



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

## Connecting - May 24, 2017

1 message

Paul Stevens <paulstevens46@gmail.com>

Wed, May 24, 2017 at 9:14 AM

Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com

To: pjshane@gmail.com

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



# Connecting

May 24, 2017

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)*

Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

There's lots to choose from in today's issue of Connecting, beginning with news of retirement plans for one of the AP's finest.

**David Pace (Email)**, news editor in the Washington bureau, plans to retire from the AP later this month after a four-decade career in which he was a key member of the AP Vote Count election team.

His career began in Montgomery in 1978. David moved to Atlanta in 1980, where his major assignments included the Atlanta child murders and the Wayne Williams trial; transferred to Washington in 1985 as regional reporter for Georgia and Alabama, and joined the national staff in late 1999 as elections projections editor. In Washington David also did stints on the investigative team, as White House news editor and general desk news editor.

**Walter Mears**, one of the very best political writers and a Pulitzer Prize winner for The Associated Press, wrote a story for the AP wires Tuesday comparing Watergate and the allegations of Russian influence in the 2016 presidential election campaign: "As someone who covered Washington in the early 1970s, I can tell you: For any parallels, there are also major differences. Mears served with the AP from 1955 to 2001.

**The AP announced its newest book**, "JFK: A Daily Chronicle of the White House Years," an account of President John F. Kennedy's 1,036 days as commander-in-chief, ahead of the 100th anniversary of his birth on May 29. The former AP staff that contributed Kennedy stories to the book are Connecting colleagues and former AP journalists Joe McGowan, Paul Albright and Gene Herrick. Also featured are excerpts from AP's Oral Histories with recollections of covering JFK by Henry Burroughs, Paul Vathis, Ferd Kaufman and Walter Mears.

And we've discussed the **Jack Cappon** book, The Word, in recent issues. AP also published a photographic counterpart, The Picture, by our colleague **Brian Horton**, who tells us about it.

Enjoy!

Paul

**AP Washington's David Pace to retire;  
'For many of us, Election Day is David Pace'**



From **David Scott**, AP Deputy Managing Editor/Operations:

To many people - at home, in newsrooms, watching online - the AP is Election Day, when our calls in thousands of races up and down the ballot stand as the first word of who will next lead the nation.

For many of us at AP, Election Day is David Pace.

For as long as I've had the pleasure of sending APNewsAlerts on election nights, I've only done so when David Pace has said it was OK. Or when one of the analysts he's trained or one of his legion of race callers has said it was OK. We all wait for David and his team to make the call.

Later this month, David will retire after a four-decade career at AP that is truly worthy of the Hall of Fame. The AP is able to play its role in the American democracy thanks to David, who with his team turns the herculean work of our ace Vote Count staff into the news that everyone wants to read/see/hear on Election Day.

David began his elections journey just a few weeks before 2000's Iowa caucuses, after 15 years as an AP regional reporter in Washington covering Georgia and Alabama. He says it was an "easy primary year," especially on the Democratic side. Things took a turn, you might say, when the general election arrived that November.



But through it all, from the baptism of Bush v. Gore to this year's unexpected result, the one constant in our newsroom has been David's profound excellence in calmly and coolly doing the math and not signing off on a call until it's ready. It's exactly what you'd expect from a journalist who got his start as a reporter getting shot by a government official in pursuit of a story in rural Tennessee.

Please join us me and (AP acting Washington CoB) Wendy Benjaminson in congratulating David on his well-earned retirement. He plans to make the occasional appearance as a consultant, as we all try to live up to the high standards for excellence he has set for many years.

And if you want to hear that story about the time David got shot, and many others from his time calling races, please join us on at 630p on Thursday, June 1, at PJ Clarke's in Washington for a celebration of his career at AP.

## Veteran reporter compares Watergate, Trump's travails



By **WALTER MEARS** ([Email](#))

In Watergate, the smoking gun was a White House tape proving that Richard M. Nixon ordered a cover-up - the final evidence that forced him from the White House.

In the investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election campaign, the smoke hasn't cleared because President Donald Trump keeps shooting.

There may never be a smoking gun situation in this case, despite the inevitable comparisons between the Trump-Russia investigations and Watergate.

As someone who covered Washington in the early 1970s, I can tell you: For any parallels, there are also major differences.

Watergate began, clearly, with a crime: the break-in at Democratic Party headquarters in June 1972. There is no such evidence of a crime in the Russia case, although Trump's Democratic detractors suggest investigations might find obstruction of justice.

They cite ex-FBI Director James B. Comey's reported account of a conversation in which Trump asked him to lay off the case of ousted National Security Adviser Michael Flynn over Flynn's Russia contacts, saying, "I hope you can see your way clear to letting this go." Later, of course, he fired the FBI chief - denying that he did so to impede the Russia investigation.

But there has been nothing comparable to the tape in which Nixon agrees with a top aide to tell the FBI to "stay the hell out of this." Three days after that tape was released in August 1974, Nixon resigned rather than face impeachment.

Read more [here](#).

## **JFK chronicle published by AP ahead of centennial of his birth May 29**



The Associated Press has published "JFK: A Daily Chronicle of the White House Years," an account of President John F. Kennedy's 1,036 days as commander-in-chief, ahead of the 100th anniversary of his birth on May 29.

The chronicle, by Les Krantz with The Associated Press, is a complete timeline that recounts Kennedy's brief but eventful presidency and the style and wit with which he shaped the hopes of a generation.

Written in the present tense to capture the immediacy of the events, the day-by-day reports are drawn from coverage at the time, beginning with JFK's inauguration through his assassination in November 1963.

Former AP Washington Bureau Chief Walter Mears writes in the introduction:

It was a time of hope, youthful leadership-JFK's new generation in power-but with clouds. U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War was beginning. Kennedy sent an increasing number of military advisors there, and they were the first Americans involved in combat. The civil rights issue was a growing problem. Kennedy sought legislation, but it would not come on his watch.

In addition to recounting crises such as the failed Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba and the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962, the chronicle includes lighter dispatches, such as the Kennedys' 1961 trip to France, during which the president memorably quipped: "I am the man who accompanied Jacqueline Kennedy to Paris."

"This comprehensive time capsule, told in real time, captures the youthful energy of JFK's campaign and election as well as the mood of the country during times of tremendous challenges," said Peter Costanzo, AP's digital and archival publishing manager. "It's a great addition to any Kennedy enthusiast's library."

The book contains nearly 200 photographs from AP's archives, as well as recollections from AP journalists and photographers who covered JFK during his presidential campaign and his short time in the White House.

"JFK: A Daily Chronicle of the White House Years" is available in paperback and as an e-book exclusively on Amazon.

[Click here](#) for a link to this story.

## Along with The Word, there was The Picture

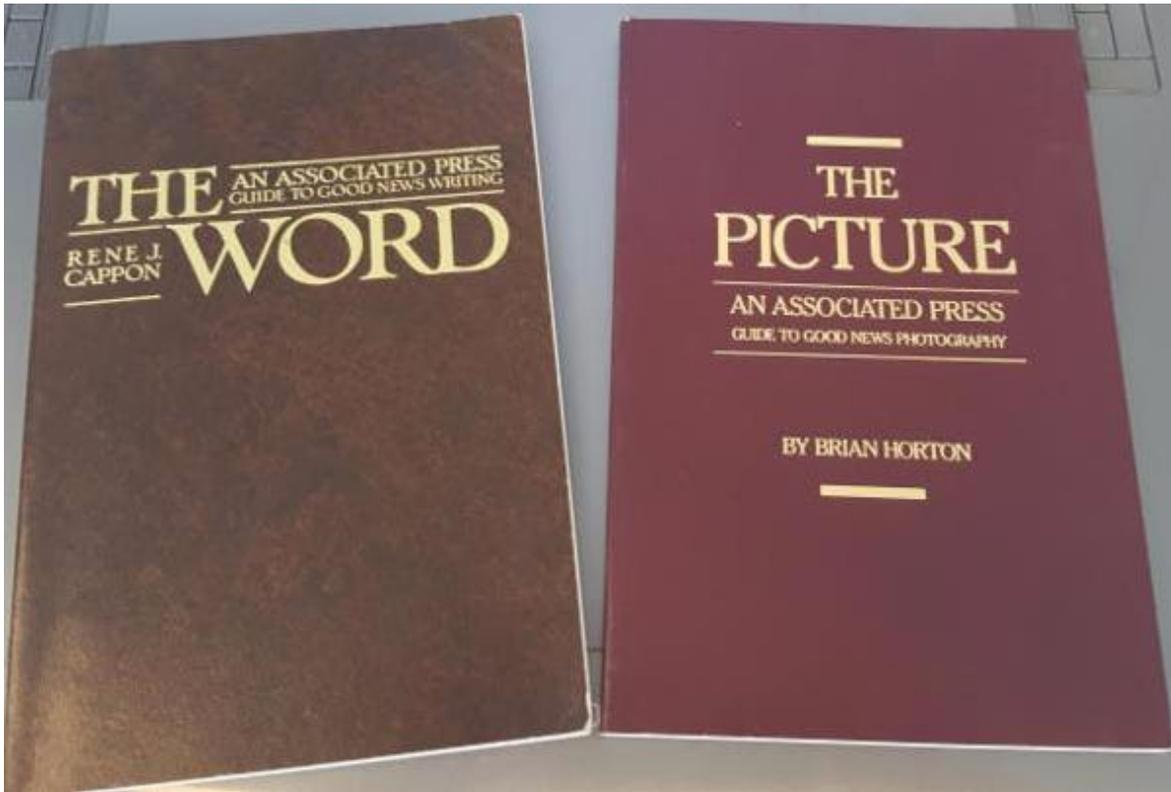


Photo by Sean Thompson

**Brian Horton** ([Email](#)) - Thanks for asking about The Picture, one of my proudest achievements in my long AP career.

There were actually two versions over the years. The first, The Picture, was published in 1989 and was marketed as a companion piece to Jack Cappon's The Word. It enjoyed some success as a text in some of the top college photojournalism programs and was popular in member photo departments, too.

The later version, called The AP Guide to Photojournalism and featuring color photos, was published in 2001. My writing regimen for that edition was very close to Tim Harper's description of Jack Cappon's cabin retreat.

The AP got a bargain when they hired me because they got me to write it and my wife, Marilyn Dillon, a newspaper editor, was a shadow copy editor and made sure the version that went to the book editors was already pretty clean.

The AP's book editor, Norm Goldstein, had approached me to do an updated edition as part of a series of books the AP was doing at the time. I said sure, we set a deadline and that was the last I thought about it until Norm approached me some months later and asked how it was going. "Great," I said, knowing I hadn't really

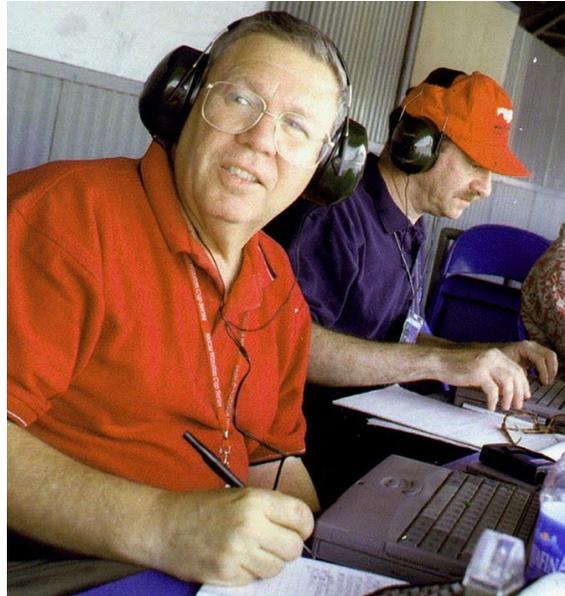


# For first time in 48 years, Mike Harris won't be covering Indy 500

**Mike Harris** ([Email](#)) - For me, this week is the end of an era. It's the first time in 48 years that I will not be spending Memorial Day weekend at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Over the years, I have come to regard the Indianapolis 500 as ``my race." When I came to the speedway for the first time in 1970, I was a fresh-faced kid, having worked for AP in the Chicago bureau for all of 14 months and getting my chance to show what I could do at a major sporting event.

That first year was a blur, working with then AP Auto Racing Writer Bloys Britt and feeling my way around the vast and somewhat mystical speedway, learning where I could and could not go and when to approach the people I needed to approach.



**Mike Harris in Speedway press box, with Steve Herman at right.**

The day before I came to The Brickyard for the first time, I was offered the Indiana Sports Editors job, a huge step in my career. But that was also the first step in what eventually became my career in auto racing. The five years I spent in Indiana were memorable in many ways, but the key thing for me was spending most of each May at the speedway, a kid who had never even seen an auto race in person, becoming ``instant expert," as far as the moguls in AP's New York Sports were concerned.

I was transferred to Cleveland to cover Northern Ohio sports in 1975 and spent five years there. But each May I was back at the speedway, getting to know more people and finding out more about the crazy and dangerous sport of auto racing.

Finally, in 1980, I became the Auto Racing Writer and was off on a glorious adventure, learning about all forms of major league racing and getting to travel to some pretty awesome venues, hitting the road each year for 35 races and spending 40 weekends away from home. It was grueling, invigorating and a whole lot of fun, especially when I could get my family involved.

When my kids were little, we would travel each summer as a family, traversing the country in a Pontiac station wagon with a Sears clam shell top and going race to race. When the kids got older, they worked in the media centers, providing writers and broadcasters with drinks and notes. Later, when the kids were grown, my wife, Judy, traveled with me, although she usually avoided the tracks.

I retired from AP in 2009, but kept hearing the siren call from Indy each May, paying my own way, writing for a small website, playing golf with some friends and colleagues and watching "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing" with the same anticipation I felt all those years ago when I first came to Indy.



**Mike Harris photo from 2016 Indy 500 prior to start of the race.**

Over the years, I got to know drivers, team owners, crewmen, speedway officials, celebrities and fans. I became close friends with many of my media colleagues and got to work alongside childhood heroes like Jim Murray, Red Smith and Shav Glick. It was truly an honor to be part of it.

Last year was the 100th running of the big race and there was a renewed excitement among the fans and the participants. Many of my old friends and acquaintances came back for the special race and it was fun to be part of it. But it was also a good one on which to close out my Indy career.

I'm sure I'll miss the shiver of excitement from the singing of "Back Home Again in Indiana" and the feeling of electric anticipation after the intoning of "Gentlemen, start your engines," when the 33 rocket-like cars roar to life and begin circling the historic 2 1/2-mile oval.

I'm sure I'll miss it all this week. But I know it's the right thing for me.

It won't be the same, but I'll be watching on TV, hoping for a safe and exciting race.

## Stories of interest

### ***NHGOP angered that Associated Press reporter attended, reported on closed fundraiser*** (WMUR9)

MANCHESTER, N.H. - The state Republican Party is angry after a freelance reporter working for The Associated Press entered a Thursday night party fundraiser that was closed to the media and wrote a story that the NHGOP says was, in part, "grossly inaccurate."

The AP says the freelancer "was invited in by a woman who appeared to be part of the event" and "stands by its reporting."

The NHGOP's "Spring to Victory" fundraiser at the Nashua Radisson Hotel featured Kellyanne Conway, counselor to President Donald Trump. Members of the media were not allowed to attend due to a "mutually agreed upon" decision by The White House and the party, New Hampshire Republican chair Jeanie Forrester said Friday.

After the fundraiser ended, The AP posted a four-paragraph story with no byline that contained partial quotes attributed to Conway. It described the crowd as being "largely friendly to Conway," but also said, "Some people in attendance withheld applause when Conway let loose with snarky comments about Democrat Hillary Clinton."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Alan Sayre.

-0-

**'Terror at the Arena': how the papers reacted to Manchester attack** (Guardian)



News of the late-breaking deadly attack in Manchester made it on to the front pages of several newspapers' final editions.

British newspapers have scrambled to update their final editions with news of the Manchester Arena attack, which broke late on Monday night.

Not all of them managed to get their late editions onto Twitter, but those that did all splashed on the terror in Manchester.

The Manchester Evening News's front page declared "Terror at the Arena" alongside a picture of an injured concertgoer being helped by paramedics.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

## ***How to avoid clichés in your writing*** (Poynter)

Roy Peter Clark writes, "Clichés can multiply and take over your story like text-eating bacteria."

Playing your cards close to your vest...whistling past the graveyard...minding your p's and q's...facing the music...toeing the line...putting your nose to the grindstone...swimming against the tide...

Over-reliance on clichés is a form of automatic thinking. As part of the writing process, you may find that you include (or rely on) clichés in a draft. Perhaps you use them as placeholders as the language flows through your fingers onto the screen or page. Revision gives you a chance to think of something fresh, or at least simple, to replace the hackneyed language.

Read more [here](#).

## **Today in History - May 24, 2017**



## By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, May 24, the 144th day of 2017. There are 221 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On May 24, 1775, John Hancock was unanimously elected President of the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, succeeding Peyton Randolph.

### On this date:

In 1844, Samuel F.B. Morse transmitted the message "What hath God wrought" from Washington to Baltimore as he formally opened America's first telegraph line.

In 1883, the Brooklyn Bridge, linking Brooklyn and Manhattan, was dedicated by President Chester Alan Arthur and New York Gov. Grover Cleveland.

In 1935, the first major league baseball game to be played at night took place at Cincinnati's Crosley Field as the Reds beat the Philadelphia Phillies, 2-1.

In 1937, in a set of rulings, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Social Security Act of 1935.

In 1941, the German battleship Bismarck sank the British battle cruiser HMS Hood in the North Atlantic, killing all but three of the 1,418 men on board.

In 1957, anti-American rioting broke out in Taipei, Taiwan, over the acquittal of a U.S. Army sergeant who had shot and killed a Chinese man.

In 1962, astronaut Scott Carpenter became the second American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard Aurora 7.

In 1976, Britain and France opened trans-Atlantic Concorde supersonic transport service to Washington.

In 1977, in a surprise move, the Kremlin ousted Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny from the Communist Party's ruling Politburo.

In 1980, Iran rejected a call by the World Court in The Hague to release the American hostages.

In 1994, four Islamic fundamentalists convicted of bombing New York's World Trade Center in 1993 were each sentenced to 240 years in prison.

In 2001, 23 people were killed when the floor of a Jerusalem wedding hall collapsed beneath dancing guests, sending them plunging several stories into the basement.

Ten years ago: Bowing to President George W. Bush, Congress passed an emergency war spending bill that did not include a provision ordering troops home from Iraq beginning in the fall of 2007. Ohio death row inmate Christopher Newton was executed by injection; it took him 16 minutes to die, more than twice the usual amount of time, once chemicals began flowing into his veins, which the execution team had trouble locating.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama doubled down on criticism of rival Mitt Romney's background as a venture capitalist, telling a rally at the Iowa State Fairgrounds there might be value in such experience but "not in the White House." Brian Banks, a former high school football star whose dreams of a pro career were shattered by what turned out to be a false rape accusation, burst into tears as a judge in Long Beach, California, threw out the charge that had sent Banks to prison for more than five years.

One year ago: Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton and presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump each won primaries in Washington state. Protests outside a Donald Trump rally in Albuquerque, New Mexico, turned violent as demonstrators threw burning T-shirts, plastic bottles and other items at police officers, overturned trash cans and knocked down barricades.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian-impressionist Stanley Baxter is 91. Jazz musician Archie Shepp is 80. Comedian Tommy Chong is 79. Singer Bob Dylan is 76. Actor Gary Burghoff is 74. Singer Patti LaBelle is 73. Actress Priscilla Presley is 72. Country singer Mike Reid is 70. Actor Jim Broadbent is 68. Actor Alfred Molina is 64. Singer Rosanne Cash is 62. Actor Cliff Parisi is 57. Actress Kristin Scott Thomas is 57. Rock musician Jimmy Ashhurst (Buckcherry) is 54. Rock musician Vivian Trimble is 54. Actor John C. Reilly is 52. Actor Dana Ashbrook is 50. Actor Eric Close is 50. Actor Carl Payne is 48. Rock musician Rich Robinson is 48. Actor Dash Mihok is 43. Actor Bryan Greenburg is 39. Actor Owen Benjamin is 37. Actor Billy L. Sullivan is 37. Actor-rapper Jerod Mixon (aka Big Tyme) is 36. Rock musician Cody Hanson (Hinder) is 35. Dancer-choreographer-singer Mark Ballas is 31. Country singer Billy Gilman is 29. Rapper/producer G-Eazy is 28. Actress Brianne Howey (TV: "The Exorcist") is 28. Actor Cayden Boyd is 23.

***Thought for Today: "It is the weakness and danger of republics, that the vices as well as virtues of the people are represented in their legislation." - Helen Maria Hunt Jackson, American author (1830-1885).***

## 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.

**Paul Stevens**  
Editor, Connecting newsletter  
[paulstevens46@gmail.com](mailto:paulstevens46@gmail.com)

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

SafeUnsubscribe™ [pjshane@gmail.com](mailto:pjshane@gmail.com)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [paulstevens46@gmail.com](mailto:paulstevens46@gmail.com) in collaboration with



Try it free today