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Connecting June 02, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 2nd day of June 2020,

Got memories to share of covering protests? That was a question posed Monday in the midst of unrest in cities across the country as a result of a white police officer in Minneapolis charged with third-degree murder in the death of a black man, George Floyd.

First response arrived from our colleague **Mike Tharp** . We thank him and I hope his post will spur you to send your own.

Correction : In Monday's issue, the day of the SpaceX launch was incorrect. It was last Saturday, not Friday.

Have a good day – be safe and healthy.

Paul

Trump as thug or hero? Depends on what network you watch



President Donald Trump walks past police in Lafayette Park after visiting outside St. John's Church across from the White House Monday, June 1, 2020, in Washington. Part of the church was set on fire during protests on Sunday night. (AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — It was a split screen for the ages on MSNBC Monday: on the left side, President Donald Trump talking about restoring law and order. On the right, a tear-gassed young woman vomiting in a Washington street.

For a nation rubbed raw following a traumatic weekend, cable television news did little to promote peace, love and understanding in its most-watched hours.

Fox News Channel, CNN and MSNBC poke and prod the nation's divide on most nights, and each has been amply rewarded in the ratings. Trump's stern speech and walk to a nearby church after protesters were forcibly cleared out of the way Monday raised the temperature on those networks even higher.

"The president seems to think that dominating black people, dominating peaceful protesters, is law and order," CNN's Anderson Cooper said. "It's not. He calls them thugs. Who's the thug here?"

At the same time on Fox News Channel, Tucker Carlson said that Trump provided “a powerful symbolic gesture, a declaration that this country, our national symbols, our oldest institutions, will not be desecrated and defeated by nihilistic destruction.”

Read more [here](#) .

Recalling riots in Los Angeles, protests in Lawrence, Kansas

Mike Tharp ([Email](#)) - On the day the L.A. riots erupted, I was in my U.S. News & World Report home office in San Pedro. I heard the “not guilty” verdict for the police officers accused in the Rodney King case on KNX Radio.

My brother, a police chief in Oregon, had watched part of the trial when he and his family visited Disneyland earlier that spring. Unlike conventional wisdom, he predicted that verdict.

So when I heard it, I knew the top of the bubbling racial cauldron that was Los Angeles would blow.

I called Rev. Bill Johnson, a black minister I knew in Compton. “Are you preaching tonight, Pastor?” He said he was. He said I could come listen.

I drove there around 4 p.m. San Pedro is the port of Los Angeles, south of downtown. I saw and smelled smoke already curling between the high rises and me.

Pastor Johnson talked about acting reasonably, about keeping faith, about civil disobedience, about race. In the back of the church, I took notes.

After his sermon I interviewed several of his black congregation. They were mostly my age (47) and older or young kids with their grandparents.

Rev. Johnson and I were the last to leave. He was going to take the 91 Freeway east, me west.

When we left the church, a police helicopter hovered a block over, spotlight on a scrum of black people outside a small grocery and liquor store. They were breaking in. He went east, I started to go west. The rioters packed the street, so I slowed.

Even with windows up, I could smell smoke and fire.

I don't know if it was a brick or a chunk of sidewalk that first hit my door side. Others followed—and shouts of "Rodney! Rodney!" Stuff splattered against my windshield and back door. Fists pounded against my window. I kept moving.

Finally I could speed up. On the 91 Freeway I felt more fear than I'd felt covering the Persian Gulf War for nearly four months a year earlier, as scared as I ever was as a soldier in Vietnam.

In those places I was with soldiers. Now I was on my own.

When I pulled off the 110 Freeway in Pedro, I stopped at the 7-Eleven going into town. I needed a beer.

At the door came this black guy my size (6'3") about my age. We looked at each other.

"I'm sorry, man," I said. "Me too," he said.

And...

I was sitting in a park near my GI-hovel on Massachusetts Avenue with two journo buddies.

Passing around the bottle of Boone's Farm Apple Wine, we heard chants. Coming down the hill from the University of Kansas campus, they were protesting President Nixon's renewed bombing of North Vietnam.

Hundreds stomped down the hill. Across Mass Ave a line of Lawrence PD and Kansas Highway Patrol officers stood, arms akimbo.

Somehow, I found myself walking into the No Man's Land between the officers and the protesters. I walked up to the Smokey-hatted KHP guy in charge. I asked him what they wanted.

"They can't cross the bridge (across the Kansas River)," he said. I nodded and walked back to the protesters. I told them the ground rules. Their leaders yelled out the terms. There was grumbling but basic assent.

I went back to the cops. The big trooper told me they had to turn left at the bridge, then get on the sidewalk unless they wanted to be arrested. I jogged back to the protesters and told them the terms. The crowd agreed.

I jogged back to the cops and told them the protesters agreed. I walked between the two groups and we all turned left at the bridge.

A few marched in the street and were arrested. The rest walked off into the night.

Ralph Gage, a friend and Connecting colleague, can vouch that the Lawrence Journal-World and the Topeka Capital-Journal, both ran front-page stories about the ultimately peaceful protests. I was in their photo layout.

Amazing what Boone's Farm did in the '70s.

Connecting mailbox

AP puzzlers

A Puzzling Connection

From Your AP Family



Good People

I like jigsaw puzzles and now in the time of Covid-19 I've had lots of time to indulge my hobby. I was thinking about Ellen Cabluck's beautiful quilts and thought they might make great puzzles. I saw on Facebook that Amy Sancetta, on left in third photo from left at top and her wife Jenny Campbell, had sold some photos and cartoon puzzles at a pet adoption fundraiser. I asked Amy about how they did it and if she thought Harry Cabluck, second photo from left, might like to share an image or two in tribute to Ellen who died in the past year.

Harry was good enough to send me several images. I chose the star pattern and had three puzzles made, one for me, one for Harry and one for Amy and Jenny. To thank me, Amy and Jenny sent me the puzzle at top left and the photo at right shows me with the finished product, which is now on its way to Patricia Lantis who is an animal advocate.



I asked Brian Horton, at top right, if he would send me an image made near his home on Long Beach Island, N.J., where he lived with his much-loved wife Marilyn, recently deceased. He sent me the lovely and very challenging swan with its reflection.

Within the AP family we have fed each other's passions for puzzles and honored the lives of our loved ones.

(Shared by Claudia DiMartino)

Such irony

Charles Hanley ([Email](#)) - Hooray! for Amanda Barrett. Such irony: In the midst of all this, just a couple of days ago, a newfound database turned up what may have been my first AP wire byline, from August 7, 1968, a long-forgotten feature from Camp (now

Fort) Drum, N.Y, about the New York National Guard undergoing riot-control training “because of recent civil disturbances in the nation.” As the Frenchman observed, “Plus ça change....” Or as Mr. Seeger put it, “Oh, when will they ever learn?”

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Reflections on the Al Ortons



From left: Al Orton Sr., Gene Herrick and Chicago photo editor Fred Wright in 1968.

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - The Al Orton family contributed much to the AP over the years.

Al, Sr., was the chief of bureau in the Windy City when I was working the photo desk, and he was the one who gave me my 25th-year service pin. Photo Editor Fred Wright was also a part of the ceremony.

In 1968, I was transferred to Columbus, Ohio (personal family problems), where Al Orton, Jr., was on the night news desk. Father and son were both affable and cooperative. I enjoyed working with both.

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Saddened by death of Joe Yeninas



Associated Press Artist Joe Yeninas depicts Henry Aaron's drive for the coveted home run record of Babe

Ruth, whose figure looms in background. Aaron tagged No. 700 Saturday, 14 sry of mark. (AP wirephoto.)



This cartoon by AP artist Joe Yeninas of New York illustrated a Jan. 18 AMs report that King Khaled of Saudi Arabia had offered to buy the West Bank and the Gaza Strip from Israel. Newspapers fronting the cartoon included the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Columbia (S.C.) State, Charleston (S.C.) News & Courier, Houston Post, Dallas Times Herald, Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser, Portland (Maine) Press Herald, Albany Times Union, and New Haven Journal-Courier.

Two illustrations by Joe Yeninas; courtesy AP Corporate Archives

Hal Bock ([Email](#)) - I was terribly saddened by the news about Joe Yeninas. Fran and I went to school at NYU with his wife, Barbara Spector. He was a terrific cartoonist who contributed often to my sports columns. A great guy with a wonderful sense of humor. May he rest in peace.

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Atlanta mayor is beacon, listen to her voice of reason

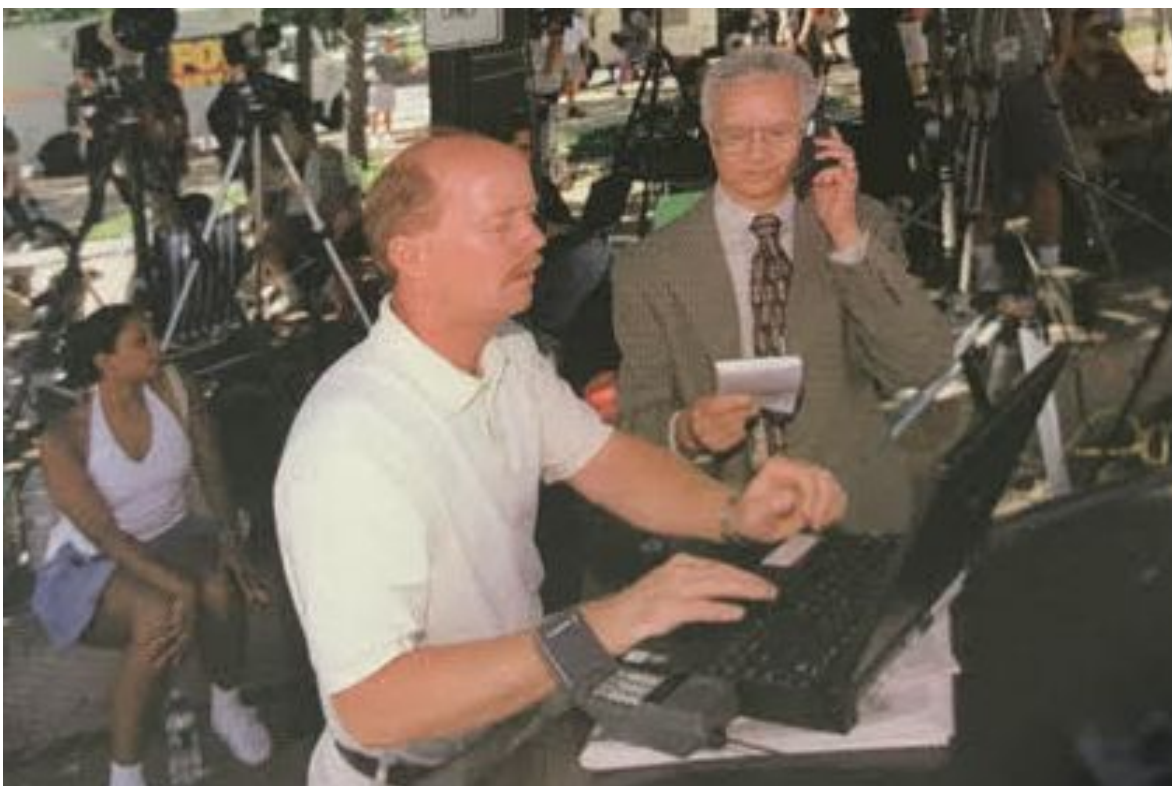
Martha McCarty ([Email](#)) - I'm so disgusted by the damage of the past weekend, maybe I shouldn't say anything. I'll leave it to your editorial judgment, but here's my point-of-view:

The beacon during the shameful ravaging of our cities this past weekend (including my neighborhood) has come from Keisha Lance Bottoms, the Mayor of Atlanta. Watch her impassioned videos. Listen to her voice of reason.

Does she stand alone or are there other guiding lights?

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Connecting series: You and a phone



Larry Margasak ([Email](#)) - Me on the phone, along with photographer Doug Mills, outside U.S. District Court in Washington in 1998, when Monica Lewinsky testified before the grand jury.

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Connecting sky shot – Chicago



Jim Reindl ([Email](#)) - A Chicago apartment tower captures the early evening sky and clouds on Thursday, May 28.

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Space-shot from the Rocking Chair



Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - As one of those house-bound virus scary cats, I watched Saturday's launching of SpaceX on television from my ever-loving rocking chair. Wow. Spectacular. Minutes later, I moved to my outdoor rocking chair and looked up into the sky. I wondered if I could see the speeding rocket. Gosh, there was the moon showing up in the clear daytime sky. (Where else would it be!).

My memory had a flashback to July 20, 1969, when a young astronaut named Neil Armstrong landed a spacecraft on the moon, and then got out and became the first human to walk on the moon. History was made. The world cheered. At that same time, I sat with others in the parent's garage in Wapakoneta, Ohio,. I was The Associated Press photographer on assignment to cover his parents watching television and viewing their son historically walk on the moon.

Shortly after that, in September 1969, Armstrong visited with his parents in Ohio, and I took some informal pictures of the astronaut. He was a quiet man, and soft spoken. Talking with him and shooting pictures, seemed like covering any other hero story, but you still realized this man was more super than others. Yes, those were fond memories of the historical past.

Cameraman who criticized PA fired from Associated Press



Palestinian cameraman Eyad Hamad, who was fired from the Associated Press after the Palestinian Authority filed a "complaint" against him.

By KHALED ABU TOAMEH, The Jerusalem Post

Eyad Hamad, a veteran Palestinian cameraman, said he was fired from the Associated Press after the Palestinian Authority filed a "complaint" against him.

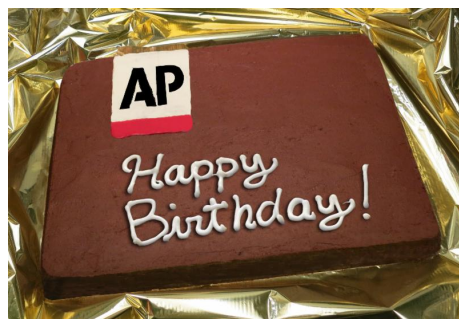
Hamad, 63, a resident of Bethlehem, told The Jerusalem Post that the complaint was filed against him because he had criticized the Palestinian security forces for arresting and beating a Palestinian journalist.

Hamad and several Palestinian journalists expressed outrage over the AP decision.

The Palestinian Journalists Syndicate issued a statement in which it condemned the “arbitrary dismissal” of the cameraman. The syndicate called on AP to revoke its “unfair and unjust decision.”

Read more [here](#) . Shared by David Egner.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Catey Terry – terryc@missouri.edu

Stories of interest

Facebook Employees Stage Virtual Walkout to Protest Trump Posts (New York Times)

By Sheera Frenkel, Mike Isaac, Cecilia Kang and Gabriel J.X. Dance

OAKLAND, Calif. — Hundreds of Facebook employees, in rare public criticism on Monday of their own company, protested executives’ decision not to do anything about inflammatory posts that President Trump had placed on the giant social media platform over the past week.

Many of the employees, who said they refused to work in order to show their support for demonstrators across the country, added an automated message to their digital profiles and email responses saying that they were out of the office in a show of protest.

The protest group — conducting a virtual “walkout” of sorts since most Facebook employees are working from home because of the coronavirus pandemic — was one of a number of clusters of employees pressing Facebook executives to take a tougher stand on Mr. Trump’s posts.

Read more [here](#) .

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U.S. police have attacked journalists more than 100 times in the past four days (Nieman)

By LAURA HAZARD OWEN

As Black Lives Matter protests spread across the country one week after a white police officer allegedly murdered a black man, George Floyd, it’s becoming clear that attacks by police on journalists are becoming a widespread pattern, not one-off incidents. While violence against press-credentialed reporters covering the protests may still be dwarfed by violence against the American citizens who are protesting, incidents are piling up — and are getting more attention in part because the journalists being attacked include those from large mainstream news organizations.

A number of efforts are underway to try to track the attacks on journalists, which are often first documented on Twitter. Bellingcat senior investigator Nick Waters had documented 101 incidents by Monday evening — with #101 occurring outside the White House, when federal law enforcement attacked a group with tear gas in order to clear a path for the president to walk to a photo opportunity in which he held a Bible in front of St. John’s Church. A story on Bellingcat’s site, “U.S. Law Enforcement Are Deliberately Targeting Journalists During George Floyd Protests,” provides more insight into some of the incidents, and notes:

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

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Police Target Journalists as Trump Blames ‘Lamestream Media’ for Protests (New York Times)

By Marc Tracy and Rachel Abrams

Barbara Davidson, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist, was covering a protest near the Grove shopping mall in Los Angeles on Saturday when a police officer

ordered her to move.

She showed him her press credentials, she said in an interview. The officer said he did not care and again told her to leave the area.

After saying, "Sir, I am a journalist covering this," Ms. Davidson turned to walk away, and the officer shoved her in the back, causing her to trip and hit her head against a fire hydrant, she said. She was not hurt, she added, because she was wearing a helmet she had bought while getting skateboarding equipment for a nephew.

Read more [here](#).

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Editor of progressive newspaper celebrated protestors—then they stormed and trashed her office (The Post Millennial)

By Collin Jones

A news editor for a small, independent newspaper was in support of the protests-turned-riots, until they broke into the paper's office and she had to take cover from looters and vandals in the basement.

Leigh Tauss, an editor for the progressive news outlet Indy Week in North Carolina, was stunned to find that the protesters-turned-rioters did not look favorably upon her business when they swept the area.

She tweeted out on Saturday, saying "the crowd is extremely peaceful and groups and many are wearing masks and trying to keep distance."

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

Today in History - June 2, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, June 2, the 154th day of 2020. There are 212 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 2, 1941, baseball's "Iron Horse," Lou Gehrig, died in New York of a degenerative disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; he was 37.

On this date:

In 1886, President Grover Cleveland, 49, married Frances Folsom, 21, in the Blue Room of the White House. (To date, Cleveland is the only president to marry in the executive mansion.)

In 1897, Mark Twain was quoted by the New York Journal as saying from London that "the report of my death was an exaggeration." (Twain was responding to a report in the New York Herald that he was "grievously ill" and "possibly dying.")

In 1924, Congress passed, and President Calvin Coolidge signed, a measure guaranteeing full American citizenship for all Native Americans born within U.S. territorial limits.

In 1953, the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II took place in London's Westminster Abbey, 16 months after the death of her father, King George VI.

In 1962, Soviet forces opened fire on striking workers in the Russian city of Novocherkassk; a retired general in 1989 put the death toll at 22 to 24.

In 1966, U.S. space probe Surveyor 1 landed on the moon and began transmitting detailed photographs of the lunar surface.

In 1976, Arizona Republic investigative reporter Don Bolles (boh-lz) was mortally wounded by a bomb planted underneath his car; he died 11 days later. (Prosecutors believed Bolles was targeted because he had written stories that upset a liquor wholesaler; three men were convicted of the killing.)

In 1979, Pope John Paul II arrived in his native Poland on the first visit by a pope to a Communist country.

In 1981, the Japanese video arcade game "Donkey Kong" was released by Nintendo.

In 1995, a U.S. Air Force F-16C was shot down by a Bosnian Serb surface-to-air missile while on a NATO air patrol in northern Bosnia; the pilot, Capt. Scott F. O'Grady, was rescued by U.S. Marines six days later.

In 1997, Timothy McVeigh was convicted of murder and conspiracy in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people. (McVeigh was executed in June 2001.)

In 2009, Scott Roeder (ROH'-dur), an anti-abortion activist, was charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death of late-term abortion provider Dr. George Tiller in Wichita, Kansas. (Roeder was later convicted and sentenced to life in prison with no possibility of parole for 50 years.)

Ten years ago: Amid the Deepwater Horizon oil spill crisis, BP chief executive Tony Hayward apologized for having told reporters, "I'd like my life back," calling the remark hurtful and thoughtless in a statement posted on Facebook. Taxi driver Derrick Bird went on a murderous rampage across a tranquil part of rural England, leaving 12 dead before committing suicide. Pitcher Armando Galarraga of the Detroit Tigers lost his bid for a perfect game against Cleveland with two outs in the ninth inning on a call that first base umpire Jim Joyce later admitted he'd blown. (The Tigers beat the Indians, 3-0.)

Five years ago: President Barack Obama signed the USA Freedom Act, extending three expiring surveillance provisions of the 9/11-era USA Patriot Act. FIFA President Sepp Blatter announced his resignation as head of soccer's governing body just four days after being re-elected to the post amid a widening corruption scandal.

One year ago: An out-of-control cruise ship rammed into a dock and a tourist riverboat on a busy Venice canal, injuring five people and renewing demands that cruise ships be kept out of the Italian city's lagoon.

Today's Birthdays: Actress-singer Sally Kellerman is 83. Actor Ron Ely (EE'-lee) is 82. Filmmaker and movie historian Kevin Brownlow is 82. Actor Stacy Keach is 79. Rock musician Charlie Watts is 79. Actor Charles Haid is 77. Rhythm and blues singer Chubby Tavares (Tavares) is 76. Movie director Lasse (LAH'-suh) Hallstrom is 74. Actor Jerry Mathers is 72. Actress Joanna Gleason is 70. NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman is 68. Actor Dennis Haysbert is 66. Comedian Dana Carvey is 65. Actor Gary Grimes is 65.

Pop musician Michael Steele is 65. Rock singer Tony Hadley (Spandau Ballet) is 60. Actor Liam Cunningham is 59. Actor Navid Negahban is 56. Singer Merrill Bainbridge is 52. TV personality-producer Andy Cohen ("The Real Housewives" TV franchise) is 52. Rapper B-Real (Cypress Hill) is 50. Actress Paula Cale is 50. Actor Anthony Montgomery is 49. Actor-comedian Wayne Brady is 48. Actor Wentworth Miller is 48. Rock musician Tim Rice-Oxley (Keane) is 44. Actor Zachary Quinto is 43. Actor Dominic Cooper is 42. Actress Nikki Cox is 42. Actor Justin Long is 42. Actor Deon Richmond is 42. Actress Morena Baccarin is 41. Rhythm and blues singer Irish Grinstead (702) is 40. Rock musician Fabrizio Moretti (The Strokes) is 40. Olympic gold medal soccer player Abby Wambach is 40. Country singer Dan Cahoon (Marshall Dyllon) is 37. Singer-songwriter ZZ Ward is 34. Rapper/actress Awkwafina is 32. Actress Brittany Curran is 30. Actor Sterling Beaumon is 25.

Thought for Today: "We are minor in everything but our passions." [-] Elizabeth Bowen, Irish author (1899-1973).

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

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