

## Green, Scott

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**From:** Paul and Linda Stevens <stevenspl@live.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2013 7:58 AM  
**To:** 'Paul and Linda Stevens'  
**Subject:** CONNECTING: A Colorado perspective; AP pulls photos; AP's Loyal Gould dies; Kit Frieden; Nancy Gibbs new Time ME; Put life back into obits; Want to be Nieman Fellow?; Who is journalist? Best & worst journalism

Colleagues,

I asked retired AP Kansas City newsman **Dick Lipsey** for his perspective to Connecting colleagues on the Colorado flooding.

(Dick was with AP from 1990 to 2008, joining AP after a 20-year Army career that included a tour in Vietnam as a reconnaissance platoon leader in the 101st Airborne Division, then as a company executive officer, and finally as a military police company commander.)

Here is his report:

After five years in Colorado and worrying about forest fires every summer, we were deluged by flood this year.

The rain started here in Estes Park on September 8 and just kept coming -- steady rain with occasional downpours. By September 12, we had received 12 inches or more that fell on ground already saturated from afternoon thunderstorms during much of August.

Our home is at 8,600 feet elevation, and an adjacent gulley that originates about a thousand feet higher -- and has been dry as long as we've lived here -- produced a torrent of water that continued downhill, crossing the only road into our subdivision in several places and washing it out.

We've been cut off from town since then, but the guy who maintains our road has done extraordinary work. The latest word is that we may be able to drive out this weekend. This is a relief, since we had been notified on Sunday that we might have to leave immediately on foot or by ATV with only what we could carry. We likely won't be able to return until spring or summer because the road repairs are makeshift and won't support propane trucks or emergency vehicles in the winter.

Our home is about a half-mile from the end of a dead-end road four switchbacks and a thousand feet in elevation from the entry to our subdivision.

The main road from town into our area is washed out for several miles, but the plan is to repair it for a short stretch so we can connect with a road through a subdivision across the road and from there onto a main road into Estes Park that's in good shape.

Our home is undamaged but a water flow on the adjacent lot washed out part of a retaining wall on a home under construction. The retaining wall consists of several layers of massive rocks, each about 4 feet by 4 feet by 5 feet, and the water cut a wide swath through them and tossed many of them onto the ground.

Today was warm and mostly sunny -- with no rain -- and it's hard to believe that it isn't just another nice fall day in Colorado.

We plan to make the best of it and spend the next few months visiting relatives and friends until we wear out our welcome.

At present, we hope/expect to drive to Kansas next week and spend a couple of weeks with our daughters before moving on.

I'm attaching a few photos of the damage to the road. I took these on Saturday and Sunday, and since then, the road crew has filled in many of these gaps or graded alongside to create a temporary road.

Cell phone service was sporadic until the last day or so, land line is still out, and most residents lost Internet service. We've had Internet, though our ISP had a foot of water in their office at one point and had to evacuate.

Internet connections are essential now, and many of our neighbors have been coming to our house to stay in touch with family.

The road past us was blocked for a while after several trees fell across it in a mud slide when the bank gave way Thursday and Friday. I cut up the trees with my chain saw and we and several neighbors worked to clear away enough mud to leave a path wide enough for traffic to get through, which was primarily an ATV at that point.

The road crew cleared it today so the people farther up can make it through, whenever we're able to leave.

The attached photo shows one of our neighbors who made an ill-advised attempt to cross what appeared to be a modest water flow. He's OK.



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Welcome to our newest members of Connecting – **Pete Mattiace** and **Dick Lipsey**.

Paul

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**AP pulls two Navy Yard shooting photos it can't verify**

<http://www.poynter.org/latest-news/mediawire/223756/ap-pulls-two-navy-yard-shooting-photos-it-cant-verify/>

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**Former AP Correspondent Loyal Gould Dead at Age 86** (Shared by Latrice Davis)

[http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2013/09/17/us/ap-us-obit-gould.html?hp&\\_r=1&](http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2013/09/17/us/ap-us-obit-gould.html?hp&_r=1&)

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**AP Editor Kit Frieden Joins Androvett Legal Media & Marketing in Houston**

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/associated-press-editor-kit-frieden-joins-androvett-legal-media--marketing-in-houston-223913061.html>

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**Nancy Gibbs Named Time's Managing Editor**

<http://www.wwd.com/media-news/publishing/nancy-gibbs-named-times-managing-editor-7162968?module=hp-comingsandgoings>

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**Blog: The Ancient Newspaper Editor: Put Some Life Back into Obits**

<http://nuzedit.blogspot.com/2013/09/put-some-life-back-into-obits.html>

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**Come be a Nieman Visiting Fellow at Harvard (Application deadline: November 8)**

<http://www.niemanlab.org/2013/09/come-be-a-nieman-visiting-fellow-at-harvard-application-deadline-november-8/>

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**Who is a 'journalist'? People who can afford to be** (Davis)

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2013/09/201391764312806487.html>

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## **How the entertainment cycle brings out the best & worst journalism**

<http://www.poynter.org/latest-news/creating-a-framework-for-ethical-decision-making-among-journalists-and-those-who-care-about-democracy/223753/how-the-entertainment-cycle-brings-out-the-worst-journalism-and-the-best/>