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Connecting - October 07, 2019

1 message

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this the 7th day of October 2019,

We lead today's Connecting with a story on colleague **Harry Atkins'** induction into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame.

Harry served as the Michigan AP's sports editor for 21 years. He retired in 2000. Our thanks to former Detroit chief of bureau **Charles Hill** for sharing the story and photos.

We bring you more of your memories of delivering newspapers back in your youth. We've definitely hit on a popular topic. Come ahead with your own story.

And an invitation from colleague **Doug Pizac** to come visit him and his wife at their new home in Vancouver, Washington. This time with photos to entice you...

Here's to a great week ahead.

Paul

Harry Atkins, 'eyes and ears' of Michigan sports, inducted into Sports Hall of Fame



Celebrants included, from left to right, retired Michigan AP Bureau Chief Charles Hill, Harry, Lynn Atkins (Harry's wife), and Michigan AP Sports Editor Larry Lage.

Charles Hill (Email) - Harry Atkins, the Michigan AP's sports editor for 21 years until his retirement in 2000, was inducted into Michigan Sports Hall of Fame on Saturday (Oct. 5).

In his introduction, Harry was described as "the eyes and ears of Michigan sports for the country."

Others inducted the same night on the concert stage at the Motor City Casino in Detroit included Heisman Trophy winner Charles Woodson of Michigan's 1997 national championship team, Morris Peterson of Michigan State's 2000 NCCA basketball championship team, and star defenseman Vladimir Konstantinov of the Detroit Red Wings 1997 Stanley Cup championship team. Harry was one of two sportswriters chosen.

The other sportswriter inducted was Mike O'Hara, longtime Detroit Lions beat writer for The Detroit News who retired in 2008 and now writes for DetroitLions.com.

Interviewed on stage in discussions with the other inductees, Harry remembered covering big, dramatic events such as the Detroit Tigers' successful 1984 World Series run, a last-second, game-winning touchdown scored by Anthony Carter at Michigan, and the consecutive NBA championships by the Detroit Pistons of the Bad Boys era in 1989 and 1990.

He recalled covering standout running backs Barry Sanders and Billy Sims of the Detroit Lions, the Red Wings' Stanley Cup wins, boxer Tommy Hearns, and the Michigan State and Michigan football teams, including Michigan's national championship in 1997.

"It was absolutely the best time, maybe ever, to be a sports writer in Detroit. ... And I was lucky that I wrote for the AP, a national organization, so I knew my copy was going everywhere."

He talked about being the first national reporter on the scene covering the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald in Lake Superior, a tragedy later told in song by Gordon Lightfoot. And he remembered going to Centreville, Mich., to write about a small high school team that canceled its season with four games left because too many players had been injured and it wouldn't be safe to



Harry (standing) congratulates star Red Wings defenseman after they receive their Hall of Fame plaques.

play the junior varsity. He described that story as a "daily double," having made both the national AP news wire as well as the sports wire.

Harry was asked how he felt about being inducted.

"It's really unreal," he said. "You go to work every day, you're just going to do your job, but when it's over and people think about what you've done and award you with an honor like this, it's really, it's hard to describe. It's really thrilling."

His voice broke with emotion as he gave thanks to his wife, "the lovely Lynn," for bearing with him while he was away from home night after night covering games.

In addition to Lynn, his wife of 52 years (it will be 53 in December), many friends and family joined in the celebration, including Michigan AP Sports Editor Larry Lage, who succeeded Harry; Michigan AP Photo Editor Carlos Osorio; and retired Michigan AP Bureau Chief Charles Hill.

Harry joined the AP in Detroit in 1971 and became Michigan sports editor in 1979. He won the Michigan AP staffer of the year award twice (1990 and 1998) and was runner-up in the national AP Sports Writer of the Year competition three years in a row (1996, 1997, 1998).

He was inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame in 2002. He also is in the Port Huron (Mich.) Sports Hall of Fame in his hometown and was enshrined in the Port Huron public schools' "Wall of Fame" for outstanding former students. He's also in another wall of fame - his photo is on a wall in the University of Michigan football stadium press box with other honored members of the media.



Harry joined the AP in Detroit in 1971 and became Michigan sports editor in 1979. He won the Michigan AP staffer of the year award twice (1990 and 1998) and was runner-up in the national AP Sports Writer of the Year competition three years in a row (1996, 1997, 1998).

Before the AP, Harry as a reporter and then general manager at the St. Clair (Mich.) Independent Press, and served as editor and general manager at the Utica (Mich.) Daily Sentinel.

Harry Atkins' email is - hatkins727@aol.com

About that Connecting 80s/90s list

Arnold Zeitlin (Email) - I must say, Paul, that ending up on the (80s) list that includes Lou Boccardi, Peter Arnett, Claude Erbsen, Marty Thompson, Joe McGowan, Hal Buell and Dave Mazzarella and other friends who played a role in my life simply by growing old astonishes me. My regards to all the octogenarians. (See the latest Connecting 80s/90s list published in last Friday's edition.)

More of your newspaper carrier stories

From East Fork, Kentucky...

Bob Daugherty (Email) - My newsboy career started when I was about 11 years old living in East Fork, Kentucky. I received a roll of GRIT newspaper. I made the rounds of farmhouses and fields peddling the weekly tabloid. GRIT billed itself as "America's Greatest Family Newspaper" and targeted small town and rural families with 14 pages plus a fiction supplement. Its circulation was in towns of fewer than 10,000 inhabitants. Once a grizzled farmer, a regular customer that I approached in a tobacco field, told me he couldn't read but sure enjoyed all the pictures. Maybe the farmer didn't realize he was giving me advice to spend about 50 of my adult years in photography.

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To Columbus, Ohio...

Gene Herrick (Email) - I have found that life is a daily challenge. Worry about it, or think positive. I took advantage to learn and apply that knowledge. Being a newspaper carrier, on a bicycle, was the real start of my life and career as a journalist.

My parents lived in Columbus, Ohio, and had me. We moved to Cleveland, and then New York, where my father died when I was 7 and half years old. Mother and I moved back to Columbus to temporarily live with his parents. It was a little restaurant in the middle of a big industrial area. At the same time, I went to nearby West Jefferson, a tiny town just west of Columbus, to temporarily live with my mother's relatives. During that time, I answered the call to "Journalism," and became a newspaper carrier at age nine.

Later, I returned to Columbus and the industrial setting. The Ohio State Penitentiary was only one short block away. At age 10, I again began carrying newspapers - The Columbus Dispatch, which cost one cent per copy! My route started each day from the penitentiary, where the delivery man dropped off my bundle, plus about four to the pen. I helped carry some of them inside that awesome, gruesome facility. I often was invited by the guards to go through on a tour (free). I have twice sat in the electric chair, a shocking confession. I only had 13 customers on my route - a dairy processing plant, a soda manufacturer, a Mafia-run nightclub, etc., in an area with the city waterworks, asphalt plant and old lumber yard where they still delivered logs by horse and wagon, etc.

I got to know a lot of the prisoners, who were bank robbers, killers, etc. I now realize they were a lot different than those who commit crimes today. The ones I knew were basically repentant for their crimes. When the Dispatch had their regular need for more subscribers, I enlisted the prison trustees into signing up. The prize for me was a live turkey. Since my route was so limited, I signed up a bunch of the convicts to a subscription. They constantly asked if I had gotten my turnkey yet. One day I informed them that I got it last night. They all cancelled their subscriptions. However, being a news carrier, started me on a life's curve to learn about people's personalities and behaviors. I can look back on these experiences as the foundation of my inner being and the art of objectivity. All led to my insight values as a journalist.

I joined the AP in Columbus when I was 16, in 1943, and, as an office boy (Printer Attendant), I took advantage of every opportunity to do my best in my position, and to also learn as much as I could about being a Wirephoto operator, and teletype operator, and even printer maintenance. I learned enough to make vacation reliefs all over Ohio, and in 1943 I transferred to Cleveland as a Wirephoto operator, but I did a lot of being a teletype operator. I also learned a lot about photography from AP photographer Jim Mahler.

Two years later, then Executive Newsphoto Editor Al Resch invited me to be an AP staff photographer, and transfer to Indianapolis, Indiana. I was surprised, honored and fearful. However, it seems I used my skills (a lot of it as a newspaper carrier, and a Boy Scout, and then in the AP, to get the promotion of a lifetime and 28 years in the good ole Associated Press, where I covered some of the times' great history events.

Yes, I am the luckiest kid in the world.

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To San Francisco...

Ray Newton ([Email](#)) - Ah, yes. Delivering newspapers. I was maybe 11 years old when I had a delivery route for the San Francisco Examiner. After school, I'd load papers into a canvas bag on the front handlebars of my Schwinn bike. I'd take off through the streets and chunk papers on the porches of houses and apartments. I was pretty lucky, too, with subscription drives. I'd knock on doors and ask folks to subscribe, and in a soft, tear-jerker voice ask, "Would you subscribe to the Examiner? My mother's in the hospital, and we need the money."

I wasn't lying. My mother was a registered nurse at one of the Kaiser hospitals in the Bay area.

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And to Eau Claire, Wisconsin...

Bob Seavey ([Email](#)) - Growing up in western Wisconsin in the 1960s, a newspaper route was a way to make some "serious" money. But not just any route - It had to be for hometown Eau Claire papers. Delivering for Minneapolis papers paid less. It was said that a kid could make \$25 week with a morning Leader or an afternoon Telegram route - not bad for a 12 year old in 1963. But I don't really know because I could never get one of those coveted routes. My best chance came when the area paper boy "retired." He was all of 15 but had been at it a while so he undoubtedly had earned enough for college, a new car, and a home down payment. I guess I didn't lobby hard enough as the prize went to someone else. That meant I had to stick to caddying on weekends at about \$3.50 a round. Not much but if you were really lucky after a match, your golfer would vie with His friends on who could buy their caddy the most food.

An invitation to come visit the Pizacs



Doug Pizac ([Email](#)) - I would like to share our new digs and lives with our former AP colleagues and friends. Betty and I have relocated from Salt Lake City to Vancouver, WA where we built our ultimate destination home that has habitat protected Salmon Creek and wetlands right behind us that is home to bald eagles, egrets, migrating flocks of ducks, geese, swans, etc., plus beaver, otters, turtles, etc. I plan on eventually getting a canoe for exploring and doing nature photography. In the meantime, I'm teaching mass communication classes part-time at Washington State University-Vancouver with the title of professor.

We moved into our new house on Friday the 13th last month, sold our Utah home on Saturday, and closed on it on Monday. Right after signing the docs a rainbow appeared over our new home, pictured. Then this last Monday we woke to a spectacular sunrise panoramic of Salmon Creek with Mt. Hood in the background made from our rear deck. And Tuesday morning we woke to another fantastic sunrise of the wetlands covered in fog with waterfowl in the creek. Sunsets are nice too.

Life is good.

(Repeated from Friday to include photos)

Scenery from Seville

Peter Arnett ([Email](#)) offers these scenes he photographed from an early autumn vacation to Seville, Spain.



Flamenco dancer at Sala Fabiola Sevilla



Bull fighting at Plaza De Toros de Sevilla

Best of the Week

AP photographer wounded, keeps shooting as politician fires gun during protest



Reminders that AP's photo staff is among the greatest and most committed in the world are plentiful, and today's Best of the Week winner is but the latest example.

Port-au-Prince photographer Dieu-Nalio Chery found himself at Haiti's parliament on Monday, Sept. 23, covering a debate about whether to confirm a new prime minister handpicked by the country's embattled president, Jovenal Moïse. Video journalist Pierre-Richard Luxama and reporter Evens Sanon also were on the scene.

Haiti had been paralyzed for weeks in a showdown between the president and opposition forces who want to push him out over allegations of mismanagement and corruption. At the parliament session, things boiled over.

Angry protesters rushed pro-government senators as they arrived, prompting not one but two lawmakers to brandish pistols and point them at the crowd. As things grew dicey, Chery rushed to get his Kevlar vest and helmet - not normal equipment for covering a session of parliament.

That turned out to be a wise decision. When protesters threw dirt at pro-government Sen. Ralph Fethiere and tried to pull him from his car, the lawmaker began firing into

the air and ground in an attempt to scare them away.

Read more [here](#).

Best of the States

AP reveals research into a rare-but-severe infection carried by family pets



AP tells a survivor's story, breaking news about research into a rare but sometimes deadly blood infection caused by bacteria commonly found in the saliva of cats and dogs.

It could have been a routine follow-up story, but Milwaukee video journalist Carrie Antfingher found a way to tell that story and break news.

Very little was known last year when Greg Manteufel, a perfectly healthy Wisconsin man, developed a severe infection attributed to capnocytophaga, a bacterium commonly found in the saliva of cats and dogs. Manteufel had contracted a blood

infection that led to more than 20 surgeries and the loss of his limbs, a story that was widely reported in 2018.

While reporting on Manteufel's effort to reclaim his life, Antlfinger discovered an angle that had not been pursued by other outlets: Researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, connected to Harvard Medical School, as well as other institutions, had been investigating cases like his. They identified a genetic variant that appears to be a risk factor making otherwise healthy people susceptible to the disease.

Read more [here](#).

Welcome to Connecting



Daniel Wolf - dan@hodan.com

Stories of interest

Pete Hamill on Jimmy Breslin and the heralded world of beat reporters (CBS Sunday Morning)



By CBS News

There was a time when every great American city had a great American newspaper. "City Room was the room where all the reporters had a desk," said Pete Hamill, who's worked for decades in city rooms around Manhattan. "They'd all be in there, working on big, standard Royal or Remington typewriters. And you would hear this great metallic roar: Ba-ba-top-bop-bop-Boom! Deadline! And laughter. A few curses!"

His career included stops at the old New York Herald Tribune, the New York Post, and the New York Daily News, which used to be America's largest-circulation newspaper. Used to be.

Hamill said, "The papers gave a sense of meaning. It was a binding element. You could see it on the subway. You were trying to help the new arrivals to understand the city, and the older people to understand the new arrivals."

In fact, some 1,800 metropolitan and community newspapers have gone out of business or merged since 2004, pushing thousands of reporters out of a job.

But the city room roars again in the HBO documentary "Breslin and Hamill: Deadline Artists," about two "princes of print" in an era when newspapers were still king.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Pat Milton, Jenny Volanakis, Doug Pizac.

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Biden Dirt File Has Private Email Between John Solomon and Rudy Allies (Daily Beast)

By Erin Banco and Maxwell Tani

A controversial right-leaning reporter at the center of the Trump-Ukraine scandal emailed a copy of one of his stories-before it was published-to a top ally of Rudy Giuliani, as well as two pro-Trump investigators attempting to dig up negative information on the Biden family.

In March, The Hill's investigative reporter John Solomon published a story claiming that the U.S. government had pressured Ukrainian prosecutors to drop a probe of a group funded by the Obama administration and liberal billionaire George Soros. The story was published at 6 p.m., according to a timestamp on the paper's website. Solomon himself didn't share it on his Twitter account until 6:56 p.m. that night. The earliest cache of the story in the Internet Archive is from 7:42 p.m. Eastern time.

But hours before that, at 12:52 p.m. Eastern time, Solomon appears to have sent a version of the article to Ukrainian-American businessman Lev Parnas and the Trumpworld lawyers Joe diGenova and Victoria Toensing. The email was titled "Outline of Soros reporting, including embedded documents" and included the headline and the text of his piece.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Kevin Walsh.

Today in History - October 7, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Oct. 7, the 280th day of 2019. There are 85 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 7, 2001, the war in Afghanistan started as the United States and Britain launched air attacks against military targets and Osama bin Laden's training camps in the wake of the September 11 attacks.

On this date:

In 1777, the second Battle of Saratoga began during the American Revolution. (British forces under General John Burgoyne surrendered ten days later.)

In 1849, author Edgar Allan Poe died in Baltimore, Maryland, at age 40.

In 1954, Marian Anderson became the first black singer hired by the Metropolitan Opera Company in New York.

In 1960, Democratic presidential candidate John F. Kennedy and Republican opponent Richard Nixon held their second televised debate, this one in Washington, D.C.

In 1979, Pope John Paul II concluded his week-long tour of the United States with a Mass on the Washington Mall.

In 1985, Palestinian gunmen hijacked the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro (ah-KEE'-leh LOW'-roh) in the Mediterranean. (The hijackers shot and killed Leon Klinghoffer, a Jewish-American tourist in a wheelchair, and pushed him overboard, before surrendering on Oct. 9.)

In 1991, University of Oklahoma law professor Anita Hill publicly accused Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of making sexually inappropriate comments when she worked for him; Thomas denied Hill's allegations.

In 1992, trade representatives of the United States, Canada and Mexico initialed the North American Free Trade Agreement during a ceremony in San Antonio, Texas, in the presence of President George H.W. Bush, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney (muhl-ROO'-nee) and Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

In 1996, Fox News Channel made its debut.

In 1998, Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, was beaten and left tied to a wooden fencepost outside of Laramie, Wyoming; he died five days later. (Russell Henderson and Aaron McKinney are serving life sentences for Shepard's murder.)

In 2003, California voters recalled Gov. Gray Davis and elected Arnold Schwarzenegger their new governor.

In 2004, President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney conceded that Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction as they tried to shift the Iraq war debate to a new issue, arguing that Saddam was abusing a U.N. oil-for-food program.

Ten years ago: A top Italian court overturned a law granting Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi immunity from prosecution, allowing trials for corruption and tax fraud to resume in Milan. (Berlusconi was later convicted of tax fraud relating to the purchase of TV rights to U.S. films on his Mediaset network; the corruption trial ended with a court ruling that the statute of limitations had run out.) Americans Venkatraman Ramakrishnan and Thomas Steitz and Israeli Ada Yonath won the Nobel Prize in chemistry. Fashion and celebrity photographer Irving Penn died in New York at 92.

Five years ago: North Korea publicly acknowledged to the international community the existence of its "reform through labor" camps, a mention that appeared to come in response to a highly critical U.N. human rights report. Two Japanese scientists, Isamu Akasaki and Hiroshi Amano, and a naturalized American, Shuji Nakamura, won the Nobel Prize for physics for inventing a new kind of light-emitting diode (LED) that promised to revolutionize the way the world lighted its offices and homes.

One year ago: Breaking her long-standing refusal to discuss anything political, music superstar Taylor Swift announced that she would be voting for Tennessee's Democratic Senate candidate Phil Bredesen. Brazilian voters chose a far-right former army captain, Jair Bolsonaro, in the first round of the country's presidential election, but he fell just short of the margin needed to avoid a late October runoff. (Bolsonaro would win the runoff with 55 percent of the vote.) The Milwaukee Brewers beat the Colorado Rockies 6-0 to sweep their National League Division Series.

Today's Birthdays: Retired South African Archbishop and Nobel Peace laureate Desmond Tutu is 88. Author Thomas Keneally is 84. Comedian Joy Behar is 77. Former National Security Council aide Lt. Col. Oliver North (ret.) is 76. Rock musician Kevin Godley (10cc) is 74. Actress Jill Larson is 72. Country singer Kieran Kane is 70. Singer John Mellencamp is 68. Rock musician Ricky Phillips is 68. Russian President Vladimir Putin is 67. Actress Mary Badham (Film: "To Kill a Mockingbird") is 67. Rock musician Tico Torres (Bon Jovi) is 66. Actress Christopher Norris is 64. Cellist Yo-Yo Ma is 64. Gospel singer Michael W. Smith is 62. Olympic gold medal ice dancer Jayne Torvill is 62. Actor Dylan Baker is 61. Actress Judy Landers is 61. Recording executive and TV personality Simon Cowell is 60. Rock musician Charlie Marinkovich (formerly with Iron Butterfly) is 60. Actress Paula Newsome is 58. Country singer Dale Watson is 57. Pop singer Ann Curless (Expose) is 56. Rhythm-and-blues singer Toni Braxton is 52. Rock singer-musician Thom Yorke (Radiohead) is 51. Rock musician-dancer Leeroy Thornhill is 50. Actress Nicole Ari Parker is 49. Actress Allison Munn is 45. Rock singer-musician Damian Kulash (KOO'-lahsh) is 44. Singer Taylor Hicks is 43. Actor Omar Miller is 41. Neo-soul singer Nathaniel Rateliff (Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats) is 41. Actor Shawn Ashmore is 40. Actor Jake McLaughlin is 37. Electronic musician Flying Lotus (AKA Stephen Ellison) is 36. MLB player Evan Longoria is 34. Actress Holland Roden is 33. Actress Amber Stevens is 33. Boston Red Sox outfielder Mookie Betts is 27. Actress Lulu Wilson is 14.

Thought for Today: "Being right half the time beats being half-right all the time." - Malcolm Forbes, American publisher (1919-1990).

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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