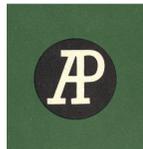

From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Saturday, November 15, 2014 9:33 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - November 15, 2014

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Connecting

November 15, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good Saturday morning!

Since Connecting recently started including Today in History in each edition, a few of you have remarked to me that they liked its addition because they had actually covered some of the historical events that are listed. One of you said it made him feel even older!

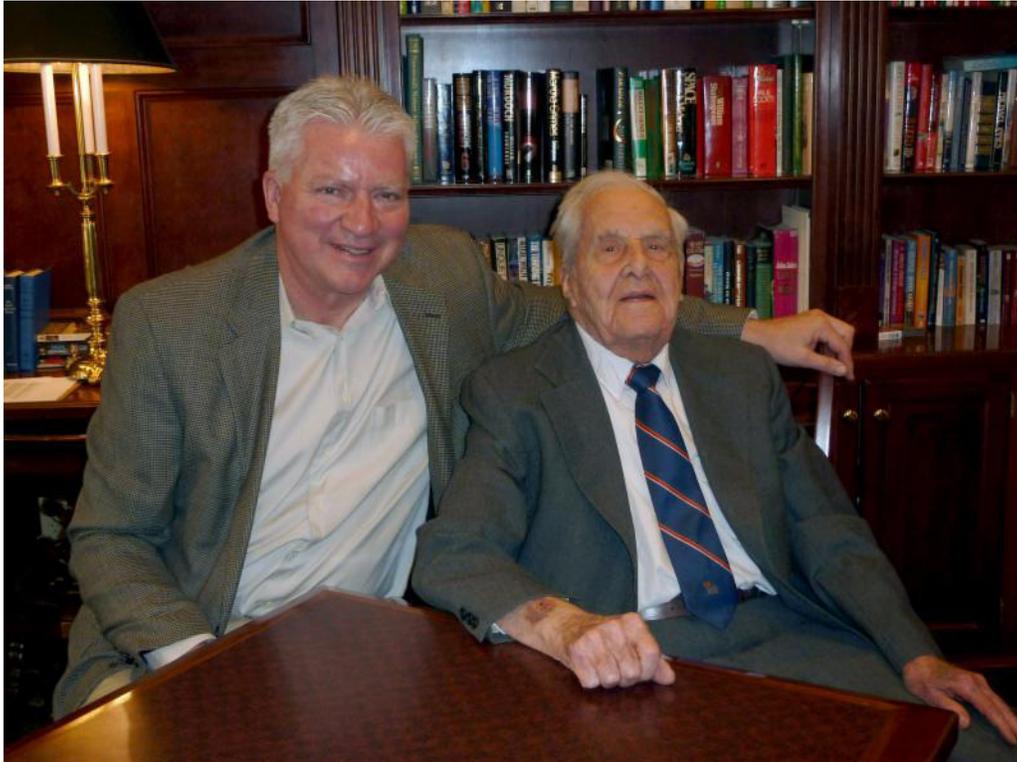
Today's Today in History includes this item:

"In 1959, four members of the Clutter family of Holcomb, Kansas, were found murdered in their home. (Ex-convicts Richard Hickock and Perry Smith were later convicted of the killings and hanged.)"

One of our Connecting colleagues, **Elon Torrence**, covered the trial in Garden City, Kansas, of Hickock and Smith for the AP and related his memories of the trial - and meeting author Truman Capote, who wrote the classic book "In Cold Blood" about the murders - as part of an AP Oral History interview that I was privileged to conduct with Elon.

His memories were vivid and detailed, and I remember returning home from

the interview feeling most proud that I had worked for the same news organization as Elon.



This photo shows Elon and me after our 2011 interview session.

Long retired (1982) as an AP Topeka newsman, Elon is 97 years young and lives in Topeka with his wife Polly - and you'll find no stronger booster of Jayhawk sports than the Torrences.

With that little blast from the past, here are stories of interest...including Today in History.

Paul

AP's Kathy Gannon to be honoured with Tara Singh Hayer Award

Canadian Journalists for Free Expression (CJFE) will honour Canadian Associated Press (AP) reporter **Kathy Gannon** with its Tara Singh Hayer Memorial Award at its annual CJFE Gala: A Night to Honour Courageous Reporting, on December 3, 2014. The 2014 CJFE Gala will also feature an exclusive photo exhibit and silent auction of work from the late Pulitzer Prize-

winning AP photographer **Anja Niedringhaus**, a colleague of Gannon's.



Gannon (*at left in this 2012 AP photo*) and Niedringhaus worked closely together for five years. In spring 2014, while covering Afghanistan's national election, they were parked at the entrance to a compound in the southeastern province of Khost when an Afghan police officer suddenly fired shots into the back of their vehicle. Niedringhaus was killed instantly and Gannon sustained three bullet wounds to her arm and shoulder. Gannon is currently recuperating in New York and will be in Toronto in December for the CJFE Gala.

"As two Western women reporting from an often hostile part of the world, Kathy and Anja's work offers incredible insight and a unique perspective into daily life on the ground in the Middle East," said Carol Off, Chair of the CJFE Gala. "We are very proud to be able to exhibit some of Anja's stunning and unforgettable images and are tremendously honoured that Kathy will be with us to accept this award."

Gannon has more than 20 years of experience covering Pakistan, Afghanistan and the Middle East and has worked with AP since 1988. Gannon was in Afghanistan when the Taliban took power in 1996, and was one of the only western reporters permitted to remain in Kabul under the new regime. She also reported on the American invasion of the country following the Sept. 11

attacks in the United States. Her book, *I is for Infidel: From Holy War to Holy Terror in Afghanistan*, documents her experiences in a country she has come to love dearly.

Exclusive photo exhibit highlights daily life in the Middle East CJFE will dedicate its annual Gala photo exhibit to Niedringhaus' award-winning work. The exhibit will feature many of her iconic images captured in Iraq, Kuwait, Gaza, Pakistan, Libya and Afghanistan between 2002 and 2014. In stark contrast to the photographs of violence and destruction that so often appear from these war-torn areas, the exhibit will feature poetic snapshots of everyday life.

Niedringhaus began working for AP in 2002 and in 2005 was a member of the team of AP photographers who received the Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News Photography, for their coverage of the war in Iraq. Her award-winning image of a 1st Division Marine carrying a lucky charm - a toy soldier, dressed to match its owner's uniform - through the streets of Fallujah, along with many others taken by Niedringhaus, will be available for purchase at the Gala's silent auction. All proceeds from the silent auction will go to CJFE's Journalists in Distress Fund.

About the award

The Tara Singh Hayer Memorial Award recognizes a Canadian journalist who, through his or her work, has reinforced and promoted the principle of freedom of the press in this country or elsewhere, and who has taken personal risks or suffered physical reprisals for their work as a journalist. The award is named in honour of Tara Singh Hayer, a Canadian journalist and editor of the Vancouver-based Indo-Canadian Times who was assassinated in November 1998. His murder demonstrated that protecting freedom of expression is just as critical in Canada as it is internationally.

About CJFE

CJFE monitors, defends and reports on free expression and access to information in Canada and abroad. Rooted in the field of journalism, CJFE promotes a free media as essential to a fair and open society. CJFE boldly champions the free expression rights of all people, and encourages and supports individuals and groups in the protection of their own and others' free expression rights. For more information, visit cjfe.org

Connecting mailbox



Bill Vogrin ([Email](#)), columnist for the Colorado Springs Gazette and former AP journalist, shared this photo with the caption:

"We are eating like pigs today in the Gazette newsroom. We'll all be in a diabetic coma soon. Tomorrow's front page: Morbid obesity on the rise!"

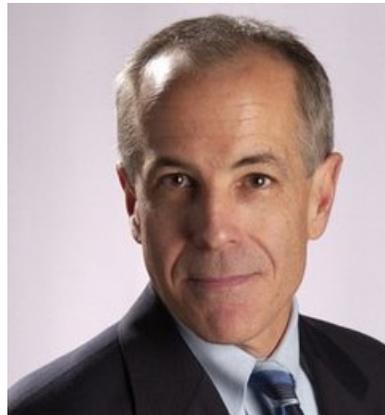
Hits home, and the waistline, for all of us who've worked in a newsroom.

Jim Kennedy to be part of Innovation Lab panel

AP senior vice president/strategic planning **Jim Kennedy** will be part of an Innovation Lab panel of journalists from other major media companies who will discuss and debate their thoughts on what lies ahead for them and for the industry as a whole. Other panelists are from The New York Times, Time.com, Wall Street Journal and the New York Daily News.

"Conversations: The New News Organization - Evolving Companies" will take place next Wednesday, Nov. 19, in New York.

The Daily News Innovation Lab is a New York Daily News initiative aimed at engaging with the thriving New York startup community. With a team that draws from across departments, the Daily News Innovation Lab seeks to connect, converse, and collaborate.



Conversations is a series of events focused on open discussions on the changing new media landscape. Events feature panels with insights from the most respected news organizations to the newest disruptive publishers.

Stories of interest

[In a rush to maintain profits, newspapers are abandoning the art of customer service](#) (Bob Daugherty)

We are at least a decade into panicked conversations about whether the U.S. newspaper industry can save itself - or evolve its way through our transformation to a digital culture. For a while, apathy, denial, and the inaction that comes with both were the worst reactions to this wakeup call. But over the past few years, a more offensive and damaging trend has emerged: Local newspapers have gotten really good at mistreating their most loyal customers. They're treading water today by drowning the local revenue base of tomorrow.

From predatory, report-it-to-the-Better-Business-Bureau-level print circulation tactics to websites clogged with popup ads and clickbait, publishers sure are acting like they're in the desperate, dying industry that the public perceives.

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[FAIR: No Debate and the New War](#)

While Congress may soon debate the ongoing US wars in Iraq and Syria, a new FAIR study shows that at the critical moments leading up to the escalation of US military action, mainstream media presented almost no debate at all.

The study of key TV news discussion programs from September 7 through 21 reveals that guests who opposed war were scarce.

The study evaluated discussion and debate segments on the Sunday talk shows (CNN's State of the Union, CBS's Face the Nation, ABC's This Week, Fox News Sunday and NBC's Meet the Press), the PBS NewsHour and a sample of cable news programs that feature roundtables and interview segments (CNN's Situation Room, Fox News Channel's Special Report and MSNBC's Hardball).

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[How to run a successful newsroom - Tips for media managers looking to create a positive work culture](#)

Jill Geisler teaches and coaches managers worldwide and is affiliated with the Poynter Institute. She's the author of the book, Work Happy: What Great Bosses Know, and the What Great Bosses Know podcasts on iTunes U. CJR editor Liz Spayd asks her questions each month on media leadership issues.

Liz Spayd: The highly-touted First Look Media seems to be thrashing in choppy waters lately. The most recent evidence came when top editor John Cook left in quick succession to former Rolling Stone writer Matt Taibbi. Taibbi's noisy departure came after clashes over management style and other issues. It's pretty clear that First Look and other startups are struggling to find a functioning workplace culture in newsrooms that often didn't exist a year ago. What's your advice on creating a successful newsroom culture from scratch?

Jill Geisler: Here's the short answer. Keep three things in mind:

*Know what you stand for and how that translates into everyday behavior, from decisions to communication to resource allocation. Then choose to act accordingly. If, for example, your startup's mission is to "stitch together all the people and the entities in the city that are producing good journalism and providing good information" as founder Jim Brady says of Billy Penn, and you believe in openness and transparency, you create a pop-up newsroom on election night and invite other area journalists in for the fun. Then you share what you learned.

*Startup cultures are often a merry band of misfits at the start, and may celebrate their lack of formal structure and guidelines, but without clear understanding of roles and responsibilities, teams flounder and fail.

*Giving high-profile performers or producers the title of manager may give them status and higher pay, but it doesn't give them the skills needed to lead. Give them help, or just give them the money and put real leaders in charge.

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[Obama seems to oppose Risen jailing](#)

YANGON, Myanmar-President Barack Obama Friday reinforced the perception that a New York Times journalist won't be thrown in jail for refusing to identify his confidential sources for a book that allegedly contained highly classified information provided by a Central Intelligence Agency officer.

Asked at a press conference here about the longrunning case involving Times national security reporter James Risen, Obama said he couldn't comment on any pending matter but he pointed to comments Attorney General Eric Holder has made ruling out jailing of journalists for resisting efforts to force them to identify sources.

"I can read back to you what Attorney General [Eric] Holder said which is no journalist is going to go to jail for doing their job," the president said. He called the treatment of national security issues and press rights a "balance." He added : "We've got courts and the First Amendment and a whole bunch of tools to ensure that balance is properly debated and adjudicated."

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[Music Critics See Their Role and Influence Waning in The Era of Digital Music](#)



Nate Patrin's career trajectory in music journalism was once the norm.

Patrin grew up reading Spin and Rolling Stone in the 1990s and wrote music reviews for his high school newspaper. He began contributing to the Minneapolis alt-weekly City Pages in 1999, and from there he moved up to the big leagues, freelancing for Spin and Blender.

"It was the traditional path," Patrin said.

Between then and now, Blender folded in 2009 and Rolling Stone physically shrank its print magazine. In September, Spin Media ended the print edition of Vibe, and Spin, which became an online-only publication in 2012, had its fourth editor-in-chief in two years, Craig Marks, step down.

As the entire media industry has struggled to adapt to demands of the digital age and turn a profit, music publications in particular are facing a slew of unique challenges that have redefined their roles and responsibilities.

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[3 reasons why journalists are wary of gamification: an interview with Al Jazeera's Juliana Ruhfus](#)

Al Jazeera's Juliana Ruhfus was one of a team of reporters involved in creating an award-winning news game. In a two-part guest post for OJB, Alex Iacovangelo interviews Juliana (full audio above) in the context of wider issues with gamification that have prevented it being more widely used in journalism.

Why is gamification, one of the greatest forms of interaction available, so slow to be adopted by journalists at a time when engaging audiences is more important than ever?

One of the most recent examples of gamification in journalism is Al Jazeera's award-winning investigative news piece on illegal fishing in Africa, which they turned into a standalone educational game.

The story on illegal fishing focused on an injustice that needed to be exposed. But attracting and enlightening thousands of readers to injustices exposed in investigative pieces is a difficult challenge - especially when they are taking place so far from the audience's home.

[The Poynter Institute lost \\$3.5 million in 2013, makes progress toward new revenue sources](#)

The Poynter Institute filed its financial statement for 2013 with the Internal Revenue Service Friday. It shows a loss of about \$3.5 million for that year. (Here's Poynter's press release about the report.)

Poynter has taken a number of steps in 2014 to try to regain its footing as its traditional revenue sources have dwindled - it last received a dividend from its ownership of the Tampa Bay Times in 2010. It hired Tim Franklin as president in February. In May, Franklin released his plan for the institute's future, which includes more international instruction, custom teaching programs and the sale of some of Poynter's assets (though not its building, which has taken on six paying tenants, all digital startups, this year).

There has been progress toward these goals, Franklin said in a phone call. "We're on pace to set a record this year in teaching income, which I'm very excited about," he said.

The Final Word

From **Larry Blasko**, who notes: "Another of the NY Post's contributions to journalism:"

There's a lot more happening in Uranus than you think

There's something strange going down in Uranus.

For years, experts have thought that the seventh planet from the Sun was one of the calmest gas giants in our Solar System - but a University of Arizona astronomer believes there's a lot more than meets the eye under the world's surface.



Erich Karkoschka presented findings this week in Tuscon which revealed that the seemingly blue planet's southern hemisphere rotates in a way never seen before by scientists.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Nov. 15, the 319th day of 2014. There are 46 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 15, 1864, during the Civil War, Union forces led by Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman began their "March to the Sea" from Atlanta, with the goal of crippling the region's military and economic resources; the campaign ended with the capture of Savannah on Dec. 21.

On this date:

In 1777, the Second Continental Congress approved the Articles of Confederation.

In 1806, explorer Zebulon Pike sighted the mountaintop now known as Pikes (cq) Peak in present-day Colorado.

In 1889, Brazil was proclaimed a republic as its emperor, Dom Pedro II, was overthrown.

In 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt laid the cornerstone of the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C.

In 1942, the naval Battle of Guadalcanal ended during World War II with a decisive U.S. victory over Japanese forces.

In 1954, actor-director Lionel Barrymore, 76, died in Van Nuys, California.

In 1958, actor Tyrone Power, 44, died in Madrid, Spain, while filming "Solomon and Sheba." (Power's part was recast with Yul Brynner.)

In 1959, four members of the Clutter family of Holcomb, Kansas, were found murdered in their home. (Ex-convicts Richard Hickock and Perry Smith were later convicted of the killings and hanged.)

In 1964, Bonanza Air Lines Flight 114, a Fairchild F-27A, crashed outside of Las Vegas, killing all 29 people on board.

In 1974, the disaster movie "Earthquake" was released by Universal Pictures in "Sensurround," which bombarded the audience with low-frequency sound waves during the quake scenes.

In 1984, Stephanie Fae Beauclair, the infant publicly known as "Baby Fae" who had received a baboon's heart to replace her own congenitally deformed one, died at Loma Linda University Medical Center in California three weeks after the transplant.

In 1989, Polish labor activist Lech Walesa (lek vah-WEN'-sah) addressed a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress. Time Warner launched The Comedy Channel, which later merged with Viacom's HA! network to form Comedy Central.

Ten years ago: The White House announced that Secretary of State Colin Powell was leaving President George W. Bush's Cabinet, along with Education Secretary Rod Paige, Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman and Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham. The U.N. Security Council imposed an arms embargo on Ivory Coast's hard-line government after its violent confrontation with France.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama concluded a two-day summit with Asia-Pacific leaders in Singapore, where they pledged to persist with stimulus spending until a global recovery was assured. Kosovo's first independent elections ended peacefully, with Prime Minister Hashim Thaci (HAH'-shihm THAH'-chee) claiming victory for his party. Michelle Wie earned her first win on the LPGA Tour, closing with a 3-under 69 to finish two strokes ahead of Paula Creamer in the Lorena Ochoa Invitational.

One year ago: Toronto Mayor Rob Ford vowed to take the City Council to court after it voted overwhelmingly to strip him of some of his powers over his admitted drug use, public drinking and increasingly erratic behavior. China's leaders announced the first significant easing of their one-child policy in nearly 30 years and moved to abolish its labor camp system. Dressed in a black Batman costume, 5-year-old leukemia patient Miles Scott fulfilled his wish to be his favorite superhero, fighting villains and rescuing a damsel in distress in an elaborate fantasy staged by the city of San Francisco and arranged by the Make-a-Wish Foundation. (The event cost the city \$105,000, but the tab was picked up by the John and Marcia Goldman Foundation.)

Today's Birthdays: Judge Joseph Wapner is 95. Actor Ed Asner is 85. Singer Petula Clark is 82. Comedian Jack Burns is 81. Actress Joanna Barnes is 80. Actor Yaphet Kotto is 75. Actor Sam Waterston is 74. Classical conductor Daniel Barenboim is 72. Pop singer Frida (ABBA) is 69. Actor Bob Gunton is 69. Former New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson is 67. Actress Beverly D'Angelo is 63. Director-actor James Widdoes is 61. Rock singer-producer Mitch Easter is 60. News correspondent John Roberts is 58. Former "Jay Leno Show" bandleader Kevin Eubanks is 57. Comedian Judy Gold is 52. Actress Rachel True is 48. Rapper E-40 is 47. Country singer Jack Ingram is 44. Actor Jay Harrington is 43.

Actor Jonny Lee Miller is 42. Actress Sydney Tamiia (tuh-MY'-yuh) Poitier is 41. Christian rock musician David Carr (Third Day) is 40. Rock singer-musician Chad Kroeger is 40. Rock musician Jesse Sandoval is 40. Actress Virginie Ledoyen is 38. Actor Sean Murray (TV: "NCIS") is 37. Pop singer Ace Young (TV: "American Idol") is 34. Golfer Lorena Ochoa is 33. Hip-hop artist B.o.B is 26. Actress Shailene Woodley is 23. Actress-dancer Emma Dumont is 20.

Thought for Today: "My father used to say superior people never make long visits." - Marianne Moore, American poet (1887-1972).

Paul Stevens
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