



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Fwd: Connecting - August 06, 2016

1 message

Paul and Linda Stevens <stevenspl@live.com>
To: Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 6, 2016 at 3:59 PM

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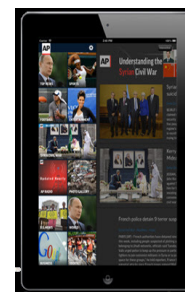
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Connecting

August 06, 2016

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His 'office' for the next two weeks



Colleagues,

The Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro are now under way - and Associated Press journalists will tell the story of the Games for the next two weeks.

A reminder that the best news app in the world - AP Mobile - is a great way to keep up with the many events. And don't forget that in the masthead of Connecting each day, the Top News and Top Photos links keep you in touch 24/7.

In the photo above, AP photographer **Morry Gash** operates a robotic camera from the press tribune at the Maracana Stadium before the opening ceremony Friday night. Photo courtesy of AP's **Kiichiro Sato**.

Have a great weekend!

Paul

Connecting mailbox

Nordgren on panel at NABJ/NAHJ convention

Sarah Nordgren ([Email](#)), AP's director of U.S. news operations and executive director of APME, was a member of a panel Thursday at the joint convention of the National Association of Black Journalists/National Association of Hispanic Journalists in Washington. The panel discussed how today's diverse consumers are impacting content changes across media companies and why workforce diversity is critical to winning in the marketplace.

Panelists shown above are, from left: Ramon Escobar of CNN, Camille Edwards of WABC-TV, Sarah Nordgren, moderator Bomani Jones of ESPN, Chris Pena of Univision and Kevin Merida of ESPN. Not pictured was John Saunders of ESPN.

See story on Hillary Clinton's appearance at the convention, below.

-0-

In defense of flossing

Peggy Andersen ([Email](#)) -I'm a believer in flossing and am sure dentists from coast to coast - already among the highest earners in medicine - were thrilled with the AP story (see Friday's Connecting).

Flossing serves the same purpose as toothpicks but does it better. We pay for the privilege of more professional gear covering the same ground when we get our teeth cleaned by a dental hygienist.

I was horrified by this story and in my experience, it's wrong. Wanna give equal time to my dentist? I get compliments every time my teeth are cleaned and my gums - really the main beneficiary of flossing - are healthy (I'll be 70 in Feb).

For those whose gums are receding, much can be salvaged with baking soda and hydrogen peroxide. Dip a brush in the peroxide, then tap the damp brush in baking soda. Tastes ghastly but results are clear within days.

You can always brush a second time with something minty.

-0-

Memories of the Cougars' 1978 season

John Willis ([Email](#)) -Got a huge kick out of Sue Manning's remembrance of that 1978 Washington State football season.

The Coogs, featuring Jack "The Throwin Samoan" Thompson, got off to a marvelous start. They thashed UNLV and Idaho by scores of 34-7, and 28-0, respectively. Then came the first big challenge.

Arizona State had just joined the PAC-8, along with Arizona, turning it into the PAC-10 and the famed Frank Kush was the Sun Devil coach.

The game was played in Spokane, and the Cougars dismantled ASU, 51-26.

I think my lead read something like: "Welcome to the PAC-10, Coach Kush." Don't quote me on that, however.

The next week WSU traveled to West Point, ranked and a huge favorite. Army held the Cougars to a 21-21 tie, and that was just about the end of the season. Alas, the Palouse was not a happy place by season's end, as the Coogs dropped their last seven in conference play.

Connecting profile - Fernando Gonzalez



Fernando Gonzalez (Email) - is a veteran video journalist who has spent more than 30 years covering Latin America and the Caribbean and was recently named to a new role as The Associated Press' deputy news director for the region.

Gonzalez, who had been the AP's regional video editor for Latin America and the Caribbean based in Washington, D.C., since 2014, helps lead the AP's newsgathering operation in all formats from its regional hub in Mexico City.

As regional video editor, Gonzalez, 54, oversaw news coverage and production from 27 AP video staffers and more than 60 freelancers in the region. Prior to that he was AP's senior producer in Havana, Cuba, where he directed video coverage for 11 years.

In his long career, the Uruguayan-born Gonzalez has covered many of the region's biggest stories, including the 1996 hostage siege at the Japanese ambassador's residence in Peru and Hurricane Mitch's devastating impact on Central America. In 2007 Gonzalez reported from Antarctica on the visit of Ban Ki-moon, the first U.N. secretary-general to travel there to personally see the effects of global warming on the polar ice caps. Gonzalez also covered three papal trips to Cuba by St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis, as well as President Barack Obama's historic visit this spring to cement a diplomatic thaw between Washington and Havana after decades of hostility.

He is married, has two grown children (boy and girl) and three granddaughters by his daughter.



Patinkin's fight for access exposes horrific stories outside UN camp in South Sudan



In this photo taken Monday, July 25, 2016, some of the more than 30,000 Nuer civilians sheltering in a United Nations base in South Sudan's capital Juba for fear of targeted killings by government forces walk by an armored vehicle and a watchtower manned by Chinese peacekeepers. (AP Photo/Jason Patinkin)

By JOHN DANISZEWSKI

The scene was nightmarish. Women and girls fleeing fighting in South Sudan had taken refuge in a United Nations camp. As fighting subsided, they ventured out in search of food, but just outside the camp, they were dragged off by soldiers and raped. Two died of their injuries. At least one attack was said to have occurred within sight of U.N. peacekeepers.

The details in Jason Patinkin's only-on-AP story could not have been reported without getting into the camp - but the U.N. at first blocked journalists from entering. Demanding access along with other journalists - and winning - in the midst of already challenging coverage allowed Patinkin to produce an exclusive that prompted outrage around the world. It earns Beat of the Week.

Fighting between factions in South Sudan has created a wave of about 60,000 newly displaced people, part of the nearly 900,000 South Sudanese who have fled their homes since civil war broke out in 2013. Some people hoping to leave the country were turned back at the borders and fled to United Nations camps for protection instead.

Patinkin, AP's South Sudan stringer, and other journalists repeatedly sought access to the camps, but were denied by U.N. officials. Patinkin heard about the rapes from a civilian he called in one of the camps. He then contacted the civilian chairman of the camps as well as staff members at clinics inside. They confirmed that there were a number of reports of rape. The need to get inside the camps and talk to refugees, particularly women, was clear.

Sixteen journalists in Juba, the capital, wrote to U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon in New York, demanding access to the camps. That got action, and the next day 10 of them went in.

Patinkin quickly sought out witnesses and corroborating details. What he learned stunned him. Soldiers would stop groups of women and girls returning to the camp and take them into a building where they would be raped - sometimes as many as 10 attackers to one victim.

The reporting highlighted the reluctance by U.N. peacekeepers to protect civilians and that the attacks were targeted ethnic violence.

The rape victims were ethnic Nuer. The soldiers were loyal to South Sudan's president, an ethnic Dinka; they had been fighting a faction of the military loyal to the opposition leader, a Nuer.

A woman quoted by Patinkin said, "One soldier came and he turned the gun to us. He said, 'If I kill you now, you Nuer woman, do you think there is anything that can happen to me?'" <http://apne.ws/2aTeq3G>

The victimized women wept and wondered aloud why no one was doing anything to aid them.

Reaction to the story was swift. A U.N. official said it was investigating "allegations of peacekeepers not rendering aid to civilians in distress." The U.N. also came up with a firm number of confirmed attacks on women in Juba: 120. On Thursday, the U.N. human rights chief announced an even higher number of documented cases of sexual violence there: 217.

U.S. Sen. Robert Corker, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, said he was "horrified" and demanded action. The daughter of a jailed South Sudanese journalist Alfred Taban, said her father had praised AP's work.

For exposing the horrors outside a United Nations camp and for fighting for the access that allowed the women's stories to be heard, Patinkin wins this week's \$500 prize.

Others whose work impressed the judges:

Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar, reporter, Washington, D.C., for using cost figures obtained exclusively from Medicare actuaries to describe how the program's safeguard for consumers with high drug costs had turned into a way for pharmaceutical companies to collect billions of taxpayer dollars for their most pricey products. Analysts worry the development could threaten the future of the Medicare drug program. <http://bit.ly/2aL6miZ>

Joan Lowy, transportation reporter, Washington, D.C., and Emily Schmall, correspondent, Fort Worth, Texas, for scoring significant news beats after a hot air balloon caught fire, killing 16. Lowy was first to report that the National Transportation Safety Board had unsuccessfully urged the Federal Aviation Administration to oversee commercial balloon tours in the same way it does airplanes and helicopters. Schmall confirmed details of criminal charges against the pilot of the balloon while also reporting that he had been charged in years past with drunken driving. <http://apne.ws/2az5k9G>

Paul Weber, reporter, Austin, Texas, for accountability reporting that showed state Attorney General Ken Paxton had accepted a \$100,000 donation from a company his office was investigating, violating his office's own internal policy. <http://abcn.ws/2aSv7f1>

Jim Vertuno, reporter, Austin, Texas, for seizing on details in a report about sexual assault at Baylor University and producing an exclusive story about how the university's rigid enforcement of a conduct code banning drugs, alcohol and sex likely drove some victims into silence. <http://abcn.ws/2anY4Le>

Claudia Lauer, reporter, Little Rock, Arkansas, for using FOIA requests to show that Arkansas intended to use a drug for executions made by a company that doesn't want its drugs used for that purpose. <http://bit.ly/2aTcYOL>

Mesfin Fekadu, music editor, New York, who was first to report on an official Prince tribute concert being planned by the musician's family. <http://bit.ly/2aC9YpU>

Scott Bauer, correspondent, Madison, Wisconsin, and Eric Tucker, law enforcement reporter, Washington, D.C., for being first to report the details of how a former U.S. attorney for Wisconsin misused a government credit card for personal expenses. <http://bit.ly/2atYd01>

Lindsey Bahr, film writer, Los Angeles, for breaking two entertainment stories during an interview with actor Matt Damon: that HBO opted against renewing his "Project Greenlight;" and that his production company had partnered with the USC Annenberg school to build diversity requirements into movie contracts. <http://apne.ws/2aw3Dc9>

Ben Finley, Mid-Atlantic/Norfolk correspondent, Joe Mandak, reporter, Pittsburgh, and Ben Nuckols, Mid-Atlantic/Washington reporter, for their reporting after John Hinckley was released full-time into the community. Their scoops included a rare interview with a former police officer who was among those shot in the assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan and residents in what will become Hinckley's new hometown. <http://usat.ly/2aMEVVG>

Greg Beacham, sports writer, Los Angeles, for being first to report that the oldest son of the late Kimbo Slice was making his professional debut in mixed martial arts, a sport with a rapidly growing fan base. <http://es.pn/2aE8yeF>

(Shared by Valerie Komor)

Stories of interest

Journalists grill Hillary Clinton at NABJ/NAHJ conference
(Poynter)



Hillary Clinton held a mini-press conference of sorts with reporters Friday - and lived to tell the tale.

She spoke to the joint convention of the National Association of Black Journalists/National Association of Hispanic Journalists in Washington, D.C. and briefly dealt with what's been her frustrating (for reporters) reluctance to hold a press conference.

She was more predictable and scripted than revealing and forthcoming as she answered a series of questions from NBC's Kristen Welker and Telemundo's Lori Montenegro, who then opened the proceeding up to questions from the audience.

Some drew very generic responses from a political pro, while others were a bit more ticklish but navigated without much apparent damage by her. But there was one surprisingly, and needlessly, awkward moment.

The two most notable questions perhaps came from Ed O'Keefe of The Washington Post and Kevin Merida, a former top Post editor who now oversees ESPN's daily dissection of sports, race and culture, the Undeclared.

[Click here](#) to read more.

-0-

Stop press: Last two journalists leave London's Fleet Street (Reuters)

LONDON (Reuters) - Three decades after media mogul Rupert Murdoch instigated its demise as the centuries-old home of Britain's newspaper industry, London's Fleet Street bade farewell on Friday to its last two journalists.

Known as the "Street of Shame", Fleet Street once housed thousands of reporters, editors and printers working for the country's biggest national papers as well as international and provincial publications.

While the British press is still collectively known as "Fleet Street", from Friday there will no longer be any working journalists there after the Scottish-based Sunday Post newspaper closed its London operation.

"It's a far sadder day for journalism than it is for me personally," said Darryl Smith, 43, one of the street's last two "hacks". "Journalism is no more in Fleet Street."

[Click here](#) to read more. Shared by Paul Shane.

-0-

Rutland Herald Fires News Editor Over Coverage of Paper's Woes (Seven Days)

After green-lighting [a story in Friday's paper](#) about financial troubles at the *Rutland Herald*, news editor Alan Keays was fired later that day by owner R. John Mitchell.

According to education reporter Lola Duffort, Keays was summoned into a meeting with Mitchell and publisher Catherine Nelson late Friday afternoon.

"He just walked out," Duffort told *Seven Days* in a call from the *Herald* newsroom. "People asked if [they] had fired him, and he nodded his head and walked out."

Seven Days heard from seven people with direct knowledge of the situation late Friday, all of whom corroborated elements of the story. Neither Mitchell nor Nelson immediately responded to a request for comment.

[Click here](#) to read more. Shared by Max Thomson.

Today in History - August 6, 2016



By The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Aug. 6, the 219th day of 2016. There are 147 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 6, 1945, during World War II, the U.S. B-29 Superfortress Enola Gay dropped an atomic bomb code-named "Little Boy" on Hiroshima, Japan, resulting in an estimated 140,000 deaths. (Three days later, the United States exploded a nuclear device over Nagasaki; five days after that, Imperial Japan surrendered.)

On this date:

In 1813, during the Venezuelan War of Independence, forces led by Simon Bolivar recaptured Caracas.

In 1825, Upper Peru became the autonomous republic of Bolivia.

In 1914, Austria-Hungary declared war against Russia and Serbia declared war against Germany.

In 1916, D.W. Griffith's silent film epic "Intolerance," which intercut four stories in four different settings and time periods, was sneak-previewed in Riverside, California.

In 1926, Gertrude Ederle became the first woman to swim the English Channel, arriving in Kingsdown, England, from France in 14 1/2 hours. Warner Bros. premiered its Vitaphone sound-on-disc movie system in New York with a showing of "Don Juan" featuring synchronized music and sound effects.

In 1930, New York State Supreme Court Justice Joseph Force Crater went missing after leaving a Manhattan restaurant; his disappearance remains a mystery.

In 1956, the DuMont television network went off the air after a decade of operations.

In 1961, Soviet cosmonaut Gherman Titov became the second man to orbit Earth as he flew aboard Vostok 2; his call sign, "Eagle," prompted his famous declaration: "I am Eagle!"

In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act.

In 1978, Pope Paul VI died at Castel Gandolfo at age 80.

In 1986, William J. Schroeder (SHRAY'-dur) died at at Humana Hospital-Audubon in Louisville, Kentucky, after living 620 days with the Jarvik 7 artificial heart.

In 1991, the World Wide Web made its public debut as a means of accessing webpages over the Internet. TV newsman Harry Reasoner died in Norwalk, Connecticut, at age 68.

Ten years ago: Oil giant BP announced an indefinite shutdown of the biggest oilfield in the U.S., at Prudhoe Bay in Alaska, after finding a pipeline leak. Sherri Steinhauer shot an even-par 72 to win the Women's British Open for the third time, and the first since it became a major. Tiger Woods won his 50th PGA Tour title with a three-stroke victory over Jim Furyk in the Buick Open.

Five years ago: Insurgents shot down a U.S. military helicopter during fighting in eastern Afghanistan, killing 30 Americans, most of them belonging to the same elite Navy commando unit that had slain Osama bin Laden; seven Afghan commandos also died. Violence erupted in the north London district of Tottenham amid anger over the fatal police shooting two days earlier of Mark Duggan, a 29-year-old father of four; rioting and looting spread to other parts of the city and other English cities over the next several days, leaving five dead. Deion Sanders, Marshall Faulk, Shannon Sharpe, Richard Dent, Chris Hanburger, Les Richter and NFL Films founder Ed Sabol were inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

One year ago: The first Republican presidential debate aired on Fox News Channel; when the 10 candidates were asked whether any of them would not pledge to support the eventual GOP nominee, only Donald Trump raised his hand, saying, "I will not make the pledge at this time," angering Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul, who accused Trump of "hedging his bets." Jon Stewart bade an emotional goodbye after 16 years as host of Comedy Central's "The Daily Show." "Hamilton," the hip-hop flavored biography about Alexander Hamilton, the nation's first treasury secretary, opened on Broadway.

Today's Birthdays: Children's performer Ella Jenkins is 92. Actor-director Peter Bonerz is 78. Actress Louise Sorel is 76. Actor Michael Anderson Jr. is 73. Actor Ray Buktenica is 73. Actor Dorian Harewood is 66. Actress Catherine Hicks is 65. Rock singer Pat MacDonald (Timbuk 3) is 64. Country musician Mark DuFresne (Confederate Railroad) is 63. Actress Stephanie Kramer is 60. Actress Faith Prince is 59. Rhythm-and-blues singer Randy DeBarge is 58. Actor Leland Orser is 56. Actress Michelle Yeoh (yoh) is 54. Country singers Peggy and Patsy Lynn are 52. Basketball Hall of Famer David Robinson is 51. Actor Jeremy Ratchford is 51. Actor Benito Martinez is 48. Country singer Lisa Stewart is 48. Movie writer-director M. Night Shyamalan (SHAH'-mah-lahn) is 46. Actress Merrin Dungey is 45. Singer Geri Halliwell is 44. Actor Jason O'Mara is 44. Singer-actor David Campbell is 43. Actress Vera Farmiga is 43. Actress Ever (cq) Carradine is 42. Actress Soleil (soh-LAY') Moon Frye is 40. Actress Melissa George is 40. Rock singer Travis McCoy (Gym Class Heroes) is 35. Actor Leslie Odom Jr. is 35. Actress Romola Garai is 34. Rock musician Eric Roberts (Gym Class Heroes) is 32.

Thought for Today: "The one predominant duty is to find one's work and do it." - Charlotte Perkins Gilman, American economist and feminist (1860-1935).

Got a story to share?



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:

- **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?
- **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.
- **Life after AP** for those of you who have moved on to another job or profession.
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

Paul Stevens
 Editor, Connecting newsletter
paulstevens46@gmail.com

Connecting newsletter, 14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215

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