

Duncan Banner moves to Main Street

After months of planning, weeks of moving and numerous days of settling into their new office, the staff of The Duncan Banner hosted a ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony on August 13 to celebrate its new location at 811 West Main Street.

The event also included a virtual tour and open house, along with door prizes, coffee and goodies from local businesses.

The event was supported by The Duncan Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Duncan

“The Banner staff is proud of its return to Main Street Duncan. After 128 years in business, we can say we are looking forward to serving our community for another hundred years to come,” an article from The Banner said.



The Duncan Banner staff celebrates moving to Main Street with a ribbon cutting. The event included a virtual tour, open house, refreshments and door prizes.

Photo by Linda Provost, The Duncan Banner (Reprinted with permission)

Content available to help newspapers celebrate National Newspaper Week

National Newspaper Week (NNW) will be observed October 4-10, 2020. This year's theme is "America Needs Journalists."

This 80th annual National Newspaper Week is a recognition of the service of newspapers and their employees across

North America and is sponsored by Newspaper Association Managers.

Content is available to download at no charge to daily and non-daily newspapers at nationalnewspaperweek.com. Here you will find the 2020 logo, promotional ads, editorial cartoons and editorials.

Plan to celebrate National Newspaper Week by downloading the materials and using it to reinforce the importance of newspapers to your community. You can make it local by editorializing about your newspaper's unique relevance. This can be about your duties

**AMERICA
NEEDS
JOURNALISTS**

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK • OCTOBER 4-10, 2020

as government watchdog,
your role as a communi-
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16 Ideas from members worth mentioning and sharing. Send your ideas to news@okpress.com

From the President

By Mike Strain, Tulsa World News Editor
OPA President 2020-2021



Two months can blaze by and make you wonder where the time went. Or in the case of election season, two months can feel like eternity.

The Nov. 3 elections are less than two months away, and sometime in the next few weeks, you'll probably hear from people who are upset. I suspect you've gotten those calls or emails in election seasons past. They go something like this:

Candidate A: "I didn't really like that story about ..."

Candidate B a bit later: "I didn't really like that story about ..."

And they're talking about the same story!

OK, maybe that's an exaggeration (or maybe not). But it's worth pausing to consider coverage of a season that can generate the type of passion usually reserved for football. In my opinion, there's a big question to consider: What kind of information merits coverage?

That's a judgement call local editors make every day. After all, you know your communities better than anyone; and that's worth remembering, especially if you get a call from someone upset with a decision.

Some campaigns, especially well-funded ones, have people assigned to generate interest in their candidate. Drumming up that interest can be done several ways. Some of it is through news coverage, and I believe there are campaigns that try to get their candidate in the papers for free and then spend their marketing dollars elsewhere.

In some cases, I think campaigns try to disguise things that could be advertisements as press releases. The more of these they can get published, the more ad dollars they can spend in other places.

Through the years, I've repeatedly heard about the declining amount of money campaigns spend in newspapers, which makes no sense to me. An audience that is paying money to receive our product is an audience that cares about their community. And an audience that cares about their community is an audience that's likely to vote.

Not to pick on Candidate A again, but ...

In the next few weeks, you might get a press release headlined: "Candidate A endorsed by ..." The following week, Candidate A could issue another press release hailing an even more impressive endorsement. Later, it could be Candidate A's press release about poll results showing popularity with an important voting bloc.

Is there newsworthy information about a candidate in a press release? If so, then I would argue it needs to be a news story. But if it seems to be an attempt to get free publicity with little news value, I believe that could be an opportunity to provide a reminder about the effectiveness of advertising in your paper.

If someone gets upset about that, you can feel confident in remembering that the people best equipped to make news judgement decisions are the ones covering their communities every day of the year, not just in election season.

Postal Form 3526 must be filed by October 1

The U.S. Postal Service's annual Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (PS Form 3526) must be filed on or before October 1.

Filing and publication of this form is a requirement to maintain Periodicals mailing privileges.

After filing, a completed copy of the form must be published in the newspaper. Daily publications are required to publish the form by October 10; non-dailies must publish by October 31. There are no regulations regarding the size or format of this published information as long as it is complete and legible.

An interactive copy of the form is available on the OPA website at www.okpress.com/postal-resources. PS Form 3526 is also available from USPS at <https://about.usps.com/forms/ps3526.pdf>.

Former Tulsa World publisher honored

Former Tulsa World publisher Gloria Fletcher was among the 10 women honored as part of the League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa's annual Madam President Awards.

The awards, which were presented virtually, honor Tulsa women nominated by the community for their commitment to leadership and service.

Fletcher served as publisher and president of the Tulsa World from June 2018 to May 2020.

National Newspaper Week

Continued from Page 1

ty forum and coverage of community events, publications of timely public notices, etc.

NNW is sponsored by Newspaper Association Managers, Inc., the consortium of North American trade associations

representing the industry on a state and provincial, regional and national basis.

In conjunction with NNW, International Newspaper Carrier Day will be celebrated on Saturday, October 10. Two ads are available from the News

Media Alliance for members to run in their newspapers as a thank-you to their hard-working newspaper carriers. The ads are available at www.news-mediaalliance.org/international-newspaper-carrier-day-ad.

Robinsons new owners of Holdenville News

Bill and Dayna Robinson are the new owners of the Holdenville News.

Janice Gray of Eastern Oklahoma Publishing Company announced the sale of the newspaper to Robinson Publishing Company last month.

The newspaper has moved to 114 N. Broadway into the same building with Lewis Printing.

Tammi Giles, who has

been with the Holdenville News for more than 40 years, has been named office manager and Bob Melton will serve as news editor. Tammy White, who was with the paper for 22 years, made the decision to pursue other opportunities.

Holdenville has been served by a local newspaper for more than 100 years. The Holdenville Times was the precursor to the Hold-

enville News, beginning its publication on February 18, 1897.

“Our desire is to work together to better our community through positive news that will show the many good things Holdenville has to offer and highlight the citizens that donate their time to building a better tomorrow for our hometown,” the Robinsons said.

Gannett Foundation offering community grants

Nonprofits and municipal organizations in Oklahoma that are working on projects aimed at building their communities are invited to apply to the 2020 A Community Thrives program, a \$2.3 million initiative of the Gannett Foundation.

The program is sponsored by Gannett, the parent company of several newspapers in Oklahoma.

The nationwide crowdfunding and grant program is entering its fourth year of supporting organizations that address social issues including education, housing, arts and culture, wellness and environment.

“The pandemic has hurt families and communities across the state, and that has negatively affected nonprofit fundraising,” said Kelly Dyer Fry, Gannett’s regional editor and executive editor of The Oklahoman.

Organizations apply to raise money for a specific community-building project. Accepted organizations work to raise funds on their own through a crowdfunding campaign, then may be eligible for 16 major grants to be awarded across the country: three for \$100,000, seven for \$50,000 and six for \$25,000.

In addition, A Community Thrives will award over 100 grants nationally that will be targeted specifically toward communities served by Gannett news organizations. Those local grants, which start at \$2,500, can be used for general operating expenses and are chosen by local leaders at Gannett news organizations.

Since the last Community Thrives initiative, Gannett has expanded the footprint of the USA TODAY Network, joining GateHouse Media to become the largest U.S. media company by print circulation, serving communities in 47 states.

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.

You should join OPA’S LEGAL SERVICES PLAN!

See www.OkPress.com/LSP or contact Mark Thomas at (405) 499-0033 or toll-free in Oklahoma 1-888-815-2672 today!



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Big Tobacco will stop at nothing to addict Oklahoma kids. Even with the recent flavored vape cartridge ban, the tobacco industry continues to find loopholes to peddle their deadly products.

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Weatherford Daily News helps raise \$25,000 for local school



Weatherford Daily News Publisher Phillip Reid, right, hands Brooke Brown and Dru Svitak a check for \$25,000. Money was raised with donations from the WDN's half-price circulation drive, with \$5 of every subscription renewal being given to Burcham Elementary's virtual carnival and community drive.

Photo by Timothy Comstock, Weatherford Daily News (Reprinted with permission)

The Weatherford Daily News recently presented a \$25,000 check to Burcham Elementary as part of its virtual carnival.

The elementary school hosted its annual carnival fundraiser in partnership with the Weatherford Daily News and the Weatherford Public Schools Foundation.

The Weatherford Daily News raised money with donations from its half-price circulation drive, with \$5 of every subscription renewal given to Burcham Elementary's virtual carnival and community drive.

"I want to thank the many contributors who made this such a big success," said Phillip Reid, publisher of the Weatherford Daily News. "It has been heartwarming to hear the kind words the donors are saying about our schools and especially the teachers at Burcham Elementary. It was a success because of them."

Poynter offers certificate for new reporters

If you're hiring a new reporter, you might be interested in Poynter's Newsroom Readiness Certificate.

This self-paced course includes five lessons and a final assessment.

The lessons include:

- Newsgathering
- Interviewing
- Media law
- Media ethics
- Diversity

The certificate is designed to be completed at

the learner's own pace and can be started at any time.

The course is under the direction of Barbara Allen, college programming director at Poynter Institute and former director of student media for Oklahoma State University's The O'Colly.

To register for the \$49.99 course, or for more information, go to www.poynter.org/shop/certificate/newsroom-readiness-certificate/.

Lee Enterprises unveils \$5M stimulus program

Lee Enterprises, which owns the Tulsa World, has launched a local business stimulus program aimed at helping local businesses adapt and thrive in an evolving economic environment.

The Iowa-based company also owns the Owasso Reporter, Sand Springs Leader, Skiatook Journal and Wagoner County American-Tribune in Oklahoma.

"This stimulus program follows the highly successful grant program we launched in March of this year," said Ray Farris, Lee operating vice president and vice president of advertising. Farris said the program will help businesses flourish.

The program will be available to locally owned and operated businesses and will provide matching advertising credits for use in print and digital products, as well as the company's suite of digital services such as website design, text marketing and managed email marketing.

"As we continue to work through the ever changing impact on our local market, we are delighted to once again be able to assist our partners in successfully meeting their marketing needs," said Bernie Heller, president of Tulsa World Media Co. and director of local sales and marketing.

Lee Enterprises will make up to \$5 million available to local businesses in the company's 77 markets through monthly grants ranging from \$250 to \$15,000.

Register for NNA's virtual convention and trade show

There's still time to register for the National Newspaper Association's 134th Annual Convention & Trade Show.

This virtual event will be held online October 1-3.

The event will address pressing business objectives of community newspaper owners, publishers and senior staff with education-

al sessions and peer sharing activities.

The \$50 full registration includes general sessions, round table discussion sessions, a virtual exhibit hall, tickets to a welcome reception, the Better Newspaper Contest awards ceremony and the James O. Amos award ceremony.

In addition to great edu-

cational sessions, some fun events have been added including BYO PetZoom Hour and Family Bingo Night.

For the agenda, the trade show list and to register for the convention, go to <https://www.nna.org/convention>.

The Haskell News says goodbye to readers

The Haskell News ceased publication on August 27, 2020, ending more than a century of publishing.

Bill and Purna Guy bought the paper in 1962. When Purna died in 2001, her husband and daughter, Julie, continued publishing the paper. When Bill died just short of the newspaper's 100th anniversary, Julie continued running the paper until her death in 2011. At that time her husband, Steven Arrowood, and their daughter, Sabre, took over. Sabre passed the editor's desk to 22-year-old Kaley Evans in 2014.

In a story saying goodbye, Evans wrote, "As yet another newspaper folds, let us remember what the

pages felt like between our fingers. Let us hold on to those old clips, and bits of history preserved in black and white.

"Let us take solace in knowing that artifacts of

our lives were preserved the same way that mountains of history were preserved in the founding years of our country."

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Scotty Landis, 1, recently spent a weekend with his grandparents, Beth and Jeremy Robbins. He had a great time chasing bubbles with Daisy the dog. The photo was snapped just as Scotty's head seemed to appear in the bubble.

Photo by JEREMY ROBBINS, *The Chronicle*, July 9, 2020



Pushing through the smoke and spraying water with force, Lawton firefighters in the bucket of a ladder truck work to contain a fire as it erupts out from the attic area of one of the buildings at Landings III.

Photo by SCOTT RAINS, *The Lawton Constitution*, July 18, 2020

JULY 2020
WEEKLY WINNER:

**JEREMY
ROBBINS**
The Chronicle
(*Elgin*)

JULY 2020
DAILY WINNER:

**SCOTT
RAINS**
The Lawton
Constitution

The July 2020 contest was judged by a member of the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame.

View all winning photos at
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MEET THE INTERNS

The next seven Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation interns tell their stories this month. Thanks to a grant from the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation, 17 journalism students received paid internships this summer. The internship program, now in its 12th year, is facilitated by the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation. Next month, the final four interns talk about their experiences.



Alex Sloan, Countywide & Sun Oklahoma State University

When I applied for the ONF internship program, I had hardly any news writing experience.

I had written for my campus newspaper for only a semester, but I was eager for the opportunity to continue writing through the summer. So, when I heard about the ONF internship program, I decided to apply. After interviewing with a few papers, I received an offer to work for the Countywide & Sun in Pottawatomie County.

At first, I was nervous, and unsure of myself. My first day at work, I met my publisher, Suzie Campbell, outside a county commissioner meeting. She told me that from this day forward, I'd be attending this meeting, and she would not. So, I tried to absorb everything I could.

I watched Suzie take notes, and when she scribbled a note, I'd make sure I scribbled one too. After the meeting, she went to the commissioners and got pictures of all of the agenda items. So, I did the same.

When we got back to the office, she told me all about our process, our publishing deadline, and which meetings I would be covering.

The pace never slowed down from there. Every day, there was a new story to work on, a meeting to attend, and not enough time in the day to get it all done.

Although it was difficult, my coworkers were there to make sure I had what I needed to succeed. Suzie was always available to offer advice on what to do next if I hit a dead-end on a story. When I was unsure of my work, I'd run it by my editor, Gloria Trotter, who was always ready to offer suggestions for revisions. If I needed to know more about someone I was covering, reporter Jennifer Pitts was ready with valuable background information.

When I agreed to work at a small paper in a rural part of Oklahoma, I'll confess I did not have the highest expectations. I had been angling for a position nearer Oklahoma City, where I thought all the action was. Little did I know that rural Oklahoma has more than enough political intrigue to keep a government reporter busy for a lifetime.

In my brief stint as an intern for the Countywide & Sun, I've covered controversial decisions, contentious meetings and political races aplenty. Any preconceived notions I had about working in a sleepy little part of Oklahoma dissipated quickly. In fact, I'm now convinced that the only reason the "sleepy little town" trope is so wide-

spread, is because there aren't enough small-town reporters to adequately cover the fast-moving dynamics of small-town politics.

According to my limited experience, there's no such thing as a slow-news-day at a small-town paper. If you think there is, you probably just aren't looking for the news in the right places.

As my time as an intern at The Countywide & Sun draws to a close, I feel like a completely different person than the nervous student that first made the drive down to Pottawatomie County. While I'm certainly not an expert reporter yet, I know I'm getting better every day.

No longer am I nervous as I dial the mayor for an interview. No longer do I dread the confrontation that so often follows a records request. Perhaps most importantly, I no longer wonder whether I'll be successful in this industry.

I came to the Countywide & Sun that first day as an intern who had never done page layout, never had a difficult interview, and who had no idea whether or not I had what it takes to be a reporter. I'll leave today as a confident, upcoming journalist, ready to make his mark on Oklahoma government reporting. When I come to work tomorrow, it will not be as an intern, but as the Countywide & Sun's newest staff reporter.

Less than a year ago, I was a novice reporter writing once a week for my school newspaper. Today, I'm the news editor for my university's paper, and a professional reporter in Pottawatomie County.

This explosion of personal and professional growth would not have been possible without the opportunities given to me by the ONF, OPA and the Countywide & Sun. To these organizations, I offer my sincerest gratitude.

Connecting you to the community where you live, work and play!

July 30, 2020 SECTION B

Back To School Plans Are Flexible, Adjustable

each district plan to safely reopen as COVID-19 continues to spread through the state.

Most of these plans include detailed cleaning and safety procedures for parents to consider before making a decision on how their child will attend learning class. For more of the detailed color-behind-the-scenes, visit our website for a copy of the planning documents.

• **Abner Public Schools:** According to APS' return to learning plan, the district's plan will be flexible and may be adjusted.

• **The effectiveness of this plan relies strongly on each individual's personal responsibility to monitor his or her health, the document reads.**

• **Getting back onto a school campus will mean students and staff may be exposed to the COVID-19 virus.**

According to the document, the plan was built on two main principles: keeping learning consistent, and limiting exposure whenever possible.

To that end, masks will not be required, but will be encouraged. The school will not be open to the public in the event they must quarantine use this plan in the event they must quarantine to return to their activities.

Students who choose the virtual learning pathway will be using two learning management systems: Canvas and Odysseyware. Virtual classes will have 24/7 online access and will be supervised by Dale Certified Staff. Any virtual students involved in extracurricular activities will still be allowed to participate, but must be on campus for those activities.

The district has also included an outbreak-tailored learning plan in the event of an outbreak. In this instance, students will access their course work using Canvas and will continue to have the support of a teacher. Individual students may also use this plan in the event they must quarantine to return to their activities.

• **Greene Public Schools:** The Greene school district is offering students three pathways: virtual, or a hybrid of virtual, or in-person.

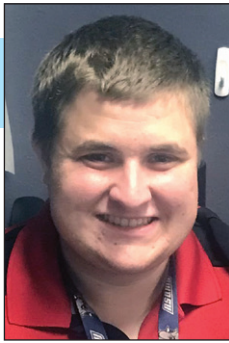
Like other districts in the county, the in-person option will be the closest approximation of traditional school. However, the pathway will be flexible.

See Traditional... on B2

Local Players Hit The Gridiron In All-State Games

Bertha's Devin Ackles participated in the Football All-State game held at SOU Saturday evening. Ackles is the first football player from Clayton, Oklahoma, to earn a spot on both the Football All-State and Track All-State.

Pictured left, Devin Ackles; center, pictured right is Clayton Ricketts; Tecumseh, courtesy of Brian Blissett.



Josh Jennings, *Weatherford Daily News* Southwestern Oklahoma State University

Working for the Weatherford Daily News (WDN) during my ONF internship has been

a really good experience and my personal highlight of 2020, in spite of how COVID-19 has affected it.

We are living in such strange times with the ongoing pandemic and all the recent protests in honor of George Floyd. With all this strangeness, working for the WDN has been a summer I will never forget.

Our world can be full of hate and many are really divided but working in Weatherford and having lived here now for nearly two years, all the hate just seems to fade away.

It fades away because of all the great people in Weatherford and how community-oriented the town is. It is good to see there still are excellent people and great places in the world we live in today; and, Weatherford is one of those places.

My favorite project was working on the special People edition of the WDN. The People edition was the Monday newspaper where we wrote feature stories about people in Weatherford and what they love about living in Weatherford.

While most people have a lot of the same positive things to say about Weatherford, it was still really cool and special to hear people's stories about why they love Weatherford so much and love living in a small town in Western Oklahoma. The community is so special and everyone has been super nice.

My favorite article was about former SWOSU athletic director, Todd Thurman, for a People edition story. He is someone I got to know while covering SWOSU and Todd is an amazing athletic director and an even better person. He always asked me how I was doing and made an effort to talk with me. I did the same with him and I enjoyed seeing him at SWOSU games. When the news broke in late May about him leaving SWOSU and moving to Colorado, I was shocked. At his reception banquet, I interviewed him one last time

and it was a great interview. He always said how SWOSU is like a family, and he is right. He mentioned how an athletic department should be like family, in and out of athletics. He definitely played a part in making the university a family atmosphere and it was fun getting to know him during my freshman and sophomore year.

I really did not have any fears about taking this internship because I have worked in the newspaper business for almost three years. I started at the Bethany Tribune in high school then came to SWOSU and began writing for the WDN.

My biggest fear used to be the chance of not quoting someone accurately or writing an inaccurate article. My managing editor at the Bethany Tribune told me everyone makes mistakes and we are only human.

I learned that as long as I am not making mistakes on purpose, that making mistakes is part of the learning experience and no one is perfect. Even some of the world's most profound writers mess up every now and then. The goal is to learn from past mistakes and keep moving forward as a writer.

A skill I learned while working at the WDN is being able to write about pretty much anything.

I want to be a newspaper sportswriter when I graduate college. Since there were virtually no sports going on, I learned how to write feature stories about people in the community, crime stories and city beat stories.

I covered county commission meetings, city council meetings and on election night I got quotes from the mayor of Weatherford and the mayor of Thomas. I wrote stories and took pictures at the polls for the results. At one of the polling places, I even helped to take down election signs and voting signs while waiting for the results to come in. It did not bother me at all because I was raised to help people when they need it, and come to find out, it is the same in Western Oklahoma.

While politics, crime and city stories are not typically "up my alley" just yet, it is good to know how to help and chip in when needed. My managing editor, Josh

Burton, has a policy of cross training his staff.

Josh's reasoning for doing this is because if the city editor is sick and cannot cover a meeting, he can send a writer who knows how to write these types of stories to fill in and the newspaper will not miss a beat. While I might not be as good as our city editor when writing these types of stories, I have found I can still do a fairly good job.

There have been several people in the community who have made an impact on me not just during my internship, but for the past two years in Weatherford. My editor, Josh, WDN publisher Phillip Reid, former SWOSU athletic director Todd Thurman, SWOSU president Randy Beutler, SWOSU Assistant Athletic Director of Media and Relations Doug Self and countless other excellent people I have gotten to know during the last two years. I am super excited to attend SWOSU and continue my college career in Weatherford while working for the WDN.

MEET THE INTERNS

MEET THE INTERNS



Faith Leatherman, *The Marlow Review* Cameron University

I started this internship with the Marlow Review in May and it has been interesting to say the least.

I, like many others participating in this internship, started right in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, essentially in the middle of what felt like chaos and uncertainty at the time, but has now become part of a routine. Wearing face masks to events and social distancing as much as possible while out on assignments and even in the office at times.

Things that before seemed odd and impossible and even in some cases impractical. Nonetheless, these guidelines were for our health and safety and the health and safety of those in the community around us.

Following these guidelines was just one obstacle to overcome during this incredible internship experience.

In my personal experience, the intern-

ship did not turn out how I hoped. I started out writing, which is what I wanted to do. Write articles, interview people, meet people, be a part of a community that I had grown up in and graduated from and have come to love so dearly.

I ended up taking over the position of Copying and Design Editor. I had some experience, so I went ahead and accepted the position.

I learned ad design and billing, but I won't lie, I felt like I was way in over my head.

Here I was, trying to do these things with no training and just a little experience on page layout and ad design, all while trying to get a paper sent to press each week. It certainly felt like chaos to me, and it still does on most Wednesdays, which are our print days. But I learned to pace myself so I could figure out how to properly do my job to my best ability.

I also learned to like it a bit more now that I know how to do it properly. Is it still overwhelming and a bit stressful at times?

Oh, definitely, but it was so worth it. This whole experience is so worth it.

Yes, I may not entirely love this new position, but I do love *The Marlow Review*. I love working here and I am incredibly grateful for this opportunity to have this experience and find a newspaper that I love so dearly and a community that I love so dearly and that I am a part of.

This has taught me so much and for that I will forever be grateful, and this internship and *The Marlow Review* will always hold a special place in my heart.

In my opinion, anyone who gets the chance to participate in this internship in the future should. You will constantly learn from the experience. This has been one of the most overwhelming, hectic, chaotic, challenging experiences of my journalism career, but it has also been the best, most rewarding, most educating, and meaningful experience I will more than likely ever have when it comes to my journalism career and there are no words that I can find to show how grateful I am for this internship opportunity.

See Inside...

Page 7 Marlow, Oklahoma A Final Heritage, A Bright Future

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Commissioners Address K-9 Retirement, Donations

"Review Crew" Helps MPS Faculty to Mask Up for School Year

City "REAP's" Rewards of Grant-Funded Project

Central High Board Discusses Upcoming School Year

Deadline to Request Absentee Ballots Nears

Pett County DA Investigates Alleged Assault on Sheriff's Office

Perkins resident killed in one-vehicle collision

Stillwater News Press

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

stillwaternewspress.com

Demonstrators build on BLM momentum to seek name change for Murray Hall

Stillwater Regional Airport receiving special funds

Stillwater Springs affordable housing addition under construction

Perkins resident killed in one-vehicle collision

Covering the Tri-County Area Since 1894

THE SHAWNEE NEWS-STAR

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2020

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PAVE FUNDATION

Candidates offer views on handling local road repair

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF SHAWNEE

Summer programs continue with COVID-19 precautions

Pett County DA Investigates Alleged Assault on Sheriff's Office

Perkins resident killed in one-vehicle collision



Destinee Adams, *Stillwater News Press* Oklahoma State University

Going into my first day as an intern at the Stillwater News Press I was filled with anxiety and

uncertainty.

The News Press was my first internship and I wasn't sure what to expect going into the process, but as soon as I stepped foot in the building I was encouraged to ask questions without hesitation.

This welcoming environment gave me the opportunity to push story ideas I was passionate about, which is the most valuable learning experience I could have received as a Black woman and journalist during a time of fear and oppression of Black people in America.

The Black Lives Matter movement seemed to gain momentum at the same time my internship started. I have always

been interested and passionate about Black Lives Matter, but I never thought I'd become an activist while advocating. It happened suddenly without much thought or notice.

While getting into activism, I feared my internship would be negatively affected because as a journalism major at Oklahoma State University we are taught to remain neutral and even encouraged not to participate in such activities for fear of it affecting our work.

I wholeheartedly understand the importance of remaining unbiased as a journalist, but as a Black woman in a time of need and disparity upon my people and my community, I could not stay quiet with the platform I have nor the resources I am able to share.

It was inevitable that my boss and co-workers would discover the work I was doing within my university, founding an on-campus movement named Okstate

Stand United, and for my hometown, with the Black Lives Matter, Oklahoma City chapter.

I will forever be grateful for the acceptance I received from my boss, Beau Simmons, and the other staff members at the Stillwater News Press when my work for Black Lives Matter was discovered.

Simmons did not make me choose between being an activist and journalist.

We decided that if I were to write about Black Lives Matter it would be under an opinion piece and I would not write about any of the projects or organizations I was working with. This decision gave me room to continue my advocacy and writing without fear of losing either.

My experience this summer was unique because of the circumstances the country was undergoing, but I am appreciative it happened while I was working with the Stillwater News Press.



Galen Hawes, *Shawnee News-Star* East Central University

Last spring, I applied for an internship through the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation

(ONF) and had multiple phone interviews, but I found my summer home at The Shawnee News-Star.

I feared that working remotely would not help me gain as much experience, but I was wrong.

I started at the Shawnee News-Star on June 8th and we thought we would be back in the newsroom by mid-July. My first week was exciting. Even though I knew I would be working remotely I was still excited to meet the people that make up the newsroom. In mid-June I explored the town so that I would be prepared when we returned to the newsroom, although that sadly never happened.

I had multiple front-page articles that I enjoyed writing. I loved interviewing Ken

Landry about the construction of the new addition to the Pottawatomie County Historical Museum because there is so much history. One of my favorite stories I wrote was about identical twins Anita Kimball and Oleta Stone turning 86 because I was able to help in celebrating their birthday.

I enjoyed interviewing residents in Shawnee because everyone in the community was very informative.

I loved working with the newsroom at the News-Star because everyone was so nice, helpful, and worked so well together.

Even before some of us met in person I felt like I knew their personalities.

On July 23, I went to the News-Star to meet my supervisor Kim and fellow intern, Kelci, in person. We saw the printing press run before the transfer to printing in Bartlesville.

As my internship comes to an end, I feel like I have gained so much experience, met new people even though it was over the phone and I was able to see the News-Star's last printing press run.

Throughout my internship, I was able to put what I learned in class to good use in the workplace environment and learned other useful practices while working at the News-Star. I learned how to localize a business press release and how to focus on stories while working remotely.

After seeing the printing press, I realized that it takes a village to make one newspaper – from the journalists, page designers and managing editors to the printing crew and production assistants.

I would like to thank Kim Morava, Tina Bridenstine, Vicky Misa, Elisabeth Slay, and Brian Johnson for always being there if I needed help or had any questions, Kelci McKendrick for being the other intern and for helping me find newspapers that I had articles in after we saw the printing press run, Cayla Medley for letting me in the newsroom, giving me a tour and handing me my first paycheck and lastly all of the printing crew for letting Kelci and I come in and watch the press run.

MEET THE INTERNS



Kelci McKendrick, *Shawnee News-Star* The University of Oklahoma

This summer was interesting, for sure. My time at the Shawnee News-Star brought new

experiences, challenges and memories that I'll never forget.

Being an intern at a newspaper during a global pandemic is weird. As a recent graduate, I wasn't really expecting to even receive an internship with COVID-19 going on, but the wonderful and hard-working staff at the News-Star brought me in with open and socially distanced arms.

One of the best parts about my summer was watching the printing press run at the News-Star. The News-Star closed down its printing press at the end of July, but the other intern and I were invited to see how it all works. We got to meet each other and our other co-workers and staff in person for the first time — masks on and distanced, of course. Watching the press run was pretty cool, and the people I met were even cooler.

Working from home brought the big-

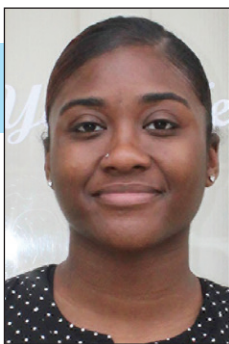
gest challenge for me. I'm just not that good at it, but my editor Kim Morava worked with me anyways. Thank you, Kim, for always giving me story ideas and encouraging me in my work. Your support via emails, calls and comments on Google Docs helped me a lot more than you know.

To the rest of the staff, I hate that we didn't get to be in the newsroom together. I know I would've liked you all. The weirdest part about this is that I miss being in the newsroom, even though I never got to experience it with my News-Star co-workers. Y'all are great people who are awesome at your jobs, and I looked up to you all this summer from my home in Norman.

As I'm leaving my internship, I'll come away from the News-Star knowing how to better my skills as a journalist — what works better for me and what does not work in my favor. I learned this profession requires a bunch of dedication and strong will. I learned that investing in a desk can considerably improve working from home, but really, nothing will ever beat being in an actual newsroom surrounded by people you enjoy.



I'm happy I spent my summer working at the News-Star. Juggling my internship with my other job in Norman took some effort, but overall, the internship was fun and full of experiences. To the News-Star staff, even though we didn't get the chance to get to know each other, I thank you all for a good summer.



Lakeria Kelly, *Watonga Republican* Langston University

Summer flew by so fast. I cannot believe my two months are already over.

My internship at Watonga Republican has helped me continue to gain more experience as a writer.

I was forced out of my comfort zone providing news stories every week, but it's something I appreciate.

The staff in Watonga were so welcoming and showed me what it takes to be a writer in the journalism world.

Also, getting to share the laughs with each of them helped me settle into the work environment.

Over the course of my internship, I strengthened my writing skills, as well as my interviewing and reporting skills.

I'm thankful for learning the ways of a small-town paper.

One of my favorite sections of the newspaper is my Black Lives Matter stories. I wrote about Black Wall Street and the celebration of Juneteenth.

With everything going in the world about African Americans being murdered, I wanted to shed light on our history.

I am very grateful for the many opportunities Watonga Republican gave me.

I am looking forward to my next chapter in my career.



DEATHS

BOB HENLINE, editor of The Cordell Beacon, died August 19, 2020. He was 50.

Henline was traveling home to Oklahoma following a visit to family and friends in Utah when he had a heart attack. He died at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center in Albuquerque.

Henline was born August 1, 1970, in Murray, Utah. He graduated from Bingham High School in 1988 and

went on to study at Boston University, followed by graduate work at Georgetown University.

Henline married a friend from high school, Melissa Paul, on June 15, 2011. The couple moved to Libby, Montana, where Bob worked for The Western News as editor and reporter. He later became editor and publisher of the Kootenai Country Montana magazine.

In November 2018, he moved to

Oklahoma and became editor of The Cordell Beacon.

He also officiated quite a few weddings, including his own daughter's and sister-in-law's.

He is survived by his wife, Melissa Henline; brother, Ken Henline; children Aidyn Henline, Ethan Henline, Ariana Bronson (Riley), Anthony Bronson, Philicia Sorensen (Teo); and two grandchildren.

WILLIAM DAVID McCULLOUGH, lead OPA and LSP attorney, died August 27, 2020. He was 67.

McCullough started his career as a journalist who later, as an attorney, became a champion for freedom of information and First Amendment issues.

After graduating with a B.A. in Journalism from the University of Oklahoma in 1977, he became a general assignment reporter for The Duncan Banner.

He was named sports editor of the Pauls Valley Daily Democrat in 1978, and a year later was hired as managing editor of the Guthrie Daily Leader. In his two years as editor, he became known for his unwavering pursuit of government controversies as well as mentoring journalists who went on to distinguished careers.

McCullough entered the University

of Oklahoma's School of Law in 1981 and graduated in 1984.

In 1989, he joined the law firm of Michael Minnis & Associates, and went on to work with Minnis at Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson LLP.

After Minnis retired earlier this year, McCullough served as general counsel for the Oklahoma Press Association and as lead counsel of OPA's Legal Services Plan.

He was a founding member of Freedom of Information Oklahoma (FOI Oklahoma). He was elected as president in 1993 and then was named as an advisory board member. He also was the author of the Oklahoma Open Government Guide as part of the 50 state Open Government Guide published by the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

He was honored with the Oklahoma SPJ First Amendment Award in

1996 and then FOI Oklahoma's Marian Opala First Amendment Award in 2017.

McCullough served as the Chief Counsel and Attorney General for the Wyandotte Nation Tribe over the past 28 years. He also served as a trusted advisor to former Chief, Leaford Bearskin, and present Chief, Billy Friend. This year, McCullough was chosen by tribal leadership to be the "Wyandotte Nation Person of the Year" and was to be honored at the annual meeting in September.

McCullough also worked with the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma for more than 35 years.

McCullough is survived by his parents, Billy and Mona; his wife of 38 years, Debra Jo; his four daughters, Cathryn (Robert), Jayme (Mike), Jo Caryn (Barney), and Cayla (Derek); seven grandchildren; and his seven younger brothers and sisters.

EVELYN SUE WHATLEY, a former employee for The Oklahoman, died July 23, 2020. She was 65.

She was born October 17, 1954, in Oakland, Calif., but grew up in Moore, Okla.

She worked for The Daily Oklahoman for nearly 30 years and later retired from there.

Pauls Valley had been her home for the past six years.

Whatley is survived by her chil-

dren: Shannon of Pauls Valley, Shawn Whatley of Paoli; Brent Whatley of Edmond, and Aimee Butler of Wynnewood; and 10 grandchildren.

Remembering our friends & colleagues who died the previous year

Marilyn Louise Duck
Sept. 15, 2019

Oweida Smiley
Sept. 25, 2019

Bob Haring
August 24, 2019

Paul D. Shell
August 27, 2019

Sally Bright
August 3, 2019

Windsor Ridenour
August 24, 2019

Thank you to the following for their recent donations to the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation:

Andy & Karen Rieger in memory of David McCullough.

New staff members at Clinton Daily News

The Clinton Daily News recently welcomed two new staff members to its newsroom – news reporter Melissa Javorsky and photographer Litzzy Silos.

Javorsky is a senior at Southwestern Oklahoma State University where she is involved with several organizations. She is majoring in communications and minoring in public relations.

“I’ve been writing for a publication for nearly eight years now, and I really enjoy the work and getting to interact with so many different people on a regular basis,” Javorsky said.

“I’m still relatively new to the area, so I look forward to getting to know Clinton and its residents better.”

Silos is a senior at Clinton High School. She plans



Litzzy Silos (above) and Melissa Javorsky (right) are new staff members at the Clinton Daily News.



on attending the University of Oklahoma after graduation and studying journalism.

“Since I’m looking to study something in the journalism field, I thought this would be beneficial for me and help me decide if that’s the road I want to take,” Silos said. “It’s a great first job. I get to meet more people in the community.”

Rod Serfoss, publisher

of the Clinton Daily News, said he is pleased to have talented people like Melissa and Litzzy as part of the team.

“Their attention to detail and their passion to bring the news through stories and pictures is something that will be noticed by the more than 5,000 people who read each edition of the Clinton Daily News,” Serfoss said.

Ponca City News names Lamar as staff writer

Calley Lamar has been named a news staff writer at The Ponca City News.

Lamar attended college at Northwestern State University in Alva for a semester before moving to Weatherford to attend Southwestern Oklahoma State University, where he majored in communications.

He worked as a reporter/photographer at The Okeene Record in 2016 before moving to Oklahoma City to attend film school at Oklahoma City Community College.

Lamar moved back to Okeene and worked as a substitute teacher before being offered a position as a graphic artist at the Ponca

City News, and then being promoted to reporter.

He has a background in theater, and experience as a cameraman and video editor.

“I’m looking forward to taking a deep dive into the community as a staff writer,” said Calley.

Okmulgee Times names Factor as sports editor



Jacob Factor is the new sports editor at the Okmulgee Times.

He previously served as editor of the Mangum Star.

Factor went to Oklahoma Baptist University and majored in journalism and mass communications.

During his junior year at college, he covered sports for the Countywide & Sun.

Factor interned at the Sequoyah County Times and then worked part-time at the McIntosh County Democrat before joining the Mangum Star.

“I’m excited to be back in Green County covering sports in Okmulgee County,” Factor said.

Please donate to the Oklahoma Newspaper Foundation. A donation to ONF will support its efforts to improve the state’s newspaper industry and quality of journalism. ONF’s programs include training and education for professional journalists, scholarship and internship programs for journalism students, and Newspaper in Education efforts. ONF relies on donations and memorial contributions to fund these programs. If you would like to make a donation, please send a check to:

OKLAHOMA NEWSPAPER FOUNDATION, 3601 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105



Where to get free fonts safely; text to tables in InDesign



Computer Notes

from the road
by Wilma Newby
wnewby@okpress.com

Fonts are a good way to freshen up an ad or special section so let's look at a safe way to find free fonts.

Google offers free fonts to download. These fonts are open source, which means they can be offered free to the public.

To see what's available, go to fonts.google.com. Most of the fonts there are designed for websites. For printing, you need to find fonts that are optimized for print. Stick to OpenType and TrueType fonts.

The latest type of fonts available are variable fonts, which are supported by new versions of the Adobe Create Cloud. Variable fonts allow you to vary the width of the characters right on the page, if the font supports it. However, they may not translate well on the press. As with many new technologies, it's best to test and adopt them slowly.

If the font you choose doesn't work well with your older version of Creative Suite, look for another option out of the thousands available.

When choosing a new font look to see if the descenders overlap the

ascenders in the type. Check to see if kerning works well in InDesign. Build a sample ad with type in it, then print it on site. Although this does not guarantee it will work on a web press, it should give you an idea of how kerning will look.

Test, test, test before using a new font, but have fun with it.

Many newspapers are still using fonts created in the 1990's. Some of these may not work well on newer programs and computers. Windows 10 and the new Mac OSX systems are both having trouble with the older fonts. Sometimes they just won't work.

Another almost free site is www.1001freefonts.com. They charge \$19.95 for full access to their large library of fonts. The site is listed as safe but that doesn't mean you should download everything. Be picky and only install fonts that you use. Your computer will run better without thousands of fonts on it.

Another site to check out is www.fontspace.com. This site lists fonts that are either 100% free or for personal use. Newspapers should stick to the ones that say they are 100% free. It downloads both OpenType fonts and TrueType

fonts in a Zip file, but some only offer TrueType fonts.

After unzipping the file, double click the font file and an install window opens. There is a button at the top that says install. Click it to install the font. Macs install the font in the **User > Library > Font folder**, not in the main library font folder.

To get to the user folder (in case you want to remove a font), hold down **Option** on the keyboard. Then in the menus at the top of the screen choose **Go > Library**. This opens the user library where you can see the fonts just installed. Put the ones you don't want in the trash and empty it after the computer's next restart.

On a Windows 10 computer, fonts are installed in the main drive, mostly called **C > Windows > Fonts** inside another folder that looks like a font icon. Inside you'll find the italic, bold and regular fonts that are installed. To remove ones you don't want, right click and go to **Delete**, then empty the recycle bin.

Adobe's Creative Cloud has its own fonts, but beware of using them if anyone who doesn't have the Cloud software needs to work on the ad. It's hard to get these fonts to work if

you don't have the Creative Cloud.

The sites listed here are recommended as safe, but please do your homework before downloading free fonts or art from the web. If it says "for personal use only," it's not intended for reproduction settings. And run anti-virus on the downloaded file, if it's available.

TEXT TO TABLES

When dealing with copy that would look better in a table, simply place the unformatted text into InDesign. Next choose **Type > Show Hidden Characters** to view the formatting.

Note if the text has tabs (>>) or spaces(.....) between the columns. If it's tabs, select the text and go to **Table > Convert text to table**. If the text has spaces, go to **Edit > Find/Change** to quickly replace all spaces with tabs. Type the largest number of spaces between two columns in **Find what**: and in **Change to**: tell it one tab (^t). To get that tab code go to the fly-out pop-up menu that looks like an @ symbol and choose **tab**. If your text doesn't have consistent spaces, you'll need to repeat this process until there's just one tab between columns.

To format a row or column in InDesign, hold the mouse pointer (while in text tool) **outside** the table box till it becomes a pointer (→). Then the whole row or column can be selected at once for formatting.

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



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WORTH MENTIONING

READER'S CHOICE AWARDS POPULAR IN ADA

The Ada News kicked off its annual Reader's Choice Award Contest in August.

Categories in the contest range from shopping to services to people.

Each winner was contacted in mid-September with a certificate of recognition, vinyl banner to place in the store or lawn frontage identifying the prestigious honor and bragging rights for one year. All winners will be featured in a special publication later this month.

"This promotion gets the community all fired up. The businesses like the good competition and it's a great way to get involved and show support," said LeaAnn Wells, Ada News' promotion coordinator.



READERS NOMINATE BEST OF BEST IN CLAREMORE

The Claremore Progress is asking readers to nominate their favorite business, services, people and things to do in the Claremore community for the Best of Claremore contest.

Readers have been given the opportunity to vote for their favorite local businesses and professionals for several years.

"They know their business community, and they're proud to give rave reviews. And we know that's why the honor of 'Best Of' is a big deal for our local businesses," said a story announcing the competition.

VINITA JOURNAL EDITOR HONORED AT FOOTBALL GAME

A trio of local football supporters – including David Burgess, managing editor of the Vinita Daily Journal – was honored at the opening night game of the Vinita Hornets football team.

Burgess, who has provided sports coverage for the Hornets for more than 40 years, was honored along with Tom Combs, longtime former coach and recent COVID-19 survivor, and Jim Dishman, retired Vinita principal and longtime videographer of Hornet football.

OKMULGEE TIMES STARTS TV LISTINGS

The Okmulgee Times recently began publishing TV listings.

The listings, which will be in each Friday's edition, were made possible by sponsorships, said Anthony Nieto, general manager of the Okmulgee Times.

EAKLY FEATURING LOCAL AUTHORS IN NEW COLUMN

The Country Connection News in Eakly recently launched a new column featuring Oklahoma authors. Joyce Carney, publisher of the Country Connection News, who is a member of the Oklahoma Writers Federation, Inc. (OWFI), said one day she mentioned to other members of OWFI that she would like to do book reviews in the newspaper. "And before I knew it, I had enough books offered to fill a year's worth of columns," said Carney. The column, titled "Okie Library," debuted in the August 18 edition.

READERS VOTE ON WINNERS IN LAWTON'S VIRTUAL FAIR

The Lawton Constitution recently hosted its first ever Virtual County Fair.

In addition to nine livestock categories, the fair included 12 arts-themed categories including quilts, clothing, knitting/crocheting, painting, sculpture, color photography, black and white photography, arts and crafts, toymaking, woodworking, jewelry and leatherwork.

Entry in the virtual fair was free. All it took to enter was a visit to swoknews.com/second_street, choosing the category, uploading a photo of the work and briefly describing it. After entries closed on Aug. 30, public voting began to select winners. Winning entries will remain on the site for 30 days and all winners will receive certificates.

ARDMOREITE RECOGNIZES STAFF IN FULL-PAGE AD

The Ardmoreite ran a full-page ad in its Sept. 6 edition, thanking its employees for their service. The edition featured several ads from local businesses honoring their employees on Labor Day, an editorial titled "Celebrating Our Nation's Workforce" and features on Frontline Heroes.

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OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS CONTEST WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE JULY WINNERS

Column: **JENNIFER PITTS**, *Countywide & Sun*

Editorial: **WAYNE TROTTER**, *Countywide & Sun*

JULY COLUMN WINNER

JENNIFER PITTS, *Countywide & Sun*

What if she had said no after all?

I didn't know it at the time, but four years ago this month, a baby boy was born that was about to truly change my life and me forever.

I nearly said "no" to the call asking if I'd take him on an emergency placement for a few days. I worked long hours and was pretty sure my roommate Sandra (who agreed to co-foster with me) wasn't thrilled about helping with a newborn, even for just a few days. After all, she'd already raised two kids and had two grandkids to boot.

We hadn't been certified very long and after a bumpy start with an unexpectedly short one week placement, neither of us were sure if we even wanted to continue. So I was definitely, in no way, prepared for a newborn and was frankly scared to pieces. So after a quick call to confer with Sandra we hung up and I started looking for the number to call DHS back and decline. Before I could dial the number, my phone rang. It was Sandra. I answered and she simply said, "Tell them yes."

I was surprised and confused. When I asked why, she said it was only for a few days and "I know you really want to."

She was right. I had no clue how I was going to take care of a newborn, even for a day, but my heart definitely wanted to.

I left work early and within a few hours we had gathered a bassinet, some bottles, a few outfits and other necessities. Then we waited for him to be brought to

us from the hospital.

He arrived in a wonderful new car seat, generously donated, that was far too big for his tiny, 4-day-old self. He was wearing a hospital baby gown and onesie, had a paci, one hospital blanket and enough diapers and formula to get him through the next 10 hours or so, until around 6 a.m.

I went to get him out of the car seat and suddenly felt like one of those stereotypical characters in a movie, usually a guy, who gets handed a baby and has no idea what to do with it. My cluelessness, and fear, had to be written all over my face. Most new moms have up to nine months to plan for a newborn's arrival. I had a few frantic hours. Regardless, the moment I met the Little Man was the first day my life felt like it had meaning.

I never expected in a million years to get to witness his transformation from that fragile newborn, to a running, bouncing, sassing almost 3-year-old. Yep. Those words uttered by DHS of "just for a few days" turned into nearly three years. Had I known, I never would have said yes, but I'm so grateful I did. His presence in my life for the first part of his life was literally the greatest gift of my life.

He got to go home with his family just before his third birthday. I even feel blessed to feel the continued pain of his absence because that means I did my job and so did his family. <3 Happy Birthday, Little Man. I love you, GG.



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

The July 2020
Oklahoma Natural Gas
Column and Editorial Contest
was judged by a member of the
Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame.

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.
2. Include the author's name, name of publication, date of publication and category entered (column or editorial).
3. Only ONE editorial and/or ONE column per writer per month will be accepted.
4. All entries for the previous month must be at the OPA office by the 15th of the current month.
5. Winning entries will be reproduced on the OPA website at www.OkPress.com.

*Entries must
have been previously
published in print.*

*Contest open to
all OPA member
newspapers.*

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