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Connecting

Oct. 12, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this Oct. 12, 2023,

Services for our colleague **Otto Charles Doelling** will be held Saturday, Oct. 28, in Seattle.

In [his obituary](#) posted Wednesday, his family said a memorial service would be held from 11 a.m. to noon at Acacia Memorial Park & Funeral Home, 14951 Bothell Way NE, Seattle, WA 98155. A reception will follow from noon to 3 p.m. Mailed condolences can be sent to: The Doelling Family, 408 213th St. SW, Bothell, WA 98021. You also may share a memory of Otto on the funeral home site.

Our colleague [Mike Precker](#) wrote in praise of his colleagues' tributes to Otto. Mike said, "It reminded me of the late great Frank Crepeau, who came back



to the desk in NY after his stint as Tel Aviv bureau chief. Otto was at the U.N. With his droll wit, Frank would relate that when the editors wanted to suggest an alteration in his copy, they quickly figured out they could ask, "O.C., can you say...?"

"RIP, both of ya."

OUR CONDOLENCES TO Pat Bradshaw on the death of his wife Cathy. She died Oct. 4 in Carmel, Ind., at the age of 71. She and Pat were married for 49 years. Click [here](#) for a link to her obituary. (Shared by Richard Keltner)

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

Paul

Stories behind your byline

Dan Day - My byline has evolved over the course of my career.

While working on my college paper, I used the high-falutin' full moniker, "By Daniel A. Day."

While in graduate school at Marquette University, I got a reporting internship at The Milwaukee Journal, which had an 8-column format. I switched to "By Dan Day" because it fit better, and to my 22-year-old brain, looked cooler.

I stuck with it upon joining AP. When I became Omaha correspondent, the managing editor of The Hastings Tribune accused me of having a "made-up broadcaster's byline."

I stuck with "By Dan Day" for the remainder of my AP years, if you don't count the one time I typed it "By Day Day" on a story out of Omaha on the Union Pacific Railroad. I can't recall if I filed a writethru to correct my byline.

In recent years at Princeton University, I've gone with "By Daniel Day," slightly more formal than for the academic world.

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Charles Hanley – I've always kind of regretted following wife Pam's suggestion ages ago that I use my middle initial. Everything I ever wrote in Albany was topped with a simple "Charles Hanley." Then came the "J." and it was all downhill from there.

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Steve Graham - After the late Paul Freeman hired me in the Helena, Mont. bureau in 1974, I wrote my first bylined story using my full name with middle initial. (My background was broadcast, so bylines were new to me).

Paul looked over my shoulder at the screen of the old Hendrix terminal and advised me, in his own inimitable way, that it was pompous and ridiculous. I immediately shortened it, where it stayed.

Later, after the AP, in its wisdom, moved me to the emerging world of technology, I was shocked to see a bylined AP story out of Germany by another Steve Graham.

As it happened, I had some reason to visit the Berlin bureau shortly thereafter where I introduced myself to the other Steve Graham, who hailed from England, whose jaw dropped, to say the least.

Perhaps others have experiences of shared bylines.

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Jim Hood - I know everybody's tired of hearing from me – a familiar complaint – so I'll keep this brief. Connecting recently (Oct. 10) told of the late Otto Doelling's struggles with his byline, which rang several bells for me. My byline problem has always been that I write too much, at least according to several of my contemporaries, including not a few Connecting readers.

Early on, I discovered that the easiest solution to my excessive loquaciousness was simply to build an arsenal of names. Thus was born D.O. Volente (strangely similar to the Latin motto of my alma mater), Truman Lewis and a few others who asked to remain anonymous because they were not authorized to divulge proprietary info.

It wasn't a problem at AP where I was told by Dorman Cordell that my byline should be James R. Hood. He thought the "R" gave it heft. (Two syllables just didn't cut it, he thought). That was handy because I was already using that sobriquet, having worked at one point for KTKT, a very loud rock 'n roll station that insisted its newspeople use hefty names (and echo chambers) and I rather got to like it.

My policy, perhaps unfair, was that I wouldn't let newspeople make up names. Even my good friend Wayne Satz, had to give up his beloved "Wayne Westover" when toiling under my direction.

Truman Lewis, perhaps loosely based on the Truman Show, became my preferred alter ego. At ConsumerAffairs.com, I tried to crank out at least five stories a day and I assigned a goodly portion of them to Truman. Having the same guy write everything looked kind of mom-and-pop, I thought.

Truman eventually faded from view as I took on more help and a few loyal readers emailed to ask if he was all right. I assured them he was fine and living in Virginia. Others called to ask where they could get their hands on him and I was able to truthfully answer that he was not expected in the office anytime soon.

Even more journajive

Frank Aukofer - Seems that TV weather reporters have no clue how to pronounce temperature, which dominates every weather report. It usually comes out tem pa

chur, or some other variation like tem pit sure.

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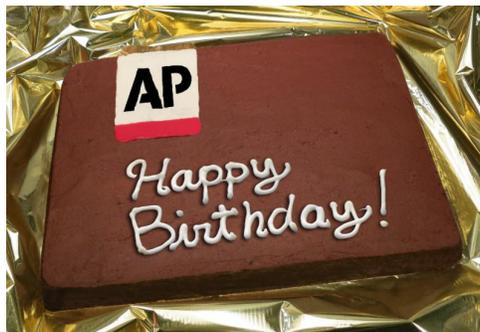
[Jim Limbach](#) - Re: Jim Luther's grammar lament: Jim, I feel your pain, but in a world where subject and verb no longer have to agree, I fear we are doomed.

Mort on Hamas-Israel

[Dan Sewell](#) - Thanks to Connecting for sharing Mort Rosenblum's incisive perspective column on the shocking Hamas attack on Israel. The grisly scenes and accounts dominate heads and hearts right now, but it's important to understand the decades-long background of the conflict and to consider what could and should happen next.

The "Connecting" community includes some of the world's foremost experts - with actual front-line experience - sharing their thoughts and memories on global events, and it's all free! (Hope I didn't just give Paul any ideas.)

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Craig Whitney](#)

Stories of interest

Social media is awash in misinformation about Israel-Gaza war, but Musk's X is the most egregious (AP)

BY BARBARA ORTUTAY
The Associated Press

While Twitter has always struggled with combating misinformation about major news events, it was still the go-to place to find out what's happening in the world. But the Israel-Hamas war has underscored how the platform now transformed into X has become not only unreliable but is actively promoting falsehoods.

Experts say that under Elon Musk the platform has deteriorated to the point that it's not just failing to clamp down on misinformation but is favoring posts by accounts that pay for its blue-check subscription service, regardless of who runs them.

If such posts go viral, their blue-checked creators can be eligible for payments from X, creating a financial incentive to post whatever gets the most reaction — including misinformation.

Ian Bremmer, a prominent foreign policy expert, posted on X that the level of disinformation on the Israel-Hamas war “being algorithmically promoted” on the platform “is unlike anything I’ve ever been exposed to in my career as a political scientist.”

Read more [here](#).

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Wall Street Journal DC bureau chief to focus on Gershkovich release (The Hill)

BY DOMINICK MASTRANGELO

The Wall Street Journal is moving a top Washington editor away from his job leading the D.C. bureau to focus on securing the release of detained reporter Evan Gershkovich.

Paul Beckett, who has led the Journal's coverage from Washington since the Trump administration, will transition into the new role in the coming weeks, editor Emma Tucker wrote to staff this week in a memo.

Beckett has for months been “tirelessly lobbying for government action” on the Gershkovich case since he was arrested, Tucker wrote.

Gershkovich, a reporter at the Journal, was arrested in Russia on espionage charges in March while on a reporting trip to the city of Yekaterinburg, about 1,200 miles east of Moscow.

The U.S. government has said the charges against Gershkovich are baseless and has urged the Russian government to release him to the United States. The reporter lost a second appeal in his case this week, meaning he will be imprisoned until at least Nov. 30.

Read more [here](#).

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How The Kansas City Star is covering the Taylor Swift beat (Poynter)

By: Kristen Hare

The Kansas City Star's newsroom is getting a very different kind of news tip these days.

"Our tip line is filled with Travis and Taylor tips of late," said Andale Gross, the Star's managing editor.

The tips: where pop star Taylor Swift and Kansas City Chiefs' tight end Travis Kelce might be in the KC metro area, the next best angles for coverage, sightings of the famous couple and more.

In September, the newspaper chain Gannett announced it would hire reporters to cover Swift and Beyoncé. (After continual layoffs. Uproar and interest followed.)

But the Star, owned by newspaper chain McClatchy, got the beat by default when Swift showed up at a Chiefs' game.

They're not wasting the moment.

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

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CBS Sued by Former '60 Minutes' Producer Claiming Gender Discrimination (Variety)

By Michaela Zee

A former producer on "60 Minutes" is suing CBS, CBS News and parent company Paramount Global for gender discrimination, claiming that she was wrongfully terminated from the newsmagazine program.

In a complaint obtained by Variety, which was filed on Tuesday in New York federal court, producer Alexandra Poolos says the network fired her after she was falsely accused of bullying an associate producer she supervised. Poolos indicates discrepancies in how her firing was handled by the company compared to several male producers and editors of "60 Minutes" who've allegedly been the subject of multiple sexual harassment complaints.

"Sexism and misogyny defined the workplace of CBS, including CBS News, over many years," according to the complaint. Poolos cites sexual misconduct and harassment claims against former CBS chairman Leslie Moonves, ex-network anchor Charlie Rose and former "60 Minutes" executive producers Don Hewitt and Jeff Fager, as well as several other current producers on the program.

Read more [here](#).

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China Releases Australian Journalist Three Years After Arrest (New York Times)

By Alexandra Stevenson

Cheng Lei, an Australian journalist who was held in Beijing for more than three years, has returned to Australia, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said on Wednesday.

Mr. Albanese said Ms. Cheng had been reunited with her two young children in Melbourne.

“Her return brings an end to a very difficult few years for Cheng and her family,” Mr. Albanese said at a news conference on Wednesday.

Ms. Cheng, who worked for China’s global television network, was detained in Beijing in August 2020 and formally arrested later on suspicion of sharing national secrets. A familiar face as a business news host for China Global Television News, Ms. Cheng, 48, had long presented herself as a bridge between China and Australia, according to friends.

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

The Final Word

Remembering Anja - 'She no doubt would have been in Gaza...recording the courage of others'



Today is Anja Niedringhaus' birthday. She would have been 58 years old. Our colleague Kathy Gannon, who was with Anja when she was killed while they covered the 2014 Afghan elections, said: "She no doubt would be in Gaza doing the only thing she ever wanted to do, which, as she herself said, was to "record the courage of others." My heart misses her every day. Click [here](#) for Anja's obituary.

Today in History - Oct. 12, 2023



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Oct. 12, the 285th day of 2023. There are 80 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 12, 1976, it was announced in China that Hua Guofeng had been named to succeed the late Mao Zedong as chairman of the Communist Party, and that Mao's widow and three others, known as the "Gang of Four," had been arrested.

On this date:

In 1492 (according to the Old Style calendar), Christopher Columbus' expedition arrived in the present-day Bahamas.

In 1792, the first recorded U.S. celebration of Columbus Day was held to mark the tricentennial of Christopher Columbus' landing.

In 1870, General Robert E. Lee died in Lexington, Virginia, at age 63.

In 1933, bank robber John Dillinger escaped from a jail in Allen County, Ohio, with the help of his gang, who killed the sheriff, Jess Sarber.

In 1971, the rock opera "Jesus Christ Superstar" opened at the Mark Hellinger Theatre on Broadway.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon nominated House minority leader Gerald R. Ford of Michigan to succeed Spiro T. Agnew as vice president.

In 1984, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher escaped an attempt on her life when an Irish Republican Army bomb exploded at a hotel in Brighton, England, killing five people.

In 1986, the superpower meeting in Reykjavik, Iceland, ended in stalemate, with President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev unable to agree on arms control or a date for a full-fledged summit in the United States.

In 2000, 17 sailors were killed in a suicide bomb attack on the destroyer USS Cole in Yemen.

In 2002, bombs blamed on al-Qaida-linked militants destroyed a nightclub on the Indonesian island of Bali, killing 202 people, including 88 Australians and seven Americans.

In 2007, former Vice President Al Gore and the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change won the Nobel Peace Prize for sounding the alarm over global warming.

In 2011, a Nigerian al-Qaida operative pleaded guilty to trying to bring down a jetliner with a bomb in his underwear; Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab (OO'-mahr fah-ROOK' ahb-DOOL'-moo-TAH'-lahb) defiantly told a federal judge in Detroit that he had acted in retaliation for the killing of Muslims worldwide.

In 2012, the European Union won the Nobel Peace Prize for fostering peace on a continent long ravaged by war.

In 2017, the Trump administration said it would immediately halt payments to insurers under the Obama-era health care law.

In 2018, Roelof "Pik" Boetha, the last foreign minister of South Africa's apartheid era, died at age 86.

In 2021, the NBA's Brooklyn Nets said Kyrie Irving could not play or practice with them until he could be a full participant; New York City required professional athletes to be vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to play or practice in public venues.

Today's Birthdays: Former Sen. Jake Garn, R-Utah, is 91. Singer Sam Moore (formerly of Sam and Dave) is 88. Broadcast journalist Chris Wallace is 76. Actor-singer Susan Anton is 73. Pop/rock singer/songwriter Jane Siberry is 68. Actor Hiroyuki Sanada is 63. Actor Carlos Bernard is 61. Jazz musician Chris Botti (BOH'-tee) is 61. R&B singer Claude McKnight (Take 6) is 61. Rock singer Bob Schneider is 58. Actor Hugh Jackman is 55. R&B singer Garfield Bright (Shai) is 54. Country musician Martie Maguire (Courtyard Hounds, The Chicks) is 54. Actor Kirk Cameron is 53. Olympic gold medal skier Bode Miller is 46. Rock singer Jordan Pundik (New Found Glory) is 44. Actor Brian J. Smith is 42. Actor Tyler Blackburn is 37. Actor Marcus T. Paulk is 37. Actor Ito Aghayere is 36. Actor Josh Hutcherson is 31.

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?

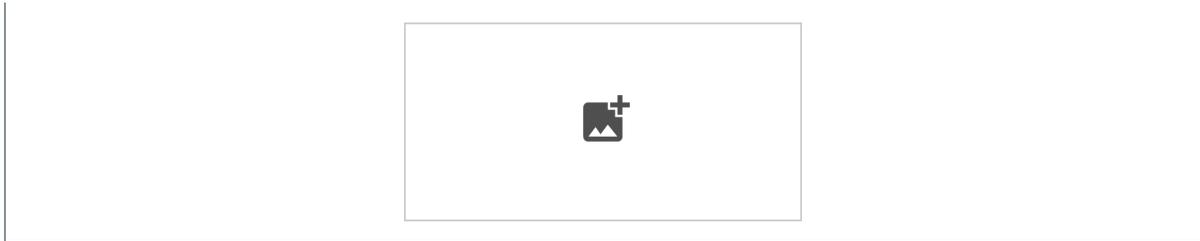
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

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