

Connecting - January 14, 2019

1 message

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Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 9:10 AM









Connecting January 14, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning!

What scares you?

That's a question asked in a new podcast produced by WNYC Studios in New York - called, "10 Things That Scare Me."

In short podcasts, minor and major celebrities as well as regular folks are asked to name what scares them. Former White House communications director Anthony Scaramucci is scared of divorce attorneys. Movie director Paul Feig ("Bridesmaids," "Ghostbusters") is afraid of rats and helicopters. Author John Green ("The Fault in Our Stars") is afraid of geese.

WNYC explains that 10 Things That Scare Me has started to create a snapshot of where the world is right now: the fears that unite us and divide us. The more people who share their fears, the clearer that picture becomes - that's where you come in.

Borrowing from the category of "no good idea goes unborrowed," Connecting asks if you would like to share with your colleagues what scares you - and why? If it's related to journalism, all the better, but such a link is not necessary.

Correction: The email address for **Brian Horton** in the Birthdays section of Friday's Connecting was incorrect. It should be: hortonmail@gmail.com

Have a great week!

Paul

Jefferey tweets remind of how proud I am to have worked for AP

John Willis (Email) - While I am not a social media person and have never tweeted or even texted, Clara Jefferey's tweets in defense of @AP (and that is the first time I have ever typed that) remind me of how proud I have always been to have worked as an AP executive, correspondent and newsman. (A story on Jefferey's tweets were in Friday's Connecting.)

It also reminds me of how proud I am of all the colleagues who toiled over the years since The AP was founded. All of us are extremely lucky to have been part of a huge picture.

Warren Buffett, the "Oracle of Omaha" has said all Americans should feel like they won the lottery because they were born in this nation. I hit the lottery in March 1973, when I accepted an offer to be the night broadcast writer for The AP in Omaha.

I have always seen it as serving a greater cause.

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Adds **AI Cross** (**Email**) - Clara Jeffery's closing point is essentially the same message as the attached bumper sticker I worked up (with John Winn Miller's help).

Friends, colleagues, family gather to honor Bob Graves, retired from AP after 51 years



The Chicago bureau conference room was standing room only for Bob Graves' retirement party on Friday, Jan. 11, 2019. Staffers from other bureaus dialed in for a live video view of the proceedings. Graves ended his last day of work with cake, gifts, and colleagues' memorable stories. Photo submitted by Cliff Schiappa.



Four Chicago photo chiefs with the remarkable Bob Graves, at his retirement party in Elmhurst. From left: Denis Paquin, J. David Ake, Bob Graves, Rob Kozloff and Kii Sato. (Associated Press/David J. Phillip)

Retirement parties were held last Friday in the Chicago bureau and Saturday at the American Legion Hall in Elmhurst, Illinois, for Chicago photojournalist Bob Graves, who recently retired from the AP after a 51-year career. Here are a few photos from the two events.

In a parting note to colleagues and friends, Bob wrote:

I never thought saying goodbye would be so difficult. Can't figure out how to wrap up 51 years in a few paragraphs.

I'm beyond lucky to have known and worked with so many wonderful and professional people throughout the years. Blessed to have worked for those who believed in me and gave me opportunities others could only dream about. So grateful for friendships that will continue going forward. How lucky could a guy be!!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Judy and I aren't going anywhere. We're looking forward to the leisure time together. We have a beautiful new granddaughter to spoil. I'll have more time for fishing.

Please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm at rag664@gmail.com God Bless and Best Wishes! (Thanks to Mike Conroy for sharing.)



Bob Graves and his wife Judy at the bureau party in his honor.

At Ram Centennial, Alumni Celebrate the Value and Virtues of Journalism



Three Ram editors-in-chief (from left): Louis D. Boccardi, FCRH '58, former CEO of the Associated Press; Theresa Schliep, the current editor; and Jim Dwyer, FCRH '79, Pulitzer Prize-winning writer for The New York Times.

The Ram, Fordham's venerable student newspaper, turned 100 in 2018. This anniversary called for a feast, and feasting there was on a wintry mid-November night in Bepler Commons on the Rose Hill campus.

Ringing the room were enlargements of front pages. They conveyed the scope of events covered by the paper across the decades: world wars, McCarthyism, civil rights, student protests, Watergate, 9/11, and more.

Then there was the front page of the very first issue of The Ram, published on February 7, 1918. The layout is crisp and the tone is serious. Alas, the viewpoint expressed by the lead headline reveals the perils of composing first drafts of history. It quotes Joseph A. Mulry, S.J., then president of Fordham, who had a reputation for fiery sermons on patriotic themes: "This War Will Purify Soul of the Nation."

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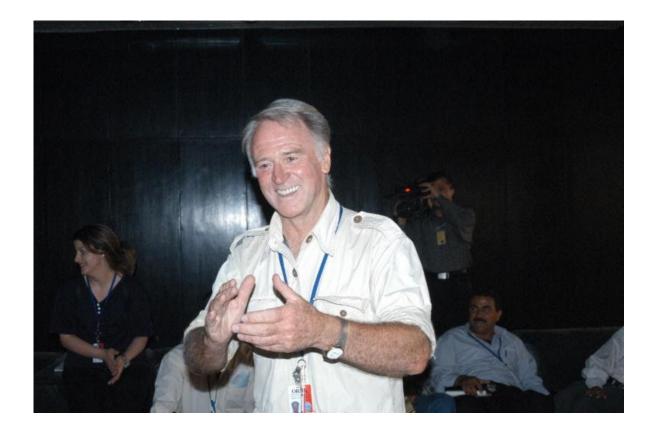
Calling Out Untruths, Winning Trust

That was a theme of the speech by Louis D. Boccardi, FCRH '58. He's a Ram alumnus and former president and CEO of the Associated Press, the world's largest news organization. Boccardi started his career when newsrooms racketed with the sound of manual typewriters and ended it by transitioning AP into the internet age.

"'Fairness and accuracy' is a piety, but it's the start of what we do," he said. "And when we find an untruth, we should label it clearly so. In the end, our only claim on the reader's or viewer's attention, and on their support for what we do, is that they trust what we say."

Click here to read more. Shared by Paul Colford.

Don North, Canadian war correspondent who worked for ABC in Vietnam, dies at 80



Donald George North, born on May 19, 1938 in Ladner, British Columbia, passed away at age 80 on January 7, 2019. Don was the loving husband of Deanna North. He was preceded in death by his sisters, Sylvia Veitch and Helen Leibich. Don is survived by his sons, Glen North and Sam North; and daughters, Fiona Dempsey and Jessica North.

For forty years, Don North was a journalist, film and video producer, cameraman, spokesperson, writer, and trainer in a wide variety of international forums. He began his career in Hong Kong, soon gravitating to the war in Vietnam where he assumed the roles of photojournalist and radio reporter. In 1968 he reported on the attack of the US Embassy by Viet Cong guerrillas during the Tet Offensive. He has been embedded in fifteen wars including reporting from Bosnia, Sarajevo, Afghanistan, and Iraq. He worked at the American University in Nigeria where he has witnessed the atrocities of the Boko Haram.

Don was the director of Northstar Productions, Inc. in Fairfax, Virginia. He has a degree in advanced international reporting from Columbia University, New York. He wrote regularly for Vietnam Magazine and Consortiumnews.com. North was Vice President of Military Reporters and Editors and a member of the National Press Club and National Association of Press Photographers. Constantly reinventing himself, he self published the book Inappropriate Conduct: Mystery of a Disgraced War Corespondent and was working on a screenplay of the same name.

Friends and family members may attend the memorial service on Saturday, February 16 from 11:00 to 2:00 p.m. at The National Press Club, 529 14th st NW, Washington, DC, 20045.

Written and submitted by his son, Glen North (Email).

Connecting mailbox

Government shutdown equivalency

Brian Bland (Email) - The discussion of equivalency in reporting the government shutdown (Connecting, Jan. 10) put me in mind of a story a political science professor told us at the University of Illinois many years ago:

It seems the professor had recently parked his car in a vacant lot not far from Chicago's Comiskey Park, joining a line of other cars he rightly believed belonged to other White Sox fans. Upon alighting from his car, the professor was greeted by a young man casually tossing part of a brick up and down in one hand. "Watch your car for a buck, mister," the youngster said politely.

The good professor quickly agreed.

Our class thought it was just a chuckle-worthy story until the professor used it to illustrate certain tactics being used by state lawmakers in Springfield.

Another word for the "deal" in the vacant lot is "extortion," which seems an apt word to describe the Trump-ordered government shutdown, although "kidnapping" may work as well.

The questions raised include whether true negotiations are possible with someone who uses such tactics (and who might use them repeatedly in the future). If the extortion/kidnap target resists, do we say that the target is refusing to negotiate? That would be both true and misleading.

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Remembering Linda's white, furry Sorel boots

Linda Deutsch (Email) - I laughed at Jeff Barnard still remembering my white, furry Sorel boots from the Exxon Valdez trial in Alaska in 1990. I always thought they were one of a kind, and I may have been right. By sheer coincidence, my computer popped up with an ad today for the Sorel boot company which is still going strong. I couldn't resist scrolling through their latest styles. There was nothing in white. But there was a fur-trimmed brown pair called -are you ready for this - "Joan of the Arctic." Sounds like my style.

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Snow falls on White House



Snow falls on the White House on Saturday as a winter storm arrives in the region. Alex Brandon/AP Photo

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Connecting sky shot - sunset over Amman, Jordan



Photo by Kevin Walsh

Best of the Week

AP investigation exposes sex abuse suffered at hands of priests by India's nuns



A nun stands in the foyer of the St. Francis Mission Home in Kuravilangad, in the southern Indian state of Kerala, Nov. 3, 2018. A nun at St. Francis says that Bishop Franco Mulakkal, who oversees their order, raped her 13 times over two years. A group of the nuns demanded the bishop's arrest, dividing India's Catholic community and making the accuser and her supporters pariahs, isolated from the other sisters, many of whom defend the bishop. Mulakkal angrily denies the accusations, saying the sister is trying to blackmail him to get a better job. AP Photo / Manish Swarup

New Delhi-based investigative reporter Tim Sullivan spent months looking into whispers, first heard by Nicole Winfield at the Vatican, that Indian nuns had endured sexual pressure by Catholic priests. What he found, after months of reporting into the closed-off world of Catholic convents, was a pattern of sexual abuse that went back decades, ranging from drunken priests barging into nuns' rooms to outright rape. He also found a culture of silence that had long kept these attacks hidden. Slowly, though, Sullivan found sisters willing to open up about their attacks. He also found nuns, former priests and others who could give perspective about these attacks and why they'd been kept secret for so long. Finally, he and New Delhi photographer Manish Swarup traveled to India's Catholic heartland, in the southern state of Kerala, to meet with a group of nuns who had become pariahs in their community for defending a sister who had accused a bishop of rape.

Sullivan's powerful narrative attracted widespread attention.

The story, accompanied by Swarup's evocative photos, was one of the AP's mostread stories of the week and had excellent reader engagement, with many readers staying with the narrative until the end. AP clients specializing in Catholic affairs, including America magazine of the U.S. Jesuit order and the Catholic website Crux, both ran the story prominently.

The standout work by Sullivan contributed to a remarkable body of work across the AP in covering the global clergy abuse scandal. Chief Vatican correspondent Winfield also reported exclusively on a confidential Vatican letter to U.S. bishops about proposed responses to the scandal, and exclusive Vatican confirmation that an Argentine bishop hand-picked by the pope for a top job was under investigation for sexual misconduct. And Philadelphia's Claudia Lauer - winner of this week's Best of the States - found that Roman Catholic dioceses across the U.S. have released the names of more than 1,000 priests accused of abusing children in the wake of a grand jury investigation in Pennsylvania.

For exposing long-held scandals in India's Catholic ministries, Sullivan and Swarup share AP's Best of the Week.

Best of the States

AP Exclusive: Documenting the US surge in identifying molester Catholic priests



Victims of clergy sexual abuse, or family members of victims, react as

Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro speaks about a grand jury report on abuse in the Roman Catholic Church, during a news conference at the State Capitol in Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 14, 2018. An exhaustive AP review found that in the months that followed, and spurred at least in part by the Pennsylvania report, Catholic dioceses across the U.S. released the names of more than 1,000 priests and others accused of sexually abusing children in an unprecedented public reckoning. AP Photo / Matt Rourke

In the months after a shocking Pennsylvania grand jury report on sex abuse by Roman Catholic priests, scattered dioceses across the country started putting out their own lists of molester priests. Some state attorneys general and local district attorneys also announced they would investigate the church.

News outlets began reporting the varied efforts piecemeal. But no one was capturing the big picture - including the sudden urgency being shown by the church to open its books on past abuse.

Reporter Claudia Lauer in the Philadelphia bureau set out to fix that. Starting in November, she began systematically documenting every investigation taking place around the country, whether criminal or civil, and every instance of a diocese naming abusive priests in the wake of the Pennsylvania report. What's more, she sought to determine how many dioceses intended to name names but hadn't done so yet.

With the number of US dioceses totaling 187, it was a time-consuming task. But through a variety of means, she was able to write authoritatively about the farreaching impact - in just four months - of the Pennsylvania investigation. She perused diocesan websites, checked local news reports, talked with reporters in various states, spoke with a good 10-12 attorney general offices, emailed dioceses and called dozens more, building multiple spreadsheets along the way to track her findings.

All that work paid off with her Jan. 3 exclusive.

It was a story that was impossible to match.

Even as she tallied more than 1,000 names publicized by 50 or so dioceses during the period, she established that over 50 more dioceses were committed to naming names in the months ahead - over half the nation's dioceses. She was also the first to provide a full picture of the number - nearly 20 - of outside investigations taking place across the country, both criminal and civil.

Once she had all the data in hand, she spoke with former priests, prosecutors, victim advocates and religious experts to put it all in context. She even got a bishop outside Pennsylvania to acknowledge that the grand jury report had given them a greater sense of urgency in releasing names of abusive priests.

It was a story that was impossible to match. The story won phenomenal play online and in print and generated huge interest on social media. Some Catholic publications used her story to provide an update on developments in the church.

Perhaps most gratifying to Lauer was a phone call she got on the Monday after the story ran - from an 83-year-old man who said he had been abused in the late 1940s and appreciated her efforts to shine a light on what had happened in the church.

For her painstaking and dogged work to document what has been happening in the church nationally in the wake of the Pennsylvania report, Lauer wins this week's Best of the States.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Mark Thayer - markthayer411@yahoo.com

Stories of interest

No Photographic Memory in the Senate (New York Times)



Many memorable moments, including the impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton, proceeded with no photography allowed inside the Senate chamber. The Senate majority leader, Trent Lott, spoke to a camera crew as he walked to the chamber in 1999 as the impeachment trial took place. Stephen Crowley/The New York Times

By Carl Hulse

WASHINGTON - It was a picture-perfect moment. As the Senate convened for the start of the 116th Congress, Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders, fellow progressives and potential rivals for the presidency, shared a brief hug on the Senate floor just minutes after they were both sworn in for their new terms.

Then there was Mitt Romney, the former Republican presidential nominee, striding across the floor as a proud new member from Utah. Smiling new and old senators lined up alphabetically to take the oath of office from Vice President Mike Pence as their colleagues applauded on the floor in the midst of a government shutdown. It was a lot to take in.

But this being the stodgy Senate, there were no photographers on hand to capture the scene, since they are banned from the chamber. While accredited photographers were granted special access to the House gallery to take colorful shots of Nancy Pelosi returning as speaker, youngsters roaming the floor and the diverse freshman class settling in, the Senate remained a shutter-free zone, as it has been for virtually its entire history. Read more here. Shared by Sibby Christensen.

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Why this out-of-work reporter decided to start her own small town print newspaper (CBC)



Melissa Schneider is the owner, publisher, editor, photographer of The Echo. (Paula Duhatschek/CBC)

By Paula Duhatschek

Melissa Schneider was wearing pyjamas when she found out she'd lost her job.

It was November 2017, and Schneider was working as a freelance reporter with the St. Thomas/Elgin Weekly News, one of several papers shut down after a major swap between Torstar and Postmedia.

Schneider had just wrapped up her fourth story of the week, and called her editor to let him know it was on the way.

"He picked up the phone and told me that we were all fired," said Schneider.

"We just disappeared into the night."

Read more here. Shared by Ed Williams.

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Kerry Washington, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez lead criticism of CBS after 2020 election coverage team appears to include no black staff (Insider)

By ELLEN CRANLEY

"Scandal" actress Kerry Washington and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez were among Twitter users who criticized CBS for announcing their new 2020 election team without seemingly including any Black journalists.

Quoting the same tweet from CBS Associate Producer Ben Mitchell, Ocasio-Cortez and Washington tweeted a day apart, both taking issue that none of the 12 reporters or producers appeared to be Black.

Ocasio-Cortez wrote, "This WH admin has made having a functional understanding of race in America one of the most important core competencies for a political journalist to have, yet @CBSNews hasn't assigned a *single* black journalist to cover the 2020 election."

Read more here. Shared by Mike Holmes.

The Final Word

After Stephen King Tweeted at a Maine Paper for Cutting Book Reviews, It Gave Readers a

'Scary Good' Offer (New York Times)



The Portland Press Herald in Maine said it would bring back its local book reviews if the author and his followers brought in 100 new subscriptions. They brought in twice that. Krista Schlueter for The New York Times

By Sarah Mervosh

When the largest daily newspaper in Maine decided it was going to stop publishing regional book reviews, it caused an uproar among local writers - one local writer in particular.

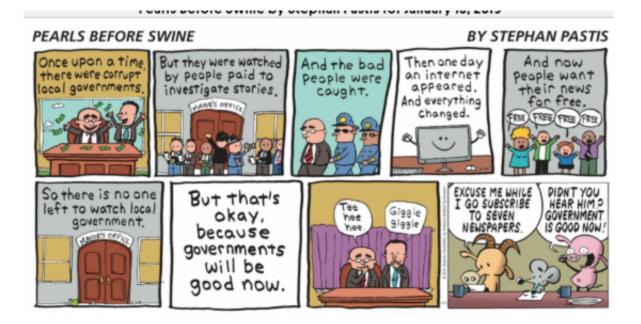
Stephen King, the best-selling author from Bangor, Me., complained on Twitter that the newspaper was taking away the publicity that local writers depend on "to buy bread and milk" and called on his more than five million followers to take action.

"Retweet this if you're from Maine (or even if you're not)," he tweeted on Friday. "Tell the paper DON'T DO THIS."

The newspaper, The Portland Press Herald, promptly responded with a challenge: If Mr. King could get his followers to buy 100 digital subscriptions, it would bring back the local reviews.

Read more here. Shared by Sibby Christensen.

And the final Final Word



Shared by Paul Shane, Paul Albright.

Today in History - January 14, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Jan. 14, the 14th day of 2019. There are 351 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 14, 1963, George C. Wallace was sworn in as governor of Alabama with the pledge, "Segregation forever!" - a view Wallace later repudiated.

On this date:

In 1784, the United States ratified the Treaty of Paris ending the Revolutionary War; Britain followed suit in April 1784.

In 1898, author Charles Lutwidge Dodgson - better known as "Alice in Wonderland" creator Lewis Carroll - died in Guildford, Surrey, England, less than two weeks before his 66th birthday.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and French General Charles de Gaulle opened a wartime conference in Casablanca.

In 1953, Josip Broz Tito (YAW'-sihp brawz TEE'-toh) was elected president of Yugoslavia by the country's Parliament.

In 1967, the Sixties' "Summer of Love" unofficially began with a "Human Be-In" involving tens of thousands of young people at Golden Gate Park in San Francisco.

In 1968, the Green Bay Packers of the NFL defeated the AFL's Oakland Raiders, 33-14, in the second AFL-NFL World Championship game (now referred to as Super Bowl II).

In 1969, 27 people aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, off Hawaii, were killed when a rocket warhead exploded, setting off a fire and additional explosions.

In 1970, Diana Ross and the Supremes performed their last concert together, at the Frontier Hotel in Las Vegas.

In 1975, the House Internal Security Committee (formerly the House Un-American Activities Committee) was disbanded.

In 1989, President Ronald Reagan delivered his 331st and final weekly White House radio address, telling listeners, "Believe me, Saturdays will never seem the same. I'll miss you."

In 1994, President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed an accord to stop aiming missiles at any nation; the leaders joined Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk in signing an accord to dismantle the nuclear arsenal of Ukraine.

In 2004, Former Enron finance chief Andrew Fastow (FAS'-tow) pleaded guilty to conspiracy as he accepted a ten-year prison sentence. (He was actually sentenced to six years and was released in Dec. 2011.)

Ten years ago: Freshly returned from a tour of war zones and global hotspots, Vice President-elect Joe Biden told President-elect Barack Obama that "things are going to get tougher" in Afghanistan. A French court acquitted six doctors and pharmacists in the deaths of at least 114 people who'd contracted brain-destroying Creutzfeldt-Jakob (KROYTS'-felt JAY'-kuhb) disease after being treated with tainted human growth hormones. Actor Ricardo Montalban died in Los Angeles at age 88.

Five years ago: Sporadic violence flared across much of Egypt as a two-day referendum on a new constitution began. A federal judge struck down Oklahoma's gay marriage ban, then set aside his order while state and local officials completed an appeal. (Oklahoma was among five states whose bans on same-sex marriage were ultimately overturned.)

One year ago: Authorities east of Los Angeles arrested the parents of 13 siblings after being led to the home by one of them, a 17-year-old girl who had jumped out of a window and called 911; they said they found the girl's 12 brothers and sisters locked up in filthy conditions, with some malnourished and chained to beds. (A September, 2019 trial date has been set for David and Louise Turpin.) Chelsea Manning confirmed that she was a candidate for the U.S. Senate from Maryland; the former Army intelligence analyst was known as Bradley Manning at the time of her 2010 arrest that led to a conviction for leaking classified documents. (Manning lost in a Democratic primary won by incumbent Ben Cardin.) On the defensive in the wake of disparaging comments about Haiti and African nations, President Donald Trump told reporters, "I am the least racist person you have ever interviewed."

Today's Birthdays: Blues singer Clarence Carter is 83. Singer Jack Jones is 81. Actress Faye Dunaway is 78. Actress Holland Taylor is 76. Actor Carl Weathers is 71. Singer-producer T-Bone Burnett is 71. Movie writer-director Lawrence Kasdan is 70. Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Maureen Dowd is 67. Rock singer Geoff Tate Gmail - Connecting - January 14, 2019

(Queensryche) is 60. Movie writer-director Steven Soderbergh is 56. Actor Mark Addy is 55. Fox News Channel anchorman Shepard Smith is 55. Rapper Slick Rick is 54. Actor Dan Schneider is 53. Actress Emily Watson is 52. Actor-comedian Tom Rhodes is 52. Rock musician Zakk Wylde is 52. Rapper-actor LL Cool J is 51. Actor Jason Bateman is 50. Rock singer-musician Dave Grohl (Foo Fighters) is 50. Actor Kevin Durand is 45. Actress Jordan Ladd is 44. Actor Ward Horton is 43. Actress Emayatzy Corinealdi is 39. Retro-soul singer-songwriter Marc Broussard is 37. Rock singer-musician Caleb Followill (Kings of Leon) is 37. Actor Zach Gilford is 37. Rock musician Joe Guese (The Click Five) is 37. Actor Jonathan Osser is 30. Actor-singer Grant Gustin is 29.

Thought for Today: "Dignity is like a perfume; those who use it are scarcely conscious of it." - Queen Christina of Sweden (1626-1689).

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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