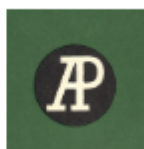


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## Connecting September 11, 2020

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Colleagues.

Good Friday morning on this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020,

Today is the 19th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and Connecting believes it is worth reminding our readers how The Associated Press covered the events of that day.

We present you this recap from colleague **Mark Mittelstadt** that appeared in the quarterly APME News magazine months after the attacks. AP was headquartered at 50 Rockefeller Plaza at the time - 4.7 miles from the twin towers of the World Trade Center. Today, AP headquarters rests right

next door to where the towers once stood.  
Click on this link to view:

### [AP coverage of Sept. 11.](#)

Thanks to those of you who responded with your opinion on whether journalist Bob Woodward did the right thing in not immediately disclosing President Trump's comments on the coronavirus at the Trump said them instead of waiting to do so for publication of his new book "Fear." We lead with those thoughts.

**CORRECTION:** The photo of Bill Chevalier – who died September 1 at 91 - in Thursday's issue was incorrectly captioned. It showed his friend Gene Herrick blowing out candles for his own birthday in 1958 with Bill the person in the background. (His family provided further information on Bill's life as well as a photo that are included in today's issue.)

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

## Your thoughts on Bob Woodward interview with President Trump

**Larry Blasko** ([Email](#)) - Somewhere in the netherworld, Richard Nixon is laughing.

Yale graduate Bob Woodward, who reported with college dropout Carl Bernstein to send Nixon packing in Watergate, now faces another Famous Person Ethical Lapse.

The difference is he's the Famous Person.

When President Donald Trump told Woodward in an early-February taped interview that the Covid-10 virus was highly contagious and deadly but that Trump had decided to downplay it, that news might have sparked a better response to the pandemic. And that might have saved tens of thousands of American lives.

The news would also dim the sales luster of a book Woodward was writing, and probably turn off President Trump, who apparently couldn't resist talking to Famous Person Bob Woodward, even after Woodward's book "Fear" had savaged Trump's performance.



Woodward chose silence. Since early February, Covid-19 deaths have silenced close to 200,000 Americans, but Woodward's silence kept his book project on track. Kind of like Nixon's silence on the Watergate break-in hoped to keep his administration on track.

Woodward's explanation of silence as reported in The Washington Post was that he didn't know how Trump got the information or if it was just another Trump lie. So he said nothing in February.

Or in March, April, May, June, July and August. He broke his silence in September's first week as part of the book rollout. And as Covid-19 deaths continued in an America with 4 percent of the world's population and 21 percent of the world's Covid fatalities.

Which is why Richard Nixon is laughing - Woodward, famous for an achievement like Nixon being famous for his comeback election, is now, like Nixon, famous for something else.

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**Steve Paulson (Email)** - Regarding the revelation that Bob Woodward withheld information that could have saved thousands of lives around the world so he could keep his unprecedented access to President Trump, to me as a former investigative journalist, is unconscionable. Trump lied, people died and Bob Woodward knowingly aided and abetted a coverup. This will just confirm the suspicions of many people that the news media is corrupt and in bed with politicians. The damage to our industry and journalism is incalculable.

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**Lyle Price (Email)** - Maybe I'm missing something and if not this observation won't be the first received from ex-AP types, but since when does a journalist withhold the stated (and recorded) opinion of a President based upon whether the observation/opinion might be true or not? It certainly would have been a shocking remark back in February re the man's actual take as to the truth compared to what he remarked in public. It also is the case, isn't it, that remarks from President Trump that, um, just might in truth be false get reported in the news all the time? As a book author, Bob Woodward might have had heavy sledding getting subsequent interviews with the man had the remark been publicized. But that arguably valid excuse isn't what Woodward said, I take it.

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**Hal Spencer (Email)** - An ethical reporter never sits on information that the public should know. An ethical reporter is not a "player" who times the release of accurate news in order to help or hinder an outcome. But Woodward was not a reporter. He

was a book writer who set out to tell a story of a President at a particular time in history. The whole picture. He wasn't working for a newspaper. He was working for himself. He owed nobody anything. I find his stance perfectly ethical. (And as an irrelevant aside, I think Trump would have been better off had the revelation been made in the spring.)

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**John Willis (Email)** - It seems to me that most all of the medical experts were taking this Covid-19 seriously from the beginning, but the president was downplaying it's danger in public. Virtually all news outlets with the exception of those who are overtly, known Trump sycophants, were quoting medical people who were telling us that the president was wrong. In their own ways, Drs. Birx and Fauci told it like it was right there in the White House press briefing room. They were eventually shoved into the background because what they were saying didn't jive with what the president was saying.

The only people claiming it was under control and there was nothing to worry about were Trump and those who enable him. Rush Limbaugh, Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient from Trump, told his listeners over and over that it was nothing more than a bad cold.

That the president knew how dangerous it was and was not telling America to be careful is no real surprise. This is the administration of alternative facts and had Woodward bylined a story in February about the two sides of Trump on the virus it would have been too late. The virus was already spreading far and wide, yet the president said it was under control.

Trump would have called it fake news, anyway, and would have gone along his merry way trying to reopen the economy to get back on track to re-election.

If he was so concerned about panic in America, why does he claim that Joe Biden will fill the suburbs with low-cost, subsidized housing that will lower property values? We all know that's a false claim, and most media outlets point it out, but he doesn't seem to worry about panic in the suburbs as a result of his lies.

The backlash from Woodward's book excerpts is just another Trumpian effort to divert attention away from what really happened and what is still happening.

## RIP, Bill Chevalier



This photo shows Bill Chevalier with his wife Gerri about 10 years ago. Bill died September 1 at the age of 91. A University of Minnesota journalism graduate, Bill went to work as a reporter in Watertown, SD at the *Watertown Public Opinion*. There, he met Gerri and they were married 7-10-1954 in Watertown. Shortly after that they moved to Minneapolis, where he was hired by the AP. Bill worked for the AP for several years before he left to go work for Honeywell in the Promotions Department. In the early 60's, he transferred to the Instrument and Photo Division of Honeywell in Denver. In the fall of 1965, the family of seven ventured to Portland, Oregon, when Bill took an Account Executive job at a local advertising agency. A few years later, he became one of the owners, eventually becoming sole owner several years later. Two of his children, Greg & Cindy, joined the agency in 1981. The agency name was changed to Chevalier Advertising, Inc. a few years later. The three worked together until 2002, when Bill retired.

Throughout his life, his wife and his family always came first. Bill and Gerri celebrated 66 years of marriage this past July. They welcomed grandchildren and great-grandchildren into the family. As time went on, every decision Bill made was predicated on taking care of Gerri, especially as Gerri's health declined. Bill is survived by his wife, Gerri; his younger sister, Helen Wagner (Jim); his children, Bill Jr. (Lorene), Gregory (Chrissy), Cindy (Steve), Robert and Pam; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

## Colleagues for years in Salt Lake City bureau, Bob Kuesterman and Bill Beecham facing hard times – and would love hearing from you



The top photo shows (l-r) Bob Kuesterman's grandchild Lila, son-in-law Toby Dillon, grandchild Cendan and Bob. At right is a photo of Bill Beecham and his wife Fumiko.



**David Briscoe** ([Email](#)) - Two of AP's finest, colleagues for years in the Salt Lake City bureau, are facing hard times well beyond the virus that affects us all. **Bob Kuesterman** and **Bill Beecham** are confined in separate nursing facilities, cut off from friends and family. Bob's daughter, Carina, has written a poignant and honest update on her father's rapid decline after a recent diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

She accurately describes Bob as "incredibly introverted, independent, intelligent, reclusive, and stubborn." He is also a supremely talented and legendary Associated Press colleague who worked for decades mostly on the night desk in the Salt Lake City bureau. I worked with both Bob and Bill in Utah for nearly a decade at the start of my

40-year AP career. After I moved on, Bill was Bob's COB for several years, and I have all stayed close friends in retirement.

For several months before the coronavirus forced nursing homes to ban visitors, Bob visited Bill nearly every day at the facility where Beecham is undergoing treatment for a series of ailments and physical therapy. Neither ever tested positive for COVID-19. So it's sadly ironic that Bob is now confined and isolated himself.

Carina Kuesterman Dillon, who lives in Tooele, Utah, with her husband and four of her five children, explains Bob's plight beautifully in a Facebook post this week:

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### **By Carina Kuesterman Dillon**

It goes without saying that 2020 has been a difficult year for most of us. Today, I'm scrolling through Facebook and seeing friends who have sustained damage to or completely lost their homes due to fire and wind damage, friends who have lost loved ones, friends who are struggling from the effects of abuse, illness (including mental), racism, homo- and transphobia, sexism, ableism, and more.

In my own family, this last week we were tasked with the difficult decision to place my father in a nursing care facility. I haven't posted about it before, but less than two months ago he was diagnosed with widespread Stage IV pancreatic cancer. Because this type of cancer has a particularly poor prognosis, he opted to forgo chemotherapy and other treatment and instead entered into hospice care.

Those of you who know my father know that he is incredibly introverted, independent, intelligent, reclusive, and stubborn.

Up until very recently, he rejected the many offers of visitation and help by us, and limited his hospice nurse visits to the minimum they would allow. A little over a week ago, he finally reached out to me (I had been the one to initiate our previous phone calls) begging me to come and take him to the hospital. By the time I arrived, he explained that the hospital told him he couldn't be admitted and they sent a hospice nurse over. Due to his increasing inability to understand his pain management regimen, his development of hallucinations ("illusions" as he calls them, often of family members and cats), and the effects of the stronger pain medications on his balance, we were able to convince him that daily checks by the hospice nurse and us were in order, with an eye towards additional care likely being needed.

A couple of days after that, we arrived for our visit along with the hospice nurse and discovered that he was missing. Baffled and frantic, we searched around and the nurse was eventually able to track him down to the hospital, where he'd somehow managed to get himself admitted despite being on hospice. He'd been in so much pain he couldn't think to call anyone but 911. We'd missed him by maybe ten minutes.

Over the course of the last week, we spent a great deal of time with him. It was clear that he wouldn't be able to return home on his own. I'd offered multiple times previously to care for him in our home, which he declined. I offered again, and was again rejected (though, honestly, I'm not even sure that we are even capable of providing the level of care that he needs). I'm not sure if he turned down our offer due to his particular brand of introversion, his not wanting to be a burden, or because of wanting to shield our children from the dying process (he was traumatized as a child by his own father's cancer death). After discussing all the options, including having my sister travel from Washington to care for him, he felt that a nursing home was probably the best choice for him, and Toby was able to chase down a spot in a home in West Valley. We hope to be able to transfer him to Tooele so I can be closer.

He did get his wish for a private room with a window. Because of COVID, visitors are not allowed, of course. Our hearts are broken. We are allowed to step on our tiptoes and visit through the closed window (which is still more than we would've been able to do six months ago). He isn't capable of speaking much, so it's mostly just us talking to him. We've tried using our phones, and that works a little, but he's having a difficult time manipulating his device. We're trying to figure out if there are any better options. He's under heavy medication, which seems to control his pain well, but also results in heavy sedation, which makes visits difficult.

My dad and I have had a complicated relationship. He is a fine parent of adult children and I love him and miss the monthly visits we had at our house before cancer and before COVID. When I think of my childhood dad and my adulthood dad, it's almost like two different persons. I'm glad we've been able to transform our relationship. I hate seeing him like this, and I also hate not really being able to see him. I hate COVID (wear your masks and social distance, people!) and I hate cancer. I love my family.

If you would like to reach Bob, contact David Briscoe at - [dcbriscoejr@gmail.com](mailto:dcbriscoejr@gmail.com) Bill is reachable by phone at the Highland Care Center (801) 278-2839.

## Connecting mailbox

*'We need more Gene Herrick's today in this crazy world'*

**Kendal Weaver** ([Email](#)) - Do we need any more proof of the wonderful gift of words and pictures that Gene Herrick gives to Connecting than his remembrance of his friend Bill Chevalier and those shots of the Chevalier kids in Thursday's posting? Gene is a treasure — those photos made my day. To paraphrase his concluding line: "We need more Gene Herrick's today in this crazy world."

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## *On 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tojo's botched suicide attempt*



**Lt. John J. Wilpers Jr., a key member of the Army intelligence unit that arrested Japanese wartime prime minister Hideki Tojo, stands over Tojo after he tried to commit suicide on Sept. 11, 1945. (George Burns, courtesy of the Wilpers family)**

**Chris Carola (Email)** - I'm quoted in [this Washington Post story](#) on the 75th anniversary of Tojo's botched suicide attempt. The story also includes mentions of the AP reporters and photographer who covered the chaotic scene inside Tojo's suburban Tokyo home that day.

In 2010, while with the AP in Albany, N.Y., I wrote an [AAA-wire story](#) about the 65th anniversary of this incident and the key role Jack Wilpers of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., played in keeping Tojo alive.

When Jack Wilpers died in late February 2013, my [prepared obit](#) moved on AP's national and international wires, beating both the Washington Post (his hometown paper) and The New York Times.

My personal side of the story of how I finally got the WWII Army intelligence officer-turned-CIA employee to finally talk in detail about it after a nearly 20-year quest was

included in the Sept. 11, 2015, issue of Connecting. And the press coverage of the incident was detailed in my contribution to the June 18, 2020 Connecting topic of phones used in the line of duty.

The Saratoga Springs-based reporter for WNYT-TV in Albany, an NBC affiliate and an AP member, interviewed Wilpers' oldest son, via Zoom, and myself in a park in downtown Saratoga this week for a story that is scheduled to air this Monday. The son and his siblings are working on a project to place a commemorative plaque in their father's honor at a business located on the main drag of the city's popular dining and retail district, just steps from where Wilpers grew up in the 1930s.

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## ***Enemy of the People – check out an 1882 play***

**Sibby Christensen** ([Email](#)) - Anyone getting weary of the “an enemy of the people” meme should check out the 1882 play by that name by Norway's Henrik Ibsen. The enemy in question was the truth-teller, a doctor trying to alert his neighbors that the water for their spa was polluted. Ibsen depicts the town's competing interests to keep quiet about the facts, intra-family backbiting, back-and-forth at the local newspaper, and the near-unanimous vote by the townspeople to label the doctor as the enemy. Sounds like today's news.

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## ***With apologies to Winnie and Pooh Bear...***

Headline from New Canaanite (CT):

[First Selectman Pooh-Poohs Wastewater Test for COVID-19 Virus](#)

(Shared by Jenny Volanakis)

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## ***Connecting sky shot – New Hampshire***



**Sean Thompson** ([Email](#)) - The Thompson (Sean, Lili & Zoe - 5yrs old) and Morhaim (Victor & Ann) families pose at the summit of Mount Lafayette (5,260 elevation) in the Franconia Notch, New Hampshire. It was at the 7.7 mile point in a 13.9 mile, 12 hour hike.

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***Reminder of nature amid fires, pandemic, politics***



**Jack Ronald (Email)** - With wildfires and pandemic and toxic politics, I thought you might enjoy this glimpse of a bumble bee investigating a bloom on hosta in our garden this afternoon.

## Revolutionizing video workflows with AI



Vice President and Director of Key Initiatives Sandy MacIntyre, top center, explains how AP is working with technology companies to revolutionize video production and workflows in the news industry during a virtual discussion at the International Broadcasting Convention, Sept. 9, 2020. (AP Photo)

By Patrick Maks

At the International Broadcasting Convention this week, Vice President and Director of Key Initiatives Sandy MacIntyre outlined how AP is collaborating with technology companies to revolutionize video production and workflows in the news industry.

As part of a months-long project, AP worked with Al Jazeera and technology companies Vidrovr, Metaliquid and Limecraft to explore how artificial intelligence and machine learning can fully automate the process of producing raw and edited content shot lists. IBC's Media Innovation Accelerator program facilitates collaborations to address complex media and entertainment business and technology challenges.

"This is a big, giant leap forward," MacIntyre said Wednesday during an IBC webinar.

Read more [here](#).

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



*On Saturday to...*

Dale Leach – [daleleach21@gmail.com](mailto:daleleach21@gmail.com)

Bill Vogrin – [billvogrin@msn.com](mailto:billvogrin@msn.com)

*On Sunday to...*

Carol Riha – [criha@aol.com](mailto:criha@aol.com)

C.J. Jackson - [henrycjackson@gmail.com](mailto:henrycjackson@gmail.com)

## Stories of interest

## ***Pentagon rescinding order to shutter Stars and Stripes paper***

By LOLITA C. BALDOR

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Defense Department is rescinding its order to shut down the military's independent newspaper, Stars and Stripes, in the wake of a tweet late last week by President Donald Trump vowing to continue funding the paper.

In an email to Stripes' publisher Max Lederer, Army Col. Paul Haverstick said the paper does not have to submit a plan to close. Haverstick, acting director of the Pentagon's Defense Media Activity, said a formal memo is being drafted that will rescind the order to halt publication by Sept. 30, and dissolve the organization by the end of January. The email was obtained by The Associated Press.

"The memo will be provided once it is completed and properly vetted and approved within the Department," said Haverstick's email. "We are trying to get this completed by the weekend, but this timeline may shift based on vetting."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bob Reid, Adolphe Bernotas.

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## ***Behind Woodward's September surprise: White House aides saw a train wreck coming, then jumped aboard*** (Politico)

By NANCY COOK and ALEX THOMPSON

He offered lengthy meetings in the Oval Office and made phone calls at night from the White House — delivering Bob Woodward an unprecedented nine hours of access across 18 interviews.

Aides spent months fretting about President Donald Trump opening up to the famous Watergate journalist, fearing the consequences all the way through Wednesday's bombshell revelations.

Trump bulldozed through them all, believing he could charm the man who helped take down a president and chronicled half a dozen administrations over the past half-century.

Now, Trump's impulse may cost him as the interview transcripts and recordings are released this week, just under just eight weeks from Election Day and as some Americans start receiving mail-in ballots. The revelations in "Rage" have sent the Trump White House scrambling, with aides blaming one another for the predictable fallout from injecting even more chaos into an already challenging reelection race.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***How the New York Times editorial page got sued by Sarah Palin*** (Columbia Journalism Review)

By Bill Grueskin

IT WAS JUST BEFORE MIDNIGHT, ON JUNE 14, 2017, when James Bennet, then the New York Times' editorial page editor, sent an anxious text to a Washington colleague.

"Are you up? The right is coming after us..."

A few hours earlier, Bennet had rewritten that staffer's editorial about two political assassination attempts, and inserted serious errors in the process. Bennet was correct about one thing, though: The right wing was coming after him and the Times. And the counterattack wouldn't be limited to an angry Twitter mob.

Within days, the Times was sued by Sarah Palin, the former Alaska governor and vice-presidential candidate, who said she'd been defamed by the editorial incorrectly accusing her of inciting a violent shooting in Arizona. Highly public figures like Palin usually have a hard time mounting such suits. But late last month, U.S. District Judge Jed S. Rakoff decided that the suit could go to trial next February.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***A Mexican newspaper says a reporter slain, decapitated***

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A newspaper reporter in Mexico's Gulf coast state of Veracruz was murdered and decapitated, his paper reported Wednesday.

The newspaper El Mundo in the city of Cordoba said the body of reporter Julio Valdivia was found near his motorcycle on railroad tracks in the town of Motzorongo.

Valdivia, who covered a rural zone near the border with Oaxaca state that has long been plagued by gang violence, was at least the sixth journalist to be killed in Mexico this year.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac, Adolphe Bernotas.

## The Final Word

### *The Grief Americans No Longer Share* (The Atlantic)

By Garrett M. Graff

Few images of 9/11 are more haunting than those of the New York City hospitals that sat empty, ready for injured people who never came. Years later, Francine Kelly, the nurse manager at St. Vincent's Hospital in Lower Manhattan, remembered the scramble as everyone mobilized in that first hour after the attacks. "We converted our dialysis unit, our endoscopy unit, the rehab department—they were all converted to emergency rooms to triage what we thought and hoped was going to be hundreds and hundreds of people," she recalled in a 2009 oral history for the 9/11 Memorial and Museum.

As he rushed to Ground Zero that morning, Mayor Rudy Giuliani passed St. Vincent's and saw doctors and nurses in the streets, waiting with stretchers for a flood of ambulances. "My feeling about [the attack] escalated to It must be worse. They must know something that hasn't been conveyed to me about how bad this is," he remembered years later.

But by that afternoon, when NYPD Transit Officer Tracy Donahoo, injured in the collapse, sought treatment, she was struck by how eerily quiet the hospital was. "I expected so many people to be there, and [that] I'd be waiting a long time to see a doctor," she recalls. "The doctors were very nonchalant when they saw me. They were waiting for the real bodies to come, the real people, and there was nobody there to come." Instead, those haunting photos of empty hospital beds soon gave way to something else: the posters of the missing that plastered Lower Manhattan, each sheet of paper representing, as it aged through September, a family's dwindling hope for a loved one's return.

Now, as the solemn anniversary of the September 11, 2001, attacks arrives, the United States finds itself in the midst of another national tragedy—a rolling, day-after-day assault on our country that has so far has killed more than 60 times as many Americans as the attacks of 9/11.



Read more [here](#).

## Today in History - September 11, 2020



### By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Sept. 11, the 255th day of 2020. There are 111 days left in the year.

#### Today's Highlight in History:

On September 11, 2001, nearly 3,000 people were killed as 19 al-Qaida hijackers seized control of four jetliners, sending two of the planes into New York's World Trade Center, one into the Pentagon and the fourth into a field in western Pennsylvania.

#### On this date:

In 1777, during the American Revolution, forces under Gen. George Washington were defeated by the British in the Battle of Brandywine.

In 1789, Alexander Hamilton was appointed the first U.S. Secretary of the Treasury.

In 1814, an American fleet scored a decisive victory over the British in the Battle of Lake Champlain in the War of 1812.

In 1885, author D.H. Lawrence was born in Eastwood, Nottinghamshire, England.

In 1936, Boulder Dam (now Hoover Dam) began operation as President Franklin D. Roosevelt pressed a key in Washington to signal the startup of the dam's first hydroelectric generator.

In 1941, groundbreaking took place for the Pentagon. In a speech that drew accusations of anti-Semitism, Charles A. Lindbergh told an America First rally in Des Moines, Iowa, that “the British, the Jewish and the Roosevelt administration” were pushing the United States toward war.

In 1972, the troubled Munich Summer Olympics ended. Northern California’s Bay Area Rapid Transit system began operations.

In 1973, Chilean President Salvador Allende (ah-YEN’-day) died during a violent military coup.

In 2006, in a prime-time address, President George W. Bush invoked the memory of the victims of the 9/11 attacks as he staunchly defended the war in Iraq, though he acknowledged that Saddam Hussein was not responsible for the attacks.

In 2007, a new Osama bin Laden videotape was released on the sixth anniversary of 9/11; in it, the al-Qaida leader’s voice is heard commemorating one of the suicide hijackers and calling on young Muslims to follow his example by martyring themselves in attacks.

In 2008, presidential candidates John McCain and Barack Obama put aside politics as they visited ground zero together on the anniversary of 9/11 to honor its victims.

In 2012, a mob armed with guns and grenades launched a fiery nightlong attack on a U.S. diplomatic outpost and a CIA annex in Benghazi, Libya, killing U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

Ten years ago: Speaking at the Pentagon, President Barack Obama appealed to the nation to honor the memory of the September 11 victims by hewing to the values of diversity and tolerance. In New York, a morning ceremony of remembrance gave way to an afternoon of protests and counter-protests over a proposed Islamic center near ground zero. A gunman in rural eastern Kentucky killed five people before turning the shotgun on himself. Kim Clijsters won a second consecutive U.S. Open championship and third overall, easily beating Vera Zvonareva (zvahn-uh-RAY’-vuh) 6-2, 6-1. Actor Kevin McCarthy, 96, died in Hyannis, Massachusetts.

Five years ago: A crane collapsed onto the Grand Mosque in Mecca, killing 111 people ahead of the annual hajj pilgrimage. Former Texas Gov. Rick Perry ended his second bid for the Republican presidential nomination, becoming the first major candidate of the 2016 campaign to give up on the White House. Roberta Vinci stunned Serena Williams to end her Grand Slam bid in one of the greatest upsets in tennis history; the 43rd-ranked Italian won 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the U.S. Open semifinals.

One year ago: The Supreme Court allowed nationwide enforcement of a new Trump administration rule preventing most Central American migrants from seeking asylum in the United States; the policy was meant to deny asylum to anyone who passed

through another country on the way to the U.S. without seeking protection there. Oil tycoon T. Boone Pickens died at his Dallas home; he was 91.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Earl Holliman is 92. Comedian Tom Dreesen is 81. Movie director Brian De Palma is 80. Singer-actor-dancer Lola Falana is 78. Rock musician Mickey Hart (The Dead) is 77. Guitarist Leo Kottke is 75. Actor Phillip Alford is 72. Actor Amy Madigan is 70. Rock singer-musician Tommy Shaw (Styx) is 67. Sports reporter Lesley Visser is 67. Actor Reed Birney is 66. Former Homeland Security Secretary Jeh (Jay) Johnson is 63. Musician Jon Moss (Culture Club) is 63. Actor Scott Patterson is 62. Rock musician Mick Talbot (The Style Council) is 62. Actor/director Roxann Dawson is 62. Actor John Hawkes is 61. Actor Anne Ramsay is 60. Actor Virginia Madsen is 59. Actor Kristy McNichol is 58. Musician-composer Moby is 55. Syrian President Bashar al-Assad is 55. Business reporter Maria Bartiromo is 53. Singer Harry Connick Jr. is 53. Rock musician Bart Van Der Zeeuw is 52. Actor Taraji (tuh-RAH'-jee) P. Henson is 50. Actor Laura Wright is 50. Rock musician Jeremy Popoff (Lit) is 49. Blogger Markos Moulitsas is 49. Singer Brad Fischetti (LFO) is 45. Rapper Mr. Black is 43. Rock musician Jon Buckland (Coldplay) is 43. Rapper Ludacris is 43. Rock singer Ben Lee is 42. Actor Ryan Slattery is 42. Actor Ariana Richards is 41. Country singer Charles Kelley (Lady Antebellum) is 39. Actor Elizabeth Henstridge is 33. Actor Tyler Hoechlin (HEK'-lihn) is 33. Actor Mackenzie Aladjem is 19.

## 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**