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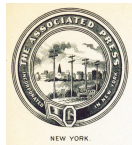
Connecting - December 12, 2019

1 message

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Thu, Dec 12, 2019 at 8:58 AM

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Connecting

December 12, 2019

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Children of former Associated Press journalist Y.C. Jao, Rao Jian, left, and his younger sister Rao Jiping, right, bow after unveiling their father's name, which was added to the memorial Wall of Honor dedicated to fallen journalists of The Associated Press, at the AP headquarters in New York on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2019. Jao was executed in April 1951, when Chinese authorities accused him of spying and of counterrevolutionary activities, all owing to his work for AP. (AP Photo/Wong Maye-E)

Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this the 12th day of December 2019,

Two names were added Wednesday to the memorial Wall of Honor of The Associated Press.

In a ceremony at AP headquarters in New York, President and CEO **Gary Pruitt** presided as the sacrifices of former Chinese correspondent **Y.C. Jao** and freelance photographer and video journalist **Mohamed Ben Khalifa** were recognized at the memorial to AP journalists who have died on assignment since the news cooperative was founded in 1846.

We lead today's issue with stories from the ceremony. Click [here](#) for a video of the ceremony.

Paul

Honoring 2 fallen AP journalists



AP President and CEO Gary Pruitt speaks during a ceremony to add two names to AP's Wall of Honor at New York headquarters, Dec. 11, 2019. (Chuck Zoeller/AP Photo)

By Patrick Maks

The Associated Press honored on Wednesday two journalists who died because of their work for AP.

The name of former Chinese correspondent Y.C. Jao, who was executed by the Chinese government in 1951, was added to AP's Wall of Honor at its New York headquarters, a memorial to AP journalists who have died on assignment since the news cooperative was founded in 1846.

Jao's story came to AP's attention in 2018 after the news agency received a letter from his nephew. Jao's two oldest children, Rao Jian and Rao Jiping, traveled to New York from China to attend Wednesday's ceremony.



Mohamed Ben Khalifa

Freelance photographer and video journalist Mohamed Ben Khalifa, who contributed hundreds of photos and scores of videos to AP, was also honored. He was killed in Tripoli, Libya, in January 2019 while covering fighting for AP.

"AP's mission to inform the world comes at a steep price," AP President and CEO Gary Pruitt said at the ceremony.

Jao and Ben Khalifa join 35 journalists who have given their lives for AP.

"We mourn them all and consider their passing an enduring loss for the whole AP family," said Pruitt. "We pledge to never forget them. They inspire us. With this wall we honor them and keep their memories alive."

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

AP honors journalist executed in 1951 by Chinese officials



Children of former Associated Press journalist Y.C. Jao, Rao Jian, left, and his younger sister Rao Jiping, right, bow after unveiling their father's name. At right are AP President and CEO Gary Pruitt, third from right, and AP Executive Editor Sally Buzbee, second from right. (AP Photo/Wong Maye-E)

By JOHN DANISZEWSKI

NEW YORK (AP) - Y.C. Jao was a respected Chinese correspondent working for The Associated Press in April 1949 when Mao Zedong's Red Army stormed into Nanjing, defeating the Nationalist forces of leader Chiang Kai-shek and paving the way for the Communist takeover of China.

A family man in his late 40s, tall and erudite with liberal views, Jao was an intellectual deeply committed to news, and to modernizing journalism in China. He had studied at the University of Missouri's School of Journalism in the 1920s, before returning after 10 years to teach journalism and to start an English-language paper.

He was recommended to the AP as a local correspondent by the then U.S. ambassador to China, and worked under

the supervision of Seymour Topping, the head of the AP bureau in Nanking, which was the capital city of the Nationalist Chinese government.

Jao's passion for journalism led to his death. The new authorities ordered his execution in April 1951. They accused Jao of spying and of counterrevolutionary activities, all owing to his work for AP.

Sixty-eight years later, the AP on Wednesday recognized his sacrifice by installing Jao's name on its memorial Wall of Honor for journalists who have fallen because of their work for the AP. Two of Jao's children, Rao Jian and Rao Jiping, traveled from China to attend the ceremony. Also honored Wednesday was Mohamed Ben Khalifa, a freelance photographer and video journalist killed in Tripoli, Libya, in January covering fighting for the AP.



This photo provided by University of Missouri shows Yin-Chih Jao from the 1923 & 1924 Savitar Yearbook.

Jao's story was almost lost to AP's history. It came to light when a nephew, Jilong Rao, wrote to AP President and CEO Gary Pruitt in 2018, calling attention to Jao's death. He enclosed a copy of an official document - a Chinese court's rejection of the family's 1983 request that Jao be rehabilitated posthumously on grounds that there was no evidence he ever engaged in espionage.

The court had ruled that the verdict would stand. It said it had been proven that Jao would write regularly to the AP in Hong Kong even after its American correspondents were expelled from the country. The court claimed that these letters contained "rumor, calumny and counter-revolutionary speech" and amounted to collecting intelligence "on behalf of imperialism."

Rao's letter to Pruitt was the catalyst for reexamining Jao's forgotten history. There was little mention of him in AP's corporate archives, but his surviving colleague, Topping, now 98, who was a veteran of AP's foreign service and later the longtime managing editor of The New York Times, remembered Jao immediately and was able to flesh out the story.

Read more [here](#).

With sharp eye for detail, Ben Khalifa captured attempts by ordinary Libyans to carve out normal lives amid turmoil of past decade



In this Thursday, Jan. 9, 2015 file photo, a Libyan honor guard stands at attention during the arrival of U.N. Special Envoy to Libya Bernardino Leon in Tripoli. The work of photographer and video journalist Mohamed Ben Khalifa, who was killed in Libya on Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019, reflected Libya's post-2011 chaos of rival militias fighting for control as well as the humanitarian tragedy of waves of people fleeing North Africa, the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa. (AP Photo/Mohamed Ben Khalifa, File)

Click [here](#) for the AP story on the death in January 2019 of Mohamed Ben Khalifa that includes a gallery of his photos (one of which is above).

Excerpted from the story:

The work of Ben Khalifa, who was killed in Libya on Saturday, reflected Libya's post-2011 chaos of rival militias fighting for control as well as the humanitarian tragedy of waves of people fleeing North Africa, the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa.



Photo Credit: Hiba Shalabi

He was killed on Saturday while accompanying a militia on patrol in southern Tripoli. The group came under fire and attack by a missile, according to a fellow freelance journalist. Ben Khalifa was killed by shrapnel.

His body of work since 2014 for the AP included more than 260 photos and scores of videos. A freelancer, he also contributed to other news organizations.

"The Associated Press is distraught by the death of freelance photographer Mohamed Ben Khalifa, who had contributed important, impactful photos from Libya to AP since 2014. Our thoughts are with his family, especially his wife and young daughter, and we offer our deepest condolences," said AP's Senior Vice President and Executive Editor Sally Buzbee and Ian Phillips, the news agency's vice president for international news.

"It is heartbreaking any time a journalist is killed on the job. AP works closely with its freelance and staff journalists to try to ensure their safety. The safety of journalists everywhere is paramount, especially those who are working in the most dangerous of places," they said in a statement.

Ben Khalifa, 35, also covered routine stories, such as visits by diplomats trying to negotiate a peace deal for Libya. The country splintered in the aftermath of the 2011 Arab Spring uprising and civil war that led to the ouster and killing of longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi.

With his sharp eye for detail, Ben Khalifa captured the attempts by ordinary Libyans to carve out normal lives amid the turmoil of the past decade. In one photo, a little boy in a traditional embroidered jacket looks at Ben Khalifa's camera, facing away from rows of male worshippers sitting in Tripoli's Martyrs' Square for Muslim holiday prayers. Another shows a wedding ceremony.

Ben Khalifa is survived by his wife, Lamy, and their 7-month-old daughter, Rayan.

More on Washington Post revelations on Afghan War

My hope is we can sort wins from losses, separate mistakes from successes

Masha Hamilton ([Email](#)) - Though I never worked for the AP in Afghanistan, I did found a nonprofit there (the Afghan Women's Writing Project) and did some freelance reporting and then was recruited to work at Director of Communications and Public Diplomacy for the US Embassy for a year and a half in 2012-2013. I am still reading the long document secured by the Washington Post and honestly, this is what I thought at the time we needed: a detailed look at what worked and what didn't with the "surge" policy. That said, I think as journalists and as consumers of journalism, we have to be careful to not paint a black-and-white picture of US involvement there. There were enormous failures in our policies, and I think this is partly because, while journalists like the amazing Kathy Gannon go and stay, government officials generally rotate out after 12 months, and we used to say we were repeating the same first year over and over again. But there were also accomplishments. It would be my hope that we can sort out the wins from the losses, separate the mistakes from the successes. Though it doesn't make for as neat or catchy a headline, it will pierce to a deeper truth and potentially prove more

useful if and when we find ourselves engaged in a "hearts-and-minds" campaign again.

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Mistakes made early in the war...doomed the mission

Robert Reid (Email) - I don't consider myself an expert on Afghanistan, certainly nowhere near the Kathy Gannon-level of expertise, but I did have a bit of background there.

From June 2009 until late September 2010, I was AP's News Director for Afghanistan and Pakistan based in Kabul. I watched over coverage of those two countries as Middle East Regional Editor from October 2010 until June 2012.

My first trip to Afghanistan was a "hair-on-fire" rush to Kabul in late December 1979 just days after the Soviet invasion. More than 20 years later, AP sent me to Islamabad after 9/11 to manage coverage in the runup to the U.S. attack on Afghanistan and the early stages of the war. Aside from a couple of brief breaks, I stayed there for a year.

So I read the Post blockbuster with keen interest. From a craft point of view, it appeared the project was rushed through in time for prize competition next year. The 5,000-word intro could have been edited better. Much of it was ponderous and appeared to have been "written for the lawyers" - laboriously crafted to explain how the information was obtained and why it was published at this time.

I can't say there was much in there that I didn't know or suspected already. The same, however, could be said of the Pentagon Papers, which probably didn't come as much of a surprise to reporters with years of Vietnam experience. But the Post wasn't writing for Afghan experts. Seeing all the bad judgment, mistakes, ignorance and sheer hubris laid out in a single package is a valuable contribution for which the Post should be proud.

Overall, I thought the insider interviews validated much of the reporting by dozens of AP journalists had reported over the years. It was amusing to recall times I and others got pushback from military and government officials who insisted we were too negative when in fact, the private views of top insiders were often even more

negative. Like Vietnam, Afghanistan became a disaster which many people could see unfolding but no none seemed capable of stopping.

Mistakes made early in the war - excluding individual Taliban from any role in government, subcontracting the Tora-Bora operation to a bunch of narco-thugs, attempting to build a Western-style centralized state and invading Iraq before finishing with Afghanistan - doomed the mission. The military's "can do" attitude became an obstacle to admitting failure, even when it was plain to see.

All that was laid out admirably by the Post.

My first AAA story
A UFO sighting in New Mexico



(EDITOR'S NOTE: This story repeated from Wednesday to include photo.)

Charles Richards (Email) - My first A-wire byline came in the spring of 1964, about two months after I accepted a job offer from UPI to work in its Albuquerque bureau. I was 22 and fresh out of journalism school at Texas Tech. (This was 14 years before my 25-year career with the AP began in Dallas in 1978.)

The last Sunday in April of 1964, reports were circulating about a reported UFO sighting two days earlier by a police officer in Socorro, N.M., 75 miles south of Albuquerque.

The news reached President Lyndon Johnson and members of Congress, resulting in the Air Force dispatching two investigators on Sunday from Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio - home of Project Blue Book, the Air Force's official investigation into the UFO phenomenon.

UPI bureau chief John McMillian told me to hit the road for Socorro -my first out-of-town assignment. Albuquerque Journal photographer Ray Cary (who was also my roommate) and I rode there together. We arrived at the reported UFO sighting northwest of Socorro about the same time as the two UFO investigators.

Lonnie Zamora, a 31-year-old City of Socorro patrolman, said he abandoned his pursuit of a speeding vehicle about 5:45 p.m. Friday afternoon when he heard what sounded like a blast, or roar. His first thought, he said, was that a small building near a private airfield might have exploded.

Instead, northwest of town he came upon what he said he first thought was an overturned vehicle about 150 yards away. It was silver and oval-shaped, like a football, he said. Then he saw what appeared to be two white objects that may have been individuals in coveralls.

As he walked toward the object, he said he again heard the roar or blast that had brought him to the scene, and he saw flames and heard a sharp whining sound. He said he threw himself to the ground, fearing an explosion. But then the craft rose about 20 feet off the ground, then slowly flew west, eventually becoming a speck in the sky and disappearing in the distance.

Cary's photograph that appeared alongside my front-page story in the Monday morning edition of the Albuquerque Journal (and on the A-wire) shows Zamora alongside the two Air Force investigators as they used a Geiger counter to check for radioactivity. (The guy behind them in the picture - that's me!)

A tale of Speed Graphics and 4x5 film holders

John-Paul Filo ([Email](#)) - Recent Connecting discussion on Speed Graphic cameras and their 4x5 film holders reminds me of a story told to me by Chuck Scott,

noted photographer, photo editor and photojournalism professor at Ohio University:

Journalistic competitiveness was a mild term in judging the efforts put forth by the Chicago dailies and the suburban papers in covering the Chicago Thanksgiving Parade - which was aptly referenced to by Jean Shepard's Christmas Story.

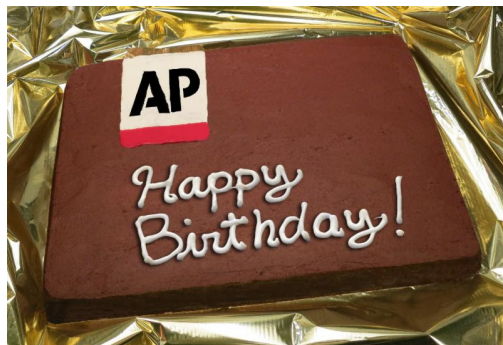
The struggle to get a great view and angle for the parade by competing photographers meant there were office windows reserved, ladders chained to key lampposts, window washer scaffoldings made available and maybe a few key fire engines along the parade route spoken for.

Photographers in long underwear and heavy clothing and carrying thermos bottles of strong hot coffee were ready to survive the parade. Photo messengers were anxious to return the film holders quickly to their various papers for early editions. Chuck Scott was one of the photographers in his great vantage point with his camera.

The previous year Chuck had learned a very valuable lesson. Photographer X (a name lost to me) had out-shot everyone on that day. He had the most amazing set of photos from the whole of the parade... and even more AMAZING was the fact that Photo X did not carry a Speed Graphic camera. What he did carry was an oblong box that carried about 20 4x5 film holders equaling about 40 shots.

X walked the parade route in front of the various floats that included Santa near the end. X would spot Photographer Charlie in the second story window: "Hey Charlie, make me a holder." Toss him a holder (two frames). A block or two later, Photographer Bill on the laddered lamp post: "Hey Bill, make me a holder!" You now get the idea. He repeated the same work ethic the next year. When he got to Chuck Scott in his position, Chuck was able to say, "Sorry X, I am using the baby Speed Graphic" - whose holder was a 2 1/4 by 3 1/4.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

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Celebrating Christmas Eve, Lithuanian-style

(EDITOR'S NOTE: It's that holiday time of the year and Connecting will share any holiday stories or memories you'd like to contribute. Colleague Adolphe Bernotas wrote about Lithuanian Christmas in a wire story that appeared on Christmas Eve of 2006, the year he retired. He has updated it slightly and we bring it to you here.)

Adolphe Bernotas ([Email](#)) - Part of the fun of Kucios, the ancient Lithuanian celebration of the winter solstice, has been guessing which of my guests are peeking at their watches, wondering how long before they can leave and hit McDonald's.

I never took offense. For meat-and-potato Americans, a platter of beet, egg and herring salad and a bowl of cranberry pudding washed down by a purple-gray milk made from macerated poppy seeds doesn't much resemble a Christmas Eve feast.

But for me, it reconnects me to who I am - one of about 5 million people worldwide who speak a singular language - a still-spoken survivor of Sanskrit -- from a tiny nation where centuries of occupying armies haven't crushed the identity of its people.

And once my guests are courageous enough to try these foods, they often agree that the dishes were quite palatable.

Perhaps half of them overcome their initial aversion to the poppyseed milk. And that same group usually asks for seconds of the frothy, sweet drink.

But so labor intensive is the Kucios (pronounced coo-chuss) meal, that I haven't prepared the celebration in about 50 years. I used to take at least a week of vacation before Christmas to get to work on the Christmas Eve-only foods.

This typically meant driving to Boston or New York to get proper herring and smoked fishes. Plus, I would return to my New World-home American-Lithuanian community in Waterbury, Conn., to get the best Lithuanian rye bread this side of Kaunas, city of my birth.

Come Christmas Eve 2019, I will feast with my countrymen in St. Petersburg, Fla., at the American Lithuanian Club. The club's call for volunteers to begin making some of the food exclusive to Kucios went out in late November.

Kucios dates to around 2000 B.C., when ancient Lithuanians settled along the Baltic Sea. They celebrated to pay homage to the sun as winter's short days waned. It was a unifying ritual that included all beings -- people, animals, plants, spirits and gods.

But much of what Lithuanians now celebrate as Kucios has been influenced by Christianity. Lithuania, which sits at the geographical center of Europe, was the last nation on the continent to accept Christianity, formally in 1386. To this day, many Catholic wayside crosses incorporate the pagan symbols of the sun and moon.

The Roman Catholic Church adapted the pagan celebration of light into the observance of Christmas. Pre-Christian Kucios required the eating of nine foods, reflecting the nine-day weeks of the lunar calendar. Under Christianity, 12 are served, denoting the 12 apostles.

While the modern kucios varies by household, the classic celebration retains many of the foods and traditions of our ancestors.

Although ancient Lithuanians included meat and ceremonial mead in their feasts, the Christian observance became a feast of fasting, free of meat, even milk, thus the poppy seed beverage.

The setting mattered, too. The room where the meal was eaten must have as much light as possible. Straw and a cross are placed under a white tablecloth as a symbol of the creche in which Christ was born.

An empty setting at the table was left for those who died during the year, or strangers and those who could not be home for the feast. The day is meant for

contemplation and communion with the family. "I" is discouraged; "we" is encouraged.

The meal began with the rising evening star. Diners stand and after a prayer, family members wish each other good fortune. My wishes used to include the return of freedom to Lithuania, regained with the collapse of the Soviet Union. This year, I will wish for a solid NATO, to keep the Russian bear from our door.

The most important food is the kucia (coo-cha), a porridge of grains, peas, beans, nuts, poppy and hemp seeds mixed with honey-sweetened water. All who sit at the table - as well as household and farm animals in the barn- must taste it.

In fact, everyone must taste everything. Tradition says that those who skip any of the Kucios foods will not live to see the next Christmas.

Fishes, especially herring recipes ranging from smoked to baked to marinated, make up much of the 12-course menu.

Depending on the region, other foods might include mushrooms, carrots, nuts, honey, apples, cabbage with peas, beans, onion and beet soups and salads, potatoes seasoned with hemp or flaxseed salt, and oatmeal pudding and cranberry pudding.

After the meal, the table is left uncleared until morning so as to leave food for the souls of ancestors, spirits and gods. And the fire in the hearth cannot be allowed to die.

My sisters and I haven't shared Kucios for many years, But as children we would argue whether indeed, according to my parents and folklore, animals at the moment of midnight would converse in language understandable to people. We were too young to stay up to find out.

POPPYSEED MILK

(Start to finish: 30 minutes active, plus chilling time)

2 cups poppy seeds

3 cups boiling water

2 tablespoons sugar

1 teaspoon almond extract

Place the poppy seeds in a 1- or 2-quart measuring cup, or medium bowl. Add enough boiling water to cover, about 3 cups. Let the poppy seeds steep in the hot water 10 minutes.

Transfer the seeds and water to a blender. Blend at high speed until very smooth, about 3 to 4 minutes. Let cool 5 minutes.

Meanwhile, arrange several layers of overlapping cheesecloth near a clean medium bowl.

Spoon about 1/2 cup of the poppyseed mixture into the cheesecloth, twist the cloth closed and squeeze over the new bowl. Discard the pulp from inside the cheesecloth and repeat the process with remaining mixture in the blender.

Whisk the sugar and almond extract into the "milk," then refrigerate until chilled.

Makes two 1-cup servings.

Today in History - December 12, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 12, the 346th day of 2019. There are 19 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 12, 2000, George W. Bush became president-elect as a divided U.S. Supreme Court reversed a state court decision for recounts in Florida's contested election.

On this date:

In 1787, Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1870, Joseph H. Rainey of South Carolina became the first black lawmaker sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1913, authorities in Florence, Italy, announced that the "Mona Lisa," stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris in 1911, had been recovered.

In 1915, singer-actor Frank Sinatra was born Francis Albert Sinatra in Hoboken, New Jersey.

In 1917, during World War I, a train carrying some 1,000 French troops from the Italian front derailed while descending a steep hill in Modane (moh-DAN'); at least half of the soldiers were killed in France's greatest rail disaster. Father Edward Flanagan founded Boys Town outside Omaha, Nebraska.

In 1946, a United Nations committee voted to accept a six-block tract of Manhattan real estate offered as a gift by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to be the site of the U.N.'s headquarters.

In 1963, Kenya became independent of Britain.

In 1977, the dance movie "Saturday Night Fever," starring John Travolta, premiered in New York.

In 1985, 248 American soldiers and eight crew members were killed when an Arrow Air charter crashed after takeoff from Gander, Newfoundland.

In 1989, in New York, hotel queen Leona Helmsley, 69, was sentenced to four years in prison and fined \$7.1 million for tax evasion. (Helmsley served 18 months behind bars, plus a month at a halfway house and two months of house arrest.)

In 1995, by three votes, the Senate killed a constitutional amendment giving Congress authority to outlaw flag burning and other forms of desecration against Old Glory.

In 1997, Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, the international terrorist known as "Carlos the Jackal," went on trial in Paris on charges of killing two French investigators and a Lebanese national. (Ramirez was convicted and is serving a life prison sentence.)

Ten years ago: Houston elected its first openly gay mayor, with voters handing a solid victory to City Controller Annise Parker after a hotly contested runoff with former city attorney Gene Locke. Rescue crews found the body of a climber on Oregon's Mount Hood while two others remained missing. (The bodies of the other two climbers were found in Aug. 2010.) Sophomore tailback Mark Ingram became the first player at the University of Alabama to win the Heisman Trophy.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama urged the Senate to ratify a \$1.1 trillion spending bill opposed by some Democrats, judging it an imperfect measure that stemmed from "the divided government that the American people voted for." (The Senate passed the measure the next day.) Illustrator Norman Bridwell, 86, creator of Clifford the Red Dog, died in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.

One year ago: Michael Cohen, President Donald Trump's one-time fixer, was sentenced to three years in prison for crimes that included arranging the payment of hush money to conceal Trump's alleged sexual affairs. British Prime Minister Theresa May survived a political crisis over her Brexit deal, winning a no-confidence vote by Conservative lawmakers that could have brought an end to her leadership. (May announced her resignation as Conservative leader in June of 2019, after her Brexit deal was rejected by Parliament three times.)

Today's Birthdays: Former TV host Bob Barker is 96. Basketball Hall of Famer Bob Pettit is 87. Singer Connie Francis is 82. Singer Dionne Warwick is 79. Rock singer-musician Dickey Betts is 76. Hall of Fame race car driver Emerson Fittipaldi is 73. Actor Wings Hauser is 72. Actor Bill Nighy (ny) is 70. Actor Duane Chase (Film: "The Sound of Music") is 69. Country singer LaCosta is 69. Gymnast-turned-actress Cathy Rigby is 67. Author Lorna Landvik is 65. Singer-musician Sheila E. is 62. Actress Sheree J. Wilson is 61. Pop singer Daniel O'Donnell is 58. International Tennis Hall of Famer Tracy Austin is 57. Rock musician Eric Schenkman (Spin Doctors) is 56. Rock musician Nicholas Dimichino (Nine Days) is 52. Author Sophie Kinsella is 50. News anchor Maggie Rodriguez is 50. Actress Jennifer Connelly is 49. Actress Madchen Amick is 49. Actress Regina Hall is 49. Country singer Hank Williams III is 47. Actress Mayim Bialik is 44. Model Bridget Hall is 42. Actor Lucas Hedges is 23. Actress Sky Katz is 15.

Thought for Today: "If you possess something but you can't give it away, then you don't possess it... it possesses you." [-] Frank Sinatra (1915-1998).

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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12/24/2019

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