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Connecting - January 17, 2018

1 message

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To: pjshane@gmail.com

Wed, Jan 17, 2018 at 8:54 AM

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Connecting

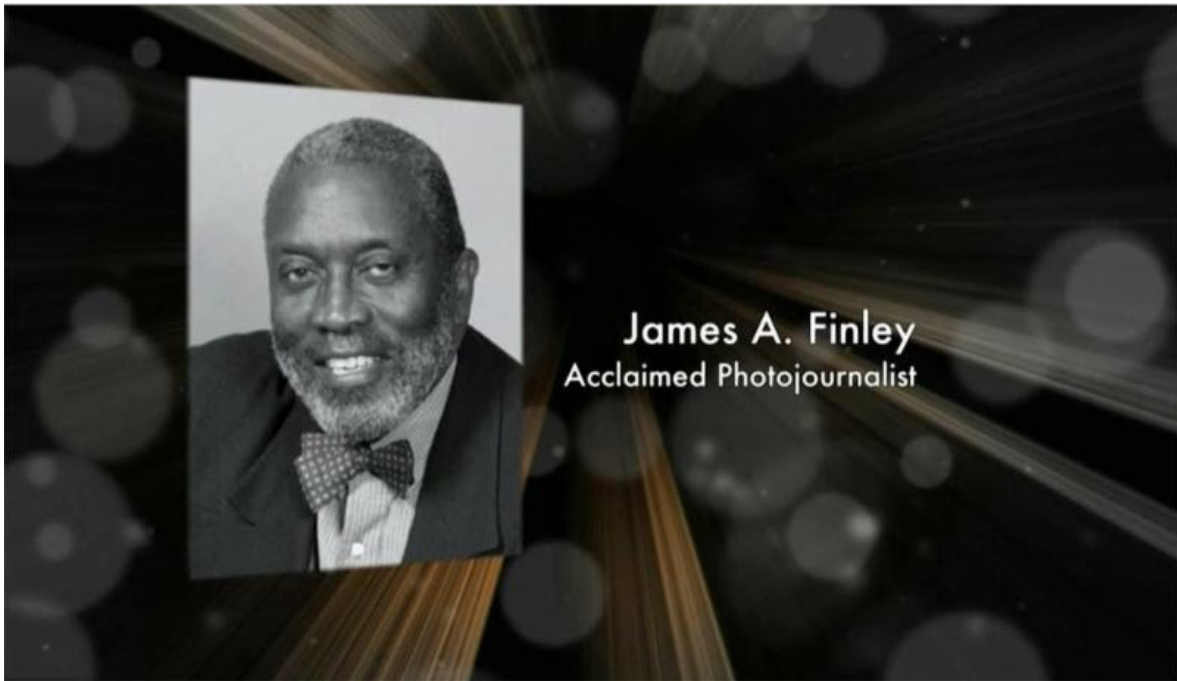
January 17, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

To the surprise of his friends and colleagues and even his daughter, **James Finley** was memorialized on a broadcast of the NAACP Image Awards.

Finley, AP staff photographer in St. Louis for 22 years, died in 2017 and was among a list of notable people who died during the year.

Carolyn Lessard, who covered the Monday night awards ceremony for AP, said, "These presentations usually leave me misty-eyed but when I saw James, I lost it. He was a great man."

Here's another reminder from **Valerie Komor**, director of AP Corporate Archives, that 1968 was a big year, and AP will be doing a lot of looking back 50 years ago. She asks that you scour your closets for waylaid copies of the venerable AP Log from 1968, although she'd appreciate Logs from any other years as well. Her email - vkomor@ap.org

Have a great day!

Paul

STL photojournalist James Finley memorialized on NAACP awards show

By **JOE HOLLEMAN**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

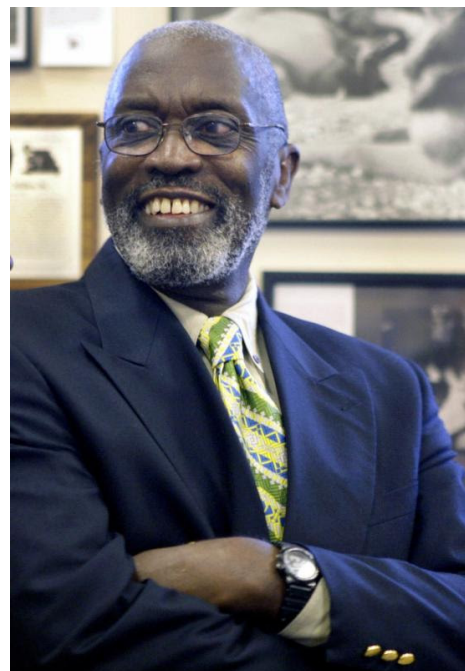
To no one's surprise, native St. Louisans Chuck Berry, Dick Gregory and Robert Guillaume were honored during the "in memoriam" segment during Monday's broadcast of the NAACP Image Awards.

But the mention of former Associated Press photographer James A. Finley was a surprise, especially to his daughter.

"I wasn't watching the show," said Daria Finley, a 1989 graduate of Hazelwood East High who now lives in Virginia." But then all of a sudden, I got two calls from relatives in East St. Louis and one from a high school friend, telling me they just saw my dad" on the show.

James Finley was an award-winning photographer with the AP in St. Louis for 22 years and is a member of the Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame. He died July 23 at the age of 76.

Finley was born and reared in East St. Louis and was a Marine Corps veteran. He also earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.



"I was pleasantly surprised, and very proud," Daria Finley said. "I wish my dad could've seen the tribute. he would have been happy to know he had such an impact on people's lives."

Finley was included in the list of notables who died in 2017. Rock legend Berry, 90, died March 18; comedian/activist Gregory, 84, died Aug. 19; and actor Guillaume, 89, died Oct. 24.

[Click here](#) for a link to this story. Shared by Jim Salter.

Connecting mailbox

Kudos to Tad Bartimus, Tom Cohen, Gene Herrick

Cecilia White ([Email](#)) - "Connecting" certainly has gotten off to an impressive start this week.

Thanks to Tad Bartimus for her firsthand account of facing an alleged nuclear attack in Hawaii (1/15). Also to Tom Cohen for his lovely, touching tribute to his late colleague, Ahmet "Andy" Balan (1/16). And, finally, to ever-prolific Gene Herrick for his shared memories of Martin Luther King, Jr. (1/15 and 1/16). In these troubling times, Gene's bottom line says it all: "One would doubt if Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s view from the mountain top is beautiful and pleasing, and it is doubtful he is resting in peace."

-0-

Andy Balan a calm, refreshing guy

Ford Burkhart ([Email](#)) - I have fond memories of Andy Balan on the World Desk when I got there in 1970 or so. He was a calm, refreshing guy. When a short item about a minor cricket tournament in some remote country, maybe in Bahrain, came in to the desk, with last names only, I asked him what to do. This was before Google. He took the copy, wrote in some common first names, and sent it out on the APW wire -- his theory was, if any editor used this piddling little story, it's because they know the players and they'll put in the correct first names. He was absolutely right. We got no complaints. I liked his smart, easy-going approach. Plus we all had more important things to do, like get the news from Vietnam out on the wires fast, and we did that correctly. We had a great crew then, with Webb McKinley, Sam Summerlin, Sam Koo, Fred Gray, George Krinsky, Larry Thorson, Jose Sobrino Dieguez at LPA, and many others.

-0-

When Washington riots erupted, this journalism student rushed to the scene



Walter Winchell with two officers. Photos/Neal Ulevich

Neal Ulevich ([Email](#)) - Malcolm Barr's memories of the arson and riots which followed the assassination of Martin Luther King in April, 1968, evoked a few of my own...

I was a journalism student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison then. When I heard that Washington erupted in rioting and arson I bought an air ticket to Baltimore - by that time Washington National was shut down - and arrived at dawn. A bus carried me to Washington where smoke curled from a half dozen or more blazes. I began to wander the streets, photographing exhausted firemen putting out yet another blaze. I bumped into the aged Walter Winchell, also wandering the streets. I took a snapshot of him talking with two cops.

I was walking through a residential neighborhood as the day wore on. A car pulled up. The driver, a black man in civilian clothing, growled, "Get in...I'm a cop." I did. "You were being followed by a bunch of toughs," he said, amazed anyone would be so stupid as to walk aimlessly while the city burned. He drove me to AP. I introduced myself as a Madison stringer. Toby Massey had my film processed and bought a few images.

The next day the city was full of troops.
Order restored as the embers cooled.
National reopened. I flew back to Madison
with tales of an adventure in practical
journalism...and my hide intact, which was
probably more than I deserved.



-0-

Recalling accidental EBS alert of 1971

Ed Tobias ([Email](#)) - I remember the accidental Emergency Broadcast System alert from 1971 very well.

Yes, it was a Saturday morning, 11:00 a.m. eastern time, when the AP machine in the wire closet of WFAS Radio, White Plains, NY, clanged its 10-bell EBS alert signal.

I was less than a year into my first full-time, post-college job in radio news. So, as low man on the sked, I'd worked a lot of Saturday mornings. I'd done the same, on weekends, at other stations while going to school. So, there was nothing "alerting" to me that 10 bells were sounding, once again, at 11:00 on another Saturday morning. It was test time.

Call me foolish or stupid. Or, credit me for having some common sense. I made the decision to wait before activating our EBS alert tones and broadcasting the alert message to our listeners in Westchester County. My delay (it was less than five minutes) allowed time for the arrival of a cancellation message on the AP machine.

I saved the actual alert message that I ripped from the AP machine that day, as well as the cancellation. Were I not in Florida, escaping the nasty Northeast weather, I'd be able attach a photo that wire copy. Since that's not possible you'll have to take my word that I accurately remember the authenticator words that accompanied the EBS alert message: HATEFULNESS/HATEFULNESS.

-0-

Here's audio on that EBS alert

Craig Klugman ([Email](#)) - Here is how WOWO, a dominant A.M. radio station in Fort Wayne, Indiana, covered the 1971 EBS mistake. My son, Josh, found this. The announcer was Bob Sievers.

The EBS mishap earlier today in Hawaii happened nationwide in 1971, and someone uploaded a recording what FT Wayne radio station WOWO did at that time. [Click here](#) for the link.

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Bock's baseball book honored among best of 2017

Hal Bock ([Email](#)) - Proud to report that my Associated Press book "Banned Baseball's Blacklist of All-Stars and Also-Rans" made Sports Collectors Digest list of the best baseball books of 2017. I've attached the cover. Thanks to Peter Costanzo for his faith in the idea.

That's two years in a row following "The Last Chicago Cubs Dynasty Before The Curse," which was on the Digest's 2016 list.



When Train Robberies Were a Non-Story

Paul Albright ([Email](#)) - Even train robberies could get routine for at least one newspaper back in the late 19th century. I was researching some postal history (my hobby) recently when I happened on a recounting from Missouri of what was then an increasingly commonplace crime of robbing trains in the Show Me State.

The *Express-Gazette* journal, a nationally circulated publication, had just reported that 261 train robberies had been recorded in the country from 1890 to 1899. Some 88 people had been killed and 86 wounded in those robberies. Apparently, a sizable number of those robberies had taken place in Missouri.

The Chicago *Inter-Ocean* reported that one of its writers was visiting a Kansas City newspaper office in 1899 when a boy answered the telephone and then called out to the city editor: "Police reporter wants to know if you got the train robbery on the Fort Scott road."

"Tell him we don't want it," replied the city editor.

Startled by this, the Chicago newspaperman asked the editor if the Kansas City papers had stopped publishing train robbery articles. Yes, was the response; such robberies were stale news being printed only if they came in early in the news cycle and other news was "dull." The editor cited an instance in which a train robbery story was boiled down to 10 lines after the managing editor and the society editor walked in with a wedding article that filled 1.5 columns.

"No, robbery in Missouri don't make any more of a breeze in Kansas City than a grasshopper across the border," reported the *Inter-Ocean*.

That seemed to be confirmed when I came across a *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* interview (circa. 1906) with a telegraph operator from the Missouri mining community of Iron Mountain. This old-timer reminisced about what he understood to have been the first train robbery.

"It occurred when I was a young operator down on the Iron Mountain. A conductor rushed into my office and told me to tell the chief train dispatcher that his train had been held up and robbed. I thought he was joking, but he assured me he was not.

"I sent in the message, and the train dispatcher thought I was joking. It took me some time to explain that I wasn't. That was the first train robbery, or, at least, I was so told at that time. Nobody up in St. Louis could believe it, and I almost wore the wire out trying to convince them.

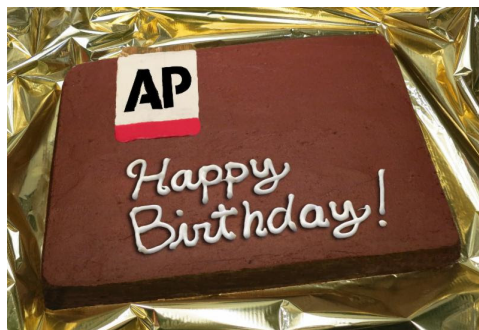
"Even in that day Missourians had to be shown, and I don't believe the officials of the road ever did believe that story until they were shown the empty treasure box in the express car."

Sources:

Old Waybills: The Romance of the Express Companies, by Alvin F. Harlow, D. Appleton-Century Company, 1934.

"Express Gazette" journal, Vol. XXXI, No. 1, January 15, 1906.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Jim Salter - jsalter@ap.org

Stories of interest

Americans say greater access to news sources is actually making it harder to stay informed (Nieman Lab)

By RICARDO BILTON

Another survey, another set of a sobering findings about how little Americans trust the current news ecosystem to keep them properly informed.

According to "American Views: Trust, Media and Democracy," a new report from Gallup and the Knight Foundation, while Americans have access to more news sources than ever, they say that expansion has made it harder, not easier, to stay informed. And while people continue to give low marks to traditional news media sources when it comes to objectivity and trust, they're also souring on the big tech platforms too.

Here are a few notable findings:

- Americans think the media has an important job, but don't think that current institutions are doing it well. While the vast majority (84 percent) of Americans say that the media has an important role to play in democracy, just 33 percent have a "very favorable" or "somewhat favorable" opinion of the news media.

Read more [here](#).

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Of Crudeness and Truth (City-Journal)

By **ANDREW KLAVAN**

Nothing scandalizes a leftist like the truth. Point out that women and men are different, that black Americans commit a disproportionate amount of violent crime, that most terrorist acts are committed by Muslims, and the Left leaps to its collective feet in openmouthed shock, like Margaret Dumont after a Groucho Marx wisecrack. This is racism! This is sexism! This is some sort of phobia! I'm shocked, shocked to find facts being spoken in polite company!

No one is really shocked, of course. This is simply a form of bullying. The Left has co-opted our good manners and our good will in order to silence our opposition to their bad policies. The idea is to make it seem impolite and immoral to mention the obvious.

The bullying is highly effective and very dangerous. In England, in the city of Rotherham, at least 1,400 non-Muslim girls, some as young as 11, were brutally raped by Muslim immigrants over a period of years in the 2000s. Police and other officials worked to keep the facts hidden because, according to multiple reports, they were afraid of being called racist. Think about that: police officers did not want to seem racist, so they stood by and let their city's children be raped. The same thing goes on in other cities in England and throughout Europe. And in fact, some who have spoken out have had their careers curtailed by manufactured scandal. The message is clear: it's just not nice to tell the truth. It's just not done. Don't do it.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Arlon Southall.

-0-

Mac Tully to resign as publisher of The Denver Post on Jan. 31

Denver Post CEO and publisher Mac Tully announced Tuesday that he will depart at the end of January, capping more than four years at the helm of Colorado's leading news organization during a time of constant change.

Tully, who also is executive vice president of Digital First Media, said in a letter to the staff that he is not ready to retire. But "after 40 years in the industry, I'm ready for something a little less stressful. I'll miss the stellar and most talented people I've had the great fortune to work with at The Denver Post and throughout the rest of the company," he wrote.

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

Today in History - January 17, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 17, the 17th day of 2018. There are 348 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Jan. 17, 1893, Hawaii's monarchy was overthrown as a group of businessmen and sugar planters forced Queen Lili'uokalani (lee-LEE'-oo-oh-kah-LAH'-nee) to abdicate. The 19th president of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes, died in Fremont, Ohio, at age 70.

On this date:

In 1781, during the Revolutionary War, American forces defeated the British in the Battle of Cowpens, South Carolina.

In 1806, Thomas Jefferson's daughter, Martha, gave birth to James Madison Randolph, the first child born in the White House.

In 1917, Denmark ceded the Virgin Islands to the United States for \$25 million.

In 1929, the cartoon character Popeye the Sailor made his debut in the "Thimble Theatre" comic strip.

In 1945, Soviet and Polish forces liberated Warsaw during World War II; Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, credited with saving tens of thousands of Jews, disappeared in Hungary while in Soviet custody.

In 1953, a prototype of the Chevrolet Corvette was unveiled during the General Motors Motorama at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York.

In 1961, President Dwight D. Eisenhower delivered his farewell address in which he warned against "the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex."

In 1966, a U.S. Air Force B-52 carrying four unarmed hydrogen bombs crashed on the Spanish coast. (Three of the bombs were quickly recovered, but the fourth wasn't recovered until April.) The Simon & Garfunkel album "Sounds of Silence" was released by Columbia Records.

In 1977, convicted murderer Gary Gilmore, 36, was shot by a firing squad at Utah State Prison in the first U.S. execution in a decade.

In 1984, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Sony Corp. of America v. Universal City Studios, Inc.*, ruled 5-4 that the use of home video cassette recorders to tape television programs for private viewing did not violate federal copyright laws.

In 1995, more than 6,000 people were killed when an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.2 devastated the city of Kobe (koh-bay), Japan.

In 1998, the Drudge Report said Newsweek magazine had killed a story about an affair between President Bill Clinton and an unidentified White House intern, the same day Clinton gave a deposition in Paula Jones' sexual harassment lawsuit against him in which he denied having had a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

Ten years ago: Bobby Fischer, the chess grandmaster who became a Cold War icon when he dethroned the Soviet Union's Boris Spassky as world champion in 1972, died in Reykjavik, Iceland, at age 64. Former football player-turned-preacher Ernie Holmes, a two-time Super Bowl champion with the Pittsburgh Steelers, was killed in a one-car accident near Lumberton, Texas, at age 59. Character actor Allan Melvin died in Los Angeles at age 84.

Five years ago: Algerian helicopters and special forces stormed a natural gas plant in the Sahara to rescue hostages from at least 10 countries held by al-Qaida-linked militants; nearly all the militants and at least 37 of the hostages were killed. Oprah Winfrey's OWN network broadcast the first of a two-part interview with Lance Armstrong, in which the disgraced cyclist told Winfrey he had started doping in the mid-1990s.

One year ago: President Barack Obama granted clemency to Chelsea Manning, allowing the transgender Army intelligence officer convicted of leaking more than 700,000 U.S. documents to go free nearly three decades early. Donald Trump's choice to head the Interior Department, Rep. Ryan Zinke, rejected the president-elect's claim that climate change was a hoax, telling his Senate confirmation hearing it was indisputable that environmental changes were affecting the world's temperature and that human activity was a major reason.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Betty White is 96. Former FCC chairman Newton N. Minow is 92. Actor James Earl Jones is 87. Talk show host Maury Povich is 79. Pop singer Chris Montez is 76. Rhythm-and-blues singer William Hart (The Delfonics) is 73. Actress Joanna David is 71. Actress Jane Elliot is 71. Rock musician Mick Taylor is 70. Rhythm-and-blues singer Sheila Hutchinson (The Emotions) is 65. Singer Steve Earle is 63. Singer Paul Young is 62. Actor-comedian Steve Harvey is 61. Singer Susanna Hoffs (The Bangles) is 59. Movie director-screenwriter Brian Helgeland is 57. Actor-comedian Jim Carrey is 56. Actor Denis O'Hare is 56. Former first lady Michelle Obama is 54. Actor Joshua Malina is 52. Singer Shabba Ranks is 52. Rock musician Jon Wysocki is 50. Actor Naveen Andrews is 49. Electronic

music DJ Tiesto is 49. Rapper Kid Rock is 47. Actor Freddy Rodriguez is 43. Actor-writer Leigh Whannel is 41. Actress-singer Zooey Deschanel is 38. Dancer Maksim Chmerkovskiy (TV: "Dancing with the Stars") is 38. Singer Ray J is 37. Actor Diogo Morgado is 37. Country singer Amanda Wilkinson is 36. NBA player Dwyane Wade is 36. Actor Ryan Gage is 35. DJ-singer Calvin Harris is 34. Folk-rock musician Jeremiah Fraites is 32. Actor Jonathan Keltz is 30. Actress Kelly Marie Tran (Film: "Star Wars: The Last Jedi") is 29. Actress Kathrine (cq) Herzer is 21.

Thought for Today: "He that is of the opinion money will do everything may well be suspected of doing everything for money." - Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790).

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.

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