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Connecting - November 09, 2018

1 message

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Connecting

November 09, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Congratulations are in order for the AP's new director of photography, **J. David Ake**, a 21-year veteran of the news cooperative

The appointment of Ake ([Email](#)), a Connecting colleague who is AP deputy chief of bureau for visual journalism in Washington, was announced Thursday by Executive Editor **Sally Buzbee**.

"In two decades with AP and for years with competitors before" Buzbee said in a note to staff, "David has directed photo coverage of some of the world's biggest stories, from the White House to the Super Bowl and the Olympics, to the destruction of 9/11 and beyond.

"But he won this job because of his leadership - his ability to dream big and creatively, his skill at nurturing and developing photographers, his collaborative style with colleagues, his sharp desire to always beat the competition, and his hunger and openness to learn what he does not know."

Buzbee said Ake's appointment "marks a milestone for photojournalism at The Associated Press. In January, we launched a deep-dive examination of our photo operations around the world, seeking what was going right, what had gone wrong and a path forward to reinvigorate AP's historic photo legacy. That report, released in June, called for the appointment of a new director of photography, among many important recommendations. We ran a rigorous and inclusive selection process, with groups of your colleagues interviewing numerous candidates from inside and outside the AP. The caliber of the applicants was astonishing - a testament to AP's global photo reputation."

More than 80 AP journalists participated in the deep dive, Buzbee said, "telling us their frustrations, fears and hopes. Many expressed worry that photos lacked a leadership seat at AP's top table. You have my commitment that David will occupy such a seat. He will report to Derl McCrudden, the deputy managing editor for visual and digital journalism, but he will also serve as a critical part of my top management team, speaking to me each day and ensuring a robust pipeline for the global photo staff and its goals and concerns."

Buzbee thanked **Denis Paquin** "for running photos on an interim basis over the past two years."

The Connecting book issue will come out next week - and if you have written a book in the past year and want your colleagues to know more about it, please send me this information - title of book, 300-word synopsis, image of the cover, and your headshot photo.

Are you a military veteran? If so, send me a note with your branch of service, years served and 100 words or so what your service meant to your career in the news business (or if not in news, the career you pursued). I will publish what I receive in next Monday's issue - on the day Veterans Day 2018 is observed.

On a personal note, it's good to be back home from our trip to Chicago to see Hamilton at the 112-year-old CIBC Theater - the musical is as good as advertised!

Have a great weekend.

Paul

AP names J. David Ake to lead its global photojournalism



NEW YORK (AP) - The Associated Press has named J. David Ake as its new director of photography, turning to one of the organization's most experienced newsroom managers to lead its global photojournalism.

Sally Buzbee, the AP's senior vice president and executive editor, made the announcement on Thursday. Ake will start his new role on Dec. 1 and be based at AP's New York headquarters.

Ake is currently the deputy chief of bureau for visual journalism in Washington, where he has directed photo coverage of the White House, Capitol Hill, the Pentagon and U.S. political coverage, including the 2008, 2012 and 2016 presidential campaigns, as well as this week's midterm elections.

"David is an accomplished and visionary photographer and editor," Buzbee said. "He also is a true leader, with a track record of identifying and mentoring talent, and of leading change. He's also approachable and highly collaborative, just the kind of leader we need to build on the legacy of AP photojournalism and lead it into the future."

The AP produces one million photographs a year, and its photojournalists have captured some of the most recognizable images in history, winning 31 Pulitzer prizes.

As director of photography, Ake will be responsible for the production of the AP photo report, including spot news, enterprise and investigations, sports, entertainment and more. In his new role he will work with regional news managers to put in place clear editorial decision-making channels, develop metrics for photography, engage with customers to better understand their needs in a changing market, and to foster diversity across the AP's photo staff. He will report to Derl McCrudden, deputy managing editor for visual and digital journalism at the AP, and will be a member of the senior editorial management team.

"I am still amazed by the magic of photography," Ake said. "I get the same feeling of excitement when I see a good picture today that I did when I developed my first roll of film. That is why I'm thrilled to be collaborating with the best team in photojournalism to tell the world's story in images."

Ake joined AP in Chicago in 1997 and has previously served as deputy director of photography, guiding AP's photo coverage of major stories like the Sept. 11 attacks and Hurricane Katrina. He has been both a picture editor and photographer, and prior to the AP worked at Agence France-Presse, Reuters and United Press International.

In his career, he has traveled to more than two dozen countries, and has run coverage of dozens of major stories, including the Columbine school massacre and the 2000 presidential recount. As a photographer and editor, he has documented the presidencies of George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama and Donald Trump. He also captured the destruction of Florida's Hurricane Andrew, the 1989 San Francisco earthquake and the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska. He has covered eight Olympics, more than 25 Super Bowls, six World Series, eight NBA Championships, World Cup soccer, World Cup skiing and much more.

"David's appointment as director of photography is an important milestone in the AP's journey, as we continue to develop our report in a fast-changing media landscape," Buzbee said. "He cares deeply about photojournalism, and will be a terrific mentor to staff around the world."

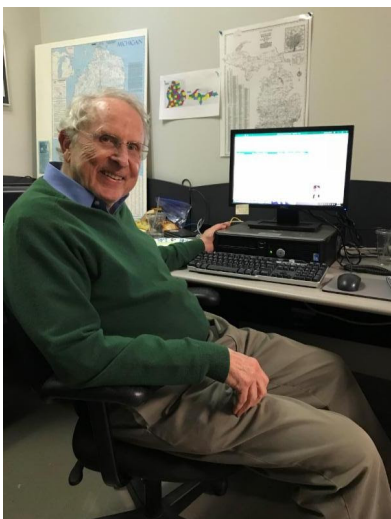
[Click here](#) for link to this story.

Hank Ackerman continues to be valued asset to Michigan election team



Hank Ackerman (center) with Alan Adler (seated), former Michigan news editor and now Michigan stringer coordinator, along with Keith Brown, a Wayne State University communication and journalism instructor and Michigan elections stringer chaser.

Nancy Nussbaum ([Email](#)) - Hank Ackerman ([Email](#)) spent election night in the Detroit bureau to help with the race-calling and stringer operation, 11 years after retiring as a general executive with AP.



Hank, 76, stepped aside as Michigan's stringer coordinator this year to spend more time with his wife, Mell, and grandchildren. But he returned to the Detroit bureau for the big event (he couldn't stay away!) and I am thankful for that.

Hank knows Michigan down to the precinct level, which is a big help for an out-of-state race caller such as myself. Michigan elections run long - we generally are not out until 2-3 a.m. - and Hank is always here for the duration.

White House suspends CNN's Acosta after Trump confrontation



President Donald Trump points at CNN's Jim Acosta as a White House aide tries to take the microphone from him during a news conference Wednesday. Evan Vucci/AP Photo

By **DAVID BAUDER**

NEW YORK (AP) - The White House on Wednesday suspended the press pass of CNN correspondent Jim Acosta after he and President Donald Trump had a heated confrontation during a news conference.

They began sparring after Acosta asked Trump about the caravan of migrants heading from Latin America to the southern U.S. border. When Acosta tried to follow up with another question, Trump said, "That's enough!" and a female White House aide unsuccessfully tried to grab the microphone from Acosta.

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders released a statement accusing Acosta of "placing his hands on a young woman just trying to do her job as a White House intern," calling it "absolutely unacceptable."

The interaction between Acosta and the intern was brief, and Acosta appeared to brush her arm as she reached for the microphone and he tried to hold onto it. "Pardon me, ma'am," he told her.

Acosta tweeted that Sanders' statement that he put his hands on the aide was "a lie."

CNN said in a statement that the White House revoked Acosta's press pass out of "retaliation for his challenging questions" Wednesday, and the network accused Sanders of lying about Acosta's actions.

Read more [here](#) and see more stories in Stories of Interest. Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

Statement from ASNE, APME and ONA on the revocation of Jim Acosta's White House press pass

On Wednesday afternoon, the president of the United States engaged in another unprovoked verbal attack on the news media during a post-election press conference. Wednesday night, the White House took the incredible step of revoking

a reporter's credentials for doing his job. The American Society of News Editors, the Associated Press Media Editors and the Online News Association condemn the president's rhetoric and demand the immediate reinstatement of CNN White House Correspondent Jim Acosta's press pass.

Our organizations have - jointly and separately - raised concerns about the president's attempts to delegitimize the press in the past, noting that his statements have no basis in fact, serve to stoke anger and fear in the public, and embolden some to threaten or harass news professionals. As disturbing, outrageous and potentially dangerous as the president's statements were, they pale in comparison to the decision of the White House to suspend Acosta's press pass "until further notice" and deny him access to the White House grounds for doing nothing more than asking pointed questions of the president.

A free and independent press is currently one of the primary checks on this president. Calling us names does not dampen our enthusiasm to do our jobs. Calling us the enemy of the people does not affect our determination to serve our communities and the citizens of this country. Barring access to one reporter will not stop - or even soften - our questioning. Journalists work to report the news accurately and fairly, and that means asking hard questions of every elected official, including the president of the United States of America.

[Click here](#) for a link to this statement.

In online ruse, fake journalists tried to hack Saudi critic

BY RAPHAEL SATTER

AP Cybersecurity Writer

WASHINGTON - Hackers impersonating journalists tried to intercept the communications of a prominent Saudi opposition figure in Washington, The Associated Press has found.

One attempt involved the fabrication of a fake BBC secretary and an elaborate television interview request; the other involved the impersonation of slain Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi to deliver a malicious link.

Media rights defenders denounced the hacking effort, which they said would make it harder for genuine reporters to do their jobs.

"It's incredibly dangerous to employ this kind of tactic," said Elodie Vialle, who heads the technology desk at Paris-based Reporters Without Borders. "The chilling effect is that people are deterred from speaking to journalists. In the end, it undermines the freedom of information."

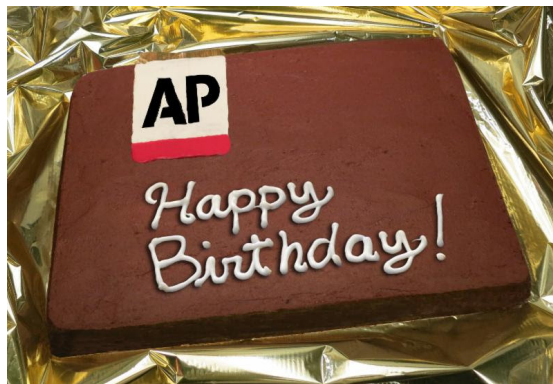
Read more [here](#).

AP Photo of the Day



People gather for a vigil for Sean Adler, a victim of the Thousand Oaks, Calif. shooting, on Thursday. | Jae C. Hong/AP Photo

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Andale Gross - sonofpauncho@yahoo.com

On Saturday to...

Tim Curran - timothylcurran@hotmail.com

Eva Parziale - eparziale@ap.org

Stories of interest

White House suspends press pass of CNN's Jim Acosta after his testy exchange with Trump (Washington Post)

By Amy B Wang and Paul Farhi

The White House suspended the press credentials of CNN reporter Jim Acosta on Wednesday, hours after President Trump took issue with questions Acosta asked at a news conference.

The move to punish Acosta by removing his access to the White House is believed to be unprecedented. The Trump administration barred another CNN reporter from attending an open media event in July but until now has not gone as far as removing a credential, known as a "hard pass," which enables a journalist to enter the White House grounds.

Press secretary Sarah Sanders cited Acosta's brief confrontation with a White House press aide during Trump's midday news conference as the reason for suspending his press pass "until further notice."

During the 90-minute session at the White House, Trump snapped at Acosta after the reporter asked whether the president had "demonized immigrants" by calling a caravan of Central American migrants "an invasion." After a long and tense back-and-forth, a female White House intern tried to take the microphone from Acosta.

Read more [here](#).

And...

Trump Administration Uses Video From Conspiracy Site to Justify Barring of CNN Reporter (New York Times)



President Trump clashed on Wednesday with Jim Acosta, CNN's chief White House correspondent, at a news conference. The White House used a misleading video to

justify stripping Mr. Acosta of his press credentials. Photo by Doug Mills/The New York Times

By Michael M. Grynbaum and Elizabeth Williamson

The Trump administration relied on a misleadingly edited video from a contributor to the conspiracy site Infowars to help justify removing the credentials of CNN's chief White House correspondent, a striking escalation in President Trump's broadsides against the press.

Sarah Huckabee Sanders, the White House press secretary, falsely accused Jim Acosta, the CNN journalist, of "placing his hands on a young woman," a White House intern, as Mr. Acosta asked questions that irked the president during a formal news conference on Wednesday.

Television footage showed that Mr. Acosta and the intern made brief, benign contact - "Pardon me, ma'am," the correspondent said - as she tried to take a microphone away from him at Mr. Trump's behest.

But Ms. Sanders posted a 15-second video clip on Twitter that misleadingly suggested Mr. Acosta had pushed the intern's upper arm. The clip was identical to one posted earlier by Paul Joseph Watson, an Infowars contributor, according to a forensic analysis by The New York Times.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen, John Lee.

And...

Jim Acosta violated one of the oldest rules of journalism (New York Post)

By MICHAEL GOODWIN

By producing a split decision, the election that was supposed to end all elections turned out to be fairly predictable. But it's the day after that was unlike any other.

The Republican president, the likely speaker of the Democrat-controlled House and the Senate's Republican majority leader each started Wednesday by talking about working together to get things done. They talked to each other privately and talked separately in public about what they thought they could accomplish for the country.

For most Americans, that would make for a very good day. Given the overheated environment leading up to the midterms and the fear among many that we are drifting toward an era of disunion and spreading political violence, bipartisan pledges to work together for the common good were like the sudden emergence of a bright candle flickering in the wind.

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

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Midterm coverage ideas worth borrowing for 2020 (Poynter)



Screenshot, WGBH's midterm election quiz. (Illustration by Emily Judem/WGBH News)

By **KRISTEN HARE**

It's over. Now life gets back to normal. Just kidding, who has time to be normal? So here are some ideas from local and national newsrooms that you might need for 2020.

Help people understand the issues: In Boston, public radio station WGBH's digital team took the election trivia they collected and made it into a "Wheel of Fortune"-style quiz.

"We chose to make the quiz challenging, with some questions that were difficult, and some questions that had timely information about the topics of ballot questions voters would be facing," audience engagement editor Lisa Williams told me via email. "Since people who took the quiz saw the right answer immediately after making their choice, we felt the quiz was informative in addition to being fun."

Bonus: "So far it's been very successful for us," Williams said. "We're on track to gain quite a few newsletter subscribers, since the final step of the quiz allows people to join for a chance to win some WGBH swag."

Read more [here](#).

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Facebook Thwarted Chaos on Election Day. It's Hardly Clear That Will Last. (New York Times)

By **Kevin Roose**

After an Election Day largely free of viral social media misinformation, and with little trace of the kind of Russian troll stampede that hit its platform in 2016, executives at Facebook may be tempted to take a victory lap.

That would be a mistake.

It's true that Facebook and other social media companies have made strides toward cleaning up their services in the last two years. The relative calm we saw on social media on Tuesday is evidence that, at least for one day, in one country, the forces of chaos on these platforms can be contained.

But more than anything, this year's midterm election cycle has exposed just how fragile Facebook remains.

Read more [here](#).

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Uncovering the Trump family finances

The New York Times

As a subscriber, your support helps The New York Times sustain investigative reporting that can hold the powerful to account, affect policy and impact culture.

Last month, we published the first-ever comprehensive look at the Trump family's finances, showing how an inherited fortune and tax dodges secured President Donald Trump's gilded life.

This report was the culmination of 18 months of reporting and analyzing more than 100,000 documents. Reporters David Barstow, Susanne Craig and Russ Buettner described the effort as, "putting together a million puzzle pieces."

We invite you to watch [a video about how this journalism was made](#). Thank you for your support.

Shared by Claude Erbsen.

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After Pittsburgh shooting, national outlets relied on local papers, and vice versa (CJR)



The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette newsroom. Photo: Michael Fuoco.

By Priyanjana Bengani

On October 27, a mass shooting, took place at the Tree of Life-Or L'Simcha Congregation in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood. The hours and days immediately following the shooting saw local and national news organizations relying on each other's published pieces to investigate and verify facts, provide in-depth analysis, and debunk rumors about the rapidly developing story.

We looked at approximately five hundred stories posted on Twitter between October 27-29 across a total of forty news organizations-both national as well as those local to Pennsylvania-in an attempt to identify patterns when news outlets linked to one another. We note that most linkbacks cite original reporting, but occasionally, they bolster or criticize the reporting or perspective of the referenced piece.

Some trends and patterns were predictable. News organizations typically linked to their own previously published pieces, though there were some noteworthy exceptions. In one "Perspective" piece, The Washington Post linked to The New York Times's coverage of previous shootings in South Carolina and Wisconsin, even though the Post had covered both incidents extensively.

Read more [here](#).

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Following investigation, Houston Chronicle retracts eight stories (Houston Chronicle)

By DAVID WOOD

On July 31, the Houston Chronicle published a front-page story with a provocative headline. "'We've moved on': Political anger after Harvey has eased," it declared, adding: "Experts believe disaster response is unlikely to be a factor in November."

It was a significant story by veteran reporter and Austin bureau chief Mike Ward. It asserted that Houston residents initially fed up with the uneven government response to Hurricane Harvey actually weren't going to blame politicians after all. The story began with West Houston resident Betsy Scheer, whose anger had faded. She was going to vote Republican.

"My friends are mostly the same way now," she was quoted as telling Ward.

But in the weeks after the story ran, questions were raised about the sourcing in Ward's story. No one could find Betsy Scheer. And no one could find three others quoted in the story - Tran Ng, Martina Racelli and Jack Nito.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Scott Charton.

The Final Word

Why seniors never change their password

WINDOWS: Please enter your new password.

USER:Cabbage

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password must be more than 8 characters.

USER: Boiled cabbage

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password must contain 1 numerical character.

USER: 1 boiled cabbage

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password cannot have blank spaces

USER: 50damnboiledcabbages

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password must contain at least one upper case character

USER: 50DAMNboiledcabbages

WINDOWS: Sorry the password cannot use more than one upper case character consecutively.

USER: 50damnBoiledCabbagesShovedUpYourAssIfYouDon'tGiveMeAccessNow !

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password cannot contain punctuation.

USER: ReallyPissedOff50DamnBoiledCabbagesShovedUpYourAssIfYouDontGiveMeAccessNow

WINDOWS: Sorry, that password is already in use.

Shared by Pat Nickle.

Today in History - November 9, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Nov. 9, the 313th day of 2018. There are 52 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 9, 1938, Nazis looted and burned synagogues as well as Jewish-owned stores and houses in Germany and Austria in a pogrom or deliberate persecution that became known as "Kristallnacht."

On this date:

In 1620, the passengers and crew of the Mayflower sighted Cape Cod.

In 1918, it was announced that Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm II would abdicate; he then fled to the Netherlands.

In 1961, U.S. Air Force Maj. Robert M. White became the first pilot to fly an X-15 rocket plane at six times the speed of sound. The Beatles' future manager, Brian Epstein, first saw the group perform at The Cavern Club in Liverpool, England.

In 1965, the great Northeast blackout began as a series of power failures lasting up to 13 1/2 hours left 30 million people in seven states and part of Canada without electricity.

In 1967, a Saturn V rocket carrying an unmanned Apollo spacecraft blasted off from Cape Kennedy on a successful test flight.

In 1970, former French President Charles de Gaulle died at age 79.

In 1976, the U.N. General Assembly approved resolutions condemning apartheid in South Africa, including one characterizing the white-ruled government as "illegitimate."

In 1986, Israel revealed it was holding Mordechai Vanunu, a former nuclear technician who'd vanished after providing information to a British newspaper about Israel's nuclear weapons program. (Vanunu was convicted of treason and served 18 years in prison.)

In 1989, communist East Germany threw open its borders, allowing citizens to travel freely to the West; joyous Germans danced atop the Berlin Wall.

In 1999, with fireworks, concerts and a huge party at the landmark Brandenburg Gate, Germany celebrated the 10th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

In 2000, George W. Bush's lead over Al Gore in all-or-nothing Florida slipped beneath 300 votes in a suspense-filled recount, as Democrats threw the presidential election to the courts, claiming "an injustice unparalleled in our history."

In 2007, President Gen. Pervez Musharraf (pur-VEHZ' moo-SHAH'-ruhv) of Pakistan placed opposition leader Benazir Bhutto (BEN'-uh-zeer BOO'-toh) under house arrest for a day, and rounded up thousands of her supporters to block a mass rally against his emergency rule.

Ten years ago: Barack Obama's transition chief, John Podesta, told Fox News Sunday the president-elect planned to review President George W. Bush's executive orders on such things as stem cell research and domestic drilling for oil and natural gas. China unveiled a \$586 billion stimulus package aimed at inoculating the world's fourth-largest economy against the global financial crisis.

Five years ago: A house party shooting in suburban Houston left two teens dead. Three of the four surviving Doolittle Raiders who attacked Tokyo in 1942, all in their 90's, offered a final toast to their fallen comrades in a ceremony at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force near Dayton, Ohio.

One year ago: During a visit to Beijing, President Donald Trump criticized what he called a "very one-sided and unfair" trade relationship between the U.S. and China, but said he doesn't blame China for having taken advantage of the U.S. The Washington Post quoted an Alabama woman as saying that Republican Senate candidate Roy Moore of Alabama had sexual contact with her when she was 14 and he was a 32-year-old assistant district attorney; three other women told the Post that Moore had approached them when they were between the ages of 16 and 18 and he was in his early 30s. Actor John Hillerman, best known for his supporting role on the TV series "Magnum, P.I.," died at the age of 84 at his home in Houston.

Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall of Famer Whitey Herzog is 87. Baseball Hall of Famer Bob Gibson is 83. Actor Charlie Robinson is 73. Movie director Bille August is 70. Actor Robert David Hall is 70. Actor Lou Ferrigno is 67. Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, is 66. Gospel singer Donnie McClurkin is 59. Rock musician Dee Plakas (L7) is 58. Actress Ion Overman is 49. Rapper Pepa (Salt-N-Pepa) is 49. Rapper Scarface (Geto Boys) is 48. Blues singer Susan Tedeschi (teh-DEHS'-kee) is 48. Actor Jason Antoon is 47. Actor Eric Dane is 46. Singer Nick Lachey (98 Degrees) is 45. Country musician Barry Knox (Parmalee) is 41. Rhythm-and-blues singer Sisco (Dru Hill) is 40. Country singer Corey Smith is 39. Country singer Chris Lane is 34. Actress Emily Tyra is 31. Actress Nikki Blonsky is 30. Actress-model Analeigh (AH'-nuh-lee) Tipton is 30.

Thought for Today: "Half the world is composed of people who have something to say and can't, and the other half who have nothing to say and keep on saying it." - Robert Frost, American poet (1874-1963).

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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