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Connecting - September 05, 2017

1 message

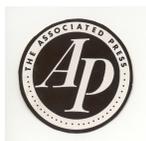
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Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 9:09 AM

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Connecting

September 05, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning!

Hope yours was a good Labor Day holiday weekend and that you got the chance to read the remarkable posts in Monday's Connecting of **Adam Feldman** on his father **Michael** and of **Michael Short** on his wife **Betsy**.

Today's issue brings you -

A Politico story on the EPA attacking coverage by an Associated Press reporter, whose work was defended by executive editor **Sally Buzbee**;

A full Connecting Mailbox that is led by a story on AP photographer **John Gaps III** and his remarkable photos from 20 years ago of Princess Diana's funeral;

And the latest examples of strong AP international and national coverage in the weekly Beat of the Week and Best of the States stories.

Have a great day!

Paul

Trump's EPA attacks AP reporter in personal terms

By **MATTHEW NUSSBAUM**

Politico

President Donald Trump's habit of singling out reporters for attacks is being adopted by his federal agencies, with the Environmental Protection Agency excoriating an Associated Press reporter in unusually personal terms on Sunday after the reporter wrote a story that cast the agency in an unfavorable light.

"Yesterday, the Associated Press' Michael Biesecker wrote an incredibly misleading story about toxic land sites that are under water," the statement began. "Despite reporting from the comfort of Washington, Biesecker had the audacity to imply that agencies aren't being responsive to the devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey. Not only is this inaccurate, but it creates panic and politicizes the hard work of first responders who are actually in the affected area."

The article in question, which was written by Biesecker and his AP colleague, Jason Dearen, noted that seven toxic Superfund sites around Houston had been flooded

during Hurricane Harvey. The Saturday report also noted that the "EPA had not yet been able to physically visit the Houston-area sites," which the EPA confirmed, arguing the sites were not accessible.

Dearen appears to have reported from on the ground in Texas, and he was not singled out by the EPA statement.

The statement went on to say that "state agencies worked with responsible parties to secure Superfund sites before the hurricane hit."

Read more [here](#).

Statement from @AP executive editor Sally Buzbee about @JHDearen and my report on flooded #Superfund sites in #Houston. @EPA #Harvey

AP's exclusive story was the result of on the ground reporting at Superfund sites in and around Houston, as well as AP's strong knowledge of these sites and EPA practices. We object to the EPA's attempts to discredit that reporting by suggesting it was completed solely from "the comforts of Washington" and stand by the work of both journalists who jointly reported and wrote the story.

Connecting mailbox

Retired Iowa (AP) Photographer Behind Iconic Princess Diana Funeral Photos (WHO-TV, Des Moines)



WINTERSET, Iowa -- Although his name may sound like it, John Gaps III is far from anything royal.

The Winterset resident is a war photojournalist by trade, and in September of 1997 the Associated Press called on him to cover Princess Diana's funeral. It was one of only a handful of other major events Gaps covered that was not war-related, and he was willing to take any risks necessary.

Gaps camped out for days in a spot where no other photographers were stationed, and captured pictures the world now associates with the moments the people's princess was laid to rest.

"I had this gigantic lens. I looked over top of the camera, and William looked up at me. And we had a moment where he just kind of pursed his lips and looked at me, and that ended up on the cover of People Magazine," said Gaps.

From People Magazine to the covers of national and international newspapers, Gaps delicately captured the day's emotion from a different angle.

"Through the Diana funeral, it really was that moment where I achieved some intimacy where there was none," he said.

Gaps said it was this risk--not his photography skills--that make his photos stand out, and it's one he's proud he took.

"It's interesting, because then you become aware of the fact that the work you did is going to outlive you. And that's something."

[Click here](#) for a link to this story. Shared by Randy Evans.

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'Journalism industry' - a term I reject

Al Cross (Email) - I cringed when I read the Post headline referring to "the journalism industry," and posted this on Facebook: "One sign of the failings that led to the tanking of the news business was the acceptance of the term "journalism industry." I reject that term. There is a news industry that pays people to do journalism, but journalism is not limited to the news industry. Every American has the First Amendment right to commit journalism, a basic function of democracy that should not be relegated to an industrial category." I later added that if journalists simply think of themselves as cogs in the news machine, they forget that journalism is a special calling with principles that transcend those of whatever employer they have at the time.

-0-

Finding meaning in retirement in helping the poor

Dorothy Abernathy ([Email](#)) - When I was preparing to retire a few months ago, I was concerned about being too idle. I needed to find something meaningful to do. I found that something with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, an organization that helps the poor with issues like hunger and paying bills. We also coordinate with other agencies that assist with longer-term fixes, such as budgeting and finding employment. I'm a case worker and am being assigned to visit poor families who contact us. The point of the visit is to best determine how we can help. I will visit my third family tonight.

The needs are great. Many people never recovered from the Great Recession and are unemployed or under employed. They struggle to stay in their homes, feed their families and keep the power turned on. St. Vincent de Paul always has an annual "Friends of the Poor Walk" around the end of September or early October. Every chapter participates, although the dates can vary. I'll be walking in Richmond on October 7. All the money goes to help the poor. If you'd like to walk, or would like to support me as I walk, you can do so at [this link](#): You can select your state and see if there's a Friends of the Poor Walk in your area. Or you can scroll down a bit a find a place to search for a walker to sponsor.

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A kiss from Elvis



There was no confusion and no throngs of juveniles when Presley and his party arrived at the Hawaiian Village Hotel. Several teen-age girls were waiting quietly, and one of them — Babette (Bobby) Andre — presented the singer with a lei and the kiss that goes with it.

Presley returned the kiss vigorously. Miss Andre walked away in a happy daze. Nov. 9, 1957 - Star-Bull.

Joe McGowan (Email) - The 40th anniversary of Elvis' death happened a couple weeks ago but I found the above clipping in my files in the basement and thought I would share. Babette Andre is my wife, as you know. She went all through the grades in Honolulu, where her father was a U.S. Navy officer. Elvis came to Honolulu when she was a high school sophomore. She ditched class to go see Presley. The Honolulu Star-Bulletin got the attached photo. Curiously, 10 years later, Babette was a correspondent in Viet Nam writing for the Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

AP**BEAT OF THE WEEK**

Image of Hurricane Harvey rescue tells story of tenderness and unity, dominates front pages



Houston Police SWAT officer Daryl Hudeck carries Catherine Pham and her 13-month-old son Aiden after rescuing them from their home, surrounded by floodwaters from Hurricane Harvey, Aug. 27, 2017, in Houston. AP PHOTO / DAVID J. PHILLIP

Young Aiden Pham wasn't even awake for his brief moment in the spotlight. But Houston photographer David Phillip was there to capture the toddler in what would become an iconic image of Hurricane Harvey and the historic floods.

The photo of the sleeping 13-month-old, swaddled in a blanket and held in his mother's arms as they're carried to safety, was among the many dramatic rescues of the floods that have inundated southeast Texas.

The image - which appeared on the web and front pages across the country, including the Wall Street Journal - along with others taken by Phillip earn him the Beat of the Week.

Phillip captured the scene Sunday when he noticed Daryl Hudeck, a SWAT team member, carrying Catherine Pham and her baby son through knee-deep waters covering Interstate 610 in southwest Houston.

Phillip also shot other riveting images including one of a rescuer clutching a man he'd pulled from a flooded car in neck-high water that made it to the front page of The Washington Post, and another of two people wading through the highway's rushing waters that appeared on the top half of USA Today.

When Phillip saw the Phams, he says, "I just couldn't believe that baby was wrapped up in there and not crying." Watching the moment of the officer carrying the mother and toddler to a staging point on the road "was just tender. It was very special."

Phillip was pitched backward into the water, and the boat's propeller cut the camera strap around his body.

Shortly after he witnessed the rescue, Phillip broke away to transmit the photos. It was good timing, too. Not long after, a boat he was on struck an object underwater, probably a submerged car, and Phillip was pitched backward into the water. His leg was scraped by the boat's outboard motor before fire department rescuers could pull him on board. It was such a close call that the propeller cut the camera strap that was around his body. One of Phillip's cameras and all the images it contained were lost.

So, too, were his prescription eyeglasses. He used an extra pair of prescription sunglasses from his car to drive home.

Phillip, who has been based in Houston for all of his 22 years with the AP, has covered many hurricanes. But Katrina, Ike and Rita could not prepare him for the one that has swamped his home city.

"Having this in your home," he says, "it's just kind of a sickening feeling. I just kind of think it's a bad dream and we'll all wake up and it will all be gone. But it isn't going to be any time soon."

But Phillip says seeing police rescues have reminded him of the city's resilience.

"There's moments that will always stick in your head - that one and something that happened a few hours before them, when a sheriff's deputy had to go and rescue a guy from a flooded car," he says. "Just the terror on the gentleman's face who was being rescued and just how dedicated our law enforcement is, just doing what they can to save people."

For his compelling images and tenacious work during the storm, Phillip wins this week's \$500 prize.



AP delivers total coverage of total eclipse, readers respond



**Piper Truza watches a phase of a partial solar eclipse visible from Detroit, Aug. 21, 2017.
AP PHOTO / PAUL SANCYA**

The eclipse hub on APNews attracted the most ever visits to a hub in a single day.

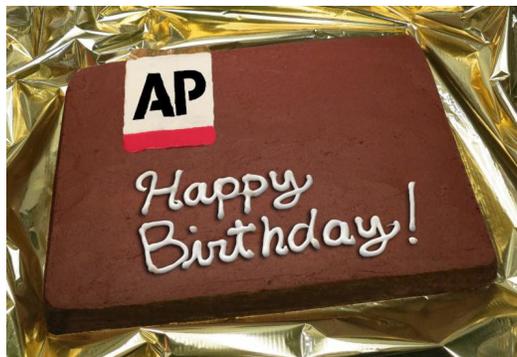
By the time the moon began to block the sun for millions of Americans on August 21, Marcia Dunn, Seth Borenstein, Gillian Flaccus, Marshall Ritzel and many others across the AP had told the world just about everything there was to know about the event with a series of text stories, photos, videos and animations organized and coordinated by Stephanie Nano and Raghu Vadarevu. Stories included what scientists were hoping to learn, what ancient peoples thought of eclipses, how to protect your eyes, how eclipses work, how businesses were taking advantage of the big day, and more.

On the day of the event, as anticipation mounted, the coast-to-coast coverage plan put in place by Nano, Vadarevu, photo editor Chris Carlson and the BNC spun up, starting with Flaccus contributing text and video from the West. Many text, photo and video colleagues along the path of the eclipse contributed throughout the day. Borenstein and Kristin Hall were posted up in a zoo in Nashville contributing text and video. And Dunn, writing from Cape Canaveral, captured the excitement and wonder, writing the main bar using feeds from all over.

The coverage brought the eclipse to life for those who couldn't witness it and helped those who could see it understand and enjoy it even more. Readers responded: The Total Eclipse 2017 hub on APNews, organized and promoted by Alicia Chang and Dave Clark, attracted the most ever visits to a hub in a single day.

For leading the effort on a sparkling package that made full use of the AP's national reach and expertise in all formats to explore a story of enormous national interest, this week's \$300 Best of the States prize is shared by Dunn, Borenstein, Flaccus and Ritzel.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to**Tad Bartimus - hanagirl@aol.com****Jim McElroy - jmcelroy37@comcast.net**

Stories of interest

How a Crackdown on Leaks Threatens Confidential Sources (New York Times)

By **DAVID McCRAW**

It was just four years ago that roughly two dozen representatives of major news organizations crowded around a conference table at the Justice Department for a meeting with Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. Our agenda? Strengthening the Justice Department's guidelines that limit when federal prosecutors can serve subpoenas on the news media.

The issue was not theoretical. It had just been revealed that federal investigators had secretly seized the phone records of The Associated Press and the emails of a Fox News correspondent during leak investigations. The Justice Department had convened the meetings to address what we saw as a perilous trend.

The media representatives - lawyers and executives from a range of news outlets, including CNN, Dow Jones, Hearst and the major broadcast networks - had come to make the point that when prosecutors go after journalists to find their sources, the price is ultimately paid by the public, which needs to know what its government is really up to. Mr. Holder may not have agreed with everything we had to say then and in future meetings, but the result was important: The Justice Department revised its internal guidelines to make it harder for prosecutors to obtain subpoenas for reporters' testimony and records.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

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The New York Daily News is sold to tronc, Inc.

\$1.00 - NYDailyNews.com SPORTS FINAL Partly sunny, 86/66. Tuesday, September 5, 2017

DAILY NEWS

NEW YORK'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

TRONC BUYS THE NEWS

ZUCKERMAN SELLS PULITZER-WINNING TABLOID AFTER 25 YRS. — PAGE 2

DREAM CRUSHER



- Trump's move to clobber 800,000 law-abiding immigs
- N.Y. leaders vow to fight President's 'cruel' attack PAGES 4-7

President Trump's whack at Dreamers, exposing them to possible deportation, comes months after he assured them they could "rest easy."

PLUS VICTIMS TELL WHY IT'S WORST NIGHTMARE

By NEW YORK DAILY NEWS Staff

The New York Daily News, America's Pulitzer Prize-winning tabloid and the city's journalistic heart, has joined a leading national chain of flagship newspapers.

Ending a quarter century as owner of the Daily News, publisher Mortimer B. Zuckerman on Monday sold the print and digital media organization to tronc, a Chicago-based company with ambitions of reengineering the struggling newspaper industry for an electronic future.

Tronc adds The News to a stable of nine daily publications, including, the Los Angeles Times, Chicago Tribune and Baltimore Sun. Its corporate lineage traces to the Tribune Company, The News' longtime owner before Zuckerman.

Buying The News thrusts tronc and its chairman, investor and internet entrepreneur Michael W. Ferro, to prominence in the nation's hyper-competitive media capital. He also gains a pugnacious populist voice that strives both to entertain with flair and to inform with deeply researched facts.

Read more [here](#).

AND

The Daily News, a Distinctive Voice in New York, Is Sold (New York Times)

Tronc, the publisher of The Los Angeles Times and The Chicago Tribune, announced on Monday that it had acquired The Daily News, the nearly 100-year-old tabloid that for decades set the city's agenda with its gossip, sports and city coverage.

The deal represents the end of an era for The News, which was long a voice for New York's working class. It may also signal the end of the political influence of its owner, the real estate magnate Mortimer B. Zuckerman, who often used the paper's bold, front-page headline - known as "the wood" - for commentary about candidates and politicians, locally and nationally.

The News once boasted A-list columnists including Liz Smith, Jimmy Breslin and Pete Hamill, but it has been worn down by a grinding tabloid war with the Rupert

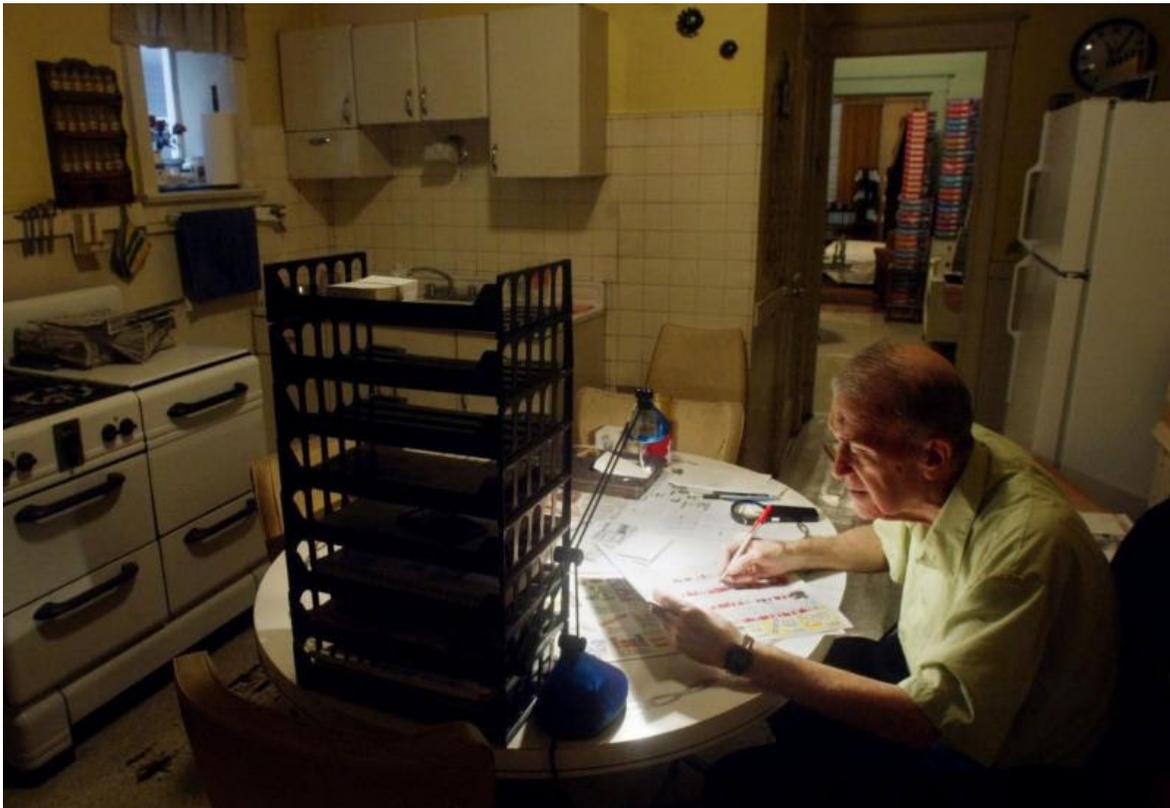
Murdoch-controlled New York Post. And like the rest of the newspaper industry, The News has been battered and bruised by the internet age, when the equivalent of pithy headlines - a staple of The News - come a mile a minute on Twitter.

Sweeping layoffs have reduced its staff. The paper's circulation, which exceeded two million a day in the 1940s, is now in the low hundred thousands. And The Chicago Tribune reported on Monday that Tronc purchased The News for just \$1, plus the assumption of liabilities.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Hank Ackerman, Doug Pizac, Sibby Christensen.

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A life of detail: Man who spent decades fact-checking St. Louis dies at 83 (St. Louis Post-Dispatch)



Using his kitchen in his apartment as "command central" in 2003, Robert Claywell checks several papers for mistakes in the movie listings. "Well, I'm a retired accountant with an auditing bent, so to speak. So I'm trying to keep you people on the up and up," said Claywell, who was ready to call the St. Louis Post-Dispatch to report any mistakes he found. Photo by Laurie Skrivan, lskrivan@post-dispatch.com

By **ERIN HEFFERNAN**

Robert J. Claywell was a man of exactitude.

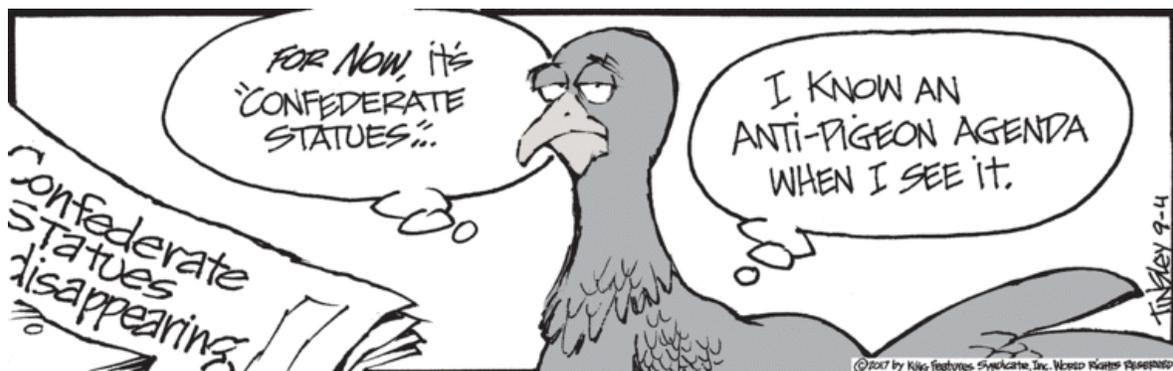
Claywell, St. Louis' own crusader against mundane inaccuracies in local newspapers, transit schedules and maps, died Aug. 24. He was 83 years old.

For more than two decades, Claywell pored over the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the MetroBus schedule and lists of movie showtimes, searching for errors.

A misspelled word. A schedule off by a minute or two. A map that looked like it might not be to scale. If Claywell caught them, he'd always call.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Chris Connell.

The Final Word



Bruce Tinsley's Mallard Fillmore comic strip on Monday. Shared by John Terino.

Today in History - September 5, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 5, the 248th day of 2017. There are 117 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On September 5, 1997, breaking the royal reticence over the death of Princess Diana, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II delivered a televised address in which she called her former daughter-in-law "a remarkable person." Mother Teresa died in Calcutta, India, at age 87; conductor Sir Georg Solti (johrj SHOL'-tee) died in France at age 84.

On this date:

In 1774, the first Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia.

In 1836, Sam Houston was elected president of the Republic of Texas.

In 1882, the nation's first Labor Day was celebrated with a parade in New York. (Although Labor Day now takes place on the first Monday of September, this first celebration occurred on a Tuesday.)

In 1914, the First Battle of the Marne, resulting in a French-British victory over Germany, began during World War I.

In 1939, four days after war had broken out in Europe, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a proclamation declaring U.S. neutrality in the conflict.

In 1945, Japanese-American Iva Toguri D'Aquino, suspected of being wartime broadcaster "Tokyo Rose," was arrested in Yokohama. (D'Aquino was later convicted of treason and served six years in prison; she was pardoned in 1977 by President Gerald R. Ford.)

In 1957, the novel "On the Road," by Jack Kerouac, was first published by Viking Press.

In 1972, the Palestinian group Black September attacked the Israeli Olympic delegation at the Munich Games; 11 Israelis, five guerrillas and a police officer were killed in the resulting siege.

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford escaped an attempt on his life by Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a disciple of Charles Manson, in Sacramento, California.

In 1977, West German industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer (SHLY'-ur) was kidnapped in Cologne by the Baader-Meinhof gang. (Schleyer was later killed by his captors.) The U.S. launched the Voyager 1 spacecraft two weeks after launching its twin, Voyager 2.

In 1986, four hijackers who had seized a Pan Am jumbo jet on the ground in Karachi, Pakistan, opened fire when the lights inside the plane failed; a total of 20 people were killed before Pakistani commandos stormed the jetliner.

In 2005, President George W. Bush nominated John Roberts to succeed the late William Rehnquist as chief justice of the United States. An Indonesian jetliner crashed, killing 149 people, including 49 on the ground; 17 passengers survived.

Ten years ago: German officials announced that three militants from an Islamic group linked to al-Qaida were planning "imminent" bomb attacks against Americans in Germany when an elite anti-terrorist unit raided their small-town hideout. Fred Thompson announced on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" that he was running for the Republican presidential nomination; his candidacy lasted less than five months. Alicia Sacramone's floor routine rallied the United States to the world women's gymnastics title in Stuttgart, Germany.

Five years ago: In an impassioned speech that rocked the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, former President Bill Clinton proclaimed, "I know we're coming back" from the worst economic mess in generations, and he appealed to hard-pressed Americans to stick with Barack Obama for a second term in the White House; in a roll call that lasted past midnight, Obama was officially nominated.

One year ago: Chinese President Xi Jinping (shee jihn-peeng) announced the close of the G-20 summit in the eastern city of Hangzhou (hahn-joh), saying it had contributed to encouraging new progress in boosting global growth. Hugh O'Brian, the actor who shot to fame as Sheriff Wyatt Earp in what was hailed as television's first adult Western, died in Beverly Hills, California, at age 91. Phyllis Schlafly, the outspoken conservative activist who helped defeat the Equal Rights Amendment in the 1970s and founded the Eagle Forum political group, died in St. Louis at age 92.

Today's Birthdays: Former Federal Reserve Board chairman Paul A. Volcker is 90. Comedian-actor Bob Newhart is 88. Actress-singer Carol Lawrence is 85. Actor William Devane is 78. Actor George Lazenby is 78. Actress Raquel Welch is 77. Movie director Werner Herzog is 75. Singer Al Stewart is 72. Actor-director Dennis Dugan is 71. College Football Hall of Famer Jerry LeVias is 71. Singer Loudon Wainwright III is 71. "Cathy" cartoonist Cathy Guisewite (GYZ'-wyt) is 67. Actor Michael Keaton is 66. Country musician Jamie Oldaker (The Tractors) is 66. Actress Debbie Turner-Larson (Marta in "The Sound of Music") is 61. Actress Kristian Alfonso is 54. Rhythm-and-blues singer Terry Ellis is 54. Rock musician Brad Wilk is 49. TV personality Dweezil Zappa is 48. Actress Rose McGowan is 44. Actress Carice Van Houten is 41. Actor Andrew Ducote is 31. Actress Kat Graham is 31. Olympic gold medal figure skater Yuna Kim is 27. Actor Skandar Keynes is 26.

Thought for Today: "History may be divided into three movements: what moves rapidly, what moves slowly and what appears not to move at all." - Fernand Braudel, French historian (1902-1985).

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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