



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

## Connecting - August 21, 2017

1 message

**Paul Stevens** <paulstevens46@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 21, 2017 at 8:58 AM

Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com

To: pjshane@gmail.com

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# Connecting

August 21, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning!

**Total Solar Eclipse 2017** arrives today - its first appearance in the United States set for this morning in Oregon and then traversing a path across the country to South Carolina. Here's hoping clouds stay out of your way.

Your Connecting assignment, should you choose to accept - contribute your own experience of viewing the eclipse - along with a photo. Now remember that millions of photos will be shot of the actual eclipse of the moon blocking rays of the sun, but what Connecting would most like is a photo of you in your viewing surroundings. And a story of your experiences in viewing.

Give me a couple hundred words or so, with the dateline of your viewing area. Send along today and we will have a nice roundup display for Tuesday morning. Remember, as our grandkiddos at right would tell you, wear those protective glasses!



One of our colleagues, former AP photo editor **Jody Kurash** ([Email](#)), plans to view the eclipse in Cuba - Cuba, Missouri, that is - and notes it will be her second total eclipse in the last 18 months, the other being on a small island in northern Indonesia near Sulawesi. (Jody worked at New York headquarters (1994-96) and at the State Photo Center (1999-2007).)

"After dreaming of watching a solar eclipse for years, I found out about this one by chance six months prior during a diving trip on Bunaken island and immediately started making plans for the March 9, 2016, eclipse," she said. "One of the divemasters at my hotel arranged for a small group of us to view it from a boat in the Molucca Sea. We started out after eight in the morning when the eclipse began and we witnessed a totality for about 2 ½ minutes. It was magical being adrift the deep blue ocean and watching everything get dark until we were able to gaze at the hidden sun surround by a fiery crown of light."

I look forward to your own stories from today.

We lead today's issue with a new feature on the AP wires - **Not Real News**.

Here's to a great week ahead!

Paul

# What to know about 'Not Real News'

By **LAUREN EASTON**

As part of our ongoing efforts to fact-check claims in suspected false news stories, AP has been publishing weekly roundups of some of the most popular untrue headlines of the week, debunking them and making clear the facts.

Nerve Center manager **Amy Westfeldt**, who oversees the effort, explained its origins and how the roundup fits into AP's greater fact-checking mission.

## Why did AP start the "Not Real News" roundup?

We first began publishing AP Fact Checks of suspected false stories in December, when we began an initiative with Facebook to debunk widely shared stories that were not true. "Not Real News" is an outgrowth of that. We thought a tight 5-things list would be accessible and shareable for our customers and the public, and draw good attention to our core mission of fact-based journalism.

We also found that some of the "fake news" fact checks sometimes did not require as much nuance and explanation as our regular AP Fact Checks. "Not Real News" provides us a vehicle to dispense quickly with false stories that are trafficking widely.

## Each installment notes a variety of false stories. How does AP decide which ones to include?

We have several ways to track popular but false stories - in-house metrics tools we use, like NewsWhip, among them. We look at the stories Facebook users are flagging or sharing widely. Sometimes a bureau will point out an item that bubbled up on a reporter's beat and we'll find them that way. Trending news reporter Patrick Mairs is my key partner in identifying and debunking these stories and we get help from our colleagues around the globe.

When we select which stories to include, we are looking for pieces that are "off the news" - we frequently find false stories that are riffing off the top story of the day. A Charlottesville item is in today's fixture. We are looking at pieces that might be easily misconstrued, or easily believed or questioned, so we can provide the service of debunking them.

The stories have to meet all AP standards for fact-checking. We don't fact-check opinion. Hyperpartisan sites, particularly since the presidential election, publish many stories that are challenged on social media, but often produce opinionated versions of the day's headlines.

### **How does "Not Real News" fit into AP's greater fact-checking efforts?**

This is another innovation to address the evolving platforms where people are consuming fact checks and news overall. We are always going to be in the business of fact checks. We are simply looking for new opportunities and delivery methods to reach our diverse customer base. "Not Real News" specifically addresses the false stories that purport to be news. And as a part of our work with Facebook, it is a key way we hopefully deter the proliferation of these stories on social networks like Facebook.

[Click here](#) for a link to this story.

[Click here](#) for the most recent installment of Not Real News

## **RIP: Jerry Lewis**



**John Willis** ([Email](#)) - When he heard about Jerry Lewis's death Sunday, my cousin emailed me the video of the infamous "interview" Lewis gave a few years.

I had only one conversation with Lewis while I was the VG correspondent 40 years ago.

I arrived in Vegas from Omaha in late September 1976, well after the Labor Day telethon that Lewis was involved with for so many years. That was the year he was reunited with Dean Martin live on the show for the first time since their split in the 50s.

The next year my wife too our son and daughter to one of the telethon shows and to take part in some of the kids' activities at the Sahara, I believe.

I think it was a month or so later that I got a call from the NY Gen Desk. Lewis had been nominated for a Nobel Prize for his work with Muscular Dystrophy Association.

He was one of the headliners at the Sahara that week, as I recall, so I got on the phone to the hotel. He was rehearsing, but the PR staff had my call transferred to

the stage and Lewis answered.

"Mr. Lewis, this is John Willis with the in The AP here in town, and I've just gotten word from our people in New York that you have been nominated for a Nobel Prize."

"Holy Shit!" he said. He then realized that he probably didn't want that to be the quote attributed, and came up with something more printable. For the life of me I can't remember what it was because his first reaction was stuck in my mind.

I tried, without success, to get him to tell me the story as to how he got involved so deeply in the MDA for so many years. I vaguely remember him doing the telethon on an NYC television station when we lived in northern New Jersey when I was seven or eight year old.

Lewis demurred and I think never gave a public explanation for his devotion to the cause.

[Click here](#) for a link to the "interview".

## More on Elvis - and coverage of his death 40 years ago

**Dennis Montgomery** ([Email](#)) - follows up on his great post in Friday's issue of Connecting with a writethru that clarifies and corrects some of the material:

Richard Lowe reminds me that it was Marian Fox who rounded out the Memphis bureau crew, and that the name of the Knoxville correspondent is properly spelled Matt Yancey. Lowe was away on vacation when Elvis died. As soon as he heard word of it on the radio, he telephoned COB Nancy Shipley and volunteered to return. Having had the experience of directing big-story coverage before-such as James Earl Ray's escape from Brushy Mountain State Prison, and the evacuation of an East Tennessee valley town threatened by a cloud of noxious gas-she knew the Nashville crew would need fresh relief staff when the Elvis story calmed down. And did it. Shipley held Lowe in reserve, and no one who ever walked into the Nashville bureau to take over the report was a more welcome sight that Lowe batting clean up. A year later, Lowe made his way to Memphis and filed a fine and memorable anniversary piece.

Nancy Shipley, who says my memory is sharper than hers though her's is far better, recalls that:

Then-Chattanooga correspondent Eric Newhouse was another who wrote memorable stories during his days covering the aftermath in Memphis. AP Radio Network's Mark Knoller, special correspondent Harry Rosenthal, then-Jackson MS correspondent Robert Shaw and other talented AP writers and photographers had such important roles in AP's outstanding coverage led by one of its best newsmen, Les Seago. I am still grateful to all.

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**Joe Edwards** ([Email](#)) - I worked next to Nashville news editor Dennis Montgomery on that chaotic day in 1977 when Elvis died. His extraordinary sidebar on Elvis ("Suddenly a generation feels old") was written under the most challenging conditions imaginable. The phone rang literally every second: From the pesky General Desk (would they ever learn to leave busy bureaus alone?), members and fans. The story stands up today---40 years later---as one of the most remarkable pieces ever to grace the AP wire. I trust that Dennis' incomparable work showed the bigwigs at 50 Rock that bright writing could come from medium-sized bureaus---and not just New York.

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**John Willis** ([Email](#)) - Elvis is dead: Pat Arnold, my predecessor and eventually successor as Vegas correspondent, called from NY Gen Desk on the death of Elvis.

"Sure," I said. "We get rumors like that every week here."

"No, it's for real," Arnold insisted, saying they had it confirmed three ways and it was just getting ready to hit the national wire. They needed sidebar and background from Vegas, where Elvis was the meal ticket for the Hiltons, playing the entire month of December each year to sold out crowds, filling the rooms and the casino. I quickly called the local Hilton PR folk, and it was NEWS to them. They relayed my report directly to the big boss, Barron Hilton. He was stunned to the core, I was told. Elvis was their gold mine. I spent the rest of the day getting quotes from the various entertainers in town for use in the reaction pieces.

## Connecting mailbox

## ***On the eclipse and expense accounts***

**John Willis (Email) - Solar Eclipse:** I live on a golf course in Aiken, SC, and we are within the area that will get 99,9% of the total event next Monday afternoon. I had thought about driving over to Pine Ridge CC in nearby Edgefield which is in the 100% shadow, just so I could say I was playing golf during the eclipse. However, the forecast is for a heat index of about 105 to 110 degrees, and there are no special eclipse glasses to be found locally. Sold Out everywhere. So I've decided just to stay home and walk out the back door a few times for effect. But the total event will last about three hours, and I am not interested in sitting in a lawn chair in the middle of a fairway for that long in that heat. So I'll probably take in most of it inside where I can remain cool.

**Expense reimbursements:** In 1976 the Pathfinder Hotel in Fremont, NE, blew sky high on a Saturday morning in January. It was wicked cold. A natural gas explosion rocked the old hotel which took up a square block, killing a dozen or so. As Nebraska news editor, I spent most of the next three days crawling around the wreckage. I left with a brand-new pair of Weejuns and came home with a badly damaged pair. I expensed them and NY paid, no questions asked.

In June 1979, as correspondent in Spokane, I had to figure a way to cover the crash of a Forest Service DC-3 into the Selway River, which was swollen by the full spring runoff. The crash happened in the Bitterroot Mountains of northern Idaho; the largest wilderness area in the lower 48. Motorized vehicles were prohibited. I did not have government permission to get a helicopter to fly in, and both my COBs (Salt Lake and Seattle) vetoed the idea, anyway.

Mark Fralich, one of our techs, came along with his camera. I visited with the member newspaper in Lewiston, Idaho, to get the lay of the land, and found an outfitter who agreed to pack us into the remote area on horseback. The lead rode a mule. He said our horses trusted the mule and would follow him anywhere. I hung on to my steed as best I could as we threaded our way along the trail that was no more than two or three feet wide through the forest and and rose hundreds of feet above the fast-moving river. We began finding pieces of the wreckage many miles downstream as we started our four-hour ride into the crash site.

My horse had an affinity for purple flowers, as it stopped to eat every purple wildflower along the way. The outfitter served lunch, too; American cheese food product on white bread. We got to the crash site, and found that a Spokane Spokesman-Review photog was camping there on vacation and had taken some shots of the plane as its engine fell off the wing. We packed his film and started heading back out to see if we could find anyone who survived. We found an eddy about a mile downstream from the crash site where Forest Service workers were diving with ropes attached. A number of the bodies were found in that eddy. Forest Service helicopters were now over the scene to help with the recovery. We were so high up on the side of the mountain that we actually had to look down on the

choppers as they ferried in out with great care. If memory serves, both pilots and eight of the ten people aboard died. Two you Forest Service workers and a dog survived with injuries.

At about this point, I realized that my wallet with all my driver's license, credit cards and cash had popped out of my back pocket: GONE. Talk about a pickle. I told the lead and as we rode slowly back out to where we had parked my car, our eyes scoured the trail. Remarkably, the lead found my comb in the middle of the path about two miles from our entry point. We dismounted and "combed" through the underbrush around the area and found my wallet, intact.....credit cards and all. I charged the outfitter's fee for the horses, mule, and passage on my AMEX and gave the lead a \$50 tip for finding my wallet. We found a roadside pay phone and I called the Salt Lake buro and began dictating the live lead.

We then went back to Lewiston where the film was processed and transmitted along the Laserphoto network. It was a grainy image, as the photog did not have the right type of film for that scenario, but you could clearly make out the distinctive silhouette of a DC-3 and see something had fallen from the starboard wing with a plume of smoke tailing it downward.

Nobody but The AP had anything from that remote river valley that day and the next.

I expensed everything, mule, horses, guide and follow man, the tip and those sandwiches. I sent my receipts to NY and got reimbursed, no questions asked.

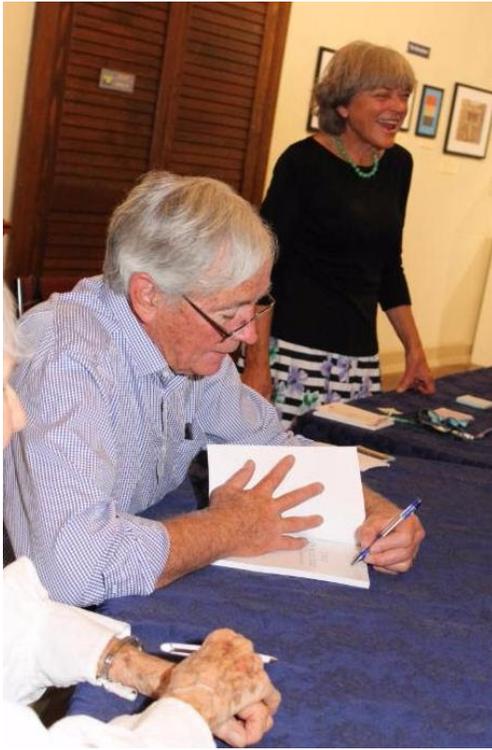
Golly, The AP gave me such great opportunities. I didn't relish covering all the plane and train crashes, explosions and other mayhem, but I still cherish every AP day.

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## ***Signing event for Brendan Riley's new book***

**Marty Thompson** ([Email](#)) - People filled a large gallery in the Vallejo (California) Naval and Historical Museum Aug. 19 for a book signing with retired Carson City Correspondent Brendan Riley, whose history of the liberty district for the World War II naval base town was recently published.

Riley, an AP writer for 39 years, is the son of Vallejo journalists Wyman and Marjorie Riley,



**Riley signing book with his wife  
Maggie in background**

whom he credits for early on sparking his interest in local history, which produced "Lower Georgia Street, California's Forgotten Barbary Coast."

The book, going into a second printing, tells of "A sailor's dream: More than 100 bars, casinos and warehouses, just a short ride across the Napa River that separated the sprawling Mare Island Naval Shipyard from Vallejo." That short boat ride was more appealing than the 25 miles south to San Francisco, allowing sailors to raise hell without the commute.

Mare Island was the first U.S. Navy base on the West Coast and was Vallejo's largest employer from 1854 to 1996. It turned out everything from warships with sails to nuclear submarines.

Riley and his wife, Maggie Tracey, met a long line of people seeking autographs and copies of the book, which is available direct from Brendan - ([Email](#)) - or at [Arcadiapublishing.com](http://Arcadiapublishing.com).

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## ***Gathering of Albany state capitol gang***



**Marc Humbert (Email)** - A state Capitol Gang: Attending a recent gathering at Tsatsawassa Lake near Albany, N.Y., were some old members of the AP's state Capitol gang. From l to r: Marc Humbert, Dave Bauder and Joel Stashenko.

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## ***Bob Thomas' byline lives on - this time, with Jerry Lewis wire obituary***

Yet another AP obituary story of a Hollywood star carried the byline in the credits of the late Bob Thomas, who died in 2014. Thomas worked for the AP for 66 years, out of the Los Angeles bureau, and was dean of Hollywood reporters. He covered a record 66 Oscar ceremonies and reported on the biggest stars, and his many interviews have provided great background on a host of Hollywood celebrities such as Lewis.

In Lindsey Bahr's wire story on the death of Jerry Lewis, at the bottom was this:  
"The late Associated Press writer Bob Thomas in Los Angeles and AP National Writer Hillel Italie in New York contributed to this report."

Bahr's lead:

*LOS ANGELES (AP) - Jerry Lewis, the manic, rubber-faced showman who jumped and hollered to fame in a lucrative partnership with Dean Martin, settled down to become a self-conscious screen auteur and found an even greater following as the tireless, teary host of the annual muscular dystrophy telethons, has died. He was 91.*

Read more [here](#).

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## **'Avalanche' Charton Gets 86% Of Vote**

Retired Jefferson City Correspondent and Missouri Roving Reporter Scott Charton ([Email](#)) has a new nickname in Columbia, Mo.: "Avalanche."

Charton, who operates his own consulting business, managed a nonpartisan countywide campaign for the renewal of a half-penny sales tax for road and bridge projects. Taxes are dicey issues in these unsettled times, but Charton trained a local speakers bureau, put up hundreds of yard signs, helped make more than 30 public presentations over a five-week span and oversaw a digital and Facebook campaign. The result: passage on Aug. 8 of Proposition 1 with almost 86 percent of the vote, which officials say may be a Boone County record.

Former Missouri Gov. Roger Wilson, who chaired the campaign, told an election night party he has seen both close races and landslides during a lifetime in politics - "but nothing as big as the results 'Avalanche' Charton put together for Prop 1." The passage is projected to bring in \$140 million for transportation projects over the next decade. "When voters are riding on smooth roads and crossing safe bridges, they can thank 'Avalanche' Charton for putting it all together," Wilson declared.

Still, Charton's caution was evident, as it was on so many election nights when he informed race calls as a AP political writer. The Columbia Daily Tribune reported: "He had prepared win and loss statements to release depending on the results. County officials and supporters of the tax had some concerns an anti-tax sentiment could hurt the campaign. But Charton said voters affirmed the county's use of the tax revenue is appropriate in Tuesday's election. "You take nothing for granted," he said."

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## ***Our president is honestly befuddled by reporters***

**Chuck McFadden** ([Email](#)) - The president of the United States is honestly befuddled by reporters, especially political reporters in Washington.

Why do they pick on him the way they do?

For instance, when he said recently that his winery in Virginia was one of the largest in the country, picky, picky Gail Collins of The New York Times had to promptly rain on his parade.

"... Trump does not own one of the largest wineries in the United States. Trump Winery is one of the largest wineries in Virginia, which is like bragging you own one of the largest ski resorts in Ohio," Collins wrote.

Winery, schminery. What difference does it make? Claims like that are a vital part of what you do to sell high-end real estate in Manhattan.

"It's gonna be a beautiful building. You're gonna be so rich! I'm telling you!"

In Trump's world, you use that kind of language all the time, and no one lifts an eyebrow. It's an accepted part of the conversation. A little hyperbole now and then is relished by the richest men.

But Donald Trump is no longer a New York real estate mogul. He's the president of the United States, and his every utterance is studied by lobbyists, fellow politicians, White House staffers, world leaders and, yes, reporters. He's the president, you know. Finger on the nuclear trigger and all that sort of thing.

Trump has yet to understand the difference; maybe he never will.

Those covering Trump are challenged by remaining impartial while at the same time pointing out his misstatements in the interest of informing their readers and viewers

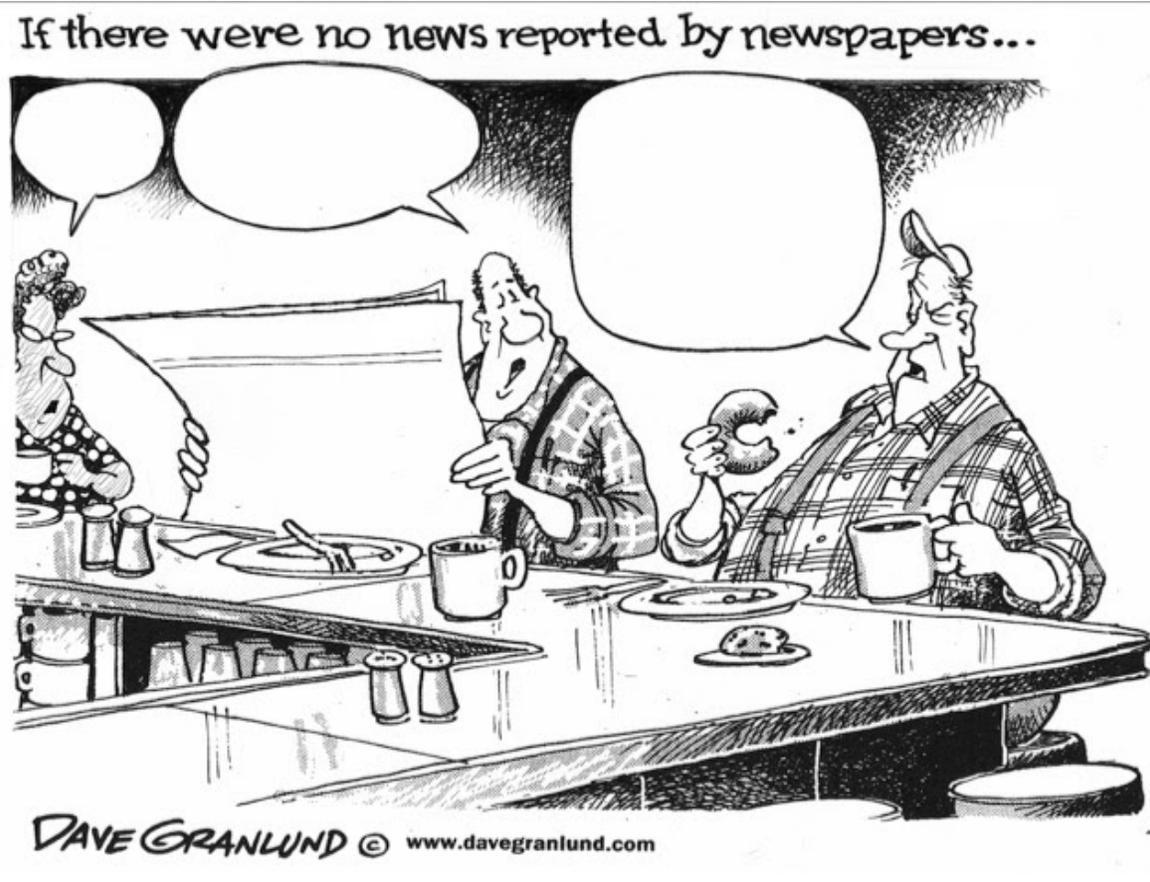
fully.

If you write that "President Trump, without providing any evidence, said XXX," Trump and his supporters argue that you're biased. If you weren't biased, you'd simply be a conveyor belt for whatever the president had to say. That's your role. You're not supposed to come up with the historical record disproving what the president claimed, and you're not supposed to dig up a bunch of pointy-headed liberal college professors who have the facts.

It must get wearying after a time as reporters plod faithfully along the ethical path, trying to remain true to their calling while dodging the bricks coming through the window from the direction of the White House.

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## ***More than 200 Minnesota papers to publish no news on front pages***



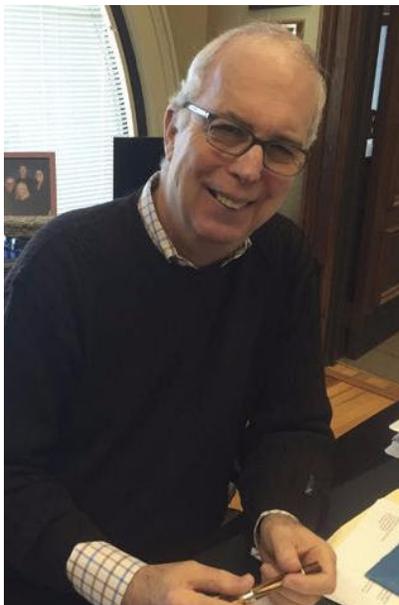
**Phyllis Mensing (Email)** - Not sure anyone from Minnesota let you know about this, but I noticed it in my weekly paper: To mark the 150th anniversary of the Minnesota Newspaper Association, the group says more than 200 newspapers across the state last week planned to publish no news on their front pages. The "whiteout" is to remind people of the importance of newspapers, with a front page that says in big letters: "Imagine There's No Newspaper." Inside, along with the weekly news, are columns and a statement from the newspaper association.

I'm not really sure how many papers actually did this; didn't see it in the Star-Tribune but the weekly in my area did it.

The newspaper association statement is on the MNA website - <http://mna.org> - and the weekly paper website: <http://pressnews.com> has a picture of the mostly blank front page if you want to look at it.

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## ***LSU Manship School Dean Jerry Ceppos stepping down after academic year***



Manship School of Mass Communication Dean (and Connecting colleague) Jerry Ceppos is stepping down from his position at the end of the 2017-18 academic school year at Louisiana State University.

Ceppos ([Email](#)) has served the position since July 2011.

Before working at the University, Ceppos was dean of the Reynolds School of Journalism at the University of Nevada, Reno. He is a member of the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and mass Communication, and has been chair of the journalism-education committees for the Associated Press Managing Editors and the American Society of News

Editors.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***My two cents on those in this country without invitation***

**Bill Schiffmann** ([Email](#)) - My two cents on what to call people who are in this country without an invitation.

With the connivance of the previous administration, American taxpayers currently are hosting millions of people who came here uninvited.

They're here in contravention of U.S. law, thus they are here illegally. They are aliens. Googling that word brings up the definition, "belonging to a foreign country or nation." The second definition reads, "a foreigner, especially one who is not a naturalized citizen of the country where they are living."

Martians are not mentioned.

Put that all together and you get illegal alien.

I rest my case.



## **APNewsBreak: Beyond bluster, US, NKorea in regular contact**



**U.S. special envoy for North Korea policy Joseph Yun speaks in Tokyo, April 25, 2017.  
TORU YAMANAKA / POOL PHOTO VIA AP**

For weeks, the escalating back-and-forth between North Korea and the United States over possible nuclear conflict had made for headlines that were alarming at the least \_ and to many, terrifying.

Amid all the bluster came an exclusive report from Matthew Pennington, foreign policy reporter in Washington, revealing that senior U.S. and North Korean diplomats have been maintaining a back-channel communication for the last several months, and that they'd moved on from an early focus on U.S. detainees to address the broader strains in the relationship.

At a time of heightened alert, the story pointed to a possible diplomatic path out of the crisis, and indicated that both U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un may be more flexible on the idea of negotiations than they are letting on. After days of bombastic threats from both sides, Pennington's reporting, which wins the Beat of the Week, provided a sobering reality check: the enemies aren't on an unavoidable path toward conflict.

The immediate goal of the diplomacy was to win the freedom of U.S. detainees in North Korea.

Pennington, who has written about U.S. policy on North Korea since 2011, first got a sense of the quiet diplomacy from his wide network of sources in Washington.

Multiple people told him that the Trump administration had sought to restore the back channel of communication shortly after coming into office. The immediate goal of the diplomacy was to win the freedom of U.S. detainees in North Korea.

The administration revealed those diplomatic contacts after it secured the release of a university student, Otto Warmbier, who died soon after being returned home in June. But while others turned away from the story, Pennington stuck with it. He began piecing together an under-the-radar process that hadn't been made public and could yet provide a path out of the nuclear crisis, even as U.S. and North Korean leaders were trading threats of nuclear confrontation.

The final piece was confirmation from within Trump's administration of ongoing, regular communication between the U.S. envoy for North Korea and a diplomat at that country's U.N. mission since Warmbier's release. Pennington learned the discussions also encompassed the deteriorating U.S.-North Korean relationship.

One official who spoke noted his appreciation of Pennington's thoughtful, analytical coverage of the current standoff - coverage that has delved beyond the sometimes glib Twitter declarations and state-media propaganda.

Pennington's story received tremendous attention in the U.S. and abroad. Bloomberg quickly tweeted it. Reuters cited AP in the headline of a pickup it did. MSNBC ran a banner citing AP and mentioned it in numerous segments. It also interviewed Pennington on the network. Fox News also noted the story prominently, and interviewed Pennington's editor, Brad Klapper. (The two appeared almost simultaneously at mid-afternoon on Friday, putting AP on the screens of America's two biggest cable news networks.) Trump fielded a question on the back channel at a highly publicized photo spray on Friday.

BBC, The New York Post, The Hill and others all credited AP with the scoop. Politico and The Washington Post recognized AP in follow-up pieces over the next days. Suddenly, media that weren't even aware of the back channel were writing stories about Trump's quiet support of diplomacy or warning about his rhetoric threatening the possibility of the negotiating process.



## AP dominates coverage of Charlottesville violence



**White nationalist demonstrators clash with a counter demonstrator as he throws a newspaper box at the entrance to Lee Park in Charlottesville, Va., Aug. 12, 2017. AP**

**PHOTO / STEVE HELBER**

Sarah Rankin and Steve Helber were covering a white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia when chaos broke out. The marchers and counter protesters - Rankin's words - "threw punches, screamed, set off smoke bombs. They hurled water bottles, balloons of paint, containers full of urine. They unleashed chemical sprays. Some waved Confederate flags. Others burned them."

Rankin and Helber were the first of many AP colleagues to cover the story, and their initial work paid off in significant ways.

Among AP's beats: We were first with an alert about a car plowing into protesters; we were first with a named official saying the suspected driver was arrested; and we were first with a named source saying that one person had been killed.

Rankin jumped in on all formats, working on text stories while also using her iPhone to take photos and send live video using AP's Bambuser account. Helber shot stunning photos while hit by pepper spray and buffeted by protesters. His photos were used by The New York Times, The Atlantic, MSN, People Magazine, The Times of India and scores of other sites and publications across the world. They were labeled "unbelievable" by Executive Editor Sally Buzbee and "shocking, captivating, disturbing and essential" by Managing Editor Brian Carovillano.

The violence chronicled by Rankin and Helber set off days of national soul searching and debate, and AP was ahead throughout much of it thanks to journalists across the country anchored by Helber and Rankin.

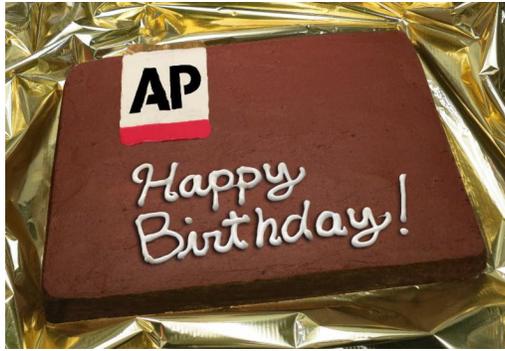
Among AP's beats: We were first with an alert about a car plowing into protesters; we were first with a named official saying the suspected driver was arrested; and we were first with a named source saying that one person had been killed.

Helber and Rankin were quickly joined by other colleagues from the region who worked tirelessly throughout the weekend to keep AP on top. Cleveland's Mark Gillispie and Richmond's Alan Suderman worked to get the driver's name. Toledo's John Seewer was so quick to get an interview with the driver's mother that he and a journalist from another outlet actually told her the news. Heidi Brown, an AP contractor in Charlottesville, got the only interview with a man who saw a state police helicopter go down, in a second tragedy that killed two people. Ben Finley in Norfolk obtained multiple pieces of UGC. Claire Galofaro pulled together the mainbar and then turned a story Sunday about how we got to this point. In Bedminster, N.J., Jonathan Lemire covered Trump's reaction to the violence. Reporters around the country covered reaction and vigils.

The story also underscores the power of AP's cooperative and how valuable it can be in a breaking news story. A photographer from the (Charlottesville) Daily Progress caught an amazing image from when the car drove into the crowd - an image AP transmitted and that quickly became the iconic photo of the tragedy.

The story dominated customer use and engagement across the weekend. Various text stories were used 7,297 times, according to NewsWhip, and there were more than 1.44 million social interactions on our customer sites. Teletrax showed over 8,200 uses of AP video content. On AP's Facebook page, Saturday's mainbar reached nearly half a million readers and generated 60k engagements.

# Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Jay Reeves - [jreeves@ap.org](mailto:jreeves@ap.org)

## Welcome to Connecting



Mark Avery - [averyphotog@gmail.com](mailto:averyphotog@gmail.com)

## Stories of interest

***How Charlottesville is already changing journalism*** (RTDNA)

**By DAN SHELLEY**

**Incoming Executive Director**

**Radio Television Digital News Association**

By the latest count, four journalists were attacked August 11-12 while covering protests in Charlottesville, Virginia, involving white supremacists, white nationalists, neo-Nazis, and groups that oppose their racist views. At least one cable news host who was critical of President Trump's controversial response to the protests is now facing threats.

As inexcusable and unfortunate as that is, the reporters' and photojournalist's injuries will heal. The cable news host, God willing, will be okay. In the aftermath of Charlottesville, however, deeper and more cure-resistant wounds have been ripped wide open.

That is already prompting changes in the way journalists cover race and civil unrest in the United States, and has led to a new level of navel gazing about whether journalists should even seek both sides of a story when one of the sides is widely accepted as disreputable or despicable.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Forum discusses fighting fake news*** (Singapore)

Facebook users in Singapore and Malaysia will soon see tips on how to spot fake news routinely at the top of their news feeds.

"We want to improve the ability of people to learn about what constitutes false news," said Mr Alvin Tan, head of public policy for South-east Asia at Facebook yesterday.

That measure is one way tech giants can work with newsrooms to fight the spread of fake news, said panellists at the Temasek Foundation Asia Journalism Forum organised by the Institute of Policy Studies yesterday.

Titled Reporting Facts And The Future of Journalism, the conference focused on the problem of fake news and its impact on journalism. It featured panellists who, over four sessions, discussed fake news trends in Asia, the psychology of spreading or believing in fake news, fact checking, and journalism's response.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Who did Trump borrow his press tactics from? Joe McCarthy.*** (Washington Post)

By **MARC FISHER**

Joe McCarthy loved to savage reporters, singling them out by name at his rallies in the 1950s. The Republican senator from Wisconsin knew the work of each reporter who covered his years-long campaign aimed at rooting out the communists who were supposedly seeded throughout the federal government. "Stand up, Dick, and show them what a reporter for a communist newspaper looks like," he'd say, and the crowds would roar their approval as their plain-speaking hero fingered the enemy, the cause of their country's woes.

Then, moments after leaving the stage, McCarthy would sidle up to a reporter he'd just finished flaying and toss an arm around him: "That was just good fun."

Reporters who've covered Donald Trump anytime in the past four decades know that sense of whiplash all too well. Trump and McCarthy share a populist, demagogic speaking style and a propensity to say anything to win the moment. The two men are often compared because they both aggressively hit back at their critics and tended to inflate minor slights or partisan rows into threats against the nation.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bill McCloskey, who noted these grafs relating to the AP:

*McCarthy courted, cajoled and carped at journalists. "When you write stuff like that, you're helping the communists," he told the United Press reporter who covered the Senate in 1950. McCarthy did not hesitate to get personal, telling Associated Press reporter Marvin Arrowsmith, "I know you've got six kids, Marv, and I don't want to kick about your work, so I hope there is no reason to do so."*

*But like Trump, McCarthy could pivot and turn on the charm. When he didn't like a story by the AP's John Chadwick, the senator froze him out, refusing to speak to him, making him sit in the rear of the campaign plane and blasting him in a speech in Oklahoma City. Afterward, McCarthy walked up to Chadwick, offered to shake hands and said, "I hope you don't mind the ribbing." Then, on the flight back to Washington, he sat next to Chadwick and offered him a drink from the bottle McCarthy kept in his briefcase.*

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## ***Black Journalists Are Critical to Our Democracy*** (Center for American Progress)

By **DANYELLE SOLOMON**

The election of Donald Trump and the actions of his young administration have spotlighted the importance of facts. Since President Trump's inauguration, truth and honest analysis have become rare commodities in the White House. In addition to promoting false narratives and condoning unrepentant lying, the Trump administration has also made it difficult to access government data, research, and other forms of information. His administration has directed government agencies to limit news releases, updates to agency websites, and communication with the press. This is troubling, but it isn't the first time in our country's history when those in positions of power, who understand that knowledge is power, have sought to limit information and curtail access to it. While President Trump's agenda puts large swathes of the country at risk, African Americans are disproportionately affected by his harmful policies. Now, more than ever, the United States needs the strength of its free press-especially its black journalists-to push back against the administration's lies and restriction of information. As history has shown, the dogged, journalistic pursuit of the truth has exposed even the greatest of lies.

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

## **The Final Word**

# A rare Page One editorial in *The Indianapolis Star*

## THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2017 • CITY EDITION

EDITORIAL

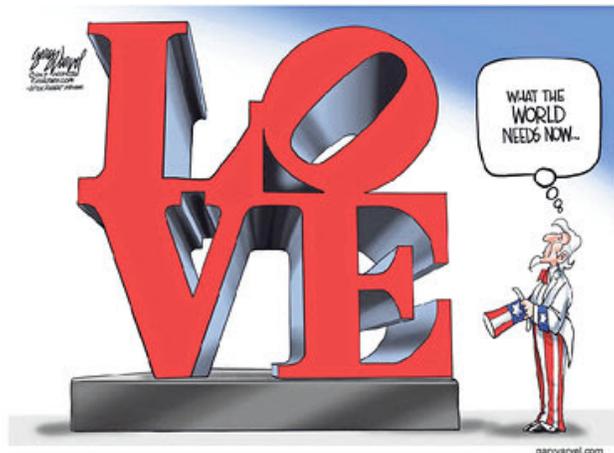
# LET'S STAND AGAINST HATE. TOGETHER.

**I**t has been a heart-rending week in America.

It's been a week in which the ugliest elements of our nation's past and present spewed racial, ethnic and religious hatred on the streets of Charlottesville, Va. A week in which a young woman was killed while standing against that hatred. A week in which the president of the United States failed to unequivocally condemn white supremacists linked to the violence.

As such a painful time, it is tempting simply to move on — to allow time and a fast-paced news cycle to distract us from the hard realities that have surfaced in recent days. But it's critical that we face our deep divisions over race, religion and ethnicity. It's critical that we engage in the hard work of bridging those divisions.

Although these problems are national in scope, let's begin that hard work in our own neighborhoods, city and state.



To start, we need to acknowledge Indiana's painful past and to accept that it continues to influence our present. In 1930, a mob lynched — murdered — two young black men who were accused of killing a white man in Marion. A long time ago? Yes. But in 2015, a white assistant chief in the Marion Fire Department was suspended for tossing a noose at a black firefighter during a training exercise. The supervisor, who apologized, was demoted but allowed to stay on

enacting a statewide hate crimes law. Gov. Eric Holcomb, House Speaker Brian Bosma and Senate leader David Long should include those proposals in their legislative agendas for 2018.

The constitutional protection of the freedom of speech is fundamental to our democracy, but it does not shield individuals or hate groups from threatening and intimidating others.

Finally, we must take a stand as individuals. We have to be willing to fight the injustices of

the job. How could the firefighter and others not help but hear echoes of the past in such a thoughtless act?

How could older black residents of our city — who attended segregated schools, were banned because of their race from visiting a local amusement park and excluded from buying homes in “white” neighborhoods — not hear those echoes while watching hundreds of angry white men spew racist slogans on Charlottesville’s streets?

Across the country, synagogues and mosques have been vandalized in the past year, and Jewish community centers in several states, including Indiana, received threats. Again, echoes of a horrific past were heard in the shouts of neo-Nazis in Charlottesville.

The pain isn’t isolated to the horrors of Charlottesville. It is felt in the hatred and cruelties far too frequently targeted at LGBT citizens and people of color, including Latinos.

We have come far as a state and nation, but not so far as to fully escape the pits of bias and bigotry that have trapped us for so long.

We also must hold our elected leaders accountable. It is not enough for them, or for us, only to denounce discrimination. They must act as well. That means tearing down legal barriers that discourage racial and ethnic minorities from voting. It means adopting legislative and congressional district maps that have been fairly and impartially drawn. And it means finally

the world by moving outside our comfort zones. Many Hoosiers live in largely segregated communities, attend self-segregated houses of worship, and socialize with friends who look and think the same as they do. As a consequence, we often lack empathy for those outside our own circles because we don’t understand the challenges others face.

To help change that, IndyStar has created a pledge that encourages each of us to take at least one action that promotes better unity and pushes back against hatred and discrimination. An action might be as simple as expanding your connections on social media to include people of different backgrounds and then committing to listen to and engage with them. It could mean attending a religious service with people of a different race or faith. It could involve inviting a neighbor or coworker to dinner. Above all, it means building into our lives values that help make Indiana a welcoming, diverse and inclusive state. Please take the pledge, sign the form online or in print, and submit it to IndyStar.

We also have created a poster that proclaims: “Take a Stand. End the Hate.” Get a copy in today’s IndyStar or print it out from [indystar.com](http://indystar.com) and display it in a window at your home, workplace, school and house of worship.

Let’s send a clear message that hate is not tolerated here.

Let’s learn to stand together. Or risk falling apart.

**TIME TO ACT**

Pledge to end the hate, display the poster. **12-13A**

RETAIL \$2 CITY / \$3 STATE

# Today in History - August 21, 2017



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Monday, Aug. 21, the 233rd day of 2017. There are 132 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**

On August 21, 1858, the first of seven debates between Illinois senatorial contenders Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas took place.

**On this date:**

In 1831, Nat Turner launched a violent slave rebellion in Virginia resulting in the deaths of at least 55 whites. (Turner was later executed.)

In 1911, Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" was stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris. (The painting was recovered two years later in Italy.)

In 1940, exiled Communist revolutionary Leon Trotsky died in a Mexican hospital from wounds inflicted by an assassin the day before.

In 1945, President Harry S. Truman ended the Lend-Lease program that had shipped some \$50 billion in aid supplies to America's allies during World War II.

In 1959, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed an executive order making Hawaii the 50th state.

In 1963, martial law was declared in South Vietnam as police and army troops began a violent crackdown on Buddhist anti-government protesters.

In 1972, the Republican National Convention opened in Miami Beach.

In 1983, Philippine opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino Jr., ending a self-imposed exile in the United States, was shot dead moments after stepping off a plane at Manila International Airport. The musical play "La Cage Aux Folles" opened on Broadway.

In 1987, Sgt. Clayton Lonetree, the first Marine court-martialed for spying, was convicted in Quantico, Virginia, of passing secrets to the KGB. (Lonetree ended up serving eight years in a military prison.)

In 1991, the hard-line coup against Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev collapsed in the face of a popular uprising led by Russian Federation President Boris N. Yeltsin.

In 1992, an 11-day siege began at the cabin of white separatist Randy Weaver in Ruby Ridge, Idaho, as government agents tried to arrest Weaver for failing to appear in court on charges of selling two illegal sawed-off shotguns; on the first day of the siege, Weaver's teenage son, Samuel, and Deputy U.S. Marshal William Degan were killed.

In 2015, a trio of Americans, U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Spencer Stone, National Guardsman Alek Skarlatos and college student Anthony Sadler, and a British businessman, Chris Norman, tackled and disarmed a Moroccan gunman on a high-speed train between Amsterdam and Paris.

Ten years ago: Hurricane Dean swept across Mexico's Yucatan peninsula as a Category 5 storm. The postwar Iraqi tribunal trying former Saddam Hussein aides opened its third proceeding, putting former Defense Minister Ali Hassan al-Majid (ah-LEE' hah-SAHN' ahl mah-ZHEED'), known as "Chemical Ali," and 14 other men on trial for the regime's brutal crushing of a 1991 rebellion by Shiite Muslims. Space shuttle Endeavour, with teacher-astronaut Barbara Morgan aboard, safely returned to Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Five years ago: An insurgent rocket attack damaged the plane of the top U.S. general as it sat parked at a coalition base in Afghanistan; U.S. Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was unhurt. Missouri Rep. Todd Akin defied the nation's top Republicans and refused to abandon a Senate bid hobbled by fallout over his comments that women's bodies could prevent pregnancies in cases of "legitimate rape." (Akin went on to lose the fall election to Democratic incumbent Claire McCaskill.)

One year ago: Shaking to samba and sharing reflections in uniquely Brazilian words, Olympians and fans said goodbye to the Rio Games with one last big bash inside Maracana Stadium. Earlier in the day, Kevin Durant scored 30 points and helped the Americans rout Serbia 96-66 for their third straight gold medal, capping an Olympics in which the U.S. dominated the medal tables, both the gold (46) and overall totals (121).

Today's Birthdays: Former NFL player and general manager Pete Retzlaff is 86. Actor-director Melvin Van Peebles is 85. Playwright Mart Crowley is 82. Singer Kenny Rogers is 79. Actor Clarence Williams III is 78. Rock-and-roll musician James Burton is 78. Singer Harold Reid (The Statler Brothers) is 78. Singer Jackie DeShannon is 76. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Willie Lanier is 72. Actress Patty McCormack is 72. Pop singer-musician Carl Giammarese (jee-ah mah-REE'-see) is 70. Actress Loretta Devine is 68. NBC newsman Harry Smith is 66. Singer Glenn Hughes is 65. Country musician Nick Kane is 63. Actress Kim Cattrall is 61. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL quarterback Jim McMahon is 58. Actress Cleo King is 55. Retired MLB All-Star player John Wetteland is 51. Rock singer Serj Tankian (TAN'-kee-ahn) (System of a Down) is 50.

Figure skater Josee Chouinard is 48. Actress Carrie-Anne Moss is 47. MLB player-turned-manager Craig Counsell is 47. Rock musician Liam Howlett (Prodigy) is 46. Actress Alicia Witt is 42. Singer Kelis (kuh-LEES') is 38. Actor Diego Klattenhoff is 38. TV personality Brody Jenner is 34. Singer Melissa Schuman is 33. Olympic gold medal sprinter Usain (yoo-SAYN') Bolt is 31. Actor Carlos Pratts is 31. Actor-comedian Brooks Wheelan is 31. Actor Cody Kasch is 30. Country singer Kacey Musgraves is 29. Actress Hayden Panettiere (pan'-uh-tee-EHR') is 28. Actor RJ Mitte is 25. Actor Maxim Knight is 18.

***Thought for Today: "To know a little less and to understand a little more: that, it seems to me, is our greatest need." - James Ramsey Ullman, American author (1907-1971).***

## Got a story or photos to share?



Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

**Paul Stevens**  
**Editor, Connecting newsletter**  
[paulstevens46@gmail.com](mailto:paulstevens46@gmail.com)

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