



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - August 30, 2017

1 message

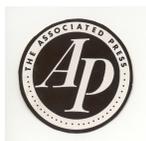
Paul Stevens <paulstevens46@gmail.com>

Wed, Aug 30, 2017 at 9:06 AM

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Connecting

August 30, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

Covering a huge story like the Houston flooding that impacts so many people is not easy - as most of you on Connecting are no doubt aware from your own journalistic experiences.



I was reminded of this by a story Tuesday about a CNN reporter, Rosa Flores, who spoke to a mother at a shelter in Houston, and the clearly distraught mother made an emotional plea on camera for reporters to stop putting microphones in the faces of people going through "their worst times."

"We got through four feet of water to get them food on the first day," she said. "Yeah. That's a lot of shit. But y'all trying to interview people during their worst times. Like, that's not the smartest thing to do."

She continued: "People are really breaking down and y'all sitting here with cameras and microphones trying to ask us what the fuck is wrong with us. And you really trying to understand with the microphone still in my face! With me shivering cold, with my kids wet! And you're still putting a microphone in my face!"

Click here for a link to the Mediaite story on the confrontation. And be sure to read the reader comments, pro and con how the reporter handled the story.

Connecting would like to hear from you on your experiences in covering a major story and any reaction you received similar to this that you'd like to share...including how you handled it.

Paul

Was this AP photo 'sanitized' by cartoonist?



Here is HPD SWAT member Daryl Hudeck as he carries Catherine Pham and her son Aiden to safety:



The UNITED States

garyvarvel.com

Here is the Indianapolis Star's Gary Varvel's version of that photo. Why did he feel the need to "sanitize" it and remove any reference to HPD? Maybe I'm being too critical but

this is just another example of MSM bias in my opinion.

Nolan Kienitz (Email) - Got this from a friend of mine, now retired and has been a life-long Texas native/resident. He has an interesting comment on "presentation" that seems to be common amongst many media outlets these days.

Realizing that the cartoonist is that ... a cartoonist, but it seems that it is a slap in the face of very hard-working, dedicated front line support.

I used to live in Spring and one of my neighbor's was/is a Houston HPD SWAT officer and he and his co-workers are swamped (no pun intended), but he is also very PO'd about such 'sanitizing'.

I'm just sort of venting and I do not know the inner workings of AP's rules when it comes to sharing or changing such images.

[Click here](#) for the cartoonist's site at the Indy Star.

Politics, journalism mix in 1876 presidential election

Connecting colleague **Jerry Harkavy (Email)** shared a piece by Betsy Kolbert in the latest New Yorker that he believed was sure to be of interest to Connecting readers - especially in light of the current climate surrounding the media. "I was an AP newsman for more than 40 years, and the agency's role in the 1876 election was news to me," Jerry wrote, in sharing the article.

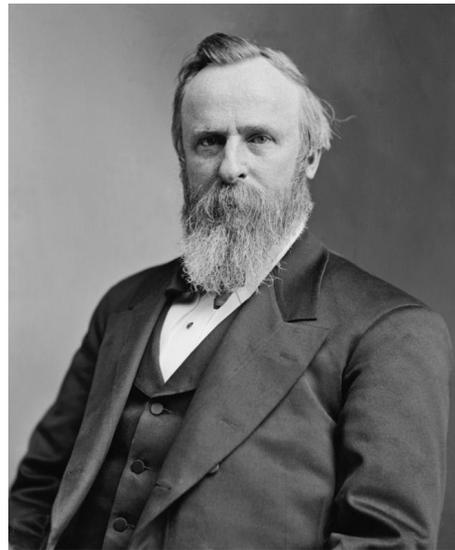
[The story](#) began:

In the night of November 7, 1876, Rutherford B. Hayes's wife, Lucy, took to her bed with a headache. The returns from the Presidential election were trickling in, and the Hayeses, who had been spending the evening in their parlor, in Columbus, Ohio, were dismayed. Hayes himself remained up until midnight; then he, too, retired,

convinced that his Democratic opponent, Samuel J. Tilden, would become the next President.

Hayes had indeed lost the popular vote, by more than two hundred and fifty thousand ballots. And he might have lost the Electoral College as well had it not been for the machinations of journalists working in the shady corners of what's been called "the Victorian Internet."

Chief among the plotters was an Ohioan named William Henry Smith. Smith ran the western arm of the Associated Press, and in this way controlled the bulk of the copy that ran in many small-town newspapers. The Western A.P. operated in tight affiliation-some would say collusion-with Western Union, which exercised a near-monopoly over the nation's telegraph lines. Early in the campaign, Smith decided that he would employ any means necessary to assure a victory for Hayes, who, at the time, was serving a third term as Ohio's governor. In the run-up to the Republican National Convention, Smith orchestrated the release of damaging information about the Governor's rivals. Then he had the Western A.P. blare Hayes's campaign statements and mute Tilden's. At one point, an unflattering piece about Hayes appeared in the Chicago Times, a Democratic paper. (The piece claimed that Hayes, who had been a general in the Union Army, had accepted money from a soldier to give to the man's family, but had failed to pass it on when the soldier died.) The A.P. flooded the wires with articles discrediting the story.

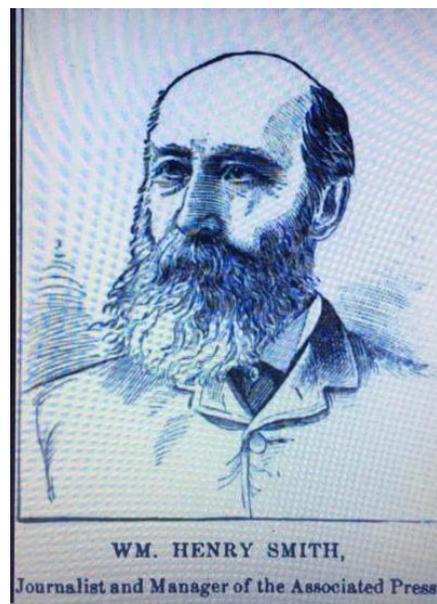


Rutherford B. Hayes

Connecting invited **Valerie Komor** ([Email](#)), director of AP Corporate Archives, to respond, and she shared:

For anyone who studies AP history, it was remarkable to see William Henry Smith-not exactly a household name-make an appearance in the pages of the Aug. 28, 2018 issue of The New Yorker magazine in Elizabeth Kolbert's piece, "The Content of No Content: Is Big Tech too powerful?" The only greater surprise, perhaps, was had by the ghost of Samuel J. Tilden, who, by all accounts, should have won the 1876 presidential election!

In her introduction, with the story of Smith's active support for Rutherford B. Hayes in the 1876 contest, Kolbert points to the boisterous 1870s, a time of great competition between various regional press associations. For AP, it was a time of ferment, as the Western Associated Press competed actively with the New York Associated Press. Smith was "general agent" of the Western



Associated Press from 1869 to 1892. On Dec. 15, 1892, AP was incorporated in Chicago. In 1900, under General Manager Melville Stone, it moved to New York City where the corporation laws were more favorable to its cooperative structure.

[Click here](#) for a short biographical sketch of Smith, taken from the finding aid to his papers at the Indiana Historical Society (where the library is named for him). It begins:

William Henry Smith (1833-96) was a journalist, businessman, and historian. He began his journalism career as reporter and editor for the Cincinnati newspapers Type of the Times, Commerican, and Gazette, 1855-63. In 1869 Smith became general manager of the Western Associated Press based in Chicago and in 1883 the news service was merged with the Associated Press. Smith was general manager of the Associated Press until 1892 when he and Charles W. Fairbanks acquired the Indianapolis News. Smith remained part owner of the paper until his death four years later. Smith's son, Delavan, served as publisher of the paper from 1896-1922. William Henry Smith also served as treasurer of the Mergenthaler Printing Company.

If you would like to do further reading in this period, here are some suggestions:

Richard A. Schwarzlose, *The Nation's Newsbrokers, Volume Two: The Rush to Institution: From 1865 to 1920*. Especially Chapter 4, under the heading "Political Campaign Reporting," pp. 124-130.

Menahem Blondheim, *News Over the Wires: The Telegraph and the Flow of Public Information in America, 1844-1897* (Harvard, 1994). Especially Chapter 8, "Talking to All America: Power and Politics of the News-Telegraph Monopoly," pp. 169-188.

Tom Jory, "When is AP Going to Call this Thing?" in *Breaking News: How the Associated Press Has Covered War, Peace and Everything Else* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2007). Especially pp. 167-173.

[Here is a link](#) to two recent books which cover the same time frame by two leading scholars, Jonathan Silberstein-Loeb and Richard John.

Remembering Diana - 20 years ago today

Bill Kole (Email) - AP news editor for New England, based in Boston - A reporter for The Sun Chronicle (in Attleboro, MA), an AP member for whom I once worked, published this remembrance of my coverage of the crash that killed Diana 20 years ago. [Click here](#) for a link to the story.

I recall AP's coverage as comprehensive, compassionate, nuanced, elegant and above all else, accurate. I wonder who else has a memory of having a hand in that gargantuan story?

The lead of The Sun Chronicle story:

Covering Diana: The People's Princess

By Kayla Canne

As Princess Diana succumbed to a fatal car crash 20 years ago this Thursday, the world seemed to shatter.

Followers from across the globe broke at the loss of Britain's biggest icon since The Beatles as conspiracy theories flew around every corner, confusing fact from fiction. In London and Paris, people wept openly on the streets. In the Attleboro area, mourners kept their remembrance for the Princess of Wales close, holding open viewings of Diana's funeral and displaying the British flag outside their homes.

Even thousands of miles away, "the people's princess" seemed a little bit theirs, too.

But, while most area residents watched from the sidelines, one found himself in the heart of it all.

For Foxboro native and former Sun Chronicle reporter William Kole, Princess Diana's death was a defining moment of his career - even if he didn't want it to be.

[Kole, having just moved on to head The Associated Press' Amsterdam bureau, found himself woken by a phone call just after 4 a.m. the day after Diana's death.](#)

He was needed in Paris.

Kole, now 56, knew the call was likely coming. As a reporter stationed in the AP's Paris bureau for a number of years, his fluency in French and wealth of contacts would be key as reporters dissected Diana's death in the following weeks.

So, he packed a bag and left.

"That's what we do as journalists," Kole said this month. "We get on the next plane."

Soon, he uncovered a defining moment behind the princess' death, and found himself equally as caught in the enormous story of who was Princess Diana. Part of his mission, Kole said, was to bring the princess back to the people: To capture who Diana was, even in light of such tragedy.

Connecting mailbox

Bob Poos - gone but not forgotten

Malcolm Barr Sr. ([Email](#)) - I was pleased to see from Joe Galloway's piece that Bob Poos, though gone is not forgotten. Poos was an AP colleague and longtime friend who we helped through some hard times, particularly when he received his cancer diagnosis and less than hopeful prognosis. I was honored to be asked to officiate at the celebration of his life. A large crowd gathered in Alexandria, Va., to pay tribute including military personnel, members of the U.S. Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Association (USMCC) of which Joe and me were fellow members, and, of course, fellow journalists, including those from AP.



I think Joe Galloway will agree with me - Poos was one of a kind.

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On importance of competition between AP, UPI

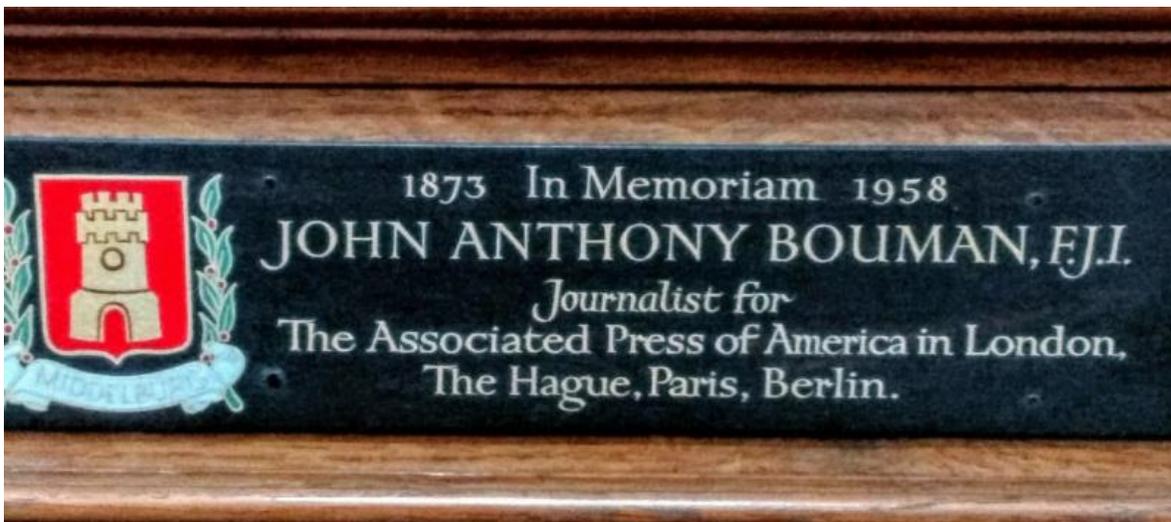
Harry Dunphy ([Email](#)) - Enjoyed the piece on Joe Galloway, one of the great wire service-trained journalists of our times and the acknowledgment he made of the importance of competition between our two respective agencies.

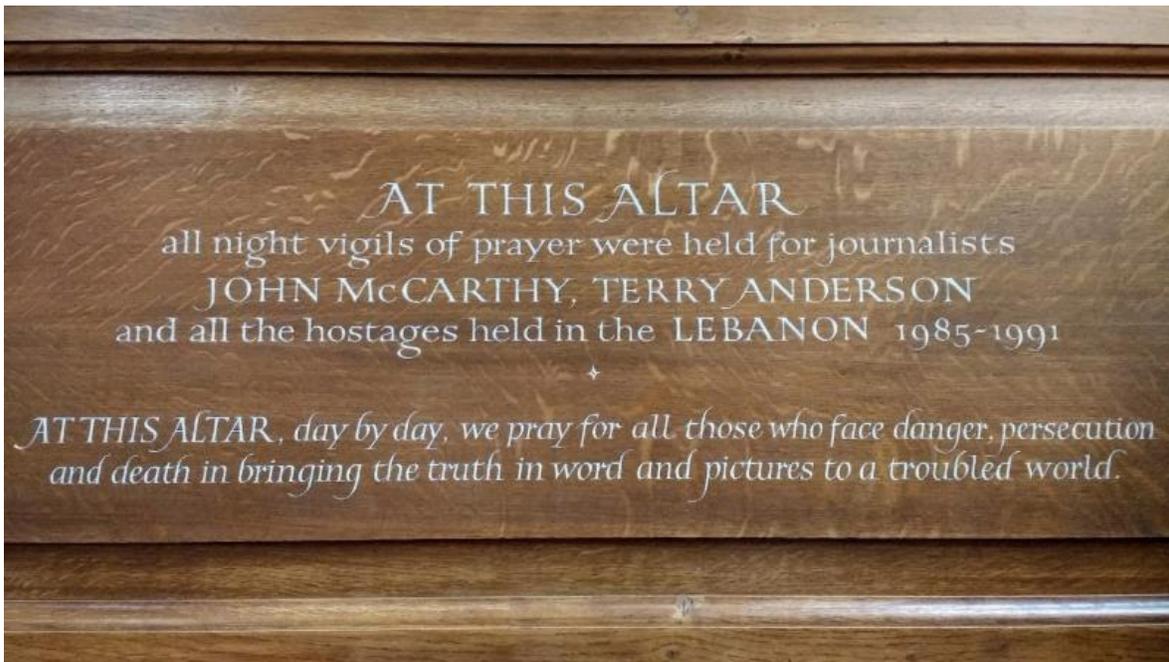
I was up against him in Moscow and on the losing end of some play messages that could really ruin a morning. But, as he said, at the end of the day he and our wives were friends in the difficult Soviet-era environment.

I was fortunate to have two talented and upcoming stars in Moscow on my staff, Tom Kent, whom we all know went on to bigger and better things, and Seth Mydans, who became a stand-out correspondent for the NYT in Asia.

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AP mentions in 'the spiritual home of journalists'

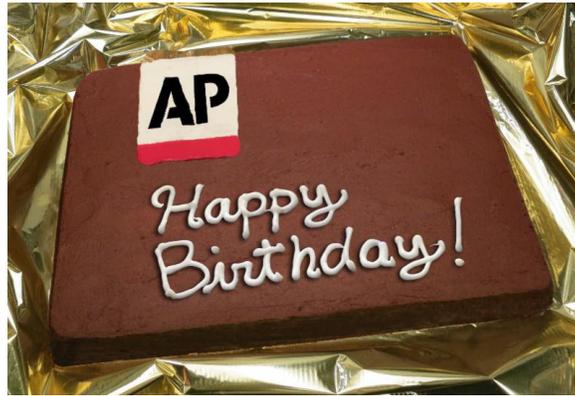




Kevin Walsh ([Email](#)) - Lisa and I are wrapping up a two-month driving tour of the United Kingdom that has led us several thousand miles across Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England. On our final day in London, we visited St. Bride's Church -- "the spiritual home of media." Located just off Fleet Street, it is full of journalism history. I spotted two AP mentions - John Anthony Bouman and Terry Anderson - among the many historical plaques. For those interested, [here's a link to my photos](#) and the church web site - <http://www.stbrides.com/>

During World War I, John Anthony Bouman was Associated Press correspondent to The Hague and Amsterdam, covering major events for the American public, concluding with the Kaiser's flight into Holland. He transferred to the Paris Bureau for Versailles, and to Berlin in 1920 to cover the Kapp Putsch. His association with Germany continued through the 20s and it was from there that he made the trip to join the Norwegian Government's Relief Expedition to Amundsen in Spitsbergen; "Braving tremendous hazards at the age of 52 he eventually caught up with Amundsen at King's Way Bay after a stormy passage in icy seas in an old leaking sloop chartered at Green Harbour." (Hartwell Ink & Images) In 1930 he was with Hindenburg in the "liberated" Rhineland, and throughout the 30s he "reported numerous events connected with the Nazi rise to power, meeting Hitler, Goering, Goebbels and others. [he] was on duty on June 30th, 1934, the "Night of the Long Knives". and was present when, in 1935, Goering announced to the world the existence of a German Air Force in contravention of the terms of the Versailles Treaty." He retired to London in 1939, where he died in 1958.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

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Welcome to Connecting



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Wayne Slater - wslater1066@yahoo.com

Matt Small - Msmalldc@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Local Edition: Inside a small Texas newsroom that lost power and kept covering the storm

(Poynter)

By **KRISTEN HARE**

If you're like me, regardless of where you live and what you do, your heart is in Texas this week.

So, we're pausing here to spend a few moments with Texas journalists. My colleagues and I have spent the past few days talking with local journalists covering the rising waters in Houston. One started covering weather as a side project after leaving a daily newsroom. Two previously asked what would happen when the worst came, and now they're back to tell us. Another captured an amazing image in the middle of a disaster.

Now, we're going to go to Victoria, Texas.

There, a little more than two hours southwest of Houston, the Victoria Advocate has covered the story of Hurricane Harvey and the storms that have followed while dealing with loss of power, no water and a displaced staff.

Read more [here](#).

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CNN chief Jeff Zucker shows the stress of covering Trump (Washington Post)

By **ERIC WEMPLE**

The inimical tweets, the constant harping, the denunciations at news conferences and rallies: President Trump's constant hammering of CNN has taken a toll on the network's boss, CNN Worldwide President Jeff Zucker, who oversees a news network of nearly 4,000 news professionals. Ever since Trump launched his presidential campaign, along with his extreme implementation of the longtime conservative critique of mainstream media organizations, Zucker has known terribly well that anything CNN says or does will be used against it by the president and his supporters.

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

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Helping readers tell the difference between news and opinion: 7 good questions with Duke Reporters' Lab's Rebecca Iannucci (American Press Institute)

One possible explanation for declining trust in news organizations is blurry lines between news and opinion. If someone doesn't like a commentator's stance on particular issues, that could color how they look at everything else that news organization does. Plus, research by API shows that people are finding it difficult to tell the difference between news and opinion: 32% of Americans find it difficult to distinguish news from opinion in the media.

Now comes a new analysis by the Duke Reporters' Lab finding that news organizations employ inconsistent terminology and labeling when it comes to news, opinion and analysis. That inconsistency creates confusion for readers, the Reporters' Lab says.

The good news is, this problem is really an opportunity. With just a bit of thoughtfulness and some design tweaks, a news organization can use better labeling of news and opinion to make big strides in readers' trust and understanding of its work.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

5 Buttons You Hope Your Pilot Never Has to Push (Travel and Leisure)



An estimated 25% of all Americans suffer from aviophobia, otherwise known as a fear of flying. And while we know air travel is abundantly safe, there are a few buttons you never, ever, want to see your pilot touch while airborne.

The Daily Mail recently rounded up responses from several airline captains who service long-haul flights on all the buttons, knobs, levers, and pulleys they never want to touch, because if they do, it means something seriously catastrophic is going down.

Engine Fire Handle

As one pilot noted, pulling the engine fire handle, which is located above the captain's seat in the cockpit, means there is a fire in one of the engines. The switch will shut off the flow of fuel to the engines, thereby denying the fire its source.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - August 30, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 30, the 242nd day of 2017. There are 123 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 30, 1997, Americans received word of the car crash in Paris that claimed the lives of Princess Diana, her boyfriend, Dodi Fayed, and their driver, Henri Paul. (Because of the time difference, it was August 31 where the crash occurred.)

On this date:

In 1861, Union Gen. John C. Fremont instituted martial law in Missouri and declared slaves there to be free. (However, Fremont's emancipation order was countermanded by President Abraham Lincoln).

In 1862, Confederate forces won victories against the Union at the Second Battle of Bull Run in Manassas, Virginia, and the Battle of Richmond in Kentucky.

In 1905, Ty Cobb made his major-league debut as a player for the Detroit Tigers, hitting a double in his first at-bat in a game against the New York Highlanders. (The Tigers won, 5-3.)

In 1945, U.S. Gen. Douglas MacArthur arrived in Japan to set up Allied occupation headquarters.

In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, which was intended to promote private development of nuclear energy.

In 1963, the "Hot Line" communications link between Washington and Moscow went into operation.

In 1967, the Senate confirmed the appointment of Thurgood Marshall as the first black justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1983, Guion S. Bluford Jr. became the first black American astronaut to travel in space as he blasted off aboard the Challenger.

In 1984, the space shuttle Discovery was launched on its inaugural flight.

In 1986, Soviet authorities arrested Nicholas Daniloff, a correspondent for U.S. News and World Report, as a spy a week after American officials arrested Gennadiy Zakharov, a Soviet employee of the United Nations, on espionage charges in New York. (Both men were later released.)

In 1989, a federal jury in New York found "hotel queen" Leona Helmsley guilty of income tax evasion, but acquitted her of extortion. (Helmsley ended up serving 18 months behind bars, a month at a halfway house and two months under house arrest.)

In 1991, Azerbaijan (ah-zur-by-JAHN') declared its independence, joining the stampede of republics seeking to secede from the Soviet Union.

Ten years ago: In a serious breach of nuclear security, a B-52 bomber mistakenly armed with six nuclear-tipped cruise missiles took off from Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota and flew to Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana; the Air Force later punished 70 people. Taliban militants in Afghanistan released the last seven of its South Korean hostages.

Five years ago: Mitt Romney launched his fall campaign for the White House with a rousing, personal speech to the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Florida, proclaiming that America needs "jobs, lots of jobs." Earlier in the evening, actor-

director Clint Eastwood offered an endorsement of Romney that entailed using an empty chair to represent President Barack Obama. The U.S. Justice Department announced it had ended its investigation into CIA interrogations of terrorist detainees without bringing criminal charges. Twin satellites were launched by NASA on a quest to explore Earth's treacherous radiation belts and protect the planet from solar outbursts.

One year ago: Republican U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio and Democratic U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy each easily won their Florida Senate primaries; Rubio won the election the following November. U.S. Sen. John McCain beat back an Arizona primary challenge from a Republican tea party activist, Kelli Ward, to win the right to seek a sixth Senate term in November (McCain went on to defeat Democrat Ann Kirkpatrick and Green Party candidate Gary Swing). The European Union ordered Apple to pay nearly \$15 billion in back taxes to Ireland, plus billions more in interest (both Apple and Ireland are fighting the ruling).

Today's Birthdays: Actor Bill Daily is 90. Actress Elizabeth Ashley is 78. Actor Ben Jones is 76. Cartoonist R. Crumb is 74. Olympic gold medal skier Jean-Claude Killy is 74. Actress Peggy Lipton is 71. Comedian Lewis Black is 69. Actor Timothy Bottoms is 66. Actor David Paymer is 63. Jazz musician Gerald Albright is 60. Actor Michael Chiklis is 54. Music producer Robert Clivilles is 53. Actress Michael Michele is 51. Country musician Geoff Firebaugh is 49. Country singer Sherrie Austin is 46. Rock singer-musician Lars Frederiksen (Rancid) is 46. Actress Cameron Diaz is 45. Rock musician Leon Caffrey (Space) is 44. TV personality Lisa Ling is 44. Rock singer-musician Aaron Barrett (Reel Big Fish) is 43. Actor Raul Castillo is 40. Actor Michael Gladis is 40. Rock musician Matt Taul (Tantric; Days of the New) is 39. Tennis player Andy Roddick is 35. Singer Rachael Price (Lake Street Dive) is 32. Rock musician Ryan Ross is 31. Actress Johanna Braddy is 30. Actor Cameron Finley is 30.

Thought for Today: "My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not." - Proverbs 1:10.

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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