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Connecting - February 01, 2018

1 message

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Connecting

February 01, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this, the first day of February 2018.

Photographers **Ron Heflin** and **Gene Herrick** are two AP retirees who have many reasons to be thankful.

Ron, whose 29-year AP career was all in Dallas, likely would not be alive today but for the heroic actions of two people when he collapsed from a heart attack at a Dallas church.

Gene, who covered the Korean War, Martin Luther King Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement, is the newest member of the Virginia Communications Hall of Fame, announced on Wednesday. At 91, he is one of Connecting's most frequent contributors.

Connecting brings you their stories in today's issue.

First, their reactions to their news:

Ron Heflin (Email) - I was there, so they say, but sorry I don't remember a thing until Sunday morning when the doctor asked me if I knew where I was and what happened to me. Of course, I was clueless. Dallas Bishop Edward Burns visited Sunday afternoon and confirmed everything that I had been told by the doctor and others so David Seden's story must be factual. But not wanting or needing any publicity I claim FAKE NEWS!

Now the end of the saga, the part that I do remember: After my Tuesday release and arriving home, into the shower, and out of the house again to visit an old Boy Scout buddy and then out to dinner with the family. The only discomfort I have is from the CPR and it is getting better each day. No pain or discomfort anywhere.

Bishop Burns has arranged to get everyone together this Sunday afternoon so I can meet and thank my rescuers. With saying that you can see all is well with me.

-0-

Gene Herrick (Email) - I am probably the most thankful man in the world. I am especially thankful that I fell into the lap of The Associated Press at the ripe old age of 16, and was given opportunities few have been afforded. Former Executive Newsphoto Editor Al Resch and former Cleveland AP staff photographer Jim Mahler saw something in me that others did not (including me!), and moved me into being a real-live AP photographer, and writer.

I was assigned to cover many of the nation's historic stories, including the Korean War, and the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement, and U.S. Presidents, and vice presidents, and world leaders.

The AP has been so good to me, as well as the blessing I have received from God, and the help I have received from hundreds of AP friends.

-0-



One last note: The author of the story on Ron is **David Seden** ([Email](#)), editor of the Texas Catholic, the Diocese of Dallas' newspaper. David earlier worked at The Dallas Morning News, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and The Associated Press - where he was San Antonio correspondent, Dallas ACoB and Albuquerque chief of bureau. Ron and David often work together again on The Texas Catholic, where Ron is a regular freelance photo contributor.

Apologies to **Derl McCrudden**, who was recently named as AP deputy managing editor for digital and visual journalism. A story in Wednesday's Connecting carried an earlier story on McCrudden, not the one on his latest promotion. We include the correct story in today's edition.

Have a great first day of February!

Paul

'God's hands on Earth' help save photographer's life



Bishop Edward Burns in selfie with Ron Heflin

By DAVID SEDENO

The Texas Catholic

To hear Sue Heflin tell it, God's hands on earth worked a miracle and saved her husband Ron's life on Jan. 27.

To the Catholic faithful attending Mass, other liturgies or events throughout the Diocese of Dallas, photographer Ron Heflin, 74, is a familiar face. He has worked as a freelancer with The Texas Catholic for several years, not long after retiring from a storied career with The Associated Press where for more than 25 years he covered news events, big and small, in Texas and across the country.

On Jan. 27, Ron arrived at the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe a couple of hours before the start of the Bishop's Awards for Service to the Church Mass, where Ron was to photograph the honorees receiving their awards from Bishop Edward J. Burns. Long before others arrived at the cathedral, Ron had already checked his lighting and had set up his post-production equipment in the cathedral's gran salon to facilitate photography orders for the recipients and their families after the Mass.

As Mass was ending in the cathedral, Ron collapsed onto his computer and table in the gran salon. His wife yelled, "Ron!" prompting a gentleman to rush to help Ron and place him on the floor. Quickly, others rushed to try to help.



Bishop Edward J. Burns poses with registered nurse Magali Reynoso, left, and Dallas SWAT officer Darian Loera on Jan. 27 at the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe. The two used their medical training to help photographer Ron Helfin who had suffered cardiac arrest. (JENNA TETER/The Texas Catholic)

At that moment, Dallas SWAT Officer Darian Loera came upon the scene. He was there to see his parents Raquel and Jesús Loera receive awards for their service at the cathedral where they are parishioners. He had slipped out of church after Communion to feed an expired parking meter and was returning to the cathedral complex.

He identified himself as a Dallas police officer and then began doing CPR on Ron as best as he remembered. Although Loera has some medical training as a SWAT officer, he was praying for someone else to help him.

"Then all of a sudden, this woman comes up to my side and says, 'I'm a nurse'," he said. "I was praying for an angel and then she was there."

The angel's name was Magali Reynoso, 31, a registered nurse whose sister Giovana Ascencio of Mary Immaculate was being honored.

Reynoso was not going to go to the Mass because of pain from a wisdom tooth. Her mother convinced her to go to the Mass, but Reynoso was in and out of the church because she was dizzy and was taking care of her sister's toddler daughter. Reynoso walked out as Mass was ending and heard someone call for a doctor or a nurse.

"I handed my niece, my purse and my cellphone to a lady, I don't even know who she was, and I rushed to 'Mr. Ron'," she said. "In a split second, she said, a church worker arrived with a defibrillator.

"When I got to him, he wasn't breathing. He didn't have a pulse," she said. "At the time, I was only trying to get him to get a pulse and honestly, nothing crossed my mind but trying to help him."

She set up the defibrillator and they began working on Ron collectively. Loera did chest compressions while Reynoso operated the defibrillator and then performed mouth-to-mouth to try to get Ron's heart started and him breathing.

Within a few minutes, Dallas paramedics arrived, took over and then transferred Ron into the ambulance and headed to the Baylor Scott & White Medical Center. Doctors stabilized him and then cleared major blockage going to his heart.

By that evening, Ron was alert, saying that he hoped to be released within 24 hours and asked about other assignments. By Sunday morning, Jan. 28, he was walking, joking and asking for his laptop. That afternoon, Bishop Burns, the publisher of The Texas Catholic, visited him at the hospital, took a selfie with him and ordered him to get some rest.

Ron is not one who seeks attention, but his wife said the attention should be on those who helped him.

"I know if things would have turned out differently, it would have been the way Ron would have wanted," she said. "He was at church and he was working. But I thank God for working through His hands on earth for Ron."

Bishop Burns in a social media post thanked Loera and Reynoso for their "heroic actions."

The two say they were merely doing what they felt they were called to do at that moment.

"I love my sister, but the pain was so bad that I didn't even want to be there at the Mass, but maybe it was a blessing for me to be there that day," she said.

Loera, 41, is himself recuperating from a leg wound suffered during a SWAT operation in November. He has undergone six surgeries. In the back of his mind, he said, his helping Ron was paying back what his SWAT teammates did for him several months ago.

The Heflins hope to meet Loera and Reynoso soon to properly thank them.

And as for those photographs of the recipients that Ron took and was scheduled to deliver on Saturday: the consummate professional had posted them online within 48 hours of his cardiac arrest - from his hospital room.

[Click here](#) for a link to this story. Shared by Claudia DiMartino. Ron's home address:

1323 Chippewa Dr., Richardson TX 75080-3708

Gene Herrick among seven to be inducted into Virginia Communications Hall of Fame



The Richard T. Robertson School of Media and Culture at Virginia Commonwealth University will induct seven distinguished communications professionals into the Virginia Communications Hall of Fame at an awards ceremony on March 29 at the Altria Theater.

The Virginia Communications Hall of Fame recognizes communications professionals with exceptional careers in advertising, journalism, public relations, new media and other media fields, and who have made outstanding long-term contributions in the field of communications and who were either born in Virginia or became distinctively identified with Virginia.

"For 30 years, the Virginia Communications Hall of Fame has brought together the leading lights of the Virginia communications industry to honor the lasting contributions of their peers," said Montse Fuentes, Ph.D., dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences. "The seven new laureates being inducted this year have all made tremendous contributions to the field of communications, and it will be a privilege to honor them at our Hall of Fame event."

Here is the profile of Gene Herrick in the news release:

Gene Herrick, a retired photographer for The Associated Press, a role in which he documented major news stories of the 20th century, including the civil rights movement and the Korean War, as well as photographing Martin Luther King Jr.,

Rosa Parks, Elvis Presley and Satchel Paige. He joined the AP as an office assistant in Columbus, Ohio, at age 16, and the AP offered him a photographer position in 1946. During his career, Herrick worked out of 14 different AP bureaus covering news and sports.



He is perhaps best known for his images from the civil rights movement. He photographed Rosa Parks when she was being handcuffed for refusing to move to the back of the bus in Montgomery, Ala., in 1956 - an image that appeared this year in a USA Today photo essay on "10 Images that Highlight Women's History" - and a BuzzFeed photo gallery on "29 Disturbing Photos of American Life Under Jim Crow." Herrick also covered the 1955 murder trial of African-American teenager Emmett Till, who was killed in Mississippi after being accused of flirting with a white woman. Two white men admitted to killing Till but were set free, prompting riots nationwide. Despite the focus on Herrick's coverage of the civil rights movement, he has described covering the Korean War as the highlight of his career, and has said he frequently found himself dodging bullets.

Herrick retired from the AP in 1970 and began a second career working with people with developmental disabilities in Columbus and later in Rocky Mount, Va., where he lives today. Herrick also has served on many nonprofit agency boards and was executive director for a nonprofit agency for the blind in Roanoke. Herrick, 91, frequently contributes to an AP retiree newsletter, grants interviews and speaks on his experiences as an AP news photographer. He is working on a book about his experiences as an AP photographer.

[Click here](#) for a link to the VCU news release. Gene's home address: [100 Brookshire Drive, Rocky Mount, VA, 24151](#)

Sarah's pan-fried rattlesnake impressed the Chopped judges



Lindel Hutson ([Email](#)) - Paul asked me to expand on my daughter Sarah's winning the Gold Medal prize of \$50,000 on the Food Network's Chopped program televised Tuesday evening.

This came after she won the first go-around on Jan. 2. After all programs she was the last chef standing among 16 contestants.

You have to admire the chefs who participate. They receive a surprise list of raw food and have to prepare a dish to please three discriminating judges in a matter of minutes.

I've seen some weird stuff put in front of the chefs. But rattlesnake?

That's the first dish the four contestants faced at the beginning of Tuesday's show. I've rarely seen anything more disgusting than skinned rattlesnake coiled in a pan.

Sarah rarely saw snakes at home. Dad has a snake phobia from nearly being bitten by a copperhead when very young.

My only experience with prepared rattlesnake came when I was covering the state Capitol in Little Rock in the early 70s. One of the local Boy Scout troops prepared a

fried rattlesnake lunch for the governor. Needless to say, the media was goaded into trying it. Others said it taste like chicken. I try to forget.

Sarah's Chopped dish of pan-friend rattlesnake with avocado and snack cake spread impressed the judges.

She moved on to the next segment and prepared crispy lamb ribs with currant and cherry couscous. Again, the judges approved.

The finale was a desert. This was ice cream sandwiches with rambutan and confetti icing.

After the taste test, she did not get Chopped.

Anyone who's been around Sarah knows she has demure personality. Not the in-your-face, hand-me-the-prize attitude displayed on the show.

Such is reality TV.

Sarah received a congratulatory floral arrangement Wednesday from her alma mater, Oklahoma State University, where she learned much of the trade she applies today.

Sarah was an honors graduate of the OSU school of hotel/restaurant management and was identified early in her college career by the Marriott Corp. as a prospective hire.

She worked for Marriott for several years but has left them and is head chef and general manager of Lulu's of Allston in Boston. Her eventual goal is to open her own restaurant.

The OSU school is arguably one of the nation's finest and is showered annually with scholarship money from major food and hospitality organizations.

Another famous OSU graduate is T. Boone Pickens, the corporate raider/oil man who has papered OSU with an estimated \$1 billion of his personal fortune over the past 10 or so years. Most has gone to athletics and the geology school.

Sarah's not in Picken's league just now. But she's young.

EDITOR'S NOTE - Sarah Wade's email - sarah@lulusallston.com

AP names McCrudden new head of digital and visual journalism



Associated Press video news editor Derl McCrudden poses in the AP's London newsroom on Jan. 5, 2018. The global news cooperative announced on Friday, Jan. 26, that McCrudden has been appointed to the new position of deputy managing editor for digital and visual journalism. Kirsty Wigglesworth AP Photo

NEW YORK (AP) - The Associated Press named Derl McCrudden as deputy managing editor for digital and visual journalism on Friday, a new position at the global news cooperative.

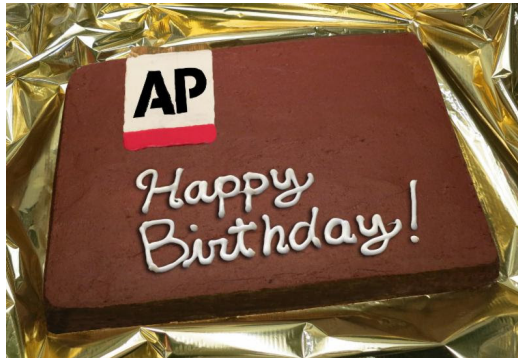
The appointment was announced by Sally Buzbee, AP's senior vice president and executive editor. In his new role, McCrudden will report to Buzbee and oversee how AP tells stories in photos, video, online and on social media. He will also lead a major effort in 2018 to expand AP's ability to produce and publish video news at its regional editing centers around the world.

"Derl is one of AP's most capable leaders, with a long history of excellence in reporting the news and guiding our newsroom through the changes needed to ensure we're always at our best," Buzbee said. "I'm thrilled he's accepted this new challenge."

McCrudden, previously AP' head of international television news, will continue to be based in London, AP's international video production center and home of its all-formats regional publishing desk for Europe. He will also travel frequently to AP's global headquarters in New York and its U.S. video production center in Washington.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Charles Bruce - cbruceusa@gmail.com (Reached 80 on Tuesday)

Welcome to Connecting



Dan Even - jmeven@yahoo.com

Stories of interest

Digging for dung, unearthing corruption: This South African investigative nonprofit could help take down the president (Nieman)

By CHRISTINE SCHMIDT

When Stefaans Brümmer was first approached about a group of whistleblowers prepared to share information about the suspicious relationships between South African president Jacob Zuma and the highly influential Gupta family, he started planning.

Brümmer and Sam Sole, both longtime investigative reporters, had built their journalism nonprofit, amaBhungane Center for Investigative Journalism, to do focused, long-haul, groundbreaking work. The terabyte of data on the Zuma-Gupta relationship, shared with them by the editor of another independent news organization, the Daily Maverick, in a working partnership, was the gem they had been preparing for.

"When you diamond-mine, you basically mess up the resource if you go for the best stuff first," Brümmer said. "It was clear to us that many of the stories were actually stories that needed serious [time] to work [on] following the money."

Read more [here](#).

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A Paper Tears Apart in a City That Never Quite Came Together (New York Times)

By **TIM ARANGO** and **ADAM NAGOURNEY**

LOS ANGELES - When an ambitious Civil War colonel from Ohio seized control of a fledgling daily newspaper here in the late 19th century, Los Angeles was a rough-hewn frontier town with no paved streets and a population of a few thousand people. The newspaper was four pages and cost a penny.

The ambitions of that colonel, Harrison Gray Otis, became the city's ambitions, and the newspaper, soon to be called The Los Angeles Times, was put in the service of transforming Los Angeles into the metropolis it is today.

The turmoil at The Times in recent months - with upheaval in the editorial ranks and a publisher suspended over sexual harassment allegations - is a reminder of the slow decline of a newspaper that had long been a cohesive force in Los Angeles civic life. But more than that, it is symptomatic of something that this community has struggled with for nearly half a century: the absence of strong institutions to bind it together.

"This seems like a three-alarm fire to me," said Donna Bojarsky, a second-generation Los Angeles native who two years ago created an organization of community leaders here to deal with the civic vacuum. "I don't think you can have a dynamic, efficacious city without any kind of L.A.-centric media or press."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Scott Charton.

Today in History - February 1, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Feb. 1, the 32nd day of 2018. There are 333 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 1, 1943, during World War II, one of America's most highly decorated military units, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, made up almost exclusively of Japanese-Americans, was authorized.

On this date:

In 1790, the U.S. Supreme Court convened for the first time in New York. (However, since only three of the six justices were present, the court recessed until the next day.)

In 1893, inventor Thomas Edison completed work on the world's first motion picture studio, his "Black Maria," in West Orange, New Jersey. The opera "Manon Lescaut," by Giacomo Puccini (poo-CHEE'-nee), premiered in Turin, Italy.

In 1922, in one of Hollywood's most enduring mysteries, movie director William Desmond Taylor was shot to death in his Los Angeles home; the killing has never been solved.

In 1942, during World War II, the Voice of America broadcast its first program to Europe, relaying it through the facilities of the British Broadcasting Corp. in London.

In 1946, Norwegian statesman Trygve Lie (TRIHG'-vuh lee) was chosen to be the first secretary-general of the United Nations.

In 1959, men in Switzerland rejected giving women the right to vote by a more than 2-1 referendum margin. (Swiss women gained the right to vote in 1971.)

In 1960, four black college students began a sit-in protest at a Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, where they'd been refused service.

In 1968, during the Vietnam War, South Vietnam's police chief (Nguyen Ngoc Loan) executed a Viet Cong officer with a pistol shot to the head in a scene captured by news photographers. Richard M. Nixon announced his bid for the Republican presidential nomination.

In 1979, Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini (hoh-MAY'-nee) received a tumultuous welcome in Tehran as he ended nearly 15 years of exile.

In 1988, actress Heather O'Rourke, co-star of the 1982 movie "Poltergeist," died in San Diego at age 12.

In 1993, Gary Bettman took office as the National Hockey League's first commissioner, succeeding the NHL's final president, Gil Stein.

In 2003, the space shuttle Columbia broke up during re-entry, killing all seven of its crew members: commander Rick Husband; pilot William McCool; payload commander Michael Anderson; mission specialists Kalpana Chawla, David Brown and Laurel Clark; and payload specialist Ilan Ramon (ee-LAHN' rah-MOHN'), the first Israeli in space.

Ten years ago: Exxon Mobil posted a then-record annual profit by a U.S. company - \$40.6 billion - and the biggest quarterly profit to that time. Microsoft announced an unsolicited bid for Yahoo, which later rejected it. Remote-controlled explosives strapped to two mentally disabled women killed at least 100 people in Baghdad.

Five years ago: A suicide bomber struck the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, killing a Turkish security guard. Hillary Rodham Clinton formally resigned as America's 67th secretary of state, capping a four-year tenure. The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 14,009.79, above the 14,000 mark for the first time in more than five years. Former New York City Mayor Ed Koch (kahch) died at age 88.

One year ago: The Republican-controlled Senate confirmed Rex Tillerson, 56-43, to be U.S. secretary of state. A nearly 20-hour prison hostage standoff began in Delaware as inmates at the James T. Vaughn Correctional Center seized four staff members; one guard was killed, two hostages released before authorities put down the uprising and rescued the remaining captive. Violence and rioting at the University of California, Berkeley, forced the cancellation of a talk by right-wing provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos. Edward Tipper, a World War II paratrooper who was portrayed in the HBO series "Band of Brothers," died in Lakewood, Colorado, at age 95.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Stuart Whitman is 90. Folk singer Bob Shane (The Kingston Trio) is 84. Singer Don Everly is 81. Actor Garrett Morris is 81. Singer Ray Sawyer (Dr. Hook and the Medicine Show) is 81. Bluegrass singer Del McCoury is 79. TV personality-singer Joy Philbin is 77. Comedian-actor-director Terry Jones is 76. Political commentator Fred Barnes is 75. Sen. Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., is 74. Rock musician Mike Campbell (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers) is 68. Blues singer-musician Sonny Landreth is 67. Actor-writer-producer Bill Mummy (MOO'-mee) is 64. Rock singer Exene Cervenka is 62. Actor Linus Roache is 54. Princess Stephanie of Monaco is 53. Country musician Dwayne Dupuy (Ricochet) is 53. Actress Sherilyn Fenn is 53. Lisa Marie Presley is 50. Comedian-actor Pauly Shore is 50. Actor Brian Krause is 49. Jazz musician Joshua Redman is 49. Rock musician Patrick Wilson (Weezer) is 49. Actor Michael C. Hall is 47. Rock musician Ron Welty is 47. Rapper Big Boi (Outkast) is 43. Roots rocker Jason Isbell is 39. Country singer Julie Roberts is 39. Actor Jarrett Lennon is 36. Rock singer-musician Andrew VanWyngarden is 35. TV personality Lauren Conrad is 32. Actress-singer Heather Morris is 31. Actress and mixed martial artist Ronda Rousey is 31. Rock singer Harry Styles (One Direction) is 24.

Thought for Today: "Courage is doing what you're afraid to do. There can be no courage unless you're scared." - Eddie Rickenbacker, American war hero (1890-1973).

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!

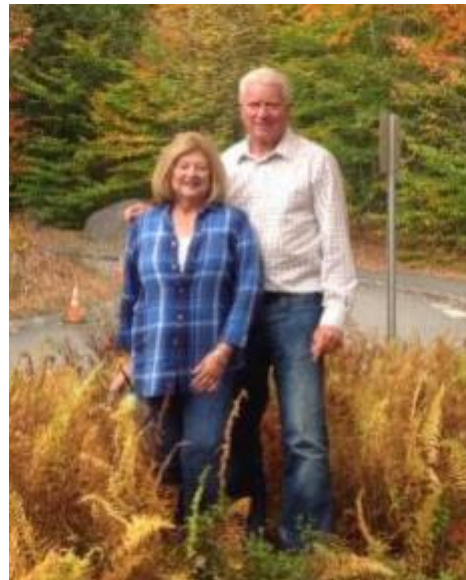
Here are some suggestions:

- **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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