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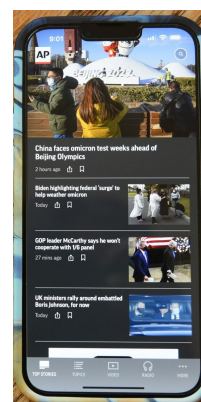
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Connecting

August 29, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this Aug. 29, 2022:

In today's Connecting, Charlie Hanley shares a video of the Marcus Eliason memorial service that included remarks from family and friends worldwide. Listen to the wordsmiths

And more of you share your call to jury duty stories. (In all my years, I'm one who has never gotten the call.)

A note from Ye Old Editor: My thanks to Peg for her injury relief in publishing Connecting while I recuperate from a fall Sunday afternoon that resulted in a broken right hip. Wish I could say it happened while I was stretching for a tennis winner ... but not. Ignobly, I tripped over a nylon cord on the floor of the garage and fell. I'll know more tomorrow on prognosis when my orthopedic surgeon takes a look. Meantime, please send Peg your submissions at pcoughlin@AP.org

Healing thoughts and prayers for the [tall/fall guy](#).

Be well,

[Peg](#)

Video link to Eliason memorial

[Charlie Hanley](#) – Below is a link to the one hour-plus video recording of the Aug. 21 memorial service for our late colleague Marcus Eliason. It's a combination of, first, remarks from family and friends around the world linked in via Zoom, and then remarks from colleagues and friends on-scene in New York, including ex-UPLer Allen Alter, and former or current APers Charlie Hanley, Ted Anthony, Edie Lederer, John Daniszewski, Verena Dobnik, Molly Gordy, Larry Thorson, and Rhonda Shaffner.

From time to time, the laptop camera catches other AP friends in the background at the gathering in the back courtyard of the Eliasons' apartment building. Eva Eliason and their daughter Avital can be seen on the left of the screen. Family friend Eve Dryer is the coordinator.

Watch the Recording
Passcode: Y3@Q6+Z*

Connecting series:

More of your stories about getting the call to jury duty



[Kathy Curran](#) - I was called to jury duty in the early seventies in Milwaukee. At the time, there was no calling in to see if you were needed. But for criminal court you were required to show up at the courthouse each morning for two full months. I was selected four times to serve on trials. I wondered at the time if my being six-seven months pregnant made me look like I might be a more compassionate juror.

One of the trials involved a bar fight at which someone was called a m#####ing SOB. Witness after witness after witness came up to the stand and had to repeat the offensive statement. Eventually it became kind of funny. To mask our amusement a lot of us looked like we were stifling yawns or nursing a toothache with our hands at our faces.

Another trial that caused us to squelch our laughter involved a hooligan defendant acting as his own lawyer. No more needs to be said.

There was a popular TV show at the time called "All in the Family." As I sat for two months in the jury pool I thought of myself as "Meathead" to the many Archie Bunkers I was listening to. I think the frequency of attendance and amount of time required for jury duty at that time limited the pool to those who were unable to be excused. One of the things I recall was using the word "alleged" in describing a defendant and being told "come on, you know he did it" and we had not yet heard the evidence. I thought at the time if I ever have to go to trial and have a choice for judge or jury I would choose the former.

My late AP newsman husband **Tim Curran**, to his great dismay, was never called for jury duty, but he sure loved my evening reports.

-0-

Bob Daugherty - My non-experience with jury duty occurred in Fairfax, Virginia. Truthfully I was rather excited to do my civic duty. So I dressed accordingly. I wore slacks, a blue blazer and a tie. I signed in with a clerk and was seated with several dozen others.

After about an hour I and several others were ushered to a courtroom where the defendant, a young Black man, was already seated along with his attorney. He was accused of a violent altercation with an elderly lady. I was recognized and asked my occupation. I somehow got the impression the defense attorney only asked my occupation to be polite.

The next thing was a swift dismissal. I wondered why I got the boot so quickly. Was it my jacket and tie, my occupation or my gray hair? Maybe I looked a bit too conservative.

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Michael Holmes - My one brush with jury duty didn't last long — but it had nothing to do with my occupation.

When I was Austin correspondent, I lived in a then-rural county north of the city. My jury summons called me to county court at 9 a.m. sharp.

About 20 of us were assigned to a minor traffic case. As the judge took the bench, the defendant — a college kid — kind of gulped.

The judge asked where his lawyer was. Didn't have one, the kid replied. The judge asked whether he planned on defending himself. Not really, the kid replied.

Growing visibly irritated, the judge asked just how he planned to proceed.

Well, the kid said, a fraternity brother had told him that if he asked for a trial in a traffic case, the county would drop it. You need better advice, the judge replied.

A quick guilty plea followed. Besides the maximum fine and a severe scolding for wasting the court's time, the kid was ordered to apologize to all of the potential jurors.

I was back in the bureau before lunch.

-0-

Ray Newton - In my 60-plus years as a journalist and a professor, I was called for jury duty five times in three different states, Each time I was dismissed.

Once because I was the father of two teenage daughters, and the case was an assault and rape case against teenagers. Other times, because I had been reporting on crime sprees in New Mexico, and later when I was reporting and teaching about mass communication law and such at the university, I honestly would have enjoyed the experience, I think, but now, I doubt at my age I'll ever be summoned again.

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Jim Reindl - I was called to jury duty while working in Chicago either as news editor or ACOB around 1990. I was confident my journalist status would get me excused and back to the newsroom in short order.

Not so fast. To my surprise, I was seated.

The trial was some sort of business dispute so at least we were not considering someone's incarceration fate. If I recall correctly, we spent only a few hours hearing from both sides on the trial date and then were ushered into the jury room to deliberate.

The plaintiff's case was so abysmal that we decided we should hang out so we didn't look like we were rushing to judgment. We spent most of our time debating why the guy even brought the case, then voted to dismiss it. The most interesting part of the day was when both lawyers questioned us after our verdict to get our reasoning. I think the plaintiff's attorney actually agreed with us. And, at least we got a "free" lunch out of the deal.

-0-

Jim Spehar - Rather than subject you to the column I wrote back in 2015 after being called for jury duty, I'll just forward the quote that I lead with:

"When you go into court you are putting your fate into the hands of twelve people who weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty."

Norm Crosby

AP Leads Best of the Week

AP's global 'Sacred Rivers' series explores hallowed waterways, cultures under threat



Over the course of several months, more than 30 AP staffers across five continents teamed up to execute the illuminating and alarming six-part Sacred Rivers series. The ambitious project leveraged all-formats skills to tell lyrical stories, each with compelling images and presentation, engaging audiences with the intersection of spirituality, religion, Indigenous culture, business practices, energy, environmental degradation — even geopolitical conflicts.

The series resonated with AP's readers and customers worldwide.

For an enterprising, inspiring and unmatched creative collaboration that showcased AP journalism at its best, the Sacred Rivers project team is AP's Best of the Week — First Winner.

Read more [here](#).

Stories of interest

They were some of the last journalists at their papers. Then came the layoffs.

By Elahe Izadi

The Washington Post

The only full-time news reporter at the Daily Jeffersonian kept busy until recently. Kristi Garabrandt drove around Guernsey County, Ohio, for three years covering local council meetings and Eagle Scouts, photographing community events and writing a series on drug addiction.

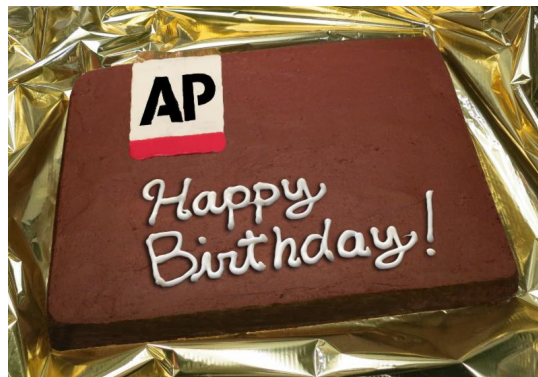
The Daily Jeff, as it's called locally, has been around since 1824. "The reality is the community paper is pretty much what holds your community together," Garabrandt said.

Then came the layoffs. Earlier this month, the Daily Jeff's parent company, Gannett, announced a dismal second quarter. The company reported a \$53.7 million loss on \$748.7 million in revenue, as it dealt with inflation and soaring print costs, the CEO said. Employees were warned in an email of "necessary but painful reductions to staffing."

A week later, Garabrandt became one of at least dozens of Gannett employees who lost their jobs. It took her off guard. "When you're the paper's only reporter, you don't consider yourself nonessential," she said.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Barry Bedlan](#)

[Jeff Rowe](#)

Today in History – Aug. 29, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Aug. 29, the 241st day of 2022. There are 124 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast near Buras, Louisiana, bringing floods that devastated New Orleans. More than 1,800 people in the region died.

On this date:

In 1632, English philosopher John Locke was born in Somerset.

In 1814, during the War of 1812, Alexandria, Virginia, formally surrendered to British military forces, which occupied the city until September 3.

In 1862, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing began operations at the United States Treasury.

In 1944, 15,000 American troops of the 28th Infantry Division marched down the Champs Elysees (shahms ay-lee-ZAY') in Paris as the French capital continued to celebrate its liberation from the Nazis.

In 1957, the Senate gave final congressional approval to a Civil Rights Act after South Carolina Sen. Strom Thurmond (then a Democrat) ended a filibuster that had lasted 24 hours.

In 1958, pop superstar Michael Jackson was born in Gary, Indiana.

In 1966, the Beatles concluded their fourth American tour with their last public concert, held at Candlestick Park in San Francisco.

In 2008, Republican presidential nominee John McCain picked Sarah Palin, a maverick conservative who had been governor of Alaska for less than two years, to be his running mate.

In 2009, funeral services were held in Boston for Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, who was eulogized by President Barack Obama; hours later, Kennedy's remains were buried at Arlington National Cemetery outside Washington.

In 2013, in a sweeping new policy statement, the Justice Department said it would not stand in the way of states that wanted to legalize, tax and regulate marijuana as long as there were effective controls to keep marijuana away from kids, the black market and federal property.

In 2018, Sen. John McCain was remembered as a "true American hero" at a crowded service at the North Phoenix Baptist Church after a motorcade carried McCain's body from the state Capitol. Kanye West apologized on a Chicago radio station (WGCI) for calling slavery a "choice."

In 2019, President Donald Trump said the United States planned to withdraw more than 5,000 troops from Afghanistan, and would then determine future drawdowns.

Ten years ago: Seizing the Republican National Convention spotlight in Tampa, Florida, vice presidential candidate Paul Ryan promised Mitt Romney would "not duck the tough issues" if he were to win the White House and that their party would move forcefully to solve the nation's economic woes. Hurricane Isaac sidestepped New Orleans, sending the worst of its howling wind and heavy rain into a cluster of rural fishing villages.

Five years ago: North Korea flew a ballistic missile designed to carry a nuclear payload over Japan, likely the country's longest-ever launch; President Donald Trump said "all options" were on the table for a U.S. response. Federal and local agencies said they had lifted more than 13,000 people out of the floodwaters from Hurricane Harvey in the Houston area and surrounding cities and counties. Comedian Kathy Griffin retracted her apology for posing with what appeared to be the severed head of President Donald Trump, saying the anger against her was overblown.

One year ago: Hurricane Ida blasted ashore in Louisiana as one of the most powerful storms ever to hit the U.S., knocking out power to all of New Orleans, blowing roofs off buildings and reversing the flow of the Mississippi River; more than 1 million homes and businesses in Louisiana and Mississippi, including all of New Orleans, were left without power. The U.S. military carried out a drone strike in the Afghan capital that the Pentagon initially said had killed an Islamic State fighter; an investigation found that 10 Afghan civilians, including seven children, were killed, and that the vehicle

was not a valid threat. President Joe Biden stood witness with grieving families at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware as the remains of 13 U.S. troops killed in a suicide bombing in Afghanistan returned home. Ed Asner, the burly and prolific character actor best known as newsman Lou Grant on “The Mary Tyler Moore Show” and then in a spinoff drama, died at 91.

Today’s Birthdays: Movie director William Friedkin is 87. Actor Elliott Gould is 84. Actor Deborah Van Valkenburgh is 70. Former Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew is 67. Dancer-choreographer Mark Morris is 66. Country musician Dan Truman (Diamond Rio) is 66. Actor Rebecca DeMornay is 63. Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch (GOR’-suhch) is 55. Singer Me’Shell NdegeOcello (n-DAY’-gay-OH’-chehl-oh) is 54. Actor Carla Gugino is 51. Rock musician Kyle Cook (Matchbox Twenty) is 47. Actor John Hensley is 45. Actor Kate Simses is 43. Rapper A+ is 40. Actor Jennifer Landon is 39. Actor Jeffrey Licon is 37. Actor-singer Lea Michele is 36. Actor Charlotte Ritchie is 33. Actor Nicole Gale Anderson is 32. MLB pitcher Noah Syndergaard (SIHN’-dur-gahrd) is 30. Rock singer Liam Payne (One Direction) is 29.

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!

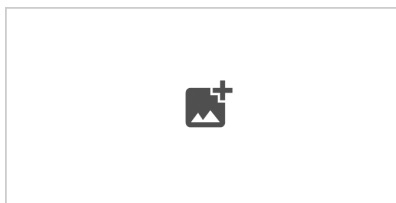


Here are some suggestions:

- **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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