

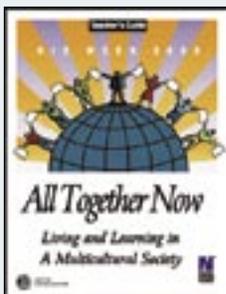
February 2005

Missouri Press NEWS



Dr. Donald Suggs, publisher of The St. Louis American, named Citizen of the Year.

19



Get this year's Newspaper In Education Week Teacher's Guide free!

7



Raising the creed

Missouri Press Association's building in Columbia has a big new plaque outside, thanks to a generous gift from some longtime benefactors. Read about the plaque, its production and installation on pages 10 and 11.

Week presents only routine crises

Business, personal issues entwine for community newspaper people

Saturday night (Jan. 15), my wife Judy and I attended a surprise 50th birthday party at the home of Steve Oldfield, MPA vice president, in Adrian. We ate the largest boiled shrimp I've ever seen and met some of Steve and Linda's friends — "Spud," "Wolfe" and others. I felt like I was back in Odessa with my friends "Weasel" and "Bubba."

The next Monday I arrived in our Oak Grove office. Everything seemed okay. Said good-bye to the cat and off to Odessa. That afternoon I received one of numerous calls from my wife. She and an employee were discussing what to do about another employee. I advised Judy that it's not a good idea to discuss one employee with another employee. She hung up on me.

Tuesday: Our local car dealer has hired a new salesman. He wants me to take a picture for an ad that week. One problem — the new guy's day off is Tuesday (deadline day).

Luckily he comes into the newspaper office for his picture. We stand him up against the wall and take the photo, which makes him look like maybe it should be hung at the post office.

Of course, he is supposed to leave me some copy about his experience as a salesman, and fails to do so. I call his home telephone number and leave a message. No reply. I make up some generic copy and run the ad anyway.

After the paper comes out, I see him at lunch. I ask him if he has seen his picture in the paper. He replies, "No" and tells me we "didn't have much to work with." I expect he'll be gone by Valentine's Day.

Wednesday I receive an e-mail from Doug Crews about a legislator from Indiana wanting to place public notices on

the Internet. The battle is ongoing.

I also receive a phone call from a nice lady from Maryville College in St. Louis asking me to participate in an ethics photojournalism panel.

It's on a Tuesday night so I explain to her that we are on deadline and refer her to Bill Miller of Washington or Gary Sosnecki of Vandalia to see if they could participate.

Thursday, I take 168 Oak Grove newspapers to fifth-graders so they can read chapter two of

"A Hunter's Heart;" attend Rotary luncheon because I have the program.

The speaker tells me I'm older than she is but makes up for it by telling me she's a big MU fan. She reminds me that when she was in high school, Antony Gie, a former MU placekicker, stayed with her family as a foreign exchange student.

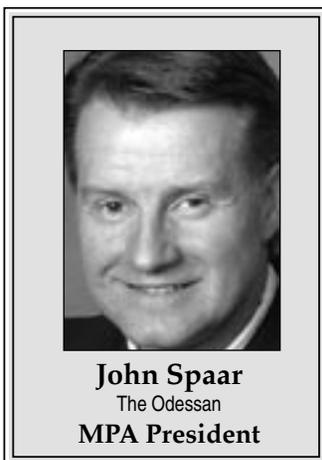
He kicked a field goal that defeated us 17-14 my senior year of high school. That brought up the question whether he ever kicked any field goals that helped MU beat anybody in the late '70s.

Friday: My son, Blanton, 9, has the cast removed from his foot. The doctor pronounces him fit to proceed to normal activities. Thank God for that.

All-in-all, a routine week.

Looking forward to seeing you and our state officials at MPA/AP Day at the Capitol Feb. 17 in Jefferson City.O

We stand him up against the wall and take the photo, which makes him look like maybe it should be hung at the post office.



John Spaar
The Odessan
MPA President



VOL. 73, NO. 2
February 2005
Official publication of
Missouri Press
Association, Inc.

PRESIDENT: John Spaar, *The Odessan*, Odessa
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: Steve Oldfield,
The Adrian Journal
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: David Bradley, Jr.,
St. Joseph News-Press
SECRETARY: Dan Wehmer, *Webster County Citizen*, Seymour
TREASURER: Jeff Schrag, *Springfield Daily Events*
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Doug Crews
ADVERTISING: Michael Sell
EDITOR: Kent M. Ford

DIRECTORS: Gary Sosnecki,
The Vandalia Leader
Dave Berry, Bolivar,
Community Publishers of Missouri, Inc.
Dane Vernon, *Eldon Advertiser*
Jack Whitaker, *Hannibal Courier-Post*
Vicki Russell, *Columbia Daily Tribune*
Phil Conger, *Bethany Republican-Clipper*
Kevin Jones, *St. Louis American*
NNA REPRESENTATIVE: Gary Beissenherz,
The Concordian, Concordia

MISSOURI PRESS NEWS (ISSN 00266671) is published every month for \$7.50 per year by the Missouri Press Association, Inc., 802 Locust St., Columbia, MO 65201-4888; phone (573) 449-4167; fax (573) 874-5894; e-mail dcrews@socket.net; website www.mopress.com. Periodicals postage paid at Columbia, MO 65201-4888. (USPS No. 355620). **POSTMASTER:** Please send changes of address to Missouri Press Association, 802 Locust St., Columbia, MO 65201-4888.

CALLING ALL QUESTIONS: WE HAVE ANSWERS

When you have questions or need information about the telecommunications industry, just give us a call. SBC Missouri External Affairs Managers are always available to help.

Your SBC Missouri Team

St. Louis	Deve Moessner	314-982-7675
Kansas City	Don Brown	785-276-5992
North Kansas City/St. Joseph	Mike Chambers	816-275-0111
South Kansas City/Sedalia	Mike Haynes	660-826-3388
Southwest Missouri	Pat Bly	417-836-2474
Central Missouri	Ron Gillett	660-263-9820
Southeast Missouri	Marsha Haskell	573-334-9882
South St. Louis/Farmington	Gene Maggard	636-931-0738
St. Charles/St. Louis County	Craig Felzien	636-949-4272

SBC Missouri supports the Missouri Press Association



GOING BEYOND THE CALL®

Cameron publisher elected

Jamey Honeycutt will lead Northwest Press Association

Members of Northwest Missouri Press Association elected Jamey Honeycutt to be their president for 2005. He's the publisher of the *Cameron Citizen Observer*.

Officers were elected Jan. 21 at the 115th annual meeting of the association.

This year's gathering was in the Stoney Creek Inn in St. Joseph. Kay Wilson, publisher of the *Nodaway News Leader*, passed the gavel to Honeycutt at the banquet Friday evening.

Other officers are Steve Tinnen, *Clin-ton County Leader*, Plattsburg, First Vice President; Leslie Speckman, *Savannah*

Reporter, Second Vice President; Kathy Conger, *Bethany Republican-Clipper*, Secretary; Chris Boultinghouse, *Mound City News*, Treasurer.

Members of the board of directors are Becky Sellars, Smithville; Chuck Haney, Chillicothe; Tim Larson, Maryville; Wendell Lenhart, Trenton; W.C. Farmer, Rock Port; Kathy Whipple, Kearney; and Dennis Ellsworth, St. Joseph.

On Thursday evening, Sprint sponsored a western hoedown reception at the hotel. St. Joseph Deputy Mayor Donna Jean Boyer welcomed the group to the city.

During the business meeting Friday morning, the association voted to donate \$1,000 to the Marilyn Farmer Scholarship Fund. That grant, named for the late wife of Rock Port publisher Bill Farmer, goes to a Missouri resident studying journalism in college.

The daughter of Ken Newton, an editor at the *St. Joseph News-Press*, received the \$1,000 Marilyn Farmer Memorial Scholarship last year.

Plans will be made for a Northwest Press summer outing, tentatively set to be held in Cameron.

A decision will be made later where to hold next year's Northwest Press meeting.

Herzog Contracting and Aquila sponsored the awards banquet Friday evening.

Northwest Press President Kay Wilson presented the Craig Watkins Friend of Northwest Press Award to Sgt. Sheldon Lyon of the Missouri Highway Patrol.

Wendell Lenhart, publisher of the *Trenton Republican-Times*, received the Merrill Chilcote Award, presented by Chuck Haney.

The final award, the James C. Kirkpatrick Award, was presented by Missouri Press Association Executive Director Doug Crews to Joe Maxwell, former lieutenant governor. ◻



Kay Wilson, Maryville, receives the Past President's Award from new President Jamey Honeycutt at the Northwest Press awards banquet Jan. 21.



Dennis Ellsworth, editor of the *St. Joseph News-Press*, visits with Northwest Missouri State University students Jessica Lavicky and Stephanie Stangl after a Northwest Press session on student internships.



Marty Steffens, a School of Journalism professor, left, led a Northwest Press meeting discussion about covering a disaster.

Doug Crews of Missouri Press Association presented former Lieutenant Governor Joe Maxwell with the James C. Kirkpatrick Award.



Marshall White of the St. Joseph News-Press interviews U.S. Army Maj. Jeff Brown (retired) after his presentation about his experiences serving in Iraq.



Staffers of the Cameron Citizen Observer do some experimenting with InDesign at the computer lab of Missouri Western State College in St. Joseph. Mass communications assistant professor Jody Strauch provided some guidance for the group.



Above, Chuck Haney presented the Merrill Chilcote Award to Wendell Lenhart.

At right, Northwest Press President Kay Wilson presents the Craig Watkins Friend of Northwest Press Award to Sgt. Sheldon Lyon.



Steve Shoot of the Electric Cooperatives of Northwest Missouri holds the bucket for Joe Maxwell to select the winner of a big TV set. Deborah Ellsworth, wife of St. Joseph News-Press editor Dennis Ellsworth, won the prize from the Electric Cooperatives.



Publishing summit March 3-4 in Columbia

Topics will cover wide range of newspaper skills

The Missouri Association of Publications (MAP) will hold its annual Publishing Summit on Thursday and Friday, March 3 and 4, at the Memorial Union on the campus of the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Guests will hear presentations by the nation's top publication professionals.

- Hear keynote speaker, "Mr. Magazine," Samir Husni (right) speak about the state of the magazine industry.

- Meet and network with publications professionals from all over the region.

- Attend professional seminars delivered by industry experts and MU School of Journalism faculty suited to your needs in writing, editing, graphic design, photography, printing, circulation, and

advertising.

- Examine publications of attendees, share ideas, get inspired.

- Participate in the Eighth Annual Magazine Fair that enables you to meet students who are seeking possible internships and future jobs.

Among the many topics to be discussed during the two days of breakout sessions will be writing, designing, ad sales and circulation.

You can see the entire agenda and get registration information from MAP's website: missouripublications.org.

The mission of the Missouri Association of

Publications (MAP), in affiliation with the Missouri School of Journalism, is to promote excellence in publications by serving as a resource for continuing

education, professional growth and development and networking opportunities.

MAP was founded in 2004 by a group of publications professionals with an interest in quality print and electronic publications. MAP serves as a professional organization for individuals, corporations (profit and not-for-profit), industry associates and for journalism faculty and students.

The group provides continuing education opportunities for its members such as seminars, workshops and roundtables where members may share expertise and resources and network with one another. These opportunities are facilitated by MAP members, industry experts and Missouri School of Journalism faculty.

MAP is governed by a board of directors who are voting members of the association and who represent a cross section of the publications industry in Missouri. MAP includes consumer, business, association, hospital, university, literary, fraternity/ sorority and other appropriate publications. O



Write better ledes to capture busy readers

Dull ledes top boring stories. Today's city council summary reads like last week's. Yesterday's tragic auto crash read like the one before it.

We press the same cookie cutter into stories until they all look, taste and smell the same. Fine for cookies, bad for newspapers.

Professor Mary Lawrence of the Missouri School of Journalism told her audience at the Northwest Missouri Press Association meeting to write better ledes. She spoke during the Friday morning sessions at the meeting in St. Joseph.

Occasionally a story will tell itself, Lawrence said. The action and drama carry the account. In these cases, "get out of the way" and let the story tell

itself, she said.

Most stories don't have a powerful action sequence to drive them. This is when the reporter needs to be sure to get the reader into the story with an informative, creative lede.

Avoid cliches, worn out expressions and suitcase ledes that try to pack too much detail, Lawrence said. Write G-string ledes — brief but enticing.

Start looking for a lede while you're interviewing people and covering the story, but don't get focused on the lede and ignore the rest of the story, she said. A brief discussion with an editor or even with someone outside the newspaper can help determine how to approach the story.

Significant details, a compelling narrative, an explanatory anecdote, a

strong quotation or clever word play can become good ledes. Be sure to give the reader information; avoid "fooler ledes" — tell what happened, not what didn't happen.

Lawrence suggested not writing from your notes when crafting your lede. What about the story strikes you — the plot, a character, conflict, a relationship?

"Don't agonize and waste time over the lede. Just get something down. Write the story and come back to the lede if necessary," Lawrence said.

A serious story needs a serious lede; a humorous story needs a humorous lede; a fast story needs a fast lede, she said. Some stories should take very little time. Write the story and get on to more important stories. O



Beverly and Erik Derrickson, left, owners and publishers of *The Licking News* since July 1, 1999, seal the sale of the paper with Donald and Felicia Dodd. (Photo provided by *The Licking News*.)

Get free guide to help teachers with NIE Week observance March 7-11

It's FREE!

The Newspaper Association of America's 2005 Newspaper In Education Week curriculum guide is ready for distribution. The guide is available this year at no cost.

A generous grant from Abitibi Consolidated has made it possible for NAA to bring you this guide FREE. Abitibi Consolidated has a long history of supporting quality NIE programs and promoting literacy. Their partnership will allow NAA to deliver this multicultural literacy program to thousands of students.

"All Together Now - Living and Learning in a Multicultural Society" is a guide you will want to include in your curriculum offerings to schools in your area.

You will receive a CD-ROM that contains several resources: the teachers' guide, covers in black and white or color, and five in-paper activity features you can use during NIE Week — March 7-11 — or at any time throughout the year.

The teachers guide, written by Dr. Sherrye Dee Garrett of Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and *Use The News*, encourages students to explore the other cultures they find around them, in their classroom, in their neighborhood and in the newspaper. Backed by solid educational theory, this guide provides detailed lesson plans, student activity sheets, evaluation techniques and an entire section of activities for English Language Learners!

You may reproduce as many copies of the teachers guide as you like. You may also post the guide on your website. There are no restrictions against obtaining sponsorship for the guide, however, NAA does require that the Abitibi Consolidated logo remain on the guide and the in-paper features.

You do not need to use this guide during NIE Week. You can distribute it to your teachers at any time that suits your needs. Many newspapers keep the annual NIE week guide as a permanent part of their curriculum offerings. O

Derricksons sell *Licking News* to publisher of *The Salem News*

Salem Publishing Co. purchased *The Licking News* from Eric and Beverly Derrickson the first week of January.

Salem Publishing Co. publishes *The Salem News* and *The Extra*. Donald Dodd is the company president. He purchased the company from his stepfather, W.R. "Ray" Vickery, about six years ago.

Three generations of the Derrickson family have published *The Licking News*. Gilbert and Esther Derrickson bought the paper from Virgil and Georgia Sweany in

1951. The Derrickson's son, G. Eugene and his wife, Glenna, were editors from 1971 until 1999, when Eric and Beverly Derrickson bought it.

Dodd, 49, grew up in Caruthersville. He worked at newspapers in Mississippi for 15 years before taking over as managing editor of *The Salem News*.

Salem, in Dent County, is about 20 miles northeast of Licking, which is on Highway 63 in Texas County. O

Sun paper in Kansas City region sold to group including previous owners

American Community Newspapers LLC said on Dec. 9 that it had sold the assets of Sun Publications of Overland Park to ACN Holding LLC, a group led by Spire Capital Partners, Wachovia Capital Partners and senior management of the previous owner.

Spire Capital Partners is a private equity fund that invests in the media and communications industries. Wachovia Capital Partners is the principal investing affiliate of Wachovia Corp.

ACN, a group of mostly weekly suburban papers, is led by Gene Carr, who will retain his role as chief execu-

tive officer. It operates primarily in the Kansas City, Minneapolis-St. Paul and Dallas areas.

Roy Biondi is publisher of the Kansas City Group, which is comprised of 10 weekly newspapers and operates in the region as Sun Publications. It includes weekly newspapers, *Kansas City Jewish Chronicle* and *Kansas City Nursing News*.

Sun Publications in November announced it hired Biondi, who was publisher of *The Times Herald* in Olean, N.Y., to succeed Mark Lane, who left Sun in September. O



AP award winner

David Scott shows the plaque he received for being named the Fred W. Moen Missouri-Kansas 2004 AP Staffer of the Year. Scott, the day supervisor in the Kansas City bureau of the AP, received the award at the annual meeting of Kansas and Missouri newspaper members of the AP on Dec. 6. The photo didn't arrive in time to run with the story about the award in the January issue of Missouri Press News. Scott is a five-year veteran of the AP. He is a key link in the editing chain that moves news from AP reporters to the member newspapers, broadcasters and online sites. (The Kansas City AP Bureau provided the photo.)

Get registered now for Feb. 17 MPA/AP Day at the Capitol

If you haven't registered for Day at the Capitol, fax or email your information immediately to Lesa Litty at Missouri Press. A form is on the facing page.

MPA's annual event with the Associated Press is Thursday, Feb. 17. You need to register by Feb. 7.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. outside the Senate Lounge on the third floor of the Capitol. Coffee will be waiting for you.

After registering you can visit your legislators or observe the House and Senate in session.

Statewide officeholders have been invited to speak with guests at 10 a.m. in the Senate Lounge. They are Lt. Gov.

Peter Kinder, Secretary of State Robin Carnahan, State Treasurer Sarah Steelman, Attorney General Jay Nixon and State Auditor Claire McCaskill.

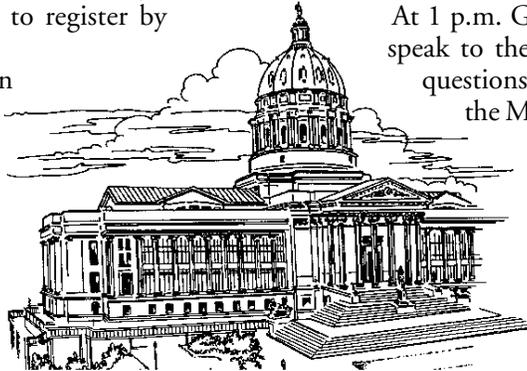
At 11:45 guests will depart for the Governor's Mansion where they will have a lunch buffet at noon.

At 1 p.m. Gov. Matt Blunt will speak to the group and answer questions on the first floor of

the Mansion. This session has been held in the third floor ballroom in the past. It will be on the same floor as the lunch this year.

The program will end at 1:45 p.m.

There is no charge for the program or lunch, but if you register for lunch and don't show up, you'll receive a bill. (Missouri Press and the AP pay for the meals, which are ordered in advance.)



Pulitzer executive among *Presstime's* list of 20 best in newspaper industry

Robin Davis, vice president and chief financial officer, Pulitzer Newspapers Inc., St. Louis, is among *Presstime* magazine's list of 20 of the best and brightest young professionals in the newspaper business: the "20 under 40."

Presstime is a major publication of the Newspaper Association of America.

The honorees were chosen from among nominations made by newspaper executives across the country. *Presstime* editors and writers then reviewed the nominations and selected the final 20. Profiles of each professional appear in the December issue of the magazine and online at www.naa.org/presstime/20under40.

Davis has played a key role in Pulitzer's acquisition of two dailies and 18

weeklies over the past four years.

A "financial jack of all trades" for the company, which owns 65 weekly and 12 daily papers, Davis says her goal is to provide ample support to all publishers and chief financial officers of Pulitzer newspapers.

In addition to working with executives on a regular basis, Davis is responsible for budgets, capital requests and overall financial reporting for the company.

Davis, 35, has a B.S. in business administration from Saint Louis University. She's a St. Louis native and formerly worked for Deloitte & Touche LLP, St. Louis, and Sigma-Aldrich Corp., St. Louis. She joined Pulitzer in 1998.

Davis and her husband, Scott, have one daughter and one son.

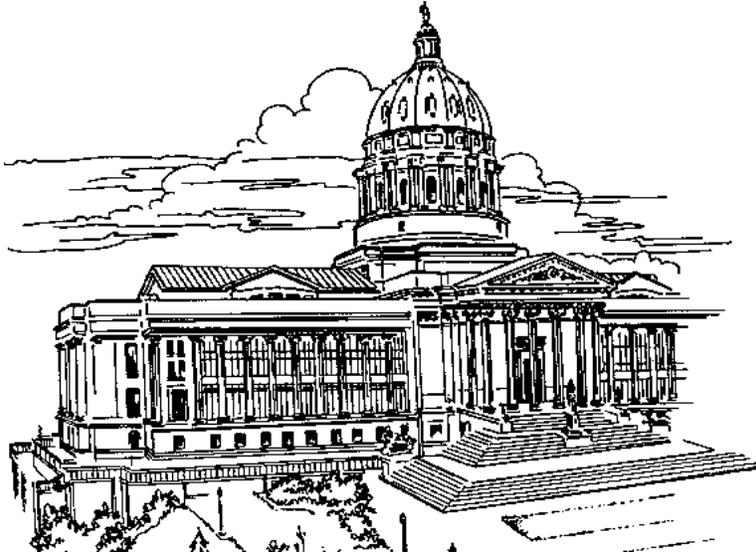
PROPANE
EXCEPTIONAL ENERGY™

For information about
clean, efficient, dependable
propane, contact the

**Missouri Propane
Education and
Research Council, Inc.**



4110 Country Club Dr.
Jefferson City, MO 65109
(573) 893-8298
Fax (573) 893-2623



Day At The Capitol

The Missouri Press Association and The Associated Press
invite you to be our guests on
Thursday, February 17, 2005
at the Missouri State Capitol Building
in Jefferson City for our
Annual Day At The Capitol.

Register Today!

(Deadline To Register - February 7, 2005)

Please return this registration form to
Missouri Press Association,
802 Locust Street, Columbia, MO 65201
Fax: 573-874-5894/E-mail: litty@socket.net

Name(s) _____

Newspaper or Organization _____

Address _____

Total for lunch? _____ (The program and lunch are free, but bills will
be sent to those who sign up for lunch and do not attend.)

Gather at 9:00 a.m. in the State Capitol Building.
Lunch & Governor's talk will be in the Governor's Mansion.



Workers at CR Bronzeworks in Lindon, Utah, heat metal for the cast of the new plaque for the MPA building in Co-

lumbia. The company provided photos of the work on the plaque as it progressed through the process.

MPA building gets a new plaque

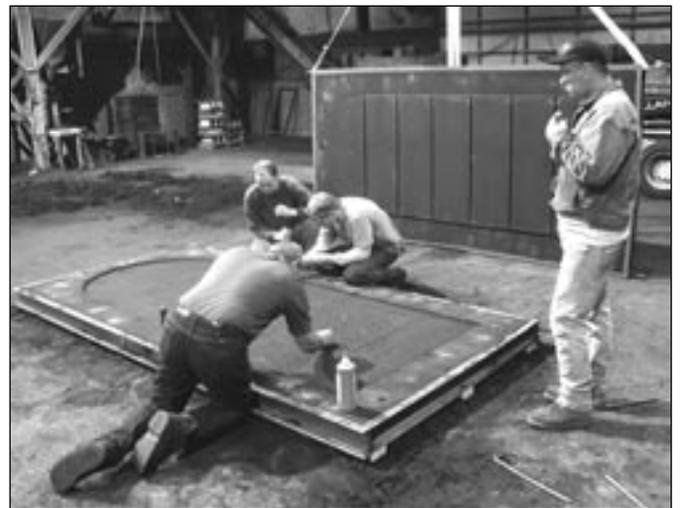
Walter Williams' Journalist's Creed in bronze

A \$15,000 donation from Mrs. Wanda Brown and her daughters, Jean Snider and Mary James, all of Harrisonville, provided a redesigned plaque on the MPA building in Columbia. The plaque was installed Jan. 15.

Mrs. Brown's husband, J.W. Brown, Jr., was a prominent Missouri publisher and longtime Missouri Press benefactor who served as MPA President in 1963. He died in 1993.

During his 54-year career Brown published newspapers in Harrisonville, Lee's Summit, Willow Springs, Mt. Vernon, Belton, and Butler in Missouri and in Bedford, Iowa.

It was Mr. Brown's enthusiastic support as the Building Fund chairman that led to Missouri Press purchasing its building at 8th and Locust streets in Columbia.



The plaque gets a detailed inspection and cleaning.

The plaque gift continues the family's tradition of contributing money to various causes and projects.

Mr. Brown received the University of Missouri Honor Medal for Service in Journalism in 1973. He was inducted into the Missouri Newspaper Hall of Fame in 1992.

The entire text of Walter Williams' Journalist's Creed is on the plaque, which weighs more than 700 pounds. At the bottom of the plaque is an acknowledgement of the gift and information about Mr. Brown, whom the plaque honors.○



Employees of CR Bronzeworks pose with the nearly finished plaque for a photograph.



New plaque goes up

After removing the old lettering on the side of the building, Morris Shepherd of CR Bronzeworks drilled holes to anchor the new plaque. He pumped glue into the holes in the wall and spread it on the mounting brackets on the plaque. Installers then lifted the plaque onto the wall.



Two CR Bronzeworks employees drove with the plaque the 1,000 miles to Columbia in a pickup truck. Two men from Columbia Sign Service helped them install the plaque on Saturday, Jan. 15. The installers were Kem Craghead, left, and Jerry Bieberly, right, of Columbia Sign Service; and Morris Shepherd and Justin Butler of CR Bronzeworks.



An MPA logo and the words "Missouri Press Association" previously were in the spot on the 8th Street side of the building now taken by the new plaque. In the bottom portion of the plaque, below The Journalist's Creed, is a memorial about J.W. Brown, whose family financed this project. Brown was a past president of MPA and a strong supporter of the Association.

On the Move

2 Kennett

Trina Bell has joined the news staff of the *Daily Dunklin Democrat*. She graduated from Senath-Hornersville High School in 1996 and attended Dyersburg State Community College on a basketball and softball scholarship.



Trina Bell was a college athlete.

Bell was the activities director for Heritage Residential Care facility in 2002.

She replaced Sacha Champion at the *Democrat*. Champion, who had just recently joined, the *Democrat*, transferred to *The Daily Statesman* in Dexter. Both papers are part of the Rust group out of Cape Girardeau.

Bell and her husband, Patrick, have one daughter.

2 Camdenton

Steve Thomas has been named editor of the *Lake Sun*. He has held positions with the *Lake Sun* and its owner, Liberty Publishing, since the late 1980s.

Thomas succeeds Mike Feedback.

The *Lake Sun* is part of Lake Media One, which has a number of other lake area publications, including the *News Focus*, *Vacation News*, *Westside Star* and *Lake Lifestyles* magazine.

2 St. Joseph

Nicholas Sawin, Sylvia Anderson, Hilary Smith and Bryce M. Jones have joined the *News-Press*.

Sawin, a journalism and English graduate of the University of Missouri, is a copy editor/page designer.

Anderson, a public relations graduate of Northwest Missouri State University, is a lifestyles reporter. She previously worked as an account executive for *The Kansas City Star*.

Smith has a degree in commercial art from Missouri Western State College.

She works in ad production for the *News-Press*.

Jones, a finance graduate of Missouri Western, is a circulation district manager for the newspaper.

2 Perryville

Jim Beaver from Mississippi and Texas has replaced Randy Pribble as publisher of *The Perry County Republic-Monitor* in Perryville. Pribble, who was with the Perryville paper for 24 years, has been named publisher of the *The Journal-Review* in Crawfordsville, Ind.



Jim Beaver published papers in Texas.

Beaver has 26 years of newspaper experience. He most recently served four years as publisher of *The Panolian* in Batesville, Miss. Before that he was publisher of *The Light and Champion* in Center, Texas, for four years and publisher of *The Mid-Valley Town Crier* in Weslaco, Texas, for seven years.

All of the papers, including those in Perryville and Crawfordsville, are owned by PTS, Inc.



Kate Martin has been with the paper 6 years.

Beaver was born in St. Louis and moved to Pevely as a child. He's a 1972 graduate of Herculaneum High School. In 1982 he moved to the Rio Grande Valley of Texas.

Beaver has been active in civic organizations and the Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Penny, who is a nurse, have two children and two grandchildren.

Kate Martin has been named editor of *The Republic-Monitor*. She's been on

the staff for six years. Last year she won first place in the National Newspaper Association contest for best investigative or in-depth story or series.

She's a member of the board of directors of Southeast Missouri Press Association.

Martin and her husband, Joe, have three children.

2 Carthage

Ron Graber, managing editor of *The Carthage Press*, has been named general manager of the Liberty Group's Southwest Missouri daily. He'll continue managing the paper's coverage of local news.



Ron Graber has expanded duties.

Graber, a 1992 graduate of the Missouri School of Journalism, joined *The Press* as a photographer. He was named co-managing editor in 1999 and managing editor in 2002. He and his wife, Brandi, have two children.

Tommy Todd has been named ad manager.

2 St. James

Martha Prine Edwards, general manager and editor of the *St. James Leader-Journal* for 15 months, resigned in November.

The weekly is a Liberty Group Publishing newspaper under district manager Stephen E. Sowers in Rolla.

2 Rolla

Bill E. Morrison, who has been on the news staff of the *Daily News* for 10 years, was named managing editor of the paper. He succeeds R.D. Hohenfeldt, who was with the paper for more than 20 years. He resigned to pursue other projects.

Morrison's wife, Maggie, is the assistant director of development at the University of Missouri-Rolla.

Jaime M. Baranyai joined the news staff of the *Daily News* in December. Her primary beats will be county government and Phelps County Regional

Medical Center.

A St. Louis native, Baranyai is a 2004 journalism graduate of Southwest Missouri State University. She wrote for *The Standard*, the student newspaper, and was an intern at the *Springfield News-Leader*.

2 Kearney

Brenda Ahearn has moved to Kearney and joined the staff of *The*



Brenda Ahearn worked in Flagstaff, Salina.

Kearney Courier as a photographer. She has a degree in journalism from Eastern Kentucky University.

While in college Ahearn worked in the photography department, and she took pictures for the college newspaper and for

the local daily paper.

After graduation she worked at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff for three years, then for the *Salina Journal* in Kansas.

Ahearn left the *Journal* a year ago and took a five-month photography trip through nine countries in Western Europe.

2 Mexico

Shawnda Salazar and Jami Hunt-Williams have joined the news staff of the Mexico Ledger.

Salazar replaced Ryan Smith, who took a position with the *Jefferson City News Tribune*. She came from Tehlequah, Okla., where she graduated from Northeastern Oklahoma State University with a degree in speech communications with a minor in journalism.

After graduation Salazar traveled as an actress with The Omaha Theater Company for Young People, performing the first staged production of "Where the Red Fern Grows."

She served as a reporter and ad manager at Eastern Oklahoma State College newspaper and as reporter and publicity director at Northeastern.

She and her husband, Todd, live in Columbia.

Hunt-Williams has a degree in communication arts from Hannibal-LaGrange University and has worked in newspaper and radio for most of her career. She is from Shelbyville, and was the editor of the *North County News-Leader*, a short-lived newspaper in Centralia. She represents an expansion of the *Ledger's* news staff, and will cover the outlying region.

Hunt-Williams and her husband, James, have one child. They live in Mexico.

2 Slater

Twelve-year-old Jordana Moore, a sixth grader at Slater Alexander Elementary, is writing junior high school news for *Slater Main Street News*.

Jordanna applied for a mailroom job at the newspaper when she was 10, but was told she was too young. After the newspaper received a phone message from Jordanna inquiring about work now that she was 12, publisher Jean Black called her in for a visit.

Jordana would like to study law when she gets a little older.

2 Sedalia

Kim Marcum has joined the *News-Journal* as the sports writer. He has two sons and two stepsons, all of whom participated in sports.



Kathleen Boswell is a former teacher.

Marcum coached youth sports programs for about 20 years and was a certified high school football official.

The *News-Journal* has hired Kathleen Boswell to help with news and feature writing. She taught four years at Smithton School and 10 years at State Fair Community College in Sedalia.

2 Buffalo

Jennifer Harris is a new reporter for the *Reflex*. She graduated on Dec. 17 from Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, where she was editor-in-chief of the *Omnibus*, the school newspaper.

Harris graduated from high school in Pineville, La., and studied English and music in college. Her parents now live in St. Louis.

2 Union

Gregg Jones, 27, is the new editor of *The Union Missourian*. He formerly was editor of *The St. Clair Missourian*. Both papers are owned by the Missourian Publishing Co., Washington.

Jones moved to the area in May 2004 from Lexington, where he was editor of *The Lexington News*. He received his journalism degree from Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, and began working at the *Springfield News-Leader*.

2 Warsaw

James Mahlon White has been named publisher of the *Benton County Enterprise*, succeeding his father, Mahlon



James White is a 5th generation publisher.

Kelly "Jab" White, who died Dec. 8.

James White is a 1988 graduate of Warsaw High School and attended Central Missouri State University. He returned to his native Benton County from Overland Park, KS.

White is the fifth publisher of the *Enterprise* since its founding 125 years ago. He was preceded by his father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather, Thomas Benton White, who founded the newspaper in 1879.

2 Albany

Kathy Reece has been promoted from managing editor to editor of the *Albany Ledger*. She joined the Gentry County weekly in 2001 and was promoted to managing editor in 2003.

In announcing the promotion, Terry Holub, owner and publisher of *The Ledger*, said his family situation will require him to be out of town a lot in the coming months. O



Editors will meet in Branson

Governor, plenty of entertainment and training await at March 31-April 1 session

Get yourselves set for a busy and fun couple of days when you attend the annual meeting of the Missouri Society of Newspaper Editors/AP Managing Editors. Those groups will hold their joint meeting Thursday and Friday, March 31-April 1, at Big Cedar Lodge south of Branson.

Missouri's new governor, Matt Blunt, will be among the speakers.

Registration information about the meeting has been mailed to MPA member newspapers.

After guests register at noon on Thursday, they'll hear from MPA Legal Hotline counselor Jean Maneke, who'll provide an update on current legislative and legal issues.

Then Missouri Attorney General Jay



Nixon will lead a discussion of Sunshine Law issues, featuring examples from area newspaper people of questionable activities regarding public meetings and records.

Later, Chris Wrinkle, editor of the *Lebanon Daily Record*, will moderate a discussion about producing a newspaper during a disaster. Area journalists who have experienced that will talk about how they handled it.

A social hour and dinner — sponsored by Big Cedar Lodge — will be followed by one of Branson's top music shows. Buses will depart the lodge at 7 p.m. All guests and their families are

invited to attend this event, which is sponsored by the Branson Convention & Visitors Bureau.

After breakfast and the business meeting Friday, Professor Daryl



Moen of the Missouri School of Journalism will offer ideas to improve the look of your newspaper.

Professor Moen, a former editor of three newspapers, is a designer, author and consultant. He teaches design and writing at UMC.

Gov. Blunt will address guests and answer questions at the APME Awards Luncheon Friday.

The meeting will adjourn at 1 p.m.

Big Cedar Lodge and its adjoining properties offer a number of activities on site: golf, biking, trout fishing, hiking, wildlife tram tours and more. Its Top of the Rock golf development of-

fers a Jack Nicklaus Signature Course, the first par-3 course to carry his name, and the Arnold Palmer Signature Practice Facility adjacent to the course. Take your clubs!

With the meeting starting after lunch on Thursday and adjourning after lunch on Friday, guests will be able to attend the meeting with only one overnight stay, if they choose. To encourage you to take your family and stay an extra day or two, Big Cedar Lodge is offering the meeting rate of \$98 per night through the weekend for guests of MSNE/APME.

A registration form for the meeting is in the

magazine. Registration for the meeting is \$99 if you register by March 1 (\$115 after that). If you have questions, contact Lesa Litty at the MPA office, (573) 449-4167, litty@socket.net.

The MSNE President is Buck Collier of St. Louis. Oliver Weist of Sedalia is chairman of the AP Managing Editors.

You can check out Big Cedar Lodge at bigcedar.com.



School of Journalism Professor Daryl Moen will speak at the editors meeting in Branson.

NIE course July 20-22 at UMC

Plans are being made for the Living Textbook course to be held July 20-22 at the University of Missouri. MPA's state Newspaper In Education director, Dawn Kitchell, is organizing the program, now in its third year.

Newspapers will be asked to promote the program by running ads. You also can provide local teachers with scholarships to attend. Those details will be provided in the coming weeks.

You may want a member of your staff to attend this program to learn

how to get local school administrators and teachers involved with Newspaper In Education.

The goal of this course is to get your newspaper into the classrooms of your schools. To do that, teachers must know about newspapers and how to use them to teach. That's what this program is about.

Note the dates and plan now to participate in this year's program by promoting it to local teachers and/or by helping to pay expenses.

MISSOURI SOCIETY OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS
ASSOCIATED PRESS MANAGING EDITORS
REGISTRATION FORM



Conference Fee:

\$99 Per Registrant (by March 1st)

\$115 Late Registrant (after March 1st)

Please make checks payable to
Missouri Society of Newspaper Editors (MSNE)
and return registration form and payment by
March 1st to:

Missouri Press Association
Attn: Lesa Litty
802 Locust Street
Columbia, MO 65201

Questions? Call Lesa at Missouri Press Association
(573)-449-4167, fax (573)-874-5894
email: litty@socket.net

Newspaper _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Names of Attendees _____

Please indicate how many attendees will attend each event:

_____ I/We will attend ALL sessions/events with MSNE/APME.....

OR

_____ I/We will attend the following events.....

_____ Thursday Afternoon Session

_____ Thursday Reception & Barbecue Dinner

_____ Thursday Branson Show

_____ Friday Breakfast

_____ Friday Morning Session

_____ Friday APME Awards Luncheon with Governor Matt Blunt

Ad meeting April 14-15 in St. Louis

Newspaper marketing expert Chuck Nau will be the presenter for the April 14-15 meeting of the Missouri Advertising Managers' Association. The meeting will be held at the Sheraton West Port Lakeside Chalet in St. Louis.

Nau, of Murray & Nau, Inc., is a publishing consultant with more than 25 years of experience. He has served the *Seattle Times*, Knight Ridder and the Chicago Tribune Co. in a number of management, marketing, media and sales capacities. He has written numerous columns about his techniques, which have appeared in many newspaper industry and association publications.

Nau will open the meeting with his first session on Thursday afternoon. His topics will be:

- Clarify What It Is You Have to Offer Before Determining What It is You Want to Achieve.

- Member Newspaper Analysis.
- Value v. Price — Benefits v. Advantages (Understanding the Differences).

- Advertising (Understanding the Importance!).

- Best of the Best.
- Time and Sales Territory Management (Sight Unseen and Untold Means Unsold! Telemarketing Tips).

A reception and barbeque dinner will be held Thursday, with ad contest winners on display. Then guests will visit the Funny Bone comedy club or Harrah's Casino (transportation will be provided by the hotel).

Nau will continue his presentation after the Friday breakfast buffet. His morning topics will be:

- Identifying Potential New Revenue

Sources Inside and Outside Your Client Base.

- Account Qualifying and Recon Mission Selling. It's All About Questions.

- Objections.
- Putting It all Together — Four Plus One Stages of Selling.

- Reaching and Selling the Absentee Owner, Multiple Location Retailers and Out-of-Town Decision Maker.

Nau's session will be followed by the presentation of awards to winners of the association's Best Advertising Contest.

The Dee Hamilton Old Pro Award also will be presented. Nominations can be made until March 10.

Registration information for the Ad Managers' meeting has been mailed to MPA member newspapers. If you have questions, contact Lesa Litty at the MPA office, (573) 449-4167; litty@socket.net.o

K.C. attorney to head Press-Bar Commission

Kansas City attorney John S. Black has been elected to a one-year term as president of the Missouri Press-Bar Commission. Black is a partner with Shughart, Thomson & Kilroy.

Bill Miller, publisher of the *Washington Missourian*, was elected vice president at the Nov. 4 meeting of the Press-Bar Commission. Former Kansas City municipal judge Thomas E. Sims was chosen secretary-treasurer. Missouri Bar executive director Keith A. Birkes will continue as assistant secretary-treasurer.

The Commission is comprised of people from the bench, bar, print media and electronic media. The group encourages greater understanding and cooperation among the media, the bench and the bar and works toward a better-informed public.

The Commission publishes the "News Reporter's Handbook on Law and Courts," a comprehensive guide to the state's legal system. The Handbook is available on a CD. At its November meeting the Commission voted to update and reissue the handbook.o

National award for editor

COLUMBIA – Kristen Hare, *St. Joseph News-Press* assistant lifestyles editor, has won a national award given to honor and encourage newspaper writing "depicting the personal struggles and triumphs that together make up the fabric of our lives."

Hare is the latest winner of the Darrell Sifford Memorial Prize in Journalism administered by the University of Missouri School of Journalism. The award comes with a \$1,000 cash prize.

Sifford was a columnist for *The Philadelphia (Pa.) Inquirer* known for insightful and inspirational writing. His accidental death in 1992 touched his readers as if they had lost a close relative. Colleagues described Sifford as "a columnist with the heart of a poet."

Hare, 26, is the youngest winner in the 10-year history of the competition. Also, the *News-Press* is the smallest publication to have had a winner on staff.

The judges said Hare's winning collection of articles "documents the rhythms of daily life in small-town Kansas and Missouri, as well as in St. Joseph, through immersion and close observation. Her smooth writing style includes telling detail, and persistence."

Hare, a native of Springfield, earned a bachelor's degree with an emphasis in magazine journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia. After college she served two years in the Peace Corps in Guyana, where she was a community education promoter, teacher and editor of a Peace Corps magazine.

She joined the staff of the *News-Press* in January 2003 as a lifestyles reporter and was promoted last summer to assistant lifestyles editor.o

Your MPA's NIE program blazing trail across country!

Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

These words have inspired me for years, and describe what we've accomplished in Missouri in our efforts to reach out to young readers.

When we began Missouri Press Association's Newspaper In Education program in 2001, there was no path from community newspapers to Newspaper In Education.

But the things we've achieved, and continue to achieve, show that we're blazing a trail. And the comments we receive from newspapers beyond our borders prove others appreciate our efforts.

So as we look toward March's commemoration of Newspaper In Education, let's celebrate Missouri's trail!

Reading Across Missouri 2005

Our statewide serial story project has set a record! As of this writing, 118 newspapers are participating by publishing "A Hunter's Heart." We created a 27-page companion teacher guide to enhance the project. And we have 58 Missouri newspapers participating that have not published an MPF serial story before!

New Serial Stories

In January we released our 17th serial story through the Missouri Press Foundation. "Freedom's Circus" tells a story of a young girl who learns how much people will sacrifice to experience the freedom America offers.

This spring we'll debut a sports story and the first collaboration of author Kay Hively and her son, Russ.

Larry's dad is away fighting in the war, and there's not enough money to buy baseballs. So, when the last ball is gone, Larry has to make a big decision. Should he give up his Big League prize for the neighborhood team? The answer can be found in "The Sacrifice."

These stories give MPF an offering of 18 serialized short stories for young readers. To date, 215 newspapers in 27 states and now Australia have published our stories.

And our first story, "Hannah's Diary," is now a 36-page book! To raise money for the Missouri Press Foundation, we've partnered with author Kay Hively and illustrator Billie Gofourth-Stewart to make this story available in a hard-bound keepsake book. MPF will sell the book for \$12, (plus shipping).

Tsunami Aid

Newspaper In Education vendor Kid Scoop offered a free youth feature explaining the Tsunami and offering children suggestions on ways they could help. We promoted it to our MPA newspapers and 55 requested the feature! Because of this, young people across our state are involved in efforts to help.

National FFA Week Feb. 19-26

In partnership with the Missouri Department of Agriculture, MPA created a tremendous resource highlighting Missouri agriculture. "What's Growin' On in Missouri" is available for free download from MPA in an 8-part in-paper series or as a 16-page tabloid.

NIE Week March 7-11

MPA Historian Dr. William Taft has written a series of features on Famous Missouri journalists. These free features are available for MPA newspapers to use during NIE Week or beyond.

Each year the Newspaper Association of America Foundation creates a teacher



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

guide for NIE Week. This year's guide is free thanks to Abitibi Consolidated and is available on CD from NAA Foundation or for download at www.mopress.com.

The 38-page guide and five in-paper features are titled "All Together Now: Living and Learning in A Multicultural Society." You can find the guide at: mopress.com/livepages/images/505.pdf.

Living Textbook Workshop

The University of Missouri has again offered to host MPA's Living Textbook Teacher Workshop. The 16-hour course will be July 20-22 in Columbia.

Please plan to sponsor a teacher, several teachers or a staff person to attend this workshop with a Teacher Ambassador Scholarship. Participants have the option to take the course for one hour of graduate credit.

Ads to promote the course and scholarship opportunities will be available in March.

And the trail...

"... As to the Lewis & Clark tab ... He [my publisher] made a special point of talking to me about it. ...he thought the tab was very well done, and full of interesting facts and information." - *Washington newspaper, circ. 15,000*

"I came across something you did with the Missouri State Teachers Association, Tips for parents which I think is terrific." - *Hawaii newspaper*

"We just finished running "Here They Come." We had lots of excellent feedback from teachers ... people from out of town, grandparents and parents..." - *Pennsylvania newspaper*

"...was in Midland, TX, recently and heard a great compliment on ... your website and what you are doing with MPA." - *NIE Vendor*

"Thank you so much. I check your site all the time - it is as uplifting as it is depressing - MPA is just so progressive and wonderful for NIE." - *Kansas newspaper*

"... congrats on all the outstanding work your group is being recognized for doing." - *Illinois newspaper*

"...Thanks a million ... I understand why you are an award winning NIE program." - *Pennsylvania newspaper. O*

Publisher named 'Citizen of Year'

Post-Dispatch award goes to Donald Suggs of The St. Louis American

The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* declared Donald M. Suggs, publisher of *The St. Louis American*, to be the 2004 St. Louis Citizen of the Year.

"It was totally unexpected, but I humbly accept it as a representative of St. Louisans who are working diligently to try to make a difference in the lives of people, especially those who have less opportunity to overcome difficult life conditions," Dr. Suggs said.

Each year, previous award winners select the Citizen of the Year from a pool of candidates nominated by the public. Others who have received the honor include Anheuser-Bush chairman August A. Bush III, retired Sen. John C. Danforth, Peter H. Raven, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden and baseball Hall of Famer Ozzie Smith.

Clarence C. Barksdale, recipient of the award in 1982 and the group's spokesman and coordinator, said that Suggs was overwhelmingly elected for the honor.

"We tend to select people that have a lifetime of achievement. As a result, most people think that it is the highest honor that is given in St. Louis," Barksdale said.

Suggs credits his "lifetime" of achievement to the upbringing that he received growing up in East Chicago.

"I, like many others, grew up in a poor, working-class neighborhood. But I had the benefit of a loving, nurturing family. My parents stressed an obligation to share with family and others in the community who were less fortunate," Suggs said.

"I was taught that even though your personal resources may be minimal, you were expected to share. I was also taught that you don't violate certain sacred principles. Inside that understanding, you should work hard for constructive change."

While Suggs has dedicated much of his time in recent years to the *St. Louis American*, which has grown in circulation by more than 60,000 copies during his tenure, for more than four decades he has worked as a civil and social rights advocate and has been deeply involved in the city's civic and business communities.

In a statement, Mayor Francis G. Slay said, "Don Suggs has never walked past a tough fight as too lopsided nor a great cause as too hopeless. Doc's disagreements are always civil and his editorials always come with an extra hand to help with the heavy lifting. He is a civic resource



Chicago native Dr. Donald Suggs has overseen the resurgence of his weekly newspaper in St. Louis.

has never walked past a tough fight as too lopsided nor a great cause as too hopeless. Doc's disagreements are always civil and his editorials always come with an extra hand to help with the heavy lifting. He is a civic resource

as recognizable as the Arch and every bit as elegant."

An oral surgeon by training, Suggs has come to be known as a master of his craft. Additionally, his passion for the arts moved him to amass a diverse personal collection, open a gallery in St. Louis and New York and make significant individual donations to the collection of the Saint Louis Art Museum.

In addition to his business and civic pursuits, Suggs also sits on numerous non-profit boards, including the Herbert Hoover Boys and Girls Club, Hopewell Center, Webster University, Connect Care, St. Louis Children's Hospital, Saint Louis Art Museum, Saint Louis Symphony, St. Louis Science Center, Regional Chamber and Growth Association, Regional Business Council, the Black Leadership Roundtable and the United Way.

"To say that Dr. Suggs is a 'generous' man is a vast understatement," said Kevin Jones, chief operating officer of the *St. Louis American* and 13-year veteran of the paper. "He continues to be a blessing for St. Louis philanthropically, giving to dozens of non-profits each year. And, for me personally, he's been a mentor like no other."

Dr. Suggs has three grown children. His 91-year-old mother lives in Chicago.

—From *The St. Louis American*

SPJ meeting April 1-2 in Springfield

The SPJ Region 7 Conference will be Friday and Saturday, April 1-2, in Springfield.

The conference will open with a reception Friday night that will include a Legal Defense Auction.

Saturday will include sessions on writing, the art of storytelling, freedom of information, ethics, blogging, broadcast skills and minority media.

For students, a session will be held where editors will critique resumés and portfolios.

Irwin Gratz, the current SPJ national president, will attend. Charles Davis of the University of Missouri Journalism School will lead the FOI session.

Staci Kramer, a writer for Online Journalism Review, is putting the blogging session together. Invitations have been sent to high-profile guests.

Registration information for the meeting will be provided soon.

Missouri Press Association is a sponsor of the Region 7 Conference. **O**

Scrapbook

2 Cameron

Employees of Cameron Newspapers donated \$500 to the Food Pantry and \$300 to the Cameron Ministerial Alliance in November.

2 Cape Girardeau

The *Southeast Missourian* donated \$30,000 to the United Way of Southeast Missouri in November.

The newspaper also partnered with the Cape Girardeau Jaycees in the Toybox program, which provides toys to needy children. About \$25,000 is spent annually to buy toys. Many more toys are donated.



The Southeast Missourian donated \$30,000 to the United Way of Southeast Missouri. From left: Kim McDowell, human resources; Rex Rust, co-president ust Communications; Jon Rust, publisher, Southeast Missourian and co-president, Rust Communications; and Mike Smythe, 2004 campaign chair for the United Way.

About 500 area families requested Toybox assistance in 2004.

The *Southeast Missourian* recently offered for sale a limited number of copies of a book titled "Heartland Heroes." Volumes that were ordered before publication of the book about veterans of World Wars I and II were mailed early in December.

A Cape Girardeau woman won a \$2,000 shopping spree as part of the Downtown Christmas Open House put on by the *Southeast Missourian* and

Old Town Cape.

2 Kirksville

Hank Waters, editor and publisher of the *Columbia Daily Tribune*, gave the Commencement address Dec. 18 at Truman State University. He spoke to about 260 students and their families.

2 Trenton

The Dec. 17 and 19, 2003, issues of the *Trenton Republican-Times* were placed in a "centennial box" time capsule sealed into the cornerstone of the Grundy County Courthouse in December.

The capsule first was placed in the cornerstone in December 1903. It was removed in December 2003 as part of the county's centennial celebration.

Many other items reflecting local life and times of 2004 were placed in the capsule before it was replaced in the cornerstone.

2 Louisiana

The *Press-Journal*, the *Bowling Green Times* and North East Community Action Corp. joined forces

to provide holiday provisions for 25 Pike County families.

The newspapers published lists of each family's needs and collected donations of cash and gifts.

2 Potosi

Potosi R-3 Community Teachers Association presented the 2004 Media Award for Literacy from the Missouri State Teachers Association to Neil Richard and the *Independent-Journal*.

Publisher Kris Richards accepted

the award Dec. 3 at Potosi Elementary School.

2 Bolivar

As a freshman member of the board of the Bolivar Area Chamber of Commerce, reporter Justin Ballard of the *Herald-Free Press* got to walk in the Bolivar Christmas parade.

The parade had more horse entries this time, which meant more work for Ballard and the other new members of the Chamber board. Cleaning up after the parade horses is traditionally the first official act of rookie board members.

The *Herald-Free Press* published its annual section featuring the drawings of children at Bolivar Primary School, Bolivar Intermediate School and Polk County Christian School. Local businesses and parents of the young artists sponsored publication of the drawings.

2 Platte City

The *Landmark* held its annual public holiday party 4-8 p.m. Dec. 10 at the Comfort Inn. A number of area public officials, personalities and newsmakers joined the newspaper's staff in greeting and visiting with guests.

2 Braymer

The *Braymer Bee* struggled through several days without telephone service in December after moving its office into the home of editor Debbie Rankin.

"The phone company got the disconnect order correct, but they fouled up on the reconnect order," said co-publisher Marshall Tezon.

2 St. Joseph

The *News-Press* received the Missouri Philanthropist award in December from the Midland Empire Chapter of the American Red Cross. Seven state award winners were recognized at the holiday reception.

The *News-Press* was cited for its assistance in times of crisis with ads, news stories and editorials encouraging support.

2 Ozark

Newspapers of Community Pub-

lishers Inc./Missouri ran a readership survey in the issue just before Christmas. The 69-question survey covered a double spread in the weekly papers.

Questions asked about reading habits, content preferences and buying habits.

2 Glasgow

Ben Haskamp, school and sports editor of the *Glasgow Missourian*, was honored at halftime of a basketball game in December. He received a plaque from Principal Michael Reyn-

Spotlight on newspaper after Skidmore killing

Because it's only about 15 miles away, and the nearest daily newspaper to Skidmore, the *Maryville Daily Forum* found itself a source for many news outlets seeking details about the December killing/baby snatching in Skidmore.

A woman from Melvern, Kan., is accused of killing a young Skidmore woman and cutting out her near-term fetus. Authorities recovered the baby in good health a few days later in Kansas.

While the *New York Daily News* and *New York Post* shouted "Ghoul" and "Butcher" in their page-one lead stories, the *Forum* went about reporting on the story that made headlines around the world. It published an extra edition — perhaps the first in the paper's 135-year history — after the baby was found.

The paper "has been inundated with phone calls for information and interview requests from nationwide news sources," the *Forum* reported. "Several *Forum* photographs have been picked up by the Associated Press, and the *Forum* ran a picture in its Saturday extra edition that no other news organization in the country had — a picture of Lisa Montgomery (the accused). By Saturday afternoon, this photo was in newspapers across the world. It was also the picture featured on the covers of the *New York Post* and *Daily News*." O

olds for his superior coverage of high school news.

2 Stockton

The *Cedar County Republican* took an extra step in its "first baby of the year" coverage.

In its Jan. 5 issue, the *Republican* printed photos and information on past first babies. The paper began reporting on first babies in 1981.

2 Bolivar

The *Herald-Free Press* moved into its new office building in Free Press Plaza in January.

Work had not yet been completed on the front of the building and parking lot, so customers were asked to use the back entrance to the building.

2 Troy

One section of this year's progress edition of *The Lincoln County Journal* will be devoted to wedding photos submitted by readers. Another section

will feature unique hobbies.

2 Rolla

The *Daily News* staff is preparing for the 2005 Rolla Area Home and Business Expo on the campus of the University of Missouri-Rolla. Dates for this year's show are March 11-13.

The *Daily News* sponsors the show and will hold a drawing for a grand prize, a trip to Branson. People can visit the show at no charge.

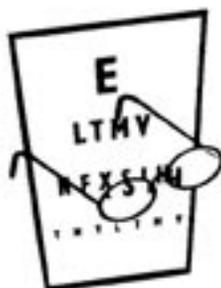
2 Washington

"Book Buzz" and the paper's coverage and promotion of literacy and reading programs in the community earned for the *Missourian* the 2004 Print Media Award from the Missouri State Council of the International Reading Association.

2 St. Joseph

The *News-Press* will observe the 160th anniversary of its founding this year. O

*Your \$1 donation can help others
view this world a little better*



**MISSOURI
OPTOMETRIC
ASSOCIATION**

100 East High, Suite 301,
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
(573) 635-6151 FAX(573) 635-7989
E-MAIL: moopt@socket.net
Web Site: www.moeyecare.org

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.

Photographer arrested at accident scene

BERKELEY (AP) — A *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* photographer was arrested while shooting pictures at an accident scene because he was in the way of emergency workers, police said Jan. 3. Officials at the newspaper said Gabriel B. Tait was doing his job.

Tait, 32, was taking pictures Jan. 1 on Interstate 70 in Berkeley, near St. Louis. Tait said he was in an area with other observers when an officer told him to stop taking pictures and leave, the *Post-Dispatch* reported Jan. 2.

Tait said the officer grabbed his camera and pushed him against a vehicle, then handcuffed him and placed him under arrest. He was jailed for a couple of hours before being released on bond, police said. His camera equipment was confiscated and his car was towed.

Berkeley Capt. Frank McCall said Tait refused to get out of the way as paramedics and other emergency workers arrived.

“The intent was to try to clear that

area so our fire department personnel would have room to work,” McCall said.

“After reviewing the situation, it is clear that our photographer did not interfere with emergency workers in any way whatsoever,” said Arnie Robbins, managing editor of the *Post-Dispatch*. “As a newspaper we have a responsibility and a right to cover matters in the public interest. Gabe Tait was simply doing his job, at a safe and respectful distance from the accident.”

McCall said Tait’s camera was taken for safekeeping while he was jailed, and the car was towed because Tait was taken to jail in a squad car.

McCall said police “have no problem with any news agency that wants to take pictures because that’s their job. But we do ask they show the common respect to know that you can’t be right up on the scene.”

Police will seek a municipal misdemeanor charge, but McCall declined to elaborate. **O**

Help judge college newspaper contest

If you would like to participate in the judging of the Missouri College Media Association contest, please contact the MPA office in Columbia, (573) 449-4167, kford@socket.net.

Entries will be prepared and mailed to judges in February. Judges will have a couple of weeks to complete the work.

Around 26 schools enter the contest. Each of the categories in the contest receives from 10 to 30 entries, so the judging isn’t a heavy burden on any single judge.

If you would like to help and have not responded to the earlier call for judges, contact MPA now. **O**

Call These Organizations for Answers to Your Questions



Questions about Internet?

Call Socket Internet, Inc. for answers to your questions on Email, the World Wide Web, or Network Computing. We can answer virtually any question. Call:

1 (800) 762-5383, x 115 or

Email: marketing@socket.net



*Missouri Insurance
Information Service*

220 Madison St. - 3rd Floor
Jefferson City, MO 65101

(573) 893-4241 - phone

(573) 893-4996 - fax

moins@midamerica.net - email

A public information organization of insurance companies.



Missouri Beef Industry Council

2306 Bluff Creek Drive, #200

Columbia, MO 65201

(573) 817-0899

It's What's For Dinner.



MPA

Postal Help

Ron Cunningham
(417) 849-9331
postalhelp@aol.com

When you need answers, just call us.

With all the directions your phone service can take today, it's good to know there's someone who can show you the way. So, before you spend more time than you really want trying to find the right answers, just go straight to the source.

1-800-788-3500



Photographer arrested at crime scene

Officers arrested *Columbia Daily Tribune* photographer Don Shrubshell, 49, on suspicion of obstructing a government operation for being on the wrong side of crime scene tape early in January. The taped-off area was in the Columbia neighborhood where a police officer was shot and wounded in the arm. The gunman then shot himself.

The police officer was in the area investigating the shooting of another police officer the previous evening.

A Columbia police spokesman said the officer would not have arrested the photographer unless he was getting in the way or hindering police.

"It's not open for discussion. You should stay behind the tape, period," the official said. "It's unfortunate for both sides. You guys are doing your job, and we're doing ours."

Shrubshell said he followed the officer's orders and did not cross the tape. He did walk around to another

area that was not taped off. At that point, Shrubshell said, he and other reporters, including television photographers, walked to the edge of another newly taped-off section. That section was the actual crime scene, Shrubshell said, and was in another area of the neighborhood beyond the original crime tape. The police were allowing the media to take pictures from that inner perimeter.

Shrubshell said he took some photos and began walking back toward his

The prosecuting attorney of Boone County said several days later that no charges would be pursued against Shrubshell. Prosecuting Attorney Kevin Crane met with Shrubshell, Robertson, the arresting police officer and the officer's sergeant. Shrubshell said it was "somewhat of a misunderstanding on both sides."

vehicle in a direction that put him on the restricted side of the original tape but well outside the crime scene. That's when an officer arrested him.

"He must think I crossed it and was walking back. I don't think he knew I was down there with all the other media," Shrubshell said. "He may have been emotional, given the officer's shooting, which is understandable."

Jean Maneke, an attorney who represents the Missouri Press Association, said there's a balancing act between media and police. The media have a constitutional right to cover breaking news events.

"On the same token, law enforcement has a right to protect the crime scene and do what they need to do," Maneke said.

Tribune managing editor Jim Robertson said Shrubshell would not be disciplined by the newspaper because he was doing his job.

—*Columbia Daily Tribune*

Call These Organizations for Answers to Your Questions



For information about public education, contact

Missouri State Teachers Association

407 S. Sixth St., P.O. Box 458
Columbia, MO 65205
573-442-3127 or 800-392-0532

MISSOURI DIETETIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 1225 • Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 636-2822 • www.eatrightmissouri.org

Your Link to Nutrition and HealthSM

Contact your Licensed Registered Dietitian for all your Health and Nutrition Needs!

For information about agriculture or issues affecting rural Missouri, contact:

(573) 893-1467



Missouri Farm Bureau



The Missouri Bar

Jefferson City
573-635-4128

For insurance information ...



Missouri Association of INSURANCE AGENTS

Jefferson City
800/617-3658 or 573/893-4301

Our members are independent agents and brokers who represent more than one insurance company.

Got a question about an MPA activity?

Check mopress.com for the answer.

Download registration forms, ads, features, editorials and stories.

Single person a public body for Sunshine Law purposes

AG's opinion reflects court decisions

Is a public body of one a “public governmental body” under the Sunshine Law? This question arises often in the course of newspapers dealing with school districts and law enforcement entities.

One of the earliest cases to discuss this issue dealt with the position of the St. Louis County executive, an executive position within the County of St. Louis's governmental operations.

A reporter for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* wanted access to the meetings of the Annexation Study Commission, a group that was formed by the county executive.

The paper argued that since the county executive is a public governmental body, it therefore followed that the group, which was appointed by the county executive and which reported back to him, also is a public governmental body. Of course, the county argued that the county executive, as a single person, could not constitute a “body” as defined by the Sunshine Law.

The court first looked at the definition in the statute, which defines a body as “an entity,” and then turned to a legal dictionary to reach its conclusion. “Black's Law Dictionary defines entity as including a “person” or “governmental unit.”

While a single-member body cannot have meetings, it can have records. One aspect of the Sunshine Law is that public records are open. Thus, it is not inconsistent to hold a single-member body as a governmental entity, the court concluded (in the case of *MacLauchlan v. McNary*).

And so, for the first time, there was precedent in Missouri supporting that

a public governmental body can be a body of one in terms of civil positions.

The issue arose again just four years later, when the *Post-Dispatch* found itself in an argument with officials from the City of Wentzville over access to certain city records. A city official, called the city coordinator, claimed

that he could not be held to be a public governmental body since he was an individual.

In this case, the court turned to the city charter to find the ordinance creating this position and outlining his duties. Further, the city tried to argue that the city coordinator had no policy-making authority but had only ministerial powers.

But the court (in *Tipton v. Barton*) said that the precedent set in the earlier *MacLauchlan* case showed that the critical factor was that the position of city coordinator was one which

“clearly encompasses making determinations which affect the public” and therefore this position was a public governmental body under the definitions in the Sunshine Law.

Then, a year later, a citizen in Clay County made inroads into this area of the law on the criminal side. The citizen, a bondsman, wanted records of inmates in the Clay County Jail, but the sheriff declined to make those records available to him.

The sheriff attempted to argue that changes to the definition of “public governmental body” made in 1987 took him outside the definition. However, the court (in *Charlier v. Corum*) disagreed, stating “It is clear that the sheriff is an administrative entity created by state statute.”

All of these cases form the foundation that just recently was used by the Missouri Attorney General's Office to issue its opinion that a Missouri school district superintendent is also a “public governmental body” under the law.

The Cape Girardeau school district's superintendent had formed a task force to recommend budget cuts. The question arose whether that advisory task force was subject to the Sunshine Law, meaning it would have to post notice of meetings and take minutes.

The Cape Girardeau County prosecuting attorney asked the Attorney General's Office to issue an opinion on the subject. And it is most interesting to note that the opinion, issued on Nov. 30, begins by detailing how the opinion lies on whether the superintendent is a public governmental body, because if he is — in and of himself — then the task force appointed by him also falls under the law. And the opinion cites many of the cases we have cited above in this column.

“The superintendent in this instance was himself a public governmental body, who in turn appointed a second public governmental body, an advisory committee, for the purpose of making expenditure recommendations,” the opinion stated. The opinion holds that the superintendent is “an administrative entity” as set out in Section 610.010 (4), and that further support for that is found in the fact that the position of superintendent is created by order of the Cape Girardeau School District.

Therefore, since the superintendent is a “body,” then the task force he created also is a “body” subject to the Sunshine Law.

While the opinion of Missouri's Attorney General is not binding law, as a court opinion would be in the state, it certainly may carry some weight in an argument about this subject, and, in this case, is based upon such a good foundation of case law that it should be helpful if you find yourself in an argument on this subject.

You can locate the AG opinion I cited, which was issued Nov. 30, 2004, online at ago.state.mo.us/opinions/2004/129-2004.htm.



Jean Maneke, MPA's Legal Hotline attorney, can be reached at (816) 753-9000, jmaneke@juno.com.

Roller catches hand of Piedmont printer

Dale Jimerson, a veteran printer for the *Wayne County Journal-Banner*, lost the middle finger of his right hand in a press accident in October.

Jimerson was cleaning rollers when a roller caught his hand. Jimmy Keith of the printing crew quickly reversed the press to free Jimerson's hand.

During about seven hours of surgery at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, pins were placed in Jimerson's thumb and index finger. He has undergone two skin grafts, and his right hand was grafted to his abdomen to promote

healing, according to the story in the *Journal-Banner*.

Jimerson has been printing the Piedmont, Ellington and Van Buren weekly newspapers for 27 years. He also does the job printing and maintains the presses.

Harold Ellinghouse, publisher of the *Journal-Banner*, took over on the press. With the help of two former pressmen, Brandon Harbison and Mike Allen, the crew made some repairs and printed the final section. Several others pitched in to help get the paper produced. **O**

College library named after R. Jack Fishman, owner of Missouri group

The library at Walters State College in Morristown, Tenn., has been named in honor of R. Jack Fishman, owner of a number of Missouri newspapers.

Fishman is the publisher and editor of the *Citizen Tribune* in Morristown. He is a past president and trustee of the Walters State Foundation.

Fishman owns the Missouri newspapers *Louisiana Press-Journal*, *Troy Lincoln County Journal*, *Hermann Advertiser-Courier*, *New Haven Leader* and *Elsberry Democrat*. He has been active for years in his state press association and the National Newspaper Association.

The Walters State library opened in 1997. It has three levels and serves the college's three satellite campuses via the internet. **O**

Thieves use car to break into K.C. Star

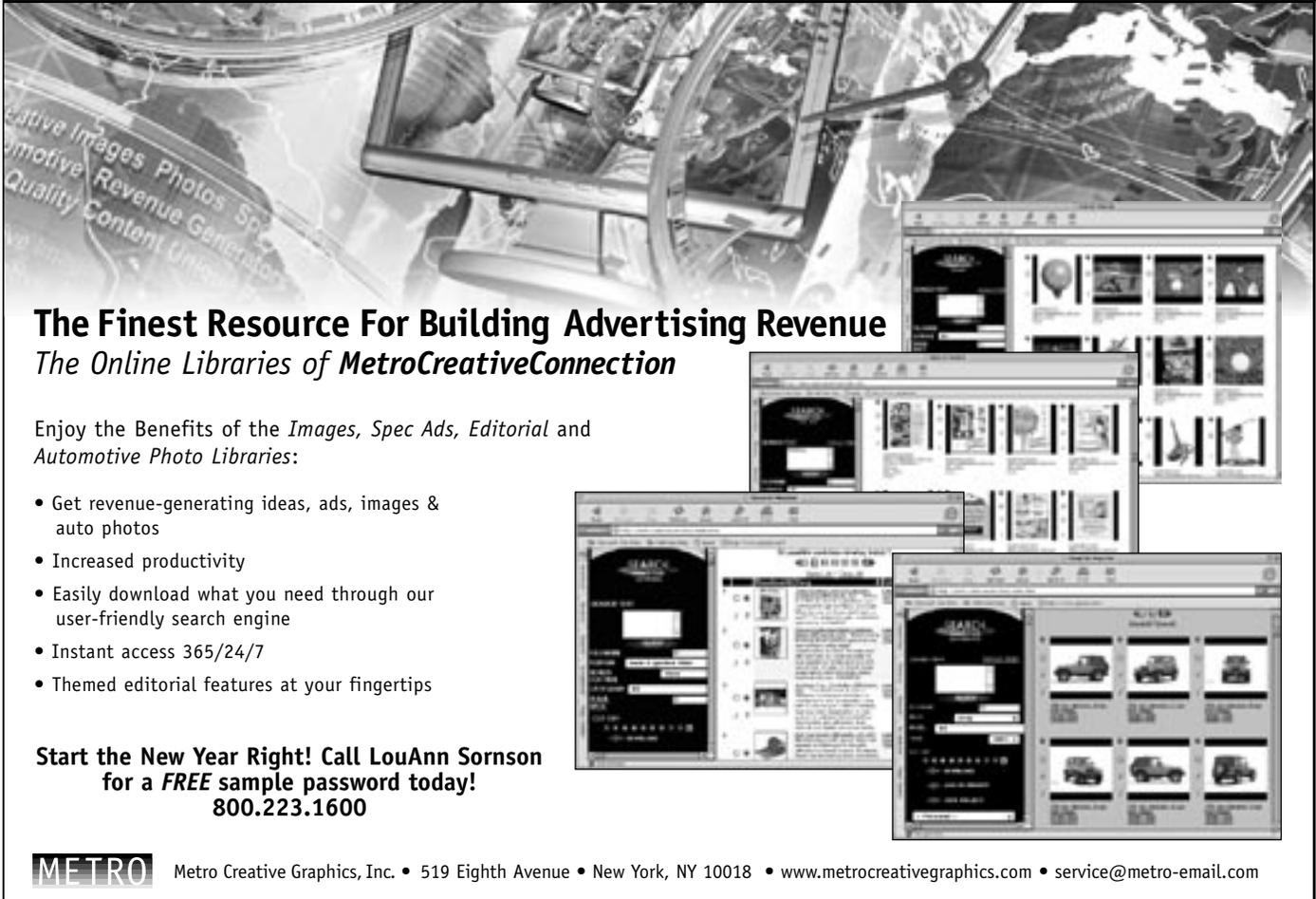
Thieves backed a car into the locked front doors of a *Kansas City Star* office building at 5:30 a.m. Dec. 17 and stole a gumball machine. The machine's coinbox had been emptied the previous day.

A security guard monitoring a surveillance camera saw the heist. A

car drove past, then backed up and smashed the glass doors. A passenger jumped out, grabbed the machine and tossed it into the car's back seat.

Repair costs were estimated at \$2,000 to \$3,000.

—*The Kansas City Star* **O**



The Finest Resource For Building Advertising Revenue
The Online Libraries of MetroCreativeConnection

Enjoy the Benefits of the *Images, Spec Ads, Editorial* and *Automotive Photo Libraries*:

- Get revenue-generating ideas, ads, images & auto photos
- Increased productivity
- Easily download what you need through our user-friendly search engine
- Instant access 365/24/7
- Themed editorial features at your fingertips

Start the New Year Right! Call LouAnn Sornson for a FREE sample password today!
800.223.1600

METRO Metro Creative Graphics, Inc. • 519 Eighth Avenue • New York, NY 10018 • www.metrocreativegraphics.com • service@metro-email.com

— Obituaries —

Fayette

Thomas S. Davis

38 — Son of publisher

Thomas S. Davis, son of retired publisher H. Denny Davis and Barbara Davis of Fayette, died of cancer Dec. 28, 2004, in Columbia.

H. Denny Davis published the *Democrat-Leader* and *Fayette Advertiser* from 1984 to 2000.

Thomas Davis was a partner in the law firm of Davis, Susan and Holder. He was a graduate of Westminster College in Fulton and the UMC School of Law.

Camdenton

Vaughn L. Poertner

59 — Former editor

Vaughn Leroy Poertner, a former editor of the *Reveille* in Camdenton, died Dec. 16, 2004, at Marlton, N.J. He was a hazardous materials specialist for the Department of Public Safety.

Mr. Poertner leaves his wife, Rebecca; four sons, his mother and two sisters. **O**

Copies of 'Short Course' book available from MPA for \$5 per copy

Additional copies of "Newswriting Short Course" are available from Missouri Press Foundation for \$5 each. Contact the Missouri Press Office in Columbia, (573) 449-4167, dcrews@socket.net.

"Newswriting Short Course" by Jim Sawyer is a 42-page primer with easy-to-understand guidelines for organization and writing news stories, including examples and exercises.

Sawyer, who died of cancer in 2003, prepared the booklet to help beginning news writers. Sawyer was retired from University of Missouri Outreach and Extension and was active in Ozark Press Association. **O**

Canton weekly prints 'extra' after fire destroys buildings

Newspaper office across street from devastation

The *Press-News Journal*, Canton, mailed its fourth extra edition in the paper's history on Jan. 21 to report on the loss of three downtown buildings in a fire. The buildings were across the street from the newspaper office.

Firemen did well to contain the destruction to three business buildings, the *Journal* reported. Firemen feared for eight other business buildings, some of which had smoke and water or fire damage. A plate glass window broke and vinyl siding melted on the building beside the *Journal*, which suffered no damage.

"Because the fire was Wednesday night — less than eight hours after

we were on the street with the Jan. 20 issue — we felt it was too big of a story to wait a week," said editor Dan Steinbeck. "We published a 4-page broadsheet extra, printing it on Thursday, Jan. 20, and mailing it Friday morning, Jan. 21."

The other three *Journal* extras were in February 1977, when two girls basketball teams got in the final four in state basketball in different divisions; in May 1978, when fire ruined three businesses in two buildings and the Masonic Lodge (ironically on the same block as this fire); and in August 1998, when six arson fires at five separate locations in Lewistown were under way. **O**



 **The LICKING NEWS**

Owned by Eric and Beverly Derrickson

has been sold to

Donald Dodd / The Salem News

"The transaction was handled professionally and quite quickly. We were very pleased." — Eric and Beverly Derrickson.

If you would like to pursue a transaction as our client, we would represent you in a professional, confidential manner.

Call us today for an appointment.

NATIONAL MEDIA ASSOCIATES

Print Media Brokers, Consultants, Appraisers

Edward Anderson, Broker

P.O. Box 2001, Branson, MO 65615

(417) 336-3457 Fax: (417) 336-5717

E-Mail Address: BROKERED1@AOL.COM

Many opportunities to learn crowding into MPA calendar

Just before lunch, a three-pound package arrived in my office from the clipping bureau. Those packages arrive every week or so. Most aren't that big; this one had reason for such heft.

Among items about newspaper staff people, things newspapers are doing and editorials about open government, the package contained a couple of hundred clips of "A Hunter's Heart," the serial Newspaper In Education story that 118 Missouri newspapers began running in January. Dawn Kitchell, MPA's NIE director, wants the copies to document use of the story.

While "A Hunter's Heart" has set a new standard of involvement for Missouri's newspapers, well more than half of the newspapers in the state aren't running the free feature. (Maybe some of the editors and publishers who chose not to run the story will send notes to MPA to let us know what we can do to help them.)

More than 50 of the papers that are running "A Hunter's Heart" have never before run one of the serial stories. That's the number to be most excited about.

Kitchell isn't resting on the success of "A Hunter's Heart." More NIE features are coming soon, as is the next Kay Hively serial feature story. You can read about the projects in Kitchell's NIE column this month.

The holiday lull in trade gatherings is over. Look at the MPA calendar and the articles in the magazine and bulletin about coming meetings and training programs. Several Missouri Press meetings will be here soon, and a number of other newspaper organizations have training programs starting within days.

Programs are coming on virtually every aspect of newspapering. MPA members keep telling us they want training. Training is available; you've got to learn about it and get signed up for it.

All the information you need is in the magazine and *Bulletin* and on the MPA website: mopress.com.

Northwest Missouri Press Association held its meeting in St. Joseph on Jan. 20-21. In spite of clear — but frigid — weather, attendance lagged.



MPA editor Kent Ford can be reached by email at kford@socket.net.

A number of bills of concern have been introduced in the legislature. Among proposals are:

- Abbreviating the county financial statement published in newspapers.
- Eliminating the school district financial statement published in newspapers.
- Requiring newspapers to keep files on people who buy political ads.
- Eliminating many elections when the number of candidates does not exceed the number of positions to be filled.

If these proposals don't strike you as bad government, you can oppose them on the grounds that they'll cost you money if they pass.

Watch the *Bulletin* for stories about these bills and talking points that you can use to oppose them. Help MPA fight them by talking to your legislators and maybe even testifying in the Capitol.

How, you might ask — other than costing you election notice money — could it be bad government to eliminate elections when the number of candidates doesn't exceed the number of offices to be filled?

This proposal came up last year

when Gov. Matt Blunt was the secretary of state. He thought it was a bad proposal then for these two reasons.

1) Not holding an election would eliminate the possibility of a write-in candidacy.

2) Pressure would be placed on the next candidate to file for an office if he or she were the one who would force an election.

Example: Your school district is electing two board members. If this bill were to pass, no election would be held if only two people filed. That would eliminate anyone from mounting a write-in race. It also would put the political burden of the cost of the election on the third candidate to file, which would discourage anyone from becoming that third candidate.

InDesign continues to be a mystery, but its secrets are emerging. I still can't turn off the grid or "snap to" command, so my cutlines and classified ad type want to line up on the same grid as my body type. Then, for some reason, a cutline will maintain its proper leading and float nicely on top of the grid. What'd I do?!

I finally got used to locating the hidden "Ignore text wrap" command. That hollow pointer tool still seems like a third arm. It might be handy if I could figure out what it's good for.

Styles won't save. All of my headlines want to be dingbats.

These are all simple things. But they're only simple when they work like the user's guide or the "help" menu says they will. When they don't work like that, it's not simple.

Learning a computer program on the fly is like learning to swim by the fling method. You get flung in and you either swim or you don't. If you don't, you no longer need the skill.

Here's a memorable tip I got at the Northwest Press meeting. Professor Mary Lawrence of the J School offered it during her talk on writing ledes.

Don't write suitcase ledes with everything packed into them. Write G-string ledes — brief and enticing. Looking back to the top, that lede is enticing enough for a Monday.0

Nostalgia

MISSOURI PRESS NEWS

February — 1945 —

Paris — A letter from Corp. Robert I. “Si” Colborn, who was with the *Paris Monroe County Appeal* before joining the army, states that he has just been assigned to duty as a correspondent with the *Stars and Strips* in Paris.

The former Missouri newspaperman comments on the fine job the army paper is doing for the fighting men. He reports it is often being printed under difficulties which would make even a country editor scratch his head.

Columbia — The School of Journalism will offer a course in typesetting machine operation not later than June 1, according to Dr. Frank L. Mott, dean of the school. This is the first step in a move to relieve the shortage of mechanical help on newspapers.

Brookfield — Edgar C. Nelson of Boonville purchased the Brookfield *Linn County News* Feb. 10 and took immediate charge. The newspaper has been published by Todd N. Ormiston, who is retiring from newspaper activity.

Charleston — “Who’s Got It?” is a new 10-week feature sponsored by local firms in the *Charleston Enterprise-Courier*. Prizes are given to owners of certain old-dated items as designated in the firms’ advertisements.

Fulton — A news tip contest with weekly prizes has been started by the *Fulton Daily Sun-Gazette*. Three prizes of \$1, 50 cents and 25 cents are given persons supplying the best tips.

St. Louis — Capt. Larry Smarr, former photographer on the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, has been a prisoner of the Japanese since April 1942. He is from Columbia and attended the School of Journalism there.

Fairmount — The *Jackson County Democrat* of Fairmount is inaugurating “The Democrat’s Diamond Club” as a means of recognizing persons who have reached the age of 75 years and their accomplishments. The *Democrat* will publish pictures of them and facts about their lives. Each will be issued a certificate of membership.

MISSOURI PRESS NEWS

February — 1955 —

Fredericktown — Oliver B. Ferguson, publisher of the *Fredericktown Democrat-News*, is one of three members of the Missouri University Board of Curators recently named to six-year terms by Gov. Phil M. Donnelly.

St. Joseph — Proving their claim as the largest district state group in the United States, 215 members of the Northwest Press Association and their guests enjoyed the 65th annual winter meeting at the Hotel Robidoux in St. Joseph, Jan. 21 and 22.

Snow, ice and almost impossible roads might have frightened a few away, but those who attended considered it one of the best conventions of the group.

Nevada — Five days and nights aboard an aircraft carrier is not normally considered to be a pleasure cruise, but to this writer who recently spent five days and nights aboard the USS Oriskany, it was a most enjoyable event and certainly was a pleasure to have been invited by the Navy to make the cruise. — Ben F. Weir, Publisher of *The Nevada Daily Mail and Herald*

Windsor — Open house was held at the new plant of the *Windsor Review* Jan. 14 and 15. Almost 500 townspeople and fellow newspaper publishers from over the state visited publisher James Kirkpatrick and helped him celebrate his first anniversary at Windsor.

Mexico — One hundred years ago — in 1855 — the *Mexico Ledger* became the first newspaper to be published in Audrain County. Its name then was the *Missouri Weekly Ledger*.

Louisiana — 1955 marks the 100th year of service to the Louisiana community by the *Louisiana Press-Journal*, although it has been known by several names in the past.

MISSOURI PRESS NEWS

February — 1965 —

St. Joseph — J.W. Brown Jr., publisher of the *Cass County Democrat-Missourian* at Harrisonville and former MPA president, was elected president of the Northwest Press Association at its winter meeting in St. Joseph Jan. 16.

Brown succeeds Dr. Earl F. English, dean of the School of Journalism. Featured speaker was Turner Catledge, executive editor of *The New York Times*.

Missouri’s new governor, Warren E. Hearnes of Charleston, also spoke to the editors.

Columbia — James C. Sterling, 22, a January graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, has become a full-time employee of the Missouri Press Service Inc. as assistant manager of sales and promotion.

Mexico — L. Mitchell White, 81, co-publisher and editor of the *Mexico Ledger*, was severely injured Jan. 15 when struck by a car in Miami Beach, Fla. White, who was returning from visiting a circus performance, suffered a broken left shoulder, broken ribs and a broken pelvic bone.

The veteran Missouri publisher is an authority on the circus and had gone to Miami from his winter home in Avon Park to see the circus.

Macon — Frank P. Briggs, assistant Secretary of the Interior and publisher of the *Macon Chronicle-Herald*, has announced plans for resigning his federal post around the first of March to return to Macon. O

'Newspaper nagging' cost editor's life

Gallatin editor among those killed because of their work

Over the years, four Missouri newspaper editors have been killed because of their work. Dr. William H. Taft, MPA Historian, has written sketches of the victims and the circumstances of their deaths. This is the fourth account in that series of stories.

Wesley L. Robertson of the *Gallatin Democrat* is the best known of the four Missouri editors who have been slain. For years he was considered "the" martyr. For this and for his journalistic achievements he was inducted into the Missouri Newspaper Hall of Fame in 1998.

Born in Connecticut, Robertson was educated there "by individual application and in the newspaper office."

His father died early. When he was 15 Wesley and mother moved to a Missouri farm. The next year they were in Iowa where Wesley became a printer's devil on the *Centerville Citizen*. He was with several other publications prior to becoming a partner with Robert J. Ball on the *Democrat*.

James J. Fisher, a *Kansas City Times* feature writer, wrote about Robertson in 1987 and noted, in part:

"Back then newspapers said it the way it was, mainly because there were fewer lawyers waiting to sue at the drop of a comma, and because people staggering around in public had fewer esoteric excuses that juries might believe — that their pacemaker was shorting out, that they'd taken the wrong tranquilizer, or they were suffering from jet lag. In short, the world was a simpler place. Drunk was drunk, not some substance in your nose."

The plot: For years there had been a dispute between the editor and a for-

mer city marshal, Hugh Tarwater. Joe Snyder, the authority on Gallatin history and former publisher of the *North Missourian* there, set the stage:

"Townspople who had followed the antagonism through Uncle Wes's accurate but caustic pen knew of the intense feeling between the two but none dreamed the conclusion would prove so tragic."

Tarwater filed a \$20,000 libel suit against the paper, which Robertson apparently did not take with much concern. The paper reported about Tarwater being drunk when he was then the clerk of the court. Other disputes followed.

The shooting took place in the paper's office. As Wes was taken to his home, barely conscious, he

said: "Tarwater told me not to publish or utter his name again. I told him I would run the paper to suit myself. He repeated his demands and then fired."

At 7:15 Robertson was dead.

"I want to live. There are so many things I want to do for my home, my town, my paper," he pleaded.

More than 100 newspapers commented editorially about the affair and Robertson's "untimely death."

Bob Ball, a partner on the *Democrat*,

was also hit. He walked into the office at the time of the shooting and saw Tarwater shoot, and then he turned to Ball saying "Now, damn you, I'll kill you, too." Ball reported Tarwater was in a drunken rage.

Tarwater was jailed. Snyder reported he was earlier a "strong and robust" individual but lost 85 pounds in jail. By trial time he was down to 105 pounds. He went into "an impassioned, wild tirade about his persecution by the newspaper."

The crowd was awed by this spectacle. Tarwater "gestured wildly, his eyes dilated, his nostrils were distended, the veins on his forehead and neck were swollen." His lawyers said he complained of "constant newspaper nagging," offering an insanity plea.

He was found guilty of murder in the second degree with a recommended sentence of 35 years. Tarwater suffered from Parkinson's disease, and he died in the penitentiary.○



More than 100 newspapers commented on the shooting of Wesley Robertson.

"I told him I would run the paper to suit myself. He repeated his demands and then fired."

NEED AN EXPERT NOW?

Turn to one of the nation's best universities.

<http://experts.drury.edu>

A keyword-searchable database with contact information.
or call (417) 830-3258, 24 hours a day.

DRURY UNIVERSITY

DU

Marketplace

Ads on this page are free to members of Missouri Press Association. Cost to non-members is 25¢ per word. Email your ads to kford@socket.net.

HELP WANTED

EDITOR: The Kansas City Star is seeking an assistant editor/page designer for an anticipated expansion in our Neighborhood News sections. We are seeking candidates with a couple years of professional experience, although recent graduates with strong resumes will be considered. This person will work with an experienced editor to assign and edit stories and lay out pages in our community news sections. This would be a day job but evening work should be expected up to two nights a week. This would be a permanent position with an entry-level salary of \$30K and full benefits. It offers an excellent opportunity for someone looking to grow into the role of a full community editor or other position at The Star. Send a cover letter, resume with references, and some design clips to kknowles@kcstar.com or by mail to Kris Knowles, The Star, 8455 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS 66210. 1-10

REPORTER: The Kansas City Star is seeking a reporter for an anticipated expansion in our Neighborhood News sections. We are seeking candidates with up to 15 months of professional experience, although recent graduates with strong resumes will be considered. The beat would likely include city government, features and some school coverage. The job would be mostly weekdays with some evening work. The job would be part of an entry-level community reporting program that has a three-year employment limit. Reporters who are not chosen for a permanent position within that time are not retained. The starting salary is a non-negotiable \$24,024 with benefits. Women and persons of color are encouraged to apply. Send a cover letter, resume with references, and some clips to kknowles@kcstar.com or by mail to Kris Knowles, The Star, 8455 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS 66210. 1-10

MANAGING EDITOR: The winner of the 2004 Missouri Press Association's gold cup for weeklies, The Kearney Courier, is seeking an energetic, and self-motivated person to lead this 4,500-circulation weekly as managing editor. The ideal candidate will have a passion for community journalism, good news judgment, writing and editing skills, extraordinary people skills to deal with the staff and the public, and should know what it means

to work as a key member of a team. The right candidate will also need experience with pagination in Quark or In Design and have an eye for the designed page. Photography skills are a definite plus. The Courier offers competitive salaries, excellent benefits and the opportunity to advance within the NPG Newspaper group. We prefer a bachelor's degree in English, communication, journalism or a related field. Previous work experience may be substituted. A valid driver's license and a safe driving record are required. Employment is contingent on passage of a drug screening. EEO. Resumes with clips need to be sent to the attention of: Kathy Whipple, Publisher, The Kearney Courier, P.O. Box 140, Kearney, MO 64060 or e-mail: kwhipple@kearneycourier.com. 1-6

REPORTER: The Osawatome Graphic, a 3,000-circulation weekly in Osawatome, Kan., is looking for a talented, aggressive reporter who wants to grow as a journalist. We are looking for someone who is a self-starter, is deadline-driven and is a strong, versatile writer who can handle anything from a council meeting to a feature story. Experience is preferred but not necessary — we are willing to cultivate young talent. Photography skills are a plus, and we're looking for someone with plenty of pagination experience. Promotions from within have poised us to accomplish great things. The Graphic is an award-winning newspaper that received 18 awards in the Kansas Press Association annual contest last year, including seven firsts and the award for general excellence. We are located on the southern edge of the Kansas City-metro area in a region poised for growth. We offer a competitive salary and good benefits. Our newspaper group was recently purchased by the News-Press Gazette Co., based in St. Joseph, Mo., increasing opportunities for upward mobility. Send a cover letter, resume and at least five clips showing the range of your abilities to Jennifer McDaniel, editor, Osawatome Graphic, P.O. Box 99, Osawatome, KS 66064. Or send an e-mail to jmcDaniel@graphic-online.com. (Please put your name and reporter applicant in the subject field.) Application deadline is Jan. 19. 1-6

NEWS EDITOR: The Benton County Daily Record, a fast-paced newspaper in one of the fastest-growing areas of the nation, seeks an experienced, creative News Editor to lead the copy editing and design of its news pages. The successful applicant will oversee a staff of 3 copy editors. Proven skills in editing, design, headline writing, management and the ability to handle deadline pressure are essential. Good organization skills also are important. Experience in QuarkX-

Press and Photoshop are required. If this sounds like a good fit for you, please send a cover letter, resume and relevant work samples to: Melinda Lenda, Community Publishers Inc., PO Box 1049, Bentonville AR 72712, e-mail melindal@commpub.com, or fax 479-271-3744. 1-6

CITY GOVERNMENT REPORTER: Are you an aggressive reporter prepared to cover a dynamic city government beat in the hometown of the University of Arkansas? The Northwest Arkansas Times in Fayetteville, seeks a reporter with daily newspaper experience who is enthusiastic about reporting, who is energetic about writing and who can show clips that demonstrate a commitment to daily community newspaper journalism. We want someone who is motivated to make the most of a great beat through teamwork and superior beat development. Competitive pay and benefits. Candidates with at least a year of experience may apply by sending clips and a resume to NWAT City Government Beat, Attn: Melinda Lenda, Community Publishers Inc., P.O. Box 1049, Bentonville AR 72712. 12-21

ADVERTISING SALES: If you are integrity-oriented, serious about customer service, care about solving problems for your clients, self-motivated, desire to be compensated for a job well-done, you may be a candidate for an advertising sales position. We pride ourselves in being a customer-first company. We put the needs of our clients before our needs, and we work hard to always do what we say we will do. We are looking for an advertising sales representative who will assist local businesses with their advertising needs. If you are detail-oriented, creative, trustworthy and a consistent achiever, please send resume to Human Resources, Community Publishers, Inc., PO Box 330, Bolivar, MO 65613. Email janiet@cpimo.com or Fax to 417-326-8701. EOE. 12-21

ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR: Missouri Press Association in Columbia seeks to hire an assistant to its executive director. Newspaper background a must. Work in ad sales and placement, governmental relations, and other facets of the association, representing MPA's 300 member newspapers. Applicant must be a self-starter, have strong communications and computer skills. Complete job description available upon request. Benefits package offered. Send resume, including salary expectations, to: dcrews@socket.net. Job opening available until filled

PUBLISHER WANTED: Opportunity for individual with strong advertising background and management skills to head up this six-day daily newspaper in El Dorado, Kansas. As publisher your re-

sponsibilities will include all facets of the business. Knowledge of web press plant operations helpful. Excellent compensation package includes base plus quarterly performance bonus, available health and life insurance, 401K and Flex spending plans. Apply to Richard (Chip) Watson, Regional Manager, cwatson@bignickel.com

EDITOR: The Marthasville Record, a weekly newspaper in Warren County, is looking for an experienced newspaper person to fill the position of editor. We are a 2,300 paid circulation newspaper in a rapidly growing area about 50 miles from downtown St. Louis. This challenging position will involve managing our office in Marthasville and covering various beats in that community and throughout Warren County including Warrenton, the county seat. Good pay and great benefits. Please send your resume, qualifications and clips to Bill Miller Jr., publisher, at P.O. Box 77, Marthasville, MO, 63357. 12-13

REPORTER: The Examiner, and award-winning suburban Kansas City daily based in Independence, Mo., has an opening for hard-working, community-minded reporter. Must have journalism degree or equivalent. Send resume and clips to Exec. Editor Dale Brendel by email at dale.brendel@examiner.net, or mail to 410 S. Liberty, Independence, MO 64050. 12-7

EDITOR: Campbell Publications is seeking a hard-hitting regional editor to capitalize on the natural assets of the five western Illinois counties we serve. We boast two major rivers, outdoor recreation, agriculture, prime destination hunting, high school athletic traditions and communities with hometown pride, all within an hour of metro St. Louis. We're looking for a journalism professional with at least two years of experience, someone with a heart for the adventure and mission of weekly newspapers. Qualifications for this job include copy editing and page layout experience; familiarity with InDesign is a plus. We produce six award-winning community newspapers with a combined readership of 75,000. To apply, send resume, cover letter and clips to Julie Boren, Publisher, P.O. Box 70, Pittsfield, IL 62363. 12-3

EDITOR/REPORTER: Osage Valley Publishing in central Missouri near beautiful Truman Lake and Lake of the Ozarks has an immediate opening for a reporter/editor. Candidates should be energetic with the ability to lead. Heavy writing, page layout, photography experience preferred. Send cover letter, resume, samples and references to Publisher Jamie Krier, Osage Valley Publishing, PO Box 23, Windsor, MO 65360. 11-22

EDITOR: One of the midwest's finest suburban newspapers located in Kansas City is looking for a Editor. Must be able to provide strong leadership, focus on local news coverage, for each of our 5 weeklies. Send Resume to: Roy Biondi, C/O Sun Publications, 7373 W. 107th St., Overland Park, KS 66212; or email resume to: rbiondi@sunpublications.com. 11-22

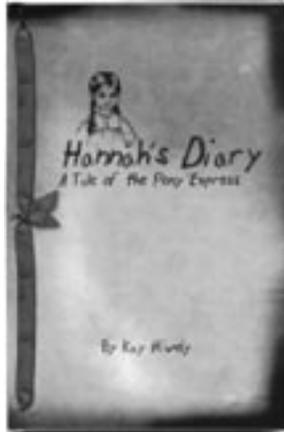
CLASSIFIED MANAGER: One of the midwest's finest suburban newspapers located in Kansas City area is looking for a Classified Sales Manager. Prefer metro market experience and management experience. Attractive salary and bonus potential. Send Resume to: Roy Biondi, C/O Sun Publications, 7373 W. 107th St., Overland Park, KS 66212; or email resume to: rbiondi@sunpublications.com. 11-22

EDITOR: The Fort Scott Tribune is seeking a Lifestyle/Associate Editor to join our newsroom staff. The successful candidate will be responsible for covering lifestyle, religion and senior citizen beats for our newspaper, which publishes six days a week Monday through Saturday. The successful candidate also will be responsible for layout and design of our daily lifestyles

page, and weekly senior and religion pages. The successful candidate also will work as a back-up desk editor. The position requires attention to detail, dealing with walk-in customers and a knowledge of newsroom software like QuarkXpress, PhotoShop and Microsoft word. The candidate should have a bachelor's degree in journalism or English, or equivalent work related experiences. Salary, depending on experience, begins in the low 20s. Please send a cover letter, resume, and samples of layout and design work to the managing editor, P.O. Box 150, Fort Scott, KS, 66701. 1-25

FOR SALE

PRINTING EQUIPMENT: Complete press operation for broadsheet, tabs, pony tabs and directories: Five-unit Harris/Cottrell Vanguard 15 H.P. web press, image setter, camera, plate processor, plate burner, three knife trimmer and two head stitcher. Contact George Pogue, McDonald County Press, P.O.Box 266 - Highway 71, Pineville, MO 64856. Phone 417-223-4377. E-mail: gpogue@nwaonline.net. 1-20



Get Yours Before They're Gone!

'Hannah's Diary,' the story about the Pony Express published by Missouri newspapers, now is available in book format with a hard cover.

Copies of the book cost \$12, plus \$2 shipping. \$5 from the sale of every book will go to Missouri Press Foundation.

Only 485 copies of this wonderful children's story are available. Order yours today. They will make great gifts for the young people in your family.

Missouri Newspaper Organizations

NORTHWEST MISSOURI PRESS ASSOCIATION: President, Jamey Honeycutt, Cameron; First Vice President, Steve Tinnen, Plattsburg; Second Vice President, Leslie Speckman, Savannah; Secretary, Kathy Conger, Bethany; Treasurer, Chris Boultinghouse, Mound City. Directors: Dennis Ellsworth, St. Joseph; Kathy Whipple, Kearney; Becky Sellars, Smithville; Chuck Haney, Chillicothe; W.C. Farmer, Rock Port; Wendell Lenhart, Trenton; Tim Larson, Maryville; Kay Wilson, Maryville.

SHOW-ME PRESS ASSOCIATION: President, Charlie Fischer, Sedalia; First Vice President, Jeff Hedberg, Centralia; Second Vice President, Gary Beissenherz, Concordia; Secretary-Treasurer, Sandy Steckly, Harrisonville. Directors: Jack Whitaker, Hannibal; Rob Viehman, Cuba; John Spaar, Odessa; Dick Fredrick, Paris.

OZARK PRESS ASSOCIATION: President, Fred Hall, Crane; Vice President, Jeff Schrag, Springfield; Secretary-Treasurer, Rosemary Henderson, Mount Vernon. Directors: Dala Whitaker, Cabool; Brad Gentry, Houston; Roger Dillon, Eminence; Dan Wehmer, Seymour; Kimball Long, El Dorado Springs. Past President: Keith Moore, Ava.

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI PRESS ASSOCIATION: President, Barbie Rogers, Doniphan; First Vice President, Diane McClain, Kennett; Second Vice President, Laura Johnston, Cape Girardeau; Secretary-Treasurer, Michelle Friedrich, Poplar Bluff; Historian, Mrs. Mildred Wallhausen, Charleston; Executive Secretary, Ann Hayes, Southeast Missouri State University. Directors: Kim Million-Gipson, Piedmont; Peggy Scott, Festus; Judy Schaaf, Ironton; Kate Martin, Perryville; H. Scott Seal, Portageville.

DEMOCRATIC EDITORS OF MISSOURI: President, Richard Fredrick, Paris; First Vice President, Bob Cunningham, Moberly; Secretary, Beth McPherson, Weston; Treasurer, Linda Geist, Monroe City.

MISSOURI CIRCULATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION: President, Jim Kennedy, Bolivar; First Vice President, Brenda Carney, Harrisonville; Second Vice President, Jack Kaminsky, Joplin; Secretary, David Pine, Kansas City; Treasurer, Doug Crews, Columbia. Directors: Ken Carpenter, Kansas City; Rob Siebeneck, Jefferson City.

MISSOURI ADVERTISING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION: President, Beth Durreman, Lebanon; First Vice President, Kevin Jones, St. Louis; Second Vice President, Jane Haberberger, Washington; Secretary, Steve Hutchings, Gainesville; Treasurer, Doug Crews, Columbia. Directors: Debbie Chapman, Marshfield; Trevor Vernon, Eldon; Phil Surratt, Branson; Lisa Lynn, Sedalia; Mike Vivion, Jefferson City.

MISSOURI ASSOCIATED DAILIES: President, Joe May, Mexico; Vice President, Ben Weir, Jr., Independence; Secretary, Shelly Arth, Marshall; Treasurer, Doug Crews, Columbia; Past President, Larry Freels, Kirksville. Directors: Jack Whitaker, Hannibal; Arnie Robbins, St. Louis; Charlie Fischer, Sedalia; Don Wyatt, Springfield; Dan Potter, Columbia; Randy Cope, Neosho.

MISSOURI AFFILIATE, NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PRESS WOMEN: President, Karen Glines, Des Peres; Vice President, Holly Berthold, Eureka; Finance Director, Karen Zarky, St. Louis; Co-Secretaries, Peggy Koch, Barnhart, and Kathie Sutin, St. Louis; Committee Chairs: Alice Handelman, Village of Westwood, Publicity; Christy James, Richmond Heights, Membership; Gina Kutsch, St. Charles, Newsletter; Dee Raby, Granite City, Ill., Archivist; Pamela Walter, Clayton, Meetings; At Large Board: June Becht, St. Louis; Anne Heinrich, St. Louis; and Elly Wright, Kirkwood. Past President: Janice Denham, St. Louis.

MISSOURI PRESS SERVICE: President, Dave Berry, Bolivar; Vice President, Dane Vernon, Eldon; Secretary-Treasurer, Wendell Lenhart, Trenton; Directors: William L. Miller, Sr., Washington; Robert Wilson, Milan.

MISSOURI PRESS FOUNDATION, INC.: President, Tom Miller, Washington; First Vice President, David Lipman, St. Louis; Second Vice President, Mrs. Betty Spaar, Odessa; Secretary-Treasurer, Doug Crews, Columbia. Directors: R.B. Smith III, Lebanon; Wallace Vernon, Eldon; Rogers Hewitt, Shelbyville; James Sterling, Bolivar; Mrs. Wanda Brown, Harrisonville; Mrs. Avis Tucker, Warrensburg; Edward Steele, Columbia; Robert Wilson, Milan; Ralph Clayton, Caruthersville; Mrs. Jo Anne Bray, Camdenton; Kirk Powell, Pleasant Hill.

MISSOURI AP PUBLISHERS AND EDITORS: Chairman, Charlie Fisher, Sedalia. **Missouri AP Managing Editors:** Chairman, Oliver Wiest, Sedalia; Past Chairman, Dennis Ellsworth, St. Joseph.

MISSOURI SOCIETY OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS: President, Buck Collier, St. Louis; First Vice President, Buzz Ball, Neosho; Second Vice President, Cathy Ripley, Chillicothe; Secretary-Treasurer, Doug Crews, Columbia. Directors: Chris Wrinkle, Lebanon; Dennis Ellsworth, St. Joseph; Dale Brendel, Independence; Diane Raynes, Trenton, and Greg Orear, Brookfield.

MISSOURI COLLEGE MEDIA ASSOCIATION: Dana Fecho-Al Hilali, Central Missouri State University; Vice President, Brad Shelton, Longview Community College; Secretary, Dee Dee Nilsen, Southwest Missouri State University; Adviser, Charles Fair, Central Missouri State University; MPA Liaison, Pat Sparks, Longview Community College.

CALENDAR

February

- 4-6 — Become a More Effective Editor Workshop, St. Louis
- 9 — API Business Journalism Workshop in Kansas City, UMKC
- 17 — MPA / AP Day at the Capitol, lunch in the Governor's Mansion

March

- 3-4 — Missouri Association of Publications Publishing Summit, Memorial Union, UMC
- 9-12 — NNA Government Affairs Conference, Wyndham Washington
- 13-19 — Sunshine Week nationwide campaign for government openness
- 31-April 1 — Missouri Society of Newspaper Editors / AP Managing Editors meeting, Big Cedar Lodge, Branson

April

- 1-2 — SPJ Region 7 Conference, Springfield
- 14-15 — Missouri Advertising Managers' Association meeting, Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet, St. Louis
- 15 — Southeast Missouri Press Association meeting

May

- 5 — Past Presidents and Spouses Dinner, Governor's Mansion

June

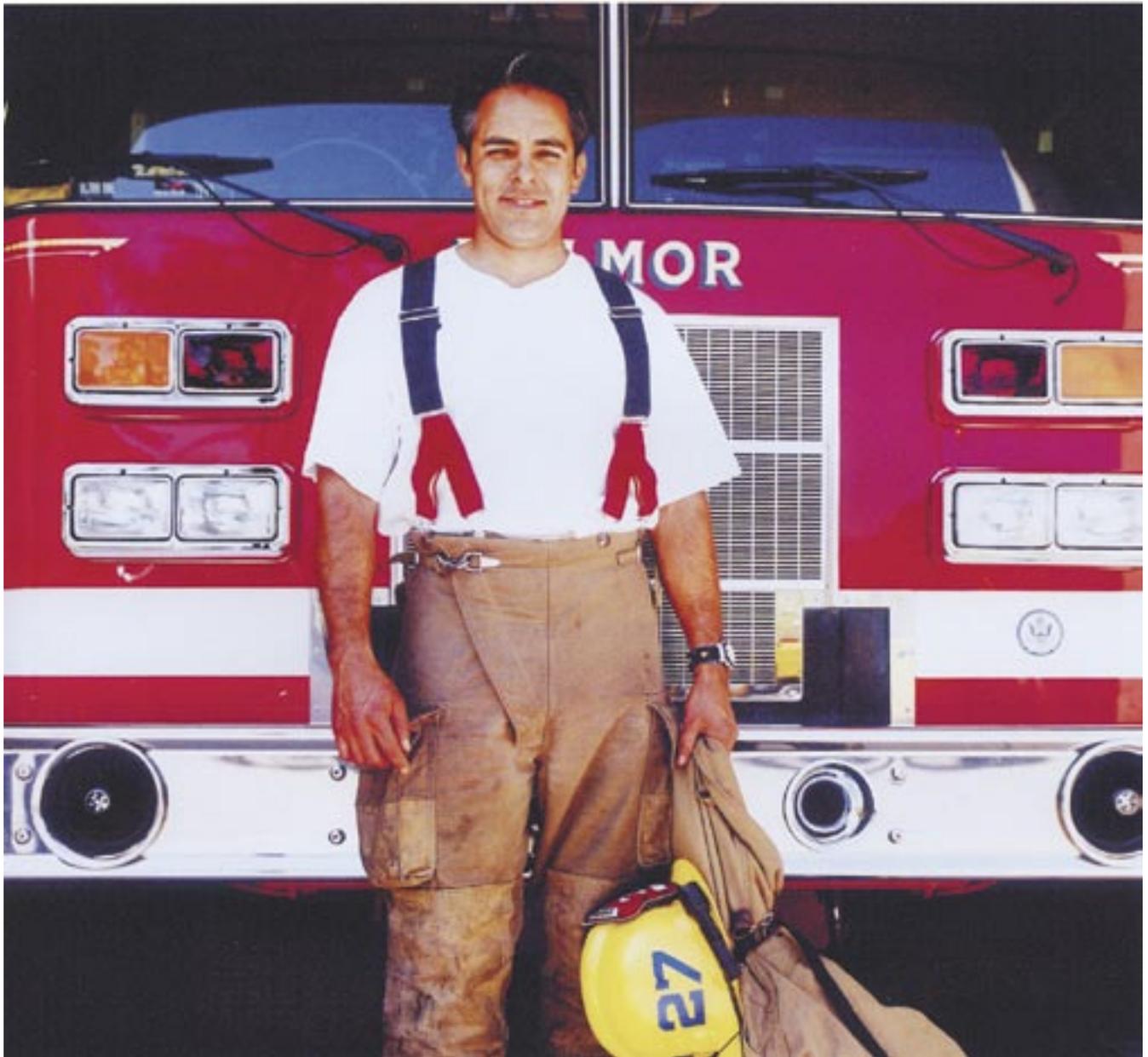
- 22-24 — Central States NIE Conference, Catoosa, Okla.
- 24-26 — Show-Me Press, Holiday Inn, Lake Ozark

July

- 20-22 — Living Textbook NIE course, University of Missouri, Columbia

September

- 22-24 — 139th Annual MPA Convention & Trade Show, The Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark
- 28-Oct. 1 — NNA Convention, Milwaukee



Firefighters are part of our electric co-op.



Missouri's Electric Cooperatives

Touchstone Energy®

