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Connecting - August 09, 2019

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Fri, Aug 9, 2019 at 8:42 AM

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Connecting

August 09, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 9th day of August 2019,

What you'll learn by reading today's issue:

Is the camera phone a descendant of the AP's first digital camera?

How being an AP reporter helped the success of his daughter.

A mini-documentary on the notes a renowned AP courts reporter took in covering the Tate-LiBianca murder trial 50 years ago.

A bi-coastal meeting of two who covered early space shuttle flights.

And more.

Have a great weekend!

Paul

Are today's mobile phone cameras a descendant of the AP digital camera?

Jim Gerberich ([Email](#)) - The phone cameras today aren't a direct result of what happened in the news business in the early to mid'90s. Every manufacturer was looking for a consumer angle and with digital there were new entries to the camera market that never were players before.

The AP Kodak camera was the disrupter that kicked off the digital revolution in the news market. Companies took notice of what Kodak and AP had done. Canon Japan ordered a camera (the AP NC2000 was based on a Nikon) a few months following the launch.

And, not to be lost this, AP's early innovation with digital scanning and distribution followed by digital cameras upended the traditional photo workflow that had not changed much (other than the introduction of newer types of cameras) for many years. Leaf Systems was at the forefront of the commercial photography market - those photographers shooting high-end product and advertising photography required a much higher quality. These were cameras used for high-quality advertising work. Very expensive, very high quality, but in the early days, not very portable.

Toward the mid-90's early consumer versions of digital cameras were introduced by companies like Apple (produced by Kodak and Fujifilm), Casio, Nikon and Minolta. More suppliers entered the consumer market and it began to grow a few years later. The cameras were still in a handheld format (no phone) and remained light in use without many features.

In 2002-2003 cell phones started to incorporate simple cameras. At the same time, photo-oriented companies like Kodak and Fuji were looking for what the next big play would be in the consumer space. We participated in at least one, maybe more, focus groups that Kodak put together. We were really the exception - they were really looking at the consumer / consumable market, an order of magnitude larger than ours. Interestingly enough there were discussions at the time of what the future family entertainment center might be. Questions and discussion around how photos might be displayed and printed locally. Those efforts were to flesh out new product offerings.

By 2007 or so practically every new cell phone introduced had a camera and that accelerated the demise of film. Apple kicked it up a notch with the launch of the first iPhone in 2007. If you had an iPhone and used Apple's iPhoto application, you were all set. Funny how a little integration goes a long way. Cell phones became the new point and shoot, or Kodak Instamatic, if you will.

Today, in comparison, Apple's iPhoneX photo sensor is a minimum 8X greater in size compared to the NC 2000. And obviously it's far better in color fidelity and related features. But there's really more, the iPhone, like others, have much greater on-board storage, wireless connectivity, far improved color fidelity, among many other features.

Being a Reporter Pays Off



Steve Paulson (Email) - My daughter Nikki Frederick recently won an award naming her one of the top airmen in the world at U.S. Space Command, and she credited me, the Orlando Sentinel and The Associated Press for teaching her perseverance and tenacity. She got her first job selling candy at a local candy store

after graduating from college with a liberal arts degree and went on to master orbital mechanics and geophysics.

This is what she told the Air Force:

"Frederick looks up to her dad as a mentor because of his dedication to achieving what he wanted out of life. He knew he wanted to be a reporter from the time he was a boy," said Frederick. "He started throwing newspapers for the local Orlando Sentinel, then worked his way up to being a reporter for them and, eventually, the Associated Press. He taught me that if you set your mind on something and you work hard, you'll get to where you're meant to be in life."

It reminded me of the long nights and days tracking down sources and documents in the face of strong local media opposition showing shoddy workmanship at Denver International Airport, when I would rather have been at home helping my children study. The runways are now being replaced, and the concrete is crumbling in the giant terminal. Airport officials launched a truth squad opposing my stories, including one showing the airport was built in tornado alley. They were forced to put up signs designating the bathrooms as tornado shelters after three tornados danced down the runway, canceling flights. I facetiously suggested they rename the bathrooms the Steven K. Paulson Memorial Tornado Shelters. Click [here](#) for my story in the LA Times.

There were also late nights meeting with a source at the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant in a dark parking lot at a golf course getting classified documents showing workers were being exposed to radioactive plutonium. The workers union ordered its members not to talk to me, trying to save 5,000 jobs at the plant. One of my sources met me at the door with a gun after I tracked her down at the Colorado Department of Motor Vehicles, saying her life was in danger for speaking out. Associated Press Bureau Chief Joe McGowan gave me two years to investigate the plant and backed me when the government attacked my stories. Thousands of workers are now suing the federal government, saying many of them are now dying of cancer. The documents, including some that I obtained, have now been reported lost by the federal government as a lawsuit drags on in Denver. Click [here](#) for my story in the LA Times.

Journalists show these traits every day, spending long days and nights on the road and chasing tweets in the middle of the night, tracking down and persuading sources to risk their jobs to get the real story and get the documents to back them up. Photographers and videographers have to navigate police barricades to get the evidence to hold the government accountable. It takes perseverance and tenacity.

These are traits all journalists can be proud to follow as a profession dedicated to finding the truth. Journalists need the backing of the public and their leaders to pursue their calling.

The photo above is of me with my daughter at the Kennedy Space Center. She was there in December for the launch of the next generation of GPS satellites. Click [here](#) for a link to her story.

The Manson Notes - mini-doc on Linda Deutsch's coverage of Tate-LaBianca murders 50 years ago



AP Photo

Trenton Daniel ([Email](#)) - If journalism is the first draft of history, the saying goes, then what are the notes and scribbles that compose that initial sketch? What do we make of the color and quotes on paper that lend shape to a story?

These were some of the animating questions behind "The Manson Notes," a mini-doc that looks at former AP Special Correspondent Linda Deutsch's front-row seat to

the Tate-LaBianca murders and the subsequent trial with Charles Manson and three of his followers. The latest piece for AP's Original Programming initiative, the video was pegged to the 50th anniversary of those ghastly killings in Los Angeles.

Linda is nothing if not the consummate notetaker. In March, she mailed three boxes of Manson material to AP Corporate Archives, an addition to an already extensive collection of records that spans from 1960 to 2009 (the Linda Deutsch Papers, filling 72 boxes, are the archive's biggest collection of personal papers). The new material includes color-coded notepads, cassettes from Manson's first parole hearing, in 1978 (these had to be digitized to learn what was on them), newspaper clippings and pocket calendars documenting important hearings (as well as Linda's taste in movies).

Linda has talked about her Manson coverage before. But we thought that her notes might lend a sense of intimacy that couldn't be replicated elsewhere. So we asked her to read over her notebooks while on a stop at headquarters last June. It turns out she had jotted down some of Manson's more well-known lines ("These children that come at you with knives, they are your children. You taught them. I didn't teach them. I just tried to help them stand up."). It's notes like these that underscore the AP journalist's proximity to history.

Watch "The Manson Notes" [here](#)

Bicoastal space shuttle reunion



Retired AP Science Writer Lee Siegel, left, AP Aerospace Writer Marcia Dunn, right, and her 13-year-old son Nicolas, center, in front of the whale statue at Depoe Bay, Ore.

Lee Siegel ([Email](#)) - After Marcia Dunn became AP's aerospace writer at Cape Canaveral in 1990, she had a work habit that I - then AP/Los Angeles science writer - found slightly irritating: When weather in Florida was bad and the space shuttle was due to land, Marcia would wake me up at some ungodly hour like 3 a.m. and tell me to get my hindquarters up to Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., to cover the shuttle landing there.

Despite working closely on shuttle landings until I left AP in 1993, Marcia and I had met in person only once and briefly when she visited LA. I went on to work for the Salt Lake Tribune, [space.com](#) and the University of Utah before retiring in 2016 and moving in 2017 to my native Oregon, where I bought a home at Beverly Beach, just north of Newport, a town of 10,000.

Marcia, still AP's aerospace writer, stayed extremely busy this summer writing numerous stories about the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing on July 20 before she finally got a vacation. Her husband had to stay home to deal with new job offers, so Marcia and 13-year-old son Nicolas flew to California to visit a friend in San Jose, then took Amtrak's Coast Starlight train to Albany, Ore., where I picked them up and took them to my coastal home about 70 miles west.



Marcia Dunn with her son Nicolas at a state park on the Oregon coast.

It was Marcia's first visit to Oregon and its magnificent coastline. During a five-day visit, Marcia and son Nicolas visited the Oregon Coast Aquarium, hiked the beaches, visited a few state parks, saw sea lions at the Newport Bayfront, ate lots of seafood - including two dinners with fresh Dungeness crabs I bought off the docks - viewed harbor seals and whales at Yaquina (Yaw-quinn-ah) Head and took a whale watching trip out of Depoe Bay, Ore., in a six-person Zodiac rubber raft. Marcia and Nicolas got to see whales up close while I spent a horrible half-hour suffering severe seasickness before the boat operator

returned me prematurely to shore.

It was a great visit, as Marcia and I rarely had time to chat casually when we worked together on space shuttle landings. So there were lots of old AP stories, as well as a number of fun discussions with a very bright 13-year-old about issues ranging from religion to politics.

I own a three-bedroom home three blocks from the beach (but, as appropriate for a science writer, well above the tsunami zone) and with two guest rooms, each with a full bed.

I invite other former AP colleagues to visit.

My 'aha' moments

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - In my life in general, and especially during my 28 years as an AP staff photographer, I have had many Aha moments, but two stand out.

One concerned my assignment and coverage of the former Vice President Alban Barkley's funeral in Kentucky in 1956. I thought (wrongly) that since Barkley was a very famous person that NY would want some "Extra shots" for the history files. A little personal typed note, on one-half of a sheet of copy paper, from Executive Newsphoto Editor Al Resch, changed my mind. "Gene, Barkley is dead, we need one picture." That taught me that each story, except for a disaster, probably only should have one shot (two for a backup).

The other was when I first went South and assigned to the Memphis bureau in 1949. I was a "Yankee" and realized I was in the midst of the Black- slave Deep South.

There were biases up North, of course, but nothing like the very deep-seated ones in the Deep South. I decided that I needed to conjugate my mind and try to understand the differences I would be dealing with. I sat down alone, closed my eyes, and pretended I was a black person who had been brought to this country, especially the Deep South, and how they felt, how they were treated (less than human), and what could be their future. I emotionally placed myself in their "shoes." Then, after a long period of imagining, I switched my mind to doing the same concerning the white people in the Deep South. Both experiences became so vivid and gave me a sense of being, and a greater understanding how both sides felt and acted.

That experience went with me for the many years I worked in the South, especially covering the Civil Rights Movement, and the remainder of my news career. I had a much better understanding of the problem, and I believe it greatly improved me as an AP journalist (and a person).

Connecting mailbox

Grateful to Jack Howey for his advice, support

Joe McGowan ([Email](#)) - I surely was sorry to hear of Jack Howey's passing. AP sent me to Indiana in 1970 for my first domestic bureau chief assignment after some years in Asia and South America. Jack almost immediately became a close friend and adviser. He certainly was a supporter of the AP. His advice and support helped me as I took quite a number of dailies in Indiana away from UP until we had a clear majority of newspaper members. As I recall, Indiana had 83 dailies at that time. My sincere condolences to Mary Lou and to Brian.

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Recalls days of NC2000 birth well

Frank Russell ([Email](#)) - Great article by Jim Gerberich on the birth and development of the NC2000 camera (in Tuesday's Connecting) and the great work by Jim and Ron Edmonds in its start. I was in the Washington AP photo bureau at the time and remember those days well.

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Joe Edwards inducted into Tennessee Journalism Hall of Fame



Photo by Sandra Edwards

Joe Edwards, a 42-year veteran with AP when he retired in 2012, was inducted into the Tennessee Journalism Hall of Fame on Wednesday.

Among his comments: "I was always proud to work for AP. I worked for the best and learned from the best." He spent his entire career in Nashville.

Joe's email is - ejmichael@bellsouth.net

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Up, up and away in his first glider ride



Pilot Don Ingraham secures his passenger Steve Hendren in the glider.



Steve Hendren ([Email](#)) - After 30 years of flying radio-controlled gliders, I had the opportunity to hitch a ride, and take the controls for awhile, on a real one last Sunday in Faribault, Minnesota

We were towed to 4,000 feet before releasing the rope and watching the tow plane bank and dive sharply to clear our path. Our average speed was about 50 mph which was exceeded briefly when we did a steep dive to gain speed for a near-vertical climb that resulted in a stall maneuver known as a Hammerhead. Our

second speed burst came as we did a 100 mph low pass over the field to impress the girls before regaining altitude and landing.

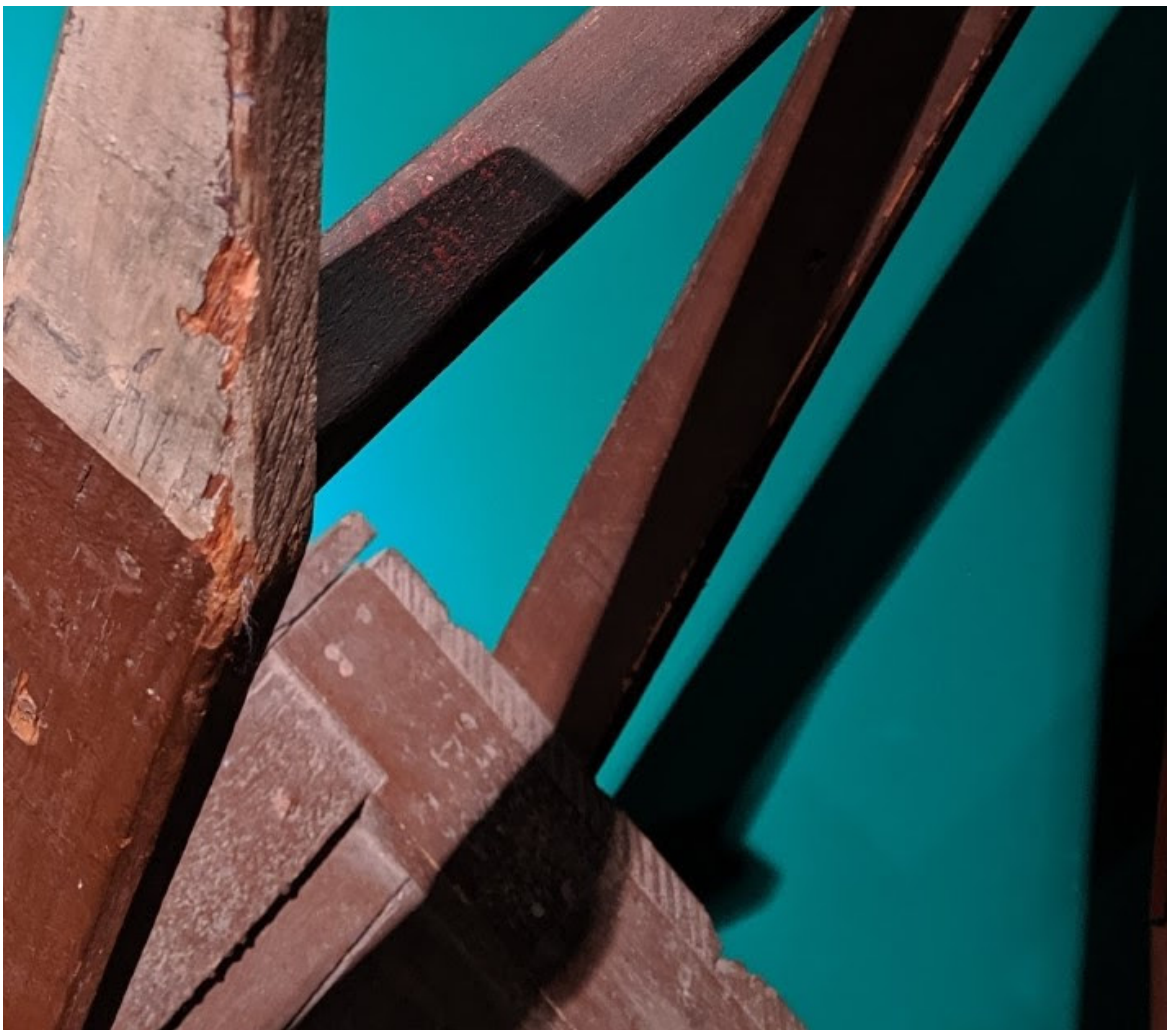
As the rocker Tom Petty sang, when learning to fly, coming down is the hardest thing - in this case physically as well as emotionally, thus the raised orange spoilers above the wings. At a glide ratio of 36 feet forward to every 1 foot down, we would have floated well past the runway without the spoilers to reduce our lift. Coming down is indeed hard to do and there's usually a spoiler involved. But the flying part...wow!

And...my good friend Jason Sheard shot these photos using his Nikon D7200 with a Nikon 70-200mm f/4G ED VR Nikkor Zooms lens.

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Newspaper delivery by wheelbarrow?





Kevin Walsh (Email) - Spotted this in a museum in Sterling, Scotland. I know many of your readers are familiar with newspaper delivery via bicycles, but how about a wheelbarrow?

Sterling is a great spot for history buffs. It was here that William Wallace defeated the English in 1297.

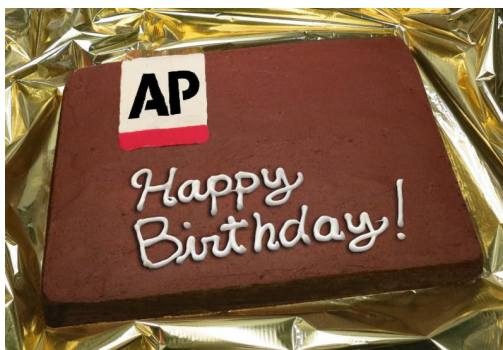
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Pins, not mugs



Hal Bock ([Email](#)) - There is a tradition in sports of distributing commemorative pins at major events like the World Series and Super Bowl. I've assembled my share in 40 years at The AP and they hang in my office at home. There are also two walls full of credentials. A very busy career.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Mark Elias - melias.media@gmail.com

Welcome to Connecting



Masha Hamilton - Masha@mashahamilton.com

Ken Mellgren - kwmellgren@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Old Gannett may have a surprisingly big role in running 'new Gannett' (Poynter)

By Rick Edmonds

When GateHouse and its parent company, New Media Investment, completed the deal Monday to acquire Gannett, the expectation was that the GateHouse crew would be running the new company, instituting their systems across the board.

Not so fast.

Two of the top three executives of the merged company (to be called Gannett rather than GateHouse) are from Gannett, including a new operating CEO from outside the industry.

And now that the agreement is public, several executives who I respect tell me that they do not foresee scorched earth for the Gannett papers.

Read more [here](#).

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Washington Post 'embarrassed' over gaffe-filled story needing 15 corrections (Fox News)

By BRIAN FLOOD

The Washington Post admitted leadership is embarrassed after the paper was forced to issue a whopping 15 corrections to one story about black families struggling to keep their southern farmland.

"We are embarrassed by the widespread errors in this freelance article. We have published a detailed correction of each error and updated the story based on re-reporting by Post staff," executive editor Marty Baron told Fox News.

The story by Korsha Wilson originally ran on July 23 and has been updated after a laundry list of gaffes and inaccuracies.

"A previous version of this article contained many errors and omitted context and allegations important to understanding two families' stories. This version has been updated," the digital version now says before it details all 15 corrections.

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

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How Local Newsrooms Are Doing Public Service Journalism With Help From the Pulitzer Center (Facebook Journalism Project)

By JENNIFER JENKINS

Last year, the Facebook Journalism Project announced it would do more to support local news in communities where it is struggling to survive. One of our goals was to provide funding and help local journalists and newsrooms with their newsgathering needs. As part of these efforts, we supported the Pulitzer Center with a \$5 million endowment gift to launch Bringing Stories Home, a new initiative that offers reporting grants to local newsrooms across the country, aiming to support coverage of issues that affect their communities.

Over the past six months, Bringing Stories Home has helped fund enterprise reporting projects and community engagement with nearly a dozen regional news organizations. Reporters have covered topics ranging from police corruption and hate crimes to the challenges immigrants face when they seek asylum in the U.S.

Below, you can read highlights of stories from six of the first-year projects. We're proud to continue our support on this initiative that's bringing important, under-reported stories to local communities.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bob Daugherty.

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Has anyone actually read the El Paso manifesto? (Washington Examiner)

By **BYRON YORK**

The manifesto written by accused El Paso mass killer Patrick Crusius is the basis for the argument that the shootings were inspired by President Trump. Media commentators, Democratic presidential candidates, and all types of Trump critics have made that case in the days since the murders.

Much discussion was spurred by an article in the New York Times with the headline, "El Paso Shooting Suspect's Manifesto Echoes Trump's Language." The story quoted just 28 words of the nearly 2,400-word manifesto. It noted that Crusius specifically wrote that his views "predate Trump." And it warned that "linking political speech, however heated, to the specific acts of ruthless mass killers is a fraught exercise." Nevertheless, the Times declared that even "if Mr. Trump did not originally inspire the gunman, he has brought into the mainstream polarizing ideas and people once consigned to the fringes of American society."

Democratic contender Beto O'Rourke, an El Paso native, was much more blunt. "22 people in my hometown are dead after an act of terror inspired by your racism," O'Rourke tweeted to the president.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Carl Robinson.

The Final Word

Southwest Airlines flew the remains of a Vietnam airman home to Dallas. The pilot was his son. (Washington Post)



Servicemen carry the casket of Roy Knight Jr. off the plane and across the airport apron at Dallas Love Field. Southwest Airlines pilot Bryan Knight flew his father home to Dallas more than 50 years after he was killed in action during the Vietnam War in 1967.

By Reis Thebault

Bryan Knight was 5 years old when he waved goodbye to his father from Dallas Love Field Airport. He never saw him again.

The year was 1967, and Roy Knight Jr. was heading to war. The pilot reported to Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base in January. By May, after flying near-daily combat missions, Knight was missing, his plane shot down over enemy territory in Laos. It was another seven years before his family found out he had been killed. And on Thursday, 45 years after that, they finally received closure.

Knight's remains, recovered near his plane's crash site more than five decades after it went down, were flown from Honolulu to Oakland, Calif., and from Oakland back to Dallas, where his family greeted the Southwest flight as it arrived.

Bryan Knight, the son who watched his dad leave to fight in the Vietnam War, was also the man who flew him home - the pilot of that flight from California to Texas that landed at Love Field, the last place the two saw each other.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - August 9, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Aug. 9, the 221st day of 2019. There are 144 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 9, 1945, three days after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, a U.S. B-29 Superfortress code-named Bockscar dropped a nuclear device ("Fat Man") over Nagasaki, killing an estimated 74,000 people.

On this date:

In 1854, Henry David Thoreau's "Walden," which described Thoreau's experiences while living near Walden Pond in Massachusetts, was first published.

In 1902, Edward VII was crowned king of Britain following the death of his mother, Queen Victoria.

In 1910, the U.S. Patent Office granted Alva J. Fisher of the Hurley Machine Co. a patent for an electrically powered washing machine.

In 1936, Jesse Owens won his fourth gold medal at the Berlin Olympics as the United States took first place in the 400-meter relay.

In 1944, 258 African-American sailors based at Port Chicago, California, refused to load a munitions ship following a cargo vessel explosion that killed 320 men, many of them black. (Fifty of the sailors were convicted of mutiny, fined and imprisoned.)

In 1969, actress Sharon Tate and four other people were found brutally slain at Tate's Los Angeles home; cult leader Charles Manson and a group of his followers were later convicted of the crime.

In 1974, Vice President Gerald R. Ford became the nation's 38th chief executive as President Richard Nixon's resignation took effect.

In 1982, a federal judge in Washington ordered John W. Hinckley Jr., who'd been acquitted of shooting President Ronald Reagan and three others by reason of insanity, committed to a mental hospital.

In 1985, a federal judge in Norfolk, Virginia, found retired Navy officer Arthur J. Walker guilty of seven counts of spying for the Soviet Union. (Walker, who was sentenced to life, died in prison in 2014 at the age of 79.)

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan nominated Lauro Cavazos (kah-VAH'-zohs) to be secretary of education; Cavazos became the first Hispanic to serve in the Cabinet.

In 1995, Jerry Garcia, lead singer of the Grateful Dead, died in Forest Knolls, California, of a heart attack at age 53.

In 2004, Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols, addressing a court for the first time, asked victims of the blast for forgiveness as a judge sentenced him to 161 consecutive life sentences.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama flew to Guadalajara, Mexico, for a two-day speed summit with Mexican President Felipe Calderon (fay-LEE'-pay kahl-duh-ROHN') and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper. Iraqi authorities arrested British contractor Danny Fitzsimons in the shooting deaths of two co-workers in Baghdad's protected Green Zone. (Fitzsimons was convicted by an Iraqi court in 2011 and sentenced to 20 years in prison.)

Five years ago: Michael Brown Jr., an unarmed 18-year-old black man, was shot to death by a police officer following an altercation in Ferguson, Missouri; Brown's death led to sometimes-violent protests in Ferguson and other U.S. cities, spawning a national "Black Lives Matter" movement.

One year ago: Vice President Mike Pence announced plans for a new, separate U.S. Space Force as a sixth military service by 2020. The parents of first lady Melania Trump were sworn in as U.S. citizens; they had been living in the country as permanent residents. Player demonstrations again took place at several early NFL preseason games, with two Philadelphia Eagles players raising their fists during the national anthem. Evacuation orders expanded to 20,000 as a wildfire that had been intentionally set moved perilously close to homes in Southern California.

Today's Birthdays: Basketball Hall of Famer Bob Cousy is 91. Actress Cynthia Harris is 85. Tennis Hall of Famer Rod Laver is 81. Jazz musician Jack DeJohnette is 77. Comedian-director David Steinberg is 77. Actor Sam Elliott is 75. Singer Barbara Mason is 72. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player John Cappelletti is 67. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Doug Williams is 64. Actress Melanie Griffith is 62. Actress Amanda Bearse is 61. Rapper Kurtis Blow is 60. Hockey Hall of Famer Brett Hull is 55. TV host Hoda Kotb (HOH'-duh KAHT'-bee) is 55. Actor Pat Petersen is 53. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Deion Sanders is 52. Actress Gillian Anderson is 51. Actor Eric Bana is 51. Producer-director McG (aka Joseph McGinty Nichol) is 51. NHL player-turned-coach Rod Brind'Amour is 49. TV anchor Chris Cuomo is 49. Actor Thomas Lennon is 49. Rock musician Arion Salazar is 49. Rapper Mack 10 is 48. Actress Nikki Schieler Ziering is 48. Latin rock singer Juanes is 47. Actress Liz Vassey is 47. Actor Kevin McKidd is 46. Actress Rhona Mitra (ROH'-nuh MEE'-truh) is 44. Actor Texas Battle is 43. Actress Jessica Capshaw is 43. Actress Ashley Johnson is 36. Actress Anna Kendrick is 34.

Thought for Today: "Education is a private matter between the person and the world of knowledge and experience, and has little to do with school or college." - Lillian Smith, American writer-social critic (1897-1966).

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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