



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - June 02, 2017

1 message

Paul Stevens <paulstevens46@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 2, 2017 at 9:03 AM

Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com

To: pjshane@gmail.com

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Connecting

June 02, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

A memorial is set for our former AP colleague **Sally Jacobsen**, who died last month.

John Daniszewski ([Email](#)) said Thursday the memorial will take place outside the 5th Floor Fish Bowl in New York on Monday June 19 at 11:30 a.m. EDT. Friends of Sally outside of New York will be able to listen in via conference call.

John shares:

Sally's husband, Patrick Oster, will attend. We also will be joined by members of Associated Press Media Editors who are meeting in New York that day and representatives of the Overseas Press Club Foundation. Sally's participation enriched both APME and OPC.

Sally held many roles during a 39-year AP career -- foreign and economic correspondent in Brussels and Washington, AP's first woman international editor and supervisor of the AP Stylebook.



Outside the AP, she helped launch the OPC Foundation's Fellowship Program that has given opportunities to scores of college graduates to work as foreign correspondents and gain real-world experience with a variety of news organizations, including AP. In Sally's honor, the OPCF now is seeking donations to fund a permanent fellowship in Sally's name.

Please join us at this memorial, and feel free to pass this invitation along to anyone who might be interested in attending or calling in.

For anyone phoning in, here is the Zoom meeting link:

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://ap.zoom.us/j/278500596>

Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): [+14086380968](tel:+14086380968),278500596# or [+16465588656](tel:+16465588656),278500596#

Or Telephone:

Dial:

[+1 408 638 0968](tel:+14086380968) (US Toll)

[+1 646 558 8656](tel:+16465588656) (US Toll)

[+44 \(0\) 20 3695 0088](tel:+4402036950088) (United Kingdom Toll)

Meeting ID: 278 500 596

International numbers available: <https://ap.zoom.us/join?m=WCroH0uSD7bqDYJE0CubVO2SjG8fB-he>

Paul

Connecting mailbox

Times story buried elimination of public editor job

Marc Humbert ([Email](#)) - Pretty sad that The New York Times would bury the elimination of the paper's public editor job in the 4th graf of a story leading with news of possible more buyouts and layoffs at the newspaper. So much for the Times' commitment to transparency and to having an in-house watchdog who can hold the feet of reporters, editors and publishers to the fire. Very sad development for journalism. Can't help but wonder if this would have happened if Margaret Sullivan (the best of the Times' public editors) had not left the job last year to move to the WX Post.

-0-

Ringing the bell in Edinburgh



Rachel Eberle Ambrose ([Email](#)), retired from AP Los Angeles, is on a tour of England, Scotland and Wales. Here she's ringing the bell of the Royal Yacht Britannia in Edinburgh. Commissioned by Queen Elizabeth in 1954, the vessel was perhaps most famously used by Prince Charles and Lady Diana for their honeymoon cruise. Photo taken by Liz Boardman, tour director.

An essay: The Stage Has Not Changed, But The Characters Have



AP Photo by Gene Herrick

(Connecting colleague Gene Herrick, 91, a frequent contributor, was one of the chief photographers during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s as an AP photojournalist. He took many famous photos of Martin Luther King, Jr and Rosa Parks, whom he photographed being arrested and also of her sitting at the front of the bus after segregation was banned. He also took photos of King being arrested multiple times and of freedom marches he and his followers participated in. He shares his views of the movement in the following story. "I have no idea what precipitated me to write this, but I did. I guess it has been floating around in my inner being for some time.")

Gene Herrick (Email) - The stage, upon which our nation's human history has played for lo these many years, is still there, but the characters have come and gone, and often leaving damning reviews.

One of those plays, and certainly not a Shakespearian drama, is the long-playing tragedy of the human pathos called the Civil Rights Movement. Seemingly, the human experience of trying to be relevant in a world of hate and fear has a beginning, but no apparent ending.

Man's inhumanity to mankind is not new, having it's beginning with the birth of civilization. Man against man, tribe against tribe, and nation against nation. Long ago there was a man named Jesus who became a religious symbol, and honored by many. This man was crucified as a symbol of hate.

Many years later, The Civil Rights Movement, as we know it today, actually began with the overloading of small boats that left the shores of Africa many, many years, ago bearing black people, against their will. After landing later, thousands in this country, they were called slaves. These human creations were no different than those born in other countries, except their skin was black. In the U.S. they became an enigma.

There have been thousands of battles in this country over the civility and rights of its citizens whose skin color is other than white. Black skin is diametrically opposite of white. This battle, between the blacks and whites in the United States, has resulted in thousands of deaths of black people, by hanging from a tree, with a rope around their necks, gun shot, and other means, plus the causation of a war-between-the-states, and unfortunately, and illogically, called the Civil War. What, one can ask, is civil about that war?

The Civil War killed thousands, on both sides, and sent a dividing knife between states below a line called the Mason-Dixon, which separated many states of the "Old South," and the northern "Yankees" to the north. This line of demarcation continues today in its imaginary path of separation.

Fast-forward to 1955, when there was a "Happening" in Mississippi which seemed, at that time, as just another killing of a black person, which before seldom raised an eyebrow in "Ole Dixie." After all, black folks were slaves, and fearfully under the mastership of white plantation owners who needed cheap labor to care for their cotton fields, and do maid, and butler tasks. Black people there were almost considered inferior because "Their skull bones were thicker," than that of a white person's, therefore they had fewer brains, and thus were dumber. I have heard this comment a few times while covering stories there in the 1950's.

The "Happening" this time, in 1955, was one of the great happenings of our history, was the brutal slaying of a 14-year-old black boy from Chicago who was visiting relatives in Mississippi, and who is reported to have made whistling sounds to two white half-sisters running a grocery store in the Mississippi Delta area. Reportedly, he was showing off for a couple of black cousins. No one told Emmitt Till, a Yankee, that what he was about to do, was absolutely not permitted in deep-south Mississippi. It resulted in his horrible death. Some white folks went over to Till's uncles' tenant house, got the boy out of bed, took him to a barn, beat him up, shot him in the head, tied a cotton-gin fan around his neck with barbed wire, and then threw his body in the Tallahatchie River. The other major part of this story was the almost unheard of arrest and indictment of two white half-brothers, J.W. Milan, and Roy Bryant. Till was killed August 8, 1955,

Very shortly after, in early September, they held a five-day trial, at least an event they called a trial, in the small courthouse in Sumner, in Tallahatchie County. The all-white jury, permitted to drink beer during the courtroom proceedings, found the defendants innocent of the blatant crime. The decision of the jury was no surprise.

This bizarre killing, a form of lynching, and its resultant finding of innocent, set off a massive national repugnance which became the beginning of the modern Civil Rights Movement in this country.

Next in the chain of civil rights and human inequalities, happened in neighboring Alabama, and in the college town of Tuscaloosa. A black lady named Autherine Lucy, tried to enter the graduate school of the all-white University of Alabama. After problems, she went to her first class on February 3, 1956. She was soon dismissed, then re-instated, and then thrown out on a contrived ruling for her own safety.

The next major step of inequality happened December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama. It was the arrest and booking of a black lady named Rosa Parks, who calmly, but adamantly refused to move to the back section of a public bus. The back section at that time was dedicated to seating Negroes (later called blacks). It was a long-standing custom in the South for Negro people to be segregated. They were humiliated by being forced to sit at the rear of public conveyances, in balconies of theaters and churches, to drink from their own water fountains, use segregated bathrooms, and never served in white peoples' restaurants. Mrs. Parks unheard of defiance resulted in her being arrested and booked at the Montgomery jail.

Parks was released from jail, but went through many legal battles in her fight against segregation. She became a major symbol for the ever-growing Civil Rights Movement.

Almost immediately, appeared a man - a Negro man - virtually unheard of up to this time. He was a preacher. He had recently come to town from Atlanta, Georgia, and became the resident pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. This young black preacher suddenly became a major voice in the Civil Rights Movement. His name? It was the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Within days, the local movement for equality, headed by Rosa Parks, and Martin Luther King was named the Montgomery Bus Boycott. It became a movement that excited the South, but quickly spread throughout the United States, and actually, with recognition around the world.

Parks was a small quiet lady, who spoke in soft tones, but was a force to be dealt with. King was just the opposite. His thundering eloquent voice rang out, from his local pulpit to the large crowds of excited followers around the globe.

Those within ear-shot were awed by his words and delivery. Some, of course, disagreed with his message, but were still spell-bound by his crowd-holding speeches.

A quote from one of his famous "I Have a Dream" speech was apparently one of his goals. "Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to open the doors of opportunity to all of God's children. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood."

From his beginnings in Montgomery, King spoke eloquently, and forcefully, and his messages were heard round-the-world. The "Movement" expanded later into "Marches" and civil disturbances, including the Selma, Alabama march, which became an historical symbol for the Movement. These events magnified with Dr. King's messaging around the country. The movement was strong until the voice of Dr. King was silenced by an assassins' bullet in 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee. In between his beginnings, and when his voice was silenced, there were other events of note in the fight for black people's equality.

Quickly following the Montgomery experiences, an additional battle ensued in September of 1956, when riots broke out in Clinton, Tennessee. The white folks of Clinton were upset that the courts had ruled that no longer should black children from Clinton be bussed to Knoxville for school. The children were to be educated in Clinton. Some of the white people of Clinton started with their anger against automobiles and passengers, passing through Clinton on a U.S. highway. "We don't dislike our Negro folks, we just don't want to go to school with them," said some white rioters. The National Guard was called out, which unfortunately put brothers in the Guard against brothers in the dissenters group. It was a strange riotous period there.

These bitter events continued. Dr. King continued his battle against segregation and hatred until a lone cowardly assassin, standing in an old bathtub, on the second floor of a flophouse in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968, shot Dr. King in the head. The nation was shocked. In his last speech, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said: "Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation. And I want to thank God, once more, for allowing me to be here with you. And so I'm happy, tonight. I'm not worried about anything." "I'm not fearing any man." "Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord."

The great orator, the voice of peace for mankind, and the leader of civility for all, was silenced. But, his words live on.

However, in between these caustic beginnings we have seen man's inhumanity to mankind explode into more violence against each other. There have been white police shootings of black men, and in return, shootings of white policemen by black men. There have been shootings of black men by black men, and, of course, shootings of white men by white men. It seemingly has no end in sight. Thrown into this mix is the now-running disenchantment with foreign immigrants to this country, especially the people from Mexico, and those whose religion is acknowledged as Muslim. The last two targets of hatred seem to be the result of constant berating of those peoples by our own president of the United States.

To quote Dr. King again, during the last speech of his life, "Well, I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn't matter with me now,

because I've been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind."

Dr. King may have gone on to a better place, but what about the rest us, the fearful humanity of today?

How we're evolving the daily television newsroom workflow

AP Vice President Michael Fabiano shares his thoughts from the annual NAB Show and explains how we're working to evolve the daily newsroom workflow by producing stories in a centralized manner.

By **MICHAEL FABIANO** ([Email](#))

Last month, I attended the annual NAB Show in Las Vegas, where despite the large size of the convention hall, the technology was as small as ever.

Cameras, drones, microphones and editing and transmission equipment can now fit into a small pouch, greatly increasing the ability of journalists to report and produce from the field.

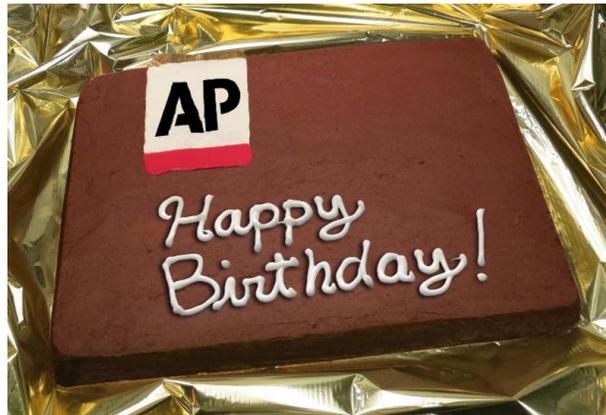
Along with your basic smartphone, these gadgets feed into the still-complex business workflows needed to create the news and entertainment content that audiences watch daily. And as media outlets continue to consolidate, content production and management will shift, as well.

At AP, we're working to evolve the daily newsroom workflow by bringing together text, video and image elements that can be centrally published and distributed. Today, our ENPS newsroom system powers more than 900 newsrooms around the world.

Content creators use ENPS to manage rundowns, adjust minute by minute the order of stories and ensure that text, video and images are cleared for use and ready to air.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Thursday, a day late -

Jerry Jackson - gsjackson43@gmail.com

Today -

Catey Terry - terryc@missouri.edu

Saturday -

Steve Elliott - elliott602az@gmail.com

Kathy Gannon - kgannon@ap.org

Rick Spratling - rjspratling@comcast.net

Stories of interest

Despite subscription surges for largest U.S. newspapers, circulation and revenue fall for industry

overall (Pew)

Following last year's presidential election, some major U.S. newspapers reported a sharp jump in digital subscriptions, giving a boost to their overall circulation totals. The newspaper industry as a whole, however, faced ongoing challenges in 2016, according to new Pew Research Center analysis.

Yearly financial statements show that The New York Times added more than 500,000 digital subscriptions in 2016 - a 47% year-over-year rise. The Wall Street Journal added more than 150,000 digital subscriptions, a 23% rise, according to audited statements produced by Dow Jones. And the Chicago Tribune added about 100,000 in weekday digital circulation, a 76% year-over-year gain, according to its filings with the Alliance for Audited Media (AAM), an organization that verifies many daily newspapers' circulation figures.

Read more [here](#).

AND...

State of the News Media - Data and trends about key sectors in the U.S. news media industry

Since 2004, Pew Research Center has issued an annual report on key audience and economic indicators for a variety of sectors within the U.S. news media industry. These data speak to the shifting ways in which Americans seek out news and information, how news organizations get their revenue, and the resources available to American journalists as they seek to inform the public about important events of the day. The press is sometimes called the fourth branch of government, but in the U.S., it's also very much a business - one whose ability to serve the public is dependent on its ability to attract eyeballs and dollars.

Over the years, the Center's approach to these indicators has evolved along with the industry, carefully considering the metrics, sectors and format in which the data appear. This year, instead of a single summary report, a series of fact sheets showcasing the most important current and historical data points for each sector - in an easy-to-digest format - will be rolled out a few at a time over the coming months.

Listed below are the 2017 fact sheets released so far, along with links to related reports that provide other angles of analysis about the news media industry. (State of the News Media reports from 2004-2016 are archived as PDFs and available here.) Check back in the coming months as the collection below grows - and in the years to come as these fact sheets continue to be updated with the latest data.

[Click here](#) for the report.

AND...

Fishwrap: Newspaper circulation at 77-year low

(Washington Examiner)

Circulation of daily newspapers has dropped to a 77-year low, signaling an end to print and a shift to all-digital delivery, according to a new industry review.

The Pew Research Center said that circulation has reached a new low of 34.6 million, six million less than papers sold in 1940.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Shane.

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Small newsrooms in out-of-the-way places (CJR)



LOCAL NEWS OUTLETS across the country play an essential role in creating civically engaged and informed communities. Often, these outlets do their work with minimal resources. Sometimes, they do it with hardly anything, with one or two journalists taking on the specialized tasks of an entire news staff. Below, we highlight the efforts of some of these journalists, from one couple who edits the paper from their front porch in North Carolina, to another whose paper is delivered by plane to those living in remote Alaska.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word



**And one more Final Word (Coffee,
continued)**

COFFEE...



**YOU HAVEN'T HAD ENOUGH UNTIL
YOU CAN THREAD A SEWING
MACHINE WHILE IT'S RUNNING!**

(Shared by Larry Hamlin)

Today in History - June 2, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, June 2, the 153rd day of 2017. There are 212 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 2, 1897, Mark Twain was quoted by the New York Journal as saying from London that "the report of my death was an exaggeration." (Twain, in London to cover Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee for the Journal, was responding to a report in the New York Herald that he was "grievously ill" and "possibly dying.")

On this date:

In 1863, during the Civil War, Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman wrote a letter to his wife, Ellen, in which he commented, "Vox populi, vox humbug" (The voice of the people is the voice of humbug).

In 1886, President Grover Cleveland, 49, married Frances Folsom, 21, in the Blue Room of the White House. (To date, Cleveland is the only president to marry in the executive mansion.)

In 1924, Congress passed, and President Calvin Coolidge signed, a measure guaranteeing full American citizenship for all Native Americans born within U.S. territorial limits.

In 1941, baseball's "Iron Horse," Lou Gehrig, died in New York of a degenerative disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; he was 37.

In 1946, Italy held a referendum which resulted in the Italian monarchy being abolished in favor of a republic.

In 1953, the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II took place in London's Westminster Abbey, 16 months after the death of her father, King George VI.

In 1966, U.S. space probe Surveyor 1 landed on the moon and began transmitting detailed photographs of the lunar surface.

In 1976, Arizona Republic investigative reporter Don Bolles was mortally injured by a bomb planted underneath his car; he died 11 days later. (Prosecutors believed Bolles was targeted because he had written stories that upset a liquor wholesaler; three men were convicted of the killing.)

In 1983, half of the 46 people aboard an Air Canada DC-9 were killed after fire broke out on board, forcing the jetliner to make an emergency landing at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport.

In 1986, for the first time, the public could watch the proceedings of the U.S. Senate on television as a six-week experiment began.

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan announced he was nominating economist Alan Greenspan to succeed Paul Volcker as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

In 1997, Timothy McVeigh was convicted of murder and conspiracy in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people. (McVeigh was executed in June 2001.)

Ten years ago: U.S. authorities said four Muslim men had been prevented from carrying out a plot to destroy John F. Kennedy International Airport, kill thousands of people and trigger an economic catastrophe by blowing up a jet fuel artery running through populous New York residential neighborhoods. (Three of the men were later sentenced to life in prison; the fourth was sentenced to 15 years behind bars.)

Five years ago: Ousted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was sentenced to life in prison after a court convicted him on charges of complicity in the killing of protesters during the 2011 uprising that forced him from power (Mubarak was later acquitted, and freed in March 2017). Character actress Kathryn Joosten, best known as the crotchety, nosey Karen McCluskey on "Desperate Housewives," died in Westlake Village, California, at age 72. Richard Dawson, 79, a British-born entertainer who made his mark in the 1960s television sitcom "Hogan's Heroes" and who later became a popular TV game show host, died in Los Angeles.

One year ago: House Speaker Paul Ryan endorsed Donald Trump's bid for president, telling The Associated Press his goal was to make sure the GOP was "at full strength in the fall." President Barack Obama, speaking at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado, implored the next generation of U.S. military leaders not to give in to isolationism or pull back from U.S. leadership in the world, drawing a contrast with a foreign policy vision laid out by Donald Trump. Autopsy results showed superstar musician Prince died of an accidental overdose of fentanyl, a powerful opioid painkiller.

Today's Birthdays: Actress-singer Sally Kellerman is 80. Actor Ron Ely is 79. Filmmaker and movie historian Kevin Brownlow is 79. Actor Stacy Keach is 76. Rock musician Charlie Watts is 76. Actor Charles Haid is 74. Movie director Lasse (LAH'-suh) Hallstrom is 71. Actor Jerry Mathers is 69. Actress Joanna Gleason is 67. NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman is 65. Actor Dennis Haysbert is 63. Comedian Dana Carvey is 62. Actor Gary Grimes is 62. Pop musician Michael Steele is 62. Rock singer Tony Hadley (Spandau Ballet) is 57. Actor Liam Cunningham is 56. Actor Navid Negahban is 53. Singer Merrill Bainbridge is 49. TV personality-producer Andy Cohen ("The Real Housewives" TV franchise) is 49. Rapper B-Real (Cypress Hill) is 47. Actress Paula Cale is 47. Actor Anthony Montgomery is 46. Actor-comedian Wayne Brady is 45. Actor Wentworth Miller is 45. Rock musician Tim Rice-Oxley (Keane) is 41. Actor Zachary Quinto is 40. Actor Dominic Cooper is 39. Actress Nikki Cox is 39. Actor Justin Long is 39. Actor Deon Richmond is 39. Actress Morena Baccarin is 38. Rhythm-and-blues singer Irish Grinstead (702) is 37. Rock musician Fabrizio Moretti (The Strokes) is 37. Olympic gold medal soccer player Abby Wambach is 37. Country singer Dan Cahoon (Marshall Dyllon) is 34. Singer-songwriter ZZ Ward is 31. Actress Brittany Curran is 27. Actor Sterling Beaumon is 22.

Thought for Today: "Whatever it is that makes a person charming, it needs to remain a mystery." - Rex Harrison, English actor (born 1908, died this date in 1990).

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:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.

- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.

- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.

- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.

- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.

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

- **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.

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

Paul Stevens

Editor, Connecting newsletter

paulstevens46@gmail.com

Message Headline

By breaking up the body of the letter into logical topics, your readers can focus in on the topic that they deem most relevant.

Select your wording carefully. Most people scan their emails very quickly. Keep your paragraphs to seven lines or less. If you have more information, include a link to your website where your readers can get further details.

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