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Connecting - December 06, 2018

1 message

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Connecting

December 06, 2018

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Colleagues,

The international journalist is the theme of today's Connecting.

Our colleague **Arnold Zeitlin**, who once reported abroad for the AP for 10 years, asks for your thoughts on how best to pursue a career as an international journalist.

If you served the AP abroad, tell us your story of how it came about. Was it your goal from the start? Who encouraged you? Was it worth it?

As a domestic AP bureau chief, I hired a number of people whose attraction to the AP was to report from abroad and who believed the scope of AP made it their best choice. In those days, a newswoman or newsman would need to work a couple years in a domestic bureau, then apply for the International Desk in New York for an assignment, and then go abroad from there after 2-3 years. Exceptions abounded, of course.

I look forward to your memories.

And **Sulome Anderson**, daughter of our colleague **Terry Anderson**, writes for our newsletter on the Coalition For Women In Journalism - a global support network for women journalists - and how it operates.

My Spotlight for December in my hometown newspaper, The Messenger of Fort Dodge, Iowa, was aimed toward Baby Boomers who recalled the Uncle Dick Fun House of the '50s and '60s that was broadcast on a local television station in the city of 25,000.



Uncle Dick turns 90 on Christmas Day and lives in Great Falls, Montana, and I found him a great interview. [Click here](#) to read the story.

Have a great day!

Paul

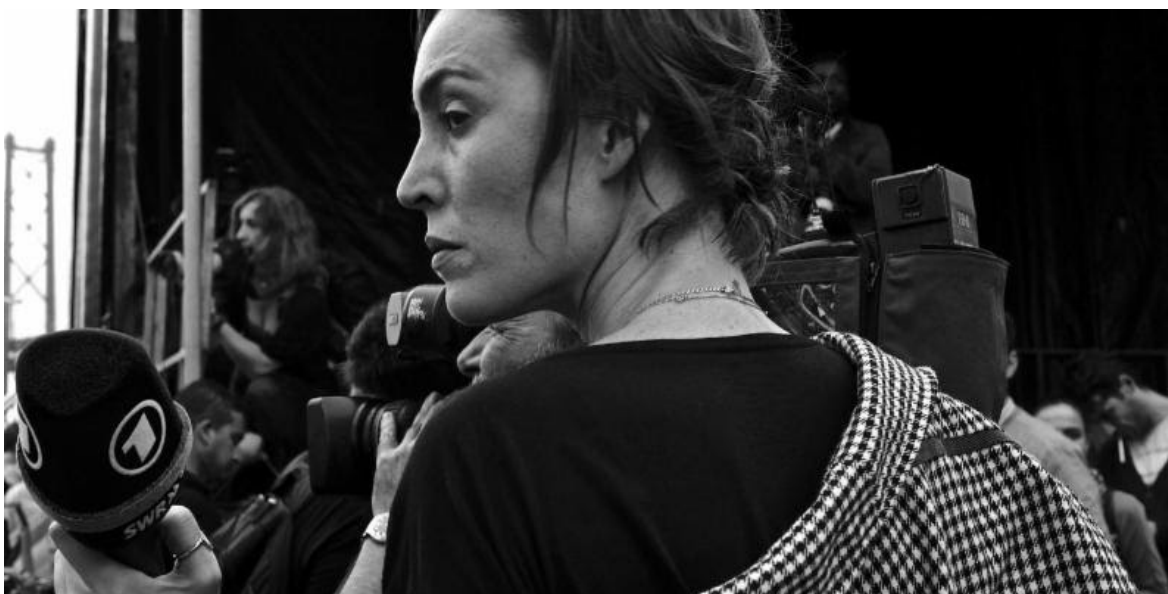
What advice would you give to young reporters seeking a career abroad?

Arnold Zeitlin ([Email](#)) - The following article is from the [IJET.ORG](#) (International Journalists Network) website of the International Center for Journalists in Washington DC. I wonder what the foreign correspondents on the mailing list think of it.

For years, I've advised young reporters who want a career abroad to do just that - invest in themselves (instead of spending up to \$60,000 on a graduate journalism program), pick out a foreign country, go there to live and report (Indonesia is always a good example of a place to start). Of course, I got lucky. After returning from Ghana in West Africa with the Peace Corps and writing a book about the experience, I got Wes Gallagher to send me back to West Africa as the AP correspondent, the beginning of a 10-year career abroad.

Here's the story:

The foreign correspondent industry has changed. So should advice to early career journalists.



By CLOTHILDE GOUJARD

If the media industry has been seeing massive changes in the last decade, one of the jobs that has been the most affected is that of a foreign correspondent. News organizations have closed many of their foreign bureaus, leaving most journalists with international reporting dreams few options but freelancing.

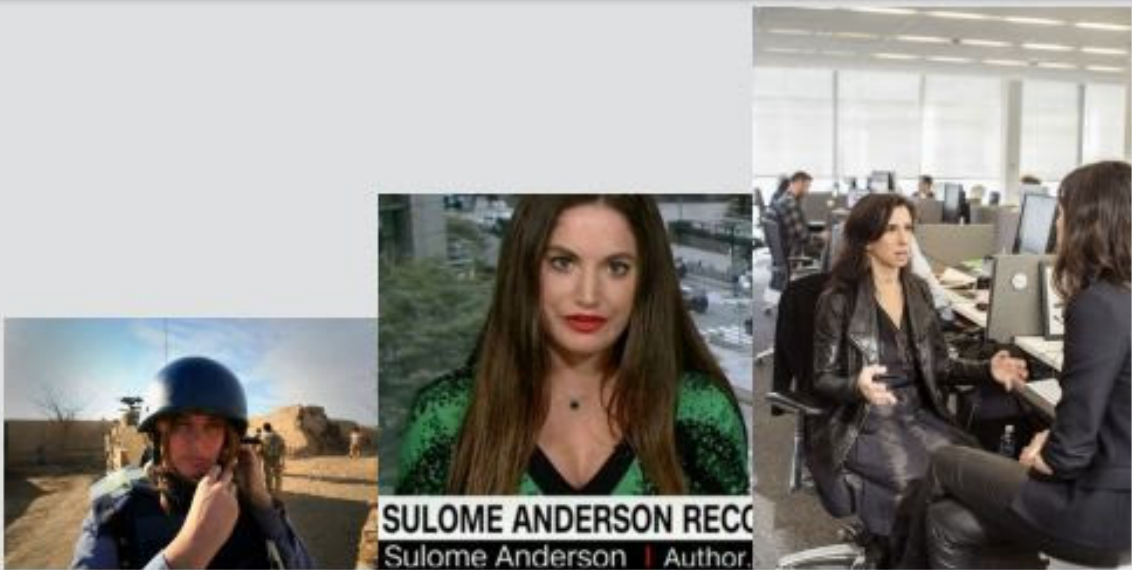
However, making a living as an international freelancer is increasingly unsustainable. With news organizations paying limited salaries and reducing their international coverage, several journalists have pointed out how dire the situation has become for foreign correspondents.

Faced with a changing industry, some journalists have had to leave their overseas career behind while others have taken different roads to continue their reporting.

Megha Rajagopalan, an international correspondent for BuzzFeed News in the Middle East, reached her career goals by choosing a non-traditional path.

Read more [here](#).

Coalition functions as global support network for women



SULOME ANDERSON RECO
Sulome Anderson | Author

**Support
our work**
because

We are closing the gap

The mechanism

With our long-term mentorships and group support systems, we are helping our fellows overcome stress and develop the skills they need to navigate their circumstances. Most importantly, we are reengaging them with the kind of journalism they desire to produce. We believe every reporter has a gift, which if utilized strategically, will ultimately optimize what the public consumes as news.

Tackling the disparity

Grants, awards and other opportunities fuel competitive journalism, but those resources often only reach journalists already at the top. We want more women journalists from diverse backgrounds and at different stages in their careers to qualify for these opportunities so we can expand the horizons from which we inform the public. Our family network of top-tier journalists are working on it, one mentorship at a time.

Strategic and customized mentorships

A sense of absolute support generates confidence, which in turn produces momentum. Many of our fellows are not only accomplishing the goals they came to

Sulome Anderson (Email) - As the number of female foreign correspondents and freelancers steadily increases around the world, so have complaints about discrimination, sexual harassment and unhealthy competition that hamper their careers. There are more women graduating from journalism schools, but not enough reach the top. To address this problem, we formed a peer support organization called the Coalition For Women In

Journalism in March 2017. As a global support network for women journalists, CFWIJ aims to ease the path for women who have progressed to a certain level in their careers but are overwhelmed by the difficulties of the industry and feel stuck where they are.

Our founder Kiran Nazish says that "women can best reach their maximum potential through guidance and camaraderie, so our mentorship program is the core of our support system. Our ultimate goal is an inclusive industry, not only for women who are cut-throat and ruthless, but also for those who have diverse qualities that journalism needs today."

Our mentorship program is designed to address specific challenges that individual women face. CFWIJ spoke to 120 women journalists, including editors and reporters in 12 countries, about their experiences working in the field. Some key challenges they report include discrimination, sexual harassment and security threats in the course of their work. These issues lead to greater difficulties in achieving success, a problem that the Coalition is trying to tackle through our work.

"The safety and liberty of women journalists is our utmost priority, but we also believe that when female reporters are encouraged and nurtured, their work will improve and so will the quality of news consumed by the general public," says Sulome Anderson, the CFWIJ advocacy director. "This is incredibly important at a time when press freedom is under threat while quality journalism suffers due to changes in the media industry."

Mentorships are offered to applicants based on personal or professional need. The Coalition particularly emphasizes addressing trauma and offering counseling for journalists who are struggling to recover from the stresses of their work. Through both limited and long-term mentorships, the CFWIJ builds one-on-one relationships between leading women journalists who are part of the Coalition's team and fellows who apply for the program.

Our core members include top journalists from around the world, such as Jodi Kantor, who broke the story that implicated Harvey Weinstein and sparked the #MeToo campaign, as well as other award-winning reporters who are changing the role of women journalists in the industry. These include Asma Shirazi from Pakistan, Ece Temelkuran from Turkey, Neha Dixit from India, long-time war correspondent Janine DiGiovanni and Kathy Gannon, the AP correspondent for Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The Coalition for Women In Journalism also has a #HeForShe element, which involves male colleagues who help with different aspects of our work. These allies include Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists and sincere supporters such as Nick Kristof and David Rohde, who have been instrumental in our success. CFWIJ has also recently been gifted with seed funding by Craig Newmark Philanthropies, which we are extremely grateful for-but more is needed. This podcast explains more about what we are trying to accomplish. We would greatly appreciate your help in creating a better future for women journalists and by extension, the industry at large.

Click [here](#) for a link to the site.

Connecting mailbox

I am now writing a column

Dan Perry (Email) - Basically I have known the founder of Times of Israel, David Horovitz, for decades, since we both worked at the Jerusalem Post. He founded this site about seven years ago and with record speed it has left [haaretz.com](#) and [jpost.com](#) in the dust with about 10M monthly page views. I also onboarded them as an AP client since their inception. I now have a business job but certainly I miss content creation and they agreed to give me a blog/column (all non-staff are considered 'blogs' but my pieces end up being featured in the opinion section. It is quite invigorated to be freed of the AP shackles on opinion.

Click [here](#) for the first column and click [here](#) for the second one.

The London one was written from London, where I am on business. Another one coming soon on the foreign media, and on US domestic politics.

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Danger in packing too much into a lede

Henry Bradsher (Email) - On November 21, The NY Times published this item:

MOSCOW - The head of Russia's military intelligence agency, who oversaw the hacking of the Democratic Party's computers during the United States' 2016 presidential election, died on Wednesday after a long illness, Russian state news agencies reported.

I sent them a note, signed only "An old journalist" because my son Keith is their Shanghai bureau chief and is embarrassed if I try to correct or contradict his

editors. The note suggested that the state news agencies did not report that he had overseen the hacking. They have not published a correction or clarification.

But it is an unfortunately common practice among journalists to try to pack too much into a lede whether it fits or not. There are easy ways around this kind of mistake, getting the same punch into a lede without attributing things incorrectly.

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Wearing sporty socks in honor of 41



Ed Williams ([Email](#)) - Awesome coverage in Connecting on Tuesday of all the President George H.W. Bush tributes.

I am wearing my sporty socks today (Wednesday) to honor 41.

More memories of your worst shifts

Working eight days straight

Emile Conrad ([Email](#)) - Here's My Worst, and Seemingly Never-ending, Shift

As a new tech in NYC, when it came to bidding for hours, I was at the bottom of the list and got whatever shift was left when all of the more senior techs had their pick. I had been working the 4pm-12am shift with Monday and Tuesday off. For my new shift I would be working the 12:30am - 8am shift with Thursday and Friday off.

The week prior to the change I worked my normal Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, getting off at 12am. I then turned the shift over to myself and worked the 12:30am - 8am Sunday shift followed by Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. All told I worked 8 days straight, including a double, all at straight pay! The only saving grace was that it wasn't the start of Daylight Savings time which would have added an additional hour to an already long week.

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An icy Cotton Bowl memory featuring Joe Montana

Greg Thompson ([Email](#)) - My worst "shift" at the AP was the historic January 1, 1979, Cotton Bowl - known as the Chicken Soup Game -- when the legend of Joe Montana was born. It was one of the best stories I ever covered, but it was a great story largely because of the horrible weather conditions we all had to endure.

I'll set the stage: I was the newly minted correspondent in San Antonio in late 1978, but was working out of the Dallas bureau during the holidays because of the untimely death of my father by a drunk driver just before Thanksgiving. So my life was pretty miserable to begin with, even before I got the assignment. I volunteered to help out at the Cotton Bowl game between the University of Houston and Notre Dame. Being the junior member of the team and given that the press box in the ancient Cotton Bowl stadium was tiny, I drew sideline duty and the assignment to write the story from the winning locker room.

The day before the game, an historic ice storm - the worst in decades -- hit the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Power was out, trees were down and most major roads were covered (and closed) by inches of solid ice. My car was parked outside and I had more than three inches of solid ice covering it. Ice was alien to native Texans

like me. But kickoff of the nationally televised game was 1 p.m. and I had to be there.

At 6 a.m. I started trying to pour hot water on the car to somehow get the door open. By 7 a.m. I started the car and scraped and ran the heater and defroster for another hour. Then it took me a harrowing two hours to drive the mere 15 miles from my mother's house to the Cotton Bowl. The gametime temperature was 15 degrees, the wind was 30 mph and the wind chill was below zero. I had scavenged every bit of winter clothing from my late father's closet.

By the fourth quarter, Houston had a seemingly insurmountable 34-12 lead and flustered Notre Dame quarterback Joe Montana was in the locker room with a body temperature of 96 and severe hypothermia. We found out later that the Notre Dame medical staff wrapped him in blankets and fed him hot chicken bouillon in a bid to raise his core temperature. Everybody thought Montana was done for the day.

I've never admitted this publicly, but I was so cold and Houston was so far ahead, I sought shelter in the Houston locker room to await the winners and began crafting my article. I was keeping an eye on the game and then I heard the cheers from the crowd as Montana re-entered the game with 7 minutes left. I figured I better get back out there and was standing a few feet away when Montana and Notre Dame scored as time expired to win the game 35-34.

Top 25 News Photos of 2018



Students rally in front of the White House in Washington, D.C., on March 14,

2018. Students walked out of school to protest gun violence in response to the previous month's massacre of 17 people at Florida's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Carolyn Kaster / AP



Cindy McCain, the wife of the late Senator John McCain, lays her head on his casket during a memorial service at the Arizona Capitol on August 29, 2018, in Phoenix. Senator McCain passed away at his home in Cornville, Arizona, at the age of 81. Ross D. Franklin / AP

By ALAN TAYLOR, The Atlantic

We near the end of another eventful year. Wildfires raged across California, the Trump administration's "zero tolerance" policy toward immigrants led to family separations, relations between North and South Korea eased a bit, a horrific school shooting in Florida touched off a nationwide gun-control protest and debate, France won the World Cup in Moscow, Britain's Prince Harry wed Meghan Markle, the U.S. held a historic midterm election, and so much more. Here, we present the Top 25 News Photos of 2018. Be sure to come back soon for a more comprehensive series, beginning tomorrow-2018: The Year in Photos, Part 1, Part 2, and Part 3.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady. Connecting includes above the two AP photos among the group.

Top AP photos from President Bush's funeral

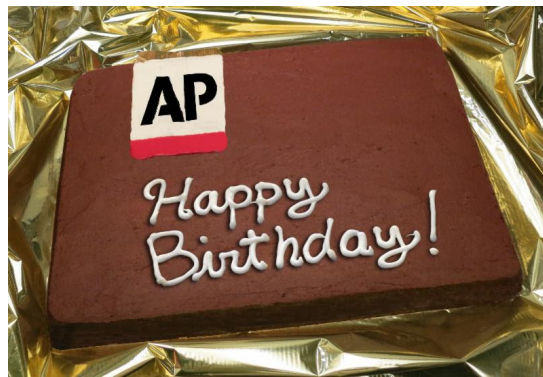


The casket of former President George H.W. Bush is carried out of the National Cathedral by a military honor guard on Wednesday. | Andrew Harnik/Pool via AP Photo



President Donald Trump, first lady Melania Trump, former President Barack Obama, Michelle Obama, former President Bill Clinton and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton are seated during George H.W. Bush's funeral. | Alex Brandon/AP Photo

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Richard Drew - rdrew@ap.org

Dennis Lawler - dmlawler@cox.net

Stories of interest

Digital-media bubble is bursting. That's hurting generation of promising young journalists.

(Washington Post)

By **MARGARET SULLIVAN**

About five years ago, I was asked to visit the newsroom at Mic, a digital-media start-up backed by venture capital and focused on news for the millennial audience.

As the public editor of The New York Times, I suppose I was seen as an expert in traditional journalism ethics - especially through the eyes of Mic's reporters and editors, mostly in their 20s, and many in their first jobs out of school. And because I was active on Twitter and writing a frequent blog, perhaps I looked like I knew how to build a bridge from old-school newspapering to the digital-first present.

I remember how smart, engaged and hopeful the Mic staffers were as we talked, in their Lower Manhattan newsroom, about topics such as conflict of interest, objectivity vs. fairness, and possible career paths.

Could this exciting venture - then only two or three years old - thrive long into the future? Could these young journalists build their lives and careers on it?

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

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Mapping the future of local news, together

(Poynter)

By **KRISTEN HARE**

If you try to keep up with excellent local journalism, last week probably made that tough. There was a lot of excellent local journalism.

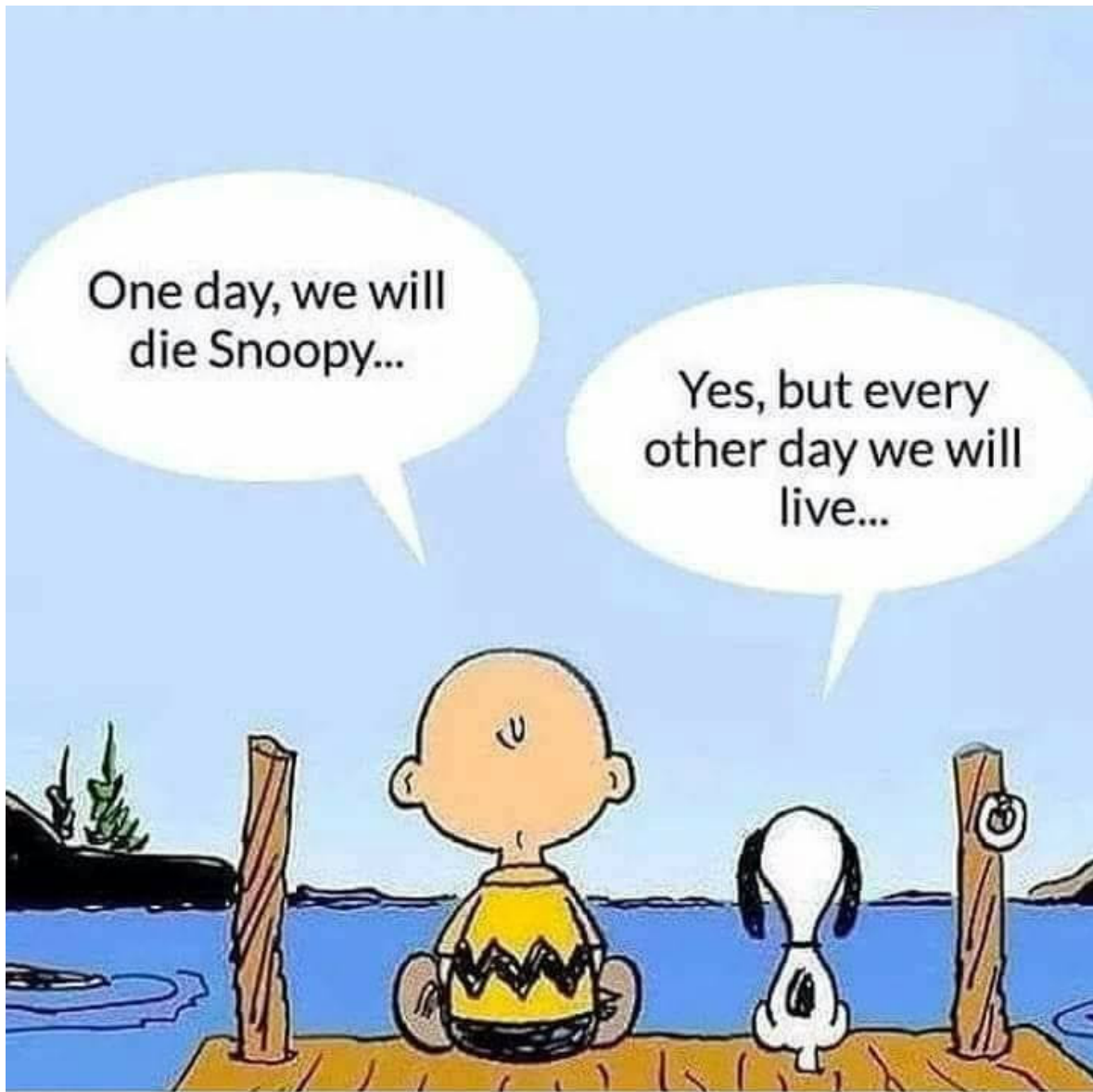
Earlier this year, we spent a whole month focusing on small newsrooms and how they did big work.

This week, as the year-end creeps closer, I wanted to take a minute to make sure you didn't miss last week's buffet of powerful local work. I'm sure I'm missing something, so please reply and let me know. Here's what kept this reporter busy:

From the Miami Herald: "Perversion of Justice" offered a look into the people in power who kept a wealthy Florida man from serving major time. "...We lifted the sewer lid off of something that was really unseen and behind the scenes and truly wasn't told until now," the project's editor told Poynter.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word



Today in History - December 6, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 6, the 340th day of 2018. There are 25 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Dec. 6, 1907, the worst mining disaster in U.S. history occurred as 362 men and boys died in a coal mine explosion in Monongah, West Virginia.

On this date:

In 1790, Congress moved to Philadelphia from New York.

In 1865, the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, abolishing slavery, was ratified as Georgia became the 27th state to endorse it.

In 1884, Army engineers completed construction of the Washington Monument by setting an aluminum capstone atop the obelisk.

In 1917, some 2,000 people were killed when an explosives-laden French cargo ship, the Mont Blanc, collided with the Norwegian vessel Imo at the harbor in Halifax, Nova Scotia, setting off a blast that devastated the Canadian city. Finland declared its independence from Russia.

In 1923, a presidential address was broadcast on radio for the first time as President Coolidge spoke to a joint session of Congress.

In 1947, Everglades National Park in Florida was dedicated by President Harry S. Truman.

In 1957, America's first attempt at putting a satellite into orbit failed as Vanguard TV3 rose about four feet off a Cape Canaveral launch pad before crashing down and exploding.

In 1973, House minority leader Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as vice president, succeeding Spiro T. Agnew.

In 1982, 11 soldiers and six civilians were killed when an Irish National Liberation Army bomb exploded at a pub in Ballykelly, Northern Ireland.

In 1989, 14 women were shot to death at the University of Montreal's school of engineering by a man who then took his own life.

In 1998, in Venezuela, former Lt. Col. Hugo Chavez (OO'-goh CHAH'-vez), who had staged a bloody coup attempt against the government six years earlier, was elected president.

In 2001, The House of Representatives, by a one-vote margin, gave President George W. Bush more power to negotiate global trade deals. President Bush dedicated the national Christmas tree to those who had died on Sept. 11 and to service members who had died in the line of duty.

Ten years ago: President-elect Barack Obama said in a Saturday radio and Internet address that he'd asked his economic team for a recovery plan that would save or create more than 2 million jobs. Indicted Democratic U.S. Rep. William Jefferson was ousted from his New Orleans area district in a special election won by Republican attorney Anh "Joseph" Cao, who became the first Vietnamese-American in Congress. Heiress Martha "Sunny" von Bulow, who'd spent the last 28 years of her life in a coma, died in New York City at age 76.

Five years ago: A day after Nelson Mandela's death at 95, South Africans of all colors erupted in song, dance and tears in emotional celebrations of the life of the man who had bridged the country's black-white divide and helped avert a race war. The Fender Stratocaster that Bob Dylan played at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival was sold at Christie's for nearly \$1 million - the highest price ever paid for a guitar at auction.

One year ago: President Donald Trump declared Jerusalem to be Israel's capital, defying warnings from the Palestinians and others around the world that he would be destroying hopes for Mideast peace. Time magazine named as its Person of the Year the "Silence Breakers" - those who had shared their stories about sexual assault and harassment. A wildfire erupted in the exclusive Bel-Air section of Los Angeles, the latest neighborhood of Southern California to find itself under siege from an outbreak of wind-driven blazes. Russian President Vladimir Putin announced that he would seek re-election, putting him on track to become Russia's longest-serving ruler since Soviet dictator Josef Stalin.

Today's Birthdays: Comedy performer David Ossman is 82. Actor Patrick Bauchau is 80. Country singer Helen Cornelius is 77. Actor James Naughton is 73. Former

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood is 73. Rhythm-and-blues singer Frankie Beverly (Maze) is 72. Former Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., is 70. Actress JoBeth Williams is 70. Actor Tom Hulce is 65. Actor Wil Shriner is 65. Actor Kin Shriner is 65. Actor Miles Chapin is 64. Rock musician Rick Buckler (The Jam) is 63. Comedian Steven Wright is 63. Country singer Bill Lloyd is 63. Singer Tish Hinojosa is 63. Rock musician Peter Buck (R.E.M.) is 62. Rock musician David Lovering (Pixies) is 57. Actress Janine Turner is 56. Rock musician Ben Watt (Everything But The Girl) is 56. Writer-director Judd Apatow is 51. Rock musician Ulf "Buddha" Ekberg (Ace of Base) is 48. Writer-director Craig Brewer is 47. Actress Colleen Haskell is 42. Actress Lindsay Price is 42. Actress Ashley Madekwe is 37. Actress Nora Kirkpatrick is 34. Christian rock musician Jacob Chesnut (Rush of Fools) is 29. Tennis player CoCo Vandeweghe is 27. Football quarterback Johnny Manziel is 26.

Thought for Today: "Disconnecting from change does not recapture the past. It loses the future." - Kathleen Norris, American author (1880-1960).

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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