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Connecting

Oct. 27, 2022

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2022 Gramling Award winners pose with AP President and CEO Daisy Veerasingham, center, at the Staff Recognition Awards dinner in New York, Oct. 25, 2022. From left: Philip Crowther, Nico Maounis, Evgeniy Maloletka, Vasilisa Stepanenko, Meg Kinnard, Veerasingham, Enric Marti, Josef Federman, Mstyslav Chernov, Ciaran McQuillan, Jon

Gambrell and Pete Brown. Waraporn "Pom" Saetung was unable to attend. (AP Photo/Stuart Ramson)

Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this Oct. 27, 2022,

2022 Gramling Award winners were honored at the Staff Recognition Awards dinner in New York on Tuesday night – and the photo above shows those honored with AP President and CEO **Daisy Veerasingham**.

Connecting earlier brought you a story on those who won Gramlings but if you missed, click [here](#) for the listing of winners.

Our colleague **John Gaps III** will be remembered in a gathering hosted by his family on Sunday, Nov. 13, from 3-6 p.m. at Mainframe Studios in downtown Des Moines. One of his daughters, **Sarah Gaps Bonsall**, relayed thanks for condolences expressed to the family since his death Oct. 17 at the age of 63.

Sarah also shares a memorial web site that includes his obituary and some of the many photos he took during his career as a photographer with The Associated Press and the Des Moines Register. It includes how you can make a memorial donation in John's name. Click [here](#) to view.



Click [here](#) for his obituary, shared by our colleague Randy Evans, longtime editor with the Register.

We lead with a story from colleague **Hank Ackerman** that he filed after a recent three-day visit to New York City that included a tour of AP headquarters in lower Manhattan.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

AP 'sightings' put a bounce in his step

Hank Ackerman – I spent three days in New York City a week ago, and wanted to pass long what I learned on a visit to AP headquarters and to attend a Columbia University ceremony for the Maria Moors Cabot Prizes. I was hosted by colleague John Daniszewski at 200 Liberty Street. I took several photos and had a pleasant, yea memorable, visit and walk about. Days later the Pulitzer Prizes were presented at Columbia, and I thought I would give a little background that I have researched. Some

of the stats cited are mine. All in all, I came away with a bounce in my step about the future of AP from these “AP Sightings.”



John Daniszewski, AP Vice President and Editor at Large for Standards, stands by the wall in AP Headquarters that documents AP's 56 Pulitzer Prizes on October 12, some nine days before he helped preside over the presentation of the 2022 Prizes at Columbia University.

Daniszewski served on the Pulitzer Board from 2013 to 2022 and as co-chair for the past year for the Prizes that were first awarded in 1917. He supervised the AP team that won the coveted Pulitzer Public Service Gold Medal in 2016 for coverage of labor abuses tied to global supply of seafood to American supermarkets and restaurants. Daniszewski was AP Vice President and International Editor from 2006 to 2016 after rejoining AP from the Los Angeles Times. He has served in more than 70 countries in Europe, Asia and Africa during his career.

The 2022 Pulitzer Prizes were presented at a Columbia University ceremony Oct. 21, presided over by Columbia University President Lee Bollinger, John Daniszewski and Marjorie Miller at a dinner in Low Library.

Former AP Vice President and Global Enterprise Editor Marjorie Miller, who was also a foreign correspondent for AP and the Los Angeles Times in Asia, Europe and Latin America and led Pulitzer Prize-winning teams both at the Times and AP, was named Administrator of the Pulitzer Prize Board earlier this year.

Miller also serves on the jury for the Maria Moors Cabot Prizes, also administered by Columbia University (since 1938) for recognition of journalism that engenders understanding in the Americas, the oldest prizes solely for international journalism.

The Cabot Prizes were presented Oct. 11 at a similar convocation. Former AP Vice President of World Services Claude Erbsen, who served many years on the Cabot jury because of his lengthy experience in Brazil, first as bureau chief Rio in the 1960s, and in Latin America, attended and we sat together at the convocation.

Pulitzer Prizes have been awarded since 1917 under an endowment set up under his will at Columbia University by Joseph Pulitzer upon his death in 1911. AP's first Pulitzer was awarded to Kirke L. Simpson in 1922 for his stories on the burial of the Unknown Soldier. The most recent AP Pulitzer Prize, in 2021 for Breaking News, went to the Photography Staff of The Associated Press for photography covering the aftermath of the death of George Floyd, and for Feature Photography to Emilio Morenatti for photos of the elderly affected by Covid-19 in Spain.

Those with strong AP ties who have served on the Pulitzer Board were: Melville Stone, General Manager, 1916-1930; Kent Cooper, General Manager and executive director, 1930-1956; Paul Miller, AP President and then Chairman, 1963-1977; Lou Boccardi, AP President and CEO, 1994-2003 (co-chair 2002-2003); Kathleen Carroll, AP Senior Vice President and Executive Editor, 2003-2012 (co-chair 2011-2012); John Daniszewski 2014-2022 (co-chair 2021-2022).

The Pulitzer family was represented on the Board directly from 1916-1986: Ralph Pulitzer, publisher of The New York World, 1916-1938; Joseph Pulitzer II, publisher of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 1921-1955; Joseph Pulitzer, Jr. III, editor and publisher of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 1955-1986 (chair 1967-1986).

Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia University, served on the Board from 1916-1945. President Lee Bollinger was the second-longest serving Columbia president serving on the Board from 2002-2022.

AP ranks third among news organizations winning Pulitzer Prizes over the past 125 years: New York Times 136; Washington Post 67; AP 56.

AP ranks second among Maria Moors Cabot Prize winners. Top four organizations from 30 countries: The New York Times 15; AP 11; Miami Herald 9; Washington Post 5. AP photographer Rodrigo Abt for work in Peru in 2016 was AP's latest Cabot Prize Gold Medalist.

The Maria Moors Cabot Prizes were endowed at Columbia University in 1938 by Godfrey Lowell Cabot in honor of his wife, and upon the instigation of his son, John Moors Cabot, one of the few United States ambassadors-heads of mission who have served in Asia, Europe, Latin America and in the United States.

Bill Hilliard – an experienced editor, never too busy to help out an AP rookie



William A. Hilliard in the newsroom of The Oregonian in 1993. Among other accomplishments, he was known for promoting civility in news. Credit...Don Ryan

Bruce Handler – referring to **The Oregonian's Racist Legacy** shared in Connecting two days ago:

When I joined the AP in Portland (OR) in 1967, our bureau looked onto The Oregonian's newsroom on the fourth floor, where, if memory serves me, a Black man, the always friendly and helpful Bill Hilliard, was assistant city editor.

So, something had changed by then.

Bill rose through the ranks and became the editor in 1987. **He died in 2017** at the age of 89.

He was an experienced editor, never too busy to help out an AP rookie with a news-related, or even personal, problem. I enjoyed his company and was delighted to follow his rise through the Oregonian's otherwise all-white hierarchy.

There were no non-white staffers in the AP-PD bureau at that time, and when racial disturbances surprisingly erupted in Portland during the summer of 1967, Bill was an excellent guy to talk to, to get some perspective.

Of note: When Bill was a kid in Portland, he applied for a job as an Oregonian newspaper-delivery boy but was turned down because of his race. Coincidence: Both of us were born in Chicago, although he moved away as a young child. I really liked him. So did my first wife, who grew up in a somewhat racist town in southern Oregon and whom I met when she was a summer intern in the AP bureau.

Recalling Spiro Agnew and Life Magazine

[Michael Rubin](#) - The wonderful Washington Post review of the Life Magazine exhibit at the Boston Museum of Fine Art in Tuesday's Connecting kicked loose a recollection involving Life Magazine and former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew from the summer of 1973 in Los Angeles.

That was when Life Magazine broke the story of the State of Maryland investigating Agnew, their former governor, for bribery, extortion and tax evasion, which eventually forced his resignation as VP.

A media scrum met Agnew at the foot of the stairs of Air Force Two at an LAX satellite terminal and the first shouted questions included the words "What About Life Magazine."

The typically blunt response from Agnew was "I hope Life dies!"

Life Magazine didn't last all that much longer but Agnew's term as Vice President ended rather more quickly, and in disgrace, with a Watergate-embattled White House turning a cold shoulder. As a side note, four years earlier in 1969 the White House reportedly managed to quash a story that one of Agnew's teenaged daughters was arrested for marijuana possession

Since the girl was only 13, that was appropriate, despite Agnew's fevered comments regarding the news media. With the internet, anything is now game on.

About the Corvair – and a 1936 Ford Coupe

[Doug Pizac](#) - Yesterday Dan Hansen talked about his first car -- a 1962 Corvair -- which he termed as "Unsafe at any speed."

It, too, was also my favorite car - but it wasn't mine. It belonged to my uncle who was a WWII photographer and afterwards did custom car stories/pictures for the likes of Hot Rod Magazine, Car Craft, Hot Rodding, Rod and Custom, and so on. He was also one of the founding photographers for custom car shows such as World of Wheels and Autorama. He used Hasselblad 500c cameras/lenses which I now own and use.

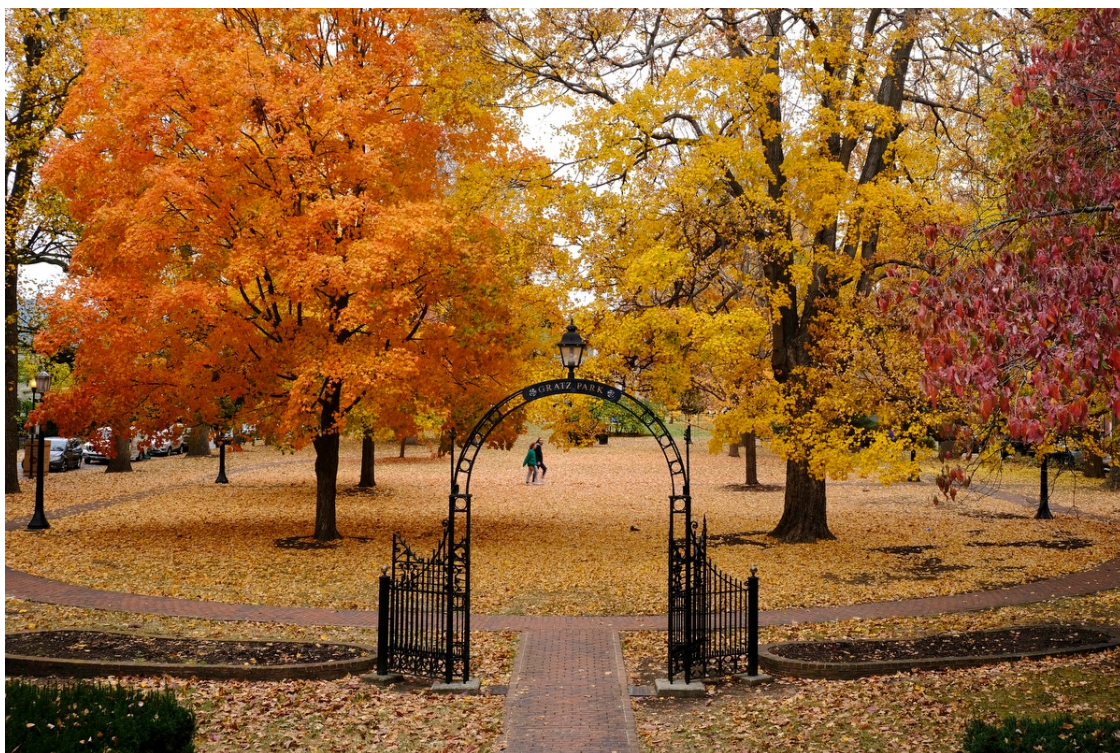
While the Corvair was stigmatized with control/handling issues by Ralph Nader, my uncle's 1964 model stuck to the road like glue. Why? Because of his extensive connections with custom car gurus back then he had new engine mounts installed which dropped the engine about two inches. With the new lower center of gravity

that car could take freeway loop entrances/exits at 50 mph and was as stable as if he was driving on a straight flat road.

As to my cars, the first was a 1936 Ford Coupe that my great aunt gave me. It needed some body work, such as replacing the small sheet of plywood covering the hole in the driver's floorboard. While I worked on it during high school, my dad had a 1967 Mustang which he was going to give me after my HS graduation in Maryland. Then the unthinkable happened. He got a new job in Southern California and instead of shipping the vehicles he sold them for a few hundred dollars each. After settling on the other coast he discovered how SoCal was the mecca of prized automobiles and learned he could have sold them there as-is for 10x what he got for them in Maryland.

So after graduating college, my first new car was a 1978 Mercury Monarch V-8 tank. I took all my camera gear to various dealerships and found the Monarch had the largest trunk that would fit all my gear and then some. Back then gasoline was 65 cents a gallon. The next year it hit 90 cents when fuel shortages and long lines became the norm and continued to rise.

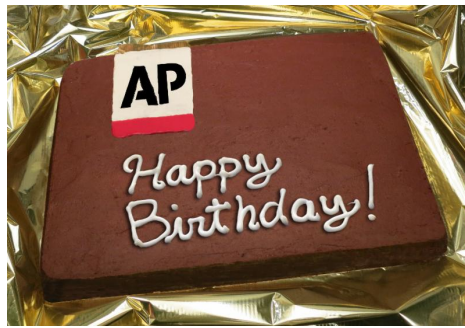
Fall scene – Lexington, Kentucky



[Tom Eblen](#) – a fall scene in Gratz Park in Lexington.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Got your own favorite photo of a fall scene, please share it.)

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Terry Anderson

Stories of interest

A St. Louis news anchor reported on the latest school shooting. It was her daughter's school. (TODAY)

Danielle Campomoar

KMOX Morning Drive anchor Debbie Monterrey was reporting live on the air in St. Louis, Missouri when she started receiving text messages from her 17-year-old daughter, Caeli.

"My kids text me all the time when I'm on the air," Monterrey told TODAY Parents. "I looked down quickly and it was in all caps, which is unusual for my daughter. She wrote: 'OMG THERE'S AN INTRUDER IN THE BUILDING.'"

As a seasoned reporter with decades of experience and a mom of two, Monterrey said her initial reaction was to "not panic."

Then Monterrey received another text message from her daughter: "OMG." Then another: "It's not a drill."

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

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Once key, US newspaper editorial endorsements fade away (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — Newspaper endorsements are fading away as prizes to be nabbed by political campaigns, the practice a victim of both the news industry's troubles and the era's bitter politics.

Earlier this month, newspapers controlled by Alden Global Capital said they would no longer endorse candidates for president, governor and the U.S. Senate. The newspapers in the hedge fund's portfolio include dozens of dailies like the Chicago Tribune, New York Daily News, Boston Herald, Orlando Sentinel and San Jose Mercury News.

They're not alone. The days when a prominent endorsement would quickly make it way into a campaign ad or voters would clip out an editorial to take into the voting booth seem destined for history.

"I do think you can make the argument in many cases that they've outlived their usefulness because of the increased polarization and the skepticism of media in general," said Carol Hunter, executive editor of the Des Moines Register. "I don't think that's a healthy trend. But I think that's reality."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac.

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Bad winter coming for U.S. media companies (Axios)

Sara Fischer

It's a brutal, fearful time for American media — with companies scrambling to cut costs and secure cash in a scenario reminiscent of the early pandemic.

Why it matters: The new economic reality means layoffs, hiring freezes, and other cost-cutting measures.

Driving the news: New data from Challenger, Gray & Christmas finds that news media layoffs are beginning to tick up again after a relatively stable summer.

So far, nearly 3,000 media jobs have been cut this year, with more than one-third (1100) coming from the news media industry.

BDG, Recount, Gannett, Recurrent, CNN, Netflix, Acast, Future, Warner Bros. Discovery, G4, and more have all announced layoffs in the past two months.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bill Sikes.

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Neema Roshania Patel, Post editor who cultivated younger audiences, dies at 35 (Washington Post)

By Adam Bernstein

Neema Roshania Patel, a founding editor of The Washington Post's news site for millennial women, The Lily, and most recently an editor with the Next Generation

audience development team working to cultivate a younger and more diverse readership, died Oct. 24 at a hospital in Washington. She was 35.

The cause was gastric cancer, said her husband, Akshar Patel.

After working for print, online and broadcast outlets, Ms. Roshania Patel joined The Post in 2016 as a digital editor before helping launch The Lily the next year. As deputy editor, she helped build The Lily into a website focused on original and curated material for and about women and helped grow the brand in newsletters and social media platforms including Instagram and Twitter.

On the podcast “Motherly,” Ms. Roshania Patel called The Lily “a stopping place on the internet where we could bring together the best stories on women and gender.”

Read more [here](#).

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A newsroom in wartime (Columbia Journalism Review)

By Jem Bartholomew

IT WAS JUST one hundred and one days between the launch of the Kyiv Independent, on November 15 last year, and Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, on February 24. The newsroom had barely been operating for three months on its new mission “to serve as the true, independent voice of Ukraine.” Now it would face its greatest test.

On the morning of Russia’s invasion, Daryna Shevchenko slept in. The night before, she had taken a sleeping pill to help her doze off. The blaring sounds that greeted Shevchenko when she awoke in Kyiv—screaming air-raid sirens, exploding munitions—announced the beginning of a new and terrifying reality in Ukraine.

Shevchenko, whose role as chief executive officer sees her steer the managerial and commercial sides of the newsroom, suddenly found herself working breaking-news shifts. Commercial and advertising revenues dried up overnight. It was frantic trying to produce the quality journalism the world was seeking about the war while trying to ensure the safety of staffers. Shevchenko describes, in those early weeks, the feeling of a newsroom running on pure adrenaline.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History – Oct. 27, 2022



Today is Thursday, Oct. 27, the 300th day of 2022. There are 65 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 27, 2018, a gunman shot and killed 11 congregants and wounded six others at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue in the deadliest attack on Jews in U.S. history; authorities said the suspect, Robert Bowers, raged against Jews during and after the rampage. (Bowers, whose trial is now set for April 2023, has pleaded not guilty; prosecutors are seeking a death sentence.)

On this date:

In 1787, the first of the Federalist Papers, a series of essays calling for ratification of the United States Constitution, was published.

In 1904, the first rapid transit subway, the IRT, was inaugurated in New York City.

In 1914, author-poet Dylan Thomas was born in Swansea, Wales.

In 1941, the Chicago Daily Tribune dismissed the possibility of war with Japan, editorializing, "She cannot attack us. That is a military impossibility. Even our base at Hawaii is beyond the effective striking power of her fleet."

In 1954, U.S. Air Force Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. was promoted to brigadier general, the first Black officer to achieve that rank in the USAF.

In 1962, during the Cuban Missile Crisis, a U-2 reconnaissance aircraft was shot down while flying over Cuba, killing the pilot, U.S. Air Force Maj. Rudolf Anderson Jr.

In 1971, the Democratic Republic of the Congo was renamed the Republic of Zaire (but it went back to its previous name in 1997).

In 1978, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin (men-AH'-kem BAY'-gihn) were named winners of the Nobel Peace Prize for their progress toward achieving a Middle East accord.

In 1995, a sniper killed one soldier and wounded 18 others at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. (Paratrooper William J. Kreuzer was convicted in the shootings, and condemned to death; the sentence was later commuted to life in prison.)

In 1998, Hurricane Mitch cut through the western Caribbean, pummeling coastal Honduras and Belize; the storm caused several thousand deaths in Central America in the days that followed.

In 2004, the Boston Red Sox won their first World Series since 1918, sweeping the St. Louis Cardinals in Game 4, 3-0.

In 2020, Amy Coney Barrett was formally sworn as the Supreme Court's ninth justice, her oath administered in private by Chief Justice John Roberts.

Ten years ago: The eastern United States braced for high winds, torrential rains, power outages and even snow from Hurricane Sandy, which was headed north from the Caribbean toward a merger with two wintry weather systems.

Five years ago: Spain fired Catalonia's regional government and dissolved its parliament, after a Catalan declaration of independence that flouted the country's constitution. Golfer Tiger Woods pleaded guilty to reckless driving, resolving charges from an arrest in which he was found passed out in his car with prescription drugs and marijuana in his system. The White House said federal officials had played no role in selecting a tiny Montana company from Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's hometown for a \$300 million contract to help restore Puerto Rico's power grid.

One year ago: The Department of Homeland Security said U.S. immigration authorities would no longer make routine immigration arrests at schools, hospitals or a range of other "protected" areas. Investigators in New Mexico said there was "some complacency" in how weapons were handled on a movie set where Alec Baldwin accidentally shot and killed a cinematographer and wounded another person. The State Department said the United States had issued its first passport with an 'X' gender designation for a person who does not identify as male or female. Starbucks said it would raise its U.S. employees' pay and making other changes to improve working conditions in its stores; the company said all of its U.S. workers would earn at least \$15 __ and up to \$23 __ per hour by the following summer.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian John Cleese is 83. Author Maxine Hong Kingston is 82. Country singer Lee Greenwood is 80. Rock musician Garry Tallent (Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band) is 73. Author Fran Lebowitz is 72. Rock musician K.K. Downing is 71. TV personality Jayne Kennedy is 71. Actor-director Roberto Benigni is 70. Actor Peter Firth is 69. Actor Robert Picardo is 69. World Golf Hall of Famer Patty Sheehan is 66. Singer Simon Le Bon is 64. Country musician Jerry Dale McFadden (The Mavericks) is 58. Internet news editor Matt Drudge is 56. Rock musician Jason Finn (Presidents of the United States of America) is 55. Actor Sean Holland is 54. Actor Channon Roe is 53. Author Anthony Doerr is 49. Actor Sheeri Rappaport is 45. Actor David Walton is 44. Violinist Vanessa-Mae is 44. Actor-singer Kelly Osbourne is 38. Actor Christine Evangelista is 36. Actor Bryan Craig is 31. Actor Troy Gentile is 29.

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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