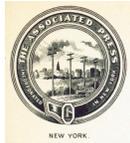


From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Friday, December 12, 2014 10:09 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - December 12, 2014

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



Connecting

December 12, 2014

Click [here](#) for sound
of the Teletype



12-13-14



Colleagues,

Set your clocks for 10:11 a.m. Local time on Saturday.

At that time, you can tip your cup of coffee or glass of juice to this, the last time until 2103 that you'll be experiencing a very special date sequence:

That moment will be 10:11 on Dec. 13, 2014 - or, 10-11-12-13-14. Get it? The sequential lineup of month-day-year numbers won't happen again for 89 years - Jan. 2, 2103, or 1-2-3. Get it? (Even Connecting has slow news days...)

With assistance from his daughter **Elizabeth**, above, who is 4 1/2, and his wife **Pam**, who shot the photo sequence above, our Connecting colleague **Dave Tomlin** ([Email](#)) explains:

By DAVE TOMLIN
Connecting Correspondent

Tomorrow is a very special day. Most people would have no idea if nobody told them, and until quite recently that included me.

To find out what all the excitement's about, set your digital calendar to MM/DD/YY format and watch Saturday's numbers line up:

12/13/14

See, they're in order! Who knew, right? Exactly the way we learned them in school. You feeling that excitement yet? Me neither, but many people do, judging from the Google search results I got when I keyed in the sequence.

It's a lot like my brother's childhood fascination with the odometer on our family car whenever it rolled over to a fresh thousand, back in the day when odometers rolled. Especially as the car got older and more tumblers got into the act. Riveting.

When I was Sunday editor at the San Antonio Express-News, I was stalked by an elderly Bulgarian refugee in a blue serge suit named Leon Nissimov. His hobby was making magic squares, grids of numbers that added up to the same total in every direction.

He could make them do the same trick in triangles, parallelograms, diamonds, you name it. He wanted me to put them in the paper.

One day he came in clutching a Magic Star of David containing only numbers mentioned in the Book of Genesis. Mr. Nissimov said there weren't enough zeros in the Universe to express the odds against any random group of numbers behaving in such an orderly way.

"Do you know what this means, Mr. Tomlin," he said. "Genesis is God's geometry textbook!"

So okay, I get it. Some people hyperventilate when numbers form a chorus line or do back flips. And there are enough of these obsessive individuals out there that their fascination suggests commercial possibilities.

Tomorrow in Las Vegas, couples will be lining up at the High Roller ferris wheel on the Linq Promenade for free weddings, to be performed as they slowly rotate vertically and say their vows en masse in ceremonies organized by Caesar's.



Hotels and restaurants all over Vegas and lots of other places are offering special packages for what Caesar's

describes as "the last sequential wedding date of this century." (The High Roller offer is good only between the hours of 10:11 and 12:13.)

Another cohort in which joy tomorrow will be unconfined is the "geocache" community. These are people who adore their GPS devices but lack anything meaningful to do with them. So they invent elaborate scavenger hunts in which somebody buries a box containing a logbook at a given longitude and latitude, and players go looking for the box to write their names in the book.

Almost any pretext for a geocache game is good enough, and a sequential date more than fills the bill. If you geocache, better start making plans. Your friends probably already have the coordinates punched in.

I'm afraid the hype is true, there won't be another day like tomorrow until Jan. 2, 2103. I guess we should all make the most of it, each of us in our own way.

Oh, I've yawned, excuse me. But I live in Mexico, which like much of the rest of the world writes its dates DD/MM/YY. The real "last sequential date of the century" was more than a year ago. 11/12/13. You missed it.

Phil Emanuel, retired AP Communications executive, dies at age of 75



Phil Emanuel, a 43-year veteran of the Communications department of The Associated Press who retired in 2002, died Wednesday in Florida at the age of 75.

He is shown in the photo above with his wife **Anna** and granddaughter **Alyssa Milano**.

Emanuel joined AP as a New York office assistant in 1957. He worked in Washington for 20 years before returning to New York in 1982 to start up the Service Desk. He later became a Communications Manager and was named Communications Executive in 1988.

Emanuel won a Gramling Spirit Award in 2000 and the judges said, "Whether he's working around 50 Rock, making his Wednesday visit to Cranbury or setting up one more political convention, Phil Emanuel has continued to make work easier and life happier for his colleagues in the News, Broadcast and Communications departments."

"Phil Emanuel was one of the most beloved executives in communications," said **Jim Lagier**, former deputy director of Newspaper Membership. "He could perform miracles. On a Saturday night, he could arrange an emergency shipment from East Brunswick. I once tried to ship a piece of equipment overnight without a wire order from John Liotta. Phil was in my office the next morning reminding me of the rules. I once tape-recorded a piano recital from home for him as a gift. Honest. He thought that was cool. We newspaper membership people depended so much on Phil."

Another membership executive, **Dave Tomlin**, concurred: "Nobody I knew was better than Phil at getting the sometimes stubborn AP infrastructure, technical and human, to produce a quick, miraculous result in a pinch. He was smart, cheerful and connected to all the pressure points across the AP network of his era where things got done. I considered him my single most valuable contact in the company during my years in Membership."

Emanuel, of Jupiter, Florida, is survived by his wife **Anna** and their daughters **Debra (Frank)** and **Anna**, and was cherished grandfather to **Anthony, Alyssa** and **Kristina**. He also is survived by his sister **Sandra (Biagio)**.



A visitation for family and friends will be held Sunday from 2-7 p.m. at Aycok-Riverside Funeral Home, 1112 Military Trail, Jupiter, Florida. Services will be held Monday, Dec. 15, at 10 a.m. at St. Peter Catholic Church.

Brad Martin, director of the Kansas City Technical Center, counted Emanuel as a close friend from the time they met at the 1976 Republican National Convention in Kansas City which both worked as technicians.

Martin said, "While the rest of us walked around carrying an M15 in one hand and a 30 or 40 pound tool bag in the other, Phil used a 2 wheeler for the printer and his

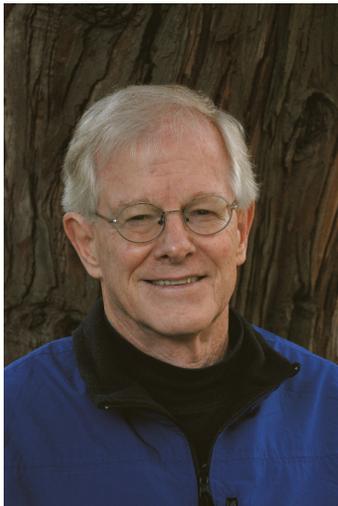
idea of a full tool bag was a pair of pliers, a screwdriver, a can of oil and a rag. No doubt this was a result of the brevity of time and space needed to be a technician in the restrictive spaces of Washington, D.C. But we had a blast, I learned a lot from him about being a tech and we were fast friends thereafter. He was happy in Florida with his family, you could hear it in his voice. He will really be missed; he had a lot of friends who cared for him as I did. A lot."

If you would like to send condolences, the address for Phil's daughter Debbie Milano is:

18870 Misty Lake Drive
Jupiter, Florida 33458

Connecting mailbox

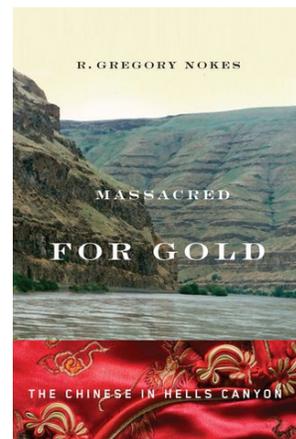
Welcome to our newest Connecting member - Greg Nokes



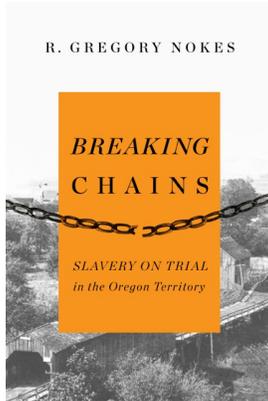
Greg Nokes ([Email](#)) - After 40 years in journalism, I retired from The Oregonian in 2003 and embarked on a second career as an author and lecturer. I previously worked 25 years with The AP, starting in Salt Lake City in 1963 and later based in New York City, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Buenos Aires and Washington, D.C. In D.C., I helped cover the State Department with George Gedda and Larry Knutson. I live in West Linn, Oregon, with my wife, Candise. I have two sons, Deston and Jeffrey, who live nearby, and two grandchildren, both living in New York City. I also have a stepson and stepdaughter and five step-grandchildren.

I was impressed to read of all the books by AP authors (in the Dec. 1 edition of Connecting). I have a couple of my own to add to your list. They are both non-fiction histories of events in the Pacific Northwest, and both published by Oregon State University Press. They are:

Massacred for Gold: The Chinese in Hells Canyon, the true story of nearly three-dozen Chinese gold miners massacred in Hells Canyon on the Oregon-Idaho border in 1887, a crime for which no one was held accountable. The book is now in its fourth printing. One outcome was the placing of a



memorial to the Chinese at the massacre site in 2012. The book includes the description of a hike to the massacre site during which Mike Shanahan may have saved my life. The book was published by Oregon State University Press in 2009 and is now in its fourth printing.



Breaking Chains: Slavery on Trial in the Oregon Territory, the little-known story of African American slaves brought to Oregon from Missouri in the 1840s and 1850s. It focuses on an 1852 slavery trial, *Holmes v Ford*, the only slavery case adjudicated in the Oregon Territory. Few know of the pro-slavery sentiments of Oregon's early settlers and the several exclusion laws which banned African American settlers. The book was published by Oregon State University Press in 2013 and was a finalist for the 2014 Oregon Book Award for nonfiction. It's now in its second printing.

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Jesse Holland and family at the White House



It was a special night Tuesday for Washington AP journalist (and new Connecting colleague) **Jesse Holland** ([Email](#)) and his family: the White House Christmas tours.

Jesse, who is Race, Ethnicity and Demographics writer in the Washington bureau, is shown with his wife Carol, daughter Rita and son Jamie. Rita will turn 8 on Dec. 26, and Jamie (who is really Jesse J. Holland III) is 6 and will turn 7 on July 4.

Jesse notes "It was their first time inside the White House. It'll make a great school report!"

Worldview: Afghanistan Daily Life

For today's installment of AP's Worldview: Daily Life series, we focus on Afghanistan. An Afghan woman learns to read Quran at a local madrassa, or seminary, in Jalalabad; Afghan horse riders play "buzkashi" game during a friendly match on the outskirts of Kabul, and a shop owner is reflected in a mirror inside his Burqa shop. These are everyday moments our AP photographers seamlessly capture.



Lead Image Caption: An Afghan boy pushes a wheel on the Naderkhan hill in Kabul, Afghanistan, Wednesday, May, 30, 2012, (AP Photo/ Ahmad Jamshid)

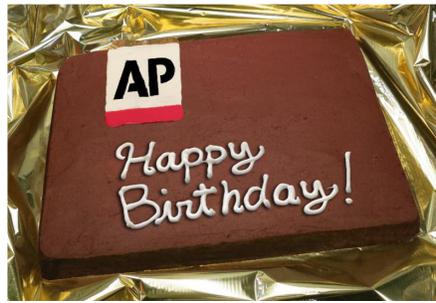
Welcome to Connecting



Jesse Holland ([Email](#)) - Race, Ethnicity and Demographics writer, Washington AP.

George Stanley ([Email](#)) - managing editor of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel who will become editor in February when Martin Kaiser retires.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Carole Feldman ([Email](#))

Michael Feldman ([Email](#))

Dave Zelio ([Email](#))

Stories of interest

[Michel du Cille, Post photojournalist who won Pulitzer three times, dies at 58](#)

(Shared by Richard Horwitz)

Michel du Cille, a Washington Post photojournalist who was a three-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize for his dramatic images of human struggle and triumph, and who recently chronicled the plight of Ebola patients and the people who cared for them, died Thursday while on assignment for The Post in Liberia. He was 58.



He collapsed while returning on foot from a village in the Salala district of Liberia's Bong County, where he had been working on a project. He was transported over dirt roads to a hospital two hours away but was declared dead on arrival of an apparent heart attack.

Mr. du Cille won two Pulitzer Prizes for photography with the Miami Herald in the

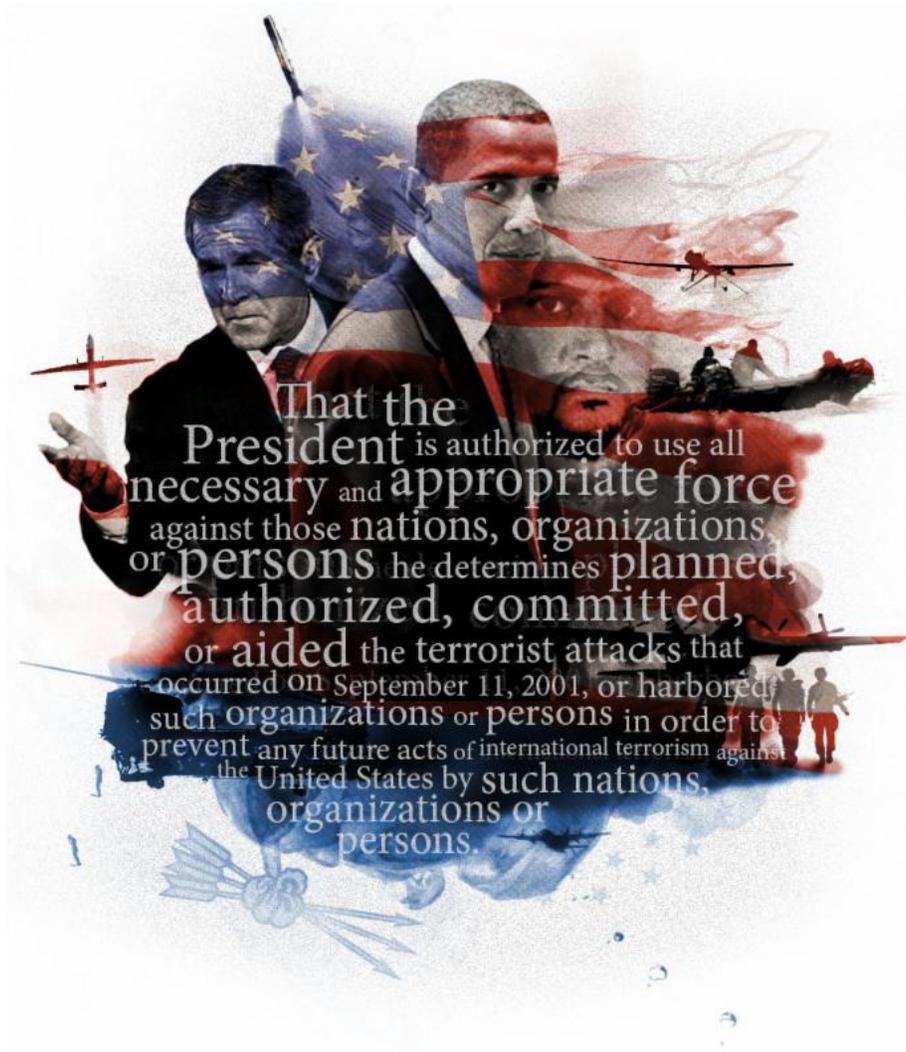
1980s and joined The Post in 1988. In 2008, he shared his third Pulitzer, with Post reporters Dana Priest and Anne Hull, for an investigative series on the treatment of veterans at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

"Michel had returned to Liberia on Tuesday after a four-week break that included showing his photographs at the Addis Foto Fest in Ethiopia," Washington Post Executive Editor Martin Baron said in a statement to the newspaper's staff.

"We are all heartbroken," he continued. "We have lost a beloved colleague and one of the world's most accomplished photographers."

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[60 Words And A War Without End: The Untold Story Of The Most Dangerous Sentence In U.S. History](#)



Sunrise was still nearly an hour off when Nazih al-Ruqai climbed into his black Hyundai SUV outside a mosque in northern Tripoli and turned the key. The lanky 49-year-old had left the house barely 30 minutes earlier for a quick trip to the

mosque on a Saturday. It was Oct. 5, 2013, and after more than two decades in exile, he had settled into a predictable existence of prayer and worship.

The homecoming hadn't always been so smooth. Ruqai, who is better known in the jihadi world as Abu Anas al-Libi, was still feeling the effects of the hepatitis C he had contracted years earlier during a stint in an underground prison in Iran. Following overtures from Muammar al-Qaddafi's government, his wife and children had returned to Libya in 2010. But Libi stayed away, wary of the man he had once plotted to kill. Only when the Libyan uprisings started in early 2011 did he follow his family back to Libya. But by then it was already too late. His oldest son, Abd al-Rahman, the only one of his five children who had been born in Libya, was dead, shot while fighting for the capital.

After that, things moved in fits and starts. Qaddafi was killed weeks later in October 2011, and Libi eventually settled in Nufalayn, a leafy middle-class neighborhood in northeast Tripoli, alongside several members of his extended family. Life after Qaddafi was chaotic and messy - nothing really worked as the new government struggled to reboot after 42 years of dictatorship, often finding itself at the mercy of the heavily armed militias and tribes that had contributed to Qaddafi's downfall.

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[Al Jazeera correspondent dies in Syria](#)

Al Jazeera Media Network has announced the death of its Arabic correspondent in Syria, Mahran Al Deeri, while covering battles in the city of Al Sheikh Maskin in rural Daraa.



According to his family members, Mahran died on Wednesday while taking cover from government fire as his car hit the vehicle of rebel fighters after he turned off his headlights to avoid being targeted.

This is the same area where three other journalists from the Orient Network were targeted and killed three days ago.

Al Jazeera's Acting Director General, Mostefa Souag said: "Our martyred colleague Mahran Al Deeri has worked with aljazeera.net for over a year and was known for his courage, bravery and professional coverage of the Syrian revolution in the area of Daraa and its suburbs."

"Targeting journalists will not deter us from reporting the truth which we have been committed to for over 18 years," Souag said, adding: "Throughout our years of coverage we have lost many colleagues on this mission but our brave journalists are committed to this despite the constant dangers and challenges."

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[Senate torture report details CIA's media strategy](#)

The Senate Intelligence Committee report on CIA torture of terrorism suspects not only reignited a national debate over the former interrogation policies, but also shed light on how the agency manipulated media coverage of the secret programs.

Despite federal laws that prohibit the leaking of classified information - not to mention frequent complaints from the Bush Administration that such leaks harmed national security - top agency officials sanctioned the behavior in order to improve the CIA's public image, according to the Democratic-backed study. The information shared with the press overstated the effectiveness of the agency's brutal tactics. And once that information found its way into newsprint or airwaves, the report said, the CIA did not report the potentially illegal disclosures.

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[Kathleen O'Keefe, Newspaper Pioneer, Dies at 54](#)

Kathleen O'Keefe, a founder of The Phnom Penh Post, Cambodia's first independent newspaper, as the country began to emerge from decades of violence, died on Dec. 1 in Arlington, Mass. She was 54.

The cause was cancer, her husband, Jason Barber, said.

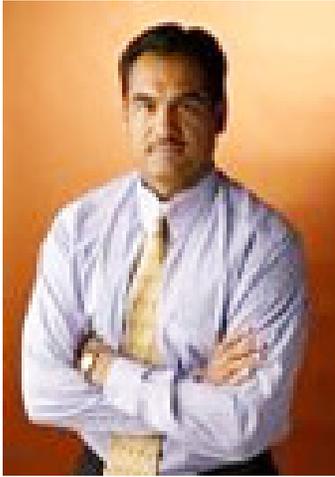


Founded in 1992, The Post, an English-language newspaper, introduced the concept of accurate, objective journalism to a country still in turmoil, and was a cornerstone of efforts to help Cambodia become a stable nation with international standards of governance.

It was often an uphill struggle as The Post challenged entrenched interests and the official government line. Cambodia was lurching from violence to corruption to official impunity in its halting recovery from four years of mass killings under the Khmer Rouge in the late 1970s, followed by a continuing civil war.

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[St. Louis Post-Dispatch editor Gilbert Bailon honored for his paper's Ferguson coverage](#)



St. Louis Post-Dispatch editor Gilbert Bailon received the National Press Foundation's Benjamin C. Bradlee Editor of the Year Award "for guiding his news organization through the police shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo., and the tumultuous aftermath."

The judges said that "if ever a newspaper and its editor faced a real-time stress test it was the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and editor Gilbert Bailon."

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[The New York Times' Obscene Profanity Policy](#)

In an email exchange Wednesday, Times standards editor Philip B. Corbett told me that "we do try to avoid gratuitous use of vulgarities." And, to be clear, so does Slate. It has long been our policy to avoid gratuitous profanity in our own writing. But as then-editor David Plotz explained in a piece earlier this year, "We're not New York Times-style prudes: If we're writing a history of the word fuck, we will certainly use fuck and explore its rainbow of meanings. If someone curses in a quote, we won't bowdlerize the quote."

The Times' policy on vulgarity isn't absolute. In his email today, Corbett told me that "we are prepared to make exceptions if the use of a vulgarity is newsworthy or essential to the story, or if avoiding it would deprive readers of crucial information. (I don't think Vidra's use of a Silicon Valley cliché qualifies on those counts)."

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[Bloomberg Passed Over Its Top Woman Editor In Hiring A New Boss](#)

When the memo dropped on Tuesday morning, Bloomberg's Manhattan newsroom went silent. Office banter ceased and keyboards stopped clacking, as reporters and editors read the note from Michael Bloomberg announcing the news service's founder and editor in chief Matthew Winkler would be replaced by an outsider, The Economist's John Micklethwait.

It came as a surprise on two levels: Not only is Bloomberg News largely built in the reflection of Winkler's own singular approach to journalism, but many inside and outside the company thought that he already had a likely successor: Senior Executive Editor Laurie Hays.

Hays, who joined Bloomberg from the Wall Street Journal in 2008, was promoted

to be one of six senior executive editors in 2013 under Winkler and has taken more and more of a leadership role in newsroom, former employees and people familiar with the company have said. At least internally, she was viewed as Winkler's natural successor. "It's discouraging," one Bloomberg staffer said about Hays not getting the top job. "I find it personally disheartening."

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[Rolling Stone Libel Lawyer Leaves Wenner Media | New York Observer](#)

As Rolling Stone's blockbuster campus rape story faces intensifying scrutiny, one question that has repeatedly been raised in the journalism community is "how did this get through legal?"

The Observer has exclusively learned that upheaval within Wenner Media's legal department may have contributed to an environment in which a story sure to generate controversy did not face the magazine's usual rigorous level of review.

In Spring of 2006, Rolling Stone publisher Jann S. Wenner decided to hire the company's first in-house attorney. Dana Rosen, then 40, had an impressive resume. A product of NYU law, Ms. Rosen had clerked for Federal Judge Shira Scheinlin and gone on to become an associate at Paul, Weiss and associate general counsel at the publisher Penguin. According to Timothy Welsh, an executive at Wenner Media, the company had tired of paying outside counsel for pre-publication review of its often-controversial stories.

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[Reiland: The sit-down](#) (Shared by Mark Mittelstadt)

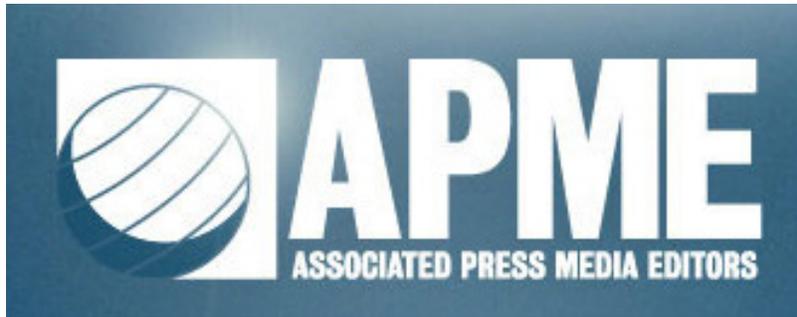
Dear Readers:

Please answer the following multiple-choice question:

How much access do you think The Daily Iowan - the campus newspaper serving the University of Iowa and Iowa City community - has with university President Sally Mason?

- A. Unlimited
- B. More than others
- C. Little or nothing

If you answered "C," then you circled the same letter I did. And as the Editor-in-Chief of the DI, I believe it's time our readership become aware of how the access we formerly had with President Mason has suddenly come to a screeching halt. Let's put it this way: our monthly one-on-one Q&As are a thing of the past. The only independent student newspaper at the University of Iowa now possesses virtually zero personal access to the No. 1 newsmaker on this campus.



SAVE THE DATE

Feb. 27 - Deadline for APME Journalism Excellence Awards

Oct. 16-18, 2015 - ASNE-APME conference at Stanford University.

APME JOURNALISM CONTEST ADDS NEW CATEGORY FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The 2014 Associated Press Media Editors Journalism Excellence Awards honor superior journalism and innovation among newspapers, radio, television and digital news sites in the United States and Canada.

The deadline for all entries is Friday, Feb. 27, 2015.

The awards seek to promote excellence by recognizing work that is innovative, well-written and incisively reported and has outstanding multimedia. A special award honors innovation by colleges and universities, and a new category recognizes news organizations that build strong ties to their communities.

All awards will be presented for journalism published or launched between Jan. 1, 2014, and Dec. 31, 2014.

Here are the changes to the 2014 awards:

-A new category - Community Engagement - has been added. This award will be given to news organizations that best demonstrate the ability to provide effective dialogue with their communities and/or seek partnerships that sustain the dialogue and encourages more community dialogue.

-The Tom Curley Sweepstakes for the First Amendment Award will be given to a news organization that is selected from all the entrants and is not a winner of an individual division category. Thus, a best of the best from all from the entrants will be chosen by judges.

-The International Perspective Award will have two circulation categories: up to of

59,999 average daily circulation, and 60,000 or more.

-News organizations can submit the same entry in only two categories.

Four of the awards categories will offer monetary prizes: the Innovator of the Year Award for newspapers, the Best of Show in the Public Service Awards and the Tom Curley Sweepstakes in the First Amendment Awards.

The entry fees are \$75 per entry for APME members and \$100 per entry for non-members.

The awards will be presented at the joint ASNE-APME Conference in October at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, and are linked on the APME website. The finalists of the newspaper Innovator of the Year will make presentations at the conference, and the winner will be selected by conference attendees.

Nominations are received online only.

The website is: <http://bit.ly/1vNh4Zy>

For more details, please go to the APME website: www.apme.com

For more information, contact Sally Jacobsen (sjacobsen@ap.org) at The Associated Press at 212-621-1838 or Sue Price Johnson (sue.price.johnson@gmail.com) at 919-846-2388.

Here are the categories:

45th Annual Public Service Awards

The APME Public Service Awards are given to Associated Press or Canadian Press member newspapers for meritorious service to the community, state or nation. From the three division winners, an overall winner will be chosen and receive \$1,500, provided by the APME Foundation.

45th Annual First Amendment Award and Citations

The 2014 APME First Amendment Awards will be given to journalists or newspapers for work that advances freedom of information, makes good use of FOI principles or statutes, or significantly widens the scope of information available to the public. Other distinguished efforts will be honored with First Amendment citations. The Tom Curley Sweepstakes of \$1,000 will be given to the entry that overall best exemplifies the spirit of the First Amendment. The sweepstakes winner will not be one of circulation category winners, but will be chosen as the best of all the entrants. The prize is sponsored by the APME Foundation.
Ninth Annual Innovator of the Year Award.

The award recognizes innovation in print, online, management, structure or other areas that demonstrates a bold, creative effort to improve a news or information

product and increase audience. Demonstrable success is required for the entry's standing. The winner will be awarded \$1,000. The sponsor is GateHouse Media.

The Al Neuharth Award for Innovation Journalism

This award recognizes groundbreaking work by a newspaper that creatively uses digital tools in the role of being a community's watchdog. The winner in each circulation category will be awarded \$2,500.

Fourth Annual Innovator of the Year awards for Television and Radio

The awards recognize innovation in television and radio that demonstrates bold, creative efforts to improve a news or information product and increase audience. Demonstrable success is required for the entry's standing. An award will be given for the TV winner; another for the radio winner.

Fourth Annual Innovator of the Year Award for College Students

The award recognizes innovation by university students in print, online, management, structure or other area that demonstrates a bold, creative effort to improve a news or information product and increase audience. Demonstrable success could improve the entry's standing.

NEW: Community Engagement Award

This award will be given to news organizations that best demonstrate the ability to provide effective dialogue with their communities and/or seek partnerships that sustain the dialogue and/or encourages more community dialogue.

Second Annual Best Mobile Platform

This award is presented to the news organization that produces or made significant improvements to a mobile (smartphone or tablet) application or platform in 2014, which most advances the state of the art in utility and engagement. The ideal entry will embody improvements in content, design, functionality and technology that set an example worthy of emulation by the industry.

Digital Storytelling Awards

The award recognizes Associated Press or Canadian Press member newspaper, television, radio and online partners for the effective use of digital storytelling. International Perspective Awards.

The 2014 APME International Perspective Awards will be given to Associated Press and Canadian Press member newspapers for outstanding coverage of international news for local readers.

MAKE PLANS: ASNE-APME CONFERENCE AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Oct. 16-18, 2015

ASNE, APME and the Associated Press Photo Managers will hold its 2015 joint conference at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. Save the dates: Friday, Oct. 16 - Sunday, Oct. 18.

The conference will start late Friday afternoon and continue until Sunday evening. While in the Silicon Valley, we'll put extra emphasis on our digital future.

Our hotel, the Sheraton Palo Alto, at 625 El Camino Real, is a short walk from the Stanford University campus buildings where we'll be meeting. We have a nightly rate of only \$169.

We'll build on the success we had at the first joint ASNE-APME conference in Chicago, and a committee representing both organizations already has started planning the 2015 conference, including programming and fundraising.

We'll have more details soon on conference registration and booking a room.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Dec. 12, the 346th day of 2014. There are 19 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 12, 1870, Joseph H. Rainey of South Carolina became the first black lawmaker sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives.

On this date:

In 1787, Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1897, "The Katzenjammer Kids," the pioneering comic strip created by Rudolph Dirks, made its debut in the New York Journal.

In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt nominated Oscar Straus to be Secretary of Commerce and Labor; Straus became the first Jewish Cabinet member.

In 1911, Britain's King George V announced during a visit to India that the capital would be transferred from Calcutta to Delhi.

In 1917, Father Edward Flanagan founded Boys Town outside Omaha, Neb.

In 1925, the first motel - the Motel Inn - opened in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

In 1937, Japanese aircraft sank the U.S. gunboat Panay on China's Yangtze River. (Japan apologized, and paid \$2.2 million in reparations.)

In 1946, a United Nations committee voted to accept a six-block tract of Manhattan real estate offered as a gift by John D. Rockefeller Jr. to be the site of the U.N.'s headquarters.

In 1963, Kenya became independent of Britain.

In 1974, "The Godfather, Part II," a Paramount Pictures release, premiered in New York.

In 1985, 248 American soldiers and eight crew members were killed when an Arrow Air charter crashed after takeoff from Gander, Newfoundland.

In 2000, George W. Bush became president-elect as a divided U.S. Supreme Court reversed a state court decision for recounts in Florida's contested election.

Ten years ago: A bomb exploded in a market in southern Philippines, killing at least 14 people. Militants blew up an Israeli base at the Gaza-Egypt crossing, killing five soldiers. Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas apologized to Kuwaitis for Palestinian support for Saddam Hussein after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990.

Five years ago: Houston elected its first openly gay mayor, with voters handing a solid victory to City Controller Annise Parker after a hotly contested runoff with former city attorney Gene Locke. Rescue crews found the body of a climber on Oregon's Mount Hood while two others remained missing. (The bodies of the other two climbers were found in Aug. 2010.) Sophomore tailback Mark Ingram became the first player at the University of Alabama to win the Heisman Trophy.

One year ago: The House voted to ease across-the-board federal spending cuts and head off future government shutdowns, acting after Speaker John Boehner unleashed a stinging attack on tea party-aligned conservative groups campaigning for the measure's defeat. Actress Audrey Totter, 95, died in Los Angeles. Actor-writer-producer Tom O'Laughlin, 82, creator of "Billy Jack," died in Thousand Oaks, California.

Today's Birthdays: Former TV host Bob Barker is 91. Basketball Hall of Famer Bob Pettit is 82. Singer Connie Francis is 77. Singer Dionne Warwick is 74. Rock singer-musician Dickey Betts is 71. Former race car driver Emerson Fittipaldi is 68. Actor Wings Hauser is 67. Actor Bill Nighy (ny) is 65. Actor Duane Chase (Film: "The Sound of Music") is 64. Country singer LaCosta is 64. Gymnast-turned-actress Cathy Rigby is 62. Author Lorna Landvik is 60. Singer-musician Sheila E. is 57. Actress Sheree J. Wilson is 56. Pop singer Daniel O'Donnell is 53. International Tennis Hall of Famer Tracy Austin is 52. Rock musician Eric Schenkman (Spin Doctors) is 51. Rock musician Nicholas Dimichino (Nine Days) is 47. Author Sophie Kinsella is 45. News anchor Maggie Rodriguez is 45. Actress Jennifer Connelly is 44. Actress Madchen Amick is 44. Actress Regina Hall is 44. Country singer Hank Williams III is 42. Actress Mayim Bialik is 39. Model Bridget Hall is 37.

Thought for Today: "To escape criticism - do nothing, say nothing, be nothing." - Elbert Hubbard, American author and publisher (1856-1915).

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