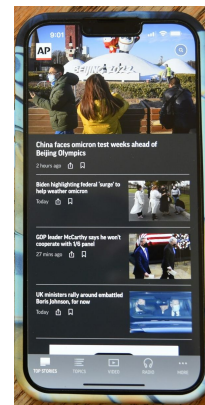


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Connecting

Sept. 15, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this Sept. 15, 2023,

Shanah Tova – a Happy New Year - to our Jewish colleagues. Rosh Hashanah begins at sunset today and continues through sundown on Sunday.

“Paul, there’s something wrong here,” was the greeting I received from Connecting colleague **Shirley Christian**, not long after Thursday’s Connecting hit your Inboxes. Shirley, like a number of you, had quickly discovered that the lead story – the wire obituary of former AP foreign correspondent and educator and man for all seasons **Loyal Gould** - was not current. It was 10 years old.

“Loyal Gould was my graduate thesis adviser at Ohio State and my dear friend ever after, until his death ...” she added.

I apologize for the error, but borrowing from the saying, “When life gives you lemons, make lemonade,” I asked Shirley if she might share memories of her friend. She agreed. The error was not deliberate but yielded a wonderful remembrance of Gould

that we'd otherwise never know, written by a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who I'm lucky enough to call a friend.

Speaking of friends...

Judy Tritz, while one of Connecting's newest members, is one of my longest-term friends from her days as editor of the Kirksville (Mo.) Daily Express, one of the AP member newspapers I tended to as Kansas City bureau chief. She was a thoughtful, smart editor.

When we recently reconnected by phone from her home in Arizona, she told me the delightful story of how her grandson received a scholarship to Michigan State University through a tie to her father (his great grandfather) who was an Army veteran of World War I. Yes, WWI.



Using her journalistic skills, she uncovered the existence of the scholarship. And Judy shares the idea with her new colleagues in a story for today's Connecting.

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

Paul

'In many ways, Loyal was with me all the way'

Shirley Christian - The first time I saw Loyal Gould I fell in love, platonically speaking. He whizzed up to the front of the journalism school building at Ohio State University in a little red sports car (an MG, maybe?) and popped out looking like every college girl's dream of a handsome, blond, tweedy professor.

And he was my new graduate thesis adviser! And I was his new graduate assistant! He probably wasn't taller than 5-7, but he so filled the space around him that I could have sworn he was a foot taller.

The fact that his obituary appeared erroneously in Connecting yesterday, about a decade after his death, gives me the opportunity to say some words about him that I should have said at that time, while also pulling some irons from the fire for Messrs. Stevens and Arfeld.

Loyal brought the aura of a very sophisticated outside world to the huge campus — teenage soldier during WWII, then college and grad school, multilingual, AP foreign correspondent in Europe, a brief stint in television news, and marriage to a former

European ice-skating star. So dashing he could well have been a spy in those Cold War days. Years later, he told me his father had been a spy during World War I.

I had started graduate work in Latin American studies at OSU a year earlier and was now ready to research and write a thesis that was supposed to link journalism and my international area. Loyal had been hired to create just such a program. Besides me, he got another future AP editor and correspondent, Steve Miller, doing German studies, as his first "thesis babies."

I ate up everything he said over the months I worked on my thesis, while also grading his undergraduate writing assignments late many nights. As I began looking for a job, he talked a lot about the AP, but said he could not imagine they would send a woman abroad. Why not, he suggested, take the U.S. Foreign Service exam, go into the diplomatic service and find a foreign correspondent to MARRY?



I did, in fact, take the Foreign Service exam, and passed the first test round, but I didn't go for the interviews that came next because I had already taken the AP tests the previous summer in New York, and KC CoB Frank Gorrie had called with a job offer.

The rest is history. From KC, I went to New Orleans, New York, and Santiago, then to The Miami Herald, and later The NY Times.

In many ways, Loyal was with me all the way. I wrote occasional letters, and he always wrote back, with encouragement. He moved from Ohio State to Wichita State to Baylor. He invited me to Baylor twice, once to speak, then to teach a month-long seminar, with generous pay. Wasn't it time to stop a life of nonstop travel and "pay back," by coming to teach at Baylor, he asked the last time I saw him. Probably, but I didn't.

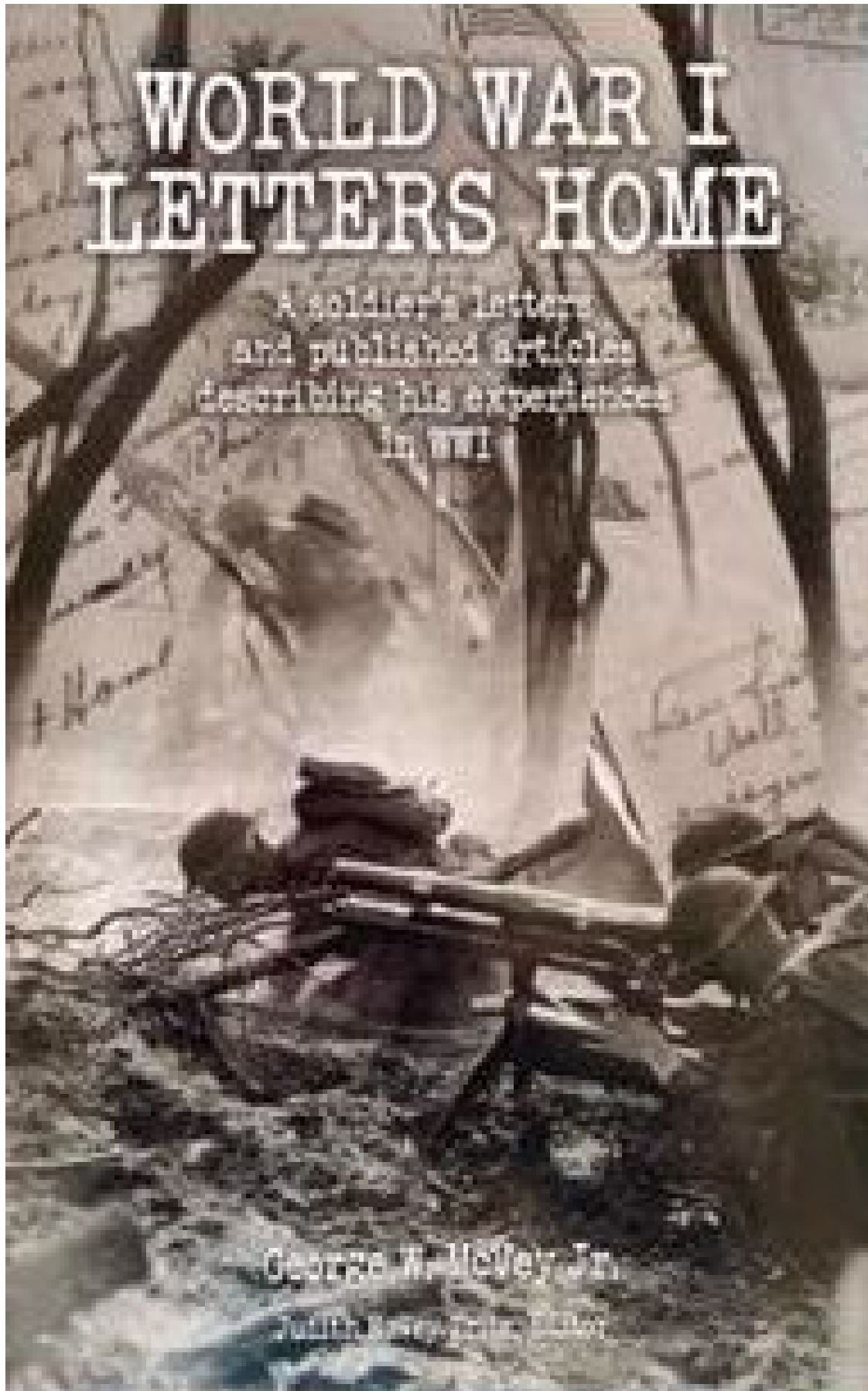
I used to occasionally bring up his name when I went to work on the World and Foreign desks in New York in the late Sixties, and some of the old timers - George Bria, Charlie Grumich, Ben Bassett, Harris Jackson - would suggest that Loyal had been a less than great writer. George or Charlie, can't remember which, claimed to have saved the young Loyal's job when he committed some grievous offense on a piece of copy.

But Loyal had another gift that was at least as important, maybe more so. He truly inspired students dreaming of a life in journalism, including many from Haiti, Africa, and China, where he often taught summers and after academic retirement.

He created a network that linked many of them, and never failed to remember them when they got in touch. I occasionally hear from journalists in Africa to whom he gave my name.

I always felt that if I were ever jailed somewhere in Latin America, I should call Loyal, and he would come. I guess it was that kind of confidence that led a former student from South Africa to ask him to fly over and give her away at her wedding. Her mother paid the fare, and he went.

His great-grandfather's WWI service and grandmother's journalistic skills helped land him a college scholarship



Judy Tritz - In retirement, I compiled a book detailing my dad's World War I service, imagining that it would provide a record for my family for generations to come.

I had always found my dad's war experiences compelling, although he never talked about them. But he wrote about them – letters home during the war and later recollections which he wrote in his retirement for various publications, including The Kansas City Star and The Montana Legionnaire. In sorting through family memorabilia, I had located all of the letters and articles.

My dad enlisted in the U.S. Army in his freshman year in college in 1917 when recruiters made him aware he was certain to be drafted. By enlisting, they advised, he would have more choice in what he was assigned to do.

So, in filling out the enlistment form, he answered the "occupation" question with "chauffeur." That came about when his dad, a Kansas wheat farmer, switched from a horse-drawn buggy to his family's first car. His dad was dismayed when in driving the new car into the barn it didn't stop when he yelled "Whoa!" and drove right through the side of the barn. At that point, my dad became the designated driver.



In boot camp in El Paso, he was assigned to drive a 1 ½-ton Jeffery truck. In France, initially, along with his fellow Engineers (Second Regiment of Engineers, U.S. Army), he supported the Marines in combat. Then the Army put him astride an Indian motorcycle, which he drove nights without lights on muddy, rutted roads carrying messages as far as 250 miles between the front lines and command.

Upon returning from the war, he continued his education at the University of Kansas, graduating with a B.A. degree in journalism, a career he pursued at the Omaha Bee, Kansas City Star, Baltimore Sun, United Press International, San Francisco Chronicle and finally the Montana Standard in Butte, Montana.

Little did I know that my retirement project would reap an immediate benefit. With my grandson Jacob's recent admission to Michigan State University, which offers a top-ranked program in his field of study, our family realized that even with the scholarship provided by MSU, the out-of-state costs would be challenging for a Missouri student. As markets tanked in the past year, the question became whether his 529 Plan would cover all four years. Since my son and daughter-in-law both work full time, I decided to investigate additional scholarship offerings.

As a retiree, I had time. They didn't.

I plowed through the 687 pages of "The Ultimate Scholarship Book 2023." Finding a scholarship fitting a student's particular situation is a maze. To apply, a student must be of a certain sex, race, ethnicity, major, career goal, academics or athletic ability,

public service record, religion, state, region, or income level, etc. Those not fitting a specific niche need not apply.

I also combed through the extensive scholarship offerings on the Michigan State University website. It was there I hit pay dirt.

The scholarship is offered for the blood relative of a descendent of someone who served in World War I and received an honorable discharge. Having compiled the book of my Dad's WWI service, I had located the documents citing date and place of enlistment and honorable discharge.

My grandson applied and won the scholarship: \$2,500.

I shared the book *World War I Letters Home* with family members and the Library of Congress Veterans Project, thinking I have done my part to further my dad's goal:

"In passing I have one fervent hope," he wrote. "It is that my grandchildren will know of war only by inheritance. But I am afraid that this is a futile hope.

"When wars and their causes are forgotten from generation to generation there is not much reason to think that they will be avoided."

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Judy's dad is George W. McVey Jr. He died Jan. 5, 1973, at age 75.)

And about the author...

Perhaps I can squeeze through the Connecting door with this: AP hired me for a brief stint in 1962 during the World Soccer Cup, May 30-June 17 in Santiago, Chile. I was an Inter American Press Assn. scholar at that time and my assignment was to help the sports writers from London and Belfast with translation. The Latin American passion for soccer and the name Pele remain with me to this day.

My newspaper career followed my husband Jerry's career in science. When we met, I was a reporter with the Arizona Republic in Phoenix and Jerry was with the Communicable Disease Center there.

When CDC placed Jerry in charge of sterility control for the Gemini and Apollo missions at Cape Canaveral, I was the Miami Herald bureau chief for Cocoa/Cape Canaveral, FL. I reported for the Houston Post while he worked on his Ph.D. in microbial genetics at M.D. Anderson in Houston.

I became a graduate student and teaching assistant in journalism at the University of Georgia when he was on the microbiology department faculty. Then he joined the medical school faculty of what is now known as A.T. Still University in Kirksville, MO, as



chair of the department of microbiology and immunology, and I was hired as editor of the Kirksville Daily Express.

A letter to Joe Carter on his story about doubters on JFK's assassination

John Bolt - Thank you for your Connecting piece (Thursday) on the Kennedy assassination.

Whenever the subject comes up – in addition to the usual “I remember exactly where I was” memory, I think of my friend the late Mike Cochran who I came to know during my stay in Dallas with The Associated Press. Mike was one of those journalists there that day – and was even one of Oswald's pallbearers (a story he loved to tell) – and he had no doubt Oswald acted alone. (He also, many years later, managed to get an interview with Marina Oswald because she remembered him from her husband's burial.)

It might be hyperbole, but I think one of the most disappointing days in Mike's stellar career came in 1993, on the 30th anniversary, when Southern Methodist University sponsored a panel presentation to journalism students by several of the reporters who were in Dallas that day. Mike was one of those and I will always recall the sadness and frustration he felt after it was over as almost to a person the students chastised the panel for “not doing their job” and getting the “real story.”

I know it's fashionable to see conspiracies everywhere, but in many ways, I think the continual challenge to the “official” story was the beginning of the slide away from factual to “people say” reporting.

Hey LORD OTTO! Oliver HERE!



Get some fresh air!
Enjoy the great outdoors!!
Cheers!!!
Ollie
Age 16.5 YEARS
Chapel Hill, NC

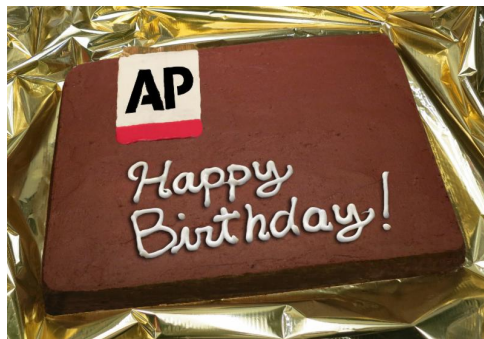
(Shared by Ollie's owner, Dennis Conrad, after Lord Otto's appearance in Thursday's Connecting in the library of his owner John Dowling.)

Pasadena lunch bunch



Associated Press friends lunched at Gale's in Pasadena on Thursday. From left: Andy Lippman, Deb Halberstadt, Linda Deutsch and Deb's husband Jon Hainer.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Emily Bradbury](#)

[Connie Farrow](#)

[Andy Katell](#)

On Sunday to...

[David Beard](#)

[Rod Richardson](#)

[Suzanne Vlamis](#)

Stories of interest

Megyn Kelly welcomes Donald Trump for an interview 8 years after he erupted over her debate question (AP)

BY DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — When Donald Trump sat down with Megyn Kelly for a satellite radio interview that aired on Thursday, it was a long way — in time and circumstance — from their most memorable encounter in the summer of 2015.

That was when Kelly, then a Fox News star, infuriated the future president at a GOP debate with a question about his treatment of women. He bitterly attacked her after the debate, and his supporters joined in, leaving her worried about threats.

Kelly, who later worked at NBC News, is now resurrecting her career as a journalist-commentator, with a podcast that was picked up as a two-hour weekday show on SiriusXM satellite radio. Sirius last week announced it had signed Kelly to a deal that extends through the 2024 election and beyond.

Do the bad feelings linger?

“All that nonsense between us,” Kelly said this summer, “is under the bridge.”

It seemed that way through the mostly friendly, occasionally challenging interview taped this week at Trump’s Bedminster, New Jersey, home. There was only a brief, quickly brushed aside mention of that moment during the debate eight years ago.

“That was a bad question,” Trump said in the interview.

“That was a great question,” Kelly responded.

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

-0-

AI- or Human-Written Scripts? It May Not Make a Difference to Viewers (U of Florida)

The Hollywood writers and actors strike has dominated the news this summer. The use — or misuse — of generative artificial intelligence lies at the heart of the matter. SAG-AFTRA and the Writers Guild of America are demanding that their contracts include AI regulations to protect writers, their creativity and their original works.

Amidst this conversation, University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications Advertising Associate Professor and Interim Director of the STEM Translational Communication Center Benjamin K. Johnson and CJC graduate students Rachel Son, Qingyuan Yang, and Benjamin T. Vollmer wondered if audiences gained as much enjoyment from machine-generated narratives as they do from narratives created by humans.

The researchers set out to gauge audience reactions to works of short fiction written by ChatGPT and a version of the ChatGPT story edited by the researchers themselves. ChatGPT created a short narrative based on a prompt to write a 1,000-word short story. The human authors used the same storyline but warmed the tone by embellishing the story with literary devices — metaphor, simile and vivid imagery. Both stories were told in the third person, and the audience spent about three minutes reading the story.

They looked at two specific things: how engaged the audience was with the human-authored and bot-authored stories and how the label of human-authored and bot-authored affected that engagement.

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

-0-

Trump set for ‘Meet the Press’ interview Sunday as Kristen Welker takes over as moderator (CNN)

By Oliver Darcy and Kristen Holmes

Kristen Welker will face a big first test as moderator of “Meet the Press” on her debut episode this Sunday.

Welker is set to begin her time in the anchor chair with a sit-down interview with former President Donald Trump, CNN first reported and was later confirmed by NBC News.

The interview, people familiar with the matter told CNN, is scheduled to be taped Thursday at Trump's Bedminster club in New Jersey. While Trump participated in a town hall with CNN earlier this year, the "Meet the Press" sit-down will mark his first interview with a broadcast news network since he departed the White House and now faces a total of 91 charges in four criminal cases, in four different jurisdictions — two federal and two state cases.

NBC News said it had also extended an invitation to President Joe Biden. A spokesperson for Trump did not respond to requests for comment.

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

-0-

The Beyoncé and Taylor Swift jobs at USA Today have sparked backlash from news reporters — here's why

(Los Angeles Times)

BY JONAH VALDEZ

It's rare for a news publication's job listing to make headlines. Yet this week, lightning has struck twice at USA Today.

Owned by Gannett, the nation's largest newspaper chain that is still reeling from massive layoffs to its newsrooms, the publication is making an unusual move by advertising for a pair of reporters to cover two icons: Beyoncé Knowles-Carter and Taylor Swift.

Both listings are similar in scope, asking each writer to cover the close of their historic tours — Renaissance and Eras — as well as upcoming album or project releases. The jobs are remote, and candidates must be able to travel internationally. Swift is embarking on the international leg of her Eras tour, while Beyoncé's Renaissance tour is wrapping up in October. However, the reporters are asked to treat both figures not just as musical performers but also as cultural bellwethers with influence on pop culture and business. Both ask reporters to cover their fan bases — Swifties and the Beyhive (which the listing described as "protective"), respectively.

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

-0-

Atlanta News Outlet Aims for Half a Million Digital Subscribers in Under Four Years (Wall Street Journal)

By Alexandra Bruell

The new leader of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution wants to increase the publication's digital subscribers more than eightfold by the end of 2026, an ambitious goal he aims

to reach through expanded local-news coverage and new products.

“In the last five-to-10 years, we’ve just focused on Atlanta,” said Andrew Morse, a former CNN digital executive who took over as the Atlanta Journal-Constitution’s new president and publisher in January. He said the publication plans to hire about 100 people in the coming years and place editorial staff in Georgia cities such as Macon, Savannah, Columbus, Augusta and Athens, where it determined that local coverage has eroded.

The publication is also planning to add products dedicated to sports, Black culture, Southern cooking and politics, including new video and audio features—most of which would be available exclusively to subscribers.

Morse said the moves are part of an effort to reach 500,000 digital subscribers largely across the Southeast by the end of 2026, up from about 60,000 today. The expansion will be funded in part by the \$100 million that Atlanta Journal-Constitution parent Cox Enterprises recently allocated to the publication, a person familiar with the funding said.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dorothy Abernathy.

The Final Word

**ONE THING NOBODY EVER
TALKS ABOUT BEING AN
ADULT IS HOW MUCH TIME
YOU DEBATE YOURSELF
ON KEEPING A CARDBOARD
BOX BECAUSE IT'S LIKE
A REALLY, REALLY
GOOD BOX.**

Shared by Paul Stevens (who is guilty of above)

Today in History - Sept. 15, 2023



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Sept. 15, the 258th day of 2023. There are 107 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 15, 1963, four Black girls were killed when a bomb went off during Sunday services at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. (Three Ku Klux Klansmen were eventually convicted for their roles in the blast.)

On this date:

In 1776, British forces occupied New York City during the American Revolution.

In 1789, the U.S. Department of Foreign Affairs was renamed the Department of State.

In 1857, William Howard Taft — who served as President of the United States and as U.S. chief justice — was born in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws deprived German Jews of their citizenship.

In 1940, during the World War II Battle of Britain, the tide turned as the Royal Air Force inflicted heavy losses upon the Luftwaffe.

In 1955, the novel "Lolita," by Vladimir Nabokov, was first published in Paris.

In 1959, Nikita Khrushchev became the first Soviet head of state to visit the United States as he arrived at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington.

In 1972, a federal grand jury in Washington indicted seven men in connection with the Watergate break-in.

In 1981, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted unanimously to approve the Supreme Court nomination of Sandra Day O'Connor.

In 1985, Nike began selling its "Air Jordan 1" sneaker.

In 2001, President George W. Bush ordered U.S. troops to get ready for war and braced Americans for a long, difficult assault against terrorists to avenge the Sept. 11 attack. Beleaguered Afghans streamed out of Kabul, fearing a U.S. military strike against Taliban rulers harboring Osama bin Laden.

In 2006, Ford Motor Co. took drastic steps to remold itself into a smaller, more competitive company, slashing thousands of jobs and shuttering two additional plants.

In 2021, California Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom soundly defeated a recall aimed at kicking him out of office.

In 2022, President Joe Biden said federal mediators had helped foster an agreement that averted a rail strike that would have been devastating to the U.S. economy.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Carmen Maura is 78. Writer-director Ron Shelton is 78. Actor Tommy Lee Jones is 77. Movie director Oliver Stone is 77. Rock musician Kelly Keagy (KAY'-gee) (Night Ranger) is 71. Actor Barry Shabaka Henley is 69. Director Pawel Pawlikowski is 66. Rock musician Mitch Dorge (Crash Test Dummies) is 63. Football Hall of Famer Dan Marino is 62. Actor Danny Nucci is 55. Rap DJ KayGee is 54. Actor Josh Charles is 52. Actor Tom Hardy is 46. Actor Marisa Ramirez is 46. Pop-rock musician Zach Filkins (OneRepublic) is 45. Actor Dave Annable is 44. Actor Amy Davidson is 44. Britain's Prince Harry is 39. TV personality Heidi Montag is 37. Actor Kate Mansi is 36.

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 Central Region vice president based in Kansas City.

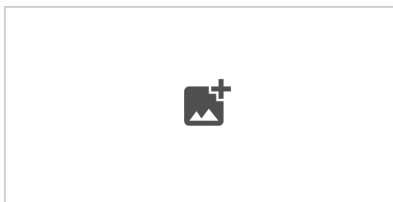
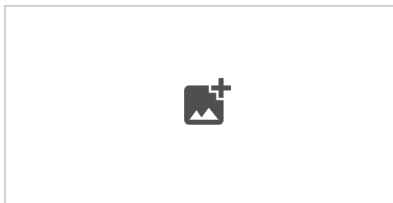
Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

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
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