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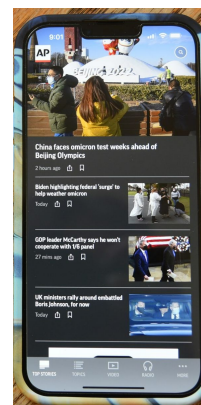
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Connecting

Jan. 24, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this Jan. 24, 2023,

In a story from Monday’s edition on AP Washington journalist **Farnoush Amiri** elected to serve on the Standing Committee of Correspondents, another journalist, **Jonathan D. Salant** of New Jersey Advance Media, also won election. Our colleague **Dennis Conrad** notes that Salant was with the AP’s Washington bureau from 1997-2004.

The standing committee represents both House and Senate press galleries. Amiri has been with AP’s Washington bureau since October 2021 and earlier was a statehouse reporter in Columbus and a news associate in New York.

Monday’s obituary for **Jane See White** elicited these memories from [Peter Eisner](#):

“I met Jane when I was based at the AP Foreign Desk. Our jobs did not coincide, but I always admired her work. Folks in New York knew her as she was--the go-to writer, a consummate professional, always affable, and at the top of her game. I later got a chance to meet her mother and father, who were active on the AP Board. They were

rightly proud of Jane. In recent years, Jane and I were in touch via Facebook and realized that we were born one day apart in 1950, she, August 26, me, August 27. A delightful person.”

Guess what? We bring you even more stories of working relief positions in the AP. Join your colleagues and tell your own story.

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

Paul

AP-Frontline doc ‘20 Days in Mariupol’ debuts at Sundance



The AP-Frontline team poses ahead of the world premiere of “20 Days in Mariupol” at the Sundance Film Festival, Jan. 20, 2023, Park City, Utah. From left: Derl McCrudden, AP vice president for global news production; Vasilisa Stepanenko, AP field producer; Evgeniy Maloletka, photographer; Mstyslav Chernov, AP video journalist; Michelle Mizner, Frontline editor; Raney Aronson, Frontline editor in chief. (AP Photo)

By Lauren Easton

The AP-Frontline documentary “20 Days in Mariupol,” a harrowing retelling of the Russian siege of the city, made its world premiere Friday at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

AP video journalist Mstyslav Chernov, who directed the film, and colleagues Evgeniy Maloletka and Vasilisa Stepanenko, attended the film’s premiere and addressed the

audience following the screening.

"What we showed you is maybe one percent of what was really happening," Chernov said. "I still feel guilty for not being able to capture everything or show everything.

Read more [here](#).

More of your stories of working AP relief jobs

Carl P. Leubsdorf - I was never an AP temp hire, but I was responsible for one whose AP career proved to be quite newsworthy and controversial. In March 1961, nine months after I joined the AP in New Orleans, I received my notice for a pre-induction physical prior to being drafted. Fortunately, I was able to find a place in a New Orleans-based Public Information US Army Reserve unit, which spared me two years of service but required me to report that April for the mandatory six-months of active-duty training.

My military replacement was a young Mississippian named Van Henry Savell, who had been working for the (Jackson) Clarion-Ledger. My six months passed without incident, and Savell left AP. But in the summer of 1962, when it became apparent that the University of Mississippi would soon be desegregated under a federal court order, the 21-year-old Savell was re-hired and sent to Oxford. As a college-age Mississippian, it was thought that he could meld with the student body and be an ideal campus correspondent if all hell broke out, which it did in late September.

On the Sunday night that James Meredith was brought on campus by federal marshals as its first Black student, a riot broke out, and one of its noteworthy figures was Maj. Gen. Edwin Walker, a prominent conservative who had been forced out of the Army some years earlier for white supremacism and outspoken right-wing activities. Savell, reporting from the midst of the riot, described to those of us taking dictation and doing rewrite in the New Orleans bureau how Walker "led a charge of students against federal marshals" in the building where they were protecting Meredith. Walker was arrested on charges of sedition and insurrection, but the charges were later dismissed. He subsequently filed a number of libel lawsuits against the AP; one was upheld initially in Texas but ultimately dismissed by the Supreme Court, which said there was no evidence of malice by the AP. Serving as a rewriter, I wrote at least one of the stories using Savell's words about Walker's role and was among several who worked in the New Orleans bureau at the time who were later called to give depositions in the case. (It was a bizarre experience that centered around my knowledge --or, as it turned out, lack thereof -- of various investigations of domestic Communism by Mississippi's segregationist Sen. James O. Eastland.)

After Savell's temporary tenure ended in Oxford, the AP hired him for a spot in Birmingham, Ala., but, when racial riots broke out there in 1963, officials decided to move him elsewhere because of the notoriety from his role in Mississippi. After several other AP postings, he wound up as the education editor of the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, and, from there, as communications head of a Florida school district. Soon after, his obituary notes, "his life was radically altered" and he joined the

ministry serving over the next 35 years at a number of Baptist churches in towns ranging from Denham Springs, La., to Blythe, Ca., east of Los Angeles. He retired in 2007 to Denham Springs and died there in 2021, at age 80, leaving behind two children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, as well as his wife.

His obituary notes that, "His work as a young college age writer allowed him to cover the integration of Ole Miss by James Meredith for the AP in 1963. He was sued for libel due to his exposure of leading oppositionist former General Edward A. Walker in a case that went to the Supreme Court, judging in the AP's favor."

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Tina Susman - My AP temp job came about as the result of a horrible tragedy: the murder of four people in a home in Chino Hills, Calif., one night in 1983. I was fresh out of college at San Diego State University and working at County News Service, a job that involved jogging back and forth between the courthouse in downtown San Diego to City Hall to keep CNS clients up-to-date on newsy events. AP and UPI were two of those clients, and I'd submit stories to each of them regularly. My favorite stories focused on high-profile or interesting criminal trials under way. By the time a suspect named Kevin Cooper was arrested in the Chino Hills killings, more than a month after the murders, I was well-versed in courthouse reporting, so when the alleged killer's trial was moved from San Bernardino County down to San Diego because of pre-trial publicity, AP and UPI separately asked me to provide gavel-to-gavel coverage as a temp reporter. I had a sense of loyalty to UPI, which had taken me on as an intern during college days, but which was struggling financially, so I asked the UPI bureau chief — the late Marty Houseman — for advice. He was generous enough to recommend I go to AP, saying something to the effect of: "I'm not sure we'll have enough money to pay you."

The trial lasted several months, and I was there every day, from opening statements until the day Kevin Cooper was sentenced to death. When the trial ended, a colleague in the San Diego AP bureau was moving onto a job at the San Diego Union, and I was offered his permanent position. Three years later, I moved onto the foreign desk in New York, then to South Africa and Ivory Coast for seven years before jumping over to Newsday, the Los Angeles Times, BuzzFeed News, and TIME. That daily trial experience, which included running down the courthouse hallway each day during the 10-minute break to dictate via pay phone a new top to the day's story, prepared me to cover trials around the world: Winnie Mandela's kidnapping case in Joburg; the trial of the Iraqi who hurled a shoe at a visiting President Bush; and of course endless trials here in NYC where I was a national correspondent for the LATimes.

I've always been grateful to the San Diego correspondent, Alan Adler, who offered me that temp job, which helped launch my career. He gave me a great opportunity at a time when young women were still an anomaly in many newsrooms, especially young women covering big bloody trials.

There still are plenty of theories about Cooper having been framed by corrupt or incompetent investigators, by the way, and Cooper continues to maintain his innocence from San Quentin.

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Jennifer Yates - A temp position at the AP is what kickstarted my career at a time when I really needed it. I was working at my hometown daily in suburban Washington, D.C., as a state government reporter. It was my first real job, and I loved it. I had a great beat that was full of opportunity, colleagues I enjoyed working with, and editors who challenged me in the best ways.

Just a year and a half into my job, though, my husband got a new job in Philadelphia, and we relocated. I found a job at a small daily in the outer suburbs but quickly grew bored and frustrated with the work. It was a harsh transition to cover local school board and zoning meetings after having covered the Maryland General Assembly and governor. I was always on the hunt for a new job – and my search that started in Philadelphia started to expand.

Enter the AP. A nine-month maternity-relief position was available in Baltimore – two hours away. I figured it was worth a shot – that I could handle a crazy commute knowing it was temporary. I reached out to one of my professors at the University of Maryland who connected me with the bureau chief, Linda Stowell, whom he knew well. I interviewed for the job and took the AP writing test. A few weeks later, Linda called to tell me she had lost the writing test. I had to take it again. In hindsight, we would joke that her feeling bad about the lost test was the only reason she hired me.

For nine months, I was a sponge and learned everything AP. From working broadcast shifts that started in the middle of the night to filling in for our Delaware and Annapolis correspondents, I had an amazing experience. What I thought would be just a brief steppingstone was starting to feel like it could truly be a career.

During my time in Baltimore, Linda was made the bureau chief in Pennsylvania so I approached her about opportunities in the Philadelphia bureau. My relief position turned into the beginning of 13 years at the AP for me. I worked in Philadelphia as a newperson and day desk supervisor, as the New Jersey news editor in Trenton, N.J., and then as Pittsburgh correspondent before transitioning into a public relations position and, eventually, into my current role in Corporate Social Responsibility for a global pharmaceutical company.

I'm extremely grateful that Linda took a chance on hiring me – even if it was just because she lost my writing test. It wasn't always easy, but I'm extremely proud of my time at the AP and for the opportunity to have worked with so many talented people.

Learning to play the cello under Marty Steinberg's tutelage



ABOVE: Joyce Rosenberg and Marty Steinberg with the cello. **RIGHT:** Joyce greeting new AP retiree Jerry Schwartz.

Joyce Rosenberg - It was one of the loveliest nights of my life. I went to New Jersey to visit dear friends, Marty Steinberg and Wilma S. Steinberg. Marty gave me the cello lesson I won in a raffle a few months ago, and it was amazing, difficult but Marty was patient and understanding, and this fulfilled a long-held wish, to see and feel what it's like to create music on a cello. But it turned out that was not the best part of the evening. When it was time for dinner, Marty and Wilma had a surprise for me -- Jerry Schwartz and Nina Ovrn arrived to join us. And the rest of the night was sweet and

golden, just what you'd expect from spending time with good souls you've known for decades but missed seeing the past few years.

And this from [Marty](#):

Joyce did great at the lesson! When Joyce generously bid on my cello lesson for a charity auction for the South Orange Performing Arts Center, it was around the time Jerry retired from AP. I remembered that he also played the cello as a kid, and I asked if he wanted to have a double lesson with Joyce. He declined the lesson but I'm so glad he and Nina could still join us for a lovely Shabbat dinner. Wilma made a delicious Roma soup and Moroccan chicken. Joyce brought the wine and challah and Jerry baked one of his winning fudgy desserts!

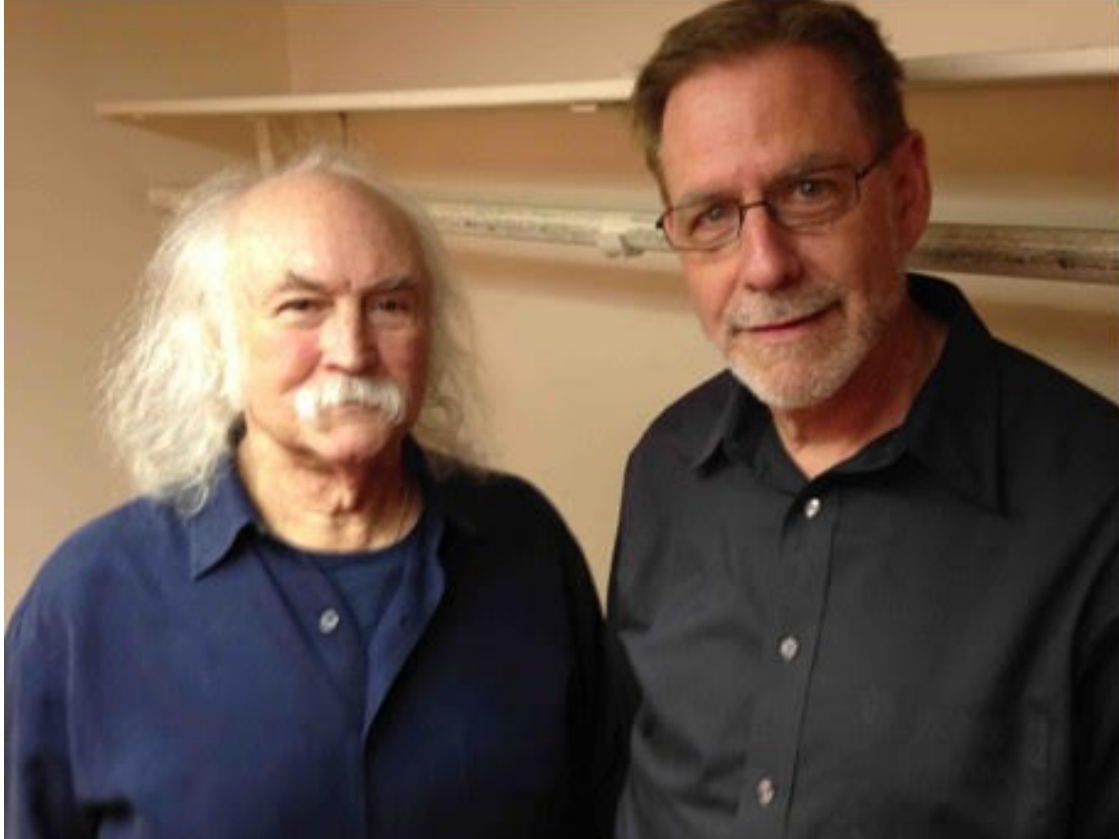


Another memory of singer David Crosby



[Michael Weinfeld](#) - I enjoyed reading Brian Bland's memories of David Crosby and not surprised that he was a cooperative, forthcoming interview. I got to interview Crosby

twice, 27 years apart. The first time was backstage at a Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans benefit concert in Washington, DC in 1987.



And then before his concert at the Barns at Wolf Trap in Vienna, VA. In 2014.

In the 2014 interview, I asked Crosby how his songwriting had changed over the years. He said he was “less afraid of being weird.” Crosby admitted he used to be jealous of Stephen Stills and Graham Nash because he wanted to write hit songs like they did. But he realized “I’m not ever going to have a hit.” And even though he and the others were often on the outs from bickering, at the time of the interview he said their relationship was “the best that I can remember” and that they’d “forgiven each other for incredible amounts of stuff.” He went on to say, “All of us are trying really hard to be there for the other guy because these are the friends you’ve got.” You can hear a 3-minute excerpt of the interview at <https://youtu.be/fmScDM9Fh08>

My encounter with glamour

[Dennis Conrad](#) - Move over Gina Lollobrigida.

Remember “Barberella”?

Now think “80 for Brady.”

Yes, indeed, the only time I came close to Hollywood glamour was a half century ago when I got to cover Jane Fonda.

I was a staff writer for the Independent Florida Alligator, the student-run newspaper serving the University of Florida. She was a peace activist making an antiwar speech on the Gainesville campus and spending the day with feminist groups. And I got to trail along with her on that memorable day in October 1973 —the same month, by the way, I would report on former segregationist Georgia Gov. Lester Maddox’s appearances.

I remember Jane for several reasons.

Her speech presented me with my first challenge as a journalist for estimating crowd size.

I actually tried to count the students in attendance and came up with a figure of 3,000.

I asked a University Police Department officer what was his guess: “3,000.”

My conclusion: go with what my eyes told me. And 3,000 it was.

Then, I needed a lead/lede. That’s where Jane did me a favor and referred to herself as a “mindless actress,” which offered me an opportunity to mix her past with her new-found role as one of America’s most controversial citizens of the Vietnam War era.

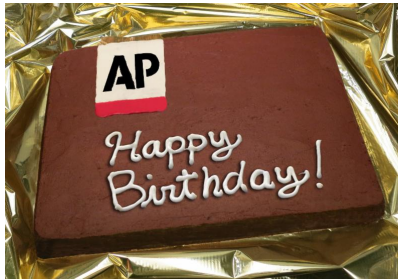
But what struck me most about Jane in meeting her “close up and in person” was she was not glamorous at all and did not pretend to be. None of that thick of Hollywood makeup for her. She did have the look, though, of a person determined to have a tan.

Amusingly, thanks to a new University of Florida exchange program, less than a year later I was in another country where U.S. involvement in the war in Vietnam was unpopular: the People’s Republic of Poland. And in May 1975, as the U.S. Embassy in South Vietnam was abandoned to the Communists, I was doing my best to present America in a good light to 200 Polish high school students in my English classes. One of my terrible students — the son of a Polish economist - kept interrupting my lesson with wisecracks about the American disaster in Saigon that was in the news. I didn’t bother to tell him I was not a fan of the war myself, but I did later tell him he had failed my class.



A few months later, I married my glamour girl, Grazyna, the youngest guide in Poznan, Poland. When it came to naming our daughter, we agreed on Julia. Remember that 1977 film "Julia" starring Vanessa Redgrave in the title role opposite Jane Fonda?

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Lisa Perlman Greathouse](#)

[Lisa Pane](#)

And a belated (Jan. 22) Happy 80th to:

[Peggy Mooney](#)

Stories of interest

After 56 Super Bowls, Jerry Green steps away: 'I've never wanted to do anything else' (Detroit News)



Photo by Daniel Mears/The Detroit News

Justin Rogers
The Detroit News

Bloomfield Hills — For the longest time, reporter Jerry Green had been quietly driven by the symmetry of matching childhood idol Joe DiMaggio. But in the end, it was another professional sports icon, quarterback Tom Brady, who helped convince Green it was OK to step away.

This year, for the first time since the Super Bowl's 1967 inception, Green won't be in attendance to cover the game, ending his unmatched streak of 56 in a row.

Green's admiration for DiMaggio is rooted in the slugger's 56-game hitting streak in 1941, which remains one of baseball's cherished and untouchable records. Growing up in New York, a 13-year-old Green had the good fortune of attending a doubleheader during the streak, seeing DiMaggio collect three hits in the two games against Boston to reach 43 straight, drawing him within two of matching the previous mark, set by Willie Keeler at the end of the previous century.

Green wasn't chasing anyone or anything but the next big story when he covered the first NFL-AFL Championship game in January 1967, one of fewer than 400 reporters who attended the contest played before more than 61,000 fans at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Entering his fourth year with The Detroit News, after a seven-year run with the Associated Press, Green had just finished his first season as the paper's Lions beat reporter. Ahead of training camp that year, he had been called off vacation on June 8 to report the AFL-NFL merger that would result in the January championship game.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Charles Hill.

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In this on Green's time with the AP in a [profile of Green](#) in the Detroit Jewish News in January 2022:

Upon returning from Japan in 1956 at the end of his three-year stint in the Navy, Green wasted no time in beginning his pursuit of a career in journalism. "I tried to get a job in New York and was very unsuccessful," he said, "I got a menial job with the Long Island Star Journal. I kept looking for a job. I was very frustrated and angry on one of my day's off and walked into the offices of the Associated Press (AP) and asked for the general sports editor." He walked out with a new job offer as an AP correspondent in Ann Arbor, which he enthusiastically accepted in September 1956.

Upon his move to Ann Arbor, Green became friends with members of the '56 University of Michigan football team. Among several books he has authored is his penning of University of Michigan Football Vault: The Story of the Wolverines, a detailed account of the 135 years of Michigan football. Updated just over three years ago, the book features a vast collection of photographs, artwork and memorabilia preserved in the university's campus archives.

Green can take some solace in knowing that during his tenure at the AP, he was able to witness something he never saw in 56 Super Bowl assignments — the Detroit Lions winning a championship in 1957.

In 1963 Jerry accepted an offer to become a sportswriter for the Detroit News. It's only fitting the first game he covered was the Michigan-Navy college football game. In 1965 he became the paper's beat reporter for the Detroit Lions. The Detroit News would be his one and only journalistic home for the next 41 years.

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The Washington Post is not for sale, owner Jeff Bezos and the newspaper say (CNN)

By Chloe Melas

The Washington Post is not for sale, spokespeople for the newspaper and its owner Jeff Bezos told CNN on Monday.

They denied a New York Post report, which cited unnamed sources, suggesting the billionaire could shed the newspaper to help fund a potential purchase of the Washington Commanders NFL team.

Bezos visited the Post newsroom last week, meeting with staff and sitting in on editorial meetings. A source close to the situation said Bezos told the paper's senior staff in private meetings that he had no plans to sell the paper.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dennis Conrad.

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News organizations were sure David Crosby was dead. Then they weren't. (Washington Post)

By Paul Farhi

Was he or wasn't he?

For a while on Thursday, it seemed clear that David Crosby, the legendary rock musician, had died. Then it wasn't so clear at all.

The lack of confirmation from Crosby's family members and associates about his death set off an unusual chain of events for news organizations. In the end, already-published news reports that Crosby had died at the age of 81 proved accurate — but not before the story took a few sharp turns.

The episode illustrated the tension between two journalistic values: the need for speed in publishing news vs. the obligation to nail down basic details first.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dennis Conrad, Sibby Christensen, Lindel Hutson.

Today in History - Jan. 24, 2023



Today is Tuesday, Jan. 24, the 24th day of 2023. There are 341 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 24, 1984, Apple Computer began selling its first Macintosh model, which boasted a built-in 9-inch monochrome display, a clock rate of 8 megahertz and 128k of RAM.

On this date:

In 1848, James W. Marshall discovered a gold nugget at Sutter's Mill in northern California, a discovery that led to the gold rush of '49.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill concluded a wartime conference in Casablanca, Morocco.

In 1945, Associated Press war correspondent Joseph Morton was among a group of captives executed by the Germans at the Mauthausen-Gusen concentration camp in Austria.

In 1965, British statesman Winston Churchill died in London at age 90.

In 1978, a nuclear-powered Soviet satellite, Cosmos 954, plunged through Earth's atmosphere and disintegrated, scattering radioactive debris over parts of northern Canada.

In 1985, the space shuttle Discovery was launched from Cape Canaveral on the first secret, all-military shuttle mission.

In 1989, confessed serial killer Theodore Bundy was executed in Florida's electric chair.

In 2003, former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge was sworn as the first secretary of the new Department of Homeland Security.

In 2011, a suicide bomber attacked Moscow's busiest airport, killing 37 people; Chechen separatists claimed responsibility.

In 2020, Fifteen-year-old Coco Gauff upset defending champ Naomi Osaka in the third round of the Australian Open.

Ten years ago: Defense Secretary Leon Panetta announced the lifting of a ban on women serving in combat. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee opened a hearing into President Barack Obama's nomination of Sen. John Kerry to be secretary of state. In Chicago, David Coleman Headley, an American drug dealer who had faced life in prison, was sentenced instead to 35 years for helping plan the deadly 2008 attacks on Mumbai, India - a punishment prosecutors said reflected his broad cooperation with U.S. investigators. New Orleans Hornets owner Tom Benson announced he was changing his team's nickname to the Pelicans for the start of next season.

Five years ago: Former sports doctor Larry Nassar, who had admitted molesting some of the nation's top gymnasts for years under the guise of medical treatment, was sentenced to 40 to 175 years in prison. Chipper Jones, Jim Thome, Vladimir Guerrero and Trevor Hoffman were elected to the baseball Hall of Fame. Scientists in China announced that they had used the cloning technique that produced Dolly the sheep to create healthy monkeys; it was the first such achievement in primates.

One year ago: The Pentagon ordered 8,500 troops on higher alert to potentially deploy to Europe as part of a NATO "response force" amid growing concern that Russia could soon make a military move on Ukraine. Judges approved a request for a

special grand jury by the Georgia prosecutor investigating whether former President Donald Trump and others broke the law by trying to pressure Georgia officials to throw out Joe Biden's presidential election victory. An analysis found that high school graduation rates dipped in at least 20 states after the first full school year disrupted by the pandemic.

Today's birthdays: Cajun musician Doug Kershaw is 87. Singer-songwriter Ray Stevens is 84. Singer-songwriter Neil Diamond is 82. Singer Aaron Neville is 82. Actor Michael Ontkean is 77. Actor Daniel Auteuil is 73. Country singer-songwriter Becky Hobbs is 73. Comedian Yakov Smirnoff is 72. Former South Korean President Moon Jae-in is 69. Actor William Allen Young is 69. Bandleader-musician Jools Holland is 65. Actor Nastassja Kinski is 62. R&B singer Theo Peoples is 62. Country musician Keech Rainwater (Lonestar) is 60. Comedian Phil LaMarr is 56. Olympic gold medal gymnast Mary Lou Retton is 55. R&B singer Sleepy Brown (Society of Soul) is 53. Actor Matthew Lillard is 53. Actor Merrilee McCommas is 52. Blues/rock singer Beth Hart is 51. Actor Ed Helms is 49. Actor Mark Hildreth is 45. Actor Christina Moses is 45. Actor Tatyana Ali is 44. Actor Carrie Coon is 42. Actor Daveed Diggs is 41. Actor Justin Baldoni is 39. Actor Mischa Barton is 37.

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!



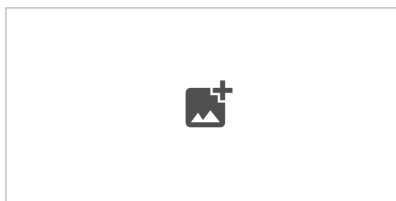
Here are some suggestions:

- **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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