



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

## Connecting - July 06, 2017

1 message

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

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# Connecting

July 06, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

"If President Trump tries to take us to war, will the press do a better job than it did in 2002-2003?"

That's the gist of a question posed by John Broich, a history professor at Case Western Reserve University who has been doing work in journalism history, in an article in Paste titled, "[Rally Round the Flag": Will the Press Have Trump's Back if He Starts a War?](#)"

Connecting colleague **Charlie Hanley** is among journalists quoted in the story, An excerpt:

*It's a fear shared by Charles Hanley, another reporter celebrated for doing his due diligence in the lead up to Bush's war for the Associated Press. "The 'rally 'round the flag' factor will always be with us. Even in the age of Trump, I fear that homebound editors will instinctively credit American voices over those of foreigners, and the Beltway narrative over the word of even their own correspondents abroad. It happened in 2003. I fear it can happen again."*



*He pointed to another factor that's new or more conspicuous since 2002. The news industry, he said, is unable or unwilling to support international desks staffed by experts on the ground who could check an administration's claims about imminent danger from abroad.*

*Still, he suggested that the poor example of 2002-2003 might serve as a sort of inoculant. "Today's journalists would be inspired to do a better job this time."*

Got an opinion to share on the subject, comparing today's situation to that of the Gulf War days? Send it along to Connecting.

We lead today's issue with a profile from Chicago photo editor **Bob Graves** - honored at the 25-Year Club celebration last month in New York for achieving a half-century of service to The Associated Press. His actual 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary date is September 3 - and at Connecting's request, he shares the story of his fine career. Graves, a veteran of the Vietnam War, is believed to be second in seniority among AP employees only to **Edie Lederer**, AP's chief United Nations correspondent, who has served 51-plus years.

And today's issue also features a July 4 Facebook post by **Ted Anthony** that, while a couple days old, still resonates loudly. Ted is AP's Asia-Pacific news director based in Bangkok and one of AP's finest writers and editors.

Have a great day!

Paul

## Connecting profile - Bob Graves

**Bob Graves (Email)** - I started my career with AP in September 1967, hired by Fred Wright as a copy boy in the Chicago bureau when I was 16 years old. The following year, I became mail clerk and in 1969, began working in photos as a darkroom technician. I was drafted into the U.S Army in May 1970 and participated as an infantryman with the Americal Division during the Vietnam War from October 1970 to October 1971. I received the Purple Heart and a Bronze Star in August 1971. I returned to my position the AP held for me in January 1972.



In 1989, I was promoted to photo editor to handle photos coming in from all over the country, since the Chicago office was one of the regional publishing hubs. In 2001, I became Illinois photo editor to oversee photo assignments in the state and handle photos from member newspapers and am currently assigned to the Central Regional desk, handling photos for the region's top stories.



**In younger days**

I have been privileged to have covered many high-profile events during my career, beginning with Elvis Presley's funeral in 1977 as a darkroom tech. I also spent numerous Indy 500s in the darkroom in the 1970s. As a photo editor, the list includes many major sports, news and entertainment assignments, a list I won't bore you with. And along the way I've met some of the finest professionals this company has to offer.

I met my wife Judy in 1968 when she began working at AP's Wide World Photos as a secretary/researcher in the Chicago bureau. We were married in March 1972, shortly after my military service. We have two

sons, Robbie, who lives in South Lake Tahoe, Calif., and Adam, who lives in Chicago.

# I am an American

By TED ANTHONY ([Email](#))

I am an American.

My people came here in the 1630s, the 1680s, the 1750s, the 1860s, the 1880s. One of my ancestors was hanged for preaching Quakerism in a Puritan colony. Another was thrown out of her community and into exile, where she was scalped by Siwanoy Indians and had a parkway named after her. Another was a lady-in-waiting to the queen of Franz Joseph and, instead, chose America to be her future. Another was a convicted thief. All my people.

My people, devout Christians, moved across New England to New York and then to Ohio and beyond, building communities along the way. My people, devout Jews, arrived by boat in Baltimore - poor, striving, hoping for better - and persevered toward Cincinnati. There, my mother came out of her row house one morning in the early 1930s to find that two neighbor girls had written "Ann is a Jew" in chalk on her sidewalk.



My people fought in five wars and were turned away from one, in anguish, for poor vision. My people are pacifists, too. My people were sea captains and farmers, slaughterhouse workers and homemakers, streetcar conductors and shopkeepers and traveling salesmen and town supervisors and church elders. My people were, and are, teachers. My people fought for freedom. My people owned slaves.

My people's bones are scattered in graveyards across the land, and their people's bones are scattered in cemeteries across Europe. My people chose to go forth into the world, first to America and then, in my parents' generation, to Afghanistan and Thailand and Poland and Mexico and Singapore and China and, by rickety bus, to caves in remote India to find new places to understand and respect. With them they carried their version of American values - of human values - into the global marketplace of ideas, not for domination but for honest evaluation in the spirit of meritocracy. They believed, as I do, in America; they chose, as I do, to go with curiosity and humility as their front-line tools.

My people are just as American as your people. And my people are just as American as those who took the citizenship test yesterday - no more so, no less so.

The fundamental message I received from my people while growing up was that my people are more than simply my people. They are all the people in our land -- and beyond it -- worthy of respect and recognition and, in the best cases, friendship.



All my people - the people who helped found my country and helped it grow - live on in me. On this strange and contentious edition of Independence Day, I am proud of my people. I am proud of where they came from, of where they're going and - in the face of challenge and adversity and ugliness and fragmentation - of who they choose to be.

I am determined that my people -- the ones I helped create, at least -- will elevate the land that I love by being the finest Americans that they can be. It is their fundamental duty. Their fundamental challenge is to figure out what that might mean.

I am an American. That will never change. And it certainly does not lessen anyone who is not. I wish to thank you for being my people. I will be home soon.

## Connecting mailbox

### *Odes to Strode*

**Gene Herrick** ([Email](#)) - We always wait until someone dies before we say something nice about them, and thus is the case of former AP sports writer George Strode.

I remember George from my second stint in the Columbus bureau in the beginning of the 70's. George was a personable young man, who almost always had a big smile on his face. He was diligent and good writer who made sports come alive. He was quickly accepted by the staff, and all of the news contacts he covered.

George Strode followed in the footsteps of two of the great sports writers who graced the AP domain in Ohio. In 1943, when I joined AP, there was Fritz Howell, who was very well known, not only in Ohio, but on the national scene as well. He was followed by another great in Harold B. Harrison.

In my time, the sports editors, and the political writers were the household names in Ohio.

## **AND**

**Dale Leach** ([Email](#)) - I am just now catching up with the news of George Strode's passing.

As others have written, George was a great tactician and delightful person.

George actually gave me my first AP job -- taking high school football and basketball scores on Friday and Saturday nights while in college. Watching the activity around me -- most of it mundane, by newsroom standards -- made me think this was a place I wanted to be. The characters I met in that small office ran the gamut from former boxers to future media stars. It was a tapestry of talents that I found irresistible.

Later, as a legitimate AP staffer, I took many words of dictation from George Strode and marveled at his ability to think on his feet. I still recall many, "Oh, dammits" as a late score changed the tenor of the game and, consequently, George's lede.

May he rest in peace.

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## ***Hoping we can weather the storm of 'Fake News'***

**Hal Bock** ([Email](#)) - When I chose journalism as a career, one of the reasons was that I considered the press a pillar of freedom and of my country. You cannot have a democracy without a free press. The founders recognized this in the First Amendment which guarantees freedom of the press.

I chose sports as a specialty because it afforded me the opportunity to report on and write about human drama and believe me I enjoyed my career thoroughly. But I

never forgot colleagues who were covering more important matters on the landscape of life.

Never did I think any of it was ``Fake News." Never did I view journalists to be "enemies of the people," a phrase that sounds like it came out of the Politburo. You cover an event and you report on what happened. There's nothing fake about that. And usually there is video tape to confirm that what we are reporting really did happen.

And yet today we find ourselves on the defensive because of the charge that we are making stuff up. I hope we can weather this storm and remain a vital link to freedom upon which our nation was founded.

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## ***Vicki Russell among inductees to Missouri Newspaper Hall of Fame***

Connecting colleague **Vicki Russell** ([Email](#)) is among four newspaper people to be inducted in September into Missouri Press Association's Newspaper Hall of Fame.

The induction reception and banquet are scheduled for Sept. 29 during the 151st annual MPA Convention at University Plaza in downtown Springfield. This will be the 27th group to be inducted into the Newspaper Hall of Fame, which was established by MPA in 1991.

Russell served as associate publisher and then publisher of the Columbia Daily Tribune from 1990 until the newspaper was sold to GateHouse Media in 2016. A Missouri School of Journalism graduate, she worked as an assistant instructor at the J-school from 1974-76 and from 1976-77 she was an information specialist and ag editor for MU's College of Agriculture and Extension Division.

In 1977, Russell became publisher of The Fulton Sun, where she remained until 1989. In 1990, she became associate publisher of the Tribune, while Hank Waters III served as publisher (the two would later marry in 1994). In 2010, she took over as publisher of the Tribune and when the Tribune was sold in 2016, the newspaper had been owned and operated by the Waters family for 115 years.



Other inductees are the late Kenneth G. Meuser, former publisher of the Monett Times; the late Arthur Aull, former publisher of the Lamar Democrat, and Bob Mitchell, former publisher of the Cassville Democrat.

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## ***Dvorak: Her name's on the Declaration of Independence, so why don't we know her story?*** (Longview News-Journal)

**By PETULA DVORAK**

**The Washington Post**

This Fourth of July, look closely at one of those printed copies of the Declaration of Independence.

See it? The woman's name at the bottom?

It's right there. Mary Katherine Goddard.

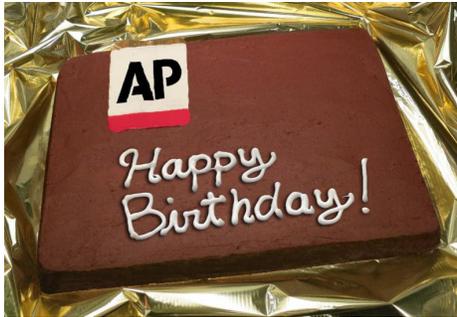
If you've never noticed it or heard of her, you aren't alone. She's a Founding Mother, of sorts, yet few folks know about her. And some of America's earliest bureaucrats did their best to shut her down. Same old, same old.

Goddard was fearless her entire career as one of America's first female publishers, printing scoops from Revolutionary War battles from Concord to Bunker Hill and continuing to publish after her offices were twice raided and her life was repeatedly threatened by haters.

Yup, she faced down the Twitter trolls of 1776.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Ric Brack.

# Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Peg Coughlin - [pcoughlin\\_contractor@ap.org](mailto:pcoughlin_contractor@ap.org)

John Rogers - [jcrogers@ap.org](mailto:jcrogers@ap.org)

## Stories of interest

### ***NPR accused of bias for tweeting out full Declaration of Independence*** (The Hill)

NPR faced accusations of political bias Tuesday for marking the Fourth of July by tweeting out the entire Declaration of Independence.

NPR has celebrated Independence Day for 29 years by having hosts, reporters and commentators read the Declaration of Independence on-air.

But a number of Twitter users slammed NPR for tweeting it this year, interpreting the outlet's sharing of the founding U.S. document as a call "for revolution" and a way to "condone the violence."

While some users ripped NPR, others mocked those who disapproved:

Read more [here](#). Shared by Jenny Volanakis.

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## ***Free-press groups warn of violence against media*** (Politico)

Long accustomed to chronicling threats against the media in other countries, free press organizations are turning their attention to extreme rhetoric and threatened violence against reporters at home as President Donald Trump and his allies ramp up their attacks on the mainstream media.

For more than a year, many of these organizations - including the Committee to Protect Journalists, Reporters Without Borders and the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press - have issued statements raising the alarm over Trump's rhetoric and his administration's attempts to restrict media access. Now, after Trump on Sunday tweeted out a fake-wrestling video that showed him pummeling a person whose face was covered by the CNN logo, these organizations are starting to do what they never thought they'd need to: document violent threats and actions against the media in the United States.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Farewell***



We've reached the end. This is the last issue of the Chronicle.

In terms of our part of this story we are simply the bookend at the far end of the shelf. Mostly inconsequential, but here we are just the same.

Over the past two decades there have been too many publishers required to do what I'm about to do. Say goodbye. The prideful side of it is that nobody wants to be the last. Nobody wants to have this last word. Because deep down all journalists are crusaders at heart. We want to fight the good fight. We want to tell stories that matter. We want shine light on corruption and dirty politics. We want to be an advocate of the people.

But things don't always work out like you plan.

Ultimately the job of journalists is to keep the people of our communities informed with correct information. Folks need to know what's going on and we need to ensure that fiction gets cut off before it has time to fester into fact. Unfortunately, it's gotten a lot harder to do that over the years. And as truth tellers go, it's our job to tell you the truth now.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Scott Charton.

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## ***Media errors give Trump fresh ammunition*** (The Hill)

A string of high-profile corrections and retractions by major news organizations on stories about President Trump or his allies have fueled more allegations of bias in the mainstream press.

The relationship between Trump and the news media regularly hits new lows, with insults flying between the two camps and reporters warning that the president is inciting violence against journalists.

But Trump's allies on the right believe the president's claims that the mainstream media is "fake news" have been bolstered by recent missteps. They point to recent admissions from top news outlets - including CNN, The New York Times and The Associated Press - that bombshell stories were either overcooked or included incorrect details.

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

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## ***Think President Trump's press-bashing doesn't affect local journalists? Think again.*** (Poynter)

The latest edition of the Charlevoix Courier, a small weekly in Northern Michigan, is a potpourri of small-town Americana: the retirements of several local school employees, how a library official won a state Emmy Award for involvement in a documentary of a local man and details of a summer concert series at the bandshell along Main Street, with acts from as far away "as Grand Rapids and beyond."

There's no exposé on Donald Trump, disarray at the White House, Russian ties to his campaign or his legislative travails in Congress. There's nothing about his fake video attack on CNN, or the gratuitous and vulgar shots at cable news co-host Mika Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough.

And, yet, there's still reason to pause.

"I think there has been an impact" from all the Trump bashing of the press, says Lonnie Allen, managing editor of the paper. "Since the election, I see there has been more questions about our paper by some."

The Courier prints about 2,200 copies each week, with 1,700 subscribers. It updates its website, too, but it's about as far away as you might get from the big-city dailies and broadcast networks that Trump often targets.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bob Daugherty.

# The Final Word

## ***10 Things the Most Successful People Do Every Day*** (Time)

By **ERIC BARKER**

What habits, tactics and routines do the most successful people use to achieve their earth-shaking accomplishments?

One guy wanted to know. So he talked to over 200 world-class achievers to learn from them.

Now I happen to enjoy interviewing experts to get insights - but if somebody wants to do all the heavy lifting for me, well, I'm not gonna say no. So I figured I should give that guy a call...

Tim Ferriss is the bestselling author of *The 4-Hour Workweek*. His new book is *Tools of Titans: The Tactics, Routines, and Habits of Billionaires, Icons, and World-Class Performers*.

So where to start? How about the activity that almost all of these A-players do first thing every single day?

Read more [here](#).

# Today in History - July 6, 2017



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Thursday, July 6, the 187th day of 2017. There are 178 days left in the year.

## **Today's Highlights in History:**

On July 6, 1957, Althea Gibson became the first black tennis player to win a Wimbledon singles title as she defeated fellow American Darlene Hard 6-3, 6-2. The Harry S. Truman Library, the nation's first presidential library, was dedicated in Independence, Missouri. Sixteen-year-old John Lennon first met 15-year-old Paul McCartney when Lennon's band, the Quarrymen skiffle group, performed a gig at St. Peter's Church in Woolton, Liverpool.

## **On this date:**

In 1535, Sir Thomas More was executed in England for high treason.

In 1777, during the American Revolution, British forces captured Fort Ticonderoga.

In 1885, French scientist Louis Pasteur tested an anti-rabies vaccine on 9-year-old Joseph Meister, who had been bitten by an infected dog; the boy did not develop rabies.

In 1917, during World War I, Arab forces led by T.E. Lawrence and Auda Abu Tayi captured the port of Aqaba (AH'-kah-buh) from the Ottoman Turks.

In 1933, the first All-Star baseball game was played at Chicago's Comiskey Park; the American League defeated the National League, 4-2.

In 1942, Anne Frank, her parents and sister entered a "secret annex" in an Amsterdam building where they were later joined by four other people; they hid from Nazi occupiers for two years before being discovered and arrested.

In 1944, an estimated 168 people died in a fire that broke out during a performance in the main tent of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1964, the movie "A Hard Day's Night," starring The Beatles, had its world premiere in London. British colony Nyasaland became the independent country of Malawi.

In 1967, war erupted as Nigeria sent troops into the secessionist state of Biafra. (The Biafran (bee-AF'-ruhn) War lasted 2 1/2 years and resulted in a Nigerian victory.)

In 1971, jazz trumpeter and singer Louis Armstrong died in New York at age 69.

In 1988, 167 North Sea oil workers were killed when explosions and fires destroyed a drilling platform. Medical waste and other debris began washing up on New York City-area seashores, forcing the closing of several popular beaches.

In 1997, the rover Sojourner rolled down a ramp from the Mars Pathfinder lander onto the Martian landscape to begin inspecting the soil and rocks of the red planet.

Ten years ago: A man on a balcony over the New York-New York casino floor in Las Vegas opened fire on the gamblers below, wounding four people before he was tackled by off-duty military reservists. (The gunman, Steven Zegrean, was later convicted of charges including attempted murder and was sentenced to 26 to 90 years in prison; he died in April 2010 less than a year into his term.) Kathleen E. Woodiwiss, pioneer of the modern historical romance novel, died in Princeton, Minnesota, at age 68.

Five years ago: At a 100-nation conference in Paris, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton hailed an accelerating wave of defections in President Bashar Assad's inner circle as the United States and its international allies pleaded once again for global sanctions against the Syrian regime. Former neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman was released from jail in Florida for a second time while he awaited his second-degree murder trial for fatally shooting Trayvon Martin. (Zimmerman was acquitted.)

One year ago: President Barack Obama scrapped plans to cut American forces in Afghanistan by half before leaving office. Double-amputee Olympian Oscar Pistorius was sentenced to six years in a South African prison for murdering girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp. Philando Castile, a black elementary school cafeteria worker, was killed during a traffic stop in the St. Paul suburb of Falcon Heights by Officer Jeronimo Yanez, who was charged with second-degree manslaughter (Yanez was acquitted at trial). Former Fox News Channel anchor Gretchen Carlson sued network chief executive Roger Ailes, claiming she was cut loose after she had refused his sexual advances and complained about harassment in the workplace, allegations denied by Ailes. (Carlson later settled her lawsuit for a reported \$20 million.) The augmented-reality game Pokemon Go made its debut in the U.S., Australia and New Zealand.

Today's Birthdays: Singer-actress Della Reese is 86. The 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, is 82. Actor Ned Beatty is 80. Singer Gene Chandler is 77. Country singer Jeannie Seely is 77. Actor Burt Ward is 72. Former President George W. Bush is 71. Actor-director Sylvester Stallone is 71. Actor Fred Dryer is 71. Actress Shelley Hack is 70. Actress Nathalie Baye is 69. Actor Geoffrey Rush is 66. Actress Allyce Beasley is 66. Rock musician John Bazz (The Blasters) is 65. Actor Grant Goodeve is 65. Country singer Nanci Griffith is 64. Retired MLB All-Star Willie Randolph is 63. Jazz musician Rick Braun is 62. Actor Casey Sander is 62. Country musician John Jorgenson is 61. Former first daughter Susan Ford Bales is 60. Hockey player and coach Ron Duguay (doo-GAY') is 60. Actress-writer Jennifer Saunders is 59. Rock musician John Keeble (Spandau Ballet) is 58. Actor Pip Torrens is 57. Actor Brian Posehn is 51. Political reporter/moderator John Dickerson (TV: "Face the Nation") is 49. Actor Brian Van Holt is 48. Rapper Inspectah Deck (Wu-Tang Clan) is 47. TV host Josh Elliott is 46. Rapper 50 Cent is 42. Actress Tia Mowry is 39. Actress Tamera Mowry is 39. Comedian-actor Kevin Hart is 38. Actress Eva (EH'-vuh) Green is 37. Actor Gregory Smith is 34. Rock musician Chris "Woody" Wood (Bastille) is 32. Rock singer Kate Nash is 30. Actor Jeremy Suarez is 27.

***Thought for Today: "Nothing is worth more than laughter. It is strength to laugh and to abandon oneself, to be light. Tragedy is the most ridiculous thing." - Frida Kahlo (FREE'-dah KAH'-loh), Mexican painter (born this date in 1907, died 1954).***

# 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](mailto:paulstevens46@gmail.com)

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

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