

Connecting - March 16, 2018

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Connecting

March 16, 2018

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We're just wild about Harry!



Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Our Connecting colleague **Harry Cabluck** turns 80 today - but the celebration of his birthday started two days ago in Austin when more than 60 of his friends and colleagues gathered to toast the longtime Dallas AP photographer and photo editor.

And, appropriately, to take lots of photos including the group picture above taken by **Erich Schiegel** of former and current AP staffers and photo freelancers.

Harry's career spanned more than 50 years - 40 of which were spent at the AP. He was in the presidential motorcade on that balmy day in November 1963 when John F. Kennedy was shot, photographed every president since then, and caught countless backroom moments of George W. Bush's run for the White House. He's covered more Super Bowls, World Series and national championship games than he can remember. Harry's captured the images that make up our collective memories, and our history books.

Thanks to colleagues **Amy Sancetta** and **Charles Rex Arbogast** for protecting Connecting with great coverage of The Cabluck Event.

If you'd like to send Harry your own birthday greetings, his email is - harry.cabluck@gmail.com

Have a great weekend!

Paul

Honoring Harry Cabluck: A teacher, mentor and cherished friend



Harry laughs while watching a video of collected happy birthday greetings and well wishes from colleagues from around the world. Photo/Bob Daugherty

Amy Sancetta (Email) - Retired AP photographer and editor Harry Cabluck was surprised by a gathering of more than 60 former and current AP staffers, friends, colleagues and family members from around the country in celebration of his 80th birthday in Austin, Texas.

Included in the group was Harry's former Pittsburgh correspondent and Columbus bureau chief from the late 70's and early 80's, Bill DiMascio; retired AP Boston photographer David Tenenbaum, with whom Harry photographed the 1980 Lake Placid Miracle on Ice hockey game, as well as a myriad of other far-flung assignments; and retired AP photographer and State Photo Center Director Bob Daugherty.

Tenenbaum, a pilot for the last 30 years, flew his own plane from Boston to Indianapolis to pick up Daugherty and current AP Indy photographer Mike Conroy, and ferry the three to the



Harry with Bill DiMascio Photo/Mike Conroy

surprise gathering. Tenenbaum and two other Boston-area staffers changed their travel plans to beat the recent nor'easter, arriving in Austin a day earlier than planned.



Former and current AP staff photographers from Texas. From left, David Breslauer, Bill Haber, Ron Heflin, Harry, Eric Gay, Pat Sullivan and David J. Phillip. Photo/Charles Rex Arbogast

Harry and the group laughed and shed a few tears during a video of collected birthday well-wishes from his colleagues around the world, from Bangkok to New Jersey to California. The celebration was put together by Harry's wife Ellen, AP Chicago photographer Charles Rex Arbogast and retired AP photographer Amy Sancetta. Arbogast and Sancetta were "stringers" for Harry in Columbus while college students in the early 80s, and he remained for them, as he did for so, so many others, a teacher, mentor and cherished friend.

They're wild about Harry

Hal Buell (Email) - They don't call him Dancing Bear for reasons whimsical. Harry was and remains a hardy, forceful persona on the many stories he covered during his many years with AP Photos, a lightfooted, fast mover, master of camera technology and the optical/chemical challenge of photography...Oh, yeah, he could make a pretty good picture, too. It wasn't all technology with Harry. He had the eye.

I'll get to some of that in a moment, but Harry was more than all that. He was AP, all the way. He was a gracious host to visitors, helpful to the extreme and informed on the best rib joints in Fort Worth.

One of our NY staffers, assigned to Olympics in Western Canada, decided to travel there on his motorcycle despite our objections. He crashed on an Ohio Highway and was seriously injured. Harry took charge, oversaw his hospitalization and took care of him until he was able to travel once again. Harry was of our family.

Harry loved German technology, and he forever drove a Mercedes. He loved the Leica. That is all he used, and paid for the privilege himself because AP issue was Nikon.

Harry obtained a 900mm lens - don't hold to me to this, but I believe it was the only lens like that in captivity. At the Montreal Olympics Harry shot across the length of the pool into the faces of the celebrating American swimmers. They were bell ringer pictures.

When Harry worked out of Pittsburgh he owned the Steelers, then in their heyday with Terry Bradshaw at quarterback, Mean Joe Green in the line and hard-hitting Franco Harris. At a Super Bowl, I noted the Steeler name spray painted in the goal line area and thought it might make a picture if we could somehow photograph Bradshaw nearby.

"I'll get him to run alongside the goal line, "Harry said, "and we can get a shot from the stands." I observed that Bradshaw was warming up at the opposite end of the field and likely would not find time for such nonsense. Harry gave me a no problem look and walked off, talked to Bradshaw who obligingly nodded okay, ran the 100 yards to the opposite end of the field and trotted gracefully along the Steeler engraved goal line. Suzanne Vlamis waited in the stands and made the shot, and Bradshaw trotted back the 100 yards to his teammates. Harry owned the Steelers, was allowed in their locker room during the halftime break.

He was a generous mentor to young shooters, offering guidance on all manner of wire service assignments, ranging from the technical to issues of proper behavior. At one point, so the story goes, a young shooter covered a press conference for AP and returned with 12 rolls of film. Once processed Harry randomly picked one roll and said, "We'll find the picture in here because one roll is all this story is worth." Lesson learned.

That is not to say Harry was easy. I had many a conversation/debates with him on many AP photo service subjects. Win or lose, I always came away better informed...with a Leica twist and a fresh insight into the lingo and accent of born and raised Texans.

Harry was - still is as far as I know - a gardener of some repute. I have tasted of his tomatoes and stand ready to endorse his skill.

A special tribute is due Harry's wife, Ellen, a gracious lady with a formidable temperament that surely kept the bear dancing then, now and we trust forever.

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Mark Duncan (Email) - The first time I met Harry Cabluck was a bit unnerving. I had been asked to help with a 1976 NLCS playoff game between the Philadelphia Phillies and Cincinnati Reds. I was to meet the crew, Barry Thumma, Brian Horton and Harry (and a few others whose names I can't remember) at their hotel in Cincinnati.

After a short wait, I noticed a stout man rushing across the lobby towards me. He had spotted my Leicaflex camera gear (his preferred brand) and after introducing himself as Pittsburgh photographer Harry Cabluck began talking almost non-stop about what I was assigned to for the game, offering lenses he had that were prefect for my position. I was speechless.

Once at the ballpark, Riverfront Stadium, Harry showed me where I would be, fitted one of my cameras with his Kilfitt 400mm lens and told me my job was to shoot one roll of color slide film during the game which Harry would later process and make color separations so the AP could send a color project for PMs newspapers.

For the youngsters out there, in 1976 AP transmitters could only send black and white images, at a leisurely eight minutes per transmission. A color photo had to be "separated" - broken down into black and white versions of the cyan, magenta and yellow components of the image that members could use to makes the three printing plates to reproduce it on the printed page.

I was a bit concerned about being limited to one roll of film, but I shot judiciously and was fortunate that Reds catcher Johnny Bench and first baseman Tony Perez converged on a foul ball just below my spot, collided and failed to corral the baseball. That one frame was the one Harry used.

I had started stringing for Ohio photo editor Barry Thumma after finishing college and later, when he moved to Washington, Harry took over the Ohio photo operation in Columbus. This is where I got my real education on how to be an AP photographer.

He used me for many assignments: The Memorial golf tournament, Ohio State football games, member specials and Ohio High School basketball playoffs. In his Texas drawl Harry would explain how to write proper captions and how to build temporary darkrooms in hotel rooms and janitor's closets and even in a service room underneath St. John's Arena. More importantly, he taught me how to plan coverage and "think before pressing the shutter button". I was one of "Cabluck's Kids" along with Amy Sancetta, Charles Arbogast, Bob Donaldson, Kurt Mutchler and others. We all went on to long careers, thanks to Harry.

When covering the Memorial Tournament, my wife and I were house guests of the Cablucks for the run of the golf. Harry and I would leave early in the day to cover the golf and my wife, Terry, and Ellen Cabluck would enjoy time away from their husbands. The Cablucks had a large vegetable garden in their back yard (to the amusement of their neighbors - Upper Arlington was not an agricultural community). One morning Ellen, my wife and I were admiring it from the back porch when we heard an upstairs window raised and several metallic pings. There was Harry, face covered in shaving cream, with his BB gun blasting away at a rabbit that had invaded the garden. (The rabbit finally hopped away - I don't think Harry connected).

One of the funniest things I've ever witnessed.

One last memory before I sign off. One season I covered every Ohio State home football game for Harry and in December received a check from the AP for my

efforts - \$70. But, after every game, Harry and Ellen would have everyone over to their house for a big dinner and great conversation. Looking back, I may have been overpaid. Later, after being hired as the AP photographer in Cleveland, I wish I'd saved that check to show my own stringers when they complained about what we paid for assignments.

And a Happy Birthday to Julie Pace...

POLITICO BIRTHDAY OF THE DAY: Julie Pace, Washington bureau chief for The Associated Press

By DANIEL LIPPMAN, POLITICO PLAYBOOK

How/where are you celebrating your birthday and with whom? "My husband and I will probably spend my birthday weekend putting together furniture for our soon-to-arrive first baby and panicking about all of the things we still need to get ready!"

How did you get your start in journalism? "I've wanted to be a journalist since I was a kid, but I officially got sucked in when I did an internship in college at a South African television station. I went back to Africa after I graduated from Northwestern, convinced I would make it as a freelancer and become a roving Africa correspondent. But I didn't have enough money to sustain the dream so I came back to the U.S. for a real job with a salary. Sometimes my time in Washington still feels like just an interlude -- an increasingly long one! -- before I make another go at it."



What's an interesting book/article you're reading now or finished? And why? "I read with envy

Farhad Manjoo's N.Y. Times column about the two months he spent reading news only from print newspapers. That feels like such an unattainable, but glorious, way to get the news."

What is a trend going on in the U.S. or abroad that doesn't get enough attention? "The crisis in local journalism can't get enough attention. It's great that Washington journalism is thriving - the stories we cover are of huge importance and it's great fun to see our industry flourishing here. But accountability and investigative reporting are so crucial at the local level. When a local newspaper closes or does

major cutbacks, there's often no other outlet there to take its place. That's bad for democracy and good governance."

What's a fun fact that people in Washington might not know about you? "My favorite hobby is playing travel agent for friends. If you need an itinerary for a trip somewhere I've been, I've got one ready for you. My itineraries for Iceland, Croatia and the Azores have been some of my best reviewed."

If you'd like to drop Julie a Happy Birthday greeting, her email - jpace@ap.org

Connecting mailbox

Three appointed to Digital News team

Deputy Managing Editor for Digital and Visual Journalism Derl McCrudden on Thursday announced three key appointments:

Jaime Holguin is the new Director of Original Programming;

Ted Anthony becomes Director of Digital Innovation,

Darrell Allen is the new Deputy Director of Digital Design and Tools.

Read more here.

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New AP e-book published on role of journalists in era of algorithms



Jake Kreinberg (Email) - This week, we published a new e-book on AP Insights - "The role of journalists in an era of algorithms: A guide to preparing the newsroom for humans and machines."

The report contains best practices for journalists to work collaboratively with machines and features insights from product managers, academics and senior editors in the AP newsroom.

I hope you all can take a few minutes to read through it and see some of our thoughts on what's to come in our changing industry.

See the blog post here.

As journalists, it is our job to educate and inform our readers, listeners or

viewers. We cannot control how they perceive that information

John Willis (Email) - I read with interest (in Thursday's Connecting) Lyle Price's proposed fairness doctrine revival. The basic problem, if there is one, is our constitution. It allows for press freedom of the freedom of speech.

The only reason we had a so-called "fairness doctrine" was because over the air broadcasters were deemed to be using the "public's airways" to disseminate their programming. The FCC actually requires stations to perform community service related programming, but even that is minimal in today's world. Most people do not realize that the over the air broadcasters never really own their frequencies or the airwaves their programming flows over. They are simply renters and they can be ousted. That seldom happens, though. They are licensed for eight- year periods to broadcast on their frequencies at certain allowed power levels, and they pay an annual fee for the privilege. It is not very much.

Unrelated, but worth noting at this point, is that the two largest radio broadcasters in the nation, iHeart (formerly Clear Channel) and Cumulus, both have sought protection in bankruptcy court.

The AP was founded as a not for profit cooperative by NY newspapers back in the mid-1800s, and was based on accuracy and non-bias so that all could use the stories with confidence. That's what has made The AP unique.

There are no government regulations on newspaper content, be it news or otherwise. There are some exceptions. There have been periods of strife when some newspaper publishers and others have been jailed for sedition and other charges, and even Abraham Lincoln clamped down hard on certain civil liberties during the Civil War.

Likewise, there are no real government regulations on cable or SAT delivered services because it is felt that since a subscriber pays to have the signals imported to his or her devices, he or she can make a decision as to what is honest reporting. The internet is another universe altogether, and the battle over net neutrality is far from over.

Fox News has used the phrase "Fair and Balanced" since it's inception. I personally see Fox News as a propaganda outlet for the Republican Party because it was the brainchild of the late Roger Ailes, who was the brains behind the media for Richard

Nixon, Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. If you are a died in the wool Republican, you might think Fox is fair and balanced. I don't. As a result, I don't watch it, but my wife does. I remind her that we made a living with a "real" news outfit for many years.

MSNBC leans towards the liberal or progressive side of the political spectrum, but is does not have the close political ties to a party, like Fox.

Both of these are cable outlets and are not regulated. In essence they are a televised version of a newspaper's editorial page, without the op-ed section. We all know that there are newspapers that skew political and other news stories in the direction the owner or publisher likes.

The fairness doctrine never applied to newspapers or magazines. Simply stated, it said that other than in the course of normal news coverage programming, over the air broadcasters had to offer equal time to opposing views at no charge, if it was so sought by a credible opposing viewer. These same over the air broadcasters were also required to sell advertising time to all political candidates at the lowest unit rate. We all know how broadcast political advertising has skewed: negative.

Over the air broadcasters. due to changes in regulations have managed to get their rates up and somehow the FCC was convinced that shows like Rush Limbaugh, Glenn Beck and even the infamous Alex Jones out of Texas should be categorized as news and informational programming. Thus, they became pretty much exempt from the fairness doctrine, which hasn't been enforced since the Reagan years. The theory being that if you are offended by the political views of the program, you can switch stations or change channels and the open market will reward the programs with the most ears and eyes.

The bottom line is that the fairness and bias, like beauty, are in the eye of the beholder. That the current occupant of the White House happened to be heard saying he was just blowing wind at the Canadian prime minister the other day is a symptom of the disease.

Nixon was ultimately punished for being dishonest and lying. Bill Clinton was impeached for saying he did not have sex with that woman, essentially. A misstatement at best, and a lie at the worst. A high crime or misdemeanor?

Licensing or regulating the messengers is just not feasible when one considers the hundreds upon hundreds of websites that pawn themselves off as news media. For the record, it's also unconstitutional, with the exception of those media which are still regulated by the FCC.

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When the current president called for the revocation of the license of a network television news division that reported something he did not like, he simply had no idea what he was talking about. Just like The AP requires no federal "license" to operate, the television news divisions need no "licenses." The over the air broadcast stations they send their programming to, though, are federally licensed, and some of those stations are owned by the networks. It might surprise some to know that the four major over the air networks also own many of the cable channels.

Those of us who have worked the reporting and production side are just going to have to live with the fact that not everybody sees things the way we do. At the AP the goal is always to be accurate and unbiased. Many radio shows and television programs do not adhere to those goals. They have a right to be wrong when all is said and done. An opposing point of view, though, is not by its nature "wrong."

Additionally, the new rage is not only to question the veracity of the mainline media, but to throw suspicion of political bias at government agencies like the Department of Justice, the FBI and Department of State.

Media bias is nothing new. All one has to do is go back to the founding of our nation to see some pretty nasty stuff being peddled on the streets of New York, Philadelphia and throughout the colonies for a penny a sheet. And some of it was financed by some of our most revered, founding fathers.

As journalists, it is our job to educate and inform our readers, listeners or viewers. We cannot control how they perceive that information. They are not required to take our word as gospel. As Kelleyanne Conway famously said one morning. or was it some other administration mouthpiece, there are "alternative facts." Facts are facts and truth is truth.

I believe it was Thomas Jefferson who said something to the effect that the success of a democracy depends on a well-informed electorate. As journalists, all we can do is bring the water to the horse in an honest fashion. We cannot make him or her drink.

AP Images blog

Despite heated rhetoric, little change on US-Mexico border



In this March 6, 2018 picture, farmworker Santiago Martinez, of Mexicali, Mexico, right, exits a bus as it arrives at a cabbage field ready for harvest, before dawn outside of Calexico, Calif. (AP Photo/Gregory Bull)

The daily commute from Mexico to California farms is the same as it was before Donald Trump became president.

Hundreds of Mexicans cross the border and line the sidewalks of Calexico's tiny downtown by 4 a.m., napping on cardboard sheets and blankets or sipping coffee from a 24-hour doughnut shop until buses leave for the fields.

For decades, cross-border commuters have picked lettuce, carrots, broccoli, onions, cauliflower and other vegetables that make California's Imperial Valley "America's Salad Bowl" from December through March. As Trump visits the border Tuesday, the harvest is a reminder of how little has changed despite heated rhetoric in Washington.

Read more here.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday

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То

Harry Cabluck - harry.cabluck@gmail.com Steve Hindy - shindy@brooklynbrewery.com Colleen Newvine - cnewvine@gmail.com Julie Pace - jpace@ap.org

On Saturday to -

Gary Clark - garyclark316@yahoo.com Carl Leubsdorf - carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com

Welcome to Connecting

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Ken Romano - kromano@ap.org Rhonda Shafner - rlshafner@verizon.net Elaine Thompson - Elainebookerthompson@gmail.com

Stories of interest

One Thing Donald Trump Would Like Is Freedom From the Press (New York Times)

By Thomas B. Edsall

More than any president in living memory, Donald Trump has conducted a dogged, remorseless assault on the press. He portrays the news media not only as a dedicated adversary of his administration but of the entire body politic. These attacks have forced the media where it does not want to be, at the center of the political debate.

Trump's purpose is clear. He seeks to weaken an institution that serves to constrain the abusive exercise of executive authority. He has initiated a gladiatorial contest pitting the principle of freedom of the press against a principle of his own invention: freedom from the press. Trump has his media favorites, Fox News and other organizations that serve as approved public relations outlets, versus the "fake news," meaning virtually everything else.

Politicians have frequently questioned the neutrality and objectivity of specific journalists, their stories and their publications, but Trump has raised the stakes to a new level. He has described news organizations as "the enemy of the American people." He has routinely called reporters "scum," "slime," "dishonest" and "disgusting."

Read more here. Shared by Sibby Christensen.

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Former LA Times and OC Register Reporter Clark Sharon, Now Homeless, Spends His Days Reading the Papers He Once Wrote For (OC Weekly)



Reading at the Santa Ana Library. Photo by Adam Samaha

By ADAM SAMAHA

Clark Sharon sits at a table in the far corner of the Santa Ana Public Library, beside floor-to-ceiling windows. Everything he owns is next to him in a few reusable grocery bags, neatly filled with food, clothing and other necessities. At 65 years old, Sharon has a slight build that doesn't quite fill out his oversized sweat shirt.

Hunched over, nearly parallel to the table, Sharon is immersed in his ritual of reading through a sizable stack of the day's newspapers. Each day, he enters the first library his mother brought him to as a child and immediately heads for the rags, always grabbing the Los Angeles Times first because, as he says with a mischievous grin, "they are better written." He moves on to the Washington Post, then to the Orange County Register.

It makes sense Sharon has a discerning eye when it comes to newspaper writing-he was once a reporter himself. As a 30-year veteran reporter in Orange County, his name once regularly appeared in many of the pages he reads today.

Currently homeless, Sharon stays at the Orange County Armory Emergency Shelter, about 3 miles from the library; the seasonal facility is scheduled to close this month. He grew up in Santa Ana and graduated from Cal State Fullerton, where he studied music. At 21, he became a journalist, with his first staff-writer job at the Santa Ana Register (which became the Orange County Register in 1985). He claims he was the youngest person to become a staff writer at the paper at that time. Later, he worked with the Los Angeles Times and as a columnist for the now-defunct Orange County Illustrated.

Read more here. Shared by Doug Pizac.

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A pardon expert emailed me his life's work. Then he killed his two sons and himself. (USA Today)

By GREGORY KORTE

EDITOR'S NOTE: A version of this essay also appears in the Columbia Journalism Review.

I was crashing on deadline when the emails started flowing into my inbox. Hope Hicks, the White House communications director - who had been with President Trump since long before he announced his candidacy - had just unexpectedly resigned.

I got confirmation of Hicks's departure at 4:36 p.m. A minute later, I started getting a flood of emails from P.S. Ruckman Jr., a political science professor who taught at Northern Illinois University and Rock Valley College. In 10 emails containing 65 spreadsheets, he was sending his entire data set of more than 30,000 presidential pardons and commutations.

The first email said simply, "Would want you to have this and use freely."

I had already gotten nine of the emails before I noticed them, but I immediately recognized that this was the data set - the one that made him such an essential expert on any story about presidential pardons. It was data I had often asked him to share, unsuccessfully, and now here it was, unsolicited, and out of the blue.

Read more here. Shared by Scott Charton.

Today in History - March 16, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, March 16, the 75th day of 2018. There are 290 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On March 16, 1968, the My Lai (mee ly) massacre took place during the Vietnam War as U.S. Army soldiers hunting for Viet Cong fighters and sympathizers killed unarmed villagers in two hamlets of Son My (son mee) village; estimates of the death toll vary from 347 to 504. Senator Robert F. Kennedy of New York announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

On this date:

In A.D. 37, Roman emperor Tiberius died; he was succeeded by Caligula.

In 1521, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan and his crew reached the Philippines, where Magellan was killed during a battle with natives the following month.

In 1751, James Madison, fourth president of the United States, was born in Port Conway, Virginia.

In 1802, President Thomas Jefferson signed a measure authorizing the establishment of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.

In 1926, rocket science pioneer Robert H. Goddard successfully tested the first liquid-fueled rocket at his Aunt Effie's farm in Auburn, Massachusetts.

In 1945, during World War II, American forces declared they had secured Iwo Jima, although pockets of Japanese resistance remained.

In 1966, NASA launched Gemini 8 on a mission to rendezvous and dock with Agena, a target vehicle in orbit; although the docking was successful, the joined vehicles began spinning, forcing Gemini to disconnect and abort the flight.

In 1978, Italian politician Aldo Moro was kidnapped by the left-wing Red Brigades, who later murdered him.

In 1988, a Protestant extremist launched a one-man gun-and-grenade attack on an Irish Republican Army funeral at Milltown Cemetery in Belfast, Northern Ireland, killing three of the mourners.

In 1991, a plane carrying seven members of country singer Reba McEntire's band and her tour manager crashed into Otay Mountain in southern California, killing all on board. U.S. skaters Kristi Yamaguchi, Tonya Harding and Nancy Kerrigan swept the World Figure Skating Championships in Munich, Germany.

In 1994, figure skater Tonya Harding pleaded guilty in Portland, Oregon, to conspiracy to hinder prosecution for covering up an attack on rival Nancy Kerrigan, avoiding jail but drawing a \$100,000 fine.

In 2003, American activist Rachel Corrie, 23, was crushed to death by an Israeli military bulldozer while trying to block demolition of a Palestinian home in the Gaza Strip.

Ten years ago: Protests spread from Tibet into three neighboring provinces as Tibetans defied a Chinese government crackdown; the Dalai Lama decried what he called the "cultural genocide" taking place in his homeland and called for an international investigation into China's crackdown on demonstrators. Actor Ivan Dixon (TV: "Hogan's Heroes") died in Charlotte, North Carolina, at age 76.

Five years ago: Thousands of activists gathered for the Conservative Political Action Conference outside Washington gave Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul a narrow victory over Florida Sen. Marco Rubio in their unscientific presidential preference poll (Paul had 25 percent of the vote and Rubio 23 percent; former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum was third with 8 percent). South Korea's Yuna Kim, back at the World Figure Skating Championships after a two-year absence, won the women's title in London, Ontario, Canada. British actor Frank Thornton, 92, best known as Captain Peacock in the long-running television comedy "Are You Being Served?," died in London.

One year ago: President Donald Trump submitted his \$1.15 trillion budget to Congress; it proposed generous increases for the military while slashing domestic programs and riling both fellow Republicans and Democrats by going after favored programs. U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, visiting Japan, called on North Korea to abandon its nuclear and ballistic missile programs, saying the isolated nation "need not fear" the United States. Steve Penny resigned as president of USA Gymnastics following intensified pressure on the organization for its handling of sex abuse cases. Grammy Award-winning blues harmonica master James Cotton, 81, died in Austin, Texas. Gmail - Connecting - March 16, 2018

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Ray Walker (The Jordanaires) is 84. Movie director Bernardo Bertolucci is 77. Game show host Chuck Woolery is 77. Singersongwriter Jerry Jeff Walker is 76. Country singer Robin Williams is 71. Actor Erik Estrada is 69. Actor Victor Garber is 69. Country singer Ray Benson (Asleep at the Wheel) is 67. Bluegrass musician Tim O'Brien (Hot Rize; Earls of Leicester) is 64. Rock singer-musician Nancy Wilson (Heart) is 64. World Golf Hall of Famer Hollis Stacy is 64. Actor Clifton Powell is 62. Rapper-actor Flavor Flav (Public Enemy) is 59. Rock musician Jimmy DeGrasso is 55. Actor Jerome Flynn is 55. Folk singer Patty Griffin is 54. Movie director Gore Verbinski is 54. Country singer Tracy Bonham is 51. Actress Lauren Graham is 51. Actor Judah Friedlander (FREED'-landuhr) is 49. Actor Alan Tudyk (TOO'-dihk) is 47. Actor Tim Kang is 45. Rhythm-andblues singer Blu Cantrell is 42. Actress Brooke Burns is 40. Actor Brett Davern is 35. Actress Alexandra Daddario is 32. Rhythm and blues singer Jhene Aiko is 30. Rock musician Wolfgang Van Halen is 27.

Thought for Today: "Nearly all our disasters come from a few fools having the 'courage of their convictions.'" - Coventry Patmore, English poet (1823-1896).

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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