

**FORM 4**

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

| OMB APPROVAL                                 |                   |
|--|-------------------|
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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*<br><u>CHAPPLE THOMAS L</u> | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br><u>GANNETT CO INC /DE/ [ GCI ]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)<br>Director 10% Owner<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)<br><u> SrVP, C Admn O and Gen Counsel</u> |
|   | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br><u>06/03/2003</u>             |  |
| (Last) (First) (Middle)   | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                          | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person                     |
| (Street)  |   |  |
| (City) (State) (Zip)  |   |  |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) |   | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |            |       | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|-------|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V | Amount  | (A) or (D) | Price |   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 06/03/2003                           |  | M                              |   | 10,000  | A          | 32    | 14,982.499  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 06/03/2003                           |  | S                              |   | 200   | D          | 79.56 | 14,782.499  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 06/03/2003                           |  | S                              |   | 900   | D          | 79.55 | 13,882.499  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 06/03/2003                           |  | S                              |   | 1,900   | D          | 79.53 | 11,982.499  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 06/03/2003                           |  | S                              |   | 7,000   | D          | 79.5  | 4,982.499 <sup>(1)</sup>  | D  |   |

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) |   | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |        | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) |                 | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |       |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--------|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|-------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V | (A)  | (D)    | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date |   |  |  |   |  | Title |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | 32   | 06/03/2003                           |  | M                              |   |  | 10,000 | 12/12/1996 <sup>(2)</sup>                                | 12/12/2003      | Common Stock  | 10,000                                     | \$0  | 2,200   | D  |       |

**Explanation of Responses:**

- The reporting person also holds 1,745.973 shares of common stock indirectly through the Issuer's 401(k) plan, based on a plan statement dated as of March 31, 2003.
- The initial option for 19,200 shares vested in four equal annual installments beginning on December 12, 1996.

Todd A. Mayman, Attorney-in-Fact 06/04/2003

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.