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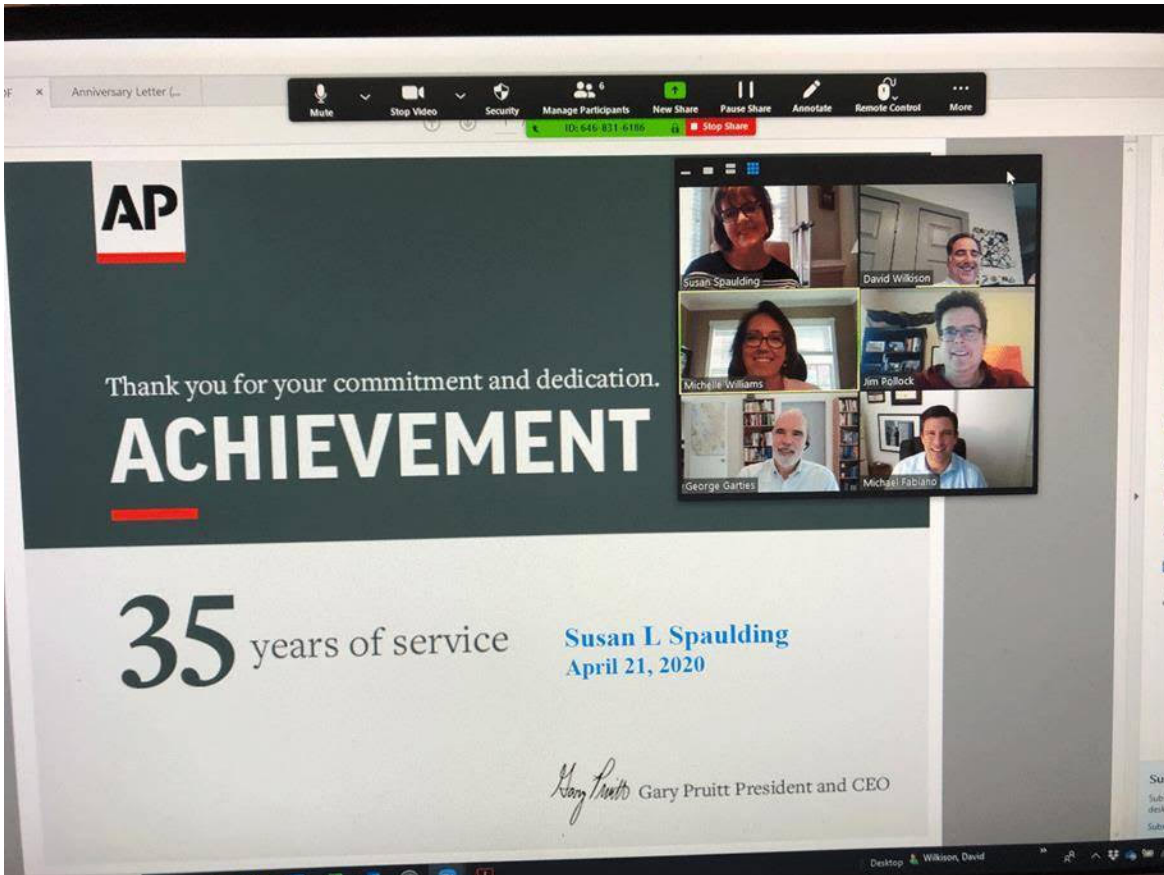
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## Connecting April 29, 2020

Click [here](#) for sound of the Teletype



Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 29th day of April 2020,

Zoom gatherings are the norm as most of our AP active-duty colleagues work from home during the coronavirus pandemic

Why not one for AP anniversary celebrations?

**Susan Spaulding** ( [Email](#) ), Americas major groups director, celebrated 35 years with the AP, April 21, 2020, via Zoom. Spaulding, who is based in Washington, joined AP in 1985 as a broadcast executive in the San Francisco bureau.

In the above Zoom shot, clockwise from left: Spaulding; David Wilkison, managing director of local media groups, based in New York; Jim Pollock, group director, based in Seattle; Michael Fabiano, vice president and general manager for Americas media, based in New York; George Garties, group director, based in Austin; and Michelle Williams, group director, based in Nashville. (AP Photo/David Wilkison)

**NEW MEXICO ZOOM CHAT** - Alums and current staffers of AP's New Mexico operations are invited to take part in a Zoom Reunion this Saturday, May 2, at 2 p.m. Mountain time. If you are interested in taking part, drop me a note at - [stevenspl@live.com](mailto:stevenspl@live.com)



**AP GROUND GAME** : AP is chronicling the many people who have died due to the COVID-19 pandemic in a series of stories called “Lives Lost.” In this episode, we speak to the editors behind the project, AP’s Digital Storytelling Editor Raghu Vadarevu and Western U.S. News Director Peter Prensaman to learn more about how we chronicle the lives of people who have died when there are so many.

Listen [here](#).

Have a good day, be safe and healthy,

Paul

## Uplifting thoughts in these trying times

**Chris Sullivan** ( [Email](#) ) - Here are two brief pieces of writing that I send in response to your request for words that uplift us in these pandemic days. The first is a little poem by Ted Kooser, the Nebraska poet and former U.S. poet laureate, which simply describes a regular walk he takes, something many of us do these days to recharge and breathe, but which ends with a wonderful,

original image. The second is his explanation of how this poem and others in a series came about, almost as a therapeutic exercise to move beyond a very bad time -- again offering a useful parallel for us these days, it seems to me.

### **`At Six in the Morning, My Circle of Light'**

Walking by flashlight  
at six in the morning,  
my circle of light on the gravel  
swinging side by side,  
coyote, racoon, field mouse, sparrow,  
each watching from darkness  
this man with the moon on a leash.

**~ Ted Kooser. November 18. Cloudy, dark and windy.**

Preface of Ted Kooser's "Winter Morning Walks: One hundred postcards to Jim Harrison":

In the autumn of 1998, during my recovery from surgery and radiation for cancer, I began taking a two-mile walk each morning. I'd been told by my radiation oncologist to stay out of the sun for a year because of skin sensitivity, so I exercised before dawn, hiking the isolated country roads near where I live, sometimes with my wife but most often alone.

During the previous summer, depressed by my illness, preoccupied by the routines of my treatment, and feeling miserably sorry for myself, I'd all but given up on reading and writing. Then, as autumn began to fade and winter came on, my health began to improve. One morning in November, following my walk, I surprised myself by trying my hand at a poem. Soon I was writing every day.

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**Doug Pizac** ( [Email](#) ) - With the doom and gloom surrounding the world, here are some pieces that should hopefully put smiles on Connecting members and get their minds off COVID.

Here's a [Mediaite story](#) about an ABC correspondent doing a segment from his home for GMA. At the end of his segment a wide shot showed he was sitting there in a dress shirt and sports jacket, but no pants.

Bioluminescence is the emission of light from living organisms such as fireflies and bacteria. Off the coast of Newport Beach, CA, the water glows. Here's a [YouTube video](#) of dolphins swimming in the bioluminescence. The friction they create going through the plankton activates the light. Really cool -- and eerie.

Here's a [story](#) by the same person with pix and a video of waves lighting up as they crash onto the beach.

And here's a [story](#) link about flower gardens sans people. The way the colors are grouped to create designs are wonderful. I like the way an aerial view shows tulips planted in the shape of a huge single tulip.

# Connecting mailbox

## *Element of heroism embedded in war correspondents' stories*

**Norm Abelson** ([Email](#)) - Gene Herrick's memories on Tuesday of his time as an AP photographer during the Korean War just knocked me out. The same has been true of other war correspondents' stories that have been told on Connecting.

The thing that most affects me is the matter-of-fact, modest way in which these folks describe moments of sheer terror. I have no experience that even comes close, so I can't imagine how it felt to be in those hellish spots.

There is an element of heroism embedded in the fact that, despite the danger, these people stood their ground, reported their stories and took their photos.

Their work was compelling and important – as the work of all correspondents in danger zones continues to be.

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## *No disinterest in his view of podium/lectern*

**Charles McFadden** ([Email](#)) - We face an existential crisis, and Something Must Be Done.

I refer, of course, to a pair of slovenly practices that have slithered into English usage, including the public prints.

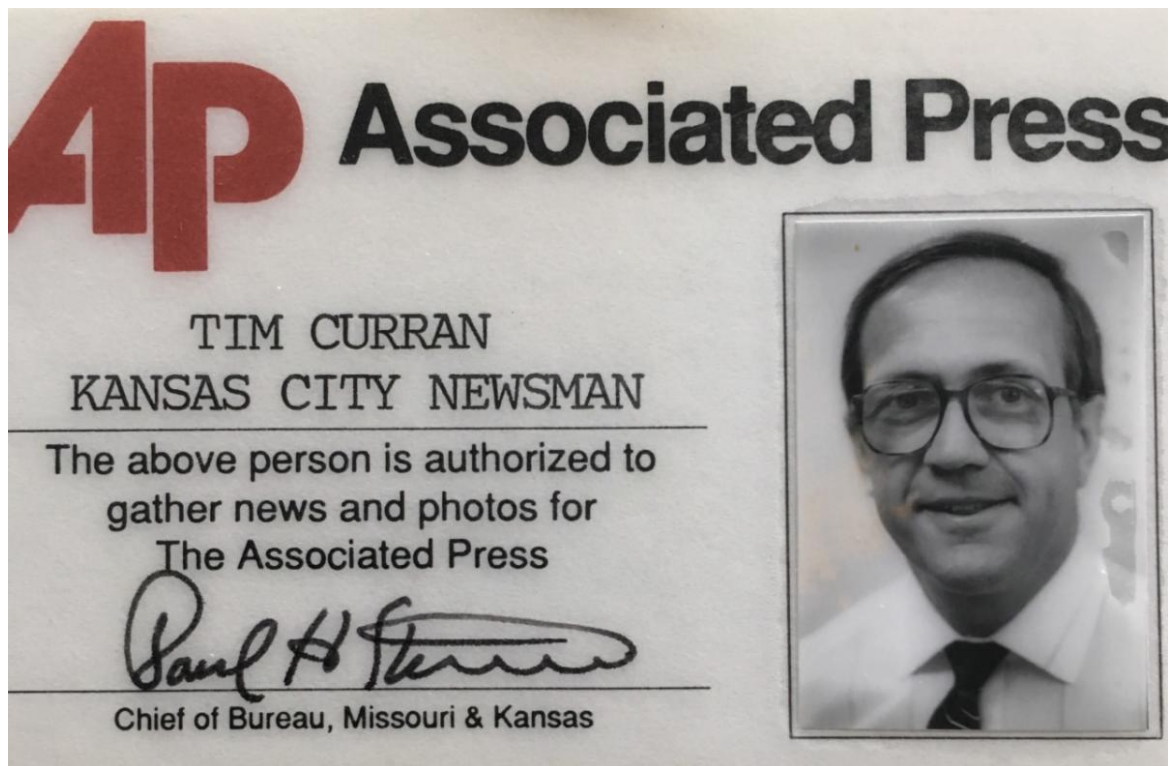
First is the use of the word “podium” when the writer is referring to a lectern. “She stood behind the podium when delivering the lecture.” No, no, a thousand times no. The “podium” is the raised platform upon which she stands when delivering said lecture. The lectern is the structure she stands behind. That’s where she keeps the text of her speech, glass of water, etc. Time after time, I’ve seen the podium/lectern mistake made in newspapers and by people who ought to know better, most recently in the April 28 New York Times, where former presidential press secretary Ari Fleischer referred to “standing at the podium.” Spare us.

Second, it’s becoming increasingly common to indicate a lack of interest by saying one is “disinterested.” The word is “Uninterested.” If you’re “disinterested,” you're impartial.

I am not disinterested in the outcome of all this. I fear for the Republic. And thanks, Paul, for the use of the virtual podium.

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## ***Press pass – Tim Curran, Kansas City***



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## ***Around the AP world***



Newborn ring-tailed lemurs play on the back of video journalist Srdjan Nedeljovic as he records inside the shuttered Attica Zoological Park, in Spata, east of Athens, Greece, April 23, 2020. (AP Photo/Thanassis Stavrakis)



Camera operator Muhammad Farooq poses for a photo outside St. Patrick's Cathedral in Karachi, Pakistan, as the city observes Good Friday during the coronavirus lockdown, April 10, 2020. (Photo By Fareed Khan)

## **VIRUS DIARY: Planting an apple seed, dreaming of tomorrow**



In this April 21, 2020, photo, Wyatt Anthony, 13, covers an apple core with dirt as part of his effort to grow an apple tree at the side of his front yard in Allison Park, Pa. Wyatt has not been within 50 feet of an acquaintance outside his immediate family since March 13. (AP Photo/Ted Anthony)

By TED ANTHONY

ALLISON PARK, Pa. (AP) — He winds up and throws the apple core, aiming for the woods where he hopes a tree will grow. He overshoots his mark. It bounces across the hill of the next-door neighbors' yard. "I'll get it," he says. But in these days of isolation and distance, that is a dicey proposition.

Almost furtively, he scurries across the property line. He does not find it. I tell him that he must email the neighbors.

For his email, he chooses the subject "Apple Issue." He writes: "In this time of crisis, it is understandable that you wouldn't want to touch a saliva-covered fruit. Therefore, if/when you find the apple core, if you would let me know, I would take it back."

He is 13. His name is Wyatt. He is my younger son. Other than his immediate family, he has not come within 20 yards of anyone he knows for nearly two months.

Read more [here](#).

## Colorado Sun wins 28 awards, including 14 first-place, in Top of the Rockies competition

A letter from the Editor: Thanks, Colorado, for supporting The Sun and allowing us to produce award-winning journalism for you

By Larry Ryckman  
The Colorado Sun — [larry@coloradosun.com](mailto:larry@coloradosun.com)

The Colorado Sun hauled away 28 awards in the four-state Top of the Rockies journalism contest over the weekend, including 14 first-place wins and the prestigious Public Service Award.

We're so proud of this recognition from our peers in the Society of Professional Journalists, but we are even more grateful to our Sun community of members for providing the support that makes this kind of quality journalism possible.

(And it's never too late to join: [coloradosun.com/join](https://coloradosun.com/join))

The Sun staff is just 13 full-time journalists (and our amazing freelance friends), but we decided to enter in the large media category and compete against the top news organizations in Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Wyoming.

We also want to acknowledge the excellent work of our Colorado colleagues who took home awards in the medium-sized and smaller categories, including Colorado Public Radio, the Colorado Springs Gazette, the Durango Herald and others. See the full list of results [here](#).

Read more [here](#). Shared by Brendan Riley, who noted: “Larry Ryckman, who had a great run with the AP, is on a roll as editor of the Colorado Sun.”

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

John Bolt - [jboltwv@johnbolt.com](mailto:jboltwv@johnbolt.com)

Dennis Gale – [dgale4521@yahoo.com](mailto:dgale4521@yahoo.com)

Andy Lippman – [alippman22@hotmail.com](mailto:alippman22@hotmail.com)

## Stories of interest

***Trump has played the media like a puppet. We're getting better — but history will not judge us kindly.*** (Washington Post)

By Margaret Sullivan  
Media columnist

Traditional journalism is under siege, NBC News chief Andy Lack wrote this week: President Trump continues to “put the bully in bully pulpit,” and the coronavirus crisis has taken a toll.



“But we’re winning,” proclaimed the headline of Lack’s piece published on NBCNews.com, which argues that news organizations, because they are still able to tell citizens the truth of what’s going on in the country, are victorious.

I wish I could agree.

Even if you get past the objectionable notions of “winning” and “losing,” I very much doubt that history will judge mainstream journalism to have done a terrific job covering this president — including in this difficult moment.

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

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## ***White House reporter apologizes to Trump for question***

By **DAVID BAUDER**

NEW YORK (AP) — A Yahoo News reporter apologized to President Donald Trump on Tuesday for misreading a chart and getting wrong the numbers he used as the basis for a question on U.S. testing for the coronavirus.

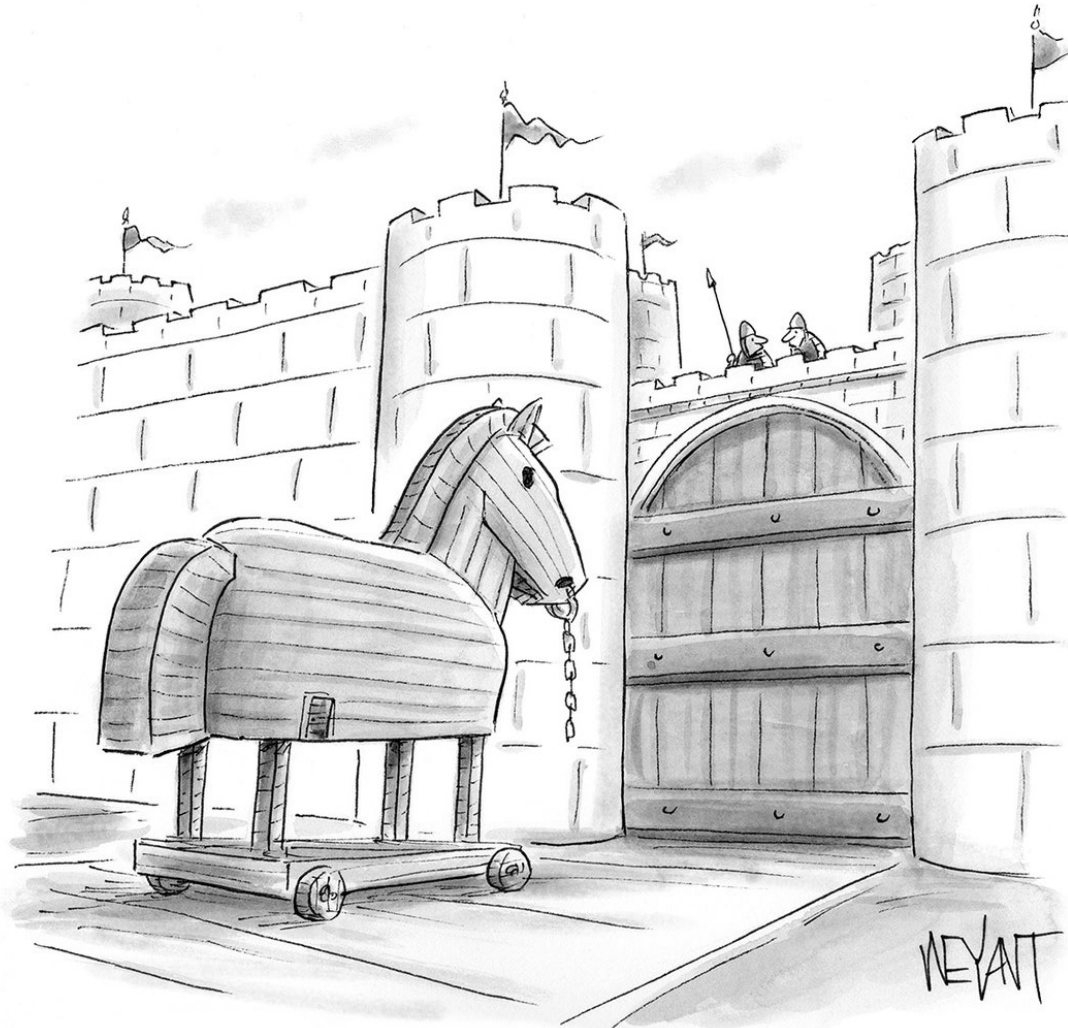
Trump taunted the reporter, Hunter Walker, after Dr. Deborah Birx corrected the numbers during an Oval Office news conference.

“Are you going to apologize, Yahoo?” the president said. “That’s why you’re Yahoo and nobody knows who the hell you are.”

Walker later tweeted that he had misread a chart and was sorry about it. The president, at a later event, thanked Walker for the apology and said he appreciated it.

Read more [here](#) .

## **The Final Word**



“Who cares what it is? I’m just happy we still get delivery.”

Today’s cartoon, by Christopher Weyant: *The New Yorker*

## Today in History - April 29, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 29, the 120th day of 2020. There are 246 days left in the year.

### **Today's Highlight in History:**

On April 29, 1945, during World War II, American soldiers liberated the Dachau (DAH'-khow) concentration camp. Adolf Hitler married Eva Braun inside his "Führerbunker" and designated Adm. Karl Doenitz (DUHR'-nihtz) president.

### **On this date:**

In 1798, Joseph Haydn's oratorio "The Creation" was rehearsed in Vienna, Austria, before an invited audience.

In 1916, the Easter Rising in Dublin collapsed as Irish nationalists surrendered to British authorities.

In 1946, 28 former Japanese officials went on trial in Tokyo as war criminals; seven ended up being sentenced to death.

In 1957, the SM-1, the first military nuclear power plant, was dedicated at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

In 1967, Aretha Franklin's cover of Otis Redding's "Respect" was released as a single by Atlantic Records.

In 1961, "ABC's Wide World of Sports" premiered, with Jim McKay as host.

In 1991, a cyclone began striking the South Asian country of Bangladesh; it ended up killing more than 138,000 people, according to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

In 1992, a jury in Simi Valley, California, acquitted four Los Angeles police officers of almost all state charges in the videotaped beating of motorist Rodney King; the verdicts were followed by rioting in Los Angeles resulting in 55 deaths.

In 1997, Staff Sgt. Delmar Simpson, a drill instructor at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland, was convicted of raping six female trainees (he was sentenced to 25 years in prison and dishonorably discharged). A worldwide treaty to ban chemical weapons went into effect.

In 2000, Tens of thousands of angry Cuban-Americans marched peacefully through Miami's Little Havana, protesting the raid in which armed federal agents yanked 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez from the home of relatives.

In 2008, Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama denounced his former pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, for what he termed "divisive and destructive"

remarks on race.

In 2018, T-Mobile and Sprint reached a \$26.5 billion merger agreement that would reduce the U.S. wireless industry to three major players. (The deal would be approved by federal regulators in July 2019).

Ten years ago: Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal (JIN'-dul) declared a state of emergency in the face of the worsening oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. The U.S. Navy officially ended a ban on women serving on submarines, saying the first women would be reporting for duty by 2012. A knife-wielding man slashed 29 children and three teachers at a school in eastern China (the assailant was executed a month later). The NCAA's Board of Directors approved a 68-team format for the men's basketball tournament beginning the next season.

Five years ago: Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (shin-zoh ah-bay) offered condolences for Americans killed in World War II in the first address by a Japanese leader to a joint meeting of Congress, but stopped short of apologizing for wartime atrocities. In what was believed to be the first major league game played without fans in attendance, Chris Davis hit a three-run homer in a six-run first inning and the Baltimore Orioles beat the Chicago White Sox 8-2. (The gates at Camden Yards were locked because of concern for fan safety following recent rioting in Baltimore.) Calvin Peete, 71, who became the most successful black player on the PGA Tour before the arrival of Tiger Woods, died in Atlanta.

One year ago: President Donald Trump, his family and the Trump Organization filed a lawsuit against Deutsche Bank and Capital One in an attempt to block congressional subpoenas seeking their banking and financial records. At his first public rally as a 2020 presidential candidate, Joe Biden accused President Donald Trump of abusing the powers of his office and ignoring everyone but his political base. John Singleton, director of the Oscar-nominated "Boyz n the Hood," died in Los Angeles at the age of 51; he had suffered a major stroke eleven days prior.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Keith Baxter is 87. Conductor Zubin Mehta is 84. Disgraced financier Bernard Madoff is 82. Pop singer Bob Miranda (The Happenings) is 78. Country singer Duane Allen (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 77. Singer Tommy James is 73. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., is 70. Movie director Phillip Noyce is 70. Comedian Jerry Seinfeld is 66. Actor Leslie Jordan is 65. Actress Kate Mulgrew is 65. Actor Daniel Day-Lewis is 63. Actress Michelle Pfeiffer is 62. Actress Eve Plumb is 62. Rock musician Phil King is 60. Country singer Stephanie Bentley is 57. Actor Vincent Ventresca is 54. Singer Carnie Wilson (Wilson Phillips) is 52. Actor Paul Adelstein is 51. Actress Uma Thurman is 50. International Tennis Hall of Famer Andre Agassi is 50. Rapper Master P is 50. Actor Darby Stanchfield is 49. Country singer James Bonamy is 48. Gospel/rhythm-and-blues singer Erica Campbell (Mary Mary) is 48. Rock musician Mike Hogan (The Cranberries) is 47. Actor Tyler Labine is 42. Actress Megan Boone is 37. Actress-model Taylor Cole is 36. Actor Zane Carney is 35. Pop singer Amy Heidemann (Karmin) is 34. NHL center Jonathan Toews is 32. Pop singer Foxes is 31. Actress Grace Kaufman is 18.

Thought for Today: "In any great organization it is far, far safer to be wrong with the majority than to be right alone." [-] John Kenneth Galbraith (1908-2006).

## 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**  
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