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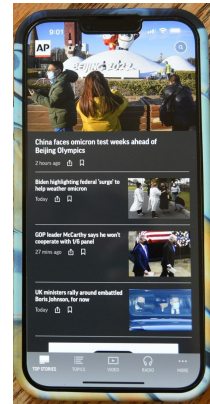
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Connecting

Jan. 19, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this Jan. 19, 2023,

With more thanks to our colleague **Melissa Jordan** for suggesting it, Connecting’s relief series continues today with more of your stories of landing a vacation or legislative or maternity relief position with the AP – and how in most cases it launched a lifelong career.

Ye Olde Connecting Editor is reminded by the stories what a lucky editor he is – really, how lucky we all are. The rich writing of many of the pieces from our colleagues makes them Must-Read.

If you worked a relief job, or were involved in hiring of relief staffers, please share your story.

Here’s to a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

More of your stories of working in relief

Ted Anthony - I was hired in Charleston, WV, in 1992 for a two-year temp term when Mark Paxton went on sabbatical. I had been desperate to work for AP, but had a great job that I loved as a roving state reporter for The Patriot-News in Harrisburg. Nevertheless, when the AP opportunity came, I jumped. Then-Charleston COB Pete Mattiace — one of my greatest mentors and advocates, whose picture appears in the dictionary next to the term “tough love” — told me that if I could pass muster, I could become a permanent AP staffer. In the ensuing months, I got to cover really cool stuff (Coalfield drama! Abandoned towns in the woods! Small-town mummies!), learned the desk from John Raby and the late (and deeply missed) John Curran and was the proud (at least in hindsight) author of what Pete, in red ink on Nokia-printer paper, marked up as “the worst PMs report I have ever seen.” Ten months into the stint, I got a call from Philadelphia COB George Zucker, who told me there was a permanent opening there. So I left my temp stint early, with some regret, drove northeast with a careful of possessions and moved back to my home state.

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Myron Belkind - I was fortunate to begin my AP career as a vacation relief staffer on the General Desk on the fourth floor of Rockefeller Plaza in the spring of 1962.

I was completing my studies at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism and would generally work a shift from about 6 p.m. until 2 a.m. and then take a subway back to the Columbia campus.

AP General News Editor Sam Blackman hired me after administering the AP writing test. My main duties were to file the regional wires to the northeast and to the south, while learning so much about the AP from outstanding supervisors including Herb Barker, Ed Dennehy and Marty Sutphin.

A few weeks after starting on the General Desk I heard a supervisor say to the AAA Wire filer, "Make sure this story goes out without any errors."

It was the announcement that Wes Gallagher had been named to succeed Frank Starzel as chief executive.

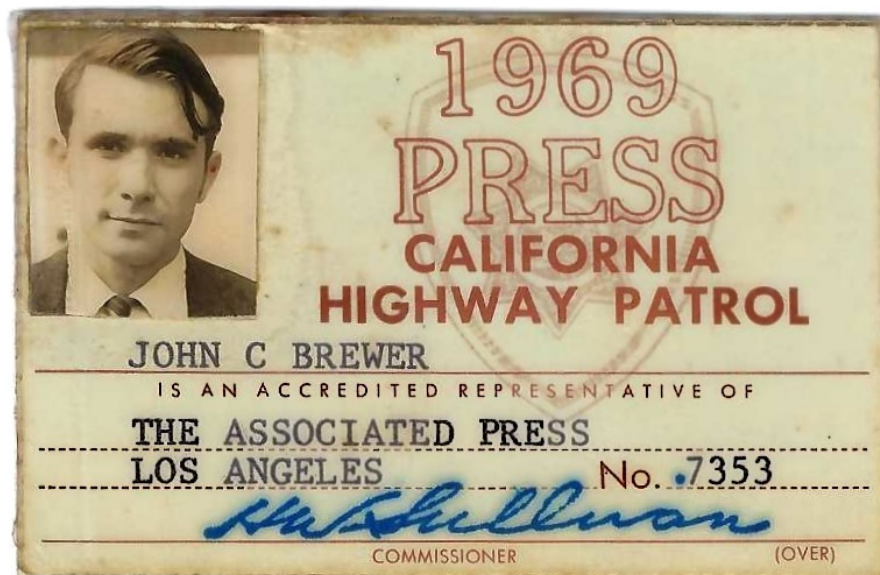
Gallagher soon thereafter called a meeting of the General Desk staff in his office on the seventh floor. As the junior-most staffer I deliberately sat in the rear of the meeting. But at one stage, Gallagher called on me by name to see if I had any suggestions for improving the General Desk.

"Please keep the regional wires free of national news so they can be used to move the regional stories without delay," I responded.

My stint on the General Desk ended in January 1963, when I moved to Kuala Lumpur to work locally for the AP while on a Pulitzer Traveling Fellowship from the Columbia Journalism School.

I rejoined the AP in New York in January 1964 on the World Desk and, after a military leave of absence, transferred to AP New Delhi in November 1966 at the start of a foreign career that included heading the bureaus in New Delhi, London and Tokyo before retiring in 2004 -- 42 years after Sam Blackman hired me as a vacation relief staffer on the General Desk!

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John Brewer - I wanted to work for UPI.

I was the stringer for AP and UPI at The Daily Report in Ontario, Calif., my local newspaper where I was a weekend reporter.

The UPI bureau manager in Los Angeles, John Lowry, was great to work with – he was always complimentary, encouraging and genuinely appreciated my stories.

When I called AP/Los Angeles, I usually got a grumpy staffer who always reacted as if I was interrupting their day.

It was March 1969. Soon I would be graduating from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. I sent a letter with clips to both UPI and AP, applying for a job.

I got a note back from the new AP/LA bureau chief, Tom Pendergast: “Thank you for your excellent letter. Yes, we would like to talk to you.”

I didn't respond immediately. Instead, I sent a second application letter to Lowry. It also brought no response (or so I thought).

I got an appointment for my AP writing test, passed, and I was hired as vacation relief in May.

In September I was extended as legislative relief, replacing a staffer who went to Sacramento. Shortly afterwards there was a regular opening. I got it.

Somewhere in those months I called Lowry. We had such a great relationship. I admired him. Why had I never heard from him?

"What do you mean?" he bellowed. "I called your apartment a dozen times! I wanted to hire you!

"But every time I called, your girlfriend told me that you were now working at AP and happy as a clam and that you had no interest in working for UPI."

Before I could say anything, he concluded the conversation: "Sorry, I'm right in the middle of a story. I'm sure our loss is the opposition's gain. Best of luck, John."

I confronted Charlotte, who was also a journalism student at Cal Poly Pomona. She had mentioned nothing to me.

"You don't want to work for UPI," she told me, not apologetic in any way. "AP is the best in the business. You'll see, UPI is a loser."

I didn't know what to say. I stayed at AP – the bureau was outstanding, despite the grump I had dealt with. I felt appreciated, and I was learning a lot.

Charlotte and I later got married. The marriage didn't last.

A few years later I became news editor at AP/LA, then COB in Seattle, then returned to LA as COB and finished my 19 years at AP as a general executive in the New York Membership Department, working for Jim Mangan and Jim Lagier.

And I told every stringer I dealt with how much I appreciated their calls.

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[Lisa Cornwell](#) - I was hired as a maternity relief person for the Columbus bureau in Ohio in 1990. The position was for 18 months, but I was moved to the Cleveland bureau as a permanent staffer after 12 months. I worked there until 1998, when I moved to the Cincinnati bureau. I retired there after a 30-year AP career in February of 2020.

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[Jimmy Golen](#) - I spent two summers as a summer relief clerk - another stepping stone job that's disappeared - in NY Sports. Then a third summer as a summer relief newsman (that was the title then) in Sports. After that was up, I was offered four

months in Columbus as legislative relief, or five months in Minneapolis as Melissa Jordan's maternity relief. I took Minneapolis, because it was an extra month. When that was done, since I had worked nine months and they didn't want to hire me full-time, they made me take a service break, but our clerk had left so I was a clerk for six weeks until they had money for a legislative relief person (I stayed in MP, and they sent someone from the MP buro to St. Paul). When that was done, Melissa was pregnant again, so I did another maternity relief for her. After two years of temporary gigs, I was hired full-time in Baton Rouge to cover sports and the XGR.

Incidentally, my kids are 13 months apart. So I definitely picked up a few things.

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Sue Price Johnson - I was among those who joined the AP as a vacation relief staffer. I worked in Charlotte the summer between my junior and senior years at East Carolina University, then contacted then-COB Joe Dill about another round the following summer. Joe said I got a lucky break. He had already hired me when he learned that NY wanted him to give the summer gig to Joel Brinkley (son of NBC's David Brinkley) instead. The result: Charlotte had two temps that summer.

I left the AP briefly and moved to Raleigh, but learned the bureau was moving there six months later. Thanks to some kind members, I was encouraged to attend the AP Broadcasters meeting in Winston-Salem, where I met John Lumpkin who, happily, hired me back for a full-time gig. I remember calling my dad, a newspaper man himself, after my meeting with JOL. He asked if I'd been hired at a cocktail party and suggested that I'd better check the next morning to see if I really had a job. Thankfully, I did, and worked for the AP until buyouts were offered in 2009.

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Matt Kelley - I was thrilled when a few months after graduating from journalism school in 1991, I was hired as vacation relief in Chicago, where I got to work with Sarah Nordgren, among others. I still vividly remember taking the AP test at the one-man bureau in Peoria – and I didn't sink the barge, if folks remember that part of the test. After that job ended, I was vacation relief in Montgomery, Alabama (where I met my wife). It was a great way to learn the ropes of the AP and gain experience covering everything from news conferences to sports to a Ku Klux Klan rally. I went on to work in Sioux Falls, South Dakota (where Dave Zelio was vacation relief while I was there); as correspondent in Champaign, Illinois; in Phoenix; then in Washington, first as the regional writer for the Four Corners states in the Southwest, then as a member of the Special Assignment Team, and then covering the military during the early years of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq after 9/11. Sally Buzbee was my editor for a short time in Washington, and she was one of the best. After 14 years at AP, I left to work for USA Today for five years, then changed careers and became a media lawyer. I now have the honor of representing news organizations including AP and other journalists I've worked for and with over the years.

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Andy Lippman – I got a summer relief job in Phoenix, the same day I got a fulltime job at a PR firm up the street. I told my fulltime boss, but hesitated about telling COB Tom

Aden because I thought he might take back the offer.

So I'd go to the PR firm from 9-5 and then go down the street to AP to work the night shift. This went on for eight weeks and in the eighth week, I fell asleep and fell off the chair and onto the floor. Tom Aden wanted to know if I had a drinking problem. I had to come clean and tell him the truth.

He said that anyone who would do something like that would fit in at AP, and he got me the next fulltime slot - nights in Tucson.

That was in 1971 or 1972 after about three months of bouncing around Arizona looking for work. I had to stay in Arizona at that time because I was in the Reserves.

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Ed McCullough - In May 1981 AP offered a "relief" job writing radio copy in Albany, Chuck Greene CoB. I had worked at two newspapers, was between semesters in graduate school, and ideally looking for a full-time job. I thought "relief" meant temporary and had no idea how to write broadcast copy.

I persevered and so did AP. That November I planned to return to school in Washington, D.C., about 7 hours by car, mostly south of Albany. Chuck offered: Would you like to work in Buffalo? That conversation didn't get much past: no relocation expenses, no hotel, no real estate agent to find somewhere to live. So I said "no."

As I prepared to leave, Chuck asked (paraphrase): "How about covering a boxing match in Rochester on the way?" Well, Rochester is due west of Albany, in fact most of the way to Buffalo.

The match was for the WBA super welterweight title recently vacated by Sugar Ray Leonard. Would AP at least pay for mileage (if memory serves, 33 cents per at the time)? "OK," Chuck said, so I did, too.

"Fratto Drops Decision, No Stiffs Here" was the headline Monday Nov. 9, 1981, in the Cortland (N.Y.) Standard. By Ed McCullough | Associated Press Writer. I still have it. Why wouldn't I? It purportedly was my last story for AP.

When I phoned the Albany bureau to check out, Chuck asked (paraphrase): "Do you want that job in Buffalo, or not?" This time I said "yes." Chuck responded: "Good. Keep driving. You start Monday."

I had never covered sports and now was tasked with covering an NFL team (the Bills), an NHL team (the Sabres) and NCAA Division One basketball. It took a year and a half to earn the coveted AP Sport Writer tag.

In 1983 and also unasked for by me, AP offered the NY regional reporter's job in Washington, D.C. Pro politics which I also had not done before.

Little more than a year later, I had finished graduate school (M.S., international economics) and was on the world desk. Something else new to me: copy editing.

Who could anticipate that career track from its beginning, or that I'd end up writing thousands of stories for AP with bylines from four continents? Not me (OK, not I).

It started with that relief job in Albany, which incidentally was quite the crucible for producing bylines much better known than my own.

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Bob Moen - I started with the AP with a vacation relief stint at the Phoenix bureau, where I primarily worked overnight broadcast and produced up to a dozen takes of four stories each for the broadcast wire. I worked through the summer months when temperatures during the daytime reached 120 degrees and watched Editor Neil Bibler go through cigarettes like no one I've ever seen before or since. A plastic figurine atop my car dashboard partially melted one day. I was fortunate to work in Phoenix into late fall and was nearing the end of my stint when a full time job opened up - in Bismarck, N.D. I moved to Bismarck and that December around Christmas experienced 10 straight days where the temperature didn't get above zero, including a 60-below wind chill one night during which I found the wheels on my car frozen to the ground after completing a night shift. After that beginning, the rest of my AP career was pure bliss by comparison.

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Jeff Rowe - My start with the AP came as a vacation reliever in New Orleans. My recollection is it was three months, to be followed by another three months if I passed muster.

My experience prior to arriving in New Orleans consisted of some writing for the base paper where I had been stationed, reporting and writing at a small weekly and two small California dailies and reporting, editing and making building repairs on a third small daily.

For me, the risk of a short-term job far from California was worth the chance to join big-league journalism -- and I was awed by the skills of the bureau staffers.

After six months in New Orleans, I was offered a legislative relief job in Jackson, Mississippi, which segued without anything ever said to a regular staff job.

Legislative/vacation relieving seemed like a good way for the AP to test out potential staffers. And it was a great way for me to get to know the AP.

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Dan Sewell - My introduction to AP came working summer relief in Cincinnati in 1977.

Andy Lippman was correspondent, Norm Clarke the sports writer.

I came out of Ohio University, part of what became a busy pipeline to AP. Michael Precker, future Dallas Morning News writer who did an Israel internship for AP, had done summer relief in Cincinnati the previous two summers, and among those who would follow us were Brian Friedman, future Moscow correspondent and current

Breaking News editor, and Liz Sidoti, future AP national political correspondent and politics editor.

Andy taught us to be hungry for a-wire (or national sports-wire) possibilities. The first time I worked a Saturday night alone, he called me around 11 and asked what I was doing. "Nothing," I replied honestly. He exploded in exaggerated outrage: "I don't want to ever hear you say that again!" He told me if I wasn't working on a breaking story, I should be calling around to members to see if they had something to pursue, or going through member newspapers to look for enterprise ideas.

Norm was already legendary in Cincinnati sports circles. After the Big Red Machine hit its peak in 1976 by sweeping the postseason for a second straight world championship, the Reds got blown out of the pennant chase early in '77 by Tommy Lasorda's Dodgers.

Norm decided to use his accumulated time off to vacation, so that left me to staff many of the Reds games. It was daunting to cover my sports heroes such as Pete Rose, Johnny Bench, Tony Perez, Joe Morgan and Dave Concepcion, especially in a frustrated and sometimes-surlly clubhouse. Manager Sparky Anderson was always my fallback - if the players weren't talking, Sparky was there to fill my notebook.

When Norm came back, I told him about the grouchiness and sharp comments going on with the Reds. He did some additional reporting and wrote a takeout about the unhappy Big Red Machine.

It ran everywhere, including The New York Times, and notably, in the local newspapers. The Cincinnati Enquirer ran Norm's story top of page 1, with a rebuttal by its Reds beat writer right below it.

Other beat writers also wrote critiques of Norm's story and some personal insults circulated.

That all led to the "Rumble at Riverfront," in which Norm ended up punching out the Enquirer beat writer in the press box. It's a long story Norm can tell better than I, and Andy hates the story because for him, it meant spending hours on the phone to Enquirer and AP editors trying to save Norm's job. Which he did.

Anyway, the high-profile summer relief landed me the AP sports job in Buffalo, where the star was O.J. Simpson and the Braves were in their last NBA season in Buffalo.

That led to transfer to Miami, where the heavy pace of a-wire news soon led me out of sports and into full-time news coverage.

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[Larry Thorson](#) - To be a foreign correspondent - that became my ambition after the very mixed experiences of my early '20s. After graduating from the U of Iowa in 1963 I volunteered for the Peace Corps (so I could decide what I really wanted to do with my life) and served two great years in Thailand teaching English. Immediately upon my return to the States in 1965 I was drafted. A year later I was an infantryman in Vietnam, sleeping on the ground, carrying the radio for the platoon leader, helicopter

flights to encircle villages where the VC were or, more likely, where they had been. A medal for pulling people out of a chopper that crashed after delivering ammo and breakfast to my company on a long-range patrol. Marched in parade in front of Vice President Hubert Humphrey and many others for the inauguration of a US puppet government in Saigon.

All this tumult and danger took place a couple hundred miles from where I'd been in the Peace Corps. It was the end of 1967, and I should be able to parlay this dog's breakfast of a background into a journalism career, right? Too bad I hadn't studied journalism, but my first job in the field fell into my lap, I became a 27-year-old cub reporter for the Rockford (IL) Morning Star. The man on the police beat got drafted, so I took that job, which I liked a lot but it wasn't getting me outside Winnebago County. After nine months, the U of Chicago grad school accepted me to study international relations and firm up my portfolio. GI bill helped pay for it. After the first year I needed to make money and applied for summer news jobs. AP refused to interview me for lack of the required two years' experience. UPI took me on as vacation relief.

My assignment was the almost menial task of feeding the Illinois state radio wire, night shift. I compressed the UPI state newspaper feed. Rip and read -- that's what was happening on the receiving end of my terse all-caps prose. Lucky for me they needed help covering stories during the day, and I got overtime doing it. Most memorable was covering a hearing in US District Court where Judge Julius Hoffman (he of Chicago Seven trial fame, no relation to Abbie) was hearing a petition by the imprisoned Teamster Union leader Jimmy Hoffa for a new trial. And I'm the cub reporter covering this for UPI. Wow, big time, a taste of it. I was drawn to work for the wires.

Back to the second year at U of Chicago. Alas, no MA, I was preoccupied with demonstrating to end the stupid war in Vietnam. I appreciated the intensity of graduate studies and top-notch professors, just too distracted to write the paper. June 1970 I pointed my Beetle to the West Coast and began applying for news jobs starting in Seattle and moving south.

Struck it lucky in San Francisco -- UPI hired me again to be vacation relief. Major news was erupting. Angela Davis was not to be covered by me, the relief guy on the night shift (not the radio wire). As my time was drawing to its close, UPI offered me a job in Spokane, where a staffer was being drafted. (That couldn't happen to me -- I was already a veteran). I said yes.

Two weeks later they withdrew the Spokane offer. Nothing against me, they'd decided not to fill the post. Again, a lucky stroke for me. I went down two floors from UPI and knocked on the AP bureau door. For the first time, they interviewed me and gave me the test. If UPI hired you twice, you must be OK, they said. Darned if I can remember the name of the AP bureau chief. They said they'd circulate my application to other bureaus and wished me luck.

A few days later I got a telegram (too poor to have a phone) from Philadelphia COB Doug Bailey telling me to call collect to hear a job offer. Yes! Doug said they understood that overseas work was my aim, but it was handy to be in Philadelphia, close enough to NY that it was quick and easy to go to 50 Rock to present my case.

First, I had to get to PX. Put up a note on a UC Berkeley bulletin board for a co-driver, and two days later we pointed the Beetle east for 3,300 miles of steady driving.

Thus started my 25-year career on the day before my 30th birthday. I almost screwed up that very day. News Editor Herb Pelkey went out to lunch, and I was told to borrow his typewriter and work on a story right away. I wheeled Herb's typewriter over to where I was at the news desk, and failed to see some obstruction -- crash went the news editor's typewriter and cart on the floor. It worked despite the ruckus.

Six years later, after four years on the World Desk in New York, I was sent to Tel Aviv. Seven years there, news editor and COB. Then five years in London as news editor. Three years in Tokyo as Asia news editor. Five years in Berlin 1990-95. Now I've been retired 27 years, longer than I worked. It started with two stints as vacation relief. For UPI.

Saving a life

[Adolphe Bernotas](#) - It didn't happen on the job, but as AP and UPI staffers out fishing saved an old guy from drowning.

I was the AP guy and Bob Lambert the UPI staffer in a boat in the late 1960s on a pond in Chichester, N.H.

We were distracted by a man who had loaded his boat on a trailer attached to a car on a ramp leading to the water. As it began to pull away, the engine stalled and the car and trailer rolled backward into the pond, floated away from shore and started to sink.

Bob and I got to the car while the panicked driver was trying to get out but couldn't open the door. We yelled for him to roll down the window and pulled him out as water rose to the top of the roof.

The next day the Concord Monitor and Manchester Union Leader headlined stories with something clichéd like "Competing Scribes Save Angler at Clough Pond."

Weeks later, we were in a group recognized at the Union Leader's annual dinner for "Citizen Heroes."

More memories of Gina Lollobrigida



Michael Weinfeld - In 2007, Gina Lollobrigida she was in DC for the annual Italian-American Foundation gala. I persuaded her to come to the BNC studio for a half-hour AP Radio interview.

She was as beautiful as they say - and funny, too.

I started off the interview by having her say her name to hear it properly pronounced with an Italian accent. She joked that her name was too "complicated."

She went on to say she never wanted to be an actress, she wanted to be an artist. She did end up being a talented sculptor and photographer.

She also dreamed of being a singer, yet she said she refused Leonard Bernstein's offer to sing for him in America.

Lollobrigida talked about being discovered coming out of a drug store in Rome. She was offered a movie and she accepted, she said, because it was after the war and she needed money.

Howard Hughes wanted her to act exclusively for him and Lollobrigida said she rebuffed his advances for 13 years.

Here's [a link](#) to a 4-minute excerpt of the interview.

Whoops - the plug was pulled

Mike Harris - Reading Bruce Lowitt's recounting earlier this week of his near-disaster, I was reminded of a similar situation that occurred while I was covering the U.S. Amateur Golf Championship at Canterbury Country Club in Cleveland in 1979.

It was the first day of the tournament and there were nearly 200 golfers in the field. In those days, we did our own agate lists and, as the day went on, I kept a running account of the scoring on one of the multiple screens on what I believe (my memory on this is sketchy) was a Teleram. Whatever computer it was, there was no backup.

As the last threesome hit the 18th green, I had the agate list ready up to date as I was putting the finishing touches on my AMs lede and also had most of my PMer waiting for quotes on another screen. It was a long June day, but the sun was beginning to set and the lights were not on in the club room that doubled as the media center.

The club manager strolled into the room at that point and said, loudly, "It's really dark in here. I'll get you some light."

Unfortunately, he didn't know which light switch was which and began flipping them. By the time he found the right switch, he had flicked off the power to the media center. The power was out for only a second or two, but everything on my screens disappeared and I think I hollered an epithet rather loudly. The manager looked at me and said, "What's wrong?"

I was so mad, I was afraid of what I might say and just glared at him. He quickly scurried away.

That was about 9 p.m. I likely would have walked out of there about 10 pm had the manager not played with the lights. Instead, by the time I finished recreating the agate, the AMs story and my PMer, it was around midnight. I was still fuming the next morning.

The club manager avoided me for the rest of the tournament, turning and walking the other way if he saw me.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Matt Barba](#)

[Denis Gray](#)

[Patty Woodrow](#)

Stories of interest

When a journalist's actions become the focus of a murder trial (Poynter)

By: Emanuella Grinberg

The capital murder trial of George Wagner IV in fall 2022 drew news outlets from across the country to southern Ohio for what state officials called the biggest investigation in the state's history.

Among the journalists, one stood out to deputies and court staff managing the proceedings. "There's only one person you have to look out for," a courthouse staffer said without a whiff of irony.

Journalist Derek Myers was removed from the courtroom at one point for violating the court's prohibition on entering or leaving the courtroom in the middle of proceedings. The rule was one of several Judge Randall Deering imposed in the trial of George Wagner IV, the first person in his family to stand trial for a shooting spree that killed his brother's ex-girlfriend and seven members of her family.

Myers would appear at the center of another battle over the testimony of Wagner's mother and brother, and accused co-conspirators, Angela and Jake Wagner. Myers' outlet, the Scioto Valley Guardian, published a surreptitious recording of Jake Wagner on the witness stand after Judge Deering denied the media's request to record or show his testimony.

Read more [here](#).

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My favorite broadcast journalist, Kerry Sanders, just retired. What will I do now? (Poynter)

By: Roy Peter Clark

I have been in the room with Brokaw, Rather, Costas, Winfrey.

But I have never been more excited to meet a television journalist than the day I saw him sitting in the library of the Poynter Institute. He was chatting with my colleague Kelly McBride.

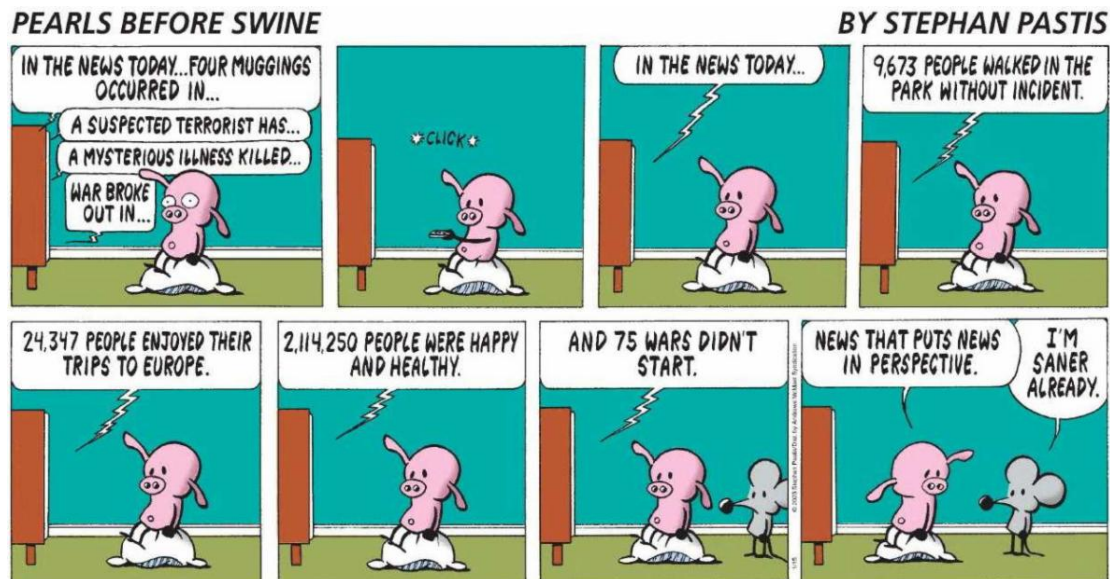
I blurted something like, "Oh my God, it's Kerry Sanders," and bolted toward him like a teenage girl after the Beatles. He stood up and his eyes were wide in some level of comic alarm. I don't remember what I said next but I recall what was in my heart: that of all the television journalists I had experienced in my life, Kerry Sanders was my absolute favorite.

Here are some of the reasons why:

Among generations of well-groomed and impeccably dressed anchors and reporters, Kerry came across as an authentic person. He is listed as 5 feet, 5 inches tall, portly at the age of 62, with a round face and blue eyes, the friendly guy who lived down the street all these years, who was also in a crisis your most reliable neighbor.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word



Shared by Adolphe Bernotas

Today in History - Jan. 19, 2023



Today is Thursday, Jan. 19, the 19th day of 2023. There are 346 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

In 1953, CBS-TV aired the widely watched episode of "I Love Lucy" in which Lucy Ricardo, played by Lucille Ball, gave birth to Little Ricky. (By coincidence, Ball gave birth the same day to her son, Desi Arnaz Jr.)

On this date:

In 1853, Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Il Trovatore" premiered in Rome.

In 1915, Germany carried out its first air raid on Britain during World War I as a pair of Zeppelins dropped bombs onto Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn in England.

In 1942, during World War II, Japanese forces captured the British protectorate of North Borneo. A German submarine sank the Canadian liner RMS Lady Hawkins off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, killing 251 people; 71 survived.

In 1944, the federal government relinquished control of the nation's railroads to their owners following settlement of a wage dispute.

In 1966, Indira Gandhi was chosen to be prime minister of India by the National Congress party.

In 1987, Guy Hunt became Alabama's first Republican governor since 1874 as he was sworn into office, succeeding George C. Wallace.

In 2005, the American Cancer Society reported that cancer had passed heart disease as the top killer of Americans age 85 and younger.

In 2009, Russia and Ukraine signed a deal restoring natural gas shipments to Ukraine and paving the way for an end to the nearly two-week cutoff of most Russian gas to a freezing Europe.

In 2012, Rupert Murdoch's media empire apologized and agreed to cash payouts to 37 people who'd been harassed and phone-hacked by its tabloid press.

Ten years ago: Thousands of gun advocates gathered peacefully at state capitals around the U.S. to rally against stricter limits on firearms. Minister Greg Griego, his wife, Sara, and three of their children were shot to death in their home near Albuquerque, N.M.; the couple's teenage son, Nehemiah, is charged with murder. Death claimed baseball Hall-of-Famers Stan Musial at age 92 and Earl Weaver at age 82.

Five years ago: Olympic gold medalist Aly Raisman joined dozens of other women and girls in confronting her former doctor, Larry Nassar, at his sentencing hearing for multiple sexual assaults; she warned him that the testimony of the "powerful army" of survivors would haunt him in prison. Amazon announced that it was raising the monthly price of its Prime membership plan by nearly 20%, to \$12.99. (The fee for an annual membership would also rise 20% a few months later, to \$119 a year.)

One year ago: Voting legislation that Democrats and civil rights leaders said was vital to protecting democracy collapsed after two Democratic senators refused to join their own party in changing Senate rules to overcome a Republican filibuster; the measure would have ensured access to early voting and mail-in ballots, and would have enabled the Justice Department to intervene in states with a history of voter interference. In a rebuff to former President Donald Trump, the Supreme Court allowed the release of presidential documents sought by the congressional committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection. The NCAA adopted a sport-by-sport approach for transgender athletes, bringing the organization in line with the U.S. and International Olympic Committees.

Today's birthdays: Actor Tippi Hedren is 93. Former PBS newsman Robert MacNeil is 92. Movie director Richard Lester is 91. Actor-singer Michael Crawford is 81. Actor Shelley Fabares (fab-RAY') is 79. Country singer Dolly Parton is 77. Former ABC newswoman Ann Compton is 76. TV chef Paula Deen is 76. Rock singer Martha Davis is 72. Singer Dewey Bunnell (America) is 71. Actor Desi Arnaz Jr. is 70. Actor Katey Sagal is 69. Comedian Paul Rodriguez is 68. Conductor Sir Simon Rattle is 68. Rock musician Jeff Pilson (Foreigner) is 65. Actor Paul McCrane is 62. Actor William Ragsdale is 62. Basketball coach and commentator Jeff Van Gundy is 61. International Tennis Hall of Famer Stefan Edberg is 57. Rock singer Whitfield Crane (Ugly Kid Joe) is 55. Singer Trey Lorenz is 54. Actor Shawn Wayans is 52. Rock singer-musician John Wozniak (Marcy Playground) is 52. Actor Drea (DRAY-uh') de Matteo is 51. Comedian-impressionist Frank Caliendo is 49. Actor Drew Powell is 47. Actor Marsha Thomason is 47. Actor Bitsie Tulloch is 42. Actor Jodie Sweetin is 41. U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg is 41. Movie director Damien Chazelle is 38. Actor Shaunette Renee Wilson is 33. Actor Briana Henry is 31. Actor Logan Lerman is 31. Olympic gold medal gymnast Shawn Johnson is 31. Rapper Taylor Bennett is 27. Actor Lidya Jewett 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.

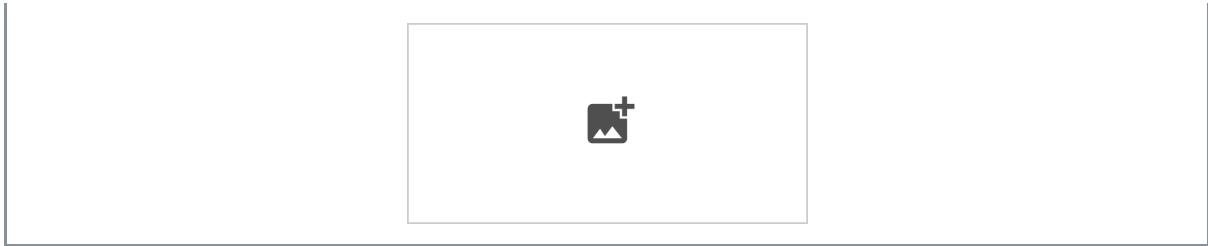
Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

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.

Paul Stevens
Editor, Connecting newsletter
paulstevens46@gmail.com





Connecting newsletter | 14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215

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