

Spot News

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Kirtley, Lewis to Discuss Patriot Act

“The Patriot Act and Civil Liberties in the Age of Terrorism” is the topic of the February ETSPJ meeting. Jane Kirtley, professor of media ethics and law at the University of Minnesota, and Anthony Lewis, Pulitzer Prize winning author and columnist, are scheduled to speak at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 26, in Room 27 of the UT Alumni Memorial Building (formerly the UT Alumni Memorial Gymnasium).

Kirtley and Lewis will be in Knoxville as a part of the *New York Times v. Sullivan* program at the UT College of Law.

Kirtley has been the Silha Professor of Media Ethics and Law at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota since August 1999. She was named Director of the Silha Center in May 2000. Prior to that, she was Executive Director of The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press in Arlington, Virginia, for 14 years.

Former Oak Ridger reporter

Before joining the Reporters Committee staff, Kirtley was an attorney for five years with the law firm of Hargrave, Devans and Doyle in Rochester, New York and Washington D.C. She is a member of the New York, District of Columbia, and Virginia bars. Kirtley also worked as a reporter for the Evansville (Indiana) *Press* and *The Oak Ridger* and *Nashville Banner* (Tennessee).

Kirtley speaks frequently on First Amendment and freedom of information issues, both in the United States and abroad, including the Czech Republic, Poland, Russia, Mongolia, Hong Kong, and Chile, and writes the “First Amendment Watch” column each month for *American Journalism Review*.

She has received many awards and honors, including induction into the Medill School of Journalism’s Hall of

Achievement in 1999; the FOI Hall of Fame in 1996, and the John Peter Zenger Award for Freedom of the Press and the People’s Right to Know from the University of Arizona in 1993.

Kirtley received her J.D. degree from Vanderbilt University School of Law in 1979. She holds bachelor’s and master’s of journalism degrees from Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism.

Two-time Pulitzer winner

Anthony Lewis, two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, retired in 2002 after more than 50 years in journalism, most of it at the *New York Times*. His first Pulitzer in 1955 resulted from a series of articles on the federal government’s loyalty program that helped to exonerate a Navy employee of unjust charges that he was a security risk. At the time Lewis was working briefly for *Washington Daily News*. That same year, he rejoined the *Times* in its Washington bureau. Lewis’ coverage of the Supreme Court, and in particular of the Court’s groundbreaking decisions on legislative reapportionment won his second Pulitzer Prize in 1963.

He served as chief of the *Times* London Bureau from 1965 to 1972. While based in London, he began a regular column for the *Times* on both national and international affairs, which he later continued from a new base in Boston, with frequent visits abroad until his retirement from the *Times*.

The author of numerous columns and articles on legal subjects, Lewis published two major works on landmark cases in constitutional law: *Gideon’s Trumpet* (1964), which won the Mystery Writers of America

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Times v. Sullivan 40 years later

ETSPJ, the News Sentinel, the UT College of Communications, College of Law and others are sponsoring an all-day program to look back at *Times v. Sullivan* and how it has affected journalism and society throughout the years. The program begins at 8:45 a.m., Feb. 27, in Room 132 of the College of Law building at UT.

Among the speakers are Jane Kirtley, Silha Professor of Media Ethics and Law at the School of Journalism and

Mass Communications at the University of Minnesota; Anthony Lewis, Pulitzer Prize winning author and columnist; Diane McWhorter, author of *Carry Me Home: Birmingham, Alabama—The Climactic Battle of the Civil Rights Revolution*, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 2002 for general non-fiction; Robert J. Norrell, UT professor of history and holder of the Bernadotte Schmitt Chair of Excellence; and the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, leader of the Civil Rights movement in Alabama in the 1960s and a defendant in *Sullivan v. Abernathy, et. al.*

Attendees are free to come and go as they wish.



Photos from “Headlines” Meeting at Naples Restaurant

Representatives Joe Armstrong (left) and Doug Overbey with Overbey’s wife Kay were seated at the speakers’ table.

Alan Carmichael and Cynthia Moxley were among the more than 25 professionals who attend the January “Headlines” meeting.



New members, Susan Barnes (left) and Jennifer Wiggins (right) sat with Bonnie Riechert.



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State legislators predict year's headlines

Headlines this year will mirror those of last year, according to state senator Randy McNally who used photocopies of News Sentinel stories to make his point.

McNally, along with representatives Joe Armstrong and Doug Overby, joined Tom Humphrey, News Sentinel Capitol Hill reporter, and moderator Robin Wilhoit of WBIR-TV to discuss topics before the state legislature this year at the Jan. 5 chapter meeting of ETSPJ.

McNally's mock News Sentinel showing Georgiana Vines as the first million-dollar lottery winner in Tennessee created much laughter.

Armstrong listed the budget and TennCare, Families First, prescription drugs, obesity and childhood diabetes as topics he expects to see the legislators tackle. He also expects to see consumer protection legislation along with vehicle inspections, which would be more than a revenue grab but an attempt to reduce pollution.

Armstrong also suggested that we might see legislation limiting cell phone use while a person is driving.

Overby predicted that the session will be short, thereby limiting what can be done. The governor has to present a budget for legislators to work with. He would love to see TennCare get fixed. Overby also mentioned that court reform is needed, but he is not optimistic it will be addressed broadly. Workers' compensation also needs to be reformed, he said.

Overby is looking forward to the headline: "Duck Race Resumes." Legislators are expected to introduce legislation to allow for charitable events such as the duck races. The Boys Club and the Girls Club had benefited from this promotion in the past before it was ruled illegal.



Tom Humphrey and Randy McNally listen as they are introduced at the ETSPJ chapter meeting in January.

McNally discussed the issues of elected versus appointed school superintendents and pay equity for teachers.

McNally predicts no changes with the UT trustee situation. Aligning the goals of higher education with the state's goals is more important. "We need to better define the mission of higher education," McNally said. He mentioned that problems have recently crept up at MTSU and ETSU.

Armstrong emphasized that UT board members need academic credentials. Overby added that the situations with former UT presidents John Shumaker and Wade Gilley were the fault of the person, not the system. It is not possible to devise a foolproof system if someone's goal is to circumvent the rules, he said.

Overby mentioned that the community colleges need to be better aligned with the four-year colleges so students can transfer courses.

Humphrey says that the state budget and TennCare will be in the headlines this year. Legislators are waiting for Gov. Phil Bredesen to present a TennCare plan and a budget. Humphrey says spending will have to be increased.

The meeting at Naples restaurant on Kingston Pike featured a lively question-and-answer session from the 25 members of the audience made up of print and broadcast journalists, public relations practitioners, educators and members of the public.



Georgiana Vines introduces the panel. Also pictured are Robin Wilhoit and Larry Aldridge.

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Patriot Act

Award for best factual crime book of the year, and *Make No Law: The Sullivan Case and the First Amendment* (1991). He is the author also of *Portrait of a Decade: The Second American Revolution* (1964).

Lewis lectured at Harvard Law School from 1974 to 1989. He has also taught as a visiting professor at the Columbia University School of Journalism and at the Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics, and Public Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. Lewis has been called one of the great voices of civil liberties in the twentieth century.

Golden Press Card Call for Entries

The Golden Press Card call for entries was sent at the beginning of January. If you wish to enter and did not receive a notice, you can view the categories and download an entry form on the ETSPJ Web site: <http://www.kornet.org/etspj>.

Deadline for entries is 5 p.m., March 5. The awards program is May 21 at the University Club. GPC Chair, Michele Silva, is lining up a speaker for the program.

Mark Your Calendar

Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m., "The Patriot Act and Civil Liberties in the Age of Terrorism," with Anthony Lewis and Jane Kirtley, Room 27, UT Alumni Memorial Gymnasium Building

Feb. 27, all day, *New York Times v. Sullivan* program, UT Law School

March 5, Golden Press Card entry deadline

May 21, Golden Press Card awards program, University Club

Feb. 26 Meeting: The Patriot Act and Civil Liberties in the Age of Terrorism