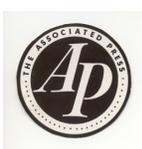


From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2014 8:40 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - December 4, 2014

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Connecting

December 4, 2014

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



Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

For many of you, a favorite memory of working at AP's former headquarters at 50 Rockefeller Plaza was a ringside seat from AP office windows for the annual Rockefeller Center Christmas tree lighting.

The photo above by AP's **Jason DeCrow** shows this year's lighting, Wednesday night. Weighing approximately 13 tons, the 85-foot tall, 90-year-old Norway Spruce is adorned with 45,000 energy efficient LED lights.

Speaking of the holidays, Poynter had fun with with an Associated Press style chat Tuesday on holiday terms with lifestyles editor Julie Rubin. It notes: Taken in their parts or as a whole, these style chats always feel useful and a bit funny: "Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus would also be known as the Clauses." The Poynter story was headlined:

[It's 'Bah! Humbug!' and other holiday style advice from the AP](#)

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An Today in History anniversary to note

As the sharp-eyed among you will note in today's Today in History, Dec. 4, 1991, this date was and is very significant for **Terry Anderson** and his AP colleagues - it was the day he was released after nearly seven years of captivity that began when he was abducted in Beirut where he was serving as AP's chief Middle East correspondent.



Today, Terry - a Connecting colleague - is teaching a course in international journalism at the University of Florida's College of Journalism and Communications in Gainesville.

In an interview with the Alligator, a student newspaper, early in the semester, Terry said he is aiming to teach aspiring journalists about the dangers of visiting conflict areas, which has become more dangerous in recent years.

"The world has become more dangerous than it was 35 years ago," he said. "[Students] need to know how to be more safe when in these dangerous situations."

Paul

AP distributes style guide of holiday terms

The Associated Press has compiled a list of spellings and definitions of terms associated with religious and cultural events around the turn of the year. Some are in the AP Stylebook; others are common usage in holiday stories transmitted by AP.

Advent

Period including the four Sundays preceding Christmas.

"Auld Lang Syne"

Sung to greet the New Year, poem by Robert Burns set to Scottish music.

"Bah! Humbug!"

Ebenezer Scrooge's denunciation of holiday sentiment in "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens.

Black Friday

The last Friday in November when U.S. retail sales launch the start of Christmas shopping.

BETHLEHEM, West Bank (AP) _

Dateline for AP stories from the biblical site of Jesus' birth.

Bible

Capitalize in reference to the Scriptures; lowercase biblical in all uses.



Boxing Day

Post-Christmas holiday Dec. 26 In British Commonwealth countries.

Champagne

Capitalize sparkling wine from that French region uncorked to celebrate New Year's.

Christmas, Christmas Day

Dec. 25 Christian feast marking the birth of Jesus. Christmas Eve is also capitalized.

Christmastime

One word.

Christmas tree

Lowercase tree and other seasonal terms with Christmas: card, wreath, carol, etc. Exception: National Christmas Tree in Washington.

dreidel

Toy spinning top for Jewish celebrations.

Feliz Navidad

Traditional Spanish greeting for Christmas.

hallelujah

Lowercase the biblical praise to God, but capitalize in composition titles:
Handel's "Hallelujah" chorus.

Hanukkah

Eight-day Jewish Festival of Lights starting Dec. 16 this year.

Grinch

Spoilsport who steals holiday fun, based on the title character in "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" by Dr. Seuss.

Jesus, Jesus Christ

Pronouns referring to him are lowercase, as is savior.

happy holidays, merry Christmas, season's greetings

Such phrases are generally spelled lowercase, though Christmas is always capitalized.

Holy Land

Capitalize the biblical region.

Kriss Kringle

Not Kris. Derived from the German word, Christkindl, or baby Jesus.

Kwanzaa

African-American and Pan-African celebration of family, community and culture,
Dec. 26-Jan. 1.

Magi

The wise men who brought gifts to the infant Jesus at Epiphany, celebrated Jan. 6.

menorah

Candelabrum with nine branches used for Hanukkah.

Messiah

Capitalized in references to Jesus or to the promised deliverer in Judaism.

mistletoe

A yellowish evergreen hung as a Christmas decoration; by tradition, people kiss when standing under a sprig.

Nativity scene
Only the first word is capitalized.

New Year's Eve, New Year's Day
Capitalized for Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

noel
A Christmas carol, borrowed from the French word for Christmas, which is capitalized.

North Pole
Mythical home of Santa Claus.

poinsettia
Decorative plant for Christmas; note the "ia."

regifting
Passing along an unwanted Christmas present to someone else.

Santa Claus
Brings toys to children in a sleigh pulled by reindeer on Christmas Eve.

"A Visit From St. Nicolas"
Beloved poem by Clement Clarke Moore that begins, "'Twas the night before Christmas..."

"The Twelve Days of Christmas"
Spell the numeral in the Christmas carol.

Twelfth Night
The evening before the Twelfth Day, Jan. 6, that traditionally ends the Christmas season.

"White Christmas"
Irving Berlin's sentimental ballad immortalized by crooner Bing Crosby.

Yule, Yuletide
Old English for Christmas season.

Xmas
Don't use this abbreviation for Christmas.

In the photo above, the California Christmas tree glows from the 10,000 ultra-low wattages LED bulbs after lighting ceremonies held by Gov. Jerry Brown at the Capitol in Sacramento on Tuesday. Along with the lights, the 53-foot white fir tree was decorated with 900 hand crafted ornaments made by children and

adults with developmental disabilities donated from the California Department of Developmental Services. (AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli)

(Shared by Mike Holmes)

Bill Heath, chief in Buenos Aires, Caracas, dies at 78

Claude Erbsen ([Email](#)) reports that **Bill Heath**, who retired some years ago as AP's chief of bureau in Buenos Aires, and was previously chief of bureau in Caracas, died on Nov. 29 at the age of 78. A celebration of his life will take place in what his daughter Britta describes as "the very 'hip and happening' town of Elephant Butte, NM.," on December 10 from 2:30 - 4 p.m. at the Atrium in the Elephant Butte Inn.

Heath joined the AP in Albuquerque in 1961 after graduating from the University of New Mexico. He served as a newsman in Detroit and as state capitol correspondent in Lansing before moving to AP World Services in New York in 1968. Later that year he was transferred to Buenos Aires and served there until his appointment to Lima in 1970. He was appointed to Caracas by AP President and General Manager Wes Gallagher in 1973.

Connecting will provide further information when available.

AP Photos of the Year for 2014

Every year, The Associated Press chooses a selection of photos that best documents the year's top news, sports and entertainment stories as chronicled by photojournalists around the world. Wednesday, this collection was distributed by the AP to its members and subscribers worldwide. This year's set of 150 compelling and newsworthy images was selected by AP Director of Photography **Santiago Lyon** and Deputy Director of Photography **Denis Paquin**.

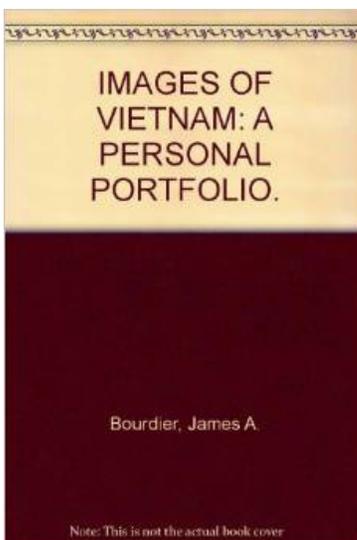
Click [here](#) for this year's images.



One of them, displayed above, shows thick smoke and flames from an airstrike by the U.S.-led coalition rise in Kobani, Syria, as seen from a hilltop on the outskirts of Suruc, at the Turkey-Syria border, Monday, Oct. 20, 2014. Kobani, also known as Ayn Arab, and its surrounding areas, has been under assault by extremists of the Islamic State group since mid-September and is being defended by Kurdish fighters. (AP Photo/Lefteris Pitaraki.

(Shared by Bob Daugherty)

Connecting mailbox



Book by AP's Jim Bourdier on Vietnam

John Epperson ([Email](#)) - I have information on an additional AP person who has published a book, James A. (Jim) Bourdier, who was an AP photographer in Chicago for a number of years in the 70's and 80's, when I was a photo editor there. The book is: "IMAGES OF VIETNAM, A PERSONAL PORTFOLIO." Jim, as he was known to the AP photo staffs around the world, was in SE Asia in the late 60's and early 70's. It was published in 1985 by White Orchid Publishing, in Thailand. One of Jim's

last military campaigns was when he was sent by AP to the Falkland Islands War, between U.K. and Argentina, in Spring of 1982. We sadly lost Jim a few years ago to an extended illness. I found three copies of his book on Amazon, all overseas I believe.

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'They say the neon lights are bright on Broadway...'



And if you need any proof, this photo from the iPhone of **Kristin Gazlay** [Email](#) proves it. Ye Olde Connecting Editor spotted it on Facebook, and asked Kristin to share. She said, "Thank you but ... funny, I consider it kinda average myself. Or, at the very least, nothing that special. The thing about living in New York and toting an iPhone is that photographic opportunities are everywhere. In this case, I left the AP building, caught the bus up 10th Avenue and then started walking crosstown over to the theater where I was seeing a show on Broadway. What struck me most was how the neon spires were interacting with the sky, but there also was the concentration of lights on the street level, so I whipped out my phone and took a quick shot."

5 problems facing UN as it nears 70th

anniversary

An interesting takeout by veteran AP United Nations correspondent **Edith Lederer** on the United Nations and its 70th anniversary:

UNITED NATIONS (AP) -- The world has changed dramatically since the United Nations was established after World War II but the organization has not adapted to reflect the 21st century.

While the U.N. has had its share of successes, its aging structure has struggled with new threats like Ebola and terrorist groups that control large areas of its member countries. U.N. members have been discussing change for decades, but agreement has proven impossible because of competing interests.



As it approaches its 70th anniversary next year, here are five problems facing the United Nations:

Click [here](#) to read the story. *(Shared by Mark Mittelstadt)*

AP among media challenging gag order in ex-coal CEO's case

By **JONATHAN MATTISE**, The Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) - News organizations have challenged a judge's gag order in the high-profile criminal case of a former West Virginia coal executive.

On Monday, media members filed a motion asking Judge Irene C. Berger to drop or modify her restrictions in ex-Massey Energy CEO Don Blankenship's case. The judge is prohibiting all parties and victims from discussing the case with the media or releasing court documents.

The Associated Press, The Charleston Gazette, The Wall Street Journal, National Public Radio and West Virginia Public Broadcasting filed the motion to intervene in U.S. District Court in Beckley.

Blankenship is accused of conspiring to violate safety and health standards at

the Upper Big Branch Mine, and lying about safety measures to financial regulators. An April 2010 explosion at the Montcoal, West Virginia, mine killed 29 men.

Last month, Blankenship pleaded not guilty and was released on a \$5 million bond. He could face up to 31 years in prison if convicted.

Berger's order says that in light of the case's prior publicity, her restrictions will ensure a field of jurors "who can be fair and impartial and whose verdict is based only upon evidence presented during trial."

The order has also restricted access to court filings to case participants and court personnel.

The media's filing says the prohibitions are overly broad and infringe on free speech rights. Berger offered no information supporting why a jury wouldn't be fair and impartial without the restrictions, the motion says.

The filing of the news organizations also says the gag order is infringing on their constitutional right to do their job.

"A reporter's First Amendment right to publish is meaningless if it is prevented from gathering news in the first instance," Charleston attorney Sean P. McGinley wrote on behalf of the media.

Careful jury selection measures would be a less restrictive means to protect the case, if need be, the motion says.

For the last four years, families and friends of the Upper Big Branch victims have told their stories to reporters. Several didn't see any reason to stop now, despite the gag order.

"Don't we have a voice as an American?" Bobby Sanger, whose brother-in-law, Benny Willingham, died at Upper Big Branch, told reporters after Blankenship's arraignment last month. "We've all voiced our opinions the days before, the days after this happened."

At Upper Big Branch, four investigations found worn and broken cutting equipment created a spark that ignited accumulations of coal dust and methane gas. Broken and clogged water sprayers then allowed what should have been a minor flare-up to become an inferno.

Blankenship has said natural gas, and not methane gas and excess coal dust, was at the root of the explosion. Authorities have dismissed the argument.

The indictment painted Blankenship as a bullish micromanager who was intricately aware of Upper Big Branch's operations. At times, he received

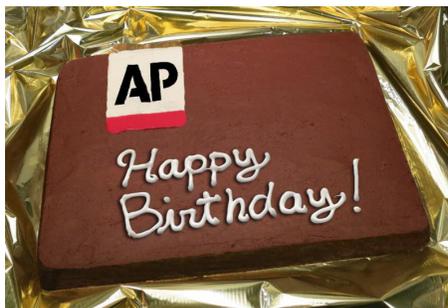
updates about the mine every 30 minutes, according to the indictment.

Massey was cited for safety violations 835 times from January 2008 until the 2010 explosion, the indictment said.

In December 2010, Blankenship announced his retirement and Massey Energy agreed the following month to be taken over by Alpha Natural Resources in a \$7.1 billion deal.

Click [here](#) for a link to the story.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Barbara Worth ([Email](#)) (Dec. 2)

Elaine Hooker ([Email](#))

Stories of interest

[Newseum announces Ferguson exhibit](#)

The Newseum is becoming a breaking news-eum this month as it prepares to exhibit artifacts from the protests and news coverage in Ferguson, Mo., while that story continues to unfold.

Sharon Shahid, the Newseum's online managing editor - call her a deadline curator - was on the ground in the simmering St. Louis suburb shortly before the announcement last week that the grand jury would not indict officer Darren Wilson in the fatal shooting of Michael Brown on Aug. 9.

Shahid collected a press pass and two rubber pellet balls from a police stun grenade donated by Stephanie Lecci, a newscast producer for St. Louis Public Radio. The pellets date to the night of Aug. 17, when police used tear gas to break up huge crowds. Lecci's colleague at the station, Nancy Fowler, gave

Shahid her notebook, where she scribbled "31 arrests" and "reports of gunfire."

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[How successful media startups manage growth](#)

It's an established fact that newsrooms must rapidly change in order to survive in the new journalism ecosystem. As a result, staffing policies shift, workflows are disrupted, and leadership turns over. While journalism organizations can learn a lot from the technology sector, there are still huge risks, especially for non-management members of the workforce.

Take for example Advance Publications, the owner of both the Cleveland Plain Dealer and Northeast Ohio Media Group. After a summer of tough layoffs at the Plain Dealer, the newly created and non-unionized Northeast Ohio Media Group made a number of speedy hires directly from the Plain Dealer's newsroom, bringing the total number of union staff below a contractually agreed upon number. As a result, the National Labor Relations Board just filed a lawsuit against Advance Publications.

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[Himmelsbach | Origins of the viral Petrino photo](#) (Ed Staats)

Michael Reaves had never photographed a game at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium before Saturday. So when the University of Kentucky junior arrived to shoot the UK/U of L football game for the student newspaper, The Kentucky Kernel, he went to the field early to inspect the lighting.



He brought a camera, hoping to capture a quick photo that showed the essence of this rivalry. His initial instinct was to focus on the quarterbacks: Kentucky natives Reggie Bonnafon and Patrick Towles.

He had no idea he would end up with an iconic UK/U of L photo. He had no idea ESPN would request to show his image on SportsCenter, or that the picture would go viral on the internet, or that it would reportedly be distributed to U of L players as a form of pregame motivation.

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[Medill renames Medal for Courage after James Foley](#)

The Medill Medal for Courage will be renamed the James Foley Medill Medal for Courage in honor of the slain journalist, the school's board of advisers announced Monday.

The medal, which was first awarded in 2003, recognizes journalists who display moral, ethical or physical courage in pursuit of a story.

Foley (Medill '08) was executed by the Islamic State group in August after spending almost two years in captivity. Prior to his capture, he worked as a freelance journalist for GlobalPost in Syria.

At Northwestern's memorial service for Foley on Nov. 20, the board of advisers announced Foley would receive the medal posthumously along with the 2013 winner Matthieu Aikins, who was recognized for his work in Rolling Stone magazine.

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[Pascal Fletcher 'irritated' Fidel Castro and now, it seems, David Thomson](#)

Reuters journalists bade a sad farewell to Africa bureau chief Pascal Fletcher (photo) on Friday when he left the company 32 years after joining as a graduate trainee.

A well-placed source said it was widely believed by editorial staff that his sudden departure was a consequence of pointed questions he put to David Thomson during a recent visit to Johannesburg by the chairman of Reuters' parent company, Thomson Reuters.

The questions, posed at a meeting for staff to meet Reuters' ultimate majority owner, concerned editorial priorities and resources assigned to cover Africa. Thomson appeared not to have been briefed on the subject and was taken aback, the source said.

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[Amazon's Jeff Bezos Explains Why He Bought The Washington Post](#)

Multi-billionaires like to buy extravagant things.

Richard Branson, founder of the Virgin Group, owns a space exploration company. Lawrence J. Ellison, chairman of the Oracle Corporation, has his own private Hawaiian island.

And last year, Jeff Bezos, who as chief executive of Amazon has made billions turning the book publishing business on its head, decided to buy one of the

country's oldest newspapers, The Washington Post. But, according to Mr. Bezos, it was never something he thought he wanted to own.

"I don't know anything about the newspaper business, so at the time I said, 'Why would I even be a candidate to buy The Post?'" he said in a conversation at the Business Insider Ignition conference in New York on Tuesday.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 4, the 338th day of 2014. There are 27 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 4, 1984, a five-day hijack drama began as four armed men seized a Kuwaiti airliner en route to Pakistan and forced it to land in Tehran, where the hijackers killed American passenger Charles Hegna. (A second American, William Stanford, also was killed during the siege before Iranian security seized control of the plane.)

On this date:

In 1214, Alexander II became King of Scots at age 16 upon the death of his father, William the Lion.

In 1619, a group of settlers from Bristol, England, arrived at Berkeley Hundred in present-day Charles City County, Virginia, where they held a service thanking God for their safe arrival.

In 1783, Gen. George Washington bade farewell to his Continental Army officers at Fraunces Tavern in New York.

In 1816, James Monroe of Virginia was elected the fifth president of the United States.

In 1918, President Woodrow Wilson left Washington on a trip to France to attend the Versailles (vehr-SY') Peace Conference.

In 1945, the Senate approved U.S. participation in the United Nations by a vote of 65-7.

In 1954, the first Burger King stand was opened in Miami by James McLamore and David Edgerton.

In 1965, the United States launched Gemini 7 with Air Force Lt. Col. Frank Borman and Navy Cmdr. James A. Lovell aboard.

In 1978, San Francisco got its first female mayor as City Supervisor Dianne Feinstein (FYN'-styn) was named to replace the assassinated George Moscone (mahs-KOH'-nee).

In 1980, the bodies of four American churchwomen slain in El Salvador two days earlier were unearthed. (Five Salvadoran national guardsmen were later convicted of murdering nuns Ita Ford, Maura Clarke and Dorothy Kazel, and lay worker Jean Donovan.)

In 1991, Associated Press correspondent Terry Anderson, the longest held of the Western hostages in Lebanon, was released after nearly seven years in captivity.

In 1996, the Mars Pathfinder lifted off from Cape Canaveral and began speeding toward the red planet on a 310 million-mile odyssey. (It arrived on Mars in July 1997.)

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush received the president of Pakistan, Gen. Pervez Musharraf, in the Oval Office; afterward, Bush pronounced himself "very pleased" with Pakistan's efforts to flush out terrorists.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama began putting the finishing touches on a fresh job creation proposal, telling a community college crowd in Allentown, Pennsylvania, "I still consider one job lost one job too many." Gunmen and a suicide bomber attacked a mosque in a military installation in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, killing 35. Paula Hawkins, a Republican who in 1980 became the first woman elected to a full U.S. Senate term without a family political connection, died in Orlando, Florida, at age 82.

One year ago: A senior commander in the militant group Hezbollah, Hassan al-Laqis, was shot dead outside his home in Lebanon, the latest in a series of attacks against the Iranian-backed organization, which accused Israel of the attack. Oscar De La Hoya was selected for induction into the International Boxing Hall of Fame; two of his contemporaries in the modern era - Puerto Rican star Felix "Tito" Trinidad and Joe Calzaghe of Wales - were also selected.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Ronnie Corbett (TV: "The Two Ronnies") is 84. Game show host Wink Martindale is 81. Pop singer Freddy Cannon is 78. Actor-producer Max Baer Jr. is 77. Actress Gemma Jones is 72. Rock musician Bob Mosley (Moby Grape) is 72. Singer-musician Chris Hillman is 70. Musician Terry Woods (The Pogues) is 67. Rock singer Southside Johnny Lyon is 66. Actor Jeff Bridges is 65. Rock musician Gary Rossington (Lynyrd Skynyrd; the Rossington Collins Band) is 63. Actress Patricia Wettig is 63. Actor Tony Todd is

60. Jazz singer Cassandra Wilson is 59. Country musician Brian Prout (Diamond Rio) is 59. Rock musician Bob Griffin (The BoDeans) is 55. Rock singer Vinnie Dombroski (Sponge) is 52. Actress Marisa Tomei is 50. Actress Chelsea Noble is 50. Actor-comedian Fred Armisen is 48. Rapper Jay-Z is 45. Actor Kevin Sussman is 44. Actress-model Tyra Banks is 41. Country singer Lila McCann is 33. Actress Lindsay Felton is 30. Actor Orlando Brown is 27.

Thought for Today: "A person reveals his character by nothing so clearly as the joke he resents." - Georg Christoph Lichtenberg, German scientist (1742-1799).

Paul Stevens
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