

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

[View as Webpage](#)



Connecting

December 13, 2021

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



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

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

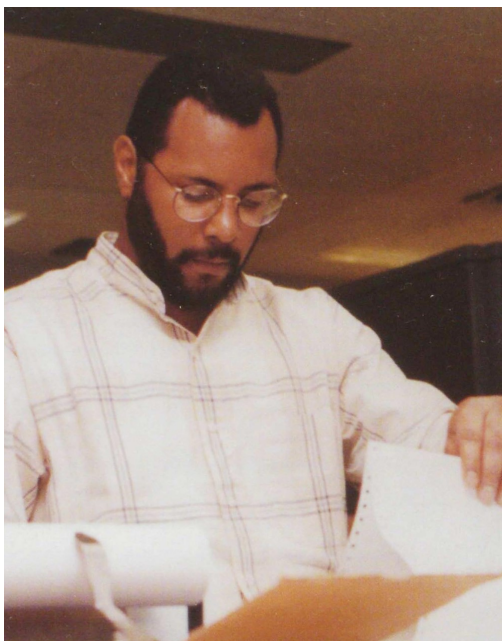


Members of a joint services military bearer team walk past a hearse as they wait for a plane carrying the casket of former Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., to arriving at the airport in Salina, Kan., Friday, Dec. 10, 2021.

Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this Dec. 13, 2021,

Connecting has received the sad word that **Maurice Billups**, a computer maintenance controller in New York Business News and 43-year AP veteran, has died.



Our colleague **Marty Rose** – who provided news of his death - said he worked with Maurice from the early 70's until Marty retired in 2016 and Maurice followed in 2017.

Maurice was hired in 1974 as a statistical worker and three years later became a tabulator.

We are working on a fuller story. Meanwhile, if you have a favorite memory to share of working with Maurice, please share.

(Maurice is pictured at left in this 1999 photo from AP Corporate Archives.)

A WAY TO REMEMBER TOM JORY: Samantha Jory ([Email](#)), daughter of our late colleague **Tom Jory**, wrote with thanks for the posts that have appeared in Connecting since his death Dec. 6. "It has made such a difference to me and my family and Tom's circle of friends—many of whom knew him after his AP days, and have been delighted to learn things about him that they didn't know," she said.

Sammie said that the CalPoly School of Journalism (which Tom attended) has set up a link for donations. If you would like to make a gift "in memory of Thomas Jory" to the Journalism Department you can click on [this link](#). A gift by check made payable to the Cal Poly Foundation can be sent to: Cal Poly Development Support Services, 1 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407-0443.

Thanks to **Peg Coughlin** for her vacation relief work as Connecting editor last week while Linda and I were traveling to Washington, D.C., and Colonial Williamsburg, as well as Jamestown and Yorktown along the Colonial Parkway.

In Williamsburg, we told a woman at the registration desk that it had been 50 years since we last visited Williamsburg (while stationed nearby with the Air Force). "Well," she said, "Don't let another 50 years go by before you visit us again." No worries on that score, we said, although surely there'd be a discount for 125 year olds...



Somehow, the Bidens missed the memo that we were going to be in Washington and to make it worse, on the first full day we were there, Joe flew to Kansas City for an appearance. We did wave at the motorcade (above) en route to Andrews and in lieu of dinner at the White House, we did find two great restaurants for dinner - Old Ebbitt Grill the first night and Wolfgang Puck's CUT (hat tip to Libby Quaid) on the second. Another culinary delight - the Yorktown Pub overlooking the York River.

Nostalgia set in at the World War II Memorial, where I was privileged to be the official Guardian for my dad in 2010 - three years before his death - when we took an Honor Flight from Fort Dodge, Iowa. I felt his presence there.

Ye Olde Connecting Editor will take the liberty of sharing a few more sky and other shots from our getaway. See them in The Final Word.

Our thoughts and prayers with the victims of the weekend tornadoes. If you have a story to share about coverage, please send along. The latest AP stories and photos can be found in the Top AP News and Top AP Photos links in the Connecting masthead.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

'I'm under the gun' – a phrase Tom Jory never let her forget

Nancy Shulins ([Email](#)) - During my early days as a national writer in New York, I landed a desk perpendicular to Tom Jory's, with sight lines that were unimpeded. One day, while I was clearly struggling to finish a story, Jory interrupted to ask me something trivial. "Can't talk," I muttered, with no shortage of self-importance. "I'm under the gun."

From that day on, he would make it a point to catch my eye at odd moments, moments when I was doing nothing of consequence beyond sipping my coffee or staring off into space. "Hey," he would say, all furrowed brow and concern. "You under the gun?" He would then hook his index finger under his collar as if to loosen it, a gesture accompanied by a Rodney Dangerfield-like grimace. My face would turn crimson. I can still hear him laugh.



At the time, I was living in Hoboken, four blocks from my sister's apartment. One evening early on in our Hoboken period, she got all the way home before realizing she had forgotten her house keys at her Upper East Side office. I ended up driving her back into the city to retrieve them.

The incident made a big impression on me. Ever after, at the end of the day, I would make it a point to fish my keys out of my purse before I left work, a compulsion not lost on Jory. "Got your keys?" he would ask, feigning concern. He would follow this by tugging at his collar and grimacing. Naturally, I would turn purple. It got to the point where I would try to sneak my keys silently out of my purse without him noticing. It never happened. At the first faint little jingle, his head would pop up like a prairie dog's. "Got your keys?" A second later, he'd tug on his collar and grimace.

I worked with a lot of funny people during my 17 years in New York, but none with the same exquisite blend of comedic timing and sheer physicality. Nobody ever made me laugh harder or blush deeper than Tom Jory. I cried when I learned he was gone.

HHDTS has become so much more accurate!

Larry Blasko (Email) - As many of us acknowledge and praise the contributions of our recently departed longtime friend and colleague Tom Jory, let's all send prayers that in the Heavenly Hereafter he relax, follow sports and keep the guardian angels for his grandkids on their toes. I suspect I'm not alone in not wanting to find that thanks to Tom's advice, the HHDTS (Heaven/Hell Destiny Tabulations System) has become so much more accurate!

First Amendment Coalition would welcome your donation

Juliet Williams (Email) - I write to share information about the [First Amendment Coalition](#), of which I am a board member. The coalition does regular media training with journalists explaining FOIA laws and our right to public information, staffs a hotline to answer questions from reporters, produces a police transparency handbook, and is committed to legislative oversight. As newsrooms have shrunk in the past few years, fewer and fewer journalists have access to media law training and have no in-house attorneys to help guide them. We have been boosting our training and partnerships in underserved communities and have seen real impact.

Each year we also present a Free Speech and Government Award.

Our group launched a campaign this year to raise \$1 million for the first time in our history, which will allow us to increase the number of trainings, beef up our legal power, and provide financial stability for the future. As we near the end of the year I hope you'll consider the First Amendment Coalition for your donations.

I am happy to facilitate donations, or you can do it online [here](#). If you do donate online, I'd really appreciate it if you let me know!

Memories from when JFK was killed

Wendy Davis Beard (Email) - I was 6 when JFK was shot. I don't remember what related craziness at home in Lake Forest Park, a small suburb of Seattle, inspired me and my 6-year-old female neighbor who lived directly across the street to march into the middle of our, at that moment traffic-less and eerily quiet street, stop and punch each other in the nose, then wordlessly turn quickly on our heels and march straight back to our respective homes.

Shortly after graduating from college and working in the AP Photo Library, I began, on my own time, a photo essay on Michelle Putnam Bouvier, one of the two beautiful Bouvier society twins, she and her twin Maude Davis the great aunts of Jacqueline Kennedy. I was introduced to them through Joan Carney, then head of the photo Library and my first boss. During this period I met Jaquie's aunt Little Edie, who would years later become infamous through the documentary Gray Gardens and later a full length theatre musical, and in 2009 an HBO adaption. I met big Edi's daughter in Michelle's small overly stuffed upper east side apartment, Little Edie was wearing an oversized kilt pin to hold her scruffy torn sweater together a silk scarf tied in her

trademark turban style covering her hair. I didn't expect to meet Jackie K-O, but I did predictably attend the funeral she also joined of her Aunt Michelle. Through my acquaintance with Mrs. Putnam and her twin sister, I met John H. Davis (no relation to me) who employed me to be the photo researcher and editor of his book titled: Kennedy's Dynasty and Disaster, one of his many books related to his extended family, whilst conducting my research, I visited the Kennedy Memorial Library in Boston.

Only this week whilst reading a special vintage edition of Ernest Hemingway's Farewell to Arms (after recently watching Ken Burns' series on Hemingway).

I read there is an Ernest Hemingway room in the JFK Memorial Library which unfortunately, I wasn't aware of when I visited years ago. Curious about the connection between these two American icons who both won Pulitzer Prizes for their writing.

Today, researching the current way, by Googling John F. Kennedy and Ernest Hemingway, I found:

While Ernest Hemingway and President Kennedy never met, President Kennedy more than once expressed his admiration for Hemingway and his work. In the opening sentence of his own Pulitzer Prize winning book, Profiles in Courage, Kennedy cited Hemingway's description of courage, writing that, "This is a book about the most admirable of human virtues — courage. 'Grace under pressure,' Ernest Hemingway defined it."

Hemingway was among the American artists, writers, and musicians invited by President and Mrs. Kennedy to attend the 1961 inauguration, but the author was too ill to travel.

In a statement released by the White House when Hemingway died, President Kennedy noted: "Few Americans have had a greater impact on the emotions and attitudes of the American people than Ernest Hemingway.... He almost single-handedly transformed the literature and the ways of thought of men and women in every country in the world."

When Ernest Hemingway died in 1961, a large portion of his literary and personal estate remained at his Cuban home, the Finca Vigia, which he had left during Fidel Castro's revolution. Despite a U.S. ban on travel to Cuba – the result of high tensions between the two countries following the Bay of Pigs incident – President Kennedy made arrangements for Mary Hemingway, Ernest's widow, to enter Cuba to claim family documents and belongings.

While in Cuba, Mrs. Hemingway met with Fidel Castro who allowed her to take her husband's papers and the artwork he collected in exchange for the donation of their Finca Vigia home and its remaining belongings to the Cuban people. With Fidel Castro's personal approval she was able to ship crates of papers and paintings on a shrimp boat from Havana to Tampa.

Mary gathered more material from other places Hemingway had lived and placed the resulting mass of documents and artifacts in storage while she weighed offers from several prospective repositories.

*Mrs. Hemingway was later the guest of President and Mrs. Kennedy at the White House dinner for the Nobel Prize winners in April, 1962 where Ernest Hemingway was honored as one of America's distinguished Nobel laureates. Following this dinner Frederic March read excerpts from the works of three previous Nobel Prize winners, Sinclair Lewis, George C. Marshall, and Hemingway – the opening pages from his then-unpublished *Islands in the Stream*.*

In 1964, at the suggestion of journalist and writer William Walton, a friend of both the Kennedys and Hemingways, Mary Hemingway contacted Jacqueline Kennedy and offered her husband's collection to the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, which was then being planned as a national memorial to the 35th President.

Mary wanted the various drafts – many written in Hemingway's "big sprawling hand" – available so people could see the writing process from initial idea "to the point where it is finally published the way the author thinks is the best." And she wanted to give the collection "to some place where [Hemingway] would be to himself and have a little personal distinction."

A 1968 exchange of letters between Mary Hemingway and Jacqueline Kennedy confirmed that the Hemingway papers would be archived at the Kennedy Library. In 1972, Mrs. Hemingway deeded the collection to the Kennedy Presidential Library and began depositing papers in its Archives.

When Mrs. Onassis announced the gift of the papers in 1972, she noted that the collection would "help to fulfill our hope that the Library will become a center for the study of American civilisation, in all its aspects, in these years."

On July 18, 1980, Patrick Hemingway, the writer's son by his second wife Pauline, and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis dedicated the Hemingway Room in the newly opened John F. Kennedy Presidential Library on Columbia Point.

Back from Boston at 50 Rock, AP's then headquarters, I found a black and white image of Judy Exner, the shared moll of Mafia head Sam Giancano and Jack F Kennedy". The author of *Dynasty and Disaster* then offered me a commission to photo research Sam Giancano and the mob, I politely declined and instead helped Hal Buell on Associated Press's 50th Anniversary of *Wide World Photos* book titled: *Moments In Time*.

Connecting sky shot – New Jersey



Dan Day ([Email](#)) - A small jet heads toward Trenton Airport and the sun setting over New Jersey on Friday, December 10.

Best of the Week

AP investigation, analysis reveals that despite diversity gains, racism still plagues US military academies



AP Photo/Ben Gray

A groundbreaking story on racism and discrimination at the five elite U.S. military academies, exposing racial gaps in the makeup of the academies' student bodies and graduation rates, has earned Aaron Morrison, Helen Wieffering, Noreen Nassir and Jasen Lo honors for Best of the Week.

The military likes to say that all service members wearing the same uniform are equal, but the AP's investigation showed that simply is not true, based on experiences related by many graduates of color, and exclusive analysis of decades of data obtained from four of the five service branches.

In an AP story earlier this year, current and former enlistees and officers in nearly every branch of the armed services described a deep-rooted culture of racism and discrimination, despite repeated efforts to eradicate it. Less attention has been paid to the premiere institutions that produce a significant portion of the services' officer corps — the academies of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine.

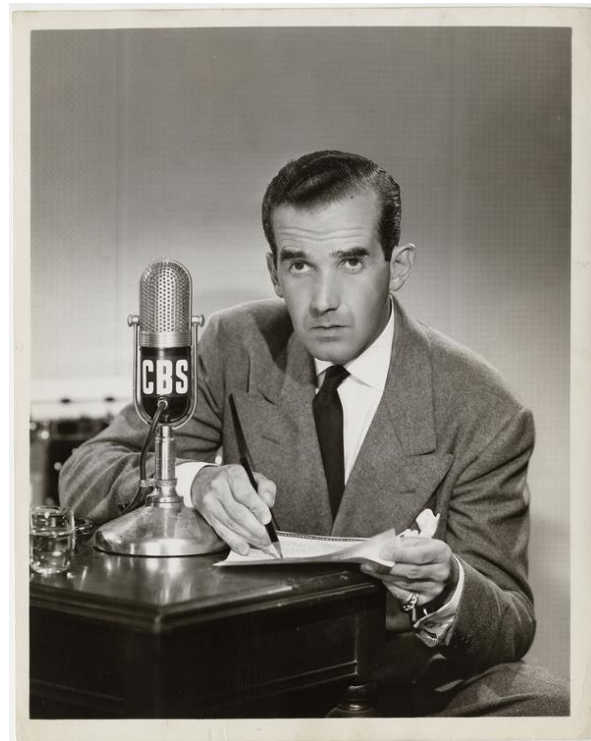
Read more [here](#).

'Orchestrated Hell': Edward R. Murrow over Berlin

Marc Lancaster
WW2 on Deadline

Last night, some of the young gentlemen of the RAF took me to Berlin.

Edward R. Murrow was nothing if not cool, as the opening sentence of perhaps his most famous wartime report makes clear. Seated before a microphone at the BBC's London studios on December 3, 1943, Murrow spent 18 minutes walking CBS listeners through his experience accompanying a bombing raid over Germany's capital the previous evening.

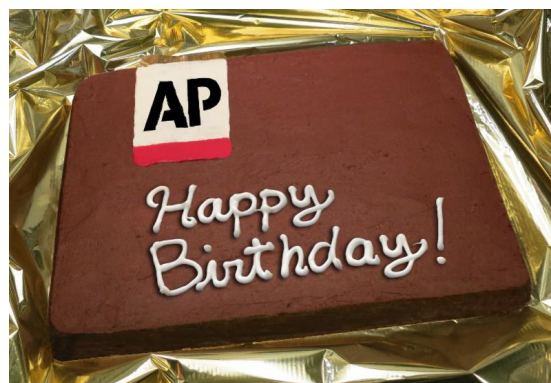


The broadcast is loaded with the immediacy and vivid imagery that had established Murrow as America's premier broadcast correspondent during the Blitz more than three years earlier, but its overall tone stands out as well. While Murrow's descriptions of the British aircrew's grace under fire certainly fit the stereotypical businesslike, stiff-upper-lip image of our men at war, there is no cheerleading and only a bare minimum of triumphalism here. It's a portrait of men doing a dirty job -- the same kind of work they did yesterday and, if they're fortunate enough to return, will do again tomorrow.

Murrow's biographers estimate he flew on about 25 combat missions throughout the war, to the increasing annoyance of his bosses at CBS. The danger was self-evident; earlier in 1943, New York Times correspondent Robert P. Post had been killed while accompanying the U.S. Eighth Air Force on a raid to Wilhelmshaven, Germany. There would be noncombatant casualties on this December run to Berlin as well.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Ned Seaton - nseaton@themercury.com

Stories of interest

Exhausted journalists are rising to the Kentucky tornado disaster (Poynter)



Authorities survey damage from a tornado is seen in Mayfield, Ky., on Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021. Tornadoes and severe weather caused catastrophic damage across multiple states late Friday, killing several people overnight. (AP Photo/Mark Humphrey)

By: Al Tompkins

Journalists are rising to another disaster that will unfold for months. Weather experts say that four tornadoes likely cut through Kentucky overnight. Instead of families gathering for Christmas, many will gather for funerals. By some estimates, the death toll will reach 100.

The damage stretches from the western part of the state all the way to Bowling Green, which is close to 140 miles east. Factory roofs collapsed; trees pierced rooftops. Many of the communities in that part of Kentucky are served by understaffed fire and ambulance teams.

Social media sites are peppered with videos of neighbors searching for neighbors.

WPSD (Paducah) news director Perry Boxx summed up the weeks ahead to me.

“We have big sections of whole towns gone. We don’t even know how bad some places were hit. We have crews everywhere, and they were already exhausted before this.”

Some of the first images of damage from Mayfield, Kentucky were captured by WPSD vice president and station manager Bill Evans, who was a longtime journalist before moving to the front office.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Reporters and photojournalists share stories from the 60-mile path of tornado destruction in Kentucky

(Poynter)

By: Al Tompkins

Photojournalist Emily Evans comes from a family of first responders. As she rolled up to a hilltop in Dawson Springs, Kentucky, not long after a swarm of tornadoes killed an estimated 100 people across four states, the Louisville-based WDRB photojournalist leveled her tripod while she surveyed the devastation that surrounded her.

“I learned from my family that when you get overwhelmed, you focus on one thing at a time, break it down, get the job done. But you have to have a lot of compassion,” she said. “To these people that we are covering, this is the worst day of their life. They have lost everything. These people are grieving, and I still believe that journalism is a public service. I saw a grown man cry today while he walked me through what was left of his house. His Christmas decorations were still hanging there.”

For 35 years, WKRC reporter David Winter has covered countless tornados and wildfires. Still, he volunteered to drive hours from Cincinnati, Ohio, to Dawson Springs to tell this story of a grieving country town that is still in shock.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Watchdog: Federal anti-terror unit investigated journalists (AP)

By MARK SHERMAN

WASHINGTON (AP) — A special Customs and Border Protection unit used sensitive government databases intended to track terrorists to investigate as many as 20 U.S.-based journalists, including a Pulitzer Prize-winning Associated Press reporter, according to a federal watchdog.

Yahoo News, which published an extensive report on the investigation, also found that the unit, the Counter Network Division, queried records of congressional staffers and perhaps members of Congress.

Jeffrey Rambo, an agent who acknowledged running checks on journalists in 2017, told federal investigators the practice is routine. “When a name comes across your desk you run it through every system you have access too, that’s just status quo, that’s what everyone does,” Rambo was quoted by Yahoo News as saying.

The AP obtained a redacted copy of a more than 500-page report by the Homeland Security Department’s inspector general that included the same statement, but with the speaker’s name blacked out. The border protection agency is part of Homeland Security.

The revelations raised alarm in news organizations and prompted a demand for a full explanation.

“We are deeply concerned about this apparent abuse of power,” Lauren Easton, AP’s director of media relations, said in a statement. “This appears to be an example of journalists being targeted for simply doing their jobs, which is a violation of the First Amendment.”

Read more [here](#). Shared by Peg Coughlin, Mark Mittelstadt, Adolphe Bernotas.

-0-

Fox anchor Chris Wallace makes his own news with move to CNN (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — Veteran anchor Chris Wallace has left Fox News after 18 years for CNN, dealing a significant blow to Fox’s news operation at a time that it has been overshadowed by the network’s opinion side.

Wallace delivered the surprising news that he was leaving at the end of the “Fox News Sunday” show he moderates, and within two hours CNN announced he was joining its new streaming service as an anchor. CNN+ is expected to debut in early 2022.

“It is the last time, and I say this with real sadness, we will meet like this,” Wallace, who is 74, said on his show, which airs on the Fox network and is later rerun on Fox News Channel. “Eighteen years ago, the bosses here at Fox promised me they would never interfere with a guest I booked or a question I asked. And they kept that promise.”

Wallace was a veteran broadcast network newsman, working at both ABC and NBC News, before the late Roger Ailes lured him to Fox with the promise of his own Sunday show. Methodical and never showy — in contrast to his father Mike, the legendary

“60 Minutes” reporter — Chris Wallace was known for his willingness to ask hard questions of all guests no matter their politics.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

-0-

Legendary Texas sports journalist Dave Campbell dies at 96 (AP)

WACO, Texas (AP) — Dave Campbell, founder of the Texas Football preview magazine that became a fixture in this football-crazy state, has died. He was 96.

Campbell died Friday night at his home in Waco, said Greg Tepper, managing editor of Dave Campbell’s Texas Football.

Known as “the bible of Texas football,” the magazine was started by Campbell in 1960, seven years after he became sports editor of the Waco Tribune-Herald.

Campbell served both roles for 25 years before selling the magazine and became synonymous with Baylor coverage in his role with the Waco paper. The press box at Baylor’s McLane Stadium is named after him, and he maintained a presence at athletic events until his death. Campbell retired from the newspaper in 1993.

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

-0-

Getty Images to Become a Publicly Traded Company (PetaPixel)

JARON SCHNEIDER

Getty has announced that it will become a publicly-traded company. The company is valued at \$4.8 billion and plans to list itself on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the symbol “GETY.”

Getty’s process for becoming public is a bit convoluted. Getty itself isn’t going public, but rather its newly-formed parent company is. Getty has entered into a business combination agreement with CC Neuberger Principal Holdings II — a publicly-traded special purpose acquisition company formed through a partnership between CC Capital and Neuberger Berman and is currently listed on the NYSE as “PRPB.” Upon closing of the transaction, the newly forced parent company of Getty Images will become publicly traded and its current CEO, Craig Peters, will continue to lead the company.

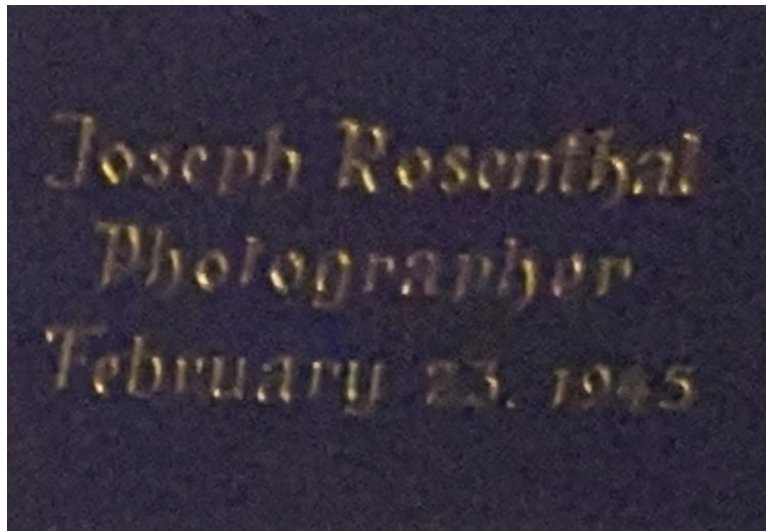
The transaction was unanimously approved by both the CC Neuberger and Getty Images boards of directors.

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

The Final Word...from Washington







Celebrating AP's 175th

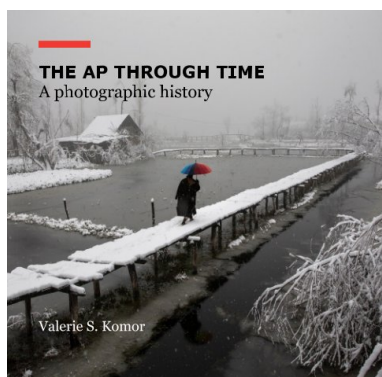
AP store for 175th, vintage merchandise



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 - Dec. 13, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Dec. 13, the 347th day of 2021. There are 18 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 13, 2000, Republican George W. Bush claimed the presidency a day after the U.S. Supreme Court shut down further recounts of disputed ballots in Florida; Democrat Al Gore conceded, delivering a call for national unity.

On this date:

In 1835, Phillips Brooks, the American Episcopal bishop who wrote the words to "O Little Town of Bethlehem," was born in Boston.

In 1928, George Gershwin's "An American in Paris" had its premiere at Carnegie Hall in New York.

In 1937, the Chinese city of Nanjing fell to Japanese forces during the Sino-Japanese War; what followed was a massacre of war prisoners, soldiers and citizens. (China maintains that up to 300,000 people were killed; Japanese nationalists say the death toll was far lower, and some maintain the massacre never happened.)

In 1978, the Philadelphia Mint began stamping the Susan B. Anthony dollar, which went into circulation the following July.

In 1981, authorities in Poland imposed martial law in a crackdown on the Solidarity labor movement. (Martial law formally ended in 1983.)

In 1993, the space shuttle Endeavour returned from its mission to repair the Hubble Space Telescope.

In 2001, the Pentagon publicly released a captured videotape of Osama bin Laden in which the al-Qaida leader said the deaths and destruction achieved by the September 11 attacks exceeded his "most optimistic" expectations.

In 2002, President George W. Bush announced he would take the smallpox vaccine along with U.S. military forces, but was not recommending the potentially risky inoculation for most Americans.

In 2003, Saddam Hussein was captured by U.S. forces while hiding in a hole under a farmhouse in Adwar, Iraq, near his hometown of Tikrit.

In 2007, Major League Baseball's Mitchell Report was released, identifying 85 names to differing degrees in connection with the alleged use of performance-enhancing drugs.

In 2014, thousands of protesters marched in New York, Washington and other U.S. cities to call attention to the killing of unarmed Black men by white police officers who faced no criminal charges.

In 2019, the House Judiciary Committee approved two articles of impeachment accusing President Donald Trump of abuse of power in his dealings with Ukraine and obstruction of Congress in the investigation that followed.

Ten years ago: Early sound recordings by Alexander Graham Bell that were packed away at the Smithsonian Institution for more than a century were played publicly for the first time using new technology that read the sound with light and a 3D camera. (In one recording, a man recites part of Hamlet's Soliloquy; on another, a voice recites the numbers 1 through 6.)

Five years ago: President-elect Donald Trump announced his choice of ExxonMobil CEO Rex Tillerson to be secretary of state. Actor Alan Thicke, best remembered as the beloved dad on the ABC series "Growing Pains," died in Los Angeles at age 69.

One year ago: The first vials of the Pfizer vaccine against COVID-19 began making their way to distribution sites across the United States. President Donald Trump said he was reversing an administration directive to vaccinate top government officials against COVID-19 while public distribution of the shot was limited to health care workers and people in nursing homes and long-term care facilities; hours earlier, the administration had confirmed that senior U.S. officials would be offered vaccines in the days ahead.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Dick Van Dyke is 96. Country singer Buck White is 91. Music/film producer Lou Adler is 88. Singer John Davidson is 80. Actor Kathy Garver (TV: "Family Affair") is 76. Singer Ted Nugent is 73. Rock musician Jeff "Skunk" Baxter is 73. Actor Robert Lindsay is 72. Country singer-musician Randy Owen is 72. Actor Wendie Malick is 71. U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack is 71. Former Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke is 68. Country singer John Anderson is 67. Singer-songwriter Steve Forbert is 67. Singer-actor Morris Day is 65. Actor Steve Buscemi (boo-SEH'-mee) is 64. Actor Johnny Whitaker (TV: "Family Affair") is 62. Rock musician John Munson (Semisonic; Twilight Hours) is 59. Actor-reality TV star NeNe Leakes is 55. Actor-comedian Jamie Foxx is 54. Actor Lusia Strus is 54. Actor Bart Johnson is 51. Actor Jeffrey Pierce is 50. TV personality Debbie Matenopoulos is 47. Rock singer-musician Thomas Delonge is 46. Actor James Kyson Lee is 46. Actor Kimee Balmilero (TV: "Hawaii Five-0") is 42. Actor Chelsea Hertford is 40. Rock singer Amy

Lee (Evanescence) is 40. Actor Michael Socha is 34. Actor Marcel Spears (TV: "The Mayor") is 33. Singer Taylor Swift is 32. Actor Maisy Stella is 18.

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