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Connecting

July 06, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this July 6, 2022,

Born for Broadcasting

That is the most-appropriate headline from the University of Alabama’s Alumni Magazine on one of its top graduates – the AP’s own [Lee Perryman](#).

Lee carved a great career in AP broadcasting from 1980, when he was appointed broadcast executive for Florida, based in Tampa, until his retirement in 2015, when he was leading international teams focused on development, marketing and support of innovative news technology products supporting more than 60,000 journalists.

The page dedicated to Perryman in the Summer 2022 Alumni Magazine followed his recognition in April by the university’s College of Communication and Information Sciences with its top honor: the coveted Bert Bank Distinguished Service and Achievement Award, which "recognizes an individual whose career has elevated the

profile of the College, the University, the state, or the nation or who has shown exemplary and extraordinary service to the College, the University, the state or the nation."

Today, Lee is president and CEO of RadioAlabama, a unique multimedia entertainment and digital marketing solutions company focused on east-central Alabama.

AP's Marathon Man

Our congratulations go out to our colleague [Dick Lipsey](#) on completing a rare athletic feat – taking part in marathons in all 50 states. He reached the mark in June after competing in marathons in Delaware and Pennsylvania.

Besides the personal satisfaction, Lipsey also was rewarded with a story in his hometown newspaper, the Lawrence Journal-World. We bring you that story in today's issue. "It was interesting to be on the other side of the interview process," he said, "and I didn't keep in mind what I always tried to remind myself: speak in coherent, complete sentences."

Lipsey enjoyed two careers – that of an Army officer for 20 years (1968-88), including a tour in Vietnam in 1971-72, and that of an Associated Press journalist, working in the Kansas City bureau from 1990-2008, including coverage of Topeka legislative sessions in 1992 and 1997 under leadership of the legendary Correspondent Lew Ferguson. One of the photos in the story was taken by Dick's beloved wife **Lynne**, who died in 2021. They were married 51 years and 56 days.

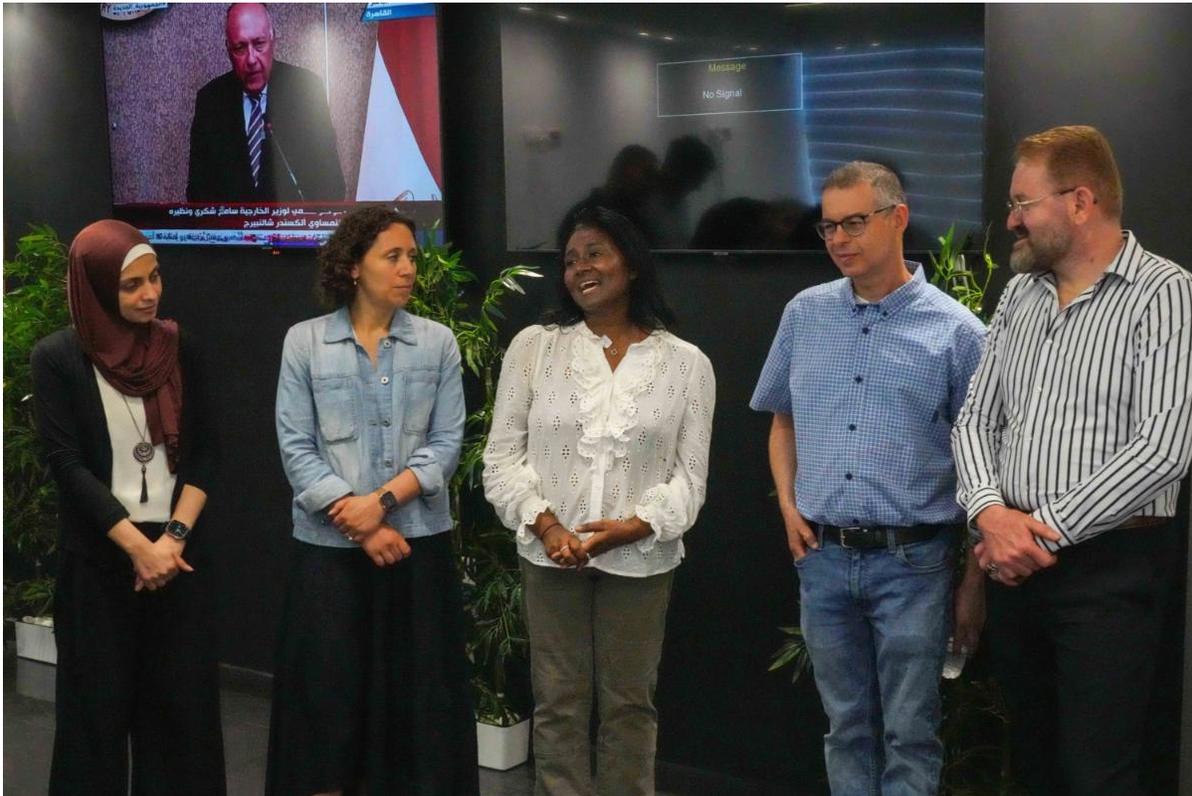
Finally, the wonderful wire story by **Kathy Gannon** of her 35 years of reporting from Afghanistan (in Tuesday's Connecting) got this reaction from her longtime friend **Laura Disley** (Kathy's parents were Laura's godparents):

"And I used to bitch about driving through the snow to get to work..."

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

AP reopens Gaza bureau after offices destroyed in airstrike



AP President and CEO Daisy Veerasingham, center, speaks at the newly reopened AP Gaza bureau, July 3, 2022. From left: Wafaa Shurafa, Gaza video producer; Julie Pace, senior vice president and executive editor; Veerasingham; Joe Federman, news director for Israel, Palestine and Jordan; and Fares Akram, Gaza correspondent. (AP Photo)

Press Release | The Associated Press

Over a year after the building housing the news agency's Gaza bureau was destroyed in an Israeli airstrike, The Associated Press announced today it has reopened its Gaza Strip offices in a new location.

AP President and CEO Daisy Veerasingham and Senior Vice President and Executive Editor Julie Pace were on site to mark the bureau's official reopening.

"AP's resilient Gaza team has never wavered, even in the moments our bureau collapsed and in the weeks that followed," said Veerasingham. "The Associated Press has operated in Gaza for more than half a century and remains committed to telling the story of Gaza and its people."

The news agency's Gaza staff continued to cover the war and its aftermath from temporary workspaces after the bureau was destroyed last year.

Twelve AP staffers and freelancers were inside on May 15, 2021, when the Israeli military telephoned a warning, giving occupants of the building one hour to evacuate. AP journalists rushed to a neighboring tower to capture live video of the building crumbling.

In the days and weeks following the airstrike, the Israeli government claimed Hamas had been operating inside the building. AP has repeatedly pressed for any evidence to be made public, but none has been provided.

Lee Perryman featured in Alabama alumni magazine; earlier honored with Bert Bank achievement award

MILESTONES



LEE PERRYMAN'S PARENTS ENCOURAGED HIM to pursue whatever he wanted in life, so long as he attended The University of Alabama.

Born and raised in Sylacauga, Alabama, Perryman started his radio broadcasting career at a local radio station as a teenager. Following his parents' instructions, he graduated from UA's College of Communication in 1979 and jumped right into the world of broadcast journalism. In 1980, Perryman transitioned from a position managing radio stations in Eufaula, Alabama, to being broadcast executive of The Associated Press, based in Tampa, Florida, where he covered space shuttle launches.

"I was known by everyone in the press corps at Kennedy Space Center as the guy who supplied doughnuts for every launch while also trying to sell them more AP content," said Perryman.

From Florida, Perryman accepted a role in sales and marketing in Philadelphia before settling in at AP's broadcast headquarters in Washington, D.C., as the deputy director of administration. Throughout his time at AP, Perryman served as director of broadcast technology and director of ENPS. During his more than 35-year involvement with the company, he supported more than 60,000 journalists in 36 countries and focused on development, marketing and real estate projects.

Perryman returned to his roots in 2012 when he purchased the radio station where his broadcast career first began back in high school. Officially retiring from AP and moving back to Alabama in 2015, he has committed his time and talents to developing a radio station network in the state, Marble City Media LLC, and contributing to his community. In addition to managing six radio stations, with four more pending FCC approval, and publishing a magazine in east Alabama, Perryman was elected to serve on Sylacauga's City Council in 2016 and is the sitting council president.

"I have always been blessed with great colleagues and great friends, all cultivating passions for excellence and innovation. Had my path not taken me to and through The University of Alabama, and C&IS, I would have missed developing important strengths and not made many important contacts who have played a key role in my success," said Perryman.

Born for Broadcasting

UA alum
Lee Perryman

BY ELLIE TAUBE

1973

Started first job at local radio station while in high school

1975

Graduated from Sylacauga (Alabama) High School



1979

Earned a BA from the UA College of Communication and Information Sciences

1980

Joined The Associated Press as broadcast executive for Florida based in Tampa



1983

Relocated to Philadelphia with similar sales and marketing responsibilities for radio and television stations in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware



1985

Assigned to AP's broadcast headquarters in Washington, D.C., where he became deputy director, administration

1987-2015

In his more than 35-year AP career, served as director, broadcast technology, and later director, ENPS

2012

Rescued small Alabama station where he got his start

2014

Named Alabama's Broadcaster of the Year and inducted into the Alabama Broadcasters Association's Hall of Fame

2015

Retired from AP and moved back to Alabama permanently



2016

Elected to serve on Sylacauga's City Council and is currently council president

ALABAMA ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Lee Perryman - I was recognized by the University of Alabama's College of Communication and Information Sciences (on April 8 in Tuscaloosa) with its top honor: the coveted **Bert Bank Distinguished Service and Achievement Award**, which "recognizes an individual whose career has elevated the profile of the College, the University, the state, or the nation or who has shown exemplary and extraordinary service to the College, the University, the state or the nation."

Bank, who served two terms in the Alabama House of Representatives and one term in the Senate, graduated from the University of Alabama Law School in 1940. Serving

in the U.S. Air Force during World War II, he survived the torturous Bataan Death March of 33 brutal months as a prisoner of war followed by two years in a hospital after returning to the United States. Back in Tuscaloosa, Bank started radio stations WTBC-AM and WUOA-FM and, in 1953, the University of Alabama Football Network. He served as President of the Alabama Broadcasters Association 1949-1950 and sold his stations in 1985.

The Bert Bank Distinguished Service and Achievement Award has been presented 27 times since 1984. Most recent recipients were Stephen Boyd, currently Sen. Tommy Tuberville's Chief of Staff and formerly Assistant U.S. Attorney General, for 2021 and Paul Finebaum, sports author and television and radio personality, for 2020.

77-year-old Lawrence resident retires from running after completing 50 marathons in 50 states



Dick Lipsey, wearing a Mad Dogs and Englishmen Club T-shirt, runs the Lake Wobegon Trail Marathon in May 2015 in St. Joseph, Minnesota. Photo by Lynne Lipsey.

By CHRIS CONDE
Lawrence (Kansas) Journal-World

Most 77-year-olds might think twice about running a single marathon, let alone two marathons in three days, but that's what Lawrence resident Dick Lipsey managed to do to complete his goal of running 50 marathons in 50 states.

Lipsey has been a runner for decades and has run hundreds of races across the country, but only in the last decade did he set his sights on running a marathon in every state, he said. He finished marathons in the farthest reaches of the country — Hawaii and Alaska — early in his running career, and he completed his last two marathons within a few days of each other. The first of those was in Bear, Delaware, on June 1, and the second in Douglassville, Pennsylvania, on June 3.

“It all began when I got a cardiac pacemaker,” Lipsey said.

Lipsey and his wife, Lynne Lipsey, had retired in 2008 and moved from Lawrence to Estes Park, Colorado, where a doctor identified a problem with his heart in 2009, he said.

“In 2004, I would run a mile and I would have to stop and walk, and that got increasingly worse,” Lipsey said.

Within a week of a doctor identifying the problem, Lipsey said he had a pacemaker installed. He started running again with a slow pace of run-walk-run and set a goal to complete a marathon within a year of getting the pacemaker. With Lynne cheering him on and a few other friends in his corner, he managed to complete the Blue Springs Trail Marathon in 2010 in Blue Springs, Missouri.

Despite the pacemaker and his new slower pace, Lipsey knew his running career was far from over.

“My next goal was to run the JFK 50 Mile. President Kennedy in the early ’60s learned that Teddy Roosevelt thought that every Marine should be able to run 50 miles, so Kennedy instituted that kind of as a policy back then. Legend has it, Robert Kennedy was the first person to do it and he did it in his loafers and his jacket,” Lipsey said.

In 2012, Lipsey completed the *JFK 50 Mile*; in fact, he completed two 50-mile challenges that year. The first was the Beast of Burden Summer Ultra in Lockport, New York, in August, then the 50th Anniversary JFK 50 Mile run in December in Boonsboro, Maryland.

Read more [here](#).

It's great to be on Connecting's 90s list

[Gene Herrick](#) – Last Friday's Connecting outlines 16 former AP staff who tip the age scales in the 90's.

That doth seem a mighty number. However, I enjoy my continuing life, and small contribution to today's whiz-bang life.

I didn't know that God's armor could give one so much protection!

-0-

Norm Abelson - For most of my life I have been a member of one or another minority, more than once with negative results,

Finally, though, I'm a member of a minority group that I'm quite happy about, and wish to remain in for as long as possible. Actually, I check out the membership every month to make sure I'm still included.

Which is it?

Connecting's over-90 list.

Photos from phones



Reed Saxon - For your photos-from-phones discussion, I'll add this photo from Jan. 10, 2022. I do not do sunrises; I'd have to get up way before my usual post-retirement 8, 9, or 10 a.m. But sunsets I can do. Up to now I haven't ventured far from my home – these Pacific Palisades bluffs are about six blocks away. Local resident Mychal shoots with his phone as I shoot him with my iPhone 12. Try as I might, I should try to move past my photojournalist roots and shoot just pure landscapes, seascapes, skyscapes, rather than always trying to have someone, doing something, in the shot. But don't hold your breath.

Besides, I had to turn in most of my company gear 18 months ago. The phone fits in my pocket and is very convenient. I rarely carry a camera these days.

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[Michael Weinfeld](#) - I took this shot of the Fourth of July fireworks being set off in the next town from the vantage point of a dock on Monument Lake, which is a two-minute walk from our house in Monument (Colorado). The star you see on the left is the famous Palmer Lake star that was built in 1935 to give residents hope during the Depression. The 185,000-square-foot star on Sundance Mountain was built by residents with the help of Dizzy the German Shepherd, who helped carry equipment up the mountain. It's only turned on for holidays or the death of a prominent citizen. A bronze statue of Dizzy sits on the town green in front of Town Hall.

1972 'Napalm Girl' escorts Ukraine refugees to Canada



Ukrainian refugees board a plane before flying to Canada, from Frederic Chopin Airport in Warsaw, Poland, Monday, July 4, 2022. Phan Thj Kim Phuc, the girl in the famous 1972 Vietnam napalm attack photo, on Monday escorted 236 refugees from the war in Ukraine on a flight from Warsaw to Canada. Phuc's iconic Associated Press photo in which she runs with her napalm-scalded body exposed, was etched on the private NGO plane that is flying the refugees to the city of Regina. (AP Photo/Michal Dyjuk)



Kim Phuc, the girl in the famous 1972 Vietnam napalm attack photo, takes a picture of a plane transporting refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine to Canada, from Frederic Chopin Airport in Warsaw, Poland, Monday, July 4, 2022. Phuc's iconic Associated Press photo in which she runs with her napalm-scalded body exposed, was etched on the private NGO plane that flew the refugees Monday to the city of Regina, the capital of the Canadian province of Saskatchewan. (AP Photo/Michal Dyjuk)

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Phan Thị Kim Phuc, the girl in the famous 1972 Vietnam napalm attack photo, on Monday escorted 236 refugees from Russia's war in Ukraine on a flight from Warsaw to Canada.

Phuc's iconic Associated Press photo in which she runs with her napalm-scalded body exposed, was etched on the private nongovernmental organization plane that is flying the refugees to the city of Regina, the capital of the Canadian province of Saskatchewan.

Kim, 59, a Canadian citizen, said she wants her story and work for refugees to be a message of peace. With her husband, Bui Huy Toan, she traveled from Toronto to board the humanitarian flight.

The refugees, mostly women and children from across Ukraine, are among thousands of Ukrainians that Canada has provided humanitarian visas in the wake of Russia's invasion of their country. Millions of Ukrainians have fled since Russia attacked on Feb. 24. Almost 5.5 million have registered with humanitarian organizations in Europe, according to the U.N.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Peggy Walsh.

Newspaper Nonsense

[Kevin Walsh](#) - I ran across [this old column](#) on anagrams derived from newspaper mastheads and thought Connecting readers might find it amusing.

It was written by Eric Shackle, an Australian journalist and publicist who died in 2017 at the age of 98. Although I never had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Shackle, I suspect he would enjoy knowing that he was connecting with new readers in the afterlife.

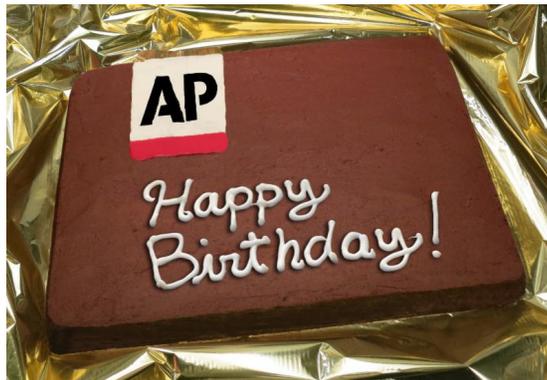
My personal favorites? "The NEW YORK TIMES can be shown to contain KEEN WORTHY ITEMS or else THE MONKEYS WRITE it." "EDITOR AND PUBLISHER can be shuffled to read SHIPBOARD INTERLUDE."

Connecting sky shot - Anchorage



Taken and shared by George Arfield

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Peg Coughlin](#)

[Ron Fournier](#)

Welcome to Connecting



[Susan Hoffmann](#)

Stories of interest

"Imagine a world without photojournalism" exhibit marks Monroe Gallery's 20th anniversary in Santa Fe

(ArtDaily)

SANTA FE, NM.- Monroe Gallery of Photography opened a major exhibition celebrating the Gallery's 20th anniversary in Santa Fe. "Imagine a World Without Photojournalism" is a multi-photojournalist presentation of news events of the 20th and 21st Centuries. The exhibition will continue through September 18, 2022.

A special program with gallery photojournalists Nina Berman and David Butow will be held on Friday, July 22 at 5:30 PM, RSVP required, please contact the Gallery for information.

Imagine a world without photojournalism

Across America and throughout the world, photojournalists working to bring the world vital news have come under attack, often from authorities, governments, and groups using violence and repression as a form of censorship. Combined with deliberate misinformation creating public skepticism, the photojournalist's mission of creating visual moments essential to understanding societal and political change may be threatened.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Albright.

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July 4 reflections: If our national divisions run along rural-urban lines, rural news media should pay attention to that

By Al Cross, director and professor

Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues, University of Kentucky

Economist and liberal New York Times columnist Paul Krugman, in his effort to figure out what made the Republican Party "so extreme" (and he notes that mainstream analysts called it an "outlier" 10 years ago), writes that he looked for "cases in which right-wing extremism rose even in the face of peace and prosperity, and I think I've found one: the rise of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s."

That Klan was actually a revised iteration of the first Klan, the terrorist group in the Reconstruction South. The reprise was "a white nationalist movement, to be sure, but far more widely accepted and less of a pure terrorist organization [at least in the North]. And it reached the height of its power — it effectively controlled several states — amid peace and an economic boom," Krugman writes. He cites Linda Gordon's *The Second Coming of the K.K.K.: The Ku Klux Klan of the 1920s and the American Political Tradition*, which he says "portrays a 'politics of resentment' driven by the backlash of white, rural and small-town Americans against a changing nation. The K.K.K. hated immigrants and 'urban elites'; it was characterized by 'suspicion of science' and 'a larger anti-intellectualism.' Sound familiar? OK, the modern G.O.P. isn't as bad as the second K.K.K. But Republican extremism clearly draws much of its energy from the same sources. And because G.O.P. extremism is fed by resentment against the very things that, as I see it, truly make America great — our diversity, our tolerance for difference — it cannot be appeased or compromised with. It can only be defeated."

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - July 6, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, July 6, the 187th day of 2022. There are 178 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 6, 1944, an estimated 168 people died in a fire that broke out during a performance in the main tent of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in Hartford, Connecticut.

On this date:

In 1483, England's King Richard III was crowned in Westminster Abbey.

In 1777, during the American Revolution, British forces captured Fort Ticonderoga (ty-kahn-dur-OH'-gah).

In 1854, the first official meeting of the Republican Party took place in Jackson, Michigan.

In 1885, French scientist Louis Pasteur tested an anti-rabies vaccine on 9-year-old Joseph Meister, who had been bitten by an infected dog; the boy did not develop rabies.

In 1933, the first All-Star baseball game was played at Chicago's Comiskey Park; the American League defeated the National League, 4-2.

In 1942, Anne Frank, her parents and sister entered a "secret annex" in an Amsterdam building where they were later joined by four other people; they hid from Nazi occupiers for two years before being discovered and arrested.

In 1945, President Harry S. Truman signed an executive order establishing the Medal of Freedom.

In 1957, Althea Gibson became the first Black tennis player to win a Wimbledon singles title as she defeated fellow American Darlene Hard 6-3, 6-2.

In 1988, 167 North Sea oil workers were killed when explosions and fires destroyed a drilling platform.

In 2015, Pope Francis received a hero's welcome in Guayaquil, Ecuador's biggest city, as he celebrated the first public Mass of his South American tour.

In 2016, Philando Castile, a Black elementary school cafeteria worker, was killed during a traffic stop in the St. Paul suburb of Falcon Heights by Officer Jeronimo Yanez. (Yanez was later acquitted on a charge of second-degree manslaughter.)

In 2020, the Trump administration formally notified the United Nations of its withdrawal from the World Health Organization; President Donald Trump had criticized the WHO's response to the coronavirus pandemic. (The pullout was halted by President Joe Biden's administration.) Amy Cooper, the white woman who called police during a videotaped dispute with a Black man in New York's Central Park, was

charged with filing a false report. (The case would be dismissed after Cooper completed a counseling program.)

Ten years ago: At a 100-nation conference in Paris, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton hailed an accelerating wave of defections in President Bashar Assad's inner circle as the United States and its international allies pleaded once again for global sanctions against the Syrian regime. Former neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman was released from jail in Florida for a second time while he awaited his second-degree murder trial for fatally shooting Trayvon Martin. (Zimmerman was acquitted.)

Five years ago: The maker of opioid painkiller Opana ER said it would stop selling the drug at the request of the Food and Drug Administration in an effort to curb abuse.

One year ago: Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams won the Democratic primary for mayor of New York City, defeating a large field in New York's first major race to use ranked choice voting. (Adams would be elected mayor in November.) Filmmaker and actor Robert Downey Sr. died at 85; he was the father of film star Robert Downey Jr.

Today's Birthdays: The 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, is 87. Singer Gene Chandler is 82. Country singer Jeannie Seely is 82. Actor Burt Ward is 77. Former President George W. Bush is 76. Actor-director Sylvester Stallone is 76. Actor Fred Dryer is 76. Actor Shelley Hack is 75. Actor Nathalie Baye is 74. Actor Geoffrey Rush is 71. Actor Allyce Beasley is 71. Rock musician John Bazz (The Blasters) is 70. Actor Grant Goodeve is 70. Retired MLB All-Star Willie Randolph is 68. Jazz musician Rick Braun is 67. Actor Casey Sander is 67. Country musician John Jorgenson is 66. Former first daughter Susan Ford Bales is 65. Hockey player and coach Ron Duguay (doo-GAY') is 65. Actor-writer Jennifer Saunders is 64. Rock musician John Keeble (Spandau Ballet) is 63. Actor Pip Torrens is 62. Actor Brian Posehn is 56. Actor Robb Derringer is 55. Political reporter/moderator John Dickerson is 54. Actor Brian Van Holt is 53. Rapper Inspectah Deck (Wu-Tang Clan) is 52. TV host Josh Elliott is 51. Rapper 50 Cent is 47. Actors Tia and Tamera Mowry are 44. Comedian-actor Kevin Hart is 43. Actor Eva (EH'-vuh) Green is 42. Actor Gregory Smith is 39. Rock musician Chris "Woody" Wood (Bastille) is 37. Rock singer Kate Nash is 35. Actor Jeremy Suarez is 32. San Diego Padres infielder Manny Machado is 30. NBA star Zion Williamson 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 as a newsman in Albany and St. Louis, correspondent in Wichita, chief of bureau in Albuquerque, Indianapolis and

Kansas City, and Midwest vice president based in 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.

Paul Stevens

Editor, Connecting newsletter
paulstevens46@gmail.com

