
From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 10, 2014 8:53 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - December 10, 2014

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Connecting

December 10, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning.

Connecting friends and colleagues of **Jim Baltzelle** and his wife Rebecca join in sending our prayers on the death of their daughter, Molly May. Click [here](#) for her obituary in The St. Augustine Record.

Jim, who is AP's Miami chief of bureau, relayed on Facebook, "My family is thankful for the many kindnesses expressed in our time of great sorrow."

For anyone who might want to drop him a note, the address of the Miami bureau is:

9100 N.W. 36th Street, Suite 111, Miami, FL 33178-2420.

Paul

Davies named to senior AP day manager

post

NEW YORK (AP) - **Mark Davies**, a senior AP news manager with strong experience in designing news coverage for specific customer needs, has been appointed to lead the AP's Nerve Center during the U.S. day.



Davies, currently global news manager for U.S. evenings, will move to the daytime post Dec. 15, Senior Managing Editor Michael Oreskes announced Monday.

The Nerve Center, located in New York, coordinates the news organization's worldwide

coverage in text, broadcast, photos and interactives. It also is a key link between the news cooperative's media customers and its newsrooms worldwide.

"Mark comes deeply prepared for the task ahead, expanding our ability to connect with customers in real time," Oreskes said. "His work with customers is all the stronger because Mark is a first class news leader, known for his strong news sense, calm judgment and high standards."

Davies, 49, worked for two newspapers and two television networks in his native Australia and for Reuters Television before joining AP in 2004. He helped launch AP Direct, the first live and rolling video news service for broadcasters, and went on to play a major role in establishing the AP's cross-format newsroom in London.

As editor of the day and head of newsgathering for AP's television arm in London, Davies helped expand its client liaison desk. In addition to his news duties, he is now working on projects to further deepen editorial relationships with leading AP customers worldwide.

Skretta named AP Kansas-Missouri Staffer of Year

David Skretta, a Kansas City-based reporter for The Associated Press, was named the AP's Fred Moen Kansas-Missouri 2014 Staffer of the Year.

Skretta was cited Monday by AP for his sports coverage, including the Royals first World Series appearance in 29 years. The honor is named for the late Fred Moen, who was AP's Kansas City bureau chief from 1971-1984. He is shown accepting the award from **Mike Fannin**, left, vice president and editor of The Kansas City Star, which sponsors the award.



Before joining AP in 2005, Skretta did internships at The Topeka Capital-Journal and USA Today. He spent a year doing general assignment work before a promotion to the national sports desk in New York, where he covered the Mets and Yankees along with boxing and college basketball.

He returned to Kansas City in 2011 and now covers the Chiefs, Royals, Sporting KC, Kansas, Kansas State, NASCAR and cycling.

In other news from the annual two-state meeting, in its 68th year, the **St. Louis Post-Dispatch** was named the 2014 David R. Bradley Missouri-Kansas Member of the Year, honoring the paper's contributions to The Associated Press cooperative.

AP editors lauded the Post-Dispatch for its contributions to the Missouri wire and for its cooperation in covering the violent aftermath of a grand jury's decision not to indict a Ferguson, Missouri, police officer in the fatal shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown.

The award was created by David R. Bradley, Jr., president of News-Press & Gazette Co., to honor AP members for their consistent and frequent cooperation with AP, including efforts to provide news tips and photos for sharing with other member newspapers. The award is named for Bradley's late father, David R. Bradley, Sr., who was a former AP board member.

The honor, which comes with a plaque and monetary award for the winning newsroom, was presented Sunday during the AP's annual Missouri-Kansas editors and publishers meeting in Kansas City.



Gathered for this photo after the meeting: Kansas City Royals announcer Ryan Lefebvre, Greg Moore (editor on West Desk in Phoenix,) Jefferson City Correspondent David Lieb, Kansas City Chief of Bureau Kia Breaux, Topeka Correspondent John Hanna, Kansas City photographer Orlin Wagner, St. Louis Correspondent Jim Salter, Kansas City sports writer Dave Skretta and Kansas City photographer Charlie Riedel. Lefebvre was the luncheon speaker and Moore has been filling in as Kansas City news editor.

Connecting mailbox

On kidnappings in hostile coverage areas

Richard Pyle ([Email](#)) - Re Joe McGowan's observation that when going into dangerous places on AP assignments, he never expected the US military to come to his rescue:

I doubt whether any of us who covered conflict in Indochina, the ME or anywhere else in the 1960s-to-early 1990s ever made that assumption. Being killed or wounded was always possible but kidnapping for ransom or political reasons was not the widely recognized threat that it is today.

Perhaps the best person to comment on this issue is Terry Anderson, who was kidnapped and held hostage by Hezbollah crazies in Lebanon for six years, and freed through diplomatic efforts in 1991. Terry can speak for himself but I don't recall him ever saying anything about expecting to be rescued by the US military. (He did credit his USMC training as helping him

to survive the ordeal).

Many journalists were killed or went missing in combat situations over the 20th century, but as I wrote in a 2006 article for "Dangerous Assignments," the magazine of the Committee to Protect Journalists (and as others have written elsewhere), they first became common targets for abduction in Cambodia in the early 1970s.

About 25 - a third of the total of at least 74 journalists* KIA or MIA in the Vietnam war between 1965 and 1975 - vanished in Cambodia, fates unknown but assumed since to have been captured and murdered by the Khmer Rouge or Viet Cong.

They were from more than half a dozen countries including the US. No known US military-run rescue efforts occurred in Cambodia, possibly because intel on the missing was practically non-existent, and forces trained for such missions were not readily at hand.

Today the kidnapping of news persons for ransom, or worse, is a reality that may exist anywhere.

*Current total on the AP List of Vietnam Media Casualties, an accurate but unofficial list based on original tabulation by the AP Saigon bureau and still periodically updated with new information.

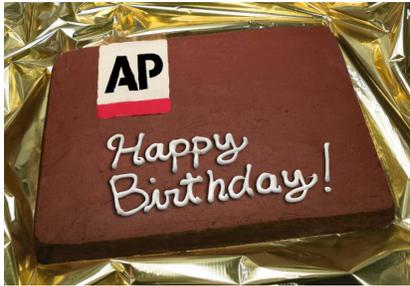
Welcome to Connecting



[Dana Fields](#)

[Carl Manning](#)

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

[Rachel Ambrose](#)

Stories of interest

[The CIA's Big Sell: How The Agency Convinced The Press Its Brutal Interrogation Methods Were Working](#)

The Central Intelligence Agency misled journalists from top U.S. news organizations such as the New York Times, NBC News and the author of the book "The CIA at War" to convince the public its brutal interrogation tactics were working, according to a Senate investigation released Tuesday.



The agency picked journalists and authors to work with and selectively provided information attributed to anonymous sources described as "top American intelligence officials" and "senior U.S. intelligence analysts" to sell the CIA's story: that the interrogations were yielding valuable information and to take credit for arrests made by the FBI.

The descriptions of interactions between CIA personnel and journalists provide a window into how reports about classified activities are sourced, often sanctioned by government officials at the highest level who are then

allowed to hide behind vague attributions. The CIA also did not investigate illegal leaks of classified information but was actively disseminating the same information to convey its message that the interrogations were working and that the agency deserved more credit for the arrests.

AND

[The media and torture](#)

The release of the CIA report on interrogation techniques has renewed a long-standing debate about news organizations' use of the word "torture."

On Tuesday, many news organizations were going with the word "torture" in headlines, breaking news banners and tweets, an evolution from when the use of the word was more restrained.

Organizations like The New York Times, NBC, POLITICO, CNN, NPR and ABC all used the word torture to describe the report. The Washington Post, Fox News, Reuters, The Wall Street Journal and CBS are among the outlets that used other words, like "CIA Report" or "Interrogation techniques," though several, such as CBS, used phrases like "torture report" in breaking news banners and in tweets.

(Associated Press spokesperson Paul Colford said AP does not have an official entry in its stylebook for the word but had been using the word in its reporting.)

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[FBI leaves door open on media impersonation](#) (Mike Stewart)

WASHINGTON (AP) - FBI Director James Comey on Tuesday left open the possibility that an agent might again pose as a journalist as part of an investigation, though he said such a tactic ought to be rare and "done carefully with significant supervision, if it's going to be done."

Comey told reporters at a roundtable discussion that he was "not willing to say never" when asked if the FBI would swear off future use of the tactic in response to an Associated Press demand made last month.

The AP sought assurances from the Justice Department and the FBI that impersonation would not be used again following revelations that an agent in Seattle posed as an AP journalist in 2007 during an investigation into bomb threats at a high school.

"I'm not willing to say never," Comey said. "Just as I wouldn't say that we would never pose as an educator or a doctor or, I don't know, a rocket

scientist."

In the Seattle case, details of which Comey revealed in a letter to The New York Times, an FBI agent posed as an AP reporter to help catch a 15-year-old suspected of making bomb threats at a high school in Washington state.

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[Free Flow of Government Information? Yawn.](#)

Amid big-time Washington news like the torture report, a nomination for attorney general and cameras for police officers, a bill to strengthen the Freedom of Information Act, or F.O.I.A., may seem pretty unsexy.

Apparently so, because it's been mostly ignored by much of the mainstream media, including The Times, in recent days, as a retiring senator held up the legislation and it nearly went down the drain. That didn't happen; the bill - a version of which received bipartisan support in the House - passed on Monday with Senator Jay Rockefeller, Democrat of West Virginia, releasing his hold.

The odd part about this is that journalists rely heavily on F.O.I.A. requests to get important information for their stories. Sometimes, they and their news organizations go to court to press those demands. And the information is used in major stories, including, for example, Eric Lipton's recent investigation about state attorneys general and lobbyists' efforts to influence them.

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[John Micklethwait leaving The Economist for Bloomberg News](#)

John Micklethwait, editor in chief of The Economist, is leaving to join Bloomberg News in the same capacity, The Economist announced in a Tuesday morning release.

Micklethwait will succeed Bloomberg News editor in chief Matthew Winkler, who co-founded the news service with Michael Bloomberg back in 1990.

Winkler will become editor in chief emeritus for Bloomberg News, the company announced in a separate release. As part of the new role, Winkler will work "directly" with Michael Bloomberg, who is returning to the company he founded as chief executive.

Winkler will serve as a strategist, and will also be conducting interviews of "global newsmakers."

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Veteran broadcast journalist Ron Casteel dies at 74 (Scott Charton)

Ronald Edward Casteel, 74, of Jefferson City, died Sunday, December 7, 2014, at SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital.

He was born on August 10, 1940, in Bristol, Virginia, the son of the late Hobart Casteel and Hildred Kathleen Dickenson Casteel.

He was married on December 21, 2004, in Jefferson City to Kathryn Diane Couch Riley who survives at the home.

Ron worked for more than two decades as a news director and news anchor in broadcast markets including San Francisco, Los Angeles, Honolulu, San Antonio, Shreveport, and Little Rock. His experience included serving as news director for KFRC, a legendary rock'n'roll radio station in San Francisco during the 1960s and 1970s, and a news reporter and anchor at KGO radio and television, the ABC-owned and operated station in San Francisco.

In 1975, he was the first broadcast reporter to break news from the scene outside the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco for the ABC Radio Network about the assassination attempt on President Gerald R. Ford. He covered other major stories on the West Coast for ABC, including the 1960s campus protests, the Patricia Hearst kidnapping, and the Zodiac slayings. In Los Angeles in the early 1970s, he worked as a news anchor alongside the city's most popular morning disk jockey, Robert W. Morgan, at top rock'n'roll radio station KHJ.

In the 70's he starred in the full feature film about the Golden Gate Bridge as "Ground Zero". This was one of the first terrorist films produced. He also wrote and directed the feature film "The Boy Who Talks to Whales."

After retiring from broadcast journalism, Ron became a documentary filmmaker, producing films about historical subjects including Missouri outlaw Jesse James and tales and legends of the Ozarks. In Arkansas, he produced campaign videos for then-Governor Bill Clinton's re-election campaigns in the 1980s. Upon moving to Missouri in the early 1990s, Ron served as Communications Director for the Missouri Secretary of State, and as Communications Director for the Missouri Democratic Party. Prior to retirement, he served for several years as public and media spokesman for the Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan.

An active member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Ron served as Lieutenant Commander-In-Chief, Chief Of Staff, and Media Committee Chairman for the national SCV organization. He was a member of the

General William D. McCain SCV Camp, located at "Elm Springs," the national SCV headquarters in Columbia, Tennessee.

A federally licensed Amateur Radio operator holding call sign N6CSS, he was a member of the American Radio Relay League and the Mid-MO Amateur Radio Club.

Other survivors include three step-children and their spouses, Cary (Donna) Davis, Monroe, Louisiana; Kevin Todd (Dana) Riley, Jefferson City; and Amanda Riley Baker (Joel Rencher), Jefferson City; eight step-grandchildren; two sisters, Marlyn Buchannan, Apple Valley, California; and Benita (Glenn) Kliethermes, Holts Summit, Missouri; one brother, Darrell Casteel, State of Arizona; and numerous nieces and their families.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, December 12, 2014, at Dulle-Trimble Funeral Home with the Rev. Kent W. Trimble and Mr. Scott Charton officiating.

Visitation will be 10-11 a.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials are suggested to the International Headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, "Elm Springs", P.O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402; or the Mid-MO Amateur Radio Club in care of Dulle-Trimble Funeral Home, 3210 N. Ten Mile Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65109.

Those wishing to email tributes or condolences to the family may do so at the www.dulletrimble.com website. Read Ronald Casteel's Obituary and Guestbook on dulletrimble.com.

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[Detroit Free Press staffer ordered to attend training session on day she's laid off](#) (Bob Daugherty)

A few weeks ago, the Detroit Free Press warned that three positions would be soon eliminated, including web producer. That was Andrea Farmer's job. Friday was layoffs day at the Gannett paper. It was also the last day of a weeklong series of metrics and marketing (aka PICASSO) training sessions for all staffers.

"I asked if I had to go to the training, knowing my position would be cut," says Farmer, a 35-year-old single mother. "'You have to be there,' they said."

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[Exclusive: Anschutz explores bringing back Rocky Mountain News in](#)

[Denver](#)

Denver billionaire Philip Anschutz is exploring the possibility of reviving the Rocky Mountain News, the Denver daily newspaper that shut down in 2009 after nearly 150 years of publication, the Denver Business Journal has learned.

Anschutz has prepared a prototype newspaper and is conducting market research to assess the feasibility of publishing the newspaper once again, almost six years after E.W. Scripps Corp. closed the venerable tabloid.

Ryan McKibben, president and CEO of Anschutz' Clarity Media Group, said the prototype is being put out on the Internet with an invitation to potential readers to comment.

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[PRI develops tool to change how readers engage with its journalism](#)

In digital media, "reader engagement" is code for retweets, comments and Facebook shares. Public Radio International now hopes to expand the meaning of reader engagement in its newsrooms and at journalism organizations around the world.

In October, PRI received a grant from the Knight Foundation to develop StoryAct, a digital tool intended to extend readers' engagement with news stories.

StoryAct was one of 18 projects supported by the Knight Prototype Fund, which provides grants of \$35,000 each to ventures in the early stages of exploring media and information ideas. The grant covers three months of development and three months of piloting.

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[Study: Americans don't worry about information overload and think the Internet has made them smarter](#)

Recent media news headlines have briefly sucked the digital discourse around new and legacy media back into the reductive binary of pro- and anti-Internet.

While asking whether the Internet helps or hurts journalism is about as useful as asking if technology is good or bad, the Pew Research Internet Project does have a study out today that comes down pretty clearly on one side.

The survey of 1,066 internet users shows that 87% of online adults say the internet and cell phones have improved their ability to learn new things, including 53% who say it has improved this "a lot." Internet users under age 50, those in higher income households, and those with higher educational attainment are especially likely to say the internet and cell phones help them "a lot" when it comes to learning new things.

Asked if they enjoy having so much information at their fingertips or if they feel overloaded, 72% of internet users report they like having so much information, while just 26% say they feel overloaded.

Not only do individual Americans feel more personally informed because of the Internet, but a majority also believe that society at large is better informed. Interestingly, survey respondents generally felt that the Internet improved their knowledge of distant topics - pop stars and international news - more than it increased their understanding of things like local news or civic issues. 60 percent of those surveyed said they felt better informed about local news after the Internet, while 74 percent and 75 percent felt mobile phones and the Internet made them better informed about international and national news, respectively

The Final Word

1993 vs. 2014



(Shared by Max Thomson)

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 10, the 344th day of 2014. There are 21 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 10, 1964, Martin Luther King Jr. received his Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, saying he accepted it "with an abiding faith in America and an audacious faith in the future of mankind."

On this date:

In 1520, Martin Luther publicly burned the papal edict demanding that he recant, or face excommunication.

In 1787, Thomas H. Gallaudet, a pioneer of educating the deaf, was born in Philadelphia.

In 1817, Mississippi was admitted as the 20th state of the Union.

In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt became the first American to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, for helping mediate an end to the Russo-Japanese War.

In 1931, Jane Addams became the first American woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize; the co-recipient was Nicholas Murray Butler.

In 1948, the U.N. General Assembly adopted its Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

In 1950, Ralph J. Bunche was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, the first black American to receive the award.

In 1962, "Lawrence of Arabia," David Lean's epic film starring Peter O'Toole as British military officer T.E. Lawrence, had its royal gala premiere in London.

In 1967, singer Otis Redding, 26, and six others were killed when their plane crashed into Wisconsin's Lake Monona.

In 1972, baseball's American League adopted the designated hitter rule on an experimental basis for three years.

In 1984, South African Bishop Desmond Tutu received the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 1994, Yasser Arafat, Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin received the Nobel Peace Prize, pledging to pursue their mission of healing the anguished Middle East.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush picked Samuel Bodman to be the new energy secretary. Bernard Kerik withdrew his name from consideration to be President Bush's homeland security secretary. Sprinter Michelle Collins was suspended for eight years for a doping violation linked to the BALCO scandal. (Collins was reinstated in May 2008.)

Five years ago: President Barack Obama accepted the Nobel Peace Prize with a humble acknowledgment of his scant accomplishments and a robust defense of the U.S. at war. James Cameron's 3-D film epic "Avatar" had its

world premiere in London.

One year ago: South Africa held a memorial service for Nelson Mandela, during which U.S. President Barack Obama energized tens of thousands of spectators and nearly 100 visiting heads of state with a plea for the world to emulate "the last great liberator of the 20th century." (The ceremony was marred by the presence of a sign-language interpreter who deaf advocates said was an imposter waving his arms around meaninglessly.) General Motors named product chief Mary Barra its new CEO, making her the first woman to run a U.S. car company.

Today's Birthdays: Soap opera creator Agnes Nixon is 87. Former Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter (YEYE'-tur) is 84. Actor Tommy Kirk is 73. Actress Fionnula Flanagan is 73. Pop singer Chad Stuart (Chad and Jeremy) is 73. Actress-singer Gloria Loring is 68. Pop-funk musician Walter "Clyde" Orange (The Commodores) is 68. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ralph Tavares is 66. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jessica Cleaves (Friends of Distinction) is 66. Country singer Johnny Rodriguez is 63. Actress Susan Dey is 62. Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich is 58. Jazz musician Paul Hardcastle is 57. Actor-director Kenneth Branagh (BRAH'-nah) is 54. Actress Nia Peeples is 53. TV chef Bobby Flay is 50. Rock singer-musician J Mascis is 49. Rock musician Scot (cq) Alexander (Dishwalla) is 43. Actress-comedian Arden Myrin is 41. Rock musician Meg White (The White Stripes) is 40. Rapper Kuniva (D12) is 39. Actor Gavin Houston is 37. Violinist Sarah Chang is 34. Rock musician Noah Harmon (Airborne Toxic Event) is 33. Actor Patrick John Flueger is 31. Actress Raven-Symone is 29.

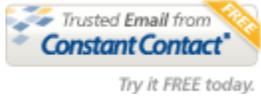
Thought for Today: "Beauty is not caused. It is." - Emily Dickinson, American poet (born this date in 1830, died in 1886).

Paul Stevens
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