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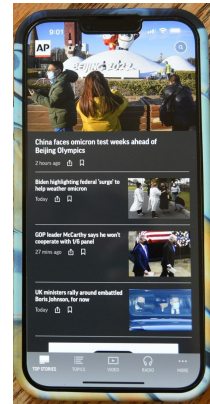
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Connecting

April 12, 2023

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On June 26, 2006, the veterans of AP's Saigon bureau reunited at AP headquarters for an exhibit opening, panel discussion and festive dinner. CEO Tom Curley was eager to bring back AP's far-flung alumni in order to acknowledge their courageous and often path-breaking journalism. And the corporate archives presented him with a means of doing so. In the front row: AP CEO Tom Curley, Seymour Topping, Peter Arnett, Hugh Mulligan, George Esper, Richard Pyle, and Malcolm Browne. In the back row: Kelly Tunney, Dang Van Phuoc, Michael Putzel, Matt Franjola, Edith Lederer, Barry Kramer and Nick Ut. Those who have since passed away include Topping, Mulligan, Esper, Pyle, Browne, Franjola and Kramer. (AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this April 12, 2023,

Documenting the history of The Associated Press, a 177-year-old news organization, is no easy task.

But for the past 20 years, that's the charge presented to the AP Corporate Archives department - and as one who has almost daily contact with its staff in producing this newsletter, it does its job very well in handling all sorts of challenges.

On the 20th anniversary of the department, its director **Valerie Komor** took stock of where her department has been and where it's headed in a blog that leads today's Connecting.



ABOVE: AP Corporate Archives staff: from left, archivist Francesca Pitaro, digital archivist Sarit Hand and director Valerie Komor.

RIGHT: Kelly Tunney, former AP vice president, who hired Komor as Corporate Archives' first director.

Corporate Archives contains collections representing AP institutional history and news reporting, as well as the origin and development of American journalism. Komor says:

“The Corporate Archives of The Associated Press is unique among news archives because the AP is unique among news organizations. As AP is a not-for-profit cooperative, its governance, administrative and editorial records document not only AP itself but also a broad swath of American newspapers and international clientele that have taken AP’s report over the decades. In that sense, the archives illuminate a key sector of business history and its evolution from 1846 to the present.”



Archival collections are available for a variety of uses, including corporate projects, content licensing, research, documentaries and exhibitions.

The retrospective leads with a shoutout to our colleague [Kelly Tunney](#), who as AP's first female vice president, organized and headed the department of Corporate Communications. In July 2003, she hired Komor as AP's first director of Corporate Archives, serving as her mentor, friend and endless font of AP history and lore.

Tunney joined AP in 1961 and reported from Miami, Saigon, Washington, Los Angeles and Seoul. She retired from the AP in 2005.

Today's issue brings first responses to Connecting's call for your life's experiences after retirement – and I hope you will share your own story.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

The AP Corporate Archives at 20

The original Telegraph News Association in which was afterward merged the Harbor News Association was based upon ~~an~~ a contract for a daily express to be run between ~~Mont~~ Mobile and Montgomery Ala. by — Riddle ~~then~~ during the existence of the Mexican War in 1846-7 the payment for which was conditioned upon a daily gain of 24 hours upon the regular mail.

This contract was made by Mr Beach in behalf of Mr Beach for the benefit of The Sun, but on its completion Mr Beach offered an equal interest to each of the other papers. first (and

This offer was accepted without a word of hesitation by Mr Hallock for the Journal of Commerce.

Mr H. J. Raymond then of the Courier accepted it next on behalf of that paper

Mr Hudson representing Mr Summitt asked time to present the matter to his principal after which he accepted it Mr Brooks followed Raymond with his acceptance.

Memorandum by Moses Sperry Beach, June 1872. Moses Sperry Beach Papers, AP Corporate Archives. (AP Photo)

In this memorandum, Moses Sperry Beach recounts how his father established the Associated Press “during the existence of the Mexican War in 1846-7” by hiring a daily or pony express rider who would speed news dispatches between the port of Mobile and Montgomery, AL. Mr. Riddle, the rider, was not paid unless he beat the “regular mail” by 24 hours. From Montgomery, dispatches rejoined the mail to Richmond, where they were put on the telegraph to Washington and New York.

Upon the completion of this contract, “Mr Beach offered an equal interest to each of the other papers,” and four New York City papers accepted his offer, as described. Thus was born “the associated press of this city.”

Beach’s genius was understanding how to combine the technologies of transport (boat and pony) with the new technology of the telegraph. Ultimately, the telegraph severed communication from transportation.

The NEW YORK Sun

Associated Press rewrites its history in light of Moses Y. Beach documents

Beach relative donates war info documents to AP
By Dan Champagne
Record-Journal staff

WALLINGFORD
Traces of Moses Yale Beach can be found all over town. There is an elementary school named in his honor. His monument is the most prominent in historic Center Street Cemetery, standing at least 20 feet tall. And his North Main Street mansion has been converted into a bank.

Thanks to a quick conversation at a cocktail party, the legacy of the late owner-publisher of the New York Sun now includes founding the Associated Press in 1846, two years earlier than originally documented.

Brewster Yale Beach, Beach's great-great-grandson, recently turned over documents to the Associated Press that showed Beach offered to share information about the U.S. war with Mexico with other newspapers in 1846.

"This means a number of things for us," said Valerie Komor, director of the Associated Press's corporate archives. "It's certainly a privilege to be in charge of documenting the history of an institution such as the AP, which has chronicled the world. It also means that the AP is committed to reviewing and revising its own history, which is always a great undertaking whether it's an individual reviewing his or her own past or an institution reviewing its own past."

The discovery may have caused a great deal of excitement around the Associated Press office, but Brewster

Wallingford Jubilee 200

This is the Moses Y. Beach mansion on North Main Street, which is now a bank.

File photo / Record-Journal

This is the Moses Y. Beach School which bears the name of the 19-century journalist.

Moses Y. Beach

19th-century papers shed new light on origin of the AP

By Richard Pyle
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A collection of 19th-century documents newly acquired by The Associated Press shows that the world's largest newsgathering organization traces its origins to 1846, two years earlier than traditionally accepted by journalism historians and the AP itself.

The documents were provided to the AP's corporate archives by Brewster Yale Beach, a great-great-grandson of Moses Yale Beach, the second owner-publisher of the original New York Sun and the driving force in creating the alliance of newspapers sharing news dispatches that became known as The Associated Press.

The papers show that, in May 1846, Beach offered to share news from the U.S. war with Mexico with rival newspapers. The resulting agreement formed the basis for cooperative news gathering by telegraph just as Samuel F.B. Morse's revolutionary invention began a swift expansion throughout the country, linking New York to points north, west, and south.

Those agreements evolved into the AP

that today has 4,000 employees and delivers news around the clock to more than 130 countries and 1 billion readers, listeners and viewers.

Historically, the AP has dated its origins to a meeting of New York City publishers at the Sun office in May 1848. According to the Beach documents, the inaugural meeting took place two years earlier, with the agreement to share news from the war with Mexico.

"These documents are a significant discovery, not only for the historical record of The Associated Press but because they reaffirm the AP's fundamental role, covering the news in war and peace, as envisioned by the member newspapers that created it," said Tom Curley, AP's president and CEO.

For scholars of the era, they clarify what historian Richard Schwarzlose called "maddeningly imprecise" and conflicting information about the AP's origins.

Schwarzlose, author of the 1989 book "The Nation's Newsbrokers," was among

ed Press.

"He just kept thanking me for this," he said. "I kept trying to tell him that all I did was carry the gene line and donate the material. I told him that if I had a pin and I could get a drop of blood, I'll give you the drop of blood and you could have the genes too so you could stop thanking me."

Brewster Yale Beach remembers traveling to the Associated Press offices as a boy with his father, Brewster Sperry Beach, to view a portrait of his great-great-grandfather.

He never thought the documents were of great importance until he met Kelly Smith Tunney, the recently retired vice president of the Associated Press, at a friend's cocktail party about three months ago.

"I had never really thought about their importance," he admitted.

Komor said some historians had already known about Beach's role in the Associated Press in 1846, but never had the papers to prove it.

"Papers that are in private hands, if they're known, are

Please see AP / 10

Please see History / 10

The revelations contained in the Beach memorandum of 1872 led AP to revise its founding date to 1846 from 1848 and to publish a news story, featured here in the Meriden (Conn.) Record-Journal, Feb. 2, 2006. In April, the corporate archives inaugurated its lecture series with a talk by Hebrew University communications historian, Menahem Blondheim, "History Revised A New Look at the Birth of the AP."

Photo editing and text by [Valerie Komor](#)

"Archives are the records, organically related, of an entity, systematically maintained, normally after they have fulfilled the purpose for which they were created, because they contain information of continuing value."

—David Bergen Gracy II, 1941-2020

Governor Bill Daniel Professor of Archival Enterprise, Emeritus, University of Texas at Austin

Although AP traces its origins to 1846, its corporate archives was not established until 2003. During the intervening century and more, essential governing documents, such as newspaper contracts and the records of the Board of Directors, were saved by the Board Secretary. News librarians began cataloging select incoming wire copy during the 1930s, creating a set of voluminous records which were microfilmed in the 1970s on 700 reels of film and digitized by Ancestry.com in 2011.

Still, there was no formal system for documenting the institution itself, and hence no institutional node for the study of AP history. That changed in 2003 with the hiring of a professional archivist and the creation of a new department, the corporate archives, recognized by a resolution of the Board in July 2005.

From its beginnings, the archives has been a multi-faceted operation, with programs in acquisitions, collections processing, oral history, exhibitions, mini-documentaries, reference services, and digital preservation. Bureaus, offices and individuals routinely transfer their non-current records and papers, so that we now hold over 5,000 linear feet of paper records and 12 TB of digital collections. Internally, our users come from across the company and include news, administrative and commercial departments. Our outside researchers have produced numerous books and articles—too many to list! We look forward to seeing Gene Allen's *Mr. Associated Press: Kent Cooper and the Twentieth-Century World of News* (Univ. of Illinois Press) due out June 20, 2023.

With this blog, we invite you to celebrate the major turning points in our work since 2003. As historian Robert Caro's first boss at the New Brunswick Daily Home News admonished him on the eve of his journalism career: "Turn Every Page!"

A motto both journalists and archivists live by!

Read and view more [here](#).

Beginning a new career after retirement

Joe Galu - Former newspeople jumping back in???

I never left. I started writing a newsletter for Albany Civic Theater soon after leaving the AP.

For 30 years, I have been writing the news script for Homo Radio on WRPI every Sunday 11 am to 2 pm, the highest-rated college radio station program in the nation -- more than four million listeners and more on unmeasurable apps. I never left. FYI: I was not part of the group that named the program, but they wanted an in-your-face name so people would know what they were getting themselves into when they listened. Some music, often close to an hour of news with lots of comments, guests in the studio, interviews, talk. Dr. Ray Werking (PhD) with a degree in clinical psychology says he gets letters and emails and texts all the time from kids who say listening to Homo Radio prevented their suicides. The highest rate of suicide is among trans people, gays and lesbians are close behind. The four guys who are on the air present themselves as functioning full-life people who happen to be gay. All volunteer, zero-budget and more than 4 million listeners -- not bad. 91.5 on the dial, I believe. The program has survived with wild changes in staffing, always playing to the strengths of the individuals. It started as mostly male, was all female for a few years and has become all male, because that's who volunteered. No students for several years. We had an RPI student or two off and on for years, but none recently. I've been in studio a few times, talking about a lot of politics and Albany's 70-year history of having gay bars, including the nation's second Lesbian bar -- the first was in San Francisco. Before Boston, Montreal and NYC started getting all kinds of gay bars, the trains were packed with guys (almost all guys) going to Albany for the weekend. There were trains back east, north, south and west on Sundays, and the club cars were hopping.

-0-

Robert Wielaard - A second career in journalism is not an idea that came to mind spontaneously.

When in 2014, I closed the door on one decade of newspaper reporting in Canada and the USA and three decades as AP Bureau Chief in Brussels, I stumbled onto a second lap in a field that has been my lifelong passion: sailing and yachting.

From my home in Belgium, I visit boat shows and write about sailing & motor yachts for two B2B newsletters -- one Dutch, one British. The job gets me to boat shows in Florida, Monaco, Cannes, Amsterdam, Genoa and other places.

Not a bad gig!

And an instructive one for people looking for a second lap in news reporting. Know that relatively few people can write a coherent news tale in crisp sentences and with a newsy lede. Two stories and I was in. And I love the deadlines!

For those keen to shun the post-AP pickleball court and those dreadful hard news hours, that second lap can be a tonic!

RIP, Harold Olmos

[Gloria Helena Rey](#) - Harold Olmos was one of the best human beings I ever met. I had the pleasure of sharing with him at the AP Office in Rio de Janeiro. I remember him as a great professional and human being. People of that caliber never die in memories. Good trip friend, until we hug again. Gloria Helena Rey, Latin American correspondent in Brazil (1980-1987)

Ill-fated

[Bruce Lowitt](#) – In Tuesday's Today in History;

In 1970, Apollo 13, with astronauts James A. Lovell, Fred W. Haise and Jack Swigert, blasted off on its ill-fated mission to the moon. ...

Ill-fated suggests predestination. It is theological, the doctrine that all events have been decided by God.

The phrase seems to be used when writing about airplane crashes and similar tragic incidents. It is simply inappropriate.

On handling coverage of high-profile cases

[Linda Deutsch](#) - I empathized with the AP journalists lining up overnight for seats at the Trump arraignment. With a lot more appearances upcoming, I would suggest that they consider what we in California did for a number of high-profile trials including the Michael Jackson trial in Santa Maria. We started a media committee which handled assignment of seats in the courtroom and all other courtroom-related arrangements. We did this in many trials I covered.

There were more than 1,000 requests for credentials. Nobody had to wait outside at night. Seats were assigned. Remote access from a second camera-equipped courtroom accommodated the most reporters possible. They also hired a trial press coordinator to be a sort of ringmaster on scene at all times.

Trump is going to be in a lot of courtrooms and such a plan would save grief not just for the press but for the court officials. In the 1984 John DeLorean trial, we approached the federal judge, Robert Takasugi, who was getting access requests from overseas media as well as those in this country. We offered to handle those for him and he promptly issued an official order delegating the media committee to issue press credentials, assign courtroom seats and places in the press room to media outlets. It worked like a charm and the judge was grateful to be rid of the distracting chore. Much later, a similar process was used in the O.J. Simpson trial with two separate press rooms installed in the building for the trial press corps, one for print and one for electronic media.

I feel a responsibility to make sure the AP crew doesn't have to spend nights on the street. AP always had at least one assigned seat in the trials I covered and a pool AP

photographer had a spot in the courtroom.

Connecting sky shot – Antarctica



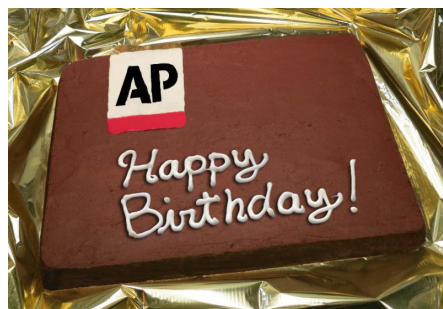
Connecting colleague Bill Hancock and his wife, Nicki, visited Antarctica, their seventh continent. They reported spectacular scenery after a rough two-day trip on their 90-passenger cruise ship crossing the Drake Passage from Argentina.

Spring time in Kansas



A spring scene in Lenexa, Kansas, shared by Diane Smith.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Jim Lloyd](#)

[Nick Ludington](#)

Welcome to Connecting



[Eve Rothenberg](#)

Stories of interest

Barry Diller Thinks Publishers Should Sue Over Generative AI (Hollywood Reporter)

By ALEX WEPRIN

IAC chairman Barry Diller thinks the media business cannot afford to make the same mistake twice.

Twenty-five years ago, publishers saw the rise of the internet and made a fateful choice.

“When the internet first began, everything was free. And it was kind of decreed at that time that everything was free, and therefore all publishers said they really had no other choice,” Diller said, speaking to Semafor co-founder Ben Smith at the Semafor Media Summit in New York on Monday evening.

DNow, with the rise of generative artificial intelligence, Diller thinks those same companies need to take a different approach.

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

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Judge Limits Fox's Options for Defense in Dominion Trial (New York Times)

By Jeremy W. Peters

WILMINGTON, Del. — A judge ruled on Tuesday that Fox News could not argue that it broadcast false information about Dominion Voting Systems on the basis that the allegations were newsworthy, limiting a key line of defense for the network as it faces the beginning of a potentially costly defamation trial next week.

The judge, Eric M. Davis of Delaware Superior Court, also ruled that Dominion could not refer to the Jan. 6, 2021, assault on the Capitol except in very narrow circumstances, saying he did not want jurors to be prejudiced by events that weren't relevant to the central question in the case: Did Fox air wild claims about Dominion's purported involvement in a conspiracy to steal the 2020 presidential election from Donald J. Trump knowing that they were lies?

In the first of two days of pretrial hearings, Judge Davis set many of the parameters that will govern how the trial is run, including what kinds of arguments the 12-person jury can hear and what questions lawyers may ask during jury selection to weed out those they believe would not be impartial.

The hearing covered matters large and seemingly small, from the application of the First Amendment to how jurors may take notes.

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

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Fox attorneys in libel case reveal dual roles for Murdoch (AP)

By RANDALL CHASE

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — Attorneys defending Fox in a defamation case related to false claims about the 2020 election withheld critical information about the role company founder Rupert Murdoch played at Fox News, a revelation that angered the judge when it came up at a Tuesday hearing.

It was not clear whether the development would affect a trial scheduled to begin Thursday with jury selection. Dominion Voting Systems is suing Fox for \$1.6 billion, saying it damaged its reputation by repeatedly airing false claims that the company helped orchestrate a fraud that cost former President Donald Trump re-election.

The role of Fox executives is at the heart of the case. The company's attorneys have sought to insulate members of the Murdoch family and to keep them from testifying live before a jury, arguing that their roles at the parent company, Fox Corp., put them at a distance from the Fox News shows that aired the bogus claims.

Fox Corp. had asserted since Dominion filed its lawsuit in 2021 that Rupert Murdoch had no official role at Fox News. In its filings, it had listed Fox News officers as Suzanne Scott, Jay Wallace and Joe Dorrego. But on Easter Sunday, Fox disclosed to Dominion's attorneys that Murdoch also is "executive chair" at Fox News. The disclosure came after Superior Court Judge Eric Davis wondered aloud during a status conference last week who Fox News' officers were.

Read more [here](#).

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Exploring Ogdensburg, NY's two years as a 'news desert' and how the community rallied to bring back its voice (Editor and Publisher)

Episode 182 of "E&P Reports" - The Local News Road Show with Mike Blinder

On April 5, 2019, Alec Johnson, the editor & publisher of The Watertown Times, the flagship publication of the Johnson Newspaper Corporation, of which he is also president, penned an editorial entitled "Readers think newspapers are doing fine: here's the truth." Within the article, one can almost feel his frustrations, citing a Pew Research survey that stated 71% of Americans believed that local news media organizations were doing well financially, while just 14 percent said they have directly paid for "local news services." Perhaps that article was intended as a "warning shot" to the readers within the communities his newspapers served; like many publishers, Johnson Newspapers could not continue financing his newsrooms at the same pace in a culture of declining circulation and advertising revenues.

In less than 60 days, on June 14, 2019, Johnson announced they were shutting down the only four newspapers that served the 100,000+ residents of St. Lawrence County, New York, which included the 100+-year-old Canton (NY) St. Lawrence Plain Dealer serving the county seat and the 160+-year-old Ogdensburg (NY) Journal, that served the largest city within St. Lawrence County.

Read more [here](#).

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Wendi C. Thomas receives the 2023 I.F. Stone Medal for Journalistic Independence at Harvard (Nieman)

Wendi C. Thomas, founding editor and publisher of MLK50: Justice Through Journalism, a nonprofit newsroom in Memphis, Tennessee, has been selected as

winner of the 2023 I.F. Stone Medal for Journalistic Independence.

MLK50 focuses on poverty, power and a range of public policy issues that affect local residents. Since its founding in 2017, one year before the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., it has provided indispensable community journalism and has told the stories of marginalized people too often ignored by established news media.

An independent selection committee of five journalists chooses a Stone Medal winner each spring. Speaking about this year's decision, I.F. Stone Medal jury member Jasmine Brown said: "Wendi Thomas followed her North Star, establishing MLK50 despite doubters who told her a nonprofit newsroom centered on the vulnerable could not stand. MLK50 has proven there is strength in a press that is proximate to the people. MLK50's reporting has transformed lives and brought about change. As a shining beacon of local journalism, this newsroom gives me hope that there are scalable models for the press to survive and thrive."

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

The Final Word

Former Morrisville news editor J.B. McKinley finishes his last page



J.B. and June McKinley last summer on one of their many trips to Maine. J.B., former News & Citizen editor, died in March.

By News and Citizen, Morrisville, Vt.

This article by Tommy Gardner was first published April 6 in the News & Citizen of Morrisville.

J.B. McKinley saw countless obituaries come across his desk during his quarter-century with the News & Citizen, but it's unlikely he came across a sentence in any of them as fitting as the one shared this week by his son, Quentin.

“He was outside, reading a book, and he fell asleep in the sun,” Quentin said.

McKinley — bibliophile, journalist, movie theater owner — died March 16, a few days before the first day of spring, at his winter home in Ozark, Alabama.

“That was normal for him,” his wife, June, said this week. “He didn’t go very far without a book in his hand.”

McKinley was born June 27, 1953, in Ashtabula County, Ohio, but moved to Vermont as a child, growing up on McKinstry Hill in Hyde Park, where his grandfather, Howard “Mac” McKinley, owned an old farmhouse.

When he was in his 20s, McKinley worked as a typesetter at the Lamoille County Weekly in Johnson, a paper that was published from 1971 to 1982. He also worked as a projectionist at the Bijou movie theater in downtown Morrisville, which is where he met his future wife.

“Of course, if you lived in Morrisville, and I did, you went to the movies,” June said.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Steve Hendren.

Today in History - April 12, 2023



Today is Wednesday, April 12, the 102nd day of 2023. There are 263 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlight in History:

On April 12, 1861, the Civil War began as Confederate forces opened fire on Fort Sumter in South Carolina.

On this date:

In 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt died of a cerebral hemorrhage in Warm Springs, Georgia, at age 63; he was succeeded by Vice President Harry S. Truman.

In 1955, the Salk vaccine against polio was declared safe and effective.

In 1961, Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to fly in space, orbiting the earth once before making a safe landing.

In 1963, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was arrested and jailed in Birmingham, Alabama, charged with contempt of court and parading without a permit. (During his time behind bars, King wrote his "Letter from Birmingham Jail.")

In 1981, former world heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis, 66, died in Las Vegas, Nevada.

In 1985, Sen. Jake Garn, R-Utah, became the first sitting member of Congress to fly in space as the shuttle Discovery lifted off.

In 1988, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office issued a patent to Harvard University for a genetically engineered mouse, the first time a patent was granted for an animal life form.

In 1990, in its first meeting, East Germany's first democratically elected parliament acknowledged responsibility for the Nazi Holocaust, and asked the forgiveness of Jews and others who had suffered.

In 1992, after five years in the making, Euro Disneyland (now called Disneyland Paris) opened in Marne-La-Vallee, France, amid controversy as French intellectuals bemoaned the invasion of American pop culture.

In 2015, Hillary Rodham Clinton jumped back into presidential politics, announcing in a video her much-awaited second campaign for the White House.

In 2020, Christians around the world celebrated Easter Sunday isolated in their homes by the coronavirus. St. Peter's Square was barricaded to keep out crowds. Pope Francis celebrated Easter Mass inside the largely vacant basilica, calling for global solidarity in the face of the pandemic.

Ten years ago: U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, visiting South Korea, delivered a stark warning to North Korea not to test-fire a mid-range missile while tamping down anxiety caused by a new U.S. intelligence report suggesting significant progress in the communist regime's nuclear weapons program. Guan Tianlang, a 14-year-old from China, made history as the youngest player to make the cut in a PGA Tour-sanctioned event; despite being the first player at Augusta National to get hit with a one-shot penalty for slow play, Guan made the cut under the 10-shot rule at the Masters. American chess grandmaster Robert Byrne, 84, died in Ossining, New York.

Five years ago: Police in Philadelphia arrested two black men at a Starbucks; the men had been asked to leave after one of them was denied access to the restroom. (Starbucks apologized and, weeks later, closed thousands of stores for part of the day to conduct anti-bias training.) Carl Ferrer, the chief executive of Backpage.com, which authorities described as an "online brothel," pleaded guilty to California and federal charges including conspiracy and money laundering, and agreed to testify against

others at the website. Schoolteachers in Oklahoma ended two weeks of walkouts. The Screen Actors Guild issued new guidelines calling for an end to auditions and professional meetings in private hotel rooms and residences in the wake of the Harvey Weinstein scandal.

One year ago: Vladimir Putin vowed that Russia's bloody offensive in Ukraine would continue until its goals are fulfilled and insisted the campaign was going as planned, despite a major withdrawal in the face of stiff Ukrainian opposition and significant losses. A gunman in a gas mask and a construction vest set off a smoke canister on a rush-hour subway train in Brooklyn and shot and wounded 10 people. (Frank James, 62, would later be arrested and plead guilty to the shooting.) Federal data confirmed that 2021 had been the deadliest year in U.S. history, brought on by COVID-19 and an unprecedented spike in adolescent drug overdoses. Actor and standup comic Gilbert Gottfried died at age 67.

Today's Birthdays: Playwright Alan Ayckbourn (AYK'-bohrn) is 84. Jazz musician Herbie Hancock is 83. Rock singer John Kay (Steppenwolf) is 79. Actor Ed O'Neill is 77. Actor Dan Lauria is 76. Talk show host David Letterman is 76. Author Scott Turow is 74. Actor-playwright Tom Noonan is 72. R&B singer JD Nicholas (The Commodores) is 71. Singer Pat Travers is 69. Actor Andy Garcia is 67. Movie director Walter Salles (SAL'-ihs) is 67. Country singer Vince Gill is 66. Model/TV personality J Alexander is 65. Rock musician Will Sergeant (Echo & the Bunnymen) is 65. Rock singer Art Alexakis (Everclear) is 61. Country singer Deryl Dodd is 59. Folk-pop singer Amy Ray (Indigo Girls) is 59. Actor Alicia Coppola is 55. Rock singer Nicholas Hexum (311) is 53. Actor Retta is 53. Actor Nicholas Brendon is 52. Actor Shannen Doherty is 52. Actor Marley Shelton is 49. Actor Sarah Jane Morris is 46. Actor Jordana Spiro is 46. Rock musician Guy Berryman (Coldplay) is 45. Actor Riley Smith is 45. Actor Claire Danes is 44. Actor Jennifer Morrison is 44. Actor Matt McGorry is 37. Actor Brooklyn Decker is 36. Contemporary Christian musician Joe Rickard (Red) is 36. Rock singer-musician Brendon Urie (Panic! at the Disco) is 36. Actor Saoirse (SUR'-shuh) Ronan is 29.

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.

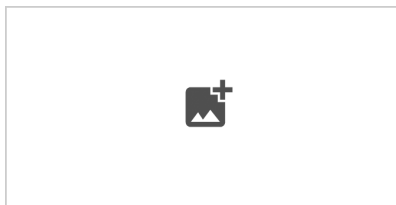


Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

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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