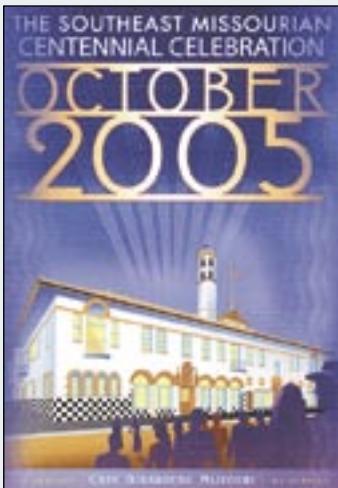


November 2005

Missouri Press

NEWS



The Southeast Missourian in Cape Girardeau wrapped-up a year-long celebration of its 100th anniversary with a day of festivities.

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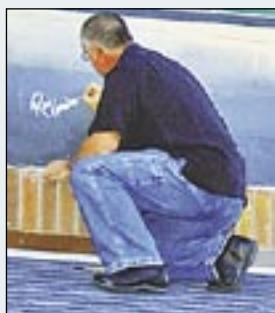
Photojournalism Hall of Fame opens

Bill Miller Sr., publisher of the Washington Missourian, welcomes guests to the Photojournalism Hall of Fame's first induction program. Miller was the driving force behind establishment of the museum to honor outstanding Missouri photojournalists. Inset: The late Vi and Cliff Edom, "Parents of Missouri Photojournalism," and among the first class of inductees.



Kansas golfers clip Missourians in annual dual for the Little Brown Jug.

15



Cuba Free Press mural depicting ambush photo of Bette Davis dedicated.

9

Visit the Photo Hall of Fame

Newspapers everywhere have stories about Wal-Mart

I really enjoyed the ceremony for the opening of the Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame in Washington on Oct. 20. It's the first of its kind in the nation for photojournalists, who greatly deserve the recognition. Their impact on newspapers is an asset to a quality publication.

If you weren't able to attend the program, try to find some time to travel to Washington to see photos taken by Bob Briggs, Betty Love, Arthur Witman, Charles Stacey, Angus McDougall, Cliff Edom and Jack Zehrt. Witman's photos include some amazing photos of construction of the Gateway Arch.

A big "thank you" to Bill Miller Sr., the Miller family and staff of the *Washington Missourian* for their efforts in preparing the building to house the Hall of Fame.

It was a great football game between Mizzou and the 'Huskers on Oct. 22.

MPA hosted members of Nebraska Press Association in the Hearnes Center Fieldhouse before the game.

I visited with several Nebraska publishers, and a couple of them spoke about their dealings with Wal-Mart. In northeast Nebraska they have an interesting situation that could become a big newsmaker in the future.

Talking about Wal-Mart reminded me of our NNA trip to Milwaukee. One of the main speakers

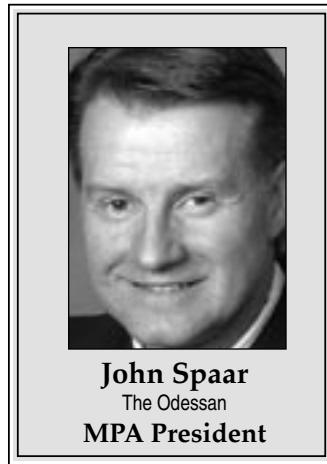
there was the assistant public relations director, Mona Williams. She was kind enough to answer questions about Wal-Mart and advertising in community newspapers.

A couple of things I found interesting in her talk with us was that she thought Wal-Mart was in a "chaos" phase, not meaning unorganized

disruption, but which direction should they go. One example she gave was trying to upscale their women's clothing line. She showed us a full-page advertisement that had been run, in all places, *Vogue* magazine.

Now, if only Mr. Glass could spend that kind of money on the Royals.

Sign up to help judge Iowa contest on Nov. 10 in Columbia.



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GOING BEYOND THE CALL®

Berry elected NNA director

Former MPA president will represent Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska

MILWAUKEE — Dave Berry, vice president for Community Publishers Inc. in Bolivar, was elected Region 7 director (Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas) of the National Newspaper Association during NNA's 119th annual convention held here in September.

Jerry Reppert, publisher of the *Gazette-Democrat* in Anna, Ill., became the president of the association after serving as vice president.

Jerry Tidwell, publisher of the *Hood County News* in Granbury, Texas, was elected vice president. Tidwell had been treasurer.

Steven Haynes, publisher of the *Oberlin Herald* in Kansas, was elected treasurer.

Reppert succeeds Mike Buffington, editor of the *Jackson Herald* in Jefferson, Ga. Buffington becomes immediate past president.



Dave Berry served as MPA President in 2003.

Berry is publisher of CPI's Missouri properties: the *Bolivar Herald-Free Press*, *Buffalo Reflex*, Stockton *Cedar County Republican*, *Marshfield Mail*, *Nixa News-Enterprise*, Ozark *Christian County Headliner News* and Rogersville/Fordland *South County Mail*. He also manages a shopper based in Marshfield.

He was president of the Missouri Press Association in 2003, and he is a past president of the Bolivar Rotary Club, a past president of the Bolivar Area Chamber of Commerce, a past president of the Ozark

Press Association and a past president of Missouri Advertising Managers' Association.

Berry has worked with CPI in helping the company expand its operations in Missouri. The company opened a central printing plant in Springfield, which replaced operations in Bolivar and Marshfield. All of the company's Mis-

souri newspaper printing is done at the central plant, including the company's commercial printing.

Newly elected to the NNA board are; Michael Sunderman, president/COO of

Morris Newspaper Corp., as Region 11 director (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and Guam); and Jeff Fishman, publisher of the *Tulalahoma (TN) News*, as Region 3 director

(District of Columbia, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia).

Newly appointed to the board are: Mark Thomas, executive director of the Oklahoma Press Association, representing the Newspaper Association Managers; and Roy Eaton, publisher of the *Wise County Messenger* in Decatur, Texas, as an at-large director representing NNA past presidents. He will serve until the next annual convention, which will be in Oklahoma City on Oct. 11-13, 2006.

Among those continuing on NNA's board is director at large Jim Sterling, journalism professor at the Missouri School of Journalism.

Rust Publishing buys Kentucky twice-weekly

Rust Publishing Central TN LLC has purchased the twice-weekly *Lewisburg Tribune* and *Marshall Gazette* from the Hawkins family. Rust Publishing is a subsidiary of Rust Communications, Cape Girardeau.

The 5,000-circulation *Tribune-Gazette* has been owned by the Hawkins family since 1898. Hugh Jones, publisher and part owner of the Shelbyville *Times-Gazette*, another Rust newspaper, is the new publisher of the Lewisburg newspaper.

Dirks, Van Essen & Murray, based in Sante Fe, N.M., represented the Hawkins family in the transaction.

St. Joseph publisher buys local commercial printing company

NPG Newspapers, Inc., publisher of the *St. Joseph News-Press*, has purchased Oxley Printing Co. and plans to merge the two companies' sheet-fed printing operations.

The merged company will focus on sheet-fed commercial printing, including glossy booklets and other products

on high-quality, coated paper.

NPG Newspapers will move its commercial printing equipment into the Oxley printing plant. Oxley's 16 employees will keep their jobs, but the former owners will depart after a transition period.

FOI Coalition will set up at J School

A \$1.7 million grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation will help the National Freedom of Information Coalition set up at the Missouri School of Journalism's Freedom of Information Center. It also will help launch FOI groups in the 10 states without them.

Plans for the national coalition to relocate to Columbia were approved in May. Charles N. Davis, an associate professor of journalism at MU, was named executive director of the coalition.

The coalition, established in 1992, supports state groups that protect public access to information.

Star challenges closed meetings

County seeks state ruling on separate, small budget gatherings

By DEAN SMITH

The Kansas City Star

Oct. 22

Jackson County Executive Katheryn Shields has been discussing the 2006 budget with (county) legislators in private meetings, which *The Kansas City Star* contends violates state law.

On (Oct. 21), the newspaper formally asked Shields and the nine legislators to allow the public to attend whenever Shields meets with two or more legislators about the budget.

Legislative Chairman Dan Tarwater said county officials deliberately did not meet with more than two legislators at a time in order to avoid a majority of a committee, which he said would have required an open meeting under the Missouri Sunshine Law.

"Holding meetings with less than a quorum for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the Sunshine Law has also been recognized by the courts as a violation of the Sunshine Law," said Sam Colville, attorney for *The Star*. "It is an intentional avoidance."

County counselor Ed Rucker had said the meetings could be private because no quorum of any committee was present.

Legislators Eugene Standifer, Henry Rizzo and Bob Stringfield said the public should be allowed to attend the budget meetings.

"They are public dollars. I don't know

why we would want to hide," Standifer said. "We've got to be upfront so that people believe in our government."

Stringfield said there was no doubt about why Shields was meeting privately with a couple of legislators at a time. "This is nothing new," he said. "This is the way this government is run and the way it works. ... It comes down to behind-the-scenes gathering the votes."

Legislators Dan Tarwater and Bob Spence said the talks were appropriately being held in private. "It has always been done this

The Jackson County legislature voted 8-1 on Oct. 24 to go to state court to get a ruling on the legality of the private budget meetings.

Jackson County is facing a \$16.2 million deficit next year and an immediate hiring freeze. County Executive Katheryn Shields told legislators at their weekly meeting.

Sam Colville, attorney for The Star, said the newspaper welcomes a court ruling on the legality of the budget meetings.

I ... am delighted that they are using the procedures under the Sunshine Law to get an answer," he said.

way," Tarwater said.

Shields recently met with Spence and legislator Scott Burnett. After *The Star* attempted to attend a meeting (Oct. 20) afternoon involving Shields, her staff, Rizzo and Tarwater, Shields said she would cancel the meeting because of the newspaper's challenge to its legality.

After Rucker told Shields the meetings were permissible, she then held the meeting 30 minutes later. Rizzo said he reluctantly stayed in the meeting on Rucker's advice.

"I am troubled that the opinion we trusted now seems to have a cloud over it," Rizzo said. "And in hindsight, I wish I had left the meeting."

Rucker said it was a professional courtesy to give the legislators "an early heads up" so they weren't surprised when the budget became public.

Missouri Press Association attorney Jean Maneke said approving the budget was one of the Legislature's primary responsibilities.

"To do this behind closed doors in an effort to avoid facing the public about these tough decisions is a slap in the face to the public," she said.

A 1996 Missouri Appeals Court ruling said the intent of the state law was to prevent governmental bodies from meeting privately to discuss business that would otherwise be public if a quorum were present.

Fire district found guilty of Sunshine violation

Judge Carr L. Woods has found the Southern Stone County Fire Protection District board of directors guilty of violating the Sunshine Law. While no fines were levied against the board members, the court costs were assessed to the fire district, according to a report in the *Stone County Gazette*.

Stone County Prosecuting Attorney Matt Selby sued the fire district board after two former board members approved employment contracts for six employees of the fire district on April 6.

On April 5, the two members of the board had been defeated for re-election. The next day, before their replacements were sworn in, the two held a special meeting and approved employment contracts for the six employees. No employment contracts had ever existed with district employees before.

The third member of the fire district board was not present at the meeting.

Judge Woods, in one of his rulings, said "the board's failure to give proper notice of the closed session ... was a

substantial and important violation of the Sunshine Act."

The court also found that "the public interest in enforcement of RSMO 610.010 to 610.026 (of the Sunshine Law) outweighs the public interest in sustaining the validity of the action taken by the board during the closed session ..."

All actions taken during the meeting were nullified.

—From the *Stone County Gazette*, Kimberling City

Photojournalism Hall of Fame opens



Welcoming guests, Bill Miller Sr., right, opens the program for the induction of the first group into the Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame in Washington, Mo., shown at left. Seated behind Miller are Cliff Schiappa of The Associated Press and David Rees of the Missouri School of Journalism. They were co-chairs of the inductee selection committee.



Guests from around the state and from the city of Washington packed the main hall for the first induction program of the Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame. Gov. Matt Blunt, left in the photo at left, presented plaques to the inductees. David Rees of the School of Journalism accepted the plaque for the late Cliff and Vi Edom. At right, Ray Vickery accepted for the late Charles Stacey.



MPA photos by Kent Ford

Inductees Jack Zehrt and Bob Briggs pose for a photograph in front of the display of Zehrt's work, including his 1943 photograph of the crash of a glider that killed the mayor of St. Louis.



Above, inductee Angus McDougall, center, visits with a group of well-wishers during the reception. John H. Dengler, center foreground, Springfield, accepted the plaque for the late Betty Love.

Photojournalists honored

Hall of Fame opened Oct. 20 in Washington, Mo.

Bill Miller Sr.'s dream of a Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame became a reality on Oct. 20 with the induction of the first group of honorees. Gov. Matt Blunt presented plaques to the honorees or their representatives during the invitation-only program in the building near Miller's newspaper, the *Washington Missourian*.

Miller welcomed the guests, then Doug Crews, executive director of Missouri Press Association, introduced the many special guests in attendance.

Those guests included the governor, UM President Dr. Elson S. Floyd and School of Journalism Dean R. Dean Mills, each of whom spoke briefly.

A number of state legislators and officials, local Washington officials and civic leaders, and newspaper people from around the state also attended the induction program. John Spaar, president of the Missouri Press Association, Odessa, and Tom Miller, president of the Missouri Press Foundation, Washington, attended.

A reception was held after the program, and the Hall of Fame was opened to the public that evening. Initially, the Hall will be open with a volunteer staff from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

This is the text on the plaque that appears inside the entrance to the Photojournalism Hall of Fame:

"The Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame endeavors to recognize those who have made outstanding contributions to Missouri journalism, and to provide an exhibit venue to showcase these visual reporting pioneers."

"Inductees are recognized for one or more of the following:

- Outstanding photojournalism

achievement.

- Long-term photography for a Missouri publication or other journalism outlet.
- Leadership in education.



This is the cover illustration on the program for the induction ceremony.

- Technical innovations.
- Ethical values and integrity.
- Contributions to community."

The first group of inductees were:

Jack Zehrt

Zehrt's career in photography started after high school in St. Louis, when he worked as a freelancer. A few years later he began working for the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*.

In 1943, his first year at the *Globe-Democrat*, Zehrt won the AP's Picture of the Year award for capturing a glider carrying the St. Louis Mayor and nine others as it crashed to the ground.

Zehrt left the *Globe-Democrat* in 1955 to become a stock photographer. Most notable are his photos of space, specifically his series of city skylines with the moon hovering above. His collection also includes hundreds of photos from Route 66, dating to 1947.

Zehrt made several cameras. His portfolio contains remarkable collections of animals in the St. Louis Zoo, of St. Louis Cardinals and other famous baseball players and of construction of the Gateway Arch.

Arthur Witman

St. Louis Post-Dispatch photographer Arthur Witman began his distinguished career in the U.S. Army Air Force, from 1923-1927. He joined the *Post-Dispatch* in 1932. In his 37-year career, he pioneered the use of 35mm cameras in news photography and documented a wide range of St. Louis and Missouri history in the Sunday magazine. This included Winston Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech in Fulton and the presidential campaigns of Roosevelt, Truman and Eisenhower. Most notable are his pictures of the construction of the Gateway Arch.

He organized the St. Louis Press Photographers Association in 1945 and helped form the National Press Photographers Association the following year.

The University of Missouri presented him its Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism in 1964.

Charles Stacey

During his 28-year career at *The Salem News*, Charles Stacey was a leader in Missouri weekly newspaper journalism in the use of photographs to report on life in rural areas. He joined *The Salem News* in 1950, setting up a darkroom and teaching himself how to engrave photographs for the newspaper. Stacey's photos won first place for five years in a row in Best Use of Pictures, Dailies or Weeklies, in the Missouri Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest.

Stacey began using color photographs, teaching himself how to use color film and to make separations for the printing press.

Angus McDougall

Angus McDougall influenced hundreds of students while director of the photojournalism sequence at the University of Missouri School of Journalism from 1972 to 1982.

While working for the *Milwaukee Journal* he won the Magazine Photographer of the Year award in the Pictures of the Year competition.

After he joined the School of Journalism, McDougall challenged students to produce professional work. Some of today's top photojournalists studied under McDougall, known to students as "Mac." He retired in 1982.

In 2005 he was a recipient of the University of Missouri's Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism.

Betty Love

Love began at the *Springfield Daily News* and *Leader-Press* in 1941 as a temporary fill-in for the newspaper's illustrator and cartoonist. The job took, and during World War II Love found herself filling in for photographers as well. She taught herself darkroom techniques and how to use the camera as a journalist and as an artist.

In her nearly 35 years at the newspapers, Love pioneered the use of color photography and was one of the first women to work as a newspaper photographer. She was a charter member of

the National Press Photographers Association and won many awards for her photographs. When she retired in 1975, 150 of her photographs were displayed in a month-long show at the Springfield Art Museum.

Cliff and Vi Edom

Cliff and Vi Edom worked as a photojournalism team, most notably in their Missouri Photo Workshop and in the founding and administering of the Pictures of the Year contest.

The invention of the term "photojournalism" is commonly attributed to Cliff.

Cliff worked for newspapers and taught at a school of engraving before going to Columbia in 1943. He earned a degree in journalism, then organized and headed the first accredited photojournalism department in the country at the University of Missouri.

Vi worked for the Missouri Press Association, where she was the assistant manager for more than 30 years.

The Edoms founded the Pictures of the Year contest in 1943, Kappa Alpha Mu, a national photography honorary fraternity in 1944, and the Missouri Photo Workshop in 1949. The annual Missouri Photo Workshop continues to draw instructors and photojournalists from around the world.

The Edoms were honored in 1977 with the University of Missouri's Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism. Vi received the World Understanding Award from the Photographic Society of America and special recognition from the National Press Photographers Association. In 1993 the Edoms were inducted into the MPA Newspaper Hall of Fame.

Bob Briggs

Bob Briggs started as a copy boy for the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* and eventually traveled around the world taking pictures for the paper and as a correspondent for *Life* and *Time* magazines. He learned photography using a Speed Graphic he bought from another *Globe-Democrat* staffer.

He introduced 35mm cameras to news photography in the region. He photographed every president from Truman to Nixon, construction of the Gateway Arch and Busch Stadium and the 1964 World Series victory of the Cardinals over the Yankees.

Briggs traveled to places like Spain to photograph bullfights and McMurdo Sound in Antarctica to photograph scientists. He left the newspaper business in 1966 to work in public relations, but continued to incorporate photography into his remaining jobs.

Guilty verdict in 2001 slaying of Columbia Tribune sports editor

A Lincoln County jury on Oct. 21 found Ryan Ferguson guilty of second-degree murder and first-degree robbery in the slaying four years ago of *Columbia Daily Tribune* sports editor Kent Heitholt.

The jury recommended 30 years for second-degree murder and 10 years for first-degree robbery. Sentencing will be Dec. 6. Ferguson's father told reporters he intends to appeal.

Heitholt, 48, was bludgeoned and strangled in a *Tribune* parking lot in the early hours of Nov. 1, 2001.

Ferguson and Chuck Erickson, both now 21, were juniors at Rock Bridge High School at the time Heitholt was

found dead in a pool of blood by co-workers. The two were arrested March 10, 2004, after witnesses told police Erickson had spoken of the crime to a friend.

Erickson pleaded guilty Nov. 4 to second-degree murder, first-degree robbery and armed criminal action, agreeing to testify in the Ferguson case.

Under terms of his plea, Erickson faces a 25-year prison sentence. Sentencing is set for next month.

The young men had been drinking at By George, a Columbia nightclub, before the killing. Erickson testified their assault on Heitholt — a random target — started as a robbery.



Mural completed at *Cuba Free Press*

Residents of Cuba gathered on Sept. 29 at the new building of The Cuba Free Press to celebrate the completion of a mural on the outside of the building. It is the 11th mural in the community's

Viva Cuba beautification effort. Artist Ray Harvey signed the mural during the festivities. (Teaser photo on front cover.)

Bette Davis didn't want her picture taken

Viva Cuba, a community beautification group, celebrated the completion of its 11th mural with a gathering of community and people key to the mural's completion.

The gathering took place on the parking lot of the *Cuba Free Press* building, overlooked by the mural and its larger-than-life figures of Bette Davis, her husband William Sherry and community member Wilbur Vaughn. The mural features a stop by Davis in Cuba in 1948 when Vaughn snapped her photo against the wishes of Davis and her husband.

On Sept. 29, the evening started with refreshments served by the Viva Cuba Committee with big band and swing music playing in the background.

Wilbur Vaughn, who took the photo of Davis, spoke to the crowd about how the event took place. He waited in the cold, rainy November evening for the star to emerge from the Southern Hotel. He had to wait so long because Davis was inside eating two turkey dinners. Since the original happening occurred 57 years ago, Vaughn told the audience that he would not be

running down the street in the reenactment that was to follow.

Next, characters dressed in vintage costumes reenacted the scene. Wearing a leopard-trimmed outfit much like Miss Davis wore on that evening, Linnea Ising, a high school sophomore, played Bette Davis as she ate her dinner and later had her photo taken against her will.

Another sophomore, Kevin Mullanly, played her irate husband, William Sherry, who had forbidden the photo.

As history records it, after the dastardly deed was done, Sherry chased the photographer down the street and later fell in the mud, which did not improve his mood. And the brash young photographer Wilbur Vaughn, who fled down the street that long ago evening, was played by Chris Case of the *Cuba Free Press*.

Jill Barnett, chairperson of Viva Cuba,

spoke to the crowd about how Rob Viehman of Three Rivers Publishing (publisher of the *Cuba Free Press*), had desired a mural and planned a spot for it on his new building and helped to make it a reality.

The artist, Ray Harvey, spoke to the crowd about how his family had often traveled through Cuba when he was a young child. He said he had always liked the stretch of the road along the mural because it was by the railroad track, and he loved seeing the trains. So Harvey saw some irony in the fact that he would be painting a mural along this same stretch of Route 66.

He spoke warmly of the community support for murals and art. Then he climbed up his ladder and signed his name to his artwork.

The evening provided time for visiting and enjoying the completion of the *Cuba Free Press* building with the addition of the Bette Davis mural. By her own admission, Bette Davis was often a cantankerous personality, but she might just enjoy the attention that she is still receiving.

—*Cuba Free Press*



139th Annual Convention has plenty to see and do

Left: Steve Fairchild of the Mt. Vernon Lawrence County Record looks at some of the winning entries in the Better Newspaper Contest. Above: Steve Haynes and his wife, Cynthia, from Oberlin, Kan., look over the winners of the photography competition in the Better Newspaper Contest. Haynes is the past director of Region 7 of the National Newspaper Association and its current treasurer. Right: Peter Wagner of Sheldon, Iowa, shares some of his marketing ideas at the Convention. Below: A discussion of best advertising ideas attracted a small but eager group.



MPA Photos by Kent Ford

Trade Show a large part of annual meeting

Missouri Press Association thanks these businesses and organizations for their participation in the Trade Show during MPA's 139th Annual Convention & Trade Show.

Heritage House Publications, Marceline
Harris & Baseview, Melbourne, Fla.
Family Features Editorial Syndicate, Inc, Mission, Kan.
Kodak, Burnaby, B.C., Can.
Content That Works, Chicago
Metro Creative Graphics, New York

City

AP Newsfinder, Waukesha, Wis.

Missouri Division of Tourism, Jefferson City

TownNews.com, Moline, Ill.

MPA Postal Consultant Ron Cunningham, Columbia

Profitpackaging, Inc., Warsaw

Spa Shiki, Lake Ozark

Missouri Lottery, Jefferson City

Missouri State Teachers Association, Columbia

Newspapers In Education, Columbia

State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia

Automated Systems Technology, Inc. (ASTI), Martinsville, Ind.

Branson Lakes Area Chamber, Branson

P.R. Newswire, Chicago

American Profile, Franklin, Tenn.

MODOT, Jefferson City

The Maneke Law Group, Inc., Kansas City

Missouri National Guard, Jefferson City

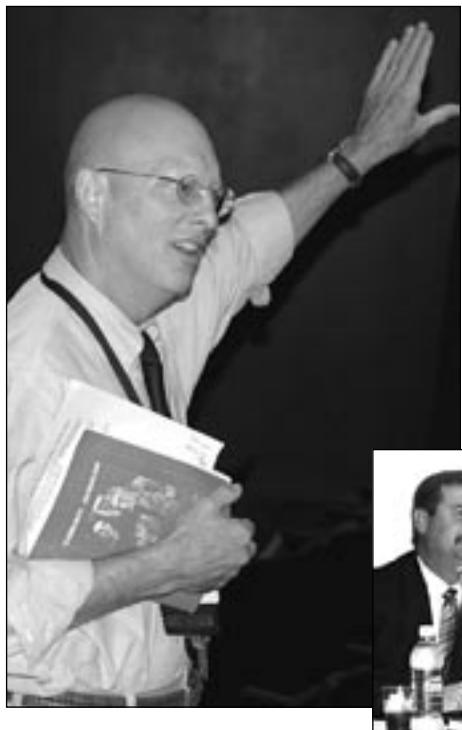
First Media, Inc., Fairway, Kan.



Brian Brooks, center, and Tom Warhover, right, of the School of Journalism visit the Kodak exhibit at the Trade Show. Below, Jock Lauterer, a journalism instructor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, tells his listeners how important community newspapers are to the fabric of American society.



Dr. Elson S. Floyd, president of the University of Missouri System, talked about his proposal to freeze tuition for each freshman class when he spoke at lunch Friday.



Right: Marsha Lawrence, senior print media strategist for Best Buy Co., Inc., explains what she expects from newspapers in her marketing programs. Below, Missouri legislators talk about their relationships with the press. From left, they are Rep. Wes Shoemyer, Rep. Jeff Harris, Rep. Todd Smith, Rep. Bob Johnson and Rep. Shannon Cooper. Terse comments from some of the panelists and audience members about government secrecy and press editorializing provided a confrontational tension to the session.



Sponsors help make Convention a success

The Missouri Press Association acknowledges the following for their special contributions to the success of the 139th Annual MPA Convention & Trade Show.

Adam Puchta Winery
Ben Weir, Independence Examiner
Boone County National Bank
Branson Chamber of Commerce
Dan & Shay Wehmer

CenturyTel
Columbia Daily Tribune
Missouri Beef Industry Council
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St. James Winery
Stone Hill Winery
The Lodge of Four Seasons
The Maneke Law Group, L.C.
Wendell Lenhart, *Trenton Republican Times*
Nancy Sterling



More scenes from the Lodge of Four Seasons

The Friday breakfast crowd, above, enjoyed hearing former MU basketball coach Norm Stewart, right, spin some yarns about his hometown of Shelbyville and about some of his players. Below, Chuck Haney of Chillicothe and Doug Crews, executive director of the Missouri Press Association, pull bids out of the crowd during one of the two live auctions held during the Convention. Proceeds from one of the auctions were to be sent to the Gulf Coast for hurricane relief. The second auction raised money for Missouri Press Foundation. Together the auctions raised more than \$5,000.



The Missouri Press Association's bylaws allow the Board of Directors to award Honorary Life Membership to people who have contributed to the betterment of MPA and the newspaper industry. The Board voted at its meeting on June 23 to present Ivan Oestreich, left, with Honorary Life Membership. Ivan has been a long-time associate member of MPA and a regular at MPA district and state meetings. MPA President John Spaar, right, presented the plaque to Ivan, a retired representative of Sprint.

Donors, bidders make auctions a success

Missouri Press Association thanks the donors of items for the auctions at the Convention and those who purchased the items. The two auctions generated \$5,480 for the Missouri Press Foundation and hurricane relief.

Donors and purchasers:
Carl Edwards poster, David Lipman
John Darkow cartoon, Vicki Russell
Carl Edwards shirt, Pam Weaver
Lodge of Four Seasons Golf Package,
Bill James
Cardinals pillow/throw, Betty Spaar

Carl Edwards car picture, Steve Oldfield

Cardinals plate, Jeff Schrag
Sheraton Hotel stay, Don Warden

Carl Edwards #60 car picture, Steve Ahrens

Carl Edwards Autographed Model Car, Dalton Wright

Carl Edwards Autographed Hat, Kathy Whipple

Lodge of 4 Seasons Package, Don Warden (Scott Charton was the original purchaser, but he had a schedule conflict

on the package date. He donated his purchase price to the auction.)

Busch Stadium Replica, Tracey Berry

Country Editor Print, Suzanne Bradley

Brad Smith Autographed Football, Dane Vernon

Missouri Press Foundation Heritage Prints, Bill Miller

Brad Smith Framed Jersey, Betty Spaar.



Above: Tracey Berry of the Missouri Division of Tourism greets Bob Cunningham and his wife, Marlene, of Moberly at her exhibit in the Trade Show. Right: Mike Sell, center, receives a gift from the Missouri Press Association in appreciation of his nearly 12 years of service as the advertising manager. Sell is retiring at the end of the year. MPA Executive Director Doug Crews, left, and MPA President John Spaar, right, presented the framed collage of scenes from the MU campus during the Hall of Fame banquet on Friday night at the Convention. Sell is a Mizzou alumnus. Several members of his family attended the event.

62 wins Fall Classic at Seasons Ridge

The foursome of Dave Berry, Greg White, Dan Wehmer and Matt Wright scrambled to a 62 to win the 2005 Missouri Press Fall Golf Classic on Sept. 22 at Seasons Ridge Golf Course, The Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark.

Thirty-two golfers participated in the event, which was part of the 139th Annual Missouri Press Convention & Trade Show.

Other winning foursomes were:

A Flight

2nd: 63 — Charlie Fischer, Vonnie Fischer, Joe May and Jeff Schrag.

B Flight

1st: 68 — John Spaar, George Spaar, Norm Stewart and Jim Sterling.

2nd: 68 — Greg Gaffke, Randy Knox, Ivan Oestreich and Mike Trask.

Other prize winners:

Longest drive: Trevor Vernon.

Longest putt: Kent Ford.

Closest to the pin: Greg White.



Left: Bob Smith, a former publisher and past president of MPA, now with the Division of Tourism, gets a massage at the Spa Shiki booth at the Trade Show. Right: Mike Buffington, then the President of the National Newspaper Association, addressed the group at the Weeklies Breakfast on Saturday. He also spoke briefly at the Hall of Fame Banquet, during which he presented MPA Executive Director Doug Crews with a gift for his work with NNA. Buffington's term as NNA President expired a week after the MPA Convention when NNA gathered for its annual Convention, which was held in Milwaukee.

Scrapbook

• **Sedalia** — The *News-Journal* and a local pet grooming business held a fundraiser on Sept. 23 to help care for pets affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Activities included a barbecue, silent auction, bake sale, raffle and horse-and-buggy rides. Donations of money and pet food and supplies also were taken.

Proceeds were donated to petfinders.com, a group that rescues pets and returns them to their owners.

• **Troy** — The *Lincoln County Journal* and other newspapers of Lakeway Publishers have directories of all of the businesses in Lincoln County on their websites. Listings are free to businesses.

The Business Directory has an alphabetical listing by category of advertiser. It also has a search feature for people who want a phone number or address of a particular business.

Businesses have the option of adding a logo to their listing for a fee. They also can have pages on the website that are linked from their listing in the directory.

The other Lakeway papers in Missouri are the *Louisiana Press-Journal*, *Troy Free Press*, *New Haven Leader*, *Elsberry Democrat* and *New Haven Leader*.

• **Sedalia** — The *Democrat* asked its readers to send in entries for its Halloween scary story contest. Winning entries from first- through eighth-graders were published in the paper on Halloween.

The best Halloween artwork also was published to illustrate the stories.

The *Democrat* also solicited stories from veterans for a Veterans Day section. Relatives of dead veterans also could send in stories. Photos of the veterans in uniform and current photos of the veterans were sought.

• **Harrisonville** — After reviewing bids for the publication of legal notices, the Harrisonville Board of Aldermen voted to award the bid to both the *The Cass County Democrat-Missourian* and *The Journal*.

The city administrator recommended

both papers be awarded the bid because their combined bids were lower than the amount budgeted for legal notices.

• **Hannibal** — The *Courier-Post* in October began taking applications for its 22nd annual Glad Tidings program that provides holiday assistance for local families in need.

This year's goal is to help 50 families in the Marion and Ralls counties area.

The newspaper partners with Douglass Community Services to sponsor the program, which benefits senior citizens and families with young children.

• **Cape Girardeau** — The *Southeast Missourian Jr.* won first place for Best Kid's publication in the Suburban Newspapers of America 2003 Advertising & Promotion Contest.

The award recognizes outstanding

contributions to the quality of promotional and marketing materials within suburban and community newspapers.

• **Advance** — The office of the *North Stoddard Countian* has moved into a larger office in the same building in Advance.

Office manager Gary Carrington and writer Madeline DeJournett staff the office 9-4 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Sharing space with the staff are a new laminating machine and a photo scanner. A new digital camera completed the equipment update for the weekly.

• **Maryville** — The *Nodaway News Leader* has hired Jared Hoffman to help with the news reporting. Hoffman is a senior journalism major at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville.

• **Stockton** — The *Cedar County Republican* has moved into a new building in the northwest area of the town

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Contact:

**Zoe W. Lyle
Executive Director**

When you renew your driver's license or motor vehicle plates, you may make a minimum \$1 donation at the Department of Revenue to support the Blindness Education Screening and Treatment Program Fund.



Kansas wins Brown Jug

Kansas Press Association prevailed at this year's Little Brown Jug golf match, Oct. 6-7, at courses in Leawood and Olathe, Kan. Kansas scored 13 points in match play, while Missouri collected 11 points. MPA team members were Suzy Wilson, Milan Standard; Dan Wehmer, Seymour Webster County Citizen; Matt Wright, Lebanon Daily Record; and Doug Crews (left), MPA, Columbia. The Kansas players were Nancy Issac, (center), Chanute Tribune; Dick Clausen (second from right), Eureka Herald; Ben Marshall (second from left), Sterling Bulletin; and Brad Lowell (right), Concordia Blade-Empire. Doug Anstaett, KPA executive director, hosted this year's tournament and took this photo. Golf teams from MPA and KPA have squared off annually since 1963, playing for the coveted Little Brown Jug traveling trophy. The winners traditionally toast the losers with shots of McCormick Whiskey, which is distilled in Weston.

square.

A tornado on May 4, 2004, destroyed Stockton's downtown buildings, including the one that housed the weekly paper.

Stockton's downtown square is nearly rebuilt.

• **St. Louis** — *Post-Dispatch* religion reporter Tim Townsend has been named the Templeton Religion Reporter of the Year by the Religion Newswriters Association. The award, considered the top national award for religion reporters, recognizes excellence and versatility in religion reporting.

• **Rich Hill** — Throughout October the *Mining Review* printed articles about the newspaper's history as the weekly observed the end of its 125th year of publication.

For many years while under the ownership of Randy and Ellen Bell, the *Mining Review* was housed in a building on Sixth Street.

For some time after the Bells sold the paper to Sac-Osage Publishing, Inc., the

newspaper remained on Sixth Street. It was moved early this year to a downtown building on Park Avenue.

• **Kirksville** — The *Kirksville Daily Express* raised more than \$7,000 and the *Macon Chronicle-Herald* raised \$3,578 to help hurricane victims of the Gulf Coast.

• **Grant City** — Cindy Ackley, publisher and editor of *The Times-Tribune* in Grant City, has been named to the MAP (Missouri Advance Planning), Missouri Department of Transportation Regional Working Group.

The MAP initiative is the beginning of a statewide dialogue on what the state's transportation system could and should do for its citizens and how to best fulfill those expectations and that potential.

• **Kearney** — *The Kearney Courier* has moved into an office in Old Church Plaza in Kearney.

• **Grandview** — *The Jackson County*

Advocate, which ceased publication after its Sept. 22 edition, has been sold by the Turnbaugh family to David Weikal, who published his first edition on Oct. 19.

James D. Turnbaugh Jr. founded the weekly in 1953. It was published after his 2003 death by Agnes Anne Turnbaugh and her daughter, Annette.



Bill Miller with the Faculty-Alumni Award he received Oct. 21. (Wally Pfeffer photo)

Bill Miller receives award from Alumni Association

Bill Miller Sr., publisher and editor of the *Washington Missourian*, received the Missouri Alumni Award on Oct. 21 during the annual Faculty-Alumni Awards dinner at the Reynolds Alumni Center in Columbia.

Miller also publishes the *Missourian* papers in Union and St. Clair and the *Marthasville Record*.

His degree from MU is in history, with a minor in political science. He is an endowed life member of the MU Alumni Association and a Jefferson Club Fellow. He has served on the MU Alumni Athletic, MU Intercollegiate Athletic and MU Land Grant Mission Advisory committees.

Faculty-Alumni Awards, begun in 1968 by the MU Alumni Association, recognize the achievements of faculty and alumni. Alumni are considered for their accomplishments and for service to their alma mater.

NIE Report

Get on bandwagon with Reading Across Missouri

It's never too early to start thinking about those New Year's resolutions. I have one to offer:

1. Build a relationship with young readers in 2006.

Did you know more than six out of 10 young adults who read newspapers as school children are regular newspaper readers today?

Catching the interest of young readers is a lot like fishing. You have to bait the hook a little, then once they've taken a bite, you reel them in to a lifetime of reading.

Bait your hook this year with "The Best Storyteller," our Reading Across Missouri 2006 serial story. The goal of the Reading Across Missouri project is to have newspapers across the state publish the same story at the same time.

Last year 128 Missouri newspapers published "A Hunter's Heart." What a tremendous impact we had with tens of thousands of children reading newspapers all winter!

Ordering "The Best Storyteller" is the first step. But another key to success is letting parents and teachers know the story will be published.

Missouri Press provides three promotional ads with this story. Add your logo and start publishing them to let your readers know it's coming.

Cover it from the news side as well. Write a brief or publish a feature story on author Kay Hively. Enthusiasm is contagious! A story on Kay and photos are available from Missouri Press.

To help you get the word out to school administrators, we've posted a "Getting Started Kit" of resources on the website. The kit includes samples of an initial letter to principals, a basic order form, a letter to teachers and a follow-up survey to gauge interest in future Newspaper In

Education efforts.

Be sure to put your newspaper's name on these items. A companion teacher guide is free to you when you order "The Best Storyteller." It's 38 pages of educational support for elementary and middle school teachers. It includes Constructed Response Items

and Performance Tasks, all aligned to the Missouri Show-Me Standards and Grade Level Expectations.

Copy this guide and distribute it to the teachers who participate in this project, or you may post the file on your newspaper's website and direct teachers to the resource.

You will find this teacher guide, written by Missouri public educators, to be a very critical component to the success of this project in your schools.

Missouri Press has mailed every newspaper an order form for "The Best Storyteller." You also can download the contract from the main NIE page at mopress.com.

Missouri Geography Series

The second week in November is National Geography Awareness Week. For the fifth year, Missouri Press has partnered with Missouri Geographical Alliance to provide educational features to Missouri's newspapers.

This year's national theme is "Migration: The Human Journey."

Our goal is to take the national theme and teach young readers about its relevance in our state. This year's features focus on Amish and Black American migration to Missouri.

Last year's theme, "The People of Our Place," focused similarly on historical cultures — the Missouri French, Scots-Irish and German. These features, as well as those for 2005, all are available on mopress.com.

Bill of Rights Day

There is a current movement in some schools in Missouri to "de-emphasize" the teaching of social studies in elementary schools.

While I'm sure many of you would agree with my personal feelings on the subject, I'll just use this space to encourage you to support civic education by publishing our Newspaper In Education features created in partnership with The Missouri Bar.

I was thrilled to see how many of you published our new Constitution Day feature in September. This month we'll be releasing a new feature on the Bill of Rights.

In 2002, the Missouri General Assembly declared that Dec. 15 will be "Bill of Rights Day." RSMO 9.141 states that "the bill of rights should be read in public schools and the day should be remembered with appropriate exercises."

Iencourage your newspaper to publish this Bill of Rights feature and to use your editorial space to remind readers about the importance of civic education.

19th Serial Released

"Everybody Loves Jack," a new children's historical fiction serial story set in 1900 in Minnesota, is now available. This release marks the 19th story from Missouri Press Foundation available to newspapers everywhere.

Since Missouri Press initiated this literacy project four years ago, we have distributed nearly 700 stories to 237 newspapers in 29 states and Australia.

The full brochure of stories can now be downloaded from mopress.com.



Dawn Kitchell is MPA's NIE director. Contact her at (636) 932-4301; kitchell@yhti.net.



Reading Across Missouri 2006
Join young people inside their newspapers this January

Author Kay Hively has spun another thread of Missouri history into a story for young readers with her newest newspaper serial, "The Best Storyteller."

Eleven-year-old Emily Todd, daughter of a Mississippi riverboat captain, thought she'd never leave her home town alive. But adventure and excitement found Emily on dry land as a pair of bumbling bank robbers snatched their way into her family's home. Along the way, the river bluffs provide some humorous literary material for Sam, the boy. Emily thinks "The Best Storyteller"

Written by Kay Hively • Illustrated by Billie Goforth-Stewart
Read "The Best Storyteller" beginning this January
Only in Your Newspaper

Festival of Fun ends year-long observance of paper's launch

After a year of celebrating its centennial, the *Southeast Missourian's* final event was a festival of fun — offering a glimpse of a bygone era that existed when the newspaper was launched 101 years ago.

The festivities were held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Oct. 1 at the newspaper's 301 Broadway building and in the nearby gazebo area of the Common Pleas Courthouse. Tours of the printing press were available at the press building.

Co-president and publisher Jon Rust said the event lived up to the heritage of the *Southeast Missourian*, which also held a party for its 50th anniversary. That celebration included a parade and circus animals coming down Broadway.

"So we wanted to have an event like that," Rust said. "This is a family event, in part because we see the newspaper as something for the whole family to read and discuss."

People dressed in outfits from the early 1900s, and a town crier barked

out news of the day. Turn-of-the-century music, including bluegrass, big band and Dixieland filled the air. A Mark Twain impersonator regaled visitors with stories about how life was along the Mississippi, including the rich history of the newspaper.

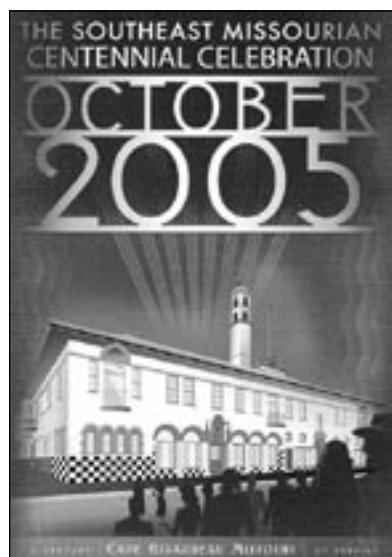
The opening ceremony involved a procession down Broadway to the gazebo. The Rust family — including Gary and Wendy Rust, Jon and Victoria Rust and Rex and Sherry Rust — rode in a mule carriage. The procession included the Jerry Ford Band, Cape Girardeau Mayor Jay Knudtson, Jackson Mayor Paul Sander and others.

Remarks at the gazebo by Gary, Jon and Rex Rust began

the festivities.

Exhibits included the Parade Magazine Photograph exhibit, the printing press tour and the mule-drawn carriage rides. Hot dogs, soda, sweet rolls, ice cream and popcorn were sold, many of them at 1900 prices.

—*Southeast Missourian*



Dr. Bill Taft's latest book available

MPA historian Dr. William H. Taft has completed "The Missouri Honor Medal For Distinguished Service in Journalism — Its First 75 years: 1930-2005." The book is available from Missouri Press Association. Cost is \$15, which includes shipping.

The book profiles each Missourian who has received the prestigious Honor Medal from the University of Missouri.

After the profiles of Missourians who have received the medal, Dr. Taft provides lists of all of the medal winners for each year.

For many years Dr. Taft taught the History and Principles of Journalism at the School of Journalism. He has written six books about Missouri newspapers and newspaper people.

Contact Missouri Press Association if you would like a copy of his latest book: (573) 449-4167.

K.C., Cape Girardeau papers win awards in youth competition

VIENNA, Va. — *The Kansas City Star* won several awards in the Newspaper Association of America Foundation's Youth Editorial Alliance competition recognizing efforts to produce high-quality youth content.

The Cape Girardeau *Southeast Missourian* won a first place award in General Excellence.

Winners of the YEA Youth Content Awards and the youth content division of the Program Excellence Awards were honored at an awards ceremony during the YEA Conference in Nashville this fall.

The YEA Youth Content Awards are designed to recognize outstanding young journalists and youth-oriented newspaper products. There were 77 winners in 21 categories.

The youth content division of the Program Excellence Awards recognizes efforts that engage young people in creating youth-oriented content in lasting, meaningful and original ways. Fourteen winners were chosen in four divisions.

The Star won these awards:

Feature Story

1st: Rebecca Delaney

First Person Feature

HM: Shawn Bowers

News Story

2nd: Andrew Dewitt

Personality Profile

1st: Steve Yanda

Personal Opinion

1st: Sasha Mushegian

Photo Illustration/Graphic

2nd: Tiffany Brown

Review

HM: Sasha Mushegian

Special Project

2nd: Juana Summers

Sports Story

2nd: Steve Yanda

Division II: General Excellence

Awards – Sections for Children

Circulation Under 60,000

1st: *Southeast Missourian Jr.*, *Southeast Missourian*, Cape Girardeau, Cheryl Ellis.

On the Move

• **Poplar Bluff** — Annabeth Miller, former editor of the *Dexter Daily Statesman*, has been named coordinator of news services for Three Rivers Community College in Poplar Bluff.

Miller is the daughter of the late Barney and Marie Miller, publishers of the Dexter newspaper.

She will be responsible for disseminating news and photographs from the college. She is a graduate of William Woods College and served on the staff of the late U.S. Congressman Bill Emerson.

• **Holden** — Steve Sullins, who joined the *Image* as sports editor in August, has been promoted to editor of the weekly. He replaced Christi Stowe, who took a position in Blue Springs.



Steve Sullins



Shannon McLennan

Sullins is a retired master sergeant in the Air Force. He spent 10 years of his military career editing base newspapers.

McLennan is a native of Odessa. She is a graduate of State Fair Community College in Sedalia and Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg.

Vernon Sexson, a longtime employee of the circulation department, retired in September. He began working for the *Image* with its first issue in November of 1992. Newspaper employees honored Sexson with a dinner and a money gift, and the newspaper presented him with an engraved money clip.

• **Fort Leonard Wood** — Robert

Johnson is the new managing editor of the *Guidon*, the base newspaper at Fort Leonard Wood.

Johnson's newspaper career began with a base newspaper in Berlin, Germany. Since then he has worked at a number of weekly and daily newspapers and has served in the military reserve.



Lynnar Hamilton

rocket.

She and her husband, Paul, live in Urbana. They have two teen-age sons.

• **Fayette** — Jennifer Kettler, a 2004 graduate of the Missouri School of Journalism, has joined the staff of the *Advertiser* and the *Democrat-Leader*. She has been named to the new position of managing editor.

This summer Kettler interned with *Rural Missouri* magazine, and she has worked for the Missouri House of Representatives.

• **Springfield** — Lori Hanford has joined the *News-Leader* as new media manager. She is responsible for the paper's website, News-Leader.com, and other products.

Hanford joined the *News-Leader* from the *Gazette-Journal* in Reno, Nev., where she was online advertising manager. Both are Gannett Co. Inc. newspapers.

Hanford is a native of California's Napa Valley. She received a degree in music from the University of San Francisco, has worked in radio advertising and managed hotels.

• **Ashland** — Kate Schuman and Mike Ekey, both students at the Univer-

sity of Missouri-Columbia, have joined the *Boone County Journal*. They replaced Elizabeth Browning, who left to attend graduate school at MU.

Schuman was an intern this summer at Missouri Press Association.

• **Hopkins** — Deanna Hensley of Bedford, Iowa, has joined the staff of *The Journal*, replacing Linda Cross.

Hensley previously worked at Page County Abstract and Title Co., and she helps her parents with a daylily business.

• **Paris** — Katie Windmann has joined the *Monroe County Appeal* as advertising director. Windmann is a graduate of Paris High School, Moberly Area Community College and Webster University, where she earned a degree in photography this year.

She has photography and reporting experience from an internship with the *Webster-Kirkwood Times*.

• **Harrisonville** — Sarah Greene is the new sports editor of the *Cass County Democrat-Missourian*. She is a May graduate of Texas Christian University with a degree in photojournalism.

Greene replaced Jason Tarwarter, who took a position with the *Independence Examiner*.



Liz Johnson

• **Holden** — Liz Johnson has joined *The Holden Image* as its director of photography. Johnson has extensive experience in photography and is the owner of Little House of Photography & Framing in Holden.

Her husband, Rich, is a teacher and head football coach at Holden High School.

• **Moline, Ill.** — Veteran newspaperman Charles Kolsky has been named director of research and business development for TownNews.com.

Kolsky is an advertising and management professional with a 25-year career in newspapers and radio. He was most recently the vice president for market-

Better Newspaper Contest Best of Show winners



People who attended the Awards Luncheon during the MPA Convention on Sept. 24 voted on their favorite photographs from among all the winning entries. The winning photographers from a daily and a weekly received \$50 from Missouri Press Association. The winning weekly photo, at left, was taken by Jeff Kirchhoff of

the Lee's Summit Journal. It placed first in Best Sports Photo, Class 2, category in the contest. The Best of Show daily photo, right, was taken by Jenna Isaacson of the Columbia Daily Tribune. Ironically, it received an Honorable Mention award in the Best News Photo, Class 2, category of the Better Newspaper Contest.

ing, research and e-media for Pulitzer Newspapers.

He was a senior research analyst with the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*; advertising director for *The Citizen* newspaper in Auburn, N.Y., and general manager for the Syracuse (N.Y.) *New Times*.

Kolsky lives in St. Louis with his wife and daughter.

TownNews.com is majority-owned by Lee Enterprises.

• **Hannibal** — Ron Schott has joined the *Courier-Post* as circulation director. He previously worked for the *Christian County Headliner News* in Ozark and the *Nixa News-Enterprise* as sports editor.

Schott and his wife, Kristy, moved to Hannibal to be closer to her parents,

who live in Vandalia. The Schott's live in New London with their young son.



Stacy Secoy

Secoy is a student of Columbia College and plans to study veterinary medicine at UMC.

A native of Mexico, she and her husband, Billy, have a son.

Headline confuses UM with MU

A headline on page 14 of the October issue of *Missouri Press News* stated that former AP correspondent Scott Charton was named director of communications for MU. Charton actually is the director of communications for the UM System.

MU refers to the campus in Columbia. UM refers to the four-campus system of the University of Missouri.

Obituaries

Kansas City

Charles William Hucker

Charles William Hucker, 58, Kansas City, a former reporter and editor for *The Kansas City Star*, died of stomach cancer on Sept. 20, 2005, at his home.

Mr. Hucker covered the Missouri legislature and state and national elections for *The Star*. He later became a political reporter, then editor and managing editor for *Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report* in Washington, D.C..

He returned to Kansas City in 1984 to join Hallmark Cards as director of communications. He retired from Hallmark in the early 1990s and established a national consulting firm, Executive Communications Services.

Immediate survivors are his wife, Linda, a daughter and a brother.

Joplin

Robert Charles Watson

Robert Charles "Bob" Watson Sr., 72, Joplin, a former editor of the *McDonald County Press*, died of cancer on Sept. 23, 2005, at his home.

Mr. Watson retired from the Washington, D.C., police department in 1974 after 20 years of service, then became chief of police in Junction City, Kan., for four years.

He moved to Noel and served for five years as editor of five southwest Missouri weekly papers. He and his wife founded the weekly *Mariner Beacon* in Grove, Okla.

Mr. Watson leaves his wife, Jane; a daughter and a son, three grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

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Statement of Ownership

This is the Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation as required by Act of Congress of Aug. 12, 1970, of *Missouri Press News*, published monthly at Columbia, Mo. This statement contains the information provided on Form 3526, which was mailed to the Postmaster at Columbia, Mo., on Sept. 29, 2005.

The publisher and owner of *Missouri Press News* is the Missouri Press Association, 802 Locust St., Columbia, MO, 65201-4888, a non-profit corporation without capital stock.

The editor is Kent M. Ford of Columbia, Mo. The managing editor is Doug Crews of Columbia, Mo.

There are no bondholders, mortgagees, or other security holders of any kind or nature, either with reference to the Association or the *Missouri Press News*.

Total number of copies printed during the preceding 12 months averaged 1,060, and 1,060 were printed in September, the issue nearest the filing date.

No copies were sold through dealers, carriers or vendors during the year. Paid or requested mail subscriptions averaged 952, with 943 in September.

No copies were distributed free each month through the mail. Free distribution outside the mail was 36 each month. Total distribution averaged 988, with 979 distributed in September.

Copies not distributed averaged 72, with 81 not distributed in September.

Paid and/or requested circulation averaged 96% for the year and was 96% in September.

I certify that all information furnished is true and complete.

Kent M. Ford, Editor

Chiefs' linebacker helps push 'Hooked on Books'

For the third year, Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Shawn Barber acted as a spokesman for *The Kansas City Star's* Hooked on Books program. The paper and the player kicked off this year's drive with an event for children at Union Station, where Barber read the story "Clifford the Big Red Dog" to about sixty 4-year-olds.

Since the program began in 1998, Hooked on Books has put about 400,000 books into the hands of the city's neediest children. The Junior League of Kansas City is co-sponsoring for the third year.

First Crews grandbaby

Michael and Kristen Crews announce the birth of their first child, Addison Marie Crews, Sept. 20, 2005, in Columbia. Addison weighed 5 lbs., 4 oz., and was 17.5 inches long. Her grandparents are Doug and Tricia Crews of Columbia and Don and Libby Knehans of Higginsville.

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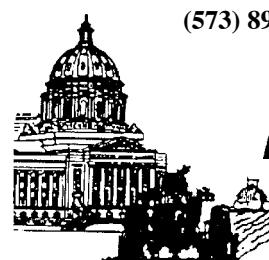
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Questions to ask yourself to avoid being sued for libel

Be familiar with red flags in any story

Many times, under the hotline program, I review stories from your papers prior to publication in an effort to avoid potentially libelous material from making print.

Sometimes I'm asked what things I look for in doing these reviews. It's hard to list everything, because there are so many things that lawyers watch for. However, here are some of the things you might think about before sending stories to me for my review:

1. Who is the potential plaintiff?

- Is it someone who files a lot of suits?

- Is it someone with access to lawyers (such as business persons or, heaven forbid, lawyers themselves)?

- Is it a public figure, such as an elected official or someone who seeks out the public eye and promotes himself and his business frequently in the local media?

- Or is the potential plaintiff a private person, who does not seek out attention in the media?

- Or is the potential plaintiff a minor/child?

2. What is said about the potential plaintiff?

- Is it a statement that you might not want to hear said about you?

- Are the "facts" in the story true?

- Are the facts verifiable?

- Are they from public records, or do you find that the facts come from interviews with third parties?

- Does the reporter have copies of public records on which the story is based? (Records have a habit of disappearing at times.)

3. Are there statements about groups

of people?

- How large is the group?
- Are any individual members identified?
- Are the statements generalizations about groups of persons, or are the statements about individuals in the group?

4. What does the headline to the story say?

- Does it accurately reflect the gist of the story?

5. Are there pictures with the story?

- Do the cutlines of the photos accurately reflect the gist of the story?

- Could the photos be misinterpreted in the context of the story?

- Does the photo beside the story go with the story or does it actually stand alone or go with another story? (I have a great story to go with this about a photo of me published by one of our members

alongside a story on sex offenders; however, I'll not pass along the details at this moment.)

6. Is the story balanced? (This is not necessarily a requirement, but it can go to show that the reporter was even-handed and attempted to be accurate.)

- Did all sides have the opportunity to respond to the allegations in the story?

7. Is the editor aware of any bias of the reporter doing the story?

- In particular, has the reporter done stories on this subject in the past, and how does this story reflect in connection with those prior stories?

8. Who is the reporter's source?

- Is it an unnamed source?
- Was confidentiality promised to the source?

• Is the source credible?

• What is the source receiving in connection with the publication of this story?

- Did money or other items of value change hands?

- Did the reporter trespass on private property to gather information or photographs for the story?

- Did the reporter have to lie to get access to information for the story?

- Were documents stolen in the process of gathering information for the story?

(I have a great story to go with this about a photo of me published by one of our members alongside a story on sex offenders ...)

All of you who have labored in this profession for years understand how the answers to these questions can create a potentially libelous story or a story that creates potential litigation for the newspaper.

You may have better access to the answers to these questions than your attorney does, but each of these questions creates a red flag that should alert you that the story needs a careful review, and the reporter needs to have proper answers to avoid potential litigation.

Of course, the hotline is here to assist you in this process. While we cannot guarantee that we will prevent you from ever being sued, a second pair of eyes checking your story is a good insurance policy when you are dealing with a matter that may create problems.

Jean Maneke's past columns can be read on the MPA website, mopress.com.

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CALENDAR

November

10 — Judging of Iowa Newspaper Association Contest, Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Columbia, 8:00 a.m.

December

4-5 — AP Publishers & Editors meeting, Fairmont Hotel, Country Club Plaza, Kansas City

January 2006

19-20 — Northwest Missouri Press Association meeting, St. Joseph

February

16 — MPA/AP Day at the Capitol, Capitol & Governor's Mansion, Jefferson City

19-22 — NAA Marketing Conference with Classified and CONNECTIONS®, Orlando

March

6-10 — Newspapers In Education Week, "Information Literacy"

8-11 — NNA Government Affairs Conference, Wyndham Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C.

30-31 — Missouri Society of Newspaper Editors / AP Managing Editors meeting, Big Cedar Lodge, Branson

April

20-21 — Missouri Advertising Managers' Association meeting, Big Cedar Lodge, Branson

July

12-14 — Living Textbook Newspapers In Education Course, UMC

22-26 — First NAA Foundation Young Readers Conference, St. Louis



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