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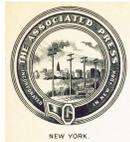
Connecting - May 01, 2017

1 message

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Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com
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Mon, May 1, 2017 at 9:00 AM

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Connecting

May 01, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning - and here's to the new month of May!

Many of you have had dreams to share with your Connecting colleagues from your days of service with The AP - and they continue in today's edition.

But one of your colleagues, **Marty McCarty**, challenges you to put those dreams - and the experiences of your career - into a book and record them for future generations. Not just those of my Connecting colleagues who once worked for AP, but all of you who read this newsletter.

Marty is a longtime friend - she was hired for her first newspaper job by my dad - and she just recently coached a friend and colleague on writing a book about his life.

I asked her to share some thoughts on writing your own book - fully realizing that some of you are already established authors. But for many of us, it would be a worthy endeavor.

Have a great week!

Paul

'There's gold in the life you've lived when you dig for it'

By **MARTY McCARTY** ([Email](#))

Dreams about your time with the AP?

Put those dreams to work. Book length.

There's gold in the life you've lived when you dig for it. Who better to unearth rich memories than AP writers and photographers who have stood front and center in history's most momentous times? Many in the line of fire.

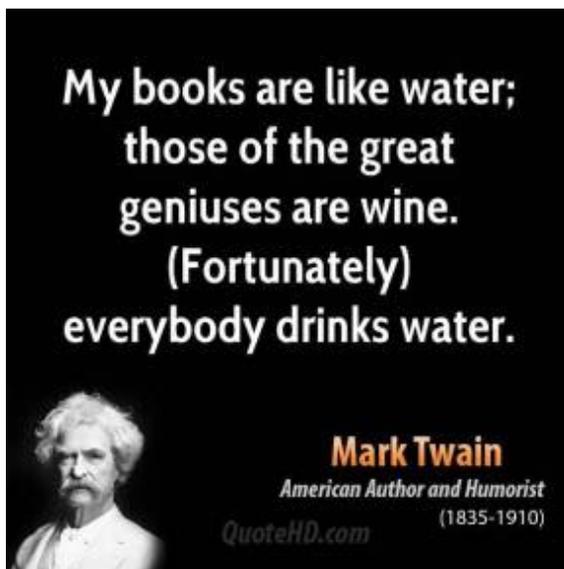
Several Connecting readers are an inspiration. Among them, AP's David Morris

who announced early retirement and said he'll write a book about an iconic bluegrass band, the Seldom Scene (Connecting 4.13.17). By email, he told me he's deep into research and a second book concept is percolating in his mind. Morris will do what he has yearned to do-and needs to do.

Why? If you don't write it, who will? Whether it's epic or intimate, it's your story. One day. One summer. One year. One lost love. One place. One defining moment. One lifetime. Connecting subscriber (and our editor's tennis mate) Dr. George Varghese published **To the Land of Opportunity: A Grandfather's Journey** with the intent that the history of his life in India and America will find a place on his descendants' bookshelves. For his grandchildren, he imported a line from novelist Michael Crichton: "If you don't know your history...you are a leaf that doesn't know it is part of a tree." That's why. Tell history as you know it, as you lived it.



Marty McCarty



For me, the journey into my soul began one wintry afternoon when I answered a call from my sister. "I've been thinking," she said. "You've been writing for others your whole life. It's time you write your own story."

"I don't know how," I whined. "Figure it out," she said.

Struggling along, juggling a day job, writing at night, I spent years on rewrites and a gazillion drafts to finish my memoir. I was a better writer by the end. Since then,

I've guided others who travel the bumpy, arduous, yet rewarding terrain, from concept to published book. Take that trip. Turn your AP dreams and restless memories into a written legacy. My sister was wise to encourage me as I encourage you: It's time you write your own story. Just Do It.

If at first, you wonder How...here are a few preliminaries:

Martin Luther King said, "You don't have to see the whole staircase. Just take the first step." That's an easy one. Research. Comb through your clips. A key memory,

long dormant, will surface. It will be your muse. After that, there are plenty of rigorous steps ahead.

Give yourself a deadline. Add a production schedule with daily or weekly goals. Then show up for work.

Form your own book club. Recruit people who like to read books and write them. Skype lets you conference with anyone, anywhere. Free. Set regular meetings and prod one another. In other words, don't show up with nothing to show.

Choose a genre'. What you like to read is probably what you'd like to write: Creative non-fiction, narrative non-fiction, fiction, or a stage play? Did you know Jimmy Breslin had a playwriting history?

Lure your readers in. You know how. Skip an impulse to start chronologically (I was born...). Invite readers into a compelling scene, a time, a place and a defining moment.

Breathe life into characters. Jim Bagby (Connecting 4.27.17) said in dreams of his AP years, "...the characters who populate those night flights grow steadily more colorful." Let them live! Make the angelic, the eccentric and their rich or rowdy friends part of the drama, action and romance. Are they complex, exotic, unconventional or troublesome enough to move your story forward? Yes, they are. Or out they go.

Now What? Reader's Digest online offers exercises on structure, character development, dialogue, setting and more. Apps are available for fiction. I've climbed the hill before, so if you need someone to nudge you (or nag you), email me: ahplause@gmail.com

And speaking of your dreams...

Sue Price Johnson ([Email](#)) - Dreams about the AP? No. Nightmares.

I still dream about the AP, usually about arriving at an unfamiliar office with a few familiar faces around. I have a writing assignment, but I am either unable to use the software to make that happen or I'm bogged down by something. Or I realize that hours have passed and I haven't written a single broadcast summary and wonder if any members even noticed.

But my worst dream came while I was still working, and it combined a memory from growing up near Seymour Johnson AFB in Goldsboro, NC, and working at the AP. It dates from pre-cellphone days. I was at the base on my own time, watching an air show, when two Thunderbirds collided, bursting into flames, right in front of the reviewing stand. I was frozen. I had no pen, no paper, no recorder, no money. Should I call to report what happened? No coins for the pay phone. Should I interview people? No way to record interviews.

Can you say "stress dreams"?

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Mike Doan (Email) - Recurring dream: that after a very long absence from the AP, I return to work there-/only to immediately be put on the overnight shift. Seriously.

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Martha Malan (Email) - My AP dreams, since departing 31 years ago, are all nightmarish. What better venue for your basic anxiety dream?

Some of the plots:

I'm called back to AP. I can't figure out the new computers. No one--none are people I ever worked with--seems interested in helping.

I come out of the AP office on Portland Avenue in Minneapolis after working an overnight shift and my car is gone.

I'm covering a plane crash and fail to get a crucial piece of information. How many dead? A quote from a surviving passenger? The location of the crash?

The bureau has moved--to a building filled with sewing machines.

Fortunately, my actual memories of my AP days are quite happy.

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Bill Schiffmann (Email) - I have had only one AP dream since I retired. I have the same dream several times a year.

It starts shortly after the World Series earthquake. I realize I can't drive to the bureau because the Bay Bridge is damaged. I grab my helmet and take my motorcycle to the Golden Gate Bridge, speeding between lanes of traffic. I enter the city in pitch darkness. My headlight picks out people running across the road, dodging cars. Broken glass is everywhere; small fires are burning and chunks of masonry litter the sidewalks. I ride as quickly as I can, reaching the Fox Plaza building where the bureau was located at the time. As I enter the building, I'm wondering who else has made it and how I'll use those folks to cover the vast and deadly story. I always wake up as the door closes behind me.

Every detail of that ride is true. I'm not scared, it's not a nightmare, just the most dramatic moment of my career.

And speaking of book authors...

In 2014, former AP staffer Donna Bryson ([Email](#)) wrote an article for Stars and Stripes about Welcome Home Montrose, a grassroots project in western Colorado to help veterans reintegrate into civilian life.

She had so much in her notebook about this effort that she wrote a book, "Home of the Brave", which will be released Jan. 26 by Chronos Books. It's available for pre-order now from Amazon.

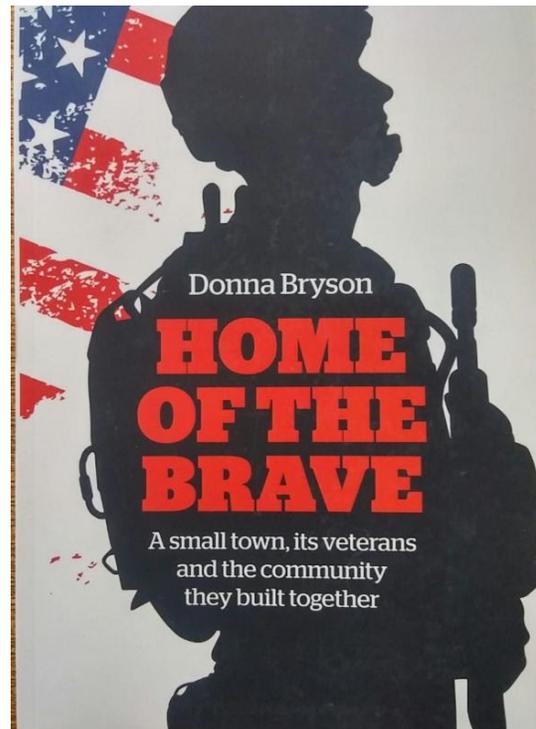
In the book, Bryson recounts how Montrose, Colorado jeweler Melanie Kline, who has no military experience or ties, started the project after watching a 2011 CBS Sunday Morning segment on wounded vets learning to kayak.

In just a few years, Kline's Welcome Home Montrose project, recently renamed the Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans, attracted the support of others in the town of 20,000. Welcome Home hosts a biannual outdoors festival that brings vets from across the country to hunt and fish. It helped the town and surrounding county develop a white water river park they hope will boost local tourism. It organized internships that offered young wounded vets a chance to consider what they would do with the rest of their lives now that they were no longer fit to fight. At its volunteer-run drop-in center, vets can get a cup of coffee along with counseling and advice on jobs and training.

Kline built a partnership between civilians and veterans that has energized an entire town and could be a model for other communities.

Bryson was a reporter and editor for the AP from 1986-2012, with assignments in Kansas and Missouri and New York, Africa, South Asia, the Middle East and Europe. Since leaving the AP in 2012 and settling in Colorado with her family, she has freelanced for, among others, Al Jazeera, the Christian Science Monitor, The Daily Beast and VICE, and put in a few legislative relief shifts at AP Denver.

Her first book, "It's a Black-White Thing", about race relations among young South Africans, was published in 2014. "It's a Black-White Thing" won first place in the nonfiction book category in the National Federation of Press Women 2015 Communications Contest and was shortlisted for the City Press Tafelberg Nonfiction Award, a national South African prize.



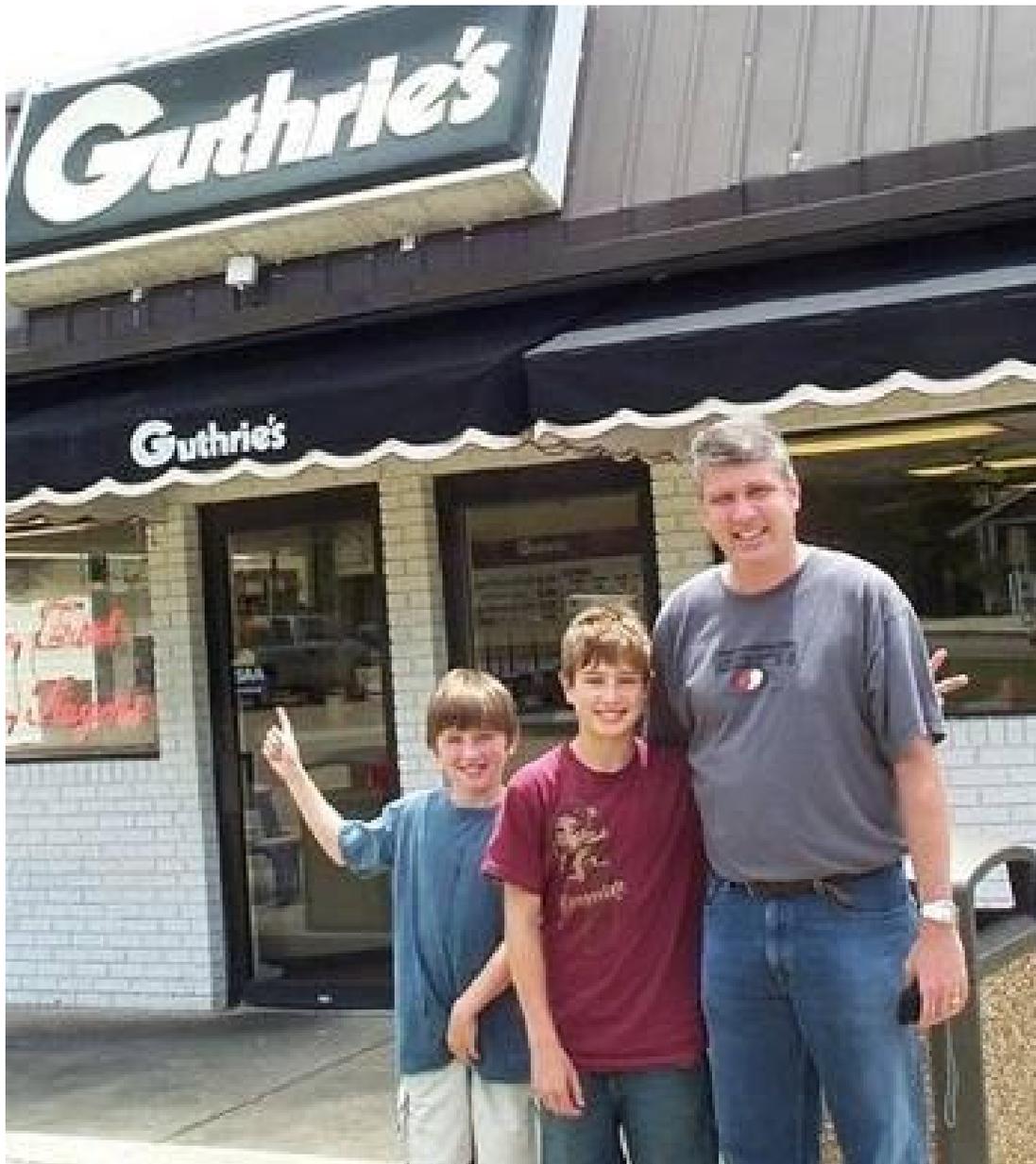
Connecting mailbox

'That's nuts!'

Ray Newton (Email) - Opinion: KTBY in Alaska letting viewers shoot/report stories for cellphones? That's nuts. That's like asking my next-door neighbor to take out my tonsils, when his closest experience has been cleaning a fish. (See last Thursday's Connecting)

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The Roush tradition continues at Auburn



Ed Williams ([Email](#)) - Twelve years ago, Tyler Roush (far left in above photo), had his picture taken with his dad, Chris Roush, and brother, Andrew Roush, outside of the Guthrie's chicken fingers in Auburn, Alabama, by one of Chris' Auburn University journalism professors, Ed Williams.

This past week, Tyler was awarded the Ed Williams Endowed Scholarship from the Auburn College of Journalism and Communication. He is a sophomore at Auburn and works on The Auburn Plainsman campus newspaper staff.

Tyler's father Chris was editor of the same campus newspaper in the 1980s when Williams was the newspaper's faculty adviser. Chris is now a journalism professor at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, where he is the Walter E. Hussman Sr. Distinguished Scholar in business journalism. His resume includes previous work at Bloomberg and BusinessWeek and at newspapers in Atlanta, Tampa, Sarasota and St. Petersburg.

"My son is much more mature than I was at that age and also a much better writer," Chris Roush said.



After Williams presented Tyler the certificate about his scholarship, he also handed him a \$100 bill. And after the reception, Tyler promptly emailed his dad a photo of the certificate and the C-note. Chris promptly posted the photo on Facebook.

About 15 journalism scholarships were presented at the annual reception including the Jack Simms Scholarship.

Simms had a long career with the AP before joining the fledgling journalism department at Auburn University in 1974 as its first department head.

After graduating from Auburn and LSU, Simms went to work as a reporter in Atlanta for The Associated Press in 1951. He later served as bureau chief of Kentucky, then as bureau chief of New England, and later as a deputy general sports editor in New York. In 1974, Simms was hired at Auburn University to head the newly formed department of journalism. He died in 2016 at age 89.

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English language changes all the time - more rapidly now

Chuck McFadden ([Email](#)) - You know, we're all aware that the English language is a work in progress - it changes all the time. But it seems to me that the changes are occurring more rapidly now. Two examples: overnight, we went from saying "she went all out for ..." to "she went all in for ..." And we no longer "contact" someone. We "reach out" to them. Anyone have additional examples?

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Feeling smart after reading Today entry

Eileen Lockwood ([Email](#)) - Couldn't resist showing off how smart I am (sort of!) when I read the list of happenings in Friday's Today in History, re the piece on the Bounty mutiny that took place in 1789. During a trip to England's Lake Country several years ago, my husband, George, and I made it a point to visit the town where William Wordsworth was born and grew up. There, on the main street, was "Fletcher Christian's bar," the leader of the mutiny in 1789. Now, if only I could remember the name of the town...Extra note: We didn't actually go there, just drove past.

Fox News Breaks With AP And Top TV Networks For Election Day Polling

By **MICHAEL CALDERONE**, *Huffington Post*

Fox News has broken with the National Election Pool, a consortium of five major television networks and The Associated Press that share the costs and results of exit polls for national elections.

"We've had concerns with Election Day exit polling for many years, and this year once again proved that they are problematic," Jay Wallace, Fox's executive vice president of news, said in a statement after HuffPost learned the network was dropping out. "Our plan is to explore and find a more modern measurement of voter sentiment on Election Day."



The exit polls, which attempt to measure which candidates voters selected and why before polls close, have played a key role on election night broadcasts. The data, quarantined until 5 p.m., gives network executives and anchors an early sense of how the rest of the night is likely to play out.

Read more [here](#).

AP**BEAT OF THE WEEK**

Exclusive Oval Office interview yields big news as Trump nears 100 days



President Donald Trump speaks to Associated Press Chief White House Correspondent Julie Pace following an interview in the Oval Office, April 21, 2017. AP PHOTO / ANDREW HARNIK

It was supposed to be a 15-minute interview. Instead, Associated Press Chief White House Correspondent Julie Pace kept President Donald Trump talking for an hour in a wide-ranging Oval Office discussion that was exclusive, illuminating and full of news.

Pace's sit-down with the president - resulting in multiple stories that others scrambled to follow and a transcript that readers devoured despite its 8,000-word length - earns the Beat of the Week.

Pace had been pursuing an extended interview with Trump for months ... making the request part of her conversations with White House sources and making the pitch

about AP's reach.

Pace had been pursuing an extended interview with Trump for months. The Trump campaign, transition team and then the White House each responded with promises, hedges, even a yes - followed by a late cancellation. Pace persisted, making the request a regular part of her conversations with White House sources and giving the full pitch about AP's reach.

Her diligence was rewarded at just the right moment. Last week, she landed the first interview with Trump to discuss his first 100 days in office. Pace consulted with editors and colleagues on a list of questions. She aimed for a mix of issues that would make news on a few hot topics, but also subjects that might draw Trump into a more leisurely conversation.

In the interview, Trump offered his first comments on the release of an Egyptian aid worker. He broke news of his plans to release a new tax proposal. Pace also prompted the president to offer reassurance to Dreamers; Trump said young immigrants brought to the U.S. as children and now living here illegally can "rest easy."

And she doggedly pressed Trump on whether he should be held accountable for his campaign plan promising 38 different actions in the first 100 days. In a startling response, the president dismissed the plan as somebody else's idea and called the 100-day marker "artificial."

President Trump predicts that the latest attack in Paris will have a 'big effect' on France's election. <https://t.co/g4qMP8zFog>

- The Associated Press (@AP) April 21, 2017

Pace resisted the impulse to interrupt. Trump's long, winding answers led to some unexpected places - a boast that his ratings on a news show were the highest since Sept. 11, an acknowledgement that he didn't know much about NATO when he called it obsolete and an abrupt moment of hospitality: "Do you want a Coke or anything?"

Fun Fact: With the press of a red button on his desk, Trump sends a butler scurrying into Oval Office with a Coke <https://t.co/y4wfSv6CMH>

- Julie Pace (@jpaceDC) April 23, 2017

Trump agreed to the interview if it were text only. After it was over, Pace quickly filed a spot story and fed another story already on the wire. She also did a stand up from

the White House and promoted her work on Twitter throughout the weekend. She held back some material for a deeper look at Trump's presidency as it hits the 100-day mark (a story she wrote from her vacation). All the stories made news and were widely shared on social media. Accompanying the coverage were portraits of the president shot just after the interview by Washington staffer Andrew Harnik.

Politico and numerous text organizations did their own stories based on Pace's interview. And on Friday evening's newscasts, ABC and NBC cited the AP interview in reporting Trump's promised "massive tax cut."

In a testament to Pace's strong interview skills, the breakout star of the package was the transcript.

In a testament to Pace's strong interview skills, the breakout star of the package was the transcript. It was a great read and a stand-out example of sharp, clear questioning. A team of Washington staffers took Pace's phone recording of the interview and transcribed it late Friday afternoon so it would be ready for Sunday use. The Washington Post annotated it, and it prompted one competitor, Maggie Haberman of the New York Times, to tweet simply: "@jpaceDC is a great journalist."

On Monday, ABC and CBS mentioned the interview, also quoting from the transcript.

Through April 26, the transcript has had more than a million page views on APNews.com alone, generating over 4.1 million total engaged minutes. Chartbeat shows the engaged time per reader on average is three minutes, 50 seconds, peaking at over 4.30. Traffic peaks were driven by Dan Rather, Yahoo, HuffPost, Slate, Reddit and Salon all picking up the transcript, together with the AP's social media posts. Across customer sites, it has generated more than 100,000 social interactions, according to NewsWhip.

For persistence and reporting that produced insights into the president's positions and plans as he approached 100 days in the White House, Pace earns this week's \$500 prize.



AP delivers unmatched cross-format coverage as Arkansas pursues unprecedented execution plan



Media witnesses, including AP Oklahoma City reporter Sean Murphy, center, speak early Friday morning, April 21, 2017, about the previous evening's execution of Ledell Lee in Varner, Ark. At left is John Moritz of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, with Marine Glisovic of KATV, right. Lee was the first inmate put to death in Arkansas since 2005. AP PHOTO / KELLY P. KISSEL

In February, Arkansas announced a series of April executions that, if carried out, would make history in the United States: Over an 11-day period, the state would put to death eight inmates - two each on four days. No state had performed so many executions in such a short time since the Supreme Court re-instated the death penalty in 1976.

And Arkansas, which had not carried out an execution since 2005, had a curious justification for the expedited timetable: the supply of one of its three execution drugs was expiring at the end of the month. Officials were not confident they could obtain more.

Weeks before the first planned execution, a team of AP journalists in Arkansas and beyond set out to both chronicle the executions and offer deep and varied enterprise that broke news. Their work earns this week's Best of States award.

The weekend before the first execution date, Little Rock reporter Andrew DeMillo explored how Arkansas' plan was in part a test of the effectiveness of death penalty states' strategy of thwarting challenges by keeping secret how and where they get their lethal-injection drugs. He followed up the next day with a profile of Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, a pivotal player in the drama.

Arkansas still faces legal hurdles in execution plan. <https://t.co/7XHibbSpsW>

- The Associated Press (@AP) April 17, 2017

As court challenges mounted and derailed at least three - and perhaps more - of the executions, reporters adapted, delivering urgent updates and quick-hit enterprise. Included in the latter was a profile by DeMillo of a judge who ruled against the state's execution plan (a ruling the AP was first to report on) - and then promptly attended an anti-death penalty rally, where he lay down on a gurney in apparent solidarity with the inmates. Central to the success of that story was a UGC photo obtained by Arkansas News Editor Kelly Kissel. Here, Kissel's deep connections in the state were key: As it turned out, he sang in a choir for 10 years with the photographer, who provided Kelly with a high-quality image of the judge on the gurney.

Among other highlights leading up to the first execution was an interview conducted by Houston VJ John Mone of Texas colleague Mike Graczyk, who has witnessed hundreds of executions over his career. In standalone video and video shared for social promotion Graczyk also contributed a text piece on the history of multiple executions.

Officials had put difficult obstacles in the way of AP and others. ... Kissel used his connections in state government to negotiate internet access, ensuring fast filing.

Key to the coverage of the executions themselves was planning by Kissel and others in Little Rock. State officials had put difficult obstacles in the way of AP and others. They planned to put reporters in a room without internet access or cellphone reception, and said they would make only two landlines available. Kissel used his connections in state government to negotiate internet access, ensuring fast filing.

Planning also played an important role in staffing. Oklahoma City's Sean Murphy drove to Arkansas to witness the first execution. He had covered a botched execution involving the controversial lethal-injection drug midazolam, something that positioned him to make any comparisons if complications arose in Arkansas.

VARNER, Ark. (AP) - US Supreme Court allows Arkansas to proceed with first execution since 2005. pic.twitter.com/8Su5nqNztU

- Kelly P. Kissel (@kisselAP) April 21, 2017

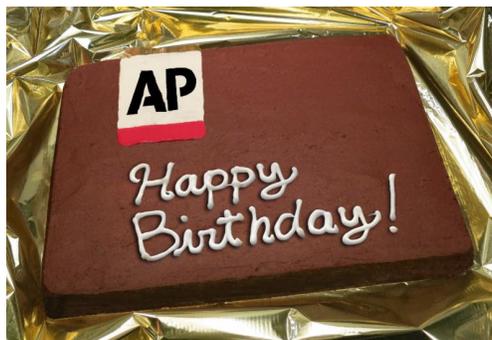
Murphy witnessed the execution, with Kissel getting news to the world when first word of the inmate's death arrived at the media center. Kissel, who provided fresh photos from the prison, and Murphy were aided by colleagues DeMillo and Jill Bleed in Little Rock, who kept up with the complex last-minute legal wrangling and other developments. Washington Supreme Court reporter Mark Sherman's expertise on deciphering court doings ensured that the AP was fast and accurate when word came from the court. The result was a textured story that put the execution in the context of the country's complicated history with the death penalty.

The team offered far more. Enterprise included a sharp piece by DeMillo looking at how the Arkansas Supreme Court, angering conservatives, had derailed a number of executions; an "Only on AP" by Dallas' Claudia Lauer that reported exclusively on how one drugmaker asked Arkansas not to purchase its products for months before the state accepted a "donation" of the drug; a Q&A by Bleed outlining the many legal challenges the state faced, and a story by Sherman exploring new Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch's role in life-and-death decisions on the cases.

Key to getting readers and viewers to engage with the standout coverage were the many tweets and promotional videos, including selfie video of Murphy describing the first execution.

For the compelling coverage, Kissel, DeMillo, Bleed, Murphy, Sherman, Graczyk, Mone and Lauer share in this week's \$300 Best of the States award.

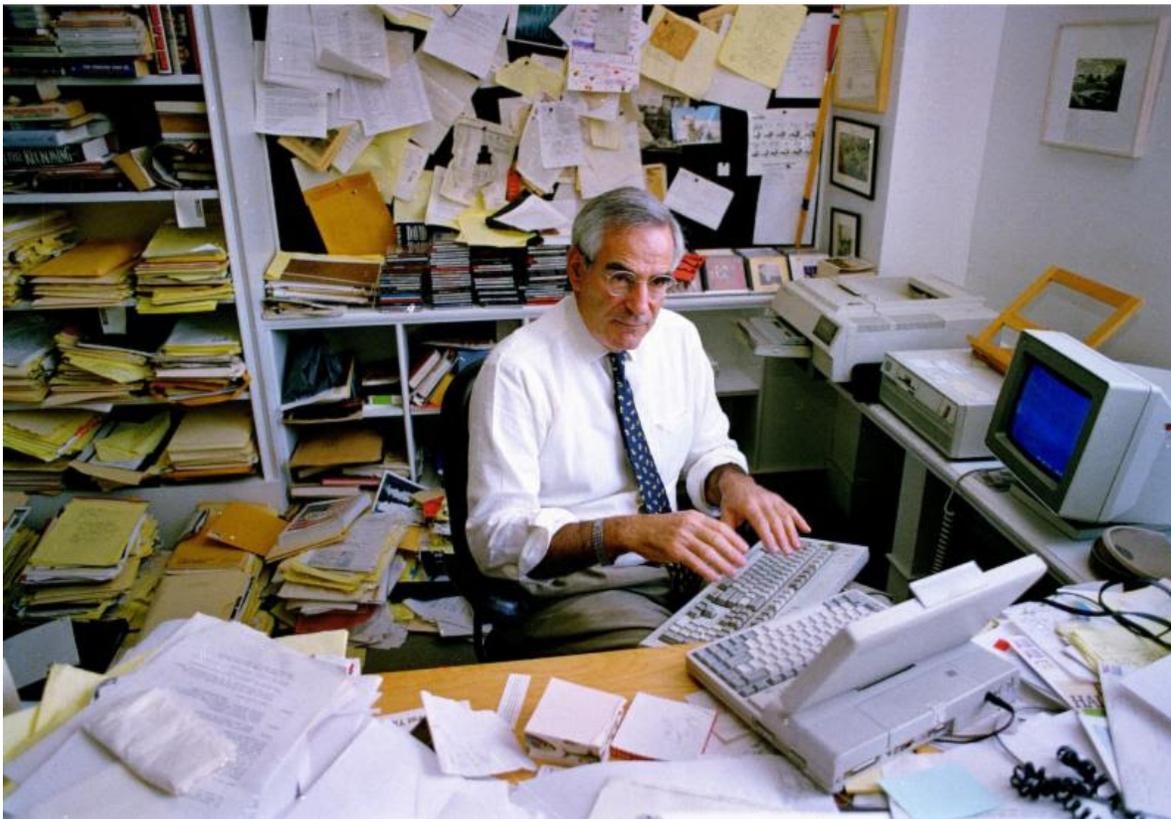
Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



A day late...to

Stories of interest

The greatest reporter of our time, and why we should never forget him (Washington Post)



When he died, exactly 10 years ago in a freak car accident, David Halberstam wasn't remembered as just any other reporter.

His peers held him in such high regard, they launched what was billed as an authorless book tour for his last work, "The Coldest Winter: America and the Korean War."

Halberstam's promo squad included investigative icons (Seymour Hersh, Bob Woodward), writing masters (Joan Didion, Anna Quindlen), a future U.N.

ambassador (Samantha Power) and even the curly-haired, Grateful Dead-loving basketball legend Bill Walton.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Pat Milton.

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In Dueling Events, Samantha Bee and Hasan Minhaj Target Trump, Fox News and CNN (New York Times)

When the comedian Hasan Minhaj stepped up to deliver his remarks at the White House Correspondents' Association dinner on Saturday night, he had known for more than two months that President Trump would skip the gala. Samantha Bee, who broadcast her own competing event, called the "Not the White House Correspondents' Dinner," on the same night, probably never wanted Mr. Trump there in the first place.

But in the absence of Mr. Trump, who instead gave a rally in Harrisburg, Pa., Mr. Minhaj, a correspondent on Comedy Central's "Daily Show," and Ms. Bee, the host of TBS's "Full Frontal," took a page from the playbook of this president, whose relationship with the news media has been singularly contentious, and vented their spleens at the press.

Though the comedians' programs were shown in opposition to each other, they arrived at similar places. Both celebrated the First Amendment and the freedoms it grants, but they also took sharp aim at the news media, urging reporters to show more integrity and to win back the respect of the American public.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

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Report: Journalists Are Miserable, Liberal, Over-Educated, Under-Paid, Middle-Aged Men (Atlantic)

Today, the term ink-stained wretches is exactly one-third accurate.

Journalists aren't quite so blotched from pens and printers, now that the newspaper die-out has wiped out 50 years of advertising gains in a decade. With cleaner shirts, less paper, and worse pay, we're more like carpal-tunnel wretches. We're older on average than we used to be, slightly more moral, and far more lugubrious about the future of our profession.

Here is the state of the American journalist, according to a survey from Indiana University.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Carol Riha.

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Meet the Woman Who Took Bill O'Reilly Down (marie claire)



"I'm not the story," Emily Steel insists. It's Monday morning and the 33-year-old reporter is sitting near her desk at the New York Times, taking a break from her regular media-business writing to give an interview herself. She is petite, with a soft high-pitched voice, in pearl earrings and a pussy-bow blouse—exactly the kind of woman that a man like Bill O'Reilly might underestimate.

Three weeks ago, the Fox News figurehead was the most visible face of the President's favorite network. Until Steel and her Times colleague Michael S. Schmidt published an explosive investigation into repeated settlements involving allegations of sexual harassment and other inappropriate behavior. They found that O'Reilly had settled with at least five accusers over the last 15 years, to the tune of \$13 million. (O'Reilly denies any wrongdoing.) Within days of their report, over 50 advertisers publicly dropped his show. Now, of course, he's out of a job.

Read more [here](#).

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In Mexico, 'It's Easy to Kill a Journalist' (New York Times)

TIERRA BLANCA, Mexico - The calls come often now: another body discovered, broken and left in rags, felled by bullets. They surface at daytime, midnight and dawn, the deaths keeping to no clock.

Members of the tribe gather to pay their respects, the grainy photographs and stripped-down dispatches a testament to another journalist killed here in the Mexican state of Veracruz. It is the most dangerous place to be a reporter in the entire Western Hemisphere.

"We have lived in this hell for some time now," said Octavio Bravo, a journalist staring at the coffin of a colleague gunned down in Veracruz last year. "You can't imagine the frustration, the impotence we are feeling."

Mexico is one of the worst countries in the world to be a journalist today. At least 104 journalists have been murdered in this country since 2000, while 25 others have disappeared, presumed dead. On the list of the world's deadliest places to be a reporter, Mexico falls between the war-torn nation of Afghanistan and the failed state of Somalia. Last year, 11 Mexican journalists were killed, the country's highest tally this century.

And there is little hope that 2017 will be any better.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

Today in History - May 1, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, May 1, the 121st day of 2017. There are 244 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On May 1, 1967, Elvis Presley married Priscilla Beaulieu at the Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas. (They divorced in 1973.) Anastasio Somoza Debayle became president of Nicaragua.



On this date:

In 1707, the Kingdom of Great Britain was created as a treaty merging England and Scotland took effect.

In 1786, Mozart's opera "The Marriage of Figaro" premiered in Vienna.

In 1866, three days of race-related rioting erupted in Memphis, Tennessee, as white mobs targeted blacks, 46 of whom were killed, along with two whites. (The violence spurred passage of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution defining American citizenship and equal protection under the law.)

In 1898, Commodore George Dewey gave the command, "You may fire when you are ready, Gridley," as an American naval force destroyed a Spanish squadron in Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War.

In 1915, during World War I, a German submarine torpedoed and severely damaged the SS Gulflight, an American tanker near Britain's Scilly Isles, even though the United States was still neutral in the conflict.

In 1931, New York's 102-story Empire State Building was dedicated. Singer Kate Smith made her debut on CBS Radio on her 24th birthday.

In 1941, the Orson Welles motion picture "Citizen Kane" premiered in New York.

In 1960, the Soviet Union shot down an American U-2 reconnaissance plane over Sverdlovsk and captured its pilot, Francis Gary Powers.

In 1971, the intercity passenger rail service Amtrak went into operation.

In 1987, during a visit to West Germany, Pope John Paul II beatified Edith Stein, a Jewish-born Carmelite nun who was gassed in the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz. (She was canonized in 1998.)

In 1992, on the third day of the Los Angeles riots, a visibly shaken Rodney King appeared in public to appeal for calm, pleading, "Can we all get along?"

In 2011, President Barack Obama announced the death of Osama bin Laden during a U.S. commando operation (because of the time difference, it was early May 2 in Pakistan, where the al-Qaida leader met his end).

Ten years ago: In only his second veto, President George W. Bush rejected legislation to pull U.S. troops out of Iraq in a showdown with Congress over whether the war should end or escalate. Thousands of people protested across the country to demand a path to citizenship for an estimated 12 million people living in the U.S. without legal permission.

Five years ago: In a swift and secretive trip to the Afghan war zone, President Barack Obama signed an agreement vowing long-term ties with Afghanistan after

America's combat forces returned home. Hundreds of activists across the U.S. joined worldwide May Day protests, with Occupy Wall Street members in several cities leading demonstrations and in some cases clashing with police.

One year ago: A wildfire broke out near Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada; in the days that followed, the blaze destroyed 2,400 homes and other buildings and forced more than 80,000 people to evacuate. Anti-government protesters disbanded from the heavily fortified Green Zone they had stormed a day earlier. After a half-century of waiting, Cuban-born passengers set sail from Miami on an historic cruise to Havana, the first such trip from the U.S. since recent policy changes. Elephants performed for the last time at the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in Providence, Rhode Island.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Judy Collins is 78. Actor Stephen Macht is 75. Singer Rita Coolidge is 72. Pop singer Nick Fortuna (The Buckingham) is 71. Actor-director Douglas Barr is 68. Actor Dann Florek is 66. Singer-songwriter Ray Parker Jr. is 63. Actor Byron Stewart is 61. Hall of Fame jockey Steve Cauthen is 57. Actress Maia Morgenstern is 55. Actor Scott Coffey is 53. Country singer Wayne Hancock is 52. Actor Charlie Schlatter is 51. Country singer Tim McGraw is 50. Rock musician Johnny Colt is 49. Rock musician D'Arcy is 49. Movie director Wes Anderson is 48. Actress Julie Benz is 45. Actor Bailey Chase is 45. Country singer Cory Morrow is 45. Gospel/rhythm-and-blues singer Tina Campbell (Mary Mary) is 43. Actor Darius McCrary is 41. Actor Jamie Dornan is 35. Actress Kerry Bishe is 33.

Thought for Today: "He who is swift to believe is swift to forget." - Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, Polish-born scholar (1907-1972).

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:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.

- **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.

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

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