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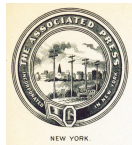
## Connecting - October 24, 2019

1 message

**Paul Stevens** <paulstevens46@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com  
To: pjshane@gmail.com

Thu, Oct 24, 2019 at 9:21 AM

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# Connecting

October 24, 2019

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## Vote via Twitter, Connecting mailbox

AP Stylebook ([@APStylebook](#))

10/22/19, 11:50 AM

We are considering changing to use 's when making a name that ends in S possessive: Mavis Staples's album, Martha Reeves's concert.

We want your input!

You can share your thoughts on our website, if you want more room than a tweet:

[apstylebook.com/suggestions](https://apstylebook.com/suggestions)  
[#APStyleChat](#) (4/4)

Contributed by **John Brewer** ([Email](#)).

As a professional vote counter for AP, I'll tabulate the results and comments collected through this weekend for Monday's Connecting. (We'll leave the Twitter vote tally to **Paula Froke** ([Email](#)), AP Stylebook editor and APME executive editor.) A reminder to respond to Peg Coughlin ([Email](#)).

## Former AP civil rights reporter Kathryn Johnson dies



**By Allen G. Breed**  
The Associated Press

Kathryn Johnson, a trailblazing reporter for The Associated Press whose intrepid coverage of the civil rights movement and other major stories led to a string of legendary scoops, died Wednesday. She was 93.

Her niece, Rebecca Winters, said Johnson died Wednesday morning in Atlanta. Johnson was the only journalist allowed inside Martin Luther King Jr.'s home the day he was assassinated.

When Gov. George Wallace blocked black students from entering the University of Alabama, she sneaked in to cover his confrontation with federal officials. She scored exclusive interviews with 2nd Lt. William L. Calley Jr. before he was convicted of his role in the My Lai massacre.

"I was never ambitious, really, anxious to make money ...," she told an interviewer for an AP oral history project in 2007. Johnson said she didn't want to be bored and added, "in most of my career, I really wasn't."

That career spanned a half-century, from the era of reporters racing each other to pay phones to the birth of 24-hour cable television news.

Read more [here](#).

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## The most powerful news pictures ever: Haunting image of Vietnamese girl running naked from napalm attack tops list of photographs that changed the world

(The Daily Mail)



**By Chris Dyer**

The striking image of a 9-year-old girl running naked from a napalm attack during the Vietnam war has been voted the most powerful news image of the last 50 years

in a new survey.

The horrific 1972 photograph, taken by photographer Nick Ut of Kim Phuc, was published around the world and is credited for having helped end the conflict in Vietnam.

It was chosen by 37 percent of British voters in a new survey as the hardest hitting news image of the last five decades.

Second on the list with 35 percent was the heart-breaking and harrowing image of three-year-old Syrian Aylan Kurdi's lifeless body washed up on a beach in Turkey. Aylan's family had left Bodrum in Turkey on September 2, 2015, hoping to get to the Greek island of Kos but their small boat capsized just 30 minutes into their journey.

In joint third place were pictures of Nelson Mandela being freed from prison after 20 years in 1990, Buzz Aldrin on the Moon in 1969 and one protester confronting a Chinese tank on Tiananmen Square in 1989.

Other photos on the list included an injured woman being helped after the London 7/7 terror attacks, Prince Charles kissing Diana after their wedding and the moment US President Ronald Reagan was shot in 1981.

The survey was commissioned by TV channel HISTORY to launch their new landmark factual series Photos That Changed the World.

Contributed by **Paul Colford** ([Email](#)).

## Connecting mailbox

### *Nick Ut's photo always surpassed others*

**Paul Colford** ([Email](#)) - In my 10 years working in media relations at The Associated Press, three AP photos, taken during wartime, surpassed all others in generating journalistic, educational and historical interest.

They are Joe Rosenthal's flag-raising at Iwo Jima in 1945, Richard Drew's "Falling Man" (from the North Tower of the World Trade Center, on 9/11) and Nick Ut's Pulitzer-winning image of a distraught and naked Vietnamese girl, scorched by napalm.

Nick's haunting photo, which shocked the nation, has now been voted the most powerful news image of the past 50 years in a survey done by the History channel in advance of its new series, "Photos That Changed the World."

Nick was always a pleasure to work with, a guy whose constant smile stood in sharp contrast with his horrific image so etched in our memory. He retired in 2017 after 51 years with AP and continues to recount, for audiences and interviewers, his fateful encounter with Kim Phuc, the 9-year-old "Napalm Girl," who now lives in Canada and has long known him as "Uncle Nick."

An informative mini-documentary, produced in 2016 by AP Corporate Archives, gives the backstory to Nick Ut's photo - how the shot was handled by top editors once it reached AP headquarters in New York, for example. Kim Phuc also looks back. Titled "The Gift of One Picture: Nick, Kim and the Napalm Girl," it will leave a lump in your throat.

<https://youtu.be/TII8U7YXNPs>

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## ***Award-winning podcast features lynching memorial and museum***

**Beth Harpaz** ([Email](#)) - Given the use of the term "lynching" in Washington this week, it might be a good time to reflect on the historical context of what, in my humble opinion, was domestic terrorism against African-Americans.

My podcast about the opening of the lynching memorial and museum in Montgomery, Ala., just won first place/gold for podcasting in the Society of American Travel Writers' annual contest for a podcast I did when I was AP travel editor. I share the honor with producer/editor Warren Levinson, a former AP broadcast correspondent.

You can hear the episode here: <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/associated-press/get-outta-here-the-ap-travel-podcast/e/54507834>

My co-winner, Warren Levinson, is still hosting the podcast that I launched for AP. It's called "Get Outta Here!" and you can find recent episodes on YouTube by searching #getouttahere AP Travel.

The full list of SATW winners is here (the podcast category is way down the list, #121)

[http://www.satwf.com/2018-satw-foundation-lowell-thomas-travel-jour-\(1\)/2017-18-list-of-winners](http://www.satwf.com/2018-satw-foundation-lowell-thomas-travel-jour-(1)/2017-18-list-of-winners).

## **Stories of interest**

### ***Local News Is Dying. New York May Try to Pass a Law to Save It***

(The New York Times)

**By Vivian Wang**

Hardly a week goes by, it seems, without another death blow for local journalism. Another beloved newspaper slashes its staff; another longtime radio program goes silent.

In New York, there might now be a novel solution: government intervention.

Two state lawmakers are proposing a requirement that any cable company operating in New York offer a local news channel with "news, weather and public affairs programming," according to a draft of the bill. The programming would have to be independently produced; companies could not simply rebroadcast others' existing news shows.

The bill, if passed, would be the first of its kind in the country. Policymakers elsewhere have considered other forms of intervention to save local news: Earlier this year, New Jersey's governor, Philip D. Murphy, approved up to \$2 million in state funds to support community journalism, making New Jersey the first state to allocate money to the local news landscape, despite concerns about media independence. Massachusetts is considering a study of the industry's decline; federal lawmakers are debating making it easier for news outlets to become tax exempt.

But New York's bill would be perhaps the most aggressive attempt by government officials to sustain local news in the long term.

Read more [here](#).

Contributed by **Hank Ackerman** ([Email](#)).

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## ***Journalist Gwen Ifill to be memorialized with USPS Forever stamp***

(CBS News)





### By Caitlin O'Kane

The United States Postal Service has unveiled several new Forever stamps that will be issued in 2020. Among the stamp-sized works of art is a portrait of late PBS journalist Gwen Ifill.

Ifill's stamp will be a part of USPS' Black Heritage series. The esteemed journalist died in 2016 following a battle with cancer. She was 61. Throughout her career, Ifill moderated vice-presidential debates and worked for 17 years as a moderator on PBS "NewsHour." She was also managing editor of "Washington Week."

A 2008 photo of Ifill taken by photographer Robert Severi is now set to appear on a Forever stamp. "Among the first African Americans to hold prominent positions in both broadcast and print journalism, Ifill was a trailblazer in the profession," according to USPS. The Postal Service has been celebrating people, events and cultural milestones on these special stamps since 1847.

Ifill's stamp, designed by art director Derry Noyes, is the 43rd stamp in the Black Heritage series, which includes entertainer Lena Horne, civil rights activist Dorothy Height, Carter G. Woodson, who is credited as the "father of black history."

Read more [here](#).

Contributed by [Len Iwanski \(Email\)](#).

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## ***A small group of prolific users account***

## ***for a majority of political tweets sent by U.S. adults***

(Pew Research)

**By Adam Hughes**

For years now, Twitter has been an important platform for disseminating news and sharing opinions about U.S. politics, and 22% of U.S. adults say they use the platform. But the Twitter conversation about national politics among U.S. adult users is driven by a small number of prolific political tweeters. These users make up just 6% of all U.S. adults with public accounts on the site, but they account for 73% of tweets from American adults that mention national politics.

The most prolific political tweeters make up a small share of all U.S. adults on Twitter with public accounts. Most U.S. adults on Twitter largely avoid the topic: The median user never tweeted about national politics, while 69% only tweeted about it once or not at all. Across all tweets from U.S. adults, just 13% focused on national politics, according to a new Pew Research Center analysis based on public tweets that were posted between June 2018 and June 2019.

The Center defined political tweeters - 31% of all U.S. adult users with public accounts - as those who had tweeted at least five times, and at least twice about national politics, over the study period. But within this broader group, there is a subset of highly prolific political tweeters who created 10 or more tweets between June 10, 2018, and June 9, 2019, with at least 25% of them mentioning national politics.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***We've already seen twice as many presidential TV ads than at this point in the 2016 election***

(FiveThirtyEight)

**By Nathaniel Rakich**

Over the course of the entire 2016 presidential election, TV ad spending approached a whopping \$761 million, with more than 920,000 spots flickering across the airwaves. But that might be nothing compared to what we see in 2020. Thanks to Tom Steyer, who is pouring an enormous amount of money into TV ad buys, we are already ahead of 2016's pace.

Using data from Kantar/Campaign Media Analysis Group, we can compare the pace of TV ad spending so far in 2019 with the same point in 2015. And so far, the 2020 campaign has seen more than twice as many television ad spots as the 2016 race.



From January 1 through October 20, 2019, campaigns and outside groups spent an estimated \$33.3 million on 76,030 television ad spots for the 2020 presidential election. By contrast, through the week of Oct. 18, 2015, campaigns and outside groups had aired only 32,191 TV spots - despite spending more money than they have so far this year (\$43.1 million compared with \$33.3 million).<sup>1</sup>

That disparity is especially wild considering that there were two competitive primaries in 2016 - on both the Republican and Democratic sides - while 2020 features just one spirited nomination fight. But already a total of 73,117 pro-Democratic spots have been aired in the presidential race so far compared with only 23,649 spots aired in 2015 by Republicans, whose primary (a record number of candidates, no dominant front-runner) resembles the current Democratic one. [Read more here.](#)

And there's basically one reason for that; his name is Tom Steyer. The self-funding billionaire has already aired 59,615 spots touting his candidacy, or 78 percent of all 2020 presidential spots so far - dropping an estimated \$23.2 million in the process. In fact, without Steyer, advertising levels in the 2020 race look a lot more like 2016. Only 16,415 spots have been aired by sponsors other than Steyer, which is right in between the 23,649 GOP spots and the 8,388 Democratic spots aired through this point in 2015. It also wasn't until Steyer jumped into the race in July that 2020 advertising really took off.

[Read more here.](#)

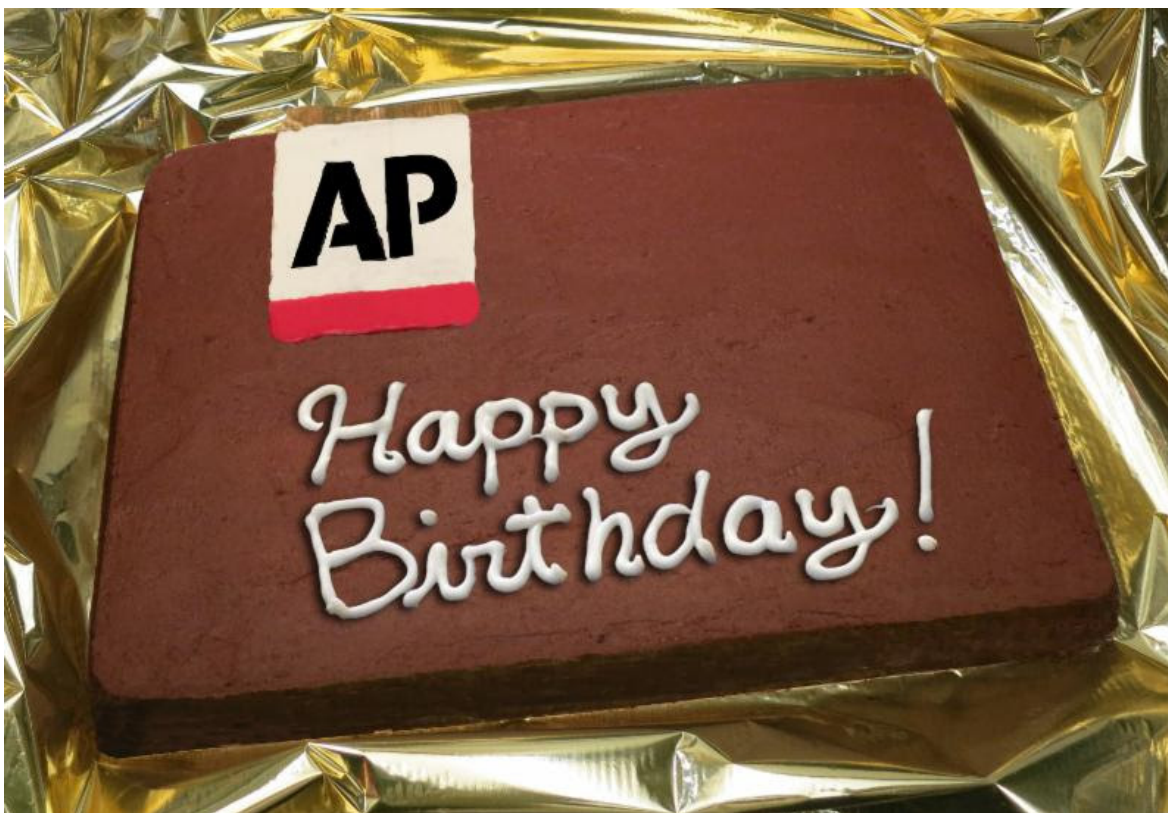
## Connecting Photo

### *Holy Land highlight*



**Ye Olde Connecting Editor Paul Stevens renews his baptismal vows earlier this week with immersion in the Jordan River. "Very meaningful," said Paul, who is on a Holy Land pilgrimage with his wife Linda. Paul was first baptized as an infant at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Excelsior Springs, MO. This time, Downtown Church of the Resurrection Pastor Scott Chrostek (right) baptized him.**

## **Connecting wishes a Happy Birthday**



To

John Brewer - [jcbrewer8@gmail.com](mailto:jcbrewer8@gmail.com)

## Today in History



By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Oct. 24, the 297th day of 2019. There are 68 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 24, 1940, the 40-hour work week went into effect under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

On this date:

In 1861, the first transcontinental telegraph message was sent by Chief Justice Stephen J. Field of California from San Francisco to President Abraham Lincoln in Washington, D.C., over a line built by the Western Union Telegraph Co.

In 1931, the George Washington Bridge, connecting New York and New Jersey, was officially dedicated (it opened to traffic the next day).

In 1945, the United Nations officially came into existence as its charter took effect.

In 1962, a naval quarantine of Cuba ordered by President John F. Kennedy went into effect during the missile crisis.

In 1972, Hall of Famer Jackie Robinson, who'd broken Major League Baseball's color barrier in 1947, died in Stamford, Connecticut, at age 53.

In 1989, former television evangelist Jim Bakker (BAY'-kur) was sentenced by a judge in Charlotte, N.C., to 45 years in prison for fraud and conspiracy. (The sentence was later reduced to eight years; it was further reduced to four for good behavior.)

In 1991, "Star Trek" creator Gene Roddenberry died in Santa Monica, California, at age 70.

In 1992, the Toronto Blue Jays became the first non-U.S. team to win the World Series as they defeated the Atlanta Braves, 4-3, in Game 6.

In 1997, in Arlington, Virginia, former NBC sportscaster Marv Albert was spared a jail sentence after a grudging courtroom apology to the woman he'd bitten during a sexual romp.

In 2002, authorities apprehended Army veteran John Allen Muhammad and teenager Lee Boyd Malvo near Myersville, Maryland, in the Washington-area sniper attacks. (Malvo was later sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole; Muhammad was sentenced to death and executed in 2009.)

In 2005, civil rights icon Rosa Parks died in Detroit at age 92.

In 2008, singer-actress Jennifer Hudson's mother and brother were found slain in their Chicago home; the body of her 7-year-old nephew was found three days later. (Hudson's estranged brother-in-law was convicted of the murders and sentenced to life in prison.)

Ten years ago: Pakistani officials announced that their soldiers had captured Kotkai, the strategically located hometown of Pakistan's Taliban chief, Hakimullah Mehsud (hah-kee-MUH'-lah meh-SOOD'), and one of his top deputies, after fierce fighting.

Five years ago: Jaylen Fryberg, a student at Marysville-Pilchuck High School in Washington state, fatally shot four friends he had invited to lunch and wounded a



fifth teen before killing himself. A coordinated militant assault on an army checkpoint in the Sinai Peninsula killed 31 Egyptian troops. Actress Marcia Strassman, who'd played Gabe Kaplan's wife, Julie, on the 1970s sitcom "Welcome Back, Kotter," died in Sherman Oaks, California, at age 66.

One year ago: Authorities said they had intercepted pipe bombs packed with shards of glass that had been sent to several prominent Democrats, including Hillary Clinton and former President Barack Obama; none of the bombs went off, and nobody was hurt. Saudi Arabia's crown prince told a business forum in his country that the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi (jah-MAHL' khahr-SHOHK'-jee) at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul was "heinous" and "painful to all Saudis;" some business leaders had pulled out of the conference after Turkish reports said a member of the prince's entourage was involved in the killing of Khashoggi, a critic of the Saudi royal family.

Today's Birthdays: Rock musician Bill Wyman is 83. Actor F. Murray Abraham is 80. Movie director-screenwriter David S. Ward is 74. Actor Kevin Kline is 72. Former NAACP President Kweisi Mfume (kwah-EE'-see oom-FOO'-may) is 71. Country musician Billy Thomas (Terry McBride and the Ride) is 66. Actor Doug Davidson is 65. Actor B.D. Wong is 59. Actor Zahn McClarnon is 53. Singer Michael Trent (Americana duo Shovels & Rope) is 42. Rock musician Ben Gillies (Silverchair) is 40. Singer-actress Monica Arnold is 39. Actress-comedian Casey Wilson is 39. R&B singer and actress Adrienne Bailon Houghton (3lw) is 36. Actor Tim Pocock is 34. R&B singer-rapper-actor Drake is 33. Actress Shenae Grimes is 30. Actress Eliza Taylor is 30. Actor Ashton Sanders (Film: "Moonlight") is 24. Olympic gold medal gymnast Kyla Ross is 23. Actor Hudson Yang is 16.

**Thought for Today: "Seek not the favor of the multitude; it is seldom got by honest and lawful means. But seek the testimony of the few; and number not voices, but weigh them." - Immanuel Kant, German philosopher (1724-1804).**

## 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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