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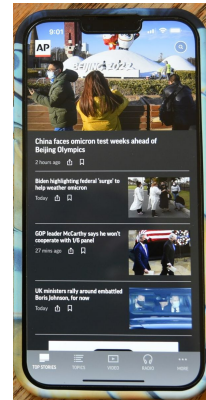
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Connecting

February 2, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this Feb. 2, 2022,

It's with sorrow – and still a bit of disbelief - that I bring you news of the death of my friend and longtime Connecting colleague **Ralph Gage**.

He was a newsman at heart, but was best known in his role as general manager of the Lawrence (Kan.) Journal-World – a leadership role in which he and the staff embraced multimedia presentation of the news, newsroom convergence and online excellence that made

the newspaper known and respected nationally.

We first met in 1984 and I worked with Ralph throughout my 25 years in the Kansas City bureau. In retirement we got together several times a year for lunch at the Eldridge Hotel in downtown Lawrence to discuss the state of the newspaper industry, changes in journalism, our friends in the industry and our families.



Family was huge to Ralph, and if there is any bright spot in this tragic loss, it was that he and his wife **Martha** were joined the day before his death (due to natural causes) by their children **Susan** and **Paul** who flew in to Lawrence for a Kansas basketball game against Kentucky at venerable Allen Fieldhouse. (See photo above)

I will miss him greatly. RIP, my friend.

AN EMAIL SHOWER FOR SISTER DONALDA: On Thursday, the only Catholic sister and the greatest typewriter aficionado in the Connecting family, **Sister Donalda Kehoe**, turns 94 years young. Take a few minutes right now to drop her a note of congratulations and best wishes. She has become pen (er, typewriter) pals with several of you. Send the note to her at this email address: hillj@osfdbq.org

Today's issue brings you first responses to our call for memories of the Northern Nevada AP training ground and how you have handled the "void" some feel when they retire. I hope you will continue to build on that theme during the coming week.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy and get in touch with at least one friend today. Life is fleeting.

Paul

Longtime Journal-World leader, general manager Ralph Gage dies



Ralph Dana "Bud" Gage Jr., 80, a longtime newspaper executive with the Lawrence Journal-World and a member of the Kansas Newspaper Hall of Fame, died suddenly

Jan. 30, 2022, at home. Private family burial will be in Highland Cemetery, Ottawa, Kan. A public memorial service and reception for friends are pending.

Gage was born Sept. 9, 1941, in Ottawa, Kan. He was a 1959 graduate of Ottawa High School. He and Martha Ann Senter were married in Ottawa on Nov. 23, 1963; she survives, of the home.

Also surviving are daughter, Susan Gage, and her husband, Gerald M. Sass Jr., of Tualatin, Ore.; son, Paul Gage, Washington, D.C.; brothers Dr. George Gage, Paola, Kan., and Dr. Robert Gage, Derby, Kan.; and grandchildren Samuel and Abigail Sass.

Gage was inducted into Ottawa High School's Wall of Honor in 2006. Ten years later he became a member of the Kansas Newspaper Hall of Fame; he received the Kansas Press Association's "Outstanding Mentor Award" in 2009.

He was a 1964 graduate of the University of Kansas School of Journalism. After graduating from KU, Gage worked at the Salina Journal in Salina, Kan., as district editor and Sunday editor, and then moved to the Metro-East Journal in East St. Louis, Ill. He joined the staff at the Lawrence Journal-World in 1969, and during a 43-year career with the Journal-World and its parent company, The World Company, Gage served in multiple roles including managing editor, general manager, chief operating officer and director of special projects. As a reporter, he covered KU and was part of the team that reported on the 1970 burning of the Kansas Union and the civil unrest on campus. He had additional management responsibilities for other company operations, including weekly newspapers, magazines, cable television, internet, software development and a network-affiliate television station. He retired in 2013 and remained on the company's board of directors until 2016, when the company sold its media assets.

"I just enjoyed reporting and writing and meeting people," Gage told the Journal-World in a story about his induction into the Hall of Fame. "When I landed here, I had the opportunity to get into the management side, and then ultimately into corporate management. One thing led to another, and 43 years flew by. Writing and reporting, though, are still the most fun, I think."

During his time in management at the Journal-World, Gage was particularly proud of the efforts to bring together the newsrooms of the newspaper and 6News, a cable news channel previously owned by The World Company. The "converged newsroom" attracted national attention from The New York Times and drew media executives from across the country to tour the operations.

Gage wrote about the World Company's convergence efforts for Nieman Reports (Winter 2006) and presented about those efforts in numerous forums in the U.S. and abroad. The Times, in writing about the company in 2005, called him "a no-nonsense taskmaster...deputized to make sure the company's trains ran on time." Tim O'Brien of The Times, Gage frequently said, might have written his epitaph.

In a Journal-World story upon his retirement, he was lauded for the standard of excellence and reputation for detail he brought to his work. Dolph C. Simons Jr., chairman of The World Company, was quoted as saying Gage had "played a major role in nearly everything good that has happened to the paper."

Gage served on the board of directors of the News-Gazette in Champaign, Ill., until October 2020 and had been a trustee of the William Allen White Foundation. He was a member of the board of directors of Crime Stoppers of Lawrence and Douglas County, serving as secretary, and he and his wife co-chaired the New Generation Society of Lawrence in 2020-2021.

Gage was a graduate of Leadership Kansas (1983) and was active in community, professional and business organizations as well as First Baptist Church, where he twice served as Moderator and co-led fund-raising efforts with Martha. He was a member of the Kansas-Lower Republican River Basin Advisory Committee and served several terms on the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce board of directors. Before they were renamed, he was a board leader of the United Fund in Lawrence and the Boys Club of Lawrence. He had been a board member of Van Go Inc., and a board member of Presbyterian Manors of Mid-America.



He was a cyclist and a long-time participant in Red Dog's Dog Days. He cherished his age-group (70s) victories in the Dr. Bob's Run, as well as having completed five Matfield Green Metric Centuries (aka "the death ride.")

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ralph and Thelma Gage.

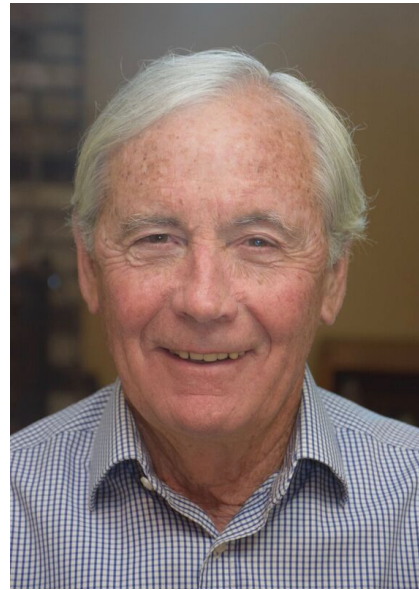
In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions in Gage's memory to the William Allen White School of Journalism at KU, Van Go Inc., or First Baptist Church.

About that AP training ground in northern Nevada

Brendan Riley (Email) - Thanks to Sue Cross for the kind words about my years as the AP's Carson City correspondent, covering Nevada politics and government and getting temps for the state's every-other-year legislative sessions. Sue suggested a list and I just happen to have one. You might have to Google some names, but many are very recognizable. I started with AP in 1970, and my first Nevada XGR session was 1973. Here's the Carson City crew list, starting with my last session in 2009 and working backwards to 1973. Besides the temps, I included Reno bureau staffers who drove over to

help cover several sessions. Most have had long journalism careers:

2009 – Cathy Bussewitz and Rachelle Gines.
 2007 – Amanda Fehd and Joe Mullin.
 2005 -- Kathleen Hennessey and Elizabeth White.
 2003 -- Ryan Pearson and Ben Kieckhefer.
 2001 -- Siobhan McDonough and John Wilkerson.
 1999 -- Jennifer Coleman and Kiley Russell.
 1997 -- Martha Bellisle and Dee-Ann Durbin.
 1995 -- Caren Benjamin and Patrick Graham. Sandra Chereb, Reno.
 1993 -- Niko Price and Chris Grygiel. Sandra Chereb, Reno.
 1991 -- Mark Evans and Elizabeth Wise. Sandra Chereb, Reno.
 1989 -- Joe McDonald and Jim Crandall. Laura Myers, Reno.
 1987 – Rob Wells and Roger Smith.
 1985 -- Martin Griffith. John Roll, Tom Gardner, Reno.
 1983 -- Chris Woodyard and John Roll. Tom Gardner, Reno.
 1981 – Larry Ryckman and Trish White. Mitchell Landsberg, Reno.
 1979 – John Rice and Gayle Fisher, clerk Barbara Herman.
 1977 – Jim Grief; 1975 -- Mike Mitchell; 1973 -- Bob Welkos.



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Warren Lerude ([Email](#)) - Re northern Nevada AP, in my days 1960-61 as college student part timer and 1962-64 full time staffer, the Reno bureau was a correspondent assignment with Nevada State Capital Carson City bureau a staff reporter assignment and newly opened Las Vegas southern Nevada bureau a staff reporter reporting to Reno correspondent.

I worked the Reno bureau in college under correspondent Paul Finch and after college served as the lone Vegas bureau staffer, then as lone Reno bureau correspondent before moving on to hometown Reno daily papers as reporter, editor, publisher first Speidel, then Gannett.

Reno, Vegas, Carson City are miles apart geographically and culturally but bound together covering Nevada politics and legislature in Carson City.

Historically, the AP only had one staffer—in the nationally hot dateline Reno, second to open in Carson and last to open about 1960 in Vegas.

Reno was originally hot AP national dateline, Vegas is now but Carson was always hot for Nevada politics which is always hot with most legislators from big population Vegas, far fewer from metro Reno and rural counties.

Many AP people broke in in Reno and Carson originally and still do and now also do in Vegas.

Brendan Riley has been the mentor of all mentors serving in the Carson bureau for decades.

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Marty Thompson (Email) - Many of the familiar names of people who passed through Carson City in past years were temporary legislative staffers who worked with the Carson City reporter during Nevada's every-other-year legislative sessions. It was a great job and training to hit the ground in a next assignment.

I moved from Seattle to Reno correspondent in 1968. Reno had two people, Carson and Las Vegas each had one. In the 1969 legislative session the two of us in Reno took turns working a week in Carson. UPI had one Carson staffer, so two of us could be in a lot of places he wasn't.

The names of people who filled the fulltime or temporary slots in Reno and Carson (with credit to records kept by Brendan Riley) include many who went on to high profile jobs elsewhere.

Among them: Mitchell Landsberg, John Rice, Laura Myers, Larry Ryckman, Kathleen Hennessey, Niko Price, Jeannine Yeomans, Bill Martin and Mark Evans.

I was in Reno three years, going from there to the staff in San Francisco where I spent 15 years as a reporter, editor, news editor and bureau chief.

Warren Lerude's desk in the Reno Evening Gazette newsroom was but a step from a door into the AP bureau. Among the Nevada staff, only the Las Vegas correspondent had a closer member tie -- the bureau was a desk in the Review-Journal newsroom.

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John Rogers (Email) - In response to Sue Cross' question about Northern Nevada journalists, here are some I recall off the top of my head:

_ Frank McCulloch, former managing editor of the Los Angeles Times who said he got his start at the University of Nevada-Reno's campus newspaper the Sagebrush and who later worked for the Reno Evening Gazette.

_ Mitchell Landsberg, who began his AP career in the Reno bureau.

_ The late Tom Gardener. Not sure if he began his career in Northern Nevada, but he was the Reno correspondent for many, many years, including the mid-80s when I worked for the Reno Gazette-Journal.

_ Retired AP Managing Editor Marty Thompson, another former Reno correspondent.

_ The AP's late Laura Myers, who began her career at the Reno Gazette-Journal before joining AP's Reno bureau. I worked with Laura at the Gazette-Journal before joining the AP in Los Angeles.

_ Of course the man who is AP's Reno guy now, veteran correspondent Scott Sonner.

Filling the 'void' created by retirement

David Morris ([Email](#)) - *who worked for AP in Harrisburg, Sacramento and Washington for chunk of his 40-year career.* I refer to my 2017 retirement as giving up my pesky day job. But, by design, I've been as busy as ever.

I stepped up my later-in-life interest in songwriting when I left journalism for good. My work has been recorded by more than two dozen bluegrass and Americana bands. Six of my songs have been Top 10s, including two number ones. Last summer, I signed a publishing deal with suburban Nashville's Billy Blue Music.

At the same time, Jodie and I put the finishing touches on the house we built on 41 acres of woods in northeastern Pennsylvania. So when I'm not writing songs, I'm either unpacking boxes or exploring the land with an eye toward planting a small orchard and keeping bees.

As for the rest of the void, I still do some consulting about polling for ABC News.

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Hal Bock ([Email](#)) - After 40-plus years, I retired on a cold Friday night in January 2004. The following Monday, I started a seven-year stint as adjunct professor of journalism and Journalist in Residence at Long Island University's Brooklyn campus.

In retirement, I have written two books -- The Last Chicago Cubs Dynasty and Banned Baseball's Blacklist of All-Stars and Also-Rans. I have also done some writing for the Major League Players Association and lectures at a number of men's clubs and libraries on Long Island. I continue to write one column a week for the web site NY Sportsday and do a once-monthly podcast.

It has been an active and enjoyable retirement.

Republican lawmaker introduces resolution to "reprimand" the Associated Press for racism report

Jon Skolnik
Salon

A Tennessee state legislator introduced a joint resolution to "reprimand" the Associated Press (AP) for publishing an article highlighting racism within the military's ranks, saying the outlet "engaged in the lowest form of yellow journalism."

The bill, reported by a CBS/ABC-affiliate, was proposed by Republican state Rep. Bud Hulse, who objected to an AP story that ran back in May, entitled "Deep-rooted racism, discrimination permeate US military."

In the article, AP reporters Kat Stafford, James Laporta, Aaron Morrison and Helen Wieffering interviewed "current and former enlistees and officers in nearly every branch of the armed services" who "described a deep-rooted culture of racism and discrimination that stubbornly festers, despite repeated efforts to eradicate it."

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

Connecting mailbox

No more mice at 50 Rock?

Tom Cohen (Email) - The item Tuesday on the refurbishment of 50 Rock got me thinking of how things used to be on the 4th floor in the 1980s. One night in particular, we were startled by the always wonderful Carmen Valdivieso of LPA suddenly shrieking and climbing atop her desk after a mouse ran over her foot. Here's hoping the renovations have taken care of that problem.

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It was the Grand Dame, wasn't it?

Kevin Noblet (Email) - I laughed when I read in the story about 50 Rock's latest makeover that "even the most elegant grand dame can always use a freshening up." AP's offices were such a dingy and cramped warren when I worked there in the early 80's and late 90's.

I remember a brother and his wife visiting New York one spring and calling me from the street. "Come on up," I said. "AP just won a Pulitzer and we're celebrating." It took them maybe 20 minutes to get there and of course they found us all back glued to our screens and keyboards, the cheering over, pushing out more copy amid the grey-green walls badly in need of painting. I gave them the nickel tour and they were very underwhelmed.

But it was the Grand Dame, wasn't it? The new HQ at 33rd Street were so much slicker and brighter, open and well laid-out. Terraces! A gym! Even a basketball court! And from the one visit I made to the new downtown offices I can tell they're swankier than 50 Rock too. But somehow they don't match the storied history and, yes, dowdy glamor of the old place, at least for me.

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Oh, that Tom; localizing the Brady story



NBC New York
@NBCNewYork



#BREAKING: Tom Brady, who lost 2 Super Bowls to the Giants during his legendary 22-year NFL career, retires; see his full message here



Shared by Charles Hanley

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Demonstration near Orlando



Hank Ackerman (Email) - Demonstrators with swastika flags and a sign reading “Vax the Jews.” They were on a bridge on I - 4 Sunday southwest of Orlando, FL near Disney World. Unseen is a several-mile long traffic jam caused by drivers slowing to see the demonstrators’ signs and flags.

Click [here](#) for an AP story on the rally.

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When Challenger blew up

Christopher Bacey ([Email](#)) - Thanks for the birthday wishes, sir. Love the Today in History. Will never forget the day the space shuttle Challenger blew up (Jan. 28, 1986). I was working in public affairs (right after AP) for the City of New York and on the way to a press conference when we heard it on the radio. When the commentators noticed the balloons from the booster rockets had deployed, they mistakenly thought the occupants had parachuted out.

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Additions to AP's global investigative team

In a memo to staff, AP Global Investigations Editor Ron Nixon and Deputy Global Investigations Editor Alison Kodjak announced three journalists will join their team:

We are pleased to announce three new additions to the AP global investigative team: Grace Ekpu, Sarah El Deeb and Helen Wieffering.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Myron Belkind.

From Kabul, pregnant reporter fights NZ govt to come home



In this recent photo provided by Charlotte Bellis, Bellis poses in a selfie with her partner Jim Huylebroek in Kabul, Afghanistan. Bellis, a pregnant New Zealand reporter who is expecting her first child with Huylebroek, has chosen Afghanistan as a temporary base for her uphill fight to return home because of her country's stringent COVID-19 entry rules. Huylebroek, a freelance photographer and Belgium native, has lived in Afghanistan for two years. (Charlotte Bellis via AP)

By KATHY GANNON

ISLAMABAD (AP) — She reported on the difficult conditions mothers and babies face just to survive in desperate Afghanistan. Now, a pregnant New Zealand reporter has chosen Kabul as a temporary base for her uphill fight to return home because of her country's strict COVID-19 entry rules.

Charlotte Bellis, 35, is expecting her first child with her partner, freelance photographer Jim Huylebroek, a Belgium native who has lived in Afghanistan for two years. Bellis, who is 25 weeks pregnant with a daughter, told The Associated Press on Sunday that each day is a battle.

She said she has been vaccinated three times and is ready to isolate herself upon her return to New Zealand. "This is ridiculous. It is my legal right to go to New Zealand, where I have health care, where I have family. All my support is there," she said.

Bellis first wrote about her difficulties in a column published in The New Zealand Herald on Saturday. She had tried without success to enter New Zealand via a lottery-style system and then applied for an emergency return, but was rejected.

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

Welcome to Connecting



Lyndsey Regis

Elizabeth Salvemini

Stories of interest

'We only have a pen': fury as fourth journalist killed in Mexico this year (Guardian)

By DAVID AGREN

Journalists in Mexico have responded with fury and despair at the murder of a fourth reporter in the country this year, cementing its reputation as the world's most murderous country for media workers.

Roberto Toledo was shot dead by three gunmen on Monday afternoon in a carpark in the city of Zitácuaro, where he reported for a local news outlet, Monitor Michoacán. Zitácuaro is best known for the nearby monarch butterfly reserves, but the region is rife with violence as drug cartels and criminal groups fight to control illegal logging.

"Exposing corruption led to the death of one of our colleagues," said Armando Linares, the director of Monitor Michoacán, in a video originally posted on Facebook. Linares broke down in tears before offering his apologies to Toledo's family.

Read more [here](#).

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Two Afghan women win Too Young to Wed's Emerging Photographers Fellowships (Washington Post)

By Kenneth Dickerman
Photo Editor

Too Young to Wed has awarded its annual Emerging Photographers Fellowship, sponsored by the International Women's Media Foundation and Canon USA, to two Afghan women.

We reported on the inaugural award last year: Egyptian photographer Somaya Abdelrahman won for her powerful work on female genital mutilation, in her project "A Permanent Wound."

This year Tahmina Saleem and Mahbooba Hazara will share the prize. Both photographers work highlights their experiences as Afghan women.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

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KERA hires veteran newsroom leader known for mentorship, building ties with underserved communities

KERA | By KERA News

KERA's new executive editor is a veteran newsroom leader with strong ties to North Texas who's known for reaching out to underserved communities.

Gilbert Bailon is a former executive editor of The Dallas Morning News. He was the founding editor and publisher of Al Día, a Spanish-language newspaper and website operated by The News.

Bailon's appointment as the executive editor for KERA News was announced Tuesday. He will lead a newsroom that serves the fifth-largest media market in the nation.

KERA Chief Content and Diversity Officer Sylvia Komatsu said she was thrilled to welcome Bailon as KERA's new executive editor.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Jim Salter.

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Rachel Maddow taking hiatus from MSNBC show until April (AP)

By **DAVID BAUDER**

NEW YORK (AP) — Rachel Maddow, MSNBC’s most popular personality, said Monday she will be taking a hiatus from her prime time show until April to work on a new podcast and that a movie is being made of her first book and podcast about former Vice President Spiro Agnew.

“Change is good,” she said on her show. “Change is absolutely terrifying, but in this case it’s good.”

She said she’s going to help out with the movie of “Bag Man” on former President Richard Nixon’s disgraced vice president, to be directed by Ben Stiller and produced by “Saturday Night Live” executive producer Lorne Michaels.

Maddow gave no details on her second podcast, being made for NBC Universal.

“I am super-excited to tell you about it when I have more to tell,” said Maddow, who hosted her show from her home on Monday because she had been exposed to someone who had tested positive and shown symptoms of COVID-19.

Read more [here](#).

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Univision, Televisa Close Deal, Forming Spanish-Language Media Giant (NextTV)

By **Jon Lafayette**

Grupo Televisa and Univision Holdings said they completed the previously announced transaction that creates TelevisaUnivision Inc., the world’s biggest Spanish-language media and content company.

TelevisaUnivision will be led by CEO Wade Davis, the former Viacom CFO who led a group that bought Univision last year. Alfonso de Angoitia, co-CEO of Group Televisa, will be executive chairman of the board.

New investors in the company include SoftBank Latin America Fund, Google and The Raine Group.

One of the new company’s first orders of business is launching a new streaming platform this year. The streaming platform will have free and premium tiers and offer original entertainment programs sports and news.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - Feb. 2, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 2, the 33rd day of 2022. There are 332 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 2, 1990, in a dramatic concession to South Africa's Black majority, President F.W. de Klerk lifted a ban on the African National Congress and promised to free Nelson Mandela.

On this date:

In 1536, present-day Buenos Aires, Argentina, was founded by Pedro de Mendoza of Spain.

In 1653, New Amsterdam — now New York City — was incorporated.

In 1887, Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, held its first Groundhog Day festival.

In 1913, New York City's rebuilt Grand Central Terminal officially opened to the public at one minute past midnight.

In 1914, Charles Chaplin made his movie debut as the comedy short "Making a Living" was released by Keystone Film Co.

In 1925, the legendary Alaska Serum Run ended as the last of a series of dog mushers brought a life-saving treatment to Nome, the scene of a diphtheria epidemic, six days after the drug left Nenana.

In 1943, the remainder of Nazi forces from the Battle of Stalingrad surrendered in a major victory for the Soviets in World War II.

In 1948, President Harry S. Truman sent a 10-point civil rights program to Congress, where the proposals ran into fierce opposition from Southern lawmakers.

In 1980, NBC News reported the FBI had conducted a sting operation targeting members of Congress using phony Arab businessmen in what became known as "Abscam," a codename protested by Arab-Americans.

In 2006, House Republicans elected John Boehner (BAY'-nur) of Ohio as their new majority leader to replace the indicted Tom DeLay.

In 2016, health officials reported that a person in Texas had become infected with the Zika virus through sex in the first case of the illness being transmitted within the United States.

In 2020, the Philippines reported that a 44-year-old Chinese man from Wuhan had died in a Manila hospital from the new coronavirus; it was the first death from the virus to be recorded outside of China. Authorities in parts of China extended the Lunar New Year holiday break well into February to try to keep people at home.

Ten years ago: Egyptian security forces clashed with stone-throwing protesters enraged by the failure of police to prevent a soccer riot the night before that killed 74 people. Donald Trump announced his endorsement of Republican Mitt Romney for president, saying the former Massachusetts governor was "not going to allow bad things to continue to happen to this country we all love."

Five years ago: Using a backhoe to smash through a barricade of water-filled footlockers, police stormed Delaware's largest prison, ending a nearly 20-hour hostage standoff with inmates; one hostage, a guard, was killed.

One year ago: Ahead of the second Senate impeachment trial of outgoing President Donald Trump, House Democrats filed a legal brief saying Trump had endangered the lives of all members of Congress when he aimed a mob of supporters "like a loaded cannon" at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6; Trump denied the allegations through his lawyers and called the trial unconstitutional. U.S. Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, who confronted the mob that stormed the building on Jan. 6 and died a day later, lay in honor inside the Capitol. The Senate approved Pete Buttigieg (BOO'-tuh-juhj) as transportation secretary, making him the first openly gay person confirmed to a Cabinet post. A Moscow court ordered Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny to serve more than 2 1/2 years in prison on charges that he violated the terms of his probation while he was recuperating in Germany from nerve-agent poisoning.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Tom Smothers is 85. Rock singer-guitarist Graham Nash is 80. Television executive Barry Diller is 80. Actor Bo Hopkins is 78. Country singer Howard Bellamy (The Bellamy Brothers) is 76. TV chef Ina (EE'-nuh) Garten is 74. Actor Jack McGee is 73. Actor Brent Spiner (SPY'-nur) is 73. Rock musician Ross Valory (Journey) is 73. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, is 70. The former president of South Korea, Park Geun-hye (goon-hay), is 70. Model Christie Brinkley is 68. Actor Michael Talbott is 67. Actor Kim Zimmer is 67. Actor Michael T. Weiss is 60. Actor-comedian Adam Ferrara is 56. Rock musician Robert DeLeo (Army of Anyone; Stone Temple Pilots) is 56. Actor Jennifer Westfeldt is 52. Rapper T-Mo is 50. Actor Marissa Jaret Winokur is 49. Actor Lori Beth Denberg is 46. Singer Shakira is 45. Actor Rich Sommer is 44. Country singer Blaine Larsen is 36. Actor Zosia (ZAH'-shuh) Mamet is 34.

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

Editor, Connecting newsletter

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