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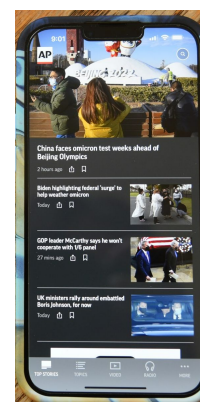
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Connecting

March 16, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this March 16, 2022,

After nearly a half century of work as a journalist, which began with The Associated Press and continued with The Miami Herald, our colleague **Marty Merzer** is using his writing skills to help others.

“I have assigned myself two overarching missions,” said Merzer, who was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2018. “1. To spread the word about the crucial importance of PSA tests and other forms of monitoring. 2. To demonstrate to others, particularly my grandchildren, how one confronts significant adversity.”

Merzer told his story for the Prostate Cancer Foundation and we share it in one of our lead stories for today’s Connecting. I think you will find it inspiring and brave and filled with hope for others who confront the disease.

In his story, he notes: “The way I see it, everyone has a finite stretch of time. I choose not to squander any significant amount of that time by worrying about the countdown clock.”

Two of our Connecting colleagues responded to our call Tuesday for their thoughts on how women’s contributions to the war coverage of past wars have evolved to the strong role women journalists are playing in coverage of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

We hope their thoughts will spur other colleagues to share their own stories.

Today’s issue leads with the sad news of the deaths of a veteran videographer and a 24-year-old Ukrainian journalist working for Fox News. Both were killed when their vehicle came under fire outside of Kyiv.

Our prayers go out to them and to all journalists covering the war.

Have a good day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Two Fox journalists killed in Ukraine, underscoring dangers



Fox News cameraman Pierre Zakrzewski, far left, and Ukrainian journalist Oleksandra "Sasha" Kuvshynova, second from the right, shown here reporting with Fox News' Trey Yingst, second from left, were killed covering the war in Ukraine. (Courtesy: Fox News)



This image released by Fox News Channel shows cameraman Pierre Zakrzewski while on assignment with colleagues, Fox News correspondent Steve Harrigan and Jerusalem-based senior producer Yonat Friling, background right, in Kyiv. Zakrzewski was killed in Ukraine on Monday, March 14, 2022, when the vehicle he was traveling in was struck by incoming fire. Zakrzewski was a veteran war photographer who had covered conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria for Fox. (Pierre Zakrzewski/Fox News via AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — A veteran videographer and a 24-year-old Ukrainian journalist working for Fox News were both killed when their vehicle came under fire outside of Kyiv, the network said on Tuesday.

Pierre Zakrzewski, 55, and Oleksandra “Sasha” Kuvshynova were traveling Monday in Horenka with Fox News reporter Benjamin Hall, who remains hospitalized.

“Today is a heartbreaking day for Fox News Media and for all journalists risking their lives to deliver the news,” the network’s CEO, Suzanne Scott, said in a staff memo.

On Sunday, documentary filmmaker Brent Renaud, another veteran of covering war zones, died when Russian forces opened fire on his vehicle in Irpin, also outside of Kyiv.

The death of three journalists in a short span underscores the dangers faced by people chronicling the war in Ukraine, even those with extensive experience reporting from conflict zones.

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

Click [here](#) for Poynter commentary.

‘Anja said she was there to record others’ courage

[Kathy Gannon](#) - I think both Anja (Niedringhaus) and I never saw ourselves as war reporters but rather saw conflicts as where people rose to their greatest heights. Anja said she was there to record others’ courage. I remember when I was in south Lebanon in 2006 and seeing this elderly woman who had suffered through days of Israeli bombing emerge from a darkened building to greet us with a wry look almost as if to say, “What took you so long?” Before leaving to cover the Bosnian war, Anja said she told friends she wanted to go to Bosnia to cover the war because that was the ultimate story. It left nothing unseen. Anja too left nothing unseen.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Anja Niedringhaus was killed and Kathy Gannon seriously injured on April 4, 2014, while covering the Afghanistan presidential election after an Afghan policeman opened fire at the car they were waiting in at a checkpoint, part of an election convoy. Today, Kathy is AP news director for Afghanistan and Pakistan.)

-0-

Went to Poland to tell of courage of Polish people in face of autocracy

[Sonya Zalubowski](#) - Thanks for highlighting women’s contribution to war coverage and how it has evolved to full bloom now in the Russian invasion of Ukraine. I fully relate to the women you cite who pioneered women’s role in their coverage of the war in Vietnam. I can recall in my career as a journalist being told as a young TV reporter by a cameraman that I didn’t belong in the reporting job because of the difficulty of carrying the heavy equipment. That never deterred me.

Later, in 1981, I, like the women in the Vietnam book, went without official papers, in my case to Poland to cover the Solidarity uprising with the potential of a Soviet invasion. I wanted passionately to tell the story from the inside of how the Polish people, my ancestral countrymen and women, were displaying so much courage in their efforts for democracy in the face of autocracy. My visa was only a student visa but living with the Poles, I was able to provide a deeper perspective on daily life in articles that I was able to smuggle out.

I write of the nearly yearlong experience in my book “Eye on Solidarity” which is to be published by AP Books this fall. A good review now with what we see in Ukraine of what it takes to keep our hopes for democracy alive.

Whatever happens and when, I am in a good place. I am OK. I will be OK.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Martin Merzer worked for the AP from 1973 to 1979, as a newsman in Miami, at New York Business News and then again in Miami. He joined The Miami Herald in 1979 and over the next 29 years worked as business writer, Jerusalem bureau chief, foreign/national correspondent, enterprise writer and senior writer/rewrite. Since retirement in 2008, he has worked as a freelance writer and lives with his wife Marion in Florida.

Marty Merzer - It is inevitable. It is part of life. It is how it all works.

Sooner or later, preferably later and not frequently, bad news arrives. For me and for those I love, it arrived last April 15 via email from the urologist, moments before my wife and I were to meet with our radiation oncologist to review the same report:

“I got your Axumin PET/CT and unfortunately it does not look good. There is the suggestion of metastatic disease to multiple lymph nodes in your body. This means that you will need systemic treatment.... I am very sorry that we did not have better test results. That said, there still is a lot we can do.”

Everyone reading this knows that the words “there still is a lot we can do” are true, but also stop short of being fully reassuring. That phrase describes a path that will be followed – and that may not be lengthy before it ends.

So, given this reality, how does one respond emotionally, how does one interact with others, how does one...live...with this situation and this knowledge?

More about that in a moment. But first:

Read more [here](#). (Thanks to Dan Sewell for spotting.)



1st Lede, Then What?

Howard Goldberg - Don't count me among those Connecting colleagues mourning the demise of "lede" as a news industry insider spelling of lead. The beleaguered industry should jettison old ways and avoid insider jargon as it welcomes innovative and diverse newcomers. Those of us at AP who were in the last generation of bureau chiefs who regularly visited newspaper newsrooms could see what was coming. These newspapers were struggling to fill dead-end jobs producing their disappearing print pages. Group design hubs would be hiring people for their tech skills who would be much less likely to pursue journalism as a lifetime career.

AP management recognized many years ago that our nostalgia for telegraph-era news terminology was untenable. I vaguely recall seeing a memo, I think from then-Standards Editor Tom Kent, on updating editor's notes and burying "lede." Terminology evolves based on real-world needs. Digital natives who never saw a piece of carbon paper understand that "CC" means copying someone in because that abbreviation serves a purpose in email. News industry newcomers know they are with the press even if their outlet has no printing press. But if they have no idea what a cropping wheel, a pica pole, or a "1st Add" was, that's fine. Training them in journalism ethics, AP style and best practices is more important than jargon we should spike, or hang up the phone on, or relegate to our tear-sheet morgue.

From Tuesday's New York Times...

...suania, which has been occu-
 by Russians, Germans,
 es and even the Ottomans in
 ries past, has proved its fight-
 spirit more than once. When
 vjets took over the country's
 station from the Nazis at the
 of World War II, a dogged re-
 n by freedom fighters re-
 l for eight years in the coun-
 southern forests. In 1990,
 ania was the first Soviet re-
 c to declare independence, a
 d that riled Moscow, which

dependen-...
 western Ukraine. "Ukrainians are
 fighting for us and for Europe, too,"
 he said. "By resisting, they are de-
 pleting Russia's military re-
 sources. We need to use that time
 to mobilize for all future scenari-
 os."

Signs of mobilization were ubiq-
 uitous in ways big and small.

On a village square in the Kais-
 adorys region in central Lithuania
 earlier this past week, the Duke
 Vaidotas mechanized infantry bat-

threat perception had been dis-
 missed as paranoia in the West, he
 said.

"Thirty kilometers from here de-
 mocracy ends, and they under-
 stand that," Colonel Nielsen said.
 "When Communism fell, this coun-
 try looked to the West to learn
 things: About the rule of law, about
 how to build democratic institu-
 tions. Now it's time for us to learn
 from them."

Oligarch

...02, when the house was on
 market, it was reportedly one
 of the last private houses in a
 re mostly used by embassies
 institutions. It had seven re-
 on rooms, seven bedrooms
 a Turkish steam bath.
 e protesters told reporters
 got lost many times in the
 se.

When Lukesch, 61, a retired
 polteacher, jumped out of his
 in a suburb in east London
 en he heard on the radio that
 mansion had been occupied.
 wrapped himself in a Ukrain-
 flag and rushed to Belgrave
 are.

"So this is where the gangsters
 e," he said, as he marveled at
 e mansions before joining a
 all crowd of supporters and
 outing "Slava Ukraini," or glory
 Ukraine.

London's Metropolitan Police
 id officers were called to the
 operty early Monday and found
 by a few protesters on the bal-
 ny. On Monday afternoon, they
 tained two people who at-
 mpted to breach the police cor-
 n around the building.

Tatiana Golovina, 59, a Russian
 trepreneur who had to take a
 tour to make it to her home near
 elgrave Square because of the
 otest, disagreed. She decried
 e war in Ukraine but said occu-
 ying private property wasn't the
 nswer.

"It's barbaric," she said, as she
 ook a picture of the occupation,
 it reminds me of the Russian
 evolution in 1917."

Woman in Maternity Ward Blast Dies

By AUSTIN RAMZY

The image captured the suffer-
 ing and chaos of the war in
 Ukraine in an instant: a pregnant
 woman clutching her belly as she
 was carried on a stretcher, the red-
 and-black polka dot sheet under
 her a stark contrast to the smok-
 ing soil, stripped trees and
 blasted-out maternity hospital
 around her.

The scene that followed a Rus-
 sian missile strike on the hospital
 in the city of Mariupol last week
 was documented by journalists
 from the news agency The Associ-
 ated Press. It was published on
 the front pages of newspapers, in-
 cluding The New York Times, a
 grim symbol of how Russia's cam-
 paign in Ukraine was increasingly
 targeting civilians.

On Monday The A.P. said it had
 learned that the woman in the
 photo and her baby had died.

With internet connections sever-
 ed, phone lines cut and cellular
 service disabled, The A.P. is one of
 the few news organizations still
 able to report from Mariupol. In
 an article published on Monday,
 The A.P. said that after the Rus-
 sian strike on March 9, the woman
 was taken to another hospital. Re-
 alizing that she was losing her
 baby, the news organization said,
 she pleaded with medics: "Kill me
 now!"

Neither the woman nor her
 baby could be saved. The hospital
 workers did not get her name, The
 A.P. reported, before her husband
 and father retrieved her body.

Responding to worldwide con-
 demnation of the strike, Russian
 officials argued that the hospital
 had been commandeered as a
 base by Ukrainian forces.
 Moscow's ambassador to the
 United Nations dismissed the A.P.
 images as "fake news."



The woman was injured in an attack on a hospital in Mariupol.

Spotted and shared by Margy McCay

The Bethnal Green tragedy shakes London

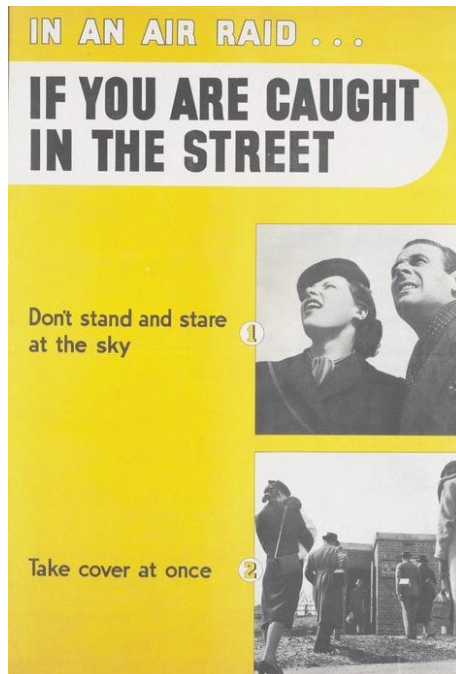


November 1940: People sleeping on the crowded platform of Elephant and Castle tube station while taking shelter from German air raids during the London Blitz. (Photo by Bill Brandt. Copyright: © IWM)

Marc Lancaster
World War II on Deadline

By the spring of 1943, London was far removed from the constant terror of the Blitz, but there was valid reason for concern when the air-raid sirens began to sound at 8:17 p.m. on March 3.

RAF bombers had struck Berlin two nights earlier — news had been trumpeted on front pages and radio programs as usual. While those



triumphant communiques invariably were released quickly to the press and public as a way to boost morale, they also may have played an inadvertent role in one of the great civilian disasters of the war.

The people of London steeled themselves for potential Luftwaffe retaliation, which perhaps added a sense of urgency in finding shelter when those sirens went off in the capital. As they had been trained to do over the previous years, civilians headed for the Underground, where tube stations had kept so many safe during raids.

This time, though, something went horribly wrong at the Bethnal Green station, where a crush of people in a stairwell left nearly 200 dead and dozens more injured. All the while, not a single German bomb fell from the sky.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Norm Abelson](#)

[Steve Hindy](#)

[Colleen Newvine](#)

[Julie Pace](#)

Stories of interest

Journalist killed in Mexico, eighth so far this year (AP)

By **FABIOLA SÁNCHEZ**

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Another journalist was shot to death in Mexico on Tuesday, the eighth murdered so far this year in an unprecedented spate of killings that has made Mexico the most dangerous place in the world for the press.

Reporters and photographers have been murdered this year in Mexico at the rate of almost one a week, despite claims from the government that the situation is under control.

Prosecutors in the western state of Michoacan said reporter Armando Linares was shot to death at a home in the town of Zitacuaro. His killing came six weeks after the slaying of a colleague, Roberto Toledo, from the same outlet Monitor Michoacan. It was Linares who announced Toledo's death Jan. 31 in a video posted to social media.

Zitacuaro is one of the closest towns to the monarch butterfly wintering grounds in the mountains west of Mexico City.

The area has been plagued by illegal logging and drug gangs, local governance disputes and deforestation linked to expanding avocado production. Logging has damaged the pine and fir forests where the butterflies spend the winter after migrating from the United States and Canada.

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

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Belarusian journalists handed jail terms in media crackdown (AP)

BY YURAS KARMANAU

LVIV, Ukraine (AP) — Journalists of Belarus' oldest newspaper were handed prison terms Tuesday in the latest move in a relentless government crackdown on independent media.

Nasha Niva's chief editor Yahor Martsinovich and journalist Andrey Skurko each were sentenced to 2 1/2 years in prison on charges of dodging communal payments they have rejected as politically driven. Martsinovich and Skurko have remained in custody since their arrest in July.

The newspaper was blocked in July and banned as extremist in November on the 115th anniversary of its founding. The ban has exposed anyone who would publish or repost Nasha Niva materials to prison terms of up to seven years.

Most other Nasha Niva journalists have left the country and continued to publish the newspaper online, changing its domain to bypass the blocking.

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

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'Minute-to-Minute Triage': Weighing News Against Safety in Russia (New York Times)

Tiffany Hsu and Michael M. Grynbaum

Shortly after Russia passed a new censorship law that effectively criminalized accurate reporting on the war in Ukraine, CNN executives on two continents gathered for an emergency video call to figure out what would happen next.

The 24-hour news network had employed numerous correspondents in Russia since the latter years of the Soviet Union. Now their future in the country, and perhaps their safety, were up in the air.

Senior producers in New York and London conferred with lawyers at CNN headquarters in Atlanta and reporters in Moscow about the new law, which raised the prospect of 15-year prison terms for journalists who called the war in Ukraine a “war.” Within hours, the network ceased broadcasting in Russia, joining other Western news outlets — including the BBC, Bloomberg News and ABC News — that temporarily or partly suspended their Moscow-based operations.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dennis Conrad.

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Floyd McKay, veteran Pacific Northwest journalist and educator, has died at age 86 (OregonLive)

By Kristi Turnquist | The Oregonian/OregonLive

Floyd McKay, whose long career as a Pacific Northwest journalist and author included working as a news analyst at Portland’s KGW-TV from 1970 to 1987, reporting on politics for The Oregon Statesman (now the Statesman Journal), and teaching journalism at Western Washington University in Bellingham, has died.

As the Seattle website Post Alley reported, McKay’s son-in-law, Ted Wolf, announced the news that McKay had died on March 4 in Bellingham, where he lived. Wolf’s statement said, “Friends, with sadness I share the news that Floyd passed away last Friday at age 86. He was in his Bellingham home with three generations of family present, his beloved wife Dixie beside him, and Whatcom Hospice supporting his comfort. Peacefully, Floyd left us in the dignified manner that he intended.

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

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How a 27-Year-Old Texan Became the Face of Russia’s American TV Network As It Imploded (Texas Monthly)

By Forrest Wilder

The last programming that viewers of RT America saw, on the morning of March 1, was a half hour of BoomBu\$t—the Russian-funded network’s business show. That day, cohost Rachel Blevins, a 27-year-old from Mineral Wells, an hour west of Fort Worth, had led with a roundup of economic fallout from Western sanctions against Russia over, as she put it, “its ongoing military operation in Ukraine,” using Vladimir Putin’s euphemism for his war.

Though that day’s coverage of the conflict on BoomBu\$t was mellow compared to the previous RT America show, which had featured one guest averring that “not all Ukrainians are Nazis” and another complaining that Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky was being hailed as a “hero.” Blevins focused on the negative impacts from the sanctions: higher oil prices, a potential 2008-style global financial crisis, recession fears, and even tensions over the International Space Station. Next: a plug for The World According to Jesse—hosted by Jesse Ventura, the wrestler, conspiracy theorist, and former Minnesota governor—followed by a cheeky house ad that said, “RT is not alt-left or alt-right, but we are a solid alternative to the bullshit.” Then, abruptly, the screen went dark and a message appeared: “This channel is no longer available. DirecTV.”

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dennis Conrad.

The Final Word

Why? Why? Why? Ukraine's Mariupol descends into despair



Dead bodies are put into a mass grave on the outskirts of Mariupol, Ukraine, Wednesday, March 9, 2022, as people cannot bury their loved ones because of the heavy shelling by Russian forces. (AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka)

By MYSTYSLAV CHERNOV and EVGENIY MALOLETKA

MARIUPOL, Ukraine (AP) — The bodies of the children all lie here, dumped into this narrow trench hastily dug into the frozen earth of Mariupol to the constant drumbeat of shelling.

There's 18-month-old Kirill, whose shrapnel wound to the head proved too much for his little toddler's body. There's 16-year-old Iliya, whose legs were blown up in an explosion during a soccer game at a school field. There's the girl no older than 6 who wore the pajamas with cartoon unicorns, among the first of Mariupol's children to die from a Russian shell.

They are stacked together with dozens of others in this mass grave on the outskirts of the city. A man covered in a bright blue tarp, weighed down by stones at the crumbling curb. A woman wrapped in a red and gold bedsheet, her legs neatly bound at the ankles with a scrap of white fabric. Workers toss the bodies in as fast as they can, because the less time they spend in the open, the better their own chances of survival.

"The only thing (I want) is for this to be finished," raged worker Volodymyr Bykovskiy, pulling crinkling black body bags from a truck. "Damn them all, those people who started this!"

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - March 16, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, March 16, the 75th day of 2022. There are 290 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 16, 1968, the My Lai (mee ly) massacre took place during the Vietnam War as U.S. Army soldiers hunting for Viet Cong fighters and sympathizers killed unarmed villagers in two hamlets of Son My (suhn mee) village; estimates of the death toll vary from 347 to 504.

On this date:

In 1521, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan and his crew reached the Philippines, where Magellan was killed during a battle with natives the following month.

In 1802, President Thomas Jefferson signed a measure authorizing the establishment of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.

In 1935, Adolf Hitler decided to break the military terms set by the Treaty of Versailles (vehr-SY') by ordering the rearming of Germany.

In 1945, during World War II, American forces declared they had secured Iwo Jima, although pockets of Japanese resistance remained.

In 1968, Senator Robert F. Kennedy of New York announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

In 1972, in a nationally broadcast address, President Richard Nixon called for a moratorium on court-ordered school busing to achieve racial desegregation.

In 1984, William Buckley, the CIA station chief in Beirut, was kidnapped by Hezbollah militants (he was tortured by his captors and killed in 1985).

In 1994, figure skater Tonya Harding pleaded guilty in Portland, Oregon, to conspiracy to hinder prosecution for covering up an attack on rival Nancy Kerrigan, avoiding jail but drawing a \$100,000 fine.

In 2004, China declared victory in its fight against bird flu, saying it had “stamped out” all its known cases.

In 2014, Crimeans voted to leave Ukraine and join Russia, overwhelmingly approving a referendum that sought to unite the strategically important Black Sea region with the country it was part of for some 250 years.

In 2016, President Barack Obama nominated Merrick Garland to take the seat of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who had died the previous month. (Republicans who controlled the Senate would stick to their pledge to leave the seat empty until after the presidential election; they confirmed Trump nominee Neil Gorsuch in April 2017.)

In 2020, global stocks plunged again amid coronavirus concerns, with Wall Street seeing a 12% decline, its worst in more than 30 years; the S&P 500 was down 30% from its record set less than a month earlier. Ohio called off its presidential primary just hours before polls were to open, but Arizona, Florida and Illinois went ahead with their plans.

Ten years ago: A jury in New Brunswick, New Jersey, convicted former Rutgers University student Dharun Ravi (dah-ROON’ RAH’-vee) in the webcam spying episode that ended in the suicide of his gay roommate, Tyler Clementi. (Ravi served 20 days in jail for invasion of privacy, bias intimidation and other counts.)

Five years ago: President Donald Trump submitted his \$1.15 trillion budget to Congress; it proposed generous increases for the military while slashing domestic programs and riling both fellow Republicans and Democrats by going after favored programs. Steve Penny resigned as president of USA Gymnastics following intensified pressure on the organization for its handling of sex abuse cases.

One year ago: A gunman killed eight people, mostly women of Asian descent, at three Atlanta-area massage parlors in an attack that sent terror through the Asian-American community, which had increasingly been targeted during the pandemic; the white gunman, Robert Long, told police that the attack was not racially motivated, and that he had a “sex addiction.” (Long was sentenced to life in prison after pleading guilty in four of the deaths.) A declassified intelligence assessment found that Russian President Vladimir Putin had authorized influence operations to help Donald Trump in the 2020 presidential election; the assessment found broad efforts by both the Kremlin and Iran to shape the outcome of the race, but no evidence that any foreign actor had actually disrupted the voting process.

Today’s Birthdays: Country singer Ray Walker (The Jordanaires) is 88. Game show host Chuck Woolery is 81. Country singer Robin Williams is 75. Actor Erik Estrada is 73.

Actor Victor Garber is 73. Country singer Ray Benson (Asleep at the Wheel) is 71. Bluegrass musician Tim O'Brien (Hot Rize; Earls of Leicester) is 68. Rock singer-musician Nancy Wilson (Heart) is 68. World Golf Hall of Famer Hollis Stacy is 68. Actor Clifton Powell is 66. Rapper-actor Flavor Flav is 63. Rock musician Jimmy DeGrasso is 59. Actor Jerome Flynn is 59. Folk singer Patty Griffin is 58. Movie director Gore Verbinski is 58. Country singer Tracy Bonham is 55. Actor Lauren Graham is 55. Actor Judah Friedlander (FREED'-lan-duhr) is 53. Actor Alan Tudyk (TOO'-dihk) is 51. Actor Tim Kang is 49. R&B singer Blu Cantrell is 46. Actor Brooke Burns is 44. Actor Kimrie Lewis is 40. Actor Brett Davern is 39. Actor Alexandra Daddario is 36. R&B singer Jhené Aiko is 34. Rock musician Wolfgang Van Halen is 31. Toronto Blue Jays baseball star Vladimir Guerrero Jr. is 23.

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.

Paul Stevens

Editor, Connecting newsletter

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