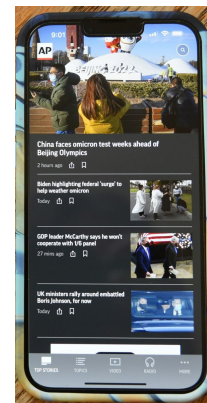


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Connecting

Sept. 20, 2022

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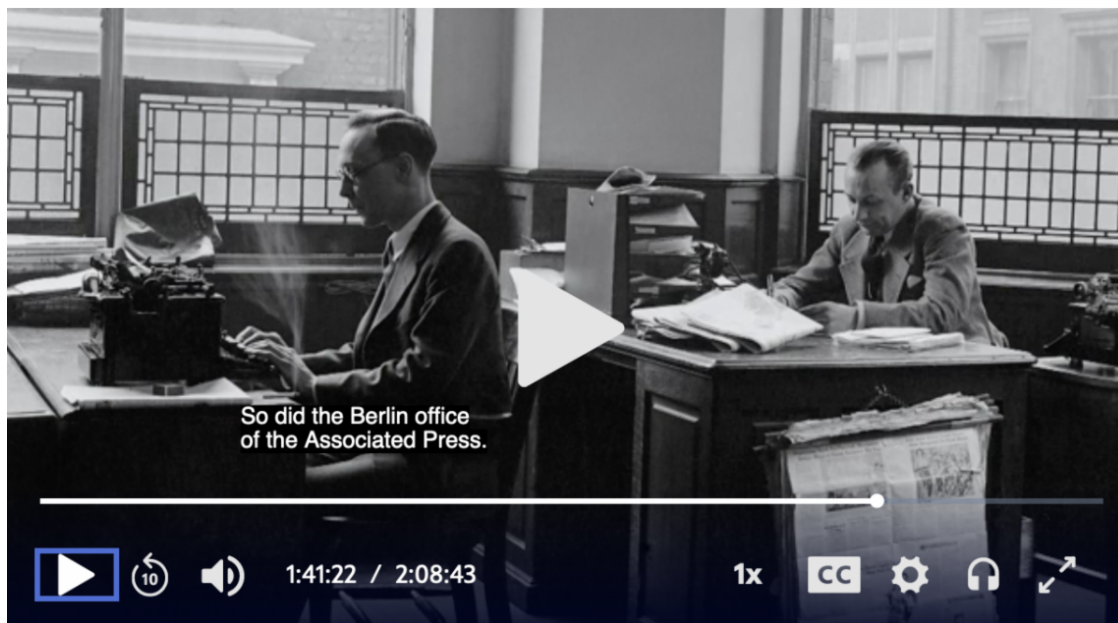
Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this Sept. 20, 2022,

The newest documentary by Ken Burns, “The U.S. and the Holocaust,” premiered Sunday on PBS and sharp-eyed viewer [Jim Carrier](#) spotted a brief but important Associated Press reference that leads today’s issue.

The three-part, six-hour series examines America’s response to one of the greatest humanitarian crises of the 20th Century.

Carrier noted this reference to AP: “American corporations like those of other countries continued to conduct business as usual with the Hitler regime. The Nazis awarded Henry Ford their highest civilian medal, and his German plant began supplying the German army with 1500 vehicles a year after turning down an offer to build airplane engines for Britain, Woolworth’s German subsidiary fired all its Jewish employees as the price of doing business. So did the Berlin office of the Associated Press.”



Connecting colleague **John Daniszewski**, AP vice president for Standards, said the reference “was laid out in the report AP issued some years ago, The AP photo service was in essence turned into a German company and subject to Nazi anti-Jewish laws. Berlin bureau chief Louis Lochner arranged for one Jewish employee to be transferred and to help other Jewish employees to emigrate to New York. Lochner was sympathetic to their plight and he and other American staffers gave sanctuary to Jewish neighbors during Kristallnacht. But please consult the report which discusses the history. All of AP's former Jewish employees survived the Holocaust.”

Here is a [link](#) to the report, “AP releases in-depth review of its coverage of Nazi Germany,” written in 2017 by **David Crary** (a Connecting colleague). It began:

NEW YORK (AP) — The Associated Press has conducted an in-depth review of its operations in Nazi Germany, concluding that the news agency acted as “forthrightly and independently as possible.” But the review also found AP handled some situations inadequately.

The review was undertaken after an article published last year contended that the AP allowed Nazi propagandists to exert some influence over its news photo report in the 1930s by maintaining a photo subsidiary in Germany, registered under a restrictive Nazi press law.

The author, historian Harriet Scharnberg, also identified AP German photographers who were drafted into or joined Nazi military propaganda units during World War II, some while still being paid by AP.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

National Press Club celebrates 50th anniversary of vote to admit women as members



Lisa Matthews (left) and Peggy Simpson

[Lisa Matthews](#) – *AP Assignment Manager, U.S. Video in Washington* - The National Press Club celebrated the 50th anniversary of the NPC vote to admit women as members last Friday at the Fall Hoot for the Silver Owls. (Only 50 years!!!)

At the same time, it honored the club's 15 female presidents (which included 3 from AP - Alison Kodjak, Theresa Werner and me).

I had the honor of meeting fellow APer Peggy Simpson who you might recall was among the plaintiffs in the class action lawsuit against AP for gender and race discrimination.

She and I spoke on a panel about the history of women and discrimination in our field and in particular at the AP.

Here is a story from the NPC, titled: "Club reflects on progress, work ahead 50 years after accepting first female members"

It begins:

Prominent female journalists said there has been progress in the treatment of women in the industry but more work lies ahead, during a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the National Press Club admitting female members as part of the Silver Owls Fall Hoot.

The Club voted to admit women members for the first time in 1971, having previously only allowed them to cover events and luncheons from the ballroom balcony.

At the time of the vote, some members worried that the introduction of female members would impact the functioning of the Club. Vivian Vahlberg, who in 1982 was sworn in as the first female Club president, said she believed that attitude was partly driven by the fact that until then, some men struggled to see women as colleagues and saw the Club as a refuge from them.

Read more [here](#).

Inside the abbey, a funeral fit for a leader



A piper plays during the funeral of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, in London, Monday Sept. 19, 2022. (Phil Noble/Pool Photo via AP)

By DANICA KIRKA

LONDON (AP) — I couldn't see the lone piper. But it didn't matter.

As the sounds of the Scottish lament, "Sleep, Dearie, Sleep," faded into the silence of Westminster Abbey, it finally struck me that Queen Elizabeth II was really gone.

The queen loved bagpipes so much that she had a piper play under her window for 15 minutes every morning, so those notes disappearing into the ether had a sense of finality, in a grand, show-stopping way.

Monday's state funeral was filled with those kinds of moments as Britain said goodbye to its longest-serving monarch with all the pageantry the nation is known for.

The black-clad mourners included the royal family, seven British prime ministers and hundreds of dignitaries from around the world, including U.S. President Joe Biden.

But it was the colors that caught my eye.

The dark clothing was just a backdrop for decorations of all kinds. Military medals gleamed from the chests of old soldiers, and civilians sported ribbons denoting civilian honors bestowed by the queen.

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

Mini-gathering of APers and old Beirut hacks



From left, Don Mell, Jean Mell, Eileen Powell, Terry Anderson, Madeleine Bassil, Edie Lederer

[Terry Anderson](#) - Celebrated Don and Jean Mell's 25th wedding anniversary in Wilmington DE over the weekend. Don was with me when I was kidnapped but was left behind by my abductors. He was best man at my wedding to Madeleine Bassil, who also attended, and I was best man at his. It was a mini-gathering of APers and old Beirut hacks. Excellent party!

Connecting Name Game

[Adolphe Bernotas](#) - The photograph is lost somewhere in our third downsizing, which continues to bedevil Marguerite and me.

But I can describe it easily. It shows me at a geographic monument.

While politically and culturally my native Lithuania is placed in "Eastern Europe," some geographers put it at the center of Europe, a claim also made by Belarus, Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, Poland, Estonia and probably others.

My preferred center of Europe is the Lithuanian one at Bernotai, plural of my surname.

On the road in North Vietnam



Carl Robinson - As my Vietnamese motorbike companions 'chase the clouds' and sunrise up that far peak up a dirt trail judged unsuitable for an 80-year who got this far quite bravely, I am overwhelmed by the beauty of Ta Xua at the lower end of the Hoang Lien Son Range, 200 kms west of Hanoi. Another hidden gem but very popular among Vietnamese who've become quite touristy themselves. What a wonderful three days where I've been totally absorbed and accepted by my fellow travelers as one of them. I even gave a farewell speech in Vietnamese as this half of Mr Trang's incredibly innovative tour ends with half our group heading back to Hanoi later today while the others continue another four days. What a thrill it's been.



Bun Bo Hue -- not really. More like Bun Bo Xao. A street feed on a side street in the shadow of the Hanoi Opera House pictured earlier today. It's been a good long day and the body increasingly stiff from four days on a motorbike and I'm looking forward to a serious massage back in Saigon tomorrow. So, early to bed at my flop house just a block away.

AP Sighting



Bruce Lowitt - Green Bay Packers fan at Sunday night's Bears-Packers NFL game. The AP refers to American Packers, founded 1921. The Indian Packing Co. donated money for uniforms for the team which in 1921 joined the American Professional Football Association, renamed the National Football League the following year.

Newspapers in art



Kevin Walsh - "The Beach and the Hospital Lighthouse." Henri de Saint-Denis (1878-1949). Spotted at the Musée Eugène Boudin in Honfleur, France.

BEST OF THE WEEK — FIRST WINNER

Sweeping AP coverage captures the life, death of Queen Elizabeth II and a nation in mourning



In AP's London bureau, editor Frank Griffiths sends the alert that Charles has become Britain's new king, Sept. 8, 2022. AP / SARA GILLESBY

Years of preparation had AP well-positioned to cover the story of Queen Elizabeth's death when the time came: 6:30 p.m. local time in London, Thursday, Sept. 8: An AP Flash went out within a minute and a push alert within another. Then photos and videos chronicling the life of Britain's longest serving monarch were expedited to AP members, subscribers and customers, with the first videos available nine minutes after the APNewsAlert.

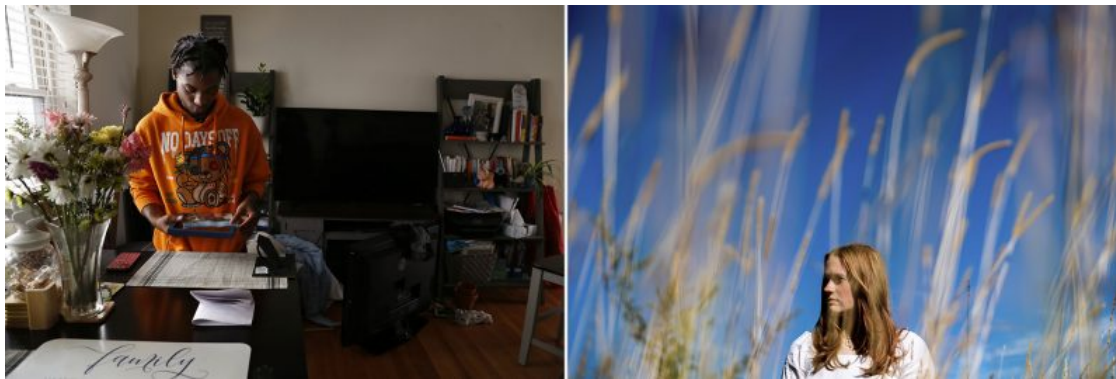
The sheer breadth of all-formats content that followed was stunning, from a comprehensive obituary to video and photo retrospectives; profiles of Charles and Camilla; an explanation of royal succession; a look at global tributes; a deeply reported, elegantly presented piece on the complex response to the queen's death in former British colonies; live video and photo galleries of mourners; and much more, stretching into the following week and representing more than a decade of preparedness work.

Countless AP staffers across bureaus and continents contributed. In London, U.K. News Director Susie Blann and journalists Danica Kirka, Jill Lawless and Sylvia Hui worked around the clock, critical to the AP's core coverage, as were Samira Becirovic, head of video news production, and editors Brian Friedman and Pete Brown.

Read more [here](#).

BEST OF THE WEEK — SECOND WINNER
Enterprising AP back-to-school coverage explores school security, pandemic issues

and more



In photo at left, Keyon Robinson, 19, looks at a family photo at his family's apartment in Oak Park, Ill., Aug. 15, 2022. Robinson, who was arrested in May with a ghost gun in his backpack outside his high school in the Chicago suburb, was largely confined to his home for the summer while his case works its way through the courts. At right, Jackie Hegarty, a rising senior at Newtown High School, poses for a photo at Holcombe Hill Wildlife Preserve in Newtown, Conn., Aug. 18, 2022. Hegarty was in second grade at Sandy Hook Elementary School when a gunman opened fire across the hall. "... I shouldn't have to be still struggling with this today," she says. AP PHOTOS / MARTHA IRVINE (LEFT); JULIA NIKHINSON

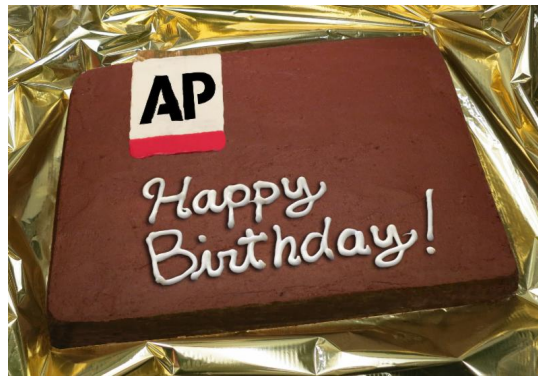
This fall, America's students kicked off their fourth pandemic school year — and returned to classrooms just months after the massacre in Uvalde, Texas. Kids in the U.S. have yet to experience a pandemic year without tremendous disruption.

To meet the moment, AP's new education team filled an unprecedented six weeks of back-to-school coverage with hard-to-get, student-centered storytelling. Partnering with all corners of the AP newsroom, this comprehensive enterprise reporting was performed by a robust team of journalists, including multiformat journalist Martha Irvine and the deeply sourced Sandy Hook team.

Interviewing students and families is extremely difficult when school is out. But AP's team spent weeks and months finding the right subjects. The package of stories captured the crunch to teach third graders to read in Atlanta, issues of youth mental health prompting the launch of emotional check-in software at a Kentucky elementary school, fears around feeling ill-prepared for college among pandemic students in Milwaukee, and much more.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Julie Inskeep](#)

[Terry Petty](#)

[Teresa Walker](#)

Stories of interest

Tensions rise between the LA Times and its billionaire owner (Politico)

By DANIEL LIPPMAN, CHRISTOPHER CADELAGO and MAX TANI

This past May, a young reporter for the Los Angeles Times working a weekend shift filed a 190-word story about people suspected of stealing expensive watches before fleeing in a black Rolls-Royce.

The item by Jeong Park enraged activists. They were upset not by the crime, but by how the Times framed the incident in West Hollywood. Online, advocates pushing to slash police budgets derided it as a “press release” for law enforcement.

But it was one activist who joined the pile-on that turned heads across the newsroom.

Nika Soon-Shiong, the 29-year-old daughter of Times owner Patrick Soon-Shiong, posted a critical tweet atop a screenshot of the article bearing Park’s name. In her post, which has since been deleted, the younger Soon-Shiong suggested the Times was helping to “protect the Rolls-Royce and luxury watches” while turning a blind eye to the sheriff’s department “overcharging, manipulating crime stats, or lying about the cost per deputy...”

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

-0-

Team earns \$5 million grant to develop tool to identify misinformation (Washington State University)

The National Science Foundation recently granted a research team \$5 million to continue work on Course Correct, a tool designed to help journalists identify and combat misinformation online.

Porismita Borah, associate professor in Washington State University's Murrow College of Communication, is a co-principal investigator on the effort lead by researchers from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. The latest grant follows a previous \$750,000 NSF grant that helped the team develop an initial iteration of the tool.

Course Correct provides journalists with a dashboard to help identify trending misinformation on social media, correct false claims, and test their corrections' effectiveness in real time. The next phase of the project will help roll the tool out to a wider audience.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Albright.

Today in History – Sept. 20, 2022



Today is Tuesday, Sept. 20, the 263rd day of 2022. There are 102 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 20, 1973, in their so-called "battle of the sexes," tennis star Billie Jean King defeated Bobby Riggs in straight sets, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3, at the Houston Astrodome.

On this date:

In 1519, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan and his crew set out from Spain on five ships to find a western passage to the Spice Islands. (Magellan was killed enroute, but one of his ships eventually circled the world.)

In 1881, Chester A. Arthur was sworn in as the 21st president of the United States, succeeding the assassinated James A. Garfield.

In 1946, the first Cannes Film Festival, lasting 16 days, opened in France.

In 1962, James Meredith, a Black student, was blocked from enrolling at the University of Mississippi by Democratic Gov. Ross R. Barnett. (Meredith was later admitted.)

In 1964, The Beatles concluded their first full-fledged U.S. tour by performing in a charity concert at the Paramount Theater in New York.

In 1967, the Cunard liner RMS Queen Elizabeth 2 was christened by Britain's Queen Elizabeth II in Clydebank, Scotland.

In 1973, singer-songwriter Jim Croce died in a plane crash near Natchitoches, Louisiana; he was 30.

In 1995, in a move that stunned Wall Street, AT&T Corporation announced it was splitting into three companies.

In 2000, Independent Counsel Robert Ray announced the end of the Whitewater investigation, saying there was insufficient evidence to warrant charges against President and Mrs. Clinton.

In 2001, during an address to a joint session of Congress, President George W. Bush announced a new Cabinet-level office to fortify homeland security and named Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge its director.

In 2011, repeal of the U.S. military's 18-year-old "don't ask, don't tell" compromise took effect, allowing gay and lesbian service members to serve openly.

In 2019, Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania, the 1979 site of the nation's worst commercial nuclear power accident, was shut down by its owner after producing electricity for 45 years.

Ten years ago: On a day when thousands of angry Pakistanis tried to make their way to the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, the embassy aired an ad on Pakistani TV showing President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton denouncing an anti-Islamic video produced in the United States. Space shuttle Endeavour, riding atop a Boeing 747, landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California en route to its eventual retirement home, the California Science Center in Los Angeles.

Five years ago: Hurricane Maria, the strongest hurricane to hit Puerto Rico in more than 80 years, struck the island, wiping out as much as 75 percent of the power distribution lines and causing an island-wide blackout. Rescuers worked furiously at a collapsed school in Mexico City where a girl was believed trapped under debris in the aftermath of a deadly earthquake; it was later determined that no children were still trapped in the debris.

One year ago: Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau won his third straight election, but failed to get the majority in Parliament that he wanted; Trudeau had voiced the concerns of Canadians who were increasingly upset with those who refused to get vaccinated against COVID-19. Pfizer announced that its COVID-19 vaccine was effective for children ages 5 to 11; the vaccine was already available to anyone 12 and older. (U.S. health officials would approve the vaccine for children as young as 5 in November 2021.) In a major easing of pandemic travel restrictions, the White House said it would allow foreigners to fly into the country starting in November if they had vaccination proof and a negative COVID-19 test. U.S. officials said more than 6,000 Haitians and other migrants had been removed from an encampment at a Texas border town; the officials defended a response that included immediately expelling the migrants to their impoverished Caribbean country.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Sophia Loren is 88. Rock musician Chuck Panozzo is 74. Actor Tony Denison is 73. Actor Debbi Morgan is 71. Jazz musician Peter White is 68. Actor Betsy Brantley is 67. Actor Gary Cole is 66. TV news correspondent Deborah Roberts is 62. Country-rock musician

Joseph Shreve (Flynnville Train) is 61. Rock musician Randy Bradbury (Pennywise) is 58. Actor Kristen Johnston is 55. Rock singers Gunnar and Matthew Nelson are 55. Rock musician Ben Shepherd is 54. Actor Euka Okuma is 50. Actor-model Moon Bloodgood is 47. Actor Jon Bernthal is 46. Singer The-Dream is 45. Actor Charlie Weber is 44. Rock musician Rick Woolstenhulme (WOOL'-sten-hyoolm) (Lifehouse) is 43. Rapper Yung Joc is 42. Actor Crystle Stewart is 41. Actor Aldis Hodge is 36. Rock drummer Jack Lawless is 35. Actor Malachi (MAL'-ah-ky) Kirby is 33.

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.

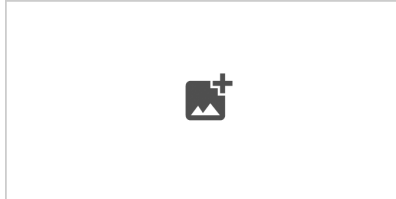
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

Paul Stevens

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