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Connecting -- August 14, 2018

1 message

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Connecting

August 14, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning!

The Silver Tsunami - a term used to describe the aging of our population - became personal for Connecting colleague **Dennis Lawler** when he and his wife toured a retirement community several years ago.

Both of them Baby Boomers who retired from Chicago to northwest Arkansas, they decided they were not ready to make the move out of their home, but Denny - a longtime friend who worked in the energy industry - employed the perseverance and investigative skills of a journalist to produce a guide to finding the right retirement community.

It was just published in book form - and since many of us have reached or are nearing the point of making such a decision, I asked Denny to give his colleagues an account of his new book and what he learned.

It leads today's issue.

A reminder that on Monday, August 20, a military ceremony for **Richard Pyle** will be held at Arlington National Cemetery. Richard's wife **Brenda Smiley** invites friends and colleagues to join in the final tribute, the entombment of his ashes in the Niche Wall at Arlington. Attendees will gather at 1 p.m. at the cemetery's Administration Building, just off Memorial Avenue as one enters the cemetery. Services at the Niche Wall will be held at 2 p.m. Richard was in the U.S. Army in 1955-1958 prior to his many years as an AP domestic and foreign correspondent and Saigon bureau chief, his career often recounted in the pages of Connecting.

Have a good day.

Paul

Finding the right retirement community

Dennis Lawler ([Email](#)) - The demographic profile of the United States is changing dramatically, but most of us are unaware of the change, and the implications for us as we enter our Golden Years. I'm an early Baby Boomer. In 1960, when I turned 16, only 1 in 11 Americans were over 65 years of age. However, when I turned 65 in 2004, I was one of 8 in that age category. Today it's about 1 in 6 and is continuing to shrink. America is aging right before our eyes, yet most of us seldom think about this or its societal implications. This phenomenon is sometimes called "The Silver Tsunami."

A few years ago, my wife and I toured a retirement community that provided health care for its residents as they aged. We weren't actively in that market; we were far too young (late 60's), too healthy, and too content with our active lifestyles. Sound familiar?



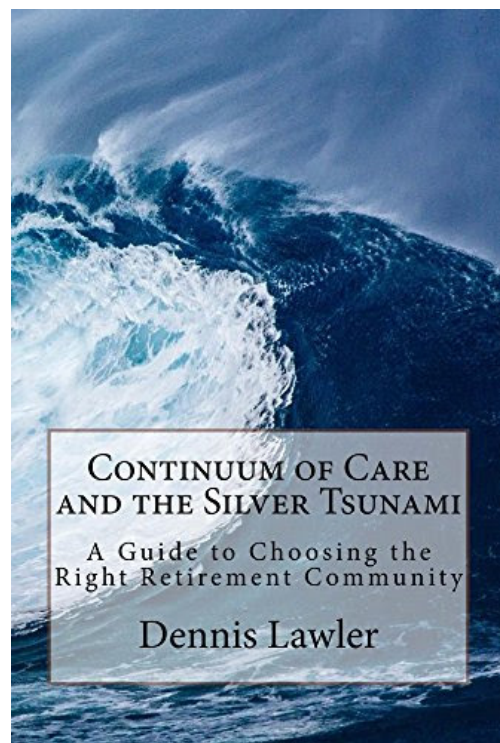
But then, something strange began to happen. More and more of our slightly older friends were opting in to these communities, sometimes by choice, and sometimes by necessity. Intrigued, I began to look deeper into this market, but only for future reference, of course. We were still far too young to seriously consider a change in lifestyle so significant as this.

What I found was that the options and conditions of living in these places, called Continuum of Care Retirement Communities, varied immensely. Some guaranteed health care services for life, no matter what, for almost no extra fees. Others offered that same care, but on a pay-as-you-go basis. Most required large up-front fees, and usually (but not always) promised substantial refunds of those fees.

"Odd," I thought. Almost all the well-established CCRCs were Not for Profit, but almost all the newer ones were For Profit. That was curious.

Clearly sorting out this out and making it digestible would not be simple. How do people analyze this myriad of choice, especially with so much on the line? And because of the Silver Tsunami, will perhaps 20% of the country begin to seriously consider this matter? Since I had already done the initial research, I thought it might be of value to many others to organize that research into a book intended to guide the reader through the process of evaluating choices. The result is my first published book, "Continuum of Care and the Silver Tsunami---a Guide to Choosing the Right Retirement Community."

In the book, I examine several aspects of this decision process, including what questions you should ask any CCRC that you may be considering and why those questions are important, how your financial advisor might determine the long-term viability of the providers, particularly if you have been promised a large refund on up-front fees, and how to make a simplified financial analysis that you can use to compare cost alternatives. I also address the stark differences between the newer For Profit CCRCs and the older established Not for Profits, and the implications those differences may have for you. Finally, I'll walk you through the method that my wife and I used to reach our own decision. You will find that what is right for us may not matter to you, and what is vital to you doesn't matter to us. That's because this whole complicated matter, at the end, is a very personal one.



My intention is to offer this guide in layman's terminology. I will also share two "epiphanies" I had while sorting out these issues for our personal situation. You will find these epiphanies comforting, I believe, and will heightened your assurance that you've made an informed decision, no matter what that decision might be.

By way of background, I graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1968 and received an MBA in Finance in 1976. I served two years of active duty during the Vietnam War before beginning a nearly 40-year career in the energy industry in executive positions in finance, human resource, and business development. My wife of 50 years and I retired to Fayetteville, Arkansas, in 2005. We enjoy frequent travel, grandkids, golf and the performing arts.

[Click here](#) for an Amazon link to the book.

Tom Kent leaving RFE/RL in Prague to return to U.S.

Tom Kent (Email) - After more than two years as president of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Prague, I'm departing for a new opportunity - which I hope to share with "Connecting" readers soon - that requires me to return to the U.S. in the fall.

As I told our staff, since RFE/RL is engaged non-stop in new plans and projects, there's never a good time for a president to depart. But I'm leaving with immense pride in the company's hard-driving news coverage in 25 languages - often in the face of threats and harassment against our courageous journalists. It's an amazing organization.

I look forward to getting together with many members of the "Connecting" family on my return.

(Timing note: I told the RFE/RL staff at the end of July about my departure, and had hoped to fill in "Connecting" all at once, when I could say more about my future plans. But since several people have inquired, consider this my "holding story" to cover the basics. I'll file the "Eds: Adds details" when I can. I plan to be at RFE/RL until the end of September to provide a good transition.)



More of your favorite dateline stories

Bob Daugherty (Email) - Aroma, Indiana off state road 37 north of Noblesville. Gas City on I-69 south of Marion.

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Jeannie Eblen (Email) - I don't have anything like Agate, but when John Wylie mentioned Hooker, Okla., I thought of the intersection in Stotesbury, Mo.: VD. Then there's the excitement of driving west from Fort Scott (KS) on U.S. 54 - kids loved reading the road sign when they got closer to Lola, then said, "Well, we've passed Gas."

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John Epperson (Email) - Totally forgot that great point of rocks in our mutual former state of Indiana - Olitic - down in southern part of the state near Gnaw Bone.

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Randy Evans (Email) - I have enjoyed the discussions this week about interesting datelines -- Agate, Correctionville et al. I found myself flashing back to a wonderful slice of Iowa lore about the two north central Iowa towns - Fertile and Manly - and the supposed headline on a society page story up yonder:

MANLY MAN

TO MARRY

FERTILE WOMAN

[Click here](#) for a delightful column from the Globe-Gazette in Mason City about this storied headline and other double-meaning headlines.

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Joe Galloway (Email) - Without question: FakFak, New Guinea...

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Steve Graham (Email) - A Tale of Dull and Boring Sister Cities. [Click here.](#)

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John Kuglin (Email) - In the discussion about strange names of towns, there is an undistinguished, unincorporated place called Imalone -- where I launched a canoe a few years ago to run rapids in the Chippewa River in northern Wisconsin. Imalone is about 50 miles from our cabin in Chetek, where I am spending a couple of months dealing with the walleye problem. It is claimed that Chetek may be the Chippewa Indian name for pelican, of which there are none in our area.

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Mark Mittelstadt (Email) - John Henry mentioned Why, Ariz., as one of the interesting media-related datelines.

The Grand Canyon State also includes Page, a community of 7,200 population in Coconino County, and Globe, a word in some newspaper nameplates, in Gila County. And yes, there really is El Mirage, which is a town in Maricopa County and not a dehydrated desert hiker's vision. Not really media-related unless you consider the declining number of newspapers.

In New Mexico there is Truth Or Consequences, which renamed itself from Hot Springs in 1950 in an attempt to entice host Ralph Edwards to do his popular radio show from there on its 10th anniversary.

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Marty Thompson (Email) - Not a news biz name for a city, but Wyoming's Laramie Boomerang stands out as probably unique among newspaper names. The late Bill Stall,

longtime Sacramento AP correspondent and later an LA Times reporter, got his start at the Boomerang. Don't think he ever returned.

Connecting sky shot - Joshua Tree National Park



Cliff Schiappa ([Email](#)) - I remember my photo professor Angus McDougall at the University of Missouri telling us "available light is the light that is available to you." In this photo showing stars filling the night sky over Joshua Tree National Park north of Palm Springs, CA on Sunday, August 12, the unique rocky landscape was illuminated by the headlights of a car making its way through the park during the 30-second exposure. I was hoping to see some meteors passing through, but the only streak came from the red lights of an aircraft.

AP Exclusive: Google tracks your movements, like it or not



In this June 15, 2017, photo, people walk inside the Oculus, the new transit station at the World Trade Center in New York. Data collection practices of tech firms are increasingly under the microscope. An Associated Press investigation shows that using Google services on Android devices and iPhones allows the search giant to record your whereabouts as you go about your day. (AP Photo/Frank Franklin II, File)

By RYAN NAKASHIMA

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - Google wants to know where you go so badly that it records your movements even when you explicitly tell it not to.

An Associated Press investigation found that many Google services on Android devices and iPhones store your location data even if you've used a privacy setting that says it will prevent Google from doing so.

Computer-science researchers at Princeton confirmed these findings at the AP's request.

For the most part, Google is upfront about asking permission to use your location information. An app like Google Maps will remind you to allow access to location if you use it for navigating. If you agree to let it record your location over time, Google Maps will display that history for you in a "timeline" that maps out your daily movements.

Storing your minute-by-minute travels carries privacy risks and has been used by police to determine the location of suspects - such as a warrant that police in Raleigh, North Carolina, served on Google last year to find devices near a murder scene. So the company lets you "pause" a setting called Location History.

Google says that will prevent the company from remembering where you've been. Google's support page on the subject states: "You can turn off Location History at any time. With Location History off, the places you go are no longer stored."

Read more [here](#).

Journalist Austin Tice has been missing in Syria for six years. Is it still news?

By **JOEL SIMON**

Columbia Journalism Review

ON AUGUST 13, 2012, only a few days after celebrating his 31st birthday, freelance journalist Austin Tice emailed his father back in Houston to let him know he had wrapped up his reporting from Syria. Tice's parents have not heard from him since. Austin went missing the following day, August 14, while traveling by taxi from the Damascus suburb of Daraya to the Lebanese border.

Throughout Austin's captivity, the Tices have sought to engage the media and the public, believing that keeping their son's case in the spotlight would help ensure the US government stays focused on his recovery. But after nearly six years, generating media attention has become difficult and frustrating. "Many journalists stay in touch with us, but without a new development, their organizations seem more and more reluctant to devote space to the fact that one of their own continues to be held against his will," Austin's father Marc told me.

Austin's parents are convinced their son is alive. US officials with whom I've spoken told me the same thing. But what is happening behind the scenes is extremely sensitive. In June 2017, The New York Times published a story describing the Trump administration's efforts to set up a back channel with the Syrian government,

and cited rumors that Austin was seen in a Damascus hospital being treated for dehydration. In April, the FBI offered a \$1 million award for information leading to Austin's safe recovery and return.

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

NOTE: Today, August 14: "Austin Tice: Children of Syria" photo exhibit at the National Press Club

Exactly six years after his capture, the National Press Club will host an opening reception for an exhibit featuring Austin's photographs from Syria. This event will take place today from 6pm - 8pm at the Club's Holeman Lounge.

Event Details: "Austin Tice: Children of Syria"

Location: National Press Club -- [529 14th Street NW, Washington DC 20045](#)

When: Tuesday, August 14 -- doors at 6pm, remarks at 6:30. Event ends at 8pm.

Stories of interest

How not to be a parachute partner: ProPublica's figured out how to collaborate with local newsrooms without bigfooting them

(Nieman)

By **CHRISTINE SCHMIDT**

Eight months into its first year, ProPublica's local reporting network has helped: a radio reporter in Orlando survey first responders about PTSD; a newspaper reporter in southern Illinois scrutinize the Department of Housing and Urban Development's policies nationwide; and a reporter with 27 years of experience hone his writing as his newspaper was bartered in bankruptcy court. (Among other things.)

ProPublica's staff is no stranger to collaboration with news organizations of all sizes (see: its project with nine other newsrooms to track the missing immigrant children). In this case, they appear to have mitigated the risk of parachute-partnering with the local newsrooms in their network, instead using its resources to strengthen and

amplify local reporting. My conversations with reporters participating in the network confirmed that they see this as a hand-up, not a handout. It's not a charity case, but a true collaboration.

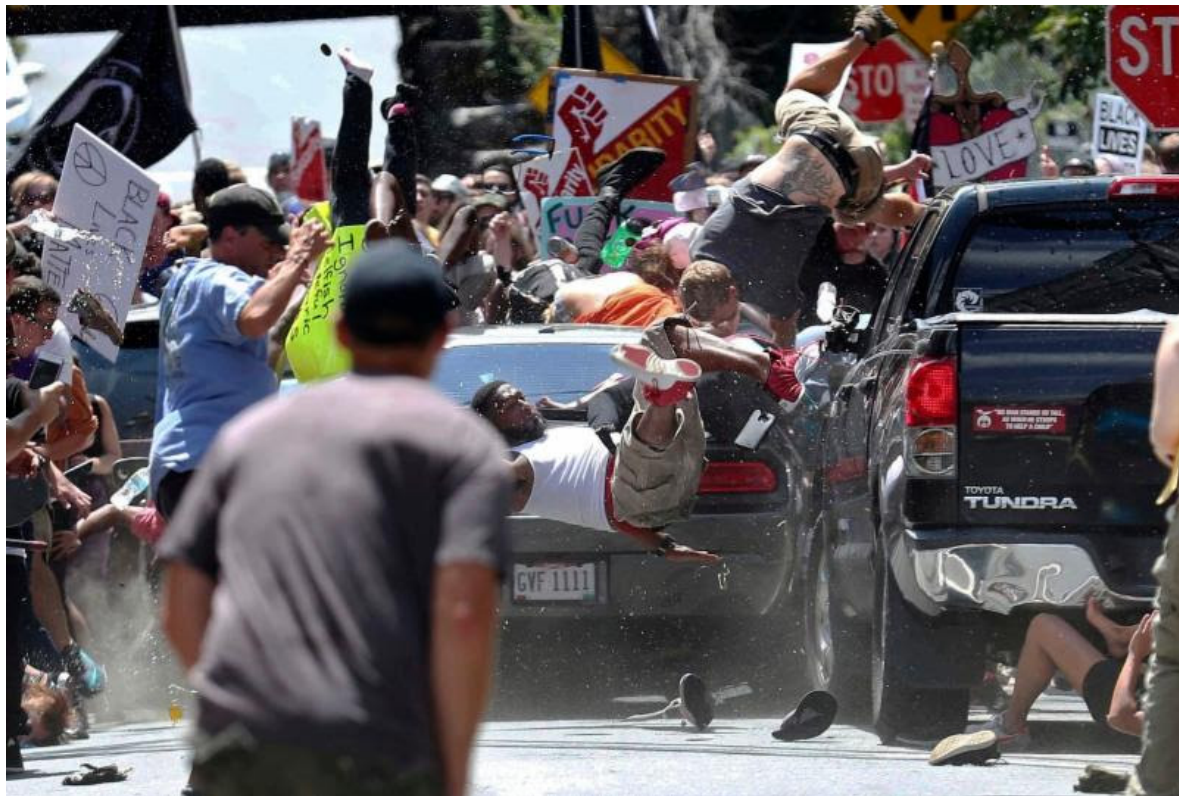
"It's nice when you're in a small newspaper in a little place like Charleston to feel like you've got a literal army of people at ProPublica that are on your side, trying to help you take these stories to the next level," Ken Ward, Jr., environmental writer at the Gazette-Mail in West Virginia, told me.

"We're really proud of our work at the Southern Illinoisan, but we have a flashlight, not a lighthouse," said Molly Parker, a reporter at the paper in Carbondale, Ill. "Giving some of these issues that we've been seeing a national spotlight or introducing them to a national audience might help change the nature of the conversation."

Read more [here](#).

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'It's still hard to look at' (Washington Post)



In this Aug. 12, 2017, file photo, people fly into the air as a vehicle is driven into a group of protesters demonstrating against a white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Va.

Federal hate crime charges have been filed against James Alex Fields Jr., accused of driving the car. (Ryan M. Kelly/ASSOCIATED PRESS)

By Steve Hendrix

CHARLOTTESVILLE - Ryan Kelly had been working all day when he heard a car rev its engine and saw a flash of metal speed by. He didn't know what was happening; he didn't think. He did what photojournalists do: pointed his camera and shot.

What he captured on Aug. 12, 2017, was an image that would command the world's attention, win journalism's highest honor and symbolize the worst moment of this university town's worst day: a gathering of white nationalists and the killing of a young woman who came to protest them.

In that microsecond of frozen mayhem, human bodies hang above a car in poses of almost balletic violence, a killing force portrayed as chilling stillness. Glasses and cellphones are suspended midair, bottles spout contrails of water, shoes are flung from splaying legs.

It's a photograph both revelatory and cryptic. The image appears to offer a wrenching glimpse of Heather Heyer's last moments as she was killed. But it's notable for what it hides - others being injured behind the flying bodies. To this day, Kelly knows little about most of the people in the picture, even those captured upside down, their lives in peril. He doesn't know their names or how badly they were injured.

"It's still hard to look at," Kelly said a year later. "So much is contained in that moment."

This is the story of that moment, what led to it and what followed.

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

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Mind the gap: Uncovering pay disparity in the newsroom (Voices)

BY ELAINE CHEN, CECILIA LEI, ANNIE MA AND JONATHAN NG

The tumult would spread to every newspaper in the industry, but it began with whispers within the confined spaces of the women's bathrooms and during off-the-cuff coffee chats at the Wall Street Journal in late 2015.

As Elva Ramirez began speaking to other women at the Journal about their salaries, they discovered a startling pattern—for the exact same roles, they often made many thousands less than their male counterparts.

"We're doing the exact same job," Ramirez, a former video producer at the Journal, said of a male coworker. "Everything we did was identical, and he was not my boss, and he did not outrank me. Everything was the same," except that she made \$13,000 less.

A few months later, the paper's union quantified the extent of the disparity: Women on average made \$11,700 annually less than men, its report said.

The union's study unleashed a firestorm of controversy within the journalism industry. Within the coming weeks and months, other news unions - including those representing workers at the New York Times and Washington Post - published their own pay gap studies. Unions routinely get pay data from employers in order to negotiate labor contracts.

We reviewed pay studies commissioned by unions at the New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Associated Press, Minneapolis Star Tribune and San Francisco Chronicle, in addition to the Journal, and we spoke with 29 journalists across the country to find out what they thought.

All seven studies alleged that men made more than women and that whites made more than people of color.

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

Today in History - August 14, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 14, the 226th day of 2018. There are 139 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 14, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act into law.

On this date:

In 1848, the Oregon Territory was created.

In 1900, international forces, including U.S. Marines, entered Beijing to put down the Boxer Rebellion, which was aimed at purging China of foreign influence.

In 1917, China declared war on Germany and Austria during World War I.

In 1945, President Harry S. Truman announced that Imperial Japan had surrendered unconditionally, ending World War II.

In 1947, Pakistan became independent of British rule.

In 1948, the Summer Olympics in London ended; they were the first Olympic games held since 1936.

In 1969, British troops went to Northern Ireland to intervene in sectarian violence between Protestants and Roman Catholics.

In 1973, U.S. bombing of Cambodia came to a halt.

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter and Vice President Walter Mondale were nominated for second terms at the Democratic national convention in New York.

In 1992, the White House announced that the Pentagon would begin emergency airlifts of food to Somalia to alleviate mass deaths by starvation.

In 1997, an unrepentant Timothy McVeigh was formally sentenced to death for the Oklahoma City bombing.

In 2003, a huge blackout hit the northeastern United States and part of Canada; 50 million people lost power.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush signed consumer-safety legislation that banned lead from children's toys, imposing the toughest standard in the world.

Five years ago: Israeli and Palestinian negotiators kicked off their first substantive round of peace talks in nearly five years, meeting at an undisclosed location in Jerusalem. Riot police swept away two encampments of supporters of ousted Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi in Cairo, sparking running street battles. Former Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., D-Ill., was sentenced to 2 1/2 years in prison for illegally spending \$750,000 in campaign funds on personal items.

One year ago: Under pressure from right and left, President Donald Trump condemned white supremacist groups by name, declaring them to be "repugnant to everything that we hold dear as Americans." The CEO of Merck, the nation's third-largest pharmaceutical company, resigned from a federal advisory council, citing Trump's failure to explicitly condemn white nationalists who marched in Charlottesville, Virginia. (Kenneth Frazier was one of the few African Americans to head a Fortune 500 company. The CEOs of Intel and Under Armour also resigned from the American Manufacturing Council later in the day.) Texas A&M University, citing security concerns, called off a white supremacist rally on its campus that had been planned for the following month. Thousands of protesters and dozens of supporters were waiting outside New York's Trump Tower as the president returned

for the first time since his inauguration. A jury in Denver, siding with pop star Taylor Swift, ordered a fired radio DJ to pay her a symbolic \$1 after concluding that he had groped her.

Today's Birthdays: Broadway lyricist Lee Adams ("Bye Bye Birdie") is 94. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Russell Baker is 93. College Football Hall of Famer John Brodie is 83. Singer Dash Crofts is 80. Rock singer David Crosby is 77. Country singer Connie Smith is 77. Comedian-actor Steve Martin is 73. Movie director Wim Wenders is 73. Actor Antonio Fargas is 72. Singer-musician Larry Graham is 72. Actress Susan Saint James is 72. Actor David Schramm is 72. Author Danielle Steel is 71. Rock singer-musician Terry Adams (NRBQ) is 70. "Far Side" cartoonist Gary Larson is 68. Actor Carl Lumbly is 67. Olympic gold medal swimmer Debbie Meyer is 66. Actress Jackee Harry is 62. Actress Marcia Gay Harden is 59. Basketball Hall of Famer Earvin "Magic" Johnson is 59. Singer Sarah Brightman is 58. Actress Susan Olsen is 57. Actress-turned-fashion/interior designer Cristi Conaway is 54. Rock musician Keith Howland (Chicago) is 54. Actress Halle Berry is 52. Actor Ben Bass is 50. Actress Catherine Bell is 50. Country musician Cody McCarver (Confederate Railroad) is 50. Rock musician Kevin Cadogan is 48. Actor Scott Michael Campbell is 47. Actress Lalanya Masters is 46. Actor Christopher Gorham is 44. Actress Mila Kunis is 35. Actor Lamorne Morris is 35. TV personality Spencer Pratt is 35. NFL quarterback-turned-baseball player Tim Tebow is 31.

Thought for Today: "Freedom of speech and freedom of action are meaningless without freedom to think. And there is no freedom of thought without doubt." - Bergen Baldwin Evans, American author (1904-1978).

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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