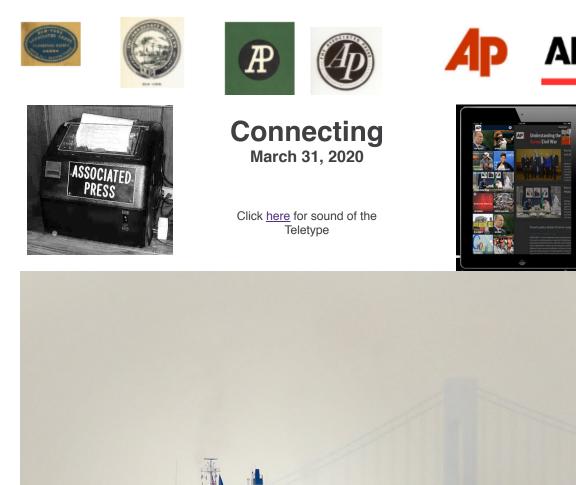
SHARE:

Join Our Email List

View as Webpage



The Navy hospital ship USNS Comfort arrives in New York, Monday, March 30, 2020. The ship has 1,000 beds and 12 operating rooms that could be up and running within 24 hours of its arrival on Monday morning. It's expected to bolster a besieged health care system by treating non-coronavirus patients while hospitals treat people with COVID-19. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 31 St day of March 2020,

Today's issue brings more of your stories on how the coronavirus pandemic has impacted your lives.

And there are more of your early press passes on display, continuing on a popular theme from last week. (Yes, we are accepting even more if you haven't yet unearthed yours.

For some of us, especially the retirees, there is more time on our hands with gyms and tennis courts closed and the like. What are you doing with your newly found time? Reading, walking or hiking, volunteer work?

Got a favorite book to share? I just finished American Dirt, about a woman and her son who become migrants fleeing Mexico for the United States after her husband-journalist and family were killed by members of a drug cartel. Excellent read (actually listen, as I do audiobooks).

Look forward to hearing from you.



THE LATEST GROUND GAME : The bulk of COVID-19 cases have been found in densely populated cities and their suburbs.

In this episode of the "Ground Game: Inside the Outbreak" podcast, host Ralph Russo and reporter Gillian Flaccus talk about how the coronavirus outbreak is affecting rural areas.

Click here to listen.

Have a safe, healthy and happy day.

Paul

Getting word out about smart thermometers

Lyle Price (<u>Email</u>) - -17- (teletype code for all hands)

For several days now I have pondered how to transmit on Connecting what I consider an important message/story re The Plague to the intelligent and wellmeaning colleagues on this newsletter who like me have a background in communications, including a past or present connection with and/or familiarity with AP and the overall American media.

First of all, I choose this venue rather than striving to publish an essay or submit letters to the editor because I know of no better way to reach movers

and shakers that might explore or run with my message/story. I'd also like to note here that I consider Connecting and its contributors more apt to offer information that I want to know re the media and especially AP past and present than I can find anywhere else. And I and everyone else should be grateful for that and for Paul's work in so doing!

Secondly, the message/story on my mind involves science and computers subjects that are a struggle for me, at best. But my info was called to my attention by a scientist friend of mine, who has the advantage of understanding the subject but lacks my access to an audience of media pros.

So I am undertaking what colleagues will perhaps painfully recollect they faced at one time in the past and a thing that I always most hated and sought to avoid: That is, somehow getting stuck with writing or covering something of which I know little or nothing about!

My message/story involves a device known as a Kinsa Smart Thermometer. It can transmit temperature data via a computer or iPhone to a reception center that could map out hot spots which monitoring health officials would recognize as needing swift attention. If used massively nationwide (in the many millions),



it reputedly could bring a medical focus on the coronavirus days faster than through current medical center testing. The temperature detection system is also what airports now use to detect possible/probable virus, I understand. My scientist friend said the Kinsa device was called to his attention by the Rachel Maddow Show (MSNBC) late last week; that included an interview with NYT health-science writer Donald McNeil, who in the transcript I saw and heard of his appearance on the Maddow Show quipped that he ought to get "a finder's fee" for having broken the story.

I was able to Google out "Rachel Maddow Show re smart Kinsa thermometers and New York Times interview" or something close to that language and get both the RMS audio-video and the NYT story (but not the full version since I'm not hooked up to any service or account NYT would accept even on a guest basis.)

My science friend says what is needed is for people to press government officials and/or some foundation-type agency to supply the thermometers (which run \$20 or so) free to the public on a mass basis. My pal (also a retiree) claims he's not in a position to do this but that people like me (and by extension I'd say those on "Connecting") are. This subject only came up when I theorized that if everyone wore a face mask, that would stop the virus from spreading. No, my friend said, it'd only slow it down -but not decrease the total death toll. Now I can't say I completely buy that, but he's the scientist and I'm not. He also had told me that face masks only work to protect other people from the mask-wearer rather than the mask-wearer from other people; that, sadly, is borne out by what I Googled out, BTW. Hence, my initial postulation that if EVERYONE wore a mask, that'd do the job. In my career I also spent some years as a columnist and editorial writer, as well as many years covering politics, including a nine-month stint in Sacramento for AP and about 10 years in Olympia in my home state of Washington for a now defunct daily paper. In the first occupational specialty I found that journalists CAN exercise opinions in non-news contexts and in the second professional arena I found that journalists CAN know more about how things work and the right thing to do than the politicians. So it with those suppositions that I believe at least some of my Connecting colleagues - perhaps most readily ex-management types, union activists and science writers - might readily have the confidence and influence to get the word out re the thermometers. That's assuming such colleagues agree with my approach or assessment of matters and my view of journalistic and citizenship responsibility.

It may be already too late for now, but I don't think anyone should count on that being the case. I also suspect a new wave may well hit again next fall - assuming the current run ends before then.

PS: I'm wondering in everyone last week got a postcard as I did headlined on the front side: PRESIDENT TRUMP'S CORONVIRUS GUIDELINES FOR AMERICA. The bottom has icons of the White House and the CDC and a note "for more information visit CORONAVIRUS.GOV. March 16,2020." The guidelines (which make sense to me) and appear to be from the CDC although NOT credited as such that I can detect) are on the backside. It crossed my mind that Trump's people may have thought it made more sense to trumpet the President's support than label it a Democrat plot--and was kind of a free ad for his reelection campaign. It can't possibly be that Trump's people actually figured that people would more readily follow the guidelines if strictly touted under the banner of the CDC (whose full name isn't spelled out), could it???

She's in a battle to keep her Boston restaurant afloat



Lindel Hutson (<u>Email</u>) - Daughter Sarah Hutson Wade is in a fight to keep her recently opened Boston restaurant afloat during the coronavirus pandemic.

As a celebrity chef, she has been featured twice on the Food Network. She fulfilled her dream of opening her own restaurant, **<u>Stillwater</u>**, in Boston only seven months ago.

Stillwater was a busy, bustling business gearing up for a St. Patrick's Day weekend when the bottom fell out. Now, the restaurant is take-out only.

"I remember Sunday the 15th, I had stayed later than normal at the restaurant to make changes following Mayor Marty Walsh's new rules for restaurants," says Sarah. "Those included a 50 percent reduction in capacity, removal of furniture to comply, and moving our dining room tables to six feet apart.

"I went home, took a nap, and woke up to a text message from my general manager saying the governor (Charlie Baker) just mandated closing on premise dining starting March 17. I was so frustrated that those two couldn't talk to each other to have one message, rather than getting different information at the local and state level."

When the orders came down, Stillwater was full of food and alcohol.

"We immediately took steps to cut any non-essential costs: turned off the lights and changed the thermostat. Reduced trash and recycling pick ups, stopped all linen deliveries, unplugged and turned off any equipment we didn't need.

"Then we told all employees to stay home and file for unemployment," she said. "And we froze anything in the refrigerator that could be frozen and I vacuum sealed as much as I could.

"Letting the staff know they were off the schedule was awful. These folks depend on me for their livelihood and to have to tell them I cannot pay them is a terrible feeling. I feel guilty, and I feel responsible for them. Most have filed for unemployment, and I am trying to find creative ways to help out."

Sarah says she considers herself fortunate to have started her career in the business when she did. "I had the pleasure of learning the business amid the 2007-08 recession. I saw what the hotel owners and chefs did to save pennies, and it was pretty easy to go into `recession mode.""

She says she spent the first two days of the quarantine on the phone because she was not set up for online ordering and had no contact with third-party delivery companies such as Ubereats, Grubhub or DoorDrash. "I got our online ordering via our website up in one day," said Sarah. "It took more than a week and a lot of angry threatening phone calls to get on to the third-party delivery apps. Granted, they were overloaded but it was still a terrible experience.

"I spent a lot of time planning with my public relations representative," she says. "And she hustled! Any media that talked about restaurants – who was open, what you could get – she hustled and had our name mentioned."

It has been an exhausting experience, she says, but she and her crew of three have adapted as quickly as possible.

"Between myself and my other chef, he and I have two solo days in the kitchen where we cook and wash dishes, and my general manager and bar manager share the front duties, and they help with dishes," she says. "Thank God we all have the mentality that we will do whatever we need to do to make it float.

"Our sales are nominal, but it is still money coming in, and it is growing. I don't think it is worth closing the doors. We are in a residential building and those folks have ordered a lot, and I want them to see us as an amenity that never closes. We keep trying new things to boost sales.

"We just started happy hour with half priced drinks. We are now offering brunch options. We hit social media hard every day, and I have noticed if we get enough posts in front of people it will help sales.

"My landlord has been generous and has made a rent reduction as well as deferment for us, and has been very supportive -- buying food and gift cards."

She said Jim Beam and Suntory Brands did a "Shift Meal" at Stillwater last week where any hospitality workers could come and get a free meal. "Jim Beam paid us full price for the meals and that was well used and we appreciated the sales. Pernod Ricard is doing the same thing this week, which will be nice."

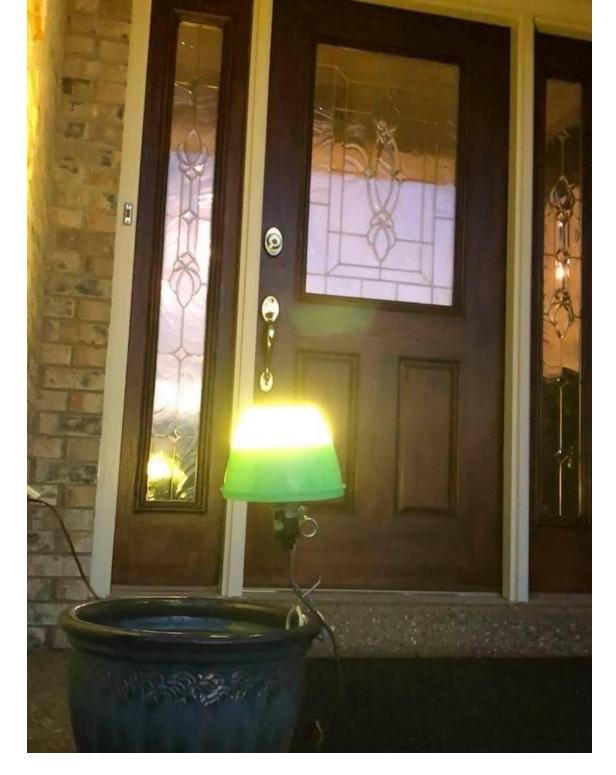
Says Sarah: "I think we are still very new, only seven months old, and we are still working to become a neighborhood institution. I hope being open and allowing more of the neighborhood to discover us will help once the quarantine is lifted."

Uniform of the day while working at home



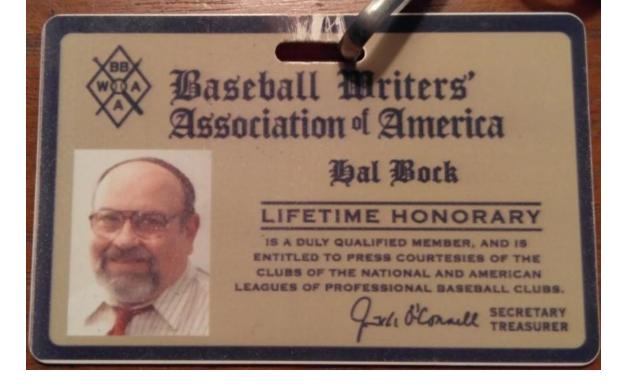
Skip Foreman (<u>Email</u>) – Breaking News Staffer in AP Charlotte - Day #10 of Work From Home. I'm designating this week as Yankees week. To which a Facebook friend replied, "Does this mean you will be overpaid and then choke under pressure on Thursday, prematurely ending your work week?"

Keeping a green light on



Ed Staats (<u>Email</u>) - Here's our front porch green light which is part of a campaign to honor victims of the Coronavirus in Kentucky. Gov. Andy Beshear is requesting Kentuckians to display a green light as a symbol of compassion for the affected families.

More of your first press passes



Hal Bock ($\underline{\text{Email}}$) – This is my last credential, the Baseball Writers gold card.

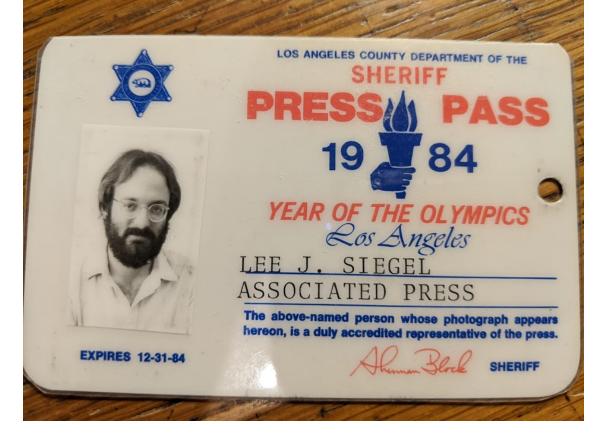
Orange R Press Card
This card certifies DAVE KENNERLY
as a member of the Roseburg High School newspaper staff FOR THE YEAR 1962.63.
BEARER IS AUTHORIZED TO ATTEND SCHOOL FUNCTIONS AS A REPORTER SIGNED DUTT ADVISER

Representing Oregon Journ	nal
THROUGH POLICE AND FIRE LINES	
1966 PRES	S PASS
CITY OF PORTLA	
NUMBER Dould & 1	Manager Chief or Police
	A la la grante
321 Not Value unless signed the complete	Mayor
VOID AFTER 1966	OVER

David Hume Kennerly (<u>Email</u>) - Enclosing my earliest press passes. My first-ever was 1962-63 when I was 15 and a sophomore at Roseburg High School in Oregon. My first professional pass was issued in 1966 when I was 19, and a staff photographer for the Oregon Journal, Portland's afternoon daily. You'll notice that it is personally signed by Mayor Terry Schrunk, and rubber stamped by the chief of police. They were serious about the First Amendment. Fifty-eight years later since packing that first pass, I'm still at it, and am as excited as ever to be wielding a camera. The 2020 presidential campaign will be my 13th, (my first was 1968), and I will cover it for CNN. It would have been 14, but I was in Vietnam in 1972, so missed Nixon v. McGovern!

To me the press pass is a badge of honor that carries the solemn and sacred responsibility of being a truth teller. Those who want to hear and see that truth depend on us, and we carry the flag for them.





Lee Siegel (<u>Email</u>) – This is my first press passes from my first job for the Longview, WA, Daily News; my second job covering the WA state capitol for the Longview and Port Angeles Daily News and Bellevue Journal-American, my first AP press passes from Seattle PD and LA County Sheriff, and my AP passes for the 1984 LA Olympics and a visit by Queen Elizabeth. Not included are my numerous passes for space shuttle landings at Edwards AFB and for being the guy on watch and the airport when Ronald Reagan landed in LA and Santa Barbara. I'm pretty sure I've saved every press pass I ever had.

By the way, a minor point of minor interest: the wood grain on which my press passes are sitting in the photos is the oak desk owned by Kathleen Carroll when she was ACOB in LA, moved to DC sometime in the 1980s (?) and gave it to me because she didn't want to lug it with her. She eventually became AP head honcho. I lugged the desk with me from LA, to Salt Lake in 1993 and to my current home on the Oregon Coast in 2017.

Connecting mailbox

Ah, the memories of that old LA bureau

Paul Simon (<u>Email</u>) - Wow, Cecilia White's fond(?) recollection of the old Los Angeles bureau in the Herald-Examiner annex evoked a flood of my own memories. I recall the stern faces of COB Ben Brown and ACOB Chuck Lewis in their respective offices when I came aboard in 1979, the late Dick Benke pounding out edits and bellowing questions from the day supervisor's desk, and Rachel Ambrose doing her thing at the broadcast desk. Funny though, as clearly decrepit as were the surroundings and fixtures, I don't recall thinking much about that. Cecilia is right on target in reflecting on the many talented people who indeed did record so many pieces of important history.

-0-

Communications student shadows AP journalist Meg Kinnard

University of Tennessee at Martin

Kayla Brooks, a senior Communications major from Dickson and current News Director of WUTM-FM 90.3 "The Hawk," received the opportunity to shadow Associated Press journalist Meg Kinnard for four days leading up to the 2020 South Carolina Democratic Primary.

Brooks (at right), who aspires to be a political reporter among many other things, said she is extremely thankful for the chance to work with Kinnard because it has given her a new appreciation for the work she is doing now at UT Martin. Even as a student, Brooks was able to network with current reporters, sit in on interviews with presidential candidates and by the end of the weekend, conduct her



own interview utilizing the lessons Kinnard and UT Martin taught her.

"It made me feel very important and reminded me that being a student doesn't mean I'm not qualified... I don't have to limit myself," said Brooks.

The pair met at UT Martin when Kinnard was the guest lecturer in Brooks' broadcast news writing class. After her presentation, they quickly connected on Twitter where Brooks asked if there was any chance she could shadow her the next time she was in Tennessee.

"Impressed by the gutsiness" of Brooks' request, Kinnard responded by flying her to South Carolina to follow her on the presidential campaign.

"I thought this was a bold, assertive move on her part, and showed a lack of shyness that's also vital to being a good journalist," said Kinnard. "For someone interested in political journalism, the opportunity to shadow an AP political reporter is a tremendous opportunity."

Read more here .

Thanks for lunch, Adam!



Kia Breaux (<u>Email</u>) - My co-worker Adam Yeomans finally paid up on our AFC championship game wager. Adam, who's based in Nashville, owed me Nashville Hot Chicken since the Chiefs beat the Titans to claim title and advance to the Super Bowl. I would have owed Adam KC barbecue had the Chiefs not spanked the Titans. Due to delivery obstacles I settled for a local favorite - Gus's World Famous Fried Chicken. Thanks for lunch, Adam!

Words of Richard Pyle in recent New Yorker article

Our late colleague Richard Pyle, who covered the Vietnam War for five years with half of that time as AP Saigon bureau chief, was mentioned in the lead of this New Yorker story, "The Trump O'Clock Follies," by Susan B. Glaser. Richard died in 2017 at the age of 83.

Here is her lead:

During the Vietnam War, the United States had the Five O'Clock Follies, nightly briefings at which American military leaders claimed, citing a variety of bogus statistics, half-truths, and misleading reports from the front, to be winning a war that they were, in fact, losing. Richard Pyle, the Associated Press's Saigon bureau chief, called the press conferences "the longest-playing tragicomedy in Southeast Asia's theater of the absurd," which, minus the "Southeast Asia" part, is not a bad description of the scene currently playing out each evening in the James S. Brady Press Briefing Room, in the White House. We now have the Trump Follies, the nightly briefings at which President Trump has lied and bragged, lamented and equivocated, about the global pandemic that poses an existential threat to his Presidency. Just as the Vietnam briefings became a standard by which the erosion of government credibility could be measured then, historians of the future will consult the record of Trump's mendacious, misleading press conferences as an example of a tragic failure of leadership at such a critical moment. There will be much material for them; the transcripts from just the first three days of this week run to more than forty thousand words.

Read more here . Shared by Michael Putzel.

-0-

Words from retired AP prankster

Charles Richards (<u>Email</u>) - Matt Curry, the pastor of a Presbyterian Church in Waxahachie, Texas, is a former colleague in the Dallas office of The Associated Press. He posted this on his Facebook page:

That retired AP prankster Charles Richards posted the other day about his signature song at the bureau, "Big Rock in the Road." I did not get around to posting a comment, but it reminded me of a memorable CR moment during my early days in the Dallas office. As I recall, I was coming in late one night for an overnight shift, relieving Charlie. As I walk in the door and sit down, he slams down the phone breathlessly.

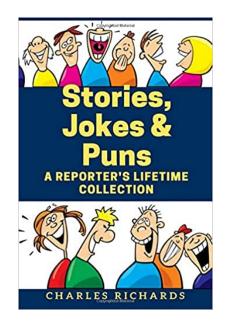
CR: "Matt, you've got to get on the phone to the police in Galveston. They've found the body of a woman in a bathtub --and get this: The bathtub was filled with milk!"

Me: "WHAT!!!!!!!?????"

CR: "Looks like the work of a cereal killer."

P.S. When friends hear that over a 40-year career I interviewed Arnold Palmer, Muhammad Ali, David Koresh, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, Gov. George Wallace, and Marina Oswald; took dictation from Merriman Smith and Helen Thomas; shook hands with President Lyndon Johnson while covering him and Gen. William Westmoreland; and was in the press box for Kenny Rogers' perfect game, they say, "You ought to write a book!"

Well, I wrote a book, but ... it's a joke book --"Stories, Jokes & Puns -- A Reporter's Lifetime Collection,"



It's a 100-page paperback published by and available from amazon.com for \$5.99. 100% family-friendly and kid-friendly. Perfect for after-dinner speakers or a long road trip. Lots of short stories with surprise pun endings. Click **here** for more information.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Ed Bailey – <u>edobailey@yahoo.com</u> Nancy Salem – mnancysalem@gmail.com

Stories of interest

The other first responders: local journalists

(Christian Science Monitor)

By Christa Case Bryant

In the heady days of anti-Vietnam War protests, the burgeoning women's movement, and Richard Nixon's sweep of 49 states in his 1972 reelection, Jeff vonKaenel went home to sell Fuller brushes. His future wife, Deborah Redmond, lived in her car.

The idea was to save up enough so they could afford to work for the new alternative weekly in Santa Barbara. Soon the ragtag publication got the local district attorney indicted, and brought a new raft of people to City Council through their endorsements. In 46 years of publishing alt weeklies, Mr. vonKaenel and his wife have never missed a single issue.

Until this month.

When the coronavirus shut down local businesses, advertising suddenly dried up for their News & Review papers in Reno, Nevada; Sacramento; and Chico, California. They had already mortgaged their house earlier this year to keep things going, so their reserves were basically gone.

And thus, after achieving circulation rates as much as sixfold that of traditional papers in the same cities and readership far beyond that, they had to shut down – at least temporarily.

Read more here. Shared by Craig Armstrong.

-0-

Gannett Announces Pay Cuts and Furloughs Across Entire Media Company (Daily Beast)

By MAXWELL TANI

One of the largest newspaper companies in America on Monday announced massive furloughs and pay cuts across the company due to plummeting advertising revenue in the wake of coronavirus pandemic.

In an email to staff, obtained by The Daily Beast, Gannett CEO Paul Bascobert said that the company will ask staff to make a "collective sacrifice" to keep the mass-media holding company intact amid the crisis by cutting pay "as soon as this week."

Gannett is one of the country's last remaining large national newspaper publishers, overseeing major titles including USA Today, the Arizona Republic,

the Des Moines Register, and the Burlington Free Press, among many others.

"Everyone will be touched by these changes in some form," Bascobert said. "For some it will be economic, for others it will mean covering the work of a colleague on furlough, for many it will be both."

According to Monday's memo, many staffers will be furloughed for five days a month through June. The CEO also told workers that he will not take an annual salary until the furloughs and reductions had been reversed, and that other Gannett executives will take a 25-percent pay reduction.

Read more here . Shared by Bob Daugherty, Kevin Walsh, Paul Albright.

-0-

7 questions answered on the Tampa Bay Times home delivery changes

By Times Staff Writer

What is happening with the Tampa Bay Times?

The Tampa Bay Times is temporarily reducing print frequency to twice a week. Starting the week of April 5, readers will receive the Times on Sundays and Wednesdays. The first day readers who subscribe to the daily print newspaper will experience a change will be Monday, April 6.

Why is the Times changing its print frequency?

Like most newspapers, the bulk of our revenue comes from print advertisements. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, retailers and event-related customers have been forced to close their doors to slow the spread of the virus. Many of them have canceled their advertisements. Under these circumstances, we cannot afford to print and deliver the paper every day.

Read more <u>here</u>. Shared by Dennis Conrad.

-0-

Trump and Rubio's latest attacks on the media are grotesque (Washington Post)

By Max Boot Columnist The coronavirus really is an "enemy of the people" — of all the people, whether Republicans or Democrats, supporters or opponents of President Trump, politicians or journalists. Yet instead of uniting the entire country to combat this terrible pandemic, Trump and his followers seem intent on rehashing their grievances against the "fake news media."

In truth, most of the media have done a tremendous job of reporting in a difficult, life-threatening environment. Even White House reporters are running a risk by showing up for work rather than staying home with their families like the rest of us. That's to say nothing of journalists who have run an even greater risk of infection by reporting on the virus from dangerous hot spots such as Wuhan, China; Lombardy, Italy; and Queens, N.Y.

The only journalists who have failed during this crisis have been Trump's own supporters in the right-wing media industrial complex. Many of them joined him in playing down the severity of the virus and then called for restarting the economy prematurely — a plan that Trump embraced last week before wisely rejecting it on Sunday. The disinformation from Fox News, Rush Limbaugh and their ilk is likely to get people killed. If Trump would tell his media followers to cease and desist, that would be a real public service. But, of course, that's not what the president is doing.

Read more here. Shared by Linda Deutsch.

The Final Word

Rob Kozloff (<u>Email</u>) - From the magazine and online "The Week". They aggregate the news and have a weekly contest. Note, I do think the HMs are better than 1,2,3 and one in particular stands out.

This week's question: The Australian newspaper NT News helpfully printed a special edition with eight blank pages for use as toilet paper, currently in short supply because of coronavirus-inspired hoarding. If a media group were to launch a news publication that was printed entirely on toilet paper, what should it be titled?

RESULTS:

THE WINNER: "The Post-Digest" Mike Reiss, New York City

SECOND PLACE: "The Stall Street Journal" Patty Oberhausen, Fort Wayne, Indiana

THIRD PLACE: "The End Times" Charles Boll, Nutley, New Jersey

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

"The Sacramento Bee-hind" Jason Schnuit, Danta Monica, California "The Bottom Line" Richard Christensen, Ferndale, Michigan

"The Rear View" Mark Chartier, Lyme, Connecticut

"New York ComPost" Ken Kellam III, Dallas

"Behind the Times" Walter Sage, Warwick, Rhode Island

"Doing Your BusinessWeek" Karen Richards, Groveport, Ohio

"The Ass-ociated Press" Joe Schlapik, Van Nuys, California

"The Daily Dispatch" Peter B. Dannenfelser, Sacramento, California

"The Flushington Post" Harry Eisenberg, Wayland, Massachusetts

"The Crack Reporter" Sharyl Miller, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

"The In-Continental Sentinel" Phyllis Klein, New York City

"Prints Charmin" Janine Witte, New Hope, Pennsylvania

"The Wall Streaked Journal" Bill Winslow, Alexandria, Virginia

"The Sacramento Bee Movement" Joe Ayella, Wayne, Pennsylvania

"The Washing Room Post" Chris Neuhaus, Kenosha, Wisconsin

"Read It and Wipe" Craig Nelson, Waukesha, Wisconsin

"Roll Call" John Argeropoulos, Marquette, Michigan

Today in History – March 31, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, March 31, the 91st day of 2020. There are 275 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 31, 1968, at the conclusion of a nationally broadcast address on Vietnam, President Lyndon B. Johnson stunned listeners by declaring, "I shall not seek, and I will not accept, the nomination of my party for another term as your President."

On this date:

In 1811, German scientist Robert Bunsen, who helped develop the Bunsen burner, was born.

In 1880, Wabash, Ind., became the first town in the world to be illuminated by electrical lighting.

In 1931, Notre Dame college football coach Knute Rockne (noot RAHK'-nee), 43, was killed in the crash of a TWA plane in Bazaar, Kan.

In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Emergency Conservation Work Act, which created the Civilian Conservation Corps.

In 1943, "Oklahoma!," the first musical play by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, opened on Broadway.

In 1975, "Gunsmoke" closed out 20 seasons on CBS with its final first-run episode, "The Sharecroppers."

In 1976, the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled that Karen Ann Quinlan, a young woman in a persistent vegetative state, could be disconnected from her respirator. (Quinlan, who remained unconscious, died in 1985.)

In 1995, Mexican-American singer Selena Quintanilla-Perez, 23, was shot to death in Corpus Christi, Texas, by the founder of her fan club, Yolanda Saldivar, who was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison.

In 2004, four American civilian contractors were killed in Fallujah, Iraq; frenzied crowds dragged the burned, mutilated bodies and strung two of them from a bridge.

In 2005, Terri Schiavo (SHY'-voh), 41, died at a hospice in Pinellas Park, Florida, 13 days after her feeding tube was removed in a wrenching right-to-die court fight.

In 2009, Benjamin Netanyahu took office as Israel's new prime minister after the Knesset approved his government.

In 2014, an umpire's call was overturned for the first time under Major League Baseball's expanded replay system, with Milwaukee Brewers star Ryan Braun ruled out instead of safe in a game against the Atlanta Braves. (The Brewers won, 2-0.)

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama threw open a huge swath of East Coast waters and other protected areas in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska to oil drilling. A Chechen militant claimed responsibility for deadly attacks on the Moscow subway two days earlier that claimed 40 lives; the claim came hours after two more suicide bombers struck in the southern Russian province of Dagestan, killing a dozen people.

Five years ago: Lawyers for Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehv) rested their case in his federal death penalty trial, a day after they began presenting testimony designed to show his late older brother, Tamerlan, was the mastermind of the 2013 terror attack. Muhammadu Buhari (moo-HAH'-mah-doo boo-HAH'-ree), a former general who once rose to power in a military coup, won Nigeria's presidential election, defeating President Goodluck Jonathan.

One year ago: Rapper Nipsey Hussle was fatally shot outside the clothing store he had founded to help rebuild his troubled South Los Angeles neighborhood; he was 33. Former Vice President Joe Biden defended his interactions with women; saying he didn't believe he had ever acted inappropriately. Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro announced a 30-day plan to ration electricity, following nationwide power cuts that had inflicted misery on millions of people and ignited protests. Michigan State reached the NCAA Final Four by knocking out overall top seed Duke, 68-67, marking the end of Duke star Zion Williamson's college career; Auburn beat Kentucky 77-71 in overtime to win the Midwest Region finals and reach the Final Four for the first time in school history

Today's Birthdays: Actor William Daniels is 93. Actor Richard Chamberlain is 86. Actress Shirley Jones is 86. Musician Herb Alpert is 85. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., is 80. Former U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., is 80. Actor Christopher Walken is 77. Comedian Gabe Kaplan is 76. Sen. Angus King, I- Maine, is 76. Rock musician Mick Ralphs (Bad Company; Mott the Hoople) is 76. Former Vice President Al Gore is 73. Author David Eisenhower is 72. Actress Rhea Perlman is 72. Actor Robbie Coltrane is 70. Actor Ed Marinaro is 70. Rock musician Angus Young (AC/DC) is 65. Actor Marc McClure is 63. Actor William McNamara is 55. Alt-country musician Bob Crawford (The Avett (AY'-veht) Brothers) is 49. Actor Ewan (YOO'-en) McGregor is 49. Actress Erica Tazel is 45. Actress Judi Shekoni is 42. Rapper Tony Yayo is 42. Actress Kate Micucci is 40. Actor Brian Tyree Henry (TV: "Atlanta" Stage: "Book of Mormon") is 38. Actress Melissa Ordway is 37. Jazz musician Christian Scott is 37. Pop musician Jack Antonoff (fun.) is 36. Actress Jessica Szohr is 35.

Thought for Today: "An optimist may see a light where there is none, but why must the pessimist always run to blow it out?" [–] Rene Descartes, French philosopher (born this date in 1596, died 1650).

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 paulstevens46@gmail.com