

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

[View as Webpage](#)



Connecting

June 08, 2021

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



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

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

The Future of The A. P.

by KC

EDITOR'S NOTE: *George W. Turner, biographical editor, at a dinner tendered by the New York staff November 12 on the occasion of his retirement on pension, asked KC to discuss the future. The following are KC's extemporaneous remarks.*

The future of The AP? I like to think about it although it is almost beyond the imagination!

No man can foresee exactly what is ahead for The AP except great change. Certainly there are going to be great electro-mechanical changes. The influence of radio will be tremendous. Radio still is in its infancy. And the relationship of The AP staffer to his organization likewise is due to enter a new phase as newspapers The AP serves make full use of these developments.

I don't predict—and I don't want to be held accountable for this five, ten or twenty years from now—but it is possible that one of the developments of the future may be an automatic, pocket "bulletin" newspaper, to which you could subscribe from your regular newspaper and carry around with you in your pocket. To it the world's news would be beamed every minute of the day and recorded on sensitized paper. You would be able to pull out your "newsheet," take a quick look at what's happened over the world in the last ten minutes, tear off the sheet and put the "newspaper" back for the next "printing."

That is only one prospective new service by the newspapers to their readers, and The AP must be in the forefront of the great progress to come. It must have the foresight and vision to aid in the discovery and development of every effective new method of dissemination of information for use by the newspapers.

What all this is going to do to The AP, I do not pretend to know, except that many of our present news techniques will be revolutionized.

But I am more concerned with the human development within The AP.

Changing times dictate changing institutions. You cannot stem the tide. No one knows, for example, what the ultimate effect of the government's suit may be on The AP. This I do know: that the future of The AP is going to rest increasingly with the employees.

I say this frankly. The old AP, as George and I knew it, is no more. The future is a challenge for every one of us and The AP of 25 or 50 years hence is going to be only what the imagination and the daring of The AP staff dictates.

I have said that true and unbiased news is the highest original moral concept ever developed in America and given the world. This concept, The AP of the future must fight for as it has through the years.

I am sure The AP will fight for it. Already the influence of The AP tradition is being felt around the world. Three-fourths of the newspapers of Great Britain now take AP, as do several papers in Sweden. In Latin America The AP—Byline of Dependability—long respected, is steadily widening its field and following. The AP, moreover, is looking to the day when it can bring true and unbiased news to every country of

Europe, Africa, Asia,—yes, and even Japan.

I hope that peace brings freedom of the press in every country. That is reaching for the millennium, perhaps, but I am confident that if it is attained it will go far to avert another war. At this moment, we are striving for equality of access by press agencies, native and foreign, to governmental and other news outside the United States after the war. Such equality would preclude the danger of any government-controlled and subsidized agency from poisoning or throttling the flow of news.

All this concerns the future of The AP.

Are the answers beyond YOUR imagination?



Kent Cooper

December, 1943

7

Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 9th day of June 2021,

Kent Cooper, general manager of The Associated Press from 1925-1943, was termed a "visionary" during the second of three "AP at 175: Conversations with History" webinars held last week.

That sent our colleague **Claude Erbsen** ([Email](#)) “to forage through my AP arcana, where I found the attached which clearly shows that he was. He was fuzzy on the details but clear eyed in seeing news-in-your-pocket as part of the future.”

Maybe Cooper didn't totally envision in 1943 the types of mobile devices that deliver the news – but he had the concept down pat. We feature Cooper's full address on the future of the AP, including the pocket bulletin. It appeared in the December 1943 AP World and can be viewed above.

In today's issue, we bring you the thoughts of respected colleague **Kevin Walsh** - whose 31-year AP career included work as a bureau chief and regional vice president - and his strongly held feelings on the AP's recent firing of Emily Wilder for violating AP's social media policy. Your own thoughts on what Kevin has to say or on the situation in general are welcomed.

We also bring you a report on services Monday for longtime Tallahassee technician **Eldon Cort** and the thoughts of colleagues on Cincinnati correspondent **Dan Sewell**, who announced in Monday's Connecting his plans to retire.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Deeply Troubled By AP's Handling of Emily Wilder Situation

Kevin Walsh ([Email](#)) - You can add my name to the 100-plus Associated Press journalists, and many others inside and outside the media, who have questioned management's handling of the Emily Wilder affair.

I am probably the least likely person to write a letter like this. I had a great 31-year career with the AP: Reporter/editor in Kansas City, news editor in Baltimore, bureau chief in Phoenix, bureau chief in Miami and, finally, regional vice president/West. I spent 80 percent of my career in AP management before my wife and I retired six years ago to embark on an 82-country world travel odyssey. The AP was, and always will be, my professional home. I have tremendous respect for AP's mission and its employees, including many of the managers likely involved in this decision. I was bureau chief in Miami during the AP's 150th anniversary and, as we mark this 175th anniversary year, I hope I'll live long enough to see a healthy AP celebrate its 200th anniversary.

I don't know Emily Wilder, but she strikes me as a talented and passionate young person based on what I've read about her and her work. The AP may or may not have been a good fit for her, but we'll never really know that because she was fired only a little more than two

weeks after she joined AP as a news associate.

I've thought long and hard about this situation, more than I have about any industry issue since I retired, and here is why I find this episode so troubling:

Wilder's activism in college on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and her reporting on social issues were apparent for anyone to see in advance of her hiring by AP. If any of this was a serious problem for AP, then why hire her in the first place? And, if she violated AP's social media guidelines during her brief employment, what were the specific posts that triggered the decision to fire her? Like others looking at this from the outside, I can't find something so objectionable that it merited firing someone in a training position at the start of their career. Maybe a reprimand, warning or being pulled off the desk for additional training, but not firing.



As others have noted, this all occurred against the backdrop of Israel striking the building in Gaza housing the AP (May 15), the Stanford Republicans "expose" on Wilder's activism on Israeli-Palestinian issues while in college (May 17) and the subsequent outcry involving Arkansas Republican Senator Tom Cotton and other prominent conservatives before Wilder's firing on May 19.

I was bureau chief for Florida from 1997-2006 during some fairly high profile and complicated stories that either took place or had deep connections to the state -- the Elian Gonzalez saga, the 2000 presidential election, 9/11 and the Terry Schiavo right-to-die case. Culture wars were in full bloom back then, even if social media wasn't. Count me as an AP traditionalist in terms of fair, factual, unbiased reporting and journalists (or anyone working in any capacity for a "mainstream media" organization like AP) avoiding even the appearance of conflict of interest.

Which brings me to my problem with AP management's handling of this issue. Having hired a young journalist with a readily accessible digital footprint that illustrates their social/political beliefs (something unavoidable in this age), what is the thoughtful reaction when the right or left launches an online smear campaign at a critical moment? AP has publicly acknowledged "mistakes of process, and not outcome" while insisting it still made the right decision. Most recently, Managing Editor Brian Carovillano appeared on CNN's "Reliable Sources" and talked about the danger the AP and its employees face when the organization's credibility is compromised.

I get the AP's concerns about Wilder's tweets. What I don't get is why the AP chose to fire a rookie journalist, who deserved the opportunity of counseling rather than canceling, in the middle of a geopolitical maelstrom. The result thus far is damage to the credibility AP holds so dear, both among a large portion of its editorial staff and many reasonable people inside and outside the industry. Appearances of conflict of interest can be as damaging as conflict of interest itself. Rather than doubling down

on "we made the right decision," the AP should listen to its staff and rational public reaction and do some transparent soul-searching.

If there is good to come from this it will be that AP adopts updated social media guidelines -- clear policies for dealing with disinformation and smear campaigns and discusses them in open dialogue with staff and the industry. I also sincerely hope someone gives Emily Wilder a shot at pursuing her dreams of a career in journalism, that she learns (as we were allowed to do) from any rookie mistakes and that the senseless bullying she has endured will stop.

I reached out to Wilder's instructor at Stanford, Janine Zacharia, because I thought her original piece in Politico about her former student was thoughtful and illuminating. After the "Reliable Sources" interview aired, I spotted a brief Twitter "rebuttal" she did. I asked Zacharia, who I've never met, if I could share it on this forum because I think it adds to an important conversation. I've attached it below with my minor edits (in parenthesis) for better readability.

-0-

Janine Zacharia June 2 Twitter rebuttal regarding May 30 "Reliable Sources" appearance by Brian Carovillano, Associated Press vice president and managing editor:

I need to add a few points re @AP firing of (Emily Wilder) in light of recent AP statements.

On May 18, @AP's Amanda Barrett wrote Emily: "We need to get the security team involved so they can address the platforms. The point is not to punish you but to stop the bad actors."

In other words, on May 18, @AP's (deputy managing editor) knew Emily was subjected to (a) campaign by "bad actors." On May 19, AP fired (Wilder) four hours after (the) Fox News headline: "Associated Press' rough week continues after report it hired anti-Israel activist as news associate."

Yet on May 30, AP Managing Editor Brian Carovillano denied on @ReliableSources on Sunday that (Wilder) was fired as a result of a bad-faith, smear campaign.

"No, that would never happen, and it didn't happen here. We take care of our people...This is the Associated Press so anyone who thinks that the AP would be cowed by the College Republicans does not know very much about the AP."

Why would the top 10 managers in the AP's office in New York be convening to discuss an Arizona news associate's Twitter feed if not for this rightwing media campaign against her that surfaced her past pro-Palestinian activism and tried to impugn the AP's credibility?

Why were they not discussing any other AP journalist if not for the campaign? Even after the AP standards editor John Daniszewski sent not one – but two – emails to (all AP employees) about expressing opinions after the bombing of the @AP bureau in Gaza? "Although emotions are running high among us, please remember in your social

media posts to avoid statements of conjecture or opinion about these events," the second letter -- reiterating the first -- said.

Now today: "We asked the AP if there were any complaints about Wilder's tweeting that came to the attention of the wire service independently of the attacks from the Stanford College Republicans. Spokeswoman Lauren Easton responded, 'Yes.'
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2021/06/01/ap-editor-digs-emily-wilders-clear-bias/>

What were they? Because (Wilder's) firing letter says @AP acted only after "some of your social media posts made prior to joining AP surfaced" (reference to Stanford group thread). "Those posts prompted a review of your social media activity since you began with the AP."

(Wilder) declined to appear on CNN's @ReliableSources on May 30 because she wasn't interested in re-litigating what happened with the AP and wants to move forward. (@brianstelter didn't mention they had invited her and that she declined as hosts customarily do.) (She) is eager to begin anew at a news organization that does impactful, investigative reporting.

@AP has the best journalists. It's a critically important news outlet. I want to help AP do better, not battle. But I have an appeal for AP's leadership: Please stop saying disingenuous things about (Emily Wilder). She's been through enough because of how you mishandled this.

Services honor longtime Tallahassee technician Eldon Cort

In Memory Of Eldon Blaine Cort, Sr.

Date Of Birth
February 17, 1937
Atlanta, Georgia

Date of Death
May 28, 2021
Tallahassee, Florida

Services
Thomasville Road Baptist Church
11:00 AM
Monday, June 7, 2021

Officiating
Rev. Steve Vaughan

Arrangements By
McAlpin Funeral Home
Sneads, FL

Loving Memory

Eldon Blaine Cort, Sr. age 84 of Tallahassee, Florida passed away on Friday, May 28, 2021, at his home. He was born in Atlanta, Georgia on February 17, 1937; to the late Horace W. and Rudene Groover Cort. Eldon moved to Tallahassee from Raleigh, NC in 1962. Eldon began his career with the Associated Press in Atlanta, GA in 1956 as an office boy and retired after fifty years of dedicated service and many promotions later with the Associated Press as supervising technician of the North Florida Region in the Tallahassee, FL office. He was a member of Thomasville Road Baptist Church and charter member of Forest Heights Baptist Church. Eldon was active in the church and his years of service to the Lord included serving on the flower ministry committee, singing in the Young Heart Choir, participating in the nursing home ministry and serving as a deacon. In his earlier years, Eldon was known as being a Ham Radio operator with call sign K04KZ and CB Radio operator with the handle "seahorse". Eldon loved his family and friends. He could be found daily enjoying a meal at Whataburger and was a founding member of the "Whataburger Board of BS". Eldon was an avid photographer. There was nothing Eldon liked better than an interesting conversation with a new or old friend; he could have an engaging conversation with anyone.

Eldon was preceded in death by his parents; wife and mother of his children, Beverly Cort; one daughter, Wanda Sadler; his second wife, Carol Burroughs Cort; and two brothers, Ronnie and Billy Cort.

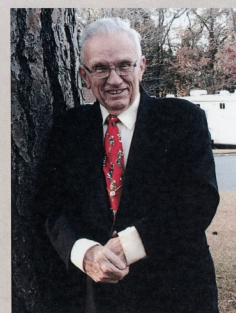
Eldon is survived by his children; Melisa Cort Smith, Eldon Blaine Cort, Jr. (Melinda) and Paul Douglas Cort (Linda); his grandchildren, James Brian Smith, Allison Elizabeth Cort and Beverly Shae Cort; his girlfriend, Norma Brown; his siblings, Marie Watts, Peggy Lamb, and Becky Barber (Bill) as well as many other family members.

Brent Kallestad (Email) - About 100 folks attended Monday's service to honor Eldon Cort, including former correspondents Bill Kaczor (Pensacola), David Powell, myself and longtime staff photographer Mark Foley, who gave a brief and uplifting talk that fit Eldon perfectly.

Mark, who first met Eldon in 1973 when he transferred here from the Detroit bureau, had left a text on Eldon's phone the night before he passed to remind him of their Friday morning retirees coffee at Whataburger.

Eldon replied, "Next time."

He was as good a human being as he was a technician. And while photography was one of his hobbies, Eldon was also very good at that. Always ready to offer a helping hand whether at AP, his church or folks in need.



Celebrating THE Life OF
Eldon Blaine Cort, Sr.

Some favorite memories of working with Dan Sewell

Jon Gambrell ([Email](#)) - On Dan Sewell's retirement (see Monday's Connecting):

I owe Dan so much in my career. He took me on as a college intern when he served as the suburban editor at The Cincinnati Enquirer. I remember the first piece I turned into him, a feature story on a local pizzeria fighting over sidewalk space selling slices to drunk students at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He tore my copy apart to my embarrassment, but his lede noting the "spicy rivalry sizzling" between the two restaurants just made the piece and I quickly learned from him. He graciously accepted without complaint every AP bureau chief across the U.S. calling him when I put him down as a reference. I ended up in Little Rock, Arkansas, with chief of bureau Robert Shaw and news editor Kelly P. Kissel. The rest, as they say, is history. The AP will be poorer without Dan's steady hands in Cincinnati, but he's made an impact across his career and in my life to which I'll always be grateful. Thank you, Dan.

-0-

Will Lester ([Email](#)) - One of many big stories where Dan Sewell saved the AP and his colleagues.

We were several days past the first news in 1991 that someone at the Kennedy estate in Palm Beach had been accused of rape. I made my weekend morning trip to a shopping center north of Miami for coffee and newspapers when I noticed the New York tabloids were awash in stories about the case, with lurid details, rampant speculation and predictions of what came next.

We had been covering it by sending staffers from Miami each day to cover the fast-moving story, which put the reporter at a disadvantage. It became quickly apparent to me as news editor in Miami at the time that strategy was getting washed over by a tsunami of competing reporters from out of town, mostly from the Northeast.

There was only one good answer: Send Dan Sewell, then a reporter in Miami, up there and have him become a de facto Palm Beach bureau. After a brief debate on the merits of that strategy, it was done.

For the first few days, he helped pull our coverage of the charges against William Kennedy Smith up to competitive, and then he started breaking angles and doing some of that great Sewell enterprise. He would remember the details of how he did it far better than I, but it included building up a network of sources.

But his skills and tenacity, along with occasional visiting national writers, helped keep the AP and the bureau in the game for weeks and months. I will bet that situation with Dan has been repeated often in bureaus where he worked around the country.

-0-

Jim Reindl (Email) - Lots of people will have Dan Sewell stories. Yawn. Old news!

Mine's a story about Vickii and Graca and their first "meeting." As Dan said in his profile Monday, he spent a year as ACoB in Chicago. It definitely wasn't sustainable but we had a great year with the team he mentioned. While Dan often drove back to the Cincinnati area for home visits on weekends, the first time Vickii came up (for a member meeting), she flew. Graca drew the assignment to pick her up.

At the appointed hour, Graca began circling Midway Airport under the watchful eye of a cop who kept making her move on. At one point, Graca excitedly told the cop, "But I see her. She's over there," pointing vaguely into the distance while dialing Vickii, who was looking for Graca. "I see you," Graca called into the phone, to which Vickii replied, "Where? Where are you? I don't see you."

"I'm here, at Midway," Graca said. "I'm at O'Hare," Vickii replied and they burst out laughing. Dan and I were already at the member meeting, which probably meant an extra hour or so at the hotel bar and a good laugh for all of us then and over the years.

Connecting mailbox

Jaan Kangilaski recollections

Dennis Whitehead (Email) - I will appreciate your running this small item seeking recollections of Jaan Kangilaski.

I am developing a book on a series of murders in Cincinnati, Ohio, during the mid-1960s, and am seeking recollections and descriptions of AP correspondent Jaan Kangilaski who was stationed in Cincinnati during that period. I am looking for anything and everything that can help develop the character of Kangilaski, and other reporters covering the murders. Three others of interest are Bob Weston of UPI, George Lecky of The Cincinnati Post and Times-Star, and Margaret Josten of The Cincinnati Enquirer. All recollections appreciated!

-0-

Charlie Hanley's Connecting Item On How Things Have Changed

John Rogers (Email) - Charlie Hanley's note the other day about how a radio reporter was recently fired for doing what AP members had until recently always done - stealing the work of AP reporters and inserting it uncredited into their own stories - reminded me of the two most memorable episodes in which I was similarly victimized.

I was at the Hollywood Laugh Factory nine years ago when I caught comedian Sunda Croonquist's set. After she finished her act she moved to the audience to watch the other performers and just happened to sit next to me. I told her how much I'd enjoyed her act, but I wondered if her bit about her mother-in-law suing her for libel

for telling mother-in-law jokes was really true. She said it was indeed true and I could look it up. I logged onto Pacer the next day and, sure enough, she wasn't joking. (Well, she was, but it was all true.)

My story on the dispute, in which Sunda eventually prevailed, went everywhere, including into a major New Jersey newspaper that ran it in full, word-for-word, under their own reporter's byline. Buried in the middle of it was one original paragraph of reporting, noting that Sunda had an upcoming show in New Jersey, where the lawsuit was filed. Everything else was mine, start to finish.

I never complained because I figured what was the point. Nothing would happen.

Not long after, I got a call from the late Yippie co-founder Paul Krassner, telling me that he'd just discovered the updated edition of his memoir, "Confessions of a Raving, Unconfirmed Nut: Misadventures in the Counter-Culture," contained an exchange we'd had one night when I called him at home to tell him gonzo journalist Hunter Thompson had just died. I knew that Paul had edited some of Thompson's early work for his underground newspaper, The Realist, and wanted a quote from him. In reading his book's updated edition he'd noticed his editor had taken out my name and media affiliation in the section on Thompson that included our exchange. He'd called to apologize. I told him, "Don't worry. I'm a wire-service journalist. People steal my stuff all the time." He told me he didn't steal any writer's work and he was ensuring I'd be cited in the next edition. A few months later that next edition arrived, unsolicited, in my mail. Sure enough, John Rogers of The Associated Press was right where he said it would be.

Imagine that: A countercultural outlaw with an FBI dossier likely big enough to fill a file cabinet had more professional ethics than a journalist in New Jersey.

AND...

Hal Bock ([Email](#)) - Charlie Hanley's post regarding members picking up chunks of AP copy reminded me of my own experience.

In 1976, I was covering the American League pennant playoff between Kansas City and the Yankees. The game ended on a dramatic home run by Chris Chambliss around midnight. This was the deadline moment I relished and I jumped on it. Optionals and sidebars later, I went home, returning to the airport early the next morning to catch a flight to Cincinnati where the World Series would begin. I grabbed a copy of the New York Daily News and there on the back page was my story. The byline, however, was the Yankees beat writer, Phil Pepe, an old, dear friend. We enjoyed a laugh over that one and I had the satisfaction of knowing that I had supplied the story in time for the News to plug it into its late edition. That's what the AP is supposed to do.

-0-

Letter to the Editor about Ken Herman

Soll Sussman ([Email](#)) - Ken Herman recently announced his retirement from the Austin American-Statesman. He called it "voluntary with an asterisk."

I thought people might enjoy this Letter to the Editor Monday from the Statesman. Ken won his Pulitzer at Lufkin, his first stop in Texas, before he joined the AP in Dallas.

'Language' differences led to a Herman laugh

It was with a great deal of sadness when I read of the departure of columnist Ken Herman.

I may get some of the facts confused, but whenever I tell this story to my fellow Texans, they fall out of their chairs laughing. It seems that newly arrived Texan Herman was interviewing a local leader for the Lufkin newspaper and in a subsequent story Herman wrote that said leader was a tar salesman. In a follow-up phone call from the confused gentleman, he set Ken straight: He was a tire salesman.

Sad to see you go, but best wishes for continued success, Ken.

Tom G. Price, Austin

Editor's Note: Herman recounted in a 2018 column, "Herman: The passing of a political force and a tar salesman," his misunderstanding with K.E. "Cotton" Thompson. Herman wrote: "Ken," Thompson said by way of correction, "I'm a tar salesman." Yes, sir, Mr. Thompson, that's what I put in the paper. After a little verbal back and forth, he was able to break through the language barrier and make it clear that he sold the kind of tars you put on your pickup and have rotated periodically.

-0-

Questions on AP headline, story

Mark Mittelstadt (Email) - The propriety of the headline -- "No mass protests after Honolulu police shoot, kill Black man" -- and thrust of an AP story on a tragic shooting in Hawaii seem questionable. Is it AP's expectation that when police shoot and kill a Black man, there should always be "mass" and potentially violent "protests," regardless of the circumstances?

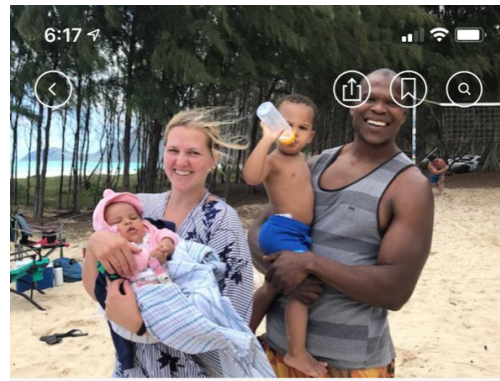
The story does a good job of explaining the man's arrival in the country and Hawaii, and his ultimately deadly interaction with police. Authorities said he entered a home that wasn't his at night, sat down and took off his shoes, prompting a frightened occupant to call 911. Outside, police allege, he ignored commands to get on the ground and physically attacked officers, leaving one with a concussion.

To that point the AP writers sufficiently paint the portrait of a South African man and his wife who came to Hawaii believing it would be safer to raise their two Black children there than in any other state. The story goes to great lengths to explain Hawaii's racial make-up, all valid considerations in such a story.

But they then quoted sources who suggested in other cities there would have been anger in the streets in the wake of the shooting. For a significant part of the rest of the account that seemed to be the point. While that may or may not be true, is it socially responsible and good journalism for AP to spend so many words seemingly implying there should be "mass protests" in this case?

-0-

AP logo police alert



Hawaii South Africa Honolulu Race and ethnicity Racial injustice Shootings Police

No mass protests after Honolulu police shoot, kill Black man

BY JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER AND MOGOMOTSI MAGOME Yesterday

HONOLULU (AP) — Lindsay Myeni and her South African husband moved to Hawaii, where she grew up, believing it would be safer to raise their two Black children here than in another U.S. state.

Three months after they arrived, Honolulu police shot and killed her husband, 29-year-old Lindani Myeni, who was Black.

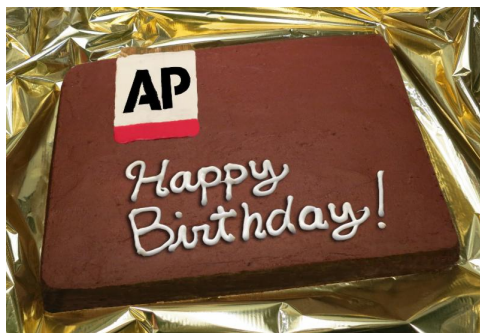
"We never thought anything like this would ever happen there," Lindsay Myeni, who is white, told The Associated Press in an interview from her husband's hometown, Empangeni in Kwazulu-Natal province.

TOP STORIES TOPICS VIDEO RADIO MORE



Larry Blasko ([Email](#)) - Wonder if NY approved and is getting anything for the logo use. See [story](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Joe Galianese – jgalianese@hotmail.com

Hank Lowenkron - hlofnyc@yahoo.com

Matt Mygatt - mmygatt21@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Biden, Congress and the Free Press (New York Times)

By The Editorial Board

The editorial board is a group of opinion journalists whose views are informed by expertise, research, debate and certain longstanding values. It is separate from the newsroom.

If the First Amendment's guarantee of a free press means anything, it has to mean that the government cannot seize reporters' phone and email records in the hope of smoking out their confidential sources. This chilling tactic, which was used with increasing frequency during both the Obama and Trump administrations, makes it easier to prosecute leaks but harder for reporters to do their job and hold leaders to account. It represents a combination of official secrecy and information control that is anathema to democracy.

So it's a good thing that President Biden has ordered a change of course, in response to multiple revelations in recent weeks that federal prosecutors under Donald Trump had secretly obtained phone and email records of journalists at CNN and The Washington Post, apparently as part of investigations into leaks of classified information. The seized records included logs of work phone numbers and email accounts, but also of reporters' personal email accounts and home phone numbers.

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

-0-

Pulitzer preview: Look for prizes recalling COVID-19's rise, Donald Trump and George Floyd (Poynter)

By: Roy J. Harris Jr.

Three themes dominated American journalism in 2020: A global pandemic that killed hundreds of thousands here and otherwise uprooted normal life. President Donald Trump embroiled in nearly nonstop controversy, ending with a failed bid for a second term. And raging debate over the death of Black Americans at the hands of law enforcement, often focused on the possibility that a Minneapolis cop could be convicted of murdering George Floyd.

On Friday at 1 p.m. Eastern, the 2021 Pulitzer Prizes will livestream their announcement of journalists who are winners or finalists for work that appeared in the previous calendar year. Many of them likely will have broken news about the pandemic, the presidency and policing abuses — or helped Americans better understand them.

For the Pulitzers, which also honor excellence in arts and letters, choosing the awards in 15 journalism categories will mark a return to in-person selection after last year's process was forced by COVID-19 to be managed virtually.

In the first phase of the two-step Pulitzer selection process, juries in each category did meet via Zoom, in February, according to interim Pulitzer administrator Bud Kliment. But the 19-member Pulitzer Board convenes in person Monday and Tuesday to decide on the winners. And board co-chairs Mindy Marqués González and Stephen Engelberg will host on Friday.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Boomer Voices: News isn't what it used to be (Boomer Cafe)

So many things have gotten better in our lives as baby boomers. But if you look at where we are today, journalism isn't one of them. BoomerCafé's co-founder and executive editor Greg Dobbs was in the business in its heyday... but writes as a Boomer Voice that that day has come and gone.

By GREG DOBBS

I've been a journalist for 55 years. For most of that time I have proudly defended my profession. Maybe sometimes excessively, maybe sometimes myopically. But by and large, I could always say with confidence that most journalists I knew and most newsrooms I'd seen did the best job they could. That meant that they tried to get it

right. Long before Fox News made it trite to say, I honestly argued that the mainstream news media overall was fair and balanced.

I can't do that anymore.

There is still more good journalism than bad, but there's more bad than there used to be. More superficial coverage, more sloppy fact-checking, more gratuitous hype, more of an echo chamber where bad reporting still indiscriminately spreads, and more opinion masquerading as news. It doesn't make me proud. It makes me sad.

And it makes me uneasy, because in this era when millions of Americans are open to a deceitful world of "alternative facts" and closed to a diverse universe of real facts, an honest, healthy, accurate news media is more important than ever. Already more Americans get their news from the likes of Facebook and Stephen Colbert than from the newsrooms on which they used to depend. I don't see how that makes us smarter.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Lindel Hutson.

-0-

These Are the Best Sports Photos Captured Over the Past 25 Years (PetaPixel)

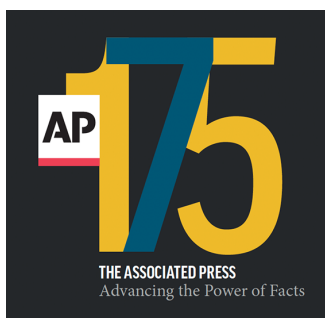
By ANETE LUSINA

The second World Sports Photography Awards 2021 has announced 26 of its winners in numerous individual sporting categories, showcasing the power of sports photography to tell stories and promote an emotional response in viewers.

Because the coronavirus pandemic had such an enormous impact on sports, and therefore sports photography, the World Sports Photography Awards asked participants to dig deep in their archives and opened the pool to any image captured in the past 25 years.

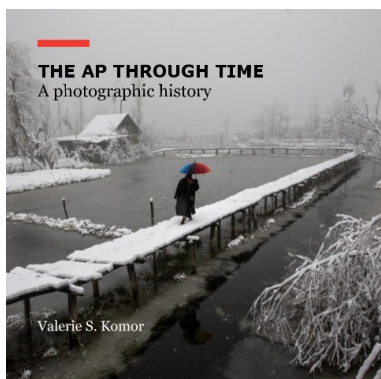
The sports photography competition is organized by the World Sports Photography Awards and welcomed entries from professional and semi-professional photographers as well as specialist sports photographic agencies to submit up to 20 photos per entry. A selection of prizes for the winners was available from the competition's prize partners, such as Jabra, F-stop, and Western Digital.

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



A special section celebrating AP's 175th

AP Through Time: A Photographic History



AP Through Time: A Photographic History” - created by Director of Corporate Archives, Valerie Komor, is a keepsake commemorating AP’s 175th year. Small in size (6 ¾ x 6 ¾ in.), it is organized chronologically in eight segments that trace the broad outlines of AP’s development from 1846 to the present: Beginnings, Evolution, New Century, Modernity, Expansion, One World, Speed, and Transformation. Click [here](#) to view and make an order.

AP at 175 video

This video celebrates the unique role AP has played since 1846.

Oops!

The embed code for this video is not valid.



UPCOMING WEBINARS

To celebrate AP's 175th anniversary, the Corporate Archives has organized "AP at 175: Conversations with History," a series of three webinars.

The final one is:

AP correspondents bring home the world: Their history in their own words: Prof. Giovanna Dell'Orto in conversation with Vice President and Editor at Large for Standards John Daniszewski.

When: Thursday, June 17, 2021 11:00 AM-12:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Zoom: <https://ap.zoom.us/j/94209986199>

Giovanna Dell'Orto, Ph.D., is a former newswoman with The Associated Press (in Minneapolis, Rome, Phoenix and Atlanta). Now Associate Professor of journalism at the University of Minnesota, she teaches and researches the interplay of news production, news content and international affairs. She is the author or senior editor of six books on this topic, including an oral history of AP foreign correspondence from the Second World War to the 2010s, published by Cambridge University Press in 2015. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ap.zoom.us/j/94209986199>

Meeting ID: 942 0998 6199

Today in History - June 8, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, June 8, the 159th day of 2021. There are 206 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 8, 1968, authorities announced the capture in London of James Earl Ray, the suspected assassin of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

On this date:

In 1864, Abraham Lincoln was nominated for another term as president during the National Union (Republican) Party's convention in Baltimore.

In 1915, U.S. Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan resigned over what he viewed as President Woodrow Wilson's overly bellicose attitude toward Germany following the sinking of the RMS Lusitania.

In 1953, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled unanimously that restaurants in the District of Columbia could not refuse to serve Blacks. Eight tornadoes struck Michigan's Lower Peninsula, killing 126 people.

In 1962, 20th Century Fox fired Marilyn Monroe from its production "Something's Got to Give," saying she was unreliable. (Fox later changed its mind, but Monroe died before filming could resume, and the movie was abandoned.)

In 1966, a merger was announced between the National and American Football Leagues, to take effect in 1970.

In 1967, during the six-day Middle East war, 34 American servicemen were killed when Israel attacked the USS Liberty, a Navy intelligence-gathering ship in the Mediterranean Sea. (Israel later said the Liberty had been mistaken for an Egyptian vessel.)

In 1972, during the Vietnam War, an Associated Press photographer took a picture of a screaming 9-year-old girl, Phan Thi Kim Phuc (fahn thee kihm fook), as she ran naked and severely burned from the scene of a South Vietnamese napalm attack.

In 1978, a jury in Clark County, Nevada, ruled the so-called "Mormon will," purportedly written by the late billionaire Howard Hughes, was a forgery.

In 1995, U.S. Marines rescued Capt. Scott O'Grady, whose F-16C fighter jet had been shot down by Bosnian Serbs on June 2. Mickey Mantle received a liver transplant at a Dallas hospital; however, the baseball great died two months later.

In 1998, the National Rifle Association elected actor Charlton Heston to be its president.

In 2009, North Korea's highest court sentenced American journalists Laura Ling and Euna Lee to 12 years' hard labor for trespassing and "hostile acts." (The women were pardoned in early August 2009 after a trip to Pyongyang by former President Bill Clinton.)

In 2015, siding with the White House in a foreign-policy power struggle with Congress, the Supreme Court ruled 6-3 that Americans born in the disputed city of Jerusalem could not list Israel as their birthplace on passports.

Ten years ago: Rep. Allyson Schwartz of Pennsylvania became the first Democratic House colleague to call for Rep. Anthony Weiner of New York to resign after he admitted sending a lewd photo of himself to a woman via Twitter and lying about it. OPEC unexpectedly left its production levels unchanged, causing oil prices to jump as senior officials reported their meeting in Vienna had ended in disarray.

Five years ago: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (nah-REN'-drah MOH'-dee) told the U.S. Congress that the world's two largest democracies could anchor stability and prosperity from the Indian Ocean to the Pacific in an aspirational speech that glossed over continuing divisions in the relationship. Maria Sharapova (shah-rah-POH'-vah) was suspended for two years by the International Tennis Federation for testing positive for meldonium at the Australian Open. (The ban, which was backdated to Jan. 26, 2016, was later reduced to 15 months.)

One year ago: Thousands of mourners gathered at a church in Houston for a service for George Floyd, as his death during an arrest in Minneapolis continued to stoke protests in America and beyond over racial injustice. France's top security official said police would no longer permit chokeholds that had been blamed for multiple cases of asphyxiation and had come under renewed criticism after George Floyd's death. The police chief in Portland, Oregon, resigned, just six months into her job, amid criticism of her department's handling of protests. New York City slowly began reopening for business; stores that were previously deemed nonessential during the coronavirus shutdown were cleared to reopen for delivery and curbside pickup. New Zealand appeared to have completely eradicated the coronavirus for the time being; health officials aid the last person known to have been infected in the country had recovered.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Millicent Martin is 87. Actor James Darren is 85. Singer Nancy Sinatra is 81. Singer Chuck Negron is 79. Musician Boz Scaggs is 77. Author Sara Paretsky is 74. Actor Sonia Braga is 71. Actor Kathy Baker is 71. Country musician Tony Rice is 70. Rock singer Bonnie Tyler is 70. Actor Griffin Dunne is 66. "Dilbert" creator Scott Adams is 64. Actor-director Keenen Ivory Wayans is 63. Singer Mick Hucknall (Simply Red) is 61. Musician Nick Rhodes (Duran Duran) is 59. R&B singer Doris Pearson (Five Star) is 55. Actor Julianna Margulies is 54. Actor Dan Futterman is 54. Actor David Sutcliffe is 52. Actor Kent Faulcon is 51. R&B singer Nicci Gilbert is 51. Actor Kelli Williams is 51. Former U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., is 51. Actor Mark Feuerstein is 50. Contemporary Christian musician Mike Scheuchzer (MercyMe) is 46. Actor Eion Bailey is 45. Former tennis player Lindsay Davenport is 45. Rapper Kanye (KAHN'-yay) West is 44. TV personality-actress Maria Menounos is 43. Country singer-songwriter Sturgill Simpson is 43. Blues-rock musician Derek Trucks (The Derek Trucks Band) is 42. Rock singer Alex Band (The Calling) is 40. Folk-bluegrass singer-musician Sara Watkins (Nickel Creek) is 40. Former tennis player Kim Clijsters is 38. Actor Torrey DeVitto is 37. Tennis player Jelena Ostapenko is 24.

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