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# Connecting - June 28, 2019

1 message

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# Connecting

June 28, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019,

Our colleague **Brian Horton** ([Email](#)) noted that in watching Democratic presidential candidate debate, it made him think back to the presidential debate in Cleveland in '80.

"We collected film from **Bob Daugherty** and the other photographers via a black sock and fishing line, a hole in a door and a long run around the building to the darkroom," Horton said. "I watched last night as former AP staffer **Doug Mills**, now with the New York Times, made a photo and sent it from his camera in the spin room afterwards."

Those "old days" of photography are entertainingly recalled by veteran AP photographer **Gene Herrick** in a story for today's Connecting.

**Connecting has learned** from AP Human Resources of the deaths of two AP retirees - **Richard Benke**, who worked in the Los Angeles and Albuquerque bureaus, and **Raymond Krell**, who worked in Communications and Sports in New York.

Benke, who died June 18, started in Los Angeles in 1975 and transferred to Albuquerque in 1988, where he worked until retirement in 2004. Krell, who died April 29, started in New York Communications as an automatic operator in 1953, transferred to Sports as a news clerk in 1990 and retired as an editorial assistant in 1991.

We have no further information on the two and their careers. If you worked with either and would like to share a story, please send it along.

Have a great weekend!

Paul

## **The Associated Press and Google are building a tool for sharing more local news - more quickly**

**By CHRISTINE SCHMIDT, Nieman Lab**

In Google's second recent commitment to local news, the Associated Press and the Google News Initiative will build a tool for member newsrooms to directly share content and coverage plans. (And no, it won't be a glorified Google Doc or spreadsheet.)

"The AP has long been a content provider but we also want to be a provider of capability," Noreen Gillespie, the AP's deputy managing editor for U.S. news, told me.

The setup, known as the Local News Sharing Network, involves almost two dozen local publishers in New York state, including the Adirondack Daily Enterprise, the Albany-based Times Union, Fordham University's WFUV radio station, and the WRNN TV station in New Rochelle. Several New York members had approached the AP and complained that there wasn't enough state news available, especially at the capital. So they had started sharing their reporting amongst themselves.



**Noreen Gillespie**

"We've heard about these private networks springing up all over the country. Sometimes they can be around a topic or a state or just one publication talking to another about their coverage gaps and trying to find ways to work together to fill those coverage gaps," Gillespie said. "As the industry has changed with consolidated ownership and changes in resources at individual publications, there's really been a trend more towards sharing. When we had this conversation... we started thinking about what could we do to fix this?"

Indeed, those informal systems started at least a decade ago, with the Ohio News Organization (acronym-ized in the best way as OHNO), Florida capital coverage, and other arrangements designed to share content and cut down on redundant reporting. There's even a list of them from January 2009 - by the AP. The other main benefit was to end a costly deal with the AP itself as chronicled in the early days of the Lab:

Read more [here](#).

## ***Summer series: Embarrassing your parents***

# **The recital that never was**

**Norm Abelson (Email)** - I was maybe seven or eight when I presented my first big disappointment to my family. Well, actually, my father was rather pleased with the awful outcome, and exhibited an "I told you so" attitude toward my poor mother. After all, she was the one who started the whole tragic sequence of events.

It happened like this: We didn't have much money in those days, toward the end of the 1930s, but my mother was determined to provide me - her first-born - with some culture. That meant getting me lessons in a number of, to me, distasteful things that cut valuable time out of my usual after-school adventures, such as roller-skating down Stearns Street, and playing ball up at Ferryway Green. I tried seven ways from Sunday to extricate myself.

But despite my pleadings, down to Malden Square I trudged helplessly with my mother a couple of afternoons a week to engage in such sissified activities as elocution, tap and ballet dancing, and acrobatics. Oh, what extravagant lies I told my playmates to save my embarrassment. I begged my mother to put an end to my misery, assuring her I was a total failure at these foreign pursuits. When could I stop the torture? She said she would consider it after the recital.

Oh my God, the recital! Once a year, the studio where I was imprisoned on those sunny afternoons held a public event to show off the various talents of its students. I told myself I would rather take an extra tablespoon of cod liver oil than to be in the recital. But there seemed no way out. What was worse, I was to perform a solo song and tap-dance number, replete with tails, top hat and a cane. My mother, a fine seamstress, had actually cut up and dyed her satin wedding gown to fashion a suit to go with my patent leather tap shoes.

I can tell you I was a nervous wreck - for at least two reasons. First, I knew just how bad I was at the entertainment business. Second, since the recital was to be held in the huge Lincoln Junior High auditorium, all of my friends would now find out about my heretofore secret activities.

Things only went from bad to worse when my Dad, at Mom's insistence, got a block of tickets and invited family members from as far away as Providence. Sleeping arrangements were made for the visiting relatives. The kitchen was a whirl of activity, with my mom and grandmother preparing special dishes for the out-of-town spectators of the great coming event.

By the time the day of the recital arrived, I had experienced a continuum from nervous to panicky to just plain numb. From backstage, all dressed up in my fancy satin suit, I heard one after another of my fellow sufferers go through their paces. Then the musical introduction for my number began. (I believe it was "Me And My Shadow.") I peeked through the curtains and saw row after row of people - at least in the thousands, I was sure.

Suddenly, I turned to my mother and teacher and squeaked: "Not me." With that, I turned and ran out the back door of the auditorium and up Cross Street toward my home, about a mile away. My mother gave pursuit. But by the time she caught up

with me and returned us to the scene of the crime, it was too late. The teacher had already put on the other acts.

There sat my Dad, amid family and friends, with egg all over his face. My memory thankfully has blocked out nearly all that ensued. I'm sure it must have been awful.

What I do remember, though, was that my mother's valiant efforts to give her little boy some class, came to a screeching halt.

## Connecting mailbox

### *The sound of news*

Mark Hamrick ([Email](#)) - Sending this post along from the National Press Club regarding its history with teletype machines. Thanks to my former AP colleague Lee Perryman, I have an old Washington City News Service machine in my office here in the National Press Building. It was originally located here in the building years ago. Since my father Dan Hamrick worked at AP from 1960 through 1971 and I worked in radio and TV stations from about 1976 through 1985 before joining the AP in Dallas in 1986, I have fond memories of the sound, smell and content these machines provided.

On the other hand, I can remember the horror going into a radio newsroom first thing in the very early morning when a printer providing necessary material for upcoming newscasts had jammed or worse, the phone line had gone dead interrupting the feed. It was also a frustration when one needed to replace the ribbons when the likely outcome meant having some degree of ink stains on the hands that would persist most of the day, despite aggressive hand washing.

I'm happy to be working in the digital (less messy) world years after my own AP tour and earlier experiences working for members. But the sound of teletype machines, is to a degree, still ringing in my ears and I'm reminded of it every morning when I arrive for work. Fortunately, I don't need to worry about the paper jamming any longer.

### **National Press Club in history: The sound of news**

**By Gilbert Klein**

The clatter of wire service teletype machines and ringing bells that alerted reporters and editors to something important about to be transmitted was for decades the background noise at the National Press Club. An alcove outside the ballroom housed the Club's Associated Press and United Press International teletype machines.

Each machine spit out copy constantly on long rolls of paper. A Club employee cut those rolls into manageable sizes that would be attached to the wall. They often hung down about five or six feet. The machines need a constant supply of paper and fresh ink ribbons.

Members would stroll over to that wall of news to peruse for stories of interest to them.

The clatter of those machines was eternal. As a 1986 Philadelphia Inquirer story, "Saying Goodbye to the Teletype," said: "Thanks to Teletypes, America read 20th-century history the day it was made. Da dacka-dacka. Lindy Makes it! Dacka-dacka. The Hindenburg Explodes! Dak-dak-dak. Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor! Germany Surrenders! Atomic bomb destroys Hiroshima! Kennedy shot!"



**President Lyndon Johnson looks over wires with National Press Club President Al Cromley.**

The most important piece of equipment on the teletypes was a chrome-plated, half-sphere bell attached to the outside. Dinging signaled something was happening.

Three bells was an advisory of a standard story. Four bells meant urgent. Five bells indicated a BULLETIN of a critically important breaking news story. But 10 bells for UPI and 12 bells for AP was called a FLASH - a breaking story sure to dominate the headlines and newscasts for days to come.

An explosion of dings would empty the Club in minutes as reporters rushed back to their offices or out on the streets to follow the news.

When the Club was remodeled in the early 1980s, the teletype machines disappeared from outside the ballroom. Two of those machines - one for AP and one for UPI - remain in the Club's archives. Wire service news is still available in the

library on a dedicated computer attached to Reuters. But the sound of news has been silenced.

This is another in a series provided by Club historian Gil Klein. Dig down anywhere in the Club's 111-year history, and you will find some kind of significant event in the history of the world, the nation, Washington, journalism and the Club itself. Many of these events were caught in illustrations that tell the stories.

Click [here](#) for link to this story.

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## ***On Kokomo...Indiana***

**Joe Young** ([Email](#)) - I just read Bob Daugherty's comment and we both certainly know there is only one Kokomo and it is in Indiana. Kokomo (a name of the Miami Indian chief Kokomokko or Kokomoko - unsure of spelling and history) is the Howard County, IN county seat. When I worked for the Kokomo Tribune in 1957-58 Bob Daugherty was a Marion, IN newspaper photographer. Marion (east of Kokomo) is the Grant County seat. At that time I was also an Indianapolis AP stringer and sent area photos in by bus. The Kokomo Tribune did not have a wirephoto transmitter, only a receiver. There are a few songs written about Kokomo and one by the Beach Boys became popular. To my knowledge there are not very many US small cities that have had songs written about them.

**Doug Pizac** ([Email](#)) - Back to Mr. Daugherty: A quick Google search lists Kokomos other than in Indiana -- Arkansas, Colorado, Hawaii, Mississippi and Texas. Thus another reason for papers to let readers outside their circulation/state know where they are since their namesake can exist in other places too.

**Brian Horton** ([Email](#)) - Kokomo was also the birthplace of the late (AP photographer) Ed Reinke, although the Reinke farm was actually closer to Galveston. Ed used to say that Kokomo was part of the Galveston metroplex!

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## ***On stage at Carnegie Hall***



**Cliff Schiappa** ([Email](#)) - I performed at Carnegie Hall Thursday night in NYC as part of a consortium of 20 LGBT choruses from around the country. We performed "Quiet No More", a choral celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riot, often considered the start of the gay rights movement. 564 singers sang to a sold-out house at the famous music hall as World Pride celebrations began in the city.



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## *Those were the days*



**Gene Herrick** ([Email](#)) - For the younger aficionados of the art of photography, those who only know the digital world of taking pictures, and the mysterious art of making prints, please know that in the "Old Days" it was quite different.

Snap a picture, push a couple of buttons, and wham the shot can be on ye ole sweetie's phone, or on Facebook. In pre-digital times, the photographer took the picture with a film camera (Film? What's that?), rush to a darkroom (That's a tiny room, with no lights, and the film was handled by humans in a "Darkroom." After the film (pieces of plastic-like sheets, or in long rolls) was "Processed," (Dipped in various chemicals until the image appeared), and then the film had to be dried (Most of the time), put into a big gadget called an enlarger, where the picture was edited and printed (Light shining down through the film and onto a piece of photo paper).

Now, in the old days, the paper was very light sensitive, meaning it had to be kept in the dark - not like today's printing paper which can be exposed to light and not damaged when used in a computer system. AP would fire a staff photographer if they retouched (Changed the real thing), except for the quality of the print (Called "Dodging" to lighten, or darken a certain spot in the image).

Pictures could be printed from either a wet, or dry negative. We generally used a wet negative when time was of the essence, and dry for the regular process. Drying the film was often a challenge. Generally, we had film-drying machines, or hanging film on a clothes line to dry. When operating in the "Field" (Out of the office, and usually on disasters, or special events away from usual darkroom facilities, i.e., hotel rooms, etc. It was wonderful to observe the faces of bellhops who delivered extra ice to a room where we had set up the Wirephoto transmitter and a typewriter on a desk, and used the bathroom as a darkroom. He would be shocked to see the film developing tanks in the bathtub; enlarger on the toilet, and the print trays and chemicals on the sink!

It was hard work then, and one had to use every drop of ingenuity to keep the job going, and the world informed. But you know, we had lots of fun, and were always excited about which odd experience would be in the future. Yes, those were the days (Pioneer). A lot of we old time photographers like digital, but have difficulty with it because we don't understand the new words used to operate the cameras. In other words, if we make a setting change, we (me) don't understand the correct word to get back to where we had been. It is called nomenclature.

**The picture above** shows me (left), then Denver AP photographer Bud Scott, center, and Smitty (Don't remember his last name), while drying film somewhere in Colorado, during First Lady Ladybird Johnson's Snake River Beautification tour in 1964. I would cover her in one place, as Scott would move to another town and cover her, and I would then skip to the next situation.

And, speaking of drying film, I remember a day in the Minneapolis bureau when I quickly needed dry film. I went to the pneumatic tube we used to send copy across the street to the Minneapolis Star-Tribune. Knowing there was a lot of air movement, I held the film close to the tube opening and felt the suction. I held it too close and wham up the tube went my film! Moments later, a wonderful soul at the other end, returned my film, this time in a carrier. The important shot was not damaged.

AP life then was a "Trip."

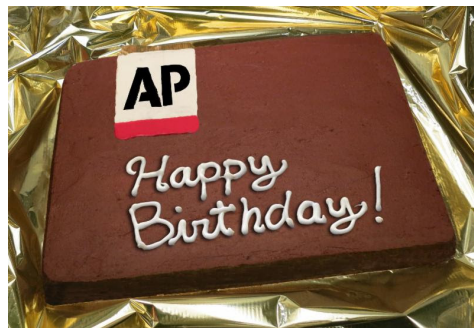
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## ***Connecting sky shot - Brooklyn***



**Brenda Smiley** ([Email](#)) - The skies have been quite active recently and I couldn't resist trying to capture some of the interplay in this view from our rooftop deck showing lower Manhattan harbor with New Jersey across the water.

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

**Jesse Holland** - [jesseholl@aol.com](mailto:jesseholl@aol.com)

*On Sunday to...*

Paul Cheung - [pcheung630@gmail.com](mailto:pcheung630@gmail.com)

Kent Zimmerman - [ksshawnee555@att.net](mailto:ksshawnee555@att.net)

*And one day late to:*

Ed Williams - [willik5@auburn.edu](mailto:willik5@auburn.edu)

## Stories of interest

***New York Times* photographer Doug Mills on shooting a debate: 'This is not a cricket match'**

(Washington Post)



**New York Times** photographer Doug Mills. (Erik Wemple/The Washington Post)

**By Erik Wemple, Media critic**

MIAMI - Listen to the nonstop pregame chatter of the cable-news pundits, and you'll learn about the legendary "moments" that sometimes emerge from the presidential primary debates. Sometimes it's just a stray glare, sometimes it's an outburst, or sometimes it's a candidate failing to remember a component of his platform.

Should such an episode go down during this week's Democratic primary debates, it'll be captured by the cameras of NBC News/MSNBC/Telemundo, the outlets that are hosting the first round of intra-party rhetorical skirmishing. But will it be caught in a clear and memorable still photograph?

That's the mission of Doug Mills, a decorated photographer for the New York Times whose work has even won the admiration of mainstream media-bashing President Trump. Under normal circumstances, Mills would be traveling with the president during his trip to Japan for a Group of 20 summit, but that assignment would conflict with vacation plans, so Mills is here with 20 Democratic hopefuls.

"I don't know all the candidates - I'll be honest with you," says Mills. "I have not covered them all."

Then again, who has?

Read more [here](#). Shared by Brian Horton.

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***Steve Dunleavy, Brash Face of Murdoch Journalism, Dies at 81*** (New York Times)



**Steve Dunleavy in a Paris cafe in 2002. "The charismatic, swashbuckling Dunleavy helped turn a once-sedate tabloid into a roaring must-read that New Yorkers loved or hated - or both," The New York Post said in an editorial. Photo by Tamara Beckwith/The New York Post**

### **By Sam Roberts**

Steve Dunleavy, a hell-raising Australian who transfused his adrenaline into tabloid newspapers and television as a party crasher to American journalism, died on Monday at his home in Island Park, N.Y. He was 81.

His son Sean said the cause had not been determined.

Mr. Dunleavy relished his role as a mouthpiece for the media mogul Rupert Murdoch, working for him as a writer and editor at the celebrity-filled *Star* magazine; as an editor and right-wing columnist at *The New York Post*; and as the lead reporter for the tabloid-like TV newsmagazine "A Current Affair" (now off the air) on Fox.

Mr. Dunleavy exposed Elvis Presley's addiction to prescription drugs in *Star* and in a best-selling book that rankled Presley fans; scored exclusive interviews with the mother of Sirhan Sirhan, Robert F. Kennedy's assassin, and Albert DeSalvo, the

confessed Boston Strangler; and championed police officers, smokers and gun owners, among others.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

## Today in History - June 28, 2019



### By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, June 28, the 179th day of 2019. There are 186 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlights in History:

On June 28, 1978, the Supreme Court ordered the University of California-Davis Medical School to admit Allan Bakke (BAHK'-ee), a white man who argued he'd been a victim of reverse racial discrimination.

### On this date:

In 1778, the Revolutionary War Battle of Monmouth took place in New Jersey; from this battle arose the legend of "Molly Pitcher," a woman who was said to have carried water to colonial soldiers, then took over firing her husband's cannon after he was disabled.

In 1838, Britain's Queen Victoria was crowned in Westminster Abbey.

In 1863, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln appointed Maj. Gen. George G. Meade the new commander of the Army of the Potomac, following the resignation of Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker.

In 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his wife, Sophie, were shot to death in Sarajevo (sah-ruh-YAY'-voh) by Serb nationalist Gavrilo Princip (gavh-REE'-loh PREEN'-seep) - an act which sparked World War I.

In 1919, the Treaty of Versailles (vehr-SY') was signed in France, ending the First World War. In Independence, Missouri, future president Harry S. Truman married Elizabeth Virginia Wallace.

In 1939, Pan American Airways began regular trans-Atlantic air service with a flight that departed New York for Marseilles (mar-SAYLZ'), France.

In 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Alien Registration Act, also known as the Smith Act, which required adult foreigners residing in the U.S. to be registered and fingerprinted.

In 1968, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Uniform Monday Holiday Bill, which moved commemorations for Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day and Veterans Day to Monday, creating three-day holiday weekends beginning in 1971.

In 1994, President Bill Clinton became the first chief executive in U.S. history to set up a personal legal defense fund and ask Americans to contribute to it.

In 1997, in a wild rematch, Evander Holyfield retained the WBA heavyweight boxing championship after his opponent, Mike Tyson, was disqualified for biting Holyfield's ear during the third round of their fight in Las Vegas.

In 2013, tens of thousands of supporters and opponents of President Mohammed Morsi rallied in Cairo, and both sides fought each other in Egypt's second-largest city of Alexandria, where two people - including an American - were killed and scores injured. The four plaintiffs in the U.S. Supreme Court case that overturned California's same-sex marriage ban tied the knot, just hours after a federal appeals court freed gay couples to obtain marriage licenses in the state for the first time in 4 1/2 years.



In 2017, ABC and a South Dakota meat producer announced a settlement in a \$1.9 billion lawsuit against the network over its reports on a beef product that critics dubbed "pink slime."

Ten years ago: Soldiers ousted Manuel Zelaya (zuh-LY'-uh), the democratically elected president of Honduras; congressional leader Roberto Micheletti was sworn in to serve until Zelaya's term ended in January 2010. Michael Jackson was honored at the BET Awards, which had been completely revamped to recognize the legacy of The King of Pop, who died three days earlier at age 50. Death claimed TV pitchman Billy Mays, 50, at his Florida home and Las Vegas impressionist Fred Travalena, 66.

Five years ago: Ahmed Abu Khattala (hah-TAH'-lah), the Libyan militant accused of masterminding the deadly Benghazi attacks in 2012, pleaded not guilty to conspiracy in Washington nearly two weeks after being captured by U.S. special forces. A saucer-shaped NASA vehicle testing new technology for Mars landings rocketed high over the Pacific and deployed a novel inflatable braking system, but its massive parachute failed to fully unfurl as it descended to a splashdown. Actor Meshach Taylor 67, died at his home near Los Angeles.

One year ago: A man armed with a shotgun attacked a newspaper in Annapolis, Md., killing four journalists and a staffer before police stormed the building and arrested him; authorities said Jarrod Ramos had a long-running grudge against the newspaper for its reporting of a harassment case against him. (Lawyers for Ramos, who is charged with first-degree murder, have argued that he was not criminally responsible by reason of insanity; a November 2019 trial is scheduled.) President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin firmed up plans to meet in Helsinki on July 16th.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian-movie director Mel Brooks is 93. Former Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., is 85. Comedian-impressionist John Byner is 82. Former Defense Secretary Leon Panetta is 81. Rock musician Dave Knights (Procul Harum) is 74. Actor Bruce Davison is 73. Actress Kathy Bates is 71. Actress Alice Krige is 65. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer John Elway is 59. Record company chief executive Tony Mercedes is 57. Jazz singer Tierney Sutton is 56. Actress Jessica Hecht is 54. Rock musician Saul Davies (James) is 54. Actress Mary Stuart Masterson is 53. Actor John Cusack is 53. Actor Gil Bellows is 52. Actress-singer Danielle Brisebois is 50. Jazz musician Jimmy Sommers is 50. Actress Tichina Arnold is 50. Actor Steve Burton is 49. Entrepreneur Elon Musk is 48. Actor Alessandro Nivola (nih-VOH'-luh) is 47. Actress Camille Guaty is 43. Rock musician Tim Nordwind (OK Go) is 43. Rock musician Mark Stoermer (The Killers) is 42. Country singer Big Vinny Hickerson (Trailer Choir) is 36. Country singer Kellie Pickler is 33.

**Thought for Today: "The glory of each generation is to make its own precedents." - Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood, American social reformer (1830-1917).**

# Connecting calendar



**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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