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## Connecting September 29, 2021

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this Sept. 29, 2021,

Newly named AP Executive Editor **Julie Pace** provided an update on the News leadership team in a note today to the AP's global staff.

In her email, she said a search is under way for the position of Vice President & Head of Global News Gathering: "This senior leader will hold primary responsibility for creating AP's daily global news report in all formats."

**Brad Kalbfeld's** recount of the birth of the AP Television Network in Tuesday's Connecting drew favorable comment from a number of his colleagues.

Spotting the issue on LinkedIn, **Stefanie Campman**, output editor at Associated Press in London, said, "Lucky, proud and grateful I have been part of APTV from the start. Amazing colleagues, fabulous adventure - and still exciting 27 years later."

And she shares [this link](#) from Facebook's APTV Founders Club that you may find of interest. "It goes some way of summing up the momentousness and excitement of the launch."

**Nick Evansky**, who is now Vice President, Technology & Operations at NBC Owned Television Stations, weighed in: "Was part of the original pioneering launch team! Wonderful memories of my time at the AP!"

Be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

## An update on AP's news leadership

**Julie Pace**, AP's new executive editor, announced the following today in a note to AP global staff:

Thank you so much for your ideas, insights and feedback during my first weeks as executive editor. Our conversations have reaffirmed what a special place AP is and how many great opportunities are ahead for us.

I'm excited today to announce the first steps we're taking to set up the News Department to achieve our priorities: doubling down on breaking news and bolstering our speed and competitiveness across formats; meeting our audiences where they are by embracing digital storytelling and modern presentation and production practices; producing compelling and distinctive journalism that only AP can do; creating growth and development opportunities for all of our staff; and above all, ensuring that AP maintains its standing as the world's preeminent fact-based news organization.

I'm pleased to announce some key members of the senior News leadership team who will help lead these efforts, along with three new leadership jobs that will be posted later today. Filling these roles is just the start of reaching our ambitions — more is to come as these individuals take up their new assignments and get to work.

**Amanda Barrett** will serve as our Vice President & Head of News Audience. In this new role, Amanda will have a relentless focus on how AP's news is consumed online, by consumers on AP News and customers on AP Newsroom, as well on social media. At the heart of Amanda's job is the audience experience — those we reach through our customers and the audiences we are growing on our own platforms and social media accounts. Amanda will also continue to oversee the Nerve Center and play a leading role in AP's diversity and inclusion efforts, with the goal of ensuring that these priorities are shared and implemented across News.

**Brian Carovillano** takes on the new role of Vice President & Head of News Investigations, Enterprise, Grants and Partnerships. Brian has been the driving force behind some of AP's most impactful journalism in recent years, including overseeing our Pulitzer Prize-winning coverage from Yemen and our groundbreaking reporting this year on the atrocities in Tigray and police abuse in Louisiana. Brian will build on this strong work by leading our efforts to secure more grants and partnerships to fund

our journalism, with a particular focus on international and investigative reporting. This is a significant growth opportunity for AP, one that helps us add journalists to our teams and expand the scope of our coverage. He will also oversee our efforts in developing original content, including the AP Productions team in News.

Brian will continue to work closely with **Sarah Nordgren**, who has led the way on so many of AP's most successful grants and partnerships. Sarah will continue to help guide this effort and will focus in particular on building out a new global climate team that will put AP at the forefront of this crucial issue. Both Brian and Sarah will also continue to work closely with **Lisa Gibbs**, our director of partnerships. More below on next steps for the other teams Sarah has overseen.

**David Scott** will serve as Vice President & Head of News Strategy and Operations. David will lead the development and initial implementation of our strategic priorities and goals — focusing not just on where we are now, but where we need to take AP in the coming years. He will work closely with colleagues in Products, Revenue and Technology to constantly review the shape and scope of AP's news report, positioning us to deliver the current and future needs of our existing customers; and to evolve to serve the needs of new customers and prospective markets. David will also continue in his key role overseeing AP's news and elections operations.

**In addition, we are posting three new leadership positions:**

Vice President & Head of Global News Gathering. This senior leader will hold primary responsibility for creating AP's daily global news report in all formats. They will have a singular focus on the biggest news stories in the world, helping ensure we win the day, then win the next one. They will lead a group of empowered news leaders across the U.S. and international regions, in Washington and on the global beat teams to ensure that AP is fast and competitive on the biggest breaking news — and to ensure that we are striving each day to set the news agenda through original reporting. They will be based in New York, but one of their first tasks will be to hire a Deputy Head of Global News Gathering based in one of AP's international hubs, reflecting the 24/7 nature of our global news report. They will also work closely with the Deputy Head of Global News Gathering for Global Beats.

As Sarah shifts her focus to grants and partnerships, the Deputy Head of Global News Gathering for Global Beats will oversee AP's teams - covering Sports, Entertainment, Business, Health and Science, and Religion. These coverage areas — formerly known as “verticals” — are often at the center of the world's biggest stories, which is why we're pulling them closer to our core U.S. and international coverage. These teams have also led some of our most innovative digital efforts and product launches, with many more opportunities to come. This position can be based in New York or London.

Finally, we will name a Vice President & Head of Global News Production. This senior leader will be responsible for the publication and output of AP's daily global news report in all media formats. They will lead the evolution of AP's existing editing, production and output desks into modern, 24/7 global operations that get our journalism in front of our customers and our audience in fast, comprehensive and visually compelling ways. This news leader will also oversee the Top Stories Hub, helping complete the desk's transformation into a cross-format production center for our most important stories of the day. Crucially, this newsroom leader will also focus

on career development and growth opportunities for our staff in editing, output and production roles. This position can be based in New York or London.

Please join me in congratulating Amanda, Brian, David and Sarah on their new roles. I look forward to talking with you more about our next steps in News as we fill out these other key positions.

## Proud to have been part of evolution of what APTN means to AP today

**Jim Spehar** ([Email](#)) - I thoroughly enjoyed Brad Kalbfeld's recap of AP's entry into video (in Tuesday's Connecting). If aging memory serves, when I left the mothership (for the second time) in 1988, broadcast services provided about a quarter to one-third of revenues. It's amazing but not surprising to see that breakdown reversed as trends in news delivery and consumption as well as communications in general have evolved.

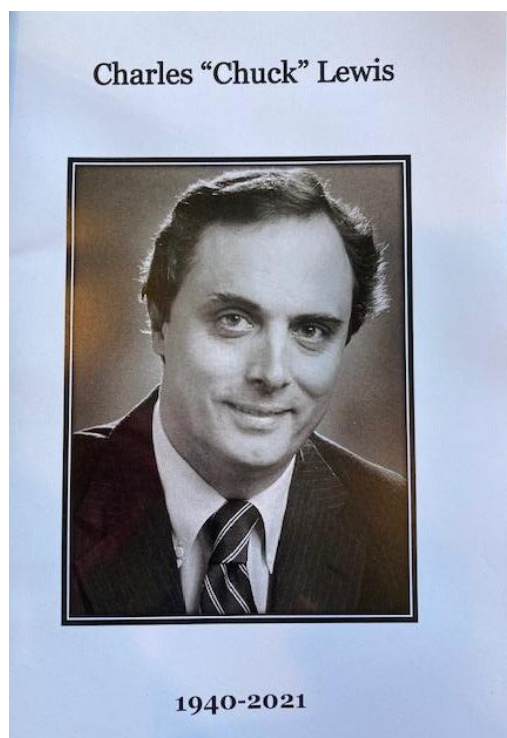
Brad appropriately named all the players, many friends from my 11 years as a Broadcast Executive and earlier time as a Broadcast Editor. Recalling the stories about the AP's reluctant initial entry into broadcast wire services and my own days trying to sell still slides to television stations and a video shot of an old M-15 printer spewing out print to cable television operators, I'd go back a bit further in the evolution to what APTN does today.

When Roy Steinfort passed, Jim Williams described him as "a transformative leader." I believe the transformation on the broadcast side really began when Roy, an unlikely visionary if judged only by appearance and sometimes deportment, appointed Jim Hood to revitalize the then core service and build a new broadcast wire aimed at providing radio and television stations with what they wanted and needed, not just what AP previously saw fit to provide. A huge part of the transformation was the advent of AP Radio, another risky move in the face of then serious competition not only from UPI Audio but also the traditional commercial radio networks such as ABC, CBS, Mutual and NBC. Roy hired Bob Benson to lead that effort. I recall George Mayo and the entire AP technical staff doing yeoman's work to install satellite dishes as that new delivery system fueled the transition. Lee Perryman's computer skills also cannot be overlooked.

Brad's piece picks up from there. While I left to enter station ownership just as the pace really accelerated, I'm proud to have been there as the evolution began and to have worked alongside Roy and all the others who really built the engine that supports the all-important newsgathering and reporting that remains the backbone of AP today.

## Remembering Chuck Lewis: *Sharp-beaked reporter in guise of unfailing gentleman*

**Frank Aukofer (Email)** - Chuck Lewis, sharp-beaked reporter in the guise of an unflinching gentleman, always did his homework. I first met him in the mid-1980s at a reception of some sort in the Botanical Gardens at the foot of Capitol Hill.



It blew me away. At the time, he was the lofty Washington bureau chief for the Associated Press. He walked up and introduced himself, and in the conversation that followed, it turned out he seemed to know all about me—why or how he did it I didn't know. I thought later that maybe I should have hit him up for a job. But I was proud of working for The Milwaukee Journal.

We have been good friends since, through the AP sojourn and his stint as chief of the Hearst Newspapers Bureau. Our socializing picked up after both of us retired and continued until he left us last March.

One of Chuck's qualities that I enjoyed the most was his understated but devastating sense of humor. We both had covered the

Gulf War in 1991, which eventually delivered awards to both Chuck and Stewart Powell for their stories on American troops killed in combat by friendly fire.

By 1994, Sharlene and I were living in Nashville while I worked with an American hero on a study of the relationship between the news media and the military, titled *America's Team: the Odd Couple*. It was the purpose of a nine-month fellowship from the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University.

My study partner was retired Vice Admiral William P. Lawrence, who had been a Vietnam POW for six years at the Hua Lo prison camp—the one Americans called the Hanoi Hilton—after his F4 Phantom warplane was shot down. He was the senior officer to, among other prisoners, future senator and presidential candidate John McCain, who once told me during an interview that Bill Lawrence was the finest man he had ever met.

As part of our study, Admiral Lawrence and I interviewed 48 prominent members of the United States Military and the news media, including four former secretaries of defense. (Some of the news people are here today, including ... ).

Another one of them was Chuck, by then the Hearst Newspapers bureau chief. In the interview, he fretted that both institutions were still fighting fundamental problems of communications.

"The idea that there were dumb questions asked at the briefings in Riyadh is a total red herring, in my opinion," Chuck said. "It is absolutely a reporter's right to self-educate. That's what we do."



Chuck went on to address some in the military who had ridiculed the media because a women's magazine, *Mirabella*, had sent a correspondent to cover Desert Storm from Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

"She was used by the military as sort of the laughingstock to make a point," Chuck said. "She provided the parody of what we were trying to do, so that when we were in an argument with the JIB (Joint Information Bureau), they could say, 'And I suppose you want the *Mirabella* correspondent to go with the F-14 squadron, or whatever.'"

"Actually, the *Mirabella* person was getting under their skin because she was writing about relationships, about sex, about lesbianism. She was writing about deprivation, things like this.

"People who had their helmets on too tight didn't like that."

He added, "She became a problem to them because she was driving them wild with questions about relationships, and they didn't think this was something she should be writing about."

That was Chuck, nailing the situation with a quip. I have never forgotten the quote about people who had their helmets on too tight. He used humor to make his point about the military's shortage of understanding of what American-style reporting and news coverage was all about.

I have been a newspaper reporter my entire professional life—40 years in all. There are few things aside from my growing family—now including two great granddaughters—that I enjoy more than sitting down and telling so-called "war stories" with other news people, especially those like Chuck.

Like most of us, Chuck was all about getting the story—and getting it right—without bowing to anyone's self-interest or b.s.—and mostly getting enjoyment and perhaps a dollop of fame in the process. In our generation, that was always the goal, and still is as far as I can see. Chuck was an EXEMPLAR, all caps.

## Karen Testa joins Daily Orange board at Syracuse University



Congratulations to our colleague **Karen Testa (Email)**, among Syracuse University alums who are the newest members of The Daily Orange Board of Directors.

According to [a news release](#), in September the board added three new alumni members — (in photo above:) Scott Bisang (left), Katie McInerney (center) and Karen Testa Wong — who are lending their time and expertise to the newspaper they worked for as Syracuse University students.

The Daily Orange Board of Directors helps to guide the nonprofit student news organization through financial and strategic decisions to ensure its success and longevity.

Karen served with The Associated Press for 26 years – as Albany, NY., bureau newswoman, 1992; Miami, FL (desk editor, sports/breaking news reporter) 1993-1996; Springfield, Mo., correspondent, 1996-1997; West Palm Beach, correspondent, 1997-1999; News Editor, Massachusetts/Rhode Island, 1999-2002; Boston day supe, 2003-2005 (job share after her first child); News Editor, Boston, 2007-2011 (New England news editor from 2009-2011), and East Region Editor, Philadelphia, 2011-2018.

She is a strategic communications consultant for Mercury Public Affairs, which she joined in 2019. She resides in Wynnewood, Pa., with husband Peter and has two children, Amber and Zack. Testa started out at The D.O. as a sportswriter and eventually became copy editor.

## Your encounters with famous people in an elevator

**Ken Giglio (Email)** - Back in the late 1980s, when I was still a local radio reporter in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo, California, I had the chance – two chances, actually – to spend some time with Jonathan Winters. The first meeting was notable for the ethical dilemma it provided; the second one was memorable for how hard my sides ached from all the laughter.

While working as news director for KIST and KMGQ in Santa Barbara, I was told one day that Winters would be coming into our production studio to do some recording. The story I got was that he needed to re-record two words of voiceover for a commercial he had recently done in Los Angeles. Yes, this was well before anyone had VO studios in their homes. He lived in nearby Montecito and we were told that he had been advised against traveling the two hours south to LA for just two words, because he was recovering from a fall in

his garage. So his manager reached out to us. Sure enough, he came in, did a few takes in the studio and then came out and sat in the newsroom and started to chat with me. It was just the two of us. He told me that he hadn't actually fallen. He said nobody else knew about it, but he had, in fact, had a heart attack.

I sat there with my eyes and mouth wide open, realizing that Winters had just given me a scoop that in all good conscience I didn't think I could use. He didn't know I was the news director. He thought I was just some guy in the radio station. So, I kept that exclusive to myself.

As a side note, he also asked me why it was that he couldn't find work in the industry anymore. This was after his stint on *Mork & Mindy*. He clearly was upset at the thought that Hollywood found him too old or difficult or unpopular to still get good gigs. I believe I told him that there was something seriously wrong with Hollywood if no one could find a good use for him.



A couple years later, I had moved up the coast to work at a station in San Luis Obispo County. As it turned out, the owner of that station was Winters' next-door neighbor. One day, he and his manager visited our station to talk with us about joining our morning show as a regular contributor! Needless to say, I was beyond ecstatic.

While the big wigs were talking business, he sat in our sales office and began to ad lib jokes, tell stories and recreate character voices he had used back in his Ohio radio days decades before. He must have sat with us for an hour, having conversations with imaginary characters, "reading" made-up news stories from blank pieces of paper, and just giving us the greatest off-the-cuff, impromptu, private comedy show.

I really did laugh until my sides hurt, and then some. Alas, he never did join our morning show; I'm not sure why.

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**Robert Meyers (Email)** - Mike Tharp's story about John Lennon sparked my recollection of a close Beatle encounter. A few months before I started work for AP Photos in London in 1986, I was living in Kent and doing freelance photography for the West Kent Extra series and applying for jobs posted in the weekly UK Press Gazette. The publication also carried a daybook listing of events and I noticed one for a Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in Trafalgar Square that said Paul McCartney would be attending. My wife and I took the train up to London and made our way to the square to observe the celebrities behind a small barrier signing their names to a big placard. Paul was a no-show but George Harrison turned up. I didn't see a real photo op from beyond the barrier and after a while my wife and I turned to leave and decided to visit the National Gallery of Art. As we crossed the square, I noticed George



was walking a few feet away. I greeted him and we exchanged a few pleasantries as he walked to the cab rank and climbed in. I resisted the urge to ask for an autograph and or take a closeup photo but I really enjoyed the face to face contact even for a few brief moments.

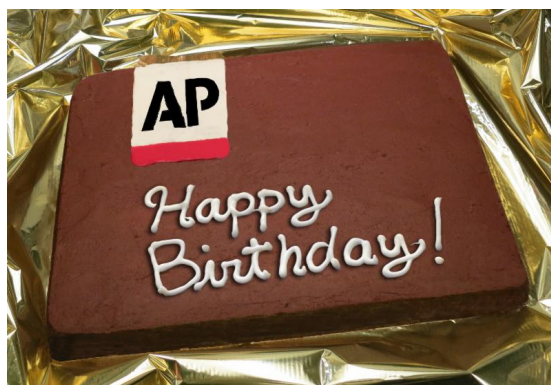
## AP photos on display at NY Museum of Modern Art

**Malcolm Ritter** (Email) - I was pleased to find AP photos on display at New York's Museum of Modern Art. They appear in an exhibit described here: [409: Gordon Parks and "The Atmosphere of Crime."](#)

In 1957, Life staff photographer Gordon Parks traversed New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco capturing crime scenes, police precincts, and prisons for "The Atmosphere of Crime," as his photo essay was titled when it appeared in the magazine. Rather than identify or label "the criminal," Parks—a fierce advocate for civil rights and a firm believer in photography as a catalyst for change—documented the policing and criminalization of marginalized people and communities.

Here, Parks's series is presented in relation to a long history of picturing criminality. In the nineteenth century, mug shots relied on photography's supposed objectivity as the basis of their value for identification and surveillance. In the twentieth, more sensational images of victims, raids, and arrests circulated in newspapers and tabloids. In contrast, Parks urges us to look beyond individual people and events, to consider the forces of state and police power that are inextricable from any history of crime—a lesson as essential now as ever.

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Mark Berns - [mjberns@gmail.com](mailto:mjberns@gmail.com)

Gary Gentile - [apgary@gmail.com](mailto:apgary@gmail.com)

Brent Kallestad - [dakotaboybrent@aol.com](mailto:dakotaboybrent@aol.com)

Mike McPhee - [Mike@uppergulch.com](mailto:Mike@uppergulch.com)

## Stories of interest

### *Maryland newspaper gunman gets more than 5 life prison terms* (AP)



Summerleigh Winters Geimer, left, and her sister Montana Winters Geimer, daughters of Wendi Winters, a community beat reporter who died in the Capital Gazette newsroom shooting, react during a press conference following the sentencing verdict of Jarrod W. Ramos, Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2021, in Annapolis, Md. Ramos was sentenced on Tuesday to more than five life terms without the possibility of parole, according to prosecutors. (AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana)

By BRIAN WITTE

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Selene San Felice said she often questioned how or why she survived the shooting that left five others dead at a Maryland newspaper. Montana Winters Geimer described the grievous loss she and the community suffered when her mother, longtime local journalist Wendi Winters, was killed in the attack.

San Felice and Winters Geimer were among several survivors and relatives of victims of the June 2018 killings at the Capital Gazette newspaper who testified in court Tuesday before a judge sentenced the shooter to more than five life terms without the possibility of parole.

"We lost the storyteller of our family, and as a community we lost the storyteller for everyone that is an Annapolitan," Winters Geimer said.

Judy Hiaasen spoke of how difficult it was to even talk about the loss of her younger brother, Rob Hiaasen, who was an editor and columnist at the paper. She described his ability to keep memories of their mother and father alive. Now, she said, "That story has been taken from me."

"My little brother was slaughtered, and the impact of that loss is indescribable," she said. "It is unique, and it is never-ending."

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

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## ***Scoop: Labor-management hostility erupts in Gannett newsrooms*** (Axios)

By Sara Fischer

The NewsGuild of New York has filed unfair labor practice charges against Gannett, the largest local media company in the country, according to documents reviewed by Axios.

Why it matters: Conversations with journalists across several Gannett newsrooms reveal attempts by Gannett management to undermine union efforts via alleged threats to pay increases, 401(k) matches and diversity initiatives.

"I felt like I've been gaslit," said Susanne Cervenka, a longtime reporter with the Asbury Park Press.

"It's heartbreaking," says Geoffrey Wilson, a reporter at the Poughkeepsie Journal. "It's very clear that Gannett's priorities are not with its smaller papers."

The big picture: The pandemic sparked a union frenzy amongst local Gannett papers.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Sexual Assault Survivors in Journalism Are Waiting for Their Reckoning*** (Vice News)

By Carter Sherman

Alex Stuckey never planned to write about sexual assault. When she was first hired as an investigative reporter at the Salt Lake City Tribune, Stuckey had intended to cover

medicine. But when she got asked to contribute to the paper's coverage of campus sexual assault, she said yes.

The coverage was hard-hitting and in-depth. It eventually won the paper, and Stuckey, a Pulitzer Prize. And every day, Stuckey panicked over the possibility that someone would discover that she had survived sexual assault.

"I had so many people tell me, 'That's ridiculous, you're not gonna get punished for that. That makes no sense. You're not gonna get kicked off the project,'" Stuckey recalled. "Then Felicia went public with this, and I was like, 'I was right to be concerned.'"

"Felicia" is Felicia Sonmez, a Washington Post reporter who, in July, sued the newspaper and a handful of its current and former top editors. Starting in 2018—amid coverage of Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court—the paper's brass had twice blocked her from covering sexual misconduct stories, because Sonmez went public with her own claims of sexual assault. Those bans, Sonmez alleges in her lawsuit, constituted discrimination.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Press Freedom Groups to Convene People's Tribunal on Murders of Journalists*** (Common Dreams)

By JULIA CONLEY

Decrying the level of impunity in cases involving the murders of journalists, three international press freedom groups on Tuesday announced a people's tribunal aimed at holding perpetrators accountable and securing justice for reporters who have been killed for doing their jobs.

Following a request to the Permanent People's Tribunal in Rome, Free Press Unlimited (FPU), the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), and Reporters Without Borders (RSF) will convene a people's tribunal to investigate three murders—those of Lasantha Wickrematunge in Sri Lanka, Miguel Ángel López Velasco in Mexico, and Nabil Al-Sharbaji in Syria.

"We're taking killers of journalists to The Hague because states won't do it," said Nathan Stewart of Starling Campaigns, which is helping to promote the tribunal.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Carol Riha.



## Celebrating AP's 175th

AP store for 175th, vintage merchandise



The AP has created a store with 175th anniversary merchandise available for purchase, as well as items branded with some of AP's most historic logos.

Click [Here](#).

## AP Through Time: A Photographic History



AP Through Time: A Photographic History” - created by Director of Corporate Archives, Valerie Komor, is a keepsake commemorating AP's 175th year. Small in size (6 ¾ x 6 ¾ in.), it is organized chronologically in eight segments that trace the broad outlines of AP's development from 1846 to the present: Beginnings, Evolution, New



Century, Modernity, Expansion, One World, Speed, and Transformation. Click [here](#) to view and make an order.

## Today in History - Sept. 29, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 29, the 272nd day of 2021. There are 93 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 29, 1789, the U.S. War Department established a regular army with a strength of several hundred men.

### On this date:

In 1829, London's reorganized police force, which became known as Scotland Yard, went on duty.

In 1918, Allied forces began their decisive breakthrough of the Hindenburg Line during World War I.

In 1938, British, French, German and Italian leaders concluded the Munich Agreement, which was aimed at appeasing Adolf Hitler by allowing Nazi annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland.

In 1943, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and Italian Marshal Pietro Badoglio signed an armistice aboard the British ship HMS Nelson off Malta.

In 1962, Canada joined the space age as it launched the Alouette 1 satellite from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. The musical "My Fair Lady" closed on Broadway after 2,717 performances.

In 1978, Pope John Paul I was found dead in his Vatican apartment just over a month after becoming head of the Roman Catholic Church.

In 1982, Extra-Strength Tylenol capsules laced with deadly cyanide claimed the first of seven victims in the Chicago area. (To date, the case remains unsolved.)

In 1986, the Soviet Union released Nicholas Daniloff, an American journalist confined on spying charges.

In 2000, Israeli riot police stormed a major Jerusalem shrine and opened fire on stone-throwing Muslim worshippers, killing four Palestinians and wounding 175.

In 2001, President George W. Bush condemned Afghanistan's Taliban rulers for harboring Osama bin Laden and his followers as the United States pressed its military and diplomatic campaign against terror.

In 2005, John G. Roberts Jr. was sworn in as the nation's 17th chief justice after winning Senate confirmation.

In 2006, U.S. Rep. Mark Foley, R-Fla., resigned after being confronted with sexually explicit computer messages he'd sent to former House pages.

Ten years ago: Germany kept alive hopes that the 17-nation euro currency could survive the debt crisis as lawmakers in Europe's largest economy voted overwhelmingly in favor of expanding the powers of the eurozone's bailout fund.

Five years ago: A New Jersey Transit commuter train slammed into the Hoboken station, killing one person and injuring more than 100 others.

One year ago: The first debate between President Donald Trump and Democrat Joe Biden deteriorated into bitter taunts and near chaos, as Trump repeatedly interrupted his opponent with angry and personal jabs and the two men talked over each other. Trump refused to condemn white supremacists who had supported him, telling one such group known as Proud Boys to "stand back, stand by." Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was buried in a private ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. The NFL saw its first COVID-19 outbreak in the season's fourth week, as three Tennessee Titans players and five other personnel tested positive; the Titans' next scheduled game against the Steelers would be postponed. Death claimed country star Mac Davis in Nashville and "I Am Woman" singer Helen Reddy in Los Angeles, both were 78.

Today's Birthdays: Conductor Richard Bonyngé is 91. Writer-director Robert Benton is 89. Singer Jerry Lee Lewis is 86. Soul-blues-gospel singer Sherman Holmes is 82. Former Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., is 79. Actor Ian McShane is 79. Jazz musician Jean-Luc Ponty is 79. Nobel Peace laureate Lech Walesa (lehk vah-WEN'-sah) is 78. Television-film composer Mike Post is 77. Actor Patricia Hodge is 75. TV personality Bryant Gumbel is 73. Rock singer-musician Mark Farner is 73. Rock singer-musician Mike Pinera is 73. Country singer Alvin Crow is 71. Actor Drake Hogestyn is 68. Olympic gold medal runner Sebastian Coe is 65. Singer Suzzy Roche (The Roches) is 65. Comedian-actor Andrew "Dice" Clay is 64. Rock singer John Payne (Asia) is 63. Actor Roger Bart is 59. Singer-musician Les Claypool is 58. Actor Jill Whelan is 55. Actor Ben Miles is 55.

Actor Luke Goss is 53. Actor Erika Eleniak is 52. R&B singer Devante Swing (Jodeci) is 52. Country singer Brad Cotter (TV: "Nashville Star") is 51. Actor Emily Lloyd is 51. Actor Natasha Gregson Wagner is 51. Actor Rachel Cronin is 50. Country musician Danick Dupelle (Emerson Drive) is 48. Actor Alexis Cruz is 47. Actor Zachary Levi is 41. Actor Chrissy Metz (TV: "This Is Us") is 41. Actor Kelly McCreary (TV: "Grey's Anatomy") is 40. Rock musician Josh Farro is 34. NBA All-Star Kevin Durant is 33. Actor Doug Brochu is 31. Singer Phillip Phillips is 31. Pop singer Halsey is 27. Actor Clara Mamet is 27.

## 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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