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Connecting

October 05, 2021

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this Oct. 5, 2021,

Our colleague **Ian Phillips**, AP vice president for international news, has taken on a one-year assignment that focuses on journalist safety, focusing on global security and crisis management.

We bring you details in a staff note from Executive Editor **Julie Pace** as our lead story in today's Connecting.

Our series on writing your own obituary or writing a preparedness obituary continues with a story on AP legend **Fran Lewine** from former Washington CoB **Sandy Johnson**.

I still smile over the self-obituary story from **Tom Kent** in Monday's issue. In case you missed, he wondered, "Am I a 100-word brief? Maybe 300 words? I don't think I'm worth a second cycle. But maybe I should do a little broadcast version -- attribution-first, of course."

And – “I also fear that, however carefully I write the obit, something will be wrong or unclear. It will be noticed once the story moves. Imagine the ignominy of being remembered as the guy who was responsible for a 1st Ld-WT on his own obit.”

It’s not about a football game – it’s about a lifetime of friendships. That’s the headline for [my latest Spotlight column](#) in my hometown newspaper, The Messenger of Fort Dodge, Iowa.



For the past 21 years, a group of my high school friends have traveled from all parts of the country each fall to meet up in Iowa City to watch a Hawkeyes’ football game and share stories of their changing lives. This year, one classmate came within a week after burying his son – only to be enveloped by love and support of friends.

Nothing beats friendship.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Doubling down on journalist safety

Executive Editor **Julie Pace** on Monday announced that **Ian Phillips**, vice president for international news, will take on a new assignment focused on journalist safety for The Associated Press.

Here is her memo to staff:

One of our most important missions at AP is ensuring the safety and security of our staff and freelance journalists around the world.

Our teams face both threats to their physical safety and increasing levels of online attacks and harassment.

It's a moment that requires us to take a more aggressive and comprehensive approach to safety. That's why I've asked Ian Phillips vice president for international news, to take on a one-year assignment focused on global security and crisis management.

Ian's mission is to help us bolster the AP's preparedness and rapid response to physical and online threats, as well as other crisis situations. He'll also work to develop stronger relationships with other media outlets and crisis management organizations. He'll work closely with our colleagues in other departments to align AP's security and crisis management efforts across the enterprise. This includes collaborating with the team that has spent the past few months focused on elevating AP's response to online harassment, which is growing as a clear and present danger to our journalists.



There is no one as well-suited as Ian to tackle this mission.

Ian was deeply involved in some of the most sensitive security situations AP has faced in recent years, including the destruction of our bureau in Gaza and the detention of one of our colleagues in Myanmar. He has an important understanding of the risks AP staff and freelancers face when working in combat zones or under authoritarian regimes. He also has a strong, personal connection with so many AP journalists around the world, which will allow him to draw on your experiences to make sure we get this right. I'm looking forward to the opportunity for more AP staffers to have the chance to work closely with him.

During Ian's assignment, our international news report will continue to be guided by our talented regional news directors in Asia, the Middle East, Europe/Africa and Latin America.

Ian will regularly update you on his work and seek your feedback. This is not an effort we want to happen behind closed doors — keeping you safe is the vital first step to ensuring AP can successfully tell the world's most impactful stories.

Please join me in thanking Ian for taking on this important assignment.

Click [here](#) for link to this story. Shared by Patrick Maks.

New-member profile: Brad Cain



Laura and Rob Kozloff, left, former AP photographer/editor in Chicago and Detroit, with Nancy and Brad Cain, former AP correspondent, out for dinner at Pont de la Tour and the beautiful setting of the Tower Bridge Sunday, Aug. 14, 2016, in London. (Photo by Nancy Posavetz)

Brad Cain ([Email](#)) - When I look back on my 34 years working for The AP, I don't have to think too long to pick my favorite story. It's the saga of Keiko, star of the 1993 "Free Willy" movie. In 1996, I covered the whale's arrival at the Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport. Two years later, AP photographer Don Ryan and I drew the assignment of traveling to Iceland to witness Keiko's return to North Atlantic waters.

Was Keiko's story important in the big scheme of things? Maybe not. I worked in five AP bureaus, including two different statehouse postings. Like my AP colleagues, I reported on national political conventions, executions by lethal injection, mountain climbing accidents, sensational crimes and countless other stories.

Still, Keiko was a great human-interest yarn. A deep-pocketed businessman and thousands of school kids from around the world donated money hoping for a fairy tale ending with Keiko swimming away and becoming a creature of the wild again. But the whale never learned to hunt for his own food or hook up with a pod of orca whales. He preferred the company of humans. The Free Willy-Keiko Foundation wasn't pleased when I reported that one of the whale's favorite pastimes was watching wrestling matches on a big screen TV.

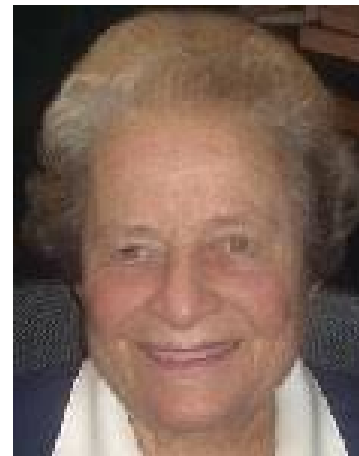
Whether it was following the exploits of a lovable killer whale or some juicy political scoop, I was always grateful to have a chance to become an AP reporter and writer. My father and mother met while they were both working in the AP Detroit bureau in 1945. Charles C. Cain III served as news editor, sports editor, automotive writer and night editor. After her stint as an AP writer, Ruth Cain worked for the Detroit Free Press and Business Week before going to work for Blue Cross Blue Shield in the PR department. Together they raised seven kids. Another AP relative is Rob Kozloff, who joined the AP in 1982 to run the Michigan photo operation. He and my sister, Laura Cain, got married in 1983. Another brother-in-law was Dave Posavetz, chief photographer of the Macomb Daily in Michigan. He died in 2014.

My late brother, Charlie Cain, served as the longtime Lansing bureau chief for the Detroit News. He died in 2011. My other siblings are Nancy Cain, retired director of PR at AAA Michigan; Carol Cain, senior producer and host of WWJ-TV CBS Detroit's "Michigan Matters" and a columnist at the Detroit Free Press; Laura Cain, a retired vice president of communications at McDonald's Corp.; Janice Cain, who works in sales and marketing in Scottsdale, Ariz., and Chris Cain, retired from a Salt Lake City radiation oncology clinic.

My AP career ended abruptly when I had a major stroke in 2010. I had to learn how to talk again. I can still write, but it is a laborious process. But I feel blessed. My wife Nancy and I love to go to Oregon Ducks football games, travel and visit our three kids. And I have fond memories of all the great and talented AP people I met along the way.

Should you write your own obit?

Sandy Johnson ([Email](#)) - In 2006 or 2007, Fran Lewine (at right) came up to me at a Gridiron Club event and said she had something for me. She handed me a printout of a story -- her own story. She had written her obit and wanted AP to have it on file. I protested that she was healthy and there was no need. But Fran insisted she wanted the first crack at her own obituary. I promised I would keep it on file.



On Saturday, Jan. 20, 2008, I got the call that Fran had died -- I can't remember who called. But I was in the office that day -- there were presidential primaries or caucuses that day primary -- and I pulled Fran's custom-crafted obit out of a file and hand-punched it into the system. [This version](#) is clearly a writethru, with tributes from her many friends and colleagues, like Edie Lederer and Linda Deutsch. It was just like Fran to depart on her own terms. She was a pioneer, and her path made it just a little easier for all the women journalists who followed in her footsteps.

A reminder of Godfrey Cambridge

Dan Berger ([Email](#)) - Ken Giglio's Jonathan Winters tale reminded me...

As a sports writer (14 years, 10 with AP-LA) I had lots of interviews with famous athletes, including Jerry West (Los Angeles Lakers), Bill Russell (Boston Celtics), Maury Wills (Dodgers), John Wooden (UCLA) and many others. But my favorite story of meeting a personality and really connecting occurred in the early 1970s. I was in the LA Bureau one day when a request came in from Canadian Press asking for an interview/story with the Black social justice comedian Godfrey Cambridge, who would be appearing in a few days in Toronto. CanPress wanted an advancer. Cambridge was playing that evening in a small comedy club in Los Angeles.

I think it was Mike Short who asked me if I wanted the gig. He arranged for a ticket and said I could interview Cambridge after his second set. I was a huge fan of the man and agreed, attending two sets and then meeting Cambridge in his tiny dressing room. It was around midnight, and he was gracious, and quite candid.

The interview had only been going for about five minutes, when the door opened and in walked comedian Nipsey Russell. The two were long-time friends, and Cambridge instantly switched into his social justice mode. In his act, Cambridge often spoke with no accent at all. but could switch in a second, and before I knew it, I was hearing, from both him and Russell, some of the material that Cambridge and Russell might have used in front of primarily Black audiences. But he was never disrespectful and was remarkably sensitive.



With the brilliant Russell tossing in hilarious set-up lines, and Cambridge intentionally ignoring them(!), it was all I could do to catch my breath, I was laughing so hard. And so were they. This went on for about an hour, when the club manager came in and suggested that it was time for us to leave because he wanted to lock up. What was left of my interview with Cambridge took place on the sidewalk until about 1:45, with Russell adding a story or one-liner here and there.

The story I wrote for the Canadians was a lot longer than they had asked for, but it ran without a word being changed. I'm truly sorry it never was used in this country.

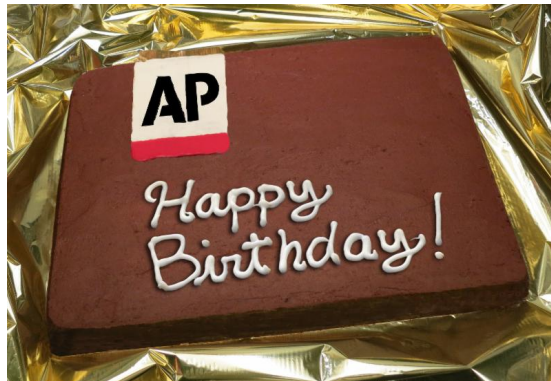
The unexpected death of Cambridge in 1976 (at age 44) really was painful to me because of his remarkable sense of propriety and equanimity and his insightful sense of social humor. I followed his career far more closely after my meeting with him, and believed him to be a genuine comedic genius.

Pacific Air Show



Nick Ut (Email) - The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds were flying over Huntington Beach for the Pacific Airshow last Friday...and here's a photo showing me with the Navy's Blue Angels at Joint Forces training base Los Alamitos.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Diana Heidgerd - heidgerd@flash.net

Gary Nyhus - coach24@gmail.com

Stories of interest

RIP, Olympia's press houses, and an era of statehouse journalism (Seattle Times)

By Derrick Nunnally
Seattle Times Opinion columnist

On a sunny September Saturday in Olympia, enough reporters gathered on the Capitol Campus to cover an international incident. Yet nobody brought a notebook. This was a wake, not a breaking-news event. An era of Washington political journalism was in its final throes.

For roughly 40 years, Washington's statehouse reporters have based their Legislative Building coverage of governors, lawmakers and intrigues from outside the domed capitol. Reporters shifted from state office buildings into a pair of state-owned woodframe houses sometime in the early '80s. To the best of my investigation, the exact date is neither in state records nor in the memories of the press corps' survivors.

Now the state needs its outdated buildings gone for a new legislative office. By next summer, the blue home of The Seattle Times' bureau and others, a former Olympia mayor's house built in 1921, will be gone. So, too, will be the next-door building, a house a few years younger. On it, a few letters of signage cling to a facade that once honored longtime correspondent John White's workplace as "The White House."

The remaining reporters will transfer to a modest suite in the Legislative Building, six small rooms for news outlets that still cover state government full time. Such cramped

quarters wouldn't have been anywhere near enough when the press corps was deep enough to match the flow of news Olympia generates.

Former Associated Press editor Paul Queary recalled in his political newsletter that he saw on his 2001 arrival as an Olympia bureau correspondent that "both houses were packed to the rafters" with reporters from a dozen outlets. Many had multiple writers filing daily dispatches. I parachuted into the statehouse corps in 2015, fresh from Brooklyn to write for the AP. By then, counting those of us just there for the session, there were about a dozen writers — total — watching your Legislature, a reduction noticeable even to a newcomer. I wandered upstairs in the White House and encountered the long-empty Seattle Post-Intelligencer office, a stripped-out time capsule of dusty office supplies and empty desks.

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

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Whistleblower: Facebook chose profit over public safety (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER and MICHAEL LIEDTKE

NEW YORK (AP) — A data scientist who was revealed Sunday as the Facebook whistleblower says that whenever there was a conflict between the public good and what benefited the company, the social media giant would choose its own interests.

Frances Haugen was identified in a "60 Minutes" interview Sunday as the woman who anonymously filed complaints with federal law enforcement that the company's own research shows how it magnifies hate and misinformation.

Haugen, who worked at Google and Pinterest before joining Facebook in 2019, said she had asked to work in an area of the company that fights misinformation, since she lost a friend to online conspiracy theories.

"Facebook, over and over again, has shown it chooses profit over safety," she said. Haugen, who will testify before Congress this week, said she hopes that by coming forward the government will put regulations in place to govern the company's activities.

Read more [here](#).

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Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram suffer worldwide outage (AP)

By FRANK BAJAK and BARBARA ORTUTAY

Facebook and its Instagram and WhatsApp platforms are back online after a massive global outage plunged the services and the businesses and people who rely on them into chaos for hours.

Facebook said late Monday that “the root cause of this outage was a faulty configuration change” and that there is “no evidence that user data was compromised as a result” of the outage.

The company apologized and said it is working to understand more about the cause, which began around 11:40 a.m. Eastern Monday.

Facebook was already in the throes of a separate major crisis after whistleblower Frances Haugen, a former Facebook product manager, provided The Wall Street Journal with internal documents that exposed the company’s awareness of harms caused by its products and decisions. Haugen went public on CBS’s “60 Minutes” program Sunday and is scheduled to testify before a Senate subcommittee Tuesday.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

When I Ran for President, It Messed With My Head

(Politico Magazine)

By **ANDREW YANG**

Andrew Yang is a former Democratic presidential candidate. He is the author of *Forward: Notes on the Future of Our Democracy*, from which this is excerpted.

It’s your birthday. Imagine going into a room and finding dozens of people have gathered together to see you. They toast your arrival. There is much excitement. They ask you to give a speech. You are very flattered. You give a speech that speaks to how touched you are that they are there for you. You talk about the occasion that has brought you all together. You want it to be genuine. Not so short that it seems perfunctory, but not so long that it seems self-indulgent.

Your birthday speech goes great. People want to talk to you and congratulate you. You are happy to see them. You shake hands and greet the people you know. There are many people you don’t know, perhaps because your friends brought their friends. It’s that kind of party.



Now imagine if that happened to you every night. Not just every night but several times during the day as well. And in addition to it being your birthday every day, you periodically visit television sets to talk to a TV personality. The host greets you in the greenroom, and you find yourself studying a face that you have seen many times before. You are surrounded by people at all times. They theoretically work for you, but most of the time they are directing you, saying, “You have to be on the road in ten minutes” or “You have a call with this person in five.” And you are on the road four days a week away from your family. You get back to the hotel room, and your face is tired from smiling or making expressions.

That’s a bit of what it feels like, running for president. And it should worry us that all of our leaders are subject to it.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Campbell Gardett.



Celebrating AP's 175th

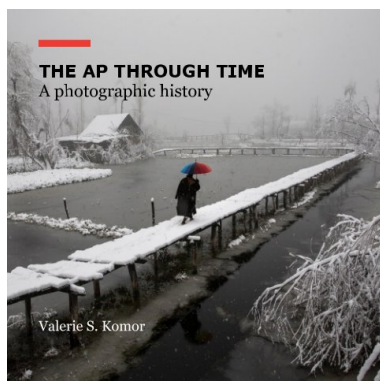
AP store for 175th, vintage merchandise



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.

Today in History - Oct. 5, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 5, the 278th day of 2021. There are 87 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlight in History:

On Oct. 5, 1989, a jury in Charlotte, North Carolina, convicted former P-T-L evangelist Jim Bakker (BAY’-kur) of using his television show to defraud followers. (Although initially sentenced to 45 years in prison, Bakker was freed in December 1994 after serving 4 1/2 years.)

On this date:

In 1931, Clyde Pangborn and Hugh Herndon completed the first non-stop flight across the Pacific Ocean, arriving in Washington state some 41 hours after leaving Japan.

In 1947, President Harry S. Truman delivered the first televised White House address as he spoke on the world food crisis.

In 1953, Earl Warren was sworn in as the 14th chief justice of the United States, succeeding Fred M. Vinson.

In 1955, a stage adaptation of "The Diary of Anne Frank" by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett opened at the Cort Theatre in New York.

In 1958, racially-desegregated Clinton High School in Clinton, Tennessee, was mostly leveled by an early morning bombing.

In 1969, the British TV comedy program "Monty Python's Flying Circus" made its debut on BBC 1.

In 1983, Solidarity founder Lech Walesa (lek vah-WEN'-sah) was named winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 2001, tabloid photo editor Robert Stevens died from inhaled anthrax, the first of a series of anthrax cases in Florida, New York, New Jersey and Washington.

In 2005, defying the White House, senators voted 90-9 to approve an amendment sponsored by Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., that would prohibit the use of "cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment" against anyone in U.S. government custody. (A reluctant President George W. Bush later signed off on the amendment.)

In 2015, the United States, Japan and 10 other nations in Asia and the Americas reached agreement on the landmark Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal.

In 2017, California Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation extending protections for immigrants living in the United States illegally; police in California would be barred from asking people about their immigration status or taking part in federal immigration enforcement activities.

In 2018, a jury in Chicago convicted white police officer Jason Van Dyke of second-degree murder in the 2014 shooting of Black teenager Laquan McDonald.

Ten years ago: Steve Jobs, 56, the Apple founder and former chief executive who'd invented and master-marketed ever sleeker gadgets that transformed everyday technology from the personal computer to the iPod and iPhone, died in Palo Alto, California. Rev. Fred L. Shuttlesworth, 89, a civil rights activist who endured arrests, beatings and injuries from fire hoses while fighting for racial equality in the segregated South of the 1960s, died in Birmingham, Alabama.

Five years ago: Portugal's former prime minister Antonio Guterres won the Security Council's unanimous backing to become the next U.N. secretary-general, succeeding Ban Ki-moon.

One year ago: President Donald Trump staged a dramatic return to the White House after leaving the military hospital where he was receiving an unprecedented level of care for COVID-19; Trump immediately ignited a new controversy by declaring that despite his illness, the nation should not fear the virus. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the coronavirus could spread more than 6 feet through the air, especially in poorly ventilated and enclosed spaces, but that such spread was uncommon and that current social distancing guidelines still made sense. As the Supreme Court began its new term, a statement from conservative justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito suggested that the court needed to revisit its decision to affirm the right to gay marriage.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Glynis Johns is 98. College Football Hall of Fame coach Barry Switzer is 84. R&B singer Arlene Smith (The Chantels) is 80. Singer-musician Steve Miller is 78. Sen. Benjamin L. Cardin, D-Md., is 78. Rock singer Brian Johnson (AC/DC) is 74. Blues musician Rick Estrin is 72. Actor Karen Allen is 70. Writer-producer-director Clive Barker is 69. Rock musician David Bryson (Counting Crows) is 67. Astrophysicist-author Neil deGrasse Tyson is 63. Memorial designer Maya Lin is 62. Actor Daniel Baldwin is 61. Rock singer-musician Dave Dederer is 57. Hockey Hall of Famer Mario Lemieux is 56. Actor Guy Pearce is 54. Actor Josie Bissett is 51. Singer-actor Heather Headley is 47. Pop-rock singer Colin Meloy (The Decemberists) is 47. Actor Parminder Nagra (pahr-MIHN'-da NAH'-grah) is 46. Actor Scott Weinger is 46. Actor Kate Winslet is 46. Rock musician James Valentine (Maroon 5) is 43. Rock musician Paul Thomas (Good Charlotte) is 41. Actor Jesse Eisenberg is 38. TV personality Nicky Hilton is 38. Actor Azure Parsons is 37. R&B singer Brooke Valentine is 36. Actor Kevin Bigley is 35. Actor Joshua Logan Moore is 27. Actor Jacob Tremblay is 15.

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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