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Connecting

July 27, 2021

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Gerald Herbert editing AP Summer Olympics photos from his home office in New Orleans. Photo by his stepdaughter Avery Sikes.

Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this July 27, 2021,

Ah, the miracles of technology never cease!

AP photographer **Gerald Herbert** ([Email](#)) is part of the AP's Summer Olympics coverage team, even though he's nearly 7,000 miles from the action in Tokyo – working from his home office in New Orleans, editing photos that come into his computer directly from the cameras of AP photographers at various competition venues.

“The glamorous side of the business: remote editing Olympics from New Orleans in real time (Tokyo time), at 2 AM,” he shared Monday on Facebook. “I edited women's road cycling 11 PM to 5 AM last night, then men's triathlon from 4 PM to 10 PM, then men's mountain biking 1 AM to 5 AM. This will be going on for two weeks without a day off.

“It's a bit of a throwback for me. I covered the Nagano Olympics in 1998 for the NY Daily News. Back before broadband. We were using Motorola flip phones and dial-up modems in PC slots. It usually took several tries to get a picture out to a BBS, which was kind of pre-internet. Nagano had these phones you could rent, little pink Barbie phones on their network which was a different standard than U.S. they were the size of a lipstick. The Japanese are great at miniaturizing everything. I remember sitting on the ski slope with my laptop, and the NCS 2000, the first digital camera, and the Barbie phone, and it was a miracle that my pictures were going from a toy phone, up

into the air, to the NY Daily news across the world. It was totally new technology then. You could get a few pictures out before your laptop died. But that was a coup.

“And now I am cranking out all this from my office, with AP photographers pushing hundreds of pictures right out of their cameras, and the band width went from 5K to 1000MB, and the file sizes probably 15x the size. I moved 80 from one event yesterday, 100 from the other. 70 to 100 per event. You can also fix typos and whatnot in my little text block.”

“There are a few editors on site, but because of the pandemic limitations a very pared-down crew, I am told.”

Got your own story of covering an event in such an unusual manner? Send it along to Connecting.

AP POLO SHIRTS: Colleague **Adam Yeomans** ([Email](#)) – notes a good response to his offering of AP 175th anniversary polo shirts and said, “If anyone else wants to buy one, they still have time to order one this week.” Any proceeds go to the AP Emergency Relief Fund.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

The Luckiest ‘Kid’ In The World Celebrates 95



Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - Monday was my 95th observance of my life on earth, and what a trip it has been.

It all started in 1926, with a wonderful, exciting childhood, traveling from my birthplace in Columbus, Ohio.

When my father died in New York, I was 7 ½ years old. My mother and I moved back to Columbus and lived with my father's parents in two little rooms above their small restaurant, situated right in the middle of a large industrial section of town.

The Ohio State Penitentiary was only a block away. I would pick up my newspaper bundle there, and also help the driver carry bundles inside.

I have sat in the electric chair twice – no electricity turned on!

That whole area was my playground, and probably the best education I could get.

When I was 16, I applied, and got, an "Office Boy" position with The Associated Press. When I turned 21, I was appointed (Surprised and Honored) an AP staff photographer. That was the beginning of 28 years of travel, adventure, and covering some of the great and historical stories of the times.

My life has been blessed and honored in some many ways. Plus, and this is important, I've worked with some of the greatest, and most talented AP staff. I have always been welcomed and helped in the 14 bureaus that I have been transferred.

I took early retirement in 1971, something I did not want to do. There were administrative problems.

Following that I went into the field of Developmental Disabilities, a brand-new concept of helping the mentally handicapped. I did this in Columbus, and Rocky Mount, VA., and as an administrator. Also, Executive Director of another non-profit agency for the blind, in Roanoke, VA. Since being in Rocky Mount, I have been a volunteer, and later on the Boards of three non-profit agencies. I am still on one Board dealing with abuse to children.

Now I spend my time writing – for Connecting, and I am in the process of writing two books, to go along with three others I have pounded out.

As I have said before, Connecting is my lifeline to the world now. So many old friends, and so many new ones.

The world has changed so much in my time, all of which is normal. However, what is going on now is tragic, and so scary. I absolutely do not understand the current politics, and I do not understand the minds and behaviors of some 45 per cent of our neighbors.

In closing – thank you, one and all for being my friend and support over these years. I know we will meet again!

AP Baby Cortez 3.0



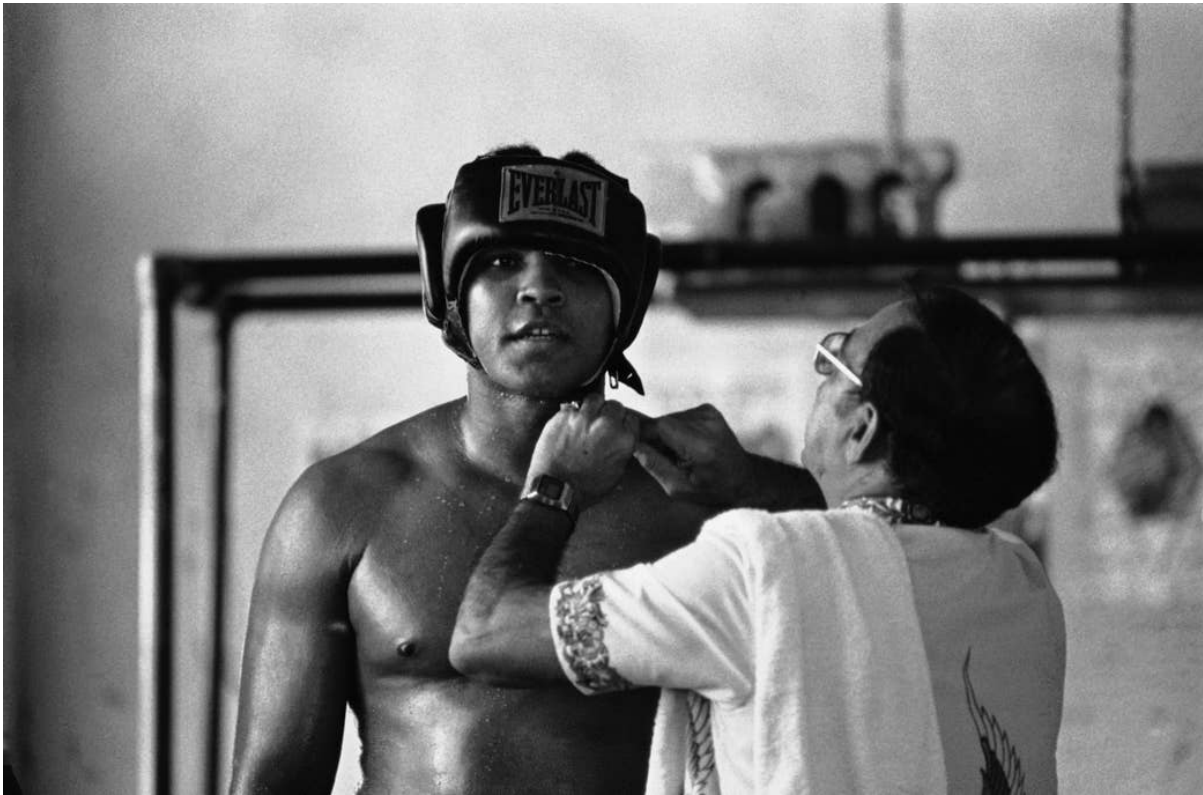
Julio Cortez ([Email](#)) – *AP Staff*

Photographer, Baltimore - Benjamín Julio Cortez was born 10:52pm, Thursday, July 22, 2021, in Maryland. Baby and Mama are doing great after another successful home birth with Dad expanding his midhusband skills by catching Baby Benjamín. Our big brothers, Sebastian and Roman, were also on point - sleeping through the night as Mama delivered their Lil Bro. Special thanks to the Charm City Midwives, who oversaw the process in the birthing pool. We thank God for a beautiful healthy boy!



Profile of recent AP retiree Kathy Willens

A Photographer Reflected On Her 45-Year Career And What Has Changed



World heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali has his headgear adjusted by trainer Chris Dundee, in Miami Beach on Dec. 21, 1977. Kathy Willens / AP Photo

By Pia Peterson
BuzzFeed News Photo Editor

When Kathy Willens graduated from college, she was mostly resigned to becoming a starving artist. Instead, she became a photographer, and worked for the Associated Press for nearly 45 years, winning multiple awards for her coverage of breaking and general news, features, sports, fashion, and celebrities.

When Willens started, there were very few women photojournalists working alongside her, and the entire industry was an analog one — with photographers developing their own film and writing their captions on typewriters. At the end of Willens’s career, 95,000 of her images were on the AP Images website.

We caught up with Willens two weeks into her retirement (“I haven’t had a moment to relax!” she said) to talk about sports photography, long lenses, and what it was like to cover sports, presidents, and the Mariel boatlift.

How did you get into photography?

My career started in 1974. I worked at a small pink tabloid called the Spinal Column — it was literally pink. It was a throwaway paper that people would use to cover their birdcage bottoms. It was suburban, beyond suburban, outside Detroit, where I grew up. Photography seemed like the most viable career choice. At my first job, I thought I was going to be making \$50 a photo; it ended up being \$5.

I got a tip that the Miami News was looking for a lab technician. I ended up getting that job [later] in 1974. I worked there for six months when one staffer left and I

joined as a full-time staff photographer. Miami was very different from where I grew up. I ended up photographing things like tent revivals and pictures of a murder scene on the I-95, probably stupidly contaminating evidence, but no police were there yet. But those pictures made the front page, or were prominently displayed. Late in 1976, the Associated Press's local photo editor approached me with an offer to replace a retiring staffer, and I worked for them for nearly 45 years.

Read more [here](#).

AP Images Blog: AP Photographer James Pringle



Dachau prisoners cheer their liberators of the 42nd Rainbow Division of the 7th U.S. Army as they wave from behind the wire fence, at the concentration camp in Dachau, Germany, May 1945. (AP Photo/Jim Pringle)



Prisoners crowd the edge of the moat and wire fencing encompassing the concentration camp at Dachau, Germany, May 3, 1945, as they shout greetings to their liberators, the 42nd Rainbow Division of the U.S. Army. (AP Photo/Jim Pringle)

Text and photo editing by Katherine O'Mara, AP-London

AP photographer Jim Pringle looks at a hole in the windscreen of an Associated Press jeep in Jerusalem, Feb. 23, 1948. Pringle was just getting into the jeep when the bullet came through. (AP Photo)

James "Jim" Pringle wrote in 1948, "You know, since I left Ireland in 1943, I always wanted excitement and there is no doubt that I got even more than I bargained for when I joined the AP as a photographer."

Pringle stayed with the AP for over 25 years and covered numerous conflicts; from the liberation of the Dachau concentration camp in World War II, to the Korean War and discord across the Middle East, North Africa and Europe. Later based in Rome, between conflicts he also photographed three Popes, various film stars, royalty and Olympic Games. Below is just a taster of his incredible career.

The following contains excerpts from James Pringle's obituary printed in AP World vol. 26, no. 1, Spring 1970, by Jim Long et al.



Associated Press photographer Jimmy Pringle with his camera at the ready, at a Thunderbolt Station in Southern England, Dec. 18, 1944. (AP Photo)

ROME - AP Photographer James Matthew Joseph Pringle, an Irish master of action photography who had pictured war and revolution in the Eastern Hemisphere for a quarter of a century, died Feb. 19. He was 51.

In 1943 Pringle, then 25, left Ireland. He went to London and joined the Associated Press, and his first AP job was photographing bomb destruction and fires of the Battle of Britain.

Then, dressed in U.S. Army uniform Pringle carried his camera – and his Irish passport in which he had lifelong pride – across France and Germany. Traveling with U.S. military units, he recorded war scenes from Normandy's pockmarked beaches to Germany's bomb-tattered cities.

He was the first photographer to record the horrors of Dachau internment camp.

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

Killed by friendly fire: Lesley J. McNair and Bede Irvin



Bede Irvin, left, with AP colleagues Hal Boyle, Don Whitehead, Lloyd Stratton, Robert Bunnelle, Harry Harris and Horace Cort.



The last known picture of Bede Irvin, taken on July 23, 1944.

**By Marc Lancaster
WW2 On Deadline**

As the slog through the Normandy bocage wore on six weeks after D-Day, Allied commanders kept pressing for a way to break out, wary of falling into a World War I-style stalemate. With Caen and Saint-Lô finally in hand by mid-July, Operation Cobra was their latest attempt to shake free of hedgerow fighting and get on with truly expanding their foothold in Northwest Europe.

In an effort to give the attack by the U.S. VII Corps the best possible chance of success, planners ordered heavy aerial bombardment on German positions south of the Périers-Saint-Lô road (the dashed rectangle in the map below) to soften up the defenses. The plan included fighter-bombers accustomed to close air support but also heavy bombers that were not used to such precision work.

The decision to include higher-altitude bombers from the Eighth Air Force for tactical support would prove costly, as bombs that fell short of the target area ended up killing more than 100 Americans, including a key member of the U.S. Army braintrust and an Associated Press photographer.

Days before Operation Cobra launched on July 25, George Bede Irvin, known to all by his middle name, joined several AP colleagues in the field in meeting with London bureau chief Robert Bunnelle and AP executive Lloyd Stratton, who were on a tour of the battle front, in St. Andre.

The group, which also included star AP correspondents Hal Boyle and Don Whitehead, posed for a group photo to mark the occasion. At some point during the visit, Irvin -- who had flown over the invasion beaches on D-Day and been in France since June 8 -- told Bunnelle and Stratton that his only complaint was not seeing enough action.

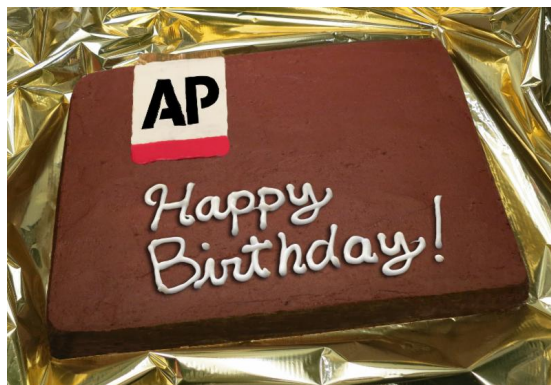
Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Albright, Paul Colford.

Roaming in Cambridge's Old Burying Ground



Hank Ackerman ([Email](#)) - Just off Harvard University campus as this turkey struts along headstones. Mell and I are in Cambridge MA visiting Mell's sister and family. Mell's sister was on the Harvard faculty for 40 years and we love that graveyard with markers back close to the university's founding in 1636...back to the time when Puritans gave Thanksgivings.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Harry Atkins - hatkins727@aol.com

Stories of interest

NBC mum on Chinese complaints about map during ceremony (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — NBC has chosen not to engage in debate following complaints from China over the weekend about how the network depicted the country's map when its athletes marched during the opening ceremony of the Tokyo Olympics.

Relations between the network and China are worth watching, however, since NBC Universal is set to broadcast and stream the 2022 Winter Games from the host city of Beijing.

Onscreen graphics during the ceremony depicted maps of each country as the athletes marched, yet some in China expressed anger that the map did not include the island of Taiwan or several islands in the South China Sea where there are disputes over territorial control.

NBC's use of an "incomplete map" of China had a "very bad influence and harmed the dignity and emotions of the Chinese people," China's consulate general's office in New York said in a statement.

Read more [here](#).

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Singer Keating accepts damages in tabloid phone hacking case (AP)

LONDON (AP) — Irish singer Ronan Keating on Monday accepted “substantial damages” from a British tabloid newspaper publisher over phone hacking.

The former member of boy band Boyzone is the latest in a long list of celebrities whose mobile phone voicemail messages were intercepted by News of the World reporters more than a decade ago.

Keating’s lawyer, Ellen Gallagher, told a High Court hearing that the singer had identified a number of “suspicious” articles published between 1996 and 2011 which he said contained his private information.

Keating’s suspicions about who might be leaking personal information to the newspaper “generated distrust which impacted on his relationships and caused him considerable distress and upset,” Gallagher said.

Read more [here](#).



Celebrating AP's 175th

175th anniversary Polo shirts



AP is offering a variety of 175th anniversary merchandise, but one item that isn't available and that many staffers like is a Polo shirt. Adam Yeomans, AP's regional director for the South, has taken care of that. He recently ordered Polos for AP staffers in the South, a few members and retirees, other AP fans. Now you have the opportunity to order one of these limited-edition shirts emblazoned with the AP's 175th anniversary logo. The cost is \$30 per shirt, including shipping. Adult sizes are S, M, L, XL and XXL. The Navy Blue shirts are a 50/50 blend and tend to run a little large. If you'd like to order one, please email Adam Yeomans at adamyemans@yahoo.com with your name, phone number, home address, and the size(s) and quantity by July 30. Adam says he will collect payment once the shirts are ready for shipping. He's trying to cover his cost; if there's anything left, he says he will donate it to the AP Employee Relief Fund.

AP store for 175th, vintage merchandise



The AP has created a store with 175th anniversary merchandise available for purchase, as well as items branded with some of AP's most historic logos.

Click [here](#).

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.



Today in History - July 27, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, July 27, the 208th day of 2021. There are 157 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 27, 1996, terror struck the Atlanta Olympics as a pipe bomb exploded at Centennial Olympic Park, directly killing one person and injuring 111. (Anti-government extremist Eric Rudolph later pleaded guilty to the bombing, exonerating security guard Richard Jewell, who had been wrongly suspected.)

On this date:

In 1866, Cyrus W. Field finished laying out the first successful underwater telegraph cable between North America and Europe (a previous cable in 1858 burned out after only a few weeks' use).

In 1909, during the first official test of the U.S. Army's first airplane, Orville Wright flew himself and a passenger, Lt. Frank Lahm, above Fort Myer, Virginia, for one hour and 12 minutes.

In 1919, race-related rioting erupted in Chicago; the violence, which claimed the lives of 23 Blacks and 15 whites, lasted until Aug. 3.

In 1921, Canadian researcher Frederick Banting and his assistant, Charles Best, succeeded in isolating the hormone insulin at the University of Toronto.

In 1953, the Korean War armistice was signed at Panmunjom, ending three years of fighting.

In 1960, Vice President Richard M. Nixon was nominated for president on the first ballot at the Republican National Convention in Chicago.

In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed the Kerner Commission to assess the causes of urban rioting, the same day Black militant H. Rap Brown told a press conference in Washington that violence was “as American as cherry pie.”

In 1974, the House Judiciary Committee voted 27-11 to adopt the first of three articles of impeachment against President Richard Nixon, charging he had personally engaged in a course of conduct designed to obstruct justice in the Watergate case.

In 1980, on day 267 of the Iranian hostage crisis, the deposed Shah of Iran died at a military hospital outside Cairo, Egypt, at age 60.

In 1981, 6-year-old Adam Walsh was abducted from a department store in Hollywood, Fla., and was later murdered. (His father, John Walsh, became a well-known crime victims' advocate.)

In 1995, the Korean War Veterans Memorial was dedicated in Washington by President Bill Clinton and South Korean President Kim Young-sam.

In 2015, the Boy Scouts of America ended its blanket ban on gay adult leaders while allowing church-sponsored Scout units to maintain the exclusion for religious reasons.

Ten years ago: A Russian space official (Vitaly Davydov) said that once the mammoth International Space Station was no longer needed, it would be sent into the Pacific Ocean. Ervin Santana pitched the first solo no-hitter for the Angels in nearly 27 years, striking out 10 and leading Los Angeles over Cleveland 3-1. Former New York Yankees pitcher Hideki Irabu, 42, was found dead of an apparent suicide in the affluent Los Angeles suburb of Rancho Palos Verdes.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama, addressing cheering delegates at the Democratic convention in Philadelphia, implored Americans to elect Hillary Clinton to the White House, casting her as a candidate who believed in the optimism that drove the nation's democracy and warning against the “deeply pessimistic vision” of Republican Donald Trump. More than a year after Freddie Gray, a Black man, suffered a broken neck in a Baltimore police van, the effort to hold six officers criminally responsible for his death collapsed when the city abruptly dropped all charges in the case.

One year ago: Congressional leaders from both parties praised the late civil rights icon and Democratic Rep. John Lewis as a moral force for the nation in a memorial service in the Capitol Rotunda. The world's biggest COVID-19 vaccine study began with the first of 30,000 planned volunteers helping to test shots created by the National

Institutes of Health and Moderna Inc. The White House said President Donald Trump's national security adviser, Robert O'Brien, was self-isolating after becoming the highest-ranking official to test positive for the coronavirus. More than a dozen Miami Marlins players and staff tested positive for COVID-19 in an outbreak that stranded the team in Philadelphia, disrupting the major league baseball schedule on the fifth day of the pandemic-delayed season.

Today's Birthdays: TV producer Norman Lear is 99. Actor John Pleshette is 79. Actor-director Betty Thomas is 74. Olympic gold medal figure skater Peggy Fleming is 73. Singer Maureen McGovern is 72. Rock musician Tris Imboden (formerly with Chicago) is 70. Actor Roxanne Hart is 67. Comedian-actor-writer Carol Leifer is 65. Comedian Bill Engvall is 64. Jazz singer Karrin Allyson is 59. Country singer Stacy Dean Campbell is 54. Rock singer Juliana Hatfield is 54. Actor Julian McMahon is 53. Actor Nikolaj Coster-Waldau (NIH'-koh-lye KAH'-stur WAHL'-dah) is 51. Comedian Maya Rudolph is 49. Rock musician Abe Cunningham is 48. Singer-songwriter Pete Yorn is 47. Former MLB All-Star Alex Rodriguez is 46. Actor Seamus Dever is 45. Actor Martha Madison is 44. Actor Jonathan Rhys (rees) Meyers is 44. Actor/comedian Heidi Gardner is 38. Actor Blair Redford is 38. Actor Taylor Schilling is 37. MLB All-Star pitcher Max Scherzer is 37. Singer Cheyenne Kimball is 31. Golfer Jordan Spieth (speeth) is 28. Actor Alyvia Alyn Lind is 14.

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

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