

Deborah Paul

Deborah Paul currently serves as the executive vice president/editorial director of Emmis Publishing, where she oversees the editorial side of the corporation's award-winning city and regional publications: *Atlanta*, *Cincinnati*, *Texas Monthly*, *Indianapolis Monthly*, *Los Angeles Magazine* and *Orange Coast*, as well as the crafts magazine *Country Sampler*. Prior to this position, Paul served as Editor-in-Chief of *Indianapolis Monthly* for 18 years. The magazine was awarded the City and Regional Magazine Association's national Gold Medal for General Excellence for two consecutive years under her leadership. Paul is also the recipient of numerous individual awards, including two national awards for her long-running personal column, the Women in Communications' Francis Wright Award, and the highest honor of the Women's Press Club of Indiana, the Honeycomb Award. A compilation of her most popular columns, called "From Here to Maturity: Confessions of a Kid at Heart," was named Indiana's Best Book by the Society of Professional Journalists. Paul is a former president of the City and Regional Magazine Association and is currently a member of the organization's executive committee.

Supporting Document: Letter from Gary Thoe, President of Emmis Publishing

September 11, 2009

Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame
c/o Lawrence Taylor, Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 785
Bloomington, IN 47402
(sent previously)

e m m i s

Gary Thoe
President

publishing

I am proud and honored to support the nomination of Deborah Paul for induction into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame.

I first met Debbie in 1982. She was the newly appointed Editor of Indianapolis Monthly, a city magazine that was then in Chapter 11 bankruptcy. The new owner, Tom Mayhill, of Mayhill Publications, Knightstown, Ind., had enlisted me, his son-in-law, as Associate Publisher of the magazine. While Mayhill's other publications, the Knightstown Banner, Indiana Farmweek, and AntiqueWeek, were profitable, the just-acquired magazine was losing \$1,000 a day. The economy was grim, advertisers were in a wait-and-see mindset, and paid circulation had dropped to 18,000. The new editor faced a daunting task.

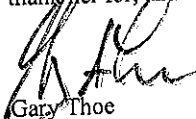
Debbie believed then, as she does now, that high-quality journalism was all-important. With a singular purpose, she led her tiny editorial troop of five staffers into battle: to report, write, and edit relevant stories. To attract readers' attention. To tell the truth. To turn routine journalism into lively, vibrant storytelling. I can still hear her early mantras: "This is a subject, what is the story? Where is the meaning? Show, don't tell. Make them laugh, make them cry." Debbie never wavered from her goal to bring first-rate magazine journalism to our city and state.

In the ensuing six years, the circulation of the magazine climbed to 43,000, and advertisers, impressed with both the product and its growing readership, signed on. The magazine won dozens of Indiana SPJ and national City and Regional Magazine Association awards, including a Gold Medal for General Excellence two years running, and thrived financially. Debbie was right. Make it good, and they will come.

Emmis Communications purchased Indianapolis Monthly in 1988, and the rest is history. Debbie occupied the Editor's chair for 16 years, in that time leading, teaching, orchestrating, executing ... writing. Her personal flair has charmed readers for 25 years. She has the gift of relatability, not only in her nationally award-winning personal column, but in knowing what readers need to know, but, more importantly, what they want to know. She has become something of a celebrity in state and local circles, via her byline and what many still see as "her" magazine.

In 1994, when Emmis began to acquire other city and regional magazines, Debbie took on the responsibilities of Editorial Director of Emmis Publishing, eventually recruiting and directing prestigious magazine editors across the country. Today, our six city and regional magazines (Atlanta, Cincinnati, Texas Monthly, Los Angeles, Orange Coast, Indianapolis Monthly) all prosper under her direction and tutelage. She follows her journalistic heart, always putting content first. She is responsible for elevating local magazine journalism to the highest levels.

Debbie's dream was to write and edit. She began her career path as a first-grade teacher, and, with two children of her own, courageously went back to college to earn her stripes in journalism. Curiously, she still teaches—every day. Good enough is never enough. Better is better. But best is all she will accept. The citizens of central Indiana have much to thank her for, and the craft of journalism would do well to honor her profound contributions.



Gary Thoe
President/Emmis Publishing, L.P.

BIOGRAPHY

Deborah Paul

August 2008

Deborah Paul, Executive Vice President/Editorial Director of Emmis Publishing Corp., oversees the editorial side of Emmis Publishing's award-winning city/regional magazines: *Atlanta*, *Cincinnati*, *Texas Monthly*, *Indianapolis Monthly*, *Los Angeles Magazine* and *Orange Coast*, as well as the crafts magazine *Country Sampler*. The magazines enjoy a combined paid circulation of more than 800,000. Paul previously served as Editor-in-Chief of *Indianapolis Monthly* for 18 years.

A native of Indianapolis who holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Indiana University, Paul is the recipient of numerous awards, including Women in Communications' Francis Wright Award and the highest honor of the Women's Press Club of Indiana, the Honeycomb Award. She also holds awards from the Community Service Council, the Society of Professional Journalists, the National Federation of Press Women and Women in Communications. She was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Butler University School of Journalism (where she completed her journalism studies) and received the 2002 Touchstone Award from Girls Inc. of Indianapolis for distinguishing herself as a role model for young women.

Under her editorship, *Indianapolis Monthly* was awarded the City and Regional Magazine Association's national Gold Medal for General Excellence for two consecutive years. Paul has received two national awards for her long-running personal column from

the National City and Regional Magazine Awards contest and three consecutive national

Clarion Awards from Women in Communications. *From Here to Maturity: Confessions of a Kid at Heart* (Guild Press of Indiana, 2001), a compilation of her most popular columns, was named Indiana's Best Book by the Society for Professional Journalists, the same organization that honored her column with a first place award in 2006.

Paul, former President of the City and Regional Magazine Association, is a member of that national organization's executive committee. She resides in Carmel, Ind., with her husband, Stephen, an attorney. Their older son, Gabriel, a graduate of the Indiana University School of Law, is an attorney with the State of Indiana, and their younger son, Jonathan, a graduate of the Emory University School of Medicine, is a cardiology fellow at the University of Chicago hospital.

December 2, 2009

TO: Gary Thoe, President / Emmis Publishing

FROM: Larry Taylor

RE: Deborah Paul Nomination

Officers:

Ray Moscovitz
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Nelson Price
Vice-President
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Secretary

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Indianapolis Star (ret)
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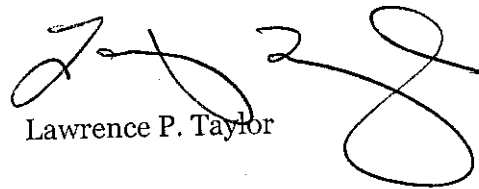
Larry Taylor
Executive Director

I wanted to advise you that the announcement of inductees for the 2010 Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame is being made today.

The outstanding career of Ms. Deborah Paul was discussed at length and so many supportive comments were made by members of the board of directors, but in the end, the nomination was held over for consideration again next year. Your numerous letters in support of her nomination along with materials built a strong case that will continue to be considered with additional chances to add supporting materials for 2011.

Thanks for your efforts in promoting her candidacy and for your understanding and patience. Perhaps as we can provide more specific suggestions that will be helpful in the future but there were over 30 strong candidates considered this year and while Ms. Paul was considered in the final round of voting, there were some posthumous inductions the board felt needed to be advanced along with the three outstanding candidates from different journalism backgrounds with higher vote totals in the end.

Sincerely,



Lawrence P. Taylor

Deborah Paul

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Supporting Document: Letter from Gary Thoe, President of Emmis Publishing

e m m i s

publishing

Gary Thoe
President

September 11, 2009

Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame
c/o Lawrence Taylor, Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 785
Bloomington, IN 47402
(sent previously)

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I first met Debbie in 1982. She was the newly appointed Editor of Indianapolis Monthly, a city magazine that was then in Chapter 11 bankruptcy. The new owner, Tom Mayhill, of Mayhill Publications, Knightstown, Ind., had enlisted me, his son-in-law, as Associate Publisher of the magazine. While Mayhill's other publications, the Knightstown Banner, Indiana Farmweek, and AntiqueWeek, were profitable, the just-acquired magazine was losing \$1,000 a day. The economy was grim, advertisers were in a wait-and-see mindset, and paid circulation had dropped to 18,000. The new editor faced a daunting task.

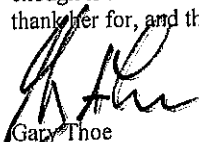
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Emmis Communications purchased Indianapolis Monthly in 1988, and the rest is history. Debbie occupied the Editor's chair for 16 years, in that time leading, teaching, orchestrating, executing ... writing. Her personal flair has charmed readers for 25 years. She has the gift of relatability, not only in her nationally award-winning personal column, but in knowing what readers need to know, but, more importantly, what they want to know. She has become something of a celebrity in state and local circles, via her byline and what many still see as "her" magazine.

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Debbie's dream was to write and edit. She began her career path as a first-grade teacher, and, with two children of her own, courageously went back to college to earn her stripes in journalism. Curiously, she still teaches—every day. Good enough is never enough. Better is better. But best is all she will accept. The citizens of central Indiana have much to thank her for, and the craft of journalism would do well to honor her profound contributions.



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President/Emmis Publishing, L.P.



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President

September 11, 2009

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c/o Lawrence Taylor, Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 785
Bloomington, IN 47402

I wish to nominate Deborah Paul for induction into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame. As president of Emmis Publishing, I have been privileged to work alongside Deborah for much of her magazine journalism career. In those years, I have witnessed her diehard commitment to journalism of the highest integrity. Sometimes her high standards have been the subject of debate in that content and advertising can naturally be in conflict, but I can honestly say I have never seen her compromise her values. She demands not only dogged reporting but style and verve in presentation. Her visual eye is as sharp as her eye for a lively, compelling story; in short, she is a trusted and respected journalist.

The top editors of our magazines rely on Deborah for her experience, skill, and judgment. They know that she will support their efforts in producing the finest city-magazine content in the country ... and help them along if their standards loosen. Emmis magazines have consistently won more national magazine awards than any other of our genre.

In this era of competition for readers, viable content is more important than ever. The magazine industry needs leaders like Deborah to ensure that the most important, relevant subjects are covered, and that our publications are sought out and valued. This includes everything from investigative journalism about a scam artist in Los Angeles to political blockbusters about Texas legislators to solid service journalism about top hospitals in Atlanta and green living in Indianapolis. At the same time as Deborah has overseen Emmis Publishing's editorial division, she has continued to pen her award-winning personal column, a favorite of Indianapolis Monthly readers for 26 years.

It is time for Deborah to be recognized for her incomparable contributions to magazine journalism in our state ... and beyond. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Thoe", written over a white rectangular area.

Gary Thoe
President

Emmis Publishing

Texas Monthly Los Angeles magazine Atlanta magazine Indianapolis Monthly Cincinnati magazine Orange Coast magazine Country Sampler Group

e m m i s

publishing

Gary Thoe
President

Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame
DePauw University Archives
11 E. Larabee St.
P.O. Box 37
Greencastle, IN 46135

10/08

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Gary Thoe

BIOGRAPHY
Deborah Paul
October 2008

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Clarion Awards from women

of a Kid at Heart (Guild Press of Indiana, 2001), a compilation of her most popular columns, was named Indiana's Best Book by the Society for Professional Journalists, the same organization that honored her column with a first place award in 2006.

Paul, former President of the City and Regional Magazine Association, is a member of that national organization's executive committee. She resides in Carmel, Ind., with her husband, Stephen, an attorney. Their older son, Gabriel, a graduate of the Indiana University School of Law, is an attorney with the State of Indiana, and their younger son, Jonathan, a graduate of the Emory University School of Medicine, is a cardiology fellow at the University of Chicago hospital.

communications

October 13, 2008

Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame
DePauw University Archives
11 E. Larabee St.
Greencastle, IN 46135

It is my distinct honor to nominate Deborah Paul, Emmis Publishing EVP/Editorial Director for induction into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame. As Chairman and CEO of Emmis Communications, I have been privileged to work alongside Deborah for much of her career. In those years, I have witnessed her diehard commitment to journalism of the highest integrity. Sometimes her sky-high standards have been the subject of debate in that content and advertising can naturally be in conflict, but I can honestly say I have never seen her compromise her values. She demands not only dogged reporting but style and verve in presentation. Her visual eye is as sharp as her eye for a lively, compelling story; in short, she is a trusted and respected magazine-maker.

The top editors of our magazines rely on Deborah for her experience, skill, and impeccable judgment. They know that she will support their efforts in producing the finest city-magazine content in the country as evidenced by Emmis titles winning more national magazine awards than any other of our genre, to the point that the City and Regional Magazine Association considered changing the rules for entry in its annual awards competition to give other magazines a chance to win! As is her way, Deborah stepped in to make sure the best content is honored.

In this era of competition for readers, compelling content is more important than ever. The magazine industry needs leaders like Deborah to ensure that the most important, relevant subjects are covered and that our publications are sought out and valued. This includes everything from investigative journalism about a scam artist in Los Angeles to political blockbusters about Texas legislators to solid service journalism about top hospitals in Atlanta and green living in Indianapolis. While Deborah has overseen Emmis Publishing's editorial division, she has continued to pen her award-winning personal column, a favorite of *Indianapolis Monthly* readers for 25 years.

Deborah deserves to be recognized for her incomparable contributions to magazine journalism in our state, and beyond. She is a great source of pride for every journalist in Indiana. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



260 PEACHTREE STREET, SUITE 300

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

★ TELEPHONE 404.527.5500

★ FAX 404.527.5575

October 20, 2008

Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame
DePauw University Archives
11 E. Larabee St.
Greencastle, IN 46135

With deepest appreciation for Deborah Paul's influence on my career as editor and writer, I am honored to nominate her for induction into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame as just tribute to her many years of excellence as writer, editor and publishing executive. Ms. Paul's business title, EVP/Editorial, Emmis Publishing, falls woefully short of charting her remarkable rise to national prominence in the publishing industry. In the paragraphs that follow I hope to support the view that she deserves inclusion in the society that honors Indiana's most respected journalists.

The case might be made that Ms. Paul is worthy of this honor based solely on the fulfillment of her extensive executive responsibilities as well as an inventory of achievements by those she has supervised. Currently, she oversees the editorial product of Emmis Publishing's award-winning city/regional magazines: *Atlanta*, *Indianapolis*, *Cincinnati*, *Texas Monthly*, *Los Angeles Magazine* and *Orange Coast*, as well as the crafts magazine *Country Sampler*, combined circulation exceeding 800,000. She has won numerous personal awards as writer and editor but, for purposes of your consideration, it would be unthinkable to exclude Ms. Paul's aptitude for discovering and nurturing talent. A roster of those whose careers have been enhanced by Ms. Paul's advocacy would feature the names of many successful writers and editors around the country.

I count myself among those having been nurtured, even though my career as *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* editor and columnist preceded by many years Ms. Paul's sanction of me as editor-in-chief of *Atlanta Magazine*. Yes, she demands excellence. It would be easier to slip the sun past a rooster than to evade her attention to any effort that falls below a standard she has clearly defined. She is the queen of sticky pad notes that expose the tiniest flaw in text or graphics. They also carry her seal of approval for a job well done. She is the only editorial director I have known or heard of who reads every line of every story in every one of her magazines. Because she cared to that extent, I cared, too. She raised my expectations of myself. Not without cause I gave her the name, *Zena, Warrior Princess*. She is a fighter for the best qualities of magazine journalism, never compromising editorial integrity in the face of increasing financial demands in the industry.

Just in the last few years, three of the magazines Ms. Paul supervises have been among finalists for the prestigious National Magazine Award. *Atlanta* won the top prize last year. She serves as a judge in categories other than those entered by Emmis publications. She has received two national awards for her long-running personal column in *Indianapolis Magazine* and three consecutive national Clarion Awards from Women in Communications. She is former president of the City and Regional Magazine Association and continues to serve on that national organization's executive committee. *From Here to Maturity: Confessions of a Kid at Heart*, a compilation of her most popular columns, was named Indiana's Best Book by the Society of Professional Journalists. She was honored

show what I can do" start at *Indianapolis Magazine* to a position of national prominence. For these and many other reasons I take pride in nominating Deborah Paul for inclusion in the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lee Walburn".

Lee Walburn,

Editor Emeritus, *Atlanta Magazine*

October 21, 2008

Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame
DePauw University Archives
11 E. Larabee St.
P.O. Box 37
Greencastle, Indiana 46135

To Whom It May Concern,

For more than 25 years, Deborah Paul has been one of the great figures in Indiana journalism. She has edited an award-winning city magazine. She continues to write a brilliant and original column. She oversees some of the country's finest city and regional publications. She has accomplished this by insisting on the most rigorous journalistic standards. For Deborah, the reporting must be exhaustive and accurate, the writing must jump off the page, the design must capture the reader's attention, and, above all, every aspect of a magazine must have a human touch. To work for Deborah, as I have for the last eight years, is to be in the presence of someone who believes that journalism not only can keep readers informed but that it can also transform their lives. Deborah's definition of journalism is eclectic. It might be a restaurant review or an investigative piece. It might be a personal essay or an extensive profile. With such a wide range of interests, Deborah has mastered the essential editor's trick: how to be a surrogate for the reader. At the same time—and this is what makes Deborah a master—she recognizes that great magazines must provide readers with qualities they didn't know they wanted.

As Editor-in-Chief of *Indiana Monthly*, Deborah created a journalistic institution. The *Monthly* has not just become an indispensable guide to the city; it has changed how the city sees itself. In her columns for the magazine, Deborah has created a different kind of institution. She has mined her own life to tell a larger story about what it is like to be a wife, a mother, a grandparent, and, more than anything, what it's like to be an American in the last part of the 20th century and the first part of the 21st. And as Editorial Director of Emmis Communications, Deborah has pushed a set of strong-willed editors—I say this as one of them—to never settle for the easy and the obvious. The result of her encouragement and high standards is plain for all to see: For the last eight years, Emmis Communications has dominated the City and Regional Magazine Awards, always winning a plurality, and in some seasons, a majority of the prizes. In Deborah, her editors know they have a director who believes that integrity is the single most important product a magazine has to offer and that she will defend that view vigorously.

That Deborah has achieved all of this in a world that was dominated by men when she started out (and where male culture is still the rule) speaks volumes about her tenacity, her humor, and her independence. There's no better measure of Deborah Paul's career than to say that magazine journalism would be diminished if she had chosen a different field.

With great honor, I nominate Deborah Paul for the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Kit Rachlis

October 22, 2008

Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame
DePauw University Archives
11 E. Larabee St.
Greencastle, IN 46135

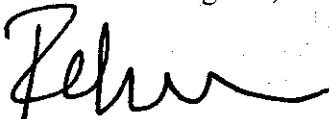
I am writing to enthusiastically nominate Deborah Paul's induction into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame.

Debbie is the editorial director of Emmis Publishing, in which role she oversees the editorial content of Emmis' family of magazines. I've had the privilege of working for her at two of those titles, first as editor of *Indianapolis Monthly* and now as editor in chief of *Atlanta* magazine.

In her role as editorial director, Debbie offers valuable insight and advice on every aspect of magazine creation—from covers and circulation strategies to meaty reported features and short lifestyle snippets. She sees the big picture but pays attention to the tiniest detail. While I value her enormous expertise (as an editor she's won multiple regional and national awards attesting to that prowess), what I value most is her commitment to journalistic integrity. In the eight years I have worked with her, I have found Debbie to be an unfailing champion of journalistic principles and her support has helped the editors who work for her deflect the commercial pressures that compromise too many media outlets today.

Debbie has the qualifications to earn a spot in any journalism hall of fame in the country, but it is obvious to me that she should be inducted into the *Indiana* Journalism Hall of Fame. Debbie loves Indiana and remains committed to her home state with a passion. With her skills and accolades, Debbie could have easily decamped for New York, Washington, or another media market, but she is a fiercely devoted Hoosier and has achieved a nationally significant career while remaining in her hometown of Indianapolis. In the two years I worked at *Indianapolis Monthly*, Debbie was an invaluable guide, and her passion for Indiana was infectious. When I lived in Indy, everywhere I went, people wanted to talk about Debbie. They know and love her from her long-running, award-winning *Indianapolis Monthly* column. She is a legend. A Hall-of-Famer.

With best regards,



Rebecca Burns
Editor in Chief
Atlanta Magazine

October 22, 2008

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With best regards,



Rebecca Burns
Editor in Chief
Atlanta Magazine

October 27, 2008

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P. O. Box 37
Greencastle, IN 46135

I am pleased to provide a letter in support of Deborah Paul's nomination to the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame. Her work as a writer, editor and mentor has inspired and instructed hundreds of journalists and many thousands of readers over the past three decades.

For more than 25 years, Paul's column—first as editor of *Indianapolis Monthly*, now as a fixture on the magazine's back page—has been the place that readers in Central Indiana turn to first. In my three years as editor of the magazine, we have received multiple letters about every column. Every month, their theme is fairly uniform: *What a great column... I feel just the same way ... You helped me appreciate something I had missed before.*

Many columnists have fans and regular readers; for those readers to feel the need to communicate their connection, however, demonstrates the unusual depth of readers' engagement with Paul's savvy writing, and the importance of the column to the magazine as a whole. The columns are, as she would put it, "relatable," a quality she urges all her writers and editors to seek.

Over the years, Paul has been mentor and guide to some of the top magazine editors and designers in the country. The roster of magazine professionals who have trained under her reads like a who's who of top talent, not just in city and regional magazines such as *Texas Monthly* and *Los Angeles* but at top national titles such as *Wired* and *O*, among many others.

Perhaps less noted is her expert guidance in all aspects of magazine layout and photography. The numerous awards Emmis titles have won over the years are a testament to her attention to detail and her dynamic understanding of contemporary magazine practice in all its aspects.

Her mandate to employees like me, and all others, has been clear and unchanged from the beginning: Make the finest, most pleasing and relevant magazines possible. The innumerable awards her titles have received speak for themselves.

Sincerely yours,

One EMMIS Plaza

40 Monument Circle

Suite 100

Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 237-9288

FAX: (317) 684-2080



October 29, 2008

Indiana Hall of Fame
DePauw University Archives
11 East Larabee Street
P.O. Box 37
Greencastle, Indiana 46135

Dear Sir:

Allow me to add my voice to those nominating Mrs. Deborah Paul, executive vice president of Emmis Publishing, to the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame. As a 2003 inductee, I feel perfectly qualified to talk about Mrs. Paul's writing skills, clarity of voice, and personal integrity in more than 20 years devoted to good journalism and to the greater Indianapolis community.

More than 20 years ago, Mrs. Paul, a product of Indiana University, came to me and asked if I thought she had a future in journalism. I prescribed a series of writing, editing, and law courses which she completed judiciously, and then embarked on a career that far exceeded my expectations and delighted me with its accomplishments.

During her illustrious career in magazine journalism, she has supervised magazines throughout the country always with an eye for a well-written story that commits to the highest level of journalistic integrity. Not only has she supervised the content of the award-winning Indianapolis Monthly, but she has supervised the investigative stories that have appeared in Texas, Los Angeles, and Atlanta's magazines. For more than a quarter of a century she has devoted herself to the highest quality of journalism, won numerous state and national awards, and committed her personal integrity, her writing skills, and her personal vision of journalism to her city, her state, and her nation. She stands more than worthy of being included in the pantheon of Hall of Fame inductees.

Finally, Mrs. Paul is a woman of true grit and determination proud of her city and her state, and I am proud to recommend her to your committee without the slightest hesitation or reservation.

Sincerely,

Art Levin