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### Connecting -- June 04, 2018

1 message

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# Connecting

June 04, 2018



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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning!

**Carol Deegan** is days away from officially celebrating her 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with The Associated Press - a milestone achieved by very few who have worked over the years with our news cooperative.

"Carol told General Manager Wes Gallagher back in 1969 that she was committed to 'a long life with the Associated Press.'," said **Gary Pruitt**, AP's president and CEO in a note to Connecting. "No kidding! We truly appreciate Carol's stellar work as a reporter and editor, and applaud her 50 years of service to the AP."

Carol, an editor in Entertainment News in New York headquarters, is the subject of today's Monday Connecting Q-and-A - kindly agreeing to a request from Ye Olde Connecting Editor to share her story.

**Beth Harpaz**, a Connecting colleague who is AP's travel editor, is happy she did.

"I know I speak for EVERYONE who has ever worked with Carol as an editor when I say that she is one of the AP's finest line editors," Harpaz said. "There is nobody I would rather have editing my copy than Carol. She can spot an AP style error a mile away, she doublechecks every proper noun and I can't tell you how many times she has saved me from writethrus and other problems with her eagle-eye saves. She's so dedicated, she works so hard, she applies her lens to every word whether it's a brief about travel or a breaking story about a major Hollywood star. She's a treasure in the Entertainment & Lifestyles department."

Carol's official 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary date is Saturday, June 9. She joins **Edie Lederer**, AP's chief UN correspondent, as those Connecting colleagues (I know of) who have reached 50 years of service and are currently working. (If I have missed someone, please let me know.)

## Hollywood in your hometown...

You recall the days in your hometown when single-screen theaters were the venue for seeing a movie? In my hometown of Fort Dodge, lowa, there were 7-8 such theaters and in a bit of waxing nostalgia, I wrote about them for my June Spotlight column in The Messenger of Fort Dodge, lowa. Like most cities small and large today, movies are viewed in large multi-screen theaters - better sound, better images, better seats. But ah, the old days...



**Click here** to read the story.

## Your letter to the general manager...

I look forward to your contributions this week - and Carol Deegan's story gives me this idea for your consideration:

Her contact with then-GM Wes Gallagher described by Gary Pruitt in which she said she was committed to "a long life with The Associated Press" came in the form of the letter to the general manager that each AP staffer was asked to write when she or he passed their probationary period. The practice has since gone away - but how about sharing memories of the letter you wrote and the response it got?

Have a great week!

Paul

# Connecting Q-and-A Carol Deegan



Carol Deegan with Gary Pruitt, AP president and CEO, during last month's 25-Year Club celebration when she was honored for her upcoming 50th AP anniversary.

#### What are you doing these days?

I am an editor in the Entertainment Department at the main AP headquarters in New York City. I edit freelance copy including book reviews for the entertainment department and a food fixture for lifestyles. The rest is spot news for entertainment. I compile the entertainment digest three times a day. I do the tweeting for the entertainment department on social flow.

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

I was hired by Salt Lake City COB Bob Myers part-time while I was attending college at Weber State in Ogden, Utah, in 1965. I was editor-in-chief of the school newspaper at Weber State. It was a weekly publication. I went to school in the morning and worked for the AP in the afternoon. I covered the police beat, city hall, etc., mostly spot news.

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

I was hired to work as a summer intern in the Salt Lake City bureau after I graduated from college in 1968 (it was on the quarter system so I graduated in three years). If the teletype operator didn't like my copy he would throw it in an ashtray and set it on fire! I then transferred to Charleston, W.Va., where I was the statehouse correspondent for about 2 ½ years and then to New Orleans, where I was the broadcast editor for about 2 ½ years, then transferred to New York for a division called Filmstrips, which no longer exists. I was the AP food editor for a few years and then the entertainment department was created.



Five AP Broadcast Editors attended a recent APBA Committee meeting in New York. Left to right, John Dingman, Boston; Grant Lamos, Kansas City; Carol Deegan, New Orleans, since transferred to New York; Tom Harrigan, Minneapolis; and Dennis Sorensen, Chicago.

Photo from 1973 AP Broadcasters Association meeting, courtesy AP Corporate Archives

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

The AP story that sticks in my mind involved a car and a train in Roy, Utah. I was literally beating the bushes with the police - not knowing what we were looking for - and when I finally stopped to ask, I was told that it was the victim's head! (I was new to covering the police beat.) I also remember my first police shootout. I enjoyed working with Herb Little at the statehouse in West Virginia. He would chomp on his unlit cigar while writing his stories, and he was a real scholar and a gentleman. I learned a lot from him.

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

I would do it all over again - Salt Lake City, Charleston, New Orleans.

#### What's your favorite hobby or activity?

My favorite hobby is weight training and running on the treadmill.

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

We vacation as a family in Mexico but vacationing in the south of France is a week of special fun. I also enjoy Paris. (No, I am not fluent in French, but that might be a retirement goal.)

#### Names of your family members and what they do?

I am married. My husband, Nolan Saltzman, is a retired psychotherapist. My son, French daughter-in-law and my 4-year-old granddaughter in Boston. My son is a computer software engineer and my daughter-in-law is a teacher. My granddaughter, when she's not playing or going to school, spends her time being adorable.

Carol Deegan's email address - cdeegan@ap.org

# AP's Wall of Honor in new headquarters creates quiet, reflective space to pay tribute to our fallen colleagues





**Photos courtesy of AP Corporate Communications** 

## **By AP Corporate Communications**

An iPad display has been added to the Wall of Honor in the headquarters newsroom to help recognize the 35 AP staffers who have lost their lives covering the news. The experience, which was designed and developed by AP Creative Services to complement and reflect the design of the physical wall itself, adds photos, context and a brief biography of each of the staffers honored there.

The physical Wall of Honor, designed by TPG Architecture, creates a quiet, reflective space to pay tribute to our fallen colleagues. The wall is a monument that

celebrates the staffers' work, passion and contributions.

The iPad display, however, provides the chronological, contextual view of the 35 reporters, photographers, videographers and support staff. The digital nature of the experience allows for deeper context, more photos of staffers and further exploration into the conflicts that have claimed multiple AP lives.

The digital display also gives us the opportunity to share the memorial with a much wider audience. In the coming months, the iPad experience will be added to ap.org, making the content accessible globally.

Visitors to the fifth-floor newsroom are encouraged to explore the Wall of Honor iPad display and pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to inform the world.

# **Connecting mailbox**

# Recalling Hal Bauer - friendly, affable guy with sense of humor

**Hal Buell** (Email) - Yes, I remember Hal Bauer...from my very earliest days on the NY photo desk, freshly transferred there from Chicago. Bauer was a Wide World Salesman, a very friendly, affable guy with a sense of humor. In those days Wide World had both a large sales staff and a staff of five or six photographers. They shot commercial pictures which would then be distributed through NY- Newsphoto's delivery system, or sometimes transmitted to distant points. Wide World even had a studio on the sixth floor for fashion shoots. UPI had a similar operation and there were a couple of independent companies.

Normally Wide World staff would write the captions but if the picture became available after 6 p.m. the salesmen had to ask a Newsphoto staffer to write the caption. I often did so for Bauer, though most of the Newsphoto desk staff saw WW as a different company and resisted the caption work.

Bauer was one of several AP/Frankfurt staff that ended up in NY...people like WW photographer Hans Von Nolde and reporter John Koehler. Larry and Claude may remember Dave Pickoff, Dan Grazzzi (sp?) and a couple others of that and later days.

Bauer left AP but would occasionally visit the office.

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# Photos from AP Corporate Archives of Hal Bauer



• FOUL BALL! Hugh Mulligan put everything he had into this foul equivalent of a two-base hit in the softball game at the AP picnic as catcher Max Desfor waited with open mouth and empty glove. Other AP characters identifiable by shape if not by face are (l. to r.) first baseman Harold Bauer, trying to decide whether to reach for it; Bob Kradin, holding damp camera (see story); Saul Pett, holding paper cup; Al Blakeslee, Andy Kerekes, Ted Boyle, Tom Henshaw, Dave Pickoff, Dick Hodgins and Julius Loh.

(1961 photo)



 AP-WIDE WORLD PHOTOS SALESMEN IN NEW YORK. They can examine a newsphoto and come up with a pretty good guess as to what its commercial potential will be in years to come. Selling photographs is their life work.

Man in charge is General Sales Manager Meyer Goldberg, seated at right. Sitting beside

him is Asst. Sales Manager Steve Phillips.

Standing (l. to r.) are William Edell, Fred Cantey, Abe Shatz, Marion Rauh (sales correspondent), Mike Drayson, Harold Bauer, Frank Hyatt, Richard Madden and Marty Monroe. Salesman Dick McCracken was on vacation.

WWP also has salesmen in many other cities. Among them are Tom Holmes, Washington; Charles Flagg, Boston; Robert Mitchell, Detroit; William Kelly, Chicago.

(1966 photo)

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# AP and Hammarskjold's death

**Henry Bradsher** (Email) - Re Charles Richards' note (in Friday's Connecting) on the 1961 crash that killed the UN secretary-general, Dag Hammarskjold, it was, unfortunately, an AP man, not UPI, who erroneously reported that his plane had landed safely.

The correspondent, who shall remain nameless here (although I knew him later), was waiting at the airport in Ndola, Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia), for the night flight of a DC-6 (not a DC-3). Hammarskjold was flying there across the Congo to

hold talks seeking a cease fire in the civil war in the Congo, torn by conflict after Belgium abandoned its tragically unprepared colony.

A plane landed at the other side of the airport from the waiting AP man. Without going across to check who was in it, he went into town to send a cable saying Hammarskjold had arrived, and went to his hotel. It was much later that he learned that Hammarskjold had not arrived and a search was on for the plane. Despite extensive investigations, there was never a conclusive finding on why the plane crashed -- sabotage, shot down, accident on board, etc.

The correspondent left the AP -- whether fired or quit out of embarrassment was not clear to me -- and later became a roving correspondent, in Africa and elsewhere, for the Washington Star, based in Cyprus.

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## Ah, yes, old time Radio Photos

**Gene Herrick** (Email) - Enjoyed Jim Becker's tale about the Dalai Lama, but especially his yarning about Radio Photos and expense accounts, in Connecting's May 31 post.

As an AP Correspondent in the Korean War in 1950 it was a gargantuan task to get our pictures out to Tokyo for processing and Radio Photo transmitting. Oh, we were modern then. We still used beat-up 4x5 Speed Graphic cameras, ASA 200 Kodak film packs, and old #5 flashbulbs (Never at the front - if the enemy didn't shoot you, your own troops would for giving away their positions).

When our film would get to Tokyo, maybe in one day, but usually two days in the early part of the war, "Jackson," our super-faceted AP photo man would process the film and make a couple quick-and-dirty prints, and then rush by jeep to the RCA building to be first to put on file the pictures for radio photo transmission. Then Jackson would rush back to the office and make good prints of the ones he had put on file, rush back to RCA and substitute the good prints for the bad ones. Then it was wait, and wait, until RCA's transmission period and also favorable weather conditions. Even at best, the pictures took on a mysterious look of echoes and lines. Sometimes the pictures looked line that darkroom man had printed the pictures during an earthquake.

As to expense accounts and the NY auditors... I remember covering a political convention in Chicago back when those events lasted almost 10 days. We worked long, long hours - usually about 18 hours a day. Working the hotels early in the morning, and when nature called, we would have to pay to use the John, and a tip to

a bathroom worker for the privilege. The NY auditor representative asked me if I had a problem? I can only surmise that he approached others. I could not use the Harry Hall (the Quintessential CX photographer) theory to cover above-and-beyond expenses, just rent a ladder at a dollar per foot). I may have need three ladders!

# Connecting new-member profile - Craig Whitney

Craig R. Whitney (Email) worked over a 44year period for The New York Times, starting after graduating magna cum laude from Harvard in 1965 as an assistant to James B. Reston in the Washington Bureau. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1966 to 1969 as a reserve officer in the Secretary of the Navy's office in Washington and as a public affairs officer of the Seventh Fleet in Saigon. Returning to The Times in New York City in 1969, he was a reporter on the Metropolitan Desk until 1971, when the paper got him to go back to Saigon. He was Bureau Chief there when the North Vietnamese Army invaded South Vietnam in 1972, until the 1973 cease-fire that allowed the remaining American troops in Vietnam to leave. On his next posting, as Bureau Chief in Bonn, he met and married Adelheid ("Heidi") Witt, and their two children, Alexandra and Stefan, were born there.



The family went to Moscow from 1977 to 1980 - Craig was sued in a Soviet civil court for slander in 1978, lost, but was not expelled - and then came to New York, where he became the paper's Foreign Editor until 1986, when he went to Washington as Bureau Chief. From 1988 to 2000 he served abroad again, in London, Bonn, and Paris, helping cover the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe and in the Soviet Union. He returned to New York as an Assistant Managing Editor of The Times from 2000 to 2009, when he retired. His books include Spy Trader, about the East German lawyer who brokered thousands of exchanges of spies and ordinary citizens during the Cold War; All the Stops, about pipe organs and organists in America (Craig is one, too); Living With Guns, about the Second Amendment; and Unraveling Time, about his and Heidi's life and her affliction with Alzheimer's. They live in Brooklyn Heights, N.Y.

# Stories of interest

# 'The sky is not falling': Two major studies show election polls are not getting less accurate (Washington Post)

#### **By Scott Clement**

Donald Trump's 2016 election and other surprising election results around the world in recent years set off alarms about a crisis in election polling. But two massive studies come to the opposite conclusion: Polls in recent elections are just about as accurate as they have been historically, if not a little better.

FiveThirtyEight updated its historical database of U.S. poll accuracy to include national, state and congressional district surveys from 2016 to this year. Here's how the website's founder, Nate Silver, summed up the findings:

"Polls of the November 2016 presidential election were about as accurate as polls of presidential elections have been on average since 1972. And polls of gubernatorial and congressional elections in 2016 were about as accurate, on average, as polls of those races since 1998. Furthermore, polls of elections since 2016 - meaning, the 2017 gubernatorial elections and the various special elections to Congress this year and last year - have been slightly more accurate than average."

Read more here. Shared by Peg Coughlin.

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# Puerto Rico's devastation takes a backseat to Roseanne coverage (CJR)

## By PETE VERNON

FOR THOSE WHO ARGUE that the media has misplaced priorities when it comes to coverage choices, this week has provided a case study to support their position. While media outlets from cable news to digital publishers obsessed over the cancellation of ABC's Roseanne, a report on the staggering death toll in Puerto Rico has, in comparison, been met with relative silence.

Researchers from Harvard University estimate that at least 4,645 deaths can be linked to Hurricane Maria and its immediate aftermath, more than 70 times the official count of 64. The Washington Post's Arelis R. Hernández and Laurie McGinley write that "the island's slow recovery has been marked by a persistent lack of water, a faltering power grid and a lack of essential services-all imperiling the lives of many residents, especially the infirm and those in remote areas hardest hit in September."

The Harvard study has a wide margin of error, but even at the low end of its range, the death count from Maria would place the disaster on par with the devastation wrought by 2005's Hurricane Katrina. The news received coverage from numerous outlets, but it was swamped by the firestorm surrounding the cancellation of a sitcom.

Read more here. Shared by Bob Daugherty

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## Times get tougher for rural newspapers

#### By Al Cross

Director, Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues

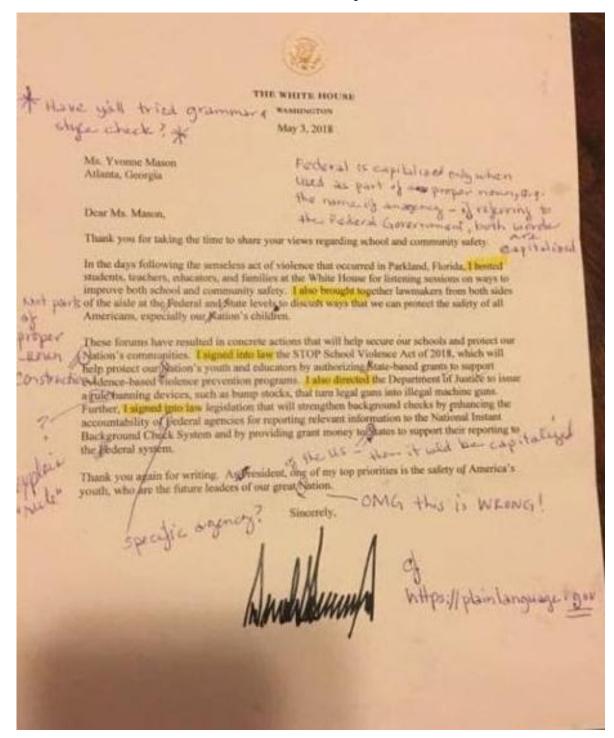
For a decade or more, community newspapers, mostly in rural areas, have been the strongest part of the traditional news business. That's because they are usually the only reliable source of news about their communities. But that doesn't mean they haven't suffered as audiences move from print to digital and from news media to social media (or even strategic media, some masquerading as news media). Now community publishers are having to deal with perhaps the greatest collective threat they have ever faced, a newsprint tariff that has raised their printing costs by about 20 percent.

There are efforts in Congress to suspend the tariff on Canadian newsprint and get the International Trade Commission to overturn it. The outcome is unclear. But what has become clear is that there is more worry among rural newspapers than ever before about their future. I've heard it in talks with editors, publishers and executives, and have seen it in the papers themselves, as well as other news media. The latest examples I've seen are in The Canadian Record, a superb weekly in the Texas Panhandle, and a story in MinnPost, a nonprofit news site based in Minneapolis.

Read more here.

# **The Final Word**

Trump sent a retired teacher a letter about gun policy. She fixed the grammar and sent it back. (Washington Post)



## By CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.

When Yvonne Mason first opened the letter, she read it all the way through. It did, after all, have the president's seal at the top and his signature at the bottom.

But sometime around the third read, something began to irk the retired teacher, who had spent 17 years of her life refining the English skills of middle and high school students:

Look at all these unnecessarily capitalized letters, she thought.

"Federal" and "Nation" and "State" and "States" - common nouns capitalized as if they were proper nouns. And too many of the sentences began with the ninth letter of the alphabet: "I signed into law" and "I also directed."

The letter, with her name on it, was written on heavy, official-feeling paper. Some would see such a letter from the president as suitable for framing. But for Mason, there was an itch that could not go unscratched.

She took out a purple pen and did something she had done countless times with countless papers.

She started circling.

Read more here.

# Today in History - June 4, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, June 4, the 155th day of 2018. There are 210 days left in the year.

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

On June 4, 1940, during World War II, the Allied military evacuation of some 338,000 troops from Dunkirk, France, ended. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill declared: "We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender."

#### On this date:

In 1783, the Montgolfier brothers first publicly demonstrated their hot-air balloon, which did not carry any passengers, over Annonay, France.

In 1784, opera singer Elisabeth Thible became the first woman to make a non-tethered flight aboard a Montgolfier hot-air balloon, over Lyon, France.

In 1812, the Louisiana Territory was renamed the Missouri Territory, to avoid confusion with the recently admitted state of Louisiana. The U.S. House of Representatives approved, 79-49, a declaration of war against Britain.

In 1919, Congress approved the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing citizens the right to vote regardless of their gender, and sent it to the states for ratification.

In 1939, the German ocean liner MS St. Louis, carrying more than 900 Jewish refugees from Germany, was turned away from the Florida coast by U.S. officials.

In 1942, the World War II Battle of Midway began, resulting in a decisive American victory against Japan and marking the turning point of the war in the Pacific.

In 1943, the president of Argentina, Ramon Castillo, was overthrown in a military coup.

In 1954, French Premier Joseph Laniel and Vietnamese Premier Buu Loc signed treaties in Paris according "complete independence" to Vietnam.

In 1967, in the second air disaster to strike a British carrier in as many days, a British Midland Airways jetliner crashed in Stockport, England, killing 72 of the 84

people aboard. (A day earlier, a British charter crashed in France, killing 88.)

In 1972, a jury in San Jose, California, acquitted radical activist Angela Davis of murder and kidnapping for her alleged connection to a deadly Marin County courthouse shootout in 1970.

In 1986, Jonathan Jay Pollard, a former U.S. Navy intelligence analyst, pleaded guilty in Washington to conspiring to deliver information related to the national defense to Israel. (Pollard, sentenced to life in prison, was released on parole on Nov. 20, 2015.)

In 1998, a federal judge sentenced Terry Nichols to life in prison for his role in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

Ten years ago: Barack Obama, having clinched the Democratic presidential nomination, picked Caroline Kennedy to help him choose a running mate. Travis Alexander, 30, was stabbed to death at his suburban Phoenix home by his girlfriend, Jodi Arias, who claimed self-defense but was convicted of first-degree murder. The Detroit Red Wings won the Stanley Cup for the fourth time in 11 seasons with a 3-2 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins in Game 6 of the finals.

Five years ago: Already heavily criticized for targeting conservative groups, the Internal Revenue Service suffered another blow as new details emerged in a report about senior officials enjoying luxury hotel rooms, free drinks and food at a \$4.1 million training conference. France said it confirmed that nerve gas was used "multiple times in a localized way" in Syria. Joey Covington, 67, a former Jefferson Airplane drummer who co-wrote several of the group's songs, died in a car crash in Palm Springs, California.

One year ago: Alfredo del Mazo of the governing PRI (pree) party was elected governor of the state of Mexico in a hotly disputed contest marred by charges of irregularities. Elite rock climber Alex Honnold became the first to climb alone to the top of the massive granite wall known as El Capitan in Yosemite National Park without ropes or safety gear.

Today's Birthdays: Sex therapist and media personality Dr. Ruth Westheimer is 90. Actor Bruce Dern is 82. Musician Roger Ball is 74. Actress-singer Michelle Phillips is 74. Jazz musician Anthony Braxton is 73. Rock musician Danny Brown (The Fixx) is 67. Actor Parker Stevenson is 66. Actor Keith David is 62. Blues singer-musician Tinsley Ellis is 61. Actress Julie Gholson is 60. Actor Eddie Velez is 60. Singer-musician El DeBarge is 57. Actress Julie White is 57. Actress Lindsay Frost is 56. Actor Sean Pertwee is 54. Tennis player Andrea Jaeger is 53. Opera singer Cecilia Bartoli is 52. Rhythm and blues singer Al B. Sure! is 50. Actor Scott Wolf is 50. Actor-comedian Rob Huebel is 49. Comedian Horatio Sanz is 49. Actor James Callis

is 47. Actor Noah Wyle is 47. Rock musician Stefan Lessard (The Dave Matthews Band) is 44. Actor-comedian Russell Brand is 43. Actress Angelina Jolie is 43. Actor Theo Rossi is 43. Alt-country singer Kasey Chambers is 42. Rock musician JoJo Garza (Los Lonely Boys) is 38. Country musician Dean Berner (Edens Edge) is 37. Model Bar Refaeli (ruh-FEHL'-lee) is 33. Olympic gold medal figure skater Evan Lysacek is 33. Americana singer Shakey Graves is 31. Rock musician Zac Farro is 28.

Thought for Today: "As people used to be wrong about the motion of the sun, so they are still wrong about the motion of the future. The future stands still; it is we who move in infinite space." - Rainer Maria Rilke (RY'-nur mah-REE'-ah RIHL'-kuh), German poet (1875-1926).

# 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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