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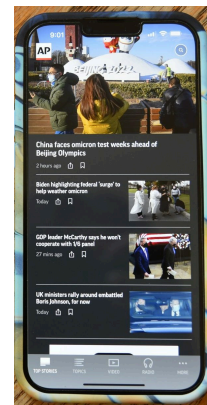
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Connecting

March 5, 2024

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this March 5, 2024,

In today's Connecting:

Our colleague **Bob Reid**'s recap of his 55 years in journalism – a journey that still continues with Stars and Stripes – brought comment from two of his Connecting colleagues.

Our colleague **Ebony Reed** brings us details of a new book, Fifteen Cents on the Dollar: How Americans Made the Black-White Wealth Gap, which she jointly reported and wrote with **Louise Story**, her former boss from the Wall Street Journal. During Ebony's tenure at AP, she formerly was the assistant chief of bureau, New England, and later held a national business development role from Boston before leaving the AP in 2016.

Here's to a great day – be safe, stay healthy, live it to your fullest.

Paul

Bob Reid – ‘What a legendary career’

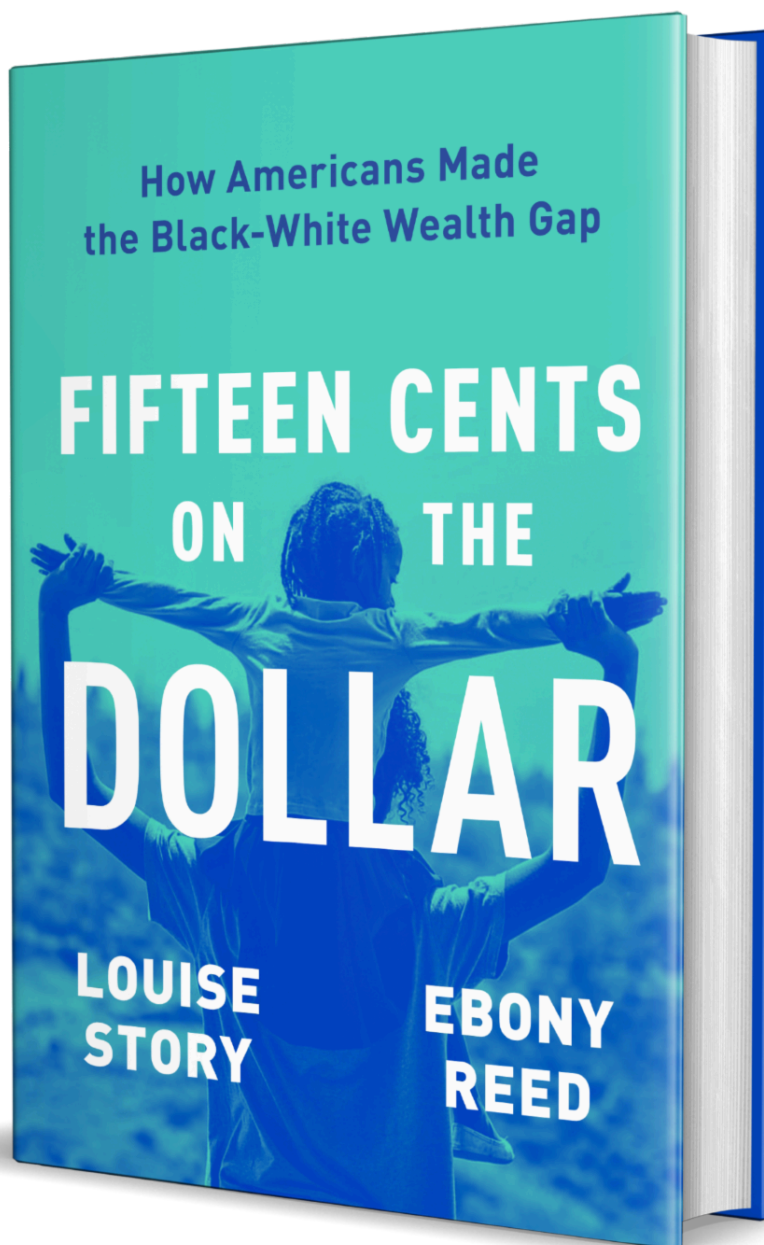
Robert Burns - Reading Bob Reid's summary of 55 years as a print journalist made me shake my head in wonderment. I count myself among the fortunate ones who caught a few glimpses of Bob's legendary dedication and work ethic. I'll always remember popping in to the temporary AP bureau in Doha several weeks before the start of the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003. I had been in Qatar for a few days with Gen. Tommy Franks, the commander of Central Command, to report on the military's preparations for the anticipated invasion. It was about midnight and I had time to stop by the AP office before catching a flight back to DC. I asked for Bob and was told he was about to walk into the newsroom after catching a nap. That was classic Bob Reid. Work all day, catch a few zzzzz, then work half the night, only to do it all again the next day. He was a relentless leader then, and I doubt he has slowed down! What a legendary career.

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Jim Limbach - In my 33+years at AP Radio, there were certain "wiresiders" we could count on to cover us on overseas stories. Bob Reid was among those at the top of the list.

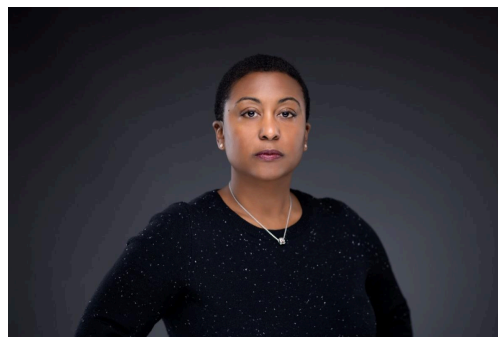
Congrats, Bob on 55 years of excellence.

Former AP colleague coauthors book on the Black-white wealth gap



Ebony Reed at right. Photo/Chichi Ubina

[A week ago, former AP colleague Ebony Reed](#) held a Racial Wealth Gap Symposium in Kansas City, Mo., with the backing of the Kauffman Foundation and the Players Coalition, which is an organization of professional athletes concerned about social justice. You can read more about the event and hear the audio on [KCUR's website](#).



Ebony provided some details about the book, *Fifteen Cents on the Dollar: How Americans Made the Black-White Wealth Gap*, which she jointly reported and wrote

with Louise Story, her former boss from the Wall Street Journal. During Ebony's tenure at AP, she formerly was the Assistant Chief of Bureau New England and later held a national business development role from Boston before leaving the AP in 2016.

How did the book come about?

Like many people Louise and I had conversations in the summer of 2020 about society, inequities, things we'd seen in our lifetimes and began reading some materials together. Some of those works included slave narratives as we thought about the lives of the people who came before us and what they experienced. We talked about the 2008 economic crisis and who recovered, who didn't and why. We talked about our own personal experiences and that led us down this path to produce this book that took almost 400 interviews, our own commissioned small Harris Poll and a deep dive on seven Black families of different economic levels. As you meet the people in our book, we flip back in time and you meet their relatives and you see what was happening in our country based on their experiences. We used court records, land records, records from public information requests, Freedman's bank records, Census records and other documents along with historical research, federal data and academic research to create this book in a narrative style that is written in a very accessible way for all Americans to read.

How can people learn more about the project?

Go to 15cents.info and there's information on the book, data on the Black-white wealth gap and endorsements from thought leaders, economic experts, journalists and other authors. Janelle Jones, the former chief economist for the Department of Labor, praises this book. Heather McGhee, author of *The Sum of Us*, says, "Fifteen Cents on the Dollar is an unforgettable look into how the racial wealth divide impacts families, our economy and our society as a whole."

Also, Louise and I together and also separately hold some virtual events. If anyone who has preordered the book wants to grab a couple dozen friends and neighbors, we'll jump on a video call with you and give a data preview and chat with you about the issues you'll encounter as you read the book. I don't think we'll have the capacity to do that after the book is released on June 4. But you can go to 15cents.info and send us a request. If you are a former colleague, just DM me.

What are you most proud of?

#1: We finished. It was a very ambitious project and it had so many moving pieces. My late fiancé NFL journalist, Terez A. Paylor, who died in 2021, read an early proposal and he encouraged me to do this book with Louise. So, in some respects, I have completed nearly everything that was on our immediate checklist as a couple. I know Terez is watching over me from heaven and is very proud. I feel it in every part of my being. #2: People will be moved by the human stories and I hope that makes an impact along with the data on leaders and those in a position to spark change. #3: I used every skill I have ever developed in every job I have ever held, dating back to my first job in Cleveland, OH. I'm really proud of that and as I wrote records requests, interviewed people and looked up data, I thought about all of the journalists I have worked with and learned from. I thought about how I hoped to harness all of those skills and lessons into something for public good through this book. And I also thought

about my colleagues on the business side. I've used my skills in fundraising and business management as we set up sponsorships and handled other business aspects of this project. All of me is in this project and I thank everyone who has ever invested in me.

AP wins NPPA Best of Photojournalism awards

AP took home 14 prizes at the 2024 National Press Photographers Association (NPPA) Awards, including first prize in breaking news, breaking news story, feature and more.

After a month of submissions, another month of first-round judging to narrow the field and a marathon weekend of work, the National Press Photographers Association is proud to present to you the Best of Photojournalism – images, stories, videos and presentations that impact the world we live in.

Here is a listing of Associated Press honorees:

Breaking News First Place: Mohammed Dahman – Associated Press, War in Gaza

Breaking News Story First Place: Evgeniy Maloletka – Associated Press, Russia Ukraine War

Feature First Place : Matias Delacroix – Associated Press, Pulling the Net

Sports Feature First Place : Abbie Parr – Associated Press, Card of Hearts

Third Place : Lindsey Wasson – Associated Press, Dunk

Politics Second Place : Andrew Harnik – Associated Press, US Congress

Portrait/Personality Second Place : David Goldman – Associated Press, Losing Jessica

Portrait Series Second Place : Rodrigo Abd – Associated Press, Afghanistan in a New Light

Cliff Edom New America Award - Third Place : David Goldman – Associated Press, Freedom Under Fire

Sports Story Honorable Mention : Erin Hooley – Associated Press, Theon Davis and the Chicago Golden Gloves at 100

News and Issue – Online Video Individual Second Place : Shelby Lum – Associated Press – The Latest Step Toward Animal-Human Transplants

Culture, Sports, and Science – Online Video Individual First Place : Shelby Lum – Associated Press – Clues to Escaping Alzheimer's

Honorable Mention : Shelby Lum – Associated Press – How to Make Beef Better

Portfolio – Online Video Individual First Place : Shelby Lum – Associated Press – Shelby Lum Portfolio

Click [here](#) for complete list of winners. Shared by Lauren Easton.

Doug Pizac ... and competition

Bruce Lowitt - Doug Pizac's recollection in Monday's Connecting about setting a standard for competing photographers ("If disappeared on you, then you were about to get skunked.") reminded me of a moment during the 1982 NFL players' strike which Ira Rosenfeld (AP Washington buro) and I (NY Sports) double-teamed from start to finish during negotiations in hotels in Cockeysville, Md., and New York. We got more than our share of scoops during the 57 days the strike lasted.

Late one morning during talks in the midtown Manhattan hotel, I was schmoozing with several other writers in the lobby when Ira burst out of the elevator, grabbed me, said "C'mon!" and raced out into the street with me a step behind. We turned the corner at full speed, at which point Ira slammed on the brakes.

"What've you got?" I asked breathlessly.

"Nothing," Ira said. "I just want to see what'll happen."

Seconds later a pack of sportswriters flew around the corner to find us smiling innocently.

Death of home delivery

Bill Kaczor - I received the attached note with my Sunday newspaper. SAD!!! It was the last morning delivery of the Pensacola News Journal that I will receive as part of a move across Gannett to shift distribution of the printed newspaper to the US Postal Service. Of course, I can get the "enewspaper" via the internet, but it's not quite the same. Both have the same, stale two-day old, sometimes older, news, so I most likely will wait until the mail arrives in the afternoon at the community mailbox across the street. That's except for Saturday. Gannett eliminated Saturday print newspapers some time ago. We've been promised the Sunday paper will arrive in the Saturday mail, so that may be a plus. Right now, I have the News Journal on double-secret probation. Monday's paper arrived on time. So far so good, but if delivery deteriorates, I may be forced to give up print altogether. I don't mind paying more for my daily dose of "hot medium" at least for now because I consider the newspaper and USPS as well to be charities.

The Party's Over.....

We have reached the end.

Thanks for putting a bean in my pot for the last 30 years.

You all have been great.

Thanks, so much.

Robert C. Miller

On John Lennon and Today in History

[Joe Galu](#) – Re this item in Monday's Today in History:

In 1966, John Lennon of The Beatles was quoted in the London Evening Standard as saying, "We're more popular than Jesus now," a comment that caused an angry backlash in the United States.

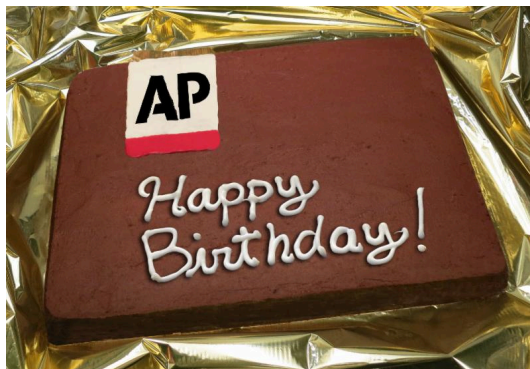
I've listened to that John Lennon quote, which is somewhat longer. His tone of voice is quite clear -- he's complaining, not bragging. He said that to many teenagers they treat the Beatles as if they were more popular than Jesus. It may have been poorly worded on his part, but his critics certainly jumped on it.

Best display of initials



[Carol Riha](#) - Spotted this on "Maker Place by Michaels," a site for handcrafted goods. I'd say this is one of the best display of our initials:

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[David Lawrence](#)

Stories of interest

A look at the broadcast news industry from RTDNA CEO Dan Shelley (Editor and Publisher)

Episode 227 of "E&P Reports" - A Vodcast series hosted by Mike Blinder

In September 2023, E&P reported on the Arizona Newspapers Association and the Arizona Broadcasters Association merger.

In the past year, there have been several legacy newspaper and public media mergers, such as Chicago Public Media's acquisition of the Chicago Sun-Times, The Steinman's "gifting" of their 150+-year-old Lancaster, PA newspaper to the local public broadcasting outlet and the Denton (TX) Record-Chronicle becoming part of Dallas-Fort Worth's KERA Public Broadcasting operations.

Many news media pundits predict that, in the very near future, we will see more broadcasting and newspaper newsrooms working as one to compete for larger audiences and achieve new economies of scale to achieve sustainable business models.

E&P gains insights from the Radio Television Digital News Association's CEO & President Dan Shelley on how the RTDNA is helping journalism survive in today's complex local news media ecosystem. Topics discussed in this episode of "E&P Reports" include the fight for cameras (and microphones) in courtrooms. Should the news media industry police itself in defining who is a journalist? We also explore the growth of citizen journalism, its impact on local news media outlets and more.

Dan Shelley is president and CEO of the Radio Television Digital News Association (RTDNA) and president of the RTDNA Foundation. Previously, Dan was senior vice president of digital content strategy for iHeartMedia, senior vice president at

Interactive One (part of Radio One), director of digital media at WCBS-TV, New York and an executive producer for WCBS-TV News.

Read more [here](#).

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Margaret Sullivan: Why the leak investigation inside the New York Times newsroom is so disturbing

MARGARET SULLIVAN

Last week, there was drama at the New York Times.

Of course, there's always drama at the Times; it seems baked in to this large, dominant and influential news organization. I experienced that often when I was the paper's public editor, or reader representative, from 2012 to 2016.

But this episode had some especially troubling elements. At its heart are questions about the credibility of a shocking Times story, published in late December, in the wake of the horrific Oct. 7 attack on Israel.

The front-page story revealed a pattern of rape, mutilation and extreme brutality against Israeli women and said that Hamas had "weaponized sexual violence" as part of the attack.

But the family of one woman who was killed in the Oct. 7 attack, and whom the story reported apparently had been raped, questioned aspects of the reporting. And a freelancer who helped report the story was found to have shown her approval, on social media, of the idea of turning the Gaza strip into "a slaughterhouse."

Read more [here](#).

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Climate journalism is strong in hard-hit countries (CIRES)

Climate change has disproportionate impacts globally, and in the most vulnerable and impacted countries, journalists report on the issue in unique and in-depth ways, according to a February study published in Environmental Research Letters. The study called into question previous research that found news coverage in less-resourced countries lacked journalistic resources and scientific training.

Lucy McAllister, a former CU Boulder PhD student and current professor of Environmental Studies at Denison University, led the study alongside CIRES Fellow Max Boykoff and a team of international interdisciplinary researchers from Munich to Manitoba.

“As people increasingly experience overlapping climate impacts, it is critical that the media articulately convey the interconnected nature of climate change,” said McAllister. “There is a biased narrative, that reporting in less-resourced countries is less comprehensive, but we found the opposite: Media in the more-resourced countries have much to learn from media in the most vulnerable countries.”

The study analyzed nearly 100,000 news articles from 50 sources over 10 years (2010-2020), and the team focused on 26 countries most vulnerable to climate change, including Botswana and Bangladesh. The authors used machine learning, statistical analysis, and qualitative content analysis of news articles to examine how countries in less-resourced countries covered climate change.

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

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IN INTERNAL MEETING, CHRISTIANE AMANPOUR CONFRONTS CNN BRASS ABOUT “DOUBLE STANDARDS” ON ISRAEL COVERAGE (The Intercept)

Daniel Boguslaw, Prem Thakker

CNN EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING the renowned international news anchor Christiane Amanpour, confronted network executives over what the staffers described as myriad leadership failings in coverage of Israel’s war on Gaza, according to a leaked recording of a recent all-hands meeting obtained by The Intercept.

In the hourlong meeting at CNN’s London Bureau on February 13, staffers took turns questioning a panel of executives about CNN’s protocols for covering the war in Gaza and what they describe as a hostile climate for Arab reporters. Several junior and senior CNN employees described feeling devalued, embarrassed, and disgraced by CNN’s war coverage.

The panelists — CNN Worldwide CEO and CNN Editor-in-Chief Mark Thompson, CNN U.S. Executive Editor Virginia Moseley, and CNN International General Manager Mike McCarthy — responded with broad assurances that the employees’ concerns were being heard, while also defending CNN’s work and pointing to the persistent obstacle of gaining access inside the Gaza Strip.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Charlie Hanley.

The Final Word

CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers

Shared by Adolphe Bernotas

Today in History - March 5, 2024



Today is Tuesday, March 5, the 65th day of 2024. There are 301 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history:

On March 5, 1953, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin died after three decades in power.

On this date:

In 1770, the Boston Massacre took place as British soldiers who'd been taunted by a crowd of colonists opened fire, killing five people.

In 1849, Zachary Taylor was inaugurated as the 12th president of the United States. (The swearing-in was delayed by a day because March 4 fell on a Sunday.)

In 1868, the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson began in the U.S. Senate, with Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase presiding. Johnson, the first U.S. president to be impeached, was accused of "high crimes and misdemeanors" stemming from his attempt to fire Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; the trial ended on May 26 with Johnson's acquittal.

In 1933, in German parliamentary elections, the Nazi Party won 44 percent of the vote; the Nazis joined with a conservative nationalist party to gain a slender majority

in the Reichstag.

In 1946, Winston Churchill delivered his “Iron Curtain” speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, in which he said: “From Stettin in the Baltic, to Trieste in the Adriatic, an ‘iron curtain’ has descended across the continent, allowing police governments to rule Eastern Europe.”

In 1963, country music performers Patsy Cline, Cowboy Copas and Hawkshaw Hawkins died in the crash of their plane, a Piper Comanche, near Camden, Tennessee, along with pilot Randy Hughes (Cline’s manager).

In 1970, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons went into effect after 43 nations ratified it.

In 1979, NASA’s Voyager 1 space probe flew past Jupiter, sending back photographs of the planet and its moons.

In 1982, comedian John Belushi was found dead of a drug overdose in a rented bungalow in Hollywood; he was 33.

In 1998, NASA scientists said enough water was frozen in the loose soil of the moon to support a lunar base and perhaps, one day, a human colony.

In 2004, Martha Stewart was convicted in New York of obstructing justice and lying to the government about why she’d unloaded her Imclone stock just before the price plummeted; her ex-stockbroker, Peter Bacanovic, also was found guilty in the stock scandal. (Each later received a five-month prison sentence.)

In 2013, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, Latin America’s most vocal and controversial leader, died in Caracas at age 58 after a struggle with cancer.

In 2018, Los Angeles police arrested a man on charges that he stole Frances McDormand’s Oscar trophy after the Academy Awards a night earlier; the award was returned to the actress. (The charges would later be dismissed.)

In 2020, Palestinian officials closed the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem over fears of the coronavirus. Officials ordered a cruise ship with 3,500 people aboard to stay back from the California coast until passengers and crew could be tested; a traveler from its previous voyage died of the coronavirus.

In 2021, California relaxed guidelines for reopening outdoor venues, clearing the way for fans to attend opening-day baseball games and return to Disneyland nearly a year after coronavirus restrictions shut down major entertainment spots.

In 2022, a promised cease-fire in the Ukrainian port city of Mariupol collapsed amid scenes of terror in the besieged town. The number of people fleeing the country reached 1.4 million just 10 days after Russian forces invaded.

Today’s birthdays: Actor Paul Sand is 92. Actor James B. Sikking is 90. Actor Fred Williamson is 86. Actor Samantha Eggar is 85. Actor Michael Warren is 78. Singer Eddy Grant is 76. Rock musician Alan Clark (Dire Straits) is 72. Actor-comedian Marsha

Warfield is 70. Magician Penn Jillette is 69. Actor Adriana Barraza is 68. Actor Talia Balsam is 65. Rock singers Charlie and Craig Reid (The Proclaimers) are 62. Pro Football Hall of Famer Michael Irvin is 58. Actor Paul Blackthorne is 55. Rock musician John Frusciante is 54. Singer Rome is 54. Actor Kevin Connolly is 50. Actor Eva Mendes is 50. Actor Jill Ritchie is 50. Actor Jolene Blalock is 49. Model Niki Taylor is 49. Actor Kimberly McCullough is 46. Actor Karolina Wydra is 43. Singer-songwriter Amanda Shires is 42. Actor Dominique McElligott is 38. Actor Sterling Knight is 35. Actor Jake Lloyd is 35. Actor Micah Fowler is 26.

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that reaches more than 1,800 retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013. 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 Central Region 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.

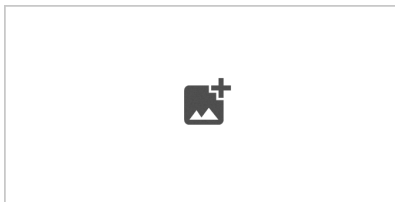
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

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

Paul Stevens

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