

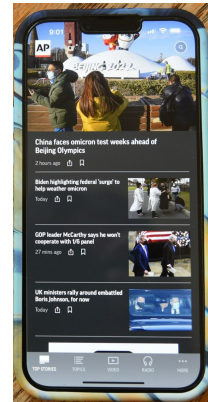
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Connecting

April 5, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this April 5, 2023,

We bring you sad news of the death of colleague **Don Deibler**, who worked in the AP's Treasury department in New York headquarters for all of his 43 years with The Associated Press.

In my 24 years as a bureau chief, Don was one of the Go-To people who could get you the answer to almost any question that came up about the AP's newspaper rate structure...sometimes on deadline, while you would be waiting outside the publisher's office. He also served as the administrator for company vehicles - and as such, no doubt heard all kinds of stories about why so-and-so needed an upgrade from the standard vehicle issue.

He was patient, kind and possessed a great sense of humor – all attributes that we in the field and his colleagues in New York appreciated greatly.

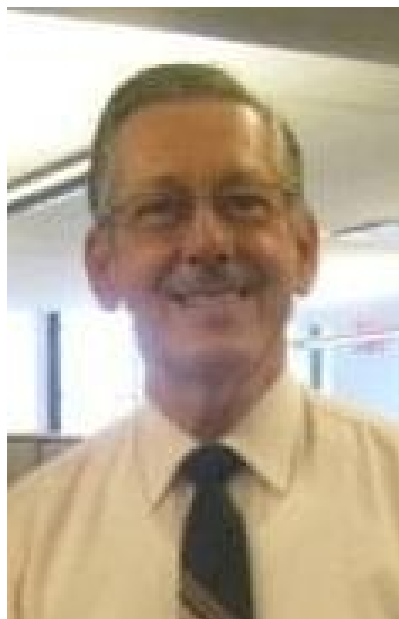
Our colleague **Susan Clark** said, "Although I never had the privilege of working with Don, I have nothing but wonderful things to say about him as a colleague and as a man. So sorry to hear of his passing, may his memory be a blessing."

Connecting would welcome your own favorite memories of working with Don.

Today's issue brings more stories of filing Flashes on the AP wire.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul



-30-

AP's Don Deibler: 1/31/1940 to 4/1/2023



Don Deibler (below left) with Jenny Sanchez McAnulty (behind Don), John Liotta and Arlene Sposato.



ABOVE: Don Deibler (left) with Patricia Casillo and John Liotta.

AT RIGHT: Don Deibler in 1968. (Courtesy, AP Corporate Archives)

Don R. Deibler, age 83, of Jersey City, NJ, passed away 7:43pm on April 1, 2023.

He was born on January 31, 1940 in Valley View, PA, a son of the late Russell and Evelyn A Schrawder Diebler.

Don was a graduate of Porter-Tower HS and Rutgers University, with a bachelor's in Business Administration.

He served in the U.S. Air Force in Japan during peacetime.

Don joined The Associated Press in New York in 1966 and worked in the Treasury Department for the next 43 years, until his retirement on Aug. 1, 2009.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Pete Orphanos.

Don is survived by cousins and many cherished family friends.



Services will be held at the Buffington-Reed Funeral Home on Monday April 10th, at 1pm, with Rev. Suzanne Elliot officiating.

A viewing will be held from noon until the time of service at the funeral home.

Burial with military honors will be made in the Church of God Cemetery, Valley View.

Memorial contributions in Don's name can be made to the American Heart Association at their website heart.org

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Don R Deibler please visit our Sympathy Store.

Condolences can be left for the family at www.buffingtonreed.com.

Click [here](#) for link to his obituary.

Donald Trump's arraignment day a throwback for news outlets



This artist sketch depicts former President Donald Trump, far left, pleading not guilty as the Clerk of the Court reads the charges and asks him "How do you plea?" Tuesday, April 4, 2023, in a Manhattan courtroom in New York, as his attorney Joseph Tacopina, center, watches. (Elizabeth Williams via AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — For the country and for Donald Trump, the indictment of a former president represented an unprecedented day. For TV news organizations, it felt like a throwback.

Hour after hour on Tuesday, the story occupied the full attention of broadcast and cable news networks. They waited for glimpses of Trump's face to interpret his expression, followed his motorcade's movements from the air, speculated on how it must feel to be arrested.

The coverage recalled better days for now-struggling cable news outlets, through two presidential campaigns and two impeachment trials, when Trump occupied hours of air time. Consumers eagerly followed along, the way they haven't for many stories since.

For two days this week, Trump's indictment on 34 counts of falsifying business records, gave outlets the chance to go back in time.

"This is the most significant arraignment in the history of arraignments," Danny Cevallos, a legal analyst for NBC News, said on that network's special report.

Read more [here](#).

A familiar name joins Connecting family

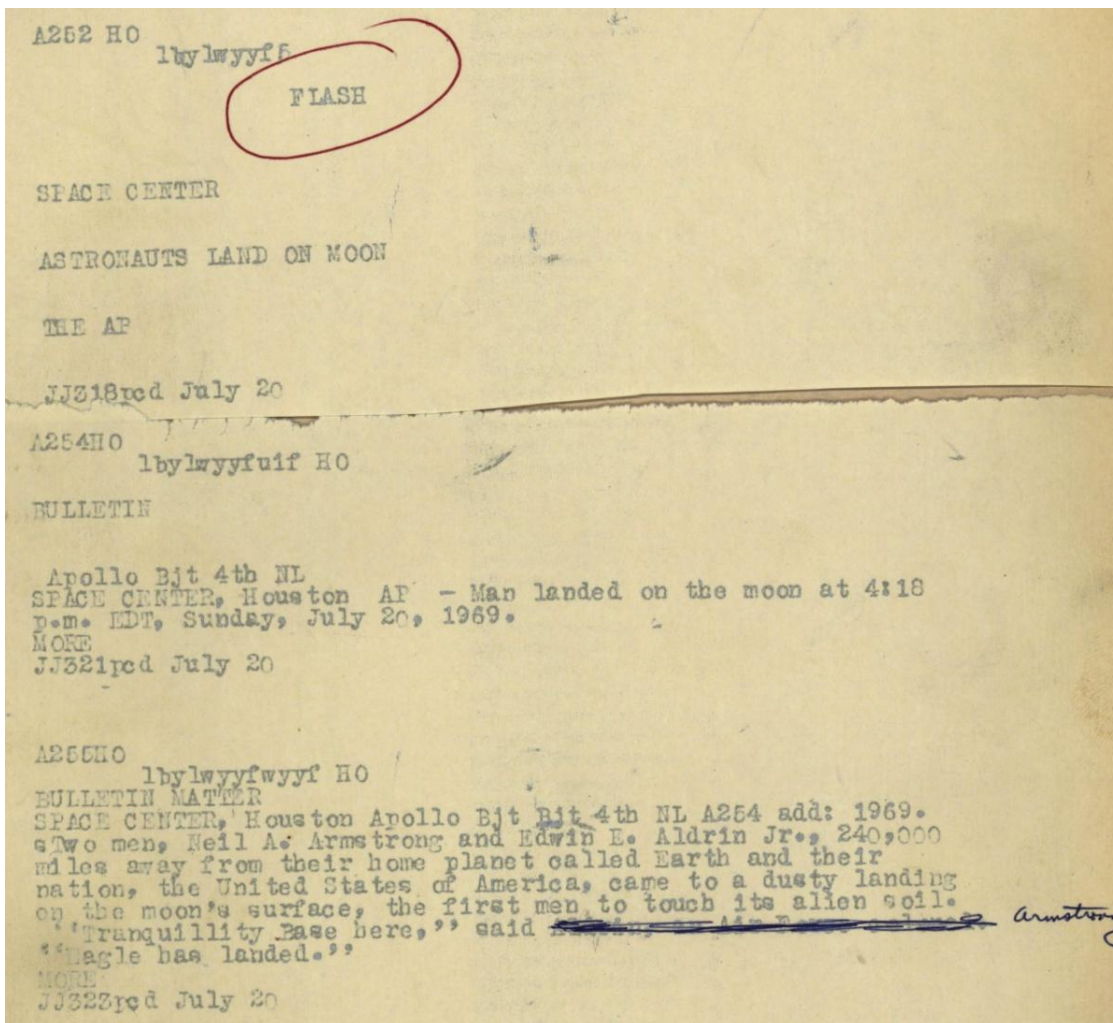
For many Connecting colleagues, the name "Polowetzky" conjures up memories of Associated Press editor Nate Polowetzky – described in [his 1994 obituary](#) as the "beacon, scold and inspiration" to a generation of foreign correspondents and feature writers. He served as foreign editor, business editor and Newsfeatures editor during his 50-year AP career.



Nate's son **Daniel Polowetzky** ([Email](#)) joined Connecting this week.

Daniel is a retired registered nurse who lives in New York City with his wife Michelle and daughter Daisy, who is headed to college in the fall. Daniel's sister Anna lives in Ross-On-Wye in the United Kingdom and his brother Michael lives in Bonham, Texas.

Memories of filing Flashes

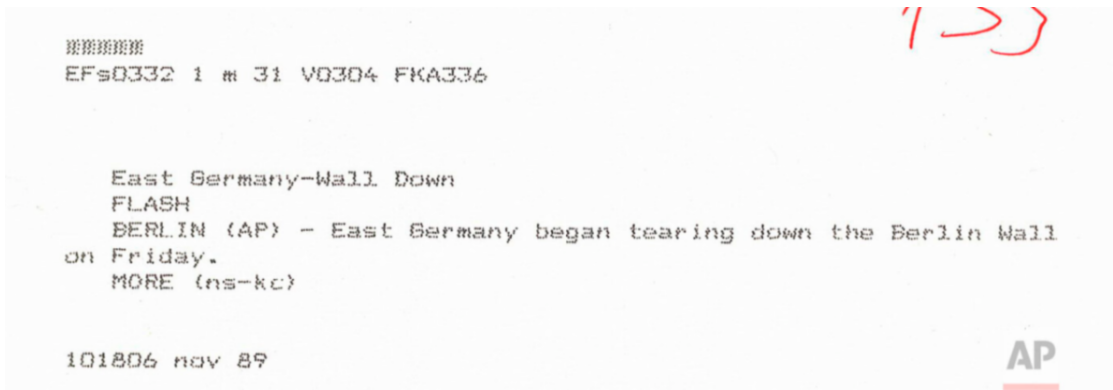


Lou Boccardi - My one and only:

“Astronauts land on moon.”

Filed July 20, 1969, from the Houston Space Center where I led an unimaginably gifted staff. If I start naming them, I know I’ll leave somebody out. Not all the stars were on the lunar surface.

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Kevin Costelloe - I actually sent two Flashes when I was News Editor in Germany.

The first, in the evening of Nov. 9, 1989, reported on the opening of the Berlin Wall that let East Germans flood into West Berlin.

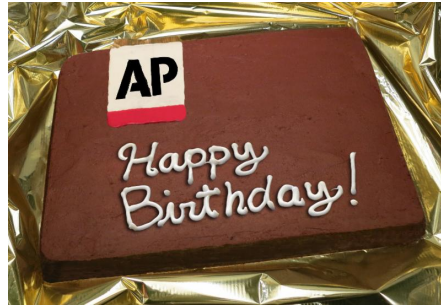
The second Flash was the following day and reported that the Communist East Germans were tearing down the Wall. It follows immediately below.

Catch of the Day



Bill Kaczor - I took some nice pictures in my capacity as an amateur sports photographer on Saturday including a spectacular catch by Pensacola Catholic High School right fielder Carson Kerr. The ball is just above the "T" in "Smith" in the above picture. Catholic won 12-4. By the way, the Joe Scarborough on the sign commemorating one of several Pensacola Catholic state championship teams is MSNBC's "Morning Joe." He went to Catholic High, where he played quarterback on the football team. My wife, Judy, a now-retired teacher at the school, taught his two sons.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[John Diamond](#)

[Gary Fields](#)

Stories of interest

Media coverage of Donald Trump's arraignment was exhaustive ... and exhausting (Poynter)



Former President Donald Trump appears in court for his arraignment on charges related to falsifying business records in a hush money investigation on Tuesday in New York. (Andrew Kelly/Pool Photo via AP)

By: Tom Jones

Coverage of the Donald Trump arraignment on Tuesday was, in a word, exhaustive.

Wall-to-wall coverage with blaring “BREAKING NEWS” banners and, literally, dozens upon dozens of anchors, reporters and analysts punctuating the coverage on not only cable news networks, but broadcast networks, as well.

ABC, CBS and NBC all broke into regular programming with the big three evening news anchors (David Muir, Norah O’Donnell and Lester Holt) anchoring the coverage. CNN brought in prime-time bigwigs Anderson Cooper and Jake Tapper. Rachel Maddow hosted MSNBC’s prime-time coverage.

And, to be sure, all of that was the right call. As Cooper accurately said, Tuesday was “an extraordinary moment in history.”

Trump became the first former president to face criminal charges. Manhattan prosecutors charged Trump with 34 counts of falsifying business records related to hush money payments to an adult movie star prior to the 2016 presidential election.

This paragraph from The Associated Press’ Michael R. Sisak, Eric Tucker, Jennifer Peltz and Will Weissert perfectly explained what happened Tuesday, and what it all meant: “The arraignment in Manhattan, though largely procedural in nature, was nonetheless the first time in U.S. history that a former president has faced a judge in his own criminal prosecution. The indictment amounts to a remarkable reckoning for Trump after years of investigations into his personal, business and political dealings, unfolding against the backdrop not only of his third campaign for the White House but also against other investigations in Washington and Atlanta that might yet produce even more charges.”

Read more [here](#).

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Why Retired Journalists Are Jumping Back into the Profession (Nieman Reports)

By JON MARCUS

The Asheville Watchdog is a tiny nonprofit in far western North Carolina, but its editorial meetings could double as a get-together of the Pulitzer alumni club.

The project came together on the back deck of the house shared by retired Tribune Publishing Co. executive Bob Gremillion and his wife, investigative reporter Sally Kestin. It was there that Kestin and Gremillion “met other journalists who had come here and every time we got together and poured a glass of wine, we all had this kind of heavy sigh and wished that there was more and better journalism,” Kestin says. “Until somebody finally said, ‘Hey, we can do something about this.’”

The Watchdog is seeking to fill the vacuum left by the dramatic downsizing of the Asheville Citizen-Times, the local newspaper owned by Gannett. It’s produced by an unpaid staff of people mostly in their 60s and 70s who are retired from distinguished

careers at The New York Times, the Miami Herald, the Financial Times, Tribune Co., and NPR. Between them, they've won or been finalists for six Pulitzer Prizes.

The size and volunteer nature of this effort — it's in what the Local Independent Online News association calls the "micro revenue tier category" — masks the impact it's had since it was founded in 2020, after Gannett sold the Citizen-Times's building and cut its staff from 75 to about 10. In a multi-part series, for example, the outlet exposed a local real estate investor and his associates for deceiving Black and elderly homeowners into turning over the deeds to their properties for a fraction of their value. One of the members of that ring has been arrested on 41 felony charges as a result, and another on six felony counts. Several victims got their homes or money returned, and the series won a best investigative journalism award from the Institute for Nonprofit News, a National Headliner Award, and the top prize for public service journalism in the online division from the North Carolina Press Association.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dan Sewell.

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Fired ABC News Staffers Don't Plan to Go Quietly

(Yahoo)

By Lachlan Cartwright

The aftershock of last week's bloodbath at ABC News, in which 50 staffers were laid off, continued to reverberate within the Disney-owned network on Monday as some now-ex staffers have lawyered up and are weighing legal action over their dismissal, Confider has learned.

Notoriously aggressive Hollywood lawyer Bryan Freedman has engaged several of these pissed-off former ABC staffers and is now representing award-winning investigative journalist Chris Vlasto, who was dismissed last week alongside beloved newsgathering SVP Wendy Fisher, talent VP Mary Noonan, talent and strategy SVP Galen Gordon, Executive Editorial Producer Heather Riley, and comms VP Alison Rudnick.

Within minutes of the last person being notified of their axing, the names of pink-slipped top executives appeared in a Variety story complete with a memo from embattled ABC News boss Kim Godwin that was handed to media via ABC comms boss Van Scott. Some staffers' families learned their loved ones had lost their jobs by reading it in the press reports, sources told us, while several also had their emails cut off almost immediately. (The move wildly differed from other Disney divisions that had slashed jobs but let staffers have access to their email and say their proper goodbyes.)

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

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There's Already a Solution to the Crisis of Local News. Just Ask This Founding Father. (Politico)

By STEVEN WALDMAN

Those concerned that government support for the news media would violate the First Amendment might consider the views of one expert on the topic, James Madison.

In the early years of the republic, two camps had formed over the question of how much publishers should pay in postage to have their newspapers lugged around the country by horses. One group wanted publishers to pay some postage to partly cover the costs. Madison was more radical. He believed newspapers should be mailed for free. To charge anything would be a “tax on newspapers” — which, he wrote to Thomas Jefferson, would be “an insidious forerunner to something worse.”

Jefferson agreed.

It's notable that even the voices that countered Madison and Jefferson (and ultimately prevailed) wanted a massive subsidy. Indeed, the postal subsidy played an important role in standing up our free press. Given the sudden interest in public policy to support community media — bills to help local news are popping up in both Congress and in state legislatures around the country — it's worth revisiting and truly understanding the significant government intervention in newspapers that began in the founding era and continued until the mid-20th century.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

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Brooke Shields, Social Media and the Public's Withering Gaze (New York Times)

By Jessica Grose
Opinion Writer

A moment in the documentary “Pretty Baby: Brooke Shields” that epitomizes the actress's experience of fame calls back to her time as a Princeton undergrad in the '80s. Shields — whose image was in the public sphere from the time she was a baby, when Francesco Scavullo photographed her for an Ivory soap ad — poured her soul into a self-help book about starting college. She wrote about how lonely and difficult it was separating from her mother and how she felt so much pressure to succeed at everything.

Her publishers rewrote it.

“I kid you not, it was like, ‘I like leg warmers,’” Shields says in the two-part documentary, which premiered Monday on Hulu. “It was so inane, it had nothing to

do with the gut-wrenching feeling that I had by going away to college,” she continues. “They just wanted their narrative.”

She went along with it, because that was a time in her life when she didn’t feel entitled to her own opinions. Shields describes how, during her adolescence, she would wait for her mother or another adult in her life to tell her what she thought. Those adults included the revered directors she worked with on films like 1978’s “Pretty Baby,” in which she played a child prostitute in 1917 New Orleans, and 1981’s “Endless Love,” about a doomed teenage love affair.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - April 5, 2023



Today is Wednesday, April 5, the 95th day of 2023. There are 270 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlight in History:

On April 5, 1951, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were sentenced to death following their conviction in New York on charges of conspiring to commit espionage for the Soviet Union.

On this date:

In 1614, Indian Chief Powhatan’s daughter Pocahontas married Englishman John Rolfe, a widower, in the Virginia Colony.

In 1621, the Mayflower sailed from Plymouth Colony in present-day Massachusetts on a monthlong return trip to England.

In 1764, Britain’s Parliament passed The American Revenue Act of 1764, also known as the Sugar Act.

In 1887, in Tuscumbia, Alabama, teacher Anne Sullivan achieved a breakthrough as her 6-year-old deaf-blind pupil, Helen Keller, learned the meaning of the word “water”

as spelled out in the Manual Alphabet.

In 1976, reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes died in Houston at age 70.

In 1986, two American servicemen and a Turkish woman were killed in the bombing of a West Berlin discotheque, an incident that prompted a U.S. air raid on Libya more than a week later.

In 1987, Fox Broadcasting Co. made its prime-time TV debut by airing the situation comedy "Married with Children" followed by "The Tracey Ullman Show," then repeating both premiere episodes two more times in the same evening.

In 1991, former Sen. John Tower, R-Texas, his daughter Marian and 21 other people were killed in a commuter plane crash near Brunswick, Georgia.

In 2008, actor Charlton Heston, big-screen hero and later leader of the National Rifle Association, died in Beverly Hills, California, at age 84.

In 2010, an explosion at the Upper Big Branch mine near Charleston, West Virginia, killed 29 workers. In a televised rescue, 115 Chinese coal miners were freed after spending eight days trapped in a flooded mine, surviving an accident that had killed 38.

In 2016, UConn won an unprecedented fourth straight women's national championship, capping another perfect season by routing Syracuse 82-51.

In 2019, inspecting a refurbished section of fencing at the Mexican border in California, President Donald Trump declared that "our country is full," and that illegal crossings must be stopped.

Ten years ago: Kansas legislators gave final passage to a sweeping anti-abortion measure declaring that life began "at fertilization." (Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback, a Republican, signed the measure two weeks later.) A federal judge in New York ordered the Food and Drug Administration to lift age restrictions on the sale of emergency contraception, ending a requirement that buyers show proof they were 17 or older if they wanted to buy it without a prescription. (After months of back-and-forth legal battles, the Obama administration agreed to lift the age limits.)

Five years ago: In his first public comments about Stormy Daniels, President Donald Trump said he didn't know about the \$130,000 payment his personal attorney Michael Cohen had made to the porn actress who alleged she had an affair with Trump. In a dramatic escalation of the trade dispute with China, Trump told the U.S. trade representative to consider slapping an additional \$100 billion in tariffs on Chinese goods. A Brazilian judge issued an arrest warrant for former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva as the once-popular leader tried to mount a political comeback ahead of October elections; da Silva had sought to stay out of prison while he appealed a corruption conviction. A federal immigration raid took 97 people into custody at a Tennessee meat processing plant.

One year ago: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy accused Russian troops of gruesome atrocities in Ukraine and told the U.N. Security Council that those

responsible should immediately be brought up on war crimes charges in front of a tribunal like the one set up at Nuremberg after World War II. Barack Obama returned to the White House for the first time in more than five years to savor the 12th anniversary of his signature health care law and give a boost to President Joe Biden's efforts to expand it. Ivanka Trump, former President Donald Trump's daughter and one of those closest to him during the insurrection at the Capitol, testified before the House panel investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack.

Today's Birthdays: Movie producer Roger Corman is 97. Country singer Tommy Cash is 83. Actor Michael Moriarty is 82. Pop singer Allan Clarke (The Hollies) is 81. Writer-director Peter Greenaway is 81. Actor Max Gail is 80. Actor Jane Asher is 77. Singer Agnetha (ag-NEE'-tah) Faltskog (ABBA) is 73. Actor Mitch Pileggi is 71. Singer-songwriter Peter Case is 69. Hip-hop artist/actor Christopher "Kid" Reid is 59. Rock musician Mike McCready (Pearl Jam) is 57. Singer Paula Cole is 55. Actor Krista Allen is 52. Actor Victoria Hamilton is 52. Country singer Pat Green is 51. Rapper-producer Pharrell (fa-REHL') Williams is 50. Rapper/producer Juicy J is 48. Actor Sterling K. Brown is 47. Country singer-musician Mike Eli (The Eli Young Band) is 42. Actor Hayley Atwell is 41. Actor Lily James is 34.

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!



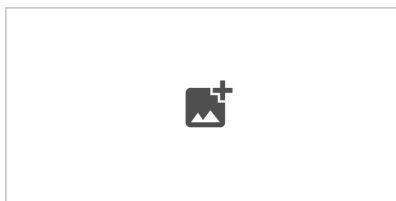
Here are some suggestions:

- **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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