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Connecting - April 30, 2018

1 message

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Mon, Apr 30, 2018 at 9:17 AM

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Connecting

April 30, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning!

Here's a suggestion from Ye Olde Connecting Editor:

Be an E-Clipper: If you see strong print play in your local newspaper for an AP story or photo, take a mobile phone picture of the page and email it to the bylined

writer or photographer. Our late colleague **Howard (Uniclipper) Graves** warmed many a heart when he did this by postal mail for years and years. This would be the photographic/electronic equivalent. Web pages don't do justice like print. Most AP email addresses are the first initial and last name of the journalist, followed by ap.org. If in doubt, send to me and I'll get it there.



Our colleague **Sue Price Johnson** is a Carolina Girl through and through. Her dad is a retired newspaper editor in Goldsboro, North Carolina, and Sue served members of North and South Carolina throughout her entire AP career.

She's the subject of today's Monday Q-and-A.

Balancing a demanding job and the responsibilities of parenthood is no easy task. Take a look at The Final Word for a remarkable story by Reuters' **Emma Thomasson**, a senior correspondent based in Berlin. Some of you have no doubt had similar experiences, and if you'd care to share, send them along to Connecting. It may well benefit others.

Have a great week!

Paul

Monday Q-and-A:

Sue Price Johnson



Sue and husband Joe Johnson

What are you doing these days?

These days, I'm spending much of my time helping my parents (Dad Gene Price is the retired editor of the Goldsboro News-Argus and mother Gloria Price has finally retired as a deacon in the Episcopal Church), who moved to Raleigh in February 2017. In my spare time, I make jewelry (blingandaprayer.com, Bling and a Prayer Store on Facebook and BlingandaPrayerStore on ETSY. And, of course, spend time with my dear husband Joe Johnson and the two poodle/Wheaten mixes who refilled our empty nest. I'm making a lot more jewelry than I've posted to my sale sites, and I've done a good amount of custom work.

Since "retiring" from the AP, thanks to the buyout a few years back, I've been writing occasionally for the AARP Bulletin (Thanks for recommending me, Sandy Johnson!) and did a two-year temp stint for the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

How did you get your first job with the AP? Who hired you? What were your first days like?

My first AP stint was a vacation relief job between my junior and senior years at East Carolina University. During college, I worked afternoons and alternate weekends (Skip Foreman worked the other weekend!) at the Daily Reflector in Greenville. One afternoon, then-Carolinas COB Joe Dill stopped by to see the editor and publisher and chatted with me. He suggested I take the AP test. Next thing I knew, I was loading up my 1963 Chevrolet Biscayne for Charlotte that June.

The day before I was due to report, I decided to check in. I parked and walked a while trying to find the address. The street number belonged to an insurance agency. I asked and was told to go down the sidewalk and into the basement through the back door. I entered and wound my way through a break room and a shop and then into a long office with WWII-era desks, a long row of teletypes and saw one man, typing. No one else in sight. "Hi. I'm looking for the AP office." Ralph Sprinkle: "Bad news. This is it."

I worked every trick in the house: three starting times each week: day broadcast, night broadcast, overnight, night editor, weekend day editor. I didn't sleep much, but it was so much fun I was sure of my future career path.

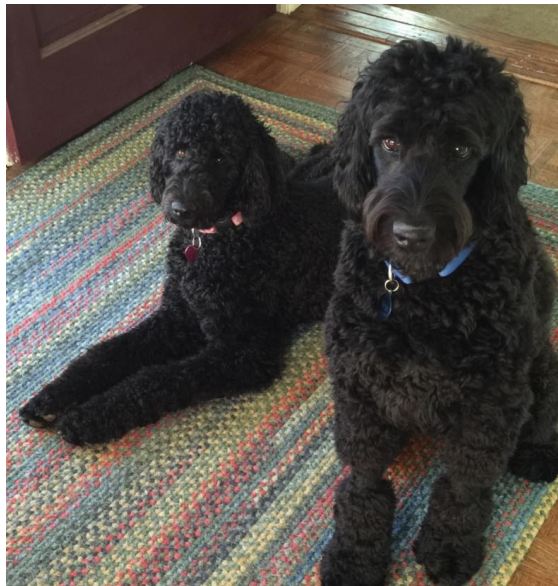
Who played the most significant role in your career and how?

It's interesting that as I read this question, my thoughts go instead to so many of the people I worked with, both locally and at a distance, and some of their spouses. Joe Dill, Dave and Pam Tomlin, John Lumpkin, Paul Freeman and his wife Carole. Ambrose and Alice Dudley. Sylvia Rector and Charles Hill. Charlotte Porter. Naomi Kaufman Price. Jody Taylor. Dick Brinster. Noel Yancey. Barbara King. Julie Dunlap and Paula Corey. Polly Anderson. Jimmy Ho. Dorothy Abernathy. John Shurr. Ed Bell. John Harris. Joel Brinkley. Evans Witt. Ted Anthony. Jessica Bruce. Tom Curley. Lou Boccardi. (Yes, sir, I know that's in the wrong order.) Andy Lippman. Glenn Stephens. Meghan Kinnard Hardee, Jeffrey Collins, Jim and Debra Davenport. Ruth Gersh. Elaine Hooker. Colleen Newvine Tebeau. MaryAnn Mrowca, Jim Clark, Kent Flanagan. Beth Grace, Steve Elliott, David Terrell-Wysocki. Wick Temple. Dan Day. Dennis Patterson. Fran Pionegro. Paul Stevens, Monte Plott, Evan Berland, David Scott. Dan Webster. Chuck Burton. Ed Staats. Sandy Johnson. Judy Gibbs Robinson. Lee Perryman. Julie March. Greg Olear. Dale Leach. Madhu Krishnappa. Walter and Fran Mears. Nancy Nussbaum. John Flesher. Mary Anne Rhyne. Bob Reid. Michelle Williams. Linda Deutsch. Bob Daughtry. John Daniszewski (who was stunned that I could spell his name. Think Coach K). Kim Gamel. Ed Tobias. Luis Taveras. Paul Robinson. Eva Parziale. Sally Hale. Margy McCay. Emery Dalesio. Gary Robertson, Aaron Beard. I learned something from these people and so many more.

What were your different past jobs in the AP, in order? Describe briefly what you did with each?

During my second temp stint, I met the late, great Sylvia Rector, who was then broadcast editor. Her then-future husband Charles Hill was a temp in Raleigh that same summer.

I left the AP in Charlotte for 9 months just as Joe Dill was moving to Minneapolis (He said to come visit in the summer. "We have summer on July 27.") and worked in Raleigh at NC State's news bureau. I was bored to tears. I was lucky enough to have the support of some broadcast members who encouraged me when I started making noises about going back. John Lumpkin was kind enough to bring me back on board. I was rehired as broadcast editor in Charlotte and stayed in a boarding house there until the bureau moved to Raleigh a few months later.



Lucy and Boo Johnson

I *loved* being broadcast editor and did it for 17 years. I thrived on chasing stories, trying new leads each hour, and editing print copy for others in the bureau.

I spent time as the AMs supervisor and doing some general assignment reporting as I was "resting" my right hand after carpal tunnel surgery. That rest came to a quick end when the Gulf War started and my task was to do North Carolina reporting for the coverage.

Eventually, I became news editor, an assignment that grew into acting chief of bureau just a year later when Ambrose Dudley was diagnosed with multiple myeloma and called to say: "It's all yours. I'm taking a year off to get well." (First act: complete the due-any-day-now budget, something I had never even seen before.) Joe Wheelan, who had just moved to the area from Denver, where he was news editor, eventually agreed to help part time. Ambrose came back, and we sort-of shared the job for a while.

Upon his retirement, I became chief of bureau for North Carolina and then, a year before my own retirement, I had South Carolina added to my responsibilities. The best things about chief duties were visiting members (who were, of course, great storytellers) and working election nights. Through the 2016 election, I was still called in to help with race-calling for North Carolina.

I loved the occasional trips for meetings with other broadcast editors, news editors and chiefs of bureau. Those times gave each of us a chance to share experiences and learn from others who did the same jobs.

What's your favorite hobby or activity?

I love making jewelry, which I learned to do by watching someone make a pair of earrings. I developed the skills by watching videos on YouTube. I most recently learned to knot pearls. Ah, so many beads. So little time. This is my favorite time of year: Durham Bulls baseball season. A longtime friend and I have a mini-plan for 9-10 home games each season. There's nothing else as fine as a summer night at the ballpark! And I have the joy to meet every Saturday with a group of girlfriends, including former APer Beth Grace, for coffee.

What's the best vacation trip you've ever made?

One of my favorite vacation trips was a solo road trip to the Amish country in Pennsylvania. My ex-husband had just remarried and took our daughter and his two stepdaughters along on a honeymoon to Disney World. I took a honeymoon with myself, staying at an old farmhouse/B&B and wandering around the countryside. Now, an AP connection: After a few days, my trip home included a night in Washington, DC. Joe Dill was in town teaching a class and we met for dinner and *way* too many drinks. The next day, I met him for brunch and a walk around Georgetown. Not long into the walk, I was begging for a spot in the shade and a pitcher or two of water. He started laughing. He said: "I know your father and I know he has a great sense of humor. But I'm not sure he'll think it's all that funny when I call to tell him that I took his daughter out drinking and she died." We both howled. It wasn't long after that that I learned my old friend and mentor had died. What a gift that little vacation detour had been.

Names of your family members and what they do:

Husband: Joe Johnson, the entire IT department at Holly Hill Hospital, a private, three-campus psychiatric hospital in Raleigh. Joe's previous career: 20 years in law enforcement, including stints as campus chiefs at UNC Charlotte and UNC Wilmington. (If our relationship is typical, cops and reporters are very much alike.)

Daughter: Sarah Wilson, 8-time Ironman, works at REI, volunteer for the Southern Arizona Rescue Association, EMT in training.

Stepdaughters: Dr. Brittany McIntyre, faculty and physician at Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro, NC; Jillian Johnson, manager at UnderArmour, Mebane.

Parents: Gene Price, editor, retired, Goldsboro News-Argus and also a retired member of NC Wildlife Resources Association board; Mother: Gloria Price, retired deacon, The Episcopal Church, Diocese of Eastern Carolina.

Siblings:

Bonnie Price West: manages the development database at the Salvation Army's division headquarters in Charlotte.

Chuck Price: Vice President of Product at TuSimple, an autonomous trucking startup with operations in California and Tucson, AZ.

John Price: Vice President/Solutions Architect/Enterprise IT Architecture at Wells Fargo.

Sue Price Johnson's email - sue.price.johnson@gmail.com

The story behind her interview session with Kathryn Johnson, Andrew Young



Kathryn Johnson and Andrew Young



Kathryn Johnson and Valerie Komor

Valerie Komor (Email) - I first met Kathryn Johnson in 2006 when we were in the final stages of editing *Breaking News: How the Associated Press has covered War, Peace and Everything Else*. Over the ensuing years, I visited Johnson in her midtown Atlanta home, getting to know her remarkable history, which had been, until then, unknown even among AP staff.

In 2016, AP published Johnson's short memoir, *Let Kathryn In*, focusing on Johnson's coverage of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his family during the period 1960 to 1968. When the book appeared, Johnson had just undergone back surgery and was not able to participate in public events, and she was very unhappy about that. We were so pleased this year to be able to collaborate with the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library in Atlanta to feature Kathryn in conversation about her civil rights coverage, which had included not only Martin Luther King, Jr. but also the integration of the University of Georgia at Athens, Freedom Summer, and Selma. Tony Clark, head of public programs at the center, pulled out all the stops. Peter

Costanzo, AP's head of Digital Publishing, sent 1,000 books down for Kathryn to sign after the program. The line was long!

At the last minute, we learned that Ambassador Andrew Young would be joining us on stage. It is not for just anyone that Young--an ordained Congregationalist minister, activist, congressman, diplomat and mayor, winner of the presidential Medal of Freedom--makes room on his schedule. He is now 85 years old and gets about on a red motorized scooter.

But for this lady, anything. He is Andy; she is Kathryn. They have been through the wars together. The rest is history.

Breaking news...

Double Kabul suicide bombing kills 25, including 9 reporters



Security forces run from the site of a suicide attack after the second bombing in Kabul, Afghanistan, Monday, April 30, 2018. A coordinated double suicide bombing hit central Kabul on Monday morning, (AP Photo/Massoud Hossaini)

By **RAHIM FAIEZ** and **AMIR SHAH**

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) - A coordinated double suicide bombing by the Islamic State group hit central Kabul on Monday morning, killing at least 25 people, including nine Afghan journalists, officials said.

An AFP photographer, a cameraman for a local TV station and several reporters for the Afghan branch of Radio Free Europe were among the fatalities, police said.

At least 45 people were wounded in the twin attacks, according to Kabul police spokesman, Hashmat Stanekzai, who also said four policemen were among those killed.

The attack was the latest in a relentless string of deadly large-scale bombings and assaults that have struck Kabul and elsewhere in Afghanistan so far this year. And even as the Afghan capital reeled from Monday's assault, a suicide car bombing a few hours later in the southern province of Kandahar killed 11 children, a police spokesman said.

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

Connecting mailbox

Brewer honored for post-retirement volunteer activities

John Brewer ([Email](#)) - COB in Seattle and Los Angeles, NY Membership executive, now retired in Port Angeles, Wash.) was one of six persons honored April 26 with the 2018 Clallam County (Wash.) Community Service Award for his post-retirement volunteer activities in several community groups and the work he put in to dramatically grow the Peninsula Home Fund, a community assistance program, when he was publisher-editor of the Peninsula Daily News in Port Angeles.

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



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AP-LA alum Solvej Schou sings about being proud woman, American, Jew and friend



Rachel Ambrose (left) and Solvej Schou

Rachel Ambrose ([Email](#)) - Associated Press alum Solvej Schou sang about being a proud woman, American, Jew and friend in an alternative rock set at the Eclectic Music festival in South Pasadena, California, on Saturday night.

She is raising money to put her inaugural album out on vinyl. She treated an enthusiastic crowd to nearly every song on the album. In the crowd were her husband, parents, old friends from the AP, and friends from her current employer, the ArtCenter College of Design in Pasadena, where she is a senior writer.

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Missouri degree led to only place wanted to work - The Associated Press

Herb Hemming ([Email](#)) - I am reminded of 1968 every morning when I put on my class ring from the University of Missouri. BJ, 68.

I loved my two years at Mizzou. I loved the photo editing nights at Cliff Edom's house, working on the Missourian, assisting professor Dick Canon, and having wonderful friends who were excited about a career in photojournalism. I had worked a couple of summers at the Pasadena Star-News and I knew there was only one place I wanted to work - The Associated Press.

Missouri had and probably still has a great placement office. Interviewers from many media outlets would come to Columbia to interview seniors. I only wanted one interview and that's all I had. Frank Gorrie, the Associated Press bureau chief in Kansas City, came to Columbia. He interviewed me, and then recommended me to Al Resch. I flew to Chicago to meet with Mr. Resch. I also remember meeting Sam Strollo who was in charge of the NY darkroom and Chicago photo editors Fred Wright and Ray Jefferies.

As Mr. Resch, Sam and I rode back to the airport in a cab, Mr. Resch turned to me and said, there's one question you haven't asked. That question was what does it pay? With a straight face, Mr. Resch said \$133 a week. I didn't care. I just said I'll take it. I still have the first AP paycheck.

Knowing living in New York City for \$133 a week would be a challenge, Mr. Resch connected me with Ken Kephart. Ken had just graduated from the University of Iowa

and was starting his AP career at the same time. We hit it off and rented a studio on West 45th Street. Shortly thereafter, Steve Starr was transferred to Albany and we took over for him managing a small apartment building across the river in New Jersey. I believe we each paid \$69 a month. I think the biggest part of managing the building was taking out the garbage cans.

I loved working for The AP because I felt I was surrounded by the legends of wire service photography. Some of the first jobs I was given, like stuffing pictures into an envelope to go to London, Rome, Frankfurt, etc. or finding pictures for TV stations were not terribly challenging, but there was always excitement in the air on the 4th floor at 50 Rock. The days of many smoking at their desks or occasionally passing out at their desks. I respected all of them and all of their knowledge. There are too many people to name, but I will never forget the help and support I got from Jack Schwadel, Pat McDonald, Henry Mecinski and Hal Buell.

So, for me, 1968 the end of one love affair and the start of another.

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AP reference in Sunday Times' crossword puzzle

G.G. LaBelle ([Email](#)) - Probably others have pointed out a reference to AP in the New York Times crossword puzzle on Sunday. But if not, here goes.

The somewhat convoluted theme of the puzzle was to take something well known by its initials, replace it with something different but with the same initials, then use the ending of the original phrase.

Here's one example:

Clue is "Where sailors recover from their injuries."

Answer: Physical Therapy Boats. Or PT Boats.

The AP comes in with the 55 across clue - "Goings on in accelerated classrooms."

The answer: Advanced Placement News. Or AP News.

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Self Publishing series continues... **Ready to self-publish? Here are 10 tips**

Jason Lockwood (Email) - Some time last year, I put together a top ten tips guide for prospective authors and clients. I kept it concise and to the point.

Click on the image at left to view the tips.

Drop a note to Joe if you would like any further information.



Click on image or [here](#) to view self-publishing tips.

AND...

Barry Sweet (Email) - A key factor in Self Publishing is to have a lawyer on hand who deals with publications. The biggest mistake I made when I published my book "Split Seconds," was to trust people including those at The Associated Press. I informed them about the book and asked permission to use some of my photos to which they agreed in writing at no charge. It was a fib. When they saw word of my book they decided they wanted to charge me per picture at an extremely high rate. All this happened after written permission for no fees. I did get a publication lawyer who stepped in for me and the result was an adjustment in the fee. I did do that after the lawyer said I would win my case in court however his cost would be more than my paying The Associated Press. So I took that option and paid.

Another thing to make sure of is to get a good proof reader and have someone outside your inner circle review the book for mistakes and possible false statements.

In whole, my book took me about 2 years to produce, I was happy with it and in fact it was on Amazon's best seller list for a few months and available for sale in most book stores and at Costco.

Be prepared for things not expected.

AND...

Walter Putnam ([Email](#)) - I'd like to second the recommendation of Createspace for self-publishing. The bottom line is hard to beat, and as Joseph Macenka noted the product has a direct placement line with Amazon and Kindle.

I have published four short novels using Createspace under the pen name Rome Collier (was still working for the AP when I started writing fiction) and did it at minimal cost because I did all my own editing and formatting. It's probably worth several hundred dollars for help with that, though. Some technical glitches remain in my Kindle versions.

AP style change: Two objects don't have to be in motion before they collide

By **KRISTEN HARE, Poynter**

The Associated Press announced a handful of stylebook changes, additions and some guidance on Friday, as it does every year at the annual conference of ACES, a copy editors' organization.

Some changes:

Today and tonight OK in some instances: "Use the day of the week, not today or tonight, in news stories. In news stories, use today or tonight only in direct quotations, and in phrases that do not refer to a specific day: Customs today are different from those of a century ago. In other types of writing, today, this morning, this afternoon and tonight are acceptable if using the day of the week would be awkward. For example, in an internal note Wednesday to company staff: Xin Chen took over as vice president for human resources today. In an external announcement: Xin Chen took over as vice president for human resources Wednesday."

Two objects now don't have to be in motion to collide: The previous entry stated "two objects must be in motion before they can collide. A moving train cannot collide with a stopped train." Now, "We dropped the previous rule that two objects must be in motion before they can collide. The entry has been deleted."

Read more [here](#).



AP lands elusive first interview with two black men arrested at Starbucks



Rashon Nelson, left, listens to a reporter's question as Donte Robinson looks on during an interview with The Associated Press, April 18, 2018, in Philadelphia. Their arrests at a local Starbucks quickly became a viral video and galvanized people around the country who saw the incident as modern-day racism. AP PHOTO / JACQUELINE LARMA

The arrest of two black men at a Starbucks in Philadelphia for sitting without ordering anything turned into a major crisis for the coffee chain and sparked a national conversation on unconscious bias and overt racism.

But the two men at the center of the controversy sought to maintain their privacy as they tried to make sense of the ordeal. They even moved to a hotel to hide out as the scandal unfolded - with the CEO of Starbucks flying to Philadelphia and requests coming in from all over for the men to talk. Their attorney put out only brief statements on their behalf, even after they met with the CEO.

Knowing the sit-down with the men was the essential get, Pennsylvania Editor Larry Rosenthal pressed their contact for an interview, noting one conversation with AP would relieve the pressure they were feeling from so many outlets circling. Errin Haines Whack, the AP's national race and ethnicity writer, followed up with a written pitch. She noted she was based in Philly and wanted to hear both their version of events and what they hoped to see moving forward. In the end, that sealed the deal.

Two black men arrested at a Philadelphia Starbucks where they were waiting for a business meeting tell AP they wonder how an everyday encounter could escalate into a police confrontation. <https://t.co/XmzJioGikN>

- The Associated Press (@AP) April 19, 2018

One week after their arrests, Errin was the first to sit down with the men for an extensive interview for text and still photos. (The men agreed to video for "Good Morning America" and we had a shared embargo).

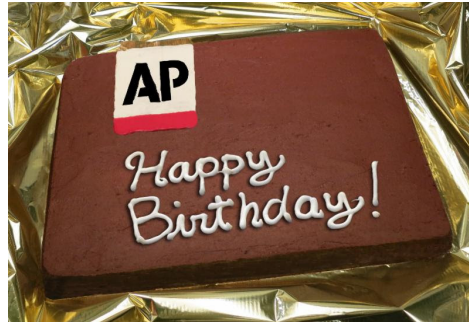
AP's text exclusive got monster play. In the four days after publication, it had more than 115,000 page views and impressive engagement of 1:11. It's worth noting more than 50 percent of the readers were first-time visitors to apnews.com. During that same period, the story also drew more than a quarter-million Facebook engagements, and has since surged well beyond that number.

The story was accompanied by photos by East photo editor Jackie Larma. Whack's audio of the interview enabled BNC's Stephen Valdivia to pull together sound and photos to finesse a video offering, above, from this exclusive access.

AP's text exclusive had more than 115,000 page views - and more than half the readers were first-time visitors to apnews.com.

For landing the critical interview and delivering it in multiple formats, Errin Haines Whack is this week's winner of Best of the States.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Ben Brown - babrown@charter.net

Dick Lipsey - richardiii.runner@usa.net

Sarah Wilson - show@rochsnet.com

Stories of interest

At the White House correspondents' dinner, the buzz was reduced to a snore - until Michelle Wolf showed up (Washington Post)

By PAUL FARHI

There were no sitcom actors. No Olympians or supermodels or Real Housewives, either. Even some of the usual high-profile media names were missing, too. And for the second consecutive year, so was the president.

The White House Correspondents' Association dinner on Saturday attracted about 3,000 journalists, random plus-ones and curious hangers on, but the usual buzz

around the event was reduced to something more like a snore.

The annual social rite of spring in Washington was less the government-meets-Hollywood-meets-the-press glitzfest of yore and more like a dressed-up Kiwanis Club dinner, albeit one televised live by CNN, MSNBC and C-SPAN.

This may have been President Trump's intent when he turned down an invitation to the dinner, making him 0 for 2 since his inauguration last year. Trump - who distilled his signature hostility toward the news media by branding them "the enemy of the people" - arranged to be out of town while the journalists and their guests partied.

Read more [here](#).

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For the sake of journalism, stop the White House correspondents' dinner (Washington Post)

By **MARGARET SULLIVAN**

The 2018 White House Correspondents' Association Dinner should be the last.

It never has been a particularly good idea for journalists to don their fanciest clothes and cozy up to the people they cover, alongside Hollywood celebrities who have ventured to wonky Washington to join the fun.

But in the current era, it's become close to suicidal for the press's credibility.

Trust in the mainstream media is low, a new populism has caught fire all over the Western world, and President Trump constantly pounds the news media as a bunch of out-of-touch elites who don't represent the interests of real Americans.

The annual dinner - or at least the optics of the dinner - seems to back him up.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

AND...

Michelle Wolf got it just right (Washington Post)

By MOLLY ROBERTS

"Thank you!"

That's how comedian Michelle Wolf answered Sean Spicer's declaration that her headlining stand-up set at the the White House Correspondents' Association dinner was "a disgrace." Her response is instructive: To Wolf, an insult from Spicer is an accolade - and accolades, surely, would be an insult. She's right.

Wolf managed Saturday night to scandalize the majority of Washington's tuxedo-clad intelligentsia with a barrage of bon mots that, in the eyes of much of the press and political establishment, weren't really so bon at all. The speech, these pundits have argued, wasn't amusing; it was lewd, and worse than that, it was mean.

Wolf faced particular criticism for (besides all that sex stuff) her satire of Sarah Huckabee Sanders, who apparently was a profile in courage for sitting still with pursed lips while someone told jokes about her - "to her face!" These commentators spun the strange narrative that Wolf went after Sanders for her appearance, when in reality Wolf's barbs centered on the press secretary's falsehood-filled performance on the White House podium.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

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Meet the pro-Trump PR Guy at the Center of the Mueller Probe - And Everything Else (Politico Magazine)



Photo - Eugene Gologursky/Getty Images for DuJour

By BEN SCHRECKINGER

What do the Mueller probe, the Eric Trump Foundation, Sinclair Broadcasting, Girls Gone Wild, Israel, Turkey, Sean "P. Diddy" Combs and Donald Trump's personal lawyer Jay Sekulow all have in common?

Ronn Torossian.

Earlier this month, the hard-charging New York PR man caught Washington's notice first when he announced in an op-ed that he had testified about his abortive dealings with Paul Manafort to a Washington grand jury convened by special prosecutor Robert Mueller, and then again when he emerged as the face of Sinclair Broadcasting's caustic PR counteroffensive to charges that it forces affiliates to air pro-Trump propaganda.

These were not Ronn Torossian's first brushes with Trump-era politics, and they won't be his last. Over the last decade and a half, the 43-year-old Torossian has made himself perhaps the most prominent practitioner of a brass-knuckled form of public relations, sought out for his relentless work ethic and his ruthlessness—especially when anyone gets in his way.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Michael Rubin.

The Final Word

As a bureau chief and a mum, I pushed myself too hard (Thomson Reuters)



By Emma Thomasson

"Mummy, smile!" My son tried to force the corners of my mouth up with his small, sticky fingers. I'm not sure exactly when I stopped smiling. But I knew I had a problem when I started going back to bed in the daytime to hide under the covers. Not on weekdays of course. Despite hitting bottom, I kept working. I was worried that if I stopped going into the office, I would really fall apart. So I kept putting on a happy face for the job. There were few smiles left for my family."

Why am I going public with this?

"Two years ago, I joined a scheme set up by Reuters journalists to offer support to colleagues suffering from stress and trauma. Through my own experience, I knew this wasn't just about war zones. Families and even offices can be battlegrounds too. Those problems might seem more mundane than the trauma experienced by frontline journalists, but can sometimes be as debilitating. I hope that by telling my story, I will encourage others not to suffer in silence, as I did for too long."

For years, work was almost everything to me. I joined Reuters as a trainee journalist straight after university, hoping to see the world. It paid off. I had postings as a correspondent in South Africa, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and back in Germany. I met Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu and Helmut Kohl. I learned new languages and covered thrilling breaking stories. I was lucky enough to find a partner - a fellow journalist - who was able to move with my career while also pursuing his own writing and activism. I thought I could have it all: a family and a high-powered job as that rarity among journalists - a woman bureau chief. I was wrong.

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

Today in History - April 30, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, April 30, the 120th day of 2018. There are 245 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 30, 1945, as Soviet troops approached his Berlin bunker, Adolf Hitler committed suicide along with his wife of one day, Eva Braun.

On this date:

In 1789, George Washington took the oath of office in New York as the first president of the United States.

In 1803, the United States purchased the Louisiana Territory from France for 60 million francs, the equivalent of about \$15 million.

In 1812, Louisiana became the 18th state of the Union.

In 1900, engineer John Luther "Casey" Jones of the Illinois Central Railroad died in a train wreck near Vaughan, Mississippi, after staying at the controls in a successful effort to save the passengers.

In 1939, the New York World's Fair officially opened with a ceremony that included an address by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In 1948, the Organization of American States was founded with the signing of its charter in Bogota, Colombia.

In 1958, Britain's Life Peerages Act 1958 allowed women to become members of the House of Lords.

In 1968, New York City police forcibly removed student demonstrators occupying five buildings at Columbia University.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon announced the resignations of top aides H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman, Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst and White House counsel John Dean, who was actually fired.

In 1975, the Vietnam War ended as the South Vietnamese capital of Saigon fell to Communist forces.

In 1988, Gen. Manuel Noriega, brandishing a machete, vowed at a rally to keep fighting U.S. efforts to oust him as Panama's military ruler.

In 1993, top-ranked women's tennis player Monica Seles was stabbed in the back during a match in Hamburg, Germany, by a man who described himself as a fan of second-ranked German player Steffi Graf. (The man, convicted of causing grievous bodily harm, was given a suspended sentence.)

Ten years ago: The Federal Reserve cut interest rates for a seventh straight time, reducing the federal funds rate a quarter-point to 2 percent. An avalanche in Italy's northwestern Alps killed five French ski-mountaineers.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama said he wanted more information about chemical weapons use in the Syrian civil war before deciding on escalating U.S. military or diplomatic responses, despite earlier assertions that use of such weapons would be a "game-changer." The FDA lowered to 15 the age at which females could buy the Plan B emergency contraceptive without a prescription, and said it no longer had to be kept behind pharmacy counters. Willem-Alexander became the first Dutch king in more than a century as his mother, Beatrix, abdicated after 33 years as queen.

One year ago: President Donald Trump said after North Korea's latest failed rocket launch that communist leader Kim Jong Un would eventually develop better missiles, and that "we can't allow it to happen"; in a taped interview broadcast on CBS' "Face the Nation," the president would not discuss the possibility of military action. Police shot and killed a 49-year-old man suspected of shooting seven people, one fatally, during a birthday pool party at an apartment complex in San Diego. "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" won the Daytime Emmy Award for best entertainment talk show, 20 years to the day that her character came out as gay on the sitcom "Ellen."

Today's Birthdays: Actress Cloris Leachman is 92. Singer Willie Nelson is 85. Actor Burt Young is 78. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden is 72. Movie director Allan Arkush is 70. Actor Perry King is 70. Singer-musician Wayne Kramer is 70. Singer Merrill Osmond is 65. Movie director Jane Campion is 64. Movie director Lars von Trier is 62. Former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper is 59. Actor Paul Gross is 59. Basketball Hall of Famer Isiah Thomas is 57. Country musician Robert Reynolds is 56. Actor Adrian Pasdar is 53. Rock singer J.R. Richards (Dishwalla) is 51. Rapper Turbo B (Snap) is 51. Rock musician Clark Vogeler is 49. Rhythm-and-blues singer Chris "Choc" Dalyrimple (Soul For Real) is 47. Rock musician Chris Henderson (3 Doors Down) is 47. Country singer Carolyn Dawn Johnson is 47. Actress Lisa Dean Ryan is 46. Rhythm-and-blues singer Akon is 45. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jeff Timmons (98 Degrees) is 45. Actor Johnny Galecki is 43. Singer-musician Cole Deggs (Cole Deggs and the Lonesome) is 42. Actor Sam Heughan is 38. Actor Kunal Nayyar is 37. Rapper Lloyd Banks is 36. Actress Kirsten Dunst is 36. Country singer Tyler Wilkinson (The Wilkinsons) is 34. Actress Dianna Agron is 32.

Thought for Today: "In America, getting on in the world means getting out of the world we have known before." - Ellery Sedgwick, American editor (1872-1960).

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.

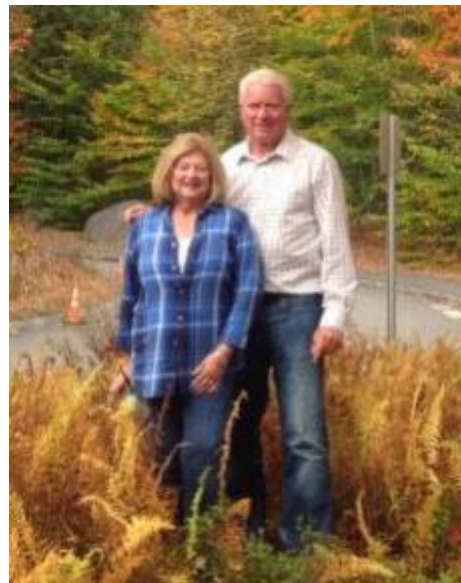
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **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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