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**From:** Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]  
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**To:** stevenspl@live.com  
**Subject:** Connecting - November 14, 2014

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# Connecting

November 14, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Here are stories of interest.

Paul

## Connecting mailbox

***John Dowling: He was one of us***

**Richard Pyle** ([Email](#)) - I don't think **John Dowling** and I ever actually crossed paths at AP but I can tell from what's being said about his departure that he was one of us, and one of the best, in his understanding of what AP was about, and his professional commitment to it.

And as journalism as once practiced continues to evolve into something different and at times almost alien, John's graceful sayonara message has a special resonance.

In 2009, some 300 longtime staffers worldwide were essentially given the gate, but

under far different terms - a so-called "75 rule." If your combined age and years of AP service added up to 75 or more, you were eligible to choose between staying on (to an uncertain future) or leaving with a reasonable (but not lavish) buyout.

That this corporate "clearance sale" was presented as a one-time event, not to be repeated, was another powerful inducement for many who took it. It was also helpful to be able to feel that after 49 years with AP, one had nothing left to prove.

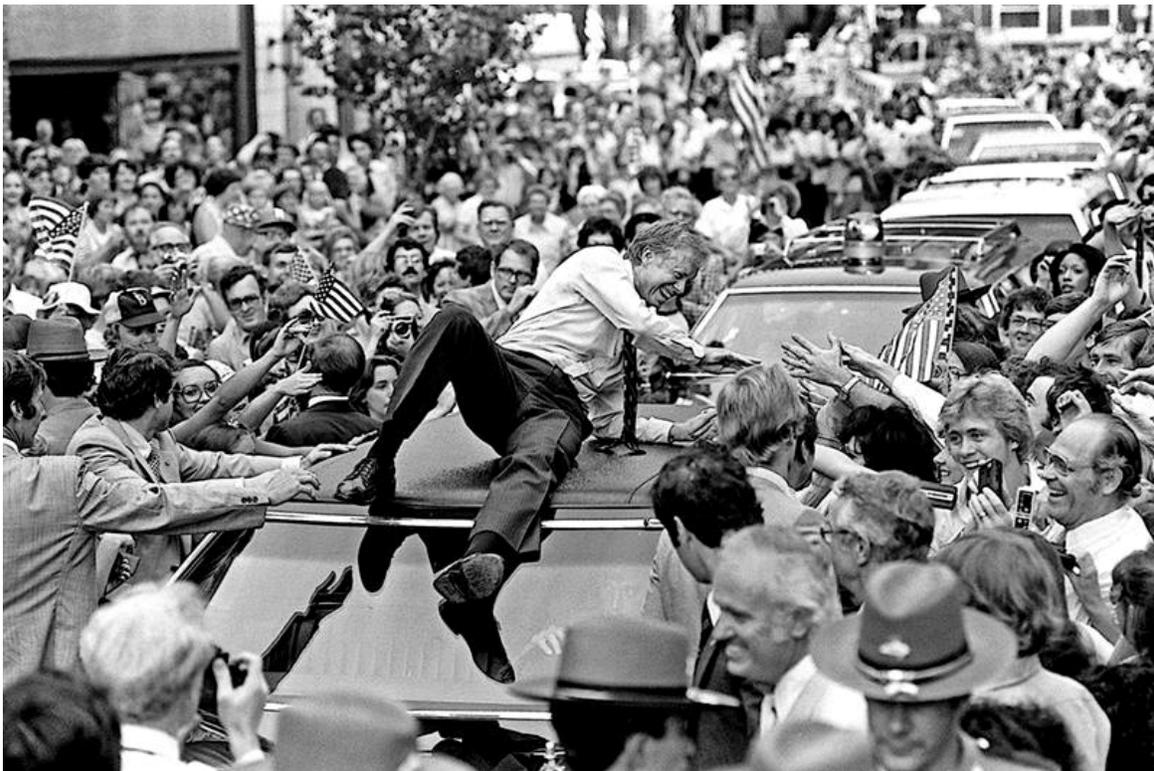
But even as this humane but barely visible exodus proceeded, other staffers who did not qualify for the 75-rule were also being terminated. And with less dignity.

I don't know how many, but I have the lasting memory of a woman whom I'd known as a co-worker for many years actually being escorted to the elevators, cardboard box in hand, tears streaking her face.

She was one of us, too.

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***Best campaign photo Bob Daugherty ever made***



**Bob Daugherty** ([Email](#)) - It had been a long day, July 31, 1979, of slogging through dark factories in Louisville. The images were near worthless. President Carter was slated to drive through Bardstown, Ky. on his way to a town hall meeting nearby. The traveling press was given the option of skipping Bardstown and going directly to the school where the debate was to be held. The two wires, myself and the UPI photographer, stayed with

the president, of course. He arrived in Bardstown and we two photographers climbed on a flatbed truck in front of the presidential limo. His car moved a few feet and stopped.

To our surprise, Carter stepped way out of character. He got out of the vehicle, walked to the front and sat on the hood. He next scooted over the windshield and reclined atop of the car. No one would have predicted that Carter, who didn't count photographers among his friends, would do anything to make their life any easier. This is certainly the best campaign image I ever made, but it wasn't good enough to save Carter from defeat at the hands of Ronald Reagan.

Photo editor **Brian Horton** noted: "Will never forget pulling that roll of film off the Nikkor reel and seeing a whole string of images like this one. Moved the first one and (AP photo director) **Hal Buell** called to tell me to keep them rolling. You had the top of the NY Times, with a rare wire service credit, the next morning. Thanks, Bob, for making this young (at the time) editor's heart soar! One of the high points of my career."

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### ***Finding the cushiest job in the Army***

**Eric Newhouse** ([Email](#)) - **John Strachan**'s memories of serving in Vietnam in your Veteran's Day issue triggered a bunch of memories for me as well.

I was drafted in '68 and worked with John a couple of months later on the base newspaper at Fort Meade, Md. I thought that job might save me from going to 'Nam, but John knew otherwise. One day, he bounded into the office, exuberant that he'd found the cushiest job in the Army, one that would save him from 'Nam. A few days later, he slouched in and announced he'd just received orders to 'Nam. Did I want the cushiest job in the Army, he asked?

Hell yes!

That's how I spent the next 18 months writing press releases and booking concerts for the U.S. Army Field Band and Soldier's Chorus from the safety of Fort Meade.

For years, I wondered if John had survived the war. Then in the mid-80s, I met him again at an awards ceremony in DC where I had brought my broadcast editor and statehouse correspondent from Charleston, W. Va., to receive national broadcast reporting awards.

By 9/11, I'd resigned as AP COB in West Virginia and become projects editor of the Great Falls (Mont.) Tribune, where I began writing a lot about vets. Since I'd come through the 'Nam era relatively unscathed, I reasoned, I should fight to make sure this generation of soldiers received treatment for their emotional wounds that my generation never did. That led directly to my book, *Faces of Combat: PTSD & TBI*. I'm currently blogging on that issue for Psychology Today at <http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/invisible-wounds> and working on a sequel to my book which I plan to call *Faces of Recovery*.

PS, please thank **Linda Deutsch** for correcting the year of Elvis Presley's death and tell her that the rest of that story goes like this: As I was dictating the bulletin and urgent adds of Elvis' burial from a phone in a mortuary near his mausoleum in Memphis, the back door opened and the mortician (whom I'd paid \$25 for exclusive use of his phone that afternoon) and an assistant rushed in.

OK if we do a little work?" he asked. I nodded yes and kept dictating.

They rushed over to a stainless steel table beside me and picked up the naked corpse of a skinny old lady with white hair. They carried it, board-stiff, to a casket on the floor, then dropped it onto the concrete floor so the mortician could plump up the velvet in the casket a bit. Then they put her in the casket, and the mortician pulled her head forward, placed a wooden doorstep behind it and knocked her head back with the heel of his hand. He closed her China-blue eyes and placed a blue dress with white lace over her naked body. Then they closed the casket and as they rushed out the back door, the mortician called to me, "Thanks buddy, funeral's at five."

I was still staring at the back door as I finished dictating the last details of Elvis' funeral to the General Desk in New York.

## AP Images Close-Up



*In this Oct. 10, 2013 photo, Aida Diallo, whose ten-year-old son Bamba was killed when a fire struck the Dakar shack where he was sleeping along with other Quranic students, sits in her one-room home in the village of Ndame, Senegal. Bamba's older brother Cheikhou, 13, managed to escape the fire which killed Bamba and three of their cousins. (AP*

*Photo/Rebecca Blackwell)*

Photographer **Rebecca Blackwell** joined the AP as West Africa photographer in 2007, before moving to the Mexico City bureau in 2014.

From her West Africa base in Dakar, Senegal, Rebecca covered news stories across the African continent, including conflicts in Ivory Coast and Central African Republic, the dangers of childbirth in rural Guinea-Bissau, a Somali refugee crisis, and more elections and coups than she can count. She was also part of the AP team that covered the 2010 World Cup and the 2012 London Olympics.

Originally from New York and New Jersey, Rebecca holds a degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University. She began her photographic career at a small weekly paper in New Jersey before moving to Senegal to freelance in 2004.



From her new base in Mexico City, Rebecca - shown in this 2012 photo - covers a range of general news and features, including the difficult journey through Mexico faced by Central American migrants trying to reach the U.S.

## Welcome to Connecting



**Bebeto Matthews** ([Email](#))

Bebeto is an AP photographer based in the New York City bureau. He is a native of Jamaica.



In this photo he took on Veterans Day on Tuesday, Maggie Morth holds a 1942 picture of her father Henry Morth as she waves to West Point military cadets marching in the Veterans Day parade in New York. Morth, who lives in Brooklyn, said the photo was made of her father before he went off to World War II from North Dakota where she grew up. "I like to bring dad to the parade. It (the photo) seems to have a powerful connection with marchers," said Morth.

### **Jerry Harkavy [\(Email\)](#)**

Jerry: I grew up in the Bronx, N.Y., and graduated from New York University. My interest in journalism came about after I landed a part-time job as a New York Times copyboy while in school. After graduation, I served as an Army information officer in Vietnam and was hired by AP after my military service ended in January 1968.

Offered a choice of openings in Providence, R.I., or Portland, Maine, I took Portland sight unseen. I quickly fell in love with Maine, a state with interesting people and fascinating feature material. At age 66, with 41 years of service, I accepted the buyout in 2009 in which AP reduced its workforce by 100.

My wife Addy and I live just outside Portland in Cape Elizabeth, where we met as runners in a road race. Our daughter Rebecca lives in Washington state and our son Edward in Oregon, but the nest isn't entirely empty - we have six dogs. Retirement has kept me busy: I take courses at Senior College, volunteer as a Medicare counselor at the local agency on aging and enjoy bicycling and hiking and snowshoeing in New Hampshire's White Mountains.

# Stories of interest

[Dead 'Car Talk' host won't be listed on column](#) (Written and shared by Bill Kole)



BOSTON (AP) - "Car Talk" co-host Tom Magliozzi (*right, in photo*) won't be dispensing automotive advice from the grave as some newspapers feared.

Magliozzi, who hosted the hugely popular public radio show with his brother, died Nov. 3. After his death, New York-based King Features Syndicate suggested the brothers' newspaper column might continue to list both Tom and Ray Magliozzi as co-creators.

Some newspaper editors nationwide threatened to cancel the "Click and Clack" column. Providence Journal executive editor Karen Bordeleau said she worried about the ethics of having it appear as though Tom Magliozzi was still answering readers' questions.

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## [Nielsen: TV Industry Needs New Ratings Standards](#)

Nielsen, increasingly under fire for falling short as the industry standard for television ratings, today said the TV industry needs to find new ways to measure "total audience" and advertising campaign views.

Earlier today, Viacom, which has squabbled with Nielsen over alleged past under-counting of viewers for Nickelodeon, said it aimed to increase the share of advertising revenue that comes from views on devices that Nielsen doesn't currently measure, such as game platforms. That was after Nielsen caught some grief in October when it disclosed that a glitch that went undiscovered for more than six months had counted viewers against the wrong networks, prompting a restatement of ratings, though Nielsen said the errors were slight.

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## [A final headline for a veteran Missouri newsman](#)



**By Eric Adler**  
**The Kansas City Star**

BUTLER, Mo. A true newspaperman can tell when a story is about to end.

"Don't you think we need to talk?" C.A. Moore said to his wife just weeks ago from his hospital bed.

At age 83, thin and diminutive at less than 5'2" tall, Clark A. Moore on this day was still as alert as a quotation mark, even if his shoulders had started to curve as much with age. For nearly 70 years, he'd known no other job than newspapering, tossing Bates County's dailies as a boy.

After high school, he became a typesetter, a photographer, a writer. When, 30 years ago, the late publisher Jim Peters decided to start a newspaper alongside his successful all-advertising penny shopper, he went to his friend C.A. and handed him the keys and editorial control.

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### [In China, Blunt Talk to Reporters on Access](#)

For years, Western news organizations had tried to interpret the Chinese government's position toward critical press coverage, sensing that Beijing would punish journalists for reports it did not like by miring visa requests in bureaucracy, or simply declining them.

On Wednesday, that position was stated in unusually blunt language. At a news conference in Beijing alongside President Obama, China's leader, Xi Jinping, appeared to draw a link between unfavorable coverage and access for reporters, saying that the visa problems of news organizations were of their own making. "When a car breaks down on the road, perhaps we need to step down and see what the problem is," he said.

## AP Best of the States

Breaking News Staffers often play a critical role in assuring the success of AP's coverage of major spot news, aggressively working the phones from the desk while also helping coordinate coverage.

Philadelphia's early Breaking News Supervisor (BNS), **Michael Sisak**, who recently transferred from the New York City bureau, took this role to a whole new level following the rescue of a woman abducted from a Philadelphia street, and the arrest of her alleged kidnapper.

The story gave Sisak an opportunity to demonstrate his expertise in mining online records and his strong multimedia skills while also getting out early ledes on the case.

After police identified the suspect, Sisak dove into Pennsylvania and Virginia court records and started compiling a criminal history through multiple databases, also pulling a bankruptcy filing that shed additional light on the defendant's time in the two states.

Noticing that court records showed Barnes served his full eight-year sentence for an

aggravated assault conviction ( a rarity), he went to the parole board for answers, obtaining six pages of decisions documenting why he was not recommended for parole.

Meanwhile, determined to interview Philadelphia's police commissioner on the case - and sub out comments the commissioner made on early morning network TV with AP's own material - Sisak persuaded the police department to get him a one-on-one with the commissioner.

Realizing there was interest in the interview in all platforms, Sisak grabbed a Canon 5D Mark II camera that the photo department keeps in the bureau and shot video of his interview, too. He cut up the video on his laptop and sent it to the BNC, and a clip was included in AP's video package.

Not forgetting AP Radio, he also used his iPhone to grab audio, which he shipped off to the BNC; it, too, was provided to members.

While this was also going on, another major spot news story was breaking in the Philadelphia area. A district attorney was preparing to hold a news conference on the torture death of a 3-year-old boy. Knowing that AP did not have anyone to send, Sisak pressed the DA's office for the criminal complaints, which the office sent to the AP ahead of the competition. They arrived while the two charged in the boy's murder were being arraigned.

For demonstrating the full potential of the BNS role, Sisak wins this week's \$300 Best of the States prize.

*(Shared by Valerie Komor)*

## Today in History

**By The Associated Press**

**Today is Friday, Nov. 14, the 318th day of 2014. There are 47 days left in the year.**

**Today's Highlights in History:**

On Nov. 14, 1889, inspired by the Jules Verne novel "Around the World in Eighty Days," New York World reporter Nellie Bly (Elizabeth Cochrane) set out to make the trip in less time than the fictional Phileas Fogg. (She completed the journey in 72 days.) Jawarharlal Nehru (juh-wah-hahr-LAHL' NAY'-roo), the first prime minister of India, was born.

**On this date:**

In 1851, Herman Melville's novel "Moby-Dick; Or, The Whale" was first published in the United States.

In 1910, Eugene B. Ely became the first aviator to take off from a ship as his Curtiss pusher rolled off a sloping platform on the deck of the scout cruiser USS Birmingham off Hampton Roads, Virginia.

In 1922, the British Broadcasting Co. began its domestic radio service.

In 1940, during World War II, German planes destroyed most of the English town of Coventry.

In 1944, Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra recorded "Opus No. 1" for RCA Victor.

In 1954, the president of Egypt, Muhammad Naguib, was deposed by the Revolutionary Command Council, leaving Gamal Abdel Nasser fully in charge as acting head of state.

In 1969, Apollo 12 blasted off for the moon.

In 1970, a chartered Southern Airways DC-9 crashed while trying to land in West Virginia, killing all 75 people on board, including the Marshall University football team and its coaching staff.

In 1972, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above the 1,000 level for the first time, ending the day at 1,003.16.

In 1986, the Securities and Exchange Commission imposed a \$100 million penalty against inside-trader Ivan F. Boesky and barred him from working again in the securities industry.

In 1990, it was revealed that the pop duo Milli Vanilli (Rob Pilatus and Fabrice Morvan) had done none of the singing on their Grammy-winning debut album "Girl You Know It's True."

In 1997, a jury in Fairfax, Virginia, decided that Pakistani national Aimal Khan Kasi (eye-MAHL' kahn KAH'-see) should get the death penalty for gunning down two CIA employees outside agency headquarters. Five years later on this date, Aimal Khan Kasi was executed.

Ten years ago: Mahmoud Abbas, successor to Yasser Arafat, escaped unharmed when militants firing assault rifles burst into a mourning tent for the deceased Palestinian leader in Gaza, killing two security guards. Usher was honored with four trophies at the American Music Awards in Los Angeles: favorite male soul-R&B artist, best pop-rock album, best pop-rock artist and best soul-R&B album.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama, on a mission to repair America's global standing, told Asian countries during a speech in Tokyo that he was determined to engage them as equal partners in the economy, diplomacy and security.

One year ago: Reversing course, President Barack Obama said millions of Americans should be allowed to renew individual coverage plans ticketed for cancellation under the health care law. During a confirmation hearing before the Senate Banking Committee, Janet Yellen made clear she would be prepared to stand by the Federal Reserve's low-interest policies, if she were confirmed as Fed chair. Former Boston crime boss James "Whitey" Bulger was led off to prison to begin serving a life sentence at 84 for his murderous reign in the 1970s and '80s. Pittsburgh Pirates center fielder Andrew McCutchen and Detroit Tigers slugger Miguel Cabrera won baseball's Most Valuable Player awards.

Today's Birthdays: Former U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali is 92. Actress Kathleen Hughes is 86. Former MLB All-Star Jimmy Piersall is 85. Former NASA astronaut Fred Haise is 81. Jazz musician Ellis Marsalis is 80. Composer Wendy Carlos is 75. Writer P.J. O'Rourke is 67. Zydeco singer-musician Buckwheat Zydeco is 67. Britain's Prince Charles is 66. Rock singer-musician James Young (Styx) is 65. Singer Stephen Bishop is 63. Blues musician Anson Funderburgh is 60. Pianist Yanni is 60. Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is 60. Presidential adviser Valerie Jarrett is 58. Actress Laura San Giacomo (JEE'-ah-koh-moh) is 53. Actor D.B. Sweeney is 53. Rapper Reverend Run (Run-DMC) is 50. Actor Patrick Warburton is 50. Rock musician Nic Dalton is 50. Country singer Rockie Lynne is 50. Pop singer Jeanette Jurado (Expose) is 49. Retired MLB All-Star pitcher Curt Schilling is 48. Rock musician Brian Yale is 46. Rock singer Butch Walker is 45. Actor Josh Duhamel (du-MEHL') is 42. Rock musician Travis Barker is 39. Contemporary Christian musician Robby Shaffer is 39. Actor Brian Dietzen (TV: "NCIS") is 37. Rapper Shyheim is 37. Rock musician Tobin Esperance (Papa Roach) is 35. Actress Olga Kurylenko is 35. Actress/comedian Vanessa Bayer (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 33. Actor Graham Patrick Martin is 23.

***Thought for Today: "Adventure is not outside man; it is within." - George Eliot, English author (1819-1880).***

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