

Connecting - August 04, 2015

1 message

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Connecting

August 4, 2015

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning!

On the eve of the one-year anniversary of the shooting death of a young black man in Ferguson by a white police officer, and the protests that resulted, the AP has moved a first-person look-back by one of the key reporters involved in AP's coverage - St. Louis correspondent (and Connecting colleague) **Jim Salter**.

We lead with his story, published online in U.S. News and World Report.

Correction: In Monday's Connecting story on AP's **Anita Snow** earning her MFA degree, it was incorrectly stated that her master's thesis was 240 words. It should have been 240 pages.

Finally, you wanna make somebody's day? I have an easy solution: Drop an email to our Connecting colleague **Walt Tabak**, former Indianapolis chief of communications, who celebrates his 91st birthday today. Walt is proud to have "trained" many chiefs of bureau during his 25 years in Indiana - including a number of us on Connecting: Joe McGowan, Andy Lippman, Robert Shaw, Keith Robinson and Ye Olde Connecting Editor.



Walt and Connecting co-editor Linda Stevens

In 2012, Walt received the first-ever Distinguished Service Award at the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame banquet in Bloomington. (Photo at right was taken at the banquet.) Send your greetings to Walt through his daughter Barb at: iufroglady@aol.com

Happy birthday, Walt!

Paul

A year later, AP reporter recalls early protests in Ferguson that launched national movement



In this Aug. 18, 2014, file photo, protesters walk through the streets after a standoff with police in Ferguson, Mo. A year ago, most Americans had never heard of the St. Louis suburb called Ferguson. But after a white police officer fatally shot a black 18-year-old in the street, the name of the middle-class community quickly became known around the world. (AP Photo/Charlie Riedel, File)

By JIM SALTER, Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) - EDITOR'S NOTE - A year ago, most Americans had never heard of the St. Louis suburb called Ferguson. But after a white police officer fatally shot a black 18-year-old in the street, the name of the middle-class community became virtually a household word. From the first hours after Michael Brown's death, Associated Press reporter Jim Salter watched as a neighborhood protest launched a national movement. What follows is an excerpt of the introduction to "Deadly Force: Fatal Confrontations with Police," an upcoming book published by The Associated Press (www.ap.org/books).

Until August 2014, Ferguson, Missouri, wasn't the kind of place that generated much news. It was a mostly quiet suburban town of 21,000, a mix of beautiful old homes and

working-class neighborhoods. Like a lot of communities in north St. Louis County, it had seen significant white flight and was now two-thirds African-American.

My wife's grandmother lived in Ferguson until she died in 1991, so I spent some time there as a young man. But since joining the St. Louis office of The Associated Press in 1993, I had never been to Ferguson as a reporter.

On Aug. 9, I returned home from a bike ride to learn that a young black man had been fatally shot by a white Ferguson police officer. By that humid Saturday evening, hundreds of people were congregating near the scene where Michael Brown was killed by Darren Wilson. The crowd was angry. Some witnesses said the 18-year-old had his hands up in surrender when he was shot.

The next day, as Ferguson police prepared for a news conference to explain what happened, I was among a crowd of reporters who heard distant chanting. As I walked toward the noise, I could see in the distance hundreds of people, many holding signs. The chant soon became clear: "Hands up! Don't shoot!"

That would become the rallying cry in the unrest that followed. It was also the first evidence that Ferguson would be a far bigger story than we initially imagined.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Connecting mailbox

Africa AP history

Robert Weller, referring to Saturday's takeout on Africa: AP's chief West Africa bureau was in Abidjan, Ivory Coast for at least 15 years. Correspondents based there traveled elsewhere on the continent also. Mark Fritz was based in Abidjan when he won a Pulitzer in Rwanda.

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A most special day at the beach



Brian Horton shares this photo, and writes: My wife, Marilyn Dillon, has MS and has been mostly confined to a wheelchair since the major flare in 2007. We bought a set of beach wheels, a wheelchair made of PVC pipe and balloon tires, that lets us navigate over the sand at our home on Long Beach Island off the coast of New Jersey. With Hurricane Sandy three years ago, which steepened the dunes along the shore, and some other issues, it had been several years since Mar had actually gotten down to the water. This past weekend, Jenn Poggi (former AP Sports Photo Desk staffer) was visiting and we decided to make it work. Not only got Mar down to the water but were able to transfer her over to a sand chair so she could sit in the water as the breakers rolled in at low tide. You can't imagine how great this was for her!

(Brian and Mar have a blog that can be accessed by clicking [here](#).)

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Getting into journalism through a question not asked

Randall Dickerson - Discounting my delivering of the Terre Haute Tribune at age 12, I got my first journalism job because the news director of an AM/FM/TV station did not ask me if I could type.

I was fired as a disc jockey by a Top 40 station on Labor Day (ironic, eh what?) of 1964. I casually knew the news director at the "big" stations down the street, so I applied there. They had a weekend radio newscaster job open and gave it to me. I wrote everything in longhand on legal pad for three weeks, while I taught myself to type.

Within six weeks, I was writing for the late TV news show and became a weekend TV

anchor within a year. That typing skill sure helped when I applied at the AP in 1989 and came aboard the cooperative in Nashville.

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A New Jersey cookout



Several Connecting colleagues at a cookout in Margy McCay's backyard in New Jersey recently. They are, from left: Dan Day, Becky Day, Dave and Pam Tomlin's daughter Elizabeth, Dave Tomlin and Margy McCay. Shared by Andy Lippman.

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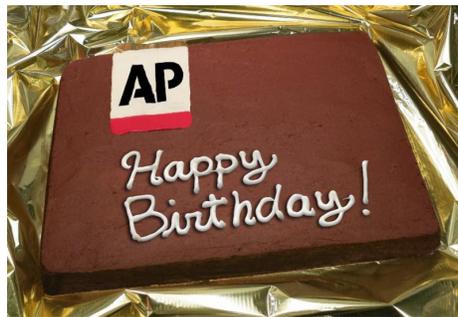
Post seen in Imgur:



I saw this at a roadside produce stand today in E. Texas. There are literally no words.

Shared by Bob Daugherty

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Walt Tabak ([Email](#))

Welcome to Connecting



Steve Hurst ([Email](#))

Steve Lustig ([Email](#))

Stories of interest

Denver Post News Director to Lead Cronkite News at Arizona PBS (ASU)

Kevin Dale, a senior editor who helped lead The Denver Post to a Pulitzer Prize and drive the newspaper's digital transformation, has been named executive editor of Cronkite News at Arizona PBS, a multiplatform daily news operation and innovation hub operated by the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University.



Dale will be responsible for all news-gathering operations, overseeing 15 full-time editor/professors and more than 120 students who produce daily news content on TV and digital platforms for Arizona audiences. Cronkite News is the news division of Arizona PBS, the state's main PBS station. Reaching 1.9 million households, it is the nation's largest media outlet operated by a journalism school.

With news bureaus in Phoenix, Washington and Los Angeles, Cronkite News produces a 30-minute daily newscast on Arizona PBS and a mobile-engaged digital news site at cronkitenews.azpbs.org. It serves as an immersive and innovative learning laboratory for students and a place of experimentation and innovation for the industry, where new models of news gathering, delivery and engagement can be tested.

Dale, who will hold the rank of professor of practice, will assume the newly created executive editor position Aug. 31.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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Police drop charges against 2 journalists arrested in Ferguson (Poynter)

On Monday, the ACLU of Missouri announced that journalists Trey Yingst and Bilgin Sasmaz will not face charges by St. Louis County Police. Both were arrested while reporting from Ferguson, Missouri. According to the announcement, the county will help both journalists get the arrests removed from their records.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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Mexico City mayor vows full probe of journalist slaying (AP)



Men carry the casket of murdered photojournalist Ruben Espinosa during his funeral service in Mexico City, Monday, Aug. 3, 2015. With an investigation barely underway, Mexican journalist protection groups are already expressing fears that authorities won't consider Espinosa's brutal killing as being related to his work - even though he fled the state he covered fearing for his safety. Espinosa, 31, worked for the investigative magazine Proceso and other media in Veracruz state. (AP Photo/Marco Ugarte)

MEXICO CITY (AP) - Mexico City's mayor said Monday that no expense will be spared and no line of investigation ignored in the hunt for the killers of four women and a photojournalist, who had fled the state where he worked fearing for his safety.

The United Nations High Commission on Human Rights condemned the killings, saying that

the bodies had signs of torture and sexual violence and that the climate of impunity "is one of the obstacles to practicing freedom of expression in Mexico."

"We are all outraged by this crime," Mayor Miguel Angel Mancera said at a news conference. "There will be no impunity in this matter. No line of investigation will be discarded."

Journalist protection groups have expressed fears that authorities won't consider the killing of Ruben Espinosa, 31, as being related to his work, even though colleagues say he had fled his work in Veracruz state out of fear.

The office of the capital's chief prosecutor said late Monday in a statement that investigators had found a red Ford Mustang linked to one of the victims abandoned in a neighborhood to the south. They believe it belonged to a 29-year-old woman who they think is Colombian but have not identified yet.

Click [here](#) to read more.

The Final Word

9 things bosses do that make great employees quit

It's pretty incredible how often you hear managers complaining about their best employees leaving, and they really do have something to complain about - few things are as costly and disruptive as good people walking out the door.

Managers tend to blame their turnover problems on everything under the sun while ignoring the crux of the matter: People don't leave jobs; they leave managers.

The sad thing is that this can easily be avoided. All that's required is a new perspective and some extra effort on the manager's part.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Today in History - August 4, 2015

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, August 4, the 216th day of 2015. There are 149 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 4, 1790, the U.S. Coast Guard had its beginnings as President George Washington signed a measure authorizing a group of revenue cutters to enforce tariff and trade laws and prevent smuggling.

On this date:

In 1735, a jury found John Peter Zenger of the New York Weekly Journal not guilty of committing seditious libel against the colonial governor of New York, William Cosby.

In 1830, plans for the city of Chicago were laid out.

In 1892, Andrew and Abby Borden were axed to death in their home in Fall River, Massachusetts. Lizzie Borden, Andrew's daughter from a previous marriage, was accused of the killings, but acquitted at trial.

In 1914, Britain declared war on Germany for invading Belgium; the United States proclaimed its neutrality in the mushrooming world conflict.

In 1915, English nurse Edith Cavell was arrested by German authorities in occupied Belgium; she was executed later that year.

In 1936, Jesse Owens of the U.S. won the second of his four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics as he prevailed in the long jump over German Luz Long, who was the first to congratulate him.

In 1944, 15-year-old diarist Anne Frank was arrested with her sister, parents and four others by the Gestapo after hiding for two years inside a building in Amsterdam. (Anne and her sister, Margot, died at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.)

In 1964, the bodies of missing civil rights workers Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman and James Chaney were found buried in an earthen dam in Mississippi.

In 1975, the Swedish pop group ABBA began recording their hit single "Dancing Queen" at Glen Studio outside Stockholm (it was released a year later).

In 1977, President Jimmy Carter signed a measure establishing the Department of Energy.

In 1987, the Federal Communications Commission voted to abolish the Fairness Doctrine, which required radio and television stations to present balanced coverage of controversial issues.

In 1991, the Greek luxury liner Oceanos sank in heavy seas off South Africa's southeast coast; all the passengers and crew members survived.

Ten years ago: Al-Qaida's No. 2, Ayman al-Zawahri (AY'-muhn ahl-ZWAH'-ree), threatened more destruction in London in a videotape aired on Al-Jazeera. He also threatened the United States with tens of thousands of military dead if it did not withdraw from Iraq; President George W. Bush responded by saying, "We will stay the course, we will complete the job." A 19-year-old Israeli soldier opened fire inside a bus, killing four Israeli

Arabs; an angry crowd then killed the gunman. A mini-submarine carrying seven Russians became caught on an underwater antenna 600 feet below the surface of the Pacific Ocean; the men were rescued three days later with help from a British vessel.

Five years ago: BP PLC reported the broken well head at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico was plugged up with mud; President Barack Obama said the battle to contain one of the world's worst oil spills was "finally close to coming to an end." Eight days after turning 35, Alex Rodriguez hit his 600th home run, becoming the youngest player to attain the milestone. (A-Rod's two-run, first-inning drive off Toronto's Shaun Marcum put New York ahead, and the Yankees coasted to a 5-1 victory over the Blue Jays.)

One year ago: On the first day of a U.S.-Africa summit in Washington, President Barack Obama announced \$33 billion in commitments aimed at shifting U.S. ties with Africa beyond humanitarian aid and toward more equal economic partnerships. Israel and Hamas accepted an Egyptian cease-fire proposal meant to halt a bruising monthlong war that had claimed nearly 2,000 lives. James Brady, 73, the affable, witty press secretary who had survived a devastating head wound in the 1981 assassination attempt against President Ronald Reagan and undertook a personal campaign for gun control, died in Alexandria, Virginia.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Frankie Ford is 76. Actress-singer Tina Cole is 72. Actor-comedian Richard Belzer is 71. Football Hall-of-Famer John Riggins is 66. Former Attorney General **Alberto Gonzales** is 60. Actor-screenwriter Billy Bob Thornton is 60. Actress Kym Karath (Film: "The Sound of Music") is 57. Hall of Fame track star Mary Decker Slaney is 57. Actress Lauren Tom is 56. President Barack Obama is 54. Producer Michael Gelman (TV: "Live! With Kelly and Michael") is 54. Retired MLB All-Star pitcher Roger Clemens is 53. Actress Crystal Chappell is 50. Author Dennis Lehane is 50. Rock musician Rob Cieka (Boo Radleys) is 47. Actor Daniel Dae Kim is 47. Actor Michael DeLuise is 46. Actor Ron Lester is 45. Race car driver **Jeff Gordon** is 44. Rapper-actress Yo-Yo is 44. Country singer Jon Nicholson is 42. Rhythm-and-blues singer-actor Marques (MAR'-kus) Houston is 34. Actress Meghan Markle is 34. Actress Greta Gerwig is 32. Country singer Crystal Bowersox (TV: "**American Idol**") is 30. Rock singer Tom Parker (The Wanted) is 27. Actors Dylan and Cole Sprouse are 23. Singer Jessica Sanchez (TV: "American Idol") is 20.

Thought for Today: "A man does not know what he is saying until he knows what he is not saying." - G.K. Chesterton, English poet-essayist (1874-1936).

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
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