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Connecting -- May 14, 2018

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Connecting

May 14, 2018

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Colleagues,

"Courageous" and "dedicated" are words that come to mind when describing our Connecting colleague **Kathy Gannon**.

She was nearly killed in an attack while covering the Afghanistan elections in 2014 and her close friend and AP colleague **Anja Niedringhaus** died in the back seat of their car.

After enduring 18 surgeries, Kathy returned to report from Afghanistan - and Pakistan - as the AP's senior correspondent for the two countries.

Kathy agreed to talk about her career, and what happened that fateful day of April 4, 2014, for Connecting's Monday Q-and-A Profile series. And to thank those who had her back and continue to do so.

Asked in the interview if she could do it all over again, what would she change? "I wouldn't change a thing," was her emphatic reply. Even in light of the shooting that cost her so dearly? "The answer to would you do it again is still yes," she said. "Anja and I did everything right when we went to Khost and knowing what we knew then we would do the same thing again."



Kathy Gannon

She makes me proud to have served in the same news company - and I suspect many of you feel the same.

We have a full plate of stories for you today including an account by **Bruce Richardson** of last Thursday's 25-Year Club celebration in New York headquarters, the first batch of memories to arrive on AP special correspondent **Hugh Mulligan**, and more.

But be sure you take time to read a first-person account by veteran AP Washington newsman **Matthew Lee** on being one of two journalists on Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's secret mission to North Korea. It was Matt's second such trip: 18 years ago, he and 80 other journalists accompanied Madeleine Albright on her historic trip to North Korea, the first-ever by a sitting secretary of state.

The story was shared by **Chris Connell**, who noted: "Every j school should have this on their must-read lists."

Have a great week!

Paul

Monday Q-and-A

Kathy Gannon



Interviewing workers at a junkyard in southern Kandahar where Afghans sold U.S. equipment that had been junked by the U.S. government at its bases. Afghans complained that they could have made more if the U.S. had not intentionally destroyed equipment like air conditioners. U.S. said it destroyed working equipment to prevent it from getting into the hands of insurgents, who could use parts for bomb making. Afghans said that basic equipment is available everywhere.

What are you doing these days?

These days I divide my time between Pakistan and Afghanistan and briefly New York. I am so very fortunate to be the AP's senior correspondent for Pakistan and Afghanistan. While I do some spot news I am mostly involved in larger-look pieces that try to tell the story behind the headlines, so many of which are just so very sad these days.

Where are you from and what were your beginnings in journalism?

I was city editor at the Kelowna Courier in Canada's beautiful Okanagan Valley but my hometown is Timmins, Ontario, just slightly south of James Bay and about 500 miles north of Toronto. It was once the country's largest gold mining town but our

real claim to fame after several amalgamations with small towns and hamlets nearby was that Timmins had more bars per capita than any other city in Canada! As well area-wise Timmins is the largest city in Canada - or it was - but most of that is bush. On the outskirts of Timmins, the "Welcome to Timmins" sign is immediately followed by a sign saying "Moose crossing". Also Timmins most recent claim to fame is its hometown girl Shania Twain. I studied journalism at Cambrian College in Sudbury and my first job was at the Timmins Daily Press, Roy Thomson of Fleet's very first newspaper!

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

My first job was as a stringer for the AP in northwestern Pakistan's Peshawar on the border with Afghanistan. I was freelancing at the time having left my steady employment at newspapers in Canada. It was 1987. At the time 150,000 Russian soldiers, then the Soviet Union's Red Army, were in Afghanistan propping up the communist government and Peshawar was the staging ground for the U.S-backed Afghan mujahedeen or as a Ronald Reagan liked to call them "freedom fighters" and who now are most often referred to as terrorists.

The bureau chief in Islamabad Bryan Wilder hired me as stringer and later as a local hire to fill the number 2 spot in Islamabad at the bureau - that was in August 1988. One of my first jobs was covering the plane crash of Gen. Zia-ul Haq whose death ended 11 years of military rule.

Since my arrival in Islamabad the stories have been endless and so very compelling - Benazir Bhutto took power, Russians left Afghanistan, mujahedeen took power, destroyed Kabul, Benazir was thrown out by the military, Taliban turfed out warring mujahedeen in Kabul, Pakistan exploded a nuclear device and on and on and on until today and the stories and people whose courage defines those stories has only become more compelling.



Anja Niedringhaus (center) and Kathy Gannon after completing an embed with the Pakistani army - one of the only journalists to do this. They spent days at their mountain outpost in northwestern Pakistan on the border with Afghanistan's northeastern Kunar province.

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

I was hired by AP in Pakistan and worked mostly between Pakistan and Afghanistan and was the bureau chief in the early 2000s. I went from local hire to New York hire while in Pakistan.

After doing a fellowship at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York in 2004 I returned to the region but was covering Central Asia for AP and also helping out in the Middle East covering the 2006 war in Lebanon as well as a stint on the war in Iraq but from northern Iraq. I went to Iran to cover the elections and to Yemen to meet former al Qaida people.

How was your life and career changed in the aftermath of the shooting in Afghanistan that left you with serious injuries and cost your friend and colleague Anja Niedringhaus her life?

The shooting took away Anja Niedringhaus, one of my closest friends, whose greatest gift was her enormous heart that defined her and defined the stunning images she immortalized, seeking always to show the strength and courage of others.

On the day of the shooting we were covering the presidential elections in a remote area of Afghanistan. We were inside a police compound and a police commander took an AK 47 assault rifle and emptied it into Anja and I as we sat alone, together in the back seat of our car.



Anja (left) and Kathy

I was hit with seven bullets and have had 18 surgeries and Anja with the same but two fatally struck her in the neck. Two bullets shattered my right shoulder blade and punctured my lung, another three bullets destroyed my left forearm and almost severed my left hand, which was barely attached and another bullet took out part of my right hand and another destroyed my right wrist.

The doctor who saved my life was an Afghan doctor at a small local hospital in Khost in Afghanistan. When he took me into surgery to stop the bleeding that was slowly killing me, he said "I just want you to know that your life means as much to me as it does to you." For me this doctor represents and characterizes most Afghans - NOT the shooter who was arrested on the spot and now is in jail serving 20-year sentence. Neither Anja's family nor I believe in the death penalty and did not challenge the shooter's appeal of the original death sentence he was handed. I had several surgeries in Germany and the remainder at the Hospital for Special Surgeries in New York.

My colleagues and friends at The Associated Press have shown me such tremendous kindness and support that gave me such strength during the most difficult of times. Patrick Quinn was a hero at the time, flying immediately to Kabul and holding my hand throughout the painful journey to Germany and Kim Gamel who navigated those first hours, days and Amir Shah, who got Hamid Karzai on the phone who petitioned the Americans to help get Anja and I to Kabul. Kathleen Carroll was protective and caring and Gary Pruitt gave me such tremendous gifts of kindness and support. I remember so well in the early days when he sought to put my mind at ease and said: "Kathy I just want you to know that we are with you for the long haul" and a long haul it has been. Thank you is just so inadequate to express the gratitude I feel toward my friends and colleagues at The AP. There are so many and just a few as well as Kathleen and Gary were John Daniszewski, Jessica Bruce, Susan Gilkey, and Vicki Cogliano, Susan Clark and Carol Joe Yen, just a few of the so many kind, kind hearts. When I returned to work, Dan Perry and the amazing editors in Cairo so kindly and so very patiently walked me through the many changes that had occurred in the filing of stories. I am forever grateful.

I took a year and a half break from surgeries in 2016 and the first half of 2017 to return to Pakistan and Afghanistan to be sure that I didn't see people differently, that fear was not clouding my vision. I couldn't tell their many stories if I saw them through a lens distorted by fear. When I returned I found just joy at being back and

felt the real privilege of being able to tell the story of so many truly courageous people in both countries - who live with loss and suffering with such strength and courage and yes, often with sadness. I am truly grateful to be able to do this job.



At a school in southern Kandahar showing young students how a blackberry phone works.

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

So many have played a significant role in my career beginning with my oldest brother Ed who was a brilliant person, and journalist in Canada but for me his greatest gift was the empathy he felt toward everyone he covered. He inspired me. So many AP colleagues helped me in my career I feel I could never do any of them justice and to name everyone the list would be unending. Just a few are: Amir Shah, Anja Niedringhaus, Bob Reid, Art Max, Lou Boccardi, Claude Erbsen, Sally Jacobsen, Kathleen Carroll, Tom Curley, Gary Pruitt, Bryan Wilder, John Daniszewski, Rahim Faiez - so very, very many who have shown me kindness and generosity of spirit to reach out at difficult and good times, to be there for support and for inspiration

Would you do it all over again- or what would you change?

I would do it all over again and I wouldn't change a thing!

What's your favorite hobby or activity?

My favorite thing to do is visit family and friends. I like quiet moments to read, to take time to breath and appreciate.

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

So many wonderful vacations with my husband Pasha or with my sister or other family members and friends. Feel very grateful.

Names of your family members and what they do?

My husband, Naeem Pasha, is a brilliant architect who has designed iconic buildings in Pakistan including the National Art Gallery. He has written a book of poetry and he paints and for 30 years operated one of Pakistan's leading contemporary art galleries. My stepdaughter, Kyla Pasha, is a remarkable poet whose wit and kindness is inspiring. She is right now working on completing her PhD. My sister Patricia Ann is a retired nurse whose empathy toward others is a precious gift of which everyone in our family benefits. She raised two children on her own with unparalleled strength. My brother Terry is retired from a demanding work in underground mining in northern Ontario in Canada where he was tireless and his work ethic inspiring. My nieces and nephews are all true treasures that I cherish and for whom I feel so thankful to have in my life.

Kathy Gannon's email is - kgannon@ap.org

Youngest granddaughter joins him at AP's 25-Year Club celebration

Bruce Richardson ([Email](#)) - I've been attending the dinner honoring AP'ers with more than 25 years of service for nearly 40 years but this one was extra special because my youngest granddaughter, Taylor Bera, got to go with me. Taylor just finished her second year at Montclair State in New Jersey with a double major in musical theater and in Computer Science.

Her older sister, Maggie, made the last two with me-the last one at the 33rd street location and the first one at 200 Liberty in the World Trade Center area-because my wife



Bruce and granddaughter Taylor

physically can't handle the trains and subways.

Actually, I should also point out that I haven't been in the 25-year club for the whole 40 years but got to go to dinners early in my career because of my "personnel department" connection.

This year's party was quite a treat. Got to see a number of my fellow "AP oldtimers." Taylor and I met up in the lobby with the Charlie Monzella, who organized many, many of the 25-year dinners in the past. Paul Mammino, longtime resident of the treasurer's office, and his spouse joined us in line waiting to register before heading up to the 19th floor reception.

Those hookups were just the beginning of renewing old acquaintances. Taylor, I think, got a kick hearing all of talk about the old days using ancient, slang-like terms: traffic department and traffic bureau chiefs, photo department, radio department, model 15 printers, operators and photo printers.

Emil Conrad, one-time Chief of Communications for New York City, was there. So was Jack Stokes, who penned the one of the last retiree newsletters, before retiring a few years ago. John Liotta, who got his 45-year pin last year before retiring, was there. And it was great visiting with Don Deibler, who is well remembered in finance and membership circles.

I was so happy that Bill Gillen and Adolphe Bernotas, two guys who I spent much time with over the years trying to negotiate new union contracts, were there. Adolphe and I both joined the AP the same year and we figured out that we'd have 51 years now if we hadn't decided to retire before hitting the 40-year mark. Actually, Lou Boccardi was in our "class" too, so he also would have hit 50 last year.

It was also great talking with Mike Harris, the retired longtime auto racing writer. He and I were both in the Chicago AP bureau in the late 60s.

There were many, many other longtime AP retirees at the dinner. I apologize that I didn't write them down and don't have the memory capacity I once did to mention them in this article.

A highlight of the night for me was being there so see longtime co-worker Evelyn Colucci-Calvert get her 45-year award from President Gary Pruitt. Evelyn was already in the "benefits department" when I managed it in the late 70s and early 80s.

Your memories of Hugh Mulligan

G.G. LaBelle ([Email](#)) - Here's a Hugh Mulligan memory for you. Hugh and I knew each other from my days on the general desk in New York. I moved to the Washington staff in 1979, and we were both part of the AP team that covered the Republican national convention in Detroit the following year.



Evelyn Colucci-Calvert and AP President Gary Pruitt. (Photo by Susan Clark)

Before I moved to Washington, I'd been mugged (knifed in the back, actually) on the street in New York, and that was the opening for a bit of Hugh humor delivered with his always perfect timing between his stutters.

He took great delight in introducing me to everyone he knew at the Detroit convention as "the only New York general desk staffer ever stabbed in the back (long pause here) ow-ow-ow-outside the office."

It got a bit annoying at the time after a while, but looking back now I remember it very fondly.

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Andy Lippman (Email) - Hugh Mulligan followed me like a leprechaun through my years as a COB. I was the one with all the luck when he accepted my invitations to speak. I always found a way to include Hugh in at least one state meeting in Kentucky, Indiana and California.

Hugh was particularly pleased when he heard I had arranged a golf partnership for him when he was speaking in Indiana. He was happy - until he learned that he was playing against Peter Ridder who was an excellent golfer. As Hugh tells it, "I worried about it all night and when we went to the putting green, I was even more worried because he kept hitting the ball in the hole.

"We got to the first tee, and suddenly there was lightning and then thunder, and then it began to rain. We had to run for cover and cancel the game. I didn't have to worry anymore. Now I know that G-d is Catholic."

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Hugh wanted to see the Kentucky Derby so I invited him to Louisville. He told me that he really liked the way the new bureau sports writer was hustling for a story. He went over to her and said, "Jane. I'm going to put you in my SOYT Club."

"What's that, Mr. Mulligan," Jane asked.

"Stamp Out Young Talent. That means young staffers who are going to be good enough to take my assignments."

While he was in Louisville, he met my parents and they bonded over Ireland. My parents went there 23 times and Hugh and my parents became great friends. My dad had a lemon tree in the backyard of his home in Arizona. Before every St. Patrick's Day, he sent Hugh a big box of lemons. Hugh told my parents that Brigid would use them for cooking and he would be using them for putting in his drink.

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Dan Day and I asked Hugh to come and speak one year at the Nevada Press Association in Elko - a town in the northeastern part of the state. He played golf, watched while members bowled, and then we took him on a tour of the town. Brendan Riley was driving and pointed out the local brothel. "Let me out," Hugh said. We told him there was no way. "I just want to say 'hello,'" Hugh said. We kept driving. I can only imagine Mulligan's expense account if we had stopped. His

expense account might have read: "Nevada Press Association-Expenses for hospitality room-who knows how many dollars."

RIP Hugh and Brigid

Connecting mailbox

Carl Craft an AP guy to the bone

Adolphe Bernotas ([Email](#)) - Regarding Friday's Carl Craft obit. My first AP boss in Concord. Of Midwestern sensibility, common sense and kindness, CCC was an AP guy to the bone.

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Russell McPhedran a great man, creative photographer

Robert Meyers ([Email](#)) - I knew Australia Photo Editor Russell McPhedran by phone and filing. He was a great man, a good photo organizer and a reliable and creative photographer.

I have reached out to former AP London based photographers and editors for stories that I will relay but two things come to mind when I think of him.

The first and foremost is his coverage of a coup in Fiji in 1987. I had joined AP in London in 1986 and this was among the first examples of incredible daring and danger in the field by photographers working alone and at risk. Russell was sending photos and talking at a whisper when he called in to make sure his photo transmissions had gotten through. Being there, taking photographs and transmitting them at great risk was dangerous enough, but all the while he was being hunted and hiding out to do his work. Years later we met in London and he still remembered and appreciated the support we gave him from the remote but crucial contact of London.

The second is the bellicose response to routine messages for coverage it was my duty to relay as they came in across time zones. Before email and text message we had the message wire. There was no delay in delivery. Russell was AP. The message wire was read by AAP, the affiliated Australian Associated Press. When I got calls from British members or European bureaus regarding coverage of Australian events, I had to send a request on the message wire. Usually this would be in the wee hours of the Australian night but there was no way to delay the message or leave it for someone else to send later. Inevitably, I would soon get a phone call from a rudely awakened and highly irate Russell McPhedran who would convey his indignation about being woken up in the middle of the night, sometimes obviously after a tube or two of libation, in an expletive driven tirade of abuse. No matter how I cautioned the AAP desk not to deliver the message until the morning Australia time, they always woke him up. I was surprised to learn from Connecting that Russell was born in Scotland because he always sounded like the quintessential Crocodile Dundee woken from his cups on a wild bender in the outback. RIP.

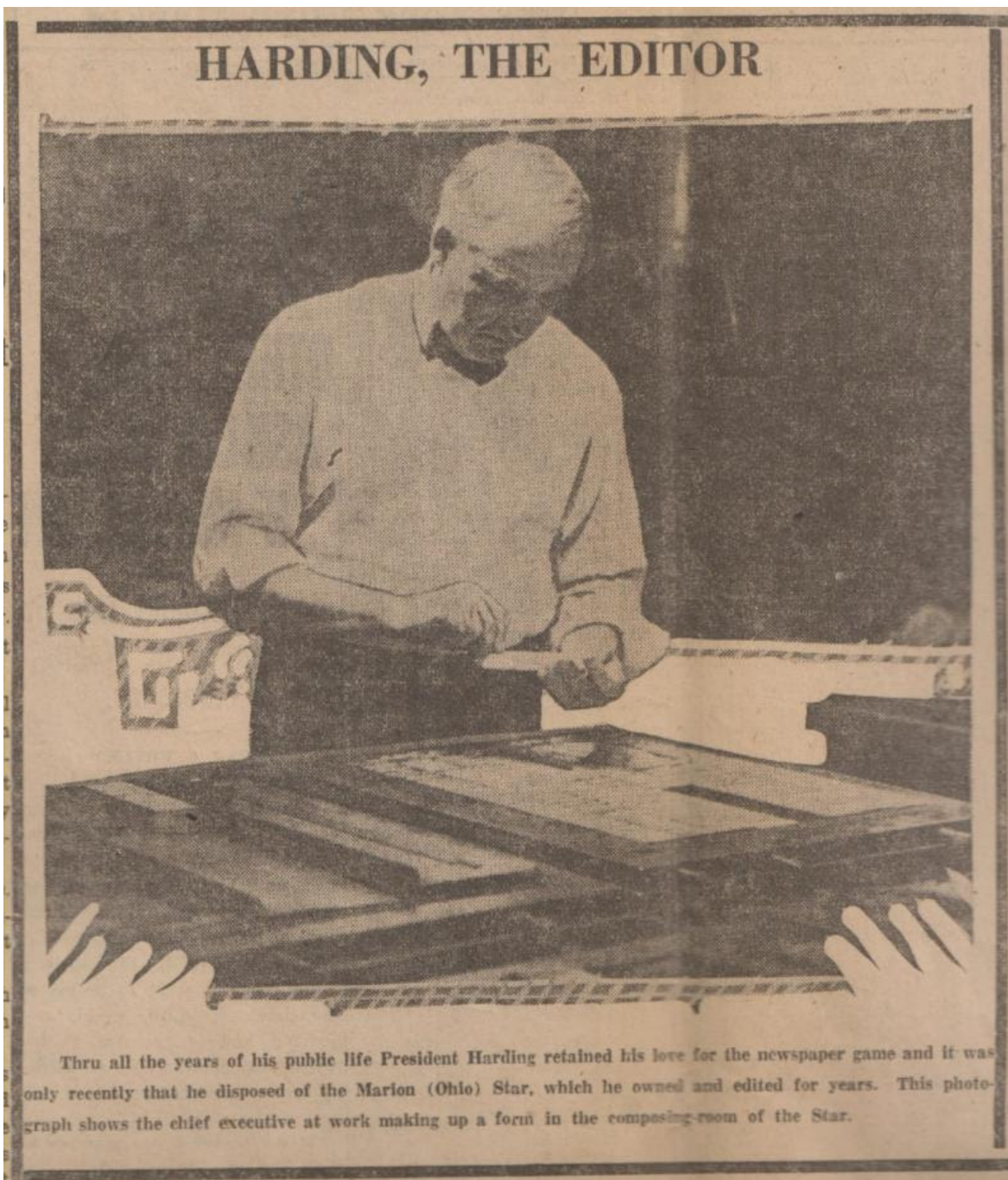
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The Germond Rule of fine dining on expenses

Carl Leubsdorf ([Email](#)) - Noting Beth Harpaz's note (in Friday's Connecting) about her dinner with Kendal Weaver who insisted that there was an old AP rule that the senior correspondent pays, they obviously don't know about the Germond Rule, which states that when reporters on expense accounts eat, they divide the bill evenly. Named for the late, great columnist and political reporter, Jack Germond, the Germond Rule enabled Jack to order expensive bottles of wine, knowing his colleagues would have to share the cost of his imbibing. But his company was worth it.

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A Journalist's Creed from a Dead President



Paul Albright (Email) - These are troubling and turbulent times for the news media. As attacks, dismissals, and distractions pile up, responsible journalists can benefit from all the moral leadership possible - even that emanating from a long-dead President.

That thought hit me as I examined a box of old newspapers that my grandmother (and later my uncle) began saving 100 years ago with Germany's surrender in World War I. As I browsed through one of the newspapers yellowed by age, I spotted a photo of a man "making up a form in the composing room of the Star." It was captioned "Harding, The Editor," and was published in the Denver Post Extra reporting the sudden death of President Warren G. Harding on August 2, 1923.

"Harding Death Stuns Nation," was the front-page banner followed by six pages (48 news columns) reporting developments, reactions, and tributes concerning President Harding. The Denver Post editors included the photo of Harding in the newspaper backshop with the caption: "Thru all the years of his public life President Harding retained his love for the newspaper game and it was only recently that he disposed of the Marion (Ohio) Star, which he owned and edited for years."

In recapping the "Life Story of the Dead President," the Post recounted Harding's newspaper years in Ohio, and thought it sufficiently important to reprint "his newspaper creed, which went to every reporter on the Star."

In reading Harding's creed 100 years later, it seemed to me to echo for today's journalists as well:

"Remember there are two sides to every question. Get them both. Be truthful. Get the facts. Mistakes are inevitable, but strive for accuracy. I would rather have one story exactly right than a hundred half wrong. Be decent, be fair, be generous. Boost, don't knock.

"There's good in everybody. Bring out the good and never needlessly hurt the feelings of anybody.

"In reporting a political gathering, give the facts. Tell the story as it is, not as you would like to have it. Treat all parties alike. If there is any politics to be played, we will play it in our editorial columns. Treat all religious matters reverently.

"If it can possibly be avoided, never bring ignominy to an innocent man, woman or child in telling of the misdeeds or fortunes of a relative.

"Don't wait to be asked, but do it without the asking, and above all, be clean and never let a dirty word or suggestive story get into type.

"I want this paper so conducted that it can go into any home without destroying the innocence of any child."

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A senator attends farewell party for Washington's Libby Quaid



Missouri Republican Sen. Roy Blunt stopped by a farewell celebration for Libby Quaid on Friday evening in Washington. Quaid covered Blunt while she was the AP Missouri-Kansas regional reporter from 1997 to 2004. Blunt, serving in the House at the time, rose in the GOP leadership from majority chief deputy whip (then-Sen. Kit Bond liked to tease that the title was whippety dip) to majority whip. Quaid interviewed Blunt weekly while she had the beat. The photo was taken by retired AP national writer Jim Kuhnenn, who had also covered Blunt as a reporter for The Kansas City Star and Knight Ridder.



Washington AP bureau staff gathered to say farewell to Libby Quaid: From left, Mary Pennybacker, Ken Guggenheim, Melinda Purce, Matt Yancey, Kevin Vineys, Mary Clare Jalonick, Carole Feldman, Seth Borenstein, Lauran Neergaard, Stephen Ohlemacher, Jim Drinkard, Anne Flaherty, Wayne Partlow, John Henry, Libby Quaid, Deb Riechmann, Jennifer Kerr, Jeff Horwitz, Lynn Berry, Chad Day, Denise Vance, Michael Biesecker, Monika Mathur, Maureen Linke, Magan Crane and David Ake. (Photo by Pablo Monsivais)

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AP's Sonya Ross to be honored by SPJ's DC Chapter

2018 Dateline Awards Dinner

Please join us in honoring longtime Associated Press editor Sonya Ross, NBC4/WAMU reporter Tom Sherwood, and NPR correspondent Robert Siegel as they are inducted as members of our Hall of Fame.



The criterion for membership in the Hall of Fame is simply this: strong journalism over at least 25 years in Washington.

Sonya Ross (@sonyagal) has been with the Associated Press since landing an internship in 1986. She was a general assignment reporter and then a legislative reporter in Atlanta before coming to Washington in 1992 as AP's Urban Affairs Reporter. She later spent six years as an AP White House

Sonya Ross

Reporter during the Clinton and George W. Bush administrations. She became World Services Editor in 2002 and News Editor - Regionals in 2004. Five years later, Ross took her present job as the wire service's Race & Ethnicity Editor.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bill McCloskey.

Traveling with Pompeo on secret mission to North Korea



Secretary of State Mike Pompeo arrives at Pyonyang, North Korea airport on Wednesday, May 9, 2018. It began with quiet words from State Department officials: Apply for a new passport immediately. You may soon be going to a country for which ordinary U.S. passports are not valid for travel. (AP Photo/Matthew Lee, Pool)

By MATTHEW LEE

WASHINGTON (AP) - It began with quiet words from State Department officials: Apply for a new passport immediately. You may soon be going to a country for which ordinary U.S. passports are not valid for travel.

Vague as it was, the instruction to two reporters last Friday left little doubt about our mystery destination: North Korea.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo had visited the capital, Pyongyang, in complete secrecy while he was still CIA chief in early April to set the stage for an unprecedented summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Now, Washington was abuzz with rumors that he would be heading back soon to finalize details for the summit and bring back three U.S. citizens who had been held by North Korea for more than a year for alleged anti-state activities.



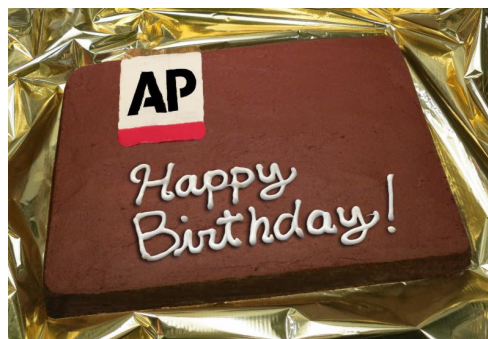
Matthew Lee

It would turn out to be my second visit to the isolated, authoritarian nation. Eighteen years ago, I had accompanied Madeleine Albright on her historic trip to North Korea, the first-ever by a sitting secretary of state - a highly choreographed and publicized two-day affair covered by some 80 journalists.

But this was something completely different: an under-the-radar, secret mission with only two American reporters as independent witnesses.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Chris Connell.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Brian Carovillano - bcarovillano@ap.org

Welcome to Connecting



Dennis Passa - dpassa@ap.org

Stories of interest

This Is How a Newspaper Dies (Politico)

By JACK SHAFER

For a preview of the newspaper industry's coming death, turn your gaze to Colorado, where the withering and emaciated Denver Post finds itself rolling in profits.

The Post's controlling owner, "vulture capitalist" Randall Smith, has become journalism's No. 1 villain for having cheapened and starved not just its Denver paper but many of the titles-including the St. Paul Pioneer Press, the San Jose Mercury News and the Orange County Register-that his firm, Alden Global Capital, operates through the Digital First Media chain. At the Post, Smith's firm cut the newsroom from 184 journalists to 99 between 2012 and 2017, Bloomberg News' Joe Nocera writes. Over the same time, Smith's Pottstown Mercury fell from 73 journoes to 10 while its Norristown Times-Herald went 45 to 12. And the cuts just keep on coming. For newspaper lovers, the cuts have been a disaster.

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

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When Spies Hack Journalism (New York Times)

By Scott Shane

WASHINGTON - For decades, leakers of confidential information to the press were a genus that included many species: the government worker infuriated by wrongdoing, the ideologue pushing a particular line, the politico out to savage an opponent. In recent years, technology has helped such leakers operate on a mass scale: Chelsea Manning and the WikiLeaks diplomatic cables, Edward Snowden and the stolen National Security Agency archive, and the still-anonymous source of the Panama Papers.

But now this disparate cast has been joined by a very different sort of large-scale leaker, more stealthy and better funded: the intelligence services of nation states, which hack into troves of documents and then use a proxy to release them. What Russian intelligence did with shocking success to the Democrats in 2016 shows every promise of becoming a common tool of spycraft around the world.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen, Claude Erbsen.

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'A newspaperwoman till the day she died': Pioneer woman journalist for The Star dies (Kansas City Star)

BY MAX LONDBERG

A groundbreaking journalist who was among the first women to work as a reporter for The Kansas City Star died last month.

Mizzell "Mitzi" Phillips Clark was 92. She died April 15 of natural causes near Portland, Ore.

Mitzi Clark was hired at The Star shortly before World War II ended in 1944, and her son believes that other journalists serving overseas may have given his mother an opportunity at the newspaper.

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

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Mitzi Clark interviewing actor Edward G. Robinson.

(MORE) guided journalists during the 1970s media crisis of confidence (CJR)

By KEVIN LERNER

FOR THE EIGHT YEARS OF ITS EXISTENCE, (MORE): A Journalism Review flummoxed copy editors. Launched in 1971 by Richard Pollack, J. Anthony Lukas, and William Woodward III, the publication sought to bring a downtown sensibility to national newsrooms-to break up the ossified culture of the elite media. The name was a play on the marking at the bottom of a page of typed copy, indicating that there was another page to follow; as a journalism review, it implied there was more to the story of the press than most people were getting.

The founders of (MORE) saw the mainstream American press as stagnant, conservative, and unwilling to examine themselves at a time when the country was convulsing with social movements and the public was losing confidence in institutions. The United States had been in a seemingly endless war with Vietnam, and reporters such as David Halberstam, Seymour Hersh, and I.F. Stone had begun to question the official narratives that people in positions of power had been feeding to the press. (MORE) was not the first journalism review in the US (this publication predates it by a decade), but it did do something new and different: It questioned the objectivity that the New York press had long held onto. And it ended up chronicling one of the most eventful and transformative decades in American journalism.

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

The Final Word

Why Do Journalists Call What They Produce 'Pieces'?

By BEN YAGODA

The Chronicle of Higher Education

My friend Jim Ericson, a frequent watcher of cable-news shows on which print journalists are guests, has a complaint about their use of the word piece when they talk about their work products. The problem, he says, is "that such a flattering, self-referential thing - in the way it rolls off the lips of Beltway intelligentsia (of which I was once a small part) - keeps turning up like a cheap, fashionable trinket in peer discourse among D.C. wags and dilettantes. Everyone is wearing the same nondescript thing!"

He's right that piece is ubiquitous. To quote just one example, a public-radio correspondent said this to another on the air on May 8, in reference to a magazine article about New York's disgraced attorney general: "So The New Yorker talked with four women - two anonymously, two named in the piece."

I get the point that piece, which is used not only for writing but also for musical, artistic, and theatrical ("the villain of the piece") compositions, can suggest self-conscious self-deprecation in the service of self-aggrandizement. And Jim's not the only one who is unenamored of the word. A magazine-editor friend says, "Where I work, there was a time when we were asked to avoid piece because it's journalism jargon." But I've used it as long as I can remember in my career as a journalist and editor, and I'm not going to stop now. To me its catchall usefulness outweighs any objections.

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

Today in History - May 14, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, May 14, the 134th day of 2018. There are 231 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 14, 1948, according to the current-era calendar, the independent state of Israel was proclaimed in Tel Aviv by David Ben-Gurion, who became its first prime minister; U.S. President Harry S. Truman immediately recognized the new nation.

On this date:

In 1643, Louis XIV became King of France at age four upon the death of his father, Louis XIII.

In 1796, English physician Edward Jenner inoculated 8-year-old James Phipps against smallpox by using cowpox matter.

In 1804, the Lewis and Clark expedition to explore the Louisiana Territory as well as the Pacific Northwest left camp near present-day Hartford, Illinois.

In 1900, the Olympic games opened in Paris as part of the 1900 World's Fair.

In 1925, the Virginia Woolf novel "Mrs Dalloway" was first published in England and the United States.

In 1942, Aaron Copland's "Lincoln Portrait" was first publicly performed by the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

In 1955, representatives from eight Communist bloc countries, including the Soviet Union, signed the Warsaw Pact in Poland. (The Pact was dissolved in 1991.)

In 1961, Freedom Riders were attacked by violent mobs in Anniston and Birmingham, Alabama.

In 1968, John Lennon and Paul McCartney held a news conference in New York to announce the creation of the Beatles' latest business venture, Apple Corps.

In 1973, the United States launched Skylab 1, its first manned space station. (Skylab 1 remained in orbit for six years before burning up during re-entry in 1979.) The National Right to Life Committee was incorporated.

In 1988, 27 people, mostly teens, were killed when their church bus collided with a pickup truck going the wrong direction on a highway near Carrollton, Kentucky. (Truck driver Larry Mahoney served 9 1/2 years in prison for manslaughter.)

In 1998, Frank Sinatra died at a Los Angeles hospital at age 82. The hit sitcom "Seinfeld" aired its final episode after nine seasons on NBC.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush opened a celebratory visit to Israel, which was marking the 60th anniversary of its birth. Former rival John Edwards endorsed Barack Obama for the Democratic presidential nomination during a surprise appearance at a rally in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Interior Department declared the polar bear a threatened species because of the loss of Arctic sea ice. Justine Henin (EH'-nen), 25, became the first woman to retire from tennis while atop the WTA rankings.

Five years ago: In an op-ed appearing in The New York Times, Oscar-winning actress Angelina Jolie said she'd undergone a preventive double mastectomy after learning she carried a gene that made it extremely likely she would get breast cancer. Flamboyant huckster Billie Sol Estes died in DeCordova Bend, Texas, at age 88.

One year ago: Emmanuel Macron (eh-mahn-yoo-EHL' mah-KROHN') swept into office as France's new president, pledging to fortify the European Union, redesign French politics and glue together his divided nation. Five days after South Korea elected a president who expressed a desire to reach out to North Korea, Pyongyang sent a challenge to its rival's new leader by test-firing a ballistic missile. Actor Powers Boothe died in Los Angeles at age 68. Kara McCullough, a 25-year-old scientist working for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and representing the District of Columbia, was crowned Miss USA at the pageant in Las Vegas.

Today's Birthdays: Photo-realist artist Richard Estes is 86. Actress Dame Sian Phillips is 85. Former Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., is 76. Movie producer George Lucas is 74. Actress Meg Foster is 70. Movie director Robert Zemeckis is 67. Rock singer David Byrne is 66. Actor Tim Roth is 57. Rock singer Ian Astbury (The Cult) is 56. Rock musician C.C. (aka Cecil) DeVille is 56. Actor Danny Huston is 56. Rock musician Mike Inez (Alice In Chains) is 52. Fabrice Morvan (ex-Milli Vanilli) is 52. Rhythm-and-blues singer Raphael Saadiq is 52. Actress Cate Blanchett is 49. Singer Danny Wood (New Kids on the Block) is 49. Movie writer-director Sofia Coppola (KOH'-pah-lah) is 47. Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen is 46. Actor Gabriel Mann is 46. Singer Natalie Appleton (All Saints) is 45. Singer Shanice is 45. Actress Carla Jimenez is 44. Rock musician Henry Garza (Los Lonely Boys) is 40. Alt-country musician-singer Ketch Secor is 40. Rock singer-musician Dan Auerbach is 39. Rock musician Mike Retondo (Plain White T's) is 37. Actress Amber Tamblyn is 35. Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg is 34. Actress Lina Esco is 33. NFL player Rob Gronkowski is 29. Actress Miranda Cosgrove is 25.

Thought for Today: "The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity." - Dorothy Parker, American author, humorist, poet (1893-1967).

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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