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Connecting - August 19, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this the 19th day of August 2019,

Please join me in congratulating our colleague **Ed Staats** on his marriage Saturday to **Barbara Webb** - two remarkable people who met in a support group for their previous spouses who both died two years ago from the effects of Alzheimer's disease.

Connecting relays news of funeral services set for our colleague **Carol Stark**, editor of The Joplin (Missouri) Globe. A visitation will be held from 9 to 10:45 a.m. Saturday, August 24, at First Community Church of Joplin, followed by a funeral service at 11 a.m. A private burial will be held. In lieu of flowers, please contribute to the Carol Stark Excellence in Journalism Scholarship Fund. Funds can be sent by check in care of the Missouri Southern Foundation, [3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, MO, 64801](#). Gifts can also be made online at www.mssu.edu/giving. In the designation field, please select "Other" and denote the gift is for the Carol Stark Excellence in Journalism Scholarship Fund. Click [here](#) for a link to her obituary.

Here's to a great week ahead!

Paul

Ed Staats, Barbara Webb married Saturday; reception in memory care unit where former spouses spent their final months

Retired AP reporter, editor and administrator Ed Staats was married Saturday, two years after his wife and fiancée Barbara Webb's husband died from the effects of Alzheimer's disease.

Ed had worked in nearly a dozen AP bureaus and offices during his 41-year career that began in 1961. He finished his career as chief of bureau for Kentucky. In earlier rapid-fire assignments he worked in Austin, Dallas (twice), Houston, Spokane, Salt Lake City and Albany as well as serving as general executive in AP's membership department in New York and at the Broadcast News Center in Washington as assistant general manager.



The family ceremony was co-officiated by Barbara's Episcopal priest and Ed's Presbyterian minister. The reception was held at the Kentucky memory care facility where Ed's wife, Charlene, and Barbara's husband, Al, spent their final months. Ed and Charlene had been married 56 years and Al and Barbara almost 40 years. They had become acquainted through their participation in a support group sponsored by the facility.

When they were considering a location for the reception, the management of the facility stepped forward and offered to play host. Ed said not many couples can boast about having their wedding reception in a memory care facility. The couple is about to embark on a Nordic cruise for their honeymoon.

Ed's email is - edstaats@gmail.com

Born To Be a Journalist

Former USA Today state editor Karen Magnuson enjoyed a successful news career despite working in an industry facing continuous disruption. The 1978 Alma (Michigan) College alumnus reflects on her newspaper calling.

By **KAREN MAGNUSON** ([Email](#))

I was born to be a journalist.

I was about eight years old when I started writing stories with a little yellow pencil on lined paper from school in Detroit. My stories were about dogs - collies, mostly, because of their beauty.

My parents were patient while I read stories aloud at the dinner table, with the scent of mom's fine cooking still hanging in the air. I stood tall as if at a podium, carefully reading each word, often grinning from ear to ear. Mom and dad always said they liked it, even if they didn't, and that brought about a sudden burst of happiness - as if I received a gold medal. The entire experience, from pencil on paper to delivery of the story, brought me great joy.

I didn't know it at the time but my dog stories at the dinner table were a turning point. I thought I wrote about animals because I wanted to be a veterinarian. Turns out that I was really in love with storytelling, and dogs were my first subjects. I tackled other subjects for my high school newspaper in Brighton. I pursued a Program of

Emphasis in journalism at Alma College, where I built a rock-solid foundation for the future, and never looked back.

Since then, I've lived in a dozen places pursuing a career in news. I started as a reporter thinking, somewhat incredulously, "I can't believe I'm getting paid to ask questions and write!" I moved into management as a bureau chief for United Press International, a news wire service, and enjoyed a variety of editor roles for newspapers in California, Kansas and New York.



Read more [here](#). Karen is a Connecting colleague who served on the APME national board for many years and was president in 2007.

Journalists have new targets for integration and inhumanities

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - Journalists today, covering man's inhumanity against his fellow-man, reminds us of the forced immigration of black people from Africa years ago, and now the immigration story of Mexicans and others from Central America.

The brutal and massive immigrant raids recently, in Mississippi against so-called illegal immigrants from, below our southern border, brings back another historic brutal immigration act in that state in the deep South. Yes, the inhuman importation of black people forced from Africa to the shores of the United States for the purpose of slavery.

History is very clear concerning the inhuman treatment of black people in Mississippi, as well as much of the so-called southern belt of states. The black people were made slaves and treated in a manner less than human. Lynching and killing of black people - mostly men - was rampant and "Legal."

The situation didn't change until the Emmitt Till trial in 1955, when two white men were arrested and put on "Trial" for the slaying of the 14-year-old black boy from Chicago. Of course, the jury of all-white men found the pair innocent. Journalists were kept busy on this national and international story. After the Till trial came along Autherine Lucy, a black University of Alabama student who was kicked out of school for being other than white. Then in 1956 a black woman named Rosa Parks was kicked off a Montgomery, Alabama bus for refusing to give up her seat to a white

man. Quickly following was a black preacher - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - who kicked off the Civil Rights Movement to highlight the treatment of black people in this country. King was later - 1968 - assassinated in Memphis, TN for his beliefs. We also remember the picture of a beaten James Meredith lying in a narrow Mississippi roadway. There were riots at Oliver Springs, and Clinton, TN, and then the battle in Little Rock.

Now - in 2019 -Journalists today, have their hands and computers busy covering an ever-spreading story on the mass killings of people across the country. We have attacks on Mexican immigrants (plus others) who came to this country to escape brutality and prejudice in their native lands. They, like all of us, wanted security and freedom to be human and a productive part of humanity, and in this so-called "Land of Liberty and opportunity."

I well remember being in Chicago on the photo desk in the very late 1960's when a story came over the city of Chicago's news service stating that the city had gone a full 24 hours without a shooting death. It was history. Today, shootings, and shooting deaths in Chicago are at historic levels.

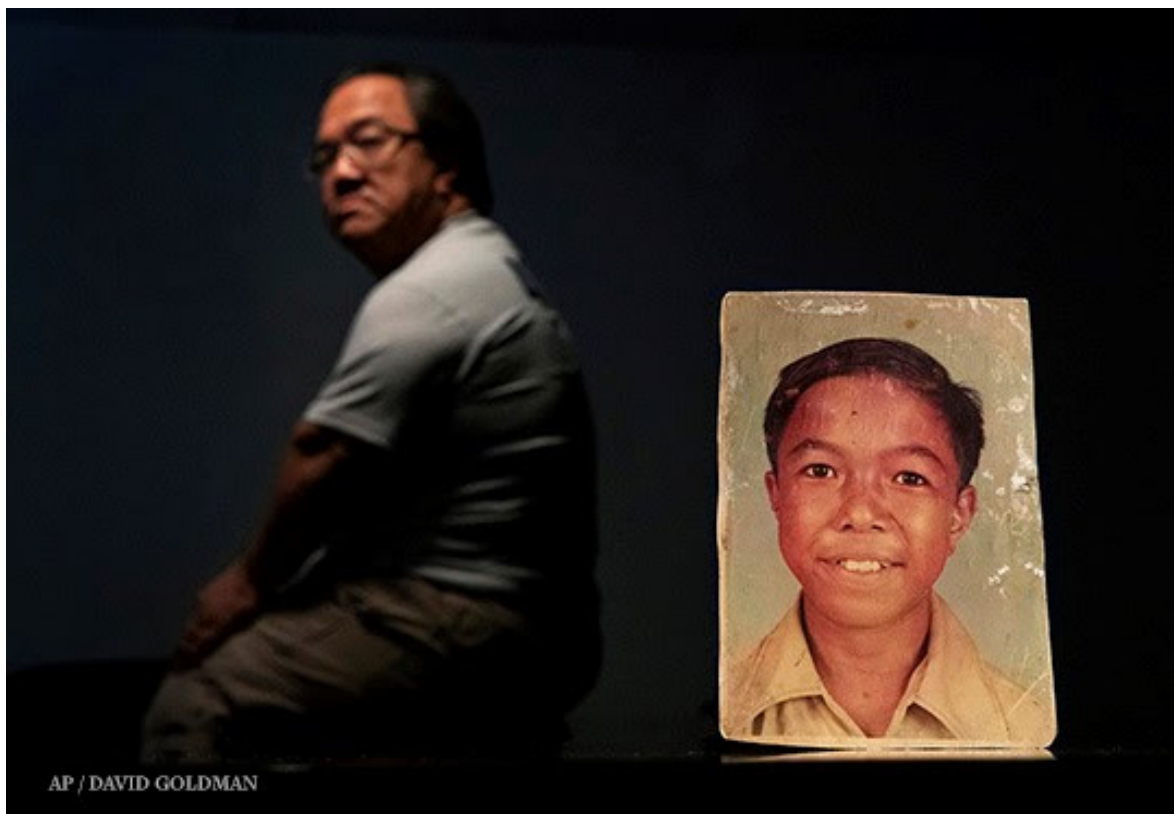
It seems that we are constantly, and surprisingly, awakening to mass shootings, in churches, schools, and cities. The country's media has had to learn so many new techniques for coverage, and including how to dodge bullets, a la war.

I know; I covered those early days in the South.

The trip has been long and arduous from 1492 to 2019 - the Bill of Rights, the Constitution, the Bible, human laws... But...

Best of Week

AP investigation: Guam's ex-archbishop protected culture of clergy sex abuse of children



On May 9, 2019, Leo Tudela visits the beach where he says he was sexually abused as a boy by a priest on a Boy Scout outing in Yona, Guam. Tudela remembers burying his face in his blanket and sobbing. Even now, more than six decades later, the memories of that night trigger anguish. "I never forget this place," he said. An AP investigation revealed generations of systemic abuse by clergy in the overwhelmingly Catholic U.S. territory in the western Pacific. (AP PHOTO / DAVID GOLDMAN)

Knowledge of clergy sex abuse is widespread on the mainland of the United States. But it has long been a secret in the small, overwhelmingly Roman Catholic U.S. territory of Guam.

Washington-based investigative reporter Michael Biesecker, working with Atlanta-based enterprise photographer David Goldman and Seattle video journalist Manuel Valdes, helped to puncture that veil of silence when AP examined thousands of pages of court documents in lawsuits brought by abuse victims and then conducted extensive interviews.

Through careful and thorough reporting, the team detailed a pattern of repeated collusion among predator priests, with abuse that spanned generations and reached all the way to the top of the territory's church hierarchy, ruled over by then-Archbishop Tony Apuron, who himself had been accused of the rape of a 13-year-old choir boy when Apuron was his parish priest. Rapes and other abuses continued as Apuron rose through the church ranks to become the territory's prelate, his accusers allege.

Biesecker read case files for each of the 223 lawsuits filed by abuse survivors, tracking the number of complaints against each of the accused and noting similarities. From there, he worked with lawyers to set up on-camera interviews with seven key survivors.

On the island, Goldman conducted additional interviews with at least five more for a series of powerful portraits showing each person with a picture of himself at around the age when they say they were abused by Catholic clergy. Valdez captured the anguish of the survivors, many of whom told them on camera for the first time, breaking down in tears. Freelance reporter Grace Garces Bordallo provided invaluable local knowledge and helped with fact-checking. The package included a text and video explainer on how deeply Catholicism is ingrained in daily life on the island.

The team tracked down a priest accused of abuse in Hawaii. They found him living in a home with children and interviewed him on camera. They also traced Apuron to an address in New Jersey, although residents of the home denied knowledge of him. (Apuon continues to deny the accusations. However, a secret church trial last year found him guilty of sex crimes against children, removing him from his public ministry and effectively exiling him from Guam.)

Biesecker came to realize the extent of clergy abuse lawsuits on Guam almost by accident. He was researching federal court records on abuse by scoutmasters who were also priests when he saw the high number of lawsuits on Guam. Digging further, he learned more about the accusations against the archbishop and saw a broader story.

In a series of phone calls, Biesecker convinced a lawyer representing most of the victims to provide access to her clients, if they chose to speak with him. Biesecker then worked to secure interviews with key survivors whose accounts he had read about in the lawsuits, including the archbishop's own nephew.

The care and sensitivity of the reporting team were key to the project's power.

Having conducted interviews with survivors of violence and sexual assaults earlier in his career, Biesecker knew that pressing the victims too hard to talk about painful childhood experiences could retraumatize them. Instead, he often began by asking about their home villages, their families and other more benign topics before slowly turning the conversation to what the priests had done.

Biesecker spoke very little during these encounters, encouraging survivors to tell their stories at their own pace, revealing only as much as they felt comfortable. Eventually, some of the survivors chose to talk on camera about memories so painful they had repressed them for decades, not even sharing the troubling details

with their parents or spouses. After the interviews were over, Biesecker went back to them days or weeks later to make absolutely sure that the survivors were comfortable with him writing about such deeply personal details. They all agreed.

"To see my story told in this way gives me a lot of peace, that I have a purpose," said Walter Denton, a former U.S. Army sergeant and survivor of abuse nearly 40 years ago.

For telling a sensitive and little-known story of systemic clerical abuse dating from the 1950s to as recently as 2013, Biesecker, Goldman and Valdes share AP's Best of the Week award.

Best of States

Source's tip, weeks of planning put AP at scene of massive Mississippi immigration raids



A man is taken into custody at a Koch Foods plant in Morton, Miss., Aug. 7, 2019. Some 600 U.S. immigration agents raided several Mississippi food

processing plants, arresting 680 people, the largest workplace raid in a decade. (AP PHOTO / ROGELIO V. SOLIS)

Because San Diego correspondent Elliot Spagat received a tip that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents were planning massive raids on food processing plants, AP was uniquely positioned - literally - when ICE stormed seven Mississippi chicken processing plants and arrested 680 people, the largest workplace raid in a decade.

ICE acting Director Matthew Albence said the next day that the investigation was so secret that even the White House didn't know.

In following up on the tip, Spagat, leader of the U.S. immigration beat team, had discussed a coverage plan with editors in the South region. He was initially told the raids were going to be in New Orleans but subsequent reporting quickly clarified they would be in Jackson, Mississippi, causing everyone to shift gears. Timing of the early-morning raids was challenging with Mississippi's primary elections falling the night before. The AP worked on getting unfettered access in the weeks leading up to the raid but encountered pushback from some nervous officials as we discreetly tried to learn as much as we could about the yearlong investigation. South editors, working with Spagat, put final touches on the coverage plan as Mississippi voters were casting ballots.

The careful sleuthing and planning put AP way ahead of all local and national media outlets in the speed and depth of the report. Jackson photographer Rogelio V. Solis, working on only a few hours rest, was the only journalist on scene when about 600 agents simultaneously hit the plants, positioning himself at a facility in Morton, Mississippi. Solis documented the confusion and panic, while Jackson reporter Jeff Amy, also working on little rest, got an exclusive tour of the military hangar that became a processing center, as well as an exclusive interview with Albence in which he disclosed the arrest count before his news conference. The APNewsAlert announcing the count was minutes ahead of everyone else.

Amy and Solis followed up in subsequent days with stories about terrified residents unwilling to leave their houses for fear of arrest, how nearly half those arrested had been released and how churches were stepping in to help families of those affected. Text and photos worked closely on the coverage. Solis used his Spanish language skills to interview immigrants who didn't speak English, and his contributions were integral to the text report. It was also a good example of a national beat team working with staff on the ground in a state.

The stories received monster play. For example: The first-day story had 3 million social interactions by the next morning. Photos were used by many major customers, including The New York Times and USA Today. The stories were

mentioned on the widely read Axios AM and Amy was interviewed on NPR's Morning Edition.

For scoring scoops on a major ICE operation, Spagat, Amy and Solis are the winners of this week's Best of the States honors.

Stories of interest

Gerald Ford said this headline cost him the election. Daily News used it again for Trump.

(Washington Post)

By Marisa Iati

New York City was in trouble, but President Gerald R. Ford had no intention of saving the day.

In a speech at the National Press Club in October 1975, Ford promised to veto any bill that would allocate federal money for the city of 8 million as it stood on the brink of bankruptcy. New York City's financial mess was its own, Ford said, and so was responsibility for righting the ship.

"If we go on spending more than we have, providing more benefits and more services than we can pay for, then a day of reckoning will come to Washington and the whole country, just as it has to New York City," Ford told his audience in the District. "And so, let me conclude with one question of my own: When that day of reckoning comes, who will bail out the United States of America?"

The front page of the New York Daily News the next day minced no words.

"FORD TO CITY: DROP DEAD," the headline blared.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

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Pilot in fatal New Orleans plane crash radioed he was having trouble before aircraft went down (CNN)



By Steve Almasy, CNN

(CNN) - The pilot of a stunt plane that crashed, killing a popular New Orleans anchor, radioed the tower that he was having unspecified problems with the aircraft shortly after takeoff, the National Transportation Safety Board said Saturday.

The pilot, who also died in the crash Friday, was cleared to return to the Lakefront Airport in New Orleans when witnesses said it appeared the plane had engine problems. The nose of the plane pointed down and the aircraft crashed, the NTSB reported witnesses saying.

Most of the aircraft was destroyed by fire, the NTSB said.

Nancy Parker was shooting a story in a stunt plane, her employer WVUE, a CNN affiliate, reported when the crash happened in a field.

"Nancy was a part of the Fox 8 family for the last 23 years. She put her heart and soul into her work, covering thousands of stories and touching countless lives," Vice

President and General Manager Tim Ingram said. "She made a difference in the lives of those she reported on. She will be sorely missed, and her absence creates a void that cannot be filled."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Len Iwanski/

The Final Word

The Misconception about Baby Boomers and the Sixties (The New Yorker)

By LOUIS MENAND

Thankfully, we are within sight of the end of the fiftieth anniversaries of things that happened in the nineteen-sixties. What's left is mostly stuff that no one wants to remember: the Days of Rage, Nixon's Silent Majority speech, the death of Jack Kerouac, and Altamont-although these will probably not pass entirely without mention.

One reason to feel glad to be nearly done with this round of fiftieths is that we will no longer be subjected, constantly, to generalizations about the baby-boom generation. There are many canards about that generation, but the most persistent is that the boomers were central to the social and cultural events of the nineteen-sixties. Apart from being alive, baby boomers had almost nothing to do with the nineteen-sixties.

The math is not that hard. The boom began in July, 1946, when live births in the United States jumped to two hundred and eighty-six thousand, and it did not end until December, 1964, when three hundred and thirty-one thousand babies were born. That's eighteen years and approximately seventy-six million people. It does not make a lot of sense to try to generalize about seventy-six million people. The expectations and potential life paths of Americans born in 1946 were completely different from the expectations and life paths of Americans born in 1964. One cohort entered the workforce in a growing economy, the other in a recession. One cohort had Elvis Presley to look forward to; the other had him to look back on. Male forty-sixers had to register for the draft, something people born in 1964 never had to worry about.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - August 19, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Aug. 19, the 231st day of 2019. There are 134 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 19, 1934, a plebiscite in Germany approved the vesting of sole executive power in Adolf Hitler.

On this date:

In 1812, the USS Constitution defeated the British frigate HMS Guerriere off Nova Scotia during the War of 1812, earning the nickname "Old Ironsides."

In 1814, during the War of 1812, British forces landed at Benedict, Maryland, with the objective of capturing Washington D.C.

In 1848, the New York Herald reported the discovery of gold in California.

In 1909, the first automobile races were run at the just-opened Indianapolis Motor Speedway; the winner of the first event was auto engineer Louis Schwitzer, who

drove a Stoddard-Dayton touring car twice around the 2.5-mile track at an average speed of 57.4 mph.

In 1942, during World War II, about 6,000 Canadian and British soldiers launched a disastrous raid against the Germans at Dieppe, France, suffering more than 50-percent casualties.

In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford won the Republican presidential nomination at the party's convention in Kansas City.

In 1980, 301 people aboard a Saudi Arabian L-1011 died as the jetliner made a fiery emergency return to the Riyadh airport.

In 1982, Soviet cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya became the second woman to be launched into space.

In 1987, a gun collector ran through Hungerford, England, 60 miles west of London, killing 16 people, including his mother, before turning his gun on himself.

In 1990, Leonard Bernstein conducted what turned out to be the last concert of his career at Tanglewood in Lenox, Mass. with the Boston Symphony Orchestra; the program ended with Beethoven's Symphony No. 7.

In 2003, a suicide truck bomb struck U.N. headquarters in Baghdad, killing 22, including the top U.N. envoy, Sergio Vieira de Mello. A suicide bombing of a bus in Jerusalem killed 22 people.

In 2004, Google began trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market, ending the day up \$15.34 at \$100.34.

Ten years ago: Suicide bombers struck Iraq's finance and foreign ministries, killing more than 100 people. Four members of an elite Army special operations unit were killed when their helicopter crashed on a Colorado mountain during a training mission. Don Hewitt, the TV news pioneer who'd created CBS' "60 Minutes," died at his Long Island, New York, home at age 86.

Five years ago: A video released by Islamic State militants purported to show the beheading of American journalist James Foley as retribution for U.S. airstrikes in Iraq. The New York Islanders announced the team had been sold to a former

Washington Capitals co-owner Jon Ledecky and London-based investor Scott Malkin.

One year ago: Former CIA Director John Brennan, whose security clearance had been revoked by President Donald Trump, told NBC's "Meet the Press" that he was considering taking legal action to try to prevent Trump from removing clearances from other current and former officials. "Crazy Rich Asians," in its opening weekend in American theaters, was the top money-making film.

Today's Birthdays: Actor L.Q. Jones is 92. Actress Debra Paget is 86. USTA Eastern Tennis Hall of Famer Renee Richards is 85. Former MLB All-Star Bobby Richardson is 84. Actress Diana Muldaur is 81. Rock musician Ginger Baker (Cream, Blind Faith) is 80. Singer Johnny Nash is 79. Actress Jill St. John is 79. Singer Billy J. Kramer is 76. Country singer-songwriter Eddy Raven is 75. Rock singer Ian Gillan (Deep Purple) is 74. Former President Bill Clinton is 73. Actor Gerald McRaney is 72. Tipper Gore, wife of former Vice President Al Gore, is 71. Actor Jim Carter is 71. Pop singer-musician Elliot Lurie (Looking Glass) is 71. Rock musician John Deacon (Queen) is 68. Bluegrass musician Marc Pruett (Balsam Range) is 68. Actor-director Jonathan Frakes is 67. Political consultant Mary Matalin is 66. Actor Peter Gallagher is 64. Actor Adam Arkin is 63. Singer-songwriter Gary Chapman is 62. Actor Martin Donovan is 62. Pro Football Hall-of-Famer Anthony Munoz is 61. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ivan Neville is 60. Actor Eric Lutes is 57. Actor John Stamos is 56. Actress Kyra Sedgwick is 54. Actor Kevin Dillon is 54. Country singer Lee Ann Womack is 53. TV reporter Tabitha Soren is 52. Country singer-songwriter Mark McGuinn is 51. Actor Matthew Perry is 50. Country singer Clay Walker is 50. Rapper Fat Joe is 49. Olympic gold medal tennis player Mary Joe Fernandez is 48. Actress Tracie Thoms is 44. Actor Callum Blue is 42. Country singer Rissi Palmer is 38. Actress Erika Christensen is 37. Actress Melissa Fumero is 37. Pop singer Missy Higgins is 36. Actor Peter Mooney is 36. Actress Tammin Sursok is 36. Country singer Karli Osborn is 35. Olympic silver medal snowboarder Lindsey Jacobellis is 34. Actor J. Evan Bonifant is 34. Rapper Romeo is 30. Actor Ethan Cutkosky is 20.

Thought for Today: "Cheer up! The worst is yet to come!" - Philander Chase Johnson, American author (1866-1939).

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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