

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

[View as Webpage](#)



Connecting

June 10, 2020

Click [here](#) for sound of the Teletype



Associated Press war correspondent **J. Wes Gallagher** (white shirt and tie) races for the phone to report the news of the verdict at the Nazi war crimes trials in Nuremberg, Germany, Oct. 1, 1946. (AP Photo/B.I. Sanders)

Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 10th day of June 2020,

Connecting continues its series on the use of the telephone in your job as a journalist.

One of the most memorable photos is shown above – of **Wes Gallagher** as a war correspondent – years before he would assume the top position in The Associated Press as general manager and president of the news cooperative. It should be noted that Gallagher scored a one-minute beat on the verdict – communicating the news through a phone line held open by his wife, Betty.

I look forward to your own phone story and photo – as we lead today's issue with one from colleague **Neal Ulevich**.

All of the world's eyes were on Houston on Tuesday as the funeral was held for George Floyd. We lead with the AP story.

In **The Poynter Report** today, Tom Jones' lead story is "Because of the coronavirus, newsroom offices have gone away. There's a chance that many will never return." Most of you are working from home these days. How about sharing your thoughts on the Pluses and the Minuses of not being in an office. And what are your thoughts on whether you may ever return to an office setting.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

'He is going to change the world': Funeral held for Floyd



Roxie Washington holds Gianna Floyd, the daughter of George Floyd as they attend the funeral service for George Floyd at The Fountain of Praise church Tuesday, June 9, 2020, in Houston. (AP Photo/David J. Phillip, Pool)

By JUAN A. LOZANO, NOMAAN MERCHANT and ADAM GELLER

HOUSTON (AP) — George Floyd was fondly remembered Tuesday as “Big Floyd” — a father and brother, athlete and neighborhood mentor, and now a catalyst for change — at a funeral for the black man whose death has sparked a global reckoning over police brutality and racial prejudice.

More than 500 mourners wearing masks against the coronavirus packed a Houston church a little more than two weeks after Floyd was pinned to the pavement by a white Minneapolis police officer who put a knee on his neck for what prosecutors said was 8 minutes and 46 seconds.

Cellphone video of the encounter, including Floyd’s pleas of “I can’t breathe,” ignited protests and scattered violence across the U.S. and around the world, turning the 46-year-old Floyd — a man who in life was little known beyond the public housing project where he was raised in Houston’s Third Ward — into a worldwide symbol of injustice.

“Third Ward, Cuney Homes, that’s where he was born at,” Floyd’s brother, Rodney, told mourners at the Fountain of Praise church. “But everybody is going to remember him around the world. He is going to change the world.”

The funeral capped six days of mourning for Floyd in three cities: Raeford, North Carolina, near where he was born; Houston, where he grew up; and Minneapolis, where he died. The memorials have drawn the families of other black victims whose names have become familiar in the debate over race and justice — among them, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Ahmaud Arbery and Trayvon Martin.

Read more [here](#).

You and a telephone on the job



Neal Ulevich ([Email](#)) - In 1969 an audacious pair of bank robbers bombed the Franklin County, Missouri, courthouse as a diversion, then robbed the local bank before escaping. On duty in the St. Louis bureau at the time (as a very junior reporter), I received a tip on the blast and bank job. Bureau photographer Fred Waters and I headed straight for the county seat at Union, an hour away. The second floor of the courthouse was a shambles, a bomb placed under a bench having done tremendous damage (there were injuries, none fatal, to those nearby). After figuring out what happened I looked desperately for a phone. A telephone booth was knocked akimbo by the blast but unbelievably the phone still worked. I called in the story - and Fred made this picture of me doing so.

Connecting mailbox

Tim Harper – ‘extinguished journalist’

Former National Correspondent and longtime freelancer Tim Harper ([Email](#)), who has taught at Columbia, NYU, CUNY and elsewhere, always on the side, part-time, writes that the ASU journalism student's story from a "news conference" introducing Professor Myron Belkind (in Tuesday's Connecting) reminds him of the time a similar exercise in an undergrad class resulted in a story beginning, "Tim Harper, an extinguished journalist..."

He has that story framed on his home office wall in Manhattan, where has been a visiting professor and writing coach at CUNY's Newmark Graduate School of Journalism since 2007.

-0-

The News Industry Is Being Destroyed | Patriot Act with Hasan Minhaj

In the face of layoffs, the coronavirus, and private equity firms like Alden Capital trying to strip it for parts, the news industry is on the verge of collapse. Hasan showcases the important work of local newspapers and why we need them now more than ever.

Click [here](#) to view. Shared by Adolphe Bernotas, who notes, "Other than the locker room language, this is excellent!"

-0-

At rally in Paris, Texas



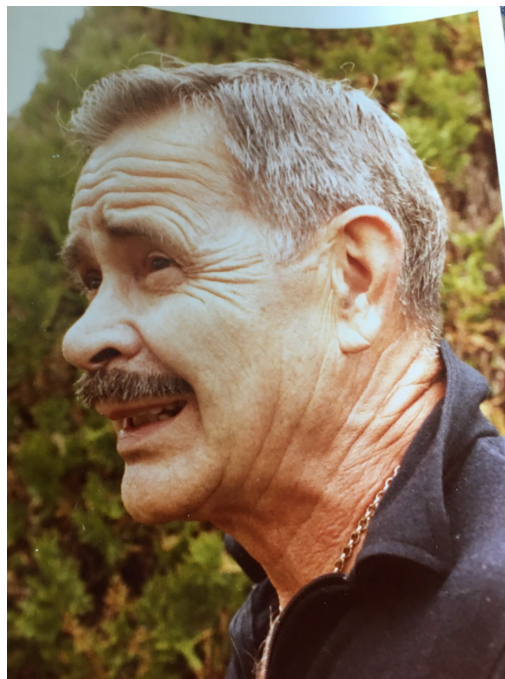
Charles Richards ([Email](#)) - I'm shown at a local Black Lives Matter rally last week in my hometown of Paris, Texas, with local rally organizer Brenda Cherry. (I wore a mask throughout the hour-long rally, but slipped it down for the picture.)

Lessons to be learned from my dad and brother

Mike Tharp ([Email](#)) - My dad and brother were police chiefs.

Today's cops could learn three lessons from them.

My dad (at right) was superintendent of Special Service for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway in Topeka. He directed several dozen railroad policemen in the Midwest and Southwest. He was a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.



My brother James was police chief in Oakridge, Ore., a town of 4,000 some 35 miles southeast of Eugene. He had maybe six officers working for him.

In his early days in Oklahoma City, Papa was out in trainyards, looking for thieves, damaged boxcars and--as they were called in the 1940s--hoboes. He never made a big deal out of it, but he let us boys know that when he was escorting a hobo off the company's property, he'd slip him a quarter. That was a big deal when his weekly salary was \$40. At 6'2" x 190, carrying a .38 snub-nosed Special in a shoulder holster, he let the hoboes know he wasn't a soft touch. But he also knew they were fellow men down on their luck.

That gene was onpassed to James. Two incidents may carry lessons for cops today.

In 1991, James was on patrol by himself when dispatcher Shannon McPherson (he later promoted her to sergeant) radioed him that there was "a guy with a long gun" at the High Lakes Cafe threatening customers. James slammed his patrol car onto Highway 58, which cuts Oakridge in half. He pulled up without lights or siren. This was about 10 p.m., closing time for the cafe.

He was wearing his uniform, boots, sidearm on his left hip (he was a lefty), utility belt and no hat. A guy in his 20s had a few customers and the cafe employees huddled at the rear. He was carrying a hunting rifle. After a few minutes James talked him into letting everybody go. He said he'd stay instead.

Then he and the gunman, bleary-eyed, walked outside to the back of the cafe. It was a warm summer night. They stood out there for five hours. All the while, James kept his hand on his own gun. As it neared 3 a.m., other cops, including the Oregon State Police, had surrounded the cafe. James kept telling them he was okay. He kept telling the gunman, who by now was threatening suicide, that he could turn his life around, that James himself had done that.

Finally, the standoff ended. The guy handed James his rifle. Other officers arrested and handcuffed him. A photographer at the Eugene Register-Guard made a picture that ran on the front page of the newspaper a day later. It showed my brother coming up a hill, carrying the rifle and looking right at the camera.

He told me later that week he was glad the photographer had been several feet away "so the picture didn't show the tears in my eyes."

The second episode unfolded on a Saturday night in January 1992. James was again on patrol. He got a 911 call that a crowd had gathered in the parking lot of a road house off Highway 58, that there was about to be a big fight.

Pulling up again without flashers or siren, he got out of his cruiser. A ring of men stood in harsh light watching two men in the middle. Walking across the gravel in his uniform, this time with body armor under a huge black nylon coat and wearing his Smokey the Bear hat, he just looked big.

The mob slowly parted to let him through. He got to the middle and looked at the two would-be fighters. "Be a real shame," he said in his Sam Elliott drawl, "if a lotta people were under arrest and had to miss the Super Bowl tomorrow."

A moment of silence, then giggles, then laughter, then people started moving toward their cars and trucks.

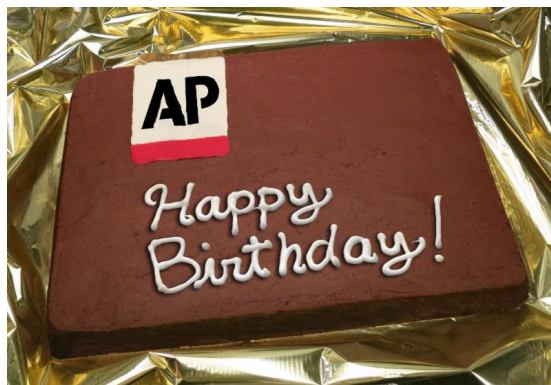
Obviously, a lonesome Oklahoma trainyard or a small Oregon town aren't the same as the urban neighborhoods where a week of both peaceful and violent protests have occurred. And obviously nobody was flinging Molotov cocktails or chunks of curb at my dad or brother. Nor was the element of race involved, though it wouldn't have made a difference to either one.

What today's cops and their trainers might take away from them are three things: Patience, common sense and a strong belief in themselves. Officers today need all three. Patience, not to meet violence with excessive violence. Common sense, to act and react calmly when things are going sideways. Self-belief, to give an officer confidence that his or her training and his or her instincts will get him or her through to the other side.

The four ex-cops in Minneapolis would have profited from all three values. Officers dealing with protests across America could deal with them better if they practiced even one of them.

As Papa used to tell us: "You've gotta have that old RMA--right mental attitude."

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Hans Madsen - hmadsen@messengernews.net

Bill Wilson - wswilson765@gmail.com

Stories of interest

One America News, the Network That Spreads Conspiracies to the West Wing (New York Times)

By Michael M. Grynbaum

The conservative cable network One America News has a minuscule audience, attracts few readers on the web and has struggled to break into the television mainstream.

But thanks to one powerful viewer in the White House, the network's influence — and its conspiracy theories — are echoing in the highest reaches of American politics.

President Trump, responding to a One America News segment, floated a baseless theory on Tuesday that a 75-year-old man in Buffalo who was knocked to the ground by the police — and hospitalized after bleeding from his head — was “an ANTIFA provocateur” who had tried to interfere with law enforcement.

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

-0-

Sonya Duhé will not return to Loyola after losing ASU deanship over allegations of racism (The Maroon)

By Rose Wagner

Loyola will continue with plans to hire a new director of the School of Communication in Design even after Sonya Duhé, previous director of the school, was removed as the incoming dean at Arizona State University over allegations of racism and insensitivity.

“Dr. Duhé submitted her resignation from Loyola when she accepted the deanship at ASU,” said Patricia Murret, director of public affairs for Loyola. “We will continue our national search for a new director, as planned. Lisa Collins now serves as interim director of the School of Communication and Design.”

Murret said Duhé, who worked at Loyola for 11 years, is no longer an employee of the university.

Duhé was set to become the next dean of the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University on July 1. But the appointment was revoked Sunday after ASU students and faculty raised concerns about Duhé and the allegations by former Loyola students of racism and insensitivity.

Read more [here](#) .

-0-

Aftermath of Floyd death drives news interest, notably CNN

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — Public interest in demonstrations following the death of George Floyd boosted news programming — none more so than CNN.

Since Floyd’s death on Memorial Day in the custody of Minneapolis police, CNN’s prime-time audience is up 238 percent over last year, the Nielsen company said. Fox News Channel is up 61 percent and MSNBC up 40 percent in the same period.

Fox News remains the most-watched cable network. But in the past two weeks, CNN has vaulted past MSNBC into second place.

ABC’s “World News Tonight” with anchor David Muir averaged more viewers last week than any prime time show on television.

Read more [here](#) .

The Final Word

What Great Listeners Actually Do (Pocket)

Harvard Business Review, Jack Zenger and Joseph Folkman

Chances are you think you're a good listener. People's appraisal of their listening ability is much like their assessment of their driving skills, in that the great bulk of adults think they're above average.

In our experience, most people think good listening comes down to doing three things:

Not talking when others are speaking

Letting others know you're listening through facial expressions and verbal sounds ("Mmm-hmm")

Being able to repeat what others have said, practically word-for-word

In fact, much management advice on listening suggests doing these very things – encouraging listeners to remain quiet, nod and “mm-hmm” encouragingly, and then repeat back to the talker something like, “So, let me make sure I understand. What you're saying is...” However, recent research that we conducted suggests that these behaviors fall far short of describing good listening skills.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

Today in History - June 10, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, June 10, the 162nd day of 2020. There are 204 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 10, 1971, President Richard M. Nixon lifted a two-decades-old trade embargo on China.

On this date:

In 1692, the first execution resulting from the Salem witch trials in Massachusetts took place as Bridget Bishop was hanged.

In 1942, during World War II, German forces massacred 173 male residents of Lidice (LIH'-dyiht-zeh), Czechoslovakia, in retaliation for the killing of Nazi official Reinhard Heydrich.

In 1944, German forces massacred 642 residents of the French village of Oradour-sur-Glane.

In 1957, in Canadian elections, John Diefenbaker (DEE'-fehn-BAY'-kur) led the Progressive Conservatives to an upset victory over the Liberal party of Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent (LOO'-ee sant law-RAHNT').

In 1963, President John F. Kennedy signed into law the Equal Pay Act of 1963, aimed at eliminating wage disparities based on gender.

In 1967, six days of war in the Mideast involving Israel, Syria, Egypt, Jordan and Iraq ended as Israel and Syria accepted a United Nations-mediated cease-fire.

In 1977, James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., escaped from Brushy Mountain State Prison in Tennessee with six others; he was recaptured June 13.

In 1978, Affirmed, ridden by Steve Cauthen, won the 110th Belmont Stakes to claim horse racing's 11th Triple Crown. (Alydar was second while Darby Creek Road came in third in a five-horse field.)

In 1990, Alberto Fujimori (foo-jee-MOHR'-ee) was elected president of Peru by a narrow margin over novelist Mario Vargas Llosa. Two members of the rap group 2 Live Crew were arrested in Hollywood, Florida (they and a third band member were later acquitted of obscenity charges).

In 1991, 11-year-old Jaycee Dugard of South Lake Tahoe, California, was abducted by Phillip and Nancy Garrido; Jaycee was held by the couple for 18 years before she was found by authorities.

In 2002, organized crime figure John Gotti died at a prison hospital in Springfield, Mo., at age 61.

In 2004, singer-musician Ray Charles died in Beverly Hills, California, at age 73.

Ten years ago: Army Secretary John McHugh announced that an investigation found that potentially hundreds of remains at Arlington National Cemetery were misidentified or misplaced. Nelson Mandela's 13-year-old great-granddaughter, Zenani Mandela, was killed in a car accident while on the way home from a concert in Soweto on the eve of the World Cup. The NCAA sanctioned the University of Southern California with a two-year bowl ban, four years' probation, loss of scholarships and forfeits of an entire year's games for improper benefits given to Heisman Trophy winner Reggie Bush.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama ordered the deployment of up to 450 more American troops to Iraq in an effort to reverse major battlefield losses to the Islamic State. Pope Francis took the biggest step yet in cracking down on bishops who covered up for priests who raped and molested children, creating a new tribunal inside the Vatican to hear cases of bishops accused of failing to protect their flocks.

One year ago: The Golden State Warriors remained alive in the NBA Finals with a Game 5 win over the Toronto Raptors, but lost star Kevin Durant, who ruptured his right Achilles tendon; Durant had returned to action after more than a month out with a strained right calf. (The Raptors would capture the championship by winning Game 6.) Former Red Sox star David Ortiz flew to Boston for medical care; he'd undergone surgery in his native Dominican Republic after an ambush by a gunman at a bar. A helicopter pilot died when the aircraft hit the roof of a New York skyscraper in rain and fog, sparking a fire and forcing office workers to flee; records showed that the pilot was not authorized to fly in limited visibility. The Vatican issued an official document rejecting the idea that people can choose or change their genders; the document was denounced by LGBT Catholics as contributing to bigotry and violence against transgender people.

Today's Birthdays: Britain's Prince Philip is 99. Attorney F. Lee Bailey is 87. Actress Alexandra Stewart is 81. Singer Shirley Alston Reeves (The Shirelles) is 79. Actor Jurgen Prochnow is 79. Media commentator Jeff Greenfield is 77. Actor Frankie Faison is 71. Football Hall of Famer Dan Fouts is 69. Country singer-songwriter Thom Schuyler is 68. Former Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., is 67. Actor Andrew Stevens is 65. Singer Barrington Henderson is 64. Former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer is 61. Rock musician Kim Deal is 59. Singer Maxi Priest is 59. Actress Gina Gershon is 58. Actress Jeanne Tripplehorn is 57. Rock musician Jimmy Chamberlin is 56. Actor Ben Daniels is 56. Actress Kate Flannery is 56. Model-actress Elizabeth Hurley is 55. Rock musician Joey Santiago is 55. Actor Doug McKeon is 54. Rock musician Emma Anderson is 53. Country musician Brian Hofeldt (The Derailers) is 53. Rapper The D.O.C. is 52. Rock

singer Mike Doughty is 50. Rhythm and blues singer JoJo is 49. Former Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal is 49. Rhythm and blues singer Faith Evans is 47. Actor Hugh Dancy is 45. Rhythm and blues singer Lemisha Grinstead (702) is 42. Actor DJ Qualls is 42. Actor Shane West is 42. Country singer Lee Brice is 41. Singer Hoku is 39. Actress Leelee Sobieski is 38. Olympic gold medal figure skater Tara Lipinski is 38. Americana musician Bridget Kearney (Lake Street Drive) is 35. Actor Titus Makin is 31. Actress Tristin Mays is 30. Sasha Obama is 19. Actress Eden McCoy is 17.

Thought for Today: "Always be a first-rate version of yourself, instead of a second-rate version of somebody else." [-] Judy Garland, American singer-actress (born this date in 1922, died in 1969).

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.



Paul Stevens
Editor, Connecting newsletter

paulstevens46@gmail.com