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Connecting - February 08, 2019

1 message

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Fri, Feb 8, 2019 at 9:18 AM

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Connecting

February 08, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Connecting brings you the sad news of the death of our colleague **Annie Shooman**, who lit up the newsrooms of AP bureaus in Los Angeles, Charleston, Boston and Portland with her news skills, work ethic and infectious optimism.

Annie died Tuesday of complications from multiple sclerosis, a disease she fought for two decades and forced her to leave the AP in 2008.



Annie Shooman in June 2001. Photo courtesy of Vicki Smith.

The wire story on her death related how Annie - after a week or two of work in the Los Angeles bureau - told bureau chief **Andy Lippman** that she used her first AP paycheck to fly her parents to California for her college graduation. "And then she flashed that wonderful Shooman smile and gave that wonderful Shooman laugh," Lippman recalled.

"I loved her more than anything in the world," said her husband, **Charlie Castro**, who had been with Annie for 30 years and married to her for 10. Castro acted as her lone caregiver for almost all of the time she was on disability.

Castro asks that those who want to do something for Annie should just recall their best memory of her.

And Connecting invites you to share your favorite memories of Annie with your colleagues. Send them along over the weekend.

Today's issue brings first responses to our call for comment on the letter to the editor a 25-year journalist wrote, about his regrets over changes in the news business. That letter led Thursday's issue so if you missed it, please go back and read and then send along your own thoughts as a number of your colleagues did for today's issue.

Remember your days on the news desk when a member would call with a story that initially didn't appear to amount to much - but became huge? **Diana Heidgerd** of the AP's Dallas bureau recalls one such day on the desk 32 years ago. Remember little Jessica McClure, the 18-month-old girl who was rescued from an abandoned water well? I know you'll enjoy the story - and I hope it prompts you to share your own such experience.

Have a good weekend!

Paul

Longtime AP reporter, broadcast editor dead at 59

Annie Shooman remembered for work ethic, infectious optimism



Annie Shooman in 2005 (Photo courtesy of Connie Mabin)

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) - Annie Shooman, a longtime Associated Press reporter and broadcast editor who was known for her work ethic and infectious optimism, has died.

Shooman, 59, died Tuesday in a hospital outside Portland, Oregon, from complications of multiple sclerosis, a disease she had wrestled with for more than two decades, said her close friend and former AP colleague, Allison Barker.

She remained close with many former colleagues even after her illness forced her to leave the career she loved in 2008.

"Annie was a spitfire and was full of life. She always made us laugh," said Barker, who worked with Shooman in Charleston, West Virginia, for four years.

"You never knew what she was going to say. I just loved working with her and I loved her."

Shooman was hired as an editorial assistant in Los Angeles in 1993, as she finished her degree at California State University, Long Beach, held down two waitressing jobs and worked as the managing editor of her college newspaper.

She used her first paycheck to buy plane tickets for her parents so they could come to her graduation, recalled Andy Lippman, the then-Los Angeles bureau chief who hired her.

"I told her that anyone who worked that hard had to have a place on the AP," he said in an e-mail.

Shooman was promoted to a reporter in 1995 and transferred to Charleston in 1996, around the same time she began her struggle with multiple sclerosis.

She worked there until 2000, making fast friends with colleagues who still recall her perseverance and upbeat attitude. She liked to regale her colleagues with tales of her coverage of the O.J. Simpson trial, Barker said.

"She was hilarious, and being around her just made every day better," said former AP reporter Vicki Smith.

Shooman then did a short stint in Boston, at times working the overnight shift, until she was hired in the Portland, Oregon, bureau as the broadcast wire editor. She fell in love with the Sandy River, which passed near her home in the eastern suburbs of Portland, and befriended AP's broadcast members with ease.

Shooman, who was nicknamed "Shoo" by her colleagues, was "great at coaxing broadcasters to contribute news," recalled then-Portland news editor Terrence Petty.

"It was so sad when her doctor told her she could no longer work. She loved being broadcast editor."

Shooman was born on April 2, 1959, and spent her childhood in New Hampshire.

She is survived by her husband, Charlie Castro, and her sister, Diane Shooman. No services are planned.

Click [here](#) for a link to this story.

Remembering Annie...

Rachel Ambrose ([Email](#)) - Annie will be so missed. Besides being a talented, energetic journalist, she overflowed with enthusiasm and smiles. Annie took notes on the broadcast operation and organization in LA and put her own stamp on it in Charleston, Boston and Portland.

Regrets over career choices? Here are your views

Alan Flippen ([Email](#)) - Re Adolphe Bernotas's "regrets" item, I have one regret.

I don't regret any of my own career choices. Knowing what I know now about the industry's collapse, I might have chosen a different path. But I didn't and couldn't have known it at the time, so it's not a "regret."

I don't regret any of what Adolphe's letter-writer regrets, because there is nothing to regret. The two institutions I worked for - The AP and The New York Times - continue to uphold the highest standards of journalism in the face of all the pressures not to. So do others. That these institutions and others may have had occasional lapses (Jayson Blair, Judy Miller) doesn't invalidate the point. These are institutions of humans. Humans sometimes have lapses. That's life, not a "regret."

What I regret is that the country looks on journalism differently than it used to. The Philadelphia Inquirer published something at the time I was starting out in my career (mid-1980s) that I have always remembered because it was so inspirational. Accompanying a searing story on the homeless, the editors wrote something to the effect of, "Some people may find it uncomfortable to read about this. But we are going to keep writing about it until something is done about this, because that's what newspapers do." And at the time, one could reasonably expect that the government and society would respond, somehow, to a problem once it had been brought to light.

One can't reasonably expect it anymore, because people don't view journalism the same way they used to. Too many now view it the way Adolphe's letter-writer does. Not because journalism has changed (in these respects, it mostly hasn't), but because society has.

And that's what I regret.

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Doug Kranz (Email) - Thank you for publishing Adolphe Bernotas article on regrets. While the 25-year news reporter is not identified., this reporter certainly describes the modern news outlets of today. IMO

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Chuck McFadden (Email) - First, three cheers for Adolphe Bernotas for spotting that letter and bringing it to our attention.

The letter-writer is a right-wing conservative who despite his (her?) 25 years in the news business doesn't understand it. Here's reality. Donald Trump isn't being abused. He's being reported on. Any impartial reporting on the president makes him look like an ass, because he is. If you watch the PBS Newshour and Washington Week, you can see the sweat break out on reporter foreheads as they strive to 1. Report the facts and 2. Be impartial. Reporting facts makes the reporter sound biased, simply because the facts are biased.

For instance, Trump insisted that his inaugural crowd was the biggest in history. The dreaded, awful media checked that claim, and found it was false. Not only that, the awful media ran photographic proof that Trump was making a false claim. Is that being unfair and biased? No, it's not. It's reporting the truth, which so very often makes the current administration look like idiots. Scott Pruitt? Betsy DeVoss? Willbur Ross? Need I go on?

The media have a responsibility to report the truth. When they do that, they enrage those who have a vested interest in "alternative facts."

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John Montgomery (Email) - Heavens no, I have no regrets. I still love what we do. Journalism is among the most honorable of professions. But people of any trade are human. We are not perfect, and that's no reason for this kind of despair.

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Guy Palmiotto (Email) - I'm in agreement with the letter writer. Today's journalism is not about facts, especially in the Trump era. It's more about taking sides and delivering opinion, case in point, the NY Daily News. Maybe it's all about selling a product now, be it print, TV or online. Certainly not on the same page philosophically as when I started.

In many aspects, the profession has lost the respect of the public.

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Bill Schiffmann (Email) - Eloquent, sad - and so true. My only regret is that I didn't write it myself.

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Paul Shane (Email) - That letter to the editor cited by Adolphe Bernotas was spot on. I am sorry AP is being drawn into the same opinionated approach as publications we used to criticize. Many AP political stories nowadays would get writers and editors fired 10-20 years ago. What happened to "Report the news, not make it." principle?

Unexpected around the world story in 1987: Toddler rescued from West Texas well



Rescue worker Steven Forbes carries 18-month-old Jessica McClure after she was rescued from abandoned water well in Midland, Texas, Oct. 16, 1987. (AP Photo/Eric Gay)

Diana Heidgerd (Email) - In October 1987 I was working my regular broadcast shift at the Dallas AP office when I got a call from a TV reporter, someone I knew who was working in the Midland-Odessa market in West Texas.

Back then, it was common for AP radio and TV members to call the Dallas AP office to share their stories. As the broadcast editor, I was responsible for taking the dictation over the phone, writing a version for the Texas broadcast and also doing a newspaper version if the story warranted.

Then-Dallas AP Bureau Chief John Lumpkin had strongly encouraged me to get to know people in all broadcast markets across Texas. He assigned me a once-a-month task: go visit these people at their stations, big and small markets, from Amarillo to Laredo, from El Paso to Tyler, from Dallas-Fort Worth to Houston and Beaumont-Port Arthur, from Wichita Falls to Midland-Odessa. Welcome these radio and TV folks to AP conventions, seminars, contests.

So I did, trying to make strong AP broadcast connections. I'm a former TV reporter/producer/weekend anchor, former radio news director in the Midwest who joined AP in 1983 in Miami as a staff reporter (who especially worked all of the weekend broadcast shifts). Then in 1985 I moved to Dallas as Texas AP broadcast editor. It was a time when AP was specifically looking for more people with broadcast members in an effort to bolster the relationship with radio & TV stations.



Diana Heidgerd

On Oct. 14, 1987, I got a call from a TV reporter who explained that a girl, a toddler, had fallen into an old water well a few hours earlier and that she was expected to be rescued very shortly. Emergency crews were already on the scene trying to extract the little girl whose name the world would later know - Jessica McClure.

My TV buddy described what was happening (I was taking notes) and I distinctly remember him saying to me -- I don't know if this is a story AP would even want, because the girl appeared to be on the cusp of being rescued and it will be over shortly.

I was thinking - this must be like a backyard wishing well? One of those ornamental fancy-pants lattice-covered wells where the stereotype could be people in Texas sitting nearby, drinking sweet iced tea and talking about the weather?

So I asked the TV reporter - just how big is this well?

The reporter told me - about 18-to-22 inches across.

I stopped typing. I lifted both of my hands to make an imaginary 18-to-22-inch distance between them.

I literally shuddered.

Then I wrote, for broadcast lines first and then for newspaper lines, a brief story about how a little girl was trapped in a backyard well at a home in West Texas but was expected to be rescued within hours.

My shift was over shortly after that, so I left the office for the day. I ran some errands, went home and didn't really think much more about the little girl in the well.

That night, I happened to turn on the TV to watch the 10 p.m. local news as I wondered - would that little girl's rescue even be mentioned? Surely she must be out of the well by now and stations in the Dallas-Fort Worth market probably have a lot better things to report.

To my shock, it had turned into the lead story pretty much everywhere, the astonishing saga of a toddler trapped in a well in a part of Texas where drillers and roughnecks are pretty much everywhere. Many volunteered their expertise and expensive oilfield equipment to try to get Jessica McClure out.



AP Photo/Eric Gay

As it turned out, Jessica - who could be heard singing Winnie the Pooh nursery songs to herself as rescuers above ground worked frantically to save her - became an unbelievable story. She spent nearly 60 hours trapped in that well, more than 20 feet below the surface, and was pulled out battered and bruised but alive, as a worldwide audience watched the entire rescue on live TV on the night of Oct. 16, 1987.

AP was well-represented at the scene, with startling and amazing photos by Eric Gay and live radio coverage by now-former AP staffer Amanda Barnett.

My longtime friend Amanda has described to me how there were so many media folks at the well site that she watched the rescue, happening literally just feet away from her, while standing on a chair outside a neighbor's house and looking through a window to watch live TV coverage of the rescue. Amanda used a phone rigged to a utility pole to report live on what she saw.

So I'll always remember that AP member call about a story that initially didn't really sound like much and could have been a devastating tragedy became a breathtaking rescue - seen and heard live around the world.

Connecting mailbox

Robots have their place, but not on my keyboard

Bruce Lowitt ([Email](#)) - Adding to Hal Bock's observations in the Feb. 6 Connecting, I can't imagine a robot reporting on any brouhaha on a baseball diamond, football field, hockey rink or basketball court, or Don Denkinger's blown call that cost the St. Louis Cardinals the 1985 World Series, or Jim Joyce's, that cost Detroit Tigers pitcher Andres Galarraga a perfect game in 2010, or the controversy over Brett Hull's 1999 Stanley Cup-winning triple-overtime goal for Dallas against Buffalo - or, for that matter, the non-call that almost certainly cost the New Orleans Saints a berth in the Super Bowl.

And for non-sports fans, would a robot have reported South Carolina Rep. Joe Wilson's "You lie!" shout during President Barack Obama's 2009 speech before a joint session of Congress, or Wilson's constituents yelling it at him during a speech eight years later - and would a robot have noticed and reported House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's facial expressions behind Donald Trump when he referred to "ridiculous partisan investigations" during his State of the Union speech? I think not.

I'm not even a fan of spell-checking websites, which don't differentiate between "there" and "their" or when to use "infer" or "imply" (which is why I still have a dictionary and thesaurus handy when I write). And, to be honest, a robot wouldn't have corrected me once upon a time when I had a brain cramp and wrote "John Mayberry" instead of "John Mabry."

Robots have their place - but not on my keyboard.

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Robots and corporate earnings

Lee Mitgang ([Email](#)) - Robots writing up corporate earnings?

Hal Bock's skepticism about robots reporting on sports makes me think back on how I benefited from the hundreds of earning reports I did as a cub business reporter in the early 1970s, first at UPI and then AP. Every three months, during quarterly earnings report season, my boss at UPI, Dottie Brooks, would hand me stacks of raw earnings and dividend declaration reports torn fresh off PR Newswire, several times a day. With a sympathetic smile, she'd tell me how many words she needed on

each. Generally, that was governed by the size or name recognition of the corporation. After awhile, though, I found myself learning how to spot the news in self-serving corporate handouts. What was the lede? the revenues? the net income? the earnings per share? Did sales of a particular product line live up or down to forecasts? Had these met or fallen short of "the street's" expectations? Comparing what I wrote to Barrons and the Wall Street Journal the next day helped, of course, as did phone calls to analysts who followed a given corporation and the ups and downs of its stock.

Obviously, not all of the many earnings reports that flood in each quarter rate this kind of analysis and time. I'm sure there's a good case for having a robot handle part of the job, and I certainly don't pretend to know how this all works or how current AP staff feel about it. But as a young reporter years ago, I found that learning to read these reports to separate the merely routine from the newsworthy was a valuable crash course in business coverage that helped prepare me for more in-depth stories. In an age of robot coverage, I trust that news organizations are finding other ways to teach reporters, especially newer ones, how to mine the news in those "boring" earnings reports and avoid serving readers rewrites of corporation spin.

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A deal from high school journalism teacher that changed his life

Marc Wilson ([Email](#)) - I got an A in each of the first three quarters of the high school sophomore English class, but goofed off in the fourth quarter.

"I'll make you a deal," said my teacher, Olivia Tenney. "If you sign up for my Journalism I class next year I'll give you an A for this quarter even though you really deserve a B or even a C."

It was a deal I couldn't refuse, and it changed my life.

Over the next two years, I became sports editor and chief ad salesman for the Wheat Ridge (Colorado) Banner. I loved working on the student paper.

In the fall of 1968, Mrs. Tenney took her Journalism II class to Boulder for a one-day visit to the University of Journalism School. I loved it. Three others and I from Mrs. Tenney's class enrolled in the CU J-School.

While at CU, I worked part-time at the Boulder Daily Camera and the Denver Post.

I graduated on May Saturday in 1973, and started working for the AP in Denver the next Monday. From Denver (as a vacation relief staffer) I moved to Little Rock, then to Chicago, then to Boise as correspondent, then to Dallas as ACOB.

After the AP, I became a co-owner and editor/publisher of a small weekly newspaper in Bigfork, Montana. That's where I started TownNews.

It's been a heck of a ride, and I thank Mrs. Tenney almost every day.

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Snow in Seattle

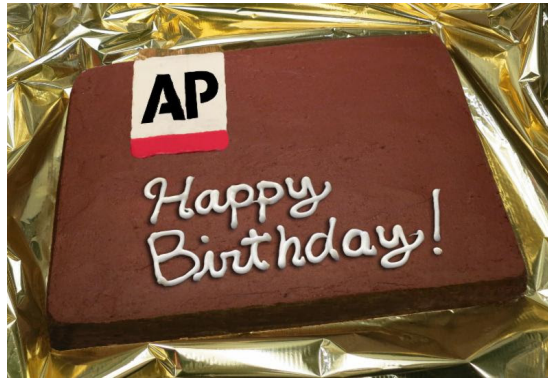
Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - A response to Connecting's Feb. 4 snow in Seattle:

The picture the other day showing a squirrel in snow in Seattle brought back fond memories. I had just returned from war correspondence in Korea in 1950. Returning, the plane landed in Seattle, but NY pulled me off and assigned me to assist photo editor Jack Collins, who was on temporary assignment from the NY photo desk, to handle the over-load of film from Korea.

One day there was a rare snowfall, and this was a little one - and wham, the city immediately closed down.

Jack and I made a big to-do about the scaredy-cats in Seattle. Those in the bureau either just looked blank, or tried to make some excuse - like the hills, etc.. All in fun.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



On Saturday...

Spencer Jones - spencerj@aol.com

On Sunday to...

Del Brinkman - del.brinkman@comcast.net

Stories of interest

Amazon's Bezos accuses National Enquirer of 'extortion and blackmail' (Politico)

By BRENT D. GRIFFITHS

Jeff Bezos, Amazon CEO and the world's richest man, accused the National Enquirer on Thursday of "extortion and blackmail" by trying to get him to end a personal investigation into how his private text messages and photos leaked and were splashed across the tabloid.

Bezos said the Enquirer made it certain that if he did not end the investigation, it would publish a nude photograph of him, along with more embarrassing images.

"I'm glad they thought that, because it emboldened them to put it all in writing," Bezos wrote on the site Medium, in a lengthy post titled "No thank you, Mr. Pecker" - referring to David Pecker, CEO of American Media, which owns the National Enquirer. "Rather than capitulate to extortion and blackmail, I've decided to publish

exactly what they sent me, despite the personal cost and embarrassment they threaten."

Read more [here](#).

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Ex-NYT editor Jill Abramson says she will update her book following allegations of plagiarism (CNN)

By OLIVER DARCY

New York (CNN Business) - Former New York Times Executive Editor Jill Abramson, facing allegations of plagiarism, conceded on Thursday that some of the passages in her new book "Merchants of Truth" too closely mirrored work that first appeared in other publications.

"The language is too close in some cases and should have been cited as quotations in the text," Abramson said in a statement provided to CNN Business.

The veteran journalist added that the language in question would be "fixed," saying that while writing her book she "tried above all to accurately and properly give attribution to the many hundreds of sources that were part of my research."

Abramson's statement came one day after she fiercely denied allegations of plagiarism during a Fox News interview. At the time, she said, "I certainly didn't plagiarize in my book."

Read more [here](#).

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Hereford newspaper gets second chance after former employee purchases the publication

(KFDA, Amarillo)

By Melissa Gaglione

HEREFORD, TX (KFDA) - The Hereford BRAND is gaining new life after a former employee made the big decision to purchase the newspaper after it was said to close after 118 years.

The Hereford community was devastated when they found out their 118-year-old community newspaper would come to an end on February 2.

The Hereford BRAND newspaper announced that its final publication would be on Wednesday, Feb. 6 due to the accumulation of a lack of advertisement sales, circulation and expansion of information technology.

However, new hope was found after the paper put out on Wednesday, Feb. 6 stated that a former employee agreed to purchase the Hereford BRAND and continue to publish the paper."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Linda Sargent.

The Final Word



Today in History - February 8, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Feb. 8, the 39th day of 2019. There are 326 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Feb. 8, 1587, Mary, Queen of Scots was beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle in England after she was implicated in a plot to murder her cousin, Queen Elizabeth I.

On this date:

In 1693, a charter was granted for the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg in the Virginia Colony.

In 1862, the Civil War Battle of Roanoke Island, North Carolina, ended in victory for Union forces led by Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside.

In 1904, the Russo-Japanese War, a conflict over control of Manchuria and Korea, began as Japanese forces attacked Port Arthur.

In 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was incorporated.

In 1922, President Warren G. Harding had a radio installed in the White House.

In 1924, the first execution by gas in the United States took place at the Nevada State Prison in Carson City as Gee Jon, a Chinese immigrant convicted of murder, was put to death.

In 1952, Queen Elizabeth II proclaimed her accession to the British throne following the death of her father, King George VI.

In 1965, Eastern Air Lines Flight 663, a DC-7, crashed shortly after takeoff from New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport; all 84 people on board were killed. The Supremes' record "Stop! In the Name of Love!" was released by Motown.

In 1968, three college students were killed in a confrontation between demonstrators and highway patrolmen at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg in the wake of protests over a whites-only bowling alley. The science-fiction film "Planet of the Apes," starring Charlton Heston, had its world premiere in New York (it went into general release the following April.)

In 1989, 144 people were killed when an American-chartered Boeing 707 filled with Italian tourists slammed into a fog-covered mountain in the Azores.

In 1992, the XVI Olympic Winter Games opened in Albertville, France.

In 1993, General Motors sued NBC, alleging that "Dateline NBC" had rigged two car-truck crashes to show that 1973-to-87 GM pickups were prone to fires in side impact crashes. (NBC settled the lawsuit the following day and apologized for its "unscientific demonstration.")

Ten years ago: Robert Plant and Alison Krauss won five Grammys, including album of the year, for "Raising Sand." R&B singer Chris Brown was arrested on suspicion of making a criminal threat (he was later sentenced to five years of probation for beating his longtime girlfriend, singer Rihanna). The NFC rallied to a 30-21 victory over the AFC in the Pro Bowl.

Five years ago: In an assertion of same-sex marriage rights, Attorney General Eric Holder announced that same-sex spouses could not be compelled to testify against each other, should be eligible to file for bankruptcy jointly and were entitled to the same rights and privileges as federal prison inmates in opposite-sex marriages. On the first day of medal competition at the Sochi Winter Olympics, Sven Kramer of the Netherlands led a clean sweep by the Dutch in the men's 5,000-meter speed skating while in slopestyle's Olympic debut, U.S. snowboarder Sage Kotsenburg won the first gold medal of the games.

One year ago: The federal government stumbled into a shutdown that would end by morning, its second in less than a month, as rogue Senate Republicans blocked a speedy vote on a massive, bipartisan, budget-busting spending deal. For the second time in a week, the Dow Jones industrials plunged by more than 1,000 points as a sell-off in the stock market deepened. Hundreds of thousands lined the streets of Philadelphia as the Eagles celebrated their Super Bowl victory with a parade.

Today's Birthdays: Composer-conductor John Williams is 87. Newscaster Ted Koppel is 79. Actor Nick Nolte is 78. Comedian Robert Klein is 77. Actor-rock musician Creed Bratton is 76. Singer Ron Tyson is 71. Actress Brooke Adams is 70. Actress Mary Steenburgen is 66. Author John Grisham is 64. Retired NBA All-Star and College Basketball Hall of Famer Marques Johnson is 63. Actor Henry Czerny is 60. The former president of the Philippines, Benigno Aquino III, is 59. Rock singer Vince Neil (Motley Crue) is 58. Rock singer-musician Sammy Llanas (The BoDeans) is 58. Former Environmental Protection Agency administrator Lisa P. Jackson is 57. Movie producer Toby Emmerich is 56. Actress Missy Yager is 51. Actress Mary McCormack is 50. Rock musician Keith Nelson is 50. Basketball Hall of Famer Alonzo Mourning is 49. Actress Susan Misner is 48. Dance musician Guy-Manuel de Homem-Christo (Daft Punk) is 45. Actor Seth Green is 45. Actor Josh Morrow is 45. Rock musician Phoenix (Linkin Park) is 42. Actor William Jackson Harper is 39. Actor Jim Parrack is 38. Folk singer-musician Joey Ryan (Milk Carton Kids) is 37. Actress-comedian Cecily Strong is 35. Rock musician Jeremy Davis is 34. Hip-hop artist Anderson. Paak is 33. Rock musician Max Grahn (Carolina Liar) is 31. Actor

Ryan Pinkston is 31. Professional surfer Bethany Hamilton is 29. Actress Karle Warren is 27.

Thought for Today: "If each man or woman could understand that every other human life is as full of sorrows, or joys, or base temptations, of heartaches and of remorse as his own... how much kinder, how much gentler he would be." - William Allen White, American journalist (1868-1944).

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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