

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

[View as Webpage](#)



Connecting

October 30, 2020

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



[Top AP News](#)
[Top AP Photos](#)

[Connecting Archive](#)
[AP Emergency Relief Fund](#)
[AP Books](#)



"Topping Day." The last piece of the St. Louis Arch is fitted into place to fanfare and boat horns on the crisp morning of Oct. 28, 1965. It took two years and eight months to raise the stainless-steel monument from its foundation - and three decades from the first serious planning for a riverfront memorial to Thomas Jefferson and westward expansion. Photo by Renyold Ferguson, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this the 30th day of October 2020,

As we are in the final days before next Tuesday's general election, Connecting looks back 100 years to the 1920 presidential election and Warren G. Harding's victory over James M. Cox.

The first AP news broadcast by wireless transmission in the United States was in Pittsburgh in 1920. Through cooperation with local newspaper member, The Pittsburgh Sun, experimental wireless station KDKA broadcast the news of the election. Our thanks to colleague **Francesca Pitaro**, archivist in Corporate Archives, for sharing.

CORRECTING DATES:

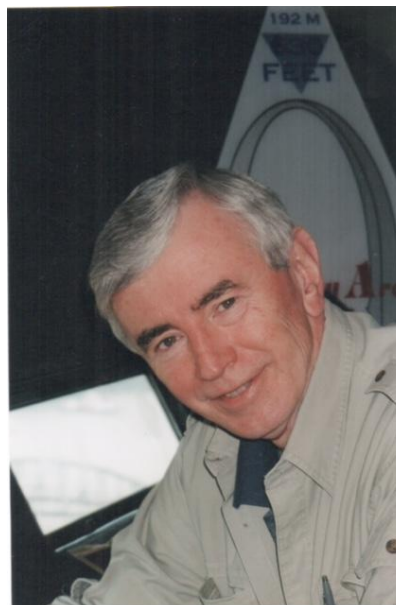
In Thursday's Connecting, the year of Sue Manning's death should be 2018 and the year of Gene Herrick's father's birth should be 1899. I did feel just a bit better when Sue's friend **Linda Deutsch** told me, "I think Sue would have been the first one to laugh at the mistake in her day of entry to Paradise. She probably would have said journalists just can't do math."

'GIRDLED' FOR THE FINAL PIECE:

In today's Final Word is a story on the 55th anniversary of the completion of the St. Louis Arch with dramatic photos from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Don't miss it.

Which reminds me ...

The late **Wick Temple**, an AP vice president, managing editor, sports editor and bureau chief (at right), was AP's St. Louis correspondent at the time the Arch was completed in 1965 and I will always remember the story he told about interviewing one of the construction officials as the final piece was about to be inserted. Wick asked that official what would happen if, when the two legs met, there was not room for that final piece. Well, the official said with tongue in cheek, they would ask the women of America to send a girdle. That appeared in Wick's AP story, and sure enough, Arch officials received hundreds of girdles mailed in from all over the country.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

Trick or Treating in these days of covid will take on an entirely different form most places on Halloween Night this Saturday. If you - or your kids or grandkids or great-grandkids have a costume you'd like to show off, send along a photo to share with your colleagues.

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

History Notes from the Corporate Archives – The 1920 Presidential Election

The first AP news broadcast by wireless transmission in the United States was in Pittsburgh in 1920. Through cooperation with local newspaper member, The Pittsburgh [sic] Sun, experimental wireless station KDKA broadcast the news of Warren G. Harding's victory over James M. Cox in the 1920 presidential election.



Pittsburgh radio station KDKA broadcasts ca. 1920. KDKA is credited with the first radio news report when it broadcast Associated Press election returns in 1920, as Warren G. Harding defeated James M. Cox for president. Radio stations did not become AP members until 1947. (AP Photo)

Counting the vote and getting results to members involved over 18 months of planning. Wilmer Stuart (1869-1921), market editor and director of AP's cooperative election service, spent much of that time traveling across the country to make sure that election results would be counted and transmitted with accuracy and speed.

Marshalling over 10,000 telegraphers, reporters and correspondents in New York state alone, election returns were transmitted over 100,000 miles of wires.

TO ALL ASSOCIATED PRESS MEN

You have again demonstrated with singularly convincing emphasis that ours is one of the most remarkable cooperative efforts in the world. Nobody else is collecting and tabulating the returns as we are—with promptness, accuracy and thoroughness to the end. Your faithful application, and above all your “team-work” throughout the forty-eight States, have added to the prestige of the organization and have made it even more widely recognized as an impartial disseminator of facts, not of conjecture.

NEW YORK, Nov. 3, 1920.

FREDERICK ROY MARTIN,
Acting General Manager.

THE Los Angeles *Evening Express* takes exceeding great pleasure in congratulating THE ASSOCIATED PRESS on the truly marvelous showing made in handling the election returns. There never has been anything like it. The wonderful efficiency of the A. P. is a source of very great pride to us all.

(Signed) E. A. DICKSON, Editor.

*This
Prophecy
Was Fulfilled*



The Evening Bulletin

Published daily except Sunday at Filbert and
Juniper Streets, CITY HALL SQUARE,
Philadelphia, Pa., by
WILLIAM L. McLEAN

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1920.

THE VERDICT TONIGHT

The great machinery of news collection and dissemination in the Associated Press throughout the United States reaches its highest level of proficiency in point of speed, precision and trustiness on the night of a Presidential election.

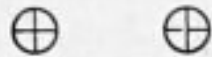
Public confidence in the care and impartiality which enter into the performance of this function is justly placed. In no other institution the world over is there more of diligence and accuracy in the presentation of facts.

Here and in every other part of the Union there will be the utmost eagerness tonight to hear the first sure and authentic word which the Associated Press will give out on the verdict which the American people are pronouncing today from ocean to ocean.

It is altogether likely to be heard tonight, not only decisively, but somewhat earlier than usual, and, when it is heard, everybody who has been waiting for it can go home and go to bed with

the full assurance that he knows, beyond question. who has been elected.

*“We Never
Want to Go
Back to the
Old Methods”*



(A letter commendatory
of the A. P. co-operative
election service.)

“THE work of
THE ASSOCI-
ATED PRESS
election bureau was
so satisfactory that
we hope it will be
continued and made
a regular feature of
your work in this
territory.

“Election night and
the day following
were so comfortable
around our office,
thanks to the special
election wire, that we

never want to go back to the old methods with their nerve-racking confusion and anxieties.

“We want to thank you personally for the part you played in securing such splendid results on the first trial. We will save up all the suggestions we have for improving the service until the time comes for arranging for the next election.”—WILL OWEN JONES, Managing Editor, Lincoln (Neb.) *Nebraska State Journal*.

AP devoted the almost the entire December issue of The Service Bulletin to its 1920 election coverage.

(Shared by Francesca Pitaro)

Sue Manning and Valerie Komor

Andy Lippman ([Email](#)) - Sue Manning did indeed love the Dodgers. Another big fan was Anthony Marquez, the late, great COB in LA. He too could be found listening to games while he was working in his office.

So, there were at least two Dodger fans enjoying the fireworks which erupted after the final out of the game. I was sitting in my backyard and could hear fireworks from all around the area.

-0-

Cecilia White ([Email](#)) - Loved Jeff Wilson's memory of Sue Manning and her beloved LA Dodgers in today's (10/29) "Connecting." It evoked warm memories of the AP/LA's heart and soul. Also, Valerie Komor's terrific tale of AP's origins and early news delivery modes -- seemingly otherworldly today.

-0-

Linda Deutsch ([Email](#)) - Thanks for sharing Valerie Komor's piece on the birth of the AP. Her archival discoveries are always fascinating. Please use them as often as possible.

Welcoming a trove of AP treasures



Larry Hobbs smoking a stogie on the balcony of Winter Park, Florida, hotel room during February AP reunion.

Dan Sewell ([Email](#)) – Christmas came early for this AP and writing nerd.

My long-time friend and retired former Miami AP bureaumate **Larry Hobbs** shipped me a treasure trove of old AP booklets, guides and magazines.

Handbooks on “Writing for The AP,” “AP Correspondents,” “The AP Style Book for Teletypesetter Circuits,” “The AP Copy Book,” different versions of Stylebooks and in Red-Menace colors: “The Dangers of LIBEL.”

There is a small booklet from “New York, February, 1951” with an introduction by Alan J. Gould, Executive Editor. It summarizes the writing handbook resulting from a 1948-'50 Readability Campaign with Dr. Rudolf Flesch as consultant.

The Flesch formula “stresses short sentences, short words, and liberal use of words and sentences that have human interest.”

The good doctor warns: “The people who read or listen to your stories are not morons. Don’t underrate their intelligence. But don’t forget on the other hand, that they’re up against a number of handicaps when it comes to understanding the news. It’s your business to make it clear for them.”

Some things haven’t changed, then.

More recently, in 1974, then-Moscow Correspondent George Krimsky wrote a summary of the role of The AP. He began with an anecdote, with a woman at a cocktail party asking what he did. “I work for The AP.” “How nice,” she replied, “I do so much enjoy your prime ribs.” (A&P supermarket chain reference, it that’s before your time).

He in his summary quoted former AP General Manager Wes Gallagher’s mandate to report the news with “a clear, cold, professional voice.”

And Krimsky quotes AP’s 36-year-old Executive Editor Lou Boccardi (seriously, Lou was EE at 36?): “When you realize that the bulletin you’re about to put on the wire may indeed stop the presses in a dozen or a hundred or more newspapers, there’s no lack of excitement for the news service reporter or editor.”

True that.

Since I have more than enough AP memorabilia from my own career that started a few years after Krimsky’s summary, I hope to find an appropriate permanent home for these fascinating artifacts, likely with AP Corporate Archives.

But not right away.

I have some more reading to do.

(Larry Hobbs began with AP in Knoxville, Tenn., in 1971, then joined the Miami staff in 1973. He retired there in 2007. His email is - larryhobbs2@gmail.com)

New-member profile: Jim Smith

James F. Smith Jr. ([Email](#)) - I first worked with the AP for a summer in 1975 under the tutelage of the great Jerry Harkavy in Portland, Maine! Then I went back to college for my final year, and actually went to work basically fulltime for News

Editor Elaine Hooker and Bureau Chief Ambrose Dudley in Hartford in January of my senior year, commuting from New Haven for what I remember to be mostly night shifts and overnight shifts and getting back in time for class.

I spent 12 years with the AP, from 1976 to 1988: three years in Connecticut, one on the World Desk, then as AP correspondent based in the Hague, Netherlands, for two years, followed by five years in South Africa as reporter and news editor, and then a final year as Asia news editor based in Tokyo. I then left for the LA Times, and later joined my hometown paper, the Boston Globe, as foreign editor and national political editor. I am now at Harvard Kennedy School, handling media relations. I now live again in Newton, Mass., where I grew up – after living overseas for 22 years in all.



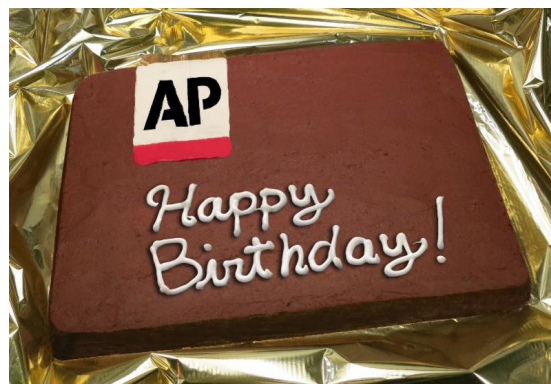
My dad, James F. Smith, worked for the AP for many decades, so it is in the family. He was a newsman in the Boston bureau and then was regional membership executive for New England for the broadcast side.

Doing his happy dance when sun returns



After a spate of cloudy days, the sun returned Thursday to the Kansas City skies and that meant pure joy for our shelter pup Ollie - about to go after his favorite plaything - me! (Shared by Paul Stevens)

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Cheryl Arvidson - cheryl@carvidson.com

Gene Blythe - gblythe43@bellsouth.net

Richard Chady – rchady1@gmail.com

On Saturday to...

Elizabeth Brenner - efbrenner@gmail.com

Mike Graczyk - migraczyk@aol.com

On Sunday to...

Jacqui Podzius Cook - Jacqueline.k.cook@gmail.com

John Lumpkin – jolumpk3@gmail.com

John Marlow - jtm394@aol.com

Stories of interest

The Ghosts of Newspaper Row (Paris Review)



NEWSBOYS AND NEWSGIRLS ON NEWSPAPER ROW, PARK ROW, NYC. PHOTO BY LEWIS WICKS HINE FROM LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**By ELIZABETH MITCHELL**

The reporters would pant up five flights of stairs to reach their dingy, dim newsrooms, where light eked through the dirt-cloaked windows and the green shades over the oil lamps were burned through with holes. They wended through hobbled tables piled high with papers, walked past cubbies so chaotically stuffed with scrolled proofs no outsider could guess the system. The reporters reeked of five-alarm smoke, or had coat pockets bulky with notes and a pistol from the front, or were tipsy from a gala ball, or dusty from a horse race. If they held important news in those notebooks, a copy boy would crowd by their elbow as they wrote, snatch the ink-wet sheets from their hands, and rush them off to the copyholder to “put them into metal.”

The center of news in the nineteenth century lined the streets around City Hall Park, only a short sprint to Wall Street, close to the harbor. News sailed in on the wind. Newspaper schooners cut through the waves and fog to land their men onboard the arriving European steamers before the less affluent New York newspapers could get out there with their rowboats.

Amid recent renovations on Park Row, construction workers discovered artifacts of news reporters inside the walls—papers and typewriters. Who knows what ghosts might lurk there still?

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Fisher, Dave Zelio.

-0-

Glenn Greenwald resigns from the Intercept following dispute over Biden story (Washington Post)



Glenn Greenwald, right, in Rio de Janeiro in 2019. (Bruna Prado/AP)

By Jeremy Barr and Elahe Izadi

Iconoclastic journalist Glenn Greenwald resigned from The Intercept on Thursday afternoon, signaling an abrupt and acrimonious end to his time at the publication he co-founded in 2014 with journalists Jeremy Scahill and Laura Poitras.

Greenwald, who shared the 2014 Pulitzer Prize Winner in Public Service for his reporting on National Security Agency domestic surveillance that was uncovered by contractor Edward Snowden, said his departure was related to a piece that he planned to write about former vice president Joe Biden.

In a lengthy note published on Substack, Greenwald said the publication refused to publish the piece, “in violation of my contractual right of editorial freedom,” unless he removed “all sections critical of Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden, the candidate vehemently supported by all New-York-based Intercept editors involved in this effort at suppression.”

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

The Final Word

Oct. 28, 1965: The last piece of the Arch is fitted into place. See the stunning construction photos (St. Louis Post-Dispatch)



"Gateway Arch Shadow Over Downtown" (1965) by Arthur Witman. Arthur Witman Arch Photograph Collection, State Historical Society of Missouri—St. Louis

By Tim O'Neil
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

The Gateway Arch is strikingly simple in design — a sweeping curve of stainless steel rising 630 feet above the ground. Its 142 welded pieces are equilateral triangles, one of nature's most durable forms.

But there was nothing simple about building it.

The Arch is embedded deep into limestone bedrock and held in place by foundations made of 26,000 tons of concrete, more than 2,000 truckloads. The engineers had to be precise in measurements and calculations, from their drafting boards to fitting the last piece. Much was at stake — a “miss” of the two legs at the top would be a mortifying and expensive embarrassment, to say the least.

The triangles, known to the workers as “cans,” were double-walled structures of carbon steel inside and stainless steel exterior skin. For the first 312 feet, workers poured concrete between the walls and ran continuous reinforcement rods. Above that height, welds held everything together.

The engineers and iron workers knew their stuff. Each time a can was installed, engineers would measure the tips to a tiny fraction of a degree. Then the iron workers would grind, shim and weld the next can to keep the legs true. When the final piece was installed on Oct 28, 1965, the legs were only three-eighths of an inch off, making for an easy fit.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - October 30, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Oct. 30, the 304th day of 2020. There are 62 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 30, 2005, the body of Rosa Parks arrived at the U.S. Capitol, where the civil rights icon became the first woman to lie in honor in the Rotunda; President George W. Bush and congressional leaders paused to lay wreaths by her casket.

On this date:

In 1735 (New Style calendar), the second president of the United States, John Adams, was born in Braintree, Massachusetts.

In 1885, poet Ezra Pound was born in Hailey, Idaho.

In 1912, Vice President James S. Sherman, running for a second term of office with President William Howard Taft, died six days before Election Day. (Sherman was replaced with Nicholas Murray Butler, but Taft, the Republican candidate, ended up losing in an Electoral College landslide to Democrat Woodrow Wilson.)

In 1921, the silent film classic "The Sheik," starring Rudolph Valentino, premiered in Los Angeles.

In 1961, the Soviet Union tested a hydrogen bomb, the "Tsar Bomba," with a force estimated at about 50 megatons. The Soviet Party Congress unanimously approved a resolution ordering the removal of Josef Stalin's body from Lenin's tomb.

In 1974, Muhammad Ali knocked out George Foreman in the eighth round of a 15-round bout in Kinshasa, Zaire (zah-EER'), known as the "Rumble in the Jungle," to regain his world heavyweight title.

In 1975, the New York Daily News ran the headline "Ford to City: Drop Dead" a day after President Gerald R. Ford said he would veto any proposed federal bailout of New York City.

In 1984, police in Poland found the body of kidnapped pro-Solidarity priest Father Jerzy Popieluszko (YEHR'-zee pah-pee-WOOSH'-goh), whose death was blamed on security officers.

In 1985, schoolteacher-astronaut Christa McAuliffe witnessed the launch of the space shuttle Challenger, the same craft that would carry her and six other crew members to their deaths in Jan. 1986.

In 1995, by a razor-thin vote of 50.6 percent to 49.4 percent, Federalists prevailed over separatists in a Quebec secession referendum.

In 2001, Ukraine destroyed its last nuclear missile silo, fulfilling a pledge to give up the vast nuclear arsenal it had inherited after the breakup of the former Soviet Union.

In 2002, Jam Master Jay (Jason Mizell), a rapper with the hip-hop group Run-DMC, was killed in a shooting in New York. He was 37.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama implored voters to resist a Republican tide, warning that if the GOP prevailed in midterm elections, all the progress of his first two years in office could be “rolled back.” Comedians Stephen Colbert and Jon Stewart headlined a “Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear” in Washington attended by tens of thousands. The Texas Rangers beat San Francisco 4-2, cutting the Giants’ World Series edge to 2-1.

Five years ago: The United States escalated its fight against the Islamic State in Syria, pledging the first open deployment of military boots on the ground. A fire broke out at a nightclub in Bucharest, Romania, killing 64 people. Character actor Al Molinaro, 96, died in Glendale, California. The New York Mets defeated the Kansas City Royals, 9-3, in Game 3 of the World Series, cutting the Royals’ lead to 2-1.

One year ago: The Washington Nationals won the first World Series title in franchise history, capturing Game 7 over the Houston Astros by a score of 6-2; the team had rallied from behind to win five elimination games in the post-season and had achieved all four of their wins in the World Series in Houston’s ballpark. Reacting to growing concern about the spread of misinformation on social media, Twitter banned all political advertising from its service. New York City lawmakers passed a bill banning restaurants and grocery stores from selling foie gras, the fattened liver of a duck or goose; animal welfare activists said the methods used to produce it were cruel.

Today’s Birthdays: Movie director Claude Lelouch is 83. Rock singer Grace Slick is 81. Songwriter Eddie Holland is 81. Rhythm-and-blues singer Otis Williams (The Temptations) is 79. Actor Joanna Shimkus is 77. Actor Henry Winkler is 75. Broadcast journalist Andrea Mitchell is 74. Rock musician Chris Slade (Asia) is 74. Country/rock musician Timothy B. Schmit (The Eagles) is 73. Actor Leon Rippy is 71. Actor Harry Hamlin is 69. Actor Charles Martin Smith is 67. Country singer T. Graham Brown is 66. Actor Kevin Pollak is 63. Rock singer-musician Jerry De Borg (Jesus Jones) is 60. Actor Michael Beach is 57. Rock singer-musician Gavin Rossdale (Bush) is 55. Actor Jack Plotnick is 52. Comedian Ben Bailey is 50. Actor Billy Brown is 50. Actor Nia Long is 50. Country singer Cassidy Osborn (SHeDAISY) (sh-DAY’-zee) is 44. Actor Gael Garcia Bernal is 42. Actor Matthew Morrison is 42. Business executive and presidential adviser Ivanka Trump is 39. Actor Fiona Dourif is 39. Actor Shaun Sipos (SEE’-pohs) is 39. Actor Tasso Feldman is 37. Actor Janel (juh-NEHL’) Parrish is 32. Actor Tequan Richmond is 28. Actor Kennedy McMann is 24.

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



Visit our website