

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

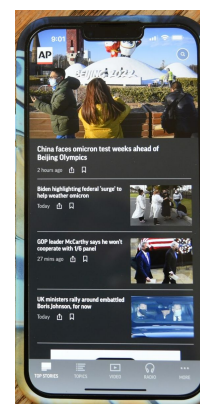
[View as Webpage](#)



# Connecting

June 7, 2023

Click [here](#) for sound of the Teletype



[Top AP News](#)

[Top AP Photos](#)

[AP Merchandise](#)

[Connecting Archive](#)

[AP Emergency Relief Fund](#)

[AP Books](#)

Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this June 7, 2023,

Today's Connecting leads with a thoughtful piece by our colleague **Mi-Ai Parrish** on her reply when asked at an Arizona Community Foundation board retreat - What is one thing people should know about her?

She noted: "Growing up as half of the world's Korean-Christian/Ukrainian-Jewish population — my sister was the other half — I am very familiar with feeling different in a society that values assimilation."

Read on – and if you wish to respond to that question for Connecting, your reply would be appreciated.

The death of one of the most notorious spies in US history, Robert Hanssen, in his cell at the Supermax federal prison in Colorado hit home for our colleague **Ann Blackman**,

who co-authored a book about the FBI agent who spied for Moscow for two decades before his arrest in 2001 and his sentencing to life without parole the following year.

Blackman shares her memories in another compelling piece in today's issue.

Finally, the 79<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Tuesday of the Allied invasion of France, D-Day, brought back memories from several of our colleagues.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy, live this day to your fullest.

Paul

## When people ask, 'What are you?', I say, 'I am American.'

**(EDITOR'S NOTE:** Mi-Ai Parrish posted the following recently on LinkedIn and gave permission for Connecting to use. She is a member of the AP board of directors, leads Arizona State University Media Enterprise and is the Professor for Media Innovation and Leadership at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. She is president and CEO of MAP Strategies Group, based in Phoenix. She served as president and publisher of The Arizona Republic/AZCentral.com and market president at USA Today Network, and held similar leadership roles at The Kansas City Star and (Boise) Idaho Statesman.)

[Mi-Ai Parrish](#) - What one thing should fellow (Arizona Community Foundation) board members know about you?" Forty of us were asked this recently at a directors' retreat. The answers were unexpected, inspiring, funny, assumption-bending. I thought I'd share what popped into my head that day. What's yours?

Growing up as half of the world's Korean-Christian/Ukrainian-Jewish population — my sister was the other half — I am very familiar with feeling different in a society that values assimilation. Like many of you, I have too many stories of ways those on the inside have reminded me I don't fit in and how increasingly dangerous and isolating that can be.

One of my early memories is of my grandmother's campaign to get me to change my name. Unlike our dozens of Korean-American cousins, my sister and I don't have American first names. Grandma Ruth vociferously disagreed with my hippy parents, spending visits trying out nicknames from our middle names and sending personalized gifts with options -- like ID bracelets and stationary with "Mandy" and "Andie" and a particularly hideous yellow T-shirt with "Grandma (Hearts) M. Andrea."

She wheedled and warned that I'd start out in a hole, be teased, mispronounced and misspelled, and that it could hurt my job prospects. She wasn't wrong, and she wanted to protect me.

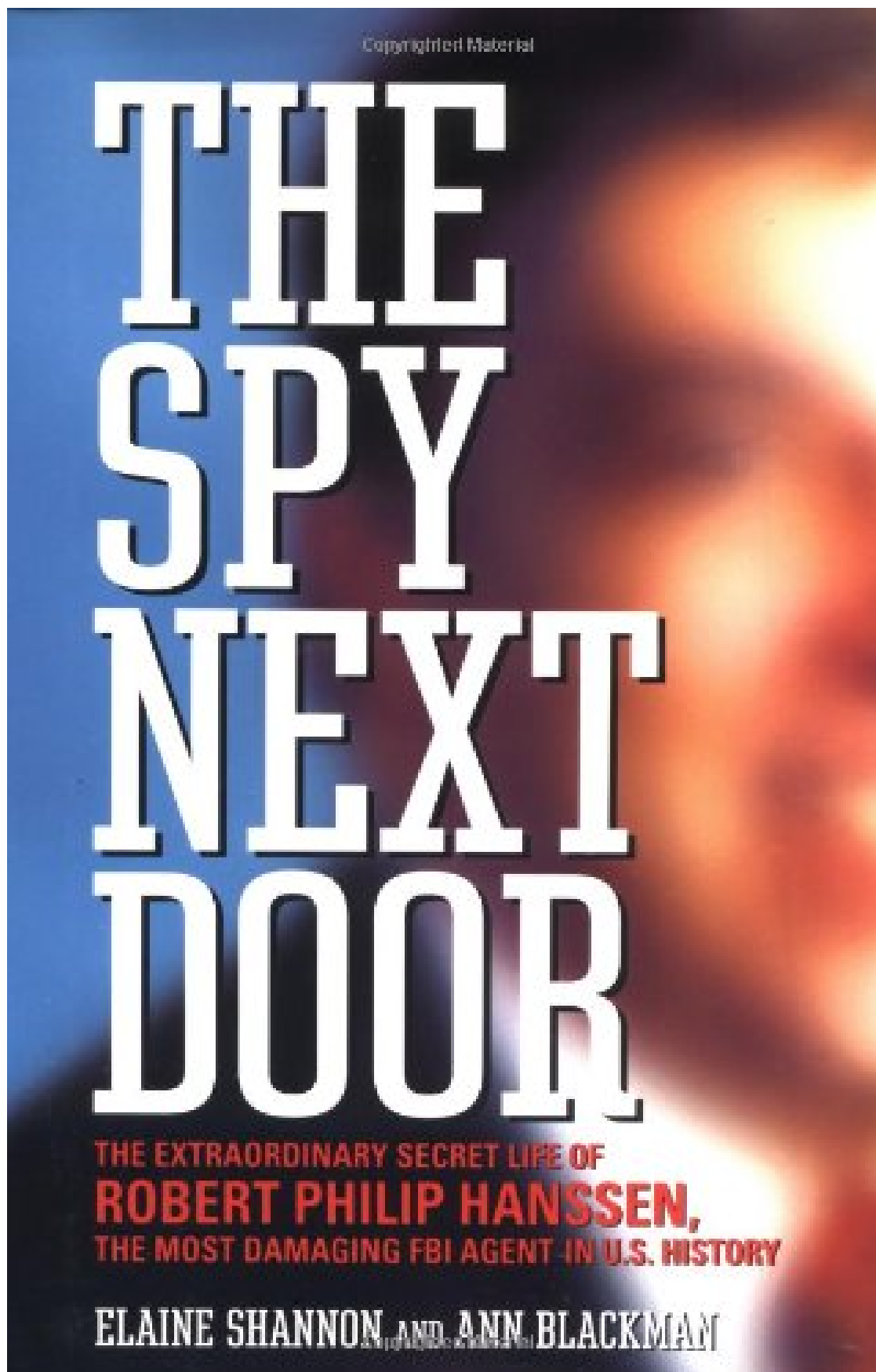
I think of her at the doctor's office when they call for "Me Dash Uh Parrish" and at the airport when I have to show my passport and can't check in by app because airlines still can't handle my hyphen. She was in my head when the schoolyard bullies came for me and as I've quixotically resisted every opportunity to make my life easier by taking her advice.

But that summer I was 7, I chose to not blend. I kept the name that has four letters, three vowels, two capital letters, and a hyphen. The one my mom chose for me that means beauty and love.

I've spent the intervening years mostly embracing being different. And when people ask, as they still do, "What are you?" I say, "I am American."



## On the death of a spy



(EDITOR'S NOTE: Deep in the [New York Times story](#) on the death in his prison cell of Robert P. Hanssen, a former FBI agent who spied for Moscow for more than two decades, our Connecting colleague **Ann Blackman** was quoted:

“Hanssen was a thicket of paradoxes, a suburban dad and outwardly devoted family man who professed to be deeply religious while at the same time betraying family, faith and country, all and everyone who ever mattered to him,” Ann Blackman, a co-author of “The Spy Next Door,” said on Monday. “For 21 years, through the terms of four presidents and three F.B.I. directors, he fooled them all.”

Blackman, who worked for Time Magazine at the time Hanssen was arrested in 2001 after earlier work as a journalist for the AP, shares her memories in this piece for the newsletter:



**Ann Blackman** - The day the story broke that FBI agent Robert Hanssen had been arrested for spying for the Soviet Union, I walked into the office of my Time colleague Elaine Shannon, the magazine’s FBI correspondent, and said, “Helluva story.”

Elaine replied, “I’ve already got a book contract. Want to split it? I’ll do the spycraft, you write about his personal life.”

We had a deal on a book about a man still described as one of the most dangerous spies of his generation.

As I began looking into Hanssen’s background, I was astounded by the paradoxes of the man. Hanssen professed to be a devout Catholic, went to Mass every day, belonged to Opus Dei, an ultra-conservative Catholic society and sent his six kids to Opus Dei-run Catholic schools. The director of the girls’ school described Hanssen to me as “a perfectly lovely man.”

Yet my best source, Hanssen’s closest friend from high school to the day of Hanssen’s arrest, told me that for years Hanssen sent him nude pictures of Bonnie, Hanssen’s wife, that Hanssen had let his friend peek into the bathroom when Bonnie was showering, that he had helped Hanssen set up a video system in Hanssen’s house that enabled him to watch Hanssen and his wife having sex.

What kind of person would do this? More important, who would do it and tell a news reporter? The guy scared me. Unlike most key sources whom reporters usually interview in places where they won’t be seen, I always interviewed this man in public places—hotel lobbies, a city park bench, even in an outdoor café across from the FBI headquarters in Washington. Elaine and I knew the FBI was keeping tabs on our interviews, and if this guy gave me any problems, I wanted witnesses. Over countless interviews, he gave me the road map to Hanssen’s life.

Hanssen frequented a strip club in downtown Washington. I needed to describe the scene but didn’t want to go alone. My husband, Michael Putzel, (readily) agreed to accompany me. Having dressed for an earlier interview with the head mistress of the Opus Dei school in a tailored navy suit with white blouse, I looked like a narc, and we

were seated in Siberia. As the show ended and the women saddled up to men in the audience to have bills stuffed in their garters, Mike took out his wallet.

“What are you doing?” I hissed.

He rolled his eyes. I hadn’t seen a waiter standing at our table: “Paying the bill,” Mike said.

To describe the clandestine places where Hanssen made his dead drops, Elaine and I went to the suburban Virginia parks at the exact time and day of the year Hanssen did so we could describe the muddy paths and smell of moldy leaves under the footbridge where Hanssen would leave his packages with documents marked “Top Secret.” These night time trips terrified me, and I always took our dog.

We never interviewed Bonnie or Bob Hanssen, who was under court order not to give media interviews. Nor did we ever approach any of their six children. Twenty years later, the reporting holds up, and I still think we made the right call.

## *Connecting series:* Your first published story

**Al Cross** - I was 11. I preferred books to sports, but once a week (!) a baseball game was on TV, and my dad’s friend Pee Wee Reese was the play-by-play announcer, with the extra-colorful Dizzy Dean alongside, so I watched. Every now and then they would mention someone who was never shown or named but seemed to have supreme authority: the official scorer. At the library in Albany, Ky., I spied a book “How to Score Baseball Games” and started keeping a scorebook of the TV games. My father heard the local Little League needed a scorekeeper, and I passed the interview. Commissioner James Cooksey said, “And if you want to, you can write up the games for the paper.” And so began a career. My first story, a roundup of the week’s games, was published on the front page of the Clinton County News on July 11, 1965, and I got \$5 per story. I was probably too strict in calling hits and errors; the 14-year-olds in the Babe Ruth League grumbled about their batting averages, and I mentioned that to one of the coaches, Joe Talbott. He replied, “You just call ‘em like you see ‘em.” I followed that advice not just as a scorekeeper and sportswriter, but as a rural newspaper editor and manager, and as a political writer and columnist. It’s still good advice.

## On the 79<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day

**Bobbi Bowman** – Thank you so much for the D-Day story. It was just what I was hoping to read — how AP covered the day.

I was honored to stand on Omaha Beach twice with some of the heroes of the 29th Infantry Division who landed that morning when they were 18, 19 and 20 years old. I

joined them for the 60th and 65th D-Day commemorations.

After ceremonies on the beach we visited some of the towns they helped liberate. The French treated these heroes better than Americans did. The trips were unforgettable.

A visitors center that I think opened in 2010 is fabulous. Some of the veterans that I met are in the films shown at the visitors center. The new center really tells the history of the long, bloody Normandy Campaign. It's such a huge improvement over the old visitor center — which was just a house where you could look up names. There are great museums at Utah Beach and Sword Beach (one of the British beaches).

The new center is a wonderful monument to the men who fought their way through Normandy. We can thank Steven Spielberg and "Saving Private Ryan" for much of this.

Here is a story I wrote in 2011 about my trip. It contains a picture of the veterans and their names.

## Remembering the Heroes of Omaha Beach



By **BOBBI BOWMAN**  
Patch

On June 5, 1944, 175,000 men, a fleet of 5,000 ships and landing craft, 50,000 vehicles, and 11,000 planes sat in southern England, poised to attack secretly across the English Channel along a 50-mile stretch of the Normandy coast of France.

Three years ago a handful of those 175,000 men who, as teenagers, had crammed into that armada returned to the beaches of Normandy to celebrate the 65th anniversary of that historic day.

They returned as granddads to remember lost friends and comrades. To again receive the thanks of the French. To put a few ghosts to rest. To let their grandchildren know that grandpa, in his youth literally saved the world.

I traveled to Omaha Beach for the 60th and 65th anniversaries of D-Day. We traveled with the veterans of the 29th Infantry Division. The 29th, a National Guard unit from Maryland and Virginia, along with the First Division, The Big Red One, landed in a hell known as Omaha Beach that morning.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

**Lausitzer Zeitung**  
vormals Spremberger Anzeiger  
**Parteiamtliche Tageszeitung für den Kreis Spremberg**

Seit dem 1. April 1933 ist die Lausitzer Zeitung als Parteiorgan der NSDAP in den Reichsorganisationsstellen eingetragene Zeitung. Die Lausitzer Zeitung ist ein Organ der NSDAP im Reichsorganisationsstellenbereich. Die Lausitzer Zeitung ist ein Organ der NSDAP im Reichsorganisationsstellenbereich. Die Lausitzer Zeitung ist ein Organ der NSDAP im Reichsorganisationsstellenbereich.

---

Nr. 149 Mittwoch, den 28. Juni 1944 108. Jahrgang

---

**Unverbrüchliche deutsch-finnische Solidarität**

**Deutsche Waffenhilfe für den Schicksalskampf des tapferen finnischen Verbündeten**

**Beisprechungen Ribbentrops mit der finnischen Regierung im Geiste bewährter Waffenbrüderlichkeit**

**Berlin, 28. Juni.** Der Reichsminister des Auswärtigen von Ribbentrop hat der finnischen Regierung einen Besuch abgestattet. Während dieses Besuchs wurden die deutsch- und finnland-interessierenden Fragen und insbesondere der von der finnischen Regierung vorgebrachte Wunsch nach Waffenhilfe besprochen. Die deutsche Regierung hat sich bereit erklärt, diesem Wunsch der finnischen Regierung zu entsprechen.

Die Beisprechungen, die zwischen Reichsaußenminister von Ribbentrop einerseits und dem Staatspräsidenten Risti und dem finnischen Außenminister Mäkilä andererseits stattfanden, waren getragen von dem Geist der Waffenbrüderlichkeit zwischen den Armeen und der Freundschaft zwischen den beiden Völkern.

Völlige Übereinstimmung der Auffassungen der Reichsregierung und der finnischen Regierung wurde in allen Punkten erzielt.

**LZ.** Finnland steht in einem schweren Kampf um sein Dasein. Mit bewundernswürdiger Tapferkeit hat das finnische Volk, das im Norden Europas die Kulturen und Lebenswerte unseres Kontinents mitterteilt, bisher gekämpft. Erneut haben die Sowjets ihre Wucht gegen die Finnen eingesetzt, um ihren Widerstand zu brechen. Das deutsche Volk, seit Jahrzehnten der finnischen Nation auf das härteste verbunden,



**Finnlands harte Kampfentschlossenheit**

**Helsinki, 28. Juni.** „Man Suunta“ betrachtet im Verlaufe vom Dienstag die gegenwärtige militärische und politische Lage Finnlands. „Wenn man das Gewinnen und Verluste des derzeitigen Kampfes an der karäolischen Front sachlich abwägt“, so erklärt das Blatt, „gibt es für Finnland keinen Anlass zur Beirgung. Die Territorverluste auf der Karäolischen Landenge sind zwar im Augenblick schmerzhaft, jedoch nur vorübergehend, und mit ihrem Preis ist durch die angenehme Zeit die Kampfkraft der finnischen Armee ungewöhnlich erhalten geblieben. Die Sowjets haben ihren Angriff teuer bezahlen müssen und dabei nur solche Erfolge erzielt, die keine Nebenben sein werden.“

Finnland befindet sich heute, so führt „Man Suunta“

**Der Zerstoerung entgehen.**

Umladung von Fahrzeugen der 4. amerikanischen Infanteriedivision von einem Spezialtransport-schiff an Bord eines Leichter. Der Leichter wurde von der deutschen Küstenartillerie gefolgt und zerstört. Die Aufnahme stammt von dem I.S.W. Bericht Leutnant Kederhandl von der 4. amerikanischen Division und wurde einer Brieftaube, die völlig erkrankt in deutsche Hände fiel, abgenommen. (Ausnahme Edel-Silberdienst)

---

**25 Jahre nach Versailles**



# AP photographer returns to site of invasion 40 years later

*Martin Lederhandler, formerly 1st Lt. Martin Lederhandler, is the only AP photographer still working for the AP on an active basis who took part in the D-Day landings with the 4th Infantry Division Signal Corps Battalion. Lederhandler went back to Normandy 40 years after the invasion to photograph the invasion site. He filed this story. Editor.*

By MARTIN LEDERHANDLER  
Associated Press Photographer

STE. MARIE DU MONT, France (AP) — I returned to Normandy after 40 years, but this time it was a peaceful and friendly invasion by land and not by water.

As I drove toward this small town near Carentan, I saw the typical

hedgerows of the Normandy farmlands, bramble-like hedges so thick and strong that the farmers need no other fences for their livestock.

Somewhere in one of those rows I spent my first night of D-Day.

I recalled waking up the next morning and sensing something wrong and alien and began to search the thick bushes, where I found a dead and very young German officer. He had used the cover of the hedges for his machine gun nest but was killed by advancing infantry.

Later, when the tanks came ashore, they found the hedges clogging their treads and had to have large blades welded in front to cut their way through the fields.

Shortly the fields ended and I found myself on the beaches and sand dunes between Varreville and Le Madeleine. Facing the Channel on this cool gray day, I tried to picture the D-Day activity. I asked myself, did it all happen here, where some 4,000 ships, planes and hundreds of thousands of men came ashore?

All I saw were fishermen and half a dozen other people with their children and dogs romping on the beach. I still was not convinced a huge armada landed here 40 years before. I needed proof and began walking, in hopes of finding a spent cartridge shell, something to tell me again this was a battlefield.

There was death and destruction, fear and acts of bravery, but there were also some small victories.

One was to be alive and mobile enough to get off the beach and move inland away from the accurate German artillery fire.

I continued to walk eastward to a rise in the dunes and coming over it, I stopped and there it was. I choked a bit, for in back of the dunes was a German gun emplacement. Then I knew: Yes, it did all happen here, on Utah beach, and for miles eastward to Omaha, Juno, Sword and Gold beaches of the Allied Forces — British, Canadian and French landings.

I examined the gun and looked up to see a monument nearby that listed some of the units of the landings of D-Day and afterward. Here, etched forever in history, I found the name of my unit, the 165th Signal

Photo Company attached to the 4th Infantry Division.

Without shame, I burst into tears for a moment and the French officers turned away politely and fell silent and I was grateful they let me have my moment.

I continued to move along the beach photographing the now peaceful scenes and again looking out to the waters of the Channel, to recapture in my mind that day of June 6, 1944.

Dawn was about 6 a.m. — cloudy, bright and not too cold as I stood on the deck of a landing ship tank, or LST, and began to photograph the huge armada of ships unfolding in the early light. The sands lined the horizon and the sky was an umbrella of planes — all ours.

I then had to transfer to a landing barge, called a rhino, but continued taking pictures since I had two carrier pigeons on my back as messengers. They were to carry film across the Channel to England for quick radiophoto dispatch to the United States.

Since the pigeons couldn't carry a full roll of film, I soon finished making 10 exposures and placed them inside a special container harness the birds wore, including caption information, my name, unit and area.

Hitting the beach after our jeep conked out in the water, I finished my second roll of pictures of units of the 4th Infantry Division and got rid of the second pigeon.

Eventually, reaching Cherbourg about six weeks later, I came across a German newspaper in an enemy command post and was surprised to find one of my pictures on the front page.

The Germans had captured the birds and distributed the photos as propaganda, saying they showed the U.S. forces being destroyed on the beaches of France. It gave me a laugh to see they also gave me a byline — and spelled my difficult name correctly.

From then on, I was nicknamed 'Pigeon' Lederhandler by my companions. Subsequently in German-occupied countries, I found other papers and magazines with pictures from those two misguided rolls of film.



Photo / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Then 1st Lt. Martin Lederhandler poses in Normandy in 1944

Colleague **Charlie Monzella** wrote to suggest asking Corporate Archives to look up in an old AP Log a story about how a WW2 photo of Allied troops in France shortly after D-Day by Marty Lederhandler ended up being published in a German newspaper. It had to do with carrier pigeons that were supposed to deliver his negatives to the AP in England, but instead flew toward Germany.

Corporate Archives delivered (as always), bringing us Marty's story as printed in the Victorville (Calif.) Daily Press, and an image of the German newspaper. It also provided a photo of Marty that appears in the article, with the caption written at the time of his death in 2010:



In this June 1944 photo, Lt. Marty Lederhandler, serving as a U.S. Army Signal Corps photographer, stands in a town square in Normandy, France, about a week after the D-Day invasion of France. Lederhandler, an AP photographer who captured on film every U.S. president from Herbert Hoover to Bill Clinton, covered the D-Day landing in 1944 and climaxed a 66-year career with an iconic shot of the 9/11 World Trade Center attacks, died late Thursday night, March 25, 2010. He was 92. (AP Photo)

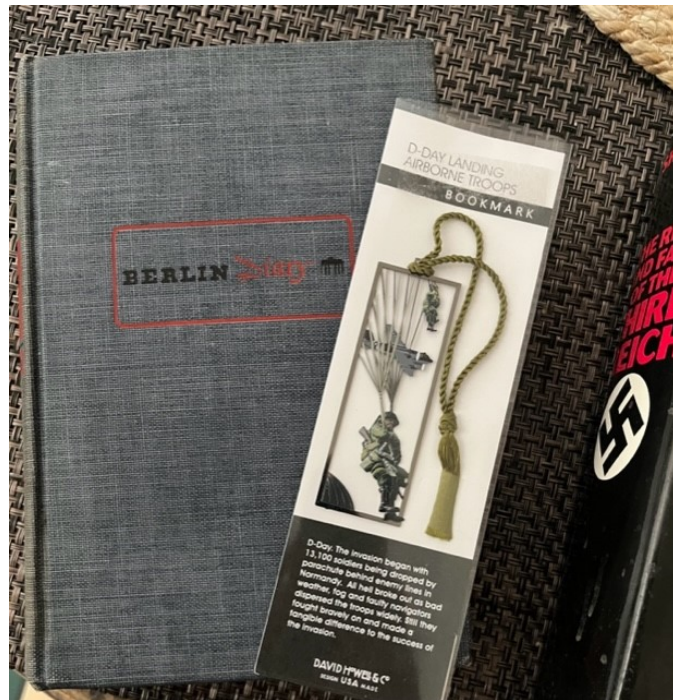
-0-

**Dennis Anderson** - I cannot imagine I am the only Associated Press retiree who plunges into World War II reportage. One of my greats over time has been William L. Shirer, author of the seminal work "The Rise and Fall of The Third Reich."

Even in the revisions of longer historic examination, scholars and historians return to Shirer's first draft of the big history of the Second World War.

As the 79th anniversary of D-Day approached I was nearly done plodding through the volume that preceded "Rise and Fall." Shirer's first "big book," "Berlin Diary" ranked as a warning and "Best Seller" in 1941, with the United States on the eve of entry into World War II.

Shirer served as CBS correspondent in Berlin before the Munich appeasement and as the armored beast of the Third Reich swept across Europe.



I found a first edition of "Berlin Diary" in a Good Will thrift store during a beach trip to Ventura, Calif., in February 2022. As the 79th commemoration of D-Day slips away, I realized I've been reading an entry or two of "Berlin Diary" almost nightly, almost since the Russian invasion of Ukraine began.

I am finishing Shirer's pre-war diary as the drumbeat of Ukraine's counter-offensive fills the news daily. It occurred to me that the D-Day invasion armada constituted the greatest counter-offensive in history to roll back the tide of Nazi domination of Europe.

Revisiting Shirer's canny journalistic observations about Europe sliding into World War II unfolded page by page with a resonance and the chill of past as prelude.

For an example of dictators' connivance, there was an entry from 1939, the year of the Nazi-Soviet "Non-Aggression Pact," which saw Poland invaded and erased by Hitler and Stalin.

Note Shirer's entry from Dec. 1, 1940: "The Soviet Union has invaded Finland! The great champion of the working class, the mighty preacher against 'Fascist Aggression' ... has fallen upon the most decent and workable little democracy in Europe in violation of half a dozen 'solemn treaties.'" Casting Stalin as little different from Hitler, Shirer adds, "Soviet foreign policy turns out to be as 'imperialist' as that of the czars."

On Sept. 28, 1940, after reporting on the swift conquests of the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, France and Norway, Shirer writes to himself, "You don't have to be profound to conclude that the rule of brute force now exercised by the Germans over the occupied territories can never last very long."

“For despite complete military and police power ... you cannot forever rule over foreign European peoples who hate and detest you.”

His opinion of German occupiers runs in mirror image to the reports of Russian brutality in sections of Ukraine seized in what Vladimir Putin dubbed the “special military operation.”

A “bullying sadism,” and “constitutional inability to grasp even faintly what is in the minds and hearts of other people,” and “an instinctive feeling that relations between two people can only be on the basis of master and slave, and never on the basis of let-live equality” summarized Shirer’s evaluation of German invaders’ attitudes.

After the rape, murder and torture documented in Bucha and Mariupol, and the mass deportation of children from Ukraine, how similar this sounds.

As he finished his Berlin odyssey at 1940’s end, Shirer posed the question, “Does Hitler contemplate war with the United States?” The journalist concluded “I am firmly convinced he does contemplate it and that if he wins in Europe and Africa he will in the end launch it unless we are prepared to give up our way of life and adapt ourselves to a subservient place in his totalitarian scheme of things.”

Shirer added, “To Hitler there will not be room in this small world for two great systems of life, government, and trade. For this reason, I think he also will attack Russia, probably before he tackles the Americas.”

A footnote is a less well-known work was later published as “End of A Berlin Diary” that carries Shirer’s journalist observations from 1945 into formation of the United Nations. He arrives in Berlin in 1945 for the Potsdam Conference, with Truman, Churchill and Stalin.

At war’s end Shirer witnessed the Nazi capital flattened by Allied bombing and Red Army vengeance without regret. He wrote that a complicit German people sowed their fate by lashing their destiny to Hitler, ushering in the ruin he visited on them.

“They turned to the extremes of tyranny because democracy and liberalism forced them of live as individuals, to think and make decisions as free men, and in the chaos of the twentieth century, this was too much for them,” Shirer wrote.

The fascination in Shirer’s work is its demonstration of what the observant journalist can discern while writing the first draft of history.

*Dennis Anderson was AP writer and editor in the Los Angeles Bureau from 1985 until 1998, and a retired APME editor. He reported on the Iraq War for Editor and Publisher and parachuted into Normandy on D-Day Remembrance 2022 with a veteran paratrooper historical non-profit.*

## Foul Balls



[Reed Saxon](#) - Tuesday's post about baseballs shattering photographers' lenses brought this to mind, from my coverage of an Angels game, probably around 2010. My thought - lenses don't have pain receptors and, no matter the cost, can be replaced. Bones and skulls, not as easily. I posted this on FB as an example of what one of my last frames might look like.

One of these days, POW!, right in the cranium. It wasn't that close, this time, just an attention-getter. Lots of glancing blows and near misses, but I was seriously clobbered only three times in over 40 years.

## Example of good lead writing

**Gabe Stern**  
**AP/Report for America**

CARSON CITY — Gov. Joe Lombardo wants to help build Major League Baseball's smallest ballpark, arguing that the worst team in baseball can boost Las Vegas, a city striving to call itself a sports mecca.

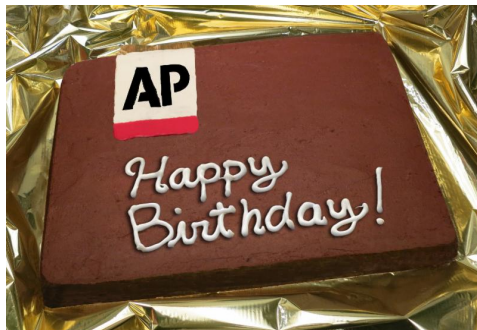
Shared by Warren Lerude

## Headlines in the Headlines

# How today's AP strayed from its original goals

[Dennis Whitehead](#) - AP Sighting - from The Washington Post Book World in their Sunday, June 4 review of *Shortchanged: How Advanced Placement Cheat Students* by Annie Abrams

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[George Tibbits](#)

## Stories of interest

***Prince Harry, in Dramatic Testimony, Says Journalists Have 'Blood on Their Hands'*** (New York Times)

By Mark Landler and Megan Specia  
Reporting from London

Prince Harry finally got his day in court against the British tabloid press that he has long reviled, taking the stand in London on Tuesday to accuse the Mirror Newspaper Group of hacking his cellphone more than a decade ago.

Through five hours of polite but persistent grilling, Harry stood by his claims that the Mirror Group's reporters intercepted his voice mail messages and used other unlawful means to dig up personal information about him, creating an atmosphere of distrust and even paranoia that has shadowed him since childhood.

It was a spectacle both extraordinary and ordinary: Harry, 38, the second son of King Charles III and the first prominent royal to testify in more than a century, declared that

editors and journalists “have blood on their hands” because of the lengths to which they went to ferret out news about him and his family, not least his mother, Diana, who died in a car crash in 1997 after being pursued by photographers.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

## ***Miami reporter Samantha Rivera stiff-arms obnoxious fan on live TV after Game 2 of Stanley Cup Final*** (New York Post)

**By Jenna Lemoncelli**

Get her an honorary Heisman.

CBS Miami sports reporter Samantha Rivera is being praised online after delivering an impressive stiff-arm when an overzealous fan attempted to get in her live shot following Game 2 of the Stanley Cup Final on Monday.

During her coverage of the Vegas Golden Knights’ 7-2 win over the Florida Panthers at T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas, Rivera fended off the fan with her right arm while holding her microphone in the other hand, all the while keeping her eyes on the camera.

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

-0-

## ***A Reporter Investigated Sexual Misconduct. Then the Attacks Began.*** (New York Times)

**By David Enrich**  
**Reporting from Concord, N.H., and Melrose, Mass.**

One drizzly Saturday in May last year, a slender man in a blue raincoat approached a house in the Boston suburb of Melrose. It was just before 6 a.m., and no one was around. The man took out a can of red spray paint and scrawled “JUST THE BEGINNING!” on the side of the white house. Then he hurled a brick through a large window and sprinted away.

The house belonged to Lauren Chooljian, a journalist at New Hampshire Public Radio. Hours earlier, her parents’ home in New Hampshire had been vandalized, too — for the second time in a month. Weeks earlier, her editor’s home had also been attacked.

The vandal’s three-word message in red would prove accurate. What started as a string of vandalism incidents has mushroomed over the past year into a bare-knuckle legal brawl with important implications for the First Amendment.

Attacks on journalists in the United States have become common. Last year, the U.S. Press Freedom Tracker identified 41 journalists who were physically assaulted. In one extreme case, a Nevada politician was charged with murdering a reporter investigating him.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Len Iwanski, Dennis Conrad, Mark Mittelstadt, Richard Chady.

-0-

## ***Opinion / How high school sports coverage can save democracy*** (Poynter)

**By: Steven Waldman**

A confession: I was a “watchdog reporting” snob. At Report for America, which I co-founded, we bragged mostly about the corps members who did “accountability stories” — corruption at city hall, dirty drinking water and horrible conditions in the local prisons. We celebrate these crucial stories for good reason. If we’re not doing them, often no one else will.

But in only emphasizing this kind of journalism, we have offered a grossly incomplete explanation of why the collapse of local news poses a threat to the country.

In addition to the watchdog function, local news — of a different sort — has a community cohesion role. Obituaries, high school sports, school board meetings, the new economic development plan, the amateur theater production, a couple’s 50th wedding anniversary — these types of stories teach neighbors about each other, provide basic information on community problems and create a sense of shared interest.

In fact, the decline of local reporting has helped fuel polarization, misinformation and the growing tendency for Americans to demonize each other. If we have any hope of addressing those democracy-crushing problems, we have to dramatically strengthen local news.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Len Iwanski.

## **Today in History - June 7, 2023**





Today is Wednesday, June 7, the 158th day of 2023. There are 207 days left in the year.

#### ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

On June 7, 1965, the US Supreme Court, in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, struck down, 7-2, a Connecticut law used to prosecute a Planned Parenthood clinic in New Haven for providing contraceptives to married couples.

#### On this date:

1712 — Pennsylvania's colonial assembly voted to ban the further importation of enslaved people.

1776 — Richard Henry Lee of Virginia offered a resolution to the Continental Congress stating "That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

1848 — French painter and sculptor Paul Gauguin was born in Paris.

1892 — Homer Plessy, a "Creole of color," was arrested for refusing to leave a whites-only car of the East Louisiana Railroad. (Ruling on his case, the US Supreme Court upheld "separate but equal" racial segregation, a concept it renounced in 1954.)

1929 — The sovereign state of Vatican City came into existence as copies of the Lateran Treaty were exchanged in Rome.

1942 — The Battle of Midway ended in a decisive victory for American naval forces over Imperial Japan, marking a turning point in the Pacific War.

1967 — Author-critic Dorothy Parker, famed for her caustic wit, died in New York at age 73.

1981 — Israeli military planes destroyed a nuclear power plant in Iraq, a facility the Israelis charged could have been used to make nuclear weapons.

1993 — Ground was broken for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland.

1998 — In a crime that shocked the nation, James Byrd Jr., a 49-year-old Black man, was hooked by a chain to a pickup truck and dragged to his death in Jasper, Texas. (Two white men were later sentenced to death for the crime.)

2006 — Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the founder of al-Qaida in Iraq, was killed by a US airstrike on his safe house.

2016 — Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump claimed their parties' presidential nominations following contests in New Jersey, California, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Ten years ago — President Barack Obama vigorously defended the government's just-disclosed collection of massive amounts of information from phone and Internet records as a necessary defense against terrorism, and assured Americans, "Nobody is listening to your telephone calls." Obama opened a two-day summit with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Rancho Mirage. A gunman went on a chaotic rampage, killing his father and brother and three other people before being fatally shot by police at Santa Monica College. Former French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy, 84, died in suburban Paris. Death row inmate Richard Ramirez, 53, the serial killer known as California's "Night Stalker," died in a hospital.

Five years ago — The Trump administration said in a court filing that it would no longer defend key parts of the Affordable Care Act, including provisions that guarantee access to health insurance regardless of any medical conditions; it was a rare departure from the Justice Department's practice of defending federal laws in court. In advance of a summit with North Korea's Kim Jong Un, President Donald Trump declared that "attitude" is more important than preparation." A government report found that suicide rates inched up in nearly every US state from 1999 through 2016. The Washington Capitals claimed their first NHL title with a 4-3 victory over the Vegas Golden Knights in Game 5 of the Stanley Cup Final in Las Vegas.

One year ago — Russia claimed to have nearly taken full control of one of the two provinces that make up Ukraine's Donbas, bringing the Kremlin closer to its goal of capturing the eastern industrial heartland of coal mines and factories. Actor Matthew McConaughey called on Congress to "reach a higher ground" and pass gun control legislation two weeks after 19 students and two teachers were killed in a shooting in his hometown of Uvalde. Federal investigators said Goodyear knew that some of its recreational vehicle tires could fail and cause severe crashes, yet it failed to recall them for as long as 20 years. Jim Seals, who teamed with fellow musician "Dash" Crofts on such 1970s soft-rock hits as "Summer Breeze," died at age 80.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Movie director James Ivory is 95. Actor Virginia McKenna is 92. Singer Tom Jones is 83. Poet Nikki Giovanni is 80. Former talk show host Jenny Jones is 77. Americana singer-songwriter Willie Nile is 75. Actor Anne Twomey is 72. Actor Liam Neeson is 71. Actor Colleen Camp is 70. Author Louise Erdrich is 69. Actor William Forsythe is 68. Record producer L.A. Reid is 67. Latin pop singer Juan Luis

Guerra is 66. Former Vice President Mike Pence is 64. Rock singer-musician Gordon Gano (The Violent Femmes) is 60. Rock musician Eric Kretz (Stone Temple Pilots) is 57. Rock musician Dave Navarro is 56. Actor Helen Baxendale is 53. Sen. Ben Ray Lujan, D-NM, is 51. Actor Karl Urban is 51. TV personality Bear Grylls is 49. Rock musician Eric Johnson (The Shins) is 47. Actor Adrienne Frantz is 45. Actor-comedian Bill Hader is 45. Actor Anna Torv is 44. Actor Larisa Oleynik is 42. Former tennis player Anna Kournikova is 42. Actor Michael Cera is 35. Actor Shelley Buckner is 34. Rapper Iggy Azalea is 33. Actor-model Emily Ratajkowski is 32. Rapper Fetty Wap is 32.

## 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.

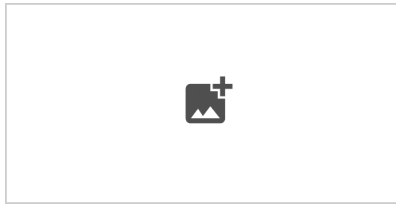
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

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

**Paul Stevens**

**Editor, Connecting newsletter**

**paulstevens46@gmail.com**



Connecting newsletter | 14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215

[Unsubscribe stevenspl@live.com](mailto:stevenspl@live.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by paulstevens46@gmail.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!