much better year – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

Glenn Adams, retired AP correspondent in Maine, dies at 70



FILE - In this Sept. 3, 2008 file photo, Associated Press writer Glenn Adams is elated after completing a flight on an F/A-18 Hornet at the Brunswick Naval Air Station, in Brunswick, Maine. (AP Photo/Pat Wellenbach, File)

**By DAVID SHARP
The Associated Press**

Glenn Adams, a reporter who chronicled Maine government, politics and breaking news for The Associated Press for over three decades, has died. He was 70.

Adams, of Augusta, died Friday of complications after heart surgery at Maine Medical Center, his family said.

“Glenn was a consummate professional who consistently delivered top news from the state and earned the respect of colleagues and competitors. He was kind, curious, adventurous, energetic and optimistic. He’ll be missed,” said William J. Kole, AP’s New England editor.

During 32 years with the AP, Adams covered everything from young peace activist Samantha Smith’s entreaties to the Soviet Union to a caribou roundup in Newfoundland to a state government shutdown.

Adams’ reporting put him inside a Navy F/A-18 Hornet over the Atlantic Ocean and atop a 400-foot wind turbine.

Obstacles to reporting didn't deter him. During a 1998 ice storm that caused extensive power failures, Adams used a boat battery to keep his cellphone charged and had a chain saw gash stitched by candlelight in a doctor's office.

After retiring, he continued his passion for riding his BMW motorcycle, tending to the cross-country ski trails on his property and traveling with his wife, Betty, herself a retired newspaper reporter and journalism lecturer.

His career in journalism began at age 14 in Woodbury, New Jersey, when his story about the Philadelphia Phillies was published in what is now the South Jersey Times.

He attended the University of Maine with plans for a degree in physical education, but he found a passion for journalism as editor of the Maine Campus, the student newspaper.

His adventures included a stint with his wife running the newspaper aboard the ocean liner Queen Elizabeth II.

He started working for the AP in Maine in 1981 and developed an extensive knowledge of politics and political figures that informed his reporting. He retired from his post as Maine State House correspondent in 2013.

Adams and his wife recently became Red Cross volunteers, traveling to Texas and Louisiana to help hurricane evacuees this fall. He continued to write and was active in the Kennebec Historical Society.

Click [here](#) for link to this story.

Your memories of Glenn Adams



Left to right: Adolphe Bernotas, Glenn Adams, Cheryl Laughlin, Joe Magruder, Larry Laughlin at one of the New Hampshire-Maine in August 2019.

Beth Harpaz ([Email](#)) - Glenn was a great reporter and a terrific colleague. I'm just crushed by this news. He was one of those people who really embraced adventure and seemed to relish getting the most out of every day. When I was AP travel editor, I ran lots of stories by him on everything from skiing and cruises to his motorcycle trips with his wife, Betty, whom he adored. They hosted me and my husband at their cabin on a lake in Maine a few summers ago and as a parting gift he gave me a beautiful picture frame that he had made from wood that he artfully salvaged from an old barn. I'll treasure it now as a keepsake.

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Wendy Mitman Clarke ([Email](#)) - I had just arrived in Augusta, Maine, in January, and I didn't know a soul there. Jon Kellogg had stuck me on a hateful night shift at the Statehouse. That place was like a morgue at night, half-lit and full of echoes and shadows and ghosts (and stuffed bears and moose). Maybe there was a security person somewhere, not that I ever saw or heard him or her. And here I am, 24 years old or something, brand new to the AP, feeling about as alone and uncertain as can be, and I'm tapping away at my little computer in that cigarette smoke-embedded office that had an old door that was about four-inch-thick oak with a transom over the top and a mail slot in the middle. And there comes a sound at the mail slot, something not identifiable and erratic. And then the slot slaps open and shut. And of course I am thinking: This is it. I'm in Maine and I'm in a Stephen King novel. I'm trapped in this

room that has no windows and no exit but the door and there's a crazy person who lives in the Statehouse and only comes out at night and they're gonna kill me or worse. And I'm there, with my panic rising, unable even to move to get to the door to lock it (did it even have a lock?), and then the sound turns into a cackle and the mail slot flaps open again and there's a face in it, sideways and giggling, and it's Glenn.

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Peter Jackson ([Email](#)) - Glenn Adams called them his "freebie treasures" - discarded clothing, waterlogged wood, rusty metals - and he gave new life to what others had thrown away.

The retired Associated Press writer, who died on New Year's Day, built a dollhouse for his daughter out of old chair seats and kindling wood - complete with shingles carefully cut from plastic milk jugs.

He towed an abandoned 18-foot wooden boat back to his Augusta home and converted it into a bar. A counter in the State House snack bar discarded by demolition crews was transformed by Adams into a bookcase.

Adams said he had a fixation with "used but not useless" things - a trait that his father instilled in him. In later years, his father would chide him for straightening bent nails, but his son said he considered the bent ones just as good as the others.

"i still use them whenever I can," Adams said in a story he wrote in 2016.

Larry Heinzerling traveled the world for Terry Anderson's cause



AP World photo of the AP team in Germany at time of Terry Anderson's release Dec. 4, 1991. From left: Personnel Executive Carolyn Turolla; Wendell Wood Collins, director of Corporate Communications; Larry Heinzerling, deputy director of World Services;

AP President Lou Boccardi; Frankfurt Bureau Chief Steve Miller, and Photo Editor Don Mell. (AP Photo/Diether Endicher, courtesy of AP Corporate Archives)

Lou Boccardi ([Email](#)) - One name needs to be added to Connecting's good recent coverage of Terry Anderson's ordeal: Larry Heinzerling.

Larry was deputy to World Services chief Claude Erbsen when I detached him for full-time duty on the Anderson case. When I say that Larry traveled the world for the cause, don't reach for the cliché-eliminating copy pencil (oops, I mean cursor). He did exactly that. And he was at my side on the airport tarmac on that cold December 1991 morning at Wiesbaden in Germany when Terry's plane rolled to a stop on the way home via Damascus.

While I'm at it, I should mention the late Carolyn (Wellward) Tuolla in Human Resources, who was compassionately masterful in our care for the families and Nick and Cassandra Ludington. Nick was chief of Middle East Services based in Nicosia where Madeleine Basil lived during Terry's captivity.

There were many, many other loyal hands worrying and working for Terry-- in Washington, New York, really throughout AP. As is widely known, his sister Peggy was a relentless advocate who brought love and grit to the challenge.

Remembering 2020, looking ahead to a better year

Paul Stevens – Among the newsletters I received by mail and email over the holidays was one from my friend and colleague **Linda Deutsch** ([Email](#)) of Los Angeles. We were hoping to meet up sometime in 2020 with other AP friends when Linda and I planned our annual visit to LA. But coronavirus ended those travel plans.

Like all of us, Linda found silver linings in an otherwise dreadful year and I thought I would share these from her newsletter:

I reclaimed my love of nature. Hiking in the hills above my home with my delightful personal trainer, Alayna Zwick, opened new vistas for me that had been there all along. How had I not taken advantage of the gorgeous Hollywood Reservoir where seagulls and hawks swoop below the Hollywood Sign and ducks skim along the water. Other trails offered inspiration with flowers and views of my beautiful city.



I committed to exercise. With Alayna's urging, I bought hiking poles and so far have gotten up to 2 miles per walk. We also did FaceTime exercise sessions with weights, wall pushups and ballet steps. Having had a knee replacement two years ago, this was essential to my well-being. I also lost 10 pounds.

I learned to cook – somewhat. Necessity is the mother of.... I was determined not to exist on takeout deliveries. Some of my culinary experiments were enjoyed by my garbage disposal. But I was able to settle on some tasty staples that keep me fed. I've cut down to two meals a day which is more than enough.

Facebook became more of a lifeline than ever. And I ventured into Twitter and Instagram as well. My FB friends list is edging toward 3,000 and I have connected with friends and family across the world. It's comforting to know there's always someone out there to contact.

I learned the wonders of Zoom and webinars and have participated in happy hours, lectures, family reunions, two seders, a Hanukkah lighting ceremony and fascinating book parties. I even delivered a program on Zoom with my friend law professor Laurie Levenson. I'm finally at ease talking to a screen full of faces in little boxes.

Television was another lifeline. I became enchanted with the streaming series, "Schitt's Creek," that saved my sanity. It was recommended by two friends whose intellectual creds convinced me to ignore the title and jump in. I converted so many people to the show that I received congratulations when they won all the Emmys.

I became accustomed to watching movies on Netflix, Amazon Prime and a cornucopia of streaming services. However, I will never give up the big screen.

Appearances matter, so I have a collection of face masks with colors to match outfits and themes including newspaper front pages and Elvis, of course.

Lest you think that I have gone completely soft in the head, let me add a favorite cartoon (below) which seems to mirror my situation.



Chris Sullivan (Email) - "Pandemics are disconcerting because they reveal that people are not only more similar than they like to think but, in some essential ways, identical—made up of the same cells, the same weaknesses." This line comes from a New Yorker review of an anthology of poetry about our current pandemic, and it called to mind one of the few silver linings of the year that we've just passed. For many of us, the lockdown led to more reading – and for me, the book that has returned most often to my thoughts was a perhaps strange one: Daniel Defoe's *A Journal of the Plague Year*, an account of the 1665 contagion in London, which would be described today as "based on a true story." (It's considered a prototype of the novel.)

It stays with me, I think, because so much of what Defoe describes could be the daily headlines of 2020: the eerily mysterious arrival of the disease; the departure of the wealthy from the city, leaving the poor behind; the quack "cures"; the relentless death-count updates; the distrust of science by many; the harsh quarantine mandates but also the government's constructive measures to provide economic relief; finally, the emotional downs and ups and downs again, as the pandemic rages, then abates, then revives.

When people finally start sensing a glimmer of hope – maybe a bit like the moment we're in, as vaccinations haltingly move forward and photos of people getting shots go viral -- Defoe writes:

"It is impossible to express the change that appeared in the very countenances of the people that Thursday morning when the weekly bill came out... a secret surprise and smile of joy sat on everybody's face. They shook one another by the hands in the streets, who would hardly go on the same side of the way with one another before. Where the streets were not too broad they would open their windows and call from one house to another, and ask how they did, and if they had heard the good news that the plague was abated."

Three and a half centuries afterward, we have reached a new year. The turn of a calendar page does not take us out of danger, of course, or justify any recklessness about preventive measures (no hand-shaking for us yet). But at the start of 2021, let's look around at each other, and let's be as hopeful as we can be, and grateful. Here's Defoe's concluding thought, in verse:

*"A dreadful plague in London was
In the year sixty-five,
Which swept an hundred thousand souls
Away; yet I alive!"*

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Jim Hood ([Email](#)) - I was buying a Wall Street Journal from a machine a few years ago when a nearby street corner idler quipped, "Hey, does that paper have tomorrow's stock prices?"

Making any predictions about anything these days feels like trying to time the market but you asked, so here's what I hope to be doing in 2021 - continuing to develop my latest anything-but-retirement venture, the Consumer Education Council of North America, or CECNA for short.

CECNA basically builds on my 20 years or so at ConsumerAffairs.com. But instead of product reviews and a large daily budget of consumer-focused news stories, CECNA is initially concentrating on e-learning and online training. Yes, they are the same thing but we have to cram in all the keywords so Grampa Google doesn't get confused.

We're set up as a non-profit, the first such thing I've been associated with since a certain well-known news organization, and we're hoping to work with other small non-profits, community groups and local governments. To date, we have built two courses for use by call center "counselors" and a third is in the works.

A year or so ago, I was cranking up ObitCenter.com, whose aim was to publish free obituaries and consumer guides to affordable funerals. But we were competing with some large players with very big ad budgets and we ended up donating the business to a non-profit medical information site. Besides, if we had stayed in business we might have been buried (sorry) by the COVID-19 crush.

Now for a parting plug: If any of you Connectorians know of a worthwhile small group that needs to get out of the 1980 PowerPoint world, ask them to check us out. We work for next to nothing and can be quite pleasant to deal with, according to people who asked not to be identified so as to say nice things about themselves.

Who's been Naughty and Nice?

Doug Pizac (Email) - We just finished the December holiday season where Santa utilized his famous “Naughty and Nice” list. Here are some stories that might have been on it.

For the naughty side, the Editor-in-Chief, leadership and legal team of the Collegian student newspaper at Penn State gave its “volunteer” photojournalists an ultimatum in November to sign a contract and waiver within two days if they wanted to return to the paper in the spring. The agreement which also included an indemnification clause, would give the paper authorization to photograph, record, film or videotape the staff or to use any media they submit,



including copyright ownership, where the paper could reproduce, copy, sell, etc. it in perpetuity. This is commonly referred to as an all rights grabbing contract. The staff protested and contacted the attorney for the National Press Photographers Association and Student Press Law Center. The students were advised not to sign and instead wrote a letter to the paper’s management with their concerns. The contract was withdrawn for review. A revised agreement was given to the staff on Dec. 15th for signage before the 20th. The deadline to return the signed contracts has passed. Here is the PetaPixel [story](#), with more information and copies of the contracts and written exchanges.

Another naughty story comes out of China where one of its citizen’s journalists has been sentenced to four years in jail on charges of “picking quarrels and provoking trouble” for breaking the coronavirus outbreak story in Wuhan. For more details, here are the [NBC News](#) and [CNN](#) stories.

And here’s a naughty [story](#) by The Intercept on how the Trump administration is using HIPPA to keep the media from doing COVID photography by Getty, Reuters, etc., in hospitals and other places.

Also on the “nice” list is a Forbes [story](#) about a federal judge dismissing Rep. Davin Nunes’ defamation suit against the Washington Post on Christmas Eve.

Another nice [story](#) is by The Hill about The Washington Post adding 150 jobs in 2021, bringing the newsroom to record size.

And the biggest present to photographers and media companies can be found in the recently passed and signed federal spending package. Within it are three bills of note. One is the Trademark Modernization Act ([link](#)) that combats trademark applications based on doctored photos to cut down on fraud.

The second is the Protecting Lawful Streaming Act ([link](#)) that makes it a felony to stream copyrighted content -- formerly just a misdemeanor. It closes a loophole.

And the granddaddy is the CASE Act that instead of spending tens of thousands of dollars and years in federal court to fight copyright infringements, a small-claims type court will be set up to hear copyright complaints. Here are stories about the CASE Act passage: [PetaPixel](#), [NPPA](#), [Axios](#), [Billboard Magazine](#), and [The Verge](#),

Connecting mailbox

John Kuglin remembered

Len Iwanski ([Email](#)) - Former AP Montana Chief of Bureau John Kuglin was memorialized in a [story](#) titled "In memoriam: Notable Helenans we lost in 2020," published January 1 in Helena's Independent Record newspaper.

John Kuglin

Aug. 9, 1941 – Feb. 29, 2020



During his 40-year journalism career, John Kuglin helped shape Montana government and paved the way for future reporters to do the same.

Kuglin worked as a reporter for the *Missoulian* and the *Independent Record* in 1965 before going on to cover Montana government for the *Great Falls Tribune*. He later went to work for the *Associated Press* in Washington state and Wyoming before moving to Helena to become the bureau chief for Montana and Wyoming.

During his time in Montana, Kuglin oversaw coverage of major stories such as the arrest of Unabomber Ted Kaczynski in 1996 and the FBI standoff with the anti-government Freemen that same year. In 1988 he started the Montana Freedom of Information Hotline, which gives journalists and other members of the public free legal advice on public records and open government issues.

“John was a champion of the free press and a staunch defender of Montana’s constitutional right-to-know,” said former AP news editor John MacDonald, who was hired by Kuglin in 1990. “More than that, he was a good man and a damn fine fisherman.”

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A view from Thailand



Denis Gray (Email) - We are enjoying a Holiday Season which we wish others could -- a virtually COVID-free country where almost everyone follows safe practice and a lovely environment. Above is a view from our verandah over the rice field we own. Located in a village 25 kilometers north of Chiang Mai, Thailand. A wonderful family near us farms the field but we don't charge any rent.

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A 'driving rightside or leftside' tale

Marcus Eliason (Email) - Not long after I transferred to London, I had a funny driving incident on the road. I had driven my daughter to school and briefly left the car unattended at a no-stopping curb to walk her across the road. Then, seeing a policeman approaching, I hurried back to the car and jumped in, only to discover that the steering wheel was gone.

I had mistakenly jumped into the passenger seat.

When I explained the mixup, the bobby was sufficiently amused to spare me a ticket.

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Help keep this beacon in Berkeley shining

Allen Matthews ([Email](#)) - After finishing up our most punishing year, I want to point you in this first week of 2021 toward a beacon in Berkeley: The Daily Cal. The training it provides student journalists is amazing. Pulitzer winners, authors, film makers, radio stars, web gurus, philanthropists, lawyers and, of course, goofy newspaper reporters like me are among our alumni. Please click [here](#) to donate if you have a couple of bucks to spare.



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A full moon over LA – and plenty of photographers to shoot it





Nick Ut ([Email](#)) – Shooting a full moon over Los Angeles last week.

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Respected Alabama and American journalist Joe Distelheim dies at 78 - al.com

Richard Chady ([Email](#)) - "In typical fashion, Distelheim also wrote his own obituary, which started with a paragraph that defined him and also showed the humor he often deployed as a writer. "Joe Distelheim, a retired newspaperman, died December 30, 2020, wondering how he's going to get his news from now on. He was 78, a 15-year resident of Hilton Head."

"The obituary went on to wryly note Distelheim's service as a United States Marine who "survived the Battle of Parris Island, vowing never again to find himself anywhere near the place." He left the Marines after six years as a sergeant."

Click [here](#) for the obituary.

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It's all in the titles



John Willis (Email) - Although it is the New Year and we all ‘want’ to be back to normal—here’s something shared by a friend to keep you occupied for the next few months until we can.

Happy New Year!!!!

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End of 2020 in Ponce Inlet



Jo Steck ([Email](#)) - Last day of 2020 in Ponce Inlet, Florida. Happy New Year!

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Cornbread Smile...



Scott Charton ([Email](#)) - This happy fellow came out of my oven to smile over our New Year's Day table. I take it as a great sign for 2021. Cheers!

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Dan George - dan.george@mindspring.com

Noreen Gillespie – ngillespie@ap.org

Stories of interest

Gunmen kill prominent journalist in western Afghanistan (AP)

By TAMEEM AKHGAR

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — An Afghan journalist and human rights activist was shot and killed on Friday by unidentified gunmen in western Afghanistan, the fifth journalist to be killed in the war-ravaged country in the past two months, a provincial spokesman said.

Bismillah Adil Aimaq was on the road near Feroz Koh, the provincial capital of Ghor, returning home to the city after visiting his family in a village nearby, when gunmen opened fire at the vehicle.

According to the provincial governor's spokesman, Arif Abir, others in the car, including Aimaq's brother, were unharmed. Aimaq worked as the head of the local Radio Sada-e-Ghor station and was also a human rights activist in the province.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the shooting. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid insisted the insurgents were in no way connected with the shooting.

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

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Hedge fund Alden looks to buy Tribune Publishing and go private in deal valuing newspaper chain at \$520 million (Chicago Tribune)

By ROBERT CHANNICK

Hedge fund Alden Global Capital is looking to buy Tribune Publishing and take the Chicago-based newspaper company private in a deal valued at \$520 million.

Alden, which already owns 32% of Tribune Publishing, made a nonbinding proposal on Dec. 14 to buy out other shareholders for \$14.25 per share, according to a filing Thursday with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

“We are confident that we can move forward with negotiating definitive documentation for the Transaction immediately, with the goal of entering into a binding material definitive agreement within two to three weeks, which we believe would maximize value, speed and certainty for Tribune’s other stockholders,” Alden said in the filing.

The potential offer represents an 11% premium to the stock’s \$12.79 closing price Wednesday, and would require board and shareholder approval. Alden said in the filing it could finance the transaction with cash on hand and would not require third-party debt or equity to complete the deal.

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

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In a Widening News Desert on the Border, a Tabloid Start-Up Defies the Odds (New York Times)

By James Dobbins

DEL RIO, Texas — At the Chihuahuan Desert’s eastern limits, in a parking lot above Lake Amistad, Brian Argabright photographed anglers and their catch at the Border Bass Battle for The Del Rio News-Herald, a chronicler of the wind-swept border town since 1884.

Three days later, he would learn the tournament story would be his last for The News-Herald.

On Nov. 18, the nationwide newspaper crisis touched Val Verde County when The News-Herald printed its final edition. The end was swift for the staff and a shock to residents, who had somehow expected their newspaper to last forever.

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

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Hanging up his bag after delivering newspapers for 50 years

By KELLY URBAN, The (Johnstown) Tribune-Democrat

JENNERSTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Bill Berkey was 17 years old when he delivered his first newspaper for The Tribune-Democrat.

Fifty years later, on Dec. 31, the 67-year-old was to deliver his last edition and hang up his delivery bag for good.

“I really enjoyed doing it,” Berkey said. “I’m going to miss it when I go, but it’s becoming too much.

“I’m very proud of having delivered newspapers to my friends and neighbors for 50 years.”

Berkey began his career in the summer of 1970, delivering the newspaper in the Jennerstown area, and shared the route with his brother, Tim.

“My dad wanted us to do it,” he said.

But within a year, Berkey took over the route and was doing it by himself.

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

Today in History - Jan. 4, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Jan. 4, the fourth day of 2021. There are 361 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 4, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson delivered his State of the Union address in which he outlined the goals of his "Great Society."

On this date:

In 1821, the first native-born American saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton, died in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

In 1904, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Gonzalez v. Williams*, ruled that Puerto Ricans were not aliens and could enter the United States freely; however, the court stopped short of declaring them citizens. (Puerto Ricans received U.S. citizenship in March 1917.)

In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address, called for legislation to provide assistance for the jobless, elderly, impoverished children and the handicapped.

In 1944, Ralph Bunche became the first African-American officer at the State Department as he was appointed to a post in the Near East and African Section.

In 1964, Pope Paul VI began a visit to the Holy Land, the first papal pilgrimage of its kind.

In 1974, President Richard Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

In 1987, 16 people were killed when an Amtrak train bound from Washington, D.C., to Boston collided with Conrail locomotives that had crossed into its path from a side track in Chase, Maryland.

In 1999, Europe's new currency, the euro, got off to a strong start on its first trading day, rising against the dollar on world currency markets. Former professional wrestler Jesse Ventura took the oath of office as Minnesota's governor.

In 2002, Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Ross Chapman, a U.S. Army Special Forces soldier, was killed by small-arms fire during an ambush in eastern Afghanistan; he was the first American military death from enemy fire in the war against terrorism.

In 2006, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon suffered a significant stroke; his official powers were transferred to his deputy, Ehud Olmert (EH'-hood OHL'-murt). (Sharon remained in a coma until his death in January 2014.)

In 2007, Nancy Pelosi was elected the first female speaker of the House as Democrats took control of Congress.

In 2010, Dubai opened the world's tallest skyscraper, and in a surprise move renamed the 2,717-foot gleaming glass-and-metal tower Burj Khalifa in a nod to the leader of neighboring Abu Dhabi, the oil-rich sheikdom that had come to its financial rescue.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama signed a \$1.4 billion overhaul of the nation's food safety system. The Navy fired the commander of the USS Enterprise, Capt. Owen Honors, more than three years after he'd made lewd videos to boost morale for his crew. (Honors was later reprimanded but allowed to remain in the Navy; he retired in 2012.) The Mega Millions lottery drew two winning tickets for a jackpot totaling \$380 million. (In a strange coincidence, four of the six winning numbers matched those used by a lottery-winning character on the TV show "Lost.")

Five years ago: Workers returned to their offices at the San Bernardino, California campus where 14 people were killed the previous month in a terror attack carried out by a county restaurant inspector and his wife. The Justice Department sued Volkswagen over emissions-cheating software found in nearly 600,000 vehicles sold in the United States.

One year ago: Thousands of militiamen and other supporters marched across Iraq's capital in a funeral procession for Iran's top general, Qassem Soleimani, who was killed in a U.S. airstrike. President Donald Trump threatened to hit dozens of targets in Iran "very fast and very hard," including sites "important to Iran & the Iranian culture," if Iran retaliated for the killing. Australia's prime minister said the death toll in the worst wildfire season in Australian history had climbed to 23, including a father and son who had been battling flames for two days.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Barbara Rush is 94. Opera singer Grace Bumbry is 84. Actor Dyan Cannon is 82. Author-historian Doris Kearns Goodwin is 78. Country singer Kathy Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 66. Actor Ann Magnuson is 65. Rock musician Bernard Sumner (New Order, Joy Division) is 65. Country singer Patty Loveless is 64. Actor Julian Sands is 63. Rock singer Michael Stipe is 61. Actor Patrick Cassidy is 59. Actor Dave Foley is 58. Actor Dot Jones is 57. Actor Rick Hearst is 56. Singer-musician Cait O'Riordan is 56. Actor Julia Ormond is 56. Former tennis player Guy Forget (ghee fohr-ZHAY') is 56. Country singer Deana Carter is 55. Rock musician Benjamin Darvill (Crash Test Dummies) is 54. Actor Josh Stamberg is 51. Actor Damon Gupton is 48. Actor-singer Jill Marie Jones is 46. Actor D'Arcy Carden is 41. Christian rock singer Spencer Chamberlain (Underoath) is 38. Actor Lenora Crichlow is 36. Comedian-actor Charlyne Yi is 35. MLB All-Star Kris Bryant is 29. Actor-singer Coco Jones is 23.

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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