

## Green, Scott

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**From:** Paul and Linda Stevens <stevenspl@live.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 29, 2013 12:08 PM  
**To:** Paul H. Stevens  
**Subject:** CONNECTING: Jim Abrams retires; John Bolt: AP headed to mediocrity; AP, Meltwater to collaborate; College newspaper; Ground Zero photo; Blow for press, democracy; Pentagon and Drudge; Zimmerman transcript; Justin Smith new Bloomberg Media CEO

Colleagues,

Here are some items of interest as we begin a new week.

The Washington bureau celebrated the 34-year career of Jim Abrams upon his retirement from the AP on Friday. He started with AP in Tokyo in 1979 and was Beijing chief of bureau from 1986 to 1990, leading coverage of the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989. He moved in 1990 to Washington where he covered issues including trade and worked mostly on Capitol Hill as part of AP's team of reporters covering Congress.

Washington chief of bureau Sally Buzbee read aloud many of the notes sent in by colleagues and put them into a book that was presented to him along with a few other gifts. His Washington colleagues also told many stories about his time there, and Jim also spoke - a very interesting talk, Sally said, about his time in both Asia and in Washington for AP. Sally said, "Jim is admired, respected and viewed with great fondness by many of his colleagues here. We are sad to have him go. In many ways, he is irreplaceable: He has truly been AP's congressional institutional knowledge for two decades.



The attached photo of Jim cutting into his retirement cake is by Charlie Dharapak. In background, from left, are Marjorie Olster, Carole Feldman, Erica Werner, Laurie Kellman and Sally Buzbee.

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“The AP headed to mediocrity” is the title of a blog late last week on Facebook by John Bolt, our newest Connecting member, that elicited a good deal of comment and was shared to Connecting by several of you. John was Charleston bureau chief when he left AP in 2005 and is now director of university relations/news at West Virginia University. Here is a link to the blog:

<https://medium.com/i-m-h-o/74341b8c87b5>

If you have thoughts on what John writes that you would like to share with the Connecting group, send them to me.

Paul

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**AP, Meltwater end litigation, will ‘collaborate on innovating new products’**

<http://www.poynter.org/latest-news/mediawire/219443/ap-meltwater-end-litigation-will-collaborate-on-innovating-new-products/>

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**30 signs you worked for your college newspaper**

<http://now.msn.com/signs-you-worked-for-your-college-newspaper>

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**Iconic Ground Zero photo nearly excluded from museum for being too “rah-rah American”** (Shared by Bob Daugherty)

<http://nation.foxnews.com/2013/07/28/iconic-ground-zero-photo-nearly-excluded-museum-being-too-%E2%80%98rah-rah-american%E2%80%99#ixzz2aOOeRfKO>

AND

**9/11 Memorial Museum Tried to Keep Out Iconic Flag Raising Photo** (Shared by Mark Mittelstadt)

<http://frontpagemag.com/2013/dgreenfield/911-memorial-museum-tried-to-keep-out-iconic-flag-raising-photo/>

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**A Blow for the Press, and for Democracy**

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/28/public-editor/a-blow-for-the-press-and-for-democracy.html?pagewanted=all&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/28/public-editor/a-blow-for-the-press-and-for-democracy.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0)

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**Pentagon doesn't want to be scooped by Drudge** (Mittelstadt)

<http://www.infowars.com/government-promises-to-stop-lying-under-drudge-report-spotlight/>

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**Zimmerman trial transcript cost \$27,000?** (Mittelstadt)

<https://twitter.com/gangrey/status/360828329206611968>

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**Atlantic Media president Justin B. Smith named Bloomberg Media CEO** (Mittelstadt)

<http://jimromenesko.com/2013/07/28/atlantic-media-president-justin-b-smith-is-named-bloomberg-media-ceo/>