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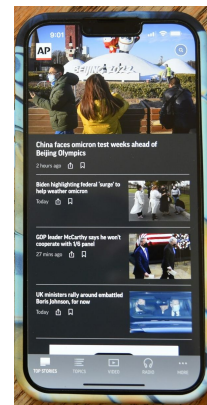
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Connecting

Oct. 16, 2023

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Yaniv Zohar, his wife Yasmin, and their two daughters, Keshet and Tehelet (Courtesy)

Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this Oct. 16, 2023,

Our colleague [Dan Perry](#) shared news of the deaths of former AP videographer **Yaniv Zohar**, his wife and two daughters in the Oct. 7 Hamas attacks on Israel.

He said, "I am spending my days hearing sirens and Iron Dome explosions over my head in Tel Aviv, maybe a dozen times a day. And that is of course nothing compared to what is happening in and around Gaza -- both to the families of my former colleagues in the strip, and to Israelis like former AP videographer Yaniv Zohar, who was murdered along with his wife and two daughters (picture above) during the Hamas massacre of Oct. 7."

From The Times of Israel:

Yaniv Zohar, 54, a photographer for the Israel Hayom newspaper, was murdered by Hamas terrorists in Kibbutz Nahal Oz on October 7, 2023, along with his wife, Yasmin, and his two daughters Keshet and Tehelet.

Their 13-year-old son, who had gone for an early-morning run, escaped alive. Yasmin's father, Haim Livne, was also murdered in the attack.

"Yaniv was the first newsman to arrive at the scene of the kidnapping of Gilat Shalit, and widely covered the Gaza disengagement. He was a wonderful friend, a devoted father, a man with heart and generosity," Israel Hayom said in a statement.

"He would always run after the next frame, despite the difficult sights he was photographing," the newspaper added.

Reporter Almog Boker eulogized his friend on X: "How much he loved the Gaza border towns, how much he loved Nahal Oz, how much he fought for his home. This dear and beloved man and talented photographer whose photos were broadcast around the world was murdered with his wife Yasmin and two daughters."

Zohar also worked in the past as a photographer for the AP news agency.

"Meanwhile," Dan said, "the fact that I was the former AP regional chief for the Middle East has put me in some demand as a commentator on events, and I have tried to bring a modicum of levelheadedness -- in the old AP tradition -- to a situation that could rapidly spin out of control. Click [here](#) and [here](#) for exemplars."

We bring you In today's Connecting:

AP's Gaza reporter **Issam Adwan** removed from reporting duties in Gaza while AP looks into accusations he repeatedly ripped Israel on social media;

AP Standards editor **John Daniszewski** quoted in Poynter story on how standards editors are sorting through graphic images from Israel and Gaza to decide if there is news value in showing them;

On a lighter vein, first responses on sounds you recall from the long ago past;

And more of your stories on the stories behind your byline.

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

Paul

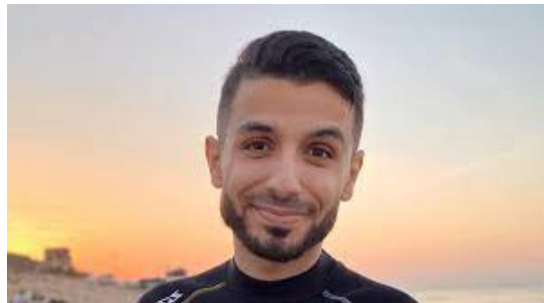
AP's Gaza reporter repeatedly ripped Israel on social media, said oppressive regime should be 'overthrown'

AP reporter Issam Adwan taken off duties after social media activity exposed

By David Rutz Fox News

A reporter for the Associated Press based in Gaza has a social media history of blasting Israel as an oppressive, apartheid regime, leading to criticism that he can't objectively cover the conflict.

An extensive report from HonestReporting, a media watchdog, laid out Issam Adwan's extensive past of shredding Israel, including calling it an "apartheid" regime, saying it would be a triumph if it was "overthrown," and comparing the Jewish state to the Nazis. Adwan has been reporting this week for the AP from Gaza after Israel declared war on Hamas following the Palestinian terror group's brutal attack Saturday.



In one now-deleted post on X, formerly known as Twitter, exactly one year ago, he wrote, the "Palestinian revolt against the Israeli oppression will be a triumph" and "every colonial system will be overthrown. Meanwhile, you should reflect on what you did to contribute to it."

In another, he states, "It's simple to identify which side you take... Supporting colonialism and apartheid is never ok to the human common sense."

SENIOR HAMAS OFFICIAL ADMITS ISRAEL ATTACKS HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR YEARS UNDER GUISE OF GOVERNING GAZA

He also told an Israeli in 2019, "Don't listen to the lies they told you about us. They're spreading lies and fear to continue with the apartheid system which [separates] us of different races and religions."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bill Sikes, Doug Pizac, Paul Albright, Dennis Conrad, Adolphe Bernotas.

Later in this story: The AP told Fox News Digital that Adwan has been removed from reporting duties while it investigates his past further. Issam Adwan is a Gaza native and activist who joined the Associated Press in August. "Issam Adwan was taken off of reporting duties a few days ago while we look into this," a spokesperson told Fox News Digital.

How standards editors are sorting through graphic images from Israel and Gaza



A journalist films U.N. peacekeepers patrol on the Lebanese side of the Lebanese-Israeli border in the southern village of Marwahin, Lebanon, Thursday, Oct. 12, 2023. Following days long shelling and clashes along the Lebanese-Israel border between Hezbollah militants and Israeli troops, Lebanon's southern border area has turned into ghost towns, as many residents fled and shops closed down. (AP Photo/Hassan Ammar)

By: Fernanda Camarena
Poynter.org

As the Israel-Hamas war escalates, its horrors have become more apparent by the day. The images are gut-wrenching. Children pulled from rubble. People bloodied and hurt. Bodies in the streets. Hostages fighting for their lives.

Today anyone with a cellphone can capture and publish images faster and easier than ever. The New York Times reported this week that Hamas is posting videos intended to spread terror on Telegram and on X (formerly Twitter).

When documenting volatile conflicts, one of the toughest decisions editors make is deciding what viewers see, especially if those images could be disturbing. Journalists aren't meant to sugarcoat or sanitize reality, but avoiding sensationalism is also crucial.

To explore how media organizations grapple with tough decisions on what to air and publish during a war, I interviewed two veteran standards editors about the calls they are making this week. They both described a process that is more art than science.

Excerpted from the story:

Conversations about what to show the audience are also happening at The Associated Press, which employs correspondents around the world and sends them into conflict zones.

"We know that war is brutal and violent, and some pictures surely need to be shown (Nick Ut's napalm girl or Eddie Adams' image of a Viet Cong prisoner being summarily executed are two examples)," said John Daniszewski, vice president and editor-at-large for standards at The Associated Press. "But we know that bloody, mangled bodies occur in every war and in many accidents, and we do not send all of these to the public out of reasons of respect for the audience and respect for the victims and their families. So, it is always a balancing act."

The Associated Press is in the unique position of gathering reporting, videos and images for its own channels while also sharing footage with subscribing outlets as a wire service. Serving both loyalties is top of mind as it navigates war footage.

"When a photo or video arrives that appears to be highly graphic, such as a dead body, or a bloody or maimed victim, or a depiction of death, we discuss the image among ourselves and determine whether its news value justifies showing it," Daniszewski said.

The AP has a different standard for footage that will be shared with its newsroom partners.

"For visual material going to other newsrooms, we will be somewhat less restrictive about what we will distribute, believing the newsrooms can render their own standards decisions," he said. "We will flag these videos as containing graphic material to make editors aware that they need to evaluate them for themselves. For CR (customer-ready) material, we will often not move graphic imagery, or, if we decide the image is very important, we will prepare a customer warning that the following image or video contains graphic material, before the image can be opened online."

Click [here](#) to read more. Shared by Paul Albright.

Long Lost Sounds

Norm Abelson - Editor Paul has asked us to recall noises or sounds we once heard but don't anymore.

I admit I came up empty, but my life partner, Magdalene, recalled these three:

The ka-ching of the fancy cash registers at the local market.

The clanging of glass bottles against their metal containers as the milkman made his early morning deliveries.

The ear-splitting roar of coal making its way down a steel chute into the basement bin.

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Jim Bagby - The “clink” of milk being delivered to our front porch and the empty bottles being carried back to the truck. Wow, that must have been when I was in 1st or 2nd grade!

Part of that time, the delivery was by my Dad. One of his part-time jobs while he worked his way through the University of Colorado was for Alba Dairy (I remember the white coveralls with the orange logo on the back).

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Bob Dobkin - When is the last time you heard the clang clang of a fire engine? They no longer have bells. Today it's all electronics.

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Sibby Christensen - The radio. Our family lived in Denver, and if we wanted instant connection with the outer world we tuned into KOA or KLZ. At station breaks, we would hear a little three-note tune, followed by a reminder of the right reading on the dial. Hearing the tune assured us we had, yes, tuned in. (KLZ was one of the country's earliest commercial stations.)

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Daniel Polowetzky - In New York City many years ago noon was announced with an air raid siren everyday. No longer.

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Michael Short - From the 1920s into the '70s, Good Humor ice cream trucks cruised neighborhoods in most of the United States.

I couldn't find an example of the simple ring-a-ding bells I heard, but "Turkey in the Straw" (later linked with racism) was often used to attract business.

[This link](#) traverses Good Humor history.

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[Hal Spencer](#) - Up to about age 12, I lived a stone's throw away from my grandfather's underground lead and zinc mine, the Chief Consolidated Mining Co., in Eureka, Utah. At 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. six days a week, a loud, low whistle blew, telling our mountain village that a new shift had started. I could see day-shift miners, empty lunch buckets in hand, streaming out the mine gate to walk home. I've included [a link](#) containing pretty much the exact whistle sound. I miss that whistle. Thankfully, there was no whistle for the graveyard shift.

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[Mark Thompson](#) - EDITOR, TO REPORTER: "You're getting a raise!"

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[Suzanne Vlamis](#) - The cooing of Rockledge Pigeons in the early morning on the metal firescape outside my bedroom window as my wake up greeting, and metal roller skates scraping across the concrete sidewalks of Manhattan are the fond favorite sounds I grew up with in New York City. Roller skaters have vanished, replaced by an occasional roller blader. And Rockledge Pigeons find refuge on traffic lights and huddle on hi-rise building ledges as more and more pre-war four- and five-story tenement buildings are torn down. Bicycles, electric bikes, and scooters still cannot silence the Rockledge Pigeons minus the firescapes, as city parks provide rinks for roller blading. But hearing that early morning cooing is missing and the sound of metal skates crossing concrete city sidewalks is a distant but enduring memory

Remembering Otto Doelling

[Claude Erbsen](#) - Otto, with whom I worked closely during the last 15 or so years of my AP tenure, was a wise, witty and thoughtful man with a wonderful and sardonic sense of humor, He also had a strong work ethic that was very much in evidence both in the field and at 50 Rock. He was always on top of things, attentive to detail and insightful in solving problems that came his way. If someone said "Otto is handling it" I knew I could put it out of mind and be sure it would be done to perfection.

He was the embodiment of the phrase "still waters run deep."

Stories behind your byline

[Hal Bock](#) - When I was in college at NYU, the columnists on our school newspapers all used Washington Square for titles. On the Square was popular, Square Talk was another. When my turn came I wanted something different. My father, an amateur

wordsmith, came up with Bock's Score in about five minutes. I loved it as a sort of play on words and used it throughout my time on our college publication.

When Wick Temple made me the AP sports columnist succeeding Will Grimsley, I proposed the title to him. Wick loved it and it was my column title throughout my time as sports columnist. The byline was a rather pedestrian By Hal Bock, but the title, that was special.

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Jeff Donn - For me, I guess I was expressing my desire to communicate with regular people when I wrote my first AP byline simply as Jeff Donn, out of Albany, NY. (It also felt safer because my mother and wife were the only people who called me Jeffrey — and only when I screwed up. My mom even sometimes added my middle name Alan for emphasis when I really ticked her off. When I heard her yell Jeffrey Alan, and I immediately assumed my best look of contrition.) But I later entertained the idle desire for a cooler middle initial when I worked with the distinguished-sounding and authentically classy Dan Q. Haney.

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Brent Kallestad - Wrote columns over much of my career starting with the local weekly, The Miller (S.D.)Press under the catchy name “Sports Notes” during my last three years of high school. (1960-63)

As sports editor of our high school paper “Rustler Hoofbeats”, in my sophomore year of high school, it was “Brent’s Bench.”

My column in the Jax Air News (1968-70) during my last Navy stint was titled “ Kal’s Corner.”

During my time as AP’s sportswriter in Minneapolis in the mid-70s, I wrote a weekly sports column “Down to the Wire” distributed to members in Minnesota and the Dakotas.

My last one was a weekly political column “Florida Focus” during the ‘90s, during my time as Tallahassee correspondent.

I’ve really enjoyed looking at the number of former AP colleagues who had similar experiences over time.

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Cliff Schiappa - While a student at the University of Missouri Journalism School in the late 70s, I freelanced for AP but also did class assignments for the J-School's Columbia Missourian, the morning paper that served the city of Columbia and surrounding areas (not a campus paper). The Missourian also had a competitor in the afternoon Columbia Daily Tribune owned by the late Hank Waters, a highly respected publisher known around the state.

Because the AP photo transmitter was housed at the Tribune (the Missourian was a UPI photo client) I probably spent as much time at the Tribune darkroom as I did at the Missourian. One night there was a house fire out in Boone County and I was the only photographer on the scene. I made a decent photo and returned to the Tribune to process my film. The story wasn't big enough for AP, and the Missourian didn't publish the next day, so photo editor David Rees convinced me to sell the photo to the Tribune. But I knew I'd be in deep trouble with Missourian editors if my name appeared in the Trib. So Rees suggested a (very) fake byline: Nick Danger. It worked... I got the four-column front-page clip and no wrist slapping from the J-School.

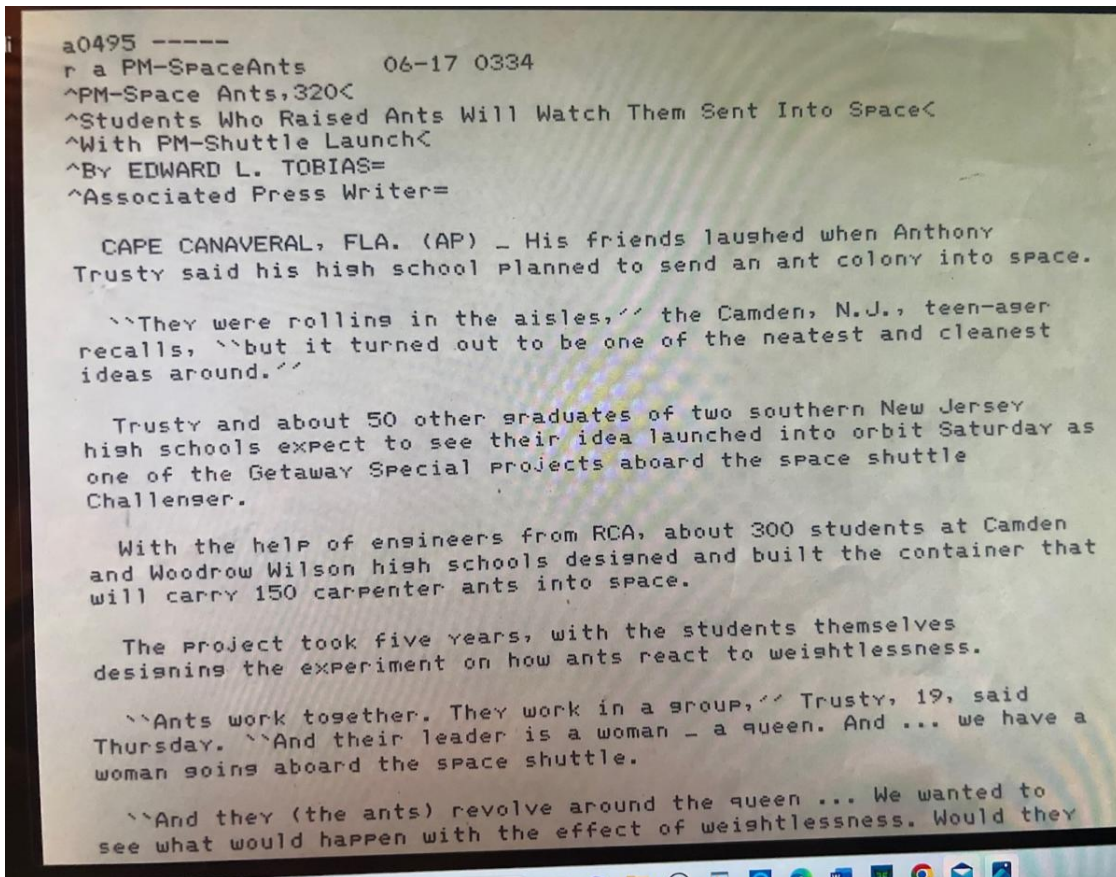
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Robert Glass - When I was a police reporter for the old Nashville Banner, a hotshot radio reporter told me I should change my byline to Bob Glass. "Robert" was too stuffy for a guy who wrote about armed robberies, stabbings and other Music City mayhem. I had been called Robert all my life, so I just ignored him. Looking back, I think maybe he was right.

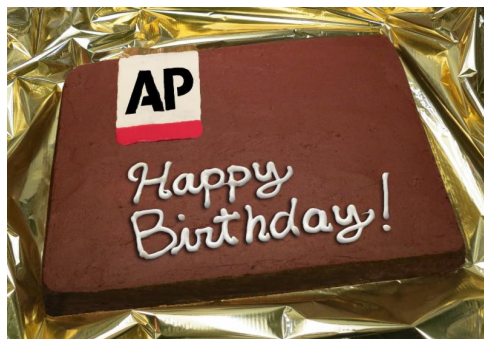
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Ed Tobias - Over 40 years with The AP and only one byline.

The story was slugged Space Ants, ran a whopping 320 words, and was datelined Cape Canaveral, Fla. I'd always used Ed Tobias for work, whether reporting on the air or writing a memo. But, I was convinced to use my full name by one of the two editors who honed the copy when Howard Benedict and Harry F. Rosenthal were the usual bylines: Jon Wolman and Mike Silverman. With one of those two "suggesting" that Ed be changed to Edward L, it was hard to resist.



Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Bill Pilc](#)

Stories of interest

Reuters journalist killed in Lebanon in missile fire from direction of Israel

(Reuters) - A Reuters video journalist was killed and six other journalists injured in southern Lebanon on Friday when missiles fired from the direction of Israel struck them, according to a Reuters videographer who was at the scene.

The group of journalists, including from Al Jazeera and Agence France-Presse, were working near Alma al-Shaab, close to the Israel border, where the Israeli military and Lebanese militia Hezbollah have been trading fire in border clashes.

Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati and a Hezbollah lawmaker blamed the incident on Israel.

The Israel Defense Forces did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Israel's U.N. envoy, Gilad Erdan, said in a briefing on Friday: "Obviously, we would never want to hit or kill or shoot any journalist that is doing its job. But you know, we're in a state of war, things might happen." He added that the country would investigate.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen, Richard Chady. Click [here](#) for the AP story.

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Journalists are among the casualties in the war between Israel and Hamas (Poynter)

By: Al Tompkins

At least 11 journalists have died over the past week in the deadly confrontation between Hamas and Israel.

Reporters Without Borders reports, "Five Palestinian journalists are among the hundreds of civilians who have been killed in the military offensive by Hamas and the response by the Israel Defense Forces." At least one journalist working in Israel was also killed.

The Committee to Protect Journalists is investigating the journalists killed in Israel and Gaza and is compiling an updated list of the dead, missing and injured.

On Friday afternoon, Reuters reported that videographer Issam Abdallah had been killed. Reuters journalists Thaer Al-Sudani and Maher Nazez "also sustained injuries and are seeking medical care."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen, Doug Pizac.

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Local Newspapers Are Vanishing. How Should We Remember Them? (ProPublica)

by Daniel Golden

ProPublica is a nonprofit newsroom that investigates abuses of power. Sign up to receive our biggest stories as soon as they're published.

A sign that reads "Somewhere Worth Seeing" welcomes travelers to Ware, a faded mill town surrounded by the hills and steeples of western Massachusetts. But these days, hardly any news outlets find Ware worth a visit, even as its leaders wrangle over issues vital to its future.

Inside the brick, fortress-like Town Hall on a humid summer evening, Town Manager Stuart Beckley informed the five members of the Selectboard, Ware's council, of an important proposal. A company was offering to buy Ware's water and sewer services, which need tens of millions of dollars in upgrades. That's a consequential choice for a town of 10,000 with an annual budget of \$36 million. A sale would provide an infusion of \$9.7 million. But private utilities often increase rates, raising the prospect that Ware's many poor and elderly residents might face onerous bills down the road.

The Selectboard didn't reach a consensus that night. Instead, one of the members berated Beckley for moving ahead with privatizing even though the position of town planner had been vacant since March. "We've been through four of them ... in less than six years," Keith Kruckas said. "So we're not going to blame it on COVID. We're not going to blame it on other towns paying more money. We're going to blame it on poor management."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

The Final Word



Shared by Doug Pizac.

Today in History - Oct. 16, 2023



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Oct. 16, the 289th day of 2023. There are 76 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 16, 1962, the Cuban missile crisis began as President John F. Kennedy was informed that reconnaissance photographs had revealed the presence of missile bases in Cuba.

On this date:

In 1758, American lexicographer Noah Webster was born in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1793, during the French Revolution, Marie Antoinette, the queen of France, was beheaded.

In 1859, radical abolitionist John Brown led a raid on the U.S. arsenal at Harpers Ferry in what was then a part of western Virginia. (Ten of Brown's men were killed and five escaped. Brown and six followers were captured; all were executed.)

In 1934, Chinese Communists, under siege by the Nationalists, began their "long march" lasting a year from southeastern to northwestern China.

In 1964, China set off its first atomic bomb, codenamed "596," on the Lop Nur Test Ground.

In 1968, American athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos sparked controversy at the Mexico City Olympics by giving "Black power" salutes during a victory ceremony after they'd won gold and bronze medals in the 200-meter race.

In 1978, the College of Cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church chose Cardinal Karol Wojtyla (voy-TEE'-wah) to be the new pope; he took the name John Paul II.

In 1984, Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu was named winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for his decades of non-violent struggle for racial equality in South Africa.

In 1991, a gunman opened fire at a Luby's Cafeteria in Killeen, Texas, killing 23 people before taking his own life.

In 1997, in the first known case in the United States, a Georgia woman gave birth after being implanted with previously frozen eggs.

In 2002, President George W. Bush signed a congressional resolution authorizing war against Iraq.

In 2009, agricultural officials said pigs in Minnesota had tested positive for the H1N1 virus, or swine flu, the first such cases in the U.S.

In 2013, Congress passed legislation to avoid a threatened U.S. default and end the partial, 16-day government shutdown.

In 2017, Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, who had been captured and held by the Taliban for five years after walking away from his post in Afghanistan, pleaded guilty to desertion and endangering his comrades.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-producer Tony Anthony is 86. Actor Barry Corbin is 83. Rock musician C.F. Turner (Bachman-Turner Overdrive) is 80. Rock singer-musician Bob Weir is 76. Producer-director David Zucker is 76. Record company executive Jim Ed Norman is 75. Actor Daniel Gerroll is 72. Actor Martha Smith is 71. Comedian-actor Andy Kindler is 67. Actor-director Tim Robbins is 65. Actor-musician Gary Kemp is 64. Singer-musician Bob Mould is 63. Actor Randy Vasquez is 62. Rock musician Flea (Red Hot Chili Peppers) is 61. Movie director Kenneth Lonergan is 61. Actor Christian Stolte is 61. Actor Todd Stashwick is 55. Actor Terri J. Vaughn is 54. Singer Wendy Wilson (Wilson Phillips) is 54. Rock singer Chad Gray (Mudvayne) is 52. Actor Paul Sparks is 52. Actor Kellie Martin is 48. Singer John Mayer is 46. Actor Jeremy Jackson is 43. Actor Caterina Scorsone is 43. Actor Brea Grant is 42. U.S. Olympic and retired WNBA basketball star Sue Bird is 42. Actor Kyler Pettis is 31. Philadelphia Phillies outfielder Bryce Harper is 31. Tennis star Naomi Osaka 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.

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