



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - November 28, 2017

1 message

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

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Connecting

November 28, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning!

Connecting colleagues, how many of these badges have you earned? Share your answer with your colleagues.

Have a great day!

Paul

Connecting mailbox

Delete mid1, mid2, mid3 - 'Now, let me tell you how to write a Mideast Roundup'

Tom Kent ([Email](#)) - Norman Abelson's recollection of an editor deleting nearly all of his story (in Monday's Connecting) reminds me of my start on the NY foreign news desk (then, the "Cable Desk") in the early 1970s.

I was on one of my first shifts - and that meant the overnight. The chief was Harris Jackson, the brilliant but often brusque overnight editor.

The Mideast, as most nights, was a hodgepodge of conflict. Harris handed me a sheaf of individual stories and told me to blend them into a Mideast Roundup.

I labored over them for hours. I then proudly presented to Harris my work, in three of the short "takes" we used then. The files were named mid1, mid2 and mid3 (why do I still remember that?) in the early CRT system we were using.

Harris opened each of the files. He read them carefully, without changing a single word. I was elated.

Then he typed three commands:

```
delete:mid1
```

```
delete:mid2
```

```
delete:mid3
```

He turned to me and said, "Now, let me tell you how to write a Mideast Roundup."

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Returning from Vietnam with souvenirs of the war



Nick Ut ([Email](#)) - winner of the Pulitzer Prize and World Press Awards, recently visited Vietnam and while near the Song Be River, found rusty bullets and barbed wire from the Vietnam War era. He brought back these historic souvenirs from Vietnam, and now he can add these rare wartime items to the collection which includes his original combat uniform and Nikon F with motor drive.

This workhorse of a camera travelled with Nick from the Mekong Delta to the DMZ, Hamburger Hill, Khe Sanh, Cambodia and Laos. These artifacts will keep the memory alive of those journalists who gave their lives for the craft while documenting the war. Nick will always cherish and remember his older brother and many other journalist friends, as well as Vietnamese journalists from North and South Vietnam who died covering the Vietnam War.

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Connecting sky shot - Kitt Peak, Arizona



Mark Mittelstadt ([Email](#)) - Mary caught the last couple seconds of sunlight, framed by a telescope, at Kitt Peak National Observatory Sunday evening.

The observatory is located on a northern peak of the Quinlan Mountains in the Arizona-Sonoran Desert approximately an hour and a half southwest of Tucson. With 24 optical and two radio telescopes, the observatory claims to be the most diverse gathering of astronomical instruments in the world.

We were there for their Nightly Observing Program, which features a view of the sunset, education about the stars and solar system, and views of the cosmos with binoculars and telescopes. There's no white light after sundown or flash photography after sundown for fear it would disrupt the views and data being captured each night by researchers. Headlights of all cars were covered and at the end of the evening we were led a mile down the 12-mile mountain road by observatory staff, who then removed the covers from each car. It was a bit like driving in a Midwest snowstorm -- follow the tail lights of the car in front of you! Quite the experience.



The evening was a gift from our sons, Matt and Brent, last Christmas. We figured we better make use of it now so as to not disappoint the elves!

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There's your shot, Charlie!



It appears AP Kansas City photographer Charlie Riedel is getting shooting tips from Chiefs wide receiver Albert Wilson during an NFL game Sunday in which the Chiefs lost to the Buffalo Bills, 16-10. There to capture the moment was Kansas City photojournalist Reed Hoffmann.

Gracie dressed for the occasion - and her Tigers won!



Ed Williams ([Email](#)) - Gracie's all dressed up for the Auburn Alabama game. Says it's great to be an Auburn Tiger Schnauzer!

AP to name 92nd all-America team, teams for all 5 major conferences

The Associated Press All-America team, the longest-running annual honor roll of the nation's top college football players, will be announced Dec. 11. The AP also will

name all-conference teams for all five major football conferences starting Dec. 4, and all-America teams for the lower divisions starting Dec. 12.

The first AP All-America team was selected in 1925, a decade before the first Heisman Trophy. AP College Football Writer Ralph Russo and a panel of 16 college football reporters who are among the voters in the weekly AP Top 25 poll will select the All-America players for each position to first, second and third teams.

For the first time, the same panel selected the preseason and midseason AP All-America teams. The players are from Football Bowl Subdivision teams.

"There are a lot of excellent players in college football, but the AP All-America team has stood over time as the marquee roster of the sport's best each season," said Barry Bedlan, AP's sports products manager. "It's our honor to continue one of the longest-running traditions in college football."

Read more [here](#).



AP Exclusive: US scientists try first gene editing in the body



Brian Madeux, who has a metabolic disease called Hunter syndrome, looks up at nurse practitioner Jacqueline Madde while receiving the first human gene editing therapy at the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital in Oakland, Calif., Nov. 13, 2017. To cut his DNA at a precise spot, Madeux was receiving billions of copies of a corrective gene and a genetic tool through an IV. AP PHOTO / ERIC RISBERG

"I've been waiting for this my whole life, something that can potentially cure me."

Brian Madeux made medical history on Nov. 13 when he became the first person to have his genes edited inside his body in an attempt to cure a genetic disease. And the Associated Press was the only news organization to document this experiment, which could advance medicine by giving a potentially safer, more precise and permanent way to do gene therapy. The story wins Beat of the Week.

While many media outlets have focused on a newer gene editing tool called CRISPR, a California biotech had quietly won U.S. approval for first-in-human studies using an older technique.

Chief Medical Writer Marilynn Marchione had written about the company six years ago, and got word earlier this year that the gene editing work would soon begin. She negotiated exclusive rights to the story, giving AP sole access to the patient, doctors and scientists involved. She spent six months reporting the story, teaming with journalists in three cities through several false starts and twists and turns to deliver an all-formats package.

Marchione and San Francisco-based video journalist Haven Daley spent a day in the company's San Francisco Bay Area headquarters where they got a peek at robots making a treatment similar to what Madeux would get. They also interviewed Madeux and his doctor several days before the experiment originally scheduled for Nov. 6.

The day before it was to happen, Daley was sent to cover the Texas church shootings. San Francisco video journalist Terry Chea stepped in. He and photographer Eric Risberg donned scrubs and disinfected their gear in preparation for the experiment at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland. But a technical issue delayed the experiment.

BREAKING: US scientists say they have tried gene editing inside a person for the first time, aiming to cure a disease.

- The Associated Press (@AP) November 15, 2017

The duo were on standby and a week later were the only journalists in the room when Madeux received, through an IV, billions of copies of a corrective gene and a genetic tool to cut his DNA in a precise spot. Scientists won't know for several months whether the attempt worked.

Marchione followed up with the patient and the exclusive hit the wire on Nov. 15, two days after the experiment.

Health & Science video producer Kathy Young coordinated the shoots and pulled together the video package, which included footage shot by Jeff Baenen in Minneapolis and Rodrique Ngowi in Boston.

Motion graphic artist Marshall Ritzel made an animated explainer of the technique called zinc finger nucleases, which was narrated by science writer Malcolm Ritter. An interactive timeline of key moments in genetics history compiled by Ritter was updated with the latest news and embedded in the story.

What is gene editing and how does it work? Story: <https://t.co/fMJdZd5Qe3pic.twitter.com/zddz0vgkQu>

- AP Health & Science (@APHealthScience) November 15, 2017

The story got huge play. AP was credited by The Washington Post, Atlantic, VICE, Quartz, Gizmodo, Discover magazine, Fast Company and others in their stories.

The story appeared on nine front pages. The video was viewed more than 4.5K times on YouTube and received 27 overnight downloads.

For their enterprising work on a groundbreaking story, Marchione, Young, Chea, Risberg and Ritzel win this week's \$500 prize.



APNewsBreak: Patients in three states accuse prominent Philadelphia doctor of sexual abuse



Neurologist Dr. Ricardo Cruciani in Philadelphia, Nov. 21, 2017, after pleading guilty to misdemeanor charges that he groped women at a clinic. Cruciani pleaded guilty to groping seven patients in Philadelphia in a deal that will require him to forfeit his medical license and register as a sex offender. AP PHOTO / MATT ROURKE

After a prominent Philadelphia neurologist was charged with groping several patients at his clinic, Pennsylvania reporter Michael Rubinkam began digging into the neurologist's past to see if he had been accused of wrongdoing elsewhere. He was helped by a tip from AP reporter Mark Scifano, who happened to run into a lawyer representing some of the alleged Philadelphia victims. The lawyer mentioned that Dr. Ricardo Cruciani had worked at facilities in New York and New Jersey as well.

Rubinkam was off and running.

Reviewing documents in three states, and checking with medical centers and law enforcement, he was able to determine that at least 17 women in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey have stepped forward to accuse Cruciani of sexual misconduct that goes back at least a dozen years - either reporting him to police or retaining an attorney to pursue civil claims.

Neurologist accused of preying on female patients with chronic pain, sexually abusing more than a dozen women. <https://t.co/4Xnv5ZNVUW>

- The Associated Press (@AP) November 19, 2017

A call to a police department in a New Jersey community where the doctor had worked got a surprise confirmation from the chief that, yes, Cruciani had been investigated.

At Michael's request, New York City reporter Colleen Long also checked with her police sources and obtained a confidential report from 2013 in which a woman said Cruciani had abused her for three years at Beth Israel Medical Center in Manhattan.

The interviews lasted several hours. A woman willing to be named provided a powerful account of how Cruciani allegedly preyed on vulnerable patients.

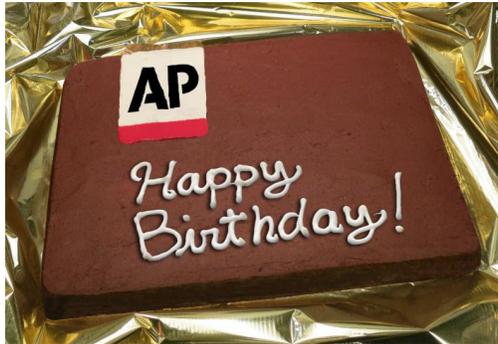
The lawyer who was the initial contact in the reporting agreed to ask his clients if they would talk to the AP, and three did - including a woman who was willing to be named, providing a powerful account of how he allegedly preyed on vulnerable patients. The interviews lasted several hours, and the women told their stories in painful detail - how they'd suffered from rare disorders that caused terrible pain, and felt they had no choice but to continue seeing the doctor because he was one of the few who could treat them.

A postscript: Two days after Michael's story ran, Cruciani pleaded guilty to groping seven patients in Philadelphia in a deal that will require him to forfeit his medical

license and register as a sex offender.

For reporting exclusively that Cruciani has left behind a trail of sex abuse claims in at least three states, and obtaining powerful accounts of how he was able to prey on vulnerable patients, Rubinkam wins this week's \$300 Best of the States award.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Joyce Dehli - jldehli@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Vietnamese Blogger Gets 7 Years in Jail for Reporting on Toxic Spill (New York Times)



Nguyen Van Hoa at his trial in Ha Tinh, Vietnam, on Monday. He was convicted of spreading anti-state propaganda for producing videos and writing about protests over an environmental disaster. Credit Cong Tuong/Vietnam News Agency, via Associated Press

By RICHARD C. PADDOCK

BANGKOK - A chemical spill that devastated the coast of central Vietnam last year claimed another casualty on Monday when a 22-year-old blogger was sentenced to seven years in prison for posting reports on the disaster.

After a brief, closed trial in Ha Tinh Province, the blogger, Nguyen Van Hoa, was found guilty of spreading anti-state propaganda for producing videos and writing about protests over the toxic spill, news agencies reported.

The discharge, which occurred when a new Taiwan-owned steel factory flushed cyanide and other chemicals through its waste pipeline, killed marine life and sickened people along a 120-mile stretch of coastline. It is one of Vietnam's largest environmental disasters.

Phil Robertson, deputy director of Human Rights Watch's Asia division, denounced the verdict. "The sentencing of Nguyen Van Hoa shows how profoundly the government's paranoid desire to maintain political control trumps notions of justice and human rights," he said.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Chris Connell.

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A woman approached The Post with dramatic - and false - tale about Roy Moore. She appears to be part of undercover sting operation.

(Washington Post)

By Shawn Boburg, Aaron C. Davis and Alice Crites

A woman who falsely claimed to The Washington Post that Roy Moore, the Republican U.S. Senate candidate in Alabama, impregnated her as a teenager appears to work with an organization that uses deceptive tactics to secretly record conversations in an effort to embarrass its targets.

In a series of interviews over two weeks, the woman shared a dramatic story about an alleged sexual relationship with Moore in 1992 that led to an abortion when she was 15. During the interviews, she repeatedly pressed Post reporters to give their opinions on the effects that her claims could have on Moore's candidacy if she went public.

The Post did not publish an article based on her unsubstantiated account. When Post reporters confronted her with inconsistencies in her story and an Internet posting that raised doubts about her motivations, she insisted that she was not working with any organization that targets journalists.

Read more [here](#).

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Former Obama Photographer Trolls Trump's Time Magazine Obsession (New Civil Rights Movement)

By Ryan Williams-Jent

President Barack Obama's former White House photographer Pete Souza poked fun at Donald Trump's obsession with Time Magazine on Saturday.

"Someone has a lot of catching up to do," Souza posted on Instagram, a re-post from an account named "michelleandbarack." The post included fifteen covers featuring President Obama, as well as former First Lady Michelle Obama.

The post followed Donald Trump's claim that "Time Magazine called to say I was PROBABLY going to be named 'Man (Person) of the Year,' like last year, but I would have to agree to an interview and a major photo shoot."

"I said probably is no good and took a pass," he continued. "Thanks anyway!"

The magazine itself quickly debunked this, noting that Trump was "incorrect about how we choose Person of the Year."

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

Today in History - November 28, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 28, the 332nd day of 2017. There are 33 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 28, 1942, fire engulfed the Cocoanut Grove nightclub in Boston, killing 492 people in the deadliest nightclub blaze ever. (The cause of the rapidly-spreading fire, which began in the basement, is in dispute; one theory is that a busboy accidentally ignited an artificial palm tree while using a lighted match to fix a light bulb.)

On this date:

In 1520, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan reached the Pacific Ocean after passing through the South American strait that now bears his name.

In 1861, the Confederate Congress admitted Missouri as the 12th state of the Confederacy after Missouri's disputed secession from the Union.

In 1905, Sinn Fein (shin fayn) was founded in Dublin.

In 1912, Albania proclaimed its independence from the Ottoman Empire.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin began conferring in Tehran during World War II.

In 1958, Chad, Gabon and Middle Congo became autonomous republics within the French community.

In 1964, the United States launched the space probe Mariner 4 on a course toward Mars, which it flew past in July 1965, sending back pictures of the red planet.

In 1967, actress-model Anna Nicole Smith was born Vickie Lynn Hogan in Houston.

In 1979, an Air New Zealand DC-10 en route to the South Pole crashed into a mountain in Antarctica, killing all 257 people aboard.

In 1987, a South African Airways Boeing 747 crashed into the Indian Ocean with the loss of all 159 people aboard.

In 1990, Margaret Thatcher resigned as British prime minister during an audience with Queen Elizabeth II, who then conferred the premiership on John Major.

In 2001, Enron Corp., once the world's largest energy trader, collapsed after would-be rescuer Dynegy Inc. backed out of an \$8.4 billion takeover deal. (Enron filed for bankruptcy protection four days later.)

Ten years ago: A day after an international Mideast peace conference in Annapolis, Maryland, President George W. Bush told Israeli and Palestinian leaders he was personally committed to their mission of peace. Republican presidential rivals Rudy Giuliani and Mitt Romney clashed over immigration in a provocative, no-holds-barred CNN/YouTube debate. Broadway stagehands and theater producers reached a tentative agreement on ending a crippling 19-day-old strike.

Five years ago: New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said his state would need nearly \$37 billion to recover and rebuild from Superstorm Sandy and that the state would seek federal aid to cover most of the expenses.

One year ago: An 18-year-old Somali native drove a car into a crowd of students at Ohio State University, then attacked bystanders with a knife before he was shot and killed by a campus police officer; 13 people were injured. A chartered plane carrying a Brazilian soccer team crashed near Medellin, Colombia, killing all but six of the 77 people on board. The first commercial flight from the United States to Havana in more than 50 years landed in Cuba, arriving as the island began week-long memorial services for Fidel Castro. Michael James "Jim" Delligatti, the McDonald's franchisee credited with creating the Big Mac in 1967, died in Pittsburgh at age 98. Former NBC chairman and TV producer Grant Tinker, 90, died in Los Angeles.

Today's Birthdays: Recording executive Berry Gordy Jr. is 88. Former Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., is 81. U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross is 80. Singer-songwriter Bruce Channel is 77. Singer Randy Newman is 74. CBS News correspondent Susan Spencer is 71. Movie director Joe Dante is 70. Former "Late Show" orchestra leader Paul Shaffer is 68. Actor Ed Harris is 67. Former NASA astronaut Barbara Morgan is 66. Actress S. Epatha (eh-PAY'-thah) Merckerson is 65. Former Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff is 64. Country singer Kristine Arnold (Sweethearts of the Rodeo) is 61. Actor Judd Nelson is 58. Movie director Alfonso Cuaron (kwahr-OHN') is 56. Rock musician Matt Cameron is 55. Actress Jane Sibbett is 55. Comedian Jon Stewart is 55. Actress Garcelle Beauvais (gar-SEHL' boh-VAY') is 51. Actor/comedian Stephnie (cq) Weir is 50. Rhythm-and-blues singer Dawn Robinson is 49. Actress Gina Tognoni is 44. Hip-hop musician apl.de.ap (Black Eyed Peas) is 43. Actor Malcolm Goodwin is 42. Actor Ryan Kwanten is 41. Actress Aimee Garcia is 39. Rapper Chamillionaire is 38. Actor Daniel Henney is 38.

Rock musician Rostam Batmanglij (bot-man-GLEESH') is 34. Rock singer-keyboardist Tyler Glenn (Neon Trees) is 34. Actress Mary Elizabeth Winstead is 33. R&B singer Trey Songz is 33. Actress Scarlett Pomers is 29. Actor-rapper Bryshere Gray is 24.

Thought for Today: "Journalism is literature in a hurry." - Matthew Arnold, English poet and critic (1822-1888).

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.

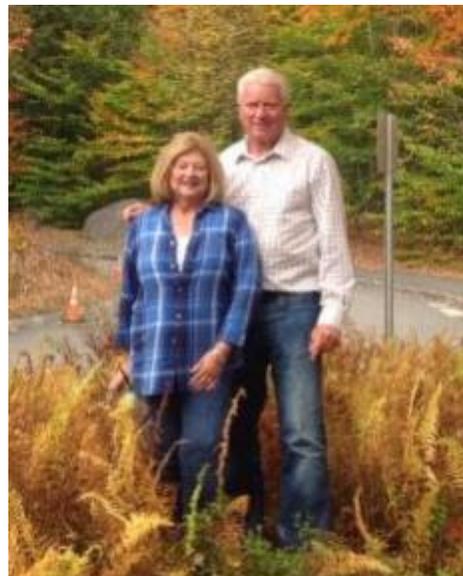
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **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](#)

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