

From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2014 9:26 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - December 15, 2014

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Connecting

December 15, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning - here's to a great week ahead.

Connecting comes to you from Denver through the first part of the week, and Ye Olde Connecting Editor's 2-year-old niece **Eloise** is serving as Deputy Editor during this period.



She's complaining, loudly, that her age demographic is not well represented in our newsletter. Guess she's correct.

Paul

How did you land your first job in

journalism?



Question of the day:

How did you land your first job in journalism?

In the spirit of No Good Idea Goes Unborrowed, that's a question currently on the LinkedIn journalism site, from Marelene Murphy, a senior writer at Canadian Broadcasting Corp., and I thought it would be intriguing to hear from my Connecting colleagues on their own experiences.

I look forward to hearing from you if you care to share with Connecting your own story of how you landed your first paid position. I will publish your responses in Connecting over the next week. Send your response to: stevenspl@live.com

A Celebration of Molly



Jim Baltzelle ([Email](#)), AP's Miami chief of bureau, wrote a eulogy for his 18-year-old daughter Molly, who died in her sleep Dec. 6 in St. Augustine, Florida, where she was attending college.

It was read at her services last Thursday by Florida AP news editor **Terry Spencer**.

Jim shares the eulogy with his AP family and Connecting colleagues, and asks that it not be circulated on social media. Jim and his wife Rebecca and their family remain in our thoughts and our prayers.

A Celebration of Molly

Molly literally gave me the shirt off her back because I was cold.

She was an amazing cook.

She was so brave.

She could pack like a phenom. Boom. She was ready.

She seriously looked like a movie star.

She was my first best friend.

She was my best friend.

Her photographs show her creativity, her sensitivity.

Molly's art is amazing.

These are some of the heartfelt words sent to us, written by all of us, all over the world.

Molly's family wants to stand here. But please allow me to speak and honor Molly for them in this time of tremendous pain and grief.

Her special qualities, her stunning beauty - so much on the inside. She befriended the homeless and fed them. And remember, Molly had culinary training and knew her stuff. Her mom loved her cooking.

She liked really sour candy.

Molly May, her name sings. Molly May, our beloved Cinco de Mayo baby, Mols, the Molster, our dear friend, sister, daughter, aunt, cousin, niece, you are kind, tender, too young to leave.

Molly slept in a tent right up until it was time to see Willie Nelson in Live Oak. She went right up front. She loved him. He noticed her and

smiled at her.

When she was a little girl, Vassar Clements, the great bluegrass fiddler, spoke so sweetly, just to her.

Molly's favorite band was the Front Bottoms. (Check them out later.)

She had pink, purple, black, blonde, mohawked, shaved. Her hair was self-styled, an expression of her beautiful, vivid self.

Molly is with us. She believed in God. Her light...shone so brightly. We will never forget her.

Her grandmothers hold her hands. Her grandfathers embrace and dote on her.

Look for her in the moon.

Go outside and hug a tree, a friend.

Be kind to each other.

We see flashes of her in her kitten's love and play.

Rebecca saw a shooting star.

There are an amazing amount of butterflies in our backyard.

Thank you for being here to comfort us and celebrate her life. We love her so dearly and miss her.

As Dr. Phineas D. Gurley said in the sermon for Abraham Lincoln's 11-year-old son, Willie, who died in 1862:

"...while they weep, they also rejoice in the confidence that their loss is the unspeakable and eternal gain of the departed. For they believe, as well they may, that he has gone to Him who said: 'Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for such is the kingdom of heaven ...'"

AP's Russell Contreras elected president of UNITY

Russell Contreras, a reporter for the Associated Press who covers the American Southwest, was elected president of the troubled UNITY: Journalists For Diversity on Sunday.

Contreras, who will assume office in January, will have his hands full trying to repair damaged relations with former association partners representing black and Hispanic journalists.



"Our opponents are those who don't support diversity, not each other," Contreras told All Digitocracy by phone. "UNITY is no longer in competition with any other group advocating for journalists of color. Whatever UNITY is will be in addition to what those other groups do. They can continue to exist under their sovereign missions and not worry about another group like UNITY coming along and fighting for sponsor dollars."

The association, which formerly represented a unified quadrennial gathering for journalists of color, has been beset with infighting for years. The National Association of Black Journalists left the group in 2011 following disputes over governance and loss of direction. Less than two years later the National Association of Hispanic Journalists followed suit citing similar reasons. Months earlier UNITY's board of directors voted to change its name, dropping the "of color," and elected David Steinberg to preside over the organization as president, which caused further consternation since Steinberg is both white and male. Steinberg, who Contreras will replace, did not seek re-election.

Last month UNITY announced that it would no longer host conventions, but would focus on offering programming instead. The organization also announced that its executive director, Roberto Quinones, who had only been on the job for six months, would be leaving.

Meanwhile, newsroom diversity is on the decline.

Contreras is a life-time member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists who ran, unsuccessfully, for president of that organization in 2012. He is also a member of the Native American Journalists Association and NABJ. It's unclear whether his roles with the other associations, and his appointment as UNITY president, will bring NAHJ and NABJ back to the UNITY camp.

"The same things that forced NABJ to leave UNITY in the first place have not been resolved and I don't know that having Russell as president will

change anything," NABJ president Bob Butler said Sunday evening.

Messages left for NAHJ president Mekahlo Medina were not immediately returned. This story will be updated if and when he responds.

While UNITY will not host a convention in 2016, NABJ and NAHJ will hold a joint gathering. Contreras said that while there will be no UNITY convention in two years, his plans include producing regional programming events that focus on poverty and/or immigration, perhaps in partnership with other journalism associations.

His first order of business, however, is to shape a strategic plan with both long-term and short-term goals. "UNITY needs to re-position its mission and come up with new revenue sources," Contreras said. "Raising money through conventions is outdated. ...We need to be issue driven.

Click [here](#) for a link to the story.

Connecting mailbox

Remembering Phil Emanuel

Sandy Johnson ([Email](#)) - Phil Emanuel and Bill Lenz were the Bobbsey Twins of the 10 political conventions that I supervised as AP's political chief. I was uneasy about the complicated technical and physical setups until their arrival, when they barked commands and a newsroom-away-from-home started to take shape. They moved as a unit, a two-fer that never failed to elicit a smile and a call-out from me. The people are what I miss most about AP, and Phil was among the best -- right up there with my Communications hero, Larry Stephens.

Art Loomis ([Email](#)) -

I have known Phil for many years. Unfortunately there were many years that we just knew each other whereas he may have been in NY after I left NY and we either had business on the phone or we would run into each other as we did in Houston at the Republican convention in 92. I always enjoyed Phil and he was always such an easy going person. We will all miss him very much.

Doug Kranz ([Email](#)) - I'm speechless...worked with Phil for 11 years in Washington, DC, under L.W. Stephens. He and I would handle 22 technical calls a day. We made the best of a miserable job. He was a joy

to work with. Never a complaint, consistently mild manner. Working with Phil and young Ron Williams was a real pleasurable experience.

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Memories of Detroit photographer Richard Sheinwald

Charles Hill ([Email](#)) - Richie was a skilled and versatile AP photographer, including non-camera essentials of a good photographer such as knowing the territory, the sources and the ways to get things done, especially on breaking news assignments. But what I remember most was his broad, quick smile and his ability to find humor even while dealing with news that often was not bright and cheery.

John Epperson ([Email](#)) - I appreciated the fine obit on Richard. He was a long time-ago friend whom I always enjoyed working with on the photo wire or in person on the road somewhere. He was indeed a fine photojournalist and a good man.

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Brian Akre - AP experience was invaluable

New Connecting colleague **Brian Akre** ([Email](#)) updates his former AP colleagues on his life and career:



I worked for the AP for 16 years, from 1983 to 1999, starting as a newsman in the Portland, Ore., bureau, after a few years at my first reporting job at the Grants Pass (Ore.) Daily Courier. My first big AP stories were the cult of Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh in central Oregon and a mountain climbing disaster in which a group of high school kids got lost in a blizzard on Mount Hood. Portland is not typically considered a big news town, but we had our share of national stories and I benefitted from working with some good editors, including Sally Hale and Naomi Kaufman.

In late 1988, **Dean Fosdick** hired me as Juneau, Alaska, correspondent, just months before the Exxon Valdez oil spill. Alaska was an adventure and Juneau was a terrific beat. Covered state government in the winter, when the Legislature met, and spent most of the rest of the year mining the region for its abundance of feature stories. Juneau was always treated like a foreign correspondence in New York; almost any story

from there sounded exotic to the New Yorkers on the General Desk.

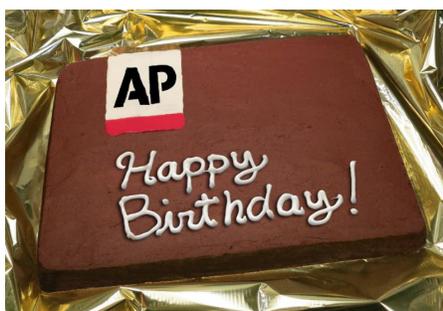
My next stop was the Detroit bureau as a business writer, then auto writer, from 1994 to 1999, when I left the AP and journalism. Detroit is a great news town, and I fell in love with the auto beat. At that time, almost every newspaper had an auto section once a week, and your stories were guaranteed wide play.

After AP, I worked in media relations and executive communications at General Motors in Detroit until 2006, when I moved to Finland to join Nokia as director of executive speaker services. In 2011, with Nokia floundering, I fled to the Netherlands to become senior speechwriter for the CEO of Royal Dutch Shell. In 2013, I returned to the auto industry as director of executive communications at the Paris-based Renault-Nissan Alliance. I still live in the Netherlands, near Amsterdam, and work about a week every month out of the Paris office.

The AP certainly prepared me well for my communications career. Being able to write fast and tight on deadline, with some flair, and being a bit fearless in dealing with high-level executives are extremely valuable skill in business.

My wife and I didn't start our family until my last year at AP and today we have three kids, ages 15, 11 and 8. They are true "third culture kids," having spent most of their lives overseas.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Dave Pyle [\(Email\)](#)

John Strachan [\(Email\)](#)

Stories of interest

[Sony Pictures Demands That News Agencies Delete 'Stolen' Data](#)

LOS ANGELES - Sony Pictures Entertainment warned media outlets on Sunday against using the mountains of corporate data revealed by hackers who raided the studio's computer systems in an attack that became public last month.

In a sharply worded letter sent to news organizations, including The New York Times, [David Boies](#), a prominent lawyer hired by Sony, characterized the documents as "stolen information" and demanded that they be avoided, and destroyed if they had already been downloaded or otherwise acquired.

The studio "does not consent to your possession, review, copying, dissemination, publication, uploading, downloading or making any use" of the information, Mr. Boies wrote in the three-page letter, which was distributed Sunday morning.

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[With crime coverage, paper 'challenging community'](#)

BY JESSE WASHINGTON
The Associated Press

(This was Jesse's final story for the AP before starting a new job with ESPN on a website aimed at black audiences. Jesse will continue to be a Connecting colleague and we hope to see some of his work from his new venture. We wish him well.)



PITTSBURGH (AP) -- At the start of every month, the same image of a pistol points from the same place on the front page of the New Pittsburgh Courier, above the same caption: Under Attack By Us!

The only thing that changes is the number of the dead.

"75 of 91 homicides Black lives," read a recent headline in the renowned black newspaper's crusade against black-on-black violence. It was

accompanied, as always, by a literal body count: The name, race and manner of death for every homicide in Pittsburgh in 2014 - with victims being overwhelmingly black, as the headline shows.

For years across the news media, stories have focused on cases like the killing of Michael Brown, the unarmed black 18-year-old, by a white police officer in Ferguson, Missouri. And for years, the Courier has kept asking: What about all these other black lives lost?

That gun on its front page might as well be a finger pointed at black America - from a mirror.

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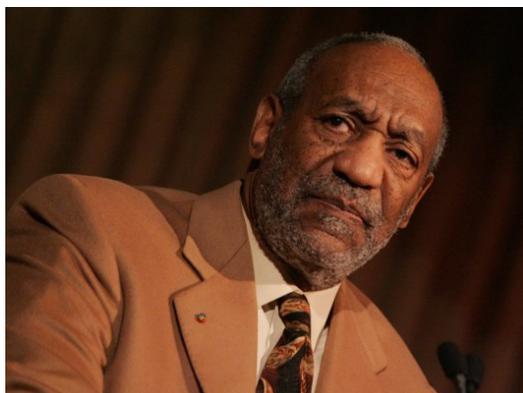
[Turkish Police Officers and Media Workers Are Detained in Roundup](#) (Shared by Sibby Christensen)

ISTANBUL - The Turkish police detained at least 24 police officers and media workers in raids on Sunday morning, days after President Recep Tayyip Erdogan signaled a new campaign against supporters of an influential Muslim cleric whom he has accused of attempting to overthrow his government.



Eight other people were on a list of suspects accused of "using pressure, intimidation, threats," a "smear campaign" and "fabrication of evidence" to claim the power of state as members of an illegal organization, the semiofficial press agency Anadolu reported. Mr. Erdogan has said that they are part of a parallel structure within the state that is intended by the cleric, Fethullah Gulen, to oust him from power.

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[Upbeat Cosby expects 'black media' to stay neutral](#)

Bill Cosby broke his silence Friday, albeit briefly, to lecture the media on remaining "neutral" and to say that his

wife is standing by him.

Reached at his Massachusetts home, the star declined to address the rape and sex abuse allegations from an ever-growing list of women that now includes supermodel Beverly Johnson.

Instead, Cosby, 77, said that the African-American media - for which this reporter often writes - should be impartial.

"Let me say this. I only expect the black media to uphold the standards of excellence in journalism and when you do that you have to go in with a neutral mind," Cosby said.

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Rieder: A powerful commitment to watchdog journalism

Congratulations for a job well done.

News came Tuesday that after 17 years in the job, Marty Kaiser, editor of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, will soon step down, turning the reins over to his longtime No. 2, George Stanley.

Ordinarily, the imminent departure of the editor of a regional newspaper with a daily circulation of about 180,000 and a Sunday circulation of 294,000 is hardly national news. But Kaiser's decision deserves attention because he has been an editor who made a difference, in a good way. And has provided a road map for newsroom leaders across the country.

Kaiser's resolute determination to pursue ambitious watchdog reporting in an era of massive financial challenges and shrinking resources was a brave one. And a smart one.

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News roundups can be part of a smart media diet

Each morning around 3:30am, Adeel Hassan and Victoria Shannon start reading and summarizing the day's top news. By 5am, they have a completed draft of major world events, upcoming NYC happenings, what's happening with the markets, what's noteworthy, and a short backstory on an interesting topic (the softer news was planned ahead of time). Shannon edits it, sends it to the copydesk, and by 6am it's published on the NYT Now app. By 6:30am, it's in subscriber inboxes as "Your Morning Briefing" by The New York Times.

They're not the only team working in the wee hours to create a morning news roundup.

The Economist publishes its version at 6am on its Espresso app. And Mic news director Jared Keller wakes up to write and send his site's morning letter, Mic Check, to subscribers by early morning, as do the folks behind The Skimm, Bit of News, and the Quartz Daily Brief.

"Doing a roundup of links is another way to say, 'These are the stories we value, and this is what we stand for,'" says Keller. There are also evening news roundups, the likes of Vox Sentences, Vox.com's 8pm wrap-up, and the Times' evening briefing. Not to mention countless other daily news round-up services: Circa for bite-sized news, Yahoo's News Digest app, Dave Pell's NextDraft newsletter, and Today in Tabs, to name some popular ones.

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[President Obama: 'I spend mornings watching ESPN'](#) (Shared by Bob Daugherty)

An avid sports fan, the president told ESPN's Colin Cowherd on Friday that he spends many mornings watching the sports channel.

During an interview Friday with ESPN's popular radio show "The Herd with Colin Cowherd," the president said that most of his mornings started with the Worldwide Leader in Sports. "I spend most of my time watching ESPN in the morning," President Obama said. "I get so much politics I don't want to be inundated with a bunch of chatter about politics during the day."

The president explained that watching ESPN's "Sportscenter" while working out in the morning gave him a pretty good sense of the sports world because he doesn't really have time to sit down and watch entire games.

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[FCC Okays Scripps/Journal Merger](#)

The FCC's Media Bureau has approved the license transfers in the Scripps/Journal Communications deal to merge their broadcast station groups and spin off their newspaper holdings into a separate company.

The companies announced in late July that they wanted to create a new broadcast company, E.W. Scripps, remaining in Cincinnati, and newspaper company Journal Media Group, based in Milwaukee.

Journal owns 12 full-power TV stations and 35 radio stations and Scripps owns 16 full-power TV stations.

The Federal Trade Commission in September announced that neither it nor the Justice Department had any antitrust issues with the deal.

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[Consolidation Coming in Sunday Magazines](#)

A MASS-MARKET media category that Madison Avenue has perceived as unchanging for what seems like a month of Sundays is suddenly undergoing a significant makeover.

So many Sundays are germane because the category is nationally distributed newspaper magazines, also known as Sunday supplements. Until a year and a half ago, there were four major publishers in the field, but come January there will be one, the Athlon Media Group.

It is Athlon, which began with one entry in the category, Athlon Sports, that has spurred the swift consolidation. First, in August 2013, Athlon bought from PGOA Media the print publishing rights to three newspaper magazines: American Profile, Relish and Spry (now Spry Living).

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[Finney: Retiring Evans embodies Register's spirit](#) (Shared by Steve Buttry)

Sometime (last) Friday, Opinion Editor Randy Evans will turn off his computer, hand in his ID badge and walk out of The Des Moines Register offices for the last time as an employee.

His wife, Sue, a long-suffering newspaper widow, has dinner reservations. He has strict instructions to be on time for once.

Evans, 64, is retiring after 40 years teaching Iowa journalists with kindness, skill and corny humor. He's held just about every position one can have in the newsroom, save executive editor.

The Final Word



Women at Work: A Guide for Men

By Joanne Lipman
The Wall Street Journal

We are flooded with career-advice books for women. There are women's networking groups and leadership conferences galore. But they're all geared toward women, consumed primarily by women and discussed among women.

I am convinced that women don't need more advice. Men do.

Now don't get me wrong. I love men. I've spent my career as a journalist at publications read primarily by men. All my mentors were men. And most professional men I've encountered truly believe that they are unbiased.

That said, they are often clueless about the myriad ways in which they misread women in the workplace every day. Not intentionally. But wow. They misunderstand us, they unwittingly belittle us, they do something that they think is nice that instead just makes us mad. And those are the good ones.

In short, men could use a career guide-about women. So I set out to discover what frustrates and perplexes professional men about the women they work with. My goal was to get to the bottom of issues that men face every day: why women often don't speak up at meetings, why they can seem tentative when they do speak up, why there are so few qualified women in the management pipeline despite good-faith efforts to recruit them.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Dec. 15, the 349th day of 2014. There are 16 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Dec. 15, 1944, the U.S. Senate approved the promotions of Henry H. Arnold, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur and George C. Marshall to the five-star rank of General of the Army and the nominations of William D. Leahy, Ernest J. King and Chester W. Nimitz as Admirals of the Fleet. U.S. forces invaded Mindoro Island in the Philippines, encountering little resistance from the Japanese. A single-engine plane carrying bandleader Glenn Miller, a major in the U.S. Army Air Forces, disappeared over the English Channel while en route to Paris.

On this date:

In 1791, the Bill of Rights went into effect following ratification by Virginia.

In 1814, the "Hartford Convention" began as New England Federalists opposed to the War of 1812 secretly gathered in the Connecticut capital. (America's victory in the Battle of New Orleans and the war's end effectively discredited the Convention.)

In 1864, the two-day Battle of Nashville began during the Civil War as Union forces commanded by Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas attacked Confederate troops led by Gen. John Bell Hood; the result was a resounding Northern victory.

In 1890, Sioux Indian Chief Sitting Bull and 11 other tribe members were killed in Grand River, South Dakota, during a confrontation with Indian police.

In 1938, groundbreaking for the Jefferson Memorial took place in

Washington, D.C. with President Franklin D. Roosevelt taking part in the ceremony.

In 1939, the Civil War motion picture epic "Gone with the Wind," starring Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable, had its world premiere in Atlanta.

In 1964, Canada's House of Commons approved dropping the country's "Red Ensign" flag in favor of a new design, the "Maple Leaf" flag.

In 1965, two U.S. manned spacecraft, Gemini 6A and Gemini 7, maneuvered to within 10 feet of each other while in orbit.

In 1974, the horror spoof "Young Frankenstein," starring Gene Wilder and directed by Mel Brooks, was released by 20th Century Fox.

In 1989, a popular uprising began in Romania that resulted in the downfall of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu (chow-SHES'-koo).

In 1991, an Egyptian-registered ferry, the Salem Express, hit a reef and sank in the Red Sea; at least 470 people died, although some estimates are much higher.

In 2001, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Italy, was reopened to the public after a \$27 million realignment that had dragged on for over a decade.

Ten years ago: Time Warner Inc. agreed to pay over \$500 million to resolve federal securities fraud and accounting investigations of its America Online unit. American telecommunications giants Sprint Corp. and Nextel Communications Inc. announced they would merge in a \$35 billion deal. Pauline Gore, mother of former Vice President Al Gore, died in Carthage, Tennessee; she was 92. The boxing drama "Million Dollar Baby," starring Clint Eastwood (who also directed) and Hilary Swank, was put in limited release by Warner Bros.

Five years ago: World leaders formally opened a U.N. climate change conference in Copenhagen. The Washington, D.C. City Council voted to legalize same-sex marriage. Boeing's new 787 "Dreamliner" jet went on its long-delayed first test flight, lifting off from Paine Field in Everett, Washington. Evangelist Oral Roberts died in Newport Beach, California,

at age 91.

One year ago: Nelson Mandela was laid to rest in his childhood hometown, ending a 10-day mourning period for South Africa's first black president. Michelle Bachelet easily won Chile's presidential runoff. Academy Award-winning actress Joan Fontaine, 96, died in Carmel, California. Harold Camping, 92, a California preacher who'd used his radio ministry and thousands of billboards to broadcast the end of the world and then gave up when his date-specific doomsdays did not come to pass, died in Oakland, California.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Tim Conway is 81. Singer Cindy Birdsong (The Supremes) is 75. Rock musician Dave Clark (The Dave Clark Five) is 72. Rock musician Carmine Appice (Vanilla Fudge) is 68. Actor Don Johnson is 65. Actress Melanie Chartoff is 64. Movie director Julie Taymor is 62. Movie director Alex Cox is 60. Actor Justin Ross is 60. Rock musician Paul Simonon (The Clash) is 59. Movie director John Lee Hancock (Film: "Saving Mr. Banks"; "The Blind Side") is 58. DNC Vice Chairwoman Donna Brazile is 55. Country singer Doug Phelps (Brother Phelps; Kentucky Headhunters) is 54. Movie producer-director Reginald Hudlin is 53. Actress Helen Slater is 51. Actress Molly Price is 49. Actor Michael Shanks is 44. Actor Stuart Townsend is 42. Figure skater Surya Bonaly is 41. "Crowd-hyper" Kito Trawick (Ghostown DJs) is 37. Actor Adam Brody is 35. Actress Michelle Dockery (TV: "Downton Abbey") is 33. Actor George O. Gore II is 32. Actress Camilla Luddington (TV: "Grey's Anatomy") is 31. Rock musician Alana Haim (HYM) is 23. Actress Stefania Owen is 17.

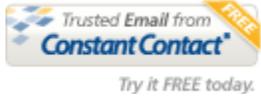
Thought for Today: "Silence is more musical than any song." - Christina Rossetti, British poet (1830-1874).

Paul Stevens
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