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Connecting - May 01, 2019

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Wed, May 1, 2019 at 9:11 AM

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the first day of May 2019,

Two of our Connecting colleagues who are members of our 80's Club got to reminiscing a bit about age - and given that **Norm Abelson** and **Gene Herrick** are among our very best writers and contributors, what they had to say leads today's issue.

The photo at the top of the page of our late AP colleague **Anja Niedringhaus** accompanies the news from Manila that Filipino freelance photojournalist **Eloisa Lopez** was named as this year's **Anja Niedringhaus Courage in Photojournalism Award** winner for her coverage of the Duterte administration's drug war, the International Women's Media Foundation announced.

Anja was killed in 2014 while covering the Afghanistan presidential election. Her friend and AP colleague, **Kathy Gannon**, a Connecting colleague as well, was badly injured but is back on the job. Click [here](#) for more on the award, and read the story of the latest winner below.

Do you have a favorite sport or other exercise passion that you've taken up in retirement, or that you've taken up while still working? Connecting would like to hear your story as we launch (I hope) a series - with the first one starting tomorrow - pickleball - brought to you by our colleague **Cliff Schiappa**.

Here's to the new month of May!

Paul

How young is too young to take on what could be the toughest job on earth?

Norm Abelson ([Email](#)) - There is much discussion these days about the age of candidates for president, particularly as it applies to former vice president Joe Biden. For heaven's sake, he's a mere 76. I've celebrated 12 birthdays since I was at that tender and vibrant age. And I ain't finished yet!

I propose another question: How young is too young to take on what could be the toughest job on earth, especially in these fraught times? How much experience, wisdom, calmness under pressure, thoughtfulness does it take to handle this position? How much ability to reflect, to consider the opponent's point of view? How much experience one has had being knocked on one's backside, to have experienced failure and had to get up and start over again?



MANUEL BALCE CENETA / AP Photo

When I was a kid, my parents told me that when an older person entered the room I was to stand.

They taught that when a group of grown-ups was having a discussion, I was to listen; that if I had something to say it should be after I had thought and learned about the subject under discussion.

It wasn't that all older people were smarter, but rather it was that the very experience of living, with all its bumps and tragedies, provided balance and perspective. It gave them the opportunity to learn from their mistakes, to grow and mature. (That the current White House occupant does not represent these qualities, does not detract in large measure from the truth of them.)

Being in one's 70's hardly disqualifies a person to lead. And neither does being young necessarily make one a better candidate to occupy the oval office. The measure shouldn't be whether you live long enough to finish a term; it should be what you accomplish and the grace of your leadership in the time you are given.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (79) is second in line of succession for president. Sen. Chuck Grassley (85) is third. Whatever political view one might have of them, they earned their elections and their positions.

The Constitution sets 35 as the minimum age for the presidency. It does not set a maximum.

The Past Comes Back Around

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - Quoting Yogi Berra's saying, "It ain't over till it's over," reminds me of a few events in my life recently.

It has been 64 years since Rosa Parks was fingerprinted for her involvement in the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and being removed from a city bus for not moving to the black section of the bus, and at the same time, the rise of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who took the Civil Rights Movement nation-wide, and in fact, world-wide.

Now, as the retired Associated Press photographer of those now iconic pictures, Parks being fingerprinted, and King being kissed by his wife after release from jail, all of these years later, my pictures of these events are coming back by the interest of some of today's younger folks interested in history.



In the last few weeks, I have had packages of those pictures sent to me for autographs. What is also ironic, is that most are coming from foreign countries -

Canada, New Zealand, Austria, Australia, and the United States. In one, the person also included a picture I took of Elvis Presley flanked by two Memphis Cotton Carnival queens in the middle 1950's.

Time is such a wonderment, and full of surprises.

Words of praise for PBS documentary on Korean War



Charles Hanley ([Email](#)) - Monday night's PBS documentary on the Korean War included a surprisingly large chunk (actually two segments) about No Gun Ri and the AP's work. Those interested can view this superb piece of historical filmmaking at the PBS site by clicking [here](#).

Overall, in my view, "Korea, the Never-Ending War" is the finest, most insightful documentary ever produced on that pivotal war. The visuals - i.e., the archival film work - are wonderful. Six AP photographers are among those cited in the credits.

Part of the back story is that the BBC was alone in daring to produce a documentary on the explosive subject of No Gun Ri in earlier times. That powerful film, by October Films of London, aired in the UK in 2002. But it was shunned by American TV, beginning with the normal BBC outlet in the U.S., History Channel. The current film, by Ark Media's John Maggio ("Finding Your Roots," "Woodstock"), should now finally educate more Americans to what really went on in that 1950-53 war.

Andy Lippman's citizenship grads give him surprise birthday cake



Andy Lippman ([Email](#)) - The three Medina sisters surprised me after Tuesday's citizenship class by bringing in a cake for my birthday. Sister Nitzia (right) got her citizenship two years ago and emailed me that she was sending her two sisters to take my class and become citizens. Brenda (left) got her citizenship a few months ago, and Karen is currently in my class. She has applied for citizenship and is awaiting a date for her test. Brenda asked me after she passed her test the date of my birthday, and apparently remembered and brought her sisters. Nitzia even took a day off to come in for the celebration. Karen brought her son, who was fascinated by the battery powered "Happy Birthday" on the cake.

Award named for AP's Anja Niedringhaus

Photojournalist Eloisa Lopez wins int'l award for courage in drug war coverage

(ABS/CBN)

MANILA - Filipino freelance photojournalist Eloisa Lopez was named as this year's Anja Niedringhaus Courage in Photojournalism Award winner for her coverage of the Duterte administration's drug war, the International Women's Media Foundation announced.



"This year the IWMF is elated to recognize three powerful freelance women photojournalists whose commonalities include bringing attention to local stories," said the IWMF Executive Director Elisa Lees Muñoz.

Lopez specializes in stories on human rights, women and religion.

The Manila-based photojournalist worked as photo correspondent for the Philippine Daily Inquirer after graduating from the De La Salle University.

Since 2016, Lopez has been documenting the Duterte administration's anti-drug campaign that saw almost nightly killings of alleged drug suspects. She continued covering the same beat for online news website Rappler in 2017.

The following year, Lopez joined Reuters as a contributing photographer covering news around the Philippines.

Read more [here](#).

AP Photos: Japan witnesses rare imperial abdication



Japan's Emperor Akihito, right, leaves after a ritual to report his abdication to the throne, at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, Tuesday, April 30, 2019. The 85-year-old Akihito ends his three-decade reign on Tuesday when he abdicates to his son Crown Prince Naruhito. (Japan Pool via AP)

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

TOKYO (AP) - Japan has witnessed a rare handover of its Chrysanthemum Throne by a living emperor.

New Emperor Naruhito ascended the throne on Wednesday after his father Akihito abdicated Tuesday night and became emperor emeritus. It was Japan's first abdication in two centuries.

The transition started Tuesday as Akihito, wearing a monarch's dark orange robe and a headdress, reported his retirement at three main shrines, including one where the sun goddess Amaterasu, said to be the direct ancestress of the imperial family, is enshrined.

Akihito, 85, later formally announced his retirement in his final address to his people, thanking them for their support.

Akihito took the throne in 1989 and devoted his career to making amends for a war fought in his father's name while bringing the aloof monarchy closer to the people.

His era was the first in Japan's modern history without war.

Read more [here](#).

Stories of interest

Covering the 2020 Census - How stories will emerge from every beat (Poynter)

By Grace Hwang Lynch

The 2020 Census is less than a year away. Newsrooms need to start planning for coverage, as well as reporting on the activities leading up to next year's count, which will be groundbreaking in more ways than ever before. Poynter can help.

The debate over the citizenship question has dominated much of the early discussion. Because this is a key topic for her readers, Mary Flores, editor of the Spanish-language weekly La Prensa de Colorado, attended a Poynter Institute seminar to learn about covering the 2020 Census. Flores is based in Denver, where she has observed tremendous growth in the Latino population in the past decade. She said that La Prensa de Colorado plans to publish one or two articles about the census each month.

Read more [here](#).

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Public Relations Jobs Boom as Buffett Sees Newspapers Dying (Bloomberg)

By Alexandre Tanzi and Shelly Hagan

Billionaire investor Warren Buffett is pessimistic on the newspaper industry at a time when public relations specialists are increasingly outnumbering journalists.

Public relations jobs exceeded those of reporters by more than six-to-one last year, up from less than two-to-one 20 years ago, according to data from the U.S. Census.

Spin Cycle

There are now 6.4 public relations specialists for every news reporter

Read more [here](#). Shared by Scott Charton, John Hartzell.

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ESPN Will Shut Down its Flagship Magazine

(Variety)

By BRIAN STEINBERG

ESPN, the sports-media giant with an influence that extends across several types of media, is getting out of one particular venue: print.

The Disney-controlled company said Tuesday that it would shut down ESPN The Magazine, an influential sports publication that has been on newsstands since 1998, in September. The publication was no longer breaking even, according to a person familiar with the matter.

"Consumer habits are evolving rapidly, and this requires ESPN to evolve as well. The only change here is that we are moving away from printing it on paper and sending it in the mail, following September's release of 'The Body' Issue," the company said in a statement. "Our data shows the vast majority of readers already consume our print journalism on digital platforms, and this approach will maximize our reach and impact. In the future, we will explore releasing tentpole collections such as 'Body' in special, differentiated print formats."

Read more [here](#).

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This small newsroom took on a tough topic by working with the community, not just for them

(Poynter)

By KRISTEN HARE

Poynter and API teamed up again this week to take a deeper look at what's working in local news. The Durango Herald took part in Poynter's version of the Local News Innovation Program, also known as Table Stakes. As part of that process, they decided to apply for grants to help the 14-person newsroom (including four reporters) do ambitious work. Here, you can read how the Durango Herald broke out of its silos to cover an important topic, and over at Better News, learn how the Colorado newsroom applied specific lessons from Table Stakes for the project.

The Durango (Colorado) Herald wanted to apply for a reporting grant, but first it had to check in with the community, a required step in the process. That check-in helped reshape the direction of the project

For its grant application to the Solutions Journalism Network, the Herald had to convene with community stakeholders. Several local organizations that work with youth suicide prevention came to the newsroom. Some were hesitant be there at all because of the Herald's past coverage, which many worried created a contagion effect.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - May 1, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, May 1, the 121st day of 2019. There are 244 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 1, 1707, the Kingdom of Great Britain was created as a treaty merging England and Scotland took effect.

On this date:

In 1786, Mozart's opera "The Marriage of Figaro" premiered in Vienna.

In 1931, New York's 102-story Empire State Building was dedicated. Singer Kate Smith made her debut on CBS Radio on her 24th birthday.

In 1941, the Orson Welles motion picture "Citizen Kane" premiered in New York.

In 1945, a day after Adolf Hitler took his own life, Admiral Karl Doenitz effectively became sole leader of the Third Reich with the suicide of Hitler's propaganda minister, Josef Goebbels.

In 1960, the Soviet Union shot down an American U-2 reconnaissance plane over Sverdlovsk and captured its pilot, Francis Gary Powers.

In 1964, the computer programming language BASIC (Beginner's All-Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code) was created by Dartmouth College professors John G. Kemeny and Thomas E. Kurtz.

In 1967, Elvis Presley married Priscilla Beaulieu at the Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas. (They divorced in 1973.) Anastasio Somoza Debayle became president of Nicaragua.

In 1971, the intercity passenger rail service Amtrak went into operation.

In 1975, Hank Aaron of the Milwaukee Brewers broke baseball's all-time RBI record previously held by Babe Ruth during a game against the Detroit Tigers (Milwaukee won, 17-3).

In 1982, the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee, was opened by President Ronald Reagan.

In 1992, on the third day of the Los Angeles riots, a visibly shaken Rodney King appeared in public to appeal for calm, pleading, "Can we all get along?"

In 2011, President Barack Obama announced the death of Osama bin Laden during a U.S. commando operation (because of the time difference, it was early May 2 in Pakistan, where the al-Qaida leader met his end).

Ten years ago: Supreme Court Justice David Souter announced his retirement effective at the end of the court's term in late June. (President Barack Obama chose federal judge Sonia Sotomayor to succeed him.) Singer-actor-impressionist Danny Gans, one of Las Vegas' most popular entertainers, died at age 52.

Five years ago: Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel called a 50-percent jump in reports by members of the military of sexual assaults the previous year a "clear threat" to both male and female service members' lives and well-being, and said he'd ordered Pentagon officials to increase efforts to get male victims to report abuse.

One year ago: Entering the State Department headquarters for the first time as America's top diplomat, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo vowed to reinvigorate American diplomacy and help the United States get "back our swagger." Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein lashed out at Republican allies of President Donald Trump who had drafted articles of impeachment against Rosenstein, saying the Justice Department would not give in to threats.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Judy Collins is 80. Actor Stephen Macht is 77. Singer Rita Coolidge is 74. Pop singer Nick Fortuna (The Buckingham) is 73. Actor-director Douglas Barr is 70. Actor Dann Florek is 68. Singer-songwriter Ray Parker Jr. is 65. Actor Byron Stewart is 63. Hall of Fame jockey Steve Cauthen is 59. Actress Maia Morgenstern is 57. Actor Scott Coffey is 55. Country singer Wayne Hancock is 54. Actor Charlie Schlatter is 53. Country singer Tim McGraw is 52. Rock musician Johnny Colt is 51. Rock musician D'Arcy is 51. Movie director Wes Anderson is 50. Actress Julie Benz is 47. Actor Bailey Chase is 47. Country singer Cory Morrow is 47. Gospel/rhythm-and-blues singer Tina Campbell (Mary Mary) is 45. Actor Darius McCrary is 43. Actor Jamie Dornan is 37. Actress Kerry Bishe is 35. Actress Lizzy Greene is 16.

Thought for Today: "Any man who has the brains to think and the nerve to act for the benefit of the people of the country is considered a radical by those who are content with stagnation and willing to endure disaster." - William Randolph Hearst, American newspaper publisher (1863-1951).

Connecting calendar



June 20 - 25-Year Club Celebration, 5:30 - 8 p.m., AP headquarters, 200 Liberty Street, New York, NY. RSVP by May 10. RSVP online [here](#). Any questions may be directed to recognition@ap.org

August 17 - Albany AP bureau reunion (including other upstate bureaus), 1-5 p.m., Marc and Carla Humbert residence on Tsatsawassa Lake, [68 Marginal Way, East Nassau, NY](#). Contact: Chris McKnight ([Email](#)).

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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