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Connecting - January 04, 2019

1 message

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Connecting

January 04, 2019

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Colleagues,

There's a line in the 1988 song "The Living Years" that has stuck with me since I first heard it - and helped prompt the introduction of a new feature for Connecting last year.

It's the last line of this stanza in the song by Mike & The Mechanics which I've bolded:

I wasn't there that morning, When my father passed away, I didn't get to tell him, All the things I had to say. I think I caught his spirit, Later that same year, I'm sure I heard his echo, In my baby's new born tears. I just wish I could have told him in the living years.

Since **Susan Clark** of AP New York agreed to become the first to be featured in the Monday Spotlight last March, we have profiled 42 of our retired and active-duty AP colleagues in Q-and-A format.

The idea of the feature is to try to tell a life's story while the person is "in the living years." Too often, a person's career and life's story only are shared in his or her obituary. It has happened often in Connecting to be the case.

Today's issue of Connecting provides a listing of those who were profiled in 2018 and the date they were profiled. So if you missed reading a profile or would like to re-read one, go to the **Connecting Archive** link in the masthead of the newsletter and click on that date to read the story. (And continued thanks to colleague **Paul Shane** for maintaining the archive.)

There's no financial remuneration for being profiled, darn it, and I have had some who politely turned down my offer to be profiled - for various reasons. That's all good. But if you wish to get on the list for 2019 and tell your career story, drop me a note. Otherwise, I will continue on the prowl...

Meantime, make it yet another New Years resolution to tell the people you love and cherish - family, friends, whomever - how you feel about them - in their living years.

Have a great weekend!

Paul

Connecting Monday Profiles in 2018

Kazuo, Abiko - July 2

Ambrose, Rachel - November 19

Barr Sr., Malcolm - July 9

Breaux, Kia - August 27

Bryson, Donna - December 17

Buell, Hal and DiMartino, Claudia - April 23

Christensen, Sibby - April 9

Clark, Susan - March 12

Cross, Sue - November 26

Daniszewski, John - September 17

Daugherty, Bob - June 18

Deegan, Carol - June 4

Dell'Orto, Giovanna - April 16

Fields, Ken - April 2

Galu, Joe - October 29

Gannon, Kathy - May 14

Gersh, Ruth - May 29

Graham, Victoria - August 20

Gray, Denis - March 26

Hanley, Charles - May 21

Haring, Bob - July 16

Herrick, Gene - October 1

Horton, Brian - December 10

Johnson, Sue Price - April 30

Kallestad, Brent - November 5

Komor, Valerie - October 22

Laughlin, Larry - December 3

McKnight, Joe - July 30

Miller, Reid - September 3

Oppel, Rich - November 13

Parziale, Eva - August 6

Reindl, Jim - October 15

Rosenblum, Mort - May 7

Sedeno, David - September 24

Schiappa, Cliff - October 8

Shane, Paul - August 13

Simpson, Victor - September 10

Staats, Ed- June 11

Stevens, Paul - June 25

Thompson, Estes - March 19

Tobias, Ed - July 23

Ut, Nick - December 24

What D&C editor didn't expect to happen during her time here

By KAREN MAGNUSON | ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE

I've wanted to be a journalist since I was 15, when I started writing for my high school newspaper. Wouldn't it be cool, I thought, to make a living from talking to people and writing about it?



Then I saw the movie *All the President's Men* and my dream became much bigger. Wouldn't it be rewarding to enter a profession that speaks truth to power and effects positive change?

I decided to major in journalism in college and never looked back. Now 40 years later, I'm taking the opportunity to look back at a career that offered me all that I dreamed of and more.

I'm proud that the Democrat and Chronicle and other news organizations I worked for upheld First Amendment responsibilities in the finest sense - righting wrongs that led to change, including new laws, greater public access to information and the ouster of crooked public officials. My hat goes off to colleagues who remain committed to digging up stories that otherwise wouldn't be told.

Watchdog work is rewarding, just as I had envisioned, but I'm devoting my final column to four things I didn't expect in my 19 years with the D&C.

Read more [here](#). Karen is a Connecting colleague.

Connecting mailbox

Mark Olchowy could be counted on to get me out of tech jams

Michelle Minkoff ([Email](#)) - As a data journalist, I have enough tech and IT knowledge to be dangerous, but counted on Mark (Olchowy) to help me out of my jams when problems surpassed my knowledge. I was always impressed at his quick response, but more impressed with how he would take the time to think and work through the problem with me, treating me as an equal, and always truly caring about my learning as well as fixing the problem at hand so we could get back to keeping AP work humming along.

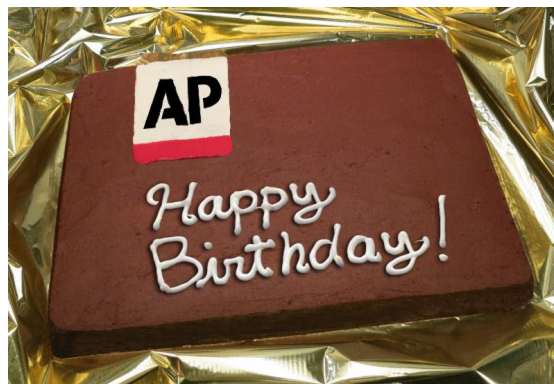
On a more personal note, my boyfriend and I were presenting some home automation programming projects at a local Maker Faire, and tentatively asked if we could borrow some equipment. Mark happily let us do so, and also had a particularly memorable chat with us, critiquing, praising and offering suggestions for our side project. That sort of kindness, expertise and passion is what set Mark in a class of his own.

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Want an old Stylebook?

Paul Albright ([Email](#)) - Doing my year-end clear-out. For any of you oldtimers, I have a few extra copies of the AP Stylebook available on a first-come, first-served basis. I have these editions: 1968 (1 copy), 1970 (2 copies), and 1998 (1 copy). Include your snail mail address in your email.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Eddie Frerks - efrerks@gmail.com

Dan George - dan.george@mindspring.com

Noreen Gillespie - ngillespie@ap.org

On Saturday to...

Bill Brown - bill@williamblakebrown.com

John Solomon - john@solomonmediallc.com

On Sunday to...

Tim Bovee - tbovee@gmail.com

Paula Froke - pfroke@ap.org

Bill Neikirk - billnei1638@gmail.com

Stories of interest

NBC News Veteran Leaves Network, Says Media Have Become 'Prisoners of Donald Trump' (The Wrap)

By JON LEVINE

NBC News veteran Bill Arkin made a dramatic exit from his network Wednesday dropping a 2,228-word internal memo to colleagues criticizing NBC and the broader media landscape. In his lengthy missive, Arkin said the industry had become "hostages" to President Trump's news cycle.

"The world and the state of journalism [is] in tandem crisis ... And I find myself completely out of synch with the network, being neither a day-to-day reporter nor interested in the Trump circus," Arkin wrote. "In our day-to-day whirlwind and hostage status as prisoners of Donald Trump, I think - like everyone else does - that we miss so much."

Arkin had worked at NBC on-and-off for three decades as a reporter and military analyst. In his memo, he also spoke about highlights of that tenure that included covering the Cold War, providing analysis during the war in Kosovo, and as an on-air analyst after 9/11.

Read more [here](#). Shared by John Willis.

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Former NY Times editor says Fox took her book out of context

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) - Jill Abramson, the former editor of The New York Times, said Thursday that Fox News took her criticism of the newspaper's Trump coverage in her upcoming book "totally out of context" for a story that appeared this week.

The Fox story, headlined "Former NY Times editor rips Trump coverage as biased," quotes from Abramson's book, "Merchants of Truth." She wrote that although current Times executive editor Dean Baquet publicly said he didn't want the newspaper to be the opposition party, "his news pages were unmistakably anti-Trump." With a mostly liberal audience, "there was an implicit financial reward for the Times in running lots of Trump stories, almost all of them negative," she wrote in the book.

Abramson was executive editor of the Times from 2011 to 2014 before being fired following a dispute with Baquet, one of her deputies. She said in an email interview with The Associated Press that the Fox article's author, "Media Buzz" host Howard Kurtz, had ignored compliments that she had for the Times and The Washington Post.

Read more [here](#).

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Former NY Times editor rips Trump coverage as biased (Fox)

By HOWARD KURTZ

A former executive editor of the New York Times says the paper's news pages, the home of its straight-news coverage, have become "unmistakably anti-Trump."

Jill Abramson, the veteran journalist who led the newspaper from 2011 to 2014, says the Times has a financial incentive to bash the president and that the imbalance is helping to erode its credibility.

In a soon-to-be published book, "Merchants of Truth," that casts a skeptical eye on the news business, Abramson defends the Times in some ways but offers some harsh words for her successor, Dean Baquet. And Abramson, who was the paper's only female executive editor until her firing, invoked Steve Bannon's slam that in the Trump era the mainstream media have become the "opposition party."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

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New York Daily News fires sports editor (Poynter

By TOM JONES

It was one of America's biggest and best sports sections.

The New York Daily News consistently won national awards, influenced New York City sports and featured some of the best-known sports writers in country - giants in the industry such as Mike Lupica, Frank Isola and Filip Bondy.

Sadly, those days appear over.

The Daily News sports section suffered another major blow Thursday when sports editor Eric Barrow, a 15-year veteran of the paper, was fired. What made the news especially stunning was Barrow telling his staff that he was not being replaced.

That's true. Sort of.

Kyle Wagner, formerly of Deadspin and 538, will run the department with the title of Director of Digital Audience Development for Sports, according to the New York Post.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Albright.

The Final Word



THE FIRST NO "L"

Today in History - January 4, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Jan. 4, the fourth day of 2019. There are 361 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 4, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson delivered his State of the Union address in which he outlined the goals of his "Great Society."

On this date:

In 1896, Utah was admitted as the 45th state.

In 1904, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Gonzalez v. Williams*, ruled that Puerto Ricans were not aliens and could enter the United States freely; however, the court stopped short of declaring them citizens. (Puerto Ricans received U.S. citizenship in March 1917.)

In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address, called for legislation to provide assistance for the jobless, elderly, impoverished children and the handicapped.

In 1943, for the second time, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin made the cover of TIME as the magazine's 1942 "Man of the Year."

In 1951, during the Korean War, North Korean and Communist Chinese forces recaptured the city of Seoul (sohl).

In 1960, author and philosopher Albert Camus (al-BEHR' kah-MOO') died in an automobile accident in Villeblevin, France, at age 46.

In 1964, Pope Paul VI began a visit to the Holy Land, the first papal pilgrimage of its kind.

In 1974, President Richard Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

In 1987, 16 people were killed when an Amtrak train bound from Washington, D.C., to Boston collided with Conrail locomotives that had crossed into its path from a side track in Chase, Maryland.

In 1995, the 104th Congress convened, the first entirely under Republican control since the Eisenhower era.

In 2002, Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Ross Chapman, a U.S. Army Special Forces soldier, was killed by small-arms fire during an ambush in eastern Afghanistan; he was the first American military death from enemy fire in the war against terrorism.

In 2006, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed that Jose Padilla (hoh-ZAY' puh-DIL'-uh), held for 3 1/2 years as an "enemy combatant," could be transferred to civilian authorities in Miami.

Ten years ago: New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson announced he was withdrawing his nomination to be President-elect Barack Obama's commerce secretary amid a grand jury investigation into how some of his political donors had won a lucrative state contract. (Prosecutors later declined to bring charges against Richardson.) A female suicide bomber struck Shiite pilgrims in Baghdad, killing 38.

Five years ago: The city center of Iraq's Fallujah fell completely into the hands of fighters from the al-Qaida-linked Islamic State in Iraq and Levant. Thirty-one workers were killed in the collapse of a building under construction in Canacona, Goa, in southern India.

One year ago: The Trump administration moved to vastly expand offshore drilling from the Atlantic to the Arctic oceans with a five-year plan that would open up federal waters off of California for the first time in decades and possibly open new areas of oil and gas exploration along the East Coast. A massive winter storm roared into the East Coast, dumping as much as 17 inches of snow in some areas. The Dow Jones Industrial Average burst through the 25,000 mark, closing at 25,075.13 just five weeks after its first close above 24,000. Ray Thomas, a founding member of the British rock group the Moody Blues, died at his home south of London at the age of 76, months before the band would be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Barbara Rush is 92. Football Hall of Fame coach Don Shula is 89. Opera singer Grace Bumbry is 82. Actress Dyan Cannon is 80. Author-historian Doris Kearns Goodwin is 76. Country singer Kathy Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 64. Actress Ann Magnuson is 63. Rock musician Bernard Sumner (New Order, Joy Division) is 63. Country singer Patty Loveless is 62. Actor Julian Sands is 61. Rock singer Michael Stipe is 59. Actor Patrick Cassidy is 57. Actor Dave Foley is 56. Actress Dot Jones is 55. Actor Rick Hearst is 54. Singer-musician Cait O'Riordan is 54. Actress Julia Ormond is 54. Tennis player Guy Forget (ghee fohr-ZHAY') is 54. Country singer Deana Carter is 53. Rock musician Benjamin Darvill (Crash Test Dummies) is 52. Actor Josh Stamberg is 49. Actor Jeremy Licht is 48. Actor Damon Gupton is 46. Actress-singer Jill Marie Jones is 44. Actress D'Arcy Carden is 39. Alt-country singer Justin Townes Earle is 37. Christian rock singer Spencer Chamberlain (Underoath) is 36. Actress Lenora Crichlow is 34. Comedian-actress Charlyne Yi is 33. Actress-singer Coco Jones is 21.

Thought for Today: "What we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from." - T.S. Eliot (1888-1965)

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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