



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - November 03, 2017

1 message

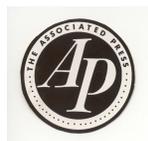
Paul Stevens <paulstevens46@gmail.com>

Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 9:23 AM

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Connecting

November 03, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Two reminders as we enter the first weekend of November:

Books: If you're the author of a book in the past year, please get to me information on the book to be compiled into a roundup that will be published next week. I need about 250 words describing your book, a current headshot and a picture of the book cover. Thanks to those who have already sent in their submission.

Birthday: Next week, on November 8, AP's oldest retiree - **Max Desfor** - will celebrate his 104th birthday. I invite you to join me in sending Max a birthday card with your best wishes. His address is [15115 Interlachen Drive, Apt 1018, Silver Spring, MD 20906](#).

Have a great weekend!

Paul

Halloween Day marked last day with AP after 21-year career



From left: Robert Meyers, Jody Kurash, Tom Sheehan, Erin Benit, Kermit Johnson, Mark Suban, Rob Paine, Gary Fine, and Jim Dietz marking the end of the AP State Photo Center in Washington, D.C., Oct. 31, 2007.

Robert Meyers ([Email](#)) - Halloween 2017 marked the 10th anniversary of the last day of the State Photo Center in Washington, and my last day on the job at the AP after 21 years and one month.

For me, my last day on the job began with a job interview for what I hoped to be my next job. I reported to the gates of the White House at around 10 a.m. for an interview with former AP photographer Eric Draper, Special Assistant to President George W. Bush. I was on the list and the guards showed me into the White House after passing through a magnetometer and waiting for 5 or 10 minutes for Eric to collect me. We sat in his office, the former barbershop and talked about the job. Mostly about how there would be a security screening, and a political test which would involve an investigation as to whether I had been an activist or donor for the opposition. I didn't believe that to be the case as a journalist who valued independence although I had never skipped an election. Eric offered me the job contingent on the political test and gave me a tour.

We went outside the Oval Office which was a short flight of stairs above Eric's office but he knew we couldn't go in by seeing something around or on the door. We went to the Rose Garden, where I took a few photos and then over to the Old Executive Office Building where the photo editors worked. There was a huge ugly concrete wall down the middle of the corridor that had to do with renovations. I talked with former AP editors Jodie Steck and Dan Hansen and others before shaking hands with Eric and heading in to my last day at AP. We didn't have a lot to do that day as all the circuits and phone calls had now been hardwired into New York. I sent a farewell email and read and replied to responses. At some point in the evening, those of us remaining retired to a local watering hole and drank a toast to the AP, each other and the future.

The train was mostly empty on the way back to Vienna, Virginia, and the start of a whole new life. It took me several years before I stopped referring to the AP as "we." The week after Thanksgiving, Eric called to let me know I had failed the political test. I can't think for the life of me why, unless it was voting in a primary election in Pennsylvania, Colorado, Georgia, Michigan, Virginia or absentee overseas in London. My sister got Sen. Arlen Specter, then still in the Republican Party, to write me a recommendation, but to no avail.

I've kept in touch with many of my fellow State Photo Editors over the years. Three are still with AP that I know of, Jon Elswick in the Washington bureau, Dave Boe and Carolyn Lessard in NY, and Mike Stewart in Atlanta. Dave and Mike were the only two to transfer from the 20 editors at the State Photo Center.

Warm regards to any from the SPC (and everybody else) on this list.

Largest JAWS conference ever - 160 women from 34 states - held in Hot Springs



From left: Linda Deutsch, Betsy Wade and Edie Lederer

Linda Deutsch (Email) - For one weekend every fall the Journalism and Women Symposium (JAWS) convenes to consider the past and future of our beloved profession in a setting we call CAMP (Conference and Mentoring Program). It is a time for connecting with old friends and colleagues and meeting new members including the young "emerging fellows" who herald the future of journalism. Every year our numbers grow. This year's gathering in Hot Springs, Ark. was the largest yet -- 160 journalism women from 34 states as well as women now living and working in Japan and Kenya.

I have been attending JAWS since 1987 a couple of years after it was formed as an intimate group of 30 or so women spending a weekend together. Tad Bartimus, Jean Gaddy Wilson and a group of colleagues had the idea of creating a place and time for women in journalism to bond and share their unique vision for the profession.

Wow, has it grown! Each year's conference has its special flavor and this one seemed to me warmer and more inspiring than ever.

A personal best for me and AP's Edie Lederer was our annual tribute to our beloved colleague and friend Fran Lewine, a trailblazer for women's equality who escorted her journalism sisters into the higher echelons of the profession by

covering the White House for the AP and standing up as a named plaintiff on the AP women's lawsuit which resulted in a historic consent decree that improved women's working conditions and required equal pay with men. Fran was an avid JAWS camper, and when she passed away in 2008 we decided to hold an interview each year with someone who epitomized her spirit and accomplishments.

This year we hit the jackpot. Betsy Wade, a constant JAWS camper, agreed to be our interview subject when another planned speaker became ill.

She kept the audience mesmerized by her stories of the early days of her career at the New York Times and her activities as a self-described "trouble maker." She was the first woman to serve as president of the New York local of the Newspaper Guild, the largest in the nation, and a named plaintiff in the landmark sex discrimination lawsuit against the Times.

Edie and I were honored to interview this living legend. At 88, Betsy remains a lively, outspoken advocate for women in journalism. Her stories were colorful and often humorous, describing her role in editing the historic Pentagon Papers and stories on the Cuban Missile Crisis. She was the first woman copy editor on the Times foreign desk and the writer of the Practical Traveler column for 14 years.

Her talk brought a sustained standing ovation from JAWS campers and a flood of tweets and emails later hailing this journalism pioneer.



Bottom row, from left: Linda Deutsch, Susanna Ray, Tatiana Flowers, Nancy Day. Top Row, from left: Linda Kramer Jennings, Marina Villeneuve, Peg Simpson, Tanya Gasdik Irwin, Edie Lederer, Yumi Wilson.

And that was just the beginning of the weekend. We also heard from keynote speakers Lynn Sweet, the Chicago Sun Times Washington Bureau Chief, a familiar commentator on cable TV who covers the Trump administration, and Nikole Hannah-Jones, investigative reporter covering racial injustice for the New York Times Magazine.

There were programs on podcasting and social media, reporting around the globe, video reporting and photojournalism. A rich array of sessions to choose from.

On the final night, as we gathered for one of many delicious southern dinners provided by the Arlington resort, one table was reserved for a JAWS tradition - the AP Table. Women who worked for AP in the past, retirees and current reporters (one had started three weeks ago) shared their histories - or as we call it, "herstory," and found common ground in our dedication to the world's largest news agency. It was a feast of great conversation.

There were 10 of us including the veterans Edie Lederer, Me, Peg Simpson, Linda Kramer Jennings and Nancy Day, new JAWS President Yumi Wilson, Tatiana Flowers of AP/Denver, Tanya Gazdik Irwin, formerly of AP/Detroit, Marina Villeneuve, AP/Maine and Susanna Ray of Seattle.

We adjourned with smiles, farewell hugs and a glow of inspiration meant to last until next year when we gather at Mt. Hood, Oregon.

Connecting mailbox

Waiting for Ike - A young reporter's anxiety

Norman Abelson ([Email](#)) - Connecting has asked us old APers to submit memories, among other things, about the most unusual or stressed-filled situations we ever experienced. Mine constitutes a combination, involving both the president of the United States and an Associated Press Pulitzer-Prize winner.

It was an early summer day - June 23, 1955 - and the big news was President Dwight D. Eisenhower arriving for a several-day visit to New Hampshire.



A few days before, I had written a piece saying there was high probability that Ike, urged on by his chief of staff, former New Hampshire Gov. Sherman Adams, would set up a summer White House in the state. It was not to be, but the story gave added panache to the visit. It also coincided with a gala commemorating the 175th anniversary of the discovery of the Old Man of the Mountains, the Granite State's famed trade-mark.

The Associated Press dispatched its star, Reiman "Pat" Morin, to lead the coverage. Assisting him and other AP political reporters, was the Concord office staff - Correspondent Joe Kamin, a terrific political writer, and me, still a new boy with less than two years of experience. The big event of day one of the trip was to be an outdoor speech by the President on the State House Plaza in Concord.

However, before that happened, there was a bit of tension in the air. As I recall it, the President, or maybe Adams, had insisted on landing at the Concord Airport, hardly a major destination. There was one main runway, which came to an abrupt end in a stand of tall trees. (Incidentally, I know that runway well. Many years later, I took flying lessons at Concord Airport. As I experienced my first unassisted takeoff in a little Cessna four-seater, my young flying instructor, pointing toward the trees, cautioned me not to wait too long before I pulled back on the stick and took off.)

In any event, after a lot of discussion, it had been determined it would be safe to land the Presidential aircraft, hardly as big or as fast as today's Air Force One. But

The AP wasn't taking any chances. There was a telephone booth, located outside the main hangar, with an unobstructed view of the runway. Morin instructed me to stand inside the booth with an open phone line to the New York AP headquarters.

My job was simple - and terrifying: I was to report on the approach and landing, safe or otherwise. Not a very religious person, I nevertheless said a little prayer for the President - and me. As the plane came in low for its approach, I clutched the phone tightly in my hand. The wheels were lowered, touched down on the runway - and the craft made a perfect landing. Phew! What could have been a rarely-used "flash," was instead a young newsman reporting, more mundanely, that the President's plane had landed safely.

Later in the day I was given a less pressurized assignment. As Eisenhower was speaking at the State House Plaza, Morin banged out the color story on his portable. My job? He'd rip out a chunk at a time, hand it to me, and I'd run it across the street to Western Union, which telegraphed his prose to AP New York. Certainly less prestigious than my earlier assignment, but, as I look back those 62 years, also a heck of a lot less nerve-wracking.

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Viewing Newspaper Rock made him ponder future of our profession



Ron Powers ([Email](#)) - Leaving Moab last week, my wife and I stopped by the Newspaper Rock monument in southern Utah. The Navajo called it "Tse' Hane," rock that tells a story. The oldest carvings are said to be some 2,000 years old. Looking at the petroglyphs carved over the centuries, I could not help but ponder the future of our wonderful profession.

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VW Microbus a poor choice for Wisconsin winters

Paul Shane ([Email](#)) - I bought a brand new VW Microbus shortly after joining The APs in 1966. It was a poor choice because the air-cooled engine did not make enough heat to keep it warm during Wisconsin winters. I didn't have it long.

The van was stolen from a hotel parking ramp on the final night of the state high school tournament in Madison. State police tracked me down at the hotel after calling and scaring my wife after they found the vacant vehicle rolled into a corn field off I-94. The thief was never found, but he must have been hurt because he tumbled with a model 6000 transmitter and power supply and a standard Royal typewriter. There was a lot of blood.

COB Dion Henderson replaced the microbus with an AP company station wagon.

Where were you on the day JFK was killed

Doug Tucker ([Email](#)) - Nov. 22, 1963 was unseasonably warm in Oklahoma. So the door to the small classroom where I sat with 20 or so other freshmen was left ajar while we labored in silence over a tough English test.

Suddenly, there seemed a lot of loud talking and shouting out in the hall. Then the kid nearest the open door yelled out, "I just heard somebody say Kennedy's been shot in Dallas!"

The officious stuffed-shirt professor left the room and returned a few minutes later.

"President Kennedy has been shot," he announced. "Vice-president Johnson has been shot. The governor of Texas has been shot and several Congressmen and senators have been shot."

A girl next to me started to cry, saying, "The Russians have invaded America."

I turned in my half-finished paper and joined the chaos in the hall. Standing in a knot of people crowded around a transistor radio a few minutes later, my heart jumped into my throat. The president was dead.

As a post-script, I got an "F" for the incomplete test. Outraged, I protested, of course. How was I supposed to sit there and keep working after the professor as much as announced the entire government was under attack? But he would not relent. The failing grade stood. It was just about the most unfair judgment ever laid on me, which is saying a lot for a guy who worked more than 40 years for AP.

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Harry Cabluck ([Email](#)) - I thought I would share these photos.



One, shot by Jerry Cabluck, shows former AP staff photographer Harry Cabluck, then with the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, covering the JFK speech/rally outside the Hotel Texas the morning of Nov. 22. Both Cabluck brothers were shooting for the FWST in those days. Harry is in dark raincoat above the crowd on the left, checking camera.



The combo shows Harry's photos shot in Fort Worth on the top row. Bottom row shows JFK's arrival at Dallas' Love Field, Dealy Plaza after shots were fired, and presidential limo with the top in place at Parkland Hospital. Harry was on the press bus in the motorcade.

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Paul Albright (Email) - I was picking up the mail from the AP's post office box in Cheyenne, Wyoming, when the President was shot in Dallas. When I walked into our small, basement-level office, I was stunned to find about a half dozen strangers huddled around the teletype with their backs turned to me. These people had heard a radio report of the shooting while in their offices elsewhere in the building. Someone figured the AP would have the latest updates and a group of them invaded the empty office to read the wire. I had to ask what was going on before I could maneuver my way up to the "A" wire printer, which was silent much of the time as all transmissions halted except for bulletins from Dallas. During these ominous pauses, my thoughts immediately went back two months earlier when Kennedy made a brief stopover at the Cheyenne airport and walked along a line of well-wishers with very light Secret Service protection evident.

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Jeffrey Ulbrich (Email) - The day President Kennedy was killed I was driving from Ft. Benning, Ga., to my new posting with the 1st Infantry Division at Ft. Riley, Kan. En route I stopped to visit my grandfather in southern Illinois. He greeted me at the door and gave me the news: "The president's been shot."

We didn't know at that moment if he was dead or alive and spent the rest of day in front of the television watching the stream of news reports, including Cronkite's famous announcement.

I continued on to Ft. Riley, reporting in Nov, 24, but the post was virtually closed down for a day of mourning. Having no place to stay, I went to Manhattan, Kan. and checked into a motel, just in time to watch Jack Ruby shoot Oswald on the television.

Life after AP: Is this retirement, how did I ever find time to work?

Joe Galu (Email) - After leaving the AP (in Albany), a while later I started working for my local Assemblyman, first Richard J. Connors (six plus years) and Jack McEneny for 20 years.

I saw a story on TV about booster seats and they said not a single state requires them, so I gave McEneny the idea that became the nation's first booster seat law. It makes seat belts safer for people too big for baby seats and not big enough for seat belts.

I helped with a lot of health-related matters including getting advanced diagnostics for people with epilepsy (they need a week-long series of tests, especially kids going through puberty when their epilepsy needs change radically. Before NYS established four beds -- two Upstate, two in NYC -- people had to go to North Carolina to get advanced diagnostics.

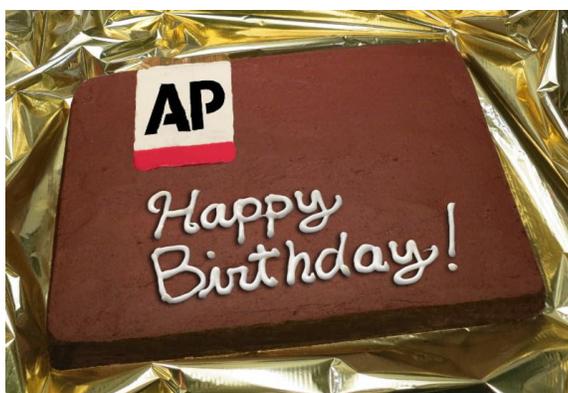
Through my instigation, the office helped promote 90-prescriptions which save money for patients and pharmacies, helped clear the way for pharmacists to administer flu shots and other shots (with special training) and allowed farmers to administer the killed-virus rabies vaccine to cows (and probably horses).

That doesn't sound like much of a list for 26+ years , but there were many other local matters that occupied most of our time. I'm sure I could add to that list with some research, but those are the ones that pop to mind. Jack allowed me to spearhead an effort to deal with the frequent flooding of a major intersection. We succeeded in reducing the frequency and severity of the flood, and the state is getting ready to spend another \$1 million to continue the work -- not sure they will succeed 100%.

At one point a few years ago, I was the President of the Hudson-Mohawk Council of Hostelling International and vice president of the Print Club of Albany, VP of Albany Civic Theater, secretary to the Park South Neighborhood Association and VP of The Alternate Universe (a SciFi group). For more than 20 years, I have been writing the news script for Homo Radio, the nation's No. 1 rated college radio station program. The news segment is the highest-rated part of a four-hour show. Before I was involved, they selected the name (25+ years ago) to have something up-front, so nobody would tune in without knowing what they were getting into. I also manage my three apartment buildings (10 apartments and I live in one).

Is this retirement, how did I ever have time to work?

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Dena Sattler - denas@gctelegram.com

On Saturday to:

Dick Weiss - weisswrite@gmail.com

On Sunday to:

Amy Sancetta - james4ellie@gmail.com

Darrell Condon - darrellcondon@gmail.com

Stories of interest

'A different level of crazy': Is civil war breaking out in the Wall Street Journal over the editorial board's coverage of Mueller?

(Vanity Fair)

By JOE POMPEO

The editorial page has been doing crazy shit for a long time," a former long-serving Wall Street Journal editor told me this week. This person was referencing the time-honored divide in most journalistic organizations between the newsroom and the opinion desk. At the Journal, that divide can be particularly fraught. While the paper has long been a leading bastion of conservative thinking, its editorial writers are known to take positions that are more extreme than many of their colleagues in the newsroom can stomach.

The friction is, in some ways, a hallmark of the institution. A decade ago, an editorial-page columnist attacked a 2006 Journal series about the practice of backdating stock-option awards that went on to win a Pulitzer Prize. The page also once defended billionaire junk-bond king Michael Milken, who got a 10-year sentence for securities fraud in 1990 based in part on exposés by Journal reporters. Nevertheless, several Journal veterans I spoke with described the current rift as among the more fractious they've witnessed. "It does feel like this is a different level of crazy," the veteran editor said.

Read more [here](#).

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Gannett remains profitable but publishing fundamentals are deteriorating (Poynter)

By RICK EDMONDS

Gannett, long committed to meeting Wall Street's profit demands, hit the mark again for the third quarter - but only by vigorous cost cutting and gains from a digital marketing subsidiary.

The revenue picture for USA Today and Gannett's 109 regional newspapers and digital sites was bleak. On a same property basis, total revenues were down 11 percent year-to-year. Print advertising was off 18.7 percent - roughly the same as at the New York Times Co. or fellow regional publishers Tronc and McClatchy.

But circulation revenues were a problem too -- down 7.9 percent on a same property basis. Digital audience grew to 125 million monthly uniques. However, except for gains in ad placements from the new marketing subsidiary, ReachLocal, digital advertising revenues were down 5.9 percent.

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

Today in History - November 3, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Nov. 3, the 307th day of 2017. There are 58 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 3, 1900, the first major U.S. automobile show opened at New York's Madison Square Garden under the auspices of the Automobile Club of America.

On this date:

In 1839, the first Opium War between China and Britain broke out.

In 1903, Panama proclaimed its independence from Colombia.

In 1911, the Chevrolet Motor Car Co. was founded in Detroit by Louis Chevrolet and William C. Durant. (The company was acquired by General Motors in 1918.)

In 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt won a landslide election victory over Republican challenger Alfred "Alf" Landon.

In 1957, the Soviet Union launched Sputnik 2, the second manmade satellite, into orbit; on board was a dog named Laika (LY'-kah), who was sacrificed in the experiment.

In 1960, the Meredith Willson musical "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" opened on Broadway with Tammy Grimes in the title role.

In 1961, Burmese diplomat U Thant (oo thahnt) was appointed acting U.N. Secretary-General following the death of Dag Hammarskjold (dahg HAWM'-ahr-shoold). President John F. Kennedy established the U.S. Agency for International Development.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson soundly defeated Republican Barry Goldwater to win a White House term in his own right.

In 1970, Salvador Allende (ah-YEN'-day) was inaugurated as president of Chile.

In 1979, five Communist Workers Party members were killed in a clash with heavily armed Ku Klux Klansmen and neo-Nazis during an anti-Klan protest in Greensboro, North Carolina.

In 1986, the Iran-Contra affair came to light as Ash-Shiraa, a pro-Syrian Lebanese magazine, first broke the story of U.S. arms sales to Iran.

In 1992, Democrat Bill Clinton was elected the 42nd president of the United States, defeating President George H.W. Bush. In Illinois, Democrat Carol Moseley-Braun became the first black woman elected to the U.S. Senate.

Ten years ago: Gen. Pervez Musharraf declared a state of emergency in Pakistan. United Auto Workers agreed to a tentative contract with Ford Motor Co. Two astronauts conducted a successful spacewalk to save a ripped solar wing on the international space station.

Five years ago: The lights came back on in lower Manhattan to the relief of residents who'd been plunged into darkness for nearly five days by Superstorm Sandy, but there was deepening resentment in the city's outer boroughs and suburbs over a continued lack of power and maddening gas shortages. New York's newly relocated NBA team, the former New Jersey Nets, hosted the first regular-season game by a major sports team in Brooklyn since the Dodgers left in 1957; the Brooklyn Nets beat the Toronto Raptors 107-100.

One year ago: Democratic vice presidential nominee Tim Kaine delivered a speech entirely in Spanish as he addressed a small crowd in a largely Hispanic area of Phoenix as part of Hillary Clinton's push into traditionally Republican Arizona. China's plans for a permanent space station remained firmly on track with the successful launch of its new heavy-lift Long March 5 rocket.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Peggy McCay is 90. Actress Lois Smith is 87. Actress Monica Vitti is 86. Former Massachusetts Gov. Michael S. Dukakis is 84. Actor-dancer Ken Berry is 84. Actor Shadroe Stevens is 71. Singer Lulu is 69. Comedian-actress Roseanne Barr is 65. Actress Kate Capshaw is 64. Comedian Dennis Miller is 64. Actress Kathy Kinney is 64. Singer Adam Ant is 63. Director-screenwriter Gary Ross is 61. Actor Dolph Lundgren is 60. Rock musician C.J. Pierce (Drowning Pool) is 45. Actor Francois Battiste (TV: "Ten Days in the Valley") is 41. Olympic gold medal figure skater Evgeni Plushenko is 35. Actress Julie Berman is 34. Actress Antonia Thomas (TV: "The Good Doctor") is 31. Alternative rock singer/songwriter Courtney Barnett is 30. TV personality Kendall Jenner (TV: "Keeping Up with the Kardashians") is 22.

Thought for Today: "All politics are based on the indifference of the majority." - James Reston, American journalist (born this date in 1909, died 1995).

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.

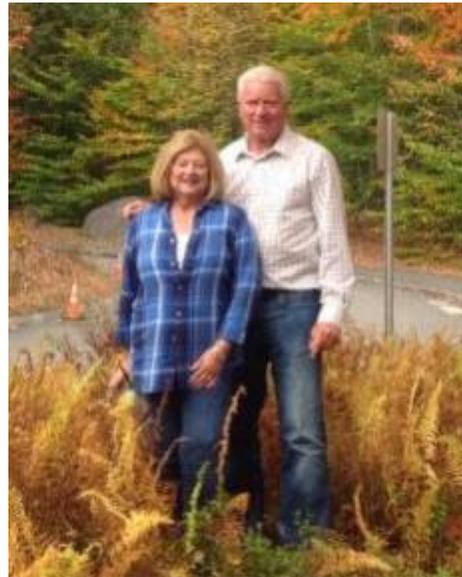
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **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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