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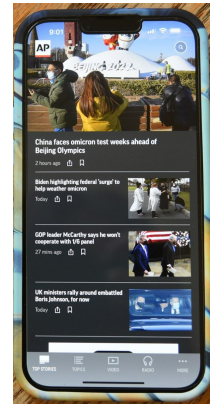
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Connecting

May 16, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this May 16, 2023,

It's a "small world" out there – proven once again in our lead story from one of AP's finest writers, **Nancy Shulins**.

Her lead: "The text from a stranger stunned me for a minute, then sent me hurtling back to 1987 and a spellbinding story: a reunion of people who'd had half their brains removed in a surgery known as hemispherectomy."

If you're like me, you're compelled to read more.

AM radio thoughts ... from colleague **Paul Harrington:** "Leave the AM band on the car radios. If the driver prefers FM they can change it. If they don't know how to change the radio's bands, they shouldn't be driving." And from colleague **Bobbi Bowman:** "YES to AM Radio. It's the soundtrack of the country - especially in rural areas."

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy, live it to your fullest!

Paul

A text sent her back 36 years to a spellbinding AP story



Beth with Nancy Shulins

Nancy Shulins - The text from a stranger stunned me for a minute, then sent me hurtling back to 1987 and a spellbinding story: a reunion of people who'd had half their brains removed in a surgery known as hemispherectomy.

Eight "hemis" between age 2 and 20 were returning to Johns Hopkins Hospital for a weekend pizza party, a picnic, and a full slate of tests. The hospital also hoped to raise awareness that the surgery one of their neurologists called "horrendous" was possible.

I was ecstatic when my editor, Jack Cappon, signed off on the assignment.

I arrived in Baltimore not knowing what to expect. Some of those returning had their hemispherectomies several years prior; others just months. Kids who had arrived for their groundbreaking surgeries unable to speak, crawl, eat or hold up their heads returned singing songs, quoting nursery rhymes, and telling knock-knock jokes.

The surgery was a treatment of last resort for Rasmussen's Encephalitis, a progressive, autoimmune type of epilepsy that attacks two in 10 million children and responds to no other treatment. Its calling card: near constant seizures resulting from inflammation on one side of the brain.

For a feature writer, it was Christmas morning. Not only were children and parents happy to tell their stories, their surgeon's story was equally compelling. Dr. Ben Carson, born in Detroit to a mother with a third-grade education, had risen above poverty, deprivation, and his own volatility to become the nation's youngest chief of pediatric neurosurgery.

When I met him, Carson was 35 and fresh off another medical triumph: the first successful separation of Siamese twins joined at the back of the head. He would go on to a 29-year medical career before retiring from medicine and reinventing himself as an author, speaker, and politician. Yes, that Ben Carson – unsuccessful 2016 presidential candidate, then Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in the Trump Administration, an eyebrow-raising position for one of medicine's most brilliant minds.

Watching Carson's unlikely rise in politics, I wondered what became of the young medical pioneers with whom I had shared that long-ago weekend.

Then came the text from Beth, who was enrolled in the improv course I'd signed up for on a whim: "Did you ever write an article for the LA Times about a little girl who had a hemispherectomy at Johns Hopkins?"

I picked myself up off the floor and wrote back that yes, I had written an AP series about the reunion that was picked up by the Times, among others.

"Did you know any of the patients or doctors involved?" I asked.

"I am the little girl that you wrote about!!!"

"Seriously?"

Seriously. Her mother had recognized my name on the improv class roster.

The 8-year-old whose journey to wellness led the second part of my series, is now 43, with a megawatt grin and exuberance that won't quit. While improv had been an impulse move on my part, it was very much in keeping with Beth's trajectory as an inspirational speaker and a board member of the Association for Applied and Therapeutic Humor.

"My right side is still hibernating, and I walk with a limp, but my life is pretty awesome," texted Bath, who lives with her parents in Connecticut not far from me. She loves drawing, sweets, and her 4-year-old retriever named Gromet. She has a "superhero" brother who's a New York City firefighter, and a goddaughter and niece she adores. Her parents are her role models.

When we met face-to-face at improv the following week, she greeted me with a bearhug. We shared our story with classmates, who all marveled at the odds of us

reconnecting after 36 years. Always the reporter, I had to know what lesson she had needed to learn to become the woman she is today.

“Every day is a brand-new beginning and it’s up to you to decide how to live it... Live your best life. It’s up to you to share with us what that is.”

P.S.: I turned out to be just okay at improv. Beth, on the other hand, is a natural. She slays.

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Links to Shulins’ AP stories that appeared in the LA Times – click [here](#) for Part 1, click [here](#) for Part 2.

Elise Amendola: Empathetic like very few people

[Santiago Lyon](#) - I had the pleasure of coinciding with Elise (Amendola) on a couple of assignments when I was working as AP's photo editor/chief photographer based in Madrid (Ryder Cup golf in Spain, World Cup soccer in South Korea) and found her to be amazingly warm, empathetic, friendly and helpful to all who crossed her path. She was empathetic like very few people - a tremendous attribute in the world of photojournalism, where building trust is so important, whether with event managers, athletes or any of the myriad other subjects she photographed. She was also very, very talented with a camera. That combination of emotional intelligence and photographic expertise was always highly effective.

Later as VP/Director of Photography for the AP, I was always watching and admiring her work. She was definitely someone to send on a story when the stakes were high and you needed reliable excellence. Elise was also quiet and humble and efficient, despite the many things she could be rightfully proud of. Usually, it was her images that did the talking and they spoke loudly and clearly to hundreds of millions of people around the world every day during her 38 years with the AP.

I think the AP should consider naming an award or a fellowship after her. She deserves it.

The world is a poorer place without her, but I know there are scores of colleagues who will remember her with a smile and a nod for the rest of our lives.

Chapeau Elise for a life well lived and heartfelt condolences to Mary and all who knew and loved her.

What I Really Think

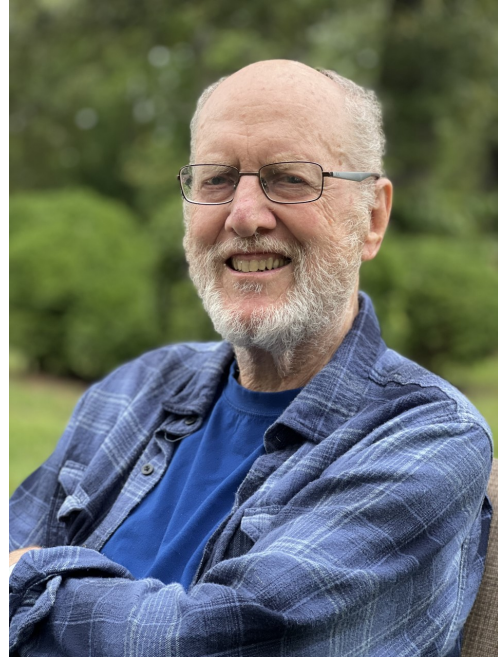
[Mike Doan](#) - I have never enjoyed writing as much as I do with the newspaper column I began a year ago. Every week in the South Boston (VA) News & Record, I say what I

think. What? Journalists of my era weren't supposed to do that! It's he-said, she-said, just the facts, ma'am.

Sometimes I actually do reporting, as in a news story. Those columns didn't get much attention, if I trust the reaction on Facebook, where I also publish the column.

But the numbers take off when I write about myself. Moi? I am nobody. Why does anybody care? I am a very private person—except in print. What am I? A reality show, like the Kardashians?

I got dozens of reactions when I wrote that I never think about death, mainly from people who felt the same way. When I described what I watched on TV as a kid, it was very popular. They liked my experiences with my wife's bed & breakfast too. Another hit was a column about my seventh-grade teacher, who inspired a rock 'n' roll star (John Fogerty). I wrote those off the top of my head, with no reporting at all. (Oh, I did misspell the teacher's name. Argggh!)



I couldn't have written these as a young person. I think my perspective gives them some gravitas. Best of all, I run into people all the time who have read the column in this small town and comment on it. Some of them have never met me before. When I was at AP, perhaps millions read or heard some of my stories about economic reports from the government, but I would never hear from any of them (unless we got sued, which never happened.)

One problem: I am afraid of offending anyone. I don't like conflict. I could never have been an investigative reporter. I avoid politics and local controversies in the column.

The only complaints I have gotten were from a lady upset that I blamed waitresses for late service (It's the kitchen's fault!) and a relative, who didn't like a veiled reference to his son. Big mistake. Can't please everyone.

Connecting series:

Chewed out by a news source



Jim Carrier - As I began reading Dave Egner's chewing out memory, I thought, surely the antagonist would be Bill Janklow.

He was during my 13 years covering South Dakota, 1971-1984, as AP correspondent in Sioux Falls and news editor in Minneapolis, and later as news editor of the Rapid City Journal.

On Saturday of Easter weekend 1983, I was called at home by Timber Lake rancher Byron Dale with the message: "They're coming to get me. I'm sitting here with a gun on my lap."

The Journal had done a major piece on Dale, who owed \$400,000 to Production Credit Association, was going bankrupt, and blamed "money lenders" and the federal money system. Conspiracy theories that included references to the Trilateral Commission were rampant in farm country. In the piece, we quoted Dale as saying "blood would flow" if anyone tried to take his cattle.

That Saturday morning, neighboring ranchers had called Dale to report that a convoy of cattle trucks led by state troopers, armed with a foreclosure order, was en route to take his cattle. That's when he called me. I alerted Tena Haraldson, AP's Sioux Falls correspondent, and headed to the office to help prepare a Sunday piece. At some point I called Dale again, who said he had to hang up because the head of the state troopers was at the door. We learned later that Gov. Janklow was monitoring, if not running, the raid from Pierre, and that once in the kitchen, troopers knocked Dale out with a ketchup bottle. He later published a book called, "Bashed by Bankers" that showed his brutally beaten face on the cover.

As we worked on the piece Saturday, Janklow called and accused me of putting his troopers in danger by alerting Dale of the raid. We had not. His neighbors had. I

argued with him. After shouting at me for several minutes he hung up and called the publisher, Rusty Swan. Rusty called me, upset that I had argued with the governor. He said we would discuss it Monday.

I then took my 8-year-old daughter to buy an Easter dress. I was going through a divorce and it was “my” weekend with her.

On Monday, I was fired. My dismissal letter is one of my proudest possessions. It listed a dozen instances of good, aggressive journalism that gave the editor and publisher heartburn over the previous four years.

As luck would have it, I got a job teaching journalism, filling in for a professor on sabbatical at Black Hills State University. The school president then wanted me for a second year but had been told by the president of the state regents that Janklow vetoed the idea. I took another temporary gig at Ogalala Community College on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Out of the blue, David Hall called from the Denver Post. He had a job. “You can have a vehicle of your choice, and roam around the West and write about anything you want. You will be called The Rocky Mountain Ranger.” The gig lasted 13 years, 1984-1997. (photo attached)

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Mike Holmes - Covering the Texas Capitol as Austin correspondent meant dealing with some seriously big personalities — none bigger than Ann Richards.

Once, during a long-running legislative stalemate over school funding, we were in dire need of a fresh PM lead. I happened to run into Gov. Richards entering the building.

“Do you have any new initiative on school finance?” I asked.

Already irate about something else, she snapped back with a firm - “No” - and hurried into her office.

Well, that was enough to top the PMer: the governor said she was offering nothing new to try to break the logjam.

About an hour later, the bureau phone rang. It was Richards calling from her car en route to a speech.

“Michael,” she shouted, using my full first name and signaling trouble. She then proceeded to rather colorfully blame me, personally, for prolonging the legislative standoff.

I finally got a few words in. “Governor, I asked you a straightforward question and you said ‘no.’ Are you suggesting I misquoted you?”

She paused. “That IS what I said, but you know it’s NOT what I meant.”

Stifling a chuckle, I replied: "Governor, I can only report what you're saying - not what you're thinking."

She did the car phone equivalent of slamming the phone down. Our PM lead held up just fine.

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Dan Sewell - One that sticks out was on the island of Grenada in 1984, months after the U.S.-led invasion ousted a radical junta that had taken power after a split in its Socialist government led to the execution of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Veteran diplomat Charles "Tony" Gillespie was leading the first U.S. embassy on Grenada, and I was a near-daily visitor to check in or discuss events on the island. Elections were coming up, and some Bishop loyalists from his government formed the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement party to run. I asked Gillespie about it and replied that it sounded like "they're trying to create a cult of personality around Maurice Bishop, and I'm not sure they can do that." I wrote that down in front of him.

I wrote my story attributing the quote to "a senior Western diplomat," which had been the kind of attribution used for months.

The next morning, I stopped by and Gillespie stood up, threw down a piece of paper, and said Washington asked him what the hell he was doing. "There's no other senior Western diplomats here, so everybody knows who this is! Nobody else gets quotes like that from me, and you're not either."

His voice got so loud, an aide came rushing in to see what was going on. Obviously, his comment had irked upper-level State Department officials because Bishop had been an ally of Fidel Castro who often claimed the U.S. and CIA were trying to overthrow him as the only Castro ally in the English-speaking Caribbean.

The U.S. was clearly wary of reminding Grenadians that their popular slain leader had been at odds and didn't want to see a party dedicated to him take off.

Later that day, as I arrived at the office of the U.S.-backed leader of another party (which would win and form a new government), Gillespie emerged from the office, having obviously coached him on what to tell me about the Bishop party, which was virtually nothing.

Gillespie's next posting was in Colombia, where he received death threats from the drug cartels, so I doubt that he thought much more about the day he got yelled at by Washington and then yelled at me.

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Jim Willis - I had been on the job as managing editor of the Birmingham Post-Herald for only a few days in 1984 when my phone rang and the voice on the other end advised me to hold for U.S. Sen. Jeremiah Denton.

I swelled with pride thinking the former Naval aviator and prisoner of war in Hanoi was probably calling to welcome me to Alabama.

Wrong! The senator came on the line and proceeded to profanely inform me that he held me, the newspaper and one of our reporters in the lowest possible regard because of our "biased" coverage of a speech he had made the week before.

The monologue ended and Denton hung up before I could thank him for the call.

What's Re(a)d, White and Black and Can't Be Found All Over?

[Peggy Walsh](#) - This popped up in a garden group I'm on, on Facebook. Someone suggested newspaper as a weed blocker in flower beds.

Aside from people asking where to get an actual newspaper, this comment really spoke to today.

"Who has newspaper anymore? I literally needed some recently and was like ... I have never in my adult life had a paper news subscription."

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Mike Conroy](#)

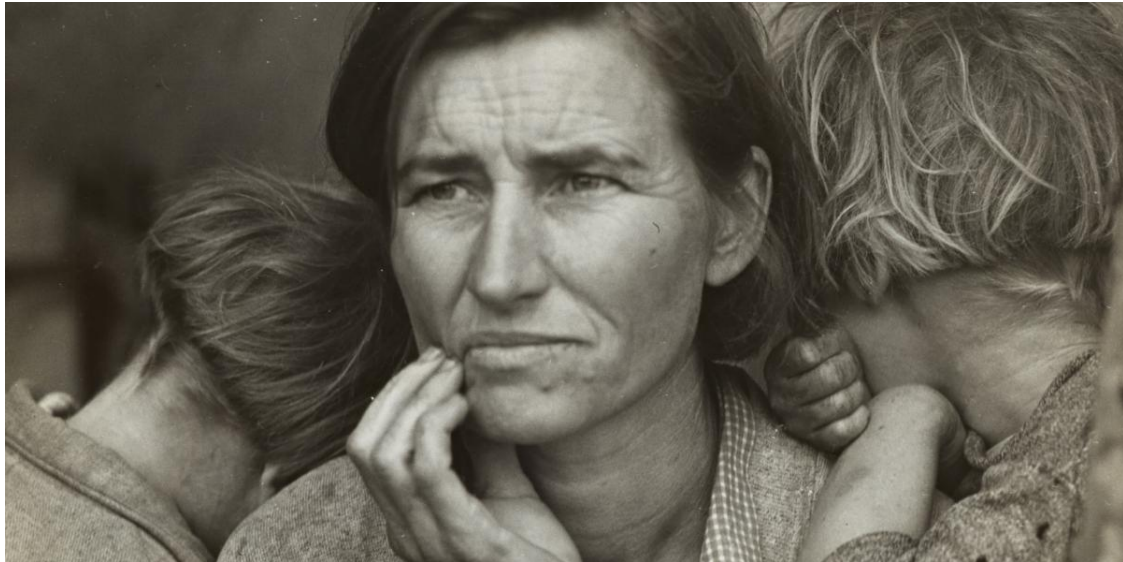
[Susana Hayward](#)

[Larry Lage](#)

[Joe McGowan](#)

Stories of interest

The Real Story Behind the ‘Migrant Mother’ in the Great Depression-Era Photo (History.com)



BY: SARAH PRUITT

It's one of the most iconic photos in American history. A woman in ragged clothing holds a baby as two more children huddle close, hiding their faces behind her shoulders. The mother squints into the distance, one hand lifted to her mouth and anxiety etched deep in the lines on her face.

From the moment it first appeared in the pages of a San Francisco newspaper in March 1936, the image known as "Migrant Mother" came to symbolize the hunger, poverty and hopelessness endured by so many Americans during the Great Depression. The photographer Dorothea Lange had taken the shot, along with a series of others, days earlier in a camp of migrant farm workers in Nipomo, California.

Lange was working for the federal government's Resettlement Administration—later the Farm Security Administration (FSA)—the New Deal-era agency created to help struggling farm workers. She and other FSA photographers would take nearly 80,000 photographs for the organization between 1935 to 1944, helping wake up many Americans to the desperate plight of thousands of people displaced from the drought-ravaged region known as the Dust Bowl.

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

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CNN CEO Chris Licht Reprimanded Reporter Oliver Darcy for His ‘Emotional’ Coverage of Trump Town Hall (The Wrap)

By Rosemary Rossi

CNN CEO Chris Licht “summoned” network media reporter Oliver Darcy into his office after the Donald Trump Town hall and chastised him for making his coverage “too emotional” while also asserting the importance of the appearance of unbiased reporting, according to Puck’s Dylan Byers.

On Friday, Byers, who is the founding partner and senior correspondent at Puck, tweeted that Darcy and his editor had been “summoned” to a meeting with Licht and “top executives in which they told him that his coverage of Trump town hall had been too emotional and stressed the importance of remaining dispassionate.”

Strongly contradicting his own network’s full-throated defense of the event, Darcy slammed the town hall as a “spectacle of lies” that, he implied, did harm to the country.

“It’s hard to see how America was served by the spectacle of lies that aired on CNN Wednesday evening,” Darcy said in his Reliable Sources newsletter, which was released just 15 minutes after CNN released a statement touting the event’s success.

Read more [here](#).

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Journalism’s Essential Value (Columbia Journalism Review)

The debate around “objectivity”—if that’s even the right word, anymore—has become among the most contested in journalism. In recent years, CJR has served as a forum for that discussion, through numerous pieces, and even a conference, last fall, exploring approaches to the question. This essay, from the publisher of the New York Times, and the chairman of the New York Times company, is the latest in that ongoing conversation. Email us your thoughts at editors@cjr.org.

By A.G. Sulzberger

As long as independent journalism has existed, it has angered people who want stories told their way or not at all. But I can pinpoint the moment when I realized how contested the very idea of journalistic independence had become.

It was the fall of 2018, my first year as publisher of the New York Times. I had spent my career until then as a reporter and editor steeped in the methods, values, and stylistic quirks of traditional journalism, covering small towns for the Providence Journal and local government for the Portland Oregonian before joining the Times. Even after years of watching these traditions come under intensifying pressure from the internet and social media, I was struck by how frontally the old journalistic model was being challenged by the dynamics of covering a new president unconstrained by precedent and social norms—sometimes even reality itself.

Read more [here](#).

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Disabilities in media: Overcoming obstacles and achieving success (Editor and Publisher)

Dave Stevens | for Editor & Publisher

I was asked to write this story about disabilities in media while experiencing one of the most incredible weeks of my life in Florida. In a span of seven days, I covered four Major League Baseball (MLB) games, three high school baseball games and a National Basketball Association (NBA) playoff game.

Did I mention I was born without legs? Yes, it's true; despite what many consider a handicap, I am celebrating 40 years in television broadcasting.

Back in Wickenburg, Arizona, I'd played three high school sports. I was the only legless baseball, football and wrestler in state history. That led to an appearance in 1982 on "That's Incredible," an ABC-TV show that highlighted unique and inspiring stories. There were only three networks then, so before 30 million viewers, I told Fran Tarkenton and America that I aspired to replace Howard Cosell. Flash forward to today, and I've now covered 25 Super Bowls and three World Series. I won seven National Sports Emmys during my 20 years at ESPN and have traveled to almost every sports venue.

Looking back, it seems pretty crazy and unrealistic that someone with a disability could succeed in journalism. Historically and statistically, most people with seen and unseen disabilities don't get opportunities in television, film and news media.

Read more [here](#).

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Vice Media files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, the latest in a string of digital media setbacks (AP)

NEW YORK (AP) — Vice Media on Monday filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, the most recent digital media company to falter after a meteoric rise.

A consortium of lenders — Fortress Investment Group, Soros Fund Management and Monroe Capital — is buying Vice for about \$225 million, in addition to taking on a significant amount of the company's debt. Other parties will be able to submit bids as well.

Vice said it expects the sale to be wrapped up in the next two to three months. It said that during the process its media brands will continue to produce content and the company will keep paying its employees and vendors.

In a prepared statement, Vice co-CEOs Bruce Dixon and Hozefa Lokhandwala said the “accelerated court-supervised sale process” will strengthen the company and position it for long-term growth, “thereby safeguarding the kind of authentic journalism and content creation that makes VICE such a trusted brand for young people and such a valued partner to brands, agencies and platforms.”

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bill Sikes.

The Final Word

1 big thing: Embracing age (Axios)

Last week, we wrote about the ages most Americans stop feeling young, which is 42, and start feeling old, which is 52.

We asked readers when they felt like they were getting older — and how they’ve embraced age.

Here's a selection of the hundreds of thoughtful responses we received:

"This sure was impeccable timing as yours truly prepares for his 43rd birthday this Thursday! One thing's for sure — I no longer need a stethoscope to listen to my body. It's louder than a room full of 5-year-olds." —John P., Lombard, Ill. (Happy birthday, John!

"Man, nobody prepared me for the 40s, and especially the body starting to break down and recovery taking longer and so forth. I'd say 40, but I'm 41 and looking forward to 42." —Mia M., Houston

"I am now 72 1/2. I think I began feeling old about age 70. I am an avid bicyclist. Age 70 was when recovery from a bike ride took longer than 24 hours. ... On the other hand, I have never been more content and at peace in my life. Still blessed with good health; there is still much I can do and still enjoy." —John R., San Gabriel, Calif.

"When I was 32 years old, I quit thinking of myself as a 'girl,' but rather as a 'woman' — fully adult, having contended with (and survived) some major challenges. Since turning 80, I have finally accepted that I am no longer in late middle age but am officially old. But nothing else has changed." —Katherine S., Chapel Hill, N.C.

"Tore my achilles last year after some pandemic running, a marathon and not enough stretching. So, yeah, as a 1981 baby from the Oregon Trail Generation, I am feeling that shift in my body. I've found from watching and talking to folks in my parents' generation that there is so much more ahead to explore. Seeing the world through my kids eyes also brings joy. So onward!" —Stodd P., Los Angeles

"I just turned 50 last month, and while I'm fortunate to work at a youthful company (average age is late 20s), the fact that my daughter is turning 16 later this year and learning to drive makes me feel like a true adult finally." —Christopher M., Minneapolis

Here's to celebrating life at any age!

Click [here](#) for Axios site.

Today in History – May 16, 2023



Today is Tuesday, May 16, the 136th day of 2023. There are 229 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 16, 1943, the nearly month-long Warsaw Ghetto Uprising came to an end as German forces crushed the Jewish resistance and blew up the Great Synagogue.

On this date:

In 1770, Marie Antoinette, age 14, married the future King Louis XVI of France, who was 15.

In 1866, Congress authorized minting of the first five-cent piece, also known as the "Shield nickel."

In 1929, the first Academy Awards were presented. "Wings" won "best production," while Emil Jannings (YAHN'-ings) and Janet Gaynor were named best actor and best actress.

In 1939, the federal government began its first food stamp program in Rochester, New York.

In 1957, federal agent Eliot Ness, who organized "The Untouchables" team that took on gangster Al Capone, died in Coudersport, Pennsylvania, at age 54.

In 1960, the first working laser was demonstrated at Hughes Research Laboratories in Malibu, California, by physicist Theodore Maiman.

In 1966, China launched the Cultural Revolution, a radical as well as deadly reform movement aimed at purging the country of “counter-revolutionaries.”

In 1975, Japanese climber Junko Tabei became the first woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

In 1990, death claimed entertainer Sammy Davis Jr. in Los Angeles at age 64 and “Muppets” creator Jim Henson in New York at age 53.

In 1997, President Bill Clinton publicly apologized for the notorious Tuskegee experiment, in which government scientists deliberately allowed Black men to weaken and die of treatable syphilis.

In 2007, anti-war Democrats in the Senate failed in an attempt to cut off funds for the Iraq war.

In 2016, President Barack Obama called on the nation to support law enforcement officers as he bestowed the Medal of Valor on 13 who risked their lives.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama named a temporary chief for the scandal-marred Internal Revenue Service and pressed Congress to approve new security money to prevent another Benghazi-style terrorist attack. “The Office” aired its final episode after nine seasons on the air on NBC. Candice Glover won the 12th season of “American Idol” on Fox.

Five years ago: Officials at Michigan State University said they had agreed to pay \$500 million to settle claims from more than 300 women and girls who said they were assaulted by sports doctor Larry Nassar. North Korea canceled high-level talks with South Korea after the nation engaged in joint military exercises with the United States. Five people were killed as thunderstorms struck the northeastern U.S.

One year ago: The U.S. death toll from COVID-19 hits 1 million. The once-unimaginable figure only hinted at the multitudes of loved ones and friends staggered by grief and frustration. Some of those left behind said they cannot return to normal. More than 260 Ukrainian fighters, including some badly wounded, were evacuated from a steel plant in the ruined city of Mariupol and taken to areas under Russia’s control. Baby formula maker Abbott reached an agreement with U.S. health regulators to restart production at its largest domestic factory amid a national shortage.

Today’s Birthdays: Former U.S. Senator and Connecticut Governor Lowell Weicker is 92. Former Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats is 80. Jazz musician Billy Cobham is 79. Actor Danny Trejo is 79. Actor Bill Smitrovich is 76. Actor Pierce Brosnan is 70. Actor Debra Winger is 68. Olympic gold medal gymnast Olga Korbut is 67. Olympic gold medal marathon runner Joan Benoit Samuelson is 65. Actor Mare Winningham is 64. Rock musician Boyd Tinsley (The Dave Matthews Band) is 59. Rock musician Krist Novoselic (noh-voh-SEL’-ik) is 58. Singer Janet Jackson is 57. Country singer Scott Reeves (Blue County) is 57. Actor Brian (BREE’-un) F. O’Byrne is 56. R&B singer Ralph Tresvant (New Edition) is 55. Actor David Boreanaz is 54. Political commentator Tucker Carlson is 54. Actor Tracey Gold is 54. International Tennis Hall of Famer Gabriela Sabatini is 53. Country singer Rick Trevino is 52. Musician Simon Katz

is 52. TV personality Bill Rancic is 52. Actor Khary Payton is 51. Rapper Special Ed is 51. Actor Tori Spelling is 50. Actor Sean Carrigan is 49. Singer-rapper B. Slade (formerly known as Tonex) is 48. Actor Lynn Collins is 46. Actor Melanie Lynskey is 46. Actor Jim Sturgess is 45. Actor Joseph Morgan is 42. DJ Alex Pall (The Chainsmokers) is 38. Actor Megan Fox is 37. Actor Drew Roy is 37. Actor Jacob Zachar is 37. Actor-comedian Jermaine Fowler is 35. Actor Thomas Brodie-Sangster is 33. Actor Marc John Jefferies is 33. Olympic bronze medal figure skater Ashley Wagner is 32. Actor Miles Heizer is 29.

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.

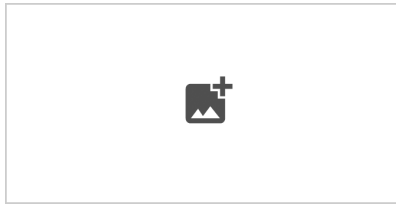
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

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

Paul Stevens

Editor, Connecting newsletter

paulstevens46@gmail.com



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