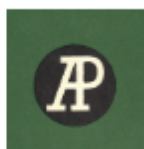


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Connecting

November 23, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this the 23rd day of November 2020,

Our Monday profile focuses on one of AP's more recent retirees, **Joe Kay**, who spent his entire Associated Press career as sports writer in Cincinnati where he distinguished himself covering a number of major stories.

Joe was hired from UPI by our colleague **Andy Lippman**, then Cincinnati correspondent. Joe retired Oct. 1 and now is serving as a pastor in Hamilton, Ohio.

About blogging

We asked last week, when featuring Mike Harris' blog, if any other colleagues would like to share their own production. **Colleen Newvine (Email)**, product manager for the AP Stylebook, said she

started “blogging about living life intentionally more than a decade ago. That includes topics like what gives life purpose, ways to cultivate happiness and how to set and follow through on meaningful goals.”

Her blog, Newvine Growing, is now part of her life and career coaching website. Click [here](#) to view.



What are you most thankful for?

Thanksgiving will be observed this Thursday and in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, it will be “celebrated” like no other Thanksgiving in memory. Many families will choose not to gather together to be safe. In spite of the covid cloud, however, I am guessing there are many things you are thankful for. How about sharing them? Any special way you plan to celebrate?

Have a great week – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

Connecting Profile Joe Kay



Above: Joe Kay in the press box covering his final Reds game in September. Photo/David Kohl. Below: Joe on scoreboard marking his 30th AP anniversary. Photo/Al Behrman.



What are you doing these days?

I'm completing the move into retirement from my AP job and investing more time in my job as pastor of Nexus Church UCC in Hamilton, Ohio. One of the main attractions of retirement was freeing up time to spend on people and projects -- helping the needy, working with inner-city youth, promoting equality and justice -- that are dear to my heart. I'm also giving myself more time each day to go for long walks and enjoy the autumn weather.

I came to ministry later in life. When used in the proper spirit, faith can be a powerful force in transforming people and societies and offering fresh starts. Also, it connects us with people in their places of need and tries to meet those needs. I felt pulled toward ministry about 10 years ago as a way of healing and mending lives and societies. I chose the UCC because healing and justice are in its DNA -- its parent churches included the abolitionist churches and Martin Luther King, Jr., turned to the UCC for help during the Civil Rights Movement.

How did you get into journalism and what were your first jobs?

When I was in high school in Cleveland, my friends decided to join the yearbook and newspaper staff. I wanted to be with my friends so I joined as well. I'd always loved writing and quickly fell in love with the student newspaper, setting me on my

professional course. (Funny how things work out sometime, no?) I attended Ohio University and got my degree in journalism. After a summer working at the Raleigh Register in Beckley, W.Va., my foreign internship through an Ohio University program began and I spent 10 weeks in London, England, in the UPI bureau. Upon my return, UPI hired me in Cincinnati as a news reporter and editor.

How did you get your first job with the AP? Who hired you? What were your first days like?

When UPI began having major financial difficulties in 1980 and it was clear cutbacks were coming, I started looking for another job. Andy Lippman, the AP correspondent in Cincinnati, knew me from covering stories together. By coincidence, the AP sports job was opening and he offered it to me. I had covered some sports with UPI and decided to try it, and I spent the next 40 years as the AP sports writer in Cincinnati until my retirement on Oct. 1. The biggest adjustment was getting used to writing stories on deadline every day and learning how to totally rewrite a story when a team wins in the final seconds or the last at-bat.



Joe holds a jersey the Reds presented mid-game at his final game. At left is AP freelance writer Mark Schmetzer and at right is Jamie Ramsey, the Reds' director of media relations. Photo/Aaron Doster,

What was the biggest story or stories you covered or handled?

We've had many high-profile stories in Cincinnati during the last 40 years. Pete Rose set baseball's all-time hits record and then was banned for life for betting on baseball. The 1990 World Series in which the Reds swept the Oakland A's. Reds owner Marge Schott was suspended and eventually pushed out because of her racially and ethnically offensive comments. Bob Huggins had a tumultuous tenure as men's basketball coach at the University of Cincinnati before he, too, was pushed out. The Bengals set records for futility with their endless and creative ways of losing games.

Who played the most significant role in your career and how?

So many people! My parents instilled in me a love of reading and writing. Bob Campbell was a retired journalist who advised our high school newspaper and taught me the importance of good journalism. Every step of the way, other journalists took me under their wing and encouraged me, taught me, challenged me in ways I needed. We tend to think of our careers as something we do, but I eventually learned that every career takes a village to nurture and create. There are so many sets of fingerprints on every part of mine, and I am so grateful to each and every one of you!

Would you do it all over again - or what would you change?

I am a fortunate person in that I got to do something I loved, for an organization that I deeply respect and cherish, for an entire career. No regrets, no changes.

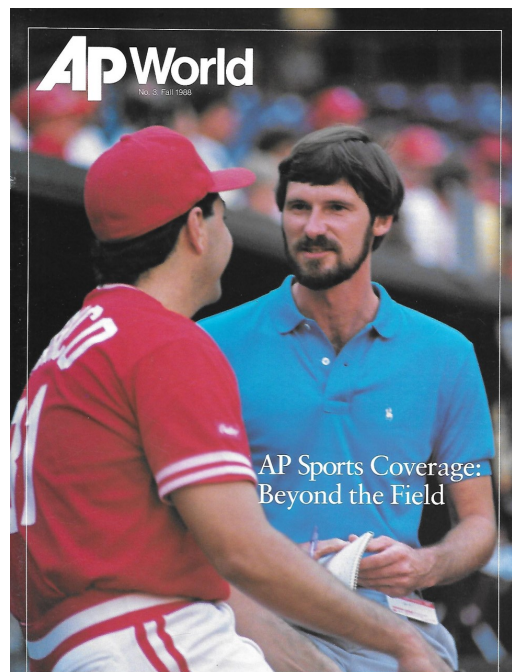
What were your most memorable interviews?

While on my internship in London, I got to interview Kenny Baker, the person who was inside R2-D2 in the "Star Wars" movie that had yet to debut there in 1977. I got to interview Dr. Seuss -- yes, Theodor Geisel -- whose "Green Eggs and Ham" was one of the first books I read, which was a truly surreal moment. Archbishop Desmond Tutu left a lasting impression with the peace and joy he exudes.

What's your favorite hobby or activity?

I love jogging. I start my days with two cups of black coffee and sitting and reading something inspirational and reflecting on life -- my favorite time of the day.

What's the best vacation trip you've ever made?



Hiking Muir Woods in California. There's a grove of redwoods known as Cathedral Grove, a sacred spot where people speak in hushed and reverent tones.

Names of your family members and what they do?

My sister Joanne and my brothers Bill and Jim and their families live in the Cleveland area. We're looking forward to getting Covid-19 under control so we can get back together again and spend time by Lake Erie.

Joe Kay's email - joekay617@aol.com

Remembering LA's Bob Kerr

Lyle Price (Email) - In 1968, Robert T. Kerr (whose recent death was noted in the Nov. 20th edition of "Connecting") arrived at the AP bureau in Los Angeles about the same year if memory doesn't fail me, as did Linda Deutsch and the late Jim Lagier. I'd arrived in late 1967 after stints in Sacramento and San Francisco AP bureaus. Protests, riots, airline hijackings and political doings such as at President Nixon's so-called Western White House at San Clemente south of LA were daily fare at that time and for years to come. The four of us were mainstays in an expansion that saw the LA bureau double in size to 33 news staffers and San Francisco get cut from 26 to 13 staffers.



None was better as a reporter and desk editor in LA than RTK. Anyone who saw Bob's photo in "Connecting" that appears to be from about that era should be able to detect the analytic set to his eyes. He had an ability to size up people faster and more accurately than anyone I've ever known. Those who worked with him or saw him after-shift at the Red Fox tavern (where AP had a table with a teletype machine AP logo next to it) would also soon see those eyes could also twinkle and that his serious, dedicated news side had a big streak of humor in it.

Bob's duties of editing and reporting in LA included at least one stint covering Nixon at San Clemente (as I also did a few times). On one occasion he got an interview with top Nixon aide Halderman during the Watergate era and once prior to his AP days interviewed Billy Graham-- who Bob once told me he found to be the most fascinating and compelling person he'd ever interviewed. He also apprenticed in broadcast sales from time to time in his last few months in LA about 1974 or so, and then transferred to Denver AP to be RME there for a few years before returning to the news side at the Denver bureau for the rest of his 27-year career at AP.

RTK and I were fishing partners during his LA years at the LA harbor of San Pedro, where he and Missy and their three young boys and basset hound Sandy lived -- and I visited them many times. I don't know that Bob much joined in office pranks, although he knew more about what went on (including supposed deep secrets) than anyone else in the LA bureau. He always filled me in since I was a Guild leader locally and nationally and he recognized that the more info I had the more effectively I could aid in personnel situations that needed it.

However, one prank he did specialize in on his own was writing hilarious phony letters. One was to Jerry Buck, one of the AP Hollywood writers, praising him for his interview with Shirley Temple re her childhood acting days and wishing he'd write about her old movies on a monthly basis. Another fake letter was to an allegedly bigoted Texas weekly editor that he'd known; Bob pretended to be a just-arrived boat person from Southeast Asia and in broken English claimed to have been advised that the editor just loved immigrants and therefore he and other boat-mates were heading to Texas to settle right next to his property.

One more item: At the same time I was a wire guild representative from the West, Bob served a term as the national secretary-treasurer of the guild. I was his campaign chairman. That would have been about 1970.

-0-

Linda Deutsch ([Email](#)) - Reading your story on the passing of our colleague Bob Kerr, I realized that he and I arrived at the Los Angeles AP bureau the same year, 1967. We were the newbies on the staff and probably worked different shifts most of the time. But I remember his Texas twang, his good humor and his devotion to the news report. He made friends easily with those who shared his passion for journalism and there was a lot of wringing of hands when he left for Colorado. We missed him and many kept in touch with him over the years. My condolences to his family. He was one of the good guys.

Connecting series:

Your experiences with receiving threats while on the job

The gunman wanted to talk to the AP

Hoyt Harwell ([Email](#)) - Hardly a dreary February day passes that I don't shudder and recall that day in 1988 when an apparently crazed man pointed a rifle at my head, gesturing fiercely with his left hand and demanding that I get his word out to the world.

The slightly-built, disheveled gunman was standing in a hallway of West End Christian School in Tuscaloosa, where he was holding classes of elementary school children and a handful of teachers hostage.

The takeover of the school, which since has been closed, began shortly after classes began that morning and ended 12 hours later with the release of the final group of hostages, after Gov. Guy Hunt sent a video which the gunman interpreted as offering a pardon if he ended his scare tactics.

Before then, however, in mid-afternoon the FBI summoned me from among scores of reporters and said the man, later identified as James L. Harvey, wanted to talk to an AP man. Since I was the only Associated Press reporter at the scene, that meant me. Harvey promised to release some of the hostages in return for my presence.

The FBI and the Tuscaloosa police agreed to let me enter the hostage building if I would walk only 10 steps down the hall. That put me a few feet from Harvey, whose voice rang through the corridor.

"Come on in," he said. "I'm not going to shoot anybody."

That was sort of reassuring.

"I'm asking for government immunity and a pardon," he said while I tried to write notes and keep one eye on that rifle. "I want to get my message out to the people. I'm putting my life on the line to do this. I'm willing to die."

His plea focused on the country's disadvantaged.

"There are people on the street who don't have a place to sleep or anything to eat," he said. "Things are awfully wrong and nobody is doing anything about it. That's why I'm doing this."

I asked him a few questions but he declined to answer, saying only, "I'm one of 250 million people. I'm really insignificant. My name is not important. My message is what is important.

"I haven't been able to accomplish anything. Maybe I can do it this way."

He then asked a teacher to pick out "the 10 scariest children" to leave with me. He was told that one teacher was pregnant, and then he agreed to release nine children and that teacher.

So the 11 of us walked out. After we left, one of the boys, 10-year-old Jason Johnson, asked me what kind of gun the man had. Harvey had said it was "a .233-caliber rifle."

After I came out the FBI told me that my fellow reporters would be upset if I didn't tell them what had transpired while I was in the school. So, after phoning in my story to beat them to the draw, I held the only news conference in my life, relating to my colleagues what had happened. Later I learned that the national TV networks had carried my interview several times, the only time I was the subject of a story instead of an observer.

Harvey was sentenced to life in prison on his insanity plea and was sent to the state mental facility at Tuscaloosa.

The entire day seemed like one out of the "Twilight Zone," rainy and cool, and a day none of us would want to go through again.

While driving back to Birmingham about midnight, the import of what all had happened suddenly hit me and the adrenalin got to flowing, making it difficult for me to keep my old green car from weaving along the interstate.

Hoyt Harwell is retired after 40 years with The Associated Press, the final 26 as the AP's North Alabama correspondent based in Birmingham. Harwell lives in Hoover.

Connecting series:

A look at your home office



Dan Day ([Email](#)) - For the past eight months, I have been working for Princeton University's communications and public affairs division from our home just south of campus in Lawrence Township, New Jersey. The "office" is the guest bedroom, where I work at a desk that my wife Becky and I picked up at the Oakland Museum's annual

White Elephant Sale fundraiser during our San Francisco years. Becky refinished the desk, much of which is obscured by my jumble of papers. Also on the desk is my red Swingline stapler, which is directly beneath my ring light for Zoom calls. The closet with the louvred door at right is where, multi-tasking, I age my home-brewed ales.



Steve Hart (Email) - Yours truly in my home office in Stamford, Conn., earlier this summer.



Gene Herrick (Email) – Here is a picture of me in my office, and petting my cat “Baron Rudy von Stootle Toot.” On the wall is my Virginia Communications Hall of Fame certificate, along with photos I took of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., being kissed after being released from jail, and Rosa Parks being fingerprinted. In office in Rocky Mount, Va. Photo by: Kitty S. Hylton



Guy Palmiotto (Email) - Sticking with a cute theme, our cats, Taylor, on the desk, and Desiree, looking to join in the fun, as I edit family images at my desk. The two cats periodically vie for my attention when I sit at the desk. Ultimately, I'll give in to their demands and pet them for a few minutes. You can see a comp of my wedding photo above right, captured in a Brooklyn, NY park, where we grew up, and a portion of my Lake Placid Olympic games creds above me. I have enjoyed seeing all the home office images. Great to see.



Neal Ulevich (Email) - I can hear shouting... "We know you're in there. Come out with your hands up." In Thornton, Colo.

Connecting mailbox

Jimmie Dean Webb Charton, 1924-2020

*(Our colleague **Scott Charton** ([Email](#)) has shared stories of his remarkable mother over the years, and we're sorry to report that she died last week at the age of 96. Here is her obituary.)*

Jimmie Dean Webb Charton, 96, of Columbia, died peacefully at home on November 18, 2020.

Jimmie Dean was born March 28, 1924 in Plumerville, Arkansas, the only child of rural school teachers James Jennings Webb and Grace (Venable) Webb. Her father passed away when Jimmie Dean was 5 and she was raised during the Great Depression by her widowed mother, who taught her honesty, strength and independence.



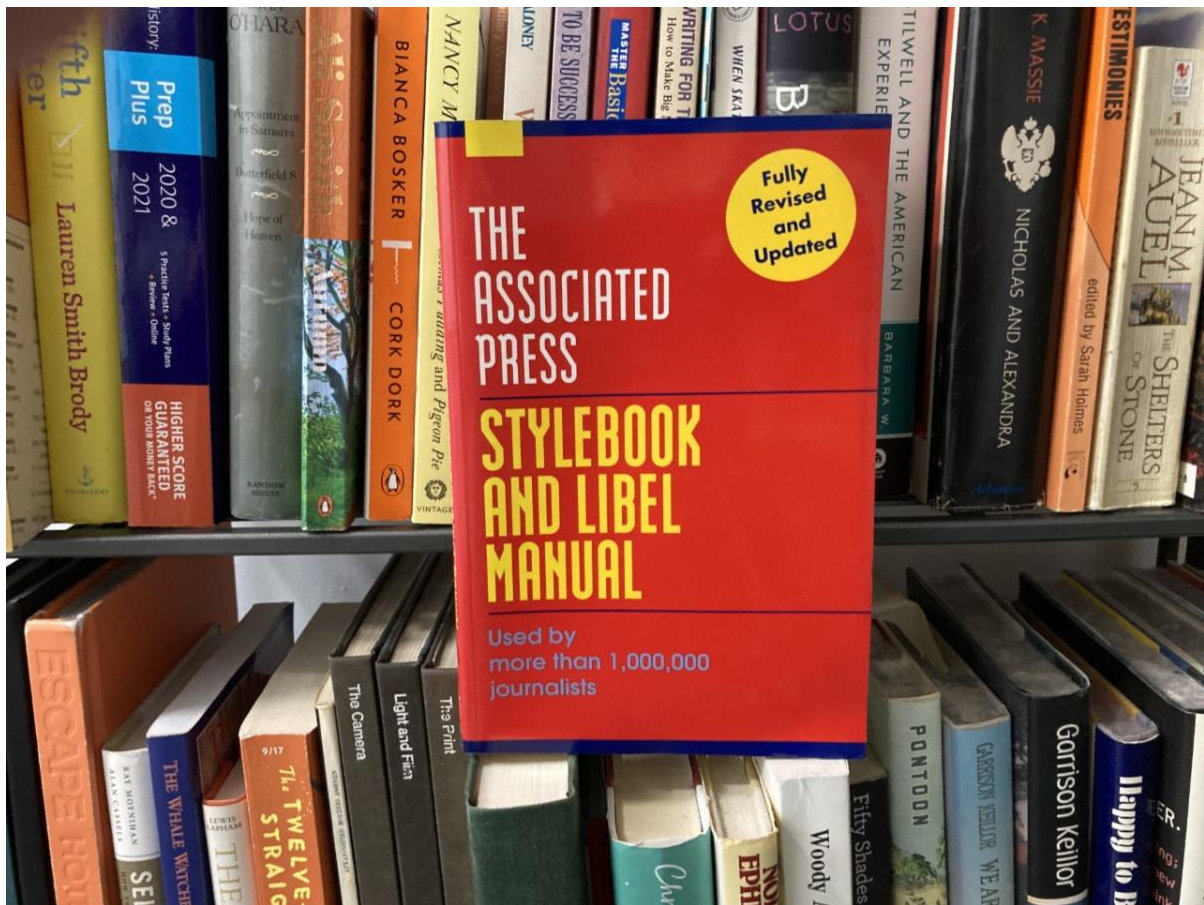
She graduated from Morrilton, Arkansas High School and attended Arkansas Tech University, where she played basketball. Jimmie Dean wed her high school sweetheart, James D. Charton of Morrilton, who preceded her in death in 1991 after 49 years of marriage.

While her husband served in the South Pacific with the U.S. Marines during World War II, Jimmie Dean and her mother worked at the Arkansas Ordnance Plant in Jacksonville making parts for bombs. After the war and James' return, Jimmie Dean worked full-time as a homemaker, mother and as a leader in Scout troops, the PTA and as a church volunteer.

Read more [here](#).

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Unexpected sighting of AP Stylebook



Malcolm Ritter ([Email](#)) - I manage a book exchange for our Manhattan apartment building. While sorting through new donations this morning I came across this 1994 edition of the Stylebook. The yellowed pages list Norm Goldstein as editor, and it's dedicated, "In Memory of CHRISTOPHER W. FRENCH, 1940-1989." Retail price: \$14.

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Sky shot – Mississippi sunset



Kevin Walsh ([Email](#)) - Sunset over the Mississippi River. The bridge links Natchez, Mississippi with Vidalia, Louisiana.

Best of the Week

‘We went straight to the border’: AP documents Armenians burning their homes in conflict zone



AP Photo/Dmitri Lovetsky

For more than a month, video journalist Mstyslav Chernov and photographer Dmitri Lovetsky tirelessly documented the toll of fierce fighting over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh. Their powerful images and reporting including military operations, hospitals packed with wounded patients and those sick with COVID-19, and shelled cities and towns.

On November 7, as Azerbaijani forces closed in on the key strategic town of Shusha, the AP pair finally left the disputed region and headed for the relative safety of the Armenian capital, Yerevan, with plans to leave the region after their long deployment. That plan quickly changed as Azerbaijani forces continued their advance and Armenia signed a Russian-brokered agreement ceding the territory to Azerbaijan. As thousands of ethnic Armenians began fleeing the region, Chernov, based in Germany, and Lovetsky, based in Russia, canceled their flights and waded back into the story, documenting the column of desperate people abandoning their homeland.

In subsequent days the pair would capture images that showed the world the situation had grown even more dire.

Read more [here](#).

Best of the States

Using voters' voices and hard data, AP analyzes Black support in Biden's win



A supporter of Black Voters Matter at the Graham Civic Center polling site in Graham, N.C., on Election Day, Nov. 3, 2020. AP found that Black supports for Joe Biden was roughly the same as Hillary Clinton's support in 2016, but Biden drew more voters in critical areas with large Black populations. AP PHOTO / GERRY BROOME

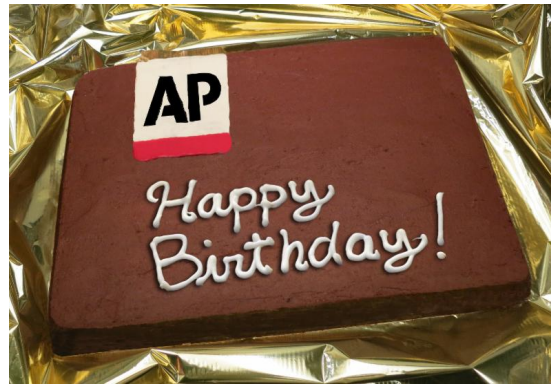
The votes were still being tallied in several states, but there was little dispute that Black voters pushed Joe Biden into the presidential winner's column. The question was: How big of a factor were they?

Race and ethnicity writers Kat Stafford and Aaron Morrison began reporting on what Black voters said they wanted Biden to deliver once in office. Using the voices they collected as the foundation of the story, Detroit-based Stafford and New York-based Morrison teamed with data journalist Angeliki Kastanis and polling journalist Hannah Fingerhut, who infused the piece with data and voter survey findings that bolstered the narrative with hard numbers.

Through AP VoteCast polling they found Black voters made up 11% of the national electorate, and 9 in 10 of them supported Biden. Polling suggested that tensions over Biden and his platform, particularly among progressive activists who criticized his role in the passage of federal criminal justice legislation in the 1990s, did not hurt him in the end.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Sally Stapleton - sallystapleton@gmail.com

John Willis - jmwillis32@aol.com

Stories of interest

For Political Reporters, The Post-Trump Era Poses Practical—and Existential—Questions (Nieman Reports)



President Donald Trump speaks at the White House on November 5, 2020, in Washington, D.C. Evan Vucci/AP Photo

By ALLEGRA HOBBS

For the four years President Donald Trump was in office, political journalists covered an administration that repeatedly attacked the press, calling them the “enemy of the people,” and which repeatedly lied, most recently about a deadly virus ravaging the nation and about the election that handed victory to now President-elect Joe Biden — results Trump has falsely claimed are the result of fraud.

Now Trump is on the way out, and the press finds itself preparing to cover what is likely to be a — comparatively — bland Biden administration. Though journalists will still be covering a time of intense tumult — Covid-19 cases spreading like wildfire, an economy in freefall, an ongoing reckoning over racial injustice — for the first time in four years, the president will not be a wildly erratic figure who is also a documented serial liar.

But it’s not as though the political press will flip a switch and revert to the pre-Trump era — this unusual administration has left its mark. Elisabeth Bumiller, assistant managing editor and Washington bureau chief at The New York Times, notes the considerable volume of misinformation coming from the Trump administration transformed a more credulous pre-existing dynamic of political coverage.

Read more [here](#).

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Newsmax, Once a Right-Wing Also-Ran, Is Rising, and Trump Approves (New York Times)

By Michael M. Grynbaum and John Koblin

Flanked by aides in the Oval Office on Wednesday, President Trump dialed up a friend in the news media with a message: Keep up the good work.

“He said that it’s just incredible, the ratings you’re getting, and everyone’s talking about it,” recalled Christopher Ruddy, the owner of Newsmax, a niche conservative cable network that has yet to declare a winner in the 2020 presidential election.

Based in Boca Raton, Fla., the network features lo-fi production values and off-brand personalities like Sean Spicer and Diamond and Silk. Even finding it can be a chore: It appears on Channel 1115 in some major markets. But since Election Day, Newsmax has become a growing power in a conservative media sphere that has been scrambled by President-elect Joseph R. Biden Jr.’s victory and Mr. Trump’s refusal to concede.

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

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A Headline (or Five) for History (New York Times)

By Sean Ernst and David Vecsey

Times Insider explains who we are and what we do, and delivers behind-the-scenes insights into how our journalism comes together.

A funny thing about print journalism is that the most momentous events often call for the simplest headlines. MEN WALK ON MOON did not require any great turn of phrase or judicious selection of information, yet it had a crisp power that endures decades later.

But which two or three words would declare the winner of the 2020 presidential election atop The New York Times? The debate went on for days in a chain of emails among more than a dozen editors from various departments.

For this “hammer head,” we had to prepare for a wide range of outcomes: A close win by Joseph R. Biden Jr. A narrow victory by President Trump. A Biden landslide. A decisive Trump re-election. And there was the very real possibility of no winner on election night. (More on that later.)

In the event of a Trump win, we preferred TRUMP PREVAILS — nothing fancy, but it would say a lot in two words.

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

Today in History - Nov. 23, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Nov. 23, the 328th day of 2020. There are 38 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 23, 1963, President Lyndon B. Johnson proclaimed Nov. 25 a day of national mourning following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

On this date:

In 1887, actor Boris Karloff was born William Henry Pratt in London.

In 1914, the seven-month U.S. military occupation of Veracruz, Mexico, ended.

In 1936, Life, the photojournalism magazine created by Henry R. Luce (loos), was first published.

In 1971, the People's Republic of China was seated in the U.N. Security Council.

In 1980, some 2,600 people were killed by a series of earthquakes that devastated southern Italy.

In 1996, a commandeered Ethiopian Airlines Boeing 767 crashed into the water off the Comoros Islands, killing 125 of the 175 people on board, including all three hijackers.

In 2000, in a setback for Al Gore, the Florida Supreme Court refused to order Miami-Dade County officials to resume hand-counting its election-day ballots. Meanwhile, Gore's lawyers argued in a brief filed with the U.S. Supreme Court that the high court should stay out of the Florida election controversy.

In 2001, the U.N. war crimes tribunal said it would try former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic (sloh-BOH'-dahn mee-LOH'-shuh-vich) for genocide in Bosnia, linking him for the first time in court to the murders of thousands of non-Serbs and the displacement of a quarter million people. (Milosevic died in March 2006 while his trial was in progress.)

In 2003, five U.S. soldiers were killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan. Eduard Shevardnadze (sheh-vahrd-NAHD'-zeh) resigned as president of Georgia in the face of protests.

In 2006, former KGB spy Alexander Litvinenko (leet-vee-NYEN'-koh) died in London from radiation poisoning after making a deathbed statement blaming Russian

President Vladimir Putin.

In 2012, supporters and opponents of Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi clashed in the streets of Cairo and other major cities in the worst violence since Morsi took office nearly five months earlier. Actor Larry Hagman, best known for playing the scheming oil baron J.R. Ewing on TV's "Dallas," died in Dallas at the age of 81.

In 2016, President-elect Donald Trump selected two Republican women who'd had unflattering things to say about him during the campaign: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley to serve as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and charter school advocate Betsy DeVos to lead the Department of Education.

Ten years ago: North Korea bombarded South Korea's Yeonpyeong (yuhn-pyuhng) Island with artillery fire, killing four people and raising tensions between the two countries. Texas outfielder Josh Hamilton was a runaway winner of the American League's Most Valuable Player award. Ingrid Pitt, who'd survived a Nazi concentration camp and dodged Communist police to become one of Britain's best known horror stars, died in London at 73.

Five years ago: The White House urged its allies to step up their contributions to the campaign against the Islamic State, as President Barack Obama faced pressure to show the U.S.-led coalition would intensify efforts even without a major shift in strategy. Blue Origin, a private space company, landed a rocket called New Shepard upright and gently enough to be used again, a milestone in commercial aeronautics. Cynthia Robinson, 71, a trumpeter and vocalist who was a key member of Sly and the Family Stone, died in Carmichael, California.

One year ago: Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Mason Rudolph was fined \$50,000 by the NFL for his involvement in a melee that began when Cleveland Browns defensive end Myles Garrett pulled off his helmet and hit him over the head with it. (In all, the league assessed more than \$700,000 for discipline stemming from the brawl; Garrett was indefinitely suspended.) Beginning a three-day visit to Japan, Pope Francis denounced the "evil" of nuclear weapons.

Today's Birthdays: Former Labor Secretary William E. Brock is 90. Actor Franco Nero is 79. Screenwriter Joe Eszterhas (ES'-tur-hahs) is 76. Actor-comedy writer Bruce Vilanch is 73. Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., is 70. Singer Bruce Hornsby is 66. Former Sen. Mary Landrieu (LAN'-droo), D-La., is 65. Actor Maxwell Caulfield is 61. Actor John Henton is 60. TV personality Robin Roberts ("Good Morning America") is 60. Rock singer-musician Ken Block (Sister Hazel) is 54. Actor Salli Richardson-Whitfield is 53. Actor Oded Fehr (OH'-dehd fayr) is 50. Rapper-actor Kurupt (Tha Dogg Pound) is 48. Actor Page Kennedy is 44. Actor Kelly Brook is 41. Actor Lucas Grabeel (GRAY'-beel) is 36. TV personality Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi is 33. Actor-singer Miley Cyrus is 28. Actor Austin Majors is 25. Actor Olivia Keville (TV: "Splitting Up Together") is 18.

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
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