



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - July 12, 2017

1 message

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

Wed, Jul 12, 2017 at 9:09 AM

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



Connecting

July 12, 2017

Click [here](#) for sound of the Teletype



- [Top AP News](#)
- [Top AP photos](#)
- [AP World](#)

- [AP books](#)
- [Connecting Archive](#)
- [The AP Store](#)
(Purchases benefit [The AP Emergency Relief Fund](#))

Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

Here are the top stories of interest in a crowded Connecting Mailbox.

We begin with the AP story leading this morning's wire report.

Paul

As Russia scandal touches his son, Trump privately rages

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and JULIE PACE

WASHINGTON (AP) - The snowballing revelations about Donald Trump Jr.'s meeting with a Russian lawyer during last year's presidential campaign have broadsided the White House, distracting from its agenda as aides grapple with a crisis involving the president's family.

The public has not laid eyes on the president since his return from Europe Saturday. But in private, Trump has raged against the latest Russia development, with most of his ire directed at the media, not his son, according to people who have spoken to him in recent days. The only comment from Trump on the matter for much of the day came in a brief statement via spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders, who said Tuesday that the president believes his son is "a high-quality person."



AP File Photo/Matt York

On Wednesday morning, Trump tweeted that his son was "open, transparent and innocent," again referring to the investigation as "the greatest Witch Hunt in political history." The president also questioned the sources of the media reporting on the story.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting mailbox

Eric Bowman: A Prequel to the AP ENPS/BBC Relationship

Myron Belkind ([Email](#)) - My sympathies to Lee Perryman and all the ENPS friends and colleagues of Eric Bowman on his passing, and thanks to Lee and Anthony Prangle for their fitting tributes to Eric in Tuesday's Connecting.

Here is a little anecdotal prequel about the birth of the AP ENPS/BBC relationship:

In the early 1990s, Lee sent out a note to bureau chiefs advising that his team would be demonstrating AP NewsCenter, a product that became known as ENPS when it was adapted to the BBC's needs. It was going to be an invitation-only demonstration in the backroom of the annual high-tech conference and exhibition organized by the National Association of Broadcasters in Las Vegas. We were asked to advise Lee if we knew anyone who should be invited.

As the AP London bureau chief, I had a close relationship with Eric, who as the assistant managing director of BBC News & Current Affairs negotiated all the international news agency contacts for the BBC. When Eric mentioned that he would be going to the NAB conference in a few days, I messaged Lee and, as was typical, he looked after Eric very well and demonstrated all the features of the software being developed.

Eric returned to London and phoned me immediately.

"I just mentioned to my BBC colleagues how impressed I was with the AP demonstration in Las Vegas. The BBC is in the midst of finalizing an agreement to contract for a new newsroom management system. Can Lee fly over to London and demonstrate the software to the BBC in the next few days?" That's correct, Eric wanted Lee to fly over immediately!

As we know of Lee, he already had commitments well into the future, but Lee literally changed his plans and flew to London, yes, in a matter of days.

I was fortunate to sit through Lee's demonstration to the large BBC team. I still recall how every time someone asked Lee if the AP could provide a specific additional feature, such as even inserting photos on identification passes for the large BBC staff, Lee calmly clicked on his computer and the feature appeared.

In 1996, the formal contract between AP and BBC was signed, providing a major boost for the growth of ENPS with broadcasters around the world and throughout the United States. And that growth was spurred by the leadership of Lee and Eric, who had become the ENPS director of international development, and their first backroom meeting at the NAB conference in Las Vegas.

-0-

Eric Bowman - one of best ambassadors AP had for its newsroom systems

Brad Kalbfeld ([Email](#)) - Eric Bowman was one the best ambassadors AP had for its newsroom computer systems. He was smart, unfailingly courteous, and fun to be with.

For me, our personal connection centered around our mutual love of reading. We would see each other on "booth duty" and "suite duty" at every broadcast industry convention. He would ask me, "What are you reading?" and we would trade book titles and author names.

The same sort of thing happened every time Steve Crowley and I shared booth or suite duty: Steve would ask, "What music are you listening to?" and we would trade album and artist names.

It's a reminder that, though we may have seen each other only a few times a year, and our work might be only tangentially related, we shared a mission and forged lasting friendships.

-0-

Jack Kneece, former AP Baltimore and Washington newsman, dies at 80

Jack Kneece, who worked for the AP in Baltimore and Washington, died in Columbia, South Carolina, on Monday, July 10. He was 80.



News of his death was shared by Joan Mower ([Email](#)), former wife of Kneece, head of development for the Broadcasting Board of Governors and a Connecting colleague, who said, "Jack had a distinguished career as a newspaperman and as an author, and his books can be found on Amazon. He was a delightful, witty guy."

Kneece's news reporting career started with United Press International in Atlanta. A seasoned journalist with an impressive list of credentials, Kneece has worked with publications across the world, with his work having appeared domestically in California, Alaska, Washington, D.C., Louisiana, and Virginia newspapers. He was a congressional reporter with the Washington Star, a national editor for the Washington Times, and in the AP's Baltimore and Washington bureaus. For his work with the Oakland Tribune in California, he was twice nominated for a Pulitzer Prize by the Alameda Newspaper Group.

In the 1960s, Kneece sold his first major story to Playboy Magazine and was the first reporter to land an interview with Bobby Baker during the Baker/Lyndon B. Johnson scandal of 1967. Kneece also worked internationally to establish Singapore's afternoon newspaper and served as a correspondent in Islamabad, Pakistan.

Kneece graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in English and a minor in journalism.

-0-

Ridiculous bets sometimes pay off

Steve Crowley ([Email](#)) - After seeing George Zucker's accounting of his blessed win with Vickie winking at him in Tuesday's Connecting, I have to chime in with a hunch-based event of my own. Having spent a few nights with George at the races when I was in Philly, I thought he, and others might get a kick out of my tidbit.

On a recent weeknight my brother and I saw a really good movie called "The Exception," which starred Christopher Plummer as Kaiser Wilhelm, holed up in Holland just prior to WW II.

The following day I was plugged into my internet racing account and saw that a horse named Kaiser's d'light was running on the turf at Gulfstream. As the race approached, it was clear this hopeless nag would be a bomb, and likely had little chance to win. But after seeing this movie the night before, there was no way that this was not an omen.

I debated for a few minutes, and then decided to plop down a ten spot on her nose...no place or show betting for me...all on her nose. As the race developed, she was far back, and I dismissed her as having no shot. I kept watching, and she just wasn't giving up. She kept grinding on, and as the front runners started gasping for air, my Kaiser exploded in mid-stretch, weaving her way through a wall of horses, and to my utter delight (no pun intended) she got her nose down at the wire, and paid \$64.20 for \$2.00!

So, see, that's what this retired guy often does. Throws away good money on ridiculous bets, that sometimes, miraculously, come through!

-0-

John Solomon Joins The Hill as Executive Vice President, Digital Video (Adweek)



Effective Tuesday, John Solomon is leading The Hill's growing video efforts as its executive vice president, digital video.

Solomon joins from Circa-the relaunched, Sinclair Broadcast Group-owned version-where he had been chief creative officer.

"The Hill's spectacular rise as the leading outlet for political news coverage speaks to a far-reaching vision for digitally-powered growth," said Solomon in a statement. "Joining The Hill team at this time, when the outlet is seeing just the first fruits of that vision, is an incredibly exciting opportunity. I'm looking forward to working with some of today's most talented journalists to create a new political genre for the mobile generation, providing unmatched, non-partisan political news and bipartisan shows in the digital formats they love."

Read more [here](#). Solomon worked for the AP from 1987 to 2006 and was assistant bureau chief in Washington.

-0-

David Von Drehle returns to The Washington Post as an opinion columnist



The Washington Post Tuesday announced award-winning author David Von Drehle will join The Washington Post as a staff columnist for the Opinions section. In a twice weekly column, Von Drehle will report and write about the uneasy landscape of modern America and American politics.

"Anyone who has read anything by David Von Drehle immediately notices the byline. He's an iconoclastic thinker and gifted writer who combines a heartland sensibility with a deep intellectual bent," said Fred Hiatt, editorial page editor for The Post. "David has an unerring instinct for the perfect but unexpected word, a willingness to challenge orthodox thinking, a wide array of intellectual interests and an instinctive understanding of the deeper forces driving American politics."

Read more [here](#). David is the husband of former AP Washington and Jefferson City journalist Karen Ball.

-0-

John Quinn, founding USA TODAY editor, dies; former president of APME, ASNE

After a long and distinguished career in journalism that included serving as the founding editor of USA TODAY, John Quinn died Tuesday in Rhode Island.

His health had been failing for some time before he returned to the hospital Monday, according to those close to him and his family. He died among family Tuesday

afternoon.

Along with being a founding editor of USA TODAY, Quinn was also the president of the Gannett News Service and later the vice president of news at Gannett Co. Inc. before retiring in 1990. He also served as a former deputy chairman of the Freedom Forum.

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



Welcome to Connecting



Sheila Davis - sheila.davis@examiner.net

Stories of interest

Knight Institute sues President Trump over Twitter blocking (Poynter)

The Knight First Amendment Institute has filed a lawsuit against President Donald Trump and his communication teams, alleging that they're violating the Constitution by blocking people on Twitter.

The lawsuit, which was filed in the Southern District of New York today on behalf of seven individuals blocked by the @realdonaldtrump account, seeks to have the court determine that Trump's exclusion of people from his Twitter feed is an unconstitutional viewpoint-based discrimination of speech, according to a press release sent to Poynter.

"President Trump's Twitter account has become an important source of news and information about the government, and an important forum for speech by, to, or about the president," said Jameel Jaffer, the Knight Institute's executive director, in the release. "The First Amendment applies to this digital forum in the same way it applies to town halls and open school board meetings. The White House acts unlawfully when it excludes people from this forum simply because they've disagreed with the president."

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Health reporters: Secrecy, speed, and Twitter changed coverage of GOP bill (CJR)

IN A RECENT STORY FOR The Atlantic, Kaiser Health News reporter Julie Rovner decried the "extreme secrecy" surrounding the creation of a Republican health-care bill, which she called "a situation without precedent." To support her case, Rovner offered some critical context-details from her own career, which spans three decades and includes coverage of major health legislation crafted by previous administrations:

Since 1986, I have chronicled the passage, and repeal, of the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act; the fight over former President Bill Clinton's health proposal; passage of the Medicare prescription-drug bill; and passage of the Affordable Care Act, in addition to a dozen budget reconciliation measures that altered health care, often in fundamental ways.

Health reporters with comparable experience are hard to come by; still, Rovner isn't the only one to take exception with the way the GOP health bill has unfolded. Sarah Kliff covered the Affordable Care Act for Newsweek and now works for Vox. In June, Kliff published a story that drew on her experience covering the ACA for context on the Republican health legislation. "I've covered Obamacare since day one," reads the headline. "I've never seen lying and obstruction like this."

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Police praise TV assignment editor for helping rescue hostages (Poynter)

Cobb County, Georgia police praised WSB TV Assignment Editor Stephanie Steiger for helping them rescue two hostages in a bank Friday.

Brian Easley, who said he was a former Marine, called Atlanta's WSB TV and told Steiger, "I have a bomb and I'm holding people hostage."

For 45 minutes, Steiger listened to Easley's complaints about the Department of Veterans Affairs. She gently urged him to not hurt anyone. She asked him how he wanted to be addressed "Brian or Mr. Easley?" At one point, Steiger spoke with the two hostages who said Easley "was being very respectful."

Chief Mike Register said Steiger did a "great job" keeping Easley calm and the information police got by listening in on the call helped them save the hostages.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

How do we build a better recommendation experience for mobile news readers? (Nieman)

For subway commuters, it's a common enough situation: you get on the train, pull out of the station and...ugh, you're offline. On your phone: yesterday's tweets, maybe a news app loaded up with old stories, a newsletter with links you can't open.

Although many news apps now enable offline reading, they don't ensure that the things we have access to offline are relevant to us as individual readers. I can get content offline from a news app on my morning train ride, but when I pull out of the

station, I have no guarantee that what it will have served me will be relevant to my interests, in a format I like, or something I can reasonably read in the the time I have left in my commute.

At the Guardian Mobile Innovation Lab, we think there is space to push past what currently exists for offline reading, particularly where it intersects with the burgeoning area of content recommendations. To do this, we've looked at what exists for each type of experience and tried to identify the gaps and opportunities.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

How do successful people take on a difficult challenge and conquer it? (Quora)

Every night for the 12 months of training preceding the race, I'd go to bed thinking "HTF am I going to complete this race?"

And what's worse is, I was on the wrong side of 40... Not the "ideal" age to take on a daft challenge like this.

But, anyway, here's how I did it...

Break down your challenge, focus only on the short term goal.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - July 12, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, July 12, the 193rd day of 2017. There are 172 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 12, 1967, rioting erupted in Newark, New Jersey, over the police beating of a black taxi driver; 26 people were killed in the five days of violence that followed.

On this date:

In 1543, England's King Henry VIII married his sixth and last wife, Catherine Parr.

In 1817, author, poet and naturalist Henry David Thoreau was born in Concord, Massachusetts.

In 1862, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln signed a bill authorizing the Army Medal of Honor.

In 1909, the House of Representatives joined the Senate in passing the 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, allowing for a federal income tax, and submitted it to the states. (It was declared ratified in February 1913.)

In 1917, artist Andrew Wyeth was born in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania.

In 1948, the Democratic National Convention, which nominated President Harry S. Truman for a second term of office, opened in Philadelphia.

In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower was flown by helicopter from the White House to a secret mountaintop location as part of a drill involving a mock nuclear attack on Washington.

In 1977, President Jimmy Carter defended Supreme Court limits on government payments for poor women's abortions, saying, "There are many things in life that are not fair."

In 1984, Democratic presidential candidate Walter F. Mondale announced his choice of U.S. Rep. Geraldine A. Ferraro of New York to be his running-mate; Ferraro was the first woman to run for vice president on a major-party ticket.

In 1988, Democratic presidential candidate Michael S. Dukakis tapped Sen. Lloyd Bentsen of Texas as his running-mate.

In 1994, President Bill Clinton, visiting Germany, went to the eastern sector of Berlin, the first U.S. president to do so since Harry Truman.

In 2001, Abner Louima (loo-EE'-mah), the Haitian immigrant tortured in a New York City police station, agreed to an \$8.7 million settlement with the city and its police union.

Ten years ago: Presidential hopeful Barack Obama drew the loudest cheers of the eight Democratic candidates at an NAACP civil rights forum in Detroit as he assailed the Bush administration's record on race relations. The House of Representatives voted 223-201 to withdraw U.S. troops by spring 2008 despite a veto threat from President George W. Bush. British soccer star David Beckham and his wife, Victoria (of Spice Girls fame), arrived in Los Angeles to begin their new lives in the United States.

Five years ago: Vice President Joe Biden rallied support for President Barack Obama at the NAACP's convention in Houston, declaring that Republican challenger Mitt Romney's election-year agenda would hurt - not help - working families in the black community. A scathing report by former FBI Director Louis Freeh said the late Joe Paterno and other top Penn State officials had buried child

sexual abuse allegations against Jerry Sandusky more than a decade earlier to avoid bad publicity.

One year ago: President Barack Obama visited Dallas, where five police officers were killed the previous week by a black man seeking vengeance for police killings; Obama said a week of deeply troubling violence seemed to expose "the deepest fault lines of our democracy," but insisted the nation was not as divided as it seemed. With hugs and handshakes, Bernie Sanders endorsed Hillary Clinton for president during an appearance in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The American League won its fourth consecutive All-Star Game, beating the NL 4-2 at Petco Park in San Diego.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Monte Hellman is 88. Actor-comedian Bill Cosby is 80. Singer-musician Christine McVie is 74. Actress Denise Nicholas is 73. Singer-songwriter Butch Hancock is 72. Fitness guru Richard Simmons is 69. Actor Jay Thomas is 69. Singer Walter Egan is 69. Writer-producer Brian Grazer is 66. Actress Cheryl Ladd is 66. Country singer Julie Miller is 61. Gospel singer Sandi Patty is 61. Actress Mel Harris is 61. Actor Buddy Foster is 60. Rock guitarist Dan Murphy (Soul Asylum) is 55. Actress Judi Evans is 53. Rock singer Robin Wilson (Gin Blossoms) is 52. Actress Natalie Desselle Reid is 50. Actress Lisa Nicole Carson is 48. Olympic gold medal figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi is 46. Country singer Shannon Lawson is 44. Rapper Magoo is 44. Actress Anna Friel is 41. Rhythm-and-blues singer Tracie Spencer is 41. Actress Alison Wright is 41. Actor Steve Howey is 40. Actor Topher Grace is 39. Actress Michelle Rodriguez is 39. Actress Kristen Connolly is 37. Country singer-musician Kimberly Perry (The Band Perry) is 34. Actor Matt Cook (TV: "Man With a Plan") is 33. Actress Natalie Martinez is 33. Actress Ta'Rhonda Jones is 29. Golfer Inbee Park is 29. Actress Rachel Brosnahan is 27. Actor Erik Per Sullivan is 26. Olympic gold medal gymnast Jordyn Wieber is 22. Nobel Peace laureate Malala Yousafzai (mah-LAH'-lah YOO'-suhf-zeye) is 20.

Thought for Today: "There is no remedy for love but to love more." - Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862).

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

SafeUnsubscribe™ pjshane@gmail.com

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

Sent by paulstevens46@gmail.com in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today