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Connecting - October 16, 2019

1 message

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 16th day of October 2019,

Our colleague **Bob Daugherty** celebrated his 80th birthday in January, so he had no idea that a group of friends and family had plotted to surprise him with a second celebration of entering his 80s when a green trolley bus pulled up in front of his home in suburban Indianapolis last weekend.

Out trooped more than 30 celebrators to mark the day for the retired AP photojournalist, whose 43-year AP career began in Indianapolis and three years later took him to Washington where he covered the Watergate hearings, Nixon in China, the Paris peace talks with Kissinger, the Gulf War, and innumerable political conventions, inaugurations, World Series and Olympics. He was elected in 2015 to the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame.



Charlie Rex Arbogast (left) with Bob and Stephanie Daugherty. (Photo by Peter Leabo)

Today's issue brings the first responses to our call for your thoughts on sharing stories or fact-checking with news sources prior to a story's publication. We would welcome your own thoughts; send them along.

Have a great day!

Paul

Celebrating Bob Daugherty's 80th birthday



Celebrants, from left: Kneeling, Kermit Johnson. Seated: Harry Cabluck, Mike Conroy, Charlie "Trash" Bennett, Bob Daugherty, Susan Wise. Next row: John Swart, Al Behrman, Peter Leabo, Dave Tenenbaum and Robert Meyers. Back row: Bob Graves, Ron Lizik, Steve Hart, Mark Duncan and Rob Kozloff. (Photo by Charles Rex Arbogast)

Steve Hart (Email) - On Saturday, Oct. 12, more than 30 AP alumni, family and friends gathered in Noblesville, Indiana, to spring a surprise party for Bob Daugherty honoring his 80th birthday.

We all met at the party site to board a trolley bus for a short drive over to Bob's house to surprise him in his front yard.

"I assumed a green trolley bus had stalled, for whatever reason, in my driveway," said Bob, whose actual birthday date was in January. "But no, before my eyes were folks, lots of them, who I had worked alongside a few years back climbing from the bus. There were former and present AP staffers who show(ed) up every day and we tried to get it done 'the AP way.' It was a special evening."



The group of AP and local friends wearing masks made for a cartoon a friend gave Bob of a photographer holding his head, which is a camera on the trolley in route to Bob's house.

The party was organized by Bob's wife Stephanie, with AP alumni coordination by current staffer Charles Rex Arbogast of the Chicago bureau.



Harry Cabluck (left) with Bob. (Photo by Peter Leabo)

There were video tributes by former colleagues Santiago Lyon, Greg Gibson and Jim Gerberich - and letters by Brian Horton, Hal Buell and Rande (Anmuth) Simpson were read.

It was a great evening of reconnecting, storytelling, and celebrating a great photographer, colleague and friend.

Bob was completely surprised.

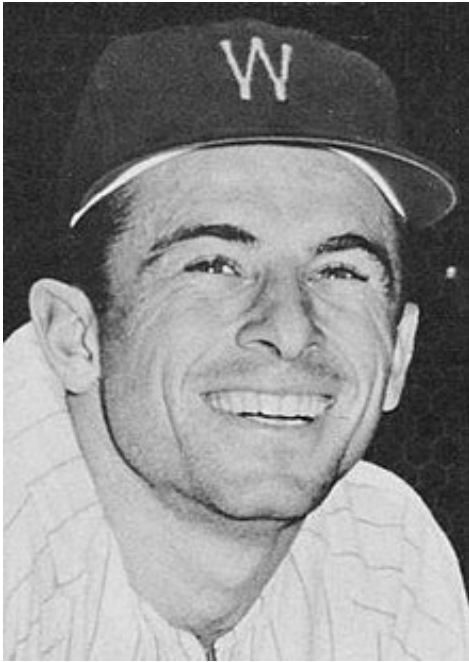
Bob Daugherty's email - robertd127@gmail.com

With Nationals heading to World Series, memories evoked of little Albie Pearson

Andy Lippman (Email) - When the final out was made and the Washington Nationals became National League champions last night, my mind flashed back to Griffith Stadium and I knew that somewhere Albie Pearson is smiling right now.

Pearson was 5-foot-5 but the announcers always said he was "Little Albie Pearson who played for the Washington Senators of the early and mid 1950s - losers that only a boy who was six could love.

I was five in and remember going to Griffith Stadium - where the original Senators played- and inhaling the very sweet smell from a nearby bakery. I listened on radio at home and an advertising jingle still sticks in my head that went



Albie Pearson

something like: "What do you say let's go to the ballgame, with National Bohemian Beer."

My mom and dad both indulged my early infatuation with the Senators. They understood lovable losers because they both grew up in Brooklyn. My mom even took me to a game when she was eight months pregnant with my brother. Now that's a mom who knows how to indulge her son.

If you were an adult, this team would drive you to drink, but I was six, and I got my kicks rooting for home run star Roy "The Boy" Sievers and later Frank Howard and Harmon Killebrew.

Most of the players in the Senators lineup of the early 1950s were hardly household words outside of the Washington D.C. area or if you were a die-hard baseball fan.

The starting pitching rotation included Camilo Pascual and Pedro Ramos, while Eddie Yost played third; there was an outfielder named Chuck Hinton; and other names that have slipped away with age. I've probably misplaced some years that the players were with Washington, but the final results at the end of the year were nearly always the same. The saying: "Washington - first in war. First in peace. And last in the American League" could not be denied no matter how big a fan you were when you were five or six.

I imagine young fans of other hapless clubs had the same admiration no matter what their record.

The manager I recall was Cookie Lavagetto, who did have a moment in baseball history when he broke up a no-hitter being thrown by a New York Yankees pitcher in the 1947 World Series.

I remember all this because I'd listen on radio and study the box scores in the Washington Post. I even tried to guess the starting lineup one year in order to win a spot as a batboy for a day. I didn't win, and neither did the Senators.

Before they left to go to Minneapolis, they had gotten some good young talent.

But, by the late 1950s, I'd grown old enough to realize that even my youthful enthusiasm wasn't enough to carry the Senators far up in the American League pennant race

So, I switched from the ridiculous to the sublime - and started rooting for Mickey Mantle and the New York Yankees..

But boy, did the memories come back last night, and whatever happens to the Yankees, I was delighted last night to be watching the team of my childhood.

Sharing stories/information with sources pre-publication - your views

Tom Cohen (Email) - On the sharing stories with sources question, there is a fine line between accuracy checking a story and providing an improper head's up. During my day, allowing sources to review quotes for accuracy and confirm factual information attributed to them was fine. Letting them see the whole story, or providing a "summary" beyond information they provided, was not. That was made clear to me at Missouri J-school, and during my AP days. Of course, I had sources attempt to cajole or bully me into letting them see the story before publication, and I'm sure that is more intense today. But I hope the principle of not sharing stories before publication remains intact.

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Mike Holmes (Email) - The only times I recall discussing a story draft with a source involved state Supreme Court decisions, usually in complex civil and financial cases.

Some judges, I found, often had difficulty in explaining the finer points of law in plain English. Translating that for readers could be a formidable task. And while it's generally a breach of ethics for judges to discuss cases, I found most willing to go off the record with me to answer factual questions and tell me whether what I had written accurately explained the opinions they had authored.

Of course, it probably didn't hurt that in two states where I worked, judges had to face opponents in popular elections.

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Jim Hood (Email) - I would have to concur with Kevin Walsh on the issue of sharing stories prior to publication (Connecting, Oct. 15). I never did it at AP although it was often requested or demanded, especially during my days at the helm of ConsumerAffairs.com, where we mostly covered businesses from the consumer's point of view.

Many of our stories resulted in product safety recalls, class action lawsuits and regulatory actions. They were frequently picked up by newspapers and TV outlets, adding to the pain felt by the subject company.

Businesses were not happy with this and often used demands, threats and what can only be called bribes (i.e., offers of advertising) to steer us away from a sensitive topic. Our refusals were not taken lightly. We spent hundreds of thousands of dollars defending against lawsuits (always successfully but still at great expense) and endured denial-of-service attacks that knocked us off the net for weeks at a time.

The least of our worries were frequent death threats, which now are often treated in the press as serious menaces. My theory has always been that anyone who plans to kill you will probably not tell you in advance and so far this has worked out for me. Things could change, of course.

Fact-checking is another matter. Commendable but perhaps less practiced than it once was. Major publications used to have skilled people assigned solely to this task. The first time I encountered a fact-checker as the subject of a story was in 1991, when Eugene Carlson wrote a Wall Street Journal story about Zapnews, a small news service I had started.

He wrote a well-balanced story, I thought. A trade industry spokesman called Zapnews "enormously valuable" while Jim Williams, then head of AP Broadcast, said it was "not good journalism ... by AP standards." Both were about right, I thought.

But what caught the eye of the fact-checker was Carlson's assertion that our offices were "above a Thai restaurant." She pinned me down with a sharply worded query about whether in fact our offices were not really above a Chinese restaurant.

The truth is that we were in a rundown building above four hole-in-the-wall restaurants -- a pizza joint, a Chinese carry-out, a Subway and -- yes -- a Thai restaurant. I shared with her my suspicion that all but the Subway secretly shared

the same kitchen but she chose to stick with the Thai angle for reasons perhaps best known to her.

My current endeavors are a bit less exciting. My latest venture, ObitCenter.com, offers consumers free obituaries and unearths useful tips on planning a dignified and affordable exit. Since we publish the obits as submitted, we don't get requests for pre-publication reviews, although some of our how-to articles may elicit the occasional complaint.

I should perhaps not mention this here but one of our more recent stories reveals that cash-starved newspapers are working in league with funeral homes to extract \$500 or more for publishing obituary notices for their deceased subscribers. Doesn't seem right somehow.

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Jack Limpert (Email) - I think the key to how much of a story to share is Craig Klugman's suggestion that a complicated science or financial story might benefit from having the source read parts of the story.

At the Washingtonian magazine that was pretty much our approach. We did a lot of health and medicine stories and with those it was very important to give accurate advice, thus a lot of reading back copy to sources.

As for fact-checking, that world changed about 15 years ago with the arrival of broadband and Google. Before then, most of our fact-checking was done by telephone. The most common complaint from the accounting department was that our telephone bills were way over budget-stop making so many long-distance calls. But to avoid mistakes and sometimes potential legal problems, we had to call who we had to call.

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Hal Spencer (Email) - I was a little shocked to read that John Solomon shared his work with story subjects pre-publication, and I don't believe his bosses endorsed the practice. The AP rule was (and I'm sure still is) that we do not do that. It wasn't an obscure issue but something that came up from time to time for all reporters and editors. Most times in my career, I recognized that subjects asked for a look because to them, it was common sense. My gentle answer was always the first truth. I didn't own the work. AP did, and for various good reasons, it wasn't allowed. There were a few times when I described what I'd written (or would write) as it pertained to them. But there was no negotiating quotes after the fact, etc. Just for

starters, if AP shared stories pre-publication as a matter of practice, it would be a weekly rather than a 24/7 news service.

AP Photo of the Day



The ultimate D.C. split screen Tuesday night at Hawk 'n' Dove: the Nationals making their way to the World Series on one TV, the Democratic debate on the other. Nick Wass/AP Photo

The AP and I made Van Cliburn famous - well, sort of

Henry Bradsher ([Email](#)) - On the subject of obits, about which I wrote the other day when AP Moscow scored a photo scoop on the death of the first person to make a space walk, there's also the AP role with another famous person.

When Van Cliburn died on Feb. 27, 2013, Monica and I were on a cruise ship. As a cruise lecturer, I was expected to mingle with the paying passengers. That evening after news of his death had come, we were having dinner with a number of them. I told them I was the one who had made Cliburn famous.

Well, sort of, I explained.

After astounding the world scientifically by launching the first artificial earth satellite into space, Sputnik 1 in October 1957, the USSR decided also to prove its supposedly superior cultural achievements. It organized the first International Tchaikovsky Competition for musicians, including the many well-trained Soviet ones who went on later to celebrated careers.



Van Cliburn

AP's Moscow bureau didn't pay much attention, but The NY Times's Max Frankel covered the early rounds as the 6-foot-4 Cliburn's piano playing advanced to the finals. AP caught up at last with the April 14, 1958, first place for Cliburn.

(It was disclosed later that the judges thought he should win, but, being a Soviet show, they checked with the prime minister and Communist Party boss, Nikita S. Khrushchev, whether to award the top prize to a citizen of a Cold War opponent. Khrushchev told them that if he was the best, give it to him.)

The news came in too late on a Friday night to make most U.S. newspapers. I was then in charge of the Saturday early foreign desk - Harris Jackson had gone to Fire Island. I had one of the people on the desk get some background from Frankel's earlier articles to write a comprehensive story about Cliburn's triumph.

When it came time, about 3 a.m. Saturday, to suggest a foreign story to the general desk for the budget of stories recommended for prominence in Saturday afternoon papers, nothing much was happening abroad. Lacking anything else, I suggested putting Cliburn on the budget. Which we did.

So in those days when Saturday afternoon papers were well read, we got Cliburn on front pages all across the country - more attention than a cultural story usually had, maybe ever got.

After getting off at 8 a.m., I flew down to Washington to visit an old Air Force friend. There across the bottom of the front page of the then dominant paper in the capital, The Evening Star, was Cliburn.

So AP, and I, made him famous. Sort of.

AP photographer Dar Yasin wins international photojournalism award



Kashmiri Shiite Muslims shout religious and pro-freedom slogans as Indian policemen stop them from participating in a religious procession during curfew in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir, Oct. 10, 2016. (AP Photo/Dar Yasin)

By Patrick Maks

AP photographer Dar Yasin has won the inaugural Yannis Behrakis International Photojournalism Award from Athens Photo World for a compelling collection of photographs chronicling the ongoing conflict in Kashmir.

Yasin, who is from in Indian Kashmir, has documented bloodshed, violence, strife, and unrest in the region for years. His winning images, taken between 2016 and 2019, illustrate day-to-day to life tinged by protests, devastation and death.

The judges described Yasin's work as powerful, compelling and memorable in the announcement made on Tuesday.

Read more [here](#).



Dar Yasin

Stories of interest

Government agencies can't stop employees from talking to the press. Here's why. (Poynter)

By Frank LoMonte

During the 35-day government shutdown that spanned last year's Christmastime holidays, journalists searched for ways to humanize the impact of a month's lost income on the families of federal employees. At every turn, they ran into the same obstacle: Federal employees had been told it was a punishable offense to talk to the media without permission.

CNBC quoted "Leo," an IRS tax examiner from Ohio, about the hardship of going without money for his prescription medications, explaining that "Leo" could not be better identified "because he's not permitted to speak about his job with the media." A married couple, both furloughed from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, insisted on anonymity when discussing the furlough with NBC News, citing their agency's prohibition against interviews.

Prohibiting government employees from sharing their candid observations isn't just bad for journalism. It's against the law.

Although the practice of gagging public employees from giving unapproved interviews is pervasive across all levels of government, decades' worth of First Amendment caselaw demonstrates that blanket restrictions on speaking to the media are legally unenforceable.

Read more [here](#).

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The Hong Kong Protests are Also a Fight for a Free Press (Nieman)



Protesters hold a banner during a march, organized by media groups and journalist trade unions, calling for press freedom amidst the ongoing protests in Hong Kong. In addition to political pressure, journalists have increasingly been the targets of physical and verbal assaults from police
 Ivan Abreu / SOPA Images/Sipa USA via The Associated Press

By CASEY QUACKENBUSH

Every weekend, Tom Grundy plays a game of cat and mouse. The Hong Kong Free Press (HKFP) editor-in-chief opens his computer to 12 livestreams of the Hong Kong protests while trying to untangle dozens of threads on the encrypted messenger app Telegram. Meanwhile, two to three reporters are deployed to the streets; gas masks, helmets, phones, and laptops in tow so they can file, tweet, and livestream all at the same time—chasing protest flash mobs across the Chinese territory. Such is the fluid, unpredictable nature of the protests—as the Bruce Lee-inspired clarion call goes: "Be water."

"Unlike most of the protesters," says Grundy, "we're looking to be in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Read more [here](#).

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RAGBRAI staff: Handling of Carson King controversy among reasons for resignations

(KCCI, Des Moines)

By ALEX SCHUMAN

DES MOINES, Iowa - The director and staff of the Register's Annual Bike Ride Across Iowa, or RAGBRAI, resigned from their jobs Tuesday to start a new cycling event.

T.J. Juskiwicz, director of RAGBRAI for the last 16 years, spoke exclusively with KCCI about the resignations and development of a new statewide cycling event called Iowa's Ride.

Juskiwicz said recent developments with the Des Moines Register and RAGBRAI left him feeling that it was time to break away and start fresh.

"We put our heart and soul into this event, but when our principles are compromised, we just can't go on," Juskiwicz said.

He said he came to the decision to resign after RAGBRAI started receiving criticism in the wake of an article the Des Moines Register wrote about Carson King.

The paper was criticized for publishing information regarding racist tweets King made as a teen.

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

Des Moines Register: RAGBRAI will continue. Click [here](#) for the story.

Today in History - October 16, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 16, the 289th day of 2019. There are 76 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 16, 1962, the Cuban missile crisis began as President John F. Kennedy was informed that reconnaissance photographs had revealed the presence of missile bases in Cuba.

On this date:

In 1793, during the French Revolution, Marie Antoinette, the queen of France, was beheaded.

In 1859, radical abolitionist John Brown led a group of 21 men in a raid on Harpers Ferry in western Virginia. (Ten of Brown's men were killed and five escaped. Brown and six followers were captured; all were executed.)

In 1901, Booker T. Washington dined at the White House as the guest of President Theodore Roosevelt, whose invitation to the black educator sparked controversy.

In 1916, Planned Parenthood had its beginnings as Margaret Sanger and her sister, Ethel Byrne, opened the first birth control clinic in Brooklyn, New York. (The clinic ended up being raided by police and Sanger was arrested.)

In 1934, Chinese Communists, under siege by the Nationalists, began their "long march" lasting a year from southeastern to northwestern China.

In 1968, American athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos sparked controversy at the Mexico City Olympics by giving "black power" salutes during a victory ceremony after they'd won gold and bronze medals in the 200-meter race.

In 1969, the New York Mets capped their miracle season by winning the World Series, defeating the Baltimore Orioles, 5-3, in Game 5 played at Shea Stadium.

In 1978, the College of Cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church chose Cardinal Karol Wojtyla (voy-TEE'-wah) to be the new pope; he took the name John Paul II.

In 1987, a 58-1/2-hour drama in Midland, Texas, ended happily as rescuers freed Jessica McClure, an 18-month-old girl trapped in a narrow, abandoned well.

In 1991, a deadly shooting rampage took place in Killeen, Texas, as a gunman opened fire at a Luby's Cafeteria, killing 23 people before taking his own life.

In 1995, a vast throng of black men gathered in Washington, D.C. for the "Million Man March" led by Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan.

In 2002, President George W. Bush signed a congressional resolution authorizing war against Iraq. The White House announced that North Korea had disclosed it had a nuclear weapons program.

Ten years ago: The government reported that the federal budget deficit for the just-ended fiscal year totaled an all-time high of \$1.42 trillion (a record which still stands). Agricultural officials said pigs in Minnesota had tested positive for the H1N1 virus, or swine flu, the first such cases in the U.S.

Five years ago: During a special congressional hearing on the Ebola crisis, Republican lawmakers pressed for a ban on travel to the U.S. from the West African outbreak zone; the White House resisted the idea and tried to tamp down fear as the pool of Americans being monitored expanded. Travis Ishikawa hit the first homer to

end an NL Championship Series, a three-run drive that sent San Francisco to a 6-3 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals in Game 5.

One year ago: A Turkish official said police searching the Saudi Consulate found evidence that Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi (jah-MAHL' khahr-SHOHK'-jee) had been killed there. President Donald Trump, in an Associated Press interview, criticized the global condemnation of Saudi Arabia over the disappearance of Khashoggi, describing it as a rush to judgment like the one he said had been aimed at Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Angela Lansbury is 94. Actor Peter Bowles is 83. Actor-producer Tony Anthony is 82. Actor Barry Corbin is 79. Sportscaster Tim McCarver is 78. Rock musician C.F. Turner (Bachman-Turner Overdrive) is 76. Actress Suzanne Somers is 73. Rock singer-musician Bob Weir is 72. Producer-director David Zucker is 72. Record company executive Jim Ed Norman is 71. Actor Daniel Gerroll is 68. Actor Morgan Stevens is 68. Actress Martha Smith is 67. Comedian-actor Andy Kindler is 63. Actor-director Tim Robbins is 61. Actor-musician Gary Kemp is 60. Singer-musician Bob Mould is 59. Actor Randy Vasquez is 58. Rock musician Flea (Red Hot Chili Peppers) is 57. Movie director Kenneth Lonergan is 57. Actor Christian Stolte is 57. Actor Todd Stashwick is 51. Actress Terri J. Vaughn is 50. Singer Wendy Wilson (Wilson Phillips) is 50. Rapper B-Rock (B-Rock and the Bizz) is 48. Rock singer Chad Gray (Mudvayne) is 48. Actor Paul Sparks is 48. Actress Kellie Martin is 44. Singer John Mayer is 42. Actor Jeremy Jackson is 39. Actress Caterina Scorsone is 39. Actress Brea Grant is 38. Actor Kyler Pettis is 27. Philadelphia Phillies outfielder Bryce Harper is 27. Tennis star Naomi Osaka is 22.

Thought for Today: "No persons are more frequently wrong, than those who will not admit they are wrong." - Francois, Duc de la Rochefoucauld, French moralist (1613-1680).

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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