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Connecting - October 09, 2019

1 message

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Wed, Oct 9, 2019 at 8:59 AM

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Connecting

October 09, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 9th day of October 2019,

OK, we've had - and continue to have - some great stories from Connecting colleagues on their memories of being a newspaper carrier. What about our female colleagues, asks **Sibby Christensen**, who noted, "When I was growing up, there was no opportunity for girls to deliver papers. Does anyone know if that's still true?"

I am pretty sure that there have been, and still are, newspaper girls - and I ask those of you associated with newspapers to confirm this if true - but more importantly, here's an asker from the female colleagues among us to share their own stories. (Yes, guys, you can continue sending your own stories...this has become one of our most popular subjects.)

Connecting plans to regularly list scholarships established in honor of a past or present Associated Press employees or a journalism-related scholarship established by a member of our group in honor of an immediate family member. If you know of such scholarships, please send along with this information: Name of Scholarship, person for whom it is established, eligibility standards (briefly) and a contact name and email for further information. Send it along to me.

Here's to a great day!

Paul

The tales of delivering newspapers continue

Norm Abelson ([Email](#)) - As a youth I never delivered newspapers, but I did go door-to-door peddling popular magazines of the day in Malden, Massachusetts, where I spent the first 19 years of my life.

It was mostly a summertime thing. My buddies and I might be rollerskating or playing stick-ball when a guy in a fancy car - usually a convertible with pile of magazines stacked in the back seat - would pull up. He'd say something like "You guys want to make some easy money? You just got to go sell some magazines to houses on the street here."

We were probably all 11 or 12 in the mid-1940s, living in a lower middle-class neighborhood where there wasn't enough extra money for a kid to get an allowance. In a heartbeat, we all jumped at the chance. The man would give each of us a canvas bag filled with an assortment of publications, and we'd be off. The selection might include The Saturday Evening Post, Colliers, Womens Home Companion, Look, Coronet, Liberty, Argosy or Cosmopolitan. (Full disclosure: I had to look up some of these names on Google.) Amazingly, I usually was able to make some sales.

The magazine man would roll back late in the afternoon, before our moms called us in for supper, to collect our receipts and give us our slim cut of the profits. It wasn't a heck of a lot of money, but enough for us to run down the corner to Tesler's, the neighborhood store, and fill our corduroy knicker pockets with candy.

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Hal Spencer (Email) - I enjoyed the WSJ piece Tuesday about the urchins of old who hawked newspapers on the streets of America. At 13, I was one of them, in Tucson, Arizona, in 1959. I lasted about six months, I think.

Every weekday afternoon I'd find my bundle of the Tucson Daily Citizen at a street corner adjacent to the Broadway Shopping Center. I yelled "get yer evening paper," and no doubt a headline or two about Nixon and Kennedy or the commie Fidel Castro. I'd dart among cars to grab a dime (I think it was) and hand over a paper. Child safety was in its infancy then.

After a while I discovered I could do better on the sidewalk at the shopping center, though I knew I was competing directly with the drugstore. Oh well. I seem to recall I netted \$7 or \$8 a month, which was a fortune. After about six months though, money be damned. I got bored and quit. But I'll never forget that intoxicating smell of fresh ink and exciting roar of traffic as I embarked on my first newspaper job.

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Marty Thompson (Email) - A boy who was afraid of a dog at the end of his route delivering The Daily News of Longview, Washington, hired a third-grader to finish off the route each afternoon at a nickel a day. Good money at the time and place. Leap ahead to junior high, and delivering the afternoon Oregon Journal. Not many takers for an out-of-town PMer, so my two routes meant the bicycle covered a big chunk of town.

I was glad to get a Daily News route in my own neighborhood. The boy-newspaper relationship lasted through high school and two years of college, as I graduated to the downtown mail room for an after-school job and worked my way up to circulation district manager, overseeing hiring carriers and delivering their bundles.

A reward: There was time to hang around the newsroom, where the journalism bug attacked and I was hooked.

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Sibby Christensen ([Email](#)) - Here's a variation on the newspaper theme from The New York Times:

A General Store Stopped Selling The Times. A Young Entrepreneur Stepped In.



Oliver Szott, left, started selling newspapers in 2018. His first customer one recent Sunday was Peggy Fraser, his grandmother. Credit: Adam Glanzman for The New York Times

By Matthew Sedacca

In rural Barnard, Vt., the local general store was the only place you could get a copy of The New York Times or The Boston Globe. That was until the day last year that Barnard General Store announced that it would stop selling copies of out-of-town newspapers.

On the local listserv, a sort of online forum, residents of the town shared every opinion they had on the decision. They criticized the general store for cutting off the

community from print news. Some waxed poetic about the important differences between reading the news online and in print. A few even said that people who read The Times were snobs.

The cries were heard, eventually making their way to Oliver Szott, a budding entrepreneur who had previously sold craft sodas at the farmers market, as well as his own electronic music online. After some suggestions and assistance from his mother and neighbor, Oliver, 14, opened up shop as the town's newest, and only, purveyor of out-of-town newspapers.

Read more [here](#).

New-member profile: Heidi (Nolte) Brown

Heidi (Nolte) Brown ([Email](#)) - I began my career with the AP as Heidi Nolte in 1983, while still a college student at Northeastern University in Boston. It was a college that featured Cooperative Education, so I would spend my work semesters back in my native New York at AP's Rockefeller Center headquarters in Manhattan, mostly in the Newsfeatures Department. I was hired full-time upon my graduation in 1985, and continued in Newsfeatures at 50 Rock as a photo editor for the AP's filmstrips and special books. In 1986, I joined the AP bureau in Richmond, Va., as a newswriter, and later became broadcast editor. In 1988, I got married, changed my byline to Heidi Nolte Brown, and began growing a family. In 1993, I left the AP for 14 years to raise four daughters, moving from Richmond back to New York, on to St. Louis and then



back to Virginia, settling in a small town just outside of Charlottesville with my husband and children. I rejoined the AP as a contractor in 2007 and have been working ever since as the election stringer coordinator for Virginia, Ohio, Maryland, Delaware and Washington, DC. I also manage the AP's broadcast awards for Virginia/West Virginia and the Chesapeake region. When I'm not busy with contests or elections, I help cover Charlottesville-area stories for the AP as a freelance writer, such as the Unite the Right riots, the GOP Amtrak train collision and the debunked Rolling Stone's story about sex abuse at the University of Virginia. My husband and I live in Crozet, where I'm an avid trail runner, CrossFit enthusiast and contributor to the local monthly paper, *The Crozet Gazette*.



BTW, had a funny AP moment last week when my husband and I visited Norfolk, Va. A few blocks from my hotel, I discovered the Battleship Wisconsin as a floating museum. The last time I was on it was in 1991 to cover its return from the Persian Gulf War, where it was the first ship to fire Tomahawk cruise missiles in Operation Desert Storm. Talk about memories. Here's the picture (above, left) I posted on Facebook.

Connecting mailbox

Kiss and make up



Temporarily reinstated Editor-in-Chief Pete Hamill, left, winces as he receives a kiss on the cheek from New York Post owner Abe Hirschfeld following a Federal Bankruptcy Court hearing in New York Friday, March 19, 1993. Judge Francis Conrad affirmed Hirschfeld's legal control of the paper, but also temporarily reinstated Hamill, who had been fired, until April 2 and said no one else could be fired during that period. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

Alex Brandon ([Email](#)) - Seeing that picture of Pete Hamill (in Monday's Connecting) took me back to the picture I took of him in 1993. It got a pretty good ride in the papers and magazines, back when that sort of thing mattered.

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Who'd ever think a writer/editor is normal?

Marty McCarty ([Email](#)) - I loved the Ed Williams' posting in Tuesday's Connecting on the student who corrected wording on the sign. It revived a memory of when I was walking past a shop with my young son who was a wise-cracking fourth grader at the time. I pointed to an error in a sign propped in the store window.

He said, A normal person wouldn't care.

I say, Who'd ever think a writer/editor is normal?

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Stalking Ex-Employees? AP Advances Dumb Premise In Search of a Storyline

Media Report.com

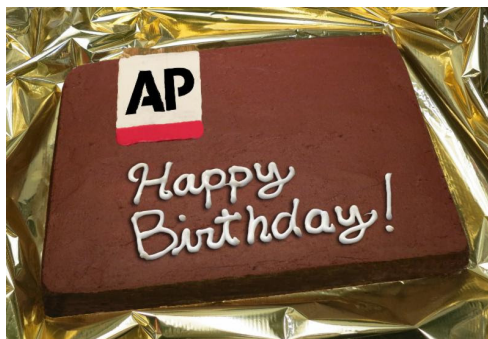
Imagine you work for an organization and that organization has a non-legal, ad hoc process whereby it decided whether you "could have" committed misconduct in your past. And if you were found "credibly accused" - whatever that means - by your employer of misconduct, your employer followed you around and "monitored" you for the rest of your life, even after you left its employ.

Sound bizarre? Illegal? Wacky? Well, that is the very premise of a headache-inducing screed by the Associated Press entitled, "100s of accused priests living under radar with no oversight"* - written by Claudia Lauer and Meghan Hoyer.

Apparently, as long as you are writing a piece bashing the Catholic Church over old sex abuse claims, the editors will approve any dumb storyline.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Kim Gamel - kgamel@gmail.com

Sue Price Johnson - sue.price.johnson@gmail.com

Stories of interest

America's Newspapers: A new champion of the newspaper industry is reborn

America's Newspapers-the association formed from the merger of the Inland Press Association and Southern Newspaper Publishers Association-was ceremonially launched October 6 at its inaugural annual meeting in Chicago.

America's Newspapers unites two of the oldest press associations to form one of the industry's largest advocates for newspapers and the many benefits to their communities, civil life, freedom of expression and democracy.

America's Newspapers has adopted a mission of redoubling the commitments of its legacy associations to explain, defend and advance the vital role of newspapers in democracy and civil life. It will put an emphasis on educating the public on all the ways newspapers contribute to building a community identity and the success of local businesses.

In speaking up for newspapers, the new industry organization will remind the public and the market that newspapers produce magazines, specialty publications and community events. Newspapers are multimedia operations that publish on all digital platforms and mobile devices and offer digital marketing services.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Lou Boccardi, Ralph Gage.

-0-

Donald Trump hints at launch of state-run media, wants to 'start our own network' (Newsweek)

BY DANIEL MORITZ-RABSON

President Donald Trump said that he is considering creating a pro-state media site while speaking in Central Florida on Thursday.

"CNN is a voice that really seems to be a voice out there, and it's a terrible thing for our country. And we ought to start our own network and put some real news out there," he said, evoking cheers from the crowd. "They are so bad for our country. They are so bad for our country. I go out there and they say, 'Boy, the media hates your country,' and it's just a shame. It's just a shame. And we really are. We are looking at that. We should do something about it, too. Put some really talented people and get a real voice out there. Not a voice that's fake."

Trump's wording was somewhat unclear. He did not offer specifics about the "we" in his remarks about starting a media network to offer "real news."

The president made the comments while speaking about his support for Medicare at The Villages, a retirement community.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

Then and Now: What 10 newspapers looked like when they were first published (MSN)



By Talia Lakritz

Newspapers have definitely evolved and changed through history, altering their style, content, and layout over the years.

From The New York Times to the Washington Post, here's what some famous newspapers looked like when they first came out.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Arnold Zeitlin.

Today in History - October 9, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 9, the 282nd day of 2019. There are 83 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 9, 1967, Marxist revolutionary guerrilla leader Che Guevara, 39, was summarily executed by the Bolivian army a day after his capture.

On this date:

In 1776, a group of Spanish missionaries settled in present-day San Francisco.

In 1910, a coal dust explosion at the Starkville Mine in Colorado left 56 miners dead.

In 1914, the Belgian city of Antwerp fell to German forces during World War I.

In 1930, Laura Ingalls became the first woman to fly across the United States as she completed a nine-stop journey from Roosevelt Field, N.Y., to Glendale, Calif.

In 1936, the first generator at Boulder (later Hoover) Dam began transmitting electricity to Los Angeles.

In 1940, rock-and-roll legend John Lennon was born in Liverpool, England. (On this date in 1975, his son, Sean, was born in New York.)

In 1958, Pope Pius XII died at age 82, ending a 19-year papacy. (He was succeeded by Pope John XXIII.)

In 1974, businessman Oskar Schindler, credited with saving about 1,200 Jews during the Holocaust, died in Frankfurt, West Germany (at his request, he was buried in Jerusalem).

In 1985, the hijackers of the Achille Lauro (ah-KEE'-leh LOW'-roh) cruise liner surrendered two days after seizing the vessel in the Mediterranean. (Passenger Leon Klinghoffer was killed by the hijackers during the standoff.)

In 2001, in the first daylight raids since the start of U.S.-led attacks on Afghanistan, jets bombed the Taliban stronghold of Kandahar. Letters postmarked in Trenton, N.J., were sent to Sens. Tom Daschle and Patrick Leahy; the letters later tested positive for anthrax.

In 2006, North Korea faced a barrage of condemnation and calls for retaliation after it announced that it had set off a small atomic weapon underground; President Bush said, "The international community will respond." Google Inc. announced it was snapping up YouTube Inc. for \$1.65 billion in a stock deal.

In 2012, former Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky was sentenced to 30 to 60 years in prison following his conviction on 45 counts of sexual abuse of boys.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama won the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize for what the Norwegian Nobel Committee called "his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples."

Five years ago: Six U.S. military planes arrived in the Ebola hot zone with more Marines as West African leaders pleaded for the world's help in dealing with what Sierra Leone President Ernest Bai Koroma described as "a tragedy unforeseen in modern times." French novelist Patrick Modiano was named the recipient of the Nobel Prize in literature. Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Carolyn Kizer, 89, died in Sonoma, California.

One year ago: President Donald Trump and U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley announced that Haley would be leaving the administration at the end of the year; no

reason was given for her departure. Brett Kavanaugh took the bench for the first time as a Supreme Court justice in a jovial atmosphere that was at odds with the rancor that surrounded his confirmation. After starting the week with a rare political post on social media. Taylor Swift captured four honors at the American Music Awards to become the most decorated woman in the show's history. Police at the Orlando, Florida airport removed a passenger who refused to get off a flight to Cleveland after she was found carrying a squirrel she had described as an emotional support animal.

Today's Birthdays: Retired MLB All-Star Joe Pepitone is 79. Former Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., is 78. C-SPAN founder Brian Lamb is 78. Rhythm-and-blues singer Nona Hendryx is 75. Singer Jackson Browne is 71. Nobel Peace laureate Jody Williams is 69. Actor Gary Frank is 69. Actor Richard Chaves is 68. Actor Robert Wuhl is 68. Actress-TV personality Sharon Osbourne is 67. Actor Tony Shalhoub is 66. Actor Scott Bakula is 65. Musician James Fearnley (The Pogues) is 65. Actor John O'Hurley is 65. Writer-producer-director-actor Linwood Boomer is 64. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Mike Singletary is 61. Actor Michael Pare is 61. Jazz musician Kenny Garrett is 59. Rock singer-musician Kurt Neumann (The BoDeans) is 58. Country singer Gary Bennett is 55. Movie director Guillermo del Toro is 55. Former British Prime Minister David Cameron is 53. Singer P.J. Harvey is 50. Movie director Steve McQueen (Film: "12 Years a Slave") is 50. World Golf Hall of Famer Annika Sorenstam is 49. Actress Cocoa Brown is 47. Country singer Tommy Shane Steiner is 46. Actor Steve Burns is 46. Rock singer Sean Lennon is 44. Actor Randy Spelling is 41. Christian hip-hop artist Lecrae is 40. Actor Brandon Routh is 40. Actor Zachery Ty Bryan is 38. Actress Spencer Grammer is 36. Comedian Melissa Villasenor (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 32. Actor Tyler James Williams is 27. Country singer Scotty McCreery (TV: "American Idol") is 26. Actor Jharrel Jerome is 22.

Thought for Today: "I think everyone should go to college and get a degree and then spend six months as a bartender and six months as a cabdriver. Then they would really be educated." - Al McGuire, American Basketball Hall of Fame coach (1928-2001).

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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