
From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Monday, July 07, 2014 8:41 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - July 7, 2014

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Connecting

July 7, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good morning. Here's to the start of a great week. While many people took the holiday weekend off, AP journalists did not. Two great pieces of their work stood out and are worth noting here.

For six months, national writer **Martha Mendoza** and photographer **Marcio Jose Sanchez** followed one woman's life in the Jungle, a homeless encampment in San Jose, in the heart of Silicon Valley. Mendoza's riveting account, "[Survival and Defeat in Silicon Valley Slum](#)," is accompanied by powerful images captured only by journalists who managed to gain the trust and confidence of the hundreds of people living in the mile-square encampment. Her engaging lead:

She is a disheveled woman, hair mussed, upper teeth gone, muddy walking cane taped together. But in the Jungle, Maria Esther Salazar is a person to be reckoned with.

Her shelter, supported by tree branches, is a gathering place. Inside, friends huddle around a folding table in armchairs, smoking pot, dozing, sharing stories, arguing. Outside, they squat by her cooking fire frying pancakes or warming soup, handouts from



Maria Esther Salazar walks around a muddy path in the Jungle, a homeless encampment in San Jose, Calif. Salazar has been either homeless, in jail, or squatting at someone else's house for 30 years. (AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez)

Sunday church groups. Her son Bobby lives with his girlfriend just a few tents away. Her weed connection has coffee ready for her in the morning at his tent.

In soccer-crazy Brazil, meanwhile, the big story the past four years has been the 2014 FIFA World Cup, the largest and most-watched global sports event. The huge headline over the weekend was the serious back injury Friday that sidelined **Neymar**, star of the favored Brazilians, knocking him out of the tournament and raising questions about his future professional career with top Spanish club FC Barcelona. AP photographer **Leo Correa** shot a widely-used image of the player lying inside a medical helicopter at the Granja Comary training center, in Teresopolis, Brazil, Saturday. Neymar was airlifted from Brazil's training camp Saturday and will be treated at home for his back injury. Neymar, the biggest football star in Brazil, was ruled out of the rest of the World Cup after fracturing his third vertebra during Friday's 2-1 quarterfinal win over Colombia.



Neymar inside a medical helicopter, waiting to be airlifted for further treatment of a serious back injury. (AP Photo/Leo Correa)

Connecting Mailbag

Pranks, we have a few

Hal Bock _ I suspect **Doug Tucker's** prank letter (Connecting, July 2) wasn't the only one. Here is another one from sports.

We had a rather unpleasant individual on staff who thought he would re-invent journalism and while he was at it conquer golf as well. He managed neither, causing an occasional temper tantrum.

One of his hissy fits over a missed putt in Louisville caught the attention of some playful colleagues. Two weeks later, at Indianapolis, Jim Litke and I thought this deserved a reprimand from the PGA. It took maybe 20 minutes to secure a piece of official stationery (the golf folks were amused at our idea) and deliver some harsh words over the signature of the PGA director of amateur golf (or some such title). We warned that a repeat of the bad behavior would restrict the miscreant to miniature golf for the rest of his life, with windmills and clowns.

Our prey sat straight up for a split second when he got the letter and then realized that we were having a little fun. That moment was worth the effort.

*(Note: **Paul Stevens** returns on Tuesday. Send contributions to stevenspl@live.com)*

Items of Interest

Monthly newspaper runs headline using "N-word" to refer to Obama

The West View News, a monthly paper in New York's West Village with a circulation of around 20,000, ran an op-ed from author **James Lincoln Collier** titled "N---r in the White House." If the headline wasn't strange and shocking enough, the New York Post reports that the op-ed is actually a pro-Obama piece, in which Collier argues that, "far right voters hate Obama because he is black."

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Eight signs Obama is feeling trapped in the presidency

Past presidents have described the White House as "the crown jewel of the federal penal system" and "the great white jail." And lately, President Obama has been increasingly sending signals he's feeling claustrophobic in the presidential bubble.

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Tougher copyright laws essential to protecting newspapers from news aggregator sites

(S)ome websites do nothing more than aggregate content from news sites that offer unique content. The aggregated content is typically sold to business users for a profit. That may seem like a clever way for the aggregators to make money, but it's at the expense of people who poured time, effort, and money into original reporting.

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Case study: Gannett's monumental task -- a content management system for all

In 2011, Gannett Co. owned more than a hundred newspapers and television stations - each with its own website. It set out to design and build a content management system that would replace the existing systems and serve every Gannett newsroom -- from USA Today to KHOU-TV in Houston to the Fort Collins Coloradoan -- allowing them to post and share material more easily. As it nears the end of the process of converting its properties to its new content management system, the company is generally pleased with the results.

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Carol Loomis, editor for Warren Buffett, leaves job after 60 years



After 60 years at Fortune, Ms. Loomis is retiring as one of the country's most venerated financial journalists, with a collection of work that reads like a history of modern Wall Street. "She has an analytical mind and she keeps learning," said **Warren E. Buffett**, the billionaire investor and a close friend. "We males never do that. We quit at about 15. We just think we know it all. At 85, she is interested in learning more."

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[Billionaire publisher Richard Mellon Scaife dies](#)

Richard Mellon Scaife published the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review and funded libertarian and conservative political causes. In 2013, Forbes estimated his wealth at \$1.4 billion.

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["Life Itself": Two thumbs up for film tribute to Roger Ebert](#)

You don't have to be a movie critic, or even particularly interested in movies, to be touched and enthralled by the documentary "Life Itself," a beautifully paced tribute to a life well-lived. Based on his memoir of the same name, it's the story of **Roger Ebert**, who died last year at 70 after a long battle with cancer. Chicagoans knew him for decades as the movie critic of the Sun-Times; the rest of us knew him, from the late 1970s on, as the larger, bespectacled half of an agreeably cantankerous critic duo on a movie-review TV show.



Film critic Roger Ebert with his beloved wife, Chaz, in "Life Itself."

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[As brutally honest an obit as you'll read all week](#)

An obituary in the Victoria Times Colonist of Victoria, B.C., minces no words when it comes to the late George Ferguson:

What to say about George? Certainly, no one could accuse him of having been a loving son, brother, or father. He'd gladly have stolen the shirt off your back and he was generous to a fault with other people's money. Was he a small-time con-man with grandiose schemes? Probably. But another view of him is that he was the most exciting member of his family and of the families he married into...

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[American Apparel sorry for using Challenger disaster photo](#) (Shared by Bob Daugherty)

American Apparel issued a public apology after the company posted a stylized picture to its

Tumblr page of the space shuttle Challenger disaster. It is unclear if the image was mistaken for fireworks or clouds. The company was immediately hammered with negative feedback.

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The Iraq War: The battle behind the lens

In "Photojournalists on War: The Untold Stories from Iraq" (University of Texas Press), award-winning photojournalist **Michael Kamber** has put together a photographic and oral history of the Iraq War, the result of a five-year project to preserve history and document photojournalism in the war.

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Columnist: We lived there 21 years, but it wasn't "our" house

In a subtle sign-off, Tacoma News Tribune columnist **Peter Callahan** takes a thoughtful look at the Depression-era house he, his wife and family called home for more than two decades. He packed up and locked the doors one last time to join his wife, **Suki Dardarian**, in Minneapolis, where she recently was named senior managing editor of The Star Tribune.

Also: [News Tribune's Peterson: Peter's not good at good-byes, so here's an adios to the conscience of Tacoma](#)

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"It's not mean, it's not mean, it's not mean;" raging Joan Rivers storms off CNN set

Things were testy at the very start of **Fredricka Whitfield's** interview of **Joan Rivers** on CNN, and they only got worse. In fact, Saturday's contentious chat did not last three minutes as an apparently angry Rivers unplugged her earpiece and walked off the CNN set, leaving Whitfield sitting in disbelief.

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Facebook cuts, woman restores game trophy photos

Facebook has deleted some big game trophy photos posted by a Texas Tech cheerleader, saying they violated its standards. However, 19-year-old **Kendall Jones** later shared a Fox News Channel montage of the deleted photos of rhinos, elephants, lions and leopards killed or tranquilized. Jones has received criticism and support online after posting the pictures of herself in Africa. Jones says on her public Facebook page that the hunts are legal.

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Video: Last 90 minutes of the sky

[Video: Last 90 minutes of the sky](#)

There are few weather events as dramatic as a sudden wind and rain storm in the desert, especially if you are driving in it. The Arizona Daily Star posted on its web site video taken by the University of Arizona Atmospheric Sciences.

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"Obviously tongue-in-cheek": New York Times explains the phone booth for younger readers



Credit goes to New York Times assistant national editor **Renee Murawski** and assistant news editor **Philip Gray**. "It was obviously tongue-in-cheek for a column, and well done," says **Dan Barry**, author of the phone booth piece.

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Finally

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