

Connecting - August 03, 2015

1 message

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Mon, Aug 3, 2015 at 9:05 AM

Reply-To: stevenspl@live.com

To: pjshane@gmail.com

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Connecting

August 3, 2015

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Colleagues,

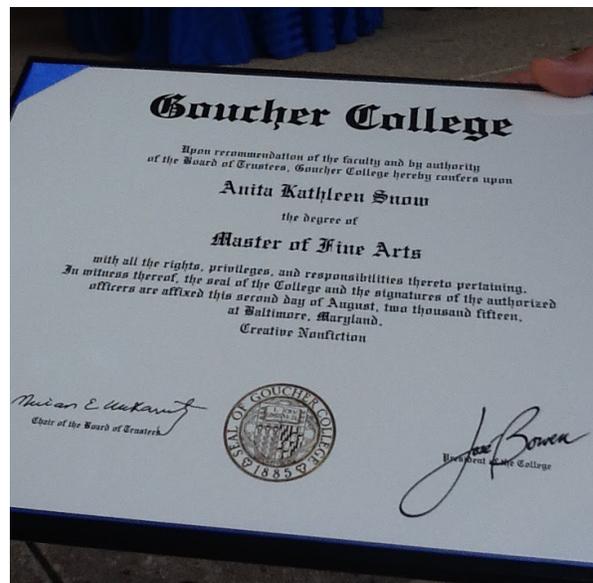
Good Monday morning!

Connecting extends congratulations to our colleague **Anita Snow** ([Email](#)), longtime Latin America correspondent and desk editor for The Associated Press, who on Sunday graduated with an MFA in creative nonfiction from Goucher College in Baltimore.

She did the low residency program over two years - allowing her to keep doing her job in Mexico. Her 240-word thesis is a memoir called "Cast Adrift: Memories of a Cold Warrior's Daughter," and it will form the core of her first book.

Anita's dad, the late Navy Lt. Commander James Snow, was the chief engineer on a nuclear sub that carried missiles with atomic warheads during deterrent patrols in the seas north of the Soviet Union.

Anita has been supervising editor on the Latin America regional desk in Mexico City since March 2012. Her earlier assignments have included UN correspondent and Havana chief of bureau. She served in Havana 10 years, from 1999 to 2009, having reestablished the AP's presence in Cuba after a nearly 30-year absence.



Paul

Balderdash! - Hal Bock's reaction to Baseball Hall of Fame change limiting voters to 'active writers'



Hal Bock (Email) - When Casey Stengel was fired as manager of the New York Yankees after winning seven World Series and 10 pennants over 12 years, he was asked what happened.

``I got old," he replied.

That appears to be the case for a community of baseball writers who learned last week that they would no longer have votes in the annual Hall of Fame elections. The vote will now be limited to ``active writers," stripping it from those with years of experience.

I wrote baseball for 40 years at The Associated Press and covered 30 World Series. I think I know a thing or two about the game and who deserves my Hall of Fame vote. Unfortunately, like Casey, I got old, although it beats the alternative. And now, Cooperstown believes I no longer possess the wisdom and knowledge that I accumulated over the years and that first qualified me to vote for the Hall of Fame for some 35 years.

Balderdash!

I am furious about this and so are many of my press box peers. We still follow the game, still watch the game, still read the newspapers from back to front, starting with sports. But Cooperstown has chosen to discard us and that's just flat out wrong. I earned my vote sitting through extra inning games and rain delays, covering a ton of games before I retired.

There is a theory among some of the discarded that this is a ploy to open the way to the Hall for players who stained the game by using performance enhancing drugs. My generation doesn't forgive and forget so don't bother asking our opinion and maybe that way younger writers who weren't as offended by the PED crowd will vote them in.

Good luck with that.

Cooperstown doesn't need my opinion. That's fine. I'm out. It also doesn't need my annual dues for membership in the Hall of Fame. I'm out of that, too.

Former AP journalist Ross Hagen dies at age of 86

Joe McKnight shares news that **Ross Hagen**, a former AP journalist, has died.



Hagen joined the AP at Helena in the early 1950s and subsequently worked in bureaus at Denver, Atlanta, Birmingham, Boston and back to Atlanta before leaving for public relations work. He died May 9, 2015 in an Iowa City hospital after an illness of about a month. He was 86.

A native of Glendive, MT, where his parents were homestead wheat farmers, Ross enlisted in the U. S. Navy at age 17, serving two years. Following his discharge he studied journalism at the University of Montana.

In public relations he held jobs with Massey Ferguson in Des Moines, the American Bar Association in Chicago, the University of Iowa and the University of Iowa Hospitals where he retired in 1997.

Ross is survived by Jacquelin, his wife of 62 years, four sons, eight grandchildren and five great grand children.

A private memorial was planned.

Click [here](#) for a link to his obituary in the Cedar Rapids Gazette, shared by Carol Riha.

It notes regarding his AP work: Ross' early career was the Associated Press (AP) (Helena, Mont.; Denver, Colo.; Atlanta, Ga.; Birmingham, Ala.; Boston, Mass.; and Stone Mountain, Ga). He worked his way from AP correspondent to southern news director and the New England news director. Ross witnessed and reported on historical times and events. His reporting highlights included the Selma March, 1964 Republican Convention, Alabama football - coach Paul "Bear" Bryant/Joe Namath, Chappaquiddick Island Incident, Red Sox Impossible Dream, Vietnam War protests and much more.

Connecting mailbox

North to Alaska - with two of the grandkids



Ed Staats - Charlene and I have two of our grandchildren in tow for a motor-home trek in Alaska. That's, left to right, Ainslie, 13 in a few days; Cullen, 15; Charlene, grandmother, and Ed, both retired and on vacation. We visit Charlene's cousin and family who live in Palmer. In our humble opinion, both Alaska and Hawaii are under-appreciated as traveler destinations.

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Farewell, Jon Stewart

Jim Lagier - It is my turn to say goodbye to Jon Stewart (who ends his show Thursday). Sixteen years of wit, astute observations, sanity, worshipful adoration from all political colorations.

Most importantly, a gentility and kindness in his observations on life. He could even carry on a conversation with Bill O'Reilly. There is going to be a big void in the hearts and minds of youth whose definition of news was determined by him. As I paged through the New York Times today, driven by stories of hate and violence, I thought, I wonder what tempering influence will come along after Jon Stewart. Goodbye, Jon.

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Fuhgeddaboutit



Ed Tobias - I've been looking for a definitive spelling of "fuhgeddaboutit" for several years. I think that the one from LDB (Lou Boccardi, Saturday's Connecting) matches the sign on the eastbound Belt Parkway, at the Queens border, which warns "Leaving Brooklyn. Fuhgeddaboutit." Now, with two sources, I can feel comfortable using it.

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COB survives - in ale



Dan Day - The Chief of Bureau (COB) title may have faded into history, but it lives on in ale.

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Won't ask, won't tell

Dolores Barclay - Connecting missed Dolores' Barclay's birthday in Saturday's edition, and told her we would recognize it Monday, making her two days younger in the process. Her response:

Thank you, Paul. Of course, being a woman, I only give out the month and day, never the year. My little 7-year-old niece asked me how old I was and I asked her what did she think. She scrunched her face and said, "Well, I know you're old but you're not as old as Grammy, so I think you're 38." I hugged her and said, "How did you know? You're a genius." Think I'm going to hang with that one for a while. Ha ha ha.

Journalist slain in Mexico City had signs of torture



Mexican journalists and photojournalists take turns holding a photograph with the face of murdered photojournalist Ruben Espinosa.

MEXICO CITY (AP) - Mexico City officials said Sunday they are pursuing all lines of investigation into the killing of a photojournalist whose body was found along with four slain women in the capital, where he had fled because of harassment in the state he covered.

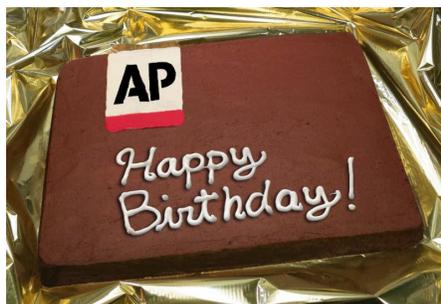
Investigators are following protocols for crimes against journalists and crimes against women, as well as looking at robbery as a possible motive, Mexico City prosecutor Rodolfo Rios Garza said in news conference.

But journalism and human rights activists were alarmed by Rios' comments, saying Ruben Espinosa's work and the threats that drove him out of the Gulf Coast state of Veracruz should be the main line of investigation. He had worked in the state for eight years, including for prominent newsmagazine Proceso, before fleeing to Mexico City.

Rios never acknowledged that Espinosa was seeking refuge in Mexico City, saying he came to the capital for "professional opportunities."

Click [here](#) to read more. Shared by Michelle Morgante.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Dolores Barclay ([Email](#))

Brad Brooks ([Email](#))

Ben Curtis ([Email](#))

Jim Hood ([Email](#))

Welcome to Connecting



Bob Egelko ([Email](#))

Stories of interest

Thanks to AJR for longtime coverage and commentary on journalism

By STEVE BUTTRY

When I first became aware of the Washington Journalism Review, it was a local magazine aspiring to a national profile in the narrow niche of journalists writing about other journalists.

Before long, WJR became AJR, the American Journalism Review. It remained based at the University of Maryland, but it did achieve that national profile. Along with the Columbia Journalism Review, Editor & Publisher magazine and perhaps a few others, it was a key place where journalists turned to read investigative stories, analysis or other sorts of coverage about our own profession and the businesses that supported it.

As digital publishing presented opportunities for other voices in the business, the field of journalists-covering-journalists grew and the magazines became less important, even though they all developed strong websites and didn't simply publish their stories weekly or monthly.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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The Only Anonymous Photo to Ever Win the Pulitzer Prize (PetaPixel)



Every photo has a story, and this particular photo has one of the most interesting stories of them all - a story of anonymous fame, and famous anonymity. To this day the above photo, titled "Firing Squad in Iran," is the only anonymous photo to ever win a Pulitzer Prize. And although the photo was taken in 1979, the photographer behind the lens didn't receive credit until 2006.

On August 26th, 1979, photographer Jahangir Razmi learned of 11 Kurdish militants who were to be tried by a judge he knew the following day. The trial lasted all of 30-minutes, after which the men were led out to an airfield and gunned down by firing squad. Razmi captured the provocative photograph by positioning himself behind the right-most executioner.

By August 29th the photo, which had originally run as the front page of the Iranian newspaper Ettela'at, was being published by the likes of the New York Times and The Daily Telegraph; still, no one knew who the photographer was. The photo went on to win the Pulitzer Prize in April of 1980, credited to an "anonymous UPI photographer."

Razmi finally claimed credit for the image in 2006 when he was approached by the Wall Street Journal, bringing the image back into the public eye once more.

Click [here](#) for link to the story. Shared by Marc Wilson.

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How One Photographer Captured A Piercing Gaze That Shook The World
(NPR)

As part of a series called My Big Break, All Things Considered is collecting stories of triumph, big and small. These are the moments when everything seems to click, and people leap forward into their careers.

In December 1984, a war was raging in Afghanistan; millions of refugees were fleeing to Pakistan to escape the fighting.

National Geographic photographer Steve McCurry was there - stationed at the Afghanistan-Pakistan border to cover the crisis.



"There were, in some cases, tens of thousands of Afghans pressed together in these squalid, really terrible conditions," McCurry says. "No plumbing, no electricity, and they'd have to carry water, there was disease - it was just a terrible existence."

At one of those camps, near Peshawar, Pakistan, McCurry heard the unexpected sound of children's laughter coming from inside a large tent. It was a makeshift classroom for an all-girls school.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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Marist suspends GOP polling ahead of Fox debate (Politico)

The Marist Institute of Public Opinion has suspended its polling of the GOP primary field in protest of how polls are being used to determine debate participants.

The poll, which is done in conjunction with McClatchy, is one of the more well-respected national polls regularly conducted. But Lee Miringoff, the director of the Marist Institute, told McClatchy that they're suspending their poll for this week because the debate criteria assumes the polls are more precise than they are in reality. The group still polled on general election match-ups as well as likes and dislikes of the primary candidates, but not who voters would vote for in the GOP primary.

"It's a problem when it's shaping who gets to sit at the table," Miringoff said.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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How the LAPD Conspired to Get Me Fired from the LA Times (Counterpunch)

by **TED RALL**

On Monday night, I was in tears.

The editorial page editor of The Los Angeles Times, which has run my cartoons for six years, had called me to tell me that the paper would run an "Editor's Note" announcing that they were firing me because I had lied about my treatment by a Los Angeles police officer when he arrested me for jaywalking in 2001.

I was about to be disgraced. Compared to Brian Williams and Jayson Blair. As a journalist, nothing is worse than being accused of willfully lying about a story. It's the end of your career.

You're dead.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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NYT journalist: I am not a neutral observer-can I still be a fair reporter? (Retraction Watch)

We present a guest post from Tracy Tullis, author of a recent story in the New York Times that - as we reported - the editors said afterwards they "would not have assigned" to her if they'd known about her "involvement in a cause related to news coverage." This is her side of the story.



Last month I wrote a story for The New York Times called "The Loneliest Elephant," about an elephant named Happy who has been kept alone at the Bronx Zoo for the past nine years. Animal welfare groups say she should be released to a wildlife sanctuary where she could have the companionship of other elephants; the Bronx Zoo says she's fine where she is.

The day after the article was published in the Sunday paper, The Times learned I had signed an online petition in support of sending the elephant to a sanctuary (I signed it last April, three weeks before I pitched the article). As Retraction Watch has reported, The Times added an editor's note to the online version of the article, explaining that signing the petition was "at odds with The Times's journalistic standards."

Click [here](#) to read more.

Today in History - August 3, 2015

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, August 3, the 215th day of 2015. There are 150 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 3, 1492, Christopher Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain, on a voyage that took him to the present-day Americas.

On this date:

In 1807, former Vice President Aaron Burr went on trial before a federal court in Richmond, Virginia, charged with treason. (He was acquitted less than a month later.)

In 1863, the first thoroughbred horse races took place at the Saratoga Race Course in Saratoga Springs, New York.

In 1914, Germany declared war on France at the onset of World War I.

In 1936, Jesse Owens of the United States won the first of his four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics as he took the 100-meter sprint.

In 1943, Gen. George S. Patton slapped a private at an army hospital in Sicily, accusing him of cowardice. (Patton was later ordered by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to apologize for this and a second, similar episode.)

In 1949, the National Basketball Association was formed as a merger of the Basketball Association of America and the National Basketball League.

In 1958, the nuclear-powered submarine USS Nautilus became the first vessel to cross the North Pole underwater.

In 1966, comedian Lenny Bruce, 40, was found dead in his Los Angeles home.

In 1972, the U.S. Senate ratified the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union. (The U.S. unilaterally withdrew from the treaty in 2002.)

In 1981, U.S. air traffic controllers went on strike, despite a warning from President **Ronald Reagan** they would be fired, which they were.

In 1993, the Senate voted 96-3 to confirm U.S. Supreme Court nominee Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

In 1994, Arkansas carried out the nation's first triple execution in 32 years. Stephen G. Breyer was sworn in as the Supreme Court's newest justice in a private ceremony at Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist's Vermont summer home.

Ten years ago: Fourteen Marines from a Reserve unit in Ohio were killed in a roadside bombing in Iraq. Spacewalking astronaut Stephen Robinson removed two worrisome pieces of filler material from the shuttle Discovery's belly in an unprecedented space

repair job. The journal Nature reported that a South Korean researcher had created the world's first cloned dog, an Afghan hound named "Snuppy." (Although the scientist, Hwang Woo-suk, was later disgraced over faked research, the cloning of Snuppy was independently confirmed.)

Five years ago: Engineers began pumping heavy drilling mud into the blown-out Gulf of Mexico oil well in an attempt to permanently plug the leak. A warehouse driver killed eight co-workers and himself in a shooting rampage at a Manchester, Connecticut, beer distributorship.

One year ago: Israel withdrew most of its ground troops from the Gaza Strip in an apparent winding down of a nearly monthlong operation against Hamas that had left more than 1,800 Palestinians and more than 60 Israelis dead. A strong earthquake in China's southern Yunnan province toppled thousands of homes, killing more than 600 people. Mystery writer Dorothy Salisbury Davis, 98, died in Palisades, New York.

Today's Birthdays: Football Hall-of-Fame coach Marv Levy is 90. Singer Tony Bennett is 89. Actor **Martin Sheen** is 75. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Lance Alworth is 75. Lifestyle guru Martha Stewart is 74. Singer Beverly Lee (The Shirelles) is 74. Rock musician B.B. Dickerson is 66. Movie director John Landis is 65. Actress JoMarie Payton is 65. Actor Jay North (TV: "Dennis the Menace") is 64. Hockey Hall-of-Famer Marcel Dionne is 64. Country musician Randy Scruggs is 62. Actor Philip Casnoff is 61. Actor John C. McGinley is 56. Rock singer-musician Lee Rocker (The Stray Cats) is 54. Actress Lisa Ann Walter is 54. Rock singer James Hetfield (Metallica) is 52. Rock singer-musician Ed Roland (Collective Soul) is 52. Actor Isaiah Washington is 52. Country musician Dean Sams (Lonestar) is 49. Rock musician Stephen Carpenter (Deftones) is 45. Hip-hop artist Spinderella (Salt-N-Pepa) is 44. Actress Brigid Brannagh is 43. Actor Michael Ealy is 42. Country musician Jimmy De Martini (Zac Brown Band) is 39. NFL quarterback **Tom Brady** is 38. Actress Evangeline (ee-VAN'-gel-eeen) Lilly is 36. Actress Mamie Gummer is 32. Country singer Whitney Duncan is 31. Actor Jon Foster is 31. Actress Georgina Haig is 30. Singer Holly Arnstein (Dream) is 30. Actress Tanya Fischer is 30. Pop-rock musician Brent Kutzle (OneRepublic) is 30.

Thought for Today: "We are healed of a suffering only by experiencing it to the full." - Marcel Proust, French author (1871-1922).

Got a story to share?

Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"My boo boos - A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.



- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?
- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Life after AP** for those of you who have moved on to another job or profession.
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

Paul Stevens

Editor

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stevenspl@live.com

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