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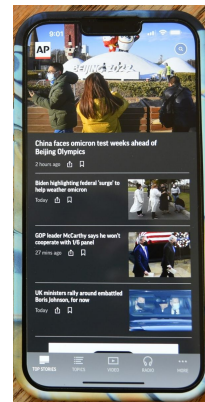
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Connecting

Sept. 8, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this Sept. 8, 2022,

Our congratulations to two Connecting colleagues – [Scott Kraft](#), the new president of the Overseas Press Club of America, and [Ted Bridis](#), honored as College Adviser of the Year in Florida.

Kraft has worked in a variety of roles in more than 40 years with the Los Angeles Times after getting his start in journalism with The Associated Press. Bridis has been at the University of Florida since 2018 after a nearly 30-year career with the AP.

My thanks to colleague [Jerry Pye](#), who worked in community newspapers for more than 50 years before his recent retirement, for sharing his thoughts on the industry. I had the privilege of being one of the AP bureau chiefs who worked with Jerry during his long career of service to our industry.

Word was shared with AP staff on Wednesday that the launch of the Single U.S. Text Editing Desk, in which all U.S. text desk editors will work as a single unit rather than as four separate regional desks, will be this coming Monday (Sept. 12).

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Scott Kraft Elected President of the Overseas Press Club of America

New York, Sept. 6, 2022—The Overseas Press Club of America, an 83-year-old organization that awards highly coveted prizes devoted to international news coverage for an American audience, elected a new president Tuesday night.

Scott Kraft, editor at large for enterprise journalism and special projects at the Los Angeles Times, was elected president of the OPC, as the club is widely known.

During nearly four decades at The Times, Kraft has been managing editor, deputy managing editor/news and national editor, as well as a foreign and national correspondent. As an editor, he has directed work that won nine Pulitzer Prizes. He spent a decade abroad as The Times' bureau chief in Nairobi, Johannesburg and Paris.



After graduating with a bachelor's degree in journalism from Kansas State University, Kraft joined the AP in Jefferson City, Mo, then moved to Kansas City as a newsman and was appointed Wichita correspondent in 1979. He then was assigned as a national writer based in New York for four years, 1980-84, before joining The Times as a national correspondent in the Chicago bureau.

"I'm deeply honored to take on this role with the OPC, and for the opportunity to build on our important work with such an accomplished board of governors," Kraft said. "The OPC has done so much to encourage and recognize the finest in international reporting and the journalists who do the vital, difficult, and often dangerous work. I'm excited to get started and help continue the OPC tradition of supporting press freedom and news coverage that greatly enhances our understanding of the world."

The OPC was founded in 1939 in New York by a group of foreign correspondents to encourage the highest standards of professional integrity and skill in the reporting of news and to promote the freedom of the press throughout the world.

The club also announced results of the election for other officers and board members.

The three vice presidents are: Azmat Khan, investigative reporter with The New York Times and New York Times Magazine, and head of the Columbia Journalism School's Li Center for Global Journalism; Josh Fine, senior segment producer for HBO's Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel; and John Avlon, senior political analyst and anchor at CNN's New Day.

Sandra Stevenson, associate director of photography at CNN is Treasurer and Jodi Schneider, political news director at Bloomberg TV & Radio is Secretary.

Active members elected or reelected to the board are Amran Abocar of Reuters; Singeli Agnew, an independent video journalist; Deborah Amos of NPR; Albert Goldson, an independent commentator; Rod Nordland, author and longtime foreign correspondent for The New York Times; Mary Rajkumar of The Associated Press; Peter Spiegel of The Financial Times; Liam Stack of The New York Times and Vivienne Walt of TIME and FORTUNE.

Associate board members elected or reelected are Emma Daly of Human Rights Watch, crisis management consultant Laurie Hays and Marjorie Miller of The Pulitzer Prizes.

Kraft succeeds Paula Dwyer, Senior Editor at Bloomberg News. The OPC's executive director is Patricia Kranz.

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

Ted Bridis honored as College Adviser of Year in Florida

Ted Bridis - The Society of Professional Journalists named me College Adviser of the Year in Florida, for my work as a full-time professor of investigative reporting at the University of Florida. My title: Rob Hiaasen Lecturer in Investigative Reporting, College of Journalism and Communications, University of Florida)

I left AP in July 2018 after nearly 30 years, including the last 11 years running the Pulitzer-winning investigative team in Washington.

At UF, I founded the Fresh Take Florida news service, which so far has published nearly 300 mostly political and investigative articles written by my students and made available for publication to more than 80 news organizations across Florida, including the AP.



SPJ also named one of my students, Meleah Lyden, as College Journalist of the Year, and our news articles won 1st Place in the college journalism categories for "Best News Story," "Best Serious Feature" and "Best COVID-19 Coverage," and another was a finalist for "Best Coverage of Race & Underrepresented Communities." All our content is available [here](#). I've also been elected for a second year to serve on the board of the Florida Society of News Editors.

On the service club circuit, promoting journalism



(AP bureau chiefs in particular may enjoy this account. How many of us did Rotary and other service club luncheons as keynote speakers at the invitation of the local member? Lots!)

Ed Williams - "What's the last newspaper you've read from front to back, The New York Times or The Monroe Journal?"

That was my topic when I spoke at the Tuesday luncheon of the Kiwanis Club of Monroeville, Alabama. A good time was had by all, I hope, as I shared some stories

and memories of my days in community journalism with these readers of the weekly Monroe Journal.

I even got my photo made with the longest serving member of the Monroeville Kiwanis on my right, 96-year-old retired optometrist Roy Adams who joined the club in 1949, and the pastor of First United Methodist Church of Monroeville, the Rev. John Woodrow.

Thanks, Kiwanian David Stewart, for inviting me. And that fried catfish buffet that included baked beans, hash browns and hush puppies was worth writing about in the social pages.

More on unusual injuries

Paul Albright - Recent postings about the impact of youthful injuries reminded me of my own experience, which resulted in positive, lifelong impact. In the 1940s, a softball tossed toward home plate caromed off the rough sandlot gravel and whacked me in the groin. The resulting hernia probably should have been repaired then, but my father was a skeptic concerning doctors (and dentists). So, I carried on through my boyhood and into my early 20s.

When the Selective Service summoned me for a physical exam in the 1950s, two or three Army medics-in-training walked me into a darkened room to examine my swollen testicles beneath surgical lights. That exam proved to be my first benefit from the hernia, as I was not drafted into the military during the Korean War.

My second benefit came in 1962. A few months after I joined the AP, I took medical leave from the Cheyenne, WY, bureau to undergo hernia repair surgery at Denver's Mercy Hospital. My hidden agenda included checking out the nurses to see if I could link up with any of them. Fortunately, I succeeded in both of my goals. My future wife first met me when I was unconscious, grabbing me by the ankles to help move me off the gurney following my successful surgery. As they say, one thing led to another. We have been married for 58 years and plan to keep this relationship going until the end.

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Dave Ochs - I can pile on to the odd injuries. I've had two – one because I rode a bison and the second because I spiked myself.

Trying to score during a Little League baseball scrimmage, I bolted toward home and slid into a catcher 6 inches taller than me in a collision no longer allowed. I remember laying on the ground thinking "Why am I laying here? I should get up, shouldn't I? Yeah, I think I'll get up." Maybe I was knocked out, I'm not sure, but I stood up and saw my coach running toward me asking to look at my legs. I looked down and saw a tear just below the right knee of my pants. I pulled up the pants leg, and there was a one-inch round hole in my leg stuffed with various tissues not appropriate for a public audience. Apparently, I led with my left leg on the slide, it hit the catcher's shin pad and bent back, spikes first, into my right shin. Off to the emergency room, stitches and some rest, and on I went. Some of you in Missouri may know of the catcher. It was

Steve Ehlmann, former state representative and long-time County Executive of St. Charles County where he and I grew up as friends.

And...

Early in my radio career while I was working at a suburban Denver station, I was invited to be in a celebrity race at the end of a rodeo in Boulder. Eight of us would ride baby bison in a journey from one end of the arena to the other. Or so we thought. Winner gets a nice dinner out. It's a strange mix of awe and "what the heck am I doing" when you peek over the wooden wall of a rodeo stall, smell the dirt and animals, and look down at a couple hundred pounds of hair, muscle and backbone. One single, thick rope was strung under the critter and doubled back through a single metal loop. I climbed aboard without asking the bison for permission, looked up at a cowboy and asked if I could borrow his hat. It didn't fit, and as I handed it back, I asked, "What do I do?" He said just hold on to the rope and ride like I was on a horse. I said, "I'm afraid of horses." He said, "oh god," and that's when the gates whipped open. It was soon apparent that this bison wasn't broken for gentle trail rides. If you've ever flown an airplane into a brick wall, you know what that first jerk felt like. I saw bodies falling left and right as my ride bore straight toward the far end. Just as I was thinking about the restaurant menu, my bison decided to make a sharp right turn. I didn't really have much say about that. At the time, I had very strong legs, so when he went right, I fell left and started riding sidesaddle while holding my right leg over his back. Ever seen a bison's back? That's serious backbone. With me on his left, the bison kept turning right. I've no idea how many circles we made or how long I was on him, but eventually arms and legs tired and I hit the dirt. I've always described it as the hardest physical thing I've ever done. And that leg that was strapped over that backbone? I carried an enormous bruise from mid-thigh to mid-calf for weeks.

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Jim Reindl - Paul, your hip injury confession compels me to tell my combined tale of injury, insult, and stupidity, not necessarily in that order. It was post-Christmas holidays around 2002. The Saturday was typical of a Chicago winter scene: grey, cold, damp. I told Graca the lights strung across the garage needed to come down. She was on her way out the door with her dad who was visiting from Brazil. Her parting words were, "Don't do anything stupid. Wait until I get back." Talk about waving a red flag in front of a bull and his ego!

She left and I immediately got out the ladder, leaned it against the gutter and proceeded up. About the time I reached for the first bulb, I felt the ladder — obviously set at too shallow an angle on the slippery asphalt driveway — start to slip out from under me. As I was plummeting face first toward the ladder on the ground, I managed to turn onto my left side so my shoulder absorbed the full impact, shattering as it did. I called Graca who wasn't too far away and as I lay in agony on the driveway she pulled up with her dad — both laughing hysterically at me. They scraped me up for the trip to the ER, where I was sent home with a bottle of painkillers and told to see an orthopedic surgeon on Monday. After my exam, the surgeon literally added insult to injury, telling me he'd do the best he could to put me back together, "but perfect was before you were stupid." Touché!

Additions to AP's Education Reporting Network

In a memo to staff on Wednesday, AP Education Reporting Network Director **Chrissie Thompson** announced three additions to the network aimed at deepening education coverage by the AP and across the news industry:

I'm thrilled to announce three of our AP coworkers are joining the Education team full time.

First, please join me in congratulating Cheyanne Mumphrey, an editor on the West Desk, who will start a new job next month as an education reporter. In her three years at AP, Cheyanne's byline has made regular appearances on the wire, reporting national stories for the Race and Ethnicity team, along with pieces on education and the pandemic. She writes passionately about areas of inequity – our primary focus on this team. Her story ideas are fresh, and her sourcing is strong – ranging from former teachers to kids and parents she meets out in the community. Cheyanne will begin education reporting full time on Oct. 3. She will continue to be based in Phoenix.



Veteran AP newswoman Jocelyn Gecker has covered education as a subbeat for several years, and she will join the team full time starting Sept. 12. On the education beat, Jocelyn has captured national trends such as a school laptop shortage in the early days of the pandemic, and she led this year's student mental health coverage during back-to-school. In her career at AP, Jocelyn has

spearheaded ambitious investigations, such as nailing a #MeToo scoop about sexual harassment accusations against Placido Domingo, one of most powerful people in opera. (The latest development in that story published last week, as Jocelyn and colleagues reported on Domingo's alleged involvement in an Argentinian yoga sect accused of sexually exploiting women.) She is fluent in French and previously served as an AP reporter in Bangkok, Paris and Kuala Lumpur. In her new job, Jocelyn will continue to work out of San Francisco.

Finally, Collin Binkley has relocated from Boston to Washington, D.C., and has jumped right into his new role as AP's lead education policy reporter. Few stories in Washington this summer were bigger than Biden's decision on student loan forgiveness, and AP's Best of the Week-winning coverage relied on Collin's prep, enterprise and subject leadership. Collin also emerged as a national leader in coverage of federal COVID relief money for education, and he co-bylined AP's most recent partnership with

Chalkbeat that kicked off our back-to-school coverage. Collin has years of experience covering K-12 and higher education for AP and The Columbus Dispatch in Ohio, and it's great to have him back on the beat full time.

This completes AP's addition of eight full-time journalists to the Education team, jumpstarted this year by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The team is led by News Editor Mike Melia and me. Accountability reporter Bianca Vázquez Toness in Boston and data reporter Sharon Lurye in New Orleans joined AP this summer. And Race and Ethnicity reporter Annie Ma continues on the education beat; she has transferred to Washington, D.C., and will start in that bureau next week.

The Education team will continue to be home to fabulous journalists such as Carolyn Thompson, Heather Hollingsworth, Kantele Franko and Carole Feldman, plus Report for America corps members including Arleigh Rodgers, Brooke Schultz and Claire Savage. And we'll continue our partnership on breaking news and enterprise with our colleagues around the U.S.



Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Steve Paul](#)

[Michael Sniffen](#)

[Glenn White](#)

Stories of interest

Police raid elected official's home in Vegas reporter death (AP)

By **KEN RITTER**

LAS VEGAS (AP) — A Las Vegas-area elected public official was arrested Wednesday and identified by police as the suspect in the fatal stabbing of a veteran newspaper reporter whose investigations of the official's work preceded his primary loss in June.

Clark County Public Administrator Robert "Rob" Telles, a Democrat, was taken into custody at his home by a police SWAT unit hours after investigators served a search warrant and confiscated vehicles in the criminal probe of the killing of Las Vegas Review-Journal reporter Jeff German.

"The suspect in the homicide that occurred on September 2, 2022, has been taken into custody," Las Vegas Metropolitan Police tweeted shortly before 7 p.m.

Telles, 45, had been a focus of German's reporting about turmoil including complaints of administrative bullying, favoritism and Telles' relationship with a subordinate staffer in the county office that handles property of people who die without a will or family contacts.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Steve Graham, Adolphe Bernotas.

Click [here](#) for Las Vegas Review-Journal story. Shared by Paul Albright, Mark Mittestadt, Len Iwanski,

-0-

Anne Garrels, Fearless NPR Correspondent, Dies at 71 (New York Times)

By **Katharine Q. Seelye**

Anne Garrels, an international correspondent for NPR who reported from the front lines of major conflicts around the world, including during the American "shock and awe" bombing of Baghdad in 2003, died on Wednesday at her home in Norfolk, Conn. She was 71.

Her brother, John Garrels, said the cause was lung cancer.

Ms. Garrels started her journalism career in television at ABC News. But it was at NPR, where she worked for more than two decades, that she made her name covering strife and bloodshed across the globe. She became known for conveying how momentous events, like wars, affected the people who lived through them. Her backdrops included the Soviet Union, Tiananmen Square, Bosnia, Chechnya, the Middle East, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

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Opinion: After a lifetime spent in war zones, this is what stays with me above all else (CNN)



Opinion by Maria Fleet

Maria Fleet is a veteran journalist who covered the first Gulf War, the US intervention in Somalia (for which she earned an Emmy), the dissolution of the former Yugoslavia and the wars in Chechnya and Kosovo for CNN. After the September 11 attacks, she won a Peabody Award for reporting on al Qaeda. She was a Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellow at the University of Michigan in 2004, and later returned to work on CNN's international news desk until 2021. Fleet now works as an independent journalist. The views expressed here are her own. Read more opinion on CNN. For more information, watch "No Ordinary Life" on at 10 p.m. ET Monday on CNN.

(CNN) The man was very tall. I had to tilt my camera up at a sharp angle to frame him against the overcast sky. He had ink black hair and expressive eyes that were almost hidden in the deep shadow of his brow. There were burn marks on his face.

But the most prominent features of this man, who had just fled across the border from Kosovo into Kukës, Albania, were his hands. They were so heavily bandaged he looked like he was wearing white boxing gloves. With my low angle of view foreshortening his arms, the giant white mitts waved across the camera's foreground as he told us his story: he had barely escaped being burned alive.

I was in Albania with my camera as part of a CNN team. It was spring 1999, and Serbian President Slobodan Milošević had stepped up a campaign of ethnic cleansing against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, despite NATO airstrikes meant to drive the Serb army out of the autonomous region. Kosovar Albanians were flooding to safety across the border with horror stories about their treatment by Serb police and soldiers.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

Thoughts on the newspaper industry after half-century of service

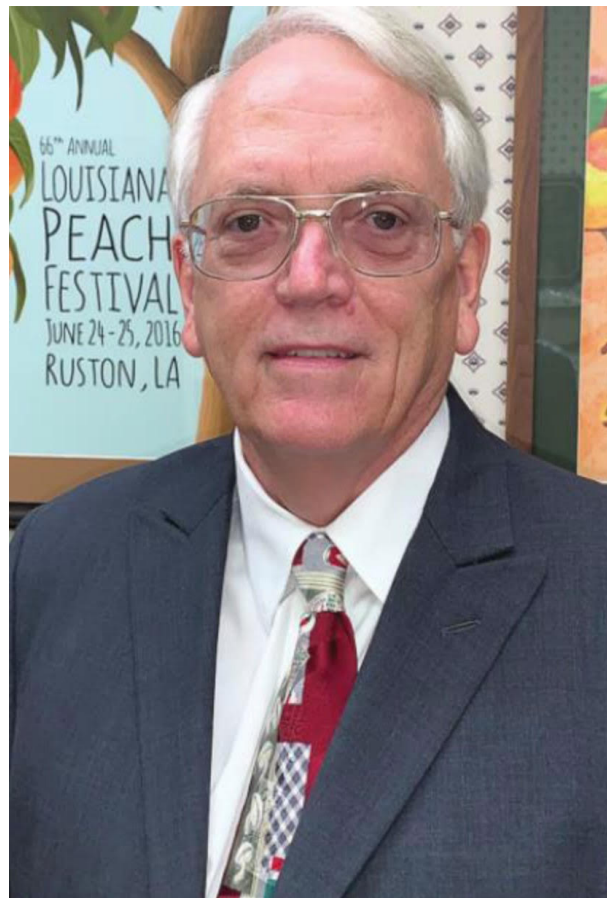
Jerry Pye has been in the newspaper industry for over 50 years working in community newspapers starting as a carrier moving to circulation manager upward to Regional Publisher. He recently retired for the second time from the industry. He has published weekly newspapers up to seven-day morning daily community newspapers, including publishing his hometown newspaper.

Jerry Pye - For years, we in the newspaper industry have talked about the demise of the newspapers and yet here we are here covering the news, selling advertising and delivering the paper to our readers. Granted, newspapers have closed, reduced staff and have evolved to reflect the markets we serve.

Community newspapers, in my opinion, have been more successful as we cover the local news that makes a difference in our local communities. We know who our readers and our mom-and-pop advertisers are in our local markets. That is not to say larger organizations don't care about their readers and market, but it is the bread and butter of community newspapers.

The free press is not free. We are a business that must make a profit so we can cover local news. Today's management must know how to run a business, write news, sell advertising, deliver newspapers to our readers as they wish to receive their news.

In addition, management must lead and care about our associates, listen to what they have to say and care about the community. It is my belief that a local newspaper has tremendous positive impact to move the community forward.



We are People, Faces, and Places and that is what makes a local community newspaper successful in today's world.

People are the "who" we cover and everyone likes to see their name in the paper.

Faces are the pictures that we publish in the paper, and everyone likes to see their picture in the paper. Just ask any grandmother or grandpa how many copies they buy for the family when their grandchildren's picture is in the paper.

Places are the events that we cover.

Newspapers must remain the reliable source of news coverage and must have the courage to write the necessary stories that we know will cause a certain amount of backlash, but at the same time we write feature stories that everyone will enjoy or sports stories on our local high school heroes. We cover the local stories that no one else will cover. This is what makes a newspaper important to the community and the key to long term success.

The future of the community newspaper is good if we do these things.

Newspapers today must have their footprint both in the digital and print world. I see the continued movement of newspapers to 100% digital with the exception of one print day a week mostly likely a weekend edition. How readers receive news has changed and we must change with the market.

We are starting to see some local or regional individuals with enough money and guts buy up papers that have been gutted by corporate owners that don't care about the newspaper franchise. These new owners aim to make a go of covering the local news for the communities they serve. Some are successful and for some, it is a wait and see game on their business model. It will be tough ride for a while until these folks create a market for their product and make a profit. I do hope these new owners are successful, as our industry and the communities they serve need a newspaper in their respective towns.

One of the major issues facing the newspaper industry is the publication of legals and the public's right to know.

A political entity, whether local or state government, publishing their public notices on their own website is clearly wrong. This truly is the fox guarding the hen house. A side effect of this movement is the impact on many of the weekly newspapers across the United States. Their main street is drying up and more and more of the weekly papers survive on the public notice legals.

As states move in their efforts to get rid public notices in newspapers, it will hurt the weekly community newspapers. A lot of the public bodies today, whether it be a local government entity or state official, are mad about the coverage they receive and are looking for a way to hurt newspapers that cover them.

Their anger is aimed at mostly large newspapers, not community publications, but it will hurt the small weeklies if legals go online or on a public body website controlled

by the political entity. If this becomes a trend, look for a lot of small weeklies to go out of business creating more new deserts.

I started delivering newspapers in high school and a paper route paid my way through college with only \$200 debt. I watched the production crews work in leather aprons with white shirts rolled up to their elbows putting the newspaper together in trays of hot metal type that was printed on a letterpress printing.

The next year, I lost my bicycle in a fire when the newspaper burned down. I bought my first motorcycle within a week of the fire borrowing the money myself and paid it off within a year.

I saw an industry that was very stable and the bedrock of the community with newspaper leaders that cared about the communities they served. They covered the local news, both as the watchdog of the community and feature and sports stories that everyone wanted to read. Newspapers were respected because they did their job fairly and accurately.

I remember hearing the teletype machine make the metallic click sound as the news came over AP. That was music to my ears.

I saw the movement to computers with very heavy compugraphic equipment. I hated those computers and I really hated the Comp Jr that we used for headlines especially at 10 p.m. at night typing out those headlines. But they were a step forward and we moved to Macs and they were a true blessing to work on to get the paper out. We used wax to paste the copy down on the pages and you better not get the wax too hot as it would bleed through the paper and you would have print out a new copy.

We developed black & white film in the darkroom with all of the developing and fixer chemicals as part of the process. For shooting sports at night, you learned how to push film developing to bring out low light images. Back in the day, we put the finished pasted up page on the camera board shooting the image onto page film the size of newspaper page on the large darkroom camera and then putting the film on the plate burner to burn the image on the plate that went on the press to print the newspaper.

Today, it all digital done by computer and it is so much faster and better quality.

When I first started in the business, we all used blue marking pens for our ad layouts for composing and would cut out the art out of the Metro art books that where as large as a newspaper page. Now that is all on computer and is just a click away for ad copy layout.

Back in the day, we used hot type, punched paper tape and disks and now files can be sent by email or uploaded to our shared files.

Today, you see most community newspapers covering the news accurately and you know when you have covered the story fairly, as both sides of the story call and complain about your news coverage.

It has been a fun ride.

Today in History – Sept. 8, 2022



Today is Thursday, Sept. 8, the 251st day of 2022. There are 114 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 8, 1974, President Gerald R. Ford granted a "full, free, and absolute pardon" to former President Richard Nixon covering his entire term in office.

On this date:

In 1504, Michelangelo's towering marble statue of David was unveiled to the public in Florence, Italy.

In 1565, a Spanish expedition established the first permanent European settlement in North America at present-day St. Augustine, Florida.

In 1664, the Dutch surrendered New Amsterdam to the British, who renamed it New York.

In 1900, Galveston, Texas, was struck by a hurricane that killed an estimated 8,000 people.

In 1941, the 900-day Siege of Leningrad by German forces began during World War II.

In 1943, during World War II, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower announced Italy's surrender; Nazi Germany denounced Italy's decision as a cowardly act.

In 1951, a peace treaty with Japan was signed by 49 nations in San Francisco.

In 1964, public schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia, reopened after being closed for five years by officials attempting to prevent court-ordered racial desegregation.

In 1985, Pete Rose of the Cincinnati Reds tied Ty Cobb's career record for hits, singling for hit number 4,191 during a game against the Cubs in Chicago.

In 1986, "The Oprah Winfrey Show" began the first of 25 seasons in national syndication.

In 2016, California and federal regulators fined Wells Fargo a combined \$185 million, alleging the bank's employees illegally opened millions of unauthorized accounts for their customers in order to meet aggressive sales goals.

In 2019, Rafael Nadal held off a strong comeback bid to win his 19th Grand Slam title in a five-set U.S. Open final against Daniil Medvedev.

Ten years ago: Strong storms pummeled the East Coast, spawning a pair of tornadoes in the New York City boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens, while temperatures at Washington Dulles International Airport plunged 25 degrees in one hour, falling from 89 degrees to 64.

Five years ago: Hurricane Irma regained Category 5 status, battering Cuba with 160-mph winds and taking aim on the Miami area; the death toll across the Caribbean climbed past 20 after the storm ravaged islands including St. Martin, St. Barts, St. Thomas, Barbuda and Anguilla. In one of the country's largest evacuations, officials in Florida told more than 5 million people to leave their homes ahead of the hurricane; parts of interstates 75 and 95 northbound were bumper-to-bumper. Singer Troy Gentry, half of the country music duo Montgomery Gentry, died in a helicopter crash in Medford, New Jersey; pilot James Robinson was also killed.

One year ago: The trial of disgraced Theranos CEO Elizabeth Holmes began in San Jose, California, with prosecutors casting her as a conniving entrepreneur who duped investors, customers and patients for years, while defense lawyers described her as a tireless worker who tried to develop a faster, cheaper and less invasive way to test blood samples. (Holmes would be convicted on four counts of investor fraud and conspiracy.) The Supreme Court blocked the lethal injection of convicted killer John Henry Ramirez after his attorney argued that Texas was violating his religious freedom by not letting his pastor lay hands on him at the time of his lethal injection. (The court later ruled that states must accommodate the wishes of death row inmates who want to have their pastors pray aloud and even touch them during their executions.) Derek Jeter, Ted Simmons, Larry Walker and the late labor executive Marvin Miller were inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame as the Class of 2020 was honored a year late because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Today's Birthdays: Ventriloquist Willie Tyler is 82. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., is 81. Actor Alan Feinstein is 81. Pop singer Sal Valentino (The Beau Brummels) is 80. Author Ann Beattie is 75. Former Secretary of Defense James Mattis is 72. Cajun singer Zachary Richard (ree-SHARD') is 72. Musician Will Lee is 70. Actor Heather Thomas is 65. Singer Aimee Mann is 62. Pop musician David Steele (Fine Young Cannibals) is 62. Actor Thomas Kretschmann is 60. Gospel singer Darlene Zschech (chehk) is 57. Alternative country singer Neko (NEE'-koh) Case is 52. TV personality Brooke Burke is 51. Actor Martin Freeman is 51. Actor David Arquette is 51. TV-radio personality Kennedy is 50. Rock musician Richard Hughes (Keane) is 47. Actor Larenz Tate is 47. Actor Nathan Corrdry is 45. R&B singer Pink is 43. Singer-songwriter Eric Hutchinson

is 42. Actor Jonathan Taylor Thomas is 41. Rapper Wiz Khalifa is 35. Actor Gaten Matarazzo (TV: "Stranger Things") is 20.

Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that focuses on retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013 and past issues can be found by clicking Connecting Archive in the masthead. Its author, Paul Stevens, retired from the AP in 2009 after a 36-year career as a newsman in Albany and St. Louis, correspondent in Wichita, chief of bureau in Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City, and Midwest vice president based in Kansas City.

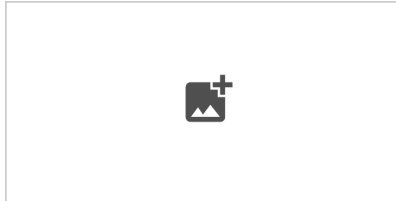


Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?
- **Most unusual place a story assignment took you.**

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