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Connecting

February 10, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this Feb. 10, 2022,

A memorial service was held Wednesday for our colleague **Sister Donalda Kehoe** – and for those of us who thought we knew this delightful person with the penchant for typewriters, we learned something new – that she once danced on stage with entertainer John Tesh.

Her nephew **Dennis and Dixie Kehoe** shared the story:

We loved to take Sister Donalda to concerts at the Diamond Jo Casino in Dubuque, but ONLY if we could get front row seats! On December 15, 2013, Sister was seated front row center for a John Tesh Christmas show.

Halfway through the concert, John introduced a song, came down from the stage, looked over the front row, stood right in front of Sister, and asked her to dance with him!

She jumped up, walked on stage, and slow danced with



John Tesh. They chatted quietly with each other, and soon John's head jerked back in surprise!

After the song had finished, John, somewhat in shock, announced to the audience: "I've been doing this for 20 years, and never until tonight have I slow danced with a woman who whispered in my ear "I AM A FRANCISCAN NUN!"

After the audience laughter died down, John walked Sister back to her seat, returned to the stage, looked at Sister and said: "I don't know your name or what I should even call you YOUR EMINENCY?"

Sister slowly and clearly said: "My name is Sister Donalda Kehoe."

On the way home, Sister was bubbling over with excitement and said: "What are we going to do next? I am all wound up!!"

She later told us that it took her many hours to fall asleep that night!!

Click **here** if you would like to view the services.

Today's issue brings yet another intriguing story on filling the retirement void – thank you, **Jim Reindl** – and a fascinating account from our colleague **Wendy Davis Beard** of her involvement in the Everest'88 climb.

Wendy once worked at New York headquarters in the Photo Library and then on the Photo Desk, followed by freelancing work in photo research and editing for APN (film strips and books) including Moments in Time.

In deciding whether to take part with the expedition on site rather than from her base in New York, she recalled this advice: "The trek will be like something you never or probably otherwise will ever experience, as foreign to you as New York City is to us!" So she went! And her Connecting colleagues are glad she shared the experience.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Connecting series:

Filling the void created by retirement



"Retirement" does leave more time for dancing!

Jim Reindl (Email) - Retirement. Nice word.

A young friend recently informed me that I didn't know how to retire. Maybe he's right but I've got the "memories" book of letters from fellow AP colleagues to prove I at least gave it a shot.

True, it didn't last too long. I said good-bye to AP after nearly 32 years in September 2014 when Graca and I decided to sell most of what we owned and join the Peace Corps. We left for Ghana in October. I recall that for the first of our two years I harbored thoughts that the AP mothership would welcome me back. Another friend, now firmly retired, disabused me of that idea. With future plans to build a house in Brazil, that left me wondering what I was going to do to support us after November 2016.

A potential answer arrived in February that year when we were in Accra on our way to Sao Tome for my birthday. We had dinner with the PC training director and his wife and she told me about websites such as Development.org and Devex, which have international development job listings. I'd always done some volunteer work on and off in life and found I enjoyed the boots-on-the-ground approach of PC. I wondered what the "corporate" side of development might be like (in addition to paying better than PC).

As she scrolled though the listings she ran across the Development Outreach Communications (DOC) officer position for USAID in Timor-Leste and proclaimed, "this is what you should be looking for with your background." She printed out the listing and I stuffed it in my pocket as we went on to Sao Tome (highly recommended).

Both of us knew the relative recent history of T-L but we also figured just about anywhere would be a step up from living in a small African farm town under PC conditions. So, I applied. I remember doing an interview with phone service that kept cutting out and then traveling to the regional capital via tro-tro to a public library with sufficient internet bandwidth to allow me to do the paperwork and take the tests.

I got the offer in May of 2016 but my final security clearance didn't come through until December 2016, after a certain election of note in November. Then there was the contract negotiation. I was in Brazil in January 2017 when my final contract came through. I signed and sent it back to the contracting officer on Inauguration Day, a Friday. Instead of countersigning it to finalize it, he put it in his desk for the weekend. One of President Trump's first moves was a federal hiring freeze. Instead of just proceeding with my deal, the CO dictated a letter telling me I could no longer be hired.

I remember ripping up my return ticket to the U.S. in a rage and then calling the Mission in Dili. My soon-to-be Mission Director used her considerable influence to rectify the situation and I finally arrived in Dili on Valentine's Day, 2017.

There's more to the story but this is already too long as I write from Sarajevo, where we moved in August 2020. I'm still with USAID. Our house in Brazil is nearing completion. And, yet I'm still weighing what's next. The Tanzania DOC job just opened in Dar Es Salaam.

I think my young friend is right.

The story of Everest'88 climb – and her AP scoop from Lahasa





From left: Everest '88 support team members Wendy Davis and Norbu Norgay, son of Tenzing Norgay; Mimi Zieman, medical director, and Robert Mads Anderson, elite Alpinist and leader of Everest'88, along with two Tibetan boys.

Wendy Davis Beard (Email) - In 1987, I was asked to join the support team of Everest'88 on its trek into Base Camp from Tibet in the spring of '88. After leaving the AP I had been working full time on the promotion and fund raising to enable the team to accomplish its ambitious goal of establishing a new route up the northeast face of Chomolungma, without supplemental bottled oxygen, fixed ropes or sherpas, to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the first successful ascent of Everest in 1953 by NZ Edmond Hillary and sherpa Tenzing Norgay, led by retired British Army Commander Lord John Hunt.

I ignorantly yet fortuitously asked him (not knowing the appropriate parlance of the climbing world) to be the honorary expedition leader of Everest 88 enhancing its link to '53 which was celebrated internationally for not only being the first to reach the summit of Everest, but for Jan Morris holding the news back to break - in London on the coronation day of Queen Elizabeth. Lord Hunt is quoted in Stephen Venables' book: Everest, the Kangshung Face, that Hunt had been asked countless times to be the expedition leader of subsequent expeditions to Everest, but never an honorary Expedition Leader, which I had made up as I had the title of "medical director for medical student Mimi Zieman whose learned skills were put to the test at base camp as several climbers returned with badly frostbitten fingers, toes and in Venable's case a nose (after spending a night exposed to the elements - not making it back to his teammates' tent after his solo summit).

Whilst I was no longer working for AP, I got in touch with the Beijing office to invite them to a press conference with the team at our hotel before the team embarked on

a trek through Tibet facilitated by an expensive permit from the Chinese Mountaineering authority - at a time when no Western journalists were allowed access to Tibet after news had surfaced of riots abductions, and violent loss of life in the Tibetan capital and spiritual home of the Dali Lama.

I agreed to make contact when the support team returned to Beijing ahead of the climbers who were still acclimatizing, making advance base camps and assessing their best window of opportunity for a push to the summit.

There was much interest in the support team's inclusion of Tenzing's son Norbu. Hillarie's son Peter, an accomplished Alpinist in his own right, had declined an invitation to join the climbing team, it seemed on the grounds the plans to establish this new route seemed too dangerous if not impossible. Ed Webster, another American, Paul Teare, a Canadian-American, joined Robert Mads Anderson (an American NZ based expedition leader) and the British mountaineer Stephen Venables ,who Lord Hunt had recommended as essential for this climb honoring the accomplishments of the very "British' expedition of '53.

After our progress had stalled due to heavy snowfall at the expedition's pre-base camp where some of the Sherpa's expressed their unwillingness to proceed with the risk to their precious yaks, the support team left the expedition to return to NY via Lhasa, but not before being stopped shortly before the capital by Chinese police who were most suspicious of Norbu's passport as they incorrectly imagined he may be a foreign an agitator and or organizer. Fortunately, the Chinese mountaineering minder with us explained away the misunderstanding: rifles were lowered, passports returned, and we were allowed to proceed to the Holiday Inn for our first showers, pillows, mattresses and sheets in weeks where because of the clampdown on travel, the staff far outnumbered us, their only guests. When we went to dinner there would be several wait staff in line behind each chair.

But outside the situation was more ominous as army trucks paraded around Potala Palace with armed soldiers standing still and expressionless in the back, their rifles held close to their uniformed chests. Women would approach me, point to my camera and mime making a land line telephone call (as there were no mobiles then) imploring me, I assumed, to get the news out of what I'd seen, but without the language skills or real knowledge of any changes in Lahasa's makeup. I could report nothing more than what I'd experienced with my own untrained reporter's eyes, but when I returned to Beijing, the story came out as Wendy Davis says: "After bloodiest fighting in Lahasa" or something like that!

My good friend in NY AP Photos, Brian Horton, saw this on the wire and sent me a fax to our hotel (also mentioned in the feature, as the sight of our second press conference). Horton kindly and wisely warned me to be careful until I left China as I was still basically a guest of a foreign country until I returned to America. I had too much experience trying to beat UPI in picture placement to give anyone but AP a direct quote anyway! I also remembered our expedition leader Robert A. soberly advising me to hope for the best, yet prepare for the worst, which would obviously require me to return to China to sort out the repatriation of any dead or broken bodies, which we all know happens.

But, finally after weeks of waiting, for a reply to my faxes with the Chinese authority to confirm or deny the climbers were missing, as they were long overdue, I received the great news to share with the families sponsors and press that all were fine except the frostbite that Steamy Vegetables (aka Stephen Venables) had suffered after his successful summit bid with the support of



Robert, Ed and Paul. While truly significant in the climbing world if not a must run story as international news. Stephen had not only taken a summit selfie holding up his climbing axe (before selfies were a thing) and before he began hallucinating which made for good illustrated copy on front pages of many British and European newspapers and subsequently in America after AP ran the photo and text. AP among others subsequently covered the final expedition press conference at the Explorers' Club in NY where along with the climbers I had been made a member in relation to this expedition which carried a flag from the Explorers Club, as well as a flag from the United Nation's as Miklos Pinther, senior cartographer from the UN, had joined the support team with the ambition of remeasuring Everest to put to rest the debate about its status as the highest mountain in the world.

With the conclusion of the press conference and team's return appearance on Jane Pauley's NBC morning news program, my career as an Alpinist support member and publicist was over. Good thing, as a major stroke in 2007 left me unable to even trek but still in good stead to write as well as walk and roll with a career in London! Robert has continued both his career on the mountains and marketing, lecturing across the US while Stephen, whom I meet up with in the UK, is a regularly published author now booked as both a lecturer and expedition leader of less ambitious expedition travel. Norbu Tenzing is Vice President of the American Himalayan Foundation which is based in San Francisco. He works closely with charities benefiting the Sherpa community. A couple years ago we met at the premier of "Sherpa" at the Sydney film festival, where he was as a special guest. I am still in touch with Miklos who has since retired from the UN after denied the opportunity to bring his measurement equipment to Tibet by the Chinese Authorities. Mimi is a pediatrician in NYC.

I have lost track of the others except aware that Ed who (long before Oscar-winning documentary Solo was made) established so many new routes across the US there's a book documenting them. He lost a life-changing number of fingers to frostbite denying the same trail blazing solo climbing life he'd led before Everest '88 when he put his bare hands on his metal camera to take a "once in a lifetime" photo. but has been quoted as considering his loss of fingers as a constant reminder of just what a tremendous team effort E'88 accomplished.

Most of us have married and had children, but this is the first time I have written about my first and last report from Everest and AP scoop from Lhasa in 1998! By virtue of our very exclusive access to Tibet!

Started journalism career in AP/Ann Arbor

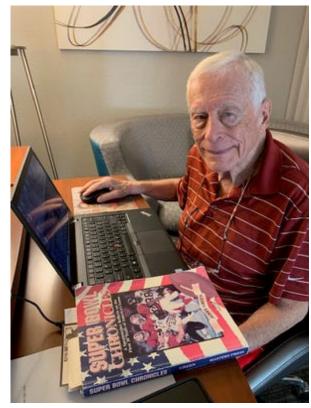
One Sports Writer Has Been to Every Super Bowl. Will This Year Be His Last?

BY STEVE FRIESS Newsweek

Little endures very long in Super Bowl history. Dynastic teams come and go. Stadiums and commissioners, too. Even Tom Brady, it turns out, could not last forever. But on February 13, as he has on every single Super Bowl Sunday, 93-year-old Jerry Green expects to don a collared shirt and dungarees, loop his credentials lanyard around his neck and head to "the office."

This time, that will be SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, California, where he'll watch the L.A. Rams take on the Cincinnati Bengals and then tap out some observations for The Detroit News. In doing so, Green will extend an unbreakable streak: He'll become the only newspaper reporter of the 338 credentialed journalists to document Super Bowl I in 1967 who will have attended and covered all 56 of them. "I'm the last one," he says with a grin. "How about that?"

This one—fittingly with the hot local angle of formerly long-suffering Detroit Lions quarterback Matthew Stafford competing in his first year with the Rams—might also be Green's finale. He's had to use a wheelchair at the games for the past



few years and can't physically chase stories the way he did in 1969 when he raced to a hotel pool in Fort Lauderdale to be one of a half-dozen reporters present for an iconic impromptu press conference with a shirtless Joe Namath. Also, Green is charmed by the poetry in stopping at 56; in 1941, New York Yankee legend Joe DiMaggio, Green's childhood idol, hit safely in 56 consecutive games, "another unbeatable record. That might be enough."

Read more **here**. Shared by Dan Sewell.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Del Brinkman

Welcome to Connecting



Robert Ingle

Ellen Knickmeyer

Stories of interest

Local Papers Find Hints of Success With Online Subscriptions (New York Times)

By Marc Tracy

When the hedge fund Alden Global Capital bid to buy the newspaper chain Lee Enterprises in November, many journalists at Lee's newspapers opposed a sale because Alden had slashed newsroom costs at the newspapers it owns.

Lee's largest shareholder, Cannell Capital, had a different complaint. J. Carlo Cannell, the firm's leader, believed Alden's offer was far too low. His reason: The price did not adequately figure in the potential of digital subscriptions.

"Lee has an enormous opportunity," Mr. Cannell said in a recent interview. "I think sooner rather than later they're going to get to a million subscribers."

Such optimism may sound strange. More than 2,100 local newspapers have closed since 2004, researchers at the University of North Carolina say, as people turned to the internet for news and big tech companies gobbled up digital ad revenue. The number of newspaper journalists fell to 31,000 in 2020 from 71,000 in 2008, according to the Pew Research Center.

Read more here. Shared by Dorothy Abernathy, Sibby Christensen,

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What did the pandemic do to the careers of journalists of color? (Poynter)

By: Kristen Hare

Claire Smith's career is so remarkable that it has a place in the hall of fame.

She was the first woman to be recognized with an annual award from the Baseball Writers' Association of America. That award is displayed at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

Smith was the first woman to cover baseball full time. She worked at The New York Times, The Philadelphia Inquirer and The Hartford Courant. In 2007, she joined ESPN as a news editor. In 2011, she was honored by the National Association of Black Journalists with an annual legacy award.

2022 would have marked her 40th year covering baseball.

She got so close.

In November 2020, just after the World Series, ESPN laid off Smith and hundreds of her colleagues.

Read more here.

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Nicaragua sentences journalist, ex-minister for "conspiracy" (AP)

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A judge in Nicaragua sentenced former presidential hopeful and journalist Miguel Mora to 13 years in prison Wednesday for "conspiracy to undermine national integrity."

Mora was the latest in a series of opposition political figures to be convicted and sentenced after trials lasting a few hours. The trials of the 46 opposition figures, including seven presidential hopefuls like Mora, started Feb. 1.

The government of President Daniel Ortega had accused Mota of having "promoted economic sanctions" and "having incited foreign interference in internal affairs" of Nicaragua.

The U.S. and European Union have slapped sanctions on members of Ortega's government for crushing internal dissent and for undemocratic practices.

Read more **here**.

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Journalists settle suit over mistreatment covering protests (AP)

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The state of Minnesota has agreed to pay \$825,000 and change several policies to settle a lawsuit brought by journalists who said they were hurt or harassed while covering protests over the police killings of George Floyd and Daunte Wright.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Minnesota and the state's Department of Public Safety announced the settlement Tuesday. It prohibits the Minnesota State Patrol from attacking journalists, arresting or threatening to arrest them, ordering them to disperse, seizing their equipment and more.

It also calls for an independent review of all complaints alleging mistreatment of the media covering those protests, and issuing body-worn cameras to all troopers by June.

Read more **here**. Shared by Adolphe Bernotas, Richard Chady.

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Upper West Siders Are Wondering Where Their Newspapers Are Going (I Love the Upper West Side)

Bobby Panza

Extra! Extra! Desperados are hijacking newspapers from stoops and lobbies around Manhattan and reselling them on the street or direct to bodegas for quick cash. This 'paper caper' has been happening around the Upper West Side since the summer of 2020, reports the New York Post. The scam has since spread to Chelsea and the Upper East Side.

ILTUWS spoke to Upper West Sider John Taylor, a resident of West 68th Street, who informed us that his "paper problem had been going on since July of this past

summer." Taylor, who'd been a subscriber to the NY Post, cancelled his subscription last week. "On the days that my paper was stolen, someone [from the NY Post] would redeliver my paper later that day," said Taylor." That wasn't enough for him to keep his subscription though, as news gets old quick, especially in the digital age when you can access content online.

Read more **here**. Shared by Claude Erbsen.

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When a Texas daily folds, a weekly tabloid explodes.

(Editor and Publisher)

An "E&P Reports" Vodcast with Mike Blinder

On Nov. 18, 2020, the Del Rio News-Herald printed its final edition leaving this border town of 35,000+ without a local news outlet. But just one month later, a weekly free tabloid entitled The 830 Times (named after the local area code) appeared throughout the town and surrounding Val Verde County.

The new newspaper grew out of a then 5-month-old entertainment-based local website started by 56-year-old air force veteran Joel Langton. Langton relocated to the area 16 years before when he was assigned as a public affairs officer at nearby Laughlin Air Force Base.

Joel states in his LinkedIn profile: "I've got 30 years with the Air Force in Public Affairs where I've been involved in media, internal communications and many consider my strength to be community engagement. However, I've got plenty of experience in all of it, and I'm a big proponent of causes bigger than myself."

Read more here.

The Final Word

In defense of the simple, unfashionable email

By DAN PERRY

The corporate world knows but a few dependable methods to get oneself fast-tracked. One, of course, is to be advocating change. Another is to swear by the open-plan office. The gold standard is to bemoan poor communication.

This latter tactic is in play whenever middle managers organize their features in a fluster and demand to know: "Can we just, like, talk to each other, people?" It is favored by strivers everywhere for its manipulative genius: one can negate neither the premise (we are not talking to each other enough) nor the prescription (let's talk more) without seeming to "not get it." In our conformist era, it's spectacular faux-pas.

The feigned hatred of email is an ironic iteration of the fashion for change: email had become the norm, therefore it must be changed. Email-hatred is a dog-whistle that delivers an all-important message to the bigs: I embrace change.

There are several favored methods:

Read more **here**. Dan Perry is a Connecting colleague.

Today in History - Feb. 10, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Feb. 10, the 41st day of 2022. There are 324 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 10, 1962, the Soviet Union exchanged captured American U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers for Rudolf Abel, a Soviet spy held by the United States.

On this date:

In 1763, Britain, Spain and France signed the Treaty of Paris, ending the Seven Years' War (also known as the French and Indian War in North America).

In 1840, Britain's Queen Victoria married Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg (KOH'-borg) and Gotha (GAH'-thuh).

In 1936, Nazi Germany's Reichstag passed a law investing the Gestapo secret police with absolute authority, exempt from any legal review.

In 1959, a major tornado tore through the St. Louis area, killing 21 people and causing heavy damage.

In 1967, the 25th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, dealing with presidential disability and succession, was ratified as Minnesota and Nevada adopted it.

In 1981, eight people were killed when a fire set by a busboy broke out at the Las Vegas Hilton hotel-casino.

In 1989, Ron Brown was elected the first Black chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

In 1992, boxer Mike Tyson was convicted in Indianapolis of raping Desiree Washington, a Miss Black America contestant. (Tyson served three years in prison.) "Roots" author Alex Haley died in Seattle at age 70.

In 1996, world chess champion Garry Kasparov lost the first game of a match in Philadelphia against an IBM computer dubbed "Deep Blue." (Kasparov ended up winning the match, 4 games to 2; he was defeated by Deep Blue in a rematch the following year.)

In 2005, North Korea boasted publicly for the first time that it possessed nuclear weapons.

In 2015, NBC announced it was suspending Brian Williams as "Nightly News" anchor and managing editor for six months without pay for misleading the public about his experiences covering the Iraq War. Jon Stewart announced he would step down as host of "The Daily Show" on Comedy Central later in the year.

In 2020, U.S. health officials confirmed the first case of the novel coronavirus among the hundreds of people who'd been evacuated from China to military bases in the United States; it was among the 13 confirmed cases in the U.S. Britain declared the new coronavirus a "serious and imminent threat to public health" and said people with the virus could now be forcibly quarantined.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama, under fierce election-year fire, abruptly abandoned his stand that religious organizations had to pay for birth control for workers, demanding that insurance companies step in to provide the coverage instead.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump, fresh off patching up ties with China, reassured Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the White House that the U.S. would defend its close ally. Retired Lt. Gen. Harold G. "Hal" Moore, the American hero known for saving most of his men in the 1965 Battle of Ia Drang during the Vietnam War, died in Auburn, Alabama, at age 94. Billionaire businessman Mike Ilitch, who founded the Little Caesars pizza empire before buying the Detroit Red Wings and the Detroit Tigers, died at age 87.

One year ago: At the Senate impeachment trial of former President Donald Trump, Democrats presented security footage, social media videos, police radio calls and Trump's own Twitter posts to argue that he stoked the flames of violence, incited the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol and failed to act quickly to send help or call his supporters off. A new government study found that wearing two masks could be better than one in protecting against coronavirus spread; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said lab researchers found that particles were blocked twice as much when two masks were worn. Larry Flynt, who turned his raunchy Hustler

magazine into an empire while fighting numerous First Amendment court battles, died at 78 in Los Angeles.

Today's Birthdays: Opera singer Leontyne Price is 95. Actor Robert Wagner is 92. Singer Roberta Flack is 85. Singer Jimmy Merchant (Frankie Lymon and the Teenagers) is 82. Rock musician Bob Spalding (The Ventures) is 75. Olympic gold-medal swimmer Mark Spitz is 72. Walt Disney Co. executive Robert Iger is 71. Rock musician and composer Cory Lerios (Pablo Cruise) is 71. World Golf Hall of Famer Greg Norman is 67. Actor Kathleen Beller is 66. Country singer Lionel Cartwright is 62. Movie director Alexander Payne is 61. ABC News correspondent George Stephanopoulos is 61. Political commentator Glenn Beck is 58. Actor Laura Dern is 55. Writer-producer-director Vince Gilligan (TV: "Breaking Bad") is 55. Country singer Dude Mowrey is 50. Actor Jason Olive is 50. Actor Elizabeth Banks is 48. Actor Julia Pace Mitchell is 44. Reggaeton singer Don Omar is 44. Actor Uzo Aduba is 41. Actor Stephanie Beatriz is 41. Actor Max Brown is 41. Actor Barry Sloane is 41. Rock singer Eric Dill is 40. Actor Trevante Rhodes is 32. Actor Emma Roberts is 31. Actor Makenzie Vega is 28. Actor Chloe Grace Moretz is 25. Actor Yara Shahidi is 22.

Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that focuses on retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013 and past issues can be found by clicking Connecting Archive in the masthead. Its author, Paul Stevens, retired from the AP in 2009 after a 36-year career in Albany, St. Louis, Wichita, Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City.

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:

- 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.
- **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?
- Most unusual place a story assignment took you.

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