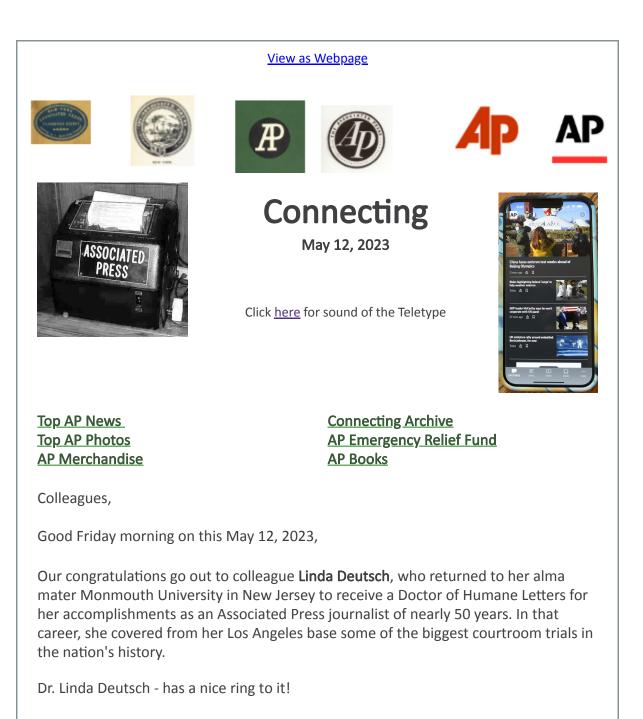
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## Join Our Email List



Our colleagues **Valerie Komor** (director of AP Corporate Archives) and **Edie Lederer** (AP's chief United Nations correspondent), two of Linda's best friends, were on hand Wednesday and provided Connecting with stories and photos. We lead with their account of the well-deserved honor.

Today's issue brings you entries relating to three ongoing Connecting series – Pulitzer Prizes won by colleagues in the past, confronting angry news sources as a reporter, and where you read your morning newspaper. I hope you share your own story.

Have a great weekend – and Happy Mother's Day on Sunday to all the moms and grandmothers and even some great grandmothers among our readership.

Be safe, stay healthy, live each day to your fullest!

Paul

# Linda Deutsch Receives Doctor of Humane Letters from Monmouth University



The chair of Monmouth University's Board of Trustees, Jeana Piscatelli, puts the white hood signifying Linda Deutsch's doctorate on her just after Monmouth President Patrick Leahy awarded her honorary doctorate.





Standing ovation and people clapping at the end of Linda's commencement address. Photos/Edie Lederer

## By Valerie Komor and Edith M. Lederer

Growing up in Bradley Beach, New Jersey, Linda Deutsch wondered if she would ever be able to attend college, much less obtain an advanced degree. Her parents simply did not have the means to send her.

But fate intervened — first when her uncle Marvin Sosna convinced her parents that she should go to college and then when she got a government loan that enabled her to attend Monmouth College, a nearby commuter school in West Long Branch.

Today, Monmouth is a university and a thriving private institution with several distinguished graduate programs, and on Wednesday it paid tribute to one of its most prominent and accomplished alumnae, Linda Deutsch, Class of '65 – with an honorary doctorate for her outstanding contributions to journalism over nearly 50 years at The Associated Press, where she became (almost overnight) AP's premiere reporter at major trials from Charles Manson and Daniel Ellsberg to O.J. Simpson and Michael Jackson.

At Monmouth's 2023 Commencement Exercises in the university's McNeil Arena, President Patrick F. Leahy read aloud the citation enumerating Linda's many accomplishments and awarded her the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*. Jeana M. Piscatelli, Chair of the Board of Trustees, then draped the honor's white academic hood over her black academic gown.

In her commencement address before more than 500 graduates, faculty, families and friends, Linda called the degree one of the highlights of her life, and urged the class of 2023 to live their dreams, as she has lived hers.

Linda described her days at Monmouth as living in the "Shangri-La of learning," and she encouraged the assembled graduates to be open to the same magic in their own lives. The magic of dining in the Great Hall, a smaller version of Versailles' Hall of Mirrors. The magic of The Writers Club, a group of aspiring poets and writers who met weekly, visited New York City, and interviewed important writers. The magic of editing Monmouth Letters, the club's literary magazine. The magic of being features editor of the Monmouth Outlook, the school's newspaper. And the magic of finding her life's work at the Asbury Park Press in the summer of 1963, and then joining the AP in Los Angeles in 1967.

All of it was magic. And all of it was work.

"My message to you today is this," she told the assembled graduates: "The hard work you have done and the sacrifices you have made will return dividends for the rest of your life. But Monmouth will always be here for you. As Monmouth Hawks, you will always have a nest to return to. Keep your ties to Monmouth alive, just as you will keep the friendships you have made here for the rest of your lives. And one day, you may come back and watch your own son or daughter process down that aisle and receive an academic degree."

"The future is now in your hands!" Linda said. "Congratulations."

The audience rose and gave her a sustained standing ovation.



Florence Gell (left) and Linda Deutsch in the Green Room at the Dr Marilyn A. McNeil Arena, Monmouth University, May 10, 2023. AP Photo by Valerie Komor.

Looking on proudly was Florence Gell, who became Linda's friend when both were toddlers, and their fathers ran a haberdashery together in Bradley Beach. Also present was Prof. of English Gerald Cook, who had been a fellow student with Linda at Monmouth and stayed on to teach. Linda's godson, photographer Luke Ratray, had come from Brooklyn; Larry Schiller, photographer, author, and consultant, had come from Philadelphia. And AP's Valerie Komor and Edith Lederer had come from New York to honor the newly minted Dr. Linda Deutsch.

Linda Deutsch's email – <u>lcdeutsch@yahoo.com</u>

## Where was Fact Check, Context?

<u>Christopher Torchia</u> - A thought on the <u>AP/Trump story</u> that you included in the newsletter today.

Factcheck? Context? AP's treatment of this topic is rather retro. The premise that women were fine with being sexually harassed goes unchallenged in the text. The quote - Trump's truth - is left to stand.

### TRUMP'S TREATMENT OF WOMEN

Collins asked Trump about his comments in the infamous "Access Hollywood" video in which he bragged about grabbing women's genitals without asking permission. The video was played in the trial and Collins asked him Wednesday if he stood by his remarks.

Trump defended his comments, saying he had said women let him grab their genitals without permission because he was a star.

"I can't take that back because it happens to be true," Trump said.

# Pulitzers: The missing name



Herschaft (left) and Hanley on Pulitzer Day, 2000, at 50 Rock.

<u>Charlie Hanley</u> - On the Pulitzers, our 2000 investigative reporting prize (for confirming the U.S. massacre of Korean War refugees at No Gun Ri) came with a shock along with

the satisfaction. It was presented to us three reporters (Choe Sang-hun, Martha Mendoza, yours truly) but not to researcher Randy Herschaft, the indispensable heart of the project.

We were sweeping the awards that year as a foursome. But, unbeknownst to us until Pulitzer Day, only three names were entered for the big prize. The Pulitzer board had recently decreed that would be the maximum. Before and since (that standard was changed at some point) you'll find four, five, up to seven names as awardees.

It was satisfying, however, to see in Wednesday's Connecting that the "official" AP listing gives our own Amazing Randy his due.

# Chewed out by news source

<u>Norm Abelson</u> - It was early in my career at The AP, as a copy boy just recently promoted to reporter. The Concord (N.H.) correspondent, my boss, assigned me to cover the governor's press conference. I did so, nervously, and filed my story.

The next evening at dinner the phone rang, and my wife went to answer it. She returned to tell me softly it was the governor. I assumed he wasn't calling to invite me to dinner. Anyway, this is what followed those years ago, as best as I can recall:

"Hello, Governor."

"What the devil did you mean in your story, saying I got angry, and slammed the rostrum. You're supposed to be reporting the news, not putting in your opinion."

"I did my best to do that. You certainly seemed angry, and you did actually slam your fist down. I'm really sorry you were upset."

Without another word, the guv slammed down his phone. Relations were strained for a while but eased up over time. This story may seem like small potatoes compared to those from national reporters. But to a new and uncertain reporter, it was scary as hell, and I hoped the governor wouldn't take his complaints to AP higher-ups. He didn't.

-0-

<u>Hal Bock</u> - I was a young baseball writer assigned to a game at Yankee Stadium where the once high and mighty home team was struggling as players like Mantle and Ford aged. Protocol was to check with the desk to see if there were any special requests. There was one from a Springfield Mass. paper (Red Sox country). I was to ask manager Ralph Houk , a WWII veteran who fought at the Battle of the Bulge and other hotspots, how come he had been unable to get the Yankees back to the top of the standings.

This, I knew, was going to be trouble. Houk had a short fuse and I was asked to light it. We went into his office after the game and I waited for the beat guys to finish up and head into the clubhouse. My turn had come. I tried to explain to Houk that I was

merely a messenger, relaying a question. When I asked it, he exploded, jumped up from his desk and started cursing me out. This was not going well.

I retreated into the clubhouse with Houk right behind me, shouting expletives and causing players to look over and see what was up. I escaped intact and Houk had demonstrated to his players that he would stick up for them.

The next night, I was back on the field watching batting practice when Houk came over and apologized. I was grateful because when he came up to me, I wasn't quite sure what to expect.

-0-

**<u>Robert Ingle</u>** - When Zell Miller was lieutenant governor of Georgia, I was a columnist for the morning powerhouse Atlanta Constitution. I wrote about a former campaign in which his opponent staged a downtown street corner stunt with a crate of live chickens to harass Miller.

Miller, a former Marine, was not amused, so a staffer who was a personal friend of mine arranged a lunch for the three of us at a prominent downtown Atlanta restaurant. I came prepared to listen but didn't expect Miller to go off the rails at me in public. Other lunchers were shocked. Then he stormed out leaving the staffer and me.

I had known Miller for some time. He and his wife always included me in an annual private shrimp boil and beer fest in their Atlanta apartment. The accuracy of my column wasn't questioned. I think he considered it a violation of friendship.

He had quite a temper. At the Republican convention in New York in 2004, Miller, a life-long Democrat and then U.S. senator, gave the keynote address and endorsed George W. Bush, which was newsy enough in itself but Miller went way beyond that when he challenged MSNBC's Chris Matthews to a duel after a series of tough questions.

I was on the "Hardball" set at the time and probably the only one not shocked by the public show of anger.

Miller will be remembered for the HOPE scholarship he launched as governor. As Gannett Bureau Chief in New Jersey, I wanted to send a reporter to interview Miller about the landmark program providing free or low cost education.

He told Constitution Editor Hal Gulliver, who I recruited to broker the meeting, he wouldn't talk to a New Jersey reporter "unless Bob Ingle comes too."

I did. It went well. It was set up for 30 minutes, it lasted two hours. He told the reporter he met out of respect for me. It was like old times.

-0-

<u>Bill Kaczor</u> - One of the angriest responses I received to a question came from one of the most unlikely sources. Florida State football coach Bobby Bowden was a media

favorite because he was always friendly and accommodating to us. Win or lose, he answered every question and he encouraged his players to do so as well. He also was full of witty and memorable quotes. I found, however, even "Saint Bobby" had his limits.

In early 1981, six Seminole players were charged with receiving \$10,000 worth of stereos and televisions stolen from a Tallahassee department store. They pleaded no contest to aiding and abetting grand theft and all received probation. A former player was charged with stealing those items and other merchandise from the store where he worked.

When I went to Bowden's office that August for a pre-season interview, the first thing I asked was about the thefts. The usually jovial coach exploded. He chomped down on the cigar that he chewed but never lit and told me that the interview was over if I didn't want to talk about football. "I'm not answering all that stuff," he said. "That's trash."

I told him if he didn't want to respond, that was fine, but I couldn't just ignore his team's off-field troubles. He soon calmed down and he didn't think the thefts nor a couple other unrelated arrests would affect his team's play. However, he acknowledged that crowd reaction at road games might be affected, particularly in Gainesville, where the Seminoles would play their arch-rival Florida Gators that season. "I'm not afraid of it," Bowden said. "We asked for it. When you ask for it, you get it." He was right. Florida fans taunted FSU players as "Criminoles," and at a pre-season speaking engagement Gator coach Charley Pell joked that when Tallahassee police received a call about a robbery in progress they told the victim to get the thieves' jersey numbers.

The pre-season interview also produced one of my favorite Bowden quotes. I wrote that a computer had determined Florida State had the toughest schedule in the nation the previous year, but that Bowden didn't need one to tell him what to expect in the coming season. Bowden said, "When you put the schedule on a table and the table tilts, you know you're in trouble."

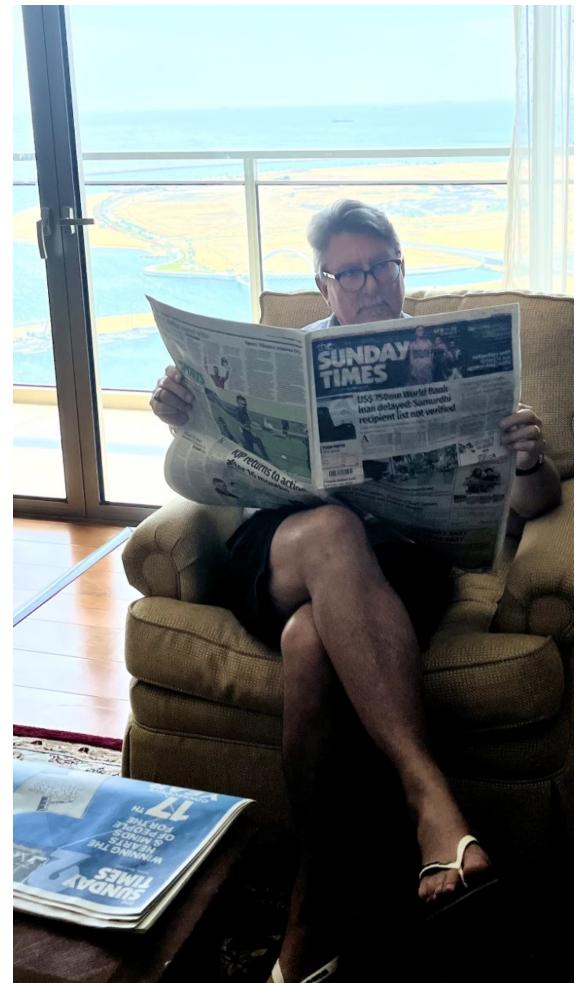
The schedule included four straight road games against Nebraska, Ohio State, Notre Dame and Dan Marino-led Pitt. The Seminoles managed to win at Ohio State and Notre Dame but finished 6-5.

# Where do you read your newspaper?



<u>Paul Albright</u> - Regarding your call about reading newspapers, I am reminded of our late colleague Howard Graves (1926-2015), a voracious reader who created the nickname of "Unaclipper" for snipping bylined AP articles from papers and mailing them to the news writers for their scrapbooks. Howard (onetime COB in Albuquerque, Portland and Honolulu), retired to Prescott, Arizona, where he would take a morning walk, picking up newspapers from driveways and placing them on his neighbor's doorsteps. The above photo shows Howard reading the Arizona Republic in 2013 at a restaurant in Prescott (photo/Tim Marsh).

-0-



Jim Reinal - The (Colombo) Sunday Times is the first physical newspaper i've been able to subscribe to in years. My 'favorite' chair is U. S. Embassy issue but it's comfortable enough and you can't beat the view of the Indian Ocean behind me.

-0-



<u>Tom Throne</u> - Living in Bentonville, AR, we get the Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette. It's a great paper with plenty of news. It's offered online only during the week and in print and online on Sundays. Didn't think I'd like reading it on an iPad but I now prefer that over printed paper. -0-

**Norm Abelson** - Each day the New York Times and the Portland (Maine) Press Herald are delivered to an outside box. I carry them into my writing room at the far end of the house and shut the door firmly. That way Magdalene, peacefully having her second cup of coffee in the living room, doesn't have to hear me ranting and raving about the world's daily ills and craziness. It helps to keep peace in the family.

# On approaching his 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday



<u>Charles Richards</u> - I will observe my 82nd birthday on Sunday, May 14. The first picture is of me and my wife, Barbara, earlier this month on a retreat at Beaver's Bend Lake in southeastern Oklahoma. My daughter, Stephanie Gartman, is the one sitting in my lap.

The other picture is me, in 1958, at 17 years old, at the Linotype machine where as a high school student I spent hundreds of hours over several years, inputting stories for my dad's weekly newspaper at Anton, Texas, about 25 miles out of Lubbock, Texas.



In the fall of 1959, I enrolled at Texas Tech and got a job at Tech Press -- the college printing plant -- as a Linotype operator (at a whopping 85 cents an hour!) for 20 hours a week.

# Newspapers in Art: In Greece...



<u>Kevin Walsh</u> – "Gentleman Reading a Newspaper." Aristeidis Varouchas, 1882. Spotted Thursday at the National Gallery in Athens.

# **Connecting wishes Happy Birthday**



Nick Ludington

On Saturday to...

Tricia English

Marcus Kabel

On Sunday to...

**Brian Carovillano** 

**Dennis Ferraro** 

Melissa Jordan

**Charles Richards** 

Stories of interest

CNN's town hall quickly turned chaotic, displaying the tightrope facing journalists covering Trump(AP)

By ALEXANDRA OLSON and DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — CNN is facing a backlash over its town hall featuring former President Donald Trump, an event that swiftly turned chaotic in a stark display of the

tightrope facing journalists covering a leading 2024 Republican candidate who refuses to play by the rules.

The town hall Wednesday was the first major television event of the 2024 presidential campaign, and CNN defended its decision to hold it as a chance to put Trump in front of a wider audience, outside of the conservative media bubble he has largely kept to since early in his presidency.

Critics said the event, which was staged in front of Republicans and unaffiliated voters who were expected to vote in the GOP primary, instead turned into a Trump campaign rally and allowed him to repeat longstanding falsehoods while dodging difficult questions

Tom Jones, a senior writer at the media research institute Poynter, said he had favored the idea of CNN holding the town hall at St. Anselm College in New Hampshire. But he said he was surprised by the conduct of the audience, which he had expected to be more neutral.

Read more here.

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## Elon Musk says he's found a woman to lead Twitter as new CEO(AP)

## By BARBARA ORTUTAY and MATT O'BRIEN

Elon Musk said Thursday he has found a new CEO for Twitter, or X Corp. as it's now called — and it's a woman. He did not name her but said she will be starting in about six weeks.

Musk, who bought Twitter last fall and has been running it since, has long insisted he is not the company's permanent CEO. The Tesla billionaire said in a tweet Thursday that his role will transition to being Twitter's executive chairman and chief technology officer.

In mid-November, just a few weeks after buying the social media platform for \$44 billion, he told a Delaware court that he does not want to be the CEO of any company.

While testifying, Musk said "I expect to reduce my time at Twitter and find somebody else to run Twitter over time."

More than a month later, he tweeted in December: "I will resign as CEO as soon as I find someone foolish enough to take the job." The pledge came after millions of Twitter users asked him to step down in a Twitter poll the billionaire himself created and promised to abide by.

Read more here.

-0-

## Washington Post names Matea Gold as new managing editor (Washington Post)

### By Elahe Izadi

Matea Gold will become a managing editor of The Washington Post, executive editor Sally Buzbee announced Thursday.

She replaces Steven Ginsberg, who left The Post last year to take a position as top editor of the Athletic, a sports site owned by the New York Times. In her new job, Gold will oversee several departments, including the paper's National and Metro staff.

She joins the masthead alongside two other managing editors — Justin Bank and Krissah Thompson — and senior managing editor Cameron Barr. The promotion of Gold, 48, means that women will make up the majority of the masthead, with Buzbee at the top.

"Matea is one of the most respected journalists and beloved colleagues here at The Post, and I am thrilled that she is stepping into a greater leadership role for us," Buzbee said in a statement. "Her vision, ambition and commitment to excellence will benefit teams across our newsroom."

The Post interviewed both external and internal candidates to replace Ginsberg before Gold was hired. She will officially step into the job in September.

Gold joined The Post in 2013 after a 17-year career at the Los Angeles Times. She has had a rapid rise through the ranks of editorial leadership, starting as a national politics reporter, then running the national politics enterprise and investigations team for four years during the tumultuous Trump administration years.

Read more here. Shared by Dennis Conrad.

# Today in History - May 12, 2023



Today is Friday, May 12, the 132nd day of 2023. There are 233 days left in the year.

## ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

On May 12, 1949, the Soviet Union lifted the Berlin Blockade, which the Western powers had succeeded in circumventing with their Berlin Airlift.

1780 — During the Revolutionary War, the besieged city of Charleston, SC, surrendered to British forces.

1932 — The body of Charles Lindbergh Jr., the 20-month-old kidnapped son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh, was found in a wooded area near Hopewell, NJ.

1933 — The Federal Emergency Relief Administration and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration were established to provide help for the needy and farmers.

1943 — During World War II, Axis forces in North Africa surrendered. The two-week Trident Conference, headed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, opened in Washington.

1958 — The United States and Canada signed an agreement to create the North American Air Defense Command (later the North American Aerospace Defense Command, or NORAD).

1970 — The Senate voted unanimously to confirm Harry A. Blackmun as a Supreme Court justice.

1975 — The White House announced the new Cambodian government had seized an American merchant ship, the Mayaguez, in international waters. (US Marines gained control of the ship three days after its seizure, not knowing the 39 civilian members of the crew had already been released by Cambodia.)

1982 — In Fatima, Portugal, security guards overpowered a Spanish priest armed with a bayonet who attacked Pope John Paul II. (In 2008, the pope's longtime private secretary revealed that the pontiff was slightly wounded in the assault.)

1986 — The military action-drama film "Top Gun," starring Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis and released by Paramount Pictures, had its world premiere in New York.

2008 — A devastating 7.9 magnitude earthquake in China's Sichuan province left more than 87,000 people dead or missing.

2009 — Five Miami men were convicted in a plot to blow up FBI buildings and Chicago's Sears Tower; one man was acquitted. Suspected Nazi death camp guard John Demjanjuk was deported from the United States to Germany. (On this date in 2011, Demjanjuk, who maintained his innocence, would be convicted by a German court of being an accessory to the murder of tens of thousands of Jews; he died in March 2012 at age 91.)

2011 — CEOs of the five largest oil companies went before the Senate Finance Committee, where Democrats challenged the executives to justify tax breaks at a time when people were paying \$4 a gallon for gas.

Ten years ago — Pope Francis gave the Catholic Church new saints, including hundreds of 15th-century martyrs who were beheaded for refusing to convert to Islam, as he led his first canonization ceremony before tens of thousands of people in St. Peter's Square. Nineteen people were wounded in a gang-related shooting during a Mother's Day parade in New Orleans. Serena Williams kept her No. 1 ranking and added career title No. 50 as she beat Maria Sharapova 6-1, 6-4 in the final of the Madrid Open; Rafael Nadal won his fifth title since returning from a knee injury by beating Stanislas Wawrinka 6-2, 6-4.

Five years ago — North Korea said it would dismantle its nuclear test site later in the month, in what analysts described as a mostly symbolic event that wouldn't represent a material step toward denuclearization. Iraq held its first elections since the collapse of the Islamic State group; there was a record-low turnout for balloting that saw the political coalition of Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr win the most seats in parliament without capturing a majority.

One year ago — Finland's leaders came out in favor of applying to join NATO in part of a historic realignment on the continent 2½ months after Russian President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine sent a shiver of fear through Moscow's neighbors. The Kremlin reacted by warning it will be forced to take retaliatory "military-technical" steps. (Finland would be admitted into NATO in 2023). The world got a look at the first wild but fuzzy image of the supermassive black hole at the center of the Milky Way galaxy, with astronomers calling it a "gentle giant" on a near-starvation diet.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Actor Millie Perkins is 87. R&B singer Jayotis Washington is 82. Country singer Billy Swan is 81. Actor Linda Dano is 80. Actor Lindsay Crouse is 75. Singer-musician Steve Winwood is 75. Actor Gabriel Byrne is 73. Actor Bruce Boxleitner is 73. Singer Billy Squier is 73. Blues singer-musician Guy Davis is 71. Country singer Kix Brooks is 68. Actor Kim Greist is 65. Rock musician Eric Singer (Kiss) is 65. Actor Ving Rhames is 64. Rock musician Billy Duffy is 62. Actor Emilio Estevez is 61. Actor April Grace is 61. TV personality/chef Carla Hall is 59. Actor Stephen Baldwin is 57. Actor Scott Schwartz is 55. Actor Kim Fields is 54. Actor Samantha Mathis is 53. Actor Jamie Luner is 52. Actor Christian Campbell is 51. Actor Rhea Seehorn is 51. Actor Mackenzie Astin is 50. Country musician Matt Mangano (The Zac Brown Band) is

47. Actor Rebecca Herbst is 46. Actor Malin Akerman is 45. Actor Jason Biggs is 45. Actor Rami Malek is 42. Actor-singer Clare Bowen is 39. Actor Emily VanCamp is 37. Actor Malcolm David Kelley is 31. Actor Sullivan Sweeten is 28.

# Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that reaches more than 1,800 retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013. 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?



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