

Hit the road for beat basics

Journalists will learn how to maximize their beats at the 2011 Road Show for Reporters.

Two nearly identical workshops will emphasize the Beat Basics theme of the annual seminars sponsored by Indiana Associated Press Managing Editors and HSPA Foundation.

The first Road Show will be Thursday, June 16 at Chapman's Restaurant in Bloomington. The second will be Thursday, June 23 at the Geneva Center in Rochester.

Both Road Shows will include sessions on the education beat, covering courts and police, photography for reporters, public access to information, avoiding editing errors, and AP style.

The cost is \$30 per person by the early-bird deadline of May 27 for the Bloomington Road Show and June 3 for the Rochester one. After that, registration fees of \$40 per person are due by June 10 for the Bloomington event and June 17 for the Rochester date. Lunch will be provided.

Journalists can register by filling out and returning the brochure that HSPA Foundation mailed to newsrooms. To download a registration brochure, visit HSPAfoundation.org/events and scroll down to the desired Road Show for Reporters session.

Road Show speakers will bring a variety of experiences, said Karen T. Braeckel, HSPA Foundation director.

"From reporters to editors,

See Beat, Page 4



Duke Freeman, Bob Zaltsberg and Mayer Maloney, from left, play in HSPA Foundation's annual Golf Outing fundraiser last summer. This year's event will be June 9 at Southern Dunes Golf Course in Indianapolis.

See you on the greens for golf fundraiser

Get out of the office and network with newspaper professionals during the HSPA Foundation Golf Outing.

The annual fundraiser will be Thursday, June 9 at Southern Dunes Golf Course in Indianapolis.

The event benefits Foundation programming, including the Eugene S. Pulliam internships, legal defense of the First Amendment, professional development for journalists, Newspaper in Education efforts and public literacy.

"This event traditionally raises enough funding to subsidize one of our major conferences," said Karen Braeckel, director of the HSPA Foundation. "But it also offers a great outlet for newspaper professionals to network with others in the state."

Players may submit their own foursomes or sign up individually. The \$135 fee covers greens fees, cart, practice range, contest entry and prizes, a reception and dinner. The scramble begins at 1 p.m., but many golfers arrive early to practice or grab a bite at the snack shop.

Golf Outing

When: 1 p.m. June 9

Where: Southern Dunes Golf Course, Indianapolis

Cost: \$135; \$100 for virtual players

Registration: Return the form you received by mail or visit HSPAfoundation.org and select "Golf Outing" under "Events."

"If you want to participate but can't make the event, join a virtual foursome by donating \$100," Braeckel said. "Your total gift goes to the Foundation, and we'll put your name on the scoreboard."

The registration deadline is Friday, May 27.

HSPA members and friends received registration brochures by mail. Participants also can register online at HSPAfoundation.org; select "Golf Outing" under the Events tab.

The web page also has a downloadable registration form, directions to the golf course and other information.

For more information, visit hspafoundation.org/events or call (317) 803-4772.

General Assembly in review

The 2011 General Assembly was unusual because the major bills opposed by HSPA died early in the session along with the major initiative that HSPA hoped to pass.

That left HSPA in the position of seeking to amend or support bills primarily pushed by other interests.

2011 session roundup

HSPA worked with dozens of bills affecting newspapers in the 2011 session

In this issue: Taxes, public notice advertising and miscellaneous issues

Coming in the next issue: Public access to information

The following report of bills that HSPA tracked will be continued in the next issue of *The Indiana Publisher*.

Newspaper executives and editors, read about the actions your local legislators took for or against the positions voiced by HSPA on your behalf.

Taxes

H.B. 1234, authored by Rep. David Wolkins, R-Winona Lake, would have placed a tax on newsprint used by daily newspapers that didn't meet a threshold of recycled fiber content.

Rep. Charles Moseley, D-Portage, co-authored it.

HSPA opposed the bill for a multitude of reasons.

Bill Masterson Jr., publisher of *The Times of Northwest Indiana* (Munster); Vince Griffin of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce; and Steve Key, HSPA executive director and general counsel, all testified against the bill during its hearing before the House Committee on Environmental Affairs, chaired by Wolkins.

See Assembly, Page 3

Foundation board adds three more to lineup

The HSPA Foundation board of directors expanded to 12 people with the addition of three new members.

Jack Pate, president and publisher at the *Evansville Courier & Press*; Neal Ronquist, group publisher of Paxton Media Group's Central Indiana Newspaper Group; and Gary Suisman, president and publisher at the *Journal and Courier* (Lafayette); officially joined the board during the group's April meeting.

The board also established its officer lineup for the year at the meeting.

New members join board of directors



Jack Pate



Neal Ronquist



Gary Suisman

Henry Bird, *The Herald Bulletin* (Anderson), is president. John Rumbach, *The Herald* (Jasper), is vice president. Pat Lanman, Vevay Newspapers Inc., is

secretary. Jeff Rogers, Home News Enterprises, is treasurer.

The board voted to expand its membership to involve more industry profession-

als from around the state in HSPA Foundation's work to serve Indiana through newspapers, said Karen T. Braeckel, Foundation director.

"The additional voices will facilitate decision-making for our wide range of membership - small and large, daily and nondaily newspapers," she said. "With limited funding each year, we need to choose the best projects to fulfill our mission and benefit the citizens of Indiana."

Pate had served on the HSPA board of directors

since 2005. His term ended this year, and he received recognition for his service during HSPA and HSPA Foundation's Annual Meetings in March.

"I want to continue the work of promoting Indiana newspapers and get involved with the Foundation's efforts to provide continuing education, journalism scholarships and other services," Pate said.

The Foundation's work in supporting access to information is an important tool

See Board, Page 4

2011 Calendar

May 16	Better Newspaper Contest (Editorial) digital website opens
May 19	Spot-on Video Editing workshop, Ball State University (Now accepting registration)
June 9	HSPA Foundation Golf Outing, Southern Dunes Golf Course, Indianapolis
June 10	Deadline for entering advertising contest
June 16	Road Show for Reporters, Bloomington
June 23	Road Show for Reporters, Rochester
July 29	HSPA Foundation Board Meeting, Eugene S. Pulliam Interns Luncheon and Better Newspaper Contest deadline
Sept. 30	Advertising Conference (with INAEA), Ball State University
Fall	Circulation Conference (with ICEA) (Sept. 30 proposed)
Oct. 6-7	HSPA & HSPA Foundation joint board meeting, Nashville, Ind.
Dec. 3	Newsroom Seminar, location to be announced
Dec. 9	HSPA board of directors meeting

HSPA Board of Directors

HSPA Officers

President: Tim Timmons, *The Paper of Montgomery County* (Crawfordsville), *The Times* (Noblesville)
 Vice President: Greg Morris, IBJ Corp.
 Secretary: Robyn McCloskey, *Pharos-Tribune* (Logansport), *Kokomo Tribune*
 Treasurer: Jon O'Bannon, *The Corydon Democrat*

HSPA Board Members

Dailies

Jim Kroemer, *Goshen News*
 Randy List, Rust Communications
 Bill Masterson Jr., *The Times of Northwest Indiana* (Munster)
 Tina West, *The Courier-Times* (New Castle)

Nondailies

John Haley, *Pulaski County Journal* (Winamac)
 Kathy Tretter, Dubois-Spencer County Publishing Co. Inc.
 Shannon Williams, *Indianapolis Recorder*

HSPA Foundation Board of Directors

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President: Henry Bird, *The Herald Bulletin* (Anderson)
 Vice President: John Rumbach, *The Herald* (Jasper)
 Secretary: Pat Lanman, Vevay Newspapers Inc.
 Treasurer: Jeff Rogers, Home News Enterprises

HSPA Foundation Board of Directors

Linda Chandler, Ripley Publishing
 Curt Jacobs, *The Madison Courier*
 Barbara King, *North Vernon Plain Dealer & Sun*
 Kevin Lashbrook, Landmark Community Newspapers
 Mayer Maloney, Hoosier Times Inc.
 Jack Pate, *Evansville Courier & Press*
 Neal Ronquist, Paxton Media Group
 Gary Suisman, *Journal and Courier* (Lafayette)

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Let's find answers together

Editors note – Tim Timmons' column will run in The Indiana Publisher once a month during his term as president of the HSPA board of directors.

My Two Cents

By Tim Timmons



A couple of months ago at our annual meeting, Gannett's Michael Kane told a story that I'd like to share.

Seems there were a couple of IU grads who started a new and different kind of company back in the '80s. They had this rope that was elastic. The idea was to connect it to someone's ankles, let them jump off a tall bridge and enjoy the experience.

Well, they found a spot and got their first paying customer. With the rope securely fastened, the customer leaped from the railing and hurtled downward.

A second later the two Hoosiers heard a giant THWACK!

As the rubbery rope brought the poor guy flying back up, he was holding the side of his head, bleeding badly. They tried to grab him but missed. Back down he went.

Again there was a THWACK! Horrified, they waited for him to catapult back up but once again couldn't pull him in. This time he was holding the other side of his head, bleeding even more.

A third THWACK had our poor guys completely distraught. This time they managed to latch on to the customer and pull him in. He was bleeding badly all around his head and neck.

They began apologizing

profusely, saying that they miscalculated and their bungee cord was apparently too long. The dazed guy looked at them.

"No, no, the cord is just fine," he said. "But what the hell is a piñata?"

As Michael pointed out, that's kind of what we've all felt like lately in the newspaper business.

Things are tougher than they've ever been for daily and weekly newspapers. Times are changing and we're all faced with doom and gloom scenarios. In some recent issues of News & Tech, JRC's John Paton and Cox Media's Doug Franklin have been quoted as saying the end of print is inevitable.

Whether that's tomorrow or in 10 years, it's important to remember that today we are still the 800-pound gorilla in the news and information business.

Maybe penetration isn't the 60 or 70 (or better) percent it used to be. Even if it's fallen to 45 percent, how many businesses would kill for that kind of market coverage?

When someone says that your circulation doesn't have value anymore, try this. Let's say your circulation is 12,000. Schools sell chocolate bars all the time for fundraisers. Everybody loves

chocolate, right? Ask that advertiser if they'd be willing to sell 12,000 chocolate bars tomorrow, and the next day, and the next day and so on. Suddenly, what we do every day has a little more value.

It's easy in today's world to focus on what we've lost or how things have changed and the uncertainty that comes with that. But it's just as important to remember that we are in the position to move forward as the market leader.

We have the best news-gathering resources. We have the relationships with the advertisers. We still have the trust and confidence of our paying customers.

Businesses are started every day with far, far less.

We live in a time when consumers seek information more than ever. We just have to figure the best methods to ply our trade in a changing environment.

And that, in part, is what your state press association can help do. There may be people at the bottom of that bridge ready to take a swing at our industry's piñata, but the collective power of more than 170 HSPA members can swing that rope back in our favor.

This year, one of HSPA's goals is to explore ways newspapers can collectively find some of those answers for today, tomorrow and beyond. Stay tuned.

Tim Timmons is publisher of The Paper of Montgomery County (Crawfordsville) and The Times (Noblesville) and president of the HSPA board of directors.

Change benefits requester papers

Requester newspapers may now document proof of their readers' requests by email or fax, according to a revised customer support ruling (PS-054) from the U.S. Postal Service.

The service's mailing standards office released revised standards for requester verification, specifically permitting email requests, as long as the requests include:

- A request date;

- The title of the publication;

- An expressed desire to receive copies of future issues of the publication;

- The complete name and address of the requester.

Newspaper circulation departments may solicit the requests as long as they don't provide a premium or monetary incentive.

The documentation of the reader's willingness to

receive the requester paper should be printed and kept on file.

Secondly, the revised standard for the first time specifically approved faxed signed and dated requests.

Requester newspapers are periodicals that must document that 50 percent or more of their recipients have made a positive, documented request to receive the paper.

Member notices

Employees sought

Reporter – The *Michigan City News Dispatch* is seeking a reporter to handle general news coverage in Michigan City and La Porte County. Send a résumé and writing and reporting samples to Julie McClure, managing editor, *Michigan City News Dispatch*, 121 W. Michigan Blvd., Michigan City, IN 46360 or jmclure@thenewsdispatch.com. (1)

Advertising manager – The *Banner Graphic*, a locally owned newspaper in Greencastle, Ind., is seeking an advertising manager. Must have a proven record of exceeding revenue targets, the ability to inspire a sales team and previous management experience. Send résumé and cover letter to P.O. 509, Greencastle,

IN 46135 or dtaylor@bannergraphic.com. No phone calls please. EOE (1)

Reporter – The *Commercial Review* in Portland, Ind., is seeking an enthusiastic and hard-working general assignment reporter. The main beat will be city government and police. Contact managing editor Mike Snyder at cr.news@comcast.net. (1)

Sports writers – The *Hendricks County Flyer* in Avon is looking to fill a sports editor position and a part-time sports writer position. Photography and page design skills and ability to enterprise required. Send cover letter, résumé and clips to *Hendricks County Flyer*, Editor Kathy Linton, 8109 Kingston St., Suite 500, Avon, IN 46123 or kathy.linton@flyergroup.com. (2)

Managing editor – Managing editor sought who can do it all for small but excellent daily in east central Indiana. Must be able to report, write, take photos and paginate as well as edit and manage staff. Send résumé and clips to ntcindy@comcast.net or Cindy Payne, publisher, *News Gazette*, 224 W. Franklin St., Winchester, IN 47394. (2)

Sales manager – The *Logansport Pharos-Tribune* is seeking experienced advertising professional who can lead an advertising team with energy and vision. Must have past sales experience. Send résumé to Beverly Joyce, c/o *The Kokomo Tribune*, 300 N. Union St., P.O. Box 9014, Kokomo, IN 46901 or beverly.joyce@indianamediagroup.com. (2)

Send notices to mtuley@hspa.com.

Assembly

Continued from Page 1

The bill died with a 5-5 vote. Voting against the bill and with HSPA were Reps. Richard Dodge, R-Pleasant Lake; Sean Eberhart, R-Shelbyville; Mara Candelaria Reardon, D-Hammond; Matt Pierce, D-Bloomington; and Dan Stephenson, D-Highland.

Voting for the bill in addition to Wolkins were Reps. Bob Morris, R-Fort Wayne; Bill Friend, R-Macy; Jack Lutz, R-Anderson; and Heath VanNatter, R-Kokomo.

Public Notice Advertising

S.B. 322, authored by Sen. Jim Banks, R-Columbia City, would have allowed government units to publish legal notices on a notice website instead of in a newspaper as a public notice advertisement. HSPA opposes this type of legislation that would effectively eliminate public notice advertising.

HSPA talked to Banks, but he was not in agreement about the value of publishing public notices in newspapers rather than on the Internet.

HSPA also talked to Sen. Connie Lawson, R-Danville, who chairs the Committee on Local Government, about the concerns. Lawson did not give S.B. 322 a hearing, which killed the bill. Sen. Dennis Kruse, R-Auburn, co-authored the bill.

S.B. 562, authored by Sen. Greg Walker, R-Columbus, would have allowed publication of public notice advertisements on government websites as an alternative, also effectively eliminating publication of the notices in newspapers.

HSPA informed Walker of its opposition to his bill. Walker explained that he wanted to save school districts money and not make an anti-newspaper statement.

HSPA again talked to Lawson about the concerns. She did not give S.B. 562 a hearing, which killed the bill.

H.B. 1584, authored by Rep. Bob Behning, R-Indianapolis, included language that would have allowed school corporation performance and financial reports to be published on school district websites instead of published in newspapers.

HSPA talked to Behning about its opposition to the language.

Behning changed wording in the bill during its hearing before the Committee on Education, which Behning chairs, to language calling for a summer study committee on educational issues, but the bill did not emerge from its committee.

H.B. 1469, authored by Rep. Jerry Torr, R-Carmel, concerned local government issues but included a provision making it a crime for a public official to place public notice advertising in more

newspapers than required by law. Torr said he believed the language had been picked up from an existing statute but agreed it wasn't good policy.

Lawmakers removed the language during the bill's hearing in the House Committee on Government and Regulatory Reform, chaired by Rep. Phil Hinkle, R-Indianapolis, who became the bill's co-author.

The bill died without a House floor vote, a victim of the House Democrats' walk-out.

H.B. 1430, authored by Rep. Jack Lutz, R-Anderson, concerned a disannexation process from school corporations. HSPA pointed out that language concerning public notice advertising in the bill didn't conform to existing law. Lutz expressed interest in fixing the problem.

The bill died for lack of a hearing before the House Committee on Education, chaired by Rep. Bob Behning, R-Indianapolis.

S.B. 307, authored by Sen. Jim Buck, R-Kokomo, concerned public safety funding. HSPA asked Buck to consider an amendment to bring a public notice advertising provision into conformity with general principles of the law.

Buck took the amendment under consideration, but the bill died for lack of a hearing before the Committee on Tax and Fiscal Policy, chaired by Sen. Brandt Hershman, R-Monticello.

Miscellaneous

H.B. 1548, authored by Rep. Ralph Foley, R-Martinsville, provides a process for recognizing money judgments obtained in other nations for the purpose of enforcement.

HSPA questioned whether the language protects newspapers from foreign libel judgment.

Foley agreed to file a dissent to insert language suggested by several Indiana media law attorneys to reinforce First Amendment protections in the bill.

Sponsor Sen. Richard Bray, R-Martinsville, agreed to the change.

Unfortunately, Foley received information from House leadership that he didn't have time to file a dissent and get the bill passed, so he allowed a motion to concur, which was approved by the House 91-0. Foley said he was willing to work with HSPA on getting the First Amendment language added in the 2012 legislative session.

H.B. 1554, authored by Rep. Dale Grubb, D-Covington, concerns political persuasion polls and false political communications. The bill would create a criminal libel statute to deal with the problem. HSPA opposes the creation of a criminal libel law.

HSPA expressed its opposition to Grubb and suggested current libel laws are equipped to deal with political campaign lies.

The bill died for lack of a hearing in the House Committee on Elections and Apportionment, chaired by

Rep. Eric Koch, R-Bedford. Rep. Greg Steuerwald, R-Danville, co-authored it.

H.B. 1389, authored by Rep. Bruce Borders, R-Jasonville, would have created a separate libel law for Internet postings. HSPA had a conversation about libel and the federal Communications Decency Act with Borders, who decided not to move the bill forward.

Reps. Kathy Heuer, R-Columbia City; and Eric Koch, R-Bedford, co-authored it.

The bill died without a hearing in the House Committee on Judiciary, chaired by Rep. Ralph Foley, R-Martinsville.

S.B. 384, authored by Sen. Ed Charbonneau, R-Valparaiso, concerned rules for local referendum votes on building projects. It included a provision preserving the First Amendment right for high school journalists to report or editorialize on school referendums, which HSPA supports.

The bill passed in the Committee on Appropriations, chaired by Sen. Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville, before the Senate approved it 49-0.

Sens. Kenley, R-Noblesville, and Randy Head, R-Logansport, co-authored it.

House sponsor was Rep. Cindy Noe, R-Indianapolis.

The bill died for lack of a hearing in the House Committee on Ways and Means, chaired by Rep. Jeff Espich, R-Uniondale.

Rep. Tom Dermody, R-LaPorte, co-sponsored it.

S.B. 19, authored by Sen. Tom Wyss, R-Fort Wayne, makes it a crime to use a camera to take pictures of an individual's private areas and print the image or post it on the Internet. HSPA worked with Glenn Shelby, who represents the Indiana Broadcasters Association, to monitor the bill to make sure the language would not create a problem for news gatherers.

The Senate Committee on Corrections, Criminal, and Civil Matters, chaired by Sen. Brent Steele, R-Bedford, who co-authored S.B. 19, approved the bill. It then was passed by the Senate, 42-8. Sens. Dennis Kruse, R-Auburn, and Carlin Yoder, R-Middlebury, also were co-authors.

The House passed it 92-4 without any amendments after it was approved by the House Committee on Courts and Criminal Code, chaired by Foley, who was the bill's sponsor. Rep. Linda Lawson, D-Hammond, was the co-sponsor.

H.B. 1146, authored by Rep. Vernon Smith, D-Gary, concerned flavored tobacco products and included an advertising prohibition.

HSPA was concerned over potential liability for newspapers that might accidentally run such advertising.

Smith was receptive to HSPA's concern, but the bill died in the Committee on Public Policy, chaired by Rep. Bill Davis, R-Portland.

News in brief

Journalist named managing editor

Julie McClure, a journalist who has held editing positions in Kokomo and Lafayette, has been named managing editor of the *Michigan City News Dispatch*.



Julie McClure

McClure was features editor at the *Journal and Courier* (Lafayette)

before beginning her new job in Michigan City at the end of April.

Prior to that, McClure worked as city editor at the *Kokomo Tribune*.

She has a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Evansville.

McClure is originally from New Carlisle.

The *Michigan City News Dispatch* is part of the Paxton Media Group.

Peru newspaper hires editor

Central Indiana Newspaper Group has hired Matt Hutton as the new editor for *The Peru Tribune*.

Hutton graduated from Ohio University with a bachelor of arts degree in journalism before working for the *Norwalk Reflector* (Sandusky, Ohio) for two years as a government

reporter and an opinion page editor.

He then worked for a year at the *Galesburg Regional Mail* (Galesburg, Ill.) as a city and county reporter.

Later he served as editor for the *Daily Review Atlas* (Monmouth, Ill.), a five-days-a-week paper.

Hutton recently moved to Peru.

Show off your best ads

Advertising departments can submit ads now for the annual advertising contest.

The HSPA Foundation and Indiana Newspaper Advertising Executives Association mailed the rules and direction brochures last month.

With the exception of four mail-in categories, the contest requires digital entries.

This eliminates printing out labels for most categories, cuts postage costs and saves

staff time in submitting entries.

All entries must be uploaded on the contest website by 5 p.m. Friday, June 10.

Mail-in entries must be received in the HSPA office at the same time.

Go to betterbnc.com and select "HSPA Foundation/INAEA Advertising Contest" to submit entries.

To download a rules brochure or tally sheet, go to hspafoundation.org and click on "Contests."

Association solicits donations

One of the stories behind the story of the recent Alabama tornadoes is the personal hardship suffered by newspaper employees helping to deliver information to the public.

Another story is the generosity of newspaper people helping newspaper people to cope with these disasters.

The Alabama Press

Association has established a fund to help these employees, some of whom have contributed to the coverage of the disaster despite their personal upheaval.

You may send tax-deductible checks to APA Journalism Foundation, 3324 Independence Drive, Suite 200, Birmingham, AL 35209.

Contest honors opinion writers

The National Conference of Editorial Writers' inaugural Opinion Journalism Contest honors the work being published on editorial pages throughout the country and online.

The nonprofit professional organization in-

vites editorial writers and columnists to enter the contest.

Deadline for entries is May 27. Winners will be announced in Indianapolis in September.

For more details, visit www.ncew.org/contest.

Send promotions, announcements, staff changes and other corporate news to mtuley@hspa.com.

Make full use of public notice advertising

Public notice advertising is a vital component of newspapers in two ways.

First, it's part of the package of laws that requires state and local government to be transparent.

The Open Door Law requires public meetings by governing bodies. The Access to Public Records Act gives citizens the right to see government records. The Public Notice Advertising Law requires government to give its citizens a heads up about actions taken or contemplated.

Secondly, public notice advertising is a reliable source of income not only for the small town weekly but increasingly so for the city daily.

Given these facts, are Indiana newspapers giving public notice advertising the attention it deserves?

Does the reporter read

public notices to find ones published by public agencies that make up his or her beat?

I hate to hear about instances when a reporter calls up a public official incensed over not being informed of a hearing only to be told that the notice was published in the newspaper with the added comment – "Don't you read your own newspaper?"

Does the editor read public notices to find stories hidden in the legal jargon?

The impact of sheriff's sales (mortgage foreclosures) on communities could be documented on many fronts – from the personal tragedies of families losing homes and the impact on real estate values in communities with numerous sales to the businesses that have thrived due to the sales.

Is there a protocol that

Key Points

By Steve Key



ensures the advertising department is communicating with the newsroom when public officials, attorneys or private citizens submit public notices?

This allows the editor to have the Page 1 story printed on the same day that the public notice that sparked the story is published.

Do newspapers promo the public notice advertising section? Are we reminding Hoosiers where information concerning local government actions can be found without the need of a Google search or constant check of multiple websites controlled by various units of local government?

Are newspapers taking the time to add a line of explanation to public notices calling for "Request for Qualifications" or "Request for Proposals" so that a reader might better understand what the notices concern?

This might encourage more people to read the notices.

We in the newspaper industry need to cultivate public notice advertising to realize its full value for the public and papers.

The 2011 session of the Indiana General Assembly had two bills filed that would have eliminated public notice advertising by allowing state and local government to post notices on the Internet as an alternative.

With property tax cap-induced budget crunches, I fully expect to see similar

bills filed again in the 2012 General Assembly.

If President Barack Obama had been born in Indiana, he would have not had a birth record controversy, a southern Indiana managing editor pointed out.

IC 16-37-2-9 requires the county health department to create a permanent record made from the birth certificate that must be made available for inspection and copying.

The record includes the child's name, sex, date of birth, place of birth, names of parents, birthplace of parents and date of the filing of the certificate of birth.

Only an adopted child's record is kept confidential.

Steve Key is executive director and general counsel for HSPA.

HSPA Hotline

These questions came from an attorney in Goshen, the *News and Tribune* (Jeffersonville) and *The Star Press* (Muncie):

Q A small claims lawsuit has been filed seeking money from newspaper. The plaintiff is trying to hold the newspaper responsible for money lost when he responded to what turned out to be a fraudulent ad. Can you point me to court rulings that would help the newspaper?

A Reckless or malicious publication of false advertising can create legal problems for a publisher, but when the publisher is without knowledge of the intent of the advertiser it cannot be held responsible.

See *Suarez v. Underwood*, 103 Misc.2d 445 (Second Dept. 1981) or *Vail v. Oneida Dispatch Corp.*, 129 Misc.2d 477 (Sup. Ct., Oneida Co., 1985).

Q Can the Clarksville city council force people to sign a registration sheet as a condition for attending its meetings?

A The council can pass around a sign-in sheet and ask people attending to sign, but they do not have the authority to evict someone who refuses to sign.

The Open Door Law establishes the public's right to observe and record public meetings of governing bodies, and it doesn't include it prerequisites to enjoy that right. (See IC 5-14-1.5-3)

Q A woman wants to place a public notice advertisement for a change of name. Does the publication need to include her address?

A No, but the public notice advertisement must include the following (See IC 34-28-2-3):

1. Name of petitioner;
2. New name desired;
3. Name of the court where the petition is filed;
4. Date the petition was filed;
5. A statement that any person has the right to appear at the hearing and file objections.

Contact Steve Key, HSPA executive director and general counsel, with media law questions at skey@hspa.com or (317) 624-4427.

Get free 500 coverage

HSPA-member newspapers can access free Indianapolis 500 stories and photos by logging in to the association's InfoNet content-sharing service.

The content will be supplied by a Student News Bureau partnership between the IU National Sports Journalism Center and IndyCar.

Students in the news bureau will write stories, blog, photograph and develop multi-media packages for commercial publications across Indiana and the nation.

The news bureau will operate from Wednesday, May 25, to Sunday, May 29.

Content will be available to Indiana newspapers at hspainfo.net.

The bureau will include six student reporters from the master's in sports journalism program in the IU School of Journalism at IUPUI. It also will include an undergraduate photographer from the IU School of Journalism in Bloomington.

They will work under the direction of IU journalism faculty and staff.

HSPA will make the students' work available to its member news organizations and to other press associations across the country via InfoNet.

Beat

Continued from Page 1

legal counsel to assistant AP bureau chief with international experience and even a law enforcement officer at the Rochester Road Show, our speakers bring a wide range of skills to share with attendees," she said.

Ed Breen, a longtime Indiana newspaper photographer, reporter and editor, will lead a session on techniques reporters can use when they need to be photographers too.

Reporters should bring a point-and-shoot camera for the hands-on lesson.

Steve Key, HSPA's executive director and general counsel, offers advice on legal questions to member newspapers and represents HSPA before the Indiana General Assembly.

He will discuss reporters' rights concerning the Open Door Law and Access to Public Records Act.

Laura Lane, a criminal justice and rural world reporter for *The Herald-Times* (Bloomington), will share her ideas for covering the courts and cops beats, including ways to cover these areas, attract readers and cultivate sources.

Patrick McDowell, The Associated Press' assistant chief of bureau for Illinois and Indiana, will lead a session on what editors expect reporters to know from the AP Stylebook. Attendees will learn things they didn't know were in the stylebook and brush up on some basic rules.

Bethany Nolan, K-12 education reporter for *The Herald-Times* (Bloomington), will offer ideas on helping readers understand changes in education legislation and on developing must-read story ideas.

Tracy Warner, editorial page editor at *The Journal Gazette* (Fort Wayne), will help reporters avoid writing pitfalls that drive edi-

tors up the wall.

Walker Conley, the Fulton County sheriff, describes himself as an old-school cop who has made hundreds of arrests during his 25-year law enforcement career. He will offer his take on covering the cops beat from the other side of the notebook.

Karen Francisco, senior editorial writer and an education blogger at *The Journal Gazette* (Fort Wayne), will discuss changes in education stemming from the 2011 session of the Indiana General Assembly and how to help readers understand them.

The annual Road Show workshops always provide excellent training at a low cost for HSPA members, Braeckel said.

"We hope you'll join us in Bloomington or Rochester," she said.

For more information on the Road Show for Reporters, visit HSPAfoundation.org/events or call (317) 803-4772.



Mayer Maloney, left, passes the president's gavel to Henry Bird during a recent HSPA Foundation board of directors meeting. Bird will serve a one-year term as board president.

Board

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in reminding the public that newspapers perform a critical watchdog role, he said.

Newspapers are at a critical juncture in their history, making this an important point in the history of the Foundation as well, Ronquist said.

"While we work creatively to stabilize our business model, we certainly cannot forget the purpose we serve in protecting the freedoms we enjoy," he said. "It is vital that we educate the

public on the role newspapers play in our society."

The mission of serving Indiana through a variety of media platforms is important in giving Hoosiers the information they need to be successful and make informed decisions, Suisman said.

"It all starts with basic reporting and news gathering, which the Foundation supports," he said. "I hope to be of assistance as the board makes decisions to help move journalism forward throughout the state."

The Foundation's next board meeting will be July 29.