

The  
Kentucky  
Press



F (UK) LEX 405  
REPROGRAPHICS  
UNIVERSITY OF KY.  
211 KING LIBRARY SOUTH  
LEXINGTON KY

40506-003

\*  
oversize  
PN  
4700  
.K37  
V.77  
no.8  
2006  
Aug

August 2006 - Published by Kentucky Press Association/Kentucky Press Service

# KPA boot-camp counseling

## One-week session considered a success

BY DAVID GREER  
MEMBER SERVICES DIRECTOR

"I'm really glad I took this class," said Nancy Fisher. "I've learned a lot today." Fisher and 10 other people completed the KPA One-Week Journalism Boot Camp held July 10-14 in Frankfort.

Boot campers learned about feature and hard-news writing, Kentucky's Open Meetings and Open Records laws, AP style, covering a public meeting, the importance of taking accurate notes and a myriad of other topics. This writer served as boot camp instructor. In addition, boot campers heard from four guest speakers - retired Anderson News publisher and award-winning writer Don White, media attorney and KPA legal counsel Ashley Pack, Lexington Herald-Leader communities editor and former business writer Risa Brim and Louisville Courier-Journal columnist Bob Hill.

Classes were held in Frankfort's historic Berry Hill Mansion, now a state-owned office and meeting space facility.

Four members of the boot camp already work at Kentucky newspapers. The Paintsville Herald, Central



PHOTO BY JOHN WHITLOCK/KPA

Kentucky Press Association Member Services Director David Greer, front, leads a discussion on ethics with attendees at July's week-long journalism boot camp held in Frankfort.

Record in Garrard County, Kentucky New Era in Hopkinsville and Hoy en Las Americas, Landmark Community Newspapers' Spanish-language weekly published by the Sentinel-News of Shelbyville, all sent a representative. Two other boot campers had also been community columnists for two papers.

The rest of the boot campers were individuals interested in writing and newspaper work. They ranged in age from retirees to a high-school senior. Participants said they enjoyed boot camp and learned a

great deal from it. Those who completed two writing assignments within a two-week deadline after the boot camp received a plaque.

This marked the debut of the one-week format. Previous boot camps, started in 2001, ran for three weeks. The concept behind the boot camp is to provide training to those individuals who already work at papers but have no formal journalism schooling or those persons interested in writing and newspapering as a new or second career.

It's hoped the shorter format will make it more affordable and more

feasible for community papers to send representatives.

Class size had been limited to 15 people. All slots were filled and paid in advance but four people didn't attend - with reasons ranging from illness to a family emergency to car trouble.

Interest was high during the sign-up period with all 15 slots filled a week before the deadline.

More than a dozen people inquired about signing up after the slots were filled.

A second one-week boot camp in the fall is under consideration.



## PEOPLE AND PAPERS

### Tribune-Citizen hires new editor

Dale James has joined the Tribune-Citizen of Benton as editor.

James brings 20 years of experience to the job, including service at The Huntsville Times and The Selma Times-Journal in Alabama and The Greenwood Commonwealth in Mississippi.

A journalism graduate of the University of Alabama, James brings a variety of experience to the job.

"I am looking forward to getting to know some of the people of Marshall County and telling their stories," James said.

Tribune-Courier Publisher Jim Ward said the newspaper is fortunate to have James join the staff.

"Dale brings 20 years experience in news reporting and editing in large and small newspaper markets," Ward said. "His knowledge of the business and his ideas for the Tribune will be a great asset not only to the newspaper, but also to all the communities and readers we serve in Marshall County."

.....

### Oliver joins Herald Ledger office staff as office manager

The Herald Ledger has a new face with the arrival of Cristy Oliver of Kuttawa.

In addition to her full time job as office manager, Oliver attends Mid-Continent University in Graves County where she is studying business management.

She comes to The Herald Ledger from a seasonal position at Buzzard Rock and is married to Jimmy Oliver of Kuttawa. They have two sons, Garen and Dylan.



CRISTY OLIVER

.....

### Business Journal joining Jobe family

More than 5,000 area chamber members, business executives, local officials, economic development recruitment agencies and regional, state and national legislative officials began receiving the first copies of South Central Kentucky's Business Journal, a new product from Jobe Publishing.

See CONTEST on Page 12

## PASSINGS

### Former Courier-Journal critic passes away

William Mootz, who wrote for The Courier-Journal for nearly 50 years and was the first full-time time critic at the newspaper, has died. He was 82.

Among his writings were critiques of soprano Leontyne Price and actors Tallulah Bankhead, Katharine Hepburn, Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh, the newspaper recently reported.

Mootz, a native of Continental, Ohio, began writing about music as a part-time critic in 1948.

See PASSINGS on Page 12

## THE KENTUCKY PRESS

The Kentucky Press (Permit # 939) is published monthly by the Kentucky Press Association/Kentucky Press Service, Inc. Third Class postage is paid at Glasgow, KY. 42141. Subscription price is \$8 per year. Postmaster: Send change of address to The Kentucky Press, 101 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, KY. 40601, (502) 223-8821.

### OFFICERS

**KENTUCKY PRESS ASSOCIATION**  
**President** - Alice Rouse, Murray Ledger and Times

**President-Elect** - Kriss Johnson, Lexington Herald-Leader

**Vice President-Elect** - Taylor Hayes, Kentucky New Era

**Treasurer** - Edmund Shelby Beattyville Enterprise

**Past President** - Charlie Portmann, Franklin Favorite

### Board of Directors

District 1 - Loyd Ford, The Lake News, Calvert City

District 2 - Jed Dillingham, Dawson Springs Progress

District 3 - David Dixon, The Henderson Gleaner

District 4 - Jeff Jobe, Butler County Banner

District 5 - Ron Filkins, Kentucky Standard

District 6 - John Mura, Louisville Courier-Journal

District 7 - Kelley Warnick, Gallatin County News

District 8 - Ken Metz, Bath County News Outlook

District 9 - Loretta Tackett, Paintsville Herald

District 10 - Edmund Shelby, Beattyville Enterprise

District 11 - Willie Sawyers, London Sentinel Echo

District 12 - Donna Carman, Casey County News

District 13 - Tom Caudill - Lexington Herald-Leader

District 14 - Teresa Scenters, Berea Citizen

### State At-Large

Julie Satterly - Oldham Era  
Dennis Hetzel - Kentucky Enquirer  
Chip Hutcheson - Princeton Times Leader

### Division Chairman

News Editorial Division - Mike Alexieff, Bowling Green Daily News

Advertising Division - Steve Wheatley, Elizabethtown News Enterprise

Circulation Division - Jamie Sizemore, Elizabethtown News Enterprise

Associates Division - Stan Lampe, Kentucky Education Cabinet

Journalism Education Representative Pam Johnson, Western Kentucky University

General Counsels - Jon Fleischaker, Ashley Pack, Dinsmore & Shohl

### Kentucky Press Association Staff

David T. Thompson, Executive Director

Bonnie Howard, Controller

Teresa Revlett, Director of Sales

David Greer, Member Services Director

John Whitlock, News Bureau Director

David Spencer, New Media Administrator

Buffy Sams, Bookkeeping Assistant

Stephanie Conrad, Research/Marketing Coordinator

Sue Cammack, Administrative Assistant

Rachel McCarty, Advertising Assistant

Holly Willard, INAN Business Clerk

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



# Foreign correspondents

Kentucky journalists discuss business, politics and Wal-Mart with Russian counterparts



PHOTOS BY JOHN WHITLOCK/KPA

Ten Russian journalists visited the Kentucky Press Association in July for a three-hour discussion with a half-dozen of their Kentucky counterparts on a wide array of topics. The visit was organized by the World Affairs Council.

Sitting across the table from fellow journalists whose language and customs are totally alien to our own and whose homes are half a world away is always a fascinating, yet humbling experience. But each such occasion has left me impressed with their dedication and courage.

This time, 10 Russian journalists and their interpreter visited the Kentucky Press Association last month for a three-hour discussion with a half-dozen of their Kentucky counterparts on a wide array of topics.

Everyone in this group, whose trip was coordinated by the Louisville office of the World Affairs Council, lives in Eastern Siberia, near where Russia, China and North Korea meet. Of the 10, there were eight women and two men. One of the Russian men commented that just as the make-up of the group showed, journalism in Russia is increasingly becoming a female profession, he said.

Over the past four years, KPA has hosted several such groups, many from Russia or former Soviet republics. Most want to know about KPA's function and purpose since there are no parallel organizations in their countries. And just as previous groups have asked, a woman in this group also wanted to know about the process of registering a newspaper with our government prior to beginning publication. She seemed genuinely surprised when we explained there was no such requirement.

That led to her follow-up question of how often are newspapers closed by the government. Never, we said. Again, a look of astonishment appeared on her face.

After decades of government ownership and control, Russian newspapers are now often privately owned, our colleagues said. But the owners are often political parties or large companies that use the newspapers as official mouthpieces to advocate particular points of view. Or they will pay newspapers to publish favorable stories.

Sadly, the Russians said, they actually have less freedom of speech now than they enjoyed immediately after the fall of the Soviet Union in the 1990s. Even though their nation has embraced democracy, journalists are still often intimidated or even threatened by politicians, they said. One told of being threatened about her election coverage. So,

she and her children left their home for several months until the situation settled down. Others told similar stories.

Gradually, political coverage has disappeared from many newspapers as a result of the intimidation, one Russian said. Another, who worked for a television station, told how her colleagues first found sources wouldn't talk to them, then their access to government buildings was restricted and finally the station's electricity was disconnected. Her print colleagues told similar stories. Yet, most persevered and found ways to continue broadcasting or publishing.

As their nation's economy and standard of living has grown and more consumer goods such as cars and electronics have become available and affordable, many Russians are willing to trade freedom for prosperity. Apathy from the Russian public has only encouraged such bully behavior from government officials, our visitors said.

We asked the group about their views on North Korea's recent missile test firings since they live less than an hour's drive from the North Korean border. The question seemed to generate ample discussion among our visitors - all in Russian, of course - so we didn't know exactly what they said among themselves. But one editor said through the interpreter that he had traveled on business to North Korea several times in recent years and found it to be a stark land with ample poverty. North Korea's leader, he said, is a man who likes to impress people. The missile test firings were his way of "asking" for assistance from the West without looking weak to his own people, the journalist said.

During the discussion, someone on the American side of the table mentioned Wal-Mart. That drew an immediate look of confusion among several of the visitors until one apparently reminded the group that was the name of the store they visited in Louisville the night before. Then a smile broke out on one woman's face. "From the prices we saw, we pay twice as much at home for these goods," she said through the interpreter.

*Oh, by the way ...*

By David Greer  
KPA Member Services  
Director



David E. Greer is the Kentucky Press Association Member Services Director and Kentucky High School Journalism Association, Administrator



# NNA in Congress for FOIA reform

The National Newspaper Association (NNA) this week joined other media organizations in urging Congress to press ahead with Freedom of Information Act improvements, despite a recent Presidential Executive Order designed to make agencies more responsive.

Tonda Rush, director of public policy for NNA, testified before the House Government Reform Committee's Subcommittee on Government Management, Finance and Accountability on behalf of NNA and the Sunshine in Government Initiative, a coalition of nine media groups working to ensure openness in government.

The subcommittee's chairman, Rep. Todd Russell Platts (R-PA), scheduled the hearing, the second in as many years, in response to years of widespread criticism of the effectiveness of the law. Areas of primary concern to NNA and other media groups are: the lack of viable alternatives to litigation when resolving disputes, difficulty faced by prevailing parties in obtaining legal fees and the lack of meaningful penalties for processing delays, some of

which stretch into months and years, well beyond the 20 days required by the law.

Late last year, President Bush signed Executive Order 13392, which directed federal agencies to submit plans for improving their FOIA processing. The Order also required the appointment of Chief FOIA Officers and the creation of FOIA Requester Service Centers to make agency FOIA operations more "citizen-friendly".

But while the Executive Order was a positive step forward, it didn't go far enough in requiring the specific, structural improvements needed by the Act. The role of Congress cannot be replaced by even a perfect executive order, Rush said.

Rush proposed, among other things, the creation of an independent ombudsman to mediate disputes between agencies and requesters, providing an alternative to suing in federal court over improper denials. She also stressed the effects of current practices on community newspapers which may not have the resources to litigate against federal agencies.

## Martin Kish takes on new role at Associated Industries of Kentucky

Martin A. Kish has been named to the newly created position of Vice President of Communications and Marketing for Associated Industries of Kentucky, according to Andrew Meko, president and CEO.

Kish is responsible for creating and executing marketing and communications strategy for AIK, including media relations; print, web and electronic communications; and public information and education campaigns.

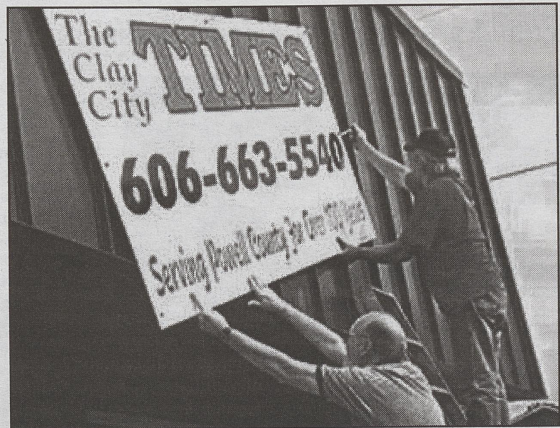
Prior to joining AIK, Kish was Communications Manager for Ashland Inc. and Vice President of Communications for Ashland's Valvoline Division.

Active in community leadership, Kish was chair of the 2002 United Way of the Bluegrass campaign, chairman of the board of the Better Business Bureau and board chair of the Bluegrass State Games. Currently he is a leader of Christian Men's Business Committee, the group that organizes the Greater Lexington and Governor's prayer breakfasts each year.



MARTIN KISH

## BACK HOME



TIMES PHOTO BY SARAH BLOOM

Clay City Times reporter David J. Griffin (left) helps Dave Severson remove the sign Tuesday at The Times' office at 207 North Main Street in Stanton to move it to The Times' new office at 4477 Main Street in Clay City. The Times is returning to Clay City after 12 years in Stanton.

**2006** Want to see  
**ADVERTISING** the winning ads  
**EXCELLENCE** from the 2006  
**IN** Ad Contest  
**KENTUCKY** ONLY up close and  
**NEWSPAPERS** \$5.00 personal??

Now you can order a cd that has all the First Place ads from the 2006 Ad Contest.

Send checks for \$5.00 along with this order form to:

Ad Contest 2006 CD  
C/O Kentucky Press Association  
101 Consumer Lane  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Newspaper: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



# Look for changes in record keeping

In the summer of 2004, the Kentucky Press Association filed a lawsuit in federal court in Frankfort naming the Commonwealth and the judges and clerks who administer its juvenile courts as defendants.

The lawsuit was a First Amendment challenge to Kentucky's statutes that automatically seal all records and hearings in juvenile court cases. The kinds of cases covered by Kentucky's closure laws range from juvenile criminal cases to cases against parents charged with abusing or neglecting their children.

The U.S. District Court in Frankfort dismissed the lawsuit in February 2005, upholding the statutes that mandate closure of Kentucky's juvenile and finding that the public's First Amendment right of access to court proceedings does not apply to courts that adjudicate any of these types of cases. The KPA appealed the ruling to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, which sits in Cincinnati. We argued the case before a three-judge panel of that court last November. After more than six months of deliberation, the Sixth Circuit issued a ruling last month dismissing the case on the ground that it was not convinced that Kentucky's juvenile courts are, in fact, closed to the press and public.

## The First Amendment Claim

KPA's lawsuit was based entirely on the First Amendment, which was first interpreted as creating a right of public access to criminal courts in the 1980 U.S. Supreme Court case of *Richmond Newspapers, Inc. v. Virginia*. Then, in 1983, the Sixth Circuit extended the right to include civil cases in the case of *Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp. v. F. T. C.* In 2002, the Sixth Circuit decided the case of *Detroit Free Press v. Ashcroft*, which further extended the First Amendment's reach to include deportation hearings conducted by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

In order to determine whether the First Amendment right of access applies to a particular proceeding, courts use a two-part test known as the "experience and logic" test. The "experience" part of the test asks whether the kind of proceeding has a history of openness. In answering this question, courts often examine how much a proceeding is like a traditional criminal trial. If the "experience" test is answered affirmatively, then the court addresses the "logic" question, which asks whether public access plays a significant positive role in the particular proceeding in question.

Once the First Amendment right of access is established, it is not absolute. Hearings and records can still be sealed if there is a strong interest in closing them in order to preserve higher values and the closure is narrowly tailored to serve that interest.

KPA's First Amendment challenge to

## From a legal standpoint

By *Jeremy Rogers and Jon Fleischaker*  
KPA General Counsel  
*Dinsmore & Shohl*



## If you have any legal questions, call the KPA hotline attorneys:

**Jon L. Fleischaker:** 502-540-2319

**R. Kenyon Meyer:** 502-540-2325

**Ashley C. Pack:** 502-540-2385

**Jeremy S. Rogers:** 502-540-2384

\*\*\*\*\*

## DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP

Switchboard: 502-540-2300

Facsimile: 502-585-2207

Kentucky's closure of juvenile courts focused on the fact that many of the kinds of cases in juvenile court are very much like traditional criminal cases, with similar procedures and penalties.

## The District Court's Ruling

The District Court denied a litany of procedural objections that lawyers representing the Commonwealth posed. Similarly, the District Court accepted that Kentucky's Unified Juvenile Code does, in fact, mandate the closure of juvenile court hearings and records.

However, the District Court dismissed KPA's lawsuit, finding that it failed the "experience and logic" test. According to the District Court, proceedings and records in the juvenile courts have been historically closed to the press and public. Further, the District Court held that, even if juvenile proceedings had been historically open to the public, the "logic" test would fail because opening juvenile proceedings would frustrate the purpose of juvenile court, which is to protect the juvenile.

## The Sixth Circuit's Ruling

The Sixth Circuit did not rule on whether the First Amendment right of public access to courts applies to juvenile courts.

Instead, the Sixth Circuit dismissed KPA's lawsuit holding that it was not ready for a legal challenge in the federal courts under the doctrine of ripeness.

According to the Sixth Circuit, there is one fact of crucial importance to the lawsuit that has yet

to be determined: whether Kentucky law, as interpreted by the Kentucky courts, completely closes juvenile proceedings and records to the media. "Until we know the answer to this question, our adjudicating KPA's First Amendment claim would constitute entangling ourselves in an abstract disagreement."

As support for the ruling, the Sixth Circuit cited to the specific language in the closure statutes of Kentucky's Unified Juvenile Code. For example, the statute that mandates that "[t]he general public shall be excluded" from juvenile court hearings also provides that the juvenile court judge may open the hearing to those who "have a direct interest in the case or in the work of the court." According to the Sixth Circuit, this language might reasonably be interpreted by Kentucky's courts as permitting the news media to attend juvenile court cases in some circumstances.

## Legislative Efforts to Open Juvenile Courts

During last year's General Assembly session, HB 436 was aimed at opening juvenile court proceedings and court records for specific offenses. While the KPA recognized that this bill did not go far enough, we supported the intent of the bill which was designed to eliminate some of the secrecy which shrouds our juvenile courts. But, despite our best efforts, it was unable to garner the support it needed to take off.

What did pass, however, was HB 3. HB 3, aimed at strengthening the sex offender laws, contained some language permitting law enforcement access to juvenile records but failed to add any language permitting public access to juvenile records. Any records obtained by law enforcement, however, are specifically exempted from the Open Records Act and law enforcement is prohibited from discussing the contents of the records.

The bill, now law, also requires court clerks to keep a separate juvenile docket for felonies and crimes committed with a deadly weapon. Under the old law, the public had access to the petition, order of adjudication, and disposition in juvenile delinquency proceedings after the child was adjudicated a juvenile delinquent.

But, the problem with the old law was that access to these records was limited because the public did not know the name of the juvenile delinquent in order to request the records.

Now, a separate docket will be made available and should aid you in getting these specific records.

But, this is not enough. The KPA's intention is to keep fighting to open up juvenile court to let the light shine in on all records and hearings in juvenile court cases.



# LEARN FROM THE INTERN

## Participants in 2006 Kentucky Press Association Intern Program share some of their experiences

Each year, the Kentucky Press Association teams up with universities across the commonwealth to give students a taste of the world of journalism and newspapers. Here are some thoughts from this year's crop of interns on their experiences in the field:

**Adam Gibson**  
Times-Journal

I've had a great experience working for my editor, Greg Wells, at the Times-Journal in Russell County. Practicing rural journalism can be difficult at times due to fewer events and a small population, however, Greg kept us busy and taught me through example how to dig up stories when options seemed sparse.

I made the right choice by coming to the Times-Journal. The fact that I was one of only three writers on staff (including Greg) allowed me to get ample page space in each week-

ly edition.

I also was able to pursue larger, in-depth feature stories in addition to the grind of hard news. Greg gave me a lot of control on my larger stories and that allowed me to grow as both a reporter and writer.

There were two feature stories I did this summer of which I'm particularly proud. The first was a report on the Hispanic population of Russell County. I talked with many Hispanics in the area, giving them a voice to express their perspectives on the area and its people.

The other story I'm particularly happy with focused on the debate over church and state that occurred when a local student contacted the ACLU in order to have the prayer at his graduation blocked by a federal judge. It was an action that angered many local residents, rallying them to unity. However, I felt the story of the student who had initiated the

See INTERNS on Page 8



ERIN SCHMITT



ADAM GIBSON



AMANDA MORRIS



AMBER COULTER



ASHLEY MAINES



GREGORY CREWS



CANDACE ALLEN



DARTUSH SHAFI



ERIN MCCOY



NORMAIDA BRIGHT



MEGAN JONES



KELLY MCKINNEY



SAMANTHA HUPMAN



SHANNON MASON



SASHA WILLIAMS



## INTERNS

Continued from page 7

controversy had been left out of the initial media response and so I decided to give that person a voice in the community. The story turned out very well and explored the reasons the student had felt it necessary to contact the ACLU.

My overall experience at the Times-Journal has been valuable and enriching and I would highly recommend others to seek an internship at this particular paper.

♦♦♦♦

**Normaida Bright**  
Central-Kentucky News Journal

As I woke up on the first day of my internship at the Central-Kentucky News Journal, the butterflies in my stomach were intense. I didn't know what to expect.

I was worried how the staff would feel about me and if they would like my writing. Then I started to worry about the thousands of other people who subscribed to the paper and how they would react to the way I wrote, for each writer has a different way of wording things.

But I soon realized there was nothing to worry about, that I was just experiencing the jitters from starting something new in life.

After I arrived and got settled in, my first story was about the upcoming local high school graduations. I kept having to call the schools back to ask more questions and I felt, in a way, stupid because I was very nervous and I'd forget an important question to ask.

When my editor and I went over my story, she literally butchered the story, but she told me that she does the same to other writers' stories and even her own. So that took away the anxiety.

As I have worked here for the past 10 weeks, I've come to realize that this is what I want to do for the rest of my life. I'm very curious about what's going on in the community, in the state and around the world. My husband calls me a "news junky" because all I do is go online and check out the news and the weather.

In addition, to be able to have this opportunity and do what all journalists experience on a daily basis is amazing and a fresh reward. Besides, I like meeting new people everyday; it's pretty cool and interesting.

Throughout my 10-week stay, I have learned a whole bunch:

- Some stories are different than others.
- Some stories are kind of boring such as city council meetings.
- Sometimes it feels like you're pulling teeth to get someone to talk to you - even if you ask that person the same question over and over.
- What you learn at school doesn't apply in the

real newspaper business, even if the professor says it will.

- Grammar is still not my best subject.
- No matter what you write, you'll often end up making someone mad, although I really haven't experienced that, yet.

My stay here has been amazing. I learned things that I wouldn't have learned at school, and I had the opportunity to meet some very interesting people. The people I worked with were very kind and extremely helpful, especially the editor. I'm just glad she never got angry every time I made the same mistakes over and over.

Overall, I enjoyed my stay and I would do it again in a heartbeat. As for the future, who knows, but what I do know is that I want to work at a local newspaper and do something that I love to do, which is cover the news, meet new people and write about it.

♦♦♦♦

**Amber Coulter**  
Madisonville Messenger

It was 2:30 a.m., and I was basking in the flashing lights of a police car that had just pulled me over.

I was doing 45 mph in a 35 zone. The Madisonville police need more work.

The middle-of-the-night infraction started when I was settling down to sleep and got a bad feeling that there might be something wrong with my story. I wanted to fix it. The officer running my license plate number had other plans.

The police officer returned to the car with my license and registration. He said the good news was that I wasn't going to jail. The bad news was that I had to step out of the car and dance to get off with a warning.

They really do need more work.

I started to unfasten my seat belt because, hey, I have some moves, but the officer was kidding. He turned me loose with an admonition, and I finished my mission to the paper at a solid 35 mph.

The events that don't go as planned, the times when you do something crazy because you love your job are the memories that stick with you.

Madisonville was good to me. I saw how professionals handle difficult situations, and I became a better journalist.

But I think the events I remember most will always include the time I was asked to dance in the street to avoid a ticket and the time I defended my story and won when a small-town mayor didn't like what I'd written.

Those are the things that remind me why I care enough to do this job well.

♦♦♦♦

**Shannon Mason**  
Anderson News

I spent my first summer away from home interning at The Anderson News in Lawrenceburg. Even though my real home was 130 miles away, the people of Lawrenceburg and the staff at The News made me feel like I was one of their own.

For the first time in my short journalism career, I got the opportunity to work at a weekly paper, an interesting change of pace from the dailies to which I had been accustomed.

While at The News I got the chance to meet, interview, photograph and write about many of the people in Lawrenceburg. I covered stories about a man who traveled all the way from Bangladesh to meet his teenage "girlfriend" whom he'd met on the Internet, about a tree that smashed into the roof of an American Legion clubhouse during a storm and about kids in the neighborhood who really didn't have anything to do.

One of the things I enjoyed the most was having the chance to write a weekly column and getting comments from readers on my thoughts and opinions, whether the columns focused on how to survive one's first year at college or how I thought the media showed us a little too much of Iraqi terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi after his death.

I'll have to admit, though, the best part of working at The News was actually working with the people there. I was surrounded by professionals who knew what they were doing and who always had answers to my questions. And even though I was just "the intern," they were nothing but nice to me and showed me the respect they would show to any other journalist.

While at The News, I strove to give the residents of Lawrenceburg and Anderson County reliable information they could count on week after week. I hoped I served them well.

♦♦♦♦

**Megan Jones**  
Sentinel-Echo

Getting to know a new town is always a distinct enjoyment, and the smell of Sara Lee greeted me as I began my work as the Kentucky Press Association intern for The Sentinel-Echo in London. In that smell, I experienced adventure, drama and changes in management.

For half the summer at The Sentinel-Echo, I had the pleasure of sharing an office with the former managing editor. My desk was crammed in one cozy little corner of the office, and I sometimes felt like the misfit who gets shoved in the corner when he or she does something wrong. But space in the office was pretty limited, especially when network hook ups were concerned.

See INTERNS on Page 9



# INTERNS

Continued from page 8

I appreciated spending time with the reporters and learning methods they use to get their job done in the best and most moral way possible. Although reporters see many tragic events, some still manage to maintain their humanity. Anyone can respect that.

In my chronicles of experience from KPA internships, I can write a new chapter. This summer, I covered my first fatality. I know that as soon as my family reads this, they will be horrified at my use of casual language with the concept of death. But, as most of you out there know, covering the bad is a job that must be done. We write about a community and the people who live in it, and we always write about members who leave it, in one form or another.

I enjoyed my time in London and look forward to using the experiences I gained here in the future.

.....

## Amanda Morris Times Leader

Working as an advertising intern at the Times Leader this summer has allowed me to meet new people, learn more about the newspaper business and living on my own.

Although this was my second KPA internship, I was not for sure what to expect. This time the internship was not in a town I was familiar with and I was selling advertising. My main project for the summer was to sell for special sections that would run in the paper throughout the year, but the job didn't stop there. I would also help in the front office answering calls and waiting on customers.

From doctors to restaurant owners to lawyers to community members wanting to buy a subscription to the paper I was able to meet and get to know several people in the town.

Being able to work with (Publisher) Chip (Hutcheson) and the rest of the staff at the Times Leader has been a wonderful experience. I got to see what it takes to get a bi-weekly newspaper on newsstands.

As I leave Princeton, I am not only taking memories and learned lessons with me, but also several friendships. These 10 weeks have been 10 weeks of reassuring me this is what I want to do.

.....

## Erin McCoy LaRue County Herald News

Coming into this internship, I was unsure what I would take away from it but the last 10 weeks have given me much-needed direction. I can actually see myself making a career in journalism. Meeting deadlines, following hunches

and the sense of really connecting with a community — it all sends shivers down my spine. Perhaps that is what this internship is all about.

Having lived my whole life in the community where my internship placed me, I already had a certain familiarity with the people and places. Working at the News-Herald, however, has allowed me to meet so many new people on entirely different terms, something for which I am grateful.

The KPA internship has also been a tremendous learning experience. Patti, my editor, showered me with opportunities that I was more than ready to explore. Not only have I become a better writer, but I have learned to design and layout pages, process submitted material and train my eyes and ears to recognize news-worthy events when they happen. Certainly, there were times ears to recognize news-worthy events when they happen. Certainly, there were times when I was overwhelmed — my editor on vacation, the design, layout and publication of an issue of the newspaper was put in my hands. It was that week, though, that I proved to myself that I might actually be cut out for this.

I cannot stress enough what an eye-opening experience this has been. Walking away with a sense of accomplishment, I look forward to the path on which I find myself.

.....

## Sasha Williams Pioneer News

Who knew a summer internship could involve wild motorcycle rides, burning buildings, smashed up cars and deep fried Oreos?

When I was chosen as one of 20 Kentucky Press Association interns this summer, I had no idea that community journalism would require me to be a jack of all trades and a daredevil to boot.

I have some experience in journalism. I'm a communications major at the University of Louisville and I was the news editor of the student newspaper, the Louisville Cardinal, for a year.

Those who have been in the field longer than I've been alive laugh when they hear that and then try to warn me about the profession. Bad hours, bad pay and no life outside work, they say.

I say if you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life.

At least, that's what I said before I worked 10 weeks at a community newspaper.

The Pioneer News is located in Shepherdsville. The paper covers all of the small towns in Bullitt County; eight officially incorporated cities.

I felt prepared when I began my internship. I knew how to be concise, leave myself out of the story and get the job done. I thought I knew what was expected of me.

I knew my job would require me to meet a lot

The Kentucky Press, August 2006- Page 9

of new people, but I didn't know I'd have to approach strangers on the street to ask them "people poll" questions. I quickly became accustomed to both rudeness and people who wanted to tell me everything they personally felt was wrong with the county.

I knew I'd be covering city council meetings, but I didn't know how heated the debates could become.

I knew I'd be writing new business stories, but I didn't realize I'd be the one counting down at their ribbon cuttings.

I knew that I'd see car accidents, but I didn't know I'd have to walk over a mile by the side of the road to get to them because traffic can get so backed up.

I knew I'd see house fires but I never imagined I'd see children, with no shoes on, sitting in a yard across the street watching their house burn down.

I knew I'd be an intern, but I didn't know how much I'd learn. Or how much fun I'd have.

This internship has allowed me many unique experiences. Early one morning I drove 20 minutes to report on a house fire, only to find all the fuss was caused by a pot of burned beans. On a separate occasion I was able to spend several hours with children at a Muscular Dystrophy summer camp. "Tattoo" Charlie Wheeler was there to give the kids rides in his motorcycle's sidecar. They were hesitant, so I went first to pave the way. Another day, my co-workers and I ate deep fried Oreos while covering the county fair.

I've learned more during my time at the Pioneer News than in all of my journalism classes combined. The editor has never let me get in over my head, but he expects me to do my job. I've learned to juggle stories and still make deadlines. After seeing my carefully laid plans blown to bits by breaking news, I've learned to roll with the punches. And that working late hours is just part of the job.

I still say if you love what you do you'll never work a day in your life: you'll work nights, too.

.....

## Winchester Sun

Although I've called Winchester home for all my 21 years, I've learned more about this town and met more people this summer than I could have imagined. I have received much more than the expected lessons about the ins and outs of a newspaper.

Since joining The Winchester Sun May 15, I've learned about the town's politics and the way things work. I've discovered that downtown is actually a lovely, bustling part of the city, and not

See LEGAL on Page 10



## INTERNS

Continued from page 9

the obsolete, worn-down area with nothing to offer someone my age that I'd always thought it to be.

I've met and become friendly acquaintances with several firefighters and police officers (although it may not necessarily be a good thing since I now catch myself speeding more often and caring less).

Numerous people have introduced themselves to me, telling me they've enjoyed my features and look for my byline in each issue.

I've talked to interesting people who had stories that were aching to be told, and I'm going to have the opportunity to interview and meet a country singer that I'm a big fan of in September.

My internship at the Winchester Sun has truly been a positive experience. It was great to come home from college for the summer and write for the newspaper that I grew up reading. I've loved seeing my name on the Sun's pages, and I now know firsthand how a daily professional newspaper works. I'm also looking forward to my future as a journalist now more than ever because of the friendly, encouraging atmosphere that greets me every day from the moment I walk through The Sun's doors.

I've grown as a sports and features writer, layout designer, photographer and reporter over the past 10 weeks. But more importantly, I have seen the heart and character of Winchester and have become proud to call it my hometown.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Kelly McKinney**  
Advocate Messenger

When a 60-foot tree fell across Main Street in Danville for no apparent reason, it became the fourth or fifth tree (the others fell in storms) I wrote about for the Advocate-Messenger. That's the closest to sameness my internship ever was.

I had no time to be bored, not even in the beginning; there was no "getting used to everything" period. On my third day, John Nelson, the editor, asked me if I wanted to write on deadline. Because I knew the question was rhetorical and saying no wasn't an option, I said "sure." I was nervous, but I did it. I got my story in just ten minutes late (it could have been worse considering nobody answered their phones that morning).

After that, I was in. I never felt like an outsider, or "just an intern." When John told me there was nothing he wouldn't send me to cover, I believed him. And he quickly proved it.

I never fetched coffee, or made copies, or shredded paper. I learned; I reported; I wrote.

I wrote about Scott Bottoms, a single dad who coached his sons' baseball teams and was retiring.

I wrote about a peach tree that looked like it took fertility drugs (it sprouted so many peaches its owners had to tie its branches to its trunk to keep them from breaking off). I met and told the story of a local woman who needs a kidney to save her from the dialysis machine that holds her prisoner four hours a day, four days a week.

I also reported harder news: a boy nearly drowned at church camp, how the schools are attempting to combat childhood obesity, how the family court refuses people access to their records.

I worked for the Advocate-Messenger just ten weeks (it felt like two), but I feel I made a difference. My short time there will be forever imprinted on those news pages - pages that tell people things they would never know otherwise.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Erin L. McCoy**  
LaRue County Herald News

Ten weeks are over - ten weeks that started out as a flurry of information, new faces and new landscapes, and ended as one of the best learning experiences I've ever gotten tangled up in.

I've finished my term as The LaRue County Herald News' summer intern, and can't help but be a little sad. Learning about this place, and the people in it, from every possible angle has been my goal since I arrived. I've written articles for every section (I just wrote my first sports piece, about rodeo contestants) and taken photos at field days and murder trials. With this variety, I never got tired, and as I'm primarily a writer and page designer, taking photos was a fun addition to my responsibilities.

I have no one to thank for this summer except for the wonderful group of people I've worked with here at the paper, the Kentucky Press Association, and the people of LaRue County.

The staff at The Herald News showed an immediate confidence in me. Linda Ireland, Melissa Nalley, Mona Coffey, Charlotte Isbell and Dana Holt answered every question, gave every one of my ideas consideration, and taught me about LaRue County. I was not so much an intern as a member of the staff, and that was an invaluable completion to my education in LaRue County.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Candace Allen**  
Trimble Banner

The first thing that comes to mind when I look back over the last few weeks since starting my internship, is the wonderful people that I have encountered and had the opportunity to work with. I have seen and visited a number of places in my 22 years, I can say by far the people in Trimble County are the friendliest people! They

are so warm and welcoming. It didn't matter where I was people would happily introduce themselves to me and welcome me to their community. I know this may not seem like much but when you are the new kid on the block and don't know much about the block you're on, a warm welcome makes all the difference.

Not only have I had the opportunity to meet great people, I also have gained a wealth of knowledge in the process. Trimble County may not be the richest county when it comes to wealth; however, they are rich in a wealth of history. I have learned so much about the county's history, like how the Underground Railroad ran straight through Trimble county during slavery time and have seen the old plantations where slaves and slave masters lived. Although I have been challenged to write articles that I have never written before and learned some basic yet important tips about photography, there isn't one thing about this whole experience that I would change. Except for maybe the length of my stay, I would definitely make it a whole lot longer. When it is all said and done and my internship is over, I will truly miss Trimble County. Working here [Trimble County] has made me realize that people are people no matter where they live. But people from small towns are a whole lot nicer!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Erin Schmitt**  
The Gleaner

To put it succinctly my internship at The Gleaner has made me a better writer. From the first phone call until I edit my article for mistakes the fifth time, I've strengthened my reporting and writing skills. Interviews with the various subjects and people I've covered helped me appreciate that everyone has a story, and it is important to be respectful of that story no matter what the topic. The staff at the paper have been nothing but encouraging and helpful. Their years of valuable experience has broadened my perspective on how a newsroom operates. This experience has helped reaffirm my desire to be a journalist or at the least work in a related field.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Samantha Hupman**  
Franklin Favorite

What it's like to be a reporter is something that's hard to teach in a classroom. While I've learned a lot about journalism in college, I've learned more about being a journalist this summer than I have in two years of classes. Spending 10 weeks at the Franklin Favorite has taught me what it's like to work at a professional newspaper, and what to expect from the field after I graduate.

I've gained invaluable experience by covering



## INTERNS

Continued from page 10

city commission and fiscal court. I feel more confident about covering these types of meetings now, and I think it's a skill that I will be glad to have in the future. Also, I learned a lot about how local government works, which will be useful for reporting. It's also interesting for me as a political science major.

Writing features has always been something I like to do, and working in Franklin has given me significant opportunities to do that. Being here has taught me that human interest stories can be found in many places, from high schools to local churches. I've also gotten to work in different areas, such as Portland and White House, Tenn.

I've always mainly been involved in the writing part of the newspaper, but this summer I have gotten experience with taking photos and designing pages as well. I think this will make me more qualified for jobs in the field of journalism. I also understand better how parts of a newspaper work together, including the business aspects of it.

Most importantly to me, I have learned to apply concepts learned in classes to situations at a professional newspaper. This has been my first internship, and my first experience of actually doing what I am going to school for, besides working for student newspapers. I think it's experience that will help me in school and professionally, and has made me more confident about my future.

.....

**Dariush Shafa**

**Messenger-Inquirer Intern**

When I began hunting for internships late last year and early into this year, it seemed like Owensboro was fated to be the place I would

spend the summer.

All the larger newspapers I applied to were suffering budget woes.

After a summer as an intern for the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, a summer internship at a community daily in Kentucky would seem like a step down to a lot of people.

I didn't think so. It seemed like the perfect internship for me, since community journalism is where I want to spend the rest of my days until I'm old, gray and people turn to me rather than the stylebook and ask me what newsprint smells like.

Wouldn't you know it, I was right.

Owensboro has offered me opportunities no other paper could. I have written stories, shot photos, been harassed by an agent of the Secret Service while covering a vice presidential visit, nearly been pitched into the Ohio River by the Coast Guard, made many new friends both in the business and out and learned amazing and wonderful things about my chosen career.

And it wouldn't have happened if I'd gone to any other place.

Owensboro has a reputation as a good newspaper, both in the community and in the professional journalism world. When the reporters at my desk call people, they simply say "I'm with the newspaper." People here respond to that. They respect the paper and rely on it. After working here for 10 weeks, I can see why.

I have been blessed to be part of a dedicated staff. Sure, there are woes just like at any other paper, worries about funding and staffing, circulation and where the community newspaper will be in five or 10 years.

They don't let anything stop them from continuing to put out a quality product that matters to the people, which is more important than anything else, I think. So long as the journalism matters to the community, so long as it makes a dif-

ference in their lives, the ultimate mission of journalism is being accomplished and its highest ideals being met.

And I count myself as supremely fortunate to have been a part of that, if only for a short while.

.....

**Greg Crews**

**Georgetown News-Graphic**

The past 10 weeks that I have spent at the Georgetown News-Graphic have been quite a learning experience, not just little tricks of the trade, but reporting as a whole.

Midway through my first week at the paper, the police scanner sounded for all units to come help with an injury/fatality accident that had happened on Interstate 75. I was handed a camera and told to get at least one good shot.

Never before had I covered a breaking news story, and my experience with a camera was limited, but I managed to get some good photos as well as an unforgettable experience.

The News-Graphic staff never tried to hold my hand and lead me through with baby steps. Rather, they let me try it on my own while they acted as a safety net and let me learn through experience. There was always someone there to answer any questions I had, but most of my learning came through my mistakes (of which there were plenty), which is by far the best way to learn. It generally only takes me one screw up before I get the hang of something.

I have greatly appreciated my time at the News-Graphic this summer. I have gained more knowledge and experience in the field of reporting than I ever could in a classroom. Plus, this internship has landed me a full-time reporting position at the the News-graphic and a start to what is hopefully a long and distinguished career.

# Equine groups to host open house for media

The Kentucky Horse Park and the 29 equine organizations and associations that make up the National Horse Center is inviting journalists to 'Building the Equestrian Story,' an open house for media Aug. 11 to learn more about the world of equestrian sport.

Open to journalists, photo journalists and broadcasters, this event is free of charge, and will help provide a broad overview of the breadth and depth of horse sport, as well as more specific demonstrations about some of the sports that will be included in the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games in 2010.

After a brief morning introduction, attendee will be transported out onto the grounds of the Kentucky Horse Park to get an "up-close" look at some of the elements of the sporting horse world.

For more information or to register, visit this web site:

[www.kentucky.gov/NR/exeres/DD2DE924-A9F1-48E2-804C-0F914EA99D0B.htm](http://www.kentucky.gov/NR/exeres/DD2DE924-A9F1-48E2-804C-0F914EA99D0B.htm)

Members of the media will see the available facilities, experience the action of the USEF Pony Finals, witness live demonstrations, get close to some unique breeds of horse, and visit the Maker's Mark Secretariat Center. Media are invited to stay for the afternoon to see the park's

attractions and museums, or to visit with the offices that comprise the National Horse Center.

Organizers say the open house will help reporters connect with the vast array of disciplines, breeds, competitions, terminology and people involved in the world of the horse.

All eyes will be on Kentucky in just four short years and national media will be looking to the local media to be a "resident expert" on the subject of horses, organizers said.

Registration must be completed no later than Aug. 4. Registration is limited and may fill up before the August 4th cut-off date.

For more information or to register, visit this web site - <http://kentucky.gov/NR/exeres/DD2DE924-A9F1-48E2-804C-0F914EA99D0B.htm>



## PEOPLE AND PAPERS

Continued from page 2

"This news package will allow our company to be a synergy for several agencies and individuals who work very hard in trying to grow our regional economy but can not find a mechanism to convey their successes," Jeff Jobe, CEO and Publisher for Jobe Publishing, Inc., said. "The SCBJ will focus 100 percent on the positive business and industrial climate that we enjoy here in our region while shining a clear light on those of us who are excelling in our industry.

Jobe and his team of editors will offer our regional executives and top producers a forum to detail the successes they are having inside their chosen fields as well as showcase new industry and efforts by state and local officials to keep the business climate strong.

.....

### Stan McKinney receives tenure at Campbellsville

Assistant Director of University Communications Stan McKinney, assistant professor of journalism at Campbellsville University has been approved by C.U.'s Board of Trustees to receive tenure as a faculty member.

McKinney was employed at the Sturgis News in Sturgis from 1974 to 1980 and served as news editor for the Central Kentucky News-Journal in Campbellsville from 1980 to 2000.

He received his bachelor of science degree in journalism and his master of science degree in communications with a journalism emphasis from Murray State

McKinney has been employed at Campbellsville University since 2000. He also serves as the editor of The Campus Times, C.U.'s student newspaper. He is married to Joan C.

McKinney.

.....

### Kathryn Jacewicz joins Henry County Local

Kathryn Jacewicz has joined the staff of the Henry County Local as a reporter/photographer.

Although the Henry County position is her first professional experience, Jacewicz studied journalism at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind. where she wrote and took photographs for the student newspaper, The Daily News, and magazine, Expo, as well as a local magazine, Life in the Midwest.

.....

### Jessamine Journal welcomes new staff writer

The Jessamine Journal has a new staff writer as Katheran Elizabeth Wasson, 22, came on board in May, after graduating from the University of Kentucky with a degree in journalism.

"I was impressed with Katheran during her interview," Editor Mike Moore said. "After a month on the job, she's everything and more that I was looking for in a staff writer. I feel like she's going to be a great addition to our editorial team ... she's already proven her worth in the short time she's been on staff."

Wasson is a Lexington native and a graduate of Tates Creek High School, where she was the editor of her school newspaper - The Masthead.



KATHERAN WASSON

Her duties at The Jessamine Journal include covering education-related topics and Wilmore.

She is the daughter of Edward and Teresa Wasson of Lexington.

.....

### Landmark purchases Florida newspaper

Landmark Community Newspapers, Inc., Shelbyville, Kentucky, purchased The Wakulla News, on July 14, 2006. The 111-year-old weekly newspaper in Crawfordville, Florida, was bought from Wakulla Publishing Co., owned by Stacie Phillips and Shannon Phillips Joiner.

Ira Schoffel, 35, of Tallahassee, will be the new editor and general manager of The Wakulla News.

### Conference will focus on immigrant issues

Apply now to attend The Casey Journalism Center's conference, "Reporting on Diverse Communities," Oct. 12-13, 2006, in Las Vegas.

This conference will examine realities and common myths about immigrants and the underclass, and the implications of diversity. Sessions will focus on trends in culture, education, social services, faith and civic life, as well as journalism workshops. As one of 25 journalists selected for a CJC fellowship, you'll learn from provocative thinkers and colleagues. Fellowships are open to print, broadcast and online journalists and include lodging, meals, materials and travel subsidy.

Applications must be received by Monday, Sept. 11. For an application and addition information, visit [http://cjc.umd.edu/fellowships/documents/CJCFellowshipApplication\\_000.pdf](http://cjc.umd.edu/fellowships/documents/CJCFellowshipApplication_000.pdf)

## PASSINGS

Continued from page 2

### Newspaper owner Lancaster passes away

Paintsville Herald owner James Dean Lancaster, 87, passed away May 21, 2006, after a long illness. Lancaster owned several publications in Kentucky, including The Paintsville Herald, the Appalachian News-Express, the Georgetown News-Graphic, and the Murray Ledger & Times.

Lancaster purchased The Weekly Progress and The Paintsville Herald June 1, 1998 and merged the two publications. He purchased the Appalachian News-Express in 1981.

Services were held May 23 at MeadowBrook

Baptist Church in Gadsden, Ala., with burial in the Forrest Cemetery.

He was born Sept. 1, 1918, in South Bend, Ind., and was a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, where he completed law studies and was awarded a Doctorate of Jurisprudence.

Lancaster served as an officer in the Air Force during World War II and was honorably discharged as a captain. While stationed at Warner Robins Air Force base near Macon, Ga., he met and married Marian Waldron. They were married for 60 years.

After World War II, Lancaster answered a classified ad and went to work at General Newspapers Inc. in Macon as an accounting and



JAMES DEAN LANCASTER

legal advisor.

During his career, Lancaster owned, managed or invested in newspapers throughout the United States. He served as the closing attorney for more than 300 newspaper purchases by other individuals, and was known throughout the industry for his talent in this area.

In 1987, Lancaster started his own newspaper management company, which continues today. As chairman of Lancaster Management Inc., Lancaster believed in local newspaper control, allowing publishers to make management decisions impacting the news product.

In addition to overseeing the newspaper company, he remained active as a corporate and tax attorney until his illness.

Lancaster was a charter member of MeadowBrook Baptist Church, serving as church treasurer and active deacon for more than 42 years.