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today's **DEALS**

1

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g public notices accessible, permanent

remain a central spot for notices

ian
5/2013 01:00:00 AM MST

- 0
- ise may be poised to consider a bill that would allow Colorado counties to post their
eir websites rather than publishing them in general circulation newspapers.
- o Press Association and the Daily Camera are opposed to the measure.
- f
 - of the measure wish to be stewards of public funds, which is a most admirable goal.
- tes are capped by statute and have not changed since 1993, people who want this bill
- passed rightfully point out that those that advocate for public postings in newspapers are, well, in
- the business of selling newspapers.

Which is correct -- but doesn't preclude those of us in the business from protecting our most valuable role as a government watchdog.

And in that capacity, we are well aware that the digital divide still exists. Not just for those who don't have internet access, but for those without the ability or desires to look individually at the public notices for every district in which they reside -- the state, counties, cities, towns, school districts, fire districts, business improvement districts, special improvement districts, and more.

And in some of those districts, particularly for small and poorer districts, managing their websites and making sure they are technically consumer friendly, plus building a permanent record or archive of the notices, will prove to be a difficult task. And in many cases, there won't be a third party to make sure it's even being done at all.

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Letters to the editor June 28

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8. Rising hay prices putting pinch on Boulder County ranchers,...
9. Colorado court rules against Black Hawk, saying bicycles are a state...
10. Boulder County juror discusses experience in hearing insulin rape case



free. And the notices from newspapers all over the state are made available on the Association website.

Technology has made this an ever-shifting landscape of information. A Boulder House committee this week rejected a similar bill, and we should be asking ourselves what we should do the same. We're not at the point where local government notices are the source, and watchdog, and archive of local government notices.

-- Erika Stutzman, for

the Camera editorial board

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 **Freetheweird** · 1 week ago

+3

Erika, why are old Op-Eds, Editorials and LTEs being kept on the front page of this web site well past their "expiration date"?

Reply [4 replies](#) · active 1 week ago

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 **SmarmyMarm** · 1 week ago

+4

Probably as a measure to drive people to subscribe...

Reply

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 **Freetheweird** · 1 week ago

+1

Here's something DC should seriously think about. Would you folks keep news and features on the main page days past their first publication and send frustrated readers to other pages to read the fresh stuff?

I think not.

If people won't subscribe to the paper edition, they're not gonna do it just to read the syndicated op-eds — which are always run days after the Denver Post publishes 'em — or the editorials, which are quite expendable, or the LTEs which are always a date late and mostly are confined to a few in the paper edition.

Wise up.

Reply

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 **stutzmane** · 1 week ago

+7

It's some sort of computer glitch. I haven't changed how I do things at all, so it's something on the other end. I'll send a note up the chain.

Erika

Reply

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 **Freetheweird** · 1 week ago

+2

Much grass, amiga!

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 **Illusions** · 1 week ago

-1

I don't think where the legal notices are listed is very high on anyone's radar. 6 comments now and none about the editorial topic

Reply

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 **lafayetteeast** · 1 week ago

+6

Here's one, Illusions: Lafayette chose to do this to save money. I forget how much, but a piddly amount. Notices are "posted" at the Library (you have to hunt them down) at City Hall (you have

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to drive there) and now online. NO I in the weekly paper. It would be interesting to know how many people in Lafayette do not have access to home computers or, if they do (via kids, etc.), know how to use the computerr to find these notices.

Erika's more salient point is, however the public record. Lafayette, for instance, missed a notice involving Josephine Commons, and had it not been for the record in the newspaper ... would have gotten away with not providing enough time (required by law) to hold an important meeting re the project.

Our local governments ... e.g., Lafayette and now Boulder (wanting now executive sessions), seem to be wanting to limit public knowledge and involvement in their communities.

I've gone round and round with Lafayette about their methods of posting; have tried and tried to get them to be more public friendly ... they, and I include the city council, and a good many executives, are hell-bent on keeping the culture of keeping the public at bay. Then they wonder out loud (but not too loudly) why the public isn't more interested ... or involved. And, I, for one, have just given up. To hell with it.

I think that's what Erika is trying to say with the Editorial.

Reply

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j_Buttafuoco · 1 week ago

-4

sounds like a dying business model erika. i still maintain my paper subscription along with the wsj but will likely phase out the dc as the content quality continues to decline and the editorial positions veer away from reality. i know it's a leftist city and you seek to align yourselves with the majority of your readership but there was simply no excuse for backing the municipal utility measure. there was so much deception and outright lies coupled with playing on the emotions of an uninformed and gullible voter base and you guys were front and center complicit in the deception. for that you'll never be forgiven and i find it difficult to gather up any sympathy for you guys and your dying business.

Reply

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Ziggle · 1 week ago

0

Sorry, but a far higher percentage of people have web access than pay for subscriptions to daily newspapers. Additionally, legal notices are often published in minor newspapers that very, very few citizens get, much less read.

Time to come into the 21st Century.

Reply

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johnny_sunshine · 6 days ago

+1

Perhaps the newspapers' cases would be strengthened if they made a commitment to keep the government and legal notices section of their online version of the paper free, even for those papers that end up charging to see their editorial content. Because I do see a real value in having someone other than the local government, which might often have an interest in keeping some government activities less well known, in charge of making sure the online notices were easily found and searchable. Preferably some organization, like the local paper, that is in that precise business.

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