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## Connecting -- May 24, 2018

1 message

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Thu, May 24, 2018 at 9:14 AM

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# Connecting

May 24, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

Two of you have answered the call in Wednesday's Connecting to write about someone now departed who was most influential in your career - as the Memorial Day holiday approaches.

I look forward to hearing from you with your own thoughts on a mentor special to you.

Today's issue brings you a family story from **Ted Bridis**, investigative news editor in the AP's Washington bureau and a proud dad whose son Trey excels in baseball. What I like most about the story is how Ted handles a demanding job but finds time for family. I tried to do the same in my career - as I know many of you did. The chance to raise kids only comes around once.

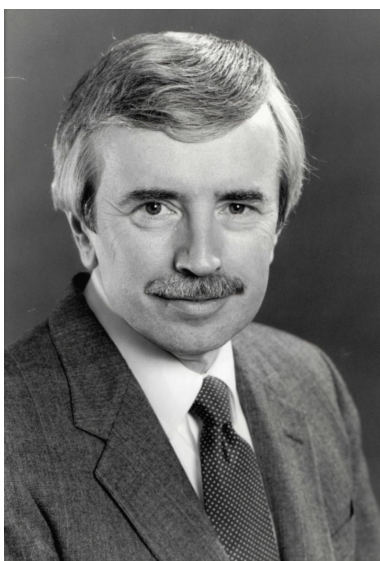
Have a good day!

Paul

## Connecting series: The biggest influencers in our careers

### *Remembering Wick Temple*

**Andy Lippman** ([Email](#)) - A Jewish tradition is to light a candle on the anniversary of the day a loved one died.



**Wick Temple**

Every year, I light a candle on either the day or the Sabbath anniversary of the death of Wick Temple. I really don't need a candle to remember Wick's friendship and mentorship. Wick shepherded my career - whether it was helping me get appointed as correspondent in Cincinnati - to acting as a sounding board, counselor, confessor, professional father and friend.

Wick fulfilled a promise he made to me and came to a state meeting soon after his first treatments for cancer. Wick was the luncheon speaker on a boat cruise, and spoke with members before and afterwards. He could hardly speak by the time we got to the car, but he just kept sipping water to cool his throat. We were on a boat, or I would have gotten him out.

The candle is just another way to show him that I still feel the same way about him and that his spirit is still alive in me.

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## ***Remembering Joe and Eda McGowan***

**Joe McGowan** ([Email](#)) - Always at Memorial Day, we have many memories. I have special fond memories of my father, Joe Sr. and my mother, Eda. My dad taught me more journalism than I learned at the university. He insisted on proper spelling, proper writing, and fairness to the customers of his small weekly newspapers. And my mother was always at his side, usually running the office, ordering supplies, and proof reading. Both of them struggled heavily, trying to raise three children during the depths of the depression. But they managed.

## **Judge: President can't block critics on Twitter**



**FILE - This April 3, 2017, file photo shows U.S. President Donald Trump's Twitter feed on a computer screen in Washington. President Donald Trump violates the U.S.**

**Constitution's First Amendment when he blocks critics on Twitter for political speech, a judge ruled Wednesday, May 23, 2018. (AP Photo/J. David Ake, File)**

**By LARRY NEUMEISTER**

NEW YORK (AP) - A federal judge ruled Wednesday that President Donald Trump is violating the First Amendment when he blocks critics on Twitter because of their political views.

U.S. District Judge Naomi Reice Buchwald in Manhattan stopped short in her written decision of ordering Trump or a subordinate to stop the practice of blocking critics from viewing his Twitter account, saying it was enough to point out that it was unconstitutional.

"A declaratory judgment should be sufficient, as no government official - including the President - is above the law, and all government officials are presumed to follow the law as has been declared," Buchwald wrote.

The judge did not issue an order against Trump, and the plaintiffs did not ask for one. But in cases like this, plaintiffs can, in theory, go back and ask for such an order, and if it is not obeyed, the violator can be held in contempt.

Buchwald said she rejected the assertion that an injunction can never be lodged against the president but "nonetheless conclude that it is unnecessary to enter that legal thicket at this time."

Read more [here](#).

**Trey Bridis, son of Washington bureau's Ted Bridis, wrapping up his college baseball career with a bang**



Trey and his dad

**Ted Bridis** ([Email](#)) - Trey Bridis, the 21-year-old son of Washington investigative news editor Ted Bridis, is wrapping up his NCAA Division I college baseball career

with a bang. The senior centerfielder and leadoff hitter at Youngstown State in Ohio was named Collegiate Baseball's National Player of the Week, Horizon League Batter of the Week and College Madness Horizon League Player of the Week in his final week of the regular season, and heading into the post-season the league selected him as its 1st Team All Conference centerfielder. Trey was hitting .307 and among the Top 10 players in the conference in eight hitting categories, including 13 home runs (2nd), 42 walks (1st), 49 runs scored (4th), .559 slugging (4th), 60 hits (6th), 13 stolen bases (7th). His 13 home runs is the second-most in a single season in his school's history. Trey was first YSU player named to the all-conference 1st Team since the league selected Trey's former roommate, a centerfielder who was drafted in 2015 by the Chicago White Sox.

Ted's office in AP's Washington bureau is decorated with bats, baseballs and a glove from his son's career over the years.



**Trey, 7, as Little Leaguer**

Ted moved to Washington for the AP when Trey was 2 years old and despite a heavy AP workload in one of the busiest bureaus, he has coached Trey's teams through Little League (two state championships), a nationally ranked travel team (ages 10-14) and a high school team that twice made appearances in Virginia's state championship tournament. Trey was the No. 8th-ranked outfielder in Virginia in high school. Two of Trey's high school teammates, both pitchers, have already been drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Milwaukee Brewers. For years after work, Ted would fly south into Virginia on Interstate 95 with baseball buckets and hitting tees in his car's trunk, head to the fields, change clothes in the parking lot for practices or games and be home well after dark. He's edited more than a few AP stories on a laptop while sitting on a bucket of baseballs inside a dugout.

Baseball has provided Trey, Ted and the family some wonderful opportunities and experiences, including Trey's generous college scholarship in Ohio; watching the Penguins beat Ted's and his wife's SEC alma-mater, the University of Missouri; a home run over the scoreboard at Pitt earlier this year hit more than 450 feet; travel all over the U.S. and more. Trey played a three-game series against Cuba's national team on the island in summer 2016 on a seven-day trip sponsored by the State Department and the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League. Last summer Trey won the championship in the Prospect League, featuring top college players from around the U.S. on 10 teams in five states (Trey hit .292 over 212 at bats).

College athletics is turning out to be a family affair, too. Ted's daughter, Alyx, just completed her freshman year on the women's dive team at George Mason University in the Atlantic 10 Conference. Alyx, 18, was a nationally ranked gymnast,

and competed in the Virginia state championships in high school in diving and cheerleading.

## Connecting mailbox

### *A car motor running*

**Eileen Lockwood (Email)** - Here's a little addition to Bruce Lowitt's note about parking at a ballgame with the car motor running. The same thing happened to us some years ago at a Milwaukee Brewers game. We had picked up another couple. Husband George, then of the Milwaukee Journal, was engaged in an interesting conversation as we pulled into the lot. Bottom line: motor, on a full tank of gas, running throughout the game. Always the picky minutia bug, I later calculated that one-fourth of the gas made "the ultimate sacrifice."

### *AP Television crew among journalists*

## Foreign media depart on train for North Korean nuclear site



A man watches a TV screen showing file footage of U.S. President Donald

**Trump, right, and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, left, during a news program at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, Wednesday, May 23, 2018. North Korea on Wednesday allowed South Korean journalists to join the small group of foreign media in the country to witness the dismantling of its nuclear test site this week, Seoul officials said. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)**

WONSAN, North Korea (AP) - A group of foreign journalists departed by train Wednesday to watch the dismantling of North Korea's nuclear test site after eight reporters from South Korea received last-minute permission to join them.

The remote site deep in the mountains of the North's sparsely populated northeast interior is expected to have a formal closing ceremony in the next day or two, depending on the weather. The closing was announced by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un ahead of his planned summit with U.S. President Donald Trump next month.

The train trip was expected to take 8-12 hours, followed by several hours on a bus and then an hour hike to the site itself.

The journalists were put in sleeping cars on the train, four bunks to a compartment. The compartments had windows covered with blinds, and the journalists were told not to open the blinds during the journey.

Read more [here](#).

## **Azerbaijan separatist region aims to end solitude**





**In this Friday, May 11, 2018, teenagers taking a course at TUMO, an after-school training center, in Stepanakert. (AP Photo/Thanassis Stavrakis)**

## **AP Images blog**

Most of the world is off-limits to Arshak Aghakaryan, a 14-year-old boy in the Azerbaijani separatist region of Nagorno-Karabakh. The rows of gleaming computers at an after-school training center feed his hopes that he has a place in it.

The privately funded TUMO Center for Creative Technologies, which teaches subjects such as robotics and 3-D modeling, epitomizes the aspirations in the region to emerge from the isolation that has cloaked it for more than two decades. Nagorno-Karabakh has been under the control of ethnic Armenian forces backed by Armenia since the end of a 1994 war.

Armenia's new government has raised hopes here that a breakthrough could come, or at least bring more investment.

Nagorno-Karabakh's 150,000 people don't hold Azerbaijan passports and can travel only to Armenia, unless they apply for Armenian passports. The mountainous region's self-declared sovereignty isn't recognized by any country. With trade, travel and educational opportunities limited, the region's youth are in danger of falling behind.

TUMO's goal is to "level up an entire generation," said Korioun Khatchadourian, who moved from France to direct the Stepanakert branch of the Yerevan, Armenia-based center. "They will need to be multi-skilled, and techie and artsy, so that they can compete on the marketplace tomorrow."

Read more [here](#).

## Facebook puts newspapers' promotions of news stories on politics into same category as posts of political advocates

By AL CROSS

For more than a year now I have been warning journalists, and supporters of journalism's role in democracy, that journalism is under threat -- from forces that don't fully understand that role, or fear it. Now there is a new threat, apparently driven by lack of understanding and appreciation of our role by people running the world's primary information platform, Facebook.

Today, the leading social-media network is scheduled to implement a new policy that will undercut the ability of major newspapers, the primary finders of fact in our democratic republic, to promote their work and compete with less reliable sources of information.

The policy will "treat ads promoting political news coverage the same as political advocacy ads," report Mike Snider and Jessica Guynn of USA Today. For the sake of "combating the spread of political misinformation, all Facebook ads featuring political content will get a 'Paid for by' label and carry a disclaimer. . . . These political messaging labels would also appear on 'sponsored' posts that news organizations buy to amplify the reach of an article or video on the political news of the day."

Read more [here](#). Al Cross is a Connecting colleague and Director, Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues.

# Welcome to Connecting



Steve Hendren - [steve.wmw@gmail.com](mailto:steve.wmw@gmail.com)

Stan Berry - [stanb82@excite.com](mailto:stanb82@excite.com)

## Stories of interest

***'This deepening division is not inevitable': The failing diversity efforts of newsrooms*** (CJR)

By Farai Chideya

THE STAFFING OF THE AMERICAN NEWS MEDIA has never reflected the diversity of the nation.

For most of the country's history, Latino and non-white journalists were not welcomed in white-run newsrooms. Instead, they produced content which shed light on issues the white press was ignoring through their own news outlets. In the 1890s, journalist Ida B. Wells covered lynchings that mainstream news outlets overlooked. In the 1950s and 1960s, with only a few black journalists in their newsrooms, newspapers and television networks struggled to cover the Civil Rights movement.

In response, and against the backdrop of cities burning in what were then called "race riots," President Lyndon B. Johnson convened the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, popularly known as the Kerner Commission. Among the 1968 report's broader findings, key sections criticized news coverage of race and politics, pointing to the lack of diversity in America's newsrooms. "Our second and fundamental criticism," the report states, "is that the news media have failed to analyze and report adequately on racial problems in the United States, and, as a related matter, to meet the Negro's legitimate expectations in journalism." Of particular note is the idea that all citizens have a right to "legitimate expectations" that their communities will be covered thoroughly and fairly.

This year, half a century later, while we are commemorating prominent Civil Rights-era events, including the the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., questions persist about newsroom staffing. The American Society of News Editors' stated goal in 1978 to steadily bring newsroom diversity numbers to parity with national averages has not been met, despite the demographic shift in America's racial and ethnic makeup. The ASNE's annual newsroom diversity survey shows that Latino and non-whites made up 12 percent of newspaper editorial staff in 2000, and by 2016 that figure had edged up only slightly, to 17 percent. The US population is currently 38 percent Latino or non-white, more than double the percentage found in newsrooms.

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

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## ***Here's who owns everything in Big Media today*** (recode0

**By Rani Molla and Peter Kafka**

The media landscape used to be straightforward: Content companies - studios - made stuff - TV shows and movies - and sold it to pay TV distributors, who sold it to consumers.

Now things are up for grabs: Netflix buys stuff from the studios, but it's making its own stuff, too, and it's selling it directly to consumers. That's one of the reasons older media companies are trying to compete by consolidating. And new distributors like Verizon and AT&T are getting in on the action. AT&T, for instance, wants to merge with Time Warner.

Meanwhile, giant tech companies like Google, Amazon and Apple that used to be on the sidelines are getting closer and closer to the action.

To help sort this all out, we've created a diagram that organizes distributors, content companies and internet video companies by market cap and their main lines of business.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Elon Musk teases website tracking journalists' and media outlets' credibility*** (Washington Examiner)

By MANDY MAYFIELD

Billionaire Elon Musk says he is going to create a website where users can track and rate the credibility of journalists, editors, and publications.

In a series of tweets Wednesday, Musk vowed to start the website touting his "faith" in people and their quest for truth.

"Going to create a site where the public can rate the core truth of any article & track the credibility score over time of each journalist, editor & publication. Thinking of calling it Pravda," Musk tweeted.

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

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## ***People Magazine Once Paid \$10,000 for a Photo It Didn't Even Want*** (PetaPixel)

By **MICHAEL ZHANG**

Photographers often reminisce about the glory days of magazines, when they were given huge budgets, freedoms, and paychecks to create images. Here's one crazy example of what things were like then: People magazine once paid \$10,000 for exclusive rights to a photo it didn't even want... just to keep it away from competitors.

The New York Times has published a fascinating oral history documenting the last days of Time Inc. before the "pre-eminent media organization of the 20th century ended up on the scrap heap."

Former People assistant managing editor Albert Kim shares how publications would get into crazy bidding wars over celebrity photos, sometimes paying tens of thousands of dollars for them, and sparking tabloid and paparazzi culture.

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

## The Final Word

***People rarely say thank you when others help them out, scientists say*** (Guardian)

By **IAN SAMPLE**

At first glance it seems a slight on the polite: recordings of more than a thousand casual conversations from around the world reveal that people hardly ever say "thank you" when others help them out.

The everyday social exchanges, which played out in eight different languages on five separate continents, highlight a global reluctance to acknowledge trivial favours, such as passing the salt. Overall, people expressed their thanks only once in every 20 occasions.

While the English language emerged as an outlier in the study, with thank yous being used more than in any other language, the phrase or similar ones were still

only witnessed in 14.5% of the conversations recorded.

Rather than reflecting manners, or a descent into rudeness, the findings say more about linguistic traditions, the researchers said. Across cultures, close-knit groups of people take it for granted that people will cooperate with each other, to the point that saying thanks is no longer needed.

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

## Today in History - May 24, 2018



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Thursday, May 24, the 144th day of 2018. There are 221 days left in the year.

### **Today's Highlight in History:**

On May 24, 1968, the Rolling Stones single "Jumpin' Jack Flash" was released in the United Kingdom by Decca Records.

### **On this date:**

In 1775, John Hancock was unanimously elected President of the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, succeeding Peyton Randolph.

In 1844, Samuel F.B. Morse transmitted the message "What hath God wrought" from Washington to Baltimore as he formally opened America's first telegraph line.

In 1883, the Brooklyn Bridge, linking Brooklyn and Manhattan, was dedicated by President Chester Alan Arthur and New York Gov. Grover Cleveland.

In 1918, Bela Bartok's one-act opera "Bluebeard's Castle" had its premiere in Budapest.

In 1937, in a set of rulings, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Social Security Act of 1935.

In 1941, the German battleship Bismarck sank the British battle cruiser HMS Hood in the North Atlantic, killing all but three of the 1,418 men on board.

In 1958, United Press International was formed through a merger of the United Press and the International News Service.

In 1962, astronaut Scott Carpenter became the second American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard Aurora 7.

In 1976, Britain and France opened trans-Atlantic Concorde supersonic transport service to Washington.

In 1980, Iran rejected a call by the World Court in The Hague to release the American hostages.

In 1994, four Islamic fundamentalists convicted of bombing New York's World Trade Center in 1993 were each sentenced to 240 years in prison.

In 2001, 23 people were killed when the floor of a Jerusalem wedding hall collapsed beneath dancing guests, sending them plunging several stories into the basement.

Ten years ago: British actor Rob Knox, 18, who had completed filming a minor role in "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," was stabbed to death during a brawl in London. (His attacker was later sentenced to life in prison.) Comedy performer and



director Dick Martin of TV's "Laugh-In" fame died in Santa Monica, California, at age 86.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama addressed the sexual assault epidemic staining the military, telling U.S. Naval Academy graduates to remember their honor depended on what they did when nobody was looking and said the crime had "no place in the greatest military on earth." British fighter jets intercepted a Pakistan International Airlines Boeing 777 carrying more than 300 people from Pakistan and diverted it to an isolated runway at London-Stansted Airport, where two British passengers who had allegedly threatened to destroy the plane were arrested. Toronto Mayor Rob Ford denied that he smoked crack cocaine and said he was not an addict after a video purported to show him using the drug.

One year ago: Setting past differences and rude comments aside, President Donald Trump and Pope Francis put a determinedly positive face on their first meeting at the Vatican. Ariana Grande suspended her Dangerous Woman world tour and canceled several European shows due to the deadly bombing at her concert in Manchester, England, two days earlier.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian-impressionist Stanley Baxter is 92. Jazz musician Archie Shepp is 81. Comedian Tommy Chong is 80. Singer Bob Dylan is 77. Actor Gary Burghoff is 75. Singer Patti LaBelle is 74. Actress Priscilla Presley is 73. Country singer Mike Reid is 71. Actor Jim Broadbent is 69. Actor Alfred Molina is 65. Singer Rosanne Cash is 63. Actor Cliff Parisi is 58. Actress Kristin Scott Thomas is 58. Rock musician Jimmy Ashhurst (Buckcherry) is 55. Rock musician Vivian Trimble is 55. Actor John C. Reilly is 53. Actor Dana Ashbrook is 51. Actor Eric Close is 51. Actor Carl Payne is 49. Rock musician Rich Robinson is 49. Actor Dash Mihok is 44. Actor Bryan Greenburg is 40. Actor Owen Benjamin is 38. Actor Billy L. Sullivan is 38. Actor-rapper Jerod Mixon (aka Big Tyme) is 37. Rock musician Cody Hanson (Hinder) is 36. Dancer-choreographer-singer Mark Ballas is 32. Country singer Billy Gilman is 30. Rapper/producer G-Eazy is 29. Actress Brianne Howey is 29. Actor Cayden Boyd is 24.

**Thought for Today: "The easiest thing to be in the world is you. The most difficult thing to be is what other people want you to be. Don't let them put you in that position." - Leo Buscaglia, American motivational speaker (1924-1998).**

**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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