Gmail

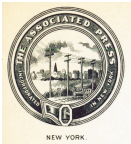
Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - December 22, 2016

1 message

Paul Stevens <paulstevens46@gmail.com> Thu, Dec 22, 2016 at 9:06 AM
Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com
To: pjshane@gmail.com

Having trouble viewing this email? Click here



Connecting

December 22, 2016

Click here for sound of the Teletype

Top AP News

Top AP photos

AP World

AP books
Connecting Archive
AP Essentials *(Purchases benefit The AP Emergency Relief Fund)*

Jim Cole Day in New Hampshire

Governor Maggie Hassan honors AP photographer Jim Cole with a proclamation declaring Wednesday as Jim Cole Day in the State of New Hampshire. Photo/Holly Ramer

Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

It was Jim Cole Day in New Hampshire on Wednesday.

Gov. Maggie Hassan and the governor's Executive Council honored the AP photographer's 36-year career at the Statehouse on Wednesday before onlookers who included fellow AP staff, past and present.

"Jim Cole's professionalism, as well as personal kindness, is unparalleled," Hassan said. "Jim has the capacity to be where he needs to be to catch the moment ... He does it in the most unobtrusive way I've known of any photographer. And he does it with an eye to what will make his picture different, his picture better."

Cole was among 25 journalists laid off by the AP last Friday, an action that the AP said was taken to reduce expenses.

Hassan read a proclamation declaring Dec. 21, 2016, "Jim Cole Day."

Some of the highlights: he sold his first Associated Press photo, a runaway llama on Henniker's Main Street in 1977; covered 10 presidential primaries; got an exclusive shot of New York City "Subway Vigilante" Bernie Goetz turning himself in to Concord police in 1984; and covered New Hampshire's happiest and saddest times, including the Challenger tragedy.

Cole thanked the people of New Hampshire for making his career so enjoyable.

Among those present were former Statehouse reporter Norma Love (she retired in 2014), and current AP staffers Holly Ramer, Kathleen Ronayne, Mike Casey and Kathy McCormack from the Concord office, and AP photographer Charlie Krupa from Boston.

A fond memory of Sylvia Rector

Sylvia Rector

Paula Froke (**Email**) - When I think of Sylvia Rector stories, do I lead with the weekend when I accompanied her, Charles and Zack on a jam-packed, stomach-stuffing tour of the Detroit area's many pizza shops, risking long-term pizza aversion in the service of Detroit Free Press readers? Or maybe with the time when, as an Official Dining Companion of the Free Press restaurant critic, I forced down my first bite of seafood _ and discovered a new love. Or of course, the many Sylvia-cooked Thanksgiving meals consumed at the Rector-Hill table, often while hearing tales of childhood in quite-rural Virginia related by Sylvia or her delightful mom, Blanche.

Sylvia was a central part of my life during the 16 years I spent working for Charles in Minnesota and Michigan, including 11 as news editor. She was, indeed, the epitome of grace and graciousness, warmth and compassion. She was also one of the most painstaking writers I've encountered, truly caring about every sentence and every word, keenly aware of the impact her words would have on diners and restaurateurs alike.

Make no mistake: Being a food writer and restaurant critic is demanding and exhausting work. *I* got exhausted (though very well fed) each time I went along on a restaurant review for several hours after our regular workday had ended. And all I had to do was eat. Sylvia (also having already worked a full day before dinner) would follow her work dinner by going home, organizing her notes and diving in to her story or review, often on deadline, often long into the night. She kept doing that, week after week, year after year, for 16 more years after I left Detroit. Remarkable.

There are, of course, stories passed down through the years of how as AP's Carolinas broadcast editor very early in her career, Sylvia put that supremely confident whippersnapper rookie Charles Hill in his place. He won her over with his homemade potato chips (or was it french fries) (believed to be the first and last thing he ever cooked during their relationship). Together they made a glorious team who, along with son Zachary, charmed and delighted member editors and AP staffs for many years in multiple states. I gained so much from her friendship, and learned so much from her sage counsel.

AP names new White House team

To chronicle the unprecedented level of policy and political change that comes with the incoming Trump administration, The Associated Press is enhancing its White House reporting team. Reporters in Washington and elsewhere will provide comprehensive, cutting-edge coverage as the new administration dives into its first 100 days.

Here are highlights of the new lineup:

Julie Pace

At the White House, **Julie Pace** continues as the chief White House correspondent, covering President-elect Donald Trump's foreign and domestic policy, analyses and enterprise on major decision and key moments, immigration policy, the presidency and his inner circle.

Julie Bykowicz will cover Trump's promise to "drain the swamp," and examine conflicts, ethics and influence at the White House and Congress, working closely with AP's investigative team.

Economics reporter **Josh Boak** will cover economic policy and the budget, tax reform, trade and infrastructure spending.

Ken Thomas will cover Vice President-elect Mike Pence, trade and labor politics and congressional relations.

Darlene Superville will cover press access and transparency, Melania Trump, the social calendar, White House traditions in the Trump era and other East Wing activity.

Jon Lemire, based in New York, will cover Trump in New York City and his New York operations, Trump's businesses and the link between those and the White House.

Vivian Salama will cover foreign policy, the future of Guantanamo Bay and Trump's Supreme Court nominees.

Catherine Lucey will cover Ivanka Trump, family and child-care policies and Medicare.

Jill Colvin will cover environmental and climate issues.

The White House team, led by **Kathleen Hennessey** and under the leadership of acting bureau chief **Wendy Benjaminson** and assistant bureau chief **David Ake**, will work closely with a beefed-up Congress team, led by veteran news editor **Donna Cassata** and Chief Congressional Correspondent **Erica Werner**. Working closely with both will be AP's investigative team, led by **Ted Bridis,** which will examine Trump's policies, personnel and conflicts.

Across the U.S., AP reporters will continue their groundbreaking "Divided America" series examining Americans' views and divisions from outside the Beltway. The AP will retain its strong focus on fact-checking and will continue its mission to fight for access to the president and his new team on behalf of the public.

AP Photographer Recounts Turkey Shooting

Here is a compelling video of AP photographer **Burhan Ozbilici** recounting the photo exhibition he covered in Ankara when a gunman opened fire, assassinating Russia's ambassador to Turkey, Andrei Karlov. Ozbilici recounts the chaos as he

captured the scene. Warning graphic images.

Click here to view the video. Shared by Chris Connell, who noted: "Incredible fortitude and the consummate professionalism. It hammers home how much the world needs the AP to do its job."

-0-

A historical perspective on Ozbilic's photos

Hal Buell (**Email**) - The photograph by Burhan Ozbilic showing the assassination of the Russian ambassador to Turkey was a sensational moment in time -- great courage at work coupled with the experience of a seasoned news photographer. These telling incidents burst forth instantly, without warning, and are easily lost in the bewildering chaos. A chaos encountered more often on the battlefield than in the quiet hall of a museum. A tip of our professional hat to Burhan. And he put together a story, too.

His pictures generated spectacular play in both print, television and across the social networks. The numbers were reported in Wednesday's CONNECTING.

Burhan's photo, thanks in great degree to digital transmission and the wide public participation of social networking also generated complaints. Some readers asked: why did you (the NYTimes) give the photos such prominence? That prompted the Times to carry a story explaining why such pictures were published. Reader reaction of this sort is historically common though it is usually the nay-sayers who complain. I once presented a series of such photos to lay audiences and asked: If you were editors, would you publish or not publish? Response favored publication 2-1.

Other photographers have encountered similar situations - unexpected violence that could easily be turned against them as well as the intended target.

Harrisburg's Paul Vathis found himself at a 1987 press conference just a few feet away from a Pennsylvania politician who committed suicide by gunshot while at the same time bearing a grudge against the media who exposed his corruption. Paul's photos were shocking and bloody, but widely played. Negative reaction was common including a couple of phone calls to me directly from members of the state's political establishment asking why AP distributed them in the first place.

Conditions surrounding Eddie Adams' 1968 photo, Saigon Execution, offered danger. The photo was made as Eddie covered the Tet Offensive's urban guerilla warfare where there are few rules. Public reaction was mostly political - hawks loved the photo, doves pointed out the negatives of U.S. allies.

Neal Ulevich faced an angry crowd in 1976 when he photographed a lynching in Thailand. When the crowd eyed Neal and his camera he moved away, photos safely on film. And, in 1971, Horst Faas and Michel Laurent decided to leave the scene when a crowd noticed them photographing a public torture and execution in a Dacca stadium. As with the above pictures, their images were published everywhere.

Despite the outcry, all these photographers (except Vathis) won Pulitzer Prizes for their coverage, and all of the photos contributed significant information to the public discourse.

The big difference between these earlier photos and Burhan's is how quickly the photos were distributed and how much greater much greater was the audience that saw them. Some 9 million people saw his photo within six hours. Most saw the earlier photos in the next day's morning newspapers.

-0-

TIME: Three Photographers Witnessed an Assassination. One Photo Went Viral

By ANDREW KATZ

Time

Yavuz Alatan attended the photo exhibition in Ankara on Dec. 19 as both a photojournalist and a guest. Alatan, who works for the daily Sözcü newspaper, had previously met the event's speaker, Andrey Karlov, Russia's ambassador to Turkey. Last year, he had received a medal from Karlov noting the diplomatic relationship between the two countries. Alatan says he was invited by the embassy to attend Monday's show. And so both men would again appear in the same room but end up at opposite sides of an international incident: one would lay mortally wounded on the floor, the other would freeze the moment in time.

In an email interview, Alatan tells TIME he went to the gallery a half hour early to enjoy the pictures on display in a quieter environment. As Turkey has weathered attacks throughout the year, Alatan says it was a reflex that directed him to the man standing behind the ambassador. He was wearing a dark suit and tie, appearing as though he was part of a security detail. A video released after the attack shows the man, later identified by Turkish authorities as off-duty police officer Mevlut Mert Altintas, pacing behind Karlov as he spoke. At least twice, he fussed with the inside of his suit jacket. When he did so a third time, he pulled out a pistol. "I thought this man was brought there as a bodyguard," Alatan says, noting his "very relaxed" face. "Once the gun fired repetitively things got clear."

Alatan was one of at least three photographers at the Dec. 19 event, with Hasim Kilic, of the Hurriyet media organization, and Burhan Ozbilici of the Associated Press. All three composed themselves enough to shoot as a routine exhibition turned into a crime scene, emerging with images of one of the most brazen acts caught on camera this year.

Pictures from the three photographers were shared online after the attack, all of them topping news stories at outlets around the world, yet they didn't receive the same attention. Why? A range of factors are in play.

Read more **here**. Shared by William Kaczor

Connecting mailbox

Jim Fitzgerald video includes his arrival at the AP

Jim Fitzgerald (**Email**) - I've already received several email notes from people who saw news of my retirement in Connecting. Not the way I wanted to go out but

these things happen. (Tuesday's Connecting carried news that Jim, a 43-year AP veteran, would retire Jan. 1, 2017, and is battling leukemia.)

Paul, when I was given the Peter Kihss award, which was mentioned in the Connecting issue, my acceptance speech was videotaped. It includes a brief account of my arrival at AP on my first day - Memorial Day 1971. I remember you asking your readers for such contributions. It occurs to me now that some Connecting readers might find it amusing or at least interesting.

I also name several AP folks as influences.

Click here to view the video. You have to go about 5:20 in to get to my part.

-0-

Connecting sky shot - Kansas sunset

Peter Leabo (**Email**) - Almost missed this one. I was in my home office on the phone with my mom, providing computer technical support as she composed her annual holiday letter. I saw a glow from my drawn blinds and knew that the sunset was already at its peak. I grabbed my camera and drove about 5 minutes to this nearby old farm which I'd seen many times before. I got only a few frames before the colors extinguished themselves. I'm going to have to set my winter sunset alarm so I can check the sky and have enough time to get to locations I've staked out. Chasing sunsets is a lot more enjoyable than chasing politicians.

-0-

The good old days

Cliff Schiappa (**Email**) - The following is written by a friend of mine, Chris Kuehl. He's roughly 60 years old, and is a keen observer of life all around him.

I got to know Chris when I started reading his daily email newsletter "Business Intelligence Brief" which is a perfect outlet for him... he's an economist (with a wonderful sense of humor!) who used to live and work in eastern Europe, possibly for the CIA. His newsletter is a must-read for anyone who wants to get an overview of business issues in the U.S and around the world. But the best part is his last item each day in which he writes a personal paragraph about what's happening in his life. It may center on the travails of a business traveler (he's always on a plane) or how his five cats demand too much attention, or his wife's beautiful garden or her participation in the Liberty Community Chorus (which is what solidified our friendship).

In any case, I thought Chris' personal observation today, which follows, would be of interest to our Connecting colleagues:

The Good Old Days

I am not naïve - at least most of the time. I am fully aware that the "good old days" were not all that good when examined closely. All the same I find myself waxing nostalgic more often these days. I was reminded of this when I caught a broadcast of the old Dick Van Dyke show. I had forgotten how funny these shows were - I haven't laughed out loud like that in a while. The humor was so innocent and gentle. There was no "edge" to it. I find that I am tired of "edge". I don't want humor at somebody's expense and I am weary of messages. Not that I don't appreciate these from time to time but I like a good escape this time of year.

This show was on when I was young and it seemed normal to me at the time. The men in the show wore ties and jackets around the house and that must seem so strange and foreign to people now. This is how my father dressed. He would come home and sit at his desk to work on some project with tie and shirt just as they were at his office. The TV was a massive console thing and it was the center point of an evening's entertainment - chosen by my parents. There was no opportunity to abandon the family for my own world unless it was in the pages of a book. My father was the center of my universe and I coveted every second we could spend together. We visited many a museum and played mini-golf and watched the Green Bay

Packers together (as well as the Pink Panther movies). The adult world was the world I wanted to be in and I had no desire to linger in perpetual childhood. I wanted responsibility and the opportunity to show that I knew what to do with it. It is not that all of this is gone these days but it seems tougher than ever to bond with one's own family as the distractions are relentless.

-0-

More of your holiday cards

From Peter Leabo:

Our best wishes for the most joyous Christmas
and a happy and prosperous New Year!
Peter & Kim

From Campbell Gardett:

AP's Lisa Gibbs is 2016 Business Journalist of the Year

By CHRIS ROUSH

TalkingBizNews.com

When Associated Press health reporter Matthew Perrone discovered documents from a secret health care lobbying group created to thwart efforts to limit prescription painkillers, global business editor Lisa Gibbs encouraged him to dig deeper.

"It took a long time to get those documents, to sort them," said Perrone. "This was months and months before it congealed into a multi-part series. I think other editors under the circumstances would have said, 'You've been working on this for three, four, five months, where is the story?' Lisa was patient for the entire time. She realized the value of what we were finding."

The result was a two-part series with the Center for Public Integrity - the first cooperative project of its kind between the AP and an outside news organization.

Other AP reporters and editors recount similar stories. Food reporter Candice Choi was let loose to investigate the many ways the food industry tried to manipulate public opinion to embrace products as being healthy when they were not. Retail reporter Anne D'Innocenzio was sent to China to tell the story of how the world's largest retailer, Wal-Mart, was struggling to build its empire overseas.

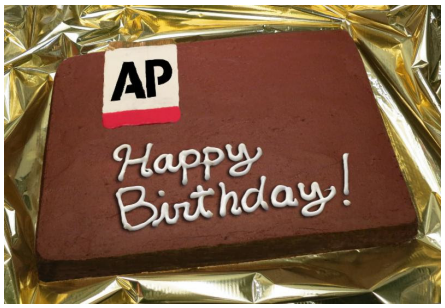
Economics reporter Paul Wiseman, as part of a series looking at economic divisions in America, was assigned to report on how Chinese competition in the aluminum industry had decimated Midwest towns. Another economics reporter, Chris Rugaber, dug into how national economic statistics weren't capturing what typical people were experiencing economically.

The harder-hitting business news coverage from the wire service is one of the reasons why Talking Biz News has selected Gibbs as its 2016 Business Journalist of the Year.

"She has a way of connecting with reporters and editors that helps us to succeed," said AP deputy business editor Brad Foss. "The strength of ideas and reporting that has come out of her leadership shows what kind of business news entity the AP wants to be - business news for a general audience."

Read more **here**. Shared by Lauren Easton, Mike Hendricks.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Otto Doelling - odoelling@hotmail.com

Beth Grace - bgrace9992@aol.com

And a day late...

Rik Stevens - rikstevens1220@gmail.com

Welcome to Connecting

Dorothy Downton - ddownton@sbcglobal.net

Ed Williams - willik5@auburn.edu

Stories of interest

A photo helps point us to our better selves (Sacramento Bee)

First lady Michelle Obama hugs former President George W. Bush during the dedication ceremony for the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture on the National Mall in Washington on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016. Pablo Martinez Monsivais The Associated Press

BY GREGORY FAVRE

Special to The Bee

Look at this picture carefully and commit it to memory. It may be a long time before we see another like it, a rare occasion in these days of disharmony.

A first lady and a former president coming together to celebrate African American history and culture, as they did in September, and putting aside any differences to share this moment of kindness.

It's not the first time we have seen Michelle Obama and George W. Bush in a picture together, but this one touched nerves as none before, mostly positive, although there were critics, on the right and left.

But it's comforting to know, especially after the recent bitter presidential campaign, that the idea of mutual respect exists among some of our past and present leaders.

Greg Favre

Obama and Bush obviously do not embrace many of the same political philosophies, but neither has allowed that gulf of disagreements to become an ocean of anger and distrust and an absence of civility.

And if you listen to what both have said, at times there are strong similarities in some of the things they have discovered about our country and its people.

Mrs. Obama spoke these words at the Democratic National Convention in 2012:

"If farmers and blacksmiths could win independence from an empire ... if immigrants could leave behind everything they knew for a better life on our shores ... if women could be dragged to jail for seeking the vote ... if a generation could defeat a depression, and define greatness for all time ... if a young preacher could lift us to the mountaintop with his righteous dream ... and if proud Americans can be who they are and boldly stand at the altar with whom they love, then surely we can give everyone in this country a fair chance at that great American dream.

"Because in the end, more than anything else, that is the story of this country - the story of unwavering hope grounded in unyielding struggle."

And then this year at the memorial service for the five Dallas police officers ambushed and killed, Bush included these thoughts:

"Too often, we judge other groups by their worst examples, while judging ourselves by our best intentions.

"And this has strained our bonds of understanding and common purpose. But Americans, I think, have a great advantage. To renew our unity, we only need to remember our values.

"We are bound by things of the spirit, by shared commitments to common ideals.

"At our best, we practice empathy, imagining ourselves in the lives and circumstances of others. This is the bridge across our nation's deepest divisions.

"And it is not merely a matter of tolerance, but of learning from the struggles and stories of our fellow citizens and finding our better selves in the process."

We should keep this picture in mind as we search for our better selves.

Click here for a link to this story. Shared by Greg Sells.

-0-

What the post-Trump debate over journalism gets wrong (Brookings)

With the exception of Democrats, no group has done more soul searching since election day than journalists.

As a candidate, Donald Trump demonized the press, used social media to bypass it, hired a media propagandist to run his campaign, and established a pattern of proffering false statements and then denying doing so when caught. Afterward, the Oxford English Dictionary named the adjective "Post-truth" the word of the year, citing both the Brexit and U.S. elections. This declaration clearly indicates that the world of facts in which journalists try to operate, if not lost, is losing ground.[1]

Since November, journalists have wondered in public and private how to cover a Trump government-though the question should probably be turned around to "what do citizens need now from the press?" The answers offered have ranged from the suggestion that press now abandon all its traditional canons to the idea that it must cling even faster to them than ever.[2]

Read more **here**. Shared by Ralph Gage.

Today in History - December 22, 2016

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 22, the 357th day of 2016. There are nine days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 22, 1941, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill arrived in Washington for a wartime conference with President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

On this date:

In 1775, Esek Hopkins was appointed the commander-in-chief of the Continental Navy.

In 1894, French army officer Alfred Dreyfus was convicted of treason in a court-martial that triggered worldwide charges of anti-Semitism. (Dreyfus was eventually vindicated.)

In 1910, a fire lasting more than 26 hours broke out at the Chicago Union Stock Yards; 21 firefighters were killed in the collapse of a burning building.

In 1937, the first, center tube of the Lincoln Tunnel connecting New York City and New Jersey beneath the Hudson River was opened to traffic. (The second tube opened in 1945, the third in 1957.)

In 1940, author Nathanael West, 37, and his wife, Eileen McKenney, were killed in a car crash in El Centro, California, while en route to the funeral of F. Scott Fitzgerald, who had died the day before.

In 1944, during the World War II Battle of the Bulge, U.S. Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe rejected a German demand for surrender, writing "Nuts!" in his official reply.

In 1968, Julie Nixon married David Eisenhower in a private ceremony in New York.

In 1977, three dozen people were killed when a 250-foot-high grain elevator at the Continental Grain Company plant in Westwego, Louisiana, exploded.

In 1989, Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu (chow-SHES'-koo), the last of Eastern Europe's hard-line Communist rulers, was toppled from power in a popular uprising. Playwright Samuel Beckett died in Paris at age 83.

In 1991, the body of Marine Lt. Col. William R. Higgins, an American hostage slain by his terrorist captors, was recovered after it had been dumped along a highway in Lebanon.

In 2001, Richard C. Reid, a passenger on an American Airlines flight from Paris to Miami, tried to ignite explosives in his shoes, but was subdued by flight attendants and fellow passengers. (Reid is serving a life sentence in federal prison.)

In 2010, President Barack Obama signed a law allowing gays for the first time in history to serve openly in America's military, repealing the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Ten years ago: Rape charges were dropped against three Duke University lacrosse players, but kidnapping and sexual offense charges remained. (Those charges were later dropped as well.) Space shuttle Discovery returned to Earth after a smooth, 13-day flight to rewire the international space station.

Five years ago: A wave of 16 bombings ripped across Baghdad, killing at least 69 people in the worst violence in Iraq in months. It happened days after the last American forces left the country, heightening fears of a new round of sectarian bloodshed. Melanie Amaro, a 19-year-old vocalist from Sunrise, Florida, won the first U.S. season of "The X Factor" talent competition on Fox.

One year ago: Migration experts said more than a million people who had been driven out of their countries by war, poverty and persecution entered Europe in 2015. Stanford running back Christian McCaffrey was named The Associated Press college football player of the year.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Hector Elizondo is 80. Country singer Red Steagall is 78. Former World Bank Group President Paul Wolfowitz is 73. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Steve Carlton is 72. Former ABC News anchor Diane Sawyer is 71. Rock singer-musician Rick Nielsen (Cheap Trick) is 68. Rock singer-musician Michael Bacon is 68. Baseball All-Star Steve Garvey is 68. Golfer Jan Stephenson is 65. Actress BernNadette Stanis is 63. Rapper Luther "Luke" Campbell is 56. Country singer-musician Chuck Mead is 56. Actor Ralph Fiennes (rayf fynz) is 54. Actress Lauralee Bell is 48. Country singer Lori McKenna is 48. Actress Dina Meyer is 48. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, is 46. Actress Heather Donahue is 43. Actor Chris Carmack is 36. Actor Harry Ford (TV: "Code Black") is 34. Actor Greg Finley is 32. Actor Logan Huffman is 27. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jordin Sparks is 27. Pop singer Meghan Trainor is 23.

Thought for Today: "The way you overcome shyness is to become so wrapped up in something that you forget to be afraid." - Lady Bird Johnson (born this date in 1912, died 2007).

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.

- "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
paulstevens46@gmail.com

Connecting newsletter, 14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215

SafeUnsubscribe™ pjshane@gmail.com

Forward this email | Update Profile | About our service provider

Sent by paulstevens46@gmail.com in collaboration with

Constant Contact

Try it free today