



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

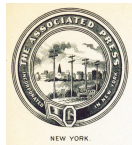
Connecting - December 06, 2019

1 message

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

Fri, Dec 6, 2019 at 8:51 AM

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Connecting

December 06, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 6th day of December 2016,

Today's issue leads with a compilation of the top Associated Press photos taken during 2019.

In a Connecting profile of **Walter Mears** on Monday, Walter shared the story behind his first AAA byline. **Do you recall your first story to make the AAA?** (And this request would include the national sports wire and the national photo wire.) Send along the story behind your story.

Thanks so much for the birthday greetings. Dec. 5 marked the anniversary of my 73rd journey around the sun and included water aerobics, three sets of tennis, a walk with Ollie and dinner with Linda and good friends.

And a note for those of you who share a 73rd birthday with me - several congrats notes I received ended with -73s-. As you may know, that is an old telegraph code that means "best regards."

Have a great weekend!

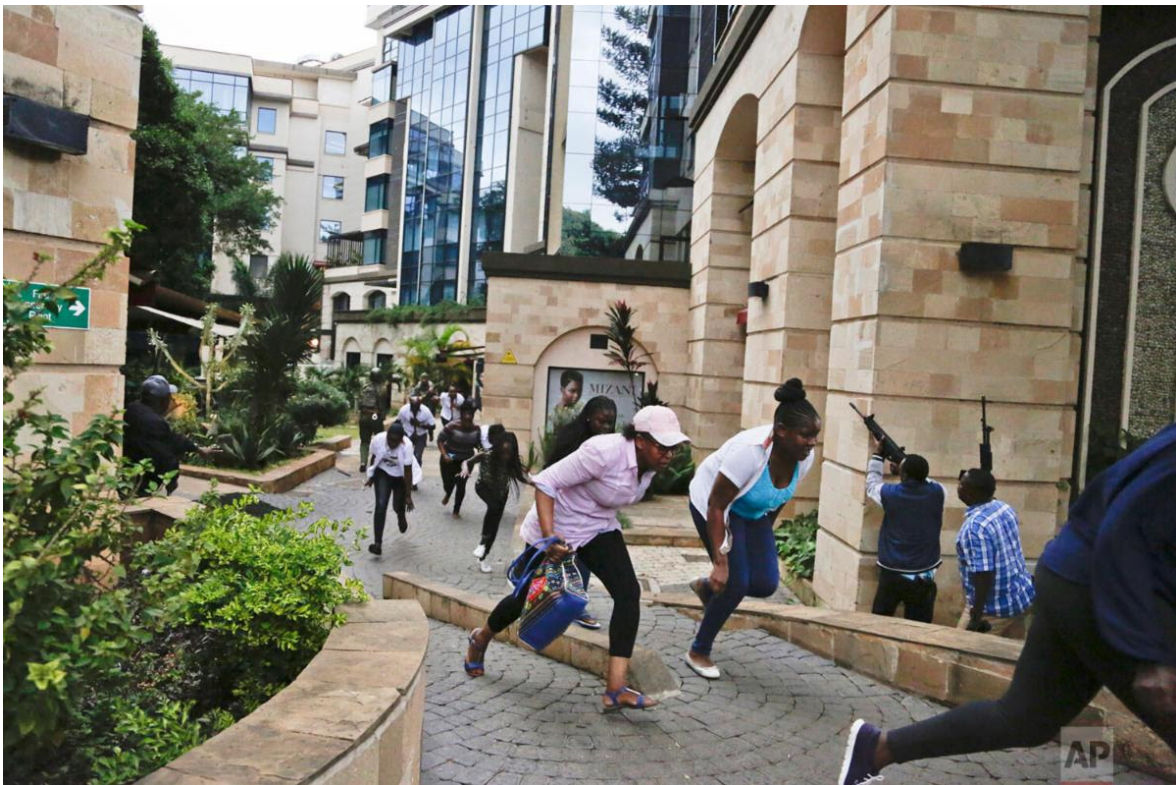
73s!

Paul

Top AP photos of 2019 range from the epic to the intimate



A U.S. Border Protection officer stands in heavy rain near the border fence between San Diego, Calif., and Tijuana, Mexico, on Jan. 1, 2019. (AP Photo/Daniel Ochoa de Olza)



People flee as security forces aim their weapons during a deadly attack by extremists at a luxury hotel complex in Nairobi, Kenya, on Jan. 15, 2019. Explosions and heavy gunfire reverberated through the complex during the attack that killed more than 20 people. (AP Photo/Khalil Senosi)

By AP Images

Ours is a world of sweeping vistas, and intimate scenes. In 2019, Associated Press photographers captured both.

A single Border Protection officer stands in the rain at the border; pieces of heavy equipment, replacing a stretch of border wall, are dwarfed by the open, blue sky. And the bodies of a Salvadoran father and his toddler daughter, drowned just short of their destination, float in the Rio Grande.

Hordes of Hong Kong activists, umbrellas in hand, are glimpsed through a window framed by tattered posters; a police water cannon, seen from above, sprays scores of Chilean demonstrators. And a single churchgoer drops to the ground to pray near tires set afire by protesters in Haiti.

The scale of some images is breathtaking. Trails of rockets light the night sky over Sederot, Israel. Motorcycles, ant-like from a distance, race across sand dunes in Peru. A drone's eye view tracks the dividing line between lush Amazon jungle on one side of a road, and burnt ruins on the other.

But the close-ups are no less remarkable. A mourner, lit by three candles, touches the body of a man killed during clashes with Bolivian security forces. In Washington state, friends and family lay hands on a 75-year-old throat cancer victim as he takes his last breaths, a suicide.

Sometimes, the focus is even tighter, like the full-frame face of a silverback gorilla, peering intently into the camera. Or the wrinkled, 88-year-old woman in Blaj, Romania - just one eye in the picture, gazing forward as she awaits Pope Francis' arrival.

In their eyes, the photographers find vistas.

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

Connecting mailbox

Get your own 'Shared by' credit in Connecting

Paul Shane (Email) - Seeing my name in Connecting after "Shared by" is nice, of course not quite as good as real bylines at the top of good stories or in cutlines of good photos in bygone days, but still nice.

This crowd is better read than most and could share more news industry news if only we think to do it. It's easy to get your own "Shared by" tag.

Just click on the Share icon at the top of most stories and use the email option to send the story link to Paul Stevens, ye 'ode Connecting editor.

-0-

Thoughts from a farewell visit to Newseum

Arnold Zeitlin (Email) - References to the Newseum in a couple of recent Connectings reminds me of my recent farewell visit to the place in Washington. I've always found the DC Newseum pretentious and full of wasted space but I was enthralled as always by its display of all the Pulitzer Prize-winning photos. The display was an opportunity to remember AP photographers with whom I had known or worked - Michel Laurent, Horst Faas, Eddie Adams, who are no longer with us, and Neal Ulevich and Sal Veder, who are with us still. I still look for Dave Tenenbaum's photo of a flag-draped American hockey goalie in the 1980 Winter Olympics. It's not there; Dave was only a Pulitzer finalist not a winner. He should have been. Of course, there are many photos by people I didn't know or worked with.

I wondered if there was some way the display could be saved and shown elsewhere to the public once the Newseum closes 31 December. The Newseum says it will store all exhibits in a secure warehouse somewhere, evidently not available for public viewing.

The same goes for its wall of photos of journalists who have lost their lives while on the job.

Otherwise, there was not much to see. Exhibits featuring the FBI on terrorism, the fall of the Berlin wall, reporting on 9-11, the Stonewall Inn raid and on the TV Daily Show with non-journalists Jon Stewart and Trevor Noah were only tangentially

connected with journalism. An exhibit on Ed Murrow was tucked away in a dark corner. I suppose with the Newseum scheduled to close, there was little incentive to feature more current exhibits, maybe on the difficulty of reporting on Donald Trump or how the social media has affected the news business.

In the interest of full disclosure, I was director of the Freedom Forum's Hong Kong Asia center in 2001 when the Freedom Forum board of directors closed the organization's international offices in London, Buenos Aires, Johannesburg and Hong Kong. These offices were promoting better journalism and a free flow of information at a time when these goals were under attack globally. The move was designed to save money for building the Newseum in DC. So I've always had a grudge against the place.

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The Real Romeo and Juliet



Marlys Shulda (Email) - I wrote [this blog](#) in early 2014 while helping provide care for my ailing grandfather, who suffered from late-stage dementia. Grandpa Eddie died at home in his bed, with grandma sleeping next to him, May 20, 2014. His wife (and my grandma) Mary, at the age of 91 and living at home in relatively good health, passed away this week in Shawnee Mission, Kansas, following an unexpected aortic dissection.

The Greatest Generation is quickly disappearing and Ed and Mary's story is one small example of the strength and commitment that so poignantly defines this aging demographic.



I know one thing for sure: There's one helluva heavenly reunion happening right now.

-0-

Petty book on German newspaper and Hitler gets an academic nod

A new book by AP retiree Terrence Petty ([Email](#)) about a German newspaper that tried to thwart Hitler's ambitions got a nice nod from academia, in the form of an article published on the University of Vermont's website and in UVM's magazine for alumni, "Vermont Quarterly." A Vermont native, Petty graduated with a BA in history from UVM in 1974. Petty has also been invited to speak to UVM's Holocaust Studies Program next spring. Petty's book, "Enemy Of The People: The Munich Post And The Journalists Who Opposed Hitler," was published this past May by The Associated Press. It is set during the Weimar era, before Hitler came to power. The book tells the story of the Munich Post's early recognition of Hitler as a threat to German democracy and the paper's indefatigable pursuit of Der Fuehrer over the course of about a dozen years. The Post used leaked documents and sources within the Nazi Party to uncover embarrassing secrets about Hitler and the Nazis and their plans for authoritarian rule.

Click [here](#) to read the article.

AP News Milestone - 1 Billion Page Views!

The screenshot shows the AP Top Stories Hub interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'AP' and 'TOP STORIES' on the left, and 'Top Stories', 'Topics', 'Video', and 'Listen' on the right. The main headline is 'Pelosi OKs drafting of impeachment articles against Trump' by Lisa Mascaro and Mary Clare Jalonick, posted 36 minutes ago. Below the headline is a large photo of Nancy Pelosi speaking at a podium. To the right, there are several smaller story tiles: 'Sailor kills 2 civilians, self at Pearl Harbor shipyard', 'France shuts down: Mass strike hits trains, Eiffel Tower', 'AP Interview: New Zealand PM aims to limit spread of hate', 'Top AP photos of 2019 range from the epic to the intimate', '58 migrants dead after boat capsizes off Mauritania', 'Anti-headscarf law activist sues Iran in US over harassment', and 'Hong Kong residents living with tear gas worry of effects'. At the bottom right, there's a blue button labeled 'All Top News'.

Paul Haven ([Email](#)), AP Global Director of Top Stories, in a staff note:

I wanted to let everyone know about a huge milestone the AP reached yesterday (Wednesday) on our digital platform, AP News. In the past few days, AP went over 1 billion unique page views for 2019, and we are likely to end the year at about 1.1 billion, a 33% increase over the previous year. We expect strong growth to continue in the coming years.

At the Top Stories Hub, one of our primary tasks along with the Nerve Center has been to improve curation and ranking of the top headlines queue. We've worked with many of you to link strong photos, add graphics, stack stories, include hyperlinks and embed CR videos, steps outlined in our QuickGuide earlier this year, and all things that directly impact traffic. The News department has also been aided by the development of new tools like the feature template used in the What Can Be Saved project and other visually stunning stories. And of course, the introduction of Pronto this week will speed up filing and make linking strong visuals easier.

While AP's core business remains the B-to-B licensing of content to members and customers, these strong numbers have meant that our digital revenue is growing by double digits and is likely to keep growing in the years to come, according to Michael Boord, AP's director of digital services.

A billion page views puts the AP in strong company among other major media outlets. We've also been told anecdotally by AP customers that they look to the curation on AP News for guidance when planning their own digital presentation. So, if you have time to review the QuickGuide again in the coming weeks, please do. Ultimately, everyone at AP shares in these great results, so congratulations and keep up the fantastic work!

Harriet Morris named as AP news director for Russia and CIS

LONDON (AP) - Harriet Morris, a video producer who has extensive experience working in Russia, has been named by The Associated Press as its news director for Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The announcement was made Tuesday by Anna Johnson, the AP's news director for Europe and Africa.

As news director, Morris will be responsible for driving the news report in video, photos and text in Russia and the CIS. Morris has been the senior producer for Russia and the CIS since 2016 and will remain based in Moscow in her new post.

"Harriet is a dynamic and talented journalist with deep knowledge about Russia," Johnson said. "I look forward to her leading our experienced team as they provide fast, insightful and ambitious coverage of such an important part of the world."

Morris joined the AP as a video producer in London in 2006. Over the years, she worked in several positions as part of the global video operation and has expertise in video editing, social media reporting and coordinating live video operations.

Prior to the AP, Morris worked as a freelance producer for Al Jazeera English in London and as a producer for Russia Today TV in Moscow. She also worked as a reporter for the Olympic News Channel during the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics.

Morris, who is fluent in Russian, has a post-graduate degree in broadcast journalism from Cardiff University and a bachelor's degree in Russian studies from Bristol University.



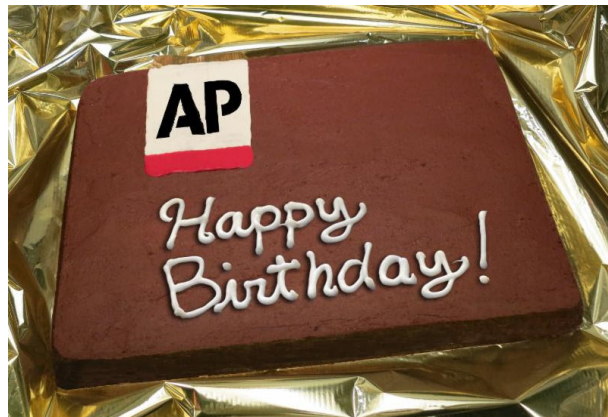
Click [here](#) for a link to this story.

AP Photo of the Day



A man stands on a traffic light during a demonstration over the government's plan to overhaul the retirement system in Paris, on Thursday, Dec. 5. | Thibault Camus/AP Photo

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Richard Drew - rdrew@ap.org

Dennis Lawler - dmlawler@cox.net

On Sunday to...

Dennis Redmont - dennisredmont600@hotmail.com

And a belated Happy Birthday to...

Bill Winter - williamlwinter@yahoo.com

Stories of interest

House Speaker Pelosi rebukes reporter: 'Don't mess with me'



Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., responds forcefully to a question from a reporter who asked if she hated President Trump, after announcing earlier that the House is moving forward to draft articles of impeachment against Trump, at the Capitol in Washington, Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

By LAURIE KELLMAN

WASHINGTON (AP) - Finger pointing and voice hoarse, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on Thursday delivered a broadside to a reporter that might well apply to all of impeachment-era Washington: "Don't mess with me."

It was a warning scarcely needed among the official set, least of all by President Donald Trump as he fights Pelosi and the Democrats in their drive to impeach him. Only a few hours earlier, Pelosi had instructed the Judiciary Committee to write articles of impeachment - formal charges - against Trump for pressuring Ukraine to investigate Democrat Joe Biden and resisting Congress' probe.

The House speaker insisted she brought impeachment proceedings because Trump's conduct and the Constitution left the House no choice.

"The president's actions have seriously violated the Constitution," Pelosi said from the speaker's office at the Capitol. "He is trying to corrupt, once again, the election

for his own benefit. The president has engaged in abuse of power, undermining our national security and jeopardizing the integrity of our elections."

But as the California Democrat began exiting a news conference two hours later, James Rosen, a reporter for Sinclair Broadcast Group, asked, "Do you hate the president, Madam Speaker?"

What followed was a remarkable display from the famously poised Pelosi.

She stopped near the edge of the podium, jabbed a finger and said tersely: "I don't hate anybody."

Pelosi went on to call Trump a "coward" on gun policy, "cruel" on immigration and "in denial" on climate change.

"This is about the Constitution of the United States and the facts that lead to the president's violation of the oath of office. And as a Catholic I resent your using the word hate in a sentence that addresses me."

Read more [here](#).

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John Solomon is now doing press for congressional Republicans (Washington Post)

By Erik Wemple

Media critic

Conspiratorial tones are seeping into John Solomon's headlines. "The Ukraine scandal timeline Democrats and their media allies don't want America to see," reads the top of a Nov. 20 story on JohnSolomonReports.com. The eponymous website is the reportorial home for Solomon following his departure from the Hill earlier this fall.

Moving from a brand-name outlet to a DIY website, however, hasn't much dimmed Solomon's influence among conservatives on Capitol Hill. In a Fact Checker column on Wednesday, The Post's Glenn Kessler sought explanations from reps for Sen. Lindsey O. Graham (R-S.C.) and Rep. Devin Nunes (R-Calif.) for assertions the lawmakers had made about certain events in Ukraine bearing on the ongoing impeachment proceedings. Graham's office referred him to a relevant news account, though Kessler determined that it didn't quite corroborate a Nov. 21 letter that Graham had sent to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

So Kessler renewed his efforts, pressing Nunes's office on the matter, as well. An hour or two later, he got a call - from Solomon. "Out of the blue we received a phone call from John Solomon, a former Washington Post reporter who apparently was the source for Republicans. He said two people from Capitol Hill had alerted him to our inquiry," writes Kessler.

Which is to say, Solomon is now doing press for Republicans.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dennis Conrad.

-0-

I Worked for Alex Jones. I Regret It. (New York Times Magazine)

By Josh Owens

On Election Day 2016, I sat in the passenger seat of Alex Jones's Dodge Hellcat as we swerved through traffic, making our way to a nearby polling place. As Jones punched the gas pedal to the floor, the smell of vodka, like paint thinner, wafted up from the white Dixie cup anchored in the console. My stomach churned as the phone I held streamed live video to Facebook: Jones rambling about voter fraud and rigged elections while I stared at the screen, holding the camera at an angle to hide his double chin. It rarely worked, but I didn't want to be blamed when he watched the video later.

Four years earlier, Jones - wanting to expand his website, Infowars, into a full-blown guerrilla news operation and hoping to scout new hires from his growing fan base - held an online contest. At 23, I was vulnerable, angry and searching for direction, so I decided to give it a shot. Out of what Infowars said were hundreds of submissions, my video - a half-witted, conspiratorial glance at the creation and function of the Federal Reserve - made it to the final round.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mike Holmes.

-0-

"What's happening to the newspaper?" (Corvallis Gazette-Times)

By MARK YLEN

I've been asked that question, or variations of it, numerous times since the Page 1 story Nov. 16 announcing that Mike McNally, longtime editor of the Democrat-Herald and Gazette Times, had been laid off because of budget cuts.

I'll get to that question, but first I want to focus on Mike.

I haven't worked at the DH and GT for nearly five years, but the announcement of his departure still felt like a gut punch to me and everyone who knows him. It felt much like the day in September 2012 when we heard that Hasso Hering, another great journalist and highly regarded DH editor, had been laid off for the same reason.

Mike is among the hardest-working journalists I've known. He managed two newsrooms, wrote daily editorials for both newspapers, wrote most of the bylined stories in The E, led community forums, moderated debates and took genuine interest in the issues affecting Albany and Corvallis and Linn and Benton counties.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Albright.

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Pulitzer Prize Board Announces New Audio Reporting Category

New York, NY (Dec. 5, 2019) - The Pulitzer Prize Board today announces a new Journalism prize category for the 2020 prize cycle: Audio Reporting.

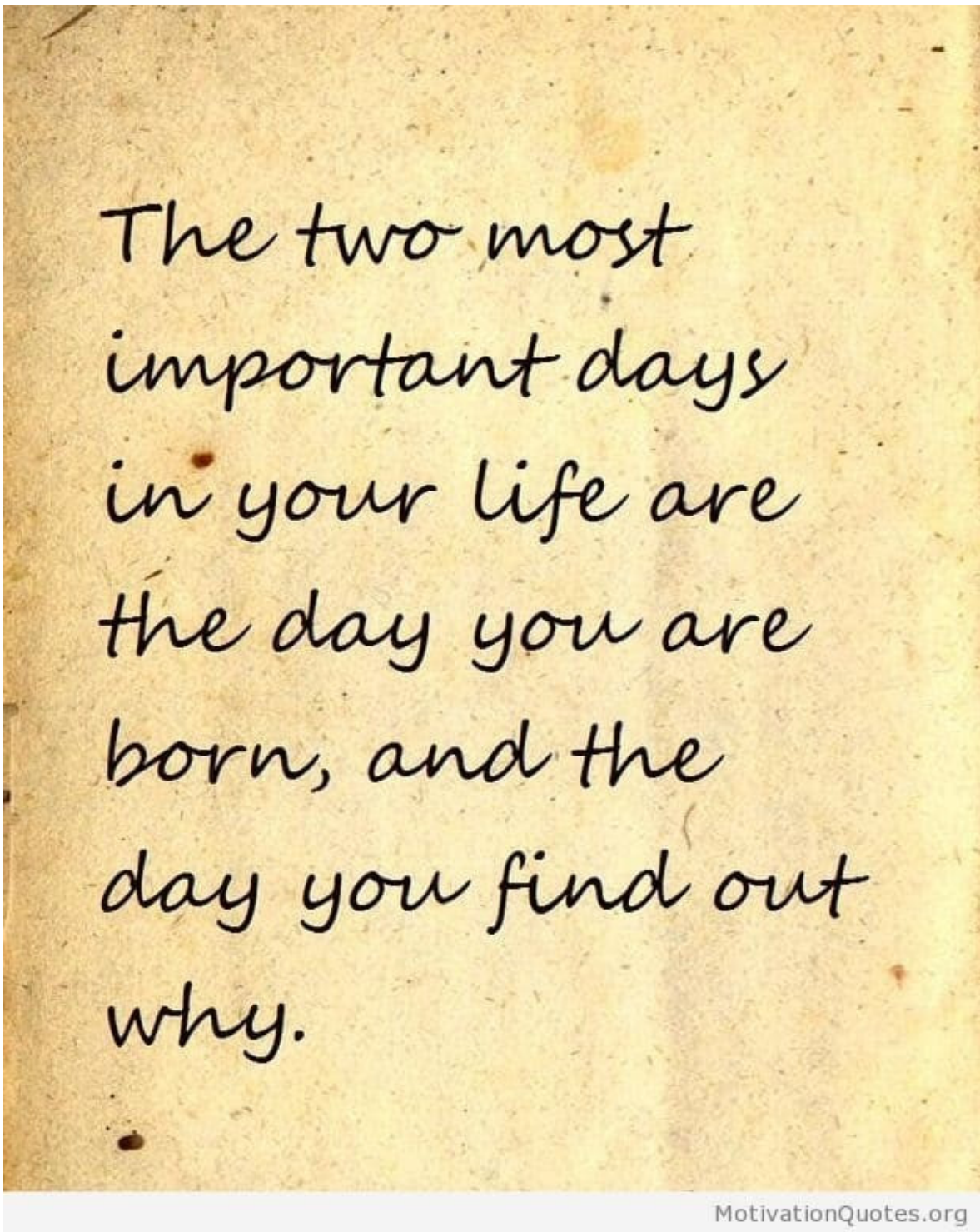
"The renaissance of audio journalism in recent years has given rise to an extraordinary array of non-fiction storytelling. To recognize the best of that work, the Pulitzer Board is launching an experimental category to honor it," Pulitzer Administrator Dana Canedy said.

The new prize will be awarded "For a distinguished example of audio journalism that serves the public interest, characterized by revelatory reporting and illuminating storytelling."

The Board invites submissions from producers of radio programs and podcasts that exemplify the excellence the Pulitzer Prizes have honored for more than a century. Competitive entries will reflect the work the Prizes has championed traditionally, from investigative reporting that exposes wrongdoing to dynamic features, and news coverage of major issues or events.

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word



Shared by Ed Williams.

Today in History - December 6, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Dec. 6, the 340th day of 2019. There are 25 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Dec. 6, 1865, the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, abolishing slavery, was ratified as Georgia became the 27th state to endorse it.

On this date:

In 1790, Congress moved to Philadelphia from New York.

In 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.

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 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 1962, 37 coal miners were killed in an explosion at the Robena No. 3 Mine operated by U.S. Steel in Carmichaels, Pa.

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

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.

In 2007, President George W. Bush announced a plan to freeze interest rates on subprime mortgages held by hundreds of thousands of homeowners.

In 2017, 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.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama visited the U.S. Senate during a rare Sunday session to rally Democrats behind closed doors on a health care overhaul. The Kennedy Center Honors lauded jazz great Dave Brubeck, rocker Bruce Springsteen, actor Robert De Niro, comic genius Mel Brooks and opera singer Grace Bumbry.

Five years ago: Officials announced that American photojournalist Luke Somers and a South African teacher, Pierre Korkie, were killed during a high-risk U.S. raid to free them from al-Qaida-affiliated militants in Yemen. In a runoff in Louisiana, Republican

Rep. Bill Cassidy defeated Democratic Sen. Mary Landrieu, denying her a fourth term and extending the GOP's domination of the 2014 midterm elections.

One year ago: Flag-waving crowds lined the tracks as a special funeral train carried the flag-draped casket of former President George H.W. Bush from the Houston area to College Station, Texas, for burial on the grounds of his presidential library. Kevin Hart announced that he had stepped down as Oscars host following an outcry over anti-gay tweets and comments he had made in the past. The Dick Cheney biopic "Vice" led the way with six Golden Globe nominations, including nods for best comedy picture and best actor for Christian Bale.

Today's Birthdays: Comedy performer David Ossman is 83. Actor Patrick Bauchau is 81. Country singer Helen Cornelius is 78. Actor James Naughton is 74. Former Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood is 74. Rhythm-and-blues singer Frankie Beverly (Maze) is 73. Former Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., is 71. Actress JoBeth Williams is 71. Actor Tom Hulce is 66. Actor Wil Shriner is 66. Actor Kin Shriner is 66. Actor Miles Chapin is 65. Rock musician Rick Buckler (The Jam) is 64. Comedian Steven Wright is 64. Country singer Bill Lloyd is 64. Singer Tish Hinojosa is 64. Rock musician Peter Buck (R.E.M.) is 63. Rock musician David Lovering (Pixies) is 58. Actress Janine Turner is 57. Rock musician Ben Watt (Everything But The Girl) is 57. Writer-director Judd Apatow is 52. Rock musician Ulf "Buddha" Ekberg (Ace of Base) is 49. Writer-director Craig Brewer is 48. Actress Colleen Haskell is 43. Actress Lindsay Price is 43. Actress Ashley Madekwe is 38. Actress Nora Kirkpatrick is 35. Christian rock musician Jacob Chesnut (Rush of Fools) is 30. Tennis player CoCo Vandeweghe is 28. Football quarterback Johnny Manziel is 27. NBA star Giannis Antetokounmpo is 25.

Thought for Today: "Americans have always been able to handle austerity and even adversity. Prosperity is what is doing us in." [-] James Reston, American journalist (born 1909, died this date in 1995).

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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