

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

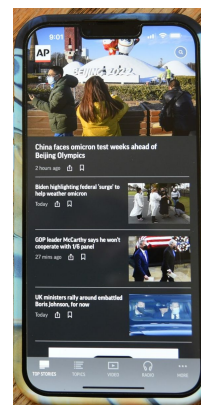
[View as Webpage](#)



Connecting

Jan. 16, 2023

Click [here](#) for sound of the Teletype



[Top AP News](#)
[Top AP Photos](#)
[AP Merchandise](#)

[Connecting Archive](#)
[AP Emergency Relief Fund](#)
[AP Books](#)



Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this Jan. 16, 2023.

Today is Martin Luther King Jr. Day, celebrating the birthday of the civil rights leader. Our Connecting colleague **Gene Herrick**, 97, who covered the Civil Rights Movement in the South as an AP photographer, took the photo above of King with his wife Coretta after leaving court in Montgomery, Ala., in March 1956.

We're sorry to relay news of the death of our colleague **Jane See White**, who died on Jan. 11, according to her daughter **Laura**. After three years with The Kansas City Star, Jane joined the AP in New York in 1976 and served as a national writer for six years. Her last journalistic work was as an editorial writer for the Arizona Daily Star in Tucson.

An obituary will be published when available, but if you would like to share a memory of Jane, please send it along. Laura White said a celebration of life service will take place at a later date.

HERO SPORTS WRITERS: Our colleague **Hal Bock** had this to say about last Friday's Connecting story on two AP sports writers who helped save the life of a sports stringer last fall in the Rutgers University press box: "What a wonderful story about two of my old sports partners, **Tom Canavan** and **Ralph Russo**. I don't hang out in press boxes anymore but if I did, I'd hope those guys were nearby. Proof of the power of sportswriters to deliver the news of fun and games and pitch in when things get a bit more serious like life and death. Those guys are my heroes."

Two of our colleagues shared their stories about life-saving incidents during their working years. We'd love to hear your story.

JACK SMITH: Colleague [Frank Russell](#) had this to say about the AP wire story on Portland (Ore.) AP photographer **Jack Smith** in last Friday's edition: "A great tribute to the one of a kind the late AP photographer Jack Smith. I had the fun of working around Jack during my years as a staff member at the AP photo desk in DC. Jack paid us lots of visits to Washington while on assignments in our area."

Have a great day and week ahead – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Five questions for Amanda Barrett



AP CONNECTIONS

In this Q&A, [Amanda Barrett](#) shares goals for AP's standards and inclusion efforts, why she is proud to work at the AP and what she's most excited about in her role as vice president for standards and inclusion.

What excites you about taking on this newly created role?

The melding of standards and inclusion work speaks to me because it brings together two areas I am extremely passionate about. AP has a long history of creating standards for our journalism and the journalism industry as a whole. I have always found standards intriguing because they are directly related to trust. Since we adhere to values and principles and are transparent about them, audiences the world over

know they can count on us for fact-based, non-partisan journalism that helps them make decisions in their lives.

Inclusion has long been one of my journalism goals. When I was young, I didn't feel like I saw myself in most news reports. So I fought to ensure that journalism more accurately portrayed the communities we cover with a wider array of voices and perspectives. Thanks to some willing allies, the Inclusion Champions and my partnership with Michael Giarrusso and Julie March, AP has been making great strides, but much work still remains. As the backbone of many news organizations, AP is leading the change our industry desperately needs.

How do you plan to expand on our standards and inclusion efforts while also ensuring their alignment?

That's a great question. Our standards efforts have largely rested on the shoulders of Editor at Large John Daniszewski and to a lesser extent, the Nerve Center managers. John wears many hats from dealing with spot standards issues to researching potential partners to communicating with customers. So, we have gotten him some help. Karen Mahabir's portfolio has expanded to include Standards and Talent Development. I also plan to add another Standards presence in coming months internationally so we can support more colleagues around the globe in the hours they need us most. John, Karen and I worked together on the formation of the news verification team several years ago, so I am thrilled to work closely with them again.

In 2023, I hope to expand our inclusion efforts by bringing on more Inclusion Champions, firming up more measures for our progress and establishing more partnerships with AP members and customers who tell us they need our support to build capacity in inclusive storytelling. We'll continue to look at inclusion with a critical eye to ensure it is aligned with our other standards and helps us reach new and different audiences.

How can our journalists continue to advance our inclusive storytelling efforts?

AP journalists around the world have made stellar progress in advancing our inclusive storytelling goals. Inclusion has been wound into the report with a variety of faces on camera and a wide array of ages, personalities and perspectives showcased on a daily basis. I am so thankful for the way our teams took the effort we started in 2020 and just ran with it. But there is still more work to be done because the world is changing at a dizzying rate. Fault lines like ability, religion, age, gender, sexuality, and race continue to rear their heads in so many stories. Continuing to broaden our sources and the people we talk to about their lives is key. As is coupling that with our efforts to bring more people of color and women into leadership positions inside AP.

What makes you proud to work at the AP?

Oh, that is an easy one. I work with some of the very best journalists and some of the very best people in the world! When I led the Nerve Center, it never failed that when news broke, people around the world reached out and volunteered to help. They would conduct interviews, search for UGC, do research, all in service of getting the news out to clients quickly and factually. That collaborative spirit is amazing and something you don't see in a lot of workplaces. But it goes beyond that. When

someone is ill, or has a crisis, our colleagues surround them with care and help them through it. It's happened to me and so many others.

What is something your colleagues might not know about you?

Let me see. My sports fandom and Star Trek nerdism are too well known! Something few people know is that I love going fishing. My dad used to take me out on his small boat when I was a child early on Saturdays at Smith Mountain Lake near my hometown of Roanoke, Va. My brother wasn't so keen after hooking himself and ending up in the ER one time, so I usually had my dad to myself. Once a daddy's girl, always a daddy's girl.

Being by the water with the sun climbing overhead has always soothed me and I never minded baiting my own hook. Earthworms make the best bait. There's nothing quite like the jerk of a fish on the line. And helping my mom cook our catch of the day gave me a sense of accomplishment.

Saving a life while on the job

Bill Kaczor - I never had an instance where I did anything as dramatic as saving someone's life, but I did render a small bit of aid to a shipwrecked commercial fisherman in 1998. A Coast Guard helicopter crew rescued Marco Blake after he'd spent seven night-time hours aboard a small life raft in the storm-tossed Gulf of Mexico off the Florida Panhandle. He then was deposited at the Panama City airport, where I interviewed him about his harrowing experience. Blake had been below deck trying to get some sleep aboard the 31-foot Can-Too as the boat tried to make it back to port in the midst of Hurricane Earl. A 20-foot wave, though, capsized the Can-Too when it was in sight of Panama City's lights.

Blake told me he swam through the dark flooded cabin and managed to find a door and get into the raft. Two other crew members who were aboard the boat apparently drowned. The wave also capsized a sister ship but all three crew members of the Me-Too were rescued about three hours before the Coast Guard found Blake. Still wet from his ordeal, the 31-year-old Little Rock, Arkansas, man said the raft twice overturned and that he was surrounded by hammerhead sharks. After our interview, Blake told me he was broke and had no way of getting to the dock area several miles away, where he had been staying with friends aboard another boat. He also was very hungry. So I drove him to a waterfront restaurant, bought him lunch and turned him over to AP broadcaster Tony Winton, who had come up from Miami to cover the hurricane.

It was only Blake's second commercial fishing trip. "I always wanted to try it," he told me. "Well, I've tried. It ain't too lucky for me." He said he'd probably do it again despite his bad luck because he needed the money. I didn't help him a whole lot, but this topic has given me a great excuse to share one of the more memorable stories I covered for the AP.

-0-

Ed Tobias - About a dozen years ago one of the WDC technicians collapsed, and went into cardiac arrest, in the newsroom of the Broadcast News Center. Fortunately, a few years before that we had begun providing CPR/first aid classes to staffers who wanted to attend. We also (with the help of BNC Chief Engineer George Mayo) bought two automatic electronic defibrillators, to be mounted on the newsroom and administrative floors of WDC/BNC. Also, very fortunately, a DC fire station was only a block away.

CPR was started almost immediately by our staffers and the AED was attached to the man's chest. Just as the device announced a "shock" order paramedics arrived, pushing the button to deliver the shock and taking over CPR duties.

Similar to the Bill's Damar Hamlin, doctors put our technician into an induced coma for a few days as he recovered. He was discharged from the hospital several days later. After a recovery period at home, our staffer was able to return to work.

I am a huge fan of everyone getting CPR training and of making the investment to have AED's nearby.

Remembering Vietnam



Old friends from the South Vietnam war era gathered in an Orange County Little Saigon restaurant recently to celebrate the publication of Vietnamese American actress Kieu Chinh's Autobiography "An Activist in Exile". Present were AP Pulitzer Prize winners Nick Ut, Peter Arnett (center) and UPI's David Kennerly (far right beside Kieu Chinh). Also present was Frank Snepp (left) chief strategy analyst at the U.S. Embassy in Saigon in the last 5 years of the war, and author of the bestselling books

"Decent Interview" and "Irreparable Harm", both dealing with his fraught Vietnam experiences. Author Kieu Chinh is one of the best-known American Vietnamese actresses, performing in the TV series M.A.S.H, the movie Joy Luck Club and other projects. She writes in her autobiography of her experiences in Hollywood, and of her stressful years living in Vietnam's violent environment in the 1950s and 60s prior to settling in the U.S. in 1975. (iPhone photo by Andrew Arnett)

A thank you to our family cat



Paul Albright - We have all heard about the need for the younger generations to limit their “screen time” for their mental well-being. But I contend that it applies to us older folks, as well. In that regard, I would like to thank our family cat, Dolly, who spends a part of her day sleeping in my chair at the desktop computer. Rather than ousting her, I use the time to undertake some of those varied and never-ending

household tasks, or to read a book, a magazine, or even a printed newspaper. (Usually no television because that falls within the category of “screen time,” also.)

BEST OF THE WEEK — FIRST WINNER

AP photographers paint definitive portrait of epic, historic vote for House speaker



Rep. Richard Hudson, R-N.C., left, pulls Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Ala., back as they talk with Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fla., and others during the 14th round of voting for speaker as the House meets for the fourth day to try and elect a speaker and convene the 118th Congress in Washington, Friday, Jan. 6, 2023. At right is Rep. Patrick McHenry, R-N.C. AP PHOTO/ANDREW HARNIK

Some likened it to a Renaissance painting – and it certainly belongs in a museum. We’re talking, of course, about Andrew Harnik’s indelible images of a tussle in Congress as a historic House speaker vote threatened to stretch into another week.

As Republicans struggled through 14 fruitless rounds of voting against an internal faction of rebels to elect Kevin McCarthy as House Speaker, the longest such struggle in a century, nerves were fraying.

But AP’s photographers in the chamber remained cool as ever.

Normally, photographers’ access in the House chamber is heavily restricted by the speaker’s office – but with no speaker, the photo team was able to take full advantage of a House with no rules. Able to freely roam the chamber and capture up-close moments, the team shot more than 14,000 images for review and editing. Over the four days of voting, 1,500 images moved to AP’s audiences.

Read more [here](#).

BEST OF THE WEEK — SECOND WINNER **Sports delivers multiple wins on coverage of Bills' Damar Hamlin's cardiac arrest**



Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen (17) pauses as Damar Hamlin is examined during the first half of an NFL football game against the Cincinnati Bengals, Jan. 2, 2023, in Cincinnati. AP PHOTO/JEFF DEAN

Buffalo sportswriter John Wawrow and national football writer Rob Maaddi scored two big wins in the days following Buffalo Bills' defensive back Damar Hamlin's shocking collapse on the field from cardiac arrest in the first quarter of a nationally broadcast NFL game.

As doctors released a statement saying that Hamlin was making remarkable progress and was neurologically intact, Wawrow got exclusive quotes from Hamlin's agent saying that the player was awake and was able to grip hands with family members. Major news outlets jumped on the AP scoop, including SportsCenter on ESPN, and the story was updated with collaboration from news reporter Carolyn Thompson with details from doctors.

Later that day, Maaddi scored the biggest exclusive of the news cycle. As Hamlin's condition continued to improve, the NFL was still faced with a difficult decision: what to do with the game between the Bills and Bengals, two playoff-bound teams, which had been stopped in the first quarter.

The league was meeting behind closed doors to discuss different scenarios. Maaddi had two trusted sources inside those meetings and broke the news at 2:34 p.m. on Thursday that the NFL had decided to not resume the game. AP beat every outlet by a whopping 3.5 hours with the news.

Others were forced to cite the AP. The story drew over 520,000 page views on AP News, with 70 percent coming from search traffic, a testament to the extraordinary

search ranking built by the win based on speed, sources and prep.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Shirley Christian](#)

[Bob Daugherty](#)

[Brian Friedman](#)

[Arlene Sposato](#)

And a belated (Jan. 11) Happy Birthday to:

[Peter Costanzo](#)

Stories of interest

First job was with AP, covering Congo

Peter Grose, Veteran Foreign Correspondent, Dies at 88 (New York Times)

By Clay Risen

Peter Grose, one of the last of a generation of foreign correspondents who cut their teeth covering the Vietnam War — an experience that he drew on later for assignments in Moscow and Jerusalem, and later still as the author of several well-received books about American history, died on Dec. 31 in Minneapolis. He was 88.

His daughter Kim Grose Moore said the cause of death, at an assisted-living home, was complications of a stroke.

Mr. Grose was the archetypal foreign correspondent: cosmopolitan, educated, able to write with sweep about world events or to zero in on the telling detail. He served in Paris, Saigon (today Ho Chi Minh City), Moscow and Washington, and was later the executive editor of *Foreign Affairs*, the august flagship journal of the Council on Foreign Relations.

“He was quiet, calm and judicious, very much in the old-fashioned New York Times style,” Max Frankel, a former Times executive editor, said in a phone interview.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

-0-

How a New York Tabloid Captured the First Photo of an Execution by the Electric Chair (Smithsonian Magazine)

Robert Klara

The main gate of Sing Sing prison, some 30 miles north of New York City, was hardly a place for congregating. But at 11 p.m. on the night of January 12, 1928, hundreds of onlookers milled about below the guard towers. There was little for them to see; the night’s grim proceedings would take place deep inside the correctional facility’s grounds. But people came anyway, some from as far as Chicago. Cars clogged the streets. Women arrived with their children. Men—the vengeful and the aggrieved—hurled curses.

In four minutes, “Ruthless Ruth” Snyder, a woman who’d murdered her husband for insurance money, would die in the electric chair.

Henry Judd Gray, Snyder’s lover and accomplice, met his end that night, too. “Old Sparky,” in use since 1891, didn’t take long to do its work. By 11:14, both prisoners had been pronounced dead.

Soon after, the engine of a Ford sedan coughed to life as the car swung south toward Manhattan. Crouched down in the back was a photographer named Tom Howard. And inside his camera—snuck into Sing Sing in defiance of the prison’s ban on photographs in the execution chamber—was the one of the most disturbing pictures ever shown to the public.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Claude Erbsen.

The Final Word

Men reporting badly! Nish Kumar and Josh Widdicombe find being hacks is no joke (Guardian)

Vanessa Thorpe

It is easy to make fun of local newspapers. At first glance, the stories can appear limited in scope or even ridiculous. But then Nish Kumar and Josh Widdicombe picked up their reporters' notebooks for a TV challenge.

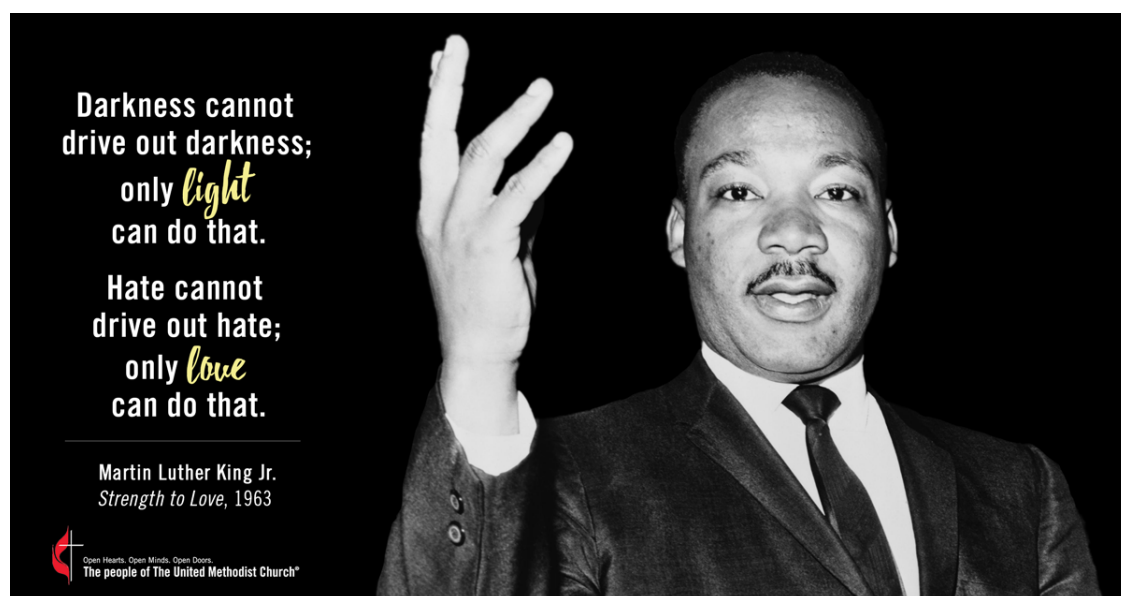
In an unlikely turn of events, perhaps suited to a bold headline and an exclamation mark, the two television comedians may have accidentally improved the wider reputation of journalists in the course of making a deliberately silly show. Their series, *Hold the Front Page*, which goes out weekly on Sky Max and Now TV, sees the two performers temporarily join the staff of a string of established local titles in an attempt to get their news articles printed.

"We met a lot of great people and great newspaper editors while making this show," Kumar told the *Observer*, "but we also felt a lot of that sinking feeling when you realise nothing has been set up for you and you have to go out there and find something to write up."

Searching for fresh stories on the promenade at Blackpool, in the Sussex countryside or on the Yorkshire moors, the real-life friends quickly realised that nabbing "a scoop" and then writing to deadline are not simple tasks.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

And these Final Words...



Today in History - Jan. 16, 2023



Today is Monday, Jan. 16, the 16th day of 2023. There are 349 days left in the year. This is Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 16, 1991, the White House announced the start of Operation Desert Storm to drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait. (Allied forces prevailed on Feb. 28, 1991.)

On this date:

In 27 B.C., Caesar Augustus was declared the first Emperor of the Roman Empire by the Senate.

In 1865, Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman decreed that 400,000 acres of land in the South would be divided into 40-acre lots and given to former slaves. (The order, later revoked by President Andrew Johnson, is believed to have inspired the expression, "Forty acres and a mule.")

In 1912, a day before reaching the South Pole, British explorer Robert Scott and his expedition found evidence that Roald Amundsen of Norway and his team had gotten there ahead of them.

In 1919, pianist and statesman Ignacy Jan Paderewski (pah-dehr-EHF'-skee) became the first premier of the newly created Republic of Poland.

In 1920, Prohibition began in the United States as the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution took effect, one year to the day after its ratification. (It was later repealed by the 21st Amendment.)

In 1942, actor Carole Lombard, 33, her mother, Elizabeth, and 20 other people were killed when their plane crashed near Las Vegas, Nevada, while en route to California from a war-bond promotion tour.

In 1989, three days of rioting began in Miami when a police officer fatally shot Clement Lloyd, a Black motorcyclist, causing a crash that also claimed the life of Lloyd's passenger, Allan Blanchard. (The officer, William Lozano, was convicted of manslaughter, but then was acquitted in a retrial.)

In 2002, Richard Reid was indicted in Boston on federal charges alleging he'd tried to blow up a U.S.-bound jetliner with explosives hidden in his shoes. (Reid later pleaded guilty and was sentenced to life in prison.)

In 2003, the space shuttle Columbia blasted off for what turned out to be its last flight; on board was Israel's first astronaut, Ilan Ramon (ee-LAHN' rah-MOHN'). (The mission ended in tragedy on Feb. 1, when the shuttle broke up during its return descent, killing all seven crew members.)

In 2017, former NASA astronaut Eugene Cernan, to date the last man to walk on the moon, died in Houston at age 82.

In 2020, the first impeachment trial of President Donald Trump opened in the Senate, with senators standing and swearing an oath of "impartial justice." Trump, who denounced the proceedings as a "hoax," would later be acquitted on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress.

Ten years ago: Braced for a fight, President Barack Obama unveiled the most sweeping proposals for curbing gun violence in two decades, pressing a reluctant Congress to pass universal background checks and bans on military-style assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition magazines like the ones used in the Newtown, Conn., school shooting. Pauline Friedman Phillips, better known as advice columnist Dear Abby, died in Minneapolis at age 94.

Five years ago: Pope Francis met with survivors of priests who sexually abused them; a spokesman said Francis wept with them and apologized for the "irreparable damage" they suffered. Authorities in Denmark charged inventor Peter Madsen with killing Swedish journalist Kim Wall during a trip on his private submarine. (Madsen was later convicted and sentenced to life in prison.)

One year ago: Tennis star Novak Djokovic, who refused to be vaccinated for COVID-19, was deported from Australia after losing a bid to stay in the country to defend his Australian Open title. France's parliament approved a law to exclude unvaccinated people from all restaurants, sports arenas and other venues, as the government tried to protect hospitals amid record numbers of COVID-19 infections driven by the highly contagious omicron variant.

Today's birthdays: Author William Kennedy is 95. Author-editor Norman Podhoretz is 93. Opera singer Marilyn Horne is 89. Hall of Fame auto racer A.J. Foyt is 88. Singer Barbara Lynn is 81. Country singer Ronnie Milsap is 80. Singer Katherine Anderson Schaffner (The Marvelettes) is 79. Country singer Jim Stafford is 79. Talk show host Dr. Laura Schlessinger is 76. Movie director John Carpenter is 75. Actor-dancer-choreographer Debbie Allen is 73. R&B singer Maxine Jones (En Vogue) is 64. Singer Sade (shah-DAY') is 64. Pop/rock singer-songwriter Jill Sobule is 64. Rock musician Paul Webb (Talk Talk) is 61. Actor David Chokachi (CHOH'-kuh-chee) is 55. Former Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta is 54. Actor-writer-director Josh Evans is 52. Actor-comedian Jonathan Mangum is 52. Actor Richard T. Jones is 51. Actor Josie Davis is 50. Model Kate Moss is 49. Actor-playwright Lin-Manuel Miranda is 43. Country musician James Young (The Eli Young Band) is 43. Rock musician Nick Valensi (The Strokes) is 42.

Actor Renee Felice Smith is 38. NFL quarterback Joe Flacco is 38. Actor Yvonne Zima ("The Young and the Restless") is 34.

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



Connecting newsletter | 14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215

[Unsubscribe stevenspl@live.com](mailto:stevenspl@live.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by paulstevens46@gmail.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!