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Connecting -- June 22, 2018

1 message

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Connecting

June 22, 2018

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'I try not to weep at the violence my government is doing to refugees on our southern border.'



The Bernotas family, shown in a refugee camp apartment in Munich around 1950. Adolphe Bernotas is at the far left next to his mother.

Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Our Connecting colleague **Adolphe Bernotas** is a refugee of World War II, fleeing Lithuania with his family and coming to the United States in 1952 when he was 10 - after spending eight years in United Nations refugee camps in Germany.

Stories on the separation of immigrant children from their parents trouble him greatly. Enough that the 39-year AP veteran, who spent most of his Associated Press career in Concord, New Hampshire, before retiring in 2006, wrote a letter to the editors of several newspapers including the Concord Monitor and the online New Hampshire Labor News, both of which ran it this morning.

Here is the letter he wrote:

I write on World Refugee Day (Wednesday), one day after my country left the United Nations Human Rights Council. The day before was Juneteenth, which commemorates abolition of slavery in my country.



I am a refugee of World War II; arrived in the United States with my family - parents and three younger sisters - one month short of my eleventh birthday. I became an American citizen once I turned 18.

The refugee and abolition observances juxtaposed with the wails and pictures of children torn from their parents have been crushing my heart and soul. I try not to weep at the violence my government is doing to refugees on our southern border. Some of them are younger than I was when I arrived in New York Harbor. I have been waking to nightmares from my refugee past.

I can't help imagining what would have happened to me and my sisters if the immigration officers separated us from our parents, or each other, flung who knows where in a country where I knew only two words of the local language?

As the oldest (my sisters were 10, six and four years old) could I have managed as the caretaker, protector?

Where would I find Lithuanian speakers to ask what was happening to us? Where were my mother and father? Why did they leave us? Would we ever see them?

Where would we be today?

Adolphe Bernotas

I thank him for sharing the letter with his Connecting colleagues. Adolphe's email - kaunas@aol.com

Have a good weekend.

Paul

APME announces winners of 2018 contest for AP journalists

NEW YORK (AP) - Coverage of news events that tested the human spirit and challenged how we see ourselves won top honors in the 2018 Associated Press Media Editors Awards for AP staff.

Hurricane Harvey, the collapse of the caliphate in Mosul and the plight of Rohingya refugees all showcased AP's ability to put together powerhouse teams of journalists anywhere in the world and produce award-winning work.

There were also individual honors for journalists who single-handedly made a difference with their efforts.



Sarah Rankin of the AP's Richmond, Virginia, bureau was recognized for excellence by a staffer 30 years old or younger for a body of work that included breaking coverage of the Charlottesville white nationalist rally that turned violent. "Rankin combines tenacious reporting with elegant writing and multimedia skills," judges said.

Rachel La Corte of AP's Olympia, Washington, bureau was honored for her relentless reporting on state lawmakers who claimed they were exempt from public disclosure laws. "Through her reporting," judges said, "AP got a powerful coalition of news organizations in Washington state to bring suit in this legitimate case of interest to the public."

And Jae C. Hong won both the top award and honorable mention for photo feature stories: first place for his photos of homeless people in Los Angeles, and honorable mention for photos of people who eke out a living dressing as superheroes for tourists on Hollywood Boulevard. Judges - who did not know both series were by the same photographer - were struck by the unusual access to the subjects, which could only have been earned by putting in long stretches of time with them.

The annual AP contest honors the best staff work in news, multimedia and photography. Committees of judges are made up of national board members of the Associated Press Media Editors. Winners will be recognized at the ASNE-APME News Leadership Conference, September 11-12 in Austin, Texas.

"The breadth and depth of the work that The Associated Press produces every year is remarkable," said Thomas Koetting, deputy managing editor of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, and coordinator of this year's contest judging. "The judges were impressed and inspired."

[Click here](#) on the APME site for a complete list of winners and judges' comments.
Shared by Paula Froke.

Remembering the '86 World Cup and 'Hand of God' match



Robert Meyers ([Email](#)) - Enjoyed Soll Sussman memories of the 1986 World Cup. The details of the preparations and events are just the sort of fascinating on the spot details that Connecting is providing. Thank you all who contribute.

The loser in the "Hand of God" match in the 1986 quarterfinal was England. I had moved to England with my Norfolk-born fiancée earlier that year. I went by the AP office to ask for freelance photography work but was told to come back in August as the photo crew were all out in Mexico for the World Cup. I stayed up late with my future brother in law to watch the Argentina England quarterfinal match which ended in the early hours British Summer Time. I was quite surprised that the British newspapers did not carry the result in the morning print editions as it seemed of intense local significance but such was the cost of labour at the time. I couldn't imagine a U.S. newspaper going out the next day without featuring the Super Bowl. The missed call on Maradona's use of his hand seemed a huge failure of officiating.

An opening for an AP photo editor in London was posted at the end of the August and I was among a lot of people to apply. I got through the first interview with Horst Faas by asking him if he was related to Eckbert Faas, the author of a book of poetics I'd read. He was Horst's brother. I made it through an interview with COB Myron Belkind and Deputy Photo Editor Peter Bregg perhaps partly because I had a notice from the employee bulletin board from the Sturgis (Michigan) Journal listing me as one of 10 employees who were awarded an extra vacation day for never calling in sick.

I started on Oct. 1, 1986. Myron Belkind was my first and only bureau chief and I appreciate the care he had for staff, and his leadership in times of crisis. I know everyone at AP in London appreciated the annual Christmas feast he was able to provide at the historic Middle Temple Hall. A grand celebration that was the highlight of the season for many of us. As London was my first posting at the AP I thought everybody was treated to a similar event each year so finding out that wasn't the case was a real eye opener. Thanks Myron. Not having a bureau chief looking out for us at the State Photo Center probably made it a lot easier to close the operation.

Latest Time cover features Trump and iconic crying migrant child





Photo by John Moore/Getty Images

By RICK PASTRICK

Triblive.com

Time magazine's latest cover - sure to create controversy - addresses the immigration debate in America.

Using a solid red background, a photo illustration of the July 2, 2018, issue shows President Donald Trump looking down on a crying child, the same image that has quickly become iconically linked with his administration's policy of separating children from their parents at the U.S. border.

The only text on the cover reads, "Welcome to America."

The photo of the child was taken by John Moore, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer for Getty Images.

Read more [here](#).

The Story Behind TIME's Trump 'Welcome to America' Cover

By TIME STAFF

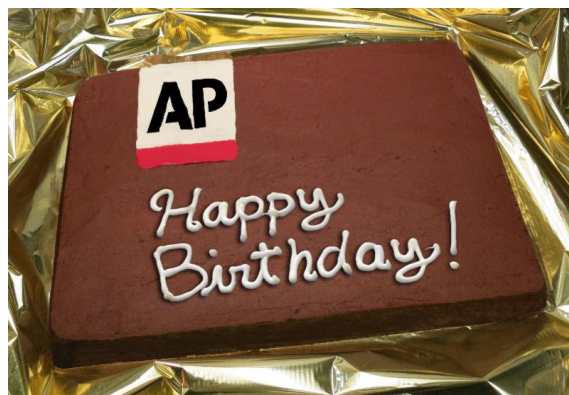
John Moore, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer for Getty Images, has been photographing immigrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border for years. This week one of his pictures became the most visible symbol of the immigration debate in America.

"This one was tough for me. As soon as it was over, they were put into a van. I had to stop and take deep breaths," Moore told TIME Tuesday, describing his reaction to the scene of a two-year-old Honduran girl crying as her mother was being detained in McAllen, Texas. "All I wanted to do was pick her up. But I couldn't."

Due to the power of the image, which appeared as critics from across the political spectrum attacked President Trump's now-reversed policy of separating children from parents who are being detained for illegally entering the United States, TIME's editors selected Moore's photograph to create a photo illustration, including Trump, to make the July 2, 2018, cover of the magazine.

[Click here](#) for link to this story.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



On Saturday to...

Ike Flores- ikeflores@msn.com

On Sunday...

Cynthia Rawitch- Cynthia.rawitch@csun.edu

Welcome to Connecting



Michelle Johnson - johnsonchesack@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Charles Krauthammer, Prominent Conservative Voice, Dies at 68 (New York Times)

By Sam Roberts

Charles Krauthammer, a former psychiatrist and self-described Great Society Democrat who metamorphosed into one of the nation's most cogent conservative voices as a Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and television commentator, died on Thursday. He was 68.

The Washington Post, where his weekly column had appeared since 1985, reported the death, quoting his son, Daniel, who said the cause was cancer of the small intestine. The Post did not say where he died.

On June 8, explaining what he called his 10-month "uncharacteristic silence," he revealed in The Post that despite surgery for a stomach tumor last August, cancer had recurred, and that he had only weeks to live.

"This is the final verdict," he wrote. "My fight is over."

While Mr. Krauthammer continually extolled Ronald Reagan (he ranked him No. 2 among 20th-century presidents, behind Franklin D. Roosevelt) and belittled Barack Obama's record, he could criticize his fellow neoconservatives and Republicans just as fiercely as he skewered liberal Democrats.

Read more [here](#).

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Politico Playbook's Birthday of the Day - Jill Colvin

BIRTHDAY OF THE DAY: Jill Colvin, White House reporter for The Associated Press. How she got in journalism: "Somewhat accidentally. I'd worked at my college paper and done several journalism internships, but never thought it was something I'd do as a career until I was in grad school in London, getting a master's degree in sociology, and bored out of my mind. I cold-called and emailed every news organization in the city until finally The Washington Post's lovely bureau chiefs at the time responded and decided to let me help out around the office with some research and reporting. Watching them work together on a series about injustices against women around the world was inspiring, and I was hooked." Read her Playbook Plus Q&A by clicking [here](#)



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Sinclair Forces Stations To Air Commentary Arguing 'Liberal' Reports of Child Detention Were Exaggerated (Mediaite)

By RACHEL DICKER

In the latest chapter of "Sinclair Spews Conservative Propaganda on Hundreds of Television Channels," the media conglomerate forced its networks to air a segment claiming that the outcry over the Trump administration's practice of separating children from their families and placing them in detention centers was largely just liberal histrionics.

The "must-run" segment, anchored by Sinclair Chief Political Analyst and former Trump adviser Boris Epshteyn, is slated to air on more than 100 Sinclair-owned or operated news stations across the U.S., Media Matters reports. Many of these are local news stations.

"Our immigration system is undeniably broken and the discourse around this topic is toxic," Epshteyn says in the segment. "Many members of the media and opponents of the president have seized on this issue to make it seem as if those who are tough on immigration are somehow monsters."

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

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Cuba slightly loosens controls on state media



In this 2015 file photo, a man reads a copy of the official newspaper of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, Granma, as a woman walks past, in old Havana. Cuba is slightly loosening controls on its state-run media under its new president. (AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa, File)

By ANDREA RODRIGUEZ

HAVANA (AP) - Minutes after a plane carrying 113 people crashed on takeoff from Havana airport, Cuban state media filled with minute-by-minute updates, cellphone video from the accident and an interview from the scene with newly named President Miguel Diaz-Canel.

When Tropical Storm Alberto struck the island later in May, causing nearly a dozen deaths, state television broadcast unusually lengthy footage of meetings among ministers coordinating the response.

Cuba forbids independent print or broadcast media, and reports in the state-run press have long consisted mostly of transcriptions of official Communist Party declarations - triumphal reports on industrial production or lavish praise of the country's leaders. That turgid style appears to be incrementally changing in the wake of Diaz-Canel becoming president in April.

Cuban journalists tell The Associated Press that the Political Bureau of the Communist Party, one of the country's most powerful bodies, recently approved a

document known as the "New Communication Policy" that is aimed at giving state media more ability to report news like their colleagues do in other countries.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Claude Erbsen.

The Final (sad) Word



Barry Blitt/The New Yorker

Today in History - June 22, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, June 22, the 173rd day of 2018. There are 192 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 22, 1918, a train carrying members of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus and their families was rear-ended during an emergency stop by another train near Hammond, Indiana, killing at least 86 people aboard the circus train.

On this date:

In 1611, English explorer Henry Hudson, his son and several other people were set adrift in present-day Hudson Bay by mutineers aboard the Discovery.

In 1868, Arkansas, which had seceded in 1861, was re-admitted to the Union.

In 1911, Britain's King George V was crowned at Westminster Abbey.

In 1937, Joe Louis began his reign as world heavyweight boxing champion by knocking out Jim Braddock in the eighth round of their fight in Chicago. (A year later on this date, Louis knocked out Max Schmeling in the first round of their rematch at Yankee Stadium.)

In 1940, during World War II, Adolf Hitler gained a stunning victory as France was forced to sign an armistice eight days after German forces overran Paris.

In 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, more popularly known as the "GI Bill of Rights."

In 1945, the World War II battle for Okinawa ended with an Allied victory.

In 1969, singer-actress Judy Garland died in London at age 47.

In 1977, John N. Mitchell became the first former U.S. Attorney General to go to prison as he began serving a sentence for his role in the Watergate cover-up. (He was released 19 months later.)

In 1988, gay rights activist Leonard Matlovich, discharged from the U.S. Air Force because of his homosexuality, died at age 44. Singer Dennis Day, Jack Benny's sidekick, died at age 72.

In 1993, former first lady Pat Nixon died in Park Ridge, New Jersey, at age 81.

In 2012, ex-Penn State assistant coach Jerry Sandusky was convicted by a jury in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, on 45 counts of sexually assaulting 10 boys over 15 years. (Sandusky is appealing a 30- to 60-year state prison sentence.)

Ten years ago: Zimbabwe's opposition leader, Morgan Tsvangirai (SVAHNG'-ur-eye), withdrew from a presidential runoff against Robert Mugabe. Acerbic standup comedian and satirist George Carlin died in Santa Monica, California, at age 71. Comedian Dody Goodman died in Englewood, New Jersey, at age 93.

Five years ago: Islamic militants disguised as policemen killed 10 foreign climbers and a Pakistani guide in a brazen overnight raid at the base camp of Nanga Parbat, saying it was to avenge the death of their deputy leader in a U.S. drone strike. A plane carrying a wing walker crashed at an air show near Dayton, Ohio, killing both the pilot, Charlie Schwenker, and the stunt performer, Jane Wicker.

One year ago: An online conspiracy theory dubbed "pizzagate" ended with real-world consequences as a North Carolina man was sentenced to four years in prison for firing an assault rifle inside Comet Ping Pong, a Washington, D.C. pizza restaurant. California officials denied parole for convicted killer Patricia Krenwinkel,

a follower of cult leader Charles Manson, for the 1969 slayings of pregnant actress Sharon Tate and four other people. The Philadelphia 76ers selected guard Markelle Fultz with the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Prunella Scales (TV: "Fawlty Towers") is 86. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., is 85. Singer-actor Kris Kristofferson is 82. Movie director John Kordy is 82. Actor Michael Lerner is 77. Actor Klaus Maria Brandauer is 75. Fox News analyst Brit Hume is 75. Singer Peter Asher (Peter and Gordon) is 74. Actor David L. Lander is 71. Singer Howard "Eddie" Kaylan is 71. Singer-musician Todd Rundgren is 70. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., is 69. Actress Meryl Streep is 69. Actress Lindsay Wagner is 69. Singer Alan Osmond is 69. Actor Murphy Cross is 68. Actor Graham Greene is 66. Pop singer Cyndi Lauper is 65. Actor Chris Lemmon is 64. Rock musician Derek Forbes is 62. Actor Tim Russ is 62. Rock musician Garry Beers (INXS) is 61. Actor-producer-writer Bruce Campbell is 60. Rock musician Alan Anton (Cowboy Junkies) is 59. Actress Tracy Pollan is 58. Environmental activist Erin Brockovich is 58. Rock singer-musician Jimmy Somerville is 57. Basketball Hall of Famer Clyde Drexler is 56. Actress Amy Brenneman is 54. Author Dan Brown is 54. Rock singer-musician Mike Edwards (Jesus Jones) is 54. Rock singer Steven Page is 48. Actor Michael Trucco is 48. Actress Mary Lynn Rajsak (RYS'-kub) is 47. TV personality Carson Daly is 45. Rock musician Chris Traynor is 45. Country musician Jimmy Wallace is 45. Actor Donald Faison (FAY'-zahn) is 44. Actress Alicia Goranson is 44. Actor-comedian Mike O'Brien (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 42. TV personality/actor Jai Rodriguez is 39. Americana singer-songwriter John Moreland is 33. Actress Lindsay Ridgeway is 33. Pop singer Dina Hansen (Fifth Harmony) (TV: "The X Factor") is 21.

Thought for Today: "Study men, not historians." - President Harry S. Truman (1884-1972).

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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