

# MIP

MISSOURI PRESS

# NEWS

## Congratulations 2024

### Better Newspaper Contest Award Winners



PHOTO BY JACOB WARDEN

### driver, passenger escape fire at Belle Fair

Kody Hertzling (above, on left) and Layne Hogshooter (right) were competing Saturday during the demolition derby when their car burst into flames. Hertzling and Hogshooter both suffered second-degree burns during the main heat of the compact cars. Hertzling was also taken to Phelps Health in Rolla for treatment from the fair, see *The Maries County*

2024 Photo of the Year | **Jacob Warden** | Gasconade County Republican, Owensville | Best News Photo

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# Fight against misinformation's corrupting influence

The first principle of the Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics is "Seek truth and report it."

This time of year, I think it's equally important that we all keep an eye out for horsesh\*\* and report on that, too.

Fact-checking during election season is nothing new, but the sheer amount of misinformation, disinformation and unmitigated bull-hockey swirling around the web these days presents an increasing challenge — readers are far more likely to encounter fakery than facts, especially as they retreat into political and cultural bubbles on social media.

A recent reminder came from the claim made during the Sept. 10 presidential debate that Haitian immigrants in Springfield (Ohio, in this case) were stealing dogs, cats and other pets and eating them.

I'll admit to getting a chuckle out of that one, especially after seeing social media comments from various public information officers in Springfield (Missouri) offering condolences to their comrades in the other Springfield. The real-time fact-checking by ABC moderators at the debate was soon followed with in-depth debunking by other outlets, offering plenty of verified facts for the curious to find.

The next morning, when one of my reporters asked if we ought to do a story ourselves, my first thought was "Surely, this idea is too dumb to live."

*"In this season and others, keep a lookout for bunkum and bullshit, then track down the truth. Be forceful, accurate and direct. Call out falsehoods and show your work."*

But my second thought was, "A few more facts in the world can't hurt."

We published a story — one of our most-read of the week — laying out the false claim and the context, explaining how it transformed from a baseless post in a Facebook group to a national headline. In hindsight, we could have written 10 more. A week after the debate my Facebook feed is still full of unfounded conspiracy theories posted by family and friends unwilling to let go of an idea they want to be true, proof be damned.

The difficulty of proving a negative is part of what makes such false claims so effective, of course; debunking each piece of "evidence" doesn't rule out the existence of another that's yet to be unearthed. All we can do — what we must do, according to the code of ethics quoted above — is keep filling our newspapers, and the world, with facts.

In this season and others, keep a lookout for bunkum and bullshit, then track down the truth.

Be forceful, accurate and direct. Call out falsehoods and show your work.

Interrogate the "evidence" and prove or disprove what you can; explain what's been mischaracterized or taken out of context and don't be shy about labeling things as unproven, baseless or unsubstantiated. Fight the urge to write off any fact-check or story as too obvious.

When the world is a monetized mess of memes and misinformation, facts — no matter how old or seemingly self-evident — are news. Seek them out, report them, share them with your readers. This time of year, they'll see plenty of the other stuff.



**Amos Bridges,**  
Springfield News-Leader  
MPA President



**PRESIDENT:** Amos Bridges, *Springfield News-Leader*  
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Kimberly Combs, *Better Newspapers Inc., Piedmont*  
**NNA Rep.:** Hannah Spaar, *The Odessan, Odessa*

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# MPA elects 2025 officers, directors

## From Missouri Press Staff

Peggy Scott, publisher of Leader Publications, which includes four community newspapers throughout Jefferson County and St. Louis County, was elected president of the Missouri Press Association Friday, Sept. 20, during the 158th Annual Convention in Springfield.

Scott has been with Leader Publications since 1999 and before that, worked for the Southeast Missourian in Cape Girardeau for another 14 years. Previously assistant publisher when she joined the MPA Board in 2020, Scott became the newspaper group's publisher in May 2022.

A vocal proponent of community newspapers, Scott likes that journalists are "in the know," usually before everyone else.

"As journalists, we get to find out things first and then tell everyone," Scott said. "Our work helps the people and organizations and businesses that make up our communities."

Scott often exhibits a high level of excitement when it comes to discussing community newspapers and the journalism they produce. She embraces the challenges that newspaper work brings and looks forward to helping other publishers tackle problems around the state.

"We know we have the power to change our neighborhoods. We need to find ways to work together and use that power to sustain our businesses," she said.

Part of that change is finding the best ways to serve younger

readers online. "Younger readers consume news differently. As legacy print producers, we need to find ways to deliver our products on the platforms they are using," Scott said.

Scott lives in Crystal City with Rob, her husband of almost 40 years. Together, they have four grown children. She will officially take office as MPA president Jan. 1.

Amos Bridges, editor-in-chief of the *Springfield News-Leader*, will continue on the MPA Board of Directors through 2025 as past president.

Other 2025 MPA officers and directors elected Sept. 20, include First Vice President, Bryan Chester, *Columbia Missourian*; Second Vice President, Bryan Jones, *Morgan County Statesman*, Versailles; Secretary, Donna Bischoff, Bridge Tower Media, St. Louis; and Treasurer, Jaime Mowers, *Webster-Kirkwood Times*, St. Louis.

Directors for three-year terms include Ron Schott, *Wright County Journal*, Mountain Grove; Kenneth L. Garner, Garner Media Holdings, Maryville; and Gary Castor, *Jefferson City News Tribune*.

Hannah Spaar, *The Odessan*, Odessa, was elected as the National Newspaper Association state chair.

Continuing on the MPA Board in 2025 will be directors: Kimberly Combs, Better Newspapers Inc., Piedmont; Tim Schmidt, Westplex Media, Montgomery City; Lucas Presson, *Southeast Missourian*, Cape Girardeau; Sandy Nelson, *Courier Tribune*, Liberty; and Mike Scott, NEMO News Media Group, Kahoka.



Peggy Scott

## Statement of ownership

This is the Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation, as required by Act of Congress of Aug. 12, 1970, of *Missouri Press News*, published monthly at Columbia, Mo. This statement contains the information from Form 3526, provided to the Postmaster at Columbia, Mo.

The publisher and owner of *Missouri Press News* is the Missouri Press Association (MPA), 802 Locust St., Columbia, MO, 65201-4888, a non-profit corporation without capital stock.

The editor is Matthew Barba of Columbia, Mo. The managing editor is Mark Maassen of Columbia, Mo.

There are no bondholders, mortgagees, or other security holders of any kind or nature, either with reference to MPA or the *Missouri Press News*.

Total number of copies printed during the preceding 12 months averaged 457, and 441 were printed for September 2024, the issue nearest filing date.

No copies were sold through dealers, carriers or vendors during the year. Paid or requested mail subscriptions averaged 437 with 421 in September.

No copies were distributed free each month through the mail. Free distribution outside the mail was 5 each month. Total distribution averaged 442, with 426 distributed in September. Copies not distributed averaged 15, with 15 not distributed in September.

Paid and/or requested circulation averaged 98.87% for the year.

I certify all information furnished is true and complete.

— Matthew Barba



## CALENDAR

### October

6-12 — National Newspaper Week

17 — Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Columbia

17 — Ozark Press Association Annual Meeting, Willow Springs

### November

14 — Past Presidents and Spouses Dinner, Park Restaurant, Columbia





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# *Congratulations*

**2024**



**GOLD CUP WINNERS**

## **Weeklies**

Class 1

**Cassville Democrat**

Class 2

**Springfield Business Journal**

Class 3

**Washington Missourian**

## **Dailies**

Class 1

**Columbia Missourian**

Class 2

**The Kansas City Star.**

# Congratulations to Missouri Press' 2024 Better Newspaper Contest winners!

**From Missouri Press Staff Weeklies — Class 1 GENERAL EXCELLENCE**

*Cassville Democrat*  
*Maryville Forum*

*Tribune and Times* | Harrisonville

**BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY**

*Edina Sentinel* — Echo Menges

*Edina Sentinel* — Echo Menges

*Tribune and Times* | Harrisonville — Staff

**BEST BUSINESS STORY**

*California Democrat* — Garrett Fuller

*Cassville Democrat* — Sheila Harris

*Maries County Advocate* — Colin Willard

**BEST EDITORIAL**

*Maryville Forum* — Staff

*Tribune and Times* | Harrisonville — Dennis Minich

*Maryville Forum* — Staff

**BEST EDITORIAL CARTOON**

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman

**BEST FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

*Maryville Forum* — Paxson Haws

*Tribune and Times* | Harrisonville — Jimmy Gillispie

*Shannon Co. Current Wave* — Roger Dillon



Will Johnson with the *Maries County Advocate* won first in Best News Photograph for Class 1 weeklies. On the cover, Jacob Warden (pictured in Johnson's photo above in the yellow shirt) also won first for Best News Photograph in Class 2 weeklies with a different angle of the same incident for the *Gasconade County Republican*. Warden said both men in the car suffered injuries, including second-degree burns, but were relatively fine afterwards. The entire incident happened quickly, Warden added, and was over before he realized what had transpired. Warden's shot was chosen as this year's Photo of the Year.

**BEST FEATURE STORY**

*Maryville Forum* — Skye Pournazari

*Maryville Forum* — Skye Pournazari

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman

**BEST FRONT PAGE**

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman

*Clinton County Leader* —

Brett Adkison

*Missouri Lawyers Weekly* — Staff

**BEST HEADLINE WRITING**

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman

*Maryville Forum* — Staff

*Tribune and Times* | Harrisonville — Staff

**BEST HEALTH STORY**

*Maryville Forum* — Skye Pournazari

*Maries County Advocate* —

Roxie Murphy

*Edina Sentinel* — Echo Menges

**BEST INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING**

*Maryville Forum* — Paxson Haws

*Cassville Democrat* — Sheila Harris

**BEST MILITARY STORY**

*Maries County Advocate* —

Colin Willard

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman

*Maryville Forum* — Skye Pournazari

**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE OBITUARY**

*Cassville Democrat* — Staff

*Maryville Forum* — Jon Dykstra

*Cassville Democrat* — Sheila Harris

Continued on Page 7



Paxson Haws of the *Maryville Forum* won first place for small weeklies with this Best Feature Photograph.

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**



**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE SERIES**

*Missouri Lawyers Weekly* — Scott Lauck  
*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Kahoka The Media* — Mike Scott

**BEST NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

*Maries County Advocate* — Will Johnson  
*Centralia Fireside Guard* — James Smith  
*Edina Sentinel* — Echo Menges

**BEST NEWS STORY**

*Maryville Forum* — Skye Pournazari  
*Maryville Forum* — Skye Pournazari  
*Cassville Democrat* — Sheila Harris

**BEST OVERALL DESIGN**

*Maries County Advocate* — Staff  
*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Maryville Forum* — Staff

**BEST PAGE DESIGN**

*Maryville Forum* — Jon Dykstra  
*Maryville Forum* — Jon Dykstra  
*Maryville Forum* — Jon Dykstra

**BEST PHOTO PACKAGE**

*Edina Sentinel* — Echo Menges  
*Kahoka The Media* — Mike Scott  
*Maries County Advocate* — Jacob Warden

**BEST SERIOUS COLUMNIST**

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Maryville Forum* — Ken Garner

*Tribune and Times* | Harrisonville — Dennis Minich

**BEST SPECIAL SECTION, MAGAZINE OR ALTERNATIVE PUBLICATION**

*Missouri Lawyers Weekly* — Staff  
*Chariton Marquee* — Melanie Latamondeer  
*Cassville Democrat* — Staff

**BEST SPORTS FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

*Maryville Forum* — Jon Dykstra  
*Maryville Forum* — Jon Dykstra  
*Maries County Advocate* — Will Johnson

**BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY**

*Maryville Forum* — Jon Dykstra  
*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman



Jon Dykstra of the *Maryville Forum* captured this striking moment to win the small weeklies award for Best Sports Feature Photograph.

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman

**BEST SPORTS NEWS STORY OR PACKAGE**

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Maryville Forum* — Jon Dykstra  
*Maries County Advocate* — Will Johnson

**BEST SPORTS PAGES**

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Tribune and Times* | Harrisonville — Jimmy Gillispie  
*Maryville Forum* — Jon Dykstra

**BEST SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

*Maryville Forum* — Jon Dykstra  
*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Clinton County Leader* — Clint Dye

**BEST STORY ABOUT EDUCATION**

*Maryville Forum* — Geoffrey Woehlk  
*Maryville Forum* — Skye Pournazari  
*Missouri Lawyers Weekly* — Scott Lauck

**BEST STORY ABOUT GOVERNMENT**

*Maryville Forum* — Geoffrey Woehlk  
*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Maries County Advocate* — Roxie Murphy

**BEST STORY ABOUT HISTORY**

*Maryville Forum* — Skye Pournazari  
*Maryville Forum* — Skye Pournazari  
*Tribune and Times* | Harrisonville — Dennis Minich

**BEST STORY ABOUT RURAL LIFE OR AGRICULTURE**

*Cassville Democrat* — Sheila Harris  
*Cassville Democrat* — Sheila Harris  
*Maries County Advocate* — Roxie Murphy  
**BEST STORY ABOUT THE OUTDOORS**

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Memphis Democrat* — Emily Bontrager  
*Maryville Forum* — Geoffrey Woehlk

**MULTI-MEDIA REPORTING**

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Edina Sentinel* — Echo Menges  
*Tribune and Times* | Harrisonville — Dennis Minich and Jimmy Gillispie

Continued on Page 8



Jon Dykstra and the *Maryville Forum* ran away with first place with this Best Sports Photograph.

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**

**Weeklies – Classes 1 and 2**  
**BEST EDITORIAL AND**  
**OPINION PAGES**

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Tribune and Times* | Harrisonville —  
Staff

*Maryville Forum* — Staff

**BEST ELECTION STORY**

*The Odessan* — Hannah Spaar  
*Kahoka The Media* — Mike Scott  
*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman

**BEST HUMOROUS COLUMNIST**

*The Odessan* — Hannah Spaar  
*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman  
*Clinton County Leader* — Brett Adkison

**BEST SPORTS COLUMNIST**

*Phelps County Focus* — Dave Roberts  
*Owensville Gasconade Co. Republican*  
— Will Johnson

*Cassville Democrat* — Kyle Troutman

**BEST STORY ABOUT**

**MARGINALIZED OR UNDER-**  
**REPRESENTED COMMUNITIES**

*Springfield Business Journal* —  
Karen Craig

*Missouri Lawyers Weekly* —  
Rasmus Jorgensen

*Maryville Forum* — Geoffrey Woehl

**BEST STORY ABOUT RELIGION**

*Springfield Business Journal* —  
Karen Craig

*Linn Unterrified Democrat* —  
Neal A. Johnson

*Wright County Journal* — Ron Schott

**Weeklies – Class 2**

**GENERAL EXCELLENCE**

*Springfield Business Journal*  
*The Odessan*

*Warren County Record*

**BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY**

*Warrensburg Star-Journal* —  
Meliyah Venerable

*Courier-Tribune, Liberty* —  
Amanda Lubinski

*Owensville Gasconade Co. Republican*

— Buck Collier and Dave Marner

**BEST BUSINESS STORY**

*Springfield Business Journal* —  
Mike Cullinan

*Springfield Business Journal* —  
Karen Craig

*Warrensburg Star-Journal* —  
Zach Bott

**BEST EDITORIAL**

*The Odessan* — Hannah Spaar  
*Howell County News* —

Amanda Mendez

*Wright County Journal* — Ron Schott



Mark Evans of the *St. Genevieve Herald* captured this collision between two young drivers and took home first place for Best Feature Photograph for Class 2 weeklies.

**BEST FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

*St. Genevieve Herald* — Mark Evans

*Springfield Business Journal* —  
Heather Mosley

*Springfield Business Journal* —  
Heather Mosley

**BEST FEATURE STORY**

*Springfield Business Journal* —  
Karen Craig

*Springfield Business Journal* —  
Christine Temple

*Houston Herald* — Doug Davison

**BEST FRONT PAGE**

*Gainesville Ozark County Times* —  
Staff

*Springfield Business Journal* — Staff  
*Houston Herald* — Brad Gentry and

Isaiah Buse

**BEST HEADLINE WRITING**

*Springfield Business Journal* — Staff  
*Wright County Journal* — Ron Schott

and Chris Roden

*Platte County Citizen* — Tanner Cobb

**BEST HEALTH STORY**

*Linn Unterrified Democrat* —  
Neal A. Johnson

*Houston Herald* — Brad Gentry and  
Isaiah Buse

*Courier-Tribune, Liberty* —  
Kellie Houx

**BEST INFORMATION GRAPHIC**

*Howell County News* — Ron Mendez  
*The Odessan* — Hannah Spaar

*Springfield Business Journal* —  
Rebecca Green

**BEST INVESTIGATIVE**  
**REPORTING**

*Phelps County Focus* — Andrew Sheeley

*Howell County News* —  
Amanda Mendez

*Courier-Tribune, Liberty* —  
Amanda Lubinski

**BEST MILITARY STORY**

*Gainesville Ozark County Times* —  
Sue Ann Jones

*Warrensburg Star-Journal* —  
Zach Bott

*Houston Herald* — Doug Davison

**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE**  
**OBITUARY**

*Gainesville Ozark County Times* —  
Sue Ann Jones

*Warrensburg Star-Journal* —  
Joe Andrews

*Courier-Tribune, Liberty* —  
Kellie Houx

**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE**  
**SERIES**

*Springfield Business Journal* — Staff  
*The Odessan* — Hannah Spaar

*The Odessan* — Hannah Spaar and  
Ruth Ann Hafner

**BEST NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

*Owensville Gasconade Co. Republican*  
— Jacob Warden

*Owensville Gasconade Co. Republican*  
— Dave Marner

*Gainesville Ozark County Times* —  
Bruce Roberts

**Continued on Page 9**

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**





Jacob Warden celebrated a first-place win for the *Gasconade County Republican* with this Best Sports Feature Photograph.

**BEST NEWS STORY**

*Phelps County Focus* — Andrew Sheeley  
*Springfield Business Journal* — Karen Craig  
*Springfield Business Journal* — Mike Cullinan

**BEST ONLINE NEWSPAPER OR WEBSITE**

*Warrensburg Star-Journal* — Staff  
*Springfield Business Journal* — Staff  
*Platte County Citizen* — Tanner Cobb and Jeanette Faubion

**BEST OVERALL DESIGN**

*Springfield Business Journal* — Staff  
*Wright County Journal* — Ron Schott  
*Warren County Record* — Staff

**BEST PAGE DESIGN**

*Springfield Business Journal* — Heather Mosley  
*Springfield Business Journal* — Heather Mosley  
*Springfield Business Journal* — Heather Mosley

**BEST PHOTO PACKAGE**

*Houston Herald* — Brad Gentry  
*Linn Unterrified Democrat* — Neal A. Johnson  
 and Jacob Warden

*Houston Herald* — Doug Davison

**BEST SERIOUS COLUMNIST**

*Springfield Business Journal* — Eric Olson  
*Phelps County Focus* — R.D. Hohenfeldt  
*The Odessan* — Hannah Spaar

**BEST SPECIAL SECTION, MAGAZINE OR ALTERNATIVE PUBLICATION**

*Gainesville Ozark County Times* — Staff  
*Platte County Citizen* — Tanner Cobb  
*Warrensburg Star-Journal* — Staff

**BEST SPORTS FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

*Owensville Gasconade Co. Republican* — Jacob Warden  
*Warrensburg Star-Journal* — Joe Andrews  
*The Odessan* — Kory Hales

**BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY**

*Phelps County Focus* — Dave Roberts  
*Wright County Journal* — Ron Schott

*Linn Unterrified Democrat* — Neal A. Johnson

*Phelps County Focus* — Dave Roberts

**BEST SPORTS NEWS STORY OR PACKAGE**

*Warrensburg Star-Journal* — Joe Andrews  
*Owensville Gasconade Co. Republican* — Will Johnson  
*Ste. Genevieve Herald* — Michael Boyd Jr.

**BEST SPORTS PAGES**

*Platte County Citizen* — Tanner Cobb  
*Wright County Journal* — Ron Schott  
*Courier-Tribune, Liberty* — Staff

**BEST SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

*Platte County Citizen* — Tanner Cobb  
*The Odessan* — Kory Hales  
*The Odessan* — Kory Hales

**BEST STORY ABOUT EDUCATION**

*Owensville Gasconade Co. Republican* — Roxie Murphy

*Warren County Record* — Jason Koch

*Springfield Business Journal* — Karen Craig

**BEST STORY ABOUT GOVERNMENT**

*Springfield Business Journal* — Karen Craig  
*Howell County News* — Amanda Mendez

*The Odessan* — Hannah Spaar

**BEST STORY ABOUT HISTORY**

*Warren County Record* — Jason Koch

*Houston Herald* — Doug Davison

*Springfield Business Journal* — Mike Cullinan

**BEST STORY ABOUT RURAL LIFE OR**

**AGRICULTURE**

*Houston Herald* — Doug Davison

*Wright County Journal* — Ron Schott

*Warrensburg Star-Journal* — Annelia Nixon

**BEST STORY ABOUT THE OUTDOORS**

*Courier-Tribune, Liberty* — Kellie Houx

*Houston Herald* — Doug Davison

*Springfield Business Journal* — Karen Craig

Continued on Page 10

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**



**MULTI-MEDIA REPORTING**

*Springfield Business Journal* — Christine Temple

*Springfield Business Journal* — Christine Temple

*Houston Herald* — Doug Davison

**Weeklies — Classes 2 and 3**

**BEST NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION PROJECT**

Eldon | *The Advertiser* — Tammy Witherspoon

*St. Louis American* — Cathy Sewell

Eldon | *The Advertiser* — Tammy Witherspoon

**BEST PHOTO ILLUSTRATION**

*Jefferson County Leader* — Cody Taylor

*Wright County Journal* — Ron Schott

*Houston Herald* — Isaiah Buse

**Weeklies — Class 3**

**GENERAL EXCELLENCE**

*St. Louis Business Journal*

*St. Louis American*

*Washington Missourian*

**BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY**

*Webster-Kirkwood Times* — Jaime Mowers

*Washington Missourian* — Christopher Parker

*Washington Missourian* — Christopher Parker

**BEST BUSINESS STORY**

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Jacob Kirn

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Nathan Rubbelke

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Connor Hart



Tanner Cobb cleared the competition to bring home a Best Sports Photograph win for the *Platte County Citizen*.

**BEST EDITORIAL**

*St. Louis American* — Staff

*Kansas City Northeast News* — Michael Bushnell

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Erik Siemers

**BEST EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGES**

*Jefferson County Leader* — Steve Taylor

*St. Louis Call Newspapers* — Staff

*St. Louis American* — Staff

**BEST ELECTION STORY**

*Webster-Kirkwood Times* — Brandi Schubert

*St. Louis American* — Staff

*Washington Missourian* — Christopher Parker

**BEST FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

*Washington Missourian* — Jonathan Riley

*Washington Missourian* — Bill Battle

*St. Louis American* — Wiley Price

**BEST FEATURE STORY**

*Washington Missourian* — Dan Claxton

*Washington Missourian* — Dan Claxton

*Webster-Kirkwood Times* — Julie Brown Patton

**BEST FRONT PAGE**

*St. Louis American* — Mike Terhaar

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Matt Haesly, John Lauer and Jacqueline Prins

*Webster-Kirkwood Times* — Staff

**BEST HEADLINE WRITING**

*St. Louis American* — Staff

*Lincoln County Journal* — Gregory Orear

*Jefferson County Leader* — Staff

**BEST HEALTH STORY**

*St. Louis Business Journal* — James Drew

*St. Louis Business Journal* — James Drew

*Washington Missourian* — Antjea Wolff

**BEST INFORMATION GRAPHIC**

*Washington Missourian* — Lori Obermark

*Washington Missourian* — Lori Obermark

*Jefferson County Leader* — Cody Taylor

**Continued on Page 11**



Jonathan Riley of the *Washington Missourian* reached new heights with this great catch of a Best Feature Photograph.

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**



**BEST INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING**

*Lincoln County Journal* — Gregory Orear  
*St. Louis American* — Sylvester Brown Jr.

*Jefferson County Leader* — Staff

**BEST MILITARY STORY**

*Webster-Kirkwood Times* — Julie Brown Patton

*Washington Missourian* —

Paula Tredway and Julia Hansen

*Branson Tri-Lake News* — Chris Carlson

**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE OBITUARY**

*Jefferson County Leader* — Laura Marlow

*Jefferson County Leader* — Laura Marlow

*Branson Tri-Lake News* — Jason Wert

**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE SERIES**

*Jefferson County Leader* — Barbara Fawver

*Lincoln County Journal* — Gregory Orear

*Washington Missourian* —

Jonathan Riley and Ethan Colbert

**BEST NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

*St. Louis American* — Wiley Price

*Washington Missourian* — Julia Hansen

*Washington Missourian* — Julia Hansen

**BEST NEWS STORY**

*Lincoln County Journal* — Gregory Orear

*Kansas City Northeast News* — Dorri Partain

*Lincoln County Journal* —

Gregory Orear and Sheila Battin

**BEST ONLINE NEWSPAPER OR WEBSITE**

*Jefferson County Leader* — Staff

*St. Louis Call Newspapers* — Staff

*Washington Missourian* — Staff

**BEST OVERALL DESIGN**

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Matt Haesly, John Lauer and Jacqueline Prins

*Washington Missourian* — Staff

*Webster-Kirkwood Times* — Staff

**BEST PAGE DESIGN**

*Washington Missourian* —

Lori Obermark, Paula Tredway and Julia Hansen

*Washington Missourian* — Sarah Cates



Wiley Price of the *St. Louis American* captured this hectic scene and won first in Best News Photograph for large weeklies.

*Washington Missourian* — Lori Obermark and Paula Tredway

**BEST PHOTO PACKAGE**

*Washington Missourian* — Julia Hansen

*Webster-Kirkwood Times* — Ursula Ruhl

*Washington Missourian* —

Ethan Colbert

**BEST SERIOUS COLUMNIST**

*St. Louis American* — Mike Jones

*Jefferson County Leader* — Goldie Lowe

*Jefferson County Leader* — Teresa Inserra

**Continued on Page 12**



Arron Husted and the *Washington Missourian* won first for Best Sports Feature Photograph with this celebratory shot.

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**

**BEST SPECIAL SECTION, MAGAZINE OR ALTERNATIVE PUBLICATION**

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Staff

*St. Louis American* — Staff

*Webster-Kirkwood Times* — Staff

**BEST SPORTS COLUMNIST**

*Jefferson County Leader* — Russell Korando

*St. Louis American* — Alvin A. Reid

*St. Louis American* — Earl Austin Jr.

**BEST SPORTS FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

*Washington Missourian* — Arron Husted

*Washington Missourian* — Bill Battle

*Washington Missourian* — Arron Husted

**BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY**

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Nathan Rubbelke

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Nathan Rubbelke

*Webster-Kirkwood Times* — Jaime Mowers

**BEST SPORTS NEWS STORY OR PACKAGE**

*Washington Missourian* — Bill Battle and Arron Husted

*Washington Missourian* — Bill Battle and Arron Husted

*St. Louis American* — Staff

**BEST SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

*Washington Missourian* — Arron Husted

*Washington Missourian* — Bill Battle

*Washington Missourian* — Bill Battle

**BEST STORY ABOUT EDUCATION**

*Webster-Kirkwood Times* — Melissa Wilkinson

*Jefferson County Leader* — Laura Marlow

*Jefferson County Leader* — Laura Marlow

**BEST STORY ABOUT GOVERNMENT**

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Jacob Kirn

*Lincoln County Journal* — Gregory Orear

*St. Louis American* — Staff

**BEST STORY ABOUT HISTORY**

*Washington Missourian* — Dan Claxton

*Washington Missourian* — Ethan Colbert

*St. Louis American* — Staff

**BEST STORY ABOUT MARGINALIZED OR UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES**

*Community News - St. Louis County* — Brett Auten

*Washington Missourian* — Geoff Folsom

*St. Louis Business Journal* — Veneta Rizvic

**BEST STORY ABOUT RELIGION**

*St. Louis American* — Staff

*Washington Missourian* — Christopher Parker

*Washington Missourian* — Jonathan Riley

**BEST STORY ABOUT RURAL LIFE OR AGRICULTURE**

*Washington Missourian* — Dan Claxton

*Jefferson County Leader* — Teresa Inserra

*Washington Missourian* — Christopher Parker

**BEST STORY ABOUT THE OUTDOORS**

*Washington Missourian* — Christopher Parker

*Washington Missourian* — Dan Claxton

*Jefferson County Leader* — Steve Taylor

**MULTI-MEDIA REPORTING**

*St. Louis American* — Staff

*St. Louis American* — James LeBine and Kevin Jones

*Kansas City Northeast News* — EllieAna Hale

**Weeklies**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

*Cassville Democrat* — Jordan Troutman

*St. Louis Call Newspapers* — Erin Achenbach,

Ellie Marshall and Deborah Baker

*Cassville Democrat* — Jordan Troutman and Kyle Troutman

**Combined Weeklies and Dailies**

**BEST HUMOROUS COLUMNIST**

*Jefferson County Leader* — Peggy Bess

*Lincoln County Journal* — Gregory Orear

*Independence Examiner* — Jeff Fox

**BEST EDITORIAL CARTOON**

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Jim Dyke

*Columbia Missourian* — John Darkow

*Columbia Missourian* — John Darkow

**BEST SPORTS PAGES**

*Columbia Missourian* — Owen Ziliak

*St. Louis American* — Mike Terhaar

*Springfield News-Leader* — Staff

**Dailies**

**GENERAL EXCELLENCE**

*Joplin Globe*

*Columbia Missourian*

*Jefferson City News Tribune*

**BEST EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGES**

*Springfield News-Leader* — Staff

*Columbia Missourian* — Staff

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Staff

**BEST FRONT PAGE**

*Columbia Missourian* — Staff

*Joplin Globe* — Spencer Cramer

*Southeast Missourian* — Staff

**BEST HEADLINE WRITING**

*Springfield News-Leader* — Staff

*Missouri Independent* — Jason Hancock

*Columbia Missourian* — Staff

**Continued on Page 13**



The *Washington Missourian*'s Arron Husted took down the competition to win first in Best Sports Photograph.

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**



**BEST ONLINE NEWSPAPER OR WEBSITE**

*Missouri Independent* — Jason Hancock  
*Hannibal Courier-Post* — Staff  
*Southeast Missourian* — Staff

**BEST OVERALL DESIGN**

*Columbia Missourian* — Staff  
*Springfield News-Leader* — Staff  
*Joplin Globe* — Staff

**BEST SPORTS COLUMNIST**

*Daily American Republic* | Poplar Bluff — D’Courtland Christian  
*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Greg Jackson  
*Independence Examiner* — Bill Althaus

**MULTI-MEDIA REPORTING**

*Columbia Missourian* — Staff  
*Missouri Independent* — Allison Kite and Rebecca Rivas  
*The Kansas City Star* — Staff

**Dailies — Class 1**

**BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY**

*Missouri Independent* — Clara Bates  
*Columbia Missourian* — Staff  
*Fulton Sun* — Anakin Bush

**BEST BUSINESS STORY**

*Columbia Missourian* — Maggie Girardi  
*Columbia Missourian* — Dan Mika, Quinn Coffman and Andrea Merritt

*Missouri Independent* — Rudi Keller

**BEST EDITORIAL**

*Independence Examiner* — Jeff Fox  
*Independence Examiner* — Jeff Fox  
*Independence Examiner* — Jeff Fox

**BEST ELECTION STORY**

*Missouri Independent* — Rudi Keller  
*Columbia Missourian* — Katie Taranto  
*Missouri Independent* — Jason Hancock

**BEST FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

*Columbia Missourian* — Kate Cassady  
*Marshall Democrat-News* — Danielle Linton-Hatfield  
*Columbia Missourian* — Minh Connors



The *Columbia Missourian*'s Bailey Stover won first in Best News Photograph with this image showing state legislators celebrating the end of session in the traditional way.

**BEST FEATURE STORY**

*Missouri Independent* — Annelise Hanshaw  
*Columbia Missourian* — Clayton Vickers  
*The Kansas City Beacon* — Mili Mansaray

**BEST HEALTH STORY**

*Missouri Independent* — Anna Sporre  
*Missouri Independent* — Annelise Hanshaw  
*Columbia Missourian* — Dan Mika, Andrea Merritt and Quinn Coffman

**BEST INFORMATION GRAPHIC**

*Columbia Missourian* — Clayton Vickers  
*Columbia Missourian* — Sofi Zeman  
*Columbia Missourian* — Caitlin Kane

**BEST INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING**

*Columbia Missourian* — Claudia Levens and Srijita Datta  
*Missouri Independent* — Allison Kite, Derek Kravitz and Kelly Kauffman  
*Hannibal Courier-Post* — Trevor McDonald

**BEST MILITARY STORY**

*Columbia Missourian* — Konrad Strzalka  
*Columbia Missourian* — Emma Flannery  
*Columbia Missourian* — Emmaline Leutkemeyer

**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE OBITUARY**

*Columbia Missourian* — Eli Hoff  
*Columbia Missourian* — Ceilidh Kern  
*Columbia Missourian* — Kevin Utz

**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE SERIES**

*Columbia Missourian* — Staff  
*The Kansas City Beacon* — Mili Mansaray  
*Missouri Independent* — Jason Hancock

**BEST NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

*Columbia Missourian* — Bailey Stover  
*Columbia Missourian* — Clayton Steward  
*Columbia Missourian* — Aidan Boyd

**BEST NEWS STORY**

*Missouri Independent* — Allison Kite  
*The Kansas City Beacon* — Meg Cunningham  
*Missouri Independent* — Rebecca Rivas

Continued on Page 14



Kate Cassady with the *Columbia Missourian* took first with this Best Feature Photograph capturing the old I-70 bridge spanning the Missouri River weeks before its planned demolition.

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**





Megan Burke dove right into the middle of competition and came out with a first-place win in Best Feature Photograph for the *Southeast Missourian* in Class 2 Dailies.

**BEST PAGE DESIGN**

*Columbia Missourian* — Staff  
*Columbia Missourian* — Staff  
*Columbia Missourian* — Staff

**BEST PHOTO ILLUSTRATION**

*Columbia Missourian* — Baxter Stein  
*Columbia Missourian* — Minh Connors  
*Missouri Independent* — Annelise Hanshaw

**BEST PHOTO PACKAGE**

*Columbia Missourian* — Staff  
*Columbia Missourian* — Cara Penquite and Lauren Spakowski  
*Marshall Democrat-News* — Danielle Linton-Hatfield

**BEST SERIOUS COLUMNIST**

*Missouri Independent* — Janice Ellis  
*Missouri Independent* — Jeff Smith  
*Columbia Missourian* — David Webber

**BEST SPECIAL SECTION, MAGAZINE OR ALTERNATIVE PUBLICATION**

*Hannibal Courier-Post* — Matt Hopf and Jessica Hamilton  
*Daily American Republic* | Poplar Bluff — Donna Farley and Samantha Tucker  
*Columbia Missourian* — Staff

**BEST SPORTS FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

*Daily American Republic* | Poplar Bluff — D’Courtland Christian  
*Columbia Missourian* — Austin Johnson  
*Columbia Missourian* — Lauren Spakowski

**BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY**

*Columbia Missourian* — Maddie Orr

*Hannibal Courier-Post* — Mike Thomas  
*Independence Examiner* — Bill Althaus  
**BEST SPORTS NEWS STORY OR PACKAGE**

*Columbia Missourian* — Wendell Shepherd, Brandon Haynes, Adam Ryerson  
*Columbia Missourian* — Jack Knowlton  
*Hannibal Courier-Post* — Mike Thomas  
**BEST SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**  
*Columbia Missourian* — Owen Ziliak  
*Columbia Missourian* — Owen Ziliak  
*Marshall Democrat-News* — Hobby King

**BEST STORY ABOUT EDUCATION**

*Columbia Missourian* — Maggie Trovato

*The Kansas City Beacon* — Maria Benevento  
*Columbia Missourian* — Emmaline Luetkemeyer  
**BEST STORY ABOUT GOVERNMENT**

*Missouri Independent* — Jason Hancock

*Columbia Missourian* — Alyse Pfeil  
*Missouri Independent* — Clara Bates  
**BEST STORY ABOUT HISTORY**  
*Columbia Missourian* — Michael Howie  
*Daily American Republic* | Poplar Bluff — Donna Farley

*Missouri Independent* — Allison Kite  
**BEST STORY ABOUT MARGINALIZED OR UNDER-REPRESENTED COMMUNITIES**

*Columbia Missourian* — Mae Bruce, Maia Bond and Hope Davis  
*Missouri Independent* — Rebecca Rivas  
*Columbia Missourian* — Sarah Parisien  
**BEST STORY ABOUT RELIGION**  
*Missouri Independent* — Clara Bates

*The Kansas City Beacon* — Maria Benevento  
*Missouri Independent* — Annelise Hanshaw

**BEST STORY ABOUT RURAL LIFE OR AGRICULTURE**

*Columbia Missourian* — Jana Rose Schleis  
*Columbia Missourian* — Ceilidh Kern  
*Columbia Missourian* — Namratha Prasad

**Continued on Page 15**



D’Courtland Christian and the *Daily American Republic* celebrated a win with this Best Sports Feature Photograph for Class 1 Dailies.

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**



**BEST STORY ABOUT THE OUTDOORS**

*Columbia Missourian* — Athena Foster-Brazil and Mary Ruth Taylor  
*Missouri Independent* — Allison Kite

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

*Fulton Sun* — Anakin Bush and Emily O’Leary

*Columbia Missourian* — Staff

*Columbia Missourian* — Staff

**Dailies — Class 2**

**BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY**

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Alex Naughton

**BEST BUSINESS STORY**

*The Kansas City Star* — Eric Adler

*The Kansas City Star* — David Hudnall

*Springfield News-Leader* —

Kelly Dereuck

**BEST EDITORIAL**

*Jefferson City News Tribune* —

Gary Castor

*Southeast Missourian* — Staff

*Southeast Missourian* — Staff

**BEST ELECTION STORY**

*Jefferson City News Tribune* —

Ryan Pivoney

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* —

Austin Huguelet

*Jefferson City News Tribune* —

Mavis Chan

**BEST FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

*Southeast Missourian* — Megan Burke

*Joplin Globe* — Roger Nomer

*Springfield News-Leader* —

Nathan Papes

**BEST FEATURE STORY**

*Joplin Globe* — Roger Nomer



Owen Ziliak got it over the line to win first in Best Sports Photograph for the *Columbia Missourian*.

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Jesse Bogan

*Southeast Missourian* — Rick Fahr

**BEST HEALTH STORY**

*The Kansas City Star* — Lisa Gutierrez

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* —

Michele Munz

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* —

Colleen Schrappen

**BEST INFORMATION GRAPHIC**

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Josh Renaud

*The Kansas City Star* —

Natalie Wallington

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Josh Renaud

**BEST INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING**

*Southeast Missourian* — Bob Miller

*Jefferson City News Tribune* —

Mavis Chan

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* —

Kelsey Landis

**BEST MILITARY STORY**

*Springfield News-Leader* - Greta Cross

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Mavis

Chan

*Jefferson City News Tribune* —

Joe Gamm

**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE OBITUARY**

*The Kansas City Star* — David Hudnall

*The Kansas City Star* —

Jonathan Shorman, Eric Adler and

Mike Hendricks

*Southeast Missourian* — Danny Walter

**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE SERIES**

*The Kansas City Star* —

Jonathan Shorman, Kacen Bayless and

Katie Moore

*Springfield News-Leader* - Greta Cross

*Southeast Missourian* — Staff

**BEST NEWS PHOTOGRAPH**

*The Kansas City Star* — Nick Wagner

*Springfield News-Leader* —

Nathan Papes

*The Kansas City Star* — Emily Curiel

Continued on Page 16



Nick Wagner and *The Kansas City Star* won first in Best News Photograph with this somber image.

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**



**BEST NEWS STORY**

*The Kansas City Star* — Laura Bauer and Judy Thomas

*The Kansas City Star* — Bill Lukitsch

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Kim Bell

**BEST PAGE DESIGN**

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Gary Castor

*Springfield News-Leader* — Staff

*Southeast Missourian* — Staff

**BEST PHOTO PACKAGE**

*The Kansas City Star* — Nick Wagner

*Springfield News-Leader* — Nathan Papes

*Southeast Missourian* — Megan Burke and Nathan English

**BEST SERIOUS COLUMNIST**

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Joe Holleman

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Tony Messenger

*Southeast Missourian* — Staff

**BEST SPECIAL SECTION, MAGAZINE OR ALTERNATIVE PUBLICATION**

*Southeast Missourian* — Staff

*Southeast Missourian* — Staff

*Southeast Missourian* — Staff

**BEST SPORTS FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH**

*Springfield News-Leader* — Nathan Papes

*Springfield News-Leader* — Nathan Papes

*The Kansas City Star* — Nick Wagner

*The Kansas City Star* — Tammy Ljungblad

**BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY**

*Springfield News-Leader* — Wyatt D. Wheeler

*Springfield News-Leader* — Wyatt D. Wheeler

*The Kansas City Star* — Jesse Newell

*The Kansas City Star* - Vahe Gregorian



The *Jefferson City News Tribune's* Greg Jackson won first with this Best Sports Photograph for Class 2 Dailies.

**BEST SPORTS NEWS STORY OR PACKAGE**

*The Kansas City Star* — Sam McDowell

*Southeast Missourian* — Tony Capobianco

*Springfield News-Leader* — Wyatt D. Wheeler

*Springfield News-Leader* — Wyatt D. Wheeler

**BEST SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH**

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Greg Jackson

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Greg Jackson

*The Kansas City Star* — Nick Wagner

**BEST STORY ABOUT EDUCATION**

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Nassim Benchaabane

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Nassim Benchaabane

*The Kansas City Star* — Sarah Ritter and Katie Bernard

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Blythe Bernhard and Steph Kukuljan

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Blythe Bernhard and Steph Kukuljan

**BEST STORY ABOUT GOVERNMENT**

*The Kansas City Star* — Sarah Ritter and Alyse Pfeil

*The Kansas City Star* — Kacen Bayless and Jonathan Shorman

*The Kansas City Star* — Anna Spoerre

*The Kansas City Star* — Anna Spoerre

**BEST STORY ABOUT HISTORY**

*The Kansas City Star* — J.M. Banks

*The Kansas City Star* — Eric Adler

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Nassim Benchaabane

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Nassim Benchaabane

**BEST STORY ABOUT MARGINALIZED OR UNDER-REPRESENTED COMMUNITIES**

*The Kansas City Star* — Katie Moore

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Austin Huguélet

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Austin Huguélet

*The Kansas City Star* — Anna Spoerre

**BEST STORY ABOUT RELIGION**

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Jesse Bogan

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Jesse Bogan

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Jesse Bogan

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Jesse Bogan

*The Kansas City Star* — Judy Thomas

**BEST STORY ABOUT RURAL LIFE OR AGRICULTURE**

*The Kansas City Star* — Judy Thomas

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Genevieve Tlustos

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Genevieve Tlustos

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Ryan Pivoney

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Ryan Pivoney

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Ryan Pivoney

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Ryan Pivoney

**BEST STORY ABOUT THE OUTDOORS**

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Jesse Bogan

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — Jesse Bogan

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Ryan Pivoney

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Ryan Pivoney

*Jefferson City News Tribune* — Ryan Pivoney

*The Kansas City Star* — Katie Moore

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

*The Kansas City Star* — Laura Bauer and Judy Thomas

*Springfield News-Leader* — Staff

*Southeast Missourian* — Rick Fahr



Nathan Papes and the *Springfield News-Leader* scored first in Best Sports Feature Photograph among Class 2 Dailies with this shot.

**Congratulations from Missouri Bar Association to this year's BNC winners!**



# OBITUARIES



## Columbia

### Phil Leslie

Philip “Phil” Andrew Leslie, 73, of Columbia died Aug. 18, 2024.



Believing in service to country, he actively participated in Air Force ROTC while pursuing bachelor’s degrees in journalism and political science at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

After serving in the Air Force, Leslie’s career included writing and editing mainly for the University of Missouri, but also A.B. Chance, the Missouri Press Association and the University of South Florida.

He was a zealous philatelist and voracious reader, always subscribed to two or more newspapers and maintained an extensive home library.

In addition to his wife, CeCe, he is survived by daughters Maureen and Erin, five grandchildren and many more friends throughout the state.

## Kansas City

### Marjean Busby

Marjorie Jean “Marjean” Phillips Busby, 93, died Aug. 25, 2024 at Village Shalom in Overland Park, Kan.

A lifelong resident of Kansas City, she attended the University of Missouri where she majored in journalism. She put that journalism degree and her writing skills to work at *The Kansas City Star* for more than 40 years.

She is survived by two stepdaughters, Sarah and Mary; two nieces, Barbara and Robin; and many more family and friends.



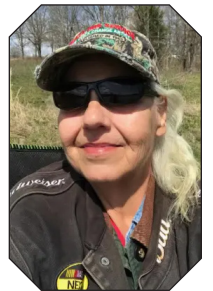
## Dexter

### Felicia Wyatt

Felicia Wyatt, 58, died Sept. 3, 2024, at her home.

Wyatt owned the Honey Hole Bait & Tackle in Dexter, was a former over the road truck driver and a former graphic designer for the *Daily American Republic* newspaper in Poplar Bluff.

In addition to her husband, Robert, Wyatt is survived by her son, Bryce; a stepdaughter, Monica; and many more family and friends in southeast Missouri and beyond.



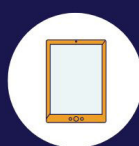
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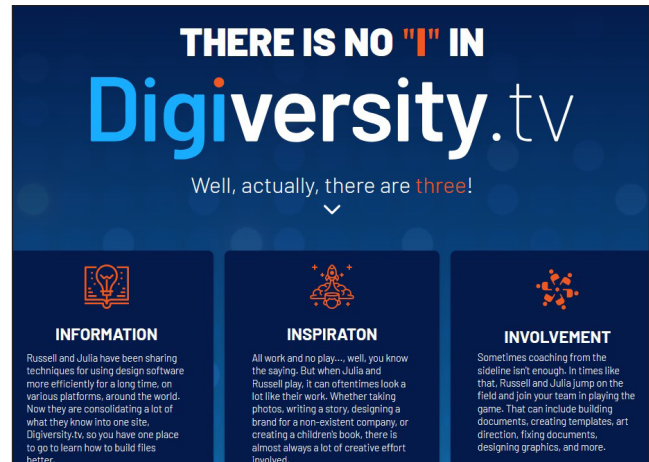
Online News Reporter's Handbook on the Courts & Legal Glossary

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[News.MoBar.org](https://www.news.mobar.org)

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Better Newspaper  
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# Reach out to schools in your coverage area and offer them access to:



## *MPA expands access for training tools to high school journalists*

Two training tools that have benefited Missouri Press Association members are now being offered to help prepare the next generation of journalists.

Since MPA began offering Earn Your Press Pass and Digiversity.tv as part of its membership, dozens of staffers at member newspapers and adjacent organizations have used these tools to learn and improve their skills.

Now high school students have the opportunity to learn from these resources.

MPA member newspapers are encouraged to talk with local school newspaper and yearbook club advisors to let them know their students can be signed up for Earn Your Press Pass and Digiversity.tv, the Adobe CC-focused training website from Russell Viers.

EYPP, the brainchild of Kansas newspaper publishers Lindsey and Joey

Young, is intended to help newspapers train staff or freelancers who want to write for their newspaper but don't have experience in the profession.

Digiversity.tv is a platform for tips and techniques to use design software more efficiently, focusing on the Adobe suite of products. Russell and Julia Viers tackle a variety of topics using videos, written articles and live webcasts.

The minds behind both programs support offering them to high school newspapers and similar groups. In fact, Lindsey Young, the instructor of Earn Your Press Pass, is a former high school teacher, and Russell Viers has a long history of working with school yearbook publishers.

MPA members wanting more information about providing access to Earn Your Press Pass or Digiversity.tv should contact Matthew Barba at [mbarba@mopress.com](mailto:mbarba@mopress.com).



Want to attend Ozark Press Association?  
Click here in the e-edition or email Dan Wehmer at [citizen@webstercountycitizen.com](mailto:citizen@webstercountycitizen.com).

## 2024 OZARK PRESS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION



**Thursday, October 17, 2024**  
**The Ferguson Building**  
**121 East Main Street (4-Way Stop, Downtown)**  
**Willow Springs, MO 65793**

**9:00 a.m. - 9:25 a.m.** — Registration with continental breakfast (featuring St. George's Donuts).

**9:25 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.** — Welcome by Amanda Mendez, president, Ozark Press Association, and owner, Howell County News.

**9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.** — Missouri Press Association update with MPA Executive Director Mark Maassen.

**9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.** — "Maximizing Legal Revenue In Your Newspaper," presented by Dan Wehmer, Webster County Citizen.

**10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.** — "To Endorse Or Not To Endorse," forum on political endorsements led by moderator Steve Pokin of the Springfield Daily Citizen; panelists include Kyle Troutman, Cassville Democrat, Amanda Mendez and Dan Wehmer.

**11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** — Lunch by Leslie's Catering Company. (Includes Full Meal, Drink & Dessert)

**12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.** — Dan Curry, MPA Legal Hotline Attorney, presents "Understanding AI" in roundtable discussion. (Attendees are urged to bring questions.)

**1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.** — "Covering Non-Traditional Sports," presented by Ron Schott, Wright County Journal, and Kyle Troutman.

**1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.** — "Newspapers As The Community Safe Haven," presented by Jackie Rehwald, Springfield Daily Citizen.

**2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.** — "Facilitating Community Forums," presented by Amanda Mendez and Kyle Troutman.

**2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.** — "So You Think You Have A Bright Idea?" Moderator: Jordan Troutman.  
Critic: Dan Wehmer.

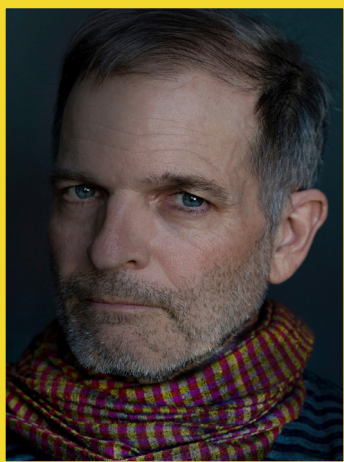
**3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** — Business meeting and election of officers.

**3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.** — "Historical Walking Tour: Downtown Willow Springs" given by Lou Wehmer, author and Howell County News columnist.



Missouri Press  
Foundation

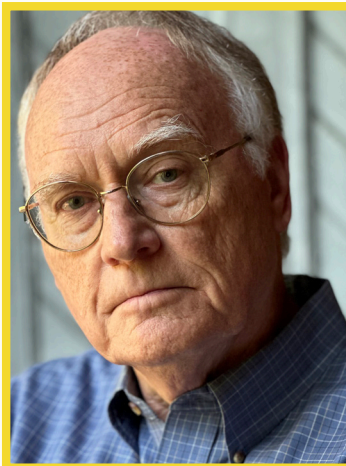
# CONGRATULATIONS! TO OUR 2024 INDUCTEES



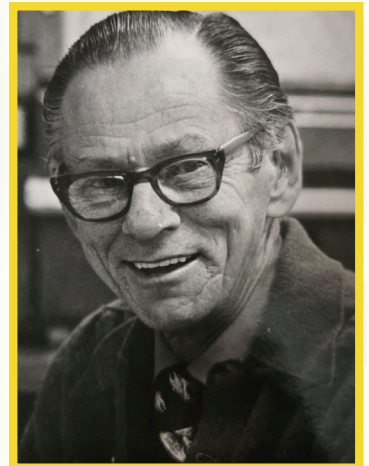
John Trotter



David Eulitt



Talis Bergmanis



Bill Straeter Jr.

## Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame Ceremony

State Historical Society of Missouri • Columbia • Oct. 17, 4 p.m.

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