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## Connecting - June 12, 2019

1 message

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Wed, Jun 12, 2019 at 8:52 AM

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# Connecting

June 12, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019,

**What got you into journalism? And what's different now?**

Those questions were posed to our Connecting colleague **Jim Spehar** at a coffee shop in Grand Junction, Colorado, his hometown, and they became fodder for a thoughtful column in the Daily Sentinel, where the former AP broadcast editor and broadcast executive works as a columnist.

We lead today's issue with his column and invite your thoughts on what he had to say.

Have a great day!

Paul

## Why journalism?

**JIM SPEHAR**  
**Grand Junction Daily Sentinel**

When the digits in your age include a seven and that's just the first number, there are few surprises left. One came in an afternoon conversation at a downtown coffee shop last Tuesday. Two questions from a companion likely less than half my age prompted some unanticipated reflections.

"What got you into journalism?" was the first. That answer was easy. "It was the '60s," I replied. "That's what idealistic young people aspired to do."

My first forays, inspired by a family friend who graduated from Grand Junction High School with my uncle and later produced Emmy-winning television programs, also came at GJHS. Legendary journalism teachers Lillian Larson and Shirley Vitus were my first editors. Journalism and radio-TV classes a few blocks away at what was then Mesa Junior College were among the very few that earned me passing grades during a less-than-stellar freshman year. Love, not ambition, took me to Arizona State University, resulting in both a journalism degree and marriage. Radio, television, the Associated Press and now print became a career path with occasional detours outside those lines.



**JIM SPEHAR**

The '60s and '70s were a heady time to be a young reporter. Vietnam War escalation and protests, Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech, farm workers strikes, assassinations, covering Arizona and Colorado politics, Watergate ... all kept the juices flowing.

"What's different now?" was the second question. Last Tuesday, two possibilities came to mind.

"Things like right and wrong seemed more defined then," was my initial response, "There were few gray areas."

An aging memory recalls little middle ground in the debates about Vietnam and civil rights. Cesar Chavez and Delores Huerta mobilized not only field workers but, more telling, consumers in their battle for decent wages and working conditions for those planting and harvesting our food because the realities of child labor, substandard housing and being sprayed with pesticides were pretty black and white.

Police dogs, batons and fire hoses deployed at Selma, hangings and other killings - all brought into our living rooms nightly - showed us the horrors of segregation. Watching Americans die in jungles and rice paddies half a world away within hours of those battles, not weeks later in sanitized news reels, had a major impact on public opinion regarding Vietnam.

What's different today seems clear. Much of it stems from the way we get our news.

In the '60s and '70s, I was taught in J-school, radio news provided immediacy, television added pictures, newspapers provided depth and magazines gave us perspective.

Good luck finding any original reporting on local radio stations these days. Public radio is the closest approximation to the heavily staffed commercial radio news operations I started out in. Television has usurped the immediacy game with the ability to go live anytime from almost anywhere. Newspapers battle new competitive realities and only the very best navigate the digital landscape effectively. Most magazines that provided perspective are either history or shadows of their former selves.

Back then, we relied on trusted primary news sources like ABC, CBS and NBC. Walter Cronkite's reporting and commentary are credited by many as the beginning of the end of our involvement in Vietnam. We tuned into Chet Huntley and David Brinkley. The big three networks had daily reports from banks of correspondents around the globe. Major newspapers had national and overseas bureaus. AP and UPI competed fiercely.

Today, we all have our own set of facts and few make a concerted effort to gain information from sources outside their comfort zone. Pick your poison according to your own ideology. There's Fox News, CNN, and MSNBC honoring your choice on cable television. Info-wars, Breitbart and Drudge appeal to the "Dittoheads." Huffington Post, Daily Koz, and Politico to others.

Years ago I stood in the back of a Washington Hilton ballroom with a longtime friend who's also spent his lifetime in news, listening to Ted Turner outline his vision for CNN and wondering how he'd fill time on a round-the-clock channel. CNN made its bones with reporting, perhaps mostly notably involving two of our fellow AP alums, John Holliman and Peter Arnett, from a hotel room overlooking Baghdad during the Gulf War. Now it's cheaper and easier to fill time with paid talking heads who shout over one another while Chris Cuomo eggs them on.

That's what's different. We're poorer for that.

Jim Spehar's email is - [speharjim@gmail.com](mailto:speharjim@gmail.com)

## Connecting mailbox

### *His memoir may not resonate widely, but it sure does in Mayfield, Kentucky*

**Mark Huffman** ([Email](#)) - Norm Abelson's piece on memoirs (in Tuesday's Connecting) resonated with me. I published a memoir, "[Growing Up Mayfield](#)," in 2017. It covers my childhood, my years between ages 3 and 18.

Years earlier I discovered a nostalgia Facebook group for the small town in Kentucky where I grew up and realized that most of the members were like me, people who didn't live there anymore, but who continued to have a strong connection to it. The book was an outgrowth of some of my posts and a way to preserve some of these memories. What I have recently come to realize is that it is important to write these things down, especially in small communities where memories rarely last more than a generation or two.

By the way, the book was well received in my hometown and when I go back now, I get the rock star treatment. In truth, the book was written for that small audience and is filled with names and places that would mean very little, perhaps, to an outsider. I put the book on Amazon to make it easy to distribute and I guess I should have warned readers at large that if they had no connection to Mayfield, Ky., they probably shouldn't buy the book. A young woman from Washington, DC left a one-star review on Amazon, saying "Reads like a kid's diary, only more boring." Ouch! But I have to admit, a pretty good line.

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## ***In four decades in business, he never knew anyone as cool under pressure as Denne Freeman***

**Charles Richards** ([Email](#)) - It's great to hear that Denne Freeman has been recognized for his decades of excellence by being inducted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame.

He joins other legends - Blackie Sherrod, Mickey Herskowitz, Kern Tips, Verne Lundquist, Dan Jenkins, Frank Glieber, Brad Sham, Eric Nadel, Jack Dale, Randy Galloway ...

Denne was one of my earliest mentors after I moved from student journalism at Texas Tech to the big leagues.

I started out with UPI in Albuquerque in February 1964, then was transferred in December of that year to UPI Dallas, where I got the opportunity to cover college football and basketball, learning from Denne and from another young writer, Mike Rabun. There was a need for newsmen/sportswriters to help with college and pro sports.

Denne moved over to the AP in 1967 to UPI Dallas, where he succeeded Harold Ratliff as the Texas regional sports editor. I worked with him again from 1978 (when on Denne's recommendation, the AP hired me off the Dallas Times Herald metro desk) until Denne's retirement in 1999 after a stint of 31 years with the Associated Press.

If you are friends with Denne, you're friends both in the bureau and out on the golf course or bowling alley or living room poker game (which sometimes involved others of those sportswriter legends with whom he's now in the Texas Sports Hall of Fame).

Lots of great memories.

In four decades with newspapers and both wire services, I never knew anyone as cool under deadline pressure as Denne. He was an absolute pro under deadline pressure.

In press boxes everywhere, guys churn away for sometimes an hour or more, knocking out a story for their newspaper. Not Denne. He wrote and filed his football stories to the desk by early in the fourth quarter, as if the game were over -- then made any necessary changes in the end of the game drew near.

Generally, Denne's stories ran the way they were, unedited for the most part. Why mess with a work of art?

One Sunday afternoon, an editor thought Denne's Dallas Cowboys game story used "kick" too many times, so he changed some of those "kicks" to "punts."

Denne was not a happy camper to see his byline on a story that talked about players "punting" field goals and extra points.

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## ***Refute and rebut***

**Dick Lipsey (Email)** - I'm sure others have pointed this out already, but I'll join the chorus. It appears that AP fired one too many editors. In the Moscow-dated story Monday, "refuted" should be "rebutted," or (preferably) "denied," unless the writer is satisfied that the Russian police are more truthful in this instance than their history would suggest. The story's lead grafs:

*MOSCOW (AP) - A lawyer for a Russian journalist detained on charges of drug dealing has filed a complaint that accuses police of using violence against the prominent reporter, a human rights group said Sunday.*

*Police refuted claims that Ivan Golunov was beaten after his Thursday arrest; his lawyers said he may have suffered a concussion and rib fractures.*

Refute: to prove wrong by argument or evidence; show to be false or erroneous.

Rebut: to contradict or oppose by formal legal argument, plea, or countervailing proof

Each of these words has a secondary meaning that amounts to the primary definition of the other, but for clarity's sake, the basic distinction should be

maintained. It just gets too difficult to determine what the writer means, otherwise.

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## ***AP Photo of the Day***



**Protesters react to a cloud of tear gas on Wednesday, June 12, in Hong Kong, where protesters blocked entry to the government headquarters, delaying a legislative session on a controversial proposed extradition bill. | Kin Cheung/AP Photo**

## ***Memories of past communications problems while getting out the news***

**Henry Bradsher** ([Email](#)) - The interesting article by Amanda Darrach from CJR with a link in the June 5 Connecting evokes memories of past communications problems.

From South Asia in the late 1950s and early '60s, the only way we could file was by cable to AP London (at the Commonwealth rate of a penny a word). Except that in

September 1959, when I was covering a nasty strike in Calcutta, Noel Barber of the London Daily Mail blew into town late. We had known each other while reporting earlier on the Dalai Lama, when he faked stories as part of his paper's normal catering to London subway riders with "I was there" accounts. He ran into me in the Calcutta cable office and asked for an update. I told him about a strikers' attack on a police station two days earlier in which a policeman, caught outside, was beheaded. Not having yet checked into a hotel, he asked to use my hotel phone across the street, reversing charges. I told him phones didn't work from India to London, but, surprisingly, he got through. As I watched, amazed, he asked for dictation in best B-movie style and began, "By Noel Barber Calcutta fullstop I turned a corner in the ghastly Howrah slum and stumbled on the still-bleeding head of a policeman as the howling mob receded down the littered street fullstop." Without notes, he dictated more personalized details of the days-earlier attack on the police station, including some colorful points that I had not told him, had never heard, and doubted were true. (He was later fired by an embarrassed Daily Mail after a British television program publicized an account from The Atlantic of his Dalai Lama fabrications.)

The 1960, China's prime minister, Chou En-Lai (now spelled Zhou Enlai), came to India to try to resolve a border dispute with Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. They failed. After Chou went to Nepal, Nehru in parliament blamed Chou in tough terms. At a news conference in Kathmandu, Chou responded by accusing Nehru of lying about their talks. We journalists all rushed by an illegal route to the only cable office, in the Indian embassy as part of the Indian telegraph system inherited from the British. I filed at the international urgent rate (some 10 cents a word, as best I remember), while the Indian correspondents filed at the domestic flash rate. The telegraph people who knew the Indians sent their stuff, but - I found out later - being overwhelmed, they bundled my copy up for a flight the next morning to a Calcutta telegraph office. On checking later in Delhi, I confirmed that international urgent and domestic flash are supposed to have equal priority, but that did no good by then.

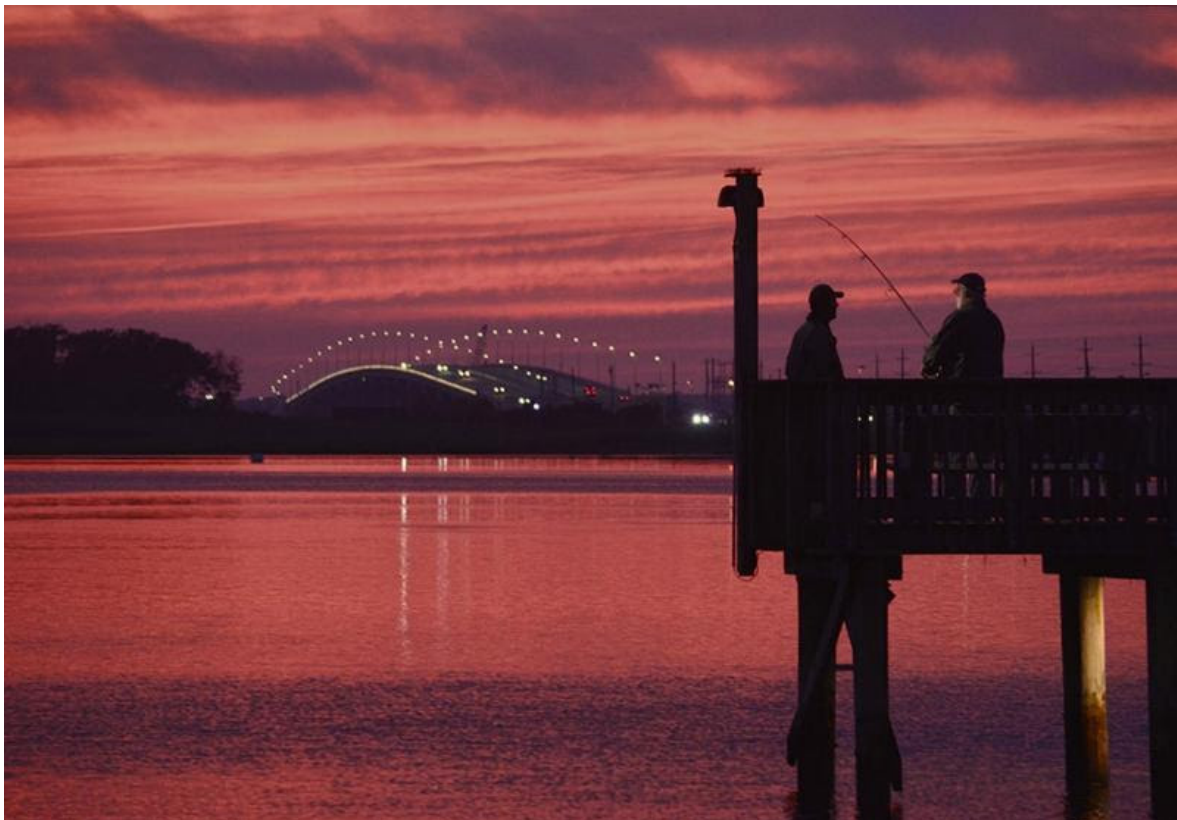
When the Sino-Indian border dispute exploded into war on Oct. 20, 1962, press cable traffic from Delhi to London became backlogged. As I reported in a piece on voicecasts in Connecting on July 31, 2017, I dictated some stories to AP London on radio connections that had to be booked in advance, avoiding the jam. Unprepared and ill-equipped Indian troops, led by unqualified officers, were being severely defeated by the Chinese. Politicians and media demanded the ousting of the acerbic defense minister, V. K. Krishna Menon, for having politicized the military, denying it resources and putting incompetent lackeys in command positions. On October 31, an hour or so after everyone had filed news from the day's war briefing, jamming the London circuits, the government announced that Krishna Menon had resigned. Grabbing my typewriter, I rushed down to the telegraph office and began filing. Ere long, a messenger from my bureau brought me a rocket from London: Tass was reporting Krishna Menon's resignation - how (?). Incoming lines were open, but outgoing ones with my file to London were far backed up, while the line to Moscow was seldom used. For a while after that, I began duplicating war stories to AP Moscow and Tokyo, asking them to forward to New York, but it was never clear to me whether that made any difference.

Starting in Montgomery, Alabama, when covering Martin Luther King Jr.'s bus boycott in 1956, I learned to punch teletype tape slightly faster than the 60-words-a-



minute transmission rate. This was needed later in Moscow when my bureau seldom had a teletype operator. Sometimes rushing in from a major news event, I wrote my stories directly into tape - which in terms of composition was about the same as dictating a story on the phone. But later while reporting on the Vietnam war (after I had left AP to become a special), my teletype experience became particularly useful. In times of heavy news, the little Telex office in Saigon for specials would back up as the one operator stacked up copy from correspondents who did not know how to punch tape. But I would use one of his idle machines to punch my own copy and Telex it ahead of the queue.

## A photographer in search of sunsets



**Fishermen tend to their lines at sunset from the bayside fishing pier in Ship Bottom, N.J., on Long Beach Island Friday, June 7, 2019. In the background, cars stream across the newly completed causeway bridge from the mainland.**

**Brian Horton** ([Email](#)) - We live on a barrier island off the coast of New Jersey so the sun sets over the bay that separates us from the mainland. The island is 18 miles long and three blocks or so wide in most places so there are lots of places to go for the sunset.

We have our favorite spots but try to mix it up and not go back to the same places over and over in a short time span. Depending on the time of the year and the path

of the sun, some spots are great in the summer and not so good in the winter because of the physical setup of the island.

For instance, on the street we live on, we have a great view of the sunset from mid-spring through the fall, but bay front houses block our view in the winter months.

This past week was an especially good week for sunsets and my wife, Marilyn Dillon, and I went out each evening. A couple of times, it was real cloudy with storms on the mainland right up to the last minute, then cleared in time for the sunset.

Friday night was one of those that looked like a bust but then got better. We went to one of our favorite spots and made some pictures, then peeled off after sunset appeared to be falling off to run by the CVS to pick up a prescription. When I came out of the store, I looked up and the whole sky was a deep red. Gorgeous. Jumped back in the car and went to a nearby spot and ended up making the picture of the guys on the fishing pier against the lit-up sky. A bonus was that the angle also showed the new bridge to the island all lit up.



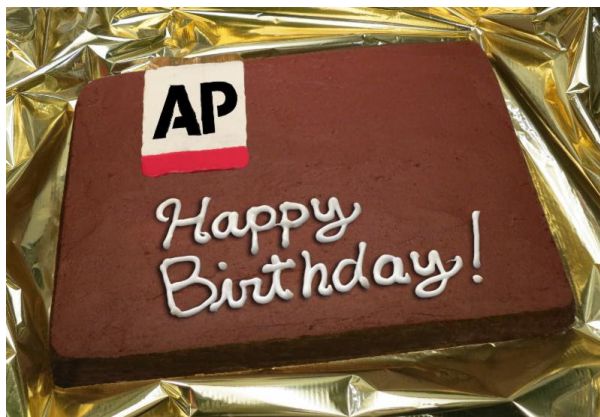
**A small American flag, left struck in the sand by daytime visitors on the Ship Bottom bay beach, stands sentinel as the sun sets on Long Beach Island, NJ, Tuesday, June 4, 2019. In the distance, a gull patrols over the Barnegat Bay waters looking for dinner.**

I guess it is my photojournalism training, but I look for people or something to peg the photo and caption to instead of just a wide-angle view of the sky.

I post a lot of the photos to my Facebook page and share them, too, with pages devoted to the Long Beach Island community. I enjoy getting the feedback and have several friends scattered around the country who check in each evening to see what I have posted. That makes it lots of fun.

I owe special thanks to Marilyn for putting up with me wandering off for "one more picture" when we are on our nightly rounds. She is patience personified!

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Mort Rosenblum - [mort.rosenblum@gmail.com](mailto:mort.rosenblum@gmail.com)

Ed Staats - [edstaats@bellsouth.net](mailto:edstaats@bellsouth.net)

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## Stories of interest

***Our culture needed an adult. Gayle King rose to the challenge.*** (Washington Post)



**Gayle King, host of "CBS This Morning," is having a moment - one that has been more than 20 years in the making. (Chris Sorensen/For The Washington Post)**

**By Robin Givhan**

NEW YORK - The reimagined "CBS This Morning" is in the middle of a commercial break as Gayle King clippety-clops through the show's green room doling out chipper hellos as she makes her way back to the set. She settles into the center seat between her two new colleagues. A giant yellow CBS "eye" looms over her shoulder like her own personal sun.

It's late May and the room's temperature is set to goose bumps. The crew is padding around in sneakers and utilitarian blah. Co-anchors Anthony Mason, 62, and Tony Dokoupil, 38, are a mash-up of baby-boomer Wall Street grays and rep stripes with a millennial skinny tie and Vince sneakers. King, 64, is the light, the energy, the heat. Her stilettos look as though they have been dipped in confetti. Her dress is cobalt blue. Caramel-colored streaks meander through her brown bob. The heart-shaped diamond necklace that twinkles in her décolletage is just large enough to make you wonder: Is that real? Yes, it is.

Getting to this moment has been a slow, steady build that suddenly lurched into overdrive. It's been powered by upheaval at the network's news division, by King's interview with R. Kelly - which was Shakespearean in its drama and pathos - and by King's basic-common-sense public persona.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***America's media in decline, infighting for ratings and ad dollars*** (Boomer Cafe)

If we baby boomers have seen the world turn better in countless ways, we also have seen it turn worse. And from the standpoint of all the information that bombards us today about how the world works, one of the most disheartening examples of "worse" is the state of the news media. In this Boomer Opinion piece, BoomerCafé's co-founder and publisher David Henderson, himself an award-winning former correspondent for CBS News, says the media today is not a pretty picture.

We are in an era when many of us are concerned about freedom of the press- the news media. Freedom of the press is not only legally protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, it is a pillar of life and society that has distinguished America from many other places in the world.

Yet the press has been in steady decline in recent years, driven not only by the current administration in the White House, as some might conclude, but largely by technology, and by business pressures to make more money. Underlying it all is a push that just didn't exist until recent years: to monetize news to the max.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Lindel Hutson.

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## ***Russian journalist freed after police abruptly drop charges***

By **NATALIYA VASILYEVA** and **FRANCESCA EBEL**

MOSCOW (AP) - In a stunning turnaround, Russian authorities Tuesday abruptly dropped all charges against a prominent investigative reporter after a public and media outcry over his arrest, and they promised to go after the police who allegedly tried to frame him as a drug dealer.

The release of Ivan Golunov marked an extremely rare case of security officials admitting a mistake. It also highlighted the difficulties that Russian journalists routinely face when reporting on sensitive topics like graft, corruption and President Vladimir Putin's personal life.

The 36-year-old Golunov was stopped Thursday by police on a Moscow street and taken into custody, where his defense team said he was beaten and denied a lawyer for more than 12 hours. The journalist, who works for the independent website Meduza, had been facing drug charges that could put him in prison for up to 20 years.

Read more [here](#).

## The Final Word

***Former Post-Dispatch editor: Joseph Pulitzer set the template for American newspapers*** (Gateway Journalism Review)

The story of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch is embodied in the ideals of the man who founded it in 1878, said Richard H. Weiss, a former editor at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Weiss introduced a new documentary on Joseph Pulitzer on June 6 at the St. Louis Jewish Film Festival. Known as the "Pulitzer Platform," the ideals of the first Joseph Pulitzer, who purchased the bankrupt St. Louis Dispatch at a public auction and merged it with the St. Louis Evening Post, set the Post-Dispatch apart from other news organizations, Weiss said. The platform concluded: "never be satisfied with merely printing news, always be drastically independent, never be afraid to attack wrong, whether by predatory plutocracy or predatory



**Joseph Pulitzer**

poverty." Weiss, in explaining what the platform came to mean to him over 30 years in the Post-Dispatch newsroom, cited the down-to-earth words of former managing editor Dick Weil who said, "We are a lot like hockey players. We are ever willing to go into the corners, take our licks, get our noses bloodied and our teeth broken, all for the sake of getting the story." Here are Weiss' full remarks at the film festival:

Despite my grizzled appearance, I want to assure you that I did not know the first Joseph Pulitzer. He died in 1911, just before my time.

And yet I knew him.

And I didn't know the second Joseph Pulitzer. He died in 1955, when I was four years old.

And yet I knew him.

I did know the third Joseph Pulitzer, who died in 1993. By then, I had been at the Post-Dispatch 18 years. Still, we were not exactly pals. Never did lunch.

And yet I knew him very well.

I want to tell you how I knew all these men.

Read more [here](#).

## Today in History - June 12, 2019



## By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, June 12, the 163rd day of 2019. There are 202 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On June 12, 2016, an American-born Muslim opened fire at the Pulse nightclub, a gay establishment in Orlando, Florida, leaving 49 people dead and 53 wounded before being shot dead by police.

### On this date:

In 1665, England installed a municipal government in New York, formerly the Dutch settlement of New Amsterdam, and appointed its first mayor, Thomas Willett.

In 1776, Virginia's colonial legislature adopted a Declaration of Rights.

In 1939, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum was dedicated in Cooperstown, New York.

In 1942, Anne Frank, a German-born Jewish girl living in Amsterdam, received a diary for her 13th birthday, less than a month before she and her family went into hiding from the Nazis.

In 1963, civil rights leader Medgar Evers, 37, was shot and killed outside his home in Jackson, Mississippi. (In 1994, Byron De La Beckwith was convicted of murdering Evers and sentenced to life in prison; he died in 2001.)

In 1964, South African black nationalist Nelson Mandela was sentenced to life in prison along with seven other people, including Walter Sisulu, for committing sabotage against the



apartheid regime (all were eventually released, Mandela in 1990).

In 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Loving v. Virginia*, unanimously struck down state laws prohibiting interracial marriages.

In 1978, David Berkowitz was sentenced to 25 years to life in prison for each of the six "Son of Sam" .44-caliber killings that terrified New Yorkers.

In 1981, major league baseball players began a 49-day strike over the issue of free-agent compensation. (The season did not resume until Aug. 10.) "Raiders of the Lost Ark," directed by Steven Spielberg and starring Harrison Ford as Indiana Jones, was first released.

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan, during a visit to the divided German city of Berlin, exhorted Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev to "tear down this wall."

In 1994, Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman were slashed to death outside her Los Angeles home. (O.J. Simpson was later acquitted of the killings in a criminal trial, but was eventually held liable in a civil action.) Boeing's new 777 jetliner went on its first test flight.

In 2004, former President Ronald Reagan's body was sealed inside a tomb at his presidential library in Simi Valley, California, following a week of mourning and remembrance by world leaders and regular Americans.

Ten years ago: U.S. television stations ended analog broadcasts in favor of digital transmission. Congress approved legislation banning "light" or candy-flavored cigarettes and requiring tobacco companies to make bigger warning labels and run fewer ads. The U.N. Security Council imposed sanctions on North Korea for its second nuclear test. The Pittsburgh Penguins defeated the Detroit Red Wings 2-1 to win the Stanley Cup in Game 7.

Five years ago: During a tightly controlled tour of a converted warehouse at Port Hueneme, California, a government official said the number of migrant children housed at the facility after they were caught entering the country illegally could more than triple to 575 by the following week. The World Cup opened in Brazil with the home team beating Croatia, 3-1, after a funky opening ceremony featuring Jennifer Lopez and dancers dressed as trees.

One year ago: After a five-hour summit in Singapore, President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un signed a joint statement agreeing to work toward a denuclearized Korean Peninsula, although the timeline and tactics were left unclear; Trump declared that he and Kim had developed "a very special bond." Republican Rep. Mark Sanford, a vocal critic of Donald Trump, lost his South Carolina congressional seat in a primary, hours after Trump tweeted that Sanford was "very unhelpful" and "nothing but trouble." Throngs of Golden State Warriors fans turned out for a second straight year to honor the NBA champions in a parade in downtown Oakland, California; in Washington, DC, the Stanley Cup champion Capitals were cheered by fans along Constitution Ave.

Today's Birthdays: Songwriter Richard M. Sherman is 91. Jazz musician Chick Corea is 78. Sportscaster Marv Albert is 78. Singer Roy Harper is 78. Pop singer Len Barry is 77. Actor Roger Aaron Brown is 70. Actress Sonia Manzano is 69. Rock musician Bun E. Carlos (Cheap Trick) is 68. Country singer-musician Junior Brown is 67. Singer-songwriter Rocky Burnette is 66. Actor Timothy Busfield is 62. Singer Meredith Brooks is 61. Actress Jenilee Harrison is 61. Rock musician John Linnell (They Might Be Giants) is 60. Actor John Enos is 57. Rapper Grandmaster Dee (Whodini) is 57. Actor Paul Schulze is 57. Actor Eamonn Walker is 57. Actress Paula Marshall is 55. Actress Frances O'Connor is 52. Rock musician Bardi Martin is 50. Actor Rick Hoffman is 49. Actor-comedian Finesse Mitchell is 47. Actor Mel Rodriguez is 46. Actor Jason Mewes is 45. Actor Michael Muhney is 44. Blues musician Kenny Wayne Shepherd is 42. Actor Timothy Simons is 41. Actor Wil Horneff is 40. Singer Robyn is 40. Rock singer-musician John Gourley (Portugal. The Man) is 38. Actor Dave Franco is 34. Country singer Chris Young is 34. Actor Luke Youngblood is 33. Actor Ryan Malgarini is 27.

**Thought for Today: "Adventure is not outside man; it is within." - George Eliot, English novelist (1819-1880).**

## Connecting calendar



**June 20** - 25-Year Club Celebration, 5:30 - 8 p.m., AP headquarters, 200 Liberty Street, New York, NY. RSVP online [here](#). Any questions may be directed to [recognition@ap.org](mailto:recognition@ap.org)

**August 17** - Albany AP bureau reunion (including other upstate bureaus), 1-5 p.m., Marc and Carla Humbert residence on Tsatsawassa Lake, [68 Marginal Way, East Nassau, NY](#). Contact: Chris McKnight ([Email](#)).

## 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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