

From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
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To: stevenspl@live.com
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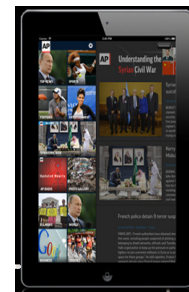
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Connecting

November 28, 2014

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



Colleagues,

Good (Black) Friday morning!

Hope your Thanksgiving was a good day, with much to be thankful for.



The owners of Bridger, former St. Louis AP correspondent **Lori Rose** and her husband **Bob**, got a head start on Black Friday when their shopoholic dog brought them the substantial advertising section from the Post-Dispatch, where Bob is a deputy managing editor. Ye Olde Connecting Editor bets there was a PetSmart ad somewhere in the section that Bridger had eyes on.

Paul

Deadline is today for your book promotion

Today is the deadline for the authors among us to advertise your latest book on Connecting, for a feature that will run next Monday, Dec. 1.



If you have written a book, send along the following information to me at - stevenspl@live.com

And if you have written more than one book, send information on the one you would most want to list, and then list the names of the others at the end. Send me:

- Name of the book, and if you can, include a photo of the cover of the book and a current headshot of you.
- 200-word synopsis - please try to stay within this limit.
- Information on how to order a print version or, if applicable, an e-book version (iBooks, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, etc.)
- The names of other books you have written (if applicable).

Pulitzer sought for AP reporter behind WWII scoop

By Roger Yu
USA Today

A group of journalists has launched a campaign to convince the Pulitzer Prize administrators at Columbia University to bestow the prestigious award posthumously to Ed Kennedy, a former Associated Press reporter who reported exclusively on Germany's World War II surrender.



Kennedy defied the military's instructions to withhold the story until a public announcement was made, and was vilified by his peers and fired by his employer.

The journalist group leading the Ed Kennedy Pulitzer Project nominated Kennedy for the prize in 2013, but failed in its attempt to win the award. The Pulitzer rules don't prohibit resubmissions, and the group is asking the award administrators to reconsider its decision this year.

"The Pulitzer Prize Board's work is confidential. Special awards, if any, are announced in April along with the regular prizes," said Mike Pride, administrator of Pulitzer Prizes at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.

The project was inspired by the 2012 publication of Kennedy's book, *Ed Kennedy's War*, from Louisiana State University Press. The book chronicles Kennedy's witnessing and reporting of the signing ceremony at a former schoolhouse in Reims, France, in which the Germans surrendered unconditionally to the Allies.

Kennedy, who was AP's Paris correspondent at the time, and 16 other reporters were hastily invited to the signing ceremony and were told that the story was under military embargo. Kennedy ignored the instructions and broke the story a day ahead of the competition, instantly triggering the ire of the military and competing journalists. He was soon fired by the AP.

The AP issued its apology in 2012 for firing Kennedy and called his report "perhaps the biggest scoop in its history."

"It was a terrible day for the AP. It was handled in the worst possible way," AP's then-CEO Tom Curley told the news agency.

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and President Harry Truman had agreed to keep the news under wraps for a day to allow Russian dictator Josef Stalin to stage a second surrender ceremony in Berlin, the AP report said.

The project's leaders say Kennedy's reporting amounted to defying the military's political censorship, an effort "to bend the press to its will on matters having nothing to do with saving lives."

Curley, who co-wrote an introduction to Ed Kennedy's War, told the AP that the correspondent "did everything just right."

"Once the war is over, you can't hold back information like that," Curley said. "The world needed to know."

According to the AP's account, the journalists gathered at the ceremony were told the news would be held for only a few hours. But the embargo was extended for 36 hours. "The absurdity of attempting to bottle up news of such magnitude was too apparent," Kennedy wrote later.

"The historical record shows that his career was ruined and his reputation destroyed because he did the right thing by reporting the news that the entire world had every right to know," the Ed Kennedy Pulitzer Project wrote in its letter to Columbia University.

Kennedy, who sought public vindication from the AP, died in a traffic accident in 1963.

The journalists spearheading the Ed Kennedy Pulitzer Project include: Eric Brazil, former USA TODAY Los Angeles bureau chief; Ray A. March, former editor of Modoc Independent News; Frank McCulloch, former managing editor of the Los Angeles Times; Ward Bushee, retired San Francisco Chronicle editor; and Warren Lerude, former Reno newspapers' publisher.

Click [here](#) for the link to the story. (Shared by Paul Colford, Valerie Komor)

AP's Fergus Bell to head up London team for UGC verification startup

SAM, the Canadian-based curation platform billed as a "CMS for tweets", has appointed its first UK team member, Fergus Bell, who joins

the company from his role as social media and UGC editor at Associated Press (AP).



Bell will take on the London-based position of head of newsroom partnerships and innovation when he officially joins SAM in January, working as "the intermediary between editorial and product" to teach newsrooms more about the technology and how it can be used to cover breaking stories and verify user-generated content (UGC).

The platform launched earlier this year after four months in beta, and is currently being used by newsrooms including Press

Association and the Financial Times.

SAM aims to help users simplify the workflow required for processing UGC, with features such as 'asset monitoring' to flag when social media posts have been edited - which can pose a risk to news outlets if the content of a post embedded into a story on their site is significantly changed.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Connecting mailbox

More thoughts on Ferguson

Joe McGowan ([Email](#)) - Sure good to hear from Victor (Simpson)-it has been a long time, old friend. You raise a number of interesting points, especially about the white police force and mostly black populace. A bunch of us veteran newspeople could sit around all day long and discuss this problem and still probably not come up with good answers.

A couple of things: Back about 1963 I was an AP reporter in Miami when racial problems arose in Jacksonville. Bureau chief Paul Hansel sent me. A taxi took me to a railroad overpass which marked the edge of "colored town". His dispatcher told him NOT to go any farther. I started walking when a white cop parked in his cruiser asked me what I was doing. I said I was a reporter. He said, "we ain't comin' in to get you." I walked under the railroad tracks and soon could see a huge amount of smoke several blocks ahead of me and to the right. I kept walking and finally at one corner saw the "colored" high school was in flames and a huge mob of students were milling around. I debated whether to go farther when a large number of them spotted me and ran toward me. I was standing in the doorway of a small grocery. All of a sudden,

someone grabbed me from behind and hauled me into the store. The black owner and two other black men were in the store. The owner hollered for them to lock the door and for one of them to hustle me out the back door. I was pushed into the back seat of an aging car, covered with a blanket and the driver sped out and took me back to the overpass and safety.

As to Ferguson, how do you explain the blacks looting and burning black-owned stores? That is pure criminal behavior.

As to Victor's point of a white police force in a black community, I recommend everyone look up a column by Froma Harrop of Creators Syndicate which appeared in today's Denver Post. The headline: "Voting Matters". She says: "Ferguson's population is two-thirds African-American, yet the mayor, five of the six City Council members and nearly the entire police force are white.

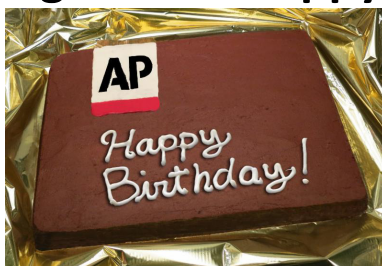
"In the municipal elections held last year, 52 per cent of the voters were white-in a city, to repeat, that is 67 per cent black.

"If most of Ferguson's eligible African-American voters feel the city government treats them unfairly, they have a simple remedy: They can elect a different city government."

It is truly a difficult problem in several areas of the country. Despite that, I feel tremendous progress has been made. When I came back from my overseas AP assignments, one of the first things I noticed that department store windows now had black as well as white people represented. My preacher at our neighborhood Methodist church is an African-American from Tennessee. Only a handful of the parishioners are black.

And, finally, how about the New York Times giving the Ferguson policeman's address, name of his new wife, and printing a copy of his marriage license? That is not my idea of responsible journalism.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Stories of interest

[Univision's Ramos To Journalists: 'Stop Pretending We're Neutral'](#)

(Mark Mittelstadt)

Univision's Jorge Ramos was presented the Burton Benjamin Memorial Award for "lifetime achievement in defending press freedom" Tuesday at the 2014 Committee to Protect Journalists International Press Freedom Awards.

During his speech before the group of journalists and media executives, Ramos made the case for journalists to drop the facade of impartiality and to use their voices and influence not just to inform but as activists to change policy:

"The best of journalism happens when we take a stand: when we question those who are in power, when we confront the politicians who abuse their authority, when we denounce an injustice," Ramos said. "The best of journalism happens when we side with the victims, with the most vulnerable, with those who have no rights. The best of journalism happens when we, purposely, stop pretending that we are neutral and recognize that we have a moral obligation to tell truth to power."

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[Rescuers in Yemen Sought American, Officials Say](#)

WASHINGTON - An American journalist held hostage in a remote part of eastern Yemen by Al Qaeda's affiliate there was one of the main targets of a predawn raid carried out this week by United States Special Operations commandos and Yemeni troops, according to American and Yemeni officials.

But when the commandos swooped in on the mountain cave where they believed the American was being held, they found eight other hostages, including six Yemenis, but not the American.

At the request of the Obama administration, The New York Times withheld this information in an article published online Tuesday and in print Wednesday out of concern that the publicity could jeopardize the American's safety and future rescue attempts.

But in Yemen on Wednesday, the military gave an account from a freed

hostage who told his rescuers that five other hostages - including the American journalist, a Briton and a South African - were moved from the cave two days before the raid.

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[Newspapers see new peak in digital audience](#)

U.S. newspapers' digital audience has hit a new peak, according to data being touted today by the Newspaper Association of America.

During October, roughly 166 million adults accessed American newspaper content on digital platforms, a 17 percent increase over the previous year, according to data from Comscore that was compiled by N.A.A., an industry group. The first 10 months of this year saw an increase of 20 million unique visitors, N.A.A. said, citing data from more than 300 U.S. newspapers tracked by the measurement firm.

The increase was driven by growth in female users and mobile-exclusive users, the latter of which were up 85 percent year-on-year during October, according to N.A.A. Mobile is a key growth area, and many media outlets have developed sophisticated smart-phone and tablet apps to scale this audience.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Nov. 28, the 332nd day of 2014. There are 33 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history:

On Nov. 28, 1964, the United States launched the space probe Mariner 4 on a course toward Mars, which it flew past in July 1965, sending back pictures of the red planet.

On this date:

In 1520, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan reached the Pacific Ocean after passing through the South American strait that now bears his name.

In 1861, the Confederate Congress admitted Missouri as the 12th state of the Confederacy after Missouri's disputed secession from the Union.

In 1905, Sinn Fein (shin fayn) was founded in Dublin.

In 1922, Captain Cyril Turner of the Royal Air Force gave the first public skywriting exhibition, spelling out, "Hello USA. Call Vanderbilt 7200"

over New York's Times Square; about 47,000 calls in less than three hours resulted.

In 1942, nearly 500 people died in a fire that destroyed the Coconut Grove nightclub in Boston.

In 1944, the MGM movie musical "Meet Me in St. Louis," starring Judy Garland, opened in New York, six days after its world premiere in St. Louis.

In 1958, Chad, Gabon and Middle Congo became autonomous republics within the French community.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy dedicated the original permanent headquarters of the Central Intelligence Agency in Langley, Virginia. Ernie Davis of Syracuse University became the first African-American to be named winner of the Heisman Trophy.

In 1979, an Air New Zealand DC-10 en route to the South Pole crashed into a mountain in Antarctica, killing all 257 people aboard.

In 1987, a South African Airways Boeing 747 crashed into the Indian Ocean with the loss of all 159 people aboard.

In 1994, serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer was murdered in a Wisconsin prison by a fellow inmate. Sixties war protester Jerry Rubin died in Los Angeles, two weeks after being hit by a car; he was 56.

In 2001, Enron Corp., once the world's largest energy trader, collapsed after would-be rescuer Dynegy Inc. backed out of an \$8.4 billion takeover deal.

Ten years ago: NBC Sports chairman Dick Ebersol was injured, his 14-year-old son Teddy among three people killed, when a charter plane crashed during takeoff outside Montrose, Colorado. Al-Qaida in Iraq claimed responsibility for slaughtering members of Iraq's security forces in Mosul, where dozens of bodies had been found. A gas explosion in a central Chinese coal mine killed 166 people.

Five years ago: A conservative Iranian legislator warned his country might pull out of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty after a U.N. resolution censuring Tehran. For a second straight day, Tiger Woods was unavailable to speak to the Florida Highway Patrol about an accident involving his SUV that sent him to the hospital with injuries.

One year ago: China said it had sent warplanes into its newly declared maritime air defense zone, days after the U.S., South Korea and Japan all sent flights through the airspace in defiance of rules Beijing said it had imposed in the East China Sea.

Today's Birthdays: Recording executive Berry Gordy Jr. is 85. Former Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., is 78. Singer-songwriter Bruce Channel is 74. Singer Randy Newman is 71. CBS News correspondent Susan Spencer is 68. Movie director Joe Dante is 67. "Late Show" orchestra leader Paul

Shaffer is 65. Actor Ed Harris is 64. Former NASA teacher in space Barbara Morgan is 63. Actress S. Epatha (eh-PAY'-thah) Merckerson is 62. Former Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff is 61. Country singer Kristine Arnold (Sweethearts of the Rodeo) is 58. Actor Judd Nelson is 55. Movie director Alfonso Cuaron (kwahr-OHN') is 53. Rock musician Matt Cameron is 52. Actress Jane Sibbett is 52. Comedian Jon Stewart is 52. Actress Garcelle Beauvais (gar-SEHL' boh-VAY') is 48. Actor/comedian Stephnie (cq) Weir (TV: "The Comedians"; "MadTV") is 47. Rhythm-and-blues singer Dawn Robinson is 46. Hip-hop musician apl.de.ap (Black Eyed Peas) is 40. Actor Ryan Kwanten is 38. Actress Aimee Garcia is 36. Rapper Chamillionaire is 35. Actor Daniel Henney is 35. Rock musician Rostam Batmanglij (bot-man-GLEESH') (Vampire Weekend) is 31. Rock singer-keyboardist Tyler Glenn (Neon Trees) is 31. Actress Mary Elizabeth Winstead is 30. R&B singer Trey Songz is 30. Actress Scarlett Pomers (TV: "Reba") is 26.

Thought for Today: "Happiness is a sort of atmosphere you can live in sometimes when you're lucky. Joy is a light that fills you with hope and faith and love." - Adela Rogers St. Johns, American journalist (1894-1988).

Paul Stevens
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