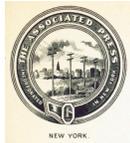


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**From:** Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 09, 2014 9:41 AM  
**To:** stevenspl@live.com  
**Subject:** Connecting - August 9, 2014

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# Connecting

August 9, 2014

Click [here](#) for sound  
of the Teletype



Colleagues,

Good Saturday morning to you!

Friday marked the 40th anniversary of President Nixon's resignation - and Connecting continues to receive follow-up memories from those who were covering that historic event, on the heels of **Richard Pyle's** remembrance in Friday's Connecting.

Paul

## Remembering August 8, 1974

[Chuck Lewis](#) - a former AP Washington bureau chief, with this add to Richard Pyle's engrossing account of the Nixon resignation on Aug. 8, 1974:

The AP started the ball rolling the day before with a sensational (no other word for it!!!!) scoop.

**Carl P. Leubsdorf**, chief of the AP Senate staff, filed a mid-morning BUN (Bulletin) to the effect that President Nixon would go on national television that night to

announce that he was resigning the presidency the next day. This was after Republican Senate leaders had gone down to the White House to tell Nixon that he had no political support in the Senate and that, if the House were to vote to impeach him, he was toast.

I was working the day desk and I called CoB Marv Arrowsmith as soon as Carl had called me to alert me that he had the BUN. Marv came out of his office and looked over my shoulder as Carl and I worked on the BUN. Puncher Chuck Resor sent it out with all bells sounding.

That news prepared the world for what followed.



[Bob Daugherty](#)- Excellent (Richard Pyle) article on the Nixon resignation. I too was on the South Lawn when Nixon gave his defiant waves, along with photographer **Chick Harrity**. I made the image (left) in *Connecting* and Chick made the nice waving photo of Nixon with one arm overhead. I was also at Ford's home in Alexandria next morning when he left for work and Betty in her housecoat waving from the doorway.

It was a strange day when I walked over to the White House early. Commuters were making their way to work seemingly oblivious to the events of the day. In a matter of an hour or so we had a resignation and an inauguration. I recall leaving the White House and thinking where else could this have happened so peacefully. There were no troops or tanks involved. Even the anti-Nixon demonstrators had vanished along with Nixon himself.

## Looking back on Nixon-resignation front pages from 40 years ago

Steve Buttry: I remember this day 40 years ago so clearly. The whole nation was expecting Richard Nixon's resignation. But it took me by surprise.

As a student journalist, I followed with fascination the biggest story of my college days, the Watergate scandal that was engulfing the presidency of Richard Nixon. A House committee was considering



impeachment and I was fascinated and eager to see how it all worked out. Then I missed the conclusion.

Click [here](#) to read more.

*This post includes photos from David Lewis, including this one of the press plate he saved from that historic Des Moines Register.*

## Actor Harry Shearer Re-Enacts Historic Moment



On Aug. 8, 1974 - exactly 40 years ago Friday - Richard Nixon made history by becoming the first (and so far only) president to resign from office.

We couldn't mark the occasion by interviewing the real Nixon (he's been dead since 1994) so we did the next best thing: Talk to actor Harry Shearer, the *Simpsons* and *Spinal Tap* alum who plays the 37th president in *Nixon's the One*, a comedy series based on Nixon's secretly recorded conversations in the Oval Office.

As you might expect from an actor who underwent four hours of makeup to step into Nixon's famous features, the series is the culmination of Shearer's decades-long fascination with the president.

Click [here](#) to view the video.

## Connecting mailbox

### Those tweeting issues

[Madge Stager](#) - I am struck by the tweeting issues, They remind me of issues we (photos) had with overlines on captions. Time after time we would get complaints because trying to state the subject in a few words was not only difficult but the temptation to be clever was greater than the ability to be correct. The resolution was to stop using overlines. AP will have to keep tweeting. I hope they don't wring their hands or punish folks for making age-old mistakes: just be AP, correct, not always so

clever.

Seems that the more things change the more they come round. Maybe having people around with experience (even grey hair) who can help learning from history might not be such a bad thing, even in the digital age.

## **Educator, former AP Richmond broadcast editor Bob Ours dies**

Dr. Robert M. 'Bob' Ours, 77, of Morgantown, passed away on Tuesday July 29, 2014 at his home. He was born September 15, 1936, in Parkersburg, WV, son to the late Henry and Grace Simon Ours. He found great joy in his family, friends, music, nature, and bringing history to life.

A woodwinds player at Buckhannon-Upshur High School and an excellent piano student, Bob could read parts or play by ear.

He attended West Virginia Wesleyan College from 1954-55, serving as sports information director, and graduated Cum Laude from the WVU School of Journalism in 1958. Working for the Associated Press in Richmond, he became Supervisor of Virginia AP Radio-TV News Report.



Then his love for learning changed his path. Pursuing graduate studies in History, Bob received his M.A. from the University of Virginia in 1966 and his Ph.D from the College of William and Mary in 1974. Discovering that he enjoyed helping students find their way, Bob taught History at UVA's Eastern Shore Branch from 1966-68. He joined WVU's Journalism faculty in 1972, reaching the ranks of Professor and Professor Emeritus. Heading the news editorial sequence in the 1990s and advising J-School students in the WVU Honors Program from 1983-1996, Bob served on nearly 100 master's and Ph.D. Committees and delighted in working with students from around the world.

An avid reader and writer, Bob authored several books outside the academic realm. College Football Almanac and College Football Encyclopedia (four editions) were go-to resources before we had internet searches.

He added to football lore with Bowl Games: College Football's Greatest Tradition in 2004, and blended history with fiction in his 2010 Civil War novel The Choice Was Gray (inspired by an actual Upshur County regiment).

In his middle and later years, Bob became active in community theater and especially loved portraying Hector Nations in Foxfire. He held memberships in the First Presbyterian Church of Morgantown, where he was a former member of the voice and bell choirs; Kappa Tau Alpha (Journalism Honorary); the Cousteau Society, The Planetary Society, and The American Legion. Bob was a member of the Air Force

ROTC while attending WVU and later served in the US Army and Army National Guard.

Bob is survived by his wife Ann M. Ours; daughters, Dorothy Grace Ours and Linda Anne Ours; sisters Juanita Hodges and Evelyn Tonkin; nephews, James Hodges and Shelby Grant; nieces, Michelle Tonkin and Sally Grant. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by one sister, Norma Jean Ours.

Honoring Dr. Ours' wishes, graveside services will be held at 2pm on Thursday July 31, 2014, at the West Virginia National Cemetery, Pruntytown, WV with full military honors conducted by the Taylor County Honor Guard and WVANG, Camp Dawson.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to: the American Indian Education Foundation ([www.aiefprograms.org](http://www.aiefprograms.org)).

Shared by David Wilkison, who noted on Facebook: Sad news that I completely missed last week - the passing of former WVU journalism professor Bob Ours. (AP colleagues: Note that Bob had worked in the Richmond bureau before turning to a life in academia that impacted quite a lot of us who went on to work for the cooperative.)

## **Kansas Editor/Publisher Hub Meyer dies at 67**

One of the AP's strongest supporters in Kansas - Herbert A. "Hub" Meyer III, editor and publisher of the Independence Daily Reporter for more than 43 years - has died at the age of 67.

The newspaper reported Meyer died Thursday afternoon at his home after suffering from prostate cancer.

Meyer became publisher of The Reporter in June of 1971, taking over after his father's death. His grandfather, Herbert A. Meyer Sr., bought the newspaper in 1940 and later was elected to Congress, representing Kansas' 3rd District.

Herbert Meyer III graduated from the University of Kansas in 1969 with a degree in business and worked for the Lawrence Journal-World covering local news and sports before returning to Independence.

"Hub was a key member of an energetic Journal-World reporting staff in the late 1960s - early in what would be long careers in journalism for many of us like Chuck Woodling, me and others," said Ralph Gage, a former reporting colleague of Meyer and now retired executive of the Journal-World and the World Company. "Those days were a lot of fun, as well as hard work. They produced good journalism and warm memories. It was a shock to learn of Hub's passing, and it's difficult to accept. His family and friends certainly are in our thoughts and prayers."

Meyer also was active in the Kansas Press Association and was a past chairman of the Kansas-Missouri Associated Press Publishers and Editors group.

"Hub will be missed. He was a great sounding board and I could always count on him to step into leadership roles," said **Kia Breaux**, Associated Press bureau chief for Kansas, Missouri and Iowa. "He had a gregarious personality and quick wit about him, but he was serious and very passionate about journalism. He kept us on our toes."

Meyer is survived by his wife, Kristin; three children, Herbert "Chip" Meyer IV, of St. Louis, Mo., Scott Meyer, of Lee's Summit, Mo., and Brittany Meyer, of Des Moines, Iowa; a sister, Mary Meyerquinonez, of Yakima, Wash.; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were pending.

## Service of youth carriers, newsboys recalled in St. Joseph

Twenty-two years ago this month, the legacy of youth newspaper carriers and street corner "newsboys" came together in two events in St. Joseph, Missouri.



News stories recount that a 15-year-old all-American boy, a dedicated paper carrier, died suddenly from either a stroke or perhaps as a result of an injury suffered while preparing for his paper route. Two days later, the St. Joseph News-Press followed through with earlier plans by announcing it had placed a bronze statue in front of its building saluting the service of newsboys who peddled the newspaper in the bustling city in the early 1900s.

First the story of Jody Merriott from the St. Joseph (Mo.) News-Press of Saturday,

August 15, 1992:

**For Joel, doing it right was what counted  
Carrier, 15, leaves legacy of caring**

By ALLEN SEIFERT  
News-Press Staff Writer

Joel "Jody" Merriott, 15, was a typical '90s teen-ager. He loved electronic games and gadgets and hoped one day to work in the field of electronics.

In July, he became a carrier for the St. Joseph News-Press, hoping to parlay that money into school supplies and then into a car. From the beginning, he was no ordinary newspaper carrier.

Working in the area of Jules and Faraon streets bordered by 24th and 28th streets, he delivered 90 papers a day. Each had to be squarely on the customer's porch or in a basket. Each had to be delivered before 6 a.m. - the hour when most of us are still sleeping.

Early Friday, Joel Merriott died.

Doctors told his mother, Sheila Merriott, that his death was caused by a stroke. Perhaps it was caused by complications brought about by an accident he had while delivering his papers last Sunday.

"Somehow or other," his mother said tearfully, "he had managed to hit himself in the back of the neck with his bag full of papers. He came into the house and asked me to come help him with his route at that time. He insisted that they be delivered on time, and each paper placed the way the customer wanted."

After his accident, the youngster was never the same. He had flu-like symptoms with vomiting. He did manage to throw his route - with his mother's help - early in the week.

"I assumed he had the flu," Sheila Merriott said. "But even on Wednesday, he was insisting that each paper be delivered the way it was supposed to be. He was so concerned about his customers!"

Thursday night, Merriott took Joel to Heartland East. He died there, even before he could be put on a respirator.

"He was the one who always fixed the television set, or the VCR if it was acting up," the bereaved mother said Friday.

She recalled his eagerness to attend Benton High School and the fun he had on fishing expeditions to Smithville Lake.

"He liked basketball and the Los Angeles Lakers, although he wasn't very athletic. Like almost everyone, he liked Michael Jordan. He couldn't wait until he could get his own car," she said.

News-Press Circulation Manager Dick Beddow said Joel Merriott was exceptional in his short career.

"He did an excellent job for us. He was dedicated and very conscientious," Beddow said.

His mother said, "He loved his customers. Even to the last, he was concerned about his route."

A lifelong resident of St. Joseph, he had attended Truman Middle School and was registered as a freshman at Benton High School.

The account of young Jody's death was followed by these two stories in the St. Joseph (Mo.) News-Press of Sunday, August 16, 1992:

### **Newsboy of yesteryear**

"EXTRA, EXTRA," the life-size bronze statue of a newsboy, has been placed in front of the main entrance of the News-Press at Ninth and Edmond streets.

The sculpture, by Joe Kinkel, recalls the days in the early 1900s when newsboys sold papers on street corners. The money earned by the boys often was a mainstay in helping the families of the youngsters purchase food and clothing.

The statue was purchased through The Knox Galleries, Denver, Colo. Kinkel is an artist born and raised in the West who draws heavily from his family background as philosophical base for the art he produces. As the oldest of seven children, he saw his father's sheet metal worker vocation as part of what would be a three-generation association with that trade.

Kinkel's art training was taken at the University of New Mexico and Arizona State University. He taught art for seven years before deciding to pursue sculpture as a full-time endeavor. Trades that have been depicted in Kinkel's work include iron workers, oil field workers, roofers and sheet metal workers.

### **Sculptor describes statue**

Joe Kinkel, the sculptor who fashioned the new sculpture in the garden area in front of the News-Press Building, has divulged what led him to produce the artwork. Kinkel now lives in Longmont, Colo.

His story:

"I have always been fascinated by history and have tried to depict in my work those everyday people who framed the events of our past. 'EXTRA, EXTRA' was the first in a series of three sculptures featuring early 20th century city life. The series also includes a shoeshine boy titled 'PARTNERS' and a cop on the beat called 'TRUE BLUE.' My research for all three pieces centered around the personal recollections of family and friends who had grown up in that time.

"I try to design my work and arrange the subject matter so that it provides a dramatic first impression. Then by incorporating subtle points of historic details, I can afford the interested viewer a much fuller understanding of the story I want to tell.

" 'EXTRA, EXTRA' is probably my best example. You'll notice the jacket's he's wearing is a little too small and the knickers are a little too big, describing a family where clothes are passed down and grown out of. The collar is buttoned against the morning chill and the leaves along the curb tell of fall in the Midwest or eastern U.S. Please note the piece of bicycle inner tube on the toe of the left foot. This was a common method of prolonging the usefulness of a worn out pair of shoes in the '20s and '30s. The cobblestones tell of a city street.

"My first idea for 'EXTRA, EXTRA' can be traced to my mother's recollection of being wakened at about 6 a.m. by a newsboy calling 'Extra, extra!' on the street outside their home in the Midwest. A notorious criminal had been executed the night before. I like to think that my sculpture bears some resemblance to that unknown boy who, in his day, was one of the fastest ways of getting the news out."

A footnote to these events can be found at the base of the 'EXTRA, EXTRA' statue in the form of an inscribed plaque added later:

**Extra Extra**

**Dedicated in Memory  
of New-Press Carrier  
Joel T. (Jody) Merriott  
Who Died Aug. 14, 1992,  
And To All The  
Newspaper Carriers  
Who Go That Extra  
Mile For A Dream.**

(Shared by Dennis Ellsworth)



## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday

To

[Steve Crowley](#)

## Stories of interest

### [Reagan aide Jim Brady's death ruled homicide](#)

WASHINGTON (AP) - This week's death of former White House press secretary James Brady, who survived a gunshot wound to the head in a 1981 assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan, has been ruled a homicide, District of Columbia police said Friday.

Federal prosecutors said only that they are reviewing the ruling. But a law professor and an attorney for John Hinckley Jr., who was found not guilty by reason of insanity in the shooting, said bringing new charges against the 59-year-old in Brady's death seemed unlikely.

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### [Bloomberg's game change: New York's in charge](#)

Bloomberg Media wants to be a dominant player in political news. In order to make that happen, the New York powers have wrested control of the steering wheel from Washington.

On Wednesday night, Al Hunt, the face of Bloomberg's political coverage for nearly a decade, was informed by Senior Executive Editor Josh Tyrangiel that his weekly public affairs show "Political Capital" would be canceled. The show's production team would be laid off, as would many of the veteran print journalists Hunt had brought on board over the years. Those jobs would be moving to New York, where Bloomberg is already hard at work on a new show.

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### The War Photo No One Would Publish(Bob Daugherty)

When Kenneth Jarecke photographed an Iraqi man burned alive, he thought it would change the way Americans saw the Gulf War. But the media wouldn't run the picture.



In the case of the charred Iraqi soldier, the hypnotizing and awful photograph ran against the popular myth of the Gulf War as a "video-game war"-a conflict made humane through precision bombing and night-vision equipment. By deciding not to publish it, TIME magazine and the Associated Press denied the public the opportunity to confront this unknown enemy and consider his

excruciating final moments.

The image was not entirely lost. The Observer in the United Kingdom and Libération in France both published it after the American media refused. Many months later, the photo also appeared in American Photo, where it stoked some controversy, but came too late to have a significant impact. All of this surprised the photographer, who had assumed the media would be only too happy to challenge the popular narrative of a clean, uncomplicated war. "When you have an image that disproves that myth," he says today, "then you think it's going to be widely published."

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### Here are the job descriptions for Gannett's 'Newsroom of the Future' (Scott Charton)

Jim Romenesko: My tipster writes: "Attached [in PDFs] are the new job descriptions for positions that will be available at the Pensacola News Journal. The job titles/descriptions/duties are being standardized across Gannett. Reporter job descriptions are customized to local 'passion topics,' but the basic duties and descriptions came from corporate.

"Under the 'Newsroom of the Future,' there are 16 job descriptions. Each newsroom employee at each Gannett property must be in one of these positions. They are all digital-centric and aligned with Gannett's new "Picasso" initiative, in which journalism is driven solely by metrics and journalists are expected to be marketers and 'community connectors.' [A Gannett journalist writes in an email: "As a reporter who went through the Picasso training, that line is a little misleading. First, it's not solely on metrics. Second, metrics is more than clicks. The Chartbeat and Omniture dashboards we have allow us to measure engagement, traffic source referral

patterns, social boost etc..."]

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### **If CNN says Hong Kong's in Brazil, it must be so!**

Hey kids, don't get your geography lessons from CNN!

That is, unless you think it's possible to convince your teacher that Hong Kong has been relocated to Brazil. Hey, with the state of our public schools these days, it might be possible. What was this about hornets? We were distracted.

On the other hand, maybe Lost was real and the island can be moved!

## **And finally...**

### **The glamorous life of a White House journalist, in 2 photos**

According to today's White House pool report, photographers were given a little time to photograph President Obama in the Oval Office -- and by a little, we mean a little.

"At 11:18 am, the pool was brought to the windows outside the Oval Office for a photo spray. It lasted 10 seconds."

The White House brought the press pool out for a brief glimpse of Obama. From a distance. Through a window.

So naturally, this is what happened:



Have no fear, though, these guys are pros. Here's what AP's Jacquelyn Martin was able to snap in that short amount of time:



President Obama listens Friday during a phone call with Jordan's King Abdullah II, according to the White House, in the Oval Office. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

Paul Stevens  
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