# NEWS

# **Reynolds Receives**

2015 Dee Hamilton Award

**P7 Nominate** for Top MPA **Awards** 

P15 Editorial: **Officals Play** "Hide the Records"

P16 Missouri **Road Trip Partnership** 



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# MPA, NNA fighting for newspapers, public

Goal: restore postal delivery standards, stop ad tax, strengthen FOIA

he U.S. Postal Service has said it plans to close regional processing centers in Cape Girardeau on April 4 and Springfield on July 10.

Columbia, it appears, is safe for another season. But it doesn't require a crystal ball to see the service, and its customers, are not out of the woods.

A host of issues, including advancing digital technology and the \$5.5 billion annual prepay requirement on postal pensions, suggest further reduction of services in the future.

That issue and two others — ending the 100-percent deductibility of advertising outlays and strengthening the federal Freedom of Information Act — filled the agenda of National Newspaper Association members who gathered last month in Washington, D.C.

On March 19, your Missouri delegation — me, Doug Crews, Bill Miller Sr. and Tianna Brooks — met on Capitol Hill with U.S. Sens. Claire McCaskill and Roy Blunt, Congressman Jason Smith of the Eighth District, and staff members with congressional representatives Vicky Hartzler of the Fourth District, Sam Graves of the Sixth District, and Blaine Leutkemeyer of the Third District. Those were all the meetings we could pack in between 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The postal service issues are stubborn, and Congress seems unable to reach a compromise.

n behalf of the NNA, we asked our representatives to support a House resolution that would restore service standards in effect on July 1, 2012. Rules in effect after that



date relax delivery standards on most classes of mail and disrupt the timely delivery of periodicals. In a question and answer session with Postmaster General Megan Brennan, Bill Miller Sr. and others stressed the serious problems the new delivery standards present to community newspapers.

eanwhile, tax-writing committees in Congress have suggested the 100-percent deductibility of advertising buys by businesses might be in danger.

In one scenario addressed by the NNA, half of ad expenditures would be immediately deductible and the other 50 percent would be deductible in increments over 10 years.

NNA estimates the costs to businesses of those expenditures would increase by 30 percent — a serious threat to not only newspaper revenues, but also to businesses and the communities where they're located.

Jim Davidson, a longtime = D.C. consultant from Mis-

souri who accompanied us to Capitol Hill, is perhaps the foremost expert on

the issue. He's working diligently to stop the advertising tax in its tracks.

he third NNA issue, and one that I and others continue to work on at the state level, is the Freedom of Information Act. Bills in the U.S. Senate and House would strengthen the act by requiring a mediation service to sort out problems with federal agencies over access to documents and data. The legislation requires agencies to consider all records open unless their release would lead to certain specific harms.

Access to documents and data at all levels of government and the cost of obtaining them are growing prob-

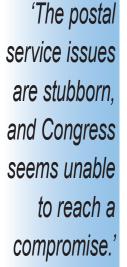
lems that affect not only reporters but the public in general. Unfortunately, the public in most cases is unaware or doesn't care.

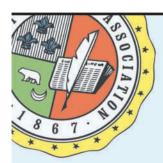
The Missouri Sunshine Coalition and others are working to educate Missourians about their right to access.

Your newspapers can help by requesting and writing about documents your city and county governments and school boards retain, including when you have difficulty obtaining those documents.

If you need information about the Missouri Open Meetings and Records law, contact MSC

at www.missourisunshine.org and follow the coalition on Facebook.





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NNA REPRESENTATIVE: Tianna Brooks,

Mountain View Standard News

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# Reynolds receives Dee Hamilton Award

Cheryl Reynolds was the recipient of the 2015 Dee Hamilton Sales Pro Award presented March 12 during the Missouri Advertising Managers' Association annual meeting in Lake Ozark. Ryan Squibb, publisher, and the staff at the *Lawrence County Record* nominated Reynolds for the award.

Reynolds began working at the *Lawrence County Record* in 1992 and, for 23 years, managed the advertising department.

Her nomination read, in part: "She is valued by the community and is loved by the clients she calls friends. Her role at the *Record* was diminished greatly when she was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer in the fall of 2014. Through her current fight with cancer in three different places in her body, she continues to be a positive example and a valued friend to the staff."

Criteria for the award include serving in advertising 10 years or more and having excellent management/sales skills.



Cheryl Reynolds and Ryan Squibb



# NFOIC, SPJ combine war chests to fight for Freedom of Information

The Society of Professional Journalists and the National Freedom of Information Coalition are joining forces - and legal war chests - to help citizens and journalists fight for public records.

The two groups will band together to help litigants who sue for access to government information. The NFOIC can provide court fees and SPJ help for attorney fees. Both organizations also will use their combined national networks of journalists and citizens to apply public pressure to government agencies that flaunt the law.

As part of the partnership approved during national Sunshine Week, SPJ and NFOIC will:

- Have staff and volunteers from both organizations solicit applications and monitor public record battles at the state and federal levels for worthy cases.

- Give priority to cases that a) have a strong legal basis, b) have the ability to establish good case law, and c) will help





citizens and journalists, regardless of the profession or standing of the plaintiff.

- Write or join amicus curiae briefs and/ or intervene in cases where appropriate.
- Coordinate publicity and advocacy.
- Solicit other partners, when merited, such as state coalitions and other national access organizations.

The SPJ Legal Defense Fund was created in 1972 to fight for the First Amendment, primarily for public records and open meetings. Litigants apply for funds and the applications are considered by a six-member committee, aided by SPJ's attorney. The committee can provide grants

of up to \$5,000, and larger amounts are considered by the SPJ Board of Directors. The fund has about \$75,000 available, and is replenished by donations, interest and an annual auction.

In 2014 the SPJ Board approved the creation of an endowed advocacy fund that can also be used for litigation. The endowment currently generates about \$4,000 annually.

The Knight FOI Fund was created by NFOIC in 2010 through a grant from the Knight Foundation to help litigants fight for open government. The fund pays for court costs, filing fees, depositions and related expenses, typically \$2,000-\$3,000 per case. The fund, currently at \$444,000, does not pay for attorney fees, nor dictate what attorney is used in the case. The fund stipulates that if the grantee wins and receives an award then they must repay NFOIC. A Litigation Committee decides the merits of applications.

# Oldfields, longtime publishers, poured lives into newspapers

Steve and Linda Oldfield, former owners of the Adrian Journal and Drexel Star recently sold the newspapers. The publications have been combined into The Messenger. The following is an excerpt from a letter by Linda to readers of the two newspapers.

Dear Reader,

This is a bittersweet letter to write. I have sold the *Adrian Journal*, but I'm happy to tell you the newspaper will continue, but it will be under new ownership, and will be called *The Messenger*.

I know many of you were surprised at the news, wondering what prompted this change. It was not decided lightly, but after much thought, prayer, and yes even tears, it's fair to say this has been one of the most difficult decisions of my life.

Allow me to review the past a little bit. Major changes are never easy, but sometimes when we put everything into perspective, things make a little more sense.

On Jan. 10, 1889, a family by the name of Dowell printed the very first issue of the *Adrian Journal*. 2015 marked the Journal's 126th continuously-running year, a remarkable length of time for any newspaper, in a community of any size.

When Bob Gunn (my father) was in high school, he started working for the newspaper, and then, after a time in the service, bought it in 1956. I was very young at the time. You could say I've been in the newspaper business since I was two.

It was quite a bit different then. My parents worked long hours, so the *Journal* was literally my second home... Up until 1968 we ran our own press, and it was massive. I was taught to run it when I was in 8th grade, and it was very time con-

suming, feeding that machine page by page. When I think back to those days, I think of the smell of ink, reams of paper, the miles and miles of negative rolls my dad used to process. But I loved it, and it was something I thought I wanted to keep doing

When my husband, Steve, was laid off from his job in 1982, he started hanging around the *Journal*. He spent so much time there that my dad finally told him he was tired of looking at him, and if he was going to hang around so much he might as well go to work. He gave Steve a dollar figure of how much business (advertising) he needed to bring in to earn his keep, so that's how he got started. He loved it... Steve and I purchased the *Journal* from my parents in 1994.

In 2003, Bob and Lila Gunn were inducted into the Missouri Press Hall of Fame. Steve and I were given that same honor in 2012. Steve also served as president of the Missouri Press Association in 2006.

My family has been very supportive throughout the years to this publication and to Steve and me, whether it was making deliveries, taking pictures, helping with the mailing, or any other odd jobs that might have needed to be done.

The Adrian community has been amazing in their support of my parents, and of me and Steve. When Steve had his stroke, people in the community, surrounding communities, and our Missouri Press family were very supportive, and because of this, I was able to continue the business. But times have changed, and, without Steve's help, it was becoming more and more difficult for me. Beyond the pressure I was under, I felt I wasn't

giving to the community what they deserve

Since his illness, though, we have been doing the best we could. I have had the support of my mom, Lila, who is at work every day. Without her, I could not have continued. Also Michele Burris, who came to work for me six years ago, told me that I would be getting two for the price of one, as her husband Mike would help in any way that he could. The two of them have made it possible for me to take care of the business part while they were out covering meetings, sports events, and anything else that I asked them to do... Sharon Kiesel also was an important contributor to the Journal, writing for several years on a freelance basis anything from human interest stories to covering different meet-

So yes, the decision to sell my family's business was very difficult. The years have been good ones; our readers have been so kind to us.

If it had meant the end of *The Adrian Journal*, I don't think I could bear it. It is comforting to know that *The Messenger* will be a continuation of *The Adrian Journal*, not a replacement. *The Messenger* doesn't have to start at year one, because it is the same newspaper that was formed in Adrian in 1889, and I will continue to work in the same offices I always have.

The fact that the burden of ownership is now off of my shoulders is in many aspects a relief to me...

It is of some satisfaction to me, and some pride, that this new venture will build on our life's work...

Thank you, thank you for your support and understanding.

Linda Oldfield



#### Missouri Advertising Managers' Association

Members of the Missouri Advertising Managers' Association Board of Directors met March 12 during the annual MAMA meeting at Camden on the Lake Resort in Lake Ozark. The board elected new officers. Attending were, from left, Director Jacob Warden, Owensville; Past President Jeanine York, Washington; Second Vice President Les Borgmeyer, Columbia; Director James White, Warsaw; First Vice President, Adam Letterman, Ozark; Director Curtis Simmons, Eldon; and President, Mark Maassen, Kansas City; not pictured, Secretary Suzie Wilson, Milan; Treasurer, Kristie Williams, Columbia. (photo by Dennis Warden)

28th Annual



Seminar

# Rules of Engagement:

Journalists, Police and the Daze of Disorder

of Insurance CF Available

First Amendment Implications of Ferguson and Its Aftermath

Friday April 17, 2015 | 8:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

InterContinental Hotel at the Plaza | Kansas City, Missouri

#### Featuring:

The First Amendment in the Crossfire Protecting Journalists and Free Speech when Police and Protesters Collide

You Watch Us, We Watch You Assessing the Effects of Emerging Surveillance

**Running the Newsgathering Gauntlet** Navigating Government Obstacles and Demands for Information

Scene on the Street Avoiding Intellectual Property Pitfalls when **Documenting Civil Unrest** 

Rush to Judgment Breaking Big News about a Crisis without all the Facts

#### **Bonus Session:**

Thursday, April 16 | 4 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Risk Mitigation for a Newsroom in Crisis harm's way through disaster planning and insurance

onsors - The Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association Media Law Committee; University of Kansas School of Law

Contributors - AXIS Insurance; CNA; Larry Worrall; Landon Rowland, Lead Bank; Lathrop & Gage LLP; OneBeacon Professional Insurance; Katten Muchin Ronseman LLP; Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz LLP; Holland & Knight LLP; and the Media, Privacy and Advertising Law Committee of the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section of the ABA

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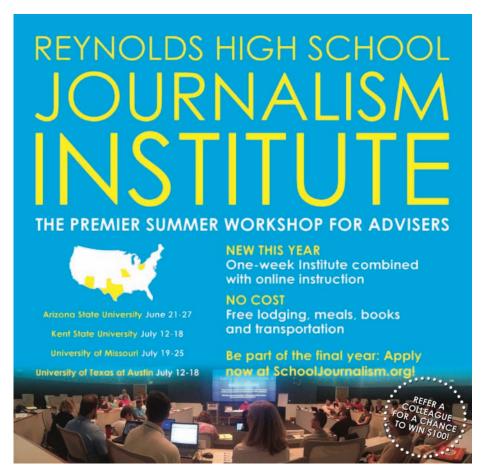
# A *Missourian* first: 3D photographs

The *Columbia Missourian* online edition recently published a set of 3D portraits in cooperation with the MU3D project.

Missourian photographer Mike Krebs took the images with a Structure 3D Scanner. The reader can look at the portraits, rotate them, spin them and even flip them.

MU3D is a Mizzou Advantage project that is exploring the possibilities of 3D imaging for journalism. The project is led by Clyde H. Bentley, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Print & Digital News

The Structure is a small unit that sits atop an iPad. The photographer walks around the subject to scan it. *Missourian* Photo Editor Brian Kratzer organized the latest shoot during Columbia's True/False Film Festival. View some of those images online: www.columbiamissourian.com/a/185991/missourian-uses-scanner-to-explore-all-angles-of-the-news/





## Visit Face of Missouri exhibit

Fifty-five years after its publication by the University Press, The Face of Missouri by Elio Lee Battaglia remains intriguing and defining of midwest life.

Visit the McDougall Gallery to see these wonderful photographs and listen to a video interview with Mr. Battaglia about his approach to photography and his remarkable career.

Exhibit runs through April 7 in the McDougall Center Gallery, 7th and Elm streets, Lee Hills Hall in Columbia. The gallery is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.



# Nominations sought for top MPA awards

Nominations are being taken now for three of the top awards of the Missouri Press Association and Foundation:

- Missouri Newspaper Hall of Fame
- Mo. Photojournalism Hall of Fame
- Outstanding Young Journalist

Nominations for all three of the 2015 awards must be in the MPA office by April 30. Nomination forms are at mopress.com/current\_forms.php, or you can contact the MPA office and forms can be faxed or emailed to you (bejones@socket.net, 573.449.4167).

Each of the nomination forms includes the criteria for selection.

At the September MPA Convention in Columbia, Newspaper Hall of Fame honorees will be inducted and Outstanding Young Journalist award winners -- one from a weekly and one from a daily -- will be recognized and receive their cash awards. Photojournalism Hall of Fame honorees will be inducted in a ceremony this fall.

Anyone is welcome to nominate people for these honors. Provide as much documentation as you can and any letters of support from others in the newspaper industry or other friends and associates.



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# Friends of Arrow Rock reach matching goal for restorations

The Jeffris Family Foundation has notified the Friends of Arrow Rock (FAR) that it has met the requirements of a \$230,000 challenge grant for historic preservation.

The funds will be used for major restorations on four historic buildings in the heart of Arrow Rock: the Sites House, the Sites Gunsmith Shop, the Masonic Lodge and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge.

Plans for the second floor of the Masonic Lodge call for it being converted into a conference room with audiovisual equipment and kitchen facilities. Across Main Street, the Odd Fellows Lodge is the home of the Missouri Press Foundation's Print Shop Museum, as well as an IOOF assembly room authentically furnished to the period of the late 1800s.

Thanks to the generous support of its donors, the Friends of Arrow Rock surpassed the local matching goal of \$460,000 in order to qualify for the challenge grant. Major contributors to the local match were the Taylor & Patti Abernathy Trust, Bank of America, Trustee: Huston Bell; the Bray Family Foundation; the Buckner Foundation; Charles and Kathy Digges; the Martin L. Foltz Foundation, Wood & Huston Bank, Trustee; the Allen P. and Josephine B. Green Foundation; John Irvin; the William T. Kemper Foundation, Commerce Bank, Trustee; the Miller-Mellor Association; the Missouri Press Foundation; the Grand Lodge of Missouri, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; the Ed Steele Fund: and the Sunderland Founda-

"We are very grateful for the gifts we have received for this effort and especially to the Jeffris Family Foundation, which has been a catalyst for the whole effort," said Thomas Hall, president of the Friends of Arrow Rock.

The Jeffris Family Foundation was founded in 1979 by Bruce Jeffris, former chairman of the board of the Parker Pen Co., his wife, Eleanor, and their son Tom, who now serves as its



The Odd Fellows Lodge in Arrow Rock serves as the home of the Missouri Press print shop museum.

president. Based in Janesville, Wis., the Jeffris Family Foundation focuses its funding on preserving buildings of national and regional significance in small towns and cities in eight Midwestern states.

To learn more about the Friends of Arrow Rock and to see pictures of the buildings that will be renovated with this grant, visit www.FriendsofArrow-Rock.org.

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# ON THE MOVE

• Higginsville — Kay Hoflander of Higginsville recently was appointed

to serve on the Mis-Republican souri Partv Executive Committee. Hoflander is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism and has worked as a report-



er for *The Examiner* in Independence and Blue Springs and as a rural correspondent for The Kansas City Star. She also has owned and operated a weekly advertising shopper.

• St. Louis — Liz Irwin has been named publisher of Missouri Lawyers

Media, Since 2011. Irwin had served as the publisher of several other publications within The Dolan Co., Missouri Media's Lawyers parent company. She is a native of



Jefferson County, earned a degree in journalism in 1981 from the University of Missouri, and spent approximately 15 years on the editorial side of the news industry before moving to advertising. Her prior positions include positions with The Charlotte (North Carolina) Observer. The Kansas City Star and the Lexington (Kentucky) Herald-Leader. She succeeds S. Richard Gard Jr., who served as publisher since October 2005 and has moved to Chicago.

• St. Louis — Eric Dundon recently became managing editor at the Han-

nibal Courier-Post after the retirement of long-time editor Mary Lou Montgomery. Senior Group Publisher Mike Murphy appointed Dundon to the position. Dundon previously



served as editorial content manager

for the Lake Sun in the Lake of the Ozarks region. He is a 2011 graduate of the University of Missouri.

 Camdenton — Mike Losch has joined the Lake Sun as sports reporter and editor. He is a native of Independence and a 2014 graduate of the University of Missouri.



• Rich Hill — Kelly Key has joined the staff at the Rich Hill Mining Review as a reporter. She is new to the newspa-

per business, but has family connections to the area. Publisher Michael Crawford said Key has a strong work history, knowledge and writing ability.

• Hermitage — Jake Brauch is the latest addition to the staff at The Index

in Hermitage. He will be serving as a general assignment reporter. Previously, he worked for Lucas Cattle Co., but said he has always wanted to write. In other staff moves,



sports reporter Charley Dryer has assumed editorial duties and Bryanna Reynolds is now office assistant.

### **Barrett elected NAA director**

Donna Barrett, president and CEO of Community Newspaper Holdings Inc. and owner of the Joplin Globe, has been elected as the Newspaper Association of America's next chair-

The gavel passed to Barrett by last vear's chairman. Robert J. Dickev. March 17 during NAA mediaXchange 2015 in Nashville, Tenn. Dickey, the president of Gannett Company Inc.'s U.S. Community Publishing, will continue to serve on the NAA Board of Directors as immediate past chairman.

Barrett assumed her role as president and chief executive officer of Community Newspaper Holdings Inc. in January 2006. Previously she held the position of senior vice president and chief operating officer. In addition to her duties at CNHI, Donna is active in the newspaper industry and serves on the boards of directors of the Southern Newspaper Publishers

Association. Associated Press and the American Press Institute.

Other NAA officers elected were: Stephen Hills. president and general manager of the Washington Post.



vice chairman; Tony Hunter, president and CEO of Chicago Tribune Media Group, secretary; and Michael J. Klingensmith, publisher and CEO of Star Tribune, treasurer.

Elected to initial two-year terms on the NAA Board of Directors were Mark Contreras, CEO, Calkins Media; Michael Christman, President and CEO, Fort Wayne Newspapers; Gordon McLeod, Publisher, Newsday Media Group; and Laura Hollingsworth, President and Publisher, The Tennessean.

#### MPA HAS PARTNERED WITH DIRXION to produce e-Editions for the bulletin and magazine.

Based in St. Louis, Dirxion is a leading provider of digital publishing solutions that transform your print into identical digital editions and enhance it with interactivity. Several Missouri newspapers already use Dirxion to produce their e-Editions.

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## OBITUARIES



St. Louis

#### Verna Smith

Verna Smith, 95, of Torrance, Calif., formerly of St. Louis, died Feb.

12, 2015 from complications following hip surgery. She was a journalist who became a popular teacher at Ritenour Junior High School. She lobbied Congress to raise money for educational



research, both locally and nationally. She was an Olympic torch bearer in 1996 as the torch traveled through St. Louis on its way to the Olympics in Atlanta. She was a co-founder of the St. Louis chapter of Theta Sigma Phi, a professional organization for female journalists that later was renamed Women in Communications. She earned a degree in journalism from the University of Montana, was coordinator for Media Archives at the St. Louis Public Library and, in 2006, she was honored by the National Federation of Press Women for lifetime achievement. She is survived by three sons, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

#### Kirkwood

#### Charles 'Jack' Prince

Charles "Jack" Prince, 86, of Kirk-wood died Feb. 11, 2015. He was a

1952 graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism. He worked at D'Arcy Advertising Co., where he progressed from the media department to president of the New York office and



president of the Canadian office in Toronto, retiring in 1984. He taught at the University of Missouri School of Journalism and owned and operated the Clubhouse Golf Store. He is survived by his wife, a brother, three children and eight grandchildren.

Big Horn, Wyo.

#### Joseph 'Jay' Pulitzer IV

By Michael D. Sorkin, St. Louis Post-Dispatch
Joseph Pulitzer IV, once an heir to
the Pulitzer newspaper empire, died
March 19 at a hospital in Berkeley,
Calif. He was 65. He had a heart attack, a family spokesman said.

Mr. Pulitzer called himself "Joe Four" but was widely known as "Jay." He was the great-grandson of Joseph Pulitzer, who founded the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* in 1878. He was the only child of Joseph Pulitzer Jr. (actually the third Joseph Pulitzer), the principal owner of Pulitzer Publishing.

Jay Pulitzer had been groomed to take over the family business, but that did not happen.

For years, he made the rounds at the newspaper, starting as a reporter and later as a correspondent in the state capital and Washington bureaus. He was a night city editor and finally a corporate vice president.

He seemed happiest when the Grateful Dead came to town and he reviewed the band for the paper.

He was proud of the Pulitzer name. When his son, Joseph Pulitzer V, was born in 1983, Mr. Pulitzer announced the news in a four-paragraph story in the *Post-Dispatch*. "It's tradition, whenever a new Joseph Pulitzer is born," he said. ...

Unlike his father, Mr. Pulitzer lived

modestly. His usual uniform was corduroy pants and mismatched shirts and ties.

As a member of the employees union the Newspaper Guild, Mr. Pulitzer took part in a strike in 1978 against the Post-Dispatch and



photo: St. Louis Post-Dispatch

helped put out a strike paper.

At the newspaper, Mr. Pulitzer's power as a top executive was limited — he was in charge of facilities inside the newspaper and the security guards in and around the building.

After his father died in 1993, Jay Pulitzer's uncle, Michael Pulitzer, took over as head of the company. Majority control of the stock eventually went to his stepmother, Emily Pulitzer.

The controlling family members forced Jay Pulitzer out of the company two years after his father's death.

With his newspaper career at an end, Mr. Pulitzer retired to Big Horn, Wyo.

In 2005, the Pulitzer family sold the *Post-Dispatch* and the rest of the newspaper chain to Lee Enterprises of Davenport, Iowa.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia Turner of Big Horn; and four children.



Individuals join the Society of 1867 with their donations and pledges.

Newspapers join the Page Builders by pledging advertising space.

Join the Society of 1867 or Page Builders, or both, and pledge
your support of Missouri newspapers.

Installment payments may be made with a credit card.

All donations are 100% tax deductible.



A contribution to the Missouri Press Foundation is a wonderful way to honor the memory of an associate.

# Phillips Media Group acquires Arkansas, Missouri Newspapers

Phillips Media Group, LLC announced March 2 it has acquired the Arkansas and Missouri newspapers and Missouri and Oklahoma commercial printing operations of Community Publishers, Inc. (CPI) of Bentonville, AR.

Dirks, Van Essen & Murray, a merger and acquisition firm based in Santa Fe, NM represented CPI in the sale.

"We are very excited to be returning to the newspaper markets in Arkansas and Missouri where our family has a long history of running hometown newspapers that mean so much to their communities," said Ryan Phillips, chief executive officer of Phillips Media Group. "We look forward to continuing their tradition of producing high-quality publications that make a difference to the residents of this area."

The Phillips family and their companies have been involved in the newspaper business since the 1970s, having owned newspapers in Mountain Home, Yellville, Berryville and Eureka Springs, AR, and Nevada, Marshall and Maryville, MO.

Phillips Media Group's president and chief operations officer, Jim Holland, comes to the company from Scottsbluff, Neb., where he has been publisher of the *Star-Herald* for the past 10 years. Holland started his newspaper career at the *Mountain Echo* in Yellville, Arkansas and has published newspapers in Arkansas, Alabama, Missouri and Kansas.

"My wife and I both grew up in Arkansas and are both very excited to be moving back to the area." Holland said. "I look forward to my involve-

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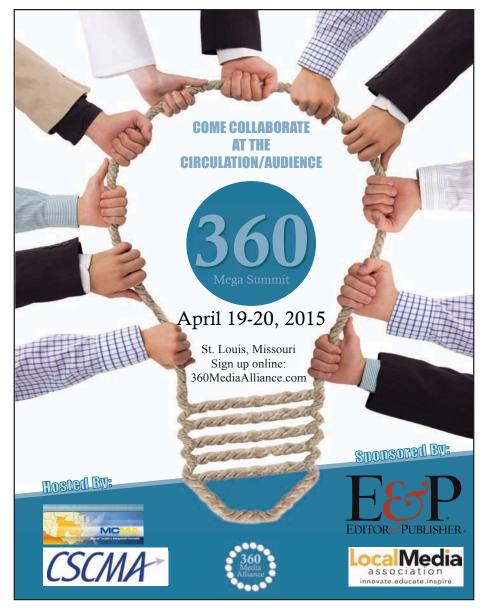
ment with this group of high-quality newspapers and the people who produce them."

Publications included in the purchase are the Harrison Daily Times and Newton County Times in Arkansas, as well as the Bolivar Herald-Free Press, the Buffalo Reflex, the Cedar County Republican, the Christian County Headliner News, the Marshfield Mail and the Nixa Xpress in Missouri. PMG also plans to purchase the Nowata West commercial print operation in Nowata, OK, and the Nowata East commercial printing operation in Springfield, MO.

CPI's publications have received dozens of awards from the Missouri

Press Association and the Arkansas Press Association for excellence in community journalism for their news, business, education, sports and investigative reporting and editorial writing. They have also received awards for their advertising programs and design.

Steve Trolinger, CEO said, "Community Publishers has had the privilege for 33 years of publishing newspapers in great communities with talented and dedicated associates. CPI is pleased that the Phillips Media Group recognizes the quality of our publishing and printing efforts in these communities and will continue this tradition into the future."



## SCRAPBOOK



- **St. James** -- The *St. James Lead-er-Journal* hosted a candidate forum March 26 at the James Memorial Library. The event, in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce, allowed members of the voting public to hear from candidates on the April election ballot.
- Gainesville -- Ozark County Times correspondent Patsy Cheek and her husband Charley recently experienced a flue fire in their Ocie area home. Smoke and flames appeared in their living room ceiling. The local fire department responded, cutting out burning ceiling panels, avoiding water damage to the home and containing the fire.
- Lamar -- Lewis County Press, parent company of the Lamar Democrat, is offering an eight to 10-week paid summer internship for college students to learn community journalism. The intern will be responsible for design, layout, photography, writing copy, editing and selling advertising.
- Lebanon -- The Lebanon Daily Record has launched a new look for the publication, including a narrower size and redesigned front page. The size change will help conserve paper and ink and open up multiple markets for advertisers. The newspaper also has a new nameplate. Other changes have been made to the inside pages.
- Nixa -- The Nixa Xpress is changing its name to Nixa Enterprise starting with the April 22, 2015 edition. The newspaper also will be changing from a Friday distribution to a Wednesday distribution and moving to a broadsheet format. It will continue to be a paid circulation newspaper.
- Republic -- The Republic Monitor recently announced the addition of a community church directory, expanding the newspaper's "faith" pages. Churches can use the space at no

- charge, thanks to the sponsorship of local businesses.
- Van Buren -- The Current Local is resurrecting two defunct school newspapers with plans to make them regular features. Both the Ozark Echo from East Carter R-2 and The Loudspeaker from Van Buren R-I are making appearances on alternating weeks in The Current Local. Student journalists are responsible for content and the sections are made available to the school at no charge.
- Raymore -- The Raymore Journal is available in an audible format through the Audio-Reader Network each week. Volunteers provide the reading -- free to anyone who has difficulty reading print -- via closed circuit radio and the internet.
- Warrenton -- The Warren County Record was named Business of the Year by the Wright City Area Chamber of Commerce at the chamber's annual awards and installation banquet. In addition, the newspaper has launched a mobile-optimized website with HTML5 technology, making the site available on smartphones and tablets.

- **Butler** -- The *News Xpress* met deadline on a skeleton crew after five employees suddenly left to begin another newspaper. Jon Peters, publisher of the *News Xpress*, assured all advertisers that quality of service will not be affected.
- Kansas City -- The Kansas City Star Business Weekly, a Tuesday insert, has ceased publication.
- Mexico -- The Mexico Ledger's longest tenured employee, press foreman Lyndell Farrah, retired in December, after 57 years at the newspaper. Replacing him is Gary Prince. Other changes at the newspaper include improvements to the office, with painting and a reorganization of newspaper archives.
- Harrisonville -- Student journalists in Harrisonville have been told they will face disciplinary actions if they publish an article about the recent resignation of the district's superintendent, unless their principal, Andy Campbell, reviews it first. Despite student arguments about First Amendment rights being threatened, student journalists don't necessarily have the same rights as working professionals in the field, according to media law attorney Jean Maneke. Superintendents have a right to censor what students read.



## The Missouri Press Foundation

is sincerely grateful to Ed Steele for his gift of

\$10,000

to assist in preservation and display efforts at Missouri Press' Print Shop Museum in historic Arrow Rock.

# Sources and Resources for Missouri Newspapers









**Helen Sosniecki** helen@ilsw.com 888-473-3103













# Missouri House OKs notice for taxpayer-funded advertisements

(AP) -- Any advertisements or educational materials paid for with taxpayer funds would have to carry a notice of that fact under a bill supporters say will increase transparency.

The measure to require a notice that taxpayer funds were used for radio, television, print and electronic communications to the public was approved by the Missouri House by a 125-28 vote. It now goes to the Senate.

Opponents say the measure was unnecessary and would create added costs as well as difficulties for local governments.

But Republican Rep. Paul Curtman, of Pacific, says this might cut back on public officials using taxpayer-paid public service announcements to promote themselves to voters before an election.

Missouri's Republican U.S. Sen. Roy Blunt is sponsoring a similar measure at the national level

# Drug records hard to get

(AP) -- A group working to legalize marijuana in Missouri says that nearly half of the state's 25 drug task forces declined to turn over public records sought under state law

A new report from Show-Me Cannabis says 10 of the multi-jurisdictional task forces didn't respond to its request for copies of quarterly status reports to the Missouri Department of Public Safety.

The task forces receive state funding as well as federal grants.

# Upcoming Webinars

#### PubAux Live: Sponsored Contests Thursday, April 2

Presenter

Max Heath, NNA Postal Chair
Register at www.regonline.com/NNAContests

#### Mobile Video Editing Thursday, April 9

Presenter Val Hoeppner,
Val Hoeppner Media and Consulting

Out-Servicing the Competition

Thursday, April 23
Presenter Tim Smith

# Register at onlinemediacampus.com

Presented in partnership with:

#### Missouri Press Association

High-quality, low-cost web conferences that help media professionals develop new job skills without leaving their offices.



These individuals and/or organizations made recent contributions to Missouri Press Foundation. To make a donation with a credit card, call (573) 449-4167, or send checks to Missouri Press Foundation, 802 Locust St., Columbia, MO 65201.

#### Internship Program

Pinnacle Communications, Kansas City

#### Society of 1867

Thomas Miller, Washington Bruce Campbell, Naples, Fla.

Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame Bill Miller, Sr., Washington

Newspapers In Education Grant Program
First Bank, Washington

#### Missouri Press Foundation contribution

Marjorie Blosser, Jefferson City Washington Missourian, Washington

#### Missouri Press Association / Missouri Press Service

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### Municipal court officials play hide the records

by the Editorial Board St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Judges and lawyers in many of St. Louis County's 81 municipal courts are mangling the Missouri Sunshine Law, using it to hide traffic records and make judicial proceedings murkier for defendants and reporters.

They have a lot to hide. Recent reports from the Department of Justice, the not-for-profit legal aid group Arch City Defenders, and a group of law professors at St. Louis University have been critical of the way justice is administered in many of the courts.

Now comes Better Together St. Louis, a nonprofit organization studying local government consolidation, with a study showing that many courts fall short of the transparency required by the Sunshine Law. The group encountered vast differences in time and cost for municipalities to provide public records, an important responsibility of local governments.

Post-Dispatch reporters Jeremy Kohler, Jennifer S. Mann and Stephen Deere named names in disclosing some of the back-scratching that goes on between lawyers who operate in municipal courts. The article showed many local court officials misuse the Sunshine Law to keep their operations secret...

Attorneys generally contend that they conceal the information to protect the privacy of the defendants. Please. The secrecy shields lawyers, prosecutors and judges who participate in a multimillion-dollar industry fueled by fees and fines paid disproportionately by the poor.

A portion of the millions of dollars collected goes into municipal budgets in some of St. Louis' 90 municipalities, accounting for as much as 40 percent or more of the annual revenue in some of the towns. A huge chunk of the money keeps the machinery oiled, paying lawyers' fees and the salaries of court officials.

Using the Sunshine Law to cloak court activities is directly contrary to the intent of the law... Moreover, there is a vast body of law that says judicial proceedings in the United States must be open unless there are compelling reasons to close them.

The reporters were blocked at nearly every turn in their efforts to get information about traffic cases heard in county municipal courts. One goal was to determine which attorneys were getting the most favorable deals, and they wrote that their investigation "found a pervasive lack of transparency" in which "court hearings are conducted in assembly-line fashion and in hushed tones, without any way for the public to learn what is happening with each case."

This is not to say that all traffic cases are bogus. They aren't. But the DOJ report that detailed years of civil rights violations by the city of Ferguson against its citizens, and the other reports, throw them all into question.

So does the attempt by court officials to play hide the records.

The officials repeatedly refused to release information about cases that have been dismissed, saying they were required under a provision of the Sunshine Law to seal such cases. The law actually requires that cases be sealed only when there has been an arrest, which does not apply to most traffic violations.

Brendan Roediger, a St. Louis University law professor who is suing seven municipalities for allegedly charging illegal fees in their courts, said all the officials would need to do to protect the defendants' privacy is to redact the names. Drawing a line through the names with a black marker is all it would take.

Instead, when asked for records, court officials revved into high gear. They refused to supply even the basic court dockets, a list of cases scheduled for any given court session, something routinely made public in every other court...

The Regional Justice Information Service... which coordinates a regional database of criminal information including electronic records for about 50 area municipal courts, charged excessive fees for the reports it issued, took nearly a month to provide the reports and gave one report that was

blank and others that had not been requested.

When Sam Alton — prosecutor in Olivette, city attorney in Pagedale and judge in Edmundson — got wind of the reporters' requests, he sent an email to 64 court officials and attorneys recommending that they withhold information from the newspaper because some of the requests were "repetitive" and created "an undue burden" on the courts.

If open government is an undue burden, justice is in jeopardy. Even the Department of Justice couldn't get the information it sought in Ferguson regarding ticket-fixing. It had to rely on emails among the mayor, judge, court clerk, police chief, collector of revenue and others...

Consider the attitude of Stephanie Karr, Ferguson's prosecuting attorney. In an email cited in the DOJ report, she admittedly dismissed all red-light camera tickets for defendants who'd hired attorneys, unless "the attorney goes off on all the constitutional stuff." In those cases, she makes the attorneys come to court, argue and pay a fine. Cite the Constitution, get has-sled

This must stop, and that job falls to the Missouri Supreme Court, which should be fully supported in the effort by the Missouri Bar. The Supreme Court proved it could do so when it removed ticket-fixing, back-tax-owing Ferguson Judge Ronald Brockmeyer and transferred all Ferguson Municipal Court cases to the St. Louis County Court.

The Supreme Court should appoint a special master to implement and enforce the same rules in municipal courts that are in place in the state's circuit courts. By law, municipal courts are divisions of circuit courts. They're the only place where most Missourians ever encounter the justice system. Too many of them are an embarrassment.



#### Newspapers In Education Report

# Take a 'Missouri Road Trip' this summer

Partnership with Division of Tourism could mean cash for newspapers

This summer we're giving Missouri's newspapers the opportunity to win \$4,000 in cash prizes for taking readers on a road trip.

Missouri Road Trip 2015: Every Hero Has a Story is a Newspapers In Education series created in partnership with the Missouri Division of Tourism. The project includes an 11-week summer series encouraging families to travel to destinations across the state to learn about Missourians who once called the place home.

The theme for the Missouri Road Trip 2015, "Every Hero Has a Story," ties to the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) summer reading theme followed by many community libraries.

The series will take young readers to all regions of the state and will include features on: Walt Disney, Buck O'Neil, Dred Scott, Harry Truman, Helen Stephens, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Marie Watkins Oliver, Omar Bradley, Rose O'Neil, Scott Joplin and Susan Elizabeth Blow.

The Missouri Road Trip 2015 series will be available this month for newspapers to begin publishing before schools dismiss for the summer. Teachers want their students to read over the long break to minimize skill loss, so they should be willing partners in getting young readers engaged with this project. The weekly newspaper features will teach, entertain and hopefully inspire children to want to learn more.

Families who read the features together will be eligible to win weekly prizes – \$50 gas cards – to help take a Missouri Road Trip. Those who share their destination photos may be picked as Tourism's Fan of the Week. At the conclusion of the series, one family will win a Summer Finale Prize –



\$150 gas card, lodging and attraction tickets – for a road trip across Missouri Highway 36, The Way of American Genius!

Newspapers can use the series to partner with schools and libraries to keep young readers engaged with community newspapers from May to August. The features will appeal to young families looking for affordable vacation options and to new retirees with wanderlust.

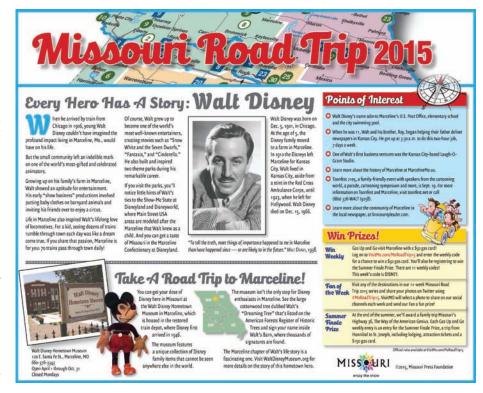
And if that isn't enough incentive, Missouri Press will offer prizes to newspapers for participating in the 11-week project. Every newspaper that publishes the complete series will be entered into a drawing to win \$1,000, \$500, \$250 and \$100

-- \$4,000 in newspaper prizes will be awarded!

The newspaper prize portion of this project will run May 1 through Aug. 31. At the end of August, we will randomly select the newspaper cash winners using the download reports from mo-nie.com and verify publication with NewzGroup clippings. Winners will be announced and prizes will be distributed at the Missouri Press Convention, Sept. 10-12. Newspapers do not need to be present to win.

Each feature is ready to print in a 6-column by 8.75-inch format. An ad is available to promote the summer series to your readers and schools. The ad is available now. The features will be available April 15. To download the files, visit monie.com and use download code: MoRoadTrip15.

Missouri Road Trip 2015: Every Hero Has a Story is sponsored by Missouri Division of Tourism and the Missouri Press Foundation.





# Help MPF reach its \$10,000 goal for student interns

Each summer, the Missouri Press Foundation supports as many as 10 journalism students as they work at Missouri newspapers. Student interns work as reporters, editors, photographers, designers, advertising representatives, and more, during a four-, six-, or eight-week internship. MPF offers each newspaper as much as \$1,000 to pay their summer in-

Please help MPF reach its \$10,000 goal to fund 10 students in 2015.

Contact Melody Bezenek, mbezenek@socket.net or 573-449-4167.

# **Publish Gashouse Gang now!**

Time is running out to publish "The Gashouse Gang," a 12-chapter serialized story, through the Reading Across Missouri campaign.

The story must be printed and distributed within 12 weeks of the final licensing date: June 30, 2015.

After that date, newspapers must purchase the story from Missouri Press Foundation.

To access the files, visit monie.com and use download code: readmo15.



### Get the facts from us.



Doing research on Missourians? AARP in Missouri can help you get the information and insight you need. Not only are we dedicated to championing positive social change through our advocacy and service, but also a valuable resource for reporters looking to learn more about fellow Missourians.

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Real Possibilities

## A 'Sunshine Hero' is remembered

Tom Schweich understood the importance of government transparency

y the time this month's column hits mailboxes, a full month will have passed since Tom Schweich's death. Last month's magazine containing his photo from Missouri Press' Day at the Capital arrived on my desk the day of his

Still, closure mandates a moment of recognition for what he did in the name of ethics in government. As state auditor, he focused on wrongful acts done by those in government seats of power. He rooted out instances where public funds were not being used in a judicious manner. He found fraud. He denounced corruption. He recommended change for the better.

He was a thorn in the side of many officials. But he understood well the role transparency that plays in good government. As he reminded Missouri Press members repeatedly, he was a fan of the Sunshine Law.

More than once I heard him thank the Sunshine Missouri Coalition for giving him its Sunshine Hero Tom Schweich award several years

ago. It always made this board member a little sheepish because that award is often an afterthought. I'm sure many of the recipients of it over the years have their plagues shoved into a dark corner in a closet somewhere. I doubt some of them even remember receiving it. But Schweich remembered and he would speak of it repeatedly with pride.

e also would note with pride how many of his audits pointed out Sunshine Law violations by public bodies. There are probably good odds his office educated as many public officials about the nuances of the law as the Attorney Generals' office does, and



certainly in a very public way.

Long ago, I began speaking about the need for prosecution to arise from the violations the state auditor finds, but that never happened. However, Schweich's policy of doing a second audit a short time later might have accomplished much the same goal in a less aggressive way. Any change in hab-

its by public bodies their sunshine policies can only be seen as a beneficial step.

In fact, Schweich, at times, would cel-Sunshine ebrate Week by releasing a summary of recent audits in his office that found sunshine law violations.

In 2012, for example, he released a summary of all the Sunshine Law violations noted by his of-

fice during the past two years. He said nearly 20 percent of the audits his office conducted contained at least one violation of the Sunshine

I sorely missed hearing an announcement like that from the State Auditor's office this year.

Schweich had a clear vision that there is no place for dishonest activity among those working for public governmental bodies.

He believed citizens had a right to full transparency by those who serve them. His belief in the Sunshine Law was part of his larger mandate for honest, effective public administration. He lived his Sunshine Law beliefs in a way many of us never get a chance to do.

I recall one night at a gathering, Schweich caught me and, in his usual manner, started talking "a mile a minute" about several activities he had in the works relating to sunshine audits. After a number of minutes had passed, I began feeling somewhat trapped. He could be overwhelming in his enthusiasm about his work.

His enthusiasm was a reflection of his belief in the principles that drove his life. Sen. John Danforth talked about Schweich always "taking the high road."

In the end, perhaps Schweich's pointed focus on people doing what is right led to his downfall. but he certainly was a breath of fresh air in government.

I, for one, will miss being "cornered" by the man. I thank him for his public service during the years on behalf of Missouri's Sunshine Law and I doubt I will see anvone else with focused his integrity government during my lifetime.

"His enthusiasm was a reflection of his belief in the principles that drove his life."

Sen. John Danforth's call in his homily at Schweich's funeral for dignity in politics is a call also for respect for all Schweich fought for, and that includes honesty and transparency in government.

Our state indeed lost a good man and a hero in every way.

#### **Missouri Newspaper Organizations**

NORTHWEST MISSOURI PRESS ASSOCIATION: President, Mike Farmer, Rock Port; Secretary, Kathy Conger, Bethany; Treasurer, W.C. Farmer, Rock Port. Directors: Past President, Adam Johnson, Mound City; Jim Fall, Maryville; Dennis Ellsworth, St. Joseph; Jim McPherson, Weston; Chuck Haney, Chillicothe; Steve Tinnen, Plattsburg; Kay Wilson, Maryville; Steve Booher, St. Joseph.

**SHOW-ME PRESS ASSOCIATION:** President, vacant; Vice President, vacant; Secretary-Treasurer, Sandy Nelson, Liberty. Directors: Dennis Warden, Owensville; Carolyn Trower, New London; John Spaar, Odessa; Buck Collier, New Haven; and Bruce Wallace, Ashland.

**OZARK PRESS ASSOCIATION:** President, Adam Letterman, Springfield; Vice President, Matthew Barba, Bolivar; Secretary-Treasurer, Emily Letterman, Springfield. Directors: Past President Roger Dillon, Eminence; Keith Moore, Ava; Dala Whittaker, Cabool; Norene Prososki, Gainesville; Jody Porter, Ava; David Burton, Springfield; Sharon Vaughn, Summersville; Terry Hampton, West Plains.

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI PRESS ASSOCIATION:** President, Amanda Layton, Perryville; First Vice President, Scott Seal, Portageville; Second Vice President, Toby Carrig, Ste. Genevieve; Secretary-Treasurer, Michelle Friedrich, Poplar Bluff; Historian, Peggy Scott, Festus. Directors: Kim Combs, Piedmont; Ed Thomason, New Madrid; Gary Rust, Cape Girardeau; Teresa Ressel, Park Hills.

MISSOURI CIRCULATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION: President, Brenda Carney, Harrisonville; First Vice President, Jack Kaminsky, Joplin; Second Vice President, Steve Edwards, St. Joseph; Treasurer, Doug Crews, Columbia. Directors: Jim Kennedy, Bolivar; Rob Siebeneck, Jefferson City.

MISSOURI ADVERTISING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION: President, Mark Maassen, Kansas City; First Vice President, Adam Letterman, Ozark; Second Vice President Les Borgmeyer, Columbia; Secretary Suzie Wilson, Milan; Treasurer, Kristie Williams, Columbia. Directors: Jacob Warden, Owensville; James White, Warsaw; Curtis Simmons, Eldon; Past President Jeanine York, Washington.

MISSOURI PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATORS: Co-Presidents, Linda Jarrett and Linda Briggs-Harty; Secretary, Peggy Koch, Barnhart; Online Editor, Fran Mannino, Kirkwood; Contest Director, Janice Denham, Kirkwood; Archivist, Dee Rabey, Granite City, III.; Past President, Colene McEntee, St. Charles.

**MISSOURI PRESS SERVICE:** President, Mark Maassen, Kansas City; Vice President, Phil Conger, Bethany; Secretary-Treasurer, Joe May, Mexico. Directors: Kevin Jones, St. Louis; Vicki Russell, Columbia.

MISSOURI PRESS FOUNDATION, INC.: President, Vicki Russell, Columbia; First Vice President, Wendell Lenhart, Trenton; Second Vice President, Kirk Powell, Pleasant Hill; Secretary-Treasurer, Doug Crews, Columbia. Directors: Betty Spaar, Odessa; James Sterling, Columbia; Dane Vernon, Eldon; Bill Miller, Sr., Washington; Tom Miller, Washington; Chuck Haney, Chillicothe; Dave Berry, Bolivar; Brian Brooks, Columbia; Kathy Conger, Bethany; Paul Stevens, Lenexa; Dalton Wright, Lebanon. Directors Emeritus: Edward Steele, Corvallis, Ore.; R.B. "Bob" Smith III, Lebanon; Wanda Brown, Harrisonville; Wallace Vernon, Eldon; Rogers Hewitt, Shelbyville.

MISSOURI-KANSAS AP PUBLISHERS AND EDITORS: Chairman, Susan Lynn, Iola, Kan. Missouri AP Managing Editors: Chairman, vacant; Past Chairman, Carol Stark, Joplin.

MISSOURI COLLEGE MEDIA ASSOCIATION: President, Kelsey Schriver, Northwest Missouri State University; Vice President, Katelyn Canon, Missouri Western State University; Secretary, vacant; MPA Liaison, Jack Dimond, Missouri State University; Adviser, Steven Chappell, Northwest Missouri State University.



#### **MPA CALENDAR**

#### 2015

#### **April**

- **30** MPF board meeting, MPA Past Presidents/Spouses Dinner, Columbia
- 30 Nomination deadline for newspaper and photojournalism halls of fame and Outstanding Young Journalist awards

#### June

- **11** Porter Fisher Golf Tournament, Lake Valley Golf Course, Camdenton
- 12 MPA/MPS/MPF Board meetings (morning); Show-Me Press meeting (afternoon), Old Kinderhook
- **24-28** ISWNE Conference, Columbia

#### July

- **16** SEMO meeting, Cape Girardeau
- 17 Ozark Press Association meeting, Springfield

#### September

**10-12** — 149th Annual MPA Convention, Columbia

#### October

1-3 — 129th NNA Convention, St. Charles



Public Notices must remain in printed newspapers because the people must know.

# **Missouri Press Foundation**

2015 Porter Fisher Golf Classic



## Lake Valley Golf & Country Club

367 C.C. Blair Drive, Camdenton

Be at the golf course by 11 a.m. Box lunches will be provided before teeing off. Send registration form and check to Missouri Press Foundation, 802 Locust St., Columbia, MO 65201; or pay by phone with a credit card, (573) 449-4167. Make checks payable to Missouri Press Foundation.

Mulligans may be purchased at the course before teeing off. Prizes will be awarded after tournament.

#### **PRIZES** Name Player #1 Please consider a contribution Co./Newspaper Player #2 to the Address Player #3 tournament prize/trophy Player #4 fund. You may Single and partial teams are welcome Email and will be grouped into teams by MPF. donate money Golf = \$65 per golferor items. Phone Your gift will be Mulligans \$10 Each (limit 1 per player per side) acknowledged Check Visa Discover MasterCard American Express Hole Sponsorship = \$25 each at the golf course and Prize Fund Credit Card # Exp. Date in MPA TOTAL: \$ publications. Name on Card