The Newspaper Archive Summit: Rescuing orphaned and digital content

April 10 – 12, 2011

Context
In the past 3 years alone, more than 160 US newspapers have stopped publishing a print edition or have quit business entirely.

If a newspaper goes out of business, what happens to its archives? If a newspaper is only available online, what happens to yesterday's (or last year's) news?

Why should we care?
The Newspaper Archive Summit brought together a variety of stakeholders to discuss the state of newspaper archives and to create collaborative partnerships to preserve and provide digital access to newspaper archives for generations to come.

Executive Committee
MU Libraries: Dorothy Carner, Kate Anderson, Anselm Huelsbergen, Ann Riley, Deb Ward
School of Journalism: Charles Davis, Brian Brooks, Debra Mason, Earnest Perry
College of Arts and Science: Jeffrey Pasley
School of Law: Richard Reuben
Preservati Consulting (California): Vicky McCargar

Special Thanks
Jeffrey Beeson: RJI Special Events Coordinator
Stephanie Padgett: Day 2 Facilitator

Stakeholders
- Stewardship Organizations (libraries, archives, etc.)
- Print and Online News Organizations
- Academic Scholars
- Genealogists
- Experts in News Copyright
- Commercial Vendors & Aggregators

What’s in a Newspaper Archive?

Total Participants: 125
- 34 Cities
- 17 States + D.C.
- 3 Countries: Serbia, UK, US

The Newspaper Archive Network

Notable
News is like water...essential to life. –Martha Anderson, Library of Congress

From newspaper archives, people don’t want [news], they want people. The search stream is: Me; Grandma; Dad; Grandpa; Great Uncle; Great Aunt. –Christopher Gill, NewspaperArchive.com

We will scatter. And all that will be left are the stories we have told, captured on microfilm or in digital archives.... –Rocky Mountain News, Final Edition (2/27/2009)

Future Directions
- Continue the Newspaper Archive Network via LinkedIn and additional meetings
- Based on ideas generated in Day 2, create proposals to:
  - Connect press associations, publishers, libraries
  - Create National Preserving our News Heritage Program
  - Build communities of engaged readers
  - Generate revenue by mining archival content
  - Incentivize publishers to allow greater access to newspaper archives
  - Identify at-risk collections

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