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Connecting - October 10, 2019

1 message

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Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 8:59 AM

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Connecting

October 10, 2019

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Colleagues,

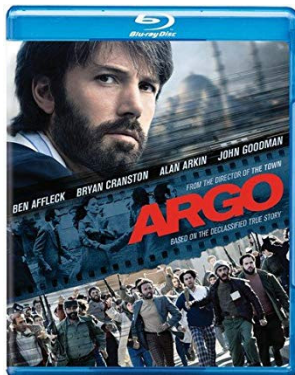
Good Thursday morning on this the 10th day of October 2019,

In Wednesday's Today in History, the thought for the day came from the late **Al McGuire**, head basketball coach at Marquette University from 1964 to 1977 and a member of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame:

"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."

Share your opinion from your own life's experience on what helped you "really be educated." Maybe it was being a newspaper carrier...

Connecting colleague **Jon Gambrell**, who is AP News Director - Gulf and Iran, based in Dubai, is seeking your assistance. He writes:



The 2012 film "Argo" about the six American diplomats who hid inside the Canadian ambassador's residence in Tehran after the Nov. 4, 1979, takeover of the U.S. Embassy by Islamist students includes this line about three-quarters of the way through:

"The Times and AP found out six escaped. They know who they are and they know they're hiding out with the Canadians. Somebody with one of the families talked."

Is this true? And does anyone know the story that they can share with me ahead of the 40th anniversary? I'm reachable at jgambrell@ap.org

Finally, our call for stories from women who were once newspaper carriers has been answered. See what our colleague and AP alum **Meg Thomas-Reile** had to say. Hers is among even more of your stories shared on this most popular topic.

Have a great day!

Paul

AP's top editor: News organizations must be 'flexible, nimble and scrappy'

By Patrick Maks

Speaking at the Inter American Press Association's 75th General Assembly in Miami, Florida, on Sunday, Executive Editor Sally Buzbee called attention to challenges facing the news industry, including the erosion of local news and attacks on "the essential question of factual journalism."

"We're all very interested in what's happening in the United States but some of the same trends are happening in countries that may have less resilience to fight back against them," Buzbee said of attacks on fact-based reporting. "What is more worrisome is the sort of Pandora's box that this is opening across the world, especially in countries that may not have the types of institutions that can fight back against this long term."



In this image taken from Inter American Press Association video, AP Executive Editor Sally Buzbee discusses the future of journalism at IAPA's 75th General Assembly in Miami, Florida, Oct. 6, 2019. (Photo courtesy IAPA)

Addressing ongoing industry challenges, Buzbee said news organizations must be "flexible, nimble and scrappy" and create value for customers to survive in a digital-first environment.

"If you have a really great product and you don't have a great tech platform or you don't have a modern way to consume that information, I think you're kind of toast," Buzbee said.

Read more [here](#).

Your experiences as a newspaper carrier

Meg Thomas-Reile ([Email](#)) - I can verify that paper girls did exist, at least in northeast Ohio. I had a paper route in the late 70s delivering the Austintown Leader, a weekly, community-focused paper for this suburb of Youngstown, Ohio. It was the paper you subscribed to for photos of the local little league teams, school board news and coupons for the weekly special at the local pizzeria. I held the job for about a year until I was old enough to work in a restaurant where the money was better, the weather was rarely an issue and you didn't need to chase down each and every customer for payment.

Honestly, I hated it, but I was determined to make some pocket money. So, I took the only job I could get at that age.



The route itself seemed to have been cobbled together from the remnants or overflow of other routes. It covered some streets on the perimeter of the housing development where I lived and then hopscotched across several busy streets for one or two houses in other neighborhoods. This meant that the majority of the houses I served were along busy main roads with no sidewalks and no room to ride a bicycle safely. It also meant that I had to rely on my own two feet to get safely past one particular home where the owners liked to let their pack of not very friendly dogs run free.

So, I lugged the 30 or 40 papers on foot through snow slush and mud on a trek of about two miles after school. I managed to make it home before dark most nights, but there were a few times where even the orange poncho I wore to keep the rain off myself and the newspapers and to increase my visibility to cars along the busy roads couldn't save me from being drenched from the knees down. And then there was the joy of collecting payment, spending more of my days after school and on weekends trudging from house-to-house trying to get my customers to pay what they owed.

I think the only job I had that was less inspiring was the time my friend Donna and I worked a carnival game at the Canfield Fair for a buck an hour. That job lasted one day. After being on our feet for 12-plus hours straight yelling out into the Midway to draw customers in for the chance of winning a cheap stuffed animal and being yelled at in turn by the lady who ran the game that we weren't yelling loudly enough or were leaning or slouching or any other imaginary infraction she could come up with, she grudgingly presented us with \$12 each as payment for our time. We took the money, looked at each other, walked off and never went back.

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Adolphe Bernotas (Email) - My job as paperboy was washed away in mid-August 1955 when the great Connecticut flood destroyed my community, the Lithuanian immigrant neighborhood of Brooklyn in Waterbury.

I delivered the morning Waterbury Republican on a mile-long route, which I inherited from my friend Ziggy Maciokas, who was bound for high school and loftier ways to earn money: caddying or delivering groceries.

I walked the route mostly on South Leonard, Washington and Charles streets, tossing papers onto porches. The apartment houses were a challenge until I

became skilled at folding the papers into three-fold columns that could withstand well-aimed deliveries to second- and third-floor back porches.

I would pick up the bundle of papers at 5:30 a.m. at the front door of Tareila's Drug Store and pack them into the carrier bag, but not before I checked the box on the bottom of the front page for the scores of my beloved Brooklyn Dodgers and the reviled New York Yankees.

The last paper went to Brookside Dairy on Charles Street, where the night watchman would leave a small carton of chocolate milk that I would take across the street to our house.

On Sundays I enlisted the help of my three sisters to assemble the Sunday Republican, pile the papers on a home-made wagon and trudge along Brooklyn's streets. No tossing the Sunday edition; stairs had to be climbed.

Life was normal on the route until the morning of Aug. 18, 1955. As I walked toward Bank Street to pick up the papers, I heard an unfamiliar rush and when I got to Washington Street, I froze. The street had become an angry coffee-colored river at least 10 feet deep.

There were no papers at Tareila's that morning. After several days of rains, dams upstream of the Naugatuck River broke away inundating the valley and its cities. Dozens perished.

The rest of that day we watched houses float by, some with people in them. The disaster and its aftermath lasted a long time. There were rescues by helicopter; martial law as the National Guard patrolled the streets once the flood retreated; people lined up for typhus inoculations and coffee and meals served by the Salvation Army; kitchen faucets ran with contaminated water; electricity would come and go.

My paper route evaporated of its customers, among them - I learned years later - George Metesky, the "Mad Bomber," who in the 1940s and 1950s terrorized New York City, planting explosives in public and private buildings, injuring at least a dozen people.

The immediate disaster of the 1955 flood destroyed most of the neighborhood and started the final disintegration of the Lithuanian community in Brooklyn.

Before the flood, Lithuanian and occasional Italian, could be heard in the streets. The community was full of Lithuanian commerce - three drug stores (I would work as a soda jerk in one of them), two bakeries, a food market, book store, credit union, haberdasher, dentist's office, two funeral parlors, a luncheonette, gas station, pinball parlor, at least a half-dozen taverns (the hardware store and the Capitol movie house were operated by Italians). On Green Street, the 103 Club, officially named after a Lithuanian river, had been built before World War I by socialists as a community center; down the street, the competing 48 Club was established by a post-World War II wave of anti-communist Lithuanian immigrants.

The center of the community was St. Joseph's Church and St. Joseph's Grammar School, both long closed. The only signs that Lithuanians had lived in Brooklyn are the Lithuanian coat of arms atop the front door of the school; the iconic Lithuanian "Christ the Worrier" totem in the church yard; and not far from where the 103 Club stood, a small building in which the Knights of Lithuania, a Knights of Columbus analog, has managed to hang on and serve Lithuanian beer, the best there is.

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Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - Earlier, I joined the crowd of journalists who wrote about being newspaper carriers early in their lives, but I forgot one period when I carried a sexy rag called the "Star."

I needed the money, so I sold the tabloid (the rag was not delivered), and only published once per week, up and down North High Street in Columbus, Ohio. I was also embarrassed and chagrined entering those joints stinking with their smoky and liquor aroma. The whole magazine was pictures of half-dressed sexy gals. Even though I was embarrassed, I secretly enjoyed taking a peep, as did the raucous bar guys. Ah youth.

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Jim Limbach ([Email](#)) - I wonder if ANY kids deliver papers these days.

In the DC area, adults have been flinging them from a car into the gutter for decades.

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Andrew Selsky (Email) - A tragedy involving a newspaper delivery boy occurred across the street and a few houses down from our family home in the Tall Oaks neighborhood of Annandale, Va., in 1970. [This NYT article](#) sums up what happened.

At the time of the shooting, we were not living in our house, which my parents had leased while we were stationed abroad. I read about the shooting in Time magazine. It said Todd McKinney contributed some of his earnings from delivering newspapers to gun control groups. As a footnote, a friend and I, when we were around 12 years old, had a scary moment a couple years before the shooting with Billy Psimas, who was enraged that we were standing next to or maybe leaning against his car, which was parked in the street.

In the predawn darkness on an October morning in 1970, Psimas thought he heard someone by his car, opened the window to his second-story bedroom, and fired a shotgun at whatever was making the noise, then went back to bed. So terrible.

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Bill Winter (Email) - I recall two experiences, both unhappy ones, with newspaper delivery:

-- One day during eighth grade, I volunteered to deliver the downtown Jonesboro, AR, paper route handled by one of my classmates. Bad decision. A big storm with very strong winds slammed the downtown area that day as I carried several dozen copies of the Jonesboro Sun in a basket on my bike. A huge gust lifted a dozen or so of the papers straight up, then distributed them down the street. Paper everywhere. Never was able to retrieve most of the copies. That was my last attempt at newspaper delivery.

-- Years later, in Louisville, KY, a storm had dropped more than a foot of snow on our neighborhood. We had no garage -- just parked the car in the driveway, close to the house. On one of the colder nights, we ran an extension cord out to the car, placing it inside the hood with a lightbulb attached. In the darkness and frigid cold of the next morning, our newspaper carrier unknowingly disturbed the cord as he walked toward our front porch, pulling the lightbulb directly onto our car's battery. Melted a large hole in the top of the battery. We never said a word to the carrier. Hey, it was amazing that he was out there walking his delivery route every single day, no matter the snow depth.

Connecting mailbox

She was delivered just in the nick of time

Wendy Davis Beard (Email) - on Harry Atkins induction into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame - I was interested in Harry Atkins' history in sports in Michigan as I was born in Grosse Pointe, MI on December 31, 1957, delivered by a doctor who had been an All-American football player himself and warned my mother that he would not leave the Detroit Lions-Cleveland Browns game on New Year's Day January 1, 1958, for anything (not even me!). To be fair I understand, (again from my mother) it was a grand rivalry at the time! Later my big brother played varsity football for the infamous coach Woody Hayes at Ohio State. He now has a family rivalry with his daughter who goes to Michigan State; the rivalry of these two State football teams is a classic annual grudge match. While I now divide my time between Sydney, Australia, and Greenwich, London and Southern Europe (currently based in Sicily) , I can't escape these Connections! Nor do I want to!

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Connecting sky shot - Albuquerque



Dennis Conrad ([Email](#)) - from the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. I loved my time here today. It was all I imagined it to be and more.

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Connecting sky shots - San Diego





Nick Ut ([Email](#)) - Here are two photos from the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar for the first of the three-day air show in San Diego.

Stories of interest

Woman accuses Matt Lauer of rape; former anchor denies claim



2017 NBC photo

By **DAVID BAUDER**

NEW YORK (AP) - A woman who worked at NBC News claimed that Matt Lauer raped her at a hotel while on assignment for the Sochi Olympics, an encounter the former "Today" show host claimed was consensual.

The claim outlined by Brooke Nevils in Ronan Farrow's book, "Catch and Kill," puts a name and details behind the event that led to Lauer's firing by NBC in 2017. It also provoked the first public response from Lauer, who said in a defiant and graphic letter made public by his lawyer that "my silence was a mistake."

Variety first reported Nevils' charges after obtaining a copy of Farrow's book. The Associated Press typically does not identify alleged victims of sexual assault, unless they step forward publicly as Nevils has done.

Nevils, who was working for Meredith Vieira in Sochi, met her for drinks one night and Lauer joined them. Nevils said she had six shots of vodka and wound up going to Lauer's room.

Read more [here](#).

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Southeast Missourian to allow pseudonyms on online comments again (Southeast Missourian)

By JON RUST, Publisher

The Southeast Missourian has made several changes over time in how it manages comments below articles online. Throughout, our goal has been to encourage a positive forum for people to engage ideas, connect and be entertained.

At the same time, we understand that self-expression is messy, and anywhere people gather to share ideas and opinions, differences will emerge. Such differences are normal, healthy and can be productive, as long as they don't devolve into personal attacks, name-calling or worse.

Last year, we were close to shutting down online commentary, because it had become too costly to moderate responsibly. And our reliance on community members to flag inappropriate comments left too much delay in the process, concerning us and alienating some of our readers.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Scott Charton.

Today in History - October 10, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Oct. 10, the 283rd day of 2019. There are 82 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 10, 2001, U.S. jets pounded the Afghan capital of Kabul. President George W. Bush unveiled a list of 22 most-wanted terrorists, including Osama bin Laden.

On this date:

In 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy was established in Annapolis, Maryland.

In 1913, the Panama Canal was effectively completed as President Woodrow Wilson sent a signal from the White House by telegraph, setting off explosives that destroyed a section of the Gamboa dike.

In 1938, Nazi Germany completed its annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland (soo-DAYT'-uhn-land).

In 1943, Chiang Kai-shek took the oath of office as president of China.

In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower apologized to the finance minister of Ghana, Komla Agbeli Gbedemah, after the official was refused seating in a Howard

Johnson's restaurant near Dover, Delaware.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy, responding to the Thalidomide birth defects crisis, signed an amendment to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act requiring pharmaceutical companies to prove that their products were safe and effective prior to marketing.

In 1964, the first Summer Olympics to be held in Asia were opened in Tokyo by Japanese Emperor Hirohito. Entertainer Eddie Cantor, 72, died in Beverly Hills, California.

In 1967, the Outer Space Treaty, prohibiting the placing of weapons of mass destruction on the moon or elsewhere in space, entered into force.

In 1973, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, accused of accepting bribes, pleaded no contest to one count of federal income tax evasion, and resigned his office.

In 1985, U.S. fighter jets forced an Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro (ah-KEE'-leh LOW'-roh) to land in Italy, where the gunmen were taken into custody. Actor-director Orson Welles died in Los Angeles at age 70; actor Yul Brynner died in New York at age 65.

In 1997, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and its coordinator, Jody Williams, were named winners of the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 2004, Christopher Reeve, the "Superman" of celluloid who became a quadriplegic after a May 1995 horse riding accident, died in Mount Kisco, New York, at age 52.

Ten years ago: Turkey and Armenia signed a landmark agreement to establish diplomatic relations and open their sealed border after a century of enmity. President Barack Obama, addressing the Human Rights Campaign, restated his campaign pledge to allow homosexual men and women to serve openly in the military.

Five years ago: Malala Yousafzai (mah-LAH'-lah YOO'-suhf-zeye), a 17-year-old Pakistani girl, and Kailash Satyarthi (KY'-lash saht-YAHR'-thee), a 60-year-old Indian man, were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for risking their lives for the right of children to receive an education and to live free from abuse.

One year ago: Stocks plunged as investors feared that rising interest rates and trade tensions could hurt company profits; the Dow industrials fell 831 points, the worst loss for the index in eight months. President Donald Trump, reacting to the market turmoil, said the Federal Reserve was "making a mistake" with its campaign of rate increases. Trump demanded answers from Saudi Arabia about the fate of missing Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi (jah-MAHL' khahr-SHOHK'-jee), as lawmakers pushed for sanctions. Hurricane Michael slammed into the Florida Panhandle with winds of 155 miles per hour, splintering homes and submerging neighborhoods, before continuing into south Georgia as a Category 3 hurricane.

Today's Birthdays: Former Illinois Sen. Adlai Stevenson III is 89. Actor Peter Coyote is 78. Entertainer Ben Vereen is 73. Singer John Prine is 73. Actor Charles Dance is 73. Rock singer-musician Cyril Neville (The Neville Brothers) is 71. Actress Jessica Harper is 70. Author Nora Roberts (aka "J.D. Robb") is 69. Singer-musician Midge Ure is 66. Rock singer David Lee Roth is 65. Actor J. Eddie Peck is 61. Country singer Tanya Tucker is 61. Actress Julia Sweeney is 60. Actor Bradley Whitford is 60. Musician Martin Kemp is 58. Actress Jodi Benson is 58. Rock musician Jim Glennie (James) is 56. Actress Rebecca Pidgeon is 54. Rock musician Mike Malinin (mah-LIHN'-ihn) (Goo Goo Dolls) is 52. Pro Football Hall of Famer Brett Favre is 50. Actor Manu Bennett is 50. Actress Joelle Carter is 50. Actress Wendi McLendon-Covey is 50. Actor/TV host Mario Lopez is 46. Retired race car driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. is 45. Actress Jodi Lyn O'Keefe is 41. Singer Mya is 40. Actor Dan Stevens is 37. Singer Cherie is 35. MLB outfielder Andrew McCutchen is 33. Actress Rose Mclver is 31. Actress Aimee Teegarden is 30.

Thought for Today: "We're born alone, we live alone, we die alone. Only through our love and friendship can we create the illusion for the moment that we're not alone." - Orson Welles (1915-1985).

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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