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Connecting

March 05 2021

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 5th day of March 2021,

We lead today's issue with a feature in Tablet Magazine on AP White House reporter **Zeke Miller**, president of the White House Correspondents Association.

Miller began work with AP In October 2017 after service at TIME, where he worked since 2013 as a political reporter covering the White House, national politics, and the 2016 presidential campaign. He previously was the first White House correspondent at BuzzFeed and covered the 2012 presidential election. Prior to that, he covered politics for Business Insider. A New York native, he graduated from Yale University where he was an editor and reporter at the Yale Daily News.

The list of your least-favorite jargon continues on with today's edition. One wonders, is it possible to speak or write anything that is jargon-free these days?

Our colleague **Norm Abelson** is in his 80s for one more week before he leaps into the Connecting 90s Club - an august group - and in today's edition, recounts some

highlights of his years with the AP. Great reading!

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

The President (of the White House Correspondents' Association) Speaks!

The AP's Zeke Miller is no stranger to political controversy and personal trauma



2017 photo by John Harrington

BY ARMIN ROSEN
Tablet Magazine

For most of its history the White House has been a nuclear reactor or an operating room; a contained and semi-occluded space in which processes of great power and mystery unfold. A tourist standing in Lafayette Park might squint at the pearly mansion behind the layers of high fence, which now threatens to become a permanent feature of the D.C. landscape, along with the standing army of National Guardsmen fanned across the federal district, and reasonably wonder: What do people even do in there?

In reality, tourists can no longer squint at the White House from Lafayette Park itself, which is blocked off by an escarpment of temporary barriers. Even the media must walk around the exclusion zone and enter the executive complex at 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. And after four years of Donald Trump and his Twitter account,

the inner workings of America's seat of presidential power also feel a lot less mysterious, and certainly less pristine.

From "the very beginning" of the Trump administration, explained Associated Press reporter and White House Correspondents' Association president Zeke Miller, the executive mansion under Donald Trump was a hive of "weaponized leaks between different factions that the president himself was somehow a player in and often complaining about." One benefit is that until about a month-and-a-half ago it was possible to log on to Twitter and get a pretty accurate primary source account of the administration's fault lines, something that "made our jobs, in a way, very easy, even if there were stressful and long hours."

The sources of anxiety for a White House reporter, and for the person who represents the White House press corps both to the administration and to the world at large, are changing in the Biden era. In early February, the Daily Beast reported that Biden administration officials were reaching out to reporters with the apparent aim of finding out what they planned on asking at press briefings. This raised concerns that officials were engaged in a process of "picking and choosing" which journalists to call on, as one unnamed reporter put it in a WHCA Zoom call, according to the Beast. (Miller's yearlong term as WHCA president ends this summer: "I give up the gavel this coming July 14th at 11:59 PM, and not a moment too soon," he seemed to half-joke.)

Read more [here](#).

His ties with Randy Picht go back to high school days on Long Island

Cliff Schiappa ([Email](#)) - It was great to read Randy Picht's profile in Thursday's Connecting, written with his delightful sense of humor that he displays in person as well.

Unbeknownst to both of us, Randy and I started working together in 1974. We were in different high schools freelancing for The Long Islander, a weekly newspaper founded by Walt Whitman that covered Huntington Township. Randy wrote sports and I made photos. The only thing I remember about him was my attempt to pronounce the last name on his byline (he may well have had the same conundrum with mine). But our paths never crossed because we would just drop off our photos or copy at the newspaper office then leave.

Fast forward to November 1977 and there is a note on the cafeteria bulletin board at the University of Missouri asking if anyone wanted to share a ride back to Long Island for Thanksgiving. Turns out it was posted by Randy, and I then discovered that my dorm room ceiling was his dorm room floor! So four Long Islanders from the J-School made the drive. It was Randy, Sheryl Goldberg who was in advertising, fellow photographer Charlie Cancellare (nephew of Pulitzer-winning photographer Frank Cancellare) and myself. We made the overnight 18-hour drive to spend three days with our families before zipping back to Columbia.

Randy and my careers seemed to orbit around each other, but only aligned for a couple years in Kansas City while he was doing his Markets gig. This I know for sure: AP and RJI have both benefited greatly from Randy's intelligence, sparkling personality, and resilience in an oft-changing industry. Now he just needs to convert his tennis game to pickleball!

And his ties to Randy go back to Sheryl Crow's courts in Missouri Bootheel



Thursday night doubles partners: from left, Steve Mirakian, Bob Keegan, Paul Stevens and Randy Picht.

Paul Stevens ([Email](#)) – I had never met Randy Picht before I hired him as St. Louis correspondent, but it was one of the best decisions I ever made – on professional and personal (and athletic) levels. He was Rochester correspondent at the time, 1989, and replaced Mark Peterson when Mark left the AP for a top editorial position with Ralph Ingersoll's startup St. Louis Sun.

Randy proved to be a great choice and he excelled in the job, and in all his future assignments with the AP before taking the position as executive director of the Reynolds Journalism Institute. But when he left Kansas City for Columbia, it cost me more than a friend who worked in the same office. It cost me a wonderful tennis partner.

In his St. Louis days, he and I would make membership visits into Southeast Missouri where St. Louis was the prime bureau for about 10 member newspapers. We'd make the trip over three days - and after dinners, with time on our hands, we'd repair to an

outdoor tennis court to hit the ball around. Randy was just taking up tennis at the time and I recall pretty much owning him – it helped that the courts were cracked and the outdoor lighting was not the best. One such court we played regularly was in singing superstar Sheryl Crow's hometown of Kennett, Mo.. She played tennis at Kennett High School and a few years after our travels, donated money to improve the courts. (I should note Kennett is our colleague Sally Stapleton's hometown and her dad, the late Jack Stapleton, was one of the members we called on.)

Randy was – and is – athletic and took to the game quickly and it wasn't long before he was matching my game – and OK, yeah, surpassing it though doing so in apologetic ways (liberal line calls favoring me, lots of compliments on even my weakest shots, ad nauseum). When he moved with Cathy and his family to Kansas City, he joined my Thursday night doubles group at a local indoor club and we had some good times on the court and dissecting our play over pretzels and a beer afterward.

(**EDITOR'S NOTE:** A later St. Louis correspondent, Jim Salter, who still holds the position, became my friend and Bootheel tennis partner and traveler - same courts, with the same results. He got too good for Ye Olde Editor. Sigh.)

More of your least-favorite jargon

Medice, cura te ipsum: Physician heal thyself.

While it's fun to poke fun at jargon, who are we (with our own jargon) to be casting asparagus when journalism cliches shamelessly fill front pages, the evening news and blogs?

Here are some:

- firefighters sifted ashes for clues
- full force
- full swing
- high gear
- sigh of relief
- shroud (or blanket) of secrecy
- concerned citizens
- closure
- disturbing details
- reeling
- swing into action
- phones rang off the hook
- switchboard lit up like a Christmas tree
- it looks like a war zone
- snail's pace
- hear a pin drop
- complete stranger
- peel back the onion
- scratch the surface
- full court press
- caution to the wind

- needle in a haystack
- tempers flared
- lucky to be alive

Sometimes the jargon of those we cover and reporter cliches bleed into each other (when we ape cops, legislators, bureaucrats, politicians):

- next of kin
- fled on foot
- abundance of caution
- meme
- paradigm
- trope
- cobble
- silly season
- outside the box
- push the envelope
- unfunded mandates
- ad valorem
- added bonus
- at this point in time (what's wrong with "now"?)
- piece of legislation (why not just "legislation"?)

(Adolphe Bernotas)

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Speaking of cliches, I believe it was President Nixon who blessed us with the abominable "at this point in time." (Hoyt Harwell)

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The Connecting conversations about loathsome business jargon brought to mind one of my [favorite stories](#) from my AP Biz days in the late '90s:

We all took turns scanning the never-ending press releases that (slooooooowly) came across our dot-matrix printer in those days. Just two years out of college, I was flummoxed by the jargon in those press releases and thought, "Is this how real grownups actually speak?!?!" I couldn't imagine talking about "mortality experiences" for a living.

In the twists and turns of my career since I left AP, I've grappled with jargon while writing about software (solutions), college fundraising (development), alcohol (progressive adult beverages) and even pro 'rasslin (sports entertainment). I'm not sure I have the bandwidth for any more pushback, but let me noodle that and circle back for some mindshare down the line.

(Eric Quinones)

Before there were smartphones

Mark Mittelstadt (Email) - Continuing my pandemic-supported de-cluttering I came across this AP calculator/calendar combo, buried deep in one of my AP file boxes. I'm wondering if anyone recalls when these were distributed and by whom.

A new battery and re-setting the date and time brought it back to life. Several generations removed from early Tandy calculators, it is slim and could easily fit in a suitcoat or pants pocket, a purse or a pouch inside a briefcase. By hitting a couple buttons it can tell the time in various cities around the world, including London, Paris, Cairo, Sydney.

This may have been a functional item to carry on a membership visit when agreements were done on paper. Or it could have been little more than a tchotchke given out at membership meetings or trade shows.



Now all of the functions and many, many more are incorporated into even the most basic smartphone.

My memorable AP times

Norm Abelson (Email) - As my 90th birthday rolls around, I've been looking back at some of the most memorable moments of my AP years, which began some seven decades ago. I never got to cover the earth-shaking big stories, still these are among those, for a variety of reasons, burnt into my memory.

Most uncomfortable. “Governor Rockefeller, the French press is out with a story claiming you are having an affair with Joan Crawford. Do you have any comment?” That was the question the New York desk ordered me to ask New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller when he arrived to deliver the main address at the opening of a major American art center at his beloved Dartmouth College.

With less than two years as an AP writer, I was nervous enough covering just the art center story. And it wasn't any help when AP veteran photographer J. Walter Greene kept expressing glee that this had turned into “a real story.” Anyway, Walter and I stood on the curb as the limo approached, and as the governor got out I popped the question. In return, I got a few grumbling obscenities from Rocky before I was pushed out of the way by his body man. Greene got his photos. I phoned in the story. Guess what part of the event got the most play. The gov had nothing more to say about the matter, but months later, in a wide-ranging interview, Ms. Crawford denied the affair, saying she and Rocky were good friends.

Scariest. Arthur Godfrey, in the 1950s probably the most well-known of American personalities, had come to a Boston hospital to have experimental, and potentially dangerous, knee and hip surgery. Since he had nixed any interviews with himself or his doctor, I, a lowly AP copy boy, was dispatched daily to pick up press bulletins. Unexpectedly, one day we were told that both Godfrey and his surgeon would talk to the press. Everyone on deck – except me – was a reporter. Panicked, I called the day editor, an old school tough guy, and he said words to this effect: “Dammit it kid, there's no reporters in the office. I'll send over a photographer. You cover it. Don't try to form a story, just phone me notes in order of importance. And don't waste any damn time.”

Borrowing a pencil and a few sheets of paper from a nurse, I followed the news crew up to Godfrey's celebrity suite. I didn't ask the great man any questions; I had enough trouble just scribbling some notes. The session over, I ran to a phone booth, read my stuff nervously – between being demeaned as “you dumb b----d” by said editor – got on the subway back to the office, wrote a long add to the lead, and returned not unhappily to my more mundane copy boy duties.

And, can you believe it – after all that angst and stress the editor didn't give me a byline

Favorite brite. This brief item was phoned in to me by a newspaper buddy who got it as a society item for his daily from a county correspondent. I took a chance, because I felt it was so humorous, and put it on the regional wire - word for word - exactly as I got it. To the best of my memory it went like this: “Mrs. John Jones, her sister, who is visiting from New York, and family were in the woods picking berries when they came upon a bear. All were surprised.”

Funniest quote. I heard one day that a man was about to celebrate his 100th birthday. I decided to do a phone interview. When I got around to asking him to what he attributed his longevity, I got this northern New Hampshire-type reply: “I'll tell you sonny, I just keep breathin.”

Saving grace from a general. A major hurricane, I believe it was Carol, was barreling her way through New Hampshire one summer night in 1954 when I got a call at home. It was the AP telling me to get to the State House to help cover the storm, one of the worst ever to ever strike the nation. When I arrived at the Executive Council chamber, hurricane central headquarters, it was like a scene from a disaster movie. There were maps covering the walls. Radio equipment was crackling everywhere. Phones were ringing off the hook. Flashbulbs flashed. News people seemed to outnumber state officials. And if you looked closely, you could see a collection of liquor bottles nestled in a corner.

The two stars of the event were outfitted in yellow oilcloth all-weather coats. Gov. Hugh Gregg, at 32 the nation's youngest chief executive, left no doubt he was in charge, and loving it. But clearly the co-star was Gen. Frank Merrill, who famously had led Merrill's Marauders, World War II Pacific theater jungle fighters. A New Hampshire man, Merrill had been appointed by Gregg as the state's highway commissioner.

In the midst of all of this, I got handed an exclusive. The son of an editor friend of mine who was a state communications director, told me the governor was about to

close down Route 3, the state's major highway, thus shutting off entry and exit. He said no one was yet aware of it. It didn't take me long to call the AP with the news. But just few minutes later, my embarrassed informant told me he had been mistaken. Oops! What to do?

Before calling in the bad news, I decided to ask the general what the real scoop was. I don't know whether it was from dipping into the liquor bottles or compassion for a young newsman obviously in distress (I was just a year into my AP tenure), but Merrill immediately convinced the governor to close Route 3 for an hour. Correction, or worse, averted.

Listen, I've never told this hurricane story to anyone before. Please keep it to yourself, O. K.?

Toughest interview. It was about three in the morning when a phone call awakened me. It was the city editor of a local daily with a tip. He said the info was exclusive. The cops had just told him they arrested a young man in his twenties who hours earlier had murdered his entire family – both parents and only two siblings. I told Dina what was going on, got dressed and headed for the Concord police station and jail.

The police weren't crazy about me interviewing the man, but eventually relented and led me to his cell. I can't recall my questions, but I remember clearly how calm and collected the man was, how willing he was to readily admit to and talk about the act. He had hidden with a rifle in the bushes at the State Hospital, a mental institution, where his dad worked as a psychiatrist, and where the family lived on-site. As the car pulled in, he stood up and fired into it, killing all four. Shortly after, he calmly gave himself up. The police filled in more details, showed me the rifle he had used, even handing it to me. I believe eventually the man was sent to a mental facility.

After calling in the story, I couldn't wait to return home to my family.

Strangest quote, never used. Gov. Wesley Powell was not a run-of-the-mill politician. A loner and ultra-conservative, he had bucked the Republican organization and won election. Early in his life he had been a traveling preacher and, according to him, sometimes rode a donkey in mountainous back-country.

On this occasion he had called in the press for a preview of a massive state re-organization plan he was unveiling the next day. In the middle of his recitation, he stood up, wandered to one of the huge windows framing his office, looked out – crossing his hands behind his back – and said softly: “I want this to be known as the administration of divine guidance.” Then he went silent, still staring out to the street.

I glanced over to my buddies, Jack, from United Press, and Frank, the New York Times New England correspondent; we shared incredulous looks. Soon Powell provided a few more statistics then declared the session over. We press guys met in a corner of the State House and agreed, unanimously, the strange utterance had been a private thought of the governor, and agreed not to use it. Did we do the right thing?

Most disheartening first act with a good finish. After nearly two years as a Boston copy boy, I was given the chance to write as part of the AP team covering the 1953 session of the Maine legislature. My first assignment was to flip through a huge pile of

proposed bills for the incoming lawmakers and do a piece on the most important ones. I labored mightily and handed the opus over to my editor, Bill Langzettel, a tough but fair taskmaster. Without saying a word, he blue-penciled and chopped out substantial chunks of my story and handed it to the puncher.

I figured my future as a journalist had just died aborning. But, later in the evening Bill wandered over to me and said, "Want to go out for some Chinese food? Don't worry kid, you'll make it."

Mixed feelings. It was my last day as an AP employee. It had been a tough decision, but after more than 13 years, I was leaving to become press secretary to a newly elected U. S. Senator in Washington. I had come to the wire service as a greener than grass copy boy. Thanks to the friendship, patience and instruction from a lot of great people, I felt I was ready for the next challenge. And it proved true. Whatever positions I took later in my career, my AP education was a prime reason for any success.

P. S. - I have to say after a few years of reading all the wonderful Connecting stories of folks who had long and meaningful AP careers, I wonder whether – all those years ago – I made the right decision.

Anna Jo Bratton named US Enterprise Editor



(AP Photo/Cheyenne Mumphrey)

NEW YORK (AP) — The Associated Press has named Anna Jo Bratton as U.S. Enterprise Editor on the news cooperative's Global Enterprise Team, where she will work with colleagues across the United States to produce high-impact journalism for the country and for international audiences.

In her new role, Bratton, 39, also will identify and help manage a portfolio of collaborations with AP customers and nonprofit news organizations in the U.S., seeking to produce unique stories that break news and amplify the strengths of participating organizations.

The appointment was announced Friday (Feb. 26) by Marjorie Miller, Global Enterprise Editor.

"Bratton is a creative and enthusiastic news leader who will help bring some of the AP's most ambitious work to our customers and news consumers," Miller said.

Bratton will work from Phoenix, where she has served as deputy director of newsgathering for the U.S. West, overseeing breaking news and enterprise across 13 states.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



David Lawrence - dlawrence@childreadiness.org

On Saturday to...

Wilson Ring - wring@ap.org

Bob Zaltsberg - bob.zaltsberg@gmail.com

On Sunday to...

Myron Belkind - myron.belkind@verizon.net

Gary Clark - clarkfay@hotmail.com

Michael Giarrusso - mgiarrusso@ap.org

Debbie Rusolo - drusolo@ap.org

Stories of interest

US demands Myanmar release detained journalists, protesters (AP)

By MATTHEW LEE

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Biden administration stepped up its condemnation of the coup in Myanmar on Thursday, demanding that military authorities stop their brutal crackdown on pro-democracy protesters and release demonstrators and journalists who have been detained.

The White House called the situation, including the arrest of an Associated Press journalist, “troubling” and of “great concern.” The State Department said it’s working with other countries to send a unified message to the military that its actions are unacceptable and will be met with consequences.

The U.S. has already imposed sanctions on Myanmar’s top military leaders since the Feb. 1 coup, but stepped up pressure after security forces killed as many as 38 people on Wednesday. The administration says it’s in close touch with partners and allies, as well as with countries like China, to try to convince Myanmar officials to ease their heavy-handed response to the protests.

“The detainment of journalists, the targeting of journalists and dissidents is certainly something that is of great concern to the president, to the secretary of state and to every member of our administration,” White House press secretary Jen Psaki said.

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

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Sinclair to lay off hundreds of employees, citing 'profound impact' pandemic has had on its business (CNN)

By OLIVER DARCY

(CNN Business) - Citing the coronavirus pandemic, the Sinclair Broadcast Group said on Wednesday that it will reduce its workforce by approximately 5%, amounting to hundreds of layoffs across the company.

"The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be felt across all sectors of the economy, something that can have a profound impact on a company as diversified as ours," a Sinclair spokesperson told CNN Business in a statement. "From local businesses and advertisers to distributors and partners, no component of our business's ecosystem has been fully shielded from the impact of the global pandemic."

"In response to this, we are currently undergoing enterprise-wide reductions across our workforce, including corporate headquarters, to ensure we are well-positioned for future success," the Sinclair spokesperson added.

Read more [here](#).

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In 'exceedingly rare' case, Iowa journalist faces charges from reporting on summer protests (USA Today)

By Ryan W. Miller

The trial of a Des Moines Register reporter who was arrested covering racial justice protests last summer is slated to begin next week in what experts said is a rare criminal prosecution of a journalist on assignment in the USA.

Andrea Sahouri faces charges of failure to disperse and interference with official acts and is set to stand trial starting Monday.

At least 126 journalists were arrested or detained in 2020, but only 13 still face charges, according to the U.S. Press Freedom Tracker. The group's managing editor, Kirstin McCudden, said it's "surprising and unknown" why Sahouri's charges remain.

Read more [here](#).

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AP Sports Editors announce 2020 writing winners

The Associated Press Sports Editors announced the results of its 2020 writing contests on Thursday. The APSE awards are generally considered to be the top awards for sports writing. The awards are broken into four divisions depending on circulation size. Awards are given out in a variety of categories, including column writing, features, beat writing, investigative, explanatory, video and projects.

In the category with the largest circulation news outlets, the top 10 columnists were the San Francisco Chronicle's Ann Killion, the Los Angeles Times' Bill Plaschke, The Undefeated's Jesse Washington, The New York Times' Kurt Streeter, the Detroit Free Press' Mitch Albom, The Athletic's Nicole Auerbach, The Washington Post's Sally

Jenkins, The Kansas City Star's Sam Mellinger, Yahoo Sports' Shalise Manza Young, and NJ Advance Media's Steve Politi.

Click [here](#) for the complete list of winners.

The Final Word

Carolyn Carlson ([Email](#)) - My friend, Bill Hendrix, a retiree from the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, started this list. I alphabetized it and we, plus all our friends and relatives on Facebook, have been adding to it for a few weeks. It just keeps growing.

My nephews say they can't hold a conversation anymore because so much of what they want to say are phrases listed here. So be it! (Which I just added to the list.) I added a few from the last couple of Connecting editions as well.

Obviously, we welcome contributions. You can send them to ccatlanta@bellsouth.net

GET OFF MY LAWN!

Irritating or meaningless words/phrases/cliches/pet peeves, used ad nauseam in media a conversation, in alphabetical order:

Absolutely (instead of just yes)	In the final analysis
Abundance of caution	It all depends on where they spot the l
Amazing (everything)	It goes without saying
Arguably	It is what it is
At the end of the day	Karen
At this point in time	LatinX
Awesome	Let me be clear
Bandwidth	Let's talk about
Baseless	Like (at the start or <u>actually anywhere</u>
Best practice	sentence)
Be that as it may	Literally (when they mean figuratively)
Blowback	Lock step
Bombshell	Look, or Listen, (at the start of a sente
By and large	Looking for closure
Cancel culture	Low hanging fruit
Circle back	Make no mistake
Completely destroyed	Mission critical
Day in and day out	Moving forward
Deep dive	My bad
Died after a battle with (whatever...)	Narrative
Don't get me started	Needless to say
Drill down	New normal, especially paired with
Early on	"unprecedented"
Elevator pitch	Notorious (when they mean famous)
Exclusive	Old school
False equivalency	On the ground
First and foremost	One hundred percent
Fluid situation	<u>Opened up about</u> ○
Folks	Outside the box
Foot speed	Overcoming adversity
Game changer	Planning ahead
Gaslight	Political cover
Giving 110 percent	Powerhouse roundtable
Glass ceiling	Practicable
Going forward	Pre-planning
Going off the rails	Presser (instead of press conference)
<u>Half mast</u> (instead of <u>half staff</u>)	Price point
Here's the thing	Proactive
Holistic	Problematic
Iconic	Raise the bar
If you will	Reach out
In and of itself	Resiliency (instead of resilient)
In any way, <u>shape</u> or form	Rife with peril

Sharing
 Skin in the game
 Slippery slope
 Snowflake
 So (in starting a sentence)
 So be it
 Speaking out
 Spot on
 Squeeze in a break
 Stakeholders
 Stealing all the oxygen
 Storytelling
 Take a listen
 Talk about ...
 That being said
 That's a lot to unpack
 The fact of the matter
 The whole nine yards
 Then and only then
 Think outside the box
 Thought leader

Thoughts and prayers
 Throw under the bus
 Time and time again
 To be honest
 Total devastation
 Touch base
 To your point
 Try and go (instead of try to
 '24/7
 You know
 Unpacking
 Unprecedented
 Very or extremely unique
Whataboutism
 Walk back
Well oiled machine
 Well said
 When all is said and done
 With no further ado
 Woke

Today in History - March 5, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, March 5, the 64th day of 2021. There are 301 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 5, 1953, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin died after three decades in power.

On this date:

In 1770, the Boston Massacre took place as British soldiers who'd been taunted by a crowd of colonists opened fire, killing five people.

In 1868, the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson began in the U.S. Senate, with Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase presiding. Johnson, the first U.S. president to be impeached, was accused of "high crimes and misdemeanors" stemming from his attempt to fire Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; the trial ended on May 26 with Johnson's acquittal.

In 1927, "The Adventure of Shoscombe Old Place," the last Sherlock Holmes story by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, was published in the U.S. in Liberty Magazine.

In 1933, in German parliamentary elections, the Nazi Party won 44 percent of the vote; the Nazis joined with a conservative nationalist party to gain a slender majority in the Reichstag.

In 1946, Winston Churchill delivered his "Iron Curtain" speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, in which he said: "From Stettin in the Baltic, to Trieste in the Adriatic, an 'iron curtain' has descended across the continent, allowing police governments to rule Eastern Europe."

In 1960, Elvis Presley was discharged from the U.S. Army.

In 1963, country music performers Patsy Cline, Cowboy Copas and Hawkshaw Hawkins died in the crash of their plane, a Piper Comanche, near Camden, Tennessee, along with pilot Randy Hughes (Cline's manager).

In 1977, President Jimmy Carter took questions from 42 telephone callers in 26 states on a network radio call-in program moderated by Walter Cronkite.

In 1982, comedian John Belushi was found dead of a drug overdose in a rented bungalow in Hollywood; he was 33.

In 1998, NASA scientists said enough water was frozen in the loose soil of the moon to support a lunar base and perhaps, one day, a human colony.

In 2003, in a blunt warning to the United States and Britain, the foreign ministers of France, Germany and Russia said they would block any attempt to get U.N. approval for war against Iraq.

In 2006, AT&T announced it was buying BellSouth Corp., a big step toward resurrecting the old Ma Bell telephone system.

Ten years ago: Egyptians turned their anger toward ousted President Hosni Mubarak's internal security apparatus, storming the agency's main headquarters and other offices. Alberto Granado, 88, who'd accompanied Ernesto "Che" Guevara on a journey of discovery across Latin America described in "The Motorcycle Diaries," died in Havana.

Five years ago: Bernie Sanders won Democratic caucuses in Kansas and Nebraska, while Hillary Clinton prevailed in Louisiana. Republican Ted Cruz won in Maine and

Kansas while Donald Trump was victorious in Louisiana and Kentucky. Ray Tomlinson, 74, inventor of person-to-person email, died in Lincoln, Massachusetts.

One year ago: Palestinian officials closed the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem over fears of the coronavirus. Officials ordered a cruise ship with 3,500 people aboard to stay back from the California coast until passengers and crew could be tested; a traveler from its previous voyage died of the coronavirus. Two weeks of wild swings in the stock market continued, with the Dow industrials falling 970 points, or 3.6 percent. The Senate passed and sent to the White House an \$8.3 billion measure to help tackle the virus outbreak. (The only senator to vote against it, Republican Rand Paul of Kentucky, would later become the first senator to test positive for the virus.) Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren ended her Democratic presidential campaign after failing to finish higher than third place in any of the 18 states that had voted so far.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Paul Sand is 89. Actor James B. Sikking is 87. Actor Dean Stockwell is 85. Actor Fred Williamson is 83. Actor Samantha Eggar is 82. Actor Michael Warren is 75. Actor Eddie Hodges is 74. Singer Eddy Grant is 73. Rock musician Alan Clark (Dire Straits) is 69. Actor-comedian Marsha Warfield is 67. Magician Penn Jillette is 66. Actor Adriana Barraza is 65. Actor Talia Balsam is 62. Rock singers Charlie and Craig Reid (The Proclaimers) are 59. Pro Football Hall of Famer Michael Irvin is 55. Actor Paul Blackthorne is 52. Rock musician John Frusciante (froo-SHAN'-tee) is 51. Singer Rome is 51. Actor Kevin Connolly is 47. Actor Eva Mendes is 47. Actor Jill Ritchie is 47. Actor Jolene Blalock is 46. Model Niki Taylor is 46. Actor Kimberly McCullough is 43. Actor Karolina Wydra is 40. Singer-songwriter Amanda Shires is 39. Actor Dominique McElligott is 35. Actor Sterling Knight is 32. Actor Jake Lloyd is 32. Actor Micah Fowler is 23.

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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