



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - July 10, 2017

1 message

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

Mon, Jul 10, 2017 at 8:35 AM

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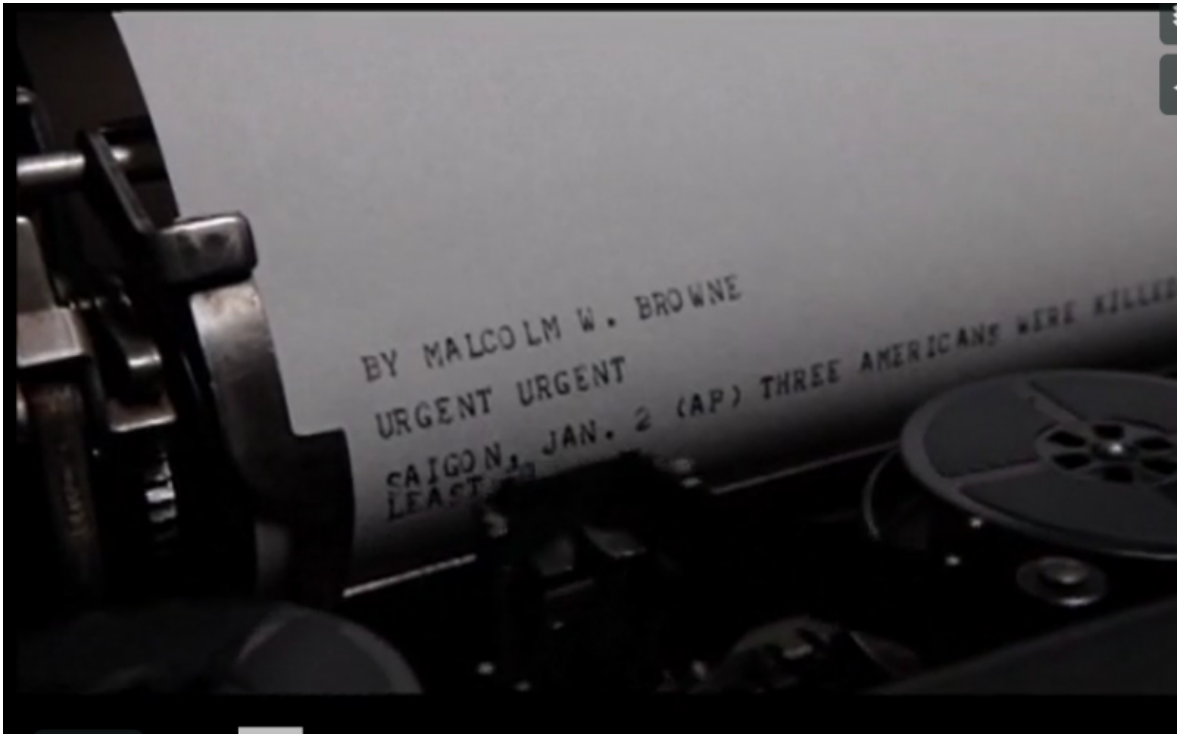
July 10, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning!

"Dateline-Saigon," the documentary film that includes Associated Press journalists **Peter Arnett**, **Malcolm Browne** and **Horst Faas**, and **David Halberstam** of The New York Times and **Neil Sheehan** of UPI, was featured in last Friday's edition of Connecting in relation to its next showings at two film festivals in early August.

Some of you asked the natural question - short of attending one of those festivals in Wood's Hole and Martha's Vineyard, how can I view the documentary?

I posed that question to the film's director, **Tom Herman**, a Connecting colleague, and we lead today's edition with his response.

Meanwhile, from Council Grove...



Craig McNeal (center) flanked by his staff and Ye Olde Connecting Editor. From left: Kay Roberts, Christy Jimerson, Craig, Paul and Becky Evans. Combined, the four Republican staffers total 162 years of experience covering Council Grove.

On Sunday, I put on my old bureau chief's hat and drove two hours into the Flint Hills of Kansas to take part in a community tribute to **Craig McNeal** ([Email](#)) publisher of the Council Grove Republican, after the sale of the daily July 1 that ended 70 years of family ownership between Craig and his late father **Don McNeal**.

Craig worked for 52 years at the Republican, believed to be the smallest daily newspaper in the United States, with 1,400 circulation, as well as the smallest U.S. daily with Associated Press service.

I had the pleasure of speaking briefly at the packed high school auditorium with friend and Connecting colleague **Doug Anstaett**, executive director of the Kansas Press Association, and lauded the McNeal family's commitment to bringing its readers a daily product that includes international, national and state news from the AP.

I also told the story of coming into the Republican offices during my membership visits just as newspapers arrived from a nearby printing plant, and joining Don, Craig

and their staff of **Kay Roberts**, **Christy Jimerson** and **Becky Evans** in stuffing advertising inserts into each copy.

If you ever had doubts about the impact a community newspaper editor can have on his or her readers, you only needed to be there Sunday to see a classic demonstration.

Here's to a great week!

Paul

Goal set for fall release of 'Dateline-Saigon' documentary to general public

Tom Herman ([Email](#)) - My agent is currently negotiating a TV and/or online release of "Dateline-Saigon" for sometime this fall. Even in this age of multiple cable and online outlets, I am finding that historical documentaries are a difficult sell, even those about the importance of journalists speaking truth to power in the age of Mr. Trump. DVD's will be available for sale on the film's website and likely Amazon after the TV and online release.

The film is scheduled for a week-long theatrical run in New York in October (dates still to be finalized) and perhaps a few other cities thereafter. I am seeking an educational distributor, so it can be shown at any universities and journalism schools that might be interested. Please check the film's website - www.dateline-saigon.com - for updates on additional screenings, broadcast dates, and other information.

While the film focuses on five great reporters during the early years of U.S. involvement in the war, they are only the tip of the iceberg of my research and filming. I interviewed more than 50 people - print, radio and TV reporters, photojournalists, historians and others - who covered or wrote about the war from its early days through 1975.

It is my hope and my goal to expand the film's website to include relevant bites from many of these interviews and perhaps to develop an educational curriculum based on the entirety of my research and interviews that can be used in both history and journalism courses. This will, of course, require raising not-insubstantial funds to accomplish. I would welcome any thoughts on this from Connecting colleagues.

Here is the link to the film's trailer:
<https://vimeo.com/172631863>

Here is a link to the AP wire machine clattering out Mal Browne stories for the film: <https://vimeo.com/173800300>

***Norm Clarke's 75th
- 'Tamer than
Pamplona but just
as boisterous'***



Peter Arnett (left) and director Tom Herman at the Newport Beach Film Festival in April after "Dateline-Saigon" won a documentary jury award.



Norm Clarke with fellow revelers, from left: Las Vegas food critic John Curtas, AP's Edie Lederer, Norm and his wife Cara.

Edie Lederer ([Email](#)) - Former AP newsman/sportswriter Norm Clarke has run with the bulls at Pamplona - twice - on his birthdays, and covered many of Las Vegas' biggest parties.

But Saturday night it was his party being covered, for his 75th birthday.

It was tamer than Pamplona but just as boisterous.

Tim Dahlberg, AP's Las Vegas-based sports columnist tweeted:

"At what other party can you see Shecky Greene, two Las Vegas mayors, AP's UN correspondent, the former Las Vegas Review-Journal publisher and my Battle Born Media partner, Muhammad Ali's former manager and a cast of thousands. Well, not

thousands but it was a nice celebration of all things Norm!"

Caesars Palace headliner Celine Dion sent birthday greetings by video from Europe, where she is currently touring.

Carlo's Bakery, owned by "Cake Boss" Buddy Valastro, sent over one of his creations topped by a bust complete with Norm Clarke's signature eyepatch. Each guest was presented with an eyepatch to wear for the evening.



Norm and his cake.

Clarke called it his "sweetest birthday," noting that 15 years ago on his 60th he was in a wheelchair in declining health. "Couldn't walk and could barely talk," he told his birthday party crowd of about 75 at the Copa Room at the Bootlegger Bistro, an Old Vegas hotspot.

Clarke thanked his doctor and wife, Cara, for a recovery from prostate cancer that allowed him to continue for another decade and a half as the Las Vegas Review-Journal's highly read gossip column. He retired from the Review-Journal a year ago in July but came out of retirement to work for Brent Musburger and his family's Vegas Stats & Information Network (VSin.com).

Las Vegas Mayor Carolyn Goodman and her husband, former Mayor Oscar Goodman, were among those who gathered around Greene, who regaled his fans with one-liners and impromptu songs. Carolyn Goodman had proclaimed Saturday as "Norm Clarke Day."

Also there was Gene Kilroy, Ali's business manager; former Review-Journal publisher Sherm Frederick, who hired Clarke away from the Rocky Mountain News in Denver in 1999.

It was an evening for friends and family from near and far to celebrate a wonderful journalist and raconteur who knows everyone and has managed to break news about the rich and famous, the infamous and people having their 15 minutes of fame.

To Test Your Fake News Judgment, Play This Game

By **TENNESSEE WATSON, NPR**

Fake news has been on Maggie Farley's mind further back than 2016 when President Trump brought the term into the vernacular.

Farley, a veteran journalist, says we've had fake news forever and that "people have always been trying to manipulate information for their own ends," but she calls what we're seeing now "Fake news with a capital F." In other words, extreme in its ambition for financial gain or political power.

"Before, the biggest concern was, 'Are people being confused by opinion; are people being tricked by spin?' " Now, Farley says, the stakes are much higher.

So one day she says an idea came to her: build a game to test users' ability to detect fake news from real.

Voilà, Factitious. Give it a shot. (And take it from us, it's not as easy as you might think!)

The game's interface mimics the dating app Tinder, which made swiping famous. On a phone, players swipe left when they think the article in front of them is fake, and right when they believe it's real.

Depending on how you swipe, Factitious provides feedback. Whether your swipe was correct or incorrect, whether the article cites sources that can be checked, whether the story includes direct quotes from credible sources.

Stumped? If so, there is a clue. You can click to reveal the article's source.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting mailbox

Not Fake, But Can Media Fool the People?

David Briscoe ([Email](#)) - Mainstream US media is not fake news.

To adapt Abe Lincoln and GW Bush, or whoever's responsible for coining or messing up the original on fooling the people:

All of the news is not wrong all of the time.

But some of the news is wrong most of the time. (Take Fox News for example.)

And most of the news is wrong some of the time. Cases in point: Justification for the second Gulf War, Hillary Clinton's lock on 2016, any unchecked reporting of what Donald Trump says, and now, reports of contradictions between Russian versions of the over-hyped Putin-Trump meeting.

There were none. Each side reported differently, but without contradicting the other.

The Russians said Putin denied involvement in the US election and said Trump accepted that.

The US did not say whether Trump accused Putin of anything, only that Trump expressed the concern of Americans. There was no statement at all from the Americans on exactly how Trump couched US concerns or how he responded to Putin's denial, except that both sides thought it best to move on.

So, the following conclusions as reported across US media are just wrong:

-- They agreed to disagree. In fact, they agreed to agree.

-- They were at an impasse. In fact, they had no direct disagreement at all.

-- The sides told conflicting stories. Different details, yes, but no conflict.

-- No one will ever know what really was said. Actually, we probably do, because both stated their positions publicly before the meeting: Putin denied involvement, and Trump said it was probably Russia, but maybe not.

Again, it's not fake news. But too much reporting on this administration is fooling the people by lending presidential credibility to an administration that too often shows none.

We fooled the public on the Gulf War and the 2016 election, and we're too often played for a fool by the greatest media manipulator ever to be elected president.

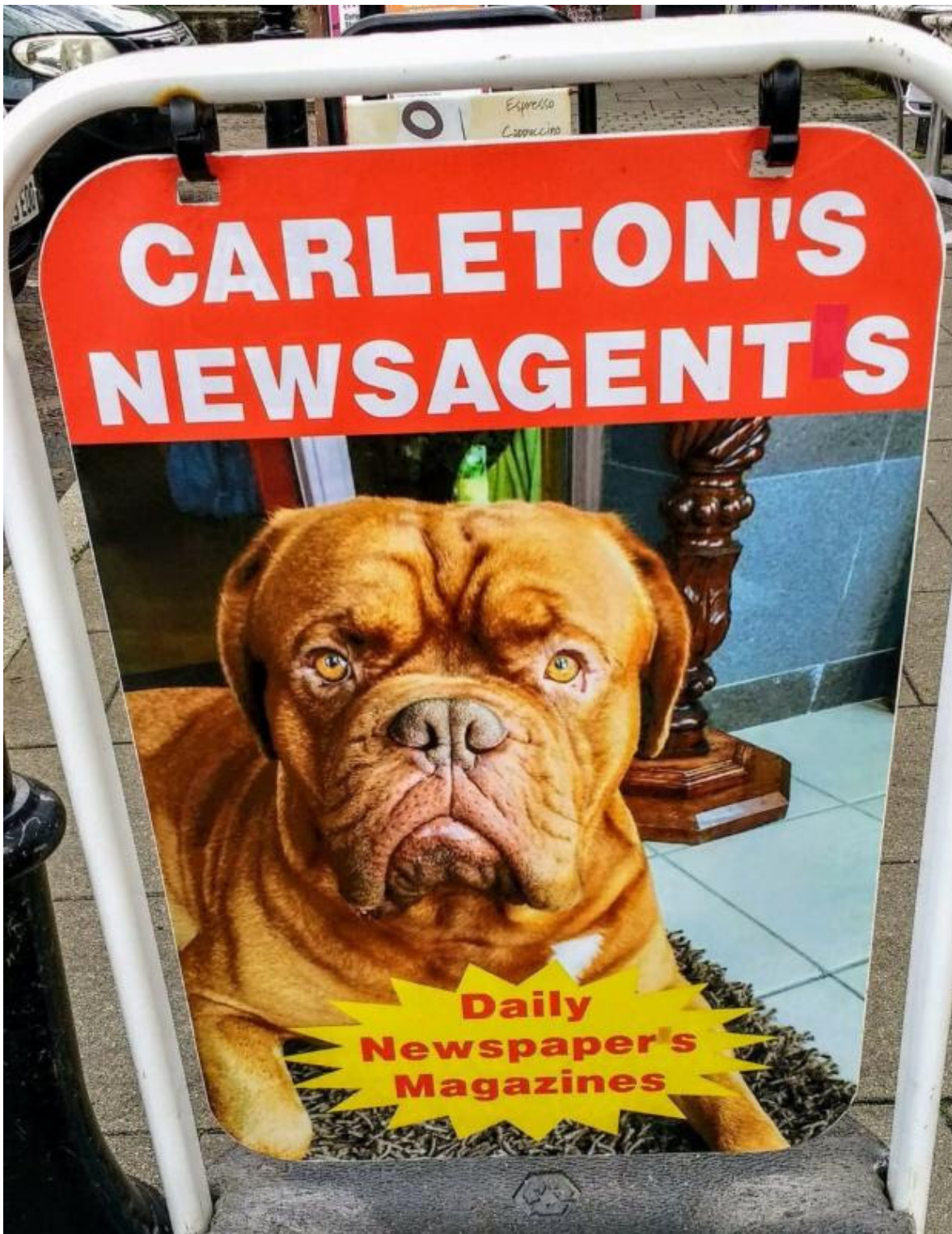
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Ridiculous-ness fatigue setting in soon

Chuck McFadden ([Email](#)) - Paul LePage, the governor of Maine, sits in his taxpayer-paid office, drawing his taxpayer-paid salary, and brags about using his time making up false news stories to bedevil reporters. C'mon now, folks, we have to have ridiculous-ness fatigue setting in pretty soon now.

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Here's a newstand for ya



Kevin Walsh ([Email](#)) - spotted on the streets of Bushmills, Northern Ireland. It's the business owner's dog, which she described "as the best looking one in the family."

AP**BEAT OF THE WEEK**

Long-form 360 video project provides riveting look at battle for Mosul



Captured in a still image from her 360 video, Middle East Photo Editor Maya Alleruzzo, far left, covers the evacuation of civilians from Mosul, conducted by Maj. Ihab Jalil al-Aboudi, an Iraqi special forces commander, center, in May 2017. IMAGE FROM VIDEO / MAYA ALLERUZZO

Iraqi Humvees wind their way through the pockmarked streets of Mosul. The rattle of gunfire and thud of a nearby airstrike fill the air. Terrified civilians scurry across the road to safety.

In the AP's first long-form 360 video project, Middle East Photo Editor Maya Alleruzzo teamed up with video editor Claudia Prat to produce a riveting and harrowing video, "House to House: The Battle for Mosul." The 8-minute video earns Alleruzzo the Beat of the Week.

Alleruzzo was embedded with Iraq's Counter Terrorism forces for three weeks in May and followed an Iraqi field commander and his unit as they sought to wrest control of western Mosul from Islamic State fighters.

Accompanied by a short text story and photos, her video was shot with special cameras that record images in 360 degrees, for an immersive viewing experience. Alleruzzo first tried using the 360 camera during a tour with Iraqi special forces in April and was so impressed by what she recorded, she took it to New York to show it to Prat and Nathan Griffiths, former Interactives producer. They devised a plan to develop a long-form video that produced a character-driven story. It included scenes of a family sheltered at home just a few blocks from the front line as well as soldiers in battle.

"360 is the ideal medium for combat ... stills on the rooftop were good but couldn't capture the scene like 360." - Maya Alleruzzo

The AP used three 360 cameras in case one crashed. One camera was clamped to a bulldozer that ended up getting hit by a car bomb just after it left the house where Alleruzzo had taken shelter.

"Compared to a still photo assignment, 360 is the ideal medium for combat," Alleruzzo said. "The stills on the rooftop were good but couldn't really capture the scene like the 360. Here, you can see the airstrike and the soldiers watching it while getting ready to shoot at other targets."

The video was taken at a time when Islamic State militants were using drones to drop grenades or to spot Iraqi soldiers' locations to fire mortars,

An important part of the video was finding the right commander. Baghdad Correspondent Susannah George, who has nurtured a good relationship with Iraqi special forces, arranged access to Major Ihab Jalil al-Aboudi. He was chosen because field commanders have very hands-on jobs and his team was engaged in the heaviest fighting at the time. He also stood out because he was charismatic. His presence was reassuring to fleeing civilians and he had a sense of style, too: He kept a comb in his pocket to keep his mustache looking fresh.

The video won widespread play with 100,000 Facebook views and more than 34,000 on YouTube.

Though the AP had an initial conversation about the project, the Iraqi officers didn't understand the camera, which is small and looks like a toy. Each day, the access was negotiated again.

The video won widespread play with 100,000 Facebook views and more than 34,000 on YouTube.

For her innovative video that captured both intimate and panoramic scenes of the liberation of Mosul, Alleruzzo earns this week's \$500 prize.



Colleen Long leads team coverage of fatal hospital shooting



Police officers with the Forensics Unit leave Bronx Lebanon Hospital in New York after a gunman opened fire, killing a doctor and wounding six others before taking his own life, June 30, 2017. The gunman, identified as Dr. Henry Bello, was forced out of a hospital two years earlier over sexual harassment allegations. He returned with an assault rifle hidden beneath his lab coat law enforcement officials said. AP PHOTO / MARY ALTAFFER

New York City police reporter Colleen Long was taking the elevator at police headquarters on a quiet Friday afternoon before the extended Fourth of July weekend when she overheard a couple of patrol officers suddenly talking with alarm.

"Oh my God," one of them said. "Something's going on at Bronx Lebanon Hospital. I think an active shooter."

Long got off on the next stop, on the seventh floor, and immediately started calling a source as she took the stairs down to her office in the second-floor press room, known as "the shack." By the time she got to the desk, she had enough information to call the New York City bureau with a barebones APNewsAlert: "NEW YORK (AP) - Police are responding to a report of shots fired inside a New York City hospital."

So began a bureau-wide reporting effort on a story that would unfold in unusual detail, even in the long litany of American gun violence: A doctor, forced out of a hospital two years earlier over sexual harassment allegations, returned with an assault rifle hidden beneath his lab coat and opened fire, killing a fellow doctor and wounding six other people as hospital staffers and patients cowered in terror. The gunman then tried to set himself on fire before finally turning the gun on himself.

Long confirmed that one of the shooting victims had died, a key break that put the AP out front for more than 20 minutes.

But in the early minutes, Long knew none of that. She started calling every source she could think of until she found one who was making his way to the scene. That source then started calling her back with five-second-long bursts of information. ... The gunman is a doctor. ... He hid a rifle under his lab coat. ... Multiple people shot. ... The gunman is dead.

Long later confirmed on multiple sources that one of the shooting victims had died, a key break that put the AP out front for more than 20 minutes. Several New York City TV stations said flat out "we haven't confirmed this ourselves but The Associated Press is reporting ..." Competitors didn't have the death confirmed until the mayor held a news conference.

But Long wasn't done. She also quickly obtained the shooter's arrest history on sexual abuse and other charges, his education and work records, and landed an interview with the shooter's former lawyer.

This was an all-format tour de force breaking news performance that led all major news sites.

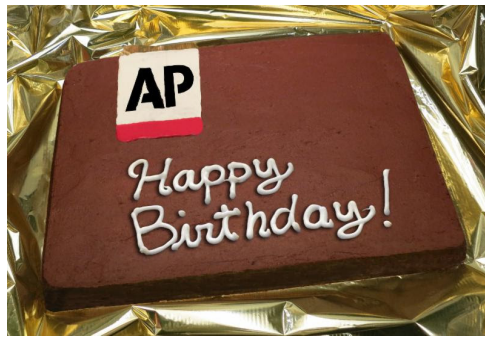
Meanwhile, federal courts reporter Larry Neumeister scrambled to the scene and got a great interview with a blood-splattered surgeon who told the story of treating some of the wounded while the gunman was still on the loose. Karen Matthews began cold-calling the killer's colleagues and got a good interview with a fellow doctor who

said he had had been threatened by the man and described him as aggressive. Videographer Ted Shaffrey scored a gripping interview with a patient who thought he was going to die. And photographer Mary Altaffer took of a photo of a distraught patient evacuating the hospital that landed on the front of the next day's New York Times.

In short, it was a tour de force breaking news performance that led all major news sites, landed the No. 1 spot on AP Mobile and topped both Teletrex and NewsWhip use Friday night into Saturday morning, with over 1,160 uses of the mainbar alone.

For leading a team effort that put the AP out front and kept us there, Colleen Long wins the Best of the States Award and the \$300 that goes with it for the second week in a row.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Chuck Lewis - chuck.lewis2014@gmail.com

Nancy Nussbaum - nnussbaum@ap.org

Stories of interest

High Anxiety at CNN Amid Attacks From Trump and His Trolls (Daily Beast)

It's a sign of the anxious, fractious times that CNN's Chris Cuomo, who'd just finished anchoring his New Day program Thursday morning, was ambushed by a camera-toting alt-right activist as he left the network's headquarters at Manhattan's Time Warner Center.

Rebel TV operative Laura Loomer, a veteran of Donald Trump-loving sting artist James O'Keefe's Project Veritas, confronted Cuomo on the sidewalk concerning CNN's online report this week on the anonymous Reddit user who was original source of President Trump's wrestling video retweet (in which the CNN logo replaced WWE impresario Vince McMahon's head in a GIF showing the pre-presidential Trump body-slammng and pummeling his victim).

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

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As Elites Switch to Texting, Watchdogs Fear Loss of Transparency (New York Times)

In a bygone analog era, lawmakers and corporate chiefs traveled great distances to swap secrets, to the smoke-filled back rooms of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, or the watering holes at the annual Allen & Company conference in Sun Valley, Idaho.

But these days, entering the corridors of power is as easy as opening an app.

Secure messaging apps like WhatsApp, Signal and Confide are making inroads among lawmakers, corporate executives and other prominent communicators. Spooked by surveillance and wary of being exposed by hackers, they are switching from phone calls and emails to apps that allow them to send encrypted and self-destructing texts. These apps have obvious benefits, but their use is causing problems in heavily regulated industries, where careful record-keeping is standard procedure.

"By and large, email is still used for formal conversations," said Juleanna Glover, a corporate consultant based in Washington. "But for quick shots, texting is the medium of choice."

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

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A New Film Shows How a Group of Syrian Citizen Journalists Is Taking On ISIS (Vogue)



Abdalaziz Alhamza was only 20 years old when life as he knew it came to a crashing halt. He was a college student in his Northern Syrian hometown of Raqqa, studying biochemistry with the intention of becoming a pharmacist, hanging out with friends, playing soccer, smoking cigarettes. Alhamza, who goes by Aziz, had never been particularly political, but when demonstrations against the autocratic regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad began bubbling up in the wake of the Arab Spring, he joined the fray. Noticing that local news outlets were ignoring the very newsworthy protests, he began to film demonstrations with his phone, posting the videos online, where they were picked up by a handful of Arabic television channels.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

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Newsonomics: There's a newspaper chain that's grown profits for the past 5 years, and it's looking to buy more papers (Nieman)

By KEN DOCTOR

It's one of the grandest names in newspaper history, but it's one seldom heard in the industry conversation about the future of the American press.

As The New York Times and The Washington Post have come to dominate national newspapering, we hear mostly about two kinds of regional companies. There are the three big guys - Gannett, GateHouse Media, and Digital First Media - all consolidators of one kind or another, who now collectively own a quarter of U.S. dailies. Then there are the privately owned or family-directed independents - The Boston Globe, the Star Tribune, The Dallas Morning News, The Seattle Times - caught mid-innovation, fashioning new business models on the fly that they intend will somehow allow them to fulfill their civic missions. Then there's Tronc, McClatchy, and Lee, all chains on the edge, their status as publicly traded companies complicating their digital transformations.

And there's Hearst. Founded by William Randolph Hearst in 1887, Hearst is slowly re-emerging anew as a newspaper company. Now owning 22 dailies - from New Haven to Albany to Houston to San Francisco - and 64 weeklies, Hearst now says it's in acquisition mode. Just a month ago, it became the biggest publisher in Connecticut, buying the New Haven Register, some related smaller titles, and Connecticut Magazine from Digital First Media. That followed three other acquisitions in the past year, the biggest a deal that added 24 weeklies situated around its highly profitable Houston Chronicle. That buy reinforced Hearst's overall strength in Texas, where it owns six dailies, including the San Antonio Express-News.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Ralph Gage.

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News Outlets to Seek Bargaining Rights Against Google and Facebook (New York Times)

By **JIM RUTENBERG**

Google and Facebook continue to gobble up the digital advertising market, siphoning away revenue that once paid for the quality journalism that Google and Facebook now offer for free.

They are gaining increasing control over digital distribution, so newspapers that once delivered their journalism with their own trucks increasingly have to rely on these big online platforms to get their articles in front of people, fighting for attention alongside fake news, websites that lift their content, and cat videos.

And for all of Google's and Facebook's efforts to support journalism by helping news organizations find new revenue streams - and survive in the new world that these sites helped create - they are, at the end of the day, the royals of the court. Quality news providers are the supplicants and the serfs.

It's an uneasy alliance that has publishers chafing at the returns they receive from Google and Facebook, which rely on the free flow of premium news and information.

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

The Final Word

Things You Should Do in Your 60s to Boost Your Longevity (VeryWell)

Your 60s are a big decade. You may be planning to put your work life behind you and retiring. You may have more time to spend on yourself. While all of the change can be exciting and scary, what better time to start working on a "new you" than in this phase of your life? This "new you" can be even more focused on being healthy and feeling great. Make your retirement not about "resting" but about reaching your maximum health and working toward a long life of health and happiness. Here are ten things that can get you started.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - July 10, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, July 10, the 191st day of 2017. There are 174 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 10, 1967, country singer-songwriter Bobbie Gentry recorded her hit single "Ode to Billie Joe" at Capitol Records in Hollywood.

On this date:

In A.D. 138, Roman Emperor Hadrian, responsible for the construction of opulent temples as well as the barrier in northern Britain known as Hadrian's Wall, died at age 62.

In 1509, theologian John Calvin, a key figure of the Protestant Reformation, was born in Noyon, Picardy, France.

In 1890, Wyoming became the 44th state.

In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson personally delivered the Treaty of Versailles (vehr-SY') to the Senate and urged its ratification. (However, the Senate rejected it.)

In 1925, jury selection took place in Dayton, Tennessee, in the trial of John T. Scopes, charged with violating the law by teaching Darwin's Theory of Evolution. (Scopes was convicted and fined, but the verdict was overturned on a technicality.)

In 1940, during World War II, the Battle of Britain began as the Luftwaffe started attacking southern England. (The Royal Air Force was ultimately victorious.)

In 1951, armistice talks aimed at ending the Korean War began at Kaesong.

In 1962, AT&T's Telstar 1 communications satellite, capable of relaying television signals and telephone calls, was launched by NASA from Cape Canaveral.

In 1973, the Bahamas became fully independent after three centuries of British colonial rule. John Paul Getty III, the teenage grandson of the oil tycoon, was abducted in Rome by kidnappers who cut off his ear when his family was slow to meet their ransom demands; Getty was released in December 1973 for nearly \$3 million.

In 1985, the Greenpeace protest ship Rainbow Warrior was sunk with explosives in Auckland, New Zealand, by French intelligence agents; one activist was killed. Bowing to pressure from irate customers, the Coca-Cola Co. said it would resume selling old-formula Coke, while continuing to sell New Coke.

In 1991, Boris N. Yeltsin took the oath of office as the first elected president of the Russian republic. President George H.W. Bush lifted economic sanctions against South Africa.

In 1999, the United States women's soccer team won the World Cup, beating China 5-4 on penalty kicks after 120 minutes of scoreless play at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California.

Ten years ago: China executed the former head of its food and drug agency (Zheng Xiaoyu) for approving untested medicine in exchange for cash. A judge in Los

Angeles sentenced pizza deliveryman Chester Turner to death for murdering 10 women and a fetus during the 1980s and '90s (Turner remains on death row). The American League defeated the National League 5-4 in the All-Star game. Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Doug Marlette, 57, died in an auto accident near Holly Springs, Mississippi.

Five years ago: Clashing over the economy, President Barack Obama challenged Mitt Romney to join him in allowing tax hikes for rich Americans like them; Romney dismissed the idea and redirected charges that he, Romney, had sent jobs overseas when he worked in private equity, calling Obama the real "outsourcer-in-chief." An Israeli court cleared former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert of the central charges in a multi-case corruption trial that forced him from power, but convicted him of a lesser charge of breach of trust, for which Olmert received a suspended one-year jail sentence. The National League romped to an 8-0 victory over the American League in the All-Star game.

One year ago: President Barack Obama, during an abbreviated visit to Spain, urged respect and restraint from Americans angered by the killing of black men by police, saying anything less did a "disservice to the cause" of ridding the criminal justice system of racial bias. Andy Murray won his second Wimbledon title by beating Milos Raonic 6-4, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (2) on Centre Court.

Today's Birthdays: Former boxer Jake LaMotta is 96. Former New York City Mayor David N. Dinkins is 90. Actor William Smithers is 90. Broadway composer Jerry Herman is 86. Director Ivan Passer is 84. Actor Lawrence Pressman is 78. Singer Mavis Staples is 78. Actor Mills Watson is 77. Actor Robert Pine is 76. Rock musician Jerry Miller (Moby Grape) is 74. International Tennis Hall of Famer Virginia Wade is 72. Actress Sue Lyon is 71. Folk singer Arlo Guthrie is 70. Rock musician Dave Smalley is 68. Country-folk singer-songwriter Cheryl Wheeler is 66. Rock singer Neil Tennant (Pet Shop Boys) is 63. Banjo player Bela Fleck is 59. Country musician Shaw Wilson (BR549) is 57. Bluegrass singer-musician Tim Surrent (Balsam Range) is 54. Actor Alec Mapa is 52. Country singer-songwriter Ken Mellons is 52. Rock musician Peter DiStefano (Porno for Pyros) is 52. Actor Gale Harold is 48. Country singer Gary LeVox (leh-VOH') (Rascal Flatts) is 47. Actor Aaron D. Spears is 46. Actress Sofia Vergara is 45. Rockabilly singer Imelda May is 43. Actor Adrian Grenier (grehn-YAY') is 41. Actor Chiwetel Ejiofor (CHOO'-ih-tehl EHJ'-ee-oh-for) is 40. Actress Gwendoline Yeo is 40. Actor Thomas Ian Nicholas is 37. Singer-actress Jessica Simpson is 37. Rock musician John Spiker is 36. Actress Heather Hemmens is 33. Actress Emily Skeggs (TV: "When We Rise") is 27. Rapper/singer Angel Haze is 26. Pop singer Perrie Edwards (Little Mix) is 24.

Thought for Today: "When I feel the heat, I see the light." - Everett Dirksen, American politician (1896-1969).

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

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