

Official Publication of the Tennessee Press Association

The Tennessee Press

Volume 82

March 2019

No. 9

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Lee vows to emphasize free speech and bring more transparency to Tennessee government

JOEL EBERT
The Tennessean, Nashville
February 7, 2019

In his first address to members of the Tennessee Press Association while in office, Gov. Bill Lee vowed to make government more transparent while stressing the importance of media.

"Without a free press, we don't have a free country," Lee said, making his remarks Feb. 7 as keynote speaker at the TPA Winter Convention's Thursday luncheon.

Lee recalled how before launching his gubernatorial campaign, he seldom had interactions with the media. But over the course of the last two years, he said the interactions have helped him.

He laughingly called one of his first press events on the campaign one of the "most horrifying expe-

riences."

Lee said after that experience, he's gotten better at what he does, while praising the media for making public servants better by challenging them.

As he has often said since his election, Lee vowed to make state government more open and transparent. To that effect, he issued an executive order and vowed to make his administration's position on legislation available to the public.

Lee to review open records exemptions

Noting the hundreds of exemptions to the state's open records law, Lee vowed to support a review of the long list.

See **LEE** Page 4



Photo by Tony Centonze, for TPA

Tennessee Governor Bill Lee was keynote speaker Feb. 7 at the TPA Winter Convention's Thursday luncheon in Nashville, touching on government transparency among other topics.

Tribune's Perry recognized among African-American leaders

STACY M. BROWN
NNPA
December 10, 2018

Rosetta Miller Perry said it's vitally important that people recognize the significance of the Black Press and understand the role Black women have long played in its creation, evolution and preservation.

A retired U.S. Navy officer and lawyer by trade, Perry has found success over the past three decades as publisher of the Tennessee Tribune, an African-American newspaper that reaches more than 150,000 people each week.

Now, the Memphis State University graduate has earned a significant distinction from her peers in Memphis – Perry has been named among the Top 10 Most Powerful

African Americans of 2018 by the Nashville Voice, a popular Music City publication.

"I feel blessed and privileged to be able to have some influence in this community and be an advocate for people and neighborhoods that have too long been overlooked, ignored and excluded," said Perry, who said the honor has also meant more responsibility.

"It also means I must always be vigilant and aware of what's happening not only in the city, but throughout the region and across the state, because there are folks depending on me for information, and expect me and the Tribune to voice their concerns and effectively highlight multiple issues that affect their lives," Perry said.

The publication handed out the honors to those from various



Perry

fields including to a councilwoman, a chairman of the board of a prominent bank, a bishop and a chamber of commerce chief.

The Nashville Voice noted the criteria for selection to the Top 10 list included individuals who have the capacity to move the needle or make a change; those who use their power to or are responsible for making big decisions to make lasting changes that impact the lives of local residents; those of superior character and are deeply

respected by their peers in the community; and the individuals have made a career out of using their power and influence for the greater good of the urban community in Nashville.

"The Tribune has been fortunate enough to be around for decades and is now widely distributed in the state's four largest cities. With that comes a degree of exposure, acceptance and recognition," Perry said.

"So, to that extent I am not completely surprised my name appears in this survey. But I see it more as the realization of my goal of creating a publication that would have positive community impact, focus on the good things and accomplishments of North

See **PERRY** Page 2

The Tennessee Press

(USPS 616-460)
Published monthly by the

TENNESSEE PRESS ASSOCIATION, INC.
412 N. Cedar Bluff Road, Suite 403
Knoxville, Tennessee 37923
Telephone (865) 584-5761/Fax (865) 558-8687/www.tnpress.com

Subscriptions: \$12 annually
Periodicals Postage Paid At Knoxville, TN

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Tennessee Press,
412 N. Cedar Bluff Road, Suite 403, Knoxville, TN 37923

The Tennessee Press is printed by The Standard Banner in Jefferson City, Tenn.

Carol Daniels Editor
Mike Towle..... Managing Editor
Robyn Gentile Production Coordinator



 The Tennessee Press
is printed on recycled paper
and is recyclable.

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TPAers with suggestions, questions or comments about items in The Tennessee Press are welcome to contact the managing editor. Call Mike Towle, (615) 293-5771; send a note to 117 Township Court, Hendersonville, TN 37075, or email editor@tnpress.com. The deadline for the April issue is Tuesday, March 5.

TPA Winter Convention was huge success

We had a very good TPA Winter Convention in Nashville Feb. 6-7 with good attendance from our members as well as the 78 students who attended the convention luncheon on Feb. 7. We had good updates from the Tennessee Press Service (our advertising arm) and the Tennessee Press Association Foundation, and a lengthy TPA board meeting to discuss many issues. We also had three newspapers approved to join the Tennessee Press Association: the Portland Sun, the Cheatham County Exchange and the Murfreesboro Post. So we are growing as an association.

The highlight of the Winter Convention was the legislative reception the evening of Feb. 6, with many legislators as well as Gov. Bill Lee in attendance, with Gov. Lee returning for the luncheon the next day as keynote speaker. Also, the presidents of Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee Tech University, Austin Peay University and Volunteer State Community College, and the vice president of the University of Tennessee attended the luncheon and spoke to us about their priorities and plans.



**YOUR
PRESIDING
REPORTER**

DOUG HORNE

It's always good to have the governor speak at our luncheon. Since Bill Lee had just been elected, it was really good for us to get to know more about him. He said his main focus and emphasis would be criminal justice reform, economic development (particularly focusing on the 15 rural counties that need the most help), increased focus on technology and vocational training, continued secondary and higher level educational progress, better health care for Tennesseans, and an open and transparent government. Gov. Lee is very open and friendly, a man of great faith, a very experienced and successful business man, a cattle rancher and a devoted family man. We were all impressed with him and will help him be a very successful governor.

Thinking back on the last 40 years, we have been blessed as a state with excellent governors who have worked hard for the public, been open and honest and avoided scandal. Actually, that's an amazing thing given what has happened in other states, some of which are close by and which will remain nameless in this column. Our recent governors - Lamar Alexander, Ned McWherter, Don Sundquist, Phil Bredesen and Bill Haslam - have been exemplary public servants and have set fine examples of leadership while moving Tennessee to being one of the top states in the country. It looks like we have another fine governor in Bill Lee who will continue the recent progress and elevation of Tennessee to a top-tier state.

All the best to you and our 129 member newspapers and our strong and growing association.

Doug Horne

Doug Horne, owner of Republic Newspapers, Knoxville, is the President of the Tennessee Press Association for 2018-19.

PERRY from Page 1

Nashville and the Black community, and combat the negative stereotypes and obsession with pathos and criminality that seems so dominant in some media portrayals and coverage."

It's vitally important people recognize the significance of the Black press, and understand the role Black women have long played in its creation, evolution and preservation, Perry said.

"While the term 'elite' in some ways is problematic because being part of that is not really a high priority, it is critical that the mainstream audience realize the Black press is still important, and still has a central role to play in the fight for social justice, equality and expanded economic opportunity for all citizens," Perry said.

"I'm proud on a personal level to be recognized with people whom I've admired and/or worked alongside, and it's always good to see the contributions of Black women leaders spotlighted by the mainstream press," she said.

Perry also was recently awarded

the National Newspaper Publishers Association's 2019 Publisher Lifetime Achievement Award. In announcing Perry's selection for the prestigious award, the NNPA wrote in a press release that "Mrs. Perry has been a freedom fighter for justice all of her life, working closely with the SCLC and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She also worked for the U.S. Civil Rights Commission in the 60's and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in the 70's."

"As a journalist, Mrs. Perry covered the Memphis Garbage Strike as well as the chaos following the murder of Dr. King. She was an important soldier in the movement — and continues to be so — by publishing and recording history from an African-American perspective each week through her publication."

Raised in Coraopolis, Pennsylvania — a melting pot of Russians, Polish, Italians, Greeks, African Americans and others — during an era when steel was an important part of American manufacturing, Perry not only grew up near the Allegheny River, but also spent her first four years on her aunt's

houseboat.

She'd become an avid reader of newspapers and magazines, particularly the Black Press where, since childhood, the Pittsburgh Courier was a personal favorite.

Perry said she noticed a trend in mainstream publishing toward sensationalism and a focus on crime and negative events, particularly as it related to Black people.

"I knew as a young Black woman it was something that could be corrected through ownership and control of our image, reporting and news coverage," Perry said.

She and her husband, who counted as Tennessee's first Black gastroenterologist, founded Perry and Perry Associates in 1990.

After founding the Tribune to focus primarily on health, education and voter registration, Perry and her husband made a conscious decision not to spotlight crime, and to report positive events and focus on success stories and personalities in the Black community.

They did so without ignoring either the problems or the tough issues that minority communities face each day.

Welcome to a world where behavioral data is mined

When we received the official copy of Governor Bill Lee's remarks given to the Tennessee Press Association at the Winter Convention luncheon from his press secretary, there was one comment missing from the speech that the governor gave to our packed house at the DoubleTree.

The governor ad-libbed, "With a free press, you have a free country." I almost stood up and cheered at that point, and, in hindsight, I'm sorry I didn't.

Our 2019 Winter Convention was a great success; for all of you who attended, thank you. We had about 80 students from colleges around the state attend this year, and they added a great energy to the program and the luncheon. The picture that was taken of the governor and all the students is one that I'm sure will be used on more than one occasion.

Putting on our conventions definitely takes a village, and we appreciate everyone's effort and time. I would like to specifically thank Robyn Gentile, TPA Member Services Manager, for all of



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CAROL DANIELS

her work on bringing together yet another amazing conference.

The Thursday morning sessions included a very lively and interactive discussion, "Media under Fire." It was encouraging to hear the college students that were so passionate about making sure they were reporting news the way it should be reported. The next session focused on "How to Get Your First Job," and the students attending peppered the panelists with questions not only during the session but also at the meet and greet that followed.

At the luncheon, the recently elected Speaker of the House, Glen Casada, briefly addressed the audience, sharing his praise and admiration of the press. Then our newly elected governor

addressed the attendees. Gov. Lee was gracious in his comments and encouraging to both current newspaper staff and the college students to hold government accountable with their reporting and commentary.

In a recent column Tim Gallagher wrote on editorandpublisher.com about Seven Resolutions for Newspapers in 2019, he focused on newsroom diversity, podcast strategies, local experts and local reporting, breaking news and, of course, how to reach millennials. The one resolution that really caught my eye was creating a wider gulf between yourself and Facebook. I had just read an article on "surveillance capitalism" talking about a new book by Shoshana Zuboff titled "The Age of Surveillance Capitalism." The column focuses on how big companies (Google and Facebook) are taking all of this data we are giving them and translating it to behavioral data.

This behavioral data is then fashioned into target-promoting products that will anticipate your

behavior and entice you into spending money and influencing your choices. These "prediction products" are traded in a new marketplace called behavioral future markets. I know none of this is new information for any of you, but the term "Surveillance Capitalism" just seemed to hit a nerve with me. It seems so much sneakier and less friendly than "behavioral targeting."

I have had conversations with several of our member papers that are working on "taking back" their consumer experience information from Facebook. Reflecting the unease that has been developing about Facebook, Google and other social media platforms, readers are asking questions about how their personal data is going to be used.

Do you know how you would answer that question?

Carol

Carol Daniels is the executive director of the Tennessee Press Association.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

MARCH

6-9: College Media Association Spring National College Media Convention 2019, New York Marriott Marquis, New York, NY.

7-10: 2019 Computer-Assisted Reporting Conference (CAR) for data journalism, Newport Beach Marriott Hotel, Newport Beach, Cal.

28: Free Webinar for TPA Members: Money Beyond Money

APRIL

4-6: Southern Circulation Managers Meeting, The Read House Hotel, Chattanooga, Tenn.

MAY

13-17: International News Media Association (INMA), World Congress of News Media, The TimesCenter, New York, N.Y.

JUNE

13-16: 2019 Investigative Reporters & Editors (IRE) Conference, Marriott Marquis Houston, Houston, Texas

JULY

18-19: 2019 Tennessee Press Association Summer Convention, The Read House Hotel, Chattanooga

18: TPA State Press Contests Awards Luncheon, Chattanooga

19: TPA Advertising/Circulation Conference, Chattanooga

19: TN Newspaper Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Chattanooga

OCTOBER

3-5: 2019 National Newspaper Association's 133rd Annual Convention and Trade Show. The Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisc.

6-8: Southern Newspaper Publishers Association (SNPA) - Inland Annual Meeting, J.W. Marriott Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

NOVEMBER

Oct. 31 - Nov. 3: College Media Association Fall National College Media Convention 2019, in conjunction with Associated Collegiate Press, Grand Hyatt Washington, Washington, D.C.

KNS cartoonist Daniel, 89, retires after six decades

STAFF REPORTS
Knoxville News Sentinel
January 24, 2019

Charlie Daniel, whose editorial cartoons have delighted Knoxville-ians for more than six decades, has announced his retirement.

His last day with the News Sentinel was Feb. 1.

Described by one writer as a "gentle eviscerator," Daniel's work has combined sharp satire with sympathy for the human condition. Often the politicians he ridiculed have requested autographed copies of his cartoons so that the artwork could be proudly displayed.

'Great cartoonist, great man'

"For as long as I can remember, Charlie has been making us laugh and think," said Bill Haslam, former Tennessee governor and Knoxville mayor. "I usually even laughed at the ones about me, though surely my nose isn't that round or my smile that goofy."

He called Daniel "a great car-



Daniel

toonist and a great man."

Daniel, 89, was born in Richmond, Va., but he grew up as a Tar Heel in Weldon, NC. He attended Weldon Public Schools and Fork Union

Military Academy in Fork Union, Va.

He always loved comic strips and taught himself to draw by imitating other artists. An early inspiration was George Herriman, who drew the "Krazy Kat" cartoon from 1913 to 1944.

Daniel played football at the University of North Carolina his freshman year — "I was a 195-pound offensive guard," he recalled — but then was drafted and chose to serve in the Marines.

Marine bound for Korea

He was aboard ship, about to embark for Korea during the war there, when he abruptly was ordered to remain in the

states to serve as a witness in the court-martial of another Marine who had attacked an officer. The court-martial never took place, but Daniel was discharged without being sent overseas.

He returned to UNC, married his childhood sweetheart, Patsy Ann Stephenson, and began drawing in earnest for the Daily Tar Heel campus newspaper in 1955.

After graduating with a degree in political science, Daniel was hired by the old Knoxville Journal on July 30, 1958, and began cartooning professionally. When the Journal closed in 1992, he was immediately hired by the News Sentinel.

In 2007, Daniel took an occasional setting of his cartoons — Rosy's Diner — and turned it into a weekly strip that appeared at the top of the News Sentinel's Sunday Perspective section.

"Rosy's Diner" — where the one rule of civility was "No Hat No Service" — captured the spirit of everyday life in Knoxville.

"Charlie Daniel has been an

icon and institution across the country," said Victor Ashe, former longtime Knoxville mayor and ambassador to Poland. "Knoxville and East Tennessee have been fortunate to have him and Patsy call this region home. ... He is a wonderful person who cares about the community."

Daniel's activities have included service as a board member of the Baptist Health System and the Volunteer Ministry. He was co-chairman of the Dogwood Arts Festival in 1998 and was a 1997 graduate of Leadership Knoxville.

See **DANIEL** Page 7

Mrs. Elizabeth Ridley "Betty" Finney Kennedy, 89, died Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at her residence in Columbia, Tenn. Her obituary will be included in the April edition of The Tennessee Press.

Ask questions to find out if 'full load or half-load' needed

Greg used to help his uncle sell and deliver firewood on weekends. No doubt, that influenced one of his first phone calls when he started selling advertising for his local newspaper. His prospect asked, "Why are you asking so many questions?" and he said, "I'm just trying to figure out if you need a full load or a half-load."

Greg's sales manager told me it was one of the most honest things she had ever heard a salesperson say. "He was doing the right thing by asking questions to discover needs," she explained. "When the prospect wondered what was going on, Greg admitted that, yes, he was calling to talk about a possible ad campaign, but he couldn't recommend anything until he learned about the prospect's business.



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JOHN FOUST

"Although he no longer talks about full loads and half-loads, he still does a great job of learning about his prospects and how they need to market their products," she said.

When you think about it, it's easy to see that firewood and advertising have a lot in common. Both serve specific purposes and both occupy measurable space. A full load of advertising is a big campaign splash with a sizable

budget, while a half-load is something less than that.

Let's see where this firewood comparison leads:

1. What's in the truck?

In other words, know your product. In order to help your advertisers decide between full loads, half-loads or other options, it's important to know as much as possible about what you're selling. If your prospects know more about your newspaper's advertising products than you, you won't have much credibility.

2. What do they want?

It's a waste of time to try to sell firewood to someone who doesn't have a fireplace or a woodstove. And it's just as wasteful to try to sell advertising to someone who doesn't need it. Know your pros-

pect. Not everyone needs everything that is being sold. That is one of the biggest lessons of selling.

3. Deliver to the right place.

At one time or another, everyone in the selling profession has made the mistake of talking to the wrong contact. While that person might be perfectly willing to spend time on the phone or in an appointment, he or she might not be in a position to make – or influence – buying decisions.

In order to find the right contact, consider saying something like, "In order to save time for you, I wonder if you can tell me who makes decisions about your company's advertising?" Then... "What is the best way to get in touch with that person?"

4. Tell the truth.

Don't try to sell a full load to someone who needs a half-load. If they find out later that they bought the wrong thing, they'll feel burned. Not only will they stop advertising in your paper, they'll tell all their friends about it.

Like the old saying goes, "Honesty is the best policy." That goes for selling firewood or advertising or anything else.

(c) Copyright 2019 by John Foust. All rights reserved. John Foust has conducted training programs for thousands of newspaper advertising professionals. Many ad departments are using his training videos to save time and get quick results from in-house training. E-mail for information: john@johnfoust.com

Lee invites public comment on bills approved by General Assembly

DEBORAH FISHER
TN Coalition for Open Government
February 14, 2019

Tennessee Governor Bill Lee has established a page online for Tennesseans to give him feedback on bills approved by the General Assembly and presented to him to sign.

"As part of my commitment to an open and transparent government, we have created this bill review page to invite public comments on bills passed by the General Assembly and presented to me for consideration.

"By bringing more Tennesseans

into the process more directly, I believe we will increase accountability in how our laws are made.

"I invite you to come back to this page often, as we will be updating it regularly as bills pass the Legislature and come to my desk. To view and track legislation as it makes its way through the General Assembly, please visit capitol.tn.gov/legislation.

"I look forward to hearing from you."

At this writing (Feb. 14), there was only one bill on the page as the General Assembly has only recently started. But as bills pass the House and Senate, more will be listed and

the website gives ordinary Tennesseans a chance to communicate directly with the governor (or his staff) about what they think.

Hanging out the "welcome" sign and doing it in a new way

While anyone has always been able to write a letter to the governor, the establishment of a page where people can comment directly to the governor hangs out the welcome sign in a new way.

It also seems much more efficient and smart in terms of

gathering public feedback. The online form has fields for the bill number, whether you support or oppose, and an area to describe your thoughts. So anyone going through the data on the back end can sort things pretty quickly.

This is good leadership from our governor. He's setting the tone and the culture for his administration.

The governor's role in legislation

When a bill passes the House and Senate, it goes to the governor, who can sign it, veto it, or allow it to become law without his signature. If the governor vetoes a bill, it can be overcome by a majority vote in both the House and Senate.

LEE from Page 1

"We want to make access to information easier, and I'm committed to that," he said.

Tax subsidies data access also to be addressed

Lee also vowed to make access to data regarding taxpayer subsidies for economic development funding easier.

Lee highlighted many components of his legislative agenda, include bolstering the state's support for vocational and technical education and criminal justice reform.

At one point, he tried to tie the changes in workforce needs in



Lee

various industries to the ongoing changes in journalism.

"We need to create and adapt our education system to meet that changing need," he said.

"Changes in the way that we do our educational system, K-12, apply to the journalism and the press industry as well."

Lee sees importance of journalists in recording history

Lee closed out his remarks

reminding the press association about the importance of the industry, repeating the famous phrase that journalism is the first rough draft of history.

"We are in that process of making history," he said. "That's why what you do is so important."

After the event, Lee declined to weigh in whether he supported a new measure proposed by House Majority Leader William Lamberth, R-Cottontown, that an open government advocate fears would limit the public's access to records.

"We have a process for bill review, and we'll look at the specifics of it," he told reporters, while vowing to maintain access to government records.



The Tennessee Press Association Foundation gratefully acknowledges a contribution

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egoodman@tnpress.com



There's no good reason to have only one deadline

You've done it again. Success! Every page in this week's (or day's) paper is in by deadline. It took some doing, but like almost every issue before it, you've created another miracle: cramming thousands of words and photos together into your latest newspaper. And . . . and you've done it on deadline.

Well, before you stroll from your desk brimming with pride, let's take a closer look at the "miracle." Every page is in, perhaps, but most of them went to prepress in the last half-day (or last hour).

So, yes, all the pages are "in," but you've created a problem for those who have to turn those pages into files that can be processed and printed.

And consider the concerns of those in the newsroom who have to design, edit and clear those pages by deadline. If something is wrong on one of the pages they're working on, then they have to take extra time to fix the problem, often having to go back to the originating editor or writer. With six or eight other pages waiting to be cleared, the pressure mounts.

So, yes, you have a "deadline." And, yes, you may be meeting that



**By
DESIGN**

ED HENNINGER

"deadline." But the "deadline" isn't helping you with a steady page flow.

Here's a solution: Page-by-page deadlines.

Why, for example, would you wait until the last hour to clear your opinion page, when the columns and letters that go on that page can be edited and headlined the day before your weekly deadline? And why wait until that last hour for the community calendar page to be cleared? Is there any reason why the weekly religion page (with its static directory of area worship services) should be among the last pages to go to prepress?

Sure, there are pages you'll want to hold until the last hour (or last minute!). Page 1 and its jump page and the Sports front and jump come to mind. You can work on

those more effectively if you've already cleared those pages (see previous paragraph) that can go early.

There are too many variations and too many other factors (like advertising placement and deadlines) for me to offer a set of page deadlines here — for either a weekly or daily newspaper. I'm confident, though, that you can take a look at your paper's content and decide upon those pages that can be cleared days (or hours) before deadline.

Creating a system of staggered page deadlines offers you the opportunity to avoid the bottlenecks and hassles that accompany a "one-deadline-for-all" approach to producing your paper.

Seems to me it's worth giving it a try.

ED HENNINGER is an independent newspaper consultant and the Director of Henninger Consulting. Want a free evaluation of your newspaper's design? Just contact Ed: edh@henningerconsulting.com | 803-325-5252.



Illustration courtesy of Ed Henninger

What's your page-by-page deadline?

INDUSTRY NEWS

Numerous print, online changes in effect at the Post-Athenian

The Daily Post-Athenian is now printing three days per week, but seeks to provide content for readers all seven days of the week. Several new features are appearing both in the print version of The DPA and on dailypostathenian.com

Sound Off Online has debuted, with readers being able to click on the Sound Off Online tab on the homepage of the website, submit a comment and they will be considered for publication on the website each Saturday.

Comments can also be delivered to The DPA office at 320 South Jackson St., in Athens. Only subscribers to The DPA will be able to view the entirety of Sound Off Online, however a select few will be printed in the Monday edition of The DPA.

Another addition to The Daily Post-Athenian's website is DPA-TV. This new feature consists of

a series of interviews with news makers in the community in a video format. Episodes of DPA-TV post to the website each Sunday.

There is also an e-edition of the printed paper that appears on dailypostathenian.com. To view the e-edition, subscribers can click on the home icon on the website and view a digital version of the print edition of the paper.

There are also comics pages being posted online five days per week and a set of comics in each print edition. There are also two sets of puzzles that will appear in the Wednesday and Friday editions of The DPA.

The print edition of The DPA has added an extra opinion page each week, as one will now run every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. All the other content — including feature stories, meeting coverage and sports — will continue to run in each edition of the paper moving forward.

*Post-Athenian, Athens
Feb. 4, 2019*

TPA approves addition of several new members

The TPA Board of Directors approved three applications for membership and one associate member application at its Feb. 6 meeting in Nashville.

TPA's newest member newspapers are the Cheatham County Exchange of Pleasant View; The Portland Sun; and the Murfreesboro Post. Dave Gould is publisher of all three newspapers. They are part of Main Street Media of Tennessee. The addition of these newspapers brings TPA's total membership to 129.

• The Cheatham County Exchange was founded in 2000. It is published weekly on Tuesdays and has a total print distribution of 4,954. The editor is Ivan Aronin. The newspaper's contact information is:

Physical address: 6312 US-41, Alt. #105, Pleasant View, Tenn. 37146.

Phone number: (615) 746-0552
www.cheathamcountyexchange.com.

• The Murfreesboro Post was founded in 2006. It is published weekly on Tuesdays and has a total print distribution of 8,208. Ivan Aronin is the editor. The newspaper's contact information is:

Physical address: 814 S. Church St., Suite 202, Murfreesboro, Tenn. 37130.

Phone number: (615) 869-0800
www.murfreesboropost.com

• The Portland Sun was founded in 2014. It is published weekly

on Tuesdays and has a total print distribution of 1,526. Sherry Mitchell is the editor. The newspaper's contact information is:

Physical address: 333 W. Main St., Ste. E, Gallatin, Tenn. 37066

Phone number: (615) 452-4940

• New associate member - The Nashville Convention & Visitors Corporation is TPA's newest associate member.

See **NEWS** Page 9



Tennessee Press Service Advertising Placement Snapshot

	ROP:	Networks:
January 2019	\$73,676	\$12,726
Year* as of Dec. 31	\$132,904	\$34,669

* The TPS Fiscal Year runs Dec. 1 through Nov. 30

The First Amendment protects all viewpoints (not just yours)

A week or two ago, a preacher friend of mine from outside Bedford County was complaining about something he'd seen online, and made the statement that the First Amendment was supposed to protect true, accurate statements, not partisan mudslinging.

Several of us had to step in and correct him.

As a professional journalist, I am dedicated to the ethics of my profession. I am only human, but I strive to be fair, to tell both sides of a story, and to recognize and keep in check my own personal beliefs on a controversial issue. It's a difficult task, and if you've never worked as a journalist you probably don't know how difficult it is.

A lot of my colleagues in bigger cities, or working for national media, take a lot of flak for what they do — and I certainly can't defend every single story — but I think by and large, they're good people, doing the best that they



THE FIRST AMENDMENT

JOHN I. CARNEY

can. When you report on partisan politics, it's just a given that one side, and usually both sides, will accuse you of being biased. It's a lot like watching a college football game: you notice any call the refs make against your team, but you don't give them credit for the calls they make against the other team. The play-by-play announcers are always biased against your team. You never stop to think that it might be you who's a little one-sided in your thinking.

But as much as I support the idea of fair, objective reporting, that's not what the First Amendment was designed to protect.

At the time the Bill of Rights was passed, including the First Amendment, modern journalistic standards did not exist. The newspapers in that day were very personal enterprises. Someone like Ben Franklin or Thomas Paine would run a newspaper, largely for the purpose of getting their own viewpoint into the world.

It wasn't until the 1800s, and the Industrial Revolution, that modern journalistic standards evolved — and that was, in part, a business decision. Advances in printing technology made it possible to produce huge numbers of newspapers, and advertisers were willing to pay for exposure. But if your news coverage was slanted, you were at risk of alienating possible readers, which meant you couldn't maximize your circulation.

Many newspapers did lean one way or the other — but hopefully, more on their editorial pages than

in news content. I'm sure many of you remember the days when the Tennessean was Nashville's Democratic-leaning paper and the Nashville Banner was its Republican-leaning paper.

People sometimes have trouble separating opinion page content from news content. The T-G strives to run a mix of conservative and liberal columnists and cartoons, based on what's available to us from our syndicates, but some people will look at one particular editorial page and get angry about it, without seeing the larger picture.

Anyway, getting back to the First Amendment: It wasn't passed just to protect good, responsible journalism, because that wasn't something that was stressed in the late 1700s. It was passed to protect all sorts of comment on government issues.

I, like my preacher friend, bemoan the level of public discourse

in this country. You've heard me complain about it before: Misleading, simplistic, bumper-sticker-like Facebook posts that are all about bashing the Other Guys rather than about talking about where we need to be headed. But the First Amendment protects loudmouth knee-jerk partisans (on both ends of the political spectrum) as much as it protects thoughtful, open-minded centrists. The First Amendment says we give a wide berth, whether it's to a reporter trying to get "just the facts" or a screechy talk radio host trying to make the opposing party sound like un-American thugs.

Because, if you were to say only that "responsible" speech were protected, who would get to decide what was responsible?

John I. Carney is the editor of the Shelbyville Times-Gazette. This column was originally published in the Times-Gazette Feb. 1, 2019.

Community news is as much about promotion as it is investigation

PETER W. WAGNER
N'West Iowa Review
January 1, 2019

Our regional newspaper, The N'West Iowa REVIEW, is delivered to more than 6,000 families in four counties every Saturday morning. We selected Saturday when my wife and I founded the paper in 1972. Saturday delivery sets The REVIEW apart from the 15 other weekly newspapers and six shoppers that come out midweek.

Saturday delivery also allows us to include a huge sports section featuring photos and stories covering all the Friday night games played at the 17 high schools in our distribution area.

I never have to wait long to learn what our subscriber base is thinking about that week's edition. I hear both good and bad comments the next morning at church. And what I've learned is my readers, before all else, want complete coverage of all the local news and sports updates. But more than that, they want to read good news. They want to read and file away in their memory, the human-interest stories we're able to share about individuals who live

and make a difference in our area.

Years ago, not long after we established The REVIEW, our hometown's middle school was totally destroyed in a massive fire. Our local competitor, the Sibley Gazette-Tribune, had already printed for the week so we had the first shot at the story. Additionally, our son Jeff, who was already taking most of our photos, was attending high school just blocks away, and was able skip out to capture photos of every stage of the fire. We were able to print multiple pages of interesting stories and exciting pictures. The same month we also printed another front-page story about a local gas station owner, Rod Galbraith, who discovered a tiny abandoned dog huddled at the station's door one morning.

Rod welcomed the dog into the station and gave her a home and a makeshift bed placed safely under his front counter. He named the little puppy Welfare for obvious reasons. Later, Rod discovered the dog was pregnant. Within weeks he had four cute little mongrel puppies also depending on him for food and care. Eventually it came time to find each puppy a home. But even then, the story concluded,

Galbraith made sure those taking the pups were committed to giving them love and proper care.

But here is what amazes me about these two stories. I've heard many more comments about the Welfare story than I ever have about our multi-page, breaking coverage of the fire. Readers love stories about good things that happen. We experienced the same reaction to a recent story we published about a newborn baby left one winter night, years ago, on the front steps of a pastor's home in a nearby town. We never published that story. We would have if we'd known about it. But we did publish the "rest of the story" late last month when the now full-grown man and caring pastor were able to reunite. It was the only story that week that anyone wanted to talk to me about at church that Sunday. It was the kind of story that unites a community and in this case a region.

Convenience stores

There weren't any supermarkets in my town, the largest in South Dakota, when I grew up. Instead, everyone shopped a near-

by tiny neighborhood grocery with a meat case, limited fresh produce, lots of canned goods and a penny candy counter. The owners knew you by name, usually allowed customers to "charge" their purchases until the end of the month and often delivered. Since the penny candy selection was endless, those stores were the first stop for any kid with a nickel in his pocket. Then Piggly Wiggly came to town along with other regional and national food chains. And with them came the end of the neighborhood grocery. But things always come full circle. Today we still have the supermarkets, bigger and more accommodating than ever. But we now also have convenience stores. Those neighborhood providers of everything from gas to bread and milk to pizzas and sub sandwiches offer most everything once sought at neighborhood groceries. You can even charge your purchase (on your credit card) and some convenience stores even deliver snacks and meals to your home.

To do and not to do

Everything eventually repeats

itself in a different but still recognizable form. That will be true of community papers that recognize what they must do and not do to make it in a much more competitive market.

1. Local papers must provide readers with the news that might affect and change, for good or bad, the many services city and county governments, the public schools and other governmental agencies might level on the community.

2. Beyond that, however, papers must share fun, positive, uplifting stories that make readers excited about where they live, work and play.

3. Community papers must also be the leaders in promoting their towns. Local traditions and annual events created to bring "the people" together. The local chamber of commerce and other groups that once led this charge have mostly stopped because of the lack of money and manpower. Still, those traditions and celebrations are often the glue that holds the community together.

4. Local newspapers and shoppers need to look back at the

See **WAGNER** Page 9

FEATURED ADVERTISING/CIRCULATION IDEA

ROBYN GENTILE
TPA

Among the many things that TPA provides for members, one of the most immediately valuable is the networking and sharing of ideas. It is exciting to see advertising and circulation professionals come together at our Summer Convention, and after a day of training, to wrap up with an idea exchange where each participant will go home with a page or two of notes.

Danny Peppers, publisher of the Stewart County Standard, shared this prize-winning idea at the 2018 TPA Advertising/Circulation Conference held in Franklin, Tenn.



Peppers

Featured Idea:

A half-page color ad featuring six local businesses on the theme

of vacation destinations close to home, which runs for six weeks.

Details:

Six different advertisers bought in for six consecutive weeks at \$89 each per week. The ads ran in the spring.

Each advertiser received one week of the center business spotlight. The advertiser provided the content (up to 175 words) and a photograph.

The ad positions for each advertiser rotated so that, after the six weeks, every advertiser had been

in each ad position.

This weekly newspaper made \$3,000 with the idea.

We thank Danny Peppers for sharing his idea at the conference and with The Tennessee Press.

We hope that you and your staff will plan to attend the 2019 TPA

Advertising/Circulation Conference in Chattanooga on July 19. Sharing your ideas at the Idea Exchange will give all attendees pages of notes on ideas you can use and could possibly earn you a cash prize.

VACATION DESTINATIONS CLOSE TO HOME
Reach nearly 6,000 homes each week!

Timed to publish when readers are most likely to be planning their vacations & getaways!

\$89 PER WEEK INCLUDES:

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Destination of the Week: LEATHERWOOD BAY RESORT

Land Lakes
Weekend Spring Campout

Stewart County

DANIEL from Page 3

He also served as president of the Fork Union Military Academy alumni board.

Journalism Hall of Fame

In 2016, the National Cartoonists Society honored Daniel with a proclamation recognizing his career of more than 50 years. Last year, he was admitted to the Tennessee Journalism Hall of Fame.

Before his death, former U.S. Sen. Howard Baker Jr., a frequent target of Daniel's drawings, hosted a reception to honor the cartoonist, toasting him as "the personification of civilized, relevant political humor."

Clay Bennett, a Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist for the Chattanooga Times Free Press, praised Daniel's focus on local issues.

"Charlie is Tennessee," he said. "I've just been the 'junior senator' from the state."

Lamar Alexander, the actual senior U.S. senator from Tennessee, said, "Charlie's cartoons have been the first thing I have looked for in the Knoxville newspapers



Illustration by Charlie Daniel, Knoxville News Sentinel

News Sentinel cartoonist Charlie Daniel says goodbye after six decades.

since 1958 when I graduated from Maryville High School. Over the years, he's skewered me as much as anybody. It has always been an honest, but usually gentle, skewering. It's going to be harder to start each day in good humor without a touch of Charlie Daniel."

The University of Tennessee library's special collections department has established an archive of more than 20,000 of Daniel's pre-press drawings.

'Laugh and sometimes cringe'

"Daniel's cartoons can make you laugh and even sometimes cringe," says the library's website. "But more than anything else, they make you think. Daniel has captured difficult and sometimes complex issues through the power of symbolism, satire, irony and humor."

Jack McElroy, former News

Sentinel executive editor, said, "Working with Charlie for the past 17 years has been the best part of my job, by far. He never has failed to amaze me with his creativity, his insights and his dedication. I feel very privileged and honored to have been his colleague."

For his own part, Daniel said, "What I've always tried to do or say

is: 'Loosen up and chill out.' People just get so uptight over stuff."

Charlie and Patsy Daniel have two children, four grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

In March, the News Sentinel was to publish a retrospective special section looking back on Daniel's 60 years of cartooning in Knoxville.

CHATTANOOGA

TPA Summer Convention

July 18-19

State Press Contests Awards Noon July 18

Reception at the TN Aquarium July 18

Ad/Circ Conference & Ideas Awards July 19

TN Newspaper Hall of Fame Induction 6:00 p.m. July 19

Don't let pursuit of 'shiny things' diminish reporting

All journalists can look back decades or even just a few months to see examples of the "shiny things" that distract us from our core work as information gatherers and sharers.

Journalism scholar Kim Bui recently coined the term "Shiny Things Syndrome" to describe a phenomenon in which individual journalists and the industry as a whole lose focus on their most critical function in society – reporting, writing and imparting important information – by getting distracted by the latest newsgathering or news delivery gadget or technology. The term is a takeoff from "Shiny Object Syndrome," a psychological phenomenon that similarly refers to a loss of focus by people presented with a peripheral or distant image of something shiny, attractive or exciting but who then become less interested in the shiny thing as they approach it.

Who hasn't seen that in journalism? I recall when the World Wide Web first arrived on one library computer in our newsroom in Eau Claire, Wisc., and it was only to be accessed for a few moments and only with permission of the editor. Later, the internet evolved into a highly useful reporting and presen-



BETTER WRITING WITH BART

BART PFANKUCH

tation tool, only to morph into the major distraction and time drain it has become for many journalists.

Recent examples of journalistic shiny things include 360-degree cameras (limited usefulness and not end-user friendly), the overuse of video that doesn't advance a story (long, unedited videos often distract), the insistence on using Facebook Live shots by ill-prepared or untrained reporters (how many rocky camera shots and wind-adddled audio can one viewer take?), the unending focus on social media (making news free to users is not a way to pay the bills), the tweeting and endless retweeting of someone else's article or opinion (retweets are not endorsements of the original message, I promise!) and techno-focused storytelling with virtual reality, artificial intelligence and the frightening concept of automated reporting.

Let me say for the record that any of those devices or delivery methods can work well and offer freshness to news reporting and presentation, but only when they advance the meaning and depth of a story. In my experience, the use and frequent misuse of those methods is often driven by chain ownership and corporate metric-watchers who need to appear cutting-edge without consideration of what's actually happening in local newspaper offices or in the field.

Flatly stated, the use of shiny new technologies should never overtake basic reporting and storytelling as the primary function of journalists.

So how does one swim against the techno tide and not lose their job? Here are some tips for reporters and editors to stay focused on what really matters.

- Think about stories holistically before and during the reporting process and thoughtfully consider ways to enhance storytelling. If video from a breaking news scene is doable, move forward on that. If a photographer will enter a confined or wide-open space, give a 360-degree camera a try. If a live camera shot imparts critical information in a timely,

meaningful way, go for it. Never use technology on an important story to satisfy ego or a corporate directive; remember that readers come first.

- Slow down, be patient, talk things through more and plan. Thoughtfulness, sharing ideas, playing devil's advocate, planning coverage ahead of time, considering which new newsgathering and delivery methods are likely to work – those are proven methods for covering and presenting news in a meaningful way.

- Make reporting the first point of focus in story conferences and always think about reader needs. Be sure reporters know that getting the facts (and getting them right) is more important than using new technology.

- Find new ways to innovate that impart meaning and aid reader understanding without solely relying on technology. This could mean combining an old-school map with digital data points to create a useful online graphic that can flow into print, or tweeting from a scene with a photo or brief video to tell and show what's happening.

- Shiny Things warning label: Always train and practice before use. If video or animation is

important to your newsroom and will work to improve storytelling, be sure that newsgatherers are trained and up to speed on how to use new technologies before they enter the field and fumble around.

- Identify experts within your team, and then create opportunities for training and sharing what works, what doesn't and how to avoid pitfalls.

- Be sure to triage what works and what doesn't. Reflect back on the use of technology and then celebrate the victories no matter how minor and quickly move on from the disasters with a lesson learned in your pocket.

- Always remember that possessing an awareness of "Shiny Things Syndrome" is the first step to preventing technology from running amok and losing focus on the critical function of finding facts and telling important stories.

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Bart Pfankuch is an investigative reporter for South Dakota News Watch, online at sdnewswatch.org. Write to him at bart.pfankuch@sdnewswatch.org.

After 40 years, I still love what I do for a living

Happy anniversary to me ...

This week marks my 40th year in community journalism, as the editor and publisher of newspapers from Alabama to North Carolina to Tennessee.

I was a DJ at WPRN Radio in Butler, Alabama in February 1979 when the owner of the local newspaper, The Choctaw Advocate, offered me the job of advertising manager. I said 'yes' and did that for four years, along with snapping pictures at community events from kindergarten graduations to interviewing statewide politicians who came to stump in the county, writing editorials, and covering every local board meeting known to humanity.

When the editor resigned in the early 80's, I was promoted and served in that post until the spring of 2003 when I accepted a job



My VIEW

TOMMY CAMPBELL

as editor/publisher of The Avery Journal, and Mountain Times, in Newland, North Carolina.

After a few months in the Blue Ridge Mountains, we moved back to Alabama where we started The Choctaw Sun, a weekly that did so well that, four years later, we were able to buy and merge into that publication the former Advocate, where I had spent my first 23 years.

In the fall of 2013, I came to Tennessee to work for the Jones

Media family as the editor/publisher of The Rogersville Review.

So here I am, four decades later . . . having worn out multiple cameras, typewriters, computers, and burned the midnight oil on more nights than you would care to know about.

Come to think about it, I'm startin' to feel about as worn out as those old machines (lol!)

I've photographed more high school football games under Friday Night Lights than I can count, and heard tons of behind-the-scenes stories about local "when the poop hits the fan" scandals that if I were to write an expose-all book about one day, I could probably spend my sunset years a very wealthy man on some remote Caribbean island . . . in the witness protection program (smile!)

I've seen many changes over

the years ... from developing and printing b/w film and photos in a darkroom, and pounding out my stories on an old manual Underwood typewriter, to being able to produce entire 'pre-press' editions of newspapers on a Mac laptop at my kitchen table ... photos, text, layout and all.

Along the way I have met a ton of great folks, people I learned from, respected, and worked shoulder-to-shoulder with as we tried to produce for our readers the very best newspapers we could, often with limited staffs and resources with which we had to work with.

'Weeklies', just like the one you hold in your hand, are the true backbone, heart and soul of rural America. Papers like this have brought 'local news' to 'local communities' for more almost

three centuries, and will continue to do so, no matter how many sadly delusional and uninformed know-it-alls continue to predict their demise.

I like to go into our "archives" room and flip through the pages of historic editions of the papers from decades ago. (I especially love browsing through the WWII years and reading how The Greatest Generation stepped up to the plate and saved the planet from Nazi barbarism and fascism.) Each passing year is like a week-to-week diary of the life of places like this . . . of the people who were born here, grew up here, went to school here, married here, went off to war from here, raised families here, built homes and businesses here, retired here, and

See **CAMPBELL** Page 10

New NLRB overrules Obama era NLRB independent contractor precedent

On January 25, 2019, the National Labor Relations Board, in a 3-to-1 Decision, ruled that Super Shuttle drivers at the Dallas Fort Worth Airport were independent contractors and not employees. In making this ruling, the NLRB reversed the NLRB's FedEx Decision. The FedEx Decision had engaged in legal adventurism, dramatically diminishing the importance of entrepreneurial opportunity, making it easier to find employee status. This writer opined at the time that the FedEx Decision was inconsistent with U.S. Supreme Court precedent and the intention of Congress after its 1947 amendments to the National Labor Relations Act.

The new Super Shuttle Decision decided just that. NLRB Chairman Ring and Members Kaplan and Emanuel (all Trump appointees with management backgrounds) voted for independent contractor status. Member McFerran (Obama appointee with union background) dissented.

The National Labor Relations Act, Supreme Court Precedent, and the intent of Congress is that the common law agency test should apply in determining whether one is an employee or an independent



LEGAL UPDATE

L. MICHAEL ZINSER

contractor. In overruling FedEx on January 25, 2019, the NLRB found that the NLRB in FedEx had overreached. The Board held that the FedEx majority limited the importance of entrepreneur opportunity by creating a new factor and then making entrepreneurial opportunity merely one aspect of that factor. The FedEx Board had found that "entrepreneurial opportunity represents merely one aspect of a relevant factor that asks whether the evidence tends to show that the putative contractor is, in fact, rendering services as part of an independent business."

To state the matter more simply, the NLRB in FedEx was not going to recognize that a contractor had entrepreneurial opportunity unless that contractor was actually performing services for more than one entity. That is inconsistent with the common law, the 1947 amendments to the National Labor

Relations Act, and U.S. Supreme Court Precedent. The independent contractor has the right to engage in entrepreneurial activity. It is up to the independent contractor to decide how much entrepreneurial activity he/she decides to engage in. The new case returns to the traditional common law test applied before FedEx.

This case is especially good news for the newspaper industry. The Board in the new Super Shuttle case specifically referenced its Decision in St. Joseph News-Press, a 2005 Decision. In that Decision, the NLRB found that Home Delivery Carriers, Single Copy Carriers, and Bundle Haulers were all independent contractors. In this new case, the NLRB stated:

"In St. Joseph News-Press, the Board found that the conditions 'enabled carriers to take economic risk and reap a corresponding opportunity to profit from working smarter, not just harder' where the carriers can hire full-time substitutes, over whom they have complete control, hold contracts on multiple routes, deliver other products (including for competitors) while making deliveries for the employer and solicit new customers."

Then, in analyzing the facts of the Super Shuttle case, the NLRB placed great reliance upon three factors:

- (1) The extent of control by the employer,
- (2) the method of contract compensation, and
- (3) vehicle ownership.

In finding the absence of control, the NLRB specifically noted the presence of an indemnification clause in the written contract. It noted that the presence of such a cause lessens the Company's motivation to control a driver since the Company is not liable for the driver's negligent or intentionally harmful acts.

With respect to the vehicle, the NLRB noted that the vehicle is a significant investment of the independent contractor. Additionally, the drivers pay for their own gas, road tolls, repairs and any other costs associated with operating the vehicles.

The NLRB placed strong emphasis on the intention of the parties. The NLRB noted that the Written Agreement provided, in bold, capital letters: FRANCHISEE IS NOT AN EMPLOYEE OF EITHER SUPER SHUTTLE OR THE CITY LICENSEE . . . IT IS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE FRANCHISEE IS THE INDEPENDENT OWNER OF ITS BUSINESS. Another factor supporting the intention of the parties was the fact that the Company did not provide the drivers with any benefits, sick leave, vacation time, or holiday pay. Significantly, the Company did not withhold taxes or make any other payroll deductions from the driver's contract compensation.

In looking at the duration of the relationship, the NLRB noted that the driver signed a one-year Agreement, a specific term. However, the Board did note that most drivers renew their Agreements yearly. Under that circumstance, the NLRB said this was a neutral factor.

This is a very significant Decision, reinstating the vitality of the St. Joseph News-Press case for the newspaper industry.

Editor's Note: Michael Zinser was the Lead Counsel for St. Joseph News-Press in its 2005 independent contractor victory.

L. Michael Zinser is president of The Zinser Law Firm, P.C., in Nashville, Tenn. He can be reached at 615.255.9700 and zinser@zinslaw.com.

NEWS from Page 5

Contacts are Christopher Spyrudin, President and CEO
www.visitmusiccity.com

In their application letter, the Convention and Visitors Corporation wrote, "We are proud of the role newspapers play in Tennessee and all that they do to better inform our communities, engage citizens and perform the vital work of a free press."

TPA often works with the Nashville CVC to gather proposals for convention sites.

Copyrights may now be registered any time

The United States Copyright Office has removed a barrier for community newspapers seeking copyright protection: it has eliminated a three-month window for registering copyrights on groups of newspapers. Group copyright registrations can be sought any time.

In 2018, the Copyright Office rolled out a new platform to help community newspapers register their copyrights. Previously, only daily newspapers could register in

batches. Community papers had to create an entry for each filing. Now, the portal for registration allows weeklies to register as well. But a three-month window for filing meant copyright owners had to be on their toes.

Registration is not necessary to indicate that content belongs to a newspaper. Under modern copyright laws, content is protected on its creation. But to sue someone for an infringement, registration is necessary. Registration also helps newspapers earn possible revenues from those seeking publication

licenses for content, because they can track down content owners through the registration database.

As of Feb. 18, the publication date deadline for filing each batch of issues was dropped. The Copyright Office now says, "Any group of newspaper issues may be registered together at any time, as long as the remaining eligibility requirements have been met. The Copyright Office will no longer refuse to register group newspaper claims based on the date that the claim is received."

NNA President Andrew Johnson, publisher of the Dodge County

(WI) Pioneer, expressed his appreciation to the Library of Congress and the Copyright Office.

"Every little hurdle that gets in the way of our protecting our publications can become a big one for newspaper executives who are always pressed for time and pulled in a thousand directions. Often we intend to take these important administrative steps on behalf of our newspapers, but the opportunity gets past us. Now, the registration opportunity is not lost forever," Johnson said.

*NNA, Pensacola, Fla.
Feb. 14, 2019*

WAGNER from Page 6

community papers published 50 to 60 years ago. Those hometown papers were the Facebook of their time, publishing quick notes about "who had dinner at who's house" and "who was entertaining whom for the week." Names sell subscriptions and build readership. I once had a family subscribe to The REVIEW because we reported, in our

stats, that their son had struck out three times. "The hometown paper didn't include his name in their story," the mother commented.

5. Although most of even the largest newspapers admit it is impossible to make much money on their digital side, local papers need to offer combination print and digital opportunities and be the community leader in website and Facebook news delivery.

6. Community newspapers need to relearn the skillset of selling the value of their publication once again. Too many publications are letting business slip through their fingers because they don't correct the misleading information being shared by the sellers of internet advertising, cable TV, direct mail and the other "wonders" of today's competitive world. I am confident good community papers will exist

long into the future. But only in those cases when the publisher is willing to change how he or she responds to the needs and desires of their readers and advertisers, provides greater customer services and fact-centered education and realizes that "nothing comes from doing nothing." The future is bright, but those of us that believe in it are going to have to dig in and "tell our story" about how great we still are.

Peter W. Wagner is founder and publisher of the award winning N'West Iowa REVIEW and 13 additional publications. This free monthly GET REAL newsletter is written exclusively for State and National Press Associations and distributed by them to their members. To get Wagner's free PAPER DOLLARS email newsletter for publishers, editors and sales managers email him at pww@iowainformation.com.

Meet Ben Kass, our new advertising assistant at TPS

This series on each of our TPS advertising department employees has been meant to give you insight into who is on the team and to give you an opportunity to learn more about each person and what they do. Ben Kass, Tennessee Press Service's advertising assistant, rounds out the series.

Ben joined Tennessee Press as a temp in August 2018, and he did such a great job that we brought him on board officially January 1, 2019. Ben is a little bit of the secret sauce of what we do and why (especially so many government offices) love to do business with us.

Following is an opportunity to get to know Ben a little better and understand what he does for our customers and members.

Q: Most of our members don't realize that we actually audit every paper across the state every day. Tell us a little more about this and why it is important.

A: I go through either a physical or electronic copy of the newspaper for every ad we print. In more than a few cases, I've been the first to notice an issue with either wrong ads printing, a missed print, or something else. Because I'm checking this daily, we have the time to work with the newspaper and the client quickly and efficiently for a resolution.

Q: What happens if an ad does not get published by a member on a scheduled day?

A: First, we always follow up



**SALES
SUCCESS**

SHELLEY DAVIS

with the newspaper, to make sure that it wasn't accidentally scheduled for another day. After that, or if the ad didn't run at all, we'll go back to the customer, let them know what happened, and discuss whether rescheduling the ad works within the time frame of their campaign.

Q: You also audit for our network program. Tell us a little about this program.

A: The networks program is a great way for advertisers to put their ad in a lot of newspapers all at once in one of our three regions (East, Middle, and West). We have separate programs for placing classified and ROP ads. The trade-off is that newspapers are allowed to decide not to run the ad. I audit to see which have or have not, in order to ensure that a high-enough percentage of our participating papers are running the ads each week. We then report that to the clients.

Now, let's take a few minutes to tell our members a little more about you!

Q: What interested you about Tennessee Press and what we do?

A: I've volunteered at the Oak Ridge Public Library the past few years, helping the reference librarian to repair old newspapers and look up our city's history in them.

I think newspapers are an important part of having an informed populace, especially local newspapers that report on community issues that larger news sources pass on. I'm happy to help contribute to the health of Tennessee newspapers with Tennessee Press!

Q: Tell us a little about your background.

A: I have a bachelor's in science in mathematics and English from the University of Notre Dame. Before this, I'd done advertising work in scientific communications.

Q: We all have a passion outside of our day jobs, tell us about yours.

A: I love reading and writing. I bring a book to work every day so I can continue reading over my lunch break—right now I've got John McPhee's Draft No. 4, which is a fascinating look at the process of writing creative nonfiction and his history at The New Yorker. Highly recommend.

Q: We see you lugging a huge guitar around sometimes. You play, obviously . . . tell us about the kind of music you play.

A: I play classical guitar! I first started playing acoustic guitar



File photo

Ben Kass joined TPS full-time in January.

around the eighth grade, and then in high school I discovered and fell in love with the classical guitar. Genre-wise I'm mostly playing classical, tango, Spanish music, etc., but back in college I was in a mariachi band for a while.

Q: Tell us about one of your publishing or news pet peeves!

A: When I can't easily find the

date or the city name on the front page of the newspaper.

Q: What is the craziest thing you have ever done . . . at least that you will tell us about?

A: Gone boat-fishing in a tropical storm. To be fair, though, this was with the Boy Scouts and wasn't my decision.

Q: What is the most interesting thing you've read recently about media/advertising?

A: There seems to be a growing concern about the validity of Facebook's advertising analytics, alongside a lot of the metrics used to gauge ad impressions online. This is happening with video media as well—twitch.tv, which hosts video of gaming content, has been caught embedding autoplay videos on wikisites to inflate traffic.

Q: If you were given a full-page ad in every newspaper in the state in which to put your own message, what would it be?

A: The ad would be large white letters over a black background with a grey picture of a pillowcase, and would say, "Sleep. You need it, and you're not getting enough."

CAMPBELL from Page 8

who were later buried here.

Social media may be, in some people's minds, the greatest thing since cheeseburgers, but Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or the myriad of website 'news' sources out there today can never compare to nor ever take the place of an honest-to-pete NEWSPAPER.

Here, we don't deal in gossip from nameless sources, and we don't print stories that we cannot substantiate through an official source, such as a bona fide law enforcement agency or otherwise.

Do we sometimes have to print negative news? Well, of course we do! A wise publisher once told me that a good newspaper that serves its community with passion and integrity would likewise have the intestinal fortitude to be an honest mirror of that community and its people, printing the news, factually and unbiased, both good and bad, and to let the people make up their own minds.

But over the years, at every paper I have ever worked, I have tried to print as much GOOD

NEWS on the front pages as possible, because in Small Town, USA, a smiling kid waving at Santa in a Christmas parade, or a public servant getting a pat on the back for some good deed or a job well done, is more important in our world than if the president himself came to town.

I have laughed with, cried with, and prayed with many, many people whom I have interviewed and known in my career, and along the way, been wrongly accused of, threatened and cursed at by a few who really didn't know, or stop to think, that the reason a story was published, or not published, as the case may be, wasn't personal, or by those who were just PO'ed because they got caught in a bold-face lie, cover up, or with their hands in the public's cookie jar.

But that's OK, because after 40 years in this crazy business, I wouldn't change a single thing because it has made me a better person and has given me unparalleled insights and behind-the-scenes glimpses into the communities where I have lived unlike any other job I could ever imagine.

I have met and interviewed U.S. presidents, movie stars and some the most celebrated recording artists and sports figures of all time. But when all is said and done, I am most thankful for, and most proud of, the stories and photos I was able to produce about the LOCAL FOLKS in small towns along the way, folks who, to this day, still mean more to me than they will ever know, most especially our amazing VETERANS and FIRST RESPONDERS!

It's THEIR STORIES . . . YOUR STORIES . . . that, God willing, I will be able to continue to tell for a long time to come.

And, FYI, the word "retire" is not even in the foreseeable future for me, so, for better or worse, y'all are stuck with me!

To close, just let me say a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who has been a part of this awesome 40-year ride.

Live long and prosper!

Tommy Campbell is editor and publisher of the Rogersville Review. This column was originally published in the Review Feb. 15, 2019.

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Attack a journalist, you'll do time, federal bill says

JASON SHEPARD
California Publisher
Fall 2018

Editor's note: This article originally appeared in California Publisher and is reprinted here with permission.

When California Rep. Eric Swalwell introduced the "Journalist Protection Act" in early 2018, making it a federal crime to assault journalists, critics said the bill was political pandering and unnecessary because violence against journalists in the United States is not a major problem.

"It is also irresponsible to suggest either that America is a dangerous place for journalists, or that (President) Trump is to blame for this danger," Amy Swearer, a visiting legal fellow at The Heritage Foundation, wrote in the Orange County Register in March 2018.

Even journalism scholars questioned the need.

"Although it has some symbolic and practical value, the bill strikes me as mostly redundant, and it comes at the expense of expanded federal power," wrote Jonathan Peters, a media law professor at the University of Georgia and free press correspondent for the Columbia Journalism Review.

A journalist's privilege bill protecting confidential sources is a more important legislative priority, Peters argued.

But things changed after a man with a grudge against journalists opened fire in the Capital Gazette newsroom in Annapolis, Md., on June 28, 2018, killing Gerald Fischman, 61; Rob Hiassen, 59; John McNamara, 56; Rebecca Smith, 34; and Wendi Winters, 65.

The shooter, Jarrod Ramos, targeted employees of the Capital

Gazette because of a longstanding obsession he had against the newspaper over a story about his arrest for harassing a woman in 2011, prosecutors allege.

In the U.S., violent attacks against journalists are not unprecedented

Journalism historian John Nerone studied such incidents for his 1994 book, "Violence Against the Press." Nerone argued that violence against the press has spiked when norms and controls break down in public discourse.

History may show we are living in one of those periods.

Last year, more than 20 press organizations partnered to launch the U.S. Press Freedom Tracker, a nonpartisan website dedicated to documenting press freedom abuses. The site is run by the Freedom of the Press Foundation and the Committee to Protect Journalists.

In the first nine months of 2018, the site documented 39 physical attacks, 15 journalist subpoenas, five journalist arrests, and five journalists killed. Last year, the site documented 44 physical attacks against journalists, 15 instances of police search and seizures, and 34 arrests of journalists.

While the Capital Gazette shooting wasn't motivated by political ideology, the incident drew parallels to the 2015 mass shooting in the Paris newsroom of Charlie Hebdo. Shooters killed 12 people and wounded 11 to avenge the magazine's commentary and cartoons about Islam.

Worldwide, 44 journalists had been killed so far in 2018 (as of this article's late-fall publication),

and 61 were missing, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. Among them are Jamal Khashoggi, the Saudi journalist and Washington Post columnist, who was allegedly killed by Saudi officials in October.

While the congressional bill's chances of passage seem dim, recent events show why it's needed.

In the U.S., threats against journalists may be one side effect of President Donald J. Trump's unprecedented criticism of press freedom and the institution of journalism.

Trump has called the press the "enemy of the people." At a particularly vitriolic rally in Arizona last year, Trump said the American press "is taking away our history and our heritage," saying of journalists: "They're bad people. And I really think they don't like our country."

"Trump doesn't just criticize media more than he criticizes neo-Nazis – he criticizes them more than radical Islamic terrorists," Republican pollster Frank Luntz said following that rally.

CNN's Brian Stelter said that "several members of the media said the president's anti-press rhetoric was downright dangerous, because it could lead individuals to try to harm journalists."

Newsrooms taking threats in earnest

Especially after the Capital Gazette shootings, newsrooms are taking threats seriously.

For example, in August, the Boston Globe spurred 400 newspapers across the country to publish editorials defending press freedom and journalism. A 68-year-old

man from Los Angeles, Robert D. Chain, didn't like the campaign.

"You're the enemy of the people, and we're going to kill every . . . one of you," Chain said in one of more than a dozen calls to the newsroom, according to federal prosecutors.

Authorities traced the calls to Chain's home phone and wife's cellphone. An FBI SWAT team seized 20 guns from Chain's home during a raid in which he was arrested, the Globe reported.

Federal prosecutors charged Chain with seven counts of making threatening communications through interstate commerce.

In other cases, journalists have been attacked by self-identified Trump supporters. In March 2017, an intern reporter and two photographers from OC Weekly in Southern California were physically assaulted at a pro-Trump Make America Great Again rally in Huntington Beach. Taylor Lorenz, a reporter for The Hill, was punched by a protester after the deadly car attack in Charlottesville, Va. And in May 2017, Republican U.S. House candidate (now congressman) Greg Gianforte body-slammed a reporter from the Guardian.

Act would make assaults of journalists a federal offense

The Journalist Protection Act would amend the U.S. code to make assaults against journalists a federal crime.

While most criminal physical assaults are prosecuted as local and state matters, Congress has made assault against certain individuals a federal crime. These

include certain federal officers or employees and their families, foreign officials and guests, and others performing certain official duties.

The bill underscores how attacks on journalists are not just attacks on individuals but also attacks on important national institutions and values. For that reason, the bill would send an important message about the role journalists and press freedom play in supporting American democracy.

"President Donald Trump's conduct invites violence against journalists," Rep. Swalwell said in a statement when he introduced the bill, H.R. 4935. "It's not just about labeling reports of his constant falsehoods as #FakeNews – it's his casting of media personalities and outlets as anti-American targets, and encouraging people to engage in violence."

A companion bill was introduced in the Senate in May, S.B. 2967.

"A free, and independent press – a strong Fourth Estate – is essential to the American people and our democracy, ensuring an informed public and holding those in power accountable," New Jersey Sen. Bob Menendez, one of the bill's sponsors, said in a statement. "We cannot condone any physical attacks on journalists or members of the media."

Jason M. Shepard, Ph.D., is chair of the Department of Communications at California State University, Fullerton. His primary research expertise is in media law, and he teaches courses in journalism, and media law, history and ethics. Contact him at jshepard@fullerton.edu or Twitter at @jasonmshepard.

DAUGHTER from Page 12

er' to her two younger sisters, Tamera and Tahliah.

"Losing her at a young adult age, I was eighteen, taught me a lot fast. I learned to be responsible for everything all at once, even my mom's mishaps, such as her debt. I took care of my sisters along with the help of others in our community. I'm grateful we didn't live in a big town where we didn't know anyone."

Tara said she also chose to put her life on hold until everyone else was taken care of, especially on the holidays. "Christmas was always about my sisters, and making them happy," said Tara.

She also remembered what her mother had taught her. "My mom taught me a lot - a lot of simple things, like never take life for granted. You're here one day, and the next you could be gone. She also taught me to give back, give back to the needy, the less

fortunate. Growing up we didn't have much, and most Christmas mornings there wasn't anything for me under the tree or anything I asked for."

She is thankful to have discovered early "Nothing in life is easy, but I learned to never let myself fall into poverty and just work hard."

Tara added, "I know my mother loved me in her own way. She was the tough-love kind of mother towards me, but I realize why. She

knew deep down one of us three girls had to be the ring leader and take care of things when she was gone."

And most important to Tara is knowing that life goes on. "We all grew up into functional adults with educations and good jobs, and now families to raise of our own."

During the holidays, Tara chooses to remember all the good times she and her sisters spent with her mother and stepfather.

And she wants others to understand, "There is help available, and life can take a turn for the better."

She admits, "It took me a while to realize these lessons, but it's made me who I am today. I'm strong and I'm happy."

If you are in crisis, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255), or contact the Crisis Text Line by texting TALK to 741741. The lines are open 24 hours a day, every day.

TPA MEMBER COVERAGE SHOWCASE I: [The Daily Times, Maryville](#) (Submitted photo courtesy of Summoner's Circle)

Maryville heavy metal band films music video at 'Castle'

KELVIN RAY BOYD
For The Daily Times, Maryville
February 4, 2019

Donning druid robes and wearing makeup, the heavy metal band Summoner's Circle might have appeared to originate from a place of fire and brimstone when they visited the Fortress of Faith in January. However, the band hails from Maryville and did something that has not been done before — film a music video at the castle on Lee Shirley Road near Greenback.

"It was a great experience," said the lead guitarist, stage name Gog. "We shot the video for the song 'Chaos Vector' on Jan. 25. It was a long day and a very long night. We had a lot of fun and got some great footage."

The rest of Summoner's Circle is composed of lead vocalist Blind, guitarist Absalon, bassist and back-up vocalist Y'takt, keyboardist Hex and drummer Frix2.

It was love at first sight when members of the band first ventured to the Fortress, Gog said.

"Some of us went to the castle last summer," he said. "Just by looking at the exterior and interior,

we knew this was definitely the place for the video."

The structure is more than 20 feet high and about 200 feet long. Somehow, the music video makes the Fortress stand out even more.

"The way the lighting was angled at night and where we were positioned, the stills we have seen make the place seem much bigger than what it really is," Gog said. "The Fortress looks like this Gothic castle that is nestled away somewhere in the Carpathian Mountains. It truly is awe inspiring."

Shooting the video proved to be a trial by ice as the band endured freezing temperatures.

"The cold is good for one thing — you can see the breath of the singer," said music video director Thomas Murtveit, who lives in Norway. "In every other way it was just a pain to deal with. The smoke machine froze and stopped working. My assistant was freezing the whole time. The band did fine once they started moving and was (among) the fire braziers and lighting. At least it didn't rain or snow."

"Thomas has made several videos with bands from the Knoxville



Summoner's Circle vocalist Blind sings Jan. 25 in front of the Fortress of Faith in Greenback.

area," Gog said. "When he makes it to the states, Thomas makes the most of his time and shoots as many bands as he can before he has to go back home. We clicked with him well. Thomas understood what we were looking for and what we wanted aesthetically."

The filming went well past the witching hour, but Murtveit said it was worth it.

"I'm really happy about the result," the director said. "The band performed well as always. The fires and location looked epic. I showed

some clips to the band, and we are all very excited. Can't wait to edit and release this video."

Junior Banks owns the castle and has been building it nonstop since 1993.

"God wanted me to build the Fortress for (divine) reasons," Banks said. "The construction is His will. We have thousands of visitors throughout the year, and some of them come from other countries. I want everyone to be welcome. I have had paranormal investigators before, but this is the first time I

have had a band shoot a video. I am thrilled about it because what they did here was impressive and entertaining."

Banks didn't ask for any sort of compensation to film there.

"Junior Banks is such a nice guy," Gog said. "He welcomed us with open arms and did everything he could to help us. We left a donation to aid him with construction costs, and also donated fire braziers and lumber from the set."

Summoner's Circle recently signed with Pavement Entertainment, which will re-release their last album, Tome, under a different title ("Become None"), with a bonus track and new artwork. The album will be distributed worldwide by Sony RED MUSIC.

"Things are starting to go well for us," Gog said. "The band will go on a 13-date spring tour with Children of Bodom, with shows in Canada and the Eastern Seaboard. Right now we are working on five tunes, but nothing has been recorded yet except for Chaos Vector. The music video should be up by October or November, and the new album will be out sometime after that."

TPA MEMBER COVERAGE SHOWCASE II: [The Fairview Observer](#) (Submitted photo)

Daughter speaks out on 20-year anniversary of murder-suicide

NANCY STEPHENS
The Fairview Observer
December 25, 2018

While most of us (were) busy celebrating happy holidays (at Christmastime), the holidays can actually be a time of great sadness. When memories of loved ones we have lost surface, the holidays can seem unbearable. They can also be anything but happy for those suffering with mental health issues.

With so many tragic deaths occurring around the holidays, Fairview resident Tara Bowman-Kelley wanted to share a few holiday messages about suicide awareness and survival.

December 14, 2018 marked the 20-year anniversary of the murder of Tara's mother. Her mother's death was at the hands of her stepfather, who also took his own life.

"It's been 20 years, and those that knew me then know it. But being that it's been 20 years, I felt the need to share. There's been a lot of life lived in this 20 years . . . good and bad points. But that's life," said Tara.

She believes it's important to be aware of mental health issues and promote resources available to help those contemplating suicide.

Being aware of the mental state of those around you is important, because Tara said the signs are not always easy to see.

"I work in a field where suicide prevention is daily. I see so many suffering from anxiety and depression, and sometimes just being a kind ear to listen is the best thing, and being non-judgmental. Not every suicidal person is text book with signs, sadly."

She wishes mental health, de-



Tamera, Tara and Tahliah - the Cronk sisters survived the 1998 murder of their mother and suicide of their stepfather, and are thriving in life.

pression and suicide were talked about more often in the years before she tragically lost her mother and stepfather.

Tara has a more personal message for those who inadvertently become the surviving victims of suicide. She said, "Even through trauma and death/suicide, people can heal and succeed and live on in legacy of those who died. Suicide awareness is important, but recovery awareness is as well."

Having experienced many blessings in life since losing her mother, combined with a few bumpy moments, she said there is still a lot of life to live.

"My sisters are I have a motto 'Cronk Strong.' We have quoted it at practically every funeral we have had to attend, which has been many," Tara said, adding "The sisters of three will always be."

Another lesson she learned through her own experience is forgiveness. "Yes, forgiveness. I

forgave him the day all this happened. There is no reason in life to hate a person who was hurting himself," said Tara.

With the death of her mom, Tara took on a new role as 'moth-

See **DAUGHTER** Page 11

Showcase Submissions

TPA members can submit a story they have published whether it be news, sports, business or a feature. Share your best work for other TPA publishers, editors and reporters to see. Each submitted story should include at least one photo and cutline as well as an editor's introduction explaining how the story was reported. Send submissions to editor@tnpress.com.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

All meeting photos by Mike Towle, Tennessee Press Association



Tennessee Press Association lobbyist Megan Lane (left), of Lane Government Relations, Nashville, discusses government-related issues during the TPA Government Affairs Committee meeting held Feb. 6 at the DoubleTree Hotel, Nashville, during the first day of the 2019 TPA Winter Convention. Lane is flanked on her left by Matt King, Crux Strategies.



Michael Fishman, of the Citizen Tribune, Morristown, listens intently during the Government Affairs Committee Meeting held Wednesday, Feb. 6, to kick off the 2019 TPA Winter Convention in Nashville. Much of the discussion centered on legislative bills affecting the media industry.



Above left (left to right): Chris Vass, Chattanooga Times Free Press; Daniel Richardson, Magic Valley Publishing; Jack McElroy, recently retired from Knoxville News Sentinel; Michael Williams, Paris Post-Intelligencer; and Michael Fishman, Citizen Tribune, Morristown. Above center: Carol Daniels, TPA executive director. Above right: Dave Gould, Main Street Media of Tennessee, Gallatin, and Deborah Fisher, Tennessee Coalition for Open Government, Nashville. Bottom left: TPA treasurer Darrell Richardson, The Oak Ridger, and Janet Rail, Independent Appeal, Selmer. Bottom right: Eric Barnes, The Daily News, Memphis.



TPA BOARD MEETING/CONCURRENT BUSINESS SESSION



TPA treasurer Darrell Richardson, The Oak Ridger, listens to discussion during the Feb. 6 TPA board meeting at the DoubleTree Hotel in Nashville.



TPA President Doug Horne, Republic Newspapers, Knoxville, conducted the Feb. 6 TPA board meeting as part of the 2019 TPA Winter Convention.



Calvin Anderson, New Tri-State Defender, Memphis, was an interested onlooker at the TPA board meeting.



TPA Director Sara Jane Locke, The Herald-News, Dayton, follows along at the Feb. 6 TPA board meeting.



Bottom left: Tom Hrach, University of Memphis. Bottom right: Don Nalls, financial planner, Nalls Sherbakoff, Knoxville.



Thank You!

Tennessee Press Association expresses sincere appreciation to its members, associate members and others who provided sponsorship and assistance with the 2019 Winter Convention!

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TPA CONVENTION OPENING RECEPTION WITH TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

All reception photos by Tony Centonze/For Tennessee Press Association



Left to right: Calvin Anderson, New Tri-State Defender, Memphis; Deborah Fisher, Tennessee Coalition for Open Government, Nashville; Mike Wirth, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and David Arant, University of Memphis.



Bryan Sandmeier, The Daily Times, Maryville; George Coleman, The Lebanon Democrat; Carl Esposito, The Daily Times, Maryville; and Richard Rowlett, Rowlett Advertising, Goodlettsville.



State Rep. David Hawk, Dist. 5, Greeneville, and Megan Lane, Lane Government Relations, Nashville.



Alison Gerber, Chattanooga Times Free Press, and State Rep. Mark Hall, Dist. 24, Cleveland.



State Rep. Cameron Sexton, Dist. 25, Crossville, and House Majority Whip William Lamberth, Dist. 44, Portland.



Annette and Joe Hurd, Savannah Publishing Co., enjoyed themselves at the 2019 Winter Convention opening reception, which was held Feb. 6, at the DoubleTree Hotel, Nashville



Janet Rail, Independent Appeal, Selmer, and Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee at the Winter Convention opening reception.



Tennessee Press Association President Doug Horne (left), Republic Newspapers, Knoxville, and State Rep. Dave Wright, Dist. 19, Corryton, enjoying the Winter Convention opening reception.

TPA CONVENTION OPENING RECEPTION WITH TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS (CONT. FROM PAGE 4)

All reception photos by Tony Centonze/For Tennessee Press Association



State Rep. Bill Sanderson, Dist. 77, Kenton; State Rep. Andy H. Holt, Dist. 76, Dresden; and Aaron Rummage, legislative assistant, Nashville.



House Speaker Glen Casada, Dist. 63, Franklin, and State Sen. Mike Bell, Dist. 9, Riceville, pictured at the 2019 TPA Winter Convention opening reception in Nashville.



State Sen. Art Swann, Dist. 2, Alcoa, and State Rep. Dan Howell, Dist. 22, Cleveland, were among dozens of General Assembly members who turned out for the reception.



Gregg Jones, Greenville Sun, and Bruce Hartmann, University of Tennessee Medical Center, Knoxville, at the 2019 TPA Winter Convention opening reception.



Chris Smith, The Leaf-Chronicle, Clarksville, and David Plazas, The Tennessean, Nashville.



Caroline Bonner, executive assistant, TN House Republican Caucus, Nashville, and Calvin Anderson, New Tri-State Defender, Memphis.



Left to right: David Critchlow, Jr., Union City Daily Messenger; Scott Critchlow, Union City Daily Messenger; and David Fuzzell, Union City Daily Messenger.



Left to right: State Rep. Chris Todd, Dist. 73, Jackson; Deborah Fisher, Tennessee Coalition for Open Government, Nashville; and State Rep. Esther Helton, Dist. 30, East Ridge.

TPA CONVENTION OPENING RECEPTION WITH TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS (CONT. FROM PAGE 5)

All reception photos by Tony Centonze/For Tennessee Press Association



Carrie Cowart, bill clerk, TN Senate; Spenser Carder, Lipscomb University, Nashville; and Abby Huckaba, bill clerk, TN General Assembly.



Frank Daniels (left), FW Publishing, Nashville, and Eric Barnes, The Daily Times, Memphis.



State Rep. Curtis Halford, Dist. 79, Dyer, and Callie Smith

MORE TPA/TPAF BOARD MEETINGS PHOTOS / PHOTOS BY MIKE TOWLE, TENNESSEE PRESS ASSOCIATION



Maria De Varenne, The Tennessean, Nashville, was on hand for the TPA board meeting held Feb. 6 at the Doubletree Hotel, Nashville.



Top left: Victor Parkins, The Mirror-Exchange, Milan, delivers the TPA Foundation report to the TPA board. Top right: Dave Gould, Main Street Media of Tennessee, Gallatin, delivers the TPS report the TPA board.



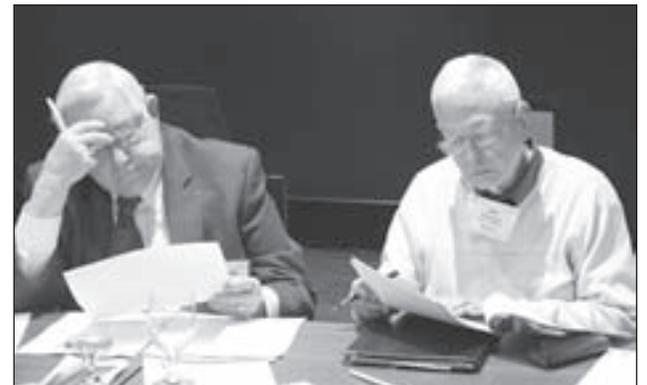
Daniel Williams, The Paris Post-Intelligencer, follows along during the TPA board meeting held the afternoon of Feb. 6 at the DoubleTree Hotel, Nashville.



David Critchlow, Jr., Union City Daily Messenger, at the Tennessee Press Association Foundation board meeting held Feb. 6 as part of the 2019 TPA Winter Convention, Nashville.



Pauline Sherrer, recently retired from the Crossville Chronicle, and John Finney, recently retired from the Buffalo River Review, Linden, were onhand for the TPAF board meeting.



R. Jack Fishman, Citizen Tribune, Morristown, and Jim Charlet, Brentwood, check their notes during the TPA Foundation board meeting held Feb. 6 in Nashville.

TPS's profitability in 2018 was first time in black in six years

Editor's note: The following is the report that Dave Gould, president of the Tennessee Press Service (TPS) board, made to the Tennessee Press Association Board of Directors during their Feb. 6 meeting in Nashville as part of the 2019 TPA Winter Convention. It was held at the DoubleTree Nashville Downtown Hotel.

A year ago, when I spoke to the TPA Board during our winter meeting, I shared the news that the Tennessee Press Service board



TPS PRESIDENT'S REPORT

DAVE GOULD

was feeling optimistic about our future. Six months earlier, we had hired Carol Daniels as our execu-

tive director, and her number-one focus was to implement a plan to quickly reverse the financial fortunes of TPS.

TPS had lost almost \$600,000 the previous four years, and we were not on a sustainable path.

We believed a year ago that Carol's strong sales background as well as her ideas to improve the sales structure and culture of the organization would bear fruit.

Now, a year later, I can share



with you more than just optimistic feelings; I can share real numbers. Our fiscal year ended Nov. 30, and

for the first time in six years, TPS made a profit. We made more than \$50,000 last year.

Thanks to the entire TPS staff, it feels like a new day. We all know that one good year needs to be followed by another and then another after that. But the first step was to right the ship and we now have some positive momentum as we look ahead to 2019.

TPA membership giving campaign well underway, with more than \$20,000 expected

Editor's note: The following is the report that Victor Parkins, president of the Tennessee Press Association Foundation (TPAF) board, made to the Tennessee Press Association Board of Directors during their Feb. 6 meeting in Nashville as part of the 2019 TPA Winter Convention. It was held at the DoubleTree Nashville Downtown Hotel.

Thanks for having the confidence in me to serve as your president. I'll do the best that I can for



TPAF PRESIDENT'S REPORT

VICTOR PARKINS

the Foundation and I'm open to your suggestions on how we can raise money and invest it to help

us meet our mission.

We did kick off a very modest giving campaign last year that has generated more than \$2,500 so far, and I know if you haven't given yet, you will soon. We're asking each daily paper to give \$500 and each non-daily to donate \$150. I don't think that's too much to ask, and if we all make this small contribution, this alone will raise well more than \$20,000 for our Foundation.

The Tennessee Newspaper Hall



of Fame, which is (a joint project of TPAF and the University of Tennessee College of Communication & Information) has been active. The maintenance work for the website and interactive

display at the Hall of Fame on the UT campus in Knoxville has been completed—and we've also got some ideas to mull over about how to improve those functions as well.

We are excited about the possibilities of inducting more, deserving journalists into our Hall of Fame, and that process is underway as well. I thank Mike Fishman for heading up that good work about how our monies from the Foundation have been invested.

MEDIA PANEL DISCUSSIONS, THURSDAY, FEB. 7 (PHOTOS BY TONY CENTONZE EXCEPT AS NOTED)



Panelists for "How to Get that First Job" (l. to r.): Kara Hartnett, Nashville Scene/Nashville Post; Elliott Wenzler, Main Street Media of Tennessee, Gallatin; Duane Gang, The Tennessean, Nashville; and Alison Gerber, Chattanooga Times Free Press.



Hayden Goodridge, MTSU, Murfreesboro.



Karina Galvan, Austin Peay State University, Clarksville.



Kimberly Rodriguez, University of Memphis.



Tariq Yunis, Austin Peay State University, Clarksville.



Photo by Tony Centonze

Dr. Robert Nanney, University of Tennessee at Martin.



Photo by Mike Towle, TPA

Dr. Karanja Ajanaku, New Tri-State Defender, Memphis, takes some photos.



Photo by Mike Towle

Otis Sanford, University of Memphis, moderated the panel discussion for "Media Under Fire."



Photo by Mike Towle

Jennifer Duck, CNN, makes a point during the panel discussion for "Media Under Fire."

TPA LUNCHEON AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY GOVERNOR BILL LEE (PHOTOS BY TONY CENTONZE/FOR TENNESSEE PRESS ASSOCIATION)



Gov. Bill Lee was the keynote speaker for the Feb. 7 TPA Winter Convention luncheon held at the DoubleTree Nashville Downtown Hotel. Dozens of college students active in journalism were at the lunch and posed with the governor following the luncheon.



Tomi McCutchen, University of Tennessee at Martin, listens to one of the luncheon's speakers.



Cathy Sgambati, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, was part of a large MTSU contingent.



Maddux Reid, Trevecca Nazarene University, Nashville, was among dozens of journalism students present.



Miriam Kirk, Trevecca Nazarene University, Nashville, listens to one of the speakers.



Dylan Young, Carson-Newman University, Jefferson City, listening to the luncheon's speakers.



Dale Gentry, The Standard Banner, Jefferson City, gives the invocation to open the 2019 TPA Winter Convention luncheon.



Dr. Alisa White, president of Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, was among the school leaders who spoke at the luncheon.



Tiffany Carpenter, associate vice president for communications and marketing, University of Tennessee



Dr. Jerry Faulkner, president of Volunteer State Community College, Gallatin, is one of the state's true champions of a two-year degree.