



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - September 17, 2019

1 message

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

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Connecting

September 17, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 17th day of September 2019,

Thirty years ago, the iconic image of the Tank Man protester at Tiananmen Square during the 1989 pro-democracy protests in Beijing, China, was displayed in news outlets around the world. To this day, the photo remains an international symbol of peaceful resistance and represents an invitation not to forget what happened in Tiananmen Square.

Four photographers captured the moment. One of them, an American named **Charlie Cole**, died September 5 in his home in Bali, Indonesia, at the age of 64. His photo of the Tank Man for Newsweek won the World Press Photo Award.

Our colleague **Jeff Widener**, another of the photographers who took a photo of that moment and whose picture was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, shares for Connecting his thoughts about Cole and that historic moment in time.

Jeff works as a freelance photographer based in Hamburg, Germany and served as AP's Southeast Asia picture editor, based in Bangkok, Thailand, from 1987-1995. He also worked for The Honolulu Advertiser, UPI (Miami and Brussels), The Miami News, The Evansville Press and The Las Vegas Sun.

Have a great day!

Paul

Remembering Charlie Cole and a special time in news photography history



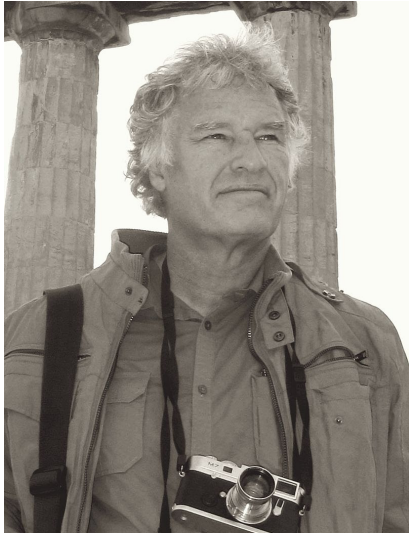
Jeff Widener's image



Charlie Cole's image

Jeff Widener (Email) - There are no words to explain the fear I felt on the morning of June 5, 1989, when I walked my bicycle through the entrance of the Diplomatic Compound in Beijing. I had nearly died the night before when a protester thrown piece of broken asphalt hit me in the face during a burning armored car incident. My titanium Nikon absorbed the blow sparing my life. My mission was to

reach the Beijing Hotel which had the closest vantage point to the occupied Tiananmen Square. The main Chang Ahn Boulevard was littered with smashed bicycles and burned buses. Citizens rode their bicycles in circles with dazed looks. I had heard that other journalists had been searched by secret police at the hotel and were shocked with electric cattle prods. For this reason, I concealed my camera gear in my Levi jacket and shoved a few rolls of film down my underwear.



Jeff Widener

After riding past an overpass with four tanks with soldiers manning heavy machine guns, I arrived at the Beijing Hotel where security men in white overalls guarded the lobby. I knew they were going to search me so I had to think fast. Fortunately, there was an American Exchange student who allowed me up to his room. I pretended to know him and security left me alone. As I settled in the room, little did I know that Charlie Cole was having his own set of problems with security pounding on his door. He had hidden his film of "Tank Man" in a toilet. Also held up in the hotel was Reuters photographer Arthur Tsang and Magnum photographer Stuart Franklin. None of us knew we were nonexclusive. I still remember the look on Franklin's face when he found out I also had the "Tank Man" image. We both tried unsuccessfully to hide our sheer disappointment.

When the tanks finally came rolling down the street, I was taking a nap in the room. My horrible flu and injured aching head had taken its toll. I grabbed my camera with 400mm lens and leaned over the 6th floor balcony to get a shot of the approaching tanks. Then this guy walks out waving his shopping bags in front of the approaching column. I was actually annoyed that he screwed up my composition as I was not thinking clearly. The picture was far away so I ran to the bed for a lens doubler to get a tighter image. I was shocked to see my shutter speed was impossibly slow at 30th of a second with an 800mm lens and by the time I figured out what happened, the man was swept away by bystanders. Miraculously one picture came out and circulated the globe on The AP. After 30 years, nobody knows the whereabouts of "Tank Man".

All four of the photographers' "Tank Man" photos are different. My shot is the only one with street lamps. Charlie Cole won the World Press Award for his picture and I was a Pulitzer Prize finalist.

Though I did not know Charlie very well, there was always a chance we would bump into each other on a big story in Asia. I might be walking down a lonely back alley in Pakistan and 'Voila' ... there was Charlie. We might venture to a local gasoline pump for a questionable lunch of "weeds and bones" as the illustrious British photographer Tim Page would

say. Charlie would then settle back in a broken green plastic chair, pat the dust off his black T-shirt and puff on his trademark little cigar while sharing his latest war story like the time a roll of Kodachrome saved his life after an AK-47 round bounced off the canister in his photographer vest.

I found Charlie to be quiet but competitive. Not in any aggressive way. He just seemed to always appear from nowhere when a big story broke. Charlie was one of the other "Heavy Hitter" magazine photographers who roamed Southeast Asia in the 1980's and 90's like James Nachtwey, Robert Nickelsberg, Greg Davis, Robin Moyer, Andy Hernandez, David and Peter Turnley and of course Tim Page. It all happened during a very romantic time when deadline-stressed photographers raced to the New Delhi Airport in honking taxis or spent tranquil hours watching cockroaches fall from the ceiling of the Phnom Penh Post Office during picture transmissions to London. Charlie Cole was just one of "The Boys" during a very special history in news photography and he will be missed by many.



Charlie Cole

Just the other day I was thinking about organizing a reunion for the four of us in Hong Kong but sadly that may never happen now. It just wouldn't be the same without Charlie.

"Cheers, Charlie".

Click [here](#) for a Washington Post story on Cole's death.

Clarifying AP Stylebook guidelines on use of hyphens

Paula Froke ([Email](#)) - AP Stylebook editor - on recent stories in Connecting about the AP Stylebook and hyphens:

We have not changed our guidance on use of hyphens in compound modifiers before a noun, and we certainly aren't getting rid of such hyphens. We did expand on our guidance, and we added some detail that has been given in Stylebook Online's Ask the Editor for years. We did change two specific entries to conform to long-standing guidance (first grade student, first quarter touchdown).

But reports that we are somehow reducing hyphen usage are just plain wrong. We do hyphenate first-half run. We do hyphenate bases-loaded triple. We do hyphenate disaster-ready. On the other hand: Neither we, nor anyone else, would hyphenate common noun phrases such as chocolate chip cookie, real estate transaction, climate change report, high school teacher, News Leaders Association. We changed from first-grade student to first grade student because the meaning is perfectly clear without the hyphen, just as it is in high school student. Same with first quarter touchdown. There is no such thing as a quarter touchdown.

The entry says, in part:

Think of hyphens as an aid to readers' comprehension. If a hyphen makes the meaning clearer, use it. If it just adds clutter and distraction to the sentence, don't use it.

Later, we say:

When a compound modifier - two or more words that express a single concept - precedes a noun, you must decide: Hyphenate that modifier, or not? Often there's not one absolute answer.

But in general: No hyphen is needed if the modifier is commonly recognized as one phrase, and if the meaning is clear and unambiguous without the hyphen. Examples include third grade teacher, chocolate chip cookie, early morning traffic, special effects embellishment, climate change report, public land management, first quarter touchdown, real estate transaction.

Do use a hyphen if it's needed to make the meaning clear and avoid unintended meanings: small-business owner, better-qualified candidate, little-known song, French-speaking people, free-thinking philosophy, loose-knit group. (Think of the different possible meanings or confusion if the hyphen is removed in each of those examples.)

Connecting mailbox

Jesse Holland leaving AP for position at Library of Congress

Jesse Holland ([Email](#)) - AP Race & Ethnicity reporter, Washington - Some personal news: Friday will be my last day with Associated Press. After 25 years, I've decided to embark on a new adventure beginning with my October appointment as a Distinguished Visiting Scholar In Residence at the John W. Kluge Center at The Library of Congress.

I'll be sad to leave the great people of the AP, but I am extremely excited to begin this new chapter of writing and researching some of the unknown African American history of this great country of ours, I'm starting with the people of Freedman's Village, the African American town that sat on the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery, whose stories should be known by more people in the DMV and around the world.



I'll also have some great fiction announcements coming soon, including a book project revolving around a certain superhero king of a fictional African country. (Stay tuned!)

I want to thank everyone who supported me over the years. Your assistance has been invaluable, and I couldn't have done any of this without you. I'll totally miss the people at the AP and especially the people at the Washington bureau. You've been part of my life for so long and I will make sure we stay in touch.

You can still find me on weekends on C-SPAN hosting Washington Journal, and I'll pop up here and there around the media landscape, offering commentary and analysis.

Otherwise, I'll be writing and speaking around the country (Need a host or speaker? Hit me at [this address](#)).

All of you have been great to work with and I appreciate you more than I can say. See you around!

-0-

AP's Alex Sanz inducted into NATAS Silver Circle



Alex Sanz with his wife Cindy and twins Evan (bottom left) and Ethan (bottom right).

Our colleague **Alex Sanz** ([Email](#)), AP's Deputy Director of Newsgathering, U.S. South, was inducted into the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Silver Circle last Friday during an awards dinner in Atlanta.

Click [here](#) for a video that Atlanta AP video producer Cody Jackson produced for the occasion. It includes comments on Alex from AP colleagues Sally Buzbee, executive editor in New York; Denise Vance, head of U.S. video and radio in Washington, and Ravi Nessman, U.S. South News Director in Atlanta.

Sanz is part of the U.S. News leadership team at The Associated Press. He is based in Atlanta, the AP's regional publishing center for the southeastern United States, and helps lead a team of journalists in 13 states across all formats. Before being named deputy director of newsgathering, Sanz covered the region and national politics for Associated Press Television News, the AP's international television division. Earlier in his career, he covered government and politics at The E.W. Scripps Company and KHOU-TV in Houston. He also worked as an anchor and reporter at television stations in Indianapolis and New York, and as an anchor and correspondent at Channel One News in Los Angeles.

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Norm Abelson's story is close to my own

Eldon Cort ([Email](#)) - The enjoyable story by Norm Abelson in Monday's Connecting is so close to the story of mine, that it might be worth a comparison. I began with AP 67 years ago as an office boy in Atlanta. I wanted to be a technician though, so our story is a little bit different. I used to make books, change the ribbons, clean out the ribbon dust, etc. My photographer friend was my dad: Horace Cort of the Atlanta bureau. My dad mentored me through the relationship between photo and story and helped guide me through transitioning from copy boy to teletype operator in Montgomery, Alabama, and then the AP Shop in New York. The AP tech in Montgomery mentored me into the New York shop back in about 1959 for nine months. I became a tech in Des Moines for a little over 1 1/2 years. I didn't like the cold so I moved to Raleigh for a short time before moving to Tallahassee in 1962. I've been here now 57 years.

Communication Chief Charles Bruce was my friend in Montgomery and my boss in Miami for somewhere around 30 or 35 years. I retired in 2002, just two months after I married my second wife. We had a 12 -ear time together traveling the country and a fabulous time. Now I'm single living at home and still enjoying the life in Florida.

It's been a great career with AP, just like Norm's. And wow, when I begin my career, I had dark hair and dark rim glasses just like his!

(Candidly, we should do a DNA test to see if we are brothers, but we are AP brothers. God bless.)

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'The Falling Man' (AP) photographer to visit Hyderabad

The New Indian Express News Service

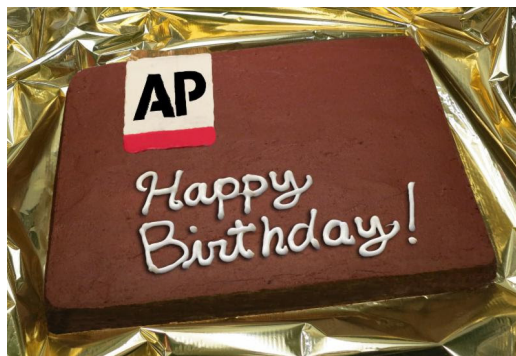
HYDERABAD: Richard Drew. Does the name ring a bell? Let's try again. The photographer who captured the falling man from the World Trade Center towers following the September 11 attacks? That definitely does the trick.

The iconic photographer, an Associated Press photojournalist, will be among a galaxy of speakers to address Hyderabad as part of the Indian Photography Festival (IPF) 2019, known to be South Asia's leading Photography Festival is back with a bang. The festival is supported by the Dept. of Tourism, government of Telangana in collaboration with Lightcraft Foundation.

The photographer was one of four press photographers present at the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy. He has been an Associated Press photographer for over 40 years and lives in New York City. To be held in Hyderabad from September 19 to October 20, it will be held at the State Gallery of Art - Hyderabad, and multiple venues in the city.

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

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Rod Richardson - rodrichardson@att.net

Suzanne Vlamis - svlamis13@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Times faces questions all around for Kavanaugh story

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) - Between an offensive tweet and a significant revision, the New York Times' handling of a new sexual misconduct allegation against Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh attracted almost as much attention as the accusation itself.

The story also gave President Donald Trump and his allies fresh ammunition in his campaign against the media, where the Times was already a favorite target.

The revelation that led several Democratic presidential contenders to call for Kavanaugh's impeachment came in the 11th paragraph of a story labeled "news analysis" that ran in the Sunday opinion section. The story is based on an upcoming book by Times reporters Robin Pogrebin and Kate Kelly, "The Education of Brett Kavanaugh: An Investigation," about the junior justice's brutal confirmation battle last year.

Headlined "Brett Kavanaugh Fit In With the Privileged Kids. She Did Not," the story was primarily about Deborah Ramirez, a Connecticut woman who alleged that Kavanaugh, as a freshman at Yale in 1983, had pulled down his pants and thrust his penis at her. Kavanaugh has denied those claims.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

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Video killed the radio star, and WiFi killed the free tabloid newspaper (Washington Post)

By John Kelly

Columnist

About a decade ago, back when smartphones were a new thing, my cellular carrier kept pestering me to upgrade.

One morning - I remember it well; I was out walking my dog, Charlie - they rang me on my dumbphone with news of their latest offer. The salesman said the promotion included a low, introductory rate and a shiny new iPhone that could do everything but butter my muffin.

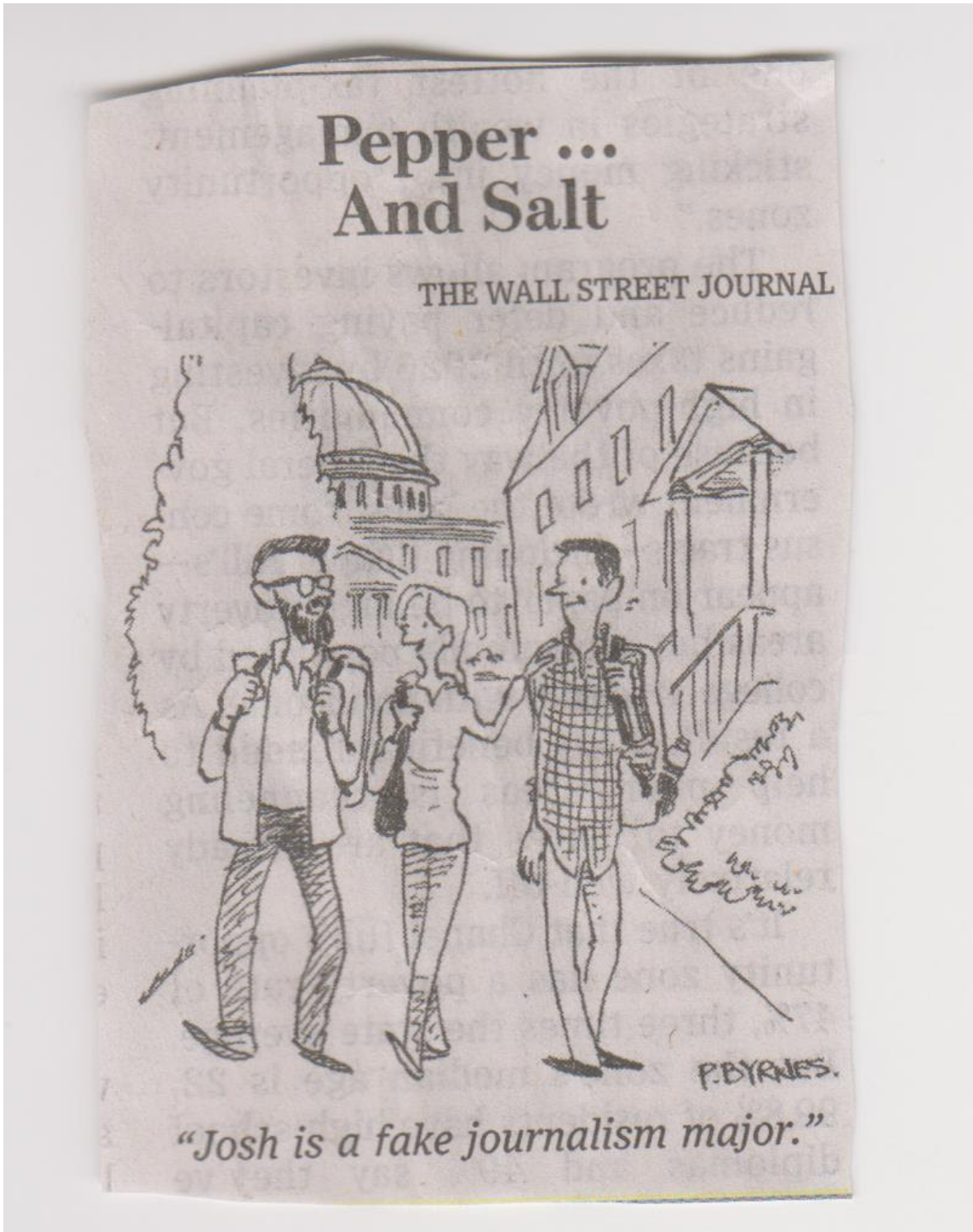
"I'm tempted," I said, "but I know the monthly bill for a smartphone will be more expensive than what I pay now."

I'll never forget the salesman's response. "Do you subscribe to the newspaper?" he asked. "Well, just cancel your subscription and with the money you save, read the paper for free on your new iPhone."

If I'd been able to reach down the phone line - which, of course, was not a line, but a series of invisible waves pulsing through the ether - I would have throttled the guy.

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

The Final Word



Shared by Paul Albright

Today in History - September 17, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 17, the 260th day of 2019. There are 105 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 17, 1987, the city of Philadelphia, birthplace of the U.S. Constitution, threw a big party to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the historic document; in a speech at Independence Hall, President Ronald Reagan acclaimed the framing of the Constitution as a milestone "that would profoundly and forever alter not just these United States but the world."

On this date:

In 1787, the Constitution of the United States was completed and signed by a majority of delegates attending the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

In 1862, more than 3,600 men were killed in the Civil War Battle of Antietam (an-TEE'-tum) in Maryland.

In 1939, the Soviet Union invaded Poland during World War II, more than two weeks after Nazi Germany had launched its assault.

In 1944, during World War II, Allied paratroopers launched Operation Market Garden, landing behind German lines in the Netherlands. (After initial success, the Allies were beaten back by the Germans.)

In 1947, James V. Forrestal was sworn in as the first U.S. Secretary of Defense.

In 1971, citing health reasons, Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black, 85, retired. (Black, who was succeeded by Lewis F. Powell Jr., died eight days after making his announcement.)

In 1978, after meeting at Camp David, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin (men-AH'-kem BAY'-gihn) and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat signed a framework for a peace treaty.

In 1994, Heather Whitestone of Alabama was crowned the first deaf Miss America.

In 1996, former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew died in Berlin, Maryland, at age 77.

In 2001, six days after 9/11, stock prices nosedived but stopped short of collapse in an emotional, flag-waving reopening of Wall Street; the Dow Jones industrial average ended the day down 684.81 at 8,920.70.

In 2004, San Francisco's Barry Bonds hit the 700th home run of his career, joining Babe Ruth (714) and Hank Aaron (755) as the only players to reach the milestone (San Francisco beat San Diego, 4-1).

In 2011, a demonstration calling itself Occupy Wall Street began in New York, prompting similar protests around the U.S. and the world.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama abruptly canceled a long-planned missile shield for Eastern Europe, replacing a Bush-era project that was bitterly opposed by Russia with a plan he contended would better defend against a growing threat of Iranian missiles. An 18-year-old man armed with an ax, knives and Molotov cocktails attacked his high school in Ansbach, Germany, injuring nine students and a teacher before being shot and arrested. Police in New Haven, Connecticut, charged Raymond Clark III, a Yale animal lab technician, with murdering graduate student Annie Le (lay). (Clark later pleaded guilty to the killing, and was sentenced to 44 years in prison.)

Five years ago: The Republican-controlled House voted grudgingly to give the administration authority to train and arm Syrian rebels as President Barack Obama emphasized anew that American forces "do not and will not have a combat mission" in the struggle against Islamic State militants in either Iraq or Syria.

One year ago: Senate leaders, under pressure from fellow Republicans, scheduled a public hearing for the following week at which Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh and the woman accusing him of sexual assault decades ago would testify; the move forced Republicans to put off a committee vote on the nomination. President Donald Trump defended Kavanaugh as an "outstanding judge" but said there might need to be a "little delay" in the confirmation process. Emergency crews brought food and water to Wilmington, N.C., after the city of 120,000 people was cut off by flooding from Hurricane Florence; the death toll from the storm rose to at least 32. "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," from Amazon, became the first streaming series to win the Emmy as the top comedy series. A trade war between the U.S. and China escalated further, as President Donald Trump announced tariffs on \$200 billion more in Chinese goods starting the following week.

Today's Birthdays: Sen. Charles E. Grassley, R-Iowa, is 86. Retired Supreme Court Justice David H. Souter is 80. Singer LaMonte McLemore (The Fifth Dimension) is 84. Retired U.S. Marine Gen. Anthony Zinni is 76. Basketball Hall of Fame coach Phil Jackson is 74. Singer Fee Waybill is 71. Actress Cassandra Peterson ("Elvira, Mistress of the Dark") is 68. Comedian Rita Rudner is 66. Muppeteer Kevin Clash (former voice of Elmo on "Sesame Street") is 59. Director-actor Paul Feig is 57. Movie director Baz Luhrmann is 57. Singer BeBe Winans is 57. TV personality/businessman Robert Herjavec (TV: "Shark Tank") is 56. Actor Kyle Chandler is 54. Director-producer Bryan Singer is 54. Rapper Doug E. Fresh is 53. Actor Malik Yoba is 52. Rock singer Anastacia is 51. Actor Matthew Settle is 50. Rapper Vinnie (Naughty By Nature) is 49. Actor-comedian Bobby Lee is 48. Actor Felix Solis is 48. Rhythm-and-blues singer Marcus Sanders (Hi-Five) is 46. Actress-singer Nona Gaye is 45. Singer-actor Constantine Maroulis is 44. NASCAR driver Jimmie Johnson is 44. Pop singer Maile (MY'-lee) Misajon (Eden's Crush) is 43. Country singer-songwriter Stephen Cochran is 40. Rock musician Chuck Comeau (Simple Plan) is 40. Actor Billy Miller is 40. Country singer Desi Wasdin (3 of Hearts) is 36. Rock musician Jon Walker is 34. NHL forward Alex Ovechkin (oh-VECH'-kin) is 34. Actress Danielle Brooks is 30. Gospel singer Jonathan McReynolds is 30. Actress-singer Denyse Tontz is 25. NHL center Auston Matthews is 22.

Thought for Today: "We must not say every mistake is a foolish one." - Cicero, Roman scholar (106-43 B.C.).

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.



Paul Stevens
Editor, Connecting newsletter
paulstevens46@gmail.com

Connecting newsletter, [14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215](#)

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