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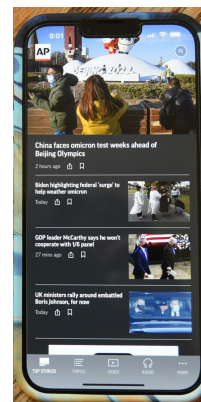
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Connecting

March 31, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this March 31, 2022,

We lead today's issue with the sad news of the death of **Bob Child**, an Associated Press photographer who over the course of a nearly half-century career covered Connecticut's biggest news events. He was 86.

Child died Wednesday in hospice care in Branford, Connecticut, of complications from several illnesses, his family said.

Two years before his AP retirement, Gov. Jodi Rell proclaimed Feb. 14, 2007, as Bob Child Day, in honor of his years of AP service.

Today's issue provides focus on one of AP's finest photojournalists, **J. Scott Applewhite** of the Washington bureau.

Our Connecting colleague is profiled in the Shot - a monthly series showcasing top photojournalism from staff photographers at The Associated Press. Each month, AP photographers will share the stories behind some of their iconic imagery.

Finally, if you've turned 80 or 90 years of age recently, let me know so I can be sure to include you in the Connecting 80s/90s listing that is published monthly. It'll be out tomorrow.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Bob Child, longtime AP Connecticut photographer, dies at 86



FILE — Connecticut Associated Press photographer Bob Child looks around for another angle during a victory rally for the UConn men's basketball team, March 30, 1999, at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs, Conn. (Sean D. Elliot/The Day via AP, File)



FILE — Associated Press photographer Bob Child, and his wife Joan Child, celebrate as he's recognized for his 35 years of service with the AP, in Hartford, Conn., Feb. 22, 2007. (AP Photo/Douglas Healey, File)

By MICHAEL MELIA

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Bob Child, a longtime Associated Press photographer who covered Connecticut's biggest news events over a career that spanned nearly a half century, has died. He was 86.

Child died Wednesday in hospice care in Branford, Connecticut, of complications from several illnesses, his family said.

In over 35 years as an AP photographer, his work spanned natural disasters, sports and politics, including an iconic image he shot of Gov. John Rowland leaving a podium with his head bowed upon his 2004 resignation in a corruption scandal.

"He loved what he did," said his son, Robert Child IV. "He knew Secret Service agents. He knew police chiefs. He knew legislators."

He was honored with National Associated Press Managing Editors award for a photo that captured a police officer, weeping, as she gave a salute at the 1987 funeral of her fiancé, a fellow Milford officer who was shot and killed during a traffic stop.

Child was on a first-name basis with several Connecticut governors. When Gov. Ella T. Grasso died in 1981, the family asked that Child be one of only two photographers allowed into the church. Gov. Jodi Rell proclaimed Feb. 14, 2007, as Bob Child Day, in honor of his years of AP service.

Child covered his community with pride and compassion and mentored many along the way, said J. David Ake, AP's director of photography.

"Photographers are often called legendary because of their images. Some are called legendary because of their kind hearts. Bob was both," Ake said.

Known for his ability to get shots of people who did not want to be photographed, including criminal defendants, Child would often return from successful assignments with a smile and the words, "Bagged him."

Pat Eaton-Robb, a reporter in AP's Hartford bureau, said he would always stick by Child's side when assigned to courthouse events or crime scenes.

"Bobby would always be at the exact right place at the exact right time to get the shot and allow me, as a reporter, to see things I otherwise would not have seen. He also had the sharpest elbows in the business and no reporter or photographer was ever going to get between him and his subject," Eaton-Robb said.



This photo, provided by Courteney Child Gettel, shows Associated Press photographer Bob Child, right, and his television news photographer twin brother, Pat Child, in 1965. (Courteney Child Gettel via AP)

Child had a twin brother, Pat, who worked for decades as a video journalist for WTNH-TV. Big news stories were often referred to as "Two Child events" by Connecticut journalists because they would bring out both brothers.

Born in Boston and raised in New Haven, Robert Child III attended Yale University on a music scholarship, graduating in 1958. He worked for the New Haven Register and the New Haven Journal-Courier before joining the AP in 1972. He retired in 2009.

Child's wife, Joan Child, died in 2008, and his brother Pat died in 2004.

He is survived by his three children, Sara Child Stevens, Robert, and Emily Child Smith; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Click [here](#) for link to this story. Shared by Bill Kole.

Click [here](#) for Hartford Courant story. Shared by Elaine Hooker, Brian Horton.

Remembering Bob Child – 'I'm on my way'

Elaine Hooker - When I think of Bob Child, "I'm on my way" comes to mind. That was Bob's response to any news story, any time of night or day. AP news photographers are a special breed, and Bob was one of the best of those. He spent his entire career in Connecticut and knew the cast of characters spanning decades. I had the good fortune to work with Bob three times during my career, when I joined AP in 1974 and later in two stints as bureau chief.

A few memories come to mind. Bob was the first on our staff to sniff out rumors that political cronies had paid for improvements to Gov. John Rowland's summer cottage. Eventually, in 2004, Rowland resigned as governor and served 10 months in prison for accepting bribes. The other was some major event involving Gov. Ella Grasso. Bob said he was sick with the stomach flu but wouldn't let me hire a stringer for the job. He just stopped along I-91 and threw up. Another: I woke up Bob in the middle of the night to tell him there was a fire at a nursing home in West Hartford. "I'm on my way," he said.

What I remember most about Bob was his indomitable spirit and his love of the AP. And despite his gruff exterior, an image he enjoyed, Bob was a generous spirit and a true friend to many.

Eyes on history: J. Scott Applewhite



Security forces draw their guns as rioters try to break into the House Chamber at the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021, in Washington. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite) (Model: Sony ILCE-9M2 | Lens: 385mm | F-Stop: 6.3 | Shutter Speed: 1/60 | ISO: 10000)



Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., arrives at the Capitol for a close vote with her new daughter, Maile, bundled in Washington on April 19, 2018. (AP Photo/J. Scott

Applewhite) (Model: Sony ILCE-9 | Lens: 85mm | F-Stop: 4 | Shutter Speed: 1/500 | ISO: 800)

[J. Scott Applewhite](#) - As a photojournalist with The Associated Press for more than 40 years, I've traveled the world and witnessed history firsthand.

With my own ears, I heard Ronald Reagan demand the Soviet Union tear down the Berlin Wall. I've walked on the Great Wall of China, slept overnight in a voodoo temple, and met presidents, popes and saints. I've flown with the Blue Angels and witnessed the absence of God in Mogadishu. I've stood in the boxing ring with Muhammad Ali and was even hit with a snowball by the Dalai Lama.



From AP's Washington Bureau, I've covered seven presidents as well as the divisive political atmosphere in the U.S. Congress.

Our job is to show people what they can't see for themselves. Photography transcends language and has the power to change the world. That mission has never felt more vital than in the last two years as a raging pandemic caught the nation unprepared and Americans demanded action against racism and injustice.

The U.S. Capitol where I work is practically the safest building in America – or so I thought until Jan. 6, 2021. Rioters stormed the U.S. Capitol to stop the official count of the 2020 presidential election, forcing lawmakers to run for their lives.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting mailbox

My best time for writing – before dawn

[Carl Robinson](#) - In my older post-journalism years writing books -- travel guides to Australia and Mongolia, plus my own memoirs -- I've found early in the morning my best time for writing. And by early, I mean before dawn like around 5 a.m. Totally quiet. A cup of coffee. And then through about eight when the extended family was up and about and their day began. On many days, I'd crank out a good thousand words. Once the wife was up, errands and things around home kept me busy. But I rarely wrote for the rest of the day but more of a time for research and reflection on what I'd write early the next morning. Thoughts of the words ahead saw me to sleep, and I was ready to go the next morning. Looking now, I'm amazed at my discipline.

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Vietnam experiences and their impact

Larry Paladino - It was nice to read of some of our colleagues who served in the military in Vietnam. Reading Jerry Harkavy's notes, it was nice to find that a fellow AP alumnus served in the same unit I did, just one year later, with some in the same Central Highlands area that was the scene of some of our worst casualties. I was in the 173rd Airborne as an infantryman on Okinawa at its beginnings and for a year in Vietnam as an infantryman. We had so many casualties and there's no doubt my years in journalism help mold my approach to everything, from trying to be always aware of my surroundings and an understanding of people and circumstances from far beyond a parochial perspective of a Catholic high school graduate from Detroit. It certainly was easier to write about anything pertaining to the military, but also an empathy that comes with dealing with tragedies of so many others.

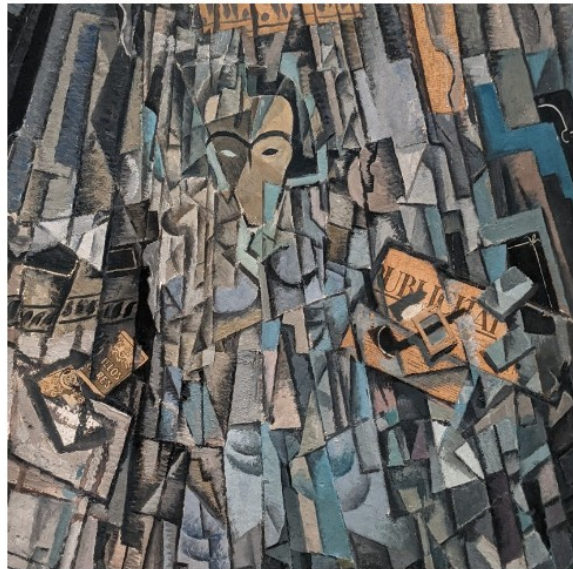
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Enjoyed seeing the broadcast crew

Jim Spehar - Very much enjoyed the picture (in Wednesday's Connecting) of the broadcast crew gathered in Palm Springs, where we also met up with Jim Hood and Mark Thayer a few years ago. Also the many memories from a 50+-year friendship with Hood (we first met while trading radio news stories between our stations in Tucson and Phoenix pre-AP), Mark (my "training officer" as a new Broadcast Executive) and working with Rob Dalton back when he was News Editor in the Denver bureau. Hood's semi-serious stance and Rob' broad smile are very familiar. I wonder if the famous Thayer "giggle" broke out at some point.

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More newspapers in art from Madrid



[Kevin Walsh](#) - A collage of four examples of "newspapers in art" from our recent visit to the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia in Madrid.

Clockwise from top to bottom: "Grapes," Juan Gris, 1916; "Cubist Self-Portrait," Salvador Dali, 1923; "Untitled," Tony Stubbings, 1950; "Dead Birds," Pablo Picasso, 1912.

Dawn Staley called a reporter's boss from press row to help him score a trip to the women's Final Four (Yahoo Sports)

Meredith Cash
Yahoo Sports

With one viral phone call, Dawn Staley helped a journalist score a trip to the 2022 women's Final Four.

After her top-seeded South Carolina Gamecocks bested the Creighton Bluejays to punch their ticket to the Final Four, the legendary head coach caught wind that a beat reporter who covers her team — the Associated Press' Pete Iacobelli — wasn't planning to make the trip to Minneapolis.

That didn't fly with Staley.

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

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Ed Bailey](#)

[Nancy Salem](#)

Stories of interest

Chris Wallace blames his father and '60 Minutes' for current distrust of the media (Yahoo Entertainment)

Stephen Proctor

Former Fox News host Chris Wallace, now at CNN+, joined The Late Show With Stephen Colbert Monday, where he blamed his legendary father, Mike Wallace, and 60 Minutes, where Mike worked for 40 years, for the current state of, and distrust in, the news media.

“There has been a lot of talk about loss of trust by the American public in the media,” Colbert said. “If you had a magic wand, you could wave it, what would you change, either presently or historically, about the media to try to restore that trust?”

"In a funny way," Wallace responded, "I blame my father for this, Mike Wallace and 60 Minutes."

A shocked Colbert jokingly accused Wallace of throwing his father under the bus, but Wallace explained the negative effect that 60 Minutes had on the news industry.

"It used to be in the old days, and I can remember growing up with my father in the '70s, that news didn't make money. It was a public service, and the networks viewed it as a public service," Wallace said. "And then 60 Minutes came along and showed you could make phenomenal amounts of money with the news business."

Wallace believes that the desire to chase ratings and make money is what needs to change if the news and the public's faith in it are to be restored.

Read more [here](#).

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Cassidy, Klobuchar Introduce Resolution Honoring Journalists Covering War in Ukraine, Exposing Russian War Crimes

Press Release

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senators Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R-LA) and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) today introduced a resolution expressing the United States' gratitude for journalists and news staff risking injury and death to report on the ongoing war in Ukraine resulting from Russian Dictator Vladimir Putin's invasion. The resolution also condemns Putin, Belarus Dictator Lukashenko, and their officials for carrying out attacks on innocent civilians, which is a war crime.

"We are thankful for those in the free press who risk their lives to show the world the truth of what is happening in Ukraine," said Dr. Cassidy. "The world must know the atrocities Putin is directing the Russian army to commit."

"Journalists deserve our gratitude for bravely and tirelessly covering Putin's unprovoked war, risking their lives to do so," said Senator Klobuchar. "The free press has played a critical role in exposing Putin's brutality and combating the lies being spread by the Kremlin. Today and every day, standing up for democracy means standing up for a free press."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Linda Deutsch.

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Turmoil at CBS News over Trump aide Mick Mulvaney's punditry gig (Washington Post)

By Jeremy Barr

CBS News's decision to hire former Trump administration official Mick Mulvaney as a paid on-air contributor is drawing backlash within the company because of his history of bashing the press and promoting the former president's fact-free claims.

But a top network executive seemed to lay the groundwork for the decision in a staff meeting earlier this month, when he said the network needed to hire more Republicans to prepare for a "likely" Democratic midterm wipeout.

"If you look at some of the people that we've been hiring on a contributor basis, being able to make sure that we are getting access to both sides of the aisle is a priority because we know the Republicans are going to take over, most likely, in the midterms," CBS News's co-president Neeraj Khemlani told the staff of the network's morning show, according to a recording of his comments obtained by The Washington Post. "A lot of the people that we're bringing in are helping us in terms of access to that side of the equation."

Read more [here](#).

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Finding humor in Ukraine war? It's (always) the Onion's way (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — Like all effective satire, the Onion's headline had a ring of truth: "Putin Pleased as Plot to Ruin Russian Economy, Destroy International Standing Goes Exactly to Plan."

A month after Russia invaded Ukraine, the comedy website has been willing to Go There, to look for humor in the most searing of stories even as it unfolds. The satirical site has identified Russian President Vladimir Putin's college major as "aggression," showed a coastal resort in Ukraine "with extremely affordable rates right now" and said the United Nations is escalating its response to the invasion from "warnings" to "stern warnings."

Too soon? Too bad.

"Finding comedy in the Ukraine situation serves several functions," says Chad Nackers, editor in chief of The Onion. "It is a powerful tool for exposing the folly and absurdity and human cruelty as well as providing some release from a stressful state of affairs and an endless cycle of misery."

Read more [here](#).

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Altered photo fuels false claims that Oscars slap was staged (AP)

By JOSH KELETY

CLAIM: A photo shows comedian Chris Rock wearing a pad on his cheek during the incident at the Oscars where Will Smith slapped him.

AP'S ASSESSMENT: Altered photo. The photo, which was originally published by Reuters, was manipulated to make it seem as if Rock was wearing a pad on his left cheek. Rock was not wearing a pad on his face when he was hit.

THE FACTS: The altered photograph circulated widely online on Monday and Tuesday. Many social media users shared it and claimed that it was proof that the entire slapping incident was staged.

One Facebook user who posted an image that featured the altered photo wrote on Monday, "Definitely staged, But why ?? Bro gotta whole face pad on his face!!" Similarly, a Twitter user who shared the image wrote on Tuesday, "So Chris Rock had a pad on his cheek to soften the blow #Rigged."

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

Today in History - March 31, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, March 31, the 90th day of 2022. There are 275 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 31, 1991, the Warsaw Pact military alliance came to an end.

On this date:

In 1492, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain issued an edict expelling Jews from Spanish soil, except those willing to convert to Christianity.

In 1814, Paris was occupied by a coalition of Russian, Prussian and Austrian forces; the surrender of the French capital forced the abdication of Emperor Napoleon.

In 1917, the United States took formal possession of the Virgin Islands from Denmark.

In 1931, Notre Dame college football coach Knute Rockne (noot RAHK'-nee), 43, was killed in the crash of a TWA plane in Bazaar, Kansas.

In 1968, at the conclusion of a nationally broadcast address on Vietnam, President Lyndon B. Johnson stunned listeners by declaring, "I shall not seek, and I will not accept, the nomination of my party for another term as your President."

In 1993, actor Brandon Lee, 28, was accidentally shot to death during the filming of a movie in Wilmington, North Carolina, when he was hit by a bullet fragment that had become lodged inside a prop gun.

In 1995, baseball players agreed to end their 232-day strike after a judge granted a preliminary injunction against club owners.

In 2004, four American civilian contractors were killed in Fallujah, Iraq; frenzied crowds dragged the burned, mutilated bodies and strung two of them from a bridge.

In 2005, Terri Schiavo (SHY'-voh), 41, died at a hospice in Pinellas Park, Florida, 13 days after her feeding tube was removed in a wrenching right-to-die court fight.

In 2009, Benjamin Netanyahu took office as Israel's new prime minister after the Knesset approved his government.

In 2019, rapper Nipsey Hussle was fatally shot outside the clothing store he had founded to help rebuild his troubled South Los Angeles neighborhood; he was 33.

In 2020, Britain's Prince Harry and his wife Meghan officially stepped down from duties as members of the royal family.

Ten years ago: Hundreds of world landmarks from Berlin's Brandenburg Gate to the Great Wall of China went dark as part of Earth Hour, a global effort to highlight climate change. Brittney Griner was named The Associated Press' women's college basketball Player of the Year, the first Baylor player to win the award.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump signed a pair of executive orders focused on reducing the U.S. trade deficit; the first order gave the Commerce Department 90 days to assemble a report on the factors behind the trade deficit, while the second sought to increase collection of duties on imports.

One year ago: President Joe Biden outlined a huge \$2.3 trillion plan to reengineer the nation's infrastructure. (Biden would sign a \$1 trillion infrastructure measure into law in November 2021.) The Pentagon swept away Trump-era policies that largely banned transgender people from serving in the military. Pfizer announced that its COVID-19 vaccine was safe and strongly protective in kids as young as 12. The government reported that the COVID-19 pandemic pushed total U.S. deaths in 2020 beyond 3.3 million, the nation's highest annual death toll; the coronavirus was listed as the third leading cause of death in 2020, after heart disease and cancer. The Wisconsin Supreme Court struck down Gov. Tony Evers' statewide mask mandate. A man went on a shooting rampage at a Southern California office building, leaving four people dead, including a 9-year-old boy whose mother was critically wounded. (The suspect, Aminadab Gaxiola Gonzalez, was found incompetent to stand trial because of injuries he suffered in a shootout with police.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor William Daniels is 95. Actor Richard Chamberlain is 88. Actor Shirley Jones is 88. Musician Herb Alpert is 87. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., is 82. Former U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., is 82. Actor Christopher Walken is 79. Comedian Gabe Kaplan is 78. Sen. Angus King, I-Maine, is 78. Rock musician Mick Ralphs (Bad Company; Mott the Hoople) is 78. Former Vice President Al Gore is 75. Author David Eisenhower is 74. Actor Rhea Perlman is 74. Actor Robbie Coltrane is 72. Actor Ed Marinaro is 72. Rock musician Angus Young (AC/DC) is 67. Actor Marc McClure is 65. Actor William McNamara is 57. Alt-country musician Bob Crawford (The Avett (AY'-veht) Brothers) is 51. Actor Ewan (YOO'-en) McGregor is 51. Actor Erica Tazel is 47. Actor Judi Shekoni is 44. Rapper Tony Yayo is 44. Actor Kate Micucci is 42. Actor Brian Tyree Henry (TV: "Atlanta" Stage: "Book of Mormon") is 40. Actor Melissa Ordway is 39. Jazz musician Christian Scott is 39. Pop musician Jack Antonoff (fun.) is 38. Actor Jessica Szohr is 37.

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

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