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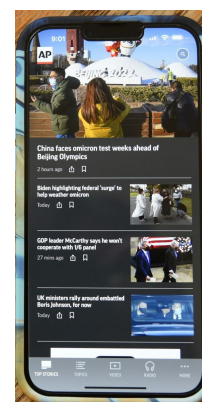
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Connecting

February 28, 2022

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Good Monday morning on this Feb. 28, 2022,

Our prayers continue for our colleagues and all journalists involved in coverage of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

We lead today's Connecting with a profile of our colleague **Keith Robinson** – who has combined a passion for singing and the guitar with his long passion for journalism in his new chapter of retirement.

Keith began his journalism career in 1978 at The Review in Philadelphia and then worked from 1980-84 as editor of The Madison Press in London, Ohio. He was hired into AP's Columbus bureau in 1984 by COB **Jake Booher** and worked as a reporter, night supervisor, news editor and assistant chief of bureau before he was named chief of bureau in Hartford in 1998. He was appointed chief of bureau in Indianapolis in 2000 and worked there nine years before he left AP in 2009. He joined Purdue University in 2010 as coordinator of news and public affairs for the College of Agriculture and retired in 2016.

Localizing the news. It is a mantra among most all of AP's member newspapers. And the AP offered ideas to its members and customers on how to do this with the Russia-Ukraine crisis. See today's Final Word.

Have a great day...and week – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

The best of both worlds in retirement



Keith performing at a “Blocktoberfest” block party in Fairfield Glade, Tennessee, last October. Notice the hat.

Keith Robinson – Ah, retirement. It’s wonderful. It has enabled me to spend time living a dream of performing music while continuing to work in my chosen profession of journalism as a freelancer – but at a much slower pace than our work in the AP. I like that I have time for both.

Since high school I had always wanted to perform music – rock, pop, folk, country, whatever. But I always thought I didn’t have the talent for it.

I was right. I'm no natural. It's still a lot of work for me, but it has become easier since I have been performing weekly at a winery while living part of the year in Attica, Indiana, and having an occasional gig in Fairfield Glade, Tennessee, where I live the rest of the year. (My official residence is in Tennessee.)

After the AP when I worked in Purdue University's College of Agriculture, I was invited into the college's unofficial classic rock band, **The AgTones**, playing rhythm guitar. (Corny name for a band, but we like it.) Not having any experience playing publicly before and heavy metal stuff not being my vibe, I played safely in the background on most songs. Even though two of us are now retired, we all still get together monthly.

I branched out and started at the winery in 2015, having never performed solo in public before. It took up a lot of nerve for me to audition for the owners. That's because at the time I knew only 18 songs, and half of those I couldn't do very well. But, to my surprise, the owners kept inviting me back every week. I soon became the regular, in-house "entertainment" (yes, in quotes). I still am.

Today, I have a catalog of nearly 300 songs, many of which I still don't do well. But I can go for a good three hours without bringing too much embarrassment to myself or chasing too many people away. I'm being too hard on myself here. I do about 100 songs well enough to please an audience.

I play a variety of songs from the late 1940s to contemporary – Nat King Cole, Bob Dylan, Neil Diamond, Beatles, John Denver, Johnny Cash, Gordon Lightfoot, Burt Bacharach, Tim McGraw, Ed Sheeran, Thomas Rhett. I am told my "signature" song is John Mellencamp's "Pink Houses." One regular at the winery says I do it better than Mellencamp. Hmmm. Really?

I picked up the harmonica a couple of years ago and play it well enough to use it for instrumental portions of some songs while playing guitar. I was surprised that the harmonica isn't so difficult (at least enough to get by on). I find it's mostly about feel.

My partner in life and music, Monica, and I had a great gig a couple of years ago at the Mecklenburg Inn, a bar in the college town of Shepherdstown, West Virginia. We didn't know until we got there that we were to play for half of the take of a cover charge. We had never played under such an arrangement before, and I was concerned that we might make only \$25 or so because no one knew of us except for a friend who lives there. We weren't exactly a big draw.

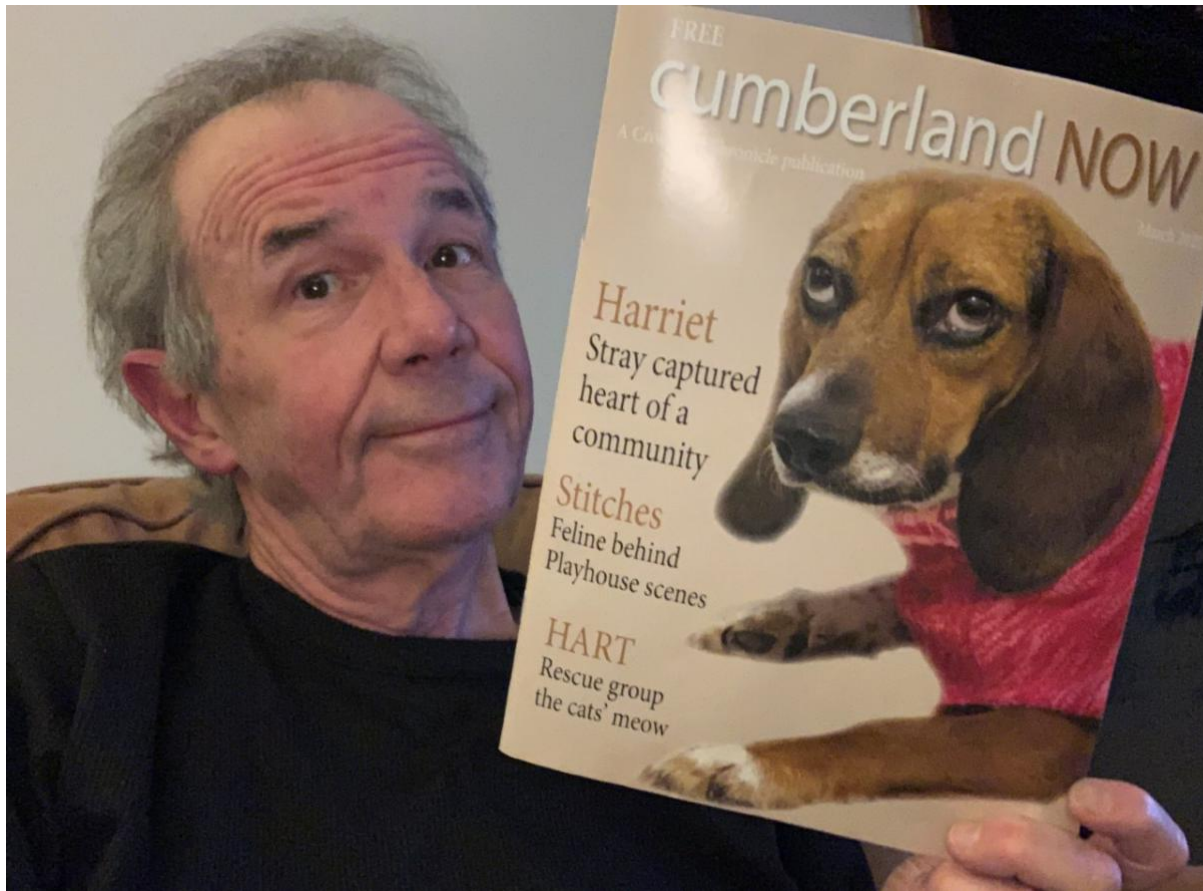
But at the end of the night we were paid, to my astonishment, \$300 – our biggest payment for a gig – and the manager said we should come back sometime.

I also found out later that the Mecklenburg Inn apparently is one of the top 100 bars in the country. Good thing I didn't know that going in.

I spend much of my time learning new songs, switching back and forth from six-string to 12-string guitars and putting harmonica to some of them. It is, indeed, a passion for me.

There is still room for reporting and writing in my blood. About a year and a half ago I started freelancing for a local twice-weekly and a sister weekly, both owned by CNHI,

in Tennessee. I like covering issues, not so much frothy features. (Must be the AP in me.)



Keith showing his cover story magazine article about a stray beagle who became a social media phenomenon in Fairfield Glade, Tennessee.

But I have to admit one of the most enjoyable and interesting stories I have done came out in late February in the papers' monthly magazine, Cumberland Now. It is a story about a stray beagle that wandered Fairfield Glade for five months as a hobo, warily accepting handouts of food from residents while keeping a safe distance from them. The dog became a sort of celebrity on a social media site called NextDoor as residents reported her comings and goings.

Monica followed the whereabouts of the beagle, which acquired the name of Harriet on the site, more than I did. But I got into Harriet's story as I interviewed residents who left food out for her and when I met the dog after she was finally captured, adopted by a couple and given a good home. I shot photos to go with the article, including the one used on the cover.

When I finished writing the story, I had Monica read it before I hit the button to submit it to the editor. The story brought tears to her eyes. I had never written a story with such impact before.

It has been interesting, even fun, writing for a twice-weekly and a weekly. I can't get over how much time I have to write, revise and revise even more before submitting stories. It's leisurely and a luxury. (And it sure cuts down on the number of bulletin kills.)

My first job out of college was at a weekly newspaper. Looks like my career has come full circle.

Maybe there's a song in that.

With harmonica.

Sketchy details from Russia complicate invasion coverage

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — For journalists, the confusion surrounding Russia's attack on Ukraine deepened the challenge of covering it — and made one CNN reporter's stumbling upon an airport under attack Thursday all the more remarkable.

While Russia's invasion had been an ominous possibility for months, it unfolded with little reliable information from the attackers. Many reporters depended upon sporadic audio and video of bombs exploding in the distance, and details from Ukrainians and American intelligence, to try to tell the story of citizens in a Western-styled democracy suddenly plunged into war.

CNN's Matthew Chance followed a tip from a Ukrainian source when he and a crew rushed to an airport about 20 miles outside the capital city of Kyiv.

Russians had attacked, but by the time Chance had arrived, he was informed that Ukrainians had regained control of the airport. He approached some soldiers guarding the gates for confirmation and was told he was mistaken.

Read more [here](#).

AP cancels auction of overcrowded migrant boat NFT after outcry

By LAURA HAZARD OWEN, Nieman Lab

The AP will not auction off the NFT of "migrants drifting in an overcrowded boat in the Mediterranean," as it had planned to on Friday, after many complaints that the auction was a blatant attempt to profit from human suffering.

The AP deleted the tweet sent at 2 PM on Thursday about the auction. "This was a poor choice of imagery for an NFT. It has not and will not be put up for auction,"

Lauren Easton, AP's director of media relations, told me in an email.

She added: "AP's NFT marketplace is a very early pilot program, and we are immediately reviewing our efforts. As a not-for-profit, AP's mission is to inform the world with accurate, unbiased journalism. That remains our primary focus."

The AP launched its NFP photography marketplace at the end of January with the "white-label NFT marketplace" company Xoa. "NFT price points will vary," a press release noted at the time. "As a not-for-profit news cooperative, proceeds go back into funding factual, unbiased AP journalism."

Two "commemorative NFTs" by Anja Niedringhaus — the German AP photojournalist who was killed in Afghanistan in 2014, and a 2007 Nieman Fellow — were auctioned off this week at 0.66 ETH, about \$1789, each.

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

On Ted Anthony's memories of China



Veronika and Dave Minthorn in China in 1981.



Chinese kids fascinated by my camera, 1981.

David Minthorn - Ted Anthony's insightful reminiscence of his schoolboy adventures in 1979 China triggered memories of our trip there in April 1981, on a tour arranged by the international women's club of Moscow. Veronika and I were correspondents under COB Tom Kent when the opportunity arose. About a dozen of us from various outlets there jumped at the trip at our own expense. What a startling contrast flying into springtime Beijing from the drab Brezhnev-era Soviet Union. A proliferation of greenery on trees and plantings nearly overwhelmed us. Best of all were the fresh green vegetables we gorged on in Chinese restaurants. Quite a treat after months of eating cabbage in wintry Moscow. We stayed at a foreigner compound that may well have been the same Friendship hotel mentioned by Ted, and we stopped by the AP bureau staffed by COB Victoria Graham and Phil Brown.

We were escorted on tours to the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, the Beijing Opera and other famous sights. Then we traveled in a caravan of cars to Xian to gaze at the Terracotta Army of Qin Shi Huang, buried in 210 B.C. with the first emperor of China. Our route was over primitive roads and through impoverished villages. At every stop, farming folk swarmed our cars and stared at the exotic foreigners. We also visited the lakeside city of Wuxi and traveled by overnight train to Shanghai. In contrast to our comfortable sleepers, the Chinese in adjacent rail cars dozed on wooden benches.

Shanghai of 1981 was nothing like the modern high-rise metropolis of today. The Bund promenade on the waterfront of the former international settlement is an enduring memory. Here too we drew crowds of pedestrians marveling at the sight of westerners. We bought replicas of Chinese art such as the Flying Horse of Gensu and a

scroll of a robed maiden offering plums. I still have the Mao jacket purchased in a Shanghai clothing store. Looking back, our 10-day trip to China in 1981 was the most memorable of our lives, a bonus of life in the AP.

-0-

Bob Greene - I read with delight Ted Anthony's memories of living in China (in Friday's Connecting), especially remembering the songs with lyrics of Communist propaganda.

My first trip to China was in 2021 and I was surprised to find the government had labeled an outside bulletin board for exactly what it was.

The sign was in a park at the highest spot in Chongqing. I had my first digital camera and hadn't yet figured out how to turn off the date.

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Gary Sosniecki - Mention of Nixon's China visit made me think of my friend the late Bob S. Moore, who was on that trip. I think he was White House correspondent for Mutual Radio at the time. "Ol' Bob," as we called him in Rotary, retired in his wife's hometown of Vandalia, Mo., where we owned our last weekly. He was a great storyteller whom I would enlist to write a column when somebody prominent he had covered died. I remember him telling a funny story about a sign he and a fellow reporter (with the same sense of humor) hung from the window of the press plane as they landed in China. That's one story I don't think made it into print!

Above is a photo of Bob (at left) and me at the National Press Club in 2006. Helen and I were attending the National Newspaper Association Government Affairs Conference. Bob was in D.C. for the White House Correspondents' Dinner; we invited him to attend the NNA dinner with us at the National Press Club. He was a member, so he got us into the bar.

Robert Gordon Marbut, former vice chairman of AP board, dies at 86

Robert Gordon Marbut passed on peacefully, February 19, 2022, in New York City, with his wife Janette Macdonald Marbut by his side. He was born on April 11, 1935 in Athens, Georgia, to Robert Smith Marbut and Laura Gordon (Powers) Marbut.

During his career, Marbut served on the AP board of directors. Our colleague [Lou Boccardi](#), former AP president and CEO, told Connecting:

“Bob was a management guru but, as a sketch of his multi-faceted career shows, he didn’t just talk about it. He walked the walk. In his nine years on the AP board, he was an endless and tireless source of encouragement, vision and guidance.”

From Marbut’s [obituary](#):

Bob's first job was a plant engineer at ESSO in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He was later recruited by Copley Press to be the director of engineering in La Jolla, California. In 1970, he moved to San Antonio to become Vice-President of Harte-Hanks Newspapers and was promoted to President & CEO in 1971, serving in this role for twenty years. At the time, Bob was one of the youngest Fortune 500 CEOs. In 1992, he founded Argyle Communications and soon after, Argyle Television Holdings. Argyle Television then merged with the Hearst television group to form Hearst-Argyle Television. He co-founded several other companies including SecTecGlobal, Electronics Line 3000 and most recently Fedora Security.

He served on several Fortune 500 boards, the longest service at Valero Energy Corporation and Tupperware Inc. Bob served in leadership positions on several national trade organizations including being Vice Chairman of the Associated Press, Chairman of American Newspaper Publishers Association, a Director of American Society of News Editors. Bob also served on several college and national non-profit boards of directors including Up With People and United Way.

USA TODAY'S Richard Curtis, a 'visionary' of visual storytelling, dies at 75

By David Colton and J. Ford Huffman
USA TODAY

Richard Curtis, one of the original designers of the look and feel of USA TODAY, including the bold use of color photography and graphics that revolutionized newspapers in the 1980s, died on Sunday. He was 75.

Curtis passed away quietly at home of cancer, surrounded by his wife, Jane, and family.

The managing editor of USA TODAY's graphics and photography department for 27 years, Curtis always said his goal was to be "distinctive" in a crowded and emerging media world.

"You can look at a USA TODAY page anywhere, anytime, and it looks like a USA TODAY page whether it has the name of the paper on it or not," Curtis said proudly in 2007. "You can't say that about other newspapers."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

Our colleague [Tom Curley](#), former president and publisher of USA TODAY and former AP president and CEO, told Connecting:

"Richard really was the one - the one who set USA TODAY apart and ushered in a new era in newspaper design. He understood the power of design and grasped the possibilities of the then nascent digital technologies. He was a fierce advocate for visual storytelling and the insightful reporting necessary to make it a vital piece of the news report. For all his professional passion, he led with a full-throated laugh and a smile that disarmed the most tense moments. We were friends and colleagues over 40 years. I trusted him and learned from him as much as anyone.

On AP taking a grant

[Robert Wielaard](#) - AP's pocketing of an \$8 million grant to fund climate change coverage is a real toe-curler. It crosses a line and badly dents its commitment to independent news reporting.

Forget the NYPost, a tiny outfit with a readership limited to the city's MTA.

AP, by contrast, is unique in the US media landscape. It has a global reach and impact, 24-7. It jeopardizes that by pocketing \$8 million over 3 years! (Sounds like spare change, no? AP is hiring two dozen reporters for that money).

Like climate change, hunger is also a global issue. Is that the next grant? And then cancer, poverty, peace, literacy and democracy?

AP has a more than a decent record in reporting global issues without holding up one hand. A line has been crossed.

Best of the Week

Source work, reporting, exclusive data modeling put AP ahead on omicron immunity



AP Photo/Chris Pizzello

For two years, as COVID-19 ravaged the world, AP health and science reporter Carla Johnson stayed in constant contact with disease modelers, effectively embedding herself with the scientific prophets who were using careful analysis to predict what the coronavirus would do next.

Her stories foretold the world in which we've lived since, memorably and sometimes depressingly, like one she pitched in the fall of 2020 that became "Thanksgiving by Zoom."

This time her subject was the omicron wave. The fast-moving omicron variant caused less severe disease on average, but it seemed like a tsunami sweeping through populations around the world. But in late January, the forecasters saw the wave cresting in England and many wondered if the wave would crest in the United States as well.

Read more [here](#).

Stories of interest

Two Daily Beast Journalists 'Extremely Lucky' to Survive After Being Shot in Ukraine (Daily Beast)

Nico Hines, World Editor

Two journalists working for the Daily Beast were shot in Ukraine on Saturday while reporting on Vladimir Putin's brutal invasion of the country.

The Danish correspondents were driving near the town of Ohtyrka—which is around 60 miles outside of Kharkiv—when gunfire peppered their vehicle and left both bleeding heavily from bullet wounds.

They were able to keep driving the badly damaged car, which had smoke billowing from the engine, long enough to escape from the unknown shooters.

Stefan Weichert, 31, was shot in the shoulder and Emil Filtenborg, 30, suffered multiple bullet wounds even though both were wearing bulletproof conflict zone equipment. They made it to a hospital for treatment and will undergo surgery on Sunday.

"We have been extremely lucky," Weichert told The Daily Beast.

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

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Local newsrooms strained by budget-slashing financial firms (CBS News)

BY JON WERTHEIM

Newspaper industry in state of decline: not exactly a stop-the-presses headline. For two decades now — owing largely to the loss of advertising revenue to Facebook and Google — fewer and fewer Americans get their news, comics and sports from all those gazettes and tribunes and journals. But that doesn't tell the whole story. There's an additional threat: hedge funds and other financial firms that now own nearly a third of the daily papers in America. And these new owners are often committed not to headlines and deadlines, but to bottom lines. One fund in particular has been called by some in the industry a "vulture," bleeding newspapers dry. It all prompts the question: as local newsrooms and local news coverage shrivel up, to what extent does democracy shrink with it?

Behind the marching band and baton twirlers, at the annual 4th of July parade in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, you'll find a one-man band: reporter Evan Brandt, snapping photos, taking notes, and gathering quotes.

For the last 24 years, he's chronicled this community of 23,000 for the local newspaper, the Mercury, which at one time had dozens of reporters. Now, Brandt is

literally the last reporter standing in Pottstown.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mike Holmes, Doug Pizac, Pat Milton

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CBS' Chris Licht expected to be named as new CNN chief (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — CBS executive Chris Licht, who is currently running Stephen Colbert's late-night show after helping to build two news programs, is expected to become the new president of CNN replacing Jeff Zucker.

Licht will be named as soon as next week to the job, according to an executive familiar with the discussions who spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak on personnel. The selection was first reported Saturday by the website Puck. He would not be able to take over until the deal giving CNN new corporate ownership gets federal approval, expected early this spring.

The new chief is executive vice president of special programming at CBS. Before taking over as executive producer at Colbert's "Late Show" in 2016, guiding it to the top of the ratings, Licht ran "CBS This Morning," the network's morning news show.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

AP shares guide with ideas on how to localize Russia-Ukraine invasion story

Noreen Gillespie – *AP deputy managing editor, U.S. news* - As the Russia-Ukraine invasion story unfolded, we had a group of US customers reach out and ask if we could develop a Localize It guide about the conflict.

We put a group of experts together from the US, WDC and business to see what we could spin up quickly. The result was this guide, which moved in a matter of hours and reflects many of the same questions and research we identified for our own stories. We'll update it as needed as the story continues.

We've received overwhelmingly positive response about this pilot from newsrooms who are grateful that AP is not only giving them great stories, but context, research and ideas about where they can create stories for their own audiences. These guides do some of the work for a GA reporter or editor coming at a topic cold – and help

them begin to think through what they can bring to a story that's unique for their audience.

I wanted to share this development because it's crucial – our members now expect that this is part of how AP delivers on big stories. We've had numerous examples of great guides over the past few months, and there's more to come. So as stories of all sizes and significance break in your coverage areas, please be thinking about whether there is an opportunity for a localization guide! It helps make the work you all do more valuable, and it's a way we can help newsrooms use not just our content, but our expertise too.

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EDITORS/NEWS DIRECTORS:

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine is a power grab that could reshape geopolitics — and the ripple effects already are being felt around the world and across the U.S.

President Joe Biden on Thursday announced a new round of sanctions targeting Russia after its invasion of Ukraine, charging that Russian leader Vladimir Putin “chose this war” and his country will bear the consequences.

Biden said the sanctions will target Russian banks, oligarchs, and high-tech sectors. He announced the sanctions as Ukraine's government reported mounting casualties as Russian forces attack from the east, north and south.

The invasion has reverberations in communities across the U.S., offering multiple opportunities to provide a local take on this major news story.

Here are some ways to localize reporting about Russia's military campaign in Ukraine and the global response, potentially to run alongside the AP story EU—Ukraine-Invasion and other spot coverage:

UKRAINIANS IN THE US

If you're in or near a city with a sizeable Ukrainian population, seek out immigrants or contact local leaders who can put you in touch with civic and religious leaders and families. Many Ukrainians in the U.S. have ties to those affected by the invasion, and they can form the basis of local coverage about the long reach of the conflict.

America is home to an estimated 1 million people who claim Ukrainian ancestry, and there are sizeable U.S. enclaves of immigrants from the former Soviet republic.

The largest of those is the New York City metropolitan area with about 83,000. Other cities with notable numbers of Ukrainian diaspora include Chicago with 26,000; Seattle with 21,000; Sacramento with 18,000; and Los Angeles with 17,000.

In percentage terms, the Sacramento metro area leads the U.S. with Ukrainian Americans comprising 0.8% of its population. Portland, Oregon, and Seattle follow with Ukrainians making up 0.5% of those cities' total populations.

War at its essence is a human story, so when you're interviewing Ukrainian Americans, ask them about family and friends in Ukraine. They may have compelling and very personal stories to tell.

Questions to ask:

- How are they staying in touch with loved ones in Ukraine?
- What difficulties are their family members going through? Are they staying put or trying to flee the country? If they're leaving, where are they going, what are they able to bring with them, and how are they traveling — by air? Rail? Bus? Foot? What obstacles are they encountering in trying to leave the country?
- Are members of the Ukrainian diaspora in the U.S. sending cash remittances, medicine, blankets and other supplies — either directly to relatives in Ukraine or to charitable organizations trying to assist them?

MILITARY CONNECTIONS

Look for opportunities to write about military members from your communities or local bases who were deployed to help with the NATO response, or who were put on heightened alert to be activated.

Airborne troops from Fort Bragg, N.C., have been sent to Poland and Germany. About 1,000 members of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment have been shifted from Germany to Romania. Four Navy destroyers — the USS Gonzalez, the USS Mitscher, the USS Donald Cook and the USS The Sullivans — were deployed from the U.S to European waters. An infantry battalion task force has been moved from Italy to the Baltics, along with F-35 fighters and Apache helicopters.

And the Pentagon on Thursday ordered the deployment of 7,000 more servicemembers from the US to Germany, including members of the 3rd Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division based at Fort Stewart, Georgia, along with transport and artillery troops from other bases.

Additionally, about 8,500 troops from various bases around the country have been placed on higher alert for possible deployment.

Stories about these troops can be a ripe avenue for local reporting about the fighting in Ukraine.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Contact gas stations and home heating companies, and ask them about concerns that fuel prices will soar as a result of the conflict, making it difficult for ordinary Americans to fill their vehicles or — with winter still lingering in the Northern Hemisphere — heat their homes.

Russia provides vast amounts of oil and gas to the world, and after Russia invaded on Thursday, the price of a barrel of U.S. benchmark crude oil surged past \$100 a barrel. When oil prices rise, that leads to higher gasoline prices, although the spike in

gasoline prices can come later. Drivers are already feeling pain at the pump, paying \$3.54 for a gallon of regular, 33% higher than the same time last year, according to AAA. Some analysts believe gasoline prices will keep climbing. Oil and gasoline prices had already been rising because people have been driving more, supplies haven't kept up, and traders anticipated a possible Russian invasion of Ukraine.

That's not the only way consumers are hurting. Utility bills are also climbing. Customers in the U.S. are paying 40% more for natural gas and home heating oil compared to the same last year, according to the National Energy Assistance Directors Association. Prices are likely to climb higher depending on how long the assault lasts. But with the end of winter in sight, consumers may be able to keep heating their homes without feeling those anticipated increases.

The invasion also has caused fluctuations in U.S. stock markets as investors assess the potential damage to the global economy. Financial markets already were anxious about higher interest rates. The bigger impact is likely to be on U.S. businesses that export goods to Russia across a variety of industries, from aviation, medical devices, machinery, tobacco and food.

Questions to ask:

- How are higher gasoline prices affecting your household?
- How has the invasion disrupted operations for local companies that do lots of overseas business?
- Have you changed your driving behavior at all because of high prices? How so?
- Have you had to cut back on spending in other ways due to high gasoline prices and home heating costs?
- For gas stations: Are people buying less gasoline as the price goes up? What about the convenience store, are fewer people stopping in to buy drinks and snacks?
- For home heating companies: What kinds of programs are available to help families who may not be able to afford to keep their homes warm if prices rise significantly?
- For airlines, package delivery companies and big retailers: How much are higher oil prices affecting these companies and how are they passing along those costs to consumers? Are they cutting back on services or deliveries to manage?

USE THIS CONTEXT:

Note somewhere in your stories that this actually constitutes a re-invasion, or further invasion, of Ukraine, because Russia-aligned forces already invaded and occupied sections of Ukrainian territory eight years ago.

Russia seized the Crimea peninsula in 2014 using troops that did not display any Russian insignia on their uniforms. At around the same time, Russian-armed and -supported separatists in the Donbas region seized control of two eastern Ukraine enclaves from the government.

RESOURCES:

— U.S. immigration trends via the nonpartisan Migration Policy Institute's analysis of Census data: <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/data-hub/us-immigration-trends>. For details on Ukrainian immigrant communities, click on “Immigrants’ countries and regions of birth.” Then choose Ukrainians for rankings by metropolitan area, state and county.

— The Better Business Bureau is offering the public tips on how to securely and effectively help people in Ukraine: <https://give.org/news/wise-giving-wednesday-tips-on-donations-to-assist-ukraine-relief-efforts>

Today in History - Feb. 28, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Feb. 28, the 59th day of 2022. There are 306 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 28, 1993, a gun battle erupted at a religious compound near Waco, Texas, when Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents tried to arrest Branch Davidian leader David Koresh on weapons charges; four agents and six Davidians were killed as a 51-day standoff began.

On this date:

In 1844, a 12-inch gun aboard the USS Princeton exploded as the ship was sailing on the Potomac River, killing Secretary of State Abel P. Upshur, Navy Secretary Thomas W. Gilmer and several others.

In 1849, the California gold rush began in earnest as regular steamship service started bringing gold-seekers to San Francisco.

In 1911, President William Howard Taft nominated William H. Lewis to be the first Black Assistant Attorney General of the United States.

In 1953, scientists James D. Watson and Francis H.C. Crick announced they had discovered the double-helix structure of DNA.

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon and Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai issued the Shanghai Communique, which called for normalizing relations between their countries, at the conclusion of Nixon's historic visit to China.

In 1975, 42 people were killed in London's Underground when a train smashed into the end of a tunnel.

In 1996, Britain's Princess Diana agreed to divorce Prince Charles. (Their 15-year marriage officially ended in August 1996; Diana died in a car crash in Paris a year after that.)

In 2009, Paul Harvey, the news commentator and talk-radio pioneer whose staccato style made him one of the nation's most familiar voices, died in Phoenix at age 90.

In 2013, Benedict XVI became the first pope in 600 years to resign, ending an eight-year pontificate. (Benedict was succeeded the following month by Pope Francis.)

In 2014, delivering a blunt warning to Moscow, President Barack Obama expressed deep concern over reported military activity inside Ukraine by Russia and warned "there will be costs" for any intervention.

In 2018, Walmart announced that it would no longer sell firearms and ammunition to people younger than 21 and would remove items resembling assault-style rifles from its website. Dick's Sporting Goods said it would stop selling assault-style rifles and ban the sale of all guns to anyone under 21.

In 2020, the number of countries touched by the coronavirus climbed to nearly 60. The Dow Jones Industrial Average finished the week 12.4% lower in the market's worst weekly performance since the 2008 financial crisis.

Ten years ago: Republican Mitt Romney won presidential primary victories in Arizona and Michigan. Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, announced she would not seek reelection, citing what she called the increasingly polarized climate of Washington. Matt Kenseth won his second Daytona 500, holding off Dale Earnhardt Jr. in a post-midnight victory after rain had postponed the start of the race for the first time in its 54-year history from Sunday to Monday.

Five years ago: Heralding a "new chapter of American greatness," President Donald Trump issued a broad call for overhauling the nation's health care system and significantly boosting military spending in an hourlong speech to a joint session of Congress. Amazon's cloud-computing service, Amazon Web Services, experienced a five-hour outage in its eastern U.S. region, causing unprecedented and widespread problems for thousands of websites and apps.

One year ago: New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo acknowledged for the first time that some of his behavior with women “may have been insensitive or too personal” and said he would cooperate with a sexual harassment investigation led by the state’s attorney general. Former President Donald Trump, addressing a conservative conference in Florida in his first public speech since leaving office, encouraged everyone to get vaccinated against COVID-19. “Nomadland” and “Borat Subsequent Moviefilm” took the top film honors at the Golden Globe Awards, capping a night that featured homebound winners accepting their awards.

Today’s Birthdays: Architect Frank Gehry is 93. Singer Sam the Sham is 85. Actor-director-dancer Tommy Tune is 83. Hall of Fame auto racer Mario Andretti is 82. Actor Kelly Bishop is 78. Actor Stephanie Beacham is 75. Writer-director Mike Figgis is 74. Actor Mercedes Ruehl is 74. Actor Bernadette Peters is 74. Former Energy Secretary Steven Chu is 74. Actor Ilene Graff is 73. Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman is 69. Comedian Gilbert Gottfried is 67. Basketball Hall of Famer Adrian Dantley is 67. Actor John Turturro is 65. Rock singer Cindy Wilson is 65. Actor Rae Dawn Chong is 61. Actor Maxine Bahns is 53. Actor Robert Sean Leonard is 53. Rock singer Pat Monahan is 53. Author Daniel Handler (aka “Lemony Snicket”) is 52. Actor Tasha Smith is 51. Actor Rory Cochrane is 50. Actor Ali Larter is 46. Country singer Jason Aldean is 45. Actor Geoffrey Arend is 44. Actor Melanie Chandra (TV: “Code Black”) is 38. Actor Michelle Horn is 35. MLB relief pitcher Aroldis Chapman is 34. Actor True O’Brien is 28. Actor Madisen Beaty is 27. Actor Quinn Shephard is 27. Actor Bobb’e J. Thompson is 26.

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 as a newsman in Albany and St. Louis, correspondent in Wichita, chief of bureau in Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City, and Midwest vice president based in 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.

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