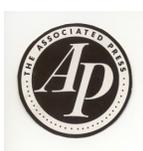

From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 19, 2014 9:24 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - August 19, 2014

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Connecting

August 19, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good morning!

A very special Happy Birthday goes out to **Ray Mittelstadt**, 90 years young today, and the father of our Connecting colleague **Mark Mittelstadt**. See story below.

Here is news of interest including the latest troubling news from Ferguson, Missouri, where AP journalists continue to put themselves in harm's way to deliver the story to the world.

Paul

A challenge for AP journalists covering Ferguson

Connecting colleague [Jim Salter](#), St. Louis AP correspondent, took time from a

busy schedule to share this report:

"It's been hectic, often dangerous, trying. A freelance photographer was knocked over and had his camera stolen. (St. Louis AP newsman) **Jim Suhr** had to sprint through tear gas, and photographers and videographers have frequently been in the midst of the tear gas. (St. Louis AP photographer) **Jeff Roberson's** wife, **Whitney**, who is also a photographer, was hit in the leg by a rubber bullet fired by police. The rest of us have faced threats from protesters, been too close for comfort to gunfire.

"AP shipped in gas masks and helmets, so that helps. Despite reports of some run-ins between journalists and police, AP folks have had no problems in that regard that I'm aware of. It is exhausting -- many of us have worked double shifts and more."

This morning's lead AP story on Ferguson, below, was bylined by St. Louis newsman **Alan Scher Zagier**, with contributions by Salter, Jefferson City correspondent **David A. Lieb**, and Portland (Oregon) newsman **Nigel Duara**.

Kansas City photographer **Charlie Riedel** has joined Roberson, who took early images of the protests, and shot this accompanying photo, showing a man detained after a standoff between protesters and police Monday during a protest for Michael Brown, who was killed by a police officer Aug. 9 in Ferguson, Mo. Brown's shooting has sparked more than a week of protests, riots and looting in the St. Louis suburb.

[Police, protesters collide again in Ferguson](#)



FERGUSON, Mo. (AP) - Police and protesters collided in the streets of Ferguson again late Monday, a day after the Missouri governor summoned the National Guard to help restore calm to the St. Louis suburb where Michael Brown was fatally shot by a police officer.

The latest clashes came at the end of a day in which a pathologist hired by the Brown family said the unarmed 18-year-old suffered a bullet wound to his right arm that may indicate his hands were up or his back was turned. But the pathologist said the team that examined Brown cannot be sure yet exactly how the wounds were inflicted until they have more information.

An independent autopsy determined that Michael Brown was shot at least six times, including twice in the head, the family's lawyers and hired pathologists said.

Witnesses have said Brown's hands were above his head when he was repeatedly shot by an officer Aug. 9 in Ferguson.

Click [here](#) to read more.

AP receives Pulliam First Amendment Award

INDIANAPOLIS - The Associated Press has been awarded the Eugene S. Pulliam First Amendment Award for its fight to protect press freedom against secret

U.S. government subpoenas of reporters' phone records.

Presented by the Sigma Delta Chi Foundation, the Society of Professional Journalists' educational foundation, the award and its \$10,000 prize recognize a person or organization that has fought to protect and preserve one or more of the rights guaranteed by the First Amendment. It is given in memory of Eugene S. Pulliam, publisher of The Indianapolis Star and The Indianapolis News from 1975 until his death in 1999. He was a staunch supporter of the First Amendment. Click [here](#) for a list of previous honorees. AP also won the award in 2011 for its work uncovering documents of public interest.



In May 2013, AP was notified that the Justice Department had secretly seized 21 AP phone lines over a two-month period. For up to three months before notifying AP, prosecutors had been going through lists of phone calls and text message logs that AP journalists had exchanged with sources, confidential and otherwise.

Since then, AP has been fighting to protect news organizations and journalists from the government's seizure of phone records without their knowledge. The news agency has fought to strengthen the media's role as a governmental check, and has made strides in preserving the rights guaranteed within the First Amendment.

"If reporters' phone calls are now open territory for the government to monitor, then news sources will be intimidated from talking to reporters," AP President and CEO Gary Pruitt said in a speech to the National Press Club last year. "Nonofficial news sources are critical to a free press and to holding government accountable. Otherwise, the public will know only what the government wants it to know. This is hardly what the framers had in mind when they wrote the First Amendment."

AP's efforts resulted in the Justice Department's finalizing new federal rules last February that restrict the government's use of subpoenas and search warrants to obtain records from journalists. The AP, along with other media organizations, continues to champion the approval of a federal shield law for journalists to be able to legally protect the confidentiality of their sources.

The Pulliam First Amendment committee wrote in its decision: "It rises high on the level of importance to the health of the First Amendment. There are a lot of problems out there involving smaller news organizations and smaller governments, but what happens in Washington can set the tone for a lot of

those smaller attempts to muzzle the press. And in the unprecedented era of government spying broadly on the public, spying on the public's watchdog raises the threat to a free and independent news media to an even higher level. We wish the case had a stronger resolution. But rewarding the AP for its effort serves to refocus attention on this horrible incident and perhaps send notice that journalists haven't forgotten."

The organization will be honored Sept. 6 at the President's Installation Banquet during the Excellence in Journalism 2014 conference in Nashville, Tenn. The conference is co-hosted by the Society of Professional Journalists and the Radio Television Digital News Association.

The AP will donate the prize money to the AP Emergency Relief Fund, which helps AP staffers who have suffered damage or losses as a result of conflict or natural disasters.

Founded in 1909 as Sigma Delta Chi, SPJ promotes the free flow of information vital to a well-informed citizenry; works to inspire and educate the next generation of journalists; and protects First Amendment guarantees of freedom of speech and press. For more information on SPJ, please visit www.spj.org.

A Happy 90th Birthday to father of Mark Mittelstadt

[Mark Mittelstadt](#) shares:

Please give a big Connecting birthday wish to my father, Ray. He was born 90 years ago today in the small northwest Iowa city of Storm Lake, the last of eight children of a brick mason and his wife. Raised in a two-story, three-bedroom house, he spent a good deal of time with his six sisters and brother playing in and around the lake swimming, fishing, sailing and ice skating.

After a stint in the Army in World War II, he returned and attended Iowa State University, graduating with a degree in engineering in 1949. He was hired by Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric



Company at their office in Fort Dodge (the call was placed for the supervisor by an attractive receptionist that Dad would eventually marry), was transferred for a time to the Quad-Cities, then returned to Storm Lake in 1988 following retirement from what is now Mid American Energy.

He and my mother, Marilyn, live on the lake, which keeps him busy with home repairs, keeping up with the yard, watching the wildlife. (Photo above shows Mark with his parents.) He enjoys the outdoors, carves wood and gets out for his daily coffee. He is active in the choir at St. John Lutheran church where he sings with one of his older sisters. My sister Sara, brother Chad, our spouses and four of the six grandchildren will be together this weekend to celebrate.

An obituary with a touch of humor

[Richard Pyle](#) - The NY Times obituary page may be one of the last places to look for humor. But of course, that depends a lot on who died.

Monday's passing parade includes Sophie Masloff, who was 96, and if you weren't told that from 1988 to 1994 she was Pittsburgh's first female mayor, her self-description as an "old Jewish grandmother" might have suggested a flair for standup comedy.

According to Times writer Robert D. McFadden, Mayor Masloff's reputation for "colorful speech" included such malapropisms as referring to the visiting rock band The Who as "the How," and to other music icons as "Brure Bedspring" and the "Dreadful Dead."

In speaking engagements, she often ("too many times," McFadden says) told audiences, "As Henry the Eighth told each of his wives, 'Don't worry. I won't keep you long.'"

And the kicker:

"Once, posing for photographs with a Yugoslav official, she said, 'You know, I've never been to Czechoslovakia.'"

"'Madame Mayor,' the indignant statesman intoned, 'I'm from Yugoslavia.'"

"'I know that,' she continued. 'But the truth is, I've never been to Czechoslovakia.'"

AP to add third-party content to AP Video Hub

The Associated Press today began an initiative to broaden the range and volume of content offered on www.apvideohub.com, its market-leading digital delivery platform for video content.

The new Content Partner Offer allows third-party suppliers to sell their content on the platform, gaining instant access to AP Video Hub's wide network of customers, which spans more than 50 countries and is increasing by 75 percent year to year. By widening the breadth of content, the program will help create the world's greatest up-to-the-minute professional video news platform.

The first partner, Newsflare, debuts on the platform today. The online video news community and marketplace for user-generated video will provide breaking news, weather and quirky video clips, adding a new dimension to AP Video Hub and meeting an increasing demand for user-generated video. The AP Video Hub platform has been a significant success since its launch and, as more and more publishers move into the digital space, we continue to evolve to meet their needs," said Sue Brooks, director of international products and platforms at AP.

"We regularly ask our customers how we can improve and this effort is as a result of their feedback." Content partners will gain access to AP's global customer network, which will ensure revenue generation and open new markets. Their content will also be featured and promoted by a team of dedicated curators, Twitter feeds and ongoing marketing communication. Partners' content will be displayed alongside AP's on the platform, but they will also have their own showcase pages so customers can explore their footage in detail.

"We are really excited to be the first Content Partner on AP Video Hub. It means we can share our members' unique and varied content with AP's impressive list of clients, giving us global reach and opening up new markets," said Bevan Thomas, commercial director for Newsflare. "We offer customers access to an exciting new type of video that is not currently easily accessible. We're seeing a huge increase in demand for our verified and rights-cleared user-generated content and, as the appetites of video news audiences continue to evolve, we'll no doubt see more broadcasters and publishers wanting to source this video."

AP Video Hub launched in 2012 to address the increase in demand from online publishers for video news.

The platform was an industry first, providing access to AP world news, entertainment, sport and lifestyle video, as well as combining breaking news with relevant footage from AP's historic archive. The result was the development of richer online storytelling for online publishers, who don't usually have the technical infrastructure to handle satellite news feeds.

More news from Ferguson

APTOPIX Police Shooting Missouri

From AP Images:



The Rev. Al Sharpton raises his hands with the crowd during a service for the Michael Brown family at the Greater Grace Church in Ferguson, Mo. on Sunday, Aug. 17, 2014. On Saturday, Aug. 9, 2014, a white police officer fatally shot Brown, an unarmed black teenager, in the St. Louis suburb. (AP Photo/St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Christian Gooden)

[With no textbooks on how to cover riots, reporters in Ferguson learning as they go](#)

The first thing you learn in covering a riot is to expect the unexpected. It's not just the rioters you have to worry about, say reporters; the authorities can be difficult - and dangerous - too.

Journalists who've been covering the ongoing unrest in Ferguson, Mo., for the past week describe being wary of both sides. If they aren't being threatened by looters, they could be in the path of tear-gas showers and rubber-bullet volleys launched by police. Many journalists have been gassed, and a few have been hurt, although none seriously it seems.

[How St. Louis' alt-weekly is covering the chaos in Ferguson](#)

A couple Fridays ago, Riverfront Times Editor Chad Garrison left his office with a cover story laid out and ready for proofreading.

But over the weekend, things changed. On Saturday, an unarmed teenager named Michael Brown was shot to death by a police officer in Ferguson, a suburb of St. Louis 22 minutes from the Riverfront Times' office. The next day, looting began.

On Monday, Garrison had to decide whether to keep the story they'd laid out before the weekend - an evergreen investigative piece, he said - or tear up the paper and scramble to put together a new cover story about Michael Brown's death.

[Why What Happened To Reporters In Ferguson Matters So Much](#)

On Wednesday, HuffPost Media tweeted the following about the scandalous treatment of reporters in Ferguson, MO:

Our splash on what happened tonight: 'SHAMEFUL'

In response, many people asked us why we only seemed to get outraged when journalists were targeted in Ferguson.

"What about the protestors?" one person asked. "Sorry for those reporters, but it's SHAMEFUL they shot an innocent kid first," another said.

These types of questions come up every time we focus on what's happening to journalists in any given situation (which happens to be HuffPost Media's particular job, but still). Why, people ask, should we pay any special attention

to people who are typically much more protected than the people they cover?



Other stories of interest

[Lauren Bacall and Harry Truman's Piano Moment Led to Bigger Things](#) (Paul Colford)

A sitting vice president entertaining a Hollywood star? Sounds like something that

could happen in Joe Biden's Washington. But a moment starring vice president Harry Truman, back in 1945, is getting renewed attention after news broke Tuesday that actress Lauren Bacall had passed away at the age of 89.

Before Bacall was truly a big star, she paid a visit in February of that year to the National Press Club in the nation's capital as a surprise guest for U.S. troops. "The story is that during World War II the club was open on Saturdays for servicemen to get free hot dogs and beer," explained Gilbert Klein, an American University journalism professor and the chairman of the press club's history committee. "Politicians could come, but they weren't allowed to talk for more than two minutes."

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[The Future of Mobile Apps for News](#)

The modern smartphone is 7 years old and yet, when it comes to designing mobile applications, we are still barely scratching the surface. Today we'll see how harnessing technology already embedded in a phone can unleash great potential.

A mobile news app has simple goals: Capture and retain reader attention, and repeat the process, several times a day. Pretty straightforward. But not that simple in the real world. For a news provider, the smartphone screen is the the most challenging environment ever seen. There, chances are that a legacy media or a pure-player will find itself in direct competition, not only with the usual players in its field, but also with Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram and scores of gaming applications. Distraction is just one icon away; any weakness in functional or graphic design can be lethal.

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[Not all great writers are good editors: why journalism's 2-step career path is problematic](#)

In the writing world, there is a hierarchy. The writers are on the bottom. Above them are editors, who tell the writers what to change. This is backwards. How many good writers has Big Edit destroyed?

"Pish posh," you might say. "You're one to talk. Your grammar is wronged, your metaphors are blunt bricks, and your similes are like a hot needle to the eyeball. Your infinitives are split, your participles are dangling, your spelling is erroneous, your cliches are old as time, your sentences are repetitive, and your sentences are repetitive. Your concepts appear to have been plucked from thin air with no foresight, hindsight, or insight. If anyone is in need of a good editor it is you. And you are ugly."

Yes. I'll grant you that. That is beside the point.

Here is the traditional career track for someone employed in journalism: first, you are a writer. If you hang on, and don't wash out, and manage not to get laid off, and don't alienate too many people, at some point you will be promoted to an editor position. It is really a two-step career journey, in the writing world. Writing, then editing. You don't have to accept a promotion to an editing position of course. You don't have to send your kids to college and pay a mortgage, necessarily. If you want to get regular promotions and raises, you will, for the most part, accept the fact that your path takes you away from writing and into editing, in some form. The number of pure writing positions that offer salaries as high as top editing positions is vanishingly small. Most well-paid writers are celebrities in the writing world. That is how few of them there are.

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Inside Scripps' entrepreneurial A-Team

E.W. Scripps CEO Rich Boehne says he's "never seen real R&D units work," so he created the Digital Solutions Group, a unit directly tasked with executing Boehne's vision of aggressively developing new business lines in this increasingly digital time. The five-person team works side by side with the company's corporate leaders.

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Time Inc. rates writers on how beneficial they are to advertisers (Bob Daugherty)

Time Inc. has fallen on hard times. Would you believe that this once-proud magazine publishing empire is now explicitly rating its editorial employees based on how friendly their writing is to advertisers?

Last year-in the opposite of a vote of confidence-Time Warner announced that it would spin off Time Inc. into its own company, an act of jettisoning print publications once and for all. Earlier this year, the company laid off 500 employees (and more layoffs are coming soon). And, most dramatically of all, Time Inc. CEO Joe Ripp now requires his magazine's editors to report to the business side of the company, a move that signals the full-scale dismantling of the traditional wall between the advertising and editorial sides of the company's magazines.

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Same-sex marriage announcement runs in the conservative New Hampshire Union Leader

Four years ago, the conservative New Hampshire Union Leader refused to publish a wedding announcement for two men, saying that "it would be hypocritical of us to do so, given our belief that marriage is and needs to remain a social and civil structure between men and women."

Publisher Joseph W. McQuaid told readers in 2010 that "we are not 'anti-gay.' We are for marriage remaining the important man-woman institution it has always been."

Over the weekend, the Union Leader published a wedding announcement for Peter Richard and Dana Dexter (at right).

The Last Word

118 Years Ago, The New York Times Crowdsourced a New Motto

Though it may seem like a product of the Internet, crowdsourcing has been around for ages.

Take, for example, an experiment run by The New York Times in 1896, when the newspaper decided it was time to replace its famous motto, "All the News That's Fit to Print."



The Times asked its readers to send in their ideas and promised \$100 to the person who came up with the best new slogan. That was a ton of money back then-enough to buy more than 600 pounds of coffee or hundreds of dress shirts. They received thousands of postcards with suggestions. Many entries rhymed ("We use all news fit to peruse") and fixated on the newspaper as a "pure" or "clean" "family paper." There were also plenty of metaphors ("The Wheat of News Threshed of Chaff") and at least one acrostic:

The
Information
Mankind
Earnestly
Seeks

The Times wrote that it had received entries from nearly every state in the union-there were 45 of them in 1896-and singled out entries from women. Many contestants "wholly ignored the request for a motto or phrase of only ten words or less," the Times wrote. Some of the other ideas that readers

sent:

"The New-York Times. Pure and truthful; clever and sound."

"What it doesn't print, you don't care to read."

"The top o' the morning to you, 365 times a year."

"Out heralds The Herald, informs The World, extinguishes The Sun."

"The Röntgen ray of journalism." (A reference to Wilhelm Röntgen, the physicist whose "Röntgen rays" we now know as X-Rays.)

"The best organized gleaner of news and sower of thoughts."

"All news complete our aim, without a blush of shame."

"All that's news without polluting; fearless truth without slander."

"The highest ideals of life in a nutshell."

"Filter of the world's action and of thought."

"Inspires patriotism, upholds morality, disdains scandal, encourages good citizenship."

"Pungent, pure, and up to date."

"A lover of humanity."

"No sensation to push its circulation, chief object being education."

"Buy The Times-We do the rest."

"The Times dares to print what people dare to read."

"The New-York Times, for news that is news."

"A lighthouse to all classes; a reservoir to the masses."

"In the best sense, a newspaper."

In the end, the Times awarded the prize to D.M. Redfield of New Haven, Connecticut, for his slogan, "All the world's news, but not a school for scandal." But the newspaper decided to keep its original motto in place.

"It is a very good motto for a newspaper," The Times wrote of Redfield's

winning words, "and if The Times did not already possess one which it thinks better, Mr. Redfield's phrase would doubtless be accepted and put in use."

In defending the decision to stick with the motto they had: "It arouses curiosity, fixes attention, provokes discussion. The grammar of the phrase, we may add, is all right, rock-ribbed, ancient, and sanctioned by the best usage of the English language."

Paul Stevens
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