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Connecting

July 21, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 21st day of July 2020,The byline of **Art Rotstein** and the city of Tucson and southern Arizona were closely tied for three decades.

We're saddened to report that the longtime Associated Press Tucson correspondent, who retired in 2010, died Monday from COVID-19 . He was 74.

“If you want to find a model of a quintessential AP reporter or human, it was Art,” said **Mort Rosenblum** , a Connecting colleague.

Connecting would welcome your memories of Art.

Today's issue also brings news that the AP, after changing its usage rules last month to capitalize the word "Black" when used in the context of race and culture, said Monday it would not do the same for "white." The AP said white people in general have much less shared history and culture, and don't have the experience of being discriminated against because of skin color.

Protests following the death of George Floyd, which led to discussions of policing and Confederate symbols, also prompted many news organizations to examine their own practices and staffing. The Associated Press, whose Stylebook is widely influential in the industry, announced June 19 it would make Black uppercase. We bring you the announcement to AP staff from colleague **John Daniszewski**, AP vice president for standards.

Here's to a great day – be safe, stay healthy, keep up your story and photo contributions.

Paul

Retired AP correspondent Arthur Rotstein dies from COVID-19



This 2009 photo shows Arthur H. Rotstein, center, then the Tucson correspondent for The Associated Press, during a 2009 celebration marking his 35th anniversary with the news agency. Rotstein, who retired in 2010, died on Monday, July 20, 2020, from COVID-19. He worked for AP for about six years in his native Chicago and another 29 years in Tucson. Also shown, from left, are Michelle Williams, then chief of bureau in

Arizona; AP journalists Amanda Lee Myers, Paul Davenport, Jacques Billeaud, and Bob Christie. (AP Photo/Ross D. Franklin)

By JACQUES BILLEAUD

PHOENIX (AP) — Arthur H. Rotstein, a retired Associated Press correspondent who covered southern Arizona for nearly 30 years and documented the wave of illegal immigration that swept the state in the mid-1990s, has died at age 74.

His daughter, Rebekah Rotstein, said he died Monday morning from COVID-19 after being hospitalized in Tucson for 10 days.

Rotstein worked for the AP for 35 years — about six years in his native Chicago and another 29 years as the news agency's Tucson correspondent — until his retirement in 2010.

In Tucson, Rotstein covered a wide variety of stories: wildfires, the development of Biosphere 2, sports at the University of Arizona, a 2001 riot after Arizona lost the NCAA basketball championship, the growing pains of a booming Southwest city, and a 2002 shooting at the university's nursing school in which three professors were killed by a failing student.

He covered the sanctuary movement, an effort by clergy and lay members to help people fleeing political persecution from El Salvador and Guatemala cross the border into the United States. He reported on a trial in the '80s in which eight sanctuary movement members were convicted of conspiracy or other charges.

Above all, Rotstein witnessed the wave of illegal immigration that flooded Arizona in the mid-1990s. He wrote about immigrants who died while crossing the Arizona desert, the environmental damage caused by large numbers of people crossing through the desert, and drug and immigrant smuggling.

"He brought curiosity and respect for people to the job, and he was dedicated to helping a wide audience understand his adopted hometown," said George Garties, who served as AP's news editor in Arizona from 1991-1995 and now manages AP's business relationship with several media ownership groups.

Mort Rosenblum, a journalist who worked at AP for 39 years and grew up in Tucson, said Rotstein brought compassion and well-rounded professionalism to his reporting about those who sneaked across the border in hopes of improving life for their families. "If you want to find a model of a quintessential AP reporter or human, it was Art," Rosenblum said.

Giovanna Dell'Orto, a journalism professor at the University of Minnesota who previously worked as an AP reporter, said Rotstein was a powerful mentor earlier in her career.

“He was the archetypal correspondent who knew a community inside and out, knew the stories, knew the sources,” Dell’Orto said. “And he was always humble to realize that he could learn more and be on the lookout for more.”

Rotstein is survived by his wife, Debby Rotstein, and his daughter, Rebekah Rotstein.

For link to this story, click [here](#).

Why we will lowercase white

By John Daniszewski
AP Vice President for Standards

AP style will continue to lowercase the term white in racial, ethnic and cultural senses. This decision follows our move last month to capitalize Black in such uses. We consulted with a wide group of people internally and externally around the globe and considered a variety of commentary in making these decisions.

There was clear desire and reason to capitalize Black. Most notably, people who are Black have strong historical and cultural commonalities, even if they are from different parts of the world and even if they now live in different parts of the world. That includes the shared experience of discrimination due solely to the color of one’s skin.

There is, at this time, less support for capitalizing white. White people generally do not share the same history and culture, or the experience of being discriminated against because of skin color. In addition, we are a global news organization and in much of the world there is considerable disagreement, ambiguity and confusion about whom the term includes.

We agree that white people’s skin color plays into systemic inequalities and injustices, and we want our journalism to robustly explore those problems. But capitalizing the term white, as is done by white supremacists, risks subtly conveying legitimacy to such beliefs.

Some have expressed the belief that if we don’t capitalize white, we are being inconsistent and discriminating against white people or, conversely, that we are implying that white is the default. We also recognize the argument that capitalizing the term could pull white people more fully into issues and discussions of race and equality. We will closely watch how usage and thought evolves, and will periodically review our decision.

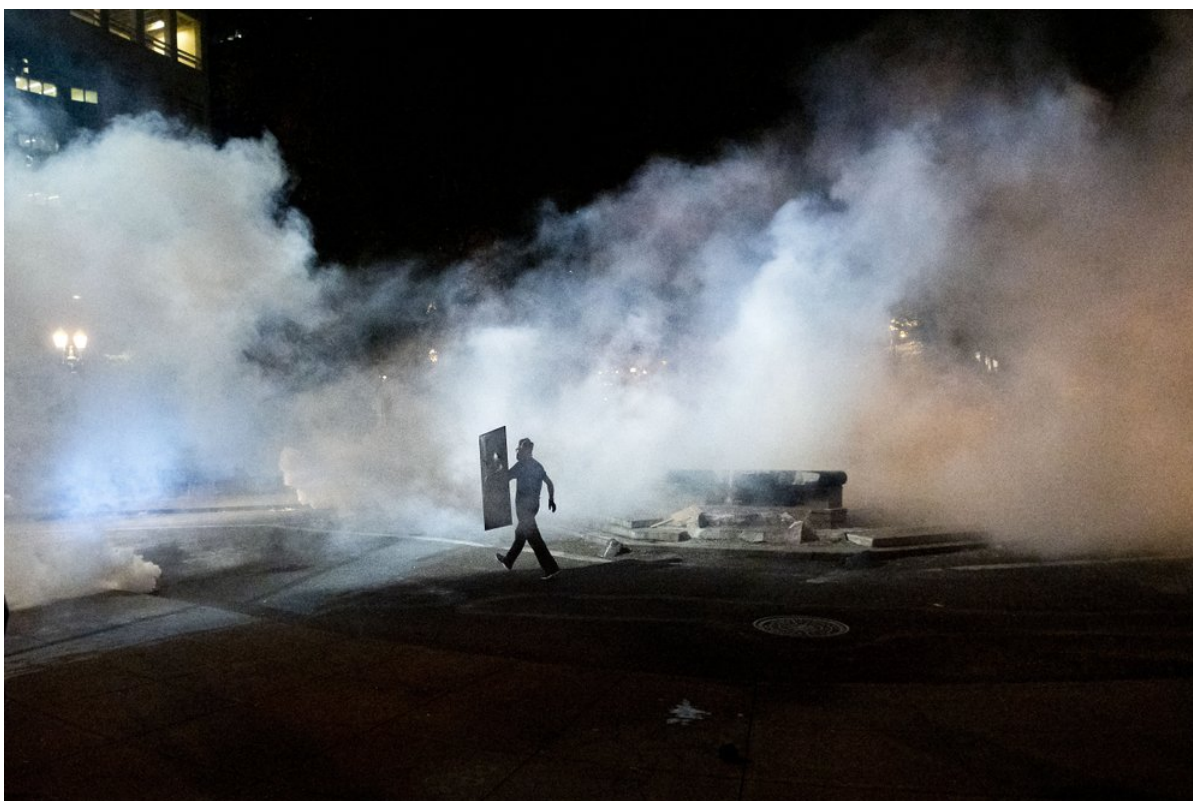
As the AP Stylebook currently directs, we will continue to avoid the broad and imprecise term brown in racial, ethnic or cultural references. If using the term is

necessary as part of a direct quotation, we will continue to use the lowercase.

For more details, see the AP Stylebook's race-related coverage guidance, which says in part: "Consider carefully when deciding whether to identify people by race. Often, it is an irrelevant factor and drawing unnecessary attention to someone's race or ethnicity can be interpreted as bigotry."

Read more [here](#).

Protests in Portland



A Black Lives Matter protester carries a shield while facing off against federal officers at the Mark O. Hatfield United States Courthouse on Monday, July 20, 2020, in Portland, Ore. Officers used teargas and projectiles to move the crowd after some protesters tore down a fence fronting the courthouse. (AP Photo/Noah Berger) Click [here](#) for story and more photos. (Shared by Allen Matthews)

Connecting series:

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

Robert and Mary Jane



At right: Mary Jane Stevens and Robert Meyers after being married at the Registry Office in Gravesend, Kent. Above: Mary Jane Stevens and Robert Meyers posing in Florence, Italy, in early January 2020.



Robert Meyers ([Email](#)) - As a junior in the Henry W. Grady School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Georgia, one September night in 1983 I decided to indulge my taste for Mexican food and do some studying at The Taco Stand in Athens. I was deep in reading something when there was a tap on my shoulder and a woman who was in one of my classes asked me for a cigarette and then gestured toward another table across the way and asked for one for her roommate too. She had a nice smile and I gave her two from my pack and went back to eating and studying.

One day the girl in my class, an exchange student from Montana named Jill, invited me to walk her home after class. As evening rolled around, her roommate, Mary Jane, came home from work as a Foreign Student Advisor and decided it was time for us all to have dinner. She fried garlic in olive oil and served it over pasta. I was impressed with the simplicity and flavor. Jill and I would go to Georgia football games. It was the year Hershel Walker became the first athlete to skip his senior year and go pro with Donald Trump's New Jersey Generals in the NFL rival startup USFL. This was before games were scheduled for television so the games were played at 1 p.m. and we would party afterward with Mary Jane and her boyfriend from Tennessee. More and more often Mary Jane and I would find ourselves on the couch talking while Jill and

the Tennessean would be in the kitchen. I loved it when Mary Jane read to me Arthur Rimbaud's poetry in his original French. In December, Jill suddenly moved out of the house accusing Mary Jane and I of carrying on an affair which kind of made that happen. I went to her office to seek advice about Studying Abroad. She told me the whole thing was a rip off and I should just plan to travel on my own to really see the world. The Summer of 1984 rolled around and I graduated and did a bike ride across Georgia with my 60 year old father (BRAG). After the week-long ride, I was driving him to Atlanta to fly home and had him wait in the car while I knocked on the door to say hello to Mary Jane. She told me she didn't think she'd ever see me again.

Labor Day weekend I was driving a U-Haul with whatever stuff I had from Brunswick, Georgia, to my first full time daily newspaper job, the Gannett-owned Sturgis (Michigan) Journal. I stopped in Athens and Mary Jane rode with me. On the trip, we decided that she would join me in Michigan. For two years, our hearts kept us warm in a summer cabin on Aldrich Lake in St. Joseph County. She found work running the county Community Action Agency. In 1985, I got my first passport and we took a charter flight from Detroit to London for her nephew's wedding and I got to meet her mother, sisters, brothers and their spouses and children. We crossed the channel to eat mussels in Calais. Two years after moving to Michigan, we sold as much stuff as we could, put some things in storage in my sister's attic in Pennsylvania, did a farewell tour of the USA camping and visiting friends, family and National Parks from California to Georgia before boarding the Stephan Batory in Montreal and steaming to London Tilbury.

I got a job offer as a photo editor at AP in London, so I needed to get legal working status and that led us to make an appointment on Sept. 1, 1986, at the registry office in Gravesend, Kent, where we said our vows. Mary Jane went to work the next day as a teacher in Waltham Forest, London. I started at the AP on Oct. 1. Our first daughter Sofia was born in 1987, and Isabelle in 1989. We moved back to the United States in 1997 when I transferred to join the new State Photo Center in Washington. When the State Photo Center closed in 2007, Isabelle was a senior in high school and Mary Jane earned far more at Fairfax County Public Schools than I did at the AP. When Mary Jane retired and yearned to spend more time in her home country so we moved into a flat in Norwich, Norfolk in 2019. We came back to celebrate my Aunt's 90th birthday in February. We were booked to return to England at the end of March but have been sheltering at our home in Maryland trying to figure out when it might be safe enough to travel. Mary Jane is quite the adventurer and very good with languages. I can carry suitcases and notice things around us wherever we go. Over New Year, we had an amazing couple of weeks cat sitting at a villa in northern Sardinia, then taking the overnight ferry to the mainland and spending a week exploring Pisa, Bologna and Florence. We had bookings for Porto, Cyprus and Cairo in April and May but that did not come to pass.

A note to AP's White House correspondent Jonathan Lemire

David Briscoe ([Email](#)) - Jonathan:

What is a reporter if not a truth-teller, even in this era when simple facts may be deemed controversial?



Your frequent appearances on Morning Joe and other MSNBC programs provide a regular renewal of my pride in Associated Press reporting, particularly out of the Washington bureau, where I worked for 15 years.

The comments you made this morning (7/20/2020) were particularly bold and on-target, not as opinion but as a strictly factual observation on Chris Wallace's on-target Fox News interview. You spoke in the long tradition of backed-up AP analysis, as you always do:

"The president long ago crossed the line from trying to paint an optimistic picture of what's going on to professing now what is clearly willful ignorance ... What we saw here from the president -- and let's just say what it is -- he's wrong; he's wrong on the facts repeatedly; he's misrepresenting and outright lying on some of these statistics." Then you go on to cite specific example.

Your ability to deal with the sometimes inane banter of such shows and still get at the heart of every issue on which you report is quite remarkable.

I know some AP reporters from my era (I retired in 2009 after a career abroad, in Washington and in domestic bureaus) are dismayed that you give AP such a high profile on a network that occasionally veers into the partisan. I believe you have carried the AP flag proudly and properly. The high point obviously was your famous Helsinki question that revealed Trump's preference for Vladimir Putin over U.S. intelligence.

I'm sure your managers are under considerable pressure, if not from the White House, from other political and journalistic sources, to limit if not bar reporters' appearances alongside less objective commentators. It's to the AP's credit that you and others have been able to continue to play the important roles you do in informing the public during these contentious times. I have no problem even with some of your colleagues appearing on Fox News, which does have a sometimes-credible news operation alongside its largely partisan commentary.

Frankly, I'm in awe of both you and the great people with whom you work.

I have always been proud of the role AP plays in American political reporting. There have been low points, including in my time the timid and often misleading reporting during the build-up to both Iraq wars.

Your reporting, both in print and in all your appearances, is a high point, especially considering that you have been forced to do much of the work from home.

I marvel at your energy and only hope you can keep up the great work.

(Briscoe shared this email with his Connecting colleagues.)

Connecting mailbox

Sharing his CNBC.com obituary of John Lewis

Marty Steinberg ([Email](#)) - Thanks for sharing the wonderful recollections of Phil Sandler and Sonya Ross regarding Rep. John Lewis (in Monday's Connecting). [Here](#) is the obit I wrote about him for CNBC.com.

I did spend quite a bit of time researching and writing starting in December, when he announced his cancer, but I was just a vessel. Ultimately, John Lewis wrote his life story through his remarkable struggles and triumphs. It's a lesson for everyone. Your legacy is what you have accomplished in life.

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An encounter with a Brooklyn cop

Bruce Lowitt ([Email](#)) - Ric Brack's encounter with a Philadelphia policeman ("The press is the only thing that's working in this country," he said, handing back my paperwork. "Drive safely." CONNECTING, July 14) reminded me of one I had in 1961 with a Brooklyn cop when I was 19.

I had gotten home from college but was running late for my Wednesday night National Guard meeting. I dived into my uniform and then into my parents' Plymouth and got there just in time - although it might not have mattered had I been late; I was the company clerk and Capt. Ray Watson and I were on great terms. In fact, once in a great while I'd call in, get him on the phone and tell him I wasn't feeling well and wouldn't be in. He'd say, "Okay. Who's winning?" I'd say "Rangers, 2-1 in the first." He knew I was at a hockey game in Madison Square Garden.

But I digress.

Driving home from the guard meeting, I was pulled over about half a mile from home. A tail light was out.

"License and registration."

I reached into my back pocket. Empty. Oh, crap. I was in such a hurry I'd forgotten to take my wallet.

"You can't drive. You'll have to have someone come and pick you up."

I told him how close to home I was and that my parents were probably in bed.

'Doesn't matter," he said. "Call them and have someone come here. I'll wait."

I reached into my pocket.

"Uh, you got a dime?"

The cop stared at me with a pathetic look. After a thoughtful moment he said, "Get the f--- out of here," got in his patrol car and left.

Not as gentlemanly as Ric's officer, but the same outcome.

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A pronouncer for that lake in Massachusetts



Michael Weinfeld ([Email](#)) - It brought back memories seeing Ronald Lizik's photo of a sunset over Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg in Webster, MA. My first job in radio at WINY in Putnam, CT. was not far from that spot. I thought an AP pronouncer was in order:

Chahr-GAHG'-uh-gahg-man-CHAHG'-uh-gahg-chah-buhn-uh-GUHNG'-guh-mahg.

Above is a photo of my wife Tia Mayer and me in front of the sign that countless tourists have had their picture taken in front of.

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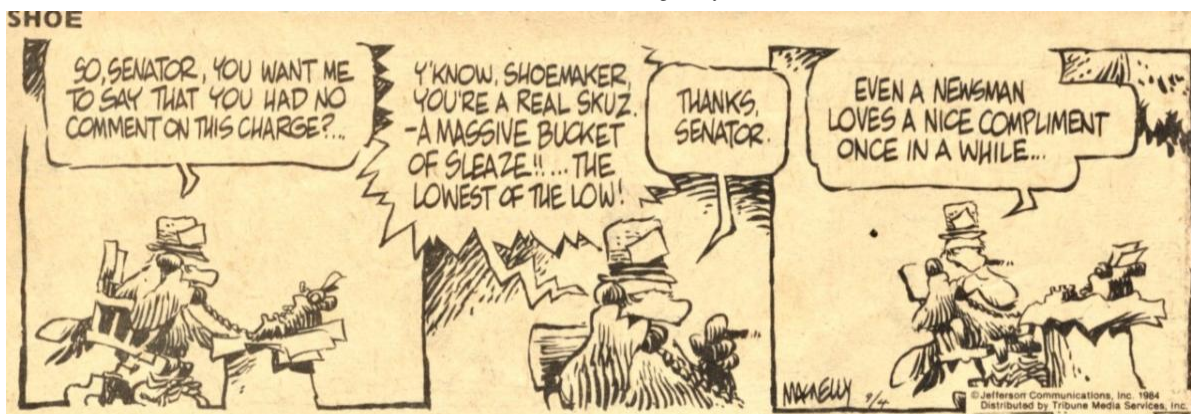
A mask that sometimes mirrors feelings



Claudia DiMartino ([Email](#)) - This mask designed by cartoonist Jenny Campbell, partner of AP's Amy Sancetta, illustrates exactly how I feel from time to time, upside down but holding on! I'm okay!

-0-

A comic strip that once hung above my desk



Mark Thompson ([Email](#)) - Got a kick out of The Final Word comic strip in Monday's Connecting. It reminded me of one by the great and late and much-missed Jeff MacNelly from 36 years ago that you may want to consider using in the future. I'm sure many Connecting readers fondly recall his trip, Shoe, about a bunch of newspeople, all portrayed by birds (Shoe sure beats the flock of vulture capitalists we have now). I remember clipping it out and tacking it to the bulletin board above my desk in the National Press Building, where it hung for a decade or so. When some D.C. poohbah would be yelling at me over the phone for some version of the truth I had committed, I'd hold the phone away from my ear and stare at the strip until the storm passed.

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FLASH, bells ringing

A252 HO

1by1wyyf1by1 HO

FLASH

SPACE CENTER

A S T R O N A U T S LAND ON
MOON

THE AP

JJ318ped July 20

deadline is past and the presses are already running, you must stop everything and make sure this is your page one headline."

Accompanied by 15 bells, just so if you were not near the teletype printer, you would know something monumental just occurred.

This moved July 20, 1969, on the wires of The Associated Press, and a similar one on the wires of United Press International.

"STOP THE PRESSES!"

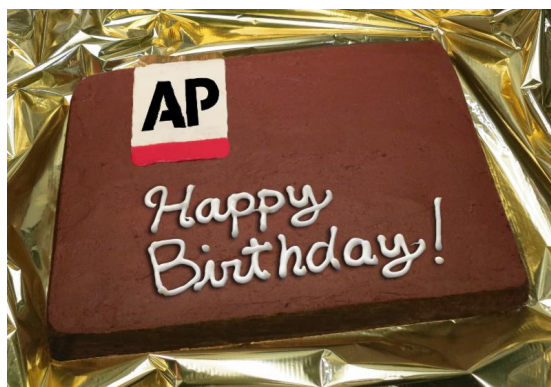
-0-

Neowise over Joshua Tree



Nick Ut ([Email](#)) - Comet Neowise at Joshua Tree California.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Kevin Dale – kdale@me.com

John Eagan – johngator64@gmail.com

Stories of interest

COVID-19 has ravaged American newsrooms. Here's why that matters. (Nieman)

By DAMIAN RADCLIFFE

Many newsrooms across the U.S. will be quieter places when journalists return to their workplace after the coronavirus lockdowns end.

COVID-19 has ripped through the industry. In the United States alone, over 36,000 journalists have lost their jobs, been furloughed, or had their pay cut.

Analysis by Kristen Hare, a reporter at Poynter, shows that more than 200 newsrooms and media groups have been affected by layoffs and other cost-saving measures, including mergers and reduced print runs. Local journalism has been hit particularly hard.

Even outlets seen as having a “good pandemic” have been adversely affected. Atlantic Media, for example, laid off 68 employees in May, equivalent to 17% of its staff, despite the publication adding 90,000 subscribers since March.

Read more [here](#) .

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COVID-19 is hurting journalists' mental health. News outlets should help them now (Reuters Institute)

By Meera Selva and Anthony Feinstein

A significant number of journalists reporting on COVID-19 show signs of anxiety and depression, according to the early results of a survey into the current state of journalists' emotional wellbeing.

Even experienced reporters working for large, well-funded media organizations are often struggling to cope with the demands on reporting on the pandemic.

A survey by the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism and the University of Toronto asked reporters a range of questions about their work, mental health and concerns in June 2020, during a period where all countries were affected by COVID-19 in some way.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Richard Chady.

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Former Fox News anchor Ed Henry accused of sexual assault in new lawsuit (Washington Post)

By Jeremy Barr

A former Fox Business Network producer and a frequent Fox News guest on Monday filed suit against the network and several of its most prominent hosts, including recently fired anchor Ed Henry, alleging sexual assault and harassment.

The legal complaint was filed by Jennifer Eckhart, a longtime employee at Fox Business Network, and Cathy Areu, a frequent guest who appeared as a commentator. The most startling and graphic charge in the suit alleges that Henry raped Eckhart — an allegation Henry's attorney denied.

Fox announced July 1 it had fired Henry, saying that he had been credibly accused by a former colleague of "sexual misconduct in the workplace years ago." But, the new lawsuit alleges the network's statement "intentionally downplayed the severity of the situation" in an attempt "to avoid taking accountability for what actually happened."

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

The Final Word

COVID-19 Tidbits

New monthly budget: Gas \$0 Entertainment \$0 Clothes \$0 Groceries \$2,799. Wine \$3,750.

Breaking News: Wearing a mask inside your home is now highly recommended. Not so much to stop COVID-19, but to stop eating.

When this quarantine is over, let's not tell some people.

I stepped on my scale this morning. It said: "Please practice social distancing. Only one person at a time on scale."

Not to brag, but I haven't been late to anything in over 6 weeks.

It may take a village to raise a child but I swear its going to take a vineyard to home school one.

You know those car commercials where there's only one vehicle on the road - doesn't seem so unrealistic these days ...

Day 37: The garbage man placed an AA flyer on my recycling bin.

The spread of Covid-19 is based on two things:

1. How dense the population is.
2. How dense the population is.

People keep asking: "Is coronavirus REALLY all that serious?" Listen y'all, the churches and casinos are closed. When heaven and hell agree on the same thing it's probably pretty serious.

Never in a million years could I have imagined I would go up to a bank teller wearing a mask and ask for money.

Home School Day 1: I'm trying to figure out how I can get this kid transferred out of my class.

Putting a drink in each room of my house today and calling it a pub crawl.

For the second part of this quarantine do we have to stay with the same family or will they relocate us? Asking for myself ...

Coronavirus has turned us all into dogs. We wander around the house looking for food. We get told "No" if we get too close to strangers and we get really excited about going for walks and car rides.

The dumbest thing I've ever bought was a 2020 planner ...

(Shared by Dodi Fromson)

Today in History - July 21, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, July 21, the 203rd day of 2020. There are 163 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 21, 1925, the so-called "Monkey Trial" ended in Dayton, Tennessee, with John T. Scopes found guilty of violating state law for teaching Darwin's Theory of Evolution. (The conviction was later overturned on a technicality.)

On this date:

In 1796, Scottish poet Robert Burns died in Dumfries at age 37.

In 1861, during the Civil War, the first Battle of Bull Run was fought at Manassas, Virginia, resulting in a Confederate victory.

In 1944, American forces landed on Guam during World War II, capturing it from the Japanese some three weeks later. The Democratic National Convention in Chicago nominated Sen. Harry S. Truman to be vice president.

In 1969, Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin blasted off from the moon aboard the ascent stage of the lunar module for docking with the command module.

In 1980, draft registration began in the United States for 19- and 20-year-old men.

In 1990, a benefit concert took place in Germany at the site of the fallen Berlin Wall; the concert, which drew some 200,000 people, was headlined by Roger Waters, a founder of Pink Floyd. (The concert ended with the collapse of a mock Berlin Wall made of styrofoam.)

In 1998, astronaut Alan Shepard died in Monterey, California, at age 74; actor Robert Young died in Westlake Village, California, at age 91.

In 1999, Navy divers found and recovered the bodies of John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife, Carolyn, and sister-in-law, Lauren Bessette (bih-SEHT'), in the wreckage of Kennedy's plane in the Atlantic Ocean off Martha's Vineyard.

In 2000, Special Counsel John C. Danforth concluded "with 100 percent certainty" that the federal government was innocent of wrongdoing in the siege that killed 80 members of the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas, in 1993.

In 2009, prosecutors in Cambridge, Massachusetts, dropped a disorderly conduct charge against prominent Black scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr., who was arrested by a white officer at his home near Harvard University after a report of a break-in.

In 2011, the 30-year-old space shuttle program ended as Atlantis landed at Cape Canaveral, Florida, after the 135th shuttle flight.

In 2008, former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic (RA'-doh-van KA'-ra-jich), one of the world's top war crimes fugitives, was arrested in a Belgrade suburb by Serbian security forces. (He was sentenced by a U.N. court in 2019 to life imprisonment after being convicted of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.)

Ten years ago: A triumphant President Barack Obama signed into law the most sweeping overhaul of U.S. lending and high finance rules since the 1930s.

Five years ago: The Defense Department said a U.S. airstrike in Syria on July 8, 2015 had killed Muhsin al-Fadhli, a key figure in the Khorasan Group, a dangerous al-Qaida offshoot. Ohio Gov. John Kasich became the 16th notable Republican contestant to enter the U.S. 2016 presidential race. After a nearly decade-long steroids prosecution, Barry Bonds emerged victorious when federal prosecutors dropped what was left of their criminal case against the career home runs leader.

One year ago: Clashes involving Hong Kong's protest movement escalated violently, with police launching tear gas at protesters who didn't disband after a march, and subway riders being attacked by masked assailants who appeared to be targeting the pro-democracy demonstrators. Disney's photorealistic remake of "The Lion King" wiped out opening-weekend box office records for the month of July, while "Avengers: Endgame" crept past Avatar to become the highest-grossing film of all time. As a sellout crowd cheered him on, Irishman Shane Lowry won the British Open by six

shots at Royal Portrush, a course in Northern Ireland that had last hosted the Open in 1951.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Norman Jewison is 94. Actor Leigh Lawson is 77. Singer Yusuf Islam (also known as Cat Stevens) is 72. Cartoonist Garry Trudeau is 72. Actor Jamey Sheridan is 69. Rock singer-musician Eric Bazilian (The Hooters) is 67. Comedian Jon Lovitz is 63. Actor Lance Guest is 60. Actor Matt Mulhern is 60. Comedian Greg Behrendt is 57. Rock musician Koen Lieckens (K's Choice) is 54. Soccer player Brandi Chastain is 52. Rock singer Emerson Hart is 51. Rock-soul singer Michael Fitzpatrick (Fitz and the Tantrums) is 50. Actress Alysia Reiner is 50. Country singer Paul Brandt is 48. Christian rock musician Korey Cooper (Skillet) is 48. Actress Ali Landry is 47. Actor-comedian Steve Byrne is 46. Rock musician Tato Melgar (Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real) is 43. Actor Justin Bartha is 42. Actor Josh Hartnett is 42. Contemporary Christian singer Brandon Heath is 42. Actress Sprague Grayden is 42. Reggae singer Damian Marley is 42. Country singer Brad Mates (Emerson Drive) is 42. Former MLB All-Star pitcher CC Sabathia (suh-BATH'-ee-uh) is 40. Singer Blake Lewis ("American Idol") is 39. Latin singer Romeo Santos is 39. Rock musician Will Berman (MGMT) is 38. Rock musician Johan Carlsson (Carolina Liar) is 36. Actress Vanessa Lengies (LEHN'-jeez) is 35. Actress Betty Gilpin is 34. Actor Rory Culkin is 31. Actor Jamie Waylett ("Harry Potter" films) is 31. Figure skater Rachael Flatt is 28.

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

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