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Connecting - October 31, 2018

1 message

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October 31, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

Our congratulations go out to colleague **Carol Robinson** who is retiring from The Associated Press after a fine 35-year career, almost entirely in Washington.

Her retirement plans were announced Tuesday by **Michael Fabiano**, AP vice president for Local Media. Carol serves as AP's Local Markets director.

Carol joined AP in 1983 as a confidential secretary, hired by VP Broadcast **Roy Steinfort** - starting work in New York at [50 Rockefeller Plaza](#) and making the move to Washington when AP Radio relocated there. She was named a broadcast executive (and took on the title of regional radio executive later). She held that position until 1995, when she was promoted to Radio Sales Manager. In 2004, she became Director of Group Sales. After the broadcast and newspaper divisions merged, Carol was named Account Director, with responsibility for some of AP's largest radio members, including Salem Media Group.



Among those she worked with were Glen Serafin and Rosie Oakley, Deputy Directors Broadcast, and later with Susan Spaulding, John Harris, Steve Crowley and Gerald Jackson, also Radio Sales Executives.



Carol, left, with Susan Spaulding, center, and Maria Gillen, right, at a Broadcast sales staff meeting in 2003.

"Carol is meticulous in her work and dedicated to the AP, our mission and our primary goal of customer service," said Regional Director Eva Parziale. "She's also kind and generous to her colleagues and members, and she is going to be missed."

Carol relayed to her Connecting colleagues: "I credit my sales success at The AP to the many hardworking, dedicated professionals I had the pleasure of working with."

Carol's email address is - vacarolr@msn.com

If you have a favorite memory to share of working with Carol, please send it along.

Today's Connecting brings you a story that focuses on an AP sports writing couple - **Janie McCauley** and **Josh Dubow** - who work out of AP's San Francisco bureau.

Their story results from a note that arrived recently in my Inbox from Connecting colleague **Bill Hancock** ([Email](#)) - a former Oklahoman newspaperman who is now one of the most influential people in sports as executive director of College Football Playoff. Bill met them while in San Jose for meetings to prepare for the championship game.

He suggested their story would make a good one for Connecting and that some of you might be able to tell about some other husband-and-wife teams who worked - or still work - together for the AP. Connecting would welcome the stories of the challenges and rewards it entailed.

Have a great day! And Happy Halloween - Connecting is in the market for a favorite picture, whether it be you in costume or a kiddo or a grandkiddo...

Paul

**Janie McCauley and Josh Dubow:
Parents and AP San Francisco sports
writing team**



Janie and Josh during 2014 World Series

Josh Dubow (Email) - I started at the AP in 1994 in the agate department in New York, left briefly in 1996, before returning for good as a sports writer in New York in 1997. Janie started in the Seattle bureau in 2000 and we met covering the baseball All-Star game in Seattle in 2001.

Janie transferred to San Francisco in 2002 just in time to cover the Giants going to the World Series and the Raiders going to a Super Bowl. I moved out to the San Francisco bureau in 2004 and we got married that year. I did some news and sports my first few years out here before shifting exclusively to sports in 2009, shortly after our first daughter was born. We now have two girls, ages 7 and 9, and juggle parenting and job responsibilities.

It's toughest when our teams make the playoffs, which happens a lot with the Warriors and not so much with the NFL teams of late. I handle most of the NFL, college football and hockey, while Janie covers most of the baseball, Warriors and college basketball. We try our best to avoid working the same nights or weekend days when we can so at least one of us is home with the girls but that gets tough when the Sharks and Warriors have playoff games at the same time or during NBA Finals or World Series. It's a challenge as you can imagine but it does offer some flexibility so one of us is usually around to shuttle the girls to dance or swimming after school.

AP deletes a tweet on Trump's false claim



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We have deleted a tweet about President Trump's claim that the U.S. is the only country that grants birthright citizenship because it failed to note that his statement was incorrect.

7:28 AM - 30 Oct 2018

25,317 Retweets

101,669 Likes



💬 4.7K
↻ 25K
♥ 102K
✉

▼

Politico Morning Media:

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP MUSING about shredding the Constitution, and falsely claiming the United States is the only country with birthright citizenship,

became the latest test for news organizations still grappling with covering the 45th president. Trump's proposals are reported quickly - often credulously passed along in headlines and tweets - before thorough vetting later yields more skeptical reports.

- Almost immediately, the Associated Press blasted out Trump's false claim about other countries to more than 300,000 Twitter followers, only to later delete the tweet. Axios also initially failed to challenge Trump's remarks - both during the interview itself and in print - although its piece was updated later Tuesday. The New York Times made similar updates to its own piece, and POLITICO also initially reported Trump's quote without push-back.

- "I think there is a pattern of at least the first reports on Trump statements being insufficiently skeptical," said Daniel Dale, a Toronto Star correspondent in Washington who has gained a large following on Twitter for his real-time fact-checking of Trump. He said reporters were too willing to assume a statement was true or a proposal realistic.

- "I don't think I have all the coverage answers, but my mini-crusade has been trying to get people to not simply amplify Trump statements that are untrue without pointing out that they're untrue," Dale said. "Three years into this, it's still not being done well enough, I don't think. It's just a core part of what we do. It's not a departure from basic journalism."

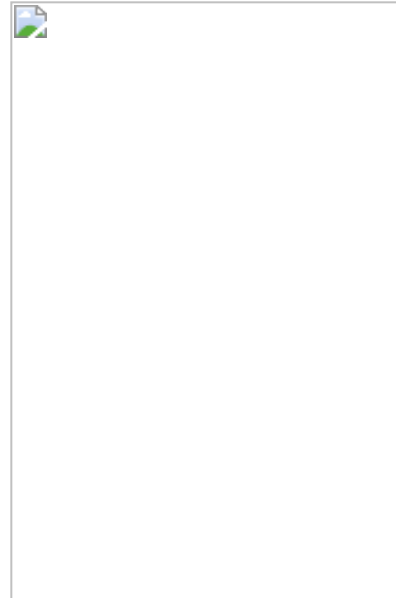
A Politico story on this phenomenon - Press struggles with amplifying Trump's pre-midterms claims - can be found by clicking [here](#).

New-member profile - Dean Ridings

Dean Ridings (Email) - joined the Florida Press Association as manager of its subsidiary in 1997 and has served as its president & CEO since 2000. FPA, located in Lake Mary and Tallahassee, Florida, is the trade association for Florida's news media organizations. It advocates before the legislature on behalf of Florida's news media and provides media-agency services for regional and national advertisers through its subsidiary, Intersect Media Solutions, a 4A's media agency.

Ridings began his news media career as publisher of a community daily newspaper in Missouri, and he has published newspapers in North Carolina, Tennessee and Florida. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Flagler College with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and he is a Certified Association Executive as designated by the Center for Association Leadership (ASAE).

Ridings serves as a trustee of the First Amendment Foundation and Florida TaxWatch and is previously served as the past president of the Newspaper Association Managers Association and as the chair of Leadership Florida. He and his wife Kellie live in DeLand, Florida.



Connecting mailbox

Question from my copy boy days - What was the glue used for?

Bob Manning (Email) - Yes, my first (and only) AP job was as a part-time copy boy, in 1968. I offer the attached as proof. It wasn't much in dollar terms but I've always been proud to say I did a stint at the AP. And of course it makes me a bona fide subscriber to Connecting, with all the rights, privileges, and honors appertaining thereunto!

I remember very few specific details about the work. In fact, I have a question you may be able to answer.

One day I got into trouble for wasting a huge volume of hot water while cleaning out a glue pot. I had absentmindedly walked away from the sink with the water running into the glue pot. Apparently nobody noticed until some kind of alarm went off in the engineering room.

But here's my question: What was the glue used for? We apparently used a whole lot of it, and I'm guessing it might be the "paste" part of a cut-and-paste job, but I'm not at all certain of that. Do you have a recollection?

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Why do we report on Trump's continued attacks on news media?

Mike Holmes (Email) - Connecting colleague Karol Stronger raised a question Tuesday that's been puzzling me as well: Why do the news media continue

reporting on President Trump's attacks on the news media?

My inquiry has nothing to do with electoral politics, but everything to do with what constitutes "news."

Many an editor has explained to young reporters that news is information that is new to readers.

We don't report that the sun came up this morning because the sun comes up every morning. It's not news anymore.

So why is each of Trump's attacks considered worth reporting? It happens every day. It's not news anymore.

As for a duty to inform the public about its elected officials, can anyone seriously argue that there is a single reader/listener/viewer in America who doesn't know by now that this president doesn't like the news coverage he gets?

Should he propose licensing the press or some such nonsense, that would be "new" news worth reporting. Otherwise, I would argue that ignoring Trump's media antipathy would free up time and space for enterprising reporters to focus on other issues.

-0-

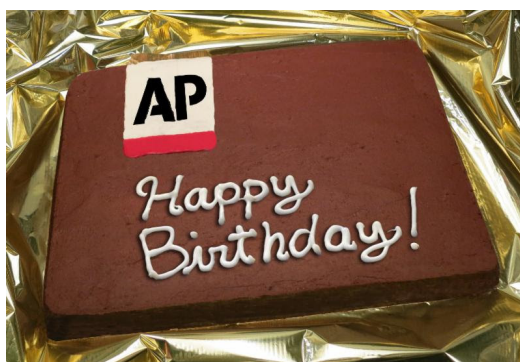
Memories of lugging, melting down lead bars for the Linotype

Joe McGowan ([Email](#)) - Re Larry Margasak's piece Tuesday about the heavy, maybe pig iron, bars. When I was in the 7th grade I was copy boy-errand boy at the Rock Springs, WY, Rocket-Miner, working after school, and then I was promoted to stereotypist. That meant I worked at a huge pot where I melted all of the lead type from the previous day's newspaper. I used a steel skimmer to skim off the "sludge" which resulted from the printer's ink and other impurities. Then, I used a steel bar with a large cup at the end and dipped up scoops of the molten lead. I would then pour the lead into molds on the floor. The molds were about two feet long and 3 or 4 inches wide. At one end the mold had been configured so when the lead hardened and was dumped from the mold the "pig" as it was called, had an opening at the top, but not a complete circle.

I carried the pigs, about 20 pounds as I recall, into the composing room and made piles by the Linotypes. The Linotype operators would hang a pig from a chain. The pigs then would slowly drop into the melting pot as the level dropped as the operators set lines of type. Because of the split, incomplete circle on the top end of the pig, when the pig got down to the near end, the remainder would fall into the Linotype melting pot.

The newsroom, front counter and publisher's office were on the ground floor. The composing room, pressroom and stereotype operation were in the basement of what was primarily a bank building. The stereotype "room" was an open space at the bottom of a staircase that led to offices on the building's second and third floors. There was a locked gate keeping people from going down to the basement. One wintry day I heard a couple of boys above me looking down at the stereotype pot. I realized they were holding snowballs. As they dropped the snowballs into the pot of molten lead (lead melts at 621.5 degrees F.) I threw myself across the room and the pot virtually exploded. I got molten lead on my back and the walls and concrete floor were plastered with lead. I still have scars on my back from that experience.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Betsy Brenner - efbrenner@gmail.com

Mike Graczyk - mlgraczyk@aol.com

Stories of interest

For Jewish journalists, online harassment goes with the job



In this May 22, 2018 photo provided by the Muslim Jewish Advisory Council, writers Yair Rosenberg and Rabia Chaudry attend an interfaith Iftar in San Francisco. When the Anti-Defamation League reported that he received the second-most abuse of any Jewish journalist on Twitter during the 2016 campaign, Rosenberg wrote, "My parents didn't raise me to be No. 2; fortunately, there's always 2020." (Courtesy the Muslim Jewish Advisory Council via AP)

By DAVID CRARY

NEW YORK (AP) - For many Jewish journalists in the U.S., persistent online anti-Semitic harassment has become part of the job.

The phenomenon became pervasive during the 2016 presidential campaign, and there's been a resurgence in recent months ahead of next week's midterm election, according to the Anti-Defamation League.

Targeted journalists have found different ways of responding. CNN commentator Sally Kohn reaches out kindly to some of her online harassers. Michael Duke, an editor at the Houston-based Jewish Herald-Voice, has reduced his use of social media. Yair Rosenberg, a writer with Tablet Magazine, developed a method of tracking down and disrupting anti-Semitic accounts on Twitter.

Rosenberg has written in detail about the vitriol directed at him, including a doctored photo showing him a gas chamber. When the ADL reported that he received the second-most abuse of any Jewish journalist on Twitter during the 2016 campaign, Rosenberg wrote, "My parents didn't raise me to be No. 2; fortunately, there's always 2020."

Read more [here](#).

-0-

CNN goes after Trump in wake of explosive devices

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) - CNN's management has taken an aggressive stance against attacks from President Donald Trump after the network was sent explosive devices from a man who allegedly targeted Trump's perceived enemies.

In a statement, CNN chief executive Jeff Zucker was critical of the White House's "complete lack of understanding about the seriousness" of its attacks against the media, and it was followed up by another statement this week calling on Press Secretary Sarah Sanders to understand that "words matter."

The network has responded to specific provocations in the past. Yet it's still considered unusual for a news organization, as opposed to an individual commentator or columnist, to take on a president. It's the first time Zucker has done so this year.

Two of its former leaders applauded the approach on Tuesday.

Read more [here](#).

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The Intercept Is Crowdfunding A Fellowship In Honor Of A Dying Progressive Activist (Huffington Post)

By **DANIEL MARANS**

The Intercept launched the Ady Barkan Reporting Fellowship on Monday, honoring a progressive activist with Lou Gehrig's disease at the center of protests against the GOP tax cut legislation and Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court.

The Intercept, an online news site launched by eBay co-founder Pierre Omidyar in February 2014, hopes to crowdfund upwards of \$70,000 to hire an experienced journalist for the year-long reporting fellowship. The recipient could begin as early as January and would be tasked with covering social movements and protests of the kind Barkan has led and championed.

Although the fellowship is currently a one-time opportunity, The Intercept would ultimately like to fund a year-long fellowship in Barkan's honor every year, according to Ryan Grim, the outlet's Washington bureau chief. (Grim, who ran HuffPost's Washington bureau until June 2017, previously edited this reporter's work.)

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

Today in History - October 31, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 31, the 304th day of 2018. There are 61 days left in the year. This is Halloween.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 31, 1984, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by two Sikh (seek) security guards.

On this date:

In 1517, Martin Luther sent his 95 Theses denouncing what he saw as the abuses of the Catholic Church, especially the sale of indulgences, to the Archbishop of Mainz, Germany (by some accounts, Luther also posted the Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg), marking the start of the Protestant Reformation.

In 1864, Nevada became the 36th state as President Abraham Lincoln signed a proclamation.

In 1926, magician Harry Houdini died in Detroit of peritonitis resulting from a ruptured appendix.

In 1941, the Navy destroyer USS Reuben James was torpedoed by a German U-boat off Iceland with the loss of some 100 lives, even though the United States had not yet entered World War II. Work was completed on the Mount Rushmore National Memorial in South Dakota, begun in 1927.

In 1961, the body of Josef Stalin was removed from Lenin's Tomb as part of the Soviet Union's "de-Stalinization" drive.

In 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson ordered a halt to all U.S. bombing of North Vietnam, saying he hoped for fruitful peace negotiations.

In 1975, the Queen single "Bohemian Rhapsody" was released in the United Kingdom by EMI Records.

In 1992, Pope John Paul II formally proclaimed that the Roman Catholic Church had erred in condemning the astronomer Galileo for holding that the Earth was not the

center of the universe.

In 1994, a Chicago-bound American Eagle ATR-72 crashed in northern Indiana, killing all 68 people aboard.

In 1998, a genetic study was released suggesting President Thomas Jefferson did in fact father at least one child by his slave Sally Hemings.

In 1999, EgyptAir Flight 990, bound from New York to Cairo, crashed off the Massachusetts coast, killing all 217 people aboard.

In 2001, New York hospital worker Kathy T. Nguyen (nwen) died of inhalation anthrax, the fourth person to perish in a spreading wave of bioterrorism.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush signed an executive order restoring the Libyan government's immunity from terror-related lawsuits and dismissing pending compensation cases. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Studs Terkel died in Chicago at age 96.

Five years ago: The Federal Aviation Administration issued new guidelines allowing airline passengers to keep their electronic devices turned on throughout the entire flight, but not to talk on their cellphones. A federal appeals court ruled that most of Texas' tough new abortion restrictions could take effect immediately.

One year ago: Eight people were killed when a man drove a truck along a bike path in New York City in an attack that authorities immediately labeled terrorism; the driver, identified by authorities as Uzbek immigrant Sayfullo Saipov, was shot and wounded by police. (His trial is scheduled for October, 2019.) Netflix said it was suspending production on "House of Cards" following sexual harassment allegations against its star, Kevin Spacey. (Spacey would later be fired from the show, and production resumed without him.) Wendy Williams passed out during a live broadcast of her syndicated chat show; she'd been wearing a Statue of Liberty Halloween costume and told the audience minutes later that she'd become overheated in it.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Lee Grant is 93. Former astronaut Michael Collins is 88. Former CBS anchorman Dan Rather is 87. Folk singer Tom Paxton is 81. Actor Ron Rifkin is 80. Actress Sally Kirkland is 77. Actor Brian Doyle-Murray is 73. Actor Stephen Rea is 72. Olympic gold medal long-distance runner Frank Shorter is 71. Actress Deidre Hall is 71. TV show host Jane Pauley is 68. Actor Brian Stokes Mitchell is 61. Movie director Peter Jackson is 57. Rock musician Larry Mullen is 57. Actor Dermot Mulroney is 55. Rock musician Mikkey Dee is 55. Rock singer-

musician Johnny Marr is 55. Actor Rob Schneider is 54. Country singer Darryl Worley is 54. Actor-comedian Mike O'Malley is 53. Rap musician Adrock is 52. Songwriter Adam Schlesinger (SHLES'-in-ger) is 51. Rap performer Vanilla Ice (aka Rob Van Winkle) is 51. Rock singer Linn Berggren (Ace of Base) is 48. Reality TV host Troy Hartman is 47. Gospel singer Smokie Norful is 45. Actress Piper Perabo (PEER'-uh-boh) is 42. Actor Brian Hallisay is 40. Actress Samaire (SAH'-mee-rah) Armstrong is 38. Folk-rock musician Tay Strathairn (Dawes) is 38. Actor Eddie Kaye Thomas is 38. Rock musician Frank Iero (My Chemical Romance) is 37. Actor Justin Chatwin is 36. Actor Scott Clifton is 34. Actress Vanessa Marano is 26. Actress Holly Taylor is 21. Actress-singer Willow Smith is 18.

Thought for Today: "Even a Proverb is no proverb to you till your Life has illustrated it." - John Keats (1795-1821).

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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