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Connecting - August 10, 2017

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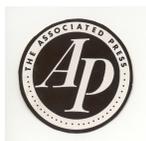
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Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 9:12 AM

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Connecting

August 10, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

Here are the latest stories of interest, beginning with the news that former Associated Press journalist **Alison Smale** has been named by the United Nations as the next under secretary general for global communications.

But there's a back story to her appointment that only Connecting is reporting. Read on.

Smale, 62, has been serving since 2013 as chief correspondent for The New York Times for Germany and central and eastern Europe. In 2008, she was the first woman to take up the post of Executive Editor at the International Herald Tribune in Paris.

In her reporting days, Smale worked for United Press International in Central Europe, then was The Associated Press bureau chief for Eastern Europe between 1987 and 1998, based in Vienna. In this capacity, she covered the rise of Slobodan Milosevic in Serbia and changes in Russia. She covered the anti-Communist revolutions in Eastern Europe and, on the night of the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, crossed Checkpoint Charlie along with the first East Germans to do so.



Lederer

The back story to Smale's departure from the AP in 1998 involves two of our Connecting colleagues, **Robert Reid** and **Edie Lederer**. Reid had been AP's chief UN correspondent at the time and was selected to succeed Alison as Vienna chief of bureau. Lederer had been a traveling correspondent based in London and was selected to succeed Reid as AP's chief UN correspondent.

Today, Edie continues in her UN position as the senior Associated Press staff member in the cooperative (51 years-plus) and wrote the byline story on Alison's appointment. And Bob retired from AP in March 2014 after a great 45-year career and today is senior managing editor of Stars and Stripes, based in Washington. So now you know the rest of the story...



Reid

Connecting is making preparations for **Total Solar Eclipse 2017** and your plans to view it. More to come, but as you know, in North America the eclipse will occur on Monday, August 21. Parts of South America, Africa and Europe will see at least a partial solar eclipse.

Have you made plans yet? If so, share them with your Connecting colleagues. (Thanks to **Andy Lippman** for the idea.)

Have a great day!

Paul

Former AP journalist Alison Smale named new UN communications chief

By EDITH LEDERER

UNITED NATIONS (AP) - Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Wednesday appointed Alison Smale, a veteran foreign correspondent and editor who has reported major stories for nearly 40 years, as the United Nations' new communications chief.

U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric announced the 62-year-old British journalist's appointment as undersecretary-general for global communications, succeeding Cristina Gallach of Spain.

"She has a proven track record as reporter, editor and senior leader," Dujarric said.

Smale, who speaks at least four languages fluently, started her journalistic career with United Press International in Germany and then joined The Associated Press in December 1981 in Bonn.

She covered events in the Soviet Union leading to its breakup and was at the Berlin Wall when it fell on Nov. 9, 1989, crossing at Checkpoint Charlie along with the first East Germans.

As AP bureau chief for Eastern Europe based in Vienna from 1987 to 1998, Smale reported on the rise of Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic, changes in Russia and the 1990s Balkan Wars, including numerous trips to Bosnia.



Smale joined The New York Times in 1998 and became a deputy foreign editor in 2002. Two years later she moved to Paris as managing editor of the International Herald Tribune, and in December 2008 she was named that paper's first female executive editor.

Since August 2013 she has been the Times' chief correspondent for Germany and Central and Eastern Europe, based in Berlin.

The United Nations' Department of Public Information, which Smale will head, has a nearly \$200 million budget for the two-year period of 2016-2017.

Click here for a link to this story. Shared by Bob Daugherty, Charles Hanley, Sibby Christensen.

AP Interview: DeVos says she didn't decry racism enough



AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

By **MARIA DANILOVA** and **CAROLE FELDMAN**

WASHINGTON (AP) - Education Secretary Betsy DeVos on Wednesday distanced herself from her comment earlier this year about the nation's historically black colleges and universities being pioneers of school choice, saying that in the past "there were no choices" for African-Americans in higher education.

"When I talked about it being a pioneer in choice it was because I acknowledge that racism was rampant and there were no choices," DeVos said in an interview with The Associated Press in her office at the Education Department. "These HBCUs provided choices for black students that they didn't have."

DeVos, who marks six months in office this week, alienated many African-Americans in February when she described historically black colleges as "real pioneers when it comes to school choice." In May, she was booed while attending the commencement ceremony at a historically black college in Florida.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting sky shot - Quebec, California



John Willis ([Email](#)) - A sunset shot from our recent fishing trip to Camp Coucoushee on Lac Kikwissi in Quebec, CA.

Stephen Crowley: a Visual Historian in Real Time

By JAMES ESTRIN

New York Times Lens Blogs



After 25 years as a photographer for The New York Times based in Washington, D.C., Stephen Crowley has retired. His incisive and revealing photographs pierced the public veneer of Washington politics, bringing the viewer into the back rooms of power.

He was also part of a team that won a Pulitzer Prize award for feature photography in 2002 for photographs from Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Mr. Crowley spoke with James Estrin about covering politics. The conversation has been edited for clarity and brevity.

Read more [here](#).

Stories of interest

When Silicon Valley Took Over Journalism

(Atlantic)

By FRANKLIN FOER

Chris Hughes was a mythical savior-boyishly innocent, fantastically rich, intellectually curious, unexpectedly humble, and proudly idealistic.

My entire career at the New Republic had been spent dreaming of such a benefactor. For years, my colleagues and I had sputtered our way through the internet era, drifting from one ownership group to the next, each eager to save the magazine and its historic mission as the intellectual organ for hard-nosed liberalism. But these investors either lacked the resources to invest in our future or didn't have quite enough faith to fully commit. The unending search for patronage exhausted me, and in 2010, I resigned as editor.

Then, in 2012, Chris walked through the door. Chris wasn't just a savior; he was a face of the zeitgeist. At Harvard, he had roomed with Mark Zuckerberg, and he had gone on to become one of the co-founders of Facebook. Chris gave our fusty old magazine a Millennial imprimatur, a bigger budget, and an insider's knowledge of social media. We felt as if we carried the hopes of journalism, which was yearning for a dignified solution to all that ailed it. The effort was so grand as to be intoxicating. We blithely dismissed anyone who warned of how our little experiment might collapse onto itself-how instead of providing a model of a technologist rescuing journalism, we could become an object lesson in the dangers of journalism's ever greater reliance on Silicon Valley.

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

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Morris Communications selling newspapers to GateHouse Media

AUGUSTA, Ga. - Morris Communications will sell its 11 daily newspapers and other publications in those markets to New Media Investment Group, the parent company of GateHouse Media Inc., the companies announced Wednesday.

New Media said in a news release it will pay \$120 million to purchase Morris Publishing Group, the newspaper division of Georgia-based Morris Communications.

The sale includes The Augusta Chronicle, The Savannah Morning News and The Athens Banner-Herald in Georgia; The Florida Times-Union of Jacksonville and The St. Augustine Record in Florida; the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal and Amarillo Globe News in Texas; the Topeka Capital-Journal in Kansas; the Log Cabin Democrat of Conway, Arkansas; and the Juneau Empire and Peninsula Clarion of Kenai in Alaska.

Family-owned Morris Communications has operated newspapers for more than 70 years. William S. Morris Jr., hired as a bookkeeper at The Augusta Chronicle in 1929, bought a controlling interest in the newspaper with his wife and a friend in 1945. The couple's son, William S. Morris III, joined the company in 1956 and remains chairman of Morris Communications.

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

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Eric Bolling initiates lawsuit against reporter behind sexting story (Politico)

Fox News host Eric Bolling has initiated a lawsuit against the reporter behind the report that led to his suspension.

Yashar Ali, a contributing writer for HuffPost, reported on Friday that several years ago Bolling sent lewd text messages that included photographs of male genitalia to two female colleagues at Fox. The next day Bolling was suspended and Fox launched an investigation by the same law firm that handled probes into the conduct of former host Bill O'Reilly and former Fox chairman Roger Ailes.

After the initial report, Bolling said, via his lawyer, that he "recalls no such inappropriate communications, does not believe he sent any such communications, and will vigorously pursue his legal remedies for any false and defamatory accusations that are made."

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

Things to Do with Newspapers to Avoid Reading Them (New Yorker)



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

Today in History - August 10, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Aug. 10, the 222nd day of 2017. There are 143 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 10, 1977, postal employee David Berkowitz was arrested in Yonkers, New York, accused of being "Son of Sam," the gunman who killed six people and wounded seven others in the New York City area. (Berkowitz is serving six consecutive 25-years-to-life sentences.)

On this date:

In 1680, Pueblo Indians launched a successful revolt against Spanish colonists in present-day New Mexico.

In 1792, during the French Revolution, mobs in Paris attacked the Tuileries Palace, where King Louis XVI resided. (The king was later arrested, put on trial for treason, and executed.)

In 1821, Missouri became the 24th state.

In 1846, President James K. Polk signed a measure establishing the Smithsonian Institution.

In 1874, Herbert Clark Hoover, the 31st president of the United States, was born in West Branch, Iowa.

In 1921, Franklin D. Roosevelt was stricken with polio at his summer home on the Canadian island of Campobello.

In 1949, the National Military Establishment was renamed the Department of Defense.

In 1962, the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum was dedicated in West Branch, Iowa, on the 88th birthday of the former president, who attended the ceremony along with former President Harry S. Truman. Marvel Comics superhero Spider-Man made his debut in issue 15 of "Amazing Fantasy" (cover price: 12 cents).

In 1969, Leno and Rosemary LaBianca were murdered in their Los Angeles home by members of Charles Manson's cult, one day after actress Sharon Tate and four other people were slain.

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed a measure providing \$20,000 payments to still-living Japanese-Americans who were interned by their government during World War II.

In 1991, nine Buddhists were found slain at their temple outside Phoenix, Arizona. (Two teenagers were later arrested; one was sentenced to life in prison, while the other received 281 years.)

In 1993, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was sworn in as the second female justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Ten years ago: Three men being lowered into a southern Indiana coal mine were killed when a nylon sling attached to the bucket the men were riding in got caught, causing the bucket to tip and sending them plummeting more than 500 feet to their deaths.

Five years ago: A man in an Afghan army uniform shot and killed three American service members in southern Afghanistan; the Taliban claimed the shooter joined the insurgency after the attack. At the London Olympics, the United States won the women's 4x100-meter track relay in a world-record time of 40.82 seconds to give the Americans their first victory in the event since 1996.

One year ago: During a raucous campaign rally outside Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Republican Donald Trump accused President Barack Obama of being the "founder" of the Islamic State group. (Trump later said he was "being sarcastic" before adding, "but not that sarcastic, to be honest with you.") Lonnie Franklin Jr., the Los Angeles serial killer known as the "Grim Sleeper," was sentenced to death for the murders of nine women and a teenage girl. At the Rio Olympics, Katie Ledecky turned in another overpowering performance to carry the United States to victory in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay. John Saunders, the versatile sportscaster who hosted ESPN's "The Sports Reporters" for 15 years, died in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, at age 61.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Rhonda Fleming is 94. Singer Ronnie Spector is 74. Actor James Reynolds is 71. Rock singer-musician Ian Anderson (Jethro Tull) is 70. Country musician Gene Johnson (Diamond Rio) is 68. Singer Patti Austin is 67. Actor Daniel Hugh Kelly is 65. Folk singer-songwriter Sam Baker is 63. Actress Rosanna Arquette is 58. Actor Antonio Banderas is 57. Rock musician Jon Farriss

(INXS) is 56. Singer Julia Fordham is 55. Journalist-blogger Andrew Sullivan is 54. Actor Chris Caldovino is 54. Singer Neneh Cherry is 53. Singer Aaron Hall is 53. Boxer Riddick Bowe is 50. Actor Sean Blakemore is 50. Rhythm-and-blues singer Lorraine Pearson (Five Star) is 50. Singer-producer Michael Bivins is 49. Actor-writer Justin Theroux is 46. Actress Angie Harmon is 45. Country singer Jennifer Hanson is 44. Actor-turned-lawyer Craig Kirkwood is 43. Actress JoAnna Garcia Swisher is 38. Singer Cary Ann Hearst (Shovels & Rope) is 38. Rhythm-and-blues singer Nikki Bratcher (Divine) is 37. Actor Aaron Staton is 37. Actor Ryan Eggold is 33. Actor Charley Koontz is 30. Actor Lucas Till is 27. Reality TV star Kylie Jenner is 20.

Thought for Today: "There is no adequate defense, except stupidity, against the impact of a new idea." - Percy Williams Bridgeman, American scientist (1882-1961).

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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