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Connecting - August 28, 2019

1 message

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Wed, Aug 28, 2019 at 8:52 AM

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Connecting

August 28, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 28th day of August 2019,

A memorial service for **Bob Haring** has been set for next Tuesday, September 3, at 2 p.m. at Stanleys Funeral Home Chapel in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Today's Connecting leads with a heartfelt remembrance by **Pamela Hanlon** of our colleague, who died last Saturday. Bob is remembered by many for his fine work at The Associated Press and the Tulsa World.

Have a great day!

Paul

Chance encounter with Bob Haring in elevator at 50 Rock that changed my life

Pamela Hanlon ([Email](#)) - Reading the obituary of Bob Haring in Connecting - with the Tulsa World's Susan Ellerbach noting his support of women in the newsroom - brings to mind my own story of how Bob Haring truly changed the course of my life.

It was 1971. Armed with a journalism degree from the University of Missouri and a healthy dose of enthusiasm, I walked into the AP's personnel office on the seventh floor of 50 Rock and applied for a job. After a quick interview that didn't go so well, I was told to get myself some experience with a newspaper, and then come back to the AP in a few years.

As I waited at the elevator to exit the building, and undoubtedly looking sadly dejected, a very "executive-looking" man was standing next to me. He obviously assumed I had been there interviewing for a job, and he asked me how I had done.



Pamela Hanlon

"Not very well," I explained, and then told him my only real journalism credentials were my J-School degree from Missouri.

He quickly introduced himself as Bob Haring, AP's business editor, and said he too was a Missouri J-School graduate. Did I know Professor Bill Bickley, he wanted to know? Bickley had been his college roommate and still was one of his best friends.

Well, yes, I said, I had taken two of Bill Bickley's courses. With that, Haring ushered me down to his office on the fourth floor, and telephoned Bickley. After a short conversation, Haring arranged for me to go back to Personnel for another interview and then, of course, to take the infamous AP writing test. Several days later, I was offered a job in the Albany, NY, bureau. And awaiting me there on my first day of work was a lovely handwritten note from Bob Haring, wishing me the best in my new AP endeavors.

Now, there is a "kicker" to this story: While I left the AP for the PR business two years after I arrived in Albany, it was at the Albany bureau where I met my future husband, Charles Hanley. And so I often look back at how that chance encounter with Bob Haring at the seventh floor elevator bank at 50 Rock forever changed my life.

More memories of Angus Thuermer and his pre-WWII reporting

Francesca Pitaro ([Email](#)) - While catching up on Connecting, I found Angus Thuermer Jr.'s wonderful tribute to his father in the August 20th issue. At the AP, we were also thinking about Angus Thuermer and his reporting during the days leading up to the start of World War II. Last week, the Corporate Archives submitted this story for Connections, the in-house e-newsletter, with links to the Thuermer Papers, which are available to all AP staffers. Unfortunately, Connecting readers won't be able to open the links, but I'm including a few photos of original copy and letters from the Thuermer Papers.

[Read the papers of the rookie reporter who covered the German invasion of Poland](#)

After less than six months as a rookie AP reporter in the Berlin bureau, Angus Thuermer was sent to Gleiwitz, (now Gliwice, Poland) to report on the German invasion of Poland and subsequent start of World War II.

Although subject to censorship, Thuermer and American reporters were permitted to remain in Germany and operate fairly independently until the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, which brought the United States into the war. Three days later, Thuermer and Berlin Chief of Bureau Louis Lochner were interned with more than 100 other Americans at the resort of Bad Nauheim. They were released and returned to the United States five months later.

Thuermer's Papers, housed in the AP Corporate Archives, were digitized as part of a project with [Gale Cengage: "AP Collections Online"](#) in 2015. Staff can access the content using the link on the [Inside.ap.org](#) page.



A group of Associated Press foreign correspondents arrive in New York harbor aboard the Swedish-American liner Drottningholm on June 1, 1942. From left are: Richard G. Massock, former chief of Bureau in Rome; Alvin J. Steinkopf, Angus Thuermer, both of Berlin bureau; Louis P. Lochner, chief of the Berlin bureau; Max Harrelson, of the bureau in Bern, Switzerland; and Ernest G. Fischer of the Berlin bureau. The journalists were returning to the United States after five months of internment by the Nazis in Germany. (AP Photo)

The personal papers of AP reporters are an invaluable part of our collections. In addition to his original copy, Thuermer's letters give so much detail on the stories and personalities he covered. He describes his life in Germany, his friends and colleagues and the operations of the Berlin bureau under Louis Lochner, the formidable Berlin bureau chief (1924-1941). We want to thank the Thuermer family and all the other donors to the Corporate Archives who help us tell the story of the AP.

Images from Thuermer's papers:



Hotel Haus Oberschlesien

Direktor Carl M. Herrmann (früher langjähriger Leiter der staatlichen Kurhotels Bad Salzbrunn)

Mrs C. H. Thuermer
 5737 Maryland
 Chicago, Ill
 U.S.A.

Zimmer mit fließendem Wasser u. Reichsfernsprechanschluß
 Fernruf-Sammelnummer 3391 / Drahtanschrift: Oberhaus

Banken: Stadtpar. und Girokasse, Gleiwitz

Postsparkonto: Amt Breslau 22908

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 stellungsräume & Maschinen-, Schreib- und
 Lesezimmer & Terrassenkaffee

Gleiwitz, den

16. Aug 1939

Postfach 66

Well Falks, here I am —

Filed a story today and I hope
 it was O.K. Henkoff, who took it, said
 it was. Am ensconced here "on the
 company" room of bath & telephone - and
 came down to class train. Boy was that
 luxury after riding "Holz" or III before.

Things look bad. Either Poland
 gives in - or Poland doesn't. If she does -
 no war. If she doesn't, Deutschland seems
 to be going in there and take it - Corridor,
 Polish Polesia, Danzig and all -
 More soldiers here than any

1870
① From Aug 18 Fresh German Troops
(P) in "large numbers" have arrived
(315)
in this city - lying on Poland's
South Western border - within the
last five days, residents here report.

26

"DIE GRÖSSTE KO-OPERATIVE NACHRICHTENORGANISATION DER WELT UND EINE DER ERFOLGREICHSTEN REIN GEGENSEITIGEN UNTERNEHMUNGEN, DIE JE
IN EINEM INDUSTRIEZWEIG ORGANISIERT WURDE." (ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA 14. AUFLAGE, 1932)

BERLIN
LOUIS P. LOCHNER
CHEF-REDAKTEUR
TELEGRAMMADRESSE
"ASSOCIATED BERLIN"
FERNSPRECHER
17 02 95, 17 02 96

The Associated Press

ZENTRALVERWALTUNG
385 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, U. S. A.
KENT COOPER, GENERALDIREKTOR

ZIMMERSTRASSE 68,

August 15, 1939

Dear folks-

to morrow morning starts the big chance, or
at least something that may turn out as a big chance-

Things by the time this reaches you may be
pretty hot, but right now they are warming up. The chief came out
of the telephone booth this afternoon after talking with London and
said, "Well, Angus, I guess we are going to have to make a war
correspondent out of you", so tomorrow morning at 8 I board the
train for Upper Silesia, where troops are expected to move in
from the south on Poland. It is heavy industrial and coal region,
and sought after by the Germans.

First I head for Gleiwitz and take a look
around and ask our ~~local~~ local man how the situation looks. The
chief is staying here, Shanke is being sent to the line of march
that will go straight to Bomberg and Posen, Heinzerling is in
Danzig, and Steinkopfs the only other American left here with the
chief. Josten and Schildbach, the two German editors, it is
figgured, will not be a safe bet down there if they are German
citizens-- so London says o.k. and off I go. Cross you fingers!

Love ,



To crop or not to crop: That is the question



Doug Pizac ([Email](#)) - Here's my take on Harry Cabluck's comment (in Tuesday's Connecting) about the group photo with a body in the background.

The cropping out or leaving in the person laying on the street behind the people posing for a group photo can go two ways. Many decades ago, cropping in to just the group would be the choice because of the prevalence of grip/grin photos in newspapers back then. But today with social media, making a statement, being politically correct, etc., the inclusion of the person face down on the ground changes the whole aspect of the photo's interpretation.

This crop opens up a whole dialog about society. There is the have and have not's angle. We have well to do people ignoring the unfortunate, we have the whole irony of the scene. At first you look at the group and then notice the juxtaposition of the body in the background as a wakeup call.

For those reasons I see it as a powerful image instead of a badly cropped one - something that Eugene Smith would make to show the injustices of life or WeeGee's famous image of the street woman looking at two wealthy matriarchs walking past in fur coats wearing tiaras. The picture makes a strong social justice statement.

I'm adding this to my collection of examples on how cropping can change the whole meaning of an image. Thanks for sharing, Harry.

-0-

Mark Mittelstadt (Email) - Harry Cabluck suggested in Tuesday's Connecting a picture editor might have cropped out a body in the background of an image of a running club in the Austin American-Statesman. Should they have?

I don't think so.

The photo, to me, speaks loudly to the dichotomy that is Austin. The Texas state capital has burnished a reputation as a trendy, Southwest city full of great clubs and excellent restaurants. The photo was of chefs and cooks from some of the better establishments who participate in the Comedor Running Club, which shares its name with one of the city's modern Mexican restaurants.

At the same time Austin is dealing with major problems of homelessness and drugged derelicts wandering the street. The banner headline in the same Aug. 22 issue read "Friction seen on homeless rules." A related story on A6 reported how a forum between residents and city officials, meant to allay concerns over earlier votes to ease a ban on homeless tent camping and relax rules on panhandling, became heated and led to little agreement.

The photo is simply credited as "Contributed." Did the editor who inserted it on a page deep inside the paper simply not look at it closely and not see a body in the background? Or did they hope surreptitiously to make a statement to the community? We don't know. If the latter, it seems the photo might have been played on A1 with greater context.

One might hope such a photo would generate discussion about how the hip and wealthy might help Austin leaders address the homeless problem. Based on the lack of reaction in American-Statesman letters to the editor, it appears that has not happened.

But crop out a body lying yards away from a photo of fit, young chefs and cooks who feed thousands of residents and visitors nightly? That would seem to be continuing to ignore a challenge to an otherwise attractive city.

New-member profile: Stephen Wolgast

Stephen Wolgast ([Email](#)) - the Knight Chair of Audience and Community Engagement for News at the University of Kansas, has three decades of professional and academic experience. It all started when he was a college student at Kansas State University, working for the daily paper, the Collegian, and stringing for The AP as a photographer under Cliff Schiappa in Kansas City.



Steve started his career as a photographer at the Topeka Capital-Journal, worked as a reporter at The Baltic Independent in Tallinn, Estonia, and as an editor at the Casper (Wyo.) Star-Tribune and The Times-Picayune in New Orleans. He became a newsroom manager at the Akron Beacon Journal, and from there worked as an editor at The New York Times for nine years, where he contributed to the special section "A Nation Challenged," which was published daily after 9/11 and for which the newsroom received the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service in 2002.

Wolgast began teaching at Kansas State University, where he was also the director of Collegian Media Group, the non-profit publisher of student media. In that role he initiated the transition of the campus phone book to a student lifestyle magazine, oversaw the introduction of a news app, and helped edit a series that led a student's being named the Rolling Stone College Journalist of the Year. Wolgast also served as a professor of the practice of journalism, teaching classes in reporting and entrepreneurial journalism.

Connecting mailbox

Update on the Bend Bulletin

Greg Nokes ([Email](#)) - An update on Tuesday's Connecting article on the bankruptcy of the Bend (OR) Bulletin and Western Communications.

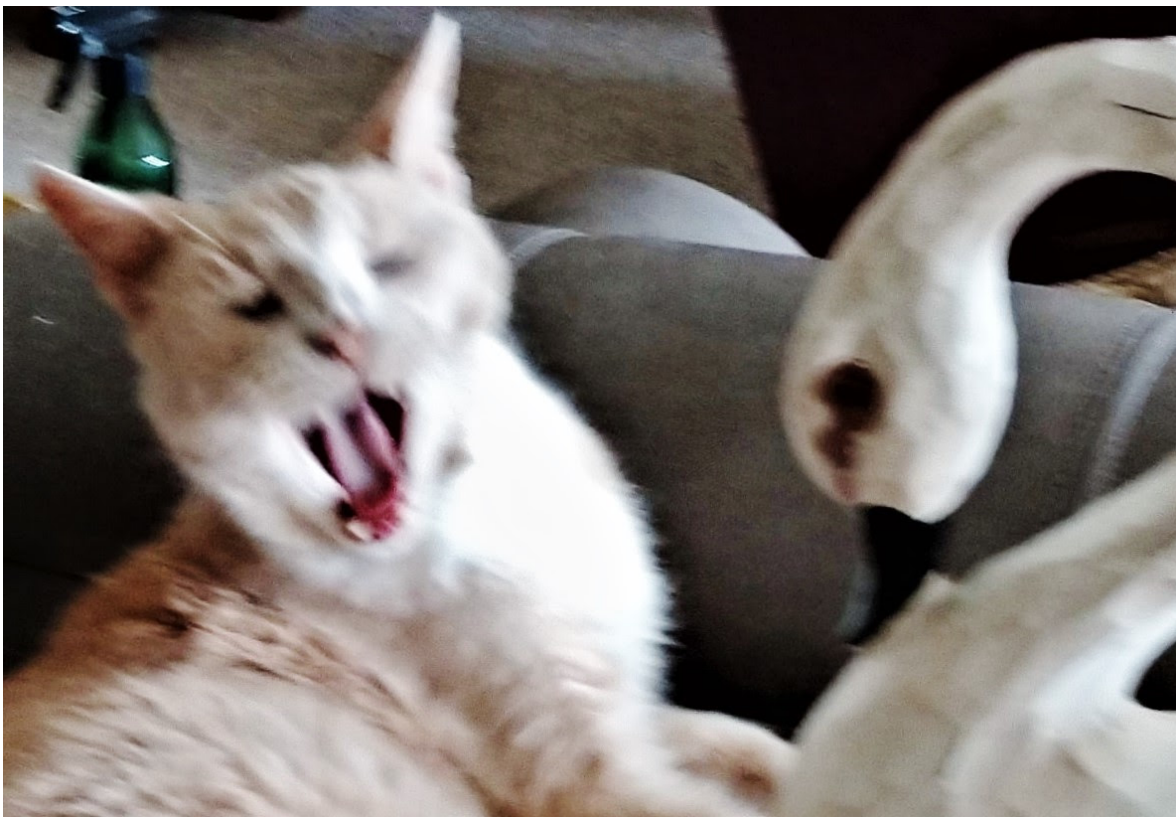
According to [this announcement](#), it's being acquired by Oregon-based EO Media, whose president is my good friend Steve Forrester. This is a great outcome for local (as in Oregon) ownership. EO Media is publisher of a chain of mostly Oregon

newspapers including the Daily Astorian in Astoria and the East Oregonian in Pendleton. A new book, "Bread and Ink: An Oregon Family's Adventures in Newspapering, 1908-2018," published by Oregon State University Press, tells the story of this enterprising newspaper family.

I am sad to see the bankruptcy of the Bend Bulletin, one of my favorite newspapers when it was led by the late Bob Chandler, another newspaper editor and friend I greatly admired. It's plunge into bankruptcy resulted from an ill-timed investment in a new building. But it's now in good hands with EO Media.

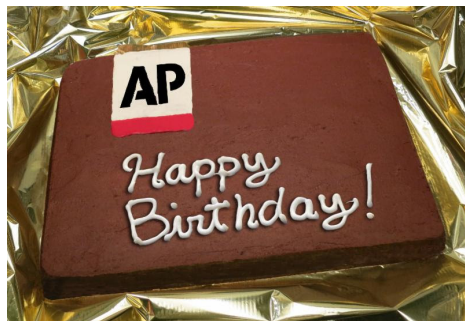
-0-

'Well, I Swan'



Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - Tweetie Bird," our 17-year-old male cat, lets the artificial swan know that he does not approve of his bed-side presence. (Cell phones are good for absolute still scenes, but lack a lot for action.)

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Rick Cooper - rick55cooper@gmail.com

Randy Evans - revans2810@aol.com

Larry Heinzerling - lheinzerling@gmail.com

Stories of interest

How writing off the working class has hurt the mainstream media (Nieman)

By CHRISTOPHER R. MARTIN

Editor's note: This essay is adapted from Christopher R. Martin's 2019 book, *No Longer Newsworthy: How the Mainstream Media Abandoned the Working Class* (Cornell University Press).

In June 1951, the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard held a two-day conference for labor reporting. Louis Lyons, the curator of the Nieman Foundation at the time, introduced Louis Stark, the longtime New York Times Washington bureau labor reporter, as "the ringleader of the conference." Stark's work assembling the conference might have been an effort to ensure his legacy and the future of labor reporting, a beat he helped to foster. He started working at the New York Times in 1917, became a full-time labor reporter in 1924, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1942 for labor reporting, and left the beat in August 1951 - just two months after the Nieman conference - to become a Times editorial writer.

There were 22 "newspapermen" listed in the Nieman Reports account of the conference. They all stayed in Mower Hall, one of the Harvard Yard dormitories, and took meals together at the Harvard Faculty Club.

Read more [here](#).

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Op-Ed: Bernie Sanders on his plan for journalism (CJR)

By BERNIE SANDERS

WALTER CRONKITE ONCE SAID that "journalism is what we need to make democracy work." He was absolutely right, which is why today's assault on journalism by Wall Street, billionaire businessmen, Silicon Valley, and Donald Trump presents a crisis-and why we must take concrete action.

Real journalism is different from the gossip, punditry, and clickbait that dominates today's news. Real journalism, in the words of Joseph Pulitzer, is the painstaking reporting that will "fight for progress and reform, never tolerate injustice or corruption, [and] always fight demagogues." Pulitzer said that journalism must always "oppose privileged classes and public plunderers, never lack sympathy with the poor, always remain devoted to the public welfare, never be satisfied with merely printing news, always be drastically independent, never be afraid to attack wrong, whether by predatory plutocracy or predatory poverty."

When we have had real journalism, we have seen crimes like Watergate exposed and confronted, leading to anti-corruption reforms. When we have lacked real journalism, we have seen crimes like mortgage fraud go unnoticed and unpunished, leading to a devastating financial crisis that destroyed millions of Americans' lives.

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

-0-

Head of U-I Journalism Department says Gannett sale not good for news (Radio Iowa)

By DAR DANIELSON

The director of the University of Iowa School of Journalism says the purchase of the Gannett company by GateHouse Media is likely to lead to more cutbacks at the Iowa newspapers involved.

David Ryfe, has studied the issue of changes in the media, and says this development is good only for the lawyer and bankers involved. "It's not especially good news for the news organizations involved, or for the communities that are covered by those news organizations," Ryfe says. "This is just another step down the road of the slow deterioration of news outlets across the country."

Gannett owns the Des Moines Register and Iowa City Press Citizen. Gatehouse owns two daily newspapers the Ames Tribune and The Hawk Eye in Burlington, along with five weeklies: the Boone News-Republican, Dallas County News, Hamburg Reporter, Nevada Journal and Perry Chief.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - August 28, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 28, the 240th day of 2019. There are 125 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 28, 1955, Emmett Till, a black teen-ager from Chicago, was abducted from his uncle's home in Money, Mississippi, by two white men after he had supposedly whistled at a white woman; he was found brutally slain three days later.

On this date:

In 1916, Italy declared war on Germany during World War I.

In 1944, during World War II, German forces in Toulon and Marseille (mahr-SAY'), France, surrendered to Allied troops.

In 1963, more than 200,000 people listened as the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

In 1968, police and anti-war demonstrators clashed in the streets of Chicago as the Democratic National Convention nominated Hubert H. Humphrey for president.

In 1987, a fire damaged the Arcadia, Fla., home of Ricky, Robert and Randy Ray, three hemophiliac brothers infected with AIDS whose court-ordered school attendance had sparked a local uproar. Academy Award-winning movie director John Huston died in Middletown, R.I., at age 81.

In 1990, an F5 tornado struck the Chicago area, killing 29 people.

In 1996, Democrats nominated President Bill Clinton for a second term at their national convention in Chicago. The troubled 15-year marriage of Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Diana officially ended with the issuing of a divorce decree.

In 2005, New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin (NAY'-gin) ordered everyone in the city to evacuate after Hurricane Katrina grew to a monster storm.

In 2008, surrounded by an enormous, adoring crowd at Invesco Field in Denver, Barack Obama accepted the Democratic presidential nomination, promising what he called a clean break from the "broken politics in Washington and the failed policies of George W. Bush."

In 2012, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney swept to the Republican presidential nomination at a storm-delayed national convention in Tampa, Florida.

In 2013, a military jury sentenced Maj. Nidal Hasan to death for the 2009 shooting rampage at Fort Hood that claimed 13 lives. On the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial, President Barack Obama stood on the same steps as he challenged new generations to seize the cause of racial equality.

In 2017, floodwaters reached the rooflines of single-story homes as Hurricane Harvey poured rain on the Houston area for a fourth consecutive day; thousands of people had been rescued from the flooding.

Ten years ago: The Los Angeles County coroner's office announced that Michael Jackson's death was a homicide caused primarily by the powerful anesthetic propofol (PROH'-puh-fahl) and another sedative, lorazepam (lor-AZ'-uh-pam). Celebrity disc jockey Adam Goldstein, known as DJ AM, was found dead in his New York apartment; he was 36.

Five years ago: Comedian Joan Rivers was rushed to New York's Mount Sinai Hospital after she suffered cardiac arrest at a doctor's office where she'd gone for a routine outpatient procedure (Rivers died a week later at age 81). Acknowledging he "didn't get it right" with a two-game suspension for Ravens running back Ray Rice, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell (guh-DEHL') announced tougher penalties for players accused of domestic violence, including six weeks for a first offense and at least a year for a second. Glenn Cornick, 67, the original bass player in the rock band Jethro Tull, died in Hilo, Hawaii.

One year ago: A white former police officer, Roy Oliver, was convicted of murder for fatally shooting an unarmed black 15-year-old boy, Jordan Edwards, while firing into a car packed with teenagers in suburban Dallas; Oliver was sentenced the following day to 15 years in prison. Puerto Rico's governor raised the official death toll from Hurricane Maria in the U.S. territory from 64 to 2,975, after an independent study found that the number of people who died in the aftermath of the 2017 storm had been severely undercounted. Mourners filed into an African American history museum in Detroit for a public viewing for the late Aretha Franklin, part of a week of commemorations for the soul legend.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Sonny Shroyer is 84. Actress Marla Adams is 81. Actor Ken Jenkins is 79. Former Defense Secretary William S. Cohen is 79. Actor David Soul is 76. Former MLB manager and player Lou Piniella (pihn-EHL'-uh) is 76. Actress Barbara Bach is 73. Actress Debra Mooney is 72. Singer Wayne Osmond (The Osmonds) is 68. Actor Daniel Stern is 62. Olympic gold medal figure skater Scott Hamilton is 61. Actor John Allen Nelson is 60. Actress Emma Samms is 59. Actress Jennifer Coolidge is 58. Movie director David Fincher is 57. Actress Amanda Tapping is 54. Country singer Shania (shah-NY'-uh) Twain is 54. Actor Billy Boyd is 51. Actor Jack Black is 50. Actor Jason Priestley is 50. Actor Daniel Goddard (TV: "The Young and the Restless") is 48. Olympic gold medal swimmer Janet Evans is 48. Actor J. August Richards is 46. Rock singer-musician Max Collins (Eve 6) is 41. Actress Carly Pope is 39. Country singer Jake Owen is 38. Country singer LeAnn Rimes is 37. Actress Kelly Thiebaud is 37. Actor Alfonso Herrera is 36. Actress Sarah Roemer is 35. Actor Armie Hammer is 33. Rock singer Florence Welch (Florence and the Machine) is 33. Actress Shalita Grant is 31. Country-pop singer Cassadee Pope (TV: "The Voice") is 30. Actress Katie Findlay is 29. Actor/singer Samuel Larsen is 28. Actor Kyle Massey is 28. Actress Quvenzhane (kwuh-VEHN'-zhah-nay) Wallis is 16. Reality TV star Alana Thompson, AKA "Honey Boo Boo," is 14.

Thought for Today: "The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference. The opposite of art is not ugliness, it's indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy, it's indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it's indifference."
- Elie Wiesel (EL'-ee vee-ZEHL'), Romanian-born journalist-author.

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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