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Connecting

Feb. 17, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this Feb. 17, 2023,

Our Connecting colleague **Shirley Christian** has been a foreign correspondent for The New York Times, The Miami Herald and The Associated Press. She has lived and worked in numerous Latin America countries for nearly 20 years, and in New York and Washington, winning the Pulitzer Prize for international reporting in 1981 for articles published in the Herald about the wars in Central America. She has authored two books.

Now, at the age of 85, from her home in Kansas City, she has embarked on yet a new challenge:

She has launched her own business - **Truffle Pleasures** – and in a story guaranteed to get your mouth watering, she explains how she held a soft launch for friends and family to come and buy from her offering of a few thousand chocolate truffles prepared with the finest of French and Belgian chocolate, cognac, rum, cream, and butter. It's a business she hopes to grow over the next few years.

KIT KINCADE DIES: We bring you sad news of the death of Kit Kincade, former Louisville chief of bureau for the AP. He joined the AP in Detroit in 1966, became Michigan news editor in 1970, moved to Dallas as assistant chief of bureau in 1971 and was appointed Louisville COB in 1972. He held that position three years before resigning. His obituary is in today's issue.

ALABAMAN OR ALABAMIAN?: In Thursday's issue, a story relating to the death of Alabama newspaperman Jim Boone referred to our colleague Ed Williams, who shared the story, as a "fellow Alabaman" of Boone. Our colleague Kendal Weaver, who worked for AP in Alabama for 40 years, shared: "A person from Alabama is not an 'Alabaman' but an 'Alabamian' — at least as spoken by locals in the state. Are people from Florida called 'Floridans' or 'Floridians'? Are those from North or South Carolina called 'Carolinans' or 'Carolinians'? This is a common error — or usage by those outside the Deep South. I used to see it all the time on rewrites by the General Desk when someone thought we sent it up misspelled."

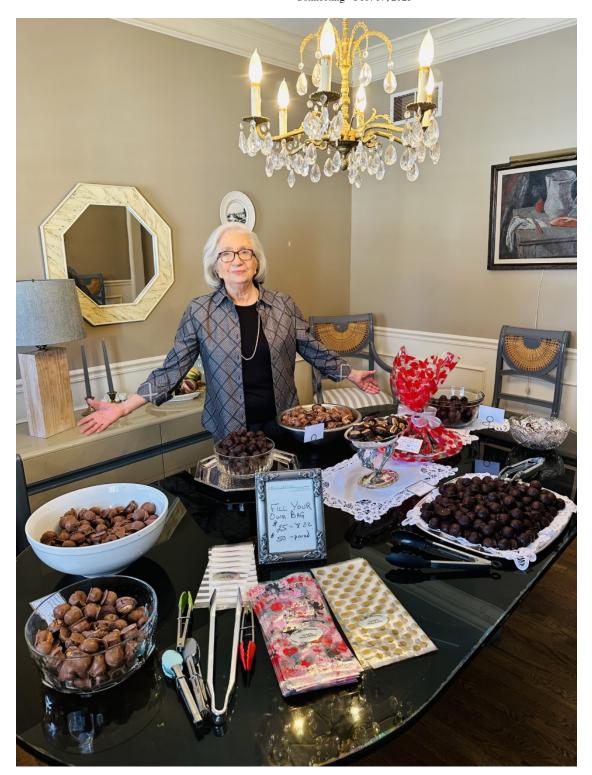
I responded to Kendal: "I stumbled on which way to go when writing the intro and made the wrong choice. This native Missourian and former Iowan (not Iowian) and former Arkansan (not Arkansian) and former Virginian and former New Mexican (not New Mexicanian) and current Kansan (not Kansian) thinks this would be good to use and spark some discussion from our group. (I also lived in NY State and Indiana but the ian/an question doesn't apply with them.)"

Kendal and I both agreed fully on what he also wrote: "Gene Herrick's photo of Autherine Lucy added the right touch to the story and the Pulitzer-winning editorial (by Boone's father). Herrick's work in these parts continues to resonate." Gene is our 97-year-old colleague who as an AP photographer covered the Civil Rights Movement in the South.

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

If your pleasure is truffles, this Pulitzer winner welcomes your sweet tooth



<u>Shirley Christian</u> - When I announced a few days before Valentine's Day and Super Bowl Sunday to everybody in my email contact list locally here in Kansas City a friend since kindergarten messaged back: "Oh, well, Colonel Sanders was in his eighties when he started, too."

Actually, I think he just looked that old in the logo. I went ahead and used the special weekend to launch what I call Truffle Pleasures in a popup store on the first floor of my house on Feb. 11-12, inviting friends, family, and friends of friends of friends, etc. to come and buy from my offering of a few thousand chocolate truffles prepared with the finest of French and Belgian chocolate, cognac, rum, cream, and butter. I

considered it the soft opening for a business that I hope will grow and grow over the next few years.

I'm serious.

Can't imagine spending my time on something called pickle ball, and 20 years after departing daily journalism I don't find a lot of paying demand for my services. Besides, nobody outside the world of journalism seems to like us anymore. But almost nobody doesn't like chocolate. How sweet it feels to be praised for a change.

Over the past 20 years I've taken occasional chocolate-making courses, learning about chocolate processes, and where to find the best ingredients. Until now, I gave them away by the hundreds or donated them to the church bazaar. One of my favorite teachers dropped out of a Ph.D. program in chemical engineering because he fell in love with chocolate. Along the way, my own passion for chocolate has grown.

The ancient Mayan bequeathed it to us, for which I am more than grateful. It was the pleasure at the end of their otherwise bland meals of rice and beans, and the luxury item that made them global traders of their day. As John Milton, played by Al Pacino, explained to Kevin Lomax in "Devil's Advocate," the gratification from love was really no different than eating a goodly amount of chocolate.



I had a crowd of 60 or 70 people over two afternoons; they ate my free samples and paid for others. One neighbor splurged on the \$80 Super Bowl special platter before going home to watch the Chiefs race to glory. I even figured out how to use the Venmo payments account I had just signed up for.

By St. Patrick's Day I hope to have my so-far messy Web presence straightened out, probably with the help of the 19-year-old boy across the street. And to be available through the domain name I bought: trufflepleasures.com

Then I can sell throughout the United States, except to those in spots where it is too warm to be mailing chocolates. International sales probably won't be in my future.

Memories of high school classmate Tim McCarver

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Click <u>here</u> for AP story on death of major leaguer and broadcaster Tim McCarver.)

<u>Brian Bland</u> - It's late 1958 or early 1959, and Brother William's senior English Class at all-male Christian Brothers High School in Memphis is tackling "Macbeth." Brother William explains that Lady Macbeth, in Act One, Scene Five, wants to be as cold-blooded as a man in order to murder the king and make her hubby, Macbeth, the new king.

"OK, McCarver, you're Lady Macbeth." Chuckles rippled from two dozen young men, as Tim McCarver rose to his feet. "Stifle it, gentlemen," Brother William said. And Macbegan to read:

"Come you spirits who tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here..." The class roared, McCarver grinned and ducked his head, and maybe Brother William laughed, too – I don't know, because I was laughing so hard.

I do know that order was restored and McCarver plowed on. A priceless moment with an unforgettable classmate.

Months later, we graduated. McCarver got \$75,000 (1959 dollars!) for signing with the St. Louis Cardinals, Memphians' favorite major league team. He began playing in the minor leagues immediately, but within a few months, as I headed north to the University of Illinois in Champaign, McCarver was playing for the Cards...a major league player at age 17! What a thrill to hear his at-bats on the radio. He was briefly sent down for more seasoning but was soon a Cardinals star. Years later, I was lucky enough to have two or three post-game visits with him in California, and at a rare class reunion years later.

Not forgotten by classmates: Mac's leadership on CBHS's fall, 1958, undefeated football team and, that winter, as a starter on the winning basketball team. Yeah, Tim McCarver, basketball star! Best memories: a great classmate and all-around good guy.

Former AP Kentucky bureau chief Christopher 'Kit' Kincade dies

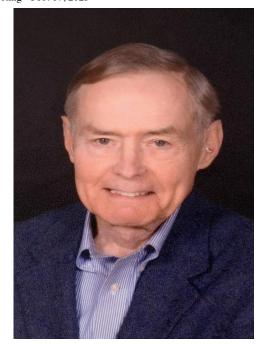
Christopher Lee Kincade, 82, passed away on February 14, 2023, after a brief battle with Covid and a longer fight with dementia. In his professional and volunteer career, Christopher, known as Kit, was the Kentucky bureau chief for the Associated Press, publisher of the Voice newspapers, a financial planner with the Kentucky Financial Group, and the key architect for an 11-acre park system in Louisville's East End.

Born in Lakeview, OH on October 19, 1940, Kit spent most of his formative years in nearby Hudson, where he graduated from Western Reserve Academy in 1958. Originally in the Yale class of 1962, he took two years to serve in post-war Korea, as a member of the 10th cavalry, taking special pride, as an avid historian, that his unit was the famed Buffalo Soldiers regiment that helped integrate the US Army.

He graduated from Yale in 1964, a year after marrying the love of his life, Joan Frances Patt, a Vassar grad who'd also grown up in the greater Cleveland area. The daughter of

a radio and TV entrepreneur, Joan received her MA at Yale as Kit finished his senior year. Once he graduated, the newlyweds moved to New York City, where the fledgling reporter began his career with The New York World Telegram and his daughter Laura was born. After signing on with the Associated Press, he moved to Detroit, where his son Christopher Lee Junior was born, then Dallas, before arriving in Louisville in 1972, as chief of the AP's Kentucky bureau. A year later, his youngest son Andrew was born.

Next came a stint as the publisher of the Voice newspapers, five local weekly newspapers he and his partner sold to Scripps Howard before he'd turned 40. After he got sober, he was diagnosed with adult-onset Type-1 diabetes he



went in a new direction, ultimately becoming a financial planner with Kentucky Financial Group, where he introduced new investment vehicles for teachers.

The latter part of his life was dedicated to service and learning;he volunteered as a lector for Saint Matthews Episcopal Church, sponsored for AA, introduced young Yale students to the Elkhorn River for the Bulldogs in the Bluegrass program, organized and walked door-to-door for the Democratic party, tutored for the Portland school system, supported the NAACP and other Black organizations, marched for peace with Veterans for Progress, joined the church reading group at Saint Matthews Episcopal church, attended continuous education classes in botany, Afro-American studies and women's history.

He is survived by his wife, Joan, his three children Andrew, Chris and Laura, and six grand-children, Isabel, Mia, Alex, Penelope, Renny and Theo.

A visitation will be held on Saturday at St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 330 N Hubbards Ln Louisville Kentucky at 10 AM, followed by a service at 11:00 AM.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Alzheimer's Association[https://www.alz.org/get-involved-now/donate]

Arrangements under the direction of Pearson's, "Where Louisville Goes To Remember".

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Christopher Lee Kincade please visit our Sympathy Store.

Click here for link to this obituary. Shared by Al Cross.

More AP U.S. news appointments announced

Josh Hoffner, National News Director, in a note Thursday to AP staff:

We are making more progress in rounding out the leadership team that will guide the U.S. news report into the future. I have two announcements to make today:

Kantele Franko is the new Assistant News Director for Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey and Delaware (what we informally call POND): Kantele has been an administrative correspondent since 2021, helping to coordinate coverage in Ohio, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. She joined the AP as an intern nearly 15 years ago and has reported on some of the state's biggest stories during that span, including mass shootings, hard-fought elections, an Ohio State University sex abuse scandal and work for the education team. She brings a deep knowledge of the territory having grown up in northeastern Ohio and spent most of her career there, and is ready to plunge into the new role. Kantele will remain based in Columbus.

Alina Hartounian is our new U.S. Assignment Manager, for the late part of the day. In her impressive, more than 15-year AP career, Alina has handled a wide range of responsibilities. She has been a Nerve Center manager, a deputy editor for U.S. beat teams and a West Desk editor along with a company leader in social media newsgathering, production and standards. Her social media efforts helped lay the groundwork for the success we enjoy today and this next position will also allow Alina to put her creativity to use to drive the report. In this new role, Alina will work alongside Jill Bleed, who has the early part of the day, and Nebi Qena to help our unified U.S. team surge the necessary resources at the biggest stories of the day to ensure success in breaking news. She will remain based in Phoenix.

I'll be making more announcements in the coming weeks about some of our new reporter, video journalist and photographer hires, along with the final Assistant News Director positions. Soon-to-be announced hires include Charlotte VJ, Seattle photographer, localization reporter and many more.

Thoughts on Jim Boone, my first publisher

<u>Bill Sikes</u> - Jim Boone was publisher of The Tuscaloosa News in 1975 when I began a photojournalism career at my hometown newspaper.

He expanded a first-rate, progressive, small-town newspaper with a legacy of high-quality journalism began by his father. His business savvy helped grow advertising and significant revenue was reinvested in the editorial product. The managing editor was just one of several women who held editing positions in the newsroom. Our writers and photographers regularly won state and regional awards. We published color photos on the front page almost every day and on every section front on Sunday.

The company owned a twin-engine turboprop that, among other uses, would fly writers and photographers to University of Alabama football road games so we could fly color film back afterward (or at halftime if it was a late kickoff) since on-site processing and transmitting of color photos was not yet viable for most newspapers.

That was a cool way to start a career at age 21 while still a college kid at the University of Alabama.

In his <u>Tuscaloosa News obituary</u>, one of his daughters quoted a couple of his many wise sayings, including, "Always be on the generous side of fair." I remember that phrase being repeated by colleagues, and that vibe played out in our newsroom's congenial and collaborative work environment.

The obit also said he worked till 5 p.m. on Friday, three days before dying on Monday. But the group of local publishing ventures he built across the country, and many of us who worked under his leadership, still try to manifest many of the positive values that he exhibited.

Bleak future for print

<u>Paul Albright</u> - Regarding the recent conversation on Connecting regarding the future of printed newspapers, I particularly noted the following two sentences from Thursday's AP article that reported findings from a Gallup and Knight Foundation survey:

"In a picture of how people get their news, 58% said online, 31% said television, 7% said radio and 3% mentioned printed newspapers or magazines.

"For members of Gen Z, aged 18- to 25-years-old, 88% said they got their news online, the survey found."

Indeed, hope appears bleak for the future of printed newspapers.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Martha Irvine

On Saturday to...

Peggy Andersen

Paul Caluori

Richard Carelli

George Hanna

Jurate Kazickas

Michael Rubin

On Sunday to...

Bill Lohmann

Mack McClure

Angie Lamoli Silvestry

David Tirrell-Wysocki

Stories of interest

After Going Gray, a News Anchor Found Herself the Focus of the Story (New York Times)

By Norimitsu Onishi

TORONTO — Lisa LaFlamme had barely settled in at the back of the cafe when two women approached her in quick succession. You're so beautiful, said the first, while the other slipped Ms. LaFlamme a note on yellow-lined paper.

"Thank you for being 'you," read the message written in neat cursive by "an admirer."

The fleeting interactions, which took place during a recent interview in Toronto with Ms. LaFlamme, 58, were laden with the unspoken. Perhaps little else needed to be said among three similarly aged women meeting by chance in Toronto, half a year after Ms. LaFlamme was ousted as one of the nation's top news anchors amid charges of ageism and sexism.

"People are so amazingly kind," said Ms. LaFlamme, her eyes welling up. "The support has been mind-blowing. It's really been a shock to me."

Read more **here**. Shared by Dennis Conrad.

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CNN's Don Lemon regrets saying Nikki Haley past her 'prime' (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — Don Lemon startled some colleagues on CNN's morning show Thursday with his implication that Republican presidential candidate Nikki Haley, at age 51, was past her prime.

Lemon, with "CNN This Morning" co-hosts Poppy Harlow and Kaitlan Collins, was discussing Haley's suggestion a day earlier that politicians over age 75 should be subject to mandatory mental competency tests. President Joe Biden is 80 while another GOP presidential candidate, former President Donald Trump, is 76.

"Nikki Haley isn't in her prime, sorry," Lemon said, explaining why he was "uncomfortable" with the age discussion. "When a woman is considered to be in her prime — in her 20s, 30s and maybe her 40s."

"Prime for what?" Harlow replied.

Lemon said that if you look it up on Google, a woman is considered to be in her prime at those ages. Harlow tried to clarify what Lemon was referencing: "I think we need to qualify. Are you talking about prime for childbearing or are you talking about prime for being president?"

Read more here. Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

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CBS' Gayle King to get Cronkite journalism excellence award (AP)

PHOENIX (AP) — "CBS Mornings" co-host Gayle King has been chosen to receive the Walter Cronkite Award for Excellence in Journalism from Arizona State University.

The honor is given every year by the university's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

King is expected to attend a Feb. 21 awards luncheon at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Phoenix.

She is the 39th recipient of the award. Past honorees include Anderson Cooper, Judy Woodruff and Bob Woodward.

King has been with CBS News since 2011. In recent years, she has earned notice for exclusive interviews with embattled singer R. Kelly and Cherelle Griner, the wife of formerly imprisoned WNBA star Brittney Griner, among others.

Read more **here**. Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

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Opinion: Ron DeSantis's latest culture-war target: Media libel laws (Washington Post)

By Erik Wemple

When Donald Trump pledged in 2016 to "open up" libel laws, critics guffawed, noting that a U.S. president lacked the authority to tinker with Supreme Court doctrine.

Now Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, a potential GOP presidential candidate, appears to have his own approach to tearing down barriers protecting news organizations from defamation suits. "Stay tuned," DeSantis said at an event last week in which he guided a panel discussion on media regulation. During an hour of discussion, DeSantis, an ace practitioner of GOP media-bashing rhetoric, showed why some critics view him as a more dangerous embodiment of Trump's two-bit authoritarianism. He's smarter, more informed and more disciplined.

Though no less wrong.

Read more **here**. Shared by Sibby Christensen, Dennis Conrad.

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Ohio Attorney General Drops Charges Against Reporter Arrested At News Conference (Huffington Post)

By Ben Blanchet

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost announced that charges filed against a NewsNation reporter have been dropped following his arrest last week at a press conference about the East Palestine train derailment.

Evan Lambert, a correspondent for the outlet formerly known as WGN America, was charged with criminal trespass and resisting arrest as he covered the news conference attended by Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine (R).

DeWine later criticized the arrest, although East Palestine Police Chief J.C. Brown III seemingly justified it and described Lambert as being loud while recording a live shot at the conference.

Yost said in a statement that the charges against Lambert were "unsupported by sufficient evidence."

Read more **here**. Shared by Richard Chady.

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White House Demands Media 'Comply,' Hauls Specific Reporters Out Of Biden's UFO Brief (Daily Caller)

DIANA GLEBOVA

The White House heavily controlled which reporters had access to President Joe Biden's remarks on "aerial objects" Thursday, telling the media to "comply," and asking reporters — including the Daily Caller's correspondent — to leave the room.

Biden's remarks were scheduled for 2:00 p.m., and reporters were notified less than an hour before that they would need a "pre-credentialed" pass to attend the press conference. Biden's team walked the press over to the South Court Auditorium, where the remarks were to be delivered, at approximately 1:50 p.m.

When reporters entered the auditorium, White House staff approached every correspondent and pressed each of them to show an email containing a "precredential," as there was not enough space in the room.

Read more **here**. Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

Today in History - Feb. 17, 2023



Today is Friday, Feb. 17, the 48th day of 2023. There are 317 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 17, 1801, the U.S. House of Representatives broke an electoral tie between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr, electing Jefferson president; Burr became vice president.

On this date:

In 1815, the United States and Britain exchanged the instruments of ratification for the Treaty of Ghent, ending the War of 1812.

In 1863, the International Red Cross was founded in Geneva.

In 1864, during the Civil War, the Union ship USS Housatonic was rammed and sunk in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina, by the Confederate hand-cranked submarine HL Hunley in the first naval attack of its kind; the Hunley also sank.

In 1897, the forerunner of the National PTA, the National Congress of Mothers, convened its first meeting in Washington.

In 1944, during World War II, U.S. forces invaded Eniwetok Atoll, encountering little initial resistance from Imperial Japanese troops. (The Americans secured the atoll less than a week later.)

In 1959, the United States launched Vanguard 2, a satellite that carried meteorological equipment.

In 1964, the Supreme Court, in Wesberry v. Sanders, ruled that congressional districts within each state had to be roughly equal in population.

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon departed the White House with his wife, Pat, on a historic trip to China.

In 1988, Lt. Col. William Higgins, a Marine Corps officer serving with a United Nations truce monitoring group, was kidnapped in southern Lebanon by Iranian-backed

terrorists (he was later slain by his captors).

In 1995, Colin Ferguson was convicted of six counts of murder in the December 1993 Long Island Rail Road shootings (he was later sentenced to a minimum of 200 years in prison).

In 2014, Jimmy Fallon made his debut as host of NBC's "Tonight Show."

In 2015, Vice President Joe Biden opened a White House summit on countering extremism and radicalization, saying the United States needed to ensure that immigrants were fully included in the fabric of American society to prevent violent ideologies from taking root at home.

Ten years ago: Danica Patrick won the Daytona 500 pole, becoming the first woman to secure the top spot for any Sprint Cup race. (Patrick covered the 2½-mile Superspeedway in 45.817 seconds, averaging 196.434 mph. A week later, Jimmie Johnson won the race, while Patrick finished eighth.) The Western Conference beat the East 143-138 in the NBA All-Star game played in Houston. Mindy McCready, 37, who'd hit the top of U.S. country music charts before personal problems sidetracked her career, died by her own hand in Heber Springs, Arkansas.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump's national security adviser, H.R. McMaster, told a conference in Germany that there was now "incontrovertible" evidence of a Russian plot to disrupt the 2016 U.S. election; the statement stood in stark contrast to Trump's claim that Russian interference in his election victory was a hoax. Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu made Olympic figure skating history in the men's free skate event in South Korea, becoming the first man to repeat as Olympic champion since Dick Button in 1952.

One year ago: U.S. President Joe Biden warned that Russia could still invade Ukraine within days and Russia expelled the No. 2 diplomat at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, as tensions flared anew in the worst East-West standoff in decades. (Russia would invade Ukraine three days later.) Anna Shcherbakova won a stunning gold medal in women's figure skating at the Beijing Games, while Russian teammate Kamila Valieva tumbled all the way out of the medals after a mistake-filled end to her controversial Olympics.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Barry Humphries (aka "Dame Edna") is 89. Actor Christina Pickles is 88. Football Hall of Famer Jim Brown is 87. Actor Brenda Fricker is 78. Actor Becky Ann Baker is 70. Actor Rene Russo is 69. Actor Richard Karn is 67. Actor Lou Diamond Phillips is 61. Basketball Hall of Famer Michael Jordan is 60. Actor-comedian Larry, the Cable Guy is 60. TV personality Rene Syler is 60. Movie director Michael Bay is 59. Singer Chante Moore is 56. Rock musician Timothy J. Mahoney (311) is 53. Actor Dominic Purcell is 53. Olympic gold and silver medal skier Tommy Moe is 53. Actor Denise Richards is 52. Rock singer-musician Billie Joe Armstrong (Green Day) is 51. Actor Jerry O'Connell is 49. Country singer Bryan White is 49. Actor Kelly Carlson is 47. Actor Ashton Holmes is 45. Actor Conrad Ricamora is 44. Actor Jason Ritter is 43. TV personality Paris Hilton is 42. Actor Joseph Gordon-Levitt is 42. TV host Daphne Oz is 37. Actor Chord Overstreet 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



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