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Connecting - June 28, 2017

1 message

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Wed, Jun 28, 2017 at 9:07 AM

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Connecting

June 28, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

Should the media identify lies and falsehoods?

That was a question put up for your comment in Tuesday's Connecting by **David Egner**, citing a New York Times opinion piece.

John Brewer was the first to respond, and we hope this important issue facing the media prompts you to follow up with your own thoughts. Send them along today!

SAVE THE DATES - Sept. 12-13!



The third annual Midwest AP reunion will be held in Kansas City in September, and we hope you will mark your calendar now to reserve the dates of Sept. 12-13.

You don't need to have worked for AP in the Midwest in order to attend - we welcome anyone who would like to join us. There will be a barbeque dinner on Tuesday night, Sept. 12, and a tour the next morning of the National World War I Museum and Memorial (shown above), followed by lunch at Union Station across the street.

More details to come later. But drop me a note if you're interested in attending.

Have a great day!

Paul

'For me, all this makes my skin crawl'

John Brewer ([Email](#)) - Interesting question posed Tuesday in Connecting. Looking forward to seeing the responses.

The cable shows certainly moved past all this, after a bit of moral hesitation at first during the early days of the presidential campaign.

MSNBC commentators now seem to have no problem whatsoever calling Trump a "liar."

Fox seems to have no problem giving the news a most pronounced pro-White House slant.

CNN seems to zig-zag back and forth. No one even pretends they're unbiased, that the way they see things is truly the . . . truth.

(I watch instead PBS -- which has so far largely resisted using labels during its nightly news hour -- and two very straight Canadian stations across the border in British Columbia.)

It's amazing to compare the cable channels. The New York Times a week or so ago did a fascinating article on the networks' coverage, using their headlines to show how different they approached the same news stories.

For me, all this makes my skin crawl. I can't seem to tolerate having a "reporter" dish out labels, or believe that the nation is served by yellow journalism or a return to the old days of the partisan press.

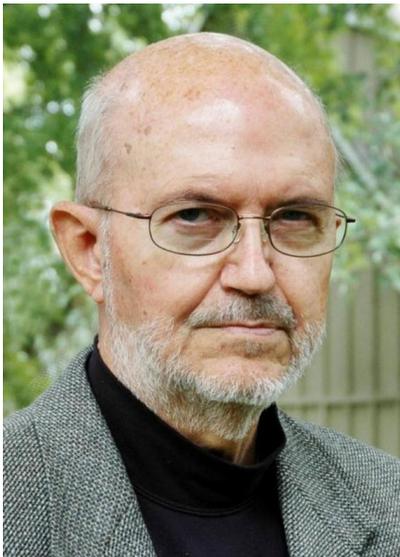
But then again, Trump and the White House press office have forced a lot of this; they seem to have no quibbles about "us and them" and fabricating "facts"...

(John Brewer is retired editor and publisher of the Peninsula (WA) Daily News, who earlier served as president and editor in chief of The New York Times News Service and Syndicate after a 19-year AP career as newsman, editor and bureau chief (Seattle and Los Angeles) and New York executive.)

Connecting mailbox

Celebration of Tom Eblen's life set for August 6

Courtney McCain ([Email](#)), daughter of our late Connecting colleague **Tom Eblen**, shares this information on a celebration of life for her dad. Tom was general manager of the University Daily Kansan at the University of Kansas, managing editor of The Kansas City Star and a national APME board member. He died June 10 at the age of 80. She writes:



The celebration of Tom Eblen's life will be held on Sunday, August 6, 2017, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. CDT at Union Station (30 West Pershing, Kansas City, Missouri), in the Sprint Festival Plaza.

Dad disliked funeral-style services, so we're hosting an informal, reception-style event with scheduled speakers, photos and hopefully a lot of story-swapping. Casual attire is fine.

Thanks again for everyone's patience. We are fortunate and appreciative that Dad's event can be in Union Station's fantastic venue. And FYI, Dad's celebration will not be in the same area currently occupied by Union Station's visiting exhibit of mummies, even though Dad would have laughed at the irony. More info about Union Station may be found online, at www.unionstation.org <<http://www.unionstation.org/>

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How do I stay in shape? For a lot less than \$3,000

Bruce Lowitt ([Email](#)) - I don't own a Bowflex or any similarly costly exercise equipment, which wouldn't look very pretty anywhere in our home. I don't walk

nearly as much as I used to since our dog died 15 months ago, but I go to a gym just about every day. I do about two miles on the treadmill at a gentle 2.7 mph while reading (I'm partial to American history and Lee Childs' Jack Reacher novels) and spend 15-30 minutes on a few of the workout machines I'm in the mood to use on any particular visit.

I'm 75 and could still afford to lose a few pounds (I'm also partial to steak and ice cream), but my back hasn't given me trouble since undergoing L5, S1 disc surgery in 1984, just a week before flying from New York to Los Angeles to cover the Olympics (my good friend and AP Sports colleague Hal Bock insisted on carrying my computer on and off the plane). My gym membership costs \$10 a month. I've been going for nearly four years. I figure if I keep it up for another 21 it'll just about equal the cost of a high-end Bowflex.

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At \$10 (for now), this is, without a doubt, one of the world's all-time best bargains



John Brewer ([Email](#)) - From The Seattle Times: "If you're 62 or older, you'll want to jump on this national-park pass deal":

[Click here](#) for more of the story, which begins:

Seattle-area national parks and related federal agencies this spring saw a 700 percent leap in local sales of their Senior Pass, likely stimulated by buyers out to beat a big price hike for what is affectionately known among many of its users as the "Golden Geezer."

The lifetime pass, soon to increase in price from \$10 to \$80, gets the bearer in free to sites ranging from Mount Rainier to the Snow Lake trailhead, providing access to more than 2,000 recreation sites managed by six federal agencies.

Last December, Congress authorized the price increase for the pass, which is good for a lifetime for U.S. citizens and permanent residents 62 and older. An exact date for the cost increase has yet to be announced, but some who work in parks expect it by year's end.

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Here's to Quebec walleye

John Willis ([Email](#)) - Avid walleye fishermen and women are a wacky bunch, and you don't find too many of them in Miami, but that's just what happened to me back in 1994.

The walleye is prized for its tender, white flesh and light taste. It's is known for its finicky eating habits. Normally a nocturnal feeder, walleye can be caught at any time of day. One day you can be on top of the world, and get shut out for the next week.

As the broadcast executive for Florida and south Georgia back in the early to mid 90s, I would visit Miami broadcast members every two months or so, and that included a stop at the bureau to chat with COB Gary Clark, who knew well the lure of walleye from his days in the upper Midwest with The AP, and COC Charlie Bruce, of all people.

In passing one day, I mentioned to Bruce that I loved to fish for walleye in Minnesota, and wanted to try my hand in some pristine, Canadian waters, one day.

To my surprise, that was right up Charlie's alley and he told me about a place called Camps Coucousee on Lac Kikwissi in western Quebec. Bruce told me he had taken some monster northern pike from the lake and good walleyes, too. Kikwissi also boasts lake trout to 30 and 40 pounds.

The operator of the camp, Serge Gaudet, was not, and is still not much of a marketing man. Most of his business is repeat. With the information Bruce gave me, I made the inquiry. Several months later I was gliding along Kikwissi looking for the big one.

It is not easy to get to Kikwissi. It took us three hours to get from Temicaming, Quebec, to the camp the first time. It's about 47 miles off the nearest paved highway, and it was quite an adventure as we followed Gaudet's directions and some paper signs hung willy-nilly in the trees along the way.



John with walleye that was over 24 inches long and about five pounds that went back into Lac Kikwissi on Flag Day because it was over the max, 21 inch slot limit.

I would estimate that less than 300 people a year fish Kikwissi. Gaudet also hosts moose and bear hunters and is the only "outfitter" on the lake. The business has been in his family on this lake since the 1950s.

Gaudet, who turned 70 a few months ago, told me that this is his 60th year at the camp. He had to help take over with his mother in 1957 when his father was killed in a floatplane crash in nearby Lake Kipawa. Gaudet's father was the pilot when the craft went down in foul weather. There were three others onboard and all were killed. The wreckage was never



John's son Jeff and catch

found, and the bodies never recovered, Gaudet said.

My first trip was with Ken Charbat, former AP Broadcast executive for Ohio and Michigan, and we were successful. One evening I landed a walleye that was over 32 inches long and weighed more than 12 pounds. It was my \$25,000 fish, I told Charbat, who would henceforth carry the nickname "Netman." He used our landing net to scoop up the prize that evening.

"I have been fishing for walleye for about 25 years and it costs about \$1,000 a year," I told my Netman. I had caught a five pounder just moments before and the massive size of the second fish was not fully realized until it hit the floor next to the other big boy. My knees were shaking from the experience, as I was using a five foot, six-inch, ultralight Shakespeare "Wonder Rod" and a small Diawa reel. The line was six-pound test.

More than 23 years have passed since Bruce told me about Kikwissi, and I have journeyed north almost every spring and summer since to fish various lakes; Dumoine, Kipawa, Dog, Mattagami and others.

I fell into a lazy habit, though. Using an outfitter and floatplanes to get into the lightly fished lakes along the Laurentian Shield. No one is flying those floatplanes in the area these days because the loggers have cut so many "roads" through the area that there is no money to be made flying in mail, groceries and other things the folks out there need.

Age and my many years as a smoker are taking their toll, and I thought this year might be my last trip north. I hadn't been to Coucousee since getting skunked for a week in 1998, but I wanted to show Kikwissi to my son Jeff. He's a darned good fisherman in his own right. He has been with me on many Canadian trips, but he had never been on the lake which produced the 12 pounder that has been hanging on the wall over our fireplace since the year after he graduated from the The University of Georgia. It was maybe my last chance to go back and see Serge and try my luck on Kikwissi.

Kikwissi has been visited by several other AP staffers over the years, and this year Gaudet emailed me very detailed driving instructions produced by Steve Graham, and they were right on down to the centimeter, practically.

There is a "slot limit" on Kikwissi these days. Keepers used to be about anything over 12 inches long. Today the walleye keepers must exceed 14 inches, but be no longer than 21 inches. Conservationists feel this method will keep the lake strong for a long time to come.

While I didn't get another 12 pounder or bigger, I didn't expect one. I knew the night I landed the big one back in 1994 that it would probably be all "downhill" from there. I was very lucky. In the cold Canadian waters that are covered by ice for seven or more months a year, growth is quite slow and the research showed that the fish I caught was well over 22 years old at the time.

As you can see by the photos, we did okay this year, though. We had to return several over the limit fish to the chilly waters of Kikwissi and they will no doubt please another fisherman some day.

Thanks Charlie...

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Manual typewriter, calculator yours for the taking

Yvette Mercourt ([Email](#)) - If some of the AP happy typists are interested, I have a gift for them when they want to - this is going back to June 19 Connecting story on manual typewriters. I have:

A REMINGTON RAND

A ROYAL QUIET DE LUXE - an American friend who went back to the States and left it to me.

A calculator THALES PATENT when I started my AP job in 1974; this calculator was going to be thrown away and I asked to have it, thinking that some AP bureau in the world could like to have it.

If you know of someone around where I live (in France), they are welcome to come to my place to look at it and take it back with them, when they want to. Good day to you and your happy Typists!

Connecting new-member profile -

Jacquelyn Bsharah

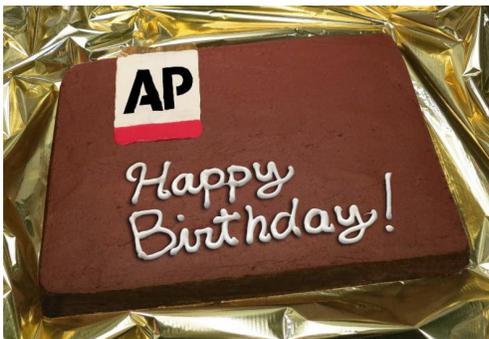


Jacquelyn Bsharah ([Email](#)) - I started at the BNC in 1997 as vacation relief for 9-months on the overnight desk. I was an IHR (in-house reporter) and a writer for the broadcast wire. Eventually, I was hired as a permanent BNC staffer and became an AP Radio anchor. After almost 10 years of anchoring, writing for the wire, serving as an IHR and filling open entertainment shifts, I became a newsroom supervisor. I supervised the evening shift and then co-supervised the dayshift.

After Wally Hides left the BNC in 2007, I was promoted to fill the open position. I served as Executive Producer of AP Radio/Audio until 2011 when I left to become a Ph.D. in Human and Organization Systems. The topic of my research is readiness for change. Professionally, I am now an Organization Development consultant and an executive coach who specializes in leadership development, group and team dynamics, and conflict resolution. The name of my company is Dynamic Collaborations. In addition to my work in organizations, I am an adjunct professor at Georgetown University teaching courses in diversity and inclusion, workplace ethics and effective teamwork.

My time at AP Broadcast has been invaluable in shaping the professional I have become and the work that I am able to do.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Jesse Holland - jholland@ap.org

Welcome to Connecting



Paul Reilly - paulr1956@gmail.com

Stories of interest

5 fact-checking tips for editors (Poynter)

Facts matter in all types of writing, especially in news and informational texts. Errors of fact can damage a writer's credibility and cause embarrassment, and they can irritate readers. Many fact errors are preventable, and that's where editors come in. Your first step is to identify the potential fact errors in the writing. Here are next steps:

Read more [here](#).

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Reporter's body found in Mexico, marking seventh journalist murder this year (Guardian)

The body of a missing Mexican reporter has been found in the western state of Michoacán, bringing to seven the number of journalists murdered in the country this year.

Salvador Adame, director of the local television station 6TV, was abducted 18 May in the city of Nueva Italia, some 400km west of Mexico City in a region known as Tierra Caliente, or the Hot Lands.

State officials said on Monday that Adame's burnt remains had been located on 14 June near Nuevo Italia, and were identified with DNA testing.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - June 28, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, June 28, the 179th day of 2017. There are 186 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On June 28, 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his wife, Sophie, were shot to death in Sarajevo (sah-ruh-YAY'-voh) by Serb nationalist Gavrilo Princip (gavh-REE'-loh PREEN'-seep) - an act which sparked World War I.

On this date:

In 1778, the Revolutionary War Battle of Monmouth took place in New Jersey; from this battle arose the legend of "Molly Pitcher," a woman who was said to have carried water to colonial soldiers, then taken over firing her husband's cannon after he became disabled.

In 1836, the fourth president of the United States, James Madison, died in Montpelier, Virginia.

In 1838, Britain's Queen Victoria was crowned in Westminster Abbey.

In 1867, Italian author and playwright Luigi Pirandello was born in Agrigento (ah-gree-JEN'-toh), Sicily.

In 1919, the Treaty of Versailles (vehr-SY') was signed in France, ending the First World War. In Independence, Missouri, future president Harry S. Truman married Elizabeth Virginia Wallace.

In 1939, Pan American Airways began regular trans-Atlantic air service with a flight that departed New York for Marseilles, France.

In 1944, the Republican national convention in Chicago nominated New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey for president and Ohio Gov. John W. Bricker for vice president.

In 1950, North Korean forces captured Seoul (sohl), the capital of South Korea.

In 1964, civil rights activist Malcolm X declared, "We want equality by any means necessary" during the Founding Rally of the Organization of Afro-American Unity in New York.

In 1978, the Supreme Court ordered the University of California-Davis Medical School to admit Allan Bakke (BAHK'-ee), a white man who argued he'd been a victim of reverse racial discrimination.

In 1989, about 1 million Serbs gathered to mark the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo in 1389.

In 1997, in a wild rematch, Evander Holyfield retained the WBA heavyweight boxing championship after his opponent, Mike Tyson, was disqualified for biting Holyfield's ear during the third round of their fight in Las Vegas.

Ten years ago: The U.S. Supreme Court voted 5-4 to strike down school integration plans in Louisville, Kentucky, and Seattle, a decision that was denounced hours later by Democratic presidential candidates in their third primary debate. President George W. Bush's immigration plan to legalize as many as 12 million immigrants while fortifying the border collapsed in the Senate. The American bald eagle was removed from the endangered species list. The TV series "Burn Notice," starring Jeffrey Donovan as a spy left out in the cold, premiered on USA Network.

Five years ago: The Affordable Care Act narrowly survived, 5-4, an election-year battle at the U.S. Supreme Court with the improbable help of conservative Chief Justice John Roberts. Attorney General Eric Holder became the first sitting Cabinet member held in contempt of Congress, a rebuke pushed by Republicans seeking to unearth the facts behind a bungled gun-tracking operation known as Fast and Furious. (The vote was 255-67, with more than 100 Democrats boycotting.) At Wimbledon, 2-time champion Rafael Nadal was overpowered in the second round by Lukas Rosol, a Czech ranked No. 100, 6-7 (9), 6-4, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4. Katie Holmes filed for divorce from Tom Cruise after 5 years of marriage.

One year ago: Three suicide bombers armed with assault rifles stormed Istanbul's Ataturk airport, killing 44 victims and wounding nearly 150; no one claimed responsibility, but Turkish official said they suspected the Islamic State group. House Republicans concluded their \$7 million, two-year investigation into the deadly attacks in Benghazi, Libya, with fresh accusations of lethal mistakes by the Obama administration but no "smoking gun" pointing to wrongdoing by Hillary Clinton, who said the report "found nothing, nothing to contradict" the findings of earlier investigations. Death claimed Pat Summitt, the most successful coach in major college basketball history, at age 64; former pro football coach Buddy Ryan at age 85; and pioneering rock guitarist Scotty Moore at age 84.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian-movie director Mel Brooks is 91. Former Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., is 83. Comedian-impressionist John Byner is 80. Former Defense Secretary Leon Panetta is 79. Rock musician Dave Knights (Procul Harum) is 72. Actor Bruce Davison is 71. Actress Kathy Bates is 69. Actress Alice Krige is 63. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer John Elway is 57. Record company chief executive Tony Mercedes is 55. Jazz singer Tierney Sutton is 54. Actress Jessica Hecht is 52. Rock musician Saul Davies (James) is 52. Actress Mary Stuart Masterson is 51. Actor John Cusack is 51. Actor Gil Bellows is 50. Actress-singer Danielle Brisebois is 48. Jazz musician Jimmy Sommers is 48. Actress Tichina Arnold is 48. Actor Steve Burton is 47. Actor Alessandro Nivola (nih-VOH'-luh) is 45. Actress Camille Guaty is 41. Rock musician Tim Nordwind (OK Go) is 41. Rock musician Mark Stoermer (The Killers) is 40. Country singer Big Vinny Hickerson (Trailer Choir) is 34. Country singer Kellie Pickler is 31.

Thought for Today: "Logic is one thing, the human animal another. You can quite easily propose a logical solution to something and at the same time hope in your heart of hearts it won't work out." - Luigi Pirandello (1867-1936).

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.

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