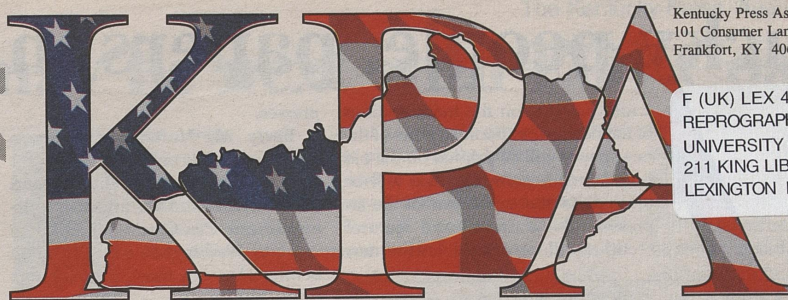


The  
Kentucky  
Press



Volume 75, Number 8  
Kentucky Press Association  
101 Consumer Lane  
Frankfort, KY 40601

U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Glasgow, KY 42141  
Permit No. 939

F (UK) LEX 405  
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LEXINGTON KY 40506-003

August 2004 - Published by Kentucky Press Association/Kentucky Press Service

## KPA files lawsuit challenging the closing of juvenile court proceedings

FRANKFORT - The Kentucky Press Association filed a lawsuit Thursday morning, July 15 in federal court in Frankfort, challenging parts of Kentucky laws that require juvenile court proceedings to be closed.

KPA, the nation's 10th oldest state press association, claims in its suit that the laws violate both the U.S. Constitution and Kentucky Constitution.

At issue are certain sections of Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) 610 concerning the Unified Juvenile Code that violate the First Amendment, according to the suit. The code contains "a number of provisions which work to create an irrebuttable presumption that certain court proceedings and records be closed to the public."

Section 14 of the Kentucky Constitution states: "All courts shall be open, and every person for an

injury done him in his lands, goods, person or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial or delay."

The lawsuit also points out that in enacting legislation to "govern and restrict the courts' rules and procedures for access to its proceedings and records" violate the mandate of separation of powers in Section 28 of the Kentucky Constitution.

The Kentucky Press Association Board of Directors discussed filing suit at its July 1 meeting and voted to proceed with the action. "The juvenile court closings have been an issue for several years," said executive director David T. Thompson.

John Nelson, 2004 president of the association and managing editor of The Advocate Messenger in Danville, told the KPA board that he felt the time to file suit was now. "It's

clearly unconstitutional, and we should proceed immediately with a lawsuit challenging certain parts of Kentucky laws requiring juvenile proceedings and records to be closed," Nelson said.

"Our action would still allow a judge to close some proceedings or records just as they are allowed to do at the present," said Jon Fleischaker, general counsel of the Kentucky Press Association. "But it would not be automatic closure as it is under the current law."

The lawsuit seeks declaratory judgments that certain sections of KRS 610 violate the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and sections of the Kentucky Constitution and an injunction requiring the courts to make available to the public all court records currently closed under those statutes.

ond or third place," said KPA Executive David T. Thompson. "The committee recommended a little more spacing in the point values."

The staff was able to show that at least five times in recent contests, a newspaper winning several first place awards did not win first place in General Excellence. "This puts more value on a first place and gives newspapers a better shot at winning General Excellence in their division."

No other changes were made in the competition.

Entry information will be mailed in mid-August to all KPA and

See NEWS on Page 9

### President's Corner

By John Nelson  
KPA President



## It's about time for KPA lawsuit

The past few weeks have been among the most exciting that I have experienced as a member of the Kentucky Press Association and as a journalist.

Thanks to the courage of our Legal Defense Fund committee members and our board of directors, KPA has for the first time in its history initiated a lawsuit, a lawsuit that is making history. Many of you know by now that we are asking a federal court to declare unconstitutional the Kentucky statutes that require blanket closure of juvenile courts.

It's about time.

For too long, an entire division of our criminal court system has been protected from the watchful eye of the public and the press. We cannot look with confidence on the effectiveness of judges and prosecutors. We cannot determine whether the public's interests are being served in the punishment and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders. We cannot evaluate the working relationships between juvenile courts and schools. We cannot surmise where the system may be failing

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### August

### News & Notes

#### KPA contest award totals increased

First and second place finishes in KPA contests will be more valuable starting with this fall's Excellence in Kentucky Newspapers - 2004 competition.

At its July 1 meeting, the Kentucky Press Association Board of Directors voted to change the point structure for first and second places, based on a recommendation from the KPA Contest Committee.

Effective with this year's fall competition, each first place award will be worth five points and each second place worth three points toward the competition's General Excellence awards. Since at least the 1970s, a first place finish in any category was worth three points, with two points for second.

The board did not change the point value of a third place (one point). With the fall contest, Certificates of Merit will be given one, instead of two, points. Certificates of Merit are awarded in any category when only one entry is received.

"There was little difference in the point values between a first and sec-



# Kentucky people, papers in the news

The **Courier-Journal** unveiled its new design on July 13. The new design of the Louisville paper featured a cleaner, more readable type as the first step in the transition of the new color printing facility. Until September, readers will also notice

wider margins on the main sections of the newspaper because parts of the newspaper will be printed on the old presses while some sections will be printed on the new, state-of-the-art presses. The classified and features sections will be printed on the new

presses.

**Barry M. Hortsman** has been named assistant managing editor for local news of the **Kentucky Post** and **Cincinnati Post**. He started his journalism career in Cincinnati and then went to Washington and California before returning to the Cincinnati area in the 1990s.

Hortsman began covering politics for *The Post* in the late 1970s. From 1978 to 1981, he was a staff reporter for Scripps Howard Newspapers in Washington, D.C., where his primary responsibility was covering national issues for the three Scripps papers then published in Ohio.

In 1981, he moved to California to become a political reporter for the **Los Angeles Times**. He returned to Cincinnati and *The Post* in 1993, and since 2001 he has served as the newspaper's Cincinnati local news editor while continuing to report himself.

In his new post, he will continue to report for the Cincinnati and Kentucky Post while overseeing the papers' joint newsroom.

Since May 2003, **Kakie Urch** has been *The Post's* assistant managing editor for Kentucky. She is leaving to become assistant managing editor for local news of the Palm Springs, Calif., **Desert Sun**.

**Steve Cornelius** took over the job as sports editor of **The Commonwealth Journal** on July 11.

Under former Commonwealth Journal Sports Editor **Jeff Neal**, who has since been promoted to news editor, Cornelius began writing and photographing Somerset-Pulaski County sports, first as a freelance stringer, and later coming on board as a staff photojournalist and sports writer. During that time, he covered stories and photographed events at

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## The Kentucky Press

The Kentucky Press (Permit # 939) is published monthly by the Kentucky Press Association/Kentucky Press Service, Inc. Third Class postage is paid at Glasgow, KY, 42141. Subscription price is \$8 per year. Postmaster: Send change of address to The Kentucky Press, 101 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, KY, 40601, (502) 223-8821.

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## Deaths

### Former UK professor dies from cancer

**Maria Braden**, a retired journalism professor at the University of Kentucky and former reporter and editor, died of complications from colon cancer Tuesday, July 20 in her home in Lexington. She was 57.

Braden retired in 2001 after teaching at UK for 21 years. Before going to work at UK she was a reporter and editor for the Associated Press, the National Newspaper Association and the Worcester (Mass.) Telegram & Gazette.

She also authored three media-related books and contributed articles to various publications as a freelance writer.

She is the first woman to have been promoted to full professor in the UK School of Journalism and Telecommunications. She is a member of the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame and received an award for excellence in the teaching of writing from the Poynter Institute for Media Studies.

Braden went to Connecticut College and received a bachelor's degree in English from McGill University in Montreal. She worked

as a journalist in the Northeast for a time before moving to Kentucky to take the position with the Associated Press where she worked for 10 years.

### Former Oldham Era editor dies at 89

**James Wathen Goranflo Sr.**, former editor of *The Oldham Era*, died Thursday July 1 in LaGrange. He was 89.

Goranflo began working at *The Era* in 1945 from the *Courier-Journal* after serving in the U.S. Navy in World War II. He began his career as a linotype operator.

Goranflo purchased a portion of the newspaper in 1947. In 1951, *The Oldham Era* merged with the *LaGrange Times*, a rival newspaper, and Goranflo was made shop foreman in charge of production. After the retirement of long-time publisher W.L. Dawson in 1963, Goranflo, along with Gene Armstrong, assumed control of the newspaper, with Goranflo serving as editor and general manager.

In 1966, Goranflo was instrumental in the establishment of Newspapers Inc., a group of eight newspapers of which he served as director until the organization was sold to Landmark Communications in 1973. He retired in 1974.



# Kentucky may be next with FOI Coalition

Kentucky would be a far cry from among the first states, but that's really not important. If the interest generated July 22 at a roundtable

## On Second Thought

By David T. Thompson  
KPA Executive Director



the....well, sunshine.)

Imagine, a group of citizens, a group or active and retired journalists playing w a t c h d o g .

Making sure government agencies comply with the state's Open Meetings and Open Records laws. Promoting/marketing to citizens across the state that government business is "their" business and if they need a record, if they want to attend a meeting, that's their taxpayer-given right.

Yes, it's taken awhile to get to the discussion stage. We've had information for about a year. Some conversations were held, kind of like, "What if...." but until the July 22, the

idea of a statewide group had never been placed on the table.

And it was seemingly very well received, very much endorsed.

Twenty people -- active and retired journalists, three representatives from established good government/citizens for open government groups and three KPAers attended. It was a great mix, of names you know -- Kim Greene, Al Smith, Hank Ackerman, Benjy Hamm, Ed Staats, Don White, Mark Neikirk, Bob Ashley, Ronnie Ellis, David Greer and Dana Lear. And some you maybe don't know -- Jim Ogle, WKYT-TV; Liz Maples, Danville Advocate Messenger; Ken Kurtz, Society of Professional Journalists; Tom Isaac, PLG-TV, Bardstown; Paul Leightty, Frankfort State Journal; and Patti Pullen, Kentucky

Broadcasters Association. And some citizen activists -- Wynne Creekmore and Jack May, members of the Danville Citizens for Good Government; and John Sower, a member of the Citizens for Open Government in Frankfort.

And I must give credit to the Courier-Journal's Al Cross who asked me to go to a national conference last year to hear about these state coalitions with the idea that Kentucky should look at it.

As I told the group in a letter inviting them to the meeting, I've heard many legislators say, when we've been to a committee meeting to testify on open meetings or open records, "This is really just the press' concern. If it was the public's concern, if the public cared about this

See FOI on Page 12

# Braden touched the life of Georgetown editor

*This column by Kevin Hall appeared in the July 25 Georgetown News-Graphic and is reprinted with permission. Hall is the managing editor of Georgetown News-Graphic and a 1999 graduate of the University of Kentucky.*

LEXINGTON — I could have hugged her. Actually, I should have hugged her. Maria Braden was my academic adviser, soon to be my professor, later to be my friend. But at that moment, she was all that stood between me and the journalism school at the University of Kentucky.

My earliest days at UK left me with a shoddy GPA, which wasn't exactly bolstered by the Fall 1996 semester when I quit going to all of my classes after the first week. I eventually withdrew from school, took a temporary job at the Toyota plant and prepared for a life of not reaching my potential.

Or so my parents told me.

Daily.

Four months of 9-10 hour days on an assembly line followed by 3-4 hours as a telemarketer took their toll, mentally more than physically, and I told my parents that I would return to UK.

My dad could barely contain his

excitement. When he was in his 20s, he stopped a few hours short of netting an accounting degree, opting instead to take a new job at the Rockwell plant. He never came out and said it, but he didn't have to because I could feel it every time he looked at me and then looked away — he'd be damned if I followed his footsteps.

So back I went, with only one minor detail holding me back. My poor grades prevented me from getting in the journalism school. They didn't ask for much, only a 2.6 or so, but even that seemed a bit lofty for me.

That's when I first met Maria.

Sitting in her office, I explained my situation, not glossing over anything because I figured that if they knew I had been as low as possible, then my new determination might be something on which to take a gamble.

She told me that I would have to write a letter to an appeals committee, and my fate would rest with their decision.

Who served on this board, I asked?

When she told me that she and Scoobie Ryan — another of UK's all-time greats — made up two of the three members, I breathed a bit easier.

"I was standing on the line at

Toyota when it hit me — I never want to do this again as long as I live," I wrote. I laid it all out, warts and all, but reminded them that this was their chance to make a difference in somebody's life. Reject me, and I become just another number out in the world. Let me into the school, though, and I would make sure they never regretted it. I submitted the letter and gave Maria about a week before I showed up at her office pestering her for information.

She would smile at me and shake her head.

This soon became our ritual, with me borderline stalking her office in hopes of catching just a glimpse of acceptance (at this point, even a denial would have been better than nothing).

Then one day, she took me inside her office after I asked if I made it.

"Kevin," she said, "I can't tell you anything official, but you have nothing to worry about."

Does that mean ... ?

"You have nothing to worry about," she repeated. "Your letter was touching."

Which brings me back to the beginning — I should have hugged her.

I didn't, of course, but just a short

time later, I found out that it wasn't really necessary when I won a writing award from UK.

A year after having begged my way into the program, here I was about to be honored with the best of the bunch. And when I walked across the stage to shake hands with UK's president and accept my plaque, I saw Maria sitting in the audience, looking at me like a proud parent watching her child take his first baby steps.

Her risk had paid off.

On Friday, I saw Maria for the last time. Hundreds of people — some of whom taught with her, many of whom learned under her, all of whom loved her — gathered at St. Paul Catholic Church, where we said goodbye to a dear friend.

Maria Braden, 57, died Tuesday after battling cancer for the last few years. So here it is, one last assignment, one final collection of words that fail to capture her grace and elegance.

I never got the chance to let her know what she meant to me, but when I stood next to her ashes, I knew she knew.

Maria Braden's obituary is on Page 2 of this month's Kentucky Press.



# 2004 KPA internships offer variety of experiences

**Anne-Marie Clinton**  
Senior  
Western Kentucky University  
The Madisonville Messenger



For the third year in a row, I have spent the majority of my summer as a KPA intern. I was privileged to serve as a reporter for The Messenger in Madisonville.

Even though I have worked at this paper before, I was nervous the first day I came through the door. It all came together nicely as I covered a variety of stories including a complex landfill cost controversy, the World Changers coming to town and the startup of a free clinic in the county.

Probably my most memorable experience was writing about a man who collected "stuff." After running in The Messenger, the story was picked up by the state AP wire. It ran in the Louisville Courier-Journal and the Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer.

My experience has given me a good transition to my senior year at Western Kentucky University. I will graduate next spring. I know my experience as an intern has given me a good foundation for my career as a journalist.

Many of what used to be my weaknesses, I now consider strengths. I am stronger for having covered council meetings. I am stronger for having taken seemingly non-writable issues and turned them into front-page stories. Finally, and most importantly, I am stronger for having been in direct contact with the people of Hopkins County in the past 10 weeks.

**Andrew Martin**  
Junior  
University of Kentucky  
The Henderson Gleaner



During my first stroll across The Gleaner newsroom to managing editor David Dixon's desk, my mind was filled with questions.

Most notably, I wondered whether a formidable small-town newspaper's investment in a reserved,

hometown boy would prove successful.

Having never interned at a newspaper, the opportunity excited me. But I also felt somewhat apprehensive.

As I became increasingly comfortable with the job, my reservations were resolved.

I learned that a good reporter needs dexterity, persistence and thoroughness. This experience enabled me to improve on those skills.

I received a variety of assignments and responsibility, which signified trust in my ability. Consequently, I was subject to high expectations and did my best to meet them.

For me, the honor of covering and writing about the people in my hometown was one of the most interesting elements of the internship. I had a connection to the people I was writing about. I could understand some of their perspectives.

Working with great people enhanced the experience too.

The Gleaner staff was spectacular. Everyone was very friendly, willing to answer questions, offer suggestions and give encouragement.

When remarking at the longevity of employment for many Gleaner staffers, reporter Frank Boyett told me it was because everyone is made to feel like family.

His words rang true. I would sincerely like to thank The Gleaner for the opportunity and for making me feel like family.

It was a success in my book.

**Brittany Griffin**  
Senior  
University of Kentucky  
Anderson News



When I got to Lawrenceburg, I was anxious about what my experience would be like. I wondered if a small town would offer me all I wanted from a journalism experience. It turns out it could, and without hesitation, it did. In the time I was here, I covered a plane crash in an Anderson County field, a chemical spill on the Blue Grass Parkway, and the second highway fatality of the year 2004. I also talked to the widely loved priest in the only Catholic church in Lawrenceburg, a woman who used to drive 18-wheel-

ers and is now operating a garden shop, and a young girl overcoming a bone disorder from which she's suffered 30 breaks in her 17-year lifespan. These were real challenges for me professionally, beyond anything I've experienced in journalism classes or from my previous ventures in the field.

As an upcoming senior at the University of Kentucky, these opportunities are more than I ever imagined from these 10 weeks at the Anderson News.

But the feeling I got when people read what I wrote and told me it helped them make a decision, or taught them something about their community, was what I liked the most. This is definitely what I want to do with my life. That, I think, is the most important thing I learned.

**Catherine Damron**  
Senior  
Western Kentucky University  
The Cynthiana Democrat



My experience this summer has been a great one. I have gained so much knowledge working at The Cynthiana Democrat and I will truly miss my co-workers and the people of Cynthiana's community who were all very helpful and made my time there pleasant. I learned about how the city and its counterparts work together from covering city commissioner meetings and one of the county school board meetings. Most of the other stories I wrote for the Democrat were features, which I really enjoy. I never realized how much people rely on journalists to get their messages and ideas out to the public. They depend on reactions from other readers, whether it's an ad or a news/feature story. I was given some good advice on my last day in Cynthiana. One of my fellow news writers told me to believe in myself because if you don't you'll end up doubting your sources and everything else in your story.

I am so thankful to be given this opportunity and to work with the people at the Democrat. They were all very kind, patient and intelligent. I have two more semesters left at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green. After graduation I'm

not sure exactly what I will do, but I am interested in working for another weekly newspaper or possibly a daily paper outside of Kentucky. I would also like to try writing for a magazine at some point. Wherever I end up working I know it will be in the journalism field. I just want to say thank you to everyone who has been kind enough to help me.

**Katie Mattingly**  
Senior  
University of Kentucky  
The Lebanon Enterprise



I am a senior attending the University of Kentucky, and I initially learned of this internship because I needed a summer job in my hometown of Lebanon. However, I was very lucky that the position was available because I was hoping to develop my skills as a writer at the same time, skills that I had neglected since I began college.

I was elated to become an intern for the Enterprise and I have enjoyed every moment of my experience, even those early mornings in front of the keyboard when I nurse my tired body with three cans of caffeine-laden Mountain Dew. It has certainly surpassed my expectations, and I especially enjoy meeting and interviewing new people and writing columns. This experience has definitely improved my attitude toward pursuing a career in the newspaper industry.

I was also lucky to be welcomed into an office with such wonderful and talented people. The editor and the staff have been extremely welcoming and have been willing to assist me with everything. I've been extremely impressed with the professional yet comfortable atmosphere that the Enterprise maintains, and they've had to tutor me in the ways of writing and time management, which they have mastered phenomenally. They've helped me understand that everyone has a fascinating story waiting to be discovered, and I'm extremely appreciative of that. I am very proud that I have been a part of the Lebanon Enterprise, if only for 10

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# INTERNS

Continued from page 4

weeks, and I am very grateful to have been given this opportunity by the Kentucky Press Association.

**Emily Thompson**  
Senior  
University of  
Kentucky  
The Winchester  
Sun



This summer, I am currently working at The Winchester Sun daily newspaper. This fall, I will be returning to the University of Kentucky where I am an Art Studio senior focusing in New Media. I had no idea what to expect when I first agreed to take this internship. I knew that the job would be relaxed, but very serious and focused at the same time. Although my title is "designer," I can honestly say that I have learned more about the general art of journalism than I ever really knew before. I write headlines, do page lay-outs, edit photographs, design logos, attend meetings, and get assignments, just like the professionals who work here. It is great to be treated just like one of the regulars, even though I am just here for a brief period of 10 weeks. The "real" world of journalism is more relaxed than I expected. However, I found that the people here take their work very seriously. The smallest details are noticed. When a mistake is made, no one is afraid of pointing it out. As long as they produce a great paper in the end, everyone is happy. I still intend to continue a career in newspaper design, and I look forward to doing so. If nothing, this internship has broadened my interest in the topic, and I plan to find an actual career one day that is just like this one.

**Glyptus Ann Grider**  
Sophomore  
University of  
Louisville  
The Owenton  
News-Herald



My recent 10-week internship at The News-Herald was a stop along my career path to become a syndicated sports journalist. This summer, I expanded my writing and journalism

techniques by stepping away from my comfort zone—sports writing. During my 50-day internship, I served as an editorial intern/reporter and focused on community news and feature stories. The internship was jam-packed and exciting. I quickly discovered a new world—fiscal court, city council, and school board meetings aren't exactly my cup of tea!

My favorite part of the internship was writing feature stories. Members of the community complimented my human interest story about 18-month-old Meg, a toddler adopted from China. Several readers said they were touched by the story, but I must confess, the story touched me. I hope my writing sufficiently conveyed the overwhelming generosity and love of the adoption.

While I initially viewed the 10 weeks as a "paycheck," I readily discovered that every facet of the internship had strengthened my understanding of creating a weekly newspaper. I enhanced my writing through the tutelage of my editor, learned how to paginate pages, and developed interview techniques. This experience enabled me to better understand community dynamics and reinforced my career goal.

As a rising sophomore at the University of Louisville, I look forward to combining my internship experience with my passions—writing, education, and sports—into one worthwhile venture. This fall, I will serve as The Louisville Cardinal Sports Editor.

Thank you, Kentucky Press Association, for the rewarding internship opportunity.

**Joshua Brown**  
Senior  
Murray State  
University  
The McLean  
County News



My name is Joshua Brown and I will be a senior journalism student at Murray State University this fall. I spent 10 weeks during the summer interning at the McLean County News. My duties included everything from feature and sports and recreation writing to commentary and news writing. This experience well exceeded my expectations and helped ensure that a career in a writing-related field is what I want.

I was thrown into news and feature reporting as soon as my internship started, but I managed to stay ahead of the game and step up to the challenges presented. I quickly learned how to be flexible with people, how to cover all angles of a story and most of all how to determine what is the most newsworthy thing at a live event.

I admit I was discouraged at first when stories and ideas did not work out, but as time went on I gained a better grasp of what makes people read the news and used this to my advantage. I also learned as a journalist people respect you when you go out of your way to obtain accuracy on a story.

I have much better reporting skills and sense as a result of this internship. I am also much more determined to succeed in this field and I want to show the world that news can be interesting, exciting and fun...and still be news.

**Josh Centers**  
Senior  
Western Kentucky  
University  
The Trimble  
Banner



My name is Josh Centers and I have been working at the Trimble Banner in Bedford over the summer. I will be returning to Western Kentucky University as a senior this fall. So far, I have loved my work, and I really appreciate the rather convenient program the KPA has established.

This is my first experience with true "community" journalism, and I have to say that it has brightened my view of the business. Here, I don't feel like such a leech or vulture, because I can see what we do for the community on a daily basis. For instance, I wrote a story about how the number of registered sex offenders in the county had risen, and we printed their pictures in the Banner. While many were shocked, they thanked us for giving them the information needed to protect their families.

This has also been my first professional experience as a full-time staff writer, and before my internship, I was unsure that I had what it takes in this business. Yet after cranking out several articles a week, and recreating the Banner's county guide, I feel confident in my abili-

ties. Suddenly, my future's looking a lot brighter.

I wouldn't say that I learned so much during my internship, as I refined what I already knew. I gained more experience with features, earned how to better compose a photo, and how to better interact with sources.

My KPA internship helped serve as validation of my education and abilities.

**Joshua Coffman**  
Senior  
Western  
Kentucky  
University  
Spencer Magnet



I watched a lot happen in Spencer County this summer.

I watched professional wakeboarder Julz Heaney spin and flip on Taylorsville Lake. I watched the county fire department rescue a man from the rain-swollen Salt River. I watched local residents bicker over additional neighborhoods being added in the fastest growing county in Kentucky. And I watched garbage pile up as neighbors complained until the city and county governments brought in a different company to take out the trash.

I watched a lot of things happen. And then I reported on them.

Probably the greatest thing about taking an internship at a small newspaper is that it gives you the chance to jump in and begin working in your field.

Forget about getting your feet wet, an internship like this gives you the opportunity to dive in and get started.

In addition to working on my reporting skills, I also got the chance to shoot photos, work on layout and edit copy.

I came into a community next to the town I grew up in (Mount Washington), and I feel that my work here has made an impact on that community.

Ten weeks does not seem like a lot of time, but my 10 weeks at The Spencer Magnet will stay with me wherever I go in this field.

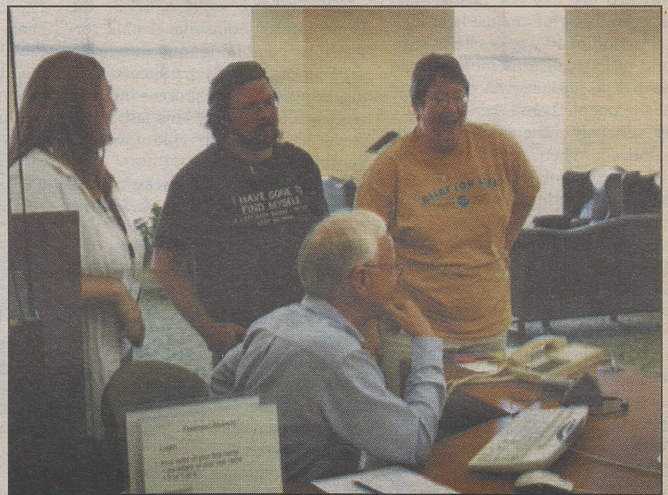
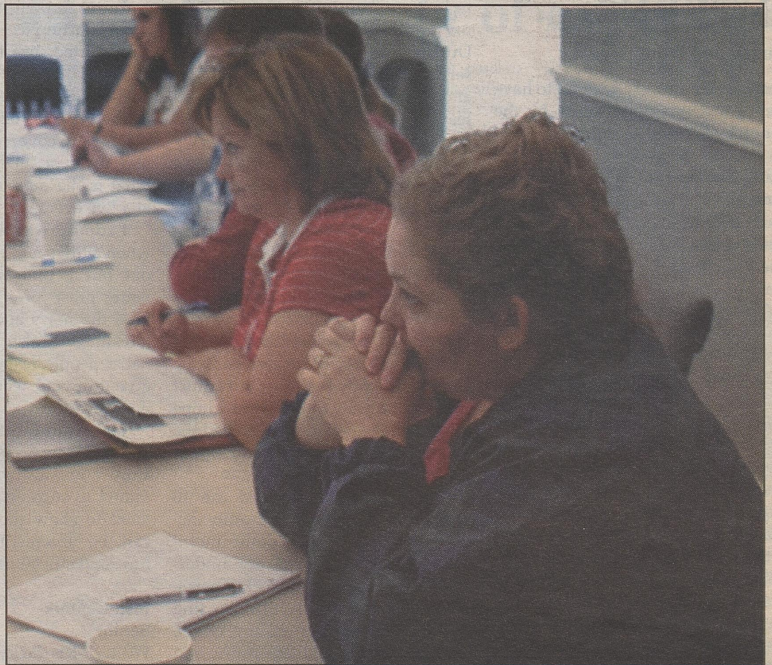
I thank every member of the staff at The Magnet for helping me fit in. And I thank the community in

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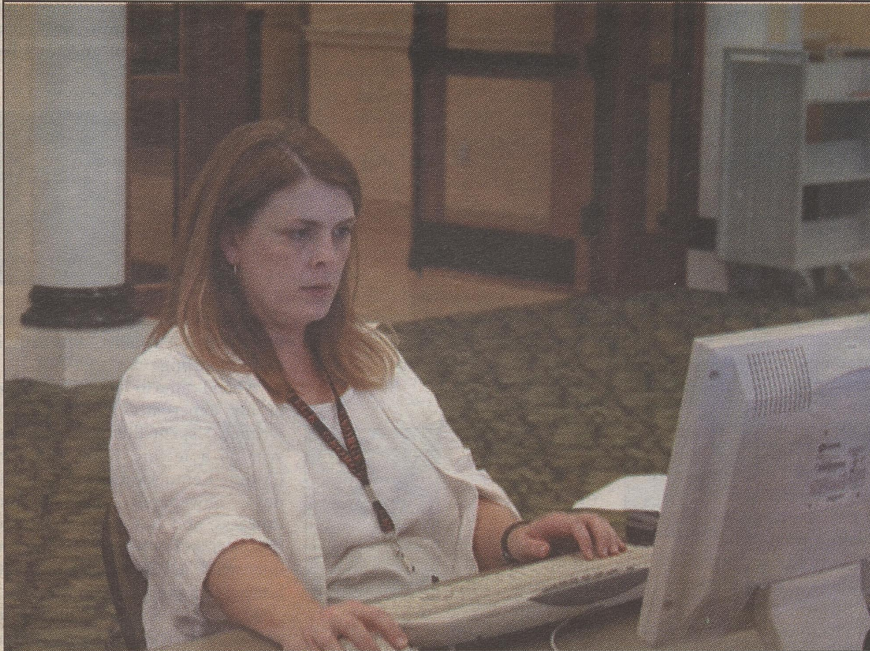
## 2004 KPA JOURNALISM BOOT CAMP

Right: Boot Campers DeAnna Lasley and Connie Dotson listen closely during a classroom lecture from instructor Jim St. Clair during boot camp held in Georgetown July 12-30.



Left: Sarah Hoye, of the Lexington Herald-Leader, spoke at boot camp about her job as a feature writer and how to conduct an interview. Top: Melodi Cornett, Andrew Moore, Jessica West Bratcher, and instructor Jim St. Clair view some of the candid photographs made during the three weeks of boot camp.





Left: Melodi Cornett reads over one of the stories she wrote during boot camp. The campers were required to write stories on all of the classroom speakers, write a profile on a fellow camper as well as write at least one feature story.



Above: David Brock concentrates on his assignment in the computer lab of the Ensor Learning Resource Center on the campus of Georgetown College. Left: Connie Dotson and Jessica West Bratcher take notes and listen as guest speaker Sarah Hoye describes her job as a journalist and interviewing techniques during the second week of boot camp.



# INTERNS

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which I worked. The people of Spencer County made me feel like I was home.

I came here to write. Instead, I watched. And I learned.

**Michele Fernandez-Cruz**  
Junior  
University of Kentucky  
The LaRue County Herald News



My name is Michele Fernandez-Cruz, I will be a junior at the University of Kentucky this fall.

My 10-week internship at The LaRue County Herald News has been a very positive experience, as I walk away with many fond memories and memorable connections. Hodgenville is a very small community notably known as the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln, yet through my time there I found the people to be the heart of the community, as they welcomed me with kindness and affection.

Many of the stories pushed me outside of my comfort zone, yet the experience has made me a much stronger reporter, willing to dig deeper and ask those tough questions. There is one particular story which stands out. I was able to meet a Washington-area couple that was running and biking across the U.S. in order to create funds and awareness for the Measles Initiative, which is a long-term commitment by the Red Cross (and partners) to control measles deaths in Africa. Much to my surprise one child dies every minute of measles in Africa, causing more deaths than tuberculosis, malnutrition

and HIV, though the disease is completely preventable. The reason I hold this story so dear to my heart is that to me it embodies the purpose of journalism, to inform and to hopefully inspire change or prompt the public to also take action. Stories like this one strengthen my attitude about a career in the newspaper industry and make me look forward to a future involvement with another publication. What I have learned from this story and others is to be ready for the unexpected and to remain flexible, especially as each day provides a new experience.

**Tanja Medic**  
Graduate  
Indiana University  
Southeast  
Courier-Journal



After I earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Indiana University Southeast, I thought that my internship with the Courier-Journal would be a final learning experience before I start looking for a job, but it turned out to be a disappointing one.

Instead of learning practical matters such as how reporters find and cultivate their sources, I listened how people in the area ridiculed people from Eastern Kentucky.

Confused by the office politics and unable to work, I struggled to find a meaning in the journalism profession.

I wondered how people could understand the struggles of ordinary people when they at least don't feel compassion for those stricken by poverty.

I felt I didn't belong there.

Five years ago, I came to the United States as a war refugee from Bosnia and Herzegovina. I lived parallel lives of a college student and a full-time worker delivering newspapers, working in a fast-food restaura-

nt, helping abused kids and people with mental retardation.

When I chose journalism to be my profession, I was a 27-year-old refugee whose education was interrupted by the war and I just wanted to do a meaningful job.

I didn't imagine that after reaching my goal, I would need to give up my origin and my struggles in order to belong to a pack.

Now although my enthusiasm is not so high, I still intend to enter the journalism profession and find a place where my origin and my struggles will help me to report good stories.

**Tim Wiseman**  
University of Kentucky  
The Danville Advocate Messenger



Driving between Lexington and Danville each day, I have plenty of time to think.

And my experience at The Advocate Messenger has given me plenty of things to think about.

I did not know what to expect from an afternoon paper in a town much smaller than my own, but I found more than I would have thought. More than anything, I saw what day-to-day journalism is really about, staying organized and managing your time. That is the only way to organize the chaos of getting out a paper every afternoon — and to stay sane doing it. That is a lesson I will take back with me when I go back to the Kentucky Kernel in the fall. Working at The Advocate, I saw that every one keeps learning every day, because otherwise you get left behind. That is best part of journalism, the chance to see and hear and do something new each day, whether it is covering a tractor pull or poring over documents in a court-

house. I enjoyed the opportunity I had at The Advocate to learn that about journalism, and I am grateful I had such friendly teachers.

**Tracy Haney**  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Junior  
The London Sentinel-Echo



After interning at The Sentinel-Echo in London this summer, I have grown leaps and bounds as a journalist, especially in news reporting.

When I came to The Sentinel most of my experience was in feature writing. I spent this past academic year as a feature page editor for Eastern Kentucky University's student newspaper, The Eastern Progress, and last summer most of the events I covered during my internship at The Commonwealth Journal in Somerset were features.

Now as I approach my junior year at Eastern where I will be managing editor of The Progress, I have gained a lot of confidence in my news reporting skills thanks to The Sentinel.

This summer has been nothing short of exciting. I have had the opportunity to cover a variety of news events from a murder investigation to the affect of rising gas prices on Laurel County.

I feel as though I really became a part of the newspaper and London during my internship. The experience made it clear how important journalists are to the community they serve.

My internship at The Sentinel has made me proud to be a part of this profession and even more excited to become a part of the real world of journalism after graduation.

# FOI

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(issue) at all, they would have been here or they would have called."

But we're not talking about a group that could complement KPA's legislative efforts, though that is part of the thought. We're talking about grass-root efforts to educate the public on their rights to government access and to make sure local

government officials operate in the open. In the "sunshine."

There are only two local citizen groups that we know of, and both were represented at the discussion. If you have a group locally that fits the description of a government watchdog, we'd like to know.

What this group ultimately will do would be left up to those who are a part of it. One thing the National Freedom of Information Coalition encourages is for each group to

develop its own programs, its own initiatives, its own "what it wants to be and what it wants to do."

It is an exciting concept, one that deserves your interest, your input, your support. Together, we can all have an impact on how much sunshine there is on our local government agencies.

\* \* \* \* \*

The group met for about 90 min-

utes and at the end formed a steering committee to identify groups, organizations and individuals who should have an interest in the coalition. The steering committee includes Kim Greene, Hank Ackerman, Bob Ashley, Ken Kurtz, John Sower and Jack May.

They'll be getting together in mid-August to share some information with hopes that the whole group can get back together in mid to late September.



# What to do when told a court proceeding is closed

By **ASHLEY PACK**  
KPA General  
Counsel  
Dinsmore & Shohl



Local court proceedings have always been a principal topic of coverage for newspapers as well as a great source of information. Criminal, civil, divorce, bankruptcy, and probate records can all be extremely valuable sources of newsworthy information that may not be readily available elsewhere. Reporters, like the general public, can usually just show up for court proceedings such as trials and hearings, and can usually gain access to court records by simply requesting them from the court's clerk. But what

happens when you are told that the proceedings are closed or that the records are sealed?

Call your attorneys and/or consult your editors. The press and the public have a right of access to court proceedings and court records that can often be vindicated by challenging courts' decisions to seal records and close hearings. The law recognizes that the news media occupy a unique position as the eyes and ears of the public, and are authorized to demand access to court proceedings whenever those proceedings or records are sealed. Therefore, media representatives have the right to "intervene" and request a hearing on the court's order to deny public access. By intervening, the media representative becomes a party to the

lawsuit for the limited purpose of pursuing access to the proceedings. If the court denies the media representative's request for access, the media representative may immediately appeal the decision without having to wait for the lawsuit to end.

Even though the Open Records and Open Meetings laws do not apply to Kentucky courts, both the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the common law of Kentucky give the press and the public a right of access to courts. Monitoring courts, not to mention litigants, is an essential feature of democratic control and judicial accountability. So, while trial courts have discretion to control access to their proceedings and records, that discretion is limited. Public access to

courts and their records may only be denied if the right to access is outweighed by interests favoring non-disclosure, such as privacy and the right to a fair trial. Courts are only permitted to close hearings and records when there are legitimate and important reasons for doing so and when those goals cannot be accomplished with less restrictive means.

The sealing of court records often comes about by agreement of the parties to a lawsuit. Courts are asked by both sides of a lawsuit to seal certain records, for example deposition transcripts or settlement agreements. In these situations, it is easy for a court to take the path of least resistance and, instead of weighing the

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## LAWSUIT

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or succeeding.

We recognize that there are occasions when it may be appropriate to close certain proceedings or seal certain records, but we believe there should be a process, just as there is in all other courts. And it is not our intention to encourage our members to publish everything that happens in juvenile court. What we want to do is open a window, and the door.

We have been forced to place complete trust in those who deal with juvenile delinquents, youngsters who clearly have the potential to become problem adults.

We are blind. And if, in fact, "it takes a village," our eyes must be opened.

In the capable hands of our attorney, Jon Fleischaker, the basis for our argument is simple, but calculated and strong. A blanket closure of juvenile courts is a clear violation of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution because the public's access, with the press recognized as its surrogate, is forbidden. In addition, Section 14 of the Kentucky Constitution itself clearly states that "all courts shall be open."

That's not all. We contend that the separation of powers between the legislative and judicial branches of government was violated when the General Assembly passed the juvenile code many years ago.

Other states have succeeded in opening their juvenile courts with similar arguments. In fact, it was a story in Quill magazine last September that inspired this action. "Opening Juvenile Courts" described how the state of Oregon and others have succeeded in that task.

Juvenile courts have not always been closed. The history is too long to go into here, but over time they could actually be declared traditionally open. Only in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century was the movement to summarily close them successful across the country.

You should know that while we expect there to be opposition to this action, there is support from many, even from some within the system.

You should also know that as an association we can afford this action. There are sufficient resources to pay our legal fees through our Legal Defense Fund should that become necessary. And should that become necessary, Jon has agreed to a ceiling, performing pro bono above that mark. His convictions in this action are at least as strong as ours. We are very lucky, indeed.

Win or lose, it is important that we have this debate. That may be the most important part of it all. I would urge all of you to encourage that debate in your communities.

And stay tuned. Our quest for a more open government has just begun.

## NEWS

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Associate Member newspapers. The deadline for entering will be Oct. 15 and the contest will be judged Nov. 4 by the North Carolina Press Association. Awards will be presented Jan. 21 at KPA's 2005 Winter Convention at the Hyatt Regency in Louisville.

### KPA Fall Advertising Seminar is Sept. 16-17

The 2004 Kentucky Press Association Fall Advertising Seminar will be Thursday-Friday, Sept. 16-17, at the Paroquet Springs Conference Center in Shepherdsville. The conference center is located just off I-65 at exit 117.

Thursday afternoon's session begin at 1 p.m. with "How to Maximize Your Online Profits," conducted by Cliff Shaluta with Western Kentucky University. The Sept. 16 programs end with a focus on Fair Housing Guidelines, Federal Trade Commission directives and decisions on advertising and other advertising laws, done by Monica Dias and Kim Amrine, with Frost, Brown and Todd LLC, Cincinnati.

Oh Friday, software guru Kevin Slimp leads a three-hour session on "What's New with PDF Files?" Kevin is presently with the Tennessee Press Association and is

credited with developing the PDF remote printing system. The fall ad seminar ends Friday afternoon with "26 Special Newspaper Sections: Maximum Revenue with Minimal Effort." That two-hour session is done by Ken Long, advertising director of the Texas Press Service. Ken's book on the 26 special sections will be given to those who attend.

Registration information will be mailed to all newspapers in early August.

### Woodford Sun goes daily for just awhile

For a time this summer, Kentucky had 25 daily newspapers. While it officially still has 24, there was a period this summer when the Woodford Sun in Versailles became a "daily" newspaper.

Film crews in Central Kentucky for shooting the movie "Elizabethtown" spent a lot of time in Versailles and Woodford County shooting scenes. And to make sure there were no "bloopers" in the movie, the crew changed any signs showing "Versailles" or "Woodford" to reflect the names of coinciding businesses in Elizabethtown and Hardin County.

So that meant the Woodford Sun became the News Enterprise, a daily newspaper in Elizabethtown some 80 miles away where the movie is set and thus the title taken.



# COURT

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interests of the public's right of access, just seal the records when there is nobody there to stand up for the public's right of access. It is for this reason that the press plays an important role, not just in its objective reporting on the judicial system, but as advocate of public access.

Many of you have asked questions about particular records which are commonly sealed by court order:

### A. Deposition Transcripts

Depositions are an integral part of almost all civil lawsuits. A deposition is an opportunity for the lawyers in a case to question witnesses under oath in order to discover facts about

the case and to determine what the witness's testimony will be at trial. Depositions are usually conducted at the lawyer's office in the presence of a court reporter or stenographer.

In Kentucky's courts, transcripts of all depositions in civil lawsuits must be filed with the court. As such, they become part of the publicly accessible court record and a very useful resource for reporters.

### B. Settlement agreements

Settlement agreements in civil lawsuits are also sometimes sealed by courts. Unlike deposition transcripts, settlement agreements are not required to be filed with the court. If the agreement is not filed with the court, then it is not a court record access to which can be pursued in the traditional manner. If it is

filed with the court, then it becomes part of the publicly accessible court record.

More often, settlement agreements are not filed with the court and often contain confidentiality provisions by which the settling parties agree not to discuss the settlement with the press or public. It is important to note that if one of the parties to the lawsuit is a government agency, then Kentucky law permits you to gain access to the settlement agreement, regardless of whether it may contain a confidentiality clause, by making an Open Records request to the government agency even if the settlement agreement is not filed in court. If a government agency refuses to disclose a settlement agreement and you want to see a copy of it, you

should consider appealing the refusal under the Open Records Act.

### C. Other Discovery Matters

Most lawsuits have various forms of discovery that can be useful for newsgathering. Discovery is the process by which litigants gain information from their adversaries for use at trial. Lawyers can force opposing parties to submit written answers to written questions called interrogatories. Lawyers can also request documents and other evidence from their adversaries and can demand documents and other evidence from individuals and entities that are not parties to the lawsuit by issuing subpoenas. These discovery materials are not always filed in the court record. However, when discovery is filed with the court, it becomes part of the publicly accessible court record.

## WKPA to hold workshop Oct. 1 in Hopkinsville

The Western Kentucky Press Association will hold its 2004 Fall Workshop from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1 at the new Hopkinsville-Christian County Conference and Convention Center.

The workshop, titled "Establishing News Source Relationships," is for publishers, editors, reporters covering all beats and journalism students.

There will be a panel involving the military, a panel involving government/politics and a featured speaker to bring it all together.

The first panel, Government/Political News Source Relationships, will be held from 9 to 10:15 a.m. Wally Bryan, Mike Cherry and Rob Dollar will be the speakers.

Bryan served two terms as the mayor of Hopkinsville in the 1990s. He has taught government, economics, real estate and speech on the high school and community college level over the years.

Cherry, of Princeton, is currently in his third term as the state representative of the 4<sup>th</sup> legislative district. He is retired from the US Navy where he spent 20 of his 26 years in public affairs assignments.

Dollar is the executive assistant to Hopkinsville Mayor Rich Liebe. He serves as a spokesman and media contact for the mayor as well as a liaison to Fort Campbell, Hopkinsville City County and state and federal lawmakers. He is a former newspaperman in which his career has spanned nearly 23 years. Most of that time was spent at the Kentucky New Era in Hopkinsville where he was

reporter, columnist and senior editor.

The second panel, Military News Source Relationships, will be from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Panelists will be Kimberly Hefling and Kelly A. Tyler.

Hefling works for the Associated Press and is currently operating out of the Evansville, Ind. bureau. She has worked for the AP since 1997 and has covered Fort Campbell and the military extensively since the Sept. 11 attacks.

Tyler is the civilian Public Affairs

Officer for the 160<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) on Fort Campbell. She retired from the U.S. Army in 2004 after serving 20 years as a public affairs specialist.

After lunch, Al Cross, political writer and columnist for The Courier-Journal will speak. He has covered politics from the C-J for almost all of his 26 years with the newspaper. His coverage ranges from presidential to

local elections and includes the Kentucky General Assembly and the rest of state government.

There is a \$20 registration fee that includes refreshments and lunch. Journalism students can attend for \$15.

Contact Taylor Hayes, publisher of the Kentucky New Era and WKPA president, at 270-887-3265 or at [twhayes@hopkinsville.net](mailto:twhayes@hopkinsville.net), for more information or to R.S.V.P. Deadline to R.S.V.P. is Sept. 17.

## Would you buy a used car from these people?

Maybe not...but you can TRUST THEM to help you in your ad sales efforts...but only if you attend the 2004 KPA Fall Advertising Seminar

Thursday - Friday  
September 16 - 17

Paroquet Springs Conference Center  
Shepherdsville



Kevin Slimp



Cliff Shaluta



Monia Dias



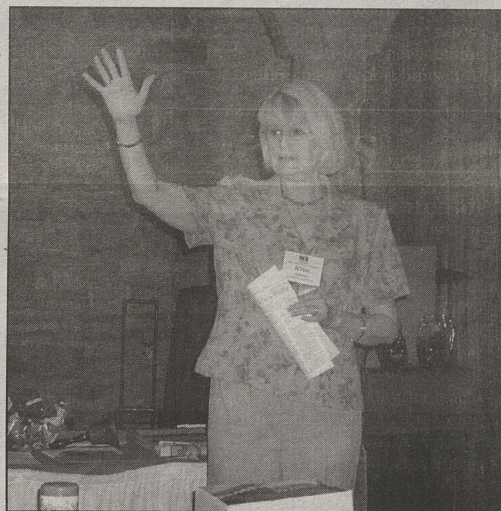
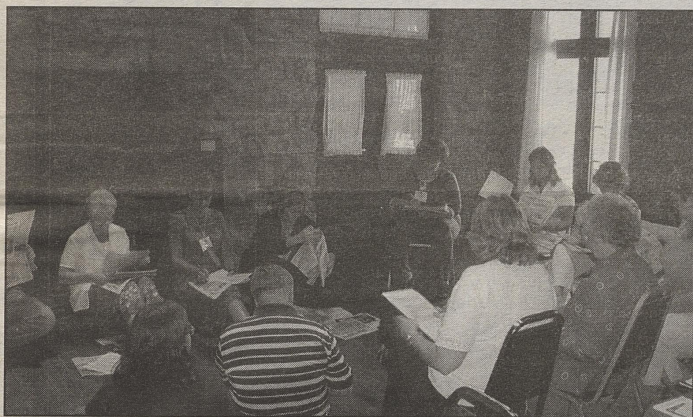
Kim Amrine



Ken Long



## NIE Retreat Scrapbook



Clockwise: Don White, publisher of the Anderson News, and Miriam Ash, advertising manager for The Ferdinand (Ind.) News and Spencer County (Ind.) Leader participate in a teacher workshop activity where White is role playing Bill Clinton. A room full of 60 participants from three states listen during the NIE Summer Retreat in Nashville, Ind. June 24-25. Kriss Johnson, Educational Outreach Manager, conducts one of the sessions at the retreat. Her sessions were titled "Surefire Ways to Supercharge Your NIE Program" and "Selling NIE: Have We Got Good News for You! Groups gathered around tables for an informational chat where they discussed different NIE topics. Using the newspapers to get their ideas, groups planned to do a "newscast" with information found in the newspaper. This was just one of the many NIE ideas discussed at the retreat.



## People

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every county school in addition to writing about a variety of other indoor and outdoor events.

Following a short hiatus away from the CJ, Cornelius returned to the paper earlier this year as a staff writer in the editorial department. Most recently he has expanded into computerized pagination of the front page of the paper.

**The Sunday Challenger**, the new weekly newspaper in Northern Kentucky, launched its first edition on July 4 with more than 60,000 copies delivered to homes in Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties and another 5,000 distributed through newspaper racks and some retail locations.

The four-section broadsheet is being distributed free in selected zip codes within the three counties.

The front page of the paper includes a story about the impasse on the state budget, a news feature about the dangers of lead paint in old homes and a column about the theory behind launching the newspaper.

**Mary Devish** was hired in July as vice president of finance for the **Kentucky Enquirer** and **Cincinnati Post**.

Devish is a former vice president of finance for the **Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle**.

She will oversee the newspaper's budgeting, bill-paying and other financial operations. She replaces **Ted Bergh**, who had held the job since 1993.

**Don Perryman** was named lead reporter for **The Messenger** in Madisonville in July. He has been serving as sports reporter at the newspaper since June 2003.

Even though the majority of his background is in sports reporting, he also served as a Navy journalist for 13 years in Italy, Belgium, Boston and Maine.

**Rachael Kamuf** was named publications director for the Kentucky Farm Bureau's Communication Division in July. She will oversee the production of a broad range of membership and internal publications for Farm Bureau. They include **All Around Kentucky** and **Kentucky Farm Bureau News**, which are mailed periodically to Farm Bureau members in Kentucky, as well as publications produced for employees

and sales personnel.

She is a veteran journalist with more than 25 years experience in weekly, business and alternative publications. She was a reporter for **Business First** for 16 years, and for three years served as managing editor of the **Louisville Eccentric Observer**. She also worked for the **Associated Press** and co-owned a weekly newspaper in Eastern Kentucky.

**Roger Nesbitt** was named assistant publications director in the Kentucky Farm Bureau's Communication Division. He has worked as news services director for Farm Bureau since 1995.

He served for seven years as communication director for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, and also worked as a reporter for **The Courier-Journal** and **Lexington Herald-Leader**.

**Tonia Sexton** joined the reporting staff of **The Menifee County News** in July.

She began working for **Community Newspaper Holdings, Inc.** in July 2000. During the past four years, she has been a reporter for three of CNHI's publications.

Sexton began working as a reporter at the weekly newspapers **The Grayson-Journal Enquirer** and **The Olive Hill Times** in 2000 and then moved to Richmond in September 2003. There she worked for **The Richmond Register** where she was a feature writer and also did news reporting for the police departments, emergency personnel, the courts and Habitat for Humanity.

**The Interior Journal**, a Lincoln County newspaper, changed ownership the first week in July.

**Tom and Sharman Moore**, who have owned the weekly newspaper since 1984, sold the business to **Advocate Communications, Inc.**, part of **Schurz Communications Inc.** of South Bend, Ind.

Advocate Communications plans to continue publishing **The IJ** from the same office in Stanford.

**Katherine Belcher** will be the new editor of the newspaper and **Cynthia Hungate** will be the new advertising representative.

Belcher is a Lincoln County native and a graduate of the University of Kentucky. She has worked for **The Advocate Messenger** in Danville for three years.

Hungate, a Harrodsburg resident, is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky

University. She has sales experience for a Richmond newspaper and a Danville real estate firm and formerly operated an excavating business with her husband.

**Gene A. Clabes**, former president, CEO and publisher of **The Recorder Newspapers** in Northern Kentucky, was appointed equine director for the Kentucky Equine Education Project.

Clabes, who received a bachelor of arts degree in journalism from the University of Kentucky in 1973, was a former sports editor of **The Gleaner** in Henderson and has served as president of the Kentucky Press Association.

**Joe Vanderhoof**, former publisher of **The Independent** in Ashland, was promoted to vice president and general manager of the Middletown, N.Y., **Times Herald-Record**, the largest newspaper for Ottaway Newspapers, Inc.

**Juanita Stivers** recently joined **The Sentinel-News** as a classified advertising assistant. She has a degree in accounting from Kentucky State University and formerly worked at Kentucky Air Center.

**Leah Aubrey** is **The Sentinel-News'** new community writer/Hoy translator. She has a degree in Spanish and American Studies from Georgetown College. She previously worked part-time as a translator for Hoy en las Americas.

**Abby Aiken** was hired in July as a copy editor for **The News-Enterprise** in Elizabethtown. She has a bachelor's degree from Murray State University.

**The Hazard Herald** went online at the end of June with its new website. The site provides a number of features, including polls, letter submissions, articles, classified ads and many other items.

The site will include many of the news articles, photos and feature stories readers find in the printed publication, but the website will also feature new items not found in the publication.

Included on the website will be a variety of photos that can be opened for larger views, national news items and letters to the editor option.

Potential advertisers will also find a home on the website with several spots open to highlight their businesses and related interests.

The website is located at [www.hazardherald.com](http://www.hazardherald.com).

**Kris Adams** was added to the **Murray Ledger & Times** editorial staff in June. She was previously a copy editor and page designer for the **Kentucky New Era** in Hopkinsville.

As a journalist, Adams served five years in the U.S. Army, spending over two of those years at Fort Campbell. She was the news editor for **The Fort Campbell Courier** the last year of her enlistment.

**Dennis Hetzel** was named general manager of **The Kentucky Enquirer** in late June.

Hetzel, former publisher of the **York (Pa.) Daily Record**, is responsible for the editorial and business functions of the newspaper, which primarily serves Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties in Northern Kentucky.

**Tom Pitt** accepted the position of part-time staff writer at **The LaRue County Herald News**.

Pitt began his duties July 8, and will be responsible for assisting Editor **Linda Parker** with feature and news stories, taking photographs, and covering city and county government meetings.

**Marilyn Codova-Winchell** has been named editor of **The Sentinel-News'** twice monthly Spanish newspaper, **Hoy en las Americas**, which serves Louisville, southern Indiana, Shelbyville and much of central Kentucky.

She began her new job on June 28. **Cordova-Winchell**, a native of Puerto Rico, attended the University of Puerto Rico and has a journalism degree from Salem State College in Massachusetts.

**Cordova-Winchell** has worked for the Hispanic paper **El Mundo** in Boston, Mass. and for the Latin Health Institute.

She will write news and feature stories about the Hispanic community in the paper's circulation area and do public relations work for the paper.

The **Sentinel-News** began publishing Hoy as a monthly in 2001. It currently has a circulation of more than 12,500.

**Brad Grubbs** joined the staff of **The LaRue County Herald News** as a delivery driver.

He will be responsible for the r delivery to the post office in addition to supplying over 40 stops in LaRue County and surrounding areas with newspapers each Wednesday.