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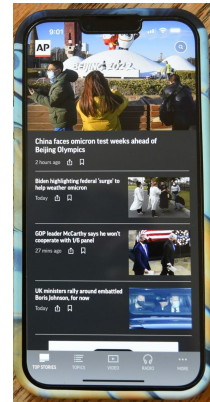
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Connecting

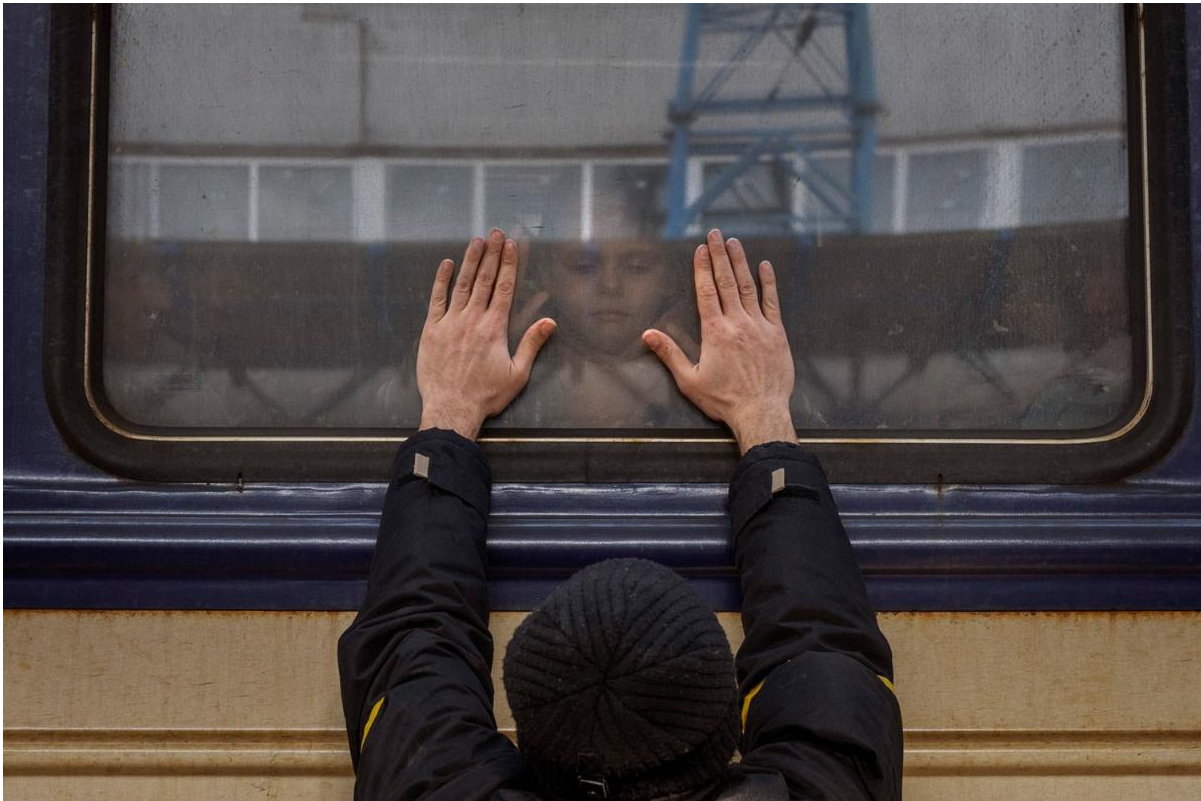
April 29, 2022

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Aleksander, 41, presses his palms against the window as he says goodbye to his daughter Anna, 5, on a train to Lviv at the Kyiv station, Ukraine, Friday, March 4, 2022. Aleksander has to stay behind to fight in the war while his family leaves the country to seek refuge in a neighbouring country. (AP Photo/Emilio Morenatti)
Model: Sony ILCE-1 | Lens: Sony 50mm F1.2 | Focal Length: 50mm | F-Stop: 5.6 | Shutter Speed: 1/250 | ISO: 640

Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this April 29, 2022,

Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24, beginning a devastating war that has left untold numbers of civilians dead and prompted millions of people to flee the country.

Associated Press photographers have captured the conflict, showing both the suffering and destruction the war has wrought as well as the ways people find to cope when their lives are upended. The images have helped the world understand the war and its horrors.

We lead today's Connecting with a tribute to the AP photographers who have been covering the war in Ukraine and a portfolio of some of their best images.

"It's an honor to dedicate my last edition of The Shot to the AP photographers that have and those that are still covering the war in Ukraine along with the many others that have covered conflict all around the world," said our colleague **Denis Paquin**, who is retiring next month as AP's deputy director of photography for Global Sports and Operations.

“Without their dedication and personal sacrifices, our world would be less informed and certain aspects of history unwritten.”

The Shot is 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.

Click [here](#) to view the blog, which contains images from these AP photojournalists:

Emilio Morenatti
Evgeniy Maloletka
Vadim Ghirda
Nariman El-Mofty
Rodrigo Abd
Efrem Lukatsky
Bernat Armangue
Felipe Dana
Petros Giannakouris
Sergei Grits

Tomorrow, Saturday, marks the 47th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon, the capture of the capital of South Vietnam by the People's Army of Vietnam and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam.

Our colleague **Peter Arnett**, one of the AP journalists who reported on that day, April 30, 1975, wrote a book, *Saigon Has Fallen*, in 2015 and just recently the book was made available in audio format by Recorded Books – narrated by Peter – who won a Pulitzer Prize for his Vietnam coverage.

You recall his reporting from that era? If so, how about sharing your story of that memory? And the first five colleagues who do so - by sending a note to Ye Olde Connecting Editor - will receive codes that allow them free access to the audio book.

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul



Ellen Knickmeyer inducted into Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame



Ellen Knickmeyer and Lindel Hutson at induction ceremony.

[Lindel Hutson](#) - Ellen Knickmeyer, a staffer in AP's Washington bureau, was inducted Thursday into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame.

Knickmeyer, who comes from a long line of Oklahoma journalists, began her career with the AP in Oklahoma City in 1990. A tenacious reporter, she was part of the team that covered the 1995 bombing of the Murrah Federal Building.

Knickmeyer left Oklahoma City and spent nearly two decades as a foreign correspondent in the Middle East and Africa.

In Washington, she covers foreign policy for the AP.

Knickmeyer started working in journalism at the age of 19 as a copygirl for the Tulsa World where her mother was a reporter.

Her career also included bureau chief for the Washington Post in Baghdad and Cairo and for the AP in West Africa and in Saudi Arabia, and as a reporter for the Wall Street Journal.

Her wide range of coverage included almost every U.S. military engagement from the late 1990s to the Arab Spring uprising.

Other members of the Hall of Fame's 52nd class and their current or former affiliations include Barbara Byrne Allen, director of college programming for the Poynter Institute; Susan Cadot, a vice president of programming for the Oklahoma

Educational Television Authority; J. Scott Cherry of the Tulsa World; Richard Dowdell of KRMG radio, Tulsa; Sam Jones a co-anchor at Tulsa's KJRH-TV and KATV in Little Rock; Steve Lackmeyer of The Oklahoman; Bryan Painter of The Oklahoman; Pat Reeder of the Claremore Daily Progress and the Will Rogers Memorial, and Ted Streuli, executive editor of Oklahoma Watch and former executive editor of the Oklahoma City Journal Record.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to former Oklahoma Attorney General Drew Edmondson.

Dear Kathy – I couldn't be prouder

[Myron Belkind](#) – *in a note to Kathy Gannon, AP news director for Afghanistan and Pakistan* - Sitting on a train from Washington to New York to attend Columbia Journalism School's Alumni Weekend and the 60th anniversary reunion of the Class of 1962, I just read Connecting and could not be prouder of your selection to be the recipient of the Columbia Journalism Award and to be the commencement speaker on May 18!

Rachel and I are so proud of all your truly exceptional professional achievements, and now I am so personally thrilled that my alma mater has bestowed this very high honor on you!

For all that the students of the Class of 2022 have learned in their studies, I am confident that they will benefit even more from receiving your wisdom on life as a journalist and being a role model that they can seek to emulate as they embark on their careers.

Our very best to you following your retirement from the AP three days before you will speak to the next generation of journalists!

A tribute to Jack Ronald

[Diane Palguta](#) - We're all reminded with Jack Ronald's death that truth matters, good journalism matters, and community service matters. He made an impact in many spheres.

Some people, no matter how long their lives are, are with us too short a time. Ronald is well worth remembering, along with another Hoosier, longtime Indianapolis Star photojournalist [Frank Espich](#), who died recently. He is another who made a difference, through photojournalism and through being a good human being.

It is a comfort that they inspired younger journalists and peers to carry on important work.

A tribute to Gary Clark

[Dennis Conrad](#) - I worked for Florida newspapers (1976-1985) including the Gainesville Sun before passing the AP test in Jacksonville during the Gary Clark MIAMI COB era and then landing a newsman's job in Cleveland, Ohio. I was amused by Dan Sewell's recollection of how Gary expressed interest in the auction of the baseball associated with Red Sox first baseman Bill Buckner and Boston's loss of the 1986 World Series. I was working solo on the busy overnight shift in Cleveland back then so I bought my first VCR (\$500 at Sears as I recall) to record the Series for posterity. I still have the set of tapes but I have not bothered to revisit the disaster again. My best wishes to Gary during this difficult time. At least we have memories of 2004, 2007, 2013 and 2018. — AND Gary's great work as Florida COB.

Connecting mailbox

State of the news media

[Larry Thorson](#) - I see a strong clue to the reason for the plight of the US news media in this graf in Ed McCullough's comment:

Data from the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism [digital report for 2021](#), the 10th in a series, show that in 46 markets from six continents, trust in news grew last year by 6% to 44% while in the U.S. it remained flat at 29%, "the lowest level in our survey." Finland registered highest at 65%.

What's different about the US? Why is there such low trust in our news while trust grew elsewhere and was, for instance in Finland, about double our level? We are a country where the Supreme Court thinks money has freedom of speech and almost unlimited money in politics is just fine. The mere idea is ridiculous. Reserve rights to people. Money can't register to vote or volunteer for the Peace Corps or the US Navy Seals or poll-watcher. The bad impact of this faulty doctrine is evident in a voting population where many think pedophiles dominate the Democratic Party. Of course, they don't buy what the mainstream says. Nor will they believe what the courts ruled repeatedly in rejecting the lie that Trump won the 2020 election.

As for me, I don't trust decisions made by corrupt oligarchs who buy their way into Congress and the White House. Nor do I trust what their twisted news media put out.

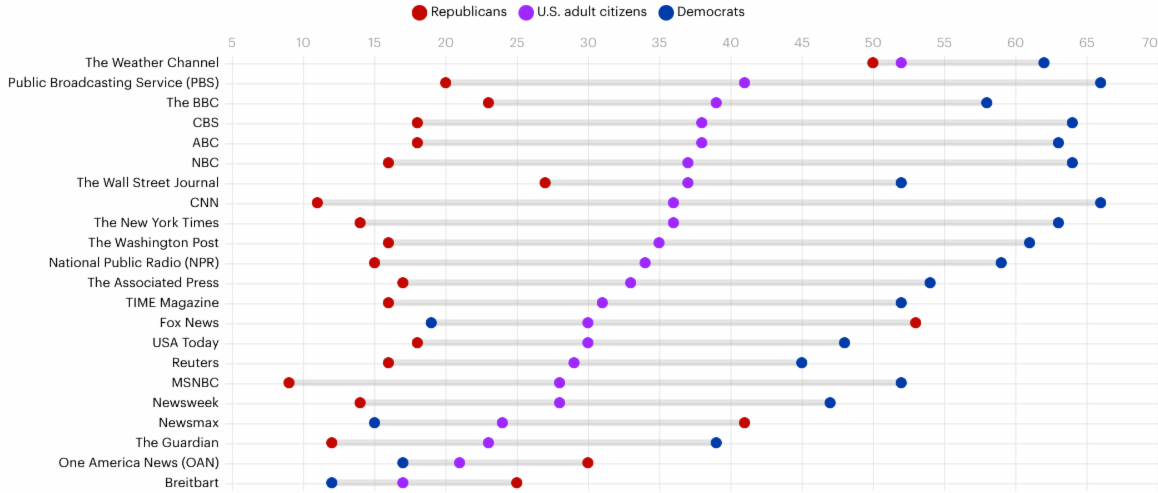
Seeing a way out of this predicament is very hard. My thoughts keep running up against the heavily armed nature of this country. What an obstacle to peaceful change. Thank you, Supreme Court. You should think about unintended consequences.

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'State of public trust in news'

Which media organizations are trusted more by Democrats and by Republicans

How trustworthy do you rate the news reported by the following [broadcast, print or digital] media organizations? (% who say each organization is very trustworthy or somewhat trustworthy):



YouGov

The Economist / YouGov | March 26 - 29, 2022 | Get the data

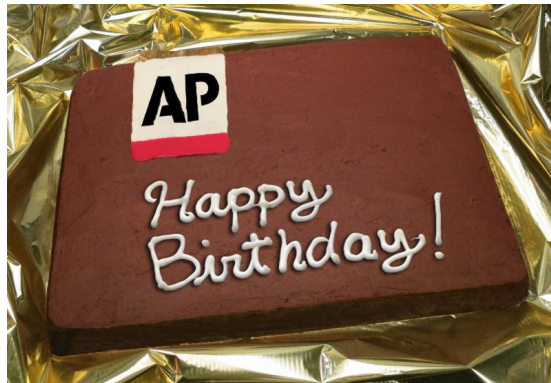
The most agreement between Democrats and Republicans about which media organizations to trust comes with The

What do you think?

Get started →

Dave Tomlin - Did you or anybody else in the "state of public trust in news" share the attached breakdown by outlet and partisan respondents? With the exception of the overtly partisan outlets (Fox, Newsmax, Breitbart) I think it says a lot more about the public than it does about news coverage.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



John Bolt

Dave Fritz

Dennis Gale

[Andy Lippman](#)

[Bruce Lowitt](#)

On Saturday to...

[Ben Brown](#)

[Dick Lipsey](#)

[Sarah Wilson](#)

On Sunday to...

[Nancy Benac](#)

Stories of interest

How it became normal for public officials to attack journalists (Washington Post)

By Elahe Izadi and Paul Farhi

Los Angeles Times reporter Alene Tchekmedyan had a big scoop: Internal documents showed that officials in the county sheriff's department had tried to cover up an incident in which a deputy knelt on a jail inmate's head.

But after her latest article about the blossoming scandal, Sheriff Alex Villanueva called a news conference to forcefully deny the allegations — and to take aim at Tchekmedyan. Standing in front of a placard with photos of the reporter, a political rival and the county's inspector general, Villanueva announced the three were part of a criminal leak investigation.

"What did they know and when did they know it?" read the text over the photo display, which resembled a wanted poster.

Public officials have long been known to grumble about perceived unfairness in news coverage. But Villanueva's effort to publicly implicate a reporter for doing her job —

an attempt to intimidate her, some argued — reflects a brazen trend of officials using government power to punish or push back on journalists for articles they don't like.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Michael Rubin, Richard Chady.

-0-

White House correspondents' dinner presses on, after covid delays and Trump (Washington Post)

By Roxanne Roberts

Grab your tux and your vaccination card: The White House Correspondents' Association dinner has returned complete with President Biden, Trevor Noah, 2,500 journalists and a fierce defense of a free press and an open bar. The nerd prom is back in all its overly earnest, celebrity-studded, schmooze-or-lose glory.

For the first time in six years, the black-tie extravaganza that Washington loves and hates features both a big-name comedian and the president. The organizers hope this return to business-as-usual will help highlight the traditional purpose of the night: a celebration of the role of reporters in a democracy and the mutual respect between those reporters and Washington's power brokers, after years of Donald Trump's attacks on "fake news."

Saturday's dinner is the first held post-Trump, who boycotted the event during his White House years. In 2018, comedian Michelle Wolf savaged administration officials — including press secretary Sarah Sanders, who was sitting feet away — and organizers invited a safer choice, historian Ron Chernow, to speak the following year.

Read more [here](#).

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U.S. says Russian intelligence orchestrated attack on Nobel laureate (Washington Post)

By Paul Sonne and Mary Ilyushina

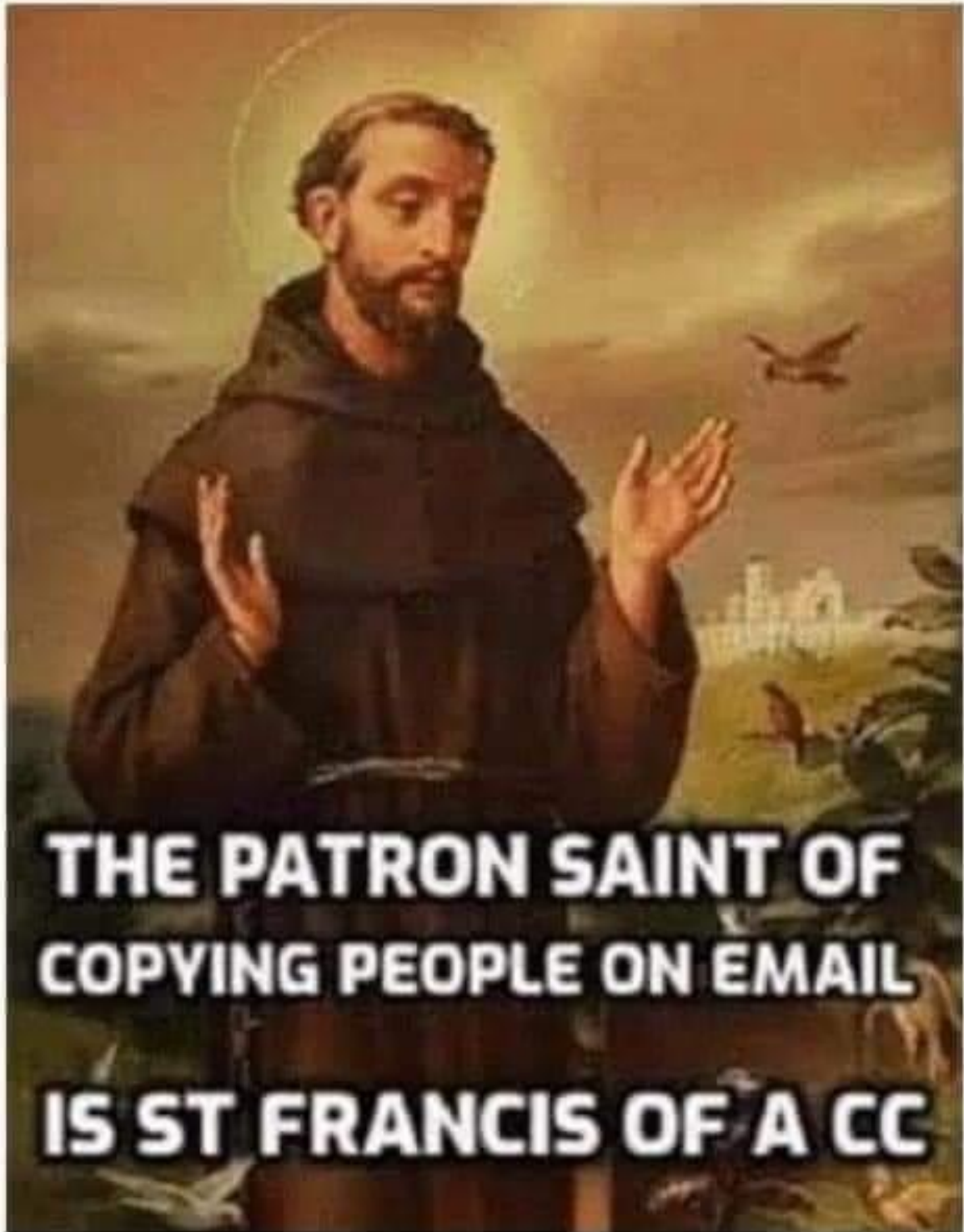
The U.S. government has assessed that Russian intelligence was behind an attack earlier this month on a Nobel Prize winner and prominent Russian editor who had criticized the Kremlin's war against Ukraine.

Dmitry Muratov, the editor of the independent Russian newspaper Novaya Gazeta, was about to travel on a train from Moscow to Samara, Russia, on April 7 when an assailant attacked him with a mixture of red paint and acetone, leaving his eyes with a chemical burn. The assailant yelled, "Muratov, here's one for our boys" — a reference to Russian forces fighting in Ukraine.

U.S. intelligence has concluded the incident was the handiwork of Russian intelligence, according to a U.S. official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity under rules set by the Biden administration. The official did not give any detail about how U.S. intelligence had come to make that assessment, citing the need to protect sources and methods.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bill McCloskey.

The Final Word



Today in History - April 29, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, April 29, the 119th day of 2022. There are 246 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 29, 1946, 28 former Japanese officials went on trial in Tokyo as war criminals; seven ended up being sentenced to death.

On this date:

In 1429, Joan of Arc entered the besieged city of Orleans to lead a French victory over the English.

In 1916, the Easter Rising in Dublin collapsed as Irish nationalists surrendered to British authorities.

In 1945, during World War II, American soldiers liberated the Dachau (DAH'-khow) concentration camp. Adolf Hitler married Eva Braun inside his "Führerbunker" and designated Adm. Karl Doenitz (DUHR'-nihtz) president.

In 1957, the SM-1, the first military nuclear power plant, was dedicated at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

In 1967, Aretha Franklin's cover of Otis Redding's "Respect" was released as a single by Atlantic Records.

In 1991, a cyclone began striking the South Asian country of Bangladesh; it ended up killing more than 138,000 people, according to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

In 1992, a jury in Simi Valley, California, acquitted four Los Angeles police officers of almost all state charges in the videotaped beating of motorist Rodney King; the verdicts were followed by rioting in Los Angeles resulting in 55 deaths.

In 1997, a worldwide treaty to ban chemical weapons went into effect.

In 2008, Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama denounced his former pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, for what he termed “divisive and destructive” remarks on race.

In 2010, the U.S. Navy officially ended a ban on women serving on submarines, saying the first women would be reporting for duty by 2012. The NCAA’s Board of Directors approved a 68-team format for the men’s basketball tournament beginning the next season.

In 2011, Britain’s Prince William and Kate Middleton were married in an opulent ceremony at London’s Westminster Abbey.

In 2020, scientists announced the first effective treatment against the coronavirus, the experimental antiviral medication remdesivir, which they said could speed the recovery of COVID-19 patients.

Ten years ago: Despite past differences, President Barack Obama and former President Bill Clinton began a summer fundraising blitz with an event in McLean, Virginia. An out-of-control SUV plunged more than 50 feet off the side of a New York City highway overpass and landed on the grounds of the Bronx Zoo, killing all seven people aboard, including three children.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump marked his 100th day in office with a rally in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. A white suburban Dallas policeman fired into a moving car carrying five Black teenagers, killing 15-year-old Jordan Edwards. (Balch Springs officer Roy Oliver would be convicted of murder and sentenced to 15 years in prison.)

One year ago: Brazil became the second country to officially top 400,000 COVID-19 deaths. Police in Los Angeles said the woman who had returned Lady Gaga’s stolen French bulldogs was among five people arrested in connection with the theft and the shooting of the music superstar’s dog walker. The Jacksonville Jaguars made Clemson’s Trevor Lawrence the first pick in the NFL draft; the first three selections were all quarterbacks.

Today’s Birthdays: Actor Keith Baxter is 89. Conductor Zubin Mehta is 86. Pop singer Bob Miranda (The Happenings) is 80. Country singer Duane Allen (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 79. Singer Tommy James is 75. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., is 72. Movie director Phillip Noyce is 72. Comedian Jerry Seinfeld is 68. Actor Leslie Jordan is 67. Actor Kate Mulgrew is 67. Actor Daniel Day-Lewis is 65. Actor Michelle Pfeiffer is 64. Actor Eve Plumb is 64. Rock musician Phil King is 62. Country singer Stephanie Bentley is 59. Actor Vincent Ventresca is 56. Singer Carnie Wilson (Wilson Phillips) is 54. Actor Paul Adelstein is 53. Actor Uma Thurman is 52. International Tennis Hall of Famer Andre Agassi is 52. Rapper Master P is 52. Actor Darby Stanchfield is 51. Country singer James Bonamy is 50. Gospel/R&B singer Erica Campbell (Mary Mary) is 50. Rock musician Mike Hogan (The Cranberries) is 49. Actor Tyler Labine is 44. Actor Megan Boone is 39. Actor-model Taylor Cole is 38. NHL center Jonathan Toews is 34. Pop singer Foxes is 33. Actor Grace Kaufman is 20.

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
paulstevens46@gmail.com

