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Connecting - October 23, 2019

1 message

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Connecting

October 23, 2019

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Welcome to Wednesday

Life happens. Despite the big story. **Vahe Gregorian** of The Kansas City Star, and a Connecting member, describes just that in today's lead story. Something similar happen to you? Let Connecting know.

You had to be there: Why a wedding meant more than a Chiefs game to this sportswriter

(The Kansas City Star)



The columnist/wedding officiator, Vahe Gregorian, is flanked by the bride and groom during last week's ceremony in Pennsylvania. Denise Buchanan Special to The Star

By Vahe Gregoria ([Email](#))

When we moved from St. Louis to Kansas City in 2013, part of the new gig was covering all Chiefs games, home and away. Until last Thursday, the only few I'd missed were because of conflicts with Royals playoff games.

In the fascinating Patrick Mahomes Era, now more than ever that aspect of the job feels like an important responsibility.

So I really hated missing their game at Denver last week and felt some pangs of withdrawal about not being part of the coverage with my incredible coworkers, especially when Mahomes was injured.

But I also wouldn't have been anywhere else other than where I was instead: in my hometown of Swarthmore, Pa., officiating the wedding of Kelsey Hansen and Dylan Terenick.

Read more [here](#).

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NYC Deadline Club to induct five journalists into Hall of Fame

Five journalists whose work has made a significant contribution to American journalism are being inducted into the Deadline Club Hall of Fame.

The 2019 Deadline Club Hall of Fame honorees are:

*Peggy Noonan, an opinion columnist for The Wall Street Journal, where her column, "Declarations," has been published since 2000. A political analyst for NBC News, she is the author of nine books on American politics, history and culture, and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary in 2017.

*Tom Brokaw, best known as the anchor and managing editor of "NBC Nightly News" for 22 years. He is the only journalist to have hosted all three major NBC News programs, "The Today Show," "NBC Nightly News," and, briefly, "Meet the Press."

*Richard Drew, an Associated Press staff photographer for nearly five decades who was assigned to cover a fashion show the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, but ended up documenting the terrorist attacks at the foot of the World Trade Center. His 12-frame sequence of an unidentified victim in free fall, later named "The Falling Man," stirred controversy and encapsulated the day's horror.

*Ted Koppel, the British-born American broadcast journalist who anchored ABC's "Nightline" from its inception in 1980 until 2005. Before "Nightline," he spent 20 years as a broadcast journalist and news anchor for ABC.

*Jane Pauley, a familiar face on morning, daytime and primetime television. She spent 13 years as a co-host of NBC's "Today Show" and a decade as the anchor of "Dateline NBC," starting in 1992. She has anchored "CBS Sunday Morning" since 2016.

The Deadline Club Hall of Fame has been recognizing reporters, writers, correspondents, editors, publishers and media executives since 1975. Numbered among the original class of honorees were Walter Cronkite, Sylvia Porter, James Reston and Lowell Thomas. More recently, honorees have included Pete Hamill, William Safire, Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, Mike Wallace, Barbara Walters, Bill Moyers, Les Payne, Jimmy Breslin, Lesley Stahl, Richard B. Stolley and Gloria Steinem.

Connecting mailbox

I didn't allow sources to review ... but that changed

Eric Newhouse ([Email](#)) - During my time with The AP (1970-1988), I never allowed sources to view one of my stories in advance. But that changed when I became projects editor of the Great Falls (MT) Tribune.

We promised our readers a 12-part series of stories on alcohol abuse, to run once a month during the year 1999, and we promised full disclosure: names and photos. That became a problem during the second month, which was devoted to fetal alcohol syndrome.

I interviewed 22-year-old Lissy Clark, who told me of the damage her brain had suffered due to her mother's drinking while Lissy was still in the womb. Among other things, she was unable to recognize people she'd previously met. So she wasn't terribly surprised when a strange young man showed up at her front door and invited himself in. He walked into her bedroom, began taking off his clothes and invited her to do the same. She did. When it was all over, she called her foster mother and described what had happened. Johnelle Howanach immediately called the cops to report a rape.

My dilemma was that I had a story that perfectly demonstrated the effects of prenatal alcohol abuse, but I had promised to identify my subjects -- and Lissy was a rape victim, who should not be identified.

Finally, I wrote the story fully, then took the section of it that was Lissy's story and gave it to her. I asked her to read it, then share it with her foster mom, her therapist, her clergyman/woman, and anyone else she chose. I promised her that we would kill the story if she chose, but that I firmly believed that her story should be told to demonstrate the dangers of prenatal drinking -- and that I'd need to use her name to ensure credibility.

One anxious week later, she hugged me and told me it was perfect. Well, almost perfect. So we corrected a few minor details and named a rape victim ... with her enthusiastic support.

Several other times during that series, with the knowledge of my editors, I interviewed people who were risking their good names on my reporting, and I chose to share what I had written about them with them. And in every case, my subject gave me permission to print a potentially damaging story (although we usually cleaned up a few minor details, a process that was far less painful than an after-the-fact correction).

In fact, when I entered the series for a Pulitzer Prize in early 2000, there was only one correction in about 50,000 words: an incorrect name in a photo caption. The judges never asked about pre-publication viewing, and I never gave it a thought. "Alcohol: Cradle to Grave" won the Pulitzer that year for explanatory reporting.

Stories of interest

The Washington press corps goes to the World Series
(Columbia Journalism Review)

By Al Hunt

Washington is a dark place with a mean-spirited and bitterly polarizing president. But suddenly, there's sunlight-not from the looming impeachment of Donald Trump or the political skill of Nancy Pelosi, House Speaker-but the Nationals, the local baseball team, which in a previous incarnation was called "First in war, first in peace, and last in the American League."

The Nationals, now of the National League, head to the World Series today. The joy is palpable, non-partisan, and has squeezed (temporarily) an ounce of optimism out of an embattled press corps. When the Nats, as they're known, secured victories earlier in the playoffs, reporters high-fived on the campaign trail; Andrea Mitchell and Judy Woodruff (my wife) tweeted excitedly; and The Atlantic's Ron Brownstein flew in from California for a game. "At a time of daily news eruptions, it's particularly a tonic for the folks working in and covering politics," Jonathan Martin, chief political correspondent for The New York Times, says.

Read more [here](#).

Contributed by **Mike Holmes** ([Email](#))

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White House to cancel Times, Post subscriptions after Trump's 'Hannity' comments (Politico)

By Michael Calderone

The White House said Tuesday it will not be renewing subscriptions to The New York Times and The Washington Post, two papers the president frequently attacks as "fake" and which he suggested canceling the previous night in a TV appearance.

Monday on Fox News' "Hannity," President Donald Trump called the Times "a fake newspaper" and said "we don't even want it in the White House anymore." "We're going to probably terminate that and The Washington Post," Trump said. "They're fake."

Read more [here](#).

Contributed by **Paul Shane** ([Email](#)).

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When Covering the 2020 Election Put Community, Not Competition, First

(Niemen Reports)

By Joyce Terhaar

The chance to oust President Trump or support him in the 2020 general election will bring voters to the polls. But what happens once they get past that first contest on the ballot?

Next year's election will be different from those in our lifetime for one sobering reason: Local newspapers, which historically have shouldered the brunt of media responsibility to inform our electorate, either have closed up shop or cut so much staff that few reporters remain to do the job.

Nearly one in five newspapers-almost 1,800-closed in the last 15 years, according to research from the University of North Carolina. Far more have decimated their newsroom staff to survive, with the Pew Research Center reporting that 32,000 newspaper journalists left between 2008 and 2018, either because of layoffs or buyouts.

Those who remain face a daunting task covering daily news, much less the added work of local election coverage. Yet this is coverage, I'd argue, that is every bit as essential to our democracy as national and statewide political coverage.

Read more [here](#).

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Facebook reaches deal with Wall Street Journal publisher, others for news section

(The Wall Street Journal)

By Lukas I. Alpert

News Corp has reached a deal to let Facebook Inc. feature headlines from The Wall Street Journal and other Dow Jones media properties, as well as the New York Post, in the social-media giant's coming news section, the companies said.

Other publications that have agreed to participate include the Washington Post, BuzzFeed News and Business Insider, people familiar with the matter said. The New York Times has

been in talks with Facebook, but a spokeswoman for the paper declined to comment on whether it had reached a deal.

Read more [here](#).

Contributed by **Mark Mittelstadt** ([Email](#))

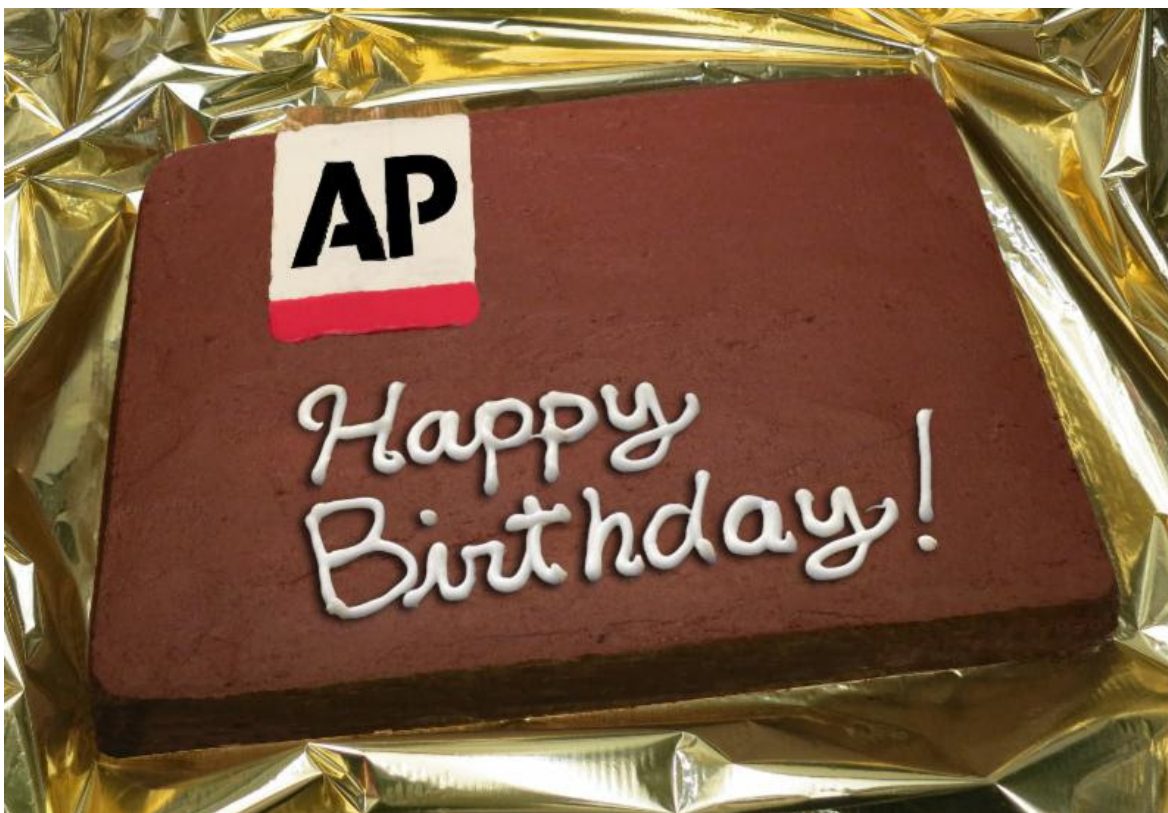
Connecting Photo

Sunset on the other coast - Naples



Guy Palmiotto ([Email](#)) - Sunset Monday, Oct. 21, at Naples pier, where Guy Palmiotto and his wife were vacationing.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Steve Loeper - stevelooper@hotmail.com

Today in History



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 23, the 296th day of 2019. There are 69 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 23, 1973, President Richard Nixon agreed to turn over White House tape recordings subpoenaed by the Watergate special prosecutor to Judge John J. Sirica.

On this date:

In 1707, the first Parliament of Great Britain, created by the Acts of Union between England and Scotland, held its first meeting.

In 1910, Blanche S. Scott became the first woman to make a public solo airplane flight, reaching an altitude of 12 feet at a park in Fort Wayne, Ind.

In 1915, tens of thousands of women paraded up Fifth Avenue in New York City, demanding the right to vote.

In 1925, talk show host Johnny Carson was born in Corning, Iowa.

In 1944, the World War II Battle of Leyte (LAY'-tee) Gulf began, resulting in a major Allied victory against Japanese forces.

In 1956, a student-sparked revolt against Hungary's Communist rule began; as the revolution spread, Soviet forces started entering the country, and the uprising was put down within weeks.

In 1983, 241 U.S. service members, most of them Marines, were killed in a suicide truck-bombing at Beirut International Airport in Lebanon; a near-simultaneous attack on French forces killed 58 paratroopers.

In 1984, BBC Television reported on the famine in Ethiopia; the story, which shocked viewers, prompted rock star Bob Geldof to organize "Band Aid," a group of celebrities who recorded the song "Do They Know It's Christmas?" for charity.

In 1987, the U.S. Senate rejected, 58-42, the Supreme Court nomination of Robert H. Bork.

In 1995, a jury in Houston convicted Yolanda Saldivar of murdering Tejano singing star Selena. (Saldivar is serving a life prison sentence.)

In 2001, the nation's anthrax scare hit the White House with the discovery of a small concentration of spores at an offsite mail processing center.

In 2006, former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling was sentenced by a federal judge in Houston to 24 years, four months for his role in the company's collapse. Eventually 10 years was cut off Skilling's prison sentence, and he was released to a halfway house in Aug. 2018.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama declared the swine flu outbreak a national emergency, giving his health chief the power to let hospitals move emergency rooms offsite to speed treatment and protect non-infected patients. Bank closings for 2009 surpassed 100, hitting 106 by day's end. The NBA and the referees union agreed on a two-year contract, ending a lockout of more than a month. Character actor Lou Jacobi died in New York at age 95.

Five years ago: Officials announced that an emergency room doctor who'd recently returned to New York City after treating Ebola patients in West Africa tested positive for the virus, becoming the first case in the city and the fourth in the nation. (Dr. Craig Spencer later recovered.) John "Bull" Bramlett, a former professional football and baseball player who was nicknamed the "Meanest Man in Football," died in Memphis, Tennessee, at age 73.

One year ago: Turkey's president demanded that Saudi Arabia identify those who ordered the murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul and turn over the suspects for trial. A lottery ticket sold in South Carolina was the only one to match all six numbers drawn for the Mega Millions jackpot, which totaled \$1.537 billion - just short of the record for all U.S. lotteries. China opened the world's longest sea-crossing bridge, a 34-mile span connecting Hong Kong to the mainland. Sandra Day O'Connor, the first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court, announced that she had been diagnosed with "the beginning stages of dementia, probably Alzheimer's disease."

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Philip Kaufman is 83. Soccer great Pele (pay-lay) is 79. Rhythm-and-blues singer Barbara Ann Hawkins (The Dixie Cups) is 76. Former ABC News investigative reporter Brian Ross is 71. Actor Michael Rupert is 68. Movie director Ang Lee is 65. Jazz singer Dianne Reeves is 63. Country singer Dwight Yoakam is 63. Community activist Martin Luther King III is 62. Movie director Sam Raimi is 60. Parodist "Weird Al" Yankovic is 60. Rock musician Robert Trujillo (Metallica) is 55. Christian/jazz singer David Thomas (Take 6) is 53. Rock musician Brian Nevin (Big Head Todd and the Monsters) is 53. Country singer-musician Junior Bryant is 51. Actor Jon Huertas is 50. Movie director Chris Weitz is 50. CNN medical reporter Dr. Sanjay Gupta is 50. Bluegrass musician Eric Gibson (The Gibson Brothers) is 49. Country singer Jimmy Wayne is 47. Actress Vivian Bang is 46. Rock musician Eric Bass (Shinedown) is 45. TV personality and host Cat Deeley is 43. Actor Ryan Reynolds is 43. Actress Saycon Sengbloh is 42. Rock singer Matthew Shultz (Cage the Elephant) is 36. TV personality Meghan McCain ("The View") is 35. Rhythm-and-blues singer Miguel is 34. Actress Masiela Lusha (MAH'-see-el-la loo-SHA') is 34. Actress Emilia Clarke is 33. Actress Briana Evigan is 33. Actress Inbar Lavi is 33. Actress Jessica Stroup is 33. Neo-soul musician Allen Branstetter (St. Paul & the Broken Bones) is 29. Actress Taylor Spreitler is 26. Actress Margaret Qualley is 25. Actress Amandla Stenberg is 21.

Thought for Today: "Just be yourself - it's the only way it can work." - Johnny Carson (1925-2005).

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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