BUILD A CHAT BOT WITH FACEBOOK MESSENGER

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GOALS

- ➤ Node.js server running live on Heroku
- ➤ Facebook Page
- ➤ Facebook developer account
- ➤ Bot responds to messages

GIT THE SAMPLE APP

➤ `git clone https://github.com/jwicksnin/MessengerProject.git`

➤ cd into the new directory

➤ `git checkout master`

➤ `npm install`

➤ `npm start`

```
Jessicas-MacBook-Pro:app jessica$ npm start

> messenger-bot@1.0.0 start /Users/jessica/Downloads/app
> node bot.js

Listening on port 3000
```
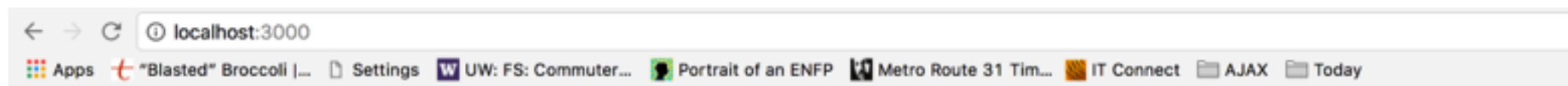
START THE SAMPLE APP

➤ In the browser, go to `localhost:3000`

   ➤ See that the HTML page has loaded!

PUBLIC-FACING URL

➤ Heroku tutorial

➤ https://devcenter.heroku.com/articles/getting-started-with-nodejs#introduction

➤ Only "Introduction" through "View logs"

➤ SKIP "Prepare the App" - use the repo you already cloned instead

➤ Goal: `heroku open` and view the web page in the browser at the heroku url (example: https://aqueous-forest-70562.herokuapp.com/)

➤ Read "Define Config Variables"

FACEBOOK PAGE SETUP
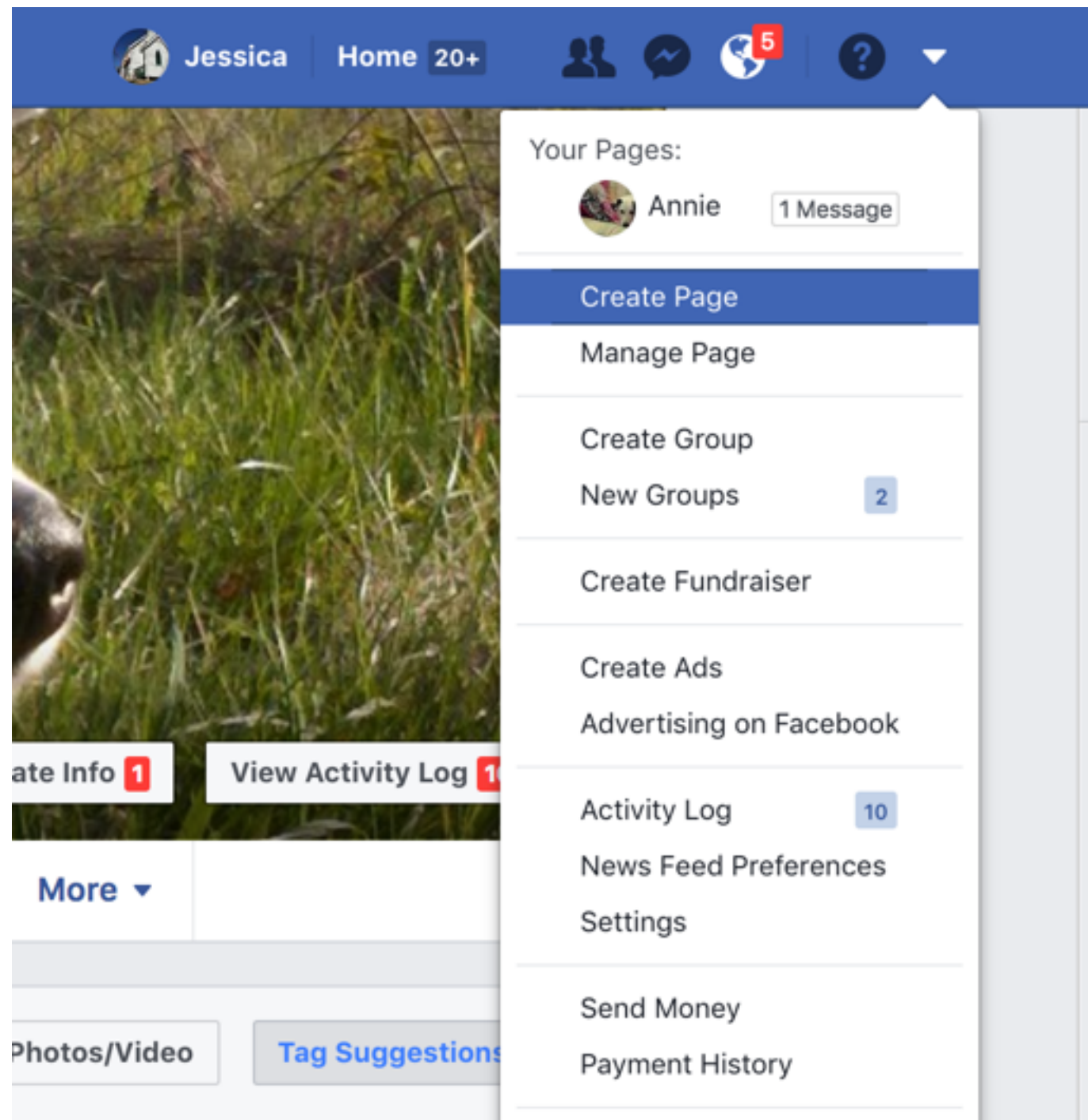
MESSAGING WITH YOURSELF

➤ Go to www.messenger.com

➤ Login with your own profile

➤ Search for your page

➤ Now you can chat with your page
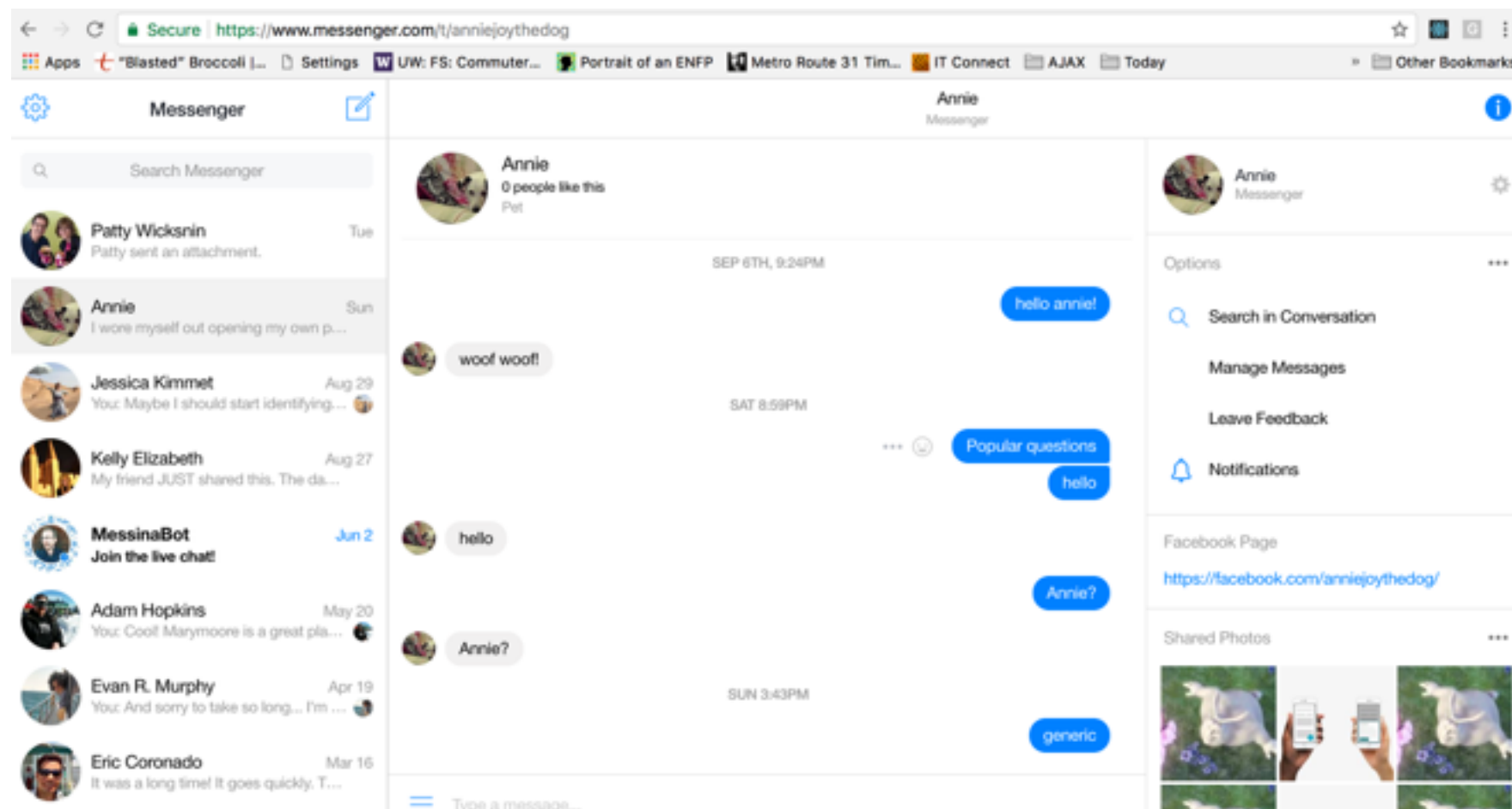
CONNECT YOUR FB PAGE TO THE HEROKU SERVER

➤ Create a secure verify token (can be a simple string, too)

➤ Add this to your Heroku app:

  ➤ `heroku config:set VERIFY_TOKEN=[your_verify_token]`

  ➤ Verify it was added to the `.env` with `heroku config`

➤ On Facebook developer tools:

  ➤ Follow the steps at https://developers.facebook.com/docs/
    messenger-platform/guides/setup#1--add-the-messenger-
    platform-to-your-app

  ➤ At the end, when you chat with your FB page on
   messenger.com, the bot should repeat back to you whatever
    you type. Try it out!

TRY ADDING YOUR OWN CAROUSEL

➤ Checkout my branch `annie-pic-carousel` for an example of a carousel with post backs and images

➤ If you want to use a development branch on Heroku, use `git push heroku [dev-branch]:master` for testing and feature experimentation

➤ Remember you can use links in carousels, too
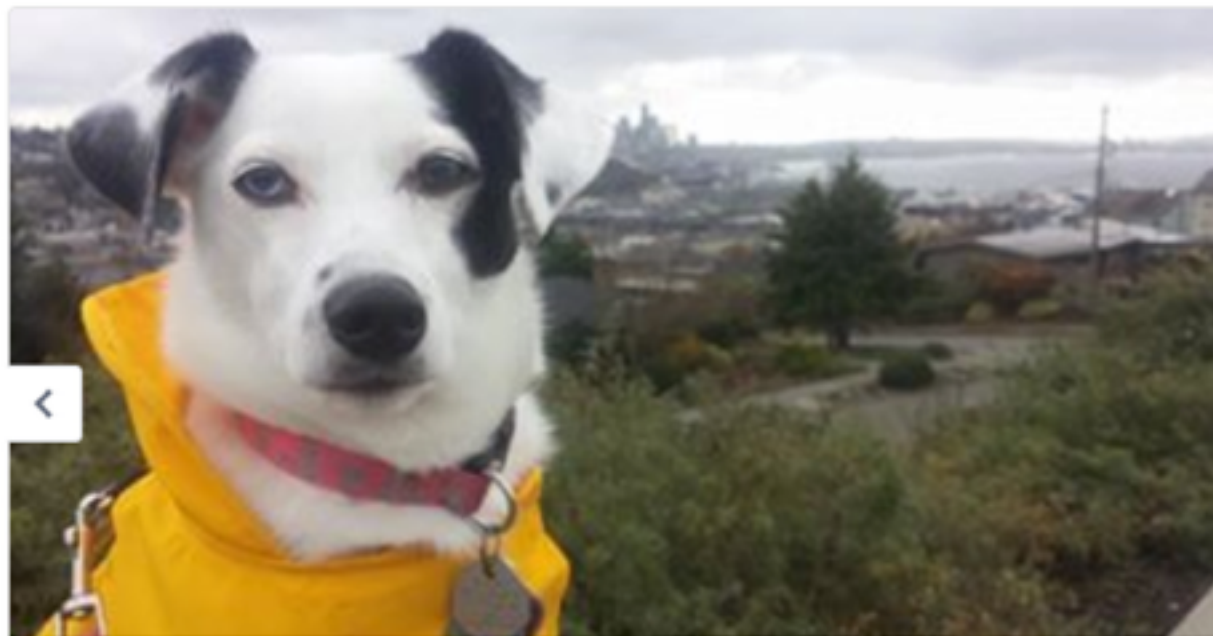
GOING LIVE WITH YOUR BOT

➤ Right now, you can chat with your bot because you are the owner of the app and the Facebook page

➤ In order for everyone in the world to chat with your bot, you have to submit it for approval with Facebook: https://developers.facebook.com/docs/messenger-platform/product-overview/launch#app_review

   ➤ To select individual testers before your bot is approved, add them via Settings on your Facebook Page

➤ Depending on how much traffic you anticipate, you may want to scale your Heroku app or move to an EC2 instance

NEXT STEPS

➤ Try out the built in NLP with the Messenger API https:// developers.facebook.com/docs/messenger-platform/built-in-nlp

➤ Add more complex interactions using your own server or scripts

➤ Personalize data for customers using the Messenger API

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Build a bot. Enjoy life.

-Annie Wicksnin