

# The Oklahoma Publisher

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**DONATE TO ONF** to receive this Will Rogers print. Available to order online at [okpress.com/store](http://okpress.com/store).



# Cleveland American adopts tabloid size for the summer

The Cleveland American got a little smaller when it switched to tabloid size on June 4.

"Being our 100th Anniversary, we wanted to wrap up our year-long celebration with something different and special," said Rusty Ferguson, publisher of The Cleveland American.

It's not the first time the newspaper switched to a tab, said Ferguson. In the summer of 2013, the weekly newspaper converted to a tabloid size.

"Our ONF intern that summer was a photographer and I wanted to give her as much experience as we could," Ferguson said. "I had remembered years before that my dad had shared the idea of printing tab size with nothing but a photo on page 1, so it was an opportunity to give that a shot."

"Today, our reporter Natasja Kemp is also an excellent photographer, so this gives her an opportunity to see what pics she can come up with this summer."

Ferguson said he's been publishing a lot of eight-page papers, and although he doesn't like it, it's a sign of the times.

"So, a tab, while appearing

smaller, actually feels bigger as you hold it and flip through page after page," he said. "A 10-page broadsheet suddenly becomes 20 pages."

Another benefit, said Ferguson, is that ads appear bigger on a tab page, so clients may think they're getting more for their money.

The tab size also allows Ferguson to use more color. "It suddenly doubles when you flip the paper sideways — so it's another opportunity to use color photos and sell color ads," he said.

In 2013, Ferguson heard a lot of compliments from readers, with the exception of one "old-timer" who made it a point to drop by the newspaper office to tell Ferguson "it just wasn't a newspaper if it wasn't full size."

"He associated tabs with grocery store gossip rags. His words stuck with me, and being someone who honors tradition, I didn't hesitate to switch back to broadsheet at the end of the summer," Ferguson said.

"However, with just one tab published so far, I have to say it was enjoyable putting it together. I want to make it family-friendly, with picture



The Cleveland American shows a colorful photo on the front page of the its new summer size.

pages, puzzle pages, summer-fun ideas... it will be different in more ways than just the size."

But the best part, Ferguson says, is the welcome change in monotony.

"You know, being able to do

something different than you've done for so long, week after week. I've been doing this a very long time and so far, it has been like a breath of fresh air."

## OPA reveals award winners in first virtual awards ceremony

The Oklahoma Press Association announced the winners of the 2019 Better Newspaper Contest Awards in a video released on June 15.

Brett Wesner, owner of 10 community newspapers in Oklahoma and treasurer of the National Newspaper Association, delivered opening remarks for the video.

"Hello and welcome to the

first virtual awards ceremony of the Oklahoma Press Association, brought to you this year from my living room," Wesner said.

"I don't think in my 32 years in this industry there has ever been a more important time to do what we do as community journalists.

"Whether bringing vital health information to our com-

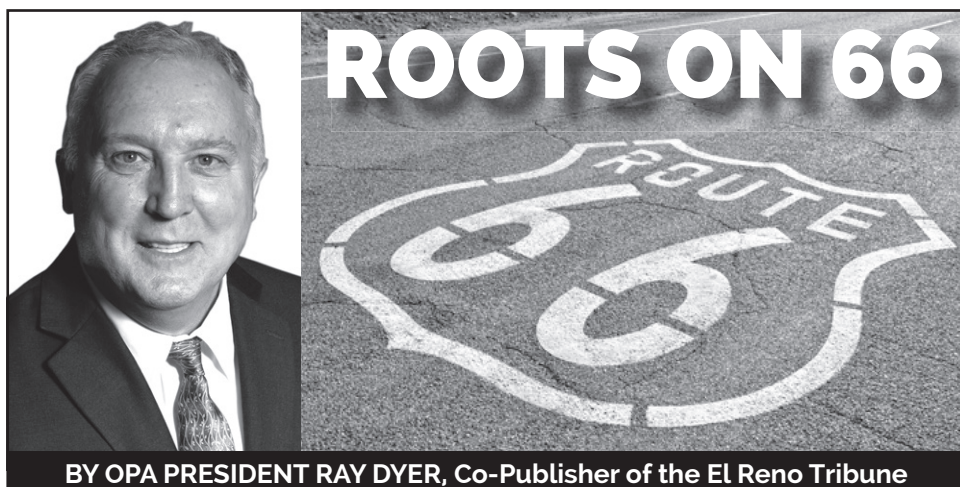
munities concerning COVID-19, or helping our communities understand how our public institutions can be affected by systemic racism, and, more importantly, what we can do about it, I don't think our work has ever been more vital."

The video, created by Will Conover, is available to view at [okpress.com/contest](http://okpress.com/contest).

Members of the Maine

Press Association judged more than 1,300 entries from 74 Oklahoma newspapers in the 2019 Better Newspaper Contest.

This issue of The Oklahoma Publisher provides a list of all award winners in the contest, as well as the Digital Media category, the OPA Magazine Contest and other awards that were announced in the video.



BY OPA PRESIDENT RAY DYER, Co-Publisher of the El Reno Tribune

## Living in a time of constant change

I remember asking Brian Blansett what would be the toughest part of being OPA board president. Brian was ending a run of 18 months as president after the incoming president, Ted Streuli, resigned to take a job outside of journalism. The normal term is, of course, 12 months.

I also was blessed with an 18-month term, which ends this month.

It's amazing what can happen in just 18 short months. The collapse of the energy industry, a worldwide pandemic, protests, and Ted Streuli is now back in journalism, taking over the leadership reins of Oklahoma Watch.

Also, my daughter got married on June 6. It was supposed to be a wedding at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in El Reno. Instead, it changed to a civil ceremony on my sister Kelly and brother-in-law Chris' 10-acre goat sanctuary near Jones. It's not really a goat sanctuary; it's a great place with tons of trees, a small herd of goats, and with a newly created wedding arbor, it was changed into a beautiful and magical ceremony.

Changes were necessary, so change we did.

Change can come quickly. Kind of like column deadlines.

Brian told me getting these columns written for the Oklahoma Publisher was probably the toughest part of the position. He was telling the truth.

Mark Thomas and his staff at OPA make serving as the board president pretty simple. And thank heavens for that. Can you imagine the past 18 months with a less experienced leader and association staff?

Our industry is experiencing change like never before. Newspapers have closed. On a personal note, we ended our printing operation. For the first time in more than 100 years, there are no newspapers being printed in Canadian County. Scary, considering the county is one of the fastest growing in the state of Oklahoma.

Where does all this lead? I have no idea. The guess is more change. How does all of this impact the Oklahoma Press Association? Thomas tells us he's been talking with people all over the country and reading as much as possible, trying to keep ahead or at least up with the onslaught of change.

A few months ago I wrote a column giving a half-hearted dig at billionaire Warren Buffet for his decision to walk away from newspaper ownership. The gist of the article was that newspapers are about more than the bottom line. That, I believe, still holds true. But we all know without a bottom line, no business can survive.

I think our communities, our state and our nation need to think a bit about what it would mean to have no newspapers. Heck, I think the television news industry needs to seriously ponder the same question. Many of the stories run on the 6 o'clock news originated from a newspaper reporter.

We live in interesting times of what seems to be constant change. No one said it would be comfortable. But you're in the newspaper business, so comfort really isn't what you've come to expect. Perseverance may be the key to getting through this.

Thank you for the notes of encouragement over the past 18 months.

## Sheriff wins open records case

A judge has ruled in favor of Custer County Sheriff Kenneth Tidwell regarding a 2019 open records case.

Milwaukee resident A. Jay Wagner, through his attorney Kevin R. Kemper of Norman, filed the lawsuit last July in Custer County District Court.

Wagner alleged Tidwell's office violated the Oklahoma Open Records Act by not providing records in a suitable manner, and that Tidwell should have to email the open records, not just provide them for Wagner's view in person.

District Judge Jill Weedon found that the Open Records Act does not current-

ly require the sheriff to email a digital copy of documents.

"Although it might be more efficient to produce the requested documents electronically, the ORA does not require the Sheriff to do so," Weedon wrote in the ruling.

Although the case is resolved, it was reported at the Custer County Commissioner's meeting that it cost Custer County \$23,705 in legal fees. The county had to pay an attorney from outside the county because there was not a district attorney available to handle the case.

## Oklahoma health agency reverses decision on releasing COVID-19 data

On June 3, the Oklahoma State Department of Health reversed its decision to no longer release COVID-19 infection data by city and zip code.

Attorneys at OSDH and in the governor's office made the earlier decision to stop releasing the data because of state medical privacy laws. They claimed they were doing so under powers granted to the governor under the Catastrophic Health Emergency Powers Act, which had expired.

That decision was reversed after the agency met with Attorney General Mike Hunter, who said that releasing the data about COVID-19 infections does not violate state or federal law, as long as individuals are not identifiable.

Mark Thomas, OPA executive vice

president, said he welcomed the decision to reverse course.

"Nobody wants to invade the medical privacy of our fellow Oklahomans," said Thomas. "We must not allow rumors and online gossip platforms to spread misinformation when facts are readily available."

Gov. Kevin Stitt's Secretary of Health Jerome Loughridge and Interim Health Commissioner Lance Frye said in a joint release with Hunter that they also welcomed the decision.

"It is incumbent upon us as state leaders to protect sensitive health information," Frye said. "I encourage Oklahomans to use the information to make informed decisions in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic."

## Larry Miller takes over as publisher at Altus Times and Frederick Press

Graystone Media Group CEO Larry Miller has taken over the editor and publisher positions at The Altus Times and the Frederick Press-Leader following the retirement of former editor and publisher Rick Carpenter.



Miller and Carpenter are majority owners of Graystone Media Group, LLC, a company they formed when they bought three Oklahoma newspapers on Oct. 7, 2017.

Carpenter worked as editor and publisher in Altus until his planned retirement in May. He still owns equal shares of the company with Miller and serves as the company's president.

Graystone Media Group purchased The Durant Democrat, The Altus Times

and Frederick Press-Leader in 2017; the company purchased the Mangum Star in 2019.

Carpenter plans to move to Stone-wall, Colo., where he recently purchased a home. He owned the La Veta-Cuchara Signature newspaper in Colorado from 1992 to 1998.

Miller has an extensive editorial and photography background as well as previous executive experience and ownership of newspapers in South Carolina. He will report on some city events and work with advertising clients.

"Rick has done a great job in Altus and we will miss him," said Miller. "This area of southwest Oklahoma is really a neat place, and I look forward to helping our three newspapers grow in Jackosn, Tillman, Greer and Harmon counties."

Miller has moved from Durant to Altus to take over the newspapers.

Carpenter plans to return occasionally to allow Miller extended time off.

### OKLAHOMA PRESS ASSOCIATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please check the OPA website,  
[https://okpress.com/events/event\\_list.asp](https://okpress.com/events/event_list.asp)  
for a list of upcoming meetings and webinars.

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).

## Editorial board introduced to Transcript readers

The Norman Transcript recently introduced its readers to the newly formed Transcript Editorial Board.

Mark Millsap, publisher of The Transcript, and Rob Collins, editor, said the newspaper would only take an editorial stance if the editorial board reached a consensus.

“Our goal is to have a board that’s diverse in gender, race, age and ideology,” said Collins.

“We hope it serves as a sounding board, assembling eclectic ideas from distinctive perspectives that reflect the Norman community.

“If we write about problems, we will offer solutions. We’ll try to be succinct with small words, big ideas and short sentences.”

Collins said no elected officials or staff reporters from The Norman Transcript will serve on the Editorial Board, although they may visit as weekly guests.

“We take our role as the Fourth Estate seriously,” Collins said.

“Some editorials will be issue-oriented in our watchdog role, while others are more guide dog editorials that educate and provide public service. And show dog editorials celebrate or commend, building Norman’s community identity.”

## Rob Collins back in Norman to serve as editor of The Transcript

Rob Collins has returned to Norman as editor of The Norman Transcript.

Collins worked at The Norman Transcript from 1996 to 2002, covering nearly every beat in community journalism and advancing from reporter to assistant city editor.

He left The Transcript to lead his own newsroom at the now defunct Edmond Sun. After two years there, he became editor-in-chief of the alt-weekly Oklahoma Gazette.



In 2012, Collins was named executive editor of the Enid News & Eagle. In addition to managing the News & Eagle newsroom, Collins serves as regional editor of Oklahoma for CNHI Inc., which includes newspapers in Duncan, Enid, McAlester, Moore/Norman, Muskogee and Stillwater, as well as Joplin, Mo. He also coordinates and shares statewide content with CNHI newspapers.

Through the years, Collins has worked with previous editors at The Norman Transcript and has served as interim editor since March.

But now it’s official. In addition to his current CNHI duties, Collins is back in Norman and is lead editor for The Norman Transcript.

## The Lawton Constitution using grant money to help pay for subscriptions

The Lawton Constitution is using grant money that it received from Google to help low-income residents pay for their newspaper subscriptions.

“For many, the newspaper is about the most affordable way to receive local news, so we thought the best use of that grant money would be to help pay for subscriptions for individuals who can’t afford to because of limited resources,” said David Stringer, publisher of The Lawton Constitution.

The program will pay half the cost of six-month and one-year subscriptions for those who apply and are selected.

Application ads are being published daily in the paper.

“We know that, no matter how low the cost, some residents want to read the paper, but simply can’t afford it. When Google offered this program, I thought the best way to use the money was to help those in the community in need who want to stay informed,” said Stringer.

“We do ask applicants to pay part of the cost of that subscription, but the Google monies will pay the rest. We’ll fund subscriptions as long as the grant money lasts.”

## The Oklahoma Publisher



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## 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.

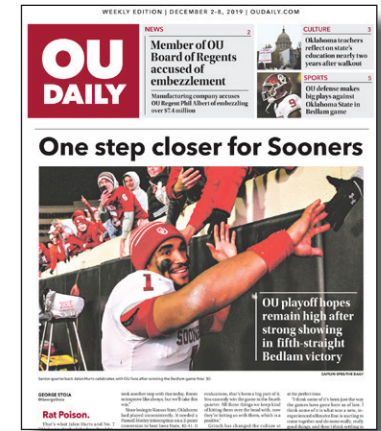
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# OPA BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST WINNERS

## 2019 Sequoyah Award Winners



## DIVISION 1 – DAILIES, Circ. more than 6,200

### SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER The Norman Transcript



**NEWS CONTENT**  
**FIRST PLACE:** The Norman Transcript  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Journal Record (Oklahoma City)  
**THIRD PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle

**LAYOUT & DESIGN**  
**FIRST PLACE:** The Lawton Constitution  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Journal Record  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Norman Transcript

**ADVERTISING**  
**FIRST PLACE:** The Journal Record  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Norman Transcript  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Lawton Constitution

**EDITORIAL WRITING**  
**FIRST PLACE:** The Journal Record  
**SECOND PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Lawton Constitution

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

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

**SALES PROMOTION**  
**FIRST PLACE:** The Lawton Constitution, "Pet Calendar"  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Norman Transcript, "125 Years of OU Football"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle, "Readers' Choice"

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**  
**FIRST PLACE:** The Norman Transcript, "Municipal Election Voters Guide"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Enid News & Eagle, "Pillar of the Plains"

**NEWS STORY**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Steve Metzger, The Journal Record, "Unlawful Acts"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Janice Francis-Smith, The Journal Record, "Taxi Crackdown: City sends message to overcharging drivers"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Emma Keith, The Norman Transcript, "Professor brings survivors' stories to campus with #MeToo event"

**FEATURE STORY**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Gary Reddin, The Lawton Constitution, "Icarus ain't got nothing on us"  
**SECOND PLACE:** James Neal, Enid News & Eagle, "A harvest of joy: Teacher finds blessings in breast cancer"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tim Farley, The Norman Transcript, "Deputy chief makes impact"

**SPORTS STORY**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Glen Brockenbush, The Lawton Constitution, "Red Dirt revival"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Joe Buettner, The Norman Transcript, "Randle inspires Norman High"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Chip Minty, The Journal Record, "Thunder fan faith put to the test"

**IN-DEPTH REPORTING**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Scott Rains, Grace Leonhart, Kim McConnell & Mitch Meador, The Lawton Constitution, "Series on homeless population"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Steve Metzger, The Journal Record, "Rural hospitals recovering from neglect"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Mitchell Willetts, Enid News & Eagle, "How the city obtained a crucial piece of Lahoma Courts for redevelopment"

**COLUMN WRITING**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Russell Ray, The Journal Record  
**SECOND PLACE:** James Neal, Enid News & Eagle  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jeff Mullin, Enid News & Eagle

**SMALL SPACE AD**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Kayla Durham, The Lawton Constitution, "Culligan Water"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kayla Durham, The Lawton Constitution, "Wooden Nickel at Edward's"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Advertising Staff, Enid News & Eagle, "Hedges - We're all ears"

**LARGE SPACE AD**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Laura Watts, The Journal Record, "Wanted: Dead or Alive - Oklahoma History Center"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Laura Watts, The Journal Record, "Kilgen Organ Recital - Oklahoma History Center"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Shelly Sanderson, The Journal Record, "Clemens Aviation now operating out of Oklahoma City"

**NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Kyle Phillips, The Norman Transcript, "House Fire"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Mark Hancock, The Journal Record, "Flight instructor guides Gov. Kevin Stitt"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Mark Hancock, The Journal Record, "State of the State"

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Kyle Phillips, The Norman Transcript, "Wiener Dog Race"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kyle Phillips, The Norman Transcript, "Graduation"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Mark Hancock, The Journal Record, "More women working in construction"

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Michael Pope, The Lawton Constitution, "Rangers Rodeo marches on"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kyle Phillips, The Norman Transcript, "Rodeo head stomp"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Billy Hefton, Enid News & Eagle, "Leaping over arms"

**FRONT PAGE DESIGN**  
**FIRST PLACE:** Bryan Richter, The Journal Record  
**SECOND PLACE:** Joe Malan, Enid News & Eagle  
**THIRD PLACE:** Caleb Slinkard, The Norman Transcript

# DIVISION 2 – DAILIES, Circ. 3,000 to 6,200

## SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER The Ardmoreite



### LAYOUT & DESIGN

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

### ADVERTISING

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

### EDITORIAL WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** The Shawnee News-Star  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Ardmoreite  
**THIRD PLACE:** Muskogee Phoenix

### PHOTOGRAPHY

**FIRST PLACE:** Stillwater News Press  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Ada News  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Ardmoreite

### SPORTS COVERAGE

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

### SALES PROMOTION

**FIRST PLACE:** The Ardmoreite, "Best of the Best"  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Shawnee News-Star, "Best of the Best"

**THIRD PLACE:** Stillwater News Press, "Stillwater Guide & Annual Progress Forecast"

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

**FIRST PLACE:** The Ardmoreite, "Recognition of law enforcement, nurses, teachers, fire fighters and student athletes"  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Shawnee News-Star, "Best of Preps"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Stillwater News Press, "Stillwater Medical Center Foundation partnership"

### NEWS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Michelle Charles, Stillwater News Press, "Flood claims life in Perkins; rescue crews busy as water rises"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kim Morava, The Shawnee News-Star, "Jury chooses death penalty"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Carl Lewis & Eric Swanson, The Ada News, "City fields questions on Irving Center meals"

### FEATURE STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Drew Butler, The Ardmoreite, "Making the most of life"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Ashlynd Huffman, The Ada News, "Mama T's: Creating success stories"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Elisabeth Slay, The Shawnee News-Star, "Controlled accident, calculated mistake"

### SPORTS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Jason Elmquist, Stillwater News Press, "A Dream Come True"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jeff Cali, The Ada News, "Morrison wins third straight noodling title"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jordan Bishop, Stillwater News Press, "Hidden Gem"

### IN-DEPTH REPORTING

**FIRST PLACE:** Elisabeth Slay, The Shawnee News-Star, "Shawnee animal rescues and shelter struggle with the growing animal population"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Chesley Oxendine & D.E. Smoot, Muskogee Phoenix, "Flooding"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Michael Smith, The Ardmoreite, "Feeding the future"

### COLUMN WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Jeff Cali, The Ada News  
**SECOND PLACE:** Richard Barron, The Ada News  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jordan Bishop, Stillwater News Press

### NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Richard Barron, The Ada News, "Injury accident diverts traffic"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jason Elmquist, Stillwater News Press, "Seth Green tubing"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Megan Howell, Perry Daily Journal, "Santa at the library"

### FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Michelle Charles, Stillwater News Press, "Memorial Day in Stillwater - Like Grandpa"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jason Elmquist, Stillwater News Press, "Bikers bow their heads in prayer"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Richard Barron, The Ada News, "Cougars host 'USA Theme Night'"

### SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Jordan Bishop, Stillwater News Press, "Home run rob"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jason Elmquist, Stillwater News Press, "Dru Brown leaps over an Oklahoma defender"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jason Elmquist, Stillwater News Press, "Pawnee junior linebacker puts pressure on Mangum quarterback"

### FRONT PAGE DESIGN

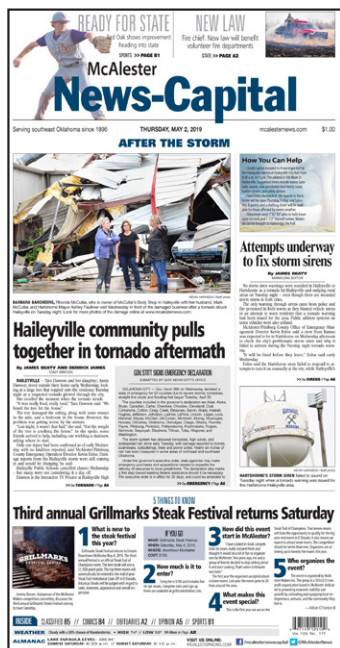
**FIRST PLACE:** Tanner Holubar, Stillwater News Press, "Skeeter Trouble"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tina Bridenstine, The Shawnee News-Star, "Holy disappearing act, Batman"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Gay Ketchum, The Shawnee News-Star, "Earlsboro teacher wins award"

### NEWS CONTENT

**FIRST PLACE:** Muskogee Phoenix  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Shawnee News-Star  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Ardmoreite

# DIVISION 3 – DAILIES, Circ. below 3,000

## SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER McAlester News-Capital



**THIRD PLACE:** Claremore Daily Progress

### ADVERTISING

**FIRST PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital  
**SECOND PLACE:** Claremore Daily Progress  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tahlequah Daily Press

### EDITORIAL WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** The Duncan Banner  
**SECOND PLACE:** Claremore Daily Progress  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tahlequah Daily Press

### PHOTOGRAPHY

**FIRST PLACE:** Tahlequah Daily Press  
**SECOND PLACE:** Woodward News  
**THIRD PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital

### SPORTS COVERAGE

**FIRST PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital  
**SECOND PLACE:** Claremore Daily Progress  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tahlequah Daily Press

### SALES PROMOTION

**FIRST PLACE:** Tahlequah Daily Press, "Newcomers Guide"  
**SECOND PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital, "2019 Football Preview"  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Duncan Banner, "Gridiron 2019"

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

**FIRST PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital, "Helping Neighbors"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Claremore Daily Progress, "Project FreePeriod"

**THIRD PLACE:** Woodward News, "Pioneering Women of Industry"

### NEWS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** James Beaty, Derrick James & Kevin Harvison, McAlester News-Capital, "County commissioner under investigation by police"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sarah Nishimuta, Woodward News, "This was her place"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Dawnita Fogleman, Woodward News, "Area residents survive close call from large tornado"

### FEATURE STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Adrian O'Hanlon III & Kelci McKendrick, McAlester News-Capital, "Tedesco strong: McAlester child prepares for heart surgery"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kayleigh J.T. Harrison, Claremore Daily Progress, "The American Dream: An immigration story in Claremore"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Sheri Gourd, Tahlequah Daily Press, "Bevy of blueberries"

### SPORTS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Johnny McMahan, Woodward News, "Boomers have upgraded helmets, Guardian Caps"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kevin Green, Claremore Daily Progress, "Baseball Medium: Curse of the Bat"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kevin Green, Claremore Daily Progress, "Practice on Thanksgiving Day"

### IN-DEPTH REPORTING

**FIRST PLACE:** Derrick James, McAlester News-Capital, "Trooper-involved fatal shooting of Mark Schoggins"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Adrian O'Hanlon III, James Beaty, Derrick James & Kevin Harvison, McAlester News-Capital, "Tornado strikes Haileyville"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kevin Green, Claremore Daily Progress, "A worthwhile journey, Sisterhood softball"

### (Combined with Semi & Tri-Weekly) COLUMN WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Linda Provost, The Duncan Banner  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kim Poindexter, Tahlequah Daily Press  
**THIRD PLACE:** Lance Moler, The Edmond Sun

### (Combined with Semi & Tri-Weekly) SMALL SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Jana Banta, McAlester News-Capital, "Alamo Liquor Holiday Spirits Sale"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Reina Owens, McAlester News-Capital, "McAlester Country Club"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Connie Poole, McAlester News-Capital, "Diabetic class"

### (Combined with Semi & Tri-Weekly) LARGE SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Lyndsay Bayne, El Reno Tribune, "The Grass Station"  
**SECOND PLACE:** William Kujawa, Claremore Daily Progress, "City of Claremore"

**THIRD PLACE:** Stacey Neal, Durant Democrat, "American National Bank"

### NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Johnny McMahan, Woodward News, "Woodward firefighters battle blaze"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Linda Provost, The Duncan Banner, "Firefighter"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kevin Harvison, McAlester News-Capital, "Parent's Club Manager"

### FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Grant Crawford, Tahlequah Daily Press, "Rider is consoled after Trail of Tears bike ride"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Grant Crawford, Tahlequah Daily Press, "Back to the roots"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Sarah Nishimuta, Woodward News, "Fun in the Sun"

### SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Byron Beers, Tahlequah Daily Press, "Blake Corn"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kevin Harvison, McAlester News-Capital, "Track meet at McAlester"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kevin Green, Claremore Daily Progress, "Bye bye birdie"

### FRONT PAGE DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** Dawnyal Hill, McAlester News-Capital, "Halloween edition 2019"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Grant Crawford, Tahlequah Daily Press, "Rockin' Reggae"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Dawnyal Hill, McAlester News-Capital, "Pink Ribbon Luncheon"

### NEWS CONTENT

**FIRST PLACE:** Tahlequah Daily Press  
**SECOND PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Duncan Banner

### LAYOUT & DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** McAlester News-Capital  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tahlequah Daily Press

## SEMI- & TRI-WEEKLIES

### SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER Sequoyah County Times



#### NEWS CONTENT

**FIRST PLACE:** The Edmond Sun  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sequoyah County Times  
**THIRD PLACE:** Okmulgee Times

#### LAYOUT & DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** Henryetta Free-Lance  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sequoyah County Times  
**THIRD PLACE:** Durant Democrat

#### ADVERTISING

**FIRST PLACE:** The Edmond Sun  
**SECOND PLACE:** El Reno Tribune  
**THIRD PLACE:** Okmulgee Times

#### EDITORIAL WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** El Reno Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** Durant Democrat  
**THIRD PLACE:** Sequoyah County Times

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

**FIRST PLACE:** El Reno Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** Pauls Valley Democrat  
**THIRD PLACE:** Sequoyah County Times

#### SPORTS COVERAGE

**FIRST PLACE:** Sequoyah County Times  
**SECOND PLACE:** Okmulgee Times  
**THIRD PLACE:** El Reno Tribune

#### SALES PROMOTION

**FIRST PLACE:** The Edmond Sun, "Summer Entertainment Guide"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sequoyah County Times, "Women's Expo"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Okmulgee Times, "Treasure Hunt"

#### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

**FIRST PLACE:** The Edmond Sun, "Samaritan Fund Drive"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sequoyah County Times, "Retirement Fair"  
**THIRD PLACE:** El Reno Tribune, "Re-dedication of Memorial Stadium"

#### NEWS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Rick Carpenter, The Altus Times, "Tornado destroys Mangum homes, school facilities"  
**SECOND PLACE:** James Coburn, The Edmond Sun, "Police, family discuss police shootings"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Ray Dyer, El Reno Tribune, "Halliburton cuts 808"

#### FEATURE STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Jessie Brydges, Okmulgee Times, "Sugar Sweet"  
**SECOND PLACE:** James Coburn, The Edmond Sun, "Street of Forgotten Dreams"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jessica Lane, The Express-Star (Chickasha), "Elvis tribute artist to perform in Chickasha"

#### SPORTS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Kevin Farr, Durant Democrat, "Silo makes history with third consecutive crown"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kevin Farr, Durant Democrat, "Lady Lions claim Class 5A state golf title"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Glen Miller, El Reno Tribune, "Making up for lost time"

#### IN-DEPTH REPORTING

**FIRST PLACE:** Shane Smith, El Reno Tribune, "Re-dedication of Memorial Stadium"  
**SECOND PLACE:** James Coburn, The Edmond Sun, "Isaiah Lewis coverage"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Krystle Taylor, Hugo News, "Police shoot children"

*(Combined with Division 3)*

#### COLUMN WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Linda Provost, The Duncan Banner  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kim Poindexter, Tahlequah Daily Press  
**THIRD PLACE:** Lance Moler, The Edmond Sun

*(Combined with Division 3)*

#### SMALL SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Jana Banta, McAlester News-Capital, "Alamo"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Reina Owens, McAlester News-Capital, "McAlester Country Club"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Connie Poole, McAlester News-Capital, "Diabetic class"

*(Combined with Division 3)*

#### LARGE SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Lyndsay Bayne, El Reno Tribune, "The Grass Station"  
**SECOND PLACE:** William Kujawa, Claremore Daily Progress, "City of Claremore"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Stacey Neal, Durant Democrat, "American National Bank"

#### NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Glen Miller, El Reno Tribune, "Two women hug during tornado clean-up"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Shane Smith, El Reno Tribune, "EF3 tornado hits El Reno"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Glen Miller, El Reno Tribune, "Truck fire, cooling energy drinks"

#### FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Rick Carpenter, The Altus Times, "Flipping for football"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Rick Carpenter, The Altus Times, "Good sportsmanship"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Mike Arie, Pauls Valley Democrat, "Talking to Santa"

#### SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Glen Miller, El Reno Tribune, "Battle at the Brick"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Drew Harmon, The Edmond Sun, "Moore stonewalls Santa Fe"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Mike Arie, Pauls Valley Democrat, "Hurdler"

#### FRONT PAGE DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** Glen Miller, Ray Dyer, Shane Smith & Lyndsay Bayne, El Reno Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kari Tompkins, The Edmond Sun  
**THIRD PLACE:** Glen Miller, Lyndsay Bayne, Ray Dyer & Shane Smith, El Reno Tribune

## DIVISION 4 – WEEKLIES, Circ. more than 1,600

### SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER The Purcell Register



#### NEWS CONTENT

**FIRST PLACE:** The Purcell Register  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stigler News-Sentinel  
**THIRD PLACE:** Mustang Times

#### LAYOUT & DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** The Purcell Register  
**SECOND PLACE:** OKC Friday  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Chronicle (Elgin)

#### ADVERTISING

**FIRST PLACE:** The Purcell Register  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Eufaula Indian Journal  
**THIRD PLACE:** OKC Friday

#### EDITORIAL WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Johnston County Sentinel  
**SECOND PLACE:** OKC Friday  
**THIRD PLACE:** Mustang Times

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

**FIRST PLACE:** The Chronicle  
**SECOND PLACE:** Choctaw Times  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Lincoln County News

#### SPORTS COVERAGE

**FIRST PLACE:** The Purcell Register  
**SECOND PLACE:** OKC Friday  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Eufaula Indian Journal

#### SALES PROMOTION

**FIRST PLACE:** The Eufaula Indian Journal, "Focus"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Mustang Times, "Mustang's 50th Anniversary"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Stigler News-Sentinel, "Advantage"

#### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

**FIRST PLACE:** The Purcell Register, "Sales Tax Passage"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Choctaw Times, "Holiday Food Drive"

**THIRD PLACE:** Stigler News-Sentinel, "Angel Tree"

#### NEWS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Lisa Carroll, The Chronicle, "It's the Law"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Darrell Neale, The Stilwell Democrat Journal, "Johnson pleads guilty in murder of wife"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Joani Hartin, Marietta Monitor, "Denton murder suspect apprehended in Love County"

#### FEATURE STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Debi DeSilver, The Chronicle, "Johnny Bench: 'Catch Every Ball'"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tom Lokey, Johnston County Sentinel, "Man, 119, suffers dehydration at Shelton concert"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Keith Neale, The Stilwell Democrat Journal, "46 Stilwell residents died from the flu 100 years ago"

#### SPORTS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Rebecca Carroll, Marietta Monitor, "Turner athletes gear up for great season with special help"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Shonda Little, The Beckham County Record, "PeeWee Champs"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Sheryl Ponce, The Beckham County Record, "Pigeon Racing"

#### IN-DEPTH REPORTING

**FIRST PLACE:** Mike W. Ray, The Chronicle, "Cotton County Sheriff resigns"  
**SECOND PLACE:** John Small, Johnston County Sentinel, "Stepp West Controversy"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Shonda Little, The Beckham County Record, "Varnell Trial"

#### COLUMN WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Brian Blansett, The Lincoln County News  
**SECOND PLACE:** Connie Burcham, Watonga Republican  
**THIRD PLACE:** Charles White, The Madill Record

#### SMALL SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** JJ Francais, The Chronicle, "Scott's House of Flowers: Merry Christmas"  
**SECOND PLACE:** LaGayla Eakle, Stigler News-Sentinel, "Sockey Agency"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tatiana Ryland, Watonga Republican, "McCrary Veterinary Hospital: Happy Thanksgiving"

#### LARGE SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** JJ Francais, The Chronicle, "Pizza Corral: Holly Jolly Pizza"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Ron Vavak, OKC Friday, "Oklahoma Senior Follies"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tatiana Ryland, Watonga Republican, "Easter Blessings from Senator Darcy Jech"

*(Combined with Division 5)*

#### NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Troy Littledeer, The Stilwell Democrat Journal, "Herd of horses interrupts 5K run"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Chelsea Weeks, The Lincoln County News, "Shopping with a cop"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Lisa Carroll, The Chronicle, "Medical helicopters at wreck"

#### FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Lisa Carroll, The Chronicle, "Dog Days"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Debi DeSilver, The Chronicle, "Iced plant next to pole"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Debi DeSilver, The Chronicle, "Tree reflection in lake"

#### SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Rose Cummings, The Beckham County Record, "ECHS Boys Basketball"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Brad Spitzer, The Beckham County Record, "Senior at Western Equipment Classic"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Rose Cummings, The Beckham County Record, "Kobi Casebeer Wrestling"

#### FRONT PAGE DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** Tatiana Ryland, Watonga Republican  
**SECOND PLACE:** Keith Neale, Darrell Neale & Betty Neale, The Stilwell Democrat Journal  
**THIRD PLACE:** Sheryl Ponce, The Beckham County Record

# DIVISION 5 – WEEKLIES, Circ. 1,050 to 1,600

## SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER Countywide & Sun



### NEWS CONTENT

**FIRST PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon  
**SECOND PLACE:** Countywide & Sun (Tecumseh)  
**THIRD PLACE:** Heavener Ledger

### LAYOUT & DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** Owasso Reporter  
**SECOND PLACE:** Countywide & Sun  
**THIRD PLACE:** McIntosh County Democrat

### ADVERTISING

**FIRST PLACE:** Countywide & Sun  
**SECOND PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon  
**THIRD PLACE:** Owasso Reporter

### EDITORIAL WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Countywide & Sun  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Cordell Beacon  
**THIRD PLACE:** Vian Tenkiller News

### PHOTOGRAPHY

**FIRST PLACE:** Countywide & Sun  
**SECOND PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon  
**THIRD PLACE:** Owasso Reporter

### SPORTS COVERAGE

**FIRST PLACE:** Owasso Reporter  
**SECOND PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon  
**THIRD PLACE:** McIntosh County Democrat

### SALES PROMOTION

**FIRST PLACE:** McIntosh County Democrat, "Gridiron Guide"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Midwest City Beacon, "Oklahoma Festival Guide"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Owasso Reporter, "Ready to Rumble football preview"

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

**FIRST PLACE:** Countywide & Sun, "Tornado Preparedness Guide"  
**SECOND PLACE:** McIntosh County Democrat, "Gold Star Luminary Initiative"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Vian Tenkiller News, "God's Blessings Clothes Closet; Ruby's Card Ministry"

### NEWS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Bob Henline, The Cordell Beacon, "Parents look for answers in wake of student assault"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Elizabeth Pitts-Hibbard, The Marlow Review, "A beautiful day for everyone"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Art Haddaway, Owasso Reporter, "E-cigs in school: OHS holds first vaping forum"

### FEATURE STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Art Haddaway, Owasso Reporter, "Evan's impact: Owasso mother hopes son's death helps save lives"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Virginia Bradshaw, Countywide & Sun, "Clean up continues on illegal dump sites"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Bob Henline, The Cordell Beacon, "Burnin' down the house: local fire departments perform joint training"

### SPORTS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Craig Hall, Heavener Ledger, "Heavener graduate runs in Arkansas Traveller 100"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Shawn Hein, Owasso Reporter, "Auntie's Tribute: Emotional letter to late aunt after state game"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jeff Harrison, Midwest City Beacon, "Lady Titans show resolve on final day of state meet"

### (Combined with Division 6) IN-DEPTH REPORTING

**FIRST PLACE:** Suzie Campbell, Countywide & Sun, "Conflict between Shawnee and the Expo Trust"

**SECOND PLACE:** Lori Cooper, The Carnegie Herald, "Will the bond issue pass?"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Bob Henline, The Cordell Beacon, "Ward 4 candidate may be ineligible"

### COLUMN WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Bob Henline, The Cordell Beacon  
**SECOND PLACE:** Patti Poteete, Countywide & Sun  
**THIRD PLACE:** LaDonna Rhodes, McIntosh County Democrat

### SMALL SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts, Countywide & Sun, "CBD"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts, Countywide & Sun, "Virginia's Home Furnishings Ad"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts, Countywide & Sun, "Santa Fe Depot"

### LARGE SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts, Countywide & Sun, "Vote Yes - 12 million plus bond issue"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Bristow News, "Rick Nelson Remembered"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Bristow News, "Mainer Ford"

### (Combined with Division 4) NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Troy Littledeer, The Stilwell Democrat Journal, "Herd of horses interrupts 5K run"

**SECOND PLACE:** Chelsea Weeks, The Lincoln County News, "Shopping with a cop"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Lisa Carroll, The Chronicle, "Medical helicopters at wreck"

### FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Jennifer Pitts, Countywide & Sun, "Little girl on the carousel chicken"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Suzie Campbell, Countywide & Sun, "Flag Retirement"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Jacob Factor, Countywide & Sun, "Max Mathis competes in the steer wrestling competition"

### SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Suzie Campbell, Countywide & Sun, "Lady Wildcat and Lady Pirates collide in the I-40 Showdown."  
**SECOND PLACE:** Bob Henline, The Cordell Beacon, "Blue Devils fall on road at Watonga"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Bob Henline, The Cordell Beacon, "Brady Reimer slides into third"

### FRONT PAGE DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** Melanie Allen, Owasso Reporter  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jacob Factor, McIntosh County Democrat  
**THIRD PLACE:** Bristow News

# DIVISION 6 – WEEKLIES, Circ. 725 to 1,049

## SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER Wagoner County American-Tribune



### NEWS CONTENT

**FIRST PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Comanche Times  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Fairfax Chief

### LAYOUT & DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Carnegie Herald  
**THIRD PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register (Roland)

### ADVERTISING

**FIRST PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Carnegie Herald  
**THIRD PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register

### EDITORIAL WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Fairfax Chief

### PHOTOGRAPHY

**FIRST PLACE:** The Carnegie Herald  
**SECOND PLACE:** Stroud American  
**THIRD PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune

### SPORTS COVERAGE

**FIRST PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Carnegie Herald  
**THIRD PLACE:** Stroud American

### SALES PROMOTION

**FIRST PLACE:** The Carnegie Herald, "Sports Sponsorship"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune, "Coweta Fall Festival"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register, "School Tabs"

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

**FIRST PLACE:** The Carnegie Herald, "Wildcat Turkey Trot"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Wagoner County American-Tribune, "Pet Pantry"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Eastern Times-Register, "Ahimsa Rescue - Dogs for Adoption"

### NEWS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Carey Head, The Fairfax Chief, "Preserving the prairie for 30 years"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Carol Conner, The Fairfax Chief, "Big Hill collapses"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kindra Coffman, Stroud American, "The Naked Truth: streaking in Stroud"

### FEATURE STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Christy Wheeland, Wagoner County American-Tribune, "Lindsay's Heart"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Todd Brooks, The Comanche Times, "Gordon qualifies for nationals"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Carol Conner, The Fairfax Chief, "Diverse scouts honor past"

### SPORTS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Todd Brooks, The Comanche Times, "A dose of Dossey"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Christy Wheeland, Wagoner County American-Tribune, "Coweta baseball legends honored"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Todd Brooks, The Comanche Times, "Indians kick way to first win"

### (Combined with Division 5) IN-DEPTH REPORTING

**FIRST PLACE:** Suzie Campbell, Countywide & Sun, "Conflict between Shawnee and the Expo Trust"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Lori Cooper, The Carnegie Herald, "Will the bond issue pass?"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Bob Henline, The Cordell Beacon, "Ward 4 candidate may be ineligible"

### COLUMN WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Amie Remer, Eastern Times-Register  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jyl Hobbs, Mountain View News  
**THIRD PLACE:** John Ferguson, Wagoner County American-Tribune

### SMALL SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Sherry Stinson, The Fairfax Chief, "Closet of Hope"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sherry Stinson, The Fairfax Chief, "Family Worship Center of Ralston"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Sherry Stinson, The Fairfax Chief, "Muffins for Summer"

### LARGE SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Sherry Stinson, The Fairfax Chief, "Blue Sky Bank"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sherry Stinson, The Fairfax Chief, "D&P Tank Service"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Sherry Stinson, The Fairfax Chief, "Sweet Summer Sips"

### NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Chelsea Weeks, Stroud American, "Sac & Fox Nation PowWow"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Carol Conner, The Fairfax Chief, "Cattle congregate on high ground"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Christy Wheeland, Wagoner County American-Tribune, "Raging inferno"

### FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Brian Blansett, Stroud American, "Oreo on forehead"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sherry Stinson, The Fairfax Chief, "Super Blood Wolf Moon Lunar Eclipse"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Christy Wheeland, Wagoner County American-Tribune, "Decade of Domination"

### SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Donald Cooper, The Carnegie Herald, "Head-first slide"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Donald Cooper, The Carnegie Herald, "Basketball Christian Pewo"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Teresa Bledsoe, The Fairfax Chief, "Woodland swamps Sayre"

### FRONT PAGE DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** Lori Cooper & Donald Cooper, The Carnegie Herald, "Helicopter delivers ball"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Melanie Allen, Wagoner County American-Tribune, "Lindsay's Heart"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Lori Cooper, The Carnegie Herald, "Dance on River Bridge"

# DIVISION 7 – WEEKLIES, Circ. less than 725

## SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER Tri-County Herald

**Move-in day at NRC**

**Summertime hoops**

**Sequoyah three-peat**

**McCloud warrant amnesty program**

**REECE FLOORING** 9587 N. Harrison Chandler 459-279-2317 reeceflo.com

### LAYOUT & DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** The Newcastle Pacer  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tri-County Herald

### ADVERTISING

**FIRST PLACE:** The Thomas Tribune  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tri-County Herald  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Newcastle Pacer

### EDITORIAL WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Tri-County Herald  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Thomas Tribune

### PHOTOGRAPHY

**FIRST PLACE:** Tri-County Herald  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Dewey County Record

### SPORTS COVERAGE

**FIRST PLACE:** Tri-County Herald  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Dewey County Record  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Thomas Tribune

### SALES PROMOTION

**FIRST PLACE:** The Newcastle Pacer, "Pigskin Press Pass"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tri-County Herald, "Congratulations to North Rock Creek"

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

**FIRST PLACE:** Tri-County Herald, "Teacher of the Week"

### NEWS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Lindsey Chastain, Skiatook Journal, "Skiatook floods"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tami Adams, The Thomas Tribune, "Weather complicates harvest, yet results in good yields"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Lindsey Chastain, Skiatook Journal, "Old Skiatook High School comes down"

### FEATURE STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Todd Newville, The Newcastle Pacer, "A Real Pez Head"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Todd Newville, The Newcastle Pacer, "O Brother, Where Art Thou? In No-No Heaven"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kevin Farr, The Dewey County Record, "Government students enjoy real life Mock Trial"

### SPORTS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Kevin Farr, The Dewey County Record, "Lady Cats win record 4th straight state title"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kevin Farr, The Dewey County Record, "The greatest girls team ever?"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Brian Blansett, Tri-County Herald, "State champs, runnerup"

### IN-DEPTH REPORTING

**FIRST PLACE:** Connie Burcham, The Geary Star, "School Bond Issue"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Lindsey Chastain, Skiatook Journal, "Country Corner Fire Department investigation"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Connie Burcham, The Hinton Record, "NextEra, DOD still negotiating location"

### COLUMN WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Lindsey Chastain, Skiatook Journal  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tami Adams, The Thomas Tribune  
**THIRD PLACE:** Ellen Workman, The Westville Reporter

### SMALL SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Ariana Parkinson, The Thomas Tribune, "Cowboy Up for Christ"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Ariana Parkinson, The Thomas Tribune, "75th Wedding Anniversary"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tatiana Ryland, The Geary Star, "Mother's Day - Love Notes and Thank You's"

### LARGE SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Ariana Parkinson, The Thomas Tribune, "Bank of the West"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Ariana Parkinson, The Thomas Tribune, "Sooner Cooperative"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Ariana Parkinson, The Thomas Tribune, "KIS Futures"

### NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Tim Billy, The Thomas Tribune, "Starting the Fun Run with a starting gun"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tim Billy, The Thomas Tribune, "2019 Thomas Fun Run & 5K Starting Line"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Ariana Parkinson, The Thomas Tribune, "Filming vape sensors"

### FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Ariana Parkinson, The Thomas Tribune, "Searching for the pot of gold or Spring?"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Brian Blansett, Tri-County Herald, "Red, white and a little blue"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Lindsey Chastain, Skiatook Journal, "1940s photos of twins recreated"

### SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Brian Blansett, Tri-County Herald, "Player looking back at goal line as ball breaks plane"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Kevin Farr, The Dewey County Record, "Basketball celebration hug"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tim Billy, The Thomas Tribune, "Aden Kelley takes the ball to the goal for two points..."

### FRONT PAGE DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** Clarence B. Wright, The Newcastle Pacer  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tatiana Ryland, The Hinton Record  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tatiana Ryland, The Geary Star

### NEWS CONTENT

**FIRST PLACE:** The Newcastle Pacer  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tri-County Herald (Meeker)  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Westville Reporter

# COLLEGE NEWSPAPERS

## SEQUOYAH AWARD WINNER The Oklahoma Daily

**IS ENOUGH**

**ENOUGH**

**ODAILY**

**THIRD PLACE:** Collegian (Cameron University)

### LAYOUT & DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily (The University of Oklahoma)  
**SECOND PLACE:** Collegian (Cameron)  
**THIRD PLACE:** Northwestern News

### ADVERTISING

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily

### EDITORIAL WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Campus (Oklahoma City University)  
**THIRD PLACE:** Northwestern News

### PHOTOGRAPHY

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily  
**SECOND PLACE:** The Gazette  
**THIRD PLACE:** Collegian (Cameron)

### SPORTS COVERAGE

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily  
**SECOND PLACE:** Collegian (Cameron)  
**THIRD PLACE:** The Gazette

### SALES PROMOTION

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily, "OU-Texas Special Section"

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

**FIRST PLACE:** The Oklahoma Daily, "Diversity and inclusion efforts"

### NEWS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Paul Dower, The Campus, "Senate passes resolution to suspend Kappa Sigma, Alpha Phi"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jana Allen & Emma Davis, The Oklahoma Daily, "It cannot be full consent"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Madison Connell, Collegian (University of Tulsa), "TU Copy closed due to third-party budget restrictions"

### FEATURE STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Blake Douglas, The Oklahoma Daily, "Fighting for OU community"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Haley Humphrey, The Vista (University of Central Oklahoma), "The canine medication that beat small cell lung cancer"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Abigail Hall, The Oklahoma Daily, "OKC rapper Jabee tells his story"

### SPORTS STORY

**FIRST PLACE:** Hallie Hart, The O'Colly (Oklahoma State University), "Pitch Man: the million dollar meeting"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Hallie Hart, The O'Colly, "A new beginning"  
**THIRD PLACE:** George Stoia, The Oklahoma Daily, "OU to send off ultimate senior"

### IN-DEPTH REPORTING

**FIRST PLACE:** Staff, The Oklahoma Daily, "Coverage of diversity and inclusion at OU"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Sean Doherty, Ashley Watts & Michelle Willson, Northwestern News, "Marijuana and its impact"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Caitlyn Pray, Capri Gahr & Megan Brown, Northwestern News, "Oklahoma public education faces the challenges"

### COLUMN WRITING

**FIRST PLACE:** Paul Dower, The Campus  
**SECOND PLACE:** Madison Connell, Collegian (University of Tulsa)  
**THIRD PLACE:** Hope Melton, The Campus

### SMALL SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Austin Childers, The Oklahoma Daily, "Oklahoma Tickets"

### LARGE SPACE AD

**FIRST PLACE:** Austin Childers, The Oklahoma Daily, "University Liquor"

### NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Paxson Haws, The Oklahoma Daily, "Gymnastics trainer cries for deceased husband"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Caitlyn Epes, The Oklahoma Daily, "Tape on mouth"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Tanner Laws, The Vista, "Untested Rape Kits"

### FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Jordan Green, Northwestern News, "Hitting the breaking point"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Jackson Stewart, The Oklahoma Daily, "Bar time lapse"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Kimberly Thompson, The Gazette, "LU celebrates annual International Day"

### SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH

**FIRST PLACE:** Caitlyn Epes, The Oklahoma Daily, "Basketball from catwalk"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Tanner Laws, The Vista, "Nine Touchdowns"  
**THIRD PLACE:** David Perkins, Collegian (Cameron), "Cross Country Takes First"

### FRONT PAGE DESIGN

**FIRST PLACE:** Carly Orewiler, The Oklahoma Daily, "One step closer for Sooners"  
**SECOND PLACE:** Emma Palmer, Collegian (University of Tulsa), "Faculty vote"  
**THIRD PLACE:** Drue Watkins, Collegian (Cameron), "University Awards"

### NEWS CONTENT

**FIRST PLACE:** The Gazette (Langston University)  
**SECOND PLACE:** Northwestern News (Northwestern Oklahoma State University)

# ADDITIONAL AWARDS & HONORS

## 2019 DIGITAL MEDIA AWARDS

### DAILY DIVISION

FIRST PLACE  
**THE JOURNAL RECORD**

SECOND PLACE  
**THE NORMAN TRANSCRIPT**

THIRD PLACE  
**SHAWNEE NEWS-STAR**

### WEEKLY DIVISION

FIRST PLACE  
**JOHNSTON COUNTY SENTINEL**

SECOND PLACE  
**THE PURCELL REGISTER**

THIRD PLACE  
**STIGLER NEWS-SENTINEL**

### COLLEGE DIVISION

FIRST PLACE  
**THE OKLAHOMA DAILY**  
*University of Oklahoma*

## 2019 OPA MAGAZINE CONTEST

FIRST PLACE  
**THE NORMAN TRANSCRIPT**

SECOND PLACE  
**THE LAWTON CONSTITUTION**

THIRD PLACE  
**THE DUNCAN BANNER**

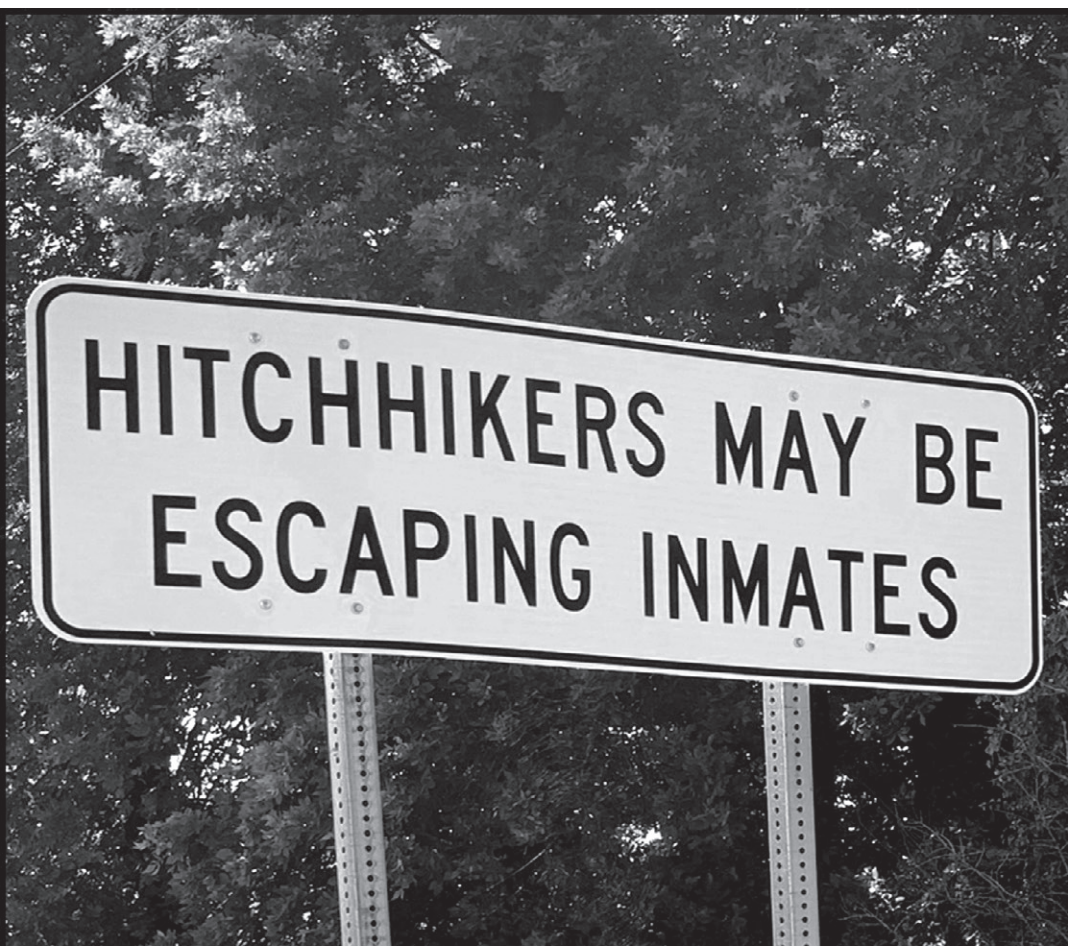


## 2019 JOSEPH H. EDWARDS OUTDOOR WRITER OF THE YEAR AWARD

**KELLY BOSTIAN**, *Tulsa World*

## 2019 RAY LOKEY MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN REPORTING

**MICHAEL CLEMENTS**, *Durant Democrat*



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# OG&E<sup>®</sup> PHOTOS OF THE YEAR

2019 DAILY SWEEPSTAKES WINNER: **BILLY HEFTON**, *Enid News & Eagle*

2019 WEEKLY SWEEPSTAKES WINNER: **CHUCK REHERMAN**, *Yukon Progress*



Maysie Couchman from Chisholm shows her Duroc pig during the Garfield County Junior Livestock Show at the Chisholm Trail Expo Center.

BILLY HEFTON, *Enid News & Eagle*. March 2019



Peyton Barnes of Duke lays the lasso in perfect timing as she competes in the breakaway roping competition at the Yukon FFA Rodeo.

CHUCK REHERMAN, *Yukon Progress*. August 2019

*The Photo Contest Sweepstakes was judged by members of the Maine Press Association.*

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# Cordell Beacon launches health newsletter

The Cordell Beacon recently launched a new health and wellness newsletter.

The Beacon Brief is free not only to subscribers but to anyone who signs up for the service.

The newsletter was made possible in part by a grant awarded to the Beacon's parent company, Wesner Publications, from the Facebook Journalism Project.

The Facebook Journalism Project recently awarded \$10.3 million to local newsrooms across the country to provide timely information to their audiences about the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on local communities.

Wesner Publications was one of only two Oklahoma companies to be awarded a grant.

Beacon owner and publisher Brett Wesner said the grant presented an opportunity to pursue the newsletter.

"For some time, I have wanted to create an email newsletter so we could reach our readers during the time in between our weekly newspapers," said

Wesner. "The difficulty, always, is finding the time and technological platforms to make this a useful, sustainable offering."

Wesner said when he saw the call for proposals from the Facebook Journalism Project, he thought it would be a good opportunity to find funding to launch the newsletter.

"So I applied, and we were happy to be one of only two Oklahoma-based news organizations to be selected to receive a grant," he said.

Wesner said although the idea for the newsletter had been on the boards for some time, the COVID-19 pandemic pushed both the need for such a project and the availability of funding assistance into the foreground.

"When we have finally defeated this virus, I hope to transition the newsletter to a more generally health-related focus," said Wesner.

The Cordell Beacon is the first Wesner Publications newspaper to roll out the



newsletter. It will later be introduced at all 15 of the company's newspapers in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico.

Bob Henline, editor of The Cordell Beacon, will be spearheading the editorial direction of the newsletters going forward, said Wesner.

## Muskogee, Stillwater switch to postal delivery

The Muskogee Phoenix and Stillwater News Press recently converted home delivery of their newspapers to the U.S. Postal Service.

Both publications cited the COVID-19 pandemic as the catalyst for the change.

An article in the Stillwater News Press said the newspaper has secured same day delivery from the Stillwater and area town post offices.

The Muskogee Phoenix also announced that it is adding a Weekend edition that comes out on Saturdays in place of the Sunday edition.

The Phoenix and News Press, both owned by CNHI, Inc., encouraged subscribers to activate their digital accounts, which provide full access to the website and the e-paper editions.

# 2019 OPA PERFECTA AWARD WINNERS

*The Perfecta Award honors OPA member newspapers that achieve 100 percent accuracy on advertising orders from Oklahoma Press Service in the previous year.*

Alva Review-Courier

The Apache News

The Ardmoreite

Atoka County Times

Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise

The (Beaver) Herald-Democrat

Blackwell Journal-Tribune

Broken Bow News

Buffalo Weekly News

The Carnegie Herald

The Chelsea Reporter

Clayton Today

The Cleveland American

The Cyril News

Drumright Gusher

The (Eakly) Country Connection News

The Elk City News

Enid News & Eagle

Frederick Press-Leader

Garber-Billings News

Garfield County Daily Legal News

Garvin County News Star

The Geary Star

The Healdton Herald

Henryetta Free-Lance

Holdenville News

The Hominy News-Progress

Inola Independent

Johnston County Sentinel

Kiowa County Democrat

Latimer County News-Tribune

The Lindsay News

The Lone Grove Ledger

Mangum Star

The Marlow Review

Midwest City Beacon

The Mooreland Leader

Mustang News

Mustang Times

The Newkirk Herald Journal

Okemah News Leader

OKC Friday

The (OKC) Black Chronicle

The Oklahoman

Pauls Valley Democrat

Pawhuska Journal-Capital

The Perkins Journal

Perry Journal

The Prague Times-Herald

The Purcell Register

The Ringling Eagle

(Roland) Eastern Times-Register

The Shawnee News-Star

Spiro Graphic

The Stilwell Democrat Journal

Sulphur Times-Democrat

Talihina American

The (Tecumseh) Countywide & Sun

The Tonkawa News

Tulsa Beacon

Tulsa World

The Tuttle Times

The Valliant Leader

The Vici Vision



Wagoner County American-Tribune

Weatherford Daily News

The Wewoka Times

The Wilson Post-Democrat

Yale News

*Congratulations to the Perfecta Award Winners*



# In Memoriam

## June 2019 to May 2020

*In accordance with membership wishes, this report includes only those who were either longtime newspaper employees still engaged in the trade at the time of death, or those who had, though retired, made newspaper work their principal occupation.*

**MARGUERITE BABB**, a former editor for the Jenks Journal, died April 28, 2020. She was 90. Babb was born in Tulsa and graduated from Webster High School in 1947. She was editor of the Jenks Journal from 1967-1972.

**THOMAS BLAKEY**, a former reporter at The Norman Transcript, died Feb. 15, 2020. He was 62. Blakey, who was born in Oklahoma City, moved with his family to Norman in the mid-1960s. He later studied at OKC Community College and Phillips University in Enid. For 15 years he was a reporter for The Norman Transcript, where he received multiple awards.

**SALLY BRIGHT**, the former Tulsa World and syndicated columnist behind the long-running "Our Lively Language" feature, died Aug. 3, 2019. She was 84. Bright wrote her popular column for nearly 30 years. The feature debuted in 1978. During her years of syndication, which began in 1990, Bright appeared in more than 20 publications across the country. Her column fielded questions from readers on word meanings, grammar and syntax. Bright was also a distinguished educator.

**FRANCES JANE BRYANT**, a pioneering journalist who served as one of Oklahoma's first female daily newspaper editors, died Nov. 10, 2019, in Norman. She was 85. Bryant was born Dec. 10, 1933, in Cushing. She worked during the summer for the Cushing Daily Citizen. She graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia and began her career at The Norman Transcript in December 1955. She worked as a reporter, wire editor, city editor and managing editor before retiring in December 1995. She was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 1994 and was active in local civic groups.

**WAYNE L. CALDWELL**, a former employee at the Hugo Daily News, died Dec. 12, 2019. He was 84. Caldwell was born March 8, 1935, in Hugo. He worked at the Hugo Daily News while in school and after graduating was promoted to Linotype operator, and then foreman. He remained at the Hugo Daily News until 1963 and then moved to Kansas. He later returned to Hugo and worked at Central Texas College as an offset printing instructor for the Graphics Art program.

**JOHN R. CLABES**, a longtime Oklahoma journalist, died March 27, 2020. He was 94. Clabes was born March 21, 1926, in Poteau.

He joined the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1944, and graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1950 with a bachelor's degree in journalism. Clabes worked for newspapers in Hobart and Lawton before going to work at the Oklahoma Journal in 1964. The Journal ceased publication in 1981. Clabes then held several federal government jobs. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 1996. He received many honors for his pioneering efforts in typography, makeup design and offset production.

**HELEN ROSE CLINE**, an Oklahoma journalist, died Oct. 9, 2019. She was 87. Cline was born Feb. 14, 1932, near Lacy. She received a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University in 1953 and a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1963. She received an OU Press fellowship and worked as an editor for the Oklahoma Publishing Company in Oklahoma City, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Williamsburg, Va., and the American Library Foundation in Chicago. Cline retired in 1993.

**CAROL LOUISE COLE-FROWE**, an Oklahoma journalist, died Feb. 25, 2020. She was 66. Carol was born July 1, 1953, in Norman. She graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma in 1994. She won numerous awards for her insightful investigative reporting at both Oklahoma newspapers and international news organizations, including The Norman Transcript, the Oklahoma Gazette, the Associated Press and The New York Times. She was a long-time member of the Oklahoma Society of Professional Journalists.

**LYLE HOWELL COLLINS**, a former Linotype operator at the Shawnee News-Star, died Oct. 13, 2019. He was 80. Collins was born May 6, 1939, in Konawa. He served in the Oklahoma Air National Guard. Collins started his career with the Shawnee News-Star as a Linotype operator. He later took a job at General Motors but continued to deliver the News-Star. In 2010, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Press Association's Half Century Club.

**CHELSEA C. COOK**, a former editor at the Henryetta Free-Lance, died Jan. 20, 2020. He was 84. Cook was born Dec. 21, 1936, in Marysville, Calif. He studied music at the University of Oklahoma before graduating from Central State College, now University of Central Oklahoma, with a master's degree in music education. He served as the band director at Wewoka High School from 1966

to 1979. During his "retirement," Cook did missionary work and became editor of the Henryetta Free-Lance, where he wrote a column called "And Furthermore."

**ROBERT CROUT**, who was once owner and publisher of the Mustang News, died July 17, 2019. He was 69. Crout was born Dec. 24, 1949, in Wichita Falls, Texas. He attended the University of Oklahoma, receiving a degree in finance and business law in 1972. He founded Crout Development Company in 1977. After the real estate bust in the 1980s, Crout purchased The Mustang News and developed his "Teed Off" column. He was an associate member of the Oklahoma Press Association.

**MARILYN LOUISE DUCK**, who worked at the Oklahoma City Times and Tulsa Tribune, died Sept. 15, 2019. She was 63. Duck was born Oct. 31, 1955, and grew up in Tulsa. After graduating from the University of Oklahoma, she began her career in the Norman bureau of the now-defunct Oklahoma City Times, and later became an assistant editor. After returning to Tulsa, she went to work for the Tulsa Tribune, and served in the Tribune's Washington D.C. bureau. After spending some time in California working at the Santa Rosa Press Democrat as an editorial writer, she once again returned to Tulsa and worked as writer and editor of the Eastern Oklahoma Catholic Magazine.

**SHARON ANN DEAN**, an Oklahoma journalist, died March 16, 2020. She was 70. Dean was born Aug. 3, 1949, in Mangum. She attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford and Western Oklahoma State College in Altus. Dean began her newspaper career at the Mangum Star and Granite Enterprise. She was editor of the Enterprise before starting Dean's Printing and The Enterpriser in Mangum in 1980.

**GEORGE EDGAR GURLEY**, editor and co-owner of The Ada Evening News for almost 30 years, died Jan. 18, 2020. He was 94. Gurley was born Jan. 18, 1925, in Poplar Bluff, Mo. He moved to Ardmore as a child, graduating from Ardmore High School in 1942. He attended the University of Oklahoma, then joined the U.S. Air Force. After World War II, Gurley graduated from OU with a degree in journalism. In 1951, he married Mary Elizabeth Little, whose father, W.D. Little Sr., was owner of The Ada Evening News. Gurley became editor of The Evening News in 1952.

**DENNIE HALL**, a respected journalist, journalism professor and historian, died April 17, 2020. He was 85. Hall was co-founder of the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame and once served as its director. He was the longtime adviser to the University of Central Oklahoma's student publication, The Vista, and was known for supporting its editors against attacks from the administration. Hall was The Oklahoman's book editor, known for his reviews and helping future authors.

**PHYLLIS LOUISE HAMMER**, who once owned and published the Fairview Republican and Cherokee Messenger & Republican with her husband Larry, died Oct. 18, 2019. She was 81. Phyllis was born Dec. 23, 1937. She married Larry Dale Hammer in 1955. The Hammers worked at the Fairview Republican before purchasing the newspaper in 1958. In 1966, they purchased the Cherokee Messenger & Republican. They also owned and operated the Woodward County Journal and Jet Visitor. In the 1970s, they partnered with K.V. Williams to form Hammer-Williams Company, a corporation that operated convenience stores across the state.

**BOB HARING**, former executive editor of the Tulsa World, died Aug. 24, 2019. He was 86. A distinguished, pioneering journalist, Haring served as the World's executive editor from 1981-95. A native of Missouri and a graduate of the University of Missouri, Haring started his journalism career in 1954 as city editor of The Southern Illinoisian in Carbondale, Illinois. He served two years in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. In 1959, Haring began a 16-year career as a journalist and executive with the Associated Press. He also spent several years in Tulsa as the wire service's local correspondent. As New Jersey bureau chief, he conceived and implemented Task Force '70, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. In 1971, he was named director of financial services for The Associated Press. Haring returned to local media in 1975 as the Tulsa World's Sunday editor and, starting in 1981, executive editor. He would serve in the newsroom's top position until 1995, before his full retirement in 1997. Haring was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2000.

**RON HENDERSON**, longtime publisher of The County Democrat in Shawnee, died March 6, 2020. He was 77. Henderson was born Dec. 2, 1942, in Shawnee. He graduated from Shawnee High School in 1960 and later attended Okmulgee Tech and Oklahoma Baptist University. He was owner of Demco Printing in Shawnee, a family business that he joined in 1961.

**FRED B. HILTON JR.**, a former sports editor at the Ponca City News, died March 3, 2020. He was 82. Hilton was born May 13, 1937, in Pine Bluff, Ark. He received a degree in journalism from Arkansas State College in Jonesboro, Ark. In 1962, Hilton was named sports editor for the Ponca City News. He retired in 2011. In 2002, Hilton was inducted into the Oklahoma Press Association's Quarter Century Club.

**CHARLES WILLIAM HOOPER**, who worked as a Linotype operator, died Nov. 22, 2019. He was 89. Hooper was born Dec. 26, 1929. He grew up in southeast Oklahoma and later

joined the U.S. Army. After an honorable discharge in 1947, he moved to Norman and attended the University of Oklahoma School of Journalism. While in school, he was a Linotype operator for both The Oklahoma Daily and The Norman Transcript.

**VERLDINE 'GERI' McCLURE HUSTON**, who worked in sales at the Shawnee News-Star, died Feb. 5, 2020. She was 75. Huston was born May 31, 1944, in Shawnee. She attended Oscar Rose Junior College and Oklahoma City Community College. She then moved to San Pablo, Calif., where she worked for the Richmond Independent newspaper before moving back to Oklahoma. Huston also worked for the Oklahoma Journal and for two radio stations in Shawnee. She then went to work for the Shawnee News-Star in the sales department, retiring 10 years later.

**KENNETH D. KISER, JR.**, publisher of the Medford Patriot-Star, died May 8, 2019. He was 54. Kiser was born Aug. 1, 1964, in Harper, Kansas. He started working at the Harper Advocate in 1978. After graduating from high school, he went to work full-time at the newspaper and took on the role of sports editor and photographer. Kiser acquired the Wakita Herald in 1991. He later bought the Medford and Pond Creek newspapers. In 2016, he merged the papers of Grant County into a single publication.

**GUY T. LEDBETTER**, a former sports editor at The Ardmoreite, died Oct. 15, 2019. He was 79. Ledbetter was born April 28, 1940, in Ardmore. He graduated from Ardmore High School in 1958, then attended Cameron University in Lawton and Southeastern University in Durant. In addition to serving as sports editor at The Ardmoreite, Ledbetter was a disc jockey at KVSO.

**GRACE ANNE LEONHART**, a reporter for The Lawton Constitution, died Feb. 5, 2020. She was 63. Leonhart was a graduate of Lawton High School and Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas. She was a talented journalist, writing for newspapers in Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma, receiving journalistic excellence awards in both Arkansas and Oklahoma. Over the years, several of her articles were featured by AP network news.

**JAMES 'JIM' WATIE MAYO**, retired publisher for the Sequoyah County Times and a past president of the Oklahoma Press Association, died Oct. 3, 2019, at the age of 77. He was born July 17, 1942. Mayo graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a bachelor's degree in 1964. He went to work at the Sequoyah County Times as managing editor in 1967, and later became associate publisher and general manager. Mayo was publisher of the newspaper from 1986 to 2016, before retiring to become president of Cookson Hills Publishers, Inc., the family company that owns the Times. Mayo was named to the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 1993, was the recipient of the OPA H. Milt Phillips Award in 1999, recipient of the ONF Beachy Musselman Award in 2002, and was named to the OPA Half Century Club in 2004. He served on the Oklahoma Press Association board of directors from 1978 to 1987 and was president of the OPA in 1987. He also served as president of the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation.

**JOE W. McBRIDE JR.**, publisher emeritus of The Anadarko Daily News, died Feb. 25, 2020. He was 90. McBride was born Nov. 12, 1929, in Oklahoma City. He moved with his family to Anadarko in 1937 when his father purchased The Anadarko Daily News. McBride Jr. graduated from Oklahoma Military Academy and then attended the University of Oklahoma, graduating in 1951 with a degree in journalism. He was called to active duty in August 1951. After being released in 1953, he remained active in the Army Reserve. In August 1957, he was named general manager of The Anadarko Daily News. Following the death of his father in 1972, he was named publisher. McBride served as president of the Oklahoma Press Association in 1987, was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 1989, and received the OPA Milt Phillips Award in 1994.

**JAKE NORMAN McDONALD**, who worked as a journalist in Weatherford, Okla., died April 1, 2020, in Norman. He was 28. Born Aug. 20, 1991, McDonald graduated from Norman North High School in 2010. He attended classes at the University of Central Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma. For a short time he worked as a reporter for the Weatherford Daily News.

**ROBERT STANDISH 'BOB' MEACHAM, JR.**, who worked for The Daily Oklahoman for many years, died July 29, 2019. He was 73. Meacham was born Dec. 10, 1945, in Columbus, Ohio. A veteran of the Army National Guard, Meacham attended Oklahoma State University. He retired from The Daily Oklahoman after a 38-year career in advertising sales.

**IRVIN LEE MILLER**, publisher of the Taloga Times-Advocate, died June 20, 2019. He was 69. Miller was born May 23, 1950, in Taloga. He received a bachelor's degree in music education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. He served as band director at Guymon Junior High and High School from 1972 to 1981. After retiring from ONEOK in 2012, Miller and his wife Cindy purchased the Taloga Times-Advocate and operated it for seven years.

**SHELBY ALICE MILLER**, former owner of the Frederick Press, died July 25, 2019. She was 81. Miller was born Aug. 2, 1937, in Briartown, Okla., and attended schools in Tipton. She and her husband, Joe Miller, owned and operated the Frederick Press.

**PATSY WILLENE MUCHMORE**, an Oklahoma journalist, died Nov. 7, 2019, in Clearwater Fla. She was 81. Muchmore was born June 28, 1937. Her career began at The Holdenville Daily News in 1959. She worked at several Oklahoma newspapers including The Wewoka Times, Kingfisher Times, Enid Morning News and finally The Ponca City News. She left her position at The Ponca City News in 1974. In 1977, she married Gareth Bruce Muchmore, co-publisher and editor of The Ponca City News.

**NANCY JANICE 'JAN' O'LEARY**, a former employee and co-editor of The Hooker Advance, died April 23, 2020. She was 78. O'Leary was born Nov. 26, 1941, in Mitchell, Ark. She moved with her family to Hooker

in 1975 and went to work for The Hooker Advance. The family moved to Houston in 1988.

**JERRY RAY POGUE**, former Tulsa World and Tulsa Tribune journalist and volunteer prison minister, died Dec. 11, 2019. He was 79. Pogue was born Jan. 9, 1940, in Drumright. After graduating from the University of Tulsa, he began his career with the Tulsa World as a sports writer. He left that role to become sports information director at the University of Tulsa. He returned to the Tulsa Tribune in 1977 and was there, except for a couple of years, until the newspaper closed in 1992. Pogue was also a lay minister and church deacon with a passion for prison ministry.

**WINDSOR RIDENOUR**, the Tulsa Tribune's last executive editor and past Oklahoma Associated Press Media Editors president, died Aug. 29, 2019, at age 80. Ridenour was born Sept. 21, 1938, in Skiatook. After earning his journalism degree from Oklahoma State University in 1964, he worked at The San Diego Union as a reporter before starting his 28-year career at the Tribune as a reporter in 1965. He started there as a police reporter, served as Oklahoma City bureau chief, was promoted to city editor in 1973, assistant managing editor in 1982, managing editor a year later, and executive editor in 1989. Ridenour held that position until the newspaper ceased publication in October 1992. In August 1992, six weeks before the Tribune's scheduled closure, the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame awarded Ridenour a special honor for his 27 years of outstanding service in journalism.

**DANIEL H. RODGERS**, former advertising manager for the Sequoyah County Times, died Oct. 5, 2019. He was 76. Rodgers was born Oct. 3, 1943, in Wasco, Calif. In addition to serving as ad manager at the Sequoyah County Times, he sold advertising for the Anadarko Daily News and managed the Sand Springs Leader.

**PAULA LEMARR McBRIDE SAVAGE**, assistant editor of The Anadarko Daily News, died Oct. 12, 2019. She was 61. Paula was born March 12, 1958. She attended the University of Oklahoma, receiving a degree in journalism in 1988. She later received a minor in religious studies from OU. She began working at her family's newspaper, The Anadarko Daily News, in 1974 and was employed there as assistant editor at the time of her death.

**DANIEL LEE SCROGGINS**, a former editor of the Atoka County Times, died Oct. 9, 2019. He was 72. Scroggins was born Dec. 29, 1946, in Atoka. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam era and later was in the Army National Guard. He was a member of the Oklahoma Bar Association, served as editor of the Indian Citizen, editor of the Atoka County Times, as city attorney of Atoka and Stringtown, and as a private attorney, assistant district attorney and associate district judge.

**FREDERICK DAVID SEATON**, longtime publisher of the Winfield Daily Courier in Kansas, died April 18, 2020. He was 80. Seaton was born June 16, 1939, in Manhattan, Kan. He graduated from Harvard University and

later earned a master's degree from the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs. Seaton worked for Winfield Publishing Company, part of the Seaton Newspaper Group, which has seen four generations of family members operate newspapers in Kansas and other states. He served as editor and publisher of the Winfield Daily Courier from 1981 to 2009. During that time, the company purchased the Newkirk Herald Journal in Oklahoma and the Arkansas City Traveler. Seaton remained an active owner and was chairman of the board for Winfield Publishing at the time of his death. Seaton served as president of the Kansas Press Association in 1991 and was inducted into the KPA Hall of Fame in 2010.

**PAUL D. SHELL**, a longtime Oklahoma journalist, died Aug. 27, 2019. He was 63. Shell was born in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., on Sept. 6, 1955. He attended South Oklahoma City Junior College where he received an associate degree in journalism and broadcasting. After college, Shell went to work for The Daily Oklahoman as a reporter. He retired as a copy editor after 30-plus years. He was a member of the Oklahoma City Gridiron Club.

**OWEIDA SMILEY**, a teletypesetter for The Lawton Constitution, died Sept. 25, 2019, in Lawton. She was 90. Smiley was born Sept. 20, 1929, in Grady County. She worked for The Lawton Constitution from 1961 to 1994 as a switchboard operator, manager of the classified ad department and was a teletypesetter when hot type was still in use. She retired when computers were being phased into the production side of the newspaper.

**MARY TOWNSLEY**, a longtime chief switchboard operator at the Tulsa World, died Oct. 10, 2019. She was 84. For more than 40 years, Townsley worked the switchboards at the former Newspaper Printing Corp., handling calls for both the Tulsa World and Tulsa Tribune. She continued with the World after the Tribune closed in 1991. She retired when she was in her 70s.

**MERCEDES ELIZABETH (BALL) WHEELER**, who once worked at The Daily Oklahoman, died Feb. 6, 2020. She was 95. Born in Buaxite, Ark., Wheeler grew up in Arkansas, Texas and Oklahoma. She was food editor for The Daily Oklahoman during the 1960s, and was featured on cooking segments on local TV. Wheeler created "Dial-A-Recipe" before the internet, and wrote a cookbook, novels and magazine articles. She also edited the Baptist Messenger newsletter and worked as a legal assistant for a criminal defense lawyer.

**KENNETH RONALD WOOD**, former owner and publisher of The Maysville News and Stratford Star, died Oct. 9, 2019. He was 77. Wood was born July 21, 1942, in Pauls Valley. He graduated from Pauls Valley High School in 1960. Wood worked in the newspaper business for 50 years, starting as a paperboy at the Pauls Valley Democrat. He also was editor of the Wynnewood Gazette as well as owning and publishing The Maysville News and Stratford Star. He retired from the newspaper business in 2008. Wood was inducted into the Oklahoma Press Association's Half Century Club in 2008.

# How to use color gradients in Adobe Photoshop



## Computer Notes

from the road  
by Wilma Newby  
wnewby@okpress.com

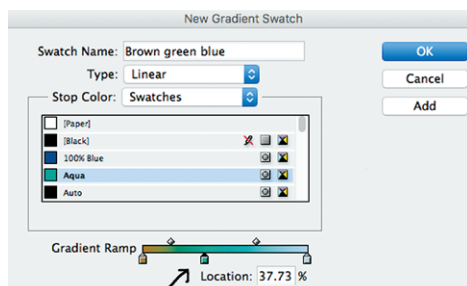
Are you familiar with using the color picker tool in Photoshop and/or InDesign to create gradients from a photo?

Let's take a look at how to use it. First, place a photo in your document, then go to the color picker.

Select a pleasing color within the photo and go to the Swatches palette. Use the flyout menu to create a new color swatch. Switch **Color Mode** to **CMYK**; **Color type** should be **Process**. Give the swatch a name that's easy to remember. Now do it again with another color in the photo. Make sure you click on the pointer tool in between colors to reset the color picker tool.

Next, go to the flyout window in the Swatches palette and choose New Gradient swatch. In the drop down next to the word Type, choose swatches.

Click on one of the boxes in the Gradient Ramp and choose one of the swatches you created from the photo. Then choose the lower Gradient ramp box and select the other color that was



created. Name the new gradient swatch. Draw a box and choose that new gradient swatch as your fill. Additional ramp boxes can be created by clicking below the ramp then choosing a color for the intermediate color.

The gradient tool lets you control the direction and amount of the gradient by dragging it from one side to the other. The gradient palette allows you to control the gradient that has been created by choosing Radial or Linear and moving the sliders around.

Normally we just use swatches and the Gradient Tool to control the way a gradient works on the page. That

works but if you have the Creative Cloud suite, there's an easier way to make new swatches from a photo with the color theme tool, located with the regular eye dropper tool.



It comes with a popup panel. Click within the photo with this tool and the panel will show a range of colors that work with the photo. To add the colors to swatches, click the **add this theme to swatches** button. This is useful for creating gradients for use on an ad or page.

If you've ever wondered why there are two gradient tools in the Creative Cloud it's because they added the gradient feather tool that softens the gradient to a lighter blend. When you drag your cursor across the photo with this tool it softens the colors in the direction you drag. The plain gradient tool just lets you change the direction the gradient is applied.

## CHROMEBOOKS

If you're looking for a laptop for a reporter, you might consider a Chromebook. This little laptop is going mainstream and while it can't run your layout software, it is great for typing copy and email.

The Chrome operating system now includes apps not considered a couple of years ago. Chrome OS is now the second most popular PC operating system, overtaking the Mac OSX a few years ago.

With so many apps running through a web browser, now lots of programs are accessible. Just like Google Docs, Microsoft has made Word and Excel open up in the browser and save to OneDrive. OneDrive and Google Drive are becoming very similar as Microsoft tries to catch up with the Google platform.

The newer Chromebooks will run Android apps such as Word, Excel, Photoshop Express, Acrobat and Lightroom, as well as Linux apps. The apps are lightweight versions of the programs but work fairly well on Android phones and very well on newer Chromebooks.

With i5 and i7 processors, Chrome-

books compete with Windows laptops. As far as speed and specs, they have the Wifi 6 card slot for more storage space and USB-C ports. Most have touchscreens that come with a pen. They can be used as a tablet or laptop.

Chrome will now work with Dropbox and OneDrive for Androids. Google Drive storage has always been a staple on Chromebooks. TeamViewer and LogMeIn apps also work on Chromebook/Android computers. We now have a complete package for the work from home users that is secure since the operating system is newer.

Google made Android apps work on Chromebooks back in 2016. But now that they're more powerful, it's no longer the underdog. It's worth giving it a look.

If you already have a Chromebook in the office, you can make it more useful by turning on the Android apps. To do this, click on your account image in the bottom-right corner of the screen. When the options pop up, select **Settings**.

In the **Google Play Store** section, next to **Install apps and games from Google Play on your Chromebook**, select **Turn on**. In the window that appears, select **More**. You'll be prompted to agree to the Terms of Service. After reading, select **I Agree**.

Now you can download Adobe and Microsoft apps.

Note: If you don't see the option for **Google Play Store** your Chromebook will not work with Android apps. Try upgrading the operating system.

## CREATE A RESTORE POINT

Now it is more important than ever to create a restore point of the system on all Windows 10 computers each time a major update is applied.

Microsoft has released a number of bad updates in a row that have crashed users' computers.

In the recovery process it is very helpful if there was a restore point made before the update was applied. Windows computers are supposed to do this automatically but I have found a number of them that have not had this feature set up on the computer, or it just didn't make the restore point for some reason.

Make it a habit to create a manual restore point once in a while, especially if you know an update is about to happen. Restore points do not replace a backup to an external drive. Its purpose is to help restore the system back to a good date.

To create a restore point, open a folder and right click on **This PC** or **My Computer** if you're still on Windows 7. Go to **Properties**. This brings up a win-

dow that tells you about the computer. On the left side choose the link that says **System Protection**.

This brings up another window that has a **Configure** button and a **Create** button. Look at both. The **Configure** button lets you choose how much drive space will be taken up by the system restore files. It doesn't take much space but give it a good two to three percent of the drive. If your drive is very small, maybe give it only one percent. Be sure that the button is clicked that says **Turn on system protection**. Hit **Apply** and then **OK**.

Now click on the **Create** button and give it a name. Then click the **Create** button. It takes a few minutes to finish but it buys some peace of mind.

I often use the recovery restore points when the system won't come up. If you have an update that seems incompatible with your computer, take these steps: Select the **Start** button, then select **Settings > Update & Security > Windows Update > View your update history**. For an uninstall right click the update you want to remove, and then select **Uninstall**.

## QUARK 2020

Now that Quark 2020 is out are you considering it? I know many of you are rolling your eyes at the mention of Quark, but it's not the program we used 10 years ago.

The new Quark can edit photos right in the program – that's right, the photo can be edited on the page – although it's not anywhere near close to a Photoshop level. You can also create graphics and illustrations inside the program using Illustrator type features.

Quark Express can convert InDesign files directly to Quark files and it creates PDFs with all the standards we expect.

It's a perpetual license for Windows and Mac users unlike InDesign, which is a monthly fee. However, there's one big "but...". Quark Express now comes with an update/support program for an annual fee. It's built into the price of the program up front. But to get updates for your program after you purchase it, you're going to need the **QuarkXPress Advantage** program. A one year plan costs \$395 per license; the two year plan is \$625 and the three year is \$795. I've found it hard to reinstall the program if the support package is not in effect.

Save your downloads and access codes in a safe place. If you need to reinstall the software in the future, you're going to need that information. Otherwise, Quark will want you to update to the latest version, which means buying it again.



## LEGAL ADVICE

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# DEATHS

**KENNETH WAYNE DICKERSON**, an attorney, retired judge and former co-owner of the Piedmont-Surrey Gazette, died May 30, 2020.

Dickerson was born Jan. 21, 1939. He graduated from Piedmont High School in 1957, then enrolled at Central State University, now the University of Central Oklahoma, in Edmond. After completing

three semesters of college, he joined the Navy in 1959.

After he was honorably discharged, he enrolled in Oklahoma City University School of Law. After graduating, he served Oklahoma citizens for more than 30 years as an attorney, special district judge for Canadian County, an associate district judge, and a volunteer appellate

judge for the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals.

While co-owner and editor of the Piedmont-Surrey Gazette, Dickerson wrote sports articles and editorials.

Dickerson is survived by his son, John Dickerson of Edmond; daughter Dia Bayer of Piedmont; and three grandchildren.

**JAMES H. 'JIM' KEISMAN**, retired advertising director for the Seminole Producer, died May 26, 2020.

Keisman was born July 23, 1938, in Huntington, Ark., and graduated from Mansfield High School in 1956.

He spent 42 years in journalism, starting in 1956 selling advertising for the Fort Smith Times Record. After a stint in

Natchez, Miss., he joined the Seminole Producer in 1959.

He was a member of the Oklahoma Lions Club for 57 years, and was district governor in 1977-78.

The hobby he was best known for was restoring parking meters. Keisman purchased more than 5,000 meters as nine communities removed them from main streets throughout Oklahoma.

Keisman is survived by his wife, Sherry Marie; sons Bryan Keisman of Seminole, and Brent Keisman of McKinney, Texas; brother David Keisman of Fort Smith, Ark.; sister Mary Etta Morey of Glendale, Ariz.; two stepchildren; nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

**KENNETH DARRELL MORROW**, a former Oklahoma journalist, died June 4, 2020. He was 85.

Morrow was born August 1, 1934, in Hancock, Mo. He attended Hutchinson Junior College in Kansas.

His journalism career included more than 40 years as newspaper editor, writer

and photographer for newspapers including The Wichita Eagle Beacon, The Oklahoman and The Journal Record.

After semi-retiring for eight years, he went to work at the Oklahoma State Department of Agriculture, fully retiring in 2003.

Morrow was also a veteran who

served in the US Army in Germany and in the Kansas Air National Guard.

He is survived by his wife, Janie Marie (Crouch) Hopfer Morrow; daughter Betsy Lou Miller; son Chod Darrell Morrow; and four grandchildren.

**KARLA PAXTON**, who along with her husband Casey owned and operated the Mangum Star-News for more than 20 years, died May 15, 2020.

Karla was born April 28, 1954, and grew up in the Russell, Okla., area.

She met Casey in 1970 and they were married in 1971.

The couple began their newspaper

careers in 1987 when they purchased the Cheyenne Star. After their children graduated from school, they began to look at the possibility of moving back to Mangum to take care of their parents.

They purchased the Mangum Star in July 1999 and served the community until they sold it in November 2019.

Karla was inducted into the Oklaho-

ma Press Association's Quarter Century Club in 2017.

She is survived by her husband of 48 years, Casey; daughter Tonya Paxton; son Scott Paxton; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; three sisters, Donna Kukuk, Barbara Wolfe and Linda Fogle; and one brother, Mike Neurburg.

## IN MEMORY OF OUR FRIENDS & COLLEAGUES WHO DIED THE PREVIOUS YEAR

Kenneth D. Kiser Jr.  
May 8, 2019  
Irvin Lee Miller  
June 20, 2019

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# OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS CONTEST WINNERS

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

Column: **JADEN JENNINGS**, *Tri-County Herald*

Editorial: **KIM POINDEXTER**, *Tahlequah Daily Press*



Excerpts from 2019 Column Sweepstakes Winner (May 2019)

### JADEN JENNINGS, TRI-COUNTY HERALD

#### The night depression didn't win

I told myself this cool evening in April would be my last.

Driving home from cheer practice, I was crying and bashing the steering wheel, cursing God for not helping me to overcome this deep sadness.

When I got home, I headed straight to the medicine cabinet.

Without thinking twice, I swallowed an 800 milligram Motrin and wished things could be different, that I could just feel different.

Another pill followed, then another and another until I hit more than 10. I wrote my suicide note in a text,

almost regretting what I had done, but not enough to back out of it now.

This moment, though, was not the end for me.

No, not that night in 2014. My life would not be finished.

This was enough for my parents to know something was wrong.

After my mom started screaming and crying and my dad started dialing the number for poison control, I realized I needed to change.

I had put so much pressure on myself to be perfect that I forgot to just be me.

One day, I remember not eating. I wanted to fit into my cheerleading

uniform, but this little diet turned into 35 pounds gone that didn't need to be.

.... I started shutting down. Quickly. There was an indescribable sadness that took over my body, so bad in fact, that it caused me to do the unthinkable.

I can now write this as an upcoming senior in college to say that just being who you are created to be, is enough.

Of course, strive for your goals yes, but don't lose sight of enjoying life along the way.

You are worthy, you are loved, and you are bigger than Depression.

Excerpts from 2019 Editorial Sweepstakes Winner (April 2019)

### KIM POINDEXTER, TAHLEQUAH DAILY PRESS

#### Despicable swastika still freedom of expression

Last Friday, the Press received several phone calls, emails and texts from alarmed readers who had seen a man walking around town wearing a swastika armband.

At this point, no one knows his identity. He has been described as possibly an older teen.

It was interesting to observe the outrage this behavior sparked locally.

But as offensive as this young man's public display may have been, he didn't harm another individual or property. Though people like him bear watching, we can only hope

he's a pathetic, immature boy desperate for attention.

But it cannot mean stripping them of their First Amendment right to freedom of speech and expression.

Whatever the rest of us might think, this young man has the right to wear the disgusting armband, as long as he understands his liberty stops at the end of society's proverbial nose.

Until he commits a crime, he can offend the sensibilities of every person of goodwill, and we can't stop him.

Nor should we. Once we try, the

First Amendment becomes a slippery slope for the rest of us.

Neither the left nor the right is free from hypocrisy, but there are better ways to deal with kids like this than censorship.

Spurning, shunning and ignoring provocateurs can often do the trick.

So can open denigration, but that requires caution, because sometimes, these folks are packing.

Let's hope this humanoid goes away before any harm is done.

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

The Oklahoma Natural Gas Column and Editorial Contest Sweepstakes was judged by members of the Maine Press Association.

1. Each month, send a tearsheet or photocopy of your best column and/or editorial to Oklahoma Natural Gas Contest, c/o OPA, 3601 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-5499. Entries also may be emailed (full-page tearsheet) to news@okpress.com.
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