



William E. James Outstanding Young Journalists

A large part of our mission at the Foundation is to assist Missouri newspapers to hire, train and retain inspiring young journalists. We connect our communities' newspapers with talented students and help provide grants for internships and other projects. These connections are instrumental in keeping many fantastic newspaper journalists in Missouri. We remain involved in their careers as they grow as journalists. Many are consistently recognized in our yearly Better Newspaper Contest and have gone on to receive the William E. James Outstanding Young Journalist Award from the Foundation. During his lifetime, William E. James mentored several young journalists, who have done many great things in the Missouri newspaper industry, and the Foundation is honored to recognize promising young newspaper journalists in his name. The three journalists featured below have benefitted greatly from the support the Foundation has provided toward their careers. All three worked as interns through the Foundation's summer internship grant program and continue to make significant, impactful contributions to Missouri newspaper journalism, winning Better Newspaper Contest awards and each earning the distinction of William E. James Outstanding Young Journalist Award recipients.



Katelyn Mary Skaggs got her start in journalism when her high school English teacher encouraged her to join the newspaper class. "She developed in me a passion for local news and ethical reporting. She showed me why it's so important for communities to have a watchdog," Katelyn Mary said of her teacher. Katelyn Mary started with Leader Publications in Jefferson County in 2018, first as an intern under a Missouri Press Foundation grant and upon graduation from Southeast Missouri State University became a full-time staff reporter, covering the Missouri cities of Eureka and Byrnes Mill, as well as police and fire news and the local health department.



Ethan Colbert is a Bowling Green native who worked for several different newspapers before graduating from the University of Missouri School of Journalism, including the *Cedar County Republican* and *Stockton City Journal*, the *Buffalo Reflex*, the *Jefferson City News Tribune*, and the *Columbia Missourian*. In 2015, Ethan became the editor of the *Bowling Green Times*. While editor, the *Times* received more than 50 awards from the Missouri Press Foundation Better Newspaper Contest and was considered one of the best weekly newspapers in the state. Ethan was recently hired as editor of the *Washington Missourian*.



Hannah Spaar was born to be a journalist. The Spaars have been part of the Missouri Press community for decades, and the family's involvement in Missouri journalism goes back even further. Hannah is the news editor of *The Odessan* and *Focus on Oak Grove*, overseeing coverage of seven municipalities, three school districts and two fire districts. Since 2019, Hannah has been president of the Show Me Press Association Board of Directors, a regional press association serving central and northeast Missouri. Hannah is also a member of the Missouri Press Association Board of Directors.

Will you help us support outstanding young journalists with your gift to the Missouri Press Foundation?

\$500 **\$250** **\$100** **\$75** **\$50** **\$25**

Make checks payable to Missouri Press Foundation and send to 802 Locust Ave. Columbia, MO 65202 or donate at mopress.networkforgood.com



Missouri Press Association

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Congressional intervention needed with PPP loans

From Missouri Press Staff

The National Newspaper Association has drafted a legislative briefing outlining how changes to the interpretation of the Paycheck Protection Program could affect the taxes many businesses will have to pay next year.

From NNA:

If you received a Paycheck Protection Program loan, you may not be aware that you will not be able to deduct the salary and other business expenses covered by the loan. The Treasury Department last summer decided not to allow these deductions, even though Congress declared PPP loans would not be taxed. When next April rolls around, we fear many newspapers will face a nasty surprise.

More than 80 members of Congress have sponsored a bill to fix this problem. We need urgent action to make sure this bill gets wrapped into the stimulus package being negotiated between the White House and the House.

Please take a minute to contact your Congressional delegations and ask them to make sure PPP loan expenses remain deductible.

As always, we want to know what your Congressional offices say on this topic. Our Washington office is standing by to help if the Members of Congress have questions. This effort needs to reach both House and Senate.

For more information, contact Tonda Rush, tonda@nna.org

The briefing, titled "Make PPP Expenses Deductible," is below:

Congress created the Paycheck Protection Program at the beginning of the 2020 pandemic recession crisis. The PPP goal was to infuse small businesses with cash as state and local shutdowns abruptly cut off businesses' sources of income. More than five million small businesses, including thousands of community newspapers, received the loans. The cash infusions helped to sustain businesses through mid-August.

Congress declared in the Section 1106(i) of the CARES I act which created PPP that the income from these small business loans would not be taxed. But

the US Treasury later introduced a backdoor tax on these funds by declaring that ordinary and necessary business expenses would not be deductible if covered by PPP loans.

Most businesses receiving loans had exhausted their funds by August, unaware that a major tax awaits them in April 2021 or earlier if they are subject to estimated fiscal year tax payments. Legislation to correct the Treasury Department's interpretation was introduced in the Small Business Expense Protection Act, S. 3612 and HR 6821, which together have 86 cosponsors. Efforts have been made to include this correction in subsequent pandemic stimulus bills but have not yet succeeded.

Congress Must Allow PPP expense deductions

- The intent of Congress is clear: PPP loans are not to be taxed. But the Treasury Department introduced a tax through its regulatory interpretation. The will of Congress should prevail.

- The PPP loan recipients have generally been unaware that their loan funds would be taxed. Most have already spent the money and have not set aside funds for tax liability.

- The mandate of PPP was to help small businesses stay afloat by providing quick and accessible sources of forgivable loans. The tax defeats the purpose of PPP.

- Businesses normally expect to deduct salaries, mortgage interest and other expenses covered by PPP. Receipt of a forgivable loan in the emergency environment of the pandemic should not be reason to disrupt carefully-constructed business plans.

- Treasury is wrong that allowing deductibility would constitute "double dipping" into Treasury funds. CARES I and subsequent legislation have already taken measures to prevent double dipping by blocking duplicate loans and overlapping funds from other government loans. An ordinary and necessary business expense is not the same as receiving two sources of federal funds for the same purpose.



BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

Congratulations

**to the winners of Missouri Press Foundation's
2020 Better Newspaper Contest**

**Begin preparing your entries for the
2021 Better Newspaper Contest NOW!**

Details will be announced in the coming weeks but below are some tips to help you prepare.

- 1. If you have entries that consist of more than one piece of content, combine them into one file. This will make uploading and judging much easier. This will apply to Best Columnist, Best Front Page, etc., where an entry is more than one piece. Combine them into one file. Do the same for stories that jump to another page. Combine the pages into one file for uploading.**
- 2. Make the category number the first element in the title of each entry.**
- 3. Put all your entries into a "Contest Entries" folder on your desktop.**

**If you have any questions please contact Matthew Barba at mbarba@mopress.com
or Kristie Fortier at kfortier@mopress.com**



Return rate agreements by Nov. 30

From Missouri Press Staff

The 2021 advertising agreements between Missouri Press Service and member newspapers are due by Monday, Nov. 30, 2020.

Newspapers should submit their completed agreement forms to MPS' Jeremy Patton by fax at 573-874-5894 or via email at jpatton@mopress.com

Newspapers that have not returned their completed agreement forms will be contacted via telephone beginning Nov. 27.

If you did not receive an agreement form or if you have any questions, please contact Patton via email.

Learn how using flats to mail can save you money

From National Newspaper Association

Preparing Periodicals newspapers in white USPS tubs helps subscribers get their mail on time and saves costs for the Postal Service. Beginning in January, USPS will begin to recognize a discount for some newspaper mail in flats tubs instead of sacks.

The webinar will feature three panelists from the USPS and will be moderated by NNA's Tonda Rush.

Who should attend: Printers, Mail Preparers, Publishers

When: Thursday, Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. CT on Zoom

Cost: FREE for NNA members, \$30 for nonmembers. NNA members will have access to the recording for replay at their convenience.

Registration open:

https://nna.formstack.com/forms/postal_flat_tubs

Membership

Send requests for 2021 press cards

From Missouri Press Staff

Submit requests for 2021 press cards and 2020-2021 MPA auto stickers today by going online or emailing staffers' names to Kristie Fortier at kfortier@mopress.com

There is no charge for press cards or auto stickers for MPA members; please include a total number of stickers needed for your organization. In all requests, please include mailing information for your newspaper.

Because staffing changes occur throughout the year, MPA does not keep a list of cards previously issued.

Members can also request copies of the 2021 MPA sticker calendar.

Email distribution list

Are all your staff who should be receiving Missouri Press emails signed up?

Email communication with Missouri Press' members is vital to promoting



the industry and protecting our interests in Jefferson City.

We want to make sure that every member newspaper is staying up-to-date with the Association's latest happenings and informed about issues that affect your business. We also distribute statewide ads via email each week.

If your staff changes or we need to add someone, please send the names, job titles and email addresses to Matthew Barba at mbarba@mopress.com

Funds could be available to cover your business' coronavirus response

From Missouri Press Staff

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ACT (CARES Act) passed on March 27, 2020, and signed by President Trump, established the Coronavirus Relief Fund. Each of Missouri's counties received an allocation of funds from the CRF based on population.

The state has distributed \$520 million to counties to spend by Dec. 31, 2020. As of Tuesday, Nov. 10, the counties had spent only \$128 million.

Newspapers are encouraged to check their local county websites, or contact their county commissioners, about applying for funds that could be used to

reimburse the cost of personal protective equipment to make workspaces safer or to cover other eligible expenses.

The funds being requested cannot be a replacement for lost revenue.

Examples of county websites with Coronavirus Relief Fund information:

- [Boone County](#)
- [Cole County](#)

For more information about the Coronavirus Relief Fund, please visit the following links:

- [US Treasury - Coronavirus Relief Fund FAQ](#)
- [State of MO Treasurer - Federal COVID-19 Related Funds](#)

Missouri Press' offices will close early Nov. 25 and remain closed Nov. 26-27, for the Thanksgiving holiday.



Advertising

Promote Pulse survey to get state sales data

From Missouri Press Staff

The Pulse of America survey captures shopping and purchasing intentions and spans 550-plus business types, as well as several thousand products and services.

All promotion partners receive a copy of the findings. For more

information on promoting Pulse of America, contact Ted Lawrence, tlawrence@mopress.com.

It's easy to participate in the annual Pulse of America shopping survey, and if you do, Pulse Research will provide the results of their comprehensive survey. Your sales staff will then have

the most current consumer product and service purchasing plans for effective sales presentations.

It's simple to participate: Just run small house ads and invite your readers to participate in the survey.

Download everything you need here: <https://bit.ly/2SOdYa4>

Public notices online helps keep them in print

Due to staffing changes and COVID-19, many of our members have stopped uploading on the Missouri Public Notices site at: <https://www.mopublicnotices.com/>

We ask that if you are not already doing so, to start uploading your public notice ads now.

If you don't have many notices, it may be easier to have Missouri Press Association have your newspapers' notices uploaded for you at \$.25 each per run date. Those charges will be deducted from your advertising checks, notices that are not paid by the end of the year will be invoiced.

If you need to resume uploading, please contact Ted

Lawrence at tlawrence@mopress.com.

If your newspaper has never uploaded or has had staffing changes and need training and login information setup, please contact Kristie Fortier at kfortier@mopress.com

A change to Missouri Press' public notice website was needed to help combat legislation that has been introduced in recent years attempting to take all public notices out of printed newspapers. To help protect public notices appearing in printed newspapers, we NEED every member newspaper to be uploading ALL public notices to the new website, [mopublicnotices.com](https://www.mopublicnotices.com).



RALLY TO THE CAUSE — Support Citizens' Rights to Open Government

Join or donate to the Missouri Sunshine Coalition during the 2020-2021 fundraising drive going on now!

The Coalition supports citizens' rights under the landmark Sunshine Law — a mission that blends education and advocacy and has never been more important than during these remarkable times.

With your annual membership of \$25 or more, this work will continue and expand in line with a strategic plan the Coalition's board initiated last year.

Accomplished in 2020:

- Executive director hired
- Board of directors returned to full strength
- National FOI Coalition affiliation renewed
- Sunshine News & Notes newsletter launched
- Partnership Formed with MU Strategic Communications program

Initiatives under way:

- Improving communications across social media
- Developing a website as a vital educational and advocacy resource
- Planning for 2021 Sunshine Week observances and training
- Preparing for the 2021 General Assembly

Membership dues and donations are needed to build the capacity of the Coalition and to sustain efforts. All dues and gifts are greatly appreciated!

JOIN OR MAKE A GIFT NOW

- Go to <https://mopress.com/sunshine-resource/> and find the "Click here to Donate or Join Today" button or go to: <https://bit.ly/3owVXMa>
- To respond by mail, please print out, complete and enclose an application/donation form from <http://mopress.com/sunshine-resource/> along with your check payable to: Missouri Sunshine Coalition Inc., 802 Locust St., Columbia, MO 65201

For more information, contact Executive Director Dennis Ellsworth at (816) 261-5373 or at dennis11ellsworth@gmail.com

Missouri Press Classifieds: Who is looking for YOU?

SPORTS EDITOR: The Warrensburg Star-Journal is seeking a qualified candidate to lead its Sports Department. The Star-Journal is an 1,800 circulation weekly newspaper in Warrensburg, Missouri. The Star-Journal has a 155-year history of providing quality journalism to Warrensburg and Johnson County. It is looking to fill its Sports Editor position, who will report to the editor. Warrensburg is home to the University of Central Missouri, the Warrensburg School District, and several smaller county school districts.

Primary duties include high school and college game coverage, writing sports feature stories, taking photos, producing content for special sections, and assisting with social media. The sports editor will help the editor oversee stringers who contribute to sports coverage.

Minimum requirements include a college degree in journalism, communication or a related area of study and/or experience as a journalist covering sports at a news publication. Experience with Microsoft Office, Macintosh and Adobe Photoshop is helpful. Video experience is preferred but not required.

Candidates must be willing to have a flexible schedule, have basic photography skills, attention to detail, ability to meet a nightly deadline, work well in partnership with coworkers and community members, and be able to produce content for both our online and print products.

Plus, a love of sports and ability to discuss stats in the newsroom is encouraged.

Send a resume and work samples to Editor Nicole Cooke at nicolec@phillipsmedia.com.

Warrensburg is best known as the home of the UCM Mules and Old Drum, man's best friend. With a population of 20,000, it is less than an hour from Kansas City.

Owned by Phillips Media Group, an equal opportunity employer, the Star-Journal offers salary and benefits in a comfortable working environment. 11-2

MANAGING EDITOR: The Managing Editor of the nationally-acclaimed St. Louis American manages all editorial staff and oversees all editorial work under the supervision of the publisher. The newspaper's mission is to inform, educate, empower and defend the Black community in the St. Louis region.

The managing editor must be strategic in planning story budgets and assigning, editing and reporting copy so that the sections of the paper are completed and designed in stages. The managing editor must be prepared to report stories across all coverage areas as needed.

Send resume to kjones@stlamerican.com 10-29

EDITOR: Morgan County Press, Stover's Weekly Newspaper is seeking an Editor. Applicants should be community-minded, people-oriented, available to work nights and weekends. Duties include writing and editing news stories and a weekly editorial or personal column, taking photographs, attending meetings. Newspaper writing

experience or journalism education helpful, but not required. 40 hours/week. Paid vacation. Starting pay based on experience (minimum \$440/week). Office located in Versailles.

Send resumé and writing samples to: Bryan E. Jones, Publisher; Versailles Leader-Statesman; P.O. Box 348, Versailles, MO 65084; or email bjones@leader-statesman.com 10-22

DIGITAL PRODUCER: Award-winning sports interview show seeks self-starter with exceptional storytelling skills for Digital Producer position. Email cover letter and resume to apps@grahambensingersinger.com 10-1

STAFF WRITER: Salem Publishing Company, which publishes The Salem News and Phelps County Focus in Salem and Rolla, Missouri, respectively, has an opening for a staff writer in Salem. Our print and web products are award-winning, as well as our acclaimed staff. Recent accolades include Missouri Press Association Young Journalist of the Year and an E&P 25 Under 35 honoree.

Job description includes print and digital coverage of local entities and editing, along with the opportunity to work on in-depth feature, enterprise and investigative stories that are a staple of our news products. Photography, social media, and page design skills are a plus.

Some experience is preferred. Send resume and samples of work to Catherine Wynn, Managing Editor, catherine@thesalemnews.com or P.O. Box 798, Salem, MO 65560. 9-10

Please make sure your staff is receiving emails from Missouri Press

From Missouri Press Staff

Missouri Press Association is constantly putting together information and resources we think will be useful to you in these trying times.

The main method for distributing these resources to members is via email, and we need to make sure that all members are signed up.

Some of these addresses may already be in our database, however we need you to mark Missouri

Press Association's email addresses as safe so they are not filtered out as "spam."

All Missouri Press office staff use email addresses with the domain "@mopress.com"

If you have any questions about getting signed up to receive Missouri Press' emails or you are concerned that someone on your staff is not receiving them, please contact Matthew Barba at mbarba@mopress.com