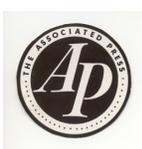

From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2014 9:16 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - September 22, 2014

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Connecting

September 22, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning - here's to a great week ahead for us all.

100 days are left in the year - let's make the most of them.

One item in today's Connecting is bound to stir your juices: it is "The Last Word" article, "Why I hope to die at 75", in the new Atlantic Monthly.

If nothing else, it is provocative and if you have thoughts to share after reading, send along my way. My friend and Connecting colleague [Jim Lagier](#) posted on Facebook that:

"Incredibly, I received the new Atlantic Monthly in tonight's mail with a renewal notice. One of the lead stories was an idiotic article on "Why I Hope To Die at 75." Stupid. A piece of garbage. He advocates no visits to doctors, no medical tests. He is 57. He plans to die at 75. Well, I am 79. The average age at my retirement community, with 9,589 residents, is 77, the oldest resident 107. In Japan, where I worked for eight years, the longevity--the highest in the world--is 77 for men and 83 for women. Shall I renew my subscription?"

Paul

Raised on radio: Morgan has seen highs, lows of industry in 50-year career

Connecting colleague [Ed Staats](#) shares this story by John Henson of the Harlan (Ky.) Daily Enterprise about the Morgan family which has owned and operated WHLN radio for more than 50 years. Ed writes that during that time, they have provided a public service to their communities in a way that is truly rare especially these days. In 1977 they won a Peabody award for their coverage of the spring floods that devastated Harlan and other communities in southeastern Kentucky. The economics of owning a small, local radio station now is such that the future of WHLN is in doubt.



Ed is quoted in the story, and notes that the rural mountain station has been a decades-long AP contributor.

The story begins:

Barely a teenager when his radio career began, Jim Morgan has spent a half century on the airwaves at WHLN Radio.

The son of a radio legend, Morgan soon carved out his own niche in county radio history. From janitor to disc jockey, then program director to general manager, Morgan learned the radio industry from the ground up and used that knowledge to help WHLN thrive for decades.

A massive plaque in the main hallway at the WHLN studios provides a reminder of the biggest moment in the station's history, the coverage of the devastating 1977 flood that earned the station the prestigious George Peabody Award in 1978. Morgan worked side by side with his father, James T. "Big Jim" Morgan, and other WHLN employees to provide vital information

to county residents, many in need of help.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Retired AP artist releases nursery rhyme works

Connecting colleague [Larry Blasko](#) shares:

Owl and Pussycat shacked up at sea for a year and a day according to Victorian poet Edward Lear, but who knows what the couple looked like?

William Castello does.

Castello, 57 and a 30-plus year AP veteran artist before departing in 2011, also has a line on this Wee Willie guy the NYPD wants to talk to about rapping at windows and yelling through locks.



Castello took up painting again after an almost-30-year time out and will be selling his multiple nursery rhyme works at the 21st Annual Apple Harvest Festival in Cairo, NY October 11-12. Besides what's shown here, more of Castello's work can be seen on his Facebook page at [William J Castello](#)



The prints are 8.5 x 11 and shown in 11 x 14 mats for \$25 each or \$20 each for five or more. Anyone interested but not in the Cairo NY neighborhood can drop the artist an e-mail at wmcas@aol.com

Castello's Staten Island easel has also produced works on commission for the Ancient Order of Hibernians and for the Garibaldi Meucci Museum in Staten Island. An unveiling of the Garibaldi work is set for Nov. 22. and Castello calls it "possibly my finest work to date."

Castello also teaches at St. John's University, his alma mater. He and his wife Maria live in the Travis section of Staten Island with their two Boston terriers, Mr. Boston and Daisy.



Connecting wishes Happy Birthday

To

[Michelle Williams](#)

Stories of interest

[In Coverage of N.F.L. Scandals, Female Voices Puncture the Din](#)

Last week, the ESPN anchor Hannah Storm did something she had never done in her 30-year career in sports broadcasting: She delivered a first-person commentary on the air. The subjects were domestic violence, the N.F.L. - and her daughters.

"I spent the week answering seemingly impossible questions about the league's biggest stars," she said, her voice starting to crack with emotion. " 'Mom: Why did he do that? Why isn't he in jail? Why didn't he get fired?' And yesterday: 'Why don't they even have control of their own players?' "

The commentary, which closed the Sunday morning edition of "SportsCenter" on Sept. 14, spread like a brush fire across the web as football fans struggled to reconcile their love of the game with the unflattering portrait of the N.F.L. that had suddenly come into focus with the Ray Rice and Adrian Peterson stories.

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[St. Louis Police Academy offering 'fun' seminar for dealing with media in 'officer-related shootings'](#)

The St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy, is offering a "fun" and "entertaining" seminar on dealing with the media as part of their continuing education program for law enforcement officers.

Following in the wake of shooting death of teen Michael Brown and the heavily criticized response by militarized police to protestors involving teargas, officers arresting members of the media, and inflammatory comments made by officers to reporters and protestors alike, the academy is offering the 8-hour voluntary seminar at their headquarters for "top-level decision-makers, command staff, and supervisors."

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[To fix the Internet, we have to fix online journalism](#)

Writing on the Internet is one of the best jobs in the whole world. I work on projects I care deeply about, and I work with and around some of the brightest, most interesting young minds in the industry. Every day on Twitter, the media industry's water cooler, I feel like I'm passing notes in the back of the class in high school.

The in-jokes and gossip are what make logging on at eight in the morning actually rewarding. Watching dozens of people I respect share my work in real time makes the hours spent typing worthwhile.

But peeking into media-insider babble can also be as alienating as crashing an Illuminati meeting. Rival networks wage bitter wars on editorial tone. Clickbait headlines mock clickbait headlines. Twitter fills up with "canoes"-popularity clusters that collect usernames until they run out of room for words.

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[Al Jazeera America journalist: Being in the military and being a journalist aren't that different](#)

The life of a journalist covering conflict and that of someone in the military aren't that different, said Al Jazeera America's Josh Rushing in a phone interview.

"My family knows that I have a backpack ready to go," he said. "I'm gone all the time. Where am I going? Really dangerous places, so there's that same fear."

Journalists and people in the military even have similar motivations, he said.

"I served in the Marines because I believed I was serving a greater cause. I'm a journalist because I believe it's serving a greater cause."

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Your paper brain and your Kindle brain aren't the same thing

Would you like paper or plasma? That's the question book lovers face now that e-reading has gone mainstream. And, as it turns out, our brains process digital reading very differently.



Manoush Zomorodi, managing editor and host of WNYC's New Tech City, recalls a conversation with the Washington Post's Mike Rosenwald, who's researched the effects of reading on a screen. "He found, like I did, that when he sat down to read a book his brain was jumping around on the page. He was skimming and he couldn't just settle down. He was treating a book like he was treating his Twitter feed," she says.

The Last Word

Why I Hope to Die at 75



Seventy-five.

That's how long I want to live: 75 years.

This preference drives my daughters crazy. It drives my brothers crazy. My loving friends think I am crazy. They think that I can't mean what I say; that I haven't thought clearly about this, because there is so much in the world to see and do. To convince me of my errors, they enumerate the myriad people

I know who are over 75 and doing quite well. They are certain that as I get closer to 75, I will push the desired age back to 80, then 85, maybe even 90.

I am sure of my position. Doubtless, death is a loss. It deprives us of experiences and milestones, of time spent with our spouse and children. In short, it deprives us of all the things we value.

But here is a simple truth that many of us seem to resist: living too long is also a loss. It renders many of us, if not disabled, then faltering and declining, a state that may not be worse than death but is nonetheless deprived. It robs us of our creativity and ability to contribute to work, society, the world. It transforms how people experience us, relate to us, and, most important, remember us. We are no longer remembered as vibrant and engaged but as feeble, ineffectual, even pathetic.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Paul Stevens
Connecting newsletter
stevenspl@live.com

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