



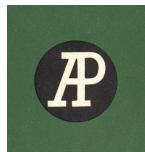
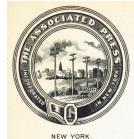
Paul Shane &lt;pjshane@gmail.com&gt;

## Connecting - October 06, 2017

1 message

**Paul Stevens** <paulstevens46@gmail.com>  
 Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com  
 To: pjshane@gmail.com

Fri, Oct 6, 2017 at 8:02 AM

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# Connecting

October 06, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Connecting offers special thanks to colleague **Charles Hanley** for his chronicling of the final days of **Richard Pyle**, one of the AP's finest journalists in its long and distinguished history.

The obituary Charlie wrote was beautifully done, as has been his coverage of the wake for Richard and the funeral services held Thursday in Brooklyn that he covered for Connecting colleagues in today's issue. He has done his friend Richard proud.

Connecting thanks AP New York photographer **Bebeto Matthews** for providing pictures from the services.

Linda and I are heading to New England today for a couple weeks of visiting our grandkids and their parents in Connecticut and then boarding a tour bus for an eight-day viewing of the fall leaves (that we hope will be in full color then).

**IMPORTANT TO NOTE:** **Jim Hood** has agreed to take the Connecting editor's chair and continue the newsletter during my absence, so from now through Monday, Oct. 16, please send your story submissions to Jim at his email - [jimhood44@gmail.com](mailto:jimhood44@gmail.com) I promised him you'd be prolific in submitting your stories, so don't let me down...please?

Have a great weekend!

Paul

## **Family, friends and colleagues of Richard Pyle bid him final -30-**





AP Photos/Bebeto Matthews

**Charles Hanley** ([Email](#)) - Scores of "Friends of Pyle" streamed into a Brooklyn church on Thursday morning, a tall, red-brick church almost as old as The Associated Press itself, to bid farewell to one of the most accomplished and admired AP correspondents of the past half-century.

Before the assembled family, colleagues and neighbors, under brilliant stained-glass windows, Monsignor Guy Massie, pastor of Sacred Hearts-St. Stephen, paid tribute in his funeral sermon to the professional dedication of Richard Pyle, and by extension to the work of journalism - of "getting to the truth."

Richard's widow, Brenda Smiley, a regular lector at the Roman Catholic church, read movingly from the Book of Revelation, of the "new Jerusalem" when God dwells among the people. "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

From 2 Timothy, niece Cynthia Pyle added the familiar refrain from a life well lived: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

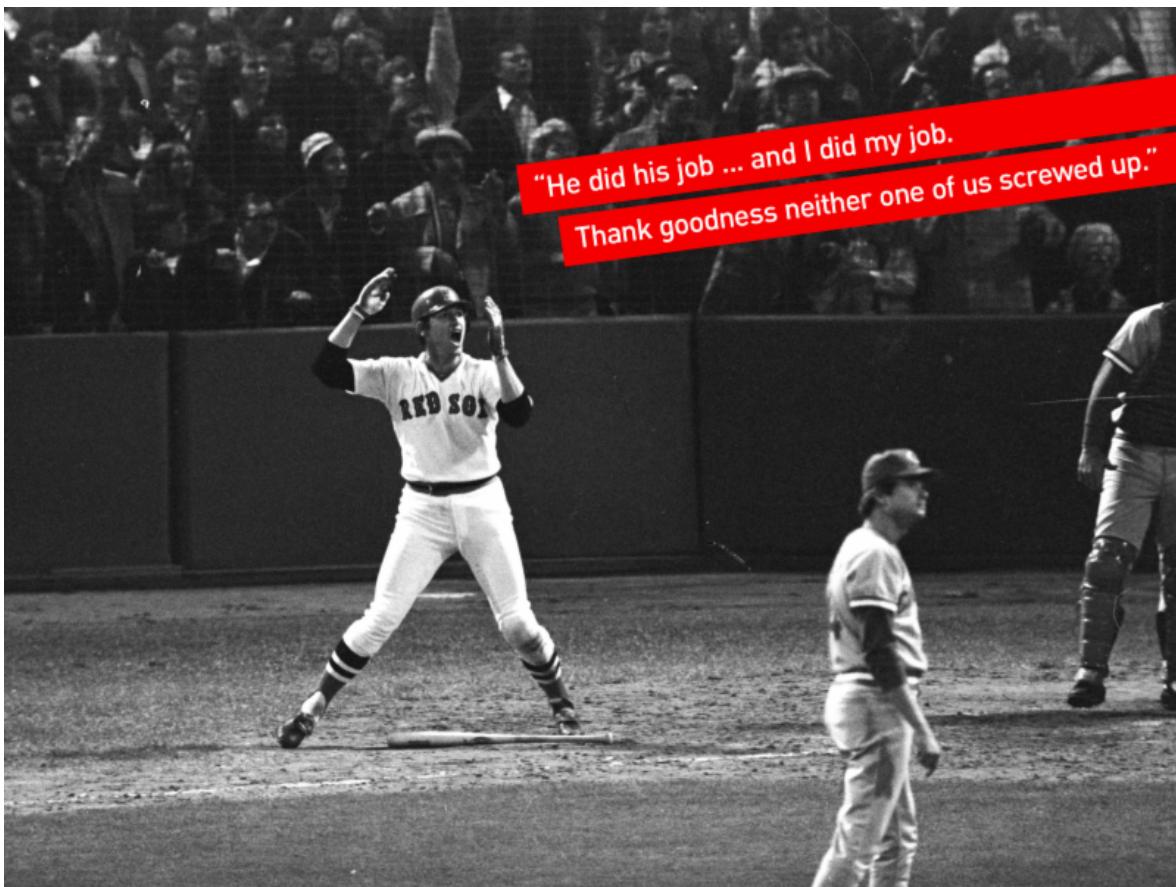
Monsignor Massie linked that good fight to a journalist's place in working toward "a better world ... a new Jerusalem ... a new world. It doesn't happen on its own. It happens in part when people work to bring about a new world."

Pyle passed away Sept. 28, eight years after he retired from the AP at the end of a 49-year career that took him from covering President Kennedy as he learned of the Cuban missile challenge in 1962, to the life-saving "landing" of Captain Sullenberger's jetliner in the Hudson River in 2009, with many globe-girdling stops in between. But always, when it came to Richard Pyle, the story inevitably turned back to the Vietnam War, his role in covering it for five years, half as Saigon bureau chief, and the AP comrades who fought the good journalistic fight with him.

"That war," the monsignor called it. "Here's Richard giving us the truth of what he's seeing. ... Getting to the truth helps build a better world. ... When we're searching for truth ... understanding ... peace ... this, too, is a search for God."

On a sunny, warm autumn day in Brooklyn's historic heart, the flag-draped coffin was then taken to nearby Green-Wood Cemetery for Richard's remains to be cremated. The ashes are expected eventually to be placed in a columbarium at Arlington National Cemetery, in recognition of his two years of U.S. Army service, something he always credited with introducing him to the wide world he would come to make his own.

## **The Legendary Baseball Photo That Almost Didn't Come Out Because The Stadium Was Shaking Too Hard**



By DAVID DAVIS

**Deadspin**

The baseball soared into the early-morning blackness, heading toward the left-field foul pole. Tracking the flight of the ball he'd just hit, Carlton Fisk began to frantically flap his arms in an effort to will it fair.

Time seemed to stop as 35,205 fans in Fenway Park, along with 76 million TV viewers, watched the Red Sox catcher watch the ball in the bottom of the 12th inning of Game 6 of the World Series. The stakes were monumental. If the ball stayed fair, Fisk's walk-off home run would force a deciding Game 7 against the Cincinnati Reds and give the Red Sox an opportunity to end their 57-year World Series drought. If the ball were to curl foul, the game, and Fisk's at-bat against reliever Pat Darcy, would continue.

Some 450 feet from home plate, on a rickety TV platform beyond the centerfield wall, photographer Harry Cabluck tried to focus on Fisk. The veteran shooter for the Associated Press was known for using a 800-millimeter Leitz lens that was so heavy he required an equally hefty tripod just to support it.

But now, as Fenway Park shook to its 1912 rafters, the man nicknamed "The Dancing Bear" struggled to keep his equipment steady.

It was 12:34 in the morning on October 22, 1975.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Brian Horton, Mike Holmes.

## Norm Clarke, on the tragedy in Las Vegas





Photos by Norm Clarke

Former AP journalist and Connecting colleague Norm Clarke, a journalistic fixture on the Las Vegas scene for decades, shares this from his online column, norm.vegas:

**Norm Clarke** ([Email](#)) - In a bizarre twist of timing, resort mogul Steve Wynn revealed a year ago that Wynn Las Vegas was one of the first megahotels in the city to install metal detectors.

"My company has metal detectors and devices at every entrance of the building for employees and guests that are non-visible to the public," he told ABC affiliate KTNV-TV, Channel 13.

"We have done extraordinary things to make that sure we protect our employees and our guests at the hotel," he said.

The interview aired on Sept. 30, 2016, one year and one day before the Mandalay Bay shootings, the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history.

Visitors at the Wynn Las Vegas were met this week with security metal detection wands.

## **WHY DID IT TAKE SO LONG?**

Gaming companies have balked at the idea for a number of reasons. Las Vegas has always wanted tourists to come here as an escape from the problems around the world.

Being greeted by metal detectors would send the wrong message. However, they are in place at a number of major venues like the 4,200-seat Colosseum at Caesars Palace, where Celine Dion performs.

## **HOW HAS THIS TRAGEDY AFFECTED THE COMMUNITY COMPARED TO THE NOV. 21, 1980 MGM GRAND FIRE THAT KILLED 87 AND INJURED MORE THAN 400?**

That was caused by an electrical failure. This was the work of someone with pure evil and malice in mind.

Las Vegas has rallied around this tragedy like no other time in its history. Thousands have attended candlelight vigils at churches and along the media the Strip, near the crime scene and far down to the north end.

I flew in from the San Diego AP with photographer Lenny Ignelzi to cover the fire. The first story I filed was about the response by the Barbary Coast, now the Cromwell. Because of its close proximity to the MGM, hundreds took refuge there in nightclothes or wrapped in blankets.

The Barbary Coast shut down all gambling operations to assist the wave of humanity. They were given comped meals, beverages and rooms.

It marked one of the rare times a Las Vegas casino suspended gaming operations since the funeral of President John F. Kennedy.

The owner of the Barbary Coast? Michael Gaughan, now the owner of the South Point. He was one of the first of many hotel owners to offer comped hotel rooms to the victims' family members at the South Point

## **WILL SAFETY CONCERNS GIVE TOURISTS PAUSE ABOUT VISITING LAS VEGAS?**

That was one of major concerns after the MGM Grand fire. I was covering the fire for the Associated Press and was assigned to do that story.

I asked a pit boss in Caesars Palace for a response. "The only thing stronger than gambling is garlic," he said.

Wednesday I interviewed a bachelor/bachelorette party of 12 from Newcastle, Australia. They had taken a limo to the Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas sign. "We want to show our respect to those affected," said bride-to-be Selina Jacobs, "but we don't want Vegas to lose what Vegas is. It's spirit and uniqueness."

## **WHAT WAS THE CREDIT LIMIT OF SHOOTER STEPHEN PADDOCK, MEANING HE HAD TO PLAY AT A CERTAIN LEVEL TO PLAY AT A CERTAIN LEVEL TO RECEIVE HIGH ROLLER PERKS?**

I'm told MGM Resorts International shut down access to the computers with that information "right away."

## **HOW PERVERSIVE ARE SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS IN LAS VEGAS?**

A longtime local gaming executive said, "We knew every single move visitors made, from check-in to their room. If the shooter had an accomplice, as Sheriff Lombardo is hinting, they know."

One of the biggest fears of law enforcement over the years is the growing number of soft targets in Las Vegas, like the growing number of outdoor venues?

"I wouldn't go a pool party now, would you?" said the former executive. "The long-held resistance to metal detectors "has got to change," he said. Days after 9-11, Las Vegas media was given a tour of the surveillance center at Bellagio, which had the newest technology.

Asked if the parent company had metal detectors at the hotels entrances or facial identification technology (as featured in "CSI Las Vegas"), a company spokesman said no.

"That might have been too much then," said the former executive, "but in view of what's happened here, I think people would feel safer now."

### **WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MANY CELL PHONE RECOVERED NEAR BODIES AND LEFT BEHIND WHEN THE CROWD STAMPEDED?**

An eye witness at the crime scene told me they were collected by law enforcement "Hoping 1. They could extract video and photo evidence. 2. Identify victims and 3. Contact information for loved ones."

### **MOST CHILLING IMAGES, BESIDES THOSE OF THE DEAD AND DYING?**

"Seeing women late in pregnancy, running for their lives, and their unborn child's," said a rescuer

### **WILL CONCERTS EVER BE HELD AGAIN AT THE VENUE?**

In my opinion, MGM Resorts International will think long and hard about that. There will be a lot of pushback.

### **BEFORE SEEING THE TERRIFYING VIDEO FROM SUNDAY NIGHT, MY LASTING CONNECTION OF THE VENUE CAME ON SEPT. 21, 2013.**

It was a blistering hot day session at what was then called the iHeart Village. Miley Cyrus did four songs. I only remember the last two: "Look What They've Done to My Song" and the first live rendition of her No. 1 single "Wrecking Ball."

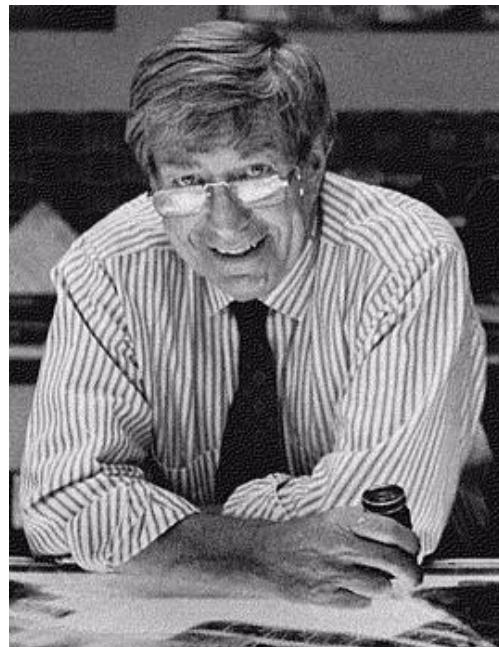
# Connecting mailbox

## ***The stories Bill Snead wrote were mesmerizing***

**Ralph Gage (Email)** - I immediately thought of the late Bill Snead when I read Campbell Gardett's observation in Wednesday's Connecting on Bill Sikes and that some of the best writing on Connecting, a disproportionate share, is done by photographers.

Bill's reputation was as a photographer, and he indeed was a great one, but in my working association with him, I came to believe that his writing often was more superb than his pictures. Certainly they were wonderfully complementary. His stories were mesmerizing.

His ability and apparent ease with words, pictures and technology made him a multi-media journalist before that term was in vogue, and he served as an example for young journalists struggling to adapt to what now seems to be the standard web-photo-word-video-social media expectations.



(Snead, who died in 2016, distinguished himself in a career that included work at the Lawrence Journal-World, Topeka Capital-Journal, National Geographic, Wilmington News-Journal, United Press International and The Washington Post.)

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## ***In the wake of Las Vegas shootings, the media and its obsession with superlatives***

**Dennis Montgomery (Email)** - During the first few months of my AP career, handling night filing desk chores in the Oklahoma City bureau, a Daily Oklahoman editor telephoned with a request for relay to the General Desk in New York. He was interested in some AAA-wire story, but before he sent it to the typesetter, he wanted

a spicier lead. What the item was about, I don't recall-it's been 47 years-but I remember that he was looking for a superlative to punch up the piece, that he wanted New York to insert such a word as "biggest," "largest," "fastest".... somethingest, to coin a word.

I figured the story was what it was, and that the Oklahoman's inquiry was vapid, but I knew better even then than to ignore a member request. The inquiry went up on the talk wire, and, with enough haste to betray irritation, the General Desk replied: "No superlative."

It may have been an exceedingly insignificant passage in the annals of journalism, but it illustrates what strikes me as a pair of substantial shortcomings in our craft that are not getting better: our tendency to inflate the importance, especially the historical importance, of stories that are important enough on their own; and the lazy sloppiness of reporters who guess at facts they'd like to be there but that aren't.

Case in point: accounts of Sunday's slaughter of 58 Las Vegas country music concertgoers and the wounds and injuries sustained by nearly 500 others. Almost as soon as the tally of the dead surpassed the number of people killed in last year's Orlando massacre, broadcasters began to crow about "the worst mass shooting in American history." And, yes, I meant "crow;" some were plainly proud to have a piece of a worst-ever story. It wasn't enough to report that scores of bodies lay in pools of blood. Not enough impact. No, the story had to have a superlative. One nimble cable network bulletined its list of the prior "worst mass shootings in American history": the Pulse nightclub, Aurora, Sandy Hook, Virginia Tech, Columbine...and now, Las Vegas."

None of those reports, repeated for days, was right, as any reporter with a notion of American history would have verified with a quick check on Google. To its credit, the Washington Post ran a second-day story pointing out there was a worse mass shooting in the St. Louis-East St. Louis metroplex during an early 20th-century labor war, that U.S. Army soldiers had massacred even more Native American men, women and children toward the close of the 19th-century, and that the body count was bigger in the shootouts of New York Draft Riots during the Civil War. Another Post folo recalled the larger Elaine, Arkansas, Massacre of 1919, and the bigger Sacramento River Massacre of 1846, but neither got to the huge Fort Pillow Massacre, the immense Mountain Meadows Massacre, or to Wounded Knee, or to the Little Big Horn . . . or to any of the other, bloodier massacres that stain the nation's past.

Some news organizations weaseled their ways past the messy historical facts by reporting the Las Vegas murders as the worst mass shooting in "modern history," or the worst in "recent memory," or the worst in "recent history"- superlative phrases that won't bear examination. They lack content. When it comes to history or memory, what is "modern" or "recent?" Whose memory? What is "recent?" My memories of superlatives in the news business, are, as I mentioned, 47-years-ancient. My bet is that most of the folks who broke out their superlative crutches for Las Vegas have

shorter memories, or less acquaintance with American history, or scant experience with accuracy.

But that's not my point. My point is that, at bottom, the use of comparisons and superlatives is intended to lend context to a story. Comparing the count of World Trade Center casualties (2,996 dead) to the out-of-recent-memory carnage at Pearl Harbor (2,403 dead) puts both in focus with accuracy, meaning and impact. Likewise, D-Day (4,413 dead) and Gettysburg (7,058) dead. Like the General Desk of yore, it seems to me sufficient to state the facts and let them stand on their own. To hype tragedies, to shroud them in cliche and superlative summoned up for the occasion, diminishes the importance of their stories and does no credit to journalism.

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## ***Recalling an election night 39 years ago***



**Paul Stevens (Email)** - As befits her unassuming character, Nancy Kassebaum slipped into a back pew at last weekend's memorial services for AP Topeka Correspondent Lew Ferguson, who was a close friend of her father, former Gov. Alf

Landon. She and her son Bill drove up from her ranch in the Flint Hills to honor Lew.

I got the chance to chat with her afterward and recalled interviewing her - as AP's Wichita correspondent - on Nov. 7, 1978, at the Eaton Hotel in Wichita on the night she was elected to the U.S. Senate, where she served 19 years. That's a picture above by then-AP Kansas City photographer John Filo from that night. If today's politicians ever needed a role model, they'd need look no further than Nancy.

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## ***AP's Ryan Foley honored with First Amendment award***



Iowa City AP Correspondent Ryan Foley was honored Thursday night by the Iowa Freedom of Information Council with its Friend of the First Amendment award. The

award recognizes Iowans for their contributions to the First Amendment. Ryan was honored for his masterful use of Iowa's open records law to unearth documents that have led to numerous front page exclusives involving state and local governments in Iowa.

He is pictured with AP Iowa Statehouse Correspondent Barbara Rodriguez (left) and Kansas City regional director Kia Breaux.

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## ***A conversation with one of America's greatest reporters and editors***

### **Warren Lerude ([Email](#))** - Frank

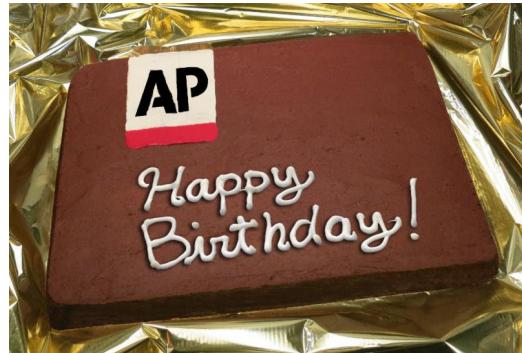
McCulloch at 97, one of America's greatest reporters and editors, in phone conversation with me Thursday about journalism from his home in Santa Rosa. A Fernley, Nevada, native and University of Nevada 1941 journalism graduate, Frank served Time-Life News Service in New York, Washington D.C., LA, Hong Kong and ran the bureau in Saigon distinguishing himself and his staff covering combat in Vietnam. He edited major newspapers including the LA Times. He will be 98 in January. Photo was taken by daughter Candy Akers.



Frank and I are discussing presentation of the Frank McCulloch Lifetime Achievement Award annually to an alumnus of student newspaper Sagebrush which he edited at the University of Nevada in his graduation year, 1941. (I edited it in 1960.). We created the award in Frank's name five years ago with Frank being the first recipient. Frank was as quick minded and enthusiastic and vibrant today as he was in 1962 when he was managing editor of the LA Times and offered me as a fellow Nevada J grad a reporting job when I was a staffer in the LA bureau of the AP. I declined, loyal to the AP, and Frank and I have joked about that for decades. His sight is impaired so his daughter Candy reads books to him, some about political history of his native Nevada, and he's still curious and eagerly learning, as he always has been. We talked about how interesting it would be if we could both now be covering Trump, what a romp that would be!

(Warren served as long time editor and publisher at the Reno newspapers where he won a Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing.)

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

**Marcia Budd** - [tantabudd@aol.com](mailto:tantabudd@aol.com)

**Gary Graham** - [garygraham74@gmail.com](mailto:garygraham74@gmail.com)

**Adriana Wiersma** - [awiersma7@gmail.com](mailto:awiersma7@gmail.com)

*On Sunday to...*

**Bud Weydert** - [third\\_of\\_ten@hotmail.com](mailto:third_of_ten@hotmail.com)

**Susanna Loof** - [susanna.loof@gmail.com](mailto:susanna.loof@gmail.com)

## Stories of interest

## ***Does The Media Cover Trump Too Much? Too Harshly? Too Narrowly?*** (fivethirtyeight)

In this week's politics chat, we talk about a new study of how the media is covering President Trump. The transcript below has been lightly edited.

micah (Micah Cohen, politics editor): Hey, everyone! Pew Research Center came out with a super interesting report this week examining how the media is covering the Trump administration and how that coverage differs by the political leanings of each outlet. Between that report and President Trump's early Thursday statement asking why the Senate Intelligence Committee doesn't investigate "Fake News Networks," it seems like a good moment to ask some questions about how we're doing.

Are media outlets too focused on Trump, and thus missing issues like Puerto Rico or misrepresenting issues by viewing them through a Trump lens?

Is the press too negative toward Trump?

Is the media too desperate to cover Trump in old models?

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Documenting Sports With Tech, or It Didn't Happen*** (New York Times)

**By JOHN BRANCH**

How do New York Times journalists use technology in their jobs and in their personal lives? John Branch, a Pulitzer Prize-winning sports reporter for The Times based in Northern California, discussed the tech he is using.

How has technology transformed sports reporting?

The biggest transformation has been the use of social media, and Twitter is the opium of the sports-reporting masses. When I started doing this 20 years ago, I didn't know what the competition was reporting until I fetched the newspapers from the porch in the morning.

Now there's a race to see who can tweet something first. It doesn't matter how mundane or irrelevant it is. I can watch a football game, and within 15 seconds of the last play, my feed will have seven tweets all saying "First down." Isn't that useful? Twitter has turned a lot of sports reporting into play-by-play, hot takes and snarky one-liners. With retweets and replies, the echo can be deafening.

But most people still have stories to write. So at the end of games, when the important stuff is happening, none of the reporters are tweeting because they're all writing on deadline so that their story can hit the web first. It is speed versus substance. I'm glad to report that substance is making a comeback.

Read more [here](#).

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## **How We Found Tom Price's Private Jets** (Politico Magazine)



**By DAN DIAMOND and RACHANA PRADHAN**

The first tip came from a casual conversation with a source back in May: Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price was using private jets for routine travel, possibly in violation of federal travel rules that allowed such flights only when commercial options weren't available.

But it was a tip and little else-no times, no names of charter services and not even a schedule from a notoriously secretive Cabinet secretary.

So we embarked on a months-long effort to win the trust of sources, both in and outside of HHS, who were in a position to know about the secretary's travel. This required numerous meetings and phone calls, sometimes after hours, seeking to confirm what the original source acknowledged was just secondhand information. Neither of us had ever reported a story of this difficulty before.

Price's lack of transparency made our job harder. In the initial months following his confirmation on February 10, he hadn't made his schedule public, unlike past secretaries. Bare-bones reports of events outside Washington usually were posted on the agency's website after they happened. But there were few places and times-not enough information to take either to charter services, sources inside HHS or anyone else in a position to know about the flights. And we faced another problem: Because the planes Price was taking were private, their arrivals and departures weren't recorded on public databases.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

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## ***Join ProPublica's New Project to Work With Local Newsrooms***

Over the past several years, economic pressures have reduced the ability of local and regional news organizations to support accountability reporting. That's a challenge not just for journalism, but also for our democracy.

We're committed to helping address that problem.

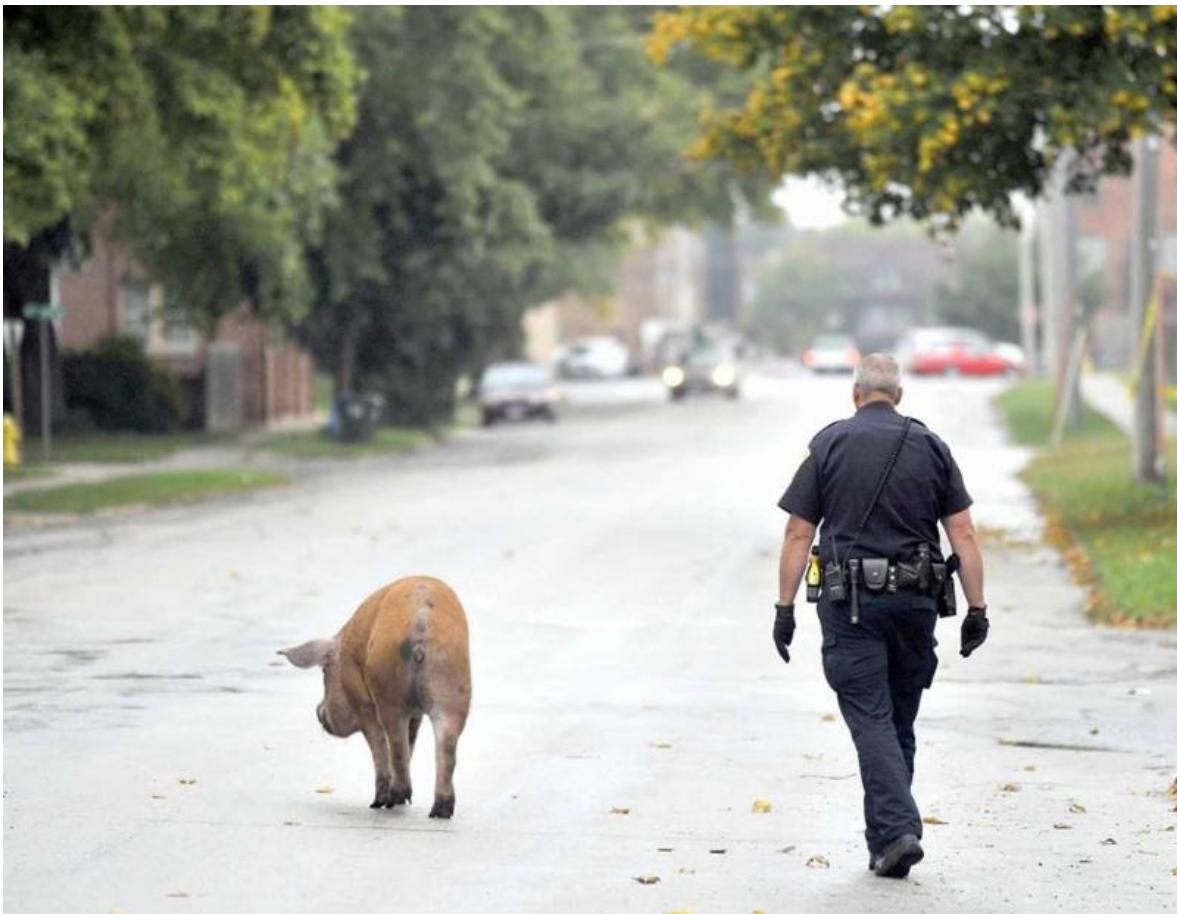
Earlier this year, we launched ProPublica Illinois, an initiative we hope to replicate in additional states in the coming years. Today, we're announcing another part of our push: the ProPublica Local Reporting Network.

With support from a new three-year grant, we will pay salary plus an allowance for benefits for one full-time reporter dedicated to investigative work throughout 2018 at each of up to six partner news organizations in cities with population below 1 million. The reporter will still work in and report to their home newsroom, but they will receive extensive guidance and support from ProPublica. Their work will be published or broadcast by their home newsroom and simultaneously by ProPublica as well.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

## The Final Word





Hans Madsen, photographer, The Messenger in Fort Dodge, Iowa, on Facebook:

As a journalist I've covered many things over the years. Some sad, some happy and some, well, just annoying. Many were pretty cool and amazing. Then there's this, an escaped 300 pound pet sow wandered around a residential neighborhood for a few hours. Kids, you can't make this stuff up.

## Today in History - October 6, 2017



## **By The Associated Press**

Today is Friday, Oct. 6, the 279th day of 2017. There are 86 days left in the year.

### **Today's Highlight in History:**

On Oct. 6, 1927, the era of talking pictures arrived with the opening of "The Jazz Singer" starring Al Jolson, a feature containing both silent and sound-synchronized sequences.

### **On this date:**

In 1683, thirteen families from Krefeld, Germany, arrived in Philadelphia to begin Germantown, one of America's oldest settlements.

In 1884, the Naval War College was established in Newport, Rhode Island.

In 1892, British poet laureate Alfred, Lord Tennyson died in Surrey, England, at age 83.

In 1939, in a speech to the Reichstag, German Chancellor Adolf Hitler spoke of his plans to reorder the ethnic layout of Europe - a plan which would entail settling the "Jewish problem."

In 1949, U.S.-born Iva Toguri D'Aquino, convicted of treason for being Japanese wartime broadcaster "Tokyo Rose," was sentenced in San Francisco to 10 years in prison (she ended up serving more than six).

In 1958, the nuclear submarine USS Seawolf surfaced after spending 60 days submerged.

In 1960, the historical drama "Spartacus," starring Kirk Douglas and directed by Stanley Kubrick, had its world premiere in New York.

In 1973, war erupted in the Middle East as Egypt and Syria launched a surprise attack on Israel during the Yom Kippur holiday. (Israel, initially caught off guard, managed to push back the Arab forces before a cease-fire finally took hold in the nearly three-week conflict.)

In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford, in his second presidential debate with Democrat Jimmy Carter, asserted that there was "no Soviet domination of eastern Europe." (Ford later conceded such was not the case.)

In 1979, Pope John Paul II, on a week-long U.S. tour, became the first pontiff to visit the White House, where he was received by President Jimmy Carter.

In 1981, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat was shot to death by extremists while reviewing a military parade.

In 1989, actress Bette Davis died in Neuilly-sur-Seine (nu-yee-sur-sehn), France, at age 81.

Ten years ago: Pakistan's Gen. Pervez Musharraf won a presidential election boycotted by most of his opponents. British adventurer Jason Lewis finally returned home, completing a 13-year, 46,000-mile human-powered circumnavigation of the globe at Greenwich, England.

Five years ago: Five terror suspects, including Egyptian-born preacher Mustafa Kamel Mustafa, widely known as Abu Hamza al-Masri, arrived in the United States from England and appeared in court in New York and Connecticut. (Mustafa was convicted in 2014 of supporting terrorist organizations.)

One year ago: President Barack Obama offered 102 federal inmates the chance to leave prison early, bringing to 774 the number of sentences Obama had shortened. A jury in Norfolk, Virginia, acquitted a white police officer charged in the shooting death of a mentally ill black man holding a knife.

Today's Birthdays: Broadcaster and writer Melvyn Bragg is 78. Actress Britt Ekland is 75. Singer Millie Small is 71. The president of Sinn Fein (shin fayn), Gerry Adams, is 69. Singer-musician Thomas McClary is 68. Musician Sid McGinnis is 68. CBS chief executive officer Les Moonves is 68. Rock singer Kevin Cronin (REO Speedwagon) is 66. Rock singer-musician David Hidalgo (Los Lobos) is 63. Pro Football Hall of Famer Tony Dungy is 62. Actress Elisabeth Shue is 54. Singer Matthew Sweet is 53. Actress Jacqueline Obradors is 51. Country singer Tim Rushlow is 51. Rock musician Tommy Stinson is 51. Actress Amy Jo Johnson is 47. Actress Emily Mortimer is 46. Actor Lamman ('la-MAHN') Rucker is 46. Actor Ioan Gruffudd ('YOH'-ihn GRIH'-fith) is 44. Actor Jeremy Sisto is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Melinda Doolittle is 40. Actor Wes Ramsey is 40. Singer-musician Will Butler is 35. Actress Stefanie Martini is 27.

***Thought for Today: "Sometimes the heart sees what's invisible to the eye." - Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809-1892).***

## Got a story or photos 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**  
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