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Connecting - December 31, 2019

1 message

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 31st day of December 2019,

In this final issue of 2019, Connecting remembers our colleagues who died during the past year.

The names listed below were compiled from Connecting issues over the past year as well as the records of AP's Human Resources department. If there is an error or

omission in this list, please let me know.

We mourn their deaths, but we remember the words of Dr. Seuss when we think about how they touched us and the world of journalism:

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

Two journalists named to AP's Wall of Honor

The names of two journalists were added to the AP's Wall of Honor in 2019.

In a ceremony on Dec. 11, the names of the fallen Associated Press journalists were added to the 35 already on the wall, a memorial to AP journalists who have died on assignment since the news cooperative was founded in 1846.



Y.C. Jao



Mohamed Ben Khalifa

They were former Chinese correspondent **Y.C. Jao**, who was executed by the Chinese government in 1951 (Jao's story came to AP's attention in 2018 after it received a letter from his nephew.) and freelance photographer and video journalist **Mohamed Ben Khalifa**, who contributed hundreds of photos and scores of videos to AP. 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. "We mourn them all and consider their passing an enduring loss for the whole AP family. We pledge to never forget them. They inspire us. With this wall we honor them and keep their memories alive."

Farewell to APME at age 86

Mark Mittelstadt - We said farewell in September to **The Associated Press Managing Editors**, an association of AP member editors closely aligned with the news cooperative. APME was 86.

The association was organized in the early 1930s in response to newspaper editors' frustration at lack of news discussions during the annual publishers' meeting in New York, called Newspaper Week. Editors began wandering over to AP headquarters to lodge complaints and talk shop, leading to more formal meetings and ultimately the first APME conference in 1933.

Over the years APME members provided feedback to AP on its news and photo reports. It started presenting journalism excellence awards to AP staff and spoke out on issues related to the First Amendment and a free press. In the early 2000s the association undertook grant-funded programs to improve the skills of news organizations and journalists around the country.



As the newspaper industry contracted, APME, renamed the Associated Press Media Editors 10 years ago, saw its membership fall and attendance at its annual conference decline. The story was the same at the American Society of Newspaper Editors, which since had been renamed American Society of News Editors.

Leaders of both groups began discussing a merger. After their last joint conference in early September in New Orleans, the groups formally joined forces to create the News Leaders Association.

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Connecting will be back in your mailbox on Friday as we enter a new decade. How about sharing your favorite memory of the past decade - with 20-20 hindsight! - along with your hopes for the coming decade. I have some more great stories of

yours to share on What Is The AP? including one from a colleague who worked for AP and CBS...and had friends who thought he was in the grocery and pharmacy businesses.

Have a happy and safe New Year's Eve. All the best to each of you - good health and happiness - in the coming year. We weren't around in 1010. Doubtful we will be around in 3030. So let's make the best of 2020! It's my privilege to help keep us connected.

Paul

AP



In Memoriam

Roger Adams

Bobby Baker

Louis Bartlett

Carl Bell

Mohamed Ben Khalifa

Richard Benke

Ed Blanche

Ray Bochert

Donald Bowden

Socorro "Coring" Campos

Philip Cannaday

Patrick Carrico

Timothy Carver

Carmine Cerino

Peter Cosgrove

Jim Dietz

Thomas Driscoll

Jack Elcik

Hubert Erb

Daniel Even

Stephen Feica

Robert Gloster

Charles Green

Binaya Guruacharya

Thomas Hall

Robert Haring

John Hartzell

Mark Heinrichs

Jack Howey

Odessa Drayton-Iton

Y.C. Jao

Kathryn Johnson

Edith Katz

Wilfred Kolin

Barry Kramer

Raymond Krell

Gerald LaBelle

Robert Ladish

Steve Lawrence

Gerald LeBelle

Patricia Leisner

John Lucas

Leighton Mark

Earl Martin

Marie McConnell

Joseph McKnight

Phyllis McQueen

Frances Mears

Antoinette Melillo

Charles Muller

Ben Olan

Larry Price

Edward Ramirez

Thomas Raum

Harris Rayl

Evan Rice

Alan Schaertel

Edgar Shearer

Annie Shooman

Charles E. Smith

Carol Stark

Eric Talmadge

Joe Terri

Julia Versau

Joseph White

Jonathan Wolman

Surviving Spouses:

Helen Bruggeman

Margaret Burroughs

Charles Castro

Anne Crepeau

Sue Ferguson

Lois Harasek

Clara Hawkins

Aida Koundakjian

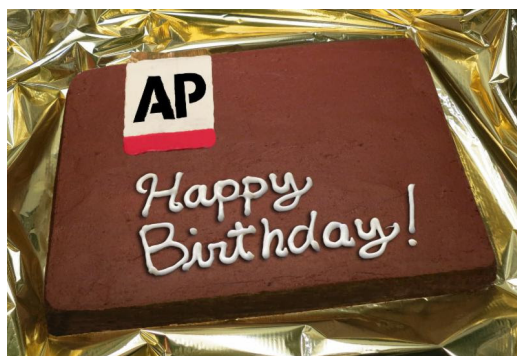
Pauline Robey

Olga Rodriguez

Beverly Saggus

Patricia Thomas

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Pauline Arrillaga - paulinearrillaga@gmail.com

Don Dashiell - lakehaven56@gmail.com

On Wednesday, New Year's Day...

Sally Buzbee - sbuzbee@ap.org

Jim Carlson - jcarlson1657@sbcglobal.net

Roger Verdon - rogerverdon@hotmail.com

On Thursday...

Repps Hudson - reppshudson@msn.com

Claudia DiMartino - cdgogirl@aol.com

Phil Sandlin - psandlin@hotmail.com

Today in History - December 31, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 31, the 365th and final day of 2019.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 31, 1986, 97 people were killed when fire broke out in the Dupont Plaza Hotel in [San Juan, Puerto Rico](#). (Three hotel workers later pleaded guilty in connection with the blaze.)

On this date:

In 1775, during the Revolutionary War, the British repulsed an attack by Continental Army generals Richard Montgomery and Benedict Arnold at Quebec; Montgomery was killed.

In 1879, Thomas Edison first publicly demonstrated his electric incandescent light by illuminating some 40 bulbs at his laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey.

In 1904, New York's Times Square saw its first New Year's Eve celebration, with an estimated 200,000 people in attendance.

In 1951, the Marshall Plan expired after distributing more than \$12 billion in foreign aid.

In 1972, Major League baseball player Roberto Clemente, 38, was killed when a plane he chartered and was traveling on to bring relief supplies to earthquake-devastated Nicaragua crashed shortly after takeoff from Puerto Rico.

In 1974, private U.S. citizens were allowed to buy and own gold for the first time in more than 40 years.

In 1985, singer Rick Nelson, 45, and six other people were killed when fire broke out aboard a DC-3 that was taking the group to a New Year's Eve performance in Dallas.

In 1987, Robert Mugabe (moo-GAH'-bay) was sworn in as Zimbabwe's first executive president.

In 1991, representatives of the government of El Salvador and rebels reached agreement at the United Nations on a peace accord to end 12 years of civil war.

In 1999, Russian President Boris Yeltsin announced his resignation (he was succeeded by Vladimir Putin).

In 1997, Michael Kennedy, the 39-year-old son of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, was killed in a skiing accident on Aspen Mountain in Colorado. Pianist Floyd Cramer died in Nashville at age 64.

In 2001, New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani spent his final day in office praising police, firefighters, and other city employees in the wake of 9/11, and said he had no regrets about returning to private life.

Ten years ago: A lone gunman dressed in black killed five people in Espoo, Finland, four of them at a crowded shopping mall, before returning home and taking his own life.

Five years ago: In one of his final acts as Maryland governor, Democrat Martin O'Malley announced that he would commute the sentences of four death-row inmates to life in prison without parole. A stampede at Shanghai's glitzy riverfront during New Year celebrations resulted in 36 deaths. Actor Edward Herrmann, 71, died at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York.

One year ago: Despite some New Year's Eve gains, stocks finished 2018 with their worst yearly showing in a decade; the S&P 500 ended the year 6.2 percent lower than where it began. Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren took the first major step toward a presidential campaign, telling supporters she would more formally announce a campaign plan in early 2019. House Democrats unveiled a package of bills that would re-open the federal government without approved funding for President Donald Trump's border wall with Mexico; Trump, meanwhile, told Fox News Channel that he was "ready, willing and able" to negotiate an end to the partial shutdown that had stretched into its 10th day.

Today's Birthdays: TV producer George Schlatter is 90. Actor Sir Anthony Hopkins is 82. Actor Tim Considine (TV: "My Three Sons") is 79. Actress Sarah Miles is 78. Actress Barbara Carrera is 78. Rock musician Andy Summers is 77. Actor Sir Ben Kingsley is 76. Producer-director Taylor Hackford is 75. Fashion designer Diane von Furstenberg is 73. Actor Tim Matheson is 72. Pop singer Burton Cummings is 72. Actor Joe Dallesandro is 71. Rock musician Tom Hamilton (Aerosmith) is 68. Actor James Remar is 66. Actress Bebe Neuwirth is 61. Actor Val Kilmer is 60. Singer Paul Westerberg is 60. Actor Don Diamont is 57. Rock musician Ric Ivanisevich (Oleander) is 57. Rock musician Scott Ian (Anthrax) is 56. Actress Gong Li is 54. Author Nicholas Sparks is 54. Actor Lance Reddick is 50. Pop singer Joe McIntyre is 47. Rock musician Mikko Siren (Apocalyptica) is 44. Donald Trump Jr. is 42. Rapper PSY (Park Jae-sang) is 42. Rock musician Bob Bryar is 40. Rock musician Jason Sechrist (Portugal. The Man) is 40. Actor Ricky Whittle is 40. Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., is 40. Actor/singer Erich Bergen is 34. DJ/vocalist Drew Taggart (The Chainsmokers) is 30. Olympic gold medal gymnast Gabby Douglas is 24.

Thought for Today: "Youth is when you're allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve. Middle age is when you're forced to!" [-] William E. Vaughan, American newspaper columnist (1915-1977).

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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