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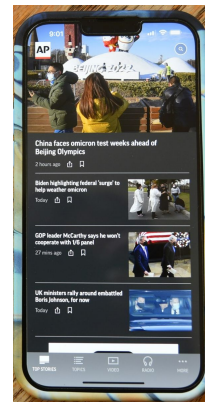
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Connecting

Oct. 5, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this Oct. 5, 2022,

It's nice to be surprised sometimes – especially in a good way.

Our colleague **Andy Lippman** didn't realize what was in store for him when he made the brief drive to Boyle Heights in East Los Angeles for a meeting of the organization he's been a part of for more than 30 years.

The Puente Learning Center knew how to keep a secret – unveiled when Andy walked in to learn that he was selected as its Volunteer of the Year, an honor rewarded with a plaque and a proclamation from the California Legislative Assembly.

And on hand to make the night even more special was Susana Molinar, who was the 73rd person Andy has coached who have passed the citizenship test to become U.S. citizens.

So join me in congratulating Andy – who you can reach at alippman22@hotmail.com

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

New-citizen Susana Molinar: ‘Mr. Andy gave me the confidence I needed’



ABOVE: Andy Lippman is flanked by Susana Molinar and her husband Carlos during a dinner after she was sworn in as a U.S. citizen. Susana introduced Andy when he was honored as Volunteer of the Year by the Puentes Learning Center last week. AT RIGHT: Andy with his awards from his special night.

When Andy Lippman drove from his home in South Pasadena to Boyle Heights in East Los Angeles last Thursday, he had no idea that was he in for a big surprise from his friends at the Puente Learning Center.

They recognized him as their "Volunteer of the Year."

Lippman, whose 37-year AP career included chief of bureau positions in Louisville, Indianapolis and Los Angeles, received a plaque from the Puente Center and a proclamation in a certificate of recognition from the California Legislative Assembly that read, "Thank you for demonstrating what it means to be an exemplary role model." It was signed by Miguel Santiago, assembly member from Boyle Heights.

For over 35 years, PUENTE - People United to Enrich the Neighborhood Through Education - has built bridges to education for more than 120,000 students and community members.



Lippman has been with it for most of those years - volunteering there since 1990, first on its board of directors, then as an assistant to several ESL (English as Second Language) teachers and then heading a conversation group for a few years. He has been teaching citizenship for the last eight years, helping students to prepare for their U.S. Citizenship Test.

In all, 73 of his students have become citizens - and the latest, Susana Molinar - was on hand for Thursday's ceremony. She passed her test the week before and called Lippman immediately. Lippman said in his acceptance speech that "I could tell right away from the tone of her voice when I answered the phone that she had been successful. 'God sent you as my angel to help me pass,' she told me. I was ready to cry.

"I worked with Susana one-on-one for 30 days and she never wanted to take a day off - even though she was working cleaning homes, taking care of other people's children, and taking care of her own two youngsters. She passed with flying colors. Didn't miss a question. I am so proud of her.

Susana was asked to introduce Lippman when his honor was announced before an audience of about 100.

"In 2017, I came to the United States from Chihuahua, Mexico for a better life," Susana told the group. "My dream since the first day I arrived in this country was to become a U.S. citizen and to learn English.

"When I received notice in the mail that my U.S. citizenship test was scheduled for August, I panicked. At the time, I had only been a student at Puente for two months And I had exactly a month to get ready for my test. For those who don't know, the U.S. citizenship test is in English, and you need to know the answers to 100 U.S. history and government questions. As you can imagine, I had a big challenge ahead of me. But I wasn't going to face it alone.

"Over the next month, Mr. Andy and I met every day for an hour over Zoom going over test questions and English conversation. The day before my exam I was so nervous. Mr. Andy called and said, 'Don't worry. You are ready.' He said: 'You're going to pass.' Mr. Andy gave me the confidence I needed."

Lippman said his biggest reward from the evening was "helping Susana - and those like Susana - get their reward - U.S. citizenship. And they didn't even need to send me an e-mail. All they did was pursue a dream and take me along for the ride."

Adolphe Bernotas and his singing prowess

Paul Reilly - My old friend, the prolific Adolphe Bernotas' (two items in the Tuesday Connecting) tale of his singing prowess took me back to long ago when we both were on the WSG bargaining team. In those days the team moved to New York for the duration of bargaining. And in those days (circa 1984) we stayed at the pre-renovation, Iroquois Hotel (\$65 night, you got what you paid for). Adolphe and I, along with Minneapolis photog Jim Mone -- I think -- shared what was called a "suite." Picture a small bedroom with two twin beds circa, 1948, and a 'living room' with a pullout couch. This was our home for about six weeks. And that is when I first heard Adolphe 'sing.' Every morning for six weeks, Jim and I were serenaded with an aria or two belted out by Adolphe. We did not need an alarm clock. A well-aimed shoe would've been nice.

Wonderful memories from this gathering

Andy Lippman - I agree with Peggy Walsh that it was wonderful to see so many good friends gathered together - especially Spencer in Doug Pizac's story in Connecting. What wonderful memories seeing you all brought back to me.

Paula truly undersold herself when she said she helped on disasters. We couldn't have gotten food if she hadn't brought it in during the days of the King riots since all of the stores downtown were closed.

Deb, how do you stay so young looking. Doug, what you did organizing the event was nothing short of what we call a "mitzvah". I was at Edwards for the first space shuttle landing so I must have seen a lot of you there. I still remember sitting on the desert floor with a long extension cord (pre-cell) when the shuttle finally decided to come in at Edwards.

And how many trips did Spencer and I make over the years and how much fun it was to work with him and Russ to design the LA bureau-now the late, great bureau (at least they stayed in the same location).

Herb, Paul, Reed Betty, and all of you- all the best. Thanks for the memories and for all each of you did to make those times such golden years.

His story on Tojo published in Saratoga magazine

[Chris Carola](#) - published last month in fall issue of Saratoga Living Magazine, my story headlined: "Telling the Tojo Story: An Epic Saratoga War Tale 65 Years in the Making."

Click [here](#) to read.

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On the death of Al Primo, creator of Eyewitness News format

[Rick Cooper](#) - I came across this in one of my local Connecticut newsfeeds: "Al Primo, Creator Of 'Eyewitness News' Format, Dies At 87 In Greenwich"

I had the pleasure of meeting Primo several years ago when Jack Bausman introduced me to him at a Greenwich CT retired businessmen's organization meeting. In subsequent conversations with him, learning how the concept of the "Eyewitness News format came to be straight from its developer was fascinating.

Here is the story:

GREENWICH, CT — Albert "Al" Primo, the man credited for creating the revolutionary "Eyewitness News" format, died at his home in Old Greenwich on Sept. 29, according to the Philadelphia(PA) Inquirer.

Primo was 87.

Primo started Eyewitness News at KYW-TV in Philadelphia in 1965, the Philadelphia Inquirer said, noting that Primo switched from the traditional newsreader format and created a beat-system to cover the news.

He hired women and people of color who represented the community they covered, the Inquirer said. He also paired men and women together on broadcasts.

"They said 'it was not journalism' and 'he's using show-business techniques,'" Primo said about critics of Eyewitness News in an interview with The Inquirer earlier this year. "And of course, I said, 'Yes, that's right. This is television, so we use lights, camera, action — that's what we do.' But we do the news, too."

In 1968, Primo became the news director at WABC-TV in New York City, where he also launched the Eyewitness News format, abc7NY said. He helped hire some of the channel's most legendary and influential anchors, like Geraldo Rivera.

Rivera tweeted about Primo's death last week.

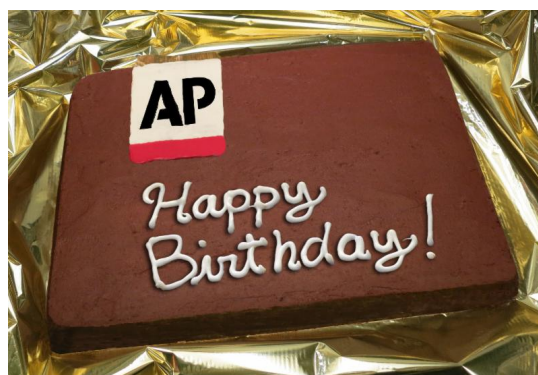
"Al Primo, creator of Eyewitness News, has passed at age 87. One of the most important producers in broadcasting history, he was an elegant man, a loyal friend and an inspiration and guide to 1000's"."

Bubbles and squeals



Peter Arnett - Children romp joyfully in streams of bubbles generated for their pleasure in a public park in Palma de Mallorca this week. Visitors have returned to this historic Spanish Mediterranean island in force this vacation season after two years of covid 19 austerity had closed it down. Picture by Peter Arnett travelling in Mallorca with family.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Diana Heidgerd](#)

[Gary Nyhus](#)

Stories of interest

Viewers head to Weather Channel for Hurricane Ian coverage (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — The Weather Channel reached its biggest audience in five years last week when Hurricane Ian made its destructive landfall in western Florida.

The average audience of 3.4 million people last Wednesday was more than any other day for the network since Hurricane Harvey deluged Texas with record amounts of rainfall in 2017, the Nielsen company said.

The network's peak day came despite other cable news and broadcast networks also devoting resources to the storm, and a myriad of streaming options that gave people many different ways to follow Ian and its aftermath.

For example, the free streaming service Local Now, which is owned alongside The Weather Channel by the Allen Media Group, had a record-setting day for usage last Wednesday, the company said. Through the service, people could watch local news coverage of Ian from markets in Tampa, Fort Myers and Orlando in Florida.

Read more [here](#).

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Deal back on? Elon Musk gets closer to buying Twitter (AP)

By TOM KRISHER, MATT O'BRIEN, RANDALL CHASE and BARBARA ORTUTAY

The tumultuous saga of Elon Musk's on-again off-again purchase of Twitter took a turn toward a conclusion Tuesday after the mercurial Tesla CEO proposed to buy the company at the originally agreed-on price of \$44 billion.

Musk made the surprising turnaround not on Twitter, as has been his custom, but in a letter to Twitter that the company disclosed in a filing Tuesday with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. It came less than two weeks before a trial between the two parties is scheduled to start in Delaware.

In response, Twitter said it intends to close the transaction at \$54.20 per share after receiving the letter from Musk. But the company stopped short of saying it's dropping its lawsuit against the billionaire Tesla CEO. Experts said that makes sense given the contentious relationship and lack of trust between the two parties.

"I don't think Twitter will give up its trial date on just Musk's word — it's going to need more certainty about closing," said Andrew Jennings, professor at Brooklyn Law School, noting that the company may also be worried about Musk's proposal being a delay tactic. After all, he's already tried to unsuccessfully postpone the trial twice.

Read more [here](#).

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Area Man Is Arrested for Parody. The Onion Files a Supreme Court Brief. (New York Times)

By Eduardo Medina

A man who was arrested over a Facebook parody aimed at his local police department is trying to take his case to the Supreme Court. He has sought help from an unlikely source, which filed a friend-of-the-court brief on Monday.

"Americans can be put in jail for poking fun at the government?" the brief asked. "This was a surprise to America's Finest News Source and an uncomfortable learning experience for its editorial team."

The source is, of course, The Onion.

Or, as the satirical website described itself in the brief, "the single most powerful and influential organization in human history."

The Parma, Ohio, area man in question, Anthony Novak, spent four days in jail over a Facebook page he created in 2016 that mocked his local police department. He was charged with using a computer to disrupt police functions, but a jury found him not guilty.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Michael Rubin.

Colleague Doug Fisher noted that AP figures prominently in The Onion's amicus brief and shared [this link](#).

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Des Moines WOI-TV reporter says she is transgender during newscast (Des Moines Register)

Courtney Crowder

Nora J.S. Reichardt introduced herself to WOI-TV viewers Tuesday night.

Well, re-introduced herself.

Reichardt has been a reporter at the station for about a year, appearing on TV screens across central Iowa under a different name as she sorted out how to be an on-air journalist and her true self — a transgender woman.

“For a long time I didn’t think that I would get to say that,” she said, flanked by a pride flag, as she announced her new name during the 6 p.m. broadcast. “At least not on air like this. I didn’t know if there was a place and a space for me to do this sort of work that I’ve really come to love and enjoy, while also getting to be myself.”

Read more [here](#).

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Trump files \$475 million defamation lawsuit against CNN (AP)

NEW YORK (AP) — Former President Donald Trump on Monday sued CNN, seeking \$475 million in damages, saying the network had defamed him in an effort to short-circuit any future political campaign.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, focuses primarily on the term “The Big Lie” about Trump’s false claims of widespread fraud that he says cost him the 2020 presidential election to Joe Biden.

CNN said it had no comment on the lawsuit.

Trump repeatedly attacked CNN as president, which resonated with his conservative followers. He has similarly filed lawsuits against big tech companies with little success. His case against Twitter for knocking him off its platform following the Jan. 6, 2021, U.S. Capitol insurrection was thrown out by a California judge earlier this year.

Numerous federal and local election officials in both parties, a long list of courts, top former campaign staffers and even Trump’s own attorney general have all said there is no evidence of the election fraud he alleges.

Read more [here](#).

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David Beckwith, who scooped Supreme Court on Roe v. Wade, dies at 79 (Washington Post)

By Harrison Smith

Nearly five decades before a landmark abortion rights decision was leaked to Politico, the Supreme Court's original ruling in *Roe v. Wade* was leaked to a cub reporter from Time magazine. In a major breach of court protocol, David C. Beckwith — a recent law school graduate who had worked at Time for about a year — broke the news of the court's decision hours before it was announced by Justice Harry A. Blackmun on Jan. 22, 1973.

“No decision in the court's history, not even those outlawing public school segregation and capital punishment, has evoked the intensity of emotion that will surely follow this ruling,” Mr. Beckwith wrote in a magazine story headlined “Abortion on Demand,” which revealed that a majority of the justices had concluded that the Constitution ensured a right to an abortion, founded on a fundamental right to privacy.

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

Today in History – Oct. 5, 2022



Today is Wednesday, Oct. 5, the 278th day of 2022. There are 87 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 5, 1953, Earl Warren was sworn in as the 14th chief justice of the United States, succeeding Fred M. Vinson.

On this date:

In 1892, the Dalton Gang, notorious for its train robberies, was practically wiped out while attempting to rob a pair of banks in Coffeyville, Kansas.

In 1947, President Harry S. Truman delivered the first televised White House address as he spoke on the world food crisis.

In 1958, racially-desegregated Clinton High School in Clinton, Tennessee, was mostly leveled by an early morning bombing.

In 1983, Solidarity founder Lech Walesa (lek vah-WEN'-sah) was named winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 1989, a jury in Charlotte, North Carolina, convicted former P-T-L evangelist Jim Bakker (BAY'-kur) of using his television show to defraud followers. (Although initially sentenced to 45 years in prison, Bakker was freed in December 1994 after serving 4 1/2 years.)

In 1994, 48 people were found dead in an apparent murder-suicide carried out simultaneously in two Swiss villages by members of a secret religious doomsday cult known as the Order of the Solar Temple; five other bodies were found the same week in a building owned by the sect near Montreal, Canada.

In 2001, tabloid photo editor Robert Stevens died from inhaled anthrax, the first of a series of anthrax cases in Florida, New York, New Jersey and Washington.

In 2005, defying the White House, senators voted 90-9 to approve an amendment sponsored by Republican Sen. John McCain that would prohibit the use of "cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment" against anyone in U.S. government custody. (A reluctant President George W. Bush later signed off on the amendment.)

In 2011, Steve Jobs, 56, the Apple founder and former chief executive who'd invented and master-marketed ever sleeker gadgets that transformed everyday technology from the personal computer to the iPod and iPhone, died in Palo Alto, California.

In 2015, the United States, Japan and 10 other nations in Asia and the Americas reached agreement on the landmark Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal.

In 2018, a jury in Chicago convicted white police officer Jason Van Dyke of second-degree murder in the 2014 shooting of Black teenager Laquan McDonald. (Van Dyke was sentenced to 81 months in state prison.)

In 2020, President Donald Trump staged a dramatic return to the White House after leaving the military hospital where he was receiving an unprecedented level of care for COVID-19; Trump immediately ignited a new controversy by declaring that despite his illness, the nation should not fear the virus.

Ten years ago: A month before the presidential election, the Labor Department reported that unemployment fell in Sept. 2012 to its lowest level, 7.8 percent, since President Barack Obama took office; some Republicans questioned whether the numbers had been manipulated.

Five years ago: Hollywood executive Harvey Weinstein announced that he was taking a leave of absence from his company after a New York Times article detailed decades of alleged sexual harassment against women including actor Ashley Judd. The National Rifle Association and the White House expressed support for controls on "bump stock" devices like those that apparently aided the gunman behind the Las Vegas attack; the NRA later said it was opposed to an outright ban on the devices. California Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation extending protections for immigrants living in the

United States illegally; police in California would be barred from asking people about their immigration status or taking part in federal immigration enforcement activities.

One year ago: A former Facebook employee, data scientist Frances Haugen, told a Senate panel that the company knew that its platform spread misinformation and content that harmed children, but that it refused to make changes that could hurt its profits. Work at all of the Kellogg Company's U.S. cereal plants came to a halt as roughly 1,400 workers went on strike. (The strike would end in December after workers voted to ratify a new contract.) A Russian actor and a film director rocketed into space on a Russian Soyuz spacecraft to make the world's first movie in orbit during a 12-day stay on the International Space Station.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Glynis Johns is 99. College Football Hall of Fame coach Barry Switzer is 85. R&B singer Arlene Smith (The Chantels) is 81. Singer-musician Steve Miller is 79. Sen. Benjamin L. Cardin, D-Md., is 79. Rock singer Brian Johnson (AC/DC) is 75. Blues musician Rick Estrin is 73. Actor Karen Allen is 71. Writer-producer-director Clive Barker is 70. Rock musician David Bryson (Counting Crows) is 68. Astrophysicist-author Neil deGrasse Tyson is 64. Memorial designer Maya Lin is 63. Actor Daniel Baldwin is 62. Rock singer-musician Dave Dederer is 58. Hockey Hall of Famer Mario Lemieux is 57. Actor Guy Pearce is 55. Actor Josie Bissett is 52. Singer-actor Heather Headley is 48. Pop-rock singer Colin Meloy (The Decemberists) is 48. Actor Parminder Nagra (pahr-MIHN'-da NAH'-grah) is 47. Actor Scott Weinger is 47. Actor Kate Winslet is 47. Rock musician James Valentine (Maroon 5) is 44. Rock musician Paul Thomas (Good Charlotte) is 42. Actor Jesse Eisenberg is 39. TV personality Nicky Hilton is 39. Actor Azure Parsons is 38. R&B singer Brooke Valentine is 37. Actor Kevin Bigley is 36. Actor Joshua Logan Moore is 28. Actor Jacob Tremblay is 16.

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.

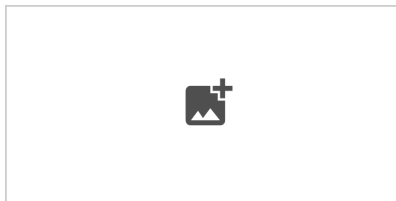
Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!



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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