

GANNETT CO INC /DE/
 Form 144
 July 16, 2003

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UNITED STATES
 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 144

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SALE OF SECURITIES
 PURSUANT TO RULE 144 UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ATTENTION: *Transmit for filing 3 copies of this form concurrently with either placing an order with a broker to execute sale or executing a sale directly with a market maker.*

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|----------|-------------------|
| 1(a) NAME OF ISSUER(Please type or print) | | (b) IRS IDENT. NO. | (c) S.E.C. FILE NO. | | |
| Gannett Co., Inc. | | 16-0442930 | 1-6961 | | |
| 1(d) ADDRESS OF ISSUER | STREET | CITY | STATE | ZIP CODE | (e) TELEPHONE NO. |
| 7950 Jones Branch Drive | McLean | VA | 22107 | | AREA CODE |
| | | | | | NUMBER |
| | | | | | (703) |
| | | | | | 854-6000 |
| 2(a) NAME OF PERSON FOR WHOSE ACCOUNT THE SECURITIES ARE TO BE SOLD | (b) IRS IDENT. NO. | (c) RELATIONSHIP TO ISSUER | (d) ADDRESS STREET CITY STATE ZIP CODE | | |
| Thomas L. Chapple | | officer | Gannett Co., Inc. 7950 Jones Branch Drive McLean VA 22107 | | |

INSTRUCTION: *The person filing this notice should contact the issuer to obtain the I.R.S. Identification Number and the S.E.C. File Number.*

| 3(a) | (b) | SEC USE ONLY | (c) | (d) | (e) | (f) | (g) |
|--|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Title of the Class of Securities | Name and Address of Each Broker Through Whom the Securities are to be Offered | Broker-Dealer File Number | Number of Shares or Other | Aggregate Market Value | Number of Shares or Other | Approximate Date of Sale (See instr.) | Name of Each Securities |

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| To Be Sold | or Each Market Maker who is Acquiring the Securities | | Units To Be Sold (See instr. 3(c)) | (See instr. 3(d)) | Units Outstanding (See instr. 3(e)) | 3(f) (MO. DAY YR.) | Exchange (See instr. 3(g)) |
|--------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Common Stock | Tony Fagella Deutsche Bank Alex Brown 280 Park Avenue, 3E New York, NY 10017 | | 2,200 | \$168,960 | 268,604,936 | On or after 7/16/03 | NYSE |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. (a) Name of Issuer
 (b) Issuer's I.R.S. Identification Number
 (c) Issuer's SEC file number, if any
 (d) Issuer's address, including zip code
 (e) Issuer's telephone number, including area code
2. (a) Name of person for whose account the securities are to be sold
 (b) Such person's I.R.S. identification number, if such person is an entity
 (c) Such person's relationship to the Issuer(e.g., officer, director, 10% stockholder or member of immediate family of any of the foregoing)
 (d) Such person's address, including zip code
3. (a) Title of the class of securities to be sold
 (b) Name and address of each broker through whom the securities are intended to be sold
 (c) Number of shares or other units to be sold (if debt securities, give the aggregate face amount)
 (d) Aggregate market value of the securities to be sold as of a specified date within 10 days prior to filing of this notice
 (e) Number of shares or other units of the class outstanding, or if debt securities the face amount thereof outstanding, as shown by the most recent report or statement published by the issuer
 (f) Approximate date on which the securities will be sold
 (g) Name of each securities exchange, if any, on which the securities are intended to be sold

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

TABLE I - SECURITIES TO BE SOLD

Furnish the following information with respect to the acquisition of securities to be sold and with respect to the payment of all or any part of the purchase price or other consideration therefor:

| Title of the Class | Date you Acquired | Nature of Acquisition Transaction | Name of Person from Whom Acquired <i>(If gift, also give date donor acquired)</i> | Amount of Securities Acquired | Date of Payment | Nature of Payment |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------|
| Common Stock | On or after 7/16/03 | Stock Option Exercise | Gannett Co., Inc. | 2,200 | Upon exercise on or after 7/16/03 | Cash or stock |
| INSTRUCTIONS: | | 1. If the securities were purchased and full payment therefor was not made in cash at the time of purchase, explain in the table or in a note thereto the nature of the consideration given. If the consideration consisted of any note or other obligation, or if payment was made in installments describe the arrangement and state when the note or other obligation was discharged in full or the last installment paid. | | 2. If within two years after the acquisition of the securities the person for whose account they are to be sold had any short positions, put or other option to dispose of securities referred to in paragraph (d)(3) of Rule 144, furnish full information with respect thereto. | | |

TABLE II - SECURITIES SOLD DURING THE PAST 3 MONTHS

Furnish the following information as to all securities of the issuer sold during the past 3 months by the person for whose account the securities are to be sold.

| Name and Address of Seller | Title of Securities Sold | Date of Sale | Amount of Securities Sold | Gross Proceeds |
|---|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| Thomas L. Chapple c/o Gannett Co., Inc. 7950 Jones Branch Drive McLean, VA 22107 | Common Stock | 4/22/03 | 2,000 | \$152,000 |
| | Common Stock | 5/13/03 | 5,000 | \$382,150 |
| | Common Stock | 6/3/03 | 10,000 | \$795,114 |
| | Common Stock | 7/2/03 | .637* | \$49.69 |

REMARKS:

*This fractional share was sold in reliance on the exemption provided in Section 4(1) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Act") and therefore is not includable in the determination of the amount of securities permitted to be sold under Rule 144 under the Act.

INSTRUCTIONS:

See the definition of "person" in paragraph (a) of Rule 144. Information is to be given not only as to the person for whose account the securities are to be sold but also as to all other persons included in that definition. In addition, information shall be given as to sales by all persons whose sales are required by paragraph (e) of Rule 144 to be aggregated with sales for the account of the person filing this notice.

ATTENTION:

The person for whose account the securities to which this notice relates are to be sold hereby represents by signing this notice that he does not know any material adverse information in regard to the current and prospective operations of the Issuer of the securities to be sold which has not been publicly disclosed.

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--|--|---|--|
| | <u>July 16, 2003</u> | | | <u>/s/ Todd A. Mayman, Attorney-in-Fact</u> | |
| | Date of Notice | | | Signature | |

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This notice shall be signed by the person for whose account the securities are to be sold. At least one copy of the notice shall be mutually signed. Any copies not manually signed shall bear typed or printed signatures.

ATTENTION: Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations (See 18 U.S.C. 1001)