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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this the 16 th day of July 2020,

Apologies for the omission of Today in History in Wednesday's edition and the late movement of that newsletter. Storms in the Kansas City area knocked out our Internet service and I was unable to pluck Today off a member news site as is my practice. I am including it in today's edition, after the Today in History for today, July 16.

A silver lining in all this, I learned, is that many of you enjoy reading it. One colleague, Ralph Gage, wrote: "I always check the birthdays-- to see how many are older than I am. Usually not many! Sometimes none at all." Another, Tom Cohen, said that reading yesterday's Connecting would leave one to believe nothing happened on this day in history."

And on the late movement, as I awaited Internet service to restore but finally sent with my iPhone, **John Willis** wrote: "When it's not there by 9 my time, we worry about you, dude. Just so you know, people are reading and when it doesn't show on time,

they wonder. Kind of like calling the newspaper when the delivery boy missed a house on his route."

In our restaurant series, the wonderful, LOL-inducing post by **Bruce Lowitt** in Wednesday's issue on his efforts to obtain a credit card reminded me of our first year of marriage when Linda and I tried to obtain a gas credit card from Mobil Oil since one of its service stations was a block from our apartment in Little Rock. I was a low-ranking serviceman and Linda a much better-paid registered nurse when we applied, but in those days (or I hope in just those days) credit card companies did not count a wife's income. So we were turned down. I ended up writing a letter to the president of Mobil Oil – and although I'm sure it never reached his eyes, we got a card within a month.

Hope you have a great day – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

What if we reframe this disaster of a year?

Emily Bradbury (Email) – I used to hate surprises. OK, I still do –but 2020 has been great therapy.

Kyle, my 15-year-old, is a voracious reader of news. He loves it, and the more information the better.

We usually try and one-up each other with breaking news headlines. In a normal year, this is a fun game.

But because this is 2020, it has turned into a game filled with anxiety... but really only for him.

Our latest round went something like this

Kyle: "Hey Mom, the bubonic plague is back."

Me: "Huh."

Kyle: "Does that surprise you?"
Me: "Nope. It sounds about right."
Kyle: "Why aren't you worried?"
Me: "Medication (kidding, maybe)."

In truth, at this point, very little could surprise me.

A pandemic, murder hornets, bubonic plague, possible new swine flu, etc.

Sure. Why not? It's easy to go down a spiral of despondency but that would just fill the rest of 2020 with my own version of murder hornets.

But what if we reframe this disaster of a year?

What if we try to view 2020 as the Year of the Unmaking?

What if we see, as Nichole Nordeman writes in her song "Unmaking," a beauty in the breaking? What needed to fall away for us to live our best lives?

To run our publications the best way we can?

To be the best association we can?

We may not have all the answers today but I think there is possibility in the chaos if we just take a moment to look for it.

Build that margin in your day or week to take a look around and take a true assessment on what is needed – and what can break and fall away in order to remake systems, processes and newspapers even better.

As your association, we are here to help. Call or email anytime – day or night. We may not have the answers but we promise to find you someone who does.

In the meantime, I'm off to Google treatments for bubonic plague.

Hello, Second Half of 2020 – be kind.

Emily Bradbury is executive director of the Kansas Press Association.

Connecting series:

Oh, the places you'll go - with that special person you met

Ted and Ginger



Ted Bridis (<u>Email</u>) – We just celebrated our 31st anniversary. We met as seniors at Mizzou, at happy hour in a Mexican cantina north of campus, and got married three months later, just a few weeks after I started working at AP in Oklahoma City.

News editor Linda Franklin graciously agreed to give me a week off for my honeymoon so soon after I got hired. Ginger loved and admired the AP as much as I did over three decades in Oklahoma, Indiana then DC, even after the FBI showed up at our doorstep demanding copies of emails exchanged with a source and years later when the FBI seized our (her) home phone records during a separate leaks investigation. There were a few late-night (or 2



a.m.) phone calls from the desk to our home when she might have sounded a little exasperated. Sorry about that!

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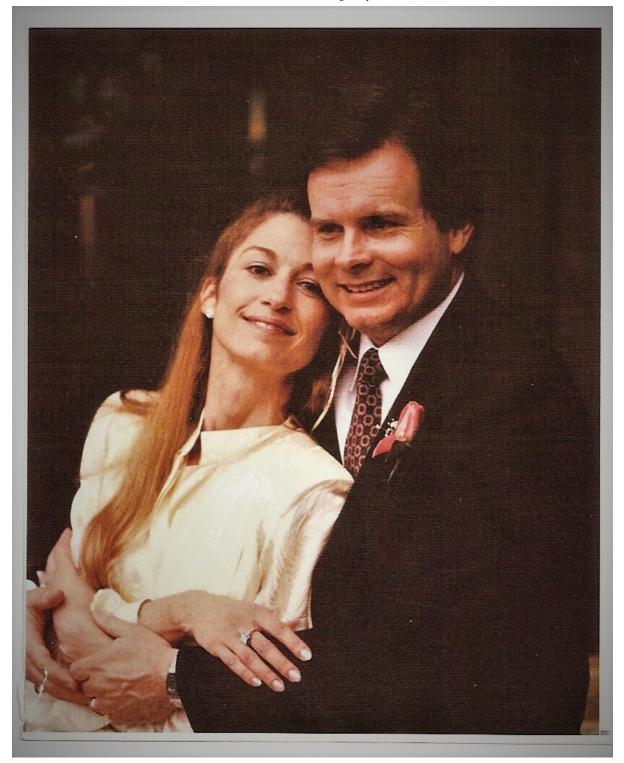
Steve and Lucie



Steve Loeper (<u>Email</u>) - I met my partner of 12 years, Lucie Hill, at a journalism job fair in the late '90s. As a determined USC grad student, she showed up at my AP booth two years in a row seeking a position with us. She never got the job, landing instead at iHeart Media, but I suppose you could say she got the guy -- eventually.

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Dave and Cindi



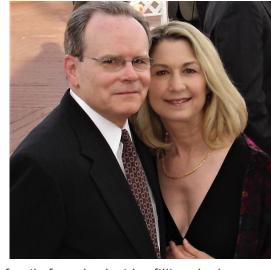
The top photo was taken on our wedding day. The photo at right is of us at a family wedding in more recent times.

Dave Lubeski (<u>Email</u>) - I met my future wife, Cynthia Hecht, in the newsroom at AP Radio in DC. We were one of seven couples in the Broadcast News Center who met and tied the knot through the years and there were two more romances in the

management offices that also led to marriage.

Cindi was a news anchor and I was a sports anchor when we met. We got to know each other when we eventually formed a carpool with another colleague while working a shift that began at 4:30 in the morning.

About 10 years after we met, I proposed to Cindi at an AP Christmas party and the following summer we were married in her



mother's living room in Topeka, Kansas, with family from both sides filling the house for the occasion.

Eight years later we began adding to our family. When our daughter Annalee was born, Cindi went on maternity leave and decided she liked motherhood enough to give up her 20-year AP career and be a stay-at-home mom. She later became a teacher. I stuck around at the AP for a 35-year run before taking a job at nearby George Washington University.

In retirement, we settled in Topeka and reside just a couple of miles from the house where we were married.

Annalee graduated from college last year and is 22 now. She lives nearby. Our son Ben is 16 and still lives at home. He'll be a junior in high school this fall. Cindi is also stepmom to my daughter Maureen who lives in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Cindi has always been my favorite anchor - on the air and in my life.

Yesterday, July 15, was our wedding anniversary. We've been married for 31 years.

Connecting mailbox

He could afford the spaghetti with meat sauce

Bob Daugherty (Email) - The Bruce Lowitt account (in Wednesday's Connecting) of his lack of the cash to settle his tab at Peter Lugar's was the highlight of my morning. Reminded me of my early days in journalism at the Marion (Indiana) Chronicle Tribune. Started there when I was a senior in high school at the whopping sum of a buck an hour. An occasional dinner was at House of Chan, just a block away. My favorite was spaghetti with meat sauce. I had no credit card but I believe my bill was just over a buck.

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The AP owned by George Soros?

Linda Sargent (Email) - I found myself following an unbelievable Facebook thread that began with someone reacting to Trump's appearance in the Rose Garden and quickly was hijacked by a person who believes strongly in all kinds of conspiracy theories.

I just watched to see what all would be said. And then this popped up:

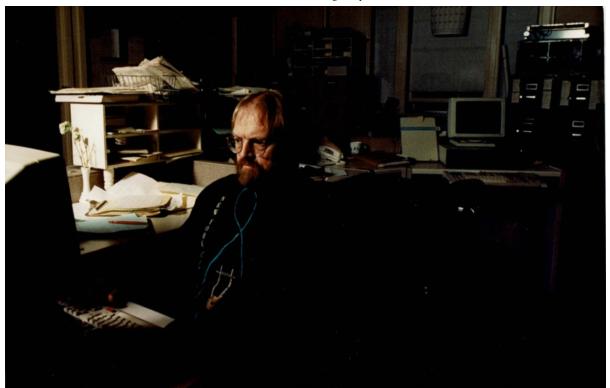
"this is so laughable. Did you know that the associated press is owned by Soros?"

My friend to whom this question was directed and who isn't a journalist set her straight. And I had to join in.

I see that we (AP) had a story on Soros' conspiracy theories on June 21. Wonder if this woman saw that too. Maybe not – one of my friends had just shared a USA Today opinion piece about Trump's lies. It had an AP photo of the inauguration crowd, which led this woman to spout the Soros. I seriously doubt she saw the Soros story, but still...

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'Alone on night shift in buro'



Adolphe Bernotas (<u>Email</u>) - I've been using the Covid era to cull stuff from long-forgotten boxes in the cellar and came across this picture, a keeper!

On its own without caption, this pic by AP shooter Jim Cole from December 1989 says "alone on night shift in buro." It made the holiday AP People Christmas newsletter.

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Storm and other hazards



Neal Ulevich (Email) - What's wrong with this image? More than meets the eye. The major thunderhead hangs directly over Denver International Airport Thursday night, virtually stopping all takeoffs and landings for a time. Beyond that, the foreground shows three radio transmission antennas. Illumination of the fourth has been out for some weeks. Proximity to DIA requires aircraft in Visual Flight Rules to remain below 7,000 feet mean sea level, or about 2000 feet above the ground, airspace frequently used by general aviation and helicopter ambulances. An invisible antenna is too close for comfort. Image made from the photographer's home.

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Comet over LA



Nick Ut (<u>Email</u>) – I shot this view of Comet Neowise from the Angeles National Forest on Wednesday.

AP staffers on the job



GMS producer Nan Hee McMinn, right, prepares counselor Kellyanne Conway for a live shot from the White House North Lawn, July 9, 2020. (Photo courtesy Nico Maounis)



A ring-tailed lemur stands on senior producer James Brooks' video camera at Colchester Zoo in Colchester, England, July 7, 2020. (AP Photo/James Brooks)

Enter: The Purple Party

Gene Herrick (Email) - If you will, please consider the objects and colors to represent The Republican Party (red), The Democratic Party (blue) and the new Purple Party (a combination of red and blue).

What with politics today in the United States of America, being what it is – biased, prejudiced, uncooperative, selfish, unwilling to compromise, scared to death of the President, whose leadership and abilities are worth studying.

The world, and the U.S., are in a state of a virus epidemic so critical that the fear, turmoil, unbelievable cases rocking the nation's hospitals, and the ever-growing list of deaths, and unemployment has permeated the lives of every man, woman, and child. The nation is in turmoil.

The nation's leadership is in total conflict; Hospitals are not getting the equipment they need. Some people are dying needlessly. Federal, State, and local governments are beside themselves in what to do, yet structuring from Washington is based on the lack of leadership. The wearing of facial masks, which all medical personnel say is the only way to help stop the passing on of the virus. The President, himself, refuses to wear a mask – anywhere, and suggests masks are an option of choice. We now have a definite schism with medical experts, common sense, and the government.

If that isn't enough, think about the Civil Rights Movement that was started by The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., back in the middle 1950's. His struggle to educate mankind of the unfairness of the white people against the Black people. That movement seemed to slide back into a dream with Dr. King's assassination in 1968. However, there seems to be a new recognition with the killing of George Floyd, a Black man in Minneapolis, and by a policeman who is facing charges. This seems to be a change in community indignity.

We do know that partisan politics stemmed from the early founding days of this country. A settler went to an area across the rivers and mountains, and for some reason then became a Republican, or Democrat. That tradition was handed down through the family generation after generation. It still is. Many think it would be a sin to change parties, or beliefs, because it would dis-honor their great-great grandfather, and the lineage that followed.

With that said, maybe we should get back to the greatness of this country, where there is trust, respect, cooperation, makers of teamwork, remembering what our founders struggled so hard to accomplish – A country of equality amongst all peoples, freedom of religion, separation of Church and State, Respect for ALL others people, regardless of race, creed, national origin, and political affiliation.

Consider having a new affiliation for everyone. An affiliation of caring Republicans, caring Democrats, caring Independents, and caring Americans who want to stop political party bias and bickering; return to the three parts of government – President,

Congress, and Judicial, and where people are elected, or picked for their experiences, honesty, and unbiased attitudes, not party affiliation.

We could call this new nation-wide group of Americans the PURPLE Party. A large group fit between Republicans (Red), and Democratic (Blue). The Blue Party would consist of non-politically affiliated (Independent in political thought, word, and deed, and whose goal is to return this good ole USA to what the founding fathers intended.

Would it work? No one knows, but is it not worth a try?

Stories of interest

Judge denies media request to unseal files on Saints owner

By JIM MUSTIAN

A judge has denied a request by news organizations including The Associated Press to unseal court records involving the mental competency of billionaire Tom Benson when he rewrote his will to give his third wife ownership of the New Orleans Saints and Pelicans sports franchises.

The news outlets argued public interest in the 2015 case had been heightened by revelations this year that Saints executives engaged in a behind-the-scenes public relations campaign to help the Archdiocese of New Orleans contain the fallout from a clergy abuse crisis.

"Legitimate questions are being raised about the connection between the team and the local Roman Catholic Church," attorneys for the news organizations wrote in a court filing.

Read more **here** . Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

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Liberty University sues New York Times over COVID-19 stories

LYNCHBURG, Va. (AP) — Liberty University filed a lawsuit against The New York Times, one of its reporters and a photographer Wednesday, saying the newspaper

intentionally misrepresented the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Virginia college campus.

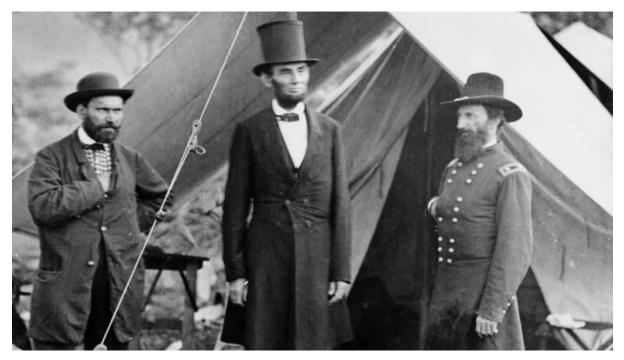
The school said in a statement that the complaint said the newspaper, reporter Elizabeth Williamson and a photographer said the school suffered a COVID-19 outbreak when it reopened after spring break and that nearly a dozen students were sick with the virus.

The Times cited Dr. Thomas W. Eppes Jr., who was described as the doctor who runs Liberty's health service. The lawsuit said Eppes' job description was misrepresented as well as the information he provided. The school disputes that Eppes told the Times that students started getting sick after returning from spring break or that nearly a dozen Liberty students had symptoms that suggested COVID-19.

Read more **here**. Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

The Final Word

How Abraham Lincoln Used the Telegraph to Help Win the Civil War (History.com)



Bettmann Archives/Getty Images

By CHRISTOPHER KLEIN

Nearly 150 years before the advent of texts, tweets and e-mail, President Abraham Lincoln became the first "wired president" by embracing the original electronic messaging technology—the telegraph. The 16th president may be remembered for his soaring oratory that stirred the Union, but the nearly 1,000 bite-sized telegrams that he wrote during his presidency helped win the Civil War by projecting presidential power in unprecedented fashion.

The federal government had been slow to adopt the telegraph after Samuel Morse's first successful test message in 1844. Prior to the Civil War, federal employees who had to send a telegram from the nation's capital needed to wait in line with the rest of the public at the city's central telegraph office. After the war's outbreak, the newly created U.S. Military Telegraph Corps undertook the dangerous work of laying more than 15,000 miles of telegraph wire across battlefields that transmitted news nearly instantaneously from the front lines to a telegraph office that had been established inside the old library of the War Department building adjacent to the White House in March 1862.

Read more **here**. Shared by Paul Albright.

Today in History - July 16, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, July 16, the 198th day of 2020. There are 168 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 16, 1945, the United States exploded its first experimental atomic bomb in the desert of Alamogordo (ahl-ah-moh-GOHR'-doh), New Mexico; the same day, the heavy cruiser USS Indianapolis left Mare (mar-AY') Island Naval Shipyard in California on a secret mission to deliver atomic bomb components to Tinian Island in the Marianas.

On this date:

In 1557, Anne of Cleves, who was briefly the fourth wife of England's King Henry VIII, died in London at age 41.

In 1790, a site along the Potomac River was designated the permanent seat of the United States government; the area became Washington, D.C.

In 1862, Flag Officer David G. Farragut became the first rear admiral in the United States Navy.

In 1964, as he accepted the Republican presidential nomination in San Francisco, Barry M. Goldwater declared that "extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice" and that "moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue."

In 1969, Apollo 11 blasted off from Cape Kennedy on the first manned mission to the surface of the moon.

In 1973, during the Senate Watergate hearings, former White House aide Alexander P. Butterfield publicly revealed the existence of President Richard Nixon's secret taping system.

In 1980, former California Gov. Ronald Reagan won the Republican presidential nomination at the party's convention in Detroit.

In 1994, the first of 21 pieces of comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 smashed into Jupiter, to the joy of astronomers awaiting the celestial fireworks.

In 1999, John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife, Carolyn, and her sister, Lauren Bessette (bih-SEHT'), died when their single-engine plane, piloted by Kennedy, plunged into the Atlantic Ocean near Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.

In 2002, the Irish Republican Army issued an unprecedented apology for the deaths of "noncombatants" over 30 years of violence in Northern Ireland.

In 2004, Martha Stewart was sentenced to five months in prison and five months of home confinement by a federal judge in New York for lying about a stock sale.

In 2008, Florida resident Casey Anthony, whose 2-year-old daughter, Caylee, had been missing a month, was arrested on charges of child neglect, making false official statements and obstructing a criminal investigation. (Casey Anthony was later acquitted at trial of murdering Caylee, whose skeletal remains were found in December 2008; she was convicted of lying to police.)

Ten years ago: Retired intelligence analyst Kendall Myers, the 73-year-old great grandson of Alexander Graham Bell, was sentenced to life in prison without parole for

quietly spying for Cuba for nearly a third of a century from inside the State Department; his wife, Gwendolyn, was sentenced to 5 1/2 years. American sprinters who'd been stripped of their 2000 Olympics relay medals because teammate Marion Jones was doping won an appeal to have them restored.

Five years ago: A gunman unleashed a barrage of fire at a recruiting center and another U.S. military site a few miles apart in Chattanooga, Tennessee, killing four Marines and a sailor before he was shot to death by police; authorities identified the gunman as Kuwaiti-born Muhammad Youssef Abdulazeez of Tennessee. A jury in Centennial, Colorado, convicted James Holmes of 165 counts of murder, attempted murder and other charges in the 2012 Aurora movie theater rampage that left 12 people dead.

One year ago: Retired Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, who had unexpectedly emerged as the court's leading liberal, died in Fort Lauderdale, Florida at the age of 99 after suffering a stroke. The House voted to condemn what it called "racist comments" by President Donald Trump aimed at four congresswomen of color, despite Trump's insistence that he didn't have "a racist bone in my body." After years of silence on the case, federal prosecutors said they would not be bringing charges against a white New York City police officer in the 2014 chokehold death of a Black man, Eric Garner. A federal judge ordered singer R. Kelly to be held without bond, after a prosecutor warned that the singer accused of having sex with minors would pose an extreme danger to young girls if he were to be set free. HBO's "Game of Thrones" picked up a record-setting 32 Emmy nominations for its eighth and final season. South African musician Johnny Clegg, who had performed in defiance of apartheid, died at the age of 66.

Today's Birthdays: Former U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh is 88. Soul singer William Bell is 81. International Tennis Hall of Famer Margaret Court is 78. College Football Hall of Famer and football coach Jimmy Johnson is 77. Violinist Pinchas Zukerman is 72. Actor-singer Ruben Blades is 72. Rock composer-musician Stewart Copeland is 68. Playwright Tony Kushner is 64. Actress Faye Grant is 63. Dancer Michael Flatley is 62. Actress Phoebe Cates is 57. Actor Paul Hipp is 57. Actor Daryl "Chill" Mitchell is 55. Actor-comedian Will Ferrell is 53. Actor Jonathan Adams is 53. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Barry Sanders is 52. Actress Rain Pryor is 51. Actor Corey Feldman is 49. Rock musician Ed Kowalczyk (koh-WAHL'-chek) (Live) is 49. Rock singer Ryan McCombs (Drowning Pool) is 46. Actress Jayma Mays is 41. Actress AnnaLynne McCord is 33. Actor-singer James Maslow is 30. Actor Mark Indelicato is 26. Pop singer-musician Luke Hemmings (5 Seconds to Summer) is 24.

Today in History - July 15, 2020

Today is Wednesday, July 15, the 197th day of 2020. There are 169 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 15, 1799, French soldiers in Egypt discovered the Rosetta Stone, which proved instrumental in deciphering ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs.

On this date:

In 1834, the Spanish Inquisition was abolished more than 3 1/2 centuries after its creation.

In 1870, Georgia became the last Confederate state to be readmitted to the Union. Manitoba entered confederation as the fifth Canadian province.

In 1913, Augustus Bacon, D-Ga., became the first person elected to the U.S. Senate under the terms of the recently ratified 17th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, providing for popular election of senators.

In 1918, the Second Battle of the Marne, resulting in an Allied victory, began during World War I.

In 1975, three American astronauts blasted off aboard an Apollo spaceship hours after two Soviet cosmonauts were launched aboard a Soyuz spacecraft for a mission that included a linkup of the two ships in orbit.

In 1976, a 36-hour kidnap ordeal began for 26 schoolchildren and their bus driver as they were abducted near Chowchilla, California, by three gunmen and imprisoned in an underground cell. (The captives escaped unharmed; the kidnappers were caught.)

In 1983, eight people were killed when a suitcase bomb planted by Armenian extremists exploded at the Turkish Airlines counter at Orly Airport in Paris.

In 1985, a visibly gaunt Rock Hudson appeared at a news conference with actress Doris Day (it was later revealed Hudson was suffering from AIDS).

In 1996, MSNBC, a 24-hour all-news network, made its debut on cable and the Internet.

In 1997, fashion designer Gianni Versace (ver-SAH'-chay), 50, was shot dead outside his Miami Beach home; suspected gunman Andrew Phillip Cunanan (koo-NAN'-an), 27, was found dead eight days later, a suicide. (Investigators believed Cunanan killed four other people before Versace in a cross-country rampage that began the previous March.)

In 2002, John Walker Lindh, an American who'd fought alongside the Taliban in Afghanistan, pleaded guilty in federal court in Alexandria, Virginia, to two felonies in a deal sparing him life in prison.

In 2016, Donald Trump chose Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, an experienced politician with deep Washington connections, as his running mate.

Ten years ago: After 85 days, BP stopped the flow of oil into the Gulf of Mexico using a 75-ton cap lowered onto the well earlier in the week. The Securities and Exchange Commission announced that Goldman Sachs & Co. would pay a record \$550 million penalty to settle charges that the Wall Street giant had misled buyers of mortgage investments. Argentina became the first Latin American country to legalize same-sex marriage.

Five years ago: Vigorously challenging his critics, President Barack Obama launched an aggressive and detailed defense of a landmark Iranian nuclear accord during a White House press conference, rejecting the idea that the agreement left Tehran on the brink of a bomb and arguing the only alternative to the diplomatic deal was war.

One year ago: Avowed white supremacist James Alex Fields Jr. was sentenced to life in prison plus 419 years for killing one and injuring dozens of others when he deliberately drove his car into a crowd of anti-racism protesters during a rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. Despite widespread criticism over a weekend tweet, President Donald Trump renewed his call for four Democratic congresswomen of color to get out of the U.S. "right now." Former Chinese premier Li Peng, a hardliner who imposed martial law during the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests, died at 90.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Patrick Wayne is 81. Rhythm-and-blues singer Millie Jackson is 76. Rock singer-musician Peter Lewis (Moby Grape) is 75. Singer Linda Ronstadt is 74. Rock musician Artimus Pyle is 72. Arianna Huffington, co-founder of The Huffington Post, is 70. Actress Celia Imrie is 68. Actor Terry O'Quinn is 68. Rock singermusician David Pack is 68. Rock musician Marky Ramone is 68. Rock musician Joe Satriani is 64. Country singer-songwriter Mac McAnally is 63. Model Kim Alexis is 60. Actor Willie Aames is 60. Actor-director Forest Whitaker is 59. Actress Lolita Davidovich is 59. Actress Shari Headley is 57. Actress Brigitte Nielsen is 57. Rock musician Jason Bonham is 54. Actress Amanda Foreman is 54. Rock musician Phillip Fisher is 53. Rhythm-and-blues singer Stokley (Mint Condition) is 53. Actor-comedian Eddie Griffin is 52. Actor Reggie Hayes is 51. Actor-screenwriter Jim Rash is 49. Rock musician John Dolmayan is 48. Actor Scott Foley is 48. Actor Brian Austin Green is 47. Rapper Jim Jones is 44. Actress Diane Kruger is 44. Actress Lana Parrilla (LAH'-nuh pa-REE'-uh) is 43. Rock musician Ray Toro (My Chemical Romance) is 43. Actress Laura Benanti is 41. Actor Travis Fimmel is 41. Rhythm-and-blues singer Kia Thornton (Divine) is 41. Actor Taylor Kinney is 39. Actor-singer Tristan "Mack" Wilds is 31. Actress Medalion Rahimi is 28. Actor Iain Armitage (TV: "Big Little Lies" "Young Sheldon") is 12.

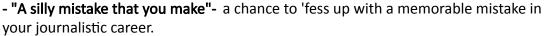
Got a story or photos to share?

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.



- 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

