

## Connecting - August 21, 2015

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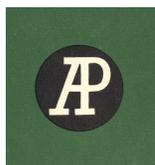
Paul Stevens <stevenspl@live.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2015 at 8:52 AM

Reply-To: stevenspl@live.com

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# Connecting

August 21, 2015

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Connecting leads with the news that a memorial service for former AP bureau chief and newspaper editor **Jonathan F. Kellogg** will be held on Sunday, August 30, at 1 p.m. at the Harwinton Congregational Church, 1 Litchfield Road, Harwinton, CT 06791, with a reception to follow.

The obituary on our Connecting colleague was shared by his wife **Tammy**, **who** wrote: "Here you go, Paul. Obit attached. It's toooo long, but my best editor wasn't here to make it sing for me." I told Tammy that she did a wonderful job of

capturing Jon and gathering what others have said about him - that it indeed sings and he would be proud.

Congratulations are in order to the winners of the **2015 Gramling Awards**. AP President and CEO **Gary Pruitt** made the announcement to AP staff Thursday, calling the winners "an extraordinary group of individuals who embody all that it means to be a part of The Associated Press and its mission to keep the world informed."

Paul

## **AP announces 2015 Gramling winners**

### **Gary Pruitt, President and CEO, to the AP Staff:**

I am honored to announce the winners of the 2015 Gramling Awards -- an extraordinary group of individuals who embody all that it means to be a part of The Associated Press and its mission to keep the world informed. The winners this year reflect the full spectrum of everything AP does, from multiformat journalism that holds governments and businesses responsible to creative and quickly enacted solutions that help our customers meet their needs and grow our revenue. They include staff members who seek to improve their skills in order to further AP's business and those who find such joy and pride in working for AP that they inspire us all.

The selections were made by a global team of judges from every corner of AP: Stella Dixon, head of operations for Human Resources in London; Derl McCrudden, head of international video news, London; Ghida Nehme, regional executive for the Middle East and North Africa, based in Beirut; Sarah Nordgren, director of content development, New York; and, Karen Testa, regional editor, Philadelphia. In cases where judges were also nominees, they recused themselves. A Chairman's prize is not being awarded this year.

The winners will be honored at a dinner on Oct. 21, which will be attended by the AP Board of Directors.

Here are your 2015 Gramling Award winners:

### **\$10,000 Gramling Journalism Award**

- The **team of Esther Htusan, Robin McDowell, Margie Mason and Martha Mendoza** for their yearlong investigation into the abusive practices of the fishing industry in Southeast Asia, which resulted in the release of more than 800 slaves. Their dogged efforts and relentless pursuit -- at times following ships by satellite, locating slaves locked in pens, stalking refrigerated trucks to their destinations -- revealed how rampant slavery is in the fishing industry and brought immediate reaction from major retailers as well as the Indonesian government. "For their

extraordinary investigation and impact, the Gramlings are breaking with the tradition of recognizing individual achievement this year to recognize this team," the judges said. "The fact that they tied fish caught by slaves in seas in Asia to our tables and our pet food made this coverage even more relevant and powerful."

- **Andrew Drake**, senior producer, West Africa. Within minutes of witnessing the lynching and decapitation of a suspected rebel in the Central African Republic, Andy Drake was dictating details via phone for a story and then immediately transmitted his video. A true cross-format journalist, Drake was the one AP turned to when violence started spreading across West Africa. Level-headed, multitasking, quiet and unassuming, his colleagues call him the consummate professional. But beyond that, he is also the consummate colleague and team player. In his work across the huge swath of territory that is West Africa, Drake has nurtured and trained a network of stringers who have kept AP consistently ahead of the competition in covering critical stories in the most harrowing of conditions for both them and him.

### **\$10,000 Gramling Achievement Award**

- **AP Middle East Extra**. A supplemental video product developed last year that identified a customer need in the Middle East, quickly came up with a solution and delivered -- to the tune of more than \$2.3 million this year. Customers told us they wanted content beyond breaking stories -- news of culture, society, technology and lifestyles. An AP team took that need and created Middle East Extra, which complements AP's core video offering with 30 regional stories a week, epitomizing how an entrepreneurial mindset and swift execution can put us ahead of the competition. "Not only has Middle East Extra retained a lot of business, it has eaten Reuters' lunch," the judges said. Representing the larger team for the award are: Debora Gorbett, head of video content development, London; Alwyn Lindsey, director of sales, Middle East and North Africa, London; Ghida Nehme, regional executive, Middle East and North Africa, Beirut; Ian Phillips, Middle East news director, Cairo; and Hassan Ramadan, regional sales executive, Middle East and North Africa, Doha.

- **Maria Ronson**, vice president of sales, Asia. Ronson puts relationship building at the core of what she does, whether that involves developing her own team or taking the time to remember a key customer's birthday. The result is a leader who has put us on the map in Asia -- all but closed to AP when she joined us in 1980 -- and played a key role in generating more than \$250 million since then, said the judges. Beating the competition drives Ronson, and she openly admits that her main goal is always to be ahead of Reuters, whether editorially or commercially. Her passion for AP, her background in news and her keen sense of market trends and ability to turn them into business opportunities have made Ronson the heart of AP's presence in Asia.

### **\$5,000 Gramling Spirit Award**

- **Ben Jary**, cameraman and production manager, London. In the last 18 months, Jary, who joined AP in 2001, has been integral to AP's coverage of some of the

biggest events in the world: the death of Nelson Mandela, the election of Pope Francis, the Winter Olympics in Sochi. But when a colleague lost an essential video interview from the Yemen peace talks in Geneva, he turned to Jary, who calmly walked him through the steps to retrieve it. Jary's selfless work with colleagues and his commitment to AP have made him a mentor and go-to problem solver for many at AP. Whether that involves training video journalists, passing on new tips and techniques or troubleshooting a problem for others, Jary is revered by colleagues for his tireless generosity and his desire to share what he knows and help whenever he can.

- **Maamoun Youssef**, news monitor, Cairo. An Iraqi native who has worked for AP for 20 years, Youssef holds all the passwords to militant websites and every day he sifts through the online world of extremists and terrorists: deciphering their messages, alerting AP reporters to grisly videos of beheadings and executions and providing critical context and background to both enrich our news report and warn us of news that is suspect. His gruesome work has provided AP first word about the killings of Western hostages, splinters in terrorist networks and the destruction of priceless historical artifacts, among many other news breaks. When he's not doing that, he's taking dictation, finding new stringers in remote places and pitching in to help anyone he can. Youssef's can-do attitude, his humble approach and his desire to further AP's mission have made him a respected and irreplaceable colleague who embodies the best of all that is AP.

### **\$5,000 Gramling Scholarship Awards**

- **Monika Mathur**, news researcher, Washington. Mathur will use her scholarship to study digital forensics at Champlain College in Vermont to develop skills that will help her determine the authenticity of digital information. The field is of increasing importance to news organizations as data breaches and digital threats increase against governments, business and the media.

- **Katherine Pummill**, national media executive, Los Angeles. Pummill will use her Gramling scholarship to help pay for coursework she is undertaking in a master's program in media management at the New School, in New York. The work will help her in strategically managing key media accounts at AP.

## **Obituary for Jonathan Fox Kellogg**

Jonathan Fox Kellogg, beloved husband of Tammalene Mitman, died suddenly at his home in Harwinton on Monday, August 17.

He was born on December 2, 1946, in Waltham, Massachusetts, son of the late Jane Norton and William A. Kellogg.

He was a graduate of Berwick Academy, where he won the Headmaster's Prize and the Cogswell Memorial Scholarship and served as editor of "The Academy Quill." At the University of New Hampshire, he earned a B.A. in English Literature, worked as a teaching

assistant for the Department of Philosophy and became editor of the student paper, "The New Hampshire."

His journalism career took him to The Kansas City Star, where he worked as a reporter during the summer of 1969, and to The Boston Record-American/Sunday American, where he worked as a production editor, copy editor, assistant photo editor, and assistant editor of "Pictorial Living," the Advertiser's Sunday rotogravure magazine. In 1972, he joined The Associated Press, an organization whose worldwide role in bringing light into the darkness he cherished. He became the youngest bureau chief in the AP at that time and spent 10 years supervising operations in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, including four presidential campaigns in New Hampshire's first-in-the-nation primaries.



After leaving the AP, he joined The Portland Press Herald and Maine Sunday Telegram as managing editor for reporting. He helped lead the papers through a four-year turnaround that was recognized by the New England Newspaper Association, which awarded the Sunday Telegram the association's New England Newspaper of the Year award in 1991, 1992 and 1993. The Press Herald was similarly honored in 1992. After leaving Maine, Jon worked as the executive editor of The (Lowell, Mass.) Sun. In 1997, he became executive editor of the Waterbury (Conn.) Republican, a post he held until his retirement at the end of June this year.

Throughout his career, Jon fostered the development of reporters and editors through the ethics seminars he delivered at regional news meetings and his continual stress on the need to question authority, the importance of good writing and storytelling, and the vital role a news organization plays in the communities it covers. His contribution to New England journalism was recognized by his peers in 2004, when he became the recipient of a Yankee Quill, and this year, when he was inducted into the New England Newspaper Hall of Fame.

In his private life, Jon cherished any time he could get with his children and grandchildren. Having worked himself through school as a cook, he enjoyed treating family and friends to beautifully prepared and presented meals. An amateur carpenter, he schooled himself in the history of antique homes and took great pleasure in working on his whenever he could. He helped take care of the Arabian horse and Shetland pony he and his wife have owned for many years, conferring with the Arab on the state of the barn and kissing the pony goodnight on the nose. And he adored his dog, Hershey, and the cats who kept the pup company through his long life.

Jon was predeceased by his brother, William A. Kellogg. He is survived by his wife, Tammy, his daughter, Jessie Kellogg of Cheverly, Md.; his son, Alexander and his wife, Jessica, and their two children, Lucy and Wes of Greenland, N.H.; his brother Bruce and his wife, Ghutai Kellogg of Washington, D.C., and their children, Sarah E. Kellogg of Lilongwe, Malawi, Makai L. Kellogg of Washington, D.C., and Alan D. Kellogg of Washington, D.C.; and his nephew Craig Kellogg of Mesa, Az., and his son, Alexandre.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, August 30, at 1 p.m. at the Harwinton Congregational Church, 1 Litchfield Road, Harwinton, CT 06791, with a reception to follow. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to The Greater Waterbury Campership Fund and sent to the fund, c/o the Republican-American, P.O. Box 2090, Waterbury, CT 06722.

## ***And further memories of our colleague***

**Andrew Schneider** - It will be easy for me to remember Jon. I came to The AP 15 years into my career and it only took days for Jon to show me how much I didn't know about my profession. What I learned from him and my other colleagues in the Northern New England bureaus still amazes me and continues to be fodder for speeches and lectures that I do on occasions. I talk about what I learned about team work. I tell of three of us working in the Concord bureau moving four takes on a story under the byline of the reporter who was still hours away from the church where a shooting had happened. I explained how Jon played battle-commander during all those weeks on Route 1 in Seabrook. I discussed how Jon backed me up when my investigative efforts were attacked by a publisher who loved red ink stories on A-1, a maple syrup-boiling governor and frequently from some guy named Boccardi. Over the year, I told other editors how Jon was mostly gentle when he showed me my many short-comings. But I shared a file of yellowed copy paper with his infamous atta-boy notes and explained the necessity to address the bad and good.

I will miss Jon, but I will never forget him.

-0-

**Adolphe Bernotas** - Jon Kellogg was the Concord COB. I was the Guild representative. We tangled occasionally over management-union contretemps but settled differences respectfully without once resorting to formal grievance procedure.

Otherwise, Jon paid me the highest compliment one afternoon while hosting an AP executive in the bureau. (Might have been the Silver Fox, Jim Lagier). Jon thought I was out of earshot of their conversation when he said that "although English is not Adolphe's native language, he's the bureau grammar Nazi. He's forgotten more about English grammar than I will ever remember." I told Jon later the stern Sisters of the Holy Ghost at St. Joseph's Grammar School were responsible for everything I know about English as she is wrote and spoke.

When Jon landed at the Waterbury Republican-American, he persuaded me to gather the dozens of "contrarian grammarian" aphorisms ("why say 'bystander' when you can say 'innocent bystander' [as opposed to 'guilty bystander']") to share with his staff.

## **RIP, Mr. B:**

# An AP freelancer for almost 60 years

AP basketball writer and Connecting colleague **Jim O'Connell** shared his wire obituary on Bernie Beglane that moved on the wires Thursday and said: "I just wanted everyone to have the arrangements for Mr. B. They are in the bottom of the obit, which was one of the hardest things I ever had to write. I know he could be curt, rancorous, abrupt, come on, everybody has a favorite adjective. But he was a once-in-a-lifetime friend to me who was responsible for starting me in this business, first at Fordham, then The AP."

**By JIM O'CONNELL**  
**AP Basketball Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) \_ Bernie Beglane was a multitasker decades before the word was invented.



"Mr. B." was a sports writer for 25 years, a freelancer for The Associated Press for almost 60 years, and an academic dean who founded the Athletic Administration program at St. John's. He could be interviewing one person while finishing a different story and dialing - yes, dialing - a phone to get more information, the correct information.

Beglane died Wednesday at his home in Hampton Bays after a long illness. He was 88.

Bernard Beglane was born in New York City on Jan. 12, 1927. He was in Fairfield University's second graduating class in 1952. He started his sports writing career at the Long Island Star-Journal later that year. He moved to the Long Island Press and was with the paper until it closed in 1977.

He started the program at St. John's in 1977 and through internships and career guidance, he was responsible for hundreds of students entering the sports field in various positions.

He had a special relationship with St. John's Hall of Fame coach Lou Carnesecca, one that spanned well over 50 years.

"We used to ref games together down at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Maybe two, three dollars a game," Carnesecca said. "We were together again as writer and coach, both at St. John's and the years I was with the (ABA's) Nets.

"Loyal?" Carnesecca asked before answering his own question. "There was nobody in the world as loyal, as good a friend as Bernie. He was one of a kind."

Chris Mullin, St. John's all-time leading scorer who went on to an NBA career that landed him in the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame, was a student of Beglane's.

"I did take his sports writing and public speaking courses," the first-year coach of the Red Storm remembered. "It was at 8 a.m. He didn't care if we had a game the night before, we had to be there and be on time. Number One, it is the right thing to do. Number Two, he was really teaching us things that I wound up using when I worked at ESPN.

"When I think of St. John's he is one of the people on my mind. Coach Carnesecca, Coach (Jack) Kaiser, Mr. Beglane. He had that kind of influence and that kind of dedication to St. John's."

Beglane and his program were big supporters of the Jackie Robinson Foundation that "promotes education and leadership development for minority youth."

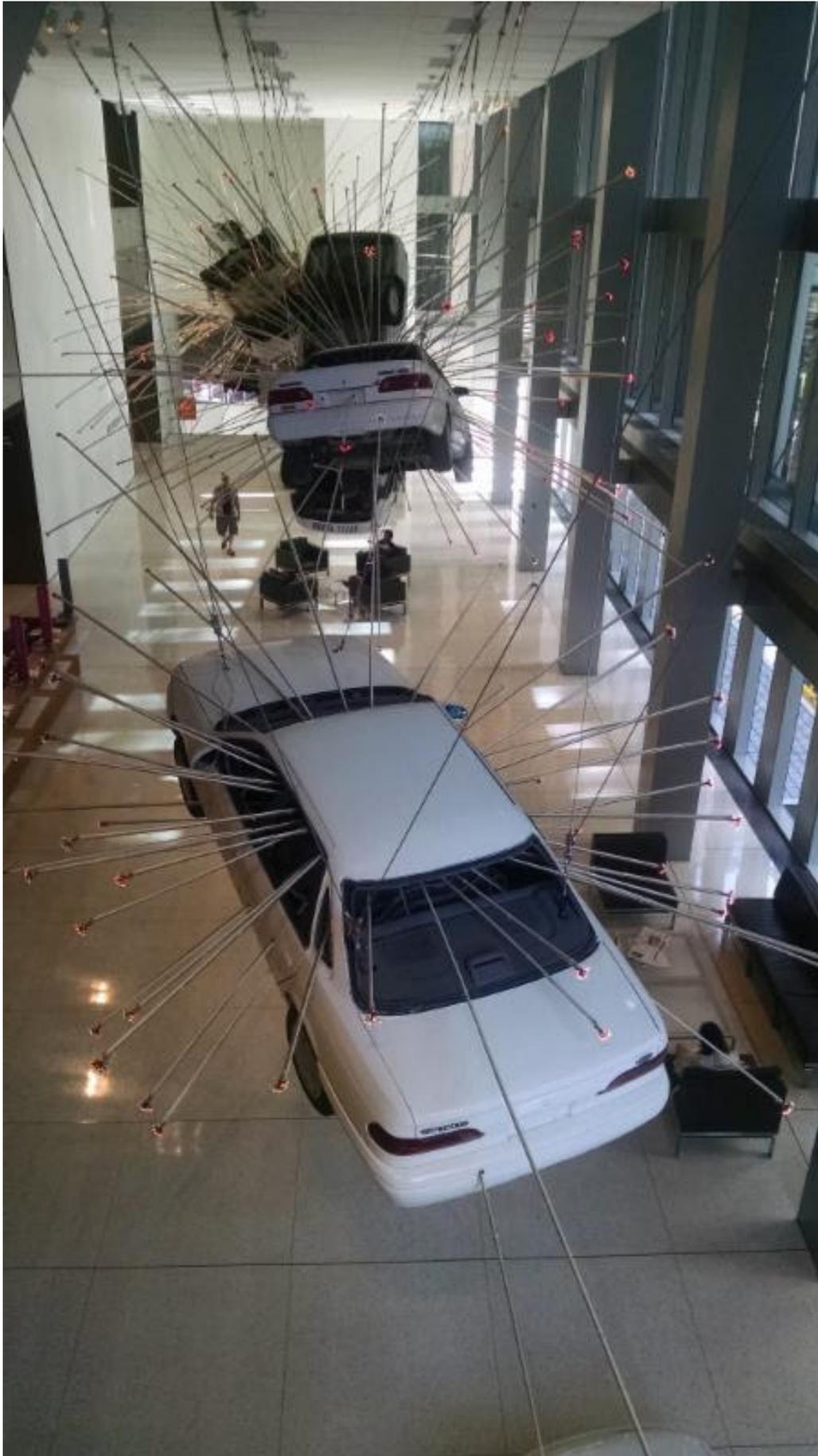
Beglane was a freelancer for the AP at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal, and through his 58 years with the wire service covered everything from World Series to equestrian to championship boxing.

He was predeceased by Kitty, his wife of 49 years who passed away in 2006. He is survived by three sons (Edward, Brian, Terence), a daughter (Bernadette) and 10 grandchildren.

Wakes will be held Friday at the New Hyde Park Funeral Home in New Hyde Park, and on Sunday at O'Shea's Funeral Home in Hampton Bays. A funeral Mass will be Monday at 10:30 a.m. at St. Rosalie's in Hampton Bays.

## **Connecting mailbox**

***COB-mobile standard***



**Kevin Walsh** - shares this photo from a permanent modern art installation at the Seattle

Art Museum featuring that old CoB-mobile standard, the Ford Taurus. Ye Olde Connecting Editor had three of them as his company car over his bureau chiefing years - and I bet I am not alone.

## Connecting new-member profile - Arnold Garson

**Arnold Garson** ([Email](#)) - My 46-year career in the newspaper business generally divides into three equal segments - one third of those years as a reporter (Omaha World-Herald, The Des Moines Register), one third as an editor (Des Moines Tribune, The Des Moines Register, The San Bernardino County Sun), and one-third as a publisher (Argus Leader in Sioux Falls, SD, The Courier-Journal in Louisville, KY).



Although I have no direct AP experience, I am proud to say that some of the journalists I most respected over the years were from the AP. They worked hard. They knew a good story. They cared about the reader. They understood the Public Trust of newspapers and the craft of journalism.

I first began to think seriously about newspapers and their importance in our society when I was 12 years old. But then I got sidetracked - mechanical engineering, of all things - and it wasn't until my junior year in college that I made the official transition to journalism at the University of Nebraska, followed by a master's degree in journalism at UCLA. During the years that followed, I worked for newspapers in five states and three time zones. It was a great run. I summed it all up at my retirement with remarks that ended like this:

So now, with retirement looming - and wondering what my legacy will be - I can say only that I know what I hope it will be: I hope that I have provided some small bits of encouragement for newspapers, their executives and their employees to remember three things:

1. We must make a difference. We must work to make our communities better places to live. We must be relentless in this pursuit.
2. Do the right thing. It's easy to slip - to take a path that offends no one, to yield to pressure, to disengage from controversy. If we don't stand up for what's right, no one will.
3. The only thing we have to sell is our credibility. If we lose that, we lose the trust of our audience -- and we will have -- nothing. The temptations here are great; our resistance to

the temptations must be greater.

Speaking of retirement, my wife of 51 years, Lynne, and I now reside in Sioux Falls, SD, although we tend to spend our winters in Palm Springs and our summers at Okoboji, IA. Our children and grandchildren reside in Iowa City, Omaha and Columbia, Missouri.

My retirement passion has become genealogy and family history. I have researched and written the stories of my wife's and my ancestral lines. The stories for each of eight family lines so far range up to about 12,000 words and the booklets up to 100 pages.

## **Nuclear Watchdog Slams AP's Iran Inspections Story as 'Misleading'**



**By Jonathan Broder, Newsweek**

The head of the United Nations nuclear watchdog organization on Thursday slammed a news story that said Tehran will use its own inspectors to investigate a suspected Iranian nuclear weapons site.

The story, written by the Associated Press, cited a **draft version** of a secret side agreement that's a part of the larger Iranian nuclear deal, saying the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had ceded the investigation of Iran's Parchin military facility to the Islamic republic.

But Yukio Amano, director general of the IAEA, (pictured above), dismissed the report as

"misleading," saying he was satisfied with the access his people will receive under the deal. "Such statements," he said of the AP report, "misrepresent the way in which we will undertake this important verification work."

Click [here](#) to read more.

***And...***

## **The AP's controversial and badly flawed Iran inspections story, explained**

**By Max Fisher, Vox World**

On Wednesday afternoon, the Associated Press published an exclusive report on the Iran nuclear program so shocking that many political pundits declared the nuclear deal dead in the water. But the article turned out to be a lot less damning than it looked - and the AP, which scrubbed many of the most damning details, is now itself part of this increasingly bizarre story.

To get a handle on all this, I spoke to Jeffrey Lewis, an arms control expert at Middlebury College's Monterey Institute of International Studies. What follows is a primer on what happened, what the AP story said and how it changed, the nuclear issues involved - a place called Parchin and something known as PMD - and what they mean for the nuclear deal.

The bottom line here is that this is all over a mild and widely anticipated compromise on a single set of inspections to a single, long-dormant site. The AP, deliberately or not, has distorted that into something that sounds much worse, but actually isn't. The whole incident is a fascinating, if disturbing, example of how misleading reporting on technical issues can play into the politics of foreign policy.

Click [here](#) to read more, including comment from AP spokesman Paul Colford. Shared by Larry Blasko.

## **AP elects not to name government subscribers of cheating website**

**By JACK GILLUM and TED BRIDIS**

WASHINGTON (AP) - Hundreds of U.S. government employees - including some with sensitive jobs in the White House, Congress and law enforcement agencies - used Internet connections in their federal offices to access and pay membership fees to the cheating website Ashley Madison, The Associated Press has learned.

The AP traced many of the accounts exposed by hackers back to federal workers. They included at least two assistant U.S. attorneys; an information technology administrator in the Executive Office of the President; a division chief, an investigator and a trial attorney in the Justice Department; a government hacker at the Homeland Security Department and another DHS employee who indicated he worked on a U.S. counterterrorism response team.

Few actually paid for their services with their government email accounts. But AP traced their government Internet connections - logged by the website over five years - and reviewed their credit-card transactions to identify them. They included workers at more than two dozen Obama administration agencies, including the departments of State, Defense, Justice, Energy, Treasury, Transportation and Homeland Security. Others came from House or Senate computer networks.

The AP is not naming the government subscribers it found because they are not elected officials or accused of a crime.

Click [here](#) to read more. Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

## Welcome to Connecting



Terry Ganey ([Email](#))

Andrew Schneider ([Email](#))

## Connecting '80s/'90s/100 Club'

Updated, with a welcome to the newest member of the 80s Club - **Gordon Sakamoto**, former AP Honolulu chief of bureau.

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## Stories of interest

### How do Americans use Twitter for news? (Pew)

Nearly two-thirds of U.S. adults who use Twitter get news on the platform, according to a recent survey. But we wanted a finer-grained understanding of how they use Twitter for news - not only whether they tweet about news and follow news organizations, but also what news topics they tweet about, and how many news media accounts they follow. We approached these questions through some exploratory research, leveraging one of social

media's greatest advantages for researchers: its openness.

In order to better understand how Americans are engaging with news on Twitter, we built a small but representative sample of 176 Twitter users from an earlier national survey of 3,212 Americans conducted by Pew Research Center in association with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. We then analyzed the Twitter activity of these users, with their explicit permission.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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### **Bloomberg cuts to focus on politics, government reporters** (Politico)

Since returning to his company last year, Michael Bloomberg has been resolute about streamlining redundancies and focusing on a core mission: providing financial news and data through the company's principal revenue generator, the Bloomberg Terminal.



The casualties in that effort have included various senior staff members and ambitious consumer-facing media projects. By the fall, it will also have taken the jobs of roughly 100 editorial staffers, primarily the politics and government reporters in Washington and New York who are no longer seen as necessary to Bloomberg's objectives. Bloomberg and his new editor-in-chief John Micklethwait, formerly of The Economist, have been assessing the political operation for "redundancies" since early this year.

The layoffs, first reported by The New York Post, signal the definitive end to Bloomberg's long-held ambition of becoming a dominant player in Washington and political media. The Washington bureau will continue to exist -- headed now by former Financial Times Washington bureau chief Megan Murphy -- but its focus will be redirected toward financial aspects of government like law, regulation and the Treasury, sources there said.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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### **As Investors Circle, Organized Labor Moves Into Digital Media** (Wall Street Journal)

Earlier this month, when writers at Vice Media were emailing about the potential benefits of unionizing, one employee brought up company co-founder Shane Smith's purchase of a \$23 million mansion in Santa Monica, Calif., a house featured in "Beverly Hills Cop" and the HBO show "Entourage."

"For next time [management] says they can't afford to give us raises," the employee

wrote, posting a link to an article about the real-estate deal.

Two days later, on Aug. 7, the writers voted to join the Writers Guild of America, East.

The move at Vice is part of a broader unionization push in the digital media world. This summer, the WGA and another union, News Guild-CWA, have also signed up writers at Gawker Media and Salon.com, and say they're actively trying to make inroads elsewhere.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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## **ProPublica receives \$2.2 million from Knight Foundation to expand audience engagement efforts** (Poynter)

The Knight Foundation announced Thursday that it would be providing ProPublica with \$2.2 million in funding. The money will be aimed toward helping the investigative non-profit improve on an existing crowdsourcing platform, in addition to offering a two-week training program for journalists.

ProPublica will offer training to 10 to 12 people through a two-week Knight-ProPublica Summer Institute next year. It will be focused at helping the participants learn to become visual data journalists. The organization is still not sure how it will select people for the training program. However, ProPublica wants to focus on groups that aren't reached through the typical pipelines: NICAR, IRE, elite J-Schools; and "bring new and underserved populations into data journalism."

"Out there is a stats major or a math nerd who doesn't know journalism is an option for her but would make an amazing data journalist. That's who I'm hoping we can bring in," Scott Klein, assistant managing editor and the lead for ProPublica's News Apps team, told Poynter in an email interview.

Click [here](#) to read more.

## **The Final Word**

***Little-known Colombian band mystified by Obama playlist spot***



**By IVAN CRUZ**  
**The Associated Press**

MIAMI (AP) - The members of the little-known Colombian salsa band are clueless as to how an obscure song they recorded more than a decade ago landed on a Spotify playlist curated by President Barack Obama.

The track, "La salsa la traigo yo," by Sonora Carruseles, is one of 40 songs featured on two #POTUSPlaylists on the popular music streaming service. The lists also include music by Bob Dylan, Bob Marley, Coldplay, Frank Sinatra, Beyonce, Justin Timberlake, Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin and Spanish singer Mala Rodriguez.

"For us, it's an honor that an influential person such as the U.S. president is enjoying and having fun in his free time with the Colombian salsa of Sonora Carruseles," band member Daniel Marmolejo said.

Band members were surprised when they heard the news - so surprised, in fact, that they thought it was a joke, Marmolejo said.

The biggest surprise: The song was one the band had virtually forgotten.

Click [here](#) to read more.

## Today in History - August 21, 2015

## By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, August 21, the 233th day of 2015. There are 132 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On August 21, 1945, President Harry S. Truman ended the Lend-Lease program that had shipped some \$50 billion in aid supplies to America's allies during World War II.

### On this date:

In 1831, Nat Turner led a violent slave rebellion in Virginia resulting in the deaths of at least 55 white people. (He was later executed.)

In 1858, the first of seven debates between Illinois senatorial contenders Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas took place.

In 1911, Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" was stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris. (The painting was recovered two years later in Italy.)

In 1940, exiled Communist revolutionary Leon Trotsky died in a Mexican hospital from wounds inflicted by an assassin the day before.

In 1944, the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union and China opened talks at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington that helped pave the way for establishment of the **United Nations**. (The talks concluded on October 7.)

In 1959, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed an executive order making Hawaii the 50th state.

In 1963, martial law was declared in South Vietnam as police and army troops began a violent crackdown on Buddhist anti-government protesters.

In 1972, the Republican National Convention opened in Miami Beach.

In 1983, Philippine opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino Jr., ending a self-imposed exile in the United States, was shot dead moments after stepping off a plane at Manila International Airport. The musical play "La Cage Aux Folles" opened on Broadway.

In 1991, the hard-line coup against Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev collapsed in the face of a popular uprising led by Russian Federation President Boris N. Yeltsin.

In 1993, in a serious setback for NASA, engineers lost contact with the Mars Observer spacecraft as it was about to reach the red planet on a \$980 million mission.

In 1995, ABC News settled a \$10 billion libel suit by apologizing to Philip Morris for reporting the tobacco giant had manipulated the amount of nicotine in its cigarettes.

Ten years ago: Pope Benedict XVI triumphantly ended his four-day trip to his native

Germany, celebrating an open-air Mass for a million people in Cologne. Robert A. Moog (mohg), whose self-named electronic synthesizers revolutionized music in the 1960s, died in Asheville, North Carolina, at age 71.

Five years ago: Iranian and Russian engineers began loading fuel into Iran's first nuclear power plant, which Moscow promised to safeguard to prevent material at the site from being used in any potential weapons production. A Vincent van Gogh painting, "Poppy Flowers," was stolen in broad daylight from Cairo's Mahmoud Khalil Museum. (Although Egyptian authorities initially said they'd recovered the painting the same day at the Cairo airport, that report turned out to be erroneous; the painting remains missing.) Emmy-winning CBS News correspondent Harold Dow died at age 62.

One year ago: Calling it a "miraculous day," an American doctor infected with Ebola left his isolation unit at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta; Dr. Kent Brantly warmly hugged his physicians and nurses, showing the world that he posed no public health threat one month after getting sick with the virus. Gov. Jay Nixon ordered the Missouri National Guard to begin withdrawing from Ferguson, where nightly scenes of unrest had erupted since a white police officer fatally shot an unarmed black 18-year-old nearly two weeks earlier. Former Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds, 81, died in Dublin.

Today's Birthdays: Former NFL player and general manager Pete Retzlaff is 84. Actor-director Melvin Van Peebles is 83. Playwright Mart Crowley is 80. Singer **Kenny Rogers** is 77. Actor Clarence Williams III is 76. Rock-and-roll musician James Burton is 76. Singer Harold Reid (The Statler Brothers) is 76. Singer Jackie DeShannon is 74. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Willie Lanier is 70. Actress Patty McCormack is 70. Pop singer-musician Carl Giammarese (jee-ah mah-REE'-see) is 68. Actress Loretta Devine is 66. NBC newsman Harry Smith is 64. Singer Glenn Hughes is 63. Country musician Nick Kane is 61. Actress Kim Cattrall is 59. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL quarterback Jim McMahon is 56. Actress Cleo King is 53. Retired MLB All-Star pitcher John Wetteland is 49. Rock singer Serj Tankian (TAN'-kee-ahn) (System of a Down) is 48. Figure skater Josee Chouinard is 46. Actress Carrie-Anne Moss is 45. Retired MLB player Craig Counsell is 45. Rock musician Liam Howlett (Prodigy) is 44. Actress **Alicia Witt** is 40. Singer Kelis (kuh-LEES') is 36. TV personality Brody Jenner is 32. Singer Melissa Schuman is 31. Olympic gold medal sprinter Usain (yoo-SAYN') Bolt is 29. Actor-comedian Brooks Wheelan (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 29. Actor Cody Kasch is 28. Country singer Kacey Musgraves is 27. Actress Hayden Panettiere (pan'-uh-tee-EHR') is 26. Actor RJ Mitte is 23. Actor Maxim Knight (TV: "Falling Skies") is 16.

**Thought for Today: "I don't measure America by its achievement but by its potential." - Shirley Chisholm, American politician (1924-2005).**

## 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:

- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **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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