
From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2014 9:30 AM
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Connecting

April 9, 2014



Colleagues,

A funeral service for AP photojournalist **Anja Niedringhaus** will be held on Saturday, April 12, at Corvey Abbey, a Benedictine monastery near her birthplace in Hoxter, Germany.

The service will begin at 1000 GMT. That's 12 noon local time in Germany and 6 a.m. ET.

This news was shared late Tuesday by AP's Paul Colford, along with an update on the condition of correspondent **Kathy Gannon** :

Kathy Gannon is undergoing treatment at Krankenhaus Nordwest, a medical facility in Frankfurt, Germany. She is in stable condition after receiving at least three gunshot wounds to the arms and right shoulder. We are heartened by her progress.

She has been alert and aware and has been talking to relatives and close friends since Monday afternoon.

Gannon was initially transferred from the site of Friday's attack to a French-run NATO military medical facility in Kabul, the Afghan capital, where she was treated and her condition stabilized. After medical procedures to ensure she was able to fly, Gannon was

evacuated on Sunday afternoon by The Associated Press in an air ambulance to Frankfurt, arriving early Monday.

It is uncertain at this time how long she will remain in the hospital.

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San Jose Mercury News editorial:

Anja Niedringhaus' slaying diminishes our eyes on the world

The following editorial, by San Jose Mercury News editorial page editor **Barbara Marshman**, appeared in 10 Bay Area News Group daily newspapers today. Executive Editor **Dave Butler** said the front page of all of the papers also will have one of Anja's war photos, referring back to the editorial page. "We thought this sad occasion was a good time to remind readers of press sacrifices," Butler said.

A copy of the page can be found below. Here is the editorial:

You probably didn't know who Anja Niedringhaus was until she was slain in Afghanistan last week. But for years, you've been seeing the world through her eyes.

The photographs on this page are hers, and so are many more you will either recognize or, upon seeing them, wish you'd been paying attention at the time.

Her calling was to capture the humanity of the moment: joyous, tragic or that vast space of life in between. How much better might we appreciate our own culture had she turned her lens on us? But her work for the Associated Press was in Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan -- the places where the most violent history of our age has unfolded. Her work in Iraq won a Pulitzer Prize.

Now one fewer set of eyes is watching.

Journalists' lives increasingly are in peril. Their work was more widely respected in war zones of generations past. Reporters Without Borders says 70 were killed on the job in 2013. More have died in Iraq than in any previous war. Niedringhaus was the 26th to die in Afghanistan.

There is another peril diminishing our eyes on the world: The shrinkage of the news industry, with fewer media companies that can afford to send journalists to far off lands in an age when information is assumed to be available to consumers free or at little cost.

As recently as a decade ago, nearly every major American newspaper and other media outlet had overseas bureaus in key cities and routinely sent reporters and photographers around the globe for lengthy assignments. Today news agencies like the Associated Press still have a persistent presence in places like Afghanistan, but only a few newspapers and web sites are able to do more than parachute in for big stories and then leave to keep down costs.

Neighborhood bloggers cannot show us life in Afghanistan. Television, including cable,

shows major events of the day but rarely can put them in perspective with everyday life in these places. Pictures and videos from unknown sources appear online, but motivations and credibility of the posts may be in doubt.

Since 1846, the AP cooperative has been the eyes and ears of member media in Washington or Moscow or Kabul. This is the family that mourns Niedringhaus today.

We are part of that family, and we join them.



(This photo shows Pakistani journalists holding a picture of Associated Press photographer Anja Niedringhaus, 48, who was killed April 4, 2014 in Afghanistan. (Anjum Naveed / AP)

Connecting mailbox

[Marty Thompson](#): Not much would make me happier than to be able to salute Darrell Christian on his remarkable career at his retirement party in New York April 18th. Along with Mike Silverman, we are members of the former AP managing editors club. Here's the much: Janet and I will be on Maui that day -- enjoying the kind of life that Darrell and Lissa are destined for as they head west to California. (We look forward to welcoming them to the Golden State). So here's to DLC as he heads off to yet another golf tournament and to a new life.

Rosenthal photo evokes Kansas connection

[John Saylor](#), retired editor of the Lyons (Kan.) News: Reference the recent Connecting post, Photos that Changed the World, the Joe Rosenthal photo mention reminded me of a Kansas (and Lyons) connection that evolved before the famous flag-raising because of a local boy, Ted White. He and three others on special patrol were ordered to climb the

mountain a few hours earlier to see if the coast was cleared of enemy resistance, so the flag could be taken to the top. All four survived the climb, but a short time later two were killed. Within a matter of days, White and the fourth man were seriously injured and were out of action for the remainder of the war. (White seated in center of this photo.)



Ted White never returned to Lyons to live, although he kept up local contacts over the years. After the war he used his GI bill to earn a degree in economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He was a district manager for an insurance company for several years and was living in Indian Wells, Calif., when he retired in 1990. He died there on Dec. 28, 2009, a few months after I called and interviewed him for this story:

Fiftieth and seventy-fifth anniversaries are traditional, but sometimes there are reasons to deviate.

Take Sunday, February 23, 2008, the 63rd anniversary of Joe Rosenthal's forever-after photograph of the World War II flag-raising on Iwo Jima's Mount Suribachi.

It's worth revisiting in this off-year because author Ray Bradley's new book, *Flags Of Our Fathers*, enjoys best-seller status; because it has been made into a significant movie by Clint Eastwood; and because at a Dillon Lecture last month in Hutchinson Bradley didn't mention . . . Ted White.

White, star guard on Lyons High's state championship basketball team in 1941, and among Marines fighting their way across the South Pacific in 1945, was nearby when the first American flag was raised. But he wasn't among those clustered around the original pole when it was taken down and replaced by a larger pole and flag, the one frozen in time by the Rosenthal's famous negative.

Still, White holds a distinction shared with just three other Marines, according to the daughter of the patrol's leader. They didn't take a flag up the mountain; they brought one down - the Japanese flag at the pinnacle.

The flag revelation appears to have come to light within the past year, but White's high-risk venture 63 years ago was known in Lyons the following day, through a lead story in the Lyons Daily News:

Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, Feb. 24 - AP - The first Marines to scale Mount

Suribachi on the southern tip of Iwo Jima reached the summit two hours before a patrol planted the American flag on the captured volcanic cone yesterday. The honor of being the first to reach the highest point of the 566-foot cone goes to four men, including Pfc. Ted J. White, 21, of Lyons, Kansas."

While the headline for the story was correct, "Lyons Boy Beats Flag Up Volcano," the sub-head may have over-reached a little: "Ted White among four Marines who captured two peaks."

More technical aspects of the venture were reviewed in recent years by former Marine radio operator Raymond Jacobs, as a guest columnist for the Internet web site, "Soldiers for the Truth." His quest is recognition for unheralded "first flag" participants, in the course of which he details how the day began:

"Feb. 23, 1945, was a Friday, D+4 on Iwo. After four days of horrific fighting, my regiment, the 28th Marines, had smashed through fierce Japanese resistance to reach the base of Mount Suribachi. Our casualties were heavy.

"There was no enemy activity on our front that morning. Shortly after 8 a.m. Capt. Arthur Naylor ordered Sgt. Sherman Watson to take a small reconnaissance patrol to the top of Suribachi to look for signs of the enemy. He picked corporals Ted White and George Mercer, along with BAR gunner Pfc. Louis Charlo, to make the climb. About 40 minutes later, I saw them slipping and sliding down Suribachi's steep sides on their return.

Watson reported no signs of the enemy, but had seen many emplacements."

A counterpoint to that rather straight forward account followed 50 years later, Feb. 19, 1995, after Hutchinson News writer Alan Montgomery interviewed White, then 71 and a retired insurance agent living in Indian Wells, California.

As White remembered it, he and two other privates (not corporals) were selected by Sergeant Watson to try and find a route to the summit, so another detail could bring up an American flag and plant it there. White told the reporter how surprised he and his comrades had been to make it to the top without being shot. "I don't know why we weren't killed. We got to the top and didn't encounter any resistance. Then we ran and slid back down as fast as we could to report."

When another patrol of about 30 men followed with a flag, White said he remembered going back up the mountain. "I was in a foxhole and saw a bunch of guys raising a flag. I was just glad I was all in one piece."

While it lasted.

Six days later a Japanese bullet shattered the bone in his lower left leg. "We were supposed to take some kind of damn hill, and they shot the hell out of us," White told Montgomery.

He was the fortunate one. A few days after White was wounded both Mercer and Charlo were killed in action on Iwo Jima. Sgt. Watson was wounded but survived and in his autumn years lived in Florida.

With Watson's demise in 2002, White remains the only survivor. He doesn't recall the flag, but Watson's daughter, Linda Byak of Lakeland, Florida, tells of inheriting it from her father in a story last June in the Marine Corps Leatherneck magazine, under the heading, Woman Has Enemy Flag From Battle. Through her father Byak knew of his three companions and their fates, though throughout his life he spoke little of his war experiences.

Byak explained: "He didn't talk to me about Iwo Jima. Toward the latter part of his life he told me a little bit about it, but only a little." Enough, judging from the article, to explain the flag's enduring existence, and significance.

White may have no memory of the flag, but in his conversation with Montgomery he did recall his transformation from 1942 Lyons High graduate, to brief University of Kansas student, to front-line combat soldier: "In October, I joined the Marine Corps. The flag was waving and all that bit. And I was flunking Spanish."

Welcome to Connecting



[Carl Robinson](#) - I was with the AP from 1968 to 1978 hired into the Saigon Bureau by Horst Faas as a photo editor after Tet '68 after an earlier four-year stint with the US aid mission in South Vietnam. (I first arrived in SVN in Feb 64.) Built on diversity and multi-skilling, the Saigon Bureau was an excellent training ground to move on, first, into photography and then my ultimate ambition as a writer, the position I held as Saigon fell in April 1975. I then worked for two years on the World Desk at AP Hq's in NYC before my assignment as news editor to the Sydney, Australia, Bureau in June 1977. Less than a year later in May 1978, my employment was terminated -- and not totally surprisingly either as I was "suffering" what's now popularly known -- and overblown -- as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in the wake of my Vietnam experience. (In those two years in NY, no one ever came up to me and put their hand on my shoulder to ask if I was OK and I've always resented how little the AP did to help me -- and others from Vietnam -- through that period but believe they finally learned their lesson after Yugoslavia.) So, in a line-ball decision, I decided to stay in Australia and start my life over again with my Vietnamese-born wife Kim-Dung and our three kids. It's a decision I have

never regretted.

[Beth Harpaz](#) is AP travel editor and currently also filling in managing lifestyles. Before taking over travel in 2003, she worked for 15 years in the NYC buro covering crime, politics and disasters, including 9/11. She's written 3 nonfiction books, including "The Girls in the Van: Covering Hillary" (St. Martin's Press, 2001), a behind-the-scenes look at Hillary Clinton's 1st Senate campaign, which Harpaz covered for AP.



Happy birthday

to

[Len Iwanski](#)

Stories of interest

[Alaska Dispatch to purchase Anchorage Daily News](#)

In what amounts to a stunning media shakeup in the 49th state, the still-young online news organization Alaska Dispatch announced on Tuesday it has signed a deal with the nation's second-largest newspaper chain to purchase the Anchorage Daily News, a 68-year-old publication with two Pulitzer Prizes.

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[Serious reading takes a hit from online scanning and skimming, researchers say](#) (Scott Charton)

Claire Handscombe has a commitment problem online. Like a lot of Web surfers, she clicks on links posted on social networks, reads a few sentences, looks for exciting words, and then grows restless, scampering off to the next page she probably won't commit to.

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[Snowden Speaks: A Vanity Fair Exclusive](#)

"Every person remembers some moment in their life where they witnessed some injustice, big or small, and looked away, because the consequences of intervening seemed too intimidating," former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden tells Vanity Fair about his motivation for leaking tens of thousands of secret documents. "But there's a limit to the amount of incivility and inequality and inhumanity that each individual can tolerate. I crossed that line. And I'm no longer alone."

Snowden's extensive response is part of a 20,000-word narrative in Vanity Fair's May issue, by special correspondent Bryan Burrough and contributing editors Suzanna Andrews and Sarah Ellison. The article is the first comprehensive account-bolstered by interviews with dozens of key players-providing an inside look at how a geeky dropout from the Maryland suburbs found himself alone in a Hong Kong hotel room, releasing some of America's most carefully guarded secrets to the world.

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[Is there a Wonk Bubble? Why the boom in data journalism actually makes sense](#)

Call it the Wonk Bubble. If you're in the market for serious, empirical, quantitative analysis of national policy-or of just about anything else in the news these days-the East Coast Media Elite has you covered like never before.

-0-

[Margalit Fox Answers the Question: 'Why That Life?'](#)

Almost every day, I am given a mystery to solve - the mystery of how a life was lived, and why that life, although it has run its course, matters vitally to us all. For the past decade I have worked as an obituary news writer at The Times, most recently as a senior writer. The job - all-consuming, life-giving and never dull - is perhaps the strangest in American journalism but also one of the very best.

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[Know your user: Learning how different journalists approach data with Census Reporter](#)

About a year and a half ago, a team of developers and journalists won [\\$450,000 from Knight to redesign Census.IRE.org](#), now known as [Census Reporter](#). The funding for that project expires this spring, after extensive user interviews and demos. It's interesting to look at what nearly half a million dollars and a year can do to the accessibility of a data set to a journalist. Understanding how people think differently about quantitative information can be a serious challenge - and it's a useful example to any number of editorial projects that could benefit from structured thinking about user needs before planning get too far down the road.

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Publications aim to make debunking as popular as fake images (Bob Daugherty)

Adrienne LaFrance and Matt Novak live in different cities and write for different sites in the Gawker Media network. LaFrance is a freelancer who contributes to several other publications. Novak works full-time on his blog, [Paleofuture](#), which is part of Gizmodo.

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Al-Jazeera journalists mark 100 days in Egyptian jail amid calls for their release

Despite international calls for their release, three journalists who work for Al-Jazeera marked 100 days held in captivity by the Egyptian government joining a fourth who has been detained for nearly eight months.

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UK's first female photojournalist honored

Christina Broom, who died in 1939, was Britain's first female photojournalist and the documenter of life before, during and after World War I. She also got a late start, the Museum of London's Anna Sparham wrote Friday. It was with the fast approaching centenary of the First World War that we considered this acquisition for the museum. Broom photographed between 1904 and 1939 and saw the war through her photography of the soldiers going to and returning from the Front as well as documenting London before, during and after that time. From the outset however I also wanted to focus on this work of a woman photographer; a woman who was unique, intriguing, skilled and largely underappreciated, her story not yet being widely told. That Broom was 40 when she taught herself photography, and that her daughter Winifred made all the prints, is in itself a great story opener. On Friday, April 4, the Museum of London opened a small display of Broom's photography, with a bigger display planned for the future. Broom's images include one of Rudyard Kipling's son, Jack, who died in the war and inspired the poem "My Boy Jack," Mark Brown reported in The Guardian, as well as images of the royal family and soldiers with their families.

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How some journalists are using anonymous secret-sharing apps (Mark Mittelstadt)

Gwyneth Paltrow's divorce from rock star husband Chris Martin is not an event with great civic impact. But it's big news to the many writers whose salaries depend on highly trafficked stories about celebrities, as well as to the massive audience that loves to read them.

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What's your newsroom's policy on door-knocking?

On Monday, Poynter's Al Tompkins wrote about a recent Houston TV station memo that

explained a new policy - [don't go knocking](#) on crime suspects' doors.

AND

[Journalists talk about their own door-knocking experiences](#)

Unless you're a [robot newspaper machine](#), you probably have to knock on doors for your job. Or you have. Or you will. After a Houston TV station sent out a [no-knock memo](#) (following a gun-answering incident,) we asked journalists on Twitter about their own experiences knocking on doors.

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[Journalism Fail - Reporter Tries to Stay Afloat During Live Interview](#)

A Dutch reporter was in the middle of an interview with her local mayor when.. well, why spoil the surprise?

Opinion

www.washingtonpost.com/opinion

Column One
David S. Mustard
Editorial Director
Columbia University
Washington, D.C.

Column Two
David J. Baker
Editor
The New York Times
New York, N.Y.

Column Three
Paul Krugman
Editor
The New York Times
New York, N.Y.

Column Four
David Brooks
Editor
The New York Times
New York, N.Y.

Column Five
Mary McCormack
Editor
The Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

Column Six
Robert D. Woodberry
Editor
The Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

Column Seven
David S. Mustard
Editor
The Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

Column Eight
David S. Mustard
Editor
The Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

Column Nine
David S. Mustard
Editor
The Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

Column Ten
David S. Mustard
Editor
The Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

Editorial board members include columnist David Brooks, editor-at-large David S. Mustard, Deputy Editor David J. Baker, and Executive Editor Paul Krugman.

Editorial



Among the war-torn faces of Afghanistan's photos, this one from AP's Medvedev shows hundreds of U.S. Marines at Camp Commando in the Khosti district enjoying a pre-Christmas tour visit from Santa Claus.



U.S. Marines drop supplies and supplies dropped from a plane by aerial parachute in southern Afghanistan in June 2010.



A soldier carries a child to the clinic with him on his return to camp to order a milk in Kandahar, southern Afghanistan, in 2010.

AP's EXTRA
Scan this code with a smartphone to view a photo gallery of Afghanistan's war-torn faces over the years.
a.gp/10d10/10photos.washingtonpost.com

A sad loss of eyes on the world



Associated Press photographer APJ Medvedev was shot and killed by an Afghan police officer while she was taking a picture of a young girl in a refugee camp in southern Afghanistan. The photo shows her.

You probably didn't know who APJ Medvedev was until she was shot in Afghanistan last week. But for years, you've been seeing the world through her eyes.

The photographs on this page see her, and so are many more you will either recognize, upon seeing them, wish you'd been paying attention at the time.

Her calling was to capture the humanity of the moment, a moment, fragile or that vast space of life in between. How much better might we appreciate our own culture had she turned her lens on us? But her work for the Associated Press was in Haiti, Iraq, Afghanistan — the places where the most violent history of our age has unfolded. Her work in Iraq won a Pulitzer Prize.

Now one fewer set of eyes is watching.

Journalists' lives have always been in peril. Their work was more widely respected in war-torn generations past. Reporters With our best eyes, 70 were killed on the job in 2011. More is needed in Iraq than in any previous war. Medvedev was the 20th to die in Afghanistan.

There is another peril in turning our eyes on the world: The shrinking of the news industry, with fewer media companies that can afford to send journalists to far-off lands in an age when information is assumed to be available in countless free or at little cost.

As recently as a decade ago, nearly every major American newspaper and other media outlet had overseas bureaus in key cities and routinely sent reporters and photographers around the globe for timely assignments. Today, fewer

agencies such as the Associated Press still have a permanent presence in places such as Afghanistan, but only a few news agencies and websites routinely do more than post photos in their big market and then leave to keep their costs.

Neighborhood bloggers cannot show us life in Afghanistan. Television, including cable, shows us for events of the day, but it rarely can put them in perspective with everyday life in those places. News and video from unknown sources appear on the Internet, but verification and credibility of the posts may be in doubt.

Since 2001, the AP cooperates to close the eyes and ears of member media in Washington or Moscow or Kabul. This is the family that supports Medvedev today.

We are part of that family, and we join them.

Cartoonist's view



Readers' letters

California can take step in the right direction

The editorial "Countdown to California's Future" (April 4) was spot on regarding the trouble this country is getting into. The Republican Party's decision to choose Mitt Romney for the 2012 election in 2010, followed by the Republican Party's decision to choose Barack Obama for the 2008 election, was a step in the right direction, though by passing SB 68, the California REVENUE Act, which would require a public referendum on any increase of the state income tax, the state could avoid the problem of the state's debt — on the one hand, if you can't prevent deep pockets from tapping our public funds, no

amount of revenue will ever be generated, and public funds will be used to pay the bills. The state will have to find a way to pay the bills, and the only way to do that is to raise the state income tax. The state will have to find a way to pay the bills, and the only way to do that is to raise the state income tax. The state will have to find a way to pay the bills, and the only way to do that is to raise the state income tax.

James H. Brown
San Jose, Calif.

Homelessness results from cycle of poverty

Going to school in California has been a challenge since the state's economy collapsed. The state's economy collapsed, and the state's economy collapsed. The state's economy collapsed, and the state's economy collapsed. The state's economy collapsed, and the state's economy collapsed. The state's economy collapsed, and the state's economy collapsed.

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