



# Forward

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*The mission of the Iowa Newspaper Foundation is to champion and improve the quality and future of Iowa's newspaper enterprises and the communities they serve and to raise funds to fulfill this mission.*

## INF grants IHSPA scholarships

The Iowa Newspaper Foundation provided two Iowa high school newspaper students with a scholarship to attend the Iowa High School Press Association Summer Journalism Workshop at the University of Iowa in July. The week-long series of sessions offered a variety of learning opportunities in the areas of yearbook and newspaper editing and writing as well as photography and web site design. Below are excerpts from the students' experience essays:

**By Elisha Andreas,  
West High School,  
Iowa City**



The summer Journalism Workshop at the University of Iowa was a very good experience. It opened doors in

writing and design and introduced ways to lead a newspaper. I learned new design styles to interest teens.

This workshop introduced me to other teenagers who share the same interests. The information I received will help to technically critique my writing style. As a leader at the West H.S. newspaper in Iowa City, I will return to the staff with tips on how to focus more clearly on stories, and keep an open mind.

The camp cleared up some questions I had about what makes a good publication and helped me determine the things that our staff can work on to make a better publication.

I recommend this camp to everyone on a school newspaper staff. It strengthened our entire staff. We had a group of 12 members

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## Your Pages pledge funds scholarships, workshops

The Iowa Newspaper Foundation is having another exciting year. Through the generous support of the Pages for the 21st Century



Jennifer Asa  
INF Director

program we have assisted Iowa newspapers and their employees in a variety of key areas-

- Provided high quality professional training workshops and seminars for hundreds of newspaper employees;

- Awarded scholarships totaling \$7,250 to eight students preparing for newspaper careers at Iowa colleges and universities;

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## DeBettignies joins Individual Heritage Club



The Iowa Newspaper Foundation is pleased to announce that Dan DeBettignies has joined the INF Individual Heritage Club. The INF's Individual Heritage Club, created in 1985 to help build the Foundation's endowment fund, recognizes gifts of \$5,000 or more.

After graduating from college and serving in the Navy, Dan DeBettignies began his newspaper career at his hometown paper, the New Hampton Tribune. The newspaper business was a natural fit for Dan and in a few years he joined forces with three other Iowa publishers to purchase the weekly newspaper, the Jackson County Pilot in the southern Minnesota town of Jackson. Within four years Dan bought out his partners to become sole owner of the newspaper.

After eight years in Minnesota, he sold his newspaper and bought into a group of eastern Iowa weeklies that eventually was sold to Gannett, Inc. Dan currently serves as publisher of the Montezuma Republican, the Brooklyn Chronicle, and the Grinnell Pennysaver.

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## Free Seminar October 12

The Iowa Farm Bureau and the Iowa Newspaper Foundation present the eighth annual Ag for Reporters Seminar. The seminar, scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 12, will take place in Nevada at the BECON facility, Lincolnway Energy, LLC, and Bill Couser farm.

County Farm Bureaus will sponsor their local newspapers to attend this seminar, so members of your newspaper staff can attend at no cost!

Visit [www.INAnews.com](http://www.INAnews.com) or contact INF Program Director Jenny Condon at [jcondon@inanews.com](mailto:jcondon@inanews.com), for a registration form.

## Journalism 101 gets strong start

In partnership with the Associated Press Managing Editors (APME), the Iowa Newspaper Foundation recently began a series of Journalism 101 workshops in three regions of Iowa.

The workshops are intended to provide guidance to both new and seasoned newspaper professionals. The Davenport Quad-City Times kicked off the first of three sessions by hosting the eastern region workshop on Sept. 21. Jan Touney, managing editor at the Quad-City Times, led the effort to coordinate participation with two other host newspapers. The Council Bluffs Nonpareil will host the western region workshop on Sept. 28 while the Des Moines Register hosts the central region program on Oct. 5.

Host newspapers provide quality speakers who present a variety of information

including how to write a good lead, headline or cutline. Some of the newer reporters are being introduced to the inverted pyramid style of writing for the first time. Libel and ethical matters are a hot topic among all newspaper reporters and so the speakers encourage interactive discussions about real-life journalism.

If you have not registered, there is still an opportunity to attend the western and central region workshops. Contact INF Program Director Jenny Condon at 515-244-2145 ext. 159 or by email at [jcondon@inaneews.com](mailto:jcondon@inaneews.com).



Tory Brecht, a Quad-City Times reporter, answers questions from new and seasoned journalists during the Journalism 101 East workshop Sept. 21 at Davenport.

## Pages pledge drive begins

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- Brought more than 180 college students (and potential future employees) to the INA Convention in February;
- Through a strategic planning process, implemented several long-range goals that will carry out our mission in exciting new ways.

We're able to do this and so much more because of the many Iowa newspapers that contribute to our Pages for the 21st Century program. Thank you for your support!

The pledge process is currently underway for year seven of the Pages for the 21st Century program. The Pages program asks newspapers for the net proceeds of one page of national advertising. Most newspapers fulfill their pledge by having their contribution deducted from their Customized Newspaper Advertising check. When the contribution is made this way, CNA also contributes the commission it earned on the donated space. Half of the Pages contributions are invested in the Carter Pitts Endowment Fund and the other half is used for INF programming.

We hope you consider supporting the Pages for the 21st Century Program. Your contribution enables the INF to continue carrying-out our ambitious programming efforts to benefit Iowa's newspapers. To pledge your newspaper's support, please contact Jennifer Asa, Foundation Director, at (515) 244-2145 ext. 132.

## High school journalists attend camp

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attend. We were able to get to know new staff members and began bouncing ideas off each other for the upcoming school year. The camp helped jump start the school year and got me in the mode of thinking about my school newspaper and how I can contribute to making it the best it can be.

### **Julia Madsen, West High School, Iowa City**

My experience at the University of Iowa Summer Journalism Workshops was beneficial on a variety of levels. It exceeded my expectations. I am excited to apply the workshop experience and utilize what I learned to help improve our school

newspaper.

The limited class size allowed students to receive one-on-one attention from our teacher, Aaron Manfull. Camp format was laid back and without the stress of an actual publication day, but was challenging enough to push the students to think creatively.

As an editor, I picked up valuable information on writing and design. I appreciated the opportunity to work in the computer lab designing layouts as well as picking up information on editorial policies and the art of interview questioning. I am planning to write more for the profile section and use new techniques. I look forward to offering as much as possible to other newspaper staff members.

## DeBettignies is newest Heritage Club member

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He works tirelessly as an active civic and community leader.

Dan has served two terms on the Iowa Newspaper Association board of directors and as INA president in 2004-2005. He is presently serving on the board of the Iowa Newspaper Foundation. Dan was recognized in 2006 by the INA as a Master Editor-Publisher.

Dan and his wife Elizabeth have an adult

daughter, Anne.

"Newspapers struggle daily to preserve openness in our many levels of government, which in turn is actually preserving our liberty and freedom. My donation to the Iowa Newspaper Foundation is a way for me to help future generations continue that struggle," DeBettignies said.

For more information about the INF Heritage Clubs, please contact Jennifer Asa, INF Director at (515) 244-2145.