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Connecting - November 18, 2019

1 message

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Mon, Nov 18, 2019 at 8:49 AM

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Connecting

November 18, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this the 18th day of November 2019,

As the House impeachment inquiry enters its second week, one of your best sources of news - beyond the AP report, of course - can come from Washington chief of bureau **Julie Pace** in an AP podcast, "Ground Game."

The podcast offers fresh insights and observations as Pace (a Connecting colleague) speaks with newsmakers, reporters and editors about the top political stories of the week. With reporters in every U.S. state and political journalists based in key regions across the country, AP is able to tell the story of the 2020 U.S. presidential election from the ground up.

You can help support "Ground Game" by downloading and subscribing on the App Store for Apple iOS by clicking [here](#). New episodes will be available every Wednesday through the 2020 election.



I couldn't resist proposing a bet with our colleague **Linda Deutsch** when her alma mater, Monmouth University, traveled to Lawrence last Friday night for a basketball game with my Kansas Jayhawks. Monmouth, of course, was the recipient of a \$1 million gift from Linda to support scholarships for aspiring journalism students. Steak dinner on the line, next time I'm in Los Angeles. Kansas won, rather easily. Our mutual friend Andy Lippman will pick the restaurant.

In today's Final Word, **Gene Herrick**, a colleague who has circled the sun 93 times, waxes philosophically from his home in Virginia in an essay called, "Mankind's Battle with Itself."

Here's to a great week ahead.

Paul

OK, Dear Reader, You Be The Editor

By Mike Feinsilber ([Email](#))

[For About Editing and Writing/Jack Limpert](#)

One might think that covering a big Washington event-like (last) Wednesday's opening of the congressional impeachment inquiry-would be simple. You sit there, the witnesses testify, the committee asks questions, the news rolls out. All you have to do is scoop it up.

Ain't so easy. You sit knowing that on Thursday your story will be on page one, under a big headline. You have to write a lead that will zoom in on the big revelation, capture the drama of it all and put it in some perspective. If you're skilled, and lucky, you might get some poetry into those 20 or 30 words too.

And it's not so easy because you know your reader already knows the big news: she may have watched the hearing, may have seen it on the internet, heard it on TV or the radio or at the water cooler.

It would be swell if you could tell dear reader in that first paragraph something he already hadn't heard, half a dozen times probably.

In Wednesday's case, the headline news was that a straight-shooting diplomat tied Donald J. Trump close to an attempt to make Ukraine his partner in political shenanigans. That's the news, or as television likes to say, the bombshell. And, since everyone recognized that as the bombshell, it became even harder to write a lead that still sounds newsy.

So how did some of the best papers tell the story? And who told it best? Here are five leads—from the Associated Press, Los Angeles Times, New York Times, Wall Street Journal and Washington Post. Can you figure out which lead belonged to which newspaper—or the AP?

I read the leads on the website of the Newseum in Washington, which posts the front pages of 80 newspapers every day. The leads:

(a) President Trump in a summer phone call asked about politically advantageous investigations he wanted the Ukrainian president to announce, the top U.S. diplomat in Ukraine disclosed Wednesday as the House opened the public phase of its seven-week-old impeachment probe.

(b) The first day of public impeachment hearings unearthed new evidence potentially implicating President Trump more directly in a scheme to center American policy toward Ukraine on political investigations, heightening the stakes of upcoming proceedings that will include a set of critical witnesses.

(c) A top American diplomat revealed new evidence Wednesday of President Trump's efforts to press Ukraine to investigate political rivals as House investigators launched public impeachment hearings for just the fourth time in the nation's history.

(d) The House of Representatives opened historic impeachment hearings on Wednesday and took startling new testimony from a senior American diplomat that further implicated President Trump in a campaign to pressure Ukraine to publicly commit to investigating former Vice President Joseph R. Biden.

(e) Democrats succeeded on Wednesday in more directly connecting President Trump to alleged misconduct related to Ukraine as they opened historic public hearings with two career diplomats who solemnly testified about watching American policy being hijacked for Trump's personal benefit.

Here comes the spoiler-the sources of the leads were:

- (a) The Wall Street Journal.
- (b) The Washington Post
- (c) The AP
- (d) The New York Times
- (e) The Los Angeles Times.

Connecting mailbox

Not the job of the press to conceal name of the whistleblower

Joe Galu ([Email](#)) - Jack Shafer is on to something real (see Friday's Connecting). It is not the job of the press to conceal the name of the whistleblower. It is our job to report the news, and the revelation of the name would be news. It is the job of the government to protect whistleblowers and conceal their names.

I had a situation of no headline-making import when we had a story about a fatal accident with several injuries -- as I recall. The names and ages of two teenagers were released, and we used the names and ages. A day later, one kid was charged criminally. "You can't use that name, cuz he's underage," said a state trooper.

"Oh, no. You have it all wrong. You can't release the name now, but we already have it. The cat's already out of the bag" or words to that effect. We used the name.

A greater issue came up when we have five people arrested in a major drug bust with all five names and ages released to us. The next day, they claimed there were FOUR people arrested.

"This isn't Guatemala or Mexico. People don't disappear in custody. What happened to the fifth guy?" It got quite hot. I don't remember how our conversation ended, but an hour or so later I got a call back. The State Police had reached Pierce Lehmbeck, our (Albany) Chief of Bureau at the time, and told him that one police force arrested an undercover cop from another level of cops, so they released their guy. Pierce and I got a good laugh about it, and Pierce thanked me for giving the State Police a very rough time verbally. People do not disappear in custody in this country.

Fortunately, the undercover cop was charged under his phony identification, so he was not exposed or endangered. Even so, it was difficult to write a straightforward story that explained things fully without making fools of the cops.

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Mac and Clarkson were right!



Cliff Schiappa ([Email](#)) - My college professor Angus McDougall would say "available light is the light that is available to you." And Rich Clarkson would say "you make your own luck."

I had some friends over for dinner a couple weeks ago and was disappointed they would not see the usual nice view of the lit swimming pool with shimmering water outside my patio because of construction to resurface it. Instead the pool was empty, scarred from jackhammering, and dark. So I kept my curtains closed when they arrived.

After dinner I looked out the window and saw the lone pool light was on, creating very cool shadows, so I cajoled everyone into the pool to make some pictures. Could almost be a '60s rock band album cover !

I'd say Mac and Clarkson were right!

Best of the Week

Only on AP: In his last days, al-Baghdadi sought safety in shrinking domain



A powerful reconstruction of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi's last days and weeks before he was killed in a U.S. raid in northern Syria, including exclusive access to a Yazidi teenage slave he kept as he fled from one location to the next.

The death of the Islamic State group's "caliph," Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, was one of the biggest and most competitive stories in the world in recent weeks. Journalists from various news organizations were scrambling to uncover details about the operation and how the Islamic State leader ended up in a hideout in Syria before his death.

Beirut-based Middle East reporter Sarah El Deeb put the AP out front with a story based on exclusive interviews that recounted al-Baghdadi's final days before he blew himself up during an Oct. 26 raid by U.S. special forces on his heavily fortified safe house. El Deeb obtained insights on Baghdadi's last days from a teenage girl the terrorist held as a slave by al-Baghdadi while he was on the run - his once expansive territory shrinking to a few isolated pockets in northern Syria.

Read more [here](#).

Best of the States

AP Investigation: At least 1,680 aging US dams pose a risk to thousands



A two-year AP investigation identified at least 1,688 dams in 44 states and Puerto Rico that were in poor condition and categorized as high hazard because of the likelihood that people could die if they failed.

The U.S. has tens of thousands of dams, many of them decades old and looming over neighborhoods, businesses and schools. Data showing what kind of shape those dams are in and what danger they might pose has for years been sealed off from public view by the federal agency that oversees the nation's only comprehensive dam database. This inconvenient fact did not deter a group of persistent AP journalists.

Over a period of more than two years, AP reporters and data team journalists used public records filings to access essential information about the condition of the nation's dams. The relevant data came to light only after multiple rounds of record requests in all 50 states, an effort led by data journalist Michelle Minkoff and Northern New England correspondent Michael Casey. The data analysis, aided by Justin Myers, Larry Fenn and Andrew Milligan, revealed at least 1,688 dams across the U.S. in poor or unsatisfactory condition and considered high hazard because people would likely die if they failed.

Read more [here](#).

Stories of interest

Media filters set current impeachment hearings apart

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) - Millions of Americans are choosing to experience the impeachment hearings through media filters that depict the proceedings as either a worthless sham or like Christmas in November.

That's the chief difference between now and the two other times in the modern era when a presidential impeachment was explored, and will likely be a major factor in determining whether the hearings change anyone's minds about President Donald Trump.

Fox News Channel was the favorite network of the 13.8 million Americans who watched Wednesday's opening of the House hearing on television. The audiences for each of Fox's prime-time opinion hosts - Tucker Carlson, Sean Hannity and Laura Ingraham - were larger that evening than the 2.9 million people who watched the network during the day, the Nielsen company said.

On MSNBC, a favorite of liberals in the same way many conservatives love Fox, Rachel Maddow's audience beat the network's live hearing coverage.

"Today you can pick the information source that is going to talk to you and what you'd like to believe and that's the way the audience has been dividing themselves," said Thomas Patterson, who teaches about government and the press at Harvard University and is the author of "How America Lost its Mind," about the nation's polarization.

Read more [here](#).

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Why Photographer David Burnett Shot 4x5 Film at Impeachment Hearing (PDN Pulse)



By HOLLY HUGHES

Photojournalist David Burnett and his old wooden camera drew a lot of attention and curiosity when he began photographing at the start of Wednesday's first public impeachment hearing. The feed of every TV network showed Burnett loading and unloading sheet film, and peering into his viewfinder to photograph the two witnesses, George Kent and William Taylor. "Shooting large-format today was a reminder that even though I have many frames per second with my Sony a6500, I'm still shooting film one solitary, isolated frame at a time. In a world of 10 or 20 fps, two frames in 30 seconds is a big deal," Burnett tells PDN. While his press colleagues were firing fast, Burnett says, "I shot 16 frames today."

As the testimony wound down, a reader emailed PDN to ask, "In this digital age, what media outlet would assign a press photographer to shoot 4×5 film?" The email also noted that "in the hurried environment, he was forced to hold a dark slide in his mouth." Apparently the reader was unfamiliar with Burnett's work covering the Olympics, presidential campaigns and other news events with a Speed Graphic, Holgas and other vintage cameras.'

Read more [here](#).

Jackie Speier erupts at reporter for The Hill (Politico)



Rep. Jackie Speier questions former Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch at the House Intelligence Committee on Capitol Hill on Friday. | Susan Walsh/AP Photo

By MICHAEL CALDERONE

Angered by the testimony of ousted ambassador Marie Yovanovitch, California Rep. Jackie Speier upbraided a reporter for The Hill and ripped the outlet's publication of columns by John Solomon, the conservative journalist whose work is at the center of what Yovanovitch described as a "smear campaign" against her.

"I just find it reprehensible that any newspaper would just be willing to put that kind of crap out that is not - has no veracity whatsoever, and not check to see if it had any veracity," said Speier, a Democrat serving in her seventh term in the House, according to audio of the exchange reviewed by POLITICO. "And then it becomes a talking point. And he becomes a nonpartisan commentator. It's corrupt. It's just corrupt."

Speier launched into her critique of The Hill while fielding questions from reporters. She asked Scott Wong, a senior staff writer for The Hill, for his company affiliation, which he provided.

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

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This small Kansas town first lost local news in 2009. Now, the University of Kansas J-school is bringing it back. (Poynter)



By KRISTEN HARE

Riley Wilson's alarm went off at 7:15 a.m. on a chilly November Tuesday. Still in bed, the University of Kansas senior checked her school email on her phone, then she got up and called a source while getting ready.

By about 8:45, she left her campus townhouse, climbed into her freezing car and took K-10 east for 15 minutes to the town of Eudora.

At Zeb's Coffeehouse on Main Street, she emailed a source, checked the agenda of a school board meeting and started brainstorming her next few stories.

Here, Wilson's life as a student morphed into her life as a local reporter.

Eudora, with a population of about 6,000, is one of many American cities that became a news desert when its newspaper closed in 2009. In 2010, also like many places, an online site started covering the community. But it eventually closed, too.

So what happens when the traditional newspaper closes and the online news site closes? Where's a town to learn what's happening to it?

If that town is less than 20 minutes from a university with a journalism school, there may be a third option.

Read more [here](#).

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Denver Radio Host Fired in Mid-Show After Criticizing Trump (New York Times)



Craig Silverman, a Denver lawyer and radio talk show host, during a 2008 broadcast on KHOW. His show on KNUS was canceled abruptly on Saturday. Credit: Kevin Moloney for The New York Times

By Vanessa Swales

Craig Silverman had clearly worn out his welcome on KNUS, a conservative talk-radio station in Denver. Midway through his three-hour show on Saturday, after a segment criticizing President Trump, the station suddenly cut away to a news report, and the station's operations manager walked into the studio and told Mr. Silverman, "You're done."

But it was less clear which had bothered his employers more - the negative views of Mr. Trump that he voiced on the air, or the fact that he had also gone on competing stations' programs to express them.

Like many talk-show hosts, Mr. Silverman, a lawyer and former chief deputy district attorney, likes to debate and push boundaries. His constant on-air arguments with a co-host, Dan Caplis, helped make the duo's former show on another Denver station one of the most popular in the city.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word

Mankind's Battle with Itself

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - From the beginning of time, mankind - especially each individual - has battled within to find the right path to follow to reach that sense of being as to what he thinks he should be in life.

I have personally found that people - like journalists, people in management and those who deal with the public face-to-face - need some specific skills. Those skills could result in the saving of one's life, writing better stories, taking better pictures, and dealing with the general public in a professional and productive way.

In my search of life, it seems that life is made up of two basic elements - fear and ego. Also, it seems, mankind is either laid back in fear and complacency, or full of self-ego to be something - good or bad.

It appears it all started with the Bible story about Adam and Eve, and their battle over right and wrong - Good vs. Evil. The story goes on that Eve

enticed Adam to eat of the forbidden fruit - the apple. Adam knew it was wrong, but ate anyway. Thus, many things came of this incident. One, both knew it was wrong to cross God. However, Eve wanted control. Adam, realizing it was wrong, ate anyway out of fear or retribution of Eve. Eve's Ego was fed, and Adam started Fear. Those two things, in my opinion, started the two driving forces in our lives. It has been that way ever since.



Gene Herrick

It appears that mankind, from the beginning of time, has followed the course of Fear and Ego. All religions seem to follow this pattern. A man, or woman, or group, feel one way about faith and the teachings of the Bible, or some other religious text, and so they rationalize the situation and start their own denomination. Thus, how many faiths nod to specific religious bodies? The answer is hundreds. How can each be right? There was one basic teaching, but yet because of mankind's ego to be something it isn't, creates for himself, and then his followers, a new pathway. Do we not take so many liberties with fact? Within all of this, we find that fear is the basis of blindly following what mankind has created, not necessarily the Word of God, or some other "Leader."

Even worse, look at what aggression and fear has done to our society today, with religious faiths now trying, and succeeding, in openly pushing for specific changes in the political processes of civilian government. Religion has even become a major player in electing people to government positions, despite years, and years of being separate entities and being separate from politics.

Certainly, there are other religious faiths around the world, i.e., Judaism in Israel, Muslimism in various other countries of the Middle East. Buddhism, etc., in the Far East, and one could go on to many others. How can all of these faiths be correct? Is it not fear that leads the way? The spiritual world is, and has been, a mystery from the beginning of time. Mankind is not sure where he/she came from, and it causes consternation and fear to try and be on the "Right Side" In their end of time. That's like walking on a railroad trestle and being in the middle with the train entering one end. Not enough time to run the other direction, and no escape route. That's fear.

However, there are fears of other kinds - daily fears that we don't recognize as fear. That fear, and/or ignorance of the rhyme of life. For instance, great-grandfather came to this country (or any country) and settled somewhere probably the countryside. His new environment had what they considered solid beliefs or followed certain traits. Let's say that community leaned toward being one certain religious faith, so great-grandpa, not wanting to be other than a good neighbor, joined that faith. The same goes for politics, etc. His grandson comes along and is compliant and joins, and believes, the same as great-grandfather. So, down through history, we become followers and not deciders for ourselves. That's ignorance and

fear. "I must be on the right side." Thus, history repeats itself, every day, every year, down through time. Is it not almost always the same, generation after generation? Some members of mankind have failed to think and analyze for themselves. It should also be noted that the methods of school teaching today are such that we are now finding a large majority of students do not have the ability to do analytical thinking.

I am reminded of the famous story of the ham. As the story goes, a mother was cooking a holiday dinner for the whole family. As the mother cut off the end of the ham, her six-year-old daughter asked her why she did this. The mother replied that she always did because her mother always cut off the end the ham. The child was then directed to go ask her grandmother why she cut off the end of the ham. Grandmother answered, "Because my mother always did." The child was directed to her great-grandmother, who responded, "Why honey, I cut off the end so it would fit in the pot." Get the point?

We can project this concept of fear, and the goal of some to be of great greatness, regardless of skill. This is also ego. Ego and fear, I contend, are the backbone of society's way of life - then and now.

We ask: "What have the professional journalists, management and people working in the general public done to recognize the problem, and then take the hard steps to alter their inborn traits - most they didn't know they had?

Then we can add another element to the problem, and maybe a light into a solution. It is called Personality. Psychology and it can probably tell you that personality assessment is a great tool to uncovering a person's inner being. It can be done by a scientific test, which uncovers a person's habits, thinking patterns, learning patterns, and behavior patterns. I know because I have been tested. Wow, the findings are surprisingly accurate. First thing the test uncovers is to whether a person is an internalizer, or an externalizer, or, those few who might be a little of both.

I have personally found this technique of invaluable use in being a good journalist. Internalists are people who are usually quieter, seem meditative, and sometimes take a few seconds longer to make a decision. The reason is that they HEAR the problem, or situation, but usually mull it over in their minds a few second, or minutes before responding. This is okay. As an example, as the director of a non-profit agency for the Developmentally Disabled, I held a meeting to discuss something. I said it once. No response. I said it two more times, changing the words a bit for each presentation, but no response from staff. I gave up and dismissed them. Moments later, those people said to a supervisor, "Gosh, Mr. Herrick seems redundant!" You just never know. The externalizer grabs the situation immediately. They generally think Gestalt, or worldly. However, that group often forgets the problem in a much shorter period of time. Through my knowledge of this process, I am able to size up a person, or group, by various behaviors - movement of eyes and head, Adam's Apple, hands, swallowing, being upset, etc. Knowing this gives me an opportunity to better communicate with that person.

I knew a military officer who was a CIA psychologist in a war and on the front lines. A captured enemy soldier would be interrogated by the psychologist simple questions like "Does your commander like to strike at night? And other simple questions, He would send the material to Washington for evaluation under the PAS system.

And, one might ask, "What does this have to do with fear and ego?" In my opinion, our innate thinking patterns, and daily operating procedures are based on fear and ego. To better understand these traits, certainly will change the way we conduct our thinking and behaviors. Early in my career as an Associated Press photographer, I somehow quickly learned many of these techniques, and they were the handiest tool in my camera bag, especially covering difficult people, and difficult stories like a war, riots, and shady people, and everyday events.

Today in History - November 18, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Nov. 18, the 322nd day of 2019. There are 43 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 18, 1987, the congressional Iran-Contra committees issued their final report, saying President Ronald Reagan bore "ultimate responsibility" for wrongdoing by his aides.

On this date:

In 1865, Mark Twain's first literary success, the original version of his short story "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County," was first published in the New York Saturday Press under the title "Jim Smiley and His Jumping Frog."

In 1883, the United States and Canada adopted a system of Standard Time zones.

In 1916, the World War I Battle of the Somme pitting British and French forces against German troops ended inconclusively after 4 1/2 months of bloodshed.

In 1959, "Ben-Hur," the Biblical-era spectacle starring Charlton Heston, had its world premiere in New York.

In 1963, the Bell System introduced the first commercial touch-tone telephone system in Carnegie and Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

In 1976, Spain's parliament approved a bill to establish a democracy after 37 years of dictatorship.

In 1978, U.S. Rep. Leo J. Ryan, D-Calif., and four others were killed in Jonestown, Guyana, by members of the Peoples Temple; the killings were followed by a night of mass murder and suicide by more than 900 cult members.

In 1987, a fire at London King's Cross railway station claimed 31 lives.

In 1991, Shiite (SHEE'-eyet) Muslim kidnappers in Lebanon freed Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite and Thomas Sutherland, the American dean of agriculture at the American University of Beirut.

In 1999, 12 people were killed when a bonfire under construction at Texas A-and-M University collapsed. A jury in Jasper, Texas, convicted Shawn Allen Berry of murder for his role in the dragging death of James Byrd Jr., but spared him the death penalty.

In 2003, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled 4-to-3 that the state constitution guaranteed gay couples the right to marry.

In 2004, Britain outlawed fox hunting in England and Wales.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama visited the Great Wall of China, which he described as "magical," before heading to Seoul, South Korea, for the final stop of his eight-day Asia tour. Two days before turning 92, Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., set a record for longest-serving lawmaker in congressional history at 56 years, 320 days. (That record was broken in 2013 by U.S. Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich.)

Five years ago: Several feet of lake-effect snow paralyzed the Buffalo, New York, area on a wintry day when temperatures fell to freezing or below in all 50 states. Israel vowed harsh retaliation for a Palestinian attack on a synagogue in Jerusalem that left five people dead.

One year ago: Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson conceded his bitterly-close re-election bid to Republican Rick Scott, after a bruising recount left Nelson thousands of votes short of the outgoing governor. Finland's president said he wasn't sure where President Donald Trump got the idea that raking was part of Finland's routine for managing its forests; Trump had told reporters a day earlier that wildfires weren't a problem in Finland because crews "spend a lot of time on raking and cleaning" forest floors. For the first time since 1996, Army made it into the Associated Press Top 25 college football poll, achieving a No. 23 ranking.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Brenda Vaccaro is 80. Author-poet Margaret Atwood is 80. Actress Linda Evans is 77. Actress Susan Sullivan is 77. Country singer Jacky Ward is 73. Actor Jameson Parker is 72. Actress-singer Andrea Marcovicci is 71. Rock musician Herman Rarebell is 70. Singer Graham Parker is 69. Actor Delroy Lindo is 67. Comedian Kevin Nealon is 66. Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback Warren Moon is 63. Actor Oscar Nunez is 61. Actress Elizabeth Perkins is 59. Singer Kim Wilde is 59. Actor Tim Guinee is 57. Rock musician Kirk Hammett (Metallica) is 57. Rock singer Tim DeLaughter (dee-LAW'-ter) is 54. Actor Romany Malco is 51. Actor Owen Wilson is 51. Actor Dan Bakkedahl is 51. Singer Duncan Sheik is 50. Actor Mike Epps is 49. Actress Peta Wilson is 49. Actress Chloe Sevigny (SEH'-ven-ee) is 45. Country singer Jessi Alexander is 43. Actor Steven Pasquale is 43. Rock musician Alberto Bof (Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real) is 42. Rapper Fabolous is 42. Actor-director Nate Parker is 40. Rapper Mike Jones is 39. Actress Mekia Cox is 38. Actress-comedian Nasim Pedrad (nah-SEEM' peh-DRAHD') is 38. Actress Allison Tolman is 38. Actress Christina Vidal is 38. Actor Damon Wayans Jr. is 37. Country singer TJ Osborne (Brothers Osborne) is 35. Fashion designer Christian Siriano is 34. Actor Nathan Kress is 27.

Thought for Today: "Few people can see genius in someone who has offended them." [-] Robertson Davies, Canadian author (1913-1995).

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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