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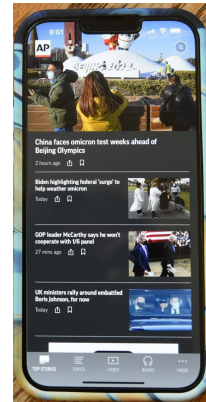
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# Connecting

March 17, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this March 17, 2023,

Top of the morning to you on this St. Patrick's Day!

Today's issue brings a story from colleague **Mike Harris** on a dangerous early assignment shortly after joining the AP's Chicago bureau – continuing an ongoing Connecting theme of facing potential peril in reporting assignments.

And speaking of themes, even more of you have chimed in with stories and photos of your favorite caps. Delightful stuff.

Got an AP gathering or reunion on the horizon? Share with Connecting for our Coming Events feature.

Here's to a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

# An early AP assignment became most dangerous of his career



**Police in standoff with sniper Frank Kulak at his apartment, 9521 South Exchange Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, April 14, 1969. (Photo by Chicago Sun-Times Collection/Chicago History Museum/Getty Images)**

**Mike Harris** - I began working for The Associated Press in February of 1969. For the first few weeks, I was mostly an afterthought. Then came what turned out to be the most dangerous assignment of my career.

That assignment came as a surprise when I walked into the office for my regular 4 p.m. to midnight shift on April 14. News editor Carroll Arimond beckoned me to his desk and said, "There's been a shooting on the South side. A couple of cops have been shot and we need somebody down there to see what's going on. Get on the El or take a cab and call in updates when you can."

He gave me an address on South Exchange Street and sent me on my way. I was new to Chicago and had no idea where that address was, so I caught a cab. It took a while to get there, and I asked the cabbie to drop me off when I saw a couple of Chicago cops redirecting traffic near my destination.

They weren't too happy to talk to me, but one of them did tell me what was happening. A former Marine, Frank Kulak, was a suspect in a bombing death at a southside Goldblatt's Department Store. He had apparently left a black powder bomb in a paper bag near some war toys in the toy department. The Chicago papers dubbed him "The Mad Bomber".

Working from a tip, two policemen had gone to his home on the second floor of an apartment building to question him and he had shot them through the front door, killing both.



Kulak was barricaded in his apartment and apparently had an arsenal of weapons, including rifles, pistols, hand grenades and black pipe bombs like the one used at Goldblatt's. The apartment building backed up on a funeral home, which was being used as the police command post.

To get to the command post from where the cab dropped me, I would have to take a long, circuitous walk to avoid the police blockade or convince the cops to let me go straight down the street behind the funeral home and its wide-open parking lot, in view of Kulak's back windows. One of the policemen said, "I have to go over to the command post myself. If you want to go with me, we just have to duck down behind this line of parked cars and get over there in a hurry."

He said, "Stay low and we took off, bent over and moving fast. As we ran, I heard a double thump, like the sound of a grenade launcher that I had heard in basic training. A dark object flew about 10 feet over our heads and clanked off a brick wall on the opposite side of the street.

The roar of the explosion deafened me for a few seconds and, as I lay in a heap, tangled up with the policeman, metal shrapnel flew over our heads and pinged off the street and sidewalk. We got up and ran the rest of the way before checking ourselves to make sure we were okay. Neither one of us had been hit.

Shakily, I walked into the command post and found a communications officer, who gave me an update on the situation. A negotiator was on the scene, but Kulak wasn't talking and nobody else had tried to approach his apartment.

I asked to use a phone and was told they were for official police use only. I walked outside, looked around and saw that across the main street was a residential neighborhood. I walked down one of the streets and saw two older ladies sitting on their front porch.

When I approached, they smiled and asked if I knew what all the red lights and noise were about. I told them I would trade the information for the use of their phone, and they gladly accepted the deal.

In the end, assistant police superintendent James Rochford found Kulak's sister and the two of them talked their way into his apartment, stepping over the bodies on the stoop, and got him to give up without further violence. I forged a path between the funeral home and the home of those nice ladies, dictating several leads and updates before cabbing back to the office.

My first by-lined story at AP got me my first written commendation from the bosses. And it turned out to be the only time in my career - and my life - that I was shot at.

## My favorite caps



**Jim Bagby** - Never knew I had so many chapeaus until I went looking for where my annual St. Paddy's special had gotten to! In fact, I never wore hats until a few years ago. Just a trait that ran in the family. Then a video of me directing a chorus clearly showed a truth I'd been avoiding: a definite bare spot on the crown of my head.

So I acquired a yardwork hat...and a golf hat...and one for fishing...and of course, the new AP 75th anniversary ballcap was too good to pass up. A sudden shower when we were at DisneyWorld resulted in a straw Panama...and the opening of dove season at the James A. Reed Wildlife Refuge resulted in a free cap when I brought in a banded bird.

And so they accumulated: a blue "fisherman's" cap Joann fell in love with on the island of Mykonos during our 50th anniversary cruise, quartet hats and another ballcap from our favorite vacation spot, the Grand Canyon. So as my hair disappears, the memories accrue on my head.

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**Brian Bland** - A small sample of my work-connected hat-gathering over the years.

Main row, from the left: News Guild; Exxon Valdez (On the Rocks); AP All-News Radio; "modern" logo AP; Joe Conforte's Mustang Ranch (outside of Reno -- I was there on official business, honest!). Rear: AP Network Sports

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**Jim Carlson** - Mine include the Milwaukee Sentinel cap from when Pete Seymour and I bought them just before that morning newspaper vanished -- combined into the

afternoon Milwaukee Journal Sentinel back in 1995.

My engineer's cap goes back even farther -- from a road trip my wife and I took in 1975 to ride the Silverton-Durango steam train in the Rockies, among other stops.

Then there's the worn and frazzled AP model that made it through many sailing trips on Lake Michigan, as well as some visor chewing from the puppy days of our poodle Gigi.

Now I'm wearing a collection of "W" caps to honor my UW-Madison days.

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**Dan Day** - Go ahead, ask my wife how many baseball caps I have. The number likely tops 40, and that comes after an ultimatum Becky gave me to clear out a bunch a few years ago.

Depicted here is my rack of "active" caps, those that I wear regularly. Note the Philadelphia Phillies and Athletics caps at the top, above a pair of Cleveland's (Guardians and Indians), and at bottom the light-up San Francisco Giants cap that Andy Lippman sent me plus a Princeton University cap. Behind each of those caps are another three or four.

My auxiliary collection is in a large Ziploc bag in our cedar closet. The overwhelming majority of caps are from major league baseball teams, with a subset of golf caps and a Saskatchewan Roughriders cap my daughter gave me.

Why so many? Some days you put on a Modesto Nuts cap to stand out when you go to Costco, or maybe you get a sentimental feeling and put on the Kansas City Royals cap your sister-in-law sent you after you had the gall to root for the Mets against them in the 2015 World Series.

I can't declare a favorite, but one of the most special caps I have is a plastic Milwaukee Brewers replica batting helmet that I got at old Milwaukee County Stadium. Every time our family moved into a new house (a move typically induced by a certain wire service), we ceremonially hang the batting helmet above the mantel on our first day there, because we're safe at home.

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**Mike Embry** - My cap rack at the front door. There are 2-3 caps under each one and I probably have a dozen or more scattered about the house. I also have about 10 hats, which I prefer on sunny days because they shield my ears.

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**Paul Stevens** - When the fake owls we bought to scare off birds from our garden instead became resting spots for said birds, the owls were retired to guard our garage. (So far, they're doing their job, no cars stolen.) One day years ago, the thought occurred to me that they need caps to keep their heads warm. So they have just donned Kansas City Royals caps as spring training has begun, retiring the Kansas City Chiefs hats they wore in honor of the Super Bowl champs. The owls also wear Santa hats during the Christmas season. I count in my hat collection about 30 caps - all carrying the logos of my alma mater schools of Iowa and Kansas, my favorite teams the Chiefs and the Royals, the U.S. Air Force – and of course, the AP.

# Kids learning photography from Nick



**Nick Ut** – Here is a picture showing me teaching school children how to use a camera and take pictures, in Hung Yen Ha Noi Vietnam.

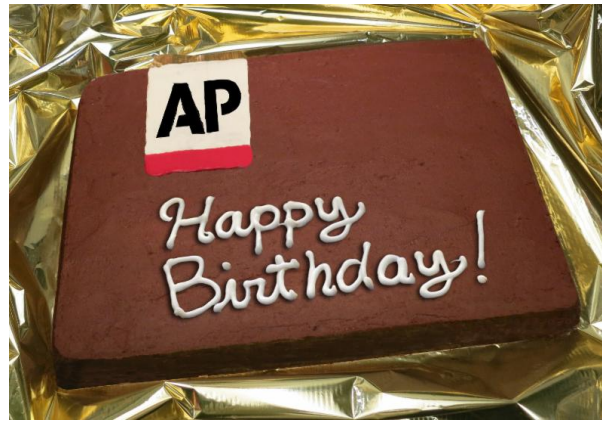
## North Carolina morning dog walk





Shot and shared by [Dennis Conrad](#)

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Dennis Anderson](#)

[Leanne Italie](#)

[Carl Leubsdorf](#)

[Arlene Levinson](#)

[Jeffrey Robbins](#)

*On Saturday to...*

[Heidi Brown](#)

*On Sunday to...*

[Bruce Nathan](#)

[Rick Rogers](#)

## Stories of interest

*State of Journalism 2023 survey*

CNN Reliable Sources:

**The State of Play: Muck Rack** has released the results of its annual State of Journalism survey. The final report drew on interviews from more than 2,200 journalists across the world. "With the industry facing issues like wavering trust in the media, threats to free press and lack of funding, it's hard to recall a more challenging time for journalism," Muck Rack CEO Gregory Galant said. "This survey sheds light on the deep responsibility journalists have to deliver news and information to the public and how they're managing it with limited resources." Some highlights of the survey:

- ▶ Two out of three journalists said economic uncertainty had impacted their work, with 22% saying that they have made a career change as a result of it and 21% saying that layoffs had increased their workload.
- ▶ The primary concerns plaguing the industry identified by respondents? "Lack of funding" and "disinformation" were tied for the top spot. "Trust in journalism and media" came in third.
- ▶ 90% of journalists surveyed said they remain on Twitter. That said, Elon Musk's hostile takeover of the social media company appears to be giving them second thoughts. 50% said they have considered leaving the platform in the past year.
- ▶ Only 9% of journalists selected TikTok as their most valuable social network, far below Twitter (78%), Facebook (34%), LinkedIn (32%), Instagram (24%), YouTube (19%), and Reddit (10%). But 22% said they plan to spend more time on TikTok this year.

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## ***Former N&O editor named to lead all News operations for parent company McClatchy***

**BY BROOKE CAIN**

Robyn Tomlin, former president and executive editor of Raleigh's The News & Observer, is the new chief news officer for McClatchy, the company announced Wednesday.

Tomlin will oversee the division responsible for all news, opinion and multimedia content created across McClatchy's network of 30 local news sites and affiliated brands, according to a news release from the company. McClatchy is The News & Observer's parent company.

Tomlin, who was previously vice president of local news for McClatchy, will be part of McClatchy's five-person executive leadership team. TOP VIDEOS Top Videos 00:51 01:30 I-40 near Cary Crossroads in Wake County to get major overhaul in effort to ease congestion

"It's an incredible honor to lead and serve alongside the hundreds of extraordinary journalists across McClatchy as we work together to become the premier digital

portals for high-impact news and information in all of the communities we serve,” Tomlin said in a news release.

Tomlin, who lives in Cary, took over as interim head of news in February after Kristin Roberts stepped down. Following Roberts, Tomlin is the second woman to lead the McClatchy news division in the company’s 166-year history.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***FBI: Newspaper editor interfered with police at Capitol riot*** (AP)

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN

A former top editor of an Orthodox Jewish newspaper in New York City was arrested Thursday on charges that he interfered with police officers who were trying to protect the U.S. Capitol during the Jan. 6 riot.

Elliot Resnick, 39, was chief editor of The Jewish Press when he joined the crowd of Donald Trump supporters who stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, according to an FBI agent’s affidavit.

Videos show Resnick grabbing and holding the arm of a Capitol police sergeant who was spraying a chemical irritant to prevent rioters from entering the building, the affidavit says. Another officer tried to remove Resnick’s hand from the sergeant’s arm, the agent wrote.

The FBI arrested Resnick in New York City on charges including civil disorder and assault of or interference with law enforcement. Clay Kaminsky, an attorney representing Resnick in New York, declined to comment on the charges.

Read more [here](#)

## **The Final Word**

***Manhattan - in 1851 and today***





For more Then and Now photos, click [here](#).

## Coming events

***Updated Registration for May 19-21 AP Connecting Reunion in Texas***

Please join us for the May 19-21, 2023, AP Connecting Reunion in the Dallas area. Co-hosts are:

Mike Holmes of Omaha [imikeholmes@cox.net](mailto:imikeholmes@cox.net)  
and Diana Heidgerd of Dallas [heidgerd@flash.net](mailto:heidgerd@flash.net)

Please pay your own way to all events. A list of people planning to attend is at the end of this registration advisory (will be updated). Two group meals are planned, Friday night May 19 (\$25 per person) and Saturday night May 20 (\$40 per person). You are invited to attend either meal or both (total cost: \$65).

The reunion hotel is the Residence Inn DFW Airport North/Grapevine (details below), with free parking, free airport shuttle and free breakfast. This hotel also has a bar, restaurant and outdoor pool. Please reserve your hotel room by May 1. AP Reunion check-in will begin, with your co-hosts, on Friday afternoon, May 19, in the hotel lobby.

#### **GROUP SCHEDULE:**

Friday night, May 19: BBQ dinner (\$25 per person) at Meat-U-Anywhere in Trophy Club, operated by former AP journalist David Sedeno & his family.

Saturday night, May 20: Tex-Mex dinner (\$40 per person) at the reunion hotel: Residence Inn DFW Airport North/Grapevine.

Sunday afternoon, May 21: Limited number of tickets (\$15 per person) available for Texas Rangers vs. Colorado Rockies game at Globe Life Field in Arlington. Join Diana & Paul Heidgerd at the game!

#### **REUNION REGISTRATION (deadline May 1):**

Email the name(s) of those attending & a contact phone number to Diana Heidgerd: [heidgerd@flash.net](mailto:heidgerd@flash.net)

How many for group dinner Friday night, May 19 (\$25 per person) at Meat-U-Anywhere in Trophy Club, 91 Trophy Club Drive, Trophy Club, TX 76262. Includes BBQ meal, soft drink or tea, plus dessert. Restaurant is BYOB, no alcohol sold on the premises. Convenience stores are nearby. Please coordinate with Mike Holmes if you wish to donate funds/beverages for a 5 p.m.-6 p.m. happy hour [imikeholmes@cox.net](mailto:imikeholmes@cox.net) Dinner 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Note: We have to confirm the number of paid meals, so if you commit to attending BBQ dinner please be prepared to pay for your spot. You can reserve a spot but cancel no later than May 1, at no cost to you. More details later on paying.

How many for group dinner Saturday night, May 20 (\$40 per person), from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. at the **Residence Inn DFW Airport North/Grapevine**. Includes Tex-Mex buffet, iced tea, plus dessert. Beer, wine & mixed drinks available for sale at hotel bar. Note: We have to confirm the number of paid meals, so if you commit to attending Tex-Mex dinner please be prepared to pay for your spot. You can reserve a spot but cancel no later than May 1, at no cost to you. More details later on paying.

How many Texas Rangers tickets for Sunday afternoon, May 21, at 1:35 p.m. vs Colorado Rockies? (\$15 per ticket). Two game promotions: *Rangers Powder Blue Visor (first 15,000 guests) & Blue Bell Ice Cream Sunday treats for \$1 (kids 13 & under).*

**GROUP HOTEL/RESERVE A ROOM:** Includes free shuttle to/from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and within 5 miles of hotel.

**Residence Inn DFW Airport North/Grapevine**

**2020 State Highway 26**

**Grapevine, TX 76051**

**972-539-8989 (call this hotel number to request the free airport shuttle)**

Use this link to book (by May 1) at the AP Reunion rate: [Book your group rate for AP Reunion](#)

Would you like an accessible/special needs room? Call the hotel directly & ask for the "AP Reunion" rate. 972-539-8989.

Some possible individual outings:

Main Street Fest in nearby Grapevine, all weekend. Free shuttle from hotel. [Mainstreetfest.com](http://Mainstreetfest.com)

Fort Worth cowboy history & museums, including Fort Worth Stockyards. [Fortworthstockyards.org](http://Fortworthstockyards.org)

History of 1963 JFK assassination. The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza in Dallas. [JFK.org](http://JFK.org)

Current presidential history, on SMU campus in Dallas. The George W. Bush Presidential Center. [Bushcenter.org](http://Bushcenter.org)

Tour AT&T Stadium, home of the Dallas Cowboys. [Attstadium.com](http://Attstadium.com)

Reminder: please register by May 1: [heidgerd@flash.net](mailto:heidgerd@flash.net)

People planning to attend: (will be updated)

- Amanda Barnett
- Barry & Patty Bedlan
- Katie Fairbank
- Steve Graham
- Stephen & Andrea Hawkins
- Diana & Paul Heidgerd
- Mike Holmes
- Mark Lambert
- Dale & Linda Leach
- John McFarland
- Michelle Mittelstadt
- Charles & Barbara Richards
- Linda & Ed Sargent
- David & Ellen Sedeno
- Ed & Barbara Staats
- Terry Wallace
- Sylvia & Will Wingfield



# Today in History - March 17, 2023



Today is Friday, March 17, the 76th day of 2023. There are 289 days left in the year. This is St. Patrick's Day.

## Today's highlight in history:

On March 17, 1969, Golda Meir became prime minister of Israel.

## On this date:

In 1762, New York held its first St. Patrick's Day parade.

In 1776, the Revolutionary War Siege of Boston ended as British forces evacuated the city.

In 1905, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt married Franklin Delano Roosevelt in New York.

In 1941, the National Gallery of Art opened in Washington, D.C.

In 1942, six days after departing the Philippines during World War II, Gen. Douglas MacArthur arrived in Australia to become supreme commander of Allied forces in the southwest Pacific theater.

In 1950, scientists at the University of California at Berkeley announced they had created a new radioactive element, "californium."

In 1966, a U.S. Navy midget submarine located a missing hydrogen bomb that had fallen from a U.S. Air Force B-52 bomber into the Mediterranean off Spain. (It took several more weeks to actually recover the bomb.)

In 1970, the United States cast its first veto in the U.N. Security Council, killing a resolution that would have condemned Britain for failing to use force to overthrow the white-ruled government of Rhodesia.



In 2003, edging to the brink of war, President George W. Bush gave Saddam Hussein 48 hours to leave his country. Iraq rejected Bush's ultimatum, saying that a U.S. attack to force Saddam from power would be "a grave mistake."

In 2010, Michael Jordan became the first ex-player to become a majority owner in the NBA as the league's Board of Governors unanimously approved Jordan's \$275 million bid to buy the Charlotte Bobcats from Bob Johnson.

In 2016, finally bowing to years of public pressure, SeaWorld Entertainment said it would no longer breed killer whales or make them perform crowd-pleasing tricks.

In 2020, the Kentucky Derby and the French Open were each postponed from May to September because of the coronavirus.

Ten years ago: Two members of Steubenville, Ohio's celebrated high school football team were found guilty of raping a drunken 16-year-old girl and sentenced to at least a year in juvenile prison in a case that rocked the Rust Belt city of 18,000. Former Oklahoma quarterback Steve Davis, 60, who led the Sooners to back-to-back national championships in the 1970s, was killed in a private plane crash in northern Indiana. Louisville earned the top overall seed in the NCAA tournament after a topsy-turvy season in college basketball.

Five years ago: Superstore company Fred Meyer announced that it would stop selling guns and ammunition; in the aftermath of the Florida high school shooting, the company had earlier said it would stop selling firearms to anyone under 21. Russia said it was expelling 23 British diplomats in a growing diplomatic dispute over a nerve agent attack on a former spy in Britain.

One year ago: Rescuers searched for survivors in the ruins of a theater blown apart by a Russian airstrike in the besieged Ukrainian city of Mariupol, while ferocious bombardment left dozens dead in a northern city. U.S. Olympic figure skater Alysa Liu and her father Arthur Liu – a former political refugee – were among those targeted in a spying operation that the Justice Department alleged was ordered by the Chinese government. St. Patrick's Day parades across the U.S., including the largest in New York City, resumed after a pandemic-driven hiatus.

Today's Birthdays: The former national chairwoman of the NAACP, Myrlie Evers-Williams, is 90. Former astronaut Ken Mattingly is 87. Singer-songwriter John Sebastian (The Lovin' Spoonful) is 79. Former NSA Director and former CIA Director Michael Hayden is 78. Rock musician Harold Brown (War; Lowrider Band) is 77. Actor Patrick Duffy is 74. Actor Kurt Russell is 72. Country singer Susie Allanson is 71. Actor Lesley-Anne Down is 69. Actor Mark Boone Jr. is 68. Country singer Paul Overstreet is 68. Actor Gary Sinise is 68. Actor Christian Clemenson is 65. Former basketball and baseball player Danny Ainge is 64. Actor Arye Gross is 63. Actor Vicki Lewis is 63. Actor Casey Siemaszko (sheh-MA'-zshko) is 62. Writer-director Rob Sitch is 61. Actor Rob Lowe is 59. Rock singer Billy Corgan is 56. Actor Mathew St. Patrick is 55. Actor Yanic (YAH'-neek) Truesdale is 54. Rock musician Melissa Auf der Maur is 51. Olympic gold medal soccer player Mia Hamm is 51. Rock musician Caroline Corr (The Corrs) is 50. Actor Amelia Heinle is 50. Country singer Keifer Thompson (Thompson Square) is 50. Actor Marisa Coughlan is 49. Actor Natalie Zea is 48. Sports reporter Tracy Wolfson is 48. Actor Brittany Daniel is 47. Singer and TV personality Tamar Braxton is 46. Country

musician Geoff Sprung (Old Dominion) is 45. Reggaeton singer Nicky Jam is 42. TV personality Rob Kardashian is 36. Pop/rock singer-songwriter Hozier is 33. Actor Eliza Hope Bennett is 31. Actor John Boyega is 31. Olympic gold medal swimmer Katie Ledecky is 26. Actor Flynn Morrison is 18.

## 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:

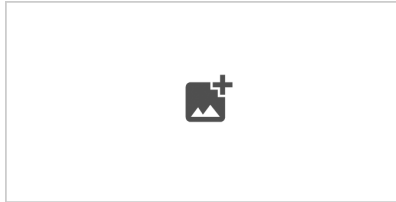
- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **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

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