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## Connecting - March 29, 2018

1 message

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# Connecting

March 29, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

Ah, politics. Colleague **Scott Charton**, who covered plenty of politics during his AP career at statehouses in Jefferson City, Missouri, and Little Rock, provides an amusing anecdote regarding President Harry Truman and the Missouri Press Association.

A staunch Democrat was president of the press association the year it wanted to make him a life member, 1945, and the impetus to do it then was strong as the next president of Missouri Press was a staunch Republican.

As a side bonus, a photo that Scott spotted from the Truman Library in Independence, Missouri, from 1948 includes AP White House Correspondent **Tony Vaccaro**.

Those of us who worked for the AP in Indiana back when **Jack Howey** was at the Peru Tribune know there was no better advocate and supporter of The Associated Press than Jack. He turns 92 today and we all wish him a very Happy Birthday.

Have a great day!

Paul

**The story behind haste to make  
Truman an honorary Missouri Press  
life member**

# The Truman Early Risers Walking Society of Independence, Mo. DEC. 21-29, 1948



*Milton Freier     Arthur E. Scott     Harry Truman     Jack Bennett     Bill Chaplin*




*Warren Duffee     Frank Rowhaltzen     James Porter     Tony Vaccaro*  
*John ...     Arthur ...     Royce Roberts     Robert Cooper     ...*  
*...     ...     ...     ...     ...*

**"The Truman Early Risers Walking Society of Independence, Missouri." Harry S. Truman with Milton Freier, Arthur E. Scott, Jack Bennett, Bill Chaplin, Joe Fox, Warren Duffee, Frank Rowhaltzen, James Porter, Tony Vaccaro, and**

**Felix Cotten. They are members of the press who covered President Truman's Christmas trip to Independence, Missouri. Vaccaro was the AP's White House correspondent. 1948 Photo/Harry S. Truman Library & Museum.**

**Scott Charton** ([Email](#)) - Harry Truman has become a consensus icon in his home state of Missouri, if not among politicians across the spectrum, partly for his reputation of honesty and plain speaking. But Truman wasn't always so popular at home.

I was doing online research for a history project at the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum website. One of the fun features is President Truman's Daily Appointments, which can be reviewed for every day of his presidency. Looking at the president's calendar for Dec. 10, 1945, I found Truman hosted in the Oval Office officials of the Missouri Press Association - and there is a footnote that gave me a chuckle:

 **trumanlibrary.org**

12:00 pm Senator Frank P. Briggs, Missouri; Mr. W.C. Hewitt, President, Missouri Press Association; Mr. H.P. Long, Secretary, Missouri Press Association.

(To present the President a gold membership card signifying life membership, voted to him by the Missouri Press Ass'n.

They were anxious to present it this year as their incoming President is not of the same political faith as the outgoing President, or the President of the United States)

MPA president W.C. Hewitt published the Shelby County Herald in what was then the staunchly Democratic "Little Dixie" region of northeast Missouri. His successor as Missouri Press Association president was T. Ballard Watters, publisher of the Marshfield Mail in the Republican-rich Ozarks. Both men are deceased, and the historical record doesn't reflect whether Mr. Watters ever came around to any fondness for Truman, who got his political start in the infamous Pendergast Democratic machine in Kansas City.

For his part, Truman was happy to visit Marshfield, including a whistle stop during his 1948 campaign, audio courtesy of the Truman Library. And Marshfield today hosts a satellite veterans health clinic of the Columbia-based Harry S Truman Veterans Administration Hospital.

# Happy 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday to Jack Howey of Peru, Indiana



**Mary Lou and Jack Howey in 2015.**

**Mary Lou Howey** ([Email](#)) - Today, my husband, Jack Howey, is 92 years old. A graduate of Indiana University as an Ernie Pyle scholar, he worked for 40-plus years for Nixon Newspapers, retiring in 1992 as publisher of the Peru, Ind., Tribune.

Although Jack was a newsman in a small town, he never considered himself to be a small-town newsman, nor did the people who worked for him, or the readers of the papers he wrote for and edited. One highlight of his career occurred when, after an evening of hiding in bushes with an FBI agent to observe activities of a Ku Klux Klan rally, he published the license plate numbers of those attending on Page 1 of the Tribune.

The Tribune was one of the first Indiana newspapers to adopt computer technology. His work with the Hoosier State Press Association on Indiana's open door laws earned him a listing in the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame. He is past president of

IU Journalism Alumni Association and Indiana AP Managing Editors. The son of a printer, it was his pleasure in 1994 to help our son, Brian Andrew Howey, establish Howey Politics Indiana. Three generations of proud Indiana journalism.

## Connecting mailbox

### *Loyola-Chicago's charmed run reminds St. Benedict's players of past glory in KC*

**For Tucker**

By Bill Sharp  
(A member of The Star's Sports Staff)

"We just felt that we'd try to keep him from hitting the easy ones and make him shoot from outside," said Ralph Nolan, coach of St. Benedict's, after the Ravens had presented him with his second national championship.

He was referring to the strategy used on Al Tucker, the 6-foot-8 N. A. I. A. all-American from Oklahoma Baptist.

"But if I had any idea he would hit 47, maybe I would have done it differently," said Nolan after the 71-65 victory.

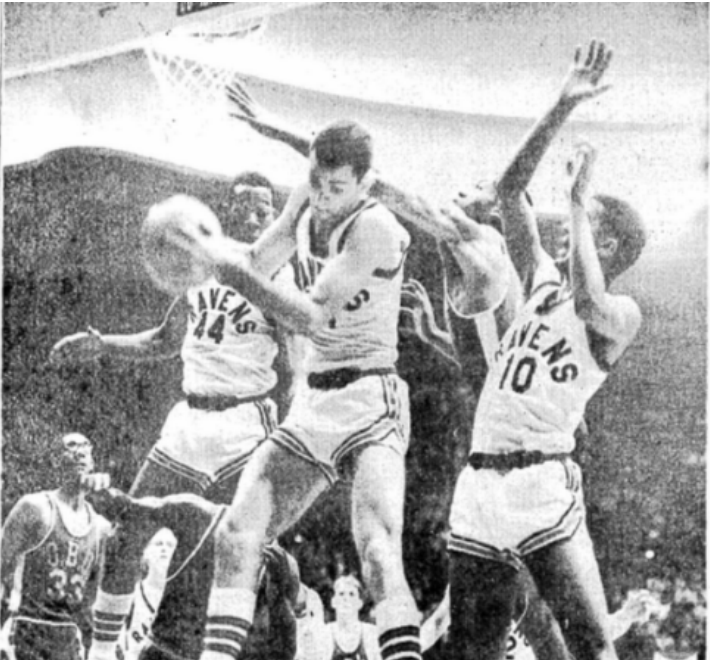
The strategy may have been questionable, but it worked out for the Ravens. The game Nolan called the best played by St. Benedict's this year was enough to offset Tucker's 47-point night, the highest single game total in a tournament in 30 years.

**Ravens Use 7 Men**

"I think it was a case of everyone doing his job," said the coach. "We used only seven men and every one had a part."

Nolan felt the turning point was the Raven fast break attack midway in the second half. "I think the thing that won it for us was when we hit on the fast break," said Nolan. "Jones really kicked a few breaks off for us."

Nolan also had praise for Bill Wevers, the Ward product, who matched Jones' 23 points for



**Verdict**

**PEAK IN POINTS**

The Bison Sharpshooter Breaks Career Scoring Record With 451

**JONES SPARKS WINNERS**

Crowd of 10,147 in the Auditorium Watches Seesaw Battle

By Fritz Kreisler  
(A member of The Star's Sports Staff)

St. Benedict's battling Ravens shook off a remarkable 47-point performance by Al Tucker of Oklahoma Baptist and won the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics basketball tournament with a 71-65 victory last night.

A roaring throng of 10,147 in the Municipal Auditorium watched the Ravens from Atchison, Kas., win their second National basketball championship despite Tucker, who became the greatest scorer in the 30-year history of the tournament. His 47 points increased his 3-year total to 471 points. The previous record of 451 was held by Dick Barnest of Tennessee State.

St. Benedict's previous championship was in 1964 and also came under Coach Ralph Nolan.

**Mike Tharp** ([Email](#)) wrote this story for The Kansas City Star. He is a former reporter for the Wall Street Journal and former executive editor of the Merced Sun-Star, and teaches journalism at North Lake College, Irving, Texas. And, a valued contributor to our Connecting newsletter.

**By MIKE THARP**

The magical history tour of the Loyola-Chicago's basketball team continues this week at the NCAA Final Four in San Antonio.

That team, and that tour, struck chords of memory for some of us who played on a similar top team 51 years ago. And four years before that was the last time a Loyola team was in the Final Four, winning it all in 1963.

Saturday night, after Loyola had beaten Kansas State, nine of us old guys started texting one another back and forth from six states.

Our team was then called St. Benedict's College in Atchison, Kan. We were the Ravens, a Catholic all-boys' school of about 1,000 students. A girls' school of about 600, Mount St. Scholastica, was across town. (They merged in 1971 and are now known as Benedictine College.)

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Proud of son who competed in Bataan Memorial Death March***





**Dawn Kitchell (Email)** - My son Tate was among Mizzou Army ROTC cadets who competed in the Bataan Memorial Death March in New Mexico on Sunday. (He is front row, third from left.) The memorial march honors the heroic service members who defended the Philippine Islands during World War II. Congratulations to all of the Tiger Battalion cadets who competed! We're proud of Tate for finishing 18th out of 243 (211 finished) in the Individual ROTC Male Heavy Division -- which means he carried a 35-pound pack for 26.2 miles! (Dawn is educational services director at the Washington Missourian and operates a bookstore in Washington.)

## Egypt votes on final day, with all eyes on turnout



**Egyptian men wave national flags as they wait in line to vote during the first day of the presidential election in front of a polling site in Cairo, Egypt, Monday, March 26, 2018.**

**Egyptians head to the polls on Monday but the presidential election this time is not about who wins - that was settled long ago - but about how many people bother to cast ballots.**

**(AP Photo/Nariman El-Mofty)**

**AP Images Blog**

Egyptian authorities have warned people to vote or risk paying a fine, as they look to boost turnout in a lackluster election that is virtually guaranteed to hand President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi a second four-year term.

El-Sissi faces only a token opponent in the vote, which resembles the referendums held by autocrats for decades before the Arab Spring uprisings of 2011 briefly raised hopes of democratic change.

Serious challengers were forced out or arrested, including former Prime Minister Ahmed Shafiq, who showed up late Tuesday at a polling center to cast his ballot. It was his first public appearance since he announced his intention to run in December from the United Arab Emirates, where he had gone after narrowly losing the 2012 election to the Islamist Mohammed Morsi.

Read more [here](#).

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## **POLITICO PLAYBOOK Birthday of the Day: Steve Peoples, AP national political reporter**



**Steve Peoples with his wife Zain Asher, an anchor on CNN International, in September 2017.**

By **DANIEL LIPPMAN**

**How/where are you celebrating your birthday and with whom?** "I'm going to celebrate by spending the weekend with my twin sister up in Portland, Maine. She's five minutes older. We typically try to hang out for our birthday. On the way, my wife and I are stopping in Boston, where she's treating me to a no-phones-allowed men's spa day."

**How did you get your start in journalism?** "My first job out of college was a two-year internship covering small-town government for Rhode Island's Providence Journal. That may or may not have been the first time that Sean Spicer threatened to revoke my press credentials."

**What's an interesting book/article you're reading now or finished? And why?** "I'm reading David Brooks' 'The Road to Character.' In this business, it's important to be reminded that there's much more to success than our external achievements."

**What is a trend going on in the U.S. or abroad that doesn't get enough attention?** "It's not exactly an ignored trend, but I'm often disturbed by how little exposure many of us have to opposing viewpoints. Most of us live and work with people who think like we do, we consume news that reinforces our beliefs, and we're convinced that the other side has nothing to offer. I've been doing this long enough to know that there's good and bad in all of us. We could all probably benefit by listening to someone we don't agree with on a regular basis."

**How is the Trump presidency going?** "We're being reminded on a daily basis why fearless, independent journalism is a pillar of democracy."

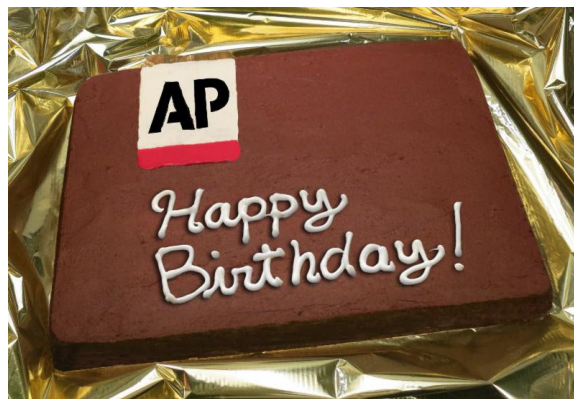
**What's a fun fact that people in Washington might not know about you?** "I very briefly moonlighted in a punk rock band in Mexico during my senior year of high school. I contributed virtually no musical talent, but I took away a lifelong love for street-side tacos and sticking it to The Man."

## AP Photo of the Day



A visitor wearing traditional Japanese kimono strolls under the cherry blossoms in Tokyo Thursday, March 29, 2018. The cherry blossom season marks the arrival of spring for the Japanese. (AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

**Jack Howey - [jhowey2@att.net](mailto:jhowey2@att.net)**

**Helen Mitternight - [voxredux@aol.com](mailto:voxredux@aol.com)**

**Steve Peoples - [speoples@ap.org](mailto:speoples@ap.org)**

**Nick Ut - [nickut72@gmail.com](mailto:nickut72@gmail.com)**

# Stories of interest

## ***Local newsrooms have always had trouble keeping local journalists*** (Poynter)

By KRISTEN HARE

Patti Dennis has been at the same company for nearly 40 years.

Her titles now include vice president of news and executive director of recruiting for Tegna. But 40 years ago, Dennis was way, way, way behind the scenes at Denver's KUSA TV.

"I cleaned the weather maps, I dusted the studio floor and I emptied the trash for \$2 an hour," she said, "and I thought it was the coolest job ever."

She volunteered her way into a job that took her from reporting to producing and, in 1992, into management. The past 15 years of her career have been in senior leadership.

Local newsrooms have always had trouble keeping journalists, Dennis said. Part of it is the demands of the job and the unpredictability.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Diversity and Inclusion at The New York Times***

*The New York Times is driven by a simple but powerful mission: to help readers understand the world.*

Building a diverse and inclusive workplace is essential to that mission. It enriches our report, because journalists with diverse backgrounds reflect the society we cover. It's critical for our business, because The Times must reach new audiences in order to grow. And it's important for our people, who thrive in a workplace that is fair, inclusive and rewarding to everyone.

The Times has reported at length on issues surrounding diversity, but we are also increasingly focused on how to foster diversity and inclusion within our own company. Journalism as an industry has long been disproportionately white and male. And the high-pressure, competitive nature of our business does not naturally lead to a welcoming workplace.

In this report, we provide an overview of our efforts to build a more diverse and inclusive culture at The Times. And, for the first time, we are sharing detailed data about the ethnic and gender composition of our staff members - data that we intend to update and make public annually.

We believe releasing this data on a yearly basis will make us accountable to the public - and ourselves - for improvement. And we hope that in doing so we can contribute to the broader conversation about equality and representation in journalism.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Palm Beach Post, Daily News to be sold to fast-growing GateHouse***

**By CHARLES ELMORE, Palm Beach Post**

One of the nation's busiest acquirers of newspapers and online media has agreed to buy The Palm Beach Post and Palm Beach Daily News in a deal announced Wednesday at \$49.25 million.

Executives at New York-based New Media Investment Group Inc. said the sister papers will join a growing GateHouse Media stable of more than 140 daily

newspapers. That represents more than 1 in 10 in the country.

The papers and associated websites have been owned since 1969 by Atlanta-based Cox Enterprises. The sale is expected to be completed by May.

"We see Palm Beach as another attractive and growing market that fits in well with our current Florida footprint," said Michael E. Reed, New Media's president and CEO. He called the papers "the primary source of news in their respective communities for over 100 years" and said they have "created high digital engagement that we are excited to work to build upon."

Read more [here](#).

## Today in History - March 29, 2018



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Thursday, March 29, the 88th day of 2018. There are 277 days left in the year.

### **Today's Highlight in History:**

On March 29, 1943, World War II rationing of meat, fats and cheese began, limiting consumers to store purchases of an average of about two pounds a week for beef, pork, lamb and mutton using a coupon system. (The Associated Press noted, "From the customer viewpoint, the unrationed oasis of food will be the restaurant or other public eating place.")

**On this date:**

In 1638, Swedish colonists settled in present-day Delaware.

In 1790, the tenth president of the United States, John Tyler, was born in Charles City County, Virginia.

In 1792, Sweden's King Gustav III died, nearly two weeks after he had been shot and mortally wounded by an assassin during a masquerade party.

In 1867, Britain's Parliament passed, and Queen Victoria signed, the British North America Act creating the Dominion of Canada, which came into being the following July.

In 1912, British explorer Robert Falcon Scott, his doomed expedition stranded in an Antarctic blizzard after failing to be the first to reach the South Pole, wrote the last words of his journal: "For Gods sake look after our people."

In 1936, German Chancellor Adolf Hitler claimed overwhelming victory in a plebiscite on his policies.

In 1951, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were convicted in New York of conspiracy to commit espionage for the Soviet Union. (They were executed in June 1953.) The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "The King and I" opened on Broadway.

In 1962, Jack Paar hosted NBC's "Tonight" show for the final time. (Johnny Carson debuted as host the following October.)

In 1971, Army Lt. William L. Calley Jr. was convicted of murdering 22 Vietnamese civilians in the 1968 My Lai (mee ly) massacre. (Calley ended up serving three years under house arrest.) A jury in Los Angeles recommended the death penalty for Charles Manson and three female followers for the 1969 Tate-La Bianca murders. (The sentences were later commuted.)

In 1973, the last United States combat troops left South Vietnam, ending America's direct military involvement in the Vietnam War.



In 1984, under cover of early morning darkness, the Baltimore Colts football team left its home city of three decades and moved to Indianapolis.

In 1992, Democratic presidential front-runner Bill Clinton acknowledged experimenting with marijuana "a time or two" while attending Oxford University, adding, "I didn't inhale and I didn't try it again."

Ten years ago: Anti-American Shiite militia leader Muqtada al-Sadr (mook-TAH'-duh ahl SAH'-dur) ordered his followers to defy orders from the Iraqi government to surrender their weapons. Zimbabweans voted in an election seen as the biggest test of Robert Mugabe's 28-year rule. (Opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai (SVAHNG'-ur-eye) claimed victory, but the Election Commission ordered a runoff; Mugabe claimed victory in that contest, which was widely denounced as a sham.)

Five years ago: President Barack Obama promoted a plan to create construction and other jobs by attracting private money to help rebuild roads, bridges and other public works projects during a visit to a Miami port that was undergoing \$2 billion in upgrades paid for with government and private dollars.

One year ago: Britain filed for divorce from the European Union as Prime Minister Theresa May sent a six-page letter to EU Council President Donald Tusk. Thirteen people were killed when a small church bus collided with a pickup truck on a two-lane road about 75 miles west of San Antonio. (The driver of the pickup has pleaded not guilty to intoxication manslaughter and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon causing serious bodily injury.) Two former aides to New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie were sentenced to prison for creating a colossal traffic jam at the George Washington Bridge for political revenge, a scandal that sank Christie's White House hopes.

Today's Birthdays: Author Judith Guest is 82. Former British Prime Minister Sir John Major is 75. Comedian Eric Idle is 75. Composer Vangelis is 75. Basketball Hall of Famer Walt Frazier is 73. Singer Bobby Kimball (Toto) is 71. Actor Bud Cort is 70. Actor Brendan Gleeson is 63. Actor Christopher Lawford is 63. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Earl Campbell is 63. Actress Marina Sirtis is 63. International Gymnastics Hall of Famer Kurt Thomas is 62. Actor Christopher Lambert is 61. Rock singer Perry Farrell (Porno for Pyros; Jane's Addiction) is 59. Comedian-actress Amy Sedaris is 57. Model Elle Macpherson is 55. Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto, D-Nev., is 54. Movie director Michel Hazanavicius (mee-SHEHL' ah-zah-nah-VEE'-see-oos) is 51. Rock singer-musician John Popper (Blues Traveler) is 51. Actress Lucy Lawless is 50. Country singer Regina Leigh (Regina Regina) is 50. Country singer Brady Seals is 49. Former White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs is 47. CBS News correspondent Lara Logan is 47. Actor Sam Hazeldine is 46. International Tennis Hall of Famer Jennifer Capriati is 42. Actor Chris D'Elia is 38. Rhythm and blues singer PJ Morton is 37. Actress Megan Hilty is 37. Pop singer Kelly Sweet is 30.

***Thought for Today: "The fate of love is that it always seems too little or too much." - Amelia Edith Barr, American author and journalist (1831-1919).***

## 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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