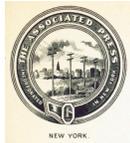

From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 18, 2014 9:55 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - October 18, 2014

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Connecting

October 18, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good Saturday morning.

Here are stories of interest.

Paul

Lubeski recalls coverage of deadly 1989 California earthquake

[Dave Lubeski](#) - I enjoyed Peggy Walsh's account of the earthquake on the 25th anniversary (in Friday's Connecting) and thought I would share my experience.

I was covering the series for AP Radio along with colleague **Mike Gracia** (*shown at left in photo*). We were sitting in the football press box at Candlestick with dozens of other reporters just before the start of Game Three. I was filling out my lineup card when the deafening noise and shaking began. Everyone left their seats and ran for the exits. I noticed that local radio reporter Bob Fouts stopped and wrapped his arms around a pillar and I decided to help him hold the stadium in place.



When it stopped shaking, the evacuees began running back into the press box looking for telephones. The phone at our seat was dead. I signaled Mike, who ran to the bank of phones in the back and found one that worked. He stayed on the line filing reports while I worked my way down to the field, interviewing spectators along the way before finding Commissioner Fay Vincent in his golf cart near second base. Two or three newspaper reporters were talking to him. I was the first and only broadcast reporter with a microphone in the group.

I got to the clubhouse and gathered more audio, talking to umpires, players and team officials before heading back upstairs to file.

It was dark before we made our way back to the city and our hotel room. I was staying on the 21st floor of the Meridien, and Mike's room was on the 27th floor. There was no power, so we had to walk up the stairs to our rooms. The only light was from the emergency lighting in the hallways, so most people gathered outside their rooms. It was almost a festive atmosphere on each floor as strangers mingled in the dim light of the hallways.

After climbing the stairs 21 floors, I opened the door to my room and from the dim emergency light in the hallway I could see chairs overturned, drawers opened and clothes that had been hanging up were scattered on the floor. It looked like my room had been ransacked. On the 27th floor, Mike was unable to get the door open to his room. It was jammed shut.

In the next couple of days, the hotel got one elevator to work, but it had to be manually operated by a bellhop. Pressing a button to call for the elevator didn't work, so the bellhop would "cruise" up and down listening for someone pounding on the door as the means for calling for a ride down.

Before more of our AP Radio colleagues arrived in the next few days, I would do live reports from a downtown parking lot where a satellite transmission location had been set up for network affiliates, then I would go to the Mission District where most of the damage seemed to be. Mike went to Oakland and reported on the recovering efforts on the collapsed freeway. One day we drove to Watsonville, the epicenter of the quake, and talked to victims and officials. When baseball activity resumed I would go to Candlestick for player interviews and to the HQ hotel for a Fay Vincent news conference. When Tony LaRussa took his Oakland A's to their spring training facility in Arizona, Mike went with them.

We remembered that the city slowly came back to life in the week following the quake as our nerves took a beating each time one of the many aftershocks started shaking the ground. It was 10 days before Game Three was played. We would have had baseball in November if the A's hadn't completed a four-game sweep.

Peggy noted that 63 people died. I still have a copy of the San Francisco Chronicle with the big, bold front page headline that read: Hundreds Dead In Killer Quake.

The photo above of Mike Gracia and me was taken just before the resumption of play. The press box where we were seated when it all began is in the background of the photo.

Dawn of the age of the Leading Edge computer



It was around 1986 when AP chiefs of bureau got the memo that would change their professional lives and the way they did business. Eventually, in a good way!

The AP invested in the first computer system for bureau chiefs, the Leading Edge, and scheduled a series of meetings in Kansas City under the tutelage of **Bill Cunningham**, director of MIS at the time, and his able assistant, [Paul Shane](#), who is our Connecting colleague.

The photo above shows one of the training groups: seated, **Hank Ackerman** and **Peggy Walsh**. Standing, from left: **Bill Cunningham, Marty Thompson, Rick Spratling, Bill Beecham, Larry McDermott, Paul Stevens, Chuck Lewis, Byron Yake** and **Paul Shane**. We all got the memo on wearing white shirts, except for a stylishly dressed Peggy!

Paul Shane shares:

The Leading Edge computer was released in July 1985 with a \$1,495 initial price, according to Wikipedia. AP may have paid about \$1,200 including the orange type-faced monitor (see below). Byron, then assistant to AP President and CEO **Lou Boccardi**, organized the week-long project in which we divided the COBs into three two-day training classes at which we introduced the PCs, word processing and email. At the end of each class, each CoB packed and labeled his or her Leading Edge for shipping back to their bureaus. Kansas City was chosen because it was in the center of the country travel-wise.

Starting soon after, I was busy giving phone support. I was impressed at how eager almost everyone was to use the technology.

An aside from Paul:

I remember buying those and about 300 more Leading Edges from a small computer shop in Stroudsburg, PA. I had the day off and was working on my van and had gone to a paint shop. I was dirty and greasy and dressed in grubs. A new computer shop was next door, so I had to check it out. I was amazed to find the best prices ever for Leading Edges. Two salesmen in the store ignored the grubby guy in a holey tee shirt. After about 20 minutes, the store manager came over. I said the prices were good and how many could I buy. By this time, the sales people were listening. The manager asked how many I needed. I said I would take 350 if he could deliver them to our NY office. He said he not only would deliver the PCs, but would take off another \$100 each because he would not have to pay the clerks a sales commission. I called Cunningham and he said to go for it.

[Marty Thompson](#) added, "The Hendrix computers introduced in our newsrooms in the 70s ushered in a new way to write news and get it on what we used to call the wire. Bill Cunningham and Paul Shane ushered the bureau chiefs into the computer age in the 80s, and we never looked back. Today's computers may remind us that the Leading Edges were smilingly referred to as "Trailing Edges," but they were a great

advance. Paul Shane's gentle touch as a teacher made all the difference, in Kansas City and later on the phone bailing us out. His smiling guidance was also invaluable as a trainer and helper at headquarters. I am grateful still today."

Connecting mailbox

Lauds professionalism of communications staff

[Joe Edwards](#) - The communications people in the bygone era were, in fact, very professional. (We called them operators when I started with AP in 1970.)

I was alone in the Nashville bureau on a Saturday afternoon very early in my career. The phone was ringing constantly with schools reporting their college football scores and details about the game. Traffic chief (remember that title?) Charlie Gibson, sensing my exasperation, put down his ever present cigar and pitched in, taking a scoring summary in perfect AP style.

He'll never know how much I appreciated his help.

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Connecting sky shot - sunrise in Bangkok



Connecting colleague **Ted Anthony** shared this view from The New Anthony Homeplace in Bangkok, where he is the AP's Asia-Pacific news director.

How To Report On Ebola: Journalists Find

Hazmat Suits A Hindrance In Hot Zone



During the 13 days she spent covering the Ebola epidemic in Sierra Leone, Guardian newspaper journalist Monica Mark took every precaution. She checked her temperature every morning, every night and at any moment she felt the slightest twinge or ache. She hired a driver to avoid a taxi that could have been contaminated with someone exposed to the virus. In-person interviews were conducted at a distance. Washing her hands and boots with chlorine became second nature. So did wearing long johns and long-sleeved shirts in West Africa's blazing heat. Wiping sweat off her brow was out of the question.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Regarding the AP in this story:

The Associated Press is taking similar precautions. Reporters are told not to sit down or touch anything while in affected neighborhoods. Interviews should be conducted at a "greater-than-normal physical distance" and outside. All meals are eaten at their respective hotels.

"AP staffers are having their temperatures monitored through the day. They're avoiding taxi cabs or unknown drivers and carrying bottles of bleach spray to clean their shoes and gear every time before they enter the vehicle arranged for them by the owner of their hotel. They require the driver to have hand sanitizer, bleach and protective footwear," AP spokesman Paul Colford said.

AP Advisory on Ebola coverage

Posted on 10/17/2014 by **Erin Madigan White** In an advisory to editors at member and customer news organizations, The Associated Press outlined the careful steps it is taking in covering the Ebola story.

EDITORS:

We're increasingly hearing reports of "suspected" cases of Ebola in the United States and Europe. The AP has exercised caution in reporting these cases and will continue to do so.

Most of these suspected cases turn out to be negative. Our bureaus monitor them, but we have not been moving stories or imagery simply because a doctor suspects Ebola and routine precautions are taken while the patient is tested. To report such a case, we look for a solid source saying Ebola is suspected and some sense the case

has caused serious disruption or reaction. Are buildings being closed and substantial numbers of people being evacuated or isolated? Is a plane being diverted? Is the suspected case closely related to another, confirmed Ebola case?

When we do report a suspected case, we will seek to keep our stories brief and in perspective.

The AP

Lindsey Bahr named AP film writer in LA

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- Lindsey Bahr, who has covered the Hollywood movie scene from castings to Comic-Con as a correspondent for Entertainment Weekly, has been named film writer for The Associated Press in Los Angeles.

Bahr, 30, has reported on all facets of the film business at EW, including the Oscars and other major award shows, film festivals, breaking news, trend stories, talent profiles and box office analysis. She also reviewed movies and contributed to EW's video, photo and Sirius XM radio formats.



"Lindsey brings an impressive array of skills and a unique versatility to our film beat," said Steve Loeper, AP's West Coast entertainment editor. "Her varied skillset and fresh perspective are ideally suited to follow Hollywood's seismic shift into the digital era."

Prior to Entertainment Weekly, Bahr was a contributing writer for The Atlantic, where she produced feature articles on movies, television and music. She has also worked at People magazine and written for various blog sites.

Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Bahr has a Bachelor of Science degree in journalism and political science from Northwestern University.

Bahr will partner with Jake Coyle, AP's New York-based film writer, to cover movie developments worldwide. She begins Nov. 10.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



(on Sunday)
To

[Pat Adsit Kreger](#)

[Steve Herman](#)

Stories of interest

[If news media had covered Ebola sooner, could latest outbreak have been contained?](#)

On June 3, the international humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders issued a news release with a stark headline: "Resurgence of Epidemic Ebola in West Africa." A day later, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak one of the deadliest ever, with 223 victims in three countries.

Neither announcement caused much of a stir in newsrooms across the United States.

The Associated Press moved a 315-word dispatch about the developments. The New York Times carried a brief editorial a few days later ("the outbreaks will require a large educational effort to alert people to the dangers" of the virus, it decorously advised). No U.S. television network said a word about it, according to the Nexis database.

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[Princeton signs complaining about Dr. Nancy Snyderman's violation of Ebola quarantine disappear overnight](#) (Mark Mittelstadt)

PRINCETON - Signs posted on kiosks in downtown Princeton encouraging residents to keep an eye out for NBC news chief medical correspondent Dr. Nancy Snyderman while she remains under an Ebola quarantine at her Princeton home disappeared overnight.

The fliers included Snyderman's address and children's names and were posted on community kiosks, which serve as an open forum for community announcements.

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[The Washington Post launches a national weekly print edition](#) (Bob Daugherty)

The Washington Post will begin offering a weekly print edition featuring the best national and international news from The Post. The 24-page, color tabloid publication will include local advertising and Washington Post content printed and distributed by partner newspapers through a separate subscription as an added benefit to subscribers.

The weekly publication will complement partners' daily newspapers with a selection of The Washington Post's best journalism, including coverage of politics, policy, national and world events, lifestyle, and the arts along with a wide range of commentary.

This weekly Post publication will launch first with The Dallas Morning News this weekend, and will be available to other newspapers.

AND

[New York Times launches its international weekly in US](#)

The New York Times today announced that it will begin offering its International Weekly supplement to U.S.-based publishers, starting with an agreement with The Dallas Morning News.

The New York Times International Weekly is an 8- to 16-page supplement from The New York Times that provides coverage of international affairs, business, science, technology and culture. Designed to complement the daily report of other publications, the supplement is distributed as a stand-alone section within 36 newspapers in 24 countries, The Times announced in a news release.

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[Sulzberger: Times cuts are 'painful'](#)

New York Times publisher and chairman Arthur Sulzberger Jr. told an audience at New York University's journalism school Thursday evening that while the buyouts and layoffs taking place now at his newspaper are "painful," they also are necessary to refocus the Times.



Roughly two-dozen business-side jobs were

eliminated earlier this month with a limited number of buyouts also on the table. The newsroom is seeking to eliminate 100 positions, ideally through voluntary buyouts, marking the paper's fourth editorial culling since the first such downsizing in its history took place six years ago.

But Sulzberger pointed out that the Times, which is adapting journalistically and economically to changes in consumer and advertiser platforms, has been reinvesting in new digital talent across the organization.

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Oct. 18, the 291st day of 2014. There are 74 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 18, 1767, the Mason-Dixon line, the boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland, was set as astronomer Charles Mason and surveyor Jeremiah Dixon completed their survey.

On this date:

In 1685, King Louis XIV signed the Edict of Fontainebleau, revoking the Edict of Nantes that had established legal toleration of France's Protestant population, the Huguenots.

In 1867, the United States took formal possession of Alaska from Russia.

In 1892, the first long-distance telephone line between New York and Chicago was officially opened (it could only handle one call at a time).

In 1922, the British Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (later the British Broadcasting Corp.) was founded.

In 1931, inventor Thomas Alva Edison died in West Orange, New Jersey, at age 84.

In 1944, Soviet troops invaded Czechoslovakia during World War II.

In 1954, Texas Instruments unveiled the Regency TR-1, the first commercially produced transistor radio.

In 1962, James D. Watson, Francis Crick and Maurice Wilkins were honored with the Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology for determining the double-helix molecular structure of DNA.

In 1969, the federal government banned artificial sweeteners known as cyclamates (SY'-kluh-maytz) because of evidence they caused cancer in laboratory rats.

In 1972, Congress passed the Clean Water Act, overriding President Richard Nixon's veto.

In 1977, West German commandos stormed a hijacked Lufthansa jetliner on the ground in Mogadishu, Somalia, freeing all 86 hostages and killing three of the four hijackers.

In 1984, actor Jon-Erik Hexum, 26, was taken off life support six days after shooting himself in the head with a pistol loaded with a blank cartridge on the set of his TV show "Cover Up."

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush and Democratic rival John Kerry traded biting accusations over the war in Iraq, with Bush saying his Democratic challenger stood for "protest and defeatism" while Kerry accused the president of "arrogant boasting." An Anglican church commission urged the U.S. Episcopal Church not to elect any more gay bishops and called on conservative African bishops to stop meddling in the affairs of other dioceses.

Five years ago: A suicide bomber struck a meeting between Revolutionary Guard commanders and Shiite and Sunni tribal leaders in the Iranian border town of Pishin, killing 42 people, including 15 Guard members. Jessica Watson, a 16-year-old Australian, steered her bright pink yacht out of Sydney Harbor to start her bid to become the youngest person to sail solo and unassisted around the world. (She succeeded, returning to Sydney Harbor in May 2010.)

One year ago: People in the San Francisco Bay area faced a frustrating Friday commute as workers for the region's largest transit system walked off the job for the second time in four months. President Barack Obama nominated the Pentagon's former top lawyer, Jeh (jay) C. Johnson, to be the next Secretary of Homeland Security. In a stunning about-face, Saudi Arabia rejected a coveted seat on the U.N. Security Council, denouncing the body for failing to resolve world conflicts such as Syria's civil war. The St. Louis Cardinals advanced to their second World Series in three seasons by roughing up the Los Angeles Dodgers 9-0 in Game 6 of the NL championship series. Former House Speaker Tom Foley, 84, died in Washington, D.C. Former NFL coach Bum Phillips, 90, died in Goliad, Texas.

Today's Birthdays: Rock-and-roll performer Chuck Berry is 88. Sportscaster Keith Jackson is 86. Actress Dawn Wells is 76. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Mike Ditka is 75. Singer-musician Russ Giguere is 71. Actor Joe Morton is 67. Actress Pam Dawber is 64. Author Terry McMillan is 63. Writer-producer Chuck Lorre is 62. Gospel singer Vickie Winans is 61. Director-screenwriter David Twohy (TOO'-ee) is 59. International Tennis Hall of Famer Martina Navratilova is 58. Boxer Thomas Hearns is 56. Actor Jean-Claude Van Damme is 54. Actress Erin Moran is 54. Jazz musician Wynton Marsalis is 53. Actor Vincent Spano is 52. Rock musician Tim Cross is 48. Tennis player Michael Stich (shteeck) is 46. Singer Nonchalant is 41. Actress Joy Bryant is 40. Rock musician Peter Svenson (The Cardigans) is 40. Actor Wesley Jonathan is 36. Rhythm-and-blues singer-actor Ne-Yo is 35. Country singer Josh Gracin is 34.

Country musician Jesse Littleton (Marshall Dyllon) is 33. Olympic gold medal skier Lindsey Vonn is 30. Jazz singer-musician Esperanza Spalding is 30. Actress-model Freida Pinto is 30. Actor Zac Efron is 27. Actress Joy Lauren is 25. TV personality Bristol Palin is 24. Actor Tyler Posey is 23. Actor Toby Regbo (TV: "Reign") is 23.

Thought for Today: "The strongest are those who renounce their own times and become a living part of those yet to come. The strongest, and the rarest." - Milovan Djilas (1911-1995), Yugoslav author and politician.

The Final Word

Sorry, former Secretary of State James Baker, but we have a missing goat in tow.



Paul Stevens

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