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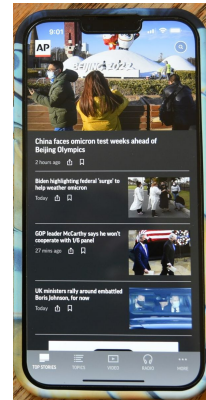
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Connecting

February 1, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this Feb. 1, 2022 – the beginning of a new month.

I pose two questions to you on behalf of your colleagues – and hope that you might respond with your own thoughts.

DOES RETIREMENT LEAVE A VOID IN YOUR LIFE? Colleague **Bob Daugherty** shares: “I was listening to commentary on the possible retirement of Tom Brady and the ‘void’ retirement leaves after an active career. I wonder what Connecting readers, both active and retired, might have to say regarding this subject.”

Did retirement leave a void - and more importantly, how are you filling it?

ARE YOU A GRADUATE OF NORTHERN NEVADA AP? Colleague **Sue Cross** shares: “Reading the **Larry Ryckman** profile Monday, it struck me again how many great journalists started their careers in Carson City, often as legislative temps. Brandon Riley, now retired, has to have been one of the greatest journalism mentors of all time. You may well have done it already, but if not, it might be fun to see if your

readers can come up with a list -- in AP and elsewhere -- of all the eminent journo's to come through northern Nevada ..."

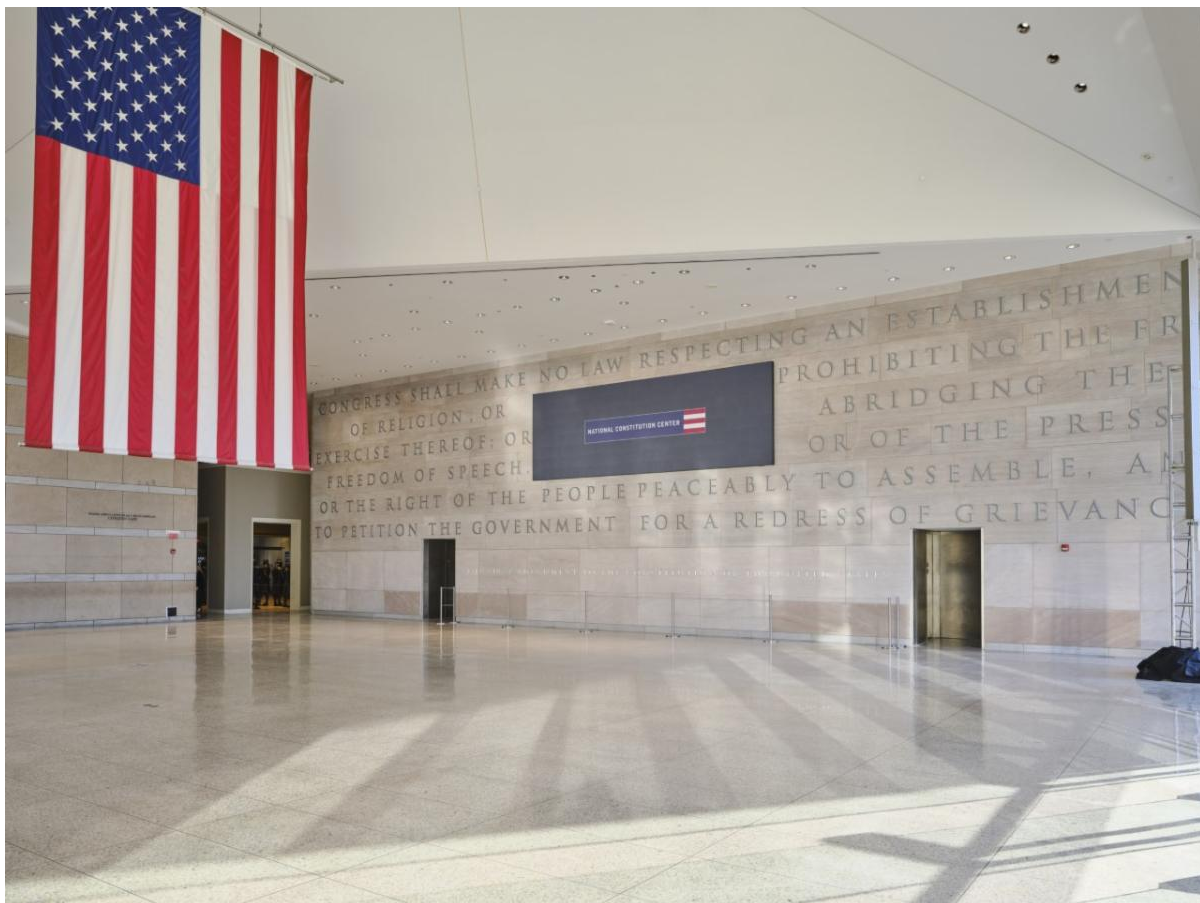
Beyond northern Nevada, is there another bureau or area where you've worked that was a spawning ground for AP talent?

We lead today's issue with a story from colleague **Mark Mittelstadt** on the move of the 50-ton First Amendment slab, once housed by The Freedom Forum before its Washington building was sold and the slab donated to the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia where it now spans a 100-foot wide wall.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

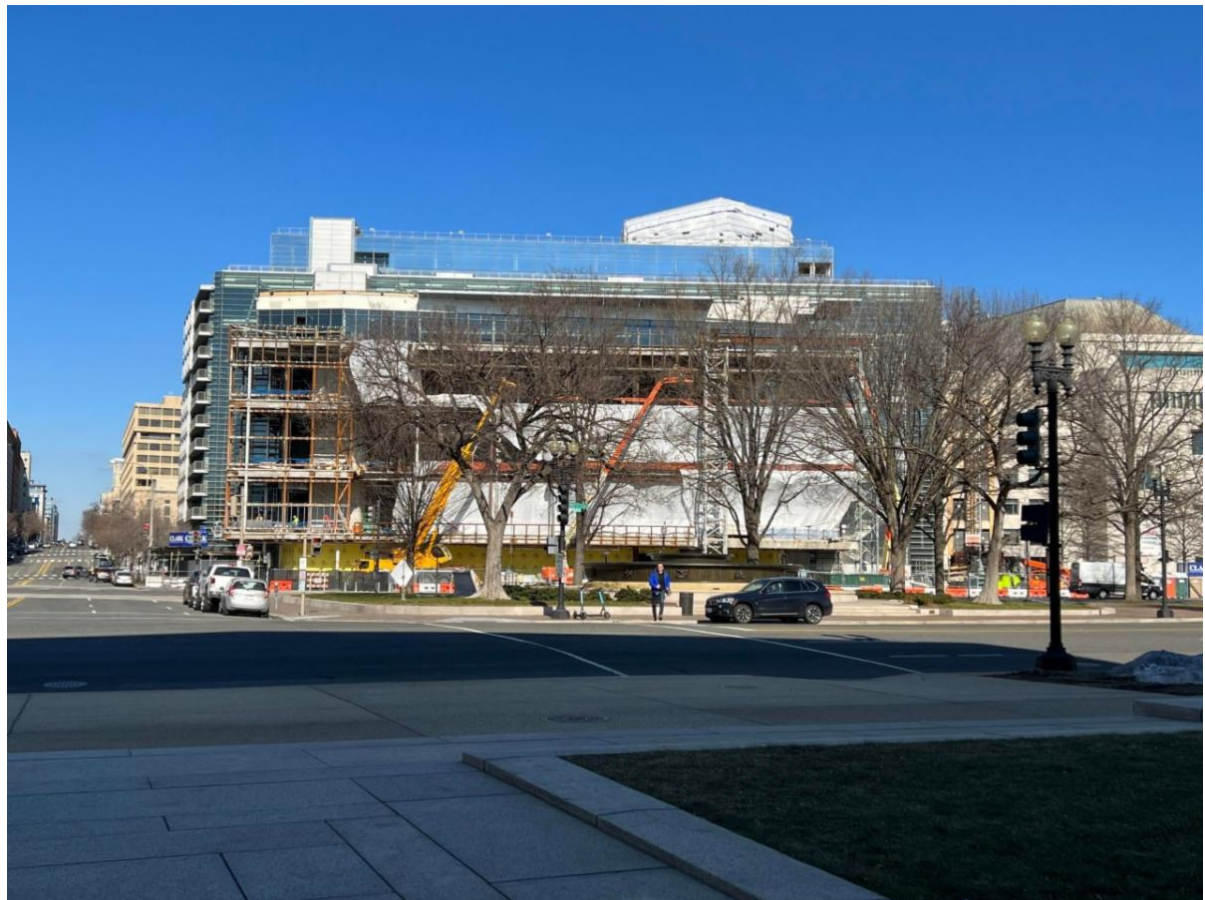
The First Amendment has disappeared from Pennsylvania Avenue



The Freedom Forum donated the 50-ton First Amendment slab to the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. It now spans a 100-foot wide wall. (National Constitution Center photo.)



Newseum exterior in Washington in 2017, in photo by Mark Mittelstadt



The former Newseum with the First Amendment facade removed and other exterior work underway as The Johns Hopkins University renovates the seven-level building to house graduate programs. (Photo by Monica Baughman/used with permission.)

Mark Mittelstadt ([Email](#)) - The First Amendment is no longer a part of Washington's Pennsylvania Avenue.

A four-story stone panel inscribed with the Amendment's 45 words has disappeared from the facade of the closed Newseum, a journalism-themed museum. The removal came as The John Hopkins University began conversion of the seven-level building to house graduate programs. John Hopkins purchased the structure in June 2020 for \$302.5 million, according to The Baltimore Sun.

The 50-ton panel speaking to the freedom of speech and freedom of the press was a prominent feature of the exterior of the Newseum when it opened in April 2008. The interactive museum housed a wide variety of objects and displays relating to news, journalism and freedom of speech. They included the Unabomber's cabin, pieces of the Berlin Wall, a communications tower that survived collapse of one of the World Trade Center buildings on 9/11 as well as personal items recovered from the debris, Elvis Presley performance clothing, a TV helicopter that was suspended from the Newseum ceiling. Associated Press photographs and stories were featured throughout, as was a news quilt created by the Associated Press Managing Editors and purchased at auction.

The museum attracted more than 815,000 visitors a year. Millions more workers and tourists likely viewed the words of the First Amendment as they passed by on one of the city's most prominent and popular streets connecting the White House to the United States Capitol.

The museum suffered financial losses from the outset that only grew. A mere 10 years later the Freedom Forum, which funded the museum, disclosed it was exploring sale of the building and a move to another location. The Newseum closed in December 2019. There has been no announcement of opening a future site. The contents of the former museum are being housed in warehouse space.

A former Gannett systems analyst, Monica Baughman, last week shared photos of the former Newseum's front minus the First Amendment and with other work to the exterior. Her post on a former Gannett employees Facebook group elicited mostly sad or shocked reactions and nearly 90 comments lamenting the museum's closure but also criticizing lavish expenditures for the building, cost over-runs and depletion of funds from the Gannett Foundation to build the Pennsylvania location.

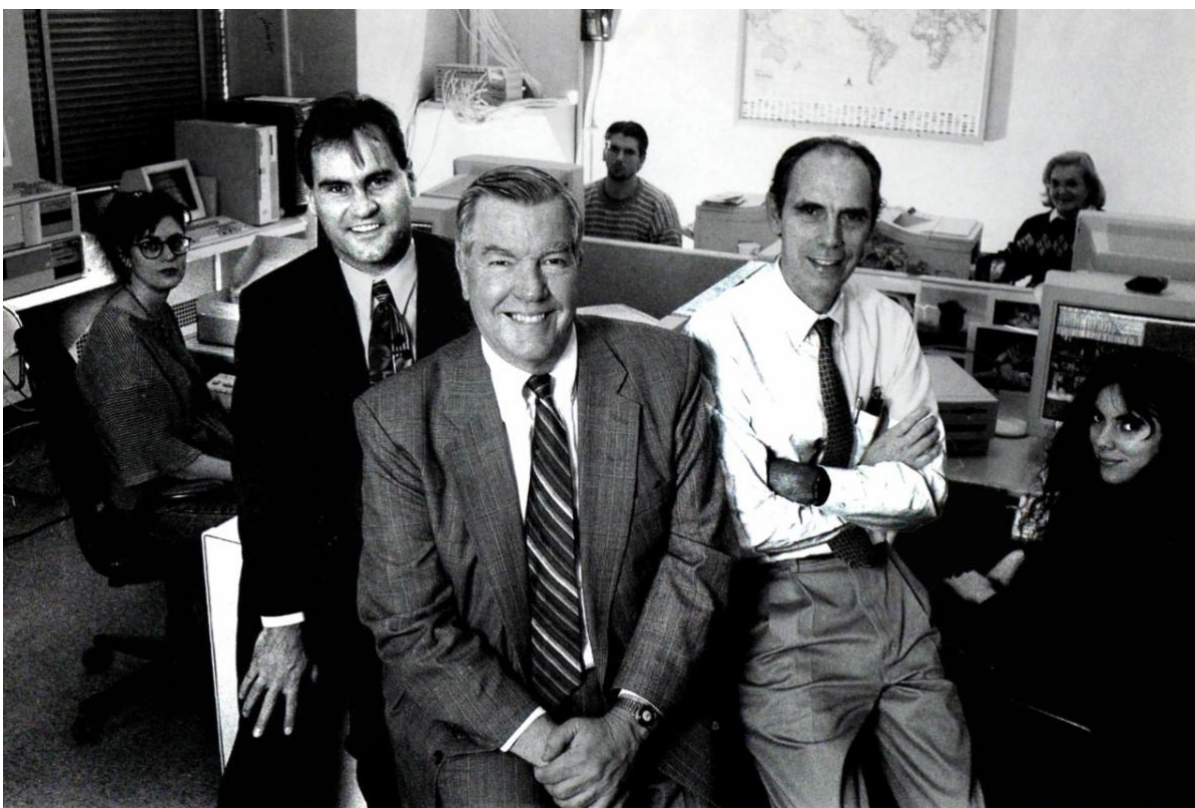
Upon the museum's closing the Freedom Forum donated the tablet to the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. It now spans a 100-foot-wide wall on the Center's Grand Hall Overlook, a second-floor atrium overlooking historic Independence Mall.

The Center says a formal unveiling will take place this Spring.

25 Years Since the Launch of AP's First Electronic Photo Archive



Ray Hanger (right) with Catherine Caldecott, her successor in the supervision of the news photo library, 1954. (AP World, Spring 1954)



Hal Buell, center, was instrumental in the establishment of the AP Photo Archive. From left, Maggie Bergara, Dave Peterson, Buell, Todd Hodgman, Grant Lamos, Clairisse Jud and Anne Gillen are the staff who maintain the archive. (AP Photo, Marty Lederhandler)

AP Corporate Archives

AP's photo collection started small. The AP initiated a photo service in 1927, obtaining photos from Paramount newsreels. The office was in Paramount's studios on West 43rd Street, separate from AP's Madison Avenue headquarters. In February of 1928, AP hired its first two photographers, and in October Ray Hanger was hired to set up and supervise AP's photo library. Ms. Hanger, challenged with hundreds of negatives to be indexed and filed, and a growing collection, proved to be up to the task. By the time she retired in 1954, the well-organized photo library housed several million prints and negatives.

In January 1997 the AP announced the launch of its first electronic photo archive. The AP Archive, as it was then known, began with a digital collection of 300,000 images. Dial-in technology allowed AP staffers and member newsrooms to access the database and select photos which could be downloaded in about two minutes. The digital platform started out focusing on current news photography, primarily loading images created in the previous 18 months, but included a selection of iconic AP photos from the photo library. AP Images now numbers over 37 million photos and growing.

50 Rockefeller Plaza is Getting a Stylish New Makeover



By Shivani Vora
Architectural Digest

With its striking façade that includes a ten-ton stainless panel by the celebrated American sculptor Isamu Noguchi, 50 Rockefeller Plaza is one of Rockefeller Center's most notable buildings. Built in 1938, the 16-story Art Deco tower was originally the headquarters for the Associated Press and now counts the law firm Katten and CPA company Citrin Cooperman among its tenants. But even the most elegant grand dame can always use a freshening-up — and 50 Rock is no different. Over the past two and a half years, the building's interior spaces have been given an inviting new look. Most of the recent transformation happened in the lobby and was led by the celebrated interior designer Andre Mellone of Studio Mellone. The project is part of a larger hospitality initiative by Tishman Speyer, the owner of Rockefeller Center, to make its commercial buildings more residential-feeling and welcoming. According to a spokesperson, the initiative started well before the pandemic as part of its portfolio-wide focus on hospitality. It seems particularly prescient at a time when landlords are trying to find creative ways to bring people back to the office. Their lobby re-imaginings, introducing designer furniture and music, are at the heart of the mission to make these spaces less functional and more user-friendly.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Elaine Hooker.

Connecting mailbox

Memorial to Audie Murphy



Dick Lipsey (Email) - Re the article on Audie Murphy in the Jan. 31 Connecting, there is a memorial to him near the city of Colmar, France. I saw it in May 2016 on an excursion that was part of Viking Cruise Lines' Amsterdam to Basel cruise. The city also has a World War II museum and memorial.

Top photo is a view toward the woods where the battle took place. The photo below it shows Murphy's position when the Germans attacked.

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Here's to rescue cats!



Mike Holmes (Email) - Cindy the cat (a rescue who belongs to my son but somehow lives with me) studies the AP dispatch on the first family's newest pet.

-0-

Connecting sky shots

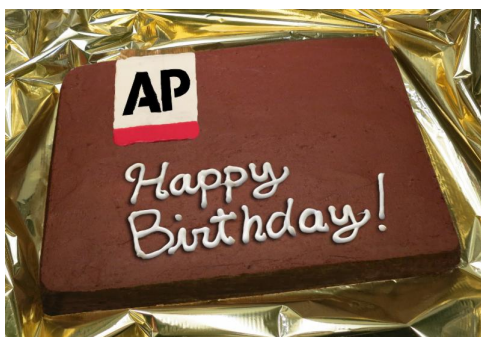


After a long day, Zoe Louise Thompson ponders one last run as the sun sets on her snowboard hill in Sparta, NJ., Saturday, Jan. 29, 2022. (Photo/Lilibeth Thompson, shared by Sean Thompson)



Sunset at Bolsa Chica State Beach, Calif. Photo by Kristine Beardsley.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Regan Morris

Connecting '80s/'90s Club

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Connecting now publishes this list at the beginning of each month. If you are qualified for one of the age groups and would like to be listed, drop me a note. Please let me know of any errors.)

90s:

**Norm Abelson
Henry Bradsher
Hal Buell
Frank Daniels Jr.
Albert Habhab
George Hanna
Hoyt Harwell
Gene Herrick
Sister Donalda Kehoe
Elaine Light
Joe McGowan
Sam Montello
Charlie Monzella
Jack Pace
Bob Petsche
Arlon Southall
Sal Veder
Harold Waters
Doris Webster**

80s:

**Paul Albright
Peter Arnett
Harry Atkins
Malcolm Barr
Myron Belkind
Dan Berger
Adolphe Bernotas
Lou Boccardi
Hal Bock
William Roy Bolch Jr.
Ben Brown
Charles Bruce
Ford Burkhart
Harry Cabluck**

**Sibby Christensen
Shirley Christian
Mike Cochran
Don Dashiell
Bob Daugherty
Don Deibler
Bob Dobkin
Otto Doelling
Phil Dopoulos
John Eagan
Claude Erbsen
Mike Feinsilber
Dodi Fromson
Bill Gillen
Steve Graham
Bob Greene
Chick Harrity
Lee Jones
Doug Kienitz
Dean Lee
Pierce Lehmbeck
Warren Lerude
Gene LaHammer
Carl Leubsdorf
David Liu
John Marlow
Dave Mazarella
Walter Mears
Yvette Mercourt
Reid Miller
Harry Moskos
Ray Newton
Greg Nokes
Lyle Price
Charles Richards
Bruce Richardson
Mike Rouse
Denis Searles
Richard Shafer
Mike Short**

Rick Spratling
Ed Staats
Karol Stonger
Marty Thompson
Hilmi Toros
Kernan Turner
Jack Walker
Bob Walsh
Dean Wariner
Jeff Williams
Johnny Yost
Arnold Zeitlin
Kent Zimmerman

Stories of interest

Four lessons from two decades of newsroom lawyering (Nieman Lab)

By RICHARD TOFEL

Sometime early next month, I will formally retire from the practice of law after 26 years at the bar, including more than 21 years as a full- or part-time newsroom attorney.¹ As I do this, I want to take stock of a few of the more important things I think I have learned in this role.

Newsroom lawyers are ultimately at the mercy of reporters

One of the very first lessons I learned in reviewing stories prior to publication is that press lawyers are at the mercy of reporters. Quite simply, the attorney must assume that the facts in a story are accurately reported — which is, appropriately, the first and last legal line of defense for journalism. Sure, you can seek to double-check a pivotal fact, or an assertion that you fear is inaccurate or just wonder about. But, by and large, the pre-publication process is not a fact-checking exercise, and it would be intolerably costly for it to be otherwise. The upshot: behind all of the best press lawyers stand great reporters.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Steve Graham.

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The New York Times Buys Wordle (New York Times)

By Marc Tracy

The sudden hit Wordle, in which once a day players get six chances to guess a five-letter word, has been acquired by The New York Times Company.

The purchase, announced by The Times on Monday, reflects the growing importance of games, like crosswords and Spelling Bee, in the company's quest to increase digital subscriptions to 10 million by 2025.

Wordle was acquired from its creator, Josh Wardle, a software engineer in Brooklyn, for a price "in the low seven figures," The Times said. The company said the game would initially remain free to new and existing players.

Wordle — the name is a cheeky pun on its creator's name — has had a striking rise. It first appeared on a no-frills, ad-free website in October, and had 90 users on Nov. 1. That number grew to 300,000 by the middle of this month, and now millions play the game daily, according to the Times announcement.

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

-0-

Canada's Largest News Agency Moves Exclusively to Sony Cameras (PetaPixel)

JARON SCHNEIDER

The Canadian Press, the largest news organization in Canada, has announced that it would be switching its journalists entirely over to Sony camera equipment. Sony will become the exclusive imaging products provider for the media company.

The Canadian Press is a multimedia news publication that covers broadcast multimedia news and print media and employs more than 180 journalists. The organization says that the switch to Sony means its photojournalists and videographers will use a variety of Sony cameras and lenses to quickly capture hundreds of powerful editorial photos and videos every day, ranging from large-scale global sporting events to local Canadian news, politics, and lifestyle content. The organization specifically called out the Sony Alpha 1 and Alpha 9 II cameras, but far more of Sony's camera lineup is likely to be leveraged.

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

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Photojournalist Caught Staging Photo of Child Burning a Mask (PetaPixel)

JARON SCHNEIDER

In a video posted to Twitter, photojournalist Maranie R. Staab is shown following anti-mask protestors and engaging with them in order to capture staged photos. Staab, who appears masked in the video, can be seen holding her camera and coordinating a photo with a woman and a child.

The course of events took place outside the Oregon Health Authority building in Portland, Oregon. A group was protesting against the state's COVID-19 mask mandates in a gathering advertised as a "Mask BBQ Party," organized by Free Oregon.

At the time of publication, the photo did not appear publicly listed on Getty, and her most recent photos on the platform are from August of 2021.

...

Getty confirms that it pulled the photo from its service and terminated its relationship with Staab when it became aware of the video.

"Getty Images holds itself to a high standard of editorial integrity and we have a responsibility to provide faithful and comprehensive documentation of the events that we cover," a Getty representative tells PetaPixel.

"We recently became aware of this video, which appears to depict a freelance photographer shooting in violation of our editorial standards. We removed the content as soon as we became aware of this video earlier this month and made the photographer aware that the photos violated Getty Images' editorial standards and had been removed."

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

Today in History - Feb. 1, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 1, the 32nd day of 2022. There are 333 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 1, 1960, four Black college students began a sit-in protest at a Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, where they'd been refused service.

On this date:

In 1790, the U.S. Supreme Court convened for the first time in New York. (However, since only three of the six justices were present, the court recessed until the next day.)

In 1862, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," a poem by Julia Ward Howe, was published in the Atlantic Monthly.

In 1865, abolitionist John S. Rock became the first Black lawyer admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1943, during World War II, one of America's most highly decorated military units, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, made up almost exclusively of Japanese-Americans, was authorized.

In 1959, men in Switzerland rejected giving women the right to vote by a more than 2-1 referendum margin. (Swiss women gained the right to vote in 1971.)

In 1979, Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini (hoh-MAY'-nee) received a tumultuous welcome in Tehran as he ended nearly 15 years of exile.

In 1991, 34 people were killed when an arriving USAir jetliner crashed atop a commuter plane on a runway at Los Angeles International Airport.

In 1994, Jeff Gillooly, Tonya Harding's ex-husband, pleaded guilty in Portland, Oregon, to racketeering for his part in the attack on figure skater Nancy Kerrigan in exchange for a 24-month sentence (he ended up serving six months) and a \$100,000 fine.

In 2003, the space shuttle Columbia broke up during re-entry, killing all seven of its crew members: commander Rick Husband; pilot William McCool; payload commander Michael Anderson; mission specialists Kalpana Chawla, David Brown and Laurel Clark; and payload specialist Ilan Ramon (ee-LAHN' rah-MOHN'), the first Israeli in space.

In 2011, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak announced he would not run for a new term in September elections but rejected protesters' demands he step down immediately and leave the country, after a dramatic day in which a quarter-million Egyptians staged their biggest protest to date calling on him to go.

In 2016, the World Health Organization declared a global emergency over the explosive spread of the Zika virus, which was linked to birth defects in the Americas, calling it an "extraordinary event" that posed a public health threat to other parts of the world.

In 2020, as China's death toll from the new coronavirus rose to 259, Beijing criticized Washington's order barring entry to most foreigners who had visited China in the past

two weeks. A World Health Organization official said governments needed to prepare for “domestic outbreak control.”

Ten years ago: Facebook, the Internet social network, announced plans to go public with a stock offering. Don Cornelius, 74, creator of “Soul Train,” died in Los Angeles of an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound. Boxing trainer Angelo Dundee died in Tampa, Florida, at age 90.

Five years ago: The Republican-controlled Senate confirmed Rex Tillerson, 56-43, to be U.S. secretary of state. A nearly 20-hour prison hostage standoff began in Delaware as inmates at the James T. Vaughn Correctional Center seized four staff members; one guard was killed, two hostages released before authorities put down the uprising and rescued the remaining captive. Violence and rioting at the University of California, Berkeley, forced the cancellation of a talk by right-wing provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos.

One year ago: Myanmar’s military staged a coup and arrested the civilian leaders of its government, including Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi. A sprawling, lumbering winter storm walloped the Eastern U.S., shutting down coronavirus vaccination sites, closing schools and halting transit. The U.S. government said it would not conduct immigration enforcement arrests at coronavirus vaccination sites around the country. Former AFL-CIO President John Sweeney died at age 86 at his Washington-area home. Actor Dustin Diamond, best known as “Screech” on the ’90s sitcom “Saved by the Bell,” died after a three-week fight with cancer.

Today’s Birthdays: Actor Garrett Morris is 85. Bluegrass singer Del McCoury is 83. TV personality-singer Joy Philbin is 81. Political commentator Fred Barnes is 79. Rock musician Mike Campbell (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers) is 72. Blues singer-musician Sonny Landreth is 71. Actor-writer-producer Bill Mumy (MOO’-mee) is 68. Rock singer Exene Cervenka is 66. Actor Linus Roache is 58. Princess Stephanie of Monaco is 57. Actor Sherilyn Fenn is 57. Lisa Marie Presley is 54. Comedian-actor Pauly Shore is 54. Actor Brian Krause is 53. Jazz musician Joshua Redman is 53. Rock musician Patrick Wilson (Weezer) is 53. Actor Michael C. Hall is 51. Rock musician Ron Welty is 51. Rapper Big Boi (Outkast) is 47. Roots rocker Jason Isbell is 43. Country singer Julie Roberts is 43. Rock singer-musician Andrew VanWyngarden is 39. TV personality Lauren Conrad is 36. Actor-singer Heather Morris is 35. Actor and mixed martial artist Ronda Rousey is 35. Rock singer Harry Styles (One Direction) is 28.

Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that focuses on retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013 and past issues can be found by clicking [Connecting Archive](#) in the masthead. Its author, Paul Stevens, retired from the AP in 2009 after

a 36-year career in Albany, St. Louis, Wichita, Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City.

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:

- **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.

- **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?

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

Paul Stevens

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