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## Connecting

November 17, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020,

One of our 90-something Connecting colleagues, **Sister Donald Kehoe** ([Email](#)) of Dubuque, Iowa, wrote to tell me she will be off-line for a while:

*We have just been notified that as of Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, all Sisters in Clare House will be self isolated in their rooms. Meals will be brought to them on trays. For me, this means no e-mail access during this time. We have experienced two deaths from the virus in the last several days. So, your daily Connecting that I look forward to, will not be accessible for the time being. God help us extroverts. – Sister Donaldda.*

Here's a prayer that Sister Donaldda, our patron saint of those still using typewriters, and her friends will stay safe and free of covid. Want to drop her a note? She's at: Clare House, 3340 Windsor Avenue, Dubuque, IA 52001-1300.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

## *AP Images Spotlight:* **AP Photographer Jean-Jacques Levy**

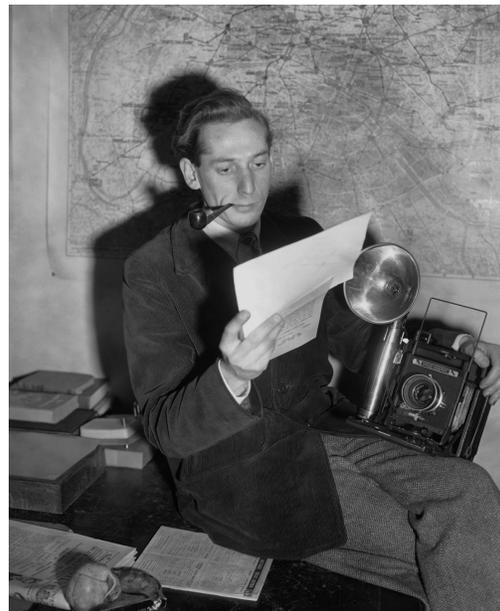


Jean-Jacques Levy, center, Associated Press staff photographer from the Paris bureau on temporary assignment, March 16, 1951, gets a ride up the Red River on a motor boat flying the French and Vietnamese flags. A soldier is at left with Jean Marie Juge,

correspondent of Agence France-Presse, at right. (AP Photo)

By Katherine O'Mara ([Email](#))

Jean-Jacques Levy worked for the Associated Press from 1945 into the 1980s. Based in Paris, but frequently travelling, he witnessed and captured many historic moments for the AP. Below is just a sample of the multitudes of photos he took during his career.



The following extracts are taken from “On the AP Newsphotos Front in Paris” by Michael O’Reilly Nash, published in AP World, Summer 1965.

“When World War II broke out Jean-Jacques, whose home was in Alsace, was a student. Forced to flee in 1943 to escape the Gestapo, he crossed the Pyrenees on foot in mid-winter and landed in a Spanish gaol. While there he learned Spanish through the wall from the man in the next cell, who in turn learned French from him. Finally, he wound up in the U.S. Air Force, and that’s where he got his photographic training.

He had come over from the U.S. Air Force photographic school in Astoria, Long island, N.Y., on the same boat with Henry Cassidy, then AP chief of bureau in Moscow. Cassidy brought Jean-Jacques around to the Paris bureau to see if we needed a good photographer – and we did.”

Read more [here](#).

*Connecting series:*

## Your experiences with receiving threats while on the job

### *Online Harassment: Strategies for Journalists’ Defense*

**Anita Snow** ([Email](#)) - Here's a follow up to my Connecting post of Monday. This free online seminar started Monday, but I think if people are interested in it they can still try to join.

Have you already registered for our new online course, "[Online Harassment: Strategies for Journalists' Defense](#)," taught by a team of female journalists? If so, congratulations! If not, I encourage you to register ASAP and take advantage of this important free training, which starts today!

This four-week course -- which is held by the Knight Center in partnership with the International Women's Media Foundation -- will teach you how to deal with one of the most serious threats facing journalists today: online harassment and trolling.

The course is geared toward female journalists but open to men and women in media who want to develop strategies for dealing with possible cases of online harassment, which unfortunately are becoming more frequent around the world. It's also relevant to newsroom managers who want to help their staff navigate issues of harassment and online trolling.

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## ***But, it was a member asking, Ralph, not me!***

**Hal Bock** ([Email](#)) - My story is not nearly as dramatic as some you've printed but at the time, it scared me.

Mike Harris' encounter with baseball manager Ralph Houk reminded me of my adventure with The Major when he managed the Yankees. Houk held that rank during WWII when people shot bullets at him. He was a tough guy and everybody knew it. I was just starting as a baseball writer for The AP. Part of the protocol for covering games was to call the desk to see if there were any special requests. That was the beginning of my problem.

Houk had come down from the front office to take the managing job of a team that was getting old and struggling. When I called the desk, I was told that a member in Springfield, Mass (Red Sox country) wanted Houk to explain how come he had not been able to revive the team. A loaded question and I was going to have to ask.

After the game, the writers gathered in Houk's office adjacent to the Yankees dressing room. I waited until all the regulars were done and were heading in to talk to the players. Then, as gently as I could, I introduced myself and explained that this question was from a member and I was just the messenger. Houk was puffing away on his cigar and not particularly interested in me. Then he heard my question. Uh-oh.

He jumped up and got right into my face. "What kind of f-----g question is that?" he yelled, moving closer.

I decided to retreat and Houk kept right after me, essentially chasing me into the Yankee dressing room, all the time yelling at me. Now he had the players' attention.

They were chuckling as Houk screamed at this young correspondent.

I made it out of the dressing room in one piece, shaken but otherwise OK. The next night, I was back at the ballpark, watching batting practice when Houk came up to me. I steeled myself for more abuse but he surprised me. "Hey kid, I'm sorry about last night," he said.

After that, we had a decent relationship, as long as I didn't ask any embarrassing questions.

## Connecting mailbox

### *Titans set to depart SJ-R*

**Dennis Conrad** ([Email](#)) - Bernie Schoenburg previously worked for The Associated Press in Chicago (1986-90) before moving on to the Springfield newspaper decades ago.

#### [A pair of heavyweights are leaving the State Journal-Register.](#)

Political writer and columnist Bernard Schoenburg and statehouse reporter Doug Finke have accepted buyouts and will be departing the paper on Dec. 1. Finke has worked at the SJ-R since the 1970s; Schoenburg's first byline appeared in the paper in 1990.

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### *Fewer of Less, please*

**Adolphe Bernotas** ([Email](#)) - Steve Graham: I too cringe at the clueless misuse of fewer vs. less (and English is not my native language, which the good sisters at St. Joseph's School taught us immigrants on how she is spoke and wrote).

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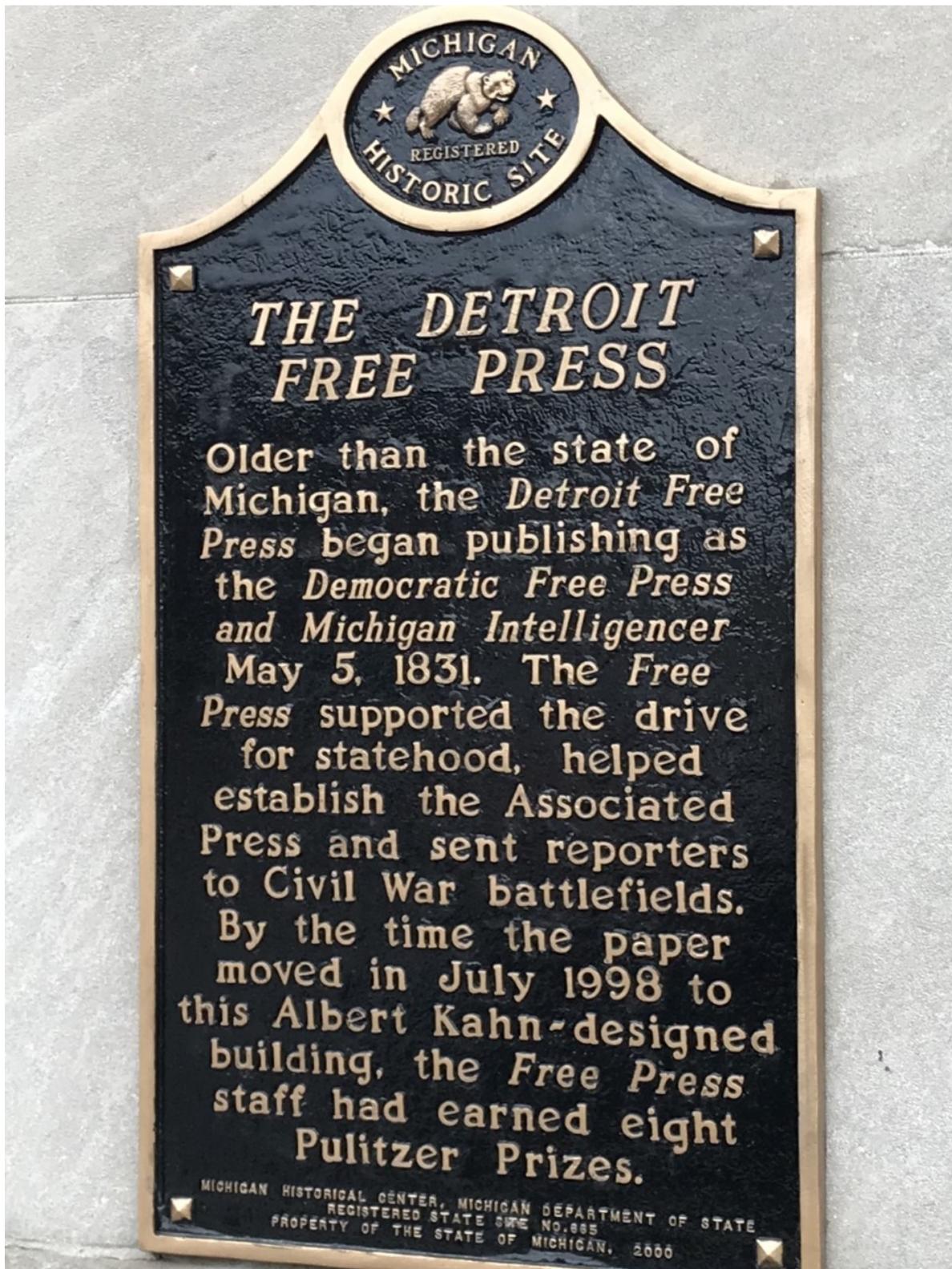
### *Happy 90<sup>th</sup> to Mark's mom*



**Mark Mittelstadt** ([Email](#)) - Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday to my mother, Marilyn Mittelstadt, as she observed a milestone trip around the sun Monday. The celebration actually has been going for the past month and a half when Mary and I, with son Matt and his family, made a 6-day visit in early October to Iowa. My sister Sara Messerly, her husband Curt Messerly, brother Chad Mittelstadt, his wife Julie Mittelstadt and their family joined to enjoy a socially distanced lunch at the Fort Dodge (Iowa) Community Orchard and then birthday cake at Sara and Curt's home on the Des Moines River. It was a wonderful way to honor a great mother, grandmother and great grandmother!

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***Detroit Free Press and AP***



Hank Ackerman ([Email](#)) - Plaque on Free Press-Detroit News on Fort Street. To my colleagues, please share photos of similar plaques.

**Best college town pizza war story ever written**

**Dan Sewell** ([Email](#)) – **Jon Gambrell** ([Email](#)), now AP's Gulf and Iran news director, recently reminded me of one the first times I worked with him. The story below was from January 2003, and possibly is the best college town pizza war story ever written (with some editing help from me).

At the time, I was Suburban Editor for The Cincinnati Enquirer and we had a relationship with Miami University in which students could intern (for free!) in exchange for college credit. It added to my own workload, but I had as many as five students working at once to expand our reporting reach.



Jon (pictured at right) stood out early. He met me for coffee before he started and said he wanted to work a lot. He was learning Spanish. He had aggressiveness and love for journalism that made me think he was a star in the making.

And he wanted to get to AP. For years afterward, and after I had returned to The AP in Cincinnati, I would get calls from hiring editors at newspapers because he listed me as a reference. As he gained experience, he applied for numerous AP jobs. Finally, he was hired in Little Rock, Arkansas.

I was glad for him and also glad I wouldn't have to keep taking time to do reference interviews for him.

Soon after, a package from Jon arrived at my office. I opened it to find a bottle of 12-year-old single malt Glenlivet Scotch.

My time investment had paid dividends!

P.S. Jon, Paul Alexander and I all attended Edgewood High School, several hundred students in a mostly rural area north of Cincinnati. We all three served as AP overseas correspondents.

## **Irked by LaRosa's sidewalk sales**







**By Jon Gambrell**  
**Enquirer contributor**

OXFORD - There's a spicy rivalry sizzling between a longtime Oxford pizzeria and a new LaRosa's franchise in the battle to lure hungry college students.

Bruno's Pizzeria owner Roger Perry said the conflict began when LaRosa's began selling pizza from two locations in Uptown Oxford - one at Stadium Nite Club, the other at The Varsity bar - back in November.

Mr. Perry called the police on his rival, and claims that LaRosa's violated a local ordinance by selling pizza from the sidewalk.

Oxford City Manager Jane Howington said a business can receive a sidewalk permit only if selling products made or sold in that store.

"You can't be in front of Hallmark selling pizza," she said.

After police were called, LaRosa's moved sales off the sidewalk, but continues to sell from within the two locations.

"They are finding a way to get around the law," complained Mr. Perry, who wasn't sure about his next move.

"It was an opportunity to put our product in front of students," LaRosa's franchise owner Tim Phalen said. "We are not getting the share of the student market, as we've wanted. We will; it just takes time."

Auggie Alfred, manager of the LaRosa's, said two employees are normally in place at Stadium on Friday and Saturday nights, from midnight to around 2:30 a.m.

"The bar lets out at 2:15 a.m. and that's when we do the majority of the business," Mr. Alfred said.

Mr. Phalen said LaRosa's had a catering contract with the two locations to supply pizza.

Mr. Alfred described the pizza rivalry as unique. "We've had drunken college students parade around our stand, professing their love for Bruno's."

Other than a brief encounter, Mr. Perry and the management of the LaRosa's haven't discussed the situation.

Holli Baker, executive director of Oxford's Chamber of Commerce, said both Bruno's Pizza and LaRosa's are members, but haven't asked for help in the dispute.

"We are aware there is (a problem), but they have left us out of it," she said.

Meanwhile, other companies such as Papa John's, Domino's, Pizza Hut and Donatos are also vying to cater to the roughly 16,000 students who attend Miami University.

Pizza industry consultant Dave Ostrander likens the business atmosphere in college towns to "guerrilla warfare."

"The demographic is perfect," Mr. Ostrander said. "It is popular, the price is right, it is available late at night and it is deliverable."

Miami University junior Ben Wagner, an education major, says he eats pizza once or twice a week.

"During the day, I eat at Pizza Hut, for the lunch buffet," he said. "At night, I eat Papa John's, because they deliver until 3 a.m. and the food is cheap."

Mr. Ostrander, who operated his own chain before becoming a consultant 12 years ago, said that on a college campus, one of the most important things for a pizza business is exposure among students.

"If you can get a slice to a couple of hundred students after the bars close and give them a discount while they're buzzed, you get high exposure," he said. "College students live on fixed incomes. If a student sees a slice (of pizza) 50 cents cheaper, they'll buy it."

For now, Oxford's pizza war is on hold for the winter break, but neither side plans to back down when students return.

"I think (Mr. Perry) sees this as LaRosa's is coming in to beat up the little guy," Mr. Phalen said. "But I'm a franchisee. Competition is tough and we're the newest party to the dance."

Mr. Perry, however, predicts that Bruno's will prevail.

**(CONNECTING EDITOR'S NOTE:** Gambrell worked as an Enquirer stringer through college, then got a job at The Bellingham Herald in Washington state. He joined The Associated Press in 2006 in Little Rock, Ark., under then-bureau chief Robert Shaw and then-news editor Kelly P. Kissel. Gambrell went on to be chief correspondent in

Nigeria, an editor on the Middle East Desk in Cairo and senior correspondent in Dubai. He became the AP's Gulf and Iran news director, responsible for text, photo and video coverage, in March 2019.

## After Trump, will the presidency recede a bit for Americans?



**FILE** - In this Oct. 27, 2020, file photo, supporters of President Donald Trump watch a video during a campaign event in Lansing, Mich. (Nicole Hester/Mlive.com/Ann Arbor News via AP, File)

**By TED ANTHONY**

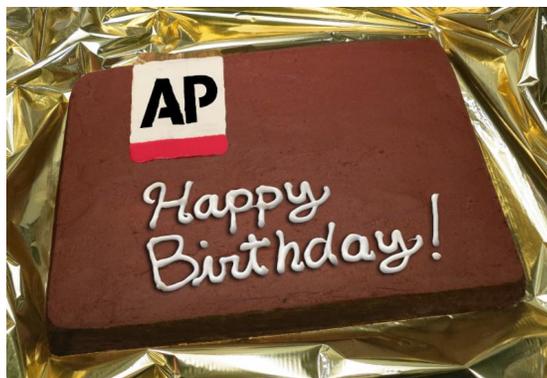
WASHINGTON (AP) — Calvin Coolidge, known by some as “Silent Cal” during his time in the White House, used his autobiography to live up to his nickname. “The words of a president,” he wrote in 1929 after leaving office, “have an enormous weight and ought not to be used indiscriminately.”

The world is very different now. Communication is instantaneous. Americans — even a president — are often measured by the quantity and volume of what is now called their “content.” Since he took office in 2017 (and for many years before that), Donald Trump has been a different kind of president when it comes to communication — a more-is-better kind of guy.

You can adore Trump or despise him. But from late-night tweet storms to oft-repeated untruths to provocative statements about everything from the kneeling of pro football players to canned beans to buying Greenland, there's one thing it has been almost impossible to do with the president of the United States these past four years: ignore him.

Read more [here](#).

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Robert Dobkin – [dobkinbob@gmail.com](mailto:dobkinbob@gmail.com)

## Story of interest

***Here are the newsroom layoffs, furloughs and closures caused by the coronavirus*** (Poynter)

By Kristen Hare

*This article was originally published on April 6, 2020, and has been frequently updated since. It was last updated on Nov. 16.*

It's getting hard to keep track of the bad news about the news right now. But we have to. Here's our attempt to collect the layoffs, furloughs, and closures caused by the coronavirus' critical blow to the economy and journalism in the United States. Please send tips. We'll try to keep up.

In most cases, these entries link to previously reported stories. In some cases, where there are no links, we're relying on tips to help show the full impact of this pandemic.

One more note: We haven't figured out a way to track the loss of work for freelancers, but please read more about how the pandemic has hurt their livelihoods here.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bob Daugherty.

## The Final Word

### *How older people can combat loneliness during coronavirus* (Which)

By Natalie Healey

During the coronavirus pandemic, we're advised to limit face to face contact with people we don't live with. This could lead to feelings of loneliness and isolation – particularly for older people who are at greater risk of becoming seriously ill with Covid-19.

Loneliness is already a huge problem for older people. Charity Age UK estimates that two million people in England over the age of 75 live alone. While more than one million say they can go for more than a month without speaking to a friend, neighbour or family member. Research suggests the effects of loneliness and isolation can be as harmful to health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

Feeling lonely can be very distressing, especially right now when the global situation may also be making you anxious.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Hilmi Toros.

## Today in History - Nov. 17, 2020



## By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 17, the 322nd day of 2020. There are 44 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 17, 1800, Congress held its first session in the partially completed U.S. Capitol building.

### On this date:

In 1558, Elizabeth I acceded to the English throne upon the death of her half-sister, Queen Mary, beginning a 44-year reign.

In 1869, the Suez Canal opened in Egypt.

In 1889, the Union Pacific Railroad Co. began direct, daily railroad service between Chicago and Portland, Oregon, as well as Chicago and San Francisco.

In 1911, the historically African-American fraternity Omega Psi Phi was founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

In 1917, French sculptor Auguste Rodin (roh-DAN') died in Meudon (meh-DON') at age 77.

In 1969, the first round of Strategic Arms Limitation Talks between the United States and the Soviet Union opened in Helsinki, Finland.

In 1970, the Soviet Union landed an unmanned, remote-controlled vehicle on the moon, the Lunokhod 1.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon told Associated Press managing editors in Orlando, Florida: "People have got to know whether or not their president is a crook. Well, I'm not a crook."

In 1979, Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini (ah-yah-TOH'-lah hoh-MAY'-nee) ordered the release of 13 Black and/or female American hostages being held at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

In 1997, 62 people, most of them foreign tourists, were killed when militants opened fire at the Temple of Hatshepsut (haht-shehp-SOOT') in Luxor, Egypt; the attackers, who also hacked their victims, were killed by police.

In 2003, Arnold Schwarzenegger was sworn in as the 38th governor of California.

In 2018, tribesman on the isolated island of North Sentinel, between India and Southeast Asia, were seen dragging and burying the body of American missionary John Allen Chau, who had reached the island the previous day despite a ban imposed by India's government.

Ten years ago: House Democrats elected Nancy Pelosi to remain as their leader despite massive party losses in midterm elections. Republicans voted to keep John Boehner (BAY'-nur) as their top House leader, making him speaker in the new Congress. A hand-count of votes affirmed the re-election of U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, the first Senate candidate in over 50 years to win a write-in campaign. The first Guantanamo detainee to face civilian trial, Ahmed Ghailani (guh-LAHN'-ee), was convicted by federal jury in New York on one charge of conspiracy, among over 280 counts related to 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Ghailani's native Tanzania. (He was later sentenced to life in prison.)

Five years ago: Republicans urged an immediate closure of America's borders to Syrian refugees, drawing angry denunciations from President Barack Obama and other Democrats and igniting an emotional debate about U.S. values in the wake of the deadly Paris terror attacks. Actor Charlie Sheen issued a statement in which he said he was HIV positive, but that thanks to a rigorous drug regimen, he was in good health. Joe Maddon won his third Manager of the Year award and Jeff Banister his first after each guided his team on a surprising run to the playoffs.

One year ago: Pushing back against accusations from President Donald Trump that the impeachment process had been stacked against him, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi told CBS that Trump was welcome to testify or answer questions in writing. Ahead of a Democratic presidential run, former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg apologized at a Black church for his longstanding support of the controversial "stop and frisk" police strategy, which he had continued to defend despite its disproportionate impact on people of color.

Today's Birthdays: Sen. James Inhofe (IHN'-hahf), R-Okla., is 86. Singer Gordon Lightfoot is 82. Singer-songwriter Bob Gaudio (GOW'-dee-oh) is 79. Movie director Martin Scorsese (skor-SEH'-see) is 78. Actor Lauren Hutton is 77. Actor-director Danny DeVito is 76. "Saturday Night Live" producer Lorne Michaels is 76. Movie director Roland Joffe is 75. Former Democratic National Chairman Howard Dean is 72. Former House Speaker John Boehner (BAY'-nur) is 71. Actor Stephen Root is 69. Rock musician Jim Babjak (The Smithereens) is 63. Actor Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio is 62. Actor William Moses is 61. Entertainer RuPaul is 60. Actor Dylan Walsh is 57. Former National Security Adviser Susan Rice is 56. Actor Sophie Marceau (mahr-SOH') is 54. Actor-model Daisy Fuentes is 54. Blues singer/musician Tab Benoit (behn-WAH') is 53. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ronnie DeVoe (New Edition; Bell Biv DeVoe) is 53. Rock musician Ben Wilson (Blues Traveler) is 53. Actor David Ramsey is 49. Actor Leonard Roberts is 48. Actor Leslie Bibb is 47. Actor Brandon Call is 44. Country singer Aaron Lines is 43. Actor Rachel McAdams is 42. Rock musician Isaac Hanson (Hanson) is 40. MLB outfielder Ryan Braun is 37. Actor Justin Cooper is 32. Musician Reid Perry (The Band Perry) is 32. Actor Raquel Castro is 26.



# 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.



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