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Connecting - September 14, 2018

1 message

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Fri, Sep 14, 2018 at 8:57 AM

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Connecting

September 14, 2018

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High winds and storm surge from Hurricane Florence hits Swansboro N.C., Friday, Sept. 14, 2018. (AP Photo/Tom Copeland)

Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

We wish safety for all in the path of Hurricane Florence as it made landfall early this morning in coastal North Carolina.

Scores of our Associated Press colleagues are involved in the coverage of the storm - and you can click on the **Top AP News** and **Top AP Photos** links in the Connecting masthead to view their coverage.

If you have a story to share from Florence, send it along over the weekend and we'll use in Monday's edition.

The typewriter theme has resonated in Connecting as much as any of late - as many of your colleagues recall the days when they were the tools of our trade. Some are still on active duty.



Next to my desk where I compose Connecting five days a week sits the Remington 5 portable typewriter shown in the photo above along with a vintage camera. The Remington Streamline Portable is in great condition for a typewriter made in the 1930s.

If the Internet or my laptop go down, I suppose I could use that typewriter - a gift from my friend Andy Lippman - to compose Connecting. But then there'd be the matter of copying and distributing it to 1,300-plus colleagues by mail!

The camera? It is a German-made Zeiss Ikon that was used by my dad to chronicle his 33 months of combat duty as an Army artillery officer in North Africa and Europe during World War II. Dad was with his unit in Germany, home of his parents and their ancestors, when the War in Europe came to an end.

Paul

Millions prepare as Hurricane Florence approaches



People walk by the boarded-up front windows of Bourbon Street in preparation for Hurricane Florence in Wilmington, N.C., Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018. The effects of Hurricane Florence in Southeastern North Carolina are expected to begin Thursday. (Matt Born/The Star-News via AP)



Vickie Grate, left, waits in a shelter with her son Chris, center, and his girlfriend Sarah, who only gave their first names, for Hurricane Florence to pass after evacuating from

their nearby homes, in Conway, S.C., Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018. (AP Photo/David Goldman)



Paula Baker carries flowers she'll leave on her son's grave that she plans on visiting after evacuating her home in Atlantic Beach, N.C., Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018, as Hurricane Florence approaches the east coast. (AP Photo/David Goldman)

AP Images Blog

As North Carolina residents began to feel the first modest effects of a weakened Hurricane Florence on Thursday, forecasters warned the powerful storm will bring seawater surging onto land and torrential downpours.

Florence's eye could come ashore early Friday around the North Carolina-South Carolina line. Then it is likely to hover along the coast Saturday, pushing up to 13 feet (nearly 4 meters) of storm surge and unloading water on both states. More than 1.7 million people in the Carolinas and Virginia were warned to clear out. The National Weather Service said about 5.25 million people live in areas under hurricane warnings or watches, and 4.9 million in places covered by tropical storm warnings or watches.

Some ignored warnings, choosing instead to hunker down at home and take their chances. The police chief of a barrier island in Florence's bulls'-eye said he was

asking for next-of-kin contact information from the few residents who refused to leave.

Adding to concerns, forecasters warned the larger and slow-moving storm could linger for days around the coast, leaving many without power and supplies.

Duke Energy said Florence, now a Category 2, could knock out electricity to three-quarters of its 4 million customers in the Carolinas, and outages could last for weeks.

Read and view more [here](#).

Connecting mailbox

Draft? What draft?

Brian Bland (Email) - In autumn, 1959, all healthy freshmen and sophomore males at the land-grant University of Illinois were required to take ROTC. Young men in uniform were a common classroom sight. At the end of sophomore year, I opted to take two more years of ROTC, believing I could have some control over my post-college future by being a lieutenant for a while rather than a draftee. The decision was based partly on the Army offering a choice, after commissioning, of serving either six months or two years of active duty. Not long before I was commissioned, the Army withdrew the six-month option. On the other hand, the military readily deferred my active duty when I decided to go to grad school.

It was late 1964 when I went on active duty. Two years later, I volunteered for another year, specifically for a job coming open in Vietnam. (My motives were mixed -- a story for another time). As the Photo Officer for the 25th Infantry Division in Cu Chi, my duties were akin to assignment editor/photo editor, although it was not a public affairs job. My "staff" was a bunch of hard-working young men around 19-23 -- combat photographers and a few lab guys, plus - - luckily -- a veteran sergeant about ten years my senior.



I left the Army as a captain in late February 1968, three weeks into the Tet Offensive. I obviously never was drafted and was lucky not to be recalled to active duty, as so many people were during the Korean conflict.

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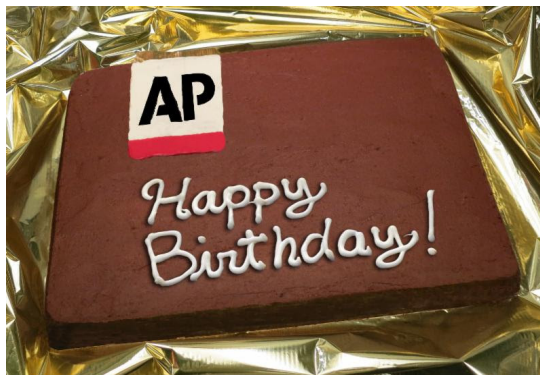
Sharing memories of the 1984 LA Olympics



From left: Paul Stevens, Doug Tucker, Phyllis Tonn and Mike Harris.

Back in 1984, sports writers Doug Tucker and Mike Harris roomed together at the Los Angeles Summer Olympics and covered freestyle wrestling. Those memories and many others from their 40-plus-year AP careers were shared when Harris was in Kansas City recently and joined Doug and his wife Phyllis Tonn, and Ye Olde Connecting Editor, for lunch at Q39 Barbeque.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Michelle Morgante - michellemorgante@gmail.com

Rick Pienciak - rpienciak@ap.org

Niko Price - nprice@ap.org

On Saturday to...

Connie Farrow, cfarrow01@sbcglobal.net

Michael Feldman - mfeldman725@gmail.com

Stories of interest

When the history of this era is written, who'll be to blame? (Miami Herald)

By LEONARD PITTS JR.

A prediction.

When the history of this era is written, when future generations wonder how a mostly-educated and largely-literate nation became mired in "truthiness," when they ask how we became so mentally muddled that we lost the ability to identify facts and the capacity to care, they'll find many culprits.

They'll blame Fox "News" for feeding the fearful a steady diet of hogwash designed to make them feel beset, encircled and put upon.

They'll blame Alex Jones for spinning webs of conspiracy so bizarre and convoluted as to shame Fox Mulder.

They'll blame schools for failing to teach young people to think critically.

They'll blame Donald Trump for being Donald Trump.

But they will also blame many of us in the non-Fox news media for our failure to be energetic advocates for, and defenders of, the actual, factual truth. They will blame us for surrendering to a boneless "both-sideism" that simulates professional impartiality at the cost of clarity and fact.

Read more [here](#).

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As newsrooms do more with less, can reporters keep up? (CJR)

By JARED BREY

DURING THE LAST WEEK OF AUGUST, Sara Coello wrote eleven stories for the Dallas Morning News. Thirteen if you count the two pieces she co-bylined with other reporters. Sixteen if you count the three she filed the previous Sunday.

It was a pretty typical week for Coello, who started as a full-time breaking news reporter for the Morning News in May, after she graduated from college. She's published more than 200 stories since then—close to three a day. Her record is seven stories in a single day, she says, and her longest dry spell has been three days. It's a hustle, but—so far, anyway—it's worth it.

"I love it," Coello says. "If I were expected to write this many articles or get a certain number of views based on what I do now in another newsroom, I would be very stressed out. But the approach here is, if you break a story, you get custody of it."

Coello's account differs, however, from the typical industry narrative of overworked reporters and burnout. Declining revenues have forced newsrooms across the US to do more with less, testing the productivity of journalists in new and sometimes uncomfortable ways. In January, Martha Waggoner, an Associated Press reporter and the international chair for the NewsGuild-Communication Workers of America, detailed a trend of newsrooms tracking individual reporters' pageviews as part of performance reviews. Journalists who spoke with Waggoner "complain of goals that are too high and require too many stories, given the severely reduced size of newsroom staffs," she wrote. The churn is constant. Pageview concerns push journalists to "take time from chipping away at that larger story to write smaller stories to keep you on track," as one told Waggoner.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Len Iwanski.

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The Times Would Have Been Crazy Not to Publish That Op-Ed (Politico)

By **MICHAEL J. SOCOLOW**

Did the New York Times commit a major journalistic mistake?

According to legendary Watergate sleuth Bob Woodward, the publication of an anonymous op-ed by a "senior official in the Trump administration" was an error in judgment. Had the decision to publish the op-ed come to him, Woodward told CBS News, he "wouldn't have used it."

Nor is Woodward alone. Baltimore Sun media critic David Zurawik agrees with Woodward. Without the author's identity being made public, Zurawik notes, the "op-ed massively adds to the cesspool of confusion about the most important story in American life right now." And Nate Silver, editor of FiveThirtyEight, tweeted that though "it's a complicated case" his "view is that this [op-ed] was too hot/complicated/important for an op-ed and should have been turned over to the newsroom to handle."

It all adds up to a growing consensus among journalists and critics that the Times made a mistake in publishing this anonymously. This consensus is simply wrong.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Kazuo Abiko.

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It's getting more difficult for foreign journalists to work in the US (CJR)

By AMANDA DARRACH

A YOUNG SCIENCE JOURNALIST WENT RECENTLY to a US Consulate in Germany to finalize her visa to work in America. The process seemed to include an unreasonably high requirement: "Why don't you have a Pulitzer Prize?" the consular officer asked. "Can you explain to me why you think you're qualified for the O-1 without one?" The journalist was applying for an O-1B visa-the documentation required of those entering the US to do creative work, establishing proof of "extraordinary ability." The officer said a Nobel would suffice, too.

The consular officer Googled the journalist and scoffed at the search results. Her work was "ordinary" and "average," he said. When he saw from her paperwork that she made about \$2,000 a month, he told her that "a truly famous journalist would make much more."

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

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The EU has approved a copyright law that could change the internet as we know it (Quartz)

By Ephrat Livni

The EU parliament today (Sept. 12) voted to approve controversial copyright reforms that have been in the works since 2016 and could transform the internet for users in Europe and beyond.

The Copyright Directive is meant to protect content creators and has received strong support from some in the artistic and media communities. But its critics—including internet pioneers as well as tech giants like Google, Facebook, and Apple—argue that the reforms would hamper the free flow of information, turn tech companies into content police, and lead to the web's ossification.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac.

Today in History - September 14, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Sept. 14, the 257th day of 2018. There are 108 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 14, 1901, President William McKinley died in Buffalo, New York, of gunshot wounds inflicted by an assassin; Vice President Theodore Roosevelt succeeded him.

On this date:

In 1814, Francis Scott Key was inspired to write the poem "Defence of Fort McHenry" (later "The Star-Spangled Banner") after witnessing the American flag flying over the Maryland fort following a night of British naval bombardment during the War of 1812.

In 1861, the first naval engagement of the Civil War took place as the USS Colorado attacked and sank the Confederate private schooner Judah off Pensacola, Florida.

In 1927, modern dance pioneer Isadora Duncan died in Nice (nees), France, when her scarf became entangled in a wheel of the sports car she was riding in.

In 1954, the Soviet Union detonated a 40-kiloton atomic test weapon.

In 1972, the family drama series "The Waltons" premiered on CBS.

In 1975, Pope Paul VI declared Mother Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton the first U.S.-born saint.

In 1982, Princess Grace of Monaco, formerly actress Grace Kelly, died at age 52 of injuries from a car crash the day before; Lebanon's president-elect, Bashir Gemayel (bah-SHEER' jeh-MAY'-el), was killed by a bomb.

In 1985, Shiite (SHEE'-eyet) Muslim kidnappers in Lebanon released the Rev. Benjamin Weir (weer) after holding him captive for 16 months.

In 1991, the government of South Africa, the African National Congress and the Inkatha (in-KAH'-tah) Freedom Party signed a national peace pact.

In 1994, on the 34th day of a strike by players, Acting Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig announced the 1994 season was over.

In 2001, Americans packed churches and clogged public squares on a day of remembrance for the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks. President George W. Bush prayed with his Cabinet and attended services at Washington National Cathedral, then flew to New York, where he waded into the ruins of the World Trade Center and addressed rescue workers in a flag-waving, bullhorn-wielding show of resolve.

In 2012, fury over an anti-Muslim film ridiculing the Prophet Muhammad spread across the Muslim world, with deadly clashes near Western embassies in Tunisia and Sudan, an American fast-food restaurant set ablaze in Lebanon, and international peacekeepers attacked in the Sinai.

Ten years ago: Losing its devastating punch as a major hurricane, Ike nevertheless drubbed the Midwest with powerful winds and floodwaters. Carlos Zambrano pitched the first no-hitter for the Chicago Cubs in 36 years, striking out 10 in a 5-0 win over Houston in a game relocated to Milwaukee because of Hurricane Ike.

Five years ago: A diplomatic breakthrough on securing and destroying Syria's chemical weapons stockpile, negotiated by the U.S. and Russia, averted the threat of U.S. military action.

One year ago: CIA Director Mike Pompeo canceled a planned appearance at Harvard University over the school's decision to name Chelsea Manning a visiting fellow. Former CIA deputy director Mike Morell resigned from his post at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, saying he couldn't be part of an organization that "honors a convicted felon and leaker of classified information." More than 80 people were killed in an attack in southern Iraq targeting a restaurant frequented by Shiite Muslim pilgrims; the Islamic State group claimed responsibility.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Zoe Caldwell is 85. Actor Walter Koenig (KAY'-nihg) is 82. Basketball Hall of Fame coach Larry Brown is 78. Singer-actress Joey Heatherton is 74. Actor Sam Neill is 71. Singer Jon "Bowzer" Bauman (Sha Na Na) is 71. Actor Robert Wisdom is 65. Rock musician Steve Berlin (Los Lobos) is 63. Country singer-songwriter Beth Nielsen Chapman is 62. Actress Mary Crosby is 59. Singer Morten Harket (a-ha) is 59. Country singer John Berry is 59. Actress Melissa Leo is 58. Actress Faith Ford is 54. Actor Jamie Kaler is 54. Actress Michelle Stafford is 53. Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev is 53. Rock musician Mike Cooley (Drive-By Truckers) is 52. Actor Dan Cortese is 51. Contemporary Christian singer Mark Hall is 49. Actor-writer-director-producer Tyler Perry is 49. Actor Ben Garant is 48. Rock musician Craig Montoya (Tri Polar) is 48. Actress Kimberly Williams-Paisley is 47. Actor Andrew Lincoln is 45. Rapper Nas is 45. Actor Austin Basis is 42. Country singer Danielle Peck is 40. Pop singer Ayo is 38. Actor Sebastian Sozzi is 36. Actor Adam Lamberg is 34. Singer Alex Clare is 33. Actor Chad Duell (TV: "General Hospital") is 31. Actress Jessica Brown Findlay is 31. Actor-singer Logan Henderson is 29. Actress Emma Kenney is 19.

Thought for Today: "Civilizations die from philosophical calm, irony, and the sense of fair play quite as surely as they die of debauchery." - Joseph Wood Krutch, American author, critic and educator (1893-1970).

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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