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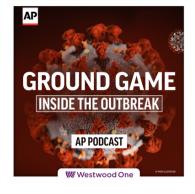
Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 15 th day of May 2020,

We lead today's issue with stories from Connecting colleagues **Elaine Hooker** and **Jim Reindl** on how their lives have been changed by the coronavirus pandemic.

And harkening back to AP past, we bring you first responses to the use of your initials in your AP work – to identify your role in editing a story, writing a photo caption or on the message wire. (I always thought I was the only phs – but learned differently thanks to another phs.)

AP GROUND GAME: COVID-19 ripped through rural Southwest Georgia, killing more people per capita than just about anywhere in America. AP reporter Claire Galofaro joins host Ralph Russo to share the tale of a community that had already felt abandoned before the pandemic,



and how she was able to connect with people while also keeping her distance. Read Claire's story here .

Listen here.

Here's to a great weekend for you all – be safe, be healthy.

Paul

# Living your life in the age of coronavirus

### A silver lining – virtual cello lessons

Elaine Hooker (Email) - Silver lining: Sheltering in place has afforded me more time to practice the cello, as I am unable to help care for my grandchildren, who live upstairs from us in Berkeley, Calif. Recently I listened to a virtual New York City house concert, in which my former cello teacher from New Haven, Conn., Mihai Marica, was playing the first three Bach Suites. The sponsor of the house concert noted that it was important to support musicians who are out of work. I had an idea: Maybe Mihai would give me some virtual lessons. So I emailed him and he agreed. The reason this is noteworthy is that I aspire simply to be a mediocre amateur cellist, whereas Mihai moved to New York City and



became a sought-after musician, even winning two international competitions. It is an honor for me to be studying with Mihai again, albeit temporarily. We are concentrating on the Bach Suites as he has spent the past year devoted to

learning more about them -- and they are my favorites. It is so helpful for me to understand some of the soul behind the music instead of simply trying to master the notes. Just today he said that the Allemande in the first Suite is indeed a dance, but it's more serious and poetic than the Courante, which follows. And last week he suggested thinking of the second half of the Prelude in the First Suite as one long improvisation. It gives me something to look forward to besides dashing to the porch when I spot my grandchildren going out for a scooter ride

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### Things I miss ... and things I gained

Jim Reindl (Email) - Things I Miss in Life In The Time of Covid

I miss using the third hole on my belt, instead of the second as I must now.... I miss my hands when they didn't feel like I could sand planks with them after all the washing. ... I miss draft beer served over a low-lit bar with Little Walter on the jukebox (in truth, I've been missing that jukebox since we left the U.S.). ... I miss this view from my daily early AM walks along the ocean in Dili:



... I miss endlessly blue skies as opposed to nearly endlessly grey skies we have in our forced repatriation to Chicago (discussing the temperature

differential is too painful). ... Now that we're here, I miss Chicago, since all we can do pretty much is walk around.

What I've Gained in Life In The Time of Covid

My family. We get to (socially distant) visit Graca's daughter, my sons and our grandson. ... A new sense of adaptability (thanks to those Peace Corps days in Ghana). ... The ability to actually do productive telework as opposed to telesleeping like I used to. ... A renewed appreciation for my partner, Graca. ... Rediscovery of how much great music I have on my player since I listen a lot more during my solitary workdays. ... Taking the time to connect with old friends. ... Finally, appreciation and thankfulness that I remain healthy when so many others have suffered so much.

# AP Definitive Source Update: Coronavirus and the Race for a Remedy

Challenges of covering the pandemic and the strength of AP's Health and Science coverage were the focus of the latest installment in a continuing webinar series that will help document AP's coverage, while also providing a resource to members/customers faced with covering the biggest story of the 21st century.

Traditional rules of medical research are being tossed aside as the world desperately searches for ways to cure or prevent COVID-19. It also means that reporting on the biggest story of our lifetime has needed to adapt. AP Deputy International Editor Elizabeth Kennedy and Health and Science Editor Jonathan Fahey on Thursday, May 14, highlighted AP's coverage and global footprint in the latest sessions, while also reinforcing the shared experience we have as news organizations move from covering crisis to a potential cure. Each session is about 30 minutes, one for international clients and a second for the Americas and Latin America. The calls cover new storylines we are following and how newsrooms can report a story that touches everyone and changes by the day.

The webinars are being added to AP's Corporate Archives to help provide a thorough record of AP's coverage and response.

**Recording links:** 

AP Definitive Source: Coronavirus and the Race for a Remedy (Americas)

AP Definitive Source: Coronavirus and the Race for a Remedy (International)

### About the use of your initials

**Paul Albright** (Email ) - I began using pa/ as my signoff when I joined the AP in 1962. We listed our sources for each article following the / slash mark. Almost 60 years later I continue to sign my messages with pa/ (always including the slash mark.)
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Lee Balgemann (Email) - Reading Connecting on Thursday morning reminded me of an interesting incident with my initials, lab-(Lee Alan Balgemann). While manning the "board" in CX, Minneapolis photographer Jim Mone moved a picture from a portable location that had my initials as the editor (labxxxxxstf-Mone)XXXX. I called to inform him I would love to help him edit but that I was in Chicago and had not yet learned to clone myself. Dumbfounded, he asked what I meant. I mentioned my initials on his transmission; he replied that he thought he'd seen those initials from all the portables I had transmitted from and that they referred to a portable darkroom site!

-0-

**Kathy Curran** (<u>Email</u>) - I can't resist the urge to respond to your call for memories of using initials on AP stories. Not a memory, just a comment.

Although I don't think his parents had this in mind, my husband Timothy Lalor Curran, has the best initials of all. TLC. Anyone who knew Tim was aware of his kind and friendly demeanor and would barely recognize the guy who is now unable to reach out to people. He no longer starts or participates in conversations but on our frequent FaceTimes or other virtual conversations with our kids and grandkids they always tell him they love him. And if you are listening carefully you will hear a much softer voice on this end saying "I love you, too."

Though different, the loving personality is still in there. He is still well defined by those AP sign-off initials, TLC.

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**Bill McCloskey** (<u>Email</u>) - My byline when I got to "wireside" (what we at APR called the people who didn't speak for a living) was Bill (not William McCloskey) but in the 70s I was not going to be known at BM. So, I was WM. Some of my friends still call me WM (pron: wim).

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**Paul Simon** (<u>Email</u>) - Finally, the "d" in LDB revealed. Thank you, from one phs to another. Paul Howard Simon

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**Marty Thompson** (<u>Email</u>) - The late Jim Lagier (JCL) always sang out MCT in a greeting, on the phone and most often in person. Even in retirement, a phone call with Lagier would usually start with him singing out MCT!

The three-letter AP name came about in Seattle in around 1967, but I've no recollection how. And it stuck in message addresses and sign offs, through Reno, San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York. So a message back when San Francisco had a two-letter wire-ese name might start FX (MCT).

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**Sean Thompson** (<u>Email</u>) - When I started at the Associated Press I was always, for those that knew, Marty's kid. This related mainly to summer internships, special events and stringer jobs. When I finally became a staffer in New York City at headquarters I was known as ST (politely ignoring any other nicknames or monickers). I left AP in 1995 to finish my fine arts degree and then intern with the country's top digital specialist. The AP hired me away from my employer and I found that there was another ST and that I would need to use my middle initial and become SMThompson. Through the years I have lost email never forwarded from the other Thompson and then from subsequent hires all with the name Sean Thompson. Who knew there would be three of us over a 10-year period at AP.

Currently I seem to be the only Sean Thompson working for the AP but I still get email for Sue, Sean, Shawn and Shaun Thompson. I don't mind the emails and having met some of them wonder how all of them are faring these days.

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**Peggy Walsh** ( <u>Email</u> ) - One of the great mysteries of life has been solved by the mystery himself. Thank you, Lou. I wish Jim Lagier was still with us to opine.

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**Cecilia White** (Email) - As for Thursday's item about initials for AP staff, I still use mine today. When I came to AP/LA in 1982, "CW" was already taken by long-time bureau veteran Cal Werner. When told I needed my own, I pondered for a moment, then made it "CX" -- as in Madame X, the subject of John Singer Sargent's 'scandalous' painting (ha).

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**Patty Woodrow** (<u>Email</u>) - I smiled reading the story about Idb's initials and yes, it was a widely used practice back in the day. Those of us "old-timers" who are still here remember it well but alas the newer generation of staffers don't adhere to the custom. I miss it. Sign me ... paw

# New-member profile: Rich Kirkpatrick

#### Rich Kirkpatrick (Email)

- I joined AP in Philadelphia in 1972 and was the overnight supervisor from January through September 1973 when I was promoted to the state capitol bureau in Harrisburg. Then Bureau Chief Doug Bailey had arranged my promotion to be a staff addition to the Capitol bureau, which was going to free up long-time staffer Byron Beard to become an investigative specialist in the bureau. He had worked on the Foreign Desk in New York and was a solid editor and a huge talent. Sadly, within three weeks of my arrival in the bureau, Byron was killed in a tractor accident at his farm in nearby rural Cumberland County, and that



ended the expansion of the bureau. In 1974, I was named AP's state Senate reporter. I was promoted to Harrisburg correspondent by AP Bureau Chief George Zucker in 1980. I ran the bureau until 1996 and during that time wrote many stories over ten years following up the TMI nuclear accident in 1979, covered a second nuclear accident in Rochester, N.Y. in January 1982, wrote a weekly political column, covered four national political conventions and oversaw coverage of the tragic public suicide of state Treasurer R. Budd Dwyer in January 1987. I also had the great honor to work with Pulitzer Prize winning photographer Paul Vathis and an array of talented reporters George hired for the bureau who went on to prestigious jobs at ABC News; the Washington Post; Bloomberg News; the Kiplinger Report; USA Today: AP bureaus in Washington, D.C., China, Japan, the Middle East, Paris, eastern Europe and Mexico: as well as state Capitol correspondents in Sacramento. Trenton, Juneau, Springfield, III and Olympia. Washington. In 1996, I left AP to become the press secretary at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. While there, I played a key role building support for several critically needed transportation revenue increases and dealing with a number of crisis, including the devastating Valentine's Day storm in 2007. I retired from that position in January 2019.

# New Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame book includes AP, UPI honorees



Joe Hight with new Hall of Fame book.

**Lindel Hutson** (<u>Email</u>) - The Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame has published a 210-page book honoring the first 50 years of the organization.

"Our Greatest Journalists, Fifty Years of the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame," has bios on the 468 people inducted to date along with those who have been awarded the organization's Lifetime Achievement Award.

More than 25 writers contributed essays to the book and countless others contributed photographs.

The project was coordinated by Joe Hight, a journalist, writer and educator and currently the director of the hall of fame.

Hight's team producing the book included Lindel Hutson, retired AP bureau chief in Oklahoma City; Billie Rodely, former broadcaster; and Ralph Schaefer, a former editor and executive with the Retherford Publications group of Tulsa. Also. Emily Siddiqui, a student editor at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Many former AP and UPI staffers are in the book, including George Cornell, the AP's long-time religion writer. And the most recent inductee, former Oklahoma City AP staffer Rochelle Hines, whose ceremony has been delayed until October because of the virus.

One of Hutson's essays profiles Paul Miller, who grew up in a small Oklahoma town and became chief executive of the AP and the Gannett Company.

Joe Carter, an occasional Connecting contributor, profiled James R. Campbell, an Oklahoma native who served as UPI bureau manager or state editor in Topeka, Little Rock, Oklahoma City and Detroit. Carter, as a young UPI staffer in Dallas, was in the motorcade and heard the shots that killed JFK in 1963.

The book will be available for purchase at various bookstores. It is available now from Best of Books in Edmond, OK and sales from the book go to two special funds. One is the Coronavirus Storytelling Project to help furloughed, displaced or struggling journalists. The other is the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund to help students in need at the University of Central Oklahoma, where the hall of fame is located.

The book has a cover price of \$39.95 and it is available to anyone. Hall of fame members or honorees can purchase it for \$35 plus \$8 shipping. If you are interested in buying the book, call 405-340-9202, email <a href="mailto:bestofbooks@sbcglobal.net">bestofbooks@sbcglobal.net</a> or go to <a href="mailto:bestofbooksok.com">bestofbooksok.com</a> to order it online.

To read The Oklahoman's story on the release of the book, click **here**.

# Becky Day helps keep AP contests going



Becky Day, in hand-sewn mask and nitrile gloves, stands next to a post office cart full of contest plaques before they are shipped to members in Tennessee.

**Dan Day** (<u>Email</u>) - As a bureau chief, Dan Day handed out many a plaque and certificate over the years to winners of AP newspaper and broadcast contests. His wife, Becky, often helped him and his colleagues organize and stage the plaques before member organization banquets.

Dan left the AP in 2004. Becky (**Email**) is in her fourth year working as an AP contractor, coordinating contests for several states from their home near Princeton, New Jersey. She sets up the contests online, draws up the stories releasing results, then arranges engraving for the plaques and prints the certificates for the winners.

On Thursday, with a bit of help from Dan, Becky loaded up their Subaru and headed to the North Trenton post office with a couple of dozen boxes of plaques and certificates bound for Tennessee newspaper and broadcast contest winners.

Earlier this spring, Becky shipped a batch to Kentucky members, and next up is New York state. Annual banquets have been canceled this year because of the corona virus outbreak, so Becky is shipping a number of boxes to editors, news directors and journalism professors at their homes.

# Proud to be part of CBS team looking inside hospitals

**Pat Milton** (Email) - I'm proud to be part of an awesome CBS News team who produced a powerful prime time special documentary which brings viewers behind the scenes for a rare, intimate look at doctors and nurses in a New York City hospital, FDNY's first responders and a parish priest, all on the front lines of the crushing COVID-19 Crisis, fighting non-stop to save lives at enormous risk to their own. (It airs Friday, May 15, at 9pm Eastern on CBS.) I am the senior producer in the investigative unit of CBS News. But on this piece I was one of the producers on the team. Guy Campanile and Mitch Weitzner are the executive producers. Susan Zirinsky is president and senior executive producer of CBS News.

Click here.

# **Another marooned story**

**Mike Harris** (<u>Email</u>) - The stories from Hal Bock and Bruce Lowitt, two of my old New York Sports colleagues, from recent issues of Connecting reminded me of a story, too.

I was covering freestyle wrestling at the Seoul Olympics in 1988 and found myself the last person in the arena by the time I finished writing after the finals. I had taken one of the Main Press Center buses to the Arena, which was on the outskirts of Seoul, probably five or six miles away. When I walked outside, there were no buses and not a single person anywhere to be seen. I tried to get back into the building to use my phone, but the doors were all locked.

I walked around the building and stood by the quiet main road out front for several minutes. Not a car went by and I wasn't sure I could find my way back to the MPC, even if I could walk that far. Finally, I noticed what looked like a farm house about a quarter mile away. I walked to the house and knocked on the door. A middle-aged Korean man appeared and started chattering in

Korean. With only two or three words of Korean in my vocabulary, it was almost impossible to make him understand that I wanted him to call me a cab. Then I happened to mention my destination was the Main Press Center.

The local news was full of Olympics coverage and the MPC was being mentioned continuously. He held up his hand in a gesture that I assumed meant wait here. Moments later, wearing a jaunty hat and a smile, he waved for me to follow him. We got into his pickup truck and, without any further conversation, he drove me to the MPC. I tried to thank him as I got out of the truck, but he just smiled and waved and was gone.

I really wish that I had had enough Korean to at least properly thank that man.

# **Connecting wishes Happy Birthday**



On Saturday to ...

Susana Hayward - <a href="mailto:haywardsusana@gmail.com">haywardsusana@gmail.com</a>
Joe McGowan - <a href="mailto:joedos2@comcast.net">joedos2@comcast.net</a>

**Welcome to Connecting** 



John Marlow - jtm394@aol.com

### Stories of interest

# Split-screen America is back: Whistleblower and 'Obamagate'

#### By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — If there was any doubt that news during the coronavirus pandemic would fall prey to split-screen America, it was removed on Thursday.

CNN spent more than three and a half hours covering live the congressional hearing where vaccine expert Rick Bright testified that the Trump administration was caught flat-footed by the pandemic and the country faces darker days ahead. MSNBC followed it for more than two hours.

On Fox News Channel, the bigger story was the revelation that Obama administration officials sought to "unmask" the identity of Trump adviser Michael Flynn, caught in surveillance reports having discussions with Russian officials before Trump's inauguration.

That story led Fox's programs at 10 and 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m.

Read more here.

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# Retirees, isolated by virus, become DJs for new radio hour



#### By KIMBERLEE KRUESI

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tucked away inside his room at a senior care facility, Bob Coleman knew he couldn't go out into the world with the coronavirus raging. But he could share with the world his first love — country music.

"Hello everybody, it's a bright day in Franklin, Tennessee," the 88-year-old Air Force veteran crooned into his microphone. "This is Bob Coleman, better

known as the 'Karaoke Cowboy,' coming to you from Room 3325. ... Let's just jump right into it."

The hits of Hank Williams, Dwight Yoakam and Brad Paisley began to play, all carefully selected by Coleman, who lives in Somerby Franklin, an assisted living facility about 20 miles (32 kilometers) south of Nashville.

Coleman is one of several retirees who have turned into DJs for a new online radio hour known as "Radio Recliner."

Read more here.

### **The Final Word**

# Dining with dummies? Renowned restaurant adds mannequins



Mannequins provide social distancing at the Inn at Little Washington as they prepare to reopen their restaurant Thursday May 14, 2020, in

Washington, Va. The manager say that every other table will have mannequins for social distance guidance when, according to state guidelines, the 5-star restaurant will be allowed reopen on May 29th. (AP Photo/Steve Helber)

WASHINGTON, Va. (AP) — One of the country's most renowned restaurants says mannequins will add a touch of whimsy and help with social distancing when customers return to its grand dining room later this month.

Mannequins dressed in fine 1940's-style attire were already theatrically staged Thursday at The Inn at Little Washington, tucked in the foothills of Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains about 90 minutes west of Washington, D.C.

Although business restrictions are set to begin easing in some parts of Virginia on Friday, restaurants can only serve dine-in customers in an outdoor space. The three-Michelin-star restaurant has opted to wait until May 29 to resume dining service indoors.

"When we needed to solve the problem of social distancing and reducing our restaurant's occupancy by half, the solution seemed obvious — fill it with interestingly dressed dummies," chef and proprietor Patrick O'Connell said in a statement. "This would allow plenty of space between real guests and elicit a few smiles and provide some fun photo ops."

O'Connell, a self-taught cook, has won multiple James Beard Awards and was the 2019 recipient of the James Beard Foundation's lifetime achievement award. He was also awarded the National Humanities Medal in 2019.

"We're all craving to gather and see other people right now," O'Connell said. "They don't all necessarily need to be real people."

Click **here** for link to this story.

### **Today in History - May 15, 2020**



### By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, May 15, the 136th day of 2020. There are 230 days left in the year.

#### Today's Highlight in History:

On May 15, 1948, hours after declaring its independence, the new state of Israel was attacked by Transjordan, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon.

#### On this date:

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed an act establishing the Department of Agriculture.

In 1918, U.S. airmail began service between Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and New York.

In 1930, registered nurse Ellen Church, the first airline stewardess, went on duty aboard an Oakland-to-Chicago flight operated by Boeing Air Transport, a forerunner of United Airlines.

In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a measure creating the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, whose members came to be known as WACs. Wartime gasoline rationing went into effect in 17 Eastern states, limiting sales to three gallons a week for non-essential vehicles.

In 1954, the Fender Stratocaster guitar, created by Leo Fender, was officially released.

In 1963, Weight Watchers was incorporated in New York.

In 1968, two days of tornado outbreaks began in 10 Midwestern and Southern states; twisters were blamed for 72 deaths, including 45 in Arkansas and 18 in lowa.

In 1970, just after midnight, Phillip Lafayette Gibbs and James Earl Green, two black students at Jackson State College in Mississippi, were killed as police opened fire during student protests.

In 1972, Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace was shot and left paralyzed while campaigning for president in Laurel, Maryland, by Arthur H. Bremer, who served 35 years for attempted murder.

In 1975, U.S. forces invaded the Cambodian island of Koh Tang and captured the American merchant ship Mayaguez, which had been seized by the Khmer Rouge. (All 39 crew members had already been released safely by Cambodia; some 40 U.S. servicemen were killed in connection with the operation.)

In 1988, the Soviet Union began the process of withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan, more than eight years after Soviet forces entered the country.

In 2000, by a 5-4 vote, the U.S. Supreme Court threw out a key provision of the 1994 Violence Against Women Act, saying that rape victims could not sue their attackers in federal court.

Ten years ago: Jessica Watson, a 16-year-old Australian who'd spent seven months at sea in her pink yacht, became the youngest person to sail around the world solo, nonstop and unassisted as she arrived in Sydney.

Five years ago: A jury sentenced Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehv) to death for the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing that killed three and left more than 250 wounded. Elisabeth Bing, the Lamaze International co-founder who popularized what was known as natural childbirth and helped change how women and doctors approached the delivery room, died in New York at age 100.

One year ago: Alabama's Republican governor, Kay Ivey, signed into law the most stringent abortion legislation in the nation, making performing an abortion a felony in nearly all cases. (The law remains blocked by court challenges.) President Donald Trump granted a full pardon to Conrad Black, a former newspaper publisher who had written a flattering political biography of Trump. (Black had been convicted of fraud in 2007 and spent more than three years in prison.) California fire officials said an investigation found that power lines owned by Pacific Gas & Electric Corp. had sparked a Northern California blaze that killed 85 people and nearly destroyed the town of Paradise in 2018; it was the deadliest U.S. wildfire in a century.

Today's Birthdays: Actress-singer Anna Maria Alberghetti is 84. Counterculture icon Wavy Gravy is 84. Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is 83. Singer Trini Lopez is 83. Singer Lenny Welch is 82. Actress-singer Lainie Kazan is 78. Actress Gunilla Hutton is 78. Country singer K.T. Oslin is 78. Actor Chazz Palminteri is 74. Former Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius is 72. Singer-songwriter Brian Eno is 72. Actor Nicholas Hammond (Film: "The Sound of Music") is 70. Baseball Hall of Famer George Brett is 67. Musician-composer Mike Oldfield is 67. Actor Lee Horsley is 65. TV personality Giselle Fernandez is 59. Rapper Grandmaster Melle Mel is 59. Actress Brenda Bakke is 57. Football Hall of Famer Emmitt Smith is 51. Actor Brad Rowe is 50. Actor David Charvet (shahr-VAY') is 48. Actor Russell Hornsby is 46. Rock musician Ahmet Zappa is 46. Olympic gold medal gymnast Amy Chow is 42. Actor David Krumholtz is 42. Rock musician David Hartley (The War on Drugs) is 40. Actress Jamie-Lynn Sigler is 39. Actress Alexandra Breckenridge is 38. Rock musician Brad Shultz (Cage the Elephant) is 38. Rock musician Nick Perri is 36. Tennis player Andy Murray is 33.

Thought for Today: "Martyrdom has always been a proof of the intensity, never of the correctness of a belief." [–] Arthur Schnitzler (1862-1931).

# 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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