



Paul Shane &lt;pjshane@gmail.com&gt;

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## Connecting -- July 02, 2018

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**Paul Stevens** <paulstevens46@gmail.com>  
 Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com  
 To: pjshane@gmail.com

Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 8:54 AM

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# Connecting

July 02, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning - and here's to the start of the new month of July 2018!

The life and career of retired AP Tokyo executive **Kazuo Abiko** leads today's Connecting as we continue our well-received Monday Q-and-A profile series - this week, from Japan. He worked 32 years for the AP before retiring in 2010.

Kaz is former AP general manager for Northeast Asia and former president of the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan. He has taught at several universities on subjects related to journalism as part-time lecturer and visiting professor.

We also bring you stories that follow on last Thursday's tragic shooting at the Capital Gazette in Annapolis, Maryland, that claimed the lives of five employees.

It would be a safe assumption that newsrooms all over the country are studying and strengthening their security measures in the wake of what happened there - and the Associated Press Media Editors shared best practices and tips on how to make newsrooms safer.

I look forward to your contributions.

Paul

**Connecting Q-and-A**  
**Kazuo Abiko**



**My wife, Maseye, our daughter, Miki, and myself at Angkor Thom, when we visited the historic Angkor Wat area in Cambodia in 2007.**

### **What are you doing these days?**

Following my retirement from the AP in 2010, I taught at universities on subjects related to journalism as part-time lecturer and visiting professor until March 2017. In the meantime, I also translated the AP history book "Breaking News" into Japanese and co-authored several books on international reporting, journalism standards and news agencies. In addition to occasional writing for various publications, I have been contributing a monthly column about the state of U.S. media to the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association's weekly publication since April 2013. As I now have more free time, I'm enjoying tennis more, occasionally participating in "veteran" tournaments. I'm also entertaining a few ideas for book writing in the near future.

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### **How did you get your first job with the AP? Who hired you?**

I was hired by COB Roy Essoyan in Tokyo in 1978. While I was studying journalism at California State University, Northridge, I did my internship as a photographer at the Los Angeles Times for two semesters. L.A. Times photographer Boris Yaro, who took photos of the Robert Kennedy assassination at the Ambassador Hotel, introduced me to Asia Photo Editor Max Desfor. When I briefly returned to Japan because of my mother's illness, I contacted Max, who said there was no opening at that time, so I stayed with my original plan to go on to graduate school.

In a later summer, I had a chance to visit New York to see one of my friends who was studying there. While in New York, I visited 50 Rock, where Executive Photo Editor Hal Buell kindly received me, and we had a nice chat. Hal said he used to be in Tokyo, pointing at a large photo of a Japanese temple hung on a wall of his office.

After submitting my master's thesis to CSUN, I called Max, who said there was an opening and suggested I come to the Tokyo bureau as soon as possible. When I was interviewed by Roy, he said he had my resume forwarded to him by Hal. When I joined the AP in Tokyo as a photo editor, Max was retiring so that, to my chagrin, I did not have privilege to work with him for a substantial period of time.

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

Although I started as a photo editor, I always wanted to be a newsman. While working on the photo desk, I sometimes volunteered to write feature stories on my days off and presented them to Asia News Editor Richard Pyle. When the editorial side had an opening, I applied for the position and was accepted.

As everyone else in the news department did, I covered various subjects including World Cup ski events in northern Japan, a coal mine disaster in southern Japan, in addition to usual politics and business news. One of the most interesting assignments I had was to cover former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka's lower house re-election campaign in his rural constituency shortly after he received a guilty verdict from a Tokyo district court on the Lockheed bribery case. I wrote that his re-election was a sure bet, quoting a local housewife who said, "Tanaka-san was like God to us. He brought the sun to this shady place." I received newspaper clips from bureaus in various locations, including the U.S. and Germany. (Those days, bureaus routinely sent clips to other bureaus where stories originated.)



**AP President Lou Boccardi congratulates Kaz in 2001 on his election as FCCI president.**

restructured and I was named general manager and the legal representative of the

After serving as a newsman for several years, I was offered by Roy Essoyan to succeed the Canadian-educated ACOB Shin Higashi who was to retire shortly. Shin was instrumental in the huge growth of the AP's business in Japan.

The post of Tokyo COB had long been administrative, functioning as chief executive of the bureau, perhaps because Tokyo produced a significant revenue for the AP. When the AP decided all COBs had to be newsmen or newswomen, the bureau was

AP in Japan, while Joe Coleman became COB responsible for the entire editorial operations. A few months later, I was named general manager for Northeast Asia.

Meanwhile, I served as president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan in 2001-02. I was the 10th AP person and the third Japanese to serve as president of the club that was founded in 1945, shortly after the end of World War II.

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

I should say that was Roy Essoyan. He was born in a Japanese fishing village just after his refugee family landed there in a desperate 1919 escape from Russia's Bolshevik revolution. He grew up in the port city of Kobe, western Japan, until the Essoyans moved to Shanghai in 1932. He was not only a seasoned journalist but also a very judicious administrator. He looked after the bureau staff in a fatherly fashion and dealt with executives of Japanese subscribers in a masterly manner. He also had a dry sense of humor.



**Roy and Betsey Essoyan, Ed White and Kaz in 2003 over lunch at a northern Oahu restaurant.**

It was a big decision for me to make, whether to stay on the editorial side or move to the business/administrative side. Roy's presence in Tokyo was a major factor behind my decision, and he always provided me with encouragement and kind support. I tried to represent the AP's mission and share its journalism values with our subscribers in Japan and Korea when I dealt with them, just like Roy would. I felt I was lucky because the AP had - and I believe still has - a high reputation in Japan and Korea.

After he retired to Hawaii, I routinely stopped by Honolulu to visit with Roy and Betsey at their North Shore home on my way back to Tokyo from a business trip to New York or elsewhere in the mainland U.S.





**Jim Lagier and Kaz at the FCCJ in 2000.**

I also would like to add that I particularly enjoyed working with Jim Lagier. Shortly after he arrived in Tokyo, Assistant Business Manager Kinko Samejima sent a card to Lou Boccardi thanking him for sending Jim to Tokyo. Jim and I had good time together and lots of good laughs while he was in Tokyo.

It's sad to note that many of the remarkable AP people I worked with - Roy Essoyan, Shin Higashi, Ed White, John Roderick, Jim Lagier, Richard Pyle and Max Desfor - have passed away.

I have many good AP friends, and I owe deep gratitude to all of them -- and apologize as well to those whom I neglected to communicate with in recent years.

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

I would like to do it again, if that were possible. But next time, I probably would stay on the editorial side a bit longer.

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## What's your favorite hobby or activity?

I probably should say it's tennis, but it actually is more than a hobby. I started playing tennis at Lake Balboa Park, a public park in San Fernando Valley, while I was studying at CSUN in my mid-20s. I just thought I needed some exercise because you drive to go everywhere in southern California, but I was soon hooked on the game.



Now, if you participate in many tournaments, aiming to be qualified to play in the annual All Japan Veteran Tennis Championships, you will have to practice a lot while maintaining good physical condition all the time. That would decrease your opportunities to enjoy other things - such as wining and dining, for instance. I'm trying to resolve that dilemma by participating in a limited number of selected tournaments, although that would reduce my chance of winning a tournament to some degree.

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

My wife, Masaye, and I live in suburban Tokyo with two spoiled cats named Momo and Tonto. She enjoys tennis, too, but is slowing down a bit. Our daughter, Miki, is married and lives in Nagoya, central Japan, with her husband and a nearly-2-year-old son.

Kazuo Abiko's email is - [kaz.abiko@gmail.com](mailto:kaz.abiko@gmail.com)



Daughter Miki with our grandson Minato in 2018.

# ASNE and APME share best practices and tips to help keep journalists safe under fire

**Paula Froke (Email)** - APME executive director - APME and ASNE combined to create a two-page tip sheet on newsroom security, compiled from a couple of sources. We have emailed it to our members and posted it on social media. The plan is to update and/or elaborate in the coming days or weeks. Here is what was sent:

The American Society of News Editors and the Associated Press Media Editors offer this two-page tip sheet with some of the best wisdom of journalism organizations committed to journalist safety and the pursuit of a free and dedicated press corps.

We are committed to helping our colleagues at the Capital Gazette in Annapolis, Maryland, but offer this as a guide to preparing for the worst.

Your helpful advice and comments are welcome at [apme@ap.org](mailto:apme@ap.org)

[Click here](#) to view.

## The dangers that come with the job

**Mark Mittelstadt (Email)** - The story was a sad one: a popular high school athlete dies when the attic over a friend's garage catches fire.

As the police beat/municipal government reporter, it was one of the more tragic I had had to write in the year or so of being with The Record of Cedar Falls, Iowa, following college graduation. The Record was a Tuesday-Saturday AMer with a circulation generously listed at 5,000. It vigorously served a university community of 35,000 adjacent to the much larger Waterloo.

Investigating police said friends left the young man in the attic to rest or to sleep because he wasn't feeling well while they went out. Firefighters said scattered beer cans made it difficult to walk on the attic floor and to get to the victim. The young man had a high level of alcohol in his blood stream, the medical examiner later reported (a number he later scaled back.)

A couple days after the story appeared, an ashen man walked through the newspaper's front door, down steps to the newsroom and told the "Society Editor" -- the first person every visitor encountered in our 8-person newsroom -- that he wanted to see me. She explained I was around the editor's desk divider and seated in the corner. The man quietly came a few steps and began to glare at me. At one



point he mentioned he was the young man's father and that he wanted to see what I looked like.

Editor David Westphal asked if there was anything we could help him with. He said nothing and continued to glare at me. I sat frozen, not sure what to do next. We did not know if the father had a gun or was planning to do anything violent. There was only one exit from the basement newsroom -- back up the stairs, or less likely, going past the stairs to the press room and eventually out a large overhead door.

After a couple minutes, the father left, saying nothing. We were all a bit unnerved. After a few minutes of talking among ourselves, we resumed working.

A few days later, I received a call at home from the police chief. The man's wife called police to say he had left the house with a gun. She didn't know if he was planning to hurt himself or others. The chief said he wanted me to be aware of it and to be on the lookout. He said he would have an officer patrol in front of our house.

Many hours later I got another call saying he had returned home and was getting counseling.

As threats to journalists go, my experience was relatively minor. AP journalists and others around the world face far worse -- from kidnapping, robbery, extortion, beatings and even death. The annual numbers from Reporters Without Borders and other groups are shocking and sobering. Yet it was enough that it remains in the back of my mind and surfaces quickly upon learning of five people slain in a Maryland newsroom.

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**Gene Herrick** ([Email](#)) - Mark Mittelstadt suggested in Friday's Connecting for responses to having guns placed on journalist's heads.

As an Associated Press photojournalist war correspondent in Korea at the beginning of that war in 1950, North Korean snipers aimed directly at my body while I was taking pictures of a battle scene. Of course, this is normal in a war for a correspondent, but this was absolutely the first moments I arrived at the Mason front. I saw the dirt popping up at my feet; I heard the bullets snapping past my head, but I had to be reminded by a nearby U.S. soldier that those were bullets! What an initiation.

War is like that for soldiers or correspondents. After all, that is what it is all about.

Later, back in the states, I had a couple of other personal "Guns aimed at me experiences." One was the civil rights (Integration) of black school children back into their home schools in Clinton, Tennessee, in 1956. A riot broke out in nearby Oliver Springs, a tiny mining community in the mountains, where lots of dynamite was reported missing. The National Guard was called out on hand when we reached the rioting area. We journalists faced a mob with what they called "Squirrel guns." The only light came from the large moon, and the spotlights of the heavily armed Guard. It was a beautiful picture. The rioters held their guns skyward against the moon. The guard was lecturing the mob to leave law enforcement up to them. A photographer, standing in the middle of them and using a 35mm camera, shot a picture. The mob came alive, pushed the Guard aside, and chased the photographer. Pandemonium broke out.

I was standing at the edge of the mob and had my old 4x5 Speed Graphic opened at the back to focus on the picture of the guns against the moon. After the other photographer started running, some of the mob came over to me; guns point at me, grabbed the beat up electronic strobe light, and at the same time, pulled the film holder from the back of the camera. The slide had already been pulled and the film was right there. A mobster grabbed the sheet of film and held it up to the moonlight, and said "Now we'll see if he took a picture." I wanted to scream out in laughter, because the film had been ruined by the light. I put my well-trained discretion to use.

Later, while covering the return home of a disgraced American GI from the Korean War, who had gone over to the North Korean side, I encountered his home community of Cracker's Neck, near Big Stone Gap, Tennessee. I went to the area a few days before Cpl. Dickenson arrived. I wanted to go to his home, which was a log cabin up a long, narrow wooded mountain path. About half-way up, outstepped a big skinny fellow to place the barrel of his rifle right in the middle of my chest, and asked, "where you goin'?" My camera got very, very heavy, and my mouth was dry. I told him, and he took the gun off my chest. I went on up the road to the house, but no one was home. I later covered Dickenson's plane arrival a couple of days later.

One other time I was covering a trial and was lingering in the area just outside the courtroom. An FBI agent and I were kidding around, and he said, "Gene, I'll bet I can put my gun on your chest before you can raise your camera up to your eye. By the time I raised my camera up to shoot a picture, he had his gun out of his hip holster, and right in the middle of my chest. Lesson: Don't mess with a federal agent! It was all in fun, but a good lesson for me.

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**Linda Deutsch (Email)** - I am personally wounded to see such horror visited upon the truth tellers who did nothing but shine their special light on their community. They were my extended family. An assault on one was an assault on all of us.

I have worked in the news business for half a century and have met some remarkable people who practice this profession out of love and dedication. Reading the bios of the five innocents killed in Maryland, I saw the kind of people who make journalism a noble calling. I have worked beside people just like them - talented, funny, hard-working and passionate about their profession.

When I heard the survivors were publishing their paper today (Friday), I was not surprised. And I was thrust back in memory to the first national catastrophe I witnessed after deciding to take up journalism. It was the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. I was in college in New Jersey at the time and when the news struck, I gathered my classmates who worked on the campus newspaper. Many were weeping and wondering what to do. I had an idea. I piled them into my car and we headed for the local newspaper, the Asbury Park Press, where I had been a freelancer. We walked in and offered to help put out the next day's paper. People were needed to answer phones and take messages about memorial services and event cancellations. We also helped to rip the wires as news came in from Dallas. I realized then how important a profession this was and how empowering it was to do something useful in times of crisis. When I saw members of the Capital Gazette publishing their paper from a truck and saw a quote from one of them saying, "What else would we do?" I understood. They were doing what good journalists do, telling the story even if it broke their hearts.

## **Associated Press may have led FBI to Manafort storage locker**

**By JOSH GERSTEIN, Politico**

A meeting last year where Associated Press reporters discussed with federal officials the news outlet's investigation of former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort's finances may have led the FBI to a storage locker the bureau raided, an FBI agent testified Friday.

The unexpected testimony from FBI Agent Jeff Pfeiffer at a federal court hearing in Alexandria, Virginia, on the legality of the May 2017 search was the first live witness the government has offered against Manafort since special counsel Robert Mueller's first indictment against the longtime lobbyist and political consultant was returned last October.

The April 2017 meeting between AP reporters and officials from the Justice Department's Criminal Division and the FBI has been the subject of inquiries from congressional Republicans, who suggested it that it might have involved leaks to the media.

Pfeiffer, however, described the session as an opportunity for federal investigators to hear what The AP had discovered. The FBI agent said that the federal investigators rebuffed the reporters' questions, at least most of the time.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Shane, Mark Mittelstadt, Paul Albright

## A son remembers his father - Clifford Smyth shares thoughts on his father, veteran AP newsman David Smyth



**David Smyth at his son's wedding in 2008**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: David Smyth, retired financial editor for the World Services desk in New York City, recently died at the age of 89 after a long illness. He had a 33-year career with The Associated Press, most on the World Desk in New York, before retiring in 1996. His son Clifford shares with Connecting his thoughts on his father.)

**Clifford Smyth** ([Email](#)) - David was born in Buenos Aires and grew up in Santa Elena, Argentina, where his Dad managed a meat packing plant for Bovril. His mother died of cancer when he was twelve, a great tragedy. He went to the Old



Georgian boarding school in Buenos Aires, taking classes in English in the morning and in Spanish in the afternoons. He enjoyed hunting while growing up.

He was in the Argentine military after school, a compulsory service. He then got a master's degree in modern languages from Cambridge University, England. He was fluent in English and Spanish and knew a fair amount of German and a few other languages, enough to read the newspaper and manage conversation in them. After the university, he worked for the Buenos Aires Herald and also the Argentine patent office.

He took about half a year off to travel down the River Platte in Argentina by kayak. Later on he traveled all over South America with his friend Harry Goldhar. Harry and he once wound up in Lima (Peru) stranded, near broke, living in a flop house. They had a cheap room over the kitchen where the residents cooked all day and night, sending rafts of garlic vapor their way. He had a lifelong aversion to garlic after that.

He came to Canada to visit his only sibling, Ian, for a few days in the early 60s and then crossed the border by bus to New York City with about \$100 in his pocket. There he walked off the street and into a job at United Press International and a place in Greenwich Village. About a month later he went to the appropriate office, told them he already had a job and a place to stay and wanted to make it official, to become a citizen. They said that sounded great and gave him the forms to get started. It was as easy as that back then. After a couple of years, he jumped ship to the Associated Press where he spent the rest of his career, mainly as an editor of financial news going out on the wire to Latin America.

He married Elli Helene Duesterhoeft in 1968, who had come from East Prussia, then Germany, then England to New York. When I got to be school age, he took his family from Flushing, Queens, to Metuchen, NJ. When his family was young he and Elli took in a refugee family and a single woman from Vietnam to live in their home until they got settled in the United States.

He was a student of investing. Although he never said this, it seems he was proud that he generated the wealth that ensured that he and Elli could live comfortable lives in their retirement while remaining net positive indefinitely.

A Library of Congress search lists these books he wrote: "The Speculator's Handbook (with Laurance F. Stuntz); "You Can Survive Any Financial Disaster: strategies to beat triple-digit inflation, severe depression, even wartime catastrophes," 1976; "Unusual Investments That Could Make You Rich (With Stuntz), 1978; "No Cost/Low Cost Investing (with Chet Currier), 1987; David Smyth. "Worldly Wise Investor: international opportunities in today's markets," 1988.

He also worked on novels. "Old Golfers Never Die" is available on Amazon Kindle. "What is Truth?" is an unpublished but complete novel about a Roman agent investigating the life and times of Jesus at the behest of the rulers of an empire rapidly converting to Christianity. It is a kind of detective novel and mystery in that he arrives on the scene a little too long after the death to learn much that would be accepted by his non-believing masters as certain. Fifteen years prior to the 9/11 attacks, he wrote another unpublished novel on a terrorist plot to start a firestorm over the whole of the oil refinery and tanker fields of New Jersey. He also had worked seriously on a book account of the explorer Vasco de Gama's adventures.

He retired with Elli to Greensboro, North Carolina to be closer to me, my wife, Tina Lai, and our son, James. After 87 years of fine health he declined rapidly over his last two. He died of complications resulting from the neurological conditions of Parkinson's disease and neuropathy.

He was a calm, quiet, and gentle man. To his family, it seemed that he felt that the less he said about himself the better, although he never said that either. I remember canoeing New Jersey lakes and rivers and sailing a 12-foot dingy at Sandy Hook with him, and his good sense of humor. He will be missed.

## ***David Smyth - Comments from colleagues***

**From Nestor Ikeda, retired LPA editor and correspondent for LPA based in the Washington bureau:**

What sad news. David was not only an important person on the World Desk, but also a great friend. I remember when he took up a collection to buy PowerBall tickets, which in those days were sold in New York State, and he sent me to Connecticut to buy tickets because I lived in Queens, where it was easier to make the trip. David was the one who prepared Chicago commodity price list for the LPA wire during ATEX times, and he abbreviated the quotation for cacao as "caca."

One time, after we both were retired, he emailed me in Lima and (in his dry humor) said he was somewhat preoccupied because his son had a Korean fiancé and wondered what I thought. I responded that he shouldn't worry because children of that mix are frequently geniuses.

It really hurts to know that he has died.

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**From Eduardo Gallardo, retired former supervisor of the Latin American Desk (LPA):**

He was a very nice person and tremendous professional. I first worked with David from 1973 to 1976 at the World Desk, actually LPA, as the Latin American Desk was called then. He contributed to the Spanish wire with the daily reports of various markets and occasionally with a story on mayor economic events.

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**From Jose "Pepe" Abreu, another retired former supervisor of the Latin American Desk:**

Very sad news indeed. David was an exceptional friend to me. When I started in AP, in San Juan, he was the one who pushed me, subtly, but always forward. He mentored me, together with (bureau chief) Lou, Uchitelle, until I became a full fledged journalist [Editor's note: David was stationed in San Juan for a period in the mid-1960s].

David's ability was to run the news gathering without much fuss, just overseeing the San Juan operation in both Spanish and English. Always respectful of other people's feelings.

When an opening became available in New York, he encouraged me to take it. He had the ability to see how far people could go. I ended up in New York and to my ... delight he came to New York as well.

After I retired in 2003, I always looked forward to the Christmas holidays -- he never failed to send his greetings.

Inolvidable amigo.

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**Harold Olmos, retired AP Latin American correspondent:**

It is with sorrow followed by plenty of recollections of the old days that I have learned of Dave Smyth passing. David was a great colleague, excellent editor

(English and Spanish), always ready to lend advice on improving copy, especially when oil and business were involved. The last time we spoke on the telephone, some four or five years ago, he said he was writing fiction based on his experience as an editor and guided by profuse reading, historic and fiction.

"Requiescat in pace," master.

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**From Ford Burkhart, former World and Cables (Foreign) desk editor in the 1970s:**

So glad to see that (Connecting) item on David Smyth. We always enjoyed good chats around the desk in our down time. He really helped me sharpen my sense of "investing" as a big idea that could help over a lifetime. I followed his advice and invested one week's pay every month for my career. I really owe him.

(Shared by Kernan Turner)

## **Stories relating to Capital Gazette shooting**

### ***Capital Gazette: 'We Won't Forget Being Called An Enemy Of The People'***

**By MATT SHUHAM, Talking Points Memo**

In an editorial Sunday, Capital Gazette staff thanked those who had supported the organization in the aftermath of the Thursday shooting that left five dead, and noticeably condemned the use of one of President Donald Trump's preferred phrases for the press: "Enemy of the people."

"Here's what else we won't forget: Death threats and emails from people we don't know celebrating our loss, or the people who called for one of our reporters to get fired because she got angry and cursed on national television after witnessing her friends getting shot," the editorial read.



"We won't forget being called an enemy of the people. No, we won't forget that. Because exposing evil, shining light on wrongs and fighting injustice is what we do."

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

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## ***Maryland attack tells journalists to take threats seriously***

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) - Threats of violence against journalists for doing their jobs are commonplace, and a coping strategy for many is the thought that the words are mostly empty - until that small comfort was shattered by the shooting deaths of five people in a Maryland newspaper newsroom.

Reporters largely keep stories of angry readers or viewers to themselves, although Thursday's attack in Maryland compelled many to share their experiences on social media and in newsrooms as a form of group therapy on Friday.

"Since these become a regular part of your life, you have to convince yourself that a lot of people, even if they want to act, won't act," said Jared Paul Sexton, who writes on politics for Salon and other outlets. "When something like this happens, you realize that it could."

Sexton has written extensively about the white nationalist movement, and knows that people track his comings and goings online. People have circled his house in cars, come into his driveway and flashed their lights. His house has been broken into. "Pretty standard intimidation," he said.

Just this week, Sexton got a phone call from someone who vividly described how he'd like to murder and dismember him.

"I feel a responsibility," he said. "I think we are in a lot of trouble. This is happening in this country. I feel I have to keep working on this or I'd walk away with a lot of regret."

Read more [here](#).

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## ***At another small paper, community ties are personal***



**Keith Magill, executive editor, and summer intern Nikki Naquin, left, work in the Houma Courier newspaper offices in Houma, La., Friday, June 29, 2018. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert**

**By KEVIN McGILL**

HOUMA, La. (AP) - The news of the bloody attack came from a newspaper more than 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) away, but not unlike their own, with deep ties to their town stretching back more than a century.

At The Courier in Houma, amid the bayous that marble south Louisiana, the staff was still digesting the outburst of violence that left five dead Thursday at the Capital

Gazette and shattered the community of Annapolis, Maryland.

With a population of about 34,000, Houma is slightly smaller than Annapolis, which has roughly 39,000 residents. Like the Capital Gazette, The Courier is a community newspaper, focusing on people and events that make up the town - the newest contestant for school board, the summer basketball league, where people can see Fourth of July fireworks.

Readers reach out to executive editor Keith Magill through email or social media, but just as likely they'll see him on the street and ask why something did - or, more likely, did not - appear in the newspaper.

"You're not an anonymous face. You don't disappear into the ether. You're part of the community, and if that's not for you, then you don't want to be part of a small newspaper," said Magill, who has some three decades in the business, much of it at The Courier.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

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## ***The sorry history of journalists killed in the U.S. for doing their job***

**By PATT MORRISON, Los Angeles Times**

An attack on a newspaper is the same as an attack on the Constitution, on the nation's earliest face of the 1st Amendment.

Thursday's murders at the local newspaper in Annapolis, Md., were allegedly committed by a man who police say staged "a targeted attack on the Capital Gazette."

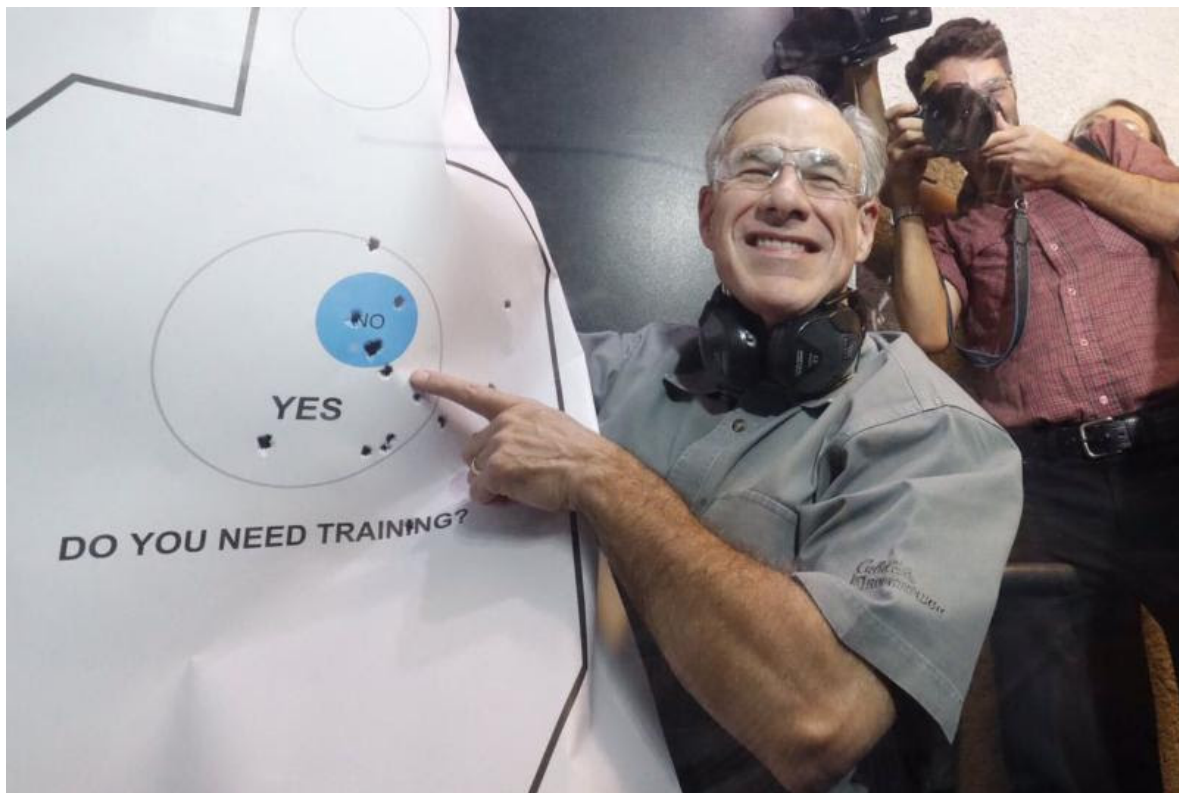
The targeted killing of journalists is something we think of as happening elsewhere - in Mexico, where journalists are gunned down by drug lords and their cronies; in Russia, where journalist critics of Vladimir Putin turn up dead; in Syria and Afghanistan; in France, where Islamic State supporters massacred Charlie Hebdo magazine journalists.

It hasn't happened to a newspaper journalist in the United States in more than 10 years; in 2007, Chauncey Bailey, who edited the weekly Oakland Post, was gunned down to shut down his reporting about Oakland's Your Black Muslim Bakery, whose financial and personnel problems Bailey had been covering.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Texas governor jokes about shooting reporters after signing gun bill***



**Gov. Abbott admires his practice target after signing Senate Bill 16, which reduces the first-time fee for a license to carry handguns, on May 26, 2017. Bob Daemmrich for The Texas Tribune**

**By ALEX SAMUELS, Texas Tribune**

Gov. Greg Abbott on Friday visited a shooting range to sign a bill into law that significantly reduces the cost to get a license to carry a handgun, making Texas one



of the states with the lowest fee in the nation.

"The right to bear arms is something that is synonymous with the state of Texas. We are proud to expand the right to bear arms by lowering the cost of what you have to pay in order to get a license to carry," Abbott said. "Texans' ability to bear arms is going to be even bolder today than it's ever been before."

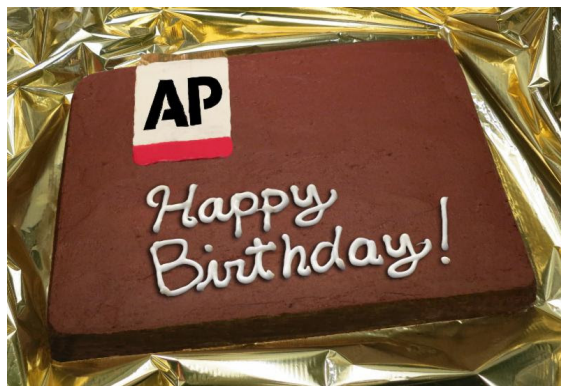
The law, Senate Bill 16, reduces the first-time fee for a license to carry from \$140 to \$40 and the renewal fee from \$70 to \$40. A license to carry permit is valid in Texas for five years. The new fee will go into effect on Sept. 1.

Following the bill signing, Abbott tested out a few guns at an upstairs shooting range.

"I'm gonna carry this around in case I see any reporters," Abbott joked while holding his bullet-riddled target sheet.

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

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

**Donna Davidson - [ddavidson@ap.org](mailto:ddavidson@ap.org)**

**Jim Robertson - [jimrobertson203@gmail.com](mailto:jimrobertson203@gmail.com)**

**AP****BEAT OF THE WEEK**

## Immigration: Back-to-back scoops by investigative teams, Washington reporters



**A mother migrating from Honduras holds her 1-year-old child as they surrender to U.S. Border Patrol agents after illegally crossing the border, June 25, 2018, near McAllen, Texas. The women paid a smuggler to get them across the river. Once agents spotted the smuggler, he retreated to Mexico and the women surrendered to officials. AP PHOTO / DAVID J. PHILLIP**

The disturbing stories of more than 2,000 kids caught up in the U.S. immigration system - including babies and toddlers forcibly separated from their parents - dominated headlines and led newscasts around the world.

AP reporters, working across the country, in Washington, D.C., Latin America and along the U.S.-Mexican border led the coverage of the impact of the zero tolerance immigration policy. Their work produced a series of scoops that set the agenda, alerting Capitol Hill leaders to a major White House order, leaving an MSNBC anchor in tears and generating action by politicians.

For their work, the Beat of the Week is shared by investigative reporters Garance Burke, Martha Mendoza, Michael Biesecker and Jake Pearson, and Washington reporters Jill Colvin and Colleen Long. The award also recognizes an outstanding company-wide effort that included reporting from numerous locations and across formats, putting the AP repeatedly in front of a major global story.

Burke and Mendoza tracked down where immigrant babies and toddlers were being held, introducing the nation to a phrase that Sen. Orrin Hatch called chilling: "tender age." Meanwhile, Burke and Biesecker in Washington worked with New York's Pearson to report on an immigration jail in Virginia where teens had allegedly been abused for years, while Colvin and Long broke news on President Donald Trump's executive order changing the administration's policy and, later, on the number of children reunited with families.

For the story about infants and toddlers in shelter, Burke, who has long reported on migrant children, learned the government was setting up special shelters to hold babies and other tender age children. She and Mendoza brainstormed the type of workers who would encounter them - lawyers, law enforcement officials, care providers, advocates. They searched contracts and memos. After dozens of calls and emails, they confirmed there were, in fact, toddler detention centers already open.

Lawyers and doctors who had been inside described kids who were deeply upset, hysterical or withdrawn, crying and acting out. The story drew widespread attention. MSNBC anchor Rachel Maddow broke down in tears trying to read it on air. She later tweeted the top, with an apology to viewers. By then, it had gone viral. Ellen DeGeneres retweeted it. Democratic U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York read it into the congressional record on the Senate floor. CNN, NBC, The New York Times and The Washington Post worked to match AP's report, which led CNN's "Reliable Sources" newsletter.

The story also was cited by New York Times columnist Charles Blow and his colleague Will Wilkinson, whose column asked, "How Did We Get to the Savagery of 'Tender Age' Shelters?" Burke and Mendoza spoke of their findings in interviews with PBS NewsHour, CBS, MSNBC and Maddow's show, among others.

... an outstanding company-wide effort that included reporting from numerous locations and across formats, putting the AP repeatedly in front of a major global story.

In Washington, the breaking news investigative team looked at federal contractors housing immigrant children, searching for any newsworthy federal, state or local legal claims already filed against them. Biesecker's attention was drawn to a federal

lawsuit, first identified by Global Investigative Editor Mike Hudson, alleging sensational abuse claims between 2015 and 2018 at an immigration jail in the mountains of Virginia, about two hours outside Washington. Children as young as 14 claimed guards there stripped them of their clothes and strapped them to chairs with bags placed over their heads.

As Biesecker read the legal docket and reached out to lawyers and government officials, Burke tracked down an adult who worked at the same facility and said she routinely saw kids there with serious injuries they blamed on guards. Biesecker also found congressional testimony from a senior official at the facility who disputed claims that many of the children belonged to violent gangs, saying that after clinical staff assessed them, they were identified as suffering from mental health issues resulting from trauma that happened in their home countries - problems the facility is ill-equipped to treat.

The story was AP's top content of the day. Biesecker's own tweet promoting the story generated 4.4 million impressions and was retweeted nearly 60,000 times. Within hours, Virginia's Gov. Ralph Northam ordered state officials to investigate the abuse claims.

**BREAKING @AP:** Immigrant children as young as 14 housed at a juvenile detention center in Virginia say they were beaten while handcuffed and locked up for long periods in solitary confinement, left nude and shivering in concrete cells.  
<https://t.co/ffw0bBcYrH>

- Michael Biesecker (@mbieseck) June 21, 2018

Virginia Sens. Tim Kaine and Mark Warner asked to meet with federal officials and sent them questions about the operations at the facility; Biesecker appeared on PBS NewsHour and Scripps Howard's video news service. Meanwhile, Pearson, working through sources, identified an obscure book of poetry published last year by the immigrant children at the same facility.

In another set of scoops, Colvin, a White House reporter who has worked extensively on homeland security matters, and Long, who just started covering the homeland security beat, broke the news that an executive order had been drafted that would end family separations - a rare capitulation to political pressure from the president.

**BREAKING:** Trump says he'll be "signing something" on immigration, wants to keep migrant families together. <https://t.co/XHAXPsFCsO>

- The Associated Press (@AP) June 20, 2018

On the morning of June 20th, Trump tweeted a vague message about immigration, though White House staff seemed to not know what he meant. Together, tapping their sources, Colvin and Long ultimately learned Homeland Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen was heading to the White House to push for an end to family separations. Trump later revealed he intended to sign an executive order doing so.

Meanwhile, Long kept pushing a source for the number of children reunited with their families. On Thursday night, the source called her with the number - 500. She quickly prepared a newsalert. By the next morning, AP's figure was widely cited on morning news shows, radio broadcasts and online news sites.

For aggressive reporting that put AP ahead on this intensively competitive story, Burke, Mendoza, Biesecker, Pearson, Colvin and Long share this week's Beat of the Week award.

## Today in History - July 2, 2018



### By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, July 2, the 183rd day of 2018. There are 182 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On July 2, 1937, aviator Amelia Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan disappeared over the Pacific Ocean while attempting to make the first round-the-world flight along the equator.

### On this date:

In 1776, the Continental Congress passed a resolution saying that "these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

In 1867, New York's first elevated rail line, a single track between Battery Place and Greenwich Street, went into operation.

In 1881, President James A. Garfield was shot by Charles J. Guiteau at the Washington railroad station; Garfield died the following September. (Guiteau was hanged in June 1882.)

In 1892, the Populist Party (also known as the People's Party) opened its first national convention in Omaha, Nebraska.

In 1917, rioting erupted in East St. Louis, Illinois, as white mobs attacked black residents; nearly 50 people, mostly blacks, are believed to have died in the violence.

In 1926, the United States Army Air Corps was created.

In 1955, "The Lawrence Welk Show" premiered on ABC-TV under its original title, "The Dodge Dancing Party."

In 1961, author Ernest Hemingway shot himself to death at his home in Ketchum, Idaho.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law a sweeping civil rights bill passed by Congress.

In 1977, Russian-American author Vladimir Nabokov, 78, died in Montreux, Switzerland.

In 1987, 18 Mexican immigrants were found dead inside a locked boxcar near Sierra Blanca, Texas, in what authorities called a botched smuggling attempt; a 19th man survived.

In 1997, Academy Award-winning actor James Stewart died in Beverly Hills, California, at age 89.



Ten years ago: Five years ago: Colombian military spies tricked leftist rebels into freeing 15 hostages: Ex-presidential candidate Ingrid Betancourt, three U.S. military contractors, and 11 Colombian policemen and soldiers. Police in Randolph, Vt., unearthed the body of 12-year-old Brooke Bennett from a makeshift grave, ending a weeklong search.

Five years ago: The Obama administration unexpectedly announced a one-year delay, until after the 2014 elections, in a central requirement of the health care law that medium and large companies provide coverage for their workers or face fines. Homer Bailey threw his second no-hitter in 10 months, pitching the Cincinnati Reds to a 3-0 victory over the slumping San Francisco Giants. Olympic track star Suzy Favor Hamilton's name was removed from the Big Ten female athlete of the year award following revelations she had worked as a prostitute.

One year ago: New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie was photographed with his family soaking up the sun on a beach he had closed to the public for the Fourth of July weekend because of a government shutdown.

Today's Birthdays: Former Philippine first lady Imelda Marcos is 89. Jazz musician Ahmad Jamal is 88. Actor Robert Ito is 87. Actress Polly Holliday is 81. Racing Hall of Famer Richard Petty is 81. Former White House chief of staff John H. Sununu is 79. Former Mexican President Vicente Fox is 76. Writer-director-comedian Larry David is 71. Luci Baines Johnson, daughter of President Lyndon B. Johnson, is 71. Actor Saul Rubinek is 70. Rock musician Roy Bittan (Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band) is 69. Rock musician Gene Taylor is 66. Actress Wendy Schaal is 64. Actress-model Jerry Hall is 62. Actor Jimmy McNichol is 57. Country singer Guy Penrod is 55. Rock musician Dave Parsons (Bush) is 53. Actress Yancy Butler is 48. Contemporary Christian musician Melodee DeVevo (Casting Crowns) is 42. Actor Owain (OH'-wyn) Yeoman is 40. Race car driver Sam Hornish Jr. is 39. Singer Michelle Branch is 35. Actress Vanessa Lee Chester is 34. Figure skater Johnny Weir is 34. Actor Nelson Franklin is 33. Actress-singer Ashley Tisdale is 33. Actress Lindsay Lohan (LOH'-uhn) is 32. Actress Margot Robbie is 28.

***Thought for Today: "No great man lives in vain. The history of the world is but the biography of great men." - Thomas Carlyle, Scottish critic and historian (1795-1881).***

## 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.

**Paul Stevens**  
**Editor, Connecting newsletter**  
[paulstevens46@gmail.com](mailto:paulstevens46@gmail.com)

Connecting newsletter, 14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215

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