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**From:** Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 21, 2014 9:00 AM  
**To:** stevenspl@live.com  
**Subject:** Connecting - November 21, 2014

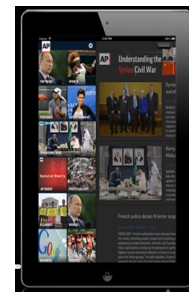
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# Connecting

November 21, 2014

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



Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Here are stories of interest.

Paul

## Today in Media History: Was the Teletype machine the Twitter of the 20th century?

By David Shedden  
Poynter

It was exciting to read Twitter when it first began sharing breaking news in 2006.

In the early part of the 20th century, newsrooms must have felt the same excitement as the first (and often loud) Teletype machines began printing out news updates.



Although the technology had been around for a number of years, and the Associated Press started experimenting with teleprinter machines in 1914, commercial Teletype service didn't start until November 20, 1931.

The clattering sounds of Teletype news would fill newsrooms for years to come.

Just imagine all the important news stories AP machines printed out from 1914 through the 1980s.

"Thanks to Teletypes, America read 20th-century history the day it was made. Da dacka-dacka. Lindy makes it! Dacka-dacka. The Hindenburg explodes! Dak-dak-dak. Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor! Germany surrenders! Atomic bomb destroys Hiroshima! Kennedy shot!

Clattering keys, ringing bells and scrolling paper churned from those squat, black boxes with the glass lid. But soon all that sound and fury

will grow still. United Press International recently replaced the last of its old Teletypes with modern, high-speed printers, and the Associated Press has announced that by mid-September it expects to do the same. An era in journalism - and Americana - is coming to an end.

....A flash was the highest order of urgency on the news wires: a short item to alert editors of news 'of transcendent importance,' according to AP, to be followed by a bulletin, usable for publication. Flashes were signaled by 12 bells on AP machines and 10 bells on UPI's, and they could stop the whole nation in its tracks."

Click [here](#) to read more and hear the sounds of AP and UPI Teletype printers. (Shared by Bob Daugherty)

## Connecting mailbox

### *Michelle Williams celebrates 25th with AP*

**Michelle Williams** ([Email](#)), AP director of major accounts, based in Atlanta, celebrated her 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the AP on Thursday. In a Facebook post, she wrote:

"Twenty-five years ago today, I joined the AP as an editorial assistant in Nashville, where I changed ribbons on printers streaming the day's news, backed up stories on hard disks for our archives and filed reports about livestock and tobacco sales. Now, seven moves and six cities later, I read news on a smart phone, store files in a cloud and sell content for use on digital platforms. The only thing that hasn't changed is the opportunity every day to learn something new and to work with some of the most engaging, smart, funny and dedicated people in the industry. I am grateful."



Williams began her career in Nashville, and her AP moves continued in Milwaukee, Chattanooga, San Diego, back to Nashville, Dallas, Phoenix and Atlanta.

She said, "**Kent Flanagan** hired me into the AP just a few months after I graduated from college, and he brought me back to my home state of Tennessee two more times as Chattanooga correspondent and Nashville

news editor. I was also worked for chiefs **T. Lee Hughes, Andy Lippman, Sue Cross, John Lumpkin** and **Dale Leach** before becoming chief for Arizona and New Mexico in 2007. I've learned so much from so many. It's been a great ride. Thanks for asking for the details. Some of my fondest memories are from those early years, and working big stories and long hours with people who became lifetime friends.

She is shown in this photo taken in June at the 25th anniversary dinner in New York with AP president and CEO **Gary Pruitt**.

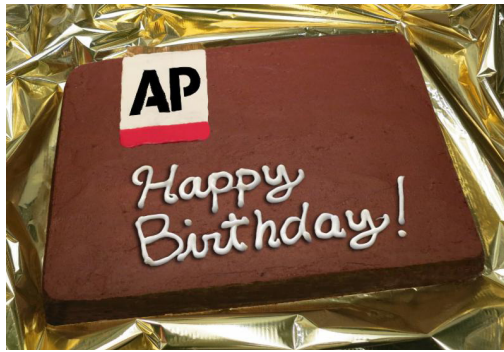
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### **Dan Day and Wawa the mascot**



Connecting colleague **Dan Day** ([Email](#)) didn't know how exciting his job could be as acting director of communications and director of news and editorial services at Princeton University. Not until he took a selfie with Wally, the Wawa mascot at a reception for the new Princeton store. Dan joined Princeton after a long career as an AP executive, bureau chief and journalist.

## **Connecting wishes Happy Birthday**



to

Andrew Selsky ([Email](#))

## Welcome to Connecting



**Matt Yancey** ([Email](#)) - Newly retired from the AP Washington bureau, where he had most recently served as news editor for coverage of Congress. He notes, "Everyone here tells me the only way to keep up with anything AP is to be on this list."

**Ron Johnson** ([Email](#)) - director of Student Media at Indiana University/Bloomington.

## Stories of interest

[The newsonomics of telling your audience what they should do](#) (Bob Daugherty)

You should.

Two powerful words. If they come from your mother or the government, they pack a particular weight. But what if they come from media? Should media be in the "you should" business?

WNYC, the flagship of New York Public Radio, now tests the virtue and value of those powerful words. Just Vote Already served as a first effort, pushing people to the polls with robocalls, door-knocking, and more. Who is a large public radio station to tell people they should go vote?

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[Photo Staff Cuts Continue At Thomson Reuters](#)

More members of the photography staff at Thomson Reuters have been shown the door this week as the picture service continues a downsizing that first gained public attention last summer.

Thomas Szlukovenyi, the Picture Editor for North America, and Peter Jones, the chief photographer for Canada and the Canada and North American Sports Photo Editor, were the latest North American casualties this week at headquarters in Toronto. Prior to his current role, Szlukovenyi had at one time been the picture service's Global Picture Editor.

The photo cuts in North America are part of a Thomson Reuters plan to eliminate jobs globally, including possibly photographers in Europe and the Middle East.

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[GateHouse Media parent to buy Halifax Media](#)

GateHouse Media parent New Media Investment Group is paying \$280 million in cash for Halifax's 36 newspapers. The deal will close early next year.

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[Washington Post Releases Free App for Kindle, in First Collaboration With Amazon](#)

WASHINGTON - In recent months, The Washington Post has been worried about reducing "cognitive overhead."

The phrase, borrowed from its new owner, the billionaire Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, refers to the number of decisions or actions readers must make before getting what they want.

The principle was a driving force behind Amazon's one-click buying system. And it is one of the guiding ideas for a new app introduced on Thursday that will deliver The Post to some Amazon Kindle tablet owners free. It is the first formal collaboration between the two companies since Mr. Bezos bought The Post for \$250 million last year.

The new app, with preloaded articles, pictures and advertisements, was designed in close collaboration with Mr. Bezos, said Shailesh Prakash, The Post's head of technology. "We talked to him constantly," Mr. Prakash said, describing feedback Mr. Bezos gave to developers. "He's our most active beta tester."

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### [Clinton laments 'dilemma' of media industry](#)

Former President Bill Clinton lamented the state of the media industry in a wide-ranging and, at times, meandering speech on Wednesday evening.

"I think it's a real dilemma now, because of the economics of running magazines and newspapers, or even online sites, being able to disaggregate between a legitimate daily headline and a long-term trend line which may at least cause people to pause before they become suicidal over the daily headline. Or euphoric over the daily headline," Clinton said.

Clinton spoke for nearly 40 minutes at a black-tie gala in Washington honoring The New Republic's 100th anniversary. The event was attended by the likes of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Joe Scarborough and Mika Brzezinski, Wolf Blitzer and several members of Congress.

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### [Royals, Hill to D.C. press: Clean up](#)

The Washington press corps may be due for a few lessons from "Miss Manners."

On Thursday, the Senate Periodical Press Gallery sent out an email reminding reporters of the general rules of etiquette while covering

Congress, such as not taking pictures in the wrong places, not walking backwards and not being so absorbed in a phone as to run into people.

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### [TV Land pulls 'Cosby Show' from lineup](#)

NEW YORK (AP) - NBC has scrapped a Bill Cosby comedy that was under development and TV Land will stop airing reruns of "The Cosby Show," moves that came a day after another woman came forward claiming that the once-beloved comic had sexually assaulted her.

NBC spokeswoman Rebecca Marks said Wednesday the Cosby sitcom "is no longer under development." A TV Land representative said the reruns will stop airing immediately for an indefinite time. "The Cosby Show" also was to have been part of a Thanksgiving sitcom marathon.

The NBC sitcom and "Cosby Show" reruns joined a Netflix Cosby standup comedy special, which was indefinitely postponed late Tuesday, as mounting evidence of Cosby's faltering career. They occurred a day after model Janice Dickinson, in an interview with "Entertainment Tonight," became the third woman in recent weeks to allege she'd been assaulted by Cosby - charges strongly denied by the comedian's lawyer.

The developments, which involve allegations that were widely reported a decade ago as well as new accusations, have gravely damaged the 77-year-old comedian's reputation as America's TV dad at a time when he was launching a comeback. A year ago, a standup special - his first in 30 years - aired on Comedy Central and drew a hefty audience of 2 million viewers. His prospective new series was announced by NBC in January.

## **AP Best of the States**

A year ago, San Diego correspondent **Elliot Spagat** learned that the U.S. Border Patrol was using drones to patrol desolate stretches of territory that had no agents, camera towers, ground sensors or fences. It took a year, but he finally nailed down details of the program and convinced agents to give him an exclusive, multi-format look at this new strategy.

The information Spagat was after was closely guarded. When he began reporting, some who were familiar with the effort only knew general outlines. He found sources who could corroborate the basics and elaborate on the previously unpublished information, which included the extent of drone coverage and findings. Spagat told the Border Patrol public affairs office what he learned from sources about the use of drones and was promised a tour of the control room for all formats. The agency repeatedly delayed but Spagat checked in every few weeks over



several months until it finally began proposing dates for a top official to talk on-camera.

Accompanied by video-equipped reporter **Brian Skoloff** and photographer **Matt York**, Spagat visited a drone facility in Arizona. Skoloff also visited two Arizona ranchers with strong opinions on drones, obtaining the rancher's hidden camera footage of smugglers crossing his land.

Through persistence, the three were able to give the latest and most complete picture of border patrol efforts to date, including the finding that there essentially is no illegal activity over roughly 900 miles of the Mexican border and therefore no need for agents or fences. They also broke news that the Border Patrol plans to expand the strategy to the Canadian border. The shift marks a significant departure from a decades-long approach to border security that emphasizes putting more boots on the ground and building fences.

Spagat tapped sources for detailed information on how the intelligence was collected and analyzed what it showed - almost none of it publicly disclosed - and included perspective from the Customs and Border Protection commissioner in an exclusive interview.

The story was teased or played on 19 newspaper front pages, including the Arizona Daily Star, Dallas Morning News and Wisconsin State-Journal. MSN featured it prominently and the video was among the top downloads of the week. Greg Moran, a U-T San Diego investigative reporter, tweeted the story and commented, "Great get, fascinating read."

For their persistence and exclusive, comprehensive all-formats coverage \_ including footage of everything from the smugglers in the desert to the drones patrolling the border - Spagat, Skoloff and York share this week's \$300 Best of the States prize.

*(Shared by Valerie Komor)*

## **Today in History**

### **By The Associated Press**

**Today is Friday, Nov. 21, the 325th day of 2014. There are 40 days left in the year.**

#### **Today's Highlight in History:**

On Nov. 21, 1864, a letter was signed by President Abraham Lincoln

expressing condolences to Lydia Bixby, a widow in Boston whose five sons supposedly died while fighting in the Civil War. (As it turned out, only two of Mrs. Bixby's sons had been killed in battle; also, historians are not certain that Lincoln actually wrote the letter.)

**On this date:**

In 1789, North Carolina became the 12th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1861, Judah Benjamin, who had been acting Confederate Secretary of War, was formally named to the post.

In 1922, Rebecca L. Felton of Georgia was sworn in as the first woman to serve in the U.S. Senate.

In 1934, the Cole Porter musical "Anything Goes," starring Ethel Merman as Reno Sweeney, opened on Broadway.

In 1942, the Alaska Highway, also known as the Alcan Highway, was formally opened at Soldier's Summit in the Yukon Territory.

In 1964, the upper level of New York's Verrazano Narrows Bridge, connecting Brooklyn and Staten Island, was opened.

In 1969, the Senate voted down the Supreme Court nomination of Clement F. Haynsworth, 55-45, the first such rejection since 1930.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon's attorney, J. Fred Buzhardt (buh-ZAHRDT'), revealed the existence of an 18-1/2-minute gap in one of the White House tape recordings related to Watergate.

In 1974, bombs exploded at a pair of pubs in Birmingham, England, killing 21 people. (Six suspects were convicted of the attack, but the convictions of the so-called "Birmingham Six" were overturned in 1991.)

In 1980, 87 people died in a fire at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

In 1989, the proceedings of Britain's House of Commons were televised live for the first time.

In 1991, the U.N. Security Council chose Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt to be Secretary-General.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, trying to mend relations with Latin America, pledged during an economic summit in Chile to make a fresh push for stalled immigration reforms. Iraqi authorities set January 30, 2005, as the date for the nation's first election since the collapse of Saddam Hussein's dictatorship. Six Wisconsin hunters were shot to death by Chai Soua Vang, an ethnic Hmong immigrant who was later sentenced to life in prison.

Five years ago: The Senate voted 60-39 to open debate on health care legislation. An explosion at the Xinxing coal mine near Hegang city in China killed 108 miners. The University of East Anglia, in eastern England, reported that hackers had broken into a server at its Climatic Research Unit. (The hackers posted hundreds of private e-mails and documents online, stoking debate on whether some scientists had overstated the case for man-made climate change.) The shimmering, white glove Michael Jackson wore when he premiered his trademark moonwalk dance was auctioned off for \$350,000 (plus \$70,000 in taxes and fees) at the Hard Rock Cafe in New York's Times Square.

One year ago: Sweeping aside a century of precedent, Democrats took a chunk out of the Senate's hallowed filibuster tradition, clearing the way for speedy confirmation of controversial appointments made by President Barack Obama; Republicans warned Democrats would regret their actions once political fortunes were reversed and they could no longer block appointments made by a GOP president. Fifty-four people were killed in a supermarket roof collapse in Riga, Latvia. Three women were freed after being held captive 30 years in a south London home.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Joseph Campanella is 90. Country singer Jean Shepard is 81. Actor Laurence Luckinbill is 80. Actress Marlo Thomas is 77. Actor Rick Lenz is 75. Singer Dr. John is 74. Actress Juliet Mills is 73. Basketball Hall of Famer Earl Monroe is 70. Television producer Marcy Carsey is 70. Actress Goldie Hawn is 69. Movie director Andrew Davis is 68. Rock musician Lonnie Jordan (War) is 66. Singer Livingston Taylor is 64. Actress-singer Lorna Luft is 62. Actress Cherry Jones is 58. Rock musician Brian Ritchie (The Violent Femmes) is 54. Gospel singer Steven Curtis Chapman is 52. Actress Nicollette Sheridan is 51. Singer-actress Bjork (byork) is 49. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Troy Aikman is 48. Rhythm-and-blues singer Chauncey Hannibal (BLACKstreet) is 46. Rock musician Alex James (Blur) is 46. MLB All-Star player Ken Griffey Jr.

is 45. TV personality Rib Hillis is 44. Rapper Pretty Lou (Lost Boyz) is 43. Football player-turned-talk show host Michael Strahan (STRAY'-han) is 43. Country singer Kelsi Osborn (SHeDAISY) is 40. Singer-actress Lindsey Haun is 30. Actress Jena Malone is 30. Pop singer Carly Rae Jepsen is 29. Actor-singer Sam Palladio is 27.

***Thought for Today: "Never confuse motion with action." - Ernest Hemingway, American author (1899-1961).***

Paul Stevens  
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