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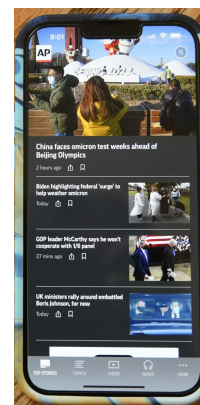
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Connecting

Oct. 19, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this Oct. 19, 2023,

Our colleague **Meg Kinnard**, AP national politics reporter, has returned to her alma mater to help conduct a series of interview forums with presidential candidates, sponsored by The Associated Press and Georgetown University.

She relates in our lead story how she has worked with **Mo Elleithee**, founding executive director of GU's Institute of Politics and Public Service, on appearances thus far by Mike Pence and Tim Scott.

Both appearances made news on the AP wire:

[Pence calls Trump's attacks on Milley 'utterly inexcusable' at AP-Georgetown foreign policy forum](#)

[Tim Scott praises 'restraint' of Israel's Netanyahu, says US should move more firepower to region](#)

There's a new member of the AP Stylebook family – Manual de Estilo de la AP - a guide for journalists in the Spanish language - written by Spanish-speaking journalists, for Spanish-speaking writers and editors.

Our colleague **Colleen Newvine**, AP Stylebook product manager, provides an explanation in Q-and-A format to enlighten her Connecting colleagues.

Journalist casualties: From Committee to Protect Journalists: The Israel-Gaza conflict has taken a severe toll on journalists since Hamas launched its unprecedented attack against Israel on October 7 and Israel declared war on the militant Palestinian group, launching strikes on the blockaded Gaza Strip. CPJ is investigating all reports of journalists killed, injured, detained, or missing in the war, including those hurt as hostilities spread to neighboring Lebanon. As of October 18, at least 19 journalists were among the more than 4,000 dead on both sides since the war began on October 7, with hundreds killed in Tuesday's hospital blast in Gaza. Read more [here](#).

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

Paul

Associated Press, Georgetown University host second in series of presidential candidate forums





Meg Kinnard – *AP National Politics Reporter* - Another successful foreign policy/national security presidential candidate forum, hosted by The Associated Press and Georgetown University's Institute of Politics and Public Service, was held Monday at Georgetown University.

This time, U.S. Sen. Tim Scott (R-South Carolina) was in the hot seat (though he frequently sprang out of it to address the audience, in typical fashion) as he took questions from students at Georgetown University, Clemson University, the University of New Hampshire - and me (a proud GU graduate, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service '02).



Some of the AP team gathered with Mo Elleithee and Meg Kinnard after the forum featuring former Vice President Mike Pence.

Among the AP Washington team involved in the forums: bureau chief Anna Johnson, politics editor Nomaan Merchant, photo editor Pablo Martinez Monsivais, deputy bureau chief Steven Sloan, deputy bureau chief Jack Auresto, video journalist Mike Pesoli, and photographers Jacquelyn Martin and Stephanie Scarbrough.

A big hat tip to my AP colleagues, the most consummate professionals in the business, as well as Mo Elleithee and team at GU Politics, for pulling off these seamless events. Our country is better informed by substantive conversations such as these. And, I might add, the future is bright, with the caliber of students who are part of these conversations.

Monday's forum with Tim Scott was the second we've done – former VP Mike Pence being the first on Oct. 3. The next one has not been scheduled yet but all candidates who qualified for the first GOP debate have been invited to participate.

The students in the audience at Georgetown, as well as students joining us virtually from colleges in early-voting states, asked smart, thoughtful questions, and listened. The mood was civil, respectful and made me proud to be a Hoya.

Story behind AP's Spanish edition of the Stylebook



Colleen Newvine – *product manager, AP Stylebook* - Manual de Estilo de la AP recently joined the AP Stylebook family. AP's editors in Mexico City created this guide. It's not a translation of our English guidance. It's written by Spanish-speaking journalists, for Spanish-speaking writers and editors.

This is our second iteration of Manual de Estilo. After we retired Manual de Estilo Online de la AP, we spent years reviewing, updating and expanding our Spanish guidance. It's now a print-on-demand book sold via Amazon, with an e-book coming soon.

The Manual de Estilo de la AP is a guide for journalists and editors that includes more than 4,000 entries on the use of words and concepts, as well as suggestions on how to translate some expressions from English into Spanish.

It has chapters on specific topics such as art, cinema, sports, music and television. In addition to the AP norms and principles, the Manual offers a look at social media standards, how to approach the identification of victims, and polls and surveys.

This style guide aims to help writers and editors communicate across borders, choosing expressions clearly understood by Spanish speakers around the world and avoiding regionalisms.

Below is a Q&A with answers from me, product manager of the AP Stylebook; Cristina Fuentes, recently named as lead editor of Manual de Estilo de la AP, taking over for the retired Emilio Fernandez, who did years of heavy lifting on this project; and Eduardo Castillo, news director for Latin America and the Caribbean, who helped oversee creation of this iteration of the Manual de Estilo.

What prompted us to produce it?

Fuentes: Honestly, because we need it ourselves. In order to present a coherent and unified coverage of many different subjects, our staff needs guidelines to maintain accuracy and keeping our editorial view. After so many years and so many people contributing to it, it is only natural to see it as a useful resource for other journalists and authors writing in Spanish.

Castillo: As an important part of the AP, the Spanish language service has followed closely the guidelines from the Stylebook historically, but it was clear some years ago that we needed also our own guidelines, based on the differences and nuances of the language.

Newvine: Worldwide shipping was one of the challenges that kept us from producing a physical book when we launched Manual de Estilo Online a decade ago. We didn't want to charge a customer more to ship a book than the cost of the book itself. Amazon's international print-on-demand is a departure from the way we run the English Stylebook. Instead of printing thousands of copies and shipping them from a central warehouse, the ability to print when and where the books are needed made much more sense. It lets us serve Spanish-speaking journalists regardless of what country they are in.

Any unique properties or content it has vs English language version?

Fuentes: Spanish can sound very different depending where you are, so we do have some entries that explain Spanish words to other Spanish writers from different areas. And, as we use the Manual not just for writing, but for translating purposes, there are

a quite a few warnings on false friends so we don't accidentally translate an English term with the most similar - and not accurate - Spanish word.

Castillo: More than unique, I'd say that it reflects the needs of a different language, Spanish in this case. For example, in English, people's race is written in capitals, not in Spanish. But some of the most obvious differences are names, in particular in terms of places, cities and countries: we don't say "Rio Grande", but "Río Bravo". Also, in the Spanish service, our datelines tend to have only the capital if those cities are well known (as BOGOTÁ), not the capital and the country, like in English (BOGOTA, Colombia).

And then something key that people will find here, it's that there are answers about how to translate some concepts, titles or phrases from English into Spanish – many times we see that people do a literal translation, or sometimes simply not translating it. For example, amid the immigration debate in the US, it's common to hear and read the concept "parole", and we've seen that some media just repeat it as "parole", when there are ways to say: "permiso", when you talk about immigration, or "libertad condicional" when you're talking about justice in general.

Any particular challenges in producing it?

Fuentes: Our main challenge is that there is just not one global Spanish language, but many. Some words are only used in a few countries while some are used in many, but with different meanings, and often we have to look not for the ultimate word or the most beautiful translation, but for the one that most people will understand. We are lucky to have a diverse team with reporters and translators from Argentina to Panamá, from Spain to Mexico, which helps a lot in the process, but also implies that we never make everyone happy!

Castillo: As Cristina said, the main challenge is to use a neutral language that can be understood in any Spanish-speaking country. It's not easy, because the language evolves constantly, so we need to be paying a lot of attention to some changes and searching for trends.

Newvine: This project had to overcome so many hurdles. We were getting ready to launch when the pandemic hit in 2020. Our plan to do this with a publisher changed. We had staffing changes. But we remained stubbornly committed to seeing it through.

Countries where it's being marketed?

Newvine: We're selling via Amazon, so it's available worldwide, wherever Amazon does business.

Names of those involved in its production?

Emilio Fernández and Eduardo Castillo

With contributors:

Berenice Bautista
Jorge Covarrubias

Cristina Fuentes
Alejandro González
Roberto Lara
Gabriela López
Sigal Ratner
Ricardo Reif
Daniel Zadunaisky
Ricardo Zúñiga

Is availability print and online like English language?

Print for now, e-book coming soon.

Is the Stylebook available in any other languages?

No, we have the well-established AP Stylebook and now Manual de Estilo de la AP joins it. No plans for others at this time.

Click [here](#) for link to purchase the manual.

Stories behind your bylines

Patrick Casey - Like Michael Holmes and Mike, I was called Pat or Paddy growing up. No one ever called me Patrick except my mom when she was miffed with whatever mischief I was into at the moment. I went with a Pat Casey byline early on until someone called the newsroom asking for Mrs. Casey. I immediately changed to Patrick, and like for Michael, the switch proved to be a useful early alert. The funny thing is that now, except for my wife, old friends and family, most people call me Patrick.

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Kenneth Herman - My byline (and name for most all purposes) changed (or was changed for me) when I ventured behind the Pine Curtain of East Texas for my first job. It was 1975 and I had signed on at the Lufkin News to cover all things Lufkin. Until then, growing up in Brooklyn I had always been Kenny Herman, never Ken. The name followed me when my family moved to South Florida for my final two years of high school and then at college. But Kenny Herman disappeared behind the Pine Curtain, thanks to Joe Murray, the editor and later my longtime friend until he passed away this year. Seems there had been a TV newsman in Lufkin named Kenny something and Joe didn't like him. As I recall, I had one Kenny Herman byline in the Lufkin paper before Joe announced my name change. It was fine with me. Life was good on \$125 a week in Lufkin back then. And, later in life, I realized that although changing my name was kind of a big deal, it was not the most important thing Joe did for me. He taught me a lot about newspapering. And, via an event that's a story for another day, he introduced me to the woman who's now been my wife for many years. And he introduced me as Ken.

(Disclosure: For some reason, my air conditioning repair man still calls me Kenny.)

AP retiree Jerry Schwartz among alumni, contributors recognized by Penn State



Winners of Bellisario College Alumni Society Board awards were (from left): Melissa Conrad ('15), Jerry Schwartz ('77), Mila Sanina, R. Thomas Berner ('71, '74 MA) and Cate Barron. Credit: Penn State. Creative Commons

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Three Penn State alumni, a faculty member and a longtime communications professional in the state of Pennsylvania were recognized as award winners by the Alumni Society Board of the Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications.

Awards were presented on campus this week. Those honored included:

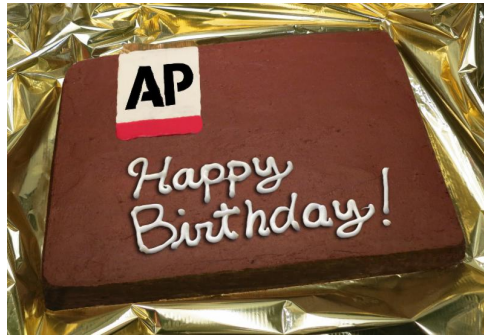
Jerry Schwartz (class of 1977), retired national writer/editor, The Associated Press

Outstanding Alumni Award

Schwartz spent his entire 45-year career at The Associated Press headquarters in New York and had the byline for the AP's main story on Sept. 11, 2001, as well as editing The Associated Press Stylebook in recent years and numerous other accomplishments during his career. He received more than a dozen nominations for the award, as fellow alumni, many of whom started their careers with him as undergraduates at The Daily Collegian, recognized him as a deserving candidate for the award.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Steve Herman](#)

[Pat Kreger](#)

Stories of interest

News outlets in fog of war amid dueling claims on Gaza hospital blast (CNN)

Analysis by Oliver Darcy, CNN

Hundreds of civilians killed in an airstrike on a Gaza City hospital. Israel did it. No, Islamic Jihad did it.

A series of high-stakes claims emerged Tuesday amid the roiling Israel-Hamas war, presenting one of the thorniest challenges yet to newsrooms trying to make sense of the chaos and provide clarity to the world as it watches the deadly conflict unfold.

In the immediate aftermath of the deadly hospital explosion, some of the world's biggest and most reputable news organizations uncritically echoed claims from the Hamas-run Palestinian government, which assigned fault for the carnage on Israel. Some news organizations even definitively stated that Israel was responsible in their first reports.

But, soon after those reports, a more complex picture emerged. The Israel Defense Forces flatly denied having struck the hospital and causing the devastating civilian casualties. Instead, the IDF laid blame for the tragic incident squarely at the feet on a rival Islamist group in Gaza, which it said had struck the hospital with an errant rocket.

News organizations quickly moved to reflect the IDF's statement — and the sudden ambiguity — in coverage. Cable news chyrons were tweaked. Ledes rewritten.

Headlines changed.

Read more [here](#).

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Calling a spade an implement: The media's struggles with "terrorism"

By DAN PERRY

Few words cause journalists such discombobulation as "terrorism" does, which the Hamas massacre of about 1,400 Israelis on Oct. 17 has laid bare once again. Calling a spade a spade, it seems, is too big a headache in such cases.

On that Saturday morning, many hundreds of individuals of the Hamas persuasion busted through the Gaza Strip's border fence, using bulldozers and other primitive means to shove the obstruction aside and charge into Israeli territory.

Aided by an incredible security breakdown, they were allowed for hours to rampage around communities near the border, where they shot and burned to death whole families in their homes, in some cases three generations captured together. They raped and tortured their victims (rescuers claim some heads were severed, some eyes removed from sockets), recording gleeful celebrations for posterity to behold.

All but a few of the victims were civilians, which seems a clinical way to refer to babies whose blackened, charred remains were left behind for scrap.

Among them was my former AP colleague Yaniv Zohar, 54, a videographer who covered southern Israel for the news agency. He was murdered in his home along with his wife Yasmin and two daughters. His 13-year-old son Ariel survived because he was out jogging when the attackers arrived and found refuge in another home.

Read more [here](#).

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RFE/RL Condemns Detention of Journalist Alsu Kurmasheva in Russia

Press Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On October 18, authorities in Kazan, Russia, detained Alsu Kurmasheva, an editor with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's (RFE/RL) Tatar-Bashkir Service. Kurmasheva has been charged with failure to register as a foreign agent. The charge carries a maximum sentence of five years' imprisonment.

"Alsu is a highly respected colleague, devoted wife, and dedicated mother to two children," said RFE/RL acting President Dr. Jeffrey Gedmin. "She needs to be released so she can return to her family immediately." Kurmasheva is a dual U.S. and Russian citizen who lives in Prague, Czech Republic, with her husband and children.

Kurmasheva traveled to Russia for a family emergency on May 20. She was temporarily detained while waiting for her return flight on June 2. Authorities at Kazan airport confiscated Kurmasheva's U.S. and Russian passports. She was subsequently fined for failure to register her U.S. passport with Russian authorities. She was awaiting the return of her passports when the new charge was announced on October 18.

Kurmasheva is an accomplished journalist who has long covered ethnic minority communities in Tatarstan and Bashkortostan in the Volga-Ural region of Russia. She has reported on initiatives to protect and preserve the Tatar language and culture from Russian authorities, who have exerted increased pressure on Tatars in recent years.

Read more [here](#).

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Reporter is 'shocked' after Nebraska governor dismisses her as being 'from Communist China' (NBC)

By Kimmy Yam

A reporter of Chinese descent is speaking out, weeks after Nebraska Gov. Jim Pillen dismissed her article on his company, Pillen Family Farms, because "the author is from Communist China."

Yanqi Xu, 27, who is an immigrant from China and reports for the independent outlet Flatwater Free Press, told NBC News that Pillen's comments were a form of "bias." Pillen, a Republican, had made the remarks on Omaha radio station KFAB in September, after he was asked to respond to her article that found high levels of nitrate on his hog farms.

"Number 1, I didn't read it. And I won't," Pillen said on the air about Xu's article. "Number 2, all you got to do is look at the author. The author is from Communist China. What more do you need to know?"

This week — with Xu's blessing and after consulting with immigration lawyers to ensure her visa status wouldn't be compromised — Matt Wynn, executive director of the Nebraska Journalism Trust, which launched the Flatwater Free Press, published a column in her defense.

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

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Making news in West Virginia. A history of news publishing that dates back centuries (Editor and Publisher)

Gretchen A. Peck | for Editor & Publisher

West Virginia's newspaper history begins not long after the Revolutionary War. The first three newspapers were established in the "Eastern Panhandle," according to the West Virginia Encyclopedia, published by the West Virginia Humanities Council. The Berkeley Advertiser, founded in Shepherdstown, was the first; it debuted in 1790.

By 1863, a remarkable 250 news publications had been established in West Virginia.

Reflecting its immigrant communities, some early newspapers were published in English, German and Italian languages.

"At various times, more than 40 Black newspapers have been published in West Virginia, beginning with The Freeman in Parkersburg (1881) and Martinsburg's Pioneer Press (1882), published by J.R. Clifford. Charleston has had at least 16 Black newspapers, including the Advocate and Beacon Journal," according to the West Virginia Encyclopedia. One of the final surviving Black-owned papers, the West Virginia Beacon Digest, ceased operations in 2006.

In 2020, Publisher-Owner Crystal Good sought to correct some of that wrong. The former newspaper editor, poet and writer, Good founded "Black By God" to tell Black residents' stories and provide solutions journalism for the Black community.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - Oct. 19, 2023



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Oct. 19, the 292nd day of 2023. There are 73 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 19, 2010, the Pentagon directed the military to accept openly gay recruits for the first time in the nation's history.

On this date:

In 1781, British troops under Gen. Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia, as the American Revolution neared its end.

In 1814, the first documented public performance of “The Star-Spangled Banner” took place at the Holliday Street Theater in Baltimore.

In 1944, the U.S. Navy began accepting Black women into WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service).

In 1950, during the Korean Conflict, United Nations forces entered the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.

In 1953, the Ray Bradbury novel “Fahrenheit 451,” set in a dystopian future where books are banned and burned by the government, was first published by Ballantine Books.

In 1960, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was arrested during a sit-down protest at a lunch counter in Atlanta. (Sent to prison for a parole violation over a traffic offense, King was released after three days following an appeal by Robert F. Kennedy.)

In 1977, the supersonic Concorde made its first landing in New York City.

In 1987, the stock market crashed as the Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 508 points, or 22.6 percent in value (its biggest daily percentage loss), to close at 1,738.74 in what came to be known as “Black Monday.”

In 1990, Kevin Costner’s Western epic “Dances with Wolves” had its world premiere in Washington, D.C.

In 2001, U.S. special forces began operations on the ground in Afghanistan, opening a significant new phase of the assault against the Taliban and al-Qaida.

In 2003, Pope John Paul II beatified Mother Teresa during a ceremony in St. Peter’s Square.

In 2013, British actor and musician Noel Harrison, who sang the Academy Award-winning ballad “The Windmills of Your Mind,” died in Devon, England, at age 79.

In 2016, in the third and final 2016 presidential debate, Republican Donald Trump stunned the forum in Las Vegas by refusing to say he would accept the results of the election if he were to lose.

In 2021, a House committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection voted unanimously to hold former White House aide Steve Bannon in contempt of Congress after the longtime ally of former President Donald Trump defied a subpoena for documents and testimony.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Tony Lo Bianco is 87. Artist Peter Max is 86. Author and critic Renata Adler is 86. Actor John Lithgow (LIHTH'-goh) is 78. Feminist activist Patricia Ireland is 78. Singer Jeannie C. Riley is 78. Rock singer-musician Patrick Simmons (The Doobie Brothers) is 75. Actor Annie Golden is 72. Talk show host Charlie Chase is 71. Rock singer-musician Karl Wallinger (World Party) is 66. Former Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele is 65. Singer Jennifer Holliday is 63. Retired boxer Evander Holyfield is 61. Host Ty Pennington (TV: "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition") is 59. Rock singer-musician Todd Park Mohr (Big Head Todd and the Monsters) is 58. Actor Jon Favreau is 57. Amy Carter is 56. "South Park" co-creator Trey Parker is 54. Comedian Chris Kattan is 53. Rock singer Pras Michel (The Fugees) is 51. Actor Omar Gooding is 47. Country singer Cyndi Thomson is 47. Writer-director Jason Reitman is 46. Actor Benjamin Salisbury is 43. Actor Gillian Jacobs is 41. Actor Rebecca Ferguson is 40. Rock singer Zac Barnett (American Authors) is 37. Singer-actor Ciara Renee (TV: "Legends of Tomorrow") is 33. Actor Hunter King is 30.

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.

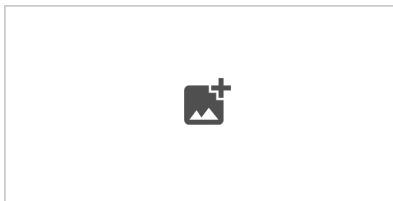
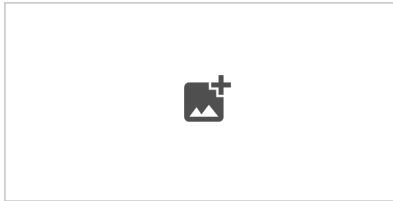
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **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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