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JANUARY 1995 Volume 66--No. 1

The official publication of the Kentucky Press Service



Newspaper celebrates holiday with open house

The focal point for the open I was a Christmas tree decorated with ornaments and a tree skirt made from back issues of The Cadiz Record. The open house also celebrated the first anniversary of the newspaper's expanded building.

KPA Circulation Division to get priority attention

has been pushed on the back burner for long enough, incoming Ken-tucky Press Association President Dorothy Abernathy said.

Abernathy, Oldham Era in LaGrange and the

Trimble Banner-Democrat in Bedford, said re-establishing KPA's Circulation Division will be one of her priorities when she takes office at the end of KPA's Winter Convention, Jan. 26-27.

"We've kind of pushed circulation to the back as not being an important

part of the paper, but it is," Abernathy said. "Without circulation, advertisers don't want to advertise in the paper." The biggest component to reestablishing the Circulation Division will be for KPA to conduct at least one seminar per year to educate circulation people at KPA-member papers about recent trends and regulations regarding circulation, she said. ing circulation, she said.

ing circulation, she said.
"Our circulation people, unless
they refroma large daily, some of them
don't know what postal regulations
are," she said. "We've got Max Heath,
who's known everywhere, but Kentucky doesn't utilize him."
Circulation executives across the

state need training in zoning Continued on Page 16

How much is too much to charge?

KPA member newspapers vary on newsstand, subscription costs

Look in the top right-hand corner of any newspaper you pick up. Chances are you'll see the newsstand price. If you live in Kentucky, chances are that price will be from 25 cents to 50 cents—and that doesn't depend on if the paper is weekly or daily. And according to data provided to KPA by its member newspapers, the cost to subscribe to a weekly newspaper ranges from a low of \$6.95 per year to a high of \$27.50. KPA studies circulation data from

newspapers to give papers an idea of where they stand in regard to other papers for what they charge to mail a one-year subscription in-county, and

one-year subscription in-county, and what they charge for single copies. KPA broke the data down into categories, so newspapers with similar circulations would be compared. The data was gathered by the KPS Clipping Department, and any data they could not find was taken from the Advertising Department's Rate and Data Sheets. Continued on Page 16

KPS Ad Department sells \$2 million in 1994

.....See Page 3

It could cost you NOT to attend KPA's Winter Convention

.....See Page 6

Legislature narrowly votes to keep caucuses closed

.....See Page 13



What's Up?

JANUARY

26-27 KPA WINTER
CONVENTION,
Hurstbourne Hotel,

Louisville

29-Feb. 3 American Press Institute, Editing the Weekly Newspaper Seminar,

Reston, Va.

AD IDEAS, JANUARY

Check with your local weight loss clinic. One of the most popular New Year's Resolutions is to lose weight, so why not design an idea for your local center with this in mind?

BRIDAL ADS should be big now. Any prospective brides in your area, who are planning spring weddings should be planning big time now, so don't forget bridal shops, florists and formal wear stored.

January is a perfect month for CLEARANCE SALES. Any leftover Christmas merchandise has to go now!

Why not plan some COUPON DAYS ads? You can have these anytime you want. Coupons are one of the most effective forms of advertising, so get your ideas—and your merchants—together!

Near month's end, plan ahead for VALENTINE'S DAY by checking with local restaurants, florists and jewelry stores to see if they want to go together on a sig page. Restaurants might be interested in a special DINING OUT page.



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Hatmaker sells papers to Manchester group

Louise B. Hatmaker, editor and publisher of The Beattyville Enterprise and The Jackson Times for almost 30 years and a member of the Kentucky Press Association Board of Directors, announced in late November that she had sold all the stock in her company, Intermountain Publishing Co. Inc. to a Manchester group that owns and operates a central printing plant for six newspapers of its own and five others east of Kentucky.

The new owners of Intermountain are James F. Nolan Jr., J.F. Nolan III and Glenn Gray, also a member of the KPÁ Board of Directors. Gray is publisher of the group's six newspapers owned by Manchester Enterprises Inc.

"It's interesting to note that when I received my first newspaper experience at The Hazard Herald, it was owned by James Nolan's uncle, the late Pearl Nolan, and his wife, Martha," Hatmaker said.

Gray said he is pleased with the acquisition.

"As publisher, I want to continue the fine tradition Louise and her staff have built over the years, and I look forward to meeting people and serving both counties," Gray

Hatmakersaid she will still be around to help with the papers.

papers.
"We have no employment contract, just a handshake," she



There's nothing like a good temple massage after looking at too many negatives and prints. Just ask Bill Luster, one of the instructors in the Western Kentucky Mountain Workshop, who received one from Courier-Journal photographer Mary Ann Lyons. For more on the Mountain Workshop, see pages 8-9.



Kentucky Press Association, Inc.

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District 6
Merv Aubespin
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Owenton News-Herald
District 8-9
Ken Metz
Bath County News-Outlook
District 8-10
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vanja paskus District 12 Louise Hatmaker Jackson TimesBeattyville Enterj District 13 Glenn Gray Manchester Enterprise District 14
Stuart Simpson
Pulaski Week
District 15A
Tom Caudill
Lexington Herald-Leader
District 15B
Guy Haffield
Citizen Voice & Times
State At-Large
Russ Powell
Ashland Daily Independent
Associates Division
Sandra Iones Wilson
Westvaco
Advertising Division
Sharon Tumunski
Winchester Sun
News-Editorial Division
John Nelson
Pulaski Week

The Buck Stops Here: Ad News



KPS beats \$2 million mark for ads sol

But some member newspapers lost out on revenue from list of ads that did not run

For the first time in its he Kentucky Press Advertising Placement Service sold more than \$2 million in ads for member newspapers across the state

Actually, the final record for 1994 shows \$1.99 million because \$11,995 in advertising sold was left out of newspapers, said KPS Advertising Director Gloria Davis.

The previous record year for advertising sold by KPS was 1991, with \$1.49 million. Five of the last six years KPS has surpassed the \$1 million mark, with 1993 being the only year the organization did not hit \$1 million. In that year, KPS fell \$17,000 short. Of the \$2 million sold in 1994, about

\$1.8 million was paid to newspapers for advertisements they ran that were sold by KPS.

To recount advertising sales for

 KPS had nine straight months-March through November--of more than \$100,000 sold in advertising.

• Five of those months--June

• Five of those months--June through October--surpassed \$200,000.

Prior to 1994, the \$200,000 mark had been reached only twice, October 1991

and October 1992.

• Of the seven highest ad sales months in KPS history, five were in

"Of course, 1995 could also be a banner year for the KPS Advertising Office," said KPA/KPS Executive Di-rector David T. Thompson. "It's a statewide election year, and the last time there were statewide elections (1991) KPS' total advertising placed was just

shy of \$1.5 million.

KPS would have reached the \$2 million mark on record, except for \$11,995 sold in advertising that newspapers did not run as scheduled.

"There were 239 ads that the news-

papers left out, misplaced or did not receive on time," Davis said.

Newspapers that see they have left out an ad scheduled to run should call KPS immediately. Sometimes ads can be rescheduled to run in another issue

Retail habits survey to be done annually by group

Since 1987, the Kentucky Press Association, through The Preston Group of Lexington, has done extensive retail marketing habit surveys on an every-other-year basis. Although statewide survey infor-

mation of the magnitude done by KPA has a shelf-life of about 24 months, the KPA Board of Directors recently voted to conduct annual surveys. The change

takes place in 1995

Early in the year, The Preston Group, awarded the contract after bids were submitted by eight companies, willcomplete 800 interviews statewide. Each survey will involve about 35 questions on advertising sources, shopping habits and demographic information.

Previous surveys involved 2,000 interviews with about 70 questions.

terviews and questions, doing the survey every year will give newspapers more current information about their

readers and their shopping habits The results of the 1995 survey be presented during the KPA Spring Advertising Seminar, scheduled for April 27-28 at the Marriott Hotel in Louisville.

New Year brings ad changes

1995 brings with it a new policy concerning advertising placed through the Kentucky Press Service. In past years, KPS has used na-tional and local open rates to accom-

modate the needs of advertisers. But when clients asked about discount or earned rates, KPS' response was,

"We can't do that."

At the Fall Board of Directors retreat, the Board approved a new policy that allows KPS to use discount or volume earned rates along with national and local open rates. The new policy states that "KPS will also offer its convenient service at local and earned discount rates for retail accounts. A five percent commission will be charged to the newspapers

"Kentucky was one of the few states not offering a volume earned discount rate structure to its clients," Continued on Page 16

Next step: Get information in

KPS getting ready to go full-speed-ahead with database

If you haven't received a request for information for the Kentucky Press Service's new marketing database, MaxTrax, don't panic.

The requests are being sent out to newspapers 25 at a time, in alphabeti-cal order, said Reba Lewis, KPS adver-tising assistant who is in charge of MaxTrax.

So far, 15 newspapers have returned their information sheets, Lewis

"We're really starting to go for-

ward with it now that our directory is finished," Lewis said.

After receiving some of the infor-mation sheets, she discovered a new problem. Some papers are sending their information sheets back with either

incomplete or wrong information.
"Circulation figures need to be exact," Lewis said. "It's very important

for the information to be correct."

For example, one newspaper sent its information sheet back without breakdowns of circulation by zip code, Lewis said. The same paper also did

not list its rack sales by zip code.
"All of that information has to be exactly right, or the information in the media kits will be wrong," Lewis said. She added that MaxTrax breaks

newspapers' circulation down by zip code to let advertisers target specific areas

KPS will furnish one personalized media kit to newspapers free of charge. After that, papers will pay \$25 for additional kits.

Now you can reach KPA any time, day or night!

Call us at (800) 264-5721 and leave a message on our **VOICE** MAIL!





A trip on a bulletin board

By Mike Banks Union County Advocate

I've quietly become a cruiser on wide strip of computer technology known simply as the Internet high-

Way.

Lately I had my first chance to go

Lately I had my first chance to go

America and, "online" with the rest of America and, let me tell you, it's all pretty amazing.

Here at The Advocate we recently ourchased a modem, which would allow me to connect my Apple Macintosh Classic computer with the bulletin board system at the Kentucky Press Association's office in Frankfort.
The CommonNet bulletin board

system which the KPA offers provides member newspapers with a wealth of information and news sources. It's all very new, but becoming increasingly

Now, instead of having to wait on anews release coming through the mail or having to read through countless press releases, I can scan through a list of news items and choose those that I feel are appropriate for our county.

It saves both time and money I also logged on to anther service called America Online, which was offering computer hackers the chance to sample the online service for 10 free hours.

After choosing my user identification and logging on my password, I was opened up to a whole new world. One area offered the latest up to

the minute news around the world. There were news items on everything from President Clinton's latest news conference to charges against a Franklin, Ky. race track owner. In addition to the hard news items, there were the latest sports, entertainment, business, political and state news re-

But perhaps the most fascinating item of all was Talk America, which allows the user to communicate with people from all over the country sim-ply by typing in their comments on the computer keyboard.

After clicking on to the Talk America section, I found myself in a "room" with 23 other people. The user identification names ranged from Halfprinter to Our Girl to So Soo. Those online ranged from a 12-year-old from New York to a lawyer from Washing. New York to a lawyer from Washington, D.C., to a college student from Massachusetts.

Topics ranged from Seinfeld to why people watch Barney.

As I was logging off, a hacker named Chrisko asked, "Is there intelligent life on here?'

It was a logical question as it appeared there were a good number of first-time users on the Internet. Earlier this summer, Advocate re-

porter Linda Robinson did a story on Robby Tapp, a local college student who is studying to be a computer programmer. Tapp was looking for others who were interested in starting a local bulletin board.

The local bulletin board would be a good economical idea, as I had to use a bulletin board number out of Owensboro to log on to America Online. And while you're online, the charge is the same as talking long distance to Owensboro. So if you're online for 20 minutes, it's the same as a 20minute long-distance call.

Technology scares some and I've often had trouble understanding the difference between a byte and a megabyte. But I found the online service easy to understand and operate.

Internet appears to be here to stay

NNA calls on banks to publish

Says banks should publish community development activities as well

The National Newspaper Asso-ciation announced that Congress should not only require federally chartered banks to regularly publish a quarterly statement of financial condition, but also require publica-tion of a statement of their local de velopment activities under the Com-

munity Reinvestment Act (CRA). NNA Chairman Michael Parta said the association's call came for publication of banks' community development activities as a result of the association's recent campaign to restore public reporting of the banks' financial conditions.
"The American Bankers Asso-

ciation apparently believes that fi-nancial condition is no longer lo-cally relevant. We disagree. Bank stability is always locally relevant," said Parta. "If you doubt that, ask who got hurt and who paid in the \$30 billion savings and loan col-

"But for local importance, the CRA reports are paramount," Parta said. "Banks regularly report on local lending, promotion and development. The law requires public disclosure of these reports, but the banks hide their light...by showing the reports only in...bank lobbies."

The CRA was passed in 1977 requiring banks to maintain their local development roles and to disclose those activities. NNA specifically took no position on the CRA, butnoted that Congresshad stopped a step short of effective enforcement

a step short of effective enforcement by not requiring that the reports be published where the public could easily read them. Community newspapers across

Community newspapers across the nation have begun a campaign against the Sept. 23 repeal of the federal requirement for publication of banks' "call reports" of financial condition. The repeal was included in the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 without hearings. Parta said, "The 104th Congress has an opportunity to restore public awareness of bank stability at the same time theightens awareness of banks' key role in their communities." key role in their communitie

key role in their communities."
"Newspapers play a similar key role," Parta said, "and community newspapers in particular take an active part in local development. We have consulted a number of local bankers, who tell us they fail to receive due credit for their CRA-related activities. This is an issue whose time has come." time has come

SPJ honors future journalists



Pett, editorial cartoonist for The Lexington Herald-Leader, demon-ed his talents and explained how he develops his deas to students attended the SPJ Workshop and Competition.

schools competed for honors at the Society of Professional Journalists 11th annual compe tition at Eastern Kentucky University recently

The Crimson Record of du Pont Manual High School won seven awards, including

High School won seven awards, including Best Overall Newspaper, Division 1, while the Tribal Tribune at Montgomery County High won five awards, including Best Overall Newspaper in Division 2.

The Cardinal Spirit of Scott County High took second place in Division 1 for the Best Overall. Newspaper, while Trinity High in Louisville was named the second place winner in Division 2.

In addition to the competition, students also attended sessions on news, feature and sports writing, as well as design, photogra-phy and graphics. In addition to several mass communications faculty, the workshop in-cluded Mike Embry of the Associated Press, Malcolm Stallons of the Lexington Herald-Leader, Nick Nicholas of The Richmond Reg-ister and Angie Hatton of The State Journal of Frankfort

Joel Pett, editorial cartoonist for the Lexington Herald-Leader, delivered the keynote address which featured a number of his political cartoons and his commentary on their development and impact.

Several student papers also had indi-vidual critiques of their papers by the profes-sionals and EKU faculty on the program. The annual competition and workshop is coordinated by the student chapter of SPJ at

Trophies for the competition were sponsored by Landmark Community Newspapers Inc.

Papers seek truth in communities

Editor's Note: Our series of profiles of Kentucky Press Association member newspapers continues.

By Becky L. Meadows KPA News Bureau Director

Inez Mountain Citizen

Lisa Stayton used to work at the Martin County Mercury, one of two newspapers in Inez that raised their

pens during a longtime feud. Now,Stayton owns the Inez Mountain Citizen, which is in effect the news-paper which was owned by her former

competitor, Homer Marcum. KPA members may remember Marcum from "Papergate," the war between the two papers in Inez to es-tablish which was the legal newspaper

in the county.

Marcum decided one day to start his own newspaper, The Martin Countian. It competed with the Martin County Mercury, owned by a local at-

One day a few years back, Marcum bought the Martin County Mercury, and then sold both newspapers to a newspaper group. The group com-bined the two papers, hoping that would eliminate competition in Mar-

Wrong.

The very day the group came out with the first issue of its paper, an alternative paper hit the stands also.

So goes journalism in Martin County Indeed, Inezmust be the small-town journalism feud capital of the

The Mountain Citizen never takes sides on issues, and never publicly at-tacks the other paper in town, The Martin County Sun, Stayton said.

"We absolutely always stand in the middle," she said. Why? Because in a town as small

as Inez, it's awful easy for people to run

on the bright side, if it can be considered such, Martin County has very little retail business. Most people journey to a mall in West Virginia, a stone's throw away, to shop, Stayton said.

Politics run rampant in the small town, said Michael Sisco, the newspaper's editor. With a staff of 12 people, most of which are full-time, the

MARTIN COUNTY

Household\$24,703

Population12,400	Pop
No. Households4,300	No.
Retail Sales \$65,253,000	Reta
FRI per	EBI

meetings and events.

And even though the paper doesn't take sides on issues, it doesn't back away from tackling controversial issues that give Martin County resi dents a glimpse of themselves.

For example, one of the most controversial stories the paper has ever covered involved an indepth look at teachers' salaries--and printing each teacher's name and individual salary.

Most teachers didn't like it much Sisco said. But the paper believed printing the salaries was relevant because the teachers were demanding hefty pay raises. So the paper weathered the blows and went on.

From the history of newspapers in this colorful county, controversy will always be a part of journalism in Martin County

Martin County Sun

Mark Grayson is a teacher at a school for developmentally slow children in Martin County--but he has never lost his bug for newspapers.

He has worked at several newspapers, including the Martin County Mercury, the newspaper that competed fiercely for years with Homer Marcum's Martin Countian.

He was editor there. He remem-

bers working with Lisa Stayton, owner of the Mountain Citizen and his cur-

rent competitor. He said he wasn't looking to start a competing paper, but there just hap-pened to be a tabloid paper in the town

for sale--so he bought it.
"This is a free country and the way I look at it, anybody has a right to put out a newspaper," Grayson said. "haven't tried to be the official paper I've just tried to sell papers and uplift the community

He added he thinks weekly papers are not really "newspapers" because they can't report on breaking news quick enough to meet their deadlines.

Thus, weeklies have to be different from dailies, he said. His tactic is to use more features, including spotlights on local people such as teachers.

Now he concentrates on moving

BULLITT COUNTY

Population50,100
No. Households16,800
Retail Sales\$127,479,000
EBI per Household\$36,607



the Martin County Sun into the new technological age. With some new Macs and desktop publishing equipment, he will be fully paginating soon. Already most of the newspaper's design is done on the computers, he said.

So how do two newspapers survive in a county that has little retail business?

Grayson said there is room for both papers because Martin County does not have a local radio or television station. On top of that, the economy sees \$87 million in coal money, \$12 million in service industries and \$12 million in state and federal aid checks.
"If you really want to cover the

county, you advertise in both papers, he said.

Shepherdsville Pioneer

Thomas Barr knows just how close

to Louisville he is. He's about 15 minutes away from the Jefferson Mall, one of, if not the, largest shopping malls in the state. He's about 20 minutes from down-town Louisville and the Galleria.

In short, he's aware Shepherdsville and Bullitt County are just bedroom

communities for the state's largest city.

How does a weekly newspaper survive selling ads and reporting against The Courier-Journal?

"We cover Bullitt County better

we cover build county better than anyone else," Barr, publisher of The Pioneer News, said with a smile. That's the secret. If you're looking for Louisville news and you live in Shepherdsville, you'll have to pick up a CJ. You won't find it in the Pioneer

But if you want news about what your city council or county govern-ment has done, or when that new road construction will be finished, you will find it in the Pioneer News.

The county does not have a lot of

The People Behind the Papers...



Above, the staff of the Inez Mountain Citizen got together mas Party on December 23.





Our News For You: KPA Nuggets

Have you registered yet?

It could really cost you not to attend KPA's Winter Convention

We hope you've already made plans to be in Louisville January 26-27!

That's when the Kentucky Press Association Winter Convention kicks off at the Hurstbourne Hotel & Conference Center, off I-64.

Last year's winter convention was canceled because a blizzard struck the state and blanketed it with 17 inches of

snow convention week. This year's convention will also include the winter meeting of the Kentucky News Photographers Association, whose events are scheduled to

tion, whose events are scheduled to overlap those of KPA on January 27-28. KPA-member newspapers and all Associate members should have al-ready received registration and hotel reservation forms from KPA. If you haven't received the forms or just can't

haven't received the forms or just can't put your hands on them, give Sue Cammack a call at (800) 264-5721.

It could cost you more to miss this convention than to attend.

It kicks off Thursday, Jan. 26 with a three-hour session on federal Fair Housing guidelines. The training session will be conducted by Len Lanfranco, executive director of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association.

Although most newspapers in Kentucky have escaped close scrutiny by the federal department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), newspapers in the western part of the country have not been so fortunate. Fines of up to several thousand dollars have been reported by newspapers. Lanfranco has worked with HUD, and brings his knowledge and experience to the convention during his session scheduled 9 a.m.-noon. He will review the federal law and show newspapers how seem-ingly insignificant wording can lead to

heavy fines from HUD. Thursday afternoon, Lanfranco Inursday atternoon, Lantranco will participate in a Management Seminar, detailing horror stories on Fair Housing violations. Also participating in that seminar will be Molly Leahy of the Newspaper Association of America, who will explain OSHA regulations and federal tax issues, and Dick Stophoses, an attractory with Stoll. Stephenson, an attorney with Stoll, Keenon and Park, who will explain the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Throughout the day, the KPA/KNPAWinterTradeShow will be open with 30 or so exhibitors. The opening reception Thursday night will be held in the trade show area

Friday's activities begin with the KPA Business Meeting at 8:30 a.m. The General Session, scheduled to begin about 9 a.m., will feature all announced Governor's race in a press conference. Following lunch, KPA's four divisions-News Editorial, Advertising, Circula-tion and Associates--will hold sessions.

tion and Associates—will noid sessions.

The News Editorial session will center on photography tips from KNPA; the Advertising Seminar will be held by Joe Bonura; the Circulation Seminar features Keith Wood of Stauffer Communications in Topeka, Kansas; and, after a business meeting. the Associates session will follow up on two previous panel discussions about dealing with the media in crisis situations. Afternoon sessions are scheduled to run from 1:45-5 p.m.

The KPA Awards Reception will The KPA Awards Reception will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the KPA Awards Banquet and video presentation at 7 p.m. The KPA portion of the convention should adjourn about 9:30 p.m. On Saturday, KNPA convenes its programming sessions with KPA members invited to attend those meetings as well as well.

Who shuts down over Christmas?

Ralph Davis and the Jackson County Sun don't. Neither does the Associated Press, although most jour-

Associated Press, although most jour-nalists would expect that.
"We just keep chugging right on through over here," Davis said in re-sponse to a CommonNet survey ask-ing which KPA-member newspapers shut down the week between Christ-mas and New Year's. "In fact, the only days we were off were Saturday and Sunday. Of course, it was DEAD on Friday and Monday, but we were

In fact, very few Kentucky pa-pers shut down the week before New Year's, according to the survey re-

sults.

On the other hand, the Tompkinsville News does. "The Tompkinsville News is closed for Christmas vacation," the answering machine at thenewspaper officesaid. "We will re-open at 8 a.m. Monday, Jan. 2. As is traditional, the Tompkinsville News will not be published this useak the week following. lished this week, the week following Christmas. We'll be checking in often Continued on Page 16

Lending a Helping Hand (or two)



Guy Hatfield, publisher of the Citizen Voice & Times or Irvine and the Clay City Times, presents a check for \$651 to Virginia Owens, a member of the Estill County Band member of the Estill County Band Boosters, to help with travel expenses for the Estill County High School Band. The money was raised through a subscription drive, in which part of the subscription funds were donated to the band. Hatfield ran a similar program for members of the Clay City High School Band, and presented a check for \$502 to them.

The Final Word: Writing News



Want to offend some readers? Use some words on this list

By Daryl L. Frazell

Grouch No. 37, under the heading, "Tis for insensitivity," began a discussion of terms some people may find offensive. The list continues:

female. Police reports tend to use gender as a noun, as in, "Two females were apprehended," but when the media use similar language it seems insultingly impersonal, as if "women" would be inappropriate for some reason. As an adjective in phrases such as "female firefighter," the term can be insulting, too, as a way of saying, "Here is a woman in what is normally a man's

feminine. Some women object to might disqualify them from some jobs

fried chicken. In some circum-stances this can be a stereotypical allusion to the cuisine of black people

fragile. When applied to a woman, this can be a stereotypical term associ-

ated with femininity.
full-figured. Only women are de-

scribed this way, and many resent it. geezer. Doddering, over-the-hill men like the Grouch see little humor in this term used only by immature

gender enders. Feminized forms such as "actress," "aviatrix," "comedi-enne," "executrix," "heroine, "poetess," and "starlet" were once common but now are seldom seen. They have declined because women prefer "actor," "aviator," "comedian," "executor," "hero," "poet" and "star." However, "actess survives at Academy Award time. "Waitress" has been abandoned in favor of "server.

golden years. Ask somebody the later years of life how idyllic it all is, and you're likely to get a blunt answer. handicapped. A handicap is a disadvantage that stands in the way of achievement. A disability is a condition that makes some tasks difficult or impossible. "Disabled" is generally pre-ferred over "handicapped" to refer to poeple who use wheelchairs or other devices to help them move around, but most of those people would prefer not to be characterized by a term that emphasizes what they can't do. They are likely to be insulted by "crippled" or

Hispanic. It's widely used to refer to people whose ancestry is in countries where Spanish is the dominant language, but not all such people accept the term. Some prefer Latino or Mexican American exican American.

homosexual. This is the correct

term for both sexes. "Gay" refers only to men; "lesbian" refers only to women There was a time when editors fought to preserve "gay" as a synonym for "light-hearted," but most have given up. In fact, the word is now unlikely to be read that way

honey. Like "dear" and "sweetie, it has been used so often by men as a demeaning way to address women that it is likely to be misinterpreted even

when its purpose is endearment.
housewife. Although many
women proudly use this term to describe themselves, others object to the gender reference. They prefer "home-

maker," which can apply to either sex. illegal alien. This is especially sensitive these days. "Undocumented" is less likely to raise hackles than "ille gal," and "worker" or "resident" is worth considering in preference to "alien," which has been taken over as a UFO or sci-fi term.

inscrutable. People of European descent once considered all Asians inscrutable, which means hard to figure out. The term is now considered a slur by many Asian-Americans.

Put a spark in those boring government stories

By Becky L. Meadows KPA News Bureau Director

The Anytown City Council voted 5-2

last night to approve a sewer-rate ordi-nance on second reading. What's wrong with this lead (or "lede," as my University of Missouri professor used to write)?

First, chances are your readers do not know what "second reading"

means. That's government legalese that just clutters up your leads. Second, it's boring. If you wrote that lead, you'd be lucky if your read-ers weren tsnoozing before they got to

Third, what exactly is a sewer-rate

Last, and most important, what does passage of this thing mean for your readers:

I know it sometimes gets boring covering government meetings. As News Bureau Director for the Ken-tucky Press Association, I cover state government meetings for your papers. I try to put a unique touch to each story,

but sometimes it gets tough, I admit.

The one thing I always search for, though, while I'm holding my eyelids open with my fingers, is that one nug-get of information my readers want and need to know.

Here are some things you can look for when covering government meet-ings-things that belong in your lead, usually, if you find them.

1. Will it cost your readers money?

Is our sewer-rate ordinance going to mean increased sewer costs for people

in Anytown?

Anytown residents will have to dig a little deeper next time they pay their sewer

That's quick, that's to the point,

that squick, that is to the point, that means something to Joe Blow who picks up your paper. 2. Is there a benefit in it for your readers? If you're covering your county government the night it passes new

ethics legislation, will your readers benefit from the law?

If you're kin to someone who works in county government, don't even fill out an application for employment with Anytown

You don't have a chance of being hired, or at least you shouldn't under a new ethics

code county government passed last night.

3. Is there something that could hurt your readers? Does the law (or ordinance, or whatever your govern-ment calls it) look good on its face, but fall flat on its behind upon close scrutiny?

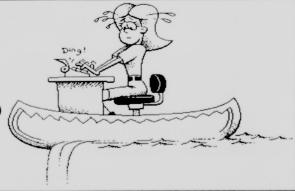
Getting a \$500 tax break sounds good Continued on Page 15

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 ${}^{{\color{blue} {\bf W}}}{\bf W}_{e} \text{ were trying to provide a boot camp} \\ \text{experience to help working photojournalists}$ and prospective photojournalists to sharpen their skills in shooting and working with subjects and to help them establish a stronger commitment to the profession.'











Lookin' Good: Graphics News

Visual planning part of reporting

By Don Fry From The Bulletin

Reporters should regard graphics as one of their tools of explanation, but many think of anything visual as an intrusion on their precious space.

many think of anything visual as an intrusion on their precious space.

Editors need to get around this prejudice if they want writing and graphics coordinated. You can coach the graphic side of reporting and writing, but first you have to sell it to the writers. (You might have to sell it to yourself.)

yourself.) Here's the sales pitch. Reporters (and editors) should like graphics because visuals complement words. Visuals and words are teammates, not enemies. Graphics dothingseasily that words do badly, and vice-versa.

Take this example. Your local hospital decides to build a high-tech incinerator to dispose of medical wastes, not just for itself but also for all nearby medical facilities. That story has all sorts of technical journalistic demands, such as potential effects on the environment, hazards of transport, complex chemistry and biology, budget numbers, etc. Just describing the incinerator itself, its construction and operation, will involve tough trudging

through paragraphs dense-packed with technical terms. Hard to write, hard to read.

But a combination of writings, drawings, charts and photos, planned as a unit, will make this package jump off the page, maybe even leap onto the front page. Readers will read it and understand it.

Reporters must understand viscerally that graphics don't take more time, don't eat their space, and don't mean the paper is turning into USA Today. Graphics explain difficult things visually

Vacuuming the Scene

We have inherited a journalistic tradition that includes almost nothing visual in the writing. We package facts into upside-down triangles, perversely called "stories." Reporters who don't normally include visual elements in their stories don't see visual elements in the field. They collect numbers and quotes.

The coaching editor first calls attention to sights, encouraging the reporter to put them into the notebook and then into the story. The reporter learns to seek "telling details," those

details that form part of a pattern, the meaning of the story. For example, if you're writing a story about me, my four computers are not a telling detail. But the fact that they're all laptops says something about my traveling life, which becomes meaningful.

The next step involves collecting visual materials in the field, a process I call "vacuuming the scene." The reporter simply picks up or copies everything at the scene with a picture, chart, map, or diagram on it, and brings it all back to the office without discrimination. Then the reporter has the raw material to remember what things looked like, and to analyze how they work.

Somereporters learn how to sketch simple diagrams. We're not talking about drawing, intended to convey information to someone else. Sketching is a form of note-taking for oneself. For example, very shrewd political reporters sometimes sketch little maps of where speakers sit at meetings so they can remember the dynamics of interactions.

Visual planning

The dullest, least effective graphics result from artists making pictures

from finished stories without access to the writer. Vacuuming and sketching enable the reporter to work with both editors and graphics staff before and during the writing of the story. So the coaching editor, preferably with a graphics person present, debriefs the writer between the end of the reporting and the beginning of the typing. The editor asks the usual focusing

The editor asks the usual focusing question so important at that stage: What's the story about? What are the main ideas? What order do they go in? How long does this need to be to explain it to the reader? The debriefer listens for complex explanations that might profit from visuals, and suggests planning the story with graphics carrying some parts, and writing the rest.

If the team decides on graphic elements, it has all the visual materials the writer vacuumed up at the scene. The artist doesn't have to base a picture on words from someone not trained to see things.

And when the nicely coordinated package appears in the paper, the editor praises the teamwork in public. Sooner or later, the whole newsroom will get the message: Graphic thinking makes explanation easier, and gets better play.

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If you miss the KPATrade Show, held during the KPA Winter Convention at the Hurstbourne Hotel in Louisville January 26-28, 1995, you'll miss seeing what these spectacular vendors have to offer you--and you'll miss a chance to win a color TV!

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Alta Graphics
D-Books Publishing
U.S. Postal Service
Web Press
Cabbage Cases Inc.
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Edu-Com

Heritage House
Publishing
Metro Creative Graphics
Baseview Products
Ky. Oil & Gas Assoc.
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Customware
Murphy's Camera
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Anyone who visits all the KPATrade Show booths and has a special card stamped by each vendor is eligible to put their cards into a special pot, from which will be drawn the winner of the COLOR TV!

Around Town: Circulation News



In-county got good deal on postal rates

Editor's Note: The following is a column by Max Heath, former KPA President who is chairman of the National Newspaper Association's Postal Committee.

The Postal Rate Commission (PRC) In Prostal Rate Commission (PRC) has spoken, making first-class mailers happiest and second- and third-class mailers frown a bit as they studied new rates likely effective Jan. 1. But National Newspaper Associa-tion members, whose bread-and-but-ter rate is incounty walked away with

ter rate is in-county, walked away with

ter rate is in-county, walked away with 12-13 percent better results than most mailers. In-county postage will only increase 1-2 percent in 1995. The so-called "10.3 percent solu-tion," an unprecedented Postal Service reque.t to raise all postage rates across the board, was rejected by the PRC on Nov. 30. Commissioners chose to fa-vor first-class business mailers over second- and third-class

second- and third-class.
Since the PRC can only set rates toomeet the Postal Service's "revenue requirement," it had to reduce some rates to raise others more than the 10.3 percent requested.

the second ounce first-class rate was unchanged, increasing the dis-count from 6 to 9 cents. Likewise, the

to 20 cents instead of the 21 cents re quested. So first-class got 10.3 percent on its first ounce, less on heavier mailings, and post cards only 5.3 percent. Priority Mail will only increase 4.8 percent to \$3, not \$3.20 as the Postal Service requested.

Second-class rates

What does this all mean for com-

munity newspapers?
With postal inflation actually running closer to 19 percent, mailers are lucky to get by with 14 percent or less after four years. General inflation in the economy over the period was 14.2 percent for 1990-93 base period of the rate case. But inflation for the time rates were in effect, from Feb. 3, 1991 through Dec. 30, 1994, will be about 12

It is disappointing to have out-ofcounty newspaper postage and third-class shopper postage increase 14 per-cent when 10.3 percent appeared justi-fied and within reach.

But one reason to feel good is that a higher increase now might lessen the "sticker shock" of larger increases in future cases. It is possible that the "10.3

NEWSPAPER ALLIANCE FOR FAIR POSTAL RATES

percent solution" touted by the Postal Service would have resulted in higher second-class regular (out-of-county) rates down the road.

In-county newspapers' increase of about 1-2 percent depends on the weight, and the amount walk-sequenced and delivery-unitentered. The change is only on the pound rate, from 10.8 to 11.1 cents for delivery unitentry (line 36 Form 3541.18), and 11.8 to 12.1 (line 36, Form 3541-R), and 11.8 to 12.1 cents all other entry (line 37).

Piece rates will not change from those in October. Therefore, heavier pieces have greater percentage increases. Heavily walk-sequenced papers paying the 3.6-cent piece rate will also realize slightly higher percentage

Recompute a 3541-R, substituting the new pound rates, to see how much your in-county postage bill increases. Checks of my papers varied from just under 1 percent (.97) to 1.9 percent. A four-ounce paper (DU and CAR-RT) will now cost 6.875 cents to mail,

up 1.1 percent from 6.8 cents. An eight-ounce DU, CAR-RT paper will pay 9.65 cents each, up 1.6 percent from 9.5 cents. Deducat a half-cent for 125 W/S.

Since in-county's markup is tied to regular rates, the 4 percent additioal hike brought the in-county cost up be-yond the requested 1.5 percent decline. But the in-county increase was still the second best deal in this rate case, beaten only by classroom publications. They had earlier proved their volume higher than estimated, like NNA is working to do with in-county.
That markup of 2.7 percent to cover

institutional costs of operating the Postal Service is the lowest of any subclass. In-county also pays the lowest per-piece contribution to institutional costs, less than 1 percent.

Third-class rates

The rates most often paid by thirdclass shoppers will increase more than 14 percent.

Full-coverage shopper mail en-tered at the destination delivery unit will pay 12 cents per piece minimum instead of 10.5 cents, an increase of 14.3 percent.

Non-subscriber shoppers earning 125-walk-sequence will pay 13.2 cents each, up from 11.5 cents now, or 14.8 percent more.

Non-serve pieces earning carrier route rate (10 or more but less than 125) Continued on Page 16

A Project of the National Newspaper Association Serving 4,000 Community Newspapers Across America a: Mike Parts, NNA Chairman Subtract your gift of \$30, \$60, \$90 Yes! I want to join... here is my contribution!

The Kentucky Press is actively seeking **GUEST** WRITERS to write articles for specific pages, such as WRITING **NEWS** AD NEWS CIRCULATION

and others. If you know more than you should in a particular field, please give us a call at (800) 264-5721.

NEWS DESIGN NEWS



The Right To Know: Legalese

Privacy right outweighs right to records access

From The Associated Press

FRANKFORT-When the public's right to examine government records is weighed against someone's right to be left alone, the Kentucky Court of Appeals said that the balance is tilted in favor of the individual.

The court said the Open Records
Act is based on the public's right to
expect government agencies to do
their jobs properly.
"At its most basic level, the pur-

pose of disclosure focuses on the citizens' right to be informed as to what their government is doing," Judge Rick Johnson said. "That purpose is not fostered, however, by disclosure of information about pri-vate citizens that is accumulated in

three-judge panel came in a request by Louisville attorney John F. Zink to gain access to all of the initial injury reports filed for workers' compensa-tion claims. The reports compiled by the Department of Workers' Claims include the name and address of an employer, the nature of the business and the nature of the injury. The re-ports also contain the name, address, telephone number, Social Security number, date of birth, pay and marital

status of the employee.

Zink, whose law practice includes workers' compensation cases, wanted the information to send mail solicita-

tions to potential clients.

The department agreed to give Zink information containing the name of injured workers, the county where the injury took place, the type of injury and time missed. But Zink said the Open Records Act should allow him access to all of the documents various government files that reveals little or nothing about an
agency's own conduct."

The unanimous decision of the

The unanimous decision of the

E'town mayor does not régret violating OM Law

From the Elizabethtown

Elizabethtown Mayor Pat Durbin said she doesn't regret her decision to withhold the name of the architectural firm the city selected to design a new court building, though the state Attor-ney General recently defined her action as a violation of the Kentucky Open

The city was found in violation of the law after Durbin refused to pub-licly name the firm following the city's official action during a Sept. 6 council

Durbin said the city will not ap-

peal the Attorney General's decision.
"I apparently violated the letter of the law, and although I don't regret doing so, I shall try to comply in the

Durbin made the announcement, reading a prepared statement in the Elizabethtown City Council on Monday, Nov. 21.

She said that although the law required her to disclose the information, if she had the chance to do it over again, she would have made the same deci-

sion.
"I do not apologize for my decision. Perhaps it was important that the information be published in the local paper on Tuesday, Sept. 7, instead of the following day," she said. "I just happened to think it was more important that I follow my philosophy in life and treat other people like I would want to be treated. Perhaps I was wrong."

Durbin said the city has decided not to appeal the ruling because it wasn't financially wise.

Gore, White House visit highlight **Government Affairs Conference**

WASHINGTON, D.C.--The Na-tional Newspaper Association is as-sembling a 1995 Government Affairs Conference (GAC) designed to pro-vide the nation's community press the opportunity to examine and influence the rapidly changing political scene in Washington Washington.

The conference agenda includes a progress report by political consultant Ed Rollins on the first 66 days of the Ed Rollins on the first 66 days of the Republican-controlled 104th Congress, and invitations to Rep. Newt Gingrich, Jack Kemp, Sen. Phil Gramm and key anticipated 1996 presidential candi-dates to address publishers at the Na-tional Press Club.

The meeting will be held March 8-11, with accommodations at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Pentagon City, Va.

Many of NNA's committee meetings will take place on March 8 along with tours of the Pentagon and a behind-the-scenes tour of the Smithsonian bestitution. An exercise water program of the series water and the series water programs and the series water and the series water programs. Institution. An evening welcome re-ception is planned as well. March 9 will kick off the main pro-

gram with Vice President Al Gore, who has been invited to address a joint session of NNA and the American Advertising Federation. The two organiza-tions will be combining portions of their annual Government Affairs Conferences because they share common concerns over issues of taxation, advertising regulation and new technolo-

Gore will speak at the Willard Hotel, the site of the AAF conference. NNA members will receive transpor-

tation to the Willard for the address.
The AAF is the voice of the advertising industry, representing national media, advertisers and advertising agencies. Its membership includes a network of almost 50,000 members in 135 corporations, 220 local advertising federations and 210 college chapters. Also on Thursday, Postmaster Gen-

Alsoon Thursday, Postmaster Gen-eral Marvin Runyon will discuss the coming postal reclassification and a panel will discuss: "Does the Postal Service Want Your Lunch?" On the panel will be Max Heath, a vice presi-dent with Landmark Community Newspapers and the chairman of NNA's Postal Committee; Bill NNA's Postal Committee; Bill Henderson, chief operating officer and executive vice president of the USPS; Robert Kamerschen, chairman and CEO for ADVO, Inc.; and Shaun Higgins, marketing and sales director for the Spokesman-Review in Spokane,

A legislative briefing follows the postal session and a stand-up congressional luncheon at the Library of Congress. After the luncheon, attendees

will have the opportunity to visit their congressional leaders on the Hill. Thatevening special embassy brief-ings and receptions will be held at the embassies of Haiti, Peru (tentative), Latvia, Ireland (tentative), United Arab Emirates, Israel, India and Ghana (ten-

Leading off Friday morning, March 10, will be the Newspaper Leadership Council.

At the National Press Club, attendwill have a chance to listen to many of the 1996 possible presidential candidates. Invited to speak at the "Election 96° session are Rep. Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., the incoming speaker of the House; Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas; Lamar Alexander; Sen. Aften Specter, R-Pa.; Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan.; former Vice President Dan Quayle; Jack Kemp; and a spokesperson from the White House.

Each speaker will be given 10 min-utes to address the audience, with a five-minute Q & A session to follow. Moderator for the session, Ronald A. Faucheuz, publisher and editor of Cam-paigns and Elections magazine, will

ence for the speakers.
Following this session will be a luncheon, featuring columnist William Raspberry. After the luncheon, politi-cal consultant Ed Rollins and another analyst will critique the first 66 days of the 104th Congress. NNA's executive committee will question the consult-

A reception to visit the First Fam-ily at the White House is tentatively scheduled, but confirmation is not ex-pected until sometime in March.

Later that evening, attendees may enjoy an optional dinner at the Roof Terrace Restaurant at the Kennedy Center, and will have a choice of three performances--National Symphony with James Paul conducting; Art String Quartet; or Shear Madnes

String Quartet; or Shear Madness, a comedy whodunit. At the Shakespeare Theater there will be a showing of Shakespeare's Love's Labor's Lost. For those attendees staying in Washington for some sightseeing Saturday, March 11, there will be an optional dinner at Hogates, a seafood restauranton Washington's waterfront. For more information on the conference or to register, call NNA's Carol Pierce at (800) 829-4662.

Legalese

No mandatory open caucuses

By Becky L. Meadows KPA News Bureau Director

A slim victory may have come in the form of a defeat for the Kentucky Open Meetings Law during the Organizational Session of the state General

Assembly.
One of the Democrats in the House of Representatives strayed from the ranks and called for his party to open its caucuses. Even though the motion to open caucuses was tabled in a 57-40 vote, Republicans took up the cry for

openness.

Rep. Tom Riner, D-Louisville, made the motion to suspend the rules of the House for the group to vote on whether to open caucus meetings.

'This is Mickey Mouse,' the minister said when a motion was made to table his motion to each the rection.

table his motion to open the meetings. "This is childish and stupid for Democratic members to do this. We're going

to fill this chamber with Republican votes if we keep doing this."

Now, at least 51 members of the House would have to vote in favor of bringing the tabled motion back to the House floor for a vote before the issue could be revisited.

Meetings of the state Democratic Caucus have been closed for years. In fact, these meetings are statutorily ex-empt from the state Open Meetings Law, but have been opened occasionally such as during budget discussions of the 1994 General Assembly. Meetings of the Republican Caucus are gen-

Some other members of the Demo-cratic party disagreed with Riner's call

for open caucuses.

Rep. Greg Stumbo, majority floor leader of the House and a Prestonsburg Democrat, rose to tell House members he was not in favor of the resolution to

open caucus meetings.
"It somewhat puts me in an uncomfortable position, speaking not in favor of this motion, "Stumbo said. "The problem is what you're being asked to do has not gone through the legislative

How both chambers voted....

Farrow



Adams

Adkins

Ballard

Arnold, A

Arnold, J.

Barrows **Bondurant** Bowling Brown

Bruce Burch Butler, D. Callahan Clark, L.

Brandstetter

Butler, D.D.

Cave

Colter

Farley

Deweese

Crall

Clark, P. Clarke J Coleman Collins Crenshaw Curd Cyrus Damron

Deskins

Fox Friend Geveden Gooch Graham, D. Gray, J.R. Gray, L. **Jenkins**

In the House: (Vote to table motion to open party caucuses)

Lindsay Long Lovell Maggard Marzian Mason Moberly

Kerr

Lee

Scorsone Nelson Scott Nesler Shaddette Newsome Simpson Palumbo Stacy Rapier Stengel Rasche Stumbo Richards Riggs

Morris



Ackerson Allen Altman Baugh

Fletcher Ford Gee Graham, G Hampton Heleringer Hogancamp Jensen

Lile Marcotte Maricle Mullinix Murgatroyd Napier Noland Northup

Nunn Reinhardt Riner Sanders Siler Smith

Stine

Todd

Treesh Turner Walton Zimmerman



In the Senate: (Vote to pass amendment to open party caucuses)

Bailey Berger Blevins Boswell Bradley

Friend Green Herron Kafoglis Karem

Leeper Meyer Moloney Neal Nelson

Nunnelley Pendleton Rose Saunders

Shaughnessy



Baker Borders Buford Casebier Crase Moore Harris Philpot Kelly Preston Metcalf Robinson Seum Roeding Rose, Julie Tori

Williams, D.

Williams, G.

Stumbo said Democratic leaders may discuss issues behind closed cau-cus doors, but their votes are still made

in public "That's the way the system works,"

Some Republicans, however, took the opportunity to resound the call for

openness.
"The fact is that major policy deci-

sions are made behind closed doors. That is wrong," said Rep. Bill Lile, R-

"What's wrong with letting the people of the Commonwealth know what's going on?" he continued. "The people want openness."

Rep. Tom Jensen, R-London, agreed lawmakers should hold discussions in public.

are telling the people who voted for you that there are times you don't want them to know what you're doing up

e," he said. The state Senate also **to**ok up the issue whether to open Democratic Cau-cus meetings. The group voted along party lines, 21-17, not to approve the resolution introduced by Sen. Gex Wil-

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2¢ Worth: Our Views To You

Sometimes you have to bite your tongue

By the Way

By Becky L. Meadows News Bureau Director



ou can't go back there," the blond-haired girl said, her eyes

fixed on mine.
"No, you can't," her dark-haired companion said. "They don't like that. It's not good stage manners."
"But what would happen if I did go

back there? What if I just peep around the corner?" I questioned, pushing for

an answer.
"They would get mad," the darkhaired girl replied, twirling one end of her dark coat to reveal a blue stage

dress underneath. I looked once again at the bottom four stairs of a staircase that led backstage, backstage to one of the most wonderful theatrical productions I have ever seen--The Phantom of the Opera.

The Phantom was back there. He was backstage now, in his dressing room, having a make-up artist remove his stage make-up. His hat and cape and mask all would be there, waiting

"Well, I'm going to see, anyway," I said, and silently moved toward the

row of stairs.

I stepped onto the first gray stair then turned to look at my autograph-

waiting companions.

The dark-haired girl stood with her mouth open, her coat parted to show the dress she had made herself-a dress like Christine, the heroine of The Phantom of the Opera, wears dur-

ing her solo. And I thought I was obsessed, I thought dryly.

thought dryly.

The blond-haired girl was com-pletely aghast; she turned her head away when I looked at her. I turned around, took a deep breath

and tilted my head around the corner of the bottom row of stairs.

More stairs.

More stairs with a thick plastic curtain at the top.

He's up there, I thought. The Phantom's up there. I know he is.

Most of the other actors and ac-tresses had already come down the stairs and graciously signed auto-graphs. I had stood in the background, holding steadfastly to my Phantom the

Opera movie poster.

I wanted only one autograph, and

I was determined to get it. When one of the girls mentioned perhaps the Phantom had gone out another entrance, I decided it was time for action. That was when I headed for the stairs

The girls were appalled. I was ex-

tic curtain back, and a big man in a

black jacket started down the stairs.

I stepped back down the stairs and took my place beside the outer door. I'm not stupid, you know.

Granted, this situation was different. I'm not used to having to take the normal routes to get what I want. I had to push back several impulses to just walk right on up those stairs and push that plastic curtain aside with an, "I'm Becky Meadows with the Kentuck Press Association. May I speak with

the Phantom?"

That's the normal procedure for newspaper reporters. We don't usually have to go the route the public has to go, which is probably why the girls were so stunned by my move up the stairs in the first place.

No, we usually get the best seats, right up front. We usually get great access, like interviews after perfor-mances and backstage passes. I could've had all of this for Phan-

tom of the Opera. All I would have had to do is call the promotion company, told them who I was and what organization I was with.

I could've been sitting backstage or tould ve been sitting backstage with the Phantom, watching him having his makeup removed. Who knows, I might have even been allowed backstage during the performance (provided, of course, I stayed out of the

But I wasn't covering Phantom. I was just watching the performance, like a typical Joe Blow. Thus, I was

would have been subject to

I bit my tongue and looked at the security guard coming down the stairs. "Is the Phantom still back there?" I

Yeah, he said he'd be down in a

minute," he replied.

A few minutes later a figure in a black T-shirt, black jeans and a black "Phantom of the Opera" jacket came around the corner. His hair was cut short, almost shaved. It was as dark as the jacket he wore.

This was my moment. I pushed toward him, but the girl in the Christine dress beat me to him. "Would you please sign the back of my book? I think you're the greatest," she said, gasping for breath. God, please don't let him think she's with me, I thought. He signed her book, then I handed

my movie poster to him.
"Would you please sign my movie poster?" I asked.

He signed the black poster right on the white Phantom mask--the perfect spot. I thanked him and left the theater

By the way--How I wished I could have been the journalist that night! How I wished I could have been backstage while the production was going on, or had a one-on-one interview with the Phantom

I resisted the temptation to pull out a press card. I bit my tongue in-

What would you have done?

You know you live in a small town when....

Outlook was taken from Common Net, the Kentucky Press Association Bulletin Board System. Many such columns are regularly posted to the network for public use.

Small towns have a character all their own. And even though rural com-munities may differ in many ways, they are more alike than unique in

most respects.
Some of the things that make them unique are the very things that the people who live here love most about people who live heir hometowns.

The other day I ran across an ar-ticle that appeared in the Publisher's Auxiliary, the national newspaper in-dustry trade publication that was writ-ten by Doug Duncan, the late editor of the Clipper in Shelton, Nebraska in 1982. Some of these appeared in the Canton (Texas) Herald, and written by Linda Brown. You may have heard

some of them before but I thought they were so relatable that I would list some of them here.

It's called "You know you are living in a small town when'

- a crowd gathers on Main Street and looks toward the fire hall when the whistle blows
- the telephone directory is printed on one side of an 8 and a half by 11 sheet of cardboard and a fourth of the last names are the same.
- · Third Street is on the edge of
- · vou don't use your turn signal because everyone knows where you are going.
- are going.
 you dial a wrong number and talk for 15 minutes anyway.
 you can't walk to exercise because every car that passes you offers vou a ride
- you drive into a ditch five miles out of town and the word gets back before you do.
 - · you write a check on the wrong

bank and they cover it for you anyw

Then there are the ones that relate to the newspaper itself. They go something like this: "You know you are working at a smalltown newspaper

- you're invited to every social event in town and they say, "by the way, bring your camera."
- a young girl drops off a quarter because she accidentally got two news-
- papers instead of one.
 the same lady on press day, calls
- to ask "Is the paper in yet?"
 someone calls to let you know that you can cancel their ad for a lost dog and you can tell them who found
- · you write stories about a football game, a city council meeting, make pictures, set ads and attend a meeting
- all before noon on one day.

 you take a subscription while you are at a ballgame or at the grocery

- you pull up to a store where there is a newsrack and there is a crowd
- waiting inside for the paper.

 the most negative news in one week's issue was the town drunk get-
- ting arrested for public intoxication.

 people call you the minute they need you and expect you to drop ev-erything and take their picture.

 • you sell tickets to all the commu-
- nity fund-raisers at your front busin
- · readers still send in news about the visitors they had over the week
- · you recognize most of your callers by their voice.
- * many people's greatest claim to fame is the time they caught that big fish, bagged the deer, or grew the big tomato and got their picture in the
- people move to town and the first place they come to find all about the community and their neighborhood is the newspaper.

In Your Headlines: Newspaper News

Movers & Shakers

Who Went Where & What's Going on

O'Nan joins Harrodsburg Herald staff

Clarissa O'Nan has joined the staff of The Harrodsburg Herald as a general news reporter. She replaces Jamie Slagle, who has taken a job at the Bowling Green Daily

News. O'Nan worked part-time until she graduated from the University of Ken-

tucky last month.
She had worked at The Kernel, the student newspaper at UK, for several years. She had also had internships at the Lexington Herald-Leader and at The Gleaner in Henderson.

Herald-Voice names **News Editor**

The Hazard Herald-Voice announced in late November that Michael Lynn Huff of Knott County had been

named the paper's News Editor. He has been in the journalism field more than three years.

He studied journalism at the Unirestudied journalism at the University of Kentucky, and he was an editor of the student newspaper at Prestonsburg Community College.

Huff has worked at the Hazard

Herald-Voice for about a month

Stayton back on the job

Publisher Lisa Stayton has returned o work full-time at the Inez Mountain

Citizen after an illness.
"I am 80-percent recovered," she said. "But I feel good and I'm ready to get back to business as usual."
Stayton said now that journalism

is in her blood, she can't imagine doing any other kind of work.

New faces join reporting staff at New Era

The Kentucky New Era's reporting staff has changed, with a former sports writer moving to the news department and an intern joining the

newspaper.
David Blackburn has moved from sports to news and David Cook is interning with the paper, Managing Editor Mike Herndon announced.

Blackburn joined the newspaper as assistant sports editor in 1992. He previously worked as a reporter for a short time at the Crittendon Press in Marion, and for about three years prior to thatas a reporter at the Cadiz Record. He will be covering the court system and sports and the property of the court of the state of the stat

tem and county government, as well as general assignments.

Scott Burnside, former sports editor and staff writer, has resigned to pursue other interests. He worked for several years as sports editor before becoming a news reporter last year. David Cook, meanwhile, will be

covering crime and other beats while

interning for The New Era.

A resident of Ft. Campbell, he is a 1993 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism.

The New Era also announced some promotions in management.

LaMar Bryan, a staff writer for the past four years, has been named city editor. Rob Dollar, a former staff writer and copy editor, has been named copy desk chief.

Manchester announces changes

Some noticeable changes have taken place at The Manchester Enter-

Longtime publisher Glenn Gray has been named vice president of the newspaper. His primary role will be working with other publications owned by The Manchester Enterprise

Missy Walker has replaced Gray as publisher of the Enterprise

Memories

Amy Daley, 43, dies

Editor's Note: The following is an obituary for Amy Daley, publisher of The Troublesome Creek Times of Hindman. She was the wife of Ron Daley, editor of the newspaper. Fol-lowing the obituary is an edited ver-sion of a personal commentary by Ron Daley about Amy's death.

Amy Lou Turner Daley, 43, of Hindman, died Saturday, Dec. 3, 1994, at the Hazard Appalachian Regional Medical Center because of a long ill-

She was born in Buford, Ohio, on Oct. 30, 1951. She was co-owner of the Troublesome Creek Times in Hindman.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Bill Turner. She is survived by her husband, Ron Daley of Hindman; two sons, Matt and Paul Daley; one brother, Ed Turner of Hillsboro, Ohio; and other cousins and relatives.

I understand how sad and shocked many of our readers were when they saw the headline reporting Amy's

I had six years to prepare myself for Amy's death. We both knew it was time for her to leave her earthly body and begin her eternal spiritual life. But and begin her eternal spiritual life. But still, when she took her final breath and she was at peace, I felt the sudden-ness, the finality, and the shock of death. I write this not to make any of you sad, but to let you know that now I have a little understanding how some of you have felt when you lost some-one that deaply loved you and when one that deeply loved you and whom

you loved.
While I published a card of thanks

She has worked at the newspaper for more than seven years in book-keeping, circulation, job shop, purchasing, receptionist and most recently as advertising manager.

Former composition supervisor Melissa Warren will be replacing Walker as advertising manager for the

newspaper. Former news director Mark Hoskins has been promoted to editor of the weekly paper.

preciation my family has to the hun dreds of you who helped us through Amy's illness and death, I want to thank the entire Knott community, all the friends and associates of the news-paper and anyone else who showed

paper and anyone else who showed our family any act of kindness.
What I want to say in this short column is a message I have written before. Amy and I had many blessings during her illness, and as a result of her illness, our prayers were answered, and we witnessed many miracles. miracles

The last words Amy and I said to each other were, "I love you." We had that opportunity.

The last words many of you said

to Amy and heard her say to you were, "I love you."

were, "I love you."

Too often we are too stingy with the words. Do yourself a favor and a favor for that loved one or acquaintance, and tell them how much you love them.

Amy was such a humble person. She had difficulty comprehending why and how much people loved her. But she knew she was loved. Thank you for loving Amy.

Yes, there were miracles in 1994. I saw them during Amy's illness. Doctors and nurses acknowledged that Amy was a walking miracle. I was just happy to have Amy for more than a year or two. She and I never expected six years after learning the diagnosis and watching the cancer come back. As a result of the additional time God gave Amy, she was able to love and

inspire so many more people.

Thank you for your prayers, and I ask for your continued prayers and

White joins Corbin staff as city editor

Mark White, a lifelong resident of the Corbin area, has joined the News-Journal as Corbin city editor, replacing Susie Hart.

He has worked at the London Sentinel-Echo among other publications, and attended Eastern Kentucky Uni-

Add life to those boring government meeting stories

Continued from Page 7 to many Anytown residents—but what happens Monday when the town's garbage cans still sit full by the curbs? 4. No. 3 leads logically into this tip.

Read all ordinances, etc. very closely

Often there's more to them than meets the eye. Sometimes the ordinance to allow more blacktopping of roads was passed just so Mayor Bob could have his driveway paved, or the increase in road construction costs is partly becauseCommissioner Ralph had the dirt

5. If a government body passes something that seems to good to be true-it usually is. If it looks fishy on its surface, it will look fishy to your readers. Check into it further.

And always, always, keep your readers in mind. If you always answer the question, "What does it mean for my readers?" your stories will always be released, and the released and the result and the released and the result and the res be relevant--and well-read.

How much is too much to charge?

Continued from Page 1
The results are as follows

Weeklies up to 3,000: The average subscription cost was \$17.72, while the subscription cost was \$17.72, while the average newsstand price was 36 cents. Of the 38 papers in this category, 18 had the highest newsstand price of 50 cents, while six were 25 cents.

Weeklies, 3,001-4,700: The average subscription cost was \$17.54, while the average newsstand price was 41 cents. Of the 40 papers in this category,

18 had the highest newsstand price of 50 cents, while seven had the lowest price at 25 cents.

Weeklies, 4,701 and up: The average subscription cost was \$18.31, while agesubscription of the 315.31, with the average newsstand price was 45 cents. Of the 31 papers in this category, 24 had the highest rack price at 50 cents, while five were at 25 cents. Multi-weeklies: The average sub-

scription cost was \$31.54, while the average rack cost was 47 cents. Of the

12 papers in this category, 10 had the highest rack price of 50 cents, while only one was 25 cents.

Dailies, 10,000 or less: The aver age subscription cost was \$93.08, while the average rack cost was 45.5 cents. Of the 10 papers in this category, 7 had the high newsstand price of 50 cents, while three were 35 cents.

Dailies, 10,001-25,000: The average subscription cost was \$114.16, and all eight papers in this category charged 50 cents for single copies. Dailies, 25,000 and up: The aver-

age subscription cost for the two pa-

age subscription cost for the two papers in this category was \$161.50, while the average rack price was 42.5 cents.

The Courier-Journal charges \$290.28 for a one-year subscription and has a rack price of 35 cents. The Lexington Herald Leader charges \$226.20 for a subscription, and costs 50 cents on the pack.

New Year brings new ad policies to KPS

said KPA Executive Director David T. Thompson, "and this change brings KPS in line with what's being done

"Additionally, it should decrease situations where newspapers go to KPS clients, offering a lower rate than available by placing an ad through KPS".

Of the \$2 million in advertising

Abernathy's priority: Re-establish KPA Circulation Division

sold in 1994, 75 percent of the place-ment was at national/commissionable rates. "We don't expect that figure to change very much because of this new policy

Did you publish?

Continued from Page 6 during the holidays, so if you need to leave a message for us, leave a message at the tone, and happy holidays!" At the Citizen Voice & Times of

Irvine and the Clay City Times, opera-tions shut down over the holidays, according to Guy Hatfield, a member of the KPA Board of Directors and pub-

lisher of both papers.
"We did not publish in order to give staff members time to spend with their families during the holidays, and also because the week between Christmas and New Year's is the slowest week of the year both for news and advertising," Hatfield said.

Continued from Page 3

Continued from Page 1

regulations and how to decipher what papers go into what zone. This will be especially helpful with KPA's new mar-keting database, MaxTrax, which calls for newspaper circulation by zone,

A large part of Abernathy's plan to

rebuild KPA's Circulation Division will be helping newspapers across the state start. Newspaper In Education programs, Abernathy said.

"The trend has been to hire a mini-mum-wage person off the street and throw them in to do all this stuff," she said. "Well, some don't have a clue how

Todd Rainwater, circulation manof Pikeville, is going to help spearhead rebuilding the Circulation Division, she added. "We need someone to get in there and make this move," Abernathy said. "That's going to be the key

In-county got good deal on Postal Service increases

Continued from Page 11

will pay 13.7 cents, up from 12 cents, or

14.2 percent more.

The new basic rate is 26.6 cents before discounts for entry and presort level are applied.

The pound rate for pieces over 3.3067 (0.2067 lb.) ounces will be 56.8 cents for DDU entry. Piece rates are .3

cents for Saturation W/S, 1.5 cents for 125-piece W/S, and 2 cents for carrier route (all DDU)

Should shopper mailers sht from

postal delivery to private carriers?

That depends on weighing a variety of facts and circumstances, including advertiser preference, housing density, labor supply and wage rates, su-pervisory and verification costs, etc.

For some, the answer may be ves e who still prefer postal delivery should wait for one more rate case to answer the question. If a mail reclassification effort by the Postal Service works at all, it may well help third-class saturation and walk-sequenced mail, reversing the recent trend toward

higher costs.

Clearly, the mailing industry will begin to think harder about breaking the postal monopoly, pushing for privitization, or other remedies. Con-gress will be of no help. Indeed, it is likely to further harm, not help, postal

Papers seek truth in their communities

Continued from Page 5 retail businesses. In fact, the service retail businesses. In fact, the service industry is a large part of Bullitt County's economy.

It may come as a surprise tosome,

but Bullitt County has many rural ar-eas left, even if it is close to Louisville. "There are some horses and cows

said with a smile

Shepherdsville and Mt. Washing-ton--the largest communities in Bullitt County-have become haven for Lou-isville yuppies looking to live in the country and work in the city. That leaves Barr and his fellow journalists with an odd combination of

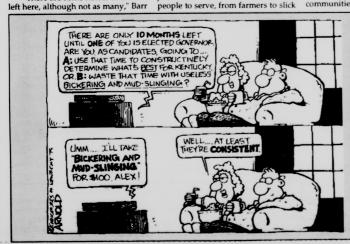
people to serve, from farmers to slick

business people.
"Somehow, we've got to get them all to read," Barr said.

To appeal to every audience member, the Pioneer News has a Focus Page every Monday and Wednesday. The Focus Page contains a range of topics, including focusing on the different communities in Bullitt County, and

sometimes the Focus Page is a Business Page. At least three times each month the paper has a full page of the northern Bullitt County area--the area closest to Jefferson County.

"That goes back to trying to be a little bit of something to everybody," Barr said with a smile.



This cartoon by Stuart Arnold is just one example of what KPA-member newspapers can find on CommonNet, the association's computer bulletin board system. Most items posted to CommonNet are free for newspapers to use. And it doesn't matter what kind of computer you have. Anyone can access CommonNet, with the software provided free by KPA.

For more information about CommonNet, call the KPA Central Office at (800) 264-5721.