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Connecting

April 14, 2021

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AP-^BC-Italy-Albania, 5th Ld<
^BC-Italy-Albania, 5th Ld<
^PRECEDE Brindisi<
^Albanian fishing boat fires at coast guard cutter<
^EDs: CHANGES dateline, INSERTS Fino appeal<
^By ALESSANDRA GALLONI=
^Associated Press Writer=
    ROME (AP) _ Italy and Albania agreed Monday night to jointly
block the flood of refugees who have been pouring into Italian
ports to escape the disorders in the Balkan country.
    The agreement, which calls for the effective use of a naval
blockade by Italy, was announced by the Italian and Albanian
premiers after a one-hour meeting in Rome.
    ``There will be an accord between Italy and Albania to patrol
the Adriatic in order to completely control the flow of refugees,``
Italian Premier Romano Prodi said after his talks with Bashkim
Fino.
    ``Patrolling also means blocking the coast,`` said Prodi.
    ``Controlling means stopping the flow.``
    The Albanian said he agreed to stop the exodus because ``Albania
has to solve its problems by itself.``
    Fino came to Italy seeking European assistance for his country.
He will meet with European Union foreign ministers in Rome on
Tuesday.
    ``I am appealing to Italy and to the international community
economic aid to Albania as soon as possible,`` Fino said after the
Prodi meeting.
    Prodi said, 7th graf

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1997 wire story image courtesy AP Corporate Archives

Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 14th day of April 2021,

Congratulations to **Alessandra Galloni**, the new editor-in-chief of Reuters News.

There's a strong AP tie to the story. Before she made her mark at Reuters and The Wall Street Journal, Alessandra cut her journalistic teeth as a reporting intern in the Rome bureau of The Associated Press. Her first wire-service byline carried the AP logo.

Her AP internship in 1995-97 was not mentioned in the Reuters news release – and also absent from a brief Associated Press wire story. She is the first woman to take the editor-in-in chief role in Reuters' 170-year history. *(Photo at right by Gilberto Maltinti/Reuters)*



Connecting brings you the story in our lead article contributed by **Victor Simpson**, longtime AP chief of bureau and news editor in Rome who retired in 2013.

Victor said "Italian media hailed the appointment, sort of a local girl makes good: 'Italian named to head Reuters, first woman in the news company's 170 years,' said Rome's la Repubblica."

Moving experiences abound in today's Connecting as many of you shared your stories of moves you made during your AP career. Don't hold back – come ahead with your own story.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Reuters' new editor-in-chief got her journalistic start in AP's Rome bureau



Reuters then-Global News Editor Alessandra Galloni at a meeting of Russian President Vladimir Putin with heads of world's leading news agencies on the sidelines of the 20th St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF 2016).

Victor Simpson (Email) - I was pretty proud that our intern program in the AP's Rome bureau produced a Pulitzer Prize winner, Justin Davidson, writing criticism for Newsday a few years after his stint for AP.

But what's to say when Alessandra Galloni, another former AP intern in Rome, is named editor-in-chief of the Reuters news agency - the first woman to take that role in the company's 170-year history.

Alessandra was a reporting intern from 1995 to 1997 and covered general news, including politics and the Vatican. She showed her organizational skills by helping staffers keep the news flow going, dealing with difficult legal translations and earning her reporting stripes with her coverage of a Nazi war crimes trial. Born in Rome and English fluent, she worked in the Rome bureau after graduating from Harvard University.

Years later I knew she had made it when I would run into her at the U.S. ambassador's residence at the July 4th party, a much sought after Invite. She would glide from English to Italian without missing a beat.

Over the decades scores of talented young people came through, polishing their skills and learning what life was like in the trenches of international journalism.

One of the earliest entries was Davidson, an American who grew up in Italy where his father was in the film business and worked with us in the summer of his junior year at Harvard. Justin won the 2002 Pulitzer in Criticism "for his crisp coverage of classical music that captures its essence."

Each intern was asked to keep a project in mind, and his turned out to be a highly readable and widely published piece on film dubbing. In that era, few in Italy spoke English.

We have had many top-flight interns who went on to star at the AP and at other news outlets. I am thinking of AP Milan correspondent Colleen Barry and sports writers Howard Fendrich and Andrew Dampf. I can also add the current NY Times correspondent Jason Horowitz.

Alessandra Galloni, who went on to a career with Reuters and The Wall Street Journal, is proof of how the decision to end most international intern programs for whatever legal or financial reasons was ill-advised.

On the move: Your moving experiences during your AP career

Dan Day ([Email](#)) - This is not an AP moving story, but it continues the "Always Packing" theme of my career.

My wife, Becky, stoically bore the brunt of our AP moves from Milwaukee to Omaha to Seattle to San Francisco to New York. But the absolute best move story of our 40 years of marriage came about a year after I left the AP.

After getting sacked from a PR job, I was named managing editor of The Modesto Bee in January 2005. While I began my work out west, Becky was, as usual, left to oversee the packing and logistics of moving our household, this time out of Summit, New Jersey.

She was incensed when the bill from the movers arrived at our new California home at several thousand dollars over the estimate the Jersey crew had quoted her. She complained to our moving agent, who said, "Gee, we've never had trouble with the Gambino brothers before."

I was amused to think that the guys who packed up our possessions shared the name of the notorious (alleged) New Jersey crime family. So I laughed as I told my new boss, Bee editor Mark Vasche, that my wife was taking on the mob over money.

Big mistake.

Mark, whom I knew well from my San Francisco bureau chief days, is a notorious prankster.

On one of our first evenings in Modesto, Becky, son Tim and I came home from dinner out and checked for voicemail. With the speaker on, we heard a voice in a husky New Jersey accent say:

"Mr. and Mrs. Day, this is Carlo Gambino. I understand there's been a little problem with the payment you owe us."

We froze.

The blood drained from our faces.

After a pause, the message continued, in a different voice.

"Actually, it's Mark. I wanted to see how you were doing in your new home and to ask if you need any tools or whatever to get set up."

Mark and his wife, Pam, were and remain great friends to us. We still laugh over how he made another cross-continental move a bit more bearable.

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Dan Elliott (Email) - Before I hired on with AP, a newspaper company moved me from a job in El Paso, Texas, to another in Muskogee, Oklahoma. (A buddy asked if I planned to work in every town that had a bad country music song written about it.)

Movers swarmed our El Paso house, and one asked what we were taking from the garage. Odd question, I thought.

"Everything," I said.

The mover looked confused. "Everything?" He asked.

"Well, yeah," I said.

A few weeks later, unpacking in Muskogee, I sliced open a pristine mover's box, and there was the garage wastebasket, half full of trash, lovingly swaddled in a nest of clean, crumpled newsprint.

Ahh, I thought. That was the question.

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Mike Harris (Email) - I only had to move four times during my 41-year AP career, but the move from Indianapolis to Cleveland was the hardest, by far.

I was the state sports writer in Indiana in 1975 when I was sent to Cincinnati to take part in the AP Sports Editors annual convention. Since my mom lived in Cincinnati, I took my wife and two small children along. We were staying at my mom's apartment the first night and got a call early the next morning letting us know that my wife's father had died. It was unexpected and a terrible blow to all of us.

We quickly packed up the car and headed to Chicago for the funeral. I called the Indy bureau to let them know, but I didn't think to give them any information on where to reach me over the next couple of days, and I wasn't really thinking about work at that point.

Three days later, after the burial, we were at Judy's aunt's home in Skokie, a suburb of Chicago, sitting Shiva - the Jewish equivalent of a wake without the booze - when I finally thought about checking in with the AP and letting someone know when I'd be back on duty.

I called the Indy bureau and one of the staffers said, "Craig Ammerman in NY Sports has been trying to reach you for two days. It sounds urgent. You'd better give him a call asap!!"

I did just that.

Craig was the AP's Deputy Sports Editor at the time and he had been talking for a while about getting me promoted to a better sports bureau. He got on the phone right away and, before I could even apologize for being out of reach for so long, he said, "Look, we've got two sports openings and you have a choice. But you have to make it right now."

He told me that Seattle's sports editor was leaving because of illness and the sports editor in Cleveland has resigned to take another job outside of AP. Both of the bureaus needed someone to start in two weeks.

Seattle was a long way from family and friends and seemed very remote, so I chose Cleveland. I then had to go and tell my wife, who was grieving over the loss of her father, that we had two weeks to pack up and move to Cleveland. Being the amazing AP wife that she is, her reaction was, "All right. Let's get out of here and go home and start packing."

I then made the biggest mistake of my career - and one of the worst of my marriage. Instead of leaving Judy and the kids at home in comfortable surroundings with a built-in support system until I could get started on the job, find an apartment and make the move smooth, I brought them along.

When we arrived, the Indians were starting a 14-game homestand, the Browns, Cavaliers and Crusaders (hockey) were all in preseason camp and I had to jump in on the deep end, meet everyone and figure out how to do this new job. I worked 21 straight, very long days after arriving in Cleveland, leaving Judy and the kids stranded in a hotel in the middle of nowhere. Somehow, she handled it all without (much) complaint. But Cleveland never became one of her favorite cities and she was pretty pleased when I got transferred to NY Sports to take over the auto racing beat five years later.

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Gene Herrick (Email) - I, like many, many AP staffers, moved a lot during their careers. I never refused an assignment, nor a transfer in my 28 years as a staffer with AP.

My story began when I joined the AP as an office boy in 1943 in Columbus, Ohio, at age 16. I learned to be a Wirephoto operator, and teletype operator. When 17, I was assigned to make vacation relief for Wirephoto operators in Dayton, Cincinnati, and Toledo. When 18, I transferred to Cleveland as a Wirephoto and teletype operator. I used to tag along with AP photographer Jim Mahler and learn by osmosis. When I was 18, I asked to become a staff photographer in Indianapolis, Indiana. Oh, my gosh, what an honor, and surprise.

I was there for two years, and transferred to Memphis, TN., and in middle 1950, I volunteered to become an AP War Correspondent at the beginning of the Korean War in 1950.

In the war, you might as well call every day a transfer. Seldom did I spend two nights in one place. In late December, I left Korea and was assigned to Seattle to assist NY Photo Editor Jack Collins in handling the war copy from Korea.

After about nine months, I was transferred to Milwaukee, where I covered the primary political battle between Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey, and Sen. Jack Kennedy. After nine months I was asked to transfer back to Memphis, where I spent most of my time covering the new Civil Rights Movement with the Emmitt Till case, Autherine Lucy kicked out of the University of Alabama, Rosa Parks being removed from a city bus, and the rise and fall of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Then New York transferred me to Minneapolis, where I worked eight years with a huge territory to cover. Al Resch, AP's Executive Newsphoto Editor, visited Minneapolis and asked me to transfer to Chicago. That meant giving up the camera and become a member of the Newsphoto desk, and one of the editors to handle the new Midwest Wirephoto network.

After my divorce, in 1968, and I was unable to care for my two little boys there, I was transferred to Columbus, Ohio, where, in two years, I took early retirement.

That was my AP travel story. Travel didn't stop there, but it was in connection with other professional careers in which I indulged myself in Ohio, Rocky Mount, VA., Venice, FL., Chandler, AZ., Rocky Mount, VA., and Roanoke, VA.

I do not regret any move I ever made. It gave me knowledge and experiences most people never have. AP was always supportive, and appreciative. I still miss the Associated Press, but Connecting keeps me on grid for what the AP is doing today, plus what other old-timers have experienced in their time.

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Jim Hood (Email) - I was a radio news vagabond in Phoenix when Dorman Cordell hired me to work in the Denver AP bureau back in 197x. I threw my meager belongings into my Fiat Spider and took off. A few years later, Dorman transferred to New Orleans and invited me to go along, at my own expense. By this time, I had a slightly bigger car and I mailed a few boxes of books to myself, care of the AP.

My next moves -- to Kansas City and San Francisco as a broadcast executive -- were on the AP's tab. But AP was soon to get its money back, with interest.

While in San Francisco, I had worked out a plan to "remodel" the AP radio wire and start something called APTV. Roy Steinfort, then the VP for broadcasting, and Keith Fuller, then AP's president, wanted to implement the plan and, oh by the way, move the radio wire to Dallas. Jay Bowles, who was then in charge of broadcast sales, urged me to jump on it before anyone changed their mind.

"Go buy something in Dallas so they can't back out of it," he said. So I bought a condo in Dallas, then spent several weeks in New York ironing out details of the move. At some point, it became apparent that moving the radio desk was not going to be all that simple. I suggested to Messrs. Steinfort and Fuller that we should just leave it in New York.

"You wouldn't want to live here, would you?" they asked. I nobly volunteered to do so. A bit later, I asked what I should do to be reimbursed for my \$300,000 condo, a question that was met with averted gazes and an uncomfortable silence.

Now I have a long and impressive history of losing money in real estate, so Dallas was no exception and did not entirely change my view of human nature, which was not very high to begin with. I did my best to get revenge by moving as many heavy objects as possible from San Francisco to New York at AP expense but I think that, once again, the house won.

That reminds me. Would anyone like to buy a nice lakeside lot near Charlottesville, Va.? I paid \$90,000 for it 20 years ago and it was just appraised at \$23,000 so you can't possibly go wrong with it.

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Carl P. Leubsdorf (Email) - For me, getting to Washington wasn't exactly a straight line. But it all worked out in the end.

As my year at Columbia's Journalism School was near its end, and I had attracted zero job offers, one of my teachers suggested I go down to the AP and take the tests. It seemed like a good idea, given the number of positions the AP has around the country. Soon after, I was offered a job, in the two-person Tampa correspondence, which I quickly accepted. But about three days later, I got a call from the AP; it seems that someone in the New Orleans bureau was eager to go back to Tampa where he had worked previously and still owned a house. Would I mind going to New Orleans instead?

Readers have to understand that, in 1960, Tampa was not the bustling metropolis it is today. It was a rather sleepy place with cigar factories and an occasional hurricane.

New Orleans was bigger and had to be more interesting. What I didn't realize was how much more interesting it was about to become; four months after I arrived, a federal judge ordered its public schools desegregated, setting off what quickly became a major national story.

Over my 2 1/2 years there (with time out for six months in the Army), I was involved in a number of major civil rights stories, most notably the desegregation of the University of Mississippi in September 1962. That one brought General News Editor Sam Blackman to New Orleans and, as things quieted down, he asked me if I'd be interested in going to New York to work on the General Desk. I explained that my goal was to go to Washington to cover politics, but Sam, a great salesman as well as a wonderful person, made it sound like I'd be at his right hand, helping to run the AP. So I said Yes.

The reality proved different; I was filing the New York and New Jersey state wires, though I was soon promoted to the South and East wires. I even did the lunch relief shift one week, which allowed me to run the A-wire for 45 minutes. Not only was the job boring, but I missed writing. So I went to Sam and explained my plight. The following week, he called me in and asked if I'd be interested in moving to the Foreign Desk, where I would do a lot of rewriting overseas dispatches. But I want to go to Washington, I replied, adding I wasn't sure how this would help me get there. At that point, as I recall it, Sam asked about the lease on the house I had rented in Mount Vernon (I had recently gotten married). I replied that was no barrier; if I could go to Washington, I'd find a way to deal with the lease. As it turned out, there was an opening in Washington. I was promptly dispatched to see Chief of Bureau Bill Beale and, about six weeks later, found myself the newest member of the Washington Bureau.

My first job there was only modestly better -- answering queries from bureaus at night (Walter Mears, a predecessor in that slot, once told me it was the worst job he ever had in journalism). But I learned some about Washington and figured that, in an 85-reporter bureau, sooner or later something good would turn up. As it turned out, it took another 2 1/2 years, most of it spent on the overnight, before I was transferred to cover the House of Representatives during the second session of the historic 89th Congress. From there, I went to the Senate and national politics. More than a half century later, I'm still writing about national politics, as a columnist for The Dallas Morning News and Tribune News Service.

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Ed McCullough (Email) - I and soon enough my family moved 13 times in 35 years with AP. After a pre-move visit to Stockholm, I returned to Venezuela and bought an entire shipping container's worth of disposable diapers I calculated not to be able to afford in Sweden. We arrived with two daughters still in diapers and about two years later gave away the very few ones that weren't needed. Moving from all-the-time sunshine and heat in Caracas to instant freezing cold and darkness, I recall telling our oldest daughter, age 3, standing at the hotel window and commenting sadly that "I don't like the sun here": Don't worry. We haven't seen the sun yet. It's only January.

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Mark Mittelstadt (Email) - One day in the Spring of 1988 AP's director of personnel Wick Temple made an offer I couldn't refuse.

I had been news editor in Des Moines for several years. After orchestrating AP's coverage of a second, first-in-the-nation precinct caucuses, I was ready for a new challenge. Dave Tomlin, then bureau chief for Iowa and Nebraska, had been promoted to New York headquarters, leaving open the question of who would get Des Moines. Wick explained the company had decided to split Iowa and Nebraska into two jurisdictions: Ruth Gersh, news editor in Louisville, was being promoted to bureau chief in Des Moines; Dan Day, correspondent in Omaha, was being elevated to bureau chief. AP wanted me to go to Albuquerque, where Bob Johnson, a former New York executive, was retiring as chief.

I felt I won the lottery.

My wife and I were thrilled. We were heading to a geographically beautiful and culturally rich state: mountains, forests, plains, great Southwest cuisine, a mix of peoples, beautiful sunsets, life along the border. And no snow, at least snow that wouldn't disappear within 24 hours. We loaded our two young boys, an old dog and personal belongings into our two cars (one photographer Bob Jarboe's company Impala that I had bought) and drove the 990 some miles to Albuquerque.

Our first AP-paid move went smoothly. Our furniture, including an heirloom piano, arrived in great shape. We quickly got into our house. The only hitch was a leak over our bedroom that developed two weeks later when monsoon rains pooled on our flat roof. The \$2,500 we had set aside to buy skis and learn how to enjoy the snow on the other side of the Sandia Mountains sadly went to replacing the roof. Oh, well, people break legs skiing, don't they?

Fast forward two-and-a-half years. Returning from a week-long membership swing, I stopped in the office before heading home. The mail included a posting for bureau chief in Newark, N.J. "Ha!," I thought, "the poor idiot who goes to Newark."

Say hello to an idiot.

Several days later, Byron Yake, then heading up Human Resources, called and explained several problems the company was having in New Jersey. My experience and skills were needed in a key AP membership state, he said. Several days later I said "yes" but got him to agree the company would move us in two years if I wanted something else.

If moving to the Land of Enchantment was Heaven, relocating to the Garden State was Hell.

We rented a townhome before getting into our house months later. When the mover arrived to drop off some of our belongings, his girlfriend and helper slipped on ice and hurt her back. I ended up assisting the young man taking some of our furniture and boxes inside.

The rest went into storage in New York. When we were ready to move to our house, a number of things were missing, including a sewing machine, furniture, lamps, fishing

poles and tackle. We eventually were reimbursed after filing several pages of claims.

The kicker came at the end of the year when we received an IRS document that expenses the company had covered for the New Jersey move were being treated as income on which we were going to be taxed. This was a shock; none of our company-paid expenses for New Mexico had been reported as income.

We figured we paid an additional \$2,500 in taxes for the privilege of moving to Newark.

All in all, New Jersey turned out to be not so bad. I got to meet and work with top editors at The New York Times, The Inquirer in Philadelphia, The Star-Ledger of Newark and other New Jersey newspapers. Our boys thrived in good public schools and gained perspectives that contributed to their growth and ultimate careers. We experienced great foods from around the world: Italian (including pizza); Spanish, especially in Newark's Ironbound district; Asian; real bagels. Mary advanced her piano skills through lessons in New York and northern New Jersey. And we were 45 minutes from the Jersey Shore, where we quickly became "bennies."

The two-year relocation the company had agreed to ended up lasting for 25 until Mary and I retired from our positions and moved to Tucson.

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Charles Monzella ([Email](#)) - The AP has a long history of being tight-fisted with the assessments it gets from its members. When it came to moving staffers from one place to another, that was also true.

I experienced it firsthand.

While serving as West Virginia Broadcast Editor in the early 1960s, I had been approached several times about transferring to the Radio Desk in New York. I loved my job, I loved West Virginia and its people, and declined the offers.

Finally, I agreed to make the move in 1965 and started my new assignment in April. For the first month, the AP paid for me to stay in a hotel near AP headquarters.

The nation was in a recession and we could not find a buyer for our house in Charleston, so my wife Terry and our two sons remained there. At the end of my first month, I approached Keith Fuller, the head of Personnel, to see if the AP could help me financially. He said the AP would pay for me to rent an apartment on Long Island for three months.

We found a renter for our Charleston house that summer and I began looking for places where we might find a home within commuting distance. I approached Fuller again. I asked if the AP would pay for my wife to come up to help in the search. He said it would not.

At the time, there was an organization called Homeric, which would offer suggestions of locations after hearing your travel, educational and other needs. That helped me narrow the search, which I conducted on my days off and in the mornings since I was

working nights. After visiting several towns recommended by Homerica, I made a decision.

The bottom line: In October, we moved into a house that my wife had never seen in a city she had never heard of. And now, more than a half-century later, I'm still living in that house!

Angela Charlton named Western Europe news director

In a memo to staff, AP Europe and Africa News Director Anna Johnson on Tuesday announced that Bureau Chief Angela Charlton is now AP's Western Europe news director, a new position responsible for leading all formats in France, Belgium and the Netherlands:

I am pleased to announce that Paris bureau chief Angela Charlton is the AP's new Western Europe news director.

Many of you have had the pleasure of working with Angela and are familiar with her commitment to ambitious and compelling journalism. She is a talented news leader who has been at the helm of numerous top stories over the years in France, Russia and beyond. I could not be more thrilled to have her in this new role leading such a fantastic team in France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

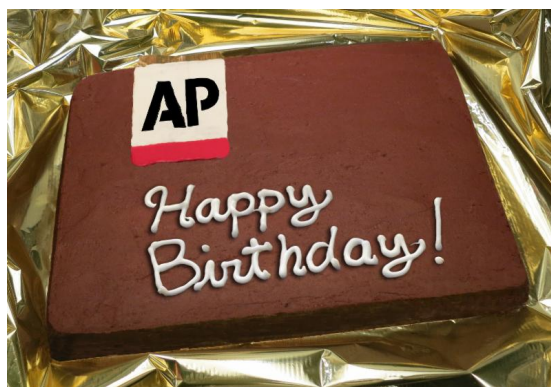


Angela started her career at the AP as a reporter in Moscow in 1994. Since then, she has held numerous positions in several countries: chief correspondent in Ukraine, reporter in West Virginia, editor on the former International Desk, correspondent in Moscow and Paris, news editor in Paris and Paris bureau chief. She also is an elected member of the Reporters Without Borders supervisory board.

Angela is the AP's first Western Europe news director who will lead all formats in France, Belgium and the Netherlands. I very much look forward to working with Angela and the entire team of talented photo, video and text journalists as they continue to produce exceptional, award-winning coverage.

Please join me in congratulating Angela in her new role! She begins immediately and will continue to be based in Paris.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Dennis Ferraro - drferraro@aol.com

Melissa Jordan - melissajordan@gmail.com

Stories of interest

AP draws ridicule after suggesting 'mistress' be replaced with 'friend' or 'companion' (Fox News)

By DAVID RUTZ

The Associated Press' attempt at a politically correct definition of "mistress" led to considerable ridicule for the news outlet on Tuesday.

"Don't use the term mistress for a woman who is in a long-term sexual relationship with, and is financially supported by, a man who is married to someone else," its Stylebook Twitter account wrote. "Instead, use an alternative like companion, friend or lover on first reference and provide additional details later."

From the implied sexism that the woman having the affair couldn't financially support herself to the confusion of referring to such a person as a "friend," the AP didn't get a break on this one.

"Yeah, definitely use "friend," the term the husband uses to explain himself. That's much less sexist," New York Magazine columnist Mark Harris wrote.

Read more [here](#).

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Tweet



APStylebook ✓
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...

Don't use the term mistress for a woman who is in a long-term sexual relationship with, and is financially supported by, a man who is married to someone else. Instead, use an alternative like companion, friend or lover on first reference and provide additional details later.

9:23 AM · 4/13/21 · [SocialFlow](#)

69 Retweets **750** Quote Tweets **309** Likes

💬
↻
♥
📌



Jack Posobiec ✓ @JackPos... · 28m ...

Replying to @APStylebook

Concubine? Consort? Courtesan?

💬 29
↻ 16
♥ 505
📌



Marie Scanlan Hollenbach · 56m ...

Journalist Maggie Haberman Tells Her Own Story (Stony Brook University News)

Maggie Haberman, White House correspondent for The New York Times and a 2018 Pulitzer Prize winner, delivered the latest lecture in the Stony Brook School of Communication and Journalism "My Life As" speaker series.

Haberman spent an hour on April 7 discussing her political reporting career and work covering the Trump White House, offering observations on the state of modern journalism and bestowing advice upon the reporters of the future.

"Journalism was not my first career choice in life," said Haberman. "I had dreamed of being a fiction writer. My father is a journalist and I had a very clear sense from growing up of what journalism can be like for families."

Haberman described an education that began with a rocky start at Trinity College before arriving at Sarah Lawrence College, from where she would ultimately graduate, and her first job as a clerk at the New York Post.

Read more [here](#).

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Nielsen, Networks Clash on Stats Showing Fewer Viewers (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — People have been stuck at home for a year due to COVID-19 restrictions, with movie theaters closed, concert venues closed, restaurants closed, sports attendance restricted — yet television viewing is down?

That makes no sense to networks and cable and satellite providers, who are complaining that the Nielsen company is inaccurately counting how many people are actually watching.

Nielsen's reply, in a nutshell: the truth hurts.

It's an argument with financial implications, since networks later this spring begin selling advertising for the next year. Fewer viewers equal fewer ad dollars.

Read more [here](#).

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Top Bidder for Tribune Newspapers Is an Influential Liberal Donor (New York Times)

By Kenneth P. Vogel and Katie Robertson

WASHINGTON — Long before he emerged as a potential champion of journalism with his bid for Tribune Publishing, the Swiss billionaire Hansjörg Wyss quietly created a sophisticated political operation to advance progressive policy initiatives and the Democrats who support them.

The organization, called The Hub Project, was started in 2015 by one of Mr. Wyss's charitable organizations, the Wyss Foundation, partly to shape media coverage to help Democratic causes. It now has 60 employees, according to its website, including political organizers, researchers and communications specialists. Mr. Wyss and his charitable foundation are not mentioned on The Hub Project's website, and his role in its creation has not been previously reported.

Information about his involvement came from interviews with five people with knowledge of The Hub Project, an internal memo from another liberal group that was obtained by The New York Times, and the appearance of The Hub Project's business plan in a tranche of data made public by WikiLeaks. According to U.S. officials, the data was stolen by Russian intelligence from the emails of John Podesta, who has been an adviser to Mr. Wyss and was a top aide to the former presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama.

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

Today in History - April 14, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 14, the 104th day of 2021. There are 261 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 14, 1912, the British liner RMS Titanic collided with an iceberg in the North Atlantic at 11:40 p.m. ship's time and began sinking. (The ship went under two hours and 40 minutes later with the loss of 1,514 lives.)

On this date:

In 1759, German-born English composer George Frideric Handel died in London at age 74.

In 1828, the first edition of Noah Webster's "American Dictionary of the English Language" was published.

In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was shot and mortally wounded by John Wilkes Booth during a performance of "Our American Cousin" at Ford's Theater in Washington.

In 1910, President William Howard Taft became the first U.S. chief executive to throw the ceremonial first pitch at a baseball game as the Washington Senators beat the Philadelphia Athletics 3-0.

In 1935, the "Black Sunday" dust storm descended upon the central Plains, turning a sunny afternoon into total darkness.

In 1960, Tamla Records and Motown Records, founded by Berry Gordy Jr., were incorporated as Motown Record Corp. The Montreal Canadiens won their fifth

consecutive Stanley Cup, defeating the Toronto Maple Leafs 4-0 in Game 4 of the Finals.

In 1965, the state of Kansas hanged Richard Hickock and Perry Smith for the 1959 "In Cold Blood" murders of Herbert Clutter, his wife, Bonnie, and two of their children, Nancy and Kenyon.

In 1970, President Richard Nixon nominated Harry Blackmun to the U.S. Supreme Court. (The choice of Blackmun, who was unanimously confirmed by the Senate a month later, followed the failed nominations of Clement Haynsworth and G. Harrold Carswell.)

In 1981, the first test flight of America's first operational space shuttle, the Columbia, ended successfully with a landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

In 1994, two U.S. Air Force F-15 warplanes mistakenly shot down two U.S. Army Black Hawk helicopters over northern Iraq, killing 26 people, including 15 Americans.

In 1999, NATO mistakenly bombed a convoy of ethnic Albanian refugees; Yugoslav officials said 75 people were killed.

In 2004, in a historic policy shift, President George W. Bush endorsed Israel's plan to hold on to part of the West Bank in any final peace settlement with the Palestinians; he also ruled out Palestinian refugees returning to Israel, bringing strong criticism from the Palestinians.

Ten years ago: Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi rolled defiantly through the streets of Tripoli the same day NATO air strikes shook the city. North Korean confirmed it was holding an American who was detained in November 2010, reportedly for proselytizing. (Eddie Jun was freed in May 2011.) ABC canceled two of its longtime soap operas, "One Life to Live" and "All My Children."

Five years ago: Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders aggressively challenged each other's judgment during a Democratic debate in Brooklyn, New York, sparring over Wall Street banks, how high to raise the minimum wage and gun control. The first of two strong earthquakes struck southern Japan; the temblors killed at least 50 people.

One year ago: President Donald Trump announced that he was cutting off U.S. payments to the U.N. health agency, the World Health Organization; Trump said it had not done enough to stop the coronavirus from spreading. Louisiana again delayed its presidential primary, rescheduling it for July 11. (The late date made the primary irrelevant to the selection of the nominees.) NASCAR driver Kyle Larson was fired by the Chip Ganassi Racing team, two days after he used a racial slur on a live stream of a virtual race. Hank Steinbrenner, the oldest son of George Steinbrenner and one of four siblings who owned controlling shares of the New York Yankees, died at 63.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Loretta Lynn is 89. Actor Julie Christie is 81. Retired MLB All-Star Pete Rose is 80. Rock musician Ritchie Blackmore is 76. Actor John Shea is 73. Actor Peter Capaldi is 63. Actor-turned-race car driver Brian Forster is 61. Actor Brad Garrett is 61. Actor Robert Carlyle is 60. Rock singer-musician John Bell (Widespread Panic) is 59. Actor Robert Clendenin is 57. Actor Catherine Dent is 56.

Actor Lloyd Owen is 55. Baseball Hall of Famer Greg Maddux is 55. Rock musician Barrett Martin is 54. Actor Anthony Michael Hall is 53. Actor Adrien Brody is 48. Classical singer David Miller (Il Divo) is 48. Rapper Da Brat is 47. Actor Antwon Tanner is 46. Actor Sarah Michelle Gellar is 44. Actor-producer Rob McElhenney is 44. Roots singer JD McPherson is 44. Rock singer Win Butler (Arcade Fire) is 41. Actor Claire Coffee is 41. Actor Christian Alexander is 31. Actor Nick Krause is 29. Actor Vivien Cardone is 28. Actor Graham Phillips is 28. Actor Skyler Samuels is 27. Actor Abigail Breslin is 25.

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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