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**From:** Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 08, 2014 9:22 AM  
**To:** stevenspl@live.com  
**Subject:** Connecting - September 8, 2014

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# Connecting

September 8, 2014

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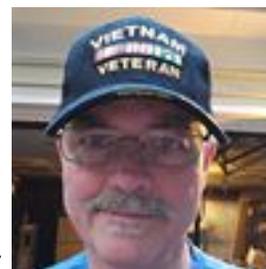
Colleagues,

Good Monday morning.

Here's to a great week ahead.

It already started well when I saw on Facebook that our Connecting colleague **Kent Flanagan** shared some good health news:

*"I'm back! Janet brought me home Sunday from my stay-cation at Williamson County Medical Center to take care of the chores I had left undone. Seriously, in the final phase of my chemotherapy treatment, I've become a prime candidate for DVT, or deep vein thrombosis. So I have achieved a goal of many retirees to put my legs up and keep them elevated. At least until medications clear up the situation. Thank you all for your prayers and kind thoughts."*



And as to the photo above, by my friend and photojournalist **Brian Corn** of The Wichita Eagle, recognition of those cameras will separate the oldsters from the youngsters in the Connecting family. Be the first to identify all three and you win a prize - of being first to do so!

The middle camera belonged to Brian's late colleague, and my old friend, the late **Jerry Clark** of the Eagle and Beacon - whom I knew and worked with during my years as AP's Wichita correspondent.

Paul



## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday

To

[Glenn White](#)

## Stories of interest

### [With Videos of Killings, ISIS Hones Social Media as a Weapon](#)

David Carr: The ostensible purpose of the recent videos that show the beheadings of two American journalists by Islamic militants is to deter attacks - your missiles on our positions will beget our knives on Western hostages - but the true aim is to spread dread and terror.

The videos deliver in miniature the same chilling message as the footage of the towers falling 13 years ago: Everything has changed, no one is safe and the United States is impotent against true believers. It is a memo from a foe that has everything to gain by goading America into a fight in a faraway land where its enemies are legion. The tactic worked back then.

And while the videos convey barbarism on an elemental level, dismissing them as crude or one-dimensional would be wrong. The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, known as ISIS, clearly has a sophisticated production unit, with good cameras, technically proficient operators and editors who have access to all the best tools.

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[James Risen: You never know how your stories will impact people](#) (Scott Charton)

Tweets from The New York Times investigative reporter James Risen.

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[Politico Executive Editor Rick Berke Resigns Over Newsroom Strategy Differences](#)

NEW YORK -- Politico executive editor Rick Berke resigned Sunday, writing in a staff memo that he disagreed with co-founders John Harris and Jim VandeHei over strategy for running the Washington news organization.

"There is no acrimony and no drama -- simply an acceptance by the three of us that the dynamics were just not there for us to function seamlessly," Berke wrote in a memo obtained by The Huffington Post. Berke did not elaborate on the specific differences with his colleagues.

Berke, who spent 27 years at the New York Times, was a marquee hire for Politico last fall. He joined shortly after VandeHei, who had been executive editor since the site's 2007 launch, became chief executive of both Politico and Capital New York.

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[Chuck Todd's 'Meet the Press' debut: A straight-talking work in progress](#)

There was no revolution Sunday as Chuck Todd debuted as host of "Meet the Press," NBC's venerable, venerated and vulnerable talk show. Little about Todd's first hour redefined Sunday talk-showing as we know it.

And it was almost as if Todd, a likable and eminently sincere presence on the television screen, knew it.

"We're living in a house as we remodel it," he told viewers.

That little admission near the top of the show encapsulated Todd's appeal while simultaneously laying out the challenge before him. Here was a host who was going to tell it to you straight. And here was a host who knows he needs to do something - something big, big, big - to resurrect a sagging brand.



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[Your Favorite Iconic Sports Photo Might Be Stolen Property](#) (Bob Daugherty)

The spectacle at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington during the buildup to 2011's Super Bowl XLV was Texas-sized: More

than 103,000 football fanatics crammed under the retractable roof of the lavish sports palace to watch the Green Bay Packers clash with the Pittsburgh Steelers. Another 3,000 diehards paid \$200 each for the privilege of standing outside in frosty winter weather to view the broadcast on a Jumbotron.

According to a lawsuit filed October 21 in U.S. District Court in Manhattan, the pageantry also included two "multi-story" images of Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers made especially for the occasion, with one draped across the exterior of the stadium and the other covering the façade of a major Dallas hotel. David Stluka, the photographer who snapped the original image of Rodgers, says he wasn't paid a cent for having his work displayed on the gigantic banners, and wasn't aware of their existence until after the fact.

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### [Al Jazeera Arabic retracts an article suggesting that beheadings of US journalists were staged](#)

Al Jazeera Arabic, the sister channel of Al Jazeera English, has retracted an article from its website which suggested the beheading of two US journalists by the Islamic State group had been staged.

Al Jazeera Arabic's managing director, Yasser Abu Hilalah, said in a statement on Saturday that the article was misleading.

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### [Tom Oates: Football with humanity and grace. Then a searing diagnosis](#)

I have a confession to make.

I will not be able to do my job today as well as I have in the past. Same goes for tomorrow and all the days after that.

And it has nothing to do with me.

Instead, it has to do with the hard-to-accept reality that Tom Mulhern (photo at right) will not be seated next to me in the press box when the University of Wisconsin football team opens its home season with a game against Western Illinois today at Camp Randall Stadium.



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### [Inside Storyful's revamped newswire service](#)

The social web has become the first port of call for many journalists in breaking news and researching stories. Relationships and face-to-face conversation are still

vital, but when news breaks on the other side of the world you have your contacts, official sources and the web.

When it launched in 2010, Storyful sought to get journalists ahead of the curve as a newswire "purpose-built for the age of Twitter and YouTube" - finding, verifying and delivering breaking news stories and content from social media - and it recently launched an overhaul of its 'newswire' service to keep it up to date with the digital media's ever-shifting landscape.

Adam Thomas, Storyful's head of product and partnerships, said the new dashboard for users is intended to make the process of finding updates and multimedia around specific stories "frictionless".

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