



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - June 08, 2017

1 message

Paul Stevens <paulstevens46@gmail.com>
Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com
To: pjshane@gmail.com

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

I love the lead of Joe Pompeo's Politico Media this morning where he writes:

If you're a company with some negative or unflattering news to announce, this morning around 10 a.m. is probably as good a time as ever to drop that press release, because the chances of anyone watching or reading or tweeting or talking about anything other than James Comey's Senate testimony are pretty slim. You can tune in on any of the broadcast or cable-news networks and there will be live-streams galore.

So in that vein, I am hoping my input to our continuing Connecting series on pets in the workplace won't fall on deaf, blind ears and eyes devoted only to Things Comey. Well, here goes anyway:

I never brought my rambunctious chow-lab Murphy into the Kansas City bureau, but I did occasionally bring her along in my COBmobile for one-day membership visits. One in particular stands out.

We pulled into a parking spot at **The Emporia Gazette**, the Kansas daily made famous by iconic editor William Allen White, and went into the history-steeped offices of Barbara Walker, the editor and granddaughter of WAW, and her husband, David, the publisher. Priceless artifacts from White's day were tastefully placed throughout the office.



I sat down after mentioning that Murphy was in the car outside. The Walkers' small dog was wandering around the offices, and Barbara insisted I bring Murphy in to meet her/him. Reluctantly, I agreed, nervous that my 60-pound dog might wreak damage that would be hard to disguise on an expense voucher.

The two dogs tore around the offices, playing, but broke nothing and I breathed a big sigh of relief when Murphy returned to the car for the trip home, via the local Dairy Queen.

That's my story, and I am sticking to it! What's yours?

Paul

Connecting mailbox

Press Club of Dallas shines the spotlight on journalists; John Lumpkin among those honored



John Lumpkin is second from right in this photo.

Stories about journalism flowed (last) Saturday evening at the Press Club of Dallas' Excellence in Journalism Awards program at the Sixth Floor Museum.

Many stories were about the good, old days. Such as when posthumous honoree Harold Taft, longtime weatherman for KXAS-TV, often went over his allotted time causing sportscaster Scott Murray to have about 30 seconds for sports. Taft never wanted to wear an earpiece.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Linda Sargent. And [click here](#) for a blog on the program.

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Our bureau cat in Timor-Leste



Jim Reindl ([Email](#)) - I had just finished feeding our "bureau cat," Usaid (pronounced u-sed) when I opened Connecting to your cat post. She is our outdoor, "in-house" cat at USAID/Timor-Leste. She was getting her ritual lunch time ear rub and wasn't happy to have it interrupted for a photo session.

AP expands UGC on Video Hub with Spectee collaboration

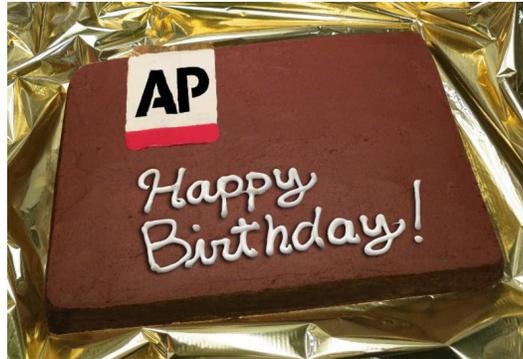
The Associated Press Tuesday announced a content collaboration with Spectee, the Tokyo-based online news agency that specializes in curating and publishing user-generated content in real time.

All AP Video Hub clients will be able to view Spectee's video news content, which includes real-time news and entertainment events in Japan and worldwide. This adds a new dimension to the existing UGC already available through Video Hub.

By using artificial intelligence with their patented technologies, Spectee is able to considerably reduce the time taken to analyze and sort user-generated video and images on social media. All content is verified, with licenses acquired for publishing by broadcasters and digital publishers.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Joe Galianese - jgalianese@hotmail.com

Matt Mygatt - mmygatt21@gmail.com

Hank Lowenkron - hlofnyc@yahoo.com

Stories of interest

Gianforte to give \$50,000 to press freedom group after assaulting reporter (Politico)

Newly elected Rep. Greg Gianforte has agreed to donate \$50,000 to the Committee to Protect Journalists as and issued a formal apology as part of a civil settlement with Guardian reporter Ben Jacobs.

Last month, Gianforte was charged for assault by police in Montana after he allegedly 'body slammed' Jacobs, who was attempting to ask Gianforte questions about the health care bill at a campaign event the day before the election.

"I write to express my sincere apology for my conduct on the evening of May 24. My physical response to your legitimate question was unprofessional, unacceptable, and unlawful," Gianforte (R-Mont.) wrote in a letter. "As both a candidate for office and a public official, I should be held to a high standard in my interactions with the press and the public. My treatment of you did not meet that standard."

Read more [here](#).

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Why journalists need to appreciate the lyric (Poynter)

By ROY PETER CLARK

Bob Dylan has delivered his speech, accepting the Nobel Prize for literature, an award I believe he richly deserves. In the 4,000-word address, he argues that the lyric is meant to be heard as music and not read. But he then expresses his appreciation for "The Odyssey," and the oral poet Homer: "Sing in me, oh Muse, and through me tell the story."

Chapter Seven of my book "How to Write Short: Work Craft for Fast Times," is entitled "Embrace the lyric." Any writer looking for mentor texts - phrases that inspire knowledge of the craft - cannot ignore the lyric, in its ancient or modern forms.

From the lyric, the practical writer can distill useful elements of the craft:

Read more [here](#).

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India's Battered Free Press (New York Times)

Press freedom in India suffered a fresh blow on Monday when the country's main investigative agency raided homes and offices connected to the founders of NDTV, India's oldest television news station. The raids mark an alarming new level of intimidation of India's news media under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The story is a bit tangled, but here's the gist: The Central Bureau of Investigation says it conducted the raids because of a complaint that NDTV's founders had caused "an alleged loss" to ICICI, a private bank, related to repayment of a loan. In 2009, ICICI said the note had been paid in full. Not really, the investigators said: A reduction in the interest rate had saddled the bank with a loss - hence the raid.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Michael Rubin.

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I Lost My Voice, but Help Others Find Theirs (New York Times)

By ALEX HUBBARD

NASHVILLE - I can tell you the exact moment I realized my voice was broken.

I was sitting in a cubicle inside Pulitzer Hall, the home of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. I was on the phone with a former top official at U.S.A. Hockey - a man whose name I knew well from having grown up a hockey fan. He was supposed to give me an interview for my master's project, a large journalism assignment that most other graduate students would compare to a thesis. I was excited for the help and also excited to speak to someone so well known to me. Then he said it.

"I'm sorry. I want to help you, but I can't understand you."

His words did not shock me; I had known for a long time that my voice was failing me. But what he said, with unintended cruel clarity, signaled to me that the moment had come. Later that day I - a 23-year-old Tennessee boy making good in New York City - called my mother and cried.

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

Today in History - June 8, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, June 8, the 159th day of 2017. There are 206 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 8, 1967, during the six-day Middle East war, 34 American servicemen were killed when Israel attacked the USS Liberty, a Navy intelligence-gathering ship in the Mediterranean Sea. (Israel later said the Liberty had been mistaken for an Egyptian vessel.)

On this date:

In A.D. 632, the prophet Muhammad died in Medina.

In 1042, Edward the Confessor became King of England, beginning a reign of 23 1/2 years.

In 1845, Andrew Jackson, seventh president of the United States, died in Nashville, Tennessee.

In 1867, modern American architect Frank Lloyd Wright was born in Richland Center, Wisconsin.

In 1917, during World War I, Maj. Gen. John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Force, arrived in Liverpool, England, while en route to France; also, the 1st Expeditionary Division (later the 1st Infantry Division) was organized at Fort Jay in New York.

In 1920, the Republican National Convention opened in Chicago; its delegates would end up nominating Warren G. Harding for president.

In 1939, Britain's King George VI and his consort, Queen Elizabeth, arrived in Washington, D.C., where they were received at the White House by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In 1942, Bing Crosby recorded "Silent Night" and "Adeste Fideles" (O Come All Ye Faithful) in Los Angeles for Decca Records.

In 1953, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled unanimously that restaurants in the District of Columbia could not refuse to serve blacks. Eight tornadoes struck Michigan's Lower Peninsula, killing 126 people.

In 1972, during the Vietnam War, an Associated Press photographer took a picture of a screaming 9-year-old girl, Phan Thi Kim Phuc (fahn thee kihm fook), as she ran naked and severely burned from the scene of a South Vietnamese napalm attack.

In 1987, Fawn Hall began testifying at the Iran-Contra hearings, describing how, as secretary to National Security aide Oliver L. North, she had helped to shred some documents and spirit away others.

In 1995, U.S. Marines rescued Capt. Scott O'Grady, whose F-16C fighter jet had been shot down by Bosnian Serbs on June 2. Mickey Mantle received a liver transplant at a Dallas hospital; however, the baseball great died two months later.

Ten years ago: Defense Secretary Robert Gates announced the Bush administration was replacing Gen. Peter Pace as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and recommending Adm. Mike Mullen for the job. Mary Winkler, who killed her preacher husband with a shotgun blast to the back as he lay in bed, was sentenced in Selmer, Tennessee, to three years in prison (she ended up serving 67 days in custody, 12 in jail and the rest in a mental health facility). Paris Hilton was sent screaming and crying back to jail after a judge in Los Angeles ruled she had to serve out her sentence for a probation violation behind bars rather than under house arrest. The space shuttle Atlantis blasted off on a mission to the international space station.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama declared "the private sector is doing fine," prompting Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney to ask, "Is he really that out of touch?" (Obama quickly clarified his remarks, saying it was "absolutely clear that the economy is not doing fine.") In Cairo, Egypt, a mob of hundreds of men assaulted women holding a march demanding an end to sexual harassment. I'll Have Another's bid for the first Triple Crown in 34 years ended when the colt was scratched the day before the Belmont Stakes and retired from racing with a swollen tendon. Kevin Millwood and five Seattle relievers combined on a no-hitter, the third in franchise history, as the Mariners beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 1-0.

One year ago: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (nah-REN'-drah MOH'-dee) told the U.S. Congress that the world's two largest democracies could anchor stability and prosperity from the Indian Ocean to the Pacific in an aspirational speech that glossed over continuing divisions in the relationship. Maria Sharapova (shah-rah-POH'-vah) was suspended for two years by the International Tennis Federation for testing positive for meldonium at the Australian Open. (The ban, which was backdated to Jan. 26, 2016, was later reduced to 15 months.) Tim McGraw ended Carrie Underwood's four-year-winning streak for the top prize at the 2016 CMT Music Awards in Nashville with his music video for "Humble and Kind."

Today's Birthdays: Former first lady Barbara Bush is 92. Actor-comedian Jerry Stiller is 90. Actress Millicent Martin is 83. Actor James Darren is 81. Actor Bernie Casey is 78. Singer Nancy Sinatra is 77. Singer Chuck Negron is 75. Musician Boz Scaggs is 73. Author Sara Paretsky is 70. Actress Sonia Braga is 67. Actress Kathy Baker is 67. Country musician Tony Rice is 66. Rock singer Bonnie Tyler is 66. Actor Griffin Dunne is 62. "Dilbert" creator Scott Adams is 60. Actor-director Keenen Ivory Wayans is 59. Singer Mick Hucknall (Simply Red) is 57. Musician Nick Rhodes (Duran Duran) is 55. Rhythm-and-blues singer Doris Pearson (Five Star) is 51. Actress Julianna Margulies is 50. Actor Dan Futterman is 50. Actor David Sutcliffe is 48. Actor Kent Faulcon is 47. Rhythm-and-blues singer Nicci Gilbert is 47. Actress Kelli Williams is 47. Former U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., is 47. Actor Mark Feuerstein is 46. Contemporary Christian musician Mike Scheuchzer (MercyMe) is

42. Actor Eion Bailey is 41. Tennis player Lindsay Davenport is 41. Rapper Kanye (KAHN'-yay) West is 40. TV personality/actress Maria Menounos is 39. Country singer/songwriter Sturgill Simpson is 39. Blues-rock musician Derek Trucks (The Derek Trucks Band) is 38. Rock singer Alex Band (The Calling) is 36. Folk-bluegrass singer-musician Sara Watkins (Nickel Creek) is 36. Tennis player Kim Clijsters is 34. Actress Torrey DeVitto is 33.

Thought for Today: "When we begin to take our failures non-seriously, it means we are ceasing to be afraid of them." - Katherine Mansfield, New Zealander author (1888-1923).

Got a story or photos 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

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

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