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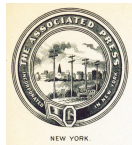
Connecting - August 06, 2019

1 message

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

Tue, Aug 6, 2019 at 8:49 AM

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Connecting

August 06, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 6th day of August 2019,

What's your "aha" moment?

A Columbia Journalism Review article notes that many reporters have had "aha" moments that have changed the way they think about journalism.

"Because journalism is a profession that is learned on the job, reporters often develop their own personal approaches to writing, interviewing, researching, and other aspects of the craft based on singular experiences that they carry with them," the article said. "CJR surveyed journalists by phone and email about such experiences. Some interviews have been condensed and edited for clarity."

Click [here](#) for a link to the story - and then share with Connecting your "aha" moment as a journalist.

Have a great day!

Paul

Visitation to be Wednesday for AP veteran Dan Even

Visitation details for **Dan Even**, veteran Associated Press newsman, correspondent and bureau chief who died Saturday, have been announced.



They will be held from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday at Hoffmann Schneider & Kitchen Funeral Home and Cremation Service, [3860 Asbury Road](#) in Dubuque, Iowa. The Mass of Christian Burial for Dan will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Church of the Resurrection with Rev. Father Phillip Gibbs as the celebrant. Private burial will be at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Key West. The family encourages you to dress down and wear your favorite team's sporting attire. No ties allowed.

A memorial has been established for a Latin American History Major scholarship fund at Loras College.

Click [here](#) to read his obituary.

Dan Even played critical role in my career - and will be missed

John Willis ([Email](#)) - Dan Even was one of the staffers in the Des Moines bureau back in 1972 who conspired to get me to apply for a job with The AP.

Gavin Scott, the bureau chief, later joked with me:

"They wanted a way to get you off the phone," Scott told me a year or so later in the Omaha bureau. Scott was the chief of bureau for both Iowa and Nebraska.

I was the news director of a tiny AM daytimer in Fairfield, IA. We had the AP, as did the local newspaper. I took our AP membership seriously and grew to be a consistent contributor. One of the best in the state from the broadcast side of things.

I called Des Moines one day and dictated a quick story to Dan, and before we hung up he suggested that I should come to the bureau, and talk with Scott about a job. Bill Eberline also had hinted at same in some calls. as had Gordon Hansen. I talked with Scott and he arranged to have me come on a Saturday morning to take the written tests. Saturday was my "day off." I think it was Dan who administered the tests and timed me. I might be off on that. It was a long time ago.

I drove home thinking nothing would probably come of it. Three months later, though, I was at my local watering hole when the phone rang. It was for me. My wife was on the other end and said The Associated Press just called from New York and "they want to talk with you."

I got home quickly (Fairfield is not a large town) and called New York. I have no idea who was on the other end, but I was told that my name was on a list of candidates who were approved for hiring. The list was distributed to the bureau chiefs across the country, and would I be interested in coming to New York to work the broadcast desk?

I excitedly called the Des Moines bureau to share the news. As luck would have it, it was Dan Even who answered the phone. He congratulated me, and also told me that there was an opening in the Omaha bureau, too.

Omaha was a lot closer to Fairfield than New York, and my wife's uncle had been an Episcopalian priest in Omaha for many years.

The next day Scott called me about the opening in Omaha and said he would have correspondent Ed Nicholls give me a call. Nicholls called and told me the opening was for a broadcast editor's position from noon til 8 pm weekdays. The pay was second- or third-year scale, plus shift differentials, plus overtime, plus benefits.

We were off for Omaha, and the beginning of more than three, wonderfully exciting great years; broadcast writer, sports editor, news editor.

I never regretted the decision because Omaha opened up so many opportunities that I would never have gotten in New York. I will always be thankful to Dan and Gavin and the rest of the Des Moines staff for seeing the potential in me.

I left The AP in 1983 to take over a family-owned enterprise in Aiken, SC. When we sold the business, I wrote New York seeking a return engagement. Within a few weeks I was named the broadcast executive in Jackson, MS. Guess who met me at the airport? Dan Even. It was 30 years ago last month.

He was the correspondent in Jackson, and we had a wonderful reunion. I distinctly remember leaving the bureau one afternoon about a week after I got there. We were headed to Dan's house for supper and to watch The All State game. Bo Jackson was the star that night.

Dan liked to play tennis, so we played together at the neighborhood courts in the evenings when I was not on the road. He always beat me.

Our days working together in Jackson were good ones. I was on the road for the most part, but Dan and the staff were always very helpful. I was moved on to Orlando in 1991 and Dan went on to become the bureau chief in Albuquerque. I called him with congrats when I heard about the appointment.

We were reunited again a couple of years ago, this time via email through Connecting. We traded tales now and then, mostly about sports. We were both huge sports fans. Back in Jackson one day, we marveled at Kirby Puckett getting a \$3 million a year pact, and wondered what our childhood favorites, Mickey Mantle and Willie Mays, might have been paid.

I'll always remember Dan as a hard-working newsman, meticulous on detail. He was great to work with as a member, and as a colleague. I will always be thankful for his encouragement to take The AP tests. My years with The AP are my proudest, and he played a critical role in my career, whether he knew it or not. RIP Dan. You will be missed by many, my friend.

Connecting mailbox

What the hell happened to NEWSpapers?

Bob Daugherty (Email) - Following Adolphe Bernotas' letter to the Concord Monitor, my Sunday Indy Star played AP's account of the El Paso massacre on page A6. What the hell happened to NEWSpapers that displayed the most important story on A1? This was NEWS.

For the record, the Stars' page one had a story on Indy scooter vendors defying rules and couple of local stories. The scooter story jumped to page 7 and shared more than half the page with some ads.

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Remember the piercing tone of Wirephoto squawk box?

Martha Malan (Email) - Re AP-induced hearing loss: I blame the piercing tone of the Wirephoto squawk box for mine.

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A look into journalism foundation-supported study of rural internet access

Chris Connell (Email) - The nonprofit model of journalism has taken hold in cities beset by shrinking newsrooms, often supported by big foundations worried about what this means for democracy. But some small foundations have emerged to address the problem locally. This summer the new Piedmont Journalism Foundation asked me to dig into the challenges schoolkids and businesses face in rural Fauquier County, Virginia, without fast, reliable internet except spotty satellite coverage. It's a challenge across rural America, where the fiber lines of Comcast, Verizon and other big carriers don't extend beyond crowded subdivisions. Some advocates, perhaps with exaggeration, see broadband as necessary for modern life as electrification was in the 1930s. The Piedmont Journalism Foundation is spearheaded by former Washington Post vice president (and Connecting member) Bo Jones and includes Pulitzer Prize winner Dana Priest, formerly with the Post and now a University of Maryland professor.



Several times a year, Paul Conlin barrels up a steep, wooded hillside in his mud-green Rhino SUV to the top of Rattlesnake Mountain above Hume.

Click [here](#) for the latest installment from the Fauquier Times, which starts with a rattling ride up Rattlesnake Mountain in an ATV.

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A town with moxie and a history of slavery dedicates a statue of a native, a pioneering black woman journalist



Al Cross (Email) - In a little park amid the main intersection in downtown Russellville, Kentucky, stands a monument to the Confederate dead of Logan County, which borders Tennessee and before the Civil War had an economy based on slavery. No one pays much attention to the monument and its statue of a soldier anymore; business in the town of 7,000 no longer revolves around the square at Fourth and Main.

Six blocks away, much more attention is being paid to a newer and more remarkable statue, of an African American woman who rose from poverty in Logan County to become the first black woman accredited as a journalist to the White House and Congress: Alice Allison Dunnigan, who died in 1983.

The statue was dedicated Friday at its new home, the Struggles for Emancipation and Equality in Kentucky (SEEK) Museum, which occupies several lots and buildings in the heart of Russellville's main African American neighborhood. A new walk running diagonally from the corner of Morgan and Sixth leads to the bronze of Dunnigan, looking up from a copy of The Washington Post and seeming ready to ask a sharp question.



Read more [here](#).

More on your favorite coffee mugs - AP or others



Here's an SPJ cup that a campus chapter gave me maybe 10 years ago for giving a speech (don't ask me which one!). I kept it because it's a logo SPJ no longer uses and I liked it. The other, from the Georgia Press Association, was a gift as I gave an open records talk a few years ago.

Carolyn Carlson ([Email](#)) - In the late 1980s and early 1990s, while I worked as a newswriter in the Atlanta AP bureau, I traveled quite a bit as a national officer of the Society of Professional Journalists, thanks to the support of the AP and Lou Boccardi. Whenever I visited a college campus or a professional chapter (and I went to at least 100 in more than 40 states), I was given or I bought a coffee mug as a souvenir.

My husband installed a shelf in my home office, about 10 inches from the ceiling so it was above the door and windows, all the way around the room, and I displayed these mugs on that shelf. By the end of my five-year term on the SPJ ladder, the shelf was crammed full. I loved showing them to visitors.

When we left that house and moved into a condo, the mugs went with us and took up three long shelves in the kitchen cabinets. But, since I could not display them anymore, when we downsized again I had to sell them at a yard sale.

My all-time favorite was a Kermit the Frog as a Radio Reporter mug that I used every day for at least two decades until it cracked. I try to limit myself to no more than a dozen mugs now, but it's hard. I still get them when I give talks or go on vacation. Can't help myself.

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Gerald Jackson ([Email](#)) - Coffee cups and Top Gun! To an ex Naval Aviator, your Connecting got my adrenaline flowing. The cup on the right is from my '68-'69 WestPac (Vietnam) cruise aboard the USS Coral Sea, and after five months back in CA, we got to do it again. Therefore, the cup on the left. Anxious next year to see how Maverick managed not to make Admiral.

Gerald Jackson, CAPT, USNR retired

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Paul Stevens ([Email](#)) - I was a "mugger" through most of my 24 years as an AP bureau chief, finding that coffee mugs with an AP logo were a popular, inexpensive and treasured gift among members (and staff). I would often have a carton of mugs in the trunk of my COBmobile.

The above photo shows some of the few mugs that I still possess - from left, my favorite AP mug because it carries my favorite AP logo; a 150th anniversary mug of my hometown newspaper especially treasured since my dad (its longtime editor) and I wrote a 150th history of The Fort Dodge Messenger; an AP mug with the metallic image of the Isamu Noguchi's stainless steel panel, News, located above the entrance to AP's headquarters at 50 Rockefeller Plaza, and an AP 150th Anniversary mug.

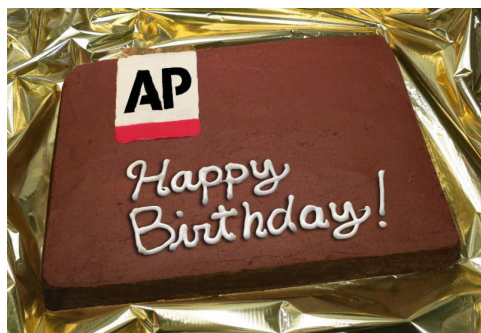
(The Noguchi image mug carried a warning label inside that because of its metallic image on the outside, the mug was not for use in a microwave and could possibly explode.)

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Kristin Gazlay ([Email](#)) - captures this evening view of the Puck Building in the Soho section of Manhattan.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

David Sedeno - davidsedeno@sbcglobal.net

Welcome to Connecting



Ann Gibson - ann_gibson@bellsouth.net

Stories of interest

GateHouse, Gannett to merge for \$1.4B, build newspaper giant

By TALI ARBEL

NEW YORK (AP) - Two of the largest U.S. newspaper companies have agreed to combine for roughly \$1.4 billion, creating a new industry giant that hopes to manage

the crisis of print's decline through sheer size.

GateHouse Media, a fast-growing chain backed by an investment firm, is buying USA Today owner Gannett, promising to speed up a digital transformation as readers shift online. The companies say they are committed to "journalistic excellence" - while also cutting \$300 million in costs every year.

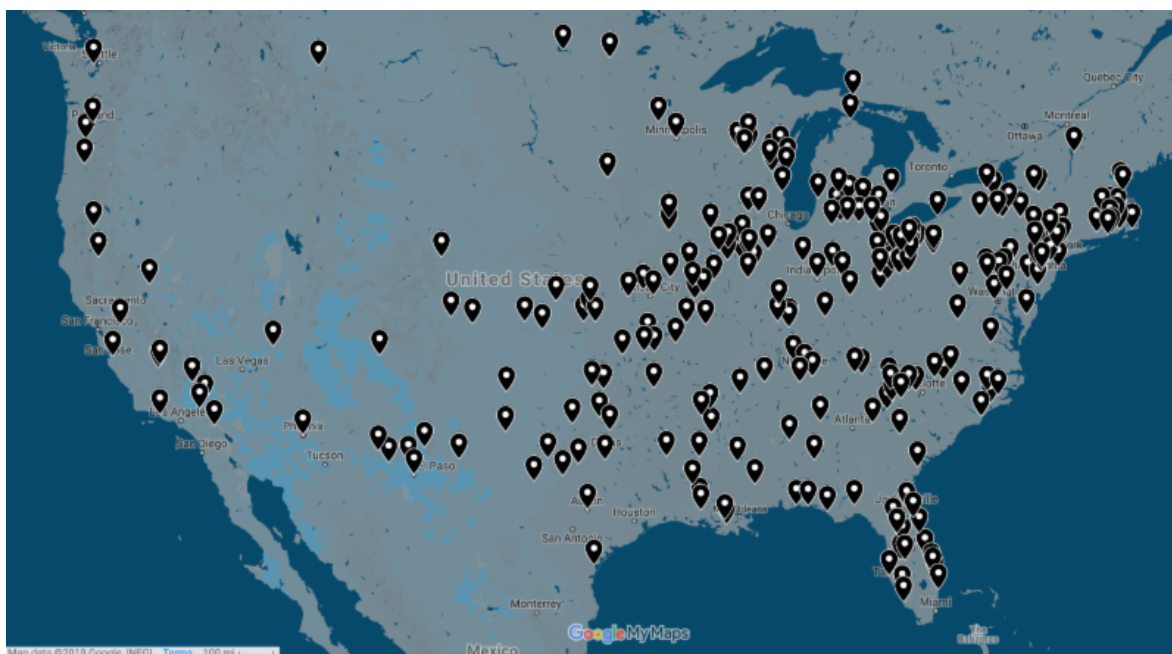
The resulting company would be the largest U.S. newspaper company by far, with a print circulation of 8.7 million, 7 million more than the new No. 2, McClatchy, according to media expert Ken Doctor.

Local papers, faced with the complex and expensive process of building digital businesses to replace declines in print ads and circulation, have been consolidating madly in recent years. Although papers with national readerships like The New York Times and The Washington Post have had success adding digital subscribers, local papers with local readerships find it much more difficult. Hundreds of such papers have closed, and newsrooms have slashed jobs.

Read more [here](#).

And...

The GateHouse takeover of Gannett has been finalized (Poynter)



A map depicting daily newspapers owned by GateHouse after its acquisition of Gannett is completed. See below for an interactive version of this map. (Ren LaForme/Google Maps)

By Rick Edmonds

The long-rumored merger of Gannett's 110 dailies and GateHouse's 156 was announced this afternoon by both companies. The deal will formally close by the end of 2019.

GateHouse is the acquiring partner, though it is choosing to operate the new company under the Gannett name and will preserve the USA Today brand. The sale includes both cash and shares of the new company for Gannett stockholders.

The company did not supply a figure for the total value of the deal. But including Gannett debt that GateHouse assumes, it appears to be roughly \$2 billion.

Read the memos that Gannett and GateHouse employees received on Monday afternoon

Mike Reed, chairman and CEO of GateHouse parent New Media Investment Group, will retain his title. Paul Bascobert, a former Bloomberg Businessweek executive, joins the new company as operating CEO.

Read more [here](#).

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I've Seen the Limits of Journalism (The Atlantic)

Twenty years ago, I was convinced the shootings I covered at Columbine would change everything. That's not what happened.

By John Temple

Director of UC Berkeley's Investigative Reporting Program

No. Not again.

That's how I felt on Saturday when I heard the terrible news from El Paso and then again on Sunday morning when Dayton added a second blow. I imagine I wasn't alone. Each time the shocking news of another mass shooting arrives, I find myself wanting to turn away.

I was the editor of the Rocky Mountain News in Denver when the Columbine High School shootings gripped the nation in 1999. The Columbine attack was covered live on cable and broadcast television. At the time we thought it would be the mass shooting to end all mass shootings. How could we let anything so horrible happen again? Especially after seeing what we had all seen.

I wish I could believe what Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said just a few years ago about Americans as a people. "Some terrible things have happened in the United States, but one can only hope that we learn from those bad things." Clearly, that hasn't happened when it comes to the insanity of gun violence.

Read more [here](#).

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Journalist's death helps to reshape US handling of hostages



In this June 19, 2019, photo, Diane Foley, mother of journalist James Foley, who was killed by the Islamic State terrorist group in a graphic video released online, speaks to the Associated Press during an interview in Washington. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

By ERIC TUCKER

WASHINGTON (AP) - Diane Foley learned her son's fate not from any government official but from a sobbing journalist who asked if she'd been on Twitter.

Foley had not, but the ghastly images weren't hard to find. President Barack Obama soon confirmed the news to the world: James Foley, a 40-year-old American journalist kidnapped in Syria two years earlier, was the American beheaded by Islamic State militants in a video circulating online.

For many in the United States, the August 2014 video brought home the extent of the Islamic State's violence and brutality. For Diane Foley it was a galvanizing moment, emblematic of the helplessness she felt during her son's captivity and the lack of urgency she sensed from American officials tasked with helping her. The New Hampshire woman channeled her grief into action, becoming an unofficial ambassador for hostages and their loved ones and helping reshape the U.S. government response when Americans are captured by terrorists and kidnappers across the globe.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

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White supremacy: Research on cyber-racism and violence (Journalist's Resource)

By Denise-Marie Ordway

Covering white supremacy is a difficult job that requires newsrooms to weigh the value of providing the public with information with the risk of promoting or glamorizing the ideas and actions of right-wing extremists.

Much has been written about the ethical quandary news outlets face in covering white supremacy, which some journalists and media scholars argue should be a dedicated beat. Journalist Vegas Tenold, who has written about the far-right in the U.S. for many years, said in a 2018 interview with doctoral students at the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for Communication that one positive change in journalism since the 2016 election is the rise of the white supremacy beat.

"When I started doing this, for the first five years whenever I went to rally, I would always see a ton of journalists, but I would very rarely see the same journalist at two rallies," Tenold said during the interview. "But now, most newspapers, most online outlets have a journalist who covers this, and you have really smart people now who are starting to see a bigger picture."

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

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Mexican media call for more protection after three killings in a week (Guardian)



Family members carry the coffin of Jorge Ruiz Vazquez, who was killed in Actopan late on Friday. Photograph: Felix Marquez/AP

By DAVID AGREN

Journalists in Mexico have said the new government is failing to protect them after three reporters were murdered in less than a week.

Jorge Ruiz Vázquez, a reporter with the *Gráfico de Xalapa* newspaper, was the latest victim, shot dead late on Friday night in Actopan, in Veracruz state. He was supposed to have received protection from state security forces but this was missing on the night of the killing.

Last year he had accused the mayor of corruption and his home was attacked. He was scheduled to testify before state authorities this month on threats the mayor had allegedly made against him.

Mexico has been a deadly place for journalists over the past 13 years as a crackdown on drug cartels and organised crime has worn on. Measures taken to try to protect the press have included appointing a special prosecutor to pursue crimes against journalists.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - August 6, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 6, the 218th day of 2019. There are 147 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 6, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act.

On this date:

In 1806, the Holy Roman Empire went out of existence as Emperor Francis II abdicated.

In 1809, one of the leading literary figures of the Victorian era, poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson, was born in Somersby, Lincolnshire, England.

In 1890, Cy Young gained the first of his 511 major league victories as he pitched the Cleveland Spiders to a win over the Chicago Colts (however, the score is a matter of dispute, with some sources saying 6-1, and others saying 8-1).

In 1911, actress-comedian Lucille Ball was born in Jamestown, New York.

In 1914, Austria-Hungary declared war against Russia and Serbia declared war against Germany.

In 1926, Gertrude Ederle became the first woman to swim the English Channel, arriving in Kingsdown, England, from France in 14 1/2 hours.

In 1942, Queen Wilhemina of the Netherlands became the first reigning queen to address a joint meeting of Congress, telling lawmakers that despite Nazi occupation, her people's motto remained, "No surrender."

In 1945, during World War II, the U.S. B-29 Superfortress Enola Gay dropped an atomic bomb code-named "Little Boy" on Hiroshima, Japan, resulting in an estimated 140,000 deaths. (Three days later, the United States exploded a nuclear device over Nagasaki; five days after that, Imperial Japan surrendered.)

In 1961, Soviet cosmonaut Gherman Titov became the second man to orbit Earth as he flew aboard Vostok 2; his call sign, "Eagle," prompted his famous declaration: "I am Eagle!"

In 1978, Pope Paul VI died at Castel Gandolfo at age 80.

In 1986, William J. Schroeder (SHRAY'-dur) died at Humana Hospital-Audubon in Louisville, Kentucky, after living 620 days with the Jarvik 7 artificial heart.

In 1991, the World Wide Web made its public debut as a means of accessing webpages over the Internet. TV newsman Harry Reasoner died in Norwalk, Connecticut, at age 68.

In 2013, U.S. Army Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan went on trial at Fort Hood, Texas, charged with killing 13 people and wounding 32 others in a 2009 attack. (Hasan, who admitted carrying out the attack, was convicted and sentenced to death.)

Ten years ago: Sonia Sotomayor was confirmed as the first Hispanic Supreme Court justice by a Senate vote of 68-31. John Hughes, 59, Hollywood's youth movie director of the 1980s and '90s, died in New York City.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama closed a three-day U.S.-Africa summit in Washington which brought together leaders from more than 50 African nations. Michael Worthington was put to death by the state of Missouri for raping and killing

college student Melinda "Mindy" Griffin in 1995, making him the first U.S. prisoner executed since a lethal injection in Arizona the previous month in which an inmate took nearly two hours to die.

One year ago: Twin Northern California wildfires grew to become the largest wildfire in state history, burning more than 440 square miles north of San Francisco. A set of U.S. sanctions against Iran that had been eased by the Obama administration under the terms of the 2015 nuclear deal went back into effect. Former Nevada governor and U.S. senator Paul Laxalt, who was a close ally to Ronald Reagan, died at the age of 96.

Today's Birthdays: Children's performer Ella Jenkins is 95. Actor-director Peter Bonerz is 81. Actress Louise Sorel is 79. Actor Michael Anderson Jr. is 76. Actor Ray Buktenica is 76. Actor Dorian Harewood is 69. Actress Catherine Hicks is 68. Rock singer Pat MacDonald (Timbuk 3) is 67. Country musician Mark DuFresne (Confederate Railroad) is 66. Actress Stephanie Kramer is 63. Actress Faith Prince is 62. Rhythm-and-blues singer Randy DeBarge is 61. Actor Leland Orser is 59. Actress Michelle Yeoh (yoh) is 57. Country singers Patsy and Peggy Lynn are 55. Basketball Hall of Famer David Robinson is 54. Actor Jeremy Ratchford is 54. Actor Benito Martinez is 51. Country singer Lisa Stewart is 51. Movie writer-director M. Night Shyamalan (SHAH'-mah-lahn) is 49. Actress Merrin Dungey is 48. Singer Geri Halliwell Horner is 47. Actor Jason O'Mara is 47. Singer-actor David Campbell is 46. Actress Vera Farmiga is 46. Actress Ever (cq) Carradine is 45. Actress Soleil (soh-LAY') Moon Frye is 43. Actress Melissa George is 43. Rock singer Travis McCoy (Gym Class Heroes) is 38. Actor Leslie Odom Jr. is 38. Actress Romola Garai is 37. Rock musician Eric Roberts (Gym Class Heroes) is 35.

Thought for Today: "If you want something done, ask a busy person to do it. The more things you do, the more you can do." - Lucille Ball, American actress-comedian (born this date in 1911, died 1989).

Connecting calendar



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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