



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - March 22, 2018

1 message

Paul Stevens <paulstevens46@gmail.com>

Thu, Mar 22, 2018 at 9:09 AM

Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com

To: pjshane@gmail.com

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Connecting

March 22, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

Connecting colleague **Mark Mittelstadt** ([Email](#)) wrote to say he was seriously considering joining the #DeleteFacebook crowd even before the Cambridge Analytica scandal, and that there are many, many things he dislikes about Facebook.

But, Mark noted, former AP colleague **Ted Anthony** weighed in with a reasoned analysis about the value of the online community, warts and all, in a story for the AP wire.

Mark wrote:

As suggested, I could share photos with family and friends via email or another social media platform. And if I wanted to relay personal news or find out what others are doing, I could use my cellphone - the same platform I use to look at Facebook 90 percent of the time - to call them. Or do FaceTime. Or Skype.

But there are many parts of Facebook I would miss - particularly pages or forums of special interest to me, such as several devoted to news, AP retirees, soccer and soccer refereeing. Facebook also offers a simple way for a small nonprofit or an enterprise to get online. Those would be very hard to duplicate with anywhere near Facebook's ease of access and appeal. And one of my nonprofits gets more inquiries and attention via Facebook than from its web site.

Probably time to review what I post and what I share, and with who. I virtually never click on Facebook quizzes or "Answer these questions and find out what kind of tree you are," and will no longer.

I will take a much more limited approach to Facebook. And will try to be more aware of what Facebook or others are doing with my personal information.

Ted Anthony ([Email](#)) - a Connecting colleague - is AP's newly named director of digital innovation.

Connecting welcomes your own thoughts on Facebook - whether to keep it or leave it, or why you never signed on in the first place.

Paul

**Facebook: A community like no other.
Should you leave it?**



In this 2013 file photo, the Facebook "like" symbol is on display on a sign outside the company's headquarters in Menlo Park, Calif. On a day when our virtual friends wrung their virtual hands about whether to leave Facebook, a thoroughly 21st-century conundrum was hammered home: When your community is a big business, and when a company's business is your community, things can get messy. (AP Photo/Jose Sanchez)

By TED ANTHONY

NEW YORK (AP) - Sure. Take that quiz about which hair-metal band is your spirit animal. Share a few snaps of your toddler at the beach and watch the likes pile up. Comment on that pointed political opinion from the classmate you haven't seen since the Reagan administration.

Just remember that your familiar, comforting online neighborhood - the people you care about most and those you only kinda like - exists entirely on a corporate planet that's endlessly ravenous to know more about you and yours.

On a day when our virtual friends wrung their virtual hands about whether to leave Facebook, a thoroughly 21st-century conundrum was hammered home: When your community is a big business, and when a company's

biggest business is your community, things can get very messy.

You saw that all day Tuesday as users watched the saga of Cambridge Analytica unfold and contemplated whether the chance that they had been manipulated again - that their data might have been used to influence an election - was, finally, reason enough to bid Facebook goodbye.



Ted Anthony

Not an easy choice. After all, how would Mom see photos of the kids?

"Part of me wants Facebook to go down over the Cambridge Analytica scandal but the other part of me has no other way to know when any of my friends or family have a birthday," Chicago Tribune humorist Rex Huppke tweeted Tuesday - and cross-posted on Facebook.

Facebook, which began as a social network for college students and the academic community, has experienced exodus before, albeit usually more gradually.

Young people have edged away from it in favor of other platforms such as Snapchat, WhatsApp and Instagram (the latter two are owned by Facebook now), and many maintain a presence but use it rarely. Internationally, while Facebook remains widespread, insurgent social networks built around messaging, such as Line in Japan and Thailand, WeChat in China and KakaoTalk in South Korea, have supplanted it.

Read more [here](#).

AP, Reuters top winners in 79th Annual Overseas Press Club Awards

NEW YORK, March 21, 2018 - The fall of ISIS and war's human toll on civilian populations emerged as the leading storylines among the 22 winners of the 79th Annual Overseas Press Club Awards. America's oldest association dedicated to

international news will honor the journalists at an April 26 dinner in New York. The OPC President's Award recognizes veteran AP foreign correspondent Kathy Gannon.

Three OPC awards each were given for stories on defeating ISIS in Iraq and Syria as well as coverage detailing the ravages of war on civilians. There were also multiple winners for stories on the horrific crimes against the Rohingya minority in Myanmar and the crackdown on drug traffic in the Philippines.

"The scope and scale of this work is astonishing," said Deidre Depke, president of the Overseas Press Club. "It's a testament to the professionalism, perseverance and courage of journalists around the world."

The Associated Press and Reuters led all media outlets with three OPC awards each. AP won the prestigious Hal Boyle Award for best newspaper or news service reporting from abroad as its team chronicled the human rights violations against the Rohingya people in Myanmar, in addition to a staff award for covering the collapse of ISIS in Mosul and Maggie Michaels' AP series on the Saudi-led torture of prisoners in Yemen.

Read more [here](#).

Tom Berman named news director for US Central region

CHICAGO (AP) - The Associated Press has named Tom Berman as regional news director for the central United States, a new position overseeing AP's journalism and news operations across media formats in 14 states stretching from Texas to the upper Midwest.

The appointment was announced Tuesday by Managing Editor Brian Carovillano. Berman will be based in Chicago, AP's Central regional hub, where he has been regional editor since August 2014.

AP is in the process of merging the management of its text, photo, video and interactive journalism at regional desks around the world. The Central region will now be managed by a single management team in which every format is represented, and will include multimedia journalists and an integrated editing desk that emphasizes video, photos and social media.



"Tom Berman has long been a newsroom leader at AP and has helped lead coverage of defining stories on two continents," Carovillano said. "He's one of the smartest editors I know and has been a driver of innovations in how we cover news around the world. We will see more of the same from Tom in this new role."

As regional editor, leading a team of AP reporters and editors, Berman has managed stories such as Hurricane Harvey, the protests against the Dakota Access pipeline and the death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri. AP won the 2014 Sigma Delta Chi Award for deadline reporting on that shooting and the protests that followed.

Prior to becoming regional editor, Berman served as deputy Europe editor, based in London.

A native of New York City and a graduate of New York University, Berman joined AP in 1997 in Boston after working as a reporter at newspapers in New York and Massachusetts. In Boston, he worked as a supervising editor, helping direct coverage of the death of John F. Kennedy Jr.

He later served as Pennsylvania news editor, and from 2003 to 2012 was a director of state news, a role in which he worked to help strengthen the cooperative's state news reports and helped lead the restructuring of the AP in the United States along regional lines.

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

Memories, on a snowy day in March



OSU St. John Arena janitor closet darkroom for Ohio high school state tournament basketball. Brian Horton, Amy Sancetta, Charles Arbogast.

Brian Horton ([Email](#)) - It's a snowy day in March today, but back in 1981, we were snug in our 3x6 foot media center in St. John's Arena on the Ohio State campus in Columbus, Ohio. Probably covering the boys' or girls' state high school tourney. We processed our film, made our prints, captioned them and transmitted from the little room, which was a janitor's closet when we weren't covering a game. Mark Duncan made a cabinet for the space that allowed us to process prints on one shelf, write captions on another and transmit on another. Then-stringers Amy Sancetta and Charles Rex Arbogast were the shooters, I ran the inside operation. Four games a day for four days, or something like that. As soon as one game ended, the next one started, Fun times.

Tribune Tower T-Shirt

After nearly a century, the Chicago Tribune is moving out of the historic Tribune Tower at [435 N. Michigan Ave](#). Commemorate the great journalism produced and good times had in the Tower with a T-shirt, designed by Tribune editorial cartoonist Scott Stantis.

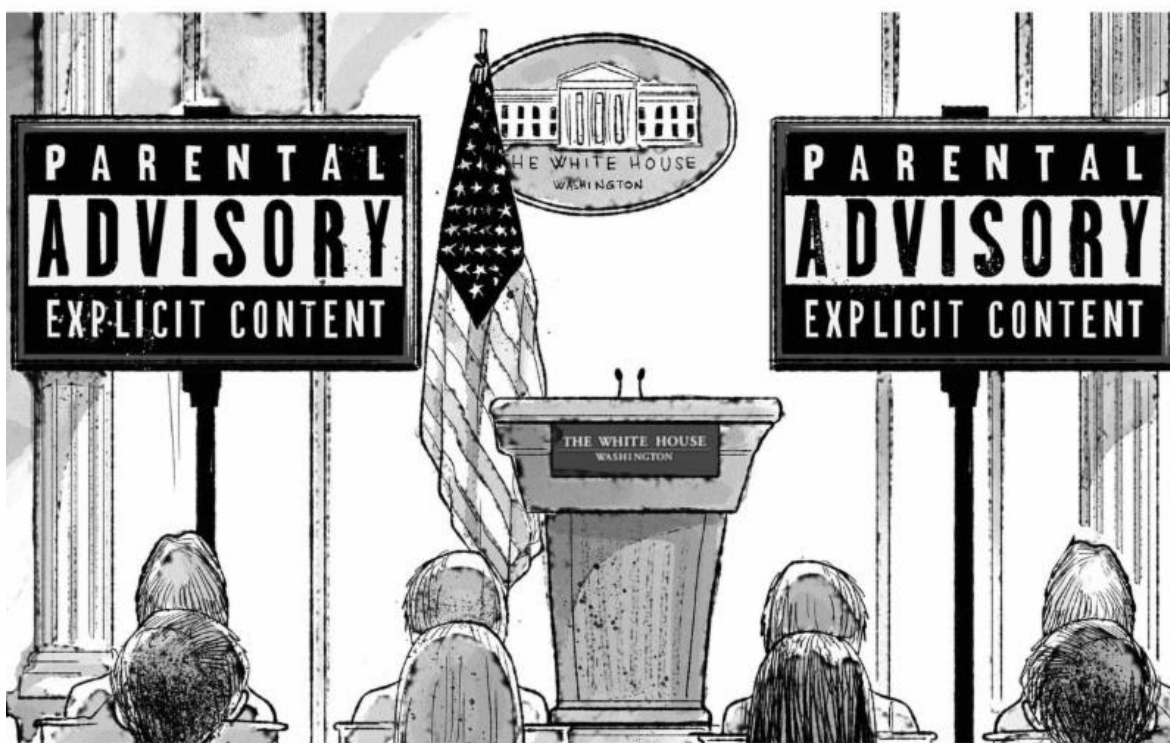
About \$1 from each sale will benefit the newsroom's annual holiday Reindeer Food Drive, which raises money and collects food for two desperately needy families in Chicago. The families are selected by long-time sources who work with the poor,

and it's all evenly divided and delivered to each family after the drive ends in December. All cash contributions from T-shirt sales will be distributed along with the other donations in December.

[Click here](#) for a link to the story. Shared by Scott Charton.



A sign of the times?



Shared by Bob Daugherty

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Jerry Harkavy - jlh@maine.rr.com

Stan Miller - amer1749@gmail.com

Stories of interest

How breaking news got panelized: On cable, journalists and pundits increasingly share space. (Washington Post)

By PAUL FARHI

Within minutes of the announcement that President Trump had agreed to meet North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un, the cable news networks had their panels of talking heads assembled and ready, like SWAT teams preparing to storm a barricaded house.

On CNN, Erin Burnett queried the network's White House and foreign affairs correspondents as well as a series of non-journalists: a former Army general, a Korea specialist, and a counterterrorism analyst. The latter, Philip Mudd, bluntly voiced his doubts. "It doesn't sound to me like de-nuke," he said. "It sounds to me like freeze. And number two, what happens if [Trump] fails?"

MSNBC's "Hardball" also mixed reporters and non-reporters, including a former Obama Defense Department official and a think-tank guy who specializes in nuclear weapons. Few facts were available, but host Chris Matthews demanded to know where the summit would be held. "I wish I could give you more information on that, Chris," said reporter Hallie Jackson.

Fox News went straight to a Texas congressman, a former military officer running for Congress and an editorial writer from the conservative Washington Examiner. The congressman, Republican Will Hurd, offered that "this is a positive development, but we have to continue to move our forces to be prepared for a ground war."

Once again, it was time for the panelization of breaking news.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Lindel Hutson.

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Meredith plans to eliminate 1,000 jobs with Time Inc. merger

By **DAVID PITT**

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) - Magazine and broadcasting company Meredith laid off an additional 200 workers on Wednesday and announced it would eliminate another 1,000 jobs over the next 10 months as it integrates the operations of Time Inc., which it bought six weeks ago.

Meredith CEO Tom Harty said in a statement Wednesday that the 200 employees were notified their positions were being eliminated. Last month, the company announced 600 jobs in a Time subscription fulfillment center in Tampa, Florida, would be eliminated with the center's closure.

The 1,000 additional reductions planned for the next 10 months do not include the impact of any potential divestitures. The company employs about 9,500, a spokesman said.

Harty also announced Wednesday plans to explore the sale of the Time, Sports Illustrated, Fortune, and Money brands.

Read more [here](#).

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How 45 journalists started again, and built a profitable news business from scratch

(journalism.co.uk)

By CAROLINE SCOTT

Although daily Slovakian newspaper Dennik N was only established in 2015, the publisher is already profitable.

After quitting their jobs at Denník SME, one of the most widely read mainstream broadsheets in Slovakia, 45 journalists came together to build this news business by themselves, with only five software developers and no experience working in sales.

"We resigned to protest the takeover of the publisher by a local oligarch," said Tomas Bella, head of online, Dennik N, at the Digital Innovators' Summit in Berlin on 19 March.

"When we started with Dennik N, we told ourselves that we can only do what we know, so we worked solely as journalists, without a sales team, with the knowledge that we could outsource work if we needed to."

To date, 90 per cent of the company is made up of journalists. Even the chief executive writes articles for the organisation, which, as a business, makes revenue solely from online subscriptions costing from €5 per month.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

Building the World's Most Powerful Telescope

(Atlantic)



By **MARINA KOREN** and **ALAN TAYLOR**

Assembling the world's most powerful space telescope is a complicated process, and Chris Gunn has been there from nearly the beginning. Gunn, a NASA photographer, has spent almost a decade photographing the James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to the famed Hubble, capturing its transformation from a bare metal framework into a gleaming science observatory with 18 gold-plated mirrors. "For me, a science-fiction buff, it's almost like seeing the Enterprise being built," Gunn says. NASA has Gunn capture nearly step in the process for the space agency's own records—"every single wrench turn, every single movement is documented," he said. Some photos are never disclosed because they feature proprietary technology. Others, after thorough approval from project managers, are released to the public to spark interest and awe at the ambitious (and expensive) project. Soon, it'll be Webb's turn to take pictures. In 2019, the telescope will launch to a spot about one million miles from Earth and settle into an orbit around the sun.

Webb, seeing the cosmos in infrared wavelengths, will photograph the most distant stars and galaxies in the universe. When that happens, Gunn says, "I really want people to want to know what the observatory looked like and how it was built and about the people who built it."

Read more [here](#). Shared by John Willis.

Today in History - March 22, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, March 22, the 81st day of 2018. There are 284 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On March 22, 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson announced that Gen. William C. Westmoreland, the commander of American forces in Vietnam, would leave that post to become the U.S. Army's new Chief of Staff. Students at the University of Nanterre in suburban Paris occupied the school's administration building in a prelude to massive protests in France that began the following May. The first Red Lobster restaurant opened in Lakeland, Florida.

On this date:

In 1312, Pope Clement V issued a papal bull ordering dissolution of the Order of the Knights Templar.

In 1638, religious dissident Anne Hutchinson was expelled from the Massachusetts Bay Colony for defying Puritan orthodoxy.

In 1765, the British Parliament passed the Stamp Act to raise money from the American colonies, which fiercely resisted the tax. (The Stamp Act was repealed a year later.)

In 1894, hockey's first Stanley Cup championship game was played; home team Montreal defeated Ottawa, 3-1.

In 1929, a U.S. Coast Guard vessel sank a Canadian-registered schooner, the *I'm Alone*, which was suspected of carrying bootleg liquor, in the Gulf of Mexico.

In 1933, during Prohibition, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a measure to make wine and beer containing up to 3.2 percent alcohol legal.

In 1941, the Grand Coulee hydroelectric dam in Washington state officially went into operation.

In 1958, movie producer Mike Todd, the husband of actress Elizabeth Taylor, and three other people were killed in the crash of Todd's private plane near Grants, New Mexico.

In 1978, Karl Wallenda, the 73-year-old patriarch of "The Flying Wallendas" high-wire act, fell to his death while attempting to walk a cable strung between two hotel towers in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

In 1988, both houses of Congress overrode President Ronald Reagan's veto of the Civil Rights Restoration Act.

In 1991, high school instructor Pamela Smart, accused of recruiting her teenage lover and his friends to kill her husband, Gregory, was convicted in Exeter, New Hampshire, of murder-conspiracy and being an accomplice to murder and was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

In 1992, 27 people were killed when a USAir Fokker F-28 jetliner bound for Cleveland crashed on takeoff from New York's LaGuardia Airport; 24 people

survived.

Ten years ago: Vice President Dick Cheney, visiting the Middle East, said the U.S. had an "enduring and unshakable" commitment to Israel's security and its right to defend itself against those bent on destroying the Jewish state. Endeavour's astronauts embarked on the fifth and final spacewalk of their mission, this time to attach a 50-foot inspection pole to the international space station for use by the next shuttle visitors. Jeffrey Buttle of Canada won the men's title at the World Figure Skating Championships in Goteborg, Sweden.

Five years ago: Anxious to keep Syria's civil war from spiraling into even worse problems, President Barack Obama said during a visit to Jordan that he worried about the country becoming a haven for extremists when - not if - President Bashar Assad was ousted from power. The Internal Revenue Service said it was a mistake for employees to have made a \$60,000 six-minute training video spoofing "Star Trek" and "Gilligan's Island."

One year ago: A knife-wielding man plowed a car into pedestrians on London's Westminster Bridge, killing four people, then stabbed an armed police officer to death inside the gates of Parliament before being shot dead by authorities. A northern Wisconsin man went on a shooting rampage, killing two of his wife's co-workers, her divorce attorney and a police officer before being shot by police; he died 10 days later in the hospital. Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch wrapped up two days of Senate questioning to glowing GOP reviews but complaints from frustrated Democrats that he had concealed his views from the American public.

Today's Birthdays: Composer-lyricist Stephen Sondheim is 88. Evangelist broadcaster Pat Robertson is 88. Actor William Shatner is 87. Senate President Pro Tempore Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, is 84. Actor M. Emmet Walsh is 83. Actor-singer Jeremy Clyde is 77. Singer-guitarist George Benson is 75. Writer James Patterson is 71. CNN newscaster Wolf Blitzer is 70. Composer Andrew Lloyd Webber is 70. Actress Fanny Ardant is 69. Sportscaster Bob Costas is 66. Country singer James House is 63. Actress Lena Olin is 63. Singer-actress Stephanie Mills is 61. Actor Matthew Modine is 59. Country musician Tim Beeler is 50. Actor-comedian Keegan-Michael Key is 47. Actor Will Yun Lee is 47. Olympic silver medal figure skater Elvis Stojko is 46. Actor Guillermo Diaz is 43. Actress Anne Dudek is 43. Actor Cole Hauser is 43. Actress Kellie Williams is 42. Actress Reese Witherspoon is 42. Rock musician John Otto (Limp Bizkit) is 41. Actress Tiffany Dupont is 37. Rapper Mims is 37. Actress Constance Wu is 36. Actor James Wolk is 33. Rock musician Lincoln Parish (Cage the Elephant) is 28.

Thought for Today: "Do not the most moving moments of our lives find us without words?" - Marcel Marceau, French mime (1923-2007).

Got a story or photos to share?

Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.

- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.

- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.

- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.

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

- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.

- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.



Paul Stevens
Editor, Connecting newsletter
paulstevens46@gmail.com

Connecting newsletter, [14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215](#)

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