



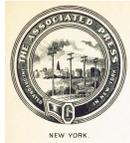
Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - August 28, 2017

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

Mon, Aug 28, 2017 at 9:18 AM

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Connecting

August 28, 2017

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An unidentified man helps Carlos Torres, in tube, get to dry ground after Torres drove his tractor-trailer into a freeway flooded by Tropical Storm Harvey on Sunday near downtown Houston, Texas. | Charlie Riedel/AP Photo

Colleagues,

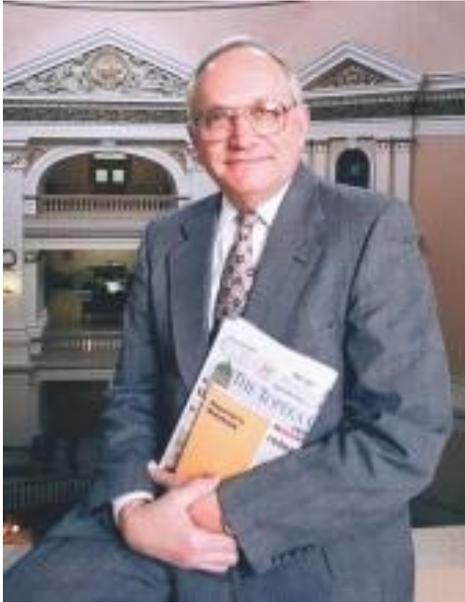
Good Monday morning!

Our hearts go out to the victims of the catastrophic flooding in Texas - perhaps the worst disaster in the state's history - and we commend all of those engaged in news coverage of Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath.

Click on Top AP News and Top AP Photos in the Connecting masthead to get the latest from The Associated Press team covering the story. And if you want to help out the victims, one way would be [donate to the Red Cross](#).

Connecting will provide stories behind the coverage as they become available.

The family of our colleague **Lew Ferguson** shares information on services for the retired AP Topeka correspondent, who died last Thursday of heart failure at the age of 83.



A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday (August 30) at Resthaven-Sunset Memorial Park, in Lew's hometown of Ponca City, Oklahoma, with Father Dee Bright officiating. A memorial service and celebration of Lew's life will be held in Topeka in September or October. Connecting will provide details when plans are finalized.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Robert C. and Dorothy L. Harder Book Fund through the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library Foundation, or to Peachtree Landing, in Ponca City, through United Way of Ponca City.

Online condolences may be made at www.troutfuenralhome.com and [click here](#) for a link to his obituary. If you would like to send a note of condolence to Lew's wife Sue, her address is 17001 Bridle Ridge Circle, Edmond, OK 73012, or through daughter Diane at - aristeia.diane@gmail.com

We share a host of memories about Lew in today's issue - and if you didn't get the chance to send in your thoughts, please do so today. One of my favorites came from **John Hanna**, the current AP Topeka correspondent who succeeded Lew, who wrote how one day Lew took the phone from one of his young reporters who was defending a story about a regulatory hearing from a PR executive. Lew told the executive that his theory of journalism was wrong and concluded the call with, "I know what you thought. You were going to poke that stick in the cave and hit the cub. Well, you've gotten the big grizzly!"

We lead today's Connecting with a story on **Joseph Galloway**, who ranks highly among the very best of journalists who covered the Vietnam War while working as a war correspondent for United Press International.

He is a Facebook friend who often shares interesting posts, and the idea struck me that too many of us - particularly the newer generations on Connecting - may not know his story. Joe notes in telling his story that he has spent the last four years as a permanent consultant to the Ken Burns production of the forthcoming Vietnam War documentary series that airs Sept. 17 on PBS.

So I asked Connecting colleague **Mike Tharp** - who has known Joe for 56 years, since they both worked at the Topeka Capital-Journal - to interview him, and the result is a most interesting story of courage and talent that leads off today's issue. Connecting colleague **Rich Clarkson** was running the newspaper's photo department at the time.

In his story, Joe talks about the competition that waged for so many years between the AP and UPI. We welcome your own memories of that time when the two worldwide news services battled tooth and nail.

Have a great last week of August!

Paul



Photo of Joe Galloway by Justin Johnson

Joseph Galloway: One of the best war correspondents of our era



Evacuating the wounded at LZ X-Ray, November 1965. Photo/Joseph Galloway/UPI

By MIKE THARP ([Email](#))

I first met Joe Galloway in 1961 when he was a 19-year-old statehouse reporter for UPI and I was a 16-year-old copy boy and darkroom boy for the Topeka Capital-Journal. Both UPI and AP had space in the C-J newsroom. Joe's area was always crammed with books and newspapers, enveloped in a fog of filter-less tobacco

smoke. I remember once venturing to ask him where he was from because he sounded like my mom, born in west Texas. Joe was from Refugio, near Corpus Christi. I also recall Joe and C-J photographer Bill Snead leaving the office together after deadline, headed for a watering hole.

Galloway became one of the best war correspondents of our era, likened by some to Ernie Pyle. Years later, our paths crossed again, when we were both at U.S. News & World Report and later when we reported for McClatchy. Paul Stevens knew we were friends so he asked me to ask Joe if he'd sit still for a Connecting feature. Paul and I both know that competitive fire and fury between AP and former UPI folks still burns bright and hot. Even so, Joe agreed. Because war dogs like him have trouble hearing, he answered my questions by writing the following:

By JOSEPH GALLOWAY (Email)

When the biggest, bloodiest battle went down in Landing Zone XRay, in the Ia Drang Valley, in November of 1965 there was only ONE reporter (who was also carrying two Nikon F cameras and an M-16 rifle) present from start to finish. That reporter was me. My AP competition, Pete Arnett, was left in the dirt.

I had flown over the just-beginning battle with the 3rd Brigade commander, Col. Tim Brown. The smoke was rising 5,000 feet into the air. The commander on the ground, Lt. Col. Hal Moore, radioed that the landing zone was under heavy enemy fire and waved us off. Col. Brown dropped me at the artillery base four miles away. Other reporters and photographers, including Pete Arnett, filtered in and we were all looking for a Huey helicopter ride into the battle and having zero luck.

I had marched with Moore's battalion three days earlier and recognized his operations officer, Capt. Matt Dillon, who hurried past. I followed and begged for a ride. Dillon said he was taking two Hueys full of ammunition and water into the landing zone as soon as it got dark. He got on the radio with Moore and informed him of the plans and then said: "By the way, that reporter Galloway wants to come with me." Moore's reply over the radio: "If he's crazy enough to want to come in here and you've got room bring him!"

I hid out from the other reporters until near sundown, and they all caught a ride back to Pleiku where they could get a cold shower, a hot meal and a bunk at the

Adviser Compound. I caught a ride into the pages of history. The battle produced a string of front page stories and, eventually, a book co-authored with Moore titled **WE WERE SOLDIERS ONCE...AND YOUNG**. And a movie starring Mel Gibson, Sam Elliott and a young actor named Barry Pepper who played the role of Joe Galloway.

During four tours in Vietnam I often went head to head with Pete Arnett. If I landed in a hot landing zone and found Pete already there and working I knew my goose was cooked. And the reverse was true for Pete.

In 22 years with UPI - 16 of those years overseas - I was head to head with a bunch of great AP reporters and bureau chiefs in places like Kansas City, Topeka, Tokyo, Saigon, Jakarta, New Delhi, Singapore, Moscow and Los Angeles.



In Da Nang with Marines, August 1965
Photo/Steve Northup/UPI



Aboard Marine chopper, January 1966

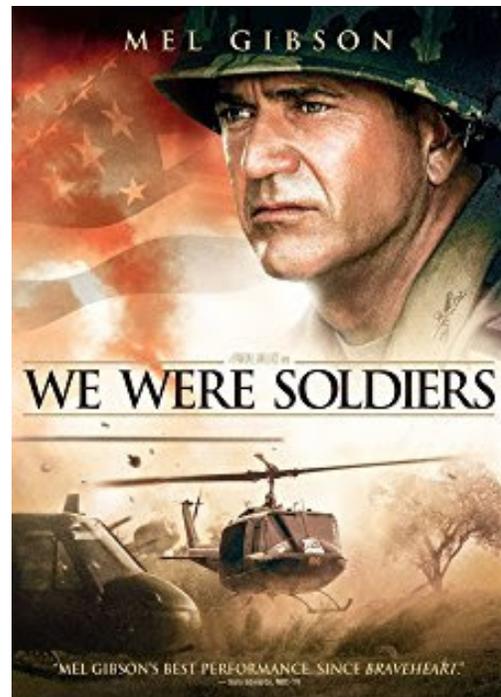
The competition made us all much better reporters and that in turn produced much better stories. We spent a lot of quality time together in both foxholes and watering holes around the world. At the Marine Press Center in Danang, Vietnam, my

opposite number was a gruff former Korean War Marine named Bob Poos. We were both fierce competitors on any given story but were the closest of friends when we went off the clock. We would grab a jeep and head for China Beach to do some body surfing and beer drinking. Poos and I remained best friends until his death over a decade ago.

Other great AP folks who stick in my memory include Elon Torrence in the Topeka bureau since Jesus was a corporal; photographer Nick Ut who just wrapped up a half century with AP; the late great Horst Faas who was also a drinking buddy off the battlefields.

I left UPI in 1982 and moved on to do 20 years at U.S. News & World Report magazine; then to a year as special consultant to Secretary of State Colin Powell (I was sworn into government service on September 10, 2001; timing IS everything); five years as senior military correspondent for Knight Ridder Newspapers' Washington bureau; a decade as a syndicated columnist for both Knight Ridder and its successor McClatchy Newspapers.

In my so-called retirement, I wrote a sequel to WWSOAY titled WE ARE SOLDIERS STILL. Have spent the last four years as a permanent consultant to the Ken Burns production of the forthcoming Vietnam War documentary series that airs Sept. 17 on PBS. And I can report that a second Hollywood movie featuring a character named Galloway is forthcoming in 2018. The movie SHOCK AND AWE is about me and three Knight Ridder colleagues, circa 2002, when we were the only reporters challenging the lies Bush Cheney and Rummy were telling to drag us into an unnecessary and costly war in Iraq. Director Rob Reiner, who says SandA is the finest movie he has made in a long career, hired actor Tommy Lee Jones to play the older Galloway. I was on the set in New Orleans to see Tommy Lee work his magic. My wife says he NAILED IT!



I left UPI in Los Angeles in 1982; my resignation took effect just one day before Scripps Howard announced that it was selling UPI for one dollar. My departure came not because I thought the wire service was on its last legs; I quit because I could not afford to live on the miserly pittance that UPI was paying me and I had seen too many veterans of 30 or 40 years with UP and UPI who upon retirement wound up with pensions of \$250 a month. In the ensuing years, I watched with great sadness as one owner after another stripped the last bits of flesh off the bones of a once-proud news agency that had made the Associated Press a much better competitor.

When UPI disappeared there was no real competition left for the AP, and none has really developed in the past decade - a decade that has seen the real mainstay of American journalism, the daily newspapers, stumble and falter as their business model failed right in front of our eyes.

I hate doing talks at journalism schools because inevitably some bright-eyed youngster will get up and say: "I want to do what you did! How do I do that?" The answer, sadly, is: You can't. The jobs aren't there. The foreign correspondent is a greatly endangered species. So, too, the war correspondent.

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you would like to drop a note to Joe, his email is - jlgalloway2@yahoo.com

Your memories of Lew Ferguson continue



A hug for Lew Ferguson from U.S. Senator Nancy Kassebaum-Baker at his retirement party in 1999. Photo/Topeka Capital-Journal

Lou Boccardi - retired AP president and CEO - Lew was the archetype of a vital and trusted AP breed: the statehouse correspondent who seemed to know everybody and everything going on in the state, a familiar name and indeed a familiar face in newsrooms throughout the territory. Lew could, and in fact did, give lessons in how to do it.

-0-

Sally Buzbee (Email) - AP executive editor - Lew Ferguson was a terrific journalist - a savvy and dogged reporter who for decades had the entire state of Kansas wired cold.

He was an even more terrific boss to slews of AP journalists. He was my first boss and the best first boss anyone ever had. I still vividly remember the first time I saw him rush into the pressroom and pound out an "urgent" - the state Senate had just rejected the death penalty. Lew was on fire, and watching him, I was just hooked on AP journalism forever.

It was a joy to watch him report and write stories - he was so darned good at it - and he infused all of us with that joy of reporting.

Journalism was both a ton of fun and also deeply meaningful when you worked for Lew Ferguson - and there's no better combination. "

"He was kind and patient and funny - very, very funny - but also demanding and with the highest standards.

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Walter Mears (Email) - retired AP Washington chief of bureau, political writer - As a traveling political reporter I was privileged to work with Lew when candidates and campaigns took me into his territory - and it really was his territory. He knew the people, the people, senators, governors and managers, and he was more than a partner - for an outsider he was a teacher. It was always reassuring to go into a state where the AP correspondent was skilled and informed - and Lew was encyclopedic. Fran, who worked with him from Kansas City, joins me in saluting the work and the memory of a true professional.

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John Hanna (Email) - AP Topeka correspondent who succeeded Lew - Lew Ferguson's long and legendary journalism career included encounters with Richard Nixon and baseball's Billy Martin, lunches with Alf Landon and Karl Menninger, nine national political conventions, three World Series and a Super Bowl. He was a

storyteller in the way that Mark Twain was a storyteller, so that if he was relating an incident from the past, the details were still fresh, vivid and more than occasionally side-splittingly funny.

But Lew's biggest legacy in 42 years in journalism, including 29 as the supervisory correspondent for The Associated Press in Topeka, Kansas, was the young reporters he mentored in what one AP executive once so memorably described as his "finishing school." American journalism is now populated with dozens of reporters, editors and news executives who work hard, are committed to fairness and accuracy, master the tiniest of details and pursue this vocation with a sense of purpose and joy because he did and taught us to do so as well.

He taught us not to be afraid of complicated or highly technical issues - and to keep asking questions until we'd mastered the details. His mindset was to see stories worth reporting everywhere; everything government does affects somebody, and that somebody ought to know about it. He respected intelligence and skill, whether it was academic or vocational.

He was editor, teacher and life coach. When I was a new, 20-something home owner, he was stunned when I asked him to recommend a plumber the first time my toilet would not stop running. In fact, he expressed some disbelief that AP had hired a reporter who would be foolish enough to spend \$50 or \$75 on a plumber in such a case. Over the lunch hour that day, we drove to a hardware store, where I purchased the correct \$5 part, and we drove to my house, where he showed me how to install it in what was a five-minute job. And, of course, I passed this knowledge along to my daughter before she left for college four years ago.

Yes, he rubbed shoulders with senators and governors, but he also loved talking to the secretaries, Highway Patrol troopers and envelope-stuffing campaign workers. We ate lunch regularly at Porubsky's in the Little Russia section of north Topeka, where he picked the late Charlie Porubsky's brain about politics, knowing that Charlie had picked up a lot of intelligence while he served beer, chili and cold-cut plates.

He sprinkled his sentences with Oklahoma expressions so that even a simple comment about the weather became the absolutely wonderful observation, "It's colder than a well-digger's butt out there." If a politician moved quickly on an issue, he "jumped on that faster than a chicken on a June bug." An idea hadn't proven to be worthless; it was "not worth a spit in the wind." He announced some urgent stories with, "Fire in the hole!" If you were taking your time with a story, he might say, "We're not working for a weekly here," or, "Let's whip that pony home!"

Woe to the public relations person or political aide who tried to intimate one of his reporters - no one tried to intimidate Lew, of course. In one case, Lew took the phone from a young reporter who was defending a story about a regulatory hearing from a PR executive, told the executive that his theory of journalism was wrong and concluded the call with, "I know what you thought. You were going to poke that stick

in the cave and hit the cub. Well, you've gotten the big grizzly!" How could you not want to do your best? Your work had to be worthy of such a defense because he was too fair-minded to white-wash a mistake. Early in my career, I had many sources tell me, simply, "You work for Lew, so you must be OK."

We are all, to some degree, shaped by our experiences with others, including our parents, our teachers and our mentors. Those of us who had our journalistic values set under Lew's tutelage - hard work, fairness, accuracy, attention to detail, a willingness to keep asking questions - are now passing them on. And the people we're mentoring will do the same, so that Lew's influence will continue well past the biggest stories of the moment.

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Mercer Bailey (Email) - In my book Lew was the best Capitol reporter the AP ever had. Nothing ever happened in Topeka (or Kansas for that matter) that Lew didn't know about. And you couldn't ask for a better friend and co-worker. They don't make them like him anymore.

-0-

Karen Ball (Email) - I was always amazed at Lew's incredible energy and dedication to the job, no matter how many long committee hearings stretched out on the calendar, rehashing many issues year after year. He never seemed bored by any of it. And yes, he was a great mentor. Part of it was that he guided by not guiding, or at least not hovering. Once you had proven yourself to Lew, he'd give you a slice of a big story and let you run. He never big footed any of his staff to claim a story for himself, even though he obviously had way more expertise and knowledge.

Lew didn't believe in reporter's notebooks, at least when I was there in the spring of 1985. He kept stacks of old Supreme Court decisions stacked upside down on a desk, and we learned how to fold them over to use the blank sides for note taking. We always thought it brought a whole new dimension to the old adage, "You can't spell cheap without AP." (I still use the trick today).

Of course his friendship with Gov. Landon was legendary. At least every few weeks the phone would ring and a weathered old voice would ask if Lew was in. "Would you tell him Alf called?" the gentleman would say. Of course we dutifully left notes but Lew ran about 100 miles a minute during the legislative session. Then we'd often hear Lew on the phone a few days later, explaining to the governor, "Oh those damn kids," about not getting a message. It was a thrill to be in on the cover story.

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Scott Charton (Email) - Lew Ferguson was the epitome of an AP newsman: Fair, smart, cool under fire and deadline pressure, wise to con artists and crooks, unyielding to petty tyrants, with the right lede on top and a deep knowledge and perspective of Kansas government and politics informing every graf. He was the model of a statehouse reporter, plain-spoken, conversant with custodians and governors, idolized by a legion of graduates from Lew Ferguson's Finishing School for Young Reporters. Lew's protege John Hanna continues in this fine tradition. I was honored to build a friendship with Lew as we covered neighboring statehouses for the AP, Lew always marveling from "dry" Kansas about the wetness of Missouri lawmakers with their booze consumption inside the Capitol at Jefferson City. But Lew was not personally prudish, and some of my fondest memories came from the times we shared a cold beer and he regaled me with stories of his friendship with iconic figures like Alf Landon.

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Peg Coughlin (Email) - I was a graduate of the Lew Ferguson Finishing School for Girl and Boy Editors.

As Kansas City day supervisor for a number of years, I often was at the receiving end of Lew's huffy and puffy calls to the desk, particularly when Topeka stories weren't filed as quickly as he would have liked or if he disagreed with the edits, as Libby Quaid noted. Lew taught me to be a more conscientious editor, to stay true to a writer's voice, to stand up when I was right and to back down when I was wrong.

I joked with Lew over the last several years at AP events that he was aging in reverse since his retirement. I will truly miss his toothy grin and bear hug at the next one.

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Bill Hancock (Email) - Doug Tucker reminded me today that Lew Ferguson holds a unique place in college football lore: he typed the play-by-play of the 1957 game when Notre Dame ended Oklahoma's 47-game winning streak, 7-0, in Norman. Lew worked for a legendary OU sports information director that fall. He was a good typist and was drafted for the play-by-play duties. This was just another of Lew's many accomplishments.

And what Doug has to add:

I recall our talking about that historic game and Lew telling me that Harold Keith, the famous SID, assigned him to type the play-by-play that day. Many years later he became well acquainted with Jim Schaaf, who was a starting guard for the Irish in that game and eventually became general manager of the Chiefs. Lew said they often reminisced about that 7-0 Notre Dame victory but the passage of time had not removed the pain of seeing the end of OU's 47-game winning streak.

Oh, how Lew loved his Sooners! He was constantly on the hunt for information about the football team. I would come across something interesting, something, say, that Barry Switzer had shared on background, and I would call Lew. I would have an idea of how busy he was by the depth of the growl in that familiar greeting, "AP, Ferguson." But without fail he would listen with intense interest to whatever I had to pass along. The last time I heard from Lew was about a week before he passed. He was excited to be getting out of the hospital, he said, because that gave him plenty of time to settle into a comfortable spot and watch Oklahoma's game with Ohio State on Sept. 9.

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Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - Say it ain't so; tell me that it is not true that Lew Ferguson - a journalist's journalist - has left us.

Lew was always one of those typewriter pounders who made a newsroom a pleasant place to be.

I worked with Lew in Minneapolis in the early 1960's, after he was transferred from Sioux Falls, S.D. We had a bond even then, especially when we coordinated on sports coverage. He did the writing, and I did the photography. We both had respect for each other, and formed a bond that has held forth for all of these years.

Ferguson was a tall fellow, but thin then. He was quiet in nature, didn't make many waves, but was a stalwart journalist. He had the respect of his fellow AP family, and especially with the news and sports family with whom he so deftly covered.

Connecting was a real connector for us. Lew and I exchanged a lot of emails back and forth. He is reported to be a connective leader, and that is true. Lew had a way of complimenting people for their good work, and he and I most often talked about the stories we've covered, and how each of our talents mattered.

Lew won't have any problems with his next assignment. God bless.

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Mike Holmes (Email) - Lew Ferguson was one of the guys who set an example for all us AP statehouse reporters.

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Lindel Hutson (Email) - Lew was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2009 and I think he was very proud of that honor.

I don't think he missed an induction ceremony after 2009 and I was privileged to sit with him just about every year. For someone who spent most of his career out of state, he was a walking encyclopedia of Oklahoma journalism. He was proud of his University of Oklahoma heritage and loved his Sooners. He had received the OU Journalism Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1996.

After he retired and had returned to Oklahoma, Lew spent four years on the Kansas Board of Regents. He kept up with Kansas education and was quick to criticize when he saw something he didn't like. He did the same with Oklahoma education.

I'll remember Lew as someone who was vibrant and loved journalism and was proud of his association with Oklahoma and Kansas.

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Brad Martin (Email) - I was Lew's technician back in the early 70's. That is not what he called me but that is what I was. Lew was a real stickler; he wanted the AP equipment in the Capitol to work and he wanted it to work flawlessly without the assistance of the gnat on his backside known as me. There were two things that you didn't want to do with Lew; bother him while he was busy and get in his way. I did both very well. To be fair there was no room to work on those big monstrosities except right there in the small space that was the AP newsroom and I wasn't much of a technician in those early days. I was more or less a trainee who had learned by rote from the local Kansas City technicians versus formal AP training in NY/NJ. Oh, the teachers were very good, some of the best AP had to offer actually but the student was, well, a student. I was pretty decent with M15 Teletypes and motors and photo equipment and the such, but Lew didn't have any of those. He had M20 Teletypes and 5200 CRTs that were a different breed of grief for me and you just couldn't send a guy like that out to fix a trouble at a place as important as the Statehouse, at least not one inhabited by Lew Ferguson!

I especially remember one particular occasion when I had trekked the 75 miles from KC to Topeka for some problem (that I had triumphantly addressed the day before) and returned the 75 miles back to KC. Communications Chief Herb Mundt called me in his office to let me know I would be returning to Topeka again that day. My previous two "triumphant successes" for the same problem had reappeared and Herb relayed Lew's phone call plea to him: "Can't you send somebody who can actually fix this thing?" That wasn't the exact quote but it's all that's fit to print. Anyway, I returned and swapped out the defective unit with a known good one from the bureau so as not to see the headlines in the Capitol Journal the next day about Lew being in jail for attempted murder.

Lew and I became friends after he retired and he turned out to be one of the most gracious people I have ever known. Over the years I joked with him about our encounters and while all of his other faculties remained tip-top, his memories of my technical prowess somehow disappeared and he had nothing but good things to say about me and our times together.

I really didn't find out how good he was until after his retirement but he was an amazing writer in my opinion. I will miss our correspondence, conversations and infrequent but delightful reunions. He was a real prince of a man.

It's bright and sunny here today, I bet Lew would have pointed that out to me in my sadness.

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Barry Massey ([Email](#)) - Lew was a tenacious reporter. His special talent for squeezing information out of legislators and other government officials amazed me throughout my four years in Topeka. I recall one day when the governor planned to announce the appointment of a Supreme Court justice. The press office tried to keep a lid on it until the afternoon announcement, but their efforts failed. Lew broke the story early by trolling the Capitol - genuine shoe-leather reporting - until he found sources willing to slip him the name of the nominee. It was one of Lew's countless scoops during his statehouse career. He was a great mentor and inspiration for me. We need more journalists like Lew.

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Jim Salter ([Email](#)) - I'm so shocked and saddened to see that Lew passed. It was such a great person, beyond a great journalist. I never worked directly with him but

he would still call me occasionally to compliment a story I had written. A true giant of the industry and gentleman of the world has left us.

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Mike Tharp (Email) - I worked in the (Topeka) Capital-Journal newsroom for five years--three as a copyboy, one as an intern, one as environmental writer. AP had its quarters in the newsroom. Lew was a larger-than-life presence, always smartly dressed and soft-spoken. He was generous with his praise when I'd get a decent byline. Early in my career, he stood straight and tall as a standard for what a journalist should be and do.

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Doug Tucker (Email) - One of the greatest reporters and finest gentlemen ever employed by The Associated Press. Although Lew covered politics for 30 years, the only way to find out how he personally felt about issues and people was to get to know him personally. Unlike so many journalists today, Lew never slanted his copy. He never employed clever wording to push an agenda or manipulate opinion. Lew was a journalistic artist. RIP, old friend. Go Sooners!

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Kent Zimmerman (Email) - Lew Ferguson told me many times how glad he was to have been working for The Associated Press during the Golden Age of Journalism. What better guy to have in a capitol bureau when editors were demanding exhaustive coverage of the Kansas Legislature and its many committees, as well as the rest of state government and politics in a super-political state.

There are so many great memories of Lew that it's hard to recount them all. Certainly one was his devotion to the AP and his drive to "get the story out of town," as he often said. He was a tireless worker who produced well-backgrounded stories day in and day out while at the same time spending time to teach his interns the ways of the AP. He was a great source for anything about Kansas, its government officials, its history and its people. He seemed to know everybody and had a story or two about virtually any topic related to Kansas or sports.

I got to know Lew when I moved to Kansas City as news editor, but we developed a closer friendship after we had both retired, albeit mostly long-distance by phone and

e-mail. As good as he was as an AP man, and I don't know anyone better, he was an even better man.

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And these tweets:

Steve Kraske - KCUR, Kansas City - This hurts: Lew Ferguson, the tremendous former AP correspondent in Topeka, has died. So much integrity.

Ron Fournier - former AP Washington bureau chief - Statehouse reporting has been decimated by budget cuts. And yet it's never been more important. Lew was the standard.

The start of the Civil Rights Movement

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - retired AP photographer who covered the Civil Rights Movement in the South:

History was made today.

Yes, it has been 62 years ago today that history was written when a 14-year-old black boy from Chicago was killed in the deep south of Mississippi. The year was 1955.

A youngster of northern origin, didn't know that he shouldn't whistle at white women to show off for some of his cousins.

Emmitt Till, visiting relatives in Money, MS., was yanked from his bed in his uncle's tenant house, taken by white men to a barn, where he was badly beaten, shot in the head, tied up with barbed wire and a big heavy cotton gin fan, and thrown into the Tallahatchie River.



Emmitt Till

Yes, it was the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement in the United States. It was followed by Autherine Lucy, a black student, being kicked out of the University of

Alabama, and then Rosa Parks, another black woman, refusing to sit in the black section of a public bus, and being arrested for her daring act. The year was 1956.

All of this was immediately followed by a young black preacher, who had recently moved to the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, joining the fray. His name was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Thus was the beginning of this nation's Civil Rights Movement, which started and stirred the country into a giant drive for the rights of the black people, and then those of other minorities.

We wonder today, amidst off of the battles for equal rights, if that movement has reached its goal.

Those were troubled times, and today we find our nation is a continuing battle for decent and equal rights for all of us.

AP names Asher to news editor position in Washington

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Associated Press on Thursday named award-winning journalist James Asher as a news editor in its Washington bureau, where he will oversee coverage of the investigations into interference in the 2016 election and other key elements of President Donald Trump's administration.

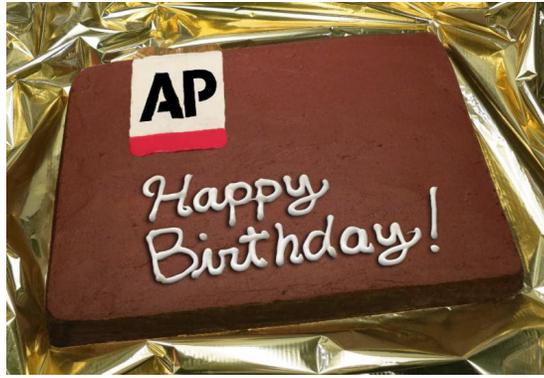
Asher's appointment was announced by Julie Pace, AP's chief of bureau in Washington.



"Asher is an ambitious journalist who thrives on big stories and strives to produce distinctive coverage," Pace said. "He brings a deep knowledge of Washington and a long track record of getting the best out of his reporters."

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Rick Cooper - rick55cooper@gmail.com

Randy Evans - revans2810@aol.com

Larry Heinzerling - lheinzerling@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Top newspapers lower paywalls for Hurricane Harvey (Politico)

The nation's three most storied newspapers - The New York Times, Washington Post and Wall Street Journal - lowered their paywalls this weekend for coverage of Hurricane Harvey.

The rare, concurrent move by the three titles gave non-subscribers unlimited access to their on-the-ground reporting as Harvey continues to inflict damage along the Texan coastline. It also gives readers access to weather and safety coverage.

"During times when safety may be at risk, access to accurate and up-to-date information is crucial," a spokesperson for the New York Times, the first of the three to grant readers increased access, told POLITICO.

The three newspapers join The Houston Chronicle and other local Texas news outlets in reducing barriers to entry for content in the wake of Harvey.

Read more [here](#).

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Column: An apology to Donald Trump, from the 'fake news' media (Chicago Tribune)

By REX HUPPKE

Chicago Tribune

After watching Donald Trump's campaign rally in Phoenix, it became clear that we in the media owe the president a sincere apology.

Trump used Tuesday night's rally to denounce the "fake news" media for being mean, dishonest, bad, America-hating and an all-around pain in his keister.

Referring to controversial comments he made in the wake of a deadly white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Va., Trump said: "The words were perfect."

He even quoted his own perfect words, cleverly omitting the part where he blamed the Charlottesville tragedy on "many sides" rather than just on the Nazi side, creating the controversy in the first place.

After spending 15 or so minutes complaining about the media, he said of the media: "For the most part, all they do is complain. ... These are really, really dishonest people and they're bad people and I really think they don't like our country. I really believe that."

Well, I, for one, feel just terrible. It was never my intention, as a journalist, to make the president of the United States feel like he's under some form of scrutiny or that he should be held accountable for the words that fall out of his mouth.

Read more [here](#).

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NRA's video message to 'elites': 'We're coming for you'

By **LISA MARIE PANE**

ATLANTA (AP) - The election of President Donald Trump and Republican control of Congress meant the National Rifle Association could probably rest easy that gun laws wouldn't change for at least four years. But the NRA has begun a campaign not against pending legislation but what it sees as liberal forces bent on undoing the progress it's made - and the political powerhouse is resorting to language that some believe could incite violence.

Using the hashtags [#counterresistance](#) and [#clenchedfistoftruth](#), the NRA has put out a series of videos that announce a "shot across the bow," and say the gun-rights group is "coming for you" and that "elites ... threaten our very survival," terms that suggest opponents are enemy combatants.

"The times are burning and the media elites have been caught holding the match," NRA spokeswoman Dana Loesch says in one video aired on NRATV, the gun lobby's web video site, as it shows footage of people fighting police, breaking storefront glass and burning the American flag.

Read more [here](#).

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News-Sentinel is going digital (Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette)

The News-Sentinel is ending distribution of its afternoon newspaper as it shifts to a digital platform, Fort Wayne Newspapers announced Thursday.

Subscribers will still be offered News-Sentinel content in the morning Journal Gazette, as part of a renewal of the two newspapers' joint operating agreement.

The change is expected sometime in October.

Fort Wayne Newspapers is the business agent for The Journal Gazette, which is locally owned, and The News-Sentinel, which is owned by Ogden Newspapers of Wheeling, West Virginia. Both papers have offices at 600 W. Main St.

The updated joint operating agreement, which was extended through 2075, allows pages produced by The News-Sentinel to reach more readers through Journal Gazette distribution.

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

Today in History - August 28, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Aug. 28, the 240th day of 2017. There are 125 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 28, 1917, ten suffragists demanding that President Woodrow Wilson support a constitutional amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote were

arrested as they picketed outside the White House.

On this date:

In 1609, English sea explorer Henry Hudson and his ship, the Half Moon, reached present-day Delaware Bay.

In 1862, the Second Battle of Bull Run (also known as Second Manassas) began in Prince William County, Virginia, during the Civil War; the result was a Confederate victory.

In 1916, Italy declared war on Germany during World War I.

In 1922, the first-ever radio commercial aired on station WEAJ in New York City; the 10-minute advertisement was for the Queensboro Realty Co., which had paid a fee of \$100.

In 1947, legendary bullfighter Manolete (man-oh-LEH'-tay) was fatally gored during a fight in Linares, Spain; he died early the next day at age 30.

In 1955, Emmett Till, a black teen-ager from Chicago, was abducted from his uncle's home in Money, Mississippi, by two white men after he had supposedly whistled at a white woman; he was found brutally slain three days later.

In 1963, more than 200,000 people listened as the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

In 1968, police and anti-war demonstrators clashed in the streets of Chicago as the Democratic National Convention nominated Hubert H. Humphrey for president.

In 1972, Mark Spitz of the United States won the first two of his seven gold medals at the Munich Olympics, finishing first in the 200-meter butterfly and anchoring the 400-meter freestyle relay. The Soviet women gymnasts won the team all-around.

In 1987, a fire damaged the Arcadia, Florida, home of Ricky, Robert and Randy Ray, three hemophiliac brothers infected with AIDS whose court-ordered school

attendance had sparked a local uproar. Academy Award-winning movie director John Huston died in Middletown, Rhode Island, at age 81.

In 1988, 70 people were killed when three Italian stunt planes collided during an air show at the U.S. Air Base in Ramstein (RAHM'-shtyn), West Germany.

In 1996, Democrats nominated President Bill Clinton for a second term at their national convention in Chicago. The troubled 15-year marriage of Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Diana officially ended with the issuing of a divorce decree.

Ten years ago: After reports surfaced of his June arrest at the Minneapolis airport, Senator Larry Craig, R-Idaho, told a news conference the only thing he'd done wrong was to plead guilty to disorderly conduct after a police complaint of lewd conduct in a men's room; Craig also declared, "I am not gay. I never have been gay." A military court at Fort Meade, Maryland, acquitted Army Lt. Col. Steven L. Jordan of failing to control U.S. soldiers who'd abused detainees at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, but found him guilty of disobeying an order not to discuss the investigation. (That conviction was later thrown out.) Oscar-winning actress Miyoshi Umeki died in Licking, Missouri, at age 78.

Five years ago: Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney swept to the Republican presidential nomination at a storm-delayed national convention in Tampa, Florida. Hurricane Isaac spun into the southern Louisiana coast, sending floodwaters surging and unleashing fierce winds, as residents hunkered down behind boarded-up windows.

One year ago: Six scientists completed a yearlong Mars simulation in Hawaii, where they emerged after living in a dome in near isolation on a Mauna Loa mountain. Ryan Harlost led Endwell, New York, to the Little League World Series title, striking out eight and limiting South Korea to five hits in six innings in a 2-1 victory. Beyonce received eight honors at the MTV Video Music Awards in New York. Juan Gabriel, a superstar Mexican songwriter and singer who was an icon in the Latin music world, died at his home in California at age 66.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Sonny Shroyer is 82. Actor Ken Jenkins is 77. Former Defense Secretary William S. Cohen is 77. Actor David Soul is 74. Former pop singer-musician Honey Lantree (The Honeycombs) is 74. Former MLB manager and player Lou Piniella is 74. Actress Barbara Bach is 71. Actress Debra Mooney is 70. Singer Wayne Osmond (The Osmonds) is 66. Actor Daniel Stern is 60. Olympic gold medal figure skater Scott Hamilton is 59. Actor John Allen Nelson is 58. Actress Emma Samms is 57. Actress Jennifer Coolidge is 56. Movie director David Fincher is 55. Actress Amanda Tapping is 52. Country singer Shania (shah-NY'-uh) Twain is 52. Actor Billy Boyd is 49. Actor Jack Black is 48. Actor Jason Priestley is 48. Actor Daniel Goddard (TV: "The Young and the Restless") is 46. Olympic gold medal swimmer Janet Evans is 46. Actor J. August Richards is 44. Rock singer-musician

Max Collins (Eve 6) is 39. Actress Carly Pope is 37. Country singer Jake Owen is 36. Country singer LeAnn Rimes is 35. Actress Kelly Thiebaud is 35. Actor Alfonso Herrera is 34. Actress Sarah Roemer is 33. Actor Armie Hammer is 31. Rock singer Florence Welch (Florence and the Machine) is 31. Actress Shalita Grant is 29. Country-pop singer Cassadee Pope (TV: "The Voice") is 28. Actress Katie Findlay is 27. Actor/singer Samuel Larsen is 26. Actor Kyle Massey is 26. Actress Quvenzhané (kwuh-VEHN'-zhah-nay) Wallis is 14. Reality TV star Alana Thompson, AKA "Honey Boo Boo," is 12.

Thought for Today: "The essence of immorality is the tendency to make an exception of one's self." - Jane Addams, American social worker and Nobel Peace laureate (1860-1935).

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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