

# The Kentucky Press

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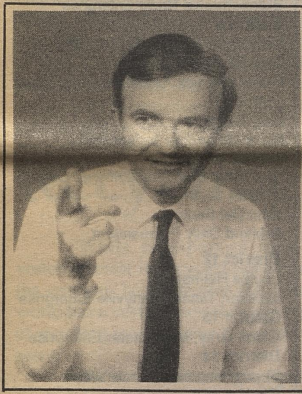
Official Publication of the Kentucky Press Service - Vol. 61, No. 12 - December 1990

## Workshop coincides with winter convention

Newspaper consultant Gene Chamberlin is scheduled to present an all-day workshop for publishers, advertising personnel and circulation managers on Jan. 17, the opening day of the KPA Winter Convention and Trade Show.

A member of the National Newspapers Association education committee, the consultant has reported for, edited, managed, published and owned papers in Iowa and South Dakota.

Chamberlin says the first part of the workshop will focus on circulation. See Winter Workshop, back page



Gene Chamberlin

Chamberlin's presentation, covering the financial end of the newspaper business, will be 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Marriott Resort in Lexington.

## Boyd of Arabia Local reporter gets first-hand view of Mideast

Four Kentucky papers last month carried news of the United States military build up in Saudi Arabia with a local flavor.

The News-Enterprise in Elizabethtown sent reporter/photographer Terry Boyd to the Middle East for a three-day tour in early November. Boyd traveled with the 530th Maintenance Company from Fort Knox, getting to know the local troops and taking pictures of their involvement in Operation Desert Shield.

See Local reporter, back page

## Open meetings debate expected to heat up

After KPA got its offense to the line in November, the defense is readying for a powerful contest at the Dec. 13 meeting of the Task Force on Open Meetings and Records.

Attorney Jon Fleischaker, on behalf of KPA, presented recommendations on new open meetings legislation at the task force's Nov. 8 meeting in Frankfort. The proposed draft was well received by the committee, but the stage was set for rebuttal.

Six agency representatives have

signed up to testify before the legislative group in December, according to Scott Varland of the Legislative Research Commission, which coordinates the task force.

Scheduled to appear are Tony Sholar of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce; Bill Thielen, Kentucky League of Cities; John Runda, Kentucky Parole Board; Col. Earl Pruitt, Kentucky Voice for Crime Victims; Paul Isaacs, Department of Public Advocacy, and

See Open meetings, back page

## Convention moves up a week

On your fresh 1991 calendar, turn to January. See where you highlighted the 24th, 25th and 26th for the KPA Winter Convention and Trade Show. Ever so carefully scratch through those dates.

KPA 17-19  
Jan. 24-26  
Lexington

Then go back a week and, in ink, mark January 17-19. Those are the new dates for the annual convention. The location stays the same: the Marriott Resort in Lexington.

Linger a while for a summary of what's planned. A more complete rundown of the convention will appear in the January edition of *The Kentucky Press*.

Scheduled for Friday are presentations by Attorney Kim Greene, speaking on legalities in advertising; Postal Service expert Max Heath, on circulation and mailing rates; former reporter Belinda Mason, an AIDS virus victim, on covering AIDS issues; Congressman Larry Hopkins and five top military commanders, on the military crisis and the effects of federal military spending cutbacks; Attorney Jon Fleischaker, on open meetings/records; and, tentative, new Kentucky Education Commissioner Thomas Boysen.

On tap for Saturday are a press conference with the gubernatorial candidates and a report from Jack Fishman of Morristown, Tenn., district board member to the National Newspapers Association.

The annual awards banquet is Friday night, and the changing of the guard luncheon is Saturday noon. The Associates are bargaining for a very special guest, and a couple of other surprises are in the works.

Also on the agenda are a board meeting Thursday afternoon, followed by meetings of the Advertising and News-Editorial divisions.

## 3 KPA papers have new owners

Papers in Bell, Harlan and Martin counties changed ownership last month, and one changed its name.

An Illinois-based company with ties abroad has purchased two KPA-member papers and a Tennessee paper from The New York Times Co.

The Harlan Daily Enterprise, The Daily News in Middlesboro and The Claiborne Progress in Tazewell, Tenn., were picked up by American Publishing Co. of West Frankfort, Ill., in November. The Illinois company is a subsidiary of Hollinger Inc. in Toronto, which reportedly is affiliated with the Sterling group in England.

The Martin Countian and Mercury in Inez was recently bought by local businesspersons, Lisa Stayton and Mark Grayson, who have changed the paper's name to *The Mountain Citizen*. The former owner, Martin County Newspapers Inc., a division of Smith Newspapers, had purchased and merged two competing

papers about two years ago.

Economic factors were cited in the NYT sale, according to an article in the Harlan paper. At a meeting with the Harlan staff on Nov. 5, John R. Harrison, president of the NYT Regional Newspaper Group, is quoted as saying, "About a year ago, the board of directors said we should look at our small papers that, in the future, we may not get the return on investment we want."

"You have done the very best you could do, over that which you could control, and for that, we are eternally grateful," Harrison told the employees. "The economy is something you can't control."

Ewell H. Balltrip, publisher of both the Middlesboro and Harlan papers, has transferred to an NYT Co. paper in Dyersburg, Tenn. Balltrip, who had been associated with the Harlan paper for 22 years, was feted with a

See 3 papers sold, back page

# Sooo, just what's the News Bureau up to?

Since its inception in early September, the KPA News Bureau has experienced steady growth, measured in awareness and requests for service. To keep you updated, what follows is a summary of the ways in which the bureau has assisted member papers, categorized by agency involved, and the number of papers using the service.

**Division of Waste Management:** records reviewed on 10 separate occasions, for four different papers.

**Division of Air Quality:** records reviewed once for one paper.

**Division of Water:** records reviewed three times, for two different papers.

**Public Service Commission:** records reviewed twice and one hearing attended, for two papers.

**Registry of Election Finance:** information requested 11 times, 10 papers requesting.

**Franklin Circuit Court:** files reviewed twice, one hearing covered, two papers requesting.

**Cabinet for Human Resources:** mental health agency report obtained, information requested on medical incinerator; one paper requesting both.

**Transportation Cabinet:** records sought twice; report sent to all papers, with additional requests from five papers.

**Division of Aging:** presentation covered for one paper.

**Legislative Research Commission:** information obtained for two papers.

**LRC Program Review and Investigation Committee:** comparative information obtained on open parole board hearings, covered hearing.

**Attorney General:** copies of five opinions obtained for one paper.

**Workman's Compensation:** files reviewed for one paper.

**Board of Medical Licensure:** list of actions taken distributed to 10 papers.

**Governor's office:** interference run for one paper.

**Archives:** court records on old case obtained for one paper.

**Secretary of State:** corporation filings obtained for one paper.

**LRC Task Force on Open Meetings and Open Records:** two meetings covered, releases on each written for all papers.

**Parole Board:** system of disseminating information initiated, one eligibility list and one set of minutes sent to all papers; second eligibility list sent to all who requested (37 papers).

**Education Department:** presentation pictures taken for one paper.

**Other:** Spearheaded reactivation of News Editorial Division.

\*Updated biographical file of KPA member personnel.

\*Spoke about News Bureau to Western Kentucky Press Association.

\*Spoke about dealing with the media to state convention of Farmers Home Administration and to Kentucky Housing Corporation convention.

\*Represented KPA at two meetings of First Amendment Alliance.

\*Edited four issues of *The Kentucky Press*. (including this one).

Papers requesting information or assistance from the News Bureau: *Pulaski Week, Carlisle Mercury, Maysville Ledger-Independent, Manchester Enterprise/Headline News, Harlan Enterprise, Floyd County Times, Paducah Sun, Kentucky Post, Union County Advocate, Somerset Commonwealth-Journal, Jessamine Journal, Bourbon Times, Benton Tribune-Courier, Citizen Voice & Times, London Sentinel-Echo, Grant County News, Kentucky Standard, Breckinridge County Herald-News, Falmouth Outlook, Central City Times-Argus, Morehead News, Bourbon County Citizen, Madisonville Messenger, Casey County News, Fulton Leader, Providence Journal-Enterprise, Oldham Era, Russellville News-Democrat, Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer, Livingston Ledger, Elizabethtown News-Enterprise, McCreary County Record, Murray Ledger & Times, Ashland Daily Independent, Paintsville Herald, Owen County News-Herald, Lewis County Herald, Hazard Herald-Voice, Jackson County Sun, Mt. Sterling Advocate, Glasgow Daily Times, Ohio County Messenger/Green River Republican, LaRue County Herald-News.*

## Minorities are focus of Landmark brochure

Landmark Community Newspapers Inc., headquartered in Shelbyville, has developed a brochure to recruit minority personnel.

The brochure presents information on opportunities for minorities in Landmark operations and introduces the company's 12-month minority internship program.

"We kid ourselves if we think we can report a multiracial society through white eyes only," says Chairman Frank Batten in his message in the brochure. "To do our job well we need reporting and editing staffs representing the broadest possible range of social and cultural backgrounds. The nation and our communities are growing more diverse; newspapers must do the same."

Addressing the company's commitment to assisting minorities in the newsroom, Batten writes, "... hiring is only the beginning. Together we must create a commitment to succeed. We must help those we hire to succeed, as others have helped us to succeed."

The brochure was the idea of minority staffers of *The Virginian-Pilot/Ledger-Star*. Bob Villanueva of *The News-Enterprise* staff in Elizabethtown is among those spotlighted in the brochure.

## What's hot on the Hotline?

Some folks have expressed interest in the types of questions that newspaper people ask on KPA's Freedom of Information Hotline. As one newsman put it, "I'd just like to know if I'm off the wall with my calls."

Thus, The Kentucky Press presents, with this issue, a summary of calls from the latest tabulations provided by Wyatt, Tarrant and Combs in Louisville, whose attorneys field the hotline questions. What follows is the summary for September and August.

\*\*Issue oriented advertising requirements, *Messenger-Inquirer*, Owensboro. \*\*Court closing, Western Kentucky University newspaper. \*\*District court clerk records access, *Sentinel-Echo*, London. \*\*Board of trustees meeting access, WKU newspaper. \*\*Quorum requirement, *Jackson County Sun*. \*\*Quoting source, *Central Kentucky News-Journal*, Campbellsville.

\*\*Private investigator ad, *Daily Independent*, Ashland. \*\*Political issues ad, *Messenger-Inquirer*. \*\*Ad against car dealership, *Crittenden Press*, Marion.

\*\*Examination of public records, *Richmond Register*. \*\*Printing of incest charge, *Cadiz Record*. \*\*Closed meeting over resignation of city attorney, *Daily News*, Bowling Green.

\*\*Ordinance review, *Richmond Register*. \*\*Subpoena to reporter for school panel hearing, *Pioneer News*, Shepherdsville. \*\*Review of column, *Appalachian News-Express*, Pikeville.

\*\*Mediation records, *Oldham Era*, LaGrange. \*\*Lottery ads, *Franklin Favorite*. \*\*Use of citizen, *Cynthiana Democrat*. \*\*Printing name of minor sex abuse victim, *Commonwealth-Journal*, Somerset. \*\*Closed school board meeting, *Lebanon Enterprise*. \*\*Identifying ad sponsor, *Pioneer News*. \*\*Embezzlement by school board member, *Kentucky Standard*, Bardstown.

\*\*Review of story on condemnation proceedings, *Commonwealth-Journal*. \*\*Eyesore of the month photos, *Anderson News*, Lawrenceburg. \*\*Access to ambulance run records, *Central Record*, Lancaster. \*\*Employer restriction of employee political activity, *Lebanon Enterprise*. \*\*Faculty Senate meeting, *Messenger-Inquirer*. \*\*District court docket access, *Troublesome Creek Times*, Hindman. \*\*Reasonable rates, *Bourbon Times*.

If KPA members have legal questions concerning reporting the news, advertising or newspaper operation, the FOI Hotline is there. Call 502/589-5235.

## The Kentucky Press

### 1990 Officers

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# News-Ed division revs up

Russ Powell was selected to chair the steering committee of the re-activated KPA News-Editorial Division during the group's Nov. 16 meeting in Bardstown. Powell is editor of *The Daily Independent* in Ashland.

As chairman, he will serve as a non-voting member on the KPA board of directors, representing the news and editorial end of newspaper operation.

Chosen as vice chair was Anne Chaney, publisher/editor of *The Paintsville Herald*. She will serve as the program chairperson and will draft a mission statement for the division.

Others attending the committee meeting were John Nelson, publisher/editor of *Pulaski Week* in Somerset; Ben Sheroan, city editor of the *Messenger-Inquirer* in Owensboro; Steve Lowery, publisher of *The Kentucky Standard* in Bardstown, and KPA News Bureau director Pam Shingler.

While the Friday session served primarily as a forum to discuss direction for the division, the committee did decide to devise a formal proposal by mid-January that outlines training programs and seminars, set up regionally, for all of 1991. The proposal will also include the mission statement, proposed services, and suggestions for summer convention speakers.

Members plan to call or visit newpeople in their areas to research topics and suggested times.

The proposal is to be drafted in a late December/early January meeting and presented to the KPA board at its Jan. 17 meeting in Lexington. A general meeting of all news and editorial personnel is planned for Thursday afternoon, following the board meeting during the winter convention.

Committee members agreed that a year-long schedule of programs is needed so that publishers and editors can budget and plan more effectively.

Charged with suggesting a speaker/topic for a session of the winter convention, the committee readily decided on the new Commissioner of Education, Dr. Thomas Boysen. The suggestion was passed to KPA Executive Director David Thompson who agreed to try to schedule the new administrator.

The committee also discussed a unified effort for papers to observe the bicentennial of the Bill of Rights in December 1991. One suggestion was for a tabloid insert for all papers, to be sold by Kentucky Press Service.

The group expressed the need to establish closer ties to collegiate journalism programs.

## On tap . . .

- Dec. 13: Task Force on Open Meetings/Records, 10 a.m., 110 Capital Annex.
- Dec. 24-25 and Jan. 1: KPA offices closed for holidays.
- Jan. 6-12: City & Metro Editors (over 75,000), API (703/620-3611).
- Jan. 8: Special Session of Kentucky General Assembly opens.
- Jan. 7-11: Web Offset Operation, ANPA, Reston, VA. (703/648-1319).
- Jan. 13-18: Editing Weekly & Community Newspaper, API (703/620-3611).
- Jan. 13-18: Newspaper Design & Graphics, API (703/620-3611).
- Jan. 17-19: KPA Winter Convention & Trade Show, Lexington Marriott Resort.
- Jan. 20-25: Business & Economic News, API (703/620-3611).
- Jan. 20-26: News Editors & Copy Desk Chiefs, API (703/620-3611).
- Jan. 28-Feb. 1: Newspaper Quality Control, ANPA (703/648-1319).
- Jan. 30-Feb. 2: Human Resources Conference, ANPA (703/648-1319).

## Items

### SND dues rise

Membership in the Society of Newspaper Design will rise for most members come Jan. 1. Students, educators and smaller papers, however, will be spared. The new dues schedule is: professionals (circulation 30,000-over, \$65 for one year or \$120 for two years; professionals (29,999-under) and educators, \$55 one year, \$100 two years; and full-time students, \$35 one year, \$65 two years. Executive director Ray Chattman urges renewal now to "lock in at the old rates."

### More on SND

Jacqueline Combs of the *Chicago Tribune* has been elected president of the Society of Newspaper Design for 1991. Other new officers are C. Randy Stano of the *Miami Herald*, first vice president; Nancy Tobin, SUNY-Buffalo, second vice president; George Bengel, Fort Lauderdale *Sun-Sentinel*, treasurer, and Deborah Withey, *Detroit Free Press*, secretary.

### Recycling as a promotion

At least two companies are manufacturing bins that newspapers can give or sell to subscribers to store old newspapers for recycling. According to the New England Newspaper Association, Display Racks Inc., Box 2427, Waterbury, CT 06723, produces a wire rack with a newspaper's logo for under \$10 per rack (100 minimum), plus shipping and a one-time set-up charge for the logo.

A wooden recycling box, called the Stackpacker, is made by Sebago Woodcrafters, Box 194, Buckfield, ME 04220; made of pine with logos silkscreened, it sells for \$15 (100 minimum). NENA says the Maine-produced box has been a hot seller for the *Hartford Courant*.

### Minority ad video

A videotape, designed to provide state-of-the-art newspaper advertising training for minority students, will soon be available from International Newspaper Advertising and Marketing Executives. The how-to documentary focuses on Howard University's minority newspaper ad program and will be released by INAME at its annual sales conference in January. For information, contact Christine Sabo at 703/648-1302.

### INAME sets conference

Newspaper advertising and marketing personnel will gather in Washington, DC, Jan. 20-23, for the INAME annual sales conference. "Newspapers: The Best Way to Close a Sale" is the theme of the meeting which is to address national economic and demographic changes facing the newspaper industry. First Lady Barbara Bush and Bureau of the Census director Dr. Barbara Everitt Bryant are among guest speakers.

# Recycling on the news pages

While newspapers have a vested interest in recycled newsprint, the case can be made that the whole world has a vested interest in any type of recycling that can save the environment.

The news desk is a good place to start informing readers about the importance of recycling and explaining how to do it. Here are some story ideas that might apply to your area.

+People in your area who are big-scale recyclers, either for profit or out of concern for the environment — why, advantages, disadvantages, problems.

+State agencies in your area that are participating in the state's efforts to recycle.

+An on-the-spot report from the local landfill pointing out what can be recycled, what the difference would be if more people recycled, effect on life of landfill.

+How retailers are promoting recycled and environmentally safe products (fast food outlets, in particular).

+With help from the post office, how people can be taken off mass mailing lists to save paper.

+Schools or teachers in your area who are promoting recycling and environmental protection.

+Local Water Watch groups.

+How-to guides on recycling household items, composting for yards and gardens, energy conservation.

+How local utilities promote conservation.

+Local governments that are involved in recycling projects or are considering them.

+A recycling expert who "preaches" to local groups.

+An elderly person who grew up when most things were recycled in one way or another.

+Funding sources to encourage recycling.

+What local hospitals are doing to promote recycling and a safe environment.

+A "person on the street" survey of recycling/environment attitudes.

+How to recycle Christmas trees.

+ "Day in the life of" a local garbage/sanitation worker, what kind of recyclables he/she picks up, attitude changes.

+What to do with automobiles and their appendages: tires, batteries, abandoned bodies.

+Life and safety of lakes, rivers, streams in your area, how to clean them up.

+Unsung heroes and cost of highway litter (pick up crews, tourism

dollars, environmental damage, harm to wildlife, recycling value).

+Civic and other community groups that have adopted the environment/recycling as a project.

+Roundtable on solutions to environmental problems, involving elected officials and civic leaders.

+Comparisons of common practices and environmentally sound practices in everyday life.

+Sponsoring of a "Friend of the Earth" award on a regular basis in your community, with photograph and article.

+Recycling tips used as fillers. The state's Cabinet for Natural Resources and Environmental Protection has a wealth of material on recycling and environmental tips. Most public libraries have books on how to recycle practically everything, and most local colleges have scientists who can serve as resources, as can agricultural extension personnel.

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# KPA draft for House Bill 361 -- Open Meetings of Public Agencies

Following is the text of the legislation KPA has recommended to the Task Force on Open Meetings and Open Records. Underlining indicates new material; striking indicates material deleted from previous bill. Explanations appear in italics.

Section 1. KRS 61.805 is amended to read as follows:

As used in KRS 61.805 to 61.850 unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Meeting" means all gatherings of every kind, regardless of where the meeting is held, and whether regular or special and informational or casual gatherings held in anticipation of or in conjunction with a regular or special meeting;

(2) "Public agency" means every state or local board, commission and authority; every state or local legislative board, commission and committee, including any advisory committee; every county and city governing body, council, school district board, special district board, municipal corporation; and any board, department, commission, committee, subcommittee, ad hoc committee, advisory committee, council or agency thereof, including interagency bodies; any corporation or other entity which is controlled by a public agency or uses public funds to carry out a traditional governmental function, but not including entities which are licensed or regulated by government; and any other body which is created by state or local authority in any branch of government or which derives at least twenty-five percent (25%) of its funds from state or local authority. *any state legislative, executive, administrative or advisory board, commission, committee, policy making board of an institution of education or other state agency which is created by or pursuant to statute or executive order (other than judicial or quasi-judicial bodies); any county, city, school district, special purpose district boards, public commissions, councils, offices or other municipal corporation or political subdivision of the state; any committee, ad hoc committee, subcommittee, subagency or advisory body of a public agency which is created by or pursuant to statute, executive order, local ordinance or resolution or other legislative act, including but not limited to planning commissions, library or park boards and other boards, commissions and agencies;*

*(This change substitutes the definition of "public agency" in existing open records act for the current definition in the open meetings act. The open records act definition has been modified to delete reference to state officers, departments and divisions, since these are entities which do not have governing bodies which hold meetings, and to delete references to courts or judicial agencies. The definition has also been changed to specifically include advisory committees and interagency bodies and to include corporations or other entities which are controlled by a governmental agency or perform traditional governmental functions, using public funds. Private entities which are licensed or regulated by the state, such as private utilities and hospitals, would not be included.)*

(3) "Action taken" means a collective decision, a commitment or promise to make a positive or negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the members of the governmental body and;

(4) "Member" means a member of the governing body of the public agency and do not include employees or licensees of the agency.

*(The new definition of "member" is designed to avoid the argument made by some licensing boards that disciplinary hearings regarding licensees may be closed under existing law.)*

KRS 61.810 is amended to read as follows:

All meetings of a quorum of the members of any public agency, and any meetings of less than a quorum of the members which are scheduled for the purpose of avoiding the requirements of this section, at which any public business is discussed or at which any action is taken by the such agency, shall ~~are~~ declared to be public meetings, open to the public at all times, except for the following:

*(The new language is intended to prevent the common practice of routinely scheduling a series of meetings of less than a quorum to avoid the requirement of openness.)*

(1) Deliberation for decisions of the Kentucky parole board.

*(This section would be deleted so that all meetings of the parole board would be open.)*

(1) Deliberations on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency, but only when publicity would be likely to affect the value of a specific piece of property to be acquired for public use or sold by a public agency.

(2) Discussions of initiation of litigation by the public agency or ongoing litigation initiated by a public agency or litigation against a public agency which is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing, proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the public agency.

*(This change, adapted from the Indiana act, is intended to eliminate the closure of meetings because of a vague or non-existent threat of litigation.)*

(3) Grand and petit jury sessions.

(4) Collective bargaining negotiations between public employers and their employees or their representatives.

(5) Discussions or hearings which might lead to the appointment, discipline or dismissal of an individual employee, member or student without restricting that employee's, member's or student's right to a public hearing if requested, ~~provided that this exception is designed to protect the reputation of individual persons and~~ shall not be interpreted to permit discussion of general personnel matters in secret. ~~The exception shall not apply if the affected employee, member or student requests that the discussions or hearings be open to the public.~~

*(The deletion of "reputation of individual persons" removes from the act language which has been misused to support a general right to close meetings where the discussions might affect individual reputations. The added language makes clear that hearings may not be closed to the public under this exception over the objection of the affected individual.)*

(6) Meetings between public agencies and industrial prospects.

(7) State cabinet meetings and executive cabinet meetings.

(8) Committees of the General Assembly other than standing committees.

(9) Deliberations of quasi-judicial bodies regarding individual adjudications, at which neither the person involved, its representatives nor any other individual not a member of the agency's governing body or staff is present, but not including any meetings of planning or zoning commissions.

*(This language replaces the "quasi-judicial body" exception in the existing version of KRS 61.805 (2). It would allow closed deliberations following open sessions of various bodies, including licensing boards, human rights commissions and others. Planning and zoning commissions, some of which currently close their deliberations, are specifically prohibited from relying on this exception.)*

(10) Meetings which federal or state law specifically require to be conducted in privacy.

(11) Meetings which the constitution provides shall be held in secret.

Section 3. KRS 61.815 is amended to read as follows:

Except those public agencies excluded under KRS 61.810(2), (3), (5) but only so far as it relates to students, KRS 61.810(6), (7), (8), (9), (10) and (11), the following requirements shall be met as a condition for conducting closed sessions authorized by KRS 61.810.

*(The renumbering of the exceptions in KRS 61.810 requires changes in this section.)*

(1) Notice shall be given in regular open meeting of the general nature of the business to be discussed in closed session, and the reason for the closed session and the specific provision of KRS 61.810 authorizing a closed session;

*(Although existing case law can be interpreted to require that the specific provision of KRS 61.810 upon which the agency relies to close a meeting must be stated in the notice, this change codifies that requirement.)*

(2) Closed sessions may be held only after a motion is made and carried by a majority vote in open, public session;

(3) No final action may be taken at a closed session;

(4) No matters may be discussed at a closed session other than those publicly announced prior to convening the closed session.

Section 4. KRS 61.820 is amended to read as follows:

All meetings of all public agencies of this state, and any committees or subcommittees thereof shall be held at specified times and places which are convenient to the public and all public agencies shall provide for a schedule of regular meetings by ordinance, resolution, bylaws or by whatever other means may be required for the conduct of business of that public agency, and the said schedule of regular meetings shall be made available to the public.

*(These changes correct grammatical errors in the existing statute.)*

Section 5. KRS 61.825 is amended to read as follows:

(1) A special meeting may be called at any time by the presiding officer of the public agency or by a majority of the mem-

bers of the governing body of the public agency by delivering personally or by mail written notice to each member of the public agency and to each local newspaper of general circulation, each news service and each local radio or television station which has on file with the public agency a written request to be notified of special meetings. ~~Said~~ The notice of a special meeting ~~must~~ shall be delivered personally or by mail at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of ~~such~~ the meeting as specified in the notice. If time does not permit giving twenty-four (24) hour notice, ~~then~~ notice that is reasonable under existing circumstances and is calculated to inform the public shall be given to the news media and the public. ~~The notice shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and shall include an agenda for the special meeting.~~ Discussions and action at the meeting shall be limited to items listed on that agenda.

*("Local" has been struck in two places, requiring agencies to give notice to any newspaper, radio or television station which has made a written request for notice. The additional language limits discussions at special meetings to specific items included on a written agenda.)*

(2) The notice provided for in subsection (1) of this section is not required in the event that a special meeting is called to deal with an emergency involving injury or damage to personal property or financial loss to a public agency or the likelihood of such injury or damage or financial loss, when the time requirements of such notice of such special meeting would make such notice impractical and increase the likelihood of injury or damage or financial loss.

(3) With the exception of special meetings called pursuant to subsection (2) of this section no special meeting shall be held except in full compliance with provisions of subsection (1) of this section.

Section 6. KRS 61.830 is amended to read as follows:

Any rule, resolution, regulation, ordinance or other formal action of a public agency without substantial compliance with the requirements of KRS 61.810, 61.815, 61.820 and 61.825 shall be voidable by a court of competent jurisdiction. A certificate by the clerk or secretary of said public agency at said meeting that the requirements of KRS 61.810, 61.815, 61.820 and 61.825 were complied with shall be prima facie evidence of such compliance, and ~~admissible in any court of competent jurisdiction.~~

*(This section makes only technical changes.)*

Section 7. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 61.805 TO 61.850 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) Any person may complain in writing to the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky regarding a violation of KRS 61.805 to 61.840. The Attorney General shall request a written response by the public agency concerned and shall issue within ten (10) days (excepting Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays) of his receipt of the complaint a written opinion to the agency stating whether the agency acted consistent with the provisions of KRS 61.805 to 61.840, and determining whether any rule, resolution, regulation, ordinance or other formal action taken without substantial compliance

# When subscribers fly South for the winter

*How to improve delivery to 'snow bird' readers*

by Max Heath

This is the time of year when retirees from cooler climates migrate south to warmer environs. These "snow birds", as they are lovingly called in Florida, Texas, Arizona and elsewhere, often want their hometown paper sent along. We try to oblige, knowing year after year to expect complaints of poor delivery.

Last December's column on ways to improve out-of-state delivery drew additional advice from National Newspaper Association State Chairman Bob Best of the Sullivan (Ill.) News-Progress. I saved it until this season in hopes it may help others.

Bob has found part of the problem to be inaccurate or incomplete addresses provided by some of his 200 or so snow bird subscribers. This is complicated further by frequent restructuring of post offices and zip code changes in fast-growing Florida. He found two ways to improve the situation.

First, he bought a Florida ZIP+4 book. His staff uses it to verify each address given the newspaper, correcting it if necessary, before entering it into the system. Order form is on the back of any zip code directory. Price is \$12.

Second, he takes advantage of the National Address Information Center's (NAIC) free updating of address records to ZIP+4 and adding of carrier route information at the same time.

The News-Progress submits data on computer diskettes as described in Postal Form 5603 May 1989, available at local post offices.

Bob adds, "If the instructions are beyond the capacity of the newspaper's staff to comprehend, the circulation software vendor should be consulted,

screamed at or even paid to get the data ready for submission and the update of master records when the data is returned."

One of the major discounts offered second class mailers is carrier route presort. But few maximize the use of it outside their county. The same goes for 5-digit presort outside the county, especially to optional multi-zip code post offices (DMM Exhibit 122.63a) and Unique 3-digit zip code prefix offices (DMM Exhibit 122.63b).

Papers without computer files or that don't want to go the diskette route can still order hard copies of CRIS (Carrier Route Information System) schemes. These allow you to check manually for six or more pieces on a carrier route in towns with city delivery having enough total pieces (30-40 or more) to warrant a search.

Ask your postmaster for "Address Information Products Order Form." List the 5-digit areas you want CRIS schemes for under "Areas Requested." Ask for CR220P, Delivery Statistics Report, under "Product Description."

If you have questions, call 1-800/238-3150. If you have any problems, ask for Sherry Young, a most helpful supervisor at NAIC.

The first eight or less CRIS schemes are FREE. Two papers I know of have been told by employees at the Memphis National Address Information Center that there was a charge. They were confusing charges for computer products.

## Other delivery tips

A review of tips in last December's column to help move snow bird subscriptions:

(1) Make more direct sacks, such as mentioned above, regardless of the number of pieces in the sack. (No level B discount under six pieces, but faster delivery.)

(2) Use SDC (State Distribution Center) sortation in DMM Exhibit 122.63f. Avoid mixed state and state bags.

(3) Use brown sacks and pink sack labels, preferably barcoded ones as described in my October column.

Tom Mayhill, publisher of Farmweek and Antique Week in Knightstown, Ind., also passed along these tips:

(1) "Publications should not be rolled," a direct quote from DMM 429.52. It also says, "Publishers are encouraged to fold publications to a size not larger than 11-3/4 by 14-1/2 inches, when practical. A quarter fold in newspaper size publications or a one-half fold in tabloid or small publications should normally achieve these dimensions.

Tom says, "We fold our single copies to 1/8 size, then rubber band. They could be wrapped folded flat. Many small dailies and weeklies still roll their papers and sorting them requires double time for USPS."

(2) Change addresses as soon as possible. Advise your snow birds to give you plenty of warning on address changes before they leave and when they return to avoid delays by forwarding. Tom says it costs USPS \$1.5 billion a year to forward mail. That cost ultimately gets computed into the rates we pay. He believes movers should pay a \$3-5 fee for the USPS change of address unless indigence could be documented. But USPS isn't interested in doing that since a sizable number of movers don't notify the post office even though the service is free.

## House Bill 361 draft, continued

with the requirements of KRS 61.810, 61.815, 61.820 and 61.825 is void. A copy of the opinion shall also be sent by the Attorney General to the person who complained to the Attorney General. The burden of proof in sustaining the action complained of shall rest with the agency.

(2) If a person feels the intent of KRS 61.805 to 61.840 is being subverted by an agency action not violative of the literal language of those sections, the person may complain in writing to the Attorney General and the complaint shall be subject to the adjudicatory process set forth in this section.

(3) If the Attorney General finds a violation of KRS 61.805 to 61.840 by the public agency, the agency may institute proceedings within thirty (30) days for injunctive or declaratory relief in the Circuit Court of the district where the agency has its principal place of business. If the public agency fails to institute the action, the person who complained to the Attorney General may obtain a court order in conformance with the Attorney General's opinion, and the public agency shall be precluded from arguing that its conduct has not violated the law. If the Attorney General finds no violation of KRS 61.805 to 61.840, the person making the complaint to the Attorney General may institute proceedings within thirty (30) days for injunctive, declaratory or other relief in the Circuit Court of the district where the agency has its principal place of

business.

(This is an entirely new section, giving the attorney general a role similar to that he now has under the open records act. It would allow members of the public illegally excluded from public meetings to obtain a declaration that an agency has violated the act without incurring the expense and delays which are involved in litigation.)

Section 8. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 61.805 TO 81.850 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) The Circuit Courts of this state shall have jurisdiction to enforce the purposes of KRS 61.805 to 61.840, by injunction or other appropriate order on application of any person.

(2) In order for the Circuit Courts of this state to exercise their jurisdiction to enforce the purposes of 61.805 to 61.840, it shall not be necessary to have forwarded any complaint to the Attorney General or for the Attorney General to have acted in any manner upon a request for his opinion.

(3) In any such action, the court shall determine the matter de novo and the burden of proof shall be on the public agency to sustain its action.

(4) Courts shall take into consideration the basic policy of KRS 61.805 to 61.840 that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret and that the exceptions provided for by KRS

61.810 or otherwise provided for by law shall be strictly construed, even though open meetings may cause inconvenience, embarrassment or a loss of efficiency to public officials or others. Except as otherwise provided by law or rule of court, proceedings arising under this section take precedent on the docket over all other causes and shall be assigned for hearing and trial at the earliest practicable date.

(5) Any person who prevails against any agency in any action in the courts regarding an alleged violation of KRS 61.805 to 61.840 shall be awarded all costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with the legal action. If the person prevails in part, the court shall award him the appropriate portion of his costs and reasonable attorneys' fees. In addition, it shall be within the discretion of the court to award the person an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) for each instance in which the court finds a violation. Attorneys' fees, costs and awards under this section shall be paid by the agency responsible for the violation.

(This section replaces existing KRS 61.845. It tracks the enforcement provisions of the open records act and includes these important provisions: (1) strict construction of the exceptions in KRS 61.810; (2) the burden of proof in any such action on the agency; (3) an award of costs, including attorneys' fees, to a party prevailing against a public agency; and (4) a dis-

cretionary award of \$100 for each violation of the act.)

Section 9. The following KRS section is repealed:

61.845 Enforcement.

### The KPA Train

From the history column of the Sept. 8 edition of *The Daily News* in Middlesboro comes this delicious morsel.

"On this date in Middlesborough history: In 1890, a special train arrives with members of the Kentucky Press Association. They are met at the station by Alexander Authur and taken to 'The Middlesborough' for an elegant breakfast. The newspaper men are taken on an all-day tour of the Magic City and its environs. In the evening, there is an elaborate banquet with 'a dozen or more courses, washed down by sherry, claret and champagne of the finest vintage.' Special waiters were brought in from Louisville to do the serving."

# Do attorney general's opinions condone secrecy?

Mark R. Chellgren  
The Associated Press

Recent opinions of the attorney general reflect a growing and disturbing trend toward condoning — even encouraging — secrecy in the conduct of the public's business.

The attorney general's office is charged with interpreting the Open Records Law and arbitrating disputes about its application.

And in the 14 years since enactment of the law, the attorney general's office has slowly but surely ratified the continuing efforts of government to keep the public from peeking in.

An opinion released last week reached a new low while at the same time perpetuating an old misconception about the intent of the law.

"The provisions of the Kentucky Open Records Act address only inspection of records," said Assistant Attorney General D. Brent Irvin. "They do not require public agencies or officials to provide or compile specific information to conform to the parameters of a given request."

That's just plain wrong.

The opening words to the 1976 act are as follows:

"Whereas government is the servant of the people and not the master of them; and Whereas, access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a fundamental and necessary right of every citizen in the Commonwealth of Kentucky . . ."

The key word is information. Records are merely the compilation of information.

In the statute itself, records are broadly defined. The definition includes, "all books, papers, maps, photographs, cards, tapes, discs, recordings or other documentary materials regardless of physical form or characteristics . . ."

In Irvin's specific opinion, he upheld the refusal of officers of Owensboro Daviess-County Hospital to provide information to Bryan K. Smeathers, news director of WKCM radio station in Hawesville.

Among other things, Smeathers sought a "list" of memberships at a local country club that are paid for by the hospital.

Irvin seized on that single word and reached an absurd result.

By citing earlier and equally off-the-mark attorney general's opinions, Irvin said public agencies are not required to create lists where none exist.

"A person desiring that lists be made or that he have copies of broad categories of information must expend his own time in digging out the information unless it has already been compiled," Irvin said.

However, the information to be dug out is presumably to be found on some document or record, as opposed to floating in thin air.

But Irvin provided the kicker when he added in a letter to a hospital administrator, "We are informed there is no list of memberships, because your agency pays for only one membership at that club."

Thus, Irvin confirmed the "information" was available, just not in the form that Smeathers specifically mentioned.

Presumably, the message for the future is to be as literal as possible when seeking information from some public agency. If it is not on a list, perhaps it is on a three-by-five card, or a sheet of

legal paper, computer disc (diskette?), scratch pad, or scrawled on the back of someone's hand?

Irvin said Smeathers' other requests could be denied because he did not seek specific records. Thus, when Smeathers asked about how much money was spent by the hospital on its 1989 Christmas party, Irvin said the hospital did not have to answer.

If the request had been for vouchers or canceled checks, would that have been sufficient? Or would it be necessary to ask for a specific check or voucher by number, a task impossible if you are denied access in the first place.

In a related opinion, Assistant Attorney General Thomas R. Emerson gave secretive bureaucrats another excuse, one that fits them perfectly.

Emerson told Bruce Wilkinson, Gov. Wallace Wilkinson's nephew and appointments secretary, that he didn't have to turn over records to the Lexington Herald-Leader. The reason Bruce Wilkinson gave for the refusal was that he didn't have the records compiled and it would take his secretary several hours to do the job.

Thus, poor record-keeping is

now a recognized exception to the Open Records Law.

What will they think of next?

## And then . . .

Anne Chaney, *The Paintsville Herald*  
November 21, 1990

Bankruptcy, a friend of mine observed the other day, is the legal way to not do the right thing (i.e., pay one's bills). It was an interesting idea and one that has quite a bit of merit.

In a broader sense, it sometimes appears that we are in danger of becoming a country governed by law rather than by conscience.

There is a correlation between attending public meetings at which the public rarely, if ever, shows and living in a country where an abysmally low number of citizens exercise their right to vote. There is a similar correlation between apathy and diminishing rights.

It is not surprising, then, that the state's media finds itself arguing snippets of legislation that ought never to have been questioned.

Members of the Kentucky Press Association are being forced to try to make government agencies comply with the intent — as opposed to the letter — of the law. The law defines a public meeting as one at which a quorum of the school board, city council or other governing body is a) present and b) communicating.

Three members of a school board in separate sections of the bleachers at a football game does not constitute a quorum. Three members of a school board who just "happen" to drop by the superintendent's office to talk does constitute a quorum and, unless they turn on their heels and leave, will generally result in an illegal meeting.

Ever attend a meeting and wonder how everything gets passed unanimously — with no discussion?

Ask the school board and superintendent in Jefferson County. The superintendent routinely meets individually with board members prior to the public meeting where votes are taken on issues that are rarely, if ever, discussed.

They haven't broken the law, but they've fractured the intent. It is legal. By no stretch of the imagination, however, is it right.

Yes, members of the media may get the law tightened up. Yes, the general public may begin to take a greater interest in its own government.

But until we do what is right simply because it is, will there be anything just left in justice?

## You know it'll be a bad winter . . .

Russ Metz  
*Bath County News-Outlook*  
November 15, 1990

You know it is going to be a bad winter. Not because the woolly worm is woolier. Not because squirrels have been out early gathering their nuts. Not because polecats' pelts are so thick. Not because the chickens are roosting higher in the trees. Not because the shucks on ears of corn are tighter. Not even because the highway department is storing up higher piles of road salt.

It's when your congressman announces he is going to visit his home district after he's won re-election. If he was coming back to rest up, sample some of the local grog and mooch a few free meals off constituents, he wouldn't be broadcasting it.

It is pretty obvious he has an axe to grind. It is something he has done or is going to do that he wants to apologize for. Otherwise, he wouldn't make that long mule ride over the mountains.

There was a time when congressmen came home during recess and would belly up to the stove in the country stores and tell the latest funnies from Capitol Hill. Now they are too afraid they can't explain all their free spending legislation to the poor homefolks, so it is simpler just to hide out from them.

Now you have to depend on leaks through the press or sift through bales of House and Senate Record to pick up the humorous side of the Washington madhouse. A few we've collected go like this:

A candidate for the House of

Representatives was giving one of his finest street-corner speeches when one voter continued to heckle him with nasty barbs. After the speech, the baiter shouted, "I wouldn't vote for you if you were St. Peter himself!"

The candidate faced him squarely and replied, "My friend, if I were St. Peter, there would be no possible way you could vote for me. You wouldn't be in my district!"

Then it was during a March 1966 debate in the Senate over an amendment to the supplemental foreign aid authorization bill that the late Sen. Birch Bayh of Indiana was struck with foot-in-mouth trouble.

The amendment would require a "buy American products" policy on purchases of iron and other metal products for Vietnam. The Senator argued that United States aid funds were being used by the Vietnamese to buy steel sheets made in Japan.

"The Japanese steel sheets are twice as thin as those made in America," Bayh claimed.

At this, Sen. Bourke Hickenlooper rose and asked, "Twice as thin?"

"Half as thin," answered Bayh. Then, on second thought, he corrected himself, "No, make that read twice as thick."

Realizing that he had his tongue stuck in quicksand he turned to the official reporters and said, "Let the Record show what the Senator from Indiana meant to say, and not what he said."

## Kentucky views

Editorials from across  
the commonwealth

# A mind's eye view of Hardin County

Greg Kocher  
The News Enterprise, Elizabethtown  
November 7, 1990

I have been thinking a lot about what "community" means in recent days.

It's been on my mind because I'm about to move from this place to another. After nine years of writing about Hardin and LaRue counties for this newspaper, I'm off to Jackson, Tenn.

At this juncture, as President Bush would say, I have spent a quarter of my life here. So it seems there should be some accounting of "What It Has All Meant."

So what has it meant? Well, all sorts of "firsts" were marked here.

I lived on my own for the first time. I bought my first two cars here, the first in Radcliff, the second in Elizabethtown.

My first serious car accident was in front of Towne Mall. A slew of other "firsts" followed: The first time I was named as a defendant in a lawsuit, the first time I was grilled by attorneys in a deposition. Ah, what memories!

In the back of my mind, I thought I would find my first wife here. Oh, well. Maybe she'll be a Tennessee gal.

Kentucky writer Wendell Berry is another reason why I have been thinking about community. He writes beautifully about the meaning of community in his recently published collec-

tion of essays titled "What Are People For?"

Berry works and writes on a Henry County farm above the Kentucky River. I identified closely with these lines:

"My subject is my place in the world, and I live in my place," Berry writes. "There is a sense in which I no longer 'go to work.' If I live in my place, which is my subject, then I am 'at work' even when I am not working.

"It is 'my' work because I cannot escape it," Berry continues. "Writing about it cannot 'free' me of it or 'get it out of my system.' When I am finished writing, I can only return to what I have been writing about."

To any reporter who keeps an ear cocked for news, these words are more than self-conscious musings. They are words to live by.

On the other hand, I do not pretend to know this community as intimately as Berry knows the slopes and paths of his farm. I do not know this community's subtle shifts and changes as well as those who were born here, or who have been here longer. They, perhaps, know the community as well as Berry knows the tug of the harness as he works his draft horses.

But just as a farmer must tend and cultivate his ground, a reporter must pay heed to the forces at work in the community. In each case, attentiveness is the only way to provide others with

the food or news they require.

I have often thought someone should do one of those "Day in the Life" books to photograph Hardin County as it is now. You may have seen these handsome coffee table books filled with pictures taken when photographers converged on one place for 24 hours. They have done "A Day in the Life of Australia," followed by China, Hawaii, the United States, and the Soviet Union. It has been done so often that the format is now something of a cliché.

Nevertheless, life is so diverse and multi-faceted here that the mosaic should not go unrecorded in a local "Day in the Life." Think about it: At one end of Hardin County, Amish farmers tend the land as they have elsewhere for generations. At the opposite end of the county, soldiers in multi-million dollar tanks sight targets with the help of lasers.

Between the two poles lies every walk of life. Factory workers and stockbrokers. Well-heeled and those "on the (Glendale) Hill."

In my mind's eye, "A Day in the Life of Hardin County" would take unblinking looks at the prosperity and poverty here. By showing all of it, we would acknowledge it, scars and all, as our community.

The 1980s were a good decade for me and for Hardin County. We grew

together and suffered loss together. Hardin County is where I became an adult.

Hardin County is where, like the protagonist in Richard Ford's novel "The Sportswriter," I learned that "for your life to be worth anything you must sooner or later face the possibility of terrible, searing regret. Though you must also manage to avoid it or your life will be ruined.

"I believe I have done these two things. Faced down regret. Avoided ruin. And I am still here to tell about it."

## Alarming signs

### Survey presents disturbing news

from Florida Press Assoc. Bulletin  
October 1990

Americans feel ambivalent about the First Amendment right of free expression, reports Shrona Foreman, Miami Herald Washington Bureau correspondent.

A new survey, "Public Attitudes Toward Censorship and Free Expression," indicates that while 90 percent of those surveyed felt that the government has no right to tell people what to do or say, only 65 percent felt that this right should be extended to the press.

The survey was conducted by the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression, as part of the group's goal of promoting and defending the right of free expression.

"(There is) an alarming gap between support for pure speech — utterance of the spoken word — and freedom of the press," said Robert O'Neil, director of the Jefferson Center. "The level of popular support for press freedom is (waning)."

Forty-eight percent of Americans identified the media or the arts as areas in which government has the power of censorship. The survey also showed that 67 percent of Americans feel the government should keep some violent acts off network television.

The survey also showed that there is some confusion among the public about what constitutes free expression. For example, 63 percent said that First Amendment protects films, yet 62 percent said the government has the power to prevent the showing of violent films.

"Improving public understanding of the meaning of free expression will be our major task," O'Neil said.

## Good point

The Richmond Register  
October 1990

Albert Jones makes a good point.

Jones, a state legislator from Paducah serving on a panel reviewing Kentucky's open meetings and records laws, says some local government agencies have adopted tactics that at least violate the spirit of the law.

They do that in a variety of ways, including scheduling meetings at times inconvenient to the citizenry and reaching consensus among members by informal polling before meeting time.

"And when they come and meet, there is really no discussion of the subject before the public because the decision has already been made," Jones said.

That's difficult, if not impossible, to prove, but what else is the public to think when decisions on complicated, important matters are made in the wink of an eye?

We're anxious to see the recommendations of this legislative task force, because we happen to think the public wants to know why something is done, not just that it's done.

## Agency should know how to keep records

The Paducah Sun  
November 1, 1990

The disappearance of correspondence relating to the savings and loan industry from a government agency's files might be subject to more than one interpretation — ranging from poor housekeeping to coverup of damaging information.

Either way, it doesn't look good.

The Office of Thrift Supervision reports that dozens of letters written by congressmen to savings and loan regulators are missing.

The letters were available for public inspection under Freedom of Information statutes and thus were examined by many people, including reporters.

The OTS allowed the correspondence to be examined out of the view of any agency employee. Whatever commendable reasons there may have been for that procedure, relinquishing of even momentary control over the materials no doubt contributed to their loss.

Given the political sensitivity of some of the letters, the result should not have been surprising.

While much of the correspondence merely dealt with concerns of depositors, some revealed congressmen's efforts to pressure regulators on behalf of S&L operators. The politicians' stake in the convenient disappearance of the letters is obvious.

Recordkeeping is big business in Washington and a great deal of taxpayer money is spent on it. Bureaucrats ought to know how to do it right by this time.

## Naming names

The Kentucky New Era in Hopkinsville announced a series of managerial changes in November. Former city editor MICHAEL G. HERNDON took over as managing editor, replacing his father CECIL HERNDON who retired after heading the news operation since 1975. The post of city editor was eliminated with the creation of two associate editor positions. LOWELL D. ATCHLEY, former senior staff writer, moved to associate editor for news and DAVID L. RILEY, former graphics editor, became associate editor for news operations. The new manager joined the paper's staff as a part-time sports writer in 1965, is a graduate of the University of Kentucky and a former KPA award winner for education reporting. A graduate of Berea College, Atchley was hired as a staff writer in 1979, a post he left in 1981-82 to serve as an aide to Congressman Carroll Hubbard. He has won writing and photography awards from KPA. Riley is a graduate of the University of Missouri and a commander in the US Naval Reserves.

BOB HERRON has been tapped to edit *The Berea Register*, a zoned edition of *The Richmond Register*, published on Wednesdays. Herron, an Eastern Kentucky University graduate, is a former staff member at the *Citizen Voice and Times* in Irvine. The Madison County weekly's former editor RANDY PATRICK has rejoined the staff in Richmond as county government/court-house reporter.

### 'Ring' your chimes with this award

Feb. 1, 1991, is the deadline for entering the competition for the \$25,000 (yes!) Selden Ring Award for the top investigative story or series in the country in 1990.

The award rewards the "investigative article or series of articles that most truly inform the public about a situation of vital importance and results in positive, beneficial action."

The official nomination form must be accompanied by (1) a scrapbook of the articles being nominated, along with a description of how the situation developed and how the reporter pursued the story, including any obstacles or problems that had to be overcome; (2) the action resulting from the publication of the investigation, and (3) nominee's resume.

For information, write to Selden Ring Award, c/o William J. Woestendiek, Director, School of Journalism, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-1695, or call 213/740-3914.

RICHARD BRINEGAR has been named circulation manager at *The Richmond Register*. He is a former district sales manager in the paper's circulation department.

The new advertising representative for *The Spencer Magnet* is MISSY VERBECK, a University of Louisville graduate.

*The News-Enterprise* in Elizabethtown has recently added three staff members: KAREN MATTINGLY, graphic design compositor; CHARLES HILTON, district manager in circulation, and CINDY BAILEY, temporary typist.

RAMONA BRAMBLETT is the new circulation manager for *The Henry County Local* in New Castle.

DUANNE PUCKETT, editor of *The Sentinel-News* in Shelbyville, earned the Woman of Achievement award given by the Shelbyville chapter of Business and Professional Women's Club. In accepting the award, she received a standing ovation from the audience at the organization's annual banquet.

Also at *The Sentinel-News*, JILL JONES has joined the staff to sell special publications and advertising to businesses in the Shelbyville-Frankfort area. She is a WKU graduate and served internships at five Landmark Community Newspapers.

LCNI has recently appointed RUTH NIERMEYER as Regional Sales and Marketing Director, Central Office. An Ohio State University graduate, she has worked with the Carroll County (Md.) *Times*, the York (Pa.) *Daily Record* and Nostalgia Networks in North Carolina.

TIM BALLARD, editor of *The Kentucky Standard* in Bardstown, has been named publicity chairman for the board of directors of Kentucky Crime Stoppers.

CHESTER S. ROZAK, controller at *The Courier-Journal* in Louisville, has been elected to the 22-member board of directors of the International Newspaper Financial Executives for 1990-91.

Associated Industries of Kentucky, an associate member, has announced two staff appointments. BRADLEY D. SUTHERLAND, formerly of the New York Times Company, is AIK's new director of membership services. The new director of communications and research is DANA L. REITER, a Bellarmine College graduate.

### In Memoriam

VIRGINIA BOYD COX, former society page editor for the *Lexington Leader*, died recently. She was an editor at the paper from 1957 until her retirement in 1973. She was 82.

DAVID DICK has officially stepped down as publisher of *The Bourbon Times*, which he started in 1988. He cited his duties as director of the University of Kentucky journalism program as the prime reason. But the weekly is still in the family. Wife EULALIE DICK is now at the helm. The couple's farmhouse was featured recently in the Kentucky Homes section of the *Sunday Lexington Herald-Leader*.

Former regional reporter STEVE THOMAS has left *The Messenger-Inquirer* in Owensboro to be city editor of *The Daily News* in Bowling Green. He replaces GENE CANTRELL, who has accepted a leadership position with the Anderson family papers in Morgantown and Beaver Dam. Thomas, a Western Kentucky University graduate, is also a former general assignment and police reporter for the Nashville (Tenn.) *Banner*.

Cantrell's new position, by the way, comes with the health-related retirement of KPA board member and past president LARRY CRAIG. The former editor of *The Ohio County Messenger* and *Green River Republican* plans

to continue his ministerial duties, teach some courses at WKU and do free-lance writing. Craig said he also expects to stay active in KPA.

A round of staff changes has been made at *The Carlisle Mercury*, starting with the naming of MAYNARD ALMJELD as assistant publisher. Almjeld, former advertising director at *The Richmond Register*, will also direct the general operations of TCM Publications, a printing and publications subsidiary of the newspaper company. UK graduate TIM JONES has been promoted to managing editor. Another UK alumnus, KARA READ, is the paper's new editorial composition supervisor, in addition to her duties as staff writer-photographer. Joining the sales department is WILLIAM MILLION, a Kentucky State University graduate, and his wife TRACEY MONEY MILLION is a new part-time staff member. Another newcomer, SUSAN ROLING, has been named administrative assistant to the publishers, as well as receptionist and classified advisor.

## No looking back

by Mary D. Ferguson  
New Era Staff Writer

At age 41, Cecil Herndon switched careers, leaving years of work in the insurance business behind him as he ventured toward a lifelong dream—working for a newspaper.

Twenty-two years later, he is beginning retirement from his position as executive editor of the *Kentucky New Era* (Hopkinsville), proclaiming, "I never looked back.

"In the newspaper business I found my home, and all in all, it was what I had always wanted," he said.

Herndon, 63, is a Logan County native who got a taste of newspaper work in high school when he worked on the Russellville High School paper and yearbook, and later for a brief time as a writer for his hometown weekly newspaper.

"All my life I've wanted to be in the newspaper business, but life took me in different directions. However, when the opportunity came, I took it," he explains.

He went to work for the *New Era* in 1968 as sports editor, served for a brief time as wire editor, and then moved to city editor, serving in that capacity until 1975, when he was named executive editor.

As executive editor, he has been responsible for the entire news operation of the paper, for the writing of editorials and the editorial page, and

has written an outdoors column.

In retirement, he will continue the outdoors column and will write a general sports column.

Always an avid sportsman, Herndon said he is looking forward to retirement giving him a lot more time for "fishing, golfing, gardening and all the things I really enjoy."

Herndon attended Western Kentucky University and is a World War II Navy veteran.

He worked for a time for an electrical contractor, later as a paint contractor and a service station operator before joining the Life of Georgia insurance company with which he had a 16-year association before turning his efforts to journalism.

"It's been a great honor to work for the *Kentucky New Era* and I think being named executive editor was the highest honor I've ever been paid," he said. "I don't think you can find a newspaper anywhere which serves a community any better than the *New Era*."

Reflecting on events of the past two decades, he said, "The owners of this newspaper have invested greatly in improvements and I deem it remarkable. But that's what you get with local, private newspaper ownership."

**Headliner**—How's this from the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, over an item on an accident by rocker David Crosby:  
**Crosby spills in crash**



## Pick ups

Maysville Newspapers Inc. has ceased publication of the weekly newspaper, *The Times*, circulated in Bracken and Robertson counties. The 18-year-old paper was distributed free

### Marketing contest sponsored by INMA

You don't have to be a member of the International Newspaper Marketing Association to enter its 56th annual INMA/Editor & Publisher Awards Competition for newspaper marketing and promotion.

Entry categories include in-paper promotions, printed materials, trade advertising, outdoor/point-of-purchase/display advertising, radio and television spots, multi-media campaigns, research, sales presentations, public relations events, community service/education, internal communications and miscellaneous promotional items.

Circulation categories for entries from both weeklies and dailies are: less than 50,000; 50,000-100,000; 100,000-200,000, and more than 200,000.

INMA judges will pick one Best of Show from among first place winners in 19 categories. Also recognized will be excellence in copywriting and graphic design.

Entry fee is \$35 per entry, and the deadline is Jan. 14, 1991. For entry forms and information, write INMA, PO Box 17422, Washington, DC 20041, or call 703/648-1094.

Winners will be announced at the INMA International Conference May 19-22 in Orlando.

### For weeklies only

American Press Institute has several openings in its programs for weeklies in 1991: "Editing the Weekly and Community Newspaper," Jan. 13-18, and "Management of the Weekly Newspaper," April 28-May 3.

The editing seminar will cover such topics as organizing and managing the news operation, effective writing, copy editing and headline writing, serving loyal readers and reaching new ones, visual impact, ethical standards and legal concerns.

The management seminar will focus on improving design and content, meeting community needs, variety and depth, technology, increasing advertising revenue, human resource development, marketing and legal concerns.

Both programs are set for the API facility in Reston, Va., near Washington, DC. For information, call 703/620-3611.

to non-subscribers of *The Ledger-Independent*, and, though primarily a shopper, it did include news of the two counties. Publisher Gary Quinn said resources now committed to the weekly will be better utilized at the daily publication.

*The Eastern Progress*, Eastern Kentucky University's weekly student newspaper, won a national Newspaper Pacemaker award during the Nov. 4 meeting in Washington, DC, of the Associated Collegiate Press. It was selected as one of the top three campus non-daily newspapers in national competition with judges from *The Washington Post*, following its selection as a regional winner in September. Editor of *The Progress* during the judging year, 1989-90, was Jennifer Feldman, now editor of *The Spencer Magnet* in Taylorsville. Dr. Elizabeth Fraas is the faculty advisor.

*The Times-Tribune* in Corbin published its first-ever Thanksgiving Day edition, which contained the *Times-Tribune Holiday Cookbook*. The paper, delivered Thursday morning, was also free. Publisher Charles F. DeVane said

the edition was an attempt "to accommodate our advertisers who have wanted a Thanksgiving edition for a long time."

Eight Kentucky newspapers owned by Landmark Community Newspapers Inc. joined WAVE-TV, Bashford Manor Mall and WRKA-103 to promote a pen pal project among area residents and American soldiers in the Middle East. The goal was 7,500 Kentucky pen pals when the postcards for the project became available on Friday, Nov. 2, but by Sunday, 8,000 cards had been filled out. Participating papers were *The News-Enterprise*, *Inside the Turret*, *The Kentucky Standard*, *The Pioneer News*, *The Spencer Magnet*, *The Sentinel-News*, *The Oldham Era* and *Henry County Local*.

Nearly 800 people—a standing room only crowd—attended the recent *News-Enterprise* Homemaker Show in Elizabethtown. Advertising representatives Holly Stapleton, Bill Anderson, Marcia Burris and Portia Oldham distributed door prizes.

An ad for Jones Buick in the

*News-Enterprise* was selected to appear in the 1990 INAME Sales and Idea Book, marking the first time the Elizabethtown paper has been represented in the national publication.

*The News-Democrat* in Russellville pointed out its historic and economic importance to the community in a recent article, highlighting its production facility as one of the oldest and biggest industries in Logan County. The paper, the article said, originated in 1805, and its printing plant turns out some 300 million pages a year in 15 publications a week. The company, which uses 410 tons of newsprint a year, employs 34 persons and operates out of a converted hardware store.

*The Georgetown Graphic* is assisting the journalism class at Scott County High School with production of its student newspaper *The Cardinal Spirit*.

*The Harrodsburg Herald* recently received a Best 1989 News Story Award from the Kentucky division of the American Cancer Society.

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# 'The name's the thing . . .'

by Pam Shingler  
Press Editor

When I went off to the University of Georgia more than a few years ago, I spent the first few weeks in terror of flunking out. I'd thought I was a real hotshot with the language, but now I was about to be shot down because of the language.

The late Dean John M. Drewry taught three courses required of all journalism majors. (He wasn't late then.) Packed 250 strong in an auditorium built when people were built much smaller, many of us neophytes had Georgia's journalistic guru for two periods a day.

So for two hours five days a week for about a month, I sat there in the back row of assigned seats in an overheated room not only cramped and sweaty, but also on the edge of breakdown because I couldn't understand the teacher.

Dean Drewry was from Middle Georgia and spoke what sounded to me like Old English. His accent, though one of many southern accents, was the kind that actors try — generally badly — to imitate when they affect a genteel southern accent. The dean's words were often drawn out as if savored individually, every declarative sentence rose at the end as if a question, and the rhythm jumped around from mud-slow to rat-a-tat-tat.

## Eagle

My life had been spent mostly amid the equally colorful patois of eastern Kentucky, and the revered dean who garnered intended laughter from most of the other students was speaking a foreign language to me. What frustrated me the most were his references to newspapers throughout the state of Georgia. I was unfamiliar with the towns, let alone the intriguing names of the newspapers that he rolled around in his mouth and spit out with relish.

When I finally began to understand his lilt a little better and realized that his exams were recycled over decades and had nothing to do with his ramblings, I came to appreciate almost as much as he did the quaint and often unusual names of Georgia's community press. The *Hahira Gold Leaf*, The *Lumber City Log*, The *Meriweather Vindicator*, The *Wiregrass Farmer*, The *Dahlonega Nugget*, The *Ocilla Star*.

Later as the cub reporter in the university's news bureau, I pulled hometown release duty and what was a chore for everyone else was a joy to me because I became even better acquainted with newspapers that served the state's 170-some counties.

That same fascination follows me as I have the opportunity to deal with Kentucky's press. To acquaint myself with papers outside the Big Sandy, I sometimes pore over the list-

ings in the KPA directory, and once again the names intrigue.

For example, with only four Democrats, three Republicans and four Independents, there's not much politics among Kentucky newspapers—if name is any indication.

A look at the names of KPA papers reveals a more straightforward bent. Close to a third have the word "News" on their flags.

If name is any kind of indicator, 16 papers see their mission as reporting the Times. Twelve regard themselves as a Herald of . . . whatever, while six are Messengers, four are Couriers, one is a Clarion and another is a Signal.

## Sentinel

The idea of the newspaper as a history of the community is implicit in the titles of a number of papers: Recorder (3), Record (4), Journal (9), Ledger (4), Register (1) and Era (1).

And if time travel is pursued, you can choose either a Local or an Express.

Four communities have Advocates among the local press; four others have Sentinels — for their protection, we expect — and three have a Voice in the local media. One has a Defender, and five have a Leader in the newspaper.

Two papers are the Standard for their populace, and six cut through the blarney, proclaiming they are simply Enterprises. Three papers say, in their names, that they are what we expect papers to be: E/Inquirer.

Reflecting its area and its purpose, one is a Gleaner, which always makes me think of a 19th century painting.

Other papers' names mirror their role as well: Banner (4); Tribune (3); Citizen (3); Progress (3); Gazette (3); Press (2); Outlook (2); Post (1), and Echo (1).

Five let you know right at the top that they are Daily, and three have the word "week" in their titles.

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Classical mythology contributes to the flags of three Kentucky newspapers. The symbolism is not lost on the *Argus*, named after the giant of Greek legend who had a thousand eyes. The two *Mercurys* no doubt seek to emulate the fleet-footed Roman messenger god.

Two papers claim a wide territory in their titles: State and Commonwealth. Another, the *Pioneer*, indicates what newspeople must sometimes do and be.

Six papers have a bright star to illuminate their role, *The Sun*. And one has a name that can be interpreted a couple of ways, *Graphic* (your choice).

For some, there's no obvious relation in the name to the news business.

Though she wasn't affiliated with the paper in the early part of the century when its name was changed, Dolly Brock suspects the owners of the *Spencer Journal* considered the title "too ordinary" when they renamed it the *Spencer Magnet*.

## Magnet

*Magnet* is certainly an out-of-the-ordinary name for a newspaper, admits Brock, who recently retired after 42 years of running the paper. "I don't remember who changed it," she says, "but I guess *Magnet* was chosen because the paper draws people to it."

In her more than four decades with the paper, Brock says she "didn't have the guts to change the name."

Henry Stone, general manager of the newspaper in Franklin, says he doesn't have a clue as to how the paper came to be called *The Franklin Favorite*. But unusual or not, the alliterative name has stuck since 1857, which must mean that it is just what its name says.

Nor does Pat Gish have any idea how the *Whitesburg* paper came to be called *The Mountain Eagle*. The *Mountain* part is self-explanatory since Letcher County is deep into the Appalachian Mountains (as is the *Appalachian News-Express* in Pikeville). But the *Eagle* part is interesting. Perhaps as the flag states, "It screams." Or maybe it's because, like the paper's unusual format of standard page/tabloid mix, the *Mountain Eagle* is a rare bird.

## Favorite

There's something sturdy and solid and comfortable about the old-fashioned names, such as *Times*, *Courier* or *Tribune*, but there's also an exoticism, an eccentricity, a quaintness about those papers that hang on to odd monikers. You just know there's a good story behind their origin and the crusty jour-

nalists who came up with the intriguing names.

The *Lumber City Log*, for instance, had to be the brainchild of someone with a sense of humor.

## Databank

• Any operation that has personnel sitting in front of computers for long stretches of time might be advised to get on the mailing list for *ErgoFacts*, a new bulletin from the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The one-page fliers, which began circulation in October, describe a common workplace problem, present changes made to reduce ergonomic risks and discuss solutions. Employers interested in receiving the publication should write *ErgoFacts*, OSHA Information and Consumer Affairs, Room N3647, Frances Perkins Building, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20210. Only written requests can be accepted.

• Anyone looking into telecommunication equipment could use some reports recently published by the American Newspaper Publishers Association (ANPA). *Telecommunications Vendor Directory* offers help in evaluating and purchasing telecommunication equipment, such as automated attendant systems, automatic call distribution systems, cellular phones, fax machines, etc. Two other publications, *Strategic Tools for the 1990s* and *New Channels*, look at telecommunication tools and the future of newspapers. The vendor listing is free and the other two reports are \$5 each to ANPA members (\$25 non-members). Call Renee Menanteau at 703/648-1140.

• Another ANPA publication of interest to the business is *Preserving Independent Contractor Status of Newspaper Distributors and Freelancers*. It is available for \$5 from ANPA Human Resources Dept., The Newspaper Center, Box 17407 Dulles Airport, Washington, DC 20041.

• The reporter's Bible — *Investigative Reporting* — has been released in updated second edition by Iowa State University Press. The standard textbook for many years, the book by Peter Benjaminson and David Anderson is available in paperback for \$19.95 from ISU Press, 2121 S. State Ave., Ames, Iowa 50010; or call 515/292-0155 to order.

• *Eleventh Edition: The Best of Newspaper Design* is now available for \$49 from the Society of Newspaper Design. The 224-page softcover book displays the winners of last year's Best of Newspaper Design annual competition and has more than 570 examples of newspaper graphics and design excellence. To order, write SND, The Newspaper Center, Box 17290, Dulles International Airport, Washington, DC 20041.

Kentucky editors advise:

## Journalism grads need more than spelling tips

Garrett Ray  
Colorado State University  
from *Publishers' Auxiliary*,  
November 12, 1990

Each semester we give a diagnostic English usage test to students in the beginning newswriting lab. Some students do well. Others make errors like this:

"The committee have made their biggest impact on..."

"The cat jumped from it's basket..."

"Her decision will not effect us..."

Test scores of some students leave me appalled and apprehensive. These students think they are good writers. How did they make it to college sophomore level with such basic shortcomings? How much repair work can we do in our short time with them?

A panel discussion during the national convention of Society of Professional Journalists in October renewed my discomfort. The panel was not set up just to make me uncomfortable, but to explore again the continuing dilemma: What should the profession expect of journalism schools?

These discussions, perennial fixtures at journalism meetings, usually turn into highly predictable debates. Editors ask, "Why can't you give us people who can spell, type, cover a city council meeting accurately, and take a sharp picture with a simple camera?"

The J-school people respond, "We're not trade schools any more. We should give new journalists a broad education, and we should do research to learn more about the profession."

Both themes got a hearing during the SPJ meeting in Louisville. Still, this discussion was refreshingly different because of the broad vision of the editors on the panel.

John Carroll, editor of the Lexington *Herald-Leader*, confirmed that the profession expects paradoxical qualities in J-grads: technical competence and a broad education. In his view, graduates' writing skills appear to be pretty good, although editing skills are poor.

Carroll, though, didn't intend to spend the morning talking about why J-grads can't spell. He had a broader agenda. "Journalists often stop growing after a few years," he continued. "Can journalism schools inspire a lifelong habit of self-stimulated growth?"

Only a broad education can produce journalists with the depth and breadth to keep themselves curious and growing after years of deadlines and repetitive assignments, he implied. Carroll urged journalism students to give some time to a subject totally outside their major.

David Hawpe, editor of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, posed another paradox:

Many of our society's problems cannot be solved with quick, dramatic answers, but only with time-consuming incremental solutions. However, journalism — especially journalism designed to win prizes — demands quick solutions; ideally, the solutions can be publicized before the contest deadlines.

The community needs patient, thoughtful journalism that recognizes the need for incremental problem-solving. Instead, it gets what Hawpe called "the rhetoric of crisis": journalism that is dramatic but narrow, evocative but shallow.

"Can journalism schools give us people who know the difference, and who will oppose me when I suggest the wrong kind of journalism?" he asked.

Emphasizing the need for "properly skeptical" young people, the editor urged journalism schools to ex-

pose students to the scientific method.

The Kentucky editors made me feel even more anxious about the challenges we face in the J-schools. I know that editors of many community weeklies indeed do see us as vocational schools. They expect a steady stream of entry-level people who can spell, type and cover a meeting. Frankly, many may not expect a lot more, and they certainly aren't willing to pay for more.

Our students may be with them only a year or two, so the shortsightedness may be understandable. I think, however, that editors who adopt this view are shorting themselves and the profession.

My colleagues in J-schools and I are going to continue spending more time than we ought to, trying to help students understand subject-verb agreement and the possessive case. But we can't stop there. I'm grateful for professional journalists who expect more, and I'm even more grateful for those who seem willing to help us provide more.

## Bare bones research is better than no research

Not too many Kentucky newspapers can afford the big bucks the professionals require to do audience research, even though publishers are concerned that their products interest readers.

Phil Currie, vice president/news for Gannett's community newspapers, shares some common sense research techniques in a recent issue of *Between Issues*, newsletter of the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association.

Currie suggests gathering the staff together, along with a few friends and neighbors, for a basic fact-finding, question/answer session. Have someone write down the answers you come up with.

Suggested specific questions include:

—What do people in our area talk about at parties, in restaurants, sitting around the dinner table, in bars, at work, on coffee break? List the topics that come up frequently.

—What is the market like? Include demographic information, such as age, education levels, housing, income, as well as the community's economic condition, assets, liabilities, trends, changes.

—What items can be found regularly in the newspaper? The result should be a straightforward list, from weather to government coverage to high school sports.

Suggested subjective questions include:

—What do we do well in the newspaper? Make a list.  
—What don't we do as well as we would like? Another list.  
—What keeps us from doing those things as well as we would like? List those barriers.

In this bare bones research, newspapers can get a picture of their communities, how well they are reflecting and serving readers' interests and concerns, and an idea of what they can do.

## Check those ads

Most newspapers shy away from classifieds that appear too good to be true. A way to check on ads that appear suspicious is through the local Better Business Bureau.

The following account appears in the November 1990 edition of *Horizons*, published by the BBB in Louisville.

"... a weekly newspaper submitted the following copy for review: 'APPEAR IN COMMERCIALS, EARN EXTRA MONEY, ALL AGES, ALL TYPES NEEDED, NO EXPERIENCE. CALL NOW! 1-800...'

"Well, we called and the toll free number took us into an advertising agency in New York City, or that's what we were told. 'Larry' answered the call and told us his agency was looking for people in the Louisville area who wanted to appear in television commercials.

"Larry wanted to know the caller's hair and eye color, height, weight and leisure time activities. He said his agency was looking for 'real' people to appear in commercials because TV stations and advertisers were tired of working with celebrities..."

"Larry said we can make \$1,000 for a local commercial and \$25,000 for a national commercial. Then Larry said, 'Please send \$135 and we'll mail you a package of information that will explain how to get commercial work.'

"Without asking more, our caller said, 'No thanks, Larry...' the newspaper decided not to run the advertisement."

## Season's Greetings

from the staff of  
Kentucky Press Association  
and Kentucky Press Service



David  
Bonnie  
Reba  
Gloria  
Sue  
Debbi  
Rachel  
Kim  
Faye  
Pam

## Winter workshop, continued from page 1

tion. He will "outline a plan for subscription sales that combines the best of using samples, a special offer, telemarketing and an inexpensive premium." The program, he says, has accounted for 10 to 30 percent increases in subscribers at many papers.

Next, he will look at a nuts and bolts approach to planning and budgeting. "Instead of being driven by your inbox, planning helps you take charge to accomplish the really important changes you want to make in your business," he says. "Budgeting helps you take charge of the financial situation, so that you plan in advance your net profit for the coming year, rather than being surprised, happily or unhappily, when your accountant prepares your tax return."

After lunch, Chamberlin will cover "target marketing, selling campaigns instead of weekly advertising, and an advertising approach based on goals set by the merchant and designed to fulfill his wants."

He says he will also talk about advertising competition and about how advertising persons can help their ad-

vertisers stay in business. "How well your businesses compete with big city malls and discounters may be the biggest factor in your community's survival," he says. "I will cover such things as how your retailers can compete with Wal-Mart, for instance."

The day's presentation will end with a management ideas session — "simple ideas I have put together and used in 25 years of newspaper publishing."

Chamberlin has presented management seminars at regional and state newspaper conventions in the United States and Canada. Last year alone, he led workshops for newspaper associations in Michigan, Texas, North and South Dakota, Washington, Ohio, Oregon and Alberta, Canada.

The speaker has chaired the NNA Government Affairs Conference committee, is a director of the National Newspaper Foundation and is NNA's representative on the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

Chamberlin also teaches an undergraduate typography course and a graduate newspaper management course at South Dakota State University.

KPA will send out more details on arrangements and costs for the session, which includes lunch.

## Literacy efforts rewarded

Two Kentucky newspapers have been recognized by the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation for their efforts on behalf of literacy.

The *Lexington Herald-Leader* took second place honors in Category IV (over 100,000 circulation) in SNPA's second annual Literacy Awards competition. The paper received \$200 which will be given to Operation Read.

A certificate of merit went to *The Kentucky Post* in Covington for its special tab section on literacy.

According to SNPA, judges looked at "overall and continuing efforts to combat illiteracy," including editorial and news writing, special projects, community leadership, awareness activities and workplace literacy. Supporting materials and summaries covered activities from September 1989 through September 1990.

First place winners in the various categories were: Harlingen (Texas) *Valley Morning Star*; Biloxi (Miss.) *Sun Herald*; Pensacola (Fla.) *News Journal*, and Knoxville (Tenn.) *News-Sentinel*.

The foundation gave \$300 awards to first place winners, \$200 to second, and \$100 to third, with the money designated for literacy organizations.

## Hall of Fame nominations due

January 15 is the deadline for nominations for the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame.

Sixty-seven persons have been inducted into the Hall of Fame since its establishment in 1980 by the University of Kentucky Journalism Alumni Association to recognize Kentuckians who have made significant contributions to the profession of journalism.

Selections are made from individuals, living or dead, who are natives of Kentucky or who have spent a significant portion of their careers in Kentucky.

Nominations should be made in letter form, including pertinent background information about the nominee, including photograph, to Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame, School of Journalism, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky. 40506.

Those selected will be inducted in April during the Joe Creason Lecture at UK. The selection committee for the Hall of Fame consists of the dean of the UK College of Communications, director of the UK School of Journalism and the presidents of the Kentucky Press Association, Kentucky Broadcasters Association and the UK Journalism Alumni Association.

## Open meetings, continued from page 1

Peter Hayes, American Freedom Coalition of Kentucky.

The KPA redraft of House Bill 361, which was pulled in the 1990 General Assembly, aligns the bill more closely with the Open Records Act, specifically in the definition of a public agency. The proposed legislation would have the Open Meetings Law apply to any agency, created by state or local authority, that receives at least 25 percent of its funding from state or local government sources.

This would include corporations formed by city governments, utility companies owned by local governments and prisons run by private firms on behalf of the state. Exempted would be private organizations, such as utilities and hospitals, that are licensed and regulated by the state.

The proposed bill also addresses the issue of quorum in an attempt to prevent public agency officials from

meeting in groups smaller than a quorum to make policy decisions that are passed, pro forma, in public meetings.

It also seeks to limit the use of litigation discussion to justify closed sessions and further defines the public notice requirements for specially called meetings.

Perhaps most important, the proposal puts some teeth in the enforcement bite, outlining the role of the attorney general and the courts and suggesting penalties for violations.

The task force, which includes KPA representatives Steve Lowery and Stan Macdonald, is charged with drafting new legislation by next August to be presented to the 1992 General Assembly. The Dec. 13 meeting is set for 10 a.m. in 110 Capital Annex.

The complete text of the KPA redraft appears on pages 4 and 5 of *The Kentucky Press*.

## 3 papers sold,

continued from page 1

community farewell on Nov. 30.

The three former NYT papers have a combined circulation of 21,000 and have been owned by the company since 1982. American, the new owner, reportedly owns 181 publications worldwide, including 65 daily newspapers in the US. The final transition of control is expected to take four to six weeks, according to the Harlan paper. No details of the sale were released.

In Martin County, Stayton is the new publisher, and Grayson is the editor of *The Mountain Citizen*. Both had been affiliated with *The Martin County Mercury* before its merger.

Grayson said the new product will not be "politically oriented," a change from the situation of pre-merger years when the county's two papers were hotly competitive. He said advertisers have responded favorably to the new local ownership.

Terry Spears, editor and publisher of *The Martin Countian and Mercury*, has rejoined the staff of the *Appalachian News-Express* in Pikeville.

## Local reporter, continued from page 1

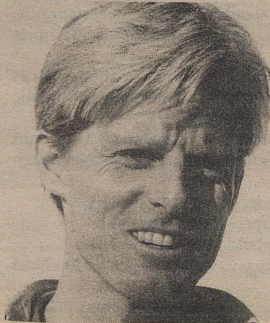
The result was a five-part series, focusing on the human element and spotlighting Kentucky soliders, that was used by *The News-Enterprise*, *The Kentucky Standard* in Bardstown, *Anderson*

*News* in Lawrenceburg and *The Spencer Magnet* in Taylorsville, all Landmark newspapers.

"It's a big story for any journalist, but a particularly challenging story for a community newspaper the size of *The News-Enterprise*," said editor David Greer.

The series, said Greer, covered such topics as the contrast between Fort Knox and Saudi Arabia, gas mask training, Kentuckians in the crisis area, women in the military, and the soldiers' views on the deployment.

A reporter with a global perspective, Boyd went to Japan last year on assignment for *The Kentucky Standard*. There he reported on a Nelson County man going through training for his job with a Bardstown company, owned by Japanese businesspeople.



TERRY BOYD