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Connecting - July 13, 2017

1 message

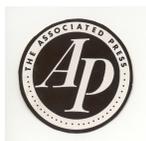
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Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 9:19 AM

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Connecting

July 13, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

The latest Associated Press journalist to enter the Kennedy Space Center's Chroniclars program is the late AP photographer **Jim Kerlin**, who covered stories

for the AP out of the Miami bureau from the 1930s through the 1970s.

AP Aerospace writer **Marcia Dunn** tells the story for her Connecting colleagues in the lead article of today's issue.

We also bring news of the first book published by **Brendan Riley**, who spent most of his 39 years with the AP based in Carson City, Nevada.

Ye Olde Connecting Editor is off for a week in Colorado with my wife Linda, and making his debut as Acting Connecting Editor is **Dick Chady** - a frequent contributor to the newsletter.

So starting today and through next Wednesday, July 12, please send your story submissions and photos to Dick at - rchady1@gmail.com

Dick worked for UPI for five years in Chicago, Springfield, IL, and Albany, NY, covering politics and government. He worked for The AP in Albany from 1976-80, including three years as news editor. After retiring from a career in public relations, he moved to Chapel Hill, NC in 2012. Now he enjoys lifelong learning classes at Duke, volunteering for "good guy" causes, travel, culture and Connecting.



Now's the time to get those stories to Dick that you've been meaning to send but have not. Don't make him go trolling for enough to publish Connecting.

Have a good day. We are off onto I-70 with audiobooks loaded up.

Paul

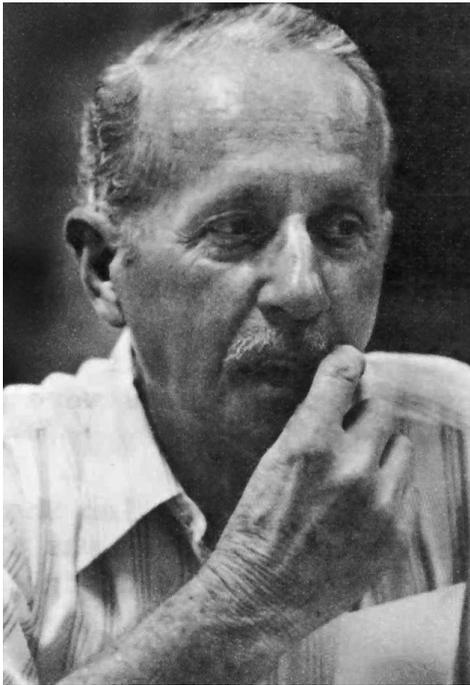
Jim Kerlin Now Officially a Chronicler, Too

By **MARCIA DUNN** ([Email](#))

AP Aerospace Writer

From the 1930s through the 1970s, Miami-based photographer Jim Kerlin covered stories for the AP. At long last, his own story is now being told through Kennedy Space Center's Chroniclers program.

Back in May, I was writing a story for Connections to mark retired photographer Phil Sandlin's induction into this illustrious group of retired or deceased journalists and public affairs officers who helped spread the story of America's space exploration. I counted 74 names on the rows of plaques. But at the ceremony, Kennedy's director cited 66 Chroniclers plus the six new inductees for a total of 72. I started asking questions. It turns out NASA had no write-ups on two Chroniclers inducted years earlier: one a long-ago PR man, the other Jim. Both were now deceased.



I felt it wasn't right for Jim to go unrecognized by NASA. There was no online mention of Jim on the Chroniclers web site. He also was absent from NASA's hardbound directory at the press site. A quick Google search by me turned up a scholarship in Jim's memory at the University of Florida. Jim had died in 1991. His widow who had established the scholarship was gone now, too, as well as their son Jim. I had no one in Jim's family to contact.

AP archivist Valerie Komor came to my assistance, providing me with amazing photos taken by Jim from decades past. He'd begun his AP career in 1933 and had photographed some of history's most memorable figures. Among his many subjects: Stan Musial, Jackie Robinson, Sandy Koufax, Babe Zaharias, Joe DiMaggio, Adlai Stevenson, Martin Luther King Jr.,

Muhammad Ali and Cuban leader Fulgencio Batista. From Havana, Jim even photographed Fidel Castro.

Valerie also dug up an AP Florida Log profile from 1975. I pulled Jim's quotes from that profile for my own account of his life. My favorite was when he recollected the early days of covering rocket launches and remembered -- with pride -- that an Air Force general once declared, "Can't we fire a blankety rocket without that blankety Kerlin poking around?"

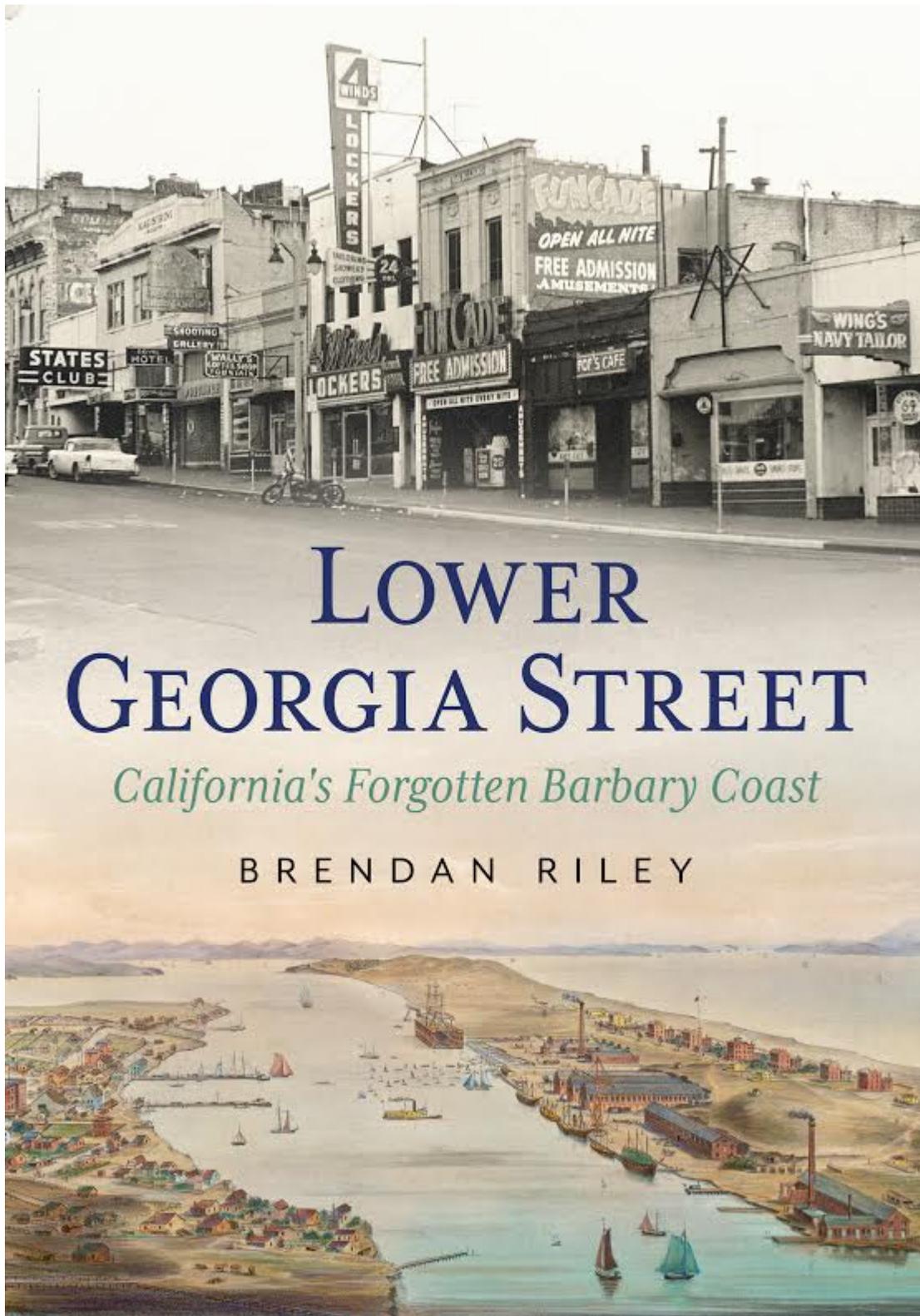
"We had a good time," Jim said in summary, "despite all the sun."

In all, Kerlin was an AP photographer for 43 years and a principal photographer of space shots from Cape Canaveral/Cape Kennedy throughout the early years. He retired before space shuttles began flying in 1981.

You can read all about Jim by [clicking here](#). You can access all the Chroniclers by [clicking here](#).

Besides Jim and Phil, Howard Benedict and Harry Rosenthal also grace the list of Chroniclers. They, too, are now gone, but their memories here at the space center live on. Now Jim's does, too. What a character. I wish I'd known him.

Riley's first book covers his California hometown's 'Forgotten Barbary Coast'



LOWER GEORGIA STREET

California's Forgotten Barbary Coast

BRENDAN RILEY

Brendan Riley (Email) - I have done the usual stuff since retiring in 2009 after 39 years with the AP, most of that time in Carson City, Nevada. Had long lunches with friends, volunteered for this and that, slept in, free-lanced a bit, hired on for short election-season stints with the AP and filled in as a temporary editor at newspapers in Carson City and Lake Tahoe. That turned into a long circle that brought me back to sitting down almost every day last year to do what I did all those years with the AP: write.

The result is "Lower Georgia Street - California's Forgotten Barbary Coast," officially out on July 31 and available from Arcadia Publishing for \$23 plus shipping. [Click here](#) for a link to the book, my first:

Or you can get a copy direct from me for the same price (no upcharge for signed copies!) if you like. If you are in the neighborhood, a book-signing is set for Aug. 19 at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum. I'm reachable at genoans@hotmail.com

The book is about Vallejo, Calif., a blue-collar Navy shipyard town just north of San Francisco that had a bad rap throughout the San Francisco Bay area and elsewhere because of its rough-and-tumble sailor district on Lower Georgia Street. The district, with about 100 bars, a few dozen gambling operations and a couple dozen bordellos during World War II, was only a few blocks from the Georgia Street home in which I was raised.

My wife, Maggie, and I bought the house from my siblings soon after I retired, so I'm back on my home turf. We also kept a home in Nevada, which may be a convenient place to hide out in case any "Lower Georgia Street" readers get upset with details such as a second-floor brothel or basement casino in what they thought was the restaurant or bar run by family members years ago.

I saw Lower Georgia Street in its final years, before the entire area was bulldozed as part of a big redevelopment project in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Also had heard the tales about the district in its wide-open WWII days. The book publisher, Fonthill Media, suggested going back to Vallejo's beginnings in the early 1850s, when the nearby Mare Island Naval Shipyard was established - and my research led to even more over-the-top accounts about Lower Georgia Street in World War I and earlier. One hundred bars in a town of 70,000 in the 1940s might sound bad. Try 100 bars in the same town in the early 1900s, when there were only about 8,000 residents. For those with deep roots in Vallejo, the warning from their parents to avoid Lower Georgia Street might well have been the same warning their great-grandparents gave their grandparents.

There were many Vallejo news stories written over the years about violence of every sort, gangster activity (Baby Face Nelson hung out here), bootlegging, corruption, police raids and other clean-up efforts in the Lower Georgia Street area that usually failed. My goal was to piece this history together, connect the dots. I was able to find hundreds of those news accounts, as well as old reports by the Navy, FBI, grand juries, and local and state-level investigators. Also conducted dozens of interviews with old-timers or their descendants who shared Lower Georgia Street details. It was hard work, but I really loved the process. Don't know if I could do it again, but am still at the keyboard, doing a local history column for the Vallejo Times-Herald. That's where I started out in the late 1960s, before landing a reporting job with the AP-San Francisco in June 1970.

Connecting mailbox

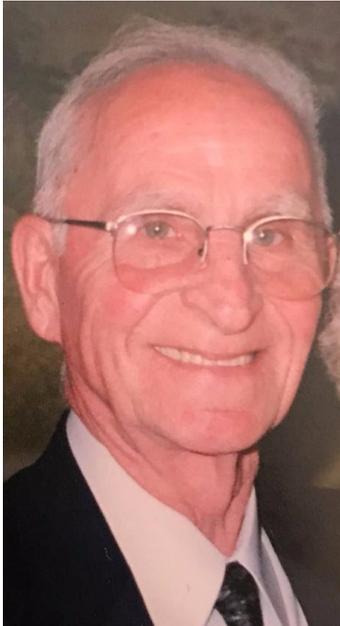
Thank you Dad, from a loving son



Four generations of the family - Eugene Gwizdowski, Dave Gwizdowski, Andrew Gwizdowski and Gunnar Gwizdowski - Eugene's six-month-old great grandson.

Connecting colleague **Dave Gwizdowski (Email)**, AP's senior vice president/revenue in New York, lost his father Eugene Gwizdowski on July 4 and

recently shared with his Facebook friends a remarkable eulogy for his dad. Here is an excerpt:



Eugene Gwizdowski

You know,... who you are is always made up of where you're from and where you grew up. When I was News Director at Channel 12 in Providence. We had a local talk show that aired every Friday morning before the noon news. Our consumer reporter would take phone calls and answer viewer questions. One day the phones went on the blink right at the beginning of the program. The call came to my office. "Gwiz, go sit on the set and talk with Glen." I did that.

Just a minute or two after I got on-air,.. (My only ever on camera appearance),.. the phones came back! The host told the audience, "Dave Gwizdowski our News Director is going to take your calls."

The first call was from Margaret in Cranston and it went something like this.

"Hello Dave"

"Hello Margaret"

"Dave, I loved the stories you did about the Mafia."

"Thank you Margaret. Our reporter Jack White, does very good work."

"Dave, and the stories about the Catholic Church. I didn't realize how much property they owned in the state of Rhode Island."

"Yes Margaret, more good work from Jack White,... Margaret did you have a question you wanted to ask?"

"Yes I do David. Are you Claire and Eugene's boy?"

"Yes I am Margaret."

"I thought so! You look just like your Dad. Keep up the good work.!"

Years later, my career turned to sales. He gave me a couple of sales tips:

You will learn more about a customer by listening. That happens when you're NOT talking.

Never ever say an unkind word about anyone.

Dad you are loved,... missed.

Thank you Dad.

-0-

Memories of Jack Kneece from Washington Star days

Dave Tomlin ([Email](#)) - Jack Kneece (who died Monday; see Wednesday's Connecting) was certainly an accomplished journeyman reporter, but in his Washington Star days he was also a lively and charming barroom raconteur and newsroom prankster.

I can't recall how or why Kneece befriended me, a lowly typist on the Star's dictation bank. But when I left to take my first AP job, Kneece and another staffer took me out for drinks on my last night on the job, and he regaled me with this anecdote.

Kneece said he had left AP Washington with some bad feelings all around. On his last day he headed for a bar, where he bet a female drinking companion he could get her name in next day's paper. With the money down, he headed for a pay phone and called somebody on AP's desk who apparently didn't know yet that Kneece had left the company.

He fabricated a tale about a tourist group in the White House which got a surprise encounter with Pat Nixon. One woman in the group was so overcome with excitement that she fainted, falling against the First Lady and dragging her skirt down around her ankles.

Kneece said he named the fainter after his bar buddy, and he claimed his hoax did indeed make the wire and next day's Post.

It was only one of a dozen hilarious stories he told that night. By the time I got to South Carolina as bureau chief, Kneece was already there with UPI. He was a regular aggravation to me as his byline appeared over stories I was never sure were entirely true but still wished I'd written myself.

-0-

Anyone interested in film sleeves?

Joe McKnight ([Email](#)) - In cleaning out a closet, I came across an 8X12-inch cardboard box of plastic photos film sleeves. Most are for 120mm film and are cut to eight-inch length, but there are some sleeves for 35mm film. Box and sleeves likely weighs a couple of pounds. Anyone interested email me your Postal Service address.

-0-

About those old Teletypes



19ASR. It could run at 60 or 75 words per minute by changing gears. The dial was a keystroke counter when punching a paper tape. You could only have so many characters on a line, then you had to have carriage return and line feed, before starting a new line. (Photo by George Mace)

Arlon Southall ([Email](#)) - shares the following:

For many decades, and in the era of electromechanical crypto machines, a lot of the gear manufactured by the Teletype Corporation was used as input/output equipment with crypto gear. Both common and uncommon Teletype equipment is featured here.

The book "The New RTTY Handbook (1962) by Byron Kretzman explains the Teletype trademark.

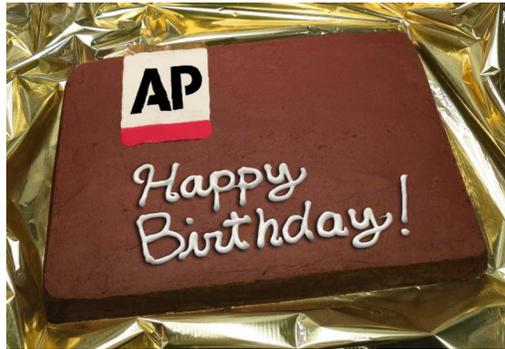
"Teletype" is a registered trade mark owned by the Teletype Corporation of Chicago and registered August 11, 1925. Although the word "teletype" has come into widespread general use, the lawyers of this corporation still get very unhappy when the first letter is not capitalized when it appears in print. So when we refer to machines made by this corporation, they are Teletype machines. If they are made by another company, they are teleprinter machines.

Radioteletype really got going during World War II. All the services used it. The US Navy called it RATT (RADIOteletype) and the Army Signal Corps called it SCRT,

short for Single-Channel Radio Teletype.

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

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Doug Anstaett - danstaett@kspress.com

Welcome to Connecting



Danny Johnston - djohnston5@brighthouse.com

Stories of interest

Trump in Paris: The curious case of his friend Jim

By VIVIAN SALAMA

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - For all things Paris, President Donald Trump's go-to guy is Jim.

The way Trump tells it - Jim is a friend who loves Paris and used to visit every year. Yet when Trump travels to the city Thursday for his first time as president, it's unlikely that Jim will tag along. Jim doesn't go to Paris anymore. Trump says that's because the city has been infiltrated by foreign extremists.

Whether Jim exists is unclear. Trump has never given his last name. The White House has not responded to a request for comment about who Jim is or whether he will be on the trip.

Trump repeatedly talked about the enigmatic Jim while on the campaign trail, but his friend didn't receive widespread attention until Trump became president. For Trump, Jim's story serves as a cautionary tale - a warning that even a place as lovely as Paris can be ruined if leaders are complacent about terrorism.

Read more **here**. (Shared by MSNBC's Brian Williams on The 11th Hour)

-0-

New Pulitzer administrator on her role at a time 'when American journalism is seemingly under siege' (Poynter)

By KRISTEN HARE



Dana Canedy never wanted to win a Pulitzer Prize.

"I just wanted to do really good work, groundbreaking journalism that makes a difference."

Now Canedy, who was part of a team that won a Pulitzer for The New York Times in 2001, is overseeing the prizes themselves as the Pulitzer's newest administrator.

On Wednesday as news broke that she'd be filling the role soon to be vacated by Mike Pride, Canedy sat with her predecessor at a French restaurant in New York for lunch. They talked about nuts and bolts of the work, the logistics, but also the importance of the role, "particularly now, at this time when American journalism is seemingly under siege."

Read more [here](#).

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Our love/hate relationship with the copy desk

(Poynter)

By ROY PETER CLARK

The decision of Dean Baquet and other leaders at The New York Times to ditch and switch some copy editors has caused a donnybrook.

The copy editors are angry and worried; so is their union; so are other editorial workers at the Times, who fear the erosion of standards with fewer green eyeshades on the job; and so are the traditionalists - young and old - who suffer from the myth of a golden age.

I am one of these traditionalists. My work needs more eyeballs not less (I mean fewer). But there are some facts about the relationship between writers and copy editors that must be told even in this Summer of (copy editor) Love.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

***So long, Felix - how I miss you and your
Connecting assistance...***



Paul Stevens ([Email](#)) - For the first five years of Connecting, I managed to produce it with an 18-pound alpha cat in my lap on the family room couch - doing his very best to put his paw on the Delete All key and replace what he derisively called boring journalism copy with his first love - Cat Videos off of YouTube.

Felix did not succeed in getting such videos into Connecting but oh, how he tried.

How I wish he was still making that effort, but alas, no more. In recent weeks, Felix crossed the Pet Caring Bridge to join the other Stevens dogs and cats who have graced our lives since Linda and I were married 49 years ago. Diabetes was the culprit...and we decided that it was best to let him go out at the top of his game - cats are very prideful creatures - rather than slowly succumb to the disease or subject himself to twice-daily insulin shots. It was a tearful day all pet owners dread but buy into as part of the deal...weighing it against the joy they bring to our lives.



His Connecting highlight remained to the very end being chronicled in a story for Poynter last fall on the newsletter by Kristen Hare. [Click here](#) for a link. He liked it in spite of not being in her lead graf.

Today in History - July 13, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, July 13, the 194th day of 2017. There are 171 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 13, 1977, a blackout hit New York City in the mid-evening as lightning strikes on electrical equipment caused power to fail; widespread looting broke out. (The electricity was restored about 25 hours later.)

On this date:

In 1787, the Congress of the Confederation adopted the Northwest Ordinance, which established a government in the Northwest Territory, an area corresponding to the eastern half of the present-day Midwest.

In 1793, French revolutionary writer Jean-Paul Marat was stabbed to death in his bath by Charlotte Corday, who was executed four days later.

In 1863, deadly rioting against the Civil War military draft erupted in New York City. (The insurrection was put down three days later.)

In 1939, Frank Sinatra made his first commercial recording, "From the Bottom of My Heart" and "Melancholy Mood," with Harry James and his Orchestra for the Brunswick label.

In 1955, Britain hanged Ruth Ellis, a 28-year-old former model convicted of killing her boyfriend, David Blakely (to date, Ellis is the last woman to be executed in the United Kingdom).

In 1960, John F. Kennedy won the Democratic presidential nomination on the first ballot at his party's convention in Los Angeles.

In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Thurgood Marshall to be U.S. Solicitor General; Marshall became the first black jurist appointed to the post. (Two years later, Johnson nominated Marshall to the U.S. Supreme Court.)

In 1972, George McGovern received the Democratic presidential nomination at the party's convention in Miami Beach.

In 1978, Lee Iacocca was fired as president of Ford Motor Co. by chairman Henry Ford II.

In 1985, "Live Aid," an international rock concert in London, Philadelphia, Moscow and Sydney, took place to raise money for Africa's starving people.

In 1999, Angel Maturino Resendiz (ahn-HEHL' mah-tyoo-REE'-noh reh-SEHN'-deez), suspected of being the "Railroad Killer," surrendered in El Paso, Texas. (Resendiz was executed in 2006.)

In 2013, a jury in Sanford, Florida, acquitted neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman of all charges in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, an unarmed black teenager; news of the verdict prompted Alicia Garza, an African-American activist in Oakland, California, to declare on Facebook that "black lives matter," a phrase that gave rise to the Black Lives Matter movement.

Ten years ago: Former media mogul Conrad Black was convicted in Chicago of swindling the Hollinger International newspaper empire out of millions of dollars.

(Black was sentenced to 6½ years in federal prison, but had his sentence reduced to three years; he was freed in May 2012.) Family prayer services and a huge public outpouring in Austin, Texas, ushered in three days of memorial ceremonies honoring the late Lady Bird Johnson.

Five years ago: His credibility under attack, Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney insisted he had "no role whatsoever in the management" of Bain Capital, a private equity firm, after early 1999, and demanded that President Barack Obama apologize for campaign aides who persisted in alleging otherwise. JPMorgan Chase said its traders may have tried to conceal the losses from a soured investment bet that embarrassed the bank and cost it almost \$6 billion - far more than its chief executive first suggested. Movie producer Richard Zanuck, 77, died in Beverly Hills, California.

One year ago: With emotions running raw, President Barack Obama met privately at the White House with elected officials, law enforcement leaders and members of the Black Lives Matter movement with the goal of getting them to work together to curb violence and build trust. Theresa May entered No. 10 Downing Street as Britain's new prime minister following a bittersweet exit by David Cameron, who resigned after voters rejected his appeal to stay in the European Union.

Today's Birthdays: Game show announcer Johnny Gilbert (TV: "Jeopardy!") is 93. Actor Patrick Stewart is 77. Actor Robert Forster is 76. Actor Harrison Ford is 75. Singer-guitarist Roger McGuinn (The Byrds) is 75. Actor-comedian Cheech Marin is 71. Actress Daphne Maxwell Reid is 69. Actress Didi Conn is 66. Singer Louise Mandrell is 63. Rock musician Mark "The Animal" Mendoza (Twisted Sister) is 61. Actor-director Cameron Crowe is 60. Tennis player Anders Jarryd is 56. Rock musician Gonzalo Martinez De La Coteria (Marcy Playground) is 55. Comedian Tom Kenny is 55. Country singer-songwriter Victoria Shaw is 55. Bluegrass singer Rhonda Vincent is 55. Actor Kenny Johnson is 54. Roots singer/songwriter Paul Thorn is 53. Country singer Neil Thrasher is 52. Actor Ken Jeong is 48. Bluegrass musician Mike Barber (The Gibson Brothers) is 47. Singer Deborah Cox is 44. Actress Ashley Scott is 40. Rock musician Will Champion (Coldplay) is 39. Actor Fran Kranz is 36. Actress Aya Cash is 35. Actor Colton Haynes is 29. Actor Steven R. McQueen is 29. Soul singer Leon Bridges is 28. Actor Kyle Harrison Breitkopf (BRYT'-kahpf) is 12.

Thought for Today: "Individuality is freedom lived." - John Dos Passos, American author (1896-1970).

Got a story or photos 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:

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

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