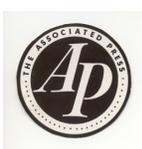


**From:** Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 05, 2014 9:38 AM  
**To:** stevenspl@live.com  
**Subject:** Connecting - August 5, 2014

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# Connecting

August 5, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good morning!

Were you once a newspaper carrier?

Well, NPR would like to know - and so would Connecting:

**Paging former newspaper carriers! NPR wants photos of you on the job as a kid**

NPR's "All Things Considered" is doing a piece this week on young newspaper carriers and asks former paperboys/girls to post their photos on Instagram with the #nprpaper hashtag. That's NPR newsman Jamie McIntyre's father - not Jamie, as my first version said - with his Houston Chronicle bag in the photo below. (I delivered the Beloit (Wis.) Daily News for three years and bought a Polaroid Swinger with my earnings, but never snapped a photo of my bike and the huge



baskets that held my 70-plus papers.)

If you have a photo of you as a carrier, send it along to Connecting. Me, I had two paper routes with The Messenger in my hometown Fort Dodge, Iowa, Routes 46 and 64, and managed to schedule afternoon delivery just before baseball practices.

Paul

## Connecting mailbox

### Seeking assistance in finding Ruth Fried

[Neal Ulevich](#) - if you would include this in an upcoming blog. So far I've struck out.

Looking for anyone who might know the whereabouts and contacts for Ruth Fried, widow of NY Daily News Saigon correspondent Joe Fried. A good friend of AP is asking. Grateful advise to [mail@watermargin.com](mailto:mail@watermargin.com). My thanks. Neal Ulevich.

### Charles and Charles on Charles: Memories of Charlie Tasnadi continue to be rekindled

[Charles Hanley](#) - As a footnote to Bob and Richard's fine tributes to the late, wonderful Charlie Tasnadi, with whom I was privileged to partner on three Cuba news/feature trips, allow me to add a story he loved to tell on himself:

Fresh from his escape, his Leica at his side, through the Iron Curtain's barbed wire, Charlie landed in Venezuela, a waystation before immigration into the US. He found a photog's job with a Caracas publication, which one day sent him to cover a Venezuelan league baseball game - as alien a sport as this son of Hungary could imagine. But crouched somewhere at the edge of the stands, Charlie quickly grasped that pic-worthy action sometimes took place at the top of the diamond-shaped inner pitch (second base to initiates). When a player reached the right-hand point (first base), he might next be sliding into the top point, in clouds of dust and colliding bodies. Charlie was primed, and when the crack of a bat sent a runner dashing from first to second, Charlie also leaped into action, sprinting for second base for all he was worth and snapping a fine full-frame closeup of the slide.

Chaos, predictably, ensued. The benches emptied and the infield filled with arm-waving ballplayers, confused umps and demands for an interference call - and probably for the Tasnadi head.

Somehow the young shooter came out alive, and I'm one of many APers who's so

very glad he did.

**AND**

[Charles Bennett](#) - Reading about my friend Charlie Tasnadi brought back a lot of memories. A man in every sense of the word. Charlie was an excellent cook and with his wife Maria they created a delightful evening. On one of these evenings Charlie described his escape with Maria; it sounded like something Ian Flemming would have written. Charlie holding a young child on his back as they waited for their guide while standing under a bridge in freezing water.

Charlie and his bride were skiing when Charlie lost his wedding ring which was a tragedy to Charlie. He obsessed over it and went back after the snows had melted and found his ring. Charlie said it was another of the miracles in his life.



Although our sports were strange to Charlie all he had to do was watch a few minutes and he could cover it like a long time pro. If he was in any doubt he asked, during the half he was confused wanting to know what the "ballon" was, nobody could figure out what he meant. When the game started again he pointed to the score board it said "Ball On ". for the most part he was a very gentle man who put a lot of trust in his friends. Dennis Cook, a UPI shooter was sharing a trip on AF1 with Charlie when the plane hit some terrible turbulence. Dennis was prone to motion sickness and really didn't like flying that much. Charlie saw his condition and tried to comfort him by telling him "don't worry my friend we have a back up airplane". Dennis said he looked at him to see if he was serious and he saw Charlies smiling face. Dennis said that he didn't want to go into details about changing planes in mid air was impossible. He said that Charlie's optimism was such he didn't want to spoil it.

If you by chance woke up in a hospital the first two faces you would see would be Charlie's and the doctors. Not necessarily in that order. A man who truly loved his family, friends, country and job. I am attaching a photo of Charlie and Maria.

## **Chris Tomlinson's book No. 23 on NY Times Bestseller List**

[Chris Tomlinson](#) - I thought I would toot my own horn and let you know that my book [Tomlinson Hill](#) made #23 on the [New York Times Bestseller List](#). I was also interviewed by Terry Gross for [Fresh Air](#).



Our Connecting colleague is a journalist, author and filmmaker in Austin, Texas. He is currently a columnist for the Houston Chronicle and was previously the Supervisory Correspondent for the AP in Austin from 2011-2014, where he was responsible for political and state government reporting from the state. He is also a Fellow in Journalism at the Robert Strauss Center for International Security and Law. He has lectured at the LBJ School for Public Affairs and the Department of Journalism at the University of Texas at Austin.

Chris notes: "I am a fifth-generation Texan who is the descendant of slave holders. When the slaves my family held became free, they took the Tomlinson name. Since I was a child, I have tried to understand what this legacy means for me and for the African American Tomlinsons. Tomlinson Hill tells the story of these two families: one African-American, one Anglo, with the same name and heritage.

"After spending 11 years in Africa as the Nairobi bureau chief for The Associated Press, I returned home to learn the truth about my family, the black Tomlinsons and Texas history after the Civil War. The most famous and successful descendant from Tomlinson Hill is former professional football player LaDainian Tomlinson, a direct descendant of the slaves my family once held. Long after my family left Tomlinson Hill, he spent his summers as a child visiting his grandparents there. LaDainian is proud of his family history, including his last name.

"Tomlinson Hill is the story of our families, and the story of America."



## Welcome to Connecting

[Hubert Mizell](#) - I was an AP staffer in the '70s--Florida sports editor in the Miami bureau, then sports feature writer in NY...I went from there to the St. Petersburg Times for 27 years...I am retired and living in Gainesville FL...I do some local TV

commentaries, mostly on University of Florida athletics...I often see another AP retiree, photographer Phil Sandlin, who free lances in Gainesville...he told me about your excellent daily blogs...I would like to request being put on your list.

## Stories of interest

### Jim Brady dies: Reagan aide, gun control advocate

WASHINGTON (AP) - A major trait that endeared Jim Brady to the Washington press corps was his sense of humor, especially when he made fun of his own boss.

When Ronald Reagan was campaigning for president in 1980, Reagan drew scorn from environmentalists for saying that trees were a greater source of pollution than cars. Aboard the campaign plane, Brady pointed at a forest fire in the distance and yelled, "Killer trees! Killer trees!" to the great amusement of reporters.

After the election, Reagan's advisers appeared hesitant to appoint Brady press secretary. Nancy Reagan was said to feel the job required someone younger and better-looking than the 40-year-old, moon-faced, balding Brady.



"I come before you today not as just another pretty face but out of sheer talent," Brady told reporters. A week later, he got the job.

Brady, who died Monday at 73, would need humor and much more after March 30, 1981. On that day John Hinckley Jr. attempted to assassinate Reagan outside the Washington Hilton Hotel just two months into the new president's term. Reagan nearly died from a chest wound. Three others, including Brady, were struck by bullets from Hinckley's handgun.

*FILE - This Feb. 11, 2000 file photo shows former White House press secretary for President Reagan James Brady, left, in a group photo following a dedication ceremony for the new James S. Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House in Washington. From left are, Brady, presidential press secretaries Joe Lockhart (Clinton), Jerald terHorst (Ford), Larry Speakes (Reagan), Mike McCurry (Clinton) and Pierre Salinger (Kennedy). A Brady family spokeswoman says Brady has died*

at 73. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh/File)

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### Barack Obama to reporters: 'I'll take a question'

President Barack Obama had just done the unthinkable.

He took questions last week from the White House press corps - not just once, but twice. He didn't call only on the reporters who were selected ahead of time by his senior aides. He even stuck around longer than he wanted at a briefing Friday to appease the room of shouting correspondents.

"Hold on, guys. Come on. You're not that pent up," Obama joked. "I've been giving you questions lately."

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### The Presidency and the Press

Somewhere between Seoul and Kuala Lumpur, with Air Force One cruising just shy of the speed of sound, Barack Obama decided to have a word with the press.

It has been tradition for Obama to make a visit back to the press cabin during the last leg of exhausting presidential foreign trips - just a friendly off-the-record chat - but this junket, a barnburner taking the chief executive to Japan, South Korea, Malaysia and the Philippines this past April, wouldn't be over for three days. The president's blood was up over two analysis pieces in *The New York Times*. One, written by national security correspondent David Sanger and timed for Obama's arrival in Seoul, accused the administration of dangerously underestimating Kim Jong-Un. A second story, splashed on the paper's front page, had effectively declared the trip a failure while it was still in progress: "President Obama encountered setbacks to two of his most cherished foreign-policy projects on Thursday," it read, citing the inability to reach a trade deal with Japan and the breakdown of Middle East peace talks. That piece had been co-bylined by White House correspondent Mark Landler, who had been tagging along on the president's jaunt and hence was at that moment sitting in the press cabin.

Jay Carney, the press secretary, arrived to give the heads-up and secure the standard agreement from the reporters to treat Obama's visit as off the record, meaning that the contents could never be published or broadcast. Carney was followed by the president himself, who assembled his lanky eminence against the bulkhead at the fore of the cabin and proceeded to dress down Landler and his colleagues.

With the chat being off the record, a definitive accounting of what was said is hard to come by; it is clear, though, that the thrust of the president's message

was this: Foreign policy is hard, you guys are scoring it like a campaign debate, and moreover, you're doing it inaccurately. He went further, telling the dozen or so reporters that what he favored was a judicious use of American power, and that his primary concern was not to get the country embroiled in situations from which it might take a decade to extract ourselves. He offered up an oddly sophomoric mantra for his foreign policy: "Don't do stupid shit."

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**[Glenn Greenwald: U.S. Media Coverage Of Israel-Gaza Conflict Gets An 'F' \(Bill Beecham\)](#)**

Glenn Greenwald lambasted the U.S. government's approach to the Gaza conflict in an article published Monday by The Intercept, but his criticism extends to America's media practices -- for which he gives U.S. journalists a failing grade.

"There's no question that the way that the American media covers this conflict is based on the principal that Israeli lives are just inherently more valuable than Palestinian lives," he told HuffPost Live's Marc Lamont Hill in an interview Monday. "It takes probably 50 Palestinians being killed to get anywhere near the attention of, say, an elderly Israeli woman being frightened in her home and having some kind of a medical problem because of the trauma."

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**[Media Giant Gannett to Spin Off USA Today and Print Business](#)** (Bob Daugherty)

The Gannett Company said on Tuesday that it planned to spin off its print operations, including USA Today, becoming the latest media company to break itself up.

Gannett also confirmed that it would buy out the 73 percent of the auto sales website Cars.com that it does not already own for \$1.8 billion, adding another digital asset to its portfolio.

The separation follows in the footsteps of many other media companies - from Rupert Murdoch's empire to Time Warner Inc. to E.W. Scripps - that have spun off their print arms in recent years.

Such transactions are intended to free faster-growing television and other media operations from slower-growing newspaper and magazine businesses, pushing up stock prices while allowing each division to focus on its own needs. Investors have shown far more appetite for broadcast assets than newspapers, which have continued to struggle as advertising revenue has declined.

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### Jackson State to establish School of Journalism and Mass Communications (Bill Beecham)

The Department of Mass Communications at Jackson State University will be transformed into a School of Journalism and Mass Communications, James C. Renick, the university's provost and vice president for student affairs, announced today.

"This will allow us to leverage our many assets - such as the TV station, radio stations and Weathervision," Renick said.

In making the announcement, Renick cited a recent challenge from six prominent foundations which said journalism education is not keeping pace with new career opportunities for journalists. The letter challenges university presidents and provosts to reform journalism and mass communication education.

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### Russian journalist's body found after disappearance

The body of an independent Russian journalist was found in a wood the day after he had gone missing following threats from law enforcement authorities.

Timur Kuashev worked for the magazine Dosh (or Dosch) as its correspondent in Nalchik, the capital of the autonomous Kabardino-Balkar republic in the Russian Caucasus.

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### How the Smartphone Ushered In a Golden Age of Journalism

**When I first** arrived in New York, some time back in the last century, I gazed in awe and fascination at subway riders reading *The New York Times*. Thanks to a precise and universally adopted method of folding the paper (had it been taught in schools?), they could read it and even turn its pages without thrusting them in anyone else's face. The trick? Folding those big, inky broadsheets into neat little rectangles-roughly the same size, in fact, as an iPad. It's as if they were trying to turn the newspaper into a mobile device. And that, we can now see, is precisely what news is meant for. Today, New York newspaper origami is an all-but-lost art; straphangers have their eyes glued to their smartphones.

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### Ken Doctor: Five questions about Tribune Publishing on its first day of life

"We're getting toward the end of the finish line," Jack Griffin tells me as he sits in a car whooshing to an appearance. At that point, last week, he'd spent seven of the past 10 days doing an equity road show, touting his new Tribune Publishing,

which begins trading tomorrow. "Monday, we split the company. Tuesday, we start trading. On Wednesday, I have a Tribune board meeting, and then on Thursday, my first town hall at the Chicago Tribune. Then, I head to L.A. Then, I'll spend the next three weeks on the road visiting Tribune cities."

## **And finally...**

### **When speed trumps accuracy in journalism**

Google Trends reports "Paul George" was searched by more than two million people. His name is also among the Top 10 searches on Twitter.

George snapped his right ankle against the basket stanchion, breaking both his tibia and fibula in the 4th quarter of Team USA's exhibition on Friday night. The nature of the injury made instant news.

The sports media punched the gas, trying to collect as much information as possible. But sometimes being first is a liability. Take a look at this paragraph from the original story posted by USA Today:

Back

USA TODAY



"We need to just take a step back before we do anything at all. Our first concern, our primary concern, is Paul George. I wnate to reach out to the Indiana Pacers oragnziation, I have a call into owner Herb Simon. This is a tough blow, not only for USA basketballbut for the Indniaan Pacers. And so, as an orgaization, we're just going to let a little bit of time go by here before we address rosters or

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