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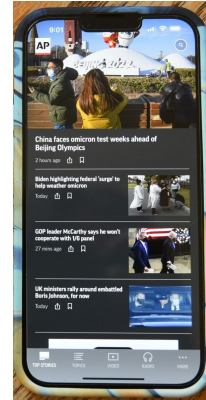
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Connecting

April 6, 2022

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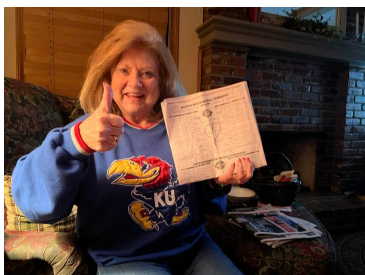
Good Wednesday morning on this April 6, 2022,

Today's Connecting brings you fond recollections of **Harold Waters**, longtime staff photographer in the AP's Dallas bureau, who died last week at the age of 99.

A story on his career was published in Tuesday's Connecting, along with stories on the deaths of two other former AP journalists – Nashville sports writer **Skipp Latt** and Phoenix regional broadcast editor **Dick Kelsey**.

We would welcome your memories of any of the three.

Seldom has my Inbox been so full as after Monday night, when my Kansas Jayhawks defeated North Carolina in the men's NCAA national championship game in New Orleans. Well wishes, yes, but mostly the Final Four merchandise machine in action offering every conceivable piece of memorabilia.



It was a family affair, and my wife **Linda**, like me and our daughter KU grads, displays her Final Four bracket that had her Jayhawks winning it all. Linda’s decision from the heart became a reality when the Comeback Kids did their thing Monday night. Meantime, my brother **Dave** and his wife **Cheryl**, both UNC fans, were gracious runners-up. The last time Kansas and North Carolina met in the NCAA men's championship game, March 23, 1957, UNC defeated KU in three overtimes despite KU's Wilt Chamberlain - and I doubt it was more than a blip on the radar of the Stevens kids who then were 10, 9 and 6. Little did Dave and I know that both schools would one day play major roles in our lives. Dave just retired from UNC's business school after 25 years or so, and Linda, daughter Jenny and I are KU grads. Rock Chalk!

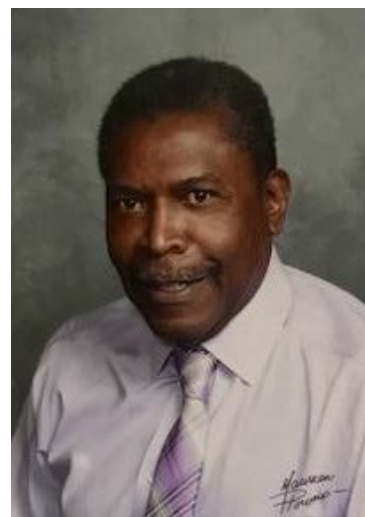
I’m sharing [my latest Spotlight column](#) in my hometown newspaper, The Messenger of Fort Dodge, Iowa, that posed this question:

How did the son and grandson of sharecroppers who grew up on a farm in eastern North Carolina growing tobacco, peanuts and cotton find his way to Fort Dodge for a career in education and volunteerism that has made him one of the most-respected residents of the community – and of the state of Iowa?

It’s the story of a remarkable man named **Judge Brown**.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul



Harold Waters took him on a journey of learning



This was taken in the AP Photos office in Dallas in 1979 and shows, from left, Bill Haber (photographer), David Taylor (photo editor), Harold Waters (photographer), and Peter Leabo (photographer).

Peter Leabo - It was spring, 1977. I was a Journalism major in my junior year at Texas A&M University. I had been working full-time at The Eagle in Bryan since my senior year of high school to put myself through college. I was going physically and mentally broke.

That year, I had been stringing for AP covering A&M basketball. We didn't have an AP transmitter, so I would shoot half the game, process my film, print several images for AP, and take them to the local Greyhound Bus station and send them to the Dallas AP office for transmission in the morning.

In April, Harold Waters was assigned to cover the Texas 500 NASCAR race at Texas World Speedway. He called and asked if I would be his stringer for the race. He ran three of my photos on the AP wire. Afterward he took me to dinner. I picked his brain to find out what I needed to do to get hired by AP. Harold said, "Well, kid, first you need to get your degree. Then you need to work for a couple of years for a daily newspaper and send everything you possibly can to AP so you'll be recognized."

About three weeks later, I was hired by the AP for a staff position that had unexpectedly opened in Dallas. I showed up for my first day at work and Harold greeted me saying, "Pete, what are you doing here?" I said I'd been hired. Harold said, "Well, kid, you've learned your first valuable lesson at AP."

I asked, "What's that?"

Harold replied, "Don't ever believe anything I tell you."

I knew better. That was the beginning of an amazing journey of learning from those who have been there. Harold was the kindest, most caring person in the world.

Harold Waters: A kind soul



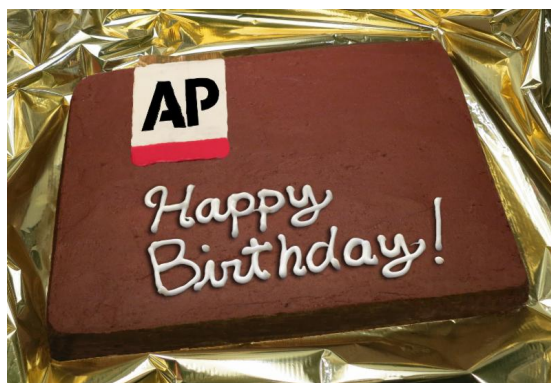
Associated Press staff photographer Harold Waters (white hat) sits outside an Apollo 13 astronaut's house in Clear Lake, Texas, waiting for the family to make a statement while the astronauts were in trouble in space. With Harold was then UPI Denver staff photographer Joe Marquette (back to camera) and a New York Times photographer (adjusting camera) whose name I forget.

Greg Smith - I worked with Harold, both of us AP staff photographers, in Dallas in the 70's. Pete Leabo, Ron Heflin and I were the three who visited Harold at his home last fall during the AP Dallas Reunion Weekend. Best day I think I spent last year.

He was a kind soul in a business where folks were not always built that way. He helped me along the way when I joined AP as a staffer in Dallas and just like many before and after me, he only reached out and helped every way he could.

I first really got to know Harold when I was a UPI stringer and we both spent the evening outside an Apollo 8 astronauts house on Christmas Eve, 1968 in a parked auto listening to AM radio as the astronauts spoke while orbiting the moon. Quite a memory of Harold and his kind soul. (Wikipedia; As they rounded the Moon for the ninth time, the astronauts began the second television transmission. Borman introduced the crew, followed by each man giving his impression of the lunar surface and what it was like to be orbiting the Moon. Borman described it as being "a vast, lonely, forbidding expanse of nothing". Then, after talking about what they were flying over, Anders said that the crew had a message for all those on Earth. Each man on board read a section from the Biblical creation story from the Book of Genesis. Borman finished the broadcast by wishing a Merry Christmas to everyone on Earth. His message appeared to sum up the feelings that all three crewmen had from their vantage point in lunar orbit. Borman said, "And from the crew of Apollo 8, we close with good night, good luck, a Merry Christmas and God bless all of you—all of you on the good Earth.")

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Kia Breaux

Mike Tharp

Stories of interest

Covering The War in Ukraine: “The Putin Regime Doesn’t Want Eye Witnesses” (Nieman Reports)



People settle in a bomb shelter in Mariupol, Ukraine, Sunday, March 6, 2022. Evgeniy Maloletka/AP Photo

By KATERINA SERGATSKOVA

Early on Feb. 24, Russia began bombing Ukrainian cities. That same morning, an endless marathon for Ukrainian journalists began. A whole month has passed since then, and this nightmare feels endless.

Since the start of Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine, five journalists have died and at least 10 have been injured as of March 28, according to Reporters Without Borders, an organization that promotes press freedom around the globe. On Mar. 23, Oksana Baulina, a journalist from The Insider, a Russian investigative outlet, went to film a bombed-out shopping mall in central Kyiv shortly after the explosion. While she was there, the Russians hit the same spot again. She died along with the civilian who had accompanied her.

Eleven journalists have been threatened by the Russians, five have been shot at but not killed, and six have been kidnapped, reports the Kyiv-based Institute of Mass Information, a non-governmental organization that works at the intersection of media and civil society. Some of them were released, and the location of some of them is still

unknown. There have been four attacks on editorial offices in different regions of Ukraine. Russian FSB agents raided the homes of four journalists with Melitopol's MV-Holding, detained them for several hours, and seized computers. Ten TV towers have been fired upon, and the Russian military has turned off the broadcasts of six TV channels. Seventy media organizations have stopped their work because of the invasion.

Read more [here](#).

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Russian media campaign falsely claims Bucha deaths are fakes (AP)

By AMANDA SEITZ and ARIJETA LAJKA

WASHINGTON (AP) — As gruesome videos and photos of bodies emerge from the Kyiv suburb of Bucha, Kremlin-backed media are denouncing them as an elaborate hoax — a narrative that journalists in Ukraine have shown to be false.

Denouncing news as fake or spreading false reports to sow confusion and undermine its adversaries are tactics that Moscow has used for years and refined with the advent of social media in places like Syria.

In detailed broadcasts to millions of viewers, correspondents and hosts of Russian state TV channels said Tuesday that some photo and video evidence of the killings were fake while others showed that Ukrainians were responsible for the bloodshed.

“Among the first to appear were these Ukrainian shots, which show how a soulless body suddenly moves its hand,” a report Monday on Russia-1’s evening news broadcast declared. “And in the rearview mirror it is noticeable that the dead seem to be starting to rise even.”

Read more [here](#).

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No photos till the Queen sits, the palace said. Then we heard about Andrew (The Times)

By Richard Pohle

There I was, dressed in my one and only suit, the only photographer given the opportunity to record a prominent moment in the royal family’s history.

I had been chosen as the rota photographer who would provide the national and international media with photographs of the thanksgiving service for the Duke of Edinburgh. To decide who covers each event the newspapers and agencies put names

forward and an independent body picks one at random. It is a rare privilege that should not be underestimated.

Read more [here](#).

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Twitter says it's testing an 'edit' button (AP)

By TALI ARBEL

Twitter tweeted Tuesday that it is indeed working on a way for users to edit their 280-character messages, although it says the project has nothing to do with the fact that edit-function fan Elon Musk was just revealed as the company's largest shareholder and now sits on its board.

Twitter said it will test the feature in its paid service, Twitter Blue, in the coming months. It said the test would help it "learn what works, what doesn't, and what's possible." So it may be a while before most Twitter users get to use it, if they ever do. Twitter spokesperson Catherine Hill declined to say whether an edit feature might be rolled out for all users.

Many Twitter users — among them, Kim Kardashian, Ice T, Katy Perry and McDonald's corporate account — have long begged for an edit button. The company itself recently teased users with an April Fool's Day tweet saying "we are working on an edit button." The official Twitter account said Tuesday that the April 1 tweet wasn't a joke and that it has been working on it since last year.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - April 6, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 6, the 96th day of 2022. There are 269 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 6, 1896, the first modern Olympic games formally opened in Athens, Greece.

On this date:

In 1862, the Civil War Battle of Shiloh began in Tennessee as Confederate forces launched a surprise attack against Union troops, who beat back the Confederates the next day.

In 1864, Louisiana opened a convention in New Orleans to draft a new state constitution, one that called for the abolition of slavery.

In 1909, American explorers Robert E. Peary and Matthew A. Henson and four Inuits became the first men to reach the North Pole.

In 1917, the United States entered World War I as the House joined the Senate in approving a declaration of war against Germany that was then signed by President Woodrow Wilson.

In 1943, "Le Petit Prince" (The Little Prince) by Antoine de Saint-Exupery was first published by Reynal & Hitchcock of New York.

In 1945, during World War II, the Japanese warship Yamato and nine other vessels sailed on a suicide mission to attack the U.S. fleet off Okinawa; the fleet was intercepted the next day.

In 1954, Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, R-Wis., responding to CBS newsman Edward R. Murrow's broadside against him on "See It Now," said in remarks filmed for the program that Murrow had, in the past, "engaged in propaganda for Communist causes."

In 1968, 41 people were killed by two consecutive natural gas explosions at a sporting goods store in downtown Richmond, Indiana.

In 1974, Swedish pop group ABBA won the Eurovision Song Contest held in Brighton, England, with a performance of the song "Waterloo."

In 2008, Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama, speaking at a private fundraiser in San Francisco, spoke of voters in Pennsylvania's Rust Belt communities who "cling to guns or religion" because of bitterness about their economic lot; Democratic rival Hillary Rodham Clinton seized on the comment, calling it "elitist."

In 2014, legendary Hollywood actor Mickey Rooney, 93, died in North Hollywood.

In 2020, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was transferred to the intensive care unit of a London hospital where he was being treated for COVID-19, after his condition deteriorated.

Ten years ago: Five Black people were shot, three fatally, in Tulsa, Oklahoma; Jake England and Alvin Watts, who admitted targeting the victims because of race, pleaded guilty to murder, and were sentenced to life in prison without parole. A Navy F18 Hornet jet whose pilots were forced to eject crashed in a spectacular fireball into a big apartment complex in Virginia Beach, Virginia; miraculously, no one died. Fang Lizhi (fahng lee-juhr), 76, who was one of China's best-known dissidents, died in Tucson, Arizona. Painter Thomas Kinkadee, 54, died in Monte Sereno, California.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping (shee jihnpeng) opened a two-day summit at Trump's Florida beach resort. Don Rickles, the big-mouthed, bald-headed "Mr. Warmth" whose verbal assaults endeared him to audiences and peers and made him the acknowledged grandmaster of insult comedy, died at his Beverly Hills home at age 90.

One year ago: Moving up his deadline by about two weeks, President Joe Biden said every adult in the U.S. would be eligible for a coronavirus vaccination by April 19. Major League Baseball announced that the All-Star Game would be played at Coors Field in Denver; the game had been pulled from Atlanta because of objections to changes in Georgia's voting laws.

Today's Birthdays: Nobel Prize-winning scientist James D. Watson is 94. Actor Billy Dee Williams is 85. Actor Roy Thinnes is 84. Movie director Barry Levinson is 80. Actor John Ratzenberger is 75. Actor Patrika Darbo is 74. Baseball Hall of Famer Bert Blyleven is 71. Actor Marilu Henner is 70. Olympic bronze medal figure skater Janet Lynn is 69. Actor Michael Rooker is 67. Former U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann, R-Minn., is 66. Rock musician Warren Haynes is 62. Rock singer-musician Black Francis is 57. Actor Ari Meyers is 53. Actor Paul Rudd is 53. Actor-producer Jason Hervey is 50. Actor Zach Braff is 47. Actor Joel Garland is 47. Actor Candace Cameron Bure (buhr-RAY') is 46. Actor Teddy Sears is 45. Jazz and R&B musician Robert Glasper is 44. Actor Eliza Coupe is 41. Folk singer-musician Kenneth Pattengale (Milk Carton Kids) is 40. Actor Bret Harrison is 40. Actor Charlie McDermott is 32.

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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