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Connecting - May 06, 2019

1 message

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Connecting

May 06, 2019



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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this the 6th day of May 2019,

Our congratulations go out to Connecting colleague Donna Bryson on being named 2019 Journalist of the Year by the Colorado Pro Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

Donna is a reporter for the online news site Denverite.com and earlier worked 26 years for the AP - first as an intern in Columbus, then as fulltimer in Kansas City, Springfield (MO), Johannesburg, New Delhi, Cairo and London.

Today's issue brings the latest vacation adventure from our intrepid travelers **Diana Heidgerd** and **Amanda Barnett**. When last we heard from them, they were on a cruise when their ship changed course to rescue three fishermen. In late April, they were vacationing with their husbands on the Florida Panhandle when they watched (and recorded) barges striking a highway bridge. In both cases, Diana filed stories to the AP wire and in both cases, they came through with delightful stories for Connecting.

First responses are in for Connecting's call for favorite sports or hobbies in retirement - or as you continue to work for AP. **Cliff Schiappa** got the ball rolling in Friday's edition with his story on the growing popularity of pickleball. I hope to hear from you this week.

Finally, I **extend my thanks** for the generous contributions you have made to fund expenses involved with producing Connecting. Your generosity means so much to me. It also means you won't hear from me on this matter for at least the next few years. Thank you.

Have a great day!

Paul

Donna Bryson honored in Colorado as 2019 Journalist of the Year



DENVER --Donna Bryson, a 26-year veteran of the AP and now a reporter for the online news site Denverite.com, was named 2019 Journalist of the Year by the Colorado Pro Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. The honor was presented at the Denver Press Club Friday during SPJ Colorado Pro's annual Top of the Rockies Awards program.

Bryson created and covers the housing and hunger beat for Denverite.com, which recently was purchased by Colorado Public Radio.

"Her stories are not the usual housing stories for Metro Denver, stories about milliondollar-plus homes; steel-and-glass top-end condos and so forth," said the letter nominating her. "Rather, her stories more commonly focus on homes for people who don't have any. And food for those who are hungry.

"Many of us walk past these people every day, but whether we actually see them is another question," the letter stated. "Fortunately, Donna sees them."

Before joining Denverite.com, Bryson worked for the AP from 1986 until 2012. After serving an internship in Columbus, Ohio, she went to work fulltime in Kansas City, where Paul Stevens was COB. She later served in Johannesburg (1993-1996); New Delhi (South Asia news editor, 1996-1999); Cairo (Middle East news editor); London (Africa editor); and as COB in Johannesburg (2008-2012). She is a graduate of Northwestern University.

Bryson has authored two books, It's a Black-White Thing, an examination of race in South Africa; and Home of the Brave, a report on grassroots efforts in Montrose, Colo. to help veterans reintegrate into their community. Her freelance work has appeared in The Christian Science Monitor, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Stars and Stripes and The Denver Post.

In his nominating letter for Bryson's SPJ award, retired journalist Bob Burdick cited eight of her stories from Denverite.com. "I could have missed these and other important stories," he wrote. "But thanks to Donna, I didn't. It's about perspective. She has it; many of the rest of us do not."

Donna Bryson's email is - donna@innoabrd.com

Another AP aquatic adventure

Diana Heidgerd (Email) - Ahoy, again, from occasional AP maritime correspondent Diana Heidgerd of landlocked Dallas.

Some of you may recall my unplanned reporting adventure last summer, featured in the Aug. 29 issue of Connecting, about how I was on a British Isles cruise with my

close friend, former AP staffer Amanda Barnett, and my best friend from South Dakota, Linda Salter Ochsner. We were far out in the North Sea when our ship suddenly changed course to rescue three fishermen who were stranded in a life raft after their boat sank. I managed to get an international WiFI phone and called in a **brief story** to AP in London.

Well, it seems waterway sagas continue to float my way when I'm on vacation.

Amanda and I (plus our husbands) were on vacation in late April on the Florida Panhandle. We were having dinner Saturday night, April 27, at a Fort Walton Beach restaurant and sitting outside along the beautiful Intracoastal Waterway. We noticed some rust-covered barges, loaded down with heavy equipment and towering steel poles (perhaps for dredging), that seemed out of place while being guided through the Intracoastal and toward the elevated US 98 bridge over the water.

It seemed so odd to see that big hulking, floating configuration that we walked to the edge of the water, where children were playing in the sand, to check out the monstrosity.



Amanda Barnett (left) in selfie with Diana Heidgerd on April 28 in Destin, Florida.

Amanda started videotaping.

Suddenly, people nearby started wondering aloud - will those tall steel posts make it under what's known as the Brooks Bridge, with a 50-foot height clearance?

My thoughts exactly.

We watched (and heard) as the elevated posts hit the bottom of the span, with an eerie crunching/scraping sound. We saw the posts quiver.

Amanda captured it on videotape.

And shame on me, being a former radio/TV person, that I forgot Journalism 101 for broadcasters - don't speak when you are recording natural sound.

The audio from Amanda's cellphone video (which she has signed a form granting AP use) includes me clearly uttering an unnecessary word and then Amanda responding with a mother-like admonishment.



Barge hits US 98 bridge

Law enforcement on land and in boats quickly shut down all highway traffic to the bridge so inspections could begin to make sure the span was safe. The story quickly ended up on social media.

I interviewed a couple of the locals, then called in **a brief** to the AP South Desk about the bridge closing:

The span reopened the following morning, so I called AP again to update. We also offered the video to AP.

We later saw that the bridge accident made the front page of Sunday's local newspaper, above the fold.

So that's my latest AP aquatic adventure.

Stay tuned, we're doing a Panama Canal trip in the fall......

Pickleball, no thanks - try Strength and Power Training

Jim Hood (Email) - You notice the crushing response you got when you asked Connecting colleagues for their favorite sport or fitness addiction? Elbow-bending is probably the No. 1 avocation of the working press. Those put out to pasture? Probably a bit less unanimity.

Believe it or not, I have been an avid weight-lifter and gym rat for many decades, something that will come as a surprise to anyone who has ever laid eyes on me. But actually, I started out in life as a 110-pound weakling and lived in fear that if I ever set foot on a beach, roving bands of bullies would appear and begin kicking sand in my face.

Growing up near Ocean View, Illinois, kept me safe for the first 20 or so years but thereafter I had to make tracks to the gym.

My current hang-out of choice is a spot called Strength And Power Training (SAPT), located in a rundown strip mall that consists otherwise of auto body shops and down-at-the-heels car repair joints all seemingly specializing in rusted-out Volvos.

It's an establishment that caters mostly to high-school and college athletes who are trying to add one or two percent to their personal best record so they can make the A team or snag an athletic scholarship. The chief trainer is the strength coach for the Washington Mystics of the WNBA. I keep hoping the team will show up someday but they seem to stay on their side of the river.

Romantic a hideaway though it is, SAPT is hell to get to in the afternoon, being near the confluence of several of the Washington area's most clogged arteries. A mere three minutes from our house is a county-run facility that -- being built with taxpayer funds -- is large, lavish and blessed with acres of free parking. It is, however, full of old people and the trainers there specialize in not letting anyone expire on their watch. A spot to be avoided, in other words.

You would think that being roughly four times as old as everyone else at the gym would make one feel ancient but I find it works the other way. When I'm around young people who can get up from a chair without fainting, I can usually fake it and fit right in. Put me in a senior center "chair yoga" class (there are such things) and I head for the exit.

Going to a hard-core gym also has the advantage of shutting down tedious conversations with doctors.

"Getting any exercise, Mr. Hood?" the cardiologist asks innocently.

"Not really. Just squats, deadlifts, prowler pulls -- you know, the usual," I reply, thus shutting down that line of questioning and getting myself out of the office without further interrogation. (A prowler pull, by the way, consists of lugging heavy weights across the floor with chains. Try it sometime).

But perhaps the biggest benefit of a hard-core gym addiction is that it gives me a way to beg off all those things I have never been able to do -- i.e., anything remotely athletic or social. Hit a golf ball? Never. Play a convincing game of tennis? Not likely. Take a long bike ride? I'd rather bend an elbow, thanks anyway.

-0-

Pickleball, yes, thank you! Three times a week

Jerry Jackson (Email) - Five years ago, I retired my tennis racket and moved into Pickleball. I currently play three plus days a week along with teaching an orientation class. Love this game.

So, here is Pickleball at Tellico Village, Loudon, TN. We have eight lighted outdoor courts. They are scheduled in two-hour blocks, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Yes, we play in 20-degree weather. We have a highly organized PB club, with a Board, President, Vice President, other officers, along with social chairman, and training officer. We currently have a few over 700 paying (\$10 yearly) members in our PB club. Our play is very structured where we have comparable skill levels always playing together. This is a fun and social group. Our play is with both male and female players. Most play is doubles and when a game is completed, the winning team splits, two more players come in, and next game is started. We do not have set partners unless it is a tournament. We play for fun and have lots of fun with this sport.

A little promo on Tellico Village (TellicoVillageTN.org). This is a semi-retirement community located on a 16,000 acre, 350 shoreline miles, TVA lake SW of Knoxville, TN in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains. We have around 7,500 residents, three top of line golf courses and some 200 other activities ranging from Mahjong to

antique cars, to tennis, etc.. Regarding the lake, excellent for fishing, kayaking, skiing, boating, etc.. TN has no state income tax. Our county property tax is around \$3500 for a \$800,000 assessed property. We have condos, townhouses, and individual homes with prices ranging from \$200,000 to \$1.5+ million lake houses. This is a wonderful community if you are shopping for retirement areas.

AP wins RFK Award for immigration coverage



Honduran migrant Leticia Nunes holds her daughter Mailyn as she stands with a small group of other migrants in front of a line of Mexican police in riot gear when they tried to cross the Chaparral border crossing in Tijuana, Mexico, Nov. 22, 2018. (AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

By Patrick Maks

The Associated Press won a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award in the domestic print category Friday for its coverage of U.S. immigration policies under President Donald Trump.

In a yearlong series of stories, a team of AP journalists illuminated the Trump administration's approach to child separation, from documenting a migrant caravan that stretched from Central America to the U.S.-Mexico border to uncovering how deported parents could lose their children to adoption.

Notably, AP was first to report that infants were among children being forcibly separated from their families at the border and catalog the detainment facilities where kids where held and sometimes physically abused. The AP's immigration coverage was also a 2019 Pulitzer Prize finalist in the national reporting category.

"The strength of AP's immigration coverage has been in teamwork," said AP Managing Editor Brian Carovillano. "Nearly three dozen journalists spanning multiple departments, beats and borders came together to break news and provide unparalleled insight and understanding on one of the key issues of our time."

Read more here.

Best of the Week

Impressive all-formats response to Sri Lanka's Easter Sunday bombings



Two days after the Easter Sunday bombings in Sri Lanka, Wasanthi, a member of Berlington family, weeps over the grave of Bevon, in Colombo, Sri Lanka, April 23, 2019. The near-simultaneous attacks on three churches and three luxury hotels, and three

smaller blasts later in the day, left more than 300 people dead in the South Asian island nation's deadliest violence in a decade. Authorities say Islamic extremists were responsible for the suicide attacks. AP Photo / Eranga Jayawardena

It was a merciless attack in a part of the world not immediately associated with Islamic extremism. But what was behind the Easter attacks in Sri Lanka that killed more than 300 people at churches and hotels in the island nation, and why did the government fail to stop it despite early warnings?

Getting images and news out to the world was a monumental task, but one that AP reporters, photographers and videojournalists took on with tremendous skill and dedication.

The initial reporting came from the Colombo-based team of reporters Krishan Francis and Bharatha Mallawarachi and photographer Eranga Jayawardena. They were backed by correspondent Emily Schmall in Delhi, who would soon join them to coordinate text coverage and help cut through the many unverified reports swirling around.

Local stringer Jay Palipane shot the first video before tapping contacts to ensure access to footage from local broadcasters. Bangkok-based Sri Lankan photographer Gemunu Amarasinghe flew in first and would soon be joined by reinforcements who successfully pressed embassies across Asia and the Middle East for emergency journalist visas.

Delhi-based videojournalists Shonal Ganguly and Rishabh Jain joined Palipane in providing hours upon hours of live coverage, including a haunting and live walkthrough of one stricken church shot by Ganguly before competitors even arrived.

AP was also alone in providing live coverage of an interview with Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, conducted by Schmall, breaking the news that more suspects were still at large. Schmall also reported on a woman who was left widowed and childless by the bombings.

The scores of still images that moved were just as compelling, including a moving essay from one of the attack sites by Delhi-based photographer Manish Swarup and intimate moments of grief by mourning relatives shot by Amarasinghe.

Other highlights included coverage of a raid on militants and an Only on AP story about the first post-attack church service by Gulf News Director Jon Gambrell. Seoul Chief of Bureau Foster Klug examined the little-known local terror cell behind the attack.

Play was tremendous, with the story dominating video metrics for several days as the world remained fixated on the continuously developing story. Sri Lanka text pieces were collectively the fourth most popular story on APNews in April, with very strong play even when compared to other major stories. AP photos were widely used, including by The New York Times and The Washington Post.

For their outstanding work in the face of stiff challenges, the team of Francis, Mallawarachi, Jayawardena, Palipane, Schmall, Ganguly, Jain, Amarasinghe, Gambrell, Swarup and Klug wins this week's Best of the AP.

Best of the States

'Destined to Burn': AP, media organizations join forces to expose California wildfire risks



Sean and Dawn Herr collect an American flag on March 19, 2019, at their Paradise, Calif., home which survived the 2018 Camp Fire. The Herrs credit survival of the home, built in

2010, to strict building codes and the gravel that encircled the structure, keeping the flames at bay. Hector Amezcua / The Sacramento Bee via AP

A groundbreaking collaboration among California newspapers and The Associated Press started with a tweet.

Northern California News Editor Juliet Williams saw on Twitter that Lauren Gustus. editor of The Sacramento Bee and regional editor for McClatchy's west region, was driving to meet with the editor of the Chico Enterprise-Record, a MediaNews paper, to talk about wildfire coverage. Williams reached out to Gustus and offered the AP's help, and a partnership was born.

The stakes are high in wildfire country:

In late 2018, the Camp Fire in Paradise, California, killed 85 people. The goal of the partnership was to illuminate problems and point to potential solutions to California's increasingly deadly wildfires.

An analysis of data by McClatchy and AP Los Angeles-based data journalist Angeliki Kastanis revealed that more than 350,000 Californians live in towns and cities that exist almost entirely within "very high fire hazard severity zones" - Cal Fire's designation for places highly vulnerable to devastating wildfires. These designations have proven eerily predictive about some of the state's most destructive wildfires in recent years, including the Paradise fire, the worst in state history. An analysis also found that a landmark 2008 building code designed for California's fire-prone regions - requiring fire-resistant roofs, siding and other safeguards - can make the difference in whether homes burn or not, but there's little will or planning to retrofit older homes.

The timing of the first package couldn't have been better, coming just ahead of a new report from California Gov. Gavin Newsom's wildfire taskforce. The governor mentioned the reporting at his news conference as he promised action on some of the most intractable problems that were tackled in the stories.

The second installment was focused on evacuation planning, and included public information requests for evacuation plans in communities at high risk. Many communities wouldn't share the information or didn't have an adequate plan, or any plan at all. And a data analysis by USA TODAY Network-California showed many communities had too few roads for everyone to get out. The AP contributed a story about what California can learn from hurricane evacuations.

Collaborations are something we're seeing more and more of in the U.S. media landscape. It can be organizations grouping themselves together formally to cover a community or working on an individual project. It's been notable that instead of "who's our competitor," news outlets are asking, "who can work with us?" In this case, AP was at the center of the collaboration. When we engage in projects like these we become more than just a content provider to our customers. We're in the trenches with them, producing high-impact local coverage that wouldn't exist in an individual state otherwise.

Partnerships also require a lot of work: on the journalism, managing the relationship, finding resources to fulfill AP's part, and promoting the stories to ensure the most possible readers. The "Destined to Burn" partnership was managed at every level by West Deputy Director of Newsgathering Anna Jo Bratton, who worked for six months with people throughout the AP and the collaborators to make the partnership a success.

We heavily publicized the package, with advisories, Playbook lines, a data distribution, a hub on APNews.com, a press release, a blog post and a robust social plan. Williams hosted an Ask Me Anything on Reddit with reporters from two collaborators. Play was impressive, with hundreds of downloads of the nearly dozen stories that ran in two installments. Many outlets used the data to report their own stories about local fire risks. One story got nearly two minutes engagement on APNews.com, and stories ran on front pages throughout the state and elsewhere in the West.

And this isn't the end of the partnership: The next phase will focus on legislative action on wildfire coverage.

For putting the AP at the center of an important collaboration, driving important journalism in a state ravaged by wildfires, and forging a stronger relationship with members, Williams, Kastanis and Bratton win this AP's Best of the States.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Greg Nokes - g_nokes@yahoo.com

Welcome to Connecting



Gary Thompson - Garyandcherylthompson@yahoo.com

Stories of interest

Entire New Orleans Times-Picayune staff axed after sale to competitor (New York Post)

By KEITH J. KELLY

The Newhouse family sold the 182-year-old daily The Times-Picayune and its website, nola.com, to a scrappy New Orleans competitor, and the entire staff is being laid off. That has stirred worries across the other papers in the family's Advance Publications empire.

A total of 161 staff members are being laid off, according to a WARN (Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act) notice filed with the Louisiana Workforce Commission, which listed 65 reporter and editor jobs in the bloodbath.

John and Dathel Georges, the husband-and-wife team that owns the rival New Orleans Advocate, are buying The Times-Picayune from Newhouse's Advance

Local, which has owned it since 1962.

The Advocate plans to publish a seven-days-a-week paper using both brands on the masthead starting in early June and will merge both websites under nola.com.

Read more here. Shared by Paul Albright, Doug Pizac, Paul Shane.

-0-

Meet the photographer behind NASA's stunning images (NBC News)



Bill Ingalls has served as NASA's Earth-based photographer for three decades, expertly capturing the space agency's rocket launches and critical moments -- even shooting a vehicle test inside an active volcano.

Read and view more here.

Today in History - May 6, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, May 6, the 126th day of 2019. There are 239 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 6, 1954, medical student Roger Bannister broke the four-minute mile during a track meet in Oxford, England, in 3:59.4.

On this date:

In 1863, the Civil War Battle of Chancellorsville in Virginia ended with a Confederate victory over Union forces.

In 1889, the Paris Exposition formally opened, featuring the just-completed Eiffel Tower.

In 1910, Britain's Edwardian era ended with the death of King Edward VII; he was succeeded by George V.

In 1915, Babe Ruth hit his first major-league home run as a player for the Boston Red Sox. Actor-writer-director Orson Welles was born in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

In 1935, the Works Progress Administration began operating under an executive order signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In 1937, the hydrogen-filled German airship Hindenburg caught fire and crashed while attempting to dock at Lakehurst, New Jersey; 35 of the 97 people on board were killed along with a crewman on the ground.

In 1941, Josef Stalin assumed the Soviet premiership, replacing Vyacheslav M. Molotov. Comedian Bob Hope did his first USO show before an audience of servicemen as he broadcast his radio program from March Field in Riverside. California.

In 1942, during World War II, some 15,000 American and Filipino troops on Corregidor surrendered to Japanese forces.

In 1974, West German Chancellor Willy Brandt resigned after one of his aides was exposed as an East German spy.

In 1992, former Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev delivered a speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, where Winston Churchill had spoken of the "Iron Curtain"; Gorbachev said the world was still divided, between North and South, rich and poor. Actress Marlene Dietrich died at her Paris home at age 90.

In 1994, former Arkansas state worker Paula Jones filed suit against President Bill Clinton, alleging he'd sexually harassed her in 1991. (Jones reached a settlement with Clinton in November 1998.) Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and French President Francois Mitterrand (frahn-SWAH' mee-teh-RAHN') formally opened the Channel Tunnel between their countries.

In 2013, kidnap-rape victims Amanda Berry, Gina DeJesus and Michelle Knight, who went missing separately about a decade earlier while in their teens or early 20s, were rescued from a house just south of downtown Cleveland. (Their captor, Ariel Castro, hanged himself in prison in September 2013 at the beginning of a life sentence plus 1,000 years.)

Ten years ago: After a day of meetings at the White House, President Barack Obama declared he'd received the commitments he wanted from the leaders of Pakistan and Afghanistan to more aggressively fight Taliban and al-Qaida militants. Gov. John Baldacci (bahl-DAH'-chee) signed a bill making Maine the fifth state to legalize same-sex marriage (however, the law was later overturned by a public vote). Five years ago: A federal report said that global warming was rapidly affecting the United States in both visible and invisible ways; shortly after the report came out, President Barack Obama used several television weathermen to call for action to curb carbon pollution before it was too late. The Vatican disclosed that over the past decade, it had defrocked 848 priests who raped or molested children and sanctioned another 2,572 with lesser penalties. Oklahoma City forward Kevin Durant won his first NBA MVP award.

One year ago: The number of homes destroyed by Hawaii's Kilauea volcano reached 26, as scientists reported lava spewing more than 200 feet into the air. Lebanon's Iranian-backed Hezbollah group scored major gains in parliamentary elections, as the main Western-backed faction headed by Prime Minister Saad Hariri lost a third of its seats.

Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall of Famer Willie Mays is 88. Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., is 85. Rock singer Bob Seger is 74. Singer Jimmie Dale Gilmore is 74. Gospel singer-comedian Lulu Roman is 73. Actor Alan Dale is 72. Actor Ben Masters is 72. Actor Richard Cox is 71. Actor Gregg Henry is 67. Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair is 66. TV personality Tom Bergeron is 64. Actress Roma Downey is 59. Rock singer John Flansburgh (They Might Be Giants) is 59. Actress Julianne Phillips is 59. Actor-director George Clooney is 58. Actor Clay O'Brien is 58. Rock singer-musician Tony Scalzo (Fastball) is 55. Actress Leslie Hope is 54. Actress Geneva Carr (TV: "Bull") is 53. Rock musician Mark Bryan (Hootie and the Blowfish) is 52. Rock musician Chris Shiflett (Foo Fighters) is 48. Actress Stacey Oristano is 40. Model/TV personality Tiffany Coyne is 37. Actress Adrianne Palicki is 36. Actress Gabourey Sidibe (GA'-bah-ray SIH'-duh-bay) is 36. Actress-comedian Sasheer Zamata is 33. Rapper Meek Mill is 32. Houston Astros infielder Jose Altuve is 29. Actress-singer Naomi Scott is 26. Actor Noah Galvin is 25.

Thought for Today: "Form ever follows function." - Louis Sullivan, American architect (1856-1924).

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

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 selfprofile 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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