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Connecting - May 08, 2019

1 message

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May 08, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 8th day of May 2019,

In anticipation of Mother's Day this Sunday, our colleague **Norm Abelson** offers "Questions I Should Have Asked My Mom" - a remarkable feed from one of Connecting's best contributors.

And I invite you to share your own thoughts on your mother - how she influenced your life, your career - and whether you too have questions you should have asked her - or still can, if she is living.

This son of a woman who met her husband, my dad, while working at a small Nebraska weekly will share your responses through the rest of the week.

This issue also brings you a Washington Post story on Democratic presidential candidate **Amy Klobuchar** and her relationship with her father, **Jim Klobuchar**, who once worked for the AP in Minneapolis before joining the Minneapolis Star Tribune. A remarkable piece.

Have a great day!

Paul

ON MOTHER'S DAY - 2019

Questions I should have asked my mom

Norm Abelson ([Email](#)) - First, let's see.....what did I ask my Mom as the time flew by?

EARLY YEARS

Ma, can I get a chocolate covered?
Can we go swimming at Revere Beach?
Why was Daddy mad at me?
Can Charlie and me go to the movies?
Why do I have to take elocution lessons?
Can I have a nickel?

MIDDLE YEARS

Did the doctor say Daddy's going to die?
Are you going to live in the house alone?
Got enough money?
Want to go out to lunch?

LATE YEARS

Are they treating you O.K. at the nursing home?

How's the food?
Is the wheelchair comfortable?

QUESTIONS I NEVER ASKED

What was it like for you when you had to quit school at 13 to work in the mill?

What did you want to do when you grew up?

What were the happiest and saddest times of your life?

Did you ever love any man other than Daddy?

Were your bridge club, your mah jongg, your crocheting, your housekeeping enough?

Have you ever felt cheated, weighed down by the way your life has turned out?

Can I help you now work toward other goals?

Why didn't you ever tell us you loved to write?

How did you always know I should be a writer?

Do you know how much I admire you?

AND NOW...

How can I tell you, now that you're two decades gone from me, that I ache for your unfulfilled dreams?

To whom can I say "I love you, Ma"?

AP's Peter Cosgrove honored at Kennedy Space Center



Honoring Pete Cosgrove: Left to right, front row: daughters Dorothy Cosgrove-Velazquez (holding diploma), Mary Cosgrove, son Chris Cosgrove (holding photo of Pete), granddaughter Amanda Velazquez, Phil Sandlin. Second row, from left: Scott Audette, Marta Lavandier, John Raoux, grandson Chris Velazquez, wife of Chris, Steve Nesius, Chris O'Meara, Terry Renna.

Marta Lavandier (Email) - On Friday May, 3, the Kennedy Space Center honored four journalists for their work covering the U.S. space program. Every couple of years, a NASA committee selects 3-4 journalists, broadcasters, authors and public relations representatives who have excelled at reporting about America's space program.

Pete Cosgrove was selected posthumously since he passed away this year. His name was added to a distinguished list of former AP reporters and photographers including Doug Dederer, Howard Benedict, Sue Butler, Warren Leary (also NYT), Harry Rosenthal, Jim Kerlin and Phil Sandlin. To date 75 men and women have been honored as "The Chroniclers."

Pete was well represented by his AP colleagues, his family and friends.

Peter Cosgrove

Photojournalist

The Associated Press

Peter Cosgrove's photojournalism career spanned almost 50 years, the last eight years spent as a staffer with the Associated Press (AP). His coverage of NASA's space programs included four Apollo Moon mission crew recoveries at sea. He was aboard the USS Hornet when the first moonwalkers, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin, and pilot Michael Collins returned to Earth and were picked up in the Pacific by the aircraft carrier in 1969.



He also covered two of NASA's greatest tragedies while reporting from Cape Canaveral - the Challenger explosion and the demise of the space shuttle Columbia.

A native of Brooklyn, Cosgrove started in the news business in 1957, shortly after his discharge from the Navy, when he took a job as a telephoto engineer with United Press International (UPI) in New York.

In 1962, he transferred to Cleveland where he covered the hometown parade for John Glenn after the astronaut became the first American to orbit the Earth. Cosgrove then transferred to New Jersey, where he was the wire service's chief telephoto engineer and a photographer.

He worked for UPI in Miami and Tampa before he was laid off from the wire service in 1991.

He freelanced for the AP in Florida until he was hired as a staffer in the Orlando office in 1997. During his time there, he was meticulous in preparing for any assignment, whether it was covering the Orlando Magic or working on a feature story. He retired in 2005 and passed away in 2019.

Connecting mailbox

Thanks to Charles Hanley for role in PBS film on Korean War

Sylvia Wingfield (Email) - Belated thanks to CHARLES HANLEY for his part in, and his review in Connecting last week of, "Korea: The Never-Ending War" on PBS. He is interviewed in the powerful film. It gives historical perspective including major attention to a 1999 AP investigative report exposing the U.S. massacre of hundreds of civilians during the Korean War.

Charlie, Sang-Hung Cho and Martha Mendoza won a 2000 Pulitzer Prize for their work.

If you missed the PBS TV airings, it's still available at pbs.org. Our colleague Russ Contreras also wrote an AP preview of "Korea" (shared on Connecting) that's worth a read.

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Richard Seib, Kansas newspaperman and father of WSJ's Jerry Seib, dies at 87

Richard Seib, a Kansas newspaperman for four decades and the father of longtime Wall Street Journal journalist Gerald F. "Jerry" Seib, died last Saturday at the age of 87.



Richard Seib

After service in the Korean War, Seib worked as a printer and composer at the Hays Daily News in Hays, Kansas. As noted in [his obituary](#), his career there spanned a dramatic revolution in the craft of printing, from the time of hot lead presses to computer-generated offset printing, and his skills advanced throughout.

Jerry Seib - known to many Connecting colleagues over his 41-year WSJ career - is the executive Washington editor for The Wall Street Journal.

He was previously the Washington bureau chief, overseeing the Journal's news and analysis from Washington. He also developed the digital edition of the Washington bureau that

includes his own column and commentaries, a real-time version of Washington Wire and other features and columns.

Connecting colleague Julie Doll, editor and publisher of the Hays Daily News from 1984-90, said Richard "was a wonderful man and colleague. He always looked out for the best interests of the newspaper and those who worked there."

She recalled that when Jerry, then Middle East correspondent for the Journal, was arrested and held by Iran in 1987, "Dick came in my office to tell me about the situation, which was at first unclear and confused. Thinking I might be able to get the family more information, I called Associated Press. But AP had not heard of the arrest. A few minutes later, Dick came back in my office to tell me that the State Department and Wall Street Journal had advised keeping the arrest quiet in the hopes that the situation could be resolved shortly. Ooops!

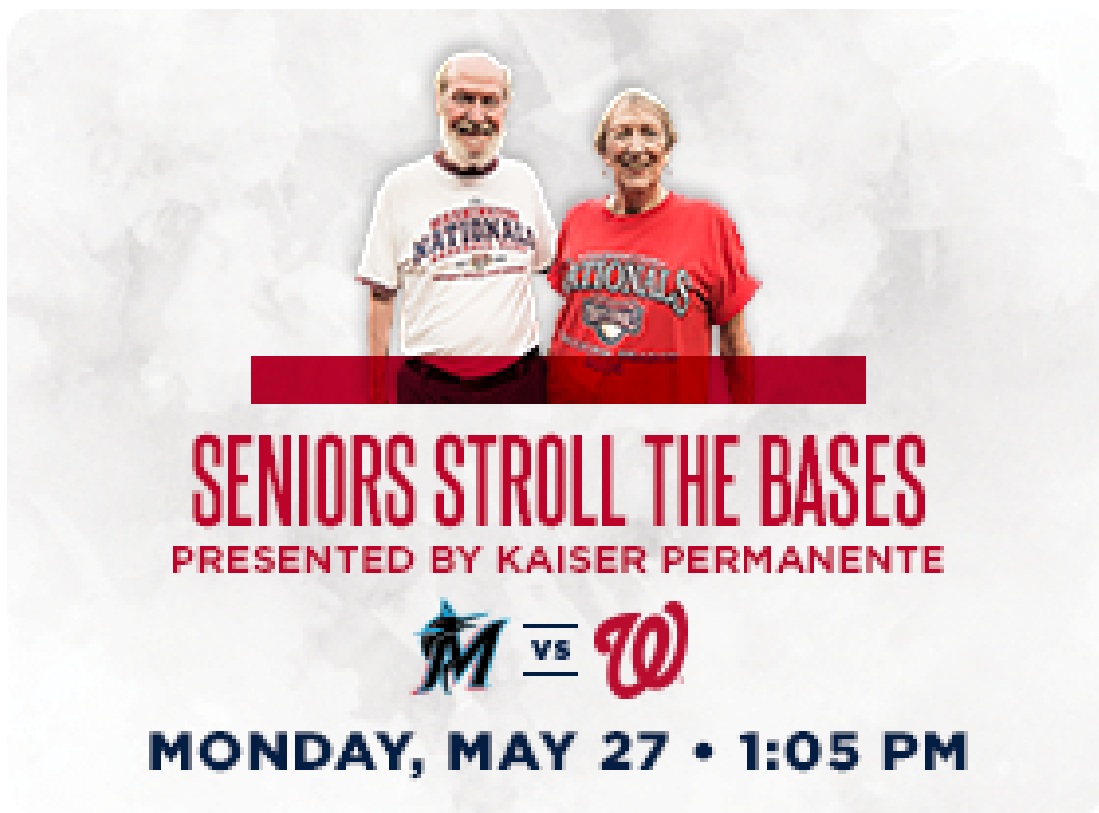
"I called back AP, which held off its reporting. When the situation wasn't resolved quickly, Seib's arrest became an international story, complete with media camped outside Dick and Annette's house in Hays. They brought out doughnuts and coffee to the reporters, if I remember correctly.

"Happily, Gerald was released within a few days, and life in Hays, America, returned to its routine."

If you would like to send a note of condolence, Jerry's email is - jerry.seib@wsj.com

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My sports activity - spectator type



Bill McCloskey ([Email](#)) - My sports activity is of the spectator type. My wife Nancy and I have season tickets to the baseball Washington Nationals and the NHL Washington Capitals. I guess we show up at Nationals Park enough that the team has our photo in their archives and it showed up Tuesday in one of their online promos.

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WSJ story on newspapers confuses and obscures role of weeklies, but it's otherwise good; especially the graphics

Al Cross ([Email](#)) - Director and Professor, Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues, University of Kentucky -

Amid the wailing and gnashing of teeth about the fate of most daily newspapers, the status and role of the weekly newspapers that serve rural America has become obscured, and sometimes confused with their city cousins.

The latest example of that was an otherwise excellent story in The Wall Street Journal, which said "Local newspapers are failing to make the digital transition larger players did - and are in danger of vanishing." As evidence, it cited the work of Penny Abernathy at the University of North Carolina, who found that "nearly 1,800 newspapers closed between 2004 and 2018, leaving 200 counties with no newspaper and roughly half the counties in the country with only one."

All but about 50 of those closed or merged newspapers were weeklies, but the story does not make that distinction, and it's otherwise about dailies; the words "weekly" or even "week" never appear. So, Abernathy's data is used as a warning device, but it needs an explanation; most of the weeklies that closed were urban or suburban papers in metropolitan areas, or rural papers with very small markets.

Read more [here](#).

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Secretariat flashed big smile in our faces

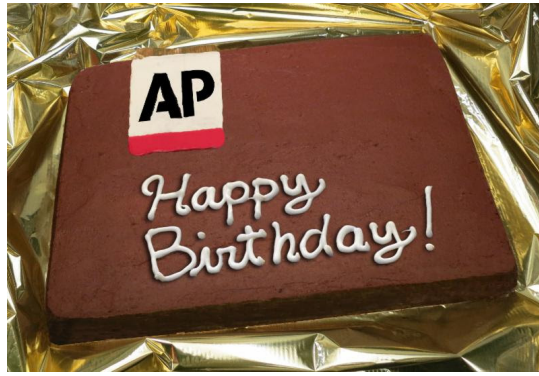
Hal Bock ([Email](#)) - Each year at Kentucky Derby time, I think of my visit with Triple Crown champion Secretariat.

The magnificent thoroughbred was standing at stud at a Kentucky farm where he was visited daily by fans. I figured this would make a good off-day feature in the days leading up to the Derby and paid my respects. The horse was grazing peacefully on the other side of a pasture as maybe 20 people gathered to watch him.

Secretariat looked up every so often and then went back to what he was doing. Then he looked up again and started galloping toward us. I mean at full speed running as if he were in the home stretch at Churchill Downs. My mind raced and I thought "My God, he's going to run us over."

The horse came very close and then, in an act of mercy, he pulled up and flashed a big laugh in our faces. The Triple Crown champion was having a little fun and when we realized what he was up to, we laughed right along with him.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Doug Richardson - drichardson5609@gmail.com

Lynda Zimmer Straw - raymond.straw@frontier.com

Welcome to Connecting



David Lawrence Jr. - dlawrence@childreadiness.org

Patrick Maks - pmaks@ap.org

Stories of interest

Amy Klobuchar's complicated political inheritance

Her dad, Jim, was a Midwestern celebrity journalist, a man of the people and a fiery alcoholic who needed his daughter's help.



Jim and his daughter Amy right before their 1,100-mile bike ride from Minneapolis to the Grand Tetons in 1981. (Photo by Minneapolis Star Tribune)

By Ben Terris, The Washington Post

MINNEAPOLIS - On a recent April morning, Amy Klobuchar stood in her dining room flipping through a scrapbook of her father's newspaper articles. She was on a brief break from the campaign trail, trading hard-hat tours of ethanol plants in Iowa and a uniform of nondescript blazers from New Hampshire town halls for a quiet morning at home in a comfy pastel fleece.

"I just remember being horrified by this headline," she told me, pointing to a yellowing page that featured portraits of her, a recent high school graduate with hair down to her turtleneck, and her father, who wore long sideburns and a cardigan. The article detailed a bicycle trip the father-daughter duo had undertaken and was titled:

"Jim Klobuchar and daughter encounter new relationship."

Amy, 58, shook her head and laughed, her short bob swaying side to side.

It's been something of a theme over the course of Amy's life; both an evolving kinship with her father and being mortified by things he put in the paper. For decades, Jim Klobuchar was a daily columnist for the Minneapolis Star Tribune; part sportswriter, raconteur-adventurer, voice for the voiceless, and needler of the ruling class. Little in his life, or Amy's, was off limits.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen, Linda Deutsch, Randy Evans.

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TYPOGRAPHY 2020: A SPECIAL LISTICLE FOR AMERICA

"You cannot bore people into buying your product", according to David Ogilvy. So true. Nevertheless, election season arrives, and radical boredom inevitably becomes the preferred strategy for most candidates. Let's have a look at the typography anyhow.

Presidential-campaign typography took a big step up in 2008, when Barack Obama adopted the then-new Gotham font for his campaign. (Though for his re-election campaign, he had serifs added.) This led to the rise of Gotham throughout the United States. But especially in political campaigns, where the geometric sans has become typographic shorthand for #winning.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Michael Rubin, who noted: "Perfect for those of us who took print shop and/or worked at newspapers. Great twist on political campaign reviewing. No detail left to call out."

Today in History - May 8, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, May 8, the 128th day of 2019. There are 237 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 8, 1996, South Africa took another step from apartheid to democracy by adopting a constitution that guaranteed equal rights for blacks and whites.

On this date:

In 1429, the Siege of Orleans (ohr-lay-AHN') during the Hundred Years' War ended as English troops withdrew after being defeated by French forces under Joan of Arc.

In 1541, Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto reached the Mississippi River.

In 1794, Antoine Lavoisier (lah-vwahz-YAY'), the father of modern chemistry, was executed on the guillotine during France's Reign of Terror.

In 1921, Sweden's Parliament voted to abolish the death penalty.

In 1945, President Harry S. Truman announced on radio that Nazi Germany's forces had surrendered, and that "the flags of freedom fly all over Europe."

In 1958, Vice President Richard Nixon was shoved, stoned, booed and spat upon by anti-American protesters in Lima, Peru.

In 1970, anti-war protests took place across the United States and around the world; in New York, construction workers broke up a demonstration on Wall Street.

In 1973, militant American Indians who had held the South Dakota hamlet of Wounded Knee for 10 weeks surrendered.

In 1978, David R. Berkowitz pleaded guilty in a Brooklyn courtroom to murder, attempted murder and assault in connection with the "Son of Sam" shootings that claimed six lives and terrified New Yorkers. (Berkowitz was sentenced to six consecutive life prison terms.)

In 1984, the Soviet Union announced it would boycott the upcoming Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

In 1987, Gary Hart, dogged by questions about his personal life, including his relationship with Miami model Donna Rice, withdrew from the race for the Democratic presidential nomination.

In 2003, the Senate unanimously endorsed adding to NATO seven former communist nations: Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

Ten years ago: White House aide Louis Caldera resigned for his role in a \$328,835 photo-op flyover by an Air Force One jet above New York City that sparked panic and flashbacks to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Dominic DiMaggio, the Boston Red Sox center fielder and brother of Joe, died in Marion, Massachusetts, at age 92.

Five years ago: Syrian rebels leveled a historic hotel being used as an army base in the northern city of Aleppo by detonating bomb-packed tunnels beneath it, killing a still-undetermined number of soldiers. House Republicans jumped into a new election-season investigation of the deadly Benghazi assault, naming majority members of a special House committee.

One year ago: President Donald Trump withdrew the U.S. from the nuclear accord with Iran and restored harsh sanctions; Trump had been a severe critic of the deal negotiated by the Obama administration in which Iran agreed to restrictions on its nuclear program. Gina Haspel, nominated to be CIA director, said that if confirmed, she would not undertake a detention and harsh interrogation program like the controversial one used after 9/11. (Haspel would be confirmed by a Senate vote of 54-45.) James Paxton of the Seattle Mariners pitched a no-hitter against the Blue Jays in Toronto, becoming the first Canadian to achieve that feat in his home country. Former coal executive Don Blankenship, who had served a year in prison for his role in a mine explosion that killed 29 men, lost a Republican U.S. Senate primary in West Virginia, finishing a distant third to state Attorney General Patrick Morrisey.

Today's Birthdays: Naturalist Sir David Attenborough is 93. Singer Toni Tennille is 79. Actor James Mitchum is 78. Country singer Jack Blanchard is 77. Jazz musician Keith Jarrett is 74. Actor Mark Blankfield is 71. Singer Philip Bailey (Earth, Wind and Fire) is 68. Rock musician Chris Frantz (Talking Heads) is 68. Rockabilly singer Billy Burnette is 66. Rock musician Alex Van Halen is 66. Actor David Keith is 65. Actor Raoul Max Trujillo is 64. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio is 58. Actress Melissa Gilbert is 55. Rock musician Dave Rowntree (Blur) is 55. Country musician Del Gray is 51. Rock singer Darren Hayes is 47. Singer Enrique Iglesias is 44. Blues singer-musician Joe Bonamassa is 42. Actor Matt Davis is 41. Singer Ana Maria Lombo (Eden's Crush) is 41. Actor Elyes Gabel is 36. Actor Domhnall Gleeson is 36. Neo-soul drummer Patrick Meese (Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats) is 36. Actress Julia Whelan (WAY'-lan) is 35. Actress Nora Anezeder is 30.

Thought for Today: "A man who works with his hands is a laborer; a man who works with his hands and his brain is a craftsman; but a man who works with his hands and his brain and his heart is an artist." - Louis Nizer, American lawyer (1902-1994).

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 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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