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Former NH reporter to discuss his book on JFK assassination Pulitzer-winning journalist

Everyone with a memory of November 22, 1963, can tell you where they were when they heard that President John F. Kennedy had been shot. UPI White House reporter Merriman Smith was several cars behind the president's limousine in Dallas that afternoon. He heard the shots and told the world.

In his new book, *Bulletins From Dallas: Reporting the JFK Assassination*, former New Hampshire reporter Bill Sanderson tells the story of how Smith beat the competition on the biggest story of a generation.

John Clayton, author, former reporter and current head of the Manchester Historic Association, will lead a discussion with Sanderson about the book and Smith's own dramatic and tragic story at 7 pm on December 13 at the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications, 749 E. Industrial Park Drive in Manchester. Admission is free.

Smith's scoop is journalism legend, but the full story of how he pulled off the most amazing reportorial coup has never been told. Most people think Walter Cronkite was the first to tell America about the assassination, but when Cronkite broke the news on TV, he was reading one of Smith's UPI dispatches.

Sanderson's *Bulletins from Dallas* (Skyhorse Publishing, November 2016) is the first biography of one of the greatest White House reporters in American history. With access to a trove of Smith's personal letters and papers and through interviews with Smith's family and colleagues, Sanderson cracks open the legend, vividly describing the chaos in Dallas and showing how the biggest scoop of Smith's career earned him the Pulitzer Prize and foreshadowed his personal downfall.

Bill Sanderson grew up in Jaffrey, N.H., and was a reporter at the Concord Monitor in the early 1980s. He has spent almost two decades as a reporter and editor at the *New York Post*.

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