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## Connecting November 24, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020,

**What are you thankful for?**

That question was posed in yesterday's Connecting, and I share the first responses.

**Norm Abelson (Email)** - What am I thankful for? So much.

I am thankful first for a long life, largely surrounded by people who cared about and loved me, supported me, taught me, and put up patiently with my failings

I am thankful for the gift of writing, the love of words, the fellow wordsmiths who have been my friends and associates.

I am thankful for the two women, first Dina and now Magdalene, who brought loving light into my darkest of moments.

I am thankful for my parents and grandparents who showed me the meaning of a life well-lived. And my children and grandchildren who give me hope for the future.

Finally, I am thankful to Paul Stevens for giving me Connecting and all that goes with it.

-0-

**Hal Bock (Email)** - I am grateful that those near and dear to me have avoided the virus and that vaccines are going to be available soon.

I am eternally grateful for my beautiful wife, Fran, a retired psychologist. We celebrated our 59th anniversary earlier this month. I am thankful for our son, Richard, who is associate general counsel at the National Labor Relations Board and his terrific family, wife Caroline, a skilled writer, son Michael, a third-year Dean's List engineering student at Virginia Tech and daughter Sara, a skilled clarinetist in her second year of high school.

We will have a zoom Thanksgiving and I am thankful for the technology that allows us to be together even from a distance.

And I am thankful for good health for all those I care about.

Me? I'm thankful for many things - including the connections made with this newsletter - but especially for that certain someone who said Yes some 53 years ago and is among our birthday celebrants today.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

## Operating through lens of diversity, inclusion: Your thoughts?

**Larry Blasko (Email)** - More than a half-century ago, I was on the staff of The Daily Northwestern, the paper that has been covering Northwestern University and Evanston, IL since 1881. Here's its fall quarter Diversity Report in which it says "We are regularly reevaluating the way we report, write and produce content to ensure we are operating through a lens of diversity and inclusion, and that we are supporting the Northwestern and Evanston communities to the best of our ability."

In 1965, I doubt that any folk at the Medill School of Journalism would have spoken of "operating through a lens" but if they did, I missed it. And if asked to publish a

"Diversity Report," the most probable reaction at The Daily then would have been "What's that?" And our mission was "reporting" more than "supporting."

Times have changed, but reading the report below raises issues that your readers might enjoy discussing. Among them:

Does having a staff that reflects your probable audience racial/ethnic/sexual-orientation makeup mean that assignments must match staff with the subject's makeup? Can a straight white female be assigned to cover a meeting of Gay Black Policemen? With the story edited by a bisexual male Latinix editor?

And how does this all square with the old (but solid gold) notion of reporting the news of the day without fear or favor?

And in a time when financial support for all but a few national-level news operations is rapidly vanishing and "news" supplied by anyone with a phone or computer fills the Internet, is this pointless anyway?

Here's [the link](#) to the report.

*Connecting series:*

## A look at your home office



**Linda Deutsch (Email)** – My home is in the Hollywood Hills, a neighborhood known as the Hollywood Dell that sits just below the famed Hollywood sign. I've lived here for 23 years and am grateful every day for having bought in when it was still affordable. It was here in my upstairs office that I worked on many weekends during trials and did countless interviews with O.J. Simpson and other story subjects by phone, typing in notes on my computer. For many years, I worked on a PC with AP's tech geniuses Mark Miller and Dave Sloan coming to my rescue as technology changed and my computer often failed to adapt. Last year, I finally converted to an iMac and will never go back. I love it. I have begun working on my memoir and hope to get back to it in earnest after the Pandemic. Having a garden outside my office door has made the Covid isolation tolerable. You can see that my screen saver and other memorabilia reflect my passion for all things Elvis. Book shelves are crammed with tomes about trials and two whole shelves house books on the Simpson trial. These days I spend way too much time on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. I keep up with news via online subscriptions to newspapers and, of course, AP. And it's here that I devour each issue of "Connecting" every morning, keeping up with my treasured AP family near and far. I do regular Zoom meetings with friends and recently did a Zoom program for a local group with my friend, law professor Laurie Levenson who created a power point on my career. Thanksgiving alone will be a challenge. I will miss the annual AP/LA feast at the bureau with everyone sharing their special dishes. The Deutsch family across the country plans a Zoom get-together. I'll be beaming in from my desk as we toast a time when we can return to hugs and bountiful feasts again.





**Bill Kaczor (Email)** - That's me on the laptop. The desk and wall are filled with memories, personal and professional. At the left is a "fake news" front page from the Pensacola News Journal. It was a going away gift from the Tallahassee press corps when AP in 1984 sent me back to Pensacola, where I had once worked for the News Journal, to become correspondent. The headline below the nameplate reads 'Trader Jon's' gets flack," referring to the famed bar that catered to naval aviators, journalists, politicians and other riff-raff. Next to it is my college diploma. The bulletin board includes a picture of me and Trader Jon himself at the annual Florida-Alabama cross-border mullet toss, various media credentials and three of my four Honorary Tailhooker certificates (the fourth is in a scrapbook) for landing on aircraft carriers (as a passenger). The lamp is made from a gas meter. I inherited it from my father, who worked for the gas company in Chicago. The flag is from his funeral. The paperweight is inscribed "WRITE WITHOUT FEAR. EDIT WITHOUT MERCY." It's a fine sentiment as long as it's not your copy that's getting edited.



**Dave Lubeski** ([Email](#)) - I've enjoyed all the photos of the home offices. Thought I'd share mine, as it is a bit different. It doesn't have a desk. There is a kitchen table next to the fireplace with plenty of surface space, but I'm most comfortable with my laptop on my lap. My office in my home in Topeka, Kan., is in the area on the lower level commonly known as the rec room. The walls are covered with posters from each of my 18 Olympics and there is a wall dedicated to team photos of several of our Olympic coverages. Thanks to my former AP Radio colleague Michael Weinfeld for the inspiration with his office photos. I've also enjoyed following on Facebook, Mike Harris's blog of his experiences as AP's motorsports writer. I've been using my "office" to write about my time as sports director for AP Broadcast to pass down to future generations in my family.

## From World War II to 2020



**Larry Margasak** ([Email](#)) - I gave my eight-year-old grandson, Evan, the Army jacket my late dad was wearing in France in 1945.



I received many reactions on Facebook, so I thought I should send it to Connecting friends.

And in election news, Evan, who is in school remotely, finished second in the election for the presidency of his third-grade class in Wellington, Fla.

He is convinced he lost because the winner was among the majority attending school in person.



## **-30- to a journalism career that started with UPI, AP**

**Amanda (Davis) St. Amand** ([Email](#)) - A journalism career that started with the wire services (two years with UPI followed by nine years with the AP) comes to its end for me after 23 years with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. (KC newswoman 1988-1995, Phoenix news editor 1995-1997) I'm moving on to an editing role with the federal government in St. Louis.

During my UPI time, I covered the top-ranked Iowa Hawkeyes football team and stories from the Quad Cities before moving on to a legislative session in Jefferson City and then as a newswoman in Kansas City. From there, I made the jump to the AP. During my time there, I wrote hundreds of small college football and basketball game stories based on the line and boxscores, made countless calls to Kansas sheriffs departments to make sure the tornado warnings hadn't blown away the nearby towns and served my time on the weekend desk.

More memorably, though, I also was part of the AP team that traveled to Oklahoma City to work on coverage of Timothy McVeigh's



terrorist attack on the Murrah Federal Building that killed 168. I'll always remember that then-AP managing editor Mike Silverman got a call from the FBI, demanding to know what nefarious methods we were using to compile our running list of the people who had died in the attack. That was me, calling every funeral home in the Greater Oklahoma City area two or three times a day to see if they were preparing for burials of any of the victims. Not glamorous reporting, but important reporting nonetheless.

A few months later, I made the move to Phoenix as the news editor, where I oversaw coverage of the fraud trial of Gov. Fife Symington and helped run 1996 election coverage that included waiting for ballots to come out of the Grand Canyon on horseback.

At the Post-Dispatch, there was a papal visit to St. Louis, a new millennium, the plane crash death of a sitting governor, four World Series appearances and two championships, the 9-11 terror attacks, the resignation of governors in two states and the prison terms of two (both in Illinois), unrest in Ferguson and some of the early months of the Black Lives Matter movement stemming from the Ferguson protests, a Stanley Cup championship and of course, a worldwide pandemic.

As the newspaper industry contracts and adjusts to an online world, I decided it was time for me to take on a new challenge. (No, I am not heeding Ivanka Trump's 'Try Something New!' advice!) I will still be working as an editor and knowing that the principles of good writing, accuracy, clarity and completeness will always matter.

So will journalism. I am so proud of the friendships I have made along the way and that endure to this day. And I will always have the news in my blood.

**1843-1947:**

**The past in color - Historical images, brought to life**





1936: Florence Thompson with one of her children, Watsonville, California. Thompson was only 32 in this picture by Dorothea Lange, an outtake from the photo session which generated the iconic “Migrant Mother” image. Born in 1903 in what was then Indian Territory, now part of Oklahoma, her parents were displaced Native American Cherokees. Marrying at 17, she and her husband began a family in California. When her husband died, Florence was left with six children at the age of 28. She went on to have four more children, three with a Californian man, Jim Hill. At the moment Dorothea Lange encountered the family, their car had broken down while journeying to find crop-picking work. Hill and the boys in the family had walked into town to get parts for the car. IMAGE: DOROTHEA LANGE / LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

**(Mark Hamrick (Email))** - Aside from the spectacular nature of these colorized photos, please see the one relating to UPI and the end of WWI in 1918. I'm curious what thoughts or perspectives our Connecting colleagues have on this remarkable event, and the characterization of it, including whether there's any institutional memory (perhaps conveyed by others) about it.)

**By Alex Q. Arbuckle**  
**In Mashable**

Early photographic technology lacked a crucial ingredient — color. As early as the invention of the medium, skilled artisans applied color to photographs by hand,

attempting to convey the vibrancy and immediacy of life in vivid detail (with mostly crude results).

The age-old practice of colorization has been revived with modern digital precision in a new book, *The Paper Time Machine*.

With images curated by Retronaut creator Wolfgang Wild and colorized according to meticulous period research by Jordan Lloyd of Dynamichrome, the book aims to collapse the divide between historical imagery and present-day viewers.

Featuring 124 photos, from the first known photographic self-portrait, to a young and clean-shaven Abraham Lincoln, to unseen images from the Walt Disney archive, the book presents black-and-white originals alongside startlingly lifelike color remixes.

Click [here](#) to view.

Excerpts:

## 1918:





Celebrations on Wall Street, New York following the surrender of Germany. This picture is almost what it seems - but not quite. We know the exact moment this picture was taken, 1:52 PM on Thursday November 7th, 1918 - four days before the end of World War One. The premature report of the end of the Great War originated in a casual lunchtime conversation between Admiral Henry Wilson, commander of the American Naval forces in French waters, and Roy Howard, President of United Press. Wilson passed on a report of a telephone call he had received from a friend employed in the American Embassy declaring an armistice had been signed. Howard, believing he had just been handed the greatest news story of his career years, circumnavigated the various systems of checks and censorship in place, going so far as to forge the



signature of his foreign editor. He transmitted the story to New York unscrutinized, giving the time of cessation of hostilities as 2pm - eight minutes after this picture was taken. Traders on Wall Street were the first to be aware of the news, and trading ended at 1pm. As the news spread, the entire city was caught up in the celebrations. The next day, the New York Times described the United Press transmission as "the most flagrant and culpable act of public deception." The Armistice treaty signed at the end of World War One by the Allies and Germany at Compiègne, France, went into effect on the eleventh day of the eleventh month at the eleventh hour, 1918. Yet close to 3,000 men lost their lives on the final day of the War, as, despite the announcement of the Armistice, fighting did not actually cease until that specific moment. IMAGE: W.L. DRUMMOND / LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

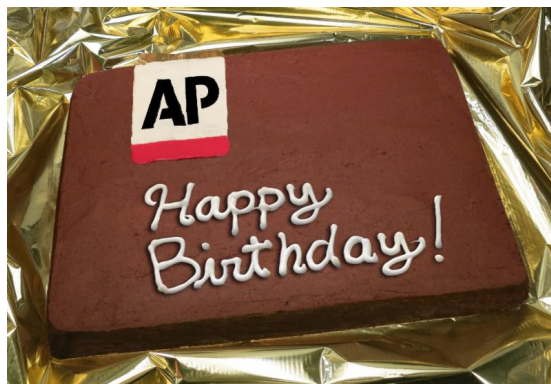
## 1910:



"11 a.m. Newsies at Skeeter's Branch, Jefferson near Franklin. They were all smoking. St. Louis, Missouri." As a photographer working for social reform, Lewis Hine found a number of advantages in photographing "newsies" - boys who sold newspapers on street. Unlike the work he did photographing child workers in mines, factories and mills, Hine could photograph the boys without either seeking permission from employers, or, more typically, circumnavigating them. The photographs could be achieved with more time, and with more focus and attention on the subjects he shot. To achieve this sense of direct connection, Hine would bring his camera down to the eye level of his subjects. Not only taking photographs of child workers, Hine also talked to them and sought to document and record their experience. In aggregate, he created a body of work that displayed an unacceptable standard of living for many

thousands of children and which ultimately achieved a change in cultural understanding of what it means to be a child, and in the law. IMAGE: LEWIS HINE/LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Linda Stevens – [stevenspl@live.com](mailto:stevenspl@live.com)

Harold Waters - [htandjoew12@gmail.com](mailto:htandjoew12@gmail.com)

## Stories of interest

### *Carl Bernstein says 21 GOP senators contemptuous of Trump* (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — Former Watergate sleuth Carl Bernstein took to Twitter to list the names of 21 Republican senators who he says have “repeatedly expressed contempt” for Donald Trump and his fitness to be president.

Bernstein’s post was condemned Monday by some of those involved. It was an eyebrow-raising modern twist on journalism from the former Washington Post reporter who, with partner Bob Woodward in the 1970s, penned scoops that led to the resignation of President Richard Nixon.

Bernstein said he wasn’t violating any confidentiality pledges in listing the senators. He said he learned of the politicians’ supposed private feelings through conversations with some of their colleagues, staff members, lobbyists and White House aides.

“With few exceptions, their craven public silence has helped enable Trump’s most grievous conduct — including undermining and discrediting the U.S. electoral system,”

he tweeted late Sunday.

Bernstein, a CNN political analyst, declined a request to talk about his posts.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Photojournalist detained at Poland's latest abortion protest*** (AP)

By VANESSA GERA

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Police detained several people and charged a female photojournalist with assaulting a police officer as women-led protests over abortion rights flared up again on Monday in Poland.

Soon after the protest in Warsaw began, police arrived and forcibly removed people, including photojournalist Agata Grzybowska.

It was the first case of a reporter being detained during the month of protests that have rocked Poland after a high court ruled in favor of a near-total abortion ban.

Officers dragged Grzybowska away as bystanders called on them to stop, saying that she was a journalist. A large group then gathered outside the police station in central Warsaw where she was taken, rallying on her behalf as they waited hours for her release.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

## **The Final Word**





“What it really comes down to is a question of values . . . Is a delicious, succulent turkey, baked to perfection, worth a few whacks on the nose with a newspaper?”

Shared by Mark Mittelstadt

**Today in History - Nov. 24, 2020**





## By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 24, the 329th day of 2020. There are 37 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 24, 1859, British naturalist Charles Darwin published "On the Origin of Species," which explained his theory of evolution by means of natural selection.

### On this date:

In 1865, Mississippi became the first Southern state to enact laws which came to be known as "Black Codes" aimed at limiting the rights of newly freed Blacks; other states of the former Confederacy soon followed.

In 1947, a group of writers, producers and directors that became known as the "Hollywood Ten" was cited for contempt of Congress for refusing to answer questions about alleged Communist influence in the movie industry. John Steinbeck's novel "The Pearl" was first published.

In 1963, Jack Ruby shot and mortally wounded Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy, in a scene captured on live television.

In 1971, a hijacker calling himself "Dan Cooper" (but who became popularly known as "D.B. Cooper") parachuted from a Northwest Orient Airlines 727 over the Pacific Northwest after receiving \$200,000 in ransom; his fate remains unknown.

In 1974, the bone fragments of a 3.2 million-year-old hominid were discovered by scientists in Ethiopia; the skeletal remains were nicknamed "Lucy."

In 1985, the hijacking of an Egyptair jetliner parked on the ground in Malta ended violently as Egyptian commandos stormed the plane. Fifty-eight people died in the raid, in addition to two others killed by the hijackers.

In 1987, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed on terms to scrap shorter- and medium-range missiles. (The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty was signed by President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev the following month.)

In 1991, rock singer Freddie Mercury died in London at age 45 of AIDS-related pneumonia.

In 1995, voters in Ireland narrowly approved a constitutional amendment legalizing divorce.

In 2000, the U.S. Supreme Court stepped into the bitter, overtime struggle for the White House, agreeing to consider George W. Bush's appeal against the hand recounting of ballots in Florida.

In 2014, it was announced that a grand jury in St. Louis County, Missouri, had decided against indicting Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson in the death of Michael Brown; the decision enraged protesters who set fire to buildings and cars and looted businesses in the area where Brown had been fatally shot.

In 2017, militants attacked a crowded mosque in Egypt with gunfire and rocket-propelled grenades, killing more than 300 people in the deadliest-ever attack by Islamic extremists in the country.

Ten years ago: A jury in Austin convicted former U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, on charges he'd illegally funneled corporate money to Texas candidates in 2002. (DeLay's convictions were overturned on appeal.)

Five years ago: In a show of Western solidarity, President Barack Obama and French President Francois Hollande met at the White House, where they vowed to escalate airstrikes against the Islamic State and bolster intelligence sharing following the deadly attacks in Paris. A suicide bomber struck a bus carrying members of Tunisia's presidential guard in the country's capital, killing 12 victims. Turkey shot down a Russian warplane that it said ignored repeated warnings after crossing into its airspace from Syria, killing one of the two pilots. (Turkey later formally apologized for the shutdown.)

One year ago: Billionaire and former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg formally launched a Democratic bid for president. (Bloomberg would end his campaign in early March.) With multiple wins at the American Music Awards, Taylor Swift surged past Michael Jackson's record of 24 wins at the awards show, based on fan votes. Defense Secretary Mark Esper fired the Navy's top official, Richard Spencer, ending a clash between President Donald Trump and top military leadership over the fate of a SEAL accused of war crimes in Iraq. Disney's "Frozen" sequel took in \$127 million domestically and \$350 million worldwide in its opening weekend, breaking several records.

Today's Birthdays: Basketball Hall of Famer Oscar Robertson is 82. Country singer Johnny Carver is 80. Former NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue (TAG'-lee-uh-boo) is 80. Rock drummer Pete Best is 79. Actor-comedian Billy Connolly is 78. Former White House press secretary Marlin Fitzwater is 78. Former congressman and Motion Picture Association of America Chairman Dan Glickman is 76. Singer Lee Michaels is 75. Actor Dwight Schultz is 73. Actor Stanley Livingston is 70. Rock musician Clem Burke (Blondie; The Romantics) is 66. Actor/director Ruben Santiago-Hudson is 64. Actor Denise Crosby is 63. Actor Shae D'Lyn is 58. Rock musician John Squire (The Stone Roses) is 58. Rock musician Gary Stonadge (Big Audio) is 58. Actor Conleth Hill is 56. Actor-comedian Brad Sherwood is 56. Actor Garret Dillahunt is 56. Actor-comedian Scott Krinsky is 52. Rock musician Chad Taylor (Live) is 50. Actor Lola Glaudini is 49. Actor Danielle Nicolet is 47. Actor-writer-director-producer Stephen Merchant is 46. Olympic bronze medal figure skater Chen Lu is 44. Actor Colin Hanks is 43. Actor Katherine Heigl (HY'-guhl) is 42. Actor Sarah Hyland is 30.

## 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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