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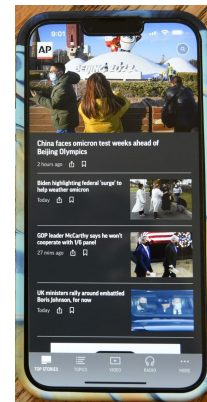
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Connecting

April 1, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this April 1, 2022,

Our congratulations are extended to **Marjorie Miller**, AP vice president and Global Enterprise Editor, on her selection as the new administrator of the Pulitzer Prizes.

Her appointment, effective April 11, was announced by the Pulitzer Prize Board and by Lee C. Bollinger, president of Columbia University, which is home to the administration of the prestigious prizes in journalism, letters, drama and music.

Miller will be the second Pulitzer administrator to have worked for The Associated Press. The first was [Seymour Topping](#), Pulitzer administrator from 1993 to 2002. Topping was among the most accomplished foreign correspondents of his generation for the AP and The New York Times and later a top editor at the Times. He died in 2020 at the age of 98.

Today's Connecting brings memories from colleagues of AP photographer **Bob Child**, who covered Connecticut's biggest news events for nearly a half century. He died

Wednesday at the age of 86.

And, with the start of a new month, we bring you the latest listing of our colleagues who are proud members of the Connecting 80s and 90s Club.

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Journalist Marjorie Miller is Elected Administrator of the Pulitzer Prizes



Marjorie Miller is photographed in New York City, Tuesday, March 29, 2022. (AP Photo: J. David Ake)

News Release, The Pulitzer Prizes

New York, N.Y, March 31, 2022 -- Marjorie Miller, Vice President and Global Enterprise Editor at The Associated Press, has been named administrator of the Pulitzer Prizes after a broad search. The appointment, effective April 11, was announced by the Pulitzer Prize Board and by Lee C. Bollinger, president of Columbia University, which is home to the administration of the prestigious prizes in journalism, letters, drama and music.

Miller has had a long and celebrated career in journalism. She was a reporter in the United States and a foreign correspondent for the Los Angeles Times in Latin America,

the Middle East and Europe, before becoming an editor. She was the Times's Foreign Editor when the paper won a Pulitzer Prize for Russia coverage and was a finalist for Iraq War coverage. She also wrote editorials on international affairs.

In 2010, Miller joined the AP in Mexico City as regional editor for Latin America and the Caribbean, where her staff won U.S. and international prizes for coverage of violence in Central America and Mexico. In 2015 she moved to New York to oversee enterprise and investigative projects in all formats, including work from Yemen that won the 2019 Pulitzer for International Reporting.

Miller serves on the boards of the Overseas Press Club, the CUNY Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism Foundation and the Maria Moors Cabot Prizes. She is a judge for the New York Public Library's Bernstein Book Awards.

"We're excited to have Miller, a distinguished journalist and experienced leader, overseeing our efforts to recognize the best of American journalism and arts and letters," said Board Co-Chairs Katherine Boo of the New Yorker, Gail Collins of the New York Times, and John Daniszewski of the Associated Press. "We expect her to help the prizes evolve with the times while preserving a tradition of integrity and excellence."

"Marjorie Miller has spent her long and successful career covering the complex and consequential forces shaping our global society," said President Bollinger, who is also a Board member. "I cannot think of a better steward for the Pulitzer Prizes, which celebrate excellence in journalism, arts, and letters and recognize the powerful, public service role they play in promoting tolerance, advancing the search for truth, and protecting the free exchange of information and ideas."

"I am thrilled to accept the position of Administrator of the Pulitzer Prizes, which represent the gold standard of American journalism, arts and letters," said Miller. "I will take pride in helping to safeguard the prizes at a time when truth, facts and books are under assault. And I will fight just as hard to make sure that a free press will continue to hold the powerful to account and expose injustice. I also look forward to celebrating the beauty and humor that are just as essential to life."

Miller will succeed esteemed Acting Administrator Edward Kliment, who has run the organization for the last two years and chose not to contend for the position; he has agreed to stay on as Miller's deputy.

The Pulitzer Prize administrator's office works with the Board on a wide range of activities, including selection of juries, prize deliberations and arranging the twice-annual meetings of the Board, which chooses the winners each spring. This year's prizes will be announced on Monday, May 9th.

Click [here](#) for link to this story.

Click [here](#) for link to AP story.

Memories of Bob Child

Bob Child and the Blizzard of 1978

[Jane Anderson Vercelli](#) - I first met Bob Child in the early 1970s when he was taking photos for the AP at the Black Panther Party trials in New Haven, Conn. UPI assigned me as a stringer to cover the trials and later hired me full-time in the Hartford bureau.

Fast forward to the Blizzard of 1978.

When snow started falling on Feb. 6 at a rate of four inches an hour, traffic came to a standstill throughout Connecticut. Snowplows were overwhelmed. Many people abandoned their cars on the interstate highways and walked to the nearest exits to find rides home.

Gov. Ella Grasso ordered roads closed statewide.

For four or five days, eastern Connecticut was cut off from the rest of the state. I was working at the UPI Hartford bureau. I had no way to get to my house in Thompson in the far northeast corner only a couple of miles from Rhode Island to the east and Massachusetts to the north.

Thompson was one of several Connecticut towns on the Massachusetts border that received 24 inches of snow.

To get a bird's eye view of eastern Connecticut, Gov. Grasso and a few members of the press took a helicopter ride to Norwich.

I was pleased to be assigned to cover this story because I had experience describing rural winter scenes for a travel book I had written called *Inn Perspective: A Guide to New England Inns*.

When we arrived in Norwich, the helicopter was hovering as it slowly descended. Out of the windows the governor saw, along with the rest of us, eight huge letters written in the snow spelling the words, "ELLA HELP."

From a perfect angle, Bob Child took a great photo of that scene.

I wrote a story describing the landscape of houses with snow embroidered windowpanes and smoke curling from the chimneys into the cold air. I highlighted the words carved into the snow by a couple of schoolboys who were obviously not in school.

On the ride back to Hartford, Ella's press secretary, Larry DeBear, was asked if he set the photo up in advance of Ella running for re-election the following fall. DeBear swore up down and sideways that he didn't set the photo up. Later, the boys were interviewed. DeBear told the truth.

I am proud to say that every single one of the two-service newspapers at the time in Connecticut used my story AND Bob Child's photo.

I am even prouder to say that later that year, I had the privilege of being hired by the AP fulfilling a dream I had pursued for a decade.

And that's my story about Bob Child and the Blizzard of 1978.

Life Through the Lens of Bob Child

[Donna Tommelleo](#) - As a former AP Hartford newswoman and sports writer, I had the honor of working with Bob for nearly 14 years. But I hardly know where to begin or end when trying to take the measure of a man so universally respected by those who worked with him and those who competed against him. He was imposing and impassable when jockeying for the perfect spot to get the shot. But he also was kind and gentle and always generous in sharing his memories of chronicling Connecticut – from the everyday assignments to the moments that made history.

One of those moments that stand out for me was June 21, 2004. That was the day Gov. John G. Rowland resigned. Midway through his third term, Rowland was facing impeachment and federal corruption charges. He was eventually convicted and served 10 months in federal prison. The soon-to-be ex-governor asked that Bob be the only still photographer at the Executive Residence when Rowland, with his wife at his side, took the podium and announced his resignation. Also, AP Hartford Statehouse Reporter Susan Haigh was pool print reporter on the scene.

That day of momentous change for the state of Connecticut was documented through Bob's lens – the one man whose keen eye and instinct has captured so much for so many.

A dedicated photojournalist and mentor to many

[Dan Hansen](#) - A dedicated photojournalist and mentor to many young photographers, reporters and this former AP photo editor. I had a 20-plus year working relationship with Bob, first as an AP Northeast Regional Photo Editor out of NYC and then during my time as photo editor in Boston, working with Bob on breaking news stories and many NCAA basketball tournaments- always a pleasure.

I always appreciated his experienced guidance and advice.

A long look back

[Norm Abelson](#) - Recently, I observed my 91st birthday, and started reminiscing about the 33,000-day span of my life, and how it came about.

The story of the first day, and what led up to it, was told to me by my Mom some 50 years later. Here's what I learned from her:

Harry Abelson and Sophia Velleman met first as youngsters in the rock-strewn schoolyard of Daniels Elementary School. After some years, the friends separated when Harry ran off, at the age of 15, for an 8-year stint in the Navy. During those times, they kept up a continuing correspondence, and shared feelings that gradually grew into love. (The family still keeps a packet of those crumbling letters my dad wrote.) Harry made his way back home, where he wooed and courted his former schoolmate. Sixteen months after their marriage, I was ready to make my debut.



March 16, 1931, dawned windy and overcast in Malden, a working-class community, five miles outside of Boston. Alternately, it snowed large, wet flakes, and spit icy rain.

Twenty-seven-year-old Sophia Abelson was in her bed in the maternity ward of the old Malden Hospital, She lay alone, alternately moaning in pain, and breathing easy when drugs were administered. As visits weren't allowed back then, Harry, her husband, and Aaron, her dad were out together having a few drinks, plotting the future of the family's first grandchild.

On that dark winter day, I was busy making my way down the birth canal, and into the world. It was a journey I shared with billions of other primates, and yet heralded a life to come that was to be individual and different from any other. A life directed by the mysterious intertwining of infinitesimal particles inside my tiny brain that commanded me to take my first breath of earth's air.

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Back some 60-odd years to my AP days at the Concord, N.H., office, I made a call to a guy up in the North Country, who was about to celebrate his 100th birthday. I asked him, in my most professional voice: "To what do you attribute your longevity?"

"Well, young fellow," he replied. "I just keep breathin."

I'm still following his advice.

Connecting mailbox

On placing blame for distrust of media on his father and 60 Minutes

John Willis - Chris Wallace placing blame on his father and 60 Minutes for today's public distrust of the media is like saying Santa Claus is to blame for Christmas.

After exiting one multi-million-dollar contract at Fox News for a bigger paycheck at CNN+ he is telling us the news shouldn't be trying to make money??

How are reporters supposed to get paid if a news organization doesn't make any money? True, The AP is a not-for-profit cooperative, but television was made to make money. Public service went out the window with "the fairness doctrine" for broadcasters during the Reagan administration. Cable just made it more difficult for over the air broadcasters to make any money.

Maybe Wallace should get his own comedy gig.

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A 1st Ld-Writethru on a can of beer



Old version on left, new version on right.

Margaret Lillard – After attending the recent memorial for Walter Mears in Chapel Hill, I took myself to dinner and on the menu was one of my favorite beers - Gizmo's Fake News IPA. If you've never heard of it, please note they did what I called a 1st Ld-Writethru on their can around the 2020 election.

I like to think the note read: "Eds: REDESIGNS to more appropriately place blame on certain types of 'reporters.'" Of course, I ordered one to salute a man who, as much as any of our colleagues, put the lie to that obnoxious term.

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AP Stylebook update

[Colleen Newvine](#), product manager, AP Stylebook:

March 2022 - It's been a busy month for the Stylebook team.

We released our new guidance on when to use capitalized Deaf versus lowercase deaf, sharing that earlier than planned to support coverage of the Oscars. Then we published our AP Stylebook Online Topical Guide about the Russia-Ukraine war. We launched our revised and expanded Religion chapter at the Religion News Association conference.

But just you wait, just you wait – there's even more coming this weekend, when we present at ACES: The Society for Editing. Stylebook editor Paula Froke will announce numerous new entries and updates.

We share highlights [here](#). Details are on AP Stylebook Online.

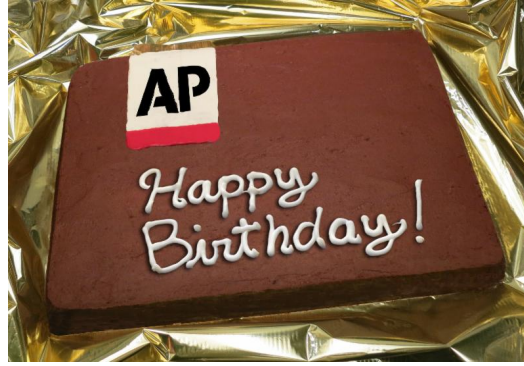
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Connecting sky shot – Grayton Beach, Florida



[Amy Sancetta](#) - My cousin Donna Brooks cast her line into the Atlantic off the coast of Grayton Beach, FL. Big storms with high winds, thunder and heavy rains overnight are clearing this morning to give us another lovely day out of the northern snows.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Marcus Eliason

On Saturday to...

Amanda St. Amand

On Sunday to...

Charles Arbogast

Connecting '80s/'90s Club

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Connecting publishes this list at the beginning of each month. If you are qualified for one of the age groups and would like to be listed, drop me a note. Please let me know of any errors.)

90s:

**Norm Abelson
Henry Bradsher
Hal Buell
Frank Daniels Jr.
Phil Dopoulos
Albert Habhab
George Hanna
Hoyt Harwell
Gene Herrick
Elaine Light**

**Joe McGowan
Sam Montello
Charlie Monzella
Jack Pace
Bob Petsche
Arlon Southall
Sal Veder
Harold Waters
Doris Webster
Arnold Zeitlin**

80s:

**Paul Albright
Peter Arnett
Harry Atkins
Malcolm Barr
Myron Belkind
Dan Berger
Adolphe Bernotas
Lou Boccardi
Hal Bock
William Roy Bolch Jr.
Ben Brown
Charles Bruce
Ford Burkhart
Harry Cabluck
Sibby Christensen
Shirley Christian
Don Dashiell
Bob Daugherty
Don Deibler
Bob Dobkin
Otto Doelling
John Eagan
Claude Erbsen
Mike Feinsilber
Dodi Fromson**

Bill Gillen
Steve Graham
Bob Greene
Paul Harrington
Chick Harrity
Lee Jones
Doug Kienitz
Dean Lee
Pierce Lehmbeck
Warren Lerude
Gene LaHammer
Carl Leubsdorf
David Liu
John Marlow
Dave Mazzarella
Yvette Mercourt
Reid Miller
Harry Moskos
Ray Newton
Greg Nokes
Lyle Price
Charles Richards
Bruce Richardson
Mike Rouse
Denis Searles
Richard Shafer
Mike Short
Rick Spratling
Ed Staats
Karol Stonger
Marty Thompson
Hilmi Toros
Kernan Turner
Jack Walker
Mike Waller
Bob Walsh
Dean Wariner
Jeff Williams

Johnny Yost
Kent Zimmerman

Stories of interest

Media Needs An Honest Reckoning: Part 1 (MediaPost)

Dan Perry, Op-Ed Contributor

The news industry is reeling after a parade of errors over two decades -- and this is a disaster, because the rough draft of history cannot be produced by algorithms or the wisdom of the crowd.

Open societies and free markets need dedicated and knowledgeable journalists holding power to account and connecting the dots. Voters and investors will make terrible mistakes if information comes only from partisans, and social media.

Where Americans increasingly get their information is a zone of hysteria, extremism, and nonsense.

Industries in meltdown don't tend to soberly reflect. But this one is so important that we should fervently hope for an exception.

Read more [here](#).

And...

Media Needs An Honest Reckoning: Part II (MediaPost)

by Dan Perry , Op-Ed Contributor

Fixing the media is an especially tough discussion in the United States, because corporate America is more bureaucratic and risk-averse than it likes to think, and people walk on eggshells. But we have to break some eggs.

To begin with, the industry needs more clever people at the top.

Newspapers erred disastrously in the 1990s by throwing everything online for free. That's hard to walk back, as publishers are attempting with paywalls that amount to subscriptions.

Many sites lack content unique enough to generate that kind of commitment. Publishers hated "micropayments," the closest equivalent of picking up a copy, first because online payment systems had yet to mature, and now for fear of cannibalizing subscriptions.

Part of the reason for 20 years of confusion is that while the media pays what it must for good journalists, it cannot pay product and businesspeople enough to compete. So innovation and vision generally lie elsewhere.

Read more [here](#).

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Australian Journalist Who Worked for Chinese Media Stands Trial in Beijing (New York Times)

By Chris Buckley

Almost 20 months after she was detained in Beijing, an Australian journalist who worked for China's global television network stood trial behind closed doors on Thursday, accused of sending state secrets abroad.

The Chinese authorities have not released the details of their allegations against the journalist, Cheng Lei, nor have her lawyers or family disclosed any specifics. Australia's ambassador to China, Graham Fletcher, was not allowed to attend Ms. Cheng's trial at the No. 2 Intermediate People's Court in Beijing.

"We can have no confidence in the validity of a process which is conducted in secret," Mr. Fletcher said after being denied entry.

Court officials cited Chinese restrictions on access to proceedings involving national security, but Mr. Fletcher said Australia's consular agreement with China should allow diplomats to attend any trial of an Australian national.

Read more [here](#).

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From kid gloves to rubber bullets: How the LAPD's ties to news media unraveled (NPR)

DAVID FOLKENFLIK

The harsh treatment of journalists by police at Los Angeles' Echo Park Lake a year ago this month drew outrage, but it did not occur in a vacuum.

The melee served as a bookend to months of protest and tumult — much of it directed at law enforcement agencies — following the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer in late May 2020.

Police across the country found themselves charged with containing the protests for social justice — many of them focused on police violence — and suppressing the associated rioting and destruction that periodically ensued.

The year 2020 set records for detentions of journalists in the United States. In 2021, that figure dropped but was still high. According to the U.S. Press Freedom Tracker project, 59 journalists were arrested or detained across the nation.

Read more [here](#).

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She Took the White House Photos. Trump Moved to Take the Profit. (New York Times)

By Eric Lipton and Maggie Haberman

WASHINGTON — As President Donald J. Trump's tenure came to an end, the chief White House photographer, who had traveled the world with him and spent countless hours inside the White House snapping pictures, notified Mr. Trump's aides that she intended to publish a book collecting some of her most memorable images.

This was hardly a radical idea: Official photographers from every White House since President Ronald Reagan's have published their own books. Barack Obama and George W. Bush were so supportive that they wrote forewords for them.

But like so much else involving Mr. Trump, the plan by his chief photographer, Shealah Craighead, did not follow this bipartisan norm.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady, Doug Pizac, Dennis Conrad.

The Final Word

A FEW FACTS ABOUT THE VIETNAM WALL



There are 58,267 names on the wall.

39,996 were just 22 or younger.

8,283 were 19. 33,103 were 18.

12 were 17 years old.

5 soldiers were 16.

There are 3 sets of fathers and sons on the wall.

31 sets of parents lost 2 of their sons.

997 were killed their first day.

1,448 were killed on their last day.

8 women were on the wall, nurses.

244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the war and 153 of them are on the wall.

Today in History - April 1, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, April 1, the 91st day of 2022. There are 274 days left in the year. This is April Fool's Day.

Today's Highlights in History:

On April 1, 1972, the first Major League Baseball players' strike began; it lasted 12 days. Twenty years later, on April 1, 1992, the National Hockey League Players' Association went on its first-ever strike, which lasted 10 days.

On this date:

In 1865, during the Civil War, Union forces routed Confederate soldiers in the Battle of Five Forks in Virginia.

In 1891, the Wrigley Co. was founded in Chicago by William Wrigley, Jr.

In 1924, Adolf Hitler was sentenced to five years in prison for his role in the Beer Hall Putsch in Munich. (Hitler was released in December 1924; during his time behind bars, he wrote his autobiographical screed, "Mein Kampf.")

In 1945, American forces launched the amphibious invasion of Okinawa during World War II. (U.S. forces succeeded in capturing the Japanese island on June 22.)

In 1970, President Richard M. Nixon signed a measure banning cigarette advertising on radio and television, to take effect after Jan. 1, 1971.

In 1975, with Khmer Rouge guerrillas closing in, Cambodian President Lon Nol resigned and fled into exile, spending the rest of his life in the United States.

In 1976, Apple Computer was founded by Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne.

In 1977, the U.S. Senate followed the example of the House of Representatives by adopting, 86-9, a stringent code of ethics requiring full financial disclosure and limits on outside income.

In 2003, American troops entered a hospital in Nasiriyah (nah-sih-REE'-uh), Iraq, and rescued Army Pfc. Jessica Lynch, who had been held prisoner since her unit was ambushed on March 23.

In 2011, Afghans angry over the burning of a Quran at a small Florida church stormed a U.N. compound in northern Afghanistan, killing seven foreigners, including four Nepalese guards.

In 2016, world leaders ended a nuclear security summit in Washington by declaring progress in safeguarding nuclear materials sought by terrorists and wayward nations, even as President Barack Obama acknowledged the task was far from finished.

In 2020, resisting calls to issue a national stay-at-home order, President Donald Trump said he wanted to give governors "flexibility" to respond to the coronavirus. Under growing pressure, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis joined his counterparts in more than 30 states in issuing a stay-at-home order.

Ten years ago: A coalition of more than 70 partners, including the United States, pledged to send millions of dollars and communications equipment to Syria's opposition groups. Myanmar's democracy icon, Aung San Suu Kyi (ahng sahn soo chee), was elected to her country's parliament. Taylor Swift was named entertainer of the year for the second year in a row at the Academy of Country Music Awards.

Five years ago: An avalanche of water from three overflowing rivers swept through a small city in Colombia, leaving more than 300 dead. Bob Dylan finally received his Nobel Literature diploma and medal during a small gathering in Stockholm, where he was performing a concert. Two-time NBA scoring champion Tracy McGrady, Kansas coach Bill Self, former Chicago Bulls executive Jerry Krause and former UConn star Rebecca Lobo were among 11 people named to the Basketball Hall of Fame.

One year ago: On the opening day of the baseball season, the game between the Washington Nationals and the New York Mets was postponed after four Nationals players tested positive for COVID-19; the entire three-game series would be postponed a day later. Virginia's highest court ruled that the city of Charlottesville could take down two statues of Confederate generals, including one of Robert E. Lee that became the focus of a violent white nationalist rally in 2017. Seven pro-democracy advocates in Hong Kong were convicted on charges of organizing and participating in massive anti-government protests. North Carolina said Hall of Fame basketball coach Roy Williams was retiring; the decision came two weeks after Williams closed his 18th season with the Tar Heels.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Don Hastings is 88. Actor Ali MacGraw is 83. R&B singer Rudolph Isley is 83. Reggae singer Jimmy Cliff is 74. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito is 72. Rock musician Billy Currie (Ultravox) is 72. Actor Annette O'Toole is 70. Movie director Barry Sonnenfeld is 69. Singer Susan Boyle is 61. Actor Jose Zuniga is 60. Country singer Woody Lee is 54. Actor Jessica Collins is 51. Rapper-actor Method Man is 51. Movie directors Albert and Allen Hughes are 50. Political commentator Rachel Maddow is 49. Former tennis player Magdalena Maleeva is 47. Actor David Oyelowo (oh-YEHLOH'-oh) is 46. Actor JJ Field is 44. Singer Bijou Phillips is 42. Actor Sam Huntington is 40. Comedian-actor Taran Killam is 40. Actor Matt Lanter is 39.

Actor Josh Zuckerman is 37. Country singer Hillary Scott (Lady A) is 36. Rock drummer Areyah Hale (Halestorm) is 35. Actor Asa Butterfield is 25. Actor Tyler Wladis is 12.

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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