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KPA seeks 2005 VP nominations

Nominations and letters of application are being accepted until Friday, Sept. 24 for the office of vice president of the Kentucky Press Association for 2005.

Any KPA member may nominate any individual who meets the criteria set forth in the KPA bylaws for that position. Additionally, individuals interested in holding office in the Kentucky Press Association may submit a letter of application.

KPA bylaws state: "The only person eligible for election to the office of vice president are those who are currently serving as elected direc-

tors; those who have been elected to serve on the board, provided they have previously served as either an elected or appointed director or those persons who have served three consecutive years as an appointed director."

Nominations must be sent to: David T. Thompson, Kentucky Press Association, 101 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601.

All nominees consenting to the nomination and agreeing to serve if elected will be interviewed by the Nominating Committee once it has been determined that the nominee

meets bylaw requirements.

Following the interview process, the Nominating Committee will recommend a candidate for vice president to the Kentucky Press Association and Kentucky Press Service Board of Directors.

Following action by the board the individual will be recommended for approval by the full membership of the KPA during the business session of the 2005 convention in Louisville in January.

The person elected vice president will become president-elect in 2006 and serve as president in 2007.

September News & Notes

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.

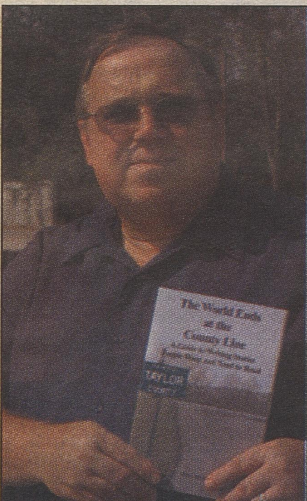
Thursday afternoon's session begins at 1 p.m. with a focus on Fair Housing Guidelines, Federal Trade Commission directives and decisions on advertising and other advertising laws, done by Monica Dias and Kim Amrine, with Frost, Brown, and Todd LLC, Cincinnati. The Sept. 16 programs end with "How to Maximize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

On 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 was mailed to all newspapers in early August.

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'The World Ends at the County Line'



Stan McKinney, assistant professor of journalism at Campbellsville University holds a copy of a book he authored titled "The World Ends at the County Line." The book is intended to be used as a basic news writing text.

From a Klan rally in Shelbyville, Ky. to the Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City, N.J. to a cemetery on the coast of France, Stan McKinney has been there and written about what he saw.

Those stories and many more are included in "The World Ends at the County Line: A Guide to Writing Stories People Want and Need to Read," a 236-page book just released by Instantpublisher.com, a division of Fundcraft Publishing.

McKinney worked for more than 25 years as a reporter and editor at three Kentucky newspapers. He is now an assistant professor of journalism at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville.

Intended as a basic news writing text, "The World Ends at the County Line" focuses on local stories. It contains stories written for The Sturgis News, The Sentinel-News and the Central Kentucky News-Journal.

The book details how to write "big" stories while keeping the angle

local. McKinney believes that reporters don't have to look beyond the county line to find stories people want and need to read.

"My first employer told me repeatedly that readers of his newspaper didn't want to read about what was happening in another county," McKinney said. "He said *his* readers wanted to read about events and people in *their* county. If they do want to know about what's happening somewhere else, he said, they will read another, larger newspaper."

"He constantly emphasized that the world, as far as his newspaper was concerned, ended at the county line."

All of the stories in the book are local, though some admittedly do stretch beyond the county line.

McKinney covered three Miss America Pageants because three young women from Campbellsville won the title of Miss Kentucky and had their chance at the crown. He

See WORLD on Page 9

Kentucky people, papers in the news

Pat Forde, an award-winning sports reporter and columnist for the **Courier-Journal** for the past 17 years, left the newspaper to become a columnist for ESPN.com. He will also serve as a college football reporter on ESPN television. At ESPN, he will

write several columns a week with his primary focus on college football and basketball. He will also write general-interest sports columns.

Bill Rice was named classified sales manager of **The News-Enterprise** in Elizabethtown. In his

new role, Rice will bring a wealth of newspaper classified advertising sales and management experience to both **The News-Enterprise** as well as the Kentucky Classified Network. He began his career with LCNI in 2001. Since that time he has worked as a member of the regional sales team where he has managed an account base of regional and national display advertisers. Prior to joining **LCNI**, Rice worked as classified manager of the **Henderson Gleaner**. He has also had metro-newspaper experience within the classified sales arena with the **Evansville (Ind.) Courier**.

Betty Wallace, the plant administration manager, retired from **The News-Enterprise** after 39 years on the job. At her retirement party an Elvis impersonator serenaded her. She started working at the newspaper in 1965 as a two-week temp. During her career there she worked in accounting, payroll, subscriptions and production.

Tawnja Morris has joined the staff of the **Henry County Local** as circulation manager. Aside from serving as the circulation manager, she will also maintain the Local's NIE program and assist with various office duties, as well as typesetting and production.

Rodney Glover was hired as the new IT technician for **The News-Enterprise**. He's originally from Greensboro, N.C. and transferred to **The News-Enterprise** from the **Greensboro News & Record**. He has a bachelor's degree from North Carolina A & T State University.

John Friedlein was recently hired as a staff writer at **The News-Enterprise** in Elizabethtown. He was a reporter/photographer at **The**

Sentinel-News in Shelbyville for five years.

Tom Pitt took the position of part-time staff writer at **The LaRue County Herald News** in Hodgenville. He 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. He is a 2003 graduate of LaRue County High School, and he is a psychology major at Elizabethtown Community College.

The Pioneer News helped to sponsor Craftsman Truck Series Driver and Shepherdsville native Wayne Edwards' truck for the Built Ford Tough 225 held at Kentucky Speedway on July 10.

Nick Wiselogel has been hired as a copy editor at **The News-Enterprise** in Elizabethtown. He has a master's degree from Emerson College and a bachelor's from the University of Louisville.

Katie Weitkamp, a Fort Thomas native, joined **The News-Herald** staff in July. She completed a Bachelor of Art degree in journalism and a minor in psychology at Eastern Kentucky University in May. While at ECU she was the managing editor of the **Eastern Progress**, the student newspaper. She also created an arts and entertainment section for that paper. She interned at **Fort Thomas Living** and **Kentucky Monthly** magazines.

Angie Beth Jordan is **The Jessamine Journal's** new circulation manager and Newspaper in Education Coordinator. Jordan, a Cincinnati native, was raised in

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The Kentucky Press

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Staff members, Officers and Directors may be reached by e-mail using the individual's first initial, full last name@kypress.com.

Deaths

First Louisville Times female reporter dies

Barbara Jones Hartwell, of Louisville, died Thursday, July 22, 2004, at Norton Hospital in Louisville. She was 86.

Hartwell was the first female general news reporter for **The Louisville Times**. Her first newspaper experience came during her senior year of high school when she was a regular contributor to the

Mayfield Messenger. She won a scholarship to Transylvania College where she graduated in 1939. She joined **The Louisville Times** during World War II. Shunning assignments for the society pages, she asked for and was given news reporting responsibilities.

She was active in the women's movement within the Episcopal Church, serving on several committees of the Diocese of Chicago.

She was also a member of the League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women.

Milestones are worthy of celebrating

A special postcard arrived in my home mailbox not long ago. It invited me to a 50th anniversary alumni dinner being held for those who worked at my hometown radio station at any time since it signed on the air in December 1954.

While in high school, I worked part-time during the school year and full-time during the summers at WBRT-AM in Bardstown. I hesitate to say how many years ago that was but let's just say I started spinning records, reading the news and recording commercials there when the federal minimum wage was a paltry \$1.60 an hour.

It wasn't much money but the truth is I had so much fun working there that I would have paid the station if necessary. Luckily, it wasn't.

As for celebrating important milestones, I'm all for it. In fact, they are a necessary – and fun – part of life.

Another important milestone occurred back in 1980. I worked at a Michigan radio station, WWJ-AM, which had signed on the air on Aug.

Oh, By The Way

By David Greer
KPA Member Services
Director



20, 1920. The station was owned and operated by the Detroit News, the afternoon newspaper. Radio was still quite experimental at the time. A couple hours before the station was to begin its first broadcast, the chief engineer went into the paper's newsroom and recruited a young copy boy who lived across the river in Windsor, Ont., to be the first announcer.

At 6 p.m., the station signed on the air – on the newspaper's rooftop – with the copy boy saying into a microphone that more resembled a large megaphone – “This is 8MK calling – 8MK. If you hear my voice, call Cherry 2000. If you hear my voice, call Cherry 2000.”

No, I wasn't there that night but this is the story as told by that copy “boy” some 60 years later as WWJ celebrated six decades of broadcasting. The copy “boy” – then 80 years old – appeared live on the station during the anniversary and retold his memories from that fateful night.

A few explanations are in order. 8MK was the station's call sign as assigned by the Navy. The routine W

and K call letter prefixes now assigned to U.S. broadcast stations were still nine years away. The station later became WBL and then WWJ.

Yes, this station came on the air several months before KDKA, Pittsburgh, usually regarded as the oldest broadcast station. The devil is in the terminology. 8MK signed on with an experimental license while KDKA came on a few months later but with a broadcast license. Technically, that makes the Pittsburgh station the oldest broadcast station but not necessarily the oldest station.

And finally, Cherry 2000 was the Detroit News' phone number. It still is after all these years – 222-2000. By the way, 20 people called the paper that first night to report reception of the initial broadcast. Along the way, of course, many, many other newspapers came to own radio stations and then TV stations although later federal rules curbed that trend. That's a shame too since so many radio stations have obtained their local news over the years from the local paper. We even did that at WWJ when I worked there. One of my jobs after I got off the air every morning was to rewrite stories from the Detroit Free Press and the News.

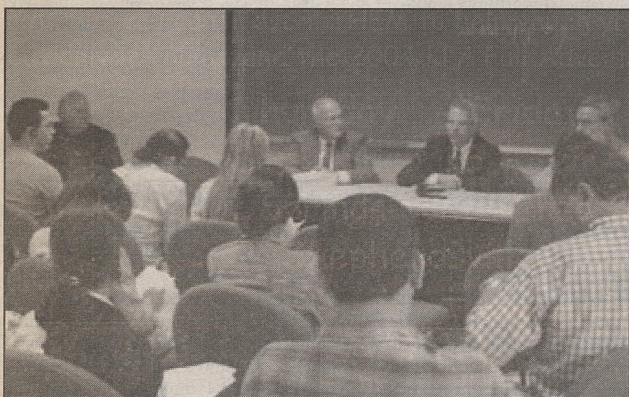
And, no, we seldom gave them attribution.

But by far the most meaningful professional anniversary I have celebrated came in 2000 when my hometown newspaper, The Kentucky Standard in Bardstown, celebrated its 100th anniversary. We made it a tremendous year-long celebration, as planned by those who worked there. Throughout the year, we printed a series of stories and events reprinted from the original issues of the paper since the content of the paper was indeed Nelson County's history from the 20th century.

The yearlong event culminated in a reception open to the public and invited guests and we published our yearlong series in a book. Staff member Donna Wilhite did a fantastic job repackaging the series content into a book format.

Staff member Margie Cross also contributed with many hours of copy editing and proofing. Local historian Dixie Hibbs, now Bardstown mayor, wrote the series and book.

The book became the hot local gift to give or receive that Christmas. Yes, that 100th anniversary – a newspaper celebration – was something extra special.



Journalists from countries in North Africa stopped in Kentucky on their tour of the United States to learn about American journalism. The group spent the day at the University of Kentucky's journalism department. Above: The North African Journalists listen as David Greer, KPA member services director; David Thompson, KPA executive director; John Nelson, KPA president and managing editor of the Advocate Messenger in Danville and Tom Caudill, of the Lexington Herald-Leader speak about Kentucky's Open Records Act. Right: Journalists listen carefully to the discussion with the help of an interpreter they can hear through their earphones. The journalists spoke French.



Top 10 reasons for KPS to exist

Sometimes we just need to justify our existence - even it is only to ourselves. Today I am wondering "why do we have an ad service?" In the spirit of David Letterman, here are my top ten reasons.

The Top 10 reasons for our ad placement service to exist:

No. 10 — We offer an extension to your ad sales department.

No. 9 — We encourage newspaper advertising whether the placement is made through KPS or not.

No. 8 — We offer a one order, one bill, one check service to our clients. This makes it easier on our clients so that they do not have to call around to get all of the needed rates and information. One call to Frankfort gets all of the information a client needs.

No. 7 — We make it easier for clients who want to place in multiple newspapers to do so. Without us, it is quite likely those clients wouldn't place as often or as much.

No. 6 — We suggest that clients place ads in papers that might not otherwise get the business. There may be a newspaper that is a member that our client does not know about and it is our job to offer every newspaper in a specific area to the clients.

Advertising Plus

By Teresa Revlett
KPS Director of Sales



No. 5 — We handle all traffic for our clients. Imagine having to design and deliver ads statewide. That's a lot of work. Because you fill

out your rate and data sheets so promptly we know the size that each newspaper needs so our client doesn't have to worry about different ad sizes.

No. 4 — We promote all Kentucky newspapers at trade shows throughout the U.S.

No. 3 — We can offer statewide circulation to every client because we have members all over the state. Remember there's strength in numbers.

No. 2 — We deal with a lot of the annoying details so that you won't have to iron out all the details.

And the Number One reason for our existence:

We pay our newspapers within 60 days of the placement regardless of whether our client has paid us or not.

It doesn't get any better than that.

If you need a reason for your existence, come to the 2004 KPS Fall Ad Seminar and you will get lots of ways to make money. The dates are Sept. 16 and 17 and the event will be held at the Paroquet Springs in Shepherdsville.

Newspaper seeks details on agency settlement

AP — A newspaper is seeking a court order to force the release of a confidential settlement between a former drug task force employee, the agency and its director.

The Kentucky New Era filed a motion August in Christian Circuit Court asking a judge to unseal the court file in a sexual harassment lawsuit against the task force and its director, Cheyenne Albro.

Attorneys representing the parties named in the suit told the New Era in June that a settlement had been reached with the plaintiff, Teresa Cannon, and the defendants, but declined to release the terms. In July, special Judge John W. Potter, who was appointed to preside in the case, issued a court order dismissing the case and imposed a confidential-

ity provision that stopped all parties from discussing the terms reached.

The newspaper contends that, because the task force is a public agency and Albro a public employee, the terms of the settlement should be open for public review.

Ashley Pack, a Louisville attorney and general counsel for the Kentucky Press Association, said confidentiality requests should not be granted in cases that name public agencies as a party.

"It's actually wrong. Courts shouldn't do that," she said.

Cannon claimed in the lawsuit that Albro sexually harassed her until Jan. 27, 2003, and fired her from work at that time through a written letter of termination. The task force has denied the allegations.

Retail Sales Manager wanted

The Gadsden Times (Ala.) has an immediate opening for an experienced ad professional to lead a retail ad staff of seven. Our next Retail Sales Manager will direct, guide and coordinate all retail advertising activities to achieve established goals, provide management contact with retail accounts, monitor individual sales development of retail sales staff, plan, forecast and implement sales strategies. Must be a "hands on" manager with strong leadership and entrepreneurial skills. College degree or equivalent experience, 3 to 5 years sales and/or management experience essential. The Gadsden Times is an equal opportunity employer and a drug-free workplace. Very competitive salary/bonus package plus excellent benefits make this an opportunity to get with a winning organization. Interested candidates should send cover letter and resume to: Glen Porter, Advertising Director, The Gadsden Times, 401 Locust Street, Gadsden Alabama 35901. E-mail at glen.porter@gadstimes.com or fax to 256-549-2013. No phone calls please.

Outside Salesperson wanted

Looking for a great opportunity to demonstrate your sales ability in a warm southern climate? The Gadsden Times (Ala.) has an immediate opening for a sales professional. Our next outside salesperson will be a team player, have excellent sales skills, computer skills including use of Microsoft Office and Lotus Notes, familiarity with the Internet, a positive attitude, excellent multi-tasking skills, and an ability to work within deadlines. We offer pleasant working conditions, a family-oriented company, competitive pay, excellent benefits and opportunities for advancement. High school diploma or equivalent required with at least one year successful sales experience. Must possess good oral and written skills, have own transportation, auto insurance and a good driving record. The Gadsden Times is an equal opportunity employer and a drug-free workplace. Interested candidates should send cover letter and resume to: Glen Porter, Advertising Director, The Gadsden Times, 401 Locust Street, Gadsden Alabama 35901. E-mail at glen.porter@gadstimes.com or fax to 256-549-2013. No phone calls please.

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available jobs at your news-
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The new wage and hour regulations: What employers need to know

By LOUIS S. BROCK
Attorney Dinsmore & Shohl

This month we are addressing a slightly different, but equally important, topic. Normally we write about press-related issues such as open records/open meetings or access to the courts. There is, however, another side to your business—the administrative/personnel side that may not get as much attention.

As you may have read in news articles or seen debated on news programs, effective August 23, 2004, employers are required to comply with revised regulations defining the “white collar” exemptions under the Fair Labor Standards Act (“FLSA”). Under the revisions, an estimated 1.3 million new workers will be entitled to overtime based solely on the increased minimum salary level for an employee to be considered exempt. Important revisions have been made to the executive exemption, and the regulations now provide specific examples of administrative and professional employees.

Under the FLSA, any employee employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity, or in the capacity of an outside sales employee, or in certain skilled computer occupations is exempt from overtime. These so-called white collar exemptions are defined in the regulations to require the employee to be paid a certain threshold salary and to perform certain duties.

Below is a summary of certain key

changes:

Salary Thresholds

- Employees who are paid less than \$455 per week (\$23,660 annually) are guaranteed overtime. In other words, the white collar exemptions do not apply unless the employee’s salary is at least \$23,600 a year. This is an increase from \$8,060 a year, which was the minimum salary level established in 1975.

- Employees who are paid more than \$100,000 a year will be exempt from overtime as long as they perform at least one duty of an exempt administrative, executive, or professional employee.

Duties Tests

The revised regulations eliminate the long and short tests, creating standard duties (executive, administrative, and professional) tests for employees earning at least \$23,600 and less than \$100,000. Many components of the duties tests remain the same, but a few changes should be noted.

To qualify as an exempt executive, the employee must have the authority to hire or fire other employees or must make recommendations as to hiring, firing, advancement, promotion or any other change of status which are given “particular weight.” The regulations list several factors to determine whether the employee’s suggestions and recommendations are “given particular weight.”

The standard duties test for administrative employees has not

changed much. However, the regulations specifically identify some examples of employees who generally meet the duties requirements for the administrative exemption. The regulations include the following examples:

- an employee who leads a team of other employees assigned to complete major projects for the employer, even if the employee does not have direct supervisory responsibility over the other employees on the team;

- an executive assistant or administrative assistant to a business owner or senior executive of a large business if the employee has been delegated authority regarding matters of significance;

- human resources managers who formulate, interpret or implement employment policies;

- purchasing agents with authority to bind the company on significant purchases.

With respect to professionals, the revised duties test is similar to the current short test. Please note that journalists and reporters are tested under the creative professional exemption. The creative professional exemption applies if the employee’s primary duty is work requiring invention, imagination, originality or talent in a recognized field of artistic or creative endeavor, as opposed to routine mental, manual, mechanical or physical work. While not changed substantively, the regulations do clarify that if a journalist or reporter only

collects, organizes and records information that is routine or already public, or if they do not contribute a unique interpretation or analysis to a news product, this would not qualify them under the professional exemption. For example, “reporters who rewrite press releases or who write standard recounts of public information by gathering facts on routine community events are not exempt creative professionals,” but reporters who conduct investigative interviews, analyze or interpret public events, or write editorial, opinion columns or other commentary are exempt.

Scope of the Exemptions

Beyond clarifying when the exemptions apply, the revised regulations explicitly provide for categories of employees to which the exemptions do not apply. The white collar exemptions do not apply to manual laborers or other “blue collar” workers who perform work involving repetitive operations with their hands, physical skill and energy. In addition, please note that the FLSA does not apply to any employee employed in connection with the publication of any weekly, semi-weekly, or daily newspaper with a circulation of less than four thousand in which the majority of the circulation is within the county where published or counties contiguous.

We recommend that you take each position in your organization, and on a case-by-case basis.

WORLD

Continued from page 1

was in France with a group of high school students visiting teens with the idea of forming a Sister City relationship. The cemetery on the coast of France is the resting place of a young man from Campbellsville who died during D-Day.

“If you go beyond the county line for a story in a community newspaper, there must be a local angle,” McKinney said.

The basics drilled into journalists during college, the who, what, when,

where, why and how, for each story are discussed. McKinney also includes an element he believes to be just as important if not more so – the “who cares?”

“Newspapers today are competing more than ever for readers’ attention,” McKinney said. “It is essential that stories in the lead make it clear as to why the reader should care. If the reader doesn’t care about the story, he’s not going to read it. It’s really that simple.”

There are also several exercises for students to test their ability to wade through the vast amounts of information that might be presented during a

public meeting. Reporters, McKinney said, must be able to sift through all of the information and determine what is truly interesting and meaningful.

McKinney, 51, while still a newspaper editor, taught as an adjunct professor for 13 years at Campbellsville University. He is in his fifth year as a full-time professor.

McKinney’s wife, Joan Cottongim McKinney, is director of university communications at Campbellsville University. Their daughter, Calen, is a senior communications major at Campbellsville University, is editor of the Campus Times and is a part-

time writer for the Central Kentucky News-Journal.

McKinney’s book retails for \$35. Copies may be obtained by sending a check to him at 1007 Deer Park, Campbellsville, Ky. Add \$5 for postage and handling.

KPA members may purchase the book at a discounted price of \$28 plus \$5 shipping and handling.

McKinney is already working on a book about basic Photoshop and QuarkXPress. He also plans a book on photojournalism containing photographs taken over three decades with a discussion of how and why each was taken.

AG Opinions

The Courier-Journal/Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

The Kentucky Attorney General's office was asked to rule if the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet violated the Open Records Act in the disposition of Courier-Journal reporter R. G. Dunlop's request for all records pertaining to condemnation cases concluded between Jan. 1, 1989 and the present and all pending condemnation cases. The AG's office found that although the Cabinet violated the Act in failing to produce a copy of its litigation docketing and tracking system in the requested electronic format, the Cabinet did not violate the Act in denying Dunlop access to some 14 years of hard copy condemnation litigation files on the basis of KRS 61.872(6), or in denying him access to records disclosing monetary values of real estate appraisals on the basis of KRS 61.878(1)(f).

In his correspondence to the Cabinet in May, Dunlop said that most of this information is contained in one or more databases maintained by the Office of General Counsel/Legislative Affairs of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. He wanted the responsive databases to be copied to a diskette for disclosure or in a paper format.

After being denied, Dunlop issued an appeal with the AG's office.

The Cabinet's counsel, J. Todd Shipp, informed the AG's office that the Cabinet did not possess a database that reflected or held the information that Dunlop sought and is not required to create a record containing answers to Dunlop's questions.

The Cabinet advised the AG's office that the electronic format that it possessed was a docketing system and litigation tracking system. It did not have nor does the office scan legal documents into an e-file. The hard copy files contain the entire incidental documents that any large legal file would hold, including attorney work product as well as attorney-client privileged material.

"Appraisals on property need not be made available for inspection until ... all the parcels of land owned by various landowners have been acquired. This exception is

applicable to the active condemnation cases Mr. Dunlop seeks ... to those closed cases that still have active litigation in and around the closed parcel within the project perimeter," Shipp said.

The Cabinet agreed to afford Dunlop access to any specifically identified closed file he wanted to inspect, Shipp told the AG's office.

The Courier-Journal contended that the request could be satisfied by "whatever electronic filing system the Transportation Cabinet uses," but insisted that the Cabinet is, in fact, required to "search for a record that may contain an answer to the requester's questions."

The C-J clarified the nature of the records sought by stating that Dunlop "wishes to review the contents of all litigation files relating to past and present condemnation cases" for the past 15 years. The newspaper claimed that while the records are substantial in number that they are easily identifiable and should be available for public inspection upon request.

The AG's office concurred with the Cabinet in its view that Dunlop's request, even after undergoing rewording, constituted a blanket request for the production of records, which would impose and undue burden on the Cabinet within the meaning of KRS 61.872(6).

"The records Mr. Dunlop requested are of an identified, but by no means limited, class. Based on the sheer volume of records implicated by the request, coupled with the difficulties associated with the separating excepted and nonexcepted materials, we find that invocation of KRS 61.878(6) is warranted in the case," the written AG opinion stated.

The AG's office also affirmed the Cabinet's position that The Courier is not entitled to unrestricted access to appraisal values.

The AG suggested Dunlop present a revised open records request, identifying particular condemnation files and based on a review of the Cabinet's litigation tracking database, he must be afforded access to real estate appraisals, including monetary values, if those properties, and properties within the limits of the project area, have been acquired.

"Production of these records should not impose an undue burden on the Cabinet," the written opinion stated.

The Glasgow Daily Times/Commerce Cabinet

The Kentucky Attorney General's office was asked to rule as to whether the Commerce Cabinet violated the Open Records Act in denying Glasgow Daily Times reporter Stacy L. Neitzel's June 3 request for a copy of the incident report filed by park rangers at Barren River State Park Resort regarding an accident which occurred at the park the weekend of May 29-30 in which a man was critically injured and subsequently died.

The AG's office found that the Cabinet's denial of Neitzel's request was a partial violation of the Act.

According to the written opinion, the record on appeal reflects that shortly after the incident occurred, Neitzel orally requested a copy of the incident report and was advised by Cabinet spokesperson, Jim Carroll, to submit her request in writing. Carroll subsequently advised Neitzel "that the cause of the victim's injuries (was) not known but ... there was a possibility of foul play." On June 6, the Glasgow Daily Times published a story containing this information. On June 9, Carroll notified Neitzel, through a faxed copy of an internal departmental e-mail, that the requested ranger incident report "is not subject to release under the Open Records law because it is preliminary and may represent the premature release of information to be used in a prospective law enforcement action." The e-mail's sender, Sarah O. Hall, assistant general counsel for the Commerce Cabinet, advised the recipient, Carroll, that he should inform the newspaper that the Kentucky State Police were involved in the matter and that he should indicate the exemptions under KRS 61.878(1)(h) to the paper and provide a brief explanation.

On appeal, Glasgow editor Layne Bruce questioned the Cabinet's reliance on KRS 61.878(1)(h) and (i). He maintains that the record in dispute is very unlikely to contain any names of informants or prospective informants and that the basic facts

of the incident have already been widely reported and are subject of much talk and rumor within the community.

"Consequently, it seems improbable the release of the report would jeopardize any legitimate investigation," Bruce stated. "Reports such as this one we are requesting are routinely disseminated to news media by Kentucky State Police, municipal police agencies, county sheriff's departments and other law enforcement agencies."

Bruce also questioned the Cabinet's invocation of KRS 61.878(1)(i), noting that that exemption's protection extends to preliminary documents under consideration by governing or legislative bodies and concluded that this is the first incident in the newspaper's experience where such reports have been denied.

Carroll elaborated on the Cabinet's position. He said the Department of Parks is custodian of records maintained by its law enforcement division of park rangers, who are sworn peace officers. Historically, the DOP has asserted the KRS 61.878(1)(i) exemption when records are involved in ongoing and open law enforcement or agency administrative investigations into circumstances such as the seriousness of the incident at Barren River State Resort Park.

"Because the investigation is active, a decision has not been made to take no action," Carroll stated. "Furthermore, the Kentucky State Police has become involved in the investigation."

He said that the newspaper drew conclusions about the ranger report as to whether or not it contains informant information, and that the exemption is broader in that it allows nondisclosure where the disclosure of information would harm the agency by the premature release of information to be used in a prospective law enforcement action.

Hall also argued that the disputed record qualifies for protection under KRS 61.878(1)(i) because the report is a preliminary document in an ongoing fact finding investigation where the DOP has not taken

A tisket, a tasket, an awarding winning basket

By DANA LEAR
News Bureau Director

Associates Board of Directors member Judy Hughes can do more than just weave words into award winning stories. She can weave materials into award winning baskets.

One of her creations won Best of Show in the 2004 Kentucky State Fair basket weaving competition. Hughes entered a total of 10 baskets in the hobbies and textiles divisions and walked away with six total ribbons including four blue ribbons.

"I was very lucky," Hughes said of her victories. "There were a lot of beautiful baskets (in the competition)."

Hughes, who works with the communication and marketing office at the University of Louisville, first began her hobby in the early 1990s. She said she had always enjoyed crafts and stumbled upon her hobby during a holiday open house at a gift shop where the owner was giving a basket weaving demonstration. There she signed up for classes.

Over a decade later Hughes said she has made over 100 baskets. Although she said she likes to do weaving at home, she also likes to enjoy the craft with other "people

who are similarly obsessed" by attending classes and through her membership with the Kentucky Basket Association and Derby Basket Guild.

"You make a lot of friends basket weaving," Hughes said. "Great friends are better than blue ribbons."

Hughes' passion for baskets is mostly for fun, but she does give some away as gifts, she said.

It took Hughes 10 hours to complete the basket that captured the top prize at the fair, but admitted that some can take longer. Hughes, a former city editor at the Bowling Green Daily News and former Associated Press reporter, said she really isn't sure what about her basket made it stand out from the other 130 baskets entered into this year's competition.

"It's a very diverse category. It is hard to know what criteria they use," she said. "It has a twill pattern that could have been eye catching for the judges. It has a bowl shape that might have made it stand out."

Whatever the reason, Hughes is pleased that others appreciate her work. "I am excited that people like my basketry work, just as I was proud to receive KPA awards for my work at the newspaper."



Above: Judy Hughes poses in front of the basket exhibit at the state fair in Louisville in August. Her basket (featured at left) won a blue ribbon in its category and also picked up the Best of Show award. Hughes is on the Associates Board of Directors and works in the communication and marketing office at the University of Louisville.

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Knight Foundation awards grant to University of Kentucky to improve rural journalism

Former C-J reporter Al Cross to serve as interim director

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has awarded the University of Kentucky a two-year, \$250,000 grant to raise the profile of rural journalism.



Al Cross

Veteran journalist Al Cross has joined the UK School of Journalism and Telecommunications as interim director of the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues. Cross began his new duties on Aug. 1.

The grant aims to create a major survey of rural media, a popular rural journalism Web site, and a class in rural journalism, and training for rural journalists. It also will

fund a conference bringing together national experts and rural journalists.

The institute is also supported by a \$50,000 grant from the Ford Foundation.

"Most of the debates journalists have about the nature of journalism excellence are held by the biggest players on the national stage, yet most news gathering in this country is local," said Eric Newton, Knight's director of Journalism Initiatives. "What happens in rural America's newsrooms matters."

The university will launch a national search for a director this fall. University officials have pledged ongoing support for the institute, including tenured faculty position for the director and the support of a graduate assistant.

The institute was first proposed in meetings between UK President Lee T. Todd Jr., Provost Michael T. Nietzel, and an advisory committee of veteran journalists concerned

with the challenges of public policy coverage facing small newspapers and broadcast stations. Its goal, Nietzel said, is to "tackle many of the critical issues that affect the capacity and progress of the nation's rural communities."

Al Smith, of Lexington, former owner of a chain of weekly papers, chaired the journalists group that advocated the institute.

Smith said, "The impact of socioeconomic change in rural America is difficult to write about in depth at the grassroots, where media itself is one of the institutions being transformed by technology and buyouts by larger, absentee companies." Noting that only a few million of rural America's 63 million people live on farms, Smith added, "The Knight grant expands the opportunity for better reporting about their big issues - education, jobs, health, and the environment."

UK will partner with Eastern Kentucky University, Washington &

Lee University, West Virginia University, Marshall University, Appalachian State University, University of Tennessee, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and other institutions to develop programs to expand the outreach activities of the institute and to develop a clearinghouse of curricula related to rural journalism.

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation promotes excellence in journalism worldwide and invests in the vitality of 26 U.S. communities. The Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues joins a number of other Knight-supported programs intended to increase both existing training and industry investment in professional development. The Ford Foundation is a resource for innovative people and institutions worldwide. Its goals are to strengthen democratic values, reduce poverty and injustice, promote international cooperation and advance human achievement.

Newspapers asked to take part in "Debatewatch"

Program urges citizens to view and discuss debates

Newspapers across the country are being urged to participate in a national voter education campaign that brings citizens together in their communities to watch and discuss the presidential debates. The program, DebateWatch, is sponsored by the nonpartisan, nonprofit Commission on Presidential Debates. In addition to encouraging civic participation, DebateWatch gives viewers the opportunity to provide online feedback on the televised events and suggest topics for future debates.

The CPD encourages newspapers to host local DebateWatches after one or all of the presidential and vice presidential debates. If they wish, newspapers may partner with a local television or radio station to broadcast all or part of their DebateWatch.

The events typically include a group of 10 to 30 citizens, who get together at a community center, library, or other location. The people watch the debates, turn off the television(s) before their views can be influenced by post-debate commentaries, and discuss what they learned from the debate. Sample discussion questions are provided by the CPD. Each group's facilitator has the option of completing an online DebateWatch survey that shares that group's feedback and topic suggestions with the CPD.

Topics suggested through the DebateWatch survey will be shared with independent moderators of subsequent presidential and vice presidential debates. Other survey results will be used in a national research project to gauge the effectiveness of the debates.

In addition to hosting a discussion, newspapers can participate in

the campaign by:

- printing articles or editorials encouraging community members to host DebateWatches in their homes, at work, or with civic groups;
- integrating DebateWatch into planned election coverage since reporting on these events offers unfiltered citizen opinion and insight about the debates and policy issues;
- merging DebateWatch into existing voter education drives;
- including listings of local DebateWatches in community calendars; or
- printing information about the 2004 presidential and vice presidential debates.

"The beauty of this program is its flexibility," said CPD Voter Education Director Heather Balas. "Anyone can participate, from children to young adults to retirees. The

better the mix of citizens, the more interesting the discussion."

The debates will be carried live on most major television networks. The proposed schedule is:

- First presidential debate: Thursday, September 30, 9 pm ET, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Fla.
- Vice presidential debate: Tuesday, October 5, 9 pm ET, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
- Second presidential debate: Friday, October 8, 9 pm ET, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.
- Third presidential debate: Wednesday, October 13, 9 pm ET, Arizona State University, Tempe, Ariz.

To sign up for DebateWatch, or for more information on the program, visit www.debates.org or email debatewatch@debates.org.

Postsecondary education council seeks input

The Council on Postsecondary Education, the coordinating board for the state's system of higher education, has invited Kentucky newspapers to participate in nine regional forums being held across the state in September and October. The purpose of the forums is to get public input on regional needs and what postsecondary education can do to meet those needs.

The strategic planning process to update the public agenda is called for by the *Kentucky Postsecondary Improvement Act of 1997* (House Bill 1). The Council's current agenda, *2020 Vision: An Agenda for Kentucky's System of Postsecondary Education*, has guided the Council's work for the past six years, linking postsecondary education to statewide priorities and economic growth.

Please attend the forum that is being held for your county.

Covington—Sept. 29 from 6:30-9 p.m. (ET), Holmes High School, representing Boone, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen, Pendleton, Bracken, Fleming, Lewis, Mason, and Robertson counties;

Louisville—Oct. 4 from 6:30-9 p.m. (ET), duPont Manual High School, representing Bullitt, Henry, Jefferson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, and Trimble counties;

Prestonsburg—Oct. 12 from 6:30-9 p.m. (ET), Prestonsburg High School, representing Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Martin, and Pike counties;

Manchester—Oct. 13, from 6:30-9 p.m. (ET), Clay County High School, representing Bell, Clay, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, Rockcastle, Whitley, Breathitt, Knott, Lee, Leslie,

Letcher, Owsley, Perry, and Wolfe counties;

Lexington—Oct. 14 from 6:30-9 p.m. (ET), Henry Clay High School, representing Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Nicholas, Powell, Scott, and Woodford counties;

Ashland—Oct. 19 from 6:30 -9 p.m. (ET), Paul Blazer High School, representing Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Greenup, Lawrence, Bath, Rowan, Menifee, Montgomery, and Morgan counties;

Paducah—Oct. 25 from 6:30-9 p.m. (CT), Lone Oak High School, representing Ballard, Calloway, Carlisle, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Marshall, and McCracken counties;

Madisonville—Oct. 26 from 6:30-

9 p.m. (CT), Madisonville North Hopkins High School, representing Caldwell, Christian, Crittenden, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Muhlenberg, Todd, Trigg, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union, and Webster counties; and

Glasgow—Oct. 27 from 6:30-9 p.m. (CT), Barren County High School, representing Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Metcalfe, Monroe, Simpson, Warren, Adair, Casey, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, McCreary, Pulaski, Russell, Taylor, Wayne, Breckinridge, Grayson, Hardin Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, and Washington counties.

Please RSVP to Chanda Williams-Miller at chanda.williams-miller@ky.gov or by telephone at 502-573-1555 ext. 248.

NEWS

Continued from page 1

Bring your special section ideas

Do you have a special section idea that worked really well for your newspaper? Bring it to the fall advertising seminar at Parquet Springs Conference Center at Shepherdsville and it could be worth a buck or two for you.

Special sections will be the topic of conversation at the Sept. 17 meeting with Ken Long, Advertising Director at Texas Press Association. Ken has put together a book of special section ideas and everyone attending the meeting will get a copy of the money making ideas.

Any idea that Long, seminar leader, deems worthy will be given a prize. No, I won't tell you what the prizes are right now. You have to come to the seminar to see!

Just dig through your files and try to remember which special sections were the best for you. Ken is not looking for your average special section that is used by most newspapers from year to year, but the most innovative and profitable special section. If you need a registration form for the seminar, just give us a call at the KPA/KPS office at 1-800-264-5721.

Until then, gather those special sections so we can all make some money!

WKPA will hold workshop Oct. 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 is titled "Establishing News Source Relationships." There will be a panel involving the military, a panel involving government/politics and a featured speaker to bring it all together. Speakers are Wally Bryan, former Hopkinsville Mayor and high school and community college government teacher; Mike Cherry, 4th legislative district state representative and retired US Navy public affairs officer; Rob Dollar, executive assistant to the Hopkinsville Mayor and former editor at the Kentucky New Era; Kimberly Hefling, from the Evansville Bureau of the Associated Press; Kelly A. Tyler, civilian public affairs officer for the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment on Fort Campbell; and Al Cross, former political writer and columnist

for The Courier-Journal.

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 for more information.

Lewis Owens Community Service Award

Each year, the Lexington Herald-Leader honors a newspaper person, or a newspaper staff, by presenting its Community Service Award. The award was renamed the Lewis Owens Community Service Award in 1996.

Presented annually by the Lexington Herald-Leader, the award recognizes outstanding community service by a Kentucky newspaper person or staff.

The award was originally established in memory of Edwards M. Templin, promotion director of the Lexington Herald-Leader and president-elect of the Kentucky Press Association when he died in 1967.

It was later renamed to honor and memorialize Lewis Owens for his many years of service to community and service organizations

and to Kentucky's newspaper industry.

The award will be presented in January at our 2005 Kentucky Press Association Winter Convention.

If you wish to nominate someone for this award, you can get a nomination form by contacting Tom Caudill at (859) 231-3301.

Nomination deadline is Nov. 12.

Statement of ownership filing deadline Oct. 1

The publisher of each Periodicals publication must file Form 3526 by Oct. 1 of each year at the original entry post office.

The information provided on Form 3526 allows the Postal Service to determine whether the publication meets the standards of Periodicals mailing privileges.

The required information also must appear in an issue of the publication whose primary mailed distribution is produced.

1. Not later than Oct. 19 for publications issued more frequently than weekly;

2. Not later than Oct. 31 for publications issued weekly or less frequently, but more frequently than monthly, or;

3. For all other publications, in the first issue whose primary mailed distribution is produced after Oct. 1.

Betcha can't clean windshields with a radio

First, this month's best quote comes from a Kentucky state government employee. The identity shall remain anonymous so as not to jeopardize his job.

"I don't approve of political jokes. I've seen too many of them get elected."

* * * * *

Many of you know that my older daughter Kalli is in the sales department for Clear Channel Radio in Lexington. That's led to interesting discussions when we've gathered for a family dinner and I always take the opportunity to remind her that newspapers put food on the table, clothes on her back, a roof over her head and provided her with college education. And dad gets in a few more digs as well.

Like her father, she has a fetish for clean cars. A little bit of dirt or mud and it's time to wash it. Even in the dead of winter.

She was at the house recently and Marilyn and I commented on how clean her car looked, as if it just came

On Second Thought

By David T. Thompson
KPA Executive Director



off the showroom floor. She had spent most of a day getting it that way. But she was proudest of how clean the windows were, both inside and out.

"Mom, I found the greatest thing to clean windows," she proclaimed. "Newspapers. It doesn't leave streaks and it's so easy. Don't they look great?"

To which dad got in another little dig: "See just another reason why newspapers are the best. Ever tried to clean your windows with a radio?"

* * * * *

It was started back in about 1940 by state press association managers as a way for newspapers to promote themselves. There wasn't enough of that going on, and still isn't for that matter, and managers figured what better way to promote newspapers than with a National Newspaper Week.

Newspaper Association Managers (NAM as we refer to ourselves) renew the week-long celebration this year, October 3-9. And to help you

celebrate, we're making available a kit that will include articles, editorials, cartoons and other information to help you promote your newspaper and this industry.

Think about it for a minute. You send ad sales peoples to all corners of the county. You tell local groups if they want their events to be made known to the public they need to use newspapers. Newspapers are the best way for government agencies to notify the public of how tax dollars are being spent. To everyone who will listen, we tell them "ya gotta be in the newspaper."

But when it comes to promoting ourselves, we don't practice what we preach. We don't use our advertising space to tell businesses, clients and readers how effective newspaper

advertising is. We don't use much space to promote subscription sales. And when we do, it's typically an after thought.

"Find me a house ad. I've got a little space left on this page." Sound familiar on press day? It's truer than you might think.

The first celebration had the somewhat cumbersome slogan of, "The Press Constitutes the First Line of Defense in the Battle for the Maintenance of Democracy."

This year, the theme is somewhat more man-

ageable than 64 years ago — "NEWSPAPERS: The People's Product."

And again this year, the KPA website is hosting all the NNWeek kit information.

Check the site periodically — www.kypress.com/nnwkit — and use it. Use it to promote your news-



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Kevin Slimp



Monica Dias



Kim Amrine



Ken Long



Cliff Shaluta

Thursday - Friday
September 16 - 17
Paroquet Springs Conference Center
Shepherdsville

OPINIONS

Continued from page 6

any final action. She asserted that disclosure of information during an ongoing investigation involving names of person who may be witnesses or who may possess information would have a chilling effect on an ongoing administrative and law enforcement investigation.

After reviewing the disputed document, the AG's office found that the incident report confirms only in part the Cabinet's denial of the request.

The AG's office found that the mechanism by which Neitzel's request was denied did not satisfy the procedural requirements of the Open Records Act because forwarding a very brief and cursory internal memo to the requester does not satisfy the public agency's procedural obligations under KRS 61.880(1).

The AG's office also found that "established legal authority only partially supports the Cabinet's position."

The Cabinet relied on KRS 61.878(1)(h) in denying the request. In order to successfully raise this exception, a public agency must satisfy a three-part test, according to the AG's office. The agency must first establish that it is a law enforcement agency or an agency involved in administrative adjudication; it must next establish that the requested records were compiled in the process of detecting and investigating statutory or regulatory violations; finally, the public agency must demonstrate that disclosure of the information would harm it by revealing the identity of informants not otherwise known or by premature release of information to be used in a prospective law enforcement action.

"Although the Cabinet has indicated that the disputed record was generated by a park ranger, acting in

his capacity as a peace officer, that it is engaged in an ongoing departmental investigation, and that 'the Kentucky State Police has become involved in the investigation,' the Cabinet has not described the nature of its investigation or to what end that investigation is directed. Nor has it described with any degree of specificity the nature of the harm to it or KSP that might be occasioned by disclosure of the incident report," the AG's office wrote.

The AG found in its review of the disputed document that much of the information contained in the report is already public knowledge.

"Resolution of this appeal against the Cabinet, in part, therefore turns on its failure, or inability, to make an adequate showing that it, or the Kentucky State Police, would be harmed by premature release of the report," the AG's office wrote. "Because the professed harm that would flow from premature disclosure consists of little more than a bare claim, we find that the Cabinet failed to meet its statutory burden of proof in sustaining its denial of pages 1 and 3 of the report and the written statement prepared by the park employee who discovered the victim's body."

Because Page 2 and the second written statement identify witnesses and contain information that might be used in a prospective law enforcement action, the AG's office affirmed the Cabinet's denial of this portion of the request.

The Kentucky Enquirer/Covington Police Department

The Kentucky Attorney General's Office was asked to rule whether the Covington Police Department properly relied on KRS 61.878(1)(a) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 in partially denying The Kentucky Enquirer's requests for specifically identified accident and incident reports generated by that public agency.

The AG's office found that the

department's partial denial of the request was procedurally deficient and substantively incorrect.

In a letter dated April 20, 2004, Kentucky Enquirer reporter Jim Hannah requested a copy of the accident report "of the overturned CSI garbage truck taken at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 20, 2004 at Madison and Hands Pike."

Lt. Col. Michael Kraft responded April 26 by providing Hannah with a copy of the report with names, birth dates and addresses of those involved redacted.

Kraft cited no exception authorizing these redactions and offered Hannah no explanation for the Department's partial denial of the request.

In May, Hannah submitted a written request for copies of the incident report for a May 6, 2004, shooting in Covington, an accident report for a May 1 accident and a letter dated May 2003 signed by Dan Miles, outlining the Department's policy on the release of reports, which had at one time been posted at the Covington Police Department.

Kraft responded three days later to the request by agreeing to release copies of the requested records upon prepayment of reasonable copying fees. Following payment for, and receipt of the copies, The Enquirer determined that the Department had again redacted, without statutory citation, or accompanying explanation, the name, address, date of birth, social security number, race and gender of persons identified in the records, as well as vehicle ID and registration numbers.

The newspaper initiated the appeal with the AG's office challenging the partial denial and procedures by the Department.

Following the filing of the appeal, Assistant City Solicitor Farrah D. Vaughn indicated to the AG's office that "the name, address, and date of birth of persons involved in (these) accidents who had received medical

treatment for the City's emergency medical service (were) redacted, consistent with the policy outlined in City Solicitor John Jay Fossett's July 21, 2003 letter to (Enquirer reporter) Shelley Whitehead." The letter indicated that these procedures were in the guidelines of the Kentucky Open Records Act and HIPAA.

The AG noted that the Covington Police Department's response to each of Hannah's requests were procedurally deficient because it did not cite the specific exception authorizing nondisclosure of the record or portion when partially denying the request. Previously notifying the newspaper of its policies in writing does not constitute compliance.

Because the Covington Police Department is not a "covered entity" for purposes of HIPAA analysis, the AG found that records generated by police officers do not contain "protected health information" and such records are therefore not governed by HIPAA's Privacy Rule.

The AG's office also ruled that KRS 189.635(6) places no restriction on the information in the accident reports that must be disclosed to newsgathering organizations, limiting only the uses to which the information may be put, these organizations are entitled to unrestricted access to accident reports per KRS 189.635(5).

"Because The Kentucky Enquirer is a newsgathering organization whose purpose is to publish the news, the Covington Police Department must furnish The Enquirer with unredacted copies of the reports," the AG's written opinion stated.

The AG's office did not find a violation of the Open Record's Act with the redaction of addresses and dates of birth by the Covington Police Department citing that privacy in this case outweighs the minimal public interest in disclosure.

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for the latest resumes or to post available jobs at your newspaper.

People

Continued from page 2

Maysville, and is a graduate of Mason County High School. She also attended Lexington Community College.

Josh Givens, a native of Lewisburg, joined the staff at the **Todd County Standard** in July as editor. He will primarily be responsible for determining the editorial content of the paper as well as writing news stories and features from within the county. He will also shoot photographs and design pages alongside the current staff. Givens has been working as a journalist and writer since 1995, getting his start at Russellville's **News-Democrat & Leader** after serving as an U.S. Army photographer for a number of years. He has also worked as sports editor for the **Kentucky Standard** in Bardstown and was the lead reporter for **The Messenger** in Madisonville for the past two years.

DeAnna Wade, **The Morehead News** special projects coordinator, was called to active duty Aug. 15 with the 100th Army Division out of Richmond. She will be working supply at Ft. Lee, Va.

A.C. Wilson Jr. announced the sale of **Cave Country Newspapers to Jobe Publishing, Inc.** the first of August. Jobe Publishing, a family business operated by **Jeff and Susan Jobe**, currently publishes the **Butler County Banner** and **Green River Republican**. The newspapers, with circulation on Wednesdays and Sundays, cover Butler County. Cave Country Newspapers publish **The Barren County Progress**, **The Hart County News-Herald**, **The Metcalfe County Light** and **The Monroe County Citizen**. They also serve the communities with weekly shoppers. Wilson has owned and operated the newspapers for 23 years.

Cadiz police are investigating a break-in at **The Cadiz Record** that took place sometime on the night of Aug. 4. Entry was gained by prying open a window on the building. An undisclosed amount of cash was taken in the break-in, but police noted the newspaper office kept very little cash on the property.

Melissa Newman began fulfilling the position of publisher at **The London-Laurel News Journal** in early August. She has more than 14 years of journalism experience. Newman has held editorial positions

at **The Kentucky Standard** in Bardstown and the **Barbourville Mountain Advocate**. She also served as general manager for **The Advocate** as well as **The Ada Herald** in Ada, Ohio.

Brett Snead has been named retail-advertising manager at the **Lexington Herald-Leader**.

Becky Smith was promoted to manager of the retail-advertising department at **The Paducah Sun**. She is responsible for local, major and national sales and ad production. Since joining **The Sun** in 1986, Smith has served as account executive, coordinator of special sections and manager of customer service/marketing. She most recently served as sales manager for both the **Extra** weekly entertainment supplement and **Sunsix Internet Service**, and as coordinator of **Posh** magazine.

Cindy A. Hardin, a native of Madisonville, has joined the staff at **The Paducah Sun** as sales manager for **Extra**. Hardin was previously employed at **The Messenger** in Madisonville and most recently at the **Gadsden (Ala.) Times**, where she served as co-op coordinator and manager/supervisor of retail sales.

Kim Lawhorn, of Mayfield, has been promoted from assistant ad production manager to ad production manager of **The Paducah Sun**. She oversees daily and specialty ad design, all printed materials and advertising campaigns. Since joining **The Sun** in 1989 as graphic designer, Lawhorn has also served as production secretary and as administrative assistant for the newspaper's parent company, **Paxton Media Group**.

Chris Cooper was named managing editor of the **Russellville News-Democrat & Leader** in August. She was formerly the paper's staff reporter and page designer. As managing editor, Cooper will work with the publisher and editor in planning each edition of the newspaper and in making assignments to reporters and photographers. She is a graduate of Logan County High School and has been with the newspaper for six years. She primarily wrote feature stories with an occasional news story when she first began, but her primary focus has been Russellville city government for the past few years.

Marty Matisoff has joined the staff of the **Meade County Messenger** as a freelance reporter. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Illinois University in Macomb, Ill.,

with a focus in journalism and English literature. He recently joined the Music and Arts Center in Elizabethtown as the director of visual arts, where he also teaches drawing and poetry. He is also co-owner of his wife's portrait and figurative arts business, acting as her agent and representative.

Kentucky Standard's news and photo editor **Stacey S. Manning** and staff writer **Melony Leazer** completed a legal affairs reporting course at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nev. Aug. 9-10. They were among 53 newspaper, television and radio journalists selected throughout the nation to be part of the inaugural class of the "Basic Legal Affairs Reporting for Journalists" course presented by the Reynolds National Center for Courts and Media. The two received a full-expense paid scholarship from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation to attend the course. The training was designed to help journalists be more familiar with the court system.

The Menifee County News is available by home delivery and on newsstands on Tuesdays rather than Wednesdays. It is also devoting more space for local news about residents in and from Menifee County.

The **National Newspaper Association** thanked Congressional Action Team Members **Chip Hutcheson** of the **Times Leader** in Princeton, **Richard RoBards** of the **Central Kentucky News Journal**, **Max Heath** of **Landmark Community Newspapers, Inc.**; **Chris Ordway** with **The News-Enterprise** in Elizabethtown; **Brenda Lichtenfels** with **Landmark Community Newspapers, Inc.** and **Jo Kerr** with **The Oldham Era** for working for passage of **The Junk Fax Prevention Act of 2004**. The legislation will eliminate the FCC's signed consent requirement regarding commercial faxes. The team members recruited co-sponsors for the House and Senate bills, helped to persuade their state attorneys general not to oppose the legislation and assisted **NNA Regional Director Cheryl Kaechele** in her testimony before House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.

The Bowling Green Daily News launched **SoKyDating.com** in December. As of July 31, the site has generated over \$1,200 in revenue for the newspaper with no expense other than 2 x 5 promo ads running once a week. Over 575 people have regis-

tered to browse the personals. Membership is free to browse, fees are charged when you want to contact someone, or post a personal, and the newspaper gets 55 percent of the revenue generated from fees. **SoKyDating.com** is a service of **Dating Tech Network** <http://datingtechnetwork.com>.

J. T. Hurst, publisher of the **Daily News** in Middlesboro, was surprised by his staff with a luncheon in August honoring his 50th year of service to the newspaper. He got his start at the newspaper delivering papers on his bicycle in 1945. He took a leave of absence from his newspaper career to serve in the army but resumed working for the paper after his honorable discharge. This time he worked as a stereotypist and hot-metal technician. In 1958, he was appointed to the position of job print manager to oversee outside printing jobs. He served in that capacity until 1968 when he was promoted production manager. He held that position until 1974, when he became advertising director. In 1982, he moved back into the role of production manager and continued in that role until 1990 when he was named publisher. In addition to his duties at **The Daily News**, he also serves as publisher of the **Trading Post**, a shopper, and **The Claiborne Progress** and **Union County Times**, weekly newspapers in Tennessee.

Louisville has a new Spanish-language newspaper. The first edition of **Al Dia en America**, a free bi-weekly, was published Aug. 9. The paper will focus on Louisville, where the Hispanic population more than tripled between 1990 and 2002. In September the issues will include a profile of distinguished local Latin person. The paper will also feature columns by a doctor and a lawyer. **Al Dia**, which means "up to date," is starting with a circulation of 6,000 but that number is expected to grow.

Jack McNeely took over as publisher of **The Commonwealth Journal** replacing **David Thornberry** who was named publisher of a newspaper group in Ottumwa, Iowa. McNeely has 18 years of newspaper experience and is moving to Somerset after a 10-month stint as publisher and editor of the **Americus Times-Recorder**, a 6,000-circulation daily in southwestern Georgia. McNeely is returning to Kentucky where he served as publisher of the **Morehead News Group** from Oct. 1999 to Oct. 2003 before moving to Georgia.