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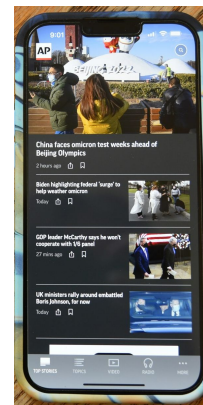
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Connecting

Nov. 1, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this Nov. 1, 2023,

Connecting has learned that the board of directors of the **News Leaders Association** has voted to dissolve the association – which was formed with the joining of the **Associated Press News Leaders** and the **American Society of News Editors**.



In a message to members from NLA Board President Alison Gerber:

After a six-month review of NLA programs and assets, the Board of Directors of the News Leaders Association voted on Oct. 30, 2023, to recommend the dissolution of the association to its members. This was a tough decision, but a necessary step to ensure that NLA’s important programs can continue to advance leadership, diversity and media freedoms.

The board unanimously approved the recommendation after considering various scenarios and partnerships. If membership approves, the unwinding of NLA will ensure that the organization's work to advance newsroom leadership training, the annual diversity survey and programs on media ethics and press freedoms can continue. Once dissolved, NLA assets and programs will be transferred to strategic non-profit journalism organizations that can carry on NLA's leadership, diversity and First Amendment focus.

The NLA Board approved ballot language for NLA's members to vote in mid November to dissolve NLA by June 2024. You will be receiving the ballot soon. All members in good standing are qualified to vote.

The American Society of Newspaper Editors was formed in 1922 and the Associated Press Managing Editors in 1931. Both organizations would later change their names to reflect the changing industry: ASNE became the American Society of News Editors in 2009 and APME became the Associated Press Media Editors in 2011. ASNE and APME merged four years ago to become the NLA.

We will bring you more information when available. Thanks to our colleague **Lou Boccardi** for sharing.

A THANK YOU from **Molly Gordy** - Thank you for posting the Mediaite article about AP coverage of the anti-Semitic marauders in Russia. I believe the historically accurate term for mass violent acts targeting Jews is not "protest," or even "riot," but "pogrom." It's what sent my family, the Gorodetskys, to the United States.

Julie Pace, AP's executive editor and senior vice president, will speak at 6 p.m. on Nov. 9 at Northern Kentucky University. Her talk, "Journalism in the 21st Century: Rising to the Challenge," will examine how the AP and journalism in general is responding to distrust in the media as well as other unique and emerging challenges, including A.I. You can attend online by [registering to receive the link](#). Online guests will be able to ask questions using the Q&A link on Zoom. Talk is from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. EDT. The talk is part of NKU's community lecture series, Six@Six. AP has been a participant since the series' inception in 2015.

Here's to the new month of November. Have a great day, be safe, live it to your fullest.

Paul

Connecting's Halloweeners

Jean Capellos - Good Halloween Morning! Just a silly tidbit of no interest to anyone, but in the spirit of trick or treaters everywhere, I would like to report that I was proudly born in Salem, Mass. However, I am a very nice witch flying around daily watching over my friends.

-0-



Peg Coughlin – First Halloween for Kaia Little Boo – also known as Kaia May Del-Cid-Hauger, my first grandchild.



Frank Eltman - Thought I'd share this Halloween themed photo from the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Montana.

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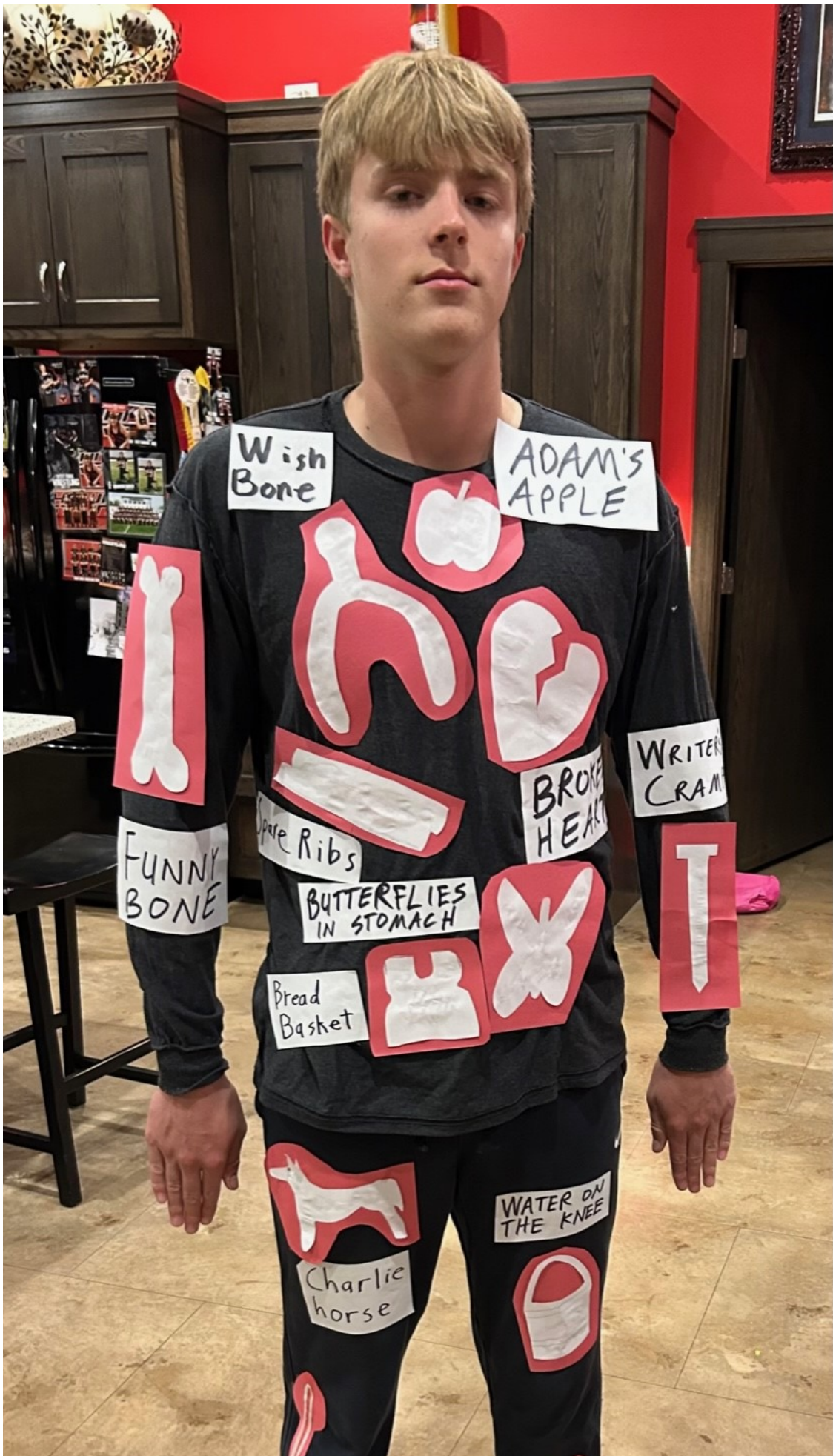


Steve Hendren - In the spirit of Halloween here's a sign erected last month marking the only recorded witch trial in Vermont, in the town of Pownal near the Massachusetts border...

They had to chop a hole in the ice first before administering their 'test'. She lived another six years and was lucky they didn't go with their first idea of putting her up in a tree before chopping it down. If she had survived, she would have been declared a witch and then killed. Talk about damned if you do and damned if you don't!

PS - Historians speculated that the accusers wanted her land after her husband died - she was feared as being 'extraordinary' partly since she had a mind of her own.

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Paul Stevens – My nephew Andrew Baker in Iowa. Three guesses on what his dad does for a living...

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John Willis - Here is my grandson Jonah Rigdon. My daughter made him his first Halloween costume 24 years ago. He was a ripe jalapeno pepper. Jonah is now 24, and works as a research assistant with the University of Georgia's coastal ecological project on Sapelo Island, GA. He plans to hike the Appalachian Trail, south to north, starting next March.

Alumna climbed ranks to AP leadership

By Megan Rowe | Falcon Media

In the constantly changing world of media and communications, Bowling Green State University (BGSU) alumna Nancy Nussbaum steadily climbed the ranks to become a Senior Director of Global Customer Communications at none other than the Associated Press (AP) News.



"I've always said that the AP is the best job in journalism. It's the biggest stories in the world," said Nancy.

As a seasoned journalist, Nancy is familiar with the challenges and rewards of working in the media landscape. During her time at BGSU, she was a part of the BG News staff and also DJed with her husband Rob at WFAL. After graduating in '86, she began her career as a copy editor at The Chronicle-Telegram in Elyria, Ohio.

"[The Chronicle-Telegram] is what really opened doors for me because everyone likes a byline but it's harder to find good editors," says Nancy.

After her time at the Chronicle-Telegram, she made the move to New Orleans to work for the (New Orleans) Times-Picayune as a makeup editor/copy editor, and in 1992, she joined the AP as a newsperson. Since joining the AP, she has held multiple positions such as broadcast editor, news editor for Ohio, Assistant Bureau Chief for Ohio and Michigan, Director/Training & Engagement, Global Director of Engagement, Senior Director of Global Engagement and most recently, the Senior Director of Global Customer Communications.

"AP makes you a utility player and the rush is that we're always covering the biggest stories of the day across the globe, so we always say we're the first draft of history and you're there witnessing it," said Nancy.

Read more [here](#).

AP FACT CHECK

Misinformation about the Israel-Hamas war is flooding social media. Here are the facts

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In the days since Hamas militants stormed into Israel early Oct. 7, a flood of videos and photos purporting to show the conflict have filled social media, making it difficult for onlookers from around the world to sort fact from fiction.

While plenty of real imagery and accounts of the ensuing carnage have emerged, they have been intermingled with users pushing false claims and misrepresenting videos from other events.

Among the fabrications, users have shared false claims that a top Israeli commander had been kidnapped, circulated a false video imitating a BBC News report, and pushed old and unrelated clips of Russian President Vladimir Putin with inaccurate English captions.

Here is a closer look at the misinformation spreading online — and the facts.

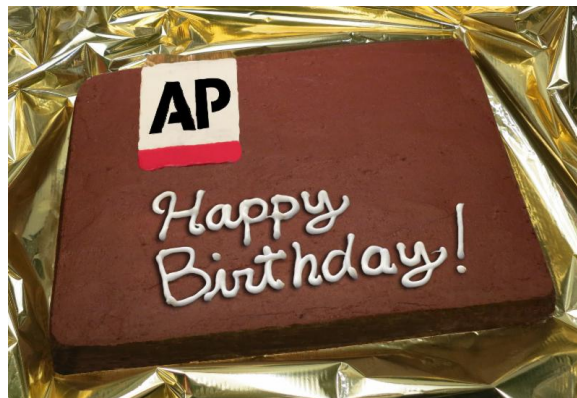
CLAIM: Videos taken one day apart show a Palestinian “crisis actor” pretending to be seriously injured in a hospital bed one day and completely fine the next.

THE FACTS: Two different people appear in the videos. In addition, the video of the injured man in a hospital bed dates to August.

The videos are being shared to falsely claim an injured man is an actor playing a Palestinian victim.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Jacqui Cook](#)

[Mary Ganz](#)

[John Lumpkin](#)

[John Marlow](#)

Connecting '80s/'90s/100 Club

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Connecting publishes this list at the beginning of each month. If you are qualified for one of the age groups and would like to be listed, drop me a note. Please let me know of any errors.)

90s:

**Norm Abelson
Malcolm Barr
Henry Bradsher
Hal Buell
Joseph Carter
Phil Dopoulos
Albert Habhab
Hoyt Harwell
Gene Herrick
Joe McGowan
Charlie Monzella
Bob Petsche
Arlon Southall
Lou Uchitelle
Sal Veder
Doris Webster
Joe Young
Arnold Zeitlin**

80s:

Hank Ackerman
Paul Albright
Rachel Ambrose
Peter Arnett
Harry Atkins
Frank Aukofer
Jim Bagby
Myron Belkind
Ed Bell
Dan Berger
Adolphe Bernotas
Brian Bland
Lou Boccardi
Hal Bock
William Roy Bolch Jr.
Ed Breen
David Briscoe
Ben Brown
Charles Bruce
Ford Burkhart
Harry Cabluck
Sibby Christensen
Shirley Christian
Norm Clarke
Steve Crowley
Don Dashiell
Bob Daugherty
Linda Deutsch
Mike Doan
Bob Dobkin
Bob Dubill
Harry Dunphy
John Eagan
Claude Erbsen
Mike Feinsilber
Dodi Fromson

**Joe Galu
Bill Gillen
Steve Graham
Bob Greene
Jerry Harkavy
Paul Harrington
Mike Harris
Chick Harrity
Merrill Hartson
Frank Hawkins
Monte Hayes
Jerry Jackson
Spencer Jones
Doug Kienitz
Dean Lee
Pierce Lehmbeck
Warren Lerude
Edie Lederer
Carl Leubsdorf
Jim Limbach
Bruce Lowitt
David Liu
Jim Luther
Larry Margasak
John Marlow
Dave Mazarella
Chuck McFadden
Yvette Mercourt
Reid Miller
Karren Mills
David Minthorn
Peggy Mooney
Bill Morrissey
Harry Moskos
Ron Mulnix
Bruce Nathan
Greg Nokes**

Larry Paladino
Jay Perkins
Lyle Price
Charles Richards
Bruce Richardson
Mort Rosenblum
Frank Russell
Denis Searles
Richard Shafer
Susanne Shaw
Mike Short
Victor Simpson
Rick Spratling
Ed Staats
Karol Stonger
Barry Sweet
Mark Thayer
Marty Thompson
Hilmi Toros
Kernan Turner
Jeffrey Ulbrich
Jack Walker
Mike Waller
Bob Walsh
Dean Wariner
Don Waters
Lew Wheaton
Jeff Williams
Byron Yake
Johnny Yost
Kent Zimmerman

Stories of interest

Alabama publisher, reporter arrested, charged with disclosing leaked information (Committee to Protect Journalists)

Washington, D.C., October 31, 2023—Authorities in Escambia County, Alabama, should immediately drop all charges against Atmore News publisher Sherry Digmon and reporter Don Fletcher and thoroughly investigate the motives behind their arrests, the Committee to Protect Journalists said Tuesday.

Police arrested Digmon and Fletcher on October 27 on charges of disclosing leaked information, according to a Facebook post by local newspaper Atmore News, and a report by local newspaper The Atmore Advance. Their arrests followed an October 25 story by Fletcher about an investigation into the local Board of Education's alleged mishandling of COVID relief funds.

Digmon, who is also a member of the same Board of Education, and Fletcher were held for several hours at the county detention center in Brewton, Alabama, before they were released on a \$10,000 bail each.

The charge of revealing grand jury secrets is a felony under Alabama Criminal Code Section 12-16-215, according to court documents reviewed by CPJ, and carries a penalty of between one to three years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$5,000.

Read more [here](#).

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Reporting on Gaza: 'Sometimes from behind the camera I just stand and cry' (BBC)

By Fergal Keane
BBC News, Jerusalem

The calls come whenever he can get a signal. Or whenever he can get enough electricity to charge his phone.

He eats when he can find food. He travels from one scene of desolation to another. As long as he can find petrol.

And Mahmoud Bassam worries about his wife and 11-month-old child because they have to move to avoid the bombing. So when he leaves home in the morning he is never sure they will be in the same place when he gets back at night.

That is if he can get back. If the road is not blocked or the bombing too heavy for him to travel.

In Gaza these days, Mahmoud is at the mercy of war. What it inflicts. What it can take away.

Mahmoud is a dedicated chronicler of his people's agony. Ever since the conflict began over three weeks ago he has been moving between hospitals and refugee camps and - with exhausting frequency - the scenes of explosions.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Linda Deutsch.

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Opinion | Joe Biden is the latest to criticize The New York Times' Gaza coverage (Poynter)

By: Tom Jones

One of the more newsworthy moments of the war between Israel and Hamas was the explosion at al-Ahli Arab hospital in Gaza City on Oct. 17.

The shocking news generated many knee-jerk reactions, headlines and tweets — all pointing fingers at who was to blame well before we had the details. That included plenty of finger-pointing, or more like wagged fingers, at media organizations and journalists who might have been too quick in assuming who was responsible for the explosion.

Among the news outlets doing some serious self-examination was and is The New York Times. As my colleague, Ren LaForme, wrote, the Times even put out an extended editor's note trying to explain its coverage, including an early headline that read, "Israeli Airstrike Hits Gaza Hospital, Killing 500, Palestinian Health Ministry Says."

In the time since the blast, the U.S., U.K. and French military intelligence have all said they believe the missile likely was fired from within Gaza.

Read more [here](#).

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News/Media Alliance study finds pervasive unauthorized use of publisher content to power generative AI technologies (Editor and Publisher)

Press Release | News/Media Alliance

Yesterday, the News/Media Alliance published a White Paper and a technical analysis and submitted comments to the U.S. Copyright Office on the use of publisher content to power generative artificial intelligence technologies (GAI). Together, the three publications document the pervasive, unauthorized use of publisher content by GAI developers, the impact this may have on the sustainability and availability of high-quality original content, and the legal implications of such use. GAI systems have been developed by copying massive amounts of the expressive material published by the Alliance's members, almost always without authorization or compensation, to create new products and services that frequently compete with Alliance member publishers.

The Alliance recognizes the exciting potential of GAI models and applications to improve aspects of our lives and supports the principled development of these

systems. But this development must not come at the expense of publishers and journalists who invest considerable time and resources producing material that keeps our communities informed, safe, and entertained, and holds our government officials and other decision makers in check. The Alliance and its members would welcome working with GAI developers to help build and grow these technologies in a sustainable and responsible manner.

Read more [here](#).

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Philanthropic support kickstarts Indiana News Service and free news reporting for statewide radio stations and news outlets (Editor and Publisher)

Bob Sillick | for Editor & Publisher

Too often, negative news overshadows good news — but there is a great deal of good news in Indiana about news. The American Journalism Project (AJP) and a group of Indiana organizations and philanthropists recently established the Indiana Local News Initiative. Their collaborative effort delivers independent local news and information to all residents of Indiana while providing more coverage of underreported public-service issues and the organizations dedicated to those issues.

Indiana News Service (INS) is one of those collaborative partners. It was launched in 2011 by its parent organization, Public News Service (PNS).

“Lark Corbeil founded PNS during the 90s in Idaho when she noticed, as a TV broadcaster, that the state was slowly becoming a news desert. Lark was a pioneer in promoting philanthropic funding for news organizations. She approached local nonprofits to fund the reporting of various issues. Her success has resulted in our almost total nationwide coverage. We will launch a bureau in Mississippi soon, our 40th state,” said Joshua Wise, managing editor and publisher of Public News Service.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - Nov. 1, 2023



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 1, the 305th day of 2023. There are 60 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 1, 1991, Clarence Thomas took his place as the newest justice on the Supreme Court.

On this date:

In 1478, the Spanish Inquisition was established.

In 1512, Michelangelo's just-completed paintings on the ceiling of the Vatican's Sistine Chapel were publicly unveiled by the artist's patron, Pope Julius II.

In 1604, William Shakespeare's tragedy "Othello" was first presented at Whitehall Palace in London.

In 1765, the Stamp Act, passed by the British Parliament, went into effect, prompting stiff resistance from American colonists.

In 1861, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln named Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan General-in-Chief of the Union armies, succeeding Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott.

In 1870, the United States Weather Bureau made its first meteorological observations.

In 1936, in a speech in Milan, Italy, Benito Mussolini described the alliance between his country and Nazi Germany as an "axis" running between Rome and Berlin.

In 1950, two Puerto Rican nationalists tried to force their way into Blair House in Washington, D.C., in a failed attempt to assassinate President Harry S. Truman. (One of the pair was killed, along with a White House police officer.)

In 1952, the United States exploded the first hydrogen bomb, code-named "Ivy Mike," at Enewetak (en-ih-WEE'-tahk) Atoll in the Marshall Islands.

In 1989, East Germany reopened its border with Czechoslovakia, prompting tens of thousands of refugees to flee to the West.

In 1995, peace talks opened in Dayton, Ohio, with the leaders of Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia present.

In 2007, less than a week after workers ratified a new contract, Chrysler announced 12,000 job cuts, or about 15 percent of its work force.

In 2021, the global death toll from COVID-19 topped 5 million, as tallied by Johns Hopkins University.

In 2022, voters gave former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his far-right allies a victory with a majority in the country's parliament.

Today's Birthdays: World Golf Hall of Famer Gary Player is 88. Country singer Bill Anderson is 86. Actor Robert Foxworth is 82. Country singer-humorist Kinky Friedman is 79. Actor Jeannie Berlin is 74. Music producer David Foster is 74. Actor Belita Moreno is 74. Country singer-songwriter-producer Keith Stegall is 69. Country singer Lyle Lovett is 66. Actor Rachel Ticotin is 65. Apple CEO Tim Cook is 63. Actor Helene Udy is 62. Pop singer-musician Mags Furuholmen (a-ha) 61. Rock singer Anthony Kiedis (Red Hot Chili Peppers) is 61. Rock musician Rick Allen (Def Leppard) is 60. Country singer "Big Kenny" Alphin (Big and Rich) is 60. Singer Sophie B. Hawkins is 59. Rapper Willie D (Geto Boys) is 57. Country musician Dale Wallace (Emerson Drive) is 54. Actor Toni Collette is 51. Actor-talk show host Jenny McCarthy is 51. Actor David Berman is 50. Actor Aishwarya Rai (ash-WAHR'-ee-ah reye) is 50. Rock singer Bo Diddley is 48. Actor Matt Jones is 42. Actor Natalia Tena is 39. Actor Penn Badgley is 37. Actor Max Burkholder is 26. Actor-musician Alex Wolff 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.

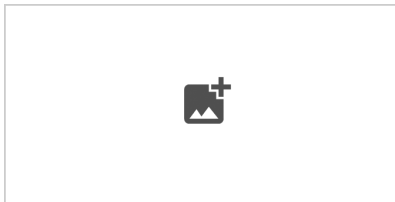
- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.

- **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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