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Connecting - May 07, 2019

1 message

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Tue, May 7, 2019 at 8:52 AM

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Connecting

May 07, 2019

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Colleagues,

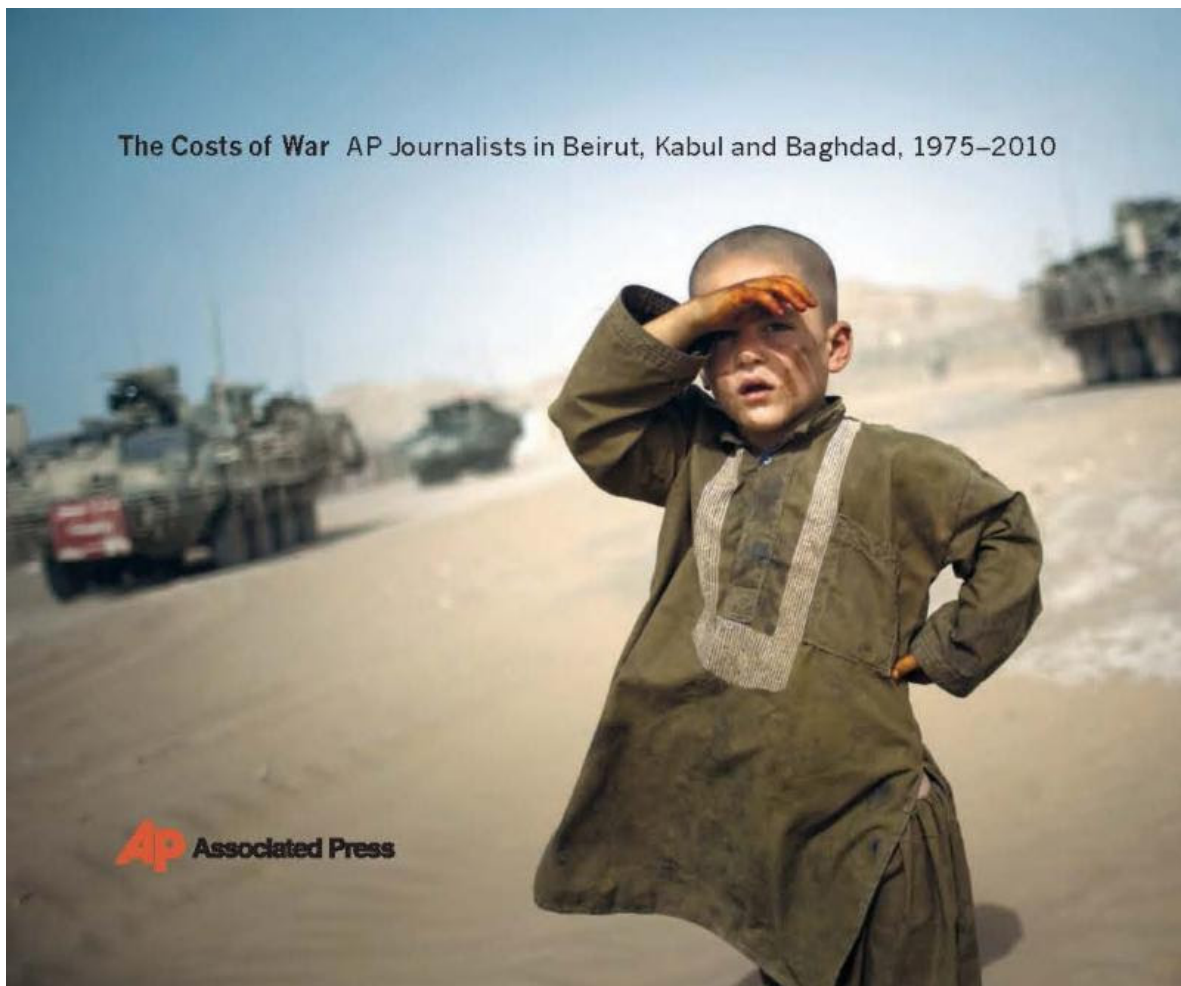
The Associated Press presented its 2018 report at the annual meeting of the AP board of directors last week in New York.

We lead with the report from **Gary Pruitt**, AP president and CEO, and **Steven Swartz**, president and CEO of Hearst, who is AP's board chairman.

Some of AP's rich history was presented to the board by **Valerie Komor**, director of the AP Corporate Archives and **Chuck Zoeller**, Creative Services special projects manager, who were invited to present the latest Corporate Archives minidocumentary at the annual meeting. "Taking Their Best Shots: The Sporting Life with AP Photographers" covers almost 90 years of AP sports photography. It's now available on YouTube - click [here](#) to view.



While you're there, you can take a look at the other 15 videos created for the board on how AP has covered important stories from the inauguration of President Abraham Lincoln to the present day.



Since its founding in 2003, The Corporate Archive has curated exhibits, based on archival holdings, that tell the story of AP and its journalists. We recently added a selection of exhibit brochures to our page on ap.org. Click [here](#) to view. *(Thanks to Francesca Pitaro, archivist for Corporate Archives, for sharing.)*

"I can't wait to go to my newsroom"

Finally, this good news as noted in the lead item today of Stories of Interest:

"Two Reuters reporters freed in Myanmar after more than 500 days in jail," by Reuters' Simon Lewis and Shoon Naing in Yangon: "Two Reuters journalists jailed in Myanmar after they were convicted of breaking the Official Secrets Act walked free from a prison on the outskirts of Yangon on Tuesday after spending more than 500 days behind bars. The two reporters, Wa Lone, 33, and Kyaw Soe Oo, 29, had been convicted in September and sentenced to seven years in jail ...

"They were released under a presidential amnesty for 6,520 prisoners on Tuesday. ... Swamped by media and well-wishers as they walked through the gates of Insein Prison, a grinning Wa Lone gave a thumbs up and said he was grateful for the international efforts to

secure their freedom. 'I'm really happy and excited to see my family and my colleagues. I can't wait to go to my newsroom,' he said."

Have a great day!

Paul

The AP 2008 Annual Report

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND CEO



Gary Pruitt, President and CEO (left), and Steven Swartz, Chairman

In 2018, The Associated Press put the full scope and scale of our mission to inform the world on display.

Our talented, courageous and tireless journalists met relentless partisanship with relentless accuracy, independence and objectivity. And we braved war zones, severe weather and natural disasters, among other obstacles, in pursuit of breaking news and untold stories across the globe.

In an unprecedented performance for AP, five of our reporting efforts were finalists for Pulitzer Prizes this past year, and one of those - our coverage of the Yemen civil war - won the 2018 prize for international reporting. The story of Yemen's Dirty War, told through a series of investigative stories, photos and video, provided a prime example of our ability to push beyond the surface of unfolding events to expose facts that the world would not otherwise know.

We couldn't be prouder of our Pulitzer finalists and the deep reporting, fully integrated multimedia journalism and teamwork that we are bringing to our news report worldwide.

Elsewhere in 2018, our unbiased coverage distinguished AP's reporting on President Donald Trump and U.S. politics. AP's journalism - including the immigration crisis, Cabinet changes, the back-and-forth with Chief Justice John Roberts over judicial independence, the midterm elections and the Mueller investigation - helped unleash the truth in a fast-evolving, complex set of stories that captured attention worldwide.

Likewise, AP's coverage of the 2018 midterm election was exceptionally strong. Hundreds of AP journalists and staff in every state collaborated to bring our customers the story in all media formats, providing important context and analysis while also showcasing voters' diverse voices.

With the launch of our new VoteCast service in time for the election cycle, AP pioneered a groundbreaking form of public opinion polling in partnership with NORC at the University of Chicago. Designed to overcome the bias and inaccuracies inherent in traditional exit polls, AP VoteCast proved an unqualified success in its first big test in the U.S. midterms. Based on an enormous voter survey of nearly 140,000 respondents, the new service offered deep, state-by-state insights on voter perspectives, illustrated with text and graphics automatically generated directly from the data as it was collected. Looking ahead, we expect AP VoteCast to become an even more important component of our coverage in the 2020 presidential season and general election.

Fact checking has always been a critical pillar of AP's coverage of campaigns and government, and elections-related work with Facebook supplemented our midterm coverage. AP journalists fact-checked national, state and local election-related content, developing rock-solid stories that debunked misinformation, validated facts or provided additional background and context.

Read more of this and the annual report [here](#).

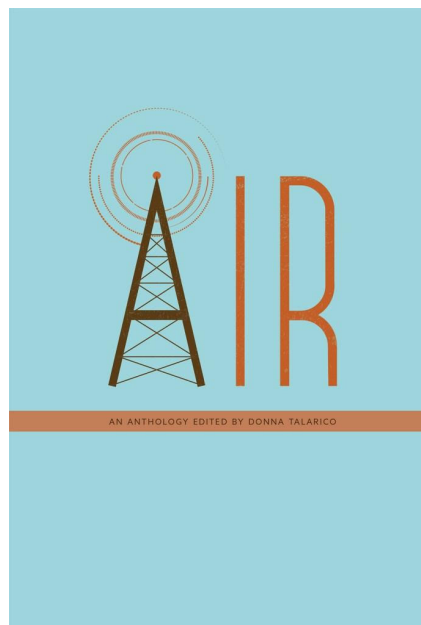
Connecting mailbox

Take a look at 'Air' - and let me know what you think

Brian Bland ([Email](#)) - I want to let Connecting readers know about "Air," a just-published anthology of memoirs about radio, including a piece by yours truly. The two dozen stories will appeal to anyone who worked in pre-automation radio, especially in small markets. AP folks and others who worked alone in small buros can surely relate, as well. (However, the emphasis is not on news).

My piece recounts misadventures in 1963-64 at an FM station in an Illinois cornfield, where challenges ranged from the eccentric owner, to thunderstorms, field mice and dozing DJ's.

Other stories include the pitfalls of re-creating baseball games, goofy sales promotions, the nightmare of dead air, "Boss" radio, overnight (literally) format changes and a collision between Muzak and rock during an early effort at automation.



Brian Bland

Although "Air" is a real book, the kind you can hold, it's published by Hippocampus Magazine, an online operation which has expanded into traditional publishing.

One tiny caveat: the book has few typos, but the publisher changed the words "Democrat" and "Republican" to lowercase -- in my story! I'm calling for a Special Counsel to get to the bottom of that.

Still, the price is right, at \$12.00. (Contributors were paid a flat fee -very flat -- but we still hope the book sells a million). Click [here](#) for the link for ordering.

Then click on "Books and Products (Store)". That will bring up several book covers, with "Air" on the left with an "add to cart" box underneath.

It's also available on Amazon. Go to Amazon books, type "Air, a radio anthology" in its search window; that will take you to the book's ordering page.

I'd love to hear from you after you've read "Air."

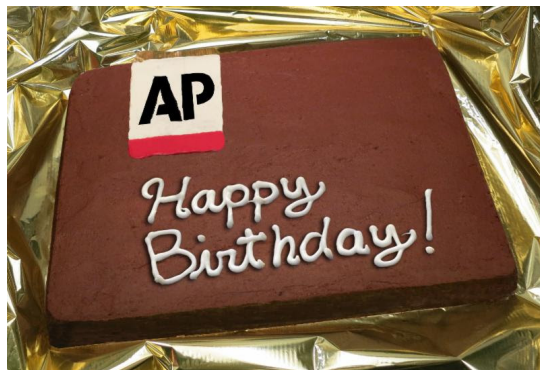
Thanks, Paul, and everyone.

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'I expect to continue exercising until the day before I die'

Joe Galu (Email) - My congratulations to Jim Hood on MY 77th birthday. Thanks to a Bowflex, my back has not "gone out" in more than 20 years. I can't touch my toes, but I can get out of chairs without fainting and can both bend down and get back up reliably. And I don't look my age. I warm up a little and do half a workout almost every day. I fully intend to look about the way I do today in three years when I turn 80. It must be in my blood -- my older (almost 79) brother still works full time at his day job and runs a tax business in the evening. I may have a touch of tennis elbow in my left, but I get more exercise than lifting a can of beer to my lips. Like most of the others who enjoy regular exercise, I expect to continue exercising until the day before I die. And if I die late in the day, I expect to have exercised that day too.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Mike Feinsilber - mikefeinsilber@gmail.com

Bud Hunt - budhunt72@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Two Reuters reporters freed in Myanmar after more than 500 days in jail



Reuters journalists Wa Lone, left, and Kyaw Soe Oo wave as they walk out from Insein Prison after being released in Yangon, Myanmar, on May 7, 2019. (AP Photo/Thein Zaw)

By Simon Lewis, Shoon Naing

YANGON (Reuters) - Two Reuters journalists jailed in Myanmar after they were convicted of breaking the Official Secrets Act walked free from a prison on the outskirts of Yangon on Tuesday after spending more than 500 days behind bars.

The two reporters, Wa Lone, 33, and Kyaw Soe Oo, 29, had been convicted in September and sentenced to seven years in jail, in a case that raised questions about Myanmar's progress toward democracy and sparked an outcry from diplomats and human rights advocates.

They were released under a presidential amnesty for 6,520 prisoners on Tuesday. President Win Myint has pardoned thousands of other prisoners in mass amnesties since last month.

Read more [here](#).

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49 Years After the Kent State Shootings, New Photos Are Revealed (Time)



Teenager Mary Ann Vecchio (kneeling, with white neckerchief) and others surround the body of Kent State University student Jeffrey Miller (1950 - 1970) who had been shot during an anti-war demonstration on the university campus, Kent, Ohio, May 4, 1970. The protests, initially over the US invasion of Cambodia, resulted in the deaths of four students, including Miller, and the injuries of nine others after the National Guard opened fire on students. Vecchio (who was not a KSU student) was also photographed in the Pulitzer prize-winning photograph (also by John Filo) that came to define the event. John Filo-Getty Images.

BY TARA LAW

Photography has shaped the American memory of the May 4, 1970, Kent State shootings.

The image of a young woman screaming in horror as she crouches beside the body of a student has become the defining moment of the day when National Guardsmen shot and killed four students at Kent State University in Ohio.

This year, on the 49th anniversary of the shooting, history's lens has gotten a little wider. Getty Images has released previously unpublished pictures revealing the weekend leading up to the tragedy, the moments when the guards opened fire and the grief afterwards.

Read more [here](#). (John Filo, who won the Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of the Kent State shootings, is a former AP photojournalist now with CBS News - and a Connecting colleague.)

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CBS News names new evening anchor, revamps morning show



This combination of 2015, 2018 and 2019 photos shows CBS's John Dickerson, Norah O'Donnell and Gayle King, right. CBS News is replacing its evening anchor and revamping its morning show lineup as it seeks to boost ratings. The network announced Monday, May 6, 2019, on "CBS This Morning" co-host Norah O'Donnell will replace Jeff Glor as anchor of the "CBS Evening News" this summer. Gayle King will remain co-host of "CBS This Morning." John Dickerson, who hopped from political director to "Face the Nation" moderator in 2015 to "CBS This Morning" as Rose's replacement in January 2018, will become a correspondent for "60 Minutes." (Photo by Richard Shotwell, Brent N. Clarke, Charles Sykes/Invision/AP, File)

By LYNN ELBER

Norah O'Donnell will become anchor and managing editor of the "CBS Evening News" and Gayle King is getting two new morning show co-hosts as CBS News seeks to boost the programs' ratings and put a tumultuous, scandal-scarred period behind it.

The changes announced Monday were orchestrated by Susan Zirinsky, a 47-year CBS News veteran who took over in March as the division's president. Her predecessor left after Charlie Rose at "CBS This Morning" and the top executive at "60 Minutes" lost their jobs following misconduct allegations.

"This is a start of a new era for CBS News," Zirinsky said in a statement.

In an interview, she said change was demanded by both internal events - she likened the past few years at CBS News to the children's books known as "A Series of Unfortunate Events" - and political and media realities.

"Breaking through the cacophony of voices and choices for news is quite extraordinary. And to take a venerable legacy network like CBS and help it break through the clutter was my goal. And how do you do that? You shake it up," she said. "I have the baseline, the phenomenal reporters of CBS News both domestically and abroad, but to take something that is very stuck in the past and take it to a new place" is the goal.

Read more [here](#).

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NPR debuts a new Morning Edition theme, and the fact that people care shows the continued power of old-fashioned, non-Internet radio

(Nieman)

By JOSHUA BENTON

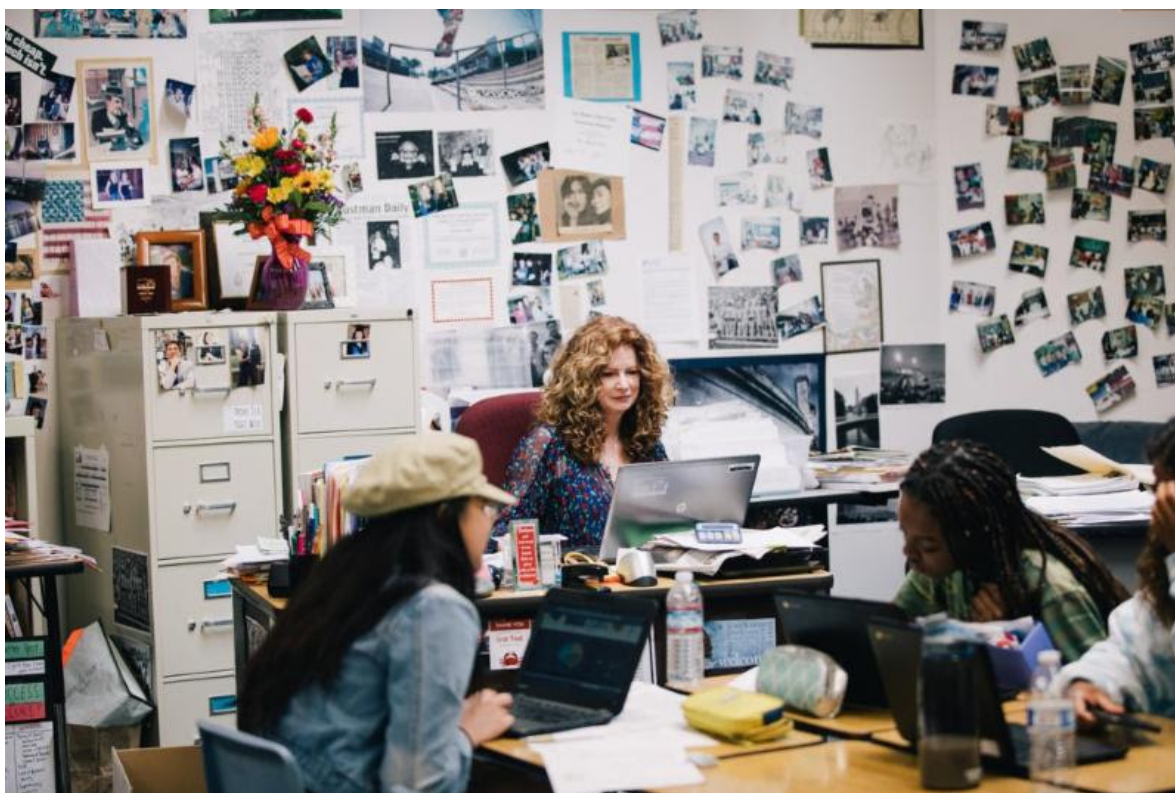
In an auditory move that no doubt ruined some people's wake-up alarms this morning, NPR's Morning Edition changed its theme music for the first time in its 40-year history this morning. The old theme, by public-radio-theme auteur B.J. Leiderman, was perhaps the single most public-radio-y thing on public radio - a few

seconds of music that pushed every cultural association you might have with NPR top of mind. Instead of gently rousing you in a '70s commune smelling of patchouli, the new theme is a little faster, a little more percussive, and significantly more focused on handclaps. Have a listen:

Click [here](#) to read more.

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Writing About Teenager Who Makes Sex Videos, School Paper Becomes the News (New York Times)



The Bruin Voice, a student publication at Bear Creek High School in Stockton, Calif., battled with the Lodi school district over publishing a story. Credit/Anastasiia Sapon for The New York Times

By Tiffany Hsu

The Bear Creek High School newspaper has profiled notable students - athletes, budding entrepreneurs, academic whizzes - without incident for decades.

But an article that appeared Friday in The Bruin Voice caused an uproar over free speech, feminism and student journalism, all before it was even published.

The 18-year-old subject is a senior at the school in Stockton, Calif., one of more than 2,100 students.

She also makes her own pornographic videos.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Michael Rubin.

Today in History - May 7, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, May 7, the 127th day of 2019. There are 238 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 7, 1945, Germany signed an unconditional surrender at Allied headquarters in Rheims (rams), France, ending its role in World War II.

On this date:

In 1763, Pontiac, chief of the Ottawa Indians, attempted to lead a sneak attack on British-held Fort Detroit, but was foiled because the British had been tipped off in advance.

In 1789, America's first inaugural ball was held in New York in honor of President George Washington, who had taken the oath of office a week earlier.

In 1915, a German U-boat torpedoed and sank the British liner RMS Lusitania off the southern coast of Ireland, killing 1,198 people, including 128 Americans, out of the nearly 2,000 on board.

In 1939, Germany and Italy announced a military and political alliance known as the Rome-Berlin Axis.

In 1945, the 1944 Pulitzer Prizes were awarded; winners included John Hersey for his novel "A Bell for Adano," Mary Chase for her play "Harvey," and Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal for his picture of the Iwo Jima flag-raising.

In 1954, the 55-day Battle of Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam ended with Vietnamese insurgents overrunning French forces.

In 1963, the United States launched the Telstar 2 communications satellite.

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford formally declared an end to the "Vietnam era." In Ho Chi Minh City - formerly Saigon - the Viet Cong celebrated its takeover.

In 1984, a \$180 million out-of-court settlement was announced in the Agent Orange class-action suit brought by Vietnam veterans who said they'd been injured by exposure to the defoliant.

In 1992, the latest addition to America's space shuttle fleet, Endeavour, went on its first flight.

In 1998, the parent company of Mercedes-Benz agreed to buy Chrysler Corp. for more than \$37 billion. Londoners voted overwhelmingly to elect their own mayor for the first time in history. (In May 2000, Ken Livingstone was elected.)

In 2004, Army Pfc. Lynndie England, shown in photographs smiling and pointing at naked Iraqi prisoners, was charged by the military with assaulting the detainees and conspiring to mistreat them. (England was later convicted of conspiracy, mistreating detainees and committing an indecent act, and sentenced to 36 months; she served half that term.)

Ten years ago: A federal jury in Paducah, Kentucky, convicted a former soldier, Steven Dale Green, of raping and fatally shooting a 14-year-old girl after killing her parents and younger sister while he was serving in Iraq. (Green was sentenced to life without possibility of parole; he hanged himself in prison in February 2014.) Former Illinois police Sgt. Drew Peterson was indicted for murder in the death of his third wife, Kathleen Savio. (Peterson was convicted of murdering Savio, and was sentenced to 38 years in prison.) Mickey Carroll, one of the last surviving Munchkins from the 1939 film "The Wizard of Oz," died in Crestwood, Missouri, at age 89.

Five years ago: Russian President Vladimir Putin softened his tone in a confrontation with the West, declaring that he had pulled his troops away from the Ukrainian border. The Nation's Report Card said America's high school seniors lacked critical math and reading skills for an increasingly competitive global economy. The International Olympic Committee awarded the exclusive U.S. broadcast rights to NBC for an additional six games in a record \$7.75 billion deal.

One year ago: First lady Melania Trump unveiled what she called the "Be Best" public awareness campaign to help children, focusing on childhood well-being, social media use and opioid abuse. Retired Lt. Col. Oliver North, the Marine at the center of the Iran-Contra affair in the Reagan administration, was named president of the National Rifle Association. New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman announced that he would be resigning from office after he was accused of physical violence by women with whom he had been involved; Schneiderman had been a high-profile advocate for women's issues.

Today's Birthdays: Rhythm-and-blues singer Thelma Houston is 76. Actress Robin Strasser is 74. Singer-songwriter Bill Danoff is 73. Rock musician Bill Kreutzmann (Grateful Dead) is 73. Utah Gov. Gary Herbert is 72. Rock musician Prairie Prince is 69. Movie writer-director Amy Heckerling is 67. Actor Michael E. Knight is 60. Rock musician Phil Campbell (Motorhead) is 58. Country musician Rick Schell is 56. Rock singer-musician Chris O'Connor (Primitive Radio Gods) is 54. Actress Traci Lords is 51. Actor Morocco Omari is 49. Singer Eagle-Eye Cherry is 48. Actor Breckin Meyer is 45. Rock musician Matt Helders (Arctic Monkeys) is 33. Actress-comedian Aidy Bryant is 32. Actor Taylor Abrahamse is 28. Actor Alexander Ludwig is 27. Actress Dylan Gelula is 25.

Thought for Today: "Be a philosopher but, amid all your philosophy be still a man." - David Hume, Scottish philosopher (1711-1776).

Connecting calendar



May 15 - New Hampshire-Maine and environs AP-UPI-Journo lunch, Wednesday, May 15, noon, Longhorn restaurant, Concord, N.H. Contact: Adolphe Bernotas ([Email](#)).

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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