

The Oklahoma Publisher

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DONATE TO ONF to receive this Will Rogers print. Details at OkPress.com/will-rogers.



Attend the June 9-10 OPA Convention

OPA CONVENTION

BRIGHT IDEAS FOR NEWSPAPERS
Print & Beyond

Register now to attend the 2017 OPA Convention, June 9-10, at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City.

This two-day event provides many educational sessions and invaluable networking opportunities. The Better Newspaper Contest Awards will be presented Saturday night, June 10, at the annual awards banquet.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

The annual OPA Business Meeting starts at 3:00 p.m. Friday, June 9, with the election of 2017-2018 OPA officers and directors.

News Flash begins at 3:45 p.m. This fast-paced session covers a range of topics by multiple OPA members and provides a great opportunity to pick up some new ideas that could work at your newspaper.

Kyle Killingsworth, a strategic human resources consultant with over 25 years of experience, will present "Business as UnUsual" at 5:00 p.m. Friday.

This session teaches how to navigate change in your organization, re-recruit good people, take care of "me" issues, improve productivity and avoid common pitfalls in times of change.

Killingsworth is an adjunct instructor of the PHR/SPHR Certification Course at OSU/Oklahoma City. He has completed postgraduate work at the University of Michigan in Strategic Human Resources Planning and is certified by the Society of Human Resources Management as a Senior Human Resources Professional.

Plan to visit with vendors at a cocktail reception to learn about the products and services they offer at 6:00 p.m.

Friday's activities conclude with a welcome dinner and scavenger hunt sponsored by the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association. After dinner, join a team to explore the historic Skirvin Hilton and compete for the title of 2017 Scavenger Hunt Champions.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

Head to the Blooper Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. Saturday where OPA Executive Vice President Mark Thomas will show you newspaper gaffes that make you guffaw. The Blooper Breakfast is sponsored by OERB.

Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin will join OPA members at 10:00 a.m. for her annual question-and-answer session. After Gov. Fallin's session, Oklahoma's congressmen — Sen. James Lankford, Sen. Jim Inhofe, Rep. Jim Bridenstine, Rep. Tom Cole, Rep. Frank Lucas, Rep. Markwayne Mullin and Rep. Steve Russell — are invited to take the stage to answer members' questions.

Past presidents of the Oklahoma Press Association will be recognized at the Awards Luncheon at noon Saturday. The ONG Column and Editorial Sweepstakes Awards, OGE Photo of the Year Awards, OPA Digital Media Awards, OPA Print Quality Award and Joseph H. Edwards Outdoor Writer of the Year award will be presented during the luncheon.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Don't miss the concurrent sessions beginning at 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

Tim Harrower will present three sessions, starting with Writing for Non-Readers. Harrower is author of *The Newspaper Designer's Handbook* and *Inside Reporting*. He is an award-winning editor, designer and columnist at newspapers including the Times-Union in Rochester, N.Y., and *The Oregonian* in Portland. Harrower will show you ways to make news more engaging by thinking and repackaging stories into useful, interactive sidebars, fact boxes, checklists and other innovative chunks.

Concurrently, Jason Maly will present "Mobile Growth Strategies: Engaging and Monetizing an Evolving Audience." In his role as senior product manager-mobile at CNHI (Community Newspaper Holdings, Inc.), Maly oversees the development, implementation and management of mobile technology partnerships. Maly has 26 years experience in media sales and marketing, with over 10 years specifically focused on digital media, new business development and mobile product management.

At 2:30 p.m., Harrower will present "7 Tips for Futurizing Your Packaging and Design." Using examples from print and the web, Harrower provides a list of do's and don'ts, from fonts to photos, graphics to grids.

"Hot Circulation Ideas for Community Newspapers" also will be presented at 2:30. This session features a panel of newspaper managers who will share their success stories for markets of all sizes.

Harrower's final session of the day, at 3:30 p.m., is "101 Swipeable Design Ideas" featuring a fast-paced show of

SESSION SPEAKERS



KYLE KILLINGSWORTH



TIM HARROWER



JASON MALY



MARK ZIMMERMAN

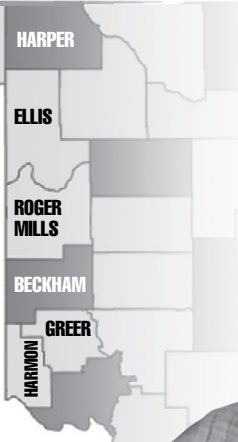

Continued on Page 3

CIMARRON TEXAS BEAVER HARPER

**WEEKLIES
OUT WEST**

BY OPA PRESIDENT DAYVA SPITZER

Co-Publisher, *Sayre Record*
& *Beckham County Democrat*

Sentinel Leader publisher recalls memorable moment

This month's "Weeklies Out West" takes us to Sentinel in southwestern Washita County, a town of just under 1,000 people located at the crossroads of Highways 44 and 55. Sentinel sits in the middle of some good farm and ranch land providing the agriculture base for most of the local economy.

In 1898, a small general store was established near present-day Sentinel with the addition of a post office a year later. The post office was tagged Sentinel, Indian Territory, after Cloud Chief's Herald-Sentinel newspaper. In 1901, railroad activity began to stir the area and land was donated to establish a townsite with the name of Barton chosen to represent the community. In 1904, Will Hornbeck established the Sentinel News Boy newspaper and later started a petition to have Barton renamed Sentinel. In 1906, the petition was approved with 351 souls populating the small town at statehood.

Hornbeck continued to publish the News Boy for six years until 1910 when the Sentinel Publishing Co. took over the journalistic duties of the community with the Sentinel Leader, which has maintained the same name since that time. Between the years of 1910 and 1955, the Sentinel Leader changed hands a dozen times. The ownership

turnover history is not unique to Sentinel as most of the weekly newspapers that we have investigated have a similar early day background. We might only guess that there were many ambitious folks who had the desire to be a newspaper publisher. However, once they were faced with the labor intensive nature of the business, many made the decision to pass it on to the next interested party. Although those early days in the news industry were challenging, post WWII ushered in a golden age for newspapers.

In 1955, Wayne and Emma Schoonmaker took ownership of the Sentinel Leader and reigned as the longest tenured publishers in the life of the publication until 1992, at which time it was passed on to their son and his wife, Mark and Teresa Schoonmaker.

Mark and Teresa continued the family way for six more years. It was during that time that present day publisher, Jolene Wolfenbarger, became the editor in 1997. Then in 1998, Jerry and Sherlene Brewer purchased the paper from Schoonmaker, owning it only one year before selling it to Wolfenbarger.

Wolfenbarger, now operating as Hometown Publications, Inc., has been publisher and editor for over 17 years and is assisted by her mother, Martha Sullivan, who serves as office manager.



OPA President Dayva Spitzer with Sentinel Leader Publisher Jolene Wolfenbarger and her mother Martha Sullivan outside the Leader office.

Wolfenbarger, a lifelong native of Sentinel, has a great love for her community and the people of the area but has not had an extensive background in journalism. Her good business sense and local knowledge have served her well to maintain a successful publication.

Printing each week at The Clinton Daily News, the Leader puts out several special editions including Christmas, graduation, a FFA recognition edition, and a July 4th edition covering the city's huge annual Independence Day Celebration that has been happening since 1961.

When asked what has been her most memorable experience since owning The Leader, Wolfenbarger was quick to tell of late last summer when the area was receiving an abundance of rain. Wolfenbarger and her mother had published a large special edition of a local

school reunion and were taking their addressed papers to the post office in Clinton when they hydro-planed off a flooded highway into a water filled ditch, filling the car with water and ruining every copy of the newspaper. They had to reprint and re-address but, at least were not harmed during the incident.

The journalistic responsibilities of Sentinel are no different than most towns of its size. School activities and sports are a huge part of what drives interest among readers in Sentinel. The school system is well respected with a legacy of successful basketball and baseball teams.

The community is a tight-knit, yet welcoming town that supports and appreciates their newspaper. When visiting with the local residents, each commented on the great job that Jolene and Martha do in covering the news of the area.

OPA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OPA ANNUAL CONVENTION • FRI. & SAT, JUNE 9 & 10, 2017

Mark your calendars to join us for OPA's Annual Convention, held at the Skirvin Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. Headline speaker Tim Harrower, author of *The Newspaper Designer's Handbook* and *Inside Reporting*, will present three design sessions.

WEBINAR: 10 LEGAL QUESTIONS TO ASK • THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017

1:00 PM – COST: \$59

Attorney Rick Hollow has represented some of the biggest media companies and newspapers in America as they've dealt with concerns related to media rights and first amendment issues. They will poll registrants for questions beforehand and open the lines for questions, making sure to cover concerns of most interest to attendees. To register, visit newspaperacademy.com/webinar/legal.

For more information on upcoming events, visit the OPA website at www.OkPress.com or contact Membership & Meetings Director Christine Frank at (405) 499-0040, 1-888-815-2672 or email CFrank@okpress.com.

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Register now for the June 9-10 OPA Annual Convention

Continued from Page 1

ideas to take home and try in your own newspaper.

Mark Zimmerman will present "Photjournalism Basics" in the concurrent session. Zimmerman, an associate professor at the University of Central Oklahoma, will provide tips on how to capture images for both print and online publications using smartphone and DSLR cameras. Zimmerman was chief photographer at The Edmond Sun for four years and also worked as a freelance journalist for many major publications.

A roundtable discussion covering topics from earlier in the day concludes the educational sessions.

The finale of the two-day convention is the annual Awards Banquet where the Milt Phillips Award and ONF Beachy Musselman awards will be presented. New members will be inducted into the OPA Quarter and Half Century Clubs and winners of the Better Newspaper Contest will be revealed.

To register for the convention, go to www.okpress.com/convention-registration or contact Membership and Meetings Director Christine Frank at 405-499-0040 or by email at cfrank@okpress.com.



Display your pride in newspapers with this T-shirt, available for pickup at the OPA Convention; T-shirts will not be mailed. Place your order to reserve your size at www.okpress.com/convention. Only \$12 each.

Cydney Baron joins Claremore Progress

Cydney Baron has joined The Claremore Daily Progress as a staff reporter. Baron transferred from the Progress' sister paper, the Pryor Times, where she was managing editor.

"Community news is my passion – and how exciting to be able to cover the news in such a vibrant, progressive community," Baron said.

During her career, she has covered everything from agriculture to faith. She graduated from Pryor High School and earned a Bachelor's Degree from Rogers State University.

New writer at Yukon Review

The Yukon Review welcomes Terry Groover as the paper's new staff writer.

Groover's journalism career spans more than three decades. His passion is community journalism.

"I love writing about people," Groover said. "And yes, everyone has a story to tell."

He has lived in the Yukon area for the past 11 years but says he still has much more to learn about the city. Groover says his goal is to continue the Yukon Review's 50 year tradition of reporting on the community.

The Mustang News welcomes Maleyia Vaughn as news editor

The Mustang News has added a new news editor to its team. Maleyia Vaughn is a Mustang native that interned at the newspaper in the summer of 2016. Prior to coming to Mustang, she worked at the Yukon Review, the sister paper of the Mustang News.

"Mustang is my home and I couldn't be more excited to be back here," Vaughn said.

She graduated from Mustang High School before going to Oklahoma City University to earn her bachelor's degree in communications.

"As a journalist, my main goal is to shed light on how truly amazing this city is, but more importantly how wonderful the people are who make up the community," Vaughn said. "Of course, I know that I'm not just here to shed a positive light and I will strive to do the best I can to fairly, ethically and accurately cover Mustang, Oklahoma."

When Vaughn is not writing or photographing, she can be found going on walks with her fiancé, Bruce, and her dog, Bailey.

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Ada News teams up with non-profit group

The Ada News recently partnered with Abba's Tables, a nonprofit dedicated to feeding hungry people in Ada.

The project is the first in an ongoing campaign by The Ada News' philanthropic board. The board includes the newspaper's leadership team, members of the business community and others who want to join.

Ada News publisher Amy Johns said the collaboration with Abba's Tables is the first project in a larger effort designed to help Ada's charitable organizations.

Johns said she and others on the newspaper staff already volunteered to help at Abba's Tables.

"As the evening came to a close, I felt a sense of purpose," Johns wrote in a column.

Johns said The Ada News is honored and blessed to be working with Abba's Tables.

"We know our purpose is more than delivering news and information to our readership," she said. "We care about this community and are determined to serve our neighbors."

Pryor Times ceases publication April 29, 2017

After more than 80 years, The Pryor Times published its final edition on April 29, 2017. The Times' website will also discontinue publishing.

"Despite efforts to improve financial conditions the paper could not sustain itself economically," said Community Newspaper Holdings Inc., the paper's parent company.

Seven employees were affected by the closing of the weekly newspaper that covered all of Mayes County.

Tulsa World debuts redesigned website

The recently redesigned tulsaworld.com is more phone friendly and easy to navigate.

The site features a responsive design, which means the website optimizes to the size of the screen you're looking at whether it's a smartphone or a tablet.

The site offers several new features that make it easier for readers to find the latest news, save stories for later, follow specific reporters and more.

Nominating Committee recommends OPA officers

The OPA Nominating Committee met in Oklahoma City on March 2, 2017, to recommend the slate of OPA officers and directors for 2017-2018.

The seven-member committee is composed of the six most recent OPA past presidents who are still active as newspaper executives and the current OPA president.

Members of the Nominating Committee attending were Chairman Jeff Shultz, Garvin County News-Star; Rod Serfoss, Clinton Daily News; Rusty Ferguson, The Cleveland American; Jeff Mayo, Sequoyah County Times, and Robby Trammell, The Oklahoman. Other members of the committee are Jeff Funk, Enid News & Eagle, and Dayva Spitzer, Sayre Record & Beckham County Democrat.

The committee reviewed the OPA By-Laws, nominating committee structure, board policies regarding board service and the board positions to be filled by the committee.

Upon completion of the discussion, the committee recommended the following slate of officers and directors for the year beginning July 1, 2017.

Current OPA Vice President Brian Blansett, publisher of the Tri-County Herald, was recommended to serve as president. Ted Streuli, associate publisher of The Journal Record, was recommended to serve as vice president, and Rusty Ferguson, publisher of The Cleveland American, was recommended to serve a one-year term as treasurer.

The committee also recommended the renewal of a three-year director term

for John Denny Montgomery, editor of The Purcell Register. Zonelle Rainbolt, editor of The Cordell Beacon, was recommended to fill a board vacancy ending June 30, 2019.

Recommended as a new director to serve a three-year term was Alan Herzberger, vice president of audience development at The Oklahoman.

A general election for new officers and directors will be held at the annual convention during the OPA business meeting at 3:00 p.m. Friday, June 9, at the Skirvin Hilton in downtown Oklahoma City.

Nominations for officers and directors may also be made from the floor.

Tulsa native speaks at SPJ-OK Awards Banquet

The Society of Professional Journalists Professional Chapter (SPJ-OK) presented its annual awards on April 22 in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington Post investigative reporter David Fallis presented the keynote speech.

Fallis, a Tulsa native, shared his thoughts about today's ethics in journalism. Fallis worked at The Oklahoma Daily, the University of Oklahoma's student newspaper, before graduating with a degree in journalism.

He started his professional career as a police reporter for The Tulsa Tribune and later wrote and edited for the Tulsa World.

Fallis began working for the Washington Post in 1999, and now serves as the deputy editor for the Washington Post's investigation unit.

SPJ-OK's "Individual Lifetime



DAVID FALLIS

Achievement Awards" honored two longtime and award-winning Oklahoma journalists — Tom Maupin and Mary Hargrove.

Prior to joining The Oklahoman in 1982, Maupin worked as a photographer in Missouri and copy editor in Kansas. He wrapped up his lengthy career at The Oklahoman

by serving for approximately 15 years as the newspaper's copy chief until retiring in 2016.

Hargrove worked as an investigative journalist and editor for approximately 30 years for The Tulsa Tribune, which closed in 1992, before spending many years as a writer and editor at the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.

The "Teacher of the Year Award" was presented to John Schmeltzer, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist (2001) and University of Oklahoma journalism professor. Schmeltzer is OU's Engle-

man/Livermore Professor in Community Journalism.

Two people — Curtis Killman and Brady Henderson — were the recipients of individual awards in the "Carter Bradley First Amendment Awards."

Killman, a staff writer with the Tulsa World since 1995, covered Tulsa City Hall until 2004. He then joined the Projects-Enterprise Team where he used computer-assisted reporting and geographic information system software to help him write interesting stories. He has won awards for projects on topics that range from puppy mills to child abuse to substandard housing.

Henderson has served as the legal director for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Oklahoma since 2012. He is a former assistant district attorney for Oklahoma and a longtime attorney/advocate specializing in civil rights, criminal defense and general litigation.

For a complete list of winners, go to <https://tinyurl.com/kaqlh3u>.

McAlester staff recognized for public service journalism

Community Newspaper Holdings, Inc. recently recognized the McAlester News-Capital and its staffers for outstanding public service journalism performed in 2016.

The News-Capital placed first in Public Service Journalism for the extensive investigation into the misuse of a municipal credit card in the city of Hartshorne. Criminal investigations by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation are ongoing.

In addition, five News-Capital employees were recognized for their work on

the project. Those five are Executive Editor Glenn Puit, Managing Editor James Beaty, reporter David Dishman, photographer Kevin Harvison and page designer Dawnyal Hill.

"Once again I am proud of this group of journalists," said News-Capital Publisher Amy Johns. "This is what enterprise journalism is all about; digging deep and never giving up. Protecting the taxpayers and holding those in government accountable for the decisions they make. This community should be proud of its newspaper and the excellent work it does."

Dishman also received the Reporter of the Year award for Division II.

"David has done an outstanding job for us from day one," Puit said. "He is an extremely talented journalist. His top priorities are accuracy and fairness. David deserves this recognition."

The judges who awarded Dishman with the honor praised his reporting style.

"His reporting makes numbers mean something, and he demonstrates a mastery of difficult topics," one judge wrote.

DEATHS

DEBRA DURBIN, a longtime employee at the McAlester News-Capital, died April 27, 2017.

Durbin worked for the McAlester News-Capital for 45 years. She earned her associate's degree from Eastern Oklahoma State College.

Durbin is survived by her sister Billie Lee and husband Charles; sister Barbara DeLaune and husband John; and several nieces and nephews.

DORIS LOUISE RING, a former employee at the Ponca City News, died April 16, 2017. She was 98.

school in 1936. She attended Nebraska State Teachers College in Kearney, then taught school for two years.

At the age of 62, Ring began working at the Ponca City News and stayed there for 26 years before retiring.

Ring was born Aug. 18, 1918, in Edmonton, Canada. Her family moved to Nebraska where she graduated high

After a stint in Los Angeles and then back to Nebraska, she eventually moved to Ponca City in 1969.

She is survived by her sons Dave and Richard; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

GARY MARTIN SMITH, former publisher of The Lindsay News, died April 18, 2017. He was 82.

under his direction, the newspaper converted to offset printing.

Smith graduated from the University of Oklahoma before serving in the U.S. Army. He enjoyed the outdoors and had a passion for raising cattle.

Smith was born March 22, 1935, in Mangum.

Smith later went on to work for newspapers in Texas before moving back to Lindsay in 1981.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Harriet; daughter Holly Belknap and husband William of Lindsay; a granddaughter and great-grandson.

In 1944, the family moved to Lindsay after purchasing The Lindsay News. Smith became publisher in 1963 and

In a small two-room office, Smith, his wife Harriet, daughter Holly and sister Ursula Pohl published the first edition of The Shopper News Note.

WILLIAM 'BILL' BRENT WALTER, longtime publisher of The Hennessey Clipper, died May 8, 2017. He was 82.

shop at the OBU Press. Walter graduated from OU in 1962.

Another Hennessey graduate donated \$3,000 to the library to set up the Barbara and Bill Walter Digitized Hennessey Clipper Collection for research.

Walter was a third generation publisher of The Hennessey Clipper, which was in his family from 1904-2014. He retired and sold the newspaper in late December 2014.

His career next took him to Kingfisher where he served as public relations director for Cimarron Electric Cooperative from 1963 to 1967. Walter then moved to Oklahoma City and became public relations director for the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority.

Bill was a past president of the Hennessey Lions Club, Hennessey Chamber of Commerce, Retail Merchants Association, Kiwanis Club and Hennessey Celebration Inc.

He was born in Dewey, Okla., April 27, 1935, to Art and Jean Walter. In 1945, at the age of 10, he was putting up leads and slugs as a Printer's Devil and was delivering printed death notices after school. At 15, his dad finally let him print the newspaper on a press once used to print Baby Ruth candy wrappers.

Walter served as managing editor, then owner and co-publisher of The Hennessey Clipper from 1977 to 2014.

He won numerous awards for his photography, editorials and newswriting.

Walter attended Central State College in 1953, and then spent one semester at Okmulgee A&M Tech learning linotype operation. From 1955-58, he was a student at the University of Oklahoma majoring in journalism and working part-time in the back shop of the Oklahoma Daily. He returned to OU as a part-time student and full-time Oklahoma Daily employee after working at the Alva Review-Courier and in the back-

Walter was a big promoter of the Hennessey community and loved its people, even if he couldn't always remember their names. When he first returned home in 1977, he said that he drank five cups of coffee around a table at Wong's Restaurant (without a bathroom trip) just so he could hear a guy's name that he should've known without asking. No one ever said it, so he had to ask him.

Walter was inducted in the Hennessey High School Hall of Fame in 2004; the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2008, and the Oklahoma Press Association's Half Century Club in 2013.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Barb; five children, Courtney B. and Diana Walter of St. Louis; Jill D. and Barry Jenkins of Edmond; Tracy L. and Terry Anderson of Perry; Amy C. and Cham Carpenter of Edmond, and Nick Walter of Hennessey; eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

HERMAN RAY WILSON, retired printer from The Purcell Register, died April 13, 2017. He was 75.

He was editor and publisher of the Lexington Sun, Noble News, Purcell News and Stratford Star weekly newspapers. He retired as a printer from The Purcell Register.

children Deedra Nagy of Norman, Leon Wilson and wife Bernita of Purcell, and Julie Murphy and husband Rusty of Macomb; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Wilson was born October 16, 1941, in Oklahoma City. He joined the Oklahoma National Guard and served 25 years.

Wilson is survived by his wife June;

Donate to ONF



A donation to the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation will support its efforts to improve the state's newspaper industry and quality of journalism.

ONF's programs include training and education for professional journalists, scholarship and internship programs for journalism students, and Newspaper in Education efforts.

ONF relies on donations and memorial contributions to fund these programs.

If you would like to make a donation, please send a check to:

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IN MEMORY OF OUR FRIENDS & COLLEAGUES

James Franklin Nicholson Jr.
April 3, 2016

Joann Sue Larkins Thompson
April 13, 2016

Darren L. Currin
May 3, 2016

Emily Jane Sheldon Leterle
April 20, 2016

Paul English
April 20, 2016

Patsy Lee Abernathy Thompson
May 17, 2016

Ben Blackstock
April 25, 2016

THE OGE PHOTO CONTEST



Oklahoma State sophomore Preston Weigel celebrates after defeating West Virginia's Jacob Smith to repeat as the Big 12 champion at 197 pounds.

Photo by JASON ELMQUIST, Stillwater News Press, March 5, 2017

MARCH 2017
DAILY WINNER:

**JASON
ELMQUIST**
Stillwater News Press

MARCH 2017
WEEKLY WINNER:

JANET MOORE
The Purcell Register



Purcell Firefighters battle not one, but two grass fires along Interstate 35. One of the fires was at mile marker 95 and the other was at mile marker 101. Goldsby and Purcell units responded.

Photo by JANET MOORE, The Purcell Register, March 2, 2017

The March 2017 contest was judged by a member of the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame.

View all winning photos at www.OkPress.com/OGE-Photo-Contest

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MONEY-SAVING OFF PEAK												PEAK TIME, WATCH YOUR USE												PEAK OVER. START SAVING ...											

Kingfisher Times & Free Press debuts modern design in April



Left: The new front page of The Kingfisher Times & Free Press displays a prominent flag and new fonts for headlines and content. Below: The old design of the newspaper that has been published for more than 20 years.

Come hail and high water

Bizarre storm systems also bring snow, tornadoes to state

Kingfisher County had a crazy weather spring weekend, complete with flooding, tornados, hail and wind damage.

The county's weather was part of a statewide onslaught of storm systems that included eight to 12 inches of snowfall and blizzard conditions in the north, severe thunderstorms, floods, straight line winds and tornadoes.

Gov. Mary Fallin declared a state of emergency Saturday for all 77 Oklahoma counties, allowing state agencies to make emergency purchases and acquisitions needed to expedite the delivery of resources to local jurisdictions.

The declaration marks a first step toward seeking federal assistance should it be necessary.

In Kingfisher County, rainfall amounts ranged from three inches at Loyola to five inches (or close to it) in many places.

At 11:30 p.m. in the West Bottom of Kingfisher, wind gusts were clocked for several hours late Saturday through mid-afternoon Sunday, as was U.S. 81 in north Kingfisher and south of Kingfisher in the center (April rains) that produced several inches over the weekend.

Kingfisher's weekend rainfall totaling 4.85 inches, pushed the total for April to 13.84 inches and the total for the year to date to 20.23 inches.

LAKE MAIN STREET appeared this weekend just north of downtown Kingfisher, U.S. 81 also was closed by flooding. **PHOTO COURTESY OF KINGFISHER COUNTY**



Rising production allowing KPS to re...

By Michael Swisher
KPS Managing Editor

A year ago, Kingfisher's board of education was forced to make changes in the middle school staff due to budget cuts.

Five language arts positions were eliminated when reading and writing which had been separate sections, were combined into one class.

One language arts teacher or second, one assigned and three others were moved into other sections in the district.

"We hoped to bring three people to bring before you today, but the interview process will not finish," says Jason Strehgler said.

The school district's share in gross production...



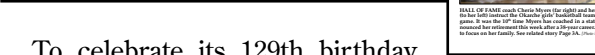
High water crossing flooded streets strand motorists

By Christine Reid
Times & Free Press Staff Writer

When a vehicle is driven into high water, according to the Centers for Disease Control, U.S. 81 was closed north of town and S.H. 33 was closed from town to south of town.

U.S. 81 intersection to south of town was closed from town to south of town.

Motorists coming from the north who offered the best time to...



Area woman named to gov's top ag award

Anna Belle Whitman

She also served as the interim director of the Oklahoma State Department of Agriculture from 2011 to 2015.

She was named to the position of Oklahoma State Department of Agriculture Director in 2015.

She is the daughter of former Oklahoma Governor Henry Bellmon.

She is the director of the Oklahoma State Department of Agriculture.



County lowers speed limits on 2 roads

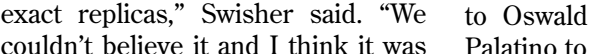
By Christine Reid
Times & Free Press Staff Writer

Kingfisher County is lowering speed limits on two roads to 35 mph.

The roads are U.S. 81 and S.H. 33.

The county is lowering the speed limit to 35 mph on these roads because of the high number of accidents.

The county is lowering the speed limit to 35 mph on these roads because of the high number of accidents.



Let's get this party started

Spring break delays state champ celebration

By Christine Reid
Times & Free Press Staff Writer

The state championship celebration for the Kingfisher County team was delayed due to spring break.

The team will be celebrating their victory on a later date.

The team will be celebrating their victory on a later date.



Left: The new front page of The Kingfisher Times & Free Press displays a prominent flag and new fonts for headlines and content. Below: The old design of the newspaper that has been published for more than 20 years.



Let's get this party started

Spring break delays state champ celebration



County lowers speed limits on 2 roads

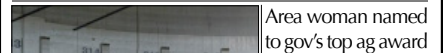
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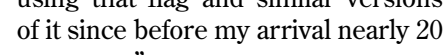
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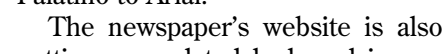
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Gunshots wound Tulsa World carrier

A woman was shot while delivering Tulsa World newspapers in north Tulsa on April 22.

Terri Jones, an independent carrier for the Tulsa World, suffered two gunshot wounds to the chest.

Police found nine bullet holes in Jones' car and 59 shell casings in the area where the shooting occurred.

Jones, who was in stable condition, was transported and treated at a Tulsa hospital.



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Clark's Critique Continued from Page 8

Novata Star
Nowata County Newspaper For Over 100 Years
www.nowatastar.com

Novata Star Office
918-272-2486
918-272-3537
918-272-3537
918-272-3537

April 12, 2017 VOL. 113 NO. 15

There's a new sheriff in town
Novata County Commissioner...
The new sheriff in town...
The new sheriff in town...
The new sheriff in town...

Commissioner requests mayor's resignation
Novata County Commissioner...
The commissioner...
The commissioner...
The commissioner...

Hadley not first female
Novata County Commissioner...
The commissioner...
The commissioner...
The commissioner...

Chamber requests Thursday at Hillside
Novata County Chamber...
The chamber...
The chamber...
The chamber...

Casino storm siren takes a hit
Novata County...
The casino...
The casino...
The casino...

Estator Eggs Hunt
Novata County...
The eggs...
The eggs...
The eggs...

Estator winners
Novata County...
The winners...
The winners...
The winners...

50c
Spiro Graphic
Graphic News E-mail Address: spirographic.com

54TH YEAR, NO. 25 APRIL 13, 2017 212 S. MAIN ST. SPIRO, OKLA. 74599 PH. 918-622-2705 FAX 918-622-3331

Spiro schools to 'RIF' personnel
Spiro schools...
The schools...
The schools...
The schools...

April Fools: No Joke Phony Cop Arrested
April Fools...
The cop...
The cop...
The cop...

Hospital CEO suspended
Hospital CEO...
The CEO...
The CEO...
The CEO...

Slots confiscated at Spiro tavern
Spiro tavern...
The slots...
The slots...
The slots...

Novata High School Senior Student Body
Novata High School...
The students...
The students...
The students...

Chamber requests Thursday at Hillside
Chamber...
The chamber...
The chamber...
The chamber...

Estator Eggs Hunt
Estator...
The eggs...
The eggs...
The eggs...

Estator winners
Estator...
The winners...
The winners...
The winners...

KINGFISHER TIMES & FREE PRESS
Est. April 22, 1889 - Oklahoma's Oldest Continuously-Published Newspaper

Wednesday, May 3, 2017 No. 5 of the 129th Year www.kingfisherpress.net USPS No. 295-420 50 cents 22 Pages

Come hail and high water
Bizarre storm systems also bring snow, tornadoes to state

Kingfisher County had a crazy weather spring weekend, complete with flooding, tennis ball sized hail and wind damage. The county's weather was part of a statewide smorgasbord of storm systems that including eight-12 inches of snowfall and hizzard conditions in the panhandle, severe thunderstorms, floods, straight-line winds and tornadoes.

Gov. Mary Fallin declared a state of emergency Saturday for all 77 Oklahoma counties, allowing state agencies to make emergency purchases and acquisitions needed to expedite the delivery of resources to local jurisdictions.

The declaration also marks a first step toward seeking federal assistance should it be necessary.

In Kingfisher County, rainfall amounts ranged from three inches at Loyola to five inches (or close to it) in many places.

S.H. 33 in the West Bottom of Kingfisher and west of town was closed for several hours late Saturday through mid afternoon Sunday, as was U.S. 81 in north Kingfisher and north of Kingfisher as the result of torrential overnight rains (on top of already soggy soil due to earlier April rains) that pushed several local creeks over the top.

Kingfisher's weekend rainfall totaling 4.85 inches, pushed the total for April to 13.94 inches and the total for the year to date to 20.23 inches.

[See Water Page 11A]

LAKE MAIN STREET appeared this weekend just north of downtown Kingfisher. U.S. 81 also was closed by high water north of town, along with S.H. 33 from U.S. 81 to a point five miles west. See more flood pictures on our webpage at kingfisherpress.net. (Photo Courtesy Steve Lottis, Kingfisher City-County Emergency Management director)

Payne
SUNDAY FORECAST
A clear, sunny day with a high of 75 and a low of 55. Light winds from the south.

THE CLAREMORE DAILY PROGRESS
Volume 124 No. 226 \$1.50
WEEKEND EDITION, MAY 6 & 7, 2017

Four jailed on charges of drugs, weapons, counterfeit money
Claremore...
The charges...
The charges...
The charges...

Chaplain Paul Simpson is... Healing Hearts
Chaplain Paul Simpson...
The healing...
The healing...
The healing...

City of Claremore's \$91 million budget is being reviewed
City of Claremore...
The budget...
The budget...
The budget...

Claremore Lake Triathlon returns for another year
Claremore Lake...
The triathlon...
The triathlon...
The triathlon...

Celebrating 100 Years
Hughes County TIMES
1917-2017

What started out as the Wetumka Gazette in 1877 became the Hughes County Times in 1917.

May 4, 2017 - No. 1 of the 100th year of Hughes County's Home-Centered Newspaper - Published in Wetumka, Okla. 74883 - 16 pages - 2 Sections

Valedictorians and Salutatorians announced at Wetumka HS/JH
Area commencement activities set

The Little Folks Entertain
The First, Second, Third and Fourth Grades of the schools...
The schools...
The schools...
The schools...

Mingo School Program
Mingo school...
The program...
The program...
The program...

Wetumka Kindergarten Graduation Pictures
Wetumka Kindergarten...
The pictures...
The pictures...
The pictures...

You've Got Questions!

- Can I photograph minors without consent?
- Can police deny access to records by issuing a press release?
- Should I alter my archives when a person demands it?
- Can I report inaccurate testimony given in open court?
- What are the laws about liquor advertising?

These are questions frequently asked by the attorneys for the OPA Legal Services Plan members in recent months. Newspapers always need timely legal advice on issues related to newspaper publishing.

You should join OPA'S LEGAL SERVICES PLAN!

See www.OkPress.com/LSP or contact Lisa Sutliff at (405) 499-0026 or toll-free in Oklahoma 1-888-815-2672

Claremore arrested for stealing Fentanyl patches; bond set at \$9,000
Claremore...
The arrest...
The arrest...
The arrest...

Claremore Lake Triathlon returns for another year
Claremore Lake...
The triathlon...
The triathlon...
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The triathlon...
The triathlon...
The triathlon...

Slinkard's story about comic book convention:
POWER IN PAGES
Honorable mentions: *The Elk City News*, on Cheryl Overstreet library story, "More than books on a shelf"; *Tulsa World*, on Kelly Bostian storm story, "River residents chop up"; *The Lawton Constitution*, on KW Hillis teacher story, "An educator's education"; *Okmulgee Times* on pecan festival, "It's Time to Get Nutty"; *The Wynnewood Gazette* on

Brittani Ulrich beekeeper story, "Honey is sweet but bees sting"; *Stillwater News Press* on Kieran Steckley story about Boomer Lake, "Booming with activity"; *The Ponca City News* on an AP story, "Legislators Stumble to Find Money"; *The Eakly Country Connection*, on storm photos, "Gone with the wind"; *The Lone Grove Ledger*, "Leaving like a lion."

Yahoo and AOL email to become Oath after merger



Computer Notes

from the road
by Wilma (Melot) Newby
wnewby@okpress.com

A merger between Yahoo Mail and AOL will take place in July when Verizon buys Yahoo. It's reported that the new service will be called Oath.

It's worth mentioning since many older Southwestern Bell business accounts are hosted at Yahoo.

Oath: A Verizon company

If your phone or iCloud account is synced to a Yahoo address you might experience some problems as things get switched over. Whatever changes they come up with, we want to be ready.

First and foremost back up your contacts using these instructions:

Open your Yahoo email in a web browser such as Firefox, Safari, Chrome or Internet Explorer and sign in.

On the email page, select the **Contacts** tab (the second one) under the Yahoo logo. Click the **Actions** dropdown box > **Export**.

Export contacts

Choose the format you would like to export your contacts in. contacts will be exported.

- Microsoft Outlook
- Netscape/Thunderbird
- Yahoo CSV
- vCard Single File
- vCard, Zip of .VCF files

Export Now

Cancel

Choose **Export Now**. It's next to "Yahoo CSV," which is a comma delimited file that can import into most other programs. The file will even open as an Excel spreadsheet.

Now that your email addresses are backed up, you have the ability to contact your clients if your Yahoo account goes down.

You may want to consider a G-mail or Microsoft account. Both let you attach good sized attachments and have been very reliable over the years. And they open PDF files in the browser for viewing, downloading and printing.

Also consider having your Yahoo email address forward to the new email address. You also might want to forward all critical emails to the new email and save them in folders named something like "Keep This" or "This Week's paper". Don't forget to let your customers know they can reach you at either email address for the next few months.

You also want to add two-step authentication to your Yahoo account to make it harder to hack. Yahoo accounts have been hacked three times in the past three years. Two-step authentication means having two recovery email addresses in the setting, or maybe your phone number, that will alert you if someone tries to change your password. You can find this setting under your name in the bar on the right – **Account Settings > Security**.

The final step is to POP or IMAP both accounts to an email client like Outlook, Thunderbird or Mac Mail so there is a copy of the emails on your own hard drive. This also gives you one place to check all emails.

Any email account can be hacked. Use good, safe practices when cleaning out your inbox. When in doubt, don't click. If something on the computer is asking you to call for help, turn off the computer and see if it goes away. There are lots of scams like this now days.

Safari loads the browser after you reboot and that can be a problem. If you find yourself on a page that you can't escape from, use force quit (**Command > Option > Esc**) to force Safari to quit. Once it's down, reboot the computer. On a PC run task manager (**Control + Alt + Delete**) to quit the browser. Then reboot and run your antivirus on the computer. Do a full scan and let it finish on Mac or PC.

Here's to hoping the new AOL + Yahoo will be a good alternative to Google/Microsoft with improved security.

SSD OR SATA DRIVE

When choosing a new hard drive for an older computer there are choices – even some that can save you money.

It's getting harder to walk into a store and buy an internal hard drive for the older computer on your desk.

Staples and Best Buy only have a few choices of standard SATA hard drives on the floor and mostly these are very large drives — 1TB or bigger. Both the 3.5- and 2.5-inch are becoming harder to find. As our machines age we often don't want to buy a new computer just because the hard drive needs to be replaced.

The current hard drive of choice is the SSD – a NAND flash solid-state drive with no moving parts, like the flash USB drive you carry in your pocket.

The SATA drive has the moving plates that you're used to hearing whirl in your computer.

Hybrid drives are a marriage of the SSD and SATA.

The computer community is moving us towards the more pricey Solid State Drives, saying they have faster start up times and better reliability. The price has come down but, on average, the price per GB is still more than the older SATA drives.

Before buying a new drive, determine if the person using the computer fills up their drive with lots of photos and stories. If they do, it means the computer is read/writing to the hard drive quite a bit.

In this situation Solid State Drives wear out over time. Each cell in a flash memory bank can be written to and erased a limited number of times. That said, the TRIM command technology came out a few years ago. It dynamically optimizes these read/write cycles so things are better, but they do have a limited life span like our spinning parts drives. If lots of files are written to the drive, the SSD drive will last about the same time as the SATA but will cost more. Just like the SATA, the SSD drives are only warranted for three years.

Solid State Drives make sense for a laptop since they tend to survive being moved around and there are no moving parts. You'll also find they're thinner and quieter, which is all good if you want to spend the extra money.

If it's your video editor's computer in question, consider the SSD for its speed. But she may need an external SATA drive with lots of storage space available.

You might also consider the hybrid drives. There are two kinds – ones that are really two physical drives and ones with flash memory married to the SATA drive. Make sure these drives fit in your computer. The hybrids tend to be bigger than the old slot.

Hybrid drives are part SSD and part SATA drives. If the flash memory (SSD) drive is big enough to hold the operating system and the main programs run on the computer, it will vastly improve the speed of the computer. The operat-

ing system needs to newer to be able to really use these drives to their best capability.

You're going to need a Windows 8.1 or Mac OSX computer that is Intel based for the hybrids. Look up the serial number to be sure it will work before purchasing the drive.

SATA disks are cheaper over the lifetime of the computer and work better with the large volumes of files we use on older computers.

If your paper is going to stick to SATA drives because of the age of the operating system or the computer, it might be wise to buy from your favorite retailer while they're still being carried locally.

Don't stress over this, however. The older SATA drives will be around for years to come and they are continuing to improve.

NEW BLACKBERRY PHONE

The new BlackBerry company TLC has come out with a phone called the KEYone. It even has a real QWERTY keyboard harking back to the glory days of the BlackBerry brand.

This new phone has Android OS 7.1 Nougat for the operating system. Some cool tweaks of its own tries to marry old to new to create a work phone that mainly does texts and email better than live streaming movies.

The screen is more square but is reported to have Gorilla Glass 4. The 1620 x 1080 pixel touchscreen with 3:2 aspect ratio will display wide screen but not as well as phones with that format.

TLC is trying to take us back to just a functional email work phone that will do documents of all kinds with a lot of high level security and great phone reception.

The physical QWERTY keyboard is back and can be used as a trackpad with capacitive touch support. It's done right with a fingerprint sensor in the space bar.

It has a 12-megapixel camera at the back and an 8-megapixel on the front with a Qualcomm® Snapdragon™ 625 Octa-Core 2.0 GHz, 64-bit Adreno 506, 650MHz GPU, 3 GB of RAM and a 32 GB flash, expandable memory via hot swappable microSD memory card (up to 2TB) housed together with long lasting batteries. Reviewers reported it lasts two full days on a single charge.

The Android software is set up with a handy area to see all notifications on one simple screen called BlackBerry Hub Texts including latest emails, calendar, social media, etc. It should be available this summer for around \$549.



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OPA Computer Consultant Wilma Newby's column is brought to you by the Oklahoma Advertising Network (OAN). For more information on the OAN program, contact Oklahoma Press Service at (405) 499-0020.

60 inches? No visual? Never again.

BY ED HENNINGER
HENNINGER CONSULTING

POLL AFTER STUDY AFTER SURVEY tells us readers will not read a story that's more than 15-20 inches long. They just won't.

So, what do you think they'll do with a story that's 60 inches long?

With no visual.

That's right...no visual. No photo. No chart. No map. No pullout. Nothing to draw attention to the story or to break up that 60 inches. Just a dull, gray sea of type.

There was no need to rush the story into print. It's just a backgrounder on the city's plans to build a new office complex.

So, if this happened at a small daily where I was, say, the owner and editor, what would I do about it?

Let's say I've been out of town at a press association convention for the past few days. And when I stop by the office on my way home, I go through the latest issue of my paper and I see that 60-inch story...with no visual.

It would be a major understatement to say I would be unhappy. I'd be furious!

During the past few years, I've trained my staff that visuals are critical to good reporting. I have a managing editor, a news editor/designer, a sports editor and his assistant, two features writers and two reporters. And all eight of them have been taught the value of good visual elements.

I've even made sure the importance of visuals is a key part of our design style guide. There are six pages in that 30-page style guide that talk about the value of visuals and how to use them!

But there I am. In my office. Fuming.

And now, I have to consider what I'm going to say to the staffers involved in letting that 60-inch story get into my newspaper with no visual.

When it comes to moments like this, I try to get through the burn and then find a way to solve the problem. But I do want my staff to know that this is inexcusable.

HERE'S WHAT I'D DO:

I would say not-very-nice things (and maybe throw out a planned epithet or two) to the writers and editors who let this happen. I would say those things loudly and forcefully, in the newsroom so everyone else can hear me. I would do this with a purpose and I would probably rehearse what I'm going to say before assembling my staff.

I would make it clear that this is NOT the way we are EVER to do things.

And then I would have them write a very strongly worded memo setting up steps to guarantee that this never happens again. I would edit that memo as needed and have them rewrite it and



then make sure it goes on the bulletin board and in emails or system memos to everyone in the newsroom.

I would have everyone on my staff initial a printed copy of the memo as proof that they have read it. And I would keep that initialed copy in my files.

I would also make sure that a copy of that memo goes into the personnel file of every editor and reporter involved.

This is one of those pivotal, important moments in the history of how we do things in a newsroom.

A 60-inch story with no art is unac-

ceptable, and the fact that some in the newsroom let it happen is inexcusable.

Is this just too much? Am I indulging in overkill? Perhaps.

But I'll bet it will be a long, long time before I see a story that long without a visual again.

ED HENNINGER, an independent newspaper consultant and director of Henninger Consulting, offers comprehensive newspaper design services including redesigns, workshops, design training and design evaluations. Contact Henninger at www.henningerconsulting.com, email edh@henningerconsulting.com or phone (803) 327-3322.

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OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS CONTEST WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MARCH 2017 WINNERS

March Column: **SUZIE CAMPBELL**, *Countywide & Sun*

March Editorial: **TED STREULI**, *The Journal Record*



MARCH 2017 EDITORIAL WINNER

TED STREULI, *The Journal Record*

Following the will of the people

House Bill 1482 has drawn more attention than most and for good reason. It's not often that Oklahomans pass a state question by more than 17 percentage points only to have their legislators try to undo it just months after the election.

Although Rep. Scott Biggs, R-Chickasha, is the bill's primary sponsor, Purcell Republican Tim Downing has been the most vocal defender since the bill predictably stomped on a hornet's nest.

On March 7, Biggs offered a floor amendment that eliminated much of the objectionable language in his bill. But it's important to note that most of Downing's comments, including a guest column in *The Oklahoman* and a lengthy Facebook post, came well before Biggs backed off and the House passed the measure 51-38.

Downing squarely made his argument on the notion that State Question 780 downgraded the possession of drugs in a school zone to a misdemeanor. The truth is that possession of drugs in a school zone is, because of the proximity to children, considered intent to distribute and that remains a felony under SQ 780.

What Downing never mentioned was that the original version of HB 1482 would not only reinstate harsher penalties for drug possession, it would expand felony drug possession zones to include day cares, elementary and secondary

schools, public vocational schools, colleges and universities, churches, recreation centers, public parks including state parks, fairgrounds, and recreation areas, and in the presence of any child under 12 years of age.

It would have put 14 percent of Oklahoma City residents and more than 20 percent of Tulsans in an enhancement zone, utterly contrary to voters' intent.

Oklahoma holds the inestimable place of highest per capita female incarceration and one of the top three male incarceration rates in the country. But legislators are neither willing nor able to pay for their throw-away-the-key lunacy. The Department of Corrections needs twice the money it's been appropriated just to keep pace.

The business community has vociferously supported criminal justice reform, rightly insisting that the state reduce sentencing for non-violent offenders and find alternate solutions for those who are mentally ill. Oklahomans made the same point with the passage of SQ 780 and SQ 781.

Before considering HB 1482, senators would do well to recall these words of Thomas Jefferson:

"The will of the people is the only legitimate foundation of any government, and to protect its free expression should be our first object."

Enter and Win a \$100 Check from Oklahoma Natural Gas!

The March Oklahoma Natural Gas Column and Editorial Contest was judged by a member of the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame.

1. Each month, send a tear sheet or photocopy of your best column and/or editorial to Oklahoma Natural Gas Contest, c/o OPA, 3601 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-5499.
2. Include the author's name, name of publication, date of publication and category entered (column or editorial).
3. Only ONE editorial and/or ONE column per writer per month will be accepted.
4. All entries for the previous month must be at the OPA office by the 15th of the current month.
5. Winning entries will be reproduced on the OPA website at www.OkPress.com.

Entries must have been previously published in print. Contest open to all OPA member newspapers.

Although Oklahoma Natural Gas Company selects representative contest winners' work for use in this monthly ad, the views expressed in winning columns and editorials are those of the writers and don't necessarily reflect the Company's opinions.



*Thank you for continued
support of "Share The Warmth"*

Read the Winning Columns & Editorials on the OPA website:
www.OkPress.com (Under Contests)