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# Connecting -- July 24, 2018

1 message

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# Connecting

July 24, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning!

Some of our Connecting colleagues were regular passengers on Air Force One during their careers of covering presidents.

And with the news peg that President Trump is reported (by Axios) to want to redesign Air Force One to have a "more American" look, replacing the current light blue trim with something potentially involving the red, white, and blue of the U.S. flag - we'd like to issue a call for you to share your favorite memories and photos aboard the iconic aircraft.



**John Epperson** ([Email](#)) suggests the idea and shares this photo he shot for the Denver Post of Air Force One bathed in late afternoon winter sunshine in 2005 at Buckley AFB, Colorado, as the aircraft waited on President George W. Bush who was visiting Denver.

Ye Olde Connecting Editor hopes it will get the legs that our series on first jobs before journalism has received. More of your memories in today's issue.

Many of us grew up reading favorite columnists - and one of mine was Donald Kaul of the Des Moines Register and Tribune. Our colleague **Randy Evans** worked 40 years at the Register and offers his memories of the man some lowans (not me!) loved to hate.

Paul

**Donald Kaul would have rather be remembered as author of his column**

# than for idea of the across-Iowa bike race he hatched



**Randy Evans** ([Email](#)) - Donald Kaul, a famous Iowa newspaper columnist - his critics might call him infamous - died on Sunday at the age of 83.

His death came on the first day of an annual event for which he was best known -- RAGBRAI, the acronym for the Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa. But it pained him right up to his final days that his reputation was more as the father of a week-long bicycle ride rather than as the author of the "Over the Coffee" column that appeared up to five days a week for three decades in the Des Moines Register.

He was twice a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for commentary. He lost out one year to Maureen Dowd and then was beat out by Charles Krauthammer another year.

Starting in 1973, when RAGBRAI began, Kaul came to be known for sitting astride his bicycle. But for most of each year, you never would find Kaul sitting astride a fence in his column. You would always find him standing firmly on the left side of that fence.

That fact alone, given Iowa's solid Republican orientation for much of Kaul's tenure, made him someone Iowans loved to hate. It was not uncommon for a young Des



Moines Register reporter out on assignment in rural Iowa to find that the topic of the lunch counter conversation was dictated by Kaul's column in that morning's Register.

That was true when he poked fun at the slow-pace of high school girls' basketball in Iowa, a beloved sport in a state where the girls' high school state tournament often drew more spectators than the boys' tournament during Kaul's column-writing years.

So did his columns in which he tried to dislodge "The Sound of Music" from Des Moines movie theaters in the mid-1960s. He said the film was so syrupy it ought to be on a "condemned list" by the "Association for the Prevention of Diabetes."

Kaul joined the reporting staff of the Des Moines Tribune in 1960, a dozen years and change before I walked into the newsroom as a young reporter. Kaul had spent a few years covering news for the Trib before his editors decided that he didn't have much of a future doing that and was better suited to writing the "Over the Coffee" column for the sister paper, the Des Moines Register.

Kaul once told a bunch of us about how he and his bosses arrived at the decision that news reporting was not his cup of, err, tea.

As Kaul told the story, a tourist fainted in the finial high atop the main dome of the Iowa Capitol. Kaul was dispatched and scurried up a narrow spiral stairway to reach the base of the dome, then walked up an arched stairway suspended between the dome's inner wall and outer wall, and finally climbed a ladder to reach the finial.

After gathering the details for his story, Kaul hurried downstairs to find a pay phone and dictate his account for the afternoon Tribune. The city desk had a couple of obvious questions - questions that had not occurred to Kaul. So, it was back up those stairways and back up ladder to find the answers and then back down the ladder and back down the stairways to that pay phone.

The process was repeated once more before the city desk finally accepted the story as-is and Kaul wheezed his way back to the newsroom.

The Tribune news staff's "loss" turned out to be the start of a column-writing assignment that spurred debates across the state on issues from Des Moines to Washington, D.C., and transformed Iowa into a mecca for recreational bicyclists.

Lest my Connecting colleagues think, hmm, a bike ride, let it be known that RAGBRAI is no ordinary biking excursion.

This year is the 46th annual edition of the ride. About 20,000 bicyclists are pedaling, eating and drinking their way across my state this week, traveling from the Missouri River on the west beginning Sunday morning to the Mississippi River on the east by Saturday afternoon.

The route changes each year, but riders typically travel 400-some mile during the week, dealing with saddle sores, sunburns and sometimes, an emergency cornfield "bathroom" break. Although Iowa is considered by many to be a flat state, RAGBRAI riders will attest that there are hills that make their calves ache.

The ride is known around the world, with a dozen foreign countries usually represented. The week-long event turned into a financial bonanza for school groups, community organizations and churches that set up stands to sell all manner of food and beverages to the riders and the thousands of hangers-on who come for the partying.

There's one story that illustrates RAGBRAI's reach around the globe.

In 1990, the Des Moines Register dispatched Chuck Offenburger, one of its news columnists, to Saudi Arabia to cover Iowa National Guard units that had been deployed for the first Gulf War.

Offenburger was changing planes in Cairo, he reported back to me. He was in a line at the airport when another traveler, an Egyptian man, noticed the canvas bag slung over Offenburger's shoulder. Stitched on the side of the bag were the words "Decorah Welcomes RAGBRAI."

The man asked, "Are you from Iowa?"

That is Donald Kaul's legacy, too.

*(Randy Evans was a reporter and editor for the Des Moines Register for 40 years.)*

## ***A favorite Donald Kaul memory...***

**Mike Feinsilber** ([Email](#)) - Here's my favorite Kaul memory:

He was fired by the Register's new editor, a non-Iowan from the Wall Street Journal. Shortly afterward, there was a presidential primary debate in a Des Moines gym, moderated by the new editor. "Good afternoon," he said. "I'm ---," whereupon he was interrupted by the audience chanting, "Bring back Kaul! Bring back Kaul!"

I was in the TV audience. But many viewers must have been mystified.

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**Cheryl Arvidson (Email)** - My dear friend Don Kaul died Sunday, and the world lost another great journalist and human being. How I long for Kaul's words and observations in these troubled times. [Here is a great obit](#) that appeared in the Washington Post. It includes all the best things I remember of his writing, his outrage and his influence except this one, his commentary on a proposed Iowa state slogan: "Iowa: A state of minds." Kaul hated it and suggested instead: "Iowa: A state of arms and legs."

## Connecting mailbox

### *An AP Executive and a Practical Joker*



**Melville Stone**



**Eugene Field**

**Paul Albright (Email)** - Do these two journalists look alike? One practical joker would have us think so.

One of men is newspaper founder and longtime general manager of the Associated Press, Melville Elijah Stone. The other image is that of journalist and author Eugene Field.

As the story goes, Field was in Los Angeles in 1894 or 1895 when he called on Dr. Norman Bridge, a friend from when both worked in Chicago. Field noticed a portrait of the AP's Melville Stone hanging in the physician's office. When Dr. Bridge stepped out of his office for a moment, Field, who had a reputation as a practical joker, took down the picture of Stone, signed it "Yours truly, Gene Field," and replaced it on the wall.

Field died in November 1895, at the age of 45 without anyone having spotted his signature of Stone's portrait. Months after Field had died, another mutual friend was visiting Dr. Bridge, noticed the signature, and called the portrait a poor representation of Field.

Stone founded two Chicago newspapers in the late 1800s and was general manager of the AP for more than a quarter century - from 1893 to 1921. He served with the AP of Illinois from 1893-1900 and moved to New York when the AP was re-incorporated there in May 1900. He outlived Field by decades, passing away in 1929.

This account was one of several of Field's practical jokes related by Colorado publisher and editor Carlyle Channing Davis in his 1916 memoir, *Olden Times in Colorado*.

(AP's Francesca Pitaro provided biographical information on Melville Stone and noted that Stone's memoir, *Fifty Years a Journalist*, is available online - see [this link](#).)

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## ***Still remembers the mantra - get it right!***

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**Norman Abelson** ([Email](#)) - Last Friday's Connecting reported that The Associated Press is the most trusted news source.

I remember as a new AP reporter back in 1952 repeatedly hearing the mantra: Get it first. Get it fast. Get it right.

These days, in book and essay writing, I don't necessarily need to get it first or fast. But I damn straight still remember to do my utmost to get it right.

## ***Connecting series:***

# **My first jobs before journalism**

**Mike Harris** ([Email](#)) - I actually worked several jobs as a teenager, among them stocking shelves and checking at a Red Owl Grocery Store and selling shoes and apparel at an Army-Navy store. But my favorite pre-career job was also my first writing job.

I answered an ad in the Wisconsin State Journal, the morning newspaper in Madison, WI., looking for someone to report on the city's softball leagues. I was quickly hired - I believe I was the only applicant - for the \$5 per day, six-day-a-week job.

The job required me to drive to the State Journal office in downtown Madison each day around 10 p.m., pick up the paper box scores left in a cardboard box in the lobby and somehow decipher the names, numbers and symbols each manager wrote on those little forms. It was good practice for creative writing (and reading).

I would then go up to the sports department of the morning paper, find an empty desk and an unused typewriter (remember those?) and put together a story with a paragraph or two on each game. That unbylined story would appear the next day in both the State Journal and the afternoon Capitol Times.

At the end of the summer, the sports editor of the State Journal hired me as a paid intern, with my main task being to come in on college football Saturdays, rip the scores off of the AP and UPI printers and manually put together an alphabetized list of games by section of the country. It was quite a chore, but it was a fitting lead-in to my long career in journalism.

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**Bill Kaczor** ([Email](#)) - My only "job" before journalism came when I was about 11 or 12. A man stopped me as I was walking home from school on Chicago's southwest side near Midway Airport. I was wearing a White Sox cap and he asked who my favorite player was. "Minnie Minoso," I responded. He then introduced himself as a Fuller Brush salesman and asked if I'd like to make some money. He offered me a penny for every catalogue I delivered to homes in the neighborhood. That was a princely sum for a pre-teen in the 1950s, so I took him up on the offer. It was a job only in the sense I got paid for doing something. I must have made a couple or three bucks. My biggest payday came when I helped him deliver orders. I



don't recall how much he paid me except that it was much more than my catalogue delivery haul. The salesman, though, then moved on to another neighborhood and my job was over.

Then it was on to journalism. In high school I worked for the school paper, but no money changed hands. I got paid, though, for calling in football and basketball game notes and stats to a writer at a neighborhood weekly who turned them into stories.

In college, I again worked at the school paper, but I did have a non-journalism side hustle. While taking pictures as a sophomore during Eastern Illinois University's 1965 football game at nearby Indiana State, I struck up a conversation on the field at half-time with driver of our team's charter bus. Upon learning I was from Chicago he made me an offer not too much unlike the one I had gotten from the Fuller Brush man years earlier. If I could get enough Chicago area students to fill a 37-passenger bus for a trip home and back - nearly 200 miles each way - for EIU's upcoming Thanksgiving quarter break he would pay me \$20 and give me a free round trip. I quickly agreed. Greyhound offered no direct service between Chicago and EIU. The campus also was about eight miles from the nearest train station in Mattoon, Ill., and there was no public transportation, so finding a way to and from campus was a challenge for any student lacking a car. I distributed fliers in the dorms and put a little story in the Eastern News about the new bus service. "It will be cheaper than a train ticket," the story quoted me as saying. I quickly had a full load. My little sideline grew from one bus to multiple buses with subsequent quarter and holiday breaks. I quit, though, at the end of the school year when I got a car and a summer job at the Mattoon Journal Gazette, my first daily newspaper job. The bus service, though, had gotten so much momentum that it continued on without me.

My only other non-journalism job came later when I joined the Air Force and became a flight simulator specialist. It gave me my first introduction to computers and taught me how to fly an F-4 Phantom II jet fighter, a skill that I was never able to use in the real world. The best thing about it, though, was that my 6 a.m. to noon shift at Eglin Air Force Base left me plenty of time to moonlight for the Playground (now Northwest Florida) Daily News and later the Pensacola News Journal. After the Air Force I never had another job outside of journalism.

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**Eileen Lockwood (Email)** - After John Wylie's interesting recount of his last job before joining the "journalism corps," I couldn't help remembering a similar summer employment, my last one before joining the Schenectady, NY, Union-Star, where I signed on as a reporter for two summers, with the understanding that the second stint would be permanent. Unfortunately -for my editor - my wedding "interfered" at the end of the second summer. I then moved on to Minneapolis with husband George who pursued his master's degree in journalism at the University of Minnesota. I was lucky again, though, this time with the then Minneapolis Tribune. Until George received his degree -- and then we moved to Chicago. (Stay tuned...)

My last non-journalistic summer job, like previous ones, came about thanks to a good contact. The father of a high school friend was a telephone company manager. He hired four of his daughter's friends for this job. Contrasted with John's airport assignment, our assignment was dull, dull, dull - copying - with pencil - phone numbers (no names, just numbers) from one list to another. The pay was good, though. And my fellow workers devised a way to make it a bit more exciting. We made it a contest. Who could fill more pages on any given day?

We were having fun -- until our boss caught on. She came over and warned us, "If you finish this before the summer is over, you'll be out of a job." Oh, oh! I can't remember if we slowed down or not, but the job DID last until the end of summer, and then our little quartet was off to college again.

P.S. Thank you, John, for spelling out the words for MCI, the Kansas City airport. We moved to nearby St. Joseph 28 years ago -- and have done a lot of flying out of that airport. But, until now, I never knew what the letters "MCI" stand for on the tickets, since they have no relation to the city name. (Mid-Continent International Airport, which, in the beginning was applicable but obviously not now. Old customs never die.)



## **AP investigation: Pence family's failed gas station empire cost taxpayers millions to clean up**



**A storage tank at a Kiel Bros. facility is torn down in Indianapolis, Dec. 11, 2017. The 2004 collapse of the Pence family-owned business was widely publicized. Less well known is that the state of Indiana and, to a smaller extent, Kentucky and Illinois, are still on the hook for millions of dollars to clean up more than 85 contaminated sites across the three states, including underground tanks that leaked toxic chemicals into soil, streams and wells. AP Photo / Brian Slodysko**

Some political and investigative stories come from tips, records requests or opposition research.

Indianapolis correspondent Brian Slodysko's investigative story started from one sentence buried in a December news release, which was spotted by Indiana AP colleague Tom Davies. It said that the public was paying for environmental cleanup at a contaminated petroleum storage site in Indianapolis that Vice President Mike Pence's family abandoned after their gas station empire, Kiel Bros. Oil Co., went bankrupt in 2004. The release didn't mention Pence, just Kiel Brothers.

After attending a demolition celebration, where he photographed a crew tearing down a massive tank that had long-blighted a neighborhood, Slodysko worked over the coming months to detail how extensive contamination from the business was - and quantify the public cost.

Slodysko filed records requests and pored over thousands of pages of documents from the company's bankruptcy case, as well as environmental records from Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois.

When Indiana was slow responding to a records request for costs, Slodysko built his own data set, going through itemized reports to enter costs into a spread sheet. The result: Indiana taxpayers paid more than \$21 million to clean up after the company, in all likelihood a conservative figure because many of the documents were redacted, missing or incomplete.

"Dirty is dirty, water or politics. Fantastic reporting by our friends at the AP."

John Hiner, vice president of content, MLive Media

But cost alone doesn't tell the whole story. Slodysko's review of public records showed that the Pence family business - which was run by Mike Pence's older brother Greg, who is now running for Congress - repeatedly received favorable treatment from the state at a time when Republicans controlled the governor's office and Mike Pence was a rising GOP star in Congress who was burnishing a reputation as a fiscal hawk.

On a reporting trip with Indianapolis-based photographer Darron Cummings to the Pences' hometown of Columbus, meanwhile, local residents described private drinking wells that were poisoned by contamination from one of the family's gas stations and questioned why the company was let off easy.

Slodysko worked with Central enterprise editor Tom McCarthy and Top Stories desk Editor Chris Sundheim to get the story in shape so it could move quickly after getting responses from the Pences. He simultaneously worked with Central multimedia editor Shawn Chen to annotate and fill the story with supporting documents, and provided multimedia producer Francois Duckett with data for an interactive showing known cleanup sites connected to the Pence family.

The story moved just before 11 a.m. Friday and before 4 p.m. it had almost 19,000 page views with about a minute of engagement.

The story ran, or was teased, on the front page of at least eight Indiana newspapers, including the Indianapolis Star, which ran the story and photo across the top. The Richmond Palladium Item ran the story on its front page on both Saturday and Sunday. It was also featured on the website of the Columbus Republic, Mike Pence's hometown newspaper.

Website play included MSN, NY Times and Chicago Tribune.

The story ran, or was teased, on the front page of at least eight Indiana newspapers, including the Indianapolis Star.

Facebook analytic figures on Saturday indicated that more than 191,000 people were talking about the story. One share by John Hiner, vice president of content for MLive Media in Michigan, included this: "Dirty is dirty, water or politics. Fantastic reporting by our friends at the AP."

According to Newsroom, the story was downloaded about 55 times, and photos, including two that Brian had the foresight to shoot back in December, were downloaded 27 times.

For revealing that the collapse of a gas station chain owned for decades by Vice President Mike Pence's family cost taxpayers millions of dollars to clean up more than 85 contaminated sites in Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois, Slodysko earns this week's Best of the States award.

## Welcome to Connecting



Cheryl Arvidson - [cheryl@carvidson.com](mailto:cheryl@carvidson.com)

Sally Tomlinson - [jtomlin952@aol.com](mailto:jtomlin952@aol.com)

## Stories of interest

***NY Daily News slashes newsroom staffing in half***

ws staff reporter Chelsia Rose Marcus cries as she is hugged by staff photographer Todd Maisel after they were both laid off, Monday, July 23, 2018, in New York. The tabloid will cut half of its newsroom staff, saying it wants to focus more on digital news. (AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

**By DAMIAN J. TROISE**

NEW YORK (AP) - The New York tabloid Daily News cut half of its newsroom staff Monday including Jim Rich, the paper's editor in chief.

The paper was sold to Tronc Inc. last year for \$1, with the owner of the Chicago Tribune assuming liabilities and debt.

In an email sent to staff Monday, Tronc said the remaining staff at the Daily News will focus on breaking news involving "crime, civil justice and public responsibility."

The newspaper has been a key fixture in New York City for the last century. It has won 11 Pulitzer Prizes, including last year for its work with ProPublica on the abuse of eviction rules in New York City.

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

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## ***For Immigration Reporters, Objectivity and Compassion Don't Have to Be Mutually Exclusive*** (New York Times)

**By Miriam Jordan**

Times Insider delivers behind-the-scenes insights into how news, features and opinion come together at The New York Times.

The call from Honduras came on a Saturday as I was about to go for a run.

One of my contacts was in a village with the family of a 10-year-old girl who has been stranded in a Texas shelter for four months. The girl's mother was despondent. Her uncle, who had taken the child across the southwest border, had already been deported. Days had turned to months, and there was no knowing when the girl would be returned to her family.

"Miriam, do you have any ideas?" asked my contact, who is connected to the large Honduran community in New Orleans. She had been reading my articles about family separations and reunions. I had reached out to her on many occasions in recent years seeking immigrants to interview and feedback on how policies were playing out on the ground.

Now she was asking me, the impartial reporter, to get involved. To help. She had been by my side as I interviewed several families who had fled gang violence and extortion and ended up in New Orleans, and was aware that I know immigration attorneys and government officials.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Susana Hayward.

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## ***The Maynard Institute Announces 2018 Maynard 200 Fellows***

OAKLAND, CA (July 23, 2018): The Robert C. Maynard Institute for Journalism Education, a nonprofit dedicated to making newsrooms look like America, announced today the recipients of its inaugural Maynard 200 Fellowship for training journalists, producers, management, and journalism entrepreneurs of color. Maynard 200 aims to expand the diversity pipeline in media by training 200 diverse storytellers in the next five years. The program is supported by Google News Lab, the News Integrity Initiative and the Craig Newmark Philanthropies, and is in partnership with USC Annenberg and the City University of New York [CUNY].

The pilot program of Maynard 200 will bring together 26 journalists in total for two weeks of training. Fellows will receive training in one of three tracks: Media Entrepreneurship, Newsroom/Media Management, and Storytelling. Fellows hail from a wide range of publications, including national publications such as The New York Times, SB Nation, ThinkProgress, CNN Digital, and Newsday; local outlets including The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, The Victoria (Texas) Advocate, Kentucky New Era Media Group, and East Side Freelancer; and ethnicity-specific outlets including The Black Urbanist, the Asian Journal Media Group, and ABS-CBN International The Filipino Channel and Sing Tao Daily-as well as freelance reporters.

Regions represented include the Midwest, South, Pacific Northwest, West and East Coasts. Areas of focus include immigration, sports, politics, social justice, culture, and much more.

Read more [here](#).

## Today in History - July 24, 2018



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Tuesday, July 24, the 205th day of 2018. There are 160 days left in the year.

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

On July 24, 1959, during a visit to Moscow, Vice President Richard Nixon engaged in his famous "Kitchen Debate" with Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev.

### **On this date:**

In 1862, Martin Van Buren, the eighth president of the United States, and the first to have been born a U.S. citizen, died at age 79 in Kinderhook, New York, the town where he was born in 1782.



In 1866, Tennessee became the first state to be readmitted to the Union after the Civil War.

In 1915, the SS Eastland, a passenger ship carrying more than 2,500 people, rolled onto its side while docked at the Clark Street Bridge on the Chicago River; an estimated 844 people died in the disaster.

In 1937, the state of Alabama dropped charges against four of the nine young black men accused of raping two white women in the "Scottsboro Case."

In 1969, the Apollo 11 astronauts - two of whom had been the first men to set foot on the moon - splashed down safely in the Pacific.

In 1974, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled that President Richard Nixon had to turn over subpoenaed White House tape recordings to the Watergate special prosecutor.

In 1983, a two-run homer by George Brett of the Kansas City Royals was disallowed after New York Yankees manager Billy Martin pointed out there was too much pine tar on Brett's bat. However, American League president Lee MacPhail reinstated the home run. (The game was completed Aug. 18, 1983 with the Royals beating the Yankees, 5-4.)

In 1987, Hulda Crooks, a 91-year-old mountaineer from California, became the oldest woman to conquer Mount Fuji, Japan's highest peak.

In 1998, a gunman burst into the U.S. Capitol, killing two police officers before being shot and captured. (The shooter, Russell Eugene Weston Jr., is being held in a federal mental facility.)

In 2002, nine coal miners became trapped in a flooded tunnel of the Quecreek (KYOO'-kreek) Mine in western Pennsylvania; the story ended happily 77 hours later with the rescue of all nine.

In 2005, Lance Armstrong won his seventh consecutive Tour de France. (Those wins were stripped away after Armstrong's 2013 confession to using steroids and other banned performance-enhancing drugs and methods.)

Ten years ago: Ford Motor Co. posted the worst quarterly performance in its history, losing \$8.67 billion. Cheered by an enormous crowd in Berlin, Democratic presidential contender Barack Obama summoned Europeans and Americans together to "defeat terror and dry up the well of extremism that supports it" as surely as they had conquered communism a generation ago. Zvonko Busic, who'd served 32 years in a U.S. prison for hijacking a TWA jetliner and planting a bomb that killed a policeman, was paroled and returned home to Croatia.

Five years ago: The House narrowly rejected, 217-205, a challenge to the National Security Agency's secret collection of hundreds of millions of Americans' phone records. A high-speed train crash outside Santiago de Compostela in northwest Spain killed 79 people. Pope Francis made an emotional plea in Aparecida, Brazil, for Roman Catholics to shun materialism in the first public Mass of his initial international trip as pontiff. It was announced by Kensington Palace that the newborn son of Prince William and Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, would be named George Alexander Louis. Virginia Johnson, half of the renowned Masters and Johnson team of sex researchers, died in St. Louis at age 88.

One year ago: In a speech to a national Boy Scout gathering in West Virginia, President Donald Trump railed against his enemies and promoted his political agenda, bringing an angry reaction from some parents and former Scouts from both parties. A Taliban suicide bomber killed 24 people in an early morning assault in a neighborhood of the Afghan capital where prominent politicians live. President Donald Trump's son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner answered questions from Senate investigators for four hours about contacts with Russians during and after Trump's campaign for the White House; he said he "did not collude with Russia" and that all of his actions "were proper."

Today's Birthdays: Actor John Aniston is 85. Political cartoonist Pat Oliphant is 83. Comedian Ruth Buzzi is 82. Actor Mark Goddard is 82. Actor Dan Hedaya is 78. Actor Chris Sarandon is 76. Comedian Gallagher is 72. Actor Robert Hays is 71. Former Republican national chairman Marc Racicot (RAWS'-koh) is 70. Actor Michael Richards is 69. Actress Lynda Carter is 67. Movie director Gus Van Sant is 66. Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., is 65. Country singer Pam Tillis is 61. Actor Paul Ben-Victor is 56. Basketball Hall of Famer Karl Malone is 55. Retired MLB All-Star Barry Bonds is 54. Actor Kadeem Hardison is 53. Actress-singer Kristin Chenoweth is 50. Actress Laura Leighton is 50. Actor John P. Navin Jr. is 50. Actress-singer Jennifer Lopez is 49. Basketball player-turned-actor Rick Fox is 49. Director Patty Jenkins ("Wonder Woman") is 47. Actress Jamie Denbo (TV: "Orange is the New Black") is 45. Actor Eric Szmanda is 43. Actress Rose Byrne is 39. Country singer Jerrod Niemann is 39. Actress Summer Glau is 37. Actress Elisabeth Moss is 36. Actress Anna Paquin is 36. Actress Sarah Greene is 34. Actress Megan Park is 32. Actress Mara Wilson is 31. Rock singer Jay McGuinness (The Wanted) is 28. Actress Emily Bett Rickards is 27. Actor Lucas Adams is 25. TV personality Bindi Irwin is 20.

**Thought for Today: "Everything has two sides - the outside that is ridiculous, and the inside that is solemn." - Olive Schreiner, South African author and feminist (1855-1920).**

## 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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7/27/2018

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