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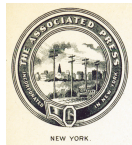
Connecting - June 14, 2019

1 message

Paul Stevens <paulstevens46@gmail.com>
Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com
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Fri, Jun 14, 2019 at 8:42 AM

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Connecting

June 14, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 14th day of June 2019,

We lead today's issue with news of a scholarship awarded in the name of our late colleague **Jon Wolman**.

It occurred Thursday in Detroit when the late Detroit News editor and publisher - and former AP executive editor and Washington bureau chief - was honored during the Rosa Parks Scholarship Foundation luncheon at Wayne State University. Wolman died in April at the age of 68.

Wolman had a nearly 31-year career with AP, starting in 1973 as a reporter in Madison, Wis., before moving to the Washington bureau two years later. He spent nearly a decade as Washington bureau chief and moved to New York in 1998 to become AP's managing editor, and he was promoted to executive editor in 2000.



Jon Wolman

I hope you have a great weekend - and Happy Father's Day to the dads and grandpas among us,

Paul

Late Detroit News editor Wolman honored at Rosa Parks Scholarship ceremony



Maya Solomon of Cass Technical High School, left, hugs Deborah Lamm, widow of Detroit News editor and publisher Jon Wolman, as she receives the Jon Wolman scholarship on Thursday. (Photo: Max Ortiz, The Detroit News)

By Payne Lubbers, The Detroit News

The 2019 Rosa L. Parks Scholars pose for a group photo at their luncheon. (Photo: Max Ortiz, The Detroit News)

Detroit - The late Detroit News editor and publisher Jonathan Wolman was honored Thursday afternoon by the awarding of a scholarship in his name during the Rosa Parks Scholarship Foundation luncheon at Wayne State University.

Every year, the foundation presents \$2,000 scholarships bearing the name of Parks, the late civil rights activist and longtime Detroit resident, to Michigan high school

seniors. This year, an additional award was handed out in honor of Wolman, who died in April at age 68.

Kim Trent, president of the foundation, said she was grateful for Wolman's commitment to supporting the foundation and the scholarship.

"He was not a native Detroit, but he embedded himself into the fabric of southeast Michigan and made sure the paper he helmed also stayed connected to the community and served in meaningful ways," she said.

Wolman's widow, Deborah Lamm, presented the award to Maya Solomon, a recent graduate of Cass Technical High School. Lamm said her husband spoke highly of the young people he met in the Detroit community during his time at the paper.

"He was energized and humbled by the passions, and the dreams and the accomplishments often, as many of you know, against great odds," she said.

Wolman served as editor and publisher of The Detroit News for 12 years starting in 2007. He also was executive editor and Washington bureau chief of the Associated Press in a career that spanned more than four decades.

"He would've been honored and humbled to have been recognized here today," Lamm said. "The young people of Detroit represent the future, and we look forward to all they will accomplish."

Read more [here](#). Shared by Eva Parziale.

Connecting mailbox

End of my 35-year AP career came indirectly from VERP

Dave Lubeski ([Email](#)) - The VERP (AP's Voluntary Early Retirement Program) was the dominant topic of conversation in the Broadcast News Center 10 years ago. A close friend and colleague jumped on it. He was close to retirement and took advantage of the additional perks being offered. I was in the circle of eligibility, but

not interested... until they added the incentive of retiree health insurance benefits at the same rate as employees. Actual retirement wasn't really an option, though. If I took the VERP offer I'd have to have another job lined up. I updated my resume and started making some calls and got some interest from George Washington University.

That first interview at GW was just the beginning of the process. There were other people in other departments at the school who wanted to meet me, so other interviews were scheduled. Before I was through the entire process, the VERP offer had expired but by then I was interested in GW's interest in me and what began as a single interview in early summer eventually stretched into early autumn.

When it was announced that the goal of reducing the payroll by 10 percent with the VERP plan fell short, rumors circulated that there would be layoffs by Thanksgiving.

The first week of November as I was on my way to a late shift at AP, I got a phone call offering me the job at GW. I contacted HR at AP and volunteered to be one of the layoffs.

It ended my 35-year run with AP. The end coming indirectly as a result of VERP.

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Behold, The Oculus



Jim Gerberich (Email) - What about that light? The last rays of the setting sun illuminate the spires on one of my favorite subjects - The Oculus at the World Trade Center.

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Printer's ink in his blood at early age was literal

Charles Richards (Email) - How did I get into journalism? Well, that's easy - I got printer's ink in my blood at an early age.

Not figuratively, literally!

My dad - like his dad before him - was editor and publisher of a weekly newspaper in West Texas, and he had partitioned off space in the right front corner of his building for a beauty shop for my mother.

When I was about 2 years old, my mother left me in his care one quiet Saturday morning while she was fixing the hair of her customers.

While my dad was working on paperwork, I explored the office and climbed into the ink bed at the back of the printing press that my dad climbed onto each week to print his newspaper. The ink bed was eight feet long, two feet wide and six or eight inches deep. I'm sure it looked better than a sand box would have.

By the time my dad spotted me, I was covered in ink from head to toe and enjoying crawling around in the thick, black, gooey ink.

I worked in my dad's newspaper shop - first in Aspermont, Texas, and then in Anton, Texas -- growing up. By the time I was a junior in high school, I had grown pretty efficient as a typesetter on our Linotype, at a clip of a couple of galleys an hour.

So when I graduated from high school in 1959 and set off for nearby Texas Tech, I got a part-time job in the campus printing plant that published the student newspaper (at a whopping 85 cents an hour).

Operating another Linotype a few feet away from me was Ralph Carpenter, who also had grown up working in a weekly newspaper operation.

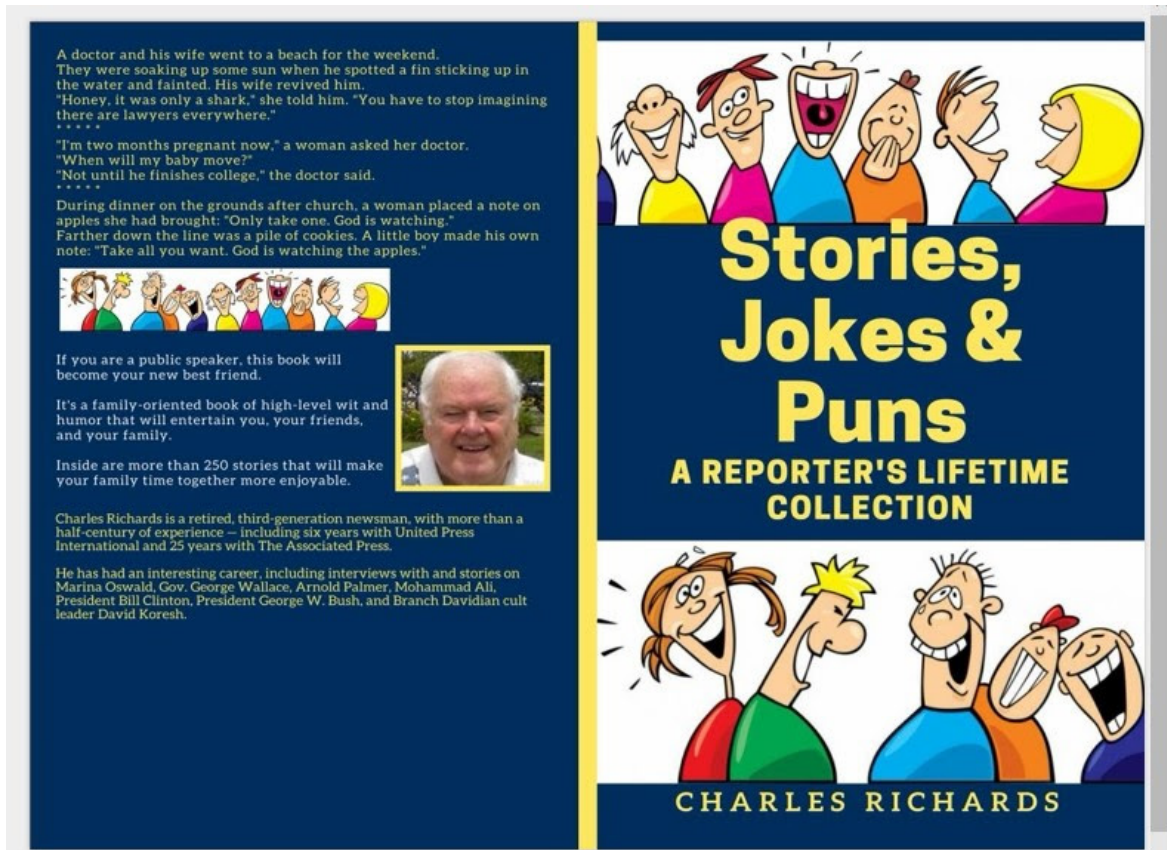
He was also the sports editor of the student newspaper, and when he heard I was involved in intramural basketball, he talked me into bringing back results of various intramural activities and write stories for the Toreador's sports section.

I became friends with various staffers of the paper in the process, and although I was majoring in math, I began taking journalism classes as well.

My sophomore year I was sports editor, my junior year I was managing editor, and my senior year I was editor-in-chief. In the summer of between my junior and senior years, I interned at the feisty Fort Worth Press, a Scripps-Howard tabloid - a great experience -- and never looked back.

I went from Texas Tech directly to UPI, beginning a career that continued for 40 years until retirement in 2003 after 25 years with the AP, with stints at the Amarillo Globe-News, the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal and the Dallas Times Herald.

Over those four decades, I tormented my newsroom colleagues with never-ending puns. I'm still at it, now on Facebook, where I have a couple thousand followers.



A couple of years ago, Amazon published my 100-page paperback (100% kid-friendly and family-friendly) - "Stories, Jokes & Puns - A Reporter's Lifetime Collection." (Available from [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))

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A visit with his father to Polo Grounds laid seed for journalism career

Hal Bock (Email) - I may have told this story before but it bears repeating given the question of how I chose journalism.

I was eight years old when I discovered the wonders of baseball. My father decided that this would be a good time to take me to my first game and we took a three-bus ride from our apartment in the Bronx to an oddly shaped ballpark in upper Manhattan called the Polo Grounds.

I was so excited when we walked in and I really didn't know where to look first. There were 55,000 seats, huge lights over the field, more grass than I had ever seen before. It was thrilling. I kept looking around, trying to take it all in when my eye caught a structure hanging off the second deck behind home plate. I asked my dad what that was.

“Oh, that's the press box,” he said. “That's where the writers sit.”

“The writers?” my eight-year old brain started racing. “They come here every day?”

“That's their job,” my father said. “They write about the games.”

“That's their job!!!”

And with that brief exchange, an ambition was born. I am one of those lucky people who got to live out their dream. And now, all these years later, a small-scale model of the Polo Grounds sits on my desk, a reminder of that moment when I decided to go into journalism.

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His family was immersed in World War II

John Epperson ([Email](#)) - It was remarkable to hear from our colleagues and friends around the country of their families remembrances and of the war correspondents in the D-Day event that turned the tide against the scourge of Nazi domination. Indeed the Axis enemies of the U.S.

As the son and daughter of WWII veterans, my wife and I have family connections everywhere in the conflict. My wife's father landed at Cherbourg a few weeks after June 6th. His 8th Armored Division fought across France, Belgium, into height of the

Bulge and on to Pilsen. One of my wife's uncles drowned in the South Pacific when crossing a river while serving in the Army in the Philippines. My father island-hopped across the South Pacific, Bora Bora, New Guinea and Luzon with the Army as a machine gunner. My family also had a cousin who was a radio operator on a Naval command vessel of some sort at Omaha Beach. He went ashore about a week later attached to a group of Army and Navy command personnel. One of dad's brothers fought in North Africa and his sister's son died at Anzio. Another of Dad's brothers trained Army Air Corps pilots in Texas.

You can see why we feel deeply about the war.

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H.L. Schwartz III, AP reporter during Watergate era, dies at 83

H. L. Schwartz III, who, as a reporter for The Associated Press in 1972 co-authored an exclusive story linking Richard Nixon's re-election committee to the Watergate break-in and, in doing so, helped launch one of the biggest scandals of the 20th Century, died on June 11, 2019, after a long illness. He was 83 years old. The cause of death was congestive heart failure.

When five burglars were arrested in the early hours of Saturday June 18, 1972 inside Washington's Watergate Hotel, which housed the Democratic National Committee headquarters, they all gave Hispanic names. There was no public hint initially that they were engaged in anything but a common burglary. However, acting on a tip Sunday morning June 19, Schwartz and Richard Barnes, another AP reporter who frequently teamed on stories, learned that one of the burglars had given the police as an alias the name James McCord.

Read more [here](#).

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My most unusual assignment: In a Little Rock strip club

Marc Wilson (Email) - Little Rock COB John Robert Starr took a phone call from a friend who owned a strip club.

Starr hung up the phone and bellowed (as was his SOP when he wanted to talk to staffers), "Wilson, come in here."

"Sit down," he said as I entered. "I have an assignment for you. A friend of mine has a new act coming to his club, and he thinks there might be a story in it."

"Yes, sir, what is it?"

"He's hired an exotic dancer who walks barefoot over hot coals while a boa constrictor is wrapped around her."

"What?"

Starr repeats himself and adds: "My friend says you can go over to his club and watch her rehearse this afternoon. You can walk there from here."

Not sure what to expect, I ended up at the club - in the basement of a ramshackle building in a seedy part of downtown Little Rock.

The club was filled with smoke - from the charcoal fire that had been lit for the act. Isn't that dangerous?

After getting directions from Starr's buddy, I found the undressing room, and the stripper, a bleach blonde in her 30s.

She needed a gimmick.

"Just a few minutes," she said. She pointed to a large boa constrictor resting on a couch near the stripper's makeup desk.

"Go ahead and pet him," she said. "He likes to be stroked. But he's a bit grouchy today because he doesn't like all the smoke. Also, he's nocturnal - so he's not happy being awake in the day. He'll be fine at night, especially if they can figure out how to vent the smoke."

"No thanks."

"Please. He'll feel more comfortable if you pet him. Just a bit. He doesn't bite."

Anything for the AP. So I stroke the snake a couple of times, and quickly back away.

Starr's buddy joins us.

"What do you think? Pretty sexy, huh?"

Not really, I think. Girl ain't pretty, snake scares the Hell out of me, and the smoking is making both the boa constrictor and me grouchy.

"Isn't unvented charcoal smoke dangerous?" I ask.

"We're working on venting. I'm leaving the door open."

The owner and I go into the club to act as the audience. Spotlights come on. Disco music begins. The stripper - with the boa constrictor wrapped around her - come out.

The coals are smoking. She puts a foot on what appear to be hot coals. Then a second foot. She races across the coals.

"Wow! Those are hot!" said the stripper, who was not.

I said my thanks, declined an offer to pet the snake again, and hurried back to the bureau.

"I don't think there's much of a story here - at least not one that members would want to publish," I tell Starr.

"That's fine," he answered. "I didn't promise my friend a story, just that I'd send a reporter over to his place."

New-member profile - Brian Burnes

Brian Burnes (Email) - I was born and reared in St. Louis. After graduating from the University of Missouri journalism school in 1976 I took jobs at suburban weeklies in Washington DC and Omaha before joining Star Magazine, the KC Star Sunday supplement, in 1978. I spent 38 years at the Star, working there in various roles through 2016. After Star Magazine I went to the Star's feature section, and then the Star's Independence bureau (part of the deal of covering the Truman Library as the Star's "history" reporter in 1993). I got a graduate journalism degree from Kansas in 1998 and ultimately went downtown as part of the Star's metro news staff, finishing up as a general assignment reporter covering police and courts. I wrote or co-wrote eight books for the Star's books division. I also met my wife, Debra Skodack Burnes, a KC Times/Star business reporter, in the building at 18th and Grand; we married in 1990. We have reared three kids together. Obviously, I have been very fortunate.



Experts: Spy used AI-generated face to connect with targets



By RAPHAEL SATTER

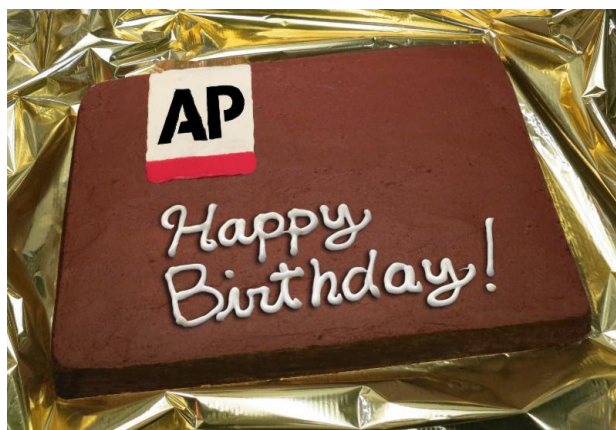
LONDON (AP) - Katie Jones sure seemed plugged into Washington's political scene. The 30-something redhead boasted a job at a top think tank and a who's-who network of pundits and experts, from the centrist Brookings Institution to the right-wing Heritage Foundation. She was connected to a deputy assistant secretary of state, a senior aide to a senator and the economist Paul Winfree, who is being considered for a seat on the Federal Reserve.

But Katie Jones doesn't exist, The Associated Press has determined. Instead, the persona was part of a vast army of phantom profiles lurking on the professional networking site LinkedIn. And several experts contacted by the AP said Jones' profile picture appeared to have been created by a computer program.

"I'm convinced that it's a fake face," said Mario Klingemann, a German artist who has been experimenting for years with artificially generated portraits and says he has reviewed tens of thousands of such images. "It has all the hallmarks."

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Dave Gwizdowski - davegwiz@gmail.com

Bill Handy - bhmedill@gmail.com

On Saturday to...

Tom Larimer - tom@arkansaspress.org

On Sunday to...

Ron Edmonds - redmonds3@cox.net

Mike Harris - hapauto@aol.com

Stories of interest

Sarah Sanders leaving White House job; governor run ahead?



President Donald Trump welcomes White House press secretary Sarah Sanders to the stage as he pauses from speaking about second chance hiring to publicly thank the outgoing press secretary in the East Room of the White House, Thursday June 13, 2019, in Washington. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE

WASHINGTON (AP) - White House press secretary Sarah Sanders, whose tenure was marked by a breakdown in regular press briefings and questions about the administration's credibility, as well as her own, will leave her post at the end of the month, President Donald Trump announced Thursday.

Trump said he's encouraging her to run for governor when she returns home to Arkansas, where her father once held the job.

Sanders is one of Trump's closest and most trusted White House aides and one of the few remaining who worked on his campaign, taking on the job of advocating for and defending a president who had his own unconventional ideas about how to conduct the people's business.

At an unrelated White House event, Trump described Sanders as a "warrior" as he called her to the stage. Sanders, appearing emotional, said serving Trump has been "the honor of a lifetime" and pledged to remain one of his "most outspoken and loyal supporters."

Sanders, who is married and has three young children, later told reporters she wanted to spend more time with her family, but did not rule out running for public office.

Read more [here](#).

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Ronan Farrow looks at media crowd and says he sees liars

By **DAVID BAUDER**

NEW YORK (AP) - The New Yorker's Ronan Farrow sure knows how to get a media crowd buzzing.

The Pulitzer Prize winner accepted a Mirror Award for media reporting from Syracuse University on Thursday for his stories on sexual misconduct at CBS, including allegations that toppled the corporation's former leader, Leslie Moonves.

Like other award winners, he saluted fellow journalists and industry leaders at the Manhattan luncheon for bravery in producing stories that keep the media honest and transparent - even at the cost of burning bridges and losing job opportunities.

At the same time, he said "I can see people who have lied to protect power."

From both the podium and later afterward, Farrow declined to name names.

Read more [here](#).

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This Picture Featuring 15 Tech Men And 2 Women Looked Doctored. The Women Were Photoshopped In. (BuzzFeed)



BuzzFeed News saved this doctored image from a GQ story on some tech entrepreneurs' trip to visit Italian designer Brunello Cucinelli, which the publication has since removed. It still appears on Cucinelli's Instagram.

By RYAN MAC

Last week, men's lifestyle magazine GQ published this photo of Silicon Valley executives including LinkedIn founder Reid Hoffman and Dropbox CEO Drew Houston from their pilgrimage to a small village in Italy to visit Brunello Cucinelli, a luxury designer famous for his \$1,000 sweatpants.

But if you think something looks a little off in this photo, you're right: A BuzzFeed News "investigation" reveals that two women CEOs, Lynn Jurich and Ruzwana Bashir, were photoshopped into what was originally a photo featuring 15 men.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bob Daugherty.

Today in History - June 14, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, June 14, the 165th day of 2019. There are 200 days left in the year. This is Flag Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 14, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a measure adding the phrase "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.

On this date:

In 1775, the Continental Army, forerunner of the United States Army, was created.

In 1777, the Second Continental Congress approved the design of the original American flag.

In 1940, German troops entered Paris during World War II; the same day, the Nazis began transporting prisoners to the Auschwitz (OWSH'-vitz) concentration camp in German-occupied Poland.

In 1943, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette*, ruled 6-3 that public school students could not be forced to salute the flag

of the United States.

In 1968, Dr. Benjamin Spock and three other peace activists were convicted in Boston of conspiring to encourage young men to evade the draft during the Vietnam War. (The verdicts were later overturned by an appeals court.) The Iron Butterfly single "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida" was released by Atco Records.

In 1982, Argentine forces surrendered to British troops on the disputed Falkland Islands.

In 1985, the 17-day hijack ordeal of TWA Flight 847 began as a pair of Lebanese Shiite (SHEE'-eyet) Muslim extremists seized the jetliner shortly after takeoff from Athens, Greece.

In 1986, death claimed Broadway librettist Alan Jay Lerner in New York at age 67; Argentine author Jorge Luis Borges in Geneva at age 86; and "Wild Kingdom" host Marlin Perkins in suburban St. Louis at age 81.

In 1990, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld, 6-3, police checkpoints that examined drivers for signs of intoxication.

In 1993, President Bill Clinton nominated Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1999, About 15,000 NATO peacekeepers spread out across Kosovo, including a convoy of about 1,200 U.S. Marines.

In 2017, a rifle-wielding gunman opened fire on Republican lawmakers at a congressional baseball practice in Alexandria, Virginia, wounding House Whip Steve Scalise (skuh-LEES') and several others; the assailant died in a battle with police. Fire ripped through the 24-story Grenfell Tower in West London, killing 71 people.

Ten years ago: The Los Angeles Lakers won their 15th championship, beating the Orlando Magic 99-86 in Game 5 of the NBA finals. Anna Nordqvist shot a 4-under par 68 to become the second rookie in a row to win the LPGA Championship. Bob Bogle, 75, lead guitarist and co-founder of the rock band The Ventures, died in Vancouver, Washington.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama forced union workers in Philadelphia's commuter rail strike to return to the job, granting Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett's request to create a presidential emergency board to mediate the contract dispute. Pro-Russia separatists shot down a Ukrainian transport plane, killing all 49 people on board. Afghans braved threats of violence and searing heat to vote in a presidential runoff (Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai was eventually declared the winner).

One year ago: A Justice Department watchdog report on the FBI's handling of the Hillary Clinton email probe criticized the FBI and its former director, James Comey, but did not find evidence that political bias tainted the investigation. AT&T and Time Warner completed their merger, one of the biggest media deals ever, two days after a federal judge approved the combination. Betting on professional sports became legal in New Jersey; the state had fought for eight years against a federal law that limited sports betting to Nevada, Delaware, Montana and Oregon. Attorney General Jeff Sessions cited the Bible in defending the border policy that was separating children from parents; he said the Apostle Paul had commanded that the laws of government should be obeyed because "God has ordained them for the purpose of order."

Today's Birthdays: Actress Marla Gibbs is 88. House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., is 80. Country-rock musician Spooner Oldham is 76. Rock singer Rod Argent (The Zombies; Argent) is 74. President Donald Trump is 73. Singer Janet Lennon (The Lennon Sisters) is 73. Rock musician Barry Melton is 72. Rock musician Alan White (Yes) is 70. Actor Eddie Mekka is 67. Actor Will Patton is 65. Olympic gold medal speed skater Eric Heiden (HY'-dun) is 61. Jazz musician Marcus Miller is 60. Singer Boy George is 58. Rock musician Chris DeGarmo is 56. Actress Traylor Howard is 53. Actress Yasmine Bleeth is 51. Actor Faizon Love is 51. Actor Stephen Wallem is 51. International Tennis Hall of Famer Steffi Graf is 50. Actor Sullivan Stapleton is 42. Screenwriter Diablo Cody is 41. Actor Lawrence Saint-Victor is 37. Actor Torrance Coombs is 36. Actor J.R. Martinez is 36. Actor-singer Kevin McHale is 31. Actress Lucy Hale is 30. Pop singer Jesy Nelson (Little Mix) is 28. Country singer Joel Crouse is 27. Actor Daryl Sabara is 27.

Thought for Today: "The flag of the United States has not been created by rhetorical sentences in declarations of independence and in bills of rights. It has been created by the experience of a great people, and nothing is written upon it that has not been written by their life. It is the embodiment, not of a sentiment, but of a history." - President Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924), in an address delivered on June 14, 1915.

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

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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