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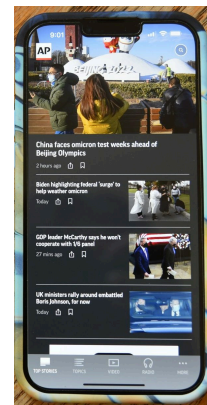
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Connecting

March 6, 2024

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this March 6, 2024,

Our colleague **John Lumpkin** and his wife **Eileen** have been glued to the television set for the Apple TV series, "Masters of the Air," about the brave exploits of U.S. airmen during World War II.

And in a recent episode, Lumpkin heard the name of a crewman mentioned – Fuller. Could it be a depiction of AP's own **Keith Fuller**, former general manager of The Associated Press who was a prisoner of war during World War II when his B-17 bomber was shot down over German-occupied France?

John shares that his late father-in-law, Jim O'Donohoe, was a decorated fighter pilot in the Pacific Theater, leaving his freshman year in college at TCU to join. "He made it back, though there was at least one crash landing. He was very modest about his role, perhaps similar to Keith Fuller.

“Because of my father-in-law’s combat service, the Coast Guard arranged for his ashes to be scattered from a small boat in the Gulf of Mexico near his Corpus Christi home. Taps was played. It was a moving experience. He and Keith, the two of them would have enjoyed knowing one another, I think. I often wonder if there are those among the current generation like that. I hope so.”

Read our lead story – and if you have any further insight into this, please share.

IMAGES BY ANJA: A collection of the powerful images of Pulitzer Prize-winning AP photographer **Anja Niedringhaus** will be on display beginning April 4 at the Bronx Documentary Center - 10 years to the day she was killed by an Afghan police commander while covering a presidential election.

Her friend [Kathy Gannon](#), one of the curators of the exhibition who was badly injured in the attack, said, “It is a gift to be able to remind the world of Anja's stunning images, her heart and incredible eye. At once the shooting seems a lifetime ago and just yesterday. For New York friends if you can, it would be deeply appreciated, if you could make it to the Bronx Documentary Center to see the exhibition. It is on until May 5.”

MORT LIPPMAN SERVICES: A graveside service for Mort Lippman, father of our colleague **Andy Lippman**, is scheduled on Monday, March 11 at 11 a.m. Mountain time at the Green Acres Cemetery (401 North Hayden Road) in Scottsdale, Ariz. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Jewish Free Loan - www.jewishfreeloan.org Click [here](#) for a link to his obituary.

Here’s to a great day – be safe, stay healthy, live it to your fullest.

Paul

AP’s Keith Fuller – depicted in ‘Masters of the Air’?

[John Lumpkin](#) – We are watching “Masters of the Air” (Apple TV) about the “Bloody” 100th Bomber Squadron based in England in World War II. It’s supposed to be based on actual accounts.

In the seventh episode, the squadron suffered many losses and became a revolving door of new recruits to staff the bombers in England. Toward the end of the episode, the names of the most recent batch were read as they arrived for duty.

One of the names was “Fuller.”

Fiction or part of the writers’ review of the historical record?

Files show Keith Fuller – AP’s general manager from 1975-1984 - was part of the 457th Bomb Group as a navigator/bombardier and went down over Germany to become a POW, as we know. The 457th Bomb Group was part of the Eighth Air Force,

the same as the 100th. They both flew B-17s from various air fields in England and BBC Scotland.

In the TV series, various bomb groups were referenced as though interchanged from mission to mission. I tried to pin down something more precise that would suggest "Fuller" in the TV episode could actually have been our late GM because of that, but I couldn't.

Even if the name of "Fuller" in the TV dialogue is pure coincidence, it was inspirational in the research to read [Keith's obituary](#) on the Arlington Cemetery web site and other online entries about the 457th - just as it is to watch "Masters of the Air" and read the historical record online of the 100th.



Like Keith, the lead characters of Buck and Bucky in "Masters of the Air" were shot down and became German POWs.

According to Keith's obituary:

During World War II, Fuller went overseas with the Eighth Air Force as a navigator bombardier on a B-17. On his 10th mission with the 457th Bomb Group, his plane caught fire from flak, and he bailed out over Nazi-occupied France. Fuller spent the next 14 months in a series of Stalag-lufts, POW camps for airmen, until U.S. Third Army tanks battered down the gates of Stalag VII-A, outside Munich.

Certain that he would not survive the camp's liberation, Fuller ventured out from beneath his bunk only when he saw General George S. Patton himself, in full military regalia with ivory-handled pistols, handing out C-rations to the jubilant inmates.

Fuller [died in 2002](#) at the age of 79.

Collection of Anja Niedrighaus' photos from Afghanistan, Pakistan to be displayed April 4



BRONX DOCUMENTARY CENTER

"I do my job simply to report people's courage with my camera and with my heart."

Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Anja Niedringhaus died on April 4, 2014, killed by an Afghan police commander, who emptied his AK-47 rifle into the car in which she was sitting. It occurred in eastern Afghanistan on the eve of a critical vote for president, an event Anja knew would test the courage of Afghans. She was ready with her camera and with her heart.

A collection of Anja's powerful images from Afghanistan and Pakistan will be on display at the Bronx Documentary Center from April 4, 2024, 10 years to the day since her death. They will also be featured in a book accompanying the exhibition.

In the course of her work, Anja traveled through some of the most difficult years of the protracted Afghan war, reaching deep into the soul of Afghans, her pictures often serving to remind us of our own humanity. The exhibition offers rare glimpses into lives seen by few, such as pictures taken during a first-ever embed with the Pakistan army in the freezing Hindu Kush Mountain peaks on the border with Afghanistan.

Among the images to be displayed is a simple, yet powerful reminder of the innocence of children, even as war surrounds them. In the photograph, children play amid mesh-encased blast-proof Hesco bags, designed to protect them from feared terrorist attacks against an election commission office in the eastern Afghanistan town of Khost. The picture was taken the day before Anja died.

The exhibition and the book serve to remind us of the extraordinary sacrifices journalists make to keep us all informed. This is a particularly powerful lesson at a time when journalists are dying, suffering life-changing injuries, being targeted, or being imprisoned at an alarming rate.

Anja received the International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF) Courage in Journalism award in 2005. After her death, through a generous grant from the Howard G Buffett Foundation, the Anja Niedringhaus Courage in Journalism Award was established and is awarded annually to an extraordinary woman photojournalist, whose images reflect Anja's commitment to reporting the courage of others.

The exhibition is curated by Ami Beckmann, Kathy Gannon, and Muhammed Muheisen.

The book and exhibitions have been made possible through the kind support of The Howard G. Buffett Foundation, The Associated Press, and the Bronx Documentary Center.

The exhibition will travel on May 9 to the Shorenstein Center for Media, Politics, and Public Policy, co-sponsored by the Nieman Foundation at the Harvard Kennedy School in Cambridge MA.

Click [here](#) for link to this news release.

Connecting series: **Stories of your jury service**

Brian Bland - I remember hearing years ago that lawyers didn't want reporters on juries – we were too impartial, not easily swayed. As our Connecting crowd has testified, that old saw was wrong.

During my nearly three decades with the AP, I wound up on at least five juries, civil and criminal. The strangest was a civil trial – the family of a man who'd died of mesothelioma was suing his employer for not protecting him against the asbestos-containing material he'd worked with.

But the weirdness stemmed from the conduct of one prospective juror. On day one of jury selection, we were down to about 18 as we gathered outside the courtroom after lunch. A man of about 30 was moving among us, chatting like a lobbyist in a cloakroom. He was, in fact, lobbying for the position of jury foreman, which wouldn't be decided until the case was given to the jury. Most of us simply answered the guy with a good-natured "I'll keep you in mind," or similar, and a few questioning glances were exchanged.

Our group was soon cut to 12 (plus a couple of alternates). The 12 gathered next morning at the courtroom door. Mr. Lobbyist had made the cut and was again letting everyone know how happy he'd be to serve as foreman.

The trial took 17 workdays, more than three weeks altogether. It was filled with technical and medical details, plus the emotional testimony from the dead man's spouse.

When it went to the jury, several of us spoke for a minute or so in the jury room, noting some prior jury experience and a willingness to be the foreman. Mr. Lobbyist reiterated his need (it seemed) to be the foreman. We voted secretly on slips of paper. To my surprise, I had about half the votes. After another vote, it was 11 for me, one for Mr. Lobbyist.

He then stood up and spoke for about five minutes, accusing the rest of us of plotting against him over the prior weeks, denying him something he really wanted, and – choking up – said he felt betrayed by people he'd thought were his friends. He ended by collapsing across the jury table, sobbing.

My first act as foreman was to write a note to the judge, reporting this breaking news. We soon had a replacement juror. Within a day or so, we found for the plaintiff.

The verdict also led to the resolution of another concern we'd had – three days after we had adjourned, word came that one stalwart juror had given birth to a little girl.

Happy retirement, Bill Hancock – you take the cake!

It was last summer when our Connecting colleague **Bill Hancock** announced his plans to retire as executive director of the College Football Playoff. His decision will become official in June when he hands the baton to his successor, Lt. Gen. Richard Clark, presently superintendent of the Air Force Academy, and Bill becomes his adviser until February 2025 when he officially retires.

But two of his regular lunch companions, retired AP sports writer Doug Tucker and Ye Olde Connecting Editor, decided to help him celebrate early. So, on Feb. 23, we presented a retirement cake to this likable native of Hobart, Okla., one of the most influential people in sports. Hancock continues to write a column for his hometown newspaper, The Hobart Democrat-Chief, which has been a part of the family since Hancock's father Ransom Hancock became an ad salesman in the 1930s. The elder Hancock purchased the paper over time beginning in 1960. Todd Hancock, Bill's nephew, now serves as publisher.



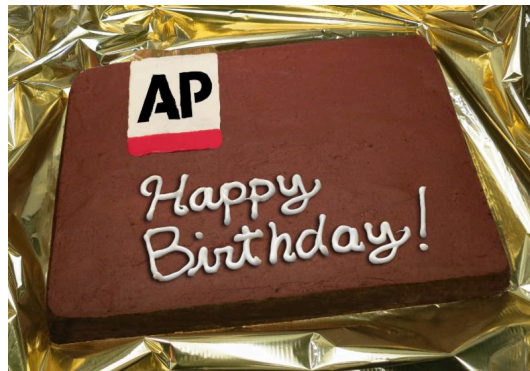
A Glance Back at Old Technology

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PRINTER CODE CHART

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[Paul Albright](#) - For those few wire operators and tape readers still out there.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Wilson Ring](#)

[Bob Zaltsberg](#)

Stories of interest

The future of news consumption can be glimpsed in the habits of younger news consumers today

(Northwestern/Medill)

Medill News Release

EVANSTON, ILL. -- The news habits of young consumers differ from previous generations, and understanding these differences will be critical for news outlets to accommodate, according to research conducted by the Knight Lab at the Medill

School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications in partnership with FT Strategies and supported by the Google News Initiative.

Through multi-hour interviews with news consumers ages 18 to 25 from the United States, Nigeria and India, the research uncovered the evolving expectations and needs that news producers can address.

“Helping news organizations understand the needs of young news consumers today but also getting a glimpse of future habits is critical for all news organizations,” said Medill Dean Charles Whitaker. “We’re proud to play a role in this exploration of news habits, and are committed to supporting news organizations globally.”

“Using a human-centered design approach to understanding the needs and desires of young news consumers is the best way to anticipate changing demand for news from all users,” said Jeremy Gilbert, Medill Professor and Knight Chair in Digital Media Strategy.

Read more [here](#).

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NY Times Boss Defends Israel-Gaza Coverage: We'll 'Never Win Over The Partisans' (Daily Beast)

By CORBIN BOLIES

The publisher of The New York Times on Monday responded to critics of the paper’s coverage of the Israel-Hamas war, saying the Times couldn’t possibly cover the violence “without making all sides angry.”

While delivering the annual Reuters Memorial Lecture at Oxford University on Monday, A.G. Sulzberger used the theme of journalistic independence to address criticism the paper has received on multiple issues, including its stories on the war in Ukraine and its coverage of trans issues. But he spent most of his opining on the Times’ coverage of Gaza, citing multiple stories to argue the paper has devoted equal effort covering Israeli and Palestinian perspectives—and that it is impossible to satisfy critics from either side.

“Those on each side of the conflict will find stories they like and dislike,” Sulzberger said. “But independent reporting—the kind that doesn’t fully align with any one perspective—will never win over the partisans.”

Read more [here](#).

And...

“Mutual incomprehension now exists seemingly everywhere”: *The New York Times’ publisher*

responds to its critics (Nieman Labs)

By A.G. SULZBERGER

On Monday, March 4, New York Times publisher A. G. Sulzberger gave the annual Reuters Memorial Lecture at Oxford University. (We wrote previously about an interview he gave beforehand.) He took the opportunity to respond to some of the Times' critics, particularly on the paper's coverage of the war in Gaza and trans issues. "I'm going to explore some high-profile examples like these — not to sound defensive, or beleaguered — but to illustrate the difficult daily reality of independent journalism," he said. Here's the prepared text of his address, which you can also watch here.

It's an honor to be here to deliver this year's memorial lecture. The Reuters Institute has been an invaluable resource for so many of us engaged in the difficult work of trying to blaze a sustainable path for quality journalism. And I feel lucky to receive such a warm welcome here at Oxford despite my institution's many, entirely unintentional, affronts to British culture, such as our blasphemous suggestion that a full English breakfast can be cooked on a single baking tray in the oven.

Read more [here](#).

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How a lack of local reporting affects the Supreme Court (Columbia Journalism Review)

By EUGENE LINDEN

If a number of recent Supreme Court decisions had been journalistic articles, rather than court opinions, they would likely never have been published.

In 2022, for instance, in *West Virginia v. Environmental Protection Agency*, the court limited the EPA's ability to reduce coal use in electricity production by declaring unconstitutional an act that had not yet gone into effect, and where the harm that gave the plaintiff standing was based on a 2015 study that had been completely contradicted by subsequent events.

Last year the court ruled for a wedding website designer, Lorie Smith, who felt that including LGBTQ language on a website would violate her religious beliefs, even though the only evidence her lawyers produced that anyone had asked her to do so was a letter from a man named Stewart saying that he wanted her to design a website for his wedding to a guy named Mike. It turned out that Stewart was not gay, had been married to a woman for fifteen years, and did not write the letter. Also, Stewart turns out to be a website designer himself, so even if he had been gay and planning to get married, he wouldn't need outside help.

Read more [here](#).

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UFCJC Receives \$8 Million Gift to Strengthen its Support for State and Local Journalism

News Release

As part of its commitment to bolstering state and local journalism, the University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications (UFCJC) today announced that Nathan S. Collier has gifted \$8 million to the College to sustain the Collier Prize for State Government Accountability and create a new local journalism symposium. It is the largest gift in UFCJC's history.

Collier is founder and chairman of The Collier Companies headquartered in Gainesville, Florida, and a descendant of Peter Fenelon Collier, who in 1888 founded Collier's, a weekly magazine focused on investigative journalism. The magazine published stories from renowned journalists such as Jack London, Upton Sinclair, Ida Tarbell and Samuel Hopkins Adams.

Nathan Collier provided an initial gift to the College in 2019 to establish the Collier Prize, one of the largest journalism awards in the country. It is designed to encourage coverage of state-level government in every state, focusing on investigative and political reporting. The prize, announced annually at the White House Correspondents' Association dinner, recognizes the best U.S. professional reporting on state government accountability in any medium and on any platform. Since its inception, the Collier Prize has attracted more than 350 entries from a range of news organizations.

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

Today in History - March 6, 2024



Today is Wednesday, March 6, the 66th day of 2024. There are 300 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history:

On March 6, 1857, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, ruled 7-2 that Scott, a slave, was not an American citizen and therefore could not sue for his freedom in federal court.

On this date:

In 1834, the city of York in Upper Canada was incorporated as Toronto.

In 1836, the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas, fell as Mexican forces led by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna stormed the fortress after a 13-day siege; the battle claimed the lives of all the Texan defenders, nearly 200 strong, including William Travis, James Bowie and Davy Crockett.

In 1912, Oreo sandwich cookies were first introduced by the National Biscuit Co.

In 1933, a national bank holiday declared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, aimed at calming panicked depositors, went into effect.

In 1944, U.S. heavy bombers staged the first full-scale American raid on Berlin during World War II.

In 1964, heavyweight boxing champion Cassius Clay officially changed his name to Muhammad Ali.

In 1970, a bomb being built inside a Greenwich Village townhouse in New York by the radical Weathermen accidentally went off, destroying the house and killing three group members.

In 1973, Nobel Prize-winning author Pearl S. Buck, 80, died in Danby, Vermont.

In 1981, Walter Cronkite signed off for the last time as principal anchorman of "The CBS Evening News."

In 1998, the Army honored three Americans who'd risked their lives and turned their weapons on fellow soldiers to stop the slaughter of Vietnamese villagers at My Lai (mee ly) in 1968.

In 2002, Independent Counsel Robert Ray issued his final report in which he wrote that former President Bill Clinton could have been indicted and probably would have been convicted in the scandal involving former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

In 2016, former first lady Nancy Reagan died in Los Angeles at age 94.

In 2022, a second attempt to evacuate Ukrainians from the besieged city of Mariupol collapsed as Russian attacks made it impossible to create a humanitarian corridor.

Today's birthdays: Former FBI and CIA director William Webster is 100. Former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan is 98. Dancer-actor Carmen de Lavallade is 93. Former Soviet cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova is 87. Former Sen. Christopher "Kit" Bond, R-Mo., is 85. Actor-writer Joanna Miles is 84. Actor Ben Murphy is 82. Opera singer Dame Kiri Te Kanawa is 80. Rock musician Hugh Grundy (The Zombies) is 79.

Rock singer-musician David Gilmour (Pink Floyd) is 78. Actor Anna Maria Horsford is 77. Actor-director Rob Reiner is 77. Singer Kiki Dee is 77. TV consumer reporter John Stossel is 77. Composer-lyricist Stephen Schwartz is 76. Rock singer-musician Phil Alvin (The Blasters) is 71. Sports correspondent Armen Keteyian is 71. Actor Tom Arnold is 65. Actor D.L. Hughley is 61. Country songwriter Skip Ewing is 60. Actor Shuler Hensley is 57. Actor Connie Britton is 57. Actor Moira Kelly is 56. Actor Amy Pietz is 55. Rock musician Chris Broderick (Megadeth) is 54. Basketball Hall of Famer Shaquille O'Neal is 52. Country singer Trent Willmon is 51. Rapper Beanie Sigel is 50. Rapper Bubba Sparxxx is 47. Actor Shaun Evans is 44. Rock musician Chris Tomson (Vampire Weekend) is 40. Former MLB pitcher Jake Arrieta is 38. Actor Eli Marienthal is 38. Rapper/producer Tyler, the Creator is 33. Actor Dillon Freasier is 28. Actor Savannah Stehlin is 28. Actor Millicent Simmonds (Film: "Wonderstruck") is 21.

Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that reaches more than 1,800 retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013. Past issues can be found by clicking Connecting Archive in the masthead. Its author, Paul Stevens, retired from the AP in 2009 after a 36-year career as a newsman in Albany and St. Louis, correspondent in Wichita, chief of bureau in Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City, and Central Region vice president based in Kansas City.



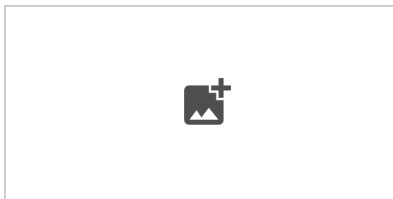
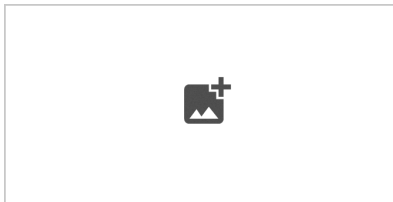
Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **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.
- **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?
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

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