



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - October 05, 2017

1 message

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

Thu, Oct 5, 2017 at 9:09 AM

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



Connecting

October 05, 2017

Click [here](#) for sound of the Teletype



- [Top AP News](#)
- [Top AP photos](#)
- [AP World](#)

- [AP books](#)
- [Connecting Archive](#)
- [The AP Store](#)
- [The AP Emergency Relief Fund](#)

Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

Richard Pyle was remembered fondly last night by his family and friends, and we lead this morning's Connecting with a report from his longtime colleague and friend, **Charles Hanley**.



Richard Pyle's widow, Brenda Smiley (second from left), at the wake Wednesday night for Richard at the Guido Funeral Home in Brooklyn. With her, before a photo of her late husband, who died last Thursday, are three veterans of Richard's wartime bureau in Saigon: Edie Lederer, Mike Putzel and Nick Ut.

Charles Hanley (Email) - On Wednesday evening in Brooklyn, dozens of AP colleagues, friends and neighbors of the late Richard Pyle, who died last Thursday at age 83, gathered in a pre-Civil War townhouse and funeral home to remember and honor a great journalist.

Perhaps the oldest of his "buddies," retired AP Executive Photo Editor Hal Buell, a U.S. Army barracks mate in 1950s Tokyo, pointed to what many agree was Richard's "most important quality."

"It was his ability to create and hold dear to his heart friendships," Buell said.

He noted it was that devotion to friends that led Pyle, former Saigon wartime bureau chief, to plunge into the Laotian jungle to help try to find the remains of AP photographer Henri Huet 20 years after he was killed in the Indochinese wars, subject of the book, *Lost over Laos*.

Bebeto Matthews, New York bureau photographer, found a friend and adviser in the veteran AP correspondent during Richard's final assignment in New York. When Matthews faced daily challenges, "we would sit down and talk, and something he'd say would crystallize for me what to do."

Listening to these and other reminiscences, Richard's niece, Cynthia Pyle, recalled how "cool" she thought it was to visit AP headquarters at "50 Rock" to visit her uncle, "a celebrity." But "it's even cooler to see the admiration and affection you have for him."

Recalling Scripture, she said the happiest people "are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires. My Uncle Richard is the best example I've seen in my life of a person doing what God requires. He went into a war zone and told the truth."

A funeral Mass was scheduled this (Thursday) morning at Sacred Hearts and St. Stephen Church in Brooklyn.

Want more women in journalism? Get predators out of our way

That's the headline on a story by Amanda Mustard in *Witness*, a magazine published by the World Press Photo Foundation.

Her lead:

Photojournalism has an undeniable diversity problem. In recent years, World Press Photo contest statistics have consistently tracked women's participation at about 15 percent. The proportion of front-page photographs on leading newspapers taken by female photographers is sometimes as low as just 9 percent, according to Women Photograph, a group launched this year to encourage equal hiring rights. Sexism is a quiet reality that is deeply ingrained in many aspects of the industry, and women continue to have to fight to be taken seriously and given opportunities.



A group of photographers huddle together, lining up shots with their flash cameras during a Miss Press Photographer beauty contest in 1951 (Hulton Archive)

The disproportionately low numbers of women in photojournalism has been much discussed in 2017, but these conversations have often failed to critically address the root causes. Sexual harassment is one of the key deterrents to those beginning their

careers. It is pervasive, even at the hands of industry giants, and young women have been expected to accept this as part of breaking into a competitive, cash-strapped, and male-dominated industry.

You can read more of her article by clicking [here](#). Connecting would welcome your thoughts and experiences on the subject.

Connecting mailbox

Iowa City AP correspondent to be honored with First Amendment Award

Randy Evans ([Email](#)) - On Thursday evening, the Iowa Freedom of Information Council (the nonprofit education and advocacy organization I lead) will present its Friend of the First Amendment award to Ryan Foley, the AP correspondent in Iowa City.

The award recognizes Iowans for their contributions to the First Amendment. Ryan is being honored for his masterful use of Iowa's open records law to unearth documents that have led to numerous front page exclusives involving state and local governments in Iowa.

Also being recognized Thursday evening is Des Moines native Michael Gartner, a 1997 Pulitzer Prize winner for editorial writing, which he won while editing the Ames Tribune. He's a former editor of the Des Moines Register and Louisville Courier-Journal, the page one editor at the Wall Street Journal and president of NBC News.

Foley joined the AP in 2003.

-0-

Some of best writing in Connecting is by photographers

Campbell Gardett ([Email](#)) - Bill Sikes' item (in Wednesday's Connecting) confirms an impression that's been growing on me. Some of the best writing on Connecting, a disproportionate share, is done by photographers. They are a pleasure to read.

-0-

Richard Pyle: A true AP 'Old Bolshevik'

Cecilia White ([Email](#)) - I'm running out of heroes.

Although I never had the privilege of working directly with him, Richard Pyle was nonetheless a hero to me. With his uncompromising, take-no-prisoners commitment to solid journalism, not to mention his absolute loyalty to the AP and his colleagues, past and present, how could he not be?

He was one of AP's "old Bolsheviks," as his dear friend, Horst Faas, called his fellow legendary AP foreign correspondents who doggedly, fearlessly sought the truth in covering news, particularly in Vietnam, where they butted heads with both officialdom and management at times. I've heard that Richard could be tough, even cantankerous at times, but honourable men of integrity and conviction usually are.

It has been said that the AP is the Marine Corps of journalism - first in, last out. If so, Richard Pyle was its point man. How distressing it must have been for him to witness the current bastardization of his once proud profession: 'fake news,' sound bite news suited to ADD readers, and an "everyone's-a-journalist" mentality.

Richard needn't have feared being "forgotten," as the flood of beautiful tributes in "Connecting" over the past week attests. The AP's torchbearer's light has, sadly, been extinguished, but not his memory, nor his legacy. My thoughts are with his wife, Brenda. She, and we, have lost one helluva man.

-0-

The Great Lionel Bridge Caper



Messenger photographer Hans Madsen found a Lionel toy bridge on Ebay (25 bucis) to compare with the actual Lionel bridge, to illustrate the story.

Paul Stevens ([Email](#)) - The note came to me via Facebook Messenger. A group of six former residents of my hometown of Fort Dodge, Iowa, was willing to go public on a deed they committed nearly 50 years ago, figuring the statute of limitations had expired.

Their deed: In the middle of the night, as 19 year olds, they snuck out to a railroad bridge in a city park and painted "LIONEL" in six-foot white lettering on the side of a Chicago & Great Western Railway bridge. Lionel, as some of you may know, is the famed manufacturer of toy electric trains that were particularly big in the 1950s and 1960s. They then made an anonymous call to the local newspaper, The Messenger, tipping it to their artwork and a front-page photo ensued. But no one other than the six knew whodunit.

In my latest Spotlight for The Messenger (I write a feature each month), I tell their story of intrigue. And if you're a fan of smalltown hijinks or Lionel electric trains, you might enjoy reading it.

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

-0-

Recalling AP photographer, then Indiana professor Will Counts

Joe Young ([Email](#)) - Nice piece on my former I.U. classmate of the 1950's - Ira Wilmer Counts. When I was part of the first Indiana University 1954 J-class to enter the new Ernie Pyle Hall, Will was working on his master's degree (that was before his PhD and Dr. Ira Wilmer Counts). I remember well our conversations in the Journalism library.

But through our careers, which included Will Counts working AP in Indy before his teaching at IU in Bloomington, we always were on a first name basis. When he was an AP shooter, I was an Indianapolis News staffer.

-0-

AP photo du jour



President Donald Trump tosses paper towels into a crowd as he hands out supplies at Calvary Chapel on Oct. 3 in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico. Evan Vucci/AP Photo

North Korean workers prep seafood going to US stores, restaurants



Portraits of late North Korean leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il hang on a wall as a woman stands in a room of a dormitory for workers with the seafood processing factory Hunchun Pagoda, in the city of Hunchun in northeastern China's Jilin province. The workers wake up each morning on metal bunk beds in fluorescent-lit Chinese dormitories, North Koreans outsourced by their government to process seafood that ends up in American stores and homes. Privacy is forbidden. They cannot leave their compounds without permission. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

By TIM SULLIVAN, HYUNG-JIN KIM AND MARTHA MENDOZA

HUNCHUN, China (AP) - The workers wake up each morning on metal bunk beds in fluorescent-lit Chinese dormitories, North Koreans outsourced by their government to process seafood that ends up in American stores and homes.

Privacy is forbidden. They cannot leave their compounds without permission. They must take the few steps to the factories in pairs or groups, with North Korean minders ensuring no one strays. They have no access to telephones or email. And they are paid a fraction of their salaries, while the rest - as much as 70 percent - is taken by North Korea's government.

This means Americans buying salmon for dinner at Walmart or ALDI may inadvertently have subsidized the North Korean government as it builds its nuclear weapons program, an AP investigation has found. Their purchases may also have supported what the United States calls "modern day slavery" - even if the jobs are highly coveted by North Koreans.

At a time when North Korea faces sanctions on many exports, the government is sending tens of thousands of workers worldwide, bringing in revenue estimated at anywhere from \$200 million to \$500 million a year. That could account for a sizable portion of North Korea's nuclear weapons and missile programs, which South Korea says have cost more than \$1 billion.

Read more [here](#).

AP Exclusive: Chicago nanny no accidental photographer



By MICHAEL TARM

CHICAGO (AP) - Yawning gaps in the life story of enigmatic Chicago nanny Vivian Maier, whose gritty street photography became a sensation and the subject of an Oscar-nominated documentary only after she died, led to early depictions of her as a camera-wielding Mary Poppins who may not have fully grasped nor cultivated her raw talent.

But new research reveals the French-speaking Maier as obsessive about honing her craft starting in 1950. Within years, the self-taught Maier had so mastered photography she often took just one shot to capture streetscape images heralded by critics more than five decades later.

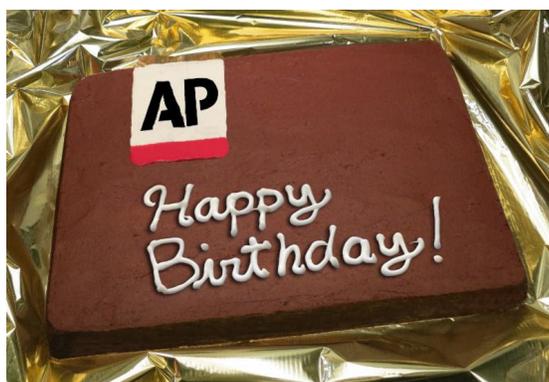
Researcher Ann Marks showed her findings exclusively to The Associated Press in advance of the release of her book "Vivian Maier Developed: The Real Story of the Photographer Nanny" this week. Marks drew on her access to 140,000 mostly unpublished Maier photos as well as personal notes Maier kept and documents uncovered in public archives.

Maier's Golden Era in the quality of her photographs ran from the mid-50s into the late 1960s in New York City, where she was born, and then Chicago. Her some 15-year burst of creativity steadily waned beginning around 1970. She died penniless and living alone at 83 in 2009.

It's a fluke her photography was ever discovered.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Gary Nyhus - coach24@gmail.com

Stories of interest

The press, branded the 'enemy' by Trump, increasingly trusted by the public: Reuters/Ipsos poll (Reuters)

By CHRIS KAHN

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Americans are increasingly confident in the news media and less so in President Donald Trump's administration after a tumultuous year in U.S. politics that tested the public's trust in both institutions, according to a Reuters/Ipsos opinion poll released on Tuesday.

The poll of more than 14,300 people found that the percentage of adults who said they had a "great deal" or "some" confidence in the press rose to 48 percent in September from 39 percent last November. Earlier this year, Trump branded the entire industry as the "enemy of the American people."

The percentage of those who said they had "hardly any" confidence in the press dropped to 45 percent from 51 percent over the same period.

Confidence in Trump's administration moved in the opposite direction.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Los Angeles Times Newsroom, Challenging Tronc, Goes Public With Union Push (New York Times)

By SYDNEY EMBER

Newsroom employees at The Los Angeles Times are trying to form a union, setting up a potential clash with the newspaper's parent company, Tronc.

After months of organizing, the committee behind the push for a union drafted a one-page letter laying out its reasoning and left printouts on employees' desks Tuesday night.

The unsigned letter calls for improved working conditions, higher pay, more generous benefits and protections for staff members against "unilateral change by Tronc."

The letter also says "a majority of the newsroom" had signed union cards supporting representation by the NewsGuild, which represents 25,000 reporters, editors, photojournalists and other media workers at news organizations across the United States.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

-0-

Governor apologizes for slamming media outlets over coverage

By JENNIFER MCDERMOTT

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) - Gov. Gina Raimondo apologized Wednesday for slamming Rhode Island's biggest media outlets over what she sees as critical or insufficient coverage of her administration.

The Democratic governor said she regrets her characterization of media outlets in the state and apologized to reporters, editors and publishers she offended.

At Brown University on Tuesday, Raimondo said she's relying more on social media and spending a lot more time with "micro local media" in Rhode Island. WPRO News first reported her comments.

Raimondo singled out WJAR-TV, which frequently interviews her for its "Connect to the Capitol" segment.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

Facebook Is Still In Denial About Its Biggest Problem

In a world where social media is the pre-eminent news conduit, 'If it's outrageous, it's contagious' is the new 'If it bleeds, it leads'

By Christopher Mims
The Wall Street Journal

It's a good time to re-examine our relationship with Facebook Inc.

In the past month, it has been revealed that Facebook hosted a Russian influence operation which may have reached between 3 million and 20 million people on the social network, and that Facebook could be used to micro-target users with hate speech. It took the company more than two weeks to agree to share what it knows with Congress.

Increased scrutiny of Facebook is healthy. What went mainstream as a friendly place for loved ones to swap baby pictures and cat videos has morphed into an opaque and poorly understood metropolis rife with influence peddlers determined to manipulate what we know and how we think. We have barely begun to understand how the massive social network shapes our world.

Unfortunately, Facebook itself seems just as mystified, providing a response to all of this that has left many unsatisfied.

What the company's leaders seem unable to reckon with is that its troubles are inherent in the design of its flagship social network, which prioritizes thrilling posts and ads over dull ones, and rewards cunning provocateurs over hapless users. No tweak to algorithms or processes can hope to fix a problem that seems enmeshed in the very fabric of Facebook.

On a network where article and video posts can be sponsored and distributed like ads, and ads themselves can go as viral as a wedding-fail video, there is hardly a difference between the two. And we now know that if an ad from one of Facebook's more than five million advertisers goes viral-by making us feel something, not just joy but also fear or outrage-it will cost less per impression to spread across Facebook.

In one example, described in a recent Wall Street Journal article, a "controversial" ad went viral, leading to a 30% drop in the cost to reach each user. Joe Yakuel, founder and chief executive of Agency Within, which manages \$100 million in digital ad purchases, told our reporter, "Even inadvertent controversy can cause a lot of engagement."

Keeping people sharing and clicking is essential to Facebook's all-important metric, engagement, which is closely linked to how many ads the network can show us and how many of them we will interact with. Left unchecked, algorithms like Facebook's News Feed tend toward content that is intended to arouse our passions, regardless of source-or even veracity.

An old newspaper catchphrase was, "If it bleeds, it leads"-that is, if someone got hurt or killed, that's the top story. In the age when Facebook supplies us with a disproportionate amount of our daily news, a more-appropriate catchphrase would be, "If it's outrageous, it's contagious."

Will Facebook solve this problem on its own? The company has no immediate economic incentive to do so, says Yochai Benkler, a professor at Harvard Law School and co-director of the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society.

"Facebook has become so central to how people communicate, and it has so much market power, that it's essentially immune to market signals," Dr. Benkler says. The only thing that will force the company to change, he adds, is the brewing threat to its reputation.

Facebook Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg recently said his company will do more to combat illegal and abusive misuse of the Facebook platform. The primary mechanism for vetting political and other ads will be "an even higher standard of transparency," he said, achieved by, among other things, making all ads on the site viewable by everyone, where in the past they could be seen only by their target audience.

"Beyond pushing back against threats, we will also create more services to protect our community while engaging in political discourse," Mr. Zuckerberg wrote.

This move is a good start, but it excuses Facebook from its responsibility to be the primary reviewer of all advertising it is paid to run. Why are we, the users, responsible for vetting ads on Facebook?

By default, most media firms vet the ads they run and refuse ones that might be offensive or illegal, says Scott Galloway, entrepreneur, professor of marketing at NYU Stern School of Business and author of "The Four," a book criticizing the outsize growth and influence of Amazon, Apple, Facebook and Google.

Mr. Zuckerberg acknowledged in a recent Facebook post that the majority of advertising purchased on Facebook will continue to be bought "without the advertiser ever speaking to anyone at Facebook." His argument for this policy: "We don't check what people say before they say it, and frankly, I don't think our society should want us to."

This is false equivalence. Society may not want Facebook to read over everything typed by our friends and family before they share it. But many people would feel it's reasonable for Facebook to review all of the content it gets paid (tens of billions of dollars) to publish and promote.

"Facebook has embraced the healthy gross margins and influence of a media firm but is allergic to the responsibilities of a media firm," Mr. Galloway says.

Mr. Zuckerberg has said it will hire 250 more humans to review ads and content posted to Facebook. For Facebook, a company with more than \$14 billion in free cash flow in the past year, to say it is adding 250 people to its safety and security efforts is "pissing in the ocean," Mr. Galloway says. "They could add 25,000 people, spend \$1 billion on AI technologies to help those 25,000 employees sort, filter and ID questionable content and advertisers, and their cash flow would decline 10% to 20%."

Of course, mobilizing a massive team of ad monitors could subject Facebook to exponentially more accusations of bias from all sides. For every blatant instance of abuse, there are hundreds of cases that fall into gray areas.

The whole situation has Facebook between a rock and a hard place. But it needs to do more, or else risk further damaging its brand and reputation, two things of paramount importance to a service that depends on the trust of its users.

[Click here](#) for a link to this story. Shared by Campbell Gardett.

Today in History - October 5, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Oct. 5, the 278th day of 2017. There are 87 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 5, 1947, President Harry S. Truman delivered the first televised White House address as he spoke on the world food crisis.

On this date:

In 1829, the 21st president of the United States, Chester Alan Arthur, was born in North Fairfield, Vermont.

In 1892, the Dalton Gang, notorious for its train robberies, was practically wiped out while attempting to rob a pair of banks in Coffeyville, Kansas.

In 1931, Clyde Pangborn and Hugh Herndon completed the first non-stop flight across the Pacific Ocean, arriving in Washington state some 41 hours after leaving Japan.

In 1941, former Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis, the first Jewish member of the nation's highest court, died in Washington at age 84.

In 1953, Earl Warren was sworn in as the 14th chief justice of the United States, succeeding Fred M. Vinson.

In 1969, the British TV comedy program "Monty Python's Flying Circus" made its debut on BBC 1.

In 1974, the Irish Republican Army bombed two pubs in Guildford, Surrey, England, resulting in five deaths and dozens of injuries. (Four men who became known as the Guildford Four were convicted of the bombings, but were ultimately vindicated.)

In 1984, the space shuttle Challenger blasted off from the Kennedy Space Center on an 8-day mission; the crew included Kathryn D. Sullivan, who became the first American woman to walk in space, and Marc Garneau, the first Canadian astronaut.

In 1988, Democrat Lloyd Bentsen lambasted Republican Dan Quayle during their vice presidential debate, telling Quayle, "Senator, you're no Jack Kennedy."

In 1990, a jury in Cincinnati acquitted an art gallery and its director of obscenity charges stemming from an exhibit of sexually graphic photographs by the late Robert Mapplethorpe.

In 1999, two packed commuter trains collided near London's Paddington Station, killing 31 people.

In 2011, Apple founder Steve Jobs, 56, died in Palo Alto, California.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush defended his administration's methods of detaining and questioning terrorism suspects, saying both were successful and lawful. Topps Meat Co. said it was closing its business, six days after it was forced to issue a massive beef recall. Track star Marion Jones pleaded guilty in White Plains, New York, to lying to federal investigators when she denied using performance-enhancing drugs, and announced her retirement after the hearing.

Five years ago: A month before the presidential election, the Labor Department reported that unemployment fell in September 2012 to its lowest level, 7.8 percent, since President Barack Obama took office; some Republicans questioned whether the numbers had been manipulated.

One year ago: Portugal's former prime minister Antonio Guterres won the Security Council's unanimous backing to become the next U.N. secretary-general, succeeding Ban Ki-moon. Frenchman Jean-Pierre Sauvage, Scottish-born Fraser Stoddart and Dutch scientist Bernard "Ben" Feringa won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for making devices the size of molecules.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Glynis Johns is 94. College Football Hall of Fame coach Barry Switzer is 80. Rhythm-and-blues singer Arlene Smith (The Chantels) is 76. Singer-musician Steve Miller is 74. Sen. Benjamin L. Cardin, D-Md., is 74. Rock singer Brian Johnson (AC/DC) is 70. Actress Karen Allen is 66. Writer-producer-director Clive Barker is 65. Rock musician David Bryson (Counting Crows) is 63. Rock singer and famine-relief organizer Bob Geldof is 63. Astrophysicist-author Neil deGrasse Tyson is 59. Memorial designer Maya Lin is 58. Actor Daniel Baldwin is 57. Rock singer-musician Dave Dederer is 53. Hockey Hall of Famer Mario Lemieux is 52. Actor Guy Pearce is 50. Actress Josie Bissett is 47. Singer-actress Heather Headley is 43. Pop-rock singer Colin Meloy (The Decemberists) is 43. Rock musician Brian Mashburn (Save Ferris) is 42. Actress Parminder Nagra (pahr-MIHN'-da NAH'-grah) is 42. Actor Scott Weinger is 42. Actress Kate Winslet is 42.

Rock musician James Valentine (Maroon 5) is 39. Rock musician Paul Thomas (Good Charlotte) is 37. Actor Jesse Eisenberg is 34. TV personality Nicky Hilton is 34. Actress Azure Parsons is 33. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brooke Valentine is 32. Actor Kevin Bigley is 31. Actor Joshua Logan Moore is 23. Actor Jacob Tremblay is 11.

Thought for Today: "America has believed that in differentiation, not in uniformity, lies the path of progress. It acted on this belief; it has advanced human happiness, and it has prospered." - Justice Louis D. Brandeis (1856-1941).

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

Connecting newsletter, [14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215](#)

SafeUnsubscribe™ pjshane@gmail.com

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by paulstevens46@gmail.com in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today