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Connecting - July 26, 2019

1 message

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Connecting

July 26, 2019

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AP newsmen Peter Arnett, left, and Mary Ann (Kelly) Smith discuss armored operations with a tankman beneath the muzzle of a heavy tank of the 25th Infantry Division at Cu Chi, Vietnam (Sept. 1967). (AP Photo)



Atlanta Associated Press staffer Kathryn Johnson, left, donned bobby socks and a sweater to obtain the only eyewitness story of Charlayne Hunter's first day of class at the University of Georgia, Jan. 11, 1961. School officials stopped all other reporters at the door but Kathryn was "just another student." Hunter was one of the first two African American students to enroll in the University of Georgia. (AP Photo)

Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 26th day of July 2019,

Connecting tries daily to excel in bringing you "blasts from the past" - but I cannot remember ever delivering a better photographic history of the journalists of The Associated Press than what we bring you today.

Here's text from an **AP Images blog** - titled "20th Century AP staffers - that presents about 40 photos from our past - many of them featuring members of our newsletter family - in their younger years, naturally. In the two photos above are three Connecting colleagues - **Peter Arnett, Kelly Smith Tunney and Kathryn Johnson**. The blog's introduction:

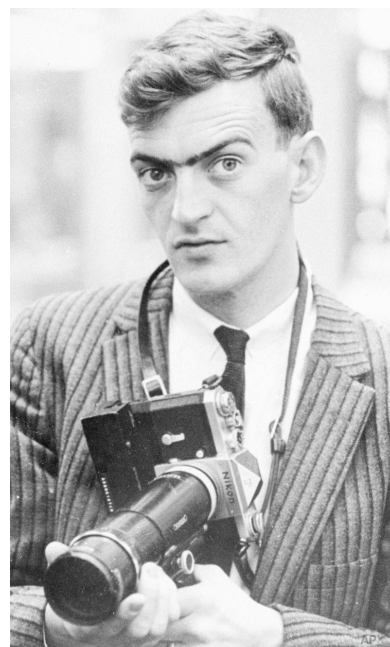
Founded in New York in 1846, The Associated Press has employed thousands of men and women over the years to cover the world's most important stories. AP journalists in the field have covered breaking news from around the globe and told important stories with in-depth investigative journalism. This gallery contains photographs of writers, photographers and other support staff who have at times risked their own lives to report the news.

Some of the photos in this collection are from the AP Corporate Archives. Collections in the Corporate Archives document the work of AP staffers around the world, covering both news and administrative operations.

Click [here](#) to view, and thanks to **Bob Daugherty**, who's included in his younger days, for sharing.

Today is the 93rd birthday of Connecting's most active contributor, **Gene Herrick**, and the AP photojournalist veteran of the Korean War and the Civil Rights movement in the South reflects on the world of today. I found it a great read.

Does Connecting belong in the classroom? Our colleague **Norm Abelson**, a veteran of classroom teaching, thinks so - and he explains why. We would welcome your thoughts.



AP Photographer Bob Daugherty, 1965. (AP Photo/Corporate Archives).

Finally, today's issue brings you a story from colleague **Kelly Kissel** on how he converted his Teletype printer into a liquor cabinet. Kelly is a longtime AP journalist who is now metro editor of The Advocate in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Have a great weekend!

Paul

I know life changes - but today's world appears to have gone amuck

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - The other day, while rocking in my chair and looking at the beautiful woods in the yard, I pondered my birthday that I'll celebrate today and wondered about my 93 years on this earth. Had I been a burden, or had I been a contributor? I also thought about the status of the world today, and the dramatic changes that are taking place.

Oh, I know that things and life change over time, but today's world appears to have gone amuck, and in a manner inconsistent with normal transition.

Whether I am a retired journalist or not, I find myself following the same instincts of being an observer, and an interpreter of what mankind is doing? Having been a photographer and writer with The Associated Press for 28 years, I find my innate traits are being as active as before.

Understanding the huge changes in mankind today, especially as it relates to government, world changes that seemingly are so drastic and fearful, and human communication, is a challenge. Our current government appears to be something out of the ordinary, and a complete switch from what our forefathers dreamed of.



Photo of Gene Herrick by Kitty Hylton, his long-time Significant Other.

I now find that I do not understand the seemingly huge changes in the last flip of generations. Yes, there are always changes, but, for me, the change to era of millennialism has rocked my boat. So many of the younger people one meets today - working in department stores, fast food outlets, or just anywhere, are solemn, unsmiling, and seemingly in another world of non-pleasantries and communication.

I find a great chasm in the art of personal communication. So much so, that I recently introduced myself to a lady I did not know, but assumed she was in the millennial age bracket. I told her I was a retired journalist - inquisitive and full of wonderment, and I was wondering if she might explain millennials. She smiled and then told me a story. "I work in an office with five other ladies, and we work closely together," she said. "We go to lunch together; we go to the same restaurant; we sit at the same table; we do not talk." She went on, "We all use our cell phones and text each other." I asked her if they ever voice talked - especially since they were face-to-face. She replied with a smiling "No." I was stunned.

Change is always there, and to be expected. As a photographer, I have seen dramatic changes in cameras, film, and transmission of pictures and news. As a correspondent during the Korean War in 1950, it sometimes took a couple of days to get a picture out to the world public, but today it takes only seconds to take the digital picture and transmit it world-wide by satellite.

As to the world of human communications, it appears there has been a drastic change, and one wonders if for the good of mankind. It appears, at least to me, and many others, the communication, behavior, attitude, and leadership of the countries of the world, including, and especially that of the U.S., have greatly changed. The political and social changes in this country alone have been dramatically altered. The three divisions of our government, Legislative, Judicial, and Executive, have seemingly been altered to a point of battle. The man-in-the-street worries about the outcome of these battles, and, of course, wonders about his own personal and family survival. Decisions that are contrary to the norm, are, in fact, hurting this country and upsetting the world at-large.

There is great conflict in the world, which apparently reflects decisions made by this country. NATO, the European Union, defense support, immigration, economic changes, and the U.S. support role in other areas, seems to have driven the anxiety level to the bell-ringing stage. Even the news media - the watchdog over zealous attacks on the Constitution, - have been a victim. Despite the clear direction and duty of the news media as outlined in the Constitution, the attacks continue.

My view from the rocker, and the solitude of the woods, now seems in jeopardy. The rights and needs of the people are now questionable, and subject to change by the minute. What is also disturbing is that almost 50 per cent of the population appears unaware of the deep potential outcomes. I am amazed, and full of wonderment concerning the political involvement of many religious institutions of this country.

The great writer and thinker, H.L. Mencken, wrote on July 26, 1920, "As democracy is perfected, the office of the President represents, more and more closely, the inner soul of the people. On some great and glorious day, the plain folks of the land will reach their heart's desire at last, and the White House will be occupied by a downright fool and a complete narcissistic moron."

The sun no longer shines in my back yard, and I do not understand mankind, and the world today, but I shall continue to seek the truth, try to understand the huge changes, and pray for humanity and the future of the world.

An opinion:

Connecting as teaching tool in classroom

Norm Abelson ([Email](#)) - "Connecting" as a teaching tool? You bet!

Think of what a great teaching aid Connecting could be in the classroom. The level of writing is as good or better than one could find anywhere. The stories are as compelling as those in any book of adventure tales. History and geography are well-served by the first-person accounts. The amazing photo work is stunning and unforgettable.

Over the years, I've taught various writing courses at the elementary, junior high, high school and college levels. In each of these, I could easily have productively used Connecting pieces as real-life teaching tools.

Imagine their use in a number of teaching venues. Creative and objective writing. Memoir. English language usage. Journalism. History. Geography. Essay. Biography. News and art photography.

Those of us with the inclination might even serve as invited guests to put faces to our stories in our local schools and libraries, as I did for a number of years.

In these times, texting and tweeting are murdering the language. History is an often unselected elective, skewed outrageously by ignorant bloggers. Memory and reflection are blunted by disdain for the past. Selfies have cheapened the art of photography.

Connecting, with its army of fine writer/witnesses, photojournalists, technicians and historians, could have a positive and meaningful place in the classrooms of America.

A well-worn quote used over the years by many, seems apt in these difficult times:
"Instead of cursing the darkness, light one small candle."

**Put that Teletype in the basement to
good use: a liquor cabinet**



Kelly Kissel (Email) - This is one of those "What I did on my summer vacation" stories, but with a twist.

Of lime.

In a West Virginia watering hole about 30 years ago, and probably with Jules Loh, the discussion turned to what anyone could do with the thousands of Teletypes being phased out of newsrooms in favor of quieter dot matrix machines.

We agreed they should become liquor cabinets.

I've been hauling a pair of machines around the country since the late 1980s, never finding the time to store hooch in at least one of them until I burned through \$44 to convert one this summer.

Acquiring an AP M-15 back then was easy and cheap; I saved mine from the junk heap when the Charleston COC and techs installed annoying Okidata printers that would store a batch of data and spit out a line of type in one-second bursts.

A UPI machine came initially from a radio station in Montgomery, W.Va., and cost me \$100 at an SPJ auction.

(I never knew UPI to pick up machines when a station dropped service, apparently holding out hope that the station would re-up (or is that re-upi?). Years earlier, I had tried to get my high school's radio station to take AP service after I joined the New Orleans staff as a temp in 1984, but it refused because, even after dropping service, the UPI machine kept printing out news.)

I made the auction's first bid, at \$100, and no one else said a word. In hindsight, maybe I should have bid \$20.

The Teletypes are with me now in the house in which I grew up (though I use the term loosely). They've moved upstairs and downstairs way too many times, their guts fully intact until a few weeks ago. Now only the AP machine is "wire-ready." The UPI machine has a new purpose.

Removing the machinery and transformers lightens the load, but the cabinet and stand are still heavy. I applied two coats of a primer to the inside of the cabinet, hoping they'll be sufficient to hold the paint. All that cost about \$30, and I spent about \$8 on fabric and Velcro to line the inside. A string of LED lights set me back \$6.

The parquet base is made from sample Home Depot flooring tiles picked up over a series of visits to the local store.

The UPI machine will never clack again, but then again, the AP one probably won't either. But even just sitting there they beat the Okidata printer, which was so small that it could only accommodate those little whisky bottles you get on airplanes.

But that's another project.

Connecting mailbox

***Remember those AP
Radio promos? These previewed a marriage
now 30 years old***



The Professional

Cynthia Hecht Gets Lots of Worms

As AP Radio's weekend morning anchor and week-day editor, Cynthia starts work at 4 a.m. "Broadcasting is an international business," says the early bird. "A lot happens overseas while America sleeps."

Cynthia's rising career proves *she's* wide awake. Starting as an editorial assistant at NBC, Washington, Cynthia moved to WAVA, an all-news station, as a reporter, editor, then afternoon anchor.

Now she's on our team. We like that. We're like Cynthia Hecht.

Professional.

AP Radio

Associated Press
Radio Network (212) 262-4011



The Professional

Dave Lubeski Leads The Sporting Life!

AP Radio's morning Sports Anchor has covered the Olympics, the Superbowl, spring training and a lot of other important sporting events. But he had to pay some dues to get there.

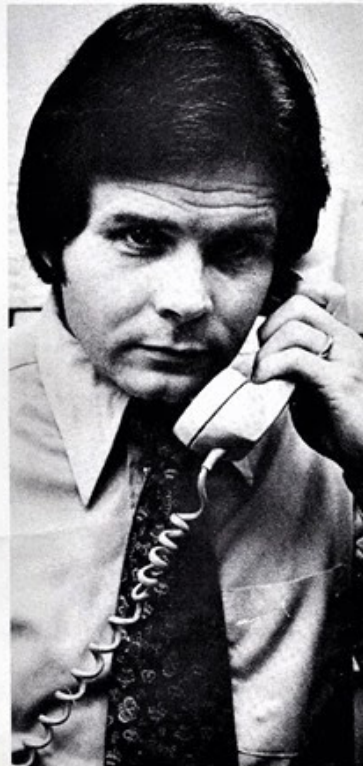
Dave started paying in West Texas: announcing, news reporting, commercial writing, a stint as an all-night disc-jockey. He paid some more when he moved up to KTRH in Houston.

After a dozen years on the air, he's still paying. Dave Lubeski learned his broadcasting *by* broadcasting. We like that. We're like he is.

Professional.

AP Radio

Associated Press
Radio Network (212) 262-4011



Dave Lubeski (Email) - In the early 1980s, AP Radio launched an ad campaign that featured individuals on the air and behind the scenes. I recently located a couple of the proofs for two of those people - My wife and I. I posted them on social media to mark the 30th anniversary of our marriage even though the ads ran almost

a decade before we took our vows. It was not a unique situation. Through the years eight other couples working in AP Broadcast got married. As for the ads, I'd like to challenge other Connecting colleagues who were featured in the ad campaign to send in their proofs.

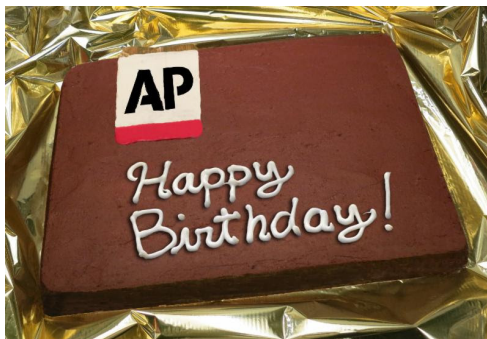
-0-

A visitor in AP's Seoul bureau



Retired AP photographer Nick Ut dropped into the AP's Seoul, South Korea, bureau and this picture was snapped - showing, from left: sales executive EJ Choi, Nick, video journalist Yong Jun Chang and correspondent Hyung-jin Kim.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Gene Herrick - gherrick@jetbroadband.com

On Saturday to...

Hank Ackerman - ack1942@gmail.com

Harry Atkins - hatkins727@aol.com

On Sunday to...

Jackie Hallifax - kanonany60@gmail.com

Mark Huffman - mark@26thstreetmedia.com

Jim Suhr - jim.suhr@yahoo.com

Story of interest

5 key takeaways about the state of the news media in 2018 (Pew Research)

BY MICHAEL BARTHEL

Every year since 2004, Pew Research Center has issued an assessment of the state of the news media, tracking key audience and economic indicators for a variety of sectors within the U.S. journalism industry. Here are some key findings about the state of the industry in 2018:

Newspaper circulation falls to historic lows in 2018 U.S. newspaper circulation reached its lowest level since 1940, the first year with available data. Total daily newspaper circulation (print and digital combined) was an estimated 28.6 million for weekday and 30.8 million for Sunday in 2018. Those numbers were down 8% and 9%, respectively, from the previous year, according to the Center's analysis of Alliance for Audited Media data. Both figures are now below their lowest recorded levels, though weekday circulation first passed this threshold in 2013.

Digital circulation for daily newspapers is harder to track. It did rise in 2018, though not enough to fully reverse the overall decline in circulation.

Revenue from circulation was steady in 2018, but ad revenue for newspapers fell 13%, according to an analysis of Securities and Exchange Commission filings. Though some national publications have seen growth in revenue and in digital subscriptions over the past few years, the newspaper sector overall continues to face challenges.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Shane.

Final Word:

A couple more photos from the archives



Members of the AP London staff have their own air raid protection squad and here they are shown going through their first full dress parade on May 16, 1940 on the roof of the Associated Press building. They are, left to right, I. A. Milligan, C. Michaels, K. C. Boxall, L. I. Jones, G. Selkirk and G. Angus. (AP Photo/Corporate Archives)



Associated Press photographer Horst Faas, with his Leica cameras around his neck, accompanies U.S. troops in War Zone C in Vietnam, 1967. (AP Photo/Courtesy of Horst Faas)

Today in History - July 26, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, July 26, the 207th day of 2019. There are 158 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 26, 2016, Hillary Clinton became the first woman to be nominated for president by a major political party at the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia.

On this date:

In 1775, the Continental Congress established a Post Office and appointed Benjamin Franklin its Postmaster-General.

In 1863, Sam Houston, former president of the Republic of Texas, died in Huntsville at age 70.

In 1908, U.S. Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte ordered creation of a force of special agents that was a forerunner of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

In 1925, five days after the end of the Scopes Trial in Dayton, Tennessee, prosecutor William Jennings Bryan died at age 65. (Although Bryan had won a conviction against John T. Scopes for teaching Darwin's Theory of Evolution, the verdict was later overturned.)

In 1953, Fidel Castro began his revolt against Fulgencio Batista (fool-HEN'-see-oh bah-TEES'-tah) with an unsuccessful attack on an army barracks in eastern Cuba. (Castro ousted Batista in 1959.)

In 1956, the Italian liner Andrea Doria sank off New England, some 11 hours after colliding with the Swedish liner Stockholm; at least 51 people died.

In 1986, Islamic radicals in Lebanon released the Rev. Lawrence Martin Jenco, an American hostage held for nearly 19 months. American statesman W. Averell Harriman died in Yorktown Heights, New York, at age 94.

In 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In 2002, the Republican-led House voted, 295-132, to create an enormous Homeland Security Department in the biggest government reorganization in decades.

In 2006, in a dramatic turnaround from her first murder trial, Andrea Yates was found not guilty by reason of insanity by a Houston jury in the bathtub drownings of her five children; she was committed to a state mental hospital. (Yates had initially been found guilty of murder, but had her conviction overturned.)

In 2013, Ariel Castro, the man who'd imprisoned three women in his Cleveland home, subjecting them to a decade of rapes and beatings, pleaded guilty to 937 counts in a deal to avoid the death penalty. (Castro later committed suicide in prison.)

In 2017, President Donald Trump announced on Twitter that he would not "accept or allow" transgender people to serve in the U.S. military. (After a legal battle, the Defense Department approved a new policy requiring most individuals to serve in their birth gender.) A thrill ride broke apart at the Ohio State Fair, killing an 18-year-old high school student and injuring seven others.

Ten years ago: Sarah Palin stepped down as governor of Alaska to write a book and build a right-of-center coalition, but left her long-term political plans unclear. Alberto Contador won the Tour de France for the second time in three years; Lance Armstrong placed third. Rickey Henderson and Jim Rice were inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame along with the late Joe Gordon. Choreographer and dancer Merce Cunningham died in New York at age 90.

Five years ago: Hamas resumed rocket fire on Israel after rejecting its offer to extend a humanitarian cease-fire, the latest setback in international efforts to negotiate an end to the Gaza war. The United States shuttered its embassy in Libya and evacuated its diplomats to neighboring Tunisia under U.S. military escort as fighting intensified between rival militias. Dr. Samuel Brisbane, one of Liberia's most high-profile doctors, died of Ebola; an American physician in Liberia, Dr. Kent Brantly, was reported to have caught the disease, but recovered.

One year ago: As a deadline set by a federal judge arrived, the Trump administration said more than 1,800 children who were separated from their families at the U.S.-Mexico border had been reunited with parents and sponsors; hundreds more remained apart. Shares in Facebook plunged 19 percent, wiping out \$119 billion of the company's Wall Street value; the plunge followed Facebook's warning that its revenue growth would slow significantly. The last six members of a Japanese

doomsday cult who remained on death row were executed for a series of crimes in the 1990s, including a gas attack on Tokyo subways that killed 13 people.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Robert Colbert is 88. Actress-singer Darlene Love is 78. Singer Brenton Wood is 78. Rock star Mick Jagger is 76. Movie director Peter Hyams is 76. Actress Helen Mirren is 74. Rock musician Roger Taylor (Queen) is 70. Actress Susan George is 69. Olympic gold medal figure skater Dorothy Hamill is 63. Actress Nana Visitor is 62. Actor Kevin Spacey is 60. Rock singer Gary Cherone is 58. Actress Sandra Bullock is 55. Actor-comedian Danny Woodburn is 55. Rock singer Jim Lindberg (Pennywise) is 54. Actor Jeremy Piven is 54. Rapper-reggae singer Wayne Wonder is 53. Actor Jason Statham (STAY'-thum) is 52. Actor Cress Williams is 49. TV host Chris Harrison is 48. Actress Kate Beckinsale is 46. Actor Gary Owen is 46. Rock musician Dan Konopka (OK Go) is 45. Gospel/Contemporary Christian singer Rebecca St. James is 42. Actress Eve Myles is 41. Actress Juliet Rylance is 40. Actress Monica Raymund is 33. Actress Caitlin Gerard is 31. Actress Francia Raisa is 31. Christian rock musician Jamie Sharpe (Rush of Fools) is 30. Actress Bianca Santos is 29. Actress-singer Taylor Momsen is 26. Actress Elizabeth Gillies is 26.

Thought for Today: "Most human beings have an almost infinite capacity for taking things for granted." - Aldous Huxley, English author (born this date in 1894, died in 1963).

Connecting calendar



July 27 - Services for **Ed Shearer**, a longtime AP sportswriter, will be held Saturday, July 27, at 1 p.m. at St. Barnabas Anglican Church, [4795 N Peachtree Rd, Dunwoody, GA 30338](#). In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to: **Lazarus Ministries**, [2270 Defoor Hills Rd NW, Atlanta, GA 30318](#). The family said that so we can thank you, please have acknowledgments sent to: [130 Kimberly Rd, Canton, GA 30115](#). A family contact is Sheri Browne - sheribrowne@att.net

August 6 - A scattering of ashes for former AP Concord and Indianapolis bureau chief **Dave Swearingen**, who died in 2018, will be held Tuesday, August 6, at 10:30

a.m. at Reid State Park, [375 Seguinland Road, Georgetown ME 04548](#). Those attending should meet at the Todd's Point Parking lot and will head over to Half Mile Beach. While there is no formal service, brief remarks will be made. Dave's son Tim can be reached at timswearingen71@gmail.com

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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