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Connecting - February 09, 2018

1 message

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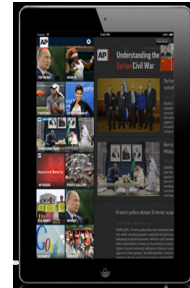
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Connecting

February 09, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Today's Connecting leads with a thoughtful essay by former AP Midwest Regional Photo Editor **Cliff Schiappa**. He expounds on a Facebook post he wrote extolling the virtues of reaching out to others by picking up the telephone, writing a letter or visiting them, rather than relying on an impersonal post on social media.

And who let the dogs out? After initially opting to share contributions to the new "Connecting pets" feature one at a time, the newsletter brain-trust met again and decided to let them all run free as they are received. We think **Dudley**, our gone-but-never-forgotten

official greeter who still welcomes new members, would want it that way. Today's issue includes touching and humorous items on the four-legged friends who by and large have adopted their owners.

Paul Stevens returns to the editor's chair Monday. Send tips, stories, photos or other contributions -- **including pets!** -- to him at paulstevens46@gmail.com.

Enjoy the day and have a great weekend!

- Mark Mittelstadt

'It takes more than a mouse click to hold close those who are dear to us'



"Screw the algorithms. True friends pick up the phone, write a letter, make a visit. They share and hold secrets in private, give a real hug when needed, and laugh and cry through triumphs and setbacks. It takes more than a mouse click to hold close those who are truly dear to us." - Cliff Schiappa on Facebook

Cliff Schiappa ([E-mail](#)) _ I admit to not being a social media wiz, some may even consider me a Luddite compared to the skills and knowledge many others possess online. Rarely do I post things on Facebook, and when I do, they are mostly about work-related items: upcoming Chorus performances, fundraising events, etc. I just choose not to tell the world about my daily/weekly/monthly personal experiences.

So I was awake at 3:30 a.m., because 60-year-old males usually need to stretch their legs and take a walk around the house at that time. To get back to sleep I was perusing Facebook and was wading through too many postings about Facebook's new algorithms and how everyone wants me to like their boring postings so I can trick the algorithms into letting me see more of their boring postings.

It got me thinking, and admittedly, some will say I sound like a cranky curmudgeon. I wondered "Are people so starved for attention and validation that they need to beg people to read about their life activities and opinions?" That may be too harsh, I admit to enjoying some postings, but many just cause me to scratch my head.

But it also caused me to consider other ways to interact with the people who are truly friends, not just Facebook acquaintances. A friend whose father passed away a couple days ago posted this line as the lede about his dad: "Where does time go? You can never have enough..."

That line has been bouncing around in my head, along with the silly algorithm issue, and it just struck a chord at a time in my life where I find myself at an intersection where the "Walk" sign is flashing.

One of the many gems I learned from **Paul Stevens** when I was serving as his Assistant Chief of Bureau was the value of relationships. He would tell me 90 percent of the conversation he would have with a publisher while on a member visit was about non-work related things: family, hobbies, health, etc., after all, at the end of the day, those are topics that truly matter.

It took me a couple minutes to write that post, and folks have been liking and sharing it. Okay, I admit to watching that counter thingy showing how many people like it, and if I really knew what I was doing, I would have added this hashtag **#screwthealgorithms**. But I'm not really sure what that would accomplish ;-)

Connecting's pets

Dealing with Rumor and Scandal in Vegas

Norman Clarke ([Email](#)) _ Here's Rumor and Scandal on our wedding day, Oct. 6, 2012, in the courtyard of the Smith Center for the Performing Arts.

Scandal is in the bridal outfit and we got the impression she thought it was her wedding day. Rumor, six at the time, wore a tuxedo and just before I walked down the aisle he walked over and placed his paws on my leg, like he was wishing me good luck.



Scandal (left) and Rumor

Scandal is the alpha dog though she's a year and a half younger. She has to be first at everything, especially on their romps to the elevator or into the car. She's the instigator, always the first to start a fight no matter the size of her perceived threat. Rumor's the peacemaker with the wagging tail. They love to play fight, which usually ends with her nipping his ears and him burying his head in a blanket to avoid an ear piercing.

We miraculously escaped a pitbull attack about six years ago. Luckily it was a younger one and when it chomped onto Rumor and violently shook him, I assumed Rumor was a goner. I

reached down and picked up Scandal, hoping I could save one. I kicked the pitbull in the ribs and he turned away with malice in his eyes. His owner suddenly showed up and I gave him an earful. I picked up Rumor, assuming the worst, and headed for our vet. Rumor was okay; no broken bones or puncture wounds.

Scandal once followed me into the shower and kept trying to get my attention by pawing my legs. I realized something had to be wrong and rushed her to the vet. She had swallowed a piece of plastic the size of a stick of chewing gum and she was in physical distress and probably would have died had I gone to the press conference I was on my way to.

We were incredibly lucky in both cases.

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Dog is his copilot

Pete Leabo ([Email](#)) _ Roxy Leabo, a registered pound hound, was rescued seven years ago by my daughter from the Oakland, Calif., shelter, which found her roaming the streets as a puppy. One day later, I had a severe bicycle accident and Roxy adopted me, becoming my support puppy during my recovery.

Listed as a "sheltie mix" on her papers, she looks more like a golden retriever and a chihuahua had a good time. Either way, Roxy is keeping mum about her parents.

When I moved to Kansas City from the San Francisco bay area three years ago, Roxy decided to begin a new chapter in her life as well. She's a constant companion and loves being the navigator, whether it's a quick jaunt around town, a trip to Texas to see grandma, or Wisconsin for vacation at our lake cabin.

Roxy has her own Facebook page and is fairly prolific with her posts. This photo was taken with a dash-mounted camera on a rural road in northern Wisconsin while on vacation last summer.



Roxy (left) and Pete.

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Big helpers can come in small packages...

Joseph Galloway ([Email](#)) _ A photo (right) of Jacques the Wonder Dawg, miniature poodle fully trained as a medical service dog, and one of the two people he owns.

... like Emmitt

Joe Michael Edwards ([Email](#)) _ We had a terrier-mix who loved people and was always affectionate even toward strangers. When my mother-in-law went into a nursing home, we decided to take Emmitt with us to visit her. In the community room were a lot of Alzheimer's patients who showed little signs of life. When Emmitt went in and walked up to them, several of them felt a connection and perked up. I concluded that Emmitt did more for them than the doctors, nurses and medicine.

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Meet Chrissy, delighting members of her second home



Chrissy (left) and Anne

Libby Quaid ([Email](#)) _ This is Chrissy, beloved dog of my beloved friend Beverley Lumpkin, the longtime Justice Department reporter for ABC and CBS who worked briefly for AP. Beverley died of cancer in October. We are Chrissy's forever home, to the delight of my 7-year-old daughter, Anne. I met Beverley during her time at AP, where our friend Mike Sniffen introduced us. Chrissy settled in immediately, taking over the sofa and trying to sneak into bed with Anne. She's a lovely, smart and sweet dog, and she is a constant reminder of how fortunate we were to know my lovely, smart and sweet friend.



Jacques and Joseph

Hey, can a cat drop in on this dog party?

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) _ Ye ole retired AP photographer has a pet cat, and only the good Lord knows why.

Her name is Lucky, and she was born at the same time those planes were playing havoc with our nation on 9/11. She is a mixed breed, and I mean mixed.

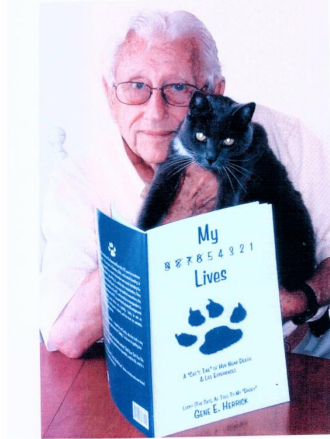
Lucky was born out in a field in front of my sweetheart's yard near Glade Hill, Va., right at the time of the disaster. Lucky's mother was giving birth to Lucky and a couple more, when a big tractor came along plowing. The mother ran; the tractor killed one of the babies; another was accidentally killed by my sweethearts dog, who was trying to be helpful; precious Lucky survived.



Lucky

Baby Lucky was nursed and cared for until time for her to survive on her own. Sweetie Pie decided that I needed to have Lucky as a pet. I pleaded, "You gotta be kiddin' me!" However,

I became Lucky's father, and took her to my cabin on nearby Smith Mountain Lake. She loved it, and enjoyed being in a woods where she could see the birds and squirrels. She felt nature-bound, and when going outside for nature's relief, she would climb some of the many trees. However, she didn't come down. Over a short period of time, Lucky spent some 400 hours up the trees, and wouldn't come down. One time she stayed up the tree for almost 60 hours. Each time she came down out of the trees she just fell -- most of the time at least 20 feet in the air. It is a mystery that she never hit a limb on the way down.



Gene and Lucky

Lucky immediately became a house cat, as she is today. She is now 17 years old.

Lucky is even a book author. She wrote: "My 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 Lives; a "Cat's Tail" of her near Death & Life Experiences." Lucky (The Cat), As Told To My "Daddy" Gene E.Herrick. Published in 2009.

Our household continues to be controlled by you know who.

Connecting mailbox

Lead? Lede?

Seth Borenstein _ Lede or lead? When I teach my class, I talk about the first paragraph or two of a news story as the "lede." I tell them there are two ways it is spelled: "lede" and "lead." My preference has always been lede. I tell them lead also means the element lead (pb) and I don't want any leaden ledes. A student asked me what AP style is and I said I didn't know.

I looked it up and this was the answer:

QUESTION from Nashville, Tenn. on Aug 17, 2006 Is the first paragraph of an article called the lede, lead or either?

ANSWER It is the "lead," but journalistic jargon often spells it "lede." (Just don't use it that way outside the office.)

I disagree. In my class it will be "lede" because ledes are not leaden.

There are some times where I disagree with AP style (for example a few years ago, AP style said it is now OK to use "over" when talking about numbers like over 500. I do not accept because "over" is a physical descriptor as in "over the fence" but not a numerical one.). But when it comes to most, like the dreaded Oxford comma, i am a firm believer in AP style.

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Winter Olympics bring back memories of old AP technology

Steve Graham (via **AP Techs, Then and Now** Facebook group) _ The Winter Olympics bring back 30-year-old memories of Calgary.

As I remember it, Calgary was the first time we used the Digital Equipment Corp. VAX computer to support a news operation. The workstations were a special PC we called the AP286.

The Press Center was right next to the area where the hockey events were held. Canadians apparently didn't perceive the same level of threat as their cousins to the south since Prime Minister Brian Mulroney just came in and sat down in the press area without a mob of security. A couple of AP techs just walked up to the PM and asked if he had any souvenir pins to trade. (He didn't.)

Those were the days.

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Nick and the Thai Princess

Nick Ut shared this photo of meeting with the Princess of Thailand, Sirivannavari Nariratana, at the opening of the Leica Gallery in Bangkok at which were displayed Nick's images from the Vietnam War.

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Nancy Pelosi through a different lens

AP Photographer **Pablo Martinez Monsivais** captured this unique image of House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi being recorded by a reporter on his smartphone. Pelosi addressed journalists after she spoke for eight hours straight on Capitol Hill Wednesday in support of DACA.

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Corrections

Mitchell Landsberg ([Email](#)) clarified an item in Thursday's Connecting about his father, pictured with **C.J. "Skip" Leabo** in the AP San Francisco bureau in the 1950s. **Morrie Landsberg** had three sons, not two as the shared recollection said. The eldest son was a law professor in Sacramento and not a judge. A second son lives outside Atlanta and is retired from a successful retail career. Mitchell is the third son and is an editor at the Los Angeles Times. He also worked for many years at AP.

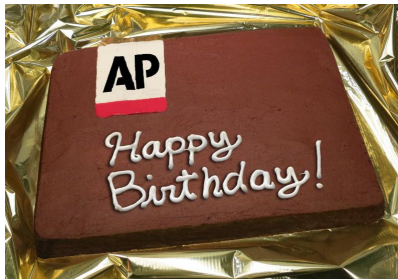
A **Wesley Pippert** item shared via a blog in Wednesday's Connecting gave the incorrect date for a plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa, that killed Buddy Holly and two other musicians. The crash, now popularly known as The Day the Music Died, occurred on Feb. 3, 1959.

Connecting Skyshot

Kevin Walsh shared this colorful image.



Connecting wishes a Happy Birthday



To
Saturday - Del Brinkman

Stories of interest

'A slow-motion disaster': Journalism museum in talks about possible building sale (The Washington Post)

Two months shy of its 10th anniversary in a glass-and-steel showpiece on Washington's most prestigious thoroughfare, executives at the struggling Newseum will meet Thursday with a top real estate firm to explore options that include selling their building or moving to another location. The previously undisclosed talks with officials from the international firm Eastdil Secured - which were confirmed by museum management after it was contacted by The Washington Post - are the latest sign of uncertainty at an institution that has been swamped in debt and roiled by leadership shake-ups.

Read more [here](#).

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What journalists get wrong about the First Amendment (Columbia Journalism Review)

The First Amendment is having a moment. It earned a C+ on a recent report card from the Newseum Institute. It's the beating heart behind The Post, about the publication of the Pentagon Papers. And it's the through-line that connects countless controversies around the country: Trump's cease-and-desist letter to Michael Wolff to try to halt the release of his book, a religious man's refusal to bake a wedding cake for a gay couple, kneeling during the national anthem, and so on. Given all that, you'd think Americans would know more about the First Amendment. Yet a recent survey showed that 37 percent of those polled couldn't name one of its five freedoms, while 39 percent said Congress should be able to prevent the press from reporting on national-security issues without government approval. Journalists are not immune to misunderstandings of the First Amendment.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Len Iwanski

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Newseum releases report on sexual misconduct in the media (Newseum)

Today, the Newseum released a report on its groundbreaking Power Shift Summit held on Jan. 9, in which more than 130 newsroom leaders, editors, reporters, educators and advocates participated. The report, "The Power Shift Summit Report: Ending Silence and Changing Systems in the Media Industry," identifies seven key Power Shift Principles, lessons learned from the summit about workplace imbalances that protect the powerful and intimidate and silence others, especially young women. "Issues of equality, diversity and inclusiveness for women and people of color or those who have been marginalized have been part of the Newseum's mission from the start," said Jan Neuharth, chair and CEO of the Freedom Forum, the principal funder of the Newseum. "Last month's extraordinary summit and the release of this report today represent our deep commitment to diversity, and the belief that equality in newsrooms leads to stronger media organizations and better journalism for all." The report found that sexual misconduct and workplace discrimination are inextricably linked, workplace incivility and bullying are gateways to harassment, and change must be remedied through strong harassment reporting and training systems combined with women's leadership, supported by both men and women at all levels of an organization.

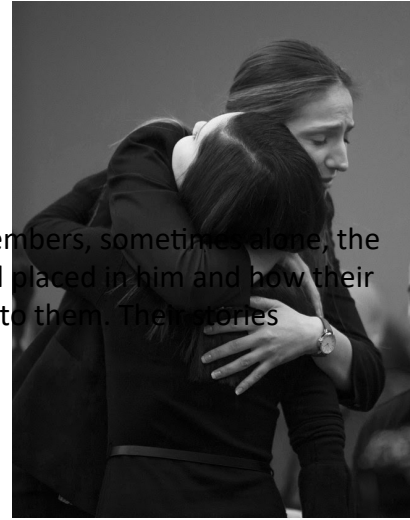
Read more [here](#).

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How Larry Nassar's trial made the case for cameras in the court (New Yorker)

Cameras in the courtroom used to be a hot topic. In the nineteen-eighties and early nineties, many states began to allow broad media access to their judicial proceedings, and even the federal courts were experimenting with cameras. Court TV, a network devoted almost exclusively to live coverage of trials, was flourishing. But then the momentum stopped with a thud, and everyone remembers why: the trial of O. J. Simpson. But recent events in Michigan serve as a reminder that cameras can be better than a necessary

evil: they can be a positive good. Over the course of several days last month, Judge Rosemarie Aquilina allowed the victims of Lawrence G. Nassar, the former USA Gymnastics and Michigan State University sports-medicine doctor, to recount the stories of the abuse they suffered at his hands. More than a hundred and fifty victims testified, and their stories were harrowing. Sometimes standing with family members, sometimes alone, the young women told of how Nassar abused the trust they had placed in him and how their lives had been shaped, and often shattered, by what he did to them. Their stories reverberated well beyond the courtroom.



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

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Navy doing away with combat camera (Navy Times)

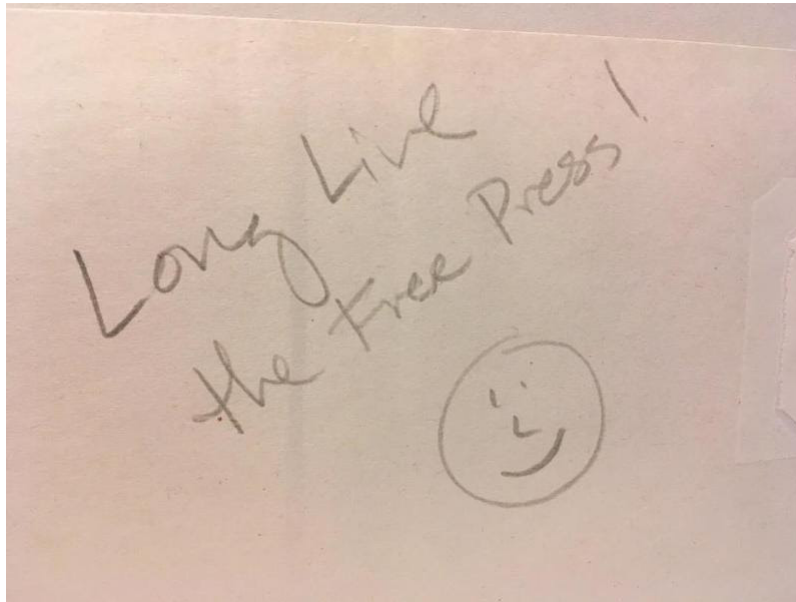


The Navy will eliminate its two combat camera units by Oct. 1 in an effort to cut costs and eliminate billets, Navy Times has learned. Around since World War II, combat camera units have long had the dual mission of documenting fleet operations for historical purposes and after action reports and - perhaps what they are best known for - telling the Navy's stories to the public through iconic imagery. Between the two combat camera units, one of which is based in Norfolk and one in San Diego, the cuts will eliminate four active-duty officer, 50 active-duty enlisted and 31 reserve enlisted billets.

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

The Final Word

#journalism #freepress #media



Kristin Gazlay (Email) _ A used book I ordered and had sent to the AP office arrived today. Here's the bolstering note on the wrapping. Yes! **#bookstagram #books #journalism #freepress #media**

Today in History - February 9, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Feb. 9, the 40th day of 2018. There are 325 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 9, 1943, the World War II battle of Guadalcanal in the southwest Pacific ended with an Allied victory over Japanese forces.

On this date:

In 1773, the ninth president of the United States, William Henry Harrison, was born in Charles City County, Virginia.

In 1825, the House of Representatives elected John Quincy Adams president after no candidate received a majority of electoral votes.

In 1861, Jefferson Davis was elected provisional president of the Confederate States of America at a congress held in Montgomery, Alabama.

In 1870, the U.S. Weather Bureau was established.

In 1893, Giuseppe Verdi's last opera, "Falstaff," was first performed in Milan, Italy.

In 1942, the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff held its first formal meeting to coordinate military strategy during World War II. Daylight-saving "War Time" went into effect in the United States, with clocks moved one hour forward. The SS Normandie, a former French liner being refitted for the U.S. Navy at a New York pier, caught fire (it capsized early the next morning).

In 1950, in a speech in Wheeling, West Virginia, Sen. Joseph McCarthy, R-Wis., charged the State Department was riddled with Communists.

In 1964, The Beatles made their first live American television appearance on "The Ed Sullivan Show," broadcast from New York on CBS.

In 1971, a magnitude 6.6 earthquake in California's San Fernando Valley claimed 65 lives. The crew of Apollo 14 returned to Earth after man's third landing on the moon.

In 1984, Soviet leader Yuri V. Andropov, 69, died 15 months after succeeding Leonid Brezhnev; he was followed by Konstantin U. Chernenko (chehr-NYEN'-koh).

In 1991, voters in Lithuania overwhelmingly endorsed independence from the Soviet Union in a non-binding plebiscite.

In 2002, Britain's Princess Margaret, sister of Queen Elizabeth II, died in London at age 71.

Ten years ago: Democrat Barack Obama swept the Louisiana primary and caucuses in Nebraska and Washington state; Republican Mike Huckabee outpolled John McCain in the Kansas caucuses and Louisiana primary, while McCain won the Washington caucuses. A suicide bomber blasted a political gathering in northwestern Pakistan, killing at least 27 people. Space shuttle Atlantis, carrying a European-built science lab, docked with the international space station.

Five years ago: Hundreds of mourners and dignitaries, including first lady Michelle Obama, packed the funeral service for Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-old honor student who was shot and killed Jan. 29 as she stood with friends at a neighborhood park about a mile from President Barack Obama's Chicago home in the Kenwood neighborhood.

One year ago: A federal appeals court refused to reinstate President Donald Trump's ban on travelers from seven predominantly Muslim nations, unanimously rejecting the administration's claim of presidential authority, questioning its motives and concluding that

the order was unlikely to survive legal challenges. President Donald Trump reaffirmed America's long-standing "one China" policy in a phone call with Chinese President Xi Jinping, potentially alleviating concerns about a major shift in Washington's relations with Beijing.

Today's Birthdays: Television journalist Roger Mudd is 90. Actress Janet Suzman is 79. Nobel Prize-winning author J.M. Coetzee is 78. Actress-politician Sheila James Kuehl (kyool) (TV: "The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis") is 77. Singer-songwriter Carole King is 76. Actor Joe Pesci is 75. Singer Barbara Lewis is 75. Author Alice Walker is 74. Actress Mia Farrow is 73. Former Sen. Jim Webb, D-Va., is 72. Singer Joe Ely is 71. Actress Judith Light is 69. Rhythm-and-blues musician Dennis "DT" Thomas (Kool & the Gang) is 67. Actor Charles Shaughnessy is 63. Actor Ed Amatrudo is 62. Former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe is 61. Jazz musician Steve Wilson is 57. Country singer Travis Tritt is 55. Actress Julie Warner is 53. Country singer Danni Leigh is 48. Actress Sharon Case is 47. Actor Jason George is 46. Actress Amber Valletta is 44. Actor-producer Charlie Day is 42. Rock singer Chad Wolf (Carolina Liar) is 42. Actor A.J. Buckley is 41. Rock musician Richard On (O.A.R.) is 39. Actress Ziyi (zee yee) Zhang is 39. Olympic silver and bronze medal figure skater Irina Slutskaya is 39. Actor Tom Hiddleston is 37. Actor David Gallagher is 33. Actor Michael B. Jordan is 31. Actress Rose Leslie is 31. Actress Marina Malota is 30. Actress Camille Winbush is 28. Actor Jimmy Bennett is 22. Actor Evan Roe (TV: "Madam Secretary") is 18.

Thought for Today: "What we call progress is the exchange of one nuisance for another nuisance." - Havelock Ellis, English psychologist (1859-1939).

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!

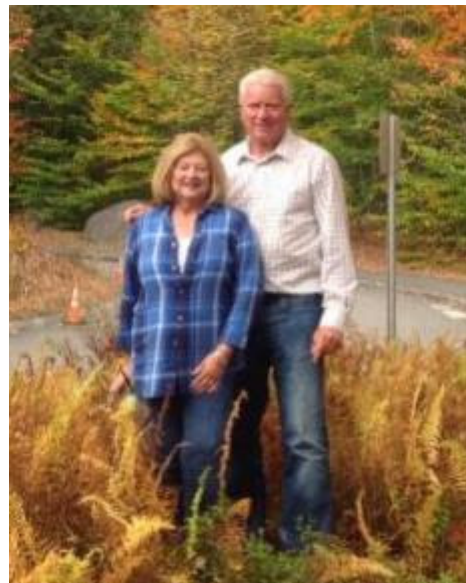
Here are some suggestions:

- **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

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