

Connecting - March 10, 2015

1 message

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Tue, Mar 10, 2015 at 3:25 PM

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Connecting

March 10, 2015

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning!

Connecting colleague **Phil Sandlin** was a UPI photographer at the time he covered the Selma march, joining the AP nine years later and completing a 21-year career with our company - during which time he was Florida photo editor in Miami until retiring in 2001.

With the backdrop of this past weekend's 50th anniversary of "Bloody Sunday," he provides a fascinating inside look at coverage of one of the seminal events in the country's history.

Today's newsletter also shares the story of another journalist from that era, **Jim Purks**, who as an AP reporter covered the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham. Purks later became a deacon of the Episcopal Church.

I know you will enjoy their stories.

Paul

Covering Selma in 'a sea of discontent'

Phil Sandlin ([Email](#)) - Those of us who were at the Edmund Pettus bridge 50 years ago probably didn't know what the impact of this event would be to our nation. And quite frankly, those journalists covering the long struggle in Selma were more intent on getting the story right and the pictures in focus than the long range outlook in history.

Just getting back to our motels from the site of the ill-fated march was a concern to all of us.



Sandlin photo of Martin Luther King with civil rights supporter during Selma march

I can remember AP photo editor Jim Laxson screaming at me and my UPI Photo Editor Bill Lyons to jump into his car where AP photographer Horace Court was pounding on the dashboard in anger over the events that we had just photographed. There was no thought of leaving two UPI photographers on the street as far as Laxson was concerned; we were all one where safety was concerned.

Horace's reaction was the surface of what we all knew was going to happen in that sea of discontent, we just didn't know when.

I knew Selma was different when on my arrival in Alabama to cover the voter registration story I was told by Public Safety Director E. Wilson Baker that I'd have to get a haircut before I'd be given a press credential.

Life Magazine photographer Charlie Moore, who was from Montgomery, and I were given directions to a local barbershop where we had our locks shorn with silent indifference. I think we were driven there by a policeman. I can thank my maker that I was born in the South because I'm not sure Charlie and I would have made it from the barber shop with any hair otherwise. We laid the accents on thick under the good 'ole boy stares.

Baker, while visually checking us out, spotted a tattoo on my hand which he likened to a tattoo worn by a Mexican gang called the Pachucos (sp) and started calling me "chuco" from day one

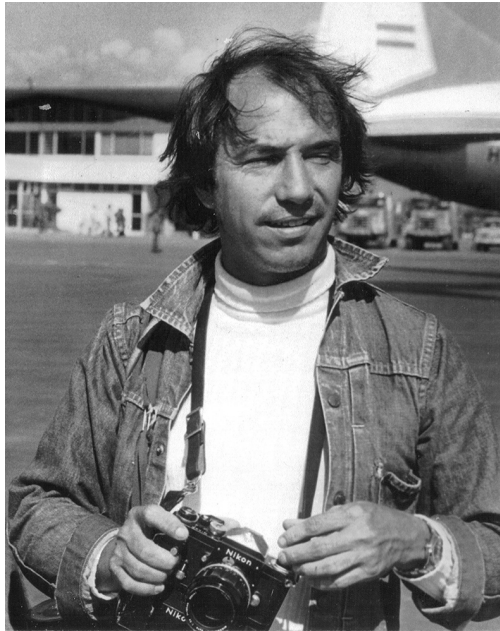
During the days leading up to the march, we were covering demonstrations as well as covering lines of locals trying to sign up to vote. You did not go anywhere alone. I usually found myself with AP photographer Bill Hudson, or Horace Court, looking for a different picture but not straying far from my competition to get it, unless we could tie up with one of our writers. Our nights would find us in one of the local churches waiting for Martin Luther King Jr. to arrive and give one of his many moving calls for non-violent protest. We always had someone keeping an eye on the streets or parked cars down the block.

Almost every night was spent in church. Hot, dark, and very crowded. But there was always electricity in the air. You could feel the sweat running down your back as you waited for Dr. King to arrive. Those seated, or standing, had their little fans, which looked like cardboard on a popsicle stick waving close to their faces. Expecting. A little girl would stand in a pew upstairs would stand and start singing. In a minute the whole building would be moving in concert and I, only one of a few whites there, would find myself tapping my toes to an old Southern hymn. Looking around the room I would see AP photographer Bill Hudson, who would just smile as we were waiting for a speaker.

There was always some protest in adjoining communities where we would have to rush to get today's confrontation or the aftermath. Back in those days we depended a lot on the TV crews - NBC, CBS, ABC - for information. We were very close to the camera crews since we basically all covered the same civil rights stories during that era so we had a lot of time to get to know each other. Covering each other's back was the only way to work some of those stories. Finding out your gas mask wasn't 100 per cent effective was important to know and being around these guys was the way to find out. A lot of time when a TV crew would arrive at a protest and the lights would go on, things would start to happen. Before you knew it, you'd be reaching for your gas mask. It had to work.

Prior to the march, before all of the crowd flooded Selma, protesters started sleeping in the street in front of the Bethel AME church with blankets for cover. This unsettled the police and made for a lot of tension. The wire services and television networks also had to be there, sitting in their cars or just standing by the church in case of trouble. Long nights. This caused a lot of concern in Washington. After the Selma to Montgomery march has concluded, I was contacted by a congressman who, for the Congressional Record,

wanted to know exactly what I had witnessed while covering those sleeping in front of the church. This particular congressman wasn't very happy when I wouldn't admit seeing the protesters indulging in sex. And the fact was I never saw anything like that and I was surrounded with the protesters trying to get a night's rest despite flash units lighting the area.



When the Selma march did actually start toward Montgomery, it was a photographer's holiday. Soldiers, state troopers, hecklers and protesters kept us busy during the march. While we were marching with the protesters we had to constantly ship our film first back to Selma for processing and transmissions and then later, it got shipped to Montgomery.

The days on the march were 20 hours long or longer. It was frustrating because as a photographer you were recalling dynamic images of emotions being displayed but we weren't able to see any of our images since they were being handled away from the site. You might see another photographer who would compliment you on a picture you had taken but that was a day old and you just couldn't remember all of the images you had made. Most all of your images were black and white unless you were given the job of providing a color photo, which was not often in those days because getting it processed and transmitted was a time-consuming and hectic process.

UPI had rented a truck with a 16-foot covered bed which fellow photographer Joe Hollaway and I took turns driving in the procession. We parked the truck beside the tents set up for the marchers where we would open the back and try to relax while keeping our eyes open for possible trouble. Since our truck was one of few, we would have people like actor Gary Merill, husband of actress Bette Davis, who had driven his Mercedes convertible with a tent strapped on the back to Selma, or Nelson Rockefeller's nephew drop by to relax after the march had halted for the day. The marchers would be eating or listening to various entertainers perform or they too would just want to sit on our truck tailgate and talk. Names like Joan Baez, Harry Belafonte, Odetta, Peter Paul and Mary were just a few of the many celebrities who joined the cause in help entertain the protesters.

While a shot of Wild Turkey might have gone well while sitting in the back of the truck with our legs dangling off the end of the truck, we were very much aware of the danger of being caught with booze in or around the truck.

It made the hair on the back of your neck stand up as the sea of marchers, singing "We Shall Overcome", moved toward the state capitol. A platform had been placed in front of the capitol and on it Peter Paul and Mary, among a few more entertainers, were singing. I was busy trying to get a vantage point to get a picture of that wall of marchers as they came toward the capitol but couldn't find a place. I looked at the platform but a cop just nodded his head "no".

My salvation came when I spotted one of the Civil Rights leaders I had covered when he was attacked by rednecks during an earlier confrontation. I tugged at his pant leg and asked him if he would take my Leica and shoot a couple of images of the crowd for me. Without a moment's hesitation, now U.S. Rep. John Lewis performed like a pro, taking his time for composition and then handed a very happy photographer his camera back.

The march concluded but our coverage didn't. Viola Liuzzo was shot and killed while shuttling fellow activists to the airport by the KKK after the march. That started a whole new round of stories. We would be off, trying to find pictures to take. But Selma was different, we knew it when we left.

I was in my office in Columbia, S.C. one day a month after Selma when my phone rang and after I answered, I heard someone of the other end say "Hey Chuco". It was Wilson Baker who, with his police lieutenant with him, was traveling through Columbia from Washington where they had to testify in front of some Congressional committee about what happened in Selma. He wanted to have coffee. Over the period of time spent in Selma we had become friends in a sense. I never told him where marchers were going to demonstrate and he never asked for another haircut.

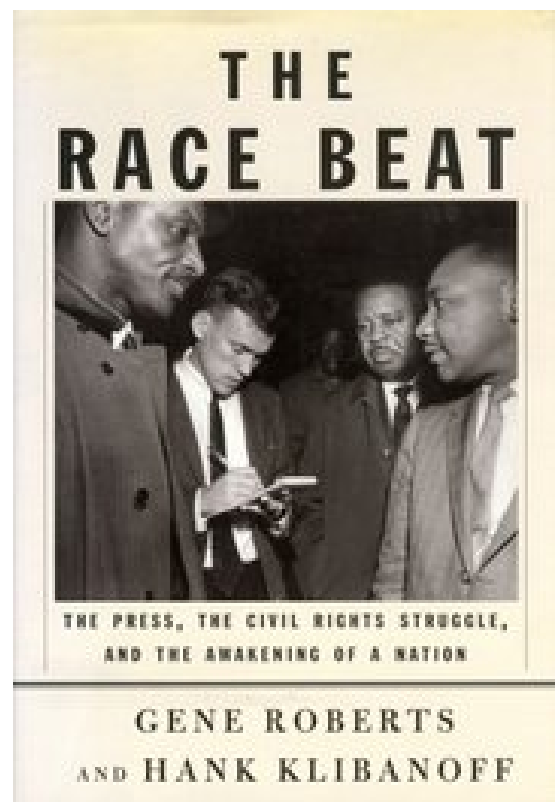
Former AP reporter Jim Purks gave first-hand accounts of the Civil Rights Movement

ALBANY - Jim Purks has no delusions about his career in journalism, insisting that his tenure as a beat reporter for The Associated Press during the Civil Rights era elevated him no higher than a "faceless, anonymous foot soldier."

But it was Purks' heartfelt first-person account of the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, a heinous act that left four young black girls dead, that is still considered one of the era's must-read journalistic pieces.

"I believe my involvement that day was a product of the divine," Purks, now 77 and a retired deacon of the Episcopal Church, said during a recent conversation. "As I sat down to type, the words just came. There was no objectivity; I wrote a first-person account of what I saw and experienced.

"I knew the words I'd written that day were special. There's no question that was the best writing under pressure I ever did."



Purks, who now lives in Albany and makes weekly prayer and healing visits to local health care facilities, maintains the humility that is perhaps his most enduring trait, brushing off an adventure-filled lifetime of service and achievement as "no big deal."



This from a man who regularly provided front-line coverage of the activities of Martin Luther King Jr. and his fellow soldiers in the burgeoning Civil Rights movement, whose studies took him to Stanford University in California and the University of Chile in Santiago, who worked side-by-side with the founder of Habitat for Humanity, who served four years in the Carter White House, and who has spent the last several years as an ordained official of the Episcopal Church, even in retirement offering weekly prayers and encouragement to the physically and spiritually ill.

Click [here](#) to read more. Purks is pictured in top illustration with pen and notebook on the book cover above.)

Connecting mailbox

Wick Temple - always supportive, open to ideas

Hal Bock (Email) - I've been busy with the manuscript for my next book so I'm a bit late chiming in on Wick Temple. He was one terrific sports editor, always supportive, always open to suggestions and ideas from his staff. That was not always the case in sports but I thought our department really flourished during the time he ran it.

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More on Little Rock bureau

Bob Haring (Email) - Al Dopking (folks always said Red Dog was his Indian name and he never told me any different) was St. Louis correspondent from about 1957 to 1959 when he went to LR. I knew him from Carbondale because even though Chicago was control

bureau, most of our AP dealings were with St. Louis. Tom Pendergast was Centralia correspondent who became broadcast rep for Arkansas. He and Dopking got together and called me when Al was looking for help in LR. Wick succeeded me when I went to Tulsa in 1959. Dopking went to Columbus in spring of 1961 and I got moved up there as assistant in fall of 1961. I don't recall when/why he left Columbus.

Ferd Kaufman ([Email](#)) - My first job out of college was photographer at the Arkansas Democrat, my home town. My first big assignment at the AP was the five weeks I spent covering Little Rock High School integration. I also attended LRHS and graduated in 1944 before enlisting in the Navy and was off to the Philippines. Keith Fuller was in fact COB in Little Rock, but Bob Ford of Dallas came and ran the show. J.M. (Eddie) Edwards was traffic chief in LR before coming to Dallas and helped me get my job at AP. I was in Dallas with UPI.

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Here's the URL for Matt Franjola memorial service

Monday's Connecting omitted the URL for the memorial service planned for former AP reporter Matt Franjola.

To RSVP for the memorial service, set for Saturday, April 11, click [here](#) by April 1.

Mass begins at noon at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church (34 Green Hill Road, Washington, CT. Lunch & reception with music to follow at Washington Club Hall (92 Green Hill Road, Washington, CT).

Seattle Times' Jim Simon to lead APME in 2018

The Associated Press Media Editors is pleased to announce its 2018 president, Jim Simon, deputy managing editor of The Seattle Times.

The APME board of directors voted last week to move Simon to the leadership ladder following the resignation of APME Vice President Teri Hayt, who is now the executive director of the American Society of News Editors.

Simon has been an APME director since 2011. He has served as conference planning co-chairman for two years.

"Jim is as dedicated to APME and its programs as he is passionate about good journalism," said Alan D. Miller, 2015 APME president and managing editor/news at The Columbus Dispatch. "Jim brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm for APME's work to support journalists in newsrooms across the country. The board enthusiastically supported his move to the leadership ladder."



Simon is the deputy managing editor for The Seattle Times. He has worked as an editor and reporter at the Times for most of his career, including stints covering the environment, politics and the statehouse, and as staff writer for the Times' Sunday magazine. As an editor, he helped oversee the team that won the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for breaking news for its coverage of the killings of four suburban police officers. Prior to joining the Times, he worked as a UPI reporter in the Philippines.

He has taught journalism at the University of Washington and Seattle University. He also has experience as a teacher and trainer in Southeast Asia, including serving as a Knight Journalism Fellow in Indonesia and East Timor.

"I'm honored to join the leadership team and be selected as a future president," said Simon. "It's a great opportunity to continue working with the smart and creative people on the board to shape APME's future."

"Amid the upheaval in the news business, APME has had to rethink how it can best support journalists and good journalism. That's an ongoing challenge. But I feel very positive about the direction APME is headed."

In recent years, he noted that APME has forged stronger partnerships with organizations like ASNE, launched a national reporting project with the Associated Press, developed new funding for its signature training program and is working on new initiatives like an editor-educator exchange with colleges.

With Hayt's departure, Laura Sellers becomes the APME vice president and Bill Church the association's secretary. Sellers is managing editor of The Daily Astorian in Oregon. Church is executive editor of the Herald-Tribune Media Group in Florida.

The Associated Press Media Editors is an association of news and broadcast leaders, and journalism educators and student leaders in the United States and Canada. APME works closely with The Associated Press to foster journalism excellence and to support a national network for the training and development of editors who run multimedia newsrooms.

APME is focused on advancing the journalism profession, providing feedback to The Associated Press on its news and services, and is on the front line in setting ethical and journalistic standards for newspapers and broadcast outlets, and in the battle for freedom of information and the First Amendment.

Its annual conference with ASNE is Oct. 16-18 in Palo Alto, Calif. Learn more at www.apme.com

Click [here](#) for a link to the story. (Shared by Mark Mittelstadt)

Connecting's 80s Club continues to grow

Newly "admitted" members:

Mercer Bailey ([Email](#)) - Thought you had me in the Over-the-Hill gang, but you can add me at 88.

Sibby Christensen ([Email](#)) - Perusing your 80's Club list, can't help but notice it's all guys. Time to break up the old boys club: I reached the Big Eight-Oh a couple of months ago. So sign me up.

Bob Haring ([Email](#)) - Add me to the aging list - I'm now 82.

Ferd Kaufman ([Email](#)) - You can add me to the 80s bunch as I will be 89 in April.

Marv Schneider ([Email](#)) - You can add me to the 80s club...at 84 (43 at the AP). Worked with (George) Bria at AP Radio in the '50s before moving to Sports.

Joining these members, to date:

Phil Dopoulos ([Email](#)) - 83

Lew Ferguson ([Email](#)) - 81

Mike Feinsilber ([Email](#)) - 80

Albert Habhab ([Email](#)) - 89

George Hanna ([Email](#)) - 85

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - 88

Joe McGowan ([Email](#)) - 83

Joe McKnight ([Email](#)) - 89

Walter Mears ([Email](#)) - 80

Charlie Monzella ([Email](#)) - 83

Arlon Southall ([Email](#)) - 83

Paul Webster ([Email](#)) - 83

90s:

George Bria ([Email](#)) - 99

Elaine Light ([Email](#)) - 92

Sam Montello ([Email](#)) - 92

Elon Torrence ([Email](#)) - 98

100s

Max Desfor - 101

And speaking of growing older, Arlon Southall shares this wonderful piece by Richard Lederer, American author, speaker, and teacher who is best known for his books on the English language and on word play such as puns, oxymorons, and anagrams.

'Old words and phrases remind us of the way we word'

By Richard Lederer



About a month ago, I illuminated old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included don't touch that dial, carbon copy, you sound like a broken record and hung out to dry. A bevy of readers have asked me to shine light on more faded words and expressions, and I am happy to oblige:

Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker and straighten up and fly right. Hubba-hubba! We'd cut a rug in some juke joint and then go necking spooning and billing and cooing and pitching woo in hot rods and jalopies in some passion pit or lovers lane. Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumpin Jehoshaphat! Holy moley! We were living the life of Riley, and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes and pedal pushers. Oh, my aching back. Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore.

Like Washington Irving's Rip Van Winkle and Kurt Vonnegut's Billy Pilgrim, we have become unstuck in time. We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, I'll be a monkey's uncle! or This is a fine kettle of fish. We discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, poof, poof go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they are gone, evanesced from the landscape and wordscape of our perception, like Mickey Mouse wristwatches, hula hoops, skate keys, candy cigarettes, little wax bottles of colored sugar water and an organ grinder's monkey.

Where have all those phrases gone? Long time passing. Where have all those phrases

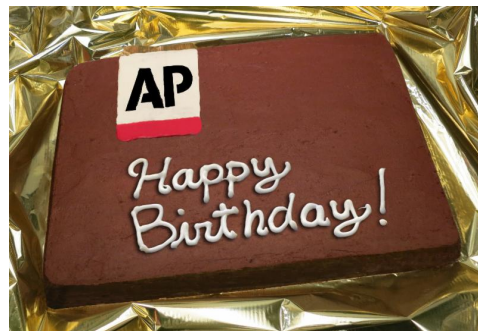
gone? Long time ago: Pshaw. The milkman did it. Think about the starving Armenians. Bigger than a bread box. Banned in Boston. The very idea! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Turn-of-the-century. Iron curtain. Domino theory. Fail safe. Civil defense. Fiddlesticks! You look like the wreck of the Hesperus. Cooties. Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels. Heavens to Murgatroyd! And awa-a-ay we go!

Oh, my stars and garters! It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter had liver pills.

This can be disturbing stuff, this winking out of the words of our youth, these words that lodge in our heart's deep core. But just as one never steps into the same river twice, one cannot step into the same language twice. Even as one enters, words are swept downstream into the past, forever making a different river.

We of a certain age have been blessed to live in changeful times. For a child each new word is like a shiny toy, a toy that has no age. We at the other end of the chronological arc have the advantage of remembering there are words that once did not exist and there were words that once strutted their hour upon the earthly stage and now are heard no more, except in our collective memory. It's one of the greatest advantages of aging. We can have archaic and eat it, too.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Tena Haraldson ([Email](#))

Stories of interest

["He called me 'Nigger' "](#)

By Yvette Walker
The Oklahoman

Editor's note: I have decided not to edit out the repulsive word in the title. It goes to the heart of what happened to me and what happened at the University of Oklahoma today. If this disturbs you, I encourage you to continue reading anyway.



I have been called "Nigger" to my face twice in my life. It happened many years ago, but the memory stings as if it happened yesterday.

I thought about this Monday morning. Those painful memories don't emerge from the depths of my hippocampus often, but they came rushing back when I heard members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity singing racist lyrics in a video.

University of Oklahoma SAE members, on a bus to a party, sang the following lyrics. Two videos captured the events and were leaked via YouTube.

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Barack and Me

By Rembert Browne
Grantland

I couldn't sleep for shit.

Friday night had turned into Saturday morning, and I was staring at the ceiling in a hotel room in Washington, D.C., only blocks from the White House, recovering from my third hot shower of the night. The fever that had developed from an 11-hour Amtrak trip down the East Coast a day earlier hadn't left my body, and the only way I knew how to deal with the chills was to take hot showers and hope for the best.

But that wasn't the real reason for my insomnia and this body-zapping panic: I would be speaking to the president of the United States of America in 10 hours. On Air Force One. Before his speech in Selma, Alabama, on the Edmund Pettus Bridge to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the march that took place on what became known as Bloody Sunday.

On Monday, I had received an email from the White House offering "a potential opportunity with President Obama in the very near future." The opportunity was to be a part of a roundtable of five journalists who would have 30 minutes to talk with the president.

As the week progressed, however, the stakes grew. With the date inching closer, the details became clearer. On Friday, the final email:

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API working on a new tool for educating young news consumers

When most of us grew up it was clear what we meant by "the news." We saw boundaries - the nightly newscast, the confines of a newspaper, bulletins on a radio broadcast.

Those sources still exist, but so do many more. Young people today are immersed in media, receiving news, marketing and messages from many sources with varying levels of accuracy and honesty. The news consumers of the future need to be prepared to think critically and evaluate information and claims about their world.

Building on our history with News in Education, API is working on a tool to help younger generations learn how to be thoughtful news consumers. The online software aims to let students consume diverse sources of real news, evaluate it critically, and tune their judgment by comparing the reactions of their peers.

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'There Was No Crop' of Selma Photograph (Shared by Bob Daugherty)

Many readers wrote to me over the weekend, upset that a [front-page photo](#) of President Obama and his family leading a commemorative march in Selma, Ala., did not include former president George W. Bush and his wife, Laura. The Bushes were also in the front line of marchers.

Twitter was ablaze with criticism of The Times, many conservative news organizations wrote critical articles - and my email inbox overflowed. Some readers said they were canceling their Times subscriptions. Others were simply disappointed.

Keith Merwin wrote: "As a southerner and a voter, I was deeply hurt that the New York Times would create a front page where they edited a photo such as they did for their Selma anniversary article. Cropping the picture to remove President Bush was wrong!" And he added that he wanted editors to apologize and "retract" the photo treatment.

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Survey: Fox News has the most trusted news coverage - or not

Fox News has the most trusted network and cable news coverage, according to a Quinnipiac University survey of American voters. But 26% say they don't trust Fox News at all - the highest among the cable news and broadcast outlets. More findings:

* 20% of American voters say they trust Fox News "a great deal"; 35% say "somewhat."

* CNN: 18% "a great deal"; 43% "somewhat"

- * ABC News: 14% "a great deal"; 50% "somewhat"
- * CBS News: 14% "great deal"; 50% "somewhat"
- * NBC News: 14% "a great deal"; 46% "somewhat"
- * MSNBC: 11% "a great deal"; 41% "somewhat"

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Cartoonists and the Work of Healing (Shared by Sibby Christensen)

As an American editorial cartoonist in New York City, my life is relatively safe. I love attending cartoonists' conferences in far-flung locales and meeting colleagues from around the world. Even if we don't share a spoken language, we share a visual language, and are bound by a passion for our profession.

It is humbling that many of my colleagues are in danger simply because of the work they do. This was made all too clear in January, when Muslim extremists attacked the Paris office of the French satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, killing 12 people, including the top editor and several cartoonists.

Following the attack, the global cartoonists' community united in anguish and outrage. I sought the opinions of my colleagues, and took solace in their friendship. So when, last month, I was invited to the fifth annual Rencontres du Dessin de Presse, a two-day cartoonist's symposium in Caen, France, in April, I was thrilled.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, March 10, the 69th day of 2015. There are 296 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 10, 1985, Konstantin U. Chernenko, who was the Soviet Union's leader for 13 months, died at age 73; he was succeeded by Mikhail Gorbachev.

On this date:

In 1785, Thomas Jefferson was appointed America's minister to France, succeeding Benjamin Franklin.

In 1864, President Abraham Lincoln assigned Ulysses S. Grant, who had just received his commission as lieutenant-general, to the command of the Armies of the United States. The song "Beautiful Dreamer" by the late Stephen Foster was copyrighted by Wm. A. Pond & Co. of New York.

In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell's assistant, Thomas Watson, heard Bell say over his experimental telephone: "Mr. Watson - come here - I want to see you."

In 1880, the Salvation Army arrived in the United States from England.

In 1914, the Rokeby Venus, a 17th century painting by Diego Velazquez on display at the National Gallery in London, was slashed multiple times by Mary Richardson, who was protesting the arrest of fellow suffragist Emmeline Pankhurst. (The painting was repaired.)

In 1933, a magnitude 6.4 earthquake centered off Long Beach, California, resulted in 120 deaths.

In 1949, Nazi wartime broadcaster Mildred E. Gillars, also known as "Axis Sally," was convicted in Washington D.C., of treason. (She served 12 years in prison.)

In 1959, the Tennessee Williams play "Sweet Bird of Youth," starring Paul Newman and Geraldine Page, opened at Broadway's Martin Beck Theatre.

In 1965, Neil Simon's play "The Odd Couple," starring Walter Matthau and Art Carney, opened on Broadway.

In 1969, James Earl Ray pleaded guilty in Memphis, Tennessee, to assassinating civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. (Ray later repudiated that plea, maintaining his innocence until his death.)

In 1973, the Pink Floyd album "The Dark Side of the Moon" was first released in the U.S. by Capitol Records (the British release came nearly two weeks later).

In 1980, "Scarsdale Diet" author Dr. Herman Tarnower was shot to death at his home in Purchase, New York. (Tarnower's former lover, Jean Harris, was convicted of his murder; she served nearly 12 years in prison before being released in Jan. 1993.)

Ten years ago: Lebanon's president reappointed staunchly pro-Syrian politician Omar Karami as prime minister. A suicide bomber blew himself up at a funeral in Mosul, Iraq, killing at least 47 people. Former President Bill Clinton underwent surgery in New York to remove scar tissue and fluid from his chest. Michael Jackson, clad in pajamas and walking gingerly, arrived one hour late to his child molestation trial after the judge threatened to have him arrested for tardiness; a back injury was blamed. (Jackson was acquitted.)

Five years ago: President Barack Obama denounced waste, inefficiency and downright fraud in the government's health care system as he sought to rally public support for his revamped overhaul plan during a rally in suburban St. Louis. About 200 women who'd flown airplanes during World War II as Women Airforce Service Pilots were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. Actor Corey Haim died in Burbank, California, at age 38.

One year ago: The Senate unanimously approved a bill making big changes in the military justice system to deal with sexual assault, including scrapping the nearly century-old practice of using a "good soldier defense" to raise doubts that a crime had been

committed. (The House has yet to act on the measure.) Joe McGuiness, 71, the adventurous and news-making writer and reporter, died in Worcester (WU'-stur), Massachusetts.

Today's Birthdays: Talk show host Ralph Emery is 82. Bluegrass/country singer-musician Norman Blake is 77. Actor Chuck Norris is 75. Playwright David Rabe is 75. Singer Dean Torrence (Jan and Dean) is 75. Actress Katharine Houghton is 73. Actor Richard Gant is 71. Rock musician Tom Scholz (Boston) is 68. Former Canadian Prime Minister Kim Campbell is 68. TV personality/businesswoman Barbara Corcoran (TV: "Shark Tank") is 66. Actress Aloma Wright is 65. Blues musician Ronnie Earl (Ronnie Earl and the Broadcasters) is 62. Producer-director-writer Paul Haggis is 62. Alt-country/rock musician Gary Louris is 60. Actress Shannon Tweed is 58. Pop/jazz singer Jeanie Bryson is 57. Actress Sharon Stone is 57. Rock musician Gail Greenwood is 55. Magician Lance Burton is 55. Movie producer Scott Gardenhour is 54. Actress Jasmine Guy is 53. Rock musician Jeff Ament (Pearl Jam) is 52. Music producer Rick Rubin is 52. Britain's Prince Edward is 51. Rock singer Edie Brickell is 49. Actor Stephen Mailer is 49. Actor Philip Anthony-Rodriguez is 47. Actress Paget Brewster is 46. Actor Jon Hamm is 44. Country singer Daryle Singletary is 44. Rapper-producer Timbaland is 43. Actor Cristian (kris-tee-AHN') de la Fuente is 41. Rock musician Jerry Horton (Papa Roach) is 40. Actor Jeff Branson is 38. Singer Robin Thicke is 38. Actress Bree Turner is 38. Olympic gold medal gymnast Shannon Miller is 38. Contemporary Christian singer Michael Barnes (Red) is 36. Actor Edi Gathegi is 36. Rock musician Matt Asti (MGMT) is 35. Country singer Carrie Underwood is 32. Actress Olivia Wilde is 31. Rhythm-and-blues singer Emeli Sande (EH'-mihl-ee SAN'-day) is 28. Country singer Rachel Reinert is 26. Actress Emily Osment is 23.

Thought for Today: "To the living we owe respect, but to the dead we owe only the truth." - Voltaire, French writer and philosopher (1694-1778).



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