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Connecting - January 31, 2018

1 message

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Connecting

January 31, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

The Associated Press will do a "deep-dive look" into its photo operations, executive editor **Sally Buzbee** announced in a memo to the worldwide news staff Tuesday.

"In the past year, as we have rolled out a successful cross-format structure across News, the critical and important role that photos plays in our newsroom has come up, again and again, as an area that needs some special care and focus," she said in the memo, shared by a Connecting colleague.

Many of you on Connecting are former AP photographers - and if you have a thought to share, send it along to me and I will relay on to a member of those leading the effort.

Today's issue brings another in a series of #worstjobinterviewever submission, this from **Dan Day**. All I can say is that the Wall Street Journal's loss was the AP's gain.

Have a great day!

Paul

Sally Buzbee: AP to take a 'deep-dive look' into its global photo operations

Colleagues,

In the past year, as we have rolled out a successful cross-format structure across News, the critical and important role that photos plays in our newsroom has come up, again and again, as an area that needs some special care and focus.

I'm writing to you today to announce a deep-dive look into our photo operations and to explore opportunities to strengthen our cross-format storytelling. Until the review is complete, I have decided not to name a director of photography. We will proceed with doing the interviews for, and then naming, three photo deputies plus an enterprise photo editor in the next few weeks, so that important sports logistics, planning and budget issues can proceed. But we will hold off for now on filling a top job as we re-examine organizational structure and the many needs we have of our photojournalism.

The deep dive will look at several things:

- * the best organizational structure to help photographers and photo editors meld with the cross-format structure, while retaining support for specific photo needs and products.

- * how to provide the supportive atmosphere needed to create the exceptional photojournalism AP is known for.

- * how to balance that with spot needs and budget challenges, not to mention emerging market opportunities and rapidly changing technology such as drones and video innovations.

- * how to ensure we are developing talented photographers and photo editors and bringing in new talent.

- * how to provide growth and advancement opportunities - both in photos and in the cross-format structure -- to a diverse group.



The deep dive will be marked by a lot of listening: hearing from as many people as possible about your concerns and ideas. This is a prime opportunity to reimagine AP photos for the future while holding onto our proven history of excellence - and we want you to have a say in how this takes shape.

I've asked five people -- Brian Carovillano, Derl McCrudden, Stephanie Mullen, Enric Marti and Julie March -- to lead the effort. They will be reaching out to a wide group of voices from photos and other areas in coming weeks. You should also feel free to reach out directly to them to share concerns, thoughts, ideas.

In the meantime, I would like to thank Denis Paquin for leading the department through a period of transition and upheaval, during which our photojournalists have continued to do world-class work. We are about to head into the Winter Olympics in South Korea. Denis will lead our photo effort and photo staff at the Olympics and we can't wait to see the fabulous photojournalism that emerges.

I'm here to answer any questions. My best, Sally

#worstjobinterviewever - WSJ a no-go, but AP said yes

Dan Day ([Email](#)) - In the spring of 1980 I picked up the phone at my desk in the newsroom of The Daily Times in Ottawa, Illinois, to learn that I'd been invited to

Chicago for an interview with The Wall Street Journal. I would later learn that I'd been referred by one of the administrators at Marquette University's journalism school who knew I wanted to work for the Journal.

For the next several days, all I could focus on was that the Journal was offering me -
- Dan Day, ace reporter with a mere two or three months of professional experience
-- a shot.

Not that I was overconfident, but I'm pretty sure on the 90-mile drive north I was debating whether to choose mahogany or walnut wainscoting in my office when the Journal named me managing editor when I turned 30.

It was not to be.

The deputy managing editor who interviewed me was a sourpuss, dismissive of me, my clips and even my ambitions.

Why, he asked, would you bother to join Sigma Delta Xi (the organization now known as the Society of Professional Journalists)?

Well, sir, I joined because I want a career in this noble field, to uphold the highest standards of the profession and to serve the public good.

He scoffed, and, deflated, back to the cornfields of LaSalle County I went.

That fall, at the invitation of Milwaukee CoB Dion Henderson, I returned to Chicago to take the AP test. That trip went better. Dion hired me the following February. I am forever grateful.

Lindel Hutson's daughter wins \$50,000 prize on Chopped



Lindel Hutson ([Email](#)) - My daughter Sarah Wade won the Gold Medal championship Tuesday night on the Food Network's program, Chopped, and with it the \$50,000 first prize.

She's saving it and plans to eventually open her own restaurant. For anyone who watched: she definitely didn't learn to cook rattlesnake at home.

Sarah is head chef and general manager of Lulu's of Allston in Boston.

Connecting profile - Matthew Pennington

Matthew Pennington ([Email](#)) has been a Washington, D.C.,-based reporter for The Associated Press covering U.S.-Asian Affairs since 2011. Before that, he spent 15 years as a journalist in Southeast and South Asia. As AP's bureau chief for Pakistan and Afghanistan, he led the team that won the Society of Professional Journalists deadline writing award for its coverage of the 2007 assassination of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. He was an editor on AP's Asia-Pacific news desk, and before that was Bangkok-based correspondent covering Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos. He moved to the region in 1994 when, after university, he spent two years as a U.N. volunteer in Laos and then worked for

AFP out of Bangkok. He's British.

Eddie Adams' iconic Vietnam War photo: What happened next





By BBC

Photojournalist Eddie Adams captured one of the most famous images of the Vietnam War - the very instant of an execution during the chaos of the Tet Offensive. It would bring him a lifetime of glory, but as James Jeffrey writes, also of sorrow.

Warning: This story includes Adams' photo of the moment of the shooting, and graphic descriptions of it.

The snub-nosed pistol is already recoiling in the man's outstretched arm as the prisoner's face contorts from the force of a bullet entering his skull.

To the left of the frame, a watching soldier seems to be grimacing in shock.

It's hard to not feel the same repulsion, and guilt, with the knowledge one is looking at the precise moment of death.

Ballistic experts say the picture - which became known as Saigon Execution - shows the microsecond the bullet entered the man's head.

Eddie Adams's photo of Brigadier General Nguyen Ngoc Loan shooting a Viet Cong prisoner is considered one of the most influential images of the Vietnam War.

At the time, the image was reprinted around the world and came to symbolise for many the brutality and anarchy of the war.

It also galvanised growing sentiment in America about the futility of the fight - that the war was unwinnable.

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

AP names Derl McCrudden head of international video news

NEW YORK (AP) - Derl McCrudden, head of video newsgathering for The Associated Press, has been promoted to head of international video news.

The appointment was announced last week by Sandy MacIntyre, AP vice president and director of global video.



McCrudden, 43, will continue to be based at AP's global video headquarters in London as he oversees AP's international video operations.

"Derl is one of the smartest journalists in the business, a proven leader whose calm demeanor and steely determination mark him out as a natural for this role," MacIntyre said. "Derl brings a vast amount of experience, both in managerial roles and in running big stories in the field. That experience directly translates into not only understanding, but anticipating the needs of AP's customers."

For the past 20 years, McCrudden has helped lead coverage of some of the world's biggest news events, including the war in Syria, the election of President Obama in 2008 and the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

He joined AP in 2010 from ITN Consulting, and before that was on the launch team of Al Jazeera English, where he went on to run the channel's Asia operation. He worked in U.K. network news for ITN for 11 years.

AP also announced other video leadership changes on Thursday:

-Denise Vance, deputy director of U.S. video, will become head of U.S. video and radio, continuing to oversee video and audio newsgathering and production in North America.

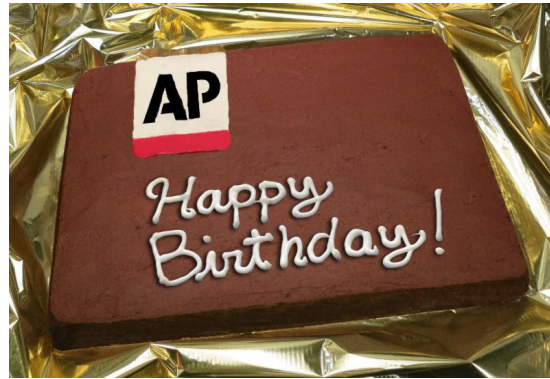
-Vaughn Morrison, a former CNN and Fox executive, was recently named to be head of U.S. video production.

-Debora Gorbett, head of video content development, will also take on oversight of AP Middle East Extra, a new video service offering unique video content centered on the news that matters most to that region.

"AP's video customers are going to be immensely well-served by these changes," MacIntyre said. "This editorial leadership team combines decades of knowledge of the needs of broadcasters and digital players with a passion to win on accuracy, speed and innovation."

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

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Don Deibler - russd225@gmail.com

Sam Montello - smontello@kc.rr.com

Happy birthday, Dr. Sam!



Dr. Sam Montello (center, in dark red jacket) celebrates his 95th birthday today. A couple days ago, his tennis friends gathered for a luncheon and birthday cake at our tennis club in honor of our friend, a regular Connecting reader. He never misses reading the Thought for the Day. Dr. Sam never kept track of how many babies he delivered in his nearly 70 years as a physician in Kansas City, but they no doubt number in the thousands. The Harvard Med grad played tennis regularly up until recently.

Stories of interest

Reuters Banned from Olympic Opening Ceremony for Leaked Photos (PetaPixel)

Reuters photographers and reporters have been banned from the Winter Olympics opening ceremony in PyeongChang, South Korea, next month after the international news agency leaked photos of the rehearsal.

South Korea's Yonhap News Agency reports that on Sunday, Reuters filed several photos of the Olympic cauldron being lit with fire during a rehearsal at the Olympic Main Stadium. There are strict media embargoes that are designed to prevent these details from being published, and Reuters violated them by publishing the photos without permission. Reuters then reportedly took the photos down after both the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the PyeongChang organizing committee protested the publishing of the pictures.

To punish Reuters for violating the embargo and leaking the photos, the IOC "disapproved the issuing of passes towards Reuters in reporting and photographing the opening ceremony," announcing the decision in a statement today. What's more, the Reuters photographer behind the photos has been stripped of their media accreditation for the games.

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

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Sun-Times halts Richard Roeper column to investigate allegation he bought Twitter followers (Chicago Tribune)

By Kim Janssen

Keeping a high-flying media career afloat is a constant battle - just ask us at Chicago Inc., where our monthly Champagne bill would make a billionaire blush. The need to maintain appearances can be overwhelming!

So spare a thought for Chicago Sun-Times film critic and columnist Richard Roeper, who the New York Times reported this weekend is among a slew of celebs who have paid to artificially boost their Twitter following with what turned out to be fake accounts.

And on Monday, Sun-Times editor Chris Fusco told Inc. in an email that "we're investigating these issues. We will not be publishing any reviews or columns by Rich until this investigation is complete."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac.

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Exclusive: National Geographic investigated a top photo editor for sexual misconduct. He left quietly, but women are speaking out. (Vox)

By A.J. CHAVAR

In November 2017, several women at National Geographic pressured the magazine's human resources department to investigate Patrick Witty, then deputy director of photography, for allegedly abusing his power in the industry for years to get away with predatory sexual behavior toward female colleagues, freelance photographers, and peers in the field.

But human resources had already launched an investigation in mid-October, according to a source at National Geographic familiar with the internal review. The investigation was prompted by the inclusion of Witty in the "Shitty Media Men" list, an anonymously sourced spreadsheet of men in the industry rumored to have engaged in inappropriate behavior.

Then in December 2017, Witty abruptly stopped working at the magazine.

Management did not give employees a specific reason for his departure.

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

Today in History - January 31, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 31, the 31st day of 2018. There are 334 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 31, 1958, the United States entered the Space Age with its first successful launch of a satellite, Explorer 1, from Cape Canaveral.

On this date:

In 1606, Englishman Guy Fawkes, convicted of high treason for his part in the "Gunpowder Plot," was set to be hanged, drawn and quartered, but broke his neck after falling or jumping from the scaffold.

In 1797, composer Franz Schubert was born in Vienna.

In 1865, the U.S. House of Representatives joined the Senate in passing the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution abolishing slavery, sending it to states for ratification. (The amendment was adopted in December 1865.) Gen. Robert E. Lee was named general-in-chief of the Confederate States Army by President Jefferson Davis.

In 1917, during World War I, Germany served notice that it was beginning a policy of unrestricted submarine warfare.

In 1929, revolutionary Leon Trotsky and his family were expelled from the Soviet Union.

In 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Gold Reserve Act.

In 1945, Pvt. Eddie Slovik, 24, became the first U.S. soldier since the Civil War to be executed for desertion as he was shot by an American firing squad in France.

In 1961, NASA launched Ham the Chimp aboard a Mercury-Redstone rocket from Cape Canaveral; Ham was recovered safely from the Atlantic Ocean following his 16 1/2-minute suborbital flight.

In 1971, astronauts Alan Shepard, Edgar Mitchell and Stuart Roosa blasted off aboard Apollo 14 on a mission to the moon.

In 1980, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands announced she would abdicate on her birthday the following April, to be succeeded by her daughter, Princess Beatrix.

In 1990, McDonald's Corp. opened its first fast-food restaurant in Moscow.

In 2000, an Alaska Airlines MD-83 jet crashed into the Pacific Ocean off Port Hueneme (wy-NEE'-mee), California, killing all 88 people aboard.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, speaking at the Nevada Policy Research Institute, said he would not jeopardize security gains in Iraq by withdrawing U.S. forces too quickly. Pop star Britney Spears was taken from her home by ambulance to UCLA Medical Center, where she was held for a week for psychiatric evaluation.

Five years ago: Chuck Hagel emerged from his grueling confirmation hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee with solid Democratic support for his nomination to be President Barack Obama's next defense secretary. A gas explosion caused three floors of the headquarters of Mexico's national oil company Pemex to collapse, killing 37 people. Caleb Moore, 25, an innovative freestyle

snowmobile rider who'd been hurt in a crash at the Winter X Games in Colorado, died at a hospital in Grand Junction.

One year ago: President Donald Trump nominated Neil Gorsuch, a fast-rising conservative judge, to the U.S. Supreme Court. Singer and bassist John Wetton of the rock group Asia died in Bournemouth, Dorset, England at age 67.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Carol Channing is 97. Composer Philip Glass is 81. Former Interior Secretary James Watt is 80. Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands, the former queen regent, is 80. Actor Stuart Margolin is 78. Actress Jessica Walter is 77. Former U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., is 77. Blues singer-musician Charlie Musselwhite is 74. Actor Glynn Turman is 72. Baseball Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan is 71. Actor Jonathan Banks is 71. Singer-musician Harry Wayne Casey (KC and the Sunshine Band) is 67. Rock singer Johnny Rotten is 62. Actress Kelly Lynch is 59. Actor Anthony LaPaglia is 59. Singer-musician Lloyd Cole is 57. Actress Paulette Braxton is 53. Rock musician Al Jaworski (Jesus Jones) is 52. Actress Minnie Driver is 48. Actress Portia de Rossi is 45. Actor-comedian Bobby Moynihan is 41. Actress Kerry Washington is 41. Bluegrass singer-musician Becky Buller is 39. Singer Justin Timberlake is 37. Actor Tyler Ritter is 33. Country singer Tyler Hubbard (Florida Georgia Line) is 31. Folk-rock singer-musician Marcus Mumford (Mumford and Sons) is 31. Actor Joel Courtney is 22.

Thought for Today: "The third-rate mind is only happy when it is thinking with the majority. The second-rate mind is only happy when it is thinking with the minority. The first-rate mind is only happy when it is thinking." - A.A. Milne, British author (born in 1882, died this date in 1956).

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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