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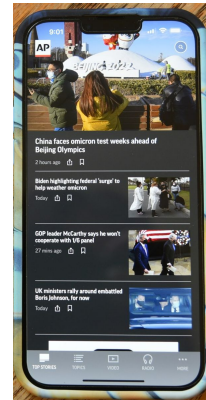
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Connecting

February 11, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this Feb. 11, 2022,

Two of our newest Connecting colleagues, **Bill Hendrick** and **Bob Ingle**, are quickly getting into the swing of things by sparking my interest in a couple of story themes.

Note the dateline in the story (in newspapers.com) by Hendrick, who was a Kentucky AP staffer at the time he wrote it: **Hell for Certain** (which according to Wikipedia is an unincorporated community in Leslie County, Kentucky, that's also known as Dryhill).

“The Hell For Certain story was about a county judge's recollections of coal

mine disasters (In Kentucky, the county judge was the chief exec of the county commission, a very big deal.)” he said. “Wasn't worth the AAA wire but I thought the dateline would get it there!” It made the BBB.

Ingle was Trenton bureau chief for Gannett Newspapers when the AP turned 150 years old – 26 years ago - and wrote a column about his earlier work at the AP, and mentioned in it that singer **Tony Bennett** “was an AP guy.”

Ingle recalled: “(AP President/CEO) **Lou Boccardi** sent a note saying it was one of the best he saw and added ‘Tony Bennett was by recently. I think he left a part of his heart in the AP also. And so did a guy named Ingle.’”

To help his family make ends meet, Bennett dropped out of New York’s School of Industrial Art in the early '40s and among the jobs he held was copy boy and runner for the AP in Manhattan – before he was drafted into the Army in 1944.

So here are questions to ponder, dear colleagues:

What is the most unusual dateline of a story you covered – and the circumstances?

Can you name celebrities who once worked for the AP?

Thanks, Bill and Bob, for sparking the ideas.

This coming Monday is Valentine's Day - got a special Valentine's story to share?

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

AP names 2 directors for newsroom talent

In a memo to editorial staff, Executive Editor **Julie Pace** announced two key appointments. **Karen Mahabir** becomes Director of News Talent for Development and **Corinne Chin** is the new Director of News Talent for Recruitment.

Here is her memo to staff:

Late last year, we set out to hire a Director of News Talent, a top-notch journalist to lead internal staff development programs and external recruitment in the News Department. We had an outstanding pool of candidates who put forward exceptional



ideas about how to bolster these efforts – so many good ideas that we realized we needed not one, but two, directors of news talent.

So I'm thrilled to announce that Karen Mahabir, a veteran AP journalist, will take on the role of Director of News Talent for Development, focusing on growth and mentorship opportunities for our current staff, including the resumption of a Future Leaders program. Karen will work closely with Corinne Chin, a talented video journalist and leading advocate for diversity and inclusion in media, who joins the AP from The Seattle Times as our Director of News Talent for Recruitment, a new role aimed at bringing new, diverse journalists to the AP. Together, Karen and Corinne will focus on AP's most important asset: our people.

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

Andy Lippman honored for volunteer work



AP retiree **Andy Lippman** ([Email](#)) was among six HALO Award recipients honored Thursday by the Carl and Roberta Deutsch Foundation in an online presentation. The annual HALO Awards support nonprofit organizations by recognizing work by the groups and their volunteers each year. Lippman, whose AP career included chief of bureau assignments in Louisville, Indianapolis and Los Angeles, was recognized for his volunteerism with the PUENTE Learning Center in East Los Angeles, where he worked with students studying for their citizenship tests. At left in the screenshot above is **Jerome Greening**, chief executive officer of the learning center.

This Nepal memory comes from...Tokyo

Neal Ulevich (Email) - I must have visited Nepal a dozen times, trekking or on assignment. but this Nepal memory comes from...Tokyo.

I was in the Tokyo bureau. It was lunch time and the American editor was absent. A Japanese editor manned the desk, so he had no clue about this brief but true story when he marked it up and sent it off to NY. Nor apparently did Binaya, our wonderful Kathmandu correspondent, who picked up the report from the usual government officials who monitored Everest climbs.

Atop Everest summit there is a stout metal tripod carried from the Tibet side and planted by the Chinese. A trio of American climbers attained the summit but died on the way down (their bodies were recovered much later). Another climb team, Romanian if memory serves, reached the top and returned safely, carrying a message the Americans had affixed to the tripod.

The message: "For a good time in Anchorage call Doris." An Alaskan telephone number followed.

If Binaya and the Japanese editor missed the point, I certainly got it and screamed at the desk: "Kill the story now."

Last time his Bengals made Super Bowl, Ted Bundy kept him from watching

Dan Sewell (Email) - Ted Bundy kept me from watching the last time my hometown Cincinnati Bengals played in a Super Bowl.

It was January 1989, the game was in Miami and I lived about 10 miles from the stadium.

No chance of going, though. I had been doing Bundy stories since 1979, when I interviewed him after his conviction in the Tallahassee sorority house murder. His appeals for the subsequent murder of a 12-year-old Florida girl had run out and he had a Jan. 24 date with the electric chair.

So on the evening of Jan. 22, I was boarding a flight to Jacksonville, with the Bengals leading in the game.

During the flight, the co-pilot provided updates over the intercom. 49ers quarterback Joe Montana took his team on a methodical drive from their own 8 in the closing minutes.

He announced Montana's TD pass, eliciting a collective groan, as did the final score shortly afterward of 20-16.

Jacksonville correspondent Ron Word witnessed Bundy's execution Tuesday morning while I covered the circus-like atmosphere in a pasture outside the prison where

hundreds gathered to cheer the serial killer's death.

It's been a long wait for another chance to watch a Bengals Super Bowl. I have a reserved seat for this one ... in our Cincinnati area living room.

News mug



Amy Sancetta ([Email](#)) - Patrick McDonnell is the wonderful cartoonist responsible for the nationally syndicated comic strip Mutts.

He also has a healthy retail website of products depicting his characters - mainly Earl (the dog) and Mooch (the cat), as we as other dogs, cats and humans.

I saw this item pop up for sale on today's Mutts email. This cat is not Mooch, but clearly he has a strong voice :)

More than notable - Joseph Galloway, an American hero

(Independent Tribune, Concord, NC)

Independent Tribune Editor's Note: An Associated Press feature in Friday's Independent Tribune about notable people who died in 2021 has one glaring omission — Joseph Galloway. Many of you pointed this out to us and provided information and comments. His wife, Gracie Galloway, summed up what the AP should have noted, and we are sharing it with you.

Gracie Galloway, PhD
Special to the Independent Tribune

Joe was and remains highly respected in the field of journalism and among military families. He was special consultant to Colin Powell, and always spoke truth to power to the point that Rumsfeld, Cheney, Wolfowitz and Perle considered him a daily irritant like a pruritic rash that would not go away.

Joe was described as the finest combat correspondent by Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf. It was Joe who unearthed the information that forced the Clinton Administration to capitulate and award eight Medals of Honor to African Americans who fought in World War II. I can send you the article he wrote regarding this. These eight soldiers were recommended for a lower award intentionally because, at the time, in the 1940s and '50s, racism was so rampant that these recommendations were purposely downgraded.



He co-authored the book "We Were Soldiers Once and Young." It remains mandatory reading at West Point, the War College, The Citadel and Virginia Military Institute as lessons in leadership.

Read more [here](#). This story was originally published Dec. 31, 2021; Joe Galloway was a Connecting colleague until his death Aug. 18, 2021.

Robert Sherrod, the 'voice of the Marines'

Marc Lancaster
World War 2 on Deadline

There's no question Ernie Pyle was the voice of the foot soldier during World War II, reporting from the foxholes to tell the story of the Mediterranean and European war through the eyes of the men on the ground.

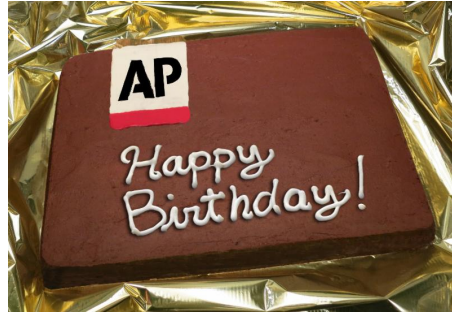


Though his work wasn't as ubiquitous as Pyle's, Robert L. Sherrod could claim a similar role in chronicling the Marines who slugged it out from the Aleutians through Tarawa, Saipan and Iwo Jima and finally to Okinawa. As his biographer, Ray E. Boomhower, writes in *Dispatches from the Pacific*, "Sherrod became the voice of the Marines during the war and, as a history of Time Inc. noted, the Marines 'came to look on Sherrod as one of their own.'"

Born Feb. 8, 1909, Sherrod began his journalism career as a correspondent for the Athens Banner-Herald and the Atlanta Constitution before he had even graduated from the University of Georgia in 1929. He worked briefly in advertising and made his way through a series of newspapers in the early 1930s before joining the Time Inc. empire, first on the Fortune staff in New York and moving to Time and landing in the Washington bureau.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Jim Smith

On Saturday to...

Karen Magnuson

On Sunday to...

Susan Wise

Welcome to Connecting



Bill Hendrick

Stories of interest

When Did 'Me,' 'We' and 'Us' Become the Media's Preferred Pronouns? (New York Times)

By Bret Stephens
Opinion Columnist

Over drinks not long ago, a friend summed up the way journalism had changed over the course of his career. “Journalists used to act like cynics but at heart we were idealists,” he said. “Now we’re often cynics masquerading as idealists.”

I thought of that line twice last week. The first time was on Wednesday, while reading, against my better judgment, about the abrupt resignation of Jeff Zucker as president of CNN. The second was on Sunday, after learning that my friend John Vinocur, the former executive editor of The International Herald Tribune, had died in Amsterdam at 81.

In these two stories lies the difference between the kind of journalism Americans used to venerate and the kind we have today.

The news about Zucker is that he was purportedly pushed out for failing to disclose a romantic (consensual) relationship with a senior colleague. Except hardly anyone at CNN seems to think that was the real reason, since the romance was common knowledge. This, in turn, has fueled suspicions that the explanation for the resignation is its own piece of cynicism masquerading as idealism — a show of moralistic propriety that, as some at CNN believe, is part of a legal strategy connected to the former anchor Chris Cuomo’s potential suit over his severance package.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Harry Dunphy.

-0-

Palin calls New York Times the ‘Goliath’ in libel dispute (AP)

By TOM HAYS

NEW YORK (AP) — Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin told a jury Thursday she felt like she was at the mercy of a “Goliath” when she first learned a 2017 New York Times editorial suggested her campaign rhetoric helped incite a mass shooting.

Palin used her second day on the witness stand to accuse the Times of deliberately fabricating lies that hurt her reputation — the basis of a lawsuit accusing the newspaper of libel that has resulted in a trial in federal court in Manhattan.

“It was devastating to read a false accusation that I had anything to do with murder,” Palin said. “I felt powerless — that I was up against Goliath. The people were David. I was David.”

She added: “When you know lies are told about you ... that causes some stress. Hard to get a good night’s sleep.”

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

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NBC defends Shiffrin coverage, suggests sexism by critics (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — NBC offered a full-throated defense of how it covered skier Mikaela Shiffrin's shocking Olympics flameout, to the point of suggesting there's sexism involved in criticism that it was cruel in its portrayal of her emotional response.

NBC's cameras focused on Shiffrin for much of the time as she sat forlornly on the course, head bowed, for more than 20 minutes. The network aired a raw interview where she fought off tears and said she's second-guessing everything she's done for 15 years.

For the second straight Olympics, the emotional health of athletes performing on the biggest stage has become a focus of discussion. The experiences of gymnast Simone Biles and tennis player Naomi Osaka last summer were fresh in the mind of NBC's critics, and the online blowback was fierce.

As one response on Twitter put it: "Show some empathy." NBC, said another, was "shaming" Shiffrin — "torturing" her. "The relentless hype machine," one critic wrote, "has claimed another victim."

Read more [here](#).

-0-

The Times is allowed to publish Project Veritas documents until a full appeal. (New York Times)

By Michael M. Grynbaum

The New York Times is free to publish documents pertaining to the conservative group Project Veritas after a New York State appeals court temporarily stayed an order by a state trial judge that had been denounced by First Amendment advocates and journalism groups.

In a decision made public on Thursday, the appeals court said the order would not be enforced until a formal appeal could be heard. The decision means that, for now, The Times can publish certain documents and will not have to turn over or destroy any copies of the documents in its possession.

"We're pleased with today's decision to stop the enforcement of prior restraint while the case is being appealed, and we look forward to explaining our position in the appeal," a Times spokeswoman, Danielle Rhoades Ha, said in a statement. "The use of prior restraint to prohibit news gathering and block the publication of newsworthy

journalism is unconstitutional. No libel plaintiffs should be permitted to use their litigation as a tool to silence press coverage about them.”

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

The Final Word

SHOE By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

Today in History - Feb. 11, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Feb. 11, the 42nd day of 2022. There are 323 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 11, 2013, with a few words in Latin, Pope Benedict XVI did what no pope had done in more than half a millennium: announced his resignation. The bombshell came during a routine morning meeting of Vatican cardinals. (The 85-year-old pontiff was succeeded by Pope Francis.)

On this date:

In 660 B.C., tradition holds that Japan was founded as Jimmu ascended the throne as the country's first emperor.

In 1847, American inventor Thomas Alva Edison was born in Milan, Ohio.

In 1937, a six-week-old sit-down strike against General Motors ended, with the company agreeing to recognize the United Automobile Workers Union.

In 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin signed the Yalta Agreement, in which Stalin agreed to declare war against Imperial Japan following Nazi Germany's capitulation.

In 1963, American author and poet Sylvia Plath was found dead in her London flat, a suicide; she was 30.

In 1975, Margaret Thatcher was elected leader of Britain's opposition Conservative Party.

In 1979, followers of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini (hoh-MAY'-nee) seized power in Iran.

In 1990, South African Black activist Nelson Mandela was freed after 27 years in captivity.

In 2006, Vice President Dick Cheney accidentally shot and wounded Harry Whittington, a companion during a weekend quail-hunting trip in Texas.

In 2008, the Pentagon charged Khalid Sheikh Mohammed (HAH'-leed shayk moh-HAH'-med) and five other detainees at Guantanamo Bay with murder and war crimes in connection with the Sept. 11 attacks.

In 2011, Egypt exploded with joy after pro-democracy protesters brought down President Hosni Mubarak, whose resignation ended three decades of authoritarian rule.

In 2020, the World Health Organization gave the official name of COVID-19 to the disease caused by the coronavirus that had emerged in the Chinese city of Wuhan.

Ten years ago: Pop singer Whitney Houston, 48, was found dead in a hotel room bathtub in Beverly Hills, California.

Five years ago: Yale University announced it would change the name of a residential college honoring 19th-century alumnus and former U.S. Vice President John C. Calhoun, who was an ardent supporter of slavery.

One year ago: At the Senate impeachment trial of former President Donald Trump, Democrats asserted that Trump had incited an attack on the U.S. Capitol, put his own vice president in danger and expressed solidarity with rioters who sought to overturn the 2020 election in his name. President Joe Biden ended the "national emergency"

that Trump had declared in order to take money from the Pentagon for a wall along the Mexican border. California surpassed New York as the state with the most coronavirus deaths. An Alabama inmate won a reprieve from a lethal injection after the Supreme Court said the state could not proceed without his pastor in the death chamber. (Willie B. Smith III would be executed in October 2021.) Sister André, a French nun who was believed to be the world's second-oldest person, celebrated her 117th birthday at a care home in France after surviving COVID-19. A British judge ruled that a newspaper invaded the privacy of the Duchess of Sussex, the former Meghan Markle, by publishing a personal letter to her estranged father.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Conrad Janis is 94. Gospel singer Jimmy Carter is 90. Actor Tina Louise is 88. Fashion designer Mary Quant is 88. Bandleader Sergio Mendes is 81. Actor Philip Anglim is 70. Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush is 69. Actor Catherine Hickland is 66. Rock musician David Uosikkinen (aw-SIK'-ken-ihn) (The Hooters) is 66. Actor Carey Lowell is 61. Singer Sheryl Crow is 60. Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin is 58. Actor Jennifer Aniston is 53. Actor Damian Lewis is 51. Actor Marisa Petroro is 50. Singer D'Angelo is 48. Actor Brice Beckham is 46. Rock M-C/vocalist Mike Shinoda (Linkin Park) is 45. Singer-actor Brandy is 43. Country musician Jon Jones (The Eli Young Band) is 42. Actor Matthew Lawrence is 42. R&B singer Kelly Rowland is 41. Actor Natalie Dormer is 40. Singer Aubrey O'Day is 38. Actor Q'orianka (kohr-ee-AHN'-kuh) Kilcher is 32. Actor Taylor Lautner is 30.

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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