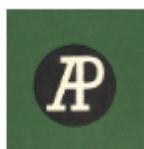


SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

[View as Webpage](#)



Connecting April 09, 2021

Click [here](#) for sound of the Teletype



[Top AP News](#)
[Top AP Photos](#)

[Connecting Archive](#)
[AP Emergency Relief Fund](#)
[AP Books](#)

Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 9th day of April 2021,

Blair Godbout touched many lives in his 24-year career as a photo editor in the AP's Los Angeles bureau.

And when Alzheimer's disease led to his early retirement in 2013, he and his wife **Sheri Malone** continued to impact many by taking part in fundraising events to battle the disease.

We sadly bring news of his death.

Our colleague **John Rogers** - recently retired from the LA bureau - writes about Blair and his career as our lead story in today's Connecting. It is a remarkable tribute. If you would like to share a memory of Blair, please send it along. Sheri can be reached at kitpaws3@aol.com if you'd like to send a note.

Scoops and foul balls and broadcast editors meetings and garage bands are all covered in today's issue.

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

Blair Godbout, veteran AP photo editor, remembered as friend to all, dies at 66



Sheri Malone holds hands with her husband Blair Godbout in October 2020 with about 20 of their friends in Sonora, Calif., to raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease. Photo/Alex MacLean, Union Democrat, Sonora.

By JOHN ROGERS ([Email](#))

Blair Godbout, a veteran Associated Press photo editor whose calm demeanor, attention to detail and warm, outgoing personality made him instant friends with arguably everyone he crossed paths with in a business in which the rush to be first can often be tense and competitive, has died at age 66.

Godbout died March 19 at his rural home in Sonora, California, with his wife, Sheri Malone, at his side. The couple had moved to the historic Sierra Nevada Gold Rush town after Godbout took early retirement in 2013 upon being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

Although he rarely touched a camera or computer after his diagnosis, he continued to lead a full life until recent months, his wife said, traveling with her to Africa, South

America, the Amazon and across the United States during those retirement years.

He paid a poignant visit to the AP's Los Angeles bureau on New Year's Eve 2019 to say goodbye to old friends and colleagues, and although the disease had clearly begun to take its toll, he recognized and reminisced with many of them.

"He had a wonderful life," his wife said. "For the past eight years we did whatever we wanted to do, parties, hiking, traveling, camping."

As recently as last fall he'd taken part in a local walk to raise money for Alzheimer's research, something he did often. Other activities included playing all styles of music on his beloved conga drums, working out on boxing's heavy bags and speed bags and paying frequent visits to the gym as part of a regimen aimed at holding Alzheimer's at bay for as long as he could.

Until his retirement, Godbout was a fixture on the AP's Los Angeles photo desk, and often in the field, filing photos from events like the Grammys, Oscars, Emmys and other awards shows, as well as sports events, crime scenes and other sites of breaking news.



"I remember he had his Dolce tux, and every year we'd go to the Oscars, Golden Globes, Emmys, one after another. And he was a fixture at all those events," Tracy Gitnick, a former AP news editor for photos who was Godbout's boss most of those years, recalled recently.

But more than that, Gitnick said, he was also a friend to everybody he met, a valuable trait in dealing with sometimes wary news sources.

"He was able to disarm people with kindness," she recalled.

Indeed, with a handshake, a pat on the back and a warm greeting of, "Hey, brother," every time he saw someone, whether it was a celebrity, a publicist or a police officer, the connection he made with people was immediate, and it often helped the AP gain photo access to crime scenes, courtrooms and other areas where authorities might otherwise turn photographers away.

Meanwhile, when it came to getting photographers to the site of breaking news his knowledge of Los Angeles sometimes served better than a GPS in finding back ways in or around police roadblocks and other obstacles. He'd deliver those directions to

photographers in a booming voice that, while never angry, was a constant reminder that they'd better get there first and come away with the best photos for him to put on the wire.

He'd sometimes use a similar tough-love approach in setting up photo shoots with celebrities, telling them or their representatives that AP didn't use staged, hand-out photos and it didn't matter how big a bigshot the photo subject was, he or she just might not have a photo accompany their story if they wouldn't meet with an AP photographer.

Blair Jason Godbout was born Nov. 7, 1954, in San Jose, California, where he would go on to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in photojournalism from San Jose State University in 1978.

After working for various news outlets in Colorado, he returned to his native California in 1989 to join the AP's Los Angeles bureau. He would spend the rest of his career there. (Photo at right from mid-1990s when he was part of AP's Oscar team.)

During those years he'd gain a reputation both as a mentor to young photographers and the host of an annual party at his home, which would always feature the music-obsessed Godbout's favorite tunes.



Among the many people he trained was Stephanie Mullen, AP's current director for storytelling and photography for the western United States.

Having come from a background in sports photography, Mullen said, it was left to Godbout to teach her everything about breaking news photography from what was important to what wasn't, as well as how to sensitively handle photos that sometimes displayed gore and violence.

"The root of Blair was just confidence and amazing news judgment," Mullen said. "He taught me so much about news instincts and judging the competing priorities and just the stuff that would make somebody a really good photo editor in a city the size of Los Angeles."

Award-winning AP photographer Mark Terrill credited him with shepherding Terrill along a path that led him from freelance photographer to full-time employee.

"He's largely responsible for a lot of the work that I got as a freelancer, which helped me transition into being a full-time staffer, and I've always thanked him for that," Terrill said.

Terrill also recalled the time Godbout took a sick call from a fellow photo editor and, worrying that something about the call just didn't sound right, dropped by the man's house on his way home. He found him in the throes of a heart attack and got him to the hospital.

"Blair probably saved his life," Terrill said.

In addition to his wife, Godbout is survived by a daughter, Felicia Lied, and brothers Mark and Craig.

The family is planning a Zoom memorial for May 2.

Receiving rewards for a scoop



On the papal plane and greeted by Pope John Paul II: Samuel Koo and Washington Post correspondent Robin Wright are shown in the photo.

Samuel Koo ([Email](#)) - About 4:30 pm, Wednesday May 13, 1981, two days before our 10th wedding anniversary.

Driving my Fiat 131, I was approaching Piazza di Spagna just below the Spanish Steps when I saw my wife, Myung, and her visiting younger sister, violinist Kyung-Wha Chung, waving and screaming toward me. At their insistence, I had agreed to meet them at a fancy orreficeria (goldsmith) just a block from the Piazza to try out a special anniversary ring they wanted to get for me.

"Pope is shot! Oh my God, Pope is shot.

"St. Peter's. St. Peter's!

Just heard on Radio."

I dashed to St. Peter's Square, 2.5 kilometers (1.5 miles) away. Hundreds of faithful, many of them Americans, were still crying and praying in threes and fours. They had just witnessed an would-be assassin (Mehmet Ali Agca) fire a pistol at John Paul standing on his white Popemobile (a converted jeep) as it moved slowly through the clusters of people seeking his blessing at his weekly general audience in the square. With my tape recorder running, I interviewed at least 7-8 people.

Then I ran to the Vatican press office, scant 50 yards away, and called AP Radio in Washington. "Hey, guys, super urgent." As my tape was feeding onto the APR line, I called the Rome bureau and dictated my account to Vic Simpson, the news editor. The Bulletin series had already gone out.

Later, I learned I was way ahead with on-site "actuality." A nice note and a check from APR arrived two weeks later.



On the way to a rescheduled anniversary dinner, we dropped by the orficeria to pick up the artisan crafted gold/silver ring (photo), which I still wear 40 years later. We did not negotiate the price down as was the custom then. I actually added a tip for his foresight of having the radio on.

-0-

Hal Spencer (Email) - I enjoyed Tom Kent's musings in Thursday's Connecting. He asks how good work was rewarded. For me, nothing beat the clattering printer the next morning showing my budget story got wide play and, of course, killed UPI. Way more satisfying than mere money.

-0-

Bill McCloskey (Email) - It was before my AP days, but I was news director at WASH-FM in Washington, D.C., when two prisoners at the central cell block downtown got a gun smuggled to them and took hostages. WASH Anchor John Holliman, who became APRadio Agriculture Editor before his illustrious career at CNN, was the mid-day newscaster and first reported the event. Resourcefully, he went to the phone book and looked up U.S. Government/Courts/Cellblock and found a number and dialed it. It was busy. I sent John down to the courthouse and started dialing the number myself between newscasts. APR and CNN veteran Candy Crowley was part of our news team that day.

We kept dialing that number. Eventually we got an answer. I asked if the crisis (did I say crisis? - that's a different Connecting thread) was over. "This is Bobby Jones," the voice said. "I'm in control here."

Turns out we had the bad guys on the phone and kept them there for 105 hours. Ed Tobias, another eventual APRadio assistant managing editor carried on when John, Candy, and I went home to sleep a little bit.

TV crews with their bulky equipment crowded our tiny newsroom. We fed tape of our conversations with the hostages and their captors to other stations and networks with the only proviso that they credited WASH-FM. All complied, except for The CBS Evening News with Walter Cronkite that on the first night called us "a local radio station." We no longer allowed CBS to use our tape.

Other networks, I specifically recall Mutual Radio and UPI Audio paid us for every clip they used. Maybe we accumulated \$500 in small checks I believe we spent the proceeds at a bar, but for the non-drinkers, I'm sure the bar also sold us some food.

By the way, the only other reporters that actually used a phone book to look up the number of the 6-button Call Director phone we dialed in to were from The Washington Post. Why our radio and TV (and dare I say wire service) competitors ever figured out looking into the phone book was a mystery.

In addition to the cash, the WASH team won several local and national awards from Chesapeake Broadcast Association and others.

Keeping an eye out for foul balls

Hal Bock (Email) - I was covering a game between the Mets and Phillies at Shea Stadium. It was the top of the ninth inning with Joe Morgan at bat and me bent over my typewriter (remember typewriters?) when Morgan fouled a ball back into the open pressbox or rather, into my right cheek. I never saw it coming because I was busy writing. The ball glanced off my cheek an inch or so from my eye. Instead of checking on my well-being, other writers raced to recover the ball as a souvenir. Tough business, this sports writing.

-0-

Paul Bowker (Email) - It was a summer night at Fenway Park, back in 1980-something. All the front windows to the press box were open. And in the old Fenway with the old Fenway press box, that's an invitation for trouble. Foul balls flew back there like missiles. I was safely tucked into the second or third row, thank you. But somewhere around the fifth inning, after an hour of two of writing the obligatory Red Sox notebook and sidebars and whatever else, a foul ball flew back, through the window and smashed the small display area of a Radio Shack TRS-80 being used by a Boston paper's writer. First came the laughter throughout the press box, certainly from the competition. Then came the reality. Game over. No durable laptops in those days. No flash drives. Two innings later, a clerk from the downtown paper delivered another TRS-80 to said reporter. He began typing immediately. Yikes.

-0-

George Bridges - I think I've been hit by the ball in each of the sports I covered regularly. While baseballs are the biggest concern, the most dangerous spot is photographing basketball. You are sitting crosslegged with fans' knees pressing in your back and a 7-foot, 285-pound guy is falling -- there is nowhere to go.

-0-

Mike Mcphee (Email) - No ball stories, but covering pro boxing at ringside has its unique problems, such as blood, spit and sweat from the boxers falling onto my keyboard. My first time, covering Marvin Hagler in Boston, I sat next to the sports writer for the Herald-American, who had a roll of paper towels with him. He was kind enough to share some with me. I was appalled by the "coverage" of my keyboard.

More on annual broadcast meetings

Joni Beall (Email) - Oh how I loved the Broadcast Editors meetings, even after I moved from Broadcast Editor in Richmond, VA to the BNC. First, I got to meet Diana Heidgerd -- we shared our love of laughing loud and crazy times. I remember crowding into a cab and Diana singing "Addicted to Love" all the way to a restaurant. I remember going to RT's restaurant in Arlandria where there was a nearby storefront church. The church's door was open and a service was going on and Jeff Baenen wanted to do flips down the aisle a la Blues Brothers. I remember that we ran up such a huge tab at Portofino's in Crystal City that Ed Tobias called me into his office that next day to say, "What the hell!" I told him I paid my tab because I wasn't a state Broadcast Editor expensing meals. And, I remember tapping all those Broadcast Editors when something was happening in their states. Happy Memories. Good Times.

-0-

Michael Weinfeld (Email) - I enjoyed reading Jim Bagby's memories of the AP National Broadcast Editors meetings in DC and how well they were treated by everyone at the BNC.

Now, I'm going to turn the tables on Jim and express how thankful I was to be treated so well by him when he invited me to be a guest speaker at two Missouri and Kansas AP Broadcast Association joint state meetings that were held in KC (thanks to Jim for reminding me of that extremely long title of the conference.)

I was asked to speak about my experiences as AP Broadcast Entertainment Editor. An easy topic you'd think, but I was used to hiding behind a microphone, not speaking in front of dozens of broadcasters, radio and TV news directors and other guests. I didn't know how they'd react to my stories about interviewing celebrities, as I remembered all too well how many hard news people didn't appreciate the AP covering such "fluff."

But I think Jim's warm welcome persuaded the audience to give me a chance and the speeches turned out well. The crowd especially enjoyed the interview outtakes I

played them of celebrities' uncensored comments that could never make it on air.

Jim's hospitality continued after the speech when he treated all of us to a Kansas City steak dinner and a Royals game. And before leaving the next day, Jim gave me a bottle of KC's best BBQ sauce and a photo of all of us (which I wish I still had.)

My next invitation to speak at the same conference was no longer frightening and just as much fun, thanks again to Jim.



Five AP Broadcast Editors attended a recent APBA Committee meeting in New York. Left to right, John Dingman, Boston; Grant Lamos, Kansas City; Carol Deegan, New Orleans, since transferred to New York; Tom Harrigan, Minneapolis; and Dennis Sorensen, Chicago.

1973 photo courtesy AP Corporate Archives

Garage bands – and a folk trio



Hard Ain't it Hard sings the Dick Weber Trio, popular University of Wisconsin folk singing group. The Trio will perform for Hilldale Shopping customers October 17 thru 19 as part of the Center's First Birthday Celebration. Trio members are (left to right) Mike Harris, Dick Weber and Meryl Aronin.

Mike Harris ([Email](#)) - I never played in a garage band, but I did play and sing in a folk trio during my college years at Wisconsin. We were called the Dick Weber Folk Trio and we played at fraternity and sorority houses (during the rock bands' breaks), at the Hillel House on the Wisconsin campus, at several other UW campuses around the state and even at the opening of a mall in Madison. I still remember the strange looks we got as we played and sang "Hard, Ain't It Hard" while riding an escalator up to the

second floor of the mall. I was the lead singer and, thankfully, a lot better at that than playing guitar. The leader of the trio, Dick Weber, could play anything with strings and the third member, boyhood friend Meryl Aronin, played the guitar decently. Both the other guys had good voices and we blended well. I paid for my last two years of school with the money I made from playing with the trio. We broke up when Dick was accepted into Med School.

-0-



Members of Sun (circa 1971) from left: Kathy Wickwire, Mark Mittelstadt, Cathy Davidson, Courtright Hawley III and Marcia Robson. And the Blue Max poster - Twin bill: come for the spaghetti, stay for the music. And a "big glass" of Ripple!

Mark Mittelstadt ([Email](#)) - In his column on "garage bands" for his hometown newspaper and linked in Tuesday's Connecting, Paul Stevens mentioned Sun, a group which performed in the Midwest in the early to mid 1970s.

Sun rose when three girls known around Fort Dodge, Iowa, for acoustic folk music decided they wanted to tour and added a bass guitarist and a drummer, me. We practiced in the breezeway of the home of one of the girls' parents and mostly performed on weekends in bars and nightclubs in northwestern Iowa. We

ANNOUNCING

THE BLUE MAX

SPAGHETTI AND RIPPLE FACTORY

Every Mon.-Tues.-Wed. 5:30 P.M. to 10 P.M.

A heaping bowl of spaghetti, meat balls, French bread and butter, celery & radish garnish, and a big glass of Ripple.
(Milk, Tea, Soft Drinks may be substituted, if you desire.) **Only \$1.25**

THE BLUE MAX, Des Moines only nightclub with 2 singing groups every night!



OUR GLASS
3 Big Shows
9:30, 11:15, 12:45



SUN
Cocktail Show
5:30 'til 6:30
Regular Show 10:30

CONTINUOUS ENTERTAINMENT 9:30 'til 12:30 P.M.

HEY, 19 & 20 YEAR OLDS — You don't have to wait!
Come in now for our first set — Have a soft drink and enjoy The Blue Max.

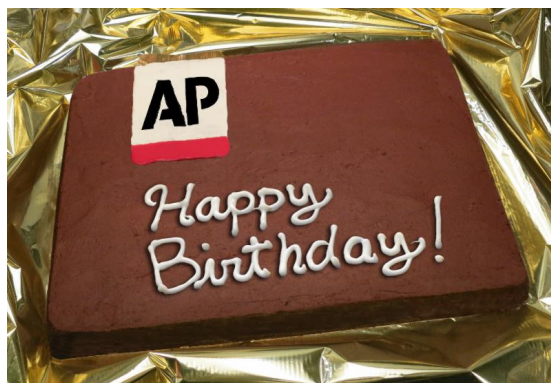
THE BLUE MAX
4th and WALNUT



also did a concert at Sioux Falls College in Sioux Falls, S.D., now the University of Sioux Falls, appeared on local television and had week-long engagements at hotel nightclubs in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids.

One of our early bookings was at The Blue Max in the Hotel Kirkwood, Des Moines. During a cocktail show a group was throwing down drinks and growing increasingly loud. Our bass player invited one of them on stage to join in a song. It turns out the group had just taken the bar exam and was unwinding before going to the Iowa Statehouse at midnight to get the results. Our agent was not particularly impressed to learn we had invited onto a small, raised stage strewn with mic and equipment cords a potential future lawyer who might trip and sue.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Len Iwanski - len_iwanski@outlook.com

Mary Sandok - mrsandok@msn.com

On Saturday to...

Ed Breen - ebreen@indy.rr.com

On Sunday to...

Bobbie Seril - spqr985@aol.com

Welcome to Connecting



Tamara Lush - tamaralush@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Does the mainstream media need to bring back the ombudsman to restore credibility and trust? (Poynter)

By: Dan Salamone

Despite a slight increase since 2016, the public's low level of trust in the mainstream media is of deep concern for the future of journalism.

Nearly half of people surveyed listed inaccuracies, bias and "fake news" as factors in their low confidence. A general lack of credibility and the perception that reporting is based on opinions was also cited for the loss of trust. But the Gallup poll did offer a glimmer of hope. Nearly 70% of all respondents said they felt trust could be restored somehow.

Would the return of ombudsmen improve public trust in the mainstream media? If so, what changes in the traditional ombudsman role would make its use even more effective? Eight former ombudsmen weigh in with their thoughts on the current state of journalism and the role of ombudsmen in the era of online journalism.

These interviews were conducted in 2020 for a master's project for the University of Missouri.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Community center to be named for James Foley

(Manchester Union-Leader)

By Kimberley Haas

Rochester's community center is being renamed for freelance war correspondent James Foley, who was killed by ISIS in Syria in 2014.

Mayor Caroline McCarley said Foley "was a phenomenal journalist who really tried to give a voice to people caught in war-torn regions across the world and has been just a huge credit to the world of journalism, and to American journalism, and to freedom."

McCarley said Tuesday's city council meeting that city officials are delighted to be able to honor Foley in this way.

Foley's parents lived in Rochester for 25 years. They now reside in Wolfeboro, where he grew up.

Foley worked as a journalist in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and Syria. He was held captive for nearly two years before being killed by ISIS in Syria on Aug. 19, 2014.

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

-0-

She was the 'secret' Wonder Woman writer in the 1940s. Here's how she finally got her due at 94.

(Washington Post)

By Michael Cavanaugh

Joye Hummel Murchison Kelly stood before a Comic-Con International audience in San Diego in the summer of 2018 and basked in the applause. Just several years before, relatively few knew her name. Now, at 94, attending her first comics convention, she was being celebrated as the trailblazer she was.

It had only taken seven decades.

Mark Evanier, a writer and comics historian, had helped bring Kelly out from Florida to Comic-Con to receive the Bill Finger Award for Excellence in Comic Book Writing as presented by the Eisner Awards. She was the first woman to write scripts for the Wonder Woman comics, but because she had done so under the studio's house pseudonym of "Charles Moulton" in the 1940s, her place had nearly been lost to comics history.

Kelly, who died Monday at age 97, left the comic-book business shortly after World War II, becoming a wife and mother and later a stockbroker. But when Harvard University professor Jill Lepore published "The Secret History of Wonder Woman" in 2014, the author shined a light on Kelly's secret role as Golden Age shaper of the Amazonian character. And so here, a year after the film "Wonder Woman" was a zeitgeist hit with the masses, Kelly walked into the center San Diego spotlight — for a live panel alongside Evanier and Eisner Hall of Fame cartoonist and historian Trina Robbins.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Could NFTs help the media, or are they just a sideshow? (Columbia Journalism Review)

By **MATHEW INGRAM**

OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, technology journalists have had to get used to a new concept: the “non-fungible token,” or NFT, a concept that has been lighting up the cryptocurrency world, as well as art and media. An NFT is a string of code that, once it has been “minted” (generated by a computer) resides on the Ethereum blockchain, a ledger of every transaction since the currency was created. The “non-fungible” part just means that a token can’t be exchanged for another string of similar code, so it’s unique. What has made this phenomenon so compelling is that these tokens can be associated with specific real-world objects: pieces of art, such as the digital canvas created by an artist named Beeple that sold for \$69 million, clips of NBA highlights, or even newspaper articles — such as the New York Times piece by Kevin Roose about NFTs that recently sold for \$560,000 (the paper donated the money to charity).

In many cases, the people buying pieces of digital art for \$69 million or a single news article for half a million dollars are cryptocurrency “whales” — investors who bought Bitcoin or Ethereum early and have seen their investments increase as Bitcoin has risen by more than 600 percent. Others run auction platforms for NFTs or other cryptocurrency trading systems, and likely see spending those kinds of sums as marketing. So is all of this just Las Vegas casino-style froth, or is there something of real value happening — something that could benefit the media industry and journalism? To answer those and other questions, we used CJR’s Galley discussion platform to bring together a number of experts, including Jarrod Dicker, vice president, commercial for the Washington Post; Emily Bell, director of the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia; developer Julien Genestoux; Elizabeth Lopatto, deputy editor of The Verge; and Josh Quittner, co-founder and chief executive of Decrypt Media.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

Ancient coins may solve mystery of murderous 1600s pirate



A 17th century Arabian silver coin, top, that research shows was struck in 1693 in Yemen, rests near an Oak Tree Shilling minted in 1652 by the Massachusetts Bay Colony, below, and a Spanish half real coin from 1727, right, on a table, in Warwick, R.I., Thursday, March 11, 2021. The Arabian coin was found at a farm, in Middletown, R.I., in 2014 by metal detectorist Jim Bailey, who contends it was plundered in 1695 by English pirate Henry Every from Muslim pilgrims sailing home to India after a pilgrimage to Mecca. (AP Photo/Steven Senne)

By WILLIAM J. KOLE

WARWICK, R.I. (AP) — A handful of coins unearthed from a pick-your-own-fruit orchard in rural Rhode Island and other random corners of New England may help solve one of the planet’s oldest cold cases.

The villain in this tale: a murderous English pirate who became the world’s most-wanted criminal after plundering a ship carrying Muslim pilgrims home to India from Mecca, then eluded capture by posing as a slave trader.

“It’s a new history of a nearly perfect crime,” said Jim Bailey, an amateur historian and metal detectorist who found the first intact 17th-century Arabian coin in a meadow in Middletown.

That ancient pocket change — among the oldest ever found in North America — could explain how pirate Capt. Henry Every vanished into the wind.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - April 9, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, April 9, the 99th day of 2021. There are 266 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 9, 1939, Marian Anderson performed a concert at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., after the Black singer was denied the use of Constitution Hall by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

On this date:

In 1682, French explorer Robert de La Salle claimed the Mississippi River Basin for France.

In 1865, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered his army to Union Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia.

In 1940, during World War II, Germany invaded Denmark and Norway.

In 1942, during World War II, some 75,000 Philippine and American defenders on Bataan surrendered to Japanese troops, who forced the prisoners into what became known as the Bataan Death March; thousands died or were killed en route.

In 1959, NASA presented its first seven astronauts: Scott Carpenter, Gordon Cooper, John Glenn, Gus Grissom, Wally Schirra, Alan Shepard and Donald Slayton. Architect Frank Lloyd Wright, 91, died in Phoenix, Arizona.

In 1963, British statesman Winston Churchill was proclaimed an honorary U.S. citizen by President John F. Kennedy. (Churchill, unable to attend, watched the proceedings live on television in his London home.)

In 1967, the first test flight of Boeing's new 737 took place as the jetliner took off from Boeing Field in Seattle on a 2½-hour trip to Paine Field in Everett, Washington.

In 1968, funeral services, private and public, were held for Martin Luther King Jr. at the Ebenezer Baptist Church and Morehouse College in Atlanta, five days after the civil

rights leader was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee.

In 1979, officials declared an end to the crisis involving the Three Mile Island Unit 2 nuclear reactor in Pennsylvania, 12 days after a partial core meltdown.

In 2003, jubilant Iraqis celebrated the collapse of Saddam Hussein's regime, beheading a toppled statue of their longtime ruler in downtown Baghdad and embracing American troops as liberators.

In 2005, Britain's Prince Charles married longtime love Camilla Parker Bowles, who took the title Duchess of Cornwall.

In 2010, Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens announced his retirement. (His vacancy was filled by Elena Kagan.)

Ten years ago: A man armed with several weapons opened fire in a crowded shopping mall in the Netherlands, killing six people before taking his own life. Sidney Lumet, the award-winning director of such American film classics as "Network," "Serpico," "Dog Day Afternoon" and "12 Angry Men," died in New York at age 86.

Five years ago: After weeks of frantic searching, Belgian authorities announced they had identified recently detained Paris attacks suspect Mohamed Abrini as the "man with the hat" who was spotted alongside two suicide bombers who blew themselves up at Brussels Airport the previous month.

One year ago: The government reported that 6.6 million people had sought unemployment benefits in the preceding week, bringing the total to 16.8 million in the three weeks since the coronavirus outbreak took hold. New York recorded another 799 deaths from the virus; it was the third straight day in which the daily total reached a new high. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was moved out of intensive care at the London hospital where he was being treated for the virus. The Food and Drug Administration sent a warning letter to conspiracy theorist and radio host Alex Jones, telling him to stop pitching bogus remedies for the coronavirus.

Today's Birthdays: Satirical songwriter and mathematician Tom Lehrer is 93. Actor Jean-Paul Belmondo is 88. Actor Michael Learned is 82. Country singer Margo Smith is 79. Actor Dennis Quaid is 67. Comedian Jimmy Tingle is 66. Country musician Dave Innis (Restless Heart) is 62. Talk show host Joe Scarborough is 58. Actor-sports reporter Lisa Guerrero is 57. Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey is 57. Actor Mark Pellegrino is 56. Actor-model Paulina Porizkova is 56. Actor Cynthia Nixon is 55. Rock singer Kevin Martin (Candlebox) is 52. TV personality Sunny Anderson is 46. Rock singer Gerard Way (My Chemical Romance) is 44. Actor Keshia Knight Pulliam is 42. Rock musician Albert Hammond Jr. (The Strokes) is 41. Actor Charlie Hunnam is 41. Actor Ryan Northcott is 41. Actor Arlen Escarpeta is 40. Actor Jay Baruchel is 39. Actor Annie Funke is 36. Actor Jordan Masterson is 35. Actor Leighton Meester is 35. Actor-singer Jesse McCartney is 34. R&B singer Jazmine Sullivan is 34. Actor Kristen Stewart is 31. Actor Elle Fanning is 23. Rapper Lil Nas X is 22. Actor Isaac Hempstead Wright is 22. Classical crossover singer Jackie Evancho (ee-VAYN'-koh) is 21.

Got a story or photos to share?

Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?
- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Most unusual place** a story assignment took you.



Paul Stevens
 Editor, Connecting newsletter
paulstevens46@gmail.com

[Visit our website](#)