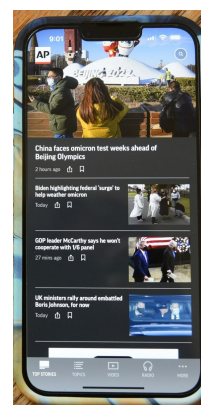


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## Connecting

May 19, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this May 19, 2022,

In Tallahassee, family, friends and colleagues gathered Wednesday to bid farewell to **Gary Clark** in funeral services for our colleague, an AP bureau chief in four different bureaus during a career of four decades. Gary died May 9 at the age of 78. There will be a graveside service in Keene, N.H. this summer, date to be decided.

And in Washington, colleagues of AP national security writer **Bob Burns** and of **Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar**, who covered Health and Human Services, gathered Wednesday to celebrate the retirements of the accomplished Washington journalists.

Both retired this month, and Connecting hopes to bring you more on the retirement party in Friday's edition.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

## A farewell to Gary Clark



Gary's son Chad on the left, daughter Shannon, son Jason and wife Fay. (Photo/Phil Sandlin)

**Brent Kallestad** provides a report on Wednesday's funeral services for our colleague Gary Clark. Brent and Gary's son Chad each spoke briefly at the service in Tallahassee, also attended by former AP Miami chief photographer Phil Sandlin and former Pensacola Correspondent Bill Kaczor.

"We must congratulate Larry Blasko on his contribution on GWC teeing it up in Galaxy Golf," Brent said. "I read it in its entirety and was enthusiastically received by everyone, priest included."

Connecting believes it is worth repeating:

**Larry Blasko** - The last short story Mark Twain published was "Captain Stormfield's Visit to Heaven" in which he made the point that Heaven, for each of us, is doing what we liked best when we were alive on Earth. In that light, those of us lucky enough to know Gary Clark can see him teeing up on the 420-light-year first hole of Galaxy Golf.

Dead Steamboat Captain Eli Stormfield in Twain's story leads an afterlife on the road, sometimes dealing with friendly folks he knew and sometimes with strangers he nonetheless needs, not much different from Gary's journeys as a COB.

Stormfield sorts between the Heavenly customs he thought he'd have to observe and the ones that actually helped him, not unlike the way Gary kept members happy and staff producing by standing as a buffer between them and 50 Rock edicts, but also maintaining high and consistent standards for every state he helmed as COB.

After all sorts of observations, meetings and such, Stormfield concludes "A man has got to be in his own heaven to be happy". Gary Clark's family, AP years and golf clubs were his own heaven, and he was happy. Those lucky enough to know him in this life were made happy and better by it.

And if we meet him in the next, we will learn the preferred spelling between "Allelujah!" and "Hallelujah!" and what club to use if the tee is on Mars but the green is on Jupiter.

## AP, Ida B. Wells Society, Maynard team up on inclusive storytelling

### AP News Release

The Associated Press, The Ida B. Wells Society for Investigative Reporting, and The Maynard Institute for Journalism Education Wednesday announced plans to work together to improve diversity in newsrooms and news reports through journalistic and leadership training and more inclusive storytelling.

The Inclusive Journalism Initiative is an effort by the organizations to move the news industry toward a comprehensive plan for smarter and more expansive coverage of race and systemic inequality.

The initiative will accelerate the work of all three groups to grow the number and caliber of training opportunities for news leaders and aspiring investigative editors from underrepresented communities.

AP will enhance its own inclusive storytelling effort, launched in 2020, within the news agency and in customer newsrooms in the U.S. through new training.

"Inclusive newsrooms benefit from well-trained news leaders equipped with the right skills for significantly addressing the inequalities that, like every aspect of our culture, have impacted journalism through the years," said AP Vice President and Head of News Audience Amanda Barrett, who along with Deputy Managing Editor Sarah Nordgren was responsible for building the initiative. "The collaboration announced today sets in motion a journalism future we all can be proud of."

"The glaring and persistent lack of diversity, equity and belonging across journalism has deeply eroded the credibility of this craft, particularly in the eyes of communities of color," said Maynard Institute Co-Executive Director Martin G. Reynolds. "Most

mainstream news organizations lack the training and capacity to connect with new and emerging audiences. This initiative will help to address this challenge by enabling us to offer our Fault Lines diversity framework training to AP member newsrooms that may otherwise not have access to it. Our goal is to help these outlets create better journalism and to rethink their approach to organizational culture.”

“This initiative is about a fundamental shift in the way we do news in this country,” said Ida B. Wells Society Director Rhema Bland. “It’s an acknowledgement that the health and survival of this industry and in turn our democracy hinges on an expansive, comprehensive culture change.”

The Inclusive Journalism Initiative is funded by The Hearthland Foundation, Nathan Cummings Foundation and the David and Reva Logan Foundation.

Goals of the Inclusive Journalism Initiative include:

Providing AP’s audience with solutions-based journalism and data that informs more inclusive news stories.

Building deeper and smarter spot news and enterprise coverage in words and visuals of communities of color by an enhanced focus that embraces all subject areas.

Equipping journalists at all stages of their careers, within and beyond AP, with the tools and training they need to lead the news industry on these issues going forward.

Developing new, industry-wide professional standards for inclusive storytelling, including an expanded section of the AP Stylebook, the must-have reference for writers, editors, students and professionals.

The funding for the initiative will be administered through the Maynard Institute and through Journalism Funding Partners, which helps support news organizations through fiscal sponsorship.

## **AP Shares with NABJ Guidance Sent to Staff to Address Inequities in Age, Race Reporting**

### **NABJ news release**

After issuing a statement Monday about the unconscious bias made apparent in the reporting of the shooting in Buffalo, the Associated Press (AP) contacted the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) this morning to share the following guidance sent to its staff yesterday.

The guidance encourages journalists to be consistent in their reporting when describing age no matter the person’s race. We applaud the AP for making a swift effort to correct the irregularities we have seen in how Black and white suspects and victims are described differently in reporting.

AP Guidance:

teen vs. man or woman: We use the terms man or woman for those 18 and older. It is important to be consistent in how we describe people of similar ages. The news media in general has been justifiably criticized for sometimes using man/woman to describe a Black 18-year-old, but teen for a white 18-year-old. The 18-year-old can also work for a person of that age of any race. Again, be consistent.

View our previous statement [here or below](#).

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

## Connecting mailbox

### *On mistakes we make*

[Doug Pizac](#) - Early in my AP career a woman (whose name I will not disclose) was hired as a newbie photographer at the Los Angeles Times.

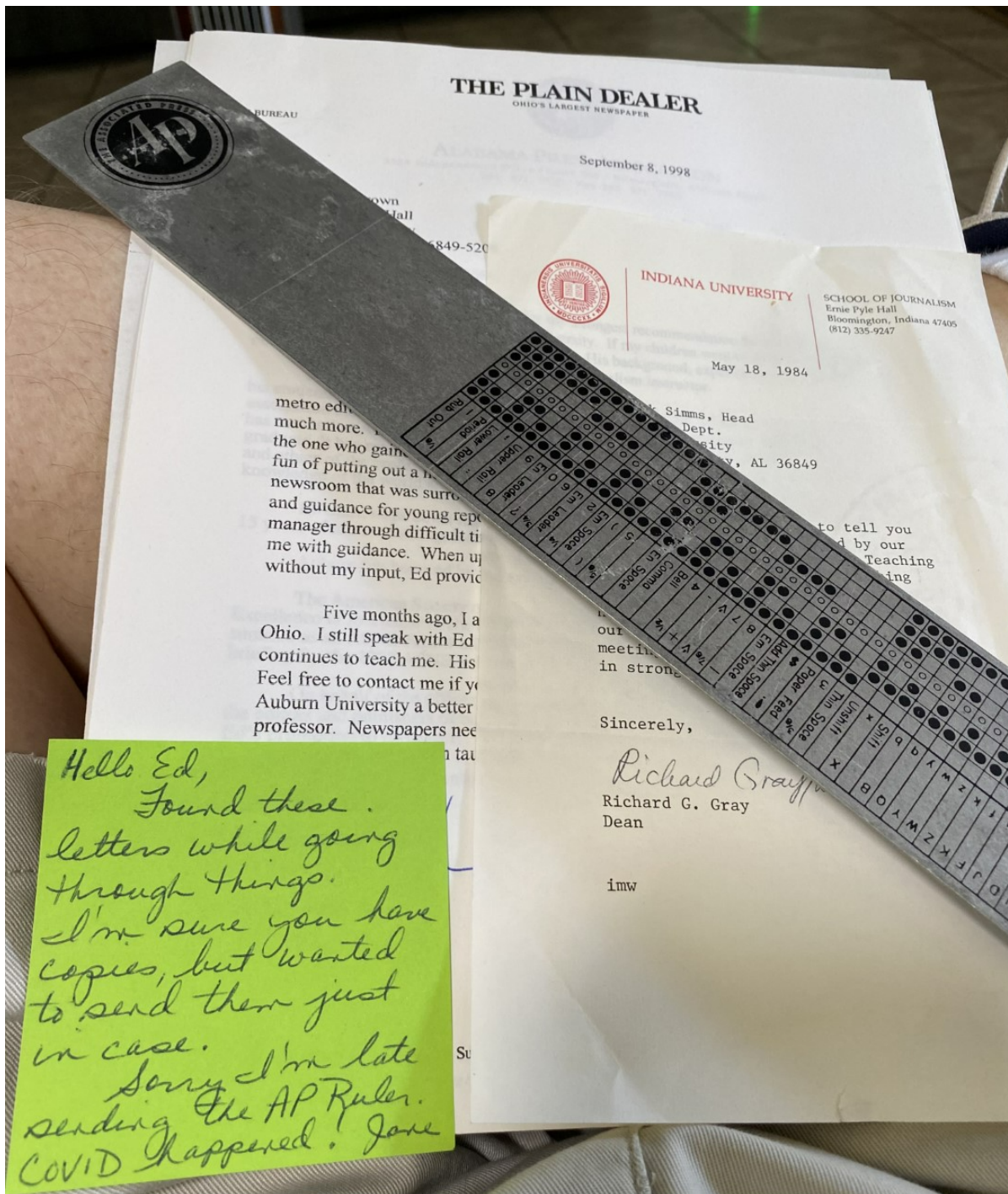
One of her early assignments, which we've joked about for decades as friends, was to make some pictures of people at a venue. She went, she shot, and came back with images of people in wheelchairs, using canes, crutches, etc.

While her pictures were nice, they didn't portray what the assignment was about -- the handicappers at Santa Anita Park. She had never been to a horse racing track before. They sent her back and she fulfilled the assignment as meant on those who predict winners.

Fortunately, her "oops" didn't deter her as she went on to great careers and accomplishments at the paper, National Geographic, NPPA's magazine photo editor of the year, a Pulitzer, college department chair, and so on. And she's still going strong.

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### *Gift of a momento from Jack Sims' AP days*



**Ed Williams** - Look what came in yesterday's mail from Jack Simms' daughter, Jane Simms Love.

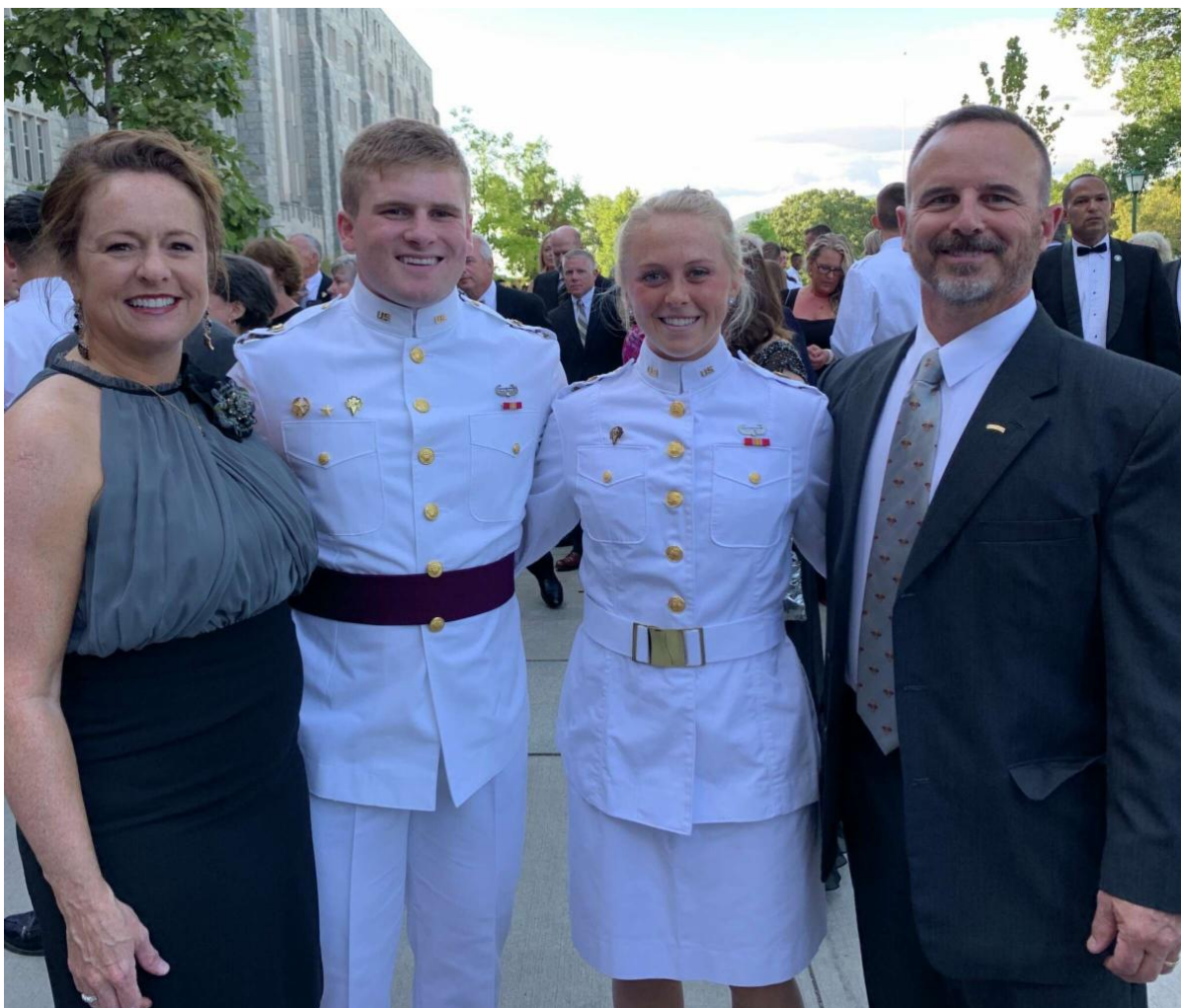
The AP ruler is from Jack's AP days. Treasured by me.

Jane had been going through Jack's things and asked me if I wanted it. I was expecting it to be a pica stick. I have never seen one of these rulers.

Also letters of recommendation that were written for me during my teaching career at Auburn University - some of the letters I had never seen.

(Jack Simms, the first chairman of Auburn University's journalism department, died in 2016. Before Auburn, he had a lengthy career with The Associated Press. He served as a reporter and editor in Atlanta; as bureau chief for Kentucky and New England; and as deputy general sports editor in New York. Simms returned to Auburn in 1974 to chair the newly formed department of journalism. Under his tenure, the program became nationally accredited. Enrollment increased and demand for Auburn graduates frequently exceeded the number available. Simms retired from the position as chair in 1992.)

## A prophetic comment, unfortunately



The DiNallo family at West Point in August 2019. From left: Marybeth, Anthony III, Emily, and Anthony Jr. Provided by the DiNallo family.

[Chris Carola](#) - Since last summer I've been doing freelance stories for the Times Union of Albany, N.Y., mostly for the paper's online Hudson Valley coverage. Last month I pitched the paper's Hudson Valley editor a story about an Albany-area couple, Marybeth and Anthony DiNallo, whose son graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 2020 and whose daughter is scheduled to graduate from West Point on May 21.

Anthony is also a West Point grad, class of 1988. Marybeth and Anthony are family acquaintances (we share the same upstate hometown), but he was a bit hesitant to share much of the information I would need, including details of the near-fatal accident that ended his Army career after just two years.

I told them a bit about my 31 years as a reporter at the AP bureau in Albany, how a good portion of my duties included covering, writing and/or editing stories of a tragic nature: mass shootings, fatal crashes and fires, disasters (manmade and natural), and plane crashes, bus accidents, boat sinkings, etc., involving multiple fatalities. Then I related how my stories with an uplifting theme, especially ones involving the U.S. military, would often prompt comments from people saying how much they enjoyed reading those types of stories amid the daily news deluge of death, destruction, government corruption.

I told the DiNallos that their story was the type people liked reading. They wound up being very generous with their time and information, and [the story](#), much to my own surprise, was printed on the top of Page 1 of Sunday's editions (see attached photo). Shared on Facebook by my sister, the story has elicited many positive comments from readers.

When I picked up Sunday's paper, I noticed the story to the left of mine: AP's triple-bylined report out of Buffalo on the previous day's racially motivated mass shooting at a supermarket, claiming the lives of 10 Black people. Two of the bylines were those of my former AP New York colleagues Carolyn Thompson and Michael Balsamo.

As all too many Connecting colleagues know, it's the nature of the careers we chose: accounts of inspiration and success often share page space and air time with stories of heartbreaking loss and devastation.

## Stories of interest

### ***Russia closing CBC's Moscow bureau in retaliation for Canada banning Russian state TV*** (CBC)

Russia has moved to close CBC/Radio-Canada's Moscow bureau and strip its journalists of their visas and accreditation, saying it was retaliating after Canada banned Russian state TV station RT.

"It's our response measure, which is taken because of the decision of the Canadian government to ban broadcasting of the Russian channel, Russia Today and RT France," Vladimir Proskuryakov, deputy chief of mission at Russia's Embassy in Canada, told CBC News.



"There is no question about making any unfriendly steps against Russia. We will have to respond to this. This is the rules of the game."

The move comes after Canada's telecommunications regulator said it was removing RT and RT France, stations formerly known as Russia Today, from its list of non-Canadian programming services and stations authorized for distribution in Canada.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Alleged gunman sent diary to newspaper before church attack*** (AP)

By AMY TAXIN and STEFANIE DAZIO

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — The man accused of opening fire on a Southern California church congregation because of his political hatred for Taiwan dubbed himself a “destroying angel” in a seven-volume diary sent to a newspaper before the attack, the paper said Wednesday.

David Chou, 68, spent \$16.10 to mail seven thick photocopied volumes of handwritten Chinese text and a flash drive to the World Journal office in the Los Angeles suburb of Monterey Park, according to photos published in the Chinese-language paper.

The pages bore the title: “Diary of an Angel Destroying Independence” in an apparent reference to Taiwan’s self-government. The Chinese Communist Party continues to demand Taiwan reunify with China.

The diary pages were received Monday, one day after Chou allegedly opened fire at a lunch gathering of elderly parishioners at Irvine Taiwanese Presbyterian Church in the community of Laguna Woods.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Scripps, Google partner on initiative for journalists to transition to broadcast careers***

By Rebecca McCarter  
Scripps News Release

CINCINNATI — The E.W. Scripps Company (NASDAQ: SSP) and Google are partnering on a multi-year initiative to transition experienced journalists with primarily print news backgrounds into broadcast news careers. Google has made a financial commitment to Scripps to underwrite the newly created Scripps Journalism Journey Initiative.

Journalists selected for participation in the Initiative will be hired into full-time career positions in Scripps local and national media newsrooms. The program provides mid-career transitions into video-driven storytelling through extensive training and support, including mentoring, job shadowing, hands-on work and individual coaching. Additional learning opportunities may include professional conferences, programs through the Google News Initiative, Poynter, journalism school programs, National Association of Broadcasters or Society of Professional Journalists.

Positions may include beat/specialty reporter, specialty executive producer, photojournalist, editor/manager, documentary producer and copy editor.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Chris Wallace will stay at CNN and host streaming show on HBO Max*** (Washington Post)

**Jeremy Barr**

Chris Wallace has decided to stay with CNN after the rapid demise of the CNN Plus streaming service that had hired him as a host — but his new interview show will be streamed on the network's sister service HBO Max, starting this fall.

Wallace will continue to appear on CNN to provide news analysis and highlights from the newsmaker interviews featured on his new show, "Who's Talking to Chris Wallace?", which will be broadcast during CNN's Sunday evening programming block every week, CNN chief executive Chris Licht said Wednesday during a presentation for corporate advertisers in New York.

"I've never had more fun developing a program and am looking forward to bringing it to both HBO Max and CNN audiences," Wallace said in a prepared statement.

Read more [here](#).

## **Today in History - May 19, 2022**



## By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, May 19, the 139th day of 2022. There are 226 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On May 19, 1536, Anne Boleyn, the second wife of England's King Henry VIII, was beheaded after being convicted of adultery.

### On this date:

In 1780, a mysterious darkness enveloped much of New England and part of Canada in the early afternoon.

In 1913, California Gov. Hiram Johnson signed the Webb-Hartley Law prohibiting "aliens ineligible to citizenship" from owning farm land, a measure targeting Asian immigrants, particularly Japanese.

In 1920, ten people were killed in a gun battle between coal miners, who were led by a local police chief, and a group of private security guards hired to evict them for joining a union in Matewan, a small "company town" in West Virginia.

In 1921, Congress passed, and President Warren G. Harding signed, the Emergency Quota Act, which established national quotas for immigrants.

In 1943, in his second wartime address to the U.S. Congress, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill pledged his country's full support in the fight against Japan; that evening, Churchill met with President Franklin D. Roosevelt at the White House, where the two leaders agreed on May 1, 1944 as the date for the D-Day invasion of France (the operation ended up being launched more than a month later).

In 1962, film star Marilyn Monroe sang "Happy Birthday to You" to President John F. Kennedy during a Democratic fundraiser at New York's Madison Square Garden.

In 1967, the Soviet Union ratified a treaty with the United States and Britain, banning nuclear and other weapons from outer space as well as celestial bodies such as the moon. (The treaty entered into force in October 1967.)

In 1993, the Clinton White House set off a political storm by abruptly firing the entire staff of its travel office; five of the seven staffers were later reinstated and assigned to other duties.

In 1994, former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis died in New York at age 64.

In 2003, WorldCom Inc. agreed to pay investors \$500 million to settle civil fraud charges.

In 2018, Britain's Prince Harry wed American actress Meghan Markle in a service that reflected Harry's royal heritage and his bride's biracial roots, as well as their shared commitment to put a more diverse, modern face on the monarchy.

In 2020, a Trump administration policy of quickly expelling most migrants stopped along the border because of the COVID-19 pandemic was indefinitely extended.

Ten years ago: Chen Guangcheng (chehn gwahng-chung), a blind Chinese legal activist, was hurriedly taken from a hospital and put on a plane for the United States, closing a nearly monthlong diplomatic tussle that had tested U.S.-China relations.

Five years ago: Sweden dropped a rape investigation of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, who remained holed up in Ecuador's embassy in London to avoid arrest and possible extradition to the United States to face charges stemming from the publication of thousands of pages of classified documents. Former U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner, D-N.Y., whose penchant for sexting strangers ended his political career, pleaded guilty in Manhattan to a sex charge, tearfully apologizing for communications with a 15-year-old girl. (Weiner received a 21-month prison sentence.) Iran's moderate President Hassan Rouhani (hah-SAHN' roh-HAH'-nee) trounced a hard-line challenger to secure reelection.

One year ago: The House voted to create an independent commission on the deadly Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, sending the legislation to the Senate. (Senate Republicans would block creation of the panel.) Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to press ahead with a fierce military offensive in the Gaza Strip, pushing back against calls from the United States to wind down the operation.

Today's Birthdays: TV personality David Hartman is 87. Actor James Fox is 83. Actor Nancy Kwan is 83. Rock singer-composer Pete Townshend (The Who) is 77. Concert pianist David Helfgott is 75. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Archie Manning is 73. Singer-actor Grace Jones is 71. Rock musician Phil Rudd is 68. Actor Steven Ford is 66. Actor Toni Lewis is 62. Rock musician Iain Harvie (Del Amitri) is 60. Actor Polly Walker is 56. Actor Jason Gray-Stanford is 52. Gospel singer Israel Houghton is 51. Rock singer Jenny Berggren (Ace of Base) is 50. Former race car driver Dario Franchitti is 49. TV personality Kim Zolciak Biermann (TV: "Real Housewives of Atlanta") is 44. Country/rock singer Shooter Jennings is 43. Actor Drew Fuller is 42. Actor-comedian Michael Che (chay) (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 39. Christian rock musician Tim McTague (Underoath) is 39. Actor Eric Lloyd is 36. Pop singer Sam Smith is 30. Actor Nolan Lyons is 21.

# 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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