

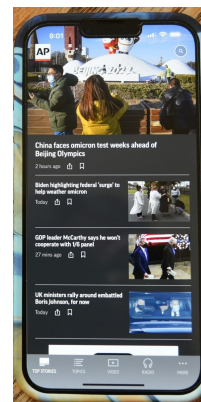
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# Connecting

March 25, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this March 25, 2022,

Thursday marked the one-month anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine – and from the day of its launch, AP journalists have chronicled the war throughout the world.

We lead today's Connecting with the work of AP photojournalists.

**TWO QUOTES** from Connecting colleague [Ann Blackman](#)'s 1998 book on Madeleine Albright, [Seasons of Her Life](#), were included in The Washington Post's [story](#) on the death of the first woman to be U.S. Secretary of State.

Congratulations to the new executive editor of Politico, [Dafna Linzer](#). She's an AP alum - working in Jerusalem, New York and the United Nations from 1994 to 2004, when she joined The Washington Post. A story on her appointment can be found in [Stories of Interest](#).

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

## AP PHOTOS: 1 MONTH: War in Ukraine rages on; 3M have fled



A woman and child peer out of the window of a bus as they leave Sievierodonetsk on Feb. 24. (AP Photo/Vadim Ghirda)



**Ukrainian volunteers sort donated foods while Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy appears on television in Lviv, on March 2. (AP Photo/Bernat Armangue)**

### By The Associated Press

For weeks there had been warnings: Russian troops are massing near the border. President Vladimir Putin intends to seize control of Ukraine. The invasion is coming. Be ready.

But how could that be possible? It had been generations since most anyone in this part of the world had heard the thunder of invading tanks. This was the age of McDonald's, of Netflix. For many Ukrainians, it simply seemed impossible. Even President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, now the unshaven, T-shirt-wearing leader who rallies his people from fortified bunkers, said in late January that the threat seemed no worse than a year earlier.

And then, on Feb. 24, it happened.

Missiles struck targets across Ukraine. Tanks and soldiers streamed across the border. Russian forces, it seemed, would soon reach the capital, Kyiv.

Instead, nimble, heavily armed Ukrainian soldiers and volunteers protected their country ferociously, slowing the advance of Russia's mechanized army. Putin's frustration grew, and with it the brutality of Russian forces, who began to bombard cities, killing the same people the Russian president claimed he was protecting.

Every day, more and more people fled the country. Every day, the death toll climbed.

Thursday marks one month since the invasion was launched. Associated Press photographers have been there every day.

Read more [here](#).

## These are the journalists killed in the first month of Russia's war on Ukraine

By Jennifer Hassan  
The Washington Post

At least five journalists — Ukrainian or foreign correspondents — have been killed while attempting to document Russia's war on Ukraine. Their deaths, in the month since President Vladimir Putin began his invasion, serve to highlight the risks that journalists face as they seek to inform people around the world from the hard-hit conflict zone.

Here are their stories.

Read more [here](#).

## Kathy Gannon: unflinchingly cheerful, unflinchingly brave

[Kevin Noblet](#) - How can someone be as unflinchingly cheerful as they are unflinchingly brave? I worked with Kathy Gannon for years when I was deputy international editor in New York in the 1990's and she covered Pakistan and Afghanistan, as she would for another 20-plus years, and I regularly asked myself that. I dealt with a lot of brilliant people and big egos in the field back then, and it wasn't always pleasant, but with her it pretty much always was.

Which isn't to say she didn't advocate for her stories, or object strongly to a bad edit, or that she didn't have an ego. But when you talked with her, and especially when you met her in person, you got the answer to my question. She knew who she was: a kind and plain-spoken woman from Timmons, Ontario. She was proud of those roots and I think being grounded that way helped her to keep her cool and to develop her deep, compassionate understanding of the people she covered. And I think it also impressed those people, including high-ranking, sometimes dangerous Taliban leaders who allowed her access few others could get.

I don't think any of us can know the pain she went through from her wounds and the loss of her good friend Anja Niedringhaus in that 2014 shooting. But if you knew her, you weren't surprised that she didn't let it keep her from returning to her important work.

I've followed her reporting over the years and it's clear she's going out on a Pulitzer-worthy high note, after covering the U.S. troop withdrawal and its aftermath. Good for her. Now someone will fill her shoes because someone always does at AP. But what big shoes they'll be!

## Madeleine Albright and the Silk Pajama

[Ford Burkhardt](#) - When I landed on the NYT Foreign Desk in 1996, someone said "Madeleine Albright" seemed to be our most frequently misspelled name.

I did an outside search and found the first five entries wrong on one name or both. I invented my own drill: remember Ogden Nash's "three L llama." Go with the "three E" version of Madeleine. Count 'em. Three. Always. Interestingly, I did a search this week after her passing and found every entry on my first screen misspelled her name, 25 years after she became big news. It recalled this from Ogden Nash:

The one-l lama,  
He's a priest.

The two-l llama,  
He's a beast.

And I will bet  
A silk pajama

There isn't any  
Three-l llama.

## With Albright on an African river cruise

[Steve Hurst](#) - I want to tell a story about Madeleine Albright, the brilliant world affairs mind and diplomat. I covered her for CNN, and on one diplomatic journey in 1997 she took time off for a short cruise on an African river. I was sitting with her, relating that my first wife and I had married again after six years divorced. She was divorced from her husband Joe Albright many years earlier. She seemed moved by my story and said she had hoped that would be her story as well. A deeply human character who has populated this country's history.

## The Starling Lab announces its inaugural journalism fellows

**By Stanford Engineering Staff**

The Starling Lab for Data Integrity (Starling Lab) today (Thursday) announced its inaugural class of Starling Journalism research fellows.

The annual fellowship helps leading journalists from around the world use the latest advances in cryptography and Web3 technologies to protect the integrity and safety of digital content, as well as individuals working in and around the media. In an era of rampant mis- and disinformation, this timely program will apply in-field research to explore how to restore trust in digital media and underscore the legacy values of journalism.

The fellows will engage in six months of research, training and mentorship, learning and mastering the new technologies, culminating in the publication of articles that use the Starling Lab's groundbreaking data authentication framework and refine its possibilities. These open source tools and principles have been developed to address three core challenges in tracking the provenance of digital content:

Among the fellows:

**Associated Press investigative journalist Garance Burke**, who will explore social media capture and authentication protocols, as well as preservation strategies and decentralized storage solutions to support a team investigative series probing the global impacts of artificial intelligence technologies.

Read more [here](#).

## Heck of a way to run a railroad

[John Willis](#) - I have been a digital subscriber to The Columbus Dispatch, now owned by Gannett, for the past six or seven years. I look in daily for news on my beloved Buckeyes and check the other goings on in the city where I was born.

I pay \$5.99 for the privilege. It went up a buck last year, i think.

The other day I got an email from The Dispatch offering me such a deal.

Two years of full digital access for just \$22. Unbelieving of what my eyes thought they saw, I called the 800 number. Lo and behold, moments later instead of the \$5.99 a month I was paying, I get the next two years for just \$22. No wonder this big outfit is messing up journalism. I wonder what MBA thought up this scheme?

I was on a month to month basis, of course, but still.....

Trading \$143+ in revenue over the next two years for \$22 does not seem to be a sound business strategy.

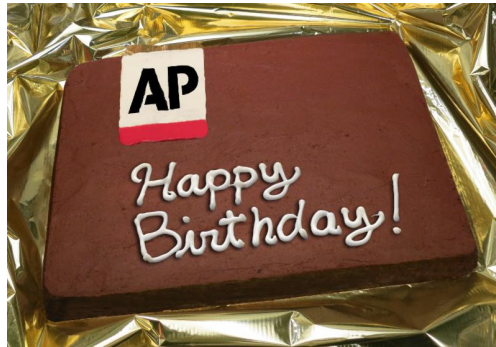
With the money I am saving, I can now subscribe to the New York Times, too.

Digital is the future for journalism, and the sooner we realize it and get started like the fledglings we've seen in recent Connecting editions, the better off we will be.

I'm still not of the smart phone set, but many my age are. The younger generations are all on the new technology, and it costs a heck of a lot less to deliver a story digitally than it does to put it on a doorstep on newsprint. Just don't follow The

Dispatch model of revenue reduction. That \$22 might be very attractive for potential new subscribers, though, so it might work out for them in the end.

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Paul Haven](#)

[Josh Hoffner](#)

[Joe Macenka](#)

[Dennis Spurlin](#)

*On Saturday to...*

[Frank Baker](#)

[Jerry Schwartz](#)

*On Sunday to...*

[Edie Lederer](#)

## Stories of interest

***When Sun-Times didn't hire Madeleine Albright, it changed her life; editor called her 'honey'*** (Chicago Sun-Times)

By Lynn Sweet

WASHINGTON — Now and then when I would see Madeleine Albright, who died Wednesday at the age of 84, she would rib me about the Chicago Sun-Times not hiring her as a reporter.

Indeed, a rebuff by a top editor at the Sun-Times who called her “honey” was a turning point in the life of Albright, who became the first female Secretary of State when President Bill Clinton tapped her for the post.

Albright studied journalism and politics as a student at Wellesley College. A few days after graduating, she married Joseph Medill Patterson Albright, a member of the newspaper clan that owned the Chicago Tribune.

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

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## ***Overwhelmed by your news feed? Strategies from a Princeton course can help.***

**Jamie Saxon, Office of Communications  
Princeton University**

Joe Stephens, who spent years as an investigative reporter for the Washington Post, likes to tell a joke on the first day of class to students in his course, “The Media in America: What to Read and Believe.” Cribbed from a famous talk by novelist David Foster Wallace, the joke goes like this:

“In the morning, two fish come out of their house and they’re swimming across the ocean. An older fish comes along, tips his hat and says, ‘Mornin’ boys, how’s the water?’ The two young fish nod and keep swimming. When they get a block away, one young fish turns to the other and says, ‘What’s water?’”

“Water is like the media today: It’s so ubiquitous, we can’t even see it,” said Stephens, founding director of the Program in Journalism. “There’s an onslaught from the moment we wake up until the moment we go to sleep. It’s in newspapers, it’s on websites, apps, your phone, your watch. It’s everywhere, so much that we don’t even realize that we’re consuming media. Or, that the media is consuming us.”

By the end of the course, Stephens wants his students to see the water.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dan Day.

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***States Newsroom: More coverage of state governments; more opportunities for journalists*** (Editor and Publisher)

**Bob Sillick | for Editor & Publisher**



While many newspapers and other news outlets have had to reduce staff and often coverage of their state governments, States Newsroom and its 26 affiliates have stepped into that role to focus on in-depth coverage of state legislatures and regulatory agencies.

“States Newsroom was launched because we recognized an opportunity to provide local citizens with more reporting about their state governments as well as stories other media are unable to cover,” said Chris Fitzsimon, director and publisher of States Newsroom. “What makes us the proudest is our coverage allows community newspapers to focus on local news. Approximately 1,000 of these local papers request several thousand reprints of our articles every month.”

The growth of States Newsroom has also created new opportunities for editors and journalists. Sherman Smith, editor of Kansas Reflector in Topeka, Kansas, and Marisa Demarco, editor of Source New Mexico, are two of these highly experienced, award-winning professional journalists who were immediately attracted to States Newsroom.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***POLITICO Names Dafna Linzer Executive Editor*** (Politico)

By MELISSA COOKE

Announcement from Editor-in-Chief Matt Kaminski:

I’m delighted to share some exciting news today: Dafna Linzer will be joining POLITICO as Executive Editor.

Over the past months, we’ve talked to many of you about the publication’s current and future ambitions. Drawing on those conversations, we’ve looked broadly for people who will help us achieve them. Dafna’s appointment is one of the critical steps we are taking this spring to position POLITICO for a great new era.

Following a national search, Dafna emerged as an ideal candidate to join the editorial leadership team in this essential role. Dafna’s mandate is to ensure that our journalism is best in class and ambitious, and that we have the talent here to deliver on that promise to our readers.

Working closely with me and other editors, Dafna will steer our daily report across the newsroom. I’ve also asked her to oversee the news, Washington and politics, states and enterprise teams. She’ll help all of us recruit aggressively, and be an indispensable partner to our colleagues on the business side.

Read more [here](#).

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## *Hearst is adding journalists in Connecticut*

**Bill Sikes** - Hearst Connecticut Media is expanding beyond its southwestern Connecticut stronghold into territory that long was dominated by the Tribune-owned Hartford Courant — and beyond.

The Courant shut down its Hartford office in December 2020, and its employees work remotely. Alden Global Capital acquired the Tribune Publishing Company in May 2021.

Read more [here](#).

## Today in History - March 25, 2022



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Friday, March 25, the 84th day of 2022. There are 281 days left in the year.

### **Today's Highlight in History:**

On March 25, 1931, in the so-called "Scottsboro Boys" case, nine young Black men were taken off a train in Alabama, accused of raping two white women; after years of convictions, death sentences and imprisonment, the nine were eventually vindicated.

### **On this date:**

In 1634, English colonists sent by Lord Baltimore arrived in present-day Maryland.

In 1894, Jacob S. Coxey began leading an "army" of unemployed from Massillon (MA'-sih-luhn), Ohio, to Washington D.C., to demand help from the federal government.

In 1911, 146 people, mostly young female immigrants, were killed when fire broke out at the Triangle Shirtwaist Co. in New York.

In 1915, the U.S. Navy lost its first commissioned submarine as the USS F-4 sank off Hawaii, claiming the lives of all 21 crew members.

In 1947, a coal-dust explosion inside the Centralia Coal Co. Mine No. 5 in Washington County, Illinois, claimed 111 lives; 31 men survived.

In 1954, RCA announced it had begun producing color television sets at its plant in Bloomington, Indiana.

In 1960, Ray Charles recorded "Georgia on My Mind" as part of his "The Genius Hits the Road" album in New York.

In 1965, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. led 25,000 people to the Alabama state capitol in Montgomery after a five-day march from Selma to protest the denial of voting rights to Blacks. Later that day, civil rights activist Viola Liuzzo, a white Detroit homemaker, was shot and killed by Ku Klux Klansmen.

In 1987, the Supreme Court, in *Johnson v. Transportation Agency*, ruled 6-3 that an employer could promote a woman over an arguably more-qualified man to help get women into higher-ranking jobs.

In 1990, 87 people, most of them Honduran and Dominican immigrants, were killed when fire raced through an illegal social club in New York City. (An arsonist set the fire after being thrown out of the club following an argument with his girlfriend; Julio Gonzalez died in prison in 2016.)

In 1996, an 81-day standoff by the anti-government Freemen began at a ranch near Jordan, Montana.

In 2020, the Senate unanimously passed a \$2.2 trillion economic rescue package steering aid to businesses, workers and health care systems engulfed by the coronavirus pandemic; the largest economic relief bill in U.S. history included direct payments to most Americans, expanded unemployment benefits and \$367 billion for small businesses to keep making payroll while workers were forced to stay home.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama arrived in South Korea, where he visited the Demilitarized Zone separating the South from the communist North, telling American troops stationed nearby they were protectors of "freedom's frontier." Pope Benedict XVI, on his first trip to Latin America, urged Mexicans to wield their faith against drug violence, poverty and other ills, celebrating Mass before a sea of worshippers in Silao.

Five years ago: A scuffle broke out at Bolsa Chica State Beach in Southern California where supporters of President Donald Trump were marching when counter-protesters doused organizers with pepper spray. Stars and fans gathered for a public memorial to honor the late mother-daughter film stars Debbie Reynolds and Carrie Fisher.

One year ago: Georgia Republican Gov. Brian Kemp signed into law a Republican-sponsored overhaul of state elections that included restrictions on voting by mail and greater legislative control over how elections are run. A final vote count from Israel's election showed that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and right-wing allies had fallen short of winning a parliamentary majority; Netanyahu would leave office and

become opposition leader. Pulitzer Prize-winning Texas author Larry McMurtry died at 84; he'd won the prize for "Lonesome Dove" and also wrote "The Last Picture Show" and "Terms of Endearment," which became Oscar-winning films. Children's author Beverly Cleary, the writer behind the popular characters Ramona Quimby and Henry Huggins, died at the age of 104 in Carmel Valley, California.

Today's Birthdays: Film critic Gene Shalit is 96. Former astronaut James Lovell is 94. Feminist activist and author Gloria Steinem is 88. Singer Anita Bryant is 82. Actor Paul Michael Glaser is 79. Singer Sir Elton John is 75. Actor Bonnie Bedelia is 74. Actor-comedian Mary Gross is 69. Actor James McDaniel is 64. Movie producer Amy Pascal is 64. Rock musician Steve Norman (Spandau Ballet) is 62. Actor Brenda Strong is 62. Actor Fred Goss is 61. Actor-writer-director John Stockwell is 61. Actor Marcia Cross is 60. Author Kate DiCamillo is 58. Actor Lisa Gay Hamilton is 58. Actor Sarah Jessica Parker is 57. Baseball Hall of Famer Tom Glavine is 56. TV personality Ben Mankiewicz is 55. Olympic bronze medal figure skater Debi Thomas is 55. Actor Laz Alonso is 51. Singer Melanie Blatt (All Saints) is 47. Actor Domenick Lombardozzi is 46. Actor Lee Pace is 43. Actor Sean Faris is 40. Comedian-actor Alex Moffat (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 40. Former auto racer Danica Patrick is 40. Actor-singer Katharine McPhee is 38. Comedian-actor Chris Redd (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 37. Singer Jason Castro is 35. Rapper Big Sean is 34. Rap DJ-producer Ryan Lewis is 34. Actor Matthew Beard is 33. Actor-singer Aly (AKA Alyson) Michalka (mish-AL'-kah) is 33. Actor Kiowa Gordon is 32. Actor Seychelle Gabriel is 31.

## 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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