

# The Oklahoma Publisher

Official Publication of the Oklahoma Press Association

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## INSIDE

### AWARD WINNERS:

Congratulations to JEFF MAYO, the Milt Phillips Award winner, and JEFF MULLIN, the Beachy Musselman Award winner.

**PAGES 8-9**

**MORE AWARDS:** Meet this year's inductees into the OPA Half Century Club and Quarter Century Club. Plus additional award winners are featured.

**PAGES 10-11**

### CONTEST WINNERS:

Results of the 2017 OPA Better Newspaper Contest were announced June 16 at the OPA Convention in Oklahoma City.

**PAGES 13-17**

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



## State delegation opposes paper tariff

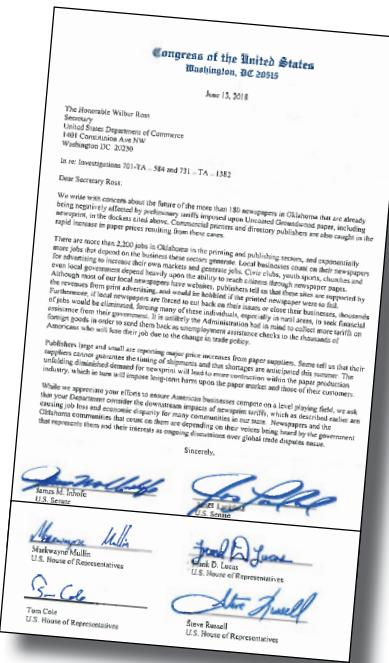
Oklahoma's entire congressional delegation is urging Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross not to approve tariffs on newsprint.

Senators James M. Inhofe and James Lankford, and Representatives Markwayne Mullin, Frank D. Lucas, Tom Cole and Steve Russell co-signed a letter sent to Ross on June 18, 2018.

"We write with concern about the future of the more than 180 newspapers in Oklahoma that are already being negatively affected by preliminary tariffs imposed upon Uncoated Groundwater paper, including newsprint," the letter states.

Brett Wesner, founder of Wesner Publications Co., which publishes newspapers and magazines in Oklahoma and Texas, said the proposed newsprint tariffs were the leading issue at the National Newspaper Association Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C., in March.

"I had an excellent meeting



with Mullin, who was strongly supportive of our position and who subsequently took a leadership position on this issue," Wesner said.

"Many publishers across the state had further encouraging contact with staff members for

the entire delegation, and we were happy to see the final letter issued."

The letter advocated for the 2,200 printing and publishing jobs in Oklahoma that could be affected by the tariffs.

"Although most of our local newspapers have websites, publishers tell us that these sites are supported by revenues from print advertising, and would be hobbled if the printed newspaper were to fail," the letter states.

"If local newspapers are forced to cut back on their issues or close their businesses, thousands of jobs would be eliminated, forcing many of these individuals, especially in rural areas, to seek financial assistance from their government," the letter continued.

"It is unlikely the administration had in mind to collect more tariffs on foreign goods in order to send them back as unemployment assistance checks to thousands of Americans who

will lose their job due to the change in trade policy."

Wesner said this is only the first step in what promises to be a long process.

The International Trade Commission will meet in July to consider the administration's proposal and issue final recommendations to the commerce secretary.

"Those recommendations are not binding, thus our outreach to Sec. Ross to reject these unfair tariffs," said Wesner.

The next steps are to encourage passage of bills in the House and Senate that would force a delay in imposition of the tariffs, and to continue to work with the Commerce Department ultimately to reject them completely.

"The entire Oklahoma delegation could not have been more strongly supportive of our position, and I want to thank in particular Congressman Mullin for his leadership role," said Wesner.

## Members have a Grand time at convention

Great speakers, informative sessions, time to connect with others and lots of awards combined to make the 2018 Oklahoma Press Association Convention a roaring success.

The convention was held at the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort in Shawnee on June 15-16.

At the business meeting, new officers and directors were elected for 2018-19. Ted Streuli, The Journal Record, was elected as president; Ray Dyer, El Reno Tribune, as vice president; Jeff Shultz, Garvin County News Star, as treasurer; and Brian Blansett, Tri-County Herald, as past president. Officers serve a one-year term beginning July 1.

Elected to a three-year term on the board of directors was

Shauna Belyeu, The Eufaula Indian Journal. Mark Millsap, The Norman Transcript, was re-elected to a three-year term as director.

The first evening included a luau-themed dinner and fun team-based games featuring pool noodles, hula hoops and grass skirts. Decorations were provided by The Grand.

Jason Taylor, president of GateHouse Media Western US Publishing Operations and GateHouse Live! Events, talked about how to jump start your market.

Events are a new revenue source for GateHouse, said Taylor.

"We focus on things that engage community and engage people," he said.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



Team game winners at the Friday night luau dinner celebrate their victory. Back: Susan Clark, John D. Montgomery, Terry Clark, John Denny Montgomery and Matt Montgomery. Front: M. Scott Carter, Emily Montgomery, Caitlyn Montgomery, Gracie Montgomery and Brad Spitzer.



## On that note...

by Brian Blansett

Publisher of the Tri-County Herald  
2017-2018 OPA President

# Your newspaper matters

A month ago, a sophomore at Meeker High School texted me a few sentences about the Future Farmers of America chapter electing new officers.

He was the new reporter and was filing his first notice of chapter activity. "We'd really like you to put it in the paper," he wrote.

Two weeks ago, I was taking pictures at a McLoud girls basketball scrimmage and found myself next to the grandmother of one of the players.

"I had let my subscription expire, but I had to renew because you have so many McLoud sports pictures," she admitted.

And last week, the Meeker Town Board had an item on its agenda to consider firing the town administrator. People on both sides of the issue made sure we knew it was on the agenda and that we'd be there to cover it.

Three things with nothing in common, except this: The newspaper mattered.

In rural schools, the FFA is a huge deal, complete with booster clubs and fundraisers and potential scholarships, and so it mattered to the new reporter that people know the students – including him – who would run the chapter for the next year. People would hear it through the grapevine or Facebook, but that wouldn't validate it like having it in permanent print.

And the sports pictures. We discovered a couple of years ago that you can never run too many of them and you can never run them too big. During the high school sports seasons, we'll run photo doubletrucks two or three times a month. Last year, that allowed us to run an eight-column basketball photo, which was almost 14 inches wide, in our paper. Most of the time, we design our paper by placing the photos first and letting the stories have the space that's left over.

We do that because getting pictures of people in the paper matters. It matters enough for grandmas to subscribe.

And it matters when people want to make sure there is an accurate account of what goes on in local civic affairs. With the posturing and pandering on Facebook, the misinformation and gossip swirling around the coffee shops, people want to know there is a standard of accuracy. And that standard of accuracy is what they find in the pages of our newspapers.

What we do matters.

## OPA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### WEBINAR: SELLING OUR UNIQUE STRENGTH

Wed., July 11, 2018 • 10:30 AM • Cost: \$15 OPA members

This webinar is all about leveraging the power of special sections and niche publications that your team may be viewing as just one-off opportunities for sales. Instead, sales management motivator Charity Huff will demonstrate the advantages of selling these products. To register, visit [inlandpress.org](http://inlandpress.org).

### WEBINAR: HOW TO TURN FACEBOOK'S CHANGES INTO BIG DOLLARS

Thurs., July 26, 2018 • 1:00 PM • Cost: \$35

Facebook has made some major changes that could seriously impact your advertisers in a negative way! Facebook is limiting ads on their platform and raising prices. Veteran media sales expert, Ryan Dohrn, will share the ins and outs of these changes. He will explain what you can do to turn these changes into money in your pocket! To register, visit [onlinemediacampus.com](http://onlinemediacampus.com).

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

# OPA receives application for business membership

The Weleetkan has applied for business membership in the Oklahoma Press Association.

The application lists Patrick Hare as publisher and editor of the weekly publication located at 116 W. 9th St. in Weleetka.

The Weleetkan's periodical mailing permit has been in effect since May 6, 2016, the application states, with

the newspaper printed in Okfuskee County and entered into the U.S. mails in Weleetka.

Any current business member wishing to object to the application of The Weleetkan must do so in writing to the OPA at 3601 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-5499, 10 days prior to the OPA Board of Directors meeting on Sept. 20, 2018.

# Attorney files open records lawsuit against OU foundation

An Open Records Act lawsuit has been filed against the nonprofit that handles donations to the University of Oklahoma.

Fred Gipson, OU's former chief legal counsel, filed the lawsuit in Cleveland County District Court after the OU Foundation denied his request for emails, documents and financial records related to the foundation's proposed arena and entertainment district.

Norman City Council members Joe Carter Jr. and Alexandra Scott have added their names as plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

The records were requested by Gipson in late May on behalf of 70 Norman residents who said they have concerns about the proposed University North Park development slated for an August vote.

In its records request denial, the foundation said that it isn't subject to the state's Open Records Act because it's independent from the public university.

Gipson said the foundation should be considered a public body because it only exists to serve a public entity.

Gipson's wife, Lynda Jean Gipson, is listed as the plaintiff in the lawsuit.

Fred Gipson said there have been similar lawsuits filed in the past throughout the country. Last month, a judge ruled that the University of New Mexico Foundation was subject to its state's public records laws because it acts on behalf of a public entity, according to news reports.

Gipson was the university's top attorney from 1988 to 1998.

## Convention Continued from Page 1

Bill Ostendorf, president of Creative Circle Media Solutions presented "Print Isn't Dead!"

"Print isn't going anywhere," Ostendorf said, but it's time to make content more engaging and actionable.

"It isn't time to abandon or undermine print," he said. "It's time to reinvent and reshape it."

Ostendorf and Ryan Dohrn, the founder of Brain Swell Media and the creator of the 360 Ad Sales System, presented concurrent sessions on Saturday afternoon.

Three members of Oklahoma's congressional delegation participated in a Q&A session at the convention. Attending were Senator James Lankford, and Reps. Tom Cole and Frank Lucas.

There were also 10 gubernatorial candidates – Republicans Mick Cornett, Gary Jones, Todd Lamb, Gary Richardson, Kevin Stitt and Blake Stephens; Democrats Drew Edmondson and Connie Johnson; and Libertarians Rex Lawhorn and Joe Maldonado – that

fielded questions from OPA members then joined them for an ice cream social.

NewsFlash provided five-minute presentations from Rob Collins, Enid News & Eagle; J.D. Meisner, Bristow News; Brian Blansett, Tri-County Herald; Kaylea Hutson-Miller, The Grove Sun; Faith Wylie, Oologah; and Carol Grubbe, TownNews. TownNews sponsored the NewsFlash session, which included a drawing for an Apple iPad. Blansett was the lucky winner of the iPad.

Many awards were presented at the convention and are featured in this issue of The Oklahoma Publisher.

Helping make the convention a success were all of you who attended and this year's sponsors – Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association (OIGA), Public Service Company of Oklahoma, Arnall Family Foundation, Ethics & Excellence in Journalism Foundation, AT&T, Chickasaw Nation, Cox Communications, Oklahoma Energy Resources Board (OERB) and TownNews.com.

# Carolyn Estes retires from Oologah Lake Leader



After more than 30 years at the Oologah Lake Leader, Carolyn Estes has retired.

Estes joined the Lake Leader in 1982 as a reporter and photographer.

After a five-year stint working at the sheriff's office, she returned to the newspaper. She later maintained

the newspaper's marketing and editor positions.

"We appreciate her support and loyalty to our newspaper and community. She will be sorely missed in our newspaper family," said Dr. Maria Laubach, Lake Leader publisher.

Estes was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2014 and into the Oklahoma Press Association's Quarter Century Club in 2015. She is a member of the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation, served on various OPA committees and has

won several awards in the OPA's Better Newspaper Contest in reporting, photography and advertising.

"I have loved every second of my time working at the newspaper and being able to be involved in our wonderful community (Oologah)," Estes said.

During her retirement, she plans to catch up on hobbies and crafts and spend more time with family and friends.

## NewsOK launches website redesign

The Oklahoman's website, NewsOK.com, recently launched a redesign.

The new design features NewsOK Pro enhancements, which includes an ease of usability and clean interface layout. The website is compatible for mobile and desktop devices.

More than 4,000 users tested the Beta version for a month, providing feedback that helped NewsOK validate its general concepts and plan future enhancements.

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, wrote Alan Herzberger, vice president of audience development at The Oklahoman Media Company.

"We designed the new NewsOK to be a clean browsing experience for our users," Herzberger said.

"The home page is a long scroll of a wide variety of recent news and information. The navigation can be opened at the top left corner of the page, allowing you to jump anywhere you need to go."

## Sentinel offering new e-edition for readers

The Johnston County Sentinel is now available online.

Print subscribers have full access to all website features. However, an email in the newspaper's database will be required.

The website features include an e-edition of the weekly print issue, pull down menus to individual stories and features, exclusive video content and various links to other local sites. Subscribers will also receive an e-mail reminder each week when the latest e-edition is posted.

## Brad House joins Cushing Citizen

Longtime journalism veteran Brad House joined The Cushing Citizen as its managing editor.

House has over 13 years of editorial and management experience in the newspaper industry. His career began as editor of the Antlers American, where he was later promoted to general manager

and then publisher. He also served as managing editor for the Durant Daily Democrat before returning to Antlers to continue his duties as publisher.

House comes to the Citizen after almost four years as a child welfare specialist with the Oklahoma Department of Human Services.

## Thomas Tribune welcomes new editor

The Thomas Tribune welcomed Tami Adams as its new editor.

Adams recalls always having a passion for journalism. She attended Oklahoma Christian University on a journalism scholarship and served on the University's newspaper staff in varying roles.

After leaving college to start a family, Adams continued her writing, photography and graphic design talents in a variety of positions over the years.

Adams and her husband, Shane, live in Fay with their son, Clayton, and many farm animals. They also have two adult sons.

## New reporter at Claremore Daily Progress

A new reporter has joined the staff of The Claremore Daily Progress.

Kayleigh Thesenvitz graduated from the University of Tulsa with a degree in political science, minor in law and a certificate in journalism studies.

She was editor-in-chief of the univer-

sity's student newspaper and received multiple awards for investigative and feature stories. In 2017, Thesenvitz was awarded an ONF internship at the Bristol News.

Thesenvitz hopes to make her positive impact through journalism.

## Got Bloopers?

Send them in to be featured in the 2019 Annual Blooper Show.

Email Mark Thomas at  
[MThomas@okpress.com](mailto:MThomas@okpress.com)

or mail to the  
Oklahoma Press Association  
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# 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:

## OKLAHOMA NEWSPAPER FOUNDATION

3601 N. Lincoln Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

# ONF Silent Auction raises nearly \$4,000

Tables were filled with donated items for the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation's Silent Auction during the OPA Convention.

The auction generated nearly \$4,000.

Donated items included artwork, books, various gift baskets, entertainment and sporting events as well as miscellaneous items.

Winners of silent auction items were David Bitton, Stillwater News Press; Mack and Olivia Burke, The Norman Transcript; Rick Carpenter, The Altus Times; Sean and Donna Dyer, El Reno Tribune; JJ Francais, The Chronicle; and Maria Laubach, Oologah Lake Leader.

Also, Paul Laubach, Trail Miller LLC; Mary Lokey, Johnston County Sentinel; Jeff Mayo, Sequoyah County Times; John Denny and Gracie Montgomery, The Purcell Register; Tom Muchmore, The Ponca City News; Bill



Laura Watts from The Journal Record looks over items in the ONF Silent Auction.

Ostendorf, Creative Circle Media; Phillip and Ken Reid, Weatherford Daily News; Bill Robinson, Robinson Publish-

ing; Rod Serfoss, Clinton Daily News; and Barb Walter, Kingfisher Times and Free Press.

## DEATHS

**HELENE LEWIS COFFER**, former feature editor for The Ponca City News, died May 21, 2018. She was 92.

Coffer was born Jan. 25, 1926, in Globe, Ariz. She received her journalism

degree from the University of Arizona before marrying her husband, Henry 'Hank' Ford Coffer, on June 29, 1946.

The Coffers moved to Ponca City shortly after getting married. Mrs. Coffer worked as the feature editor for The

Ponca City News until the couple moved to Las Vegas in 1965.

She is survived by three daughters, Cindy Chojnacky, Dr. Kathleen Coffer and Dr. Christine Raasch.

**JAMES LOYD COOK**, former typesetter for The Cyril News, died June 3, 2018. He was 73.

Cook was born April 3, 1945, on his family's farm south of Cyril. He graduated from Cyril High School and

then Oklahoma State University with an Associate's degree in journalism. Cook worked at The Cyril News as a typesetter before eventually leaving to work as an industrial electrician.

He is survived by his son William

**DAVID LLOYD JONES**, former vice president of the Tulsa Tribune, died May 14, 2018. He was 79.

Jones was born Sept. 9, 1938, in Tulsa. In 1964, he began his 30-year career at the Tribune as a reporter before becoming the newspaper's Washington, D.C. correspondent. He spent

seven years at the Washington bureau and then returned to Tulsa to become the Tribune's entertainment editor. In 1982, he was promoted to vice president, and focused on promotions and special projects. He also continued to write columns, film reviews and editorials.

When the Tribune closed in 1992,

**CHERYL SUE OVERSTREET**, longtime editor at the Elk City Daily News, died June 13, 2018. She was 62.

Overstreet was born Oct. 30, 1955, and raised in Elk City. She began her career at the Elk City Daily News in

1994 as a reporter, then served many years as design manager and community editor. Eventually, Overstreet was eventually named managing editor.

When she was not working at the paper, she enjoyed making jewelry and photography. She was a member of the

Jones turned his attention to books and opened the Happy Griffin bookstore.

He is survived by his wife Martha Jones and three children – Alicia Jones, Melissa Jones, and Matthew Jones.

Red Hat Society, Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association, and the Western Oklahoma Historical Society.

Overstreet is survived by her son Elisha Fite of Norman; daughter Michelle Leeann Fite of Sayre; four grandchildren and two brothers.

## In Memory of Our Friends & Colleagues

William 'Bill' Brent Walter

May 8, 2017

Gina Noel Cooper

May 9, 2017

James 'Jim' Paul Miller

May 26, 2017

James Vance

June 5, 2017

Jim Findley

June 8, 2017

Cecilia Lucetta Yager

June 8, 2017

Marjorie Bowers Paxson

June 17, 2017

# Apple's new macOS Mojave offers many new features



## Computer Notes

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

The Apple Worldwide Developers Conference announced a new operating system for both iPhones and Mac computers at the June 4-6 meeting in San Jose, California.

The new operating system, Mojave, is named after the desert. Mac OSX 10.14 will leave many older computers stranded in the desert land of not being able to update.

Once more moving the bar up another level, the new OS requires a computer newer than 2012 to run. The beta version is out now with full release expected this fall.

A new dark mode was created to help you focus on your work without distraction. I would have liked it better if it shut notifications off with one button instead of making all the type reverse. Small reverse type is hard to read on any screen – even in a darkened room. This feature may be great for correcting photos, but for editing and reading type it's not a good choice.

There's also a mode that senses the light in the room and adjusts accordingly – just like a TV. This doesn't seem like a good mode to use when correcting photos, but we're just going to have to play around and see what these new modes are really like.

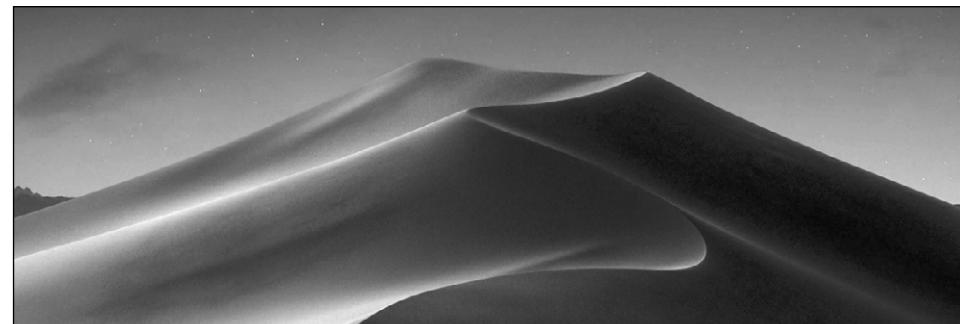
Apple updated the finder with a new feature that cleans up your desktop. I love this. No more lectures about keeping a clean desktop. It creates stacks of similar types of documents. When you touch one of the stacks it spreads the documents out so you can view them.

There's also a new view button that lets you see the metadata of photos along with the picture in the finder window.

Quick actions have been added to our arsenal that let you correct photos as if you were on your phone. Now you can rotate, crop, add information to the metadata or run automator functions from the finder on a batch of photos at once. Just being able to crop photos on the desktop will be a useful tool to many editors. And trimming audio and video files from the desktop will be great for uploads to the web.

Apple is making changes to how screen shots are taken. You will even be able to record videos and save them like a screen shot. Similar to the snipping tool in Windows, it acts more like an app with buttons for performing different actions such as starting and stopping recordings. It also lets you select a folder for the clips to be saved into.

Speaking of the iPhone, it will be possible in OSX 10.14 to insert a photo



directly from the computer in Apple programs. It places the photo in a document with a touch of a button, integrating the phone's camera into the desktop environment. The iPhone's apps are coming to the Mac as the two operating systems come closer together. New apps include Stocks, Voice Memos, News app and a Home button plus upgrades to Safari, Siri and Mac Mail. You might say they added lots of iPhone type improvements to the Apple desktop.

This new OS looks more like a feature-filled update as they build on the 64-bit infrastructure.

As expected, Apple confirmed during its WWDC keynote that Mac OS 10.14 Mojave will be the last OS version to support legacy 32-bit apps. This is concerning since many of these apps already don't run well on OSX 10.13 (High Sierra). When a 32-bit app is opened in High Sierra, users get a one time warning about its future incompatibility with the Mac OSX operating system.

As things move further away from older stand-alone copies of the Creative Suite, it's getting more and more interesting to make things work.

Most Creative Suite 6 programs are 32-bit, including InDesign. The exceptions are Photoshop CS6 and Acrobat Pro, which are both 64-bit.

This means you could get by with just the \$20 a month lease of InDesign and keep the stand-alone versions of Photoshop and Acrobat when the hardware forces you to the cloud.

Keeping older systems going and finding supported antivirus, browsers and good, clean used computers is increasingly hard to do.

If your computer doesn't already have some form of antivirus, the next few months will be a good time to find something. If they stop updating the antivirus for your version of OSX – and generally they only support three operating systems back – at least you will have some defense.

You also need to consider a backup of some sort for older computers that run critical, older software. To keep your backup computer operational, boot it every few months so the hard drive doesn't freeze up. There are always a few updates to run, so run a few. A complete backup with software installed is best.

If PowerPC computers must have

functions in your workflow, be aware that they are ending up in dumpsters at used computer stores. Look for one or two good ones while they're still available. Or better yet, come up with a plan for moving to newer hardware and software instead of making quick decisions that cost too much in the long run.

### NETWORKING ISSUES

Another thing happening with older hardware/software in newer environments is the older programs and/or operating systems are having trouble with networking.

With Windows 10 updates happening daily (or so it seems), they are moving away from the older computers' protocols and it's causing networking issues.

The direct way to get to a computer using its IP address seems to be the fallback plan used most often.

On Windows 10 computers mapping a drive sometimes works, but lately even that has failed on fully updated Windows computers. Others just do not show up in the network screen.

Here's the most reliable way to get a network shortcut to the target computer:

- Open a window on the desktop.
- Right click on "This PC" to get to the popup menu. Now go to "Add a Network" location. When you get the wizard, say "Next."
- Click "Choose a custom network location" and then click "Next."
- Type in the IP address of the target computer with two backslashes. For example: \\192.168.2.34.
- Press the browse button. The computer with that IP address should show itself in the next window.
- Double click the number and a window will pop up asking for the user name and password. Put that in and the connection is made. The folders that are shared should show up in the wizard.

- Double click to mount the network. Now create a desktop shortcut to use whenever you need it.

OK, I made all that sound simple. It's slightly more complicated than that. You must know the name and password of the target computer. That's the name that appears on the screen when the machine is turned on and the password used to get into it. You can also look in Mac's **System Preferences > Users and Groups**. On Windows look in **Control Panel > Accounts**.

The IP address of the target computer must always be the same for the shortcut to work. If the target gets a new address, the process must be redone. A static IP address may be needed on the target if this happens often.

Another up-and-coming problem is the ability of two users opening a file at the same time with older versions of Creative Suite. The first user to save wins while the other user loses all their work. The blogs are full of users with this problem but no solutions that work have been found.

Both Windows and Macs are having the same problems. Our older software is having trouble negotiating networks updated to newer protocols and firewalls.

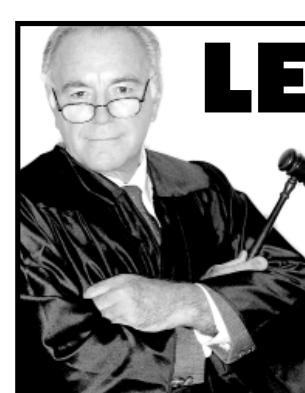
A couple of things we have tried at different Mac papers is to flag files in use with color (tag after right-clicking the file). This tells others to stay out. This creates extra steps and requires everyone to cooperate.

Another possible solution is to have a working folder that users can move the file to when they're working on it – and then back out after the file is closed. This is a great solution if everyone is careful to embed all the art as it's placed. But once again it creates extra steps for the users.

Shouting over the partition also works, or so I'm told.

Several papers I've talked to about this say it is a new problem they're having to deal with.

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.



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## Clark's Critique Continued from Page 6

- Run storm photos big, as did the *Alva Review-Courier* of a reader photo.

- Lots of hungry children this summer. Emily Brashier in the *Guthrie News Leader* reports on free meals program. Emily Doege's lead at the *Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise* on a program: "Yes there is a free lunch... and a free breakfast." In your area?

- I bet Molly Raley's column in *The Madill Record* is a must read: "Confessions of a Single Mom."

## HEAD'EM UP AWARDS:

First place, *Tri-County Herald*, on

Mike McCormick's story about improving Meeker Lake:

## A dam site better

Second place, tie:

*The Ada News*, Richard Barron's terrific photography and story about a 49-year-old homeless Air Force veteran bicycling across America, with his dog, Daisy:

## Driving Miss Daisy

*Okmulgee Times*, on Patrick Ford's story about the induction of a legendary high school coach into a hall of fame:

## A Slam Dunk

Third place, tie:

*Durant Daily Democrat*, on Michael

Clements story about a summer “Very Hungry Reader” program:

## Library ready to feed minds, bodies

*Wagoner County American Tribune*,  
Christy Wheeland on training for school  
safety:

## Run, Hide, Fight

Honorable mentions: *The Examiner* in Hugo, on photo of dilapidated vacant house series, "Weekly Eyesore Installment"; *Muskogee Phoenix*, Chesley Oxendine story and photo of a mud-stock volleyball tourney, "Not afraid to get dirty"; *Perry Daily Journal*, "The real reason..." Memorial Day; *Weather-*

**ford Daily News**, “Medical marijuana policy lights a fire” – paper polls readers on SQ 788; **Tahlequah Daily Press**, on Grand D. Crawford story about local phone scams, “Scam Thy Neighbor”; **The Hooker Advance**, “We Remember,” Memorial Day coverage, up close; **The Piedmont Surrey Gazette**, Mindy Ragan Wood, on grads showering principal with bacon flavored pet treats, “Bacongate”; **The Seminole Producer**, Kori Good, on investigation of a lake fish kill, “Something Fishy”; **The Oklahoman**, Ed Godfrey’s outdoor column, about fishing from the lake bank, not a boat, “Take it to the bank.”



# Hughes County TIMES

MAY 31, 2018 • No. 4 of the 101st year of Hughes County's Home-Owned Newspaper • Published in Wetumka, OK 74883 • 20 pages • 2 Sections • .75¢

## A sad weekend in Wetumka

### Services set for three leaders

*See obituaries on Page A-3*

## The Ellis County Capital

## Hugo News

# 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 answered 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.

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# Jeff Mayo presented with Milt Phillips Award



Jeff Mayo, president of Cookson Hills Publishers Inc., receives the Milt Phillips Award at the OPA Convention. The award was presented by OPA President Brian Blansett. The Milt Phillips Award is the highest distinction given by the Oklahoma Press Association.

The Oklahoma Press Association selected Jeff Mayo, president of Cookson Hills Publishers, as the recipient of the 2018 Milt Phillips Award.

OPA President Brian Blansett presented Mayo with the award on June 16 at the OPA Convention.

Mayo's first career was as an attorney negotiating contracts for T-Mobile USA in Bellevue, Washington.

He returned to Oklahoma in 2003 to help his parents, Jim and Becky Mayo, at the Sequoyah County Times and because he wanted to experience a greater connection to the community in which he lived.

It wasn't long before Jeff and his brother Jack, a program manager for Microsoft, formed Big Basin Enterprises LLC and pur-

chased four weekly newspapers, later adding two more to the company.

Big Basin Enterprises merged with its sister company, Cookson Hills Publishers Inc., in 2016. Jeff Mayo is president of Cookson Hills Publishers and publisher of the seven newspapers under its umbrella – Eastern Times-Register, The Eufaula Indian Journal, Henryetta Free-Lance, McIntosh County Democrat, Okmulgee Times, Sequoyah County Times and Vian Tenkiller News.

A 1990 graduate of Sallisaw High School, Mayo received a degree in community journalism from the University of Kansas in Lawrence in 1994 and his Juris Doctor from the University of Minnesota Law School in Minneapolis in 1997. Prior to passing the Oklahoma Bar examination, he worked as a reporter for the Boulder, Colo., Daily Camera.

Mayo served as president of the Oklahoma Press Association in 2013, following in the steps of his father, Jim, who was president in 1986, and his grandfather, Wheeler, president in 1944. The National Newspaper Association presented Jeff Mayo with the 2010 Daniel M. Phillips Leadership Award.

Jeff Mayo promoted newspapers as the primary news authority during his year as OPA president.

"Our printed products remain strong, and our websites are sometimes the only place to get the facts of a story."

Mayo and his wife Beth, who also works for the company, have two children, daughter Madolyn and son Maddox.

## History of the OPA Milt Phillips Award

The H. Milt Phillips Award is the highest honor given by the Oklahoma Press Association.

Selection of the award is based on publishing a high-quality newspaper; contribution to the profession and the newspaper industry; years of service to the community, state and nation in a variety of volunteer activities and strong love and dedication to family.

The award was established in 1978 by the OPA Board of Directors to recognize individuals they felt gave the same quality of service to family, community, country and newspapers as had H. Milt Phillips.

"Honored by many, regarded by others, feared and disliked by the crafty and corrupt," is the way 'Cluttered Corner' Phillips was described by those who founded the award.

"Phillips was the kind of editor all editors should be," they wrote. "He was involved. He gave freely of his love and concern..."

H. Milt Phillips purchased The Seminole Producer in April 1946. Prior to beginning his newspaper career, he served as department adjutant of the Oklahoma American Legion and as editor of the Oklahoma Legionnaire.

He served for two years in the Navy during World War II and, after returning home, was appointed by Gov. Robert Kerr to reorganize war veteran services in Oklahoma.

In 1950, Phillips and his brother, Tom, purchased the two newspapers in Wewoka and merged them into one publication. When Tom Phillips was diagnosed with cancer in 1955, the brothers sold the Wewoka paper.

H. Milt Phillips and his son, Ted, then consolidated the two Seminole papers to form The Seminole Daily Producer.

Phillips was active in the Oklahoma Press Association, holding several offices including president in 1954. He was widely known as a civic leader and statewide industrial booster. Phillips was a longtime member of the Oklahoma Historical Society board of directors and was the moving force in the society's efforts to microfilm all Oklahoma newspapers.

He served on the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority and was a member of the Oklahoma Public Expenditures Council, Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce, Oklahoma Safety Council and Oklahoma Memorial Association.

He also was affiliated with several highway booster groups and was inducted in the Oklahoma Heritage Association's Hall of Fame.

H. Milt Phillips died Feb. 27, 1979.

## *History of the ONF Beachy Musselman Award*

Presented annually by the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation, the Beachy Musselman Award recognizes a journalist for his or her contribution to the field of printed journalism or its related field. The recipient of the award receives a plaque and \$1,000.

The award, which was established in 1969 to recognize and encourage quality journalism in practice, education and research, is named after the late Norman Beachy Musselman. The former editor and general manager of the Shawnee News-Star also served as president of the Oklahoma Press Association.

Musselman was born July 17, 1897, in Falls City, Neb., graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1918 and did graduate work at the University of Kansas in 1920 and 1921. From 1922-23, he was city editor of the Arkansas City Daily News in Kansas and, from 1924 to 1942, served as advertising manager of the Arkansas City Traveler.

He was editor and general manager of the Shawnee News-Star from 1945 until his death on Aug. 6, 1963.

A few months after his death, his widow, the late Ruth Musselman, asked the OPA to administer a Norman Beachy Musselman Memorial Fund. The memorial contribution proved to be the catalyst needed to establish the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation (ONF). The first contribution to the foundation was the Norman Beachy Musselman Memorial Fund. ONF was established to serve as a trust for donations of money, securities or other property.

Musselman was a consistent winner of editorial writing awards and his columns, "Beachnuts and Newsbeams," also won many awards.

He was a founding member of the American Legion, joining other veterans to form the new organization after serving as a signal corps aviator in World War I.

Musselman served as president of the Oklahoma Press Association in 1961, which coincided with construction of the OPA office building at 3601 N. Lincoln Blvd. in Oklahoma City.

# Jeff Mullin honored with Beachy Musselman Award



Jeff Mullin accepts the ONF Beachy Musselman Award from ONF President Tom Muchmore. The former editor of the Enid News & Eagle worked at the newspaper for 41 years before retiring. The award was presented on June 16, 2018, at the OPA Convention.

The Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation's Beachy Musselman Award was presented to Jeff Mullin on June 16 during the annual OPA Convention.

ONF President Tom Muchmore presented the award.

Mullin, who retired from the Enid News & Eagle as senior writer, left his mark at the daily newspaper.

Although he retired after 41 years at the newspaper, he continues to write a Sunday column each week.

Mullin attended Oklahoma State University, working as a staff member for the Daily Collegian and graduating in 1975 with a degree in journalism. He briefly

worked as a sports writer at the Manhattan (Kan.) Mercury before moving to Enid.

The first 17 of his 41 years at the News & Eagle were spent as a sports writer and then sports editor. He shifted to news in 1993, serving as news editor and associate editor before being named senior writer and resident columnist. Mullin was also editor of the Vance Airscoop publication.

In December 2016, Mullin was interviewed by The New York Times after a man threatened to beat him for the News & Eagle's endorsement of Hillary Clinton.

Mullin told The Times the confrontation disturbed and puzzled him. He and his wife, Janice, still attend Willow View United

Methodist Church, as do members of the man's family.

"I thought this is crazy. This is a newspaper endorsement. Some of the people almost seemed hurt. Like, 'How can my newspaper' — in a small town like this, it's their newspaper — 'do this to me?' I think there was almost a sense of betrayal."

Mullin is also an award-winning columnist. Ads in the News & Eagle promoting his column stated "he makes you laugh, cry and think." In 2016, Mullin earned his sixth Oklahoma Natural Gas-OPA Column Sweepstakes award.

# Oklahoma Press Association inducts new members into Half, Quarter Century Clubs



Three Half Century Club inductees were in attendance for the June 16 OPA Convention at the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort – Tom Muchmore, Ponca City News; Harold Gleason, The Thomas Tribune and Rod Serfoss, Clinton Daily News. Also inducted but unable to attend was Joe Lansden, The Herald-Democrat in Beaver.



Six of the nine Quarter Century Club inductees display their plaques at the June 16 OPA Convention. Standing: Steve Bolton, The Comanche Times; Chris Day, Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise; and John Ferguson, Wagoner County American-Tribune. Seated: Wilma Newby, Oklahoma Press Association; Linda Craun, The Hennessey Clipper; and Sherry Muchmore, The Ponca City News. (Not pictured: Ted Streuli, The Journal Record; Mike Tupa, Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise and Ellen Workman, Stilwell Democrat-Journal.)

## HALF CENTURY CLUB INDUCTEES

Four members were inducted into the OPA Half Century Club at the OPA convention this year. The club was established in 1998 to honor newspaper men and women who have dedicated 50 or more years of professional service to the newspaper industry. Following is information on this year's inductees.

**HAROLD GLEASON**, owner and publisher of The Thomas Tribune, began his career in the mailroom at the Clinton Daily News in 1966.

He continued working at the Clinton newspaper while attending Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

After graduating, Gleason was named associate publisher of The Thomas Tribune. He left the Tribune about a year later to return to the Clinton Daily News as production manager.

Eighteen months later, Gleason bought The Thomas Tribune and has served as publisher since that time.

Gleason and his wife, Donna, have three daughters, three sons-in-law and seven grandchildren.

He has served many years in public

service including his current position as chairman of Thomas Economic Development Authority and of the Custer County Excise and Equalization Board.

**JOE LANSDEN** has been working at the Herald-Democrat in Beaver for more than 50 years.

He began working at the family newspaper as a printer's devil when he was nine years old. He graduated from Oklahoma State University with a degree in journalism.

After discharge from the U.S. Navy in 1965, Lansden returned to Beaver and joined his parents, Willis and Merlee Lansden, at the newspaper. After his parents died in the '60s, Lansden migrated production of the newspaper from Comgraphic to computer.

In the 1990s, Joe and his son, Brent, purchased the family newspaper from Joe's sisters, Cheley and Kathal.

Lansden and his first wife, Eva, had two children – Brent and Lisa. After the death of his wife in 1996, Lansden married Darlene (Stewart) VanDeburgh.

**TOM MUCHMORE** is the third generation publisher of The Ponca City News and also publisher of The Tonkawa News.

Muchmore graduated from Ponca City Senior High School and earned a degree from the University of Oklahoma.

He's involved in a multitude of professional organizations in Oklahoma and has served as chairman of the Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations. He is currently a trustee on the Lew Wentz Foundation at OSU and a member of the OSU Student Media Board. Muchmore received Ponca City's Outstanding Citizen Award in 2001. He served as president of the Oklahoma Press Association in 1997, and was honored with OPA's highest honor, the Milt Phillips Award, in 2009.

**ROD SERFOSS** began his newspaper career as a paperboy for the Clinton Daily News in 1965. Since then, he has served in all areas of the newspaper's operation.

He was named general manager of the Daily News in 1983 and served in that position for five years before leaving for a three-year stint as general manager of the Sand Springs Leader. He returned to Clinton in 1991 as associate publisher and part owner of the Daily News, and was named publisher in 2003 following the death of Charles Engleman.

Serfoss and his wife, Jody, have two children, daughter Amber Turney and

husband Brandon, and son Dr. Kyle Serfoss and his wife Katie.

## QUARTER CENTURY CLUB INDUCTEES

Nine members were inducted into the OPA Quarter Century Club. The Quarter Century Club is dedicated to those who have served 25 or more years of professional service to the newspaper industry. Following is information on this year's inductees.

**STEVE BOLTON**'s hero since youth has always been Will Rogers, which led to his dream of being a country newspaper editor/publisher. That dream became a reality when he moved to Comanche in 1992 and began publishing The Comanche Times. In high school, Bolton was a member of the yearbook staff. He also served on the Oklahoma State University Redskin Yearbook staff as a paid staff editor while attending OSU as an accounting/business major. Since opening the newspaper, Bolton has received numerous local awards for his reporting. He also received the Marshal Gregory State Award from the Oklahoma Education Association for his school reporting.

**LINDA CRAUN** began working at The Hennessey Clipper in 1991 inserting and labeling the newspaper. It wasn't long before she was proofreading, answering the phone, handling legals, posting billing, making bank deposits, filing newspapers, working as the receptionist, and being an award-winning columnist and writer. Craun also writes a series on the history of downtown buildings that has turned her into one of Hennessey's town historians. A farm wife for more than 40 years, Craun is the mother of one daughter, Lori, and also has two grandsons.

**CHRIS DAY**, editor of the Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, has been a journalist for 38 years. Since graduating from Oklahoma State University in 1980, he has worked in newsrooms in Arkansas, Kansas, Texas, Alabama, Florida and Oklahoma. Day began his journalism career at the Lawton Morning Press as a crime reporter before moving to the sports department. He was also sports editor at The Duncan Banner for two years. After working at various newspapers, Day returned to Oklahoma in 2010 to work for the Stillwater News Press where he was assistant managing editor, sports editor and managing editor. Day has been editor of the Examiner-Enterprise since September 2015.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

# ADDITIONAL AWARDS & HONORS



DAILY PHOTO OF THE YEAR – Presented to Jason Elmquist, Stillwater News Press, by Brian Alford, OGE.



WEEKLY PHOTO OF THE YEAR – Kaylea Hutson-Miller, The Grove Sun, accepts the award from Brian Alford, OGE.



PRINT QUALITY AWARD – Presented to Rod Serfoss, Clinton Daily News, by OPA President Brian Blansett.



EDITORIAL OF THE YEAR – Presented to J.D. Meisner, Bristow News, by Cherokee Ballard, ONG.



COLUMN OF THE YEAR – Presented to Dorothy Ballard, The Miami News-Record, by Cherokee Ballard, ONG.



OUTDOOR WRITER OF THE YEAR – Presented to Kelly Bostian, Tulsa World, by ONF President Tom Muchmore.

## DIGITAL MEDIA AWARDS

### DAILY DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE The Journal Record
- 2ND PLACE The Ardmoreite
- 3RD PLACE Enid News & Eagle

### WEEKLY DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE The Purcell Register
- 2ND PLACE The Edmond Sun
- 3RD PLACE Skiatook Journal

### COLLEGE DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE The Oklahoma Daily (OU)
- 2ND PLACE The O'Colly (OSU)
- 3RD PLACE Pioneer (OCCC)

## Inductees Continued from Page 10

**JOHN D. FERGUSON** began his journalism career working as assistant sports editor at the Enid Morning News and Daily Eagle. He joined the Tulsa World staff in 1974, working there 30 years as a sports writer and five years as a photographer. After leaving the World, Ferguson went to work at the Broken Arrow Ledger as news editor. Six months after the Ledger ceased operation in 2017, he joined the Wagoner County American-Tribune as a staff writer. One of his biggest achievements is the creation of a historical computer database that includes every Oklahoma high school football game played since 1893 and all of the State basketball play-offs with most of the scores since 1918.

**SHERRY MUCHMORE** writes a weekly Lifestyle page, "The Neighborhood Chef," for The Ponca City News and Tonkawa News. She has been active in Ponca City for more than 20 years, serving as president of the Marland Estate Commission, Friends of the Pio-

neer Woman Statue and Museum and Ponca City Herb Festival. She was on the steering committee for the Standing Bear Statue and twice chaired the Gala at the Marland Mansion. Prior to marrying Tom Muchmore, publisher of The Ponca City News and Tonkawa News, Sherry worked at the Oklahoma Press Association.

**WILMA NEWBY** joined the Oklahoma Press Association as a traveling computer consultant in July 1999. Her job consists of traveling throughout the state assisting OPA member newspapers with many types of computer problems as well as software training. Prior to joining the OPA staff, Newby worked at The Norman Transcript for 15 years, 10 as a layout artist and five as composing manager. She also worked for Computer Associates and for the Moore Norman Technology Center. In 2015, she married Dan Newby. Wilma has one daughter, Jennifer Melot of Boston, Mass.

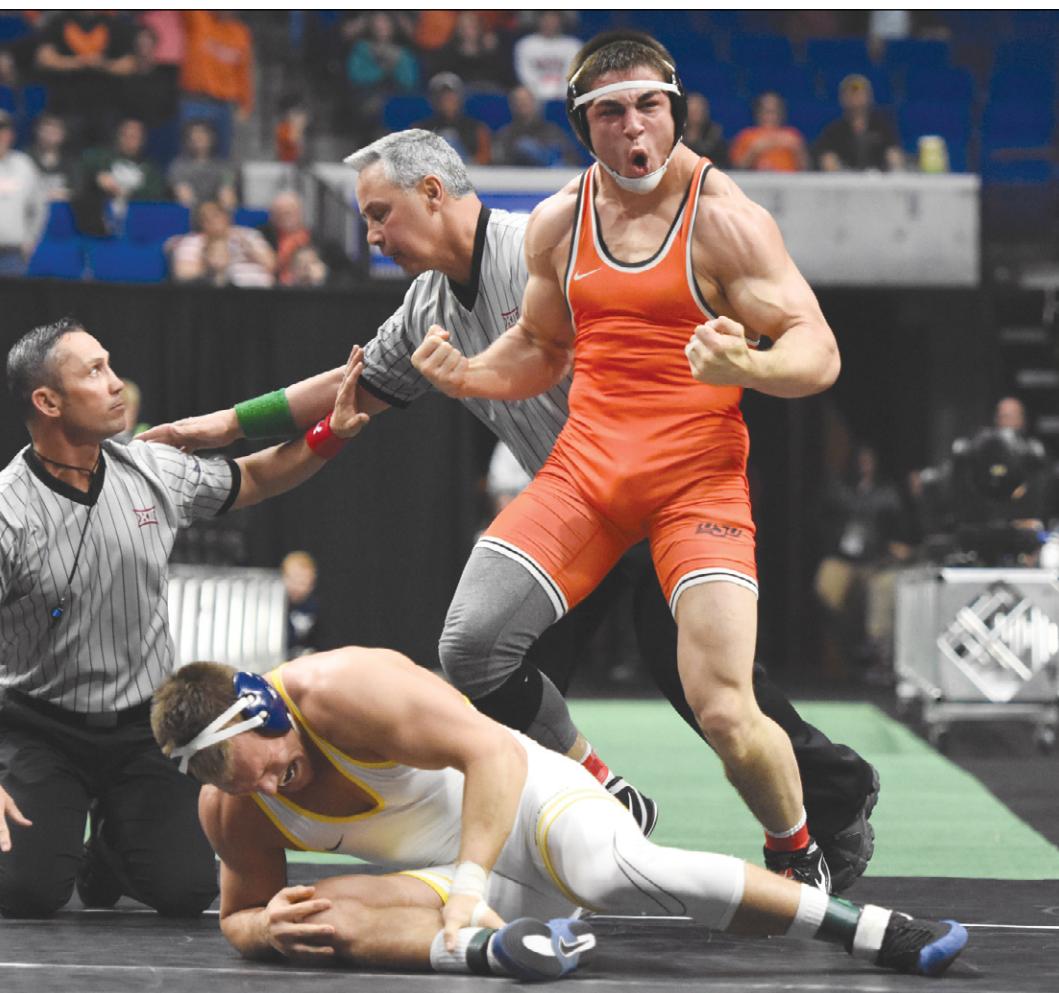
**TED STREULI** has worked at newspapers in California, Texas and Oklahoma over the past 30 years. He joined the staff of The Journal Record as editor in 2004 and is now associate publisher of the daily publication. As a child, Streuli recalls "playing newspaper" using his mother's typewriter. He started his elementary school's first newspaper, the Hillwood Star, and was a staff member of his high school and college newspapers. Streuli received a Bachelor of Arts in English from Sonoma State University in 1972. Streuli is the recipient of numerous journalism awards, and has received national recognition for his work in mental health. Streuli and his wife Betsey have two sons, Raymond and Ryland.

**MIKA TUPA** has been the Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise's sports editor since 1996 — a 22-year run at a single newspaper. He began his newspaper career in December 1987 as a general assignment reporter for the newspaper in Ely, Nevada, and also worked for two

newspapers in California. Tupa graduated from Weber State College in 1981 with a degree in political science and a minor in communications. He also served in the Marine Corps. His focus always has been on high school and community recreational sports, which has earned him the respect of athletes and readers.

**ELLEN WORKMAN** began writing "The View from Here" column for the Stilwell Democrat-Journal in 1989. A few years later, she started her "Then and Now" column in the Westville Reporter. Workman has received several awards for her columns in the OPA's annual newspaper contest. She also covered school board and town council meetings for both papers and has made an annual trip to cover the Adair County Fair for over 25 years. Workman lives in the Piney Community south of Westville with her husband Ernie and has two children, Jessica and Nathan.

# 2017 OG&E PHOTOS OF THE YEAR



Oklahoma State redshirt sophomore Preston Weigel celebrates after defeating West Virginia's Jacob Smith to repeat as the Big 12 champion at 197 pounds. Weigel believed he had pinned Smith, but the officials stopped the match due to injury, which Smith did not return from.

*Photo by Jason Elmquist, Stillwater News Press, March 2017*



Larry Brown (center) talks with John C. Fatherree during a presentation in Fatherree's home in rural Grove. Brown, along with Robert Hopper and John Ryburn presented the World War II veteran with a certificate of appreciation for his service.

*Photo by Kaylea Hutson-Miller, The Grove Sun, January 2017*

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2017 SWEEPSTAKES  
DAILY WINNER:  
**JASON  
ELMQUIST**  
*Stillwater News Press*

2017 SWEEPSTAKES  
WEEKLY WINNER:  
**KAYLEA  
HUTSON-  
MILLER**  
*The Grove Sun*

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# 2017 OPA BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST WINNERS



**2017 SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNERS** – Standing: Phillip Reid, Weatherford Daily News; Lance Moler, The Edmond Sun; Jeff Harrison, Midwest City Beacon; Mark Millsap, The Norman Transcript; and John Denny Montgomery, The Purcell Register. Seated: Siandhara Bonnet, The Oklahoma Daily (OU); Brian Blansett, Tri-County Herald; Ted Streuli, The Journal Record; and Christy Wheeland, Wagoner County American-Tribune.

**DIVISION 1**  
**DAILIES,**  
**Circ. more than 6,500**  
**SEQUOYAH**  
**AWARD WINNER**  
**The Norman**  
**Transcript**



**NEWS CONTENT**  
**FIRST PLACE:** The Norman Transcript  
**SECOND PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle  
**THIRD PLACE:** Muskogee Phoenix

**LAYOUT & DESIGN**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Norman Transcript

**ADVERTISING**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Norman Transcript  
**SECOND PLACE:** Muskogee Phoenix  
**THIRD PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle

**EDITORIAL WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Lawton Constitution  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Norman Transcript  
**THIRD PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Norman Transcript  
**SECOND PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle

**SPORTS COVERAGE**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Norman Transcript  
**SECOND PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle

**SALES PROMOTION**

**FIRST PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle, "Candy Cane Cash"  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Norman Transcript, "Discover Norman"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Muskogee Phoenix, "Dog Days of Summer"

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

**FIRST PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle, "Community engagement efforts"  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Norman Transcript, "Renaming DeBarr Avenue"  
**THIRD PLACE:** John McKelvey – The Norman Transcript, "OU takes second straight national title"

**NEWS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Cass Rains – Enid News & Eagle, "Fraud arrest"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Mack Burke – The Norman Transcript, "Former state seismologist testifies"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Cass Rains – Enid News & Eagle, "Sheriff, 5 others indicted in inmate death"

**FEATURE STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Steve Metzer – The Lawton Constitution, "Marlow man had role in bomb that ended World War II"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sheila Robinson – The Lawton Constitution, "Effects of a childhood scourge remain"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Grace Leonhart – The Lawton Constitution, "Belgian family gets taste of SW Oklahoma hospitality"

**SPORTS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tyler Palmateer – The Norman Transcript, "Baker Mayfield: A Heisman story for the ages"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Dave Ruthenberg – Enid News & Eagle, "A phone call and a coach's offer helped turn life around for Enid's Augie Prichett"  
**THIRD PLACE:** John McKelvey – The Norman Transcript, "OU takes second straight national title"

**IN-DEPTH REPORTING**

**FIRST PLACE:** James Neal – Enid News & Eagle, "Separated by skin"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle, James Neal, "Teacher pay"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Ryan Miller and Janelle Stecklein – Enid News & Eagle, "Overextended Oklahomans"

**COLUMN WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Clay Horning – The Norman Transcript, "Sports columns"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jeff Mullin – Enid News & Eagle, "Sidelines"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jamie Berry – The Norman Transcript, "Norman Citizens' Police Academy series"

**SMALL SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Rebekah Collins and Rebecca Howe – The Norman Transcript, "Spark's Clinic - Reader's Choice"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Rebecca Howe – The Norman Transcript, "Bryan's Car Corner"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Marise Boehs and Rebekah Collins – The Norman Transcript, "Mitchell's Jewelry"

**LARGE SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Marise Boehs and Rebecca Howe – The Norman Transcript, "Rose Rock Vet Hospital"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stephanie Elswick, Cindi Lennier Charlie Meggyes and Erin Shriver – Muskogee Phoenix, "Warner School"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Rebecca Howe – The Norman Transcript, "Mel's Closet"

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Jeff Dixon – The Lawton Constitution, "Snowstorm socks Lawton"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Cody Giles – The Norman Transcript, "Up in smoke"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kyle Phillips – The Norman Transcript, "Ready to respond"

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Jeff Dixon – The Lawton Constitution, "A dirty game"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Steve Miller – The Lawton Constitution, "Pumpkins are aplenty at Pumpkin Hill"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kyle Phillips – The Norman Transcript, "Summer fun for a good cause"

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Kyle Phillips – The Norman Transcript, "Westmoore leaping catch"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kyle Phillips – The Norman Transcript, "Baker's revenge"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kyle Phillips – The Norman Transcript, "OU loses big lead in loss"

**FRONT PAGE DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Abbie Sears – The Norman Transcript, "Merry Christmas from The Norman Transcript"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jamie Berry – The Norman Transcript, "Lifesavers"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Dillon Hart – The Norman Transcript, "OU Softball: National championship"

**DIVISION 2**  
**DAILIES,**  
**Circ. 3,500-6,500**  
**SEQUOYAH**  
**AWARD WINNER**  
**Weatherford**  
**Daily News**



**NEWS CONTENT**

**FIRST PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Ardmoreite  
**THIRD PLACE:** Stillwater News Press

**LAYOUT & DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Weatherford Daily News  
**SECOND PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Shawnee News-Star

**ADVERTISING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Weatherford Daily News  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stillwater News Press  
**THIRD PLACE:** Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise

**EDITORIAL WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Weatherford Daily News  
**SECOND PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital  
**THIRD PLACE:** Stillwater News Press

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Stillwater News Press  
**SECOND PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Shawnee News-Star

**SPORTS COVERAGE**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Ada News  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stillwater News Press  
**THIRD PLACE:** Weatherford Daily News

**SALES PROMOTION**

**FIRST PLACE:** Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, "Dewey Blizzard"  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Shawnee News-Star, "Our Native Traditions"  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Ardmoreite, "Honoring our local firefighters"

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

**FIRST PLACE:** Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, "Night of Scholars and Champions"  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Shawnee News-Star, "2017 Firefighter of the Year awards"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Weatherford Daily News, "Christmas in the park"

**NEWS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Beau Simmons – Stillwater News Press, "City leaders decry lack of mental health treatment options"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tim Ahrens and Jordan Bishop – Stillwater News Press, "OSU coach Lamont Evans charged"  
**THIRD PLACE:** David Bitton – Stillwater News Press, "Student teachers bolt for better pay"

**FEATURE STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Eric Swanson – The Ada News, "Marine's remains to be buried in Oklahoma"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Randy Spicer II – Weatherford Daily News, "World War II veteran reflects on his time in war-torn Europe"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Michelle Charles – Stillwater News Press, "A dog's second life"

**SPORTS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Mike Tupa – Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, "Red Murrell imparted legacy of hoops, charity"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Adam Ewing – The Shawnee News-Star, "Nichols overcomes cancer, fulfills football dream"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Adrian O'Hanlon III – McAlester News-Capital, "What really happened in the Texas A&M bullpen prank call video"

**IN-DEPTH REPORTING**

**FIRST PLACE:** James Beaty and Adrian O'Hanlon III – McAlester News-Capital, "State Auditor: More than \$1.7 million from city of Hartshorne never deposited"  
**SECOND PLACE:** James Beaty – McAlester News-Capital, "Longtime Expo Center manager, city tourism manager dismissed"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Randy Spicer II – Weatherford Daily News, "Meeting to feature annexation debate, again"

**COLUMN WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** David Dishman – McAlester News-Capital, "The Reel Dish"  
**SECOND PLACE:** James Beaty – McAlester News-Capital, "Ramblin' Round"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kent Bush – The Shawnee News-Star, "Publisher's Column"

**SMALL SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Brenda Sheikh – Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, "Glenn Security Systems"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Julie Strain – Stillwater News Press, "Lazenby Landscaping"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Brenda Sheikh – Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, "Flowerland"

**LARGE SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Jill Hunt – Stillwater News Press, "Lakeview Pointe Shopping Center"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Brenda Sheikh – Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, "Glamour Pets"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jill Hunt – Stillwater News Press, "Agri Center"

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** David Bitton – Stillwater News Press, "Unheard"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, Chris Day, "Polar Plunge belly flop"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Randy Mitchell – The Ada News, "Air Evac Lifeteam helicopter landing"

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** David Bitton – Stillwater News Press, "Boomer Blast"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Richard Barron – The Ada News, "Ada Indivisible – Health care protest"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kevin Harvison – McAlester News-Capital, "Miss McAlester crowning"

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Mike Tupa – Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, "Loose ball"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Josh Burton – Weatherford Daily News, "Eagles suffer first loss"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jason Elmquist – Stillwater News Press, "Hill's touchdown dive"

**FRONT PAGE DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Dawnay Hill – McAlester News-Capital, "Eclipse 2017"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Josh Burton – Weatherford Daily News, "SportsDay Unleashed"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Samantha Spears – The Ada News, "ECU Graduation"

**DIVISION 3**  
**DAILIES,**  
**Circ. less than 3,500**  
**SEQUOYAH**  
**AWARD WINNER**  
**The Journal Record**



**NEWS CONTENT**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Journal Record  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tahlequah Daily Press  
**THIRD PLACE:** Poteau Daily News

**LAYOUT & DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Journal Record  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Altus Times  
**THIRD PLACE:** Clinton Daily News

**ADVERTISING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Clinton Daily News  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tahlequah Daily Press  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Journal Record

**EDITORIAL WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Clinton Daily News  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Journal Record  
**THIRD PLACE:** Claremore Daily Progress

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Guymon Daily Herald  
**SECOND PLACE:** Woodward News  
**THIRD PLACE:** Clinton Daily News

**SPORTS COVERAGE**

**FIRST PLACE:** Poteau Daily News  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Altus Times  
**THIRD PLACE:** Durant Daily Democrat

**SALES PROMOTION**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tahlequah Daily Press, "Annual Newcomers Guide"  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Journal Record, "2017 Woman of the Year"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Clinton Daily News, "Home for the Holidays"

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Duncan Banner, "Take Out Tuesday partnership with Stephens County Humane Society"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Woodward News, "Standing Strong"  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Journal Record, "The modern black plague: Oklahoma's opioid epidemic"

**NEWS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Molly Fleming – The Journal Record, "Locked out: Affordable housing still scarce in OKC"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Rachael Van Horn – Woodward News, "The killer inside: Local family sickened by malfunctioning home furnace"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tes Jackson – Tahlequah Daily Press, "Man arrested for murder in Daisy Doe case"

**FEATURE STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tom Fink – Claremore Daily Progress, "Dolenz reflects on 50 years of Monkee business"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tom Fink – Claremore Daily Progress, "Christmas Magic"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Sean Stephens – Clinton Daily News, "Collins finds kinship with birds of prey"

**SPORTS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Rick Heaton – Claremore Daily Progress, "Just another journey for Parker Price"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Brian Brus – The Journal Record, "River Connections: Regatta"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Brian Brus – The Journal Record, "World champion fencer visits OKC as sport ambassador"

**IN-DEPTH REPORTING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Rachael Van Horn – Woodward News, "Wildfires series"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Catherine Sweeney – The Journal Record, "The cost of cuts: Agency to cut child abuse prevention programs"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Sheri Gourd, Kim Poindexter and Sean Rowley – Tahlequah Daily Press, "Markwayne Mullin forums"

**COLUMN WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tom Fink – Claremore Daily Progress  
**SECOND PLACE:** Ted Streuli – The Journal Record, "Periscope"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Rick Heaton – Claremore Daily Progress, "The Heat Index"

**SMALL SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Juanita Lewis – Tahlequah Daily Press, "Aerofit"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sarah Barrow, Jordan Mazuranic and Laura Watts – The Journal Record, "Geno's Furs"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Keith Foster – Poteau Daily News, "LeFlore County Museum"

**LARGE SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Laura Watts – The Journal Record, "Oklahoma History Center: Welcome home"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Dana Boyles – The Duncan Banner, "Marlow Mercantile"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Laura Watts – The Journal Record, "Oklahoma History Center: The wall that heals"

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Brent Fuchs – The Journal Record, "Remove"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Amanda Corbin – Poteau Daily News, "Lifesavers"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Brent Fuchs – The Journal Record, "Oklahoma has a big toothache"

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Amanda Corbin – Poteau Daily News, "Mardi Gras"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Shawn Yorks – Guymon Daily Herald, "Kremlin-Hillsdale wins state championship"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Rick Carpenter – The Altus Times, "Dont look now!"

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Rick Carpenter – The Altus Times, "Layup over the back"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kevin Farr – Durant Daily Democrat, "Leaping catch"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kevin Farr – Durant Daily Democrat, "Silo wins 13th state title"

**FRONT PAGE DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Bryan Richter – The Journal Record, "Raising the Barres"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stacey Neal – The Altus Times, "Nov. 30, 2017"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Bryan Richter – The Journal Record, "Looking at the big picture"

**DIVISION 4**  
**WEEKLIES,**  
**Circ. more than 2,000**  
**SEQUOYAH**  
**AWARD WINNER**  
**The Purcell Register**



**NEWS CONTENT**  
**FIRST PLACE:** The Purcell Register  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Stilwell Democrat Journal  
**THIRD PLACE:** Mustang Times

**LAYOUT & DESIGN**  
**FIRST PLACE:** The Purcell Register  
**SECOND PLACE:** Mustang Times  
**THIRD PLACE:** Choctaw Times

**ADVERTISING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Choctaw Times  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stigler News-Sentinel  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Madill Record

**EDITORIAL WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Purcell Register  
**SECOND PLACE:** Choctaw Times  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Madill Record

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Purcell Register  
**SECOND PLACE:** Mustang Times  
**THIRD PLACE:** Choctaw Times

**SPORTS COVERAGE**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Madill Record  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stigler News-Sentinel  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Purcell Register

**SALES PROMOTION**

**FIRST PLACE:** Stigler News-Sentinel, "Honor, A Salute To Our Veterans"  
**SECOND PLACE:** OKC Friday, "Celebrate Oklahoma"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Choctaw Times, "Oktoberfest 2017 Guide"

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Purcell Register, "Passage of school bond Issue"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Mustang Times, "Food drive"  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Madill Record, "Marshall County Junior Livestock Show"

**NEWS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Mike Ray – OKC Friday, "Nichols Hills beaches channel surfing"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Anita Reding – Stigler News-Sentinel, "Attorney: Use of sales tax for jail debt legal"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Molly Raley – The Madill Record, "State Could Cut County Budget"

**FEATURE STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Molly Raley – The Madill Record, "Second Lieutenant Cain returned home"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Darrell Neale – The Stilwell Democrat Journal, "Rock retiring from scrap business after 64 years"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Becky Clark – Nowata Star, "Blind veteran creates artistic, handcrafted wooden bowls"

**SPORTS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tom Firme – Stigler News-Sentinel, "Brooks breaks career rushing mark"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Molly Raley – The Madill Record, "The last hoorah!"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tom Firme – Stigler News-Sentinel, "Kinta Eagles make second straight state semifinals run"  
**IN-DEPTH REPORTING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tina Firquain, Karen Maple and Molly Raley – The Madill Record, "Marshall County Fire Departments"

**COLUMN WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Charles Keim – The Stilwell Democrat Journal, "Keim's Korner"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Molly Raley – The Madill Record, "Single Mom"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Joy Richardson – OKC Friday, "Excursions"

**SMALL SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** LaGayla Eakle – Stigler News-Sentinel, "Sockey Insurance"  
**SECOND PLACE:** LaGayla Eakle – Stigler News-Sentinel, "Methodist Church Holy Week services"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Chris Fuson – The Stilwell Democrat Journal, "Cane Hill Harvest Music Festival"

**LARGE SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** LaGayla Eakle – Stigler News-Sentinel, "Team Roping Fundraiser"  
**SECOND PLACE:** LaGayla Eakle – Stigler News-Sentinel, "Skin Deep, sun & water safety"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Vicki Gourley – OKC Friday, "Nazih Zuhdi, M.D."

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Molly Raley – The Madill Record, "Two-vehicle accident"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Mike Bryant – Nowata Star, "Oops, trailer snags low line"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Darrell Neale – The Stilwell Democrat Journal, "Tornado hits Greasy community"

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Mike Bryant – Nowata Star, "Blind veteran creates artistic, handcrafted wooden bowls"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tina Firquain – The Madill Record, "Welcome Home"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Frankie Duncan – The Stilwell Democrat Journal, "One year old at Bell Pow Wow"

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Molly Raley – The Madill Record, "Kingston's second place steal"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tom Firme – Stigler News-Sentinel, "Safe at home plate"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tom Firme – Stigler News-Sentinel, "Parker lights up homecoming night as Keota beats Porum"

**FRONT PAGE DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tina Firquain and Molly Raley – The Madill Record, "Halloween"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Molly Raley – The Madill Record, "2-Aug-13"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Karen Holt – Stigler News-Sentinel, "22-Feb-13"

**DIVISION 5**  
**WEEKLIES,**  
**Circ. 1,400-2,000**  
**SEQUOYAH**  
**AWARD WINNER**  
**Wagoner County American-Tribune**



**NEWS CONTENT**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Beckham County Record  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Delaware County Journal

**LAYOUT & DESIGN**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Countywide & Sun Journal  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Eufaula Indian Journal  
**THIRD PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune

**ADVERTISING**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Eufaula Indian Journal  
**SECOND PLACE:** Owasso Reporter  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tuttle Times

**EDITORIAL WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Delaware County Journal  
**SECOND PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Eufaula Indian Journal

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** Countywide & Sun  
**THIRD PLACE:** Oologah Lake Leader

**SPORTS COVERAGE**

**FIRST PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** Owasso Reporter  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Cleveland American

**SALES PROMOTION**

**FIRST PLACE:** Countywide & Sun, "2017 Graduation"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune, "Wagoner County Hometown Guide"  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Marlow Review, "Football Preview"

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

**FIRST PLACE:** Countywide & Sun, "Domestic violence awareness"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune, "Food from Fans food drive"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Oologah Lake Leader, "Fishing Derby"

**NEWS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Brandi Ball – The Cleveland American, "Hominy hatchet murder suspects to stand trial"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Brandi Ball – The Cleveland American, "ICES Corporation looks to uncertain future after fire"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Eric Warsinskey – Watonga Republican, "Local woman found dead in Greenfield"

**FEATURE STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Brandi Ball – The Cleveland American, "Local landmark celebrates 60 Pioneer Days"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Rusty Ferguson – The Cleveland American, "Thankful for the village where it all began"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Shonda Little – The Beckham County Record, "Breast cancer awareness series: A life cut short"

**SPORTS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Brandi Ball – The Cleveland American, "CHS grad buckled up and headed to rodeo nationals"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Brandi Ball – The Cleveland American, "Tigers want to knock Bucks off their tThrone"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Christian Favolora – Owasso Reporter, "Lineman culture: Owasso's big uglies power Ram offense"

**IN-DEPTH REPORTING (INCLUDES DIV 6)**

**FIRST PLACE:** Brandi Ball – The Cleveland American, "Earthquakes"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Gloria Trotter – Countywide & Sun, "Officer Justin Terney, Our Fallen Hero"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Chad Waters – Watonga Republican, "Gay man files lawsuit against Hitchcock residents and Blaine County sheriffs"

**COLUMN WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Kaylea Hutson-Miller – The Delaware County Journal, "Bits & Pieces"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Aaron McDonald – Countywide & Sun, "Life In The Little Red House"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Rusty Ferguson – The Cleveland American, "Standing Tall"

**SMALL SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Caleb Head – The Cleveland American, "Westport Baptist Church"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Caleb Head – The Cleveland American, "Hickory House"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Caleb Head – The Cleveland American, "First Christian Preschool"

**LARGE SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Rusty Ferguson – The Cleveland American, "Overman Insurance"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Faith Wylie – Oologah Lake Leader, "Redbud Marina"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Susi Yount – The Delaware County Journal, "RFC Music Fest"

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH (INCLUDES DIV 6)**

**FIRST PLACE:** Todd Brooks – The Marlow Review, "Burglary suspects arrested following manhunts"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jessica Davis – Vian Tenkiller News, "Accident claims life of truck driver"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tim Carman – Oologah Lake Leader, "NW firefighters prevent huge property loss"

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH (INCLUDES DIV 6)**

**FIRST PLACE:** Judy Keller – The Marlow Review, "Happy Easter"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kaylea Hutson-Miller – The Delaware County Journal, "Memorial Day"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tim Carman – Oologah Lake Leader, "Santa Claus is coming to town"

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Marea Breedlove – The Delaware County Journal, "Bulldogs face double loss to Fort Gibson"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kaylea Hutson-Miller – The Delaware County Journal, "John 'The Ice Box' Culver cradles the Delaware County Bowl trophy"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jennifer Hertel – Oologah Lake Leader, "Softball intensity"

**FRONT PAGE DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Joseph Fasano – Owasso Reporter, "State Champs!"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Brad Spitzer, The Beckham County Record, "8-Nov-17"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Joseph Fasano – Owasso Reporter, "Picking up the pieces"

**DIVISION 6**  
**WEEKLIES,**  
**Circ. 850-1,399**  
**SEQUOYAH**  
**AWARD WINNER**  
**Midwest City Beacon**



**NEWS CONTENT**

**FIRST PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon  
**SECOND PLACE:** Garvin County News Star  
**THIRD PLACE:** McIntosh County Democrat

**LAYOUT & DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon  
**SECOND PLACE:** McIntosh County Democrat  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Hennessey Clipper

**ADVERTISING**

**FIRST PLACE:** McIntosh County Democrat

**SECOND PLACE:** The Hennessey Clipper

**THIRD PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon

**EDITORIAL WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Hennessey Clipper  
**SECOND PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon

**THIRD PLACE:** The Fairfax Chief

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Carnegie Herald  
**SECOND PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon

**THIRD PLACE:** McIntosh County Democrat

**SPORTS COVERAGE**

**FIRST PLACE:** McIntosh County Democrat

**SECOND PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon

**THIRD PLACE:** The Hennessey Clipper

**SALES PROMOTION**

**FIRST PLACE:** McIntosh County Democrat, "2017 Gridiron Guide"

**SECOND PLACE:** Skiatook Journal, "Reader's Choice Awards"

**THIRD PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon, "Midwest City, 75th Anniversary"

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Fairfax Chief, "Tall Chief Theater Art Market"

**SECOND PLACE:** The Hennessey Clipper, "School bond election for dome"

**THIRD PLACE:** Skiatook Journal, "Photo sought for Skiatook veteran"

**NEWS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Lindsey Renard – Skiatook Journal, "Officials, city employees cleared after investigation"

**SECOND PLACE:** Steve Bolton – The Comanche Times, "Jakaycee In D.C."

**THIRD PLACE:** Steve Bolton – The Comanche Times, "Rattle Tale"

**FEATURE STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Steve Bolton – The Comanche Times, "When Teddy and Pam met Harvey and Irma"

**SECOND PLACE:** Carol Conner – The Fairfax Chief, "Robert Clark, Fairfax legend"

**THIRD PLACE:** Morgan Smith – The Hennessey Clipper, "Sisterly love gives brother a new life"

**SPORTS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Jesse Haynes – Skiatook Journal, "End of the road"

**SECOND PLACE:** Steve Bolton – The Comanche Times, "Friday night lights"

**THIRD PLACE:** Steve Bolton – The Comanche Times, "Campbell races 65 yards for TD on senior night"

**IN-DEPTH REPORTING**

Combined with Div. 5

**COLUMN WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Barb Walter – The Hennessey Clipper, "Couldn't help but notice"

**SECOND PLACE:** Judy Baker – Garvin County News Star, "Black and white and read all over"

**THIRD PLACE:** Lindsey Renard – Skiatook Journal, "Personal columns"

**SMALL SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Sharon Lee – The Fairfax Chief, "bags bags bags"

**SECOND PLACE:** Sharon Lee – The Fairfax Chief, "Garrett Pumpkin Patch"

**THIRD PLACE:** Eric Guillermo – McIntosh County Democrat, "Smith Construction"

**LARGE SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Sharon Lee – The Fairfax Chief, "Here comes Santa Claus"

**SECOND PLACE:** Sharon Lee – The Fairfax Chief, "Osage Oil & Gas Summit 2017"

**THIRD PLACE:** Eric Guillermo – McIntosh County Democrat, "Eufaula Indian Community"

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

Combined with Div. 5

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

Combined with Div. 5

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Rodney Haltom – McIntosh County Democrat, "Hall takes State runner-up"

**SECOND PLACE:** Amy Garner – Skiatook Journal, "Head coach Vance Miller"

**THIRD PLACE:** Rodney Haltom – McIntosh County Democrat, "Eufaula Round-Up Club Rodeo"

**FRONT PAGE DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Joseph Fasano – Skiatook Journal, "Still country: The future of Oklahoma's family farms"

**SECOND PLACE:** Casey Beartrack and Carol Conner – The Fairfax Chief, "Trumpeting the season: Swans on Shidler's lake"

**THIRD PLACE:** Steve Bolton – The Comanche Times, "Summer storm huffed and puffed"

**DIVISION 7**  
**WEEKLIES,**  
**Circ. less than 850**  
**SEQUOYAH**  
**AWARD WINNER**

**Tri-County Herald (Meeker)**



**NEWS CONTENT**

**FIRST PLACE:** Minco-Union City Times  
**SECOND PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register (Roland)  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Chronicle (Elgin)

**LAYOUT & DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tri-County Herald (Meeker)

**SECOND PLACE:** Minco-Union City Times

**THIRD PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register (Roland)

**ADVERTISING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Minco-Union City Times  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tri-County Herald (Meeker)

**THIRD PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register (Roland)

**EDITORIAL WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tri-County Herald (Meeker)

**SECOND PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register (Roland)

**THIRD PLACE:** Minco-Union City Times

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Chronicle (Elgin)

**SECOND PLACE:** Tri-County Herald (Meeker)

**THIRD PLACE:** The Newcastle Pacer

**SPORTS COVERAGE**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tri-County Herald (Meeker)

**SECOND PLACE:** The Chronicle (Elgin)

**THIRD PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register (Roland)

**SALES PROMOTION**

**FIRST PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register (Roland), "Four school tabs"

**SECOND PLACE:** The Newcastle Pacer, "Pigskin Press Pass"

**THIRD PLACE:** Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Play by Play: Fall sports guide"

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

**FIRST PLACE:** Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Education funding"

**SECOND PLACE:** The Chronicle (Elgin), "Winter Wishes"

**THIRD PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register (Roland), "Ahimsa Rescue Foundation"

**NEWS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Debi DeSilver – The Chronicle (Elgin), "Chickasha Police meet barrage of gunfire"

**SECOND PLACE:** Mike McCormick – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Caught: Authorities bag two of four escapees"

**THIRD PLACE:** Chad Waters – The Hinton Record, "Hinton Schools adopt new learning module"

**FEATURE STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Chad Waters – The Geary Star, "Altus dedicates former Geary wrestler center"

**SECOND PLACE:** Debi DeSilver – The Chronicle (Elgin), "Diversity drives Leadership Oklahoma class"

**THIRD PLACE:** Debi DeSilver – The Chronicle (Elgin), "Founder of Blues Ball honored"

**SPORTS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Trey Smart – Waurika News Journal & The Ryan Leader, "West brothers have great impact on Jefferson County"

**SECOND PLACE:** Debi DeSilver – The Chronicle (Elgin), "17-year-old high school student stuns C Flight card"

**THIRD PLACE:** Emily Poindexter – The Chronicle (Elgin), "Owls' wings soared faster than the Racers' engines started"

**IN-DEPTH REPORTING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Chad Waters – The Geary Star, "Cracking Geary City Codes"

**SECOND PLACE:** Chad Waters – The Hinton Record, "NextEra Energy Lawsuit"

**THIRD PLACE:** Staff – Eastern Times-Register (Roland), "Christian Mayberry, Gray/Brannon trials"

**COLUMN WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Ellen Workman – Westville Reporter, "Then and Now"

**SECOND PLACE:** Clarence B. Wright – The Newcastle Pacer, "Musings from the Morgue"

**THIRD PLACE:** Leslie Durham – The Chronicle (Elgin), "Take A Hike"

**SMALL SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Gina Cato – Eastern Times-Register (Roland), "Muldrow Spring Cleanup"

**SECOND PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Fish Fry at St. Michael's"

**THIRD PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Red Rock Shelters"

**LARGE SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Dobson Telephone Company"

**SECOND PLACE:** Clarence B. Wright – The Newcastle Pacer, "Tri City Mart/Conoco"

**THIRD PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Dale Public Schools"

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Debi DeSilver – The Chronicle (Elgin), "Drug dog sniffs motorcycle"

**SECOND PLACE:** Lisa Carroll – The Chronicle (Elgin), "Kindness and donuts"

**THIRD PLACE:** Brian Blansett – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Show time! For livestock show"

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Brian Blansett – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Football time!"

**SECOND PLACE:** Lisa Carroll – The Chronicle (Elgin), "Small town kids meet country music star"

**THIRD PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Solar smiles"

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Brian Blansett – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Wild week in area hoops"

**SECOND PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Safe!"

**THIRD PLACE:** Brian Blansett – Tri-County Herald (Meeker), "Dale storms into baseball finals"

**FRONT PAGE DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Clarence B. Wright – The Newcastle Pacer, "Are you ready for some football?"

**SECOND PLACE:** Chad Waters – The Geary Star, "Geary Finishes as Runner-Up at Dual State"

**THIRD PLACE:** Chad Waters – The Hinton Record, "On the Red Rock"

**DIVISION 8**  
SEMI- OR TRI-WEEKLIES

**SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER**  
The Edmond Sun



**NEWS CONTENT**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Miami News-Record  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Grove Sun  
**THIRD PLACE:** Henryetta Free-Lance

**LAYOUT & DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Edmond Sun  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Miami News-Record  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Grove Sun

**ADVERTISING**

**FIRST PLACE:** El Reno Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Edmond Sun  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Miami News-Record

**EDITORIAL WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Miami News-Record  
**SECOND PLACE:** Bristow News  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Edmond Sun

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**FIRST PLACE:** El Reno Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** Alva Review-Courier  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Grove Sun

**SPORTS COVERAGE**

**FIRST PLACE:** Yukon Review  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Edmond Sun  
**THIRD PLACE:** Alva Review-Courier

**SALES PROMOTION**

**FIRST PLACE:** Sequoyah County Times, "Women's Expo: Recipe for Success"  
**SECOND PLACE:** El Reno Tribune, "Easter Ham Give-a-way contest"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Henryetta Free-Lance, "Retirement Fair: Rockin' into Retirement"

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Grove Sun, "DCCSAN series / Child abuse awareness"  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Edmond Sun, "Debilitating disease affects young siblings"  
**THIRD PLACE:** El Reno Tribune, "Blue Out Night"

**NEWS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Roy Faulkenberry – Sequoyah County Times, "Sheriff fires shot killing suspect"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Terry Groover – Yukon Review, "Yukon teacher accused of rape, child porn"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kelsy Schlotthauer – The Grove Sun, "Grove 3-year-old's roller coaster life"

**FEATURE STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Austin Litterell – The Express-Star (Chickasha), "Brendan Laub making plays on and off the field"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kelsy Schlotthauer – The Grove Sun, "Officially American"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kaylea Hutson-Miller – The Grove Sun, "Wrapped with memories"

**SPORTS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Darin Hinman – The Grove Sun, "State Bound"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kyle Salomon – Yukon Review, "Yukon's X-Factors"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Michael Swisher – Kingfisher Times & Free Press, "Top of the Heap"  
**IN-DEPTH REPORTING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Kaylea Hutson-Miller – The Grove Sun, "DCCSAN series / Child abuse awareness"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Patty Miller – The Edmond Sun, "Museum exhibit focuses on children who were 'making a difference'"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Melinda Stotts – The Miami News-Record, "GRDA's relicense request to FERC"

**COLUMN WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Roy Faulkenberry – Sequoyah County Times, "Observations"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Dorothy Ballard – The Miami News-Record, "Personal columns"  
**THIRD PLACE:** J. D. Meisner – Bristow News, "Chaos Theory"

**SMALL SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Paula Oakes – Alva Review-Courier, "Farmers Cooperative Association"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Wes Stout – Okmulgee Times, "Jandebeur's Motor Sports Park"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Lyndsay Bayne-Luton – El Reno Tribune, "Eleven Five Salon and Shave Parlor"

**LARGE SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Carrie Carberry – Sequoyah County Times, "Forever Memories Funeral Services"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Staff – Yukon Review, "BancFirst"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Staff – The Grove Sun, "Grand Lake Association"

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Glen Miller – El Reno Tribune, "Gun firing"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Patrick Ford – Okmulgee Times, "Officer-involved shooting"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Glen Miller – El Reno Tribune, "Robot arm"

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Roy Faulkenberry – Sequoyah County Times, "Mommy's a 'rise and shine' surprise"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Shirley Todd – Bristow News, "You're going to feel a little pinch"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kaylea Hutson-Miller – The Grove Sun, "Creative minds at work"

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Glen Miller – El Reno Tribune, "Collision at home plate"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kaitlyn Dillard – Okmulgee Times, "Off and running"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Larry Owen – Henryetta Free-Lance, "Shot blocked"

**FRONT PAGE DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Kari Tompkins – The Edmond Sun, "8-Jul"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Bob Markham – The Grove Sun, "Playing for leads: Cold cases"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Lyndsay Bayne-Luton and Glen Miller – El Reno Tribune, "Eyes toward the sky"

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Kimberly Thompson – The Gazette, "Track star twin"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stacie Larsen – Collegian (Cameron), "CKI chapter retreat"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Adam Lux – Collegian (Tulsa), "Bleachers concert"

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Caitlyn Epes – The Oklahoma Daily, "Basketball height"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Paxson Haws – The Oklahoma Daily, "Touchdown celebration"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Hayden Barzditis – The Vista, "NCAA's leading receiver"

**FRONT PAGE DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** Jasmine Mayes – The Gazette, "Lions dominate the gridiron"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Dana Branham, Jesse Pound and Megan Ross – The Oklahoma Daily, "Boren: Ending an era"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Paul Pugh – The Gazette, "Student Government elections"

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Cara Johnson – The Vista - University of Central Oklahoma, "Students gather peacefully"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stacie Larsen – Collegian (Cameron), "Halloween carnival"  
**THIRD PLACE:** AnneMarie Altman and Cheyenne Cole – Collegian (Cameron), "PRIDE remembering Matthew Shepard"

**DIVISION 9**  
COLLEGE PUBLICATIONS

**SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER**  
The Oklahoma Daily (University of Oklahoma)



**NEWS CONTENT**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Southeastern - Southeastern Oklahoma State University  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily - The University of Oklahoma  
**THIRD PLACE:** Pioneer - Oklahoma City Community College

**LAYOUT & DESIGN**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily  
**SECOND PLACE:** Collegian - Cameron University  
**THIRD PLACE:** The O'Colly - Oklahoma State University

**ADVERTISING**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily  
**SECOND PLACE:** The O'Colly  
**THIRD PLACE:** Pioneer

**EDITORIAL WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Collegian (Cameron)  
**SECOND PLACE:** Pioneer  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Gazette - Langston University

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily  
**SECOND PLACE:** The O'Colly  
**THIRD PLACE:** 15th Street News - Rose State College

**SPORTS COVERAGE**

**FIRST PLACE:** The O'Colly  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Gazette  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily

**SALES PROMOTION**

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily, "Heisman issue"  
**SECOND PLACE:** The O'Colly, "Homecoming issue"

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

**FIRST PLACE:** The O'Colly, "Community group issues"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Pioneer, "Homeless in college"  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily, "Mental health"

**NEWS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Anna Bauman and Kayla Branch – The Oklahoma Daily, "All I know is America"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Dekota Gregory – The O'Colly, "OSU students escape unharmed after violent road rage encounter"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Stetson Payne – The O'Colly, "Undocumented immigrants fearful of deportation while attending OSU"

**FEATURE STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** Cheyenne Cole – Collegian (Cameron), "The whiskey of our discontent"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tallorial Bonds – The Gazette, "Family man by day, head coach by night"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Cheyenne Cole – Collegian (Cameron), "Social justice: Michele Norris and social discourse"

**SPORTS STORY**

**FIRST PLACE:** George Stoia – The Oklahoma Daily, "Stoops tackles retirement"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Joe Buettner – The Oklahoma Daily, "Baker Mayfield: Heisman"

**THIRD PLACE:** Kelli Stacy – The Oklahoma Daily, "Caleb Kelly: Taking heart"

**IN-DEPTH REPORTING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Dana Branham – The Oklahoma Daily, "Confronting history: DeBarre Avenue"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kayleigh Thesenvitz – Collegian - University of Tulsa, "CSAS policies and procedures"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Emma Keith – The Oklahoma Daily, "Goddard Health Center: Waiting game"

**COLUMN WRITING**

**FIRST PLACE:** Payton Williams – Collegian (Cameron), "Voices columns"

**SMALL SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Alyxandria Butt – The Oklahoma Daily, "The Baked Bear"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Amelia Kinsinger – The Oklahoma Daily, "Qdoba"

**LARGE SPACE AD**

**FIRST PLACE:** Austin Childers – The Oklahoma Daily, "Epic Pops"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Austin Childers – The Oklahoma Daily, "OU Graduation Office"

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

**FIRST PLACE:** Cara Johnson – The Vista - University of Central Oklahoma, "Students gather peacefully"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stacie Larsen – Collegian (Cameron), "Halloween carnival"  
**THIRD PLACE:** AnneMarie Altman and Cheyenne Cole – Collegian (Cameron), "PRIDE remembering Matthew Shepard"

**OKLAHOMA PRESS ASSOCIATION**  
**CONVENTION**  
**SNAPSHOTS**

JUNE 15-16, 2018  
 GRAND CASINO  
 HOTEL & RESORT



Shauna Belyeu, Eufaula Indian Journal, reviews first place winning entries in the OPA Better Newspaper Contest.



Luau games at the Friday Welcome Dinner event got a little competitive as teams vied for first place bragging rights.



Phillip Reid, Weatherford Daily News and Reid Newspapers; J.J. Francais, The Chronicle in Elgin; and Paul Laubach, Trail Miller Co. visit during the OPA Convention.



Suzie Campbell, The Countywide & Sun; Mary Lokey, Johnston County Sentinel; and Ed Kelley, dean of Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication at OU, at the Blooper Breakfast.



OPA President Brian Blansett, publisher of the Tri-County Herald and The Stroud American, and Mike Strain, managing editor at the Tulsa World.



Kelli and Steve Bolton, publishers of the Comanche Times, laugh during the Blooper Breakfast.



A working journalist at the OPA Convention.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2017 OKLAHOMA PRESS SERVICE PERFECTA WINNERS

*The Perfecta Award was established by the Oklahoma Press Association in 2012 to honor OPA member newspapers that achieve 100 percent accuracy on advertising orders from Oklahoma Press Service in the previous year. This year's winners are listed below.*

- |                                    |                              |                            |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| The American (Afton)               | The Gage Record              | Okmulgee Times             |
| The Apache News                    | Garber-Billings News         | The Paper (Pryor)          |
| Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise   | The Geary Star               | Pawhuska Journal-Capital   |
| The Black Chronicle (OKC)          | The Grove Sun                | The Pawnee Chief           |
| Broken Bow News                    | Henryetta Free-Lance         | The Perkins Journal        |
| Buffalo Weekly News                | The Herald-Democrat (Beaver) | Perry Daily Journal        |
| The Canton Times                   | The Hobart Democrat-Chief    | The Rush Springs Gazette   |
| The Carnegie Herald                | The Hominy News-Progress     | Sand Springs Leader        |
| The Chelsea Reporter               | The Hooker Advance           | Sayre Record               |
| The Cheyenne Star                  | Hugo News                    | & Beckham County Democrat  |
| Choctaw Times                      | The Journal Record (OKC)     | Sequoyah County Times      |
| Clayton Today                      | Kiowa County Democrat        | The Seminole Producer      |
| The Cleveland American             | The Konawa Leader            | The Sentinel Leader        |
| Clinton Daily News                 | Latimer County News-Tribune  | Stroud American            |
| The Cordell Beacon                 | The Lawton Constitution      | Sulphur Times-Democrat     |
| The County Democrat<br>(Shawnee)   | The Lincoln County News      | Talihina American          |
| The County Times (Lawton)          | Marietta Monitor             | The Tonkawa News           |
| Cyril News                         | The Marlow Review            | Tri-County Herald (Meeker) |
| The Delaware County Journal        | McAlester News-Capital       | Tulsa Beacon               |
| The Duncan Banner                  | McCurtain Daily Gazette      | Tulsa World                |
| Eastern Times-Register<br>(Roland) | The Mooreland Leader         | Vian Tenkiller News        |
| El Reno Tribune                    | The Newcastle Pacer          | The Walters Herald         |
| The Ellis County Capital           | OKC Friday                   | Woods County Enterprise    |
| The Fairfax Chief                  | The Okeene Record            | Woodward News              |
|                                    | Okemah News Leader           | Yale News                  |
|                                    | The Oklahoman                |                            |

# In Memoriam

## May 2017 to May 2018

Commemorated June 15, 2018  
 at the Oklahoma Press Association Annual Convention  
 Shawnee, Oklahoma

The Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation offers an appropriate tax-exempt memorial as a tribute to the memory of Oklahoma newspapermen and women. All contributions in memory of an individual are acknowledged and notification is given to the family.

The purpose of the Foundation is to advance newspapers, and to provide for journalism education, study and research. As funds are accumulated, the trustees use the earnings to finance activities in these areas.

**DAVID ALTMAN**, a longtime Oklahoma journalist, died Dec. 8, 2017. He was 71. Altman was born Aug. 29, 1946, in Seminole. He attended the University of Oklahoma and graduated from East Central State College in 1969. After his honorable discharge from the Army in 1972, Altman joined the Wewoka Daily Times as ad manager. In 1979, he moved to Clinton and helped start The Custer County Leader. In 1984, he went to the Blackwell Journal-Tribune to serve as sports editor. Later that year, he began working at the Fairview Republican where he was promoted to editor in 1985. His career also brought him to the Nowata Star as editor before returning to the Fairview Republican. Altman later joined the staff of the Enid News & Eagle as copy editor. He retired from the newspaper in 2008.

**JIM ARGO**, longtime photojournalist for The Oklahoman, died Sept. 9, 2017. He was 79. Argo was born Jan. 9, 1938, and raised in Texas. He graduated from Amarillo High School and earned his degree in journalism from Texas Tech University. His 50-year newspaper career began in Texas with the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal and the Amarillo Globe-News. In 1963, Argo moved to Oklahoma City to work for the Oklahoma City Times and The Daily Oklahoman. Argo was photo editor at The Oklahoman until he retired in 2005. He won many state, national and international awards for his work and was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 1997. In 2011, he was inducted into the Historians Hall of Fame.

**ROBERT ARRINGTON**, a former employee of the Oklahoma Publishing Company, died Sept. 22, 2017. He was 79. Arrington was born Dec. 6, 1937, in Newport, Tenn. After graduating from high school in 1955, he joined the Oklahoma Publishing Company. While working full-time at The Oklahoman, he continued his education and received an engineering degree from Oklahoma State University. Arrington was greatly instrumental in the production methods of newspapers from analog to digital systems. He retired in 1995.

**FRANK BOGGS**, former sports editor at The Oklahoman, died Aug. 10, 2017. He was born May 1, 1928, and was 89. Boggs retired from The Oklahoman in 1989 after 41 years. He also worked at the Topeka Daily Capital, Dallas Times Herald, San Diego Tribune and Colorado Springs Sun. The Oklahoma

City native started his career at The Oklahoman as a part-time sports writer in 1948. His career garnered him many awards including induction into the United States Basketball Writers Association Hall of Fame in 2007. He also won the Oklahoma Sportswriter of the Year Award 10 times. After Boggs and another Oklahoman writer received death threats after reporting that the NCAA was investigating a ticket-scalping scandal among OU football players, Boggs transferred to the then OPUBCO-owned Colorado Springs Sun. He returned to Oklahoma in 1986 and served as executive sports editor and managing editor until retiring three years later. Boggs was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 1997.

**STEVE W. BOOHER**, retired publisher of the Cherokee Messenger & Republican, died Sept. 29, 2017. He was 69. Booher led the Messenger & Republican from 1980 to 2001 as general manager, then continued as publisher until his retirement in 2014. Prior to that he served as general manager of the Fairview Republican, managing editor of the Clinton Daily News, and as a reporter for the Duncan Banner. After more than 40 years in the newspaper business, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in April 2017. Booher was president of the Oklahoma Press Association in 2008-2009 and president of the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation from 2012 to 2014. He received ONF's Beachy Musselman Award in 2009 in recognition of his quality journalism and service to the local community.

**GLORIA McAFFEE-CARVER**, former reporter for the Hugo News, died Nov. 3, 2017. She was 72. McAfee-Carver was born July 21, 1945, in Kansas but lived in the Hugo area for the last 20 years. She worked as a reporter, columnist and photographer for the Hugo News.

**GINA NOEL COOPER**, who worked for several Oklahoma newspapers, died May 9, 2017. She was 47. Cooper was born Dec. 15, 1969. She received a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University and a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma. She worked as a journalist and editor at newspapers in Bristow, Sapulpa and Cushing before becoming a licensed alcohol and drug counselor.

**ROSS WARREN CUMMINGS**, 87, former journalist and head of a full-service advertising and public relations firm in Oklahoma City, died Aug. 4, 2017. Cummings was born April 22, 1930, in Springfield, Ill. He attended the University of Oklahoma. Cummings began his career in 1949 as a radio announcer for WBZ in Ponca City, his hometown. Then came a four-year stint as a reporter and news editor at The Holdenville Daily News. From print, he transitioned to television broadcasting, joining NBC affiliate WKY (now KFOR) as a news reporter and weekend anchor. Kerr-McGee Corp. selected Cummings to be the company's first director of publications in 1956. He left the company in 1960 to found the full-service communications firm Ross Cummings & Company, which remained active up to May 2017. Cummings also had a successful record in political media, overseeing communications for the Democratic National Committee (DNC) in Washington.

**JOHN W. 'JACK' DIVINE**, a former Oklahoma journalist, died Aug. 18, 2017. He was 82. Divine was born Feb. 2, 1935, in Perry. After graduating from Perry High School in 1953, he received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Phillips University in Enid. To pay his way through school, he worked as a reporter and photographer for the Perry Daily Journal and the Enid News & Eagle. He later graduated from the University of Chicago Divinity School.

**VICKI JUNE DUFF**, Oklahoma photographer and journalist, died Sept. 26, 2017. She was 65. Born June 27, 1951, in Seminole, Duff graduated from Seminole High School and attended Seminole Junior College. After stints as a house parent and working in security, Duff was an administrative assistant for the State of Oklahoma for 35 years. During this time, she also worked as a part-time journalist for the Seminole Advocate and served as a photographer for The Shawnee Sun and Countywide News.

**JOE R. 'J.R.' EARLS**, longtime advertising composer at the Lawton Constitution, died Nov. 11, 2017. He was 97. Earls was born Dec. 24, 1919, in Decatur, Texas, and graduated from Altus High School in 1939. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II from 1942 to 1946. After the war, Earls and his wife, Doris, made their homes in Hobart, Lawton, Marlow and Duncan. They were married for 73 years. Earls retired from The Lawton Constitution after working as an advertising composer for 38 years.

**LEWIS L. 'LEW' FERGUSON**, longtime Oklahoma journalist, died Aug. 24, 2017. He was 83. Ferguson was born Jan. 9, 1934, in Ponca City and attended the University of Oklahoma on a McMahon Journalism Scholarship. He received a bachelor's and master's degree in journalism. He served eight years in the U.S. Army. Ferguson's journalism career began as a sports and wire editor for The Ponca City News in 1958. He also served as sports stringer for The Daily Oklahoman and Tulsa World. In 1960, Ferguson joined the Associated Press in the Oklahoma City bureau before transferring to Sioux Falls, S.D., and then to other cities around the country. Most of his 42-year career was spent with the Associated Press. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2009, and the Kansas Newspaper Hall of Fame in 2012.

**JIM FINDLEY**, longtime newspaper carrier for the Tulsa World and Tulsa Tribune, died June 8, 2017. He was 83. Findley was born June 24, 1934, in Claremore. His newspaper career began at age 13 when he would deliver papers to World War II soldiers on troop trains passing through Claremore. At the age of 16, Findley was declared legally blind due to glaucoma but that did not stop him from delivering papers. He served the same 10-mile route in Claremore for more than 45 years delivering the Tulsa World and Tulsa Tribune. During his career, it is estimated he covered more than 305,000 miles delivering newspapers on his bicycle.

**SHERRY (ADAY) FRAME**, former owner and publisher of the Carnegie Herald, died Jan. 18, 2018. She was 75. Frame was born Nov. 21, 1942, and graduated from Checotah High School in 1960. Throughout her life she worked in various professions, including being the owner and publisher of the Carnegie Herald and working at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center.

**NORA KATHRYN FROESCHLE**, former reporter for the Tulsa World, died Dec. 21, 2017. She was 49. Froeschle was born June 19, 1968, in Minneapolis, Minn. She worked as a liaison for veterans at Veterans Affairs in Washington D.C. before serving 10 years as a reporter for the Tulsa World. She later began a career as an English teacher at Union High School and Sand Springs' Clyde Boyd Middle School.

**DON GOFORTH**, former managing editor at The Altus Times-Democrat, died Sept. 19, 2017. He was 79. Goforth was raised in Altus and attended Altus Junior College and Southwestern University in Waxahachie, Texas. Goforth managed The Altus Times from 1969-1973, and then went on to purchase the Kiowa County Democrat. Eventually, his family moved to Texas after purchasing the Johnson County News. Goforth later retired from his newspaper career and became a pastor. He moved back to Altus in 2012.

**DON GAMMILL**, longtime Oklahoma journalist, died Nov. 28, 2017. He was 65. Gammill was born Nov. 12, 1952, in Ponca City and graduated from Ponca City High School in 1971. He attended Northern Oklahoma College in Tonkawa before finishing his journalism degree at Central State University in Edmond in 1975. He worked at the Enid Publishing Co. as sports writer from 1975 to 1979. Gammill began working at the Enid Daily Eagle in 1979 as managing editor, city editor and assistant editor, retiring in 1986. In 1987, Gammill went on to work for the Oklahoma Publishing Co. as state editor, special projects editor, columnist and online communities editor.

**SANDRA 'SANDY' HART**, a former Oklahoma journalist, died April 26, 2018. She was 74. Hart was born Dec. 10, 1943, in Monroe, La. As a military child, she lived in various places including Nebraska, Puerto Rico and Oklahoma. She graduated from Altus High School in 1962 and later became managing editor of The Altus Times. Hart and her family moved to El Reno in 1984. She joined the staff of the El Reno Tribune as advertising director and worked there until she and her husband, Bob, opened their own printing company.

Continued on Page 21

## In Memoriam

Continued from Page 20

**KENT JOHNSON**, a former Muskogee Phoenix photographer, died Aug. 5, 2017, while on assignment for the Atlanta Journal Constitution. Johnson was born Sept. 21, 1959, in Peekskill, N.Y. After graduating from high school in New York in 1977, he attended Oklahoma State University and graduated in 1982. He began his newspaper career at the Muskogee Phoenix before moving to Fort Myers, Fla., to work at the News-Press. He also worked at the Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Miss., and the Charlotte Observer before joining the staff at the Atlanta Journal Constitution.

**DAVID LLOYD JONES**, former vice president of the Tulsa Tribune, died May 14, 2018. He was 79. Jones was born Sept. 9, 1938, in Tulsa. In 1964, he began his 30 year career at the Tribune as a reporter before becoming the newspaper's Washington, D.C. correspondent. He spent seven years at the Washington bureau and then returned to Tulsa to become the Tribune's entertainment editor. In 1982, he was promoted to vice president, and focused on promotions and special projects. He also continued to write columns, film reviews and editorials. When the Tribune closed in 1992, Jones turned his attention to books and opened the Happy Griffin bookstore.

**LINDA KLEPPER**, an Oklahoma journalist, died Nov. 13, 2017, in Inola. She was 67. Klepper was born Jan. 24, 1950, in Altus and moved with her family to Cleveland in 1958. She received her journalism degree in 1972 from Southwestern State University in Weatherford where she worked for the student publication, The Southwestern. After graduation, she began working for The Lawton Constitution and The Cleveland American before working for the State of Oklahoma in Tulsa.

**LARRY LEHR**, former publisher of the Cushing Daily Citizen, died Oct. 7, 2017. He was 77. Lehr was born Nov. 12, 1939, in Sapulpa and moved to Cushing in 1965. Along with working as publisher of the Cushing Daily Citizen, he also worked for many years in radio and as the public information officer at Central Technology Center, where he retired in 2009.

**JOHN RAIFORD 'RAY' LOKEY**, longtime publisher of the Johnston County Capital-Democrat in Tishomingo and a past president of the Oklahoma Press Association, died Nov. 11, 2017. He was 63. He was born Dec. 15, 1953, in Ada. Lokey was a third generation publisher, following in the steps of his grandfather, E.R. Lokey, and father John Lokey, who also served as OPA president. Ray Lokey worked at the newspaper while growing up. He attended the University of Oklahoma on a McMahon Scholarship, graduating with a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1977. Lokey received a master's degree in education at Southeastern State University and then taught language arts at Marietta High School. He later served as the public information officer for Murray State College in Tishomingo, and also worked as a part-time journalism instructor and advisor for the college newspaper. In 1990, Lokey purchased the Johnston County Capital-Democrat and became publisher and editor. He was joined by his wife, Jenny, as co-publisher in 2006. He served as president of the OPA in 2003-2004 and in 2007 received the Beachy Musselman Award from the

Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation. In 2014, he was elected president of ONF and that same year received the Milt Phillips Award, OPA's highest honor. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame posthumously in 2018.

**PEGGY MASSEY**, former co-owner of the Holdenville Daily News, died Dec. 2, 2017. She was 80. Massey was born Feb. 19, 1937, in Holdenville and graduated from Holdenville High School. She earned her degree in Management of Human Resources from Southern Nazarene University. From 1967 to 1970, Massey was the co-owner and publisher of the Holdenville Daily News alongside her husband, Thomas.

**LIZ McMAHAN**, a longtime Oklahoma journalist, died April 18, 2018. She was 71. McMahan was born March 2, 1947, and was a lifelong Wagoner resident. Her journalism career spanned over 40 years with stints at the Wagoner Tribune and Record Democrat, as stringer for The Daily Oklahoman and Tulsa World and as contributing writer for the Coweta American and Wagoner County American-Tribune. McMahan also had a nearly 20 year career at the Muskogee Phoenix, which began in 1973 as a reporter. Her work earned her recognition from United Press International, the Associated Press, Gannet and the Oklahoma Press Association. She was inducted into OPA's Quarter Century Club in 2009. McMahan retired in 2009 but continued working as a freelance contributor. Most recently, she wrote regular historical columns for the Phoenix. She also authored or co-authored seven books and booklets.

**JAMES 'JIM' PAUL MILLER**, former publisher of The Norman Transcript, died May 26, 2017. He was 86. Miller was born in Rockport, Mo., on Feb. 20, 1931. He grew up in Chickasha and went to the University of Oklahoma, graduating in 1952 with a degree in journalism. He later received a master's degree in English from Tulsa University and was a graduate of the American Press Institute where he also served as an instructor. Miller was commissioned as a U.S. Army second lieutenant in the Oklahoma 45th Infantry Division. He served two years overseas, and in the Army Reserve for 35 years. His newspaper career in advertising and marketing started at the Chickasha Express-Star. He worked his way up to retail advertising manager at the Tulsa World and The Tulsa Tribune, then to advertising/marketing director at the Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, and then to regional publisher overseeing multiple newspapers for the Donrey Media Group. Miller continued his career in Texas as assistant advertising/marketing director at the Houston Chronicle. He also owned his own agency in Houston and then took on the national sales manager job at the Houston Business Journal. When he returned to Oklahoma, Miller became publisher of The Norman Transcript. He also was past president of the Tulsa Ad Club and the Midwest Newspaper Advertising Executives Association.

**PHILIP A. MORRIS**, an Oklahoma journalist, died Sept. 14, 2017. He was 77. An Oklahoma native, Morris was born Aug. 16, 1940, and attended Rockhurst College in Kansas City, Mo. After graduation, he began his career as a reporter for the Oklahoma Journal and then The Daily Oklahoman and Oklahoma City Times. Morris was then recruited to work at Southern Living magazine in Birmingham, Ala., in 1969. Morris played a significant role in Southern Living's growth and served as executive editor from 1976-1991 and as editor-at-large until his retire-

ment in 2000. Morris was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 1999.

**HELEN MARIE MADAMBA MOSSMAN**, former employee at the Woodward Daily News, died Sept. 30, 2017. She was 84. Originally from the Philippines, Mossman was born Aug. 2, 1933, and immigrated to the United States in 1945. While attending Oklahoma A&M (now OSU), she worked as editor of The Daily O'Collegian, the university's student publication. Her journalism career began later in life where she worked more than a decade at the Woodward Daily News as a reporter, columnist and editor. In her retirement, Mossman became a published author and was invited by community groups and associations to give talks about her time in the jungles of the Philippine Islands.

**BETTY CAROLYN MURDOCK**, former reporter for The Daily Oklahoman, died Sept. 7, 2017. She was 88. Murdock was born Feb. 6, 1929, in Oklahoma City and grew up in Hartshorne. Her parents, Elmer and Juanita Thrower, owned and published the Hartshorne Sun. After graduating from high school, Betty Murdock attended Phillips University in Enid before graduating from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in journalism. While at The Daily Oklahoman and the Oklahoma City Times, Murdock served as a reporter in the Society and Women's department. She and her husband later moved to Massachusetts where she attended and graduated from the Harvard Divinity School. In 1986, she returned to Oklahoma and settled in Tulsa.

**MARJORIE BOWERS PAXSON**, former publisher of the Muskogee Daily Phoenix, died June 17, 2017. She was 93. Paxson was born in Houston and knew from an early age she wanted to be a journalist. She attended Rice University in Houston for two years before transferring to the University of Missouri in 1942. She received her degree in 1944 before going to work for the United Press International in Lincoln, Neb. From there, she went to work at the Associated Press in Omaha before returning to Houston. In Houston she worked at the Houston Post and Houston Chronicle. She became women's editor at the Chronicle in 1952 and worked there for four years. She then went to the Miami (Fla.) Herald where she worked as copy editor for the women's page. In 1968, she went on to work on the women's section at the St. Petersburg (Fla.) Herald and the Philadelphia Bulletin. While at the Bulletin, she was named editor of Xilonen, an eight-page daily newspaper published for the United Nations World Conference for International Women's Year held in Mexico City. Paxson served a short stint at a newspaper in Boise, Idaho, before becoming publisher at a paper in Chambersburg, Penn. In 1980, she was named publisher of the Muskogee Daily Phoenix. She retired from the Phoenix in 1986 but continued to write a column for the paper. Paxson's many journalism accomplishments include transforming the sorority, Theta Sigma Phi, into a professional organization now known as The Association for Women in Communications.

**KAREN DEANNE SAVILLE**, sales employee at the Mustang Times, died Jan. 11, 2018. She was 75. Saville was born Oct. 27, 1942, in El Reno. She worked at the Mustang Times for the last 11 years. Prior to working at the Times, Saville also was employed at the Yukon Review.

**DON SHOCKEY**, longtime Oklahoma journalist, died Jan. 15, 2018. He was 75. Shockey was born Nov. 21, 1942, in Tulsa. After earning a degree in journalism, he went on to join

the Army for four years. Shockey worked for several Oklahoma newspapers as a reporter before going to work at The Oklahoman, where he eventually retired.

**FRED W. SMITH**, a longtime employee at Donrey Media Group, died April 29, 2018. He was 84. Smith was born Jan. 1, 1934, in Peno Bottoms, Okla., near Fort Smith, Ark. Following his high school graduation, he spent a short stint with the FBI in Washington D.C. before moving back to Fort Smith to begin his newspaper career. He worked at the local Donrey Media Group newspaper as a classified advertising salesman before moving up the ranks. Smith moved to Nevada in 1960 when he was promoted to general manager of the Las Vegas Review Journal. During his 43 years at Donrey, Smith served as President, COO and CEO.

**IAN SUTTON**, a telecommunications analyst at Tulsa World, died Feb. 9, 2018. He was 45. Sutton was born to a military family in Okinawa, Japan, on Dec. 6, 1972. He graduated from Rogers High School in 1990 before attending Tulsa Community College and Oklahoma State University in Tulsa. Sutton had a passion for technology and wanted to turn it into a career. Wanting to work with computer networks, he took a job with Neighbor Newspapers in Tulsa where he worked for six years. He later joined the Tulsa World staff as a desktop technician, then network specialist before moving into his last role in telecommunications networks.

**JAMES VANCE**, former Tulsa World writer, died June 5, 2017. He was 64. Vance was born in 1953 in Muskogee but lived most of his life in Tulsa. During his time at the Tulsa World, he served as entertainment writer before writing for the newspaper's weekly TV World magazine. Along with his newspaper experience, Vance also was an award-winning novelist and playwright. He was best known for his graphic novels, "Kings in Disguise" and its sequel, "On the Ropes."

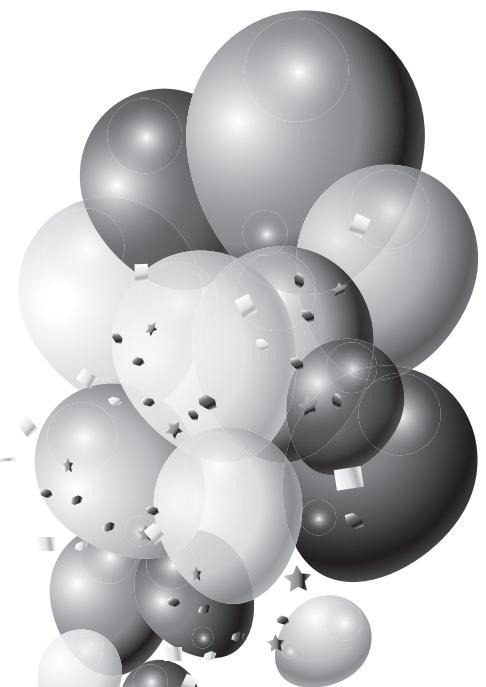
**MAGGIE LEE (BARNES) WALKER**, who once worked at the Kiowa County Star Review in Hobart, died July 19, 2017. She was 88. Walker was born Aug. 31, 1928, near Roosevelt. Walker spent most of her life in Hobart. She sold advertising for the Kiowa County Star Review before working in various other fields. She retired from Home State Bank in 1993 as assistant vice president.

**BILLY GENE 'BILL' WOOD**, longtime employee at the Cherokee Publishing Company, died Sept. 3, 2017. He was 82. Wood was born June 1, 1935, in Wilson and graduated from Wilson High School in 1955. After high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he was stationed on the USS Orien for four years. When he returned to Oklahoma in 1960, he went to work at the Cherokee Publishing Company where he stayed for 50 years.

**CECILIA LUCETTA YAGER**, former owner of the Piedmont-Surrey Gazette, died June 8, 2017. She was 84. Yager was born Nov. 22, 1932, in Chickasha. Her love of journalism began in high school. She worked for the weekly Killeen Newspaper near Fort Hood where her husband John was stationed in the Army. Eventually she went on to work for the Tribune Review in Bethany and at the Piedmont-Surrey Gazette, where she was part owner. She also wrote a column about the Piedmont community in the Yukon Review.

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Alan Herzberger, VP of Audience Development  
at The Oklahoman



U.S. Sen. James Lankford, U.S. Rep. Frank Lucas and U.S. Rep. Tom Cole speak at OPA's Congressional session.



Speaker Bill Ostendorf making a point during one of his sessions at the OPA Convention.



OPA members fill the room during a session at the OPA Convention.

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## OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS CONTEST WINNERS

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2017 SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

Column: **DOROTHY BALLARD**, *The Miami News-Record*

Editorial: **J.D. MEISNER**, *Bristow News*



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EXCERPTS FROM 2017 COLUMN SWEEPSTAKES WINNER (FROM OCTOBER 2017)

**DOROTHY BALLARD, THE MIAMI NEWS-RECORD**

#### Shake the disease

My mother died too young.  
She also died an addict.

When I talk about her to those outside of my family, I rarely speak about her lifelong battle with addiction.

Something I have recently vowed to amend.

Part of it has been a daughter's need to protect her memory, but when I'm honest with myself, a lot of it has also been shame.

Addiction is one of a handful of chronic diseases that carries with it a grievous social stigma that puts the blame squarely on the shoulders of the one afflicted.

It is an illness that is often framed as a personal failing, an inherent weakness that should be managed by developing a better character and stronger force of will.

Something we would almost never demand of those gripped by diseases such as cancer or arthritis.

Yet here we are, in the throes of another national crisis and still, we blame the afflicted instead of the disease and the enabling systems that help it fester.

What I am about to share will be both raw and hard to read, but necessary in my opinion. I want people

to know. I think she would want people to know.

Her battle with addiction began when she was a pre-teen when she finally summoned the courage to report longtime abuse at the hands of a family member.

Her behavior had become erratic from carrying the burden of this secret, and soon she found herself wracked with both extreme anxiety and depression. It was decided that the solution was to "normalize" her and the situation by not removing her from the reach of her abuser, but medicating her so she could "cope."

EXCERPTS FROM 2017 EDITORIAL SWEEPSTAKES WINNER (FROM MAY 2017)

**J.D. MEISNER, BRISTOW NEWS**

#### Seems an obvious choice

When the voters defeated State Question 779 last November and killed the plan for a one-penny sales tax intended to fund a \$5,000 annual raise for Oklahoma's teachers, Legislators at the state capitol misinterpreted the message taxpayers were sending.

Some said the people of Oklahoma were saying they did not want to give teachers a pay raise.

Others said Oklahomans just proved they did not want to increase taxes.

The reality is, Oklahomans voted down 779 in hopes that the Legislature would do its job and find a solution that did not put this burden on already strapped taxpayers.

So far, this has not happened.

The Legislature did pass a bill this session intended to give teachers an incremental salary increase, but a funding source for this was not included in the bill so it was an empty promise and therefore an insult to Oklahoma's educators.

Until last week, the Legislature

had completely ignored the elephant in the room – the energy sector.

Among oil producing states in the continental U.S., the Sooner State has the lowest gross production tax on new wells.

According to the Covenant Consultant Group, Oklahoma's ad valorem tax rates paid by oil and gas in 2016 was 3.2 percent, Idaho was 4 percent, Texas and North Dakota were 8.3 percent, Arkansas was 12 percent and Louisiana was 13.3 percent.

### Enter and Win a \$100 Check from ONG!

*The 2017 Sweepstakes Winners  
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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](http://www.OkPress.com).

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