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## Connecting - August 08, 2019

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# Connecting

August 08, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of August 2019,

In a "Life After AP" story for today's edition, colleague **Pat Casey** tells about the continuation of his journalism career in Beijing - first with the Xinhua News Agency and later at CGTN, China's CNN.

Connecting would welcome your own story.

We bring you news of the recent death of Indiana newspaperman **Jack Howey**, who spent a long, rewarding career with the Peru Daily Tribune. Jack was devoted to the AP and served with distinction on the national APME board and the state APME organizations. I was among many Indianapolis AP bureau chiefs he befriended and counseled over his years with the then-Nixon Newspaper. My thoughts are with his wife **Mary Lou** and son **Brian**.

Have a great day!

Paul

## ***Life After AP:*** **Pat Casey continues journalism career in Beijing**



**Former Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Pat Casey exchange Chinese New Year greetings in the Xinhua newsroom.**

**Pat Casey (Email)** - I have been living in Beijing ever since the AP retired me in 2008. I worked for the Xinhua News Agency for the first five years after leaving New York. My primary duties involved copy editing English-language stories that the writers had translated from Mandarin. I also helped evaluate newly minted college graduates during Xinhua's yearly hiring process and conducted frequent seminars to teach Xinhua's reporters wire service reporting, writing and editing. Among my many bright students was Fares Akram, now the AP's Gaza correspondent.

While at Xinhua I met then-Premier Wen Jiabao when he visited our newsroom during the 2010 or 2011 Chinese New Year. We had a five-minute chat in Mandarin and I did a lot of smiling and nodding but unfortunately understood little of what he said. In 2013, I also was the first foreigner ever to be named Xinhua's best English-language copy editor.

In November of 2010, my wife and I took a fast train to Shanghai to visit her brother and his family for a few days. We also met up with AP golf writer Doug Ferguson, who was in town to cover the HSBC Champions. Doug and I both started out in the Oklahoma City bureau in the late '80s and marveled at reconnecting in Shanghai of all places so many years on. I had a good idea that my move to China would be permanent the next year when my wife and I purchased an apartment in the Beijing suburbs.

We bought another as well about two years later just before I joined the Global Business news program at CGTN, China's CNN. I didn't know much about TV at the time but my experience doing night broadcast shifts in Oklahoma City has paid off handsomely. In addition to copy editing for the show, I also teach the staff broadcast writing. It's fun.



**My wife, Zhang Wanli, AP golf writer Doug Ferguson and I at the 2010 HSBC Champions at the Sheshan Golf Club in Shanghai.**

Away from CGTN, my wife and I like to shoot photos. She enjoys nature and sunsets while I prefer black-and-white street photography. We also like to travel when we can. We've been to Hainan, the resort island in the South China Sea, Shanghai, the Great Wall, and Xi'an, the home of the famed terra cotta warriors. Other stops have included Hong Kong, Tianjin, Shenyang, Benxi and Bangkok, Thailand, where I visited with retired OKC and Southeast Asia photo editor David Longstreath.

Retirement is in the back of my mind but just when, who knows? Journalism and the AP have been very kind to me over the years and the news game remains as interesting as it's ever been. We will see.

# Connecting mailbox

## *Ashes of former AP bureau chief Dave Swearingen scattered to sea*



Photo by Jack Ronald

**Tim Swearingen** ([Email](#)) - son of AP bureau chief (Concord and Indianapolis) Dave Swearingen, who died in August 2018:

Twenty-five of Dad's family (including his three sons - Tim, Jeff, and Greg; both sisters; Gloria and Joyce, and many nieces, nephews, and grandchildren), friends, and colleagues gathered Tuesday on Half Mile Beach in Georgetown, Maine. Among them were Jack Ronald, who became a friend of Dave while publisher of The Commercial Review in Portland, Indiana, and his wife, Connie.

A brief Episcopalian service was held and Dave's ashes were scattered to the sea. We know that this was everything our Dad wanted and he is now a part of his

beloved Maine.

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## ***Former Tribune editor Jack Howey dies at age 93***



**Jack Howey, flanked by his wife Mary Lou and son Brian, at his 92nd birthday a year ago.**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Connecting colleague Jack Howey was a hugely supportive member of the AP in Indiana throughout his career and served with distinction on the APME national board as well as with the state APME organization.

INDIANAPOLIS - Hoosier journalist Jack Eugene Howey, who reported, edited and published newspapers for a half century and helped draft Indiana's Open Door Law, passed away at 9:19 p.m. Wednesday at age 93.

As managing editor of the Peru Daily Tribune, it became the first Indiana newspaper to publish entire reports on school accreditation and paved the way for a new Peru High School that was built in 1971. Under his leadership, the Peru Daily Tribune was an early publication to give up hot type and use computer technology to put out the daily edition.

On one occasion when Howey learned that the Ku Klux Klan was planning a rally in a nearby hunting lodge, he and an FBI agent hid in bushes near the building. Howey wrote down the license plate numbers of the people attending and fearlessly published them the next day. The KKK was subsequently unable to reestablish itself in Miami County.

Read more [here](#). [weldeer1@yahoo.com](mailto:weldeer1@yahoo.com)

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## ***Digital camera story elicits memories***

**Guy Palmiotto** ([Email](#)) - Jim Gerberich's NC2000 story (in Wednesday's Connecting) brought back some memories. The digital revolution brought new responsibilities and changes to the NYC Darkroom. Those early digital files at times could require some effort in post processing, especially with the early versions of Photoshop. In some instances, we'd have to convert these files to film internegs for printing to support our Wide World Sales dept.

It was great to see a fledgling technology evolve and transform Photojournalism.

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## ***Kodak's missed opportunity***

**Jim Rowley (Email)** - Jim Gerberich offers a fascinating account of AP's inauguration of the age of digital news photography. It provides new insight into Kodak's demise as the leading photography company, a topic of great interest to me because my father spent his career there. I didn't know that Kodak's invention of the digital camera occurred as early as 1975, when I was a young reporter at the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle.

The city of my childhood and youth during the 50s, 60s and 70s was an island of stable economic prosperity in a region vulnerable to the ups and downs of the business cycle. This was due in large part to Kodak's virtual monopoly on camera film.

By the late 1970s, Kodak was so consumed with competing with Polaroid for instant photography that it bought itself a \$900 million patent-infringement case verdict. The Polaroid distraction helps explain why Kodak squandered the digital first-mover advantage because of deep skepticism among top Kodak managers about the value of its invention. Complacency at Kodak induced by its domination of the film business was a big factor, as well.

A former marketing executive told me that Kodak's executives viewed digital imaging as an inferior alternative to film and decided it couldn't ever produce the same quality pictures.

As Jim Gerberich's piece makes clear, the early digital cameras had their flaws and needed many improvements before they could be useful to news organizations, let alone consumers. But if Kodak had focused on the potentials of the new technology rather than its pitfalls, the company might still be a leader in the field.

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## ***Those noisy gadgets***

**Sibby Christensen (Email)** - Some solace and perhaps some useful information for Doug Tucker, Martha Malan and others who suspect newsroom gadgets contribute to hearing loss and/or tinnitus:

Noise of any kind has been recognized as a cause. But constant, mechanically repetitive noise can create an earworm that's hard to shake even after leaving the premises.

My own misery comes primarily at home, with a rogue air system in a nearby apartment. A sound engineer (recommended by NYC's noise guru, Arline Bronzaft) set up monitoring equipment in my place for a 24-hour stretch while I took refuge with a friend. His verdict was that the racket measured in infrasound (below the decibel range) which like ultrasound (above) cannot be picked up by a common sound meter. It's felt or sensed rather than heard, and common in our tech world. Try to explain that to real estate management, which would prefer not to know. During my working days it was a relief to escape to the relative peace and quiet of midtown Manhattan.

Some advice:

\* Concentrate on another sound source, like music, to help you deal with tinnitus. The American Tinnitus Association ([ata.org](http://ata.org)) has useful information.

\* Take quiet breaks away from the noise, even for a few minutes.

\* Recognize that earplugs or carpeting will soften noise, but neither provides soundproofing.

\* Watching TV? Turn the audio down or off and click the "CC" switch for captioning. Dialog is translated by voice recognition software, with some human intervention. A good choice for TV monitors in work areas.

Tinnitus can be managed. But there's no cure yet for hearing loss, so use your expensive hearing aids.

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## ***Teletypes he rebuilt carried his initials***

**Paul Webster (Email)** - I spent 40 years with AP at place to place, a lot of travel! Your mention of those noisy TTY machines reminded me of the hundreds of them I took apart and rebuilt at 50 Rock and then 10th Ave. The initials PDW on the little



white tags on the right side got a lot of comments. Will be 87 in November but still recall those good old days!

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## ***Remembering Bob Watson, friend of AP***



**Bob Watson, at right, asks a question of Gov. Eric Greitens during a news conference in his Capitol office. March 2, 2017, was Associated Press Day at the Capitol during which members of the Missouri Press Association attended the afternoon question and answer session in the Governor's Office. Seated next to Watson are Jason Hancock, of the Kansas City Star, and Scott Lauck, of Missouri Lawyers Media. Photo by Julie Smith /News Tribune.**

**Scott Charton** ([Email](#)) - Member assistance has always been a vital part of AP coverage. In statehouses, where AP has kept a steady presence even as newspaper coverage has constricted despite the many and complex moving parts of state government, member cooperation is particularly prized. Bob Watson, for 30 years a Missouri Capitol reporter for the Jefferson City News-Tribune, was a prime exemplar of generous help for the AP. Watson, 68, died at St. Mary's Hospital in Jefferson City on Sunday, August 4, after surgery following a brief illness.

Watson fit the image of an old-school, shoe-leather reporter (except for the hard-drinking stereotype; to my knowledge, he was a teetotaler). His rumpled suit jacket held a dozen pens of varying ink levels. He soldiered through hours-long legislative floor debates and tedious hearings. He took copious notes, always (and unusual for most reporters) in neat and readable print. Watson even color-coded his notes in a method known only to him. He was the first newspaper reporter I ever met who routinely recorded interviews and news conferences, which he cheerfully shared with overloaded colleagues who had other pressing assignments. He was a tenacious questioner, often calling out to newsmakers first. And if a dodgy politician or bureaucrat tried to deflect and then ignore a reporter's followups, Watson would often take up where the shunned journalist left off in pursuit of answers.

I remember one particular episode. When the air war started in Operation Desert Storm in January 1991, the Jefferson City bureau was among those tasked with gathering "real people" reactions to the first major U.S. military action since Vietnam. Newsman Carl Manning headed out into the night, but as usual, the sidewalks were rolled up in the small town. He came across Watson, who was sweeping the sidewalk in front of downtown First Presbyterian Church as part of his volunteer service to his congregation. When Manning explained his assignment and his challenge of finding ordinary citizens at that hour, Watson noted the church choir was rehearsing inside, and offered to make introductions. Sure enough, in his gentle way, Bob approached the choir leader to apologize for interrupting, and Carl was welcomed for interviews. The reactions he gathered helped lead the national roundup. Bob didn't have to help, but he volunteered without hesitation.

That's the kind of member bond I miss in retirement from the AP, and it is surely a quality I will miss with the passing of Watson, whose funeral is Friday at the same church. Click [here](#) for a story on his career.

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***Allow me to introduce my favorite mugs***



**Cliff Schiappa (Email)** - Asking to name my favorite mug is like asking a parent to choose their favorite child. When I moved last year, I had about three dozen mugs to lose while still keeping my favorites. In this photo each mug has a special place in my heart for different reasons:

Top Row left is a Super Bowl mug given to me by the late AP St. Louis photographer James Finley. When I received it I thought "what a gawd-awful looking mug." Now I cherish it because it reminds me of my dear colleague James.

Top Row right was given to me by former AP Milwaukee CoB Lee Hughes as thanks for filling in for him on a month-long medical leave. I like the simplicity of the AP bug and the bold red color. I've not seen another one like it.

Front Row left was a gift from my longtime friend, the late UPI photographer Charlie (Chas) Cancellare who covered the wedding of Princess Di. It never goes in the dishwasher.

Front Row middle from the Barcelona Olympics in 1992 which was a wonderful event, but also reminds me of the week prior to the games when AP colleagues Claudia Counts, Maggie Walker, Vivian Bonatti and I spent a glorious and relaxing vacation in the seaside resort of Sitges, Spain.

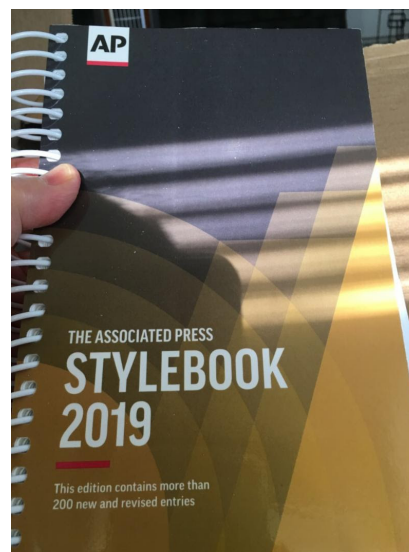
And finally at front right is a mug from my favorite small town newspaper that has a simple round shape that is so comfortable and comforting to use on a drizzly morning. I don't get to use it very often here in the desert!

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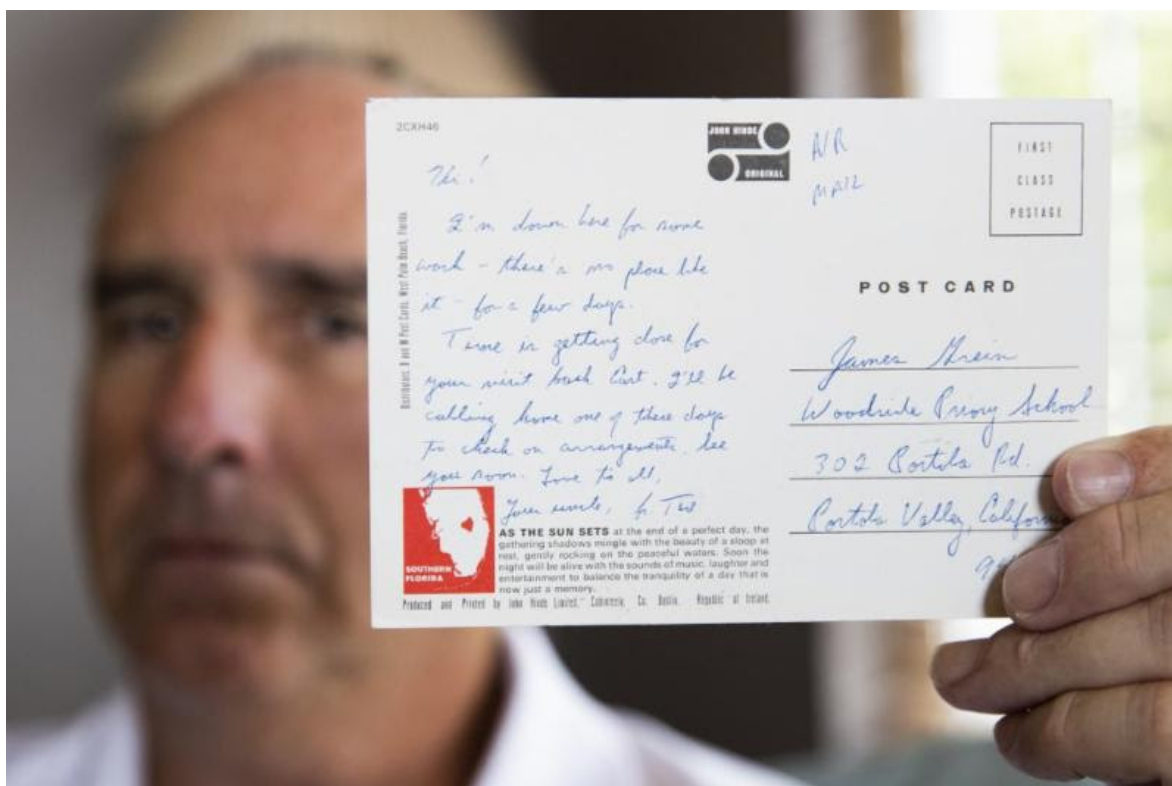
## ***My new AP Stylebook arrived!***

**Ed Williams** ([Email](#)) - My 2019 AP Stylebook just got delivered! I had been using the 2013 Stylebook since my retirement (from Auburn University) six years ago, and I got embarrassed last week when I made an AP Style posting on Facebook and got corrected by a friend that "flyer flier" been updated.

I won't let that happen again. Not only do I have the latest Stylebook, which is a great improvement over the 2013 version, I have a 30-day trial of the Online Stylebook which is excellent. Nothing wrong with having both, right?



## **In his own words: Ex-Cardinal's letters to abuse victims**



**James Grein, 61, at his house in Sterling, Va., Friday, July 26, 2019, holds a Florida postcard sent to him when he was 15 years old by now-defrocked Cardinal Theodore McCarrick. Letters and postcards from McCarrick wrote to three men he allegedly sexually abused and harassed show how he groomed his victims, experts say. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)**

**By NICOLE WINFIELD**

VATICAN CITY (AP) - At first glance, the handwritten postcards and letters look innocuous, even warm, sometimes signed off by "Uncle T." or "Your uncle, Father Ted."

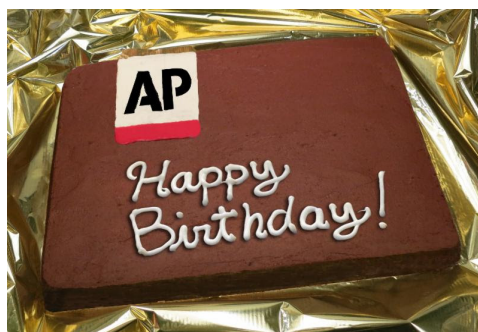
But taken in context, the correspondence penned by disgraced ex-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick to the young men he is accused of sexually abusing or harassing is a window into the way a predator grooms his prey, according to two abuse prevention experts who reviewed it for The Associated Press.

Full of flattery, familiarity and boasts about his own power, the letters provide visceral evidence of how a globe-trotting bishop made young, vulnerable men feel special - and then allegedly took advantage of them.

The AP is exclusively publishing correspondence McCarrick wrote to three men ahead of the promised release of the Vatican's own report into who knew what and when about his efforts to bed would-be priests. Access to an archbishop for young men seeking to become priests "is a key piece of the grooming process here," said one of the experts, Monica Applewhite.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Albright.

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Steve Crowley - [scrowley727@yahoo.com](mailto:scrowley727@yahoo.com)

## Stories of interest

### ***Democrats' frustration with the news media boils over*** (Politico)

By MICHAEL CALDERONE and ALEX THOMPSON

A liberal backlash against the news media's coverage of Donald Trump and the 2020 race was already brewing when the New York Times published a five-word headline Monday night summarizing the president's reaction to the mass shootings over the weekend: "Trump Urges Unity Vs. Racism."

"Unbelievable," steamed Beto O'Rourke. "That's not what happened," wrote Kirsten Gillibrand. "Lives literally depend on you doing better," Cory Booker tweeted.

New York Times executive editor Dean Baquet said senior editors quickly recognized problems with the original headline Monday night and rewrote it. "The fact that Beto O'Rourke and Cory Booker didn't like it didn't influence me," Baquet said in an interview Tuesday. "I don't need the entire political field to tell me we wrote a bad headline. It was evident."

Still, the furious response capped an outpouring of frustration lately from 2020 candidates, Democratic strategists and left-leaning columnists over everything from CNN's handling of last week's primary debate to coverage of race and white supremacists to the years-old gripe that news organizations are too willing to amplify Trump's words.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Are you OK?*** (Poynter)

**By KRISTEN HARE**

The last time I really felt numb was the day of the Pulse nightclub shooting. I spent two days in an empty office in the Orlando Sentinel's newsroom. And when they had a moment, the journalists there stopped by to talk to me for a story about their stories.

I got the sense that for a lot of them, it was one of the first times they'd had a chance to reflect on the horrific thing they were covering.

So I did that thing we do when covering the unimaginable - I built a wall around my emotions, and then I worked and worked and worked.

I didn't lose anyone I knew or loved to that mass shooting. I wasn't talking to police officers or family members. I wasn't waiting at the hospital or questioning politicians. I was hearing the stories of the storytellers. And it led to a kind of distant but real trauma, which for me meant I felt numb for awhile.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Japanese Newspaper Circulation Drops by 10 Million Since 2000*** (Nippon.com)

Newspaper readership continues to decline in Japan. In 2018, the average daily number of general-interest newspapers printed plunged by almost 2 million or 5.0% to 36,823,021. This is a drop of more than 10 million compared with 2000, a figure larger than the entire 8.5 million print run for the daily morning edition of the nation's most popular newspaper, the Yomiuri Shimbun.

Even including figures for sports newspapers, total circulation has dropped below 40 million for the first time. Per household purchases of newspapers now stand at 0.7 copies.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Kazuo Abiko.

## **The Final Word**

### ***Obituaries are the only redemptive news anymore*** (Washington Post)

**By Philip Kennicott**

Toni Morrison is dead. So are D.A. Pennebaker and Aretha Franklin, and Philip Roth, Stephen Hawking, Ursula K. Le Guin, Milos Forman and too many others to name, even when limited to artists and writers who have perished in the past few years alone. By some accounts, two people die every second, thousands every hour, tens of millions every year. But at this moment in American life, the death of our best people has become a collective lifeline and refuge from our anxieties. It sometimes seems that the obituary is the only news that makes us feel whole.



Morrison was our essential conscience, a writer of narrative brilliance and moral clarity. The magnitude of her loss, at this moment in our descent into barbarism, is incalculable. But to spend time today with her work, with memories of her life and the testimony of those who knew her, is infinitely more rewarding than reading about all the other terrible things that have happened in the past few days. The deaths of artists and other creators make us reflective, and we live at a moment when looking back is much easier than looking forward.

We also crave the reassurance that we are not, as a species, entirely spent. Morrison died only days after two mass shootings, which are not only a regular fixture of American life, but also a recurring reminder of our political paralysis and the corruption of our democracy. We are in the midst of a trade war, markets have plunged, Greenland is hemorrhaging ice and our president tweets racism to inflame a hungry audience of white nationalists who dream of a world without people like Morrison in it.

Read more [here](#).

## Today in History - August 8, 2019



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Thursday, Aug. 8, the 220th day of 2019. There are 145 days left in the year.

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

On August 8, 1974, President Richard Nixon, facing damaging new revelations in the Watergate scandal, announced he would resign the following day.

### **On this date:**

In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte set sail for St. Helena to spend the remainder of his days in exile.

In 1876, Thomas A. Edison received a patent for his mimeograph.

In 1942, during World War II, six Nazi saboteurs who were captured after landing in the U.S. were executed in Washington, D.C.; two others who cooperated with authorities were spared.

In 1945, President Harry S. Truman signed the U.S. instrument of ratification for the United Nations Charter. The Soviet Union declared war against Japan during World War II.

In 1968, the Republican national convention in Miami Beach nominated Richard Nixon for president on the first ballot.

In 1973, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew branded as "damned lies" reports he had taken kickbacks from government contracts in Maryland, and vowed not to resign - which he ended up doing.

In 1993, in Somalia, four U.S. soldiers were killed when a land mine was detonated underneath their vehicle, prompting President Bill Clinton to order Army Rangers to try to capture Somali warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid.

In 2000, the wreckage of the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley, which sank in 1864 after attacking the Union ship Housatonic, was recovered off the South Carolina coast and returned to port.

In 2002, Saddam Hussein organized a big military parade and then warned "the forces of evil" not to attack Iraq as he sought once more to shift the debate away from world demands that he live up to agreements that ended the Gulf War.

In 2003, the Boston Roman Catholic archdiocese offered \$55 million to settle more than 500 lawsuits stemming from alleged sex abuse by priests. (The archdiocese later settled for \$85 million.)

In 2006, Roger Goodell was chosen as the NFL's next commissioner.

In 2008, China opened the Summer Olympic Games with an extravaganza of fireworks and pageantry.

Ten years ago: Sonia Sotomayor was sworn in as the U.S. Supreme Court's first Hispanic and third female justice. A small plane collided with a sightseeing helicopter over the Hudson River in New York City, killing nine people, including five Italian tourists. Typhoon Morakot

slammed into Taiwan, leaving more than 670 either dead or missing (the typhoon also killed 22 people in the Philippines and eight in China).

Five years ago: The U.S. unleashed its first airstrikes against the Islamic State group in northern Iraq amid a worsening humanitarian crisis. Israel and militants from Gaza resumed cross-border attacks, after a three-day truce expired.

One year ago: The United States announced that it would impose new sanctions on Russia for illegally using a chemical weapon in an attempt to kill a former spy and his daughter in Britain. Australian golfer Jarrod Lyle died at the age of 36 after a long battle with cancer. A Montana coroner said the death of "Superman" actress Margot Kidder had been ruled a suicide from a drug and alcohol overdose.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Nita Talbot is 89. Actor Dustin Hoffman is 82. Actress Connie Stevens is 81. Country singer Phil Balsley (The Statler Brothers) is 80. Actor Larry Wilcox is 72. Actor Keith Carradine is 70. Movie director Martin Brest is 68. Radio-TV personality Robin Quivers is 67. Percussionist Anton Fig is 66. Actor Donny Most is 66. Rock musician Dennis Drew (10,000 Maniacs) is 62. TV personality Deborah Norville is 61. Actor-singer Harry Crosby is 61. Rock musician The Edge (U2) is 58. Rock musician Rikki Rockett (Poison) is 58. Rapper Kool Moe Dee is 57. Rock musician Ralph Rieckermann is 57. Middle distance runner Suzy Favor Hamilton is 51. Rock singer Scott Stapp is 46. Country singer Mark Wills is 46. Actor Kohl Sudduth is 45. Rock musician Tom Linton (Jimmy Eat World) is 44. Singer JC Chasez ('N Sync) is 43. Actress Tawny Cypress is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Drew Lachey (Iah-SHAY') (98 Degrees) is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Marsha Ambrosius is 42. Actress Lindsay Sloane is 42. Actress Countess Vaughn is 41. Actor Michael Urie is 39. Tennis player Roger Federer is 38. Actress Meagan Good is 38. Rock musician Eric Howk (Portugal. The Man) is 38. Actress Jackie Cruz (TV: "Orange is the New Black") is 35. Britain's Princess Beatrice of York is 31. Actor Ken Baumann is 30. Chicago Cubs first baseman Anthony Rizzo is 30. Pop singer Shawn Mendes is 21. Actress Bebe Wood (TV: "The Real O'Neals") is 18.

**Thought for Today: "It is the anonymous 'they,' the enigmatic 'they' who are in charge. Who is 'they'? I don't know. Nobody knows. Not even 'they' themselves." - Joseph Heller, American author (1923-1999).**

## Connecting calendar



**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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