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Connecting - May 03, 2018

1 message

Paul Stevens <paulstevens46@gmail.com>

Thu, May 3, 2018 at 9:03 AM

Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com

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Connecting

May 03, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning!

The comments of sorrow by **Kathy Gannon** in Wednesday's Connecting on the deaths of nine of her journalist colleagues in a twin bombing in Afghanistan prompted these reactions:

Sandy Koziel (Email) - After reading her latest contribution to Connecting, it occurred to me that the WHCA (White House Correspondents Association) should hire the AP's Kathy Gannon as its next dinner speaker. But only if it wants a message of journalistic excellence, talent, dedication, courage, grit, compassion and dedication.

And this from former AP International editor **Tom Kent (Email)** - Thank you for including an item Wednesday on the horrific bombing in Kabul. We at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty are devastated; among the journalists killed were two reporters and an about-to-be-hired reporter of our Radio Free Afghanistan.

They were Sabawoon Kakar, 30, who is survived by his wife and a two-year-old son; Abadullah Hananzai, 26, who was preparing to celebrate his first wedding anniversary; and Maharram Durrani, who was about to start working for us.

In addition to the aid RFE/RL is giving our people, members of the staff are collecting donations. [Click here](#) for the link.

Have a good day!

Paul

On the relationship of Eleanor Roosevelt and AP reporter Lorena Hickok

Joe McKnight (Email) - I was attracted to the May 2 Connecting item by Francesca Pitaro about Lorena Hickok. I recently finished a book by author Susan Quinn titled "Eleanor and Hick - The Love Affair that Shaped a First Lady." The book was published in 2016 by Penguin Press. In it, Quinn suggests the relationship between the two women was much warmer than a friendship. A dust cover preview notes Mrs. Roosevelt's disappointment in her marriage to FDR before his election, then adds: "A lifeline came to her in the form of a feisty campaign reporter for The Associated Press: Lorena Hickok. Over the next thirty years, until Eleanor's death, the two women carried on an extraordinary relationship. They were, at different points, lovers, confidantes, professional advisers, and caring friends."

It noted the vast difference in their background - Eleanor from a politically powerful family, a social debutante and marriage to her distant cousin while Hickok grew up in a poor abusive family in rural South Dakota, first worked as a servant before eventually becoming a respected reporter for The AP, her full time assignment to cover the first lady, and leaving the news service to work full-time with and for Eleanor.

I grew up during the Roosevelt years and recall Eleanor's publicly expressed grief over his death. Quinn's book notes that Eleanor was furious when, her husband forbade her to accompany him to Warm Springs, GA., while he took along a woman who had been his employee and long-time confidante and companion who was with him when he died.

I was struck by the thinly veiled affairs the president and his wife had during his three-plus terms as president.

The book reported in conclusion: "On May 10, 2000, thirty-two years and nine days after Hick died, Linda Kavars and her partner, Dr. JoAnne Myers, along with Patsy Costello, Eleanor Roosevelt biographer Blanche Weisen Cook, and a small group of others, staged a simple ceremony in a quiet corner of the Rhinebeck Cemetery. Since Hick had wanted her ashes to fertilize a tree, the celebrants planted a dogwood and had a bluestone bench installed nearby. In the shade of the dogwood, there is a brass plaque that reads:

LORENA HICKOK

"Hick"

Mar. 1893 May 1968

East Troy, WI Hyde Park, N.Y

A.P. Reporter

Author

Activist

and

Friend of E. R.



Joe McGowan (Email) - The year 1968 was a big one for me. I finished up my three-year tour in India and was transferred to Lima, Peru as COB. It all happened when Wes Gallagher went to Vietnam to interview Gen. Westmoreland. Then he hopped over to New Delhi and asked me to find some businessmen or embassy people to play a round of golf with him. No one was available on a week day, so I played with him. I am not a good golfer, so a few rounds, I picked up my ball and walked to the next tee. There were young boys all along the fairway and Wes asked me to holler at them to leave. I pointed out to him that wild animals often came out and grabbed a golf ball and took it to their nest. So Wes accepted having the boys along the fairway.

During the game, I pointed out to Wes that I had been in New Delhi three years and wanted out. I wanted Latin America. He asked why I would want Latin America "because nothing ever happens there." But he said he would get me to Latin America. A short time after his return to 50 Rock, I got word that I was being transferred to Lima, Peru, as AP bureau chief for Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador. I was delighted. My wife, young son and I had a great home leave and then I flew to Lima. Two weeks after I arrived, there was a military coup. The new military rulers were anti-American and anti a lot of things. The first Christmas they notified store owners no Santa Clauses would be allowed in the windows or in the stores. (In 1970, they arrested me and expelled me from Peru. I wound up being COB in Indianapolis!!)

AP Photo of the Day



Rowers skim along the Potomac River as the sun rises over the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, Wednesday, May 2, 2018. The temperature in the Nation's Capitol is expected to reach into the upper 80's Wednesday as spring begins to give way to summer. (AP Photo/J. David Ake)

Connecting mailbox

Isn't this cool?



Sue Manning ([Email](#)) - Isn't this cool? We (Sue Manning, below, and Rachel Ambrose) were at the Museum of Selfies last month and had a ball learning how to use a selfie stick. Don't we look like we are flying over the city?

This was a pop-up museum on Glendale. Later this month we are going to a similar museum called the Museum of Illusions in Los Angeles. It opened as a permanent

place in January. There we can look like we are sinking on the titanic or a burning plane is coming at us. Strange, huh?

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How a boy from Troy (and an AP alum) won the Pulitzer Prize



Devlin Barrett speaks to students at Saint Gregory's School in Loudonville, his alma mater (Paul Grondahl / Times Union)

By Paul Grondahl

Albany Times-Union

Colonie - Devlin Barrett's path to the 2018 Pulitzer Prize in National Reporting as part of a team of journalists at The Washington Post who won for coverage of the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election began in a seventh-grade history class at Saint Gregory's School in Loudonville.

His teacher, the late Tony O'Connor, taught him the art of argument: how to question authority, marshal evidence, track down sources, and build a case set upon a strong foundation of facts rather than a flimsy facade of opinions.

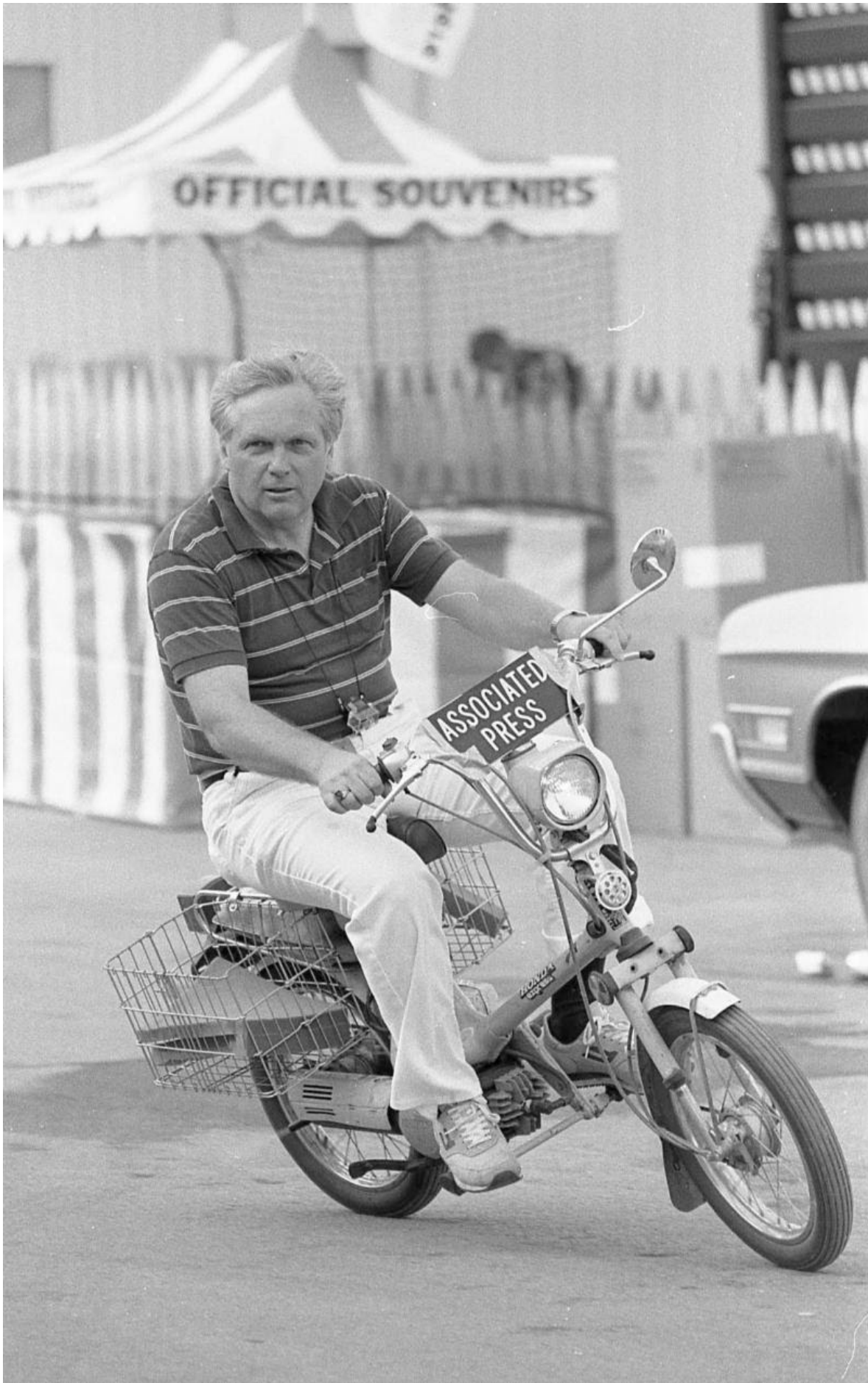
"Mr. O'Connor taught me how to think, how to argue and how to listen," Barrett told an assembly of students last Wednesday at the private, independent, pre-K through eighth grade Catholic school founded in 1962. "He liked to argue about politics and history and he was one of the first adults in my life who felt my argument was worth hearing out."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady. Earlier in his career, Barrett worked eight years for the AP in Washington.



Your memories of the Indy 500

Getting around the 500



Indianapolis AP photographer Chuck Robinson getting around the 500 grounds in 1985.

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Covering The Indy 500 Is Something Special

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - Sixteenth Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the main address for the world's auto racing aficionados.

The best known oval racing track in the world sits on this street, and has been home to the Indianapolis 500-mile race since way back in 1911. Fans start arriving at least three weeks early, and many line up on 16th street as they jockey for entry to the track on race week-end, next to Memorial Day.

Covering this race is a most exciting time for a journalist. There is always something to do, and the air around you is as fast-paced as the race itself.



Gene with Borg-Warner Trophy in 1947

My first bureau assignment as an Associated Press photographer was to Indianapolis in 1947. Indy was the biggest story, and the one that went on for almost all of the month of May, and the story that created so many memories.

Every day was practice time, in which the drivers tested their engines and other equipment, and their racing techniques. I would sit on the pit wall as the various cars went by. One time, even though I was talking with someone, that my instincts told me there was something wrong. Sure enough, there was a crash on the third turn. I jumped into the seat of a wrecker and went to the scene to find racer Ralph Hepburn killed after hitting the outside wall. He was driving a new speedy racer. Protocol then was if you were in a spin, you just pushed hard on the

gas to straighten out. He apparently did this, but his new powerful car just shot him into the wall.

My first year there - we were using the old 4x5 Speed Graphic cameras, was to cover the race from the grassy infield on the first turn. I stood the whole race and just kept "Panning" the camera as the cars went into and out of the turn. I was probably a 100 or so feet from them. It was that same race that year that I covered the finish line. The man with the checkered flag was right out on the brick raceway

signaling victory for veteran Mauri Rose. He was only feet away from Rose, who was traveling at 116.338 mph, and I was just a few feet behind taking a picture of him and the winner. Then it was on to the winner's circle, and the driver drinking from a quart bottle of milk, a tradition started by 3-time Indy winner Wilbur Shaw.

I remember going to the track in the off-season and talking with Wilbur Shaw's personal mechanic, who was at the track year-long working on racer engines. I also remember just wandering through "Gasoline Alley" during pre-race times, talking with the drivers and mechanics. Shaw was a three-time winner.

I remember the story Shaw shared about taking a friend out on the track and driving him around to "get a feel" for the raceway. When they returned to the pits, his passenger opened the door and started to get out. Shaw said he grabbed the man, pulled him back in, and said, "No, we are still going 70 miles per hour.

I remember those small private parties that Shaw, then the president of the track, and track owner, Tony Hullman, gave near Christmas, and just for a few track journalists. Shaw prided himself on cooking "Duck Thumbings," a tiny filet from the duck's back. Shaw wore his chef's outfit.

I remember that day at the start of the race in 1966. Chicago photo editor Ray Jefferies, and I, (I had been recently transferred from Minneapolis AP photographer to a Chicago photo editor), when we left our darkroom position in the Pagoda to observe the start of the race. The roaring 33 cars started to race, and entered the first turn, when a gigantic wreck happened, and lots, and lots, of tires flew in the air. Ray and I looked at each other, and headed for the darkroom area. I edited the first film and spent a little more time in order to count the number of tires and wheels flying through the air. It was spectacular. We were near the end of the 20-second final lineup and I was still writing the caption!

Yes, the Indy 500 race is spectacular, and I have so many fond memories of it.

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Only the AP had it

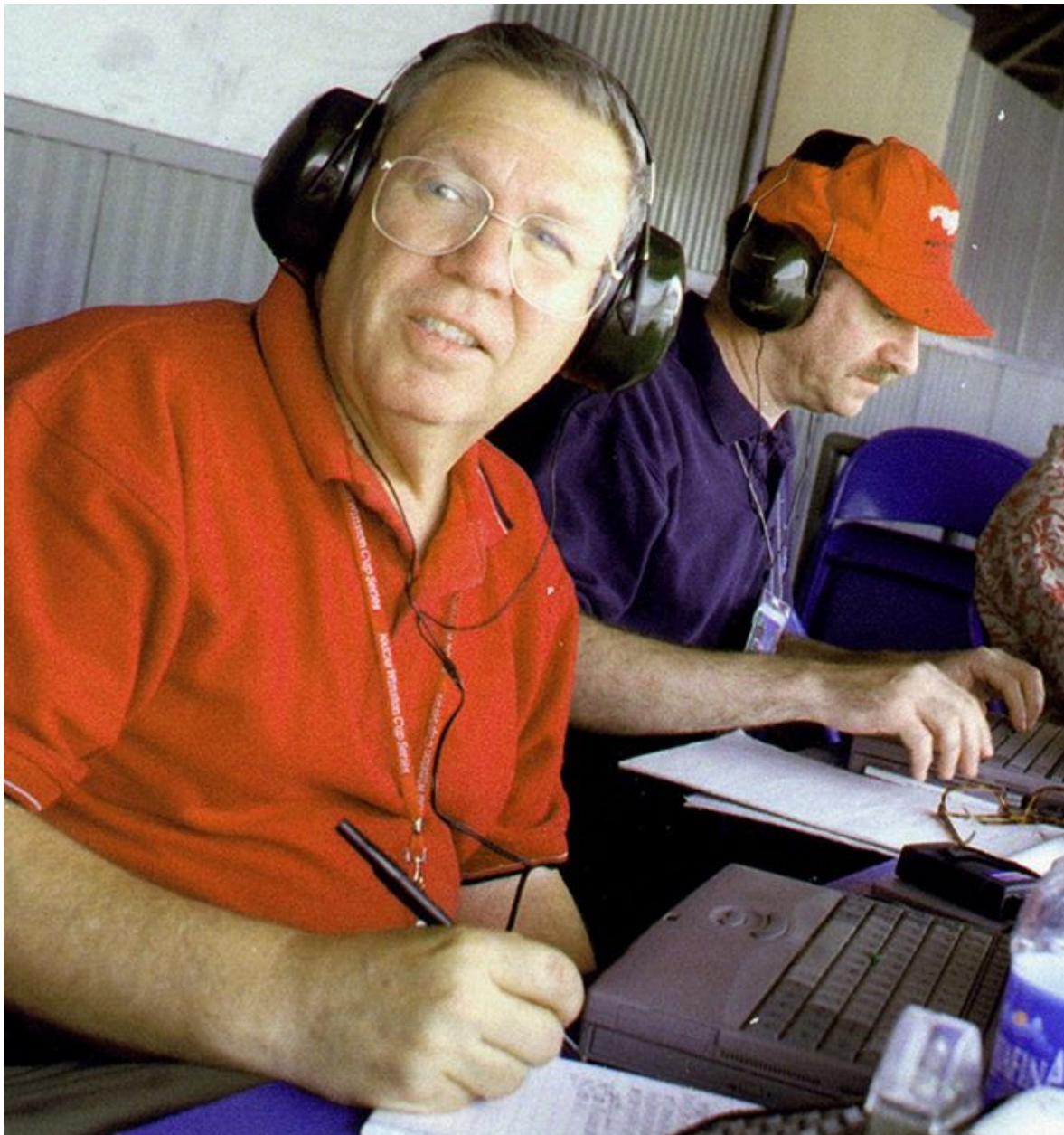
Doug Richardson ([Email](#)) - I think it was 1987. I was covering one-third of the pits. Mario Andretti was one of my drivers, and his celebrity car co-owner Paul Newman stood stoically in the pit box as Mario tried to win his second Indy 500. Newman didn't want to call attention to himself. He dressed simply, in jeans and a white linen shirt. Sunglasses and a baseball hat. He is short and slight of build, but he projects a strong image. Mario led something like 170 of the first 180 laps, before

the Andretti curse struck him down. "Mario's slowing on the backstretch,' the great PA announcer Tom Carnegie announced to the crowd of 250,000.

Newman took off on a walk. I followed. He sped up. I sped up. He broke into a jog. I did. He started sprinting. I ran behind at the same speed. As we turned into Gasoline Alley, I jumped over a tire cart to catch up with him. At that point, Newman stopped and asked, "What do you need?" I said, "Just a quote." The quote turned out to be pretty lame: "If I had scripted it, I would have written a different ending." But it was a quote from Paul Newman, and only the AP had it.

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RT's Mike Harris Has Seen It All At Indianapolis



Mike Harris (left) with veteran Indianapolis AP sports writer Steve Herman.

By Mike Harris | Senior Writer

RacinToday.com - May 26 2016

INDIANAPOLIS - The 100th running of "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing", the Indianapolis 500, has struck a chord among at least some of the sporting public.

After years of trying to regain the panache that made the Indy 500 the biggest single day sporting event in the world, the buzz is back at Indy.

All the reserved seats are sold, the local TV blackout is lifted, hotel rates have soared, reservations at the best restaurants are hard to come by and people are excited about the race.

It's been nearly 20 years since one could say all - or any - of that.

It's a great feeling for me, since I have strong feelings for the Indy 500 and for the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, where I have spent literally hundreds of days over the past 47 years.

I have been coming here since 1970, covering the race for The Associated Press until 2009 and for RacinToday.com since.

I did miss the 1976 race after being transferred from Indianapolis to Cleveland, but I was back the next year for A.J. Foyt's fourth win and I haven't missed one since.

Read more [here](#).

Peru's magical "Rainbow Mountain"



In this March 2, 2018 photo, a group of tourists ride horses led by an Andean guide to Rainbow Mountain, a ridge of multicolored sediments laid down millions of years ago and pushed up as tectonic plates clashed, in Pitumarca, Peru. (AP Photo/Martin Mejia)

AP Images Blog

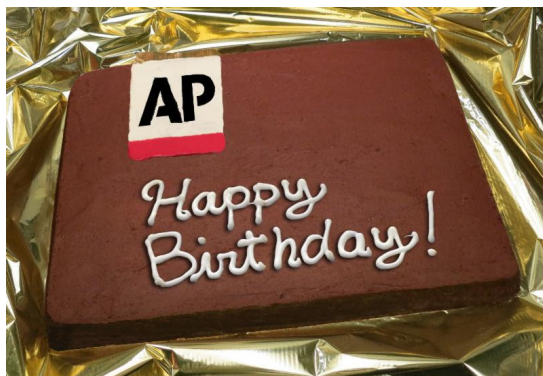
Tourists gasp for breath as they climb for two hours to a peak in the Peruvian Andes that stands 16,404 feet (5,000 meters) above sea level. They're dead tired, but stunned by the magical beauty unfurled before them.

Stripes of turquoise, lavender and gold blanket what has become known as "Rainbow Mountain," a ridge of multicolored sediments laid down millions of years ago and pushed up as tectonic plates clashed. It's only within the last five years that the natural wonder has been discovered by the outside world, earning it must-see status on Peru's burgeoning backpacker tourist circuit.

The popularity of Rainbow Mountain, which attracts up to 1,000 tourists each day, has provided a much-needed economic jolt to this remote region populated by struggling alpaca herders. Environmentalists, however, fear the tourists could destroy the treasured landscape, which is already coveted by international mining companies.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Betsy Blaney - ecblaney@gmail.com

Lee Hill Kavanaugh - lhkavanaugh@gmail.com

Welcome to Connecting



Laura Sellers - lsellers.newstrain@gmail.com

Mike and Carole Stitt - michaelandcarolestitt@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Why the "golden age" of newspapers was the exception, not the rule (Nieman)

By HEIDI TWOREK AND JOHN MAXWELL HAMILTON

Journalists pride themselves on knowing their history when it comes to politics and economics, but they are notoriously ahistorical about their own profession. They treat the idea of fair, fact-based journalism - what some call objectivity - the way the College of Cardinals treated the virgin birth, a miracle that sprang from the purest of intentions. In fact, this type of journalism was a good business decision by newspaper owners. Balanced reporting brought in more readers and more advertisers who wanted to reach those readers at the same time that it happened to better inform the public.

Historical perspective has been strikingly absent from discussions of the troubles afflicting news media today. While enlightening in its own right, such a perspective may also help us find cures.

Read more [here](#).

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John Moore's 'Undocumented': Immigration at and militarization of the U.S.-Mexico border

(Yahoo)



In Tijuana, Mexico, a man looks through the U.S.-Mexico border fence into the United States on Sept. 25, 2016. The binational Friendship Park is one of the few places along the 2,000-mile border where separated families are allowed to meet. (Photo: John Moore/Getty Images)

Since 2010, Getty Images special correspondent John Moore has focused on U.S. immigration, creating a comprehensive photographic record of undocumented immigration and the militarization of the U.S.-Mexico border.

With exclusive access to immigrants at all points of their journeys, ICE agents, border patrol agents, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and dozens of NGOs here and abroad, Moore's *Undocumented* (Powerhouse Books) is a deeply researched perspective of a complex issue.

For its broad scope and compassionate storytelling, Moore's body of work is an essential record of U.S. immigration. Undocumented features essays and photos from Central America and Mexico about the journey north, the border and securing the frontier, life in a divided nation, and the experience of being detained and deported.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Claude Erbsen, who noted: "John Moore is a former AP photo staffer (in LatAm, Iraq, etc)"

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Sun Sentinel apologizes for gun ad on front page (Poynter)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2018 \$1.88

SOUTH FLORIDA

Sun Sentinel

SunSentinel.com

WEATHER
High: 82
Low: 75
Forecast: 16B

INDEX
Opinion.....30A
Lottery.....2B
Obituaries...5B
Money.....30B

Go!
River of joy
Strong cast buoys opera 'Florencia en el Amazonas.' **16B**

FOOD
BOOZE-FREE CUISINE
Zero-proof substitutions don't have to mean zero flavor.



SPORTS
Not so fast
Omar Kelly: Dolphins still selling little more than hope. **1C**
Marlins vs. Phillies
Miami's 2-1 victory means rematch today. **1C**



COMING SUNDAY
We explore the challenges of the rising seas. **In Opinion.**

Lauderdale airport shooter agrees to guilty plea, life term

By PAULA McMAHON
Staff writer

After 15 months of speculation and secret reviews, federal prosecutors said Tuesday they will not seek the death penalty for Esteban Santiago, a military veteran who confessed to killing five people and injuring six at Fort Lauderdale's international airport.

Santiago, whose defense team said he is sorry for what he did, has agreed to plead guilty and spend the rest of his life in federal prison.

Prosecutors have accepted his offer. But the judge wants Santiago to first undergo a mental health evaluation to make sure he knows what he is doing and is legally competent to

plead guilty.

If it goes ahead as planned, the plea agreement would avoid a very expensive and potentially long and emotional trial — followed by years of appeals.

Santiago's documented history of severe mental illness, the fact that he went to the FBI and asked for help two months before committing the mass shooting, his

willingness to plead guilty and his military service in the Iraq War were likely among the top factors that affected the prosecution's decision, experts said.

"Mr. Santiago is remorseful and will plead guilty," Assistant Federal Public Defender Eric Cohen told the judge.

See SHOOTER, 9A



Esteban Santiago must be evaluated and deemed mentally competent in order for the plea deal to be carried out. Santiago, 28, would spend the rest of his life in prison.

AMY BETH BENNETT/STAFF FILE PHOTO

Remembering Alyssa



Fund to benefit all on campus

\$8.2M donated for thousands at Stoneman Douglas day of shooting

By RON HURTBISE



Family and friends of Parkland shooting victim Alyssa Alhadeff attend an unveiling of her headstone at Star of David Memorial Gardens Cemetery in North Lauderdale on Tuesday, on what would have been her 15th birthday. **Story, 6B**

YOUR NATION, YOUR WORLD

Trump blasts Mueller disclosure

The list of questions, revealed on Tuesday, that Special Counsel Robert Mueller wants to ask President Trump is focused heavily on Russia. **3A**

U.S. applauds Netanyahu speech

The Israeli leader's claim that Iran is lying about its nuclear activities was welcomed in Washington but has divided European allies. **9A**

'May Day' brings out marchers

Across the U.S., protesters focused on labor issues and elections. In Puerto Rico, rallies decried slow recovery from Hurricane Irma. **8A**

I-95/Spanish River Blvd. work done

By **WAYNE K. ROUSTAN** | Staff writer

The last of 13 ramps and bridges is open, completing the four-year, 2.5-mile Spanish River Boulevard interchange project on Interstate 95 through Boca Raton.

The ramp connecting eastbound Yamato Road to Spanish River Boulevard opened in time for the Tuesday morning rush hour. The northbound Spanish River Boulevard ramp to Yamato Road opened Thursday.

Work on the sprawling interchange began in January 2014. Some exit and entrance ramps were opened to traffic in segments as the \$69 million project progressed.

Work included a new link between Spanish River Boulevard and Interstate 95, widening Spanish River Boulevard west of FAU Boulevard, building 13 bridges, and installing new traffic signals at upgraded intersections. An auxiliary ramp and sound barrier walls were added on parts of Yamato Road, and the El Rio Trail was extended under Yamato Road and the railroad tracks west of I-95, among other things.

The interchange is designed to reduce traffic in the heavily traveled area — particularly around the Florida Atlantic University campus — and widen I-95 for the construction of express lanes which are expected to be in place by mid-2023.

Staff writer

Everyone who was on the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School campus during the Feb. 14 mass shooting will be eligible to receive a share of the victims' fund created by the Innovative Education Foundation.

That decision is in a final plan for distribution of the Stoneman Douglas Victims' Fund, which so far totals \$8.2 million from more than 26,000 donors.

How much money each person will receive won't be decided until after June 30, once the number of eligible recipients and the total amount of donations are known, said Jeff Dion, director of the National Compassion Fund, which will administer the distribution.

The money was raised through the crowdfunding website GoFundMe.com, as well as outside fundraising activities such as benefit concerts, employer campaigns, and

See **FUND, 9A**

Lauderdale kills plan for Wave streetcar

The 3-2 vote by city commissioners ends 14 years of trying for a downtown loop. A city leadership newly reshaped by the recent election heeded residents who said the project no longer makes sense. **1B**

We reach nearly 1.5 million adults every week with the combined resources of:

WA 50, No. 7 - Copyright 2018



By **DAVID BEARD**

"It's a mess. It's horrible."

That's Julie Anderson, editor-in-chief of the South Florida Sun Sentinel, reacting to the newspaper's front page Wednesday - two stories on gun violence, juxtaposed with the image of a gun in an advertisement for a gun show.

It's the nightmare every editor worries about.

This juxtaposition, for which the paper promptly apologized and later declared a moratorium on all gun ads, is worse on two levels: 1) The Sun Sentinel already had a policy of no gun ads on its front page; and 2) It is the home newspaper and has done strong reporting of the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, just 11 miles due west from the newspaper's offices.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac.

Today in History -May 3, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, May 3, the 123rd day of 2018. There are 242 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On May 3, 1978, spam email was born as Gary Thuerk (thurk), a marketing executive for the Digital Equipment Corp. of Maynard, Massachusetts, transmitted an unsolicited sales pitch for a new line of computers to 400 prospective customers on ARPANET, a precursor to the internet; the stunt generated some business, as well as complaints. "Sun Day" took place on a Wednesday as thousands of people extolling the virtues of solar energy held events across the country.

On this date:

In 1515, Pope Leo X promulgated the bull "Inter sollicitudines" allowing the Catholic Church to review and censor books.

In 1791, the Commonwealth of Poland-Lithuania adopted a constitution.

In 1810, English poet Lord Byron, inspired by the Greek myth of Hero and Leander, swam across the Hellespont, a strait in present-day Turkey.

In 1916, Irish nationalists Padraic Pearse, Thomas Clarke and Thomas MacDonagh were executed by a British firing squad; they were among 16 people put to death for their roles in the Easter Rising.

In 1937, Margaret Mitchell won the Pulitzer Prize for her novel, "Gone with the Wind."

In 1948, the Supreme Court, in *Shelley v. Kraemer*, ruled that covenants prohibiting the sale of real estate to blacks or members of other racial groups were legally unenforceable.

In 1952, the Kentucky Derby was televised nationally for the first time on CBS; the winner was Hill Gail, ridden by Eddie Arcaro.

In 1960, the Harvey Schmidt-Tom Jones musical "The Fantasticks" began a nearly 42-year run at New York's Sullivan Street Playhouse.

In 1979, Conservative Party leader Margaret Thatcher was chosen to become Britain's first female prime minister as the Tories ousted the incumbent Labour government in parliamentary elections.

In 1986, in NASA's first post-Challenger launch, an unmanned Delta rocket lost power in its main engine shortly after liftoff, forcing safety officers to destroy it by remote control.

In 1999, some 70 tornadoes roared across Oklahoma and Kansas, killing 46 people and injuring hundreds.

In 2007, British girl Madeleine McCann vanished during a family vacation in Portugal nine days before her fourth birthday; her disappearance remains unsolved.

Ten years ago: Barack Obama defeated Hillary Rodham Clinton by seven votes out of more than 4,500 cast in the Guam Democratic presidential caucuses, meaning the candidates split the pledged delegate votes. Big Brown won the Kentucky Derby by 4 3/4 lengths. (Filly Eight Belles finished second and then broke both front ankles; she was euthanized on the track.)

Five years ago: President Barack Obama cast Mexico as a nation ready to take "its rightful place in the world" and move past the drug battles and violence that had

defined its relationship with the United States; the president then headed to Costa Rica, where he told a press conference he didn't foresee any circumstance requiring the U.S. to send ground troops into Syria. Gunmen killed Chaudhry Zulfikar, Pakistan's lead prosecutor investigating the assassination of former prime minister Benazir Bhutto (BEN'-uh-zeer BOO'-toh), as he drove to court in the capital.

One year ago: President Donald Trump met at the White House with Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas (mahk-MOOD' ah-BAHS'), promising "to do whatever is necessary" to forge an Israeli-Palestinian peace deal. FBI Director James Comey told Congress that revealing the reopening of the Hillary Clinton email probe just before Election Day came down to a painful, complicated choice between "really bad" and "catastrophic" options, but in hindsight would have acted no differently. Actress Daliah Lavi, 74, died in Asheville, North Carolina.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Alex Cord is 85. Singer Frankie Valli is 84. Idaho Gov. Butch Otter is 76. Sen. Jim Risch, R-Idaho, is 75. Sports announcer Greg Gumbel is 72. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., is 69. Pop singer Mary Hopkin is 68. Singer Christopher Cross is 67. Country musician Cactus Moser (Highway 101) is 61. Rock musician David Ball (Soft Cell) is 59. Former Sen. David Vitter, R-La., is 57. Country singer Shane Minor is 50. Actress Amy Ryan is 50. Actor Bobby Cannavale (ka-nuh-VAL'-ee) is 48. Music and film producer-actor Damon Dash is 47. Country musician John Driskell Hopkins (Zac Brown Band) is 47. Country-rock musician John Neff is 47. Country singer Brad Martin is 45. TV personality Willie Geist (TV: "Today") is 43. Actress Christina Hendricks is 43. Actor Dule (doo-LAY') Hill is 43. Country singer Eric Church is 41. Actress Tanya Wright is 40. Dancer Cheryl Burke is 34. Soul singer Michael Kiwanuka is 31. Actress Jill Berard is 28. Actress Zoe De Grand Maison is 23. Rapper Desiigner (cq) is 21.

Thought for Today: "A man can become so accustomed to the thought of his own faults that he will begin to cherish them as charming little 'personal characteristics.'" - Helen Rowland, American writer, journalist and humorist (1876-1950).

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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