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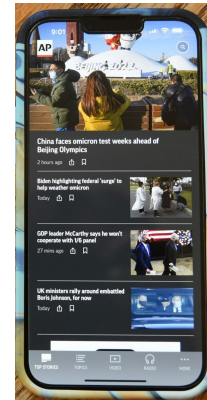
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# Connecting

April 4, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this April 4, 2022,

Good news broke last Friday morning and while it missed Connecting’s deadline, it is a pleasure to share as the lead in today’s issue.

In an update from Ethiopia, AP Executive Editor **Julie Pace** shared with worldwide staff: “We’re very happy to let you know that **Amir Aman Kiyaro** was released on bail this morning. This is wonderful news for Amir, his family, and the many people at AP and elsewhere who have been championing his release. We continue to urge Ethiopian authorities to end their investigation into Amir, which has so far resulted in no charges.

“While the threat of charges remains and our work on behalf of Amir continues, I do want to take a moment to thank several people who have been deeply involved in trying to secure

his release from prison. Our Africa team – particularly news director **Andy Drake**, East Africa bureau chief **Ben Curtis**, senior producer **Khaled Kazziha**, East Africa correspondent **Cara Anna** and Africa news editor **Andy Meldrum** – have worked tirelessly on this case. **Ian Phillips**, **Karen Kaiser** and **Lauren Easton** have also been dogged and creative in helping draw attention and resources to Amir’s detention. I am deeply appreciative of their work.”

Click [here](#) for the story that moved Friday, headlined: **Ethiopian journalist accredited to AP is released on bail**. It leads:

*NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Ethiopian journalist Amir Aman Kiyaro, who is accredited to The Associated Press and has been imprisoned for four months without charges, has been released on bail.*

*Kiyaro, a 30-year-old video journalist, was freed on bail Friday after the country’s Supreme Court upheld the ruling to grant him bail, rejecting a police effort to block his release.*

*Prosecutors say they are continuing investigations to determine whether or not to press charges against Kiyaro.*

*His bail was set at 60,000 Ethiopian birr, about \$1,170, according to his lawyer. Kiyaro was detained on Nov. 28 in Addis Ababa under the country’s war-related state of emergency powers.*

*Kiyaro is accused of “serving the purposes” of what the government has classified as a terrorist group by interviewing its officials, according to reports by Ethiopian state media, which cited federal police. Local journalist Thomas Engida was arrested at the same time and faces similar charges. Ethiopia’s Supreme Court also ruled that Engida should be released on bail.*

**Our lead story in Stories of Interest is an excellent piece from Editor and Publisher on the dearth of those with military service in the ranks of U.S. media.** The story notes that 7 percent of Americans have served in the armed forces, yet only 2 percent of media workers are veterans.

Give the story a read and let your colleagues know what you think. Before the all-volunteer services, in the days of the draft, I am guessing many more of us carried military experience into our jobs in journalism. There are real benefits that veterans bring to the table, the story points out, but they face some obstacles, too. Borrow from your own experience, if applicable.

Here’s to a great week ahead – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul



# AP, Frontline launch 'War Crimes Watch Ukraine'



**Mariana Vishegirskaia stands outside a maternity hospital that was damaged by shelling in Mariupol, Ukraine, Wednesday, March 9, 2022. Vishegirskaia survived the shelling and later gave birth to a girl in another hospital in Mariupol. (AP Photo/Mstyslav Chernov)**

Today (March 25), The Associated Press and the PBS investigative documentary series Frontline announced the launch of "War Crimes Watch Ukraine," a major reporting effort to gather, verify and comprehensively catalog evidence of potential war crimes committed during one of the largest conflicts in Europe since the end of World War II.

The "War Crimes Watch Ukraine" digital tracker documents visual evidence of apparent targeted attacks on civilian buildings and infrastructure — including on hospitals, schools and residential areas — and tracks other violations of international humanitarian law.

The co-published database is interactive, allowing readers to explore incidents by date, city, type of target, and whether civilians or children were killed in an attack.

The visual evidence is gathered from video, photographs, audio, eyewitness accounts, news stories and official documents citing evidence of war crimes. The sources include AP's journalists on the ground, other news organizations, social media posts, international human rights organizations — particularly the London-based Center for Information Resilience — the Ukrainian military and government, and local non-governmental organizations.

For incidents not witnessed by AP journalists, a team of reporters works to verify the events using a variety of web tools, geolocating images posted on social media, comparing them to earlier photographs or satellite imagery, and confirming their veracity. The reporters seek out corroborating social media posts and published witness accounts, and interview additional witnesses to the events, in addition to looking for official confirmation of attacks from organizations such as the United Nations.

Events are only added to the "War Crimes Watch Ukraine" database after they are independently confirmed. AP and Frontline also consulted with experts in international war crimes law to understand what separates a violation of international law from wartime collateral damage.

"War Crimes Watch Ukraine" is part of a larger editorial collaboration between AP and Frontline examining the war in Ukraine. It also includes co-published stories that paint the broader picture of Russia's action in the region, short-form digital videos, and a documentary slated to air on PBS and begin streaming in fall 2022.

Read more [here](#).

## Connecting mailbox

### *At Fred Jewell memorial luncheon in Chicago*



Former Chicago photo managers David Ake (R) and Rob Kozloff (L) telling stories about working with retired Chicago photographer Fred Jewell during his memorial luncheon in Chicago, Sunday, April 3, 2022. Listening with her back to the camera is Fred's wife Anne Jewell. Photo by Matt Maton. Click [here](#) for his obituary.

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## *Remembering Anja*



Today marks the eighth anniversary of [the death](#) of AP photographer Anja Niedringhaus, who was killed while working in Afghanistan alongside her friend and colleague Kathy Gannon, who was seriously injured and today is AP's news director for Afghanistan and Pakistan. "She's forever in my heart," said Kathy, who recently announced plans to retire May 15. Anja's mother Heidi helps keep her daughter's memory alive, sharing this photo of the gravesite of Anja in her hometown of Hoxter, Germany.

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## *'She died with her face frozen in a scream'*

[Wendy Davis Beard](#) – Putting thoughts into words after reading Jeremy Bowen reporting from Ukraine on the BBC:

She died with her face frozen in a scream.

Her last sight the image of their young son left clutching her close friend on the roadside beyond the capital of Kiev.  
Her husband already murdered, after showing himself (we see captured on drone footage).  
As a fleeing civilian with his family in an unmarked car.

Arms flaying, futile to stop the carnage which would begin almost immediately.  
Another war crime in a full roll of recorded, and presumably more unrecorded war crimes.  
By both career soldiers and inexperienced conscripts.

Eventually sent home, Possibly unbroken in body,  
but demented in mind and soul,  
By what some have done in a war Putin acknowledges is against their own brothers and sisters of Ukraine.

Will they be shamed by their own friends and family?  
Once the truth of their actions is revealed through eventual access to the free press?  
Fair coverage allowed only outside Russia, but ultimately boot legged or doggedly hacked - because human nature is interested in searching for the truth, no matter how brutal ugly or damning of one's own.

We in the West have no monopoly on the need to know.

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## ***Rockin' Chair Thoughts***

**Gene Herrick** - It has been a while since my old rockin' chair has been warm enough to even think, let alone write about the hidden mysteries within its old innards.

I suppose age, the chair and mine, makes a difference.

So, it was a giant surprise this morning when I felt activity in that very top part of my head. It said, "Good morning, how have you been these last few months?" I thought to myself, months?

I was quick to respond. "What do you mean – months?" Going further, "You and your lousy cold, and stormy weather started last fall, and has now taken advantage of our inability to do anything about it."

I also told the "Weatherman/Woman about some experiences I had earlier in my AP career, where they would call with a tornado alert. I explained that there had already been two tornadoes in the area. "What mystic globe are you using?"

Earlier this week, we went through the tornado alert phase, which, of course, raised the hair on everyone's neck. Kitty, my mate, got riled up (as the weather bureau would have it), and headed for the basement. I followed for a few minutes, got up and stuck my head out-of-doors. In my opinion and having had many experiences with this type of thing, I decided there was no chance of a tornado. Finally, you know who, returned

upstairs. There was no tornado in sight. I figured it was because I could not smell it. It's been said that I have a large protuberance.

### *Best of the Week*

## AP account of last journalists in Mariupol is a must-read; investigation builds case for war crimes



**Ukrainian emergency responders and volunteers carry an injured pregnant woman from a maternity and children's hospital hit by Russian shelling in Mariupol, March 9, 2022. The woman and her unborn child later died. AP PHOTO / EVGENIY MALOLETKA**

At great personal risk, AP's team in Mariupol produced some of the bravest, most revealing work out of Ukraine. The backstory of their gritty reporting is masterfully retold by Paris-based writer Lori Hinnant in a blockbuster, all-formats piece that riveted readers across the globe.

The video, photos and text produced during 20 days and nights in Mariupol also contributed to an impressive AP collaboration with PBS Frontline, documenting Russian attacks on medical facilities, ambulances and medics, building the case for war crimes. These two complementary efforts, rooted in the tragedy unfolding in Ukraine, share AP's Best of the Week — First Winner honors.

With Mariupol surrounded and under fire by Russian forces, AP video journalist Mstyslav Chernov, photographer Evgeniy Maloletka and producer Vasylysa Stepanenko singlehandedly put the city's horrendous humanitarian plight on the international radar before the team's harrowing evacuation in a mid-March convoy. Hinnant pulled together their story after days of interviewing Chernov, going over detail after detail

and combing through his videos to see what the journalists had seen in the besieged city. The structure, pacing and details are gripping.

Read more [here](#).

## Stories of interest

***Veteran journalists are finding a place in America's media, but their numbers are low*** (Editor and Publisher)



Raychel Young-Porter, the woman on the cover of the April issue of E&P, is a photojournalist on a mission.

Mary Reardon | for Editor & Publisher

While the first saturation-coverage war in years unfolds in Europe, many may look to journalists with military backgrounds for context grounded in experience. Yet the ranks of vets in the U.S. media are thin. Around 7 percent of Americans have served in the armed forces. Still, only 2 percent of media workers are veterans, according to a



Census data analysis from Military Vets in Journalism (MVJ), a group founded in 2019 with a mission to attract more veterans to the industry. Veterans haven't flocked to the field despite their proximity to current events and the developed skill sets and specialized knowledge many possess.

Journalism is a challenging field to break into is a common refrain from veterans moving into and already ensconced in the U.S. media. "There was a time where I didn't want to be a journalist because I was getting people saying it's hard to get into and it's cutthroat," says Altasia Johnson, a former Air Force sergeant now building a career in journalism.

"Journalism is a really hard field to break into no matter who you are," says MVJ co-founder and president Russell Midori, a former Marine. "It's a professional job that pays low, especially in the beginning, and it costs a lot of money to build the degrees and what you need to build bona fides in the industry."

The U.S. Army pays its employees an average of \$64,000 a year. The Marine Corps is at \$52,000, the Navy is at \$69,000, the Air Force is at \$65,000 and the Coast Guard average base salary is \$77,000, according to PayScale. The average salary for a journalist is \$41,000.

"I think a lot of times, veterans just give up and say, 'Well, I'll become a cop, where my skills are valued,' or 'I'll go do another job where I can at least start at \$50,000 a year and have a 401(k)," said Midori.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Journalists impeded, not muzzled, by Russian reporting rules*** (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — In a recent dispatch from Moscow, BBC correspondent Steve Rosenberg noted that a new Russian law required him to refer to the invasion of Ukraine as a "special military operation." Then he quoted a Russian human rights lawyer who liberally used what is now a forbidden word: "war."

The restrictions on how news organizations can report in Russia, which carry punishment of up to 15 years in prison, have impeded journalists, but not muzzled them. Many continue to report aggressively, even from outside the country, by making use of modern tools unavailable a generation ago: the Internet, encrypted communications, mobile-phone cameras in the hands of millions — and simple bravery.

"I don't think there's any kind of lack of information about what is happening in Russia," said Vasily Gatov, a Boston-based Russian media researcher whose mother still lives in Moscow.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Myron Belkind.

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## ***Paul Huntsman saved a newspaper — then launched an investigation of his brother's rival*** (Washington Post)

**By Paul Farhi**

After he watched Utah's government struggle to roll out a coronavirus testing program, the Salt Lake Tribune's chairman, Paul Huntsman, turned into a watchdog: He formed an investigative unit in early 2021, he said, to look into how the state was awarding testing contracts without competitive bidding.

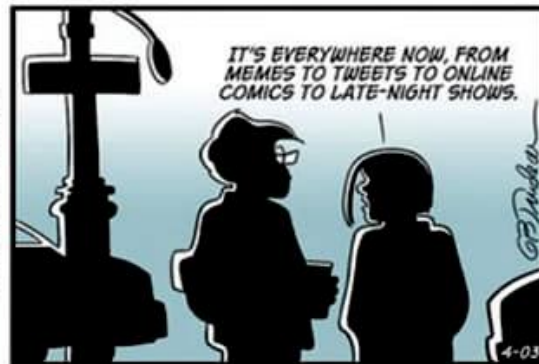
But in a highly unusual arrangement, Huntsman didn't use his own newspaper. He started a company instead, working with lawyers to investigate how tens of millions of dollars' worth of contracts were awarded under Utah's then-lieutenant governor and now-governor, Spencer Cox.

As it happened, Huntsman's brother — prominent politician and businessman Jon Huntsman — had unsuccessfully challenged Cox the previous year for the Republican nomination for governor.

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

## **The Final Word**

# Doonesbury by Garry Trudeau



Shared by Harry Dunphy, Len Iwanski.

## Today in History - April 4, 2022



## By The Associated Press

**Today is Monday, April 4, the 94th day of 2022. There are 271 days left in the year.**

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

On April 4, 1968, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., 39, was shot and killed while standing on a balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee; his slaying was followed by a wave of rioting (Washington, D.C., Baltimore and Chicago were among cities particularly hard hit). James Earl Ray later pleaded guilty to assassinating King, then spent the rest of his life claiming he'd been the victim of a setup.

### **On this date:**

In 1841, President William Henry Harrison succumbed to pneumonia one month after his inaugural, becoming the first U.S. chief executive to die in office.

In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln, accompanied by his son Tad, visited the vanquished Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia, where he was greeted by a crowd that included former slaves.

In 1917, the U.S. Senate voted 82-6 in favor of declaring war against Germany (the House followed suit two days later by a vote of 373-50).

In 1945, during World War II, U.S. forces liberated the Nazi concentration camp Ohrdruf in Germany. Hungary was liberated as Soviet forces cleared out remaining German troops.

In 1949, 12 nations, including the United States, signed the North Atlantic Treaty in Washington, D.C.

In 1973, the twin towers of New York's World Trade Center were officially dedicated. (The towers were destroyed in the terrorist attack of Sept. 11, 2001.)

In 1974, Hank Aaron of the Atlanta Braves tied Babe Ruth's home-run record by hitting his 714th round-tripper in Cincinnati.

In 1975, more than 130 people, most of them children, were killed when a U.S. Air Force transport plane evacuating Vietnamese orphans crash-landed shortly after takeoff from Saigon. Microsoft was founded by Bill Gates and Paul Allen in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

In 1983, the space shuttle Challenger roared into orbit on its maiden voyage. (It was destroyed in the disaster of January 1986.)

In 1991, Sen. John Heinz, R-Pa., and six other people, including two children, were killed when a helicopter collided with Heinz's plane over a schoolyard in Merion, Pennsylvania.

In 2011, yielding to political opposition, the Obama administration gave up on trying to avowed Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheik Mohammed and four alleged co-conspirators in civilian federal courts and said it would prosecute them instead before military commissions.

In 2015, in North Charleston, South Carolina, Walter Scott, a 50-year-old Black motorist, was shot to death while running away from a traffic stop; Officer Michael Thomas Slager, seen in a cellphone video opening fire at Scott, was charged with murder. (The charge, which lingered after a first state trial ended in a mistrial, was dropped as part of a deal under which Slager pleaded guilty to a federal civil rights violation; he was sentenced to 20 years in prison.)

Ten years ago: A federal judge sentenced five former New Orleans police officers to prison for the deadly Danziger Bridge shootings in the chaotic days following Hurricane Katrina. (The verdicts in the case were later set aside by the judge, who cited prosecutorial misconduct; the officers pleaded guilty in 2016 to reduced charges.)

Five years ago: A chemical attack on an opposition-held town in northern Syria left about 100 people dead; a joint investigation team made up of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and U.N. experts concluded that the Syrian government was responsible. A federal appeals court ruled for the first time that the 1964 Civil Rights Act protected LGBT employees from workplace discrimination; the case involved an Indiana teacher who charged that she wasn't hired full-time because she was a lesbian.

One year ago: On a second Easter Sunday marked by pandemic restrictions, Christianity's most joyous feast day was celebrated worldwide with the faithful far apart in pews, and singing choruses of "Hallelujah" through face coverings. Pope Francis, in his traditional Easter Sunday address, denounced as "scandalous" how armed conflicts continued to rage even as the coronavirus pandemic triggered severe social and economic suffering and swelled the ranks of the poor. Stanford beat Arizona 54-53 to become NCAA women's basketball champions.

Today's Birthdays: Recording executive Clive Davis is 90. Author Kitty Kelley is 80. Actor Craig T. Nelson is 78. Actor Walter Charles is 77. Actor Christine Lahti is 72. Country singer Steve Gatlin (The Gatlin Brothers) is 71. Actor Mary-Margaret Humes is 68. Writer-producer David E. Kelley is 66. Actor Constance Shulman is 64. Actor Phil Morris is 63. Actor Lorraine Toussaint is 62. Actor Hugo Weaving is 62. Rock musician

Craig Adams (The Cult) is 60. Talk show host/comic Graham Norton is 59. Actor David Cross is 58. Actor Robert Downey Jr. is 57. Actor Nancy McKeon is 56. Actor Barry Pepper is 52. Country singer Clay Davidson is 51. Rock singer Josh Todd (Buckcherry) is 51. Singer Jill Scott is 50. Rock musician Magnus Sveningsson (The Cardigans) is 50. Magician David Blaine is 49. Singer Kelly Price is 49. R&B singer Andre Dalrymple (Soul For Real) is 48. Country musician Josh McSwain (Parmalee) is 47. Actor James Roday is 46. Actor Natasha Lyonne is 43. Actor Eric Andre is 39. Actor Amanda Righetti is 39. Actor-singer Jamie Lynn Spears is 31. Actor Daniela Bobadilla is 29. Pop singer Austin Mahone (muh-HOHN') is 26. Actor Aliyah Royale is 22.

## 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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