



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

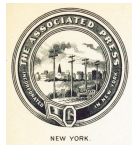
# Connecting - May 03, 2019

1 message

**Paul Stevens** <paulstevens46@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com  
To: pjshane@gmail.com

Fri, May 3, 2019 at 8:55 AM

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# Connecting

May 03, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 3rd day of May 2019,

Events will be held around the world today to mark World Press Freedom Day.

We lead this issue with stories from the AP and a bi-partisan call to protect journalists by two House members as published in The Washington Post.

The Post has released a 60-second message that has been updated to bring attention to the importance of press freedom and the critical work of journalists. The original spot first aired on February 3, 2019, during Super Bowl LIII and is voiced by actor and director Tom Hanks. The spot and the text can be viewed at by clicking [here](#).

**NEW TO THE CONNECTING CALENDAR:** May 15 - New Hampshire-Maine and environs AP-UPI-Journo lunch, Wednesday, May 15, noon, Longhorn restaurant, Concord, N.H. Contact: Adolphe Bernotas ([Email](#)).

**CORRECTION:** Cliff Schiappa notes that in Thursday's story about pickleball, he wrote that pickleball and tennis nets are the same height. Rather, regulation tennis net height is 42 inches at the posts and 36 inches at the center. A pickleball net is 36 inches at the posts and 34 inches at the center. If a tennis court does double duty as a pickleball court with different ground striping, then the tennis net is used for both sports.

Have a great weekend!

Paul

## World Press Freedom Day events raise alarm on fake news

By ELIAS MESERET

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) - A rising tide of fake news and disinformation is dominating World Press Freedom Day discussions taking place this week in Ethiopia, which is hosting the event after freeing jailed journalists as part of sweeping reforms.

As the world prepares to mark the day on Friday, media practitioners and experts have raised the alarm and deliberated on ways to combat disinformation that they say is becoming a "threat to democracy."

The relationship between the press and democracy is the main theme this year, with more than 100 events taking place around the world.

"In my country, Somalia, disinformation is so rampant to the extent that some candidates were falsely alleged to have died or withdrawn right before elections so that their competitors were given more chances of winning," said Hussein Abdi Adam with Somalia's electoral commission.

"Everybody is using phones these days. And it's becoming more difficult to deal with it as many of those engaged in this disinformation are based in various parts of the world."

Ethiopia is drafting a law to deal with hate speech and disinformation, said Billene Seyoum, the press secretary for the East African country's reformist prime minister.

"This law really won't curb citizens' freedom of expression but it rather will safeguard their right to access accurate information and ensure their safety," she said. "Disinformation is lethal. It also creates fear and divides societies and communities."

This year's World Press Freedom Day is being held for the first time in Ethiopia, a country that had been infamous for jailing journalists until new Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed assumed power in April 2018. His government set several dozen reporters free.

Read more [here](#).

## For World Press Freedom Day, here's our bipartisan call to protect journalists

**By Steve Chabot and Adam Schiff**

**For The Washington Post**

*U.S. Reps. Steve Chabot (R-Ohio) and Adam B. Schiff (D-Calif.) are co-chairs of the Congressional Freedom of the Press Caucus.*

As members of Congress, we swear an oath to defend the Constitution, a pledge that includes protecting the First Amendment and its guarantee that the freedom of the press not be infringed. The prominence of this guarantee reflects the framers' understanding that a press that could hold power to account was key to the success of the young American democracy.

History has proved them prescient, and the United States' model of protecting the press has served as a beacon for other free countries. It also reinforces our responsibility to stand up for press freedom in nations where the simple act of reporting the truth can lead to imprisonment, assault and even murder.

On May 3, we mark World Press Freedom Day, an occasion to consider the indispensable role journalists play in a democratic society and to call attention to the hundreds of journalists around the world who are in prison cells, or have been attacked, injured or murdered, for the "crime" of reporting. The Congressional Freedom of the Press Caucus was founded in 2006 to serve as a voice for the safety

and rights of journalists around the world, to make clear that Congress stands with them and to hold the powerful to account.

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

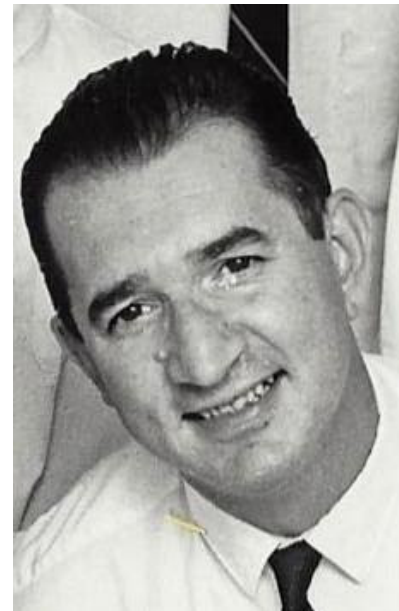
## Connecting mailbox

### *Story on Durango newsroom elicits delightful flashback to his father*

**Jim Bagby (Email)** - The tag for the May 1 Connecting article about the small newsroom in Durango, Colo., working with the community was to ask the reader "what was your reaction to this story?" Mine was a delightful flashback to the first time I ever saw the white words The Associated Press mounted on clattering black printers stacked taller than I, in the first of several newspapers where my father worked.

It was, then, the Durango Herald-Democrat, now the Durango Herald. Jack M. Bagby was a WWII veteran and a freshly minted University of Colorado journalism grad, a reporter and photographer, complete with a huge Speed Graphic. And although I did not understand the process at the time, when the 66 wpm printers fell silent at a certain split time on the hour, he sometimes got to transmit his stories to the AP bureau in Denver.

Durango was a beautiful southwest Colorado town, in those early '50s unspoiled by any hint of sport skiing - only Olympians were skiers. Families and tourists alike fished for trout in the Animas River as it swirled through the heart of downtown.



**Jack Bagby**

I remember vividly one of the pictures Dad got was of a sizeable diamondback rattler someone had killed and brought to the paper in a gunnysack; the bloody varmint made it only to the front step before someone had it dumped out to be sure it was dead. My brother Terry and I got to tag along as Dad covered the rodeo that was the feature of the annual Spanish Trails Fiesta. I was in the 3rd grade and Terry in the 2nd.

I believe my career path was set then.

-0-

## ***Nariman El-Mofty honored by Overseas Press Club***

**Sibby Christensen** ([Email](#)) - The Dateline magazine of the Overseas Press Club arrived in my mailbox and contained a two-page spread of photos by an AP winner in this year's Overseas Press Club awards during its annual dinner on April 18.

Nariman El-Mofty, Associated Press, with support from Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting, for "Yemen: On the Edge," won the Oliver Rebbot Award for best photographic news reporting from abroad in any medium.

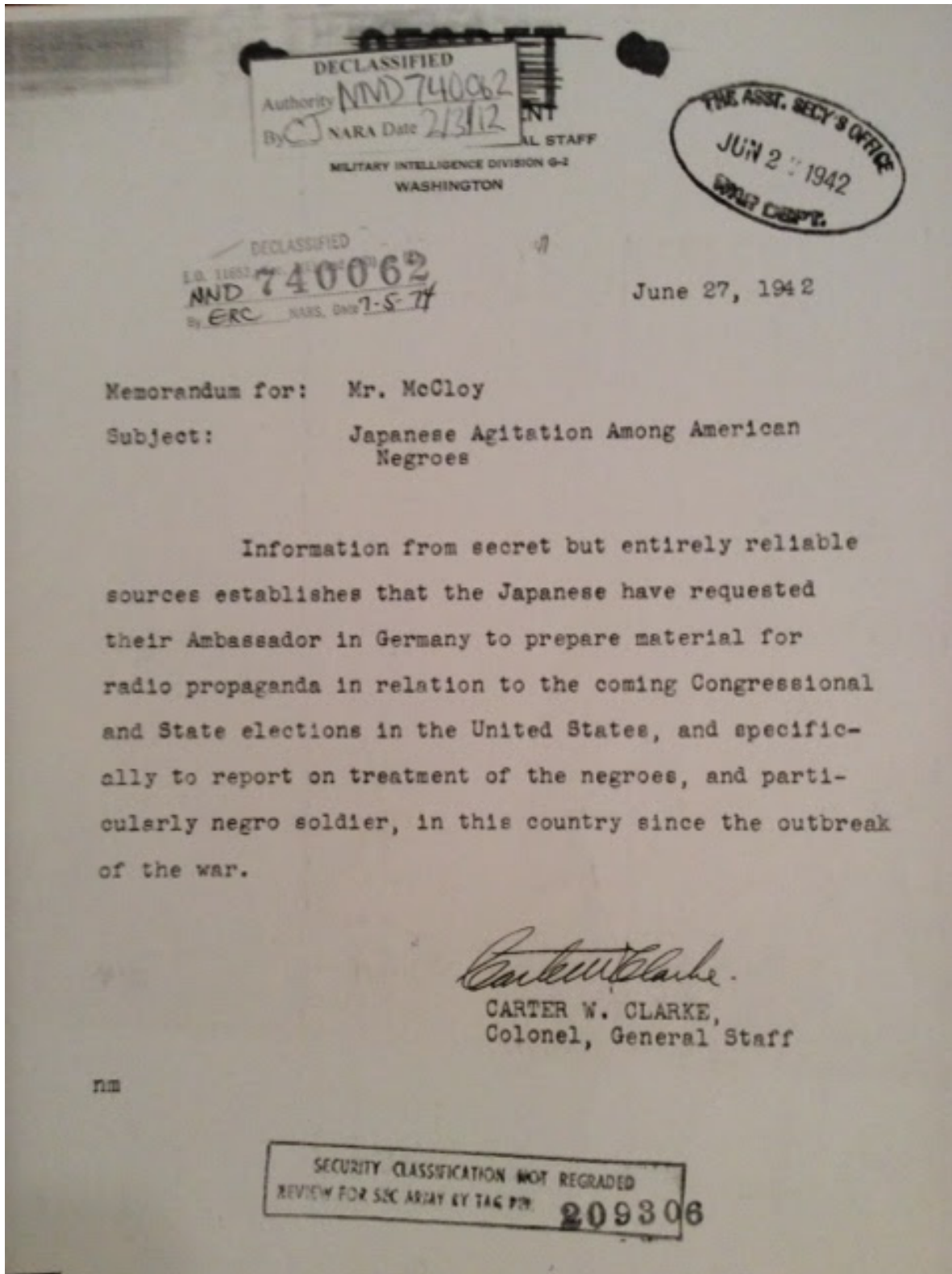
Published by the Associated Press with support from the Pulitzer Center, this project investigated a range of issues related to Yemen's civil war, including the Houthis' use of child soldiers, the lack of humanitarian aid in the country, and the experiences of prisoners of war. Upon receiving the award, El-Mofty spoke about how humanity still shines through the chaos of war. "Some of my images will be ingrained in my memory forever," she says. "Yet in the midst of all this you see kindness and generosity."



**Nariman El-Mofty**

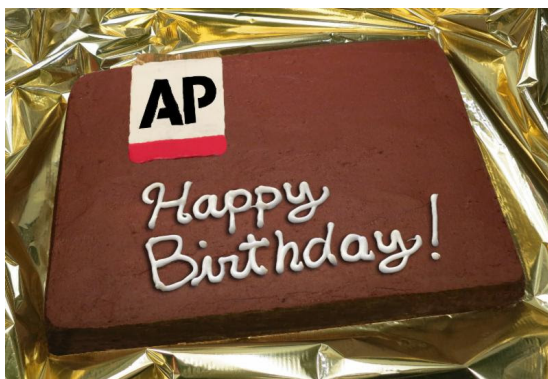
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## ***Haunting reminder of past***



Dennis Conrad (Email) - FYI...from the National Archives War Department Files in 1942

# Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Betsy Blaney - [ecblaney@gmail.com](mailto:ecblaney@gmail.com)

On Saturday to...

Patricia Casillo - [pcasillo@ap.org](mailto:pcasillo@ap.org)

## Stories of interest

*Upstart New Orleans Advocate has bought the rival Times-Picayune* (Poynter)





**In this 2012 file photo, free introductory copies of the Baton Rouge Advocate's new New Orleans edition, right, are seen next to copies of the New Orleans Times-Picayune. The owners of Louisiana's The Advocate newspaper have purchased The Times-Picayune in New Orleans from Advance Local Media.(AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)**

**By Rick Edmonds**

The remake of the New Orleans Times-Picayune six years ago to a digital first site, omitting home delivery several days a week, has come to an end.

John and Dathel Georges, owners of the New Orleans Advocate and two other Louisiana newspapers, announced Thursday that they had bought NOLA.com and the print version of the Times-Picayune from Advance Local Media.

The two will be merged and operated from The Advocate's offices, starting in June, offering seven-day-a-week print home delivery.

Both Advance and The Advocate are privately held, so a sales price was not immediately disclosed.

Advance provoked waves of protest in New Orleans in 2012 when it eliminated print editions and let more than 100 staffers go. The Advocate, long established in Baton Rouge, moved quickly into town to offer a daily print alternative.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac.

Click [here](#) for Advocate story. Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

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***Poynter shelves journalism 'blacklist'*** (The Daily Caller)

**By MIKE BREST**

The Poynter Institute, a journalism nonprofit organization, has completely disabled a list of what they labeled as an extensive list of "unreliable" news websites on Thursday night after facing scrutiny in the days since its publication.

A litany of conservative publications, including The Washington Free Beacon and The Washington Examiner, were lumped into the list of "unreliable" publications and it received nearly instantaneous condemnation from them.

"Soon after we published, we received complaints from those on the list and readers who objected to the inclusion of certain sites, and the exclusion of others. We began an audit to test the accuracy and veracity of the list, and while we feel that many of the sites did have a track record of publishing unreliable information, our review found weaknesses in the methodology," Poynter's managing editor Barbara Allen said in a statement on their website. "We detected inconsistencies between the findings of the original databases that were the sources for the list and our own rendering of the final report."

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

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***New York Times Editorial Page Editor Recuses Himself as Brother Joins 2020 Race*** (New York Times)



**James Bennet, the editorial page editor of The New York Times, said he would remove himself from working on Op-Eds, columns, editorials and other opinion pieces related to the presidential candidates or major issues in the campaign. Photo by Larry Neumeister/Associated Press**

**By Michael M. Grynbaum**

James Bennet, the editorial page editor of The New York Times, said on Thursday that he would recuse himself from any involvement in opinion coverage of the 2020 presidential election, after his brother, Senator Michael Bennet of Colorado, announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination.

The move by James Bennet, who is considered a contender to succeed Dean Baquet as The Times's executive editor, was long anticipated. Michael Bennet has served for a decade in the Senate and had earlier signaled interest in a presidential bid.

It is unusual for the chief of a newspaper's Opinion section to withdraw from a topic that is certain to dominate the global news conversation over the next 18 months. Mr. Bennet's self-imposed moratorium applies to Op-Eds, columns, editorials and other opinion articles related to the presidential candidates or major issues in the campaign.

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

# The Final Word

***Dictionaries recently added more than 1,500 words. Here are some new entries.*** (CJR)

By MERRILL PERLMAN

IT'S SPRING, AND A YOUNG lexicographer's fancy turns to ... love of new words.

Many dictionaries update online periodically, and March and April were the periods for the Oxford English Dictionary, Dictionary.com, and Merriam-Webster.

M-W says it added "more than 640 new words" in April; The OED says it added "More than 650 new words, senses, and subentries" in March"; and Dictionary.com says it added "more than 300 new words and definitions" in April.

ICYMI: Redacted or censored? The right words to use when reporting on Mueller

The new entries have little overlap, not surprising given that different dictionaries have different audiences and purposes. As we wrote last fall, M-W's editor at large, Peter Sokolowski, says that M-W is "synchronic," concentrating on current, active vocabulary. The OED is "diachronic," written from a historical perspective. Dictionary.com is based on the Random House Unabridged Dictionary, but it also uses the American Heritage and HarperCollins dictionaries to supplement its main database, so it's not a single source, but it is also "synchronic." And words make it into dictionaries at different speeds. As M-W said, "Each word follows its own path at its own pace before its use is widespread enough to be included in a dictionary."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bob Daugherty.

## Today in History - May 3, 2019



## By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, May 3, the 123rd day of 2019. There are 242 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlights in History:

On May 3, 1937, Margaret Mitchell won the Pulitzer Prize for her novel, "Gone with the Wind."

### On this date:

In 1469, political theorist Niccolo Machiavelli was born in Florence, Italy.

In 1802, Washington, D.C. was incorporated as a city.

In 1913, Clorox had its beginnings as five entrepreneurs agreed to set up a liquid bleach factory in Oakland, Calif.

In 1916, Irish nationalists Padraic Pearse, Thomas Clarke and Thomas MacDonagh were executed by a British firing squad; they were among 16 people put to death for their roles in the Easter Rising.

In 1948, the Supreme Court, in Shelley v. Kraemer, ruled that covenants prohibiting the sale of real estate to blacks or members of other racial groups were legally

unenforceable.

In 1952, the Kentucky Derby was televised nationally for the first time on CBS; the winner was Hill Gail, ridden by Eddie Arcaro.

In 1960, the Harvey Schmidt-Tom Jones musical "The Fantasticks" began a nearly 42-year run at New York's Sullivan Street Playhouse.

In 1978, spam email was born as Gary Thuerk (thurk), a marketing executive for the Digital Equipment Corp. of Maynard, Massachusetts, transmitted an unsolicited sales pitch for a new line of computers to 400 prospective customers on ARPANET, a precursor to the internet; the stunt generated some business, as well as complaints. "Sun Day" took place on a Wednesday as thousands of people extolling the virtues of solar energy held events across the country.

In 1979, Conservative Party leader Margaret Thatcher was chosen to become Britain's first female prime minister as the Tories ousted the incumbent Labour government in parliamentary elections.

In 1986, in NASA's first post-Challenger launch, an unmanned Delta rocket lost power in its main engine shortly after liftoff, forcing safety officers to destroy it by remote control.

In 1999, some 70 tornadoes roared across Oklahoma and Kansas, killing 46 people and injuring hundreds.

In 2007, British girl Madeleine McCann vanished during a family vacation in Portugal nine days before her fourth birthday; her disappearance remains unsolved.

Ten years ago: Mexican President Felipe Calderon told state television a nationwide shutdown and an aggressive informational campaign appeared to have helped curtail an outbreak of swine flu in Mexico. Ricardo Martinelli won Panama's presidential election.

Five years ago: U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, during a visit to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, said the U.S. was ready to help increase its ties with Africa, but that nations across the continent needed to take stronger steps to ensure security and democracy for its people. California Chrome pulled away down the stretch for a dominant win at the 140th Kentucky Derby. Floyd Mayweather Jr. retained his welterweight title with a majority decision over Marcos Maidana in Las Vegas.

One year ago: President Donald Trump insisted that his reimbursement of a 2016 hush payment to porn actress Stormy Daniels had nothing to do with his election campaign. Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey signed a plan to give striking teachers pay raises totaling 20 percent, ending a six-day walkout. In a reversal. House Speaker Paul Ryan announced that the chaplain of the House of Representatives would stay in his job; Ryan had sparked an uproar when he asked the Rev. Patrick Conroy to resign and said he was dissatisfied with Conroy's pastoral care to lawmakers. A federal grand jury in Detroit indicted former Volkswagen CEO Martin Winterkorn on charges stemming from the company's diesel emissions cheating scandal. (Under Germany's constitution, he could not be extradited to the U.S. to face charges.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor Alex Cord is 86. Singer Frankie Valli is 85. Former Idaho Gov. Butch Otter is 77. Sen. Jim Risch, R-Idaho, is 76. Sports announcer Greg Gumbel is 73. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., is 70. Pop singer Mary Hopkin is 69. Singer Christopher Cross is 68. Country musician Cactus Moser (Highway 101) is 62. Rock musician David Ball (Soft Cell) is 60. Former Sen. David Vitter, R-La., is 58. Country singer Shane Minor is 51. Actress Amy Ryan is 51. Actor Bobby Cannavale (ka-nuh-VAL'-ee) is 49. Music and film producer-actor Damon Dash is 48. Country musician John Driskell Hopkins (Zac Brown Band) is 48. Country-rock musician John Neff is 48. Country singer Brad Martin is 46. TV personality Willie Geist (TV: "Today") is 44. Actress Christina Hendricks is 44. Actor Dule (doo-LAY') Hill is 44. Country singer Eric Church is 42. Actress Tanya Wright is 41. Dancer Cheryl Burke is 35. Soul singer Michael Kiwanuka is 32. Actress Jill Berard is 29. Actress Zoe De Grand Maison is 24. Rapper Desiigner (cq) is 22.

**Thought for Today: "Hatred is gained as much by good works as by evil." - Niccolo Machiavelli, Italian political philosopher (born this date in 1469, died 1527).**

## Connecting calendar



**May 15** - New Hampshire-Maine and environs AP-UPI-Journo lunch, Wednesday, May 15, noon, Longhorn restaurant, Concord, N.H. Contact: Adolphe Bernotas

([Email](#)).

**June 20** - 25-Year Club Celebration, 5:30 - 8 p.m., AP headquarters, [200 Liberty Street, New York, NY](#). RSVP by May 10. RSVP online [here](#). Any questions may be directed to [recognition@ap.org](mailto:recognition@ap.org)

**August 17** - Albany AP bureau reunion (including other upstate bureaus), 1-5 p.m., Marc and Carla Humbert residence on Tsatsawassa Lake, [68 Marginal Way, East Nassau, NY](#). Contact: Chris McKnight ([Email](#)).

## 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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