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Associated Press staff photographer Dennis Lee Royle of London, crosses on bosun's chair from the light carrier Vengeance to the destroyer Vanguard, to dine with the First Lord of the Admiralty, in Espichel Bay, south of Lisbon, Portugal, Sept. 1950. (AP Photo)

Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 7th day of May 2021,

We lead today's issue with an AP Images blog that tells the story of photographer **Dennis Lee Royle**, who in his nearly 30-year AP career traveled the globe in pursuit of

covering the news.

The blog was produced by our colleague **Francesca Pitaro** of AP Corporate Archives.

Royle is among the AP journalists memorialized on the AP Wall of Honor. He died in 1971 while covering naval exercises conducted by NATO when the helicopter he was in crashed over the English Channel. This May 21 marks the 50th anniversary of his death.

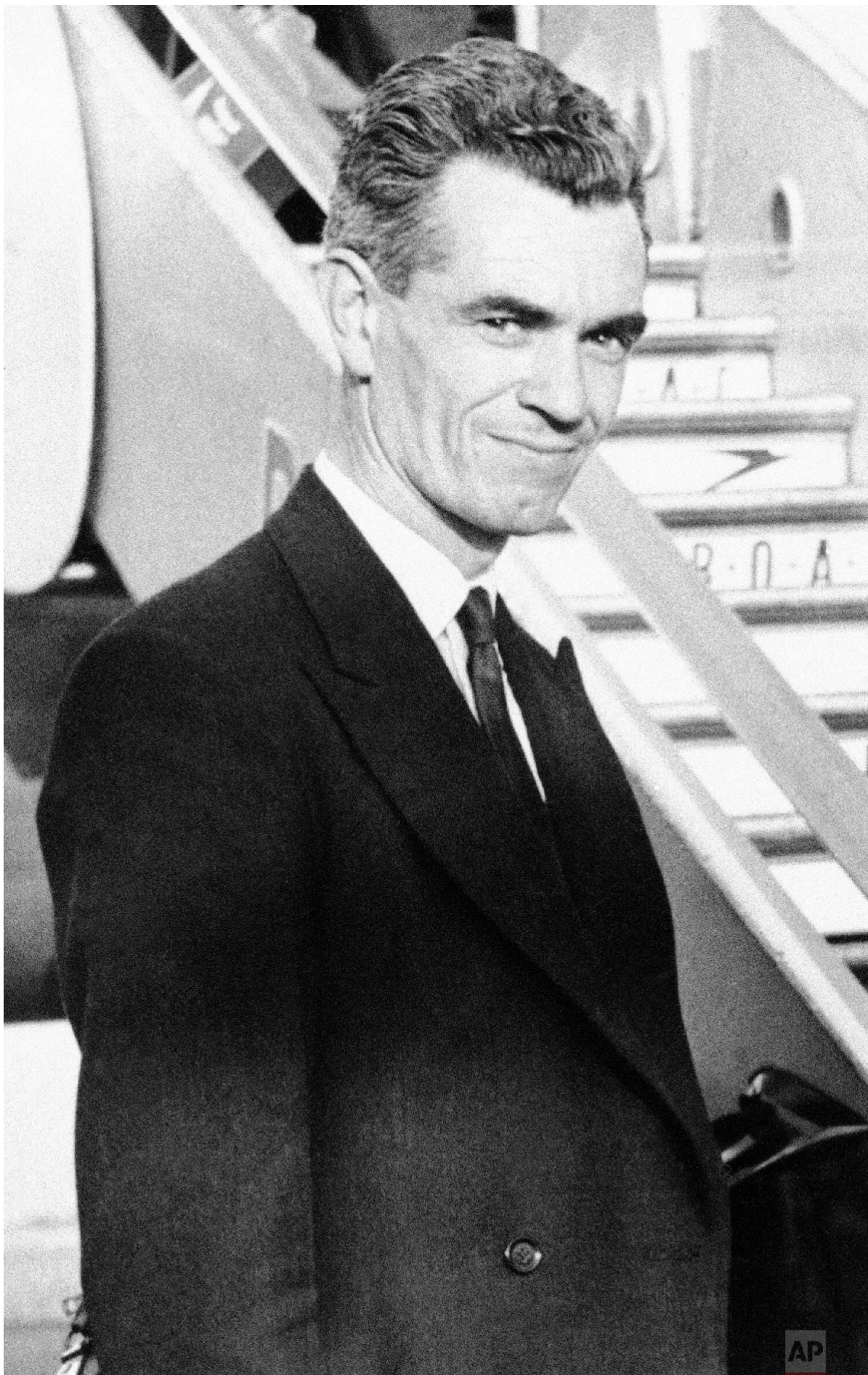
It was announced Thursday that after 28 years at the AP, Vice President and General Manager of Commercial Markets and Partnerships **Ted Mendelsohn** will retire. His last day will be June 30. The Connections story said: "For nearly three decades Ted succeeded in pushing AP out of its comfort zone into new lines of business and has been a valued mentor to many of his colleagues across the AP." Vice President of Partnerships **Tom Januszewski** will become vice president of global business development, effective June 30. See story in today's issue. Congratulations to Ted on a great career and to Tom on his new duties.

We wish all the moms among us a Happy Mothers Day on Sunday.

Have a great weekend – be safe and stay healthy!

Paul

Dennis Lee Royle 1923-1971: AP Photographer



Associated Press photographer Dennis Lee Royle is shown in Johannesburg, Feb. 14, 1963. (AP Photo)



A vital if unspectacular link in the maintenance of the Royal Air Force's contribution to the airlift into blockaded Berlin is "Operation Plumber." This is the R.A.F.'s name for the major servicing unit of transport command at Honington, Suffolk, where a fleet of six Dakotas is kept busy flying unserviceable aircraft parts back from Germany and taking out immediate replacements. Here a giant wheel for a York aircraft, grounded at Wunstorf, Germany, Nov 24, 1948 is trundled out to a waiting Dakota of "Operation Plumber." (AP Photo/Dennis Lee Royle)

Photo editing and text by Francesca Pitaro, AP Corporate Archives

In his nearly 30-year career with AP, photographer Dennis Lee Royle (1923-1971) covered news in Europe, Africa and Asia.

On May 20, 1971, while covering naval exercises conducted by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the helicopter he was in crashed over the English Channel. Royle was killed in the crash as were Edward Beer of the British Press Association and Guy Blanchard who was working for the American Broadcasting Company.

"It is a tragic irony that Dennis, who had been in so many dangerous spots for The Associated Press, such as the Hungarian revolution, wars in the Middle East and in India, lost his life in such an accident – but still in the pursuit of the news, as were his colleagues who died with him," said Wes Gallagher, AP's president and general manager.

Born in England, Royle joined the Royal Air Force (RAF) in 1939 and served as a flight engineer on board the aircraft that he serviced. He was released from the RAF in 1943 after being injured in a crash landing. Royle began his first assignment at the AP on July 12, 1943 as a photo librarian in the London bureau. He progressed to caption writer and night photo editor, all the while learning the art and science of photography from veteran AP photographers Eddie Worth and Leslie Priest.

Click [here](#) to view more.

A Mother's Day Memory

Norm Abelson (Email) - My favorite picture of my Mom was snapped the mid 1920s. It shows her wearing a tight wrap-around dress ending – shockingly! - at her knees, topped off with a cloche hat covering her closely bobbed hair. The epitome of what was then called a Flapper.

It's difficult to think of Mom, who died some 20 years ago in her late 90s, as that young woman in the photo. A woman forced to leave school after the eighth grade to work in a factory sewing women's under-garments. A lover of life with varying tastes, all the way from dancing and partying to having a collection of hundreds of opera and other classical music records. An exceedingly good-looking young woman, attracting a raft of boyfriends and suitors. Turning down many offers of marriage, including one from a Harvard dental school student.

But not one of those guys had a chance. You see, Sophia Velleman was waiting, waiting for a sailor named Harry Abelson, who was then on a round-the-world cruise, capping his eight years in the Navy.

Mom and Dad first set eyes on one another in the Daniels Elementary School. But their relationship came to a halt when Dad, at the age of 15, stole an older uncle's birth certificate, ran away from home and enlisted.

What kept that relationship alive during the long separation? I didn't find out until, after her death, I was going through my mother's belongings, and came upon a bundle of old letters, barely held together by an unraveling ribbon. They were love letters mailed from many parts of the world from Harry to Sophia. They included travel-logs, but also warm expressions of caring about and missing Mom.

At the end of his Naval service, Dad returned home, courted Mom and they were married in 1927. They were together until Dad's death in 1978. I know he remained a presence with Mom all the years after.

Believe it or not, that daring dress in the photo has survived the near century since Mom wore it. It was found, neatly folded, among her belongings after her death. It's now kept by my son among family memorabilia.

Love you, Mom.

AP appoints Tom Januszewski VP of global business development

NEW YORK – The Associated Press has appointed Tom Januszewski to head the news agency's business development initiatives globally, a critical new revenue leadership role.

Januszewski will be responsible for driving revenue growth, building out content and service lines, introducing new revenue channels and leading a team focused on new markets.

He will report to Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Daisy Veerasingham in her capacity as chief revenue officer.

"Tom is an outstanding revenue leader with a clear vision of what the future can hold for AP," said Veerasingham. "His innovative approach and demonstrated track record make him the optimal choice to direct AP's business development efforts as we look to what's next."



"AP's strong brand and reputation open doors to an incredible set of forward-looking companies in a variety of growing markets," Januszewski said. "We plan to build on our earlier successes in advertising, content services, corporate and financial markets, fact-checking and verification, and expand into new promising areas. It's my privilege to work with talented cross-departmental teams at AP and I'm thrilled to take on this broader role."

Januszewski has held several business development positions since joining AP in 2000, most recently vice president for partnerships. In that role he managed AP's relationships with technology companies and social media platforms such as Amazon, Google, Microsoft, Twitter and Facebook, driving significant revenue growth from strategic partnerships and new service offerings.

Januszewski holds a law degree from Quinnipiac University School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from Fairfield University. He lives in New York.

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

Connecting mailbox

Listening to radio broadcast of tragic Hindenburg disaster

Sister Donalda Kehoe (Email) – Referring to this item in Thursday (May 6) Today in History: In 1937, the hydrogen-filled German airship Hindenburg caught fire and crashed while attempting to dock at Lakehurst, New Jersey; 35 of the 97 people on board were killed along with a crewman on the ground.

All the Kehoe family were listening to the static radio broadcast of the landing of the largest dirigible on this date in 1937. I was 10 years old. After its disastrous outcome, it was learned that 1,700 pieces of snail mail were destroyed and 357 pieces were recovered.

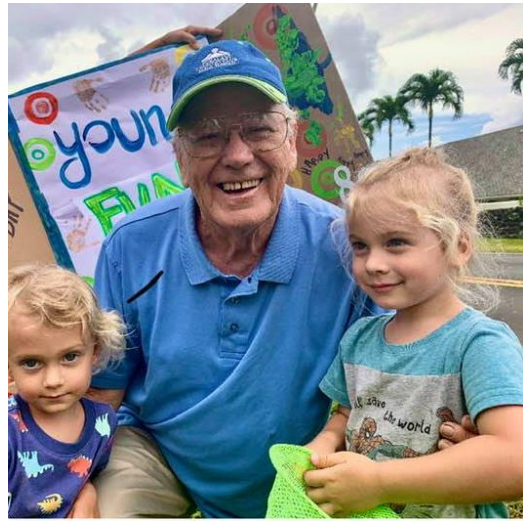
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A Hana 80th salute to Dean Wariner



It was no secret in the Hawaiian community of Hana that our colleague **Dean Wariner (Email)** had turned 80 earlier this week. Thanks to the many there who know and love him, and his wife **Tad Bartimus**, there was quite the celebration. Tad wrote: "There is such an outpouring of love in this small community for Dean... he taught 6th and 8th grades for 12 years at Hana School so all those kids have grown up now, have

kids of their own, and love him... they organized to show him a wonderful 80th surprise birthday right in the heart of our little Hana town...! I contributed the banner but it was a wide conspiracy to get it up in the air, get folks there and organize a fun "drive by" of honking horns and shouted greetings!! Really a fabulous tribute to him, and to the people of this community. We are so so so lucky to live here, and I am SO SO SO LUCKY to be married to DEAN WARINER for 43 years!!!"



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Woodie named after his favorite bourbon



Rick Cooper (Email) - He isn't bourbon but he is TINKER-TAVERN WOODFORD RESERVE TD.

Named after my favorite libation, Woodie is a certified Therapy and Reading Dog. While the COVID-19 pandemic has put a damper on his activities he is starting up again to partake in Read to a Dog sessions where, working with a reading therapist/teacher, first- and second-grade kids at the local elementary school hone their reading skills.

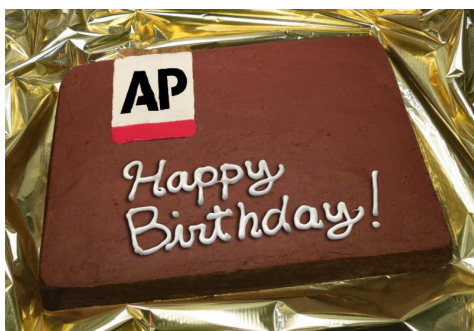
Cancel culture be damned, his favorite story is still Dr. Seuss' GREEN EGGS AND HAM.

Connecting island shot – from Kansas



Paul Stevens – Grandkids Sophie and Brennan join Ollie on an island in a Lenexa, Kan., city park.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Mike Feinsilber - mikefeinsilber@gmail.com

Bud Hunt - budhunt72@gmail.com

On Saturday to...

Doug Richardson - drichardson5609@gmail.com

Lynda Zimmer Straw - raymond.straw@frontier.com

On Sunday to...

Thom Callahan - tc5959@gmail.com

Anita Miller Fry - topscoop@aol.com

Marc Humbert - marc.a.humbert@gmail.com

Stories of interest

In a hedge fund's bid for Tribune's newspapers, a hidden risk lurks in the fine print (Washington Post)

By Jonathan O'Connell and Sarah Ellison

In its bid to acquire Tribune Publishing, the hedge fund Alden Global Capital vowed to provide \$375 million in cash to the owner of the Chicago Tribune, the Baltimore Sun and other titles — a theoretically welcome influx to an investment-starved newspaper chain.

But industry and financial experts have looked at the fine print and see something starkly different: Alden, they say, has already signaled it plans to saddle Tribune with debt that could further hollow out the company, and it may not have \$375 million available to begin with.

Alden has made the certainty of its finances a central part of its push to acquire Tribune, saying in a December letter that it “can fully finance the Transaction with cash on hand” and “we will have no financing conditions and will not require third party debt or equity to finance the Transaction.”

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

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Media shut out of DeSantis elections bill signing (The Hill)

BY MAX GREENWOOD

ORLANDO, Fla. — Local reporters were barred on Thursday from witnessing Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) sign a controversial elections bill, sparking outrage from journalists and critics of the Republican governor.

Journalists gathered outside the Hilton Airport Hotel in West Palm Beach, Fla., early Thursday morning to cover the governor’s signing of Senate Bill 90, a sweeping election-related measure that, among other things, creates ID requirements for mail-in voting and restricts the use of ballot drop boxes.

But multiple reporters claimed that they were barred from entering the event, while Fox News would be allowed to cover the bill signing as an “exclusive.”

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

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The COVID Reporters Are Not Okay. Extremely Not Okay. (Study Hall)

By OLIVIA MESSER

When I told my editors at The Daily Beast that I needed to quit my job as the newsroom’s lead COVID reporter, I couldn’t even say the word “quit.”

Even now, weeks later, it feels like admitting failure.

I was working my dream job in a newsroom I loved where I was writing about what felt like the most important beat in the world. I felt lucky to be employed and alive in the middle of a global pandemic.

But in between meetings and interviews and filing stories, I was falling apart. I was writing poems about suicide. I went whole days without eating at all. At one point, I collapsed onto the floor from dehydration. I was vomiting from stress. I developed a stye in my left eye. I wasn't getting out of bed most days. I was crying all the time. My nightmares, in which I was shot or raped or watching coworkers burn alive in front of me, scared me so much that some nights I refused to sleep at all. When I wasn't too afraid to sleep, I was still restless because I was too angry or too anxious or too sad or too filled with shame. I sometimes woke in the early morning hours with bile climbing up my throat and the simmer of heartburn in my chest. There were times I took sick days because I couldn't stop sobbing long enough to string even a few pitches together.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Scott Charton.

Today in History - May 7, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, May 7, the 127th day of 2021. There are 238 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 7, 1945, Germany signed an unconditional surrender at Allied headquarters in Rheims (rams), France, ending its role in World War II.

On this date:

In 1833, composer Johannes Brahms was born in Hamburg, Germany.

In 1840, composer Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky was born in Votkinsk, Russia.

In 1915, a German U-boat torpedoed and sank the British liner RMS Lusitania off the southern coast of Ireland, killing 1,198 people, including 128 Americans, out of the nearly 2,000 on board.

In 1928, the minimum voting age for British women was lowered from 30 to 21 [–] the same age as men.

In 1939, Germany and Italy announced a military and political alliance known as the Rome-Berlin Axis.

In 1946, Sony Corp. had its beginnings as the Tokyo Telecommunications Engineering Corp. was founded in the Japanese capital by Akio Morita and Masaru Ibuka.

In 1954, the 55-day Battle of Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam ended with Vietnamese insurgents overrunning French forces.

In 1963, the United States launched the Telstar 2 communications satellite.

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford formally declared an end to the “Vietnam era.” In Ho Chi Minh City [–] formerly Saigon [–] the Viet Cong celebrated its takeover.

In 1998, the parent company of Mercedes-Benz agreed to buy Chrysler Corp. for more than \$37 billion. Londoners voted overwhelmingly to elect their own mayor for the first time in history. (In May 2000, Ken Livingstone was elected.)

In 2010, a BP-chartered vessel lowered a 100-ton concrete-and-steel vault onto the ruptured Deepwater Horizon well in an unprecedented, and ultimately unsuccessful, attempt to stop most of the gushing crude fouling the sea.

In 2019, two gunmen opened fire inside a charter school in a Denver suburb not far from Columbine High School, killing a student, 18-year-old Kendrick Castillo, who authorities said had charged at the shooters to protect classmates; two students at the school were charged in the attack. (A 16-year-old, Alec McKinney, pleaded guilty to 17 felonies and was sentenced to life in prison plus 38 years; 19-year-old Devon Erickson pleaded not guilty to the same charges; his trial has been delayed by the coronavirus pandemic.)

Ten years ago: The U.S. released videos seized from Osama bin Laden’s hideout showing the terrorist leader watching newscasts of himself amid shabby surroundings. Justin Verlander threw his second career no-hitter, leading the Detroit Tigers to a 9-0 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays. World Golf Hall of Famer Seve Ballesteros, 54, died in Pedrena, Spain.

Five years ago: A Tesla Model S sedan that was in self-driving mode crashed into the side of a tractor-trailer in Williston, Florida, killing its occupant, Joshua D. Brown. President Barack Obama told the graduating class at Howard University in Washington, D.C. that the country was “a better place” than when he left college more than 30 years earlier, but acknowledged that gaps persisted, citing racism and inequality.

One year ago: Georgia authorities arrested a white father and son and charged them with murder in the February shooting death of Ahmaud Arbery, a Black man they had pursued in a truck after spotting him running in their neighborhood near the port city of Brunswick. In an abrupt about-face, the Justice Department dropped a criminal case against Michael Flynn, President Donald Trump's first national security adviser, who was accused of lying to the FBI about conversations with the Russian ambassador. The White House said a member of the military serving as one of Trump's valets tested positive for the coronavirus. A Texas hair salon owner, Shelley Luther, sentenced to a week behind bars for keeping her business open despite Gov. Greg Abbott's emergency orders, was freed after less than 48 hours; Abbott had removed jail as a punishment for defying virus safeguards. A study in the New England Journal of Medicine found no evidence of benefit from a malaria drug that was promoted as a treatment for the coronavirus. Neiman Marcus said it filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, becoming the first department store chain to be toppled by the pandemic.

Today's Birthdays: R&B singer Thelma Houston is 78. Actor Robin Strasser is 76. Singer-songwriter Bill Danoff is 75. Rock musician Bill Kreutzmann (Grateful Dead) is 75. Former Utah Gov. Gary Herbert is 74. Rock musician Prairie Prince is 71. Movie writer-director Amy Heckerling is 69. Actor Michael E. Knight is 62. Rock musician Phil Campbell (Motorhead) is 60. Rock singer-musician Chris O'Connor (Primitive Radio Gods) is 56. Actor Traci Lords is 53. Actor Morocco Omari is 51. Singer Eagle-Eye Cherry is 50. Actor Breckin Meyer is 47. Rock musician Matt Helders (Arctic Monkeys) is 35. Actor-comedian Aidy Bryant is 34. Actor Taylor Abrahamse is 30. Actor Alexander Ludwig is 29. Actor Dylan Gelula is 27.

Got a story or photos to share?

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

Here are some suggestions:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.



- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?
- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

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