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Connecting April 1, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 1st day of April 2020, aka April Fool's Day.

What is happening in our world with the coronavirus pandemic is certainly no April Fool's joke – oh, if it were not really so painfully true.

We lead today's issue with first responses to Connecting's call for your activities while living under stay-at-home restrictions and recommendations for your colleagues on things to do. Including book recommendations.

Got your own ideas to share? Please send them along.



THE LATEST GROUND GAME : New York has been hit especially hard in the COVID-19 pandemic, with more than 75,000 cases confirmed so far. In New York and elsewhere, health officials are reviewing guidelines from sources including state governments and medical groups on how to fairly ration limited resources as hospitals prepare for a surge in patients. Central to these guidelines will be figuring out who gets a ventilator and who doesn't. AP reporter Candice Choi explains what this all

means. Click [here](#) to listen.

Have a safe and healthy and great day.

Paul

Connecting's ideas for things to do under coronavirus restrictions

Sandy Johnson ([Email](#)) - Just finished "The British are Coming," first of a Revolutionary War trilogy by former Washington Post reporter Rick Atkinson who also wrote the incredible trilogy about WWII. "The Orphan Master's Son," by Adam Johnson is a fiction page-turner though deeply disturbing. For lighter reading, "Cork Dork," about wine and the crazy intensive training to be a sommelier. Also ... recipes, since we are alternating dinner duties under a house rule of cooking something new each day.

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Soll Sussman ([Email](#)) - Glad you liked American Dirt (see Tuesday's edition). I wasn't planning to buy it because of reports of its inaccuracies about Mexico, but a friend from the border encouraged me to make up my own mind. I bought it but haven't gotten around to reading it yet. However, from reading the reviews, I do know and agree that a middle-class woman from Puerto Vallarta is definitely not going to be riding the Train of Death.

The Texas Observer ran a list of 17 books about the border by Latino or Latina authors that make good reading and aren't getting the same kind of attention and sales. Click [here](#) to view.

I can personally recommend Homelands: Four Friends, Two Countries, and the Fate of the Great Mexican-American Migration, by Dallas Morning News' correspondent Alfredo Corchado, Where We Come From by Austin author Oscar Cásares (originally from Brownsville), and The Boy Kings of Texas by Domingo Martinez (also a native of Brownsville). Or Oscar's first book of short stories called simply "Brownsville." I also would still recommend Sonia Nazario's book, "Enrique's Journey," expanded from her Pulitzer Prize-winning series for the Los Angeles Times.

Greetings and good readings from Texas (and Mexico).

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Paul Stevens ([Email](#)) – Like most church-related activities nationwide, my co-editor and wife Linda’s Disciple Bible Study program has been cancelled – just as has Sunday services at the Methodist church we attend. So on Tuesday, when the group would meet in person at the church, organizers instead set up a Zoom conference and Linda was among about 20 on the call. She was so excited for Zoom that she put makeup on! (Yes, I am authorized to say this.)

Downtime from our stay-at-home orders also allowed Linda to complete a project for her newest organization, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and while her induction ceremony must wait for the all-clear-to-meet sign, she is now officially a member. She was featured in the latest local chapter newsletter with this story:

Meet Our New Member!

Linda Carolyn Saul Stevens

I’m a fourth-generation Kansas woman whose grandmother was a child of Kansas homesteaders and told me when I was 10 years old that I was eligible to be a Daughter of the American Revolution. Well, 60 years later, a dozen patriots have been found and I’m proudly being inducted into this historic organization. My grandmother, Flossie Bell Wharton, would be very proud.

I’ve moved 26 times to date, 13 times in my childhood, and 13 times as an adult. I was taught faith and perseverance from my parents Ernest and Carolyn Saul and adventure with my sisters Nancy Baker and Cindy Saul. I married an adventurous, perseverant Christian man, Paul Stevens, in 1968. We are blessed with three children: Jenny, Molly and Jon; their spouses Andy, Travis

and Arianna; and four adorable grandchildren: Sophie, Max, Brennan and Teddy. Along the way I graduated with degrees in nursing and business and was lucky to have three fulfilling careers, nursing, homemaker and insurance network manager. Now retired, I enjoy volunteering at my church as a Congregational Care Minister, being with Beta Sigma Phi for 35 years, bridge, travel, friendships and – most importantly - the joy of family.

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Jim Reindl ([Email](#)) - I sent my "COVID-19 Upends My Life" essay last week and in it mentioned my walk in the park with my sons to produce a video called "The Socially Distant Park," a collaboration among the three of us and my filmmaker friend still in Dili. I think he's the real star. I shared it on Facebook but thought I'd offer it up here. If nothing else, it will kill about a minute and a half in your otherwise busy stay-at-home day. Click [here](#) to view.

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Ruth Gersh ([Email](#)) - My home gym, with 14-pound weight.

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Guy Palmiotto ([Email](#)) - For all of us golfers staying home, a sign of the times. My local course in Parsippany, NJ has been closed since the governor ordered all non-essential businesses closed March 23.

And more on coronavirus

Neal Ulevich ([Email](#)) - A word of explanation: Corona is also the name of a Mexican beer popular in the southwestern U.S. Aficionados often drink same after forcing a slice of lime down the neck of the bottle...

A woman arrested on suspicion of drunken driving spit on an Arvada police officer and said, "There's some Corona for you, now all you need is a lime," according to an Arvada Police Department news release.

Brenda Johnson, 62, was arrested Sunday for investigation of second-degree assault on a peace officer, driving under the influence, hit-and-run and several other traffic charges, the news release said.

Read more [here](#) .

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Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - In the spring come flowers. Once in a while the world settles down, peace prevails, and the spring flowers bloom in their glory.

However, mankind often forgets this, and in time of horrible strife and disaster like the coronavirus, we overlook some of the wonderful things that our fellowman accomplish, like our medical personnel, the gallant journalists, and others working under strife.



I'm suggesting that we in Connecting also wave a big bunch of daffodils to our hard-working, unrewarded editor Paul Stevens, and his beautiful lady Linda.

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Norm Abelson ([Email](#)) - The memory rings as an echo from the past. It goes something like this:

“Norman, wash your hands before supper.”

“O.K., Ma, I already did.” Of course, I hadn't.

“Come here, let me see.” This time it is my father's authoritarian voice, and it sends me scurrying to the bathroom.

A quarter of a century passes by in a blink, and I'm the Daddy now, saying “You guys are filthy. Get in the bathroom and wash those hands before we eat.” Sons David and Michael grouse softly as they head to the sink.

These days it is 89-year-old me washing my hands, scrubbing mightily, as I sing my version of “Happy Birthday.”

**I'm washing my hands
as hard as can be
the experts all tell me
that'll keep me germ-free.**

Connecting mailbox

***That's me with Pat Nixon...and I was able to
get up!***



Cheryl Arvidson ([Email](#)) - Cheery photo of the day goes way back to my time as UPI Bureau Manager in Iowa. Pat Nixon visits the state and holds a news conference at the Governor's Mansion (pre-Terrace Hill I believe). I was not able to get Iowa First Lady Billie Ray in this scanned picture but I am sitting on the floor on Pat Nixon's left. You know it is an early 1970s picture, not only because of Pat and my long hair, but also because I was on the floor and was able to get up!

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LA bureau memory

PARTING SHOT

Wills—a Way to Have the Last Word

By CHARLES MAHER
Times Legal Affairs Writer

Howard Hughes left a real mess behind him.

The eccentric multimillionaire died with no will, or with none that could be authenticated. Now, more than 3½ years later, his estate still has not been settled.

This addled state of affairs could have been avoided, or at least made less likely. Where there's a will, there's a way, if the will is any good.

This does not mean everyone should have a will. Not even every person of means needs one. Some lawyers who draft wills have none of their own.

But if the people you wish to get your property are not the ones who would get it if the state distributed it for you, you need a will.

If you wish to leave something to a charity, you need a will.

If you wish a certain person named guardian of your children and a court would not likely choose that person for the job, you need a will.

If you wish a certain person to manage distribution of your estate and that person would not likely be picked by a court, you need a will.

Wills also are useful in a less practical but more creative sense. They have been the instruments of so many marvelous parting shots that wills



SPLASHY—A car makes waves at 11th and Hill Streets during the storm that dropped 2.5 inches of rain in downtown Los Angeles. Associated Press photo

McCarthy Drops the Ax on Foes in Speaker Fight

By W.B. BOOD

Storm Floods Freeways, Streets Across Southland

100 Traffic Accidents, Apparently 3 Deaths Result; New Front in Pacific Expected to Bring More Rain

Iran City Again Torn by Rioting; 8 Die, 100 Hurt

By DOYLE McMANUS

Longshoremen Will Boycott Soviet Ships

Protest Over Afghan Move Affects Ports on East Coast, Gulf

By JOHN J. GOLDMAN
Times Staff Writer

NEW YORK—The International Longshoremen's Assn. announced Wednesday that it will boycott all ships and cargo to and from the Soviet Union until Russian troops are withdrawn from Afghanistan.

The action by the union of 116,000 dockworkers in ports from Maine to Texas, from the Great Lakes to Puerto Rico, affects not only ships of Russian registry but any vessel carrying goods to or from the Soviet Union. The dockworkers also refused to handle any Russian passenger liners.

"Our people are upset and they refuse to continue a business-as-usual policy as long as the Russians insist on being international bully boys," Thomas W. Gleason, president of the longshoremen's union, said in announcing the boycott.

Gleason, speaking at a Manhattan news conference, stressed that his union was acting independently of the Carter Administration, a fact quickly confirmed by the White House, which expressed reservations about the longshoremen's action.

"We understand the reasons for their decision," said presidential Press Secretary Jody Powell. "The I.L.A. is

Dennis Whitehead ([Email](#)) - During a January 1980 monsoon in Los Angeles where I was working on the photo desk, I took my lunch break to visit the little greasy spoon across 11th Street (I recall the food was pretty good). Carrying my trusty Nikon F, I sheltered from the rain in the large garage bay at the corner of 11th and Hill Streets shooting pictures of rainy scenes. One, capturing a car driving through high water alongside the restaurant, appeared on Page One of the LA Times and another of a person jumping over a crosswalk puddle holding an umbrella aloft in front of the restaurant made the front page of the LA Herald-Examiner in the same cycle. I don't remember what I had for lunch, or if I had anything to eat. As far as LA food memories go, I will never forget the trips to the Kosher Burrito stand with Wally Fong. Those were the best!

Mark Rochester named editor-in-chief of Type Investigations

Excerpted from News Release

Type Investigations, the investigative reporting division of Type Media Center, recently announced the appointment of veteran journalist and editor Mark J. Rochester as Editor-in-Chief, effective March 30.

Rochester served as AP's assistant chief of bureau for California, Nevada and Hawaii earlier in his career, from 2006 to 2013, reporting to John Raess in San Francisco and Anthony Marquez in Los Angeles.

"Mark's career as a reporter, editor, and manager exemplifies Type Investigations'

mission of delivering stories that drive social impact,” said Taya Kitman, executive director and CEO, Type Media Center. “Mark takes over as editor-in-chief at a time when our partnerships with independent journalists are creating stories that reach more people and have greater impact than ever before. He has overseen award-winning, groundbreaking work that has pushed the boundaries of investigative storytelling while influencing events and changing lives. We are very proud to bring Mark onboard and look forward to his energy and passion leading Type Investigations in a fresh direction.”



Speaking as an African American journalist, Rochester emphasized his lifelong determination to bring greater racial, ethnic and gender diversity to investigative reporting – an objective he shares with Type Media Center, where the investigative newsroom has been woman-led for the past nine years. “I’ve conducted workshops where black and Hispanic journalists packed standing room only conference rooms, eager to learn or sharpen investigative reporting techniques. There’s no shortage of journalists of color who want to practice the craft, they just need opportunity – and that’s part of Type Media’s DNA.”

Prior to joining Type Investigations, Rochester was senior news director for investigations at the Detroit Free Press. During his tenure, the paper published investigations that brought significant change to greater Detroit and throughout Michigan. Before he arrived in Detroit, Rochester was executive editor of the Rock Hill Herald in South Carolina and was a juror for the Pulitzer Prizes. Earlier in his career, he also served as deputy managing editor at The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, overseeing digital strategy and content, as well as investigations, assistant bureau chief for the Associated Press in San Francisco and held senior management positions at The Denver Post, Newsday and The Indianapolis Star.

Mark’s email is - markjrochester@gmail.com

More of your first press passes

SUFFOLK POLICE

PRESS PERMIT

Donald G. Duval

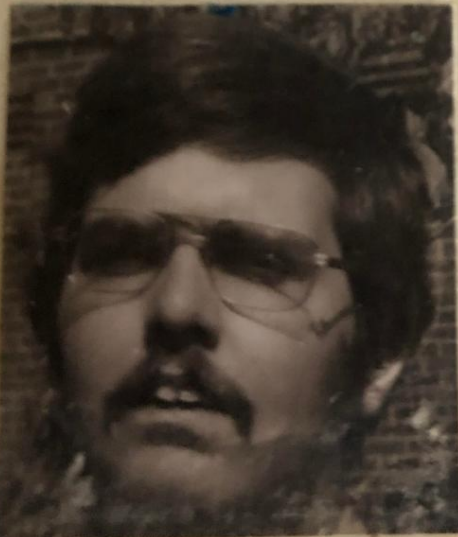
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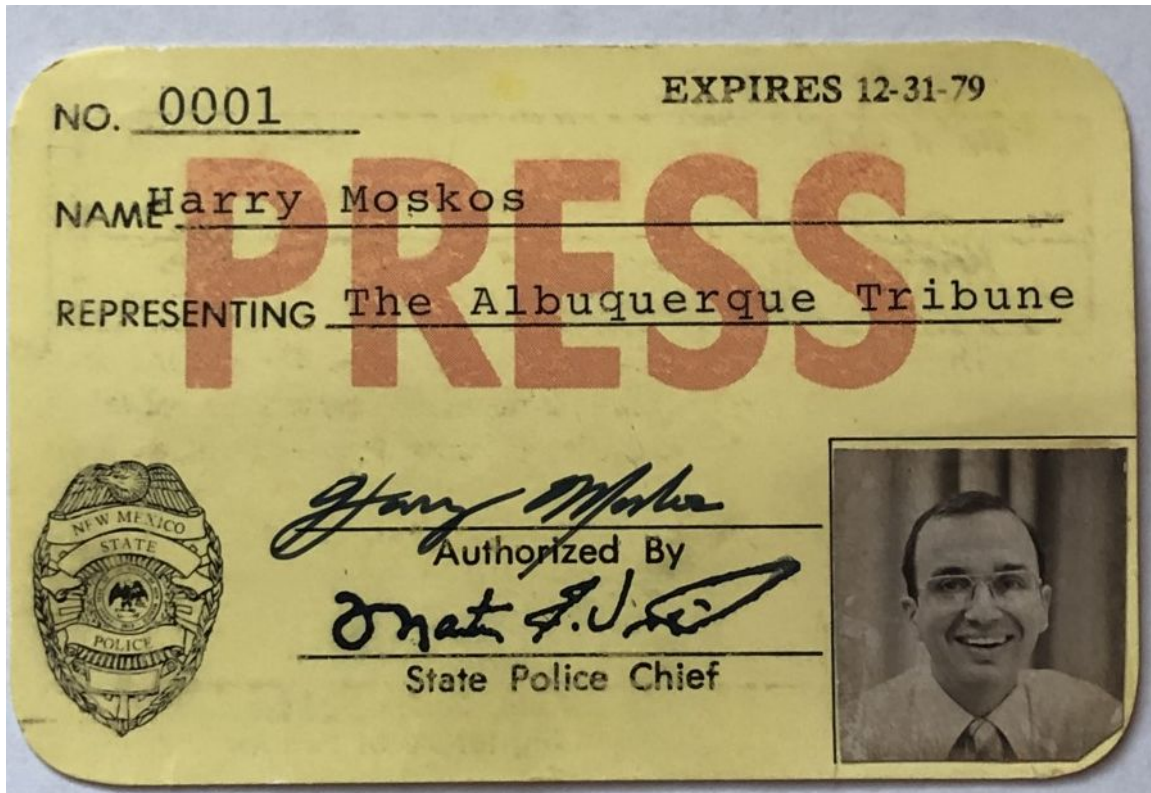


Frank Eltman ([Email](#)) -



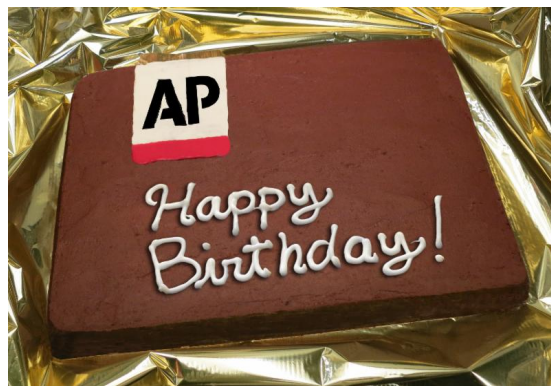
Jim Hood ([Email](#)) – I’ve been feeling left out as everyone displays their old press credentials. I honestly can’t remember ever having such a thing, although in Phoenix and Denver, we had special license plate tags which seemed to serve mostly to attract parking tickets. I do remember occasionally making my own credential to worm my way in somewhere that didn’t want me around but that’s about it. It wasn’t until I was banished to Washington that I became accustomed to the odd practice of wearing one’s credentials on a lanyard. I’ve always been afraid somebody would grab the thing and choke me with it. In fact, I didn’t surrender to the lanyard tradition until just a few years ago, when I started herding dogs and humans at the Palm Springs Animal Shelter. I first tried clipping my ID to my shirt but was informed that everyone had to wear a lanyard (this from the director who, of course, was not wearing one). I no longer have to do even that, since the shelter has thrown all us old

volunteers out pending the resolution of the COVID-19 epidemic. I miss the dogs but can't say I miss the leash or, rather, lanyard.



Harry Moskos ([Email](#)) - Here is the picture of the press card I received when the New Mexico State Police started issuing press cards in the '70's. The interesting thing is that they gave No. 0001 .to me.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Marcus Eliason – lordcopper@gmail.com

Welcome to Connecting



Skip Foreman - sforeman@ap.org

Stories of interest

Newsonomics: Tomorrow's life-or-death decisions for newspapers are suddenly today's, thanks to coronavirus (Nieman)

By KEN DOCTOR

As local newspapers' businesses hit the skids, they're finding themselves careening right now into a future they'd thought was still several years away.

"We are all going to jump ahead three years," Mike Orren, chief product officer of The Dallas Morning News, suggested to me last week.

At least. Ask an American newspaper exec a few weeks ago what they thought 2025 would look like, and they'd tell it you it would be much more digital, far less print, and more dependent on reader revenue than advertising. Some of them would have told you they think they had a plan to get there. Others, if they were being candid, would have said they didn't see the route yet, but they hoped to find one in time.

The COVID-19 crisis has clearly accelerated that timeline — and may have ripped it to shreds altogether, depending on how long the shutdown lasts and how deep the resulting recession gets.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Scott Charton.

CNN's Cuomo, with coronavirus, completes show from basement

By **DAVID BAUDER**

NEW YORK (AP) — A bleary-eyed Chris Cuomo, saying he wanted to be a cautionary tale for his audience, anchored his CNN show from his basement Tuesday after testing positive for the coronavirus.

Via remote link, he interviewed Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker, an emergency room nurse and CNN medical correspondent Dr. Sanjay Gupta, who expressed worry about one of Cuomo's symptoms.



“Brace yourself,” Cuomo told viewers, “not for a hoax. But for the next few weeks of scary and painful realities. This is a fight. It’s going to get worse. We’re going to suffer.”

Cuomo looked pale, his eyes watery and red-rimmed. He took a few deep breaths to compose himself. He repeated himself. Even Gupta said he didn’t look good, and said he’d call later to talk about a tightness Cuomo was feeling in his chest.

Read more [here](#).

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Facebook Aims \$100 Million at Media Hit by the Coronavirus (New York Times)

By **Marc Tracy**

Facebook announced on Monday that it would dole out \$25 million in grants to local news outlets and spend \$75 million in a marketing drive aimed at news organizations internationally in response to the coronavirus-prompted economic downturn, which has caused advertising to plummet and has threatened media industry revenues.

Despite huge interest in news that has led to traffic surges and a rise in digital subscription sign-ups, the media industry has seen cutbacks as advertising has dropped sharply. Some alt-weeklies have laid off as many as three-quarters of their employees. BuzzFeed and American Media have instituted pay cuts. In Louisiana, The Advocate and The Times-Picayune have furloughed some staff and put the rest on four-day workweeks.

The money announced Monday will come on top of \$300 million that Facebook, one of the world's largest tech platforms and a critical digital news gatekeeper, pledged last year to invest in local news by the end of 2021.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Dennis Conrad.

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Newspaper deliveryman brings groceries to his older customers on morning route, no extra charge (Washington Post)

By Cathy Free

Days after New Jersey residents were ordered to stay at home last week because of the coronavirus, Sandy and John Driska were running low on groceries. Going out for food shopping seemed precarious since she had bronchitis and he was fighting Parkinson's disease.

Then Sandy Driska, 72, who lives in the central New Jersey township of Cranbury, heard through a friend that an acquaintance who subscribed to the local Newark newspaper, the Star-Ledger, found a typed note rolled up in her morning paper.

"My name is Greg Dailey and I deliver your newspaper every morning," the note began. "I understand during these trying times it is difficult for some to get out of their house to get everyday necessities. I would like to offer my services free of charge to anyone who needs groceries, household products, etc. I will be shopping at ShopRite and [McCaffrey's] and can deliver the goods directly to your front door."

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Sibby Christensen.

Today in History – April 1, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 1, the 92nd day of 2020. There are 274 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 1, 1976, Apple Computer was founded by Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne.

On this date:

In 1789, the U.S. House of Representatives held its first full meeting in New York; Frederick Muhlenberg of Pennsylvania was elected the first House speaker.

In 1891, the Wrigley Co. was founded in Chicago by William Wrigley, Jr.

In 1917, Scott Joplin, "The King of Ragtime Writers," died at a New York City hospital; he was believed to have been 49 years old.

In 1945, American forces launched the amphibious invasion of Okinawa during World War II. (U.S. forces succeeded in capturing the Japanese island on June 22.)

In 1954, the United States Air Force Academy was established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

In 1963, New York City's daily newspapers resumed publishing after settlement was reached in a 114-day strike. The daytime drama "General Hospital" premiered on ABC-TV.

In 1970, President Richard M. Nixon signed a measure banning cigarette advertising on radio and television, to take effect after Jan. 1, 1971.

In 1972, the first Major League Baseball players' strike began; it lasted 12 days.

In 1984, Marvin Gaye was shot to death by his father, Marvin Gay (correct), Sr. in Los Angeles, the day before the recording star's 45th birthday. (The elder Gay pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and received probation.)

In 1987, in his first speech on the AIDS epidemic, President Ronald Reagan told doctors in Philadelphia, "We've declared AIDS public health enemy no. 1."

In 1992, the National Hockey League Players' Association went on its first-ever strike, which lasted 10 days.

In 2003, American troops entered a hospital in Nasiriyah (nah-sih-REE'-uh), Iraq, and rescued Army Pfc. Jessica Lynch, who had been held prisoner since her unit was ambushed on March 23.

Ten years ago: Roman Catholic cardinals across Europe used their Holy Thursday sermons to defend Pope Benedict XVI from accusations he'd played a role in covering up sex abuse scandals. Dayton denied the previous year's national champs another title as the Flyers beat North Carolina 79-68 to win the NIT. Actor John Forsythe, 92, died in Santa Ynez, California.

Five years ago: Sen. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., was charged with accepting nearly \$1 million worth of gifts and travel from a longtime friend in exchange for a stream of political favors on the donor's behalf; a defiant Menendez, maintaining his innocence, declared he was "not going anywhere." (The Justice Department dropped charges after a trial ended in a hung jury.) Eleven former Atlanta public school educators were convicted of racketeering for their role in a cheating scheme to inflate students' scores on standardized exams. California Gov. Jerry Brown ordered officials to impose statewide mandatory water restrictions for the first time in history. Cynthia Lennon, the first wife of John Lennon, died at her home in Spain; she was 75.

One year ago: Britain's parliament rejected four alternatives to the government's European Union divorce deal, options that would have softened or even halted the departure; the votes left the U.K. with 12 days to come up with a new plan or crash out of the bloc in chaos. A second woman said former Vice President Joe Biden had acted inappropriately, touching her face with both hands and rubbing noses with her in 2009. Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika (ahb-DUL'-ah-ZEEZ' boot-uh-FLEE'-kuh) agreed to step down before the end of his fourth term in April, yielding to growing calls for his resignation after two decades in power.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Jane Powell is 91. Actor Don Hastings is 86. Baseball Hall of Famer Phil Niekro is 81. Actress Ali MacGraw is 81. Rhythm-and-blues singer Rudolph Isley is 81. Reggae singer Jimmy Cliff is 72. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito is 70. Rock musician Billy Currie (Ultravox) is 70. Actress Annette O'Toole is 68. Movie director Barry Sonnenfeld is 67. Singer Susan Boyle is 59. Actor Jose Zuniga is 58. Country singer Woody Lee is 52. Actress Jessica Collins is 49. Rapper-actor Method

Man is 49. Movie directors Albert and Allen Hughes are 48. Political commentator Rachel Maddow is 47. Former tennis player Magdalena Maleeva is 45. Actor David Oyelowo (oh-YEHLOH'-oh) is 44. Actor JJ Field is 42. Singer Bijou Phillips is 40. Actor Sam Huntington is 38. Comedian-actor Taran Killam is 38. Actor Matt Lanter is 37. Actor Josh Zuckerman is 35. Country singer Hillary Scott (Lady Antebellum) is 34. Rock drummer Arejay Hale (Halestorm) is 33. Actor Asa Butterfield is 23. Actor Tyler Wladis is 10.

Thought for Today: “Our wisdom comes from our experience, and our experience comes from our foolishness.” [-] Sacha Guitry, Russian-born French actor-writer-director (1885-1957).

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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