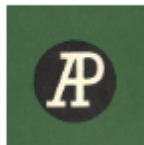


SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

[View as Webpage](#)



## Connecting April 20, 2021

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



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

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



**FILE** - In this Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018, file photo, former Vice President Walter Mondale, left, sits onstage with former President Jimmy Carter during a celebration of Mondale's 90th birthday at the McNamara Alumni Center on the University of Minnesota's campus, in Minneapolis. Mondale, a liberal icon who lost the most lopsided presidential election after bluntly telling voters to expect a tax increase if he won, died Monday, April 19, 2021. He was 93. (Anthony Souffle/Star Tribune via AP, File)

Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021,

Deaths from COVID-19 have reached 3 million worldwide – and to illustrate that sad statistic, the AP asked 15 photographers in 13 countries to pick the single image they shot that affected them the most, and explain why.

We lead today's issue with a story by **Nicole Winfield**, who wrote: "Their selections document the staggering human toll as COVID-19 robbed millions of their lives, and millions more of their basic freedoms and day-to-day routines over the past year. But their reflections tell a deeper story, guiding the viewer to see and understand a once-in-a-century pandemic through the eyes of people who had the privilege and horror of witnessing it up close."

Some of our colleagues covered former Vice President Walter F. Mondale, who served under Jimmy Carter from 1977 to 1981 and who in 1984 lost one of the most lopsided presidential elections in history. Mondale died Monday at 93 and we bring you memories of colleagues who covered him. If you have your own memories to share, please send along.

Click [here](#) for a link to the AP story on his death, by colleague **Doug Glass**, Minneapolis news editor.

Have a good day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

## AP PHOTOS: Photographers reflect on single shot of pandemic



Father Vasily Gelevan, a Russian Orthodox priest, blesses Lyudmila Polyak, 86, who is believed to be suffering from COVID-19, at her apartment in Moscow, June 1, 2020. Associated Press photographer Alexander Zemlianichenko says this of the image: “I feel it’s both very intimate and also deeply symbolic, an image of empathy and self-denial in the face of mortal danger.” He says taking the photo was “also very important for me on a personal level, an experience that transformed me, helping overcome my own fear” of the virus. (AP Photo/Alexander Zemlianichenko)

By NICOLE WINFIELD

ROME (AP) — The images show the intimacy of husbands and wives saying goodbye for the last time, or reuniting after months apart. They honor the courage of nurses, funeral workers and clerics who risked their own health to do their jobs. They witness life slipping away, and being snatched back from death.

To mark the milestone of 3 million COVID-19 deaths worldwide, The Associated Press asked 15 photographers in 13 countries to pick the single image they shot that affected them the most, and explain why.

Their selections document the staggering human toll as COVID-19 robbed millions of their lives, and millions more of their basic freedoms and day-to-day routines over the past year. But their reflections tell a deeper story, guiding the viewer to see and understand a once-in-a-century pandemic through the eyes of people who had the privilege and horror of witnessing it up close.

Just like their subjects, the AP photographers were terrified they might get infected and bring the virus home. Just like their subjects, they remain haunted by what they saw. Just like their subjects, they found moments of hope.

Alexander Zemlianichenko still stays in touch with the Russian Orthodox priest who made house calls to bless the sick and dying in Moscow, saying accompanying him was “an experience that transformed me, helping overcome my own fear” of the virus.

“It’s both very intimate and deeply symbolic,” he said of his photo of the priest bending over an elderly COVID-19 patient in Moscow, “an image of empathy and self-denial in the face of mortal danger.”

Natacha Pisarenko in Buenos Aires allowed herself to join the laughter when Blanca Ortiz threw her arms up in victory after she beat COVID-19 at age 84 and was told she could go home from the hospital.

“It was the brightest moment for me while covering such a heavy story,” she said.

Read and view more [here](#).

## Remembering Walter Mondale

**Jerry Cipriano** ([Email](#)) - When Walter Mondale was running for vice president in 1976, I was working on the National Broadcast desk in New York. For a time during the campaign, when Mondale was mentioned in copy, we included a pronouncer. Seems like a simple enough name, but Jimmy Carter kept mispronouncing it, calling his running mate Senator Mon-DALE.

-0-





**Tom Eblen** ([Email](#)) - As “vacation relief” staffer — AKA intern — in the Louisville bureau in the summer of 1979, I covered Vice President Walter Mondale campaigning for re-election in Bardstown, Ky. I took along my Nikon F and got this photo, which got quite good play among AP members in Kentucky. I also covered Mondale's 1984 debate in Louisville against Ronald Reagan as a regional reporter for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Mondale pounded Reagan so hard in that debate that he renamed his campaign plane the Louisville Slugger. But it wasn't good enough to unseat the sitting president. Many years later, in September 2006, when I was managing editor of The Lexington Herald-Leader, Mondale spoke at the University of Kentucky. I was in a small group seated at his dinner table beforehand. I gave Mondale a print of this picture, and he signed mine. Like Howard Baker, who I got to know as the AP's Knoxville correspondent in the early 1980s, I always admired Mondale as a great statesman and gentleman. May he rest in peace.

-0-

**Gene Herrick** ([Email](#)) – He was known as “Fritz”

Walter “Fritz” Mondale, former Vice President under Jimmy Carter, and a former “Member of the old Democratic Farmer Labor Party (DFL) in Minnesota, died last night at age 93.

“Fritz” was a part of the group which included former Minnesota Senator, and later Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey, and former Minnesota Governor, and later Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman. They were a powerful and friendly group that I often covered as the Associated Press photographer in Minneapolis.

Humphrey was the leader, and often met with the others in Minneapolis.

I remember one day, a couple of days after the state election, where Freeman lost his election for a second term as governor. We were in a hotel room, and Freeman was lamenting his loss, when VP Humphrey walked in. When I told him how hard Freeman was taking it, Humphrey put his arm around Freeman's shoulder, and said, "Ah, Orville, you know I'll take care of you." Shortly after that, Freeman was named Secretary of the Agriculture.

Mondale was always an important "Member" of that group. I covered news conferences Mondale held in Minnesota. He was always smiling and pleasant, and always took the time to talk for a few minutes.

-0-



**David Kennerly (Email)** - When I visited the White House to photograph Vice President Walter Mondale for Time Magazine not too long after he and Jimmy Carter beat my boss President Gerald Ford, Mondale took me aside and said, "President Ford was a wonderful guy, we were lucky to beat him, and I hope he knows that I respect and admire him." That moment choked me up, and forever after I liked Mondale. That thought was echoed by President Carter who later became close friends with President Ford. They were a template for decency.

## Yes, you can go home again – for your job

**Dan Sewell (Email)** – The author Thomas Wolfe wrote that “You Can’t Go Home Again,” but sometimes you need to for your job. Kathleen Hennessey, a politics editor in Washington, wanted me to do a story on the potential U.S. Senate bid from Ohio by “Hillbilly Elegy” author and billionaire Peter Thiel’s protégé, J.D. Vance.

I knew immediately that story needed to be from Middletown, where Vance (pictured at right) was born and grew up. It’s also the city where I was born and attended Middletown public schools until we moved to a farm when I was in 7th grade. Like Vance, my father and maternal grandmother were born in Jackson, Kentucky, deep in Appalachia. Vance’s “Papaw” brought his family with him from there for a job at Armco Steel; my father and maternal grandfather worked there with many other people who lacked college educations but capitalized on the well-paying steel mill jobs. The Armco Steel of my childhood maintained a large park with a golf course and fishing lake for its workers and their families, had sports leagues, and pretty much ran the city.



A lot has changed since then. Vance, three decades after me, was a youth in a city in decline from globalization that wiped out the paper mills and much of the steel company, which had become AK Steel through combining with a Japanese company. Opioids, as his book and the Ron Howard movie vividly show, took a damaging toll.

All that was on my mind as I headed to Middletown, nearly 50 miles from the Cincinnati suburb where I live now, for a day of reporting.

The result was a story that got a lot of attention:

### [‘Hillbilly’ to Capitol Hill? Author eyes Senate bid in Ohio](#)

Henry Gomez, an NBC national politics reporter: “Very much appreciate this @dansewell piece on J.D. Vance's possible #OHSen bid for its explanation of Appalachia in Ohio and succinct distillation of how "Hillbilly Elegy" became a political flashpoint.”

Bob Batchelor, Miami University professor and author of several books: “Great writing: "Part of the Appalachian code warns against getting “too big for your britches.” Some think Vance has, perpetuating backward regional stereotypes while making his millions in Silicon Valley." ‘

BTW, the best-known Middletown-born journalist is Clarence Page, the Pulitzer Prize-winning Chicago Tribune columnist, while Edgewood High School, the nearby rural school I graduated from, also produced long-time AP foreign correspondent Paul Alexander and current AP Persian Gulf News Director Jon Gambrell.



## AP moves from perspective of a spouse



**Le Lieu and Malcolm Browne in Saigon apartment when he was an AP journalist covering the Vietnam War, before moving to The New York Times.**

**Le Lieu Browne ([Email](#))** - After reading many interesting stories from former AP journalists on the subject of moving, I cannot resist to contribute my own experience as wife of a foreign correspondent working for the New York Times.

In 1971, Malcolm and I just returned to New York after spending three years in South America. Malcolm decided to take two weeks of vacation with his family before heading to Pakistan as his next assignment. It was not Malcolm's favorite country, but he was very much fascinated by the subcontinent history, especially the Khyber Pass and the Indian/British colonial war. Meantime, we profited the occasion to be with Malcolm's elder father and his siblings.

Not a week went by yet when Malcolm was called into the office for a meeting. A few hours later, he announced with crest-fallen that we had to pack and leave for Pakistan the next day. The New York Times had arranged for air tickets with Pan American for 7pm flight with connection in London. For 24 hours, we had to pack, went shopping of necessary things that we might not find in Pakistan. I began to panic because London was very strict with pets. Nif Naf, our Japanese spaniel, could be quarantined once we got to the airport. I called the airline that assured me that our dog was not permitted to touch the ground and our connection to another Pan Am was only for a couple hours. Reassured and at the same I was glad that our dog's vaccination certificate was still valid for the travel.



As time drew near for us to depart, I asked Malcolm's stepmother to take Nif Naf out for a last walk so he could take care of his necessities before we embarked. A few minutes later, she returned and mumbled something like the dog didn't want to walk. Being so preoccupied with my own stress, I didn't pay much attention. Malcolm ordered a big van to take us to the airport along with our dog and some 10 suitcases and small carried-hand bags for the cabin.

The plane was half-empty and I instinctively noticed that the middle row paralleled to our row was completely empty. I hardly waited for the plane to take off to make a jump over the empty middle row with my dog in my arms to assure that no one occupied it before us. I hardly believed that I had the whole row to make my bed for the night. It was going to be a long flight and I still suffered airsickness at slightest bumps. So I felt lucky to be able to stretch out the whole length of the seats and went to sleep as soon as the cabin main lights were switched off.

Nif Naf left Malcolm and climbed up to snuggle against my side. In the middle of the night I woke up with a nauseous smell and Nif Naf was sitting on my hair. It was pitched dark and the only sound was the airplane engine. I tried to push Nif Naf away when I felt that my hair was wet and mushy with Nif Naf's discharges. And the smell was so unbearable and so offensive that I jumped up and ran with Nif Naf in my arms toward the toilet, praying that the toilet was free. He was such a darling that he remained silent and submissive to my washing him. I used a lot of wet towel to wash my hair and empty half of a bottle of eau de toilette on it. We returned to our seats and with the bunch of wet paper towel and the rest of the eau de toilette bottle. I cleaned the place and was grateful that the cabin remained in the dark and still. Meantime, Malcolm slept through the whole thing considering that he had a hard day himself.

We arrived in London as the sun began to rise. We were told by the flight attendant to remain behind with the dog. A veterinarian in white coat and white mask entered and separated us from Nif Naf. He then started to put Nif Naf on the seat and examined him the way it's done in any veterinarian office. Then with gloved hands, he carefully placed Nif Naf in a covered carton box and carried him down the ladder followed by us behind. He delicately carried the box in his stretched gloved hands in front of him and walked to some mile to another Pan Am plane. He climbed up and walked to our designed seats and gently deposited the box on the seat and signaled for us to join Nif Naf. We thanked him profusely, but he barely exchanged any words during the whole procession. He didn't even ask to see the vaccination certificate and Nif Naf never stepped on the English ground.

From then on, it was a smooth transition. The New York Times freelance journalist met us, bribed the customs officers to let our ten suitcases pass through. Everybody at the customs house stared at Nif Naf with disgust and repulsion. Malcolm walked Nif Naf as soon as we exited the building. We were whisked away along with our huge luggage to the Intercontinental Hotel in Karachi.

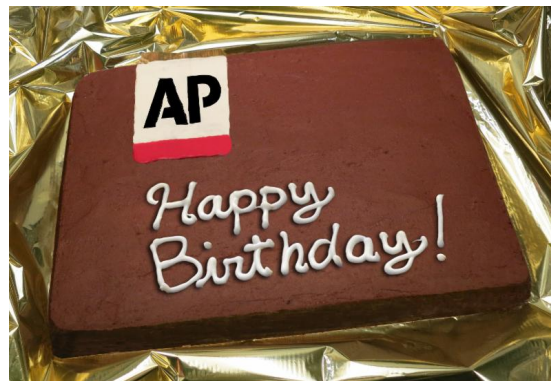
For the next three years, our home was mostly the Intercontinental or other Delux Hotels in Afghanistan, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. Each time we were called to travel for a few days, he was fondly adopted by the hotel managers. We at last settled down in 1974 In Yugoslavia with a home of our own.

# How to fight drop in circulation



**George Arfield (Email)** - Targeting previously news-neglected family members in an effort to reverse drop in circulation.

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



**Bob Beardsley** - [beardsleyr@aol.com](mailto:beardsleyr@aol.com)

**Ron Thompson** - [rmthomfla@aol.com](mailto:rmthomfla@aol.com)

# Stories of interest

## ***Juan Williams: Am I not Black enough?*** (The Hill)

BY JUAN WILLIAMS, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

In the current world of racial politics, a prize-winning Dutch author lost a job translating a Black American poet, Amanda Gorman. Why? There was an uproar because the publisher had chosen a white translator.

In 2021 racial politics, the actor Daniel Kaluuya, who recently played 1960s Black radical Fred Hampton, introduced himself to a “Saturday Night Live” audience this way: “I know you’re hearing my accent and thinking ‘Oh no, he’s not Black — he’s British.’ I’m here to reassure you that I am Black. I’m Black. And I’m British.”

And in today’s world of racial niche media, a white TV host recently dismissed me from appearing on his show to discuss race relations by telling me I didn’t qualify because I was born in Panama.

He thinks I’m not Black enough. Seriously.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Jenny Volanakis.

-0-

## ***White House Correspondents' Association announces 2020 journalism awards***





Photo by Doug Mills/New York Times

### WHCA News Release

The White House Correspondents' Association is pleased to announce the winners of our 2020 journalism awards.

"This year's winners represent the best of the kind of journalism America needs now more than ever — fact-based reporting that holds those in power accountable without fear or favor," said Jonathan Karl, the president of the association.

The winners include journalists from PBS, The Wall Street Journal, CNN, The New York Times and ProPublica.

The awards this year include two new prizes: The Katharine Graham Award for Courage and Accountability and the Award for Excellence in Presidential News Coverage by Visual Journalists.

Of the entries for the new Katharine Graham Award, the judges wrote: "If anyone doubts the vigor of journalism today, we would invite them to look at the entries for the Katharine Graham Award for Courage and Accountability. It was a remarkable field covering a range of topics, which made it hard to settle on a winner."

Here are the winners of the 2020 WHCA journalism awards:

Read more [here](#).

-0-

## ***The Supreme Court's Increasingly Dim View of the News Media*** (New York Times)

By Adam Liptak

WASHINGTON — Last month, in a dissent in a routine libel case, a prominent federal judge lashed out at the news media.

“Two of the three most influential papers (at least historically), The New York Times and The Washington Post, are virtually Democratic Party broadsheets,” wrote Judge Laurence H. Silberman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. “And the news section of The Wall Street Journal leans in the same direction.”

“Nearly all television — network and cable — is a Democratic Party trumpet,” he wrote. “Even the government-supported National Public Radio follows along.”

The dissent endorsed a 2019 opinion from Justice Clarence Thomas calling for the Supreme Court to reconsider *New York Times v. Sullivan*, the landmark 1964 ruling that made it hard for public officials to win libel suits.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Len Iwanski, Mark Mittelstadt.

-0-

## ***Tribune Publishing cuts off negotiations with white knight investor Stewart Bainum Jr., clearing the way for an Alden takeover*** (Poynter)

By: Rick Edmonds

With Swiss billionaire Hansjörg Wyss out as a potential investor in a bid for Tribune Publishing, the company said Monday morning it has “terminated discussions” with his former partner, Maryland hotel owner Stewart Bainum Jr.

A contract is in place, awaiting shareholder approval, to sell Tribune Publishing to hedge fund Alden Global Capital. The special committee of independent directors said in a press release that it intends to honor the agreement.

A source familiar with Bainum’s thinking said Sunday that after Wyss withdrew Friday night, Bainum has been working to identify alternative investors and resubmit a bid valued at \$680 million — \$50 million more than Alden’s.

Tribune said it no longer thinks it reasonably likely Bainum’s effort will result in a “superior proposal.” Besides shutting down negotiations, Tribune will not be letting other potential investors examine its books, it said.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

# The Final Word

## *A Journalist Got COVID and Died Live-Tweeting His Wait for a Hospital Bed* (Vice)



By Pallavi Pundir

DELHI, IN - On Friday evening, a journalist from northern India who tested COVID-19 positive started live-tweeting.

“I am 65 years old. Plus I have spondylitis, due to which my oxygen has reduced to 52,” stated a tweet from a man called Vinay Srivastava. “Nobody at the hospital lab, or the doctor is picking the phone.”

Oxygen saturation in the blood below the level of 94 is considered alarming for COVID-19 patients. As Twitter users flooded his post with attempts to help, one man



told him to “have faith” in the state government.

“Help will come to you very soon,” tweeted one man. Srivastava responded, “For how long should I keep the faith? Now my oxygen level is 50, and the guard at the Balrampur hospital is not letting me enter.” The state’s chief minister’s media advisor also responded to his viral tweets, asking for details.

On Saturday afternoon, Srivastava tweeted, “My oxygen is 31 when some will help me (sic).”

That was his last tweet.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

## Today in History - April 20, 2021



### By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, April 20, the 110th day of 2021. There are 255 days left in the year.

#### Today’s Highlight in History:

On April 20, 1999, the Columbine High School massacre took place in Colorado as two students shot and killed 12 classmates and one teacher before taking their own lives.

#### On this date:

In 1812, the fourth vice president of the United States, George Clinton, died in Washington at age 72, becoming the first vice president to die while in office.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed a proclamation admitting West Virginia to the Union, effective in 60 days (on June 20, 1863).

In 1914, the Ludlow Massacre took place when the Colorado National Guard opened fire on a tent colony of striking miners; about 20 (accounts vary) strikers, women and

children died.

In 1916, the Chicago Cubs played their first game at Wrigley Field (then known as Weeghman Park); the Cubs defeated the Cincinnati Reds 7-6.

In 1938, "Olympia," Leni Riefenstahl's documentary about the 1936 Berlin Olympic games, was first shown in Nazi Germany.

In 1945, during World War II, allied forces took control of the German cities of Nuremberg and Stuttgart.

In 1971, the Supreme Court unanimously upheld the use of busing to achieve racial desegregation in schools.

In 1972, Apollo 16's lunar module, carrying astronauts John W. Young and Charles M. Duke Jr., landed on the moon.

In 1986, following an absence of six decades, Russian-born pianist Vladimir Horowitz performed in the Soviet Union to a packed audience at the Grand Hall of the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow.

In 1988, gunmen who had hijacked a Kuwait Airways jumbo jet were allowed safe passage out of Algeria under an agreement that freed the remaining 31 hostages and ended a 15-day siege in which two passengers were slain.

In 2003, U.S. Army forces took control of Baghdad from the Marines in a changing of the guard that thinned the military presence in the capital.

In 2010, an explosion on the Deepwater Horizon oil platform, leased by BP, killed 11 workers and caused a blow-out that began spewing an estimated 200 million gallons of crude into the Gulf of Mexico. (The well was finally capped nearly three months later.)

Ten years ago: Two Western photojournalists, including Oscar-nominated film director Tim Hetherington, were killed in the besieged Libyan city of Misrata while covering battles between rebels and government forces. The U.S. government announced new protections for air travelers when airlines lose their bags, bump them off flights or hold them on the runway for hours.

Five years ago: Five former New Orleans police officers pleaded guilty to lesser charges in the deadly shootings on a bridge in the days following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew announced that Harriet Tubman, an African-American abolitionist born into slavery, would be the new face on the \$20 bill, replacing President Andrew Jackson. (The redesign of the bill was delayed during the administration of President Donald Trump, who had called the move "pure political correctness"; the effort was resumed by the Biden administration.) Pro wrestler Chyna (Joan Marie Laurer) was found dead in her Redondo Beach, California, apartment; she was 46.

One year ago: Georgia Republican Gov. Brian Kemp announced plans to restart the state's economy by lifting some coronavirus restrictions before the end of the week;

the plan would allow gyms, hair salons, bowling alleys and tattoo parlors to reopen as long as owners follow strict requirements. Dr Anthony Fauci, the government's top authority on infectious diseases, warned again that resuming business too soon risked a fresh spike in virus infections. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said reports of accidental poisonings from cleaners and disinfectants were up about 20 percent in the first three months of the year; researchers believed it was related to the coronavirus epidemic.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Leslie Phillips is 97. Former Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., is 85. Actor George Takei is 84. Singer Johnny Tillotson is 83. Actor Ryan O'Neal is 80. Bluegrass singer-musician Doyle Lawson (Quicksilver) is 77. Actor Judith O'Dea is 76. Rock musician Craig Frost (Grand Funk; Bob Seger's Silver Bullet Band) is 73. Actor Gregory Itzin (iht-zihn) is 73. Actor Jessica Lange is 72. Actor Veronica Cartwright is 72. Actor Clint Howard is 62. Actor Crispin Glover is 57. Actor Andy Serkis is 57. Olympic silver medal figure skater Rosalynn Sumners is 57. Actor William deVry is 53. Country singer Wade Hayes is 52. Actor Shemar Moore is 51. Actor Carmen Electra is 49. Reggae singer Stephen Marley is 49. Rock musician Marty Crandall is 46. Actor Joey Lawrence is 45. Country musician Clay Cook (Zac Brown Band) is 43. Actor Clayne Crawford is 43. Actor Tim Jo is 37. Actor Carlos Valdes (TV: "The Flash") is 32.

## Got a story or photos to share?

Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?





- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

**Paul Stevens**

**Editor, Connecting newsletter**

**paulstevens46@gmail.com**

Visit our website