



# Connecting

March 05, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning! Today is the 5th of March.

The news Wednesday was how Super Tuesday had re-shaped the race to become the Democrats' nominee to run against President Trump. Bernie Sanders won California, considered the night's biggest prize. But Joe Biden rebounded from previous poor showings to largely sweep the South, including Texas, and seemed to regain his status as front-runner. With billionaire Michael Bloomberg dropping out, the race narrowed to a two-man competition, although Elizabeth Warren seemed to be deciding to stay for now despite her low results and losing her home state of Massachusetts.

Associated Press Director of Media Relations **Lauren Easton** issued a tic-toc on the news cooperative's calls in each of the Tuesday's races. Her account leads today's newsletter.

Congratulations to **Sarah Hutson Wade**, daughter of retired Oklahoma bureau chief **Lindel Hutson**, on her appearance on the Food Network show "Beat Bobby Flay." Lindel shares an account of how her night went. His note includes videos of her appearance and of her approach to food at her Boston restaurant.

A tall gentleman with a full head of white hair was spotted Wednesday heading to a Florida beach with his wife. **Paul Stevens** is out the rest of this week. Send ideas, letters, stories, photos to **Mark Mittelstadt** at [markmitt71@yahoo.com](mailto:markmitt71@yahoo.com).

Have a great day!

Mark

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# AP: 'Stellar night' for race calling

**By LAUREN EASTON**

A night of fast and accurate race calls by The Associated Press on Super Tuesday culminated as polls closed in California at 8 p.m. PT, when AP declared Bernie Sanders the winner of the night's biggest prize.

AP has a history of accuracy on election nights dating to 1848.

The news agency declared Sanders the winner of the California Democratic presidential primary as soon as polls closed, even though votes from Tuesday had not yet been counted, based on results from AP VoteCast.

AP VoteCast, conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago, is a wide-ranging survey of the American electorate that captures the views of voters on whom they vote for and why.

The following is a chronology of AP's Democratic presidential primary race calls (all times Eastern).

## **March 3, 2020**

7:00 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Joe Biden wins Democratic presidential primary in Virginia.

7:17 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Bernie Sanders wins Democratic presidential primary in Vermont, scoring victory in his home state.

7:45 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Joe Biden wins Democratic presidential primary in North Carolina.

8:00 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Joe Biden wins Democratic presidential primary in Alabama.

9:00 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Bernie Sanders wins Democratic presidential primary in Colorado; Donald Trump wins GOP primary in Texas.

9:05 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Joe Biden wins Democratic presidential primary in Oklahoma.

9:30 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Joe Biden wins Democratic presidential primary in Tennessee.

9:45 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Joe Biden wins Democratic presidential primary in Minnesota.

9:49 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Joe Biden wins Democratic presidential primary in Arkansas.

10:27 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Bernie Sanders wins Democratic presidential primary in Utah.

10:48 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Joe Biden wins Democratic presidential primary in Massachusetts, upsetting Elizabeth Warren in her home state.

11:00 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Bernie Sanders wins Democratic presidential primary in California, claiming biggest prize on Super Tuesday.

### **March 4, 2020**

1:57 a.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Joe Biden wins Democratic presidential primary in Texas, taking Super Tuesday's second biggest prize.

1:57 p.m. WASHINGTON (AP) - Joe Biden wins Democratic presidential primary in Maine.

Follow AP election coverage: <https://apnews.com/Election2020>

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## **Former AP statehouse reporter Rawls 'best professor' on Auburn campus**

## Professor

JOSHUA FISHER / PHOTOGRAPHER

## Phillip Rawls

By COLLINS KEITH  
Campus Reporter

As a young kid in Gantt, Alabama, Phillip Rawls would often stand in the alley behind his father's store, watching transfixed as the press from the local newspaper would run.

This is where Rawls, now a lecturer in the College of Liberal Arts, became interested in journalism, an interest that has never wavered, even in his 35-year career with The Associated Press.

"I would wander over on Wednesday afternoon when they'd be printing the weekly paper, and they would always have the loading dock door up because buildings weren't air conditioned back in the '50s," Rawls said. "I was just fascinated as a kid watching the press run."

In high school, he was involved with the school newspaper and magazine, and it was here that he solidified his love of journalism, a love that Rawls carried to college.

"I was never one of those students who ever changed my major... I'm one of those odd folks who never wavered," Rawls said.

After receiving a bachelor's degree and subsequently a master's in journalism from the University of Alabama, Rawls began to work for The AP as a political writer in Montgomery.

Many writers who covered the same things day in

and day out would get burned out, but Rawls didn't. He credits this fact to the wide variety of topics he was able to cover while working for The AP.

"I enjoyed not being confined to a single beat," Rawls said. "I did mostly politics and government, but I got to cover severe weather, courts, I got to do some sports... I enjoyed that variety, [and] I think it kept me fresh and made me a better reporter."

Throughout Rawls' career with The AP, the way people got their news changed, but the news they got stayed constant—a theme that he believes will always hold true.

"Twenty years from now we will be in some kind of different period in the news business, and we will be getting our news in a different way than we are today," Rawls said. "What constitutes news never changes. How we get it always changes, and we just adapt to it."

During Rawls' time as a political writer in Montgomery, Alabama's government saw significant changes, with Rawls being able to witness these changes firsthand.

Rawls covered seven different Alabama governors during his career, and each one of them was memorable in a different way—some more than others.

"I'm grateful that I got to report on George Wallace because he was such a national figure, and I got to witness the transition from someone who was a segregationist to someone who got elected to his fourth term with overwhelming African American support, so that was fun to witness," Rawls said. "I just think from a history standpoint, getting to cover Wallace was [something] I'm very grateful for."

Rawls retired after 35 1/2 years with The AP, half a year longer than he planned. That half a year was spent helping the new employees who would take over his job in the Montgomery Bureau get settled in. However, Rawls didn't stay retired for long.

"I soon realized I was a total failure at retirement," Rawls said. "As a journalist, you're making split second decisions all the time, and suddenly, the only decision I had to make was, 'What day this week am I going to mow the grass?'"

As much as Rawls likes to mow the grass, it wasn't enough. A friend who was active with the journalism alumni at Auburn asked if he was interested in lecturing, and Rawls decided to give it a try. He began as a part-time lecturer in August 2015 and transitioned to full time the next year.

While Rawls got his degree in journalism from the University of Alabama, he doesn't show that allegiance now that he's teaching at Auburn.

"I always tell my students, 'If you can't pull for the folks who sign your paycheck, you need to change jobs,'" Rawls said. "And that's at any stage of life."

Retired Alabama State News Editor **Kendal Weaver** shared word that longtime AP statehouse reporter **Phillip Rawls**, now a professor of journalism at Auburn University, was picked "best professor on campus" by the student-run newspaper, The Auburn Plainsman. "This is no surprise," Kendal said. "For more than 30 years, he was an in-house professor of journalism for the AP, with daily guidance for staffers both young and old in Montgomery and elsewhere. I know. I was in Montgomery, a student in awe."

Rawls retired after a 35-year career with the Associated Press, and quickly discovered he was a failure at retirement. He began as a part time lecturer at Auburn in 2015 and transitioned to full time a year later.

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## Connecting mailbox

***A cook in the AP family appears on Food Network show***

**Lindel Hutson** ([Email](#)) \_ Thanks to everyone who wrote regarding my daughter's Monday appearance on the Food Network's Beat Bobby Flay.



*Sarah Hutson Wade*

Sarah Hutson Wade was a contestant on the show which featured culinary queen Martha Stewart and chef Michael Symon.

In the first round, Sarah went up against sous chef Max Castro. They were told to prepare a single dish featuring the main ingredient as sunflower seeds.

Sarah won the first round and then for round two was pitted against Bobby Flay to prepare a fried chicken sandwich. Not surprisingly, Bobby won.

Sarah was very upbeat about the experience of being on the show and having a celebrity audience.

She also hopes it gives her a bump in publicizing the Boston restaurant she opened this past summer, Stillwater.

Watch the episode:



*Beat Bobby Flay S24E03 The Queen Returns (Mar 01, 2020 #FULL)*

Video on Stillwater that was produced by Ritz Crackers:



*Adventures in Inspiration: Stillwater*

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## ***Mourning loss of what was once 'most feared' AP competitor in Australia***

**Tom Kent** ([Email](#)) \_ I join Carl Robinson in mourning the end of Australian Associated Press (Connecting, March 4). But I remember the agency not only as the backbone of Australian journalism, but as our most feared competitor. When I worked in Sydney in 1974-76, AAP was an AP subscriber but we had no access to AAP's voluminous domestic coverage. That privilege was reserved for Reuters. I can't remember if Reuters owned a piece of AAP or AAP owned a piece of Reuters, but the link was extremely close. In fact, when AAP reporters wrote stories, they typed "ssss" as the logo. Their system changed that to "AAP" on their domestic wire and "Reuters" as the story went London.

The Reuters lock on AAP meant that COB Peter O'Loughlin and I had to compete 24/7 with a fully staffed national agency with bureaus all over the country. Just about every waking hour I listened anxiously to top-of-the-hour newscasts, knowing that if there was anything important, we had already been beaten by the AAP-Reuters combine. However, I've gotten over it. AAP was a smart, professional organization. Its closure is a big loss for the news business.

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## ***Remembering Ken Peters***

**Cecilia White** ([Email](#)) \_ Former AP/LA sports writer Ken Peters' recent passing deeply saddened me. It was my pleasure to work in the same bureau from 1982-1989 with Ken, who was such a warm gentleman to all. As my former bureau chief, Andy Lippman, wrote last week, Ken truly was a "really decent, kind and honorable man." He was an unflappable, consummate pro and thoroughly nice guy. I am glad that he was able to indulge in his passion for travel after retiring from the AP. I'm sure all he met around the world, too, were better for having known Ken.

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*Doug Kienitz between U-Texas golf coach legend Harvey Penick and Tom Kite*

## ***Teeing off on your 82nd birthday***

**Doug Kienitz** ([Email](#)) \_ Dr. Seuss and Texas Independence Day anchor my birthday date of March 2 also.

There is, however, an age variance among the three.

Celebrating my 82, I played in the media invitational for the Dell Technologies Match Play event. Austin Country Club, which is hosting the 2020 World Golf Association tournament, welcomed a field of somewhat talented golfers. Since I write a golf column in Central Texas, I was among the lucky golfers to tee it up under ideal weather conditions.

The greens were the slickest that I had ever played, the fairways were lush and the hill country terrain was spectacular. We played our individual ball from the tees at some 6,600 yards.

Please, though, no mention of the final score.

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## ***More newspapers in art***

**Mark Mittelstadt** ([Email](#)) \_ Not exactly newspapers but art honoring journalists and others working in communications.

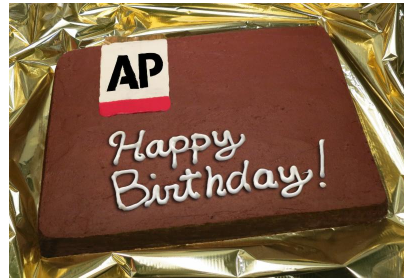
The large La Paloma de Tubac market in Tubac, Ariz., has rooms full of Mexican and Central American art, crafts, pottery, jewelry, linens. It includes a collection of "santitos," pictures of saints on pieces of decorative tin. The saints purportedly watch over various individuals and professions.

On a recent trip Mary and I spotted San Gabriel, which the artist described as "Gods messenger, brings enlightenment. Patron of postal

workers, telephone and television workers, media and communications."

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## Connecting Wishes Happy Birthday



David Lawrence - [dlawrence@childreadiness.org](mailto:dlawrence@childreadiness.org)

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## Welcome to Connecting



Morry Gash - [Morryg@me.com](mailto:Morryg@me.com)

Tom Kotynski - [tomkotynski@gmail.com](mailto:tomkotynski@gmail.com)

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## Stories of interest

### ***Trump campaign sues The Washington Post for libel (The New York Times)***

President Trump's re-election campaign sued The Washington Post for libel on Tuesday, citing two opinion articles from last year that linked Mr. Trump to Russian election interference. The action came a week after Mr. Trump's campaign filed a similar lawsuit against The New York Times. Trump's attacks on news organizations have been a defining mark of his presidency, and The Post has been one of his frequent targets. In 2017,



the newspaper won a Pulitzer Prize for a series of articles by David Farenthold that examined Mr. Trump's philanthropic claims. The president has often belittled The Post and its owner, Jeff Bezos, the billionaire Amazon founder, who bought it in 2013.

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

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### ***Sacramento mayor recruiting ownership group in effort to buy Sacramento Bee (The Sacramento Bee)***

Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg is working to form a local ownership group that could purchase The Sacramento Bee, separating the 163-year-old publication from its parent company and more than two-dozen sister newspapers across the U.S. The Bee's current owner, McClatchy Co., is moving through Chapter 11 bankruptcy in an effort to restructure its debt and shed pension obligations. If the restructuring plan proposed by McClatchy is approved by a judge, the likely owner of The Bee and 29 other publications would be Chatham Asset Management LLC, a New Jersey-based hedge fund. Steinberg said it is his "responsibility as mayor to continue to fight for any community asset that is vital to the future of Sacramento."

Read more [here](#).

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### ***How a pair of investigative reporters are trying to save the Chicago Tribune (The New Yorker)***

On an afternoon in early January, David Jackson and Gary Marx, the Chicago Tribune's premier investigative reporters, were huddled at a round table, making phone calls to some of the city's economic élite. Jackson and Marx are in their early sixties and have been working together for ten years. Each answers the phone—"This is David and Gary"—as if they were a single entity. Marx is loud, with a boisterous laugh, and Jackson is only slightly more subdued; during interviews, when one of them is relentlessly asking questions, the other soaks up the atmosphere before joining in. In a conference room at the Tribune's office, on the third floor of the Prudential Building, Marx opened a spreadsheet he'd put together—a list of eighty names—and dialed a source who runs a public-relations firm. After some opening pleasantries, the conversation turned to the possible fate of the newspaper, which Marx described as facing "an existential threat."

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

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### ***Playwrights embedded in Dallas newsroom reflect the messiness of journalism in their new drama (Dallas***

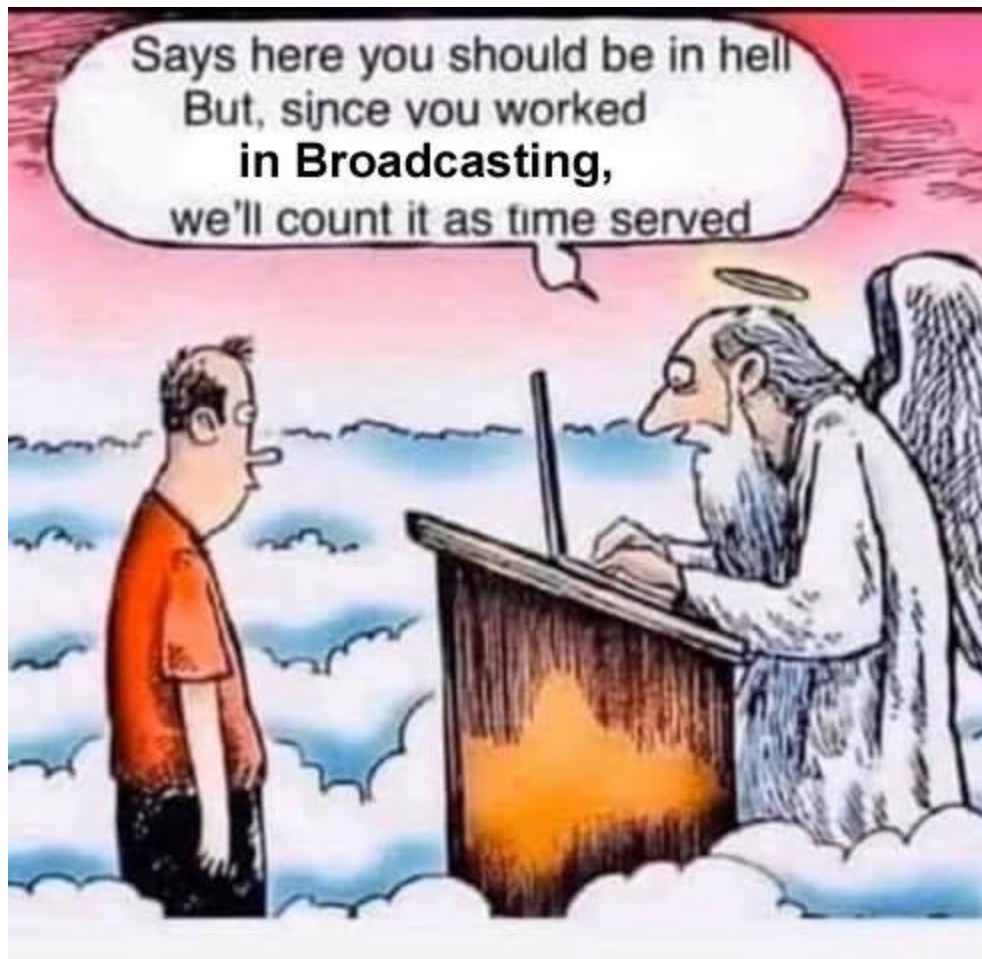
## ***Morning News)***

Janielle Kastner and Brigham Mosley thought they had finished writing their play about journalism when The Dallas Morning News announced layoffs in January 2019. They had spent more than a year and hundreds of hours embedded in the newsroom, interviewing and shadowing the paper's staff to come up with what Mosley calls "a really beautiful, clean play." "We had laid out five acts," Kastner says. "Here's what journalism is, it's important, here's why it matters. It was gorgeous." Yet what happened to the journalists they had been studying led them to a deeper understanding of the role of newspapers as they did what any good reporter would do. They dove back in and started asking harder questions. The outcome of several more months of investigation is a messier version of Playwrights in the Newsroom than they originally intended. Playwrights premieres today and runs through March 15 at the AT&T Performing Arts Center as part of the Elevator Project series, with Kastner and Mosley as renditions of themselves and six other actors portraying composite newsroom archetypes.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Barry Bedlan

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## **The Final Word**



**Today in History - March 5, 2020**



Today is Thursday, March 5, the 65th day of 2020. There are 301 days left in the year.

On March 5, 1770, the Boston Massacre took place as British soldiers who'd been taunted by a crowd of colonists opened fire, killing five people.

**On this date:**

In 1766, Antonio de Ulloa arrived in New Orleans to assume his duties as the first Spanish governor of the Louisiana Territory, where he encountered resistance from the French residents.

In 1868, the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson began in the U.S. Senate, with Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase presiding. Johnson, the first U.S. president to be impeached, was accused of "high crimes and misdemeanors" stemming from his attempt to fire Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; the trial ended on May 26 with Johnson's acquittal.

In 1933, in German parliamentary elections, the Nazi Party won 44 percent of the vote; the Nazis joined with a conservative nationalist party to gain a slender majority in the Reichstag.

In 1946, Winston Churchill delivered his "Iron Curtain" speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, in which he said: "From Stettin in the Baltic, to Trieste in the Adriatic, an 'iron curtain' has descended across the continent, allowing police governments to rule Eastern Europe."

In 1953, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin died after three decades in power. Composer Sergei Prokofiev (pro-KAH'-fee-ehv) died in Moscow at age 61.

In 1963, country music performers Patsy Cline, Cowboy Copas and Hawkshaw Hawkins died in the crash of their plane, a Piper Comanche, near Camden, Tennessee, along with pilot Randy Hughes (Cline's manager).

In 1982, comedian John Belushi was found dead of a drug overdose in a rented bungalow in Hollywood; he was 33.

In 1983, Country Music Television (CMT) made its debut with the video "It's Four in the Morning," performed by Faron Young.

In 1998, NASA scientists said enough water was frozen in the loose soil of the moon to support a lunar base and perhaps, one day, a human

colony.

In 2002, President George W. Bush slapped punishing tariffs of eight to 30 percent on several types of imported steel in an effort to aid the ailing U.S. industry.

In 2003, In a blunt warning to the United States and Britain, the foreign ministers of France, Germany and Russia said they would block any attempt to get U.N. approval for war against Iraq.

In 2013, Fox announced its 24-hour sports cable network called Fox Sports 1, which launched Aug. 17, 2013.

Ten years ago: Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, visiting Guatemala, told reporters that demand for narcotics in the United States was fueling drug violence in Central America as she acknowledged a measure of U.S. responsibility for what she called "a terrible criminal scourge." New York Democratic Rep. Eric Massa, facing a harassment complaint by a male staffer, said he was stepping down from his seat with "a profound sense of failure." Andree Peel, 105, a member of the World War II Resistance, died in Bristol, England.

Five years ago: The U.S. Ambassador to South Korea, Mark Lippert, was slashed in the face and arm by an assailant in Seoul (sohl). Actor Harrison Ford crash-landed his vintage plane on a golf course in Los Angeles after reporting engine failure shortly after takeoff. Convicted murderer Jodi Arias was spared the death penalty as a jury in Phoenix voted 11-1 in favor of execution [-] not enough to send Arias to death row for the slaying of her lover, Travis Alexander. Islamic State militants continued their campaign targeting cultural heritage sites in territories they controlled in northern Iraq, bulldozing the historic city of Nimrud. Cardinal Edward Egan, 82, the former Archbishop of New York, died.

One year ago: The Santa Anita race course in southern California canceled racing indefinitely to re-examine its dirt surface after the deaths of 21 horses in the preceding two months; the track would remain closed for racing for nearly a month. Forbes magazine proclaimed 21-year-old Kylie Jenner to be the youngest-ever self-made billionaire. Michael Bloomberg, the billionaire former New York City mayor, announced that he would not join the crowded field of Democrats running for president in 2020. (Bloomberg would reverse course and formally announce his presidential bid in November.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor Paul Sand is 88. Actor James B. Sikking is 86. Actor Dean Stockwell is 84. Actor Fred Williamson is 82. Actress Samantha Eggar is 81. Actor Michael Warren is 74. Actor Eddie Hodges is 73. Singer Eddy Grant is 72. Rock musician Alan Clark (Dire Straits) is 68. Actress-comedian Marsha Warfield is 66. Magician Penn Jillette is 65. Actress Adriana Barraza is 64. Actress Talia Balsam is 61. Rock singers Charlie and Craig Reid (The Proclaimers) are 58. Pro Football Hall of Famer Michael Irvin is 54. Actor Paul Blackthorne is 51. Rock musician John Frusciante (froo-SHAN'-tee) is 50. Singer Rome is 50. Actor Kevin Connolly is 46. Actress Eva Mendes is 46. Actress Jill Ritchie is 46. Actress Jolene Blalock is 45. Model Niki Taylor is 45. Actress Kimberly McCullough is 42. Actress Karolina Wydra is 39. Singer-songwriter

Amanda Shires is 38. Actress Dominique McElligott is 34. Actor Sterling Knight is 31. Actor Jake Lloyd is 31. Actor Micah Fowler is 22.

**Thought for Today: "Tomorrow is a thief of pleasure." [-] Sir Rex Harrison, British actor (1908-1990).**

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## 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.



**Paul Stevens**  
Editor, Connecting newsletter

