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# Connecting - October 23, 2018

1 message

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# Connecting

October 23, 2018

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Colleagues,

**Bob Graves**, one of AP's finest and longest-serving photojournalists, is planning to retire from The Associated Press after a 51-year career in Chicago.

Bob "has been the face of AP Photos in Chicago for more than five decades," said regional photo editor **Kii Sato** in announcing Monday that Bob will retire January 11, 2019.

Please join me in congratulating Bob, like Kii a Connecting colleague, on his career of service to the cooperative. Bob's email is - [rgraves@ap.org](mailto:rgraves@ap.org)

### ***Annual Connecting book issue approaching***

**AUTHORS:** If you have written a book in the past year, I invite you to share the following information on it with your colleagues who may soon be in the shopping mode for the upcoming holidays: Name of book and a synopsis of no more than 300 words, a jpg image of the book cover and a jpg headshot of you, where your book can be purchased, including a link. We will publish information on your books in early November, so get me your information by the end of this month.

Have a good day!

Paul

## **Bob Graves - 'face of Chicago Photos' to retire in January after 51-year AP career**



**Kiichiro Sato** ([Email](#)) - U.S. Regional Photo Editor, Chicago, in a note Monday to AP photo staff:

Please join me in congratulating photo editor Bob Graves, who will be retiring on Jan. 11, 2019, after more than half a century of service at the AP in Chicago.

Bob was hired as a copy boy at AP in Chicago in 1967 when he was 16 years old. Since then, he has seen and done it all, from running photo prints to the train station to processing every kind of image, including film, prints, black and white, color, AP's first 1.3 megapixel digital camera NC2000 and images wirelessly transmitted from the scene of events in a matter of seconds. He once was the voice that was heard on the other end of the Laserphoto transmitter via rotary telephone. His departure is truly the end of an era for AP Photos. Working for the AP was not just a career for Bob, but also a huge part of his life.

It will be tough to lose Bob's institutional knowledge and his relationship with members around the country. But the toughest part will be walking into the Chicago office and not seeing Bob there. He has been the face of AP Photos in Chicago for more than five decades.

I wanted to give everyone advance notice of his departure, so you can have the chance to reach out to Bob to thank him for his service and congratulate him. We will have a proper send-off in the near future and will share those details soon.

## A social-media controversy over AP tweet



A story from MarketWatch:

"A ragged, growing army of migrants resumes march toward U.S."

That was the headline on a story from the Associated Press about the caravan of migrants moving through Mexico toward the United States.

One definition of "army" is "a large number of people or things, typically formed or organized for a particular purpose." So, technically, the AP was in the clear.

But with such an emotionally charged topic, this tweet from the AP Politics account really struck a nerve:

One look at the dreaded "ratio," and the AP had to know it had a problem. In Twitter speak, that's when the number of replies to a tweet greatly outnumbers the likes and retweets. And that tweet certainly got the ratio treatment.

"Yeah, I too look at a photo of sleeping toddlers and exhausted mothers and think, 'yes, that is absolutely an 'army,'" wrote Kevin Kruse. "This is a vile and disingenuous headline. You should be ashamed," tweets Lisa Walker.

A former director of the U.S. office of Government Ethics wasn't having any of it either, as the replies mounted... and the likes and retweets did not.

[Here is response](#) from the National Association of Hispanic Journalists:

Washington, D.C. - While it is significant to address the issues surrounding the migrant caravan moving through Mexico, this caption by The Associated Press pressures language that invalidates the plight of these migrants.

NAHJ acknowledges that this group is strong and courageous for leaving the place they call home in pursuit for a better life. This group has braved a long journey to find a new environment where they can excel and find pride in themselves and how they support their families.

While not all may recognize the extremity that these individuals may have suffered through and what they have endured to escape such struggles, however it is imperative that the press portrayals this battle they have fought in a fair and accurate light. Therefore, terms such as ragtag and poor must be exchanged for words that are less bias and assumptive.

**The AP** deleted the tweet and posted this statement:

@AP - We've removed an @AP tweet from Oct. 21 that said a migrant caravan in Mexico was "like a ragtag army of the poor." That wording was poorly chosen and has been removed from our coverage of the caravan.

In this response to his Connecting colleagues, **John Daniszewski (Email)** - AP vice president for Standards - said:

We deleted and replaced our tweet as soon as we realized that it suggested to some people that we were implying the caravan was an armed force, which it is not.

One of the secondary definitions of "army" is a multitude of people, and the word is often used colloquially in that sense by journalists and others (for example, "the army of the unemployed" or "the army of fans.")

But in this instance, we agreed with those who felt that the phrase was inappropriate when applied to a procession of migrants. We also removed the word "army" from headlines and the text story that went to AP members and clients. The AP story itself made clear that the crowd was made up of men, women and children motivated to escape violence, corruption and poverty in their homelands and seeking a better life in the United States.

The AP has been with the migrant caravan almost from its beginning. It has been a leader in reporting and writing humanely and with balance and fairness about the immigration issue, including last week's Best of the AP winner.

## Connecting mailbox

### *Dictating from vestibule of a ladies room*

**Hal Bock (Email)** - On the subject of dictation, I once had a very interesting venue.

Baseball's first free agent draft was held in New York's posh Plaza Hotel. The organizers had no idea how it would work but at least they were in a fancy setting. The problem: In this pre-cell phone era, there were no public pay phones nearby...

After the first round, I went searching for communication and the only phone I could locate was in the vestibule of the ladies rest room. You do what you have to do. I grabbed the phone and started dictating while a parade of elderly ladies was marching into and out of the ladies rest room and shot glares at me. I smiled benignly and said, "On the job."



And I was.

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## ***Nestor Ikeda elected president of Peruvian Journalists Club***

**Steve Graham** ([Email](#)) - My friend, Nestor Ikeda, was elected president of the Peruvian Journalists Club.

I first met Nestor when he was working in the San Juan, Puerto Rico AP bureau. Nestor had joined the AP in the Lima bureau when Kernan Turner was COB there. Nestor moved to San Juan when Kernan was named Caribbean COB.



Nestor later moved to the LPA desk in New York and then to Washington, D.C. as LPA Washington correspondent.

Upon his retirement, he returned to his native Peru.

# **Welcome to Connecting**



Dean Ridings - [DRidings@mediagenius.com](mailto:DRidings@mediagenius.com)

Tom Stultz - [Stultz@jmisports.com](mailto:Stultz@jmisports.com)

## Stories of interest

### ***1 big thing: The "fake news" fix*** (Axios)

Axios CEO Jim VandeHei - speaking at his alma mater, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh - was asked by several students how to restore faith and trust in media.

VandeHei offered four fairly provocative ideas - one each for politicians, social media, reporters and individuals. Here's the gist, adapted for Axios ...

**Politicians:** Stop using the term "fake news." The worst thing for a country is having people believe lies, or trust nothing. One day soon, something bad will happen, and it will take faith in information to fix it. You erode trust at our collective peril.

**Media:** News organizations should ban their reporters from doing anything on social media - especially Twitter - beyond sharing stories. Snark, jokes and blatant opinion are showing your hand, and it always seems to be the left one. This makes it impossible to win back the skeptics.

**Social media companies:** Radically self-regulate, or allow government regulation to stanch, the flow of disinformation or made-up news. Maybe it takes a new FCC of



social media to force the same standards as expected from TV stations and newspapers. One thing is for sure: The current self-policing isn't cutting it.

You: We all want to fault others, but each of us is very much to blame. Quit sharing stories without even reading them. Quit tweeting your every outrage. Quit clicking on garbage. Spend a few minutes to verify the trustworthiness of what you read.

Be smart ... Remember: If your Facebook feed is filled with garbage, it means you were reading garbage in the first place. The algorithm simply gives you more of what you crave.

P.S. The Axios social media policy, which applies to all our colleagues, prohibits the sharing of political views or derogatory snark online: "Don't say anything on the internet that you wouldn't publish under your byline or say on TV."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Jenny Volanakis

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## ***Journalism study evaluates emotions on the job*** (EurekAlert)

### **QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY**

A QUT journalism academic says the current freelancer-heavy market for media professionals could be preventing photographers and video journalists who report on traumatic news events from accessing the support they need.

The results of TJ Thomson's peer-reviewed study Mapping the emotional labor and work of visual journalism has been published in Journalism.

"People understand exposure to media content impacts audiences but we often forget about the people behind the creation of the content," Dr Thomson said.

"The study shines a light on the often-unacknowledged emotional work and labor that visual journalists experience in the field that often extends into their homes and

personal lives, too."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Jim Hood.

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## ***Tom Silvestri column: Why 2018 will be the last year the RTD makes editorial endorsements***

(Richmond Times-Dispatch)

After the November election, this newspaper will end its practice of political endorsements. This column explains the reasons.

At the Richmond Times-Dispatch, an Editorial Board determines each endorsement that, in essence, supports a particular candidate running for office. The board is composed of the RTD Editorial team, which is headed by Bob Rayner and includes editors Cindy Paris and Robin Beres. (One position in the department is open because of a departure. We plan to fill it soon.) As publisher, I am also a member of the Editorial Board.

Unlike at some newspapers, RTD Editorial reports to the publisher. It is not part of the Newsroom, which is led by Executive Editor Paige Mudd. She also reports to the publisher. This is an important distinction, as both Editorial and News publish opinion pieces. Editorial's edited commentary fills two pages each day, three on Sunday. News runs its opinion columns on Page A2. (Opinions also show up on the Sports pages and in art reviews.) These pieces all appear on Richmond.com.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mike Holmes.

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## ***The Passing of Rear Admiral Bill Thompson***

Dear USNPAA Members,

It is with sadness that I inform you about the passing of Rear Admiral Bill Thompson, the first public affairs specialist to become a flag officer and lead our community. He passed away on Monday afternoon, 15 October, at Walter Reed National Medical Center surrounded by his loving family.

I contend the public affairs community would never be the respected community it is today had it not been for Admiral Thompson's leadership and vision. Admiral Thompson knew the Navy had a story to tell to the public-and set out to do it. He convinced Navy leaders that it was part of their responsibility to tell that story. After all, we were an organization accountable to the American public. It was their Navy, and the citizens wanted to hear about it. He also understood the importance of internal communications. Admiral Thompson was responsible for installing closed circuit television aboard our ships in the 1970's, for example-the leading edge of technology at the time.

His legacy and the important role that public affairs plays in today's Navy live on.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Craig Whitney, who wrote: "I'm forwarding an obit of retired Rear Admiral William Thompson, whom many of your readers may have known when he was Navy Chief of Information, under Admiral Bud Zumwalt, or from his leadership of the Navy Memorial Foundation, which built the memorial on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington. I served as an Ensign and LT(jg) under then-Captain Thompson when he was PAO for Secretaries of the Navy Paul Nitze and Paul Ignatius in the late 1960s."

## Today in History - October 23, 2018



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 23, the 296th day of 2018. There are 69 days left in the year.

## Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 23, 1983, 241 U.S. service members, most of them Marines, were killed in a suicide truck-bombing at Beirut International Airport in Lebanon; a near-simultaneous attack on French forces killed 58 paratroopers.

## On this date:

In 1707, the first Parliament of Great Britain, created by the Acts of Union between England and Scotland, held its first meeting.

In 1915, tens of thousands of women paraded up Fifth Avenue in New York City, demanding the right to vote.

In 1942, during World War II, Britain launched a major offensive against Axis forces at El Alamein (el ah-lah-MAYN') in Egypt, resulting in an Allied victory.

In 1944, the World War II Battle of Leyte (LAY'-tee) Gulf began, resulting in a major Allied victory against Japanese forces.

In 1956, a student-sparked revolt against Hungary's Communist rule began; as the revolution spread, Soviet forces started entering the country, and the uprising was put down within weeks.

In 1958, Boris Pasternak was named winner of the Nobel Prize in literature. (However, Soviet authorities pressured Pasternak into relinquishing the award.)

In 1973, President Richard Nixon agreed to turn over White House tape recordings subpoenaed by the Watergate special prosecutor to Judge John J. Sirica.

In 1987, the U.S. Senate rejected, 58-42, the Supreme Court nomination of Robert H. Bork.

In 1991, Cambodia's warring factions and representatives of 18 other nations signed a peace treaty in Paris.

In 1995, a jury in Houston convicted Yolanda Saldivar of murdering Tejano singing star Selena. (Saldivar is serving a life prison sentence.)

In 2001, the nation's anthrax scare hit the White House with the discovery of a small concentration of spores at an offsite mail processing center.

In 2006, former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling was sentenced by a federal judge in Houston to 24 years, four months for his role in the company's collapse. Eventually 10 years was cut off Skilling's prison sentence, and he was released to a halfway house in Aug. 2018.

Ten years ago: Badgered by lawmakers on the House Oversight Committee, former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan denied the nation's economic crisis was his fault but conceded the meltdown had revealed a flaw in a lifetime of economic thinking and left him in a "state of shocked disbelief." The Tampa Bay Rays evened the World Series at one game apiece by beating the Philadelphia Phillies, 4-2.

Five years ago: A defensive Obama administration acknowledged its problem-plagued health insurance website didn't get enough testing before going live; it said technicians were deep into the job of fixing major computer snags, but provided no timetable. German Chancellor Angela Merkel called President Barack Obama to complain about allegations U.S. intelligence had targeted her cellphone. (The White House said it wasn't monitoring and wouldn't monitor Merkel's communications, but conspicuously didn't say they had never been monitored.) The Boston Red Sox took the World Series opener, beating the St. Louis Cardinals 8-1.

One year ago: New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman announced a civil rights investigation into the Weinstein Co., amid sexual harassment and assault allegations against its founder, Harvey Weinstein. As Republicans searched for ways to finance tax cuts, President Donald Trump promised that the popular 401(k) retirement savings program would not be touched. Sen. John McCain said he didn't consider Donald Trump to be a draft-dodger, but told ABC's "The View" that the system that allowed Trump and other wealthy Americans to use medical deferments to avoid military service during the Vietnam War was wrong.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Philip Kaufman is 82. Soccer great Pele (pay-lay) is 78. Rhythm-and-blues singer Barbara Ann Hawkins (The Dixie Cups) is 75. Former ABC News investigative reporter Brian Ross is 70. Actor Michael Rupert is 67. Movie director Ang Lee is 64. Jazz singer Dianne Reeves is 62. Country singer Dwight Yoakam is 62. Community activist Martin Luther King III is 61. Movie director Sam Raimi is 59. Parodist "Weird Al" Yankovic is 59. Rock musician Robert Trujillo (Metallica) is 54. Christian/jazz singer David Thomas (Take 6) is 52. Rock musician Brian Nevin (Big Head Todd and the Monsters) is 52. Country singer-musician

Junior Bryant is 50. Actor Jon Huertas is 49. Movie director Chris Weitz is 49. CNN medical reporter Dr. Sanjay Gupta is 49. Bluegrass musician Eric Gibson (The Gibson Brothers) is 48. Country singer Jimmy Wayne is 46. Actress Vivian Bang is 45. Rock musician Eric Bass (Shinedown) is 44. TV personality and host Cat Deeley is 42. Actor Ryan Reynolds is 42. Rock singer Matthew Shultz (Cage the Elephant) is 35. TV personality Meghan McCain ("The View") is 34. Rhythm-and-blues singer Miguel is 33. Actress Masiela Lusha (MAH'-see-ella loo-SHA') is 33. Actress Emilia Clarke is 32. Actress Briana Evigan is 32. Actress Inbar Lavi is 32. Actress Jessica Stroup is 32. Neo-soul musician Allen Branstetter (St. Paul & the Broken Bones) is 28. Actress Taylor Spreitler is 25. Actress Amandla Stenberg is 20.

**Thought for Today: "Be content with what you are, and wish not change; nor dread your last day, nor long for it." - Marcus Aurelius, Roman emperor (CE 121-CE 180).**

## Got a story or photos to share?

Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.

- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.

- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.

- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.

- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.





- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

**Paul Stevens**

**Editor, Connecting newsletter**

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