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## Connecting -- June 13, 2018

1 message

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Wed, Jun 13, 2018 at 9:11 AM

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# Connecting

June 13, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

Today's issue brings more of your stories of the person who hired you into your first AP job - your first bureau chief.

Connecting also brings you the latest AP analysis from the Singapore Summit.



● **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.

When former AP newsman **Hal Bauer** recently died, **Francesca Pitaro** of Corporate Archives unearthed this gem of a photo to go with his obituary. It ran in Connecting but you may have missed it and that would be a shame.

Just take a look at all the AP history in the names listed in that photo from 1961:

**Hugh Mulligan**, one of AP's greatest writers, at bat, no doubt telling a story as he was swinging the bat. The catcher - **Max Desfor**, then 10 years after his Pulitzer photo work in the Korean War, who lived another 57 years before he died early this year at the age of 104. **Al (Alton) Blakeslee**, famed AP science writer. **Julius Loh?** That was the name of the father of famed AP writer **Jules Loh**, a member of AP's "poets' corner." Fellow "poet" **Saul Pett**, also in the photo. There's a story in there somewhere.

Here's to a great day!

Paul

# My First Bureau Chief

## *Hired by Burdette Johns, Columbus, and by John Jamison, Indianapolis*

**Gene Herrick** ([Email](#)) - My first Chief of Bureau in the AP was Burdette T. Johns in Columbus, Ohio, in 1943. However, I was in the traffic department as an office boy, Wirephoto operator, and as a learning Teletype operator.

"Bud" was a quiet man, very precise, but always friendly. Not much humor there. I remember the day "Bud" was the Filing editor for the state wire, and I was filling in as a "Puncher." His handwriting was very up and down, and not always as legible, but neat, at least to me. In those days the wire ran at 60 words per minute, and I was pressed. His eyes bore into mine, scaring the hell out of me. When I asked him what one of his written-in words was?

However, my first Chief of Bureau as a new staff photographer was John Jamison, in Indianapolis. I was elevated to AP staff photographer in 1946 while in Cleveland in the traffic department.

Jamison was an extremely nice person, with whom I became fairly good friends. Jamison was a full-blooded Cherokee Indian, and as handsome as they come. I think everyone on staff admired him because of his quiet manner and fairness. I do not ever remember him chastising me, or being critical of my work. We often had lunch and a beer together at the old Press Club, on the Circle, in Indianapolis.

During my 28 years with AP, and the many, many Chiefs of Bureau I had the privilege of working for, and with, there was only one that wasn't up to par. Some of the ideals were Ed Ball, Austin Bealmear, Murlin Spencer, Will Weeks, Al Orton, George Moses, Ron Autry, Bill Gory, Ed Easterly, Russ Brines, Bill Barnard, Howard Graves, when he was a reporter before becoming a COB, and others whose names I don't recall.

Just some of the Great AP team.

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## *Hired by William Weekes, Milwaukee*

**Bob O'Meara** ([Email](#)) - My first bureau chief was the one that hired me in 1948 in an era that was considerably different than today.

I walked into the Milwaukee AP bureau looking for a job and was met by COB William A. Weekes, and I found out later he had been a top sports writer in the Chicago bureau. He was an old school journalist, tough as nails and a no-nonsense type with flaming red hair and penetrating blue eyes.

He looked at my name and said, "You're Irish. Do you realize the news business is full of hard-drinking Irishmen? Do you drink?"

I didn't know what to say. Finally I blurted out, "well, I never turn down a beer if it's offered to me."

He laughed and I figured I had done OK.

He wanted to know if I had any hobbies. I told him I went to movies and did a lot of hiking. I didn't mention that I did watercolor painting.

Weekes hired me and asked me to come to the "state meeting" and get acquainted with editors and managing editors from around the state.

The meeting was at the Milwaukee Athletic Club and lasted little more than three hours, including lunch. Everybody seemed to have a good time. They were all men and smoked cigars, cigarettes and pipes. They talked about the news report and I got the impression they regarded Weekes highly.

Not too long after that Weekes got a letter from one of the editors complaining that a paragraph in an AP story was critical of our Sen. Joe McCarthy.

Weekes showed me his reply:

"Dear Charlie

You're a big boy now and you know how to use a scissors. If you don't like a paragraph in an AP story you know what to do with it."

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## ***Hired by Murlin Spencer, Seattle***

**Marty Thompson (Email)** - As news director of a radio station in Central Washington's Yakima Valley, I fed stories regularly to AP in Seattle. One day in 1966, I asked CoB Murlin Spencer about joining the AP. "I didn't know you were interested," was his response. Then came the tests, hiring and work succeeding Sally Sourwine as Seattle broadcast editor, doing the kind of writing I was used to. (Sally was transferring to New York, where she eventually became Mrs. Jim Tomlinson.)

In 1968 it was off to Nevada to be correspondent in Reno. From there, CoB Paul Finch moved me to San Francisco. After time as a reporter, covering stories including the Juan Corona mass murders in Central California to court hearings for Angela Davis, I became a desk supervisor and, in 1972, news editor. In 1975, I succeeded Jim Lagier as bureau chief, and moved to Los Angeles as CoB in 1986. During those years I was fortunate to have as mentors Bill Barnard and Jim Lagier. Next it was to New York in 1989 as managing editor. The final stop was as AP's first director of state news, from 1992 to retirement in 2003.

A memorable moment was a visit to the San Francisco CoB's office by Murlin Spencer. Murlin said his unmet AP goal was to be San Francisco CoB, and that he was pleased someone he had hired and helped train was sitting in that office.

## **White House restricts US press access to Kim Jong Un summit**



**Kim Jong Un looks at the news media during a photo session during an expanded bilateral meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump at the Capella resort on Sentosa Island Tuesday, June 12, 2018 in Singapore. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)**

SINGAPORE (AP) - The White House restricted journalists' access to parts of President Donald Trump's summit with Kim Jong Un on Tuesday despite long-standing arrangements intended to ensure the public is kept fully abreast of key presidential moments, such as the first meeting in history with a North Korean leader.

Under standard rules agreed to by the White House and the press corps, a full pool of reporters travels with the president at all times and is allowed at any meetings where press access is granted, even if space is limited. The group includes representatives from various forms of media - such as TV, print and photos - who then pool the information they gather with other news outlets that are unable to be present because of space.

During the photo-op at the start of Trump's one-on-one meeting with Kim, text reporters for newswires The Associated Press, Reuters and Bloomberg were kept out of the pool, as were the designated representatives for radio and the foreign press corps. Although a television cameraman and sound technician were allowed in, the TV networks' editorial representative - responsible for relaying information to colleagues about what occurs or is said during the photo-op - was not.

Some, but not all, were later allowed in for the photo-op of Trump's larger meeting with Kim and aides from both countries.



Read more [here](#).

## AP Analysis: Trump retreats from US moral leadership stance



**U. S. President Donald Trump shakes hands with North Korea leader Kim Jong Un at the Capella resort on Sentosa Island Tuesday, June 12, 2018 in Singapore. (Kevin Lim/The Straits Times via AP)**

**By JONATHAN LEMIRE and MATTHEW PENNINGTON**

WASHINGTON (AP) - Beaming in the moments after his summit with Kim Jong Un, President Donald Trump was asked about North Korea's history of human rights horrors. "It's rough," he allowed. Then he added, "It's rough in a lot of places, by the way. Not just there."

Trump's verbal shrug in Singapore represented a striking change from the way U.S. presidents have viewed their job, a shift from the nation's asserted stance as the globe's moral leader in favor of an approach based more on trade-offs with adversaries and allies alike.

Trump, who quickly left for the long journey home after his whirlwind summit with Kim, made clear that his main interest - almost his sole interest - was taking a first step toward denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula. There was no lecturing of Kim over how to treat his own people in a nation that is estimated to have between 80,000 and 120,000 political prisoners and remains one of the world's most closed and oppressive societies.

Though Trump is far from the first U.S. president to work with an unsavory counterpart to achieve a strategic goal, his decision to broadcast that he tacitly accepts Kim's history of atrocities was a sharp break from the position of presidents from both parties to set America as the exemplar shining city on a hill for other nations to emulate.

It has been much the same at home.

Read more [here](#).

## **AP Analysis: Kim Jong Un got lots to brag about from summit**

**By ERIC TALMADGE**

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) - All North Korean leader Kim Jong Un really needed from his unprecedented summit with U.S. President Donald Trump on Tuesday was to keep his nuclear arsenal intact for the time being and get a decent handshake photo to show he has truly arrived on the world stage.

To probably even his own surprise, he got that and a whole lot more.

While offering no solid promises to abandon his hard-won nuclear arsenal any time soon, Kim got to stand as an equal with the leader of the world's most powerful nation, received indications that the future of joint U.S.-South Korea military maneuvers may be in doubt and was showered with effusive praise from a president who just last year derided him as "little rocket man."



If he was forced to negotiate by U.S. pressure, it certainly wasn't obvious. And if any skeptics of the diplomatic campaign he launched with his neighbors early this year remain inside his regime back home, the summit went a long way toward sidelining them even further.

All of this from a 34-year-old leader who was widely written off as too young and too inexperienced to last very long when he assumed power after his enigmatic father, Kim Jong Il, died in late 2011.

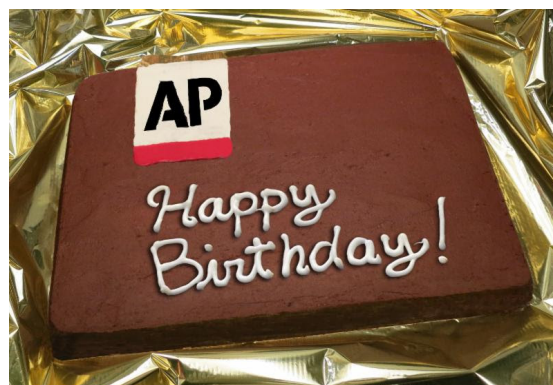
From the start of their meeting, Trump showered Kim with praise, calling him a "talented man" who "loves his country very much."

But more importantly, Trump suggested he would like to end annual military exercises with South Korea - a major, longstanding North Korean demand - and gave Kim lots of wiggle room on the future of his nuclear weapons, replacing calls for an immediate or even a speedy denuclearization process with a virtual shrug that "it does take a long time."

The success of the summit wasn't a foregone conclusion.

Read more [here](#).

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



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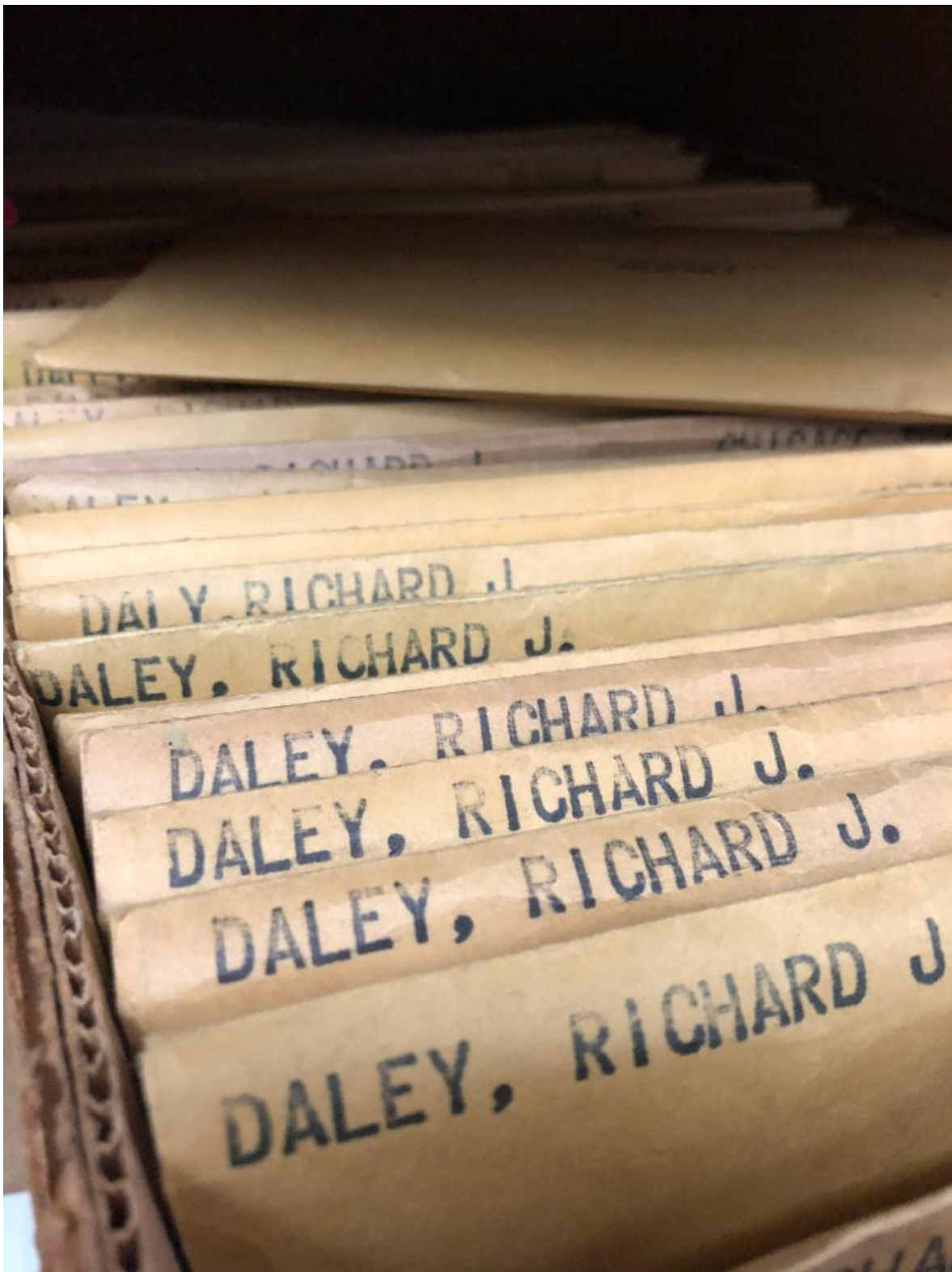
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# Stories of interest

***Goodbye, Tribune Tower: A tour of the newsroom, archives, colonel's executive offices and crown***



**By RANDI M. SHAFFER**

**June 9, 2018**

It's a very bittersweet day for the journalists at [435 N. Michigan Ave.](#) here in Chicago.

Today's (June 9) the day we move out of our home: Tribune Tower, where we've worked for almost an entire century.

I can't emphasize enough how incredibly fortunate and blessed I am to have spent the past three-plus years working in this tower. Landmarked in 1989, it's one of the most - if not the most - recognized newsrooms in the world. Its neo-Gothic beauty rises 36 floors up into Chicago's skyline, where it has greeted every sunrise with its magnificent arching crown since 1922.

The building was originally designed by architects John Mead Howells and Raymond Hood as part of a contest to design the most beautiful office building in the world. I might be biased, but I think they succeeded.

Throughout the years, the building saw several add-ons, including the bricks, stones and various other forms of memorabilia embedded in its street-level walls.

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

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## ***New York Times Examines Work History of Reporter in Leak Case***

**By Michael M. Grynbaum**

The New York Times is reviewing the work history of Ali Watkins, a Washington-based reporter at the newspaper whose email and phone records were seized by prosecutors in a leak investigation case that has prompted an outcry among press advocates.

The private communications of Ms. Watkins, 26, who joined The Times in December, were obtained by the Justice Department as part of an investigation into a former Senate Intelligence Committee aide, James A. Wolfe, who was charged last week with making false statements to the F.B.I.



Ali Watkins

Ms. Watkins and Mr. Wolfe, 57, had an extended personal relationship that ended last year. Prosecutors suspected that Mr. Wolfe had leaked classified intelligence to reporters, a claim that he denies.

The Times said on Tuesday that it was conducting a review of Ms. Watkins's involvement in the case, including the nature of her relationship with Mr. Wolfe, and what she disclosed about it to her prior employers. Ms. Watkins informed The Times about the prior relationship after she was hired by the paper, and before she began work in December. She has said that Mr. Wolfe did not provide her with information during the course of their relationship.

Read more [here](#).

## The Final Word



(Shared by Jim Spehar)

## Today in History - June 13, 2018





## By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, June 13, the 164th day of 2018. There are 201 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On June 13, 1978, the movie musical "Grease," starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John, had its world premiere in New York.

### On this date:

In 1525, German theologian Martin Luther married former nun Katharina von Bora.

In 1789, during the French Revolution, the National Assembly convened.

In 1842, Queen Victoria became the first British monarch to ride on a train, traveling from Slough Railway Station to Paddington in 25 minutes.

In 1911, the ballet "Petrushka," with music by Igor Stravinsky and choreography by Michel Fokine, was first performed in Paris by the Ballets Russes, with Vaslav Nijinsky in the title role.

In 1927, aviation hero Charles Lindbergh was honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York City.



In 1935, James Braddock claimed the title of world heavyweight boxing champion from Max Baer in a 15-round fight in Queens, New York. "Becky Sharp," the first movie photographed in "three-strip" Technicolor, opened in New York.

In 1942, a four-man Nazi sabotage team arrived on Long Island, New York, three days before a second four-man team landed in Florida. (All eight men were arrested after two members of the first group defected.) President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the Office of Strategic Services and the Office of War Information.

In 1957, the Mayflower II, a replica of the ship that brought the Pilgrims to America in 1620, arrived at Plymouth, Massachusetts, after a nearly two-month journey from England.

In 1966, the Supreme Court ruled in *Miranda v. Arizona* that criminal suspects had to be informed of their constitutional right to consult with an attorney and to remain silent.

In 1977, James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., was recaptured following his escape three days earlier from a Tennessee prison.

In 1983, the U.S. space probe Pioneer 10, launched in 1972, became the first spacecraft to leave the solar system as it crossed the orbit of Neptune.

In 1993, Canada's Progressive Conservative Party chose Defense Minister Kim Campbell to succeed Brian Mulroney (muhl-ROO'-nee) as prime minister; she was the first woman to hold the post. Astronaut Donald K. "Deke" Slayton died in League City, Texas, at age 69.

Ten years ago: Tim Russert, moderator of NBC's "Meet the Press," died suddenly while preparing for his weekly broadcast; he was 58. Pope Benedict XVI took President George W. Bush on a rare stroll through the lush grounds of the Vatican Gardens during the leaders' third visit together. R. Kelly was acquitted of all charges in his child pornography trial in Chicago, ending a six-year ordeal for the R&B superstar.

Five years ago: The White House said it had conclusive evidence that Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime had used chemical weapons against opposition forces seeking to overthrow the government. The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously threw out attempts to patent human genes, siding with advocates who said the

multibillion-dollar biotechnology industry should not have exclusive control over genetic information found in the human body.

One year ago: A comatose Otto Warmbier (WARM'-beer), released by North Korea after more than 17 months in captivity, arrived in Cincinnati aboard a medevac flight; the 22-year-old college student, who had suffered severe brain damage, died six days later. Two inmates got through a gate inside a Georgia prison bus, shot and killed two guards and fled in a carjacked vehicle; the inmates were captured two days later in Tennessee. Rolling Stone magazine agreed to pay \$1.65 million to settle a defamation lawsuit filed by a University of Virginia fraternity over a debunked story about a rape on campus. Anita Pallenberg, a model and actress who had children with Keith Richards and served as a muse for the Rolling Stones, died in Chichester, West Sussex, England.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Bob McGrath is 86. Artist Christo is 83. Magician Siegfried (Siegfried & Roy) is 79. Actor Malcolm McDowell is 75. Former U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is 74. Singer Dennis Locorriere is 69. Actor Richard Thomas is 67. Actor Jonathan Hogan is 67. Actor Stellan Skarsgard is 67. Comedian Tim Allen is 65. North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper is 61. Actress Ally Sheedy is 56. TV anchor Hannah Storm is 56. Rock musician Paul deLisle (deh-LYL') (Smash Mouth) is 55. Actress Lisa Vidal is 53. Singer David Gray is 50. Rhythm and blues singer Deniece Pearson (Five Star) is 50. Rock musician Soren Rasted (Aqua) is 49. Actor Jamie Walters is 49. Singer-musician Rivers Cuomo (Weezer) is 48. Country singer Susan Haynes is 46. Actor Steve-O is 44. Country singer Jason Michael Carroll is 40. Actor Ethan Embry is 40. Actor Chris Evans is 37. Actress Sarah Schaub is 35. Singer Raz B is 33. Actress Kat Dennings is 32. Actress Ashley Olsen is 32. Actress Mary-Kate Olsen is 32. DJ/producer Gesaffelstein is 31. Actor Aaron Taylor-Johnson is 28.

**Thought for Today: "What intellectual snobs we have become! Virtue is now in the number of degrees you have - not in the kind of person you are or what you can accomplish in real-life situations." - Eda J. LeShan, American educator (1922-2002).**

## 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.

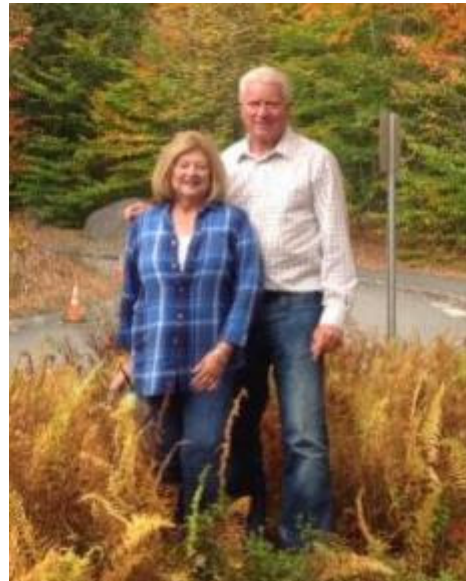
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **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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