



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

**Connecting - January 03, 2020**

**Paul Stevens** <paulstevens46@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com  
To: pjshane@gmail.com

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# Connecting

January 03, 2020

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# Here's to 2020!



**People celebrate the New Year in Times Square in New York, early Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020, (AP Photo/Craig Ruttle)**

Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2020,

In our first Connecting issue of the new year, and the new decade, we take a look back at 2019 in a video review that the AP assembled. It was played several times on the big screen during the Time Square New Year's Eve celebration in Manhattan.

Click [here](#) to view.

Our mailbox is brimming full today - and it includes some great stories on the confusion of your friends about where you work. In one case where a colleague worked for both AP and CBS, some thought he had moved from the grocery business to a pharmacy. Share your own story.

Here's to a great year and decade ahead. We weren't around in 1010 and I doubt we will be here in 3030, so let's make 2020 the start of the Roaring Twenties 2.0.

I look forward to another year of connecting with you - and make it a New Years resolution to be bullish about sharing your memories and stories.

Paul

## Dispatches from start of a new decade

### *With 20-20 hindsight - Our hails and farewells*

**Paul Stevens** ([Email](#)) - We entered 2010 with two grandchildren, Sophie and Max. Hello, Brennan and Teddy, both born a year into the decade. We're blessed.

We entered 2010 with three of our parents alive. Farewell, Ruth and Walt and Carolyn, who left us in their 90s. We think of you daily.

We entered 2010 with one trip (Italy) abroad. Hello, Ireland, France and England, and just recently, the magic of the Holy Land. And 48 states here in Continental USA (Alaska and Hawaii yet to come).

We entered 2010 with all-original body parts. Hello, bionic knees for Linda and hips for Paul that allow pain-free walking, tennis and water workouts.

We entered 2010 with our alpha cat Felix ruling the roost. Farewell, Felix and Oscar and hello, goofy goldendoodle Ollie.

We entered 2010 with one kid in town and two others on each coast before our son returned home. Hello, to being a Bicoastal Parental Unit again as Jon is off to a new job in LA.

We entered 2010 as new retirees. Hello, Paul's daily AP retiree newsletter and the valued connections it brings, and hello, Linda's Congregational Care ministry at our church.

We entered 2010 with 42 years of marriage under our belts. Hello to our 50th celebration, a family reunion in the Colorado mountains that included our kids, siblings and their kids.

We entered 2010 with little knowledge of our ancestry. Hello to the discovery that Linda has 12 patriot descendants who fought in the American Revolution and hello to renewing relationships with her six first cousins.

We entered 2010 with great friends and neighbors. Hello to them and to more friends added through our bridge and tennis activities.

**What's ahead in the new decade?** Will it be another Roaring '20s? What will be our new "hellos" 10 years from now? We can't wait to find out.

Linda and Paul Stevens

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## ***Nothing beats grandkids during holidays***



**Charles Richards** ([Email](#)) - Holidays are great times.

This is me with my two great-grandchildren - 4-year-old Daphne Barch, and 7-month-old Leon Barch - of Fort Worth, Texas, during a holiday gathering Saturday evening at my daughter's home in the Fort Worth suburb of Keller.

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## ***Looking forward to a new decade***



**Cliff Schiappa** ([Email](#)) - With clear vision (well, I need readers), I look forward to 2020 as I continue to make new friends, revel in my existing friendships, while I wander and wonder. One of my best memories of the past decade is my transition to retirement in a place (Palm Springs, Calif.) that continues to amaze me with its beauty, calmness, and friendliness. I try to take in every sunrise (as pictured here on New Year's Day), keep active both physically and mentally, and try to stay engaged with the world's goings-on with my personal pledge to not get too worked up over certain news events. Another favorite memory was being part of a 564-voice chorus performing at Carnegie Hall last summer in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall riots, and on a much smaller scale, performing in small towns across Kansas in 2016. I've learned that choral music serves a great need to those seeking inspiration, healing, and empowerment.... both in the audience and on stage.

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## ***Predictions for the coming year***

**Carl P. Leubsdorf** ([Email](#)) - Here is my annual not-totally-serious predictions column for The Dallas Morning News:

**By Carl P. Leubsdorf**

Though last year's annual not-totally-serious forecast missed by predicting Ivanka Trump would become White House chief of staff and Vladimir Putin would formally endorse President Donald Trump for re-election, we did foresee the Washington Nationals winning the World Series and the House impeaching Trump. 2020 looks even more challenging:

JANUARY - Senate Republicans reject both House impeachment articles, but four Republicans join the 47 Democrats to provide a majority voting the President obstructed Congress. The Des Moines Register endorses Joe Biden, saying the former vice president's experience means he'll be "a president we won't have to train." Trump fires FBI Director James Wray, nominating Ohio Rep. Jim Jordan to replace him. Ukraine President Zelenskiy renews plea for White House meeting with Trump.

FEBRUARY - Baltimore Ravens win Super Bowl. Iowa caucuses finish in a tight four-way race, with Mayor Pete Buttigieg getting the most votes and Sen. Bernie Sanders the most delegates. Biden is a close third, followed by Sen. Elizabeth Warren. Sanders repeats his New Hampshire primary win, followed closely by Mayor Pete, Biden and Warren. Biden edges Sanders in Nevada and trounces the field in South Carolina, followed by Sanders, Mayor Pete and Warren.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Ring in the new year***



A holiday lunch gathering in LA last Sunday, celebrating a visit from Edie Lederer for New Years. Nick Ut shot this photo that shows, from left: Edie's friend Carol Garrick, actress Kieu Chin, star of the original "Joy Luck Club", Edie, Dodi Fromson and Linda Deutsch.

**So, you work for the AP - just what is that?**

**Adolphe Bernotas (Email)** - The best answer to "what's AP?" was developed by my friend and Concord bureau colleague David Tirrell-Wysocki. He would explain to civilians that "AP wholesales news to newspapers and radio and TV stations."

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**Jerry Cipriano (Email)** - Back in the early 1980s, I was standing in the crowded vestibule of a Long Island Rail Road train with boxer Gerry Cooney. We were neighbors as kids growing up in Huntington, N.Y., but hadn't seen each other in a while. He was coming home from his gym in Manhattan and I was returning from work at The AP Broadcast Department.

Gerry asked me where I was working. I replied, proudly, "The AP." I was sure that an athlete accustomed to dealing with the media knew all about The AP. And sure enough, Gerry said, "Oh, do you know Joe Smith?"

The name didn't ring a bell. But I figured Smith must be a sportswriter or maybe a photographer. So I asked Gerry, "What department does he work in?" Gerry replied, "He's a butcher." I sighed and said, "No, that is the A AND P -- I work at The AP. The Associated Press? The news service?"

Gerry and everyone listening to us looked puzzled. I must have looked embarrassed.

A few years later, I went to work for CBS News and thought I would no longer have to explain where I worked. Everyone knows CBS. It's on television. Then I went to a local bank to open an account. The representative asked me where I worked, and I confidently replied, "CBS." She lit up and said, "Oh, the one right down the street here?" I sighed, again, and replied, "No, that is CVS. The drug store. I work at CBS. The TV network."

These days, when someone asks me where I work, I reply, "I don't. I'm retired." Everyone seems to understand.

One other note about AP confusion. Phyllis Gibson, one of the telephone operators at 50 Rock, told me she often got calls from people who mixed up AP and UPI. They would ask, "Is this The API?"

Phyllis had the perfect reply.

"Yes it isn't."

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**Bob Daugherty (Email)** - More than one AP photographer told me that when they checked in to a motel while covering civil rights stories in the South that they signed in as A & P reps, not AP.

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**Dan Day (Email)** - This is not quite on point but it's close on the "what's AP?" theme.

My daughter, Katie, spent two summers working the reception desk on the seventh floor at 50 Rock. In those pre-9/11 times, the building didn't have security turnstiles, so anyone could hop an elevator.

Katie greeted some odd arrivals, including one guy who said, "I want to see the press."

As in printing press.

Suppressing an urge to laugh, Katie told him the disappointing news that none was in the building.

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**Dan Elliott (Email)** - I once took a callback from attorney Johnny Cochran (of OJ Simpson fame) after Cochran agreed to take a Denver case. Denver AP reporter Robert Weller, now retired, had left Cochran a message, but he didn't call back till after Robert's shift ended. Cochran said he had gotten a lot of calls from Denver reporters but was only returning Robert's because he knew if he spoke to AP, everyone would get his comment.

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**Dennis Ferraro (Email)** - The weekend following the July 1977 NYC blackout, I was at a party. Naturally the dominant conversation was about the blackout and where you were and what you were doing.

I said I worked for the AP and we had emergency power. "That's fantastic," one of the guests responded, "I guess that kept the meat from spoiling." It took me a second or two to realize his confusion between the two but I can't remember if I bothered to correct him.

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**Joe Galianese (Email)** - From the small world department. My father worked for the A&P for 40-plus years while I worked for the AP for 40-plus years. The first decade I spent trying to explain the difference between A&P and AP and the hardest pill to swallow was when they would think they finally understood me and said, "Oh you work for UPI". I gave up after 10 years and just agreed I worked for the A&P.

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**Mike Harris (Email)** - My first trip to the Canadian Grand Prix in Montreal came in the fall of 1980, late in my first season as AP Auto Racing Writer. By that time, I was pretty full of myself. Everywhere I went, I was treated like a king. After all, I was representing the AP, the world's largest news gathering organization and a standard in journalism. The tracks I went to generally rolled out the red carpet for me.

I drove to the Montreal track on Ile du Notre dame, the site of the 1964 Summer Olympics, and presented myself for credentials. The young lady at the counter looked through her papers, glancing up at me a couple of times. "Your accreditation was denied," she finally said. My response was something like "Huh! You've got to be kidding." I asked to talk to a supervisor. He walked out of the back office and asked what was the problem. I explained that I was with the Associated Press and could not possibly be turned down for credentials. He shrugged and said, "Is that a newspaper? Where is it located?"

I was aghast and quickly explained about the AP. He looked at me strangely and said, "I've never heard of it and we have no credential for you."

Fortunately, a friend from the US was in line behind me. He was known to the credential people in that office and explained to them that I was really a legitimate journalist and they might want to issue me a credential. Finally, the supervisor walked to another office and leaned in and asked in a loud voice, "Do we want to credential somebody from a newspaper called AP?"

At that point, the head of Formula One, Bernie Eccelstone, walked out of the office laughing. "Yes," he said. "We definitely need to credential Mr. Harris. The company he works for is pretty important."

Crisis averted. I even got a good parking spot.

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**Bruce Lowitt (Email)** - When I was hired for the Los Angeles buro in 1967 after a year and a half at The Port Chester (N.Y.) Daily Item, I called my parents in Brooklyn to tell them I'd gotten a job with The Associated Press. My mother asked me which paper it put out. I said it didn't put out a paper, that it was a wire service, then had to explain what that meant. She asked where they could read my stories. I told her it was up to each paper which got the story whether or not to use it.

Could I tell them which New York paper would use it so they could buy it? No, I said, because I wouldn't know - and, besides, even if they did use it, the story most likely wouldn't carry my name. Why not? she asked. Because, I said, the paper probably would just print the dateline, followed by (AP). She said that wasn't fair.

A couple of weeks later, when I visited them before driving to LA, I opened a copy of the New York Herald Tribune and showed them datelines without bylines and told them in detail how the system worked. By then, they didn't seem to care about that. All that mattered to my mother was that her little boy - I was 25 - was moving 3,000 miles away.

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**Bob Seavey (Email)** - So often both in Latin America and at home I've had to explain the AP - even now in retirement. And I can't help but think that this lack of name recognition has hurt the company financially. So ironic that outlets posting AP news probably get more business on mobile than the AP itself.

## Connecting mailbox

### *Connecting's connecting*

**Peggy Walsh (Email)** - Today's (Dec. 30) Connecting is a terrific example of just how much you connect us all.

Hal's piece on the birth of Wirephoto is fascinating. Although I had read much about the history, I had no idea there was resistance. The time - seven or eight minutes - to move a photo is amazing given today's instant sharing.

The Times magazine inclusion of Kathryn Johnson in *The Lives They Lived* was a beautiful tribute. As I began my AP career in Atlanta, Kathryn was my guiding light.

Marty Thompson's sadness of the demise of so many familiar newspapers in the Bay area and beyond is echoed by his successor - me. I fondly remember sitting in the top of the Oakland Tribune tower with publisher Bob Maynard, a remarkable man.

Finally, I know all of our hearts are with Joe Galloway, his family and his sweet grandson, Julian.

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## ***Irony of watching movie featuring AP Wirephoto on 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of service***



**Rick Cooper** ([Email](#)) - Over the past weekend Turner Classic Movies ran the 1948 film Northside 777 with Jimmy Stewart playing a Chicago newsman.

For those unfamiliar with the story line of the movie, AP Wirephoto plays a role in proving the innocence of a wrongly convicted individual.

In the film, a picture proving the innocence of a man wrongfully sentenced to prison (Richard Conte) for a crime he did not commit is sent over the AP wire from Chicago to Springfield. The process was fully portrayed showing the photo being loaded in Chicago and being received and processed in Springfield with members of the Illinois authorities looking on.

I don't think the showing of Northside777 was done intentionally for the anniversary of AP' Wirephoto service but the timing was perfect.

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## ***Story on Wirephoto's anniversary sparks memories***

**Gene Herrick** ([Email](#)) - Hal Buell's story in Monday's Connecting reminds me of some of the other early pioneers in the further development of AP Wirephoto.

Who can ever forget former Executive Newsphoto Editor Al Resch? Nor Chicago's Fred Wright, or photographers Charlie Knoblock, Harry Hall, Harry Harris, Julian Wilson, the Stroup brothers, Harvey Georges, Max Filan, Henry Burrows, Julian Wilson, Max Desfor and Frank "Pappy" Noel, etc., etc., all of whom were old timers when I was hired in 1943, and became a staff photographer in 1946, or 1947s. They were among the early AP photographers.

Not that all of these, and more, were the beginning pioneers, but they certainly were in the late first next drive.

I was eight years old when the first Wirephoto came about, and eight years later became one of them.

I can remember when I was 7 years old, my father, Eddie Herrick, also with AP in NY, took me to the New York Times lab where I saw Wirephoto, television, fax, and TV in the final research stages.

Cheers to the AP and Wirephoto.

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## ***New Year's Eve 1999 - awaiting y2k***

**Ted Bridis** ([Email](#)) - Two decades ago, I spent New Year's Eve in the White House bunker waiting to see how much of the world's digital environment might shut down at midnight over sloppy "y2k" programming. It mostly didn't. When the coast was clear, the White House brought in a birthday cake and officials and other journalists sang to me happy birthday.

I was covering technology policy in Washington at the time. The White House Y2K czar who carried in the birthday cake was John Koskinen, who later ran the IRS. There were a few minor glitches worldwide but nothing catastrophic

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## ***Page One play in NYT still a thrill***

**Robert Dobkin** ([Email](#)) - While noting Bob Moen's account (last Friday's Connecting) of his story that appeared on Page 1 of the New York Times in 1997, I find it hard to believe that APers saw it as such a rarity. I can claim credit for three NYT Page 1's during my three-year stint at the Pentagon 1970-73. First was a late-afternoon bulletin that led the paper with the disclosure President Nixon had decided to step up the bombing of North Vietnam by sending additional B-52s to the war zone. It held just the first edition before a Times staffer matched AP.

Sometime later my exclusive reporting the punishments meted out to the generals responsible for the My Lai coverup ran below the fold through all editions. My third first- pager was an exclusive feature about how Air Force surgeons in Texas had for the first time in medical history "washed" an airman's complete blood supply while keeping his mom alive on only a saline solution. He survived.

The Times used no byline on my three stories, but credited AP. I was just as thrilled as Bob Moen to have made Page 1 in the Times, especially when the Washington AP staff competed daily against a large and tough Times' bureau.

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## ***Proof that headlines should not be afterthought***



**ABC News**  @ABC · 7m 

Dramatic rescue of a kidnapped woman held at knifepoint by Alabama police



Dramatic rescue of a kidnapped woman held at knifepoint by Alabam...  
[abcnews.go.com](http://abcnews.go.com)

**Brad Kalbfeld** ([Email](#)) - Proof that headlines should not be an afterthought...

Given the way people consume news these days, the headline might well be the most influential sentence of the story.

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## ***Connecting sky shots - from Avon, North Carolina***



**Joe Macenka** ([Email](#)) - This is a sunset view from Avon, just north of Cape Hatteras on North Carolina's Outer Banks. Unless you've got heavy cloud cover, you can count on majestic sunsets like this pretty much every evening because you're looking across Pamlico Sound, which is roughly 30 miles wide at Avon, providing plenty of water to help enhance nightly light shows.

***And Kiawah Island, South Carolina***





**Norman Black** ([Email](#)) - We have a place on Kiawah Island, SC, and this is sunset on Bass Pond on Dec. 27. Happy New Year!

# Are you ready for the newspaper future?

*(Connecting Editor's note: Jon Rust is a Connecting colleague, publisher of the Southeast Missourian in Cape Girardeau, Mo., and a former member of the AP's board of directors.)*

**By JON K RUST**

It's no secret, print newspapers in most parts of the country are struggling. Many, particularly in small towns, have closed. According to University of North Carolina professor Penny Muse Abernathy, more than 2,100 newspapers have closed in the United States since 2004, 70 of them dailies. And more and more communities are finding themselves -- and their local governments -- in what Abernathy calls a "news desert:" a community, either rural or urban, with limited access to the sort of credible, comprehensive news and information that feeds democracy at the grassroots level.

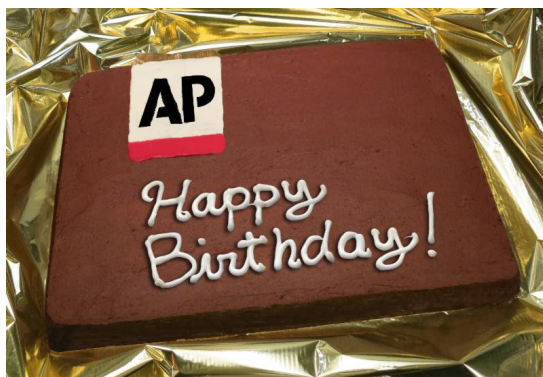
The main challenge to newspapers is that advertising dollars are shrinking. On the print side, big marketing clients have their own existential problems. Think Sears, K-Mart, Toys R Us, Hastings, Big Lots, Goody's, Circuit City (and the list goes on). Just a few years ago, these brick-and-mortar stores all advertised heavily in local newspapers, subsidizing the costs of a newspaper's news operation. Now these businesses are gone, bankrupted by cost structures -- and online shopping habits -- that couldn't compete with e-commerce companies like Amazon (who, incidentally, had the advantage of not collecting taxes).

Meanwhile, on the digital side, online newspaper readership is soaring. However, due to the explosion of online inventory and the dominance of Facebook and Google, which together control more than 80% of all digital advertising revenue in the United States, it's just not generating sufficient advertising revenue to maintain news staffs. As a result, what at one point was seen as the future for content producers -- offsetting the decline of print dollars by "stacking digital dimes" -- is now viewed as more a supplement to revenue, not a primary component.

So, where does the future lie, if local news is to survive?

Read more [here](#).

# Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Gary Sosniecki - [sozsez@aol.com](mailto:sozsez@aol.com)

Soll Sussman - [sas2000@mail.com](mailto:sas2000@mail.com)

*On Saturday to...*

Noreen Gillespie - [ngillespie@ap.org](mailto:ngillespie@ap.org)

Eddie Frerks - [efrerks@gmail.com](mailto:efrerks@gmail.com)

Dan George - [dan.george@mindspring.com](mailto:dan.george@mindspring.com)

*On Sunday to...*

David Bauder - [dbauder@ap.org](mailto:dbauder@ap.org)

Bill Brown - [bill@williamblakebrown.com](mailto:bill@williamblakebrown.com)

John Solomon - [john@solomonmediallc.com](mailto:john@solomonmediallc.com)

## Welcome to Connecting



Dayle Olson - [dayfla@aol.com](mailto:dayfla@aol.com)

## Stories of interest

***In the past decade, at least 554 journalists have been killed worldwide*** (Washington Post)

By Siobhán O'Grady

They were killed by suicide bombs and shot by gangs, caught in crossfire and targeted on live TV.

Over the past decade, at least 554 journalists and 49 media workers - a category that includes drivers and interpreters - were killed around the world, according to data collected by the Committee to Protect Journalists. Hundreds of other journalists were killed in cases for which the advocacy group could not determine a motive.

So far in 2019, at least 25 journalists have been killed in 13 countries - a sharp decrease from previous years, although 25 other killings of journalists are under investigation by the group. Ten of those killed were not killed in crossfire or on a dangerous assignment, but targeted and murdered, the committee said. And half the murders took place in Mexico.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

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## ***As the Newseum closes its doors, pieces of history and human remains to find a new resting place*** (Washington Post)

**By Michael E. Ruane**

People crowded around the twisted antenna from the World Trade Center's North Tower.

They peered at the famous door that was jimmed during the Watergate burglary.

And they walked around the forbidding pieces of the Berlin Wall.

But as visitors thronged the Newseum in downtown Washington on its final day Tuesday, few seemed to notice the small gray plaque in the floor on the third level. Beneath it rest remains of four news photographers killed in 1971 when their helicopter was shot down during the Vietnam War.

The stainless steel reliquary with trace remains of Larry Burrows, Henri Huet, Kent Potter and Keisaburo Shimamoto has been at the heart of the Newseum and its memorial to fallen journalists since it was dedicated in 2008.

Burrows, 44, of Life magazine; Huet, 43, of the Associated Press; Potter, 23, of United Press International; and Shimamoto, 34, of Newsweek were aboard a South Vietnamese helicopter that was downed Feb. 10, 1971, during an incursion into Laos.

The Newseum on Pennsylvania Avenue was to be their last resting place. But like everything else in the glittering shrine to the news business, down the street from the Capitol, they also must go.

That includes the huge antenna from the World Trade Center, which was destroyed Sept. 11, 2001; the hunks of the Berlin Wall, which came down in 1989; and the

Watergate door, tied to the break-in that eventually forced President Richard M. Nixon to resign in 1974.

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

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## ***Newspaper Publisher McClatchy Skips Payment to Pensioners*** (Bloomberg)

**By Josh Saul**

The McClatchy Co., the newspaper publisher that's teetering near bankruptcy, skipped a payment to some of its pensioners.

The company will not be releasing funds to a "small number" of participants in its Supplemental Executive Retirement Benefits plan as it addresses its long-term liquidity pressures, McClatchy said in a statement Thursday. The company faces a mandatory \$124 million contribution to its pension plan in 2020.

"This decision is not taken lightly, but at a time when the company is actively negotiating the future of the qualified pension plan, it would be inconsistent with our culture to continue payments on the non-qualified plans," Chief Financial Officer Elaine Lintecum said in the statement.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac.

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## ***When John Solomon was Rudy Giuliani's toughest critic*** (Politico)

**By DANIEL LIPPMAN and TINA NGUYEN**

Long before they entered a symbiotic relationship to pick apart the Bidens' alleged ties to Ukrainian corruption, John Solomon and Rudy Giuliani had a completely different dynamic: an investigative reporter focused on uncovering Giuliani's potential corruption, chasing after a presidential candidate whose campaign was unhappy at his muckraking in Rudy-world.

As the national investigative correspondent for the Washington Post, where he was hired in early 2007, Solomon's byline graced the top of multiple critical stories about Giuliani, who was then pursuing a presidential bid on the strength of his reputation as a crime-fighting mayor who soothed a grieving New York City after the 9/11 attacks.

Solomon's stories, often co-written with other Post reporters and some of which appeared on the front page, bolstered his own career as an investigative journalist. But they also caused considerable damage to Giuliani's presidential ambitions, along with other reporting from The New York Times.

Several of Solomon's stories detailed the close relationship between the campaign and his firm Giuliani Partners, which was billed for campaign services such as security and which possibly violated campaign finance laws, and where he continued to work despite his pledge to leave the firm during the campaign.

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

## The Final Word

## **In this new year, I hope you live louder.**

I hope you laugh more. I hope you sing at the top of your lungs. I hope you drive with the windows down and let the wind rustle through your hair. I hope you hug. I hope you kiss. I hope you surround yourself with people who make you feel alive. I hope you become the type of person that brings good energy wherever you go, and the type of person people want to be around. I hope you speak what's on your mind, that you raise your voice for injustice, that you tell others that you love them, instead of waiting until it's too late. I hope you live louder, shine brighter. This is your year.

From John Tesh post, shared by Molly Stevens Templeton (daughter of Ye Olde Editor)

## **Today in History - January 3, 2019**





## By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Jan. 3, the third day of 2020. There are 363 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 3, 1961, President Dwight D. Eisenhower announced the United States was formally terminating diplomatic and consular relations with Cuba.

### On this date:

In 1777, Gen. George Washington's army routed the British in the Battle of Princeton, New Jersey.

In 1833, Britain seized control of the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic. (Almost 150 years later, Argentina seized the islands from the British, but Britain took them back after a 74-day war.)

In 1868, Japan's Meiji (may-jee) Restoration re-established the authority of the emperor and heralded the fall of the military rulers known as shoguns; the upheaval paved the way for Japan's drive toward becoming a modern power.

In 1892, J.R.R. Tolkien, author of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, was born in Bloemfontein (BLOOM'-fahn-tayn), South Africa.

In 1938, the March of Dimes campaign to fight polio was established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who himself had been afflicted with the crippling disease.

In 1959, Alaska became the 49th state as President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a proclamation.

In 1967, Jack Ruby, the man who shot and killed Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy, died in a Dallas hospital.

In 1977, Apple Computer was incorporated in Cupertino, California, by Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Mike Markkula (MAHR'-kuh-luh) Jr.

In 1990, ousted Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega surrendered to U.S. forces, 10 days after taking refuge in the Vatican's diplomatic mission.

In 2000, the last new daily "Peanuts" strip by Charles Schulz ran in 26-hundred newspapers.

In 2008, Illinois Sen. Barack Obama won Democratic caucuses in Iowa, while Mike Huckabee won the Republican caucuses.

In 2013, students from Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, reconvened at a different building in the town of Monroe about three weeks after the massacre that had claimed the lives of 20 first-graders and six educators. The new 113th Congress opened for business, with House Speaker John Boehner (BAY'-nur) re-elected to his post despite a mini-revolt in Republican ranks.

Ten years ago: The U.S. closed its embassy in Yemen, citing ongoing threats by the al-Qaida branch linked to the failed Christmas Day bombing attempt of a U.S. airliner headed to Detroit; Britain also shuttered its embassy. A Rutgers University doctoral student breached security at Newark Liberty Airport to kiss his girlfriend goodbye, prompting a six-hour shutdown. (Haisong Jiang (hy-song gee-ong) later pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor, and was fined.)

Five years ago: Boko Haram (BOH'-koh hah-RAHM') extremists kidnapped about 40 boys and young men and killed scores of soldiers in a bold attack on a multinational military base in northern Nigeria. Former U.S. Sen. Edward W. Brooke, a liberal Republican who became the first black person in U.S. history to win popular election to the Senate, died in Coral Gables, Florida, at age 95.

One year ago: China's space program achieved a lunar milestone by landing a probe on the mysterious "dark" side of the moon; a side that had been observed many times from lunar orbit but never up close. On their first day in the House majority, Democrats passed a plan to reopen the government without funding President Donald Trump's border wall. Saudi Arabia said it would seek the death penalty against five suspects in the slaying of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi (jah-MAHL' khahr-SHOHK'-jee). Seven people, including five Louisiana children in a church van who had been headed for Disney World, were killed in a fiery crash on Interstate 75 in Florida.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Dabney Coleman is 88. Journalist-author Betty Rollin is 84. Hockey Hall of Famer Bobby Hull is 81. Singer-songwriter-producer Van Dyke Parks is 77. Musician Stephen Stills is 75. Rock musician John Paul Jones (Led Zeppelin) is 74. Actress Victoria Principal is 70. Actor-director Mel Gibson is 64. Actress Shannon Sturges is 52. Actor John Ales is 51. Jazz musician James Carter is 51. Contemporary Christian singer Nichole Nordeman is 48. Musician Thomas Bangalter (Daft Punk) is 45. Actor Jason Marsden is 45. Actress Danica McKellar is 45. Actor Nicholas Gonzalez is 44. Singer Kimberley Locke (TV: "American Idol") is 42. Actress Kate Levering is 41. NFL quarterback Eli Manning is 39. Actress Nicole Beharie is 35. Pop musician Mark Pontius (Foster the People) is 35. Rhythm-and-blues singer Lloyd is 34. Pop-rock musician Nash Overstreet (Hot Chelle (shel) Rae) is 34. Actor Alex D. Linz is 31.

**Thought for Today: "Not all who wander are lost." [-] J.R.R. Tolkien, English author (born this date in 1892, died in 1973).**

## 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.



**Paul Stevens**  
Editor, Connecting newsletter  
[paulstevens46@gmail.com](mailto:paulstevens46@gmail.com)

Connecting newsletter, 14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215

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