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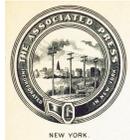
## Connecting - August 01, 2017

1 message

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Tue, Aug 1, 2017 at 8:50 AM

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# Connecting

August 01, 2017

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**John Liotta (right) with friends and colleagues Patty Casillo and Don Deibler.**

Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning!

**John Liotta** never had a byline on the wire in his 45 years with The Associated Press, but his imprint on the cooperative and his value to all of us cannot be overstated.

John retired Monday from his position on the New York Sales Operation team. He joins his Treasury Department colleague of four decades, **Don Deibler**, also a Connecting colleague, in retirement and ends his 21-year working relationship with **Patty Casillo**. The three of them are pictured above at a gathering for John at Bill's Bar and Burger Grill last week.

John and his team were - and are - invaluable to the AP. Our journalists may be the face of the AP that the public and the industry knows best, but without the behind-the-scenes support and quest for sales, the revenue for that journalism would dry up. AP is in a pitched battle to be sure that does not happen.

I am one of many former chiefs of bureau who depended on John and others in the department for rates, sales information and available options to retain our newspaper members and to attract new ones. In the pre-email, pre-cell phone days

(yes, I'm O-L-D), this meant calls to New York from the nearest phone booth and sometimes hanging on the line while John, Don and others got us the needed information. It could mean the difference between retaining or losing a member. Important stuff.

I know many join me in wishing him all the best in retirement. If you have a favorite story about John, send it along.

Here's to the start of the new month of August!

Paul

## John Liotta's 'starter job' with AP lasted 45 years

By PAUL STEVENS

When John Liotta got the offer to join The Associated Press just after graduating from Brooklyn College, he recalled that the recruiter called it a "great starter job, but mentioned nothing about finishing!"

Fast-forward to 45 years later and Liotta has decided it is time to finish that "starter job." He completed his final day of AP work on Monday and begins a new chapter in life that focuses heavily on spoiling his four young grandchildren ranging from 10 to 3 years.

Liotta, 67, spent his entire AP career in the New York Treasurer's Office/Corporate Finance until the department was incorporated into Sales Operations a few years ago. He was originally hired to work in accounting at 50 Rockefeller Plaza by Paul Mammino - now a fellow retiree. He and Mammino, 91, found time to chat at the 25-Year Club Celebration in June, when Liotta was honored by President and CEO Gary Pruitt for his 45 years of service.

"It was the Foreign Department at the time," Liotta said, "and we used to handle disbursement reports from the (Edie) Lederers and (Richard) Pyles of the world. Jim Tomlinson was in charge of the Treasurer's Office at the time."

Liotta grew up in Brooklyn in the shadows of Ebbetts Field - home of the Dodgers, he said, "until they deserted us." He earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from Brooklyn College.

Shortly after he joined the AP in 1972, he worked, as a member of the Treasurer's Office, with Bruce Richardson in Newspaper Membership, overseen then by Conrad Fink. His focus was on all things rate-related - quoting rates for current and prospective members, managing assessment changes, determining rates based then on population.

He reported to the Treasurer's office - "It was the separation of church and state," he said, noting that a firm and consistent rate structure was essential to the health of the cooperative. Membership was led by Jim Mangan, Wick Temple, Tom Brettingen and Tom Slaughter, and his latest direct supervisor was Greg Groce.



"Much of my job was dealing with bureau chiefs, and now the regional directors and local markets directors," Liotta said. "The most interesting part was having different responsibilities as technology evolved. Services going from slowspeed to DataStream to Member's Choice. It was like learning a new job during each transition. It kept the competitive juices flowing."

He and Deibler for 35 years were on the speed dial of every bureau chief in the AP domestic system. "We had to keep you guys going - trying to figure out things like how to save this member, offering strategies. It wasn't just a numbers game. In that sense, we truly were a team.

"Back then and now, we were the police department, the last line of defense to make sure the correct rates were quoted and assessed."

Deibler said the two of them "had a great working relationship." And there was always room for some fun in the midst of all those numbers they worked with: "When his secretary (Jenny Sanchez McAnulty) was annoyed at him, she knew he didn't like chocolate cake, so to celebrate his birthday one time, that's what she got him."

Greg Groce, director of sales operations and analysis, said that



**From left: Patty Casillo, Indrajeet Harer, John**

throughout Liotta's career, he "has **Liotta, Susan Clark, Srini Nair.** been a steady source of wisdom, wit and helpfulness to his colleagues. He will be sorely missed.

"Over his 45 years with AP, John has played an important role in the development and rollout of new systems and processes to support our financial and business operations."

Groce said "few people in AP understand the intricacies and context behind our member rate policies as John. You could always count on him for having thoroughly checked policy and his calculations before confirming an assessment."

Saying a giant Amen to that would be the scores of AP chiefs of bureaus who depended over the years on Liotta and his 35-year sidekick Don Deibler, and more recently Patty Casillo, sales operations administrator, for assistance in rates and services, and on policy. (Deibler retired in 2009.)

"John knew everything there was to know about billing domestic newspaper members. I could always count on him to answer my questions quickly and catch my mistakes," said Eva Parziale, Local Markets' East regional director and bureau chief before that in Columbus and Portland, Oregon. "I'll miss his knowledge and the calm way he went about the tricky business of keeping track of so many members, services and rates."

Added Dorothy Abernathy, recently retired longtime Richmond bureau chief and local markets director: "I can't begin to say how many times John Liotta gave me a hand when I needed it - often on short notice. He was great about providing newspaper rates, as well as guidance on what contract form to use and how to fill it out. And if I had a question he couldn't answer, he'd refer me to the appropriate person. He'll certainly be missed."

Two "Davids" worked closely with Liotta over the years - David Marcus and David Wilkison - both in New York headquarters and when they were chiefs of bureau.

David Marcus, director of planning and business analysis for U.S. Local Markets, said:

"Even in a long career, a guy doesn't get many partners as important as John Liotta has been to me. Our work started as collaborators in the arcane methods of counting newspaper circulation. But as our jobs and the business changed, our work evolved to an almost constant reconciliation of new practices with old principles. I'm proud to say that even as we sometimes had to make stuff up as we



**John Liotta (left) and Greg Groce**

went along, he and I were always able to be true to the standards of our AP forebears as well as the needs of our members and customers.

"With patience, good humor and a healthy sense of the absurd, John Liotta has been my guide and my friend during our time of immense change in which we had to sweat a lot of detail. I wish he weren't retiring, but in an important way he'll still come to work with me every day."

David Wilkison, managing director of media groups, said:

"John is going to be sorely missed because of the important role he played in the orders process, including all of his institutional knowledge. Rarely a week went by where I wasn't pestering John about something related to our biggest members and groups, and he was always quick with an answer, even if the issue wasn't a simple one. And like so many others, I'll forever be grateful to John for educating me on rate conversions and that you can't simply take an assessment and multiple it by 52 to get an annual rate (52.1429 unless it's a leap year!). But it's John's affable personality and sense of humor that I'll miss the most. He's just simply a great colleague, and I wish him all the best in his retirement."

Andy Lippman, who was bureau chief in Los Angeles, Indianapolis and Louisville, said Liotta was "one of those behind the scenes presences - like Don Deibler - who made his department so invaluable. I could ask for a quote and it would appear in timely fashion without fail. Don Deibler was the same way. If there were an Pulitzer Prize for administrative staffers, John and Don would be two excellent candidates."

Liotta has three children - Lauren, Christina and Joseph, who all live on Long Island, and four grandchildren - Joey, Nicholas, Kayla and Gianna.

"I really look forward to spending more time with them, at a time when they still have time for me," he said. "We'll visit the Bronx Zoo, the museums, do bike rides - all kinds of fun things."

Looking back on his career, he said: "The days never dragged, the days just flew by."

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If you would like to drop a note to John, his email is - [Joeynick10@yahoo.com](mailto:Joeynick10@yahoo.com)

# Connecting mailbox

## *A 'prescient' article in Rolling Stone*



AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais

**George Arfield** ([Email](#)) shared on Monday the following story from Rolling Stone, published last Friday, noting the article was "prescient."

### **The Anthony Scaramucci Era Will Be Freakish, Embarrassing and All Too Short**

**By Matt Taibbi**

I already miss Anthony Scaramucci. Of course, he hasn't officially been fired yet (checks Twitter), or committed suicide by jumping into boiling steak fat at his Gotti-esque Hunt and Fish Club restaurant in Manhattan (checks Twitter again). But it sure seems like he's not long for this earth. Even by Trumpian standards, has any federal official had a more disastrous rollout?

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## ***Being interviewed by David Shaw on women in the AP***

**Peggy Walsh** ([Email](#)) - On the appearance of AP people:

As I've watched over the months, I've thought it's great to see the AP finally get the credit it deserves on a national stage. I'm sure many of us remember the days when the AP was first but never mentioned or credited only as "wire service." I see someone from AP on cable almost every day.

AP Photos is also getting some well-deserved attention from the final segment of Hallie Jackson's show called "The Big Picture." Most days it's an AP photo and she names the photographer.

When I was bureau chief in San Francisco, the late David Shaw of the LA Times called to interview me for a piece he was doing on the AP. Shaw was famous for his Pulitzer winning media critiques and was looking for something about how women were treated by AP. There weren't that many of us in management roles at the time.

I got permission from NY and read up on Shaw, who also was famous for his love of fine food and wine.

Before I went, I talked to my brother, Tim, an attorney in Washington, D.C. and he advised me to answer each question but not offer anything extra. If there were silences, don't try to fill them. And if I had to think about what I wanted to say, take a bite and chew.

We had a lovely lunch. I chewed a lot. As I remember, he wrote a generally complimentary piece on the AP. I was so boring I wasn't in it.

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## ***His anniversary watch keeps on ticking***



**Charles Monzella** ([Email](#)) - As for AP's anniversary gifts, I enclose a photo of the Seiko wristwatch I received in 1993 for my 40th anniversary. It has a small gold plate with the AP logo on the wristband. Although it's 24 years old, it still keeps perfect time. Wish I could say I'm running as well as the watch!

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## ***On retirement gifts, appearing on TV***

**Joe McKnight** ([Email](#)) - Until I approached retirement, I never knew that staffers had options for service anniversary gifts. On my 25th anniversary with AP, the general office sent me a tie clasp. On my 30th anniversary, I received a tie-tac. On my 35th anniversary, then Ohio bureau chief Bill DiMascio told me the AP did not recognize it but that Personnel Director Keith Fuller told him to take me and wife Peggy to dinner. We agreed on a restaurant and, once seated, Bill ordered a bottle of wine. It tasted awful and we complained. Bill then told me to order a substitute. I know very little about wines, but looked over the menu and chose a bottle that cost \$75. Why Not? It tasted good. As I approached my 40th anniversary, someone in New York called and offered me a choice among several gifts. I chose a Seth Thomas desk clock. Until it came I didn't know that Seth Thomas made battery-powered time pieces. It is still in use and keeps good time when I remember to change the battery.

My first - and only -- on air appearance was at Wichita about 1965-66. A local station's newsman and talk show host asked if I would appear on his show and answer questions from listeners. Kansas City Bureau Chief Frank Gorrie approved and I went on the air for the one-hour program. After introductions, I gave a short history of AP and began talking about how it functioned, until the phone rang. Readers need to know that I am a native of South Alabama and -- lacking good reason to change -- still have a southern accent. So, the first caller, a man, said he had a personal question. "Are you black or white?" he asked. I said I was a WASP and he asked, "What's that?" I told him I was white and a native of Alabama. There followed several callers asking about current events. Afterward, I somehow thought it unusual that not a single caller asked about AP.

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## ***James Finley was just plain cool***

**Tom Cohen** ([Email](#)) - James A. Finley was all the things people have been saying about him - talented, smart, professional, kind. But most of all, he was just plain cool.

He was the Fin. He was James A., as our friend Mark Peterson called him. In the St. Louis AP office in the mid-1980s, he was the smooth and calming presence in a conundrum of wire service deadlines and pressure.

When I was a young reporter in my first big-city AP bureau, James was the model for navigating such a turbulent work environment. Sure, I learned plenty about covering and writing news from other talents in the office, but James - the photographer - showed me how to do it right.

Always calm. Always patient. Always respectful, whether on the phone with an impatient editor or subscriber, or on a story with people not always happy that we were there.

In January 1986, James and I went to interview the family of Joseph White, an American soldier who had defected to North Korea four years earlier. We wanted the family's reaction to news that the soldier had drowned in North Korea.

A lawyer who served as family spokesman warned us we might encounter unwillingness, and I was nervous about how it would go. James wasn't, at least not

on the outside.

We drove to the house on the south side in relative quiet, and when we got there, James turned off the engine and we sat for a moment. In his deep, smooth voice, James suggested we keep our gear - his cameras, my tape recorder and notepad - in our pockets or at our sides until we were inside the house.

At the door, the soldier's mother was hesitant but not resistant. She seemed to fear the pain of the topic, rather than media exposure. We expressed sympathy for her family's loss and asked to interview her. I remember James telling her he wanted to take photos while I talked to her. Mrs. White agreed and invited us into the house.

She and I sat on a living room couch while James hung back a bit, letting us settle in and begin talking before he put down his camera bag and got ready to shoot. He positioned himself to photograph her from a few angles, giving me subtle signals to shift my posture out of the frame. James also listened to us as he worked, at one point asking her a question that I later realized was to get her to look his way for a shot.

We were there for about forty minutes, much longer than expected, and Mrs. White thanked us when we left. Thanks to James, I learned a lot that day - how to be sympathetic and caring while doing your job; how to put a subject at ease, in this case a grieving mother who would never know why her son crossed the DMZ; how to get what you needed in an unobtrusive and respectful way.

That was James. Under crushing deadlines or just hanging out during rare slow moments in the office, he was cool in all the right ways.

He also was funny, with a dry wit that balanced teasing and self-deprecation.

In my initial months in St. Louis, when a lot of news broke during those first solo evening shifts, James gave me the nickname Calamity Cohen. "Tom Cohen," he'd say, "there's always some calamity when you're working." We laughed about that for years, often over lunch at Crown Candy Kitchen with Mark Peterson when I'd visit St. Louis.

Mark passed away suddenly in April 1999, and it was James who called me in Warsaw, Poland, to let me know. Now James has left us. He was a giant in life, and anyone lucky enough to have known him is a better person because of it.

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## ***Grandkids changed his attitude on retirement***

**Mike Harris** ([Email](#)) - Since reading the takes by Hal Bock and Dave Lubeski on how much they are enjoying their retirement and now little they miss working, I've been thinking a lot about the same thing. I can definitely say, "Amen, gentlemen."

But it wasn't that way from the start.

I retired from the AP in July of 2009 after a nearly 41-year career that included covering the auto racing beat for the last 31 years. Like Hal and Dave, I got to travel extensively and enjoy working some of the best and most prestigious sporting events in the world, including 39 Indy 500s, 30 Daytona 500s, a couple of Olympics, a Super Bowl, the ABA and NBA finals and more. And I loved almost every minute of it.

As I was approaching the retirement date, I said to my long-suffering wife, Judy, "You've supported me and my career for the last 40 years, so the next 40 are yours. What do you want to do?"

She quickly made a list that included some personal travel, volunteering, more time with our grown kids and much more.



Then I retired ... and nothing changed, except the paycheck no longer arrived every two weeks.

I found a racing website operated by a friend and continued going to races all over North America. Judy traveled with me, but it was still work. Only now I was paying my own way and collecting very little for my efforts. It was mostly habit, although I still enjoyed the work.

Luckily, though, our daughter, married for five years and nearing 35, suddenly announced she was pregnant with our first grandchild.

“We're out of here,” Judy announced, letting me know that it was time to try something new. We moved from North Carolina to Boston in September of 2010 and became full-time daycare for our then 4-month-old granddaughter Liliana.

It was marvelous and exhausting. During the day, we felt like we were 30 again. When our daughter Lanni picked up Lili in the evening, we felt like we were 90.

Then, along came Milo. More of the same.

Now, nearly eight years later, we have amped up our travel - part of Judy's original list - enjoy Boston's wide array of culture - plays, music, restaurants - and we spend as much time as possible with those wonderful grand kids, now 7 and 5.

Hal and Dave, you couldn't be more right about retirement.

## Connecting profile - Kevin Cooney



**Kevin Cooney** ([Email](#)) - is a lifelong journalist from a family of journalists- all spending most of their careers in Des Moines.

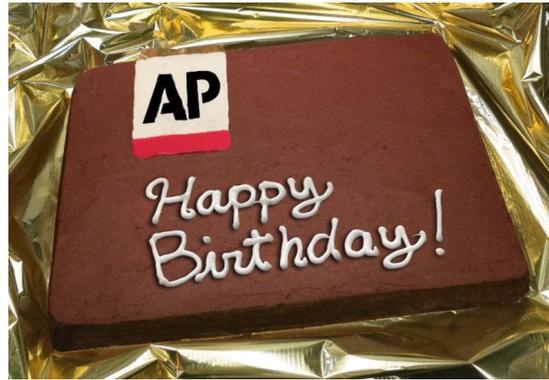
Kevin is a graduate of Iowa State University, studying journalism with Jack Shelley and graduating in 1974. He started as a productions assistant at KRNT TV (Now KCCI TV) while still in high school, and spent most of his 45-year career at the station including 32 years as 6 & 10 PM anchor.

Along the way, he reported features on Kevin Cooney Covers Iowa, covered caucuses, conventions, inaugurations and interviewed four presidents as well as countless presidential candidates. He was honored as Iowa Broadcaster of the Year and recipient of awards from The Iowa Broadcast News Association, Associated Press and The Greenlee School of Journalism at Iowa State. He loves to report.

His parents, Jim and Patricia Cooney, were journalists with the Des Moines Register & Tribune. Dad was a reporter and editor with the Des Moines Tribune and his mother served as a feature writer after starting in 1944 as the first female copy editor for the newspapers.

Retiring in 2015 Kevin now spends time with his recently retired wife Mollie (also a KCCI reporter and anchor for 35+ years) occasionally penning an op-ed, and spending time biking, volunteering, running and watching his grandchildren.

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

**Dolores Barclay - [tobibar@aol.com](mailto:tobibar@aol.com)**

**Mike Goodkind - [goodkindm@gmail.com](mailto:goodkindm@gmail.com)**

**Jon Wolman - [jwolman@detnews.com](mailto:jwolman@detnews.com)**

## Welcome to Connecting



Mark Rosati - [marksrosati@gmail.com](mailto:marksrosati@gmail.com)

Ellen Warren - [warren.ellen@gmail.com](mailto:warren.ellen@gmail.com)

## Stories of interest

### *Kelly's military approach to the media* (Politico)

By HADAS GOLD

When it comes to the media, new White House chief of staff John Kelly is a military man at heart, according to those who know him and have dealt with him in the past.

Operating out of the Pentagon, the former Marine Corps general and head of the U.S. Southern Command learned to respect members of the press but felt burned when they didn't cover the news of what was under his command - including Guantanamo Bay - in what he considered a fair way.



His new challenge, some of those people say, is that the political writers in the White House are a different breed than their Pentagon

counterparts, who tend to have deep groundings in defense policy. And Kelly's value system may be strained in his new job - both by the press corps and the boss he will serve.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***That R. Kelly 'cult' story almost never ran. Thank Hulk Hogan for that.*** (Washington Post)

By MARGARET SULLIVAN

Call it the Gawker Effect.

After Jim DeRogatis, the veteran Chicago rock critic, reported for months on a stunning story about R&B singer R. Kelly and the young women said to be under his psychological and sexual control, it came time to get it published.

Three separate media organizations were interested but got cold feet at the last minute, DeRogatis said. Each one, after investing months of work, backed away from the story that used named sources and documents to describe how women near Atlanta and Chicago were held as if in a cult, according to what parents and others had told police. (DeRogatis declined to name the news organizations because of his appreciation of the editors he worked with; they weren't the ones who pulled the plug. They include a regional print publication, a world-famous multimedia behemoth and a radio-based digital outlet.)

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

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## ***Which newsrooms rule Twitter? CNN, ESPN and NBC News, according to a new report*** (Poynter)

Anderson Cooper is the king of Twitter, and his employer ranks highest among newsrooms with huge Twitter followings.

That's according to a new report from Muck Rack, a site for journalists and PR professionals that issued a report today touting journalists and news organizations with the biggest Twitter followings.

The rankings, which are drawn from Muck Rack's database of thousands of journalists, put Cooper at top of individual journalists with large Twitter followings. Here's the top 10, as of June 2017:

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Discovery to Buy Scripps, Owner of Food Network, in \$11.9 Billion Deal*** (New York Times)

NEW YORK - Discovery Communications announced on Monday an \$11.9 billion deal to buy Scripps Networks Interactive, the owner of Food Network and HGTV.

The combined company would control about 20 percent of the advertising-supported pay-television audience in the United States, and it could create a force in television popular with female viewers, bringing together the Scripps channels and Discovery offerings including Investigation Discovery, OWN and TLC.

The talks took place amid broad consolidation in the telecommunications and media industries in the United States. Over the past several years, cable and broadband providers including Comcast, Charter, Verizon and AT&T have steadily increased their market presence. That has put pressure on TV companies like Discovery to grow in size as a way to gain leverage in negotiations with cable distributors.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Waugh's Beast is back, still satirising those who make England so febrile*** (Guardian)

'Up to a point, Lord Copper.' Fifty years ago, I never tired of hearing the phrase - made famous in Evelyn Waugh's novel, *Scoop* - in the conversations that went back and forth across the subeditors' desk on the Scottish Daily Express. "Is it DuMbarton for the county and DuNbarton for the town?" "Up to a point, Lord Copper."

It was our deputy editor who used it most: that way of saying no, without saying no. He had a tin leg and wore beautiful heather-mixture suits of the kind favoured by George Bernard Shaw. He was exuberant and he smoked a pipe: there was never an end to his jokes. "Evelyn Waugh - pretty but little-known sister of General Archibald Waugh," he might say. Then the inevitable: "Up to a point, Lord Copper!"

*Scoop* is one of the funniest books in the English language and it naturally finds a special place in the heart of anyone who's ever worked for a newspaper - not just because it's about newspapers, but because it evokes newspaper life with what Christopher Hitchens called "pitiless realism".

Read more [here](#). Shared by Marcus Eliason.

## **Today in History - August 1, 2017**



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 1, the 213th day of 2017. There are 152 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**

On August 1, 1957, the United States and Canada announced they had agreed to create the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD).

**On this date:**

In 1714, Britain's Queen Anne died at age 49; she was succeeded by George I.

In 1876, Colorado was admitted as the 38th state.

In 1907, the U.S. Army Signal Corps established an aeronautical division, the forerunner of the U.S. Air Force.

In 1913, the Joyce Kilmer poem "Trees" was first published in "Poetry: A Magazine of Verse."

In 1936, the Olympics opened in Berlin with a ceremony presided over by Adolf Hitler.

In 1944, an uprising broke out in Warsaw, Poland, against Nazi occupation; the revolt lasted two months before collapsing.

In 1947, Mickey Spillane's first novel, "I, the Jury," featuring the debut of private eye Mike Hammer, was published.

In 1966, Charles Joseph Whitman, 25, went on an armed rampage at the University of Texas in Austin that killed 14 people, most of whom were shot by Whitman while he was perched in the clock tower of the main campus building. (Whitman, who had also slain his wife and mother hours earlier, was finally gunned down by police.)

In 1975, a 35-nation summit in Finland concluded with the signing of a declaration known as the Helsinki Accords dealing with European security, human rights and East-West contacts.

In 1977, former U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers, working as a traffic reporter for KNBC-TV in Los Angeles, was killed with his cameraman, George Spears, when their helicopter ran out of fuel and crashed; Powers was 47.

In 1981, the rock music video channel MTV made its debut.

In 1994, Michael Jackson and Lisa Marie Presley confirmed they'd been secretly married 11 weeks earlier. (Presley filed for divorce from Jackson in Jan. 1996, citing irreconcilable differences.)

Ten years ago: The eight-lane Interstate 35W bridge, a major Minneapolis artery, collapsed into the Mississippi River during evening rush hour, killing 13 people.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama made his rival's personal millions a front-and-center issue in the race for the White House, telling a swing-state audience in Ohio that Mitt Romney "is asking you to pay more so that people like him can get a big tax cut." Four teams from China, South Korea and Indonesia were kicked out of the women's badminton doubles at the London Olympics for trying to lose on purpose in order to earn an easier matchup in the knockout round. Host country Britain picked up its first two gold medals as Helen Glover and Heather Stanning won the final of the women's pair at the rowing regatta and cyclist Bradley Wiggins took the time trial.

One year ago: The United States launched multiple airstrikes against Islamic State militants in Libya, opening a new front against the group at the request of the United Nations-backed Libyan government. President Barack Obama, speaking at the annual convention of the Disabled American Veterans in Atlanta, said the U.S. had made serious strides in improving services for military veterans, but that work remained to overcome shortcomings in the delivery of health care, housing and mental health services. Vice President Joe Biden officiated a gay wedding, a first for the early proponent of same-sex marriage as he presided over the union of Joe Mahshie and Brian Mosteller, both longtime White House aides, at the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Ramblin' Jack Elliott is 86. Former Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., is 80. Actor Giancarlo Giannini is 75. Basketball Hall of Fame coach Roy Williams is 67. Blues singer-musician Robert Cray is 64. Singer Michael Penn is 59. Rock singer Joe Elliott (Def Leppard) is 58. Rock singer-musician Suzi Gardner (L7) is 57. Rapper Chuck D (Public Enemy) is 57. Actor Jesse Borrego is 55. Actor Demian Bichir is 54. Rapper Coolio is 54. Actor John Carroll Lynch is 54. Rock singer Adam Duritz (Counting Crows) is 53. Movie director Sam Mendes is 52. Country singer George Ducas is 51. Country musician Charlie Kelley is 49. Actress Jennifer Gareis is 47. Actor Charles Malik Whitfield is 45. Actress Tempestt Bledsoe is 44. Actor Jason Momoa is 38. Actress Honeysuckle Weeks is 38. Singer Ashley

Parker Angel is 36. Actress Taylor Fry is 36. Actor Elijah Kelley is 31. Actor James Francis Kelly is 28. Actress Ella Wahlestedt is 19.

***Thought for Today: "Pride, like humility, is destroyed by one's insistence that he possesses it." - Kenneth Bancroft Clark, American educator and psychologist (1914-2005).***

## 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.

**Paul Stevens**  
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