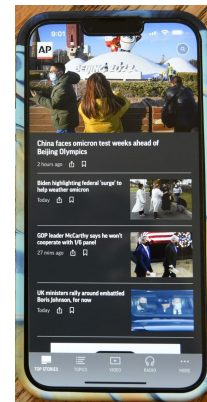


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Connecting

Sept. 30, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this Sept. 30, 2022,

Fifty years ago, Associated Press reporter **Peter Arnett** was in New York when he got word that the North Vietnamese planned to release three American prisoners of war.

Arnett, who covered the Vietnam War for six years and won a Pulitzer Prize for his reporting, scrambled onto a flight to join a group that included peace activists and relatives of the POWs to provide coverage for The Associated Press.

Our colleague **Francesca Pitaro** of AP Corporate Archives wrote about his trip in a story that leads today's issue. Peter is a member of the Connecting family.

One of our birthday celebrants today is colleague [Curt Anderson](#), veteran reporter for the AP in Tampa Bay. Celebration of his latest trip around the sun will have to wait. He is part of the AP team tasked with covering Hurricane Ian in the Tampa and St. Petersburg area. May he and all of the AP team – and all journalists – be safe while reporting on the tragedy.

Click [here](#) for an excellent Poynter report on news coverage of the hurricane.

CONNECTING AUTHORS: The time nears for Connecting's annual presentation of books authored by its colleagues in the past 12 months. This gives you the reader a headstart on holiday book buying, for one. So if you have written a book that was published in the past year, send me the following: 300 to 400-word synopsis of the book, jpg image of the book cover and jpg closeup image of you the author.

Have a great weekend – and keep in your thoughts and prayers those who are in the path of Hurricane Ian and the journalists who are covering the story.

Paul

50 years ago – Peter Arnett Visits Hanoi



Rev. William Sloane Coffin, right, shakes hands with Lt. Greg Hanson of Thousand Oaks, Calif., as he greets captured American pilots in Hanoi, Vietnam, Sept. 25, 1972. At right is Cora Weiss, another member of the group that went to Hanoi from the United States. (AP Photo/Peter Arnett)

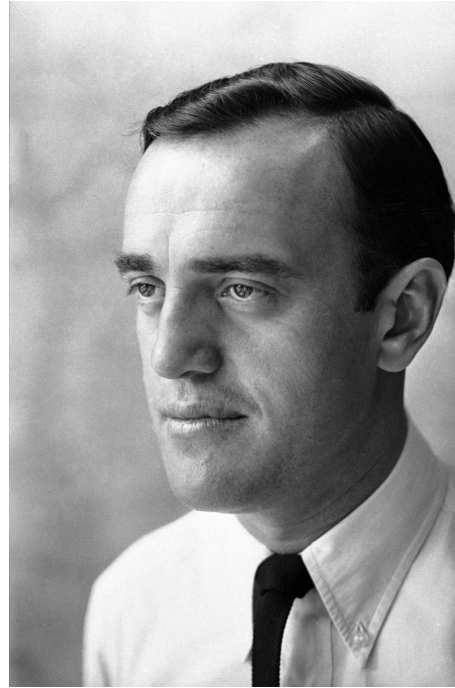
[Francesca Pitaro](#) – In September 1972, Peter Arnett took a 25,000-mile trip to Hanoi and back, a 16-day journey reporting from a country that was still at war with the U.S. With great fanfare, the North Vietnamese were releasing three American prisoners of war and Arnett was there with a group that included peace activists and relatives of the POWs.

Arnett was already one of AP's premiere Vietnam correspondents. He arrived in the Saigon Bureau in 1962 and by 1966 had won the Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting. At the time, the consensus among his colleagues was that Arnett had spent more time with the troops than any other reporter in Vietnam.

By 1972, Arnett had more than six years of experience in Vietnam but had never visited Hanoi. In this excerpt from the Sept. 25 – Oct. 1, 1972, issue of the AP Log, Arnett wrote about his trip:

"The message came to me at 5 a.m. on a Sunday in Paris: Call New York, regardless of the hour. Four days later I was on a plane out of New York, bound for Hanoi with a group that included the mother of one U.S. POW, the wife of another captured pilot, a pacifist clergyman, a radical-chic Bronx housewife, a legal wizard from Princeton and an old time revolutionary.

"I lived with them for three weeks, shared their thoughts and food, in a cloak and dagger operation in which the antiwar pacifists tried to out-manuever the U.S. authorities. The only condition of my presence was that the itinerary be kept secret."



Unable to file copy directly from Hanoi, Arnett handed off his first dispatch to a reporter from the St. Louis Post Dispatch who was leaving North Vietnam. On Arnett's return trip, which stopped in Beijing, Moscow, Copenhagen, and Paris, he found other opportunities to get the story out. At the Beijing airport he was surprised to find AP Tokyo staffers John Roderick and Jackson Ishizaki waiting for him. They were in China covering the visit of Japan's Prime Minister Tanaka, and the meeting lasted just long enough for Arnett to hand over copy and film. Similar AP arrangements at the Moscow and Copenhagen airports helped to get the copy on the wire quickly.

Rebounding North Viets Impress Writer

AP Special Correspondent Peter Arnett, the winner of a Pulitzer Prize in eight years of war reporting from South Vietnam, has just completed his first visit to North Vietnam. In the following story he describes the "ant power" of the North Vietnamese war effort and the wonder of a visitor, wonder not at the destructive power of U.S. bombing but at the survival power of the North Vietnamese.

By PETER ARNETT
AP Special Correspondent

If you have wondered why the North Vietnamese can continue to fight on despite the biggest bombing campaign in the history of war, then ride with three U.S. pilots and me down the roads south of Hanoi and find out.

Our destination was Nam Dinh City and the Phat Diem Cathedral, both severely bombed, and shepherds of the destructive power of the American air campaign. Jane Fonda and Ramsey Clark had been

there. Now it was the turn of the three pilots just released from a prisoner-of-war camp—Navy Lt. Mark Garity and Norris Charles and Air Force Major Edward Elias—and myself.

But long before we reached our destination we were shaking our heads in wonder, not at the destructive power of the bombs from the sky but at the survival power of the people on the ground.

Here was the "ant power" that Pentagon experts theorized lay behind Hanoi's ability to keep supplies and men moving to the southern war fronts. Where bombs had scored direct hits on railway cars on the tracks paralleling the road, dark shapes hammered at twisted wreckage, while other figures carried material and dumped it into the craters. As dawn came and we passed through the railroad junction of severely bombed Phu La, we saw that the dark shapes were women and they weren't even using buckets; they were carry-



—AP Wirephoto
Peter Arnett

ing mud in their bare hands to fill the craters in, and they seemed to be enjoying it.

When our old Russian Volga sedan bogged down at one point, the women swarmed out of the mud and gathered around us, laughing and gesticulating.

"Ant Power" Everywhere

This "ant power" was everywhere. Whereas in South Vietnam the war has denuded the countryside of population and sent people scurrying into the cities, in the North it is the reverse, and they swarmed on the highway.

Walking or riding bicycles along lonely roads in South Vietnam at night can mean death or capture. But in the North, nighttime is the logical time to travel for the faint-hearted, or for the supply convoys, because it affords protection from the planes that fly above.

The key to the use of the night is simply that there are no guerrillas to harass the convoys or blow up the supplies. In North Vietnam the war is only from the air.

No Bunkers Seen
That is why I observed no barbed wire anywhere, no barricaded militia outposts or fortified bunkers.

"See those grave mounds?"

Elias asked as we waited under the trees for a ferry to cross a river where a bridge had been destroyed. About 100 yards away, buffalo grazed quietly around the heaps of earth.

"They're antiaircraft pits with the muzzles down," Elias said. "Let a plane come over and they'll stick up their snouts and blast away."

Planes Said Hi

The discovery of the flat sites and the industrious people were possibly predictable enough. Enough American planes get shot down each week to adequately suggest the extent of the antiaircraft fire. And "people power" has long been known as North Vietnam's most important commodity.

What was mindboggling to the freed pilots was the extent of North Vietnam's visible supply chain. From the time we left the outskirts of Hanoi at 4 a.m. one morning to our return at 8 p.m. the next night we constantly encountered vehicle convoys, rows of stacked ammunition alongside the roadsides and gasoline drums. These were stretched out along the 120 miles we drove, and other foreign visitors in Hanoi at the time attested they saw similar scenes on different roads.

During daylight the vehicles were casually parked under the

inevitable line of trees at roadside. On some long, straight stretches of highway we counted as many as 40 trucks.

They seemed extremely vulnerable, but Charles commented, "We could never see those things from the air. And the moment someone comes down to get a better look then — blam, man."

In the evenings as the trucks began to move south loaded with supplies, the whole operation reminded me of a huge glacier forcing itself slowly but surely down a mountain valley.

Partial Answer Seen

Elias said, "It is technology against ideology. I just wonder how far technology can go because the Vietnamese habitually beat it." He mentioned that Hanoi has found a partial answer to the threat of the so-called "smart" bombs that can zero in accurately on targets.

"The North Vietnamese put up smoke around the target. If you don't see it you can't hit it," Elias said.

The North Vietnamese glory in their ability to outwit the U.S. planes.

"You have to fight this war with intelligence, not with computers," Prime Minister Pham Van Dong told the antiwar activists who went to Hanoi to pick up the released pilots.

"The computers merely multiply man's stupidities thousands of times," he said, rocking forward in his chair with a knowing smile.

The editor of the Communist party newspaper Nhan Dan told the activists that "we have made enormous efforts" to beat the American blockade of the ports. "We have spirit and courage. We have used many measures and we can continue our transportation to the south."

"Whole cities have been destroyed. Hospitals, schools, churches have been destroyed. There have been so many victims," said Premier Dong, when the antiwar activists asked if the American people could help contribute to reconstruction.

"I fear that no city will be left intact in the North if President Nixon is re-elected. Mr. Nixon's war is 10 times more barbarous than his predecessors'," the editor said.

New City Predicted

And the North Vietnamese can rationalize anything. Standing on one of the broad, tree-lined thoroughfares in the Hanoi that the French took so much pride in building, one of my guide-interpreters commented, "This is just a remnant of colonialism, anyway. If it is destroyed we will build a new, better city. Our city."



Peter Arnett posed in 1963 with gear that he carries out in field while covering the Vietnamese army. (AP-Photo)

Arnett's six-part series covered the difficulties of even-handed reporting from North Vietnam, the contrasts between Hanoi and Saigon, the stories of the prisoners who were released and interviews with seven prisoners who remained in captivity. The response to the series was overwhelmingly positive, with members putting Arnett's stories on front pages all over the country.

After leaving the AP, Peter Arnett continued to tell the story of Vietnam. This month he donated to the Corporate Archives 10 bound volumes of AP copy on the TET offensive, which began on January 31, 1968. His 2015 memoir, *Saigon Has Fallen*, was

published in cooperation with the AP. In 2005, Arnett donated the records of the Saigon Bureau to the archives; in 1972 he had sent them out of Vietnam for safekeeping. Comprising 93 boxes, the collection includes the edited daily report and message wires, spanning the years 1960-1972. It is an unparalleled history of the Vietnam War as told by the AP staffers who witnessed it.

Ivan, Katrina most memorable hurricanes he covered over 33 years

Bill Kaczor - I've lost count of how many hurricanes I covered during my 33 years with AP in Florida. The most memorable were Ivan in 2004 and Katrina in 2005.

I made a bad choice as Ivan approached the Florida Panhandle by parking my Ford Ranger pickup in front of the Pensacola News Journal building where I had my tiny office. I'd hoped the building would shelter the truck from the wind. I was fixated on wind when I should have been worried about storm surge. The streets surrounding the building, a few blocks from Pensacola Bay, were inundated. So was my truck. It was a total loss.

Water also came in the building's front doors and turned the street-level lobby into a swimming pool. Some also seeped through a side door next to my office although the door had been sandbagged. I had about an inch of water along one wall, but the rest of the office remained dry. The News Journal had the foresight to bring in a huge diesel-powered electric generator in a semi-trailer. It kept the lights and computers on and ran the press after the storm knocked out electrical power. The newspaper's electronic telephone system, though, was out of commission as was cell phone service. However, I had two direct telephone lines in my office that did not go through the News Journal's system, one for my computer and the other for voice. Both kept working. As a result, I had a line of News Journal staffers, from the publisher on down, waiting to use my voice line for personal and business calls.

The storm made landfall in the middle of the night, and it was well into daylight before the water receded enough so I could get out of the building. Lacking transportation, though, that's where I spent most of the day, working the phone and hosting visiting AP staffers who used my computer line to file stories and transmit pictures. Several of us spent the night at a nearby motel. There was no running water so we had to use trash cans to dip water out of the swimming pool to flush the toilets. I didn't get much sleep. I was worried about whether my house in Gulf Breeze had survived. My wife and daughter, though, were safe. They left very early the day before and headed north to my wife's family's farm in Illinois.

The next day, I hitched a ride with Atlanta-based photographer John Bazemore for a round-about trek to Gulf Breeze because the three-mile Pensacola Bay Bridge was closed. What's normally a 20-minute drive became a two-hour slog around the bay. We first went to my house. A large tree limb blocked the driveway, but we managed to move it. We briefly went inside and then headed for the nearby Oriole Beach area on Santa Rosa Sound. Homes there had been inundated although those raised on pilings suffered relatively little damage. I interviewed survivors while John took pictures. He then dropped me off at my house. My daughter left her car in the garage so I again

had a vehicle. I mentioned to John that if the phone worked, I'd call in my notes and quotes and spend the night at home. John, though, said he'd already checked the phones and they were dead, so I abandoned that plan. I packed up some clothes and other items and headed for the door intending to make the trek back to Pensacola. As I reached the door, the phone rang! It was a friend checking to see if we were OK. Now, with a working phone I went back to plan A, called in my stuff and spent the night. The next day, authorities were letting emergency and media vehicles use the Pensacola Bay Bridge, so I was fully back in business.

Pensacola Naval Air Station was a staging area for rescue and supply flights to Mississippi and Louisiana in the aftermath of Katrina. I got a chance to ride along with one of the Navy chopper crews six days after landfall. We flew from Pensacola to a small naval base in New Orleans to refuel before beginning our search for survivors. By that time most people who wanted to get out had already been picked up. The air, though, still was filled with Coast Guard and military helicopters. The four-man crew lowered bottled water from the hovering helicopter to people who wanted to remain in their homes. Several hours went by before they found anyone in need of rescue. Finally, our HS-60 Seahawk joined a line of helicopters hovering over a school yard. It was a small dry island surrounded by flood waters. National Guard troops were dropping off survivors there after rescuing them with trucks and boats. The school yard was big enough for just one helicopter at a time to land. When our turn came, the crew quickly stuffed five adults, three children and their belongings into a space about the size of a minivan. We took them to Louis Armstrong International Airport where survivors were being flown out of the hurricane-stricken area. One of the crew, Petty Officer 2nd Class Chas Dearie, spent most of his childhood in New Orleans before his family moved to Lake Charles, Louisiana. He still had relatives in New Orleans, but they evacuated before the storm. "That white thing, that's my old house," Dearie said over the intercom as we flew over a mostly submerged neighborhood. The crew then saw a group of six people signaling for help. Petty Officer 2nd Class Evan Ramirez was lowered to the bed of a pickup truck just above the water level. He was hoisted back up with a survivor six times and then twice more with a bag of their possessions and a dog.

Remembering Bill Plante breaking into song in nearly empty CBS newsroom



[Jerry Cipriano](#) - All the tributes to Bill Plante have rightly recounted his many great achievements, including his coverage of the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights Movement and four Presidents as CBS News White House correspondent.

But I will always cherish the three years we worked together, from 1988 to 1991, on a 15-minute broadcast called the CBS Sunday Night News. Each Sunday evening, between 7 and 11, we sat opposite each other in a nearly empty newsroom, writing the broadcast.

Bill always had great stories to share and, I found out one Sunday, a wonderful singing voice. Oliver North had just testified at his Iran-contra trial that he'd amassed \$15,000 in cash over the years and kept it in a metal box bolted to the floor of a closet in his home. Reporters called this North's "little tin box."

I didn't understand the reference.

Bill explained that little tin box was a symbol of political corruption, and he immediately broke into song, regaling me with a performance of "Little Tin Box," an ode to Tammany Hall crooks, from the Broadway musical Fiorello.

"A little tin box. A little tin box. That a little tin key unlocks."

His voiced echoed through the newsroom.

It was wonderful!

A few years later, when Fiorello was performed in concert on Broadway, I had to catch the show to see if Tin Box lived up to Bill's rendition. It did not. Bill was delighted to hear that.

Bill had a great sense of humor. One night, we ended the broadcast with video of an old building being imploded and crumbling to the ground. When the video ended, Bill

came back on camera and deadpanned, in that booming voice of his, "And that's what's going down this Sunday Night."

That is the Bill Plante I will remember.

Funny. Charming. Fantastic journalist. Great friend. The ultimate gentleman.

The danger of being a journalist in Mexico

By John Ringer and Kimberly Atkins Stohr
WBUR, Boston

EDITOR'S NOTE: Katherine Corcoran, independent journalist who served as the Associated Press bureau chief in Mexico City from 2010 to 2016, is interviewed in this story.

Mexico is one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a journalist. This year alone, fifteen reporters have been murdered.

They face threats not only from drug cartels, but from their own government.

WBUR is a nonprofit news organization. Our coverage relies on your financial support. If you value articles like the one you're reading right now, give today.

"Please behave yourself, I beg of you. Difficult times are coming," former governor of Veracruz, Javier Duarte, said. "We're going to shake the tree, and a lot of bad apples are going to fall out."

In 2012, Regina Martinez was one of those so-called bad apples.

Now a fellow journalist is revealing the tangled web that led to her death, and that keeps journalists in Mexico living in fear.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Tracee Herbaugh.

Advance Obits

Frank Aukofer - At The Milwaukee Journal and its successor, the Journal Sentinel, we often did advance obits on prominent news people. We simply called them "A Matter." I did a number of them myself but the most memorable was the one I wrote shortly before I retired in 2000, when I had become the Washington bureau chief, by default.

It was the obit of Sen. Gaylord Nelson, Democrat of Wisconsin, who I had covered for 30 years in Washington. He was famous as the Father of Earth Day, which he invented as a teach-in to promote environmental awareness. The first Earth Day was in 1970, the year I started with The Journal's Washington Bureau.

Gaylord was a delight to cover. Always answered questions, usually with good humor, and never dodged an issue. We had an understanding. His office, in the Senate Russell

office building, had multiple doors into the suite, including one directly into his private office. We cut a deal. If I wanted to talk to him, I could open the never locked door a crack and, if he was alone, I could walk in for a chat—sometimes with staffers waiting in the inside hallway to see him. If it was late in the day, he'd occasionally suggest a stroll to the Carroll Arms Hotel bar nearby, where we'd sip Scotch whiskey and swap jokes.

I got the assignment to do his obit before I retired in 2000 and I sat with him for something like three or four hours—on tape—to gather the info. He was well aware of what it was all about. But the words sat in the Journal Sentinel library until his death in 2005. My obit started on the front page and jumped to a full double truck inside, with photos, of course. It was my last big story as a Journal Sentinel staffer and never to be forgotten.

As I mentioned, Gaylord loved to swap jokes. During one of the interviews, I was pressing him on his religious beliefs and whether he was a member of an organized religion. I doubt that I used it in the obit but I'll never forget his reply, which would have made a great kicker: "Well, I'm sort of like the Unitarian who believes in one God at most."

On the night John Lennon was shot

[Dan Sewell](#) - I was buying gift coupons at the locally iconic Bagel & Deli shop in Oxford, Ohio, when a student asked me who they were for. I explained I use them for rewards in my Miami University journalism classes.

He then asked if I had been in journalism, I said yeah, mainly for AP.

So he tells me his father had a story about his early days as a radio deejay in western Pennsylvania. The station owner was a cheapskate who turned off the AP machine at night and locked the door.

So his father was on air playing music the night John Lennon was assassinated, but without access to AP news.

I can remember exactly where I was that night. Miami was hosting a Monday Night Football game and Bureau Chief Tom Brettingen was my overqualified volunteer quote-runner. We had the ABC telecast on in the press box when Howard Cosell announced that Lennon had been shot. He didn't say where, and Lennon also had a place in Palm Beach. There was no correspondent anywhere near there, so Tom and I had a quick discussion about whether I should head up there and leave him to handle the game story, or to try reaching someone at home.

But then the breaking news reports started placing the shooting in NYC so we went back to football coverage (I don't remember anything about the game).

US News leadership team is named



Top row, from left: Lisa Matthews, Frank Baker, Christina Paciolla, Sarah Rafi. Bottom row, from left: Stephanie Mullen, Chris Grygiel, Kim Johnson. At right: Ravi Nessman.



This week AP announced eight key leadership positions, including the US News leadership team and a new director of global text. Here is the memo to staff from Josh Hoffner, U.S. news director; Derl McCrudden, vice president and head of global news production, and David Ake, assistant managing editor for photos:

We are thrilled to announce the appointment of seven talented and experienced journalists to lead the new U.S. News team in a variety of roles. These news leaders will help us leverage our 50-state footprint more seamlessly, bring more speed and consistency to our breaking news coverage and make our U.S. report more digitally friendly.

Kim Johnson and Frank Baker have been named as deputy U.S. news directors. Kim, based in Chicago, and Frank, in Los Angeles, will be responsible for managing breaking news assignments across the country, helping to determine the top stories of the day and how AP will respond. Kim will work on Eastern time and Frank on Pacific to better allow for a “follow the sun” approach to stories.

Kim joined the AP in 2000 as a staff photographer and editor in Los Angeles and has been the deputy news director for newsgathering and photos for the central U.S. since 2019. Frank’s history with the AP spans more than three decades and he has been the California news editor since 2011.

Sarah Rafi has been appointed deputy U.S. news director overseeing reporting teams. Sarah will work with teams of journalists covering beats and topics that intersect regularly with the biggest stories, including race and ethnicity, immigration, state government and law enforcement. Sarah has been the deputy director for newsgathering for the central U.S. since 2018. She joined the AP in 2001 as a general assignment reporter in Cleveland.

Critical to our success in the U.S. will be our new U.S. planning editor, responsible for next-day coverage and planning for major events. We are pleased to announce that Lisa Matthews will take on this role. Lisa will build off the strong culture of planning ingrained in our international regions. Lisa has been an assignment manager for U.S. video since 2017. She began her career with the AP in 1995 as a writer and in-house reporter for the broadcast wire.

Kim, Frank, Sarah and Lisa will join Katie Oyan, deputy news director for local news success, on the U.S. newsgathering leadership team and will report to U.S. News Director Josh Hoffner.

Christina Paciolla and Chris Grygiel have been appointed as deputy directors for U.S. text production to manage the new unified editing desk that launched earlier this month. Christina, in Philadelphia, will broadly oversee early hours, and Chris based in Seattle, will oversee late hours. They will work closely with Kim and Frank to ensure our text filing is competitive, fast and consistent.

Christina has been the news editor for New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio since 2019 and previously served as a desk supervisor for the eastern U.S.

Chris originally joined the AP in 1993 working as a reporter and editor. After leaving in 2000 he gained deep experience with digital transformation during 11 years with the Seattle Post Intelligencer. He returned to AP in 2011 and has been the Pacific Northwest news editor since 2012.

Both will report to Ravi Nessman, who was named this week as director of global text.

In this new position, Ravi will advocate for high-quality text reporting and editing, provide format expertise across the organization, and help modernize AP's text report for a digital audience. Since 2017 he has been the regional news director for the U.S. South Region. Previously he has served as Chief of Bureau in New Delhi, India, and Colombo, Sri Lanka. He was also correspondent in Jerusalem and news editor in Johannesburg, among other roles.

An essential partner to the U.S. News team will be Stephanie Mullen, who has been named deputy director of photography for the U.S. In this role, Stephanie will provide photo leadership and support for our daily coverage. Stephanie, in San Francisco, will report to David Ake and be a counterpart to Tony Hicks, our international photo deputy, and our video executive producers. Stephanie joined the AP in 1995 as a photo editor in Los Angeles and has been the interim news director for the U.S. West since last year.

Remembering London photographer Dave Caulkin



Rob Taggart – Here is a picture of Dave Caulkin with his good friend, former boss and AP legendary photographer and Photo Editor Horst Faas - taken by another former colleague John Walsh in London around 2008ish we think.

Connecting sky shot - in New Jersey

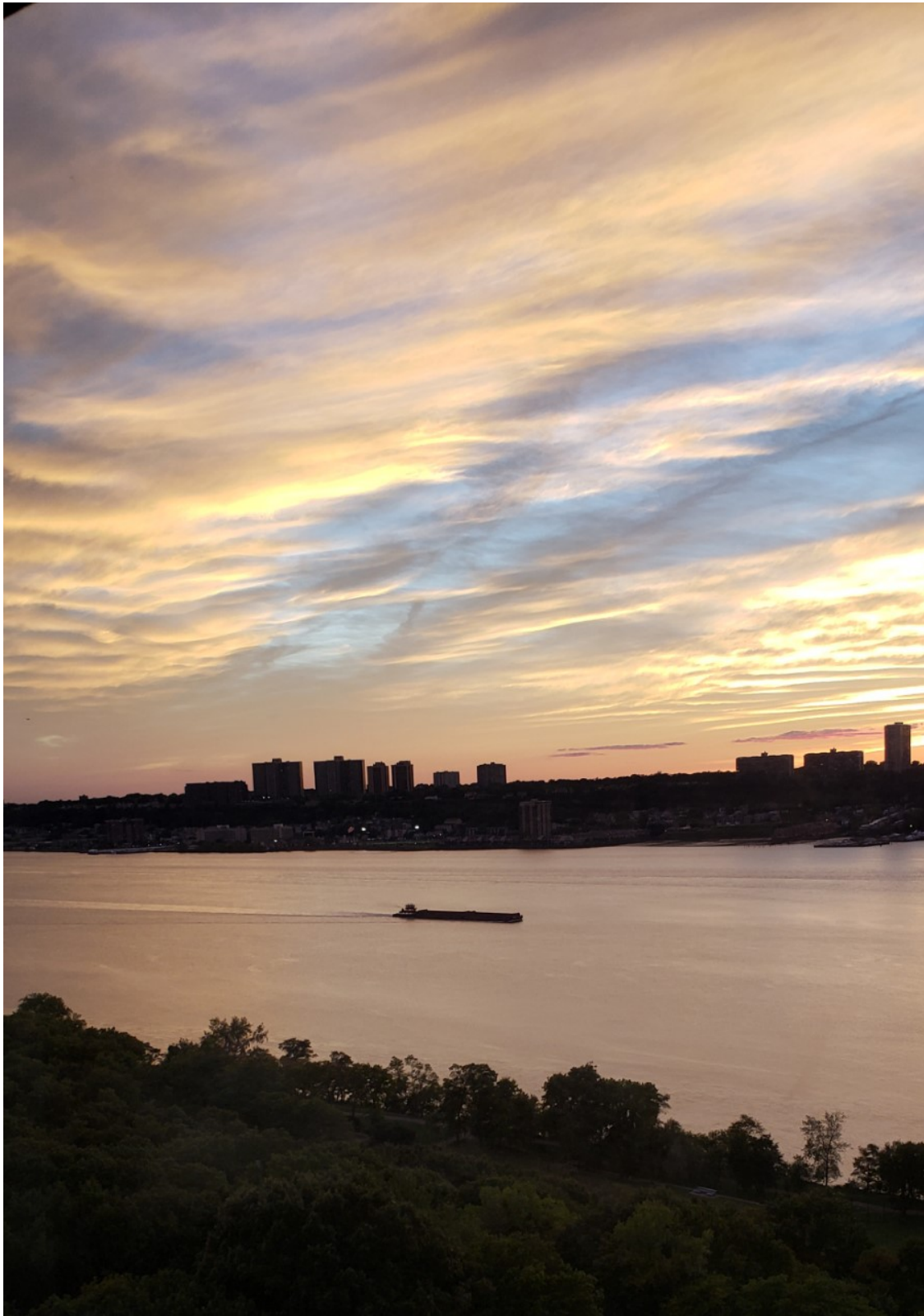
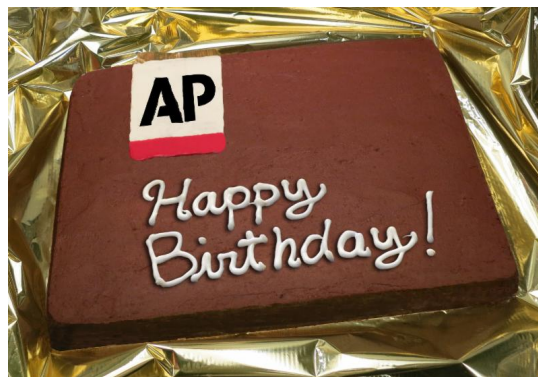


Photo by [Claudia DiMartino](#)

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Curt Anderson](#)

[Joe Gugerty](#)

[Kevin LeBoeuf](#)

On Saturday to...

[Steve Graham](#)

[Libby Quaid](#)

On Sunday to...

[Robert Meyers](#)

[Charlotte Porter](#)

Stories of interest

Network nightly newscasts morph, adapt for the streaming age (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — For more than half a century, ABC, CBS and NBC have aired evening newscasts each weeknight on television. This fall, the competition has spread to another medium.

The launch of John Dickerson's "CBS News Prime Time" in September means that all three news divisions have unique streaming newscasts at night, a nod to the future and bid to reach young people who aren't watching television at dinnertime.

Dickerson's newscast debuted nearly a year after NBC's "Top Story" with Tom Llamas. ABC's "Live Prime" with Linsey Davis started in February 2020. Each streams live for at least an hour starting at 7 p.m. Eastern and are repeated later in the evening. All can be seen for free.

"The revolution will not be televised," Davis quipped. "It will be streamed."

She and her rivals have big ambitions.

"We want to be the best news show, period," Llamas said. "I don't want to be just the best show on streaming."

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Spanish-language misinformation often goes unchecked, but individuals can help combat it (Poynter)

By: Maria Ramirez Uribe

The threat of misinformation is ever present, and the fast-approaching midterm elections are a breeding ground for misleading narratives to spread on social media. That's especially true for Latinos in the United States who speak only Spanish.

There aren't as many Spanish-speaking journalists and media outlets in the U.S., and social media companies invest fewer resources into detecting Spanish-language misinformation. This makes it easier to spread and harder to confront.

PolitiFact Deputy Editor Miriam Valverde held a discussion with Brittny Mejia of the Los Angeles Times and Lesley Cosme Torres of the Miami Herald about what can be done to combat misinformation in Spanish during United Facts of America: A Festival of Fact-Checking on Sept. 29.

The topics of misinformation and disinformation aren't as widely discussed in Spanish-speaking circles, said Mejia, whose coverage focuses on Latinos. Conversely, she said, the children of immigrants are often hyperaware of disinformation after seeing its negative impact on their families.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

OPINION: Donald Can't Quit Maggie (New York Times)

By **FRANK BRUNI**

Maggie Haberman’s forthcoming book about Donald Trump, “Confidence Man,” is chockablock with fresh anecdotes and insights, just as her reporting on him over the years has been. He tells her, for example, that he’s glad for his turbulent time in the White House because so many other rich men have tiny or nonexistent public profiles, their bank accounts bloated but their names unknown. For him, the presidency was Page Six on the Potomac.

But perhaps the most revealing aspect of the book, to be published next week, is that Trump gave Maggie, a Times reporter since 2015, three interviews for it. This is the same Trump who vilified her on Twitter, called her names and cast her as the personification of “fake news.” Maggie just pressed on, asking the right questions, getting the right people to answer them and seemingly trusting on some level that Trump would never wholly cut her off. She can recognize a performance when she sees one. And she can hear in a narcissist’s self-regarding soliloquies the aching need to babble on.

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

Today in History – Sept. 30, 2022



Today is Friday, Sept. 30, the 273rd day of 2022. There are 92 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlight in History:

On Sept. 30, 1777, the Continental Congress — forced to flee in the face of advancing British forces — moved to York, Pennsylvania.

On this date:

In 1791, Mozart’s opera “The Magic Flute” premiered in Vienna, Austria.

In 1938, after co-signing the Munich Agreement allowing Nazi annexation of Czechoslovakia’s Sudetenland, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain said, “I believe it is peace for our time.”

In 1947, the World Series was broadcast on television for the first time; the New York Yankees defeated the Brooklyn Dodgers 5-3 in Game 1 (the Yankees went on to win the Series four games to three).

In 1949, the Berlin Airlift came to an end.

In 1954, the first nuclear-powered submarine, the USS Nautilus, was commissioned by the U.S. Navy.

In 1955, actor James Dean, 24, was killed in a two-car collision near Cholame, California.

In 1960, "The Flintstones," network television's first animated prime-time series, debuted on ABC.

In 1962, James Meredith, a Black student, was escorted by federal marshals to the campus of the University of Mississippi, where he enrolled for classes the next day; Meredith's presence sparked rioting that claimed two lives.

In 1972, Roberto Clemente hit a double against Jon Matlack of the New York Mets during Pittsburgh's 5-0 victory at Three Rivers Stadium; the hit was the 3,000th and last for the Pirates star.

In 1986, the U.S. released accused Soviet spy Gennadiy Zakharov, one day after the Soviets released American journalist Nicholas Daniloff.

In 1988, Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev retired President Andrei A. Gromyko from the Politburo and fired other old-guard leaders in a Kremlin shake-up.

In 2001, under threat of U.S. military strikes, Afghanistan's hard-line Taliban rulers said explicitly for the first time that Osama bin Laden was still in the country and that they knew where his hideout was located.

Ten years ago: Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, writing in The Wall Street Journal, said President Barack Obama had "misunderstood" American values in his policies toward other countries. Mike Trout of the Los Angeles Angels became the first rookie in Major League history to hit 30 home runs and steal 40 bases in a season as the Angels defeated the Texas Rangers 5-4.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump lashed out at the mayor of San Juan and other officials in storm-ravaged Puerto Rico, saying they "want everything to be done for them." Monty Hall, the long-running host of TV's "Let's Make a Deal," died of heart failure at his home in Beverly Hills at the age of 96.

One year ago: With only hours to spare, Congress passed and President Joe Biden signed legislation to avoid a partial federal shutdown and keep the government funded through Dec. 3. A 22-year-old white supremacist, John Earnest, was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for bursting into a Southern California synagogue on the last day of Passover in 2019 with a semiautomatic rifle, killing one worshipper and wounding three others. Government researchers reported a big

decline in teen vaping in 2021 as many U.S. students were forced to learn from home during the pandemic.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Angie Dickinson is 91. Singer Cissy Houston is 89. Singer Johnny Mathis is 87. Actor Len Cariou is 83. Singer Marilyn McCoo is 79. Former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert is 77. Pop singer Sylvia Peterson (The Chiffons) is 76. Actor Vondie Curtis-Hall is 72. Actor Victoria Tennant is 72. Actor John Finn is 70. Rock musician John Lombardo is 70. Singer Deborah Allen is 69. Actor Calvin Levels is 68. Actor Barry Williams is 68. Singer Patrice Rushen is 68. Actor Fran Drescher is 65. Country singer Marty Stuart is 64. Actor Debrah Farentino is 63. Former Sen. Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark., is 62. Actor Crystal Bernard is 61. Actor Eric Stoltz is 61. Rapper-producer Marley Marl is 60. Country singer Eddie Montgomery (Montgomery-Gentry) is 59. Rock singer Trey Anastasio is 58. Actor Monica Bellucci is 58. Rock musician Robby Takac (Goo Goo Dolls) is 58. Actor Lisa Thornhill is 56. Actor Andrea Roth is 55. Actor Amy Landecker is 53. Actor Silas Weir Mitchell is 53. Actor Tony Hale is 52. Actor Jenna Elfman is 51. Actor Ashley Hamilton is 48. Actor Marion Cotillard is 47. Actor Christopher Jackson is 47. Author and journalist Ta-Nehisi Coates is 47. Actor Stark Sands is 44. Actor Mike Damus is 43. Actor Toni Trucks is 42. Former tennis player Martina Hingis is 42. Olympic gold medal gymnast Dominique Moceanu is 41. Actor Lacey Chabert is 40. Actor Kieran Culkin is 40. Singer-rapper T-Pain is 38.

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!



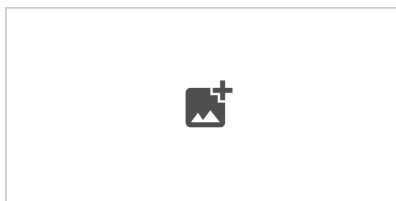
Here are some suggestions:

- **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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