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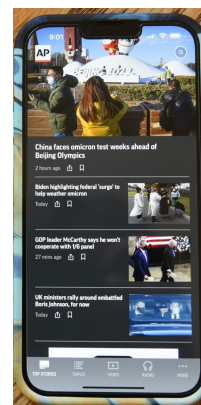
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# Connecting

Jan. 23, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this Jan. 23, 2023,

She started her journalism career at the age of 9 in her hometown of Mexico, a central Missouri community of 12,000, when she founded a summer weekly newspaper covering neighborhood news.

**Jane See White**, a fourth-generation newspaper journalist, moved on to a great career that included six years with The Associated Press, newspaper positions in Virginia and Arizona and Missouri, and teaching journalism at the University of Arizona.

Connecting earlier brought you news of her death, which occurred Jan. 11, but an obituary written by her family was not available until now – and we lead with it in today’s Connecting. Jane was a longtime member of the Connecting family. Her late father, **Robert M. White**, was a member of the AP’s board of directors in the 1970s and someone I got to know and respect when visiting the Ledger as Kansas City bureau chief.

**Our congratulations go out** to the AP's **Farnoush Amiri**, Washington congressional reporter, on her recent election to the Standing Committee of Correspondents. She was elected along with Jonathan Salant, New Jersey Advance Media, and Jennifer Shutt, States Newsroom. (Thanks to Frank Aukofer for spotting.)

Today's issue brings even more delightful stories of working in AP relief positions. If you have a story to tell, send it along.

Here's to a great week ahead – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul



## Jane See White: A life and career dedicated to journalism



ABOVE: Jane See White (right) and her daughter Laura. RIGHT: Jane's newspaper debut.

Jane See White, 72, died January 11, 2023, in Springdale, AR. The Mexico, MO native had an award-winning 40-plus year career in newspaper and magazine journalism, including teaching journalism as part of the University of Arizona School of Journalism.

Born on August 26, 1950, she was the daughter of Robert Mitchell White II and Barbara Whitney Spurgeon. White was a 1968 graduate of Mexico High School, and in 1972 was graduated from Hollins College with honors and a BA in History and American Studies.

At the age of nine, White began a dedicated journalism career as the founding Editor and Publisher of The Mexico Junior Ledger. The summer weekly newspaper covered

### Jane See White

A daughter weighing six pounds and five and a half ounces was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. White, II, of 903 South Olive at St. Luke's hospital in St. Louis Saturday afternoon at 3:10 p. m. The baby has been named Jane See. The couple has another daughter, Barbara Whitney. Mr. White is co-publisher of the Mexico Ledger.

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neighborhood news. Publication of the Junior Ledger ceased when she began spending her summers at Camp Bryn Afon in Rhinelander, WI.

Upon graduation from Hollins College, White spent two years as a reporter for the Roanoke (VA) Times, then moved back to Missouri as a feature writer for The Kansas City Star. There she earned awards for an investigative series regarding state-run schools for the mentally disabled, and another related to state psychiatric hospitals.

With success came the “big stage” when in 1976 she transitioned to The Associated Press in New York City as an editor on the World Desk. From 1978 to 1981 she was also part of an AP six-person national writing team, writing feature news stories for datelines around the country. Her work included covering the Love Canal, (NY) toxic crisis, exposing and examining the early controversy over health effects of exposure to Agent Orange.

White joined Medical Economics Magazine as a writer in 1982. Her progression with the publication included Professional Editor, News / Bureaus Editor and Head of the Editorial Division for national bi-weekly non-clinical publication for office-based doctors.

In 1987, her passion for newspaper journalism led her back to Roanoke VA and the Roanoke Times and World News where she was the Deputy City Editor, then City Editor. Her responsibilities included daily and Sunday news coverage by 40 reporters and six assistant city editors.

White moved to Arizona in 1991, where she held various writing and editing roles for The Phoenix Gazette and The Arizona Republic, including Features Editor and Assistant Managing Editor.

From 2006 until her retirement in 2014, White was an Editor and Editorial writer for the The Arizona Daily Star. Editorials White researched and wrote won first-place prizes from the Arizona Press Club, the Arizona Newspapers Association, and were included in nomination for the Pulitzer Prize.

Between 1997 and 2014, White also shared her expertise and passion for journalism with future journalists, as an adjunct Professor with the University of Arizona School of Journalism.

White was an avid fly fisherwoman. Whenever possible, she would seek rivers and streams in various state and national parks to fish and hike. She also was an avid golfer.

White is survived by her beloved daughter Laura Mitchell White of Fayetteville AR, her brother R. Mitchell White III of Sandy Springs GA, her sister Laura White Erdel and her brother-in-law Steve Erdel of Columbia, MO. She also is survived by nieces and nephews Bill and Ruth McClain of Los Angeles, CA, Edward and Kate Erdel of Columbia, MO, Mitchell and Alyssa Erdel of Washington D.C., Jane Erdel of Kansas City, MO and Robert White IV of Chicago, IL. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister Barbara White McClain.

A memorial service will be held in March. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages memorial donations to The Missouri Press Foundation (802 Locust Street Columbia, MO 65201) or The Audrain County Historical Society (501 South Muldrow Mexico, MO 65254).

## George Wilbur, 35-year veteran of Richmond bureau, dies on 94<sup>th</sup> birthday

WILBUR, George William, journalist and author, died at home in Bon Air after a brief illness on January 7, 2023. It was his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mr. Wilbur was predeceased by his wife of more than 60 years, Viola R. Wilbur, in May 2014. Born in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Mr. Wilbur was raised in Hyde Park, where he was a neighbor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt. He was a Journalism graduate of NYU and started a 35-year career in 1951 when he moved to Richmond. He worked for the Richmond Bureau of the AP and interviewed five sitting U.S. presidents. In 2013 Wilbur was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Virginia Capitol Correspondents Assoc. which he co-founded. He also co-founded Elderhomes, now Project Homes. He and his wife, Viola, traveled over 50 years to more than 85 countries. They were avid gardeners and enjoyed publication in the Richmond Times-Dispatch and "Ponds" magazine. Wilbur loved to ski and play tennis. There will be a Celebration of Life at Woody's Funeral home on Huguenot Road on January 31 at 11 a.m. with a reception to follow.



Published by Richmond Times-Dispatch on Jan. 22, 2023. Click [here](#) for link. Shared by Dorothy Abernathy.

## A memory of David Crosby

**Brian Bland** – In the early spring of 1993, the country's northwest was in the midst of the "Timber Wars," with loggers on one side, environmentalists on the other, with the latter determined to protect ancient forests and the spotted owl. The situation prompted both President Clinton and VP Gore, along with several cabinet members, to travel to Portland, Ore., to try to sort things out.

Also headed there were tens of thousands of environmentalists, who'd invited **David Crosby** and other performers. AP Radio sent me up from Los Angeles to cover that rally, while White House correspondent Mark Smith covered the Clinton confab.

On April 1, I got to LAX with plenty of time to spare, and was surprised to find my flight's waiting area nearly empty. One of the few people there was Crosby, sitting alone. I hung my AP press pass around my neck but left my recorder, microphone and headphones in my tote bag, opting for a gradual approach with Crosby. It worked. Soon, the gear was out and I was recording our interview, getting some insight on what motivated him to go to Portland and what outcome he hoped for. No surprise, Crosby gave thoughtful answers about a cause he strongly believed in. He was neither belligerent nor stoned (as far as I could tell). It was just two fifty-somethings having a chat.

I used the flight time to edit the interview tape, adding a Portland lockout to the package. I filed it from the Portland buro soon after landing, sharing the quotes with the Portland staff. It was an easy exclusive with one of the key figures in the coming powwow.

At the rally later that day, Crosby sang three songs, including "Long Time Gone," a protest song he'd written 25 years earlier.

My other memory of the concert is that Portland rolled out a trademark cold, intermittent, rain that soaked 60,000 environmentalists and a radio reporter trying to keep his audio equipment dry.

## More of your stories of working AP relief positions

[Tom Cohen](#) - I went into journalism to be a foreign correspondent. Early in my j-school studies at the University of Missouri, I realized the best path would be the wire services.

When I mentioned that to Phill Brooks, who I studied under in 1981 at the Columbia Missourian's state capitol bureau in Jefferson City, he told me AP hired two interns each legislative session to cover night committee hearings and other news. I was at the AP office shortly thereafter to apply, with Jefferson City Correspondent Jim Willis administering the writing test.

The next day, Willis said I did fine on the test but was a little slow, so they wanted me to show I could work faster. Lucky for me, he handed me a news release I had written up earlier in the week for the Missourian. "You're on the clock," he said. I neglected to mention I was familiar with the information and dashed off a story to the satisfaction of Willis.

Shortly before the legislative session began in January 1982, I arrived in Jefferson City in a packed car with no place to stay. My rental didn't begin until the next day. So I called my fellow intern for the session, future longtime AP newshound Paul Nowell, and asked if I could stay with him and his wife Mary Ann that night. We had never met or spoken, but in true AP fashion, Paul and Mary Ann welcomed me and we had a great evening together that included listening to some Bruce Springsteen.

Working with Willis, newsman Brad Cain, and Nowell was a learning experience. On one of our first nights on our own, Paul and I managed to lose the story I had written when we were trying to switch screens on the old two-screen early desktop (was it a Hendrix?). Luckily, I was able to recreate the copy pretty quickly.

Another time, Cain had me cover the afternoon legislative session in the Missouri House. I felt like such a big shot, hanging out with regulars Mark Edgar of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Tim O'Neill of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Mark Schlinkmann of the KC Times and others, that I paid more attention to their jokes and stories than what was happening on the House floor. When I got back to the office, Cain asked what happened and I said nothing much, and he said, "Okay, why don't you just give me 200-300 words to cover us." My stomach went hollow, as I didn't have enough in my notebook even for that simple ask. When I admitted to Cain I had nothing, he gave me a glare that said "never again" and helped me come up with something passable.

By the end of the session, I was doing better and really enjoying myself. I made clear that I wanted to return as an intern for the following year's session, and AP was amenable. Another future longtime AP newshound, Bill Kates, was my fellow intern the second time, and we had a great experience with Willis and Cain in what was a busy 1983 session.

Near the end of the session, we learned that Cain was getting a well-deserved promotion to correspondent in Salem, Oregon, and I decided I wanted his newsman slot in Jefferson City. I applied, but the job went to Bill Menezes from Kansas City, and instead I was offered a temporary summer replacement slot in the Kansas City bureau.

I said I would take it, but inwardly I was angry I didn't get a full-time offer. A week or so later, the Columbia Daily Tribune offered me the city government reporter job. It was a great opportunity at a very good newspaper, and I accepted it. That meant having to call the AP's legendary Kansas City COB Fred Moen, he of the old school, to tell him I was taking the newspaper job. Certain I was sabotaging any chance for an AP career, I dialed the number with a hollow stomach. Fred's response was one word: "Okay."

A year later, I was covering a trial in Jefferson City about a lawsuit against the Missouri prison system. I stopped by the AP office to talk with Willis, who mentioned there would be an opening for a newsman in the St. Louis bureau and if I was interested, I needed to let Moen know right away. Hell yes, I wanted it, but now I had to call Moen again after snubbing him a year earlier.

My stomach again hollow, I dialed the number. Moen got on the line and I told him I wanted the St. Louis job.

There was a pause, and he said: "Weren't you the guy who turned us down last summer?"

"Yes, sir," I replied, terrified of what was coming.

Another pause.

"Well, ... " he said before finally adding: "Okay."

And that was that. In the end, I worked for Moen three times and never met him in person.

In June 1984, I started in St. Louis -- my hometown -- under Eric Newhouse and joining a staff that included Nowell, Ed Schafer, Paul LeBar, and photographers Fred Waters and James Finley and technicians Ken Fields and Bruce Olmsted. A little while later, Moen retired and Ye Olde Connecting Editor took over as Kansas City COB. In 1986, I was transferred to the World Desk in New York, continuing on the path to becoming a foreign correspondent in South Africa in 1990.

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**Tim Dahlberg** - I wasn't a temp and, in fact, was working my way up the reporting ladder at the Las Vegas Review-Journal when I got a glimpse at what my journalism future might look like. I had just been promoted to the political beat at the paper when Las Vegas correspondent Pat Arnold asked me to give him a ride to pick up his car at the repair shop.

He wanted to get his car, sure, but he wanted something else. In the car he said the AP was expanding the one-man bureau and wondered if I was interested. The catch? It was a 15 hour a week position with a vague promise that it would in the near future turn into a full-time job.

Of course, I accepted, and was soon taking the test at Pat's house. The AP cubicle was in the RJ newsroom so I would work 7:30-4:30 at my regular reporting job, then walk over and put another three hours in for the AP four days a week, plus a Saturday morning shift mainly writing broadcast copy and rewrites. My early hours paid off when I was the only reporter in the RJ newsroom on my 27th birthday and heard increasingly urgent chatter on the police scanner about a fire at the MGM Grand hotel. I headed over to help the police reporter and became the main reporter on the fire that killed 87 people and its aftermath.

Even that wasn't enough to get me full time status, but finally after 18 months I was hired as the second person in the Las Vegas bureau and said goodbye to my newspaper job and hello to some better hours. A few days later I was wandering around in the dark on a golf course with animal activists chasing Donna the Duck, a duck that had been shot with an arrow and still had the arrow sticking through her, that got me on the A wire for the first time and gave me a taste of what was to come working for the world's greatest news organization.

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**Kevin Noblet** - It was 1980 and I was feeling stuck in my native town of Stamford CT, where I was cops reporter for the local daily. That's when New Orleans COB Gary Clark called to offer me a legislative relief job at AP. It was short-term, only something like 10 or 12 weeks, but if I didn't screw up, I could probably find something full time. No promises, though.

I packed everything I owned in my little forest-green Toyota Celica and drove down, my first-ever foray into the deep South. Clark became my model for all COB's: He was



always on top of the report, even when on the road visiting members, calling to have the desk man record his praises and criticisms on the typewritten daily log. The news editor, Kent Prince, took good care of me, as did the desk veterans Austin Wilson, Ed McHale and Bill Crider, our resident poet. I joined the younger crew of Scott Williams, Woody Baird and Janet McConnaughey. We worked days or evenings, as Bob Rowan handled the overnight, which was fine with everybody else.

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**Nora Raum** - I was hired in the late seventies at AP Radio to fill in as an editor, tape cutter and newscaster. In my recollection, it took a few years to get on staff. But that might reflect my impatience as a 20-something. Eventually, I was a reporter covering the House. That was great fun. At the same time, I finished up college at night and got through law school. I even passed the bar, eventually.

At some point, I got mad at AP and gave my two weeks' notice. I don't remember why, but I figured I'd just go be a lawyer for a while. I had never planned to practice. I went to law school because I wanted to be a better reporter. I was already covering the House, the Supreme Court on occasion and big trials, such as the John Hinkley trial, who shot President Reagan.

By the way, I think everyone should quit in a huff once in their life. I did it three times, which may be a tad excessive. Anyway, I accepted a weekend gig as a newscaster at NPR while I got my practice going. That was 36 years ago. I closed my law practice last year but I'm still at NPR. It's hard to give up radio.

I really liked my time at AP Radio. It was great experience and that's where I met my husband, Tom.

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**Andrew Selsky** - My very first AP job was as a legislative temp in Cheyenne, in 1984. I remember driving from Jackson, Wyo., across the state to Cheyenne to meet with correspondent Dennis Curran and take the AP test. It was winter and as I drove on I-80, a ground blizzard hit (it wasn't snowing, but wind was blowing snow around, reducing visibility to near zero). I-80 became shut down with state troopers putting a barrier across the highway, so I pulled over at a truck stop. I called Dennis from a pay phone (remember those?) to advise that I'd be late and described the scene.

While waiting for the interstate to reopen, I had the radio on. At the top of the hour, the news came on and the announcer said something like "Andrew Selsky, of Jackson, Wyoming, is stuck at a truck stop on I-80 and says many motorists are there with him as the Rocky Mountain region experiences a winter storm." It was surreal. All the more so because at one point, I got out of the car into the freezing weather. There was a small herd of antelope on the other side of a wire fence. A young antelope was next to the fence and clearly in a bad way. I dug into the snow for some brush, snapped it off and was going to pass it to the animal to nibble on when it looked at me, gave a last breath, and died. Many antelope didn't survive that winter.

Dennis later told me that the General Desk in New York had asked for details on the storm, soon after he had gotten off the phone with me. So, he thought, well, I have this info from Andrew, so he fed that into the weather story.

I got the temp job, by the way. Then, later in the year, another temp job in the LA bureau. And then no AP work until I was hired as a local-hire reporter and photographer in Central America during the Sandinista-Contra war. That was in March 1985, and I've been with AP ever since.

## Gina and Sophia

Chris Connell - Gina Lollobrigida was not the only glamorous Italian movie star to set Washington on its ear. Marlin Fitzwater recalls that a highlight of his days as President George H.W. Bush's press secretary was the time Sophia Loren came to visit the White House. Fitzwater, an unabashed fan, was in his capacious office behind the briefing room when someone opened the door and, unannounced, ushered in Loren. The gobsmacked press secretary gazed at her and then said, "Sophia Loren, will you marry me?" Loren, already spoken for, laughed at Marlin's sally. The Academy Award winner is now 88; the witty Fitzwater is eight years her junior.

## Gina in Rio



Claude Erbsen - Way back in the late 1960s, when the dinosaurs still roamed the earth (at least it feels that way) and I was AP COB in Brazil, Gina Lollobrigida visited Rio de Janeiro, and Rome asked for daily coverage of her activities. Since I spoke Italian, I talked to her by phone every day for 300-400 words of copy and arranged stringer

photo coverage. She spent most of her days wandering around the city, hiding behind dark glasses and a scarf, shooting photos. At night she disappeared from public view and was not seen in the company of the usual socialites/playboys who squired visiting stars, starlets and other celebrities around the city's nightclubs. Of course, this led to intense "where is Gina?" speculation in the local society columns. On her last day in Rio, I called her and was told she was too busy to talk, and would be leaving shortly to shoot views of the city from the top of Corcovado, the site of the monumental Christ the Redeemer statue that looms over Rio. But she said if I could get to her hotel within 30 minutes we could talk in her car on the way. I could, and we did. When we reached the viewing spot at the base of the statue, a crowd of local reporters and photographers was waiting, tipped off by someone at her hotel. Several recognized me from having worked alongside them on other stories. To my great surprise they added 2 plus 2, and came up with 6, leading to "mystery solved" stories and the appearance of pictures like this in the next morning's newspapers. Invaluable -- even if grossly inaccurate -- advertising for a young bachelor foreign correspondent.

### ***BEST OF THE WEEK — FIRST WINNER***

## **Faceless portraits: Noroozi innovates to show struggle of Afghan women athletes**



**An Afghan woman poses with a basketball in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sept. 8, 2022. AP PHOTO/EBRAHIM NOROOZI**

The best portraits capture a person's essence, almost always by focusing on the human face. But AP photographer Ebrahim Noroozi, on assignment in Kabul temporarily from Iran, needed to do something different to show the effects of Afghanistan's rule banning women playing sports.

Using the emblematic burqa to conceal the identities of the women athletes now forbidden from doing what they love best, Noroozi came up with the haunting series of faceless portraits to offer an unparalleled illustration of the erasure of Afghan women from public life under the Taliban.

Several female athletes who once played a variety of sports unrestricted posed for Noroozi with their athletic equipment – and their identities hidden by burqas, the all-encompassing robe and hood that completely covers the face, leaving only a swath of mesh to see through.

Life for Afghan girls and women had transformed after two decades of an American-backed government, especially in Kabul and other cities. Afghan society remained deeply conservative — to the degree that one athlete described her mother beating her when her soccer team won a championship — but university degrees, work outside the home, and sports were all within reach. That changed when the Taliban took over in 2021.

Read more [here](#).

## ***BEST OF THE WEEK — SECOND WINNER***

# **AP gets story-defining video in Nepal plane disaster, dominates coverage**



**Rescuers stand by wreckage of a passenger plane that crashed in Pokhara, Nepal, Jan 16, 2023. AP PHOTO/ANISH BHATTARAI**

When news broke that a passenger plane in Nepal had plunged into a gorge in the Himalayan foothills, the AP South Asia team swung into action, quickly mobilizing resources for cross-format coverage. Since the Kathmandu correspondent was away on vacation, the Delhi team took charge of filing and coordination, activating stringers and freelancers both in Kathmandu and at the crash site in Pokhara.

Delhi newsperson Sheikh Saaliq filed an alert, following up with quick updates as details of the disaster began trickling in.

Kathmandu video journalist Upendra Mansingh and photo stringer Bikram Rai rushed to the airport where anxious families had started gathering. Freelancers in Pokhara fast-filed video and photos from the crash site to Delhi, turned around for quick transmission by Delhi video journalist Shonal Ganguly, who was also searching online for video.

The team delivered strong images and dramatic video of the smoldering site of Nepal's worst plane crash in 30 years, including compelling eyewitness accounts.

What made AP's coverage stand out was the relentless pursuit of permissions to verify story-defining user-generated content by Shonal and photographer Rajesh Kumar Singh.

Read more [here](#).

## Stories of interest

### *The Last Days of Hollywood's Most Reviled Reporter*

(New York Times)



Nikki Finke at her New York City home in 1993. Credit...Ken Shung/MPTV Images

**By Jacob Bernstein**

Toward the end of her life, Nikki Finke, the journalist who struck fear into the hearts of Hollywood power players, believed she was onto one last story.

"She said she wanted to write a piece about dying," Diane Haithman, a friend and former colleague, recalled. "And she asked if I would help her. I said, 'Of course.' I told

her the best way to do this was, 'You talk, and I'll record,' because I knew she couldn't write. But she said, 'We don't have to do it right now. Maybe in a couple days.'"

Then she got sicker.

"So it didn't happen," Ms. Haithman said. "And it's really unfortunate. I should have known."

Ms. Finke, who died at 68 on Oct. 9, 2022, after a long illness, spent her last weeks at Hospice by the Sea in Boca Raton, Fla., thousands of miles from the Los Angeles apartment where she had once worked 22-hour days (by her own account) to build her upstart blog, Deadline Hollywood Daily, into a sharp-edged rival to the trade publications Variety and The Hollywood Reporter.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Elaine Hooker, Richard Chady, Sibby Christensen, Harry Dunphy, Charles Hanley, Susana Hayward, Claude Erbsen.

**AP REFERENCE, in 17<sup>th</sup> graf:** "In 1975 she went to work for The Associated Press, to her parents' dismay, ...and put in time at the news service's Moscow bureau. That posting, she later said, spurred her interest in closed societies, by which she meant Hollywood.

"She later worked for the Dallas Morning News, Newsweek, The Los Angeles Times, the New York Observer and New York magazine before starting her Hollywood career."

Colleague [Harry Dunphy](#), AP Moscow bureau chief in the Soviet era, recalled:

As a journalist, she was aggressive, determined, persistent, always looking for an angle or a detail that the then mainly male Moscow press corps (Scandinavia excepted) might have missed. She was flamboyant, ebullient and amusing, especially when she talked about her posh upbringing.

She wasn't as fluent in Russian as, say Tom Kent or Seth Mydans, (neither was I) but she could get her point across.

(Aside, I was there partly to keep AP's relationship with TASS, the Soviet news agency, on an even keel. The number of TASS correspondents in the U.S. had to equal the number of U.S. news agency correspondents in Moscow. The United Nations did not count.)

Personally, Nikki and I got along pretty well. She was a very good writer, but we did have some disagreements about her stories, which at times I tried to tone down.

My wife Verity said other correspondents' wives sometimes saw Nikki as a threat.

"What do you mean my husband is going on an (away) assignment with Nikki Finke?"

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## ***In Mexico, a reporter published a story. The next day he was dead*** (Reuters)

**By Sarah Kinosian**

MEXICO CITY (Reuters) - Just after sunset on Thursday, February 10th, two men in a white Dodge Ram pickup pulled up in front of Heber Lopez Vasquez's small radio studio in southern Mexico. One man got out, walked inside and shot the 42-year-old journalist dead. Lopez's 12-year-old son Oscar, the only person with him, hid, Lopez's brother told Reuters.

Lopez was one of 13 Mexican journalists killed in 2022, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), a New York-based rights group. It was the deadliest year on record for journalists in Mexico, now the most dangerous country for reporters in the world outside the war in Ukraine, where CPJ says 15 reporters were killed last year.

A day earlier, Lopez—who ran two online news sites in the southern Oaxaca state—had published a story on Facebook accusing local politician Arminda Espinosa Cartas of corruption related to her re-election efforts.

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

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## ***Information also wants to be expensive***

**By Dan Perry**

Imagine if it wasn't clear to people that the Nazis invaded Poland, there is a vaccine for polio, apartheid existed in South Africa or two plus two is four. Imagine dark forces convincing half the population that facts are "fake news."

What ramparts keep idiocracy at bay? Is it education? Education affects mostly children. Politics? Politics is the problem. Culture? Culture comforts the soul but is not a source for facts. Search and social media? Their algorithms mock us. The wisdom of the crowd mutates into chaos of the mob.

The last part — trust — is becoming increasingly difficult. Instead, Statista found last year that even in most democratic countries most people did not trust media most of the time. In the United States the proportion of respondents who said they did was the lowest, at 26%. France was at 29%, the UK at 34%, Canada at 42%, and Taiwan 27%. In most places it is getting worse.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Media group says it will start newspaper in southern Oregon*** (AP)

MEDFORD, Ore. — An Oregon-based media group has announced it will start a newspaper in a southern Oregon city that saw a longstanding newspaper abruptly close this month.

EO Media Group said Friday it will open a news outlet that serves Medford and Ashland after the closure of the Mail Tribune, Jefferson Public Radio reported.

EO Media Group has 15 publications around the Pacific Northwest, including the Bulletin in Bend, Oregon. The new print and online outlet will be called The Tribune.

Heidi Wright, EO Media Group chief operating officer and publisher, said a newsroom of 14 people will be hired, including seven reporters. The paper will start as online-only.

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

## **Today in History - Jan. 23, 2023**



Today is Monday, Jan. 23, the 23rd day of 2023. There are 342 days left in the year.

### **Today's Highlight in History:**

On Jan. 23, 1964, the 24th Amendment to the United States Constitution, eliminating the poll tax in federal elections, was ratified as South Dakota became the 38th state to endorse it.

### **On this date:**

In 1368, China's Ming dynasty, which lasted nearly three centuries, began as Zhu Yuanzhang (zhoo whan-zhahng) was formally acclaimed emperor following the collapse of the Yuan dynasty.



In 1789, Georgetown University was established in present-day Washington, D.C.

In 1845, Congress decided all national elections would be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

In 1932, New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

In 1950, the Israeli Knesset approved a resolution affirming Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

In 1962, Jackie Robinson was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon announced an accord had been reached to end the Vietnam War, and would be formally signed four days later in Paris.

In 1977, the TV mini-series "Roots," based on the Alex Haley novel, began airing on ABC.

In 1998, fighting scandal allegations involving Monica Lewinsky, President Clinton assured his Cabinet during a meeting that he was innocent and urged them to concentrate on their jobs.

In 2002, John Walker Lindh, a U.S.-born Taliban fighter, was returned to the United States to face criminal charges that he'd conspired to kill fellow Americans. (Lindh was sentenced to 20 years in prison after pleading guilty to providing support for the Taliban; he was released in May 2019 after serving more than 17 years.)

In 2020, Chinese state media said the city of Wuhan would be shutting down outbound flights and trains, trying to halt the spread of a new virus that had sickened hundreds of people and killed at least 17. The World Health Organization said the viral illness in China was not yet a global health emergency, though the head of the U.N. health agency added that "it may yet become one."

Ten years ago: Appearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton delivered fiery rejoinders to Republican critics of the Obama administration's handling of the deadly attack on a U.S. mission in Benghazi, Libya. Cardinal Jozef Glemp, 83, the longtime head of Poland's influential Roman Catholic church at a time when it played a key role in the fight against communism, died in Warsaw.

Five years ago: An early-morning shooting at a high school in Benton, Kentucky, left two 15-year-old students dead and more than a dozen others injured; authorities charged a 15-year-old classmate with murder and assault. LeBron James, at 33, became the youngest player in NBA history with 30,000 career points, reaching that mark during the Cleveland Cavaliers' 114-102 loss to the San Antonio Spurs; he was the seventh player to score that many points in his career. "The Shape of Water" led the way with 13 Academy Award nominations, including one for best picture. (It went on to win four Oscars, including best picture.)

One year ago: Police in Brussels fired water cannons and tear gas to disperse violent demonstrations against COVID-19 vaccinations and restrictions; the protest drew tens of thousands of people, some traveling from France, Germany and other countries. As China tightened anti-disease controls ahead of the Winter Olympics, people in a Beijing district with some 2 million residents were ordered to undergo mass coronavirus testing following a series of infections. After topping the North American charts in its sixth weekend in theaters, "Spider-Man: No Way Home" became the sixth highest grossing film of all time, globally.

Today's birthdays: Actor Chita Rivera is 90. Actor-director Lou Antonio is 89. Jazz musician Gary Burton is 80. Actor Gil Gerard is 80. Sen. Thomas R. Carper, D-Del., is 76. Actor Richard Dean Anderson is 73. Rock musician Bill Cunningham is 73. Rock singer Robin Zander (Cheap Trick) is 70. Former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa (vee-yah-ry-GOH'-sah) is 70. Princess Caroline of Monaco is 66. Singer Anita Baker is 65. Reggae musician Earl Falconer (UB40) is 64. Actor Peter Mackenzie is 62. Actor Boris McGiver is 61. Actor Gail O'Grady is 60. Actor Mariska Hargitay is 59. R&B singer Marc Nelson is 52. CBS Evening News anchor Norah O'Donnell is 49. Actor Tiffani Thiessen is 49. Rock musician Nick Harmer (Death Cab for Cutie) is 48. Actor Lindsey Kraft is 43. Singer-actor Rachel Crow is 25.

## 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!

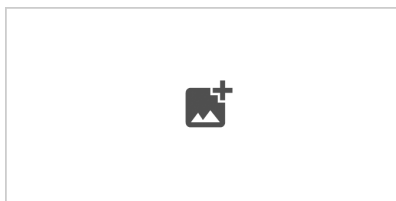


Here are some suggestions:

- **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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