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# Connecting - October 25, 2018

1 message

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# Connecting

October 25, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

A GoFundMe page has been established for our colleague **Stephan Savoia** ([Email](#)) - one of AP's finest photojournalists who was twice a member of Associated Press Pulitzer Prize-winning photo teams.

The page established by his son **Christopher** said Stephan was diagnosed with Stage IV kidney cancer on his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday, in March, and that it has spread to his lungs.



Christopher wrote:

Many of you know Stephan. His photos have danced across headlines of magazines, newspapers, and computer screens for almost 25 years.

As a photojournalist with the Associated Press he has won two Pulitzer Prizes and created a legacy through his powerful imagery that has affected and influenced the world.

Currently he is battling major complications, facing an early retirement which will result in him losing his life insurance and medical insurance. The costs of new medical insurance is huge, and his family and children are struggling to make ends meet.

After losing his wife at age 43 to glioblastoma cancer, and battling a congenital heart defect since he was 14 years old, Stephan never thought cancer was in his cards.

He is a fighter through-and-through, but it is essential that his focus remain on his health and not financial hardships.

Please help Stephan find his way, "from the dark end of the street to the bright side of the road."

[Click here](#) for a link to the page.

Connecting would welcome your thoughts on the stories we present you today from a memorable, sad Wednesday. We open with thoughts from our colleague **Dan Shelley**, executive director of RTDNA. Let us hear from you.

Paul

## **An open letter to journalists following Wednesday's terrorist incidents**

**Dan Shelley**

**RTDNA Executive Director**

Terrorist incidents such as those that have targeted CNN's offices in New York City, current and former public officials, and political activists are inexcusable, reprehensible and, unfortunately, frightening.

Now more than ever, we - the men and women who work hard every single day to fulfill our constitutionally-guaranteed duty to seek and report the truth - must once again double down on responsible journalism.

We must also double down on security measures at our physical facilities and ensure our safety while we work in the field.

I don't need to tell you that we live in a political and ideological era that has become far more than acerbic; much more than toxic. It is now dangerous.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Angie Lamoli Silvestry.

## Targeted by pipe bomb, CNN denounces White House's rhetoric



**CNN correspondents Jeff Gagliano and Chris Cuomo speak on air in front of the Time Warner Building, where NYPD personnel removed an explosive device Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2018, in New York. (AP Photo/Kevin Hagen)**

**By DAVID BAUDER**

NEW YORK (AP) - CNN's president on Wednesday denounced the White House for its "total and complete lack of understanding" of the consequences of attacks against the media after the cable news network's New York office and several prominent Democrats were sent pipe bombs.

Feelings were raw over a perceived reluctance by the administration to mention that CNN was sent one of the crude devices, which also went to Hillary Clinton, former President Barack Obama and others. A fundraising email attacking CNN sent out as the story unfolded deepened that perception. Trump's campaign later apologized for the email.

"The president, and especially the White House press secretary, should understand their words matter," said Jeff Zucker, president of CNN Worldwide. "Thus far, they have shown no comprehension of that."

There was no immediate response from the White House.

CNN has been a frequent target of Trump's "fake news" barbs, and a "CNN sucks" chant broke out at a Monday campaign rally. Amid that backdrop, some at CNN were angered by an initial tweet by White House press secretary Sarah Sanders that condemned "the attempted violent attacks recently made against President Obama, President Clinton, Secretary Clinton and other public officials," but omitted any reference to CNN. An hour later she sent another tweet that said the White House's condemnation "certainly includes threats made to CNN as well as current and former public servants."

Read more [here](#).

## No mics: CNN reports from cellphones as explosive device forces evacuation



New York City Police Department officers arrive outside the Time Warner Center in New York on Wednesday. A police bomb squad was sent to CNN's offices in New York City and the newsroom was evacuated because of a suspicious package. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

By DAVID BEARD, Poynter.org

Standing in the streets by New York's Columbus Center, CNN reporters tried to make sense of the string of explosive devices that had targeted Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and their own newsroom.

CNN's Poppy Harrow and Jim Sciutto, evacuated from the New York bureau while a bomb squad worked inside, spoke live from their cellphones at times in describing the attempted series of attacks on Democratic leaders and funders and their own shop. CBS News, just blocks away, offered space and help for the evacuated reporters, and The Wall Street Journal also offered assistance.

Within hours, explosive devices were reported that targeted former Attorney General Eric Holder and the Florida office of Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz. Another device was addressed to the Washington office of Rep. Maxine Waters of California, a frequent Trump target. In what turned out to be a false alarm, people were evacuated after suspicious packages were seen outside a building that housed the San Diego Union-Tribune and the offices of Sen. Kamala Harris.

Today's CNN package, as well as one found two days earlier in the mailbox of Democratic funder George Soros, both contained a printed return address for Wasserman Schultz. On the street, Sciutto also tweeted out news breaks, including that the CNN package was addressed to former CIA Director John Brennan. He also tweeted this image:

Read more [here](#).

## Trump decries violence but calls on media to end 'hostility'

By **ZEKE MILLER** and **JILL COLVIN**

MOSINEE, Wis. (AP) - President Donald Trump decried the threat of political violence and called on the media to end its "hostility" on Wednesday, hours after authorities intercepted bombs sent to a news network and prominent Democrats who have been the targets of some of his sharpest barbs.

Trump's pleas for harmony came as law enforcement officials scrambled to find the perpetrator of the thwarted bomb attacks against former President Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, CNN and others. The scripted message was a dissonant one for the president, who has repeatedly blasted his political opponents as criminals and

argued that they will destroy the country if they win control of Congress in the midterms.

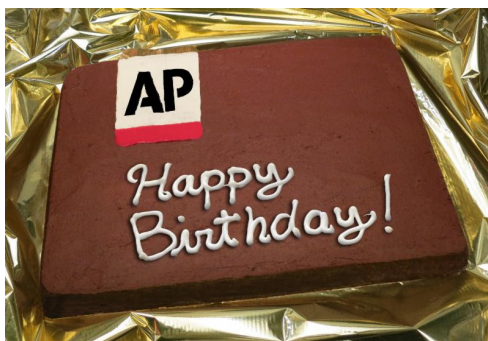
"We want all sides to come together in peace and harmony," he said at a campaign rally in Wisconsin. "Any acts or threats of political violence are an attack on our democracy itself."

The president noted the unusually subdued tone of his remarks.

"By the way, do you see how nice I'm behaving tonight?" he said. "Have you ever seen this?"

Read more [here](#).

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Marty Thompson - [martythompson@hotmail.com](mailto:martythompson@hotmail.com)

## Stories of interest

***Taking the leap: Why I'm leaving TV news after 24 years*** (Poynter)



**BY LORI BENTLEY LAW**

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In order to make big change, you have to take a big leap. It's scary, especially when you've had security and a rewarding career for 24 years, starting in 1994 at NBC affiliate KSBY in San Luis Obispo, California, and ending at KNBC Los Angeles.

I've been contemplating this decision for a long time now, ever since my shoulder issues in January 2017 which put me off work for four months.

It's part of why we've been living vagabond for the last year, not wanting to settle in case I made the jump. I tell ya ... pulling the trigger has been the hardest decision I've ever had to make. But I'm making it.

I'm moving on from my career as a photojournalist for NBC LA.

I wrote this post in September just to see how I felt writing those words. They made me sad but also excited about the possibilities. There are several factors that led to this decision.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***3 cool ideas to steal from local news*** (Poynter)

By KRISTEN HARE

One of the best things about going to journalism conferences, other than getting to socialize with other journalists, is all the ideas you can take home with you. At many conferences, you get them one session at a time. But at the annual conference for Local Independent Online News Publishers, they come at you one after another.

I ended up missing this year's conference, but I remembered all the great ideas from last year's. Then, I remembered that they put videos of every session on their site. The following are three cool ideas you can try for yourself. You can also watch the full sessions here.

### **Share the accountability**

East Lansing Info, an online nonprofit in East Lansing, Michigan, puts a priority on accuracy by encouraging its audience to hold the newsroom accountable, too. When someone spots a factual error and lets the editor know, that person gets a newsroom T-shirt.

"They're small things, but we say to people when you're reading, we want you to read all the time for 'is this true, is this true?'" publisher and president Alice Dreger told LION attendees. "We're trying to do media literacy in our city at the same time we're doing news."

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Megyn Kelly apologizes for suggesting blackface OK***

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) - NBC's Megyn Kelly swiftly apologized Tuesday for a morning show segment that questioned why dressing up in blackface for a Halloween costume is wrong.

Following a social media backlash, Kelly wrote in an email to NBC News colleagues that she realized such behavior is wrong, that the history of blackface in culture is abhorrent.

On her morning show, the 47-year-old news host said that dressing up in blackface was OK when she was a kid as long as you were impersonating a character. She questioned why it had been considered racist when a character on "The Real Housewives of New York" darkened her skin for a Diana Ross costume.

"I felt like, 'Who doesn't love Diana Ross?'" she said.

Read more [here](#).

## Today in History - October 25, 2018



**By The Associated Press**

Today is Thursday, Oct. 25, the 298th day of 2018. There are 67 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**

On Oct. 25, 1760, Britain's King George III succeeded his late grandfather, George II.

**On this date:**

In 1854, the "Charge of the Light Brigade" took place during the Crimean War as an English brigade of more than 600 men charged the Russian army, suffering heavy losses.

In 1859, radical abolitionist John Brown went on trial in Charles Town, Va., for his failed raid at Harpers Ferry. (Brown was convicted and hanged.)

In 1910, "America the Beautiful," with words by Katharine Lee Bates and music by Samuel A. Ward, was first published.

In 1945, Taiwan became independent of Japanese colonial rule.

In 1954, a meeting of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's Cabinet was carried live on radio and television.

In 1962, during a meeting of the U.N. Security Council, U.S. Ambassador Adlai E. Stevenson II demanded that Soviet Ambassador Valerian Zorin confirm or deny the existence of Soviet-built missile bases in Cuba; Stevenson then presented photographic evidence of the bases to the Council.

In 1971, the U.N. General Assembly voted to admit mainland China and expel Taiwan.

In 1983, a U.S.-led force invaded Grenada at the order of President Ronald Reagan, who said the action was needed to protect U.S. citizens there.

In 1986, in Game 6 of the World Series, the Boston Red Sox lost to the New York Mets, 6-5, on a wild pitch and an error in the tenth inning, forcing a seventh game, which the Mets ended up winning.

In 1994, Susan Smith of Union, South Carolina, claimed that a black carjacker had driven off with her two young sons (Smith later confessed to drowning the children in John D. Long Lake, and was convicted of murder). Three defendants were

convicted in South Africa of murdering American exchange student Amy Biehl. In 1998, all three were granted amnesty by South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

In 2001, a day after the House signed on, the Senate sent President Bush the U-S-A Patriot Act, a package of anti-terror measures giving police sweeping new powers to search people's homes and business records secretly and to eavesdrop on telephone and computer conversations.

In 2002, U.S. Sen. Paul Wellstone, D-Minn., was killed in a plane crash in northern Minnesota along with his wife, daughter and five others, a week and a-half before the election. Actor Richard Harris died in London at age 72.

Ten years ago: Arkansas television anchorwoman Anne Pressly, 26, died five days after she was found beaten in her home. Game 3 of the World Series began in Philadelphia at 10:06 p.m. Eastern time after being delayed by rain; the Phillies went on to beat the Tampa Bay Rays, 5-4, for a 2-1 Series lead in a matchup that finished at 1:47 a.m.

Five years ago: Indignant at reports of U.S. electronic espionage overseas, the leaders of France and Germany said they would insist the Obama administration agree by year's end to limits that could put an end to alleged American eavesdropping on foreign leaders, businesses and innocent civilians. Death claimed British actor Nigel Davenport, 85, Hollywood stunt double Hal Needham, 82, and actress-comedian Marcia Wallace, 70.

One year ago: Two women who said they had been lost at sea for nearly six months were rescued by a U.S. Navy ship in the Pacific. (The women said they had set out from Honolulu for what was supposed to be an 18-day journey to Tahiti in May but that they encountered a storm; records showed no severe weather in the area at the time, and other inconsistencies in their story came to light in the days after their rescue.) CBS News named correspondent Jeff Glor as anchor of the "CBS Evening News." The U.S. government announced that all incoming flights to the United States would be subject to new security screening procedures before takeoff.

Today's Birthdays: Former American League president Dr. Bobby Brown is 94. Actress Marion Ross is 90. Basketball Hall of Famer Bob Knight is 78. Pop singer Helen Reddy is 77. Author Anne Tyler is 77. Rock singer Jon Anderson (Yes) is 74. Political strategist James Carville is 74. Singer Taffy Danoff (Starland Vocal Band) is 74. Rock musician Glenn Tipton (Judas Priest) is 71. Actor Brian Kerwin is 69. Actor Mark L. Taylor is 68. Movie director Julian Schnabel is 67. Rock musician Matthias Jabs is 62. Actress Nancy Cartwright (TV: "The Simpsons") is 61. Country singer Mark Miller (Sawyer Brown) is 60. Rock musician Chad Smith (Red Hot Chili Peppers; Chickenfoot) is 57. Actress Tracy Nelson is 55. Actor Michael Boatman is 54. Actor Kevin Michael Richardson is 54. Actor Mathieu Amalric is 53. Singer

Speech is 50. Actress-comedian-TV host Samantha Bee is 49. Actor Adam Goldberg is 48. Actor-singer Adam Pascal is 48. Rock musician Ed Robertson (Barenaked Ladies) is 48. Actress Persia White is 48. Country singer Chely (SHEL'lee) Wright is 48. Violinist Midori is 47. Actor Craig Robinson is 47. Actor Michael Weston is 45. Actor Zachary Knighton is 40. Actress Mariana Klaveno is 39. Actor Mehdad (muh-KAD') Brooks is 38. Actor Ben Gould is 38. Actor Josh Henderson is 37. Rhythm-and-blues singer Young Rome is 37. Pop singer Katy Perry is 34. Rock singer Austin Winkler is 34. Singer Ciara is 33. Actress Krista Marie Yu (TV: "Dr. Ken") is 30. Actress Conchita Campbell is 23.

**Thought for Today: "You can tell the size of a man by the size of the thing that makes him mad." - Adlai E. Stevenson II, American statesman (1900-1965).**

## 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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