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Connecting Oct. 3, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this Oct. 3, 2022,

It's not often that you gather former AP employees together whose total service with The Associated Press amounts to 335 years.

But that's what our colleague **Doug Pizac** and his wife **Betty** were able to accomplish – and he shares a story on the gathering as our lead article in today's issue. What makes his reunion story unique are the great story coverage and learning memories expressed and shared in the post. Hope you will take time to read them...



An AP sighting – answered the next day: Just after unranked Kansas defeated Iowa State on Saturday to remain unbeaten at 5-0, Connecting colleague Dick Lipsey spotted this sign held by a KU fan imploring the AP poll voters to recognize the Jayhawks in the next AP Top 25 weekly college football poll - and snapped the photo above off his TV screen.

The fan got his wish. The next day, <u>Kansas was ranked 19th in the poll</u> – the Jayhawks' first time in the Top 25 since Oct. 18, 2009 (my retirement year!), which was the longest drought for a team currently in a Power Five conference. And for icing on the cake, the Jayhawks learned that their home game this Saturday against unbeaten TCU will be the site of ESPN's College Game Day – the first time the football program has been so honored.

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.

Here's to the month of October – fall is my favorite season, even with a walker!

Have a great day, be safe and stay healthy!

Paul

More than THREE CENTURIES of AP Service



In-person left to right: Deb Halberstadt, Michele Stueven, Doug Pizac, Spencer Jones, Nick Ut and Reed Saxon. On laptop screen starting clockwise at upper right: Susan Ragan, Betty Pizac, Jeff Robbins, Paul Harrington and Herb Hemming. 8x10 prints left to right: Wally Fong and Red McLendon. (Special thanks to AP Corporate Archives for the photos of Wally.)

<u>Doug Pizac</u> - - Last month I had two memorable reunions. One of the former professors at Cal State Fullerton gathered past photojournalism graduates for a gettogether at his home in Southern California on Sunday, September 18. Some of the people I had not seen for decades. It was great to see them again and meet others who graduated after me, including Mark Thiessen who is now the only photographer on staff at National Geographic. As all of us looked back at CSUF, we were amazed at what a crop of photographers the university produced. Many went on to hold staff careers at AP, UPI, Reuters, Getty, National Geographic, Los Angeles Times, Orange County Register, a slew of other major newspapers and magazines across the country, becoming college professors and high school teachers instructing the next generation, and even winning a Pulitzer. Unfortunately, CSUF dropped its communications photography degree program about five years ago. So now were a sort of a special breed of graduates from the university that may not happen again.

Since I was going to be down there, I decided to put together another reunion — those who worked with and mostly started under former ACOB-Photos Los Angeles Spencer Jones who is 80 now. We held that reunion at his home in Malibu on Saturday, September 17th. Five of us were able to make it personally and I created a Zoom session for five others to join in remotely. And to not leave out two who passed away, I made prints of Wally Fong and Lennox "Red" McLendon so they could be part of the group, too. We enjoyed over two hours of great camaraderie and storytelling from those early years some 40+ years ago.

It then dawned on me what a remarkable length of time all of us accumulated as staff members — a total of 335 years of AP service. Those taking part were Spencer Jones

(32 years), Doug Pizac (30), Reed Saxon (42), Nick Ut (52), Michele Stueven (5), Paul Harrington (23), Jeff Robbins (29), Herb Hemming (27), Betty Pizac (5), Deb Halberstadt (9), Susan Ragan (15), Red McLendon (22) and Wally Fong (44).

Some of my most memorable times from back then is the technology transitions we ushered in as a team. Starting with b/w film and prints with typewriter captions and laser transmitters, we moved to color negs and prints for transmitting, plus duplicating assignments with color transparency for sales by Wide World Photos; then to the first Leaf-35, Leaf-45 and Leafax portable transmitters straight off film; and on to the very first digital cameras to be used by AP. Today, a good number of new photographers have probably never held a roll of film, let alone shoot it, soup and make prints.

Here are some more thoughts and memories on our AP-L.A. Photos reunion from most of those attending:

Spencer Jones — It was certainly a highlight to realize we can still remember the "Good Times" of the 70's and 80's! Recognizing all of the efforts and successes you have all had and thinking you are crediting me with some small part of recognizing your talents is inspiring. I was touched by the credit you have given me for being part of it all. Hard to believe so many years have passed since we were together. Let's be sure to keep in touch. Reed and Deb have reached out and will call them soon! It was fun to see our famous NICK... hard to believe we limited his picture taking at the JC! Doug, thank you for arranging the afternoon meeting and get together for dinner. It was great to feel my years with the Associated Press created and or inspired such encouragement for all your careers as well as joyful times. Most of all, "THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES" and laughter at dinner as we all teased each other ...so typical of AP camaraderie. Paula (Spencer's wife) says "Thanks for letting her tag along! Her memories are of the fun running film and the thrill of being on the lines of football games and racing to be first to get to the development line! Also she was 'food chairman' at events good and challenging downtown times, elections and crisis."

Michele Stueven — The landing of the first space shuttle at Edwards Air Force Base, the L.A. Olympics and countless Academy Awards and Dodger Games — what a special time and so many wonderful memories. Thank you Doug Pizac for bringing together one of the best teams I've ever worked on. We watched the AP world turn to color and enter the digital age; we were the original pivoters. The AP boot camp experience (my mother always referred to us as the sweat hogs) has stayed with me throughout my career with lessons learned that have gotten me through life's job hurdles and given me the confidence and strength to push myself and always try new challenges. I got some of the best advice from one of my most favorite bosses of all time, Spencer Jones, during my early days on Hill Street. He once told me "I may not always agree with your decision, but what's most important is that you make a decision." I've handed that wisdom down to my kids and it has served us all well. I cherish the years I spent at the AP and the lifetime friendships they have given me.

Herb Hemming — I thought the reunion was a great idea. I was with the AP 27 years in two segments, 1968-1980 and 1985-2000. I was lucky to do several Super Bowls, several Ali fights, the Calgary Olympics, couple conventions, many Oscars, Emmys, Grammys. When working in New York, I was the photo desk supervisor and was able to watch the development of the very first electronic darkroom. I left the AP in 1980 because I got into some heavy drinking. I'll always be grateful to Spencer for taking me

back in 1985 after I was clean and sober a couple of years. This year I'll be 40 years clean and sober.

Susan Ragan — The reunion was exciting. I was quite happy to see everyone. Didn't recognize Spencer or Jeff at first, but I did after they spoke up. Herb looks like a young kid, still. I would like to do it again in a year.

Reed Saxon — Many thanks for putting together our big reunion! That took a lot of effort, getting the locals and the out-of-towners together via Zoom. I know Spencer, and all of us, had a great time.

Deb Halberstadt — It was so much fun seeing you Doug, Paula, Michelle, Spencer, Nick, and Reed and the others, Herb, Paul, Jeff, Susan via zoom. Thank you, Spencer, and Paula, for hosting an AP Photos reunion. I have, over the years, missed everyone. Wally taught me so much about the darkroom. And Red, even though I wanted to smack him on many occasions, taught me much about photography. I'm so sorry Wally and Red had to suffer through two of life's hardest diseases. I remember hiring you Doug when you were still at Cal State Fullerton. I'll never forget Nick going home one Friday night and telling me he was picking up his sister-in-law at LAX on Sunday. I hollered out, "Wait Nick! Isn't your sister-in-law in a camp waiting to come into the US?" He said with no emotion, "Yes." I said "Well, please make some photos of her and your family and drop off the film here at the AP on your home. I'll soup, make prints, and we will put it on the wire." As Nick left, I rushed out to the newsroom and asked someone to call Nick's wife for a story. Sunday night we had our photos and story for the wire. By the next news cycle, we had front page photos of an actual BOAT PERSON meeting up with her family — Nick Ut's family — Nick being the person who had made the famous "Napalm Girl" photo that helped to end the war. By Monday editors were calling Spencer from all over the world asking AP LA Photos how we knew she was a boat person! We made the front pages everywhere including our own backyard with the LA Times. Susan Ragan sold me my current American German Shepherds who are sisters from her farm in Oregon. I traveled different two times to pick up the two puppies and bring them home to Altadena. Koda and Fiona are now 6 and 8.

Paul Harrington — I was with the legendary AP-LA Photos for nearly 24 years (a bit over 23½), driving 87½ miles each way for most of those years. Folks would ask why I drove Lincoln Town Car or Mercury Marquis vehicles all those years. The simply answer was, "Did you ever see a Honda after an 18-wheeler hits it?" My most memorable job was covering the death of Natalie Wood. Her passing went down on what I thought was going to be a nice quite Sunday shift. That all went by the wayside when as I entered the news room where John Antczak tells me that Natalie Wood is dead. I called New York on one phone and dialed Spencer on the other. That quite Sunday went to hectic real fast. I dialed four photogs to no avail. Spence then comes in and hands me a few hundred bucks and sends me to find a chopper and get to Santa Catalina Island as soon as possible whereupon I found a boat in Avalon to take me to Two Harbors where I got pictures of her Zodiac with the wine bottles and Sheriff Office Homicide detectives working the scene. Then for \$50 bucks extra the boat owner took me all 26 miles across the ocean to Long Beach and my car. I like to think Natalie got me hired full time as Ann Miller's numerical replacement.

Jeff Robbins — Leaving the L.A. bureau in 1978 after several differences of opinion with Spencer opened my eyes to a whole new world. I certainly appreciated being transferred from Los Angeles to Bangkok for a few years and then on to Costa Rica. This brought me some incredible adventures and photos over the course of many years. It was great seeing everyone at the reunion. It brought back many memories I had working with Deb, Herb, Paul, Reed, Nicky and Doug. That's really what all of us have to bring smiles to our faces these days about the past. I do feel bad that Spencer is not doing well health wise and wish him the best.

Betty Pizac — Despite the microphone on my old laptop keeping me from interacting with the group, it was great to see everyone again. As for as my most memorable AP experience, every October I recall the 1989 Bay Bridge World Series. We were in the middle of transmitting our first pregame image when Candlestick Park began shaking from underneath us. I looked at John Mabanglo, who was working in the lab, and we both immediately realized what was going on. When transmission stopped we wanted to maintain the line so I told the photo monitors that we just had an earthquake and it was a big one. We were working in the same area as the UPI folks who had come in from New York and once the shaking stopped they wanted to get back to normal work. Those of us from the West Coast, including San Francisco Photo Editor Pete Leabo, looked at each other and noted that somewhere around here there is a lot of damage. We spent the next couple weeks working out of a trailer atop cement blocks on the grounds of Candlestick which shook every time there was an aftershock.

Hurricane Ian 'street shark' video defies belief

By GRAPH MASSARA and ALI SWENSON The Associated Press

Photos and videos of sharks and other marine life swimming in suburban floodwaters make for popular hoaxes during massive storms. But a cellphone video filmed during Hurricane lan's assault on southwest Florida isn't just another fish story.

The eye-popping video, which showed a large, dark fish with sharp dorsal fins thrashing around an inundated Fort Myers backyard, racked up more than 12 million views on Twitter within a day, as users responded with disbelief and comparisons to the "Sharknado" film series.

Dominic Cameratta, a local real estate developer, confirmed he filmed the clip from his back patio Wednesday morning when he saw something "flopping around" in his neighbor's flooded yard.

"I didn't know what it was — it just looked like a fish or something," he told The Associated Press. "I zoomed in, and all my friends are like, 'It's like a shark, man!'"

He guessed the fish was about 4 feet in length.

Read more here.

And this from The New York Times:

For Once, the Hurricane Shark Was Real - Shark memes have become synonymous with social media hoaxes. But an A.P. analysis and experts say a wayward finned creature was indeed captured on video swimming on a street in Fort Myers, Fla., this week. (Shared by Sibby Christensen)

Come to Florida for the Sunshine and Stay for the Hurricane?

<u>Adolphe Bernotas</u> - My beer cousin, married to my anthropological cousin, suggests this marketing slogan:

Come to Florida for the Sunshine and Stay for the Hurricane

We just saw our house. At first examination, roof gone, carport gone, ceilings damaged. Lanai damaged, much of siding gone, tv-internet box outside the house wrecked. Bathroom floors damaged - water forced into them through exhaust fans by 100 mph-plus winds.

Place as is unlivable for a while, and we probably will find more damage.

For the last four days we were with relatives safe and healthy but held captive by floods and fallen trees across roads. We were rebuffed at least three times as we tried to escape our three-house neighborhood enclave sanctuary.

As we drive along US 41, we keep seeing horrible damage, long lines at gas stations and keep thinking of Andrew, Charlie and Katrina.

And we keep thinking or saying out loud, "I can't f-----g believe it."

Rude to correct grammar for publication?

<u>Malcolm Ritter</u> - Just following up on the Connecting discussion from a while back about correcting people when they make mistakes in language usage. <u>Friday's "Miss Manners" advice column</u> in the online Washington Post answered a newsletter editor's question about whether it is rude to correct grammar mistakes in submitted copy.

Dear Miss Manners: I am the editor of a publication that comprises submissions from a variety of people. Some of them want me to correct their grammar, but others do not. I asked one writer whether to do so on his work, and he said he wasn't sure. But then, an hour later, he came back and said he was offended that I'd even asked. Was I wrong to ask? In your column, since you don't print people's names with their submissions, it seems that it would be okay to correct their grammar. A recent question read: "It seems rude to seat guests (especially those who traveled from out of town) in a different room THAN the guest of honor." The person who wrote that

question might have wanted to show off the article after it was published, so wouldn't it have been appropriate for you to use FROM rather than THAN?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Ye Olde Connecting Editor is not involved with this letter. But he does attempt to correct spelling and grammar when he is not the culprit in the first place!)

FOI Foundation of Texas announces Ralph Langer Scholarship

From Kelley Shannon:

AUSTIN – The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas announced Thursday the creation of a journalism scholarship honoring Ralph Langer, a guiding light as the foundation became the state's leading voice on transparency and the First Amendment.

The \$5,000 scholarship will be awarded in early 2023 to a journalism or photojournalism undergraduate student at a Texas college or university for the 2023-24 academic year. Applications will be accepted beginning in December 2022.

Langer, who died in August 2021 at age 84, was editor and vice president of The Dallas Morning News before his retirement in the late 1990s. He was a longtime president of the nonprofit FOI Foundation of Texas and served as the founding president of the National Freedom of Information Coalition. He continued to support the FOI Foundation of Texas by serving on the board of the FOI Supporting Foundation board until he passed away.

Read more here.

Newspapers in art – Penn State



<u>Paul Albright</u> - Newspaper clippings are scattered across this map of the U.S. by Native American artist Jaune Quick-to-See Smith. This 1996 acrylic and collage on canvas is entitled "Indian Country Today," and is one of the featured items at an exhibit running through December 18 at the Palmer Museum of Art at Penn State University.

BEST OF THE WEEK — FIRST WINNER

AP exposes candidate's lies; upends one of the year's most competitive congressional races



Campaign flyers for Republican U.S. House candidate J.R. Majewski are laid out at the the Get Out the Vote Super Saturday rally in Port Clinton, Ohio, July 30, 2022. AP PHOTO / TOM E. PUSKAR

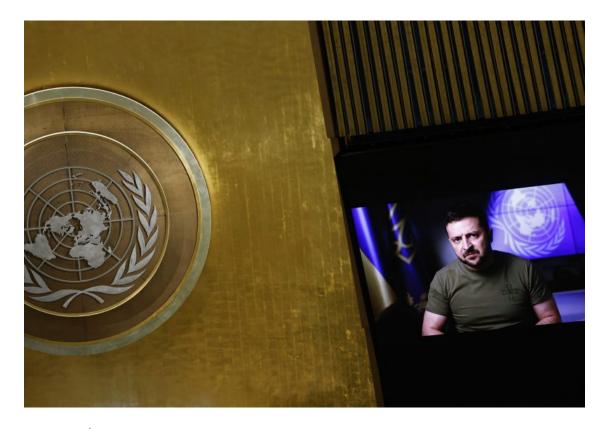
This AP exclusive started with a news tip: A Republican nominee in Ohio had made questionable claims about his tenure in the Air Force. It ended with a crescendo of rival news outlets citing AP's exclusive report and a flurry of online buzz that resulted in the term "stolen valor" trending on Twitter.

A source phoned national political reporter Brian Slodysko to say that key pieces of the story J.R. Majewski told voters about his deployment to Afghanistan didn't add up. Majewski had been publicly describing himself as a combat veteran who completed a tour of duty in Afghanistan after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, but he repeatedly declined to provide specifics. The bio on his campaign website made similar claims.

There were other warning signs: Before launching his campaign for the Toledo-area seat, Majewski had been a promoter of the QAnon conspiracy theory, had rapped in several pro-Trump hip-hop videos and was among the crowd of election deniers at the U.S. Capitol during the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection. He had also made grandiose claims that he was an "executive in the nuclear power industry" that did not ring true.

Read more here.

BEST OF THE WEEK — SECOND WINNER AP's global news team covers the UN General Assembly with robust, diverse journalism



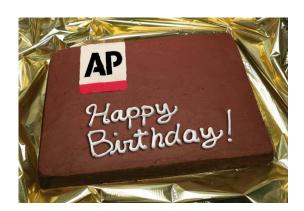
AP Photo/Jason Decrow

Months ago, The Associated Press committed to delivering more global, innovative and thematic coverage than ever around the United Nations General Assembly. With collaboration that spanned the AP's international footprint, and with strong leaders at the helm — Ted Anthony, director of new storytelling and innovation; Sarah DiLorenzo, deputy director of top Stories; Peter Banda, video news manager; and Julie Jacobson, head of photos for the New York Bureau — the team delivered coverage that stayed on top of the spot news and captured the flavor of the world's biggest planned diplomatic event.

Excellence in delivery was the first area of success for the team. Early on, the team knew it needed to deliver alternative story forms to break down the coverage into accessible, shareable chunks. And while demands are dramatically different for text, photos and video — their workflows have little in common — AP's UNGA team coordinated across all formats in one of the most locked-down and least accommodating environments for collaborative work.

Read more **here**.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Mark Hamrick

Richard Horwitz

Stories of interest

What Hurricane Ian shows us about news, real and manufactured (The Hill)

Joe Ferullo, opinion contributor

It's been a horrifying natural disaster — a storm that only comes along once every 500 years — but Hurricane Ian has also triggered something else: a reminder of what our

politics and media used to be before the era of endless polarization.

Appreciate this while you can. Chances are it won't last.

For several days, the whole Washington performance chorus — red-meat soundbites aimed at the base, hyperactive opinion shows and panelists — was largely swept off the national stage. In its place stood the things that matter: facts and figures, information and updates, safety and security.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis shifted his identity to meet the crisis. The snark was gone, the libs were left un-owned. Evacuation orders had nothing to do with an island off the coast of Massachusetts. Instead, DeSantis focused on the real work of government, displaying a command of the emergency forces at his disposal, along with sober and realistic assessments of what it would take to repair his state. He thanked the Biden administration for its pledge of federal assistance.

Read more **here**. Shared by Paul Albright.

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Scripps News to debut on Jan. 1

Press Release | The E.W. Scripps Company

To further take advantage of the company's scaled local and national media broadcast platforms, The E.W. Scripps Company (NASDAQ: SSP) is merging its nationally focused news resources into a national news division called Scripps News.

The combined operation will better and more efficiently serve national audiences and Scripps local stations. Scripps News will launch Jan. 1.

Kate O'Brian will assume the title of executive vice president, Scripps News division, and report to Adam Symson, Scripps president and CEO. She also will continue to oversee Court TV. O'Brian has served as head of news in the Scripps Networks division since April 2021 and was previously senior vice president at ABC News and president of Al Jazeera America.

Read more **here.** Shared by Lindel Hutson.

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Tua Tagovailoa's injury renews debate over how broadcasts handle concussions (Washington Post)

By Ben Strauss

Like bruising touchdowns and highflying catches, serious injuries and specifically head injuries are staples of the football experience — and the football broadcast.

So when Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa hit the turf Thursday night, suffering what appeared to be his second head injury in five days, it provided the first test of how Amazon, which is paying more than \$1 billion to the NFL to broadcast Thursday night games, would handle what has become a difficult balancing act for the league's media partners.

The broadcast was tasked with deciding quickly how to show replays of the injury and how to contextualize it. Tagovailoa had been injured during the previous week's game against the Bills, wobbling and falling to the ground after a hard hit. He left that game but returned after the Dolphins reported that he cleared the NFL's concussion protocols. The NFL Players Association launched a review of how that was handled, and it is ongoing.

Read more **here**. Shared by Dennis Conrad.

Today in History – Oct. 3, 2022



Today is Monday, Oct. 3, the 276th day of 2022. There are 89 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 3, 1995, the jury in the O.J. Simpson murder trial in Los Angeles found the former football star not guilty of the 1994 slayings of his former wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and Ronald Goldman. (Simpson was later found liable for damages in a civil trial).

On this date:

In 1941, Adolf Hitler declared in a speech in Berlin that Russia had been "broken" and would "never rise again."

In 1944, during World War II, U.S. Army troops cracked the Siegfried Line north of Aachen, Germany.

In 1951, the New York Giants captured the National League pennant by a score of 5-4 as Bobby Thomson hit a three-run homer off Ralph Branca of the Brooklyn Dodgers in

the "shot heard 'round the world."

In 1961, "The Dick Van Dyke Show," also starring Mary Tyler Moore, made its debut on CBS.

In 1970, the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) was established under the Department of Commerce.

In 1974, Frank Robinson was named major league baseball's first Black manager as he was placed in charge of the Cleveland Indians.

In 1981, Irish nationalists at the Maze Prison near Belfast, Northern Ireland, ended seven months of hunger strikes that had claimed 10 lives.

In 1990, West Germany and East Germany ended 45 years of postwar division, declaring the creation of a reunified country.

In 2001, the Senate approved an agreement normalizing trade between the United States and Vietnam.

In 2003, a tiger attacked magician Roy Horn of duo "Siegfried & Roy" during a performance in Las Vegas, leaving the superstar illusionist in critical condition on his 59th birthday.

In 2008, O.J. Simpson was found guilty of robbing two sports-memorabilia dealers at gunpoint in a Las Vegas hotel room. (Simpson was later sentenced to nine to 33 years in prison; he was granted parole in July 2017 and released from prison in October of that year.)

In 2011, an Italian appeals court freed Amanda Knox of Seattle after four years in prison, tossing murder convictions against Knox and an ex-boyfriend in the stabbing of their British roommate, Meredith Kercher.

Ten years ago: An aggressive Mitt Romney sparred with President Barack Obama on the economy and domestic issues in their first campaign debate. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton promised a full and transparent probe of the attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, that killed the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other Americans.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump, visiting Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, congratulated the U.S. island territory for escaping the higher death toll of what he called "a real catastrophe like Katrina"; at a church used to distribute supplies, Trump handed out flashlights and tossed rolls of paper towels into the friendly crowd. The United States expelled 15 of Cuba's diplomats to protest Cuba's failure to protect Americans from unexplained attacks in Havana. Yahoo announced that the largest data breach in history had affected all 3 billion accounts on its service, not the 1 billion it had revealed earlier.

One year ago: A report from the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists found that hundreds of world leaders, politicians, billionaires, religious leaders and drug dealers had been hiding investments in mansions, beachfront property, yachts

and other assets for decades, using shell companies and offshore accounts to keep trillions of dollars out of government treasuries; those identified as beneficiaries of the secret accounts included Jordan's King Abdullah II and former U.K. Prime Minister Tony Blair. An EgyptAir jet landed in Tel Aviv, making the first official direct flight by the Egyptian national carrier since the two countries signed a 1979 peace treaty. Tom Brady rallied the Tampa Bay Buccaneers to a 19-17 victory over the Patriots on a rainy Sunday night in his return to New England.

Today's Birthdays: Composer Steve Reich is 86. Rock and roll star Chubby Checker is 81. Actor Alan Rachins is 80. Former Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., is 79. Singer Lindsey Buckingham is 73. Jazz musician Ronnie Laws is 72. Blues singer Keb' Mo' is 71. Former astronaut Kathryn Sullivan is 71. Baseball Hall of Famer Dave Winfield is 71. Baseball Hall of Famer Dennis Eckersley is 68. Civil rights activist Rev. Al Sharpton is 68. Actor Hart Bochner is 66. Actor Peter Frechette is 66. World Golf Hall of Famer Fred Couples is 63. Actor-comedian Greg Proops is 63. Actor Jack Wagner is 63. Actor/musician Marcus Giamatti is 61. Rock musician Tommy Lee is 60. Actor Clive Owen is 58. Actor Janel Moloney is 53. Singer Gwen Stefani (No Doubt) is 53. Pop singer Kevin Richardson is 51. Rock singer G. Love is 50. Actor Keiko Agena is 49. Actor Neve Campbell is 49. Actor Lena Headey is 49. Singer India. Arie is 47. Rapper Talib Kweli is 47. Actor Alanna Ubach is 47. Actor Seann (cq) William Scott is 46. Actor Shannyn Sossamon is 44. Rock musician Josh Klinghoffer (Red Hot Chili Peppers) is 43. Actor Seth Gabel is 41. Rock musician Mark King (Hinder) is 40. Actor Erik Von Detten is 40. Actor Tessa Thompson is 39. Country singer Drake White is 39. Actor Meagan Holder is 38. Actor Christopher Marquette is 38. Actor-singer Ashlee Simpson is 38. Rapper A\$AP Rocky is 34. Actor Alicia Vikander is 34. Actor Noah Schnapp (TV: "Stranger Things") is 18.

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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