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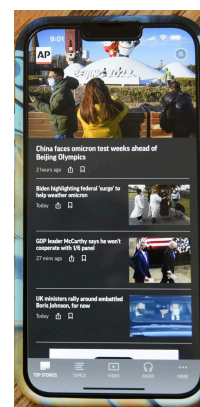
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Connecting

March 21, 2024

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this March 21, 2024,

Within minutes after sending Wednesday’s issue with news of Gannett and McClatchy deciding to leave the AP, this note entered my Inbox from longtime friend **Dawn Kitchell**, former head of Newspaper In Education for the Missouri Press Association and now owner of a book store in Washington, Mo.:

“I could not believe today’s headline on USA Today and McClatchy. I am so grateful to all the AP professionals across the world who keep us informed.”

Thanks, Dawn, we all needed that.

Today’s issue brings reaction from Connecting colleagues to the announcements by the two newspaper groups that their newspapers no longer will use AP after the end of this month.

And we bring a remembrance of the Albany bureau by **Denis Gray**, longtime Bangkok bureau chief, to whom I will forever be tied because I was, in AP parlance of the day, his "numerical replacement." Back in fall 1973, Denis was an Albany staffer who was promoted to the AP's Saigon bureau during the Vietnam War. I was on the hiring circular and was selected by Albany CoB Ed Staats to replace Denis on the Albany staff.

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

Paul

Connecting colleagues weigh in on Gannett, McClatchy announcements

Mark Berns - One thing I haven't seen in any of the stories about this breakup is what effect it will have on Gannett and McClatchy contributions to the report. It's been a while since I've been involved, obviously, so that may not be a big issue anymore, but it certainly would have been in my day.

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Jim Carlson - I'm another one of those who likes to get the newspaper in my hands, so the news about Gannett deciding to drop most AP service hits home. The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel is a Gannett paper, so we will likely drop the home delivery.

I recently had noted a shift of the paper to more USA Today content and less AP, a precursor of what we now know.

I guess it's time to drop it and send along complaints to the managers, even though they have really done well in maintaining coverage despite so many staff cuts, with use of things like the Report for America journalists.

But production cuts have made home delivery less and less valuable. It's now a paper edited in Milwaukee, printed in Peoria, Ill., and trucked back to Wisconsin. That means no late afternoon or evening sports or news gets into the home edition until 24 hours later! What a way to run a railroad.

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Tim Dahlberg - It's no secret the model that served the AP so well over so many years has been broken for quite a while now. Luckily, people like Tom Curley and others were wise enough to recognize that early and find alternative sources of income to offset the collapse of the U.S. newspaper market.

Yes, the decisions by Gannett and McClatchy are short sighted and will help further their demise. But the two chains have been making bad decisions for a long time now, so yet another one is no real surprise.

I have to think, though, that a shrinking AP has made those decisions easier to make. In Nevada, where we operate two weekly newspapers, there is little to pick from anymore on the state wire, not even enough to put together a decent package of briefs (which the AP apparently doesn't do anymore either). There is sports, but even that is mostly all Raiders and betting. The recent Mountain West basketball tournament was covered by a robot and a stringer for games with ranked teams but no one was sent to the championship game because the ranked teams had been beaten by then.

So for a game that featured a team that played for the national title last year (San Diego State) against a team trying to run the table and get a bid into the NCAA tournament, we didn't even send a stringer. Not sure if the story was automatically generated but it read like it and had absolutely no quotes. How can you expect anyone to pay for that?

Unfortunately, short-sighted thinking is not exclusive to the newspaper chains.

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Linda Deutsch - What worries me, among many things about the Gannett and McClatchy announcements is that I really don't know how the readers of these two chains' papers and digital outlets will get their news. They do not have the AP's ability to keep reporters and photographers in every part of the world. (Wasn't this why the AP was formed in the first place?). The LA Times these days is comprised of more than half AP stories. Almost all of its foreign coverage comes from AP. The AP covers Ukraine, Israel, Haiti, Venezuela, El Salvador, India, China, the Middle East and many other far-flung parts of the world that no one else has enough staff to reach. The LA Times with all its own difficulties knows that and relies on AP. My friend Edie Lederer, who is one of only a handful of reporters covering the United Nations, sees her stories appear every day in The Washington Post among other major news sources that don't even have desks at the UN. It's understandable that chain papers want to cover their local news the way it needs to be covered. But a lack of information about world affairs will have dire political consequences and could alter the course of history. There has been mention of Reuters picking up some of the slack. But again, its reach is not as wide as AP. I'm confident AP will survive but what about the country's critical information network? What about the world?

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Steve Hendren - McClatchy: "With this decision, we will no longer pay millions for content that serves less than 1 percent of our readers,"

Wow. I didn't realize how irrelevant the AP reporting is. Not!

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Jim Hood - The news that Gannett and McClatchy were planning to leave AP stunned newsrooms around the country but it seemed sort of business-as-normal to me. That's because I had weathered – some would say caused – similar cataclysms elsewhere.

Back in the mid-1980s, my longtime boss, Roy Steinfort, retired as VP for AP Broadcast and my new boss made it clear that he found my presence annoying and nonessential. Visions of a posting to Fargo danced in my head and I made arrangements to disappear, which seemed to please everyone.

But the next day, I reappeared as VP for UPI Broadcast, which appeared to please no one. AP dispatched attorneys to enforce a non-existent non-compete clause and all was well, except at UPI, where CBS News had filed a cancellation notice that the Unipressers viewed as devastating.

It didn't surprise me. I had known it was coming ever since we introduced APTV, a high-speed wire formulated for television. It allowed TV stations to clear out the gnashing teleprinters that delivered the supplemental wires that UPI basically gave away as a premium. It was a bonanza for AP and the final blow for UPI's major-market client roster.

News services have always been focused inward – busy with personnel politics and other distractions – and tend to miss what's going outside the office. UPI was convinced it was doomed unless I could pull a rabbit out of a hat and save the CBS business. The rabbit, of course, had already hopped away, wearing its APTV top hat.

I made a ceremonial visit to CBS, where everyone had kind words for UPI but said budgets were tight and repeated polls of editors had found them confident they could do without it. We had a nice lunch and parted as friends.

There were, of course, predictions that the UPI cancellation would be the end of CBS but, as far as anyone knows, it didn't make much difference. Things went along as always except the CBS stations got their sports scores, financial markets and breaking bulletins a lot sooner. UPI was left with nothing to sell except a phantom digital photo service that never quite materialized.

A few years later, my string having just about run out at UPI, I found myself frustrated. I had mapped out a plan to create a news-by-the-pound service for smaller broadcasters that would have actually provided a service that fit their modest requirements and carried a smaller price tag. Unipressers were not impressed, visions of CBS still dancing in their heads.

So I decided to start my own damned news service and, thus, Zapnews was born. We did what Gannett apparently plans to do – strung together a nationwide network of stringers, affiliates and paid services to cover just enough news, weather and sports to keep small stations' content. Like Gannett, we subscribed to Reuters and added Scripps Howard and Knight-Ridder Tribune supplementals, along with local and state news services in each region.

It worked surprisingly well and grew to about 1,000 clients in a few years. We got in front of our skis, however, when we started trying to do something similar for smaller newspapers, which were much more critical (in both the good and bad senses) than smaller broadcasters, which sort of called the whole business model into doubt. Turning out 200 words for broadcast is one thing; writing a 1200-word state legislative roundup is something else.

I had pretty much run out of string again at this point and when an attractive offer came along, I unloaded my share of the company and, once again, was told by my new boss that my services were no longer welcome or required.

It may be easier for Gannett, since it does indeed have a lot of local newspapers and a respected DC bureau that may be enough, combined with Reuters, to meet the needs of today's newspapers, which are looking more like struggling local broadcasters everyday.

AP, having wisely diversified into new niches, will probably be just fine, as was CBS after it unloaded UPI. The world still needs news. If newspapers don't provide it, others will.

At some point, the geniuses in charge of Gannett will probably decide it would be even better if they could figure out how to outsource the whole damned thing. Zapnews anyone?

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Doug Pizac - I have only two words for Gannett and McClatchy leaving AP: "HOLY CRAP!" But then, not surprising with companies like them and Alden Global Capital who strip local papers down to one-person staffs to increase profits for themselves.

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Hal Spencer - My hometown daily, The Olympian, is McClatchy owned. It's a shell of its former self as a handful of reporters and editors struggle and often fall short in local news coverage. It misses some pretty big stories, and followups to stories it does publish are rare. I and my friends are hungry for local news. I think that's where the demand is. I would hope that money saved by canceling AP would be used to beef up local news reporting.

As an AP loyalist, I'm sorry to hear the unfortunate news. But I'm glad AP has positioned itself to survive via other revenue streams.

My time in Albany was brief but looms large in my memory

Denis Gray - I sometimes feel a pang of anxiety when opening Connecting, fearing news about the death of yet another colleague and friend. The closing of the Albany bureau also hurt.

I only spent a short time in that great bureau (1972-1973) but it still looms very large in my memory. And I still keep in touch with some of my co-workers, especially Charlie Hanley and Pam Hanlon, having had the privilege several times of staying at their amazing condo when visiting New York. I also keep in touch from time to time with Joe Galu and a few years back my wife and I had a reunion with some of the old Albany hands. I hope we can do it again when I come to the United States from my home in Thailand (after Trump is booted out).

In a book I should complete this year, with your indulgence, are a few paragraphs about my time in Albany. The book is titled "From a Journalist's Life: Stories of Love and Loss." It includes one chapter, The Golden Age...

"My introduction to Cambodia and the war came in 1973 after a journey from Albany by way of Saigon, where the AP's bureau overseeing reporting from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia was based.

Albany, the capital of New York State, had been my first posting and my first civilian job, or more accurately a sink-or-swim boot camp where without a day's journalistic experience I was thrown into a virtual news machine programmed to churn out print stories and radio reports at what at first seemed an inhuman tempo. Lunch was usually a sandwich gulped down at my desk between rapid bursts on the typewriter. On endless overnight shifts -- we operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week-- I routinely took not always cheering late night telephone calls from newspaper editors around the state demanding why the AP had missed or messed up coverage of some local event. It couldn't have been a better training ground.

I arrived in upstate New York with the goal of getting out as soon as possible and into the field as a foreign correspondent. This was normally a years-long slog with time in a bureau in the United States like Albany followed by perhaps even more time paying one's dues as a desk-shackled editor at the company's headquarters in New York City handling a never-ending tide of copy rolling in from reporters out of every corner of the world. "OK. You're assigned to Lagos (or an even more unsavory posting)," were the sweetest of words for some. Others, like almost all of my co-workers in Albany, were happy to spend their entire careers immersed in local affairs, meeting partners and bringing up their children in an attractive, safe community.

Upstate New York had not been my first choice as a career launch pad, but toward the end of my 13-month stay its appeal began to take root and I could imagine a serene life of autumn hikes in the multi-colored Adirondacks, passing snowy winters around a chalet fireplace with a family and striving to master the cello with my kindly Italian-American teacher Arthur Catricala who didn't wince when my intonation (often) strayed awry. Most of all, I had grown to be truly fond of my colleagues, who guided me through the wire service's culture and procedural labyrinths, often covering for my inexperience and mistakes. Special was Greg McGarry, a promising reporter gifted with the best of his Irish heritage -- infectious laughter, warmth and sheer love of life, one that ended much too soon. Although never taking ourselves too seriously we partnered in a self-styled "Adventure Team," writing stories that carried both our bylines, first-person pieces of hurtling down the Olympic bobsled run at Lake Placid or getting battered and terminally swamped in the annual Hudson River White Water Derby. Then we would adjourn to talk of little things and sometimes the profound over beers at Rupsis Tavern, an old-fashioned, wood-paneled and now long gone favorite of generations of Union College students.

It was an unexpectedly hard parting. Greg -- with his long flowing blonde hair and energy packed into every gesture -- had become together with my two roommates at Yale, John Lindburg and Donald Gastwirth, the third and last person in my life that I truly regarded as a brother...

....Our Saigon-based chief and my immediate boss George Esper wrote a note to New York for the company's log: "At week's end Denis Gray came from Albany and walked into a wave of terrorism." A few weeks earlier I had been reporting college basketball scores and the latest escapades of legislators in upstate New York.

How to thrive in a hybrid newsroom

By **Kristen Hare**
Poynter.org

I'm working on a book right now about Florida's historic hotels, motels and inns, and let me tell you, the nostalgia that comes with that reporting is fascinating to dip in and out of on a regular basis. I felt that again last week when I sent Tom Huang a few questions for this week's edition of this newsletter.

The flavor of that specific nostalgia: newsrooms. Like, physical newsrooms and the things we've lost, since a lot of people aren't working full time in them anymore.

I only worked full time in a newsroom for five years before my second job took me hybrid, and I've been some version of that ever since. I love everything about being remote/hybrid, particularly the space it opens for more people to participate in journalism. But as someone who works with both newsroom leaders and early-career folks, I also see a lot of people struggling to connect and advance from a literal distance.

Huang, assistant managing editor for journalism initiatives at The Dallas Morning News, has been thinking about this, too. In his six-week virtual seminar, which runs from May 7 to June 11, Huang will take on a number of topics, including navigating your newsroom. We chatted via email about hybrid work specifically and what reporters and editors need to do to make that situation a good one.

You can learn more about his seminar, Reporter's Toolkit, [here](#). The deadline to apply is April 28.

(If you need an extra dose of this, you can revisit my piece from last year on the photographer who visited old newsrooms in Kansas. There's abundant wood paneling.)

Kristen Hare: I remember my first newsroom job, the phones ringing, the election night buzz, the miserably watery coffee. The early-career folks I work with now are in very different situations. What do you think are the biggest advantages and disadvantages for young journalists and hybrid newsrooms?

Tom Huang: There are huge advantages. A lot of newsrooms are hybrid now, where journalists work in the newsroom for part of the week and remotely for the rest of the week. That gives folks more flexibility with their schedules, and by and large, people are just as productive if not more in the hybrid setting.

Another advantage young journalists have, that I didn't when I was coming up, is access to a lot of powerful digital tools. These tools help reporters access people and

data and public information quickly. These tools help reporters connect with audiences, whether through social media or listening tools like Hearken. And analytic tools help them understand what stories are resonating with readers.

Read more [here](#).

A Saigon far different from war years



Nick Ut - Vietnamese wash windows at Hotel in Saigon, and downtown Saigon and how it has changed after nearly 50 years since the war's end.

AP finds grueling conditions in Indian shrimp industry that report calls 'dangerous and abusive'



A worker peels shrimp in a tin-roofed processing shed in the hamlet of Tallarevu, in Kakinada district, in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024. Dr. Sushmitha Meda, a dermatologist at a nearby government hospital in the city of Kakinada, said she treats four to five shrimp peelers every day for frostbite and infection. It's a preventable problem, she said. Cotton gloves covered with latex gloves can protect peelers' hands, but few can afford a \$3 box of gloves. (AP Photo/Mahesh Kumar, ASSOCIATED PRESS

BY MARTHA MENDOZA, MAHESH KUMAR AND PIYUSH NAGPAL

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Noriko Kuwabara was excited to try a new recipe she'd seen on social media for crispy shrimp spring rolls, so she and her husband headed to Costco's frozen foods aisle. But when she grabbed a bag of farm-raised shrimp from the freezer and saw "Product of India," she wrinkled her nose.

"I actually try to avoid shrimp from India," said Kuwabara, an artist. "I hear some bad things about how it's grown there."

She sighed and tossed the bag in her cart anyway.

Kuwabara's dilemma is one an increasing number of American consumers face: With shrimp the leading seafood eaten in the United States, the largest supplier in this country is India, where the industry struggles with labor and environmental problems.

The Associated Press traveled in February to the state of Andhra Pradesh in southeast India to document working conditions in the booming industry, after obtaining an advance copy of an investigation released Wednesday by the Chicago-based Corporate Accountability Lab, a human rights legal group, that found workers face “dangerous and abusive conditions.”

Read more [here](#).

Stories of interest

Opinion / Why an insurrection at the AP could succeed this time when others have failed (Poynter)

By: Rick Edmonds and Tom Jones

In Tuesday’s newsletter, I wrote about how two of the biggest newspaper chains in the country — Gannett and McClatchy — have announced they are dropping The Associated Press from their content. The news sent shockwaves throughout the media industry.

So, today, let’s start the newsletter with thoughts from Rick Edmonds, Poynter’s media business analyst. Take it away, Rick.

Defections by Associated Press news members are nothing new. Typically they haven’t worked out a lot better than secession did for the Confederate states.

But the announcement Monday that both Gannett and McClatchy newspapers and sites are quitting as AP clients looks to have a better chance to stick. An AP spokesman reiterated Tuesday that negotiations will continue. But a full subscription to the wire service is back-breakingly expensive and no longer a basic need when the chains’ strategy is to become more digital and more local.

Gannett has been minimizing its use of AP content for several years, instead relying on stories from USA Today and its 200+ regional papers. A check of USA Today’s site Tuesday morning found that none of the top five display pieces — including coverage of Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis and the Federal Reserve — were from wires other than their own.

When the Chicago Tribune and other Tribune papers dropped the AP in 2013, they switched to Reuters for international and business coverage. But the experiment was abandoned two years later when Reuters was judged, among other flaws, not to be able to match the depth and quality of the AP’s sports report.

That’s no longer an issue, Gannett chief communications officer Lark-Marie Antón emailed me. “We believe the scale and strength of the USA Today Network will be able to provide all the content necessary.”

Read more [here](#).

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What Trump said about a ‘bloodbath’ and Biden’s actions on the car industry, in context (Poynter)

By: Amy Sherman

The word du jour in the 2024 presidential campaign is “bloodbath” — specifically, what former President Donald Trump did or didn’t mean when he used the term at a March 16 Ohio rally.

President Joe Biden’s campaign team plucked a nine-second clip of Trump saying, “If I don’t get elected, it’s gonna be a bloodbath for the whole, that’s going to be the least of it. It’s going to be a bloodbath for the country, that’ll be the least of it” and framed it as violent rhetoric.

The Biden campaign posted March 16 on X: “Donald Trump said there would be a ‘bloodbath’ if he wasn’t elected and that if he lost there would be no more elections.” The next day, Biden’s account shared on X the “bloodbath” clip and wrote, “It’s clear this guy wants another January 6.”

Without context, some voters could assume that Trump’s “bloodbath” remarks were predicting violence by his supporters should he lose at the polls. On Truth Social, Trump responded March 18 that the media and Democrats “pretended to be shocked at my use of the word BLOODBATH, even though they fully understood that I was simply referring to imports” allowed by Biden “which are killing the automobile industry.”

Politicians, pundits and social media users debated Trump’s “bloodbath” remark in the days following the speech. Some major news outlets including The New York Times, ABC and The Associated Press wrote that Trump warned of a “bloodbath” in headlines without the auto industry context. Although the text of the articles explained the context, when headlines alone are shared on social media, it doesn’t tell the full story.

Read more [here](#).

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Publisher's Notebook: How do we keep local journalism alive? (The Astorian)

By Kari Borgen

Community newspapers are in trouble.

Since 2005, more than a quarter of U.S. newspapers have vanished. They have been disappearing at the rate of nine per month nationally or about two per week. There are more than 200 counties, home to 70 million people, with no local newspaper or news source, according to a State of Local News report by the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in 2023.

More than a quarter of Oregon's small-town newspapers have closed in the past 20 years and 68% of Oregon's incorporated cities, at least 164 municipalities, lack a local news source, according to the Fund for Oregon Rural Journalism.

Just in the past two years, newspapers in Silverton, Stayton, Lebanon, Rogue Valley and Medford closed, and we lost the Columbia Press in Warrenton.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Betty Pizac.

Today in History - March 21, 2024



Today is Thursday, March 21, the 81st day of 2024. There are 285 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 21, 1965, civil rights demonstrators led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. began their third, successful march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama.

On this date:

In 1685, composer Johann Sebastian Bach was born in Eisenach, Germany.

In 1935, Persia officially changed its name to Iran.

In 1945, during World War II, Allied bombers began four days of raids over Germany.

In 1952, the Moondog Coronation Ball, considered the first rock and roll concert, took place at Cleveland Arena.

In 1972, the Supreme Court, in *Dunn v. Blumstein*, ruled that states may not require at least a year's residency for voting eligibility.

In 1990, Namibia became an independent nation as the former colony marked the end of 75 years of South African rule.

In 1997, President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin wrapped up their summit in Helsinki, Finland, still deadlocked over NATO expansion, but able to agree on slashing nuclear weapons arsenals.

In 2006, the social media website Twitter was established with the sending of the first “tweet” by co-founder Jack Dorsey, who wrote: “just setting up my twttr.”

In 2007, former Vice President Al Gore made an emotional return to Congress as he pleaded with House and Senate committees to fight global warming; skeptical Republicans questioned the science behind his climate-change documentary, “An Inconvenient Truth.”

In 2012, meting out unprecedented punishment for a bounty system that targeted key opposing players, the NFL suspended New Orleans Saints head coach Sean Payton without pay for the coming season and indefinitely banned the team’s former defensive coordinator; Commissioner Roger Goodell fined the Saints \$500,000 and took away two draft picks.

In 2013, in the Middle East, President Barack Obama insisted “peace is possible” as he prodded both Israelis and Palestinians to return to long-stalled negotiations with few, if any, pre-conditions.

In 2016, laying bare a half-century of tensions, President Barack Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro prodded each other over human rights and the longstanding U.S. economic embargo during an unprecedented joint news conference in Havana.

In 2017, at his Senate confirmation hearing, Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch declared he’d made no promises to President Donald Trump or anyone else about how he would vote on abortion or other issues.

In 2019, President Donald Trump abruptly declared that the U.S. would recognize Israel’s sovereignty over the disputed Golan Heights, a major shift in American policy.

In 2020 during a White House briefing, President Donald Trump doubled down on his support for the malaria drug hydroxychloroquine as a possible treatment for the coronavirus, while Dr. Anthony Fauci said the evidence was “anecdotal.”

In 2022, a China Eastern Boeing 737-800 with 132 people on board crashed in a mountainous area of southern China, setting off a forest fire visible from space in the country’s worst air disaster in nearly a decade. (All 123 passengers and nine crew members would later be confirmed dead.)

In 2023, Willis Reed, who dramatically emerged from the locker room minutes before Game 7 of the 1970 NBA Finals to spark the New York Knicks to their first championship and create one of sports’ most enduring examples of playing through pain, died at age 80.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Kathleen Widdoes is 85. Songwriter Chip Taylor ("Wild Thing") is 84. Folk-pop singer-musician Keith Potger (The Seekers) is 83. Actor Marie-Christine Barrault is 80. Singer-musician Rose Stone (Sly and the Family Stone) is 79. Actor Timothy Dalton is 78. Singer Ray Dorset (Mungo Jerry) is 78. Rock singer-musician Roger Hodgson (Supertramp) is 74. Rock musician Conrad Lozano (Los Lobos) is 73. R&B singer Russell Thompkins Jr. is 73. Comedy writer-performer Brad Hall is 66. Actor Sabrina LeBeauf is 66. Actor Gary Oldman is 66. Actor Kassie Depaiva is 63. Actor Matthew Broderick is 62. Comedian-actor Rosie O'Donnell is 62. Actor Cynthia Geary is 59. Hip-hop DJ Premier (Gang Starr) is 58. Rock musician Jonas "Joker" Berggren (Ace of Base) is 57. Rock MC Maxim (Prodigy) is 57. Rock musician Andrew Copeland (Sister Hazel) is 56. Actor Laura Allen is 50. Rapper-TV personality Kevin Federline is 46. Actor Sonequa Martin-Green (TV: "The Walking Dead") is 39. Actor Scott Eastwood is 38. Tennis player Karolina Pliskova is 32. Actor Jasmin Savoy Brown is 30. Actor Forrest Wheeler is 20.

Got a story or photos to share?

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.

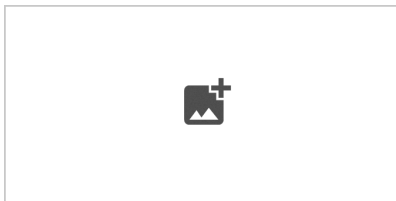
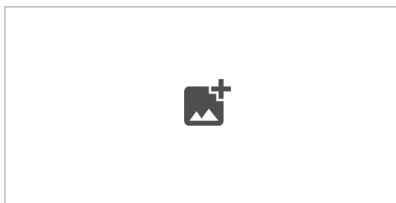
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

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

Paul Stevens

Editor, Connecting newsletter

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