

Connecting - November 07, 2015

1 message

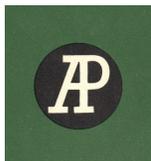
Paul Stevens <stevenspl@live.com>

Sat, Nov 7, 2015 at 8:54 AM

Reply-To: stevenspl@live.com

To: pjshane@gmail.com

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Connecting

November 7, 2015

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Colleagues,

Good Saturday morning!

Two reminders top this weekend edition of Connecting:

First, our colleague **Max Desfor**, AP's oldest retiree and one of the most distinguished photojournalists to ever carry a camera, will celebrate his 102nd birthday tomorrow - Sunday, November 8.



You are invited to take part in a "card shower" to honor him on his special day. Don't worry if it arrives late - we know he will relish hearing from you.

Send your card to the following address:

Max Desfor
15115 Interlachen Drive. Apt 1018
Silver Spring, MD 20906

And...

Veterans Day 2015 will be celebrated next Wednesday, Nov. 11, and Connecting will recognize those of you who are veterans of our nation's armed forces.

If you are a vet, send me your branch of service, years of service, and any special story from your military days that you would like to share. Thanks to a dozen or more of you who have already responded.

Paul

I remember Max



Four members of the 25th U.S. Division, carry a litter bearing one of their own, who had just been wounded in a battle with the North Koreans near Mason, on the western side of Korea in August of 1950. Smoke rises in the background caused by the air-dropping of napalm bombs. This road is typical of the dirt roads in Korea. Associated Press photo by Gene E. Herrick).

Gene Herrick - It was a hot muggy August day on the tarmac of the Pusan Airport when I first met Max Desfor.

I was a young newly assigned AP photographer correspondent to the Korean War. My newly bought uniform shown brightly and I smelled fresh.

As I deplaned, Max Desfor introduced himself. He had two friends with him, Charlie Rozenkrants, and Ken Innoye, both with other services. They didn't smell very good. They reminded me that I wouldn't smell very good in a few days. War in Korea, or anywhere, is not like living at the Hilton.

I, of course, was well aware of Max's reputation. Their plan was to launch me onto the battlefield. We spent that night in Pusan, where they taught me to barter, using whisky to get a tire for a "Liberated" jeep, and to bunk down in a REPO Depot, sleeping quarters for transitioning military personnel. He may have saved my life that night. The sleeping quarters were very dark. I went from cot to cot trying to find an empty one. Max grabbed me arm and cautioned, "Don't do that; you may startle one of the men and he may wake up battle-ready."

The next morning, the trio, Max and his friends, took me from Pusan to Mason, and to a battlefield in progress. Max introduced me to veteran AP correspondent Stan Swinton, who was under a small bridge, sitting on the ground with shoes off, and typing a story on his little portable typewriter. Max and his friends headed back to Pusan and a trip to Tokyo for R&R.

The battle going on was horrific; planes dropping Napalm and strafing enemy troops on a nearby mountain; wounded being carried from the front, and bullets flying. The previous day in peaceful Tokyo, and then into the pathos of war. What a transition! I stood in the little dusty dirt road taking pictures of the battle. (See my photo above of the area.)

I noticed spits of dirt popping up near my feet, but became too engrossed in my picture taking. A GI, in a nearby ditch, shouted: "Sir, do you hear those popping sounds?" I replied yes. He shouted again, "Sir, do you see that dirt popping up around you?" I replied I did. The young veteran then asked: "Sir, do you know those are bullets, and that the enemy is shooting at you?" Max hadn't told me about that, but I quickly learned.

Max and I didn't see each other again. Later, Max was with the Marines at the Chosin Reservoir, a horrible frozen battlefield against the Chinese. I was on his right flank with the 7th Division at the frozen Yalu River.

Max was always an inspiration, and a war correspondent's war correspondent.

Connecting mailbox

Animus towards media

Robert Weller - It doesn't surprise me that there is such disrespect of the media when a simple reaction of victims to the naming of killers creates such a knee-jerk reaction.

For example, there were five attempted assassinations of presidents after Lincoln that we know about before JFK was killed. There may have been others that did reach the national media level.

And there were two successful assassinations - McKinley and Garfield.

And let's not forget all the other assassinations of public figures.

When you look family members of victims or survivors in the eye and they beg you to cooperate, it becomes hard to just blow it off.

Personally, I cannot forget RFK, I was working for him in San Jose, California when he was shot, and attended his funeral at Arlington. And Martin Luther King was killed just a few months earlier.

And there was Sadat, two Gandhis and Rabin. I covered Indira Gandhi's, traveling from Nairobi to New Delhi at the request of the late Nate Polowitzky, who was there dealing with Indian anger over our cover of the Bophal disaster.

This trend started before social media.

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Renaissance?

Jim Limbach - "***renaissance of Cubs?***" *It's been 109 years!!!!*

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More pet peeves on words, phrases

Karol Stonger - New record, new world record, etc.

Joe Edwards - I have always been bothered by the phrase "legally drunk." This sounds like it was OK to be drunk. How about "drunk under legal guidelines?"

Jeannine Yeomans - The Department of Redundancy Department.

Michael Weinfeld - In reference to John McIntyre's "dog whistle edits," has "chomping at the bit" finally replaced "champing at the bit?" I hope so. And in reference to the repetitive headlines in Harper's, do a directory of AP stories about the Rolling Stones and see how many have the word "satisfaction" in the lead.

The AP logo consists of the letters 'AP' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, positioned to the left of a vertical red bar. The entire logo is set against a white background within a green banner.

BEAT OF THE WEEK

By **JOHN DANISZEWSKI**

Giving a severely disabled child hormones to stunt her growth? Why would anyone do that? That was the first thought AP's **Kristen Gelineau** had when she stumbled upon the subject.

But the practice, called growth attenuation, has been quietly gaining momentum in the United States, Europe and New Zealand, and there can be compelling reasons for doing it, Gelineau would learn. Her thoughtful reporting on how one family went through the process with their severely disabled daughter, Charley, produced a uniquely revealing multi-format story. It earns the Beat of the Week.

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/health/medical/family-stunts-disabled-daughters-growth-to-expand-her-world/ar-BBmqLsL>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fFk3W6UKA4>

Gelineau, AP's bureau chief in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, was scanning lecture topics at a university for story ideas when she noticed an upcoming talk about sterilizing the disabled without their consent. She was stunned - she had no idea the practice still existed. Researching, she eventually came across the odd case of Ashley X, a Seattle girl who underwent a novel treatment to stunt her growth about 10 years ago, and also had her uterus and breast buds removed. The case, published in a medical journal in 2006 and picked up by the media, prompted outrage. Tabloids ran screaming headlines about the "Peter Pan Treatment" and "The Girl Frozen in Time" before the case faded from public view.



(AP photographer Firdia Lisnawati shot this photo of Gelineau holding Charley)

Gelineau wondered: Was Ashley's case a one-off, or were there others? Her research showed that doctors who prescribe the treatment and the families who choose it for their children remain largely underground, given the backlash Ashley's case prompted.

"I was hooked," Gelineau says. "I wanted to go beyond the talking heads and take a deep, intimate look inside a family who had chosen this for their child." While most such families remain terrified to go public, she learned about Mark and Jenn Hooper, who had given a couple of local interviews in New Zealand. She approached the family about doing an in-depth piece, then worked to dispel their fear that she might be "just another tabloid reporter who would present them as some kind of freak show." She spent hours reassuring them that she would treat their story, and Charley, with sensitivity and dignity. Eventually gaining their trust, she was invited to visit them in Bali, where they spend every winter.

Upon meeting Charley, Gelineau quickly grasped the challenges the family faced. She watched as Charley's parents raced to her whenever she coughed to check that she wasn't choking, or struggled to feed her and squirt medicine down her throat without her vomiting it back up. She watched them do whatever they could to get a response from their child _ fanning her face, jostling her stroller - just to prompt what looked like a smile.

Yet it wasn't until Mark Hooper asked Gelineau if she would like to hold Charley that she genuinely understood the parents' worries about her growing too big to handle, which prompted the stunting procedure. Charley has no control over her limbs and so cannot help someone holding her. Says Gelineau: "It is very much like holding a newborn, except she's 10 years old and 50 pounds. Jenn encouraged me to try and stand up with Charley in my arms. I'm no weakling, but I couldn't do it."

The family didn't shy away from answering tough questions, and acknowledged the times they considered giving Charley up. Jenn Hooper in particular was furious over what had happened to her daughter: Midwives bungled her birth, and Charley lost crucial oxygen. Still, it wasn't until the third day that Gelineau glimpsed what was going on underneath all that rage. "I was pressing her again on the issue of Charley's mind, and how anyone can truly know whether Charley is aware of what is happening to her and what she would want," Gelineau says. "And Jenn suddenly broke down. She began to weep and said she wanted nothing more than to be wrong about Charley's mind. She desperately wanted her daughter to wake up the next morning and tell her she knew what the family had done to her. But Jenn believed that even if that happened, the treatment would have done nothing to change who Charley is as a person."

Ultimately Gelineau saw that Jenn Hooper was "a woman ravaged by grief and desperate for her daughter to have a good life. All of which goes a long way toward answering my original question: Why would anyone do this to their child?"

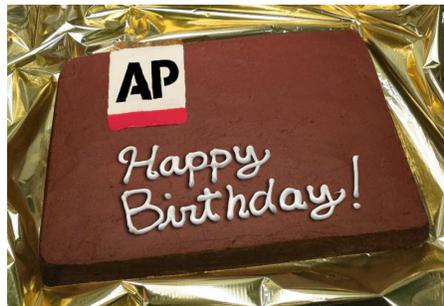
The multi-format story - with photos by Firdia Lisnawati and video by Fadlan Syam -

was No. 1 on the mobile app, with more than 60,000 tweets, and No. 2 on Twitter. And although Gelineau agonized that the family might receive death threats, reaction was mostly considerate. One mother of a severely disabled child expressed admiration for "these parents who are motivated by love ..." Another reader wrote: "My initial reaction was shock and horror ... but unless you have lived what these parents are living, you can't judge them."

"Maybe," said Gelineau, "it comes down to that old saying: 'You can't hate anyone whose story you know.'" For her painstaking work to make that awareness possible, Gelineau wins this week's \$500 prize.

(Shared by Valerie Komor)

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Mike Gugliotto ([Email](#))

Paul Webster ([Email](#))

Stories of interest

Repeating from Friday to include link:

'In the old days, being a journalist was about as cool as you could get'

A Romenesko reader writes: "In what has become a common occurrence for The Arizona Republic, another year has gone by and the company has shed another round of talented journalists. This time we lost them to Gannett's early retirement buyouts. I just wanted to share this FANTASTIC letter written by an old editor of mine commemorating his 32 years in journalism." (Martin Dolan took the buyout and cleaned out his desk on Friday.)

From: Dolan, Martin
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2015 2:40 PM
To: [Arizona Republic staff]
Subject: What's a pica pole?
Martin Dolan

I write this fully aware that three-quarters of you have no idea who I am. Such is life, even when you've been around a place for nearly 32 years (trust me, that was never my goal; I just kept finding more things to keep me interested).

[Click here](#) to read more.

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Dave Teeuwen, managing editor of USA TODAY, dies after cancer battle

David Teeuwen, managing editor of USA TODAY and one of the newspaper's most forceful advocates of digital transformation, died Wednesday after a nine-year battle with cancer. He was 45.



Known in the newsroom for his persistent but even-keeled management style and passion for his beloved Pittsburgh Steelers, Teeuwen had a meteoric ascent during his 16-year USA TODAY career.

"He was a wonderfully passionate journalist and, more importantly, a passionate digital journalist," said USA TODAY Editor in Chief Dave Callaway, Teeuwen's boss. "He helped pioneer USA TODAY's emergence as a major digital news organization."

[Click here](#) to read more.

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Before and After D-Day: Color Photos From England and France (Time)



It's no mystery why images of unremitting violence spring to mind when one hears the deceptively simple term, "D-Day." We've all seen - in photos, movies, old news reels, and usually in grim black-and-white - what happened on the beaches of Normandy (codenamed Omaha, Utah, Juno, Gold and Sword) as the Allies unleashed their historic assault against German defenses on June 6, 1944.

But in color photos taken before and after the invasion, LIFE magazine's Frank Scherschel captured countless other, lesser-known scenes from the run-up to the onslaught and the heady weeks after: American troops training in small English towns; the French countryside, implausibly lush after the spectral landscape of the beachheads; the reception GIs enjoyed en route to the capital; the jubilant liberation of Paris itself.

As presented here, in masterfully restored color, Scherschel's pictures - most of which were never published in LIFE - feel at-once profoundly familiar and somehow utterly, vividly new.

[Click here](#) to view and read more.

Today in History - November 7, 2015

By The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Nov. 7, the 311th day of 2015. There are 54 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 7, 1940, Washington state's original Tacoma Narrows Bridge, nicknamed "Galloping Gertie," collapsed into Puget Sound during a windstorm just four months after opening to traffic.

On this date:

In 1861, former U.S. President John Tyler was elected to the Confederate House of Representatives (however, Tyler died before he could take his seat).

In 1914, the first issue of The New Republic magazine was published.

In 1916, Republican Jeannette Rankin of Montana became the first woman elected to Congress.

In 1917, Russia's Bolshevik Revolution took place as forces led by Vladimir Ilyich Lenin overthrew the provisional government of Alexander Kerensky.

In 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt won an unprecedented fourth term in office, defeating Republican Thomas E. Dewey.

In 1954, the CBS News program "Face the Nation" premiered with Ted Koop as host; the guest was Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, R-Wis.

In 1962, Republican Richard Nixon, having lost California's gubernatorial race, held what he called his "last press conference," telling reporters, "You won't have Nixon to kick around anymore." Former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt, 78, died in New York City.

In 1972, President Richard Nixon was re-elected in a landslide over Democrat George McGovern.

In 1973, Congress overrode President Richard Nixon's veto of the War Powers Act, which limits a chief executive's power to wage war without congressional approval.

In 1974, British peer Richard John Bingham, 7th Earl of Lucan, disappeared after his children's nanny, Sandra Rivett, was bludgeoned to death at his family's London home; he has not been seen since.

In 1980, actor Steve McQueen died in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico, at age 50.

In 1989, L. Douglas Wilder won the governor's race in Virginia, becoming the first elected black governor in U.S. history; David N. Dinkins was elected New York City's first black

mayor.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, in Panama, defended U.S. interrogation practices and called the treatment of terrorism suspects lawful, saying, "We do not torture." A suicide bomber blew up his vehicle at a checkpoint south of Baghdad, killing four American soldiers.

Five years ago: Scientists at the world's largest atom smasher, the Large Hadron Collider near Geneva, recreated the state of matter shortly after the Big Bang using collisions of lead ions. Gebre Gebremariam (GEH'-brah geh-brah-MAYR'-ee-am) of Ethiopia won the men's title at the New York City Marathon in 2:08:14 in his debut at the distance. Kenya's Edna Kiplagat won the women's race in 2:28:20 for her first major marathon championship.

One year ago: President Barack Obama authorized a broad expansion of the U.S. military mission in Iraq that called for boosting the total number of American troops there to about 3,100.

Today's Birthdays: Evangelist Billy Graham is 97. Former U.S. Sen. Rudy Boschwitz, R-Minn., is 85. Actor Barry Newman is 77. Singer Johnny Rivers is 73. Former supermodel Jean Shrimpton is 73. Singer-songwriter Joni Mitchell is 72. Former CIA Director David Petraeus is 63. Actor Christopher Knight (TV: "The Brady Bunch") is 58. Rock musician Tommy Thayer (KISS) is 55. Actress Julie Pinson is 48. Rock musician Greg Tribbett (Mudvayne) is 47. Actress Michelle Clunie is 46. Actor Christopher Daniel Barnes is 43. Actors Jeremy and Jason London are 43. Actress Yunjin Kim is 42. Actor Adam DeVine is 32. Rock musician Zach Myers (Shinedown) is 32. Actor Lucas Neff is 30. Rapper Tinie (TY'-nee) Tempah is 27. Rock singer Lorde is 19.

Thought for Today: "All forms of totalitarianism try to avoid the strange, the problematic, the critical, the rational. To do so, they must deny the metropolitan spirit, equalize everything in city and country, and retain a center which is not the center of anything because everything else is swallowed up by it." - Paul Tillich, American theologian (1886-1965).

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

Connecting newsletter

stevenspl@live.com

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