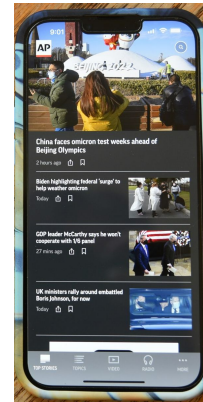


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Connecting

Oct. 9, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this Oct. 9, 2023,

We're saddened to share news of the death of our colleague **Otto Doelling** at the age of 89.

His son **Marco Doelling** shared:

It is with great sadness that I must announce my dad's passing on Friday evening at Shangrila Home Care in Lynnwood, Washington. Otto was 89 years old. My mom, Ingrid, has come to terms with his passing and is holding up well under the circumstances.

Otto had a full life and was a man of innumerable achievements, great wit, generosity, and boundless talents. While we come to terms with his loss, we wish to remember the indelible impact he had on our lives and those around him. We will inform everyone of the date and time of the memorial service being prepared in his honor. The funeral will be a private affair.

Thank you for the love, friendship, and kindness you have shown my dad and family throughout the years.

Connecting will bring you his obituary when available. If you have a favorite memory of Otto, please send it along.

ON AGING – Henry Bradsher writes with this suggestion: “As Connecting reports more AP standouts turning 80, may I suggest they might use my line during my 80s? The 80s are just late middle age. Now well into my 90s, I call this incipient old age.”

LATEST FROM AP: Israel says it has brought in special forces to try to wrest control of four sites from Hamas fighters after the militant group launched its unprecedented incursion into Israel. On Sunday, Israel formally declared war and gave the green light for “significant military steps” to retaliate against Hamas for Saturday’s surprise attack. The Israeli military tried to crush fighters still in southern towns and intensified its bombardment of the Gaza Strip.

The toll passed 1,100 dead and thousands wounded on both sides.

The fighting continued in several locations Monday morning. At least 700 people have reportedly been killed in Israel — a staggering toll on a scale the country has not experienced in decades — and more than 400 have been killed in Gaza.

We bring you stories on coverage in Stories of Interest.

Here’s to a great week ahead – be safe, stay healthy, live each day to your fullest.

Paul

Examining AI's impact on journalism

By Nicole Meir
AP Media Relations Manager

At the 35th annual MINDS Conference in Toronto, AP President and CEO Daisy Veerasingham, Executive Editor Julie Pace and General Counsel Karen Kaiser addressed the impact of generative artificial intelligence on the news industry.

During a panel with news agency CEOs, Veerasingham outlined the opportunities and risks of generative AI and how news agencies must work to keep pace with the fast-moving technology.

“We must invest most of our resources in tackling the threat AI poses to the entire industry,” Veerasingham said. “You’ve got three main areas: transparency, the need to protect our intellectual property and traffic.”

In a separate session, Pace outlined AP’s standards for using generative AI, as well as the news agency’s culture of experimentation when it comes to exploring potential use cases.

“We believe AP needs to be an active participant in the generative AI conversation, and AP’s high standards need to be at the center of the discussion,” Pace stressed. She added that, in the past decade or so, AP has used automation and AI to streamline workflows and free up journalists to do more meaningful work.

Separately, Kaiser outlined the risks to the news industry if generative AI is not developed responsibly or with a proper legal framework.

Kaiser identified three key issues generative AI brings forward: copyright infringement, the increased spread of misinformation, and data privacy issues.

“If appropriate legal frameworks aren’t established, particularly around the protection of intellectual property rights, it could lead to the disruption of our industry and the entire news ecosystem,” Kaiser stressed.

Kaiser argued that the news industry must work together to ensure the new technologies are harnessed for good, ethically, and most importantly, “in ways that preserve the legal frameworks that function as the backbone of protecting the core of what we do.”

Click [here](#) for link to this story.

Connecting’s Decades Review: **Linda Deutsch**



ABOVE: Linda Deutsch at her 80th birthday bash, photo by Deb Halberstadt.
RIGHT: Linda at age 33

Linda Deutsch: Born Sept. 24, 1943, to Sylvia and Sandy Deutsch at Perth Amboy, N.J. General Hospital. Full name: Linda Carol Deutsch



At 10: At my birthday party at our permanent home in Bradley Beach, N.J. my beloved father presented me with a surprise gift: a Smith Corona typewriter, still the greatest gift I ever received. I cried with joy. Known as the Skywriter, the sturdy portable carried me through elementary school, high school, college and was my traveling companion in my first years at the

AP. At 12 I used it to publish an Elvis Presley Fan Club newsletter. It is still one of my most prized treasures.

At 20: I was a student at Monmouth College in West Long Branch, N.J. and worked at a summer job reporting for the Perth Amboy Evening News. I talked my way into covering the 1963 civil rights march on Washington and heard Martin Luther King Jr. give his historic "I Have a Dream" speech. It provided my first front-page byline.

At 23: I moved to California and joined The Associated Press in Los Angeles.

At 30: I was covering the Pentagon Papers trial of Daniel Ellsberg and Anthony Russo in Los Angeles. After months of testimony by famous figures in the Vietnam War, charges were dismissed due to "outrageous governmental misconduct." It was revealed that the judge met with President Nixon during the trial and was offered the job of FBI director. And the infamous White House "plumbers" of Watergate fame had broken into the office of Ellsberg's psychiatrists office.

At 40: I began covering the McMartin Pre-School case. It was the longest and most expensive trial in the criminal history of America at the time. After spending \$15 million and seven years investigating and prosecuting teachers and the school owner, prosecutors failed to convict anyone. In the end, testimony showed that the claims lodged by parents were false and the result of mass panic. I popped in and out of this trial between other stories including two years at the Patty Hearst kidnapping and trial in San Francisco. Only one reporter for the LA Times covered every day of that McMartin marathon.

At 50: I covered the first trial of Lyle and Eric Menendez, charged in the shotgun murders of their parents in Beverly Hills. Their defense that they were the victims of child sexual abuse by their parents shocked the nation. The jury deadlocked. In a second trial, they were convicted and sentenced to life without parole. I missed the second trial in 1995 because I was covering an even bigger story: The O.J. Simpson murder trial.

At 60: Robert Blake was arrested a year after his wife Bonny Lee Bakley was shot to death outside a San Fernando Valley restaurant. I covered the killing, the arrest and the trial. I had the first exclusive interview with him in jail. He was acquitted and later stood trial in a civil suit filed by the Bakley family. In that case, he was found responsible for her death and ordered to pay \$30 million in damages. I continued to be in touch with him for many years.

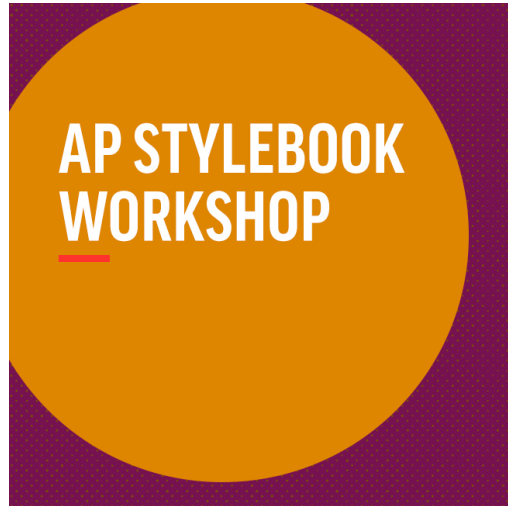
At 70: The trial beat continued to keep me busy. This time it was a true murder mystery, the story of an imposter who passed himself off as a member of the Rockefeller family. The cold case was solved when a house where he once lived in Pasadena was sold and new owners discovered bones buried in the back yard. A complicated saga of a fabulist who believed his own lies. It was also the year of a corruption scandal in the tiny city of Bell. A city manager pled no contest to bilking the city of \$5 million and his deputy was convicted of what was called "grand theft by paycheck." She paid herself and city officials gigantic salaries for little work.

At 80: Retired for seven years, I was the commencement speaker at my alma mater, now Monmouth University, and received an honorary doctorate of humane letters, a

high point of my life. A few months later I threw myself a big birthday party. Harking back to my youth, the theme was Elvis Presley, my musical hero. I continue to participate in documentaries about my trials and am working on a memoir.

AP Stylebook Workshop, fall 2023

Join editors from The Associated Press for an engaging online workshop designed to build your knowledge of AP style and your confidence in how to apply it to your work. Participate in four live virtual sessions with the editors who make AP style and get your questions answered. You'll also get on-demand videos, recommended reading and self-scoring quizzes to hone your writing and editing skills.



This course will help you:

Learn the fundamentals of AP style, including use of commas, hyphens, capitalization, possessives and more.

Understand the how and the why of AP style.

Think through questions where existing style rules might not offer a clear answer or the guidance requires judgment to apply to your needs.

Bring consistency to your writing and editing, using AP style guidance and your house style.

Navigate the Stylebook to find guidance quickly – memorization is not necessary or recommended.

Network with your peers to get their insights on writing for your audience.

Weekly sessions start on Oct. 25. You can join live or watch recordings at your convenience.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Connecting sky shot – God's rays at Siesta Beach



Ed McCullough - Siesta Key beach just south of Sarasota. Sunset about 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 5. God's rays refers to the corona of light above - really, on top of - the setting sun which needn't be into water but is especially striking when that happens.

BEST OF THE WEEK — FIRST WINNER

Last living suspect in 1996 drive-by shooting of Tupac Shakur indicted in Las Vegas on murder charge



It was in mid-July when Las Vegas reporters Rio Yamat and Ken Ritter began working their sources, after the police raided the home of the only living suspect in connection with an investigation into the 1996 killing of rapper Tupac Shakur. The result months later was a super scoop on a riveting story nearly three decades in the making.

Through their deep and extensive sourcing in law enforcement and criminal justice, Yamat and Ritter sought to penetrate a grand jury case shrouded in secrecy. For months, they regularly contacted everyone who was likely involved. It all paid off when they learned they should prepare for an indictment in mid-September. From there, it was a lesson in patience and persistence.

For seven weeks, Yamat or Ritter attended court hearings three days a week at which secret grand jury proceedings became public. At some point, other reporters started paying attention. Yamat and Ritter ramped up their check-ins with sources.

They assembled prep with four possible scenarios on how the news would break and teed up context and quotes from key players in the investigation's long history. U.S. desk editor Anna Furman was the steady hand on Tupac watch.

After Yamat began hearing rumblings that an indictment was imminent, she and Ritter were able to nail down the next morning from multiple sources with firsthand knowledge that Duane "Keffe D" Davis had been taken into custody on suspicion of murder in Tupac's killing.

They broke the news at 9:27 a.m. PDT. Within minutes, BBC called the Las Vegas bureau seeking an interview with them. They declined because they were busy reporting the story.

Read more [here](#).

BEST OF THE WEEK — SECOND WINNER**Global news coordination drives seamless all-formats coverage of Travis King's US return**

One of the foundations of the Nerve Center is global news coordination — and Deputy Nerve Center Director Tamer Fakahany has been the master of it ever since he helped establish and shape the department in 2010. Fakahany was overseeing the Nerve Center during the overnight shift on Sept. 28 when reports began emerging that Travis King, the U.S. soldier who had crossed for unknown reasons into North Korea in July, was about to return home.

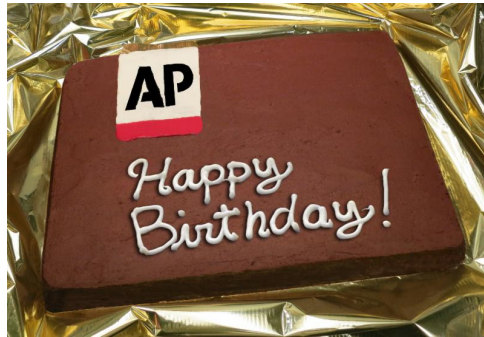
His global news coordination skills came in handy with the news of King's return from North Korea. When video suddenly popped up from a local affiliate KSAT in San Antonio, Texas, of what appeared to be Travis King arriving back on U.S. soil, Tamer recognized the urgency of the news and woke up Washington Bureau Chief Anna Johnson (apologizing for the 4:20 a.m. call, considering it was after the Republican presidential debate). He moved an APNewsAlert at 4:35 a.m., with an urgent series and photo moving just four minutes later as Tamer worked with Patrick Quinn and Shameka Dudley-Lowe on the international text desk and the photo desk.

Then Fakahany got to work delivering the news through other AP platforms: He wrote and sent the push and instructed the newsletter writer Sarah Naffa to send an email alert while directing Nerve Center producer Lorian Belanger to write breaking social media posts that he then backread. He moved the story to the top of the AP News app and worked with digital to make it No. 1 on APNews.com.

Fakahany also found a sidebar from July on past entries into North Korea and a reporter to update it so we'd have a more robust package. His swift work paid off, with the all-formats story becoming one of the 10 most used of that day by AP customers.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Kim Gamel](#)

[Sue Price Johnson](#)

Stories of interest

Opinion / As a significant moment unfolds in Israel, the media reaches deep (Poynter)



A digger removes the rubble from the police station that was overrun by Hamas militants on Saturday in Sderot, Israel. (AP Photo/Ohad Zwigenberg)

By: Tom Jones

Dana Bash, host of Sunday's "State of the Union" on CNN, said on air, "October 7, 2023. For every Israeli, it's a date that will echo for eternity for its brutality and the country's return to war."

The Washington Post's Max Boot wrote, "This is Israel's 9/11, and, just as the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks rippled out across the world from Afghanistan to Iraq, so, too, will the 10/7 attacks ripple out in ways that are as dangerous as they are unpredictable."

Jonathan Conricus, a former international spokesman for the Israel Defense Forces, said on CNN, "This is a Pearl Harbor-type of moment for Israel."

The Israeli government formally declared war Sunday, just a day after Hamas launched an attack from Gaza. As of Sunday evening, The Associated Press reported that at least 700 people have been killed in Israel, and more than 400 have been killed in Gaza. Thousands on both sides have been injured.

Read more [here](#).

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These photos show fear, death and destruction in battle scenes from Israel and the Gaza Strip (AP)



Police officers evacuate a woman and a child from a site hit by a rocket fired from the Gaza Strip, in Ashkelon, October 7, 2023. (AP Photo/Tsafrir Abayov)

In Israel, a frightened woman runs down the street cradling a young girl in her arms as a car behind her is engulfed in a ball of flames from an unprecedented surprise attack by Hamas militants.

In Gaza City, an anguished Palestinian woman embraces the head of a dead man carried by a crowd through the streets after he was killed in retaliation by Israeli forces.

The images are just two of hundreds by Associated Press photographers that show the destruction, terror and sadness on both sides of the conflict — and the triumph by some Palestinians who see the attack as a victory. Hundreds have been killed on both sides of the border in fighting that continued Sunday.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Opinion The rebirth of local news depends on all of US (Washington Post)

By Leonard Downie Jr.

Leonard Downie Jr., a professor at Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, is a former executive editor of The Post.

You've heard local news is dying. In fact, it might just be evolving.

Look around: Online nonprofit local and state news sites are proliferating. Some family newspaper owners are purchasing and investing in endangered small-town papers. A few billionaires have bought large metropolitan dailies. Some public radio stations, local television stations and even universities are getting into the act. Much of this is being seeded and nourished by philanthropic foundations and nonprofits.

American local newspapers had long depended on an economic model primarily supported by advertising and print subscriptions, both largely destroyed by the digital revolution. By contrast, the nascent revival of local news media is dependent on a variety of still evolving models. Here is a sampling of what is working and where.

Nonprofit local news websites. Several hundred nonprofit local and state digital news sites have sprouted throughout the nation, with more coming online all the time. They range from small start-ups with a handful of staff to award-winning newsrooms of several dozen journalists. They are financed by foundations, philanthropists, digital subscriptions, memberships and advertising. Their journalists focus on what was not being covered in their communities, in addition to investigative reporting.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Len Iwanski, Sibby Christensen, Richard Chady.

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Kirk Cousins' hometown newspaper remains close to his heart (FanNation)

MATTHEW COLLER

EAGAN — When Kirk Cousins walked to the podium on May 3, 2023, he was ready for questions about his contract situation.

After a few inquiries to start the press conference about the Minnesota Vikings selecting Jordan Addison in the draft and his approach to Year 2 in Kevin O’Connell’s system, it finally came up.

“The fact there was no contract extension, do you view that as a judgment from them on you? Do you view it just as wait and see?” ESPN’s Kevin Seifert asked.

The veteran quarterback reached back into his days as the quarterback of Holland Christian high school to talk about how he has always dealt with uncertainty as long as he has been playing football.

“This has kind of been a part of my story,” Cousins said. “I’ll go back even before you probably even know – high school. I remember the Holland Sentinel, our paper in our hometown, asking me my senior year of high school – I’m going into my senior year with no scholarship offers.... that whole season, you get the question from the Holland Sentinel, ‘How are you focusing on that? How are you handling that?’ I learned, you’ve gotta focus on winning football games.”

Read more [here](#). Shared by Charles Hill.

Today in History: Oct. 9, 2023



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Oct. 9, the 282nd day of 2023. There are 83 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 9, 2009, President Barack Obama won the Nobel Peace Prize for what the Norwegian Nobel Committee called "his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples."

On this date:

In 1888, the public was first admitted to the Washington Monument.

In 1910, a coal dust explosion at the Starkville Mine in Colorado left 56 miners dead.

In 1936, the first generator at Boulder (later Hoover) Dam began transmitting electricity to Los Angeles.

In 1946, the Eugene O'Neill drama "The Iceman Cometh" opened at the Martin Beck Theater in New York.

In 1962, Uganda won autonomy from British rule.

In 1967, Marxist revolutionary guerrilla leader Che Guevara, 39, was summarily executed by the Bolivian army a day after his capture.

In 1975, Soviet scientist Andrei Sakharov (AHN'-dray SAHK'-ah-rawf) was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 1985, the hijackers of the Achille Lauro (ah-KEE'-leh LOW'-roh) cruise liner surrendered two days after seizing the vessel in the Mediterranean and killing passenger Leon Klinghoffer.

In 2001, in the first daylight raids since the start of U.S.-led attacks on Afghanistan, jets bombed the Taliban stronghold of Kandahar.

In 2004, a tour bus from the Chicago area flipped in Arkansas, killing 15 people headed to a Mississippi casino.

In 2006, Google Inc. announced it was snapping up YouTube Inc. for \$1.65 billion in a stock deal.

In 2010, Chile's 33 trapped miners cheered and embraced each other as a drill punched into their underground chamber where they had been stuck for an agonizing 66 days.

In 2012, former Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky was sentenced in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, to 30 to 60 years in prison following his conviction on 45 counts of sexual abuse of boys.

In 2018, Taylor Swift captured four honors at the American Music Awards to become the most decorated woman in the show's history.

In 2022, Nikki Finke, a veteran reporter who became one of Hollywood's top journalists as founder of the entertainment trade website Deadline.com, died at age 68.

Today's Birthdays: Former Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., is 82. C-SPAN founder Brian Lamb is 82. R&B singer Nona Hendryx is 79. Singer Jackson Browne is 75. Nobel Peace laureate Jody Williams is 73. Actor Gary Frank is 73. Actor Richard Chaves is 72. Actor Robert Wuhl is 72. Actor-TV personality Sharon Osbourne is 71. Actor Tony Shalhoub is 70. Actor Scott Bakula is 69. Musician James Fearnley (The Pogues) is 69. Actor John O'Hurley is 69. Writer-producer-director-actor Linwood Boomer is 68. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Mike Singletary is 65. Actor Michael Paré is 65. Jazz musician Kenny Garrett is 63. Rock singer-musician Kurt Neumann (The BoDeans) is 62. Movie director Guillermo del Toro is 59. Former British Prime Minister David Cameron is 57. Singer P.J. Harvey is 54. Movie director Steve McQueen (Film: "12 Years a Slave") is 54. World Golf Hall of Famer Annika Sorenstam is 53. Actor Cocoa Brown is 51. Country singer Tommy Shane Steiner is 50. Actor Steve Burns is 50. Rock singer Sean Lennon is 48. Actor Randy Spelling is 45. Christian hip-hop artist Lecrae is 44. Actor Brandon Routh is 44. Actor Zachery Ty Bryan is 42. Actor Spencer Grammer is 40. Comedian Melissa Villasenor is 36. Actor Tyler James Williams is 31. Country singer Scotty McCreery (TV: "American Idol") is 30. Actor Jharrel Jerome is 26.

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.

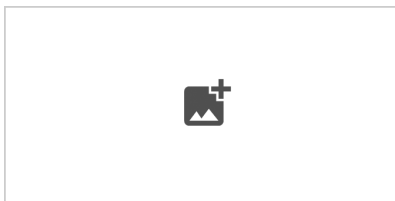
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

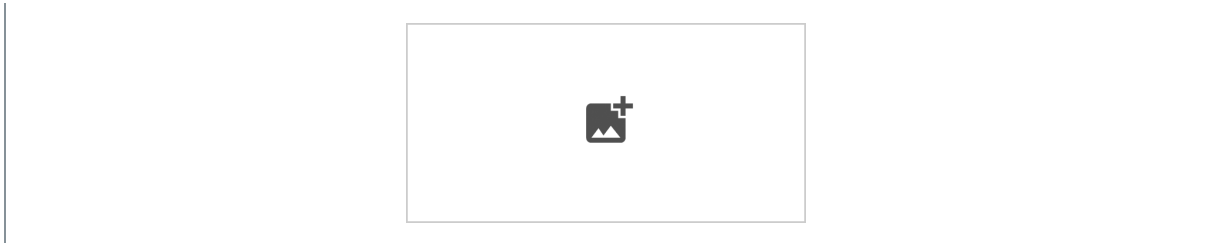
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

Paul Stevens

Editor, Connecting newsletter

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