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# Connecting - September 13, 2018

1 message

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# Connecting

September 13, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

Associated Press journalists are in every state in the projected path of Hurricane Florence - in full force, with video, photo and text.

That's the word from AP South regional editor **Ravi Nessman**, who advises Connecting colleagues to link to their work at - <https://apnews.com/Hurricanes/>

Today's issue also brings you the news that the long-anticipated merger of the APME and ASNE organizations will effectively become reality in about a year.

**Did you cover the 1964 Olympics in Japan or the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City?**

**Michael Giarrusso (Email)** - AP global sports editor - said: We'd love to talk to AP journalists who covered the Mexico City Olympics in October of 1968. The 50th anniversary is coming up, and we are interested in a look at the Tommie Smith/John Carlos protest, particularly because of its parallels to the current NFL protests. If anyone was at that race or medal ceremony, we'd like to interview them.

As we prepare for the Tokyo Olympics in 2020, we're interested in talking to journalists who covered the 1964 Olympics in Japan. We're doing a multi-format preview package on many topics, and we could use some first-person accounts of what it was like.

Any response should be sent to Michael at [mgiarrusso@ap.org](mailto:mgiarrusso@ap.org)

Paul

## Stories relating to Hurricane Florene



Sand bags surround homes on North Topsail Beach, N.C., Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018, as Hurricane Florence threatens the coast. (AP Photo/Chuck Burton)

## ***Some handy pointers on covering hurricanes***

**Gerald Bodlander** ([Email](#)) - I read with great interest the pre-hurricane preparedness suggestions given to reporters at the Miami Herald and in Houston that were part of Wednesday's Connecting.

After covering Hugo, Katrina, Ike, Wilma, Irene and a few other storms for AP Radio I would add a few things to the list.

For starters-a head lamp. Frees up your hands while allowing you to see ahead in the dark, take notes etc. They're invaluable.

--Flashlights are good, but lanterns are also handy-they provide light in a wider area i.e. the whole darkened hotel room. And you can adjust the amount of light they use (and how much battery power)

-A power inverter-yes it is a bit of a throwback since most cars nowadays have USB, but they're small and can power your laptop, phone etc through the car's cigarette lighter. It also frees the USB for another device.

--Zip lock bags/contractor garbage bags: they keep equipment dry and can be used to pack wet clothing.

-a multi-tool.

In addition, getting everything you need can be challenging if you are coming in from out of town and arriving after or just as many locals are starting to stock up. You don't want to see someone in line ahead of get the last of what you wanted -- so bringing snacks and other supplies with you can save a lot of time.

You can't bring gas with you, so gas cans were always a TOP priority and the first thing I'd buy after getting my rental car. I'm not a fan of the 5 gallon can-they're pretty heavy and at times unwieldy.

While I'll use the 5-gallon can if there's no other option, I prefer one- or two-gallon cans-that way you can stash some under a blanket in the car trunk and give some gas (but not that much) away if necessary. You cannot have too many gas cans. (I wonder what an airline would say if you tried to bring some new, unused gas cans with you-after all, they are just pieces of plastic.)

One suggestion--Eat a warm meal whenever you can.

Good luck to everyone in the path of Hurricane Florence.

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## ***Hoping their home will be spared***

**Peter Mattiace** ([Email](#)) - Lisa and I are expensively settled in a small room, AND THE LAST ROOM, at the Sheraton in Columbia, S.C., just two blocks from the Statehouse. We had no problems on the road and only used a half-tank of gas. So, we could get back on this tank! And, fortunately, they are still selling gas in these parts!

Until this morning, the conventional (Weather Channel) wisdom was that Flo would smack our house (in Southport, N.C.) and turn north. So, we thought we were smart and we came here, southwest and away from Flo. (Did you ever try to get a hotel reservation in front of a Big One?)

OK, but, Flo has an unwelcome sense of humor. As you know, she's turning south and west, which makes it seem like she is following us here. At this point, the turn is not not necessarily good for our house. Then, again, NO ONE knows the right move, except to stay away from your surfboard.

We've been getting constant good and constant reports from St. James' "Emergency Management Office," which, as we understand it, ordered "mandatory evacuation" of our development and, then, get this: It announced that it was skipping town itself!!!!

Uh oh.

Again, when you see Wilmington on the weather maps, that's close-enough to our house not to make much of a difference.

We're praying that if anything does happen to the house, that it's covered by one of the two insurance policies we have on it. We were not in the "flood zone," but now, it seems everything back to Hackensack is in the flood zone! So, we're hoping, if we get anything, it's wind and hail, which is definitely covered. But I think we'll be fine. They drained the water hazard on the fourth fairway, which, believe it or not, is reassuring. The water should go right down to the fifth fairway with our giant turtle and the little alligator!

No, I didn't go mucking around for lost golf balls!

Seriously, don't worry about us. We're OK.

*(Pete Mattiace retired in 2016 as editor of The Courier in Findlay, Ohio. He earlier worked 27 years for the AP as Atlantic City correspondent, Pittsburgh correspondent, Charleston chief of bureau and Denver chief of bureau.)*

## ***Newsrooms go into overdrive as Florence bears down on the Carolinas***

**By TOM KLUDT, CNN**

(CNNMoney) As Hurricane Florence hurdles toward the Carolinas, news outlets are ramping up -- and in some cases, opening up -- their coverage of the storm.

The major network newscasts will broadcast from the storm zone beginning Wednesday night, with CBS' Jeff Glor, ABC's David Muir and NBC's Lester Holt all being deployed to the Carolinas.

Reporting on location during a major hurricane is standard practice for a network news anchor. And Florence is indeed expected to be major. The National Weather Service in Wilmington, North Carolina, said it will likely be "the storm of a lifetime for portions of the Carolina coast."

CBS, ABC and NBC will also have correspondents reporting throughout the eastern seaboard, where Florence is expected to reach landfall by this weekend.

Read more [here](#).

## ***ASNE, APME***

# **2 major organizations of newsroom leaders agree to merge**

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - The American Society of News Editors and Associated Press Media Editors, whose membership of newsroom leaders and educators make them among the most significant organizations in media, have agreed to merge and will become the News Leadership Association.

The two groups announced the merger plan on Tuesday, after their members voted to approve the move at their joint News Leadership Conference in Austin.

ASNE, founded in 1922, and APME, which began about a decade later and works closely with The Associated Press, have long worked together on the same issues, including raising journalistic standards, enhancing newsroom diversity and fighting for the First Amendment rights of their members.

They'll continue to work jointly for the next year until the merger's expected completion by next September's News Leadership Conference in New Orleans.

Read more [here](#).

## ***The thoughts of former APME executive director***

**Mark Mittelstadt** ([Email](#)) - A part of me is disappointed to learn of the merger of these two great organizations. I was brought on board in 2000 to strengthen APME at a time of unofficial discussions of combining the groups. Working with leaders of AP and APME, we succeeded in doing that with a renewed focus and creation of grant-funded projects, including Credibility Roundtables and NewsTrain, the latter of which continues to this day.

APME has been a vital part of AP during the group's 85-year history, an era which most recently has included serving as a sounding board for company initiatives and helping to facilitate national reporting projects with members. The APME moniker will be missed. But the news economy and changes in the industry understandably contributed to the pressures to combine efforts.

We should hope the mission of the new merged organization includes maintaining strong ties to the news cooperative."

*(Mark Mittelstadt, former chief of bureau in New Mexico and New Jersey, served as executive director of the Associated Press Managing Editors Association and its fundraising foundation, from 2000 to 2009.)*

## **Connecting mailbox**

### ***On his first typewriter - and shipping out to Vietnam***

**Brendan Riley** ([Email](#)) - My first typewriter, a cast-off from my hometown Vallejo, Calif., newspaper, was a #5 Underwood. Had it as a teen-ager, and many college papers were pounded out on it. Somewhere along the line it disappeared, but years later I got another one, in great shape, for \$20 from a retired Nevada reporter and editor. Still have that one, collecting dust on a shelf. As evidence of my manual typewriter days, the attached newspaper photo shows yours truly at the keyboard of

an old Remington in the Vallejo News-Chronicle newsroom. It ran on Nov. 1, 1968, with a brief about me leaving my first reporting job and shipping out for a couple of years aboard a Vietnam-bound Navy ammunition ship. I had joined a reserve unit after high school in 1963, and by 1968 had used my last college deferment. Had I not joined the Navy Reserve, would not have been drafted because by 1968 I was married and had two daughters. But I was stuck with completing my Navy reserve commitment, made in 1963 when I knew next to nothing about what was going on in Southeast Asia.

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## ***Joe Edwards on trivia contest winning team***



AP retiree **Joe Edwards** ([Email](#)) - of Nashville was on a three-member team that won the Nashville-area trivia contest for seniors.

After beating six other teams from three counties, the winners now advance to the regional round of the statewide contest later this month.

Edwards' team sewed up the win by correctly answering the final question: What is the longest cave system in the country, and in what state? (Mammoth Cave in Kentucky.)

"I'm a storehouse of useless information," he said afterwards.

## **Kavanaugh: I didn't recognize Parkland dad seeking handshake**





AP Photo/Andrew Harnik

By LISA MASCARO

WASHINGTON (AP) - Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh says he would have shaken the hand of a school shooting victim's father during a break in last week's Senate hearing had he recognized him before being whisked away by security detail.

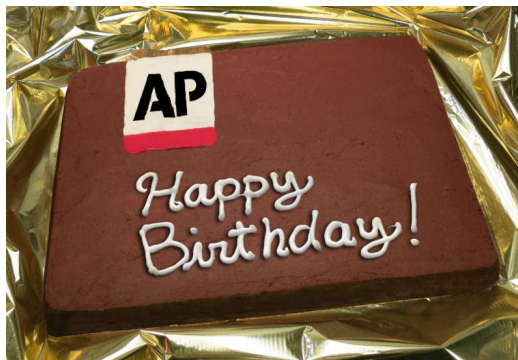
Kavanaugh's explanation for the encounter with Fred Guttenberg- captured in an Associated Press photo that went viral on social media - was among a 263-page response to written questions from senators on a range of issues including abortion, executive power and his personal finances.

Kavanaugh wrote that he assumed the man who approached him "and touched my arm" during a break at the Senate Judiciary Committee proceedings had been one of the many protesters in the hearing room. Guttenberg's 14-year-old daughter, Jaime, was among 17 people killed on Feb. 14 at Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida.

"It had been a chaotic morning," Kavanaugh wrote. "I unfortunately did not realize that the man was the father of a shooting victim from Parkland, Florida. Mr. Guttenberg has suffered an incalculable loss. If I had known who he was, I would have shaken his hand, talked to him, and expressed my sympathy. And I would have listened to him."

Read more [here](#).

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Carol Riha - [criha@aol.com](mailto:criha@aol.com)

## Stories of interest

### ***How Trump Is Making Journalism School Great Again*** (Daily Beast)

By MATT TULLIS

When I worked as a features reporter at the Columbus Dispatch, I wrote a story about people who lived in the region, but hated Ohio State University football. I didn't write about those who hate the Buckeyes because they were fans of other teams, but rather people who refused to be assimilated by the Buckeye Borg.

The Dispatch ran the story on the cover of the Features page on January 5, 2008. That just happened to be the same day OSU played Louisiana State University for the national championship. The Buckeyes lost, and a decent number of people in Central Ohio decided it was because of me. My story, apparently, had depressed the football team.

I received more than 100 emails that night and the next day. A lot of people said they were going to cancel their subscription. Others said they were going to find me

and run me out of town. A few mentioned violence, saying that if I ever set foot on campus again, I would regret it.

I didn't really take the threats seriously. I don't think I even forwarded any of them to my editors. It was 2008, after all, a full decade before a madman murdered five journalists in a newsroom in Annapolis, Maryland, before candidate Donald Trump supporters wore T-shirts to rallies reading "Rope. Tree. Journalist. Some assembly required." It was before the president routinely started labeling reporters and news organizations as the "enemy of the people."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bob Daugherty.

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## ***'60 Minutes' chief Jeff Fager fired over policy violation***



Jeff Fager in 2017 (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

By **DAVID BAUDER**

NEW YORK (AP) - CBS News on Wednesday fired "60 Minutes" top executive Jeff Fager, who has been under investigation following reports that he groped women at parties and tolerated an abusive workplace.

The network news president, David Rhodes, said Fager's firing was "not directly related" to the allegations against him, but came because he violated company policy. A CBS News reporter working on a story about Fager revealed that he had sent her a text message urging her to "be careful."

Fager is the third major figure at CBS to lose his job in the past year over misconduct allegations, following news anchor Charlie Rose last November and CBS Corp. CEO Leslie Moonves on Sunday.

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

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## ***Newspaper reprints controversial cartoon of Serena Williams***



**By ROD McGUIRK**

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) - A cartoon of Serena Williams that has been widely condemned as a racist depiction of the tennis great has been partially reprinted on the front page of the Melbourne-based newspaper that initially published it.

The Herald Sun newspaper printed an edited portion of the cartoon - featuring 23-time Grand Slam winner Williams jumping on a broken racket during her dispute with a chair umpire in the U.S. Open final - among caricatures of other famous people Wednesday under the headline "Welcome to the PC World."

The newspaper, which has Australia's largest circulation, has defended its cartoonist Mark Knight's depiction of Williams and is asserting that the condemnation, which has come from around the world, is driven by political correctness.

"If the self-appointed censors of Mark Knight get their way on his Serena Williams cartoon, our new politically correct life will be very dull indeed," the paper said on its front page.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Lee Enterprises shutter Missoula Independent*** (Montana Free Press)

By JOHN S. ADAMS

Lee Enterprises, the Iowa-based newspaper chain that bought the Missoula Independent last year, has now shut down the iconic alternative newsweekly.

The staff learned of the closure early Tuesday morning, according to former Independent staff writer Derek Brouwer.

"I got a phone call that woke me up around 7:30 this morning. I didn't answer it, but I looked at my phone and I saw I had the email letter. It was sent to my personal email address," Brouwer said.

The letter, from Lee Newspapers regional human resources director Jim Gaasterland, informed Brouwer that the Missoula Independent was closed.

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

## **The Final Word**

***'Jaws of Life' used to free bear with head stuck in milk can***





AP Photos/Dawn Knutson

ROSEAU, Minn. (AP) - Firefighters had to use the Jaws of Life to help free a black bear whose head was stuck in a milk can in northern Minnesota.

Conservation officer Eric Benjamin with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources was called Friday about a young male bear with its head stuck in an old 10-gallon (38-liter) milk can near Roseau (ROH'-zoh).

Benjamin says rescuers tried cooking oil to free the bear, but that didn't work, so they drilled three holes in the can so the panting bear could breathe.

After about two hours, Benjamin called the Roseau Fire Department, which used the Jaws of Life - normally used to extricate car accident victims - and a spreader to pry the can off.



Benjamin says the freed animal, seemingly healthy, ran into the woods.

## Today in History - September 13, 2018



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Thursday, Sept. 13, the 256th day of 2018. There are 109 days left in the year.

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

On Sept. 13, 1971, a four-day inmates' rebellion at the Attica Correctional Facility in western New York ended as police and guards stormed the prison; the ordeal and final assault claimed the lives of 32 inmates and 11 hostages.

On this date:

In 1759, during the French and Indian War, the British defeated the French on the Plains of Abraham overlooking Quebec City.

In 1788, the Congress of the Confederation authorized the first national election, and declared New York City the temporary national capital.

In 1814, during the War of 1812, British naval forces began bombarding Fort McHenry in Baltimore but were driven back by American defenders in a battle that lasted until the following morning.

In 1948, Republican Margaret Chase Smith of Maine was elected to the U.S. Senate; she became the first woman to serve in both houses of Congress.

In 1959, Elvis Presley first met his future wife, 14-year-old Priscilla Beaulieu, while stationed in West Germany with the U.S. Army. (They married in 1967, but divorced in 1973.)

In 1962, Mississippi Gov. Ross Barnett rejected the U.S. Supreme Court's order for the University of Mississippi to admit James Meredith, a black student, declaring in a televised address, "We will not drink from the cup of genocide."

In 1970, the first New York City Marathon was held; winner Gary Muhrcke finished the 26.2-mile run, which took place entirely inside Central Park, in 2:31:38.

In 1989, Fay Vincent was elected commissioner of Major League Baseball, succeeding the late A. Bartlett Giamatti (juh-MAH'-tee).

In 1990, the combination police-courtroom drama "Law & Order" premiered on NBC.

In 1993, at the White House, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat shook hands after signing an accord granting limited Palestinian autonomy.

In 1997, funeral services were held in Calcutta, India, for Nobel peace laureate Mother Teresa.

In 2001, two days after the 9/11 terror attacks, the first few jetliners returned to the nation's skies, but several major airports remained closed and others opened only briefly. President George W. Bush visited injured Pentagon workers and said he would carry the nation's prayers to New York.

Ten years ago: Rescue crews ventured out to pluck people from their homes in an all-out search for thousands of Texans who had stubbornly stayed behind overnight to face Hurricane Ike. After wild conjecture over who would play Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin on "Saturday Night Live," writer-performer Tina Fey returned to her old show

for an opening sketch featuring her and Fey's former "Weekend Update" co-host Amy Poehler as Sen. Hillary Clinton.

Five years ago: By truck and helicopter, thousands of people stranded by floodwaters were brought down from the Colorado Rockies. A pre-dawn fire swept through a Russian psychiatric hospital, killing 37 people.

One year ago: Firefighters who were called to a sweltering nursing home in Hollywood, Florida, where air conditioning had been knocked out by Hurricane Irma found three people dead and evacuated 145 others to hospitals; five others died later in the day. Former Republican Sen. Pete Domenici (doh-MEN'-ih-chee), New Mexico's longest-serving senator, died in Albuquerque at the age of 85. The Cleveland Indians set an American League record with their 21st straight win, a 5-3 victory over the Detroit Tigers. (The streak would continue to 22 before the Indians were stopped.) The International Olympic Committee officially awarded the 2024 Summer Olympics to Paris and the 2028 games to Los Angeles.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Barbara Bain is 87. Actress Eileen Fulton (TV: "As the World Turns") is 85. Actor Joe E. Tata is 82. TV producer Fred Silverman is 81. Rock singer David Clayton-Thomas (Blood, Sweat & Tears) is 77. Actress Jacqueline Bisset is 74. Singer Peter Cetera is 74. Actress Christine Eubank is 68. Actress Jean Smart is 67. Singer Randy Jones (The Village People) is 66. Record producer Don Was is 66. Actor Isaiah Whitlock Jr. is 64. Actress-comedian Geri Jewell is 62. Country singer Bobbie Cryner is 57. Rock singer-musician Dave Mustaine (Megadeth) is 57. Radio-TV personality Tavis Smiley is 54. Rock musician Zak Starkey is 53. Actor Louis Mandylor is 52. Olympic gold medal runner Michael Johnson is 51. Rock musician Steve Perkins is 51. Actor Roger Howarth is 50. Actor Dominic Fumusa is 49. Actress Louise Lombard is 48. Tennis player Goran Ivanisevic (ee-van-EE'-seh-vihch) is 47. Country singer Aaron Benward (Blue County) is 45. Country musician Joe Don Rooney (Rascal Flatts) is 43. Actor Scott Vickaryous is 43. Singer Fiona Apple is 41. Contemporary Christian musician Hector Cervantes (Casting Crowns) is 38. Former MLB pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka is 38. Actor Ben Savage is 38. Rock singer Niall Horan (One Direction) is 25. Actor Mitch Holleman is 23. Actress Lili Reinhart (TV: "Riverdale") is 22.

**Thought for Today: "Revolt and terror pay a price. Order and law have a cost."  
- Carl Sandburg, American poet and author (1878-1967).**

## 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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