

THE KANSAS PUBLISHER



OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION APRIL 12, 2017

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KPA CALENDAR

APRIL 20

Lisa Silvestri will deliver the Huck Boyd Lecture at Kansas State University, Manhattan.

APRIL 20-21

Annual meeting of the William Allen White Foundation Board, Lawrence.

OCT. 5-7

National Newspaper Association 131st annual Convention and Trade Show, Tulsa.



The 2017 inductees into the Kansas Newspaper Hall of Fame at the Kansas Press Association annual convention on April 8 included Mike Kautsch, former dean of the William Allen White School of

Journalism at the University of Kansas and a KU Law School professor; and W. Davis "Buzz" Merritt Jr., former editor of the Wichita Eagle who is considered one of the fathers of public journalism.

Kautsch, Merritt named to HOF

TOPEKA — A long-time University of Kansas professor of media law and the former editor of the Wichita Eagle were inducted into the Kansas Newspaper Hall of Fame Friday night at the annual meeting of the Kansas Press Association here.

Mike Kautsch, the former dean of the William Allen White School of Journalism and a professor of media law in the KU Law School, and W. Davis "Buzz" Merritt Jr., editor of the Wichita Eagle from 1975 to 1998 and considered one of the fathers of public journalism, became the latest members of the Hall of Fame, the highest

See **HALL OF FAME** on Page 9

To review AOE results, see photos, give feedback

If you would like to view Awards of Excellence contest results or download photos from the 2017 Kansas Press Association annual convention, [click here](#). You have our permission to download and use.

To give the KPA staff feedback on the convention program and speakers — your likes and dislikes — [go here](#).

Frandsen elected president; 2017-18 KPA board seated

M. Olaf Frandsen, editor and publisher of the Salina Journal, was elected president of the Kansas Press Association Board of Directors at the annual KPA business meeting on Saturday.

Frandsen will be joined on the KPA Executive Committee by Andy Taylor, editor of the Montgomery County Chronicle, first vice president; Scott Stanford of the Lawrence Journal-World, second vice president;

and Travis Mounts, managing editor of the Cheney-based Times-Sentinel Newspapers, Treasurer.

Sarah Kessinger, Marysville Advocate, will serve one more year on the board as past president. Other board members are: Marcus Ashlock, Syracuse Journal, Southwest District Director; Tommy Felts, Ottawa Herald, Northeast District Director; Mary Hoisington, Great Bend Tribune, Northwest

District Director; Jason Jump, Kingman Leader-Courier, Nondaily Membership Director; Dena Sattler, Garden City Telegram, Legislative Director; Nick Schwien, Hays Daily News, Daily Membership Director; Robin Wunderlich, Eureka Herald, Southeast District Director; and Joey Young, Clarion, Central District Director.

Ashlock, Felts, Jump, Schwien and Wunderlich are all new to the board this year.

News Media Alliance initiates national assault on fake news

ARLINGTON, VA. — The News Media Alliance recently announced the launch of a national campaign focused on combatting the increasing prevalence of fake news. The campaign, Support Real News, shines a light on the harm to the public caused by fake news and the importance of real news produced by respected, trusted news organizations employing high-quality, investigative journalists.

The campaign calls on the public to support real news by subscribing to a local newspaper and supporting investigative journalism through donating to the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ). ICIJ, Inland Press Association and Local Media Consortium are partners of the campaign.

“We are encouraged by the efforts of our members and other organizations to call attention to the growing fake news problem and to promote the value of real news,” said Alliance President and CEO David Chavern. “As the association that represents the news media industry, fighting fake news is one of the most important things the News Media Alliance can do for our members right now. Our campaign raises awareness of the damage that can be and is being caused by fake news, and to demonstrate why the continued presence of real news organizations is vital to a strong democracy.”

The Alliance has developed a variety of campaign resources leveraging digital, social, video, and print formats. The campaign, which lives on the Alliance website, includes two colorful ads in print and digital formats; a 90-second online video; social media graphics and profile badge; blog posts and an Op-ed by Chavern.

The ICIJ is also posting the ads on its website. “We are delighted to be included in this important campaign, which echoes

our mission to support and enable investigative journalism,” said Gerard Ryle, Director at ICIJ.

Additional partners of the campaign include Inland Press and the Local Media Consortium (LMC). “We wanted to show our support for this important initiative and encourage our members to participate,” stated Doug Hiemstra, President, Inland Press. “The more news organizations participate, the greater impact we can have.”

“We have all been forced to deal with fake news,” stated Rusty Coats, Executive Director of the LMC. “Which is why we should all come together to address it.”

The Alliance hosted a Facebook Live event on March 29. The event featured a panel discussing issues pertaining to the current news environment and fake news. The panel was moderated by Alliance staff and included Q&A with viewers during the live event.

“Our hope is for news media organizations to share our campaign and amplify our message, and for the public to respond by supporting real news and the journalists who make it all possible,” stated Chavern.

For more information, visit www.newsmediaalliance.org/supportrealnews.

Editor’s note: *The News Media Alliance is a non-profit organization representing nearly 2,000 news organizations and their multiplatform businesses in the United States and Canada. Alliance members include print, digital and mobile publishers of original news*

content. Headquartered near Washington, D.C., in Arlington, Va., the association focuses on ensuring the future of news media through communication, research, advocacy and innovation. Information about the News Media Alliance (formerly NAA) can be found at www.newsmediaalliance.org.



David Chavern

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2017-18 KPA BOARD

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Keep your clients talking — and learn more

Lori told me about some simple techniques she uses in advertising presentations. “Once the other person mentions a problem,” she said, “it’s important to slow down and show some restraint. A lot of sales people are conditioned to pounce on the slightest opening and shift the conversation. They can’t wait to talk about the ways their products can solve the problem. For example, if the prospect says, ‘My advertising is not generating enough traffic on weekends,’ the sales person is tempted to jump in with a suggestion to run more ads on weekends.



John Foust

“That’s a bad move,” she said. “Although that kind of instant-answer approach may seem like good idea at the time, it’s too early to propose a solution to the problem. So instead of expressing an opinion, I encourage the other person to continue talking. That keeps them on their train of thought. The more they talk, the more I learn. And as a result, I might find out that their weekday traffic has been declining along with the weekend business. That would call for a different solution.

“To keep them talking, it helps to use a minimum number of words, sometimes just

one or two,” she explained. “I’ve learned some techniques from sales seminars and books, but I’ve also picked up ideas by watching good interviewers on television.”

Lori knows the importance of looking below the surface. Try these phrases:

1. Say “that’s terrible” or that’s awful,” when a problem is mentioned. Say “that’s good,” when the news is positive. These simple phrases can help you get in step with the other person. “When you agree with what they’re saying, they usually keep right on talking,” she said. “You’re sympathizing with their bad news and giving them a verbal high five for their good news.”

2. Repeat their last phrase as a question. This is a well-known technique that has been around for years. When you hear, “We’re not getting enough weekend traffic,” say “You’re not getting enough weekend traffic?” and raise your voice on the last word to emphasize the question. That’s less formal than saying, “That’s an unusual statement. I’d like to know more.”

3. Say “How do you mean?” instead of “What do you mean?” Although your old grammar teacher would scold you for

using “how” in place of “what,” “how” is a friendlier way to ask for more information. “What do you mean” can sound abrupt and defensive.

4. Say “Hmm.” “Crazy as it sounds, this is one of the best ways to keep the momentum going,” Lori said. “Think of all the different things you can express with ‘Hmm.’ With different inflection, you can convey agreement, happiness, surprise, sympathy or sadness.

“All of this is intended to help them flesh out problems. As the conversation moves along, you can ask some questions to tighten the focus and help them see the long-term implications of their situation. Then you’ll be in a better position to propose a solution.”

Hmm. That’s good.

John Foust has conducted training programs for thousands of newspaper advertising professionals. Many are using his training videos to save time and get quick results from in-house training. E-mail for information at jfoust@mindspring.com.

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AOE Sweepstakes winners named for 2017

Kansas Press Association newspapers taking the sweepstakes awards in their circulation categories in 2017 included:

Nondaily Division 1: Advertising, **Hugoton Hermes**; News, **Clarion**.

Nondaily Division 2: Advertising, **Kingman Leader-Courier**; News, **Derby Informer**.

Nondaily Division 3: Advertising, **Atchison Globe**; News, **Wichita Business Journal**.

Daily Division 1: Advertising, **Leader & Times**; News, **Leader & Times**.

Daily Division 2: Advertising, **Great Bend Tribune**; News, **Garden City Telegram**.

Daily Division 3: Advertising, **Hutchinson News**; News, **Topeka Capital-Journal**.

The Sweepstakes Awards go to the newspapers that accumulate the most total points in either the news or advertising categories.

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THIS MONTH’S QUESTION

Q. I hear KPA is assisting newspapers with event marketing. How does that work?

A. If you have a local event — or would like to come up with a new one — KPA’s advertising and event planning services can be made available to enhance your advertising effort and also help you organize some of the details. Just call Emily Bradbury or Amber Jackson and they’ll put their expertise to work for you. We are currently working with three Kansas newspapers on projects. KPA charges a flat rate plus a commission on the advertising sold.

PHS student journalists provided positive bump

KPA's convention last weekend served as a nice reminder of the role a free press plays in America today.

After months of watching our nation's president go out of his way to verbally assault the media, it was nice to gather with colleagues and recognize Kansas newspapers' commitment to the profession.

It's not unusual at all for a president to dislike and duck the media. But the Trump administration has gone to extraordinary lengths to stick it to the White House press corps, particularly those probing newspaper reporters he sporadically bars from briefings.

The only logical explanation is that the nation's print media is good at digging up the truth.

I hope at some point Trump gets used to it. At least the public seems quite hungry for the truth as newspaper print and online sales at the nation's large dailies have seen quite a turnaround lately.

And it's not just large dailies enjoying renewed attention. During Saturday's press association awards luncheon, those in the banquet hall listened via Skype to an adviser to the student newspaper at Pittsburg High School. The crowd was quick to applaud the instructor, whose students recently broke a news story about the questionable educational record of the school's new principal.



Sarah Kessinger

The principal resigned her \$93,000-per-year job and the students' reporting work drew international admiration.

The investigation was a positive bump for a profession that's really taken its lumps with financial woes and resulting job cuts in the last decade.

It is tough financially for high schools as well and many have had to cut their student newspapers. Increasingly Kansas students don't get the opportunity to experience journalism, let alone investigative journalism, any more.

Pittsburg's enterprising young journalists probably saved the district some serious grief in the long term. Though it did not save face for a school board and administration that failed to check the principal's background.

It's unfortunate that so many schools have abandoned teaching journalism.

My alma mater, Marysville High School, printed its last edition of *The Bulldog Capers* about a decade ago.

I remember well the lessons I learned working as a reporter on the *Capers*' staff back in the '80s. We occasionally tangled with the administration, who didn't always like the idea of a free student press. But we managed to put out a professional and careful publication that sought to hold school officials to high standards.

Today, MHS' yearbook adviser and

English teacher Carla Wolfe says, it would be nice to have a school newspaper again, but the school would need to hire someone qualified in journalism to teach it.

"I think being a journalist is a viable career option," Wolfe said. "And I think high school is where a lot of journalists get their start."

News writing is a valuable skill, she said, but again it would require a commitment on the school's part to re-establish a program.

The funds aren't there now and until the state gets serious about complying with our Kansas constitution, funding won't be there for many academic efforts.

As for Pittsburg's experience, Wolfe says, "I was really impressed with what happened. How did the school board

not find this out? And if students were looking into it, why wasn't the administration?"

"This is what you get with well-trained student journalists," she said.

This is what we all get when a free press is allowed to exercise its First Amendment rights.

As T-shirts on sale at last weekend's press convention put it, "Real News Is Our Business."

Sara Kessinger served as president of Kansas Press Association for 2016-17. She is editor and publisher of the Marysville Advocate.

Real NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS

DEATH

Bob Boyd

Funeral services for Robert Alexander "Bob" Boyd, 81, of Hill City, Kan., are Saturday, April 15.

He died at his home on April 7, 2017.

Bob was born in Topeka, Kansas, on July 19, 1935, the oldest of Mary (Dexter) Boyd and Francis "Bus" Boyd's four children. He graduated from Mankato High School in 1953 and continued on to Kansas State College (now Kansas State University), receiving a degree in Journalism in 1957.

After completing his Reserve Officers' Training (ROTC) at K-State, Bob was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. Later promoted to captain, he served as a Navigator and Electronic Warfare officer, flying in the B-57 Canberra.

In 1961, Bob joined the family newspaper business and moved to Hill City to run *The Hill City Times*. He was later joined by his brother-in-law and business partner, Jim

Logback. He was a publisher and an editor of *The Hill City Times* for 56 years.

Bob married Diane Heim on May 30, 1970. They had four daughters: Valerie, Suzie, Robyn and Kristin.

He carried on his parents' philosophy, "As long as we live in a town, it is the best town in the world and it is our job to help make it better."

He is survived by his wife of the home, his four daughters and their spouses and 15 grandchildren: Valerie Kalny and husband, Ben and children: Noah, Eli, Holli Jane, and Lilly, Lake Quivira, Kan.; Suzie McDowell and husband, Wade and children: Lexie, Aaron, and Brody, Hill City; Robyn Cathcart and husband, Aubrey and children: Abigail, A.J., Amarie, and Augie, Overland Park, Kan.; and Kristin Kemerling and husband Erik and children: Lauren, Annabelle, Quinn, and Levi, Greenwood, Ind. Other survivors include a brother, Dick Boyd, and

wife, Mary Beth, Norton, Kan.; sister Betty James and husband, Wynne, Bethesda, Md.; brother-in-law, Jim Logback, Hill City; in-laws, Val and Betty Heim, Superior, Neb.; brother-in-law Val Heim and wife, Melody, Sterling, Colo.; and five nephews and three nieces and their families. His parents and sister, Frances Logback, preceded him in death.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 15, 2017, at the Hill City United Methodist Church. Burial will follow in the Memorial Lawn Cemetery, Hill City. Visitation will be held from 2 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 14 at the Stinemetz Funeral Home with the family present to receive friends from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Memorials are suggested to the Hill City Ball Complex or the Hill City United Methodist Church in care of Stinemetz Funeral Home, 522 North Pomeroy Ave., Hill City, KS 67642.



The winner of the Murdock Award for journalistic excellence went to Adam Strunk of Newton Now (at left). He is shown with publisher Joey Young. Strunk looked into the firing of the city manager of Newton, uncovering serious breakdowns in communication.



Sally Gray, above, was the recipient of the Gaston Outstanding Mentor Award. Gray, editor of the Marysville Advocate, was cited for her leadership to reporters young and old. She is shown with Sarah Kessinger, the Advocate's editor and publisher.

KPA recognizes special award winners for 2017

Morley Piper (at right) salutes as the Topeka High School Junior ROTC color guard presents Old Glory prior to his presentation on his participation in the D-Day invasion of June 1944. Piper is clerk for the Newspaper Association Managers, U.S. and Canadian press association executives. Piper, at 92, spoke of the bravery of his fellow soldiers, moving many in the crowd to tears.



The Topeka Capital-Journal staff was lauded for its "Twist of Fate" coverage of the 50th anniversary of the June 8, 1966 tornado. Accepting the Boyd Award for Community Service were (from left) Tomari Quinn, Jan Biles and publisher Zach Ahrens.



Receiving the Clyde M. Reed Jr. Master Editor Award was Chad Lawhorn of the Lawrence Journal-World. He was cited for his popular "Town Talk" blog and his outstanding work leading the news operation at the newspaper.

MARKETPLACE

NEWS

NEWS EDITOR — The Osage County Herald-Chronicle has an opening for a full-time news editor with management experience. Knowledge and proficiency of AP style is referred. Excellent opportunity to work with award-winning staff at 3,500 circulation weekly in Osage City. Position includes covering governmental and school board meetings, writing features, editorials, editing and proofreading copy, taking photos and managing the day-to-day influx of emails. Experience with page layout on Mac-based Adobe InDesign is a plus. Some evening and weekend hours. Send resume with cover letter to Chris or Catherine Faimon, faimonc@gmail.com, or P.O. Box A, Burlington, KS 66839. All inquiries kept confidential. (4-4)

REPORTER — The Abilene Reflector-Chronicle is seeking a news reporter to cover government and school meetings, events in Abilene and Dickinson County, courts and other stories as assigned. Applicant must have a degree in journalism or public affairs or a degree in English with experience writing for publication. Send resume to editor@abilene-rc.com or bring it to the newspaper office at 303 N. Broadway in Abilene. For more information, call the editor at (785) 263-1000. (3-15)

SPORTS EDITOR — The Pratt Tribune is seeking a sports reporter who knows how to score with both print and online audiences. Join a positive team to help our media outlet in south-central Kansas grow. Great opportunity to join one of the fastest growing media companies in the United States. Will report on winning high school and college teams in Pratt County and the surrounding area. The successful candidate will be able to generate story ideas, cover games write features and columns and become a local hero to sports fans. Photography skills a plus but will train. Position offers a competitive salary and great benefits package. Contact ceasterday@dodgeglobe.com with clips resume and references. (3-9)

GOVERNMENT REPORTER — The Garden City Telegram, a daily newspaper in southwest Kansas, is seeking an ambitious reporter to cover local government. Responsibilities primarily would involve covering the Garden City and Finney County commissions, but also would include some coverage of state and federal government, economic development, as well as some general assignment reporting. Ideal candidate will be self-motivated, have experience at

a daily newspaper, knowledge of AP style, a web-first mentality and a willingness to embrace online and multimedia endeavors. Recent or soon-to-be college graduates ready to hit the ground running will be considered. The Telegram offers a generous salary and benefits package, a chance to work with an outstanding staff and room for advancement. To apply, send résumé, cover letter and work samples to: Brett Riggs, managing editor, The Garden City Telegram, 310 N. Seventh St., Garden City, KS 67846. For more information or to express interest in the position, e-mail briggs@gctelegram.com (2-24)

MANAGING EDITOR — Do you want to join a dynamic daily news team? Do you want to be a part of community journalism at its best? Are you a creative leader? Then you need to send your resume to: The Neosho Daily News c/o Managing Editor Search, 1006 W. Harmony, Neosho, MO 64850. This position offers flexibility in managing a staff of three staff writers in the beautiful SW Missouri town of Neosho, home of Crowder College. The Daily News publishes Tuesday through Sunday. The Daily News is a Gatehouse Media publication and offers full benefits and a competitive salary. We are an equal opportunity employer. (1-5)

SPORTS EDITOR — Award-winning western Kansas daily needs someone who loves sports to cover community college and 4A high school, co-ordinate coverage of smaller schools, create dynamic, interesting sports pages and engage the community. College town on I-70, close to Denver, great hunting, biking, trails, great sports. This might be the one for you. Benefits. Contact Sharon Friedlander, publisher, at sfriedlander@nwkansas.com, and Steve Haynes at steve.haynes@nwkansas.com EOE/M/F/D/V (1-4)

MANAGING EDITOR — needed for award-winning daily on I-70 in western Kansas. The Colby Free Press needs a leader to take its news department to the next level. Are you ready to step up, face new challenges? Supervise news staff, page design and community coverage. Close to Denver, great outdoors, biking, trails and hunting. Benefits. Contact Sharon Friedlander, publisher, at sfriedlander@nwkansas.com, and Steve Haynes at steve.haynes@nwkansas.com EOE/M/F/D/V (1-4)

REPORTER NEEDED now for western Kansas twice-weekly, near lake with state park and federal reservoir, great hunting, fishing hiking, biking. Cover city and county,

schools and more, features and creative coverage. Help with page design, learn the craft of newspapering. Pay competitive, based on experience, plus benefits. Contact Dana Paxton, general manager, at dpaxton@nwkansas.com, and Steve Haynes at steve.haynes@nwkansas.com EOE/M/F/D/V (1-4)

ADVERTISING

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING MANAGER — We are seeking an innovative high-energy leader with a proven record in sales and management to assist advertisers, grow revenue in digital and print channels, build brand integrity and coach and develop sales staff. The right candidate will work with the Advertising Director to develop and execute marketing and strategic plans. The Grand Island Independent a Berkshire-Hathaway Media Group newspaper is in a rock-solid newspaper market and a growing retail trade center for Central Nebraska. Grand Island offers high quality of life and low cost of living. Lincoln and Omaha are a short drive down Interstate 80 to the east. The Rocky Mountains are accessible to the west. Compensation commensurate with experience. To apply send resume to Molly Holcher Human Resources, molly.holcher@theindependent.com (1-18)

NEWSPAPERS FOR SALE

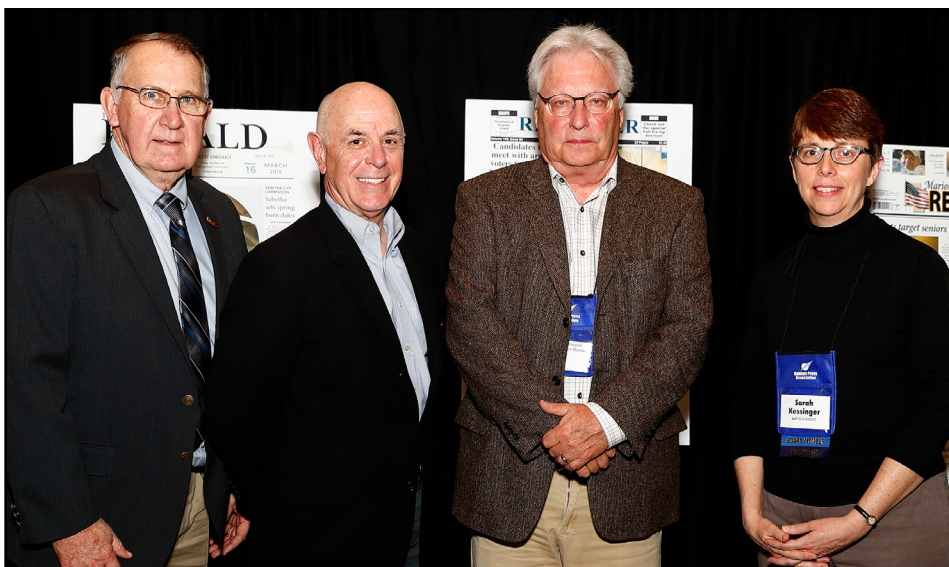
Respected 131-year-old weekly newspaper in Southwest Kansas; only newspaper in the county. Owner moving out of state. Steady subscription, advertising, annual sales approximately \$140,000. Will include building and property in sale. (785) 341-7573 after 5 p.m. MST. (9-14)

DIGITAL MEDIA

Tired of not being able to update your website? Do you hate the design, but have no one on staff who can alter it? Have your eyes widened in shock when hearing what a new website might cost? Relax ... The Hays Daily News' Pixel Power Haus is your solution. Call Patrick Lowry at (785) 628-1081 to hear how we can help. Designed by a newspaper, for newspapers.

PRESSROOM

PART-TIME PRESS OPERATOR — The Great Bend Tribune is seeking a part-time press operator to join our printing team. The ideal candidate will have previous web press experience, including print of process color and press make-ready. Good work ethics along with mechanical skills and ability to react quickly to print related problems. We are willing to train the right person. Job



Helping our neighbors —

In response to the devastating wildfires in south-central and southwest Kansas in March, the Kansas Newspaper Foundation voted Friday (April 7) to donate \$10,000 to the Kansas Farm Bureau's Disaster Relief Fund. The announcement was made at the annual Kansas Press Association convention after a panel of experts from Farm Bureau discussed the changing face of agriculture in Kansas. Shown above are (from left) Rich Felts, KFB president, Olaf Frandsen, current president of the Kansas Press Association from the Salina Journal, John Schlageck, a KFB senior writer and editor, and Sarah Kessinger, immediate past president of KPA from the Marysville Advocate.

MARKETPLACE/CONT. FROM PAGE 6

requirements include: • Current valid driver's license with clean driving record, ability to pass a written fork lift test and train on lift; • Color vision and depth perception; • Ability to lift a minimum of 75 pounds; • Ability to read and comprehend written and/or oral English instruction along with ability to communicate effectively with team members. To submit a resume with references or request an application contact jaudus@gbtribune.com.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

FOR SALE — Atlas offset press. 2 quad units and four mono units with folder, roll stands and all electrical equipment needed for

operation. Also includes bay window to print full color on both sides of one web, plate bender and punch. Comes with conveyor belt and count-o-veyor. \$45,000. Call 620-626-0840 or email earl@hpleader.com.

FOR SALE — ECRM Newsmatic CTP. 2008 model. Very well kept and lightly used (about 12 plates per day, six days per week for two years). CTP fully functional with all software and RIP. Bought a second newspaper and used the one that came with it. Comes with Kodak plate processor, but it needs a couple pumps we used on other machine. Paid \$140,000. Will take \$32,000. Call 620-626-0840 or email earl@hpleader.com.

MARCH KDAN, KCAN WINNERS

The following newspapers sold either direct placement, Kansas Display Ad Network, Kansas Classified Ad Network or out-of-state network ads in March. Remember, if you sell a KDAN or KCAN, which run in almost 150 Kansas newspapers, you keep half the money.

Sell one outside of Kansas (SDAN or SCAN) or do direct placement in other papers and keep half the commission allowed to KPA.

KDAN — Anderson County Review, four ads for a profit to the newspaper of \$3,300; Ellsworth County Independent-Reporter, one ad for \$450 profit.

KCAN — GateHouse Media, six ads for a \$900 profit.

SDAN — Anderson County Review, four ads for a \$450 profit.

DIRECT PLACEMENT — Hays Daily News.

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FRIENDS OF KPA

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 (for questions on cameras in the
 courtroom and the court system)

We must be reminded that ‘freedom isn’t free’

We rise when the Stars and Stripes are presented.

We join in when the Pledge of Allegiance is recited, hands over our hearts.

And we stand and show our respects when we see a funeral procession for a veteran of the armed forces on the journey to his or her final resting place.

But do we give more than a passing thought to the sacrifices made by those who served our nation to defend the rights we so thoroughly enjoy as Americans?

I certainly try to do that in my everyday life, but often we’re all too busy to really take a moment to contemplate this: those who have put on the uniform and laid down their lives in service to their country have helped preserve our right to be journalists.

A roomful of journalists at the annual Kansas Press Association convention was reminded of the price of freedom Saturday when World War II veteran Morley Piper presented a program on Operation Overlord, the D-Day invasion of 1944 (see his picture on Page 5).

He was there. He stormed the beach. He witnessed first-hand the trepidation on the faces of his fellow soldiers. He saw his buddies mowed down all around him and wondered if he would see another day, or even take another breath.

Piper, whom I first met some 13 years ago, is now 92. He was a mere 19 years old on that June day when Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered the assault on Omaha

Beach in Normandy. He was a freshly minted second lieutenant, a “90-day wonder” as most of these untested officers were known then.

What those thousands of Americans faced that day — and somehow overcame — were almost insurmountable odds.

The Germans were dug in solidly on the bluffs overlooking the beach, protected by reinforced concrete bunkers. As the Higgins boats ferried soldiers to the beach, many died before even taking a step outside.

Others drowned when their heavy backpacks weighed them down. Countless others met their end on that awful beach.

Yet somehow they prevailed. It was a miracle of sorts.

What those soldiers, sailors, Marines and fliers did in that epic battle and its aftermath likely saved the world from Nazi domination.

They helped preserve the freedoms we have come to take for granted: freedom of speech, press and religion; freedom of assembly and the right to petition our government for a redress of grievances.

On D-Day alone, 4,413 Allied soldiers died; the Germans had estimated losses of between 4,000 and 9,000 troops that day.

Piper, after a rewarding career in newspaper advertising sales and press association management, went back to Normandy on the 70th anniversary of D-Day as one of six named as official representatives.

Even seven long decades later, Americans and others continued to be hailed as heroes by the French. Residents turned out in droves to greet their liberators once again.

What Tom Brokaw labeled “the Greatest Generation” saved freedom and liberty for succeeding generations.

What’s the point of all this?

Freedom isn’t free.

It is won at a high price, and it must

be nurtured and, yes, defended when it is threatened by those who hate it.

Morley Piper did not call attention to himself with his presentation.

Instead, he lauded the bravery that he saw exhibited on that treacherous beach some 73 years ago.

He reminded all of us that brave men and women stepped

forward then and continue to step forward today so that all of us can continue to live in a country that values life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Another thing Piper did was to answer some of the questions many of us had of our parents and grandparents about what had happened when they were in the war.

Now we understand why they couldn’t talk about it: Piper admitted it took 50 years before he could as well.

Doug Anstaett is executive director of the Kansas Press Association.



Doug Anstaett

Yet somehow they prevailed. It was a miracle of sorts.

What those soldiers, sailors, Marines and fliers did in that epic battle and its aftermath saved the world from Nazi domination.



Among those attending the Kansas Press Association President's Banquet Reception on April 7 included (from left) Pam and Tom Throne and Barbara and Harry McGrath. Throne is a past president of KPA and served as editor and publisher in McPherson and Junction City. McGrath owns the Waconda Trader in Beloit.

Hall of Fame

Continued from Page 1

honor bestowed on journalists and journalism educators by the KPA.

The meeting at the Capitol Plaza Hotel also included recognition for journalists for outstanding community service, investigative reporting and career accomplishments.

Kautsch joined the KU School of Journalism in 1979 and served as dean from 1987 to 1997. He has been at the KU Law School since then and has served as a media law consultant to KPA for two decades. He was one of the leaders of the effort in Kansas to establish a new shield law for journalists in 2010. Merritt also is the author of four books, but is best known for the public journalism reform movement he encouraged that urged journalists to do their jobs in ways that could help citizens engage in public life by writing about events from the citizen's perspective rather than that of the participants in the news.

Other awards presented included:

- **Chad Lawhorn**, editor of the Lawrence Journal-World, who was presented the Clyde M. Reed Jr. Master Editor Award.

Lawhorn was described by Scott Stanford, editor and publisher of the Journal-World, as the epitome of what a community newspaper editor should be.

“Chad is also a terrific teacher who as editor, is able to share his skills and knowledge with our team of young reporters. He challenges them to tackle complex issues with gusto but to write about them using the language of conversation. Write the way people talk to each other, he says. So simple. So right,” Stanford said.

Lawhorn's daily blog, Town Talk, is the most highly rated content in the Journal-World, Stanford said.

- **Sally Gray** of the Marysville Advocate, recipient of the Gaston Outstanding Mentor Award for her 35 years of service.

Her publisher, Sarah Kessinger, said through her work as a news editor, copy editor and design guru at the Advocate, Gray had served “as a mentor to reporters young and old who have come through the newsroom, including three generations of my family who have enjoyed and learned from her dedication to the basics of good writing and reporting.”

- **Adam Strunk**, managing editor of Newton Now, winner of the Murdock Award, given annually for outstanding journalism

efforts aimed at local issues.

Strunk's investigative work following the firing of Newton's city manager, Randy Riggs, helped uncover seven months of dealings behind closed doors, a taxpayer-funded private investigation into multiple city staff members and what some commissioners described as a breakdown in communication and trust between the commission and those the city employs.

- **The Topeka Capital-Journal**, honored with the Boyd Community Service Award for its project commemorating the 50th anniversary of the June 8, 1966 tornado that ripped through the capital city, killing 16 people, devastating the Washburn University campus and destroying hundreds of homes and businesses.

The Capital-Journal staff was cited for “Twist of Fate.” For a year, staff members researched documents and newspaper archives, and interviewed and videotaped more than 200 people, gathering information for a magazine, daily newspaper coverage and exclusive online content, including interactive maps and a message board.

- **Roxana Hegeman**, Wichita correspondent for the Associated Press, was named the AP's Kansas Staffer of the Year.



When a community works together, nothing is impossible. That's why we strive to connect people with good jobs, create opportunities for all, advance education and promote the responsible use of our technology.

That's why we proudly support the Kansas Press Association.



Here is latest update of KPA's legislative watch list

1. SENATE BILL 70 (Now HB 2128)

This bill was originally brought to Sen. Marci Francisco by a resident of Lawrence concerned with the lack of specificity in most motions to conduct executive or closed sessions

It died last year but has been revived with bipartisan sponsorship of Francisco and Sen. Molly Baumgardner.

The current location of the language is in HB 2128 and was approved by the Senate. The House nonconcurred on the changes and a conference committee has been appointed with Sen. Baumgardner as a member.

KPA supports the language

2. SENATE BILL 86

This is the KORA cost containment bill we have been working on for four years. In previous years, it has passed the Senate but stalled in the House.

The bill has morphed into what we call a "Christmas tree" because so many extra "ornaments" have been added to it, making it less than palatable for some interested parties.

This "sausage-making" may end up killing the bill unless a conference committee cleans it up.

The latest status is that a hearing was held in the House on April 6.

KPA supports most of SB 86

3. HOUSE BILL 2070

This bill that died last year has been reintroduced. It is designed by its proponents to close the central registry of all Kansas police and law enforcement officers and block all registry content from disclosure.

Recent incidents involving law enforcement officer controversies in Enterprise and Lawrence show this information must be available to the public to help weed out bad actors. Law enforcement wants this bill; we already have testified against it.

It has passed the House and KPA has presented testimony in opposition in the Senate. While we oppose closing these records, we could live with a revised version offered by our own Max Kautsch.

We've proposed sending the issue to an advisory committee of the Kansas Judicial Council.

KPA would prefer to kill HB 2070

4. HOUSE BILL 2006

This bill has passed both houses and was presented to the governor on April 7 for his signature.

It is designed to address the board of county commissioners issue that led to a lawsuit by the Salina Journal and the Associated Press. When Gov. Sam Brownback wouldn't release the names of the applicants he considered to fill the two new positions cre-

ated when Saline County increased the county commission from three to five members.

The legislation provides for a special election when a situation similar to the one in Saline County occurs. It has since been amended to be more in line with how other vacancies are filled, with each political party nominating a candidate for each position. The election would be held between 75 and 90 days of the resolution to increase the size of the commission.

The lawsuit won by the Salina Journal and AP ruled the governor should divulge the names. He appealed and won by a 2-1 ruling last week. Whether the decision will be appealed to the Kansas Supreme Court is still being determined.

KPA supports HB 2006

5. HOUSE BILL 2128

This is a new bill this year and is designed to allow "case reviews" of the Governor's Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board to be another KOMA exception. You might recall the controversies that have developed over how the state treats foster children and how children have died allegedly because of neglect by the state to intervene, so we think this is another blatant attempt by the Brownback Administration to clamp down on information related to domestic violence deaths in the state.

KPA has testified against the bill, but it now contained the executive sessions language, so we're in a tough spot.

Proponents say they want to close the reviews because of their graphic

nature.

KPA opposes HB 2128, but wants SB 70 language

6. HOUSE BILL 2247

The bill to allow cities, counties, school boards and other public agencies to have the "option" to use an Internet website as their official publication rather than a legal newspaper is still there, but we don't believe it has legs this year.

We believe it is dead for this session.

KPA strongly opposes HB 2247

7. HOUSE BILL 2338

This bill concerns the prisoner review board. It would close certain parole hearings that have traditionally been open to the press. Supporters argue that victims' families should be afforded some privacy when testifying about the impact of crime.

However, we believe the public has a paramount right to view these proceedings in full, because the crime was against society as well. The bill appears to be languishing.

KPA opposes HB 2338

