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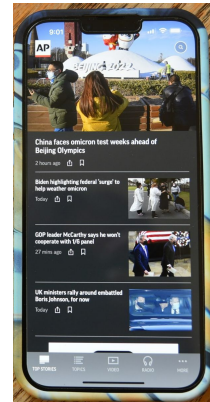
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# Connecting

March 2, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this March 2, 2023,

In his story about Billy Carter in Wednesday’s Connecting, our colleague **Peter Arnett** told a great story on the difficulties he encountered as a CNN journalist in landing an interview with President Carter’s brother.

His story hit home with colleague **Ed Williams** who responded to say that during his 30-year teaching career at Auburn University, he would sometimes do a “show and tell” to finish up the 50 minutes of class. His students seemed to enjoy it, he said, especially when he brought his autographed can of “Billy beer” to class. Ed explains:

“As a young reporter for The Montgomery Advertiser, I covered Billy Beer Day at Plains, Ga., on October 31, 1977. I think it inspired my students that reporters get paid to do such fun gigs. President Jimmy Carter was not at the Billy Carter Gas Station that day, but Billy was there having a big time in the limelight (a little tipsy) joined by their

mother, Mrs. Lillian Carter. She ate a barbecue sandwich while Billy drank beer. Precious memories how special they are, especially as the years march on."

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

Paul

## A pool experience on island of Barbados

**Dan Sewell** - My most memorable pool report came on Oct. 27, 1983, on the Caribbean island of Barbados. Two days earlier, the U.S. military led an invasion of the tiny island of Grenada, whose leftist prime minister had been overthrown and executed in a coup led by his deputy.



This was the first U.S. invasion since the Vietnam War, and there was lingering bad blood among military leaders who resented anti-war coverage by the U.S. news media. The Ronald Reagan administration had also been at odds with the press corps.

A small group of U.S. and British journalists tried to sneak in by chartered boat the day the invasion began, but were intercepted by U.S. forces and held on a Navy ship.

Pressure grew on the Reagan administration and a small pool of print, TV and radio reporters was assembled in nearby Barbados and flown by military plane to Grenada. The print reporters included me and a Reuters and a UPI correspondent.

We were driven around the island and encountered some relatively light fighting. We also visited an American offshore medical school that was cited as one of the justifications for the invasion. The students said they never felt in danger.

We went to the airport that Cuba had been building for its ally, and the officer briefing us said the heaviest fighting had come from Cuban construction workers who were also armed militia members. There was still some scattered gunfire, but the invasion was clearly in the mop-up stage.

At dusk, we were flown back to Barbados and put on a makeshift stage to tell a hangar full of journalists what we saw. It was disorganized, and we hadn't discussed what we wanted to say. Near the end of our briefing, the UPI reporter blurted that an officer had told her there were more than a thousand combatants still fighting the U.S.-led invasion force.

The military ended the briefing, and some reporters who knew me noticed my dumbfounded expression and surrounded me to ask if I had heard that. I said no, my

understanding was there were mainly just some snipers left, such as one who had fired on our pool tour, forcing us to take cover.

At the next morning's White House briefing, Reagan spokesman Larry Speakes offered the erroneous UPI account as proof of the unreliability of the press corps but added: "The AP got it right."

Orlando correspondent Ike Flores, a former overseas AP reporter, told me of Speakes' comment: "That's gold."

Sure enough, The AP Log used it in a headline on our Grenada coverage.

The press vs. White House uproar led to meetings that set up rules for better-organized pool coverage and more transparency in future military actions.

## Peter Bregg

[Robert Meyers](#) - Two stories being discussed in Connecting recently bring to mind former AP and Canadian Press photographer and photo manager Peter Bregg. Peter was assistant to Horst Faas, then London-based Photo Editor for Europe, Africa and Asia when I joined the AP Photo Department in London in 1986.

Although famous for being left behind in Tehran when American journalists were expelled in the aftermath of the Iranian Revolution because Peter had credentials from Canadian Press, Peter was very proud of the work he'd done in Poland under martial law. He shared this portfolio of images with London editors and visitors in 1986-7, five years after the declaration of martial law.

Peter also had been the AP photographer assigned to cover the campaign of Jimmy Carter, so many of those who covered those events would have been working on site with Peter. Images from those events and more are on [his website](#).

He returned to NY Headquarters after London, then left the AP for McLean Magazine based in Toronto I last saw him at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., where he spoke at the opening of an exhibition of his Iran photos on an anniversary of the revolution.

I never covered Jimmy Carter directly, but I read in the Pittsburgh Press that he was coming to the city and there was a campaign event in Market Square in the Spring of 1976. I was studying Graphic Arts and Photography at the city trade school and decided to go on my lunch hour. When Mayor Pete Flaherty introduced Gov. Carter as the next president of the United States, a bunch of people around me broke out laughing. That was the first presidential election I was old enough to vote and I asked my grandmother her advice on the candidates. Marie Way Lang born in Vidalia, Georgia, in 1900 told me "a man from Georgia can do just as good a job as any other" so I should vote for Jimmy Carter and I did. In 1980, I was living in southeast Georgia myself and Georgia was one of only two states Carter won in the Reagan landslide.

# Covering Jimmy Carter



**Carolyn Carlson** - I joined the AP in Atlanta after Jimmy Carter had lost his reelection campaign and returned to Georgia. He made plans for the Carter Library, joined the faculty at Emory University and started the Carter Center, and avoided the media as much as he could. When the 37-acre Carter Center complex was ready to be opened in 1986, I drew the assignment of covering the dedication ceremony.

To publicize the event, he granted the AP its first post-campaign interview. I remember two things about that interview. He proposed Sen. Sam Nunn as an ideal candidate for the Democratic nomination in the next election (Nunn was flattered but said no), and I lost half of the interview recording when the battery ran down on my damn tape recorder, which you can see on the end table next to me. (It became a prime lesson on checking your equipment that I used throughout my years as a journalism professor).

I covered Carter a few more times, including one memorable telephone interview before he went to Africa on a public health mission to eradicate the guinea worm, which no American had ever heard of at the time.

The call was strictly scheduled for 10:30 to 11 a.m. His office called me, Carter got on at 10:30, I asked one question to get him rolling, and he talked nonstop until 11 a.m. on the dot when he said goodbye. I had gotten a few questions in that slightly redirected him, but he knew what he wanted to say and said it, in perfectly grammatical thesis sentences followed by explanatory paragraphs. Probably the easiest interview I ever had!

# A most disgraceful word in journalism

[Keith Robinson](#) - I can stand it no longer.

I see “disgraced” used often in AP stories, and it seems to be getting more and more ink. Some examples from just this week:

In a Monday story about the trial of Alex Murdaugh: Murdaugh, the disgraced South Carolina attorney. ...

The lead from a story on Tuesday: Disgraced Theranos CEO Elizabeth Holmes. ...

Enough already.

AP: Please stop using this word. It puts the AP in a position of passing judgment or, at the very least, coming across as being able to get inside the news subject’s head.

By definition, it is an accurate use of the word. Both news subjects mentioned above certainly have fallen from grace. But doesn’t it sound rather snooty?

When I entered the AP in 1984 in the Columbus bureau, the ACOB at the time, Terry Kinney, was showing me examples in the AP news report of what to avoid in writing. One of the words he cautioned me against using was “disgraced.” His message was that it is subjective and presumptuous. Let the news subjects themselves decide for themselves whether they feel disgraced, he said. That made sense to me then.

Nearly 40 years later, it still does. We shouldn’t be the ones determining whether someone is “disgraced.”

## An emotional journey in the Year of Solidarnosc

[Dennis Conrad](#) - This week’s spotlight on Poland in Connecting brings back so many memories.

1980 was an emotional year for me and my family of Polish relatives here in America and abroad in Poland.

First came the news that my Polish father in law, at 55, had suddenly died in late June at a construction site he was supervising in Poznan, Poland. He was a wonderful father and husband to his family, and he would not get to see his daughter (my wife Grazyna) after what would be her graduation as a top student at the University of Florida in August, during the fifth anniversary of our wedding in Poland, when I had been a Florida exchange student and high school English teacher.

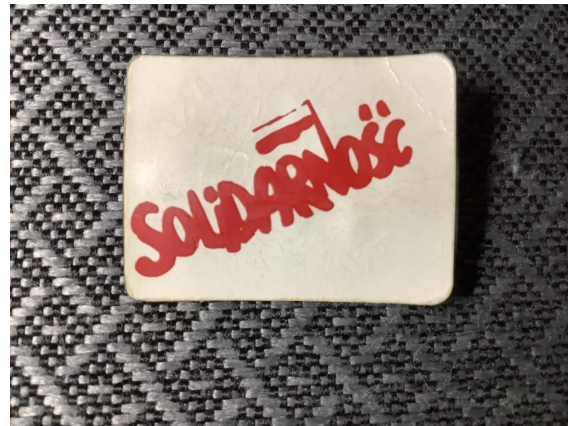
We got the news too late for my wife to be at his funeral, but we made arrangements so we could travel to Poland in September, with the plan to stay there with her mother and brother through Christmas. My employer, the New York Times Co.-owned

Gainesville Sun, graciously granted me several months of a leave of absence and we found some Polish exchange professors who rented our apartment in the months of our absence.

While all these plans were being put in place, Poland suddenly became the focus of the attention of the world and its news media outlets as Gdansk shipyard workers forced the Polish government into historic negotiations that led to the formation of a national independent trade union, Solidarnosc (Solidarity) that was famously led by Lech Walesa, the future Nobel Peace Prize laureate and eventual leader a decade later of a post-Communist government.

We arrived in Poznan in September as the ranks of Solidarnosc membership had grown to a reported 10 million in a nation of maybe about 40 million men, women and children.

During those heady times, I was given a Solidarnosc pin — that I have to this day — by a secretary at the English Language Institute at Adam Mickiewicz University, where I had taken Polish classes years earlier with my fellow Florida exchange students.



I soon took off on a weeklong train/bus/taxi trip with my wife's brother, Slawomir, from Poznan, in western Poland, to the capital city of Warsaw and then to the eastern border areas near what was then the Soviet Union, including Bialystok, in northeastern Poland, where in 1935 my 19-year-old mother had won first place in track and field competitions.

That October we also had reached the Bialowieza national forest, right on the USSR border then, today's Belarus border, that is best known for its herd of European bison. We stayed overnight in a tiny inn at the park and had some very tasty wild boar sausage for our dinner. We were the only customers there except for a handful of Polish Air Force pilots who were having a great time partying and unknowingly giving us the best entertainment we had seen in quite some time. One captain was like Mel Blanc, the Man of 1000 voices, as he did his impersonations of such cartoon greats as Daffy Duck. At one point, I thought to myself I am basically on the border of the USSR, I am the only Westerner here, and I am watching a Polish Army captain do Daffy Duck while the Solidarnosc movement is sweeping the nation.

I was also thinking back to 1975 when one of my English students at Liceum IV in Poznan, who liked to listen to BBC broadcasts and desired to attend Sandomierz, the Polish West Point, after graduation, had asked me about the United States and the potential for a nuclear war with the Soviet Union. I told him that the U.S. had a monopoly on nukes for a short while and could have told Stalin to get out of Eastern Europe or else, but time has passed for that. The U.S. and USSR know that now any nuclear war would produce no winners, just losers.

Now, in 1980, who knew what would happen?

Poland's Solidarnosc seemed to be a huge threat to the Communist bloc.

The revolutionary fervor of the workers was in full display when I later traveled from Poznan by train to Lodz with my other brother in law, Zbigniew, a worker at Poznan's Cegielski factory that in 1956 was the home of "bread and freedom" protests that were the first of their kind in post WWII Communist Poland. We had gone to the major industrial city to see Poland's best soccer player, Zbigniew Boniek, whose team, Lodz Widzew, would be playing the legendary Juventus Turin, with its many Italian stars including the great goalkeeper Dino Zoff. We had some Czech beer and sausage for breakfast in the best Lodz hotel. (It was so good the Italian club was staying there and I even rubbed elbows with Zoff in the "dollar" shop that required foreign currency). Then, we took a taxi to the stadium, bought tickets and sat for hours before the match would start. We were among some 40,000 men in the stadium surrounded by armed authorities.

The fans/workers spent much of their time singing to the armed gunmen "kurwy do roboty" ("whores to work) and raining apple cores and empty vodka and beer bottles upon them. When victory came for the Polish team, fans lit newspapers in the stands, and by the thousands they took to the streets of the city waving huge banners as if they were ready to take on anybody in their way. We managed to return in a packed train for the long ride back to Poznan Central, where upon our exit at dawn my brother in law headed straight to his job at Cegielski.

I returned to the States to be with my ailing father for a month, then reunited with my wife in December and her family to spend time with them for Christmas, as my father suggested. We took a trip to Zakopane, in southern Poland, where we had spent our honeymoon in 1975. As we arrived in the hotel lobby, I got a message from a clerk stating I needed to return to the States again due to my father's worsening condition.

My wife and I would return together. She would not be with her widowed mother and her family for Christmas. The reason was that the world was riveted by speculation that the Soviet Union would invade Poland ANY DAY. My mother was worried what would happen to us during an invasion. She consulted with her cousin --- a lady who during the Holocaust had saved Jews including her future husband when living near the Warsaw Ghetto in WWII. The plan to ensure that we would leave Poland was to send me a message about my father's health that would suggest he was ready to die. I would learn about the plan after calling my father during a plane stop in Newfoundland.

He was shocked. He said he was okay at home.

With everybody overcome with emotion, we delayed our return to my parents' Florida home and stayed in the New York City area for the holidays with my older Polish half-brother and his family. When it came to Christmas Eve, we were not at my wife's old home in Poznan with her mother nor were we with my father and mother in Florida. We were in St. Patrick's Cathedral, with Cardinal Cooke leading a mass in prayer for Poland and its people. In a pew in front of us was a New Jersey lumberyard worker, Stanislaw Walesa, the stepfather of the leader of Solidarnosc.

I would later learn that as I had hurriedly departed Poland the New York Times had tried to make contact with me ...a U.S. Consul official in Poznan had even visited my mother in law ...in an effort to get me to take a sensitive package from its Warsaw correspondent out of the country.

As we now know, there was no Soviet invasion but there would be martial law a year later.

After the holidays, I visited my parents, and my father quietly pulled me aside for a private talk in the carport to tell me I would soon need to look after my mother because she was "like a child." Then, he died, two months later, before his 65th birthday.

Just before my mother passed away, in 2004, I asked her as she sat on a hospital bed on her 88th birthday, what I should do with her money. The first thing she said was to give \$5,000 to the Catholic Church in Kolno, Poland.

"They were good to me," she said, referring to the town where she grew up after her father, a widower, with two kids, had decided to become a reverse immigrant in 1921 and leave behind his new New Jersey factory job for a newly reestablished Polish nation.

I fulfilled my mother's wish.

And I have a Polish bishop's letter thanking Mom.

## Upcoming AP Technology Milestones

A note to staff Tuesday from [Gianluca D'Aniello](#), AP senior vice president and chief technology officer:

The Associated Press this month will mark several milestones as a result of migrating services to the cloud and modernizing our content production and delivery. These upgrades allow us to provide a markedly improved experience for AP customers, better position us for future development, and enable us to take advantage of operational efficiencies.

All of these improvements are the result of years of work from countless people in Technology and throughout the organization:

We have moved customers to Media API delivery and will retire legacy WebFeeds and ANPA delivery on Feb. 28. Our new, next-generation delivery method enables us to better meet customer needs, while also setting us up for future improvements.





AP is moving to a media asset management system (MAM) globally that gives us flexible remote video production capabilities and fast, scalable cloud video transcoding. Our transcoding is now at least seven times faster which means we no longer have slowdowns with high volume. AP is the first news organization to adopt a cloud-based MAM at this scale. All users are scheduled to be fully migrated by the end of March.

We are completing a years-long project to make it easier for AP's customers to surface and access all of our journalism in all formats on one site: AP Newsroom. We began building AP Newsroom in 2014 with the goal of providing a single, simple portal and companion API for all of AP's content. At the time, we had 14 sites delivering AP content to customers. This month, we will move the remaining two sites, AP Images and AP Archive, to AP Newsroom. This means as of mid-March, staff and customers will access this content only through AP Newsroom/Video Hub.

The move to cloud-based delivery enables us to close this June the Cranbury Technical Center in New Jersey, which opened in 1993 and has housed infrastructure supporting many services and networks. Most employees in Cranbury have moved to full-time remote work, while some staff will work on a hybrid schedule from New York headquarters.

These and other improvements in the pipeline will put AP and our customers in a position to thrive in a digital ecosystem. They also give us another great story to tell. I have included below an FAQ for internal use to help you with sharing the news. Editorial staff who use our customer platforms that are being retired should check with their managers on their new access and workflows.

## FAQ

### **Q: Why is AP retiring WebFeeds and ANPA?**

A: This initiative continues our strategic plan to consolidate and upgrade content delivery. Removing ANPA as an option in the new Media API means we are not encumbering a modern system with an outdated format and the additional upkeep it requires.

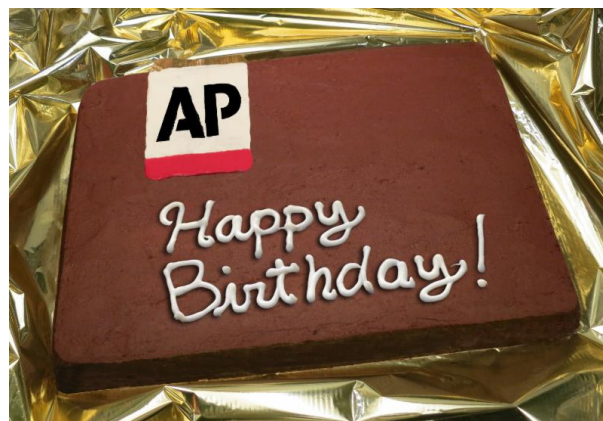
### **Q: Will AP's customers see a noticeable difference with the upgrades?**

A: Yes. AP's customers already are benefiting. The move to a media asset management system (MAM) has given us fast, scalable cloud transcoding. Our transcoding is now at least seven times faster which means we no longer have slowdowns with high volume. Every AP video editor has instant access to video ingests, no matter where they are in the world. That means customers have our content faster, allowing us to be a part of their planning as news is breaking.

### **Q: How will customers without Media API access content?**

A: Customers who haven't activated their API feed will need to turn to AP Newsroom on March 1 for AP content.

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Greg Brock](#)

[Ken Fields](#)

[Doug Kienitz](#)

[Maryann Mrowca](#)

## Connecting '80s/'90s/100s Club

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Connecting publishes this list at the beginning of each month. If you are qualified for one of the age groups and would like to be listed, drop me a note. Please let me know of any errors.)

100s:

Fred Hoffman

90s:

Norm Abelson  
Henry Bradsher  
Hal Buell  
Albert Habhab  
George Hanna  
Hoyt Harwell

**Gene Herrick  
Joe McGowan  
Charlie Monzella  
Bob Petsche  
Arlon Southall  
Sal Veder  
Doris Webster  
Arnold Zeitlin**

**80s:**

**Paul Albright  
Peter Arnett  
Harry Atkins  
Frank Aukofer  
Malcolm Barr  
Myron Belkind  
Ed Bell  
Dan Berger  
Adolphe Bernotas  
Brian Bland  
Lou Boccardi  
Hal Bock  
William Roy Bolch Jr.  
Ben Brown  
Charles Bruce  
Ford Burkhart  
Harry Cabluck  
Sibby Christensen  
Shirley Christian  
Norm Clarke  
Steve Crowley  
Don Dashiell  
Bob Daugherty  
Don Deibler  
Mike Doan  
Bob Dobkin  
Otto Doelling  
Phil Dopoulos  
John Eagan**

**Claude Erbsen  
Mike Feinsilber  
Dodi Fromson  
Joe Galu  
Bill Gillen  
Steve Graham  
Bob Greene  
Paul Harrington  
Chick Harrity  
Monte Hayes  
Lee Jones  
Doug Kienitz  
Dean Lee  
Pierce Lehmbeck  
Warren Lerude  
Gene LaHammer  
Carl Leubsdorf  
Bruce Lowitt  
David Liu  
Jim Luther  
John Marlow  
Dave Mazarella  
Chuck McFadden  
Yvette Mercourt  
Reid Miller  
Bill Morrissey  
Harry Moskos  
Ray Newton  
Greg Nokes  
Jay Perkins  
Lyle Price  
Charles Richards  
Bruce Richardson  
Denis Searles  
Richard Shafer  
Mike Short  
Rick Spratling  
Ed Staats  
Karol Stonger  
Marty Thompson**

Hilmi Toros  
Kernan Turner  
Jeffrey Ulbrich  
Jack Walker  
Mike Waller  
Bob Walsh  
Dean Wariner  
Don Waters  
Jeff Williams  
Johnny Yost  
Kent Zimmerman

## Stories of interest

### *The Death of Dilbert and False Claims of White Victimhood* (Time)

BY JANELL ROSS

*Janell Ross is the senior correspondent on race and identities for TIME.*

It's been said at this point so often that it's a contender for a modern cliché: When you have had an exclusive stranglehold on the best of everything, anything that demands reconsideration, efforts to expand access, or insists on sharing feels like oppression rather than progress.

But, it bears, once again, making that plain.

That's been clear to me for so long now that the news Scott Adams, creator of the comic strip Dilbert, was in the midst of a likely temporary cancellation did not register as significant. The fact that Adams' comic-strip distributor and many of its subscriber newspapers dropped him following his declaration that Black Americans are a hate group he will not help and does not wish to be near barely rose to the level of things I thought it wise to read.

There are bigger, badder, quieter threats to equality and justice that haunt me. This was just the daily racist outrage. And it happened during Black History Month, a period during which it appears to have become a tradition for some people to do, say, and put into the public sphere the most offensive, dismissive, racist ideas that they can.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Former NPR copy editor Patricia Cole, known for her quick wit and editing eye, dies*** (NPR)

**BILL CHAPPELL**

Patricia Cole, a veteran copy editor whose sharp eye, quick wit and kind heart made her a cherished colleague at NPR and other news outlets, died on Friday at age 46, setting off a cascade of mourning and remembrance.

"Patricia loved editing, and she really loved politics," said Dana Farrington, deputy editor at the Washington Desk. "She saved me by catching mistakes no one else would, more than I can count. I'm grateful for her collaboration, her enthusiasm and her commitment to journalism, even when it was very hard."

Similar notes — from correspondents, editors and hosts — came from all corners of NPR. Patricia saved us, they said, over and over: from our own mistakes, from confusing our audience and from the chaos of hectic news cycles.

The messages came after Patricia's brother shared the news of her death.

"There is no easy way to share news like this," Michael Cole wrote on his sister's Facebook page. "Unfortunately, Patricia lost her long battle with depression and passed away on Friday night at Holy Cross Hospital in Maryland. We all hope and pray she is at peace."

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

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## ***Menendez, Booker, nine House member slap Star-Ledger for closing Washington bureau*** (New Jersey Globe)

**By David Wildstein**

Two U.S. Senators and nine members of the U.S. House of Representatives have sent a letter to Star-Ledger and NJ Advance Media executives protesting their decision to close their Washington, D.C. bureau and let veteran journalist Jonathan D. Salant go.

"This action will immediately leave millions of New Jerseyans with no first-hand access to the issues being debated in Congress or to information about how actions taken by federal agencies specifically affect our state," the lawmakers said. "This is particularly concerning given that NJAM is currently the only New Jersey media outlet with a full-time correspondent based in Washington, D.C."

The letter was signed by Senators Bob Menendez and Cory Booker, and Reps. Christopher Smith (R-Manchester), Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-Long Branch), Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-Paterson), Donald Norcross (D-Camden), Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-Ewing), Josh

Gottheimer (D-Wyckoff), Mikie Sherrill (D-Montclair), Andy Kim (D-Moorestown), and Robert J. Menendez (D-Jersey City).

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

## Today in History - March 2, 2023



Today is Thursday, March 2, the 61st day of 2023. There are 304 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On March 2, 1962, Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points for the Philadelphia Warriors in a game against the New York Knicks, an NBA record that still stands. Philadelphia won the game, 169-147.

### On this date:

In 1861, the state of Texas, having seceded from the Union, was admitted to the Confederacy.

In 1877, Republican Rutherford B. Hayes was declared the winner of the 1876 presidential election over Democrat Samuel J. Tilden, even though Tilden had won the popular vote.

In 1917, actor, producer, director and bandleader Desi Arnaz was born in Santiago de Cuba.

In 1932, the 20th Amendment to the Constitution, which moved the date of the presidential inauguration from March 4 to Jan. 20, was passed by Congress and sent to the states for ratification.

In 1939, John Ford's classic Western "Stagecoach," starring Claire Trevor and John Wayne, opened in New York.

In 1943, the three-day Battle of the Bismarck Sea began in the southwest Pacific during World War II; U.S. and Australian warplanes were able to inflict heavy damage on an Imperial Japanese convoy.

In 1955, nine months before Rosa Parks' famous act of defiance, Claudette Colvin, a Black high school student in Montgomery, Alabama, was arrested after refusing to give up her seat on a public bus to a white passenger.

In 1985, the government approved a screening test for AIDS that detected antibodies to the virus, allowing possibly contaminated blood to be excluded from the blood supply.

In 1989, representatives from the 12 European Community nations agreed to ban all production of CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons), the synthetic compounds blamed for destroying the Earth's ozone layer, by the end of the 20th century.

In 1990, more than 6,000 drivers went on strike against Greyhound Lines Inc. (The company, later declaring an impasse in negotiations, fired the strikers.)

In 1995, the Internet search engine website Yahoo! was incorporated by founders Jerry Yang and David Filo.

In 2011, the Supreme Court ruled, 8-1, that a grieving father's pain over mocking protests at his Marine son's funeral had to yield to First Amendment protections for free speech in a decision favoring the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas.

In 2012, Some 40 people were killed by tornadoes that struck Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio.

Ten years ago: The day after \$85 billion in across-the-board federal spending cuts went into effect, President Barack Obama and congressional Republicans refused to concede any culpability for failing to stave off the sequester. Alaska's 41st Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race kicked off with a festive ceremonial start in Anchorage.

Five years ago: At a funeral before an invitation-only crowd of approximately 2,000 in Charlotte, North Carolina, the children of the Rev. Billy Graham remembered "America's Pastor" as a man devoted to spreading the Gospel, and one who lived his life at home as he preached it in stadiums. A nor'easter pounded the Atlantic coast with hurricane-force winds and sideways rain and snow, grounding flights and leaving more than 2 million homes and businesses without power from North Carolina to Maine.

One year ago: Russian forces laid siege to two strategic Ukrainian seaports and pressed their bombardment of the country's second-biggest city, while the huge armored column threatening Kyiv appeared to be stalled outside the capital. Moscow's isolation deepened as most of the world lines up against it at the United Nations. Autherine Lucy Foster, the first Black student to enroll at the University of Alabama, died at age 92.

Today's birthdays: Actor John Cullum is 93. Actor Barbara Luna is 84. Author John Irving is 81. Actor Cassie Yates is 72. Actor, comedian Laraine Newman (Saturday Night



Live) is 71. Former Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., is 70. Former Interior Secretary Ken Salazar is 68. Singer Jay Osmond is 68. Pop musician John Cowsill (The Cowsills) is 67. Former tennis player Kevin Curren is 65. Country singer Larry Stewart (Restless Heart) is 64. Rock singer Jon Bon Jovi is 61. Blues singer-musician Alvin Youngblood Hart is 60. Actor Daniel Craig is 55. Actor Richard Ruccolo is 51. Rock singer Chris Martin (Coldplay) is 46. Actor Heather McComb is 46. Actor Rebel Wilson is 43. Actor Bryce Dallas Howard is 42. Former NFL quarterback Ben Roethlisberger is 41. Actor Robert Iler is 38. Actor Nathalie Emmanuel is 34. Country singer Luke Combs is 33. Singer-rapper-actor Becky G is 26.

## 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.

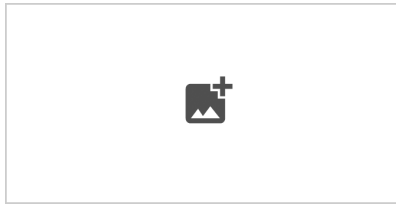
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

**Paul Stevens**

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