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Connecting - February 14, 2018

1 message

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Wed, Feb 14, 2018 at 8:56 AM

Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com

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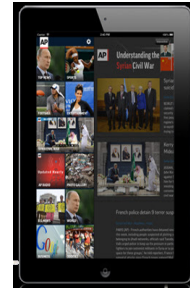
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Connecting

February 14, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning - and Happy Valentines Day!

It's a special holiday for me as my late parents, **Ruth and Walt Stevens**, were married on that day in 1946 in Excelsior Springs, Missouri, where dad was publisher of the Daily Standard after returning from World War II service. I showed up just over nine months later.

Two of your colleagues invite your comments:

Terry Anderson (Email) - Colleagues, how about a discussion of the implicit racism behind this little nugget: Percentage of U.S. news stories about poverty that feature black families: 59. Of U.S. families living under the poverty line that are black: 23 (Harper's Index, via Daily Kos). That's on us.

Joseph Carter (Email) - Paul: as your site has noted, I was on the press bus in Dallas as UPI back-up for Merriman Smith. I remained in Dallas as UPI's overnight editor. At age 85, I wonder how many correspondents survive who actively covered the story that day and ensuing months. As my ebook, "I Heard JFK's Death Shots", asserts, I believe Oswald acted alone: no conspiracy. The question: How many surviving on-site newsmen agree? On a dull day, I propose this as a survey. Thanks from a dude who wants AP to continue and prosper.

Got an opinion or thought to share? Please send it along.

Those who wish to send condolences on the death of retired Boston administrative assistant **Mary Ellen Slavin**, reported in Tuesday's Connecting, can email her companion, Ian McColgin, at ianmccolgin@gmail.com They will be shared with the family and perhaps at a gathering celebrating Mary Ellen's life on Sunday, April 8, from 2 to 4 p.m., at the John Lawrence Funeral Home, [3778 Falmouth Road \(Route 28\), Marstons Mills, MA.](#)

Today's issue brings the first of your memories of covering Winter Olympics past. I look forward to your own memories. I already have several more overnight to share in tomorrow's edition.

Have a great day!

Paul

AP to be represented by Karen Ball, Zeke Miller at President's Day event



Zeke Miller



Karen Ball

Karen

Ball (Email) - The AP will be represented well at a Truman Library event Feb. 19 on President's Day - The Presidency and The Press, a public program hosted by the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum and the Truman Library Institute. A reception will be held at 6 p.m. and the program from 6:30-8 p.m.

Karen Ball will be talking about being the lead AP reporter on Bill Clinton during the 1992 campaign, and then covering the White House for the NY Daily News. Zeke Miller of the AP Washington bureau will be on the panel as well, along with CBS chief White House correspondent Major Garrett; Betty Houchin Winfield, Ph.D., a specialist in political communication and mass media history, and Margaret Talev, president of the White House Correspondents' Association, who will serve as moderator. She is senior White House correspondent for Bloomberg News, a CNN political analyst and past president of the Washington Press Club Foundation.

Ball covered President Clinton's White House for the New York Daily News and was the lead Associated Press reporter on his 1992 campaign. Admired for her tenacious reporting, she broke many stories, including the 3 a.m. bulletin out of Little Rock when Clinton tapped Al Gore as his running mate. A graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, Ball was the first woman to run the AP's statehouse bureau in Missouri.

Miller is a White House reporter for the Associated Press. Prior to joining the AP, Miller was the White House correspondent for TIME and the first White House correspondent at BuzzFeed where he covered the 2012 presidential election. Prior to that, he covered politics for Business Insider. A New York native, Miller graduated from Yale University where he was an editor and reporter at the Yale Daily News.

Your Olympic memories

Hal Bock ([Email](#)) - I covered winter Olympics at Lake Placid (1980), Sarajevo (1984), Calgary (1988), Albertville, France (1992), Lillehammer, Norway (1994) and Nagano, Japan (1998). There were adventures at all of them.

At Lake Placid, there was, of course, the Miracle on Ice, the dramatic victory over Russia and the gold medal for a hockey team made up of college kids and minor league players. The small town was electric after the game against Russia, whooping it up. An amazing moment.

At Sarajevo, we rode the Bosnia Express, a train from Belgrade to Sarajevo, a mere eight hours. It was worth it because I got to stand in the footprints of the assassin who killed the Austrian archduke started World War I.

At Calgary, an amazing warm front left skiers sunbathing at the downhill course, very strange for a ski venue.

At Albertville, we drove a zig-zag mountain road from the hockey venue to the press center in a bus and I was convinced we were doomed. Somehow, we made it.

At Lillehammer, I fell on ice en route to an interview. Got the interview, wrote the story and then was diagnosed with a broken wrist and sent home early. It still hurts on rainy days.

At Nagano, I recall the Japanese temples and snow monkeys we saw on a rare day off from the Games,

Enough memories to last a lifetime.

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Steve Graham ([Email](#)) - It was 30 years ago this coming September that the AP covered the Summer Olympics in Seoul, Korea. (Back when summer and winter games were the same year.)

Again, we used the Digital Equipment VAX computers for news coverage. We also had a satellite high-speed network connection to New York, which was noteworthy in those early days of what we now take for granted.

Sadly, this reminds me of the numerous evenings I spent with the late Horst Faas, alternating between sampling Korean food (lots of kimchi) and taking advantage of the great continental fare provided by Lufthansa Airlines which flew in chefs and food for press and athletes. (Primarily for Germans, but they weren't fussy.)

Unfortunately, I had a sudden and debilitating toothache, which ended up being resolved by a Korean root canal at the hands of a dentist whom the Seoul bureau recommended, saying he had trained at the University of Wisconsin and did all the dental care for them.

I never could get the message across that I needed more local anesthetic than most people and when the dentist said, "This no going to hurt," I knew it was time to get a really strong grip on the arms of the chair.

Because of the satellite connection, we had a phone that was an extension off the 50 Rock switchboard.

When everything was up and running smoothly, I used the connection to call Delta airlines to reserve a flight home. The agent was silent for a moment and then she asked, "Are you in Seoul, now?"

"Yes, I said."

"But I show you as calling from New York City," she said.

I was tempted to reply with the Peter Sellers (Inspector Clouseau) line, "There are some things that are safer for you not to know," but I figured it would get me into trouble and took about 10 minutes to explain the situation.

I'm not sure she believed me, but I got my reservation.

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Larry Hamlin ([Email](#)) - Here's a photo from the Lake Placid 1980 Winter Olympics. I was there as part of the technology (Communications back then) support crew. This shows AP lodging for the event. As I remember we had the entire motel (Communications & Editorial). The photo staff stayed in a cottage across Mirror Lake.

-0-

Richard Horwitz ([Email](#)) - One of my memories of the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary had nothing to do with Olympic sports.

There was a laundry service in the press village that was quickly overwhelmed. Many of us who had arrived a week or two early to set up equipment were fearful of running out of clean clothes. Some did laundry in their bathrooms. I made an underwear run to Sears.

It all came together as the games ended. I went to the laundry on the last day and found a queue of dozens of press looking for missing clothing items. In the middle of the room was a mountain of socks piled almost six feet high. No hope of ever being sorted and matched.

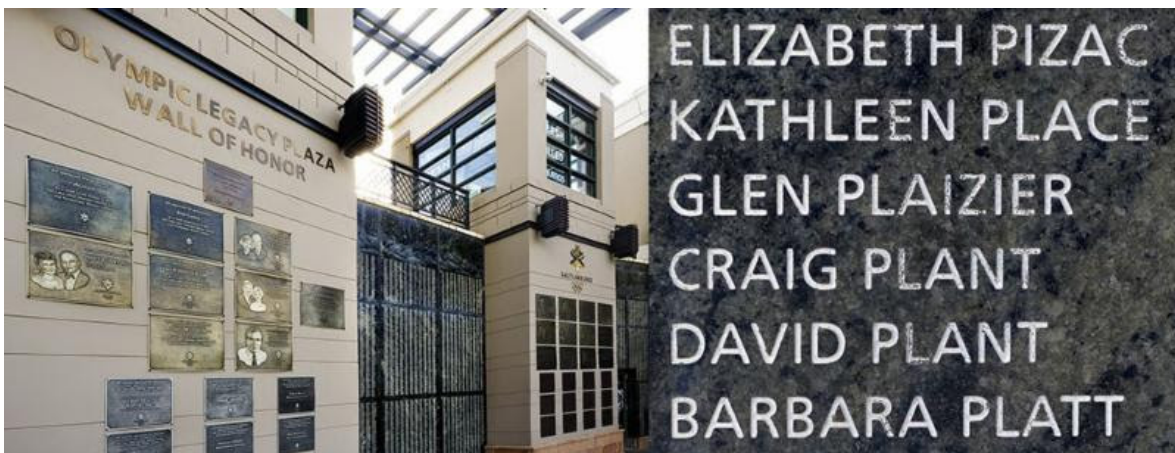
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Doug Pizac (Email) - My "best" Olympic photo assignment wasn't the shoot itself but the perk that went along with it. For the 2002 Winter Games in Salt Lake City, security was greatly heightened as the Olympics occurred just five months after the 9/11 attacks. One of the security stories AP did was the 24/7 aerial patrols by F16 fighters from Hill AFB. I was assigned since I was familiar with the base. After going through a mini-flight school, I boarded one of their aircraft to shadow two others on patrol and make air-to-air photos over the Salt Lake valley and Park City venues.



Since I knew what I needed to capture for the story our flight was done rather quickly. However, the jet was fully loaded with fuel so the pilot asked if minded staying up in the air to burn some off. I said no, I didn't mind at all, whereupon we headed to the base's training ground in Utah's west desert. Once there he gave me control of the stick allowing me to fly the craft myself. He taught me how to do barrel rolls and other maneuvers. What a thrill. He also showed me the avionics and weaponry system, locking in on a Delta passenger jet miles away that appeared as only a dot on the radar screen. He then flew us 600mph some 500 feet off the desert floor and went ballistic nearly straight up with afterburners. Wow! We were back up to 10,000 feet in hardly any time at all.

I've always been a big fan of military aircraft, having flown in WWI aircraft, WWII, and now state of the art. While covering the games was great, commanding an aircraft capable of 27,000 pounds of thrust is a forever memory.



Another Olympic story comes from my wife Betty who is a former AP photo editor in Los Angeles. Her first Olympics was the 1984 Summer Games. For the 2002 games she was the Olympic Film Transport Manager making sure film and digital memory cards made it back to the press center from the venues. She worked for former AP photographer David Breslauer who was the Photo Chief for the games. Betty's memory is literally set in stone. After the games her name was inscribed in marble on the Wall of Honor at the Olympic Legacy Plaza in SLC. David's name is also there.

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Barry Sweet (Email) - I covered the Olympic Games in Calgary 1988 and one of my fond memories was an AP editor decided to send me up to the top of the mountain because everything was closed due to blizzard conditions. Thank goodness, Olympic officials were smarter than the AP editor who refused letting me go up.

Another thing I remember was Eddie The Eagle of UK who was a nobody but became a hot story. Who would have thought? And, of course, there was the assignment of the Jamaica bobsled team. I keep saying to myself, what am I doing here freezing when all of a sudden they flipped right in front of me. You never know what to expect.

And more of your pet photos and stories...



Charlie Arbogast ([Email](#)) - If I am going to look at pets lounging around in warm homes, I believe Wrigley, a 5 ½ year-old Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever with a Lab mix, should get his proper respect playing out in the deep snow.

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Bill Kole ([Email](#)) - Here is a snap of our "mogul mutt," the irrepressible Abby - one of our two golden retrievers. She's seen here bounding through deep snow during the winter of 2015, when the Boston area got 9½ feet in a February that would have rivaled PyeongChang. (I feel a little sheepish admitting it, but this iPhone image moved as an AP photo.)

Retired photojournalist, 91, still feels like 'luckiest kid in the world' to have chronicled historic events for AP

By CASEY FABRIS

The Roanoke Times

ROCKY MOUNT - When Gene Herrick photographed Rosa Parks being fingerprinted by a white police officer, he didn't know it would become an iconic image of the civil rights movement.

The photograph is one of the first images that pop up when you search Parks' name on Google. It's on display at The Associated Press offices in New York City. And it hangs above Herrick's desk in his Rocky Mount home.

But when Herrick took the photo on Feb. 22, 1956, it was just another day in the life of an Associated Press photographer.

"As a photojournalist, you don't really think about them being icons later on," Herrick said. "You just think about the spot news at the moment, what would make a shot for the AP wire."

During his 28-year career with the AP, Herrick captured historic moments in U.S. history with his camera. Herrick, 91, is best known for his work photographing the Korean War and the civil rights movement. This year, his contributions will be recognized when he is inducted into the Virginia Communications Hall of Fame.



Read more [here](#). Shared by Dorothy Abernathy.

The AP Asks: What would South Koreans ask a North Korean?



By **ERIC TALMADGE** and **KIM TONG-HYUNG**

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea (AP) - The Koreans share a border, a culture and a language. But 70 years after they were separated, North and South are about as divided as divided gets.

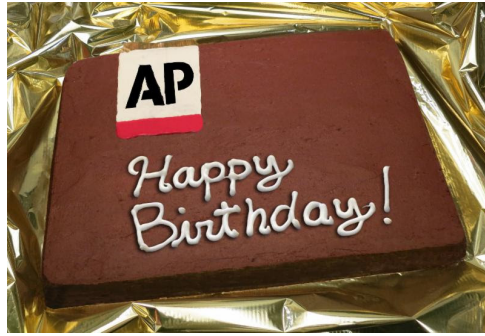
With almost any kind of contact blocked or barred or banned by law, the gap between them has grown to the point where they almost seem like strangers in many ways. And while the Pyeongchang Olympics have brought North Korean athletes, musicians, martial artists, singers and cheering squads into the South, tight security means it's still almost impossible for either side to interact.

So, embedded in a crowd of excited South Korean Olympic fans waiting to get into a united Korea women's ice hockey match, The Associated Press posed a question:

If you had the chance, what would you ask a North Korean?

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Jim Bagby - jbagby3@kc.rr.com

Stories of interest

New York Times CEO: Print journalism has maybe another 10 years (CNBC)

By KELLIE ELL

The newspaper printing presses may have another decade of life in them, New York Times CEO Mark Thompson told CNBC on Monday.

"I believe at least 10 years is what we can see in the U.S. for our print products," Thompson said on "Power Lunch." He said he'd like to have the print edition "survive and thrive as long as it can," but admitted it might face an expiration date.

"We'll decide that simply on the economics," he said. "There may come a point when the economics of [the print paper] no longer make sense for us."

"The key thing for us is that we're pivoting," Thompson said. "Our plan is to go on serving our loyal print subscribers as long as we can. But meanwhile to build up the digital business, so that we have a successful growing company and a successful news operation long after print is gone."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Shane.

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CNN, despite Trump bump, prepares for dozens of layoffs (Vanity Fair)

By JOE POMPEO

Besides the occasional Twitter-issued invective from the president and the errant journalism scandal, CNN has seemed largely indomitable during the last couple of years. Since taking over the flagging network in 2013, President Jeff Zucker has championed original documentary programming, enhanced the brand's journalistic efforts, and moved away from some of the more promiscuous tactics of cable news that defined his early tenure—such as the occasionally breathless coverage of a tragically marooned cruise ship. He's adroitly leveraged the daily rapture of the Donald Trump White House into the network's highest revenues and ratings in its history. He's also attempted to thrust the brand headlong into the digital space, with investments in video start-ups like Beme and Great Big Story, and the expansion of verticals such as CNN Politics and CNN Media, Brian Stelter's digital hub that dovetails with the Sunday show *Reliable Sources* and creates a late-evening newsletter that has become essential reading for members of the media-entertainment elite. The *New York Times* reported that the digital operation generated \$300 million in revenue in 2016.

But despite the so-called Trump Bump, CNN appears to be re-thinking at least some elements of its digital strategy. I've learned that CNN, a key property in AT&T's planned takeover of CNN's parent company, Time Warner, is targeting big savings on the digital side, with as many as 50 jobs around the globe scheduled to be eliminated this week, according to people familiar with the matter, who noted the exact number could still be in flux. The cuts will affect employees who work in premium businesses including CNN Money, video, product, tech and social publishing, these people said. Several high profile digital initiatives are being scaled back, including CNN's virtual reality productions and its efforts on Snapchat, where CNN recently nixed a live daily webcast after just four months. CNN's business-oriented MoneyStream app, as BuzzFeed reported earlier this month, is in the gutter as well. A team that works on the digital extensions of documentary-style TV shows, such as Anthony Bourdain's *Parts Unknown* and Lisa Ling's *This is Life*, as well as the Brooke Baldwin series *American Woman*, is also being reorganized.

Read more [here](#).

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Bonnie Brown, Kansas' oldest working journalist, dies at 102



Wichita Eagle photo by Beccy Tanner

By BECCY TANNER, The Wichita Eagle

The news in downtown Protection this weekend was Bonnie Brown.

Mrs. Brown - who many believe was Kansas' oldest newspaper columnist - was found dead Saturday morning in her apartment in a senior living complex. She had been suffering from a cold that turned into pneumonia, said her son, Rodney Brown. She was 11 days shy of turning 103.

In her eight years of writing for the Protection Press, she had missed two deadlines - once last year, in March, when Protection was evacuated for massive wildfires

sweeping southwest Kansas and again a few weeks ago when she caught a virus.

A graveside service is planned at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Protection Cemetery.

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

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Three named to Kansas Newspaper Hall of Fame



From left: Rudy Taylor, Craig McNeal, Tom Throne

TOPEKA - Three long-time Kansas publishers were named to the Kansas Newspaper Hall of Fame Friday night at the annual meeting of the Kansas Press Association.

Rudy Taylor, patriarch of the Taylor Family Newspapers in southeast Kansas, Craig McNeal, long-time owner and publisher of the Council Grove Republican, and Tom Throne, a former publisher at newspapers in Leavenworth, McPherson and Junction City, became the latest Hall of Fame inductees.

The Final Word



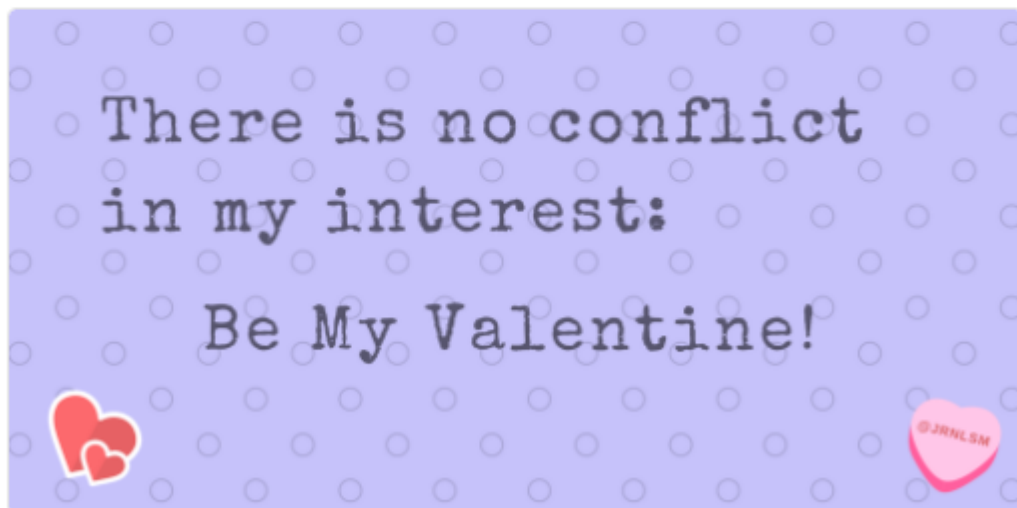
Journalism & Tech @jrnlsm · 2h

Tomorrow we'll be posting special Journalist Valentines every 30 minutes from 6am to 10:30pm

Here's a sample

(and a heartfelt V-Day shoutout to Lauren Rabaino, Meranda Watling, Jana G. Pruden and all the #journallove folks from years past)

#journallove #journalistvalentines



Today in History - February 14, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, the 45th day of 2018. There are 320 days left in the year. This is Valentine's Day.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Feb. 14, 1918, Russia converted from the Old Style Julian calendar to the New Style Gregorian calendar, "losing" 13 days in the process (for Russians, the day before was Jan. 31). The musical "Sinbad," starring Al Jolson and featuring the song "Rock-a-Bye Your Baby with a Dixie Melody," opened on Broadway.

On this date:

In 1663, New France (Canada) became a royal province under King Louis XIV.

In 1778, the American ship Ranger carried the recently adopted Stars and Stripes to a foreign port for the first time as it arrived in France.

In 1849, President James K. Polk became the first U.S. chief executive to be photographed while in office as he posed for Matthew Brady in New York City.

In 1859, Oregon was admitted to the Union as the 33rd state.

In 1903, the Department of Commerce and Labor was established. (It was divided into separate departments of Commerce and Labor in 1913.)

In 1912, Arizona became the 48th state of the Union as President William Howard Taft signed a proclamation.

In 1929, the "St. Valentine's Day Massacre" took place in a Chicago garage as seven rivals of Al Capone's gang were gunned down.

In 1949, Israel's Knesset convened for the first time.

In 1962, first lady Jacqueline Kennedy conducted a televised tour of the White House in a videotaped special that was broadcast on CBS and NBC (and several nights later on ABC).

In 1979, Adolph Dubs, the U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan, was kidnapped in Kabul by Muslim extremists and killed in a shootout between his abductors and police.

In 1988, Broadway composer Frederick Loewe, who wrote the scores for "Brigadoon," "My Fair Lady" and "Camelot," died in Palm Springs, California, at age 86.

In 1990, 92 people were killed when an Indian Airlines passenger jet crashed while landing at a southern Indian airport.

Ten years ago: A former student dressed in black walked onto the stage of a lecture hall at Northern Illinois University and opened fire on a packed science class; the 27-year-old gunman killed five students before committing suicide. Republican campaign dropout Mitt Romney endorsed John McCain for the party's presidential nomination.

Five years ago: Double-amputee and Olympic sprinter Oscar Pistorius shot and killed his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp, at his home in Pretoria, South Africa; he was later convicted of murder and is serving a 13-year prison term. Billionaire Warren Buffett agreed to buy H.J. Heinz Co. for \$23.3 billion. American Airlines and US Airways announced an \$11 billion merger that turned American into the world's biggest airline.

One year ago: Authorities lifted an evacuation order for nearly 200,000 Northern California residents living below the Oroville Dam after declaring that the risk of catastrophic collapse of a damaged spillway had been significantly reduced. A former store clerk was convicted in New York of murder in one of the nation's most haunting missing-child cases, nearly 38 years after 6-year-old Etan Patz (AY'-tahn payts) disappeared while on the way to a school bus stop. The Senate confirmed former wrestling entertainment executive Linda McMahon to lead the Small Business Administration. Rumor the German shepherd won best in show at the Westminster Kennel Club at New York's Madison Square Garden.

Today's Birthdays: TV personality Hugh Downs is 97. Actor Andrew Prine is 82. Country singer Razy Bailey is 79. Former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg is 76. Jazz musician Maceo Parker is 75. Movie director Alan Parker is 74. Journalist Carl Bernstein is 74. Former Sen. Judd Gregg, R-N.H., is 71. TV personality Pat O'Brien is 70. Magician Teller (Penn and Teller) is 70. Cajun singer-musician Michael Doucet (doo-SAY') (Beausoleil) is 67. Actor Ken Wahl is 61. Opera singer Renee Fleming is 59. Actress Meg Tilly is 58. Pro Football Hall of Famer Jim Kelly is 58. Singer-producer Dwayne Wiggins is 57. Actress Sakina Jaffey is 56. Actor Enrico Colantoni is 55. Actor Zach Galligan is 54. Actor Valente Rodriguez is 54. Rock musician Ricky Wolking (The Nixons) is 52. Tennis player Manuela Maleeva is 51. Actor Simon Pegg is 48. Rock musician Kevin Baldes (Lit) is 46. Rock singer Rob Thomas (Matchbox Twenty) is 46. Former NFL quarterback Drew Bledsoe is 46. Actor Matt Barr is 34. Actress Stephanie Leonidas is 34. Actor Jake Lacy is 32. Actress Tiffany Thornton is 32. Actor Brett Dier is 28. Actor Freddie Highmore is 26.

Thought for Today: "Age is something that doesn't matter, unless you are a cheese." - Jack Benny, American actor-comedian (born this date in 1894, died in 1974).

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.

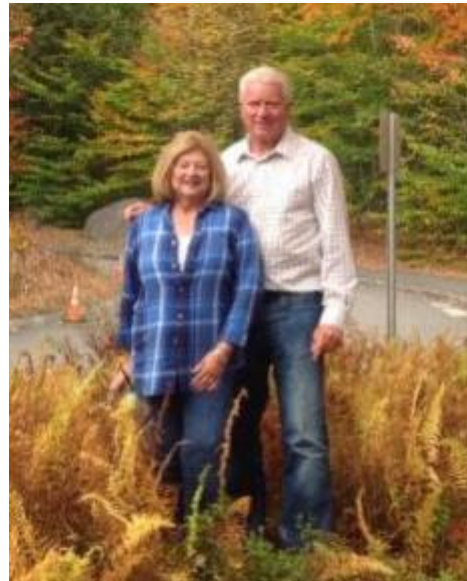
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **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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