

## Green, Scott

---

**From:** Paul and Linda Stevens <stevenspl@live.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 06, 2013 8:41 AM  
**To:** 'Paul and Linda Stevens'  
**Subject:** CONNECTING: More on correspondencies; Washington Post sale; Digital usage overtaking all legacy media; Shaky start in Cleveland; Thanks for no raise

Colleagues,

Here are some items of interest, starting with:

A happy 89th birthday (on Sunday) to **Walt Tabak**, retired Indianapolis chief of communications who received the first-ever Distinguished Service Award in May 2012 from the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame.

Welcome to Connecting to **Kaz Abiko**, general manager for AP in Northeast Asia when he retired in January 2010 and assistant chief of bureau under Jim Lagier when Jim was Tokyo bureau chief, and to **Peter von Stein**, former Indianapolis AP newsman.

Kaz has been busy since retirement and reports, "Now, I teach at a few Japanese universities here on subjects related to news media and journalism. Meanwhile, I participate in journalism researches and studies sponsored by a not-for-profit, public-interest incorporated foundation and have been a co-author of a few books. I have translated the AP history book "Breaking News" into Japanese, and its Japanese edition was published and distributed to news media, educational institutions (mostly universities) and public libraries by the foundation in 2011. At present, I'm writing a monthly column for the Japan Newspaper Publishers & Editors Association's weekly publication, regarding the current state of news media in the United States, so that any latest information concerning the U.S. news industry would be helpful. In addition, I'm working with Hiroshi Fujita, former NY and Washington CoB for Kyodo News and a former journalism professor at Sophia University, on a book project about journalism standards and ethics, comparing U.S. and Japanese sets of standards and their practices. We plan to finish writing by the end of this year and have the book published early next year."

### Here is further response to Monday's recap of one-person correspondencies:

Grants Pass: **Jane Seagrave**, former Grants Pass correspondent, now publisher of the Vineyard Gazette on Martha's Vineyard after leaving AP two years ago as chief revenue officer: Grants Pass has had just three correspondents in its history. Two are married, and the third is still there. My husband, John H. Kennedy, opened the correspondency in 1981 and was named Boise correspondent less than a year later. I spent about a year a half in the job, before transferring to Boston. Our successor, Jeff Barnard, was smart enough to realize it is one of the best jobs in the AP -- ok, not that much news, but lots of great off-the-beaten-track stories and a lifestyle it took John and me 30 years to find again!

Toledo: **Mike Holmes**, with the Omaha World-Herald: I was the first correspondent in Toledo since, probably, the 1920s. Bill DiMascio was the CoB in Columbus at the time, and although he never actually admitted it, I'm pretty sure he decided to reopen a Toledo bureau so he would have AP staffer in the building to personally listen to the frequent complaints about AP service from the Blade's executive editor -- a tough but darned good newsman named Joe O'Connor. My favorite complaint from him was on the morning of the royal

wedding. We'd moved something like 21 photos straight (back when it took 10 minutes or so each for a black-and-white) of Charles and Diana and the hoopla. Joe called me into his office shortly as the Blade's PM edition deadline was approaching. "We've got enough wedding photos," he said. "But dammit, we need a weather map." Not that there was anything I could do, but I promised to get right on it. Walking back to my desk, I passed their photo receiver. I happened to notice the weather map dropping out of the slot. I grabbed it, waited about five minutes and then personally carried it back to Joe. AP-Blade relations were never better.

Syracuse: **Otto Doelling**: I was Syracuse correspondent in 1962-63 when the city still had an NBA team (the Syracuse Nationals) and Syracuse U's Orange was still a major eastern football power -- although the glory days of Jim Brown and Ernie Davis were past. The saddest sports story I had to write back then was Davis' obit. The Heisman Trophy winner died at age 23 of leukemia. The disease had been diagnosed as he was about to start his professional career. In addition to sports, Syracuse and Onondaga County were then major drawing cards for Republican politicians. I remember having Sen. Barry Goldwater all to myself for nearly an hour at the bar of the Syracuse Press Club, both of us having arrived early for a speech in which he pushed for war with Cuba. Former President Eisenhower also showed up for a speech while I was in Syracuse, as did his former vice president, Richard Nixon. I managed to corner Nixon after his speech at a Syracuse hotel in which he backed the U.S.-Soviet test-ban treaty. But the real story was his telling me afterwards that the speech was the first in a planned series intended to reassert his voice in the ranks of the Republican Party. This, mind you, was soon after he had lost the governor's race in California and announced that the press would not have Richard Nixon to kick around anymore. The story landed on the front page of the New York Times. What I learned from my Syracuse experience was that a bureau's size doesn't matter when it comes to its news worthiness.

Toledo: **Bud Weydert**: I wonder how many of these one person correspondencies also had an AP technician collocated with them? Or, for that matter, how many lone ranger technicians there were back in the days when teletypes and photofax machines were the primary member delivery system. I started with AP in 1974 as a lone technician based at the Toledo Blade in Ohio with responsibility for everything AP had in the northwest corner of the state. Basically from the Ohio & Indiana line on the west, the Ohio & Michigan line on the north, roughly halfway between Toledo and Cleveland on the east and halfway between Toledo and Columbus on the south. I was the first technician based there. Several years after I transferred to Philadelphia as a ACoC, AP added a correspondent in Toledo who moved into the small shop/office the Blade had built for me in their wire room when high speed DataStream (1200 baud) direct computer input and model 40 printers replaced the old 66 word per minute teletypes and paper tape reperferators. It was a fun time. You were basically on your own and as long as you kept your equipment maintained and handled what trouble calls you had on a timely basis, you seldom heard from the bosses. I think in the tree years at was at the Blade, I only saw my CoC 3 or 4 times.

Fargo: **Brent Kallestad**: I was the first one-person correspondent there after AP shifted its primary bureau location to Bismarck, moving Gary Clark from Minneapolis to the correspondency in the North Dakota capital city. I was in Fargo between Sept. 1, 1972, and May 1, 1974, when I transferred to Minneapolis as the AP sports writer. I had been with AP just three months when Minneapolis bureau chief Ben Brown named me "acting" correspondent in Fargo since I hadn't completed by six months probationary period. Former Minneapolis news editor Jim Wilson came to Fargo to help us run the 1972 primary election on the day after Labor Day. (After a late evening the night before that may have carried a bit past midnight!) Wilson, who like Clark went on to great things with AP, was a goer! This was in the day when we were still punching the old Western Union teletypes. I didn't see the newfangled CRT until reaching Minneapolis and that was limited to two screens and required throwing a switch to send copy. The Fargo Forum was a wonderful host for us, tremendously supportive of AP and its mission. All North Dakota members considered us family, but unafraid

of being critical if they disagreed with something we did or didn't do. The state meetings were legendary (Sunday morning business meetings over Bloody Mary's!) I'll never forget the first time I walked into the Forum's newsroom to begin my new duties, executive editor Lloyd Sveen warmly greeted me along the lines of "are we ever glad to see you. Welcome." With a couple of newsroom personality conflicts aside, virtually everyone was receptive and helpful during my 19 months in Fargo. I purchased my first home in Fargo and my oldest child, son Adam, was born there. Dave Kolpack is our correspondent in Fargo today. His father Ed, who was then the sports editor of the Forum, was a good friend as was Bill Marcil, the company publisher who has taken Forum Communications to great heights in the northern plains and Minnesota.

Here are items of reading interest, starting with the Washington Post sale. Dozens of opinions and analyses have flooded the journalism airwaves overnight, but here is a selection I liked. Go to Romenesko if you want more, and more, and more.

Paul

-0-

### **Washington Post sale: Details of Bezos deal**

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/details-of-bezos-deal-to-buy-washington-post/2013/08/05/968a2bc4-fe1b-11e2-9711-3708310f6f4d\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/details-of-bezos-deal-to-buy-washington-post/2013/08/05/968a2bc4-fe1b-11e2-9711-3708310f6f4d_story.html)

AND

### **The Washington Post Reaches the End of the Graham Era**

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/06/business/media/the-washington-post-reaches-the-end-of-the-graham-era.html?pagewanted=all&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/06/business/media/the-washington-post-reaches-the-end-of-the-graham-era.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0)

AND

### **The Washington Post Sale Further Devalues Newspapers, Say Experts**

<http://www.thewrap.com/media/article/washington-post-sale-further-devalues-newspapers-say-experts-108621>

AND

### **Jeff Bezos and the Washington Post: a marriage of old media and new money**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/aug/06/jeff-bezos-washington-post-media-marriage>

AND

### **What is Jeff Bezos thinking?**

[http://www.politico.com/story/2013/08/jeff-bezos-washington-post-sale-amazon-95212\\_Page2.html](http://www.politico.com/story/2013/08/jeff-bezos-washington-post-sale-amazon-95212_Page2.html)

AND

**Jeff Bezos's landmark purchase of the *Washington Post***

[http://www.cjr.org/the\\_audit/jeff\\_bezoss\\_landmark\\_purchase.php](http://www.cjr.org/the_audit/jeff_bezoss_landmark_purchase.php)

-0-

**Digital usage overtaking all legacy media**

<http://newsosaur.blogspot.com/2013/08/digital-usage-overtaking-all-legacy.html>

-0-

**Shaky start in Cleveland** (Shared by Bob Daugherty)

<http://www.clevelandleader.com/node/21095>

-0-

**Feel free to thank the newspaper owners who haven't given you a raise in 5 years**

<http://jimromenesko.com/2013/08/05/feel-free-to-thank-the-newspaper-owners-who-havent-given-you-a-raise-in-5-years/>