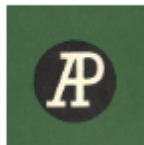


SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

[View as Webpage](#)



Connecting

February 16, 2021

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



[Top AP News](#)
[Top AP Photos](#)

[Connecting Archive](#)
[AP Emergency Relief Fund](#)
[AP Books](#)



Brass and wood telegraph key, 1844. Smithsonian Institution National Museum of American History, Western Union Telegraph Collection, Washington, D. C. This key was made by machinist Alfred Vail (1809-56) of Middletown, N.J. for use on the first Baltimore-Washington telegraph line. With his scientific partner Samuel F. B. Morse, Vail used this key to demonstrate the telegraph to Congress on May 24, 1844. The telegraph marks a watershed in human communication. News that had previously traveled as fast as the fastest boat, horse, pigeon, sleigh or rail car now moved instantaneously, often arriving at its destination the same day it was sent. People living far from one another could read the same information at the same time, an astonishing development that helped to knit the country, and communities, together.

Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 16th day of February 2021,

The Associated Press (AP) celebrates its 175th birthday in May 2021.

To mark this milestone, the AP Corporate Archives has assembled a concise visual history of the organization, offered in an eight-part monthly blog, "AP at 175." In images drawn from the Corporate Archives and our vast news photography collection, we trace both change and constancy in a global news organization that has championed objective journalism since 1846. Images have been chosen for their visual and narrative power. Collectively, they document AP's origins and governance, its gifted journalists and editors, and its continuous technological innovation on behalf of the members.

Valerie Komor (Email), director of AP Corporate Archives, is in charge of the blog which will continue through September. Spotlight Blog editors are **Jonathan Elderfield**

and **Julia Weeks**.

The book on which this blog is based, *AP Through Time*, will be available soon for purchase (as an Ebook or on paper) on the Blurb.com website. I will provide a link.

What's the story behind your email address?

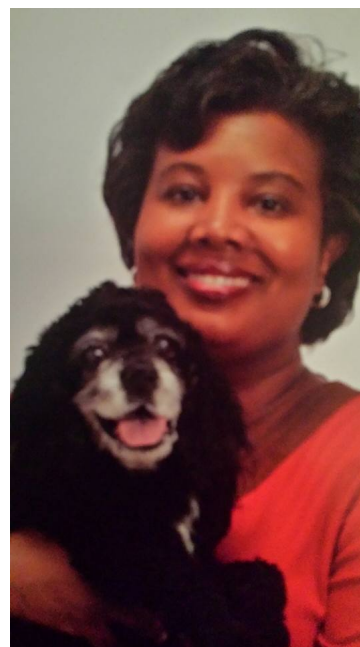
I asked our colleague **Lisa Matthews**, AP assignment manager for U.S. Video in Washington and newly installed president of the National Press Club, the meaning behind her email – 4pumpkin@gmail.com

“Funny, Paul,” she replied, “Pumpkin was my cocker spaniel. She had multiple health issues including Cushing’s disease, so I created an email address for her. Lots of emails with her specialist... Also had a credit card for her... She was a good girl. Pumpkin Matthews skipped the rainbow in 2015.”

I am sure Lisa is not the only person with meaning behind her or his email address. If you have a story behind yours, please share it with Connecting.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul



AP at 175: A Photographic History

Text by VALERIE KOMOR

Part 1: Beginnings, 1846-60



Hudson Broadside (detail), engraved and hand-colored with ink flourishes. This is one of six vignettes bordering the broadside that illustrates various methods of news transmission: horse, sleigh, steamship, rowboat, railroad and a message sealed inside a glass bottle adrift on the ocean. APCA.

Between AP's founding in 1846 and the election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency in 1860, the telegraph continued its rapid expansion up and down the East coast and westward. The first transcontinental telegraph, completed October 24, 1861, joined existing networks by means of a segment between Omaha and Carson City.

As this revolutionary technology took hold, AP grew apace, establishing agreements for the exchange of news from across the country and refining its procedures for collecting and transmitting foreign news. New Hampshire native and pigeon trainer Daniel H. Craig (1814-95), AP's second General Agent (today's CEO), envisioned a national newsgathering and distribution system, based upon the telegraph, which he codified in the 1851 circular, "The General News Association of New York."

Early on, Craig embraced the ideal of factual reporting. During New York state legislative elections in 1853, he asked his reporters to send accurate election results, based on the best information at hand, but were that not possible, he added, “we suggest the propriety of sending nothing.” The “culture of the fact,” as historian Jill Lepore describes it, rooted itself firmly from the start, forming the bedrock of AP identity and mission.

Read more [here](#).

Congrats to a ‘retiring’ John Rogers

Steve Loeper (Email) - Congratulations to fellow Valley boy and AP’s laconic maven of all things LA, John Rogers, whose retirement was announced in Monday’s Connecting. As Frank Baker noted, John has indeed been the Los Angeles bureau’s Swiss Army Knife, but without those sharp edges. I worked with John off and on during his AP career and as an editor, I couldn’t have asked for a better combination in a staffer – lowkey, high output and a really nice guy. We both grew up in the suburban San Fernando Valley and had observed the evolving LA ethos through the years. Despite his movement around the company, he never lost his appreciation and awareness of the hometown scene -- from the clubs of the Sunset Strip to the taco trucks of Van Nuys. We’d come to John with a vague concept reflecting on some LA irony and he’d grasp the nuance immediately and soon put it to life in 700 words. But more often, he’d come to us with his own discovery of yet another intriguing tale from Tinseltown. And now, I look forward to the LA Noir novel I just know is coming next from John C. Rogers. Or maybe he’ll take it direct to Netflix.

Florida and the pandemic

Bill Kaczor (Email) - I will not defend anything that Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis has done about anything, much less his response to the pandemic. However, I’ve lived in the Florida Panhandle most of my life and my experience with the coronavirus vaccine could not have been more different than what Adolphe Bernotas described (in Monday’s Connecting.)

I am 74, so I fell just under the CDC recommended age limit of 75 and was prepared for a long wait. DeSantis, in an obvious appeal to the senior vote, lowered Florida’s age limit to 65 and put everyone at or above that station in life ahead of grocery clerks, teachers and others whose work is considered vital. His stated reason was that older people are more likely to die from the virus. I can’t argue with that, but they also tend to be more reliable voters than younger people. We have a neighborhood email chat site and our county, Santa Rosa, posted a link for the 65-plus group to sign up online for the vaccine, which I did in early January. The next week, I received a phone call from Pensacola Baptist Hospital, which also runs our local hospital in Gulf Breeze, asking if I wanted an appointment to get vaccinated. I agreed and the friendly hospital lady set up an appointment for me and my wife a couple days later on Jan. 13 at the Gulf Breeze Recreation Center, about a five-minute drive from our home. We got there about 10 minutes early, but were immediately ushered in, did some paperwork, got our shots and waited the required 15 minutes to make sure nothing bad happened. The whole thing took no more than 30 minutes. Things went just as

smoothly on Feb. 10 when we got our second shot. So, everything isn't horrible in Florida, at least not in the Panhandle. By the way, I think Adolphe meant Crestview, not Clearview, as I am unknowing such a town in the Panhandle.

Now, that's no fish story!



Charles Hill (Email) – My son Zack holds a pike he caught while ice fishing Feb. 7 on one of the many lakes in Oakland County, northwest of Detroit. After the photo, he quickly released the pike back into the lake. Zack, his girlfriend and two friends took Zack's portable ice shanty out to the lake and used the auger seen in the photo to cut a hole in the ice; the low temperature that snowy day was 5 and the high was 13, and Zack estimates the ice was 8 inches thick. The fish is beautiful, though Charles notes that the fish pictures he usually gets from Zack are of much larger catches such as salmon, walleye and catfish. The photo was taken by Zack's girlfriend from inside the heated ice shanty, where it was way warmer than where Zack was standing. (Charles is retired AP bureau chief in Detroit.)

Another AP Sighting



From the Asbury Park (N.J.) Middle School Blue Bishops Apparel Store. Spotted by Richard Drew.

Communications Gone Berserk

Gene Herrick (Email) - Since the advent of the telephone – a device that has evolved from some wires to an instrument hanging on the wall. The old wall phone could have many listeners on the same call, and to today's small hand-held portable instrument called an I-phone.

Times have changed, and so has mankind's communication today, and it is so broad and complicated that it has changed the living and thinking patterns of its world citizens.

The world-wide internet with its millions of participants has changed the living and cognizant thinking – some good, and some bad – of its users. The various internet programs – like Facebook, Twitter, and the many other spots give the average person the ability to express themselves and communicate with friends worldwide.

However, many of the postings are from people who enjoy writing falsehoods, and fabrications about controversial subjects – such as politics – and some just plain

dangerous lies. Some are from foreign countries with the intent of changing the minds of participants. Russia and China have been great participants in this mind-changing era, especially silently and unobserved in this country's election process.

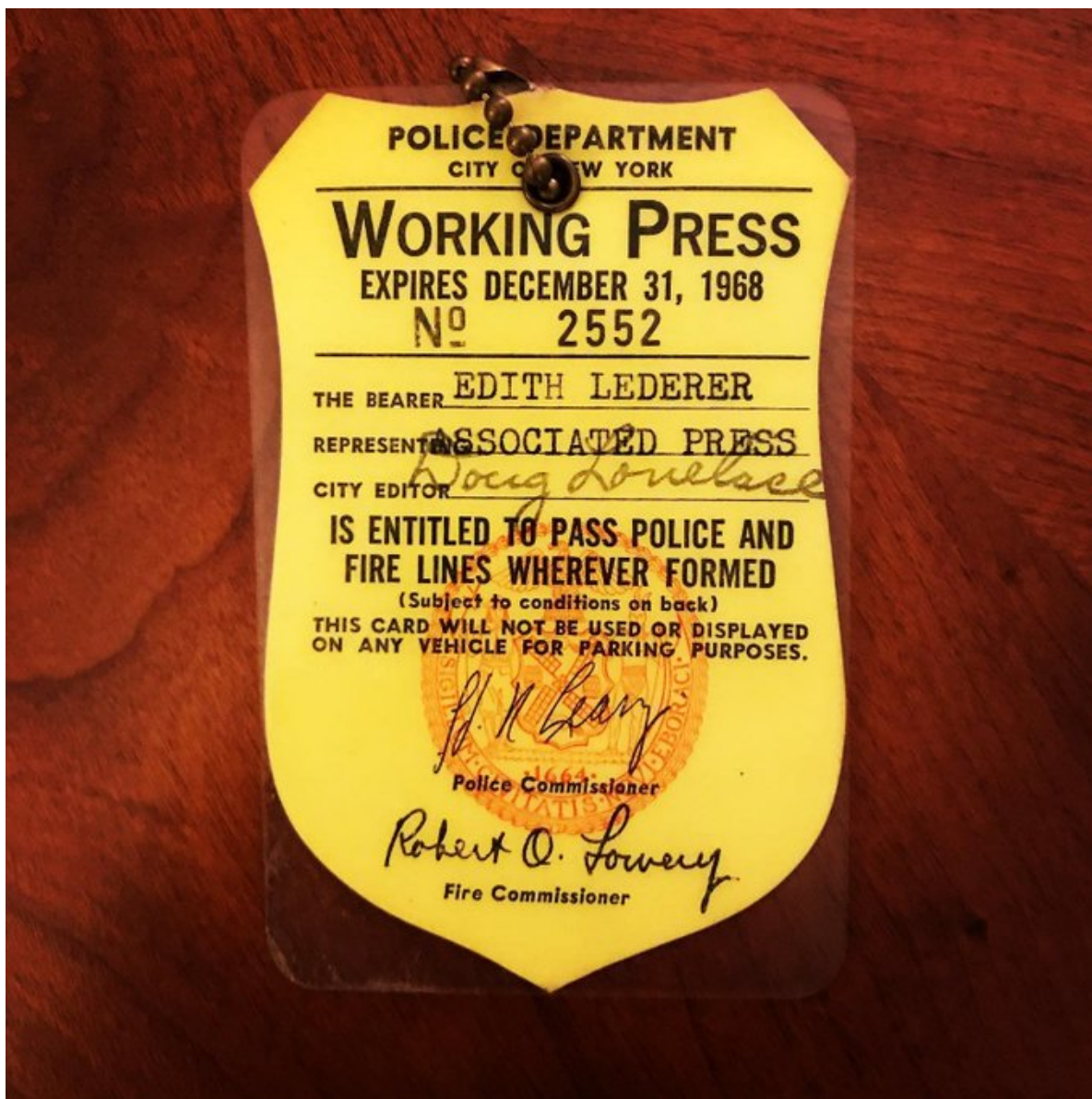
Millions of people use the Internet to bolster their egos, and share with the world the tiny little events in their daily lives. Many friendships have been ruined through this process. Some people do not want their names, pictures, and data put on the "Gossip Wire." Others worry about government agencies monitoring the internet to find people, and/or get information about them.

However, the internet has become an instant treasure of knowledge and research. Google, for instance, is the "Go TO" internet site for just about anything. Dictionaries are seemingly obsolete.

One wonders about too much communication, and the World Order. Where will we be in 5, 10, or 20 years from now? As the old-timer said getting on the train, "Where are we going?"

Stories of interest

The NYPD Wants Out Of The Press Credentialing Business (Gothamist)



BY CHRISTOPHER ROBBINS

For decades, the NYPD has determined which journalists are allowed to take pictures at a crime scene, report on the streets after an 8 p.m. curfew, and enter police headquarters for news conferences. But on Tuesday morning, the NYPD announced that it is ready to relinquish that responsibility to another city agency.

The police department's new stance comes as the City Council debates a package of legislation aimed at police reform. One of those bills would transfer press credentialing authority away from the police department to the Department of Citywide Administrative Services, which handles employment issues for city agencies.

At a hearing to discuss the bill on Tuesday morning, NYPD attorney Oleg Chernyavsky framed the department's position as a welcome restructuring, and compared it to a recent decision by the de Blasio administration to move street vending enforcement away from the police.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Francesca Pitaro.

-0-

ABC News Suspends Correspondent Matt Gutman For Violating Company Covid-19 Policy In Hospital Visit (Deadline)

By TED JOHNSON

EXCLUSIVE: ABC News chief national correspondent Matt Gutman has been suspended for violating a company policy on Covid-19 safety.

A spokesperson for the network declined to comment, as did Gutman.

A source familiar with the situation said that Gutman was suspended for violating company safety rules having to do with going into a hospital for a story without getting permission from management beforehand. It was not immediately clear how long the suspension will last.

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

-0-

Major Australian media company strikes Google news pay deal (AP)

By ROD McGUIRK

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Seven West Media has become the largest Australian news media business to strike a deal with Google to pay for journalism in a partnership announced Monday before the nation's Parliament considers draft laws to force digital giants to pay for news.

Google and the publicly listed broadcast television, print and online publishing company jointly announced they had agreed on a "long-term partnership" after weekend discussions Australian government ministers had with media executives, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Sundar Pichai, chief executive of Alphabet Inc. and its subsidiary Google.

Kerry Stokes, chairman of Seven West Media, which owns 21 publications, thanked the government and the Australian competition regulator for their proposed law that the Parliament will consider Tuesday.

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

-0-

21 Award-Winning Photos From National Sony World Photography 2021 Competition (Forbes)

By Cecilia Rodriguez

The World Photography Organization has announced the national award winners for the Sony World Photography Awards 2021.

The prestigious competition, now in its ninth year, aims to recognize the most deserving photos from 50 participating countries.

More than 330,000 images from 220 territories were submitted to the 10 categories of the Sony World Photography Awards 2021 and over 165,000 were entered to the Open competition from which the National Awards photos were selected.

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

-0-

A Photographer, Seen Through the Eyes of His Late Wife (New Yorker)

By Rumaan Alam

In 1973, the photographer Seiichi Furuya left his native Japan for Europe by Trans-Siberian rail. He met Christine Gössler, a student of art history, in Austria in 1978, and after a few months' courtship the two married. Furuya documented their bohemian life in Iron Curtain-era Europe: travel, cigarettes, apartments that still appear stylish across the distance of time. Eventually, he started an art magazine, and she was drawn to a career in the theatre. They had a baby and settled in East Germany. A few years later, Gössler died by suicide.

In the course of their relationship, Furuya had photographed his wife regularly, though I think it would be wrong to describe Gössler as her spouse's muse—a term that suggests the model as object. Furuya's images were quotidian in a way that seemed to presage our contemporary relationship to the medium. But even decades on, his late wife remains Furuya's great subject. He has published five volumes—collectively titled "Mémoires"—containing portraits of Gössler and scenes captured from their brief life together. For his new book, "Face to Face," Furuya returned to his archive, where he found something unexpected: images that Gössler had taken of him, sometimes documenting the very moment in which Furuya was photographing her.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - Feb. 16, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 16, the 47th day of 2021. There are 318 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 16, 1959, Fidel Castro became premier of Cuba a month and a-half after the overthrow of Fulgencio Batista.

On this date:

In 1862, the Civil War Battle of Fort Donelson in Tennessee ended as some 12,000 Confederate soldiers surrendered; Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's victory earned him the moniker "Unconditional Surrender Grant."

In 1868, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was organized in New York City.

In 1945, American troops landed on the island of Corregidor in the Philippines during World War II.

In 1948, N-B-C T-V began airing its first nightly newscast, "The Camel Newsreel Theatre," which consisted of Fox Movietone newsreels.

In 1960, the nuclear-powered radar picket submarine USS Triton departed New London, Conn., on the first submerged circumnavigation by a vessel.

In 1961, the United States launched the Explorer 9 satellite.

In 1968, the nation's first 911 emergency telephone system was inaugurated in Haleyville, Alabama, as the speaker of the Alabama House, Rankin Fite, placed a call from the mayor's office in City Hall to a red telephone at the police station (also located in City Hall) that was answered by U.S. Rep. Tom Bevill.

In 1996, eleven people were killed in a fiery collision between an Amtrak passenger train and a Maryland commuter train in Silver Spring, Md.

In 1998, a China Airlines Airbus A300 trying to land in fog near Taipei, Taiwan, crashed, killing all 196 people on board, plus seven on the ground.

In 2001, the United States and Britain staged air strikes against radar stations and air defense command centers in Iraq.

In 2006, Russia's Evgeni Plushenko beat world champion Stephane Lambiel of Switzerland by 27.12 points to win the gold medal in men's figure skating at the Winter Games in Turin, Italy.

In 2019, the Vatican announced that former Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, who served as archbishop of Washington, D.C., had been found guilty by the Vatican of sex abuse and had been defrocked; McCarrick was the highest-ranking churchman and the first cardinal to face that punishment as the church dealt with clerical sex abuse.

Ten years ago: Bookstore chain Borders filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection and said it would close nearly a third of its stores. (Borders closed all of its remaining stores in Sept. 2011.) Huge crowds called for a political overhaul in Bahrain, and leaders appeared to shift tactics after attempts to crush the uprising stoked protesters' rage.

Five years ago: Former U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, 93, died in Cairo. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's courtroom chair was draped in black to mark his death, a tradition dating to the 19th century. The Czech Museum of Music presented a cantata, "A Salute to the Recuperating Ophelia," a rare piece of music written in three parts by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Antonio Salieri and an unknown composer, Cornetti, that was considered lost for more than 200 years. CJ the German shorthaired pointer won best in show at the Westminster Kennel Club.

One year ago: Hundreds of Americans from a quarantined cruise ship in Japan took charter flights home, as Japan announced that another 70 coronavirus infections had been confirmed on the ship. The Chinese province of Hubei, the epicenter of the virus, announced that vehicle traffic would be banned, with some exceptions. Anthony Davis made a game-ending free throw to give Team LeBron a 157-155 win over Team Giannis in the revamped NBA All-Star Game.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz/pop singer-actor Peggy King is 91. Actor William Katt is 70. Actor LeVar Burton is 64. Actor-rapper Ice-T is 63. Actor Lisa Loring is 63. International Tennis Hall of Famer John McEnroe is 62. Rock musician Andy Taylor is 60. Rock musician Dave Lombardo (Slayer) is 56. Actor Sarah Clarke is 50. Olympic gold medal runner Cathy Freeman is 48. Actor Mahershala Ali is 47. Singer Sam Salter is 46. Electronic dance music artist Bassnectar is 43. Rapper Lupe Fiasco is 39. Actor Chloe Wepper is 35. Pop-rock singer Ryan Follese (FAHL'-eh-say) (Hot Chelle (SHEL) Rae) is 34. Rock musician Danielle Haim (HYM) is 32. Actor Elizabeth Olsen is 32. Actor Mike Weinberg is 28.

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

Visit our website