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Connecting

December 04, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 4th day of December 2020,

Correctives and Christmas Tree stories highlight today's Connecting as your colleagues responded to their most memorable correctives and to the magical scene of the Christmas tree lighting in Rockefeller Center back when AP headquarters was at 50 Rock.

The death of **Betsy Wade**, the first woman to edit news copy at The New York Times, prompted a remembrance from **Linda Deutsch** and the interview she and AP colleague **Edie Lederer** did with Wade two years ago.

And our colleague **Carolyn Carlson** brings yet another wonderful **Terry Anderson** story – capping a week-long tribute to Terry that began with his profile in Monday's issue.

In today's Today in History:

In 1991, Associated Press correspondent Terry Anderson, the longest held of the Western hostages in Lebanon, was released after nearly seven years in captivity.

Here's to a great weekend – stay safe, be healthy!

Paul

Betsy Wade – a journalist rock star



Interviewing Betsy Wade - from left, Linda Deutsch, Betsy and Edie Lederer. (Photo courtesy of Nina Zacuto)

Linda Deutsch ([Email](#)) - One of the great women of American journalism, Betsy Wade, died Thursday. Two years ago at the JAWS convention, Edie Lederer and I conducted a memorable interview with Betsy. Her wit and wisdom were priceless.

Betsy was a strong supporter of the Journalism and Women Symposium and a loyal attendee at its annual gatherings known as “camp.” Ever since the demise of our dear friend and AP colleague Fran Lewine, Edie and I had conducted an interview with a journalism trailblazer at the annual event, paying tribute to Fran’s legacy. In 2017, with everyone arriving in Hot Springs, Ark., the woman who was scheduled to be

interviewed sent word on the evening before the program that she was sick and couldn't come. We were frantic. I said to Edie, "Is Betsy here? We need to get her." Just then, Betsy appeared in the hotel lobby and we grabbed her. She was reluctant to talk about herself, but we promised to make it easy. That night, I sat with Betsy for hours in my hotel room, reviewing questions I would ask her and doing a pre-interview. Edie joined us and we assured her it would just be a conversation among friends. She insisted we should talk about ourselves too. We didn't need to.

Once we got on stage before the gathering of more than 100 women, Betsy mesmerized everyone. She was such a star and her pungent wit punctuated all of her stories. She spoke about her early career and the long climb to be on equal footing with men.

Perhaps the most riveting story she told was about the Times' biggest scoop, the Pentagon Papers. Betsy was the editor who worked with the reporters, hiding out in a New York hotel room where they were reading the multi-volume study of the Vietnam War. When everyone had gone without sleep for days and the reporters needed a break, they appointed Betsy to stay with the papers, babysitting the treasure by herself over a tense weekend.

At the end of her presentation, she got a standing ovation and young reporters followed her around all weekend, treating her like a rock star. Everyone said her interview was the highlight of the gathering.

(Read the Times' story on her death in the lead item of Stories of Interest.)

Recalling memorable Correctives

Molly Gordy ([Email](#)) - My favorite corrective was a report filed directly onto the European wire that "Pope John Paul II consummated his first marriage as pontiff today." The word was corrected to "consecrated" before transmission to the world at large.

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Brian Friedman ([Email](#)) - Real or apocryphal? AP once ran a corrective on a Today in History that Caesar was stabbed, not shot. I've heard this for many years but wonder if it is true.

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Christopher Lehourites ([Email](#)) - Thankfully I wasn't involved, but this has to rank up there as one of the greatest ever ...

The obit ran in 2004. This corrective, I believe, in 2017.

NEW YORK — When the pop singer Laura Branigan died, The Associated Press, relying on information from her management company, reported in an obituary on Aug. 28, 2004, that she was 47 and had been born on July 3, 1957. After being contacted recently by one of Branigan's fans, the AP conducted a thorough review and established that she was actually 52 when she died. School records, newspaper articles written about her in the 1950s and 1960s, and testimonials from childhood friends all indicate she was born in 1952. She also is best described as having grown up in Armonk, not Brewster, as the AP's original obituary said.

The AP issued a correction on Dec. 16, 2016. Since then, the AP has identified other errors in the obituary:

Her hit song "Gloria" was on the U.S. pop chart for 36 weeks, not atop it for that long. Its peak position was No. 2, according to Billboard.com.

She was nominated for two Grammy Awards, not four.

The titles "Solitaire" and "How Am I Supposed to Live Without You" are songs, not albums. A reference to the latter song should have made clear she was not credited with co-writing it.

The full name of the school she attended is the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, not the Academy of Dramatic Arts.

She signed with Atlantic Records in 1979, not 1982, according to the record company.

A corrected version of the story is below:

Laura Branigan, 'Gloria' singer, dies at 52

NEW YORK — Laura Branigan, a Grammy-nominated pop singer best known for her 1982 platinum hit "Gloria," has died. She was 52.

Branigan died of a brain aneurysm Thursday in her sleep at her home in East Quogue, said her brother Mark Branigan. He said she had complained to a friend of a headache for about two weeks before she died, but had not sought medical attention.

"Gloria," a signature song from her debut album "Branigan," stayed on the pop charts for 36 weeks and earned her a Grammy nomination for best female pop vocalist, one of two nominations in her career.

She also made television appearances, including guest spots on "CHiPs," and in the films "Mugsy's Girls" and "Backstage."

Branigan released seven albums after her debut "Branigan." Other hit singles included "Solitaire," "Self Control" and "How Am I Supposed to Live Without You," for which Michael Bolton had a songwriting credit. Her songs also appeared on soundtracks for the films "Flashdance" and "Ghostbusters."

Branigan was born July 3, 1952, and grew up in Armonk, New York. She attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Manhattan. During the late 1970s, she toured Europe as a backing vocalist for Canadian singer and songwriter Leonard Cohen. She signed with Atlantic Records in 1979.

After her run of success in the 1980s, her releases in the early 1990s attracted little attention. In 1994, she sang a duet with David Hasselhoff called "I Believe" for the soundtrack of the television show "Baywatch." She released a 13-track "Best of Branigan" LP the next year.

After the death of her husband, Lawrence Kruteck, in 1996, Branigan stopped performing but returned to the stage in 2001. In 2002 she starred as Janis Joplin in the off-Broadway musical "Love, Janis," which earned her rave reviews.

Branigan recently had been working on material for a new release.

She is survived by her mother, two brothers and a sister. Funeral services were scheduled for Monday.

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Marty Steinberg ([Email](#)) - I loved Dave Zelio's item on the Hemlock Society mea culpa in Thursday's Connecting.

It brought to mind a lead I had thought of, but thankfully didn't use. It wouldn't have elicited a corrective but it might have drawn a load of hate mail because it was so tasteless.

It was about the obit of the avant-garde composer Gyorgy Ligeti, who died in 2006. His last name is pronounced LIG geh tee:

Ligeti splits.

Celebrating the lighting of the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree



Kathy Curran (Email) - After college graduation in 1966 I moved to New York City with my college friends. I had grown up in the country near a small town and attended a suburban college so was absolutely thrilled to not only be in a city, but in the Big City. Every New York experience we had ever heard or dreamed of was on our agenda.

Both of my roommates were nurses and on the night of the Christmas tree lighting they were working the evening shift. But I wasn't going to miss it so I wandered over alone.

People were gathering to watch in that walkway between 5th Avenue and the ice rink, the same area that the NBC commentators were broadcasting from last night. The crowd became very dense and just as the tree lights were about to go on, the person in front of me fainted. So I found myself kneeling on the ground trying to help a stranger, the tree and lights hidden from view by all the standing bodies around me, and I missed the flick of the switch.

I never had another opportunity to be present when the lights were turned on, but I have been in New York with (my husband) Tim many times, including during the Christmas season. So I have wonderful memories of enjoying that beautiful lighted tree accompanied by the best person I could ever ask for.

This picture of us with four granddaughters is not from Christmas but one of our many past happy visits to Rockefeller Center.

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Howard Goldberg (Email) - Photos in Connecting the past two days of the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree reminded me of the not-so-coveted assignment in the New York City bureau of covering the lighting and making images of the tree.

Getting through the crowds around AP headquarters was challenging, and that may have contributed to some staffers referring to the tree with a nickname too profane to mention here. About 10 years ago, the NY bureau chief prompted additional angst by admonishing photographers to be sure to get a horizontal photo of the towering tree, as Kathy Willens did so nicely in the image in Wednesday's Connecting. Part of my job as bureau chief was relaying requests and complaints from newspaper members. Those of us who designed newspaper pages back in the day might remember using a pencil to draw a big vertical rectangle to give the Christmas tree prominent play. But in the digital era, frontline editors were telling me they were forced to put all of their news service content into corporate web templates that accommodated only horizontal photos.

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Mike Harris (Email) - During my years as AP's auto racing writer I was always off the road in December and January. I would take whatever vacation time I had built up by that point and I also would volunteer each year to work in the office at 50 Rock around Christmas and New Years. I loved the energy of New York City at the holidays and it was good to get reacquainted with my colleagues in New York Sports

As a Jew, Christmas trees were not part of my heritage or traditions. But I got a big kick out of walking past the big Rockefeller Center tree each day on my way to and from work. There was just something majestic and heart-warming about it. And, sometimes, I would stand at the window and just admire the view of the tree and the skating rink and the mobs of people. It was so Currier & Ives. Hank Ackerman's photo in Thursday's Connecting made me a little nostalgic for those days.

After we moved from New Jersey to North Carolina in 1995, I no longer made it into the office for the holidays. But, thanks to NASCAR, I came back to the city the first week of each December for the awards festivities at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The tree lighting is always on the first Wednesday of the month and Judy and I got to see it a few times.

The most memorable time was the year we were invited to watch the lighting from an office in one of the high-rise buildings overlooking the plaza. As we walked through the dense crowd around the tree, I was the victim of a pickpocket for the one and only time in my life. The guy or gal was really good, getting my money clip out of the front pocket of my pants, under a long coat (unbuttoned at the time) and a sport coat without my feeling a thing except a slight bump, which I hardly noticed.

It was a bit upsetting, of course. But I still enjoyed the tree lighting.

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Construction workers waiting to receive their paychecks on Christmas Eve, 1931. They erected the tree spontaneously in gratitude for their jobs. Source: Rockefeller Center

Mark Mittelstadt ([Email](#)) - So many great memories shared the past couple days of Christmas at Rockefeller Center and being at 50 Rock for the tree lighting.

The lights, larger-than-life Rockefeller Center decorations, televised lighting concert and event, and the annual Christmas show at Radio City Music Hall brought hundreds of thousands of tourists to the famed complex in the middle of Manhattan. During the last weeks of the year it frequently was difficult to leave the AP building and navigate through the throngs to get to the train station. Turn right outside the front door and you were likely to photobomb snapshots of people visiting the tree. Turn left and you might run into camels or sheep being kept outside before being taken on stage at Radio City.

On the day of the tree lighting it was impossible to leave 50 Rock at street level starting at mid-afternoon due to barriers set up to hold the throngs of people gathering for the performances and activities hours later. Guards blocked the entrances. If you weren't staying for the tree lighting you learned to leave by 3 p.m. To get to subways or trains home you had to take the hallways and passages below the building to get out of the area.

But why leave when there were great, usually unofficial, in-house parties to attend? The executive editor's office on the corner of the fourth floor had the closest view of

the tree-lighting activities and many families watched from there. Jon Wolman would clear off his desk (a rare sight) and the vent housings around the outside of his office so little children could stand and watch what was happening below. Other gatherings were scattered throughout the building, some with better views of the whole tree and rink concourse. HR was one. Kelly Smith Tunney's CorpComm office was another and always had great food and drink.

A couple weeks ahead of the tree lighting the NBC affiliate, WNBC, would record a promotional video featuring its news talent and crews. Apparently it was not the most favorite task among employees. One year the promo was shot in front of the Prometheus statue on the lower level next to the ice skating rink. "We Need A Little Christmas" from the Broadway hit musical Mame blared over a speaker; the gathered anchors, reporters and technicians were supposed to sing along and move back and forth as the cameras rolled. The promo required several takes, in part due to the apparent stubbornness of lead anchor Chuck Scarborough. "Mr. Scarborough we need to have your lips moving," the director said through the PA after one take and heard in our fourth floor News offices. After the next run-through: "Mr. Scarborough, it would help if you could move a little bit."

There were a couple more takes as I recall and then it was a wrap.

Remembering joy and relief when Terry Anderson was freed

Carolyn Carlson ([Email](#)) - I was in the Atlanta AP bureau, as usual, in 1991, when I learned Terry Anderson had been released. I had not yet met Terry but I felt a very personal sense of joy and relief.

In the fall of 1986, AP President Lou Boccardi had accepted my invitation to be the keynote speaker at the national convention of the Society of Professional Journalists in Atlanta, which I was organizing and where I was running for SPJ national treasurer. The year before I had met with him and Wick Temple in New York and gotten their support, both financial and moral, for a five-year commitment to SPJ leadership ladder, to become only the second woman to preside over what was then a 25,000-member organization.

Boccardi gave a rousing speech on the First Amendment, put in a good word for my election and then spoke eloquently about the AP's concern for its Middle East correspondent Terry Anderson, who had not long been held hostage at that point.

After my election, I was swamped by a large group of campus SPJ members demanding that I help them "do something" about Terry Anderson. I realized that SPJ had not had an AP person as a national leader since then-Honolulu bureau chief Howard Graves was president about a decade earlier, so they looked to me to lead the charge.

That day I launched what became a five-year campaign within SPJ to “Free Terry Anderson.” We started with a Terry Anderson Day in early 1987, as soon as we could get it organized, when chapters across the country organized activities designed to make the public aware of Terry’s situation. They held candlelight vigils, taped flyers on telephone poles, dedicated radio hours, and published op-ed columns on his captivity.

We held multiple “Free Terry Anderson” Days and included tributes to Terry in the national convention programs. With each new influx of members, especially student members, we would educate them on the dangers journalists faced, with Terry’s hostage situation as a prime example. Anderson’s sister, Peggy Say, provided us with updates of efforts being made to free Terry, and we would use that information to revitalize our chapter activities to keep the public informed.

SPJ interest and activities continued until the day Terry was finally released. A little while after Terry returned, I wrote him a letter to tell him about the concern expressed by SPJ members over the years, and our relief about his safe return.

I invited him to Georgia to speak to SPJ members there and he obliged with an overnight visit. He spoke about his ordeal, and the power of the freedom of the press, to audiences at Georgia State University and the University of Georgia, as well as a large group pulled together by the Atlanta SPJ chapter and the Georgia First Amendment Foundation.

Terry was gracious and a real delight for me to finally meet and introduce to people who had put him in their prayers for so many years.

And as a retired educator myself, I really appreciate that he was eventually able to share his knowledge and experience with new generations of student journalists.

One of AP's happiest days



End of a Crisis

Free at last, Terry Anderson walked down the stairs from the airplane in Wiesbaden, Germany. Lou Boccardi was waiting on the tarmac. The two men embraced. "I'm awful sorry, boss," Anderson said.

"That was the first thing he said to me," Boccardi recalled of that day in December, 1991. "It told me that Terry was okay and that he knew what the AP had gone through, something of what we had done to try to end his captivity."

Anderson, the AP's chief Middle East correspondent, was kidnapped in Beirut on March 16, 1985, and held captive for six and a half years. Boccardi, the AP's new president then, had met with Anderson in Cairo a week before he was taken hostage and told him it might be best if he didn't return to Lebanon because of the growing kidnap danger. Anderson persuaded Lou that he'd be all right, that

even the extremists knew the vital role of the AP in telling the story of Lebanon. Boccardi relented, and regretted.

"Terry's captivity was by far the greatest personnel agony," Boccardi said, reflecting on his 18 years as president. "It never left me."

The AP tried every avenue, every step it could take to persuade or pressure Anderson's captors to free him. Nothing worked. "We went where we had to go, but it was just so frustrating, because we knew that most of what we were able to do wouldn't make a lot of difference," Boccardi said. The AP supported Anderson's family and backed the campaign of his sister, Peggy Say, to seek his release and to keep Americans from forgetting him.

But Lou and the people who worked with him in the Anderson effort (led by World Services executive Larry Heinzerling) knew that his safe return would come only when his captors decided that it served their own purposes to let him go. Only then did his ordeal and the anguish of the AP finally end.

Above: Terry Anderson receives a hug from AP President Louis D. Boccardi after arriving at New York's Kennedy Airport in 1991. Anderson, AP's chief Middle East correspondent, was released after six and a half years in captivity. (AP Photo/ Ed Bailey)

(Courtesy of AP Corporate Archives)

Honoring and remembering



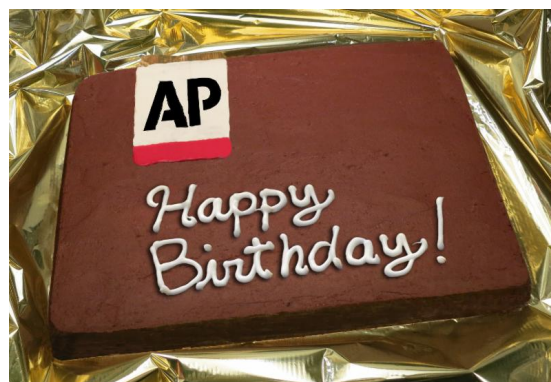
Hank Ackerman ([Email](#)) - Some 7,500 white flags planted in late November by parishioners on the lawn of Christ Church Episcopal of Grosse Pointe, MI, honoring and remembering the dead from the Covid-19 pandemic in Michigan.

Connecting sky shot – Beverly Beach



Lee Siegel ([Email](#)) - Beverly Beach, Oregon, with Cape Foulweather in the distance on the right. Dec. 2, 2020.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Elaine Hooker - enhooker@hotmail.com

Bill Winter - williamlwinter@yahoo.com

On Saturday to...

Paul Stevens - stevenspl@live.com

On Sunday to...

Richard Drew - rdrew@ap.org

Dennis Lawler - dmlawler@cox.net

Stories of interest

*Betsy Wade, First Woman to Edit News at The Times,
Dies at 91* (New York Times)



Betsy Wade in 1975 in The New York Times newsroom. When she landed at The Times in 1956, she broke a 105-year-old practice of male copy editing in the news

department.Credit...The New York Times**By Robert D. McFadden**

Betsy Wade, the first woman to edit news copy for The New York Times and the lead plaintiff in a landmark sex discrimination lawsuit against the newspaper on behalf of its female employees, died on Thursday at her home on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. She was 91.

Her death was confirmed by her husband, James Boylan, who said she had learned in 2017 that she had colon cancer.

In a 45-year Times career, Ms. Wade also became the first woman to lead the Newspaper Guild of New York, the largest local in the national journalism union (now known as the NewsGuild).

She was revered among peers for her role in the 1974 class-action suit against The Times, one of the industry's earliest fights over women's rights to equal treatment in hiring, promotion, pay and workplace protections under federal antidiscrimination laws.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen, Mark Mittelstadt, Larry Blasko.

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Coronavirus-Driven Downturn Hits Newspapers Hard as TV News Thrives (Pew)

BY MICHAEL BARTHEL, KATERINA EVA MATSA AND KIRSTEN WORDEN

The coronavirus outbreak has had a major impact on the U.S. economy, wiping out five years of growth in the second quarter of 2020.² The news media have responded to these financial pressures with new closings and layoffs, adding to those that have already occurred over the last several years – though the government's paycheck protection loans program may have provided some relief. But not all sectors, or organizations, have been affected equally.

Newspaper companies have been hit especially hard. Among the six publicly traded newspaper companies studied – major chains that own over 300 daily papers – advertising revenue fell by a median of 42% year over year (i.e., comparing the second quarter of 2020 with the second quarter of 2019).³ By contrast, total ad revenue across the three major cable news networks was steady overall, but there were sharp differences between the networks: While ad revenue for MSNBC and CNN declined by double digits, Fox News Channel's revenue rose by 41%.

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

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'Killing the journalist won't kill the story': reporters launch Mexico cartels project – video (Guardian)

Sixty journalists from 25 international media outlets have come together to pursue the stories of their murdered colleagues in Mexico, where 119 journalists have been killed since 2000, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists.

The Cartel Project is a series of investigations coordinated by Forbidden Stories, a network of investigative journalists in 18 countries, whose mission is to continue the work of reporters who are threatened, censored or killed.

The project will be launched simultaneously by the participating media outlets on 6 December 2020

Read more [here](#).

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Congress Passes Legislation Honoring Fallen Journalists

From Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation

Washington, D.C. (December 3, 2020) – The Fallen Journalists Memorial (FJM) Foundation today thanked the U.S. Senate for passing bipartisan legislation (H.R. 3465) to authorize the Foundation to establish a national memorial that honors reporters, editors, photographers and broadcasters who have lost their lives reporting the news.

The legislation, known as the Fallen Journalists Memorial Act, was passed by the House of Representatives on September 21, 2020 and is awaiting the President's signature. Sponsored by Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), Representative Grace Napolitano (D-CA), Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) and Representative Tom Cole (R-OK), the bipartisan legislation authorizes the Foundation to begin the process of designing and constructing the first memorial on public land that honors journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to America's commitment to a free press.

“On behalf of all journalists who put their lives on the line each day fulfilling their duty to deliver the news, I want to thank the Congressional sponsors for their support in shepherding the measure through the House and Senate,” stated FJM Foundation President Barbara Cochran. “Once completed, this memorial will demonstrate to our citizens and visitors from around the world that our country values a free press, honors the sacrifices of journalists, and supports the family, friends and colleagues of the fallen.”

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

Have You Sent Your Holiday Cards Yet? (New York Times)



A very 2020 Christmas card from Saucy Avocado.

By Debra Kamin

In late October, Megan Sim, 28, who owns an online greeting card shop called Saucy Avocado, noticed her average order size was bigger than usual.

Ms. Sim typically sells a card or two per customer in the run-up to the holidays. But this year, her coronavirus-themed greetings — featuring hazmat suits, Zoom references and wishful lines about vaccines — have been selling in bulk.

“A lot of my customers say they’re getting ready to ship cards out to all of their loved ones,” Ms. Sim said. “It’s sweet and heartbreaking at the same time.”

After months of curtailed travel and socializing, many people remain frustratingly distant from friends and family. Sixty-one percent of Americans changed their Thanksgiving plans this year, scaling back large gatherings or forgoing in-person dinners completely, according to a November survey by Axios-Ipsos.

An October survey by Enksy, an online crafts marketplace, found that 46 percent of respondents planned to send physical cards this season, with the number jumping to 62 percent for respondents who are avoiding in-person gatherings.

Card makers, like Hallmark and Paper Source, are reaping the benefits and reporting rising sales.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - Dec. 4, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Dec. 4, the 339th day of 2020. There are 27 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlights in History:

On Dec. 4, 1783, Gen. George Washington bade farewell to his Continental Army officers at Fraunces Tavern in New York.

On this date:

In 1875, William Marcy Tweed, the “Boss” of New York City’s Tammany Hall political organization, escaped from jail and fled the country.

In 1918, President Woodrow Wilson left Washington on a trip to France to attend the Versailles (vehr-SY’) Peace Conference.

In 1942, during World War II, U.S. bombers struck the Italian mainland for the first time with a raid on Naples. President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered the dismantling of the Works Progress Administration, which had been created to provide jobs during the Depression.

In 1956, Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins gathered for the first and only time for a jam session at Sun Records in Memphis.

In 1965, the United States launched Gemini 7 with Air Force Lt. Col. Frank Borman and Navy Cmdr. James A. Lovell aboard on a two-week mission. (While Gemini 7 was in orbit, its sister ship, Gemini 6A, was launched on Dec. 15 on a one-day mission; the two spacecraft were able to rendezvous within a foot of each other.)

In 1978, San Francisco got its first female mayor as City Supervisor Dianne Feinstein (FYN’-styn) was named to replace the assassinated George Moscone (mahs-KOH’-nee).

In 1980, the bodies of four American churchwomen slain in El Salvador two days earlier were unearthed. (Five Salvadoran national guardsmen were later convicted of murdering nuns Ita Ford, Maura Clarke and Dorothy Kazel, and lay worker Jean Donovan.)

In 1986, both houses of Congress moved to establish special committees to conduct their own investigations of the Iran-Contra affair.

In 1991, Associated Press correspondent Terry Anderson, the longest held of the Western hostages in Lebanon, was released after nearly seven years in captivity.

In 1992, President George H.W. Bush ordered American troops to lead a mercy mission to Somalia, threatening military action against warlords and gangs who were blocking food for starving millions.

In 2000, in a pair of legal setbacks for Al Gore, a Florida state judge refused to overturn George W. Bush’s certified victory in Florida and the U.S. Supreme Court set aside a ruling that had allowed manual recounts.

In 2018, long lines of people wound through the Capitol Rotunda to view the casket of former President George H.W. Bush; former Sen. Bob Dole steadied himself out of his wheelchair to salute his old friend and one-time rival.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama praised a newly sealed trade deal with South Korea as a landmark agreement that promised to boost the domestic auto industry and support tens of thousands of American jobs.

Five years ago: Germany stepped up its contribution to the fight against the Islamic State group, with lawmakers voting in favor of sending reconnaissance jets, a tanker plane and a frigate to provide broad noncombat support to the U.S.-led coalition. President Barack Obama signed legislation reviving the federal Export-Import Bank five months after Congress allowed it to expire. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that an outbreak of E. coli linked to the Mexican food chain Chipotle had expanded to nine states, with a total of 52 reported illnesses. Actor Robert Loggia, 85, died in Los Angeles.

One year ago: The House Judiciary Committee held its first hearing in the impeachment inquiry, with three leading legal scholars testifying that President Donald Trump's attempts to have Ukraine investigate Democratic rivals were grounds for impeachment; a fourth expert called by Republicans warned against rushing the process. Trump wrapped up a 52-hour trip to the NATO summit in London, where his personal and policy differences with alliance members were on stark display. A U.S. Navy sailor whose submarine was docked at Pearl Harbor shot three civilian shipyard workers, killing two of them, at the military base in Hawaii before taking his own life.

Today's Birthdays: Game show host Wink Martindale is 87. Pop singer Freddy Cannon is 84. Actor-producer Max Baer Jr. is 83. Actor Gemma Jones is 78. Rock musician Bob Mosley (Moby Grape) is 78. Singer-musician Chris Hillman is 76. Musician Terry Woods (The Pogues) is 73. Rock singer Southside Johnny Lyon is 72. Actor Jeff Bridges is 71. Rock musician Gary Rossington (Lynyrd Skynyrd; the Rossington Collins Band) is 69. Actor Patricia Wettig is 69. Actor Tony Todd is 66. Jazz singer Cassandra Wilson is 65. Country musician Brian Prout (Diamond Rio) is 65. Rock musician Bob Griffin (formerly with The BoDeans) is 61. Rock singer Vinnie Dombroski (Sponge) is 58. Actor Marisa Tomei is 56. Actor Chelsea Noble is 56. Actor-comedian Fred Armisen is 54. Rapper Jay-Z is 51. Actor Kevin Sussman is 50. Actor-model Tyra Banks is 47. Country singer Lila McCann is 39. Actor Lindsay Felton is 36. Actor Orlando Brown is 33. Actor Scarlett Estevez (TV: "Lucifer") is 13.

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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Visit our website