

Connecting - August 10, 2015

1 message

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Connecting

August 10, 2015

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning!

Services for former Indianapolis chief of communications **Walt Tabak**, who died Friday at the age of 91, will be held this week. Visitation will be Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. at Flanner and Buchanan-Oaklawn Memorial Gardens (Conner Suite) in Indianapolis. Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. in the Conner Suite. Entombment will follow at Oaklawn Memorial Gardens.

Walt's family requests that in lieu of flowers, contributions in Walt's name may be made



to the Alzheimer's Association or the donor's favorite charity. Click [here](#) for a link to his obituary.

Today's Connecting contains more observations from Connecting colleagues on last week's GOP presidential candidate debate, as well as stories relating to the 70th anniversary on Friday of the surrender of Japan following atomic bombs dropped by the United States on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

In Sunday's Kansas City Star, reporter **Brian Burnes** profiled six veterans and their World War II experiences - and their thoughts on what would have happened had the surrender not occurred, and an invasion of Japan had instead ensued. I found it intriguing.

His story begins:

Seventy years ago this week, millions of American fighting men got their futures back.

Japan's surrender on Aug. 14, 1945, eliminated the need for the United States to launch an unprecedented invasion force against a dug-in foe determined to fight to the death.

As six Kansas City area veterans recall now, everyone shared a vast sense of relief.

It meant they were going to live.

That, in turn, had a profound impact on America, both then and now, 70 years later.

Although historians still debate how many would have died in the invasion, one key midrange estimate settled at 500,000 Americans and perhaps 5 million to 10 million Japanese.

Instead, those Americans returned home, where they resumed or began family lives, launched or continued careers, and contributed to bettering their communities.

Assume that each had, on average, two children. And those children grew up to have two children, who grew up to have two children. Some of them would have little ones today.

That scenario would mean 7 million to 14 million Americans lived because those 500,000 fighting men didn't die 70 years ago.

Consider the six Kansas City area veterans. Combined, they boast 24 children, 38 grandchildren, 38 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

And the veterans' impact extends well beyond mere numbers.

One helped organize KCPT Channel 19 and later led St. Luke's Hospital.

Another made sure that Hispanic names didn't get left off an Argentine district war

memorial.

A third taught college anatomy to a generation's worth of doctors, dentists, pharmacists and nurses. One of his grandsons, an operatic tenor, performed in "Madama Butterfly" near Washington on Friday and is to sing when the Kansas City Symphony performs Beethoven's Ninth Symphony next June.

If these men had participated in an invasion of Japan, some or all of the above might not have happened. Had 500,000 Americans not returned, the contemporary United States would be vastly different.

"We would have lost a generation, just like the way Europe did in the Great War," said Henry I. Miller, a public policy expert at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.

"The baby boomer generation, which is my generation, would have been much smaller. Who knows? Maybe we would have lost the progenitors of Steve Jobs, or Bill Gates, or Maurice Hilleman, who was responsible for some of the great public health advances with the vaccines he helped develop."

When Japan surrendered, our "Kansas City six" were spread out - aboard U.S. Navy ships near Okinawa, Guam and the Philippines, clerking at a battalion headquarters, stocking a destroyer's galley in California and en route to Texas on leave.

As most of them celebrated, so did Kansas City and the rest of America.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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70 years ago - Nagasaki



One of our Connecting colleagues in Tokyo, **Kazuo Abiko**, shared this story from Nippon.com on Sunday's 70th anniversary of the bomb that devastated Nagasaki. The

photo above shows the Peace Statue inside the Nagasaki Peace Park, completed in 1955 with donations from around the world.

Click [here](#) for a link to the story, which begins:

For centuries the port city of Nagasaki was a window for foreign trade, visited by ships from China, Korea, and countries as far away as Europe. At 11:02 a.m. on August 9, 1945, 374 years after the first Portuguese trader landed at its port, an atomic bomb detonated over the city, spreading death and destruction. Together with Hiroshima, Nagasaki stands as a "legacy of tragedy" and an invocation of peace.

As each anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki passes by, hibakusha, or atomic bomb survivors, continue to grow older while their numbers slowly dwindle. According to Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare figures, as of March 2015 the average age of the 183,519 registered atomic bomb survivors was 80.13, marking the first time for the figure to hit the octogenarian range. The previous year saw 9,200 hibakusha pass away, the largest number to date. There are currently 47,868 and 83,367 hibakusha living in Nagasaki and Hiroshima Prefectures, respectively.

These figures represent more than the loss of survivors; they are the loss of storytellers. When the atomic bomb detonated over Nagasaki, only a handful of people within a 500-meter radius of the hypocenter survived the ensuing blast. Of these, only one is still alive to share the story of their ordeal.



A replica of "Fat Man" on display at the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum.

Jerry Estill in ICU - keep him in prayers

Will Lester reports to all of Jerry Estill's friends - An update from his daughter Daphne: He is in ICU after suffering cardiac arrest and renal failure. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Jerry is retired from AP after three decades (1965-2008) of senior editing positions in New York and Washington. After assignments in Mobile and Birmingham during the civil rights strife of the '60s, he covered sports and Louisiana politics for the AP in New Orleans and Baton Rouge during the early '70s before transferring to New York and subsequently to Washington. He started with the AP covering Martin Luther King and finished covering Barack Obama. He also worked for the Birmingham Post-Herald, The Anniston Star and The Birmingham News.

More memories of Walt Tabak

Lindel Hutson- Walt was a strong influence in the Indianapolis bureau during the years I spent as news editor.



Rachel Ambrose - Candle lit Sunday for Dot and Walt at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Redondo Beach, California.

He was usually the first person I saw every morning and often the first person I would turn to if there was a problem, either personal or professional.

Walt was one of those unsung heroes of the AP. He was as important to the Indiana members as those of us who wrote and edited.

He enjoyed life and the AP. Walt had a sense of humor and a confident manner that made him a cheerleader in the bureau.

Even on a bad day, Walt could bring a smile. There were times he would walk up to me with a scowl on his face and announce, "I quit!" Then he would laugh, walk away and solve whatever problem had come his way.

He was committed to his family. Walt and Dot were inseparable, and every day brought a new story about son, Ron, and daughter, Barb. Dot was a sweet, motherly figure and, as Jack (Ronald) points out, she never hesitated to offer an opinion. There was never a post-Indy 500 party or a Christmas party that Dot didn't provide her signature deviled eggs.

As Andy (Lippman) mentioned, Walt would often say we would miss him when he was gone. He was right, of course. I've missed him every day since he retired from AP, and even more today.

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Steve Herman - I had the privilege of working with Walt for many years in the Indianapolis bureau, starting in 1970. He was a gentleman and always helpful to colleagues and AP members.

After his retirement, he would come by the office every so often, greet old friends and meet the newest generation of AP folk. And, of course, he kept us up-to-date as his grandson, Travis, grew up.

(Coincidentally, Walt's daughter Barb and my wife Sally were college sorority sisters at Indiana.)

Ferguson - one year later



Michael Brown Sr., center, takes part in a march in remembrance of his son, Michael

Brown, Sunday, Aug. 9, 2015, in Ferguson, Mo. Sunday marked one year since Michael

Brown was shot and killed by Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson. (AP Photo/Jeff

Roberson)

Connecting colleague **Melanie Coffee**, a former AP journalist (in St. Louis, Kansas City, Chicago), produces a blog, ShesWrite - www.sheswrite.net - and here is her view on Ferguson:

By MELANIE COFFEE

What were you doing this time last year? In Ferguson, Missouri a 279-pound, 18-year-old college student lay dead in the street. His black body had been shot at least six times and his death became a reawakening to what many black Americans have been saying for generations.

Police brutality is more prevalent in communities of color, and sometimes it's deadly.

This old adage caught renewed life in the past year since Michael Brown was killed. I don't know if it's because technology has allowed us to capture and share images such as Eric Garner gasping: "I can't breathe" or Walter Scott's back straighten as he was struck by an

officer's bullets. These are things you cannot unsee.

Or maybe technology affected the growing movement in that social media has made it possible for people from far flung communities to say it happened here in Baltimore, it happened here in Beavercreek, Ohio, it happened here in Cleveland, Ohio, in Milwaukee, in Phoenix, in Pasco, Washington and more.



I don't know, it could be the plethora of hashtags, or the string of dead bodies, but there has been a shift in America's consciousness when it comes to race relations and police force. I believe the conversation has changed for the better in that it seems white America believes us more than before. But our country needs more than just talk.

I went to college at the University of Missouri in Columbia, which is two hours from St. Louis. Naturally a slew of folks from the 'Lou went to Mizzou and most of my besties are from there or live nearby. To most of the world Michael Brown died in Ferguson, but to my friends and others, it's all St. Louis.

I remember hearing their stories in the days, weeks and months after Brown was killed. The shock after his death. The tanks and tear gas that rolled down the street. The real fear families felt was heartbreaking. From a 9-year-old boy crying because he worried he would be killed by a police officer some day, to Facebook updates chronicling how teargas felt, to an elderly woman who barricaded herself in her home, stockpiling canned goods in case there were more riots.

So now, it's a year later and what's changed? After a damning Justice Department investigation found a pattern of civil rights violations in Ferguson, the city has switched out some of its government officials, but what else?

I asked my friends and many agreed the overt police discrimination has decreased, but there's still the institutional problems of economic inequality and access to quality education. And those systemic problems take time and long-term commitment to fix.

Unfortunately in some ways there is more division between blacks and whites since that warm Saturday last August when Brown was killed.

"People either support the cops or black lives, never both," said a mom of two. "I think it is sad that despite all of these murders of unarmed citizens, nothing is really being done."

Another friend talked about feeling frustrated about "the shooting of black people by police and by our own community nightly. How do you get through to either? How do we break the ignorance? Be it our white community saying 'just comply regardless of your rights.' Those who insist on stating 'All Lives Matter' in an attempt to counter 'BlackLiveMatter.' It's disrespectful. To assume we don't care about police lives, white

lives, or animal lives. We do! But Black lives are on the chopping board. Asking for your right to live (and) to be respected is not a call to devalue others' lives."

Still, it hasn't all been bad.

"The political awareness and community activism that has taken (place) is remarkable," said one friend who was on the front lines in Ferguson. "Awareness of the inequalities modeled in Ferguson has risen, yet we have a long way to go in terms of addressing those inequalities in any way that will reform this community at the root."

He also was inspired by the local students who began to fight for change in their community.

"(My) proudest moment is seeing how particularly young people have taken the mantle of action," he said. "From high school students across the city staging walk outs to leaders of United We Fight, Organization of Black Struggle, Hands Up United and Black Lives Matter providing leadership training, community forums and programs that engage our community to take more action."

We all agree we've got a ways to go. I know there's going to be more black bodies in the streets at the hands of each other and of law enforcement, but enough is enough is enough. I hope 2014 marks the beginning of long-lasting change in race relations.

I feel like I keep saying that on this blog. I keep hoping for a better America, the one that truly has "liberty and justice for all."

I know it'll take more than hope, it'll take action. My power is in my pen. Have you found your power?

(Click [here](#) for a link to this story on her blog.)

Violence erupts overnight...

And the AP's story from overnight, by Connecting colleagues Jim Salter and Jim Suhr, when the anniversary turned violent:

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP) -- A man who authorities say opened fire on officers in Ferguson, Missouri, on the anniversary of Michael Brown's death was critically wounded when the officers shot back, St. Louis County's police chief said early Monday.

Chief Jon Belmar said at a news conference that officers had been tracking the man, who they believed was armed, during a protest marking the death of Brown, the black, unarmed 18-year-old whose killing by a white Ferguson police officer touched off a national "Black Lives Matter"



AP Photo/Jeff Roberson

movement.

The man approached the officers, who were in an unmarked police van, and opened fire, Belmar said. The officers returned fire from inside the vehicle and then pursued the man on foot when he ran.

The man again fired on the officers, the chief said, and all four officers fired back. He was struck and fell.

Click [here](#) to read more.

More Connecting thoughts on GOP debate

Joseph Benham - All 17 Republicans, and at least three Democrats who are running, speak as if they want to be dictator in a Third World country rather president of a republic: "I will do this" and "I will do that" as if Congress and the Supreme Court didn't exist. A president cannot repeal Obamacare; all he or she can do is ask Congress to repeal it.

The same is true of Supreme Court decisions; all that a president can do is ask Congress to pass a new law that a majority of justices might accept.

Huckabee had the best one-liner of either debate when he said that the function of the military is "to kill people and break things." My old first sergeants would have loved it.

Fiorina scored a lot of points by talking about what she would do as president instead of bragging a la Santorum, Perry, Gilmore and Pataki about what she had done years ago.

Megyn seemed more intent on getting even with Trump than on obtaining useful information. Chris Wallace shows flashes of the prosecutorial approach employed by his father Mike for so many years on "60 Minutes." Bret was the best of the three in the evening; McCallum was the better of the two in the afternoon.

Paul served as Interrupter-in-Chief, but didn't succeed in shouting-down Christie or Trump.

Dr. Carson came across as the most gentlemanly of the ten and Kasich, Rubio and Carson as the most genuine.

Cruz showed why he was a champion debater in school, but didn't look presidential.

Bush and Christie were OK; they seemed to be playing it safe. Christie kept his cool - by his standards - even when Paul fired the cheapest shot of the evening at him.

Trump's approach reminds me of the way that famed University of Texas football coach

Darrell Royal described a troublesome opponent:

"Ol' so-and-so is kinda like a cockroach - it ain't how much he eats, it's how much he falls in and spoils."

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David Briscoe - Popular notions about the debate with which I disagree:

1. It was a shining hour for FOX News because of the tough questions. Wrong! DONALD TRUMP took real punches, but the other candidates got softer gloves, and the FOX agenda as Keeper of the Republican Flame clearly is not to have Trump the nominee. Although the raise-your-hand question at the outset got to a key issue for the GOP, it amounted to bullying candidates into making a pledge to support the party. Trump was only being honest to raise his hand, but I would have put these words in his mouth: "I sincerely hope to support the Republican nominee, but in the end, I'll do what is best for the country, as should we all. I really can't promise anything else, no matter how many times you try to push me into not raising my hand."

2. MARCO RUBIO helped his cause. Yeah, probably, but it became increasingly clear that his real agenda is the vice presidency.

3. JEB BUSH didn't hurt himself. Wrong. By doing nothing to shine, he proved himself a certified lightweight, maybe smarter than his brother but not as smart as his daddy. He had to shine and he didn't.

4. MIKE HUCKABEE held his own. Not really. He said nothing he didn't say when he ran in 2008, in fact giving the impression he was ready to start a war and take the country backwards at least eight years.

5. CARLY FIORINA was the clear winner at the Kiddie roster and maybe for both debates. Yeah, maybe she was the most impressive Also-Ran, but she's also clearly running for the vice presidency. In fact, I'm ready right now to predict she or Rubio will be the nominee's choice.

6. DR. BEN CARSON charmed the audience. He was funny and loose in the end, like a man with nothing to lose, but he said nothing that made him look either presidential or even vice-presidential.

7. CHRIS CHRISTIE won the spat with Rand Paul. Depends on whether you believe in individual rights or a bullying prosecutor.

8. TED CRUZ impressed his Tea Party base. Not so sure. Did they really want him doing exactly what Trump did without raising his hand, or are they also interested only in insulting the party out of ever nominating him?

9. SCOTT WALKER (or is it Warner or Walking Dead or Whatever?) was a dud. Okay, that one's right on. The guy showed Zero. Both he and Jeb spent way too much time bragging about their own states, when, in the end, nobody really gives a crap about how swell Florida or Wisconsin are at taking care of their folks, when it's the whole country that's at stake.

In reality, 18 candidates vied to control the presidency at the debate, and the clear winner overall was FOX NEWS, whose pretty (with the exception of Chris Wallace) talent ran the show like SuperBowl Sunday, complete with self-congratulatory chit-chat, clever quips and long stretches of commercials.

Hint for the next debate sponsored by FOX or any other commercial

network: DVR it and start watching about 30 minutes in. The constipation commercial was a real buzz kill.

AND...

David Briscoe added, regarding a Sunday CNN news program on the debate:

It's great to see a national panel with THREE Associated Press Washington alumni. Best quote is from **Laura Meckler**: "If he'd just ... spit on some young voters, then we'd be done." (Although I think that might just seal the over-the-hill know-it-all vote.) And Kudos to **John King** for at least noting Trump's denial that he was referring to Ms. Kelly's nether regions. **Ron Fournier**, I fear, is tapping into a worn-out idea when he says so many voters are fed up with the system offered by both parties. What they're fed up with is the lies and deceptions of politicians and hyped-up journalists in general. I dare say that for the vast majority, the two parties are so different today that they present exactly the options they want. Also, clearly, the more divided party is the GOP.

Click [here](#) for a link to the program.

Connecting mailbox

Prostitution Charge Dropped in Case an Albany Journalist Called Retaliation (New York Times)

ALBANY - In March 2012, just blocks from the State Capitol, several law enforcement officers stormed into a second-floor spa and arrested a woman, accusing her of soliciting money for sexual acts. An invasive strip search was done, thousands of dollars were seized and the woman, Min Liu, was soon charged with prostitution.

But it was the woman's employer at the Green Garden Asian Spa who provoked the uproar: Bin Cheng, the wife of J. Robert Port, who was the investigations editor at The Times Union of Albany.

Almost as soon as Ms. Liu was arrested, Mr. Port accused the police of targeting his wife's business in retaliation for a series of articles he had shepherded into the newspaper that called into question the tactics and practices of an Albany County sheriff's drug unit.

Click [here](#) to read more. Shared by Marc Humbert. (Port is a former special assignment editor for the AP.

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On Bob Considine

Sibby Christensen - Enjoyed reading Bob Haring's on-target salute to Bob Considine. He was a past president of the Overseas Press Club during my time as OPC Bulletin editor, and I thought I was going to be world famous when he mentioned one of my issues in his syndicated column. Considine could drive listeners nuts with his slow, plodding delivery when making extemporaneous remarks at Club events, but like Aesop's tortoise, he got to the point fastest with few but well-chosen words.

Welcome to Connecting



Sarah Wilson ([Email](#))

Scott Dine ([Email](#))

Stories of interest

Meet The Woman Whose Photos Have Defined 19 Years Of Sports Photography (Buzzfeed)

During the Brooklyn Nets' first ever game at the Barclays Center in 2012, Getty Images photographer Elsa Garrison was getting elbowed out of her precious courtside space by a TV network cameraman. Small in stature but large in determination, Garrison held her own.

"If you weren't a girl, I would deck you," the cameraman said later.

"Go ahead," Garrison replied. "I'll swing right back."

In the photo wells, on the sidelines, in arenas around the nation, Garrison is often the only woman behind a camera. In the early years of her career, she sharpened her elbows

against the more aggressive, taller men also seeking the perfect spot during an event. After 19 years in the industry, Garrison has only recently noticed more women shooting from the sidelines - but says the demands of the industry still pose a unique challenge for women in the field.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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When a journalist baby-sits the president (Ozy.com)

Dena Levitz is a Washington, D.C.-based journalist.

"Would you be interested in this gig?" asked my friend Kathleen nonchalantly. "It's basically baby-sitting the president."

I had no idea what she was talking about. The president president? Since I entered the workforce at 16, I'd had my share of ragtag jobs: summer camps, smoothie shops, kids' birthday parties. But this one sounded like kind of a big deal. Plus, at age 27, I was looking for serious journalistic opportunities. The White House? Clearly this was it.

Bloomberg's White House editors called me in. The interview was me at one end of a long table looking at half a dozen solemn faces. They scrutinized every internship I'd had, every story I'd chased, and combed my résumé with unprecedented detail. When they subjected me to an FBI background check and called all three references, I realized this was real. Then, I got the news: I'd be coming on as an in-town pool stringer! I'd be covering President Barack Obama.

Click [here](#) to read more. Shared by Latrice Davis.

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Murder of Brazilian Journalist Furthers Alarming Trend (New York Times)

RIO DE JANEIRO - Gleydson Carvalho's radio program was on the air in the provincial beach city of Camocim when two gunmen burst into his studio. During a musical interval, they subdued the receptionist and told a technician to stay quiet. Then they did their work, unloading three rounds and killing Mr. Carvalho, a journalist known for crusading against political corruption.

The shooting of Mr. Carvalho on Thursday sent shock waves through Ceará, a state in northeastern Brazil, while raising alarm among human rights groups as part of a spike in execution-style killings of journalists outside major urban centers around the country.

"It all happened very fast," Ricardo Farias, a technician at the radio station who witnessed the killing, said in televised comments in Ceará. "He received threats that they were going to kill him, and he would say on the air that he was threatened but unafraid of anyone," Mr. Farias added. "I always said he shouldn't act like that."

Click [here](#) to read more. Shared by Doug Tucker.

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Final Hearing for Reporter Held in Iran Is Scheduled for Monday (New York Times)

The final hearing in Iran's espionage trial of Jason Rezaian, the Washington Post correspondent whose yearlong incarceration has helped worsen tensions with the United States, has been scheduled for Monday, the newspaper's executive editor and Mr. Rezaian's brother said Saturday.

They said that Mr. Rezaian's Iranian lawyer, Leila Ahsan, had been notified of the final hearing in the trial, which has been held intermittently in a Tehran Revolutionary Court since May and is closed to the public.

"The sham trial of Jason Rezaian, The Washington Post's correspondent in Tehran, may now finally be nearing its end," The Post's executive editor, Martin Baron, said in a statement. He said the lawyer had been told that it would be "the final hearing before a verdict is reached."

It is unclear when a verdict may be announced.

Click [here](#) to read more. Shared by Sibby Christensen.

The Final Word



Today in History - August 10, 2015

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, August 10, the 222nd day of 2015. There are 143 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 10, 1945, a day after the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, Imperial Japan conveyed its willingness to surrender provided the status of Emperor Hirohito remained unchanged. (The Allies responded the next day, saying they would determine the Emperor's future status.)

On this date:

In 1792, during the French Revolution, mobs in Paris attacked the Tuileries (TWEE'-luh-reez) Palace, where King Louis XVI resided. (The king was later arrested, put on trial for treason, and executed.)

In 1821, Missouri became the 24th state.

In 1846, President James K. Polk signed a measure establishing the Smithsonian Institution.

In 1874, Herbert Clark Hoover, the 31st president of the United States, was born in West Branch, Iowa.

In 1913, the Treaty of Bucharest was signed, ending the Second Balkan War.

In 1921, Franklin D. Roosevelt was stricken with polio at his summer home on the Canadian island of Campobello.

In 1949, the National Military Establishment was renamed the Department of Defense.

In 1969, Leno and Rosemary LaBianca were murdered in their Los Angeles home by members of Charles Manson's cult, one day after actress Sharon Tate and four other people had been slain.

In 1975, television personality David Frost announced he had purchased the exclusive rights to interview former President Richard Nixon.

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed a measure providing \$20,000 payments to still-living Japanese-Americans who'd been interned by their government during World War II.

In 1993, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was sworn in as the second female justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1995, Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols were charged with 11 counts in the Oklahoma City bombing (McVeigh was convicted of murder and executed; Nichols was convicted of conspiracy and involuntary manslaughter and sentenced to life in prison). Norma McCorvey, "Jane Roe" of the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion, announced she had joined the anti-abortion group Operation Rescue.

Ten years ago: A defiant Iran resumed full operations at its uranium conversion plant. President George W. Bush signed a \$286 billion transportation bill. Tennessee prison inmate George Hyatte and his wife, Jennifer, surrendered in Columbus, Ohio, a day after she'd ambushed two prison guards at a courthouse, killing one of them, to help her husband escape. (Both later pleaded guilty to first-degree murder and were sentenced to life in prison without parole.)

Five years ago: The House pushed through an emergency \$26 billion jobs bill that Democrats said would save 300,000 teachers, police and others from layoffs; President Barack Obama immediately signed it into law. Talk radio host Dr. Laura Schlessinger quoted the "N-word" 11 times in an on-air conversation with a caller who she said was "hypersensitive" to racism; Schlessinger ended up apologizing. Hollywood producer David L. Wolper, 82, died in Beverly Hills, Calif.

One year ago: Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki resisted calls for his resignation and accused the country's new president, Fouad Massoum, of violating the constitution (al-Maliki stepped down three days later). Rory McIlroy won his second straight major championship and fourth of his young career, rallying on the back nine in the PGA

Championship in Louisville, Kentucky.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Rhonda Fleming is 92. Singer Ronnie Spector is 72. Actor James Reynolds is 69. Rock singer-musician Ian Anderson (**Jethro Tull**) is 68. Country musician Gene Johnson (Diamond Rio) is 66. Singer Patti Austin is 65. Actor Daniel Hugh Kelly is 63. Folk singer-songwriter Sam Baker is 61. Actress **Rosanna Arquette** is 56. Actor Antonio Banderas is 55. Rock musician Jon Farriss (INXS) is 54. Singer Julia Fordham is 53. Journalist-blogger Andrew Sullivan is 52. Actor Chris Caldovino is 52. Singer Neneh Cherry is 51. Singer Aaron Hall is 51. Boxer Riddick Bowe is 48. Actor Sean Blakemore (TV: "General Hospital") is 48. Rhythm-and-blues singer Lorraine Pearson (Five Star) is 48. Singer-producer Michael Bivins is 47. Actor-writer Justin Theroux is 44. Actress **Angie Harmon** is 43. Country singer Jennifer Hanson is 42. Actress JoAnna Garcia Swisher is 36. Singer Cary Ann Hearst (Shovels & Rope) is 36. Rhythm-and-blues singer Nikki Bratcher (Divine) is 35. Actor Aaron Staton (TV: "Mad Men") is 35. Actor Ryan Eggold is 31. Actor Lucas Till is 25. Reality TV star Kylie Jenner is 18.

Thought for Today: "It is easier to make a saint out of a libertine than out of a prig." - George Santayana, Spanish-born philosopher (1863-1952).

Got a story to share?



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:

- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"My boo boos - 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?
- **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.
- **Life after AP** for those of you who have moved on to another job or profession.
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

Paul Stevens
Editor
Connecting newsletter

stevenspl@live.com

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