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Connecting - November 20, 2017

1 message

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning!

The latest in a series of excellent stories by The New York Times looking back at a key year in the Vietnam War, 1967, centered on "The Women Who Covered Vietnam."

Connecting's membership includes women journalists who are included in that category - and I invite them to share their own stories with our group.

In the Times' story by **Elizabeth Becker**, a former correspondent for the Times and other news media and the author of "America's Vietnam War: A Narrative History," there is this mention of The Associated Press:

*Some exceptional men championed us; there were bosses who took a chance and hired us, and who made us look good. Foremost was **Horst Faas**, the photo editor of The Associated Press in Saigon. He made the careers of several women with his simple policy of buying great photographs no matter who shot them.*

And **Jurate Kazickas**, a Connecting colleague, was also mentioned in the story. See the excerpt below.

[Click here](#) for a link to the Times story, shared by Sibby Christensen, which begins:



Kate Webb (Getty Images)

This year Australia put the journalist Kate Webb on a stamp to commemorate the country's Veterans Day. It is a reproduction of a famous photo of Kate wearing a safari shirt, holding open her notebook while looking intently at the subject of an interview.

By recognizing Kate, who covered the Vietnam War for United Press International, as a "woman in war," the stamp quietly acknowledges what has been glossed over in the annals of the conflict. Female reporters covered that war, rewriting the rules so that the phrase "woman war correspondent" would never again be an oxymoron.

Reporters like Kate and me didn't go to Vietnam because of enlightened decisions by newsrooms; in the 1960s, news organizations weren't sending women to cover the most important story of our generation. Instead, we had to find our own way to the battle zone. Kate quit her newspaper job and flew to Saigon from Sydney; U.P.I. hired her only later. Jurate Kazickas went on the quiz show "Password" to win the \$500 she needed for her ticket to Saigon. The French photojournalist Catherine Leroy, inspired by photos of the war she had seen in Paris Match, arrived in Vietnam as a freelancer. I used money from a fellowship grant to buy a one-way ticket from Seattle to Phnom Penh, Cambodia. It seemed almost natural, since the women's movement was helping us imagine we could have the same opportunities as men.

We're saddened to bring news of the death of **Neil Bibler**. If you have a memory to share of him, please send it along.

And, with the death Sunday of Charles Manson, one of our colleagues who devoted much of her AP career to covering him - **Linda Deutsch** - shared her thoughts in a story that moved on the AP wire. We bring you that story in today's issue along with the main-bar story on his death by another Connecting colleague, **John Rogers**.

Here's to a great (Thanksgiving) week ahead!

Paul

Neil Bibler, former Associated Press news editor, dies at 81

PHOENIX (AP) - Neil Bibler, a news editor and reporter for The Associated Press during a 33-year career that included stints in several Western states before settling in Arizona, has died. He was 81.

Bibler had health issues associated with age, but the cause of death was not immediately known, said Susan Coutin, one of his two daughters.

Bibler died last Tuesday at his home in the Phoenix suburb of Ahwatukee.

Born in 1936 in Riverside, California, William Neil Bibler an showed interest in newspapers while growing up in Fort Worth, Texas. He later went on to study at the University of Arkansas, where he earned a master's degree in speech and drama. He worked briefly as a professor in those subjects in Magnolia, Arkansas, Coutin said.

After a friend working for The Associated Press encouraged Bibler to apply for a job with the company, he was offered a reporting position in the Helena, Montana, bureau in 1968. Over the next decade, Bibler worked in bureaus in Seattle, Cleveland and San Francisco.

Bibler relocated to the San Francisco bureau in 1977 to help start up the Associated Press's new education wire. It was a news feed for schools that offered supplemental resources such as discussion questions. "He was really excited because it combined his interests in journalism and education," Coutin said.

In 1979, Bibler moved his family to Phoenix to become that bureau's news editor, a position he held until 1991. He then was an evening news supervisor until his retirement in 2001.

Bibler is survived by two daughters, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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

Connecting mailbox

The party's over...



Peter Arnett (Email) - Being part of a conference involving very wealthy people is always more interesting inside than simply covering it. And so it was at the end of a 10-day gathering in Hanoi and Saigon of the Houston-based YPO (young president's organization) this past weekend, Nick Ut and I joined the other participants in the farewell festivities, requiring us to wear the traditional mandarin robes provided presidents when they visit Asian capitals. Nick Ut felt right at home in his silken gown, I felt, well, ridiculous, but not one to turn my nose up at venerable traditions, nor the river of champagne that flowed at Saigon's six-star Reverie Hotel.

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'Chance favors the prepared man/woman'

Bob Daugherty (Email) - I thought of Washington AP photographer Jacquelyn Martin's picture of Treasury Secretary Mnuchin and his wife displaying a sheet of currency and AP photographer Burhan Ozbilici's dramatic images of the Russian ambassador's assassination.

One was a Washington daybook assignment and the other a drop-by at a photo exhibit opening in Ankara. Both were 'routine' assignments that yielded pictures that were anything but mundane.

Both photographers proved that there are no 'routine' assignments. In the words of legendary Washington AP photographer J. Scott Applewhite, "Chance favors the prepared man/woman."

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Looking to hire freelancers, as a payback

Mike Bass (Email) - I got some generous help in making connections (pun intended) when I was looking for a job, and now I'd like to try to pay it forward and help someone who might be in similar straits. In my current job at Aetna, I need to hire freelancers to work on some writing projects. The pay is good, as you would expect from a Fortune 50 company. I don't have any specific work at the moment, but I'm starting to compile a list of candidates so I'm ready when the work does surface, which should be early next year.

Do you know anyone in your network who might be interested?

(Drop a note to Mike if you want more information - michaelbass@comcast.net)

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Back to your roots

Joe McGowan ([Email](#)) - Maybe my experience will qualify. I started with AP as a newsman in Cheyenne, WY, in 1955. Then in 1978, after roaming around the world, AP returned me to Denver as bureau chief for Colorado and Wyoming.

Connecting profile - Ford Burkhart



Ford Burkhart and his wife Carolyn Niethammer

Ford Burkhart ([Email](#)) - A monsoon rain forced me off the street in Hong Kong in 1969. By chance, I was right outside the AP office, en route home from 2 years with Peace Corps in a Chinese village in Malaysia. Went upstairs to say hello. The boss, Forrest "Woody" Edwards, handed me a job application upon hearing I'd been with The Miami Herald and spoke a little Chinese. I was sent to Philadelphia, then Harrisburg as politics writer, and on to the AP Foreign Desk (with Ben Bassett and Nate Polowetzky; some will recall them) as

editors. Filled in at the UN bureau with Max Harrelson, Shirley Christian and Bill Oatis (all-star team then). I was sent to China in 1973 with a US delegation, and met Chou En-lai, who said, correctly, "A few years ago you (the AP) could say nothing good about us. Now you can say nothing bad." He laughed. At the UN, I met Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Salvador Allende and Amilcar Cabral, who was slain months after I wrote a good profile of him, as were Allende and Bhutto soon after. I was bad luck maybe.

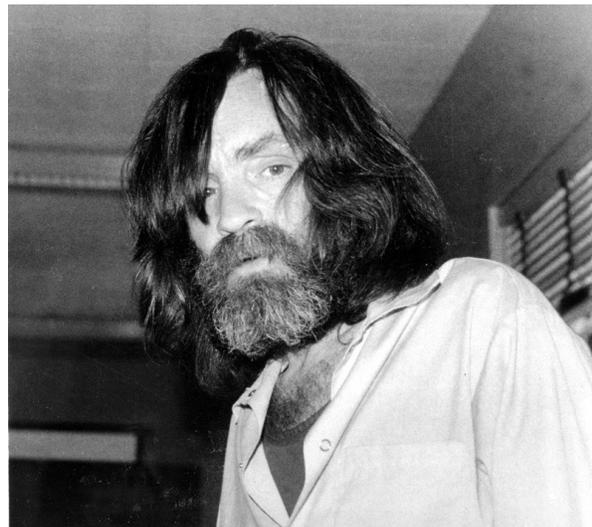
I taught at U of Arizona, '76 to '96, working a few summers at the L.A. Times. Jumped ship for the New York Times Foreign Desk for 11 years, 1996 to 2007. I live in Tucson, and write and help edit two local magazines. My wife, Carolyn Niethammer, writes books about Southwest subjects.

I taught at the American University in Cairo, with Ted Stannard, ex-UPI. In New York, I lectured to Stanford editing students using the NY Times TV system, great fun, and lectured at Columbia University's Biosphere 2 campus in Arizona. I wrote those little obits for the Portraits of Grief pages at the NYT after 9/11, maybe my best writing. I managed to snare three Fulbright Fellowships to teach in Nigeria, Uganda and Malaysia.

Charles Manson, whose cult slayings horrified world, dies

By **JOHN ROGERS**

LOS ANGELES (AP) - In the summer of 1969, a scruffy ex-convict with a magnetic hold on young women sent some of his disciples into the night to carry out a series of gruesome killings in Los Angeles. In so doing, Charles Manson became the leering face of evil on front pages across America and rewrote the history of an era.



Manson, the hippie cult leader who died of natural causes Sunday at age 83 after nearly half a century behind bars, orchestrated the slayings of pregnant actress Sharon Tate and six other people, butchered at two homes on successive August nights by intruders who scrawled "Pigs" and "Healter Skelter" (sic) in the victims' blood.

The slaughter horrified the world. To many, the collateral damage included the era of peace, love and flower power.

The Manson Family killings, along with the bloodshed later that year during a Rolling Stones concert at California's Altamont Speedway, seemed to expose the violent and drug-riddled underside of the counterculture and sent a shiver of fear through America.

"Many people I know in Los Angeles believe that the Sixties ended abruptly on August 9, 1969," author Joan Didion wrote in her 1979 book "The White Album."

Read more [here](#).

Former AP reporter recalls surreal spectacle of Manson trial

By LINDA DEUTSCH

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The first time I saw Charles Manson being led into a courtroom in 1969 at the old Los Angeles Hall of Justice, I was shocked - not because of the mythology that preceded him, but because of just how small he was.

The cult leader, accused of the most notorious murders in decades, arrived amid stories of mystical powers and hypnotic eyes. Now, he was shuffling down a hallway in handcuffs, wearing fringed buckskins, surrounded by deputies.

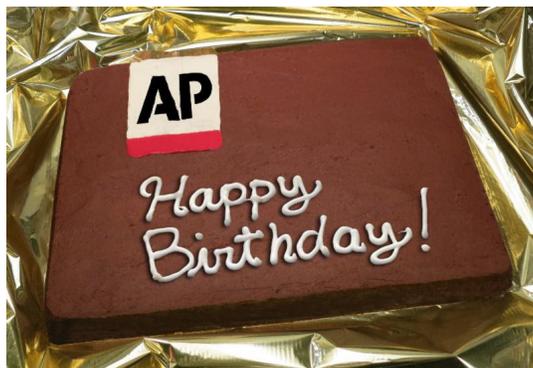
At just over 5-foot-3, Manson was not much taller than me. His shaggy brown hair hung across his face, and he appeared dazed by the hysteria surrounding him.

Photo crews galloped down the hallway, jockeying so fast to get near him that they knocked a water fountain off the wall, flooding the corridor.

"This is crazy," I said to another reporter. Little did I know how crazy it would become.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

Bob Nordyke - bobpress@aol.com

Stories of interest

Words journalists write that no one ever says

(Poynter)

BY KRISTEN HARE & BENJAMIN MULLIN

There are words that fit comfortably in news reports but feel alien in your mouth. Have you ever asked a coworker to stop glowering at you? Told your boss you were trying to foment comments? Complained about readers firing salvos at you?

Identifying such words is by no means a new concept -- Jim Romanesko solicited them from readers in 2012, and Charles Portis wrote about a woman who started every transitional paragraph with "moreover." Robert Hutton wrote a British-English-centric book about the problem: "Romps, Tots and Boffins: The Strange Language of News."

Kristen Hare's Wednesday-morning Twitter call for suggestions of such words unearthed those examples, as well as many suggestions. Some fell too neatly into the category of peeves -- flee, for some reason, came up a lot.

"I think we shouldn't be embarrassed by those and in fact there has been a long tradition of their usage in headline writing," Poynter's Roy Peter Clark said. "I'm really interested in the shorter words, because those are the ones that for decades, maybe centuries, have supported the efforts of copy editors, such as nix, pics or inks or pact."

Read more [here](#).

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St. Louis police issue special order reiterating rights of journalists (St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

By CELESTE BOTT

ST. LOUIS * St. Louis police officers will be required each month to read and acknowledge a special order reiterating the rights of journalists, according to Interim Police Chief Lawrence O'Toole.

It states that members of media must be provided, at a minimum, the same access that others are given, but that scene commanders can use their discretion to grant journalists select privileges, so long as the officers' duties and the safety of other members of the public won't be compromised.

Officers are expected to read such orders and acknowledge they've read and understand them on a monthly basis, O'Toole said. Also, the department will send all officers an advisory asking them to allow journalists to do their jobs and increase officer training in dealing with journalists.

"News media will be given every consideration by Department members so that they may perform their news-gathering function; however, they are not entitled to interfere with an officer's performance of duty or the safety of citizens," the new order reads.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac.

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Katharine Viner: in turbulent times, we need good journalism more than ever (Guardian)

Facebook has become the most powerful publisher in history by replacing editors with algorithms and has divided public debate in a way that challenges democracy, Katharine Viner, the editor-in-chief of the Guardian, has said.

In a wide-ranging speech that addressed the tumultuous challenges facing the Guardian and other media organisations, Viner also accused Donald Trump and other politicians of actively undermining journalism's public interest role in a democracy and warned there was a "march against free speech" in countries such as Russia, Turkey, and Malta, where investigative journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia was murdered.

"Championing the public interest and the continued freedom of the press - which has always been at the heart of the Guardian's mission - has become an urgent necessity," she said.

While the Guardian editor argued that the emergence of the internet had allowed mass communication to be "open, creative, egalitarian" - helping to vastly improve journalism - there had also been unforeseen consequences.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

Today in History - November 20, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Nov. 20, the 324th day of 2017. There are 41 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 20, 1947, Britain's future queen, Princess Elizabeth, married Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, at Westminster Abbey.

On this date:

In 1620, Peregrine White was born aboard the Mayflower in Massachusetts Bay; he was the first child born of English parents in present-day New England.

In 1789, New Jersey became the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights.

In 1910, the Mexican Revolution of 1910 had its beginnings under the Plan of San Luis Potosi issued by Francisco I. Madero.

In 1925, Robert F. Kennedy was born in Brookline, Massachusetts.

In 1945, 22 former Nazi officials went on trial before an international war crimes tribunal in Nuremberg, Germany. (Almost a year later, the International Military Tribune sentenced 12 of the defendants to death; seven received prison sentences ranging from 10 years to life; three were acquitted.)

In 1959, the United Nations issued its Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

In 1967, the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Clock at the Commerce Department ticked past 200 million.

In 1969, the Nixon administration announced a halt to residential use of the pesticide DDT as part of a total phaseout. A group of American Indian activists began a 19-month occupation of Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay.

In 1975, after nearly four decades of absolute rule, Spain's Generalissimo Francisco Franco died, two weeks before his 83rd birthday.

In 1976, the boxing drama "Rocky," a United Artists release starring Sylvester Stallone, premiered in New York.

In 1985, the first version of Microsoft's Windows operating system, Windows 1.0, was officially released.

In 1992, fire seriously damaged Windsor Castle, the favorite weekend home of Queen Elizabeth II.

Ten years ago: A judge in St. George, Utah, sentenced polygamous-sect leader Warren Jeffs to five years to life in prison for his role in the arranged marriage of an underage girl to her older cousin. (Jeffs' conviction was overturned by the Utah Supreme Court in 2010; prosecutors decided against a re-trial because Jeffs was already serving a life sentence in Texas in a separate case.) Scientists in Japan and the U.S. reported creating the equivalent of embryonic stem cells from ordinary skin cells. Ian Smith, the last white prime minister of Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), died near Cape Town, South Africa, at age 88.

Five years ago: Former boxing champion Hector "Macho" Camacho was shot while sitting in a car in his hometown of Bayamon, Puerto Rico. (Camacho died four days later after doctors removed him from life support.) "Elmo" puppeteer Kevin Clash resigned from "Sesame Street" amid allegations of sexually abusing underage boys, which Clash denied. Jack Taylor, a guard for the Grinnell College basketball team, shattered the NCAA scoring record with a 138-point performance as the Division III school beat Faith Baptist Bible, 179-104.

One year ago: President Barack Obama, concluding his final official world tour in Peru, told a news conference in Lima he didn't intend to become his successor's constant critic - but reserved the right to speak out if President-elect Donald Trump or his policies breached certain "values or ideals." At the American Music Awards in Los Angeles, Ariana Grande was named artist of the year; Zayn was named new artist of the year.

Today's Birthdays: Actress-comedian Kaye Ballard is 92. Actress Estelle Parsons is 90. Comedian Dick Smothers is 79. Singer Norman Greenbaum is 75. Former Vice President Joe Biden is 75. Actress Veronica Hamel is 74. Broadcast journalist Judy Woodruff is 71. Actor Samuel E. Wright is 71. Singer Joe Walsh is 70. Actor Richard Masur is 69. Opera singer Barbara Hendricks is 69. Former U.N. Ambassador John Bolton is 69. Actress Bo Derek is 61. Former NFL player Mark Gastineau is 61. Reggae musician Jim Brown (UB40) is 60. Actress Sean Young is 58. Pianist Jim Brickman is 56. Rock musician Todd Nance (Widespread Panic) is 55. Actress Ming-Na is 54. Actor Ned Vaughn is 53. Rapper Mike D (The Beastie Boys) is 52. Rapper Sen Dog (Cypress Hill) is 52. Actress Callie Thorne is 48. Actress Sabrina Lloyd is 47. Actor Joel McHale is 46. Actress Marisa Ryan is 43. Country singer Dierks (duhkr) Bentley is 42. Actor Joshua Gomez is 42. Actress Laura Harris is 41. Olympic gold medal gymnast Dominique Dawes is 41. Country singer Josh Turner is 40. Actress Nadine Velazquez is 39. Actress Andrea Riseborough is 36. Actor Jeremy Jordan is 33. Actor Dan Byrd is 32. Actress Ashley Fink is 31. Rock musician Jared Followill (Kings of Leon) is 31. Actor Cody Linley is 28. Pop musician Michael Clifford (5 Seconds to Summer) is 22.

Thought for Today: "We are always doing something for posterity, but I would fain see posterity do something for us." - Joseph Addison, English essayist and poet (1672-1719).

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.

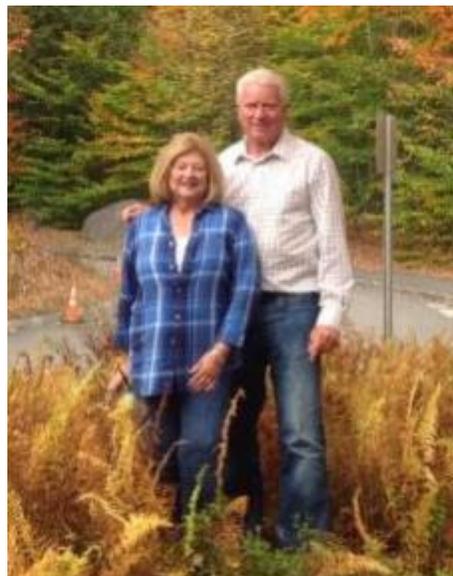
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **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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