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Connecting - September 07, 2017

1 message

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Thu, Sep 7, 2017 at 9:16 AM

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

Do you remember your first day on the job with The Associated Press?

Jim Carrier remembers his, in the New Haven bureau, and shared this Facebook post:

"My first day with the AP, June 7, 1971, New Haven bureau, an Allegheny Airline plane crashed just before 10 a.m. I was useless in the bureau, so everyone handed me their coins (for pay phone calls) and sent me to the scene. The plane had come in too low, hit cottages and pancaked in a field. All survived the crash but died from the fire. The top was off, and I could see row after row of blackened bodies strapped in their seats. A priest was giving last rites from a nearby bleacher. The crash led to new fire retardant, exit lighting and crew training (the stuff you ignore before each flight). I got one fact at the scene - 28 dead - called it in, and my name went on the A-wire story. I loved the AP (1971-1978). I learned speed, judgement, and ethics."

Your first day with the AP may not have been as eventful, but how about sharing your memories?

Have a great day!

Paul

Media Trade Group to NRA: 'It Is Un-American to Threaten Journalists' (CNN)

A trade group that represents The New York Times, the Associated Press and other major publishers is calling out the NRA, accusing the gun rights group of crossing a line and threatening journalists.

"We were taken aback by your recent criticism of The New York Times," the group Digital Content Next wrote in a letter to NRA spokesperson Dana Loesch on Tuesday.

In a viral video last month, Loesch harshly attacked the Times as an "untrustworthy, dishonest rag." She said her video was a "shot across your proverbial bow."



"We're going to laser-focus on your so-called honest pursuit of truth," Loesch said. "In short: We're coming for you."

The video received ample attention in conservative media circles. Fox News said the NRA was "targeting" the Times.

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

Connecting mailbox



Connecting colleagues Cliff Schiappa and Jo Steck celebrated Schiappa's 60th birthday in Scottsdale, AZ, Wednesday. They are in front of a public art sculpture by Pablo Soleri. Steck was an AP photo editor in Los Angeles and New York, and then joined the George W. Bush administration as White House photo editor.

Stories of interest

Gannett makes company-wide cuts in reorganization

(Poynter)

Gannett is cutting less than 1 percent of its total workforce in a company-wide reorganization, a Gannett spokesperson told Poynter Wednesday.

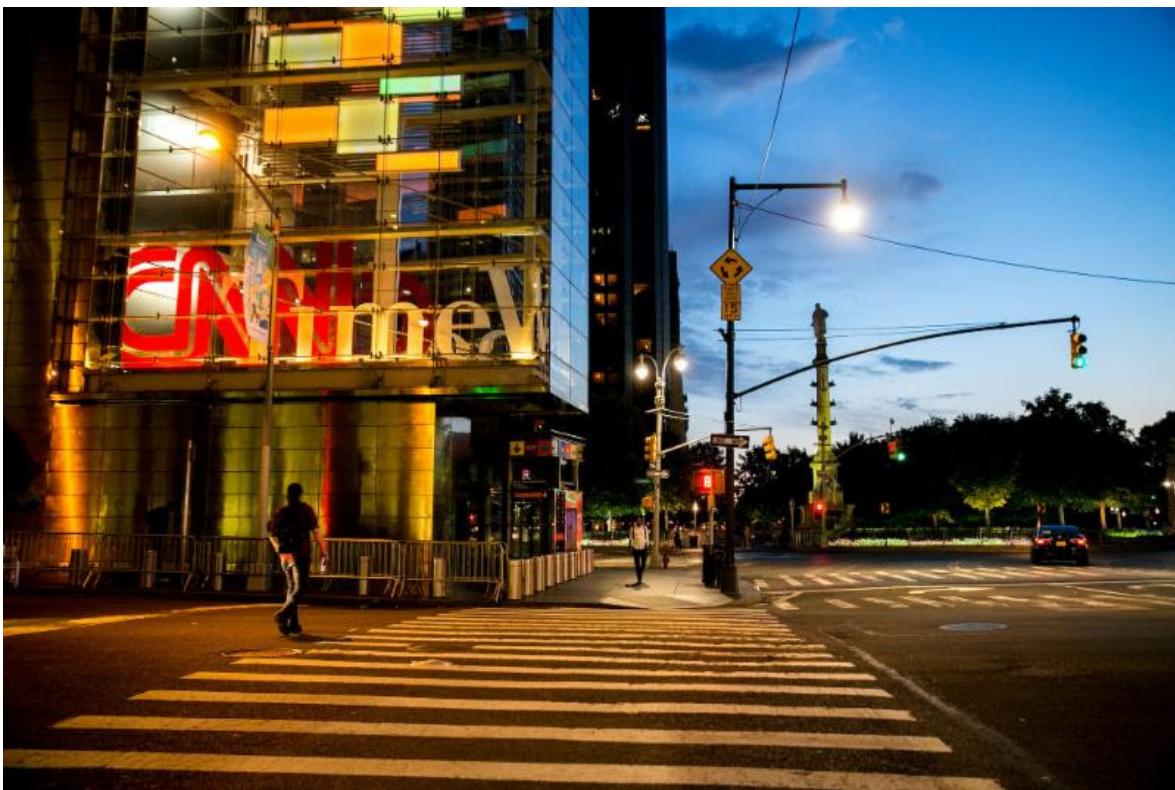
The cuts were announced to employees by CEO Bob Dickey in a video to employees Wednesday. Gannett, which has more than 20,000 employees globally, continues to battle declining print advertising earnings alongside the rest of the newspaper industry.

Its first-quarter earnings showed print advertising revenue decline 17.7 percent compared to the first quarter of 2016, with circulation revenues down 8 percent year-over-year.

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At CNN, Retracted Story Leaves an Elite Reporting Team Bruised

(New York Times)



By SYDNEY EMBER and MICHAEL M. GRYNBAUM

Late on a Monday afternoon in June, members of CNN's elite investigations team were summoned to a fourth-floor room in the network's glassy headquarters in Midtown Manhattan.

A top CNN executive, Terence Burke, had startling news: three of their colleagues, including the team's executive editor, were leaving the network in the wake of a retracted article about Russia and a close ally of President Trump. Effective immediately, Mr. Burke said, the team would stop publishing stories while managers reviewed what had gone wrong.

It was a chilling moment for a unit that boasted Pulitzer Prize winners and superstar internet sleuths, and had been introduced at the beginning of the year as the vanguard of CNN's original, high-impact reporting. Its mission statement - "Seek truth. Break news. Hold the powerful accountable." - invoked the sort of exhaustive reporting that has become an increasingly coveted skill for news organizations in the Trump era.

But within months of its introduction, the unit, CNN Investigates, had been rocked by damaging reporting errors - including another flawed story about Mr. Trump and Russia earlier in June - and its mistakes had disturbed network executives who were already embroiled in a public feud with the White House.

Read more [here](#).

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Why the South needs movement journalism

(Scalawag)

By ANNA SIMONTON

Hi, I'm Anna. I'm an editor here at Scalawag, and while I've been doing my part to help produce this wonderful magazine, I've also been working on another media experiment with an organization called Project South. Recently, we published a report about what we've been up to. I want to share it here, because Scalawag has played an important role in shaping what could become a powerful force for reporting on social movements in the South.

Once when I was visiting a Northern state, someone asked me if there are any liberals in the South. Dumbfounded, I reached for a reference that would be familiar to him. "Where do you think all the people from the Civil Rights Movement went?" I said. "Where do you think their children and grandchildren are?" I assumed he was asking me if there were people who valued and fought for justice in the South, though it later occurred to me that those things aren't implicit in the term "liberal." Maybe he was just asking me if there were middle class white people like him who read The Nation. Of course, they are in the South too. The South has everybody.

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

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Deputy Shoots New Carlisle News Photographer

New Carlisle News photographer Andy Grimm was shot by a Clark County deputy Monday evening.

Andy had left the office around 10:00 p.m. to take pictures of lightning.

There was a traffic stop on Main Street near Studebaker's Restaurant involved, but Andy was not the subject of the stop.

He had his camera and tripod in his hands and Deputy Jake Shaw apparently mistook it for a weapon and fired, striking Andy in the side.

He was rushed to Miami Valley Hospital for surgery. He is expected to recover from his wounds.

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

The Final Word

Kids are over fidget spinners. Adults are just getting into them. (Washington Post)



You don't always choose the fidget spinner life. Sometimes, it chooses you.

Or so you tell yourself.

When Mark Ventura won a spinner for offering the best ideas in a work meeting, he was pretty unimpressed with his prize. He's an adult. What was he supposed to do with a whirring hunk of plastic that kids on social media were obsessed with?

But then he twirled the three-pronged gizmo a few times, and suddenly the 28-year-old Capitol Hill resident understood. And then he couldn't leave home without it.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - September 7, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Sept. 7, the 250th day of 2017. There are 115 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On September 7, 1927, American television pioneer Philo T. Farnsworth, 21, succeeded in transmitting the image of a line through purely electronic means with a device called an "image dissector" at his San Francisco laboratory.

On this date:

In 1892, James J. Corbett knocked out John L. Sullivan to win the world heavyweight crown in New Orleans in a fight conducted under the Marquess of Queensberry rules.

In 1916, the Federal Employees Compensation Act, providing financial assistance to federal workers who suffer job-related injuries, was signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson.

In 1936, rock-and-roll legend Buddy Holly was born Charles Hardin Holley in Lubbock, Texas.

In 1940, Nazi Germany began its eight-month blitz of Britain during World War II with the first air attack on London.

In 1957, the original animated version of the NBC-TV peacock logo, used to denote programs "brought to you in living color," made its debut at the beginning of "Your Hit Parade."

In 1963, the National Professional Football Hall of Fame was dedicated in Canton, Ohio.

In 1964, the controversial "Daisy" commercial for President Lyndon Johnson's election campaign, featuring a girl plucking flower petals followed by a nuclear explosion, aired on NBC-TV.

In 1967, the situation comedy "The Flying Nun," starring Sally Field as a novice nun who finds that she can fly, debuted on ABC.

In 1977, the Panama Canal treaties, calling for the U.S. to eventually turn over control of the waterway to Panama, were signed in Washington by President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos (toh-REE'-hohs). Convicted Watergate conspirator G. Gordon Liddy was released from prison after more than four years.

In 1979, the Entertainment and Sports Programming Network (ESPN) made its cable TV debut.

In 1987, the syndicated TV talk show "Geraldo," hosted by Geraldo Rivera, began an 11-season run.

In 1996, rapper Tupac Shakur was shot and mortally wounded on the Las Vegas Strip; he died six days later.

Ten years ago: Osama bin Laden appeared in a video for the first time in three years, telling Americans they should convert to Islam if they wanted the war in Iraq to end. A federal judge ruled that Iran had to pay \$2.65 billion to the families of the 241 U.S. service members killed in the 1983 bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut. A jury in St. Francisville, Louisiana, acquitted Sal and Mabel Mangano, the owners of a nursing home where 35 patients died after Hurricane Katrina, of negligent homicide and cruelty charges. Shawn Johnson won the women's all-around title at the world gymnastics championships in Stuttgart, Germany; among the men, China's Yang Wei won his second straight title.

Five years ago: The Labor Department reported that employers added just 96,000 jobs in August 2012, down from 141,000 in July; the dismal finding prompted Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney to say, "We're going in the wrong direction," while President Barack Obama, fresh off his nomination for a second term in office, said: "We know it's not good enough." Twin earthquakes and a spate of aftershocks struck southwestern China, toppling thousands of houses and killing more than 80 people. Dorothy McGuire Williamson, 84, who teamed with sisters Christine and Phyllis as the popular McGuire Sisters, died in Paradise Valley, Arizona.

One year ago: In back-to-back appearances, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton confronted their perceived weaknesses during a national security forum in New York, with Clinton, who went first, arguing that her email practices did not expose questionable judgment while Trump, who went second, defended his preparedness to be commander in chief. President Barack Obama, during a visit to Laos, pledged to help to clear away the 80 million unexploded bombs the U.S. dropped on the Southeast Asian country a generation ago.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz musician Sonny Rollins is 87. Actor Bruce Gray is 81. Singer Gloria Gaynor is 74. Singer Alfa Anderson (Chic) is 71. Actress Susan Blakely is 69. Rock musician Dennis Thompson (MC5) is 69. Actress Julie Kavner is 67. Rock singer Chrissie Hynde (The Pretenders) is 66. Rock musician Benmont Tench (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers) is 64. Actor Corbin Bernsen is 63. Actor Michael Emerson is 63. Pianist Michael Feinstein is 61. Singer Margot Chapman is 60. Actress J. Smith-Cameron is 60. Actor W. Earl Brown is 54. Actor Toby Jones is 51. Actress-comedian Leslie Jones (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 50. Model-actress Angie Everhart is 48. Actress Diane Farr is 48. Country singer Butter (Trailer Choir) is 47. Actress Monique Gabriela Curnen is 47. Actor Tom Everett Scott is 47. Rock musician Chad Sexton (311) is 47. Actress Shannon Elizabeth is 44. Actor Oliver

Hudson is 41. Actor Devon Sawa (SAH'-wuh) is 39. Actor JD Pardo is 38. Actor Benjamin Hollingsworth (TV: "Code Black") is 33. Actress Alyssa Diaz (TV: "Ray Donovan"; "Zoo") is 32. Singer-musician Wes Willis (Rush of Fools) is 31. Actress Evan Rachel Wood is 30. Actor Ian Chen (TV: "Fresh Off the Boat") is 11.

Thought for Today: "Television has proved that people will look at anything rather than each other." - Ann Landers, American advice columnist (1918-2002).

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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