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Connecting - July 20, 2017

1 message

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Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 8:59 AM

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Connecting

July 20, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

My thanks to **Dick Chady** for taking on Connecting editor duties while Linda and I were vacationing in Colorado (Lake George, Grand Lake, Denver) for the past week.

He did a great job.

However, I will admit that the sign-off name Dick chose for Wednesday's edition - **Arnold Zenker** - sent me scrambling into a Google search. How about you?



Zenker, as you may have already known, gained brief stardom in 1967 when he sat in for **Walter Cronkite** on the CBS Evening News for 13 days when Cronkite joined a strike by the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists. When Cronkite returned, he opened with these words, "Good evening. This is Walter Cronkite, sitting in for Arnold Zenker. It's good to be back." [Click here](#) for a story CBS did in April on the 50th anniversary of the "accidental anchor."

Dick Chady is no Arnold Zenker and I am no Walter Cronkite. But I do agree, it's good to be back.

Be forewarned, however - there's been a dearth of feeds from you all of late and if it continues, you will start seeing a wealth of pictures taken from our Colorado vacation. Fair warning. See Connecting Mailbox for a sky shot.

Paul

Connecting mailbox

Steve Loeper experiencing first summer off since childhood



Steve Loeper wrote Connecting to shut off delivery of the newsletter to his [ap.org](mailto:steveloeper@ap.org) address that disappeared when he recently retired from the Los Angeles bureau after a 44-year career and noted: "I'm really enjoying catching up with life on my first summer off since childhood. But I've neglected to give you my new email address so I can reconnect with Connecting as a real AP retiree: steveloeper@hotmail.com

Steve continues:

I really do feel like a kid again, jumping from one thing to the next on impulse alone. No deadlines, no schedules.

OK, I'll admit it... that's slightly fake news. While I'm definitely enjoying my freedom, a guy who spent four decades planning stuff doesn't change that easily. So naturally, I divided my first summer off since childhood into Five Phases...

Phase One, travel: European jaunt and a couple of road trips around the West (clicked tourist shots above).

Phase Two, doing lunch: Getting together - sometimes on a whim -- with local friends and relatives, often neglected while I was on the job.

Phase Three, projects: A combination of bucket list and honey-do stuff, everything from cleaning the garage to reorganizing my sock drawer. And joining Costco. It was time.

Phase Four, health (in progress): Improved exercise, with the help of my very first personal trainer, and also taking care of long-postponed medical needs. I'm Invoking HIPAA on further details.

Phase Five, back to school: Some journalism or PR teaching, maybe take a night class of interest, perhaps do volunteer docent work at a Hollywood-themed site, possible freelance editing and, of course, the right to revisit Phases One and Two at any time.

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Who is the secret Santa? More of your guesses

Got a name for this AP Santa delighting Claudia DiMartino and the others at 50 Rock in about 1981? Tell Connecting and we'll reveal all next week.

The latest guesses:

Mark Mittelstadt (Email) - Pretty sure that's not Lou Boccardi. Or Tom Pendergast. I think I see Keith Fuller's features.

Sibby Christensen (Email) - Since I have a trove of useless information parked in the back of my brain, thought I'd be able identify this fellow. Do recall Santa's tour through the 50 Rock HQs. But still, it's a guess: Eddie Adams?



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'Won't take long for youngsters to outpace me'

Mike Tharp ([Email](#)) - a domestic, foreign and war correspondent and editor - will teach three courses this fall at North Lake College in Dallas: News Reporting, Media Writing and Introduction to Mass Comm. "The AI story that Dick posted in Tuesday's Connecting will become part of what we learn in all three classes. In this case, I'm sure it won't take long for the youngsters to outpace me."

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Connecting sky shot - Grand Lake, Colorado



Paul Stevens - a view of a Colorado treasure - Grand Lake - at the west entrance of the Rocky Mountain National Park.

AP and Red Bull Media House collaborate to provide premium sports, music and lifestyle content

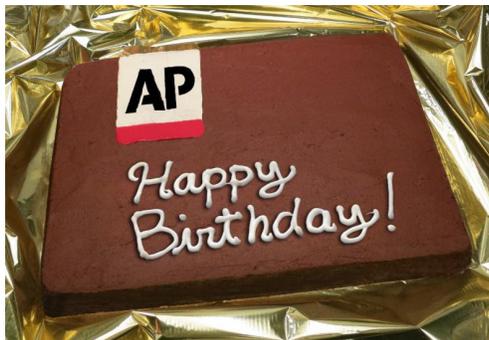
The Associated Press and Red Bull Media House announced Tuesday a collaboration that will allow AP clients to access a curated mix of sports, dance, music and lifestyle video and images from Red Bull Media House.

Each week, AP Video Hub and AP Images will offer registered clients 15 or more curated content items representing the very best of Red Bull Media House.

Paul Shanley, director of business development and partnerships at AP, said: "The Associated Press has been on a mission to bring the widest possible selection of curated video and photo content to our clients. Highlights from Red Bull Media House's video and photo libraries will add a new thrilling dimension to our existing sports and lifestyle content."

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Cheryl Wittenauer - cwittenauer@juno.com

Stories of interest

A new book about foreign reporting is also a paeon to local newspapers (CJR)

By JOE FREEMAN, CJR

Jeffrey Gettleman, via Twitter:

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, when I was an intern at the Associated Press in Egypt, I emailed one of the more seasoned foreign correspondents in the country to ask for career advice. Naturally, I attached my resume. The email I got back was not very exciting from a professional standpoint, but it did contain wisdom. "I don't really know the best way in these days," the journalist wrote. "I came up under very different circumstances, when you really could just work your way from a small paper to a medium paper to a larger paper."

The formula is quaint in retrospect. Not many reporters in my peer group abroad have covered a local crime beat or written up a city council meeting. Partially fueled by the rise of longform journalism, the formula for a cub reporter has morphed into hopping on a plane and going straight to a foreign country, experience in local newspaperdom be damned. In the Trump era, local news coverage has seemed more important than ever. But the jobs aren't as plentiful as they once were, and working at a scrappy local or regional paper doesn't have the pull that it once had.

Nor is it seen as a reliable stepping stone professionally. That's a significant change, and raises the question of what, if anything, has been lost in the process. It's almost like taking up Ancient Greek before dabbling in Latin. Sure, they are dead languages, but if you were a classicist, wouldn't it be better to know them both?

"Life in a small town had taught me what I liked and what I didn't. I learned that I loved journalism, the sweaty craziness of it. And I learned that when you really begin to love the sweaty craziness of something, when you're in the daze of it, nothing else matters. It can't."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Albright.

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Editors, don't waste time reminiscing on the glory days (Poynter)

By Marty Kaiser

This is part of a series of Q and A's with leaders at news organizations. I asked leaders to think about the challenges they face in their news organizations and to share guidance and advice. Whether your news organization is small or large, a start-up or more than 100 years old, the issues are often the same. This series on managing change in a newsroom was funded by Democracy Fund. Subscribe to Democracy Fund's Local Fix newsletter for more of the best writing, ideas, and tips for those working in local news in your inbox every Friday.

Gregory Favre was born in New Orleans and grew up working on the family newspaper in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. He was assistant sports editor at the Atlanta Journal; managing editor at the Dayton Daily News; editor of the Palm Beach Post; editor of the Daytona Beach News-Journal; news director at WPLG-TV in Miami; editor of the Corpus Christi Caller-Times; managing editor of the Chicago Daily News and the Chicago Sun-Times; he served as executive editor of The Sacramento Bee from 1984 to 1998.

He was appointed vice president of news of The McClatchy Company in 1989 and retired from there in 2001 before becoming a distinguished fellow of journalism values at Poynter Journalism Institute until 2013. In 2015, he was the founding editor of CALmatters, a non-profit journalism venture headquartered in Sacramento. He now is editor of PolitiFact for Cap Public Radio in Sacramento and serves on the CALmatters board and on the board of a group of family-owned newspapers in Texas.

He is a past president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors and past president of the California Society of Newspaper Editors. In 1992, the California Press Association named him News Executive of the Year.

Change can be difficult for news organizations. What is one piece of advice you could give leaders of today's news organizations?

Change is never easy, and that is especially true for journalists. And that is strange because our palette each day is filled with the elements of change. But we have to recognize, as Commander Spock once said, "Change is the essential process of existence."

Read more [here](#).

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As Trump News Cycle Swirls, TV News Bets on Interest in O.J. Simpson (Variety)



AP PHOTO/POOL, MYUNG J. CHUN

Ashleigh Banfield, the veteran TV-news reporter, has been wandering around this week in the 110-degree heat of Las Vegas. By the time Thursday rolls around, things in that rollicking city are likely to get even hotter.

Banfield is hoofing around Nevada to cover the July 20th parole hearing of O.J. Simpson, the one-time NFL great whose acquittal in the 1994 murder of his wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ron Goldman, and subsequent sentencing in 2008 for robbery of sports memorabilia from a Las Vegas hotel room have captivated a nation for decades.

The country's TV-news outlets believe Simpson's plight will do so again. He became eligible for parole after serving nine years of a 33-year sentence.

Read more [here](#).

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Has Trump turned CNN into a house of existential dread? (Vanity Fair)

CNN regularly welcomes members of the Donald Trump White House to appear on New Day, its morning show. When the administration sent word last Monday evening that White House adviser Sebastian Gorka was available the following morning to discuss the retaking of Mosul from ISIS, CNN producers readied the script. New Day co-anchor Alisyn Camerota handled the interview, and spent the first portion of the conversation on the scheduled topic. But when the discussion inevitably turned to Donald Trump Jr.'s recently revealed "I love it" e-mail to the Russian attorney, Gorka had his opening to change the topic. He made CNN, and its coverage of the Russia investigation, the story. Gorka scoffed at Camerota, deriding "the amount of time you spend in desperation on a topic that has plummeted you to 13th place in viewership ranking across America."

"More people watch Nick at Night cartoons than CNN today," Gorka continued, before suggesting that his appearance was revenge for a long, contentious interview the previous day between Camerota's co-host Chris Cuomo and Kellyanne Conway. "They called us to offer that he come on the show," Camerota told me, regarding her interaction with Gorka. "Why do they do that if he doesn't think anyone watches us and that we don't practice good journalism? It makes no sense." The tactic nevertheless played very well with its most important audience. "Did you see Gorka?," Trump reportedly told his advisers. "So great, I mean really, truly great." It's a tactic that CNN's own anchors have grown accustomed to. "When the light goes on, to me, it's like hearing the bell sound the beginning of a round," Cuomo told me later. "When the show starts, it is ding ding ding, who is coming at me and with what kind of weapon today? Is it a personal insult? Is it questioning our reporting? Is it a false narrative? Is it whataboutism?"

Read more [here](#).

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BBC accused of discrimination as salaries reveal gender pay gap - as it happened (Guardian)

Here's a roundup of the main points after the publication of the BBC's top salaries.

Chris Evans was paid at least £2.2m by the BBC last year while Gary Lineker collected more than £1.75m and Graham Norton more than £850,000, according to

figures published by the corporation. Evans said it was "right and proper" that the public knows how much he his senior colleagues are paid.

The list of 96 top earners exposed a series of gender disparities on pay in sports coverage, news, radio and TV. Only a third of the top earners are female and the top seven are all male.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

The Final Word



Today in History - July 20, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, July 20, the 201st day of 2017. There are 164 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On July 20, 1917, America's World War I draft lottery began as Secretary of War Newton Baker, wearing a blindfold, reached into a glass bowl and pulled out a capsule containing the number 258 during a ceremony inside the Senate office building. (The drawing of numbers by various officials continued until shortly after 2:00 a.m. the next day.) The Corfu Declaration called for creation of a unified Yugoslav state.

On this date:

In 1861, the Congress of the Confederate States convened in Richmond, Virginia.

In 1871, British Columbia entered Confederation as a Canadian province.

In 1923, Mexican revolutionary leader Pancho Villa was assassinated by gunmen in Parral.

In 1942, the first detachment of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps - later known as WACs - began basic training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. The Legion of Merit was established by an Act of Congress.

In 1944, an attempt by a group of German officials to assassinate Adolf Hitler with a bomb failed as the explosion only wounded the Nazi leader. President Franklin D. Roosevelt was nominated for a fourth term of office at the Democratic convention in Chicago.

In 1954, the Geneva Accords divided Vietnam into northern and southern entities.

In 1968, the first International Special Olympics Summer Games, organized by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, were held at Soldier Field in Chicago.

In 1969, astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin became the first men to walk on the moon after reaching the surface in their Apollo 11 lunar module.

In 1976, America's Viking 1 robot spacecraft made a successful, first-ever landing on Mars.

In 1977, a flash flood hit Johnstown, Pennsylvania, killing more than 80 people and causing \$350 million worth of damage. The U.N. Security Council voted to admit Vietnam to the world body.

In 1982, Irish Republican Army bombs exploded in two London parks, killing eight British soldiers, along with seven horses belonging to the Queen's Household Cavalry.

In 1990, Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan, one of the court's most liberal voices, announced he was stepping down.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush signed an executive order prohibiting cruel and inhuman treatment, including humiliation or denigration of religious beliefs, in the detention and interrogation of terrorism suspects. Tammy Faye Messner, who as Tammy Faye Bakker helped her husband, Jim, build a multimillion-dollar evangelism empire, then watched it collapse in disgrace, died at age 65 near Kansas City, Missouri.

Five years ago: Gunman James Holmes opened fire inside a crowded movie theater in Aurora, Colorado, during a midnight showing of "The Dark Knight Rises," killing 12 people and wounding 70 others. (Holmes was later convicted of murder and attempted murder, and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.) After years of preparation and months of buildup, London's Olympic moment finally

arrived as Royal Marine Martyn Williams carried the Olympic torch from a Royal Navy Sea King helicopter into the Tower of London on the shore of the River Thames (tehmz).

One year ago: Undercutting calls for Republican unity, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz stubbornly refused to endorse Donald Trump as he addressed the GOP convention in Cleveland, igniting thunderous boos from furious delegates as he encouraged Americans to simply "vote your conscience" in November. A federal appeals court ruled that Texas' strict voter ID law discriminated against minorities and the poor and had to be weakened before the November elections. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (REH'-jehp TY'-ihp UR'-doh-wahn) declared a three-month state of emergency following a botched coup attempt.

Today's Birthdays: Actress-singer Sally Ann Howes is 87. Author Cormac McCarthy is 84. Rockabilly singer Sleepy LaBeef is 82. Former Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski, D-Md., is 81. Actress Diana Rigg is 79. Artist Judy Chicago is 78. Rock musician John Lodge (The Moody Blues) is 74. Country singer T.G. Sheppard is 73. Singer Kim Carnes is 72. Rock musician Carlos Santana is 70. Rock musician Jay Jay French (Twisted Sister) is 65. Rock musician Paul Cook (The Sex Pistols, Man Raze) is 61. Actress Donna Dixon is 60. Rock musician Mick McNeil (Simple Minds) is 59. Country singer Radney Foster is 58. Actor Frank Whaley is 54. Actor Dean Cain is 53. Rock musician Stone Gossard (Pearl Jam) is 51. Actor Reed Diamond is 50. Actor Josh Holloway is 48. Singer Vitamin C is 48. Actor Omar Epps is 44. Actor Simon Rex is 43. Actress Judy Greer is 42. Actor Charlie Korsmo is 39. Singer Elliott Yamin (yah-MEEN') (American Idol) is 39. Supermodel Gisele Bündchen is 37. Rock musician Mike Kennerty (The All-American Rejects) is 37. Actor Percy Daggs III is 35. Actor John Francis Daley is 32. Country singer Hannah Blaylock (Edens Edge) is 31. Dancer-singer-actress Julianne Hough is 29. Actress Billi Bruno is 21.

Thought for Today: "Common sense is the collection of prejudices acquired by age eighteen." - Albert Einstein, German-American physicist (1879-1955).

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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