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Connecting

July 31, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 31st day of July 2020,

Our colleague **Andy Lippman** and his dog **Atticus** were a team at his home in South Pasadena, California, for the past 14 years. He was Andy's retirement dog. Their love was mutual. And Andy's many friends from his AP days (he was bureau chief in Los Angeles, Indianapolis and Louisville) knew his bark in the background of phone calls.

Sadly, Andy had to say goodbye to his four-legged friend a week ago today. Age and infirmities caught up with Atticus, and Andy had to perform the duty that most all pet owners dread but face one day: Saying goodbye.

Like many of his fellow journalists and friends, me included, Andy turned to words to help deal with the grief and he penned a remarkable ode to Atticus that appeared today in the **South Pasadena Review**, for which Andy writes on a regular basis. He agreed to let me share it with you.

Here's to Atticus. Here's to Andy. Here's to the love of all pet owners out there. And, here's to a safe and healthy weekend to you all.

Paul

A goodbye to 'My Guy' – and a thanks for the memories



Andy Lippman ([Email](#)) - I don't why, in this time of my personal grief, the early 1960s song "[My Guy](#)." keeps going through my head.

"Nothing you could do could tear me away from my guy. Nothing you could do 'cause I'm stuck like glue to my guy....."

My guy's name is Atticus and he died a week ago at the age of 16.

Atticus' death certainly isn't a tragedy - especially in these times. It is however a sadness.

Atticus was the dog of my retirement.

He was a twice-rescued dog. The Glendale Humane Society rescued him from the LA Humane Society. By the time I saw his picture on a website, he was too frightened to even be shown. He was being kept in a bathroom-shivering.

The dog, called "Wilbur" by the humane society, was advertised as a King Cavalier Spaniel and he was - sort of. He had the brown and white coloring and the nose, but there must have been some corgi and Pomeranian in his background somewhere.

Anyway, we bonded. I quickly abandoned "Wilbur" and named him after the character in "To Kill A Mockingbird."

There wasn't a squirrel that he couldn't hear and wouldn't chase, and I think the word spread. Squirrels taunted him by running back and forth along the fence and the brown and white patches on his body blurred as Atticus ran back and forth - not barking, just chasing.

Atticus loved to walk. Show him a leash and he'd follow you anywhere. He'd stop and sniff, then move on before stopping to sniff some more. When he could sense that home was near, he'd pull on the leash until it was his dog walker who was exhausted. Atticus wanted a treat.

I gave him this small stuffed chick that I called "chick-let" and he carried it everywhere for years. One day, he left it on the porch while the gardeners were working. Atticus went looking for the chick and it was gone. He paced all over the house. I knew something was amiss and seeing the back porch clean, I wondered if Atticus' chick had been swept away.

So, I went through a trash can full of grass clippings and twigs. There, among the cuttings, was "chick-let." I cleaned him and handed him back to Atticus who put the chick back in his mouth. That night, he slept with his snout perched just over the toy.

It is ironic that the eyesight and the keen hearing that brought him so much joy gradually faded in his final years. By the end, he'd sometime just stare at a corner, and he couldn't hear me unless I got very close. He had horrible osteoarthritis and the wonderful veterinarians at TLC Medical Center told me "now you are the caregiver, and you have to look after him instead of him looking after you."

When I took him in to the vet last Friday, his weight had dropped four pounds in three months to eight pounds. A hidden cancer was suspected. The veterinarian was right that it was time to say goodbye.

So, in this time of Covid, I sat in the parking lot because understandably no one but staff could be inside. I let him lick my fingers, and I kissed his head and rubbed his nose which caused him to close his eyes hopefully in joy.

I looked into those eyes that could no longer see, and said good bye to my friend who could no longer hear.

My mom loved dogs and she told us the story about how dogs, when they die, go beyond the Rainbow Bridge to wait for their masters.

I have to believe my mother was right.

Somewhere, across the Rainbow Bridge, Atticus is waiting for me.

And I'm left with wonderful memories and that tune going through my head:

**"As a matter of opinion, I think he's tops.
My opinion is he's the cream of the crop.
As a matter of taste, to be exact, he is
my ideal, as a matter of fact."**

Your first or favorite vehicles



Nolan Kienitz ([Email](#)) - It has been fun to read/see the stories/images of some of our favorite cars. I needed to add one of my favs to the list.

When I was a technician, based in the Dallas (old Times-Herald) AP offices I had a white Opal GT. Had enough room for me and my tool-bag and that was about it.

Great and fun car to drive. I recall the mechanical lever in the cabin that rotated the headlamps into operating position. Solid ... no motors or hydraulics to fail.

One of those cars I wished I had never sold.

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Carl Robinson ([Email](#)) - My first-ever car was during my nearly 11 years in South Vietnam during the war, mostly with AP Saigon's Bureau. It was the classic Citroen Traction Avant (front-wheel drive) produced between 1934 and 1957. I'd wanted one from my earliest days and my 1951-produced 11N (Normale) had a nicely refurbished interior with all the quirks of front-opening doors, an openable windshield and the gearshift in the middle of the dashboard. A real gangster car and great for squealing around the city after curfew (pass required) and for the wife and kids heading back to her Mekong Delta home. (And sadly left behind when Saigon fell in April 1975.)





My more usual transport - unusual among the Saigon Press Corps -- was a motorcycle which I often used for out of town assignments, like this one with a line of US armoured vehicles along the Cambodian border just before the invasion of 1970. In case of ambush, my plan was a quick U-turn and get the hell outa' there.

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Linda trying out my Honda in the summer of '67 in front of my parents' home in Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Paul Stevens ([Email](#)) – “It’s not a big motorcycle, just a groovy little motorbike.”

The Beach Boys, in their 1964 song “[Little Honda,](#)” perfectly described the first vehicle I ever owned – a Honda 90cc Trail Bike, purchased from a friend in the summer before I left for my senior year at the University of Iowa.

Before I bought the bike, I had managed to negotiate Iowa City by lots of walking and occasionally bumming rides in order to get to classes and my Daily Iowan duties across the Iowa River, as well as part-time jobs covering Hawkeyes football and basketball as an AP stringer and working in the sports department of the Iowa City Press-Citizen covering Regina High School football and basketball.

My trusty little Honda made those trips much easier, even when they were taken on ice and snow in the winter-time. It was the go-to vehicle for apartment roommate Paul Wright and me to get to go grocery shopping. I still can picture 6-foot-2 Paul balancing on the bike behind 6-4 me, holding 2-3 bags of groceries, as we headed up a steep hill to our apartment, just barely making it to the top.

As to my favorite vehicle, hands down, it is the 2015 Volkswagen Beetle convertible that you can see at the bottom of each Connecting issue - with Linda at my side and our faithful companion Ollie in the rear seat. It's named RB - Red Baron. First convertible of my life after a vehicle array of sedans, mini-vans and SUVs. I never knew driving could be so much fun.

Connecting mailbox

The lasting bonds of being part of the AP family

Linda Deutsch ([Email](#)) - in a note to colleague John Willis on the collaboration of AP retirees this week to finance a cutout of the late LA newswoman Sue Manning at Dodger Stadium:

Your message brought tears to MY eyes. I have always said that the AP is a worldwide family of incredibly smart people dedicated to the same mission. It is unique in the news business and I have seen its reach during my years of avid traveling. No matter what country I landed in, I would contact the local bureau and always be greeted with a warm welcome. It was as if I was a long-lost relative who must be treated to a meal immediately. One of my traveling companions a few years ago was awed by my welcome in a foreign land. "Are you always treated like this?" She asked. I said it was one of the perks that came with being part of the AP family.

The photo Paul Stevens just ran of our gathering for the late Jim Lagier's 80th birthday party is proof of the lasting bonds.

I was part of the AP/LA team for 48 years and have never tried to count up all the colleagues I met and worked with in California and other states where I covered trials. I am so grateful to Paul for launching "Connecting" which has become a virtual family reunion for me. There are those I knew forever and some passed my way briefly, maybe part of the brave crew who took my dictation on stories and held the phone for me in the courthouse hallway.

Sue Manning was one of the forever ones. She assigned me to more stories than I can remember. She was big on organizing bureau parties. And we even met up in Las Vegas, one of her favorite places, for the wedding of Correspondent Bob Macy's son. After her retirement we socialized and, with Rachel, went on outings to the race track. I do miss her.

So, thank you for bringing her back into our lives in this strange summer. When Sue's cutout is installed at Dodger Stadium, we might need a chorus of "We are Family."

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He once worked with Shirley Temple

Malcolm Barr Sr. ([Email](#)) - Recalling Shirley Temple (in Thursday's Connecting), I was fortunate to work with her briefly when she was on the Secretary's staff of the U.S. Department of Commerce in the 1980s. I was the department's news relations director at the time and we shared occasional contacts. Nice lady! Another Hollywood contact I well remember was having a few drinks in the Columbia Inn, a press hangout in Honolulu, with Jane Russell some 20 years earlier. It was a chance run in when I left the AP bureau about 6 p.m. for lunch break. Jane was in the islands promoting a charitable cause whose identity I cannot remember. Then there were the Beatles...but that's another story!

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Neowise over Paradise



Keith Myers ([Email](#)) – Here's a picture of the comet Neowise over Paradise, Mo., by Smithville Lake. I bet others across the country have pictures they could share. This is a 15-second exposure at 800 ISO, F2.8

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AP journalists in action around the world



Sports correspondent Stephen Wade prepares for a live shot at the new National Stadium in Tokyo, July 23, 2020. (Photo courtesy Steve Wade)

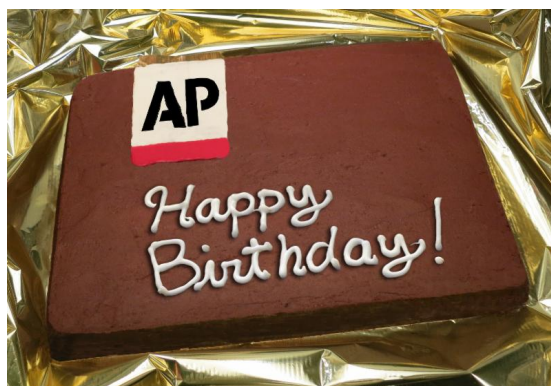


Video journalist Malak Harb adjusts her tripod at a water park for dogs in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, July 20, 2020. (Photo courtesy Jon Gambrell)



Video journalist Syawalludin Zain poses for a photo while editing his video of former Prime Minister Najib Razak's arrival in federal court ahead of the verdict in his first corruption trial, July 28, 2020 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. (AP Photo/Vincent Thia)

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Randi Goldberg Berris - randi.berris@gmail.com

Jocelyn Noveck - jnoveck@ap.org

Tony Winton - twinton1@me.com

On Saturday to...

Dolores Barclay - tobibar@gmail.com

Mike Goodkind - goodkindm@gmail.com

On Sunday to...

Dave Berry - dberry08@gmail.com

Douglas Rowe - djrowe.rowe@gmail.com

Stories of interest

DHS compiled ‘intelligence reports’ on journalists who published leaked documents (Washington Post)

By Shane Harris

The Department of Homeland Security has compiled “intelligence reports” about the work of American journalists covering protests in Portland, Ore., in what current and former officials called an alarming use of a government system meant to share information about suspected terrorists and violent actors.

Over the past week, the department’s Office of Intelligence and Analysis has disseminated three Open Source Intelligence Reports to federal law enforcement agencies and others, summarizing tweets written by two journalists — a reporter for the New York Times and the editor in chief of the blog Lawfare — and noting they had published leaked, unclassified documents about DHS operations in Portland. The intelligence reports, obtained by The Washington Post, include written descriptions and images of the tweets, and the number of times they had been liked or retweeted by others.

Some of the leaked DHS documents the journalists posted and wrote about revealed shortcomings in the department’s understanding of the nature of the protests in Portland, as well as techniques that intelligence analysts have used. A memo by the department’s top intelligence official, which was tweeted by the editor of Lawfare, says personnel relied on “FINTEL,” an acronym for financial intelligence, as well as “Baseball cards” of arrested protesters to try to understand their motivations and plans. Historically, military and intelligence officials have used such cards for

biographical dossiers of suspected terrorists, including those targeted in lethal drone strikes.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Michael Rubin, Sibby Christensen, Bill McCloskey, Dennis Conrad.

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A warning from Wisconsin (Washington Post)

By Peter Kendall

WISCONSIN RAPIDS, Wis. — Darrell Fox checked his email at the paper mill on a summer morning in June and immediately texted his wife at home: “Call me if you’re up.”

He didn’t want to tell her by text that the mill was closing.

They had met at the plant long ago, married and worked there together. Now they were losing their jobs together.

The massive paper mill has churned relentlessly since it began feeding off the energy of the Wisconsin River more than a century ago, forming the cornerstone of a city’s economy and producing glossy paper coveted by publishers during the heyday of U.S. magazines.

But the covid-19 pandemic has sped up a long-term trend — the waning need for the paper used in magazines and printed advertising — and Verso Corp.’s Wisconsin Rapids Mill will finally fall silent at the end of the month. The shutdown, announced June 9, will knock some 900 people out of work and has sent tremors across the region’s economy, reaching from the plant’s gates through town and deep into the Wisconsin forests that supply wood pulp to make paper.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Michael Rubin.

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Australia to make Google and Facebook pay for news content

By ROD McGUIRK

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — The Australian government said on Friday it plans to give Google and Facebook three months to negotiate with Australian media businesses fair pay for news content.

The government has released a draft mandatory code of conduct that aims to succeed where other countries have failed in making the global digital giants pay for news siphoned from commercial media companies.

Treasurer Josh Frydenberg said Google and Facebook would be the first digital platforms targeted by the proposed legislation but others could follow.

“It’s about a fair go for Australian news media businesses, it’s about ensuring that we have increased competition, increased consumer protection and a sustainable media landscape,” Frydenberg said.

Read more [here](#) .

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Orange County Register editor killed in Santa Ana crash

By ALMA FAUSTO

A longtime Orange County Register editor died Thursday after his truck was hit by a BMW involved in a street race with another car, authorities said.

Eugene Harbrecht, a Santa Ana resident, was 67 years old. He worked for the Register since March 1984, most recently as the national and international news editor for the greater Southern California News Group.

The crash that resulted in his death happened at about 11:45 a.m. on Bristol Street and Santa Clara Avenue, said Santa Ana police Cpl. Anthony Bertagna.

Before the crash, witnesses reported that a silver BMW sedan and a dark sedan were racing at high speeds northbound on Bristol Street. The BMW slammed into a Ford Ranger that was traveling southbound on Bristol and turning left on Santa Clara, Bertagna said.

Read more [here](#) .

The Final Word

How protest songs echo — and sometimes lead — the stories of our times (Nieman)



Ohio National Guardsmen patrol the empty Kent State University campus after a three-day riot with students on May 6, 1970. Four persons were killed and nine were injured during the anti-Vietnam War protests. AP Photo

By DALE KEIGER

On a warm spring night in 1974, I was an Ohio University student reporter amid a riot. Not a riot against repression or inequality or injustice or the Vietnam War, not that sort of riot. Rather, the sort of riot that results when a throng of restive, probably beered-up male undergraduates in the center of town grows in number until there's sufficient mass to produce something stupid, like someone hurling bricks through a few shop windows, and the city authorities prove even dumber by deploying several dozen helmeted cops armed with tear gas and clubs so big they could lean on them. Witless boys instigated the vandalism. The police instigated the riot.

I have three vivid memories from that night. One is a wine bottle that tore the air between another reporter and me at eye level. (That would have hurt.) Another is the caustic nastiness of tear gas. (That did hurt.) The third is from several hours into the night after police had pushed the confrontation out of town and onto one of the dormitory quads. A line of students threw rocks and bottles while a line of cops dodged the brickbats and fired gas pellets. What I recall so clearly is a student in an upstairs dorm room who opened his window, propped a stereo speaker on the sill, and blared out the Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young anti-anthem "Ohio."

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - July 31, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, July 31, the 213th day of 2020. There are 153 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 31, 1777, during the Revolutionary War, the Marquis de Lafayette, a 19-year-old French nobleman, was made a major-general in the American Continental Army.

On this date:

In 1556, St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus [–] the Jesuit order of Catholic priests and brothers [–] died in Rome.

In 1715, a fleet of Spanish ships carrying gold, silver and jewelry sank during a hurricane off the east Florida coast; of some 2,500 crew members, more than 1,000 died.

In 1945, Pierre Laval, premier of the pro-Nazi Vichy government, surrendered to U.S. authorities in Austria; he was turned over to France, which later tried and executed him.

In 1954, Pakistan's K2 was conquered as two members of an Italian expedition, Achille Compagnoni (ah-KEE'-lay kohm-pahn-YOH'-nee) and Lino Lacedelli (LEE'-noh lah-chee-DEHL'-ee), reached the summit.

In 1964, the American space probe Ranger 7 reached the moon, transmitting pictures back to Earth before impacting the lunar surface.

In 1971, Apollo 15 crew members David Scott and James Irwin became the first astronauts to use a lunar rover on the surface of the moon.

In 1972, Democratic vice-presidential candidate Thomas Eagleton withdrew from the ticket with George McGovern following disclosures that Eagleton had once undergone psychiatric treatment.

In 1981, a seven-week-old Major League Baseball strike ended.

In 1991, President George H.W. Bush and Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev signed the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty in Moscow.

In 2002, a bomb exploded inside a cafeteria at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, killing nine people, including five Americans.

In 2003, the Vatican launched a global campaign against gay marriages, warning Catholic politicians that support of same-sex unions was “gravely immoral” and urging non-Catholics to join the offensive.

In 2014, the death toll from the worst recorded Ebola outbreak in history surpassed 700 in West Africa.

Ten years ago: Chelsea Clinton married investment banker Marc Mezvinsky in the upstate New York village of Rhinebeck. Orchestra leader Mitch Miller died in New York at age 99. Tom Mankiewicz, 68, a screenwriter of James Bond films such as “Diamonds Are Forever” and “Live and Let Die,” and the first two “Superman” movies, died in Los Angeles.

Five years ago: Beijing was awarded the 2022 Winter Olympics to become the first city to host both the winter and summer games. Professional wrestler-turned-actor “Rowdy” Roddy Piper, 61, died in Hollywood. Former U.S. senator and Secretary of Health and Human Services Ricahrd S. Schweiker, 89, died in Pomona, New Jersey.

One year ago: At a Democratic debate in Detroit, former Vice President Joe Biden faced pointed attacks from his younger, diverse rivals; California Sen. Kamala Harris criticized Biden for his willingness to work with segregationists in the Senate during the 1970s. The Federal Reserve cut its key interest rate for the first time in a decade to try to counter the impact of President Donald Trump’s trade wars. The Senate confirmed Kelly Craft to become the next U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, ending a vacancy of more than seven months in the position. Broadway director and producer Harold Prince, winner of 21 Tony Awards for shows including “The Phantom of the Opera” and “Cabaret,” died at the age of 91.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Don Murray is 91. Jazz composer-musician Kenny Burrell is 89. Actress France Nuyen is 81. Actress Susan Flannery is 81. Singer Lobo is 76. Actress Geraldine Chaplin is 76. Former movie studio executive Sherry Lansing is 76. Singer Gary Lewis is 75. Actor Lane Davies is 70. Actress Susan Wooldridge is 70. International Tennis Hall of Famer Evonne Goolagong Cawley is 69. Actor Barry Van Dyke is 69. Actor Alan Autry is 68. Jazz composer-musician Michael Wolff is 68. Actor James Read is 67. Actor Michael Biehn is 64. Rock singer-musician Daniel Ash (Love and Rockets) is 63. Actor Dirk Blocker is 63. Entrepreneur Mark Cuban is 62. Rock musician Bill Berry is 62. Actor Wally Kurth is 62. Actor Wesley Snipes is 58. Country singer Chad Brock is 57. Musician Fatboy Slim is 57. Rock musician Jim Corr is 56. Author J.K. Rowling (ROHL'-ing) is 55. Actor Dean Cain is 54. Actor Jim True-Frost is 54. Actor Ben Chaplin is 51. Actor Loren Dean is 51. Actress Eve Best is 49. Retired NFL quarterback Gus Frerotte is 49. Actress Annie Parisse (pah-REES') is 45. Actor Robert Telfer is 43. Country singer-musician Zac Brown is 42. Actor-producer-writer B.J. Novak is 41. Actor Eric Lively is 39. Country singer Blaire Stroud (3 of Hearts) is 37. Singer Shannon Curfman is 35. NHL center Evgeni Malkin is 34. Hip-hop artist Lil Uzi Vert is 26. Actor Reese Hartwig is 22. Actor Rico Rodriguez is 22.

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